

# ***THE AERO AERIAL***

*The Aero ARC Celebrating 65 years of Amateur Radio Fun*



Thanks to 2E0HTS for permission.

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Middle River, Md

Volume 8 Issue 12

December 2011

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

## Officers

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President
Lou Kordek	KB3LJF	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer
Ron Distler	W3JEH	Resource Coordinator

## Committees

Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD
VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Webmaster	Al Alexander K3ROJ
Trustee	Frank Stone AC3P
Club Nets	Joe Miko WB3FMT

## ABOUT THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: First and Third Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at Coffman's Diner  
(Middle River and Orem's Rd.)

Nets: See Local Area Net Schedule

Repeaters: W3PGA (147.24 MHz - / 449.575 MHz -)

WEBSITE: [www.aeroarc.us](http://www.aeroarc.us)

## LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Frequency (MHz)	NET NAME
Daily	9 - 10 am	147.33	ORIOLE Net
Daily	5:30- 6 pm	3.820	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 - 7 pm	146.670	Baltimore Traffic Net
Daily	7 pm and 10 pm	3.643	Maryland/DC/Delaware Traffic Net
1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	7:30 pm	145.330	Baltimore ARES Net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> Net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed.	8 pm	28.445	AERO ARC Net
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	8 pm	147.240	AERO ARC Net
5 <sup>th</sup> Wed.	8 pm	449.575	AERO ARC Net

*The Aero Quantum Mechanics Net: Anytime any Frequency contact WB3FMT. The last one was on 24.445MHz (OOPS!) on Tuesday 8 pm on October 12<sup>t</sup>. Who knows where or when the next one may be?*

# Aero Net Reports

October

**10 Meters:** WB3FMT(NCS) AC3P W3JEH W3VRD KB3VAE KA3SNY

**2 Meters:** WB3FMT(NCS) AC3P KB3JDE KA3VAE AK3RX

## Station Activities

**WB3FMT** has completed repairs on his vertical. **W3JEH** and **K3ROJ** were sighted at a meeting. **WA3SWA** is exploring JT65 mode. Congrats **KB3LJF** his first outing as a Volunteer Examiner.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

**from**

**The Aero Aerial Staff**

# Field Day 2012 Planning Underway



*Essex Skypark*

Almost immediately following the cancellation of Field Day plans for 2011, a process was set in motion to find a new home for the Aero ARC Field Day 2012. A team formed to scout possible locations for a new site.

Several possibilities were under consideration. State parks, county parks and private property were all on the table.

All of the State Parks the search team found required fees for each day of use. So the total cost to the club would be over several hundred dollars. Baltimore County Parks and Recreation has a policy of no overnight camping allowed. However they did offer the use of Turkey Point Park which was fairly isolated. The catch was that the club would have to submit an application by January with no guarantee of approval and to include the county as an insured party on the club insurance policy.

During a club meeting, some members suggested looking at Essex Skypark as a possible site. President Joe contacted Mr. Eric Carl, one of the board members for the skypark and found that there was a possibility that some part of the skypark property might be available.

President Joe met with Mr. Carl and Mr. Liskey and had a positive response. All that would be required was a letter to the board of directors and permission would be forthcoming.

On Saturday November 12, Pres Joe, VP Bob and Frank AC3P went to Essex Skypark and made a survey of the property in question. Joe and Bob measured the area to see how much space was available for antennas and established a safety zone due to the high voltage lines bordering the area. Frank checked the RF noise levels to make sure the lines weren't causing any problems in that area. The general consensus of the survey team was that the skypark had positive potential as a Field Day site.

At the November 17 meeting President Joe, gave a report to the club members. Warren W3JDF made a motion to use Essex Skypark for Field Day. There were several member seconding the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

The next step in the process will be to send a letter to the skypark board and to begin an inventory of essentials needed to operate Field Day from the new location.



10/21/11 Frank and I went to the Essex Sky Park at 10:15 a.m. and took pictures of the proposed site. The site is located on the right side of access road "Diffendall Road" starting at the upper end of the parking lot to tree line at the road across from the hangers.

The only obstruction is a power line from the airport office crossing Diddendal Road going to the northern end of the runway. The shape of grassy field (dog leg) parallel to the access road is approximately 225 feet, then makes a turn into a wooded area. The cut out goes for about 100 feet.

The width of the grassy field is approximately 50 feet being 30 feet at the smallest point. The tallest tree is about 50 feet tall.

I was called by Mr. Carl Sr. about noon and he asked me to meet him at the Airport at 1:15 p.m. I met with Mr. Carl Sr., Eric Carl Jr. and Mr. Max Liskey. They have no problems with the Aero ARC using the airport grounds for the 2012 Field Day (weekend 6/22 thur 6/24). They will even provide a key and access to the rest rooms located at the airport office.

Restrictions: No access to the runway or access ramps.

No damage to trees or structures

Do not block access to the airport

Park vehicles in the Parking Lot

The AERO ARC radio site must be manned for the entire event.

All we need to do is send a letter to the Airport stating that we wish to use the area for a public service event, providing club /field day information and proof of insurance.

Joe Miko







## 2012 VE Testing Schedule

Where: Essex Branch Baltimore County Public Library

Time 1:pm

Dates: January 21

March 17

May 19

September 22

November 17

Contact: Pat Stone AC3F

410-687-7209 [ac3f@juno.com](mailto:ac3f@juno.com)

Walk-ins welcome

# Remembering the Good Ole Daze

*Sometimes you get an email that sparks a memory. What follows was the email sent out to most of the club members and reminded this writer of simple radios and good friends.*



From: AL Alexander

Subject: Heathkit Twoer (Bcc Used)

To:

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2011, 12:13 PM

This is the transceiver that many hams used to get their feet wet on 2 metres. I remember way back when, using this rig to talk to local hams such as Harry, K3WRH and others. Novices were allowed only CW on 2 metres and to get around it, we used a Morse code key attached to an audio oscillator and held it near the microphone to communicate. I made simple dipoles from TV twinlead 19 inches long shorted on the ends and fed with just simple coax even though it wasn't a perfect match. Harry lived on Ebenezer road about 5 miles away and we would all (perhaps 3) have a round table. if I had room, I would buy this twoer even though it is a tube transceiver.

AL,

I had the 6 meter version. When I was in the radio club at my high school, I had a choice of getting a 6'er or a 2'er. I chose the 6'er because I didn't want all those novices using my radio. Novices had 2 meter voice privileges then.

I know that was a bit selfish but I was a dumb teenager at the time and I had just got my Tech.

Anyway, I talked to Harry many a time on that Sixer. When I had a TVI complaint with the FCC, Harry helped me get it resolved even though I wasn't an Aero member at the time.

Once Harry invited me to stop over and see his station. I rode my bike over to his house on Ebenezer Rd. from Hawthorne. Harry gave me a homebrew 6 meter cw transmitter he had built with s 2E26 for a final. It needed a power supply. Well I had stripped down an old Heathkit ARC3 receiver and used the power supply from that. When I keyed the transmitter I fried the meter plate meter. Never did get it to work.

The important thing is that the Sixer gave me a lot of fun talking on 50.250 Mcs. AM to K3WRH, K3IVM, K3PHH, W3VRD and many other Aero members in the early years of my ham career.

73

Frank



## December 2011

					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	ARRL 160 Meter Contest <b>3</b>
ARRL 160 Meter Contest <b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm <b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
ARRL 10 Meter Contest <b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	10 Meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 pm <b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm <b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	
Merry Christmas  <b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	2 Meter Net 147.24 Mhz 8 pm <b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	ARRL Straight Key Night Starts 7 pm EST

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for December 2011

*December 1st* – First Quarter Moon

*December 6<sup>th</sup>* – Jupiter is 6° south of the Moon

*December 8th* – Earliest sunset 16:35 EST the latest sunrise occurs on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 07:22 EST.

*December 10<sup>th</sup>* - Full Moon “**Snow Moon**” for the Native American tribes and the “**Christmas Moon**” for the Colonial Americans. There is a total eclipse of the Moon visible from Asia, Pacific Islands and the West Coast only. Partial Phase 04:46 PST, Total 06:05-06:57 PST. The Planet Uranus is stationary.

*December 13 - 14<sup>th</sup>* – Geminid Meteor Shower the radiant point is below Castor and Pollux up to 100 meteors/hr. The Moon is 3 days past Full.

*December 18<sup>th</sup>* – Last Quarter Moon

*December 21<sup>th</sup>* – This is the shortest day of the year 9hrs and 20 minutes.

*December 22nd* – Winter Solstice at 12:30 am EST Summer for southern hemisphere.

*December 23rd* – Ursid Meteor Shower the radiant point is the bowl of the Ursa Minor up to meteors/hr. The Moon is near New. Mercury greatest elongation West 22°.

*December 24<sup>th</sup>* – New Moon

*December 26th* - Venus is 8° left of the crescent Moon at Dusk.

### Planet Lookout (mid-month)

**Mercury** – In morning dawn twilight last half of the month magnitude +1.3 size 9 arc seconds.

**Venus** – Evening Star, low in the southwest . Magnitude -3.8 size 11.9 arc seconds.

**Mars** – Rises before midnight in Leo, transits at 6 am. Magnitude +0.6 size 7.6 arc seconds.

**Jupiter** – High in the southeast at sunset , transits around 21:00 local time, Magnitude -2.7 size 46.3 arc seconds.

**Saturn**- Rises around 03:00, Magnitude +0.7, size 16.2 arc seconds.

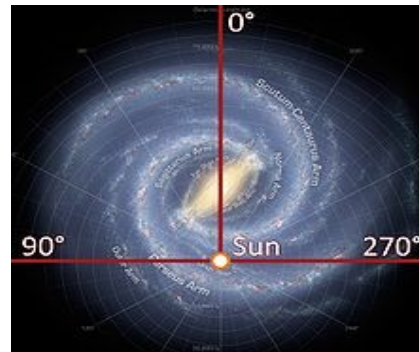
**Uranus** - Sets after midnight., Magnitude +5.8 size 3.5 arc seconds.

**Neptune** – In Aquarius, Magnitude +7.9 size 2.2 arc seconds.

**Pluto** – In Sagittarius, Magnitude +14.1 size 0.1 arc seconds.

### You R Here!

You know the signs in the Mall that tells you where you are, the one with a arrow or red dot, that it. Well we don't have one for the Milky Way but the new studies helped redefine a spot. The older image of the Milky Way was that it was a spiral galaxy well its been updated a bar has been installed. The Milky Way galaxy is now a SBb (barred spiral galaxy) upgraded from a Sb (spiral galaxy) this upgrade has taken place since 2008. But where is the red dot.



The Solar System may be found close to the inner rim of the galaxy's Orion Arm, a distance of  $24,900 \pm 1,600$  ly from the Galactic Center, the Sun is approximately 16–98 ly above the central plane of the galactic disc. The distance between the local arm and the next arm out, the Perseus Arm, is about 6,500 light-years. It takes the Solar System about 250 million years to complete one orbit of the galaxy so it is thought to have completed 20–25 orbits during the lifetime of the Sun.

As we are rotating around the Milky Way Galaxy it is also moving through space in multiple directions. While most galaxies are rushing away as the universe expands, the Andromeda galaxy (Messier 31), a spiral galaxy about twice the size of the Milky Way is moving towards the Milky Way. It is approximately 2.2 million light years away from us. But, the gap is closing the two galaxies are approaching each other at 310,685 m/hr. (500,000 km/hr.) There is a possibility of a collision in 3 plus billion years. So you can make plans for next Thursday!!!