

# *THE AERO AERIAL*



The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Volume 2 Issue 12  
December 2005

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

## Officers

Bob Landis	WA3SWA	President
Frank Stone	AC3P	Vice-President
AC3F		
Joe Miko	WB3FMT	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Al Alexander	K3ROJ	Treasurer
Eric Carl	KB3JDE	Property Mgr

## Co mmittees

Repeater/Trustee	Phil Hock W3VRD
VE Testing	Pat Stone
Public Service	Frank Stone AC3P
RACES/ARES	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Contests	Bob Landis WA3SWA

## ABOUT THE AERO AMATUER 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: <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/w3pga/>

## LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Frequency (MHz)	NET NAME
Daily	9 – 10 am	147.03	ORIOLE Net
Daily	6 – 6:30 pm	3.920	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

## AERO JOINS ARRL TOY DRIVE



At the first October meeting, Bob WA3SWA proposed that the club make a donation to the ARRL sponsored toy drive for children in the hurricane affected areas. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed the \$100 be donated.

Bob and his xyl, purchased a number of toys to be shipped to the ARRL distribution center in Tennessee. From there the toys will go to children in the Gulf Coast and Florida areas in time for Christmas.

## DU7 LAND – THERE AND BACK AGAIN

By Ronald Distler W3JEH

Working outside the US can have its hardships, however if you are a ham it can provide the thrill of being DX and you get to meet some of the best people in ham radio. I had the distinct joy of being able to operate as DX twice. The first time as a member of the Dhahran radio club that operated the only club station in Saudi Arabia open to non-citizens – HZ1AB. The second time was in Cebu City in the Philippines where I had a license to operate as W3JEH/DU7. Photo number one is me at the operating console of HZ1AB in 1980. I contacted Phil, W3VRD from that station and had a real ball being able to talk back into Baltimore from Dhahran. Photo number 2 is my station in Cebu City. I am sure you noticed the difference between the big gun and the peanut whistle. Still, it was fun to operate at the other end of the DX world.



HZ1AB



W3JEH/DU7

W3JEH/DU7 went on the air May 9, 1986 and was on the air almost every day until December 28, 1986 when the tuning unit on my Hy Gain 14AVQ burned up. It was the heat, humidity and little critters that got into the antenna that over loaded the coil. On advice from the local hams, I added a fan to the FT 101 to protect the finals and no problems occurred with the transceiver. During that eight month period, I became fast friends with three local hams. Wilson Yu, DU7ZS, Irving Falek, DU7IF and Herman Aalderink, N0JN/DU7. These three guys took me under their wing and educated me to the local repeaters, local inter island nets, best area nets to check into, local radio clubs and to the Philippine Amateur Radio Association (PARA). PARA is the ARRL of the Philippines and was very helpful with operating regulations and customs.

Wilson, DU7ZS, had a Kenwood transceiver running to a triband beam up about 50 feet on a tower. His location was fairly low with some huge mountains to the West. However, hitting the two meter repeaters and checking into the inter island nets were no problem and we often had long, friendly QSO's. Wilson was a local businessman, married to a physician and they had three great children.

Irving, DU7IF, had a station that was larger and more elaborate than HZ1AB. He operated a kilowatt on every band and had two towers that were 80 and 100 feet. The towers had monoband beams for 40 and 20 meters. 160 and 80 were worked with a dipole and a vertical. Computers logged contacts and monitored favorite frequencies. His location was several hundred feet higher than Wilson but he also had the same problem mountains to the West. Irving owned and operated several manufacturing facilities in Cebu, he was single, and his home and hamshack were located in a large compound next to the homes of his parents and his sister.

Herman, N0JN/DU7 was a Dutch national married to a local girl. He had been a petroleum engineer with Royal Dutch Shell until he decided to take early retirement and settle in the Philippines. He got his US call while working and living in the Midwest for Shell. Herman was building a new home on top of a mountain. The road to get to his QTH was only passable by a mountain goat or 4-wheel drive. My

Toyota was never able to make it up that hillside and Herman would have to come down in his Jeep to get me. Once up there, the view was just spectacular in all directions. He had solved the West mountain problem! He was temporarily living in a native nepa hut, while his new house was being built. As the local electrical power was not yet to him, he was operating on batteries. One of his first priorities was to put a wire antenna that extended from his mountaintop over to an adjacent one – perhaps 400 to 500 feet. With a tuner he could operate from 160 on down. A bamboo pole held his vhf antennas.

My QTH was a rented house in a subdivision of Cebu City called Rosalina Village and the elevation was about the same as Wilson. I had the same West mountain problem. The 14 AVQ was mounted on an elevated concrete water tank that supplied water to my house. It was up about 30 feet. I had a 2 meter vertical on the house and I used a hand held that easily hit the local repeaters. Contacts on 20 were easily made into Russia, Japan, Australia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Korea. Europe was a bit harder, but I did make contacts in England, Czechoslovakia, and Finland To the East I worked every country and maritime mobile between Cebu and the US. Working the West coast of the US was relatively easy and I worked from Alaska to Chili. The Midwest was more difficult and I worked most states. The East Coast was the most difficult. I only worked South Carolina. I did hear stations in Pennsylvania and New York but was never able to make a QSO.

In 1987, I moved back to Baltimore and got W3JEH on the air. I tried many times to work my good friends back in Cebu and only managed once to do it via CW with Wilson. I had to borrow the tower at W3JDF, the clubs 20 meter beam and get up at the crack of dawn to work over the pole to do it. The signals at both ends were barely audible. We were both running 100 watts to beams aimed at the North Pole. Amplifiers would have helped. Later, as it turned out, email came into being for both Wilson and myself and we were able to keep in regular contact via cyber space.

In 2002 Wilson visited me in Baltimore. Photo number 3 is Wilson and I in front of the Maryland Science Center. He was in Washington on business and Union Station was only a few blocks from his hotel. He caught the Marc Train and I met him at Penn Station. We had a wonderful reunion that day. I promised to return the visit the following year. I retired in 2003 but I was still too busy to get away. My wife and I finally succeeded to put together a plan to spend 4 weeks in the Philippines in May and June of 2005. One week was for me to visit Cebu to see my old friends, especially Wilson. Our plan came to pass and as my flight approached Cebu, I could not believe the changes that had occurred. One bridge had become several, and many outlying areas were now developed. Many new shopping malls and new roads and new high rise commercial buildings. The airport had a new terminal and new access roads. Everything was spick and span. The people were the same, friendly and warm and the water around the islands remained blue and crystal clear.



Ron and Wilson

Wilson met me at the terminal and we hugged like family. The week we spent together went so very fast. When he was busy with his work, he would send his car and driver to my hotel so that I could roam around the island. The car was actually a rugged 4-wheel drive SUV. When I saw it, my first thought was of Herman, N0JN/DU7 and the road to his QTH. I told the driver I wanted to visit Herman, and we set out for his place. When we arrived at the foot of the mountain, the driver got out and walked the road for some

length before deciding to try it. The road was narrow, very rutted in parts, no guard rails and concrete paving only were it looked like heavy rain could wash out the road. I was sure this was where Herman had lived but I had no idea if he was home or even if he still lived there. Well, we went up that road and it was exciting to say the least. At the very top were Herman's home, tower, and assorted antennas. The view was still spectacular. Best of all Herman was home and he remembered me like it was only yesterday that I had last visited. It was a day of catching up on what had happened during the years I had been away. Much to my surprise, Irving, DU7IF, had passed away. Irving was probably 10 years younger than me and when I knew him he was in good health and took good care of himself. Herman thought it was a heart attack that was sudden and final. This was very sad news. Herman was still very active, has electricity and a computer. He has email and loves to stay in touch either via the radio or email. He seemed very happy and fully involved with his family and the local community. It was good to see him. We promised to keep in touch via email.

After my visit with Herman, I got a look at the QTH of Wilson. He had torn down his original house and had completely rebuilt it with many new rooms. I had hoped to operate from his station, but much to my dismay a recent storm had destroyed his tower and antennas and he had been too busy to get it repaired. He was still able to use his commercial radio to keep in touch with various employees. The Kenwood had been upgraded to the latest model and his shack was computerized. He promised me to get the tower and antennas back up and we would try to make contact on 20. We both had amplifiers now and we had many discussions about the right frequency and time to make a schedule. His mobile rig was setting in his shack and I wanted to know why. He had changed cars and could not bring himself to put an antenna on his new Mercedes. I remembered the feeling I had when I bought a new vehicle and one of my club members staged an antenna mounting. I told Wilson that the pain would pass in time. He remained unconvinced.

Wilson drove me the airport on the day for me to leave and we were both feeling pretty sad that our time was up. He told me that he would come to Baltimore next year and we would have a good time then. I told him he had to come on either the first or third Wednesday of the month so I could bring him to an Aero club meeting. He promised to try.

On October 6, 2005 DU7ZS, my good friend Wilson, age 45, became a silent key. For reasons I cannot fathom, nor can our close friends and family in Cebu, Wilson was the victim of a shooting. He was fatally shot on his way to work. He was rushed to a very good hospital, but his wounds were too massive. I miss him very much and his family and the world have lost a very good man.

## **Net Reports**

10 Meter Net: WB3FMT (NCS), K3ROJ, W3JEH, KB3KRW  
2 Meter Net: WB3FMT (NCS), KB3KRW, KB3JDE, W3JEH, AC3F, AC3P, KB3JVP

## Station Activities

W3JEH is busy with a tower project. AC3P is receiving signals from Mars with his 400 – 800 nanometer receiver. WB3FMT is working on a data replication project for AC3F. ND3D was sighted at Coffman's.

## ARES/RACES

**From the letters below it appears that Baltimore County has dropped support for ARES/RACES.**

To all RACES members:

We are going to institute some changes within the Baltimore County RACES program. Effective this date, November 4, 2005, Mr. Al Nollmeyer will be stepping down as the Races Officer for the Baltimore County RACES program. In the interim, until a new R.O. is appointed, all RACES business should be directed to Lt. James Artis ( Operations Officer for Baltimore County Emergency Management) - 410-887-5996. I look forward to moving ahead with a robust RACES program. Thank you for your time and dedication to Baltimore County. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Richard

Richard G. Muth  
Director  
Baltimore County Office of Homeland Security  
and Emergency Management  
700 E. Joppa Rd.  
Towson, MD 21286  
410-887-5996 (V)  
410-887-8248 (F)

Greetings,

As you saw in the email from Richard we have withdrawn from BACO RACES. I have stepped down as RO.

The choice was whether or not to depart from our long standing policy of welcoming all ARES®, RACES and NTS members to work together, all enrolled in RACES. The ultimatum given us was to operate under the exclusionary MEMA RACES plan under which all our ARES® and NTS people are excluded regardless of enrollment.

Unresolved were the issues of VFD stations not participating with us after the drive time.

Unresolved were the issues of not having any officials of BACO play during the exercises save for injected messages. Thus state messages could not be delivered or responded to on our intercom nets with MEMA, and MEMA withdrew from those nets.

Unresolved was the issue of whether ARES®/NTS can continue to serve the county. This is a critical issue since for a quarter century we have provided total agency interoperability between emergency management, public safety and all non-government organizations.

This entire disagreement was based upon a unilateral withdrawal by MEMA from our integrated program. Nothing you all did in providing service had anything to do with their withdrawal, in fact no reasons have been given. You all have been of great service to the county and Section and can be proud of your accomplishments.

Arrangements will be made to provide a digital connection to BACO during any emergency which might arise in the interim.

The RACES roster has been totally withdrawn - all appointments canceled. You each may wish to rejoin RACES should the county operate under the exclusionary state plan, or you may join ARES® if not already enrolled and continue in our integrated program. The MDC Section and entire national field organization will support your every effort in ARES®/NTS and interoperability will continue to be the focus of our emergency communications.

Thank you all sincerely for your service over these many years. I hope it will continue under our ARES®/NTS program with as little disruption as possible.

73, A1, W3YVQ ASM MDC  
AD Atl. Div.

## Public Service

### Diabetes Walk in Baltimore



For the fourth year Aero has coordinated communications for the annual American Diabetes Association WalkAmerica in Baltimore. With help from the Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society and the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, club members monitored the walk route from M&T Bank Stadium around Federal Hill and back and provided up to the minutes reports on the walk progress.

Aero Members Frank AC3P Pat AC3F, Joe WB3FMT, Ken KB3JVP, Eric KB3JDE and Bob ND3D teamed with BRATS members, ED N3GXH, Bill KA3IDP and BARC member AI WA3WRT.

BRATS provided use of the 147.03 Mhz. repeater while BARC allowed use of the 146.67 Mhz. repeater as back up.

The Diabetes folks were pleased with the help Amateur Radio provided for this event.

Thanks to all the amateurs and all the clubs that helped make the communications a success.

## This Month in Aero Club History -

*By WB3FMT*

### 55 Year Ago – 1950

December 15, 1950 Dr. Shutz gave a lecture on Microwave.

### 50 Years Ago - 1955

December 7, 1955 Field Day results were published in QST the club was listed as 35<sup>th</sup> in rank.

### 45 Years Ago - 1960

December 7, 1960 A TVI complaint by Hundley Wilson Point Road. FCC case number 223 against W3PGA was filed and a notice sent to F. Johnson who investigated the complaint and found that a TV receiver filter did no good. The club made a check tonight on 6 meters with a GE portable TV the test showed no interference on channel 2-11 and 13.



**30 Years Ago – 1975**

December 30, 1975 VHF contest points 4,742 points.



# AMATEUR RADIO NEWS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-four (54) scholarships for the academic year 2006 - 2007 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds three of these scholarships. Ten are funded with the income from grants. The remaining forty-one (41) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in **Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin**, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2006 from:

FAR Scholarships  
Post Office Box 831  
Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.



AFFILIATED

## **COMING EVENTS**

Nov 19-21 ARRL Sweepstakes Phone  
Nov 23: 2 Meter Net 147.24 MHz. Rpt 8 pm.  
Nov 30: 70 cm Net. 449.575 MHz. Rpt 8 pm.  
Dec 2 -4: ARRL 160 meter Contest  
Dec 7: Meeting at Coffman's 7:30 pm  
Dec 10-11: ARRL 10 meter Contest  
Dec 14: 10 meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 p.m.  
Dec 21: Meeting at Coffman's 7:30 pm  
Dec 28: 2 meter Net 147.24 Mhz. 8 pm.  
Dec 31- Jan 1: ARRL Straight Key Night

## **Articles Wanted**

The Aerial staff is continually searching for contributions. If you would like to place an article in this publication, e-mail Frank at [ac3p@juno.com](mailto:ac3p@juno.com).