

THE AERO AERIAL



Congrats to new Extra K3ROJ

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Volume 2 Issue 5
May 2005

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

Officers

Al Alexander	K3ROJ	President
Bob Landis	WA3SWA	Vice-President
Joe Miko	WB3FMT	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer

Committees

Repeater/Trustee	Phil Hock W3VRD
VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Public Service	Frank Stone AC3P
RACES/ARES	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Contests	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Official Secorder	Ron Distler W3JEH

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
Daily	7 pm	146.505	AERO Code Practice Net
1 st Tues	7:30 pm	145.330	Baltimore ARES Net
2 nd Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County RACES Net
2 nd Wed.	8 pm	28.445	AERO ARC Net
4 th Wed	8 pm	147.240	AERO ARC Net
5 th Wed.	8 pm	449.575	AERO ARC Net

2005 Hamboree at Timonium

The first sign of Ham Radio Spring was sighted April 2 and 3 in Timonium as The Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest was held at the Maryland State Fairgrounds.

The Hamfest or Waterfest, as it's lately been known, was once again plagued by bad weather. Several inches of rain fell the entire weekend and tailgating was seriously hampered.

But local hams spirits refused to be dampened by the downpour.

Warren, W3JDF, Ken, KB3JVP, Dave, KB3KRV, Al K3ROJ, and Frank AC3P and Pat AC3F found their way to the fairgrounds in search of bargains.

Pat and Frank attended the ARRL Maryland State Convention Banquet in their capacity as ARRL VE Team Leaders and were inducted into *The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong*. (OUCH!).



The dreaded Wouff Hong

We look forward to another 'fest next year and hope the Hamboree Committee can get word to the powers that be to turn off the celestial spigot.

From the ARRL:

ARISS Packet BBS Back Up

NEWINGTON, CT, Apr 1, 2005--ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, at Johnson Space Center reports that the RS0ISS packet BBS aboard the International Space Station appears to be back up and running. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) packet BBS had been down for several weeks for unknown reasons.

“I observed this morning April 1--no foolin’--that a station successfully connected to the ISS packet mailbox (RS0ISS-11), and I was able to confirm that the BBS system had returned to operation on the next pass,” he told ARRL. Although previous attempts to recover the BBS through power cycling proved unsuccessful, Ransom says he suspects that a lengthy power-down period in support of the recent spacewalk contributed to its recovery. The ARISS Phase 2 station, a Kenwood TM-D700E, handles packet operations when it’s not in use for voice contacts.

Since the BBS has been down for a while, Ransom provided a short refresher course of commands used for the Kenwood mailbox, which, he says, differ slightly from other packet mailbox command structure. Ransom says he wants to minimize the number of Help requests from the personal messaging system (PMS) because such requests can generate excessive traffic during a given ISS pass.

When a station connects to the ISS mailbox, the operator will receive the message:

Welcome to RS0ISS’s message board
System Ver 1.50 112864 Bytes free
CMD(F/K/M/R/W/B/H/?)>

“Please do not send an ‘H’ or ‘?’,” Ransom urged. Doing so will bring up the “Help” menu, “and that takes *a lot* of time,” he explained. “Considering the delay issues over some parts of the world, this could effectively eliminate anyone else from using the system during that pass.”

Ransom also advised mailbox users to be courteous to operators who are using the ARISS digipeater. “Try uploading messages during low-usage periods, and avoid using the mailbox if you have a minimal station or can’t maintain a solid link to the system.”

Only one user at a time can connect to the mailbox, Ransom points out. “If a station establishes a connection but cannot maintain it,” he says, “the system will be unusable by anyone else until the mailbox times out the user and transmits several disconnect frames.”

Meanwhile, the RSOISS digipeater still appears to be listening for long periods of time and then transmitting all of its buffered information at once, although the frequency of the problem appears to be related to the location of the Earth station. Ransom says he noticed a couple of minor delays toward the end of the pass today. "Lately, it hasn't been too bad over the US, but Europe is still reporting good and bad passes," he said.

RSOISS Packet System Commands

W(rite) = Type **W** (call sign) plus a carriage return <CR> to begin entering a message.

Subject: = Header (maximum 30 characters) goes after the prompt: "Subject". End the header with <CR>.

Message: = Message are entered after the prompt: "Message". Ending each line with <CR>. You terminate with either a <CR>/EX<CR> or <CR><ctrl-Z><CR> to the indicate end of your message.

B(ye) = Type **B**<CR> to DISCONNECT. The system will respond with "**Thank you CU AGN 73**"

F(ile) = Type **F**<CR> to show the latest 20 messages.

L(ist) = Type **L**<CR> to show the all messages.

M(ine) = Type **M**<CR> to show latest 20 messages (to or from you). Subsequent **F** or **M** command will show next 20 active messages.

R(ead) = Type **R n**<CR> to show the number **n** message.

A(bort) = Type **A**<CR> to Abort.

J = Type **J**<CR> to show connect stations.

K(ill) = Type **K n**<CR> to delete the number **n** message (only to or from you).

H(elp) or ? = Type **H**<CR> or **?**<CR> to display this, but avoid using this command if at all possible.

Where Are We?

If you ever wondered where the club members located, here is a map showing everyone's QTH. Only Ralph, K3PHH is not shown since he has moved to Virginia and space does not permit a map that large.



Station Activities

Welcome to new member Eric, WA3TAD. Congratulations to K3ROJ on the new Extra. AC3P returned to DXing by giving out points during the CQ WPX Contest. KB3JDE and KB3KRW are Proud owners of new Yaesu V5X Hts. W3JEH came out of retirement to serve as Official Secunder at the meetings. Accordingly nothing can be voted on until Ron seconds the motion. AC3F was heard on 15 meters working ZD8D Ascension Island. KB3KRV is kit building and is the proud owner of a new IC-706 MKIIG. Rumor has it that Dave is also taking up squirrel hunting.

Net Reports

Two Meter Net: Check-ins: WB3FMT(NCS), K3ROJ, W3VRD, KB3JVP, AC3P, KB3JDE
KB3KRW, WA3TAD, KB3KRV, AC3F
70 Centimeter Net: Check-ins: WB3FMT(NCS), KB3JVP, AC3P, K3ROJ, KB3KRW, KB3JDE,
AC3F
10 Meter net: Check-ins: WB3FMT(NCS), KB3KRW, AC3P, K3ROJ, KB3KRV, WA3TAD,
W3VRD, KB3JDE (via 2 meters).

Public Service

May 1 - March of Dimes WalkAmerica coordinated by BARC. Contact n3vej@arrl.net.

May 29 – Veterans 5K Run coordinated by BARC. Contact n3vej@arrl.net.

ARES/RACES

Tsunami Drill

On March 19th a joint ARES exercise was held by Baltimore County and Harford County ARES teams. The purpose was to provide cross-training for the two groups and to hold an exercise without the use of repeaters.

Relay stations were set up running from Federal Hill in Baltimore up to Havre de Grace. Each county ran separate nets on pre-determined simplex frequencies.

Aero Member WB3FMT and KB3JDE participated in what became known as the Great Chesapeake Tsunami Drill of 2005.

COMEX REPORT

A monthly COMEX was held on April 12 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Joe, WB3FMT acted as Liaison from Central Region Net to BACO on 146.67 MHz repeater. Frank, AC3P, performed as Liaison from BACO to CRN on the 147.105 MHz. Repeater. Pat AC3F monitored the AC3F-10 TELPAC node in 145.01 MHz.

In addition to passing formal voice traffic, Frank initiated several emails using a laptop and 5 watt ht to the AC3F-10 Node. All emails reached their destination.

HURRICANE WATCH DEMO

The Baltimore County Office of Emergency Preparedness has requested the BACO ARES/RACES Team to set up a demonstration at Martin State Airport in conjunction with the arrival of a C-130 Hurricane Chaser Aircraft.

Al, RACES RO has requested volunteer operators to set up and pass simulated messages as well as present a demonstration of WINLINK 2000, the e-mail over amateur radio system.

WB3FMT, W3VRD, AC3F and AC3P from Aero have volunteered so far.

VE Corner

The regular Test Session was held Saturday March 19th at the Essex Library. There were three applicants. Two upgraded to Extra. One passed the Tech exam.

Thanks to KB3KRV, AC3P and AC3F for another successful test session.

May 28, 2005 is the next testing date at White Marsh.

2005 Elections

The Club Constitution states that Elections for officers will be held on the last meeting in May. So be sure to attend the May 18th meeting and make your voice heard. We want every chad to count.

May in History by WB3FMT

55 Years Ago

1950

5-24-1950

W3JCL has been appointed emergency coordinator for this area.
Ed Note(W3JCL was BARC member Ernie Dobos who owned Amateur Radio Center first on Fulton Ave., then after 1968 on 36th St. in Hampden).

53 Years Ago

1952

5-14-1954

Ralph Sparks W3RMN was voted into the Aero Radio Club.

45 Years Ago

1960

5-18-1960

Election results Pres- Fonzi, VP- Marguard, Tres- Robinson,
Rec Sec- Steiler, Cor Sec- Bosak

Club members proposed making 6 meter portable rigs for emergency use.

30 Years Ago

1975

5-28-1975 Lee Thompson WA3QKB voted into the club. Election results:
Pres – Schools, VP – Al Alexander, - Tres- Warren Hartman, Cor
Sec – Joe Wagner, Rec Sec – Joe Bosak

25 Years Ago

1980

5-28-1980 The club received a new 450 Motorola XTMR and power supply
it needs a crystal for the receiver. Hopes to be operational soon.

15 Years Ago

1990

5-2-1990 The club voted that the 1st monthly meeting be held at Kenwood
High School and the 2nd meeting be held at Coffman's. It was
voted that the Vice Pres can be the holder of petty cash when the
Treas is not present. The max cash authority is \$25.00.

10 Years Ago

1995

5/3/1995 Frank AC3P was a guest at the Aero radio club meeting. Frank
reported that Kenwood High School is on the verge of forming a
radio club. *Ed Note (Where did the time go?)*

5/17/1995 Elections: Pres Bernie Ulbrich, VP Kabelski, Tres Schools, Rec
Sec Bosak, Cor Sec Ron Distler

5 Years Ago

2000

5/3/00 Mike Shoemaker K3YGC applies and becomes a member.

5/17/00 Logging software has been installed on the clubs portable
computer the software was installed by Bob WA3SWA..

Elections results , Pres Phil Hock, VP Al Alexander, Tres Ralph
Schools, Rec and Cor Sec Ron Distler.

COMING EVENTS

- April 20: Meeting Coffman's 7:30 p.m.
Apr 23: Eastern Shore Hamfest Easton ARS <http://www.k3emd.com>
April 27: 2 meter net 147.24 Mhz. 8 p.m.
May 1: Hagerstown Hamfest Antietam ARA <http://www.w3cwc.org>
May 3: Hurricane Hunters at Martin State Airport
May 4: Meeting Coffman's 7:30 p.m.
May 11: 10 Meter Net 8 p.m. 28.445 MHz
May 18: Meeting Coffman's 7:30 p.m. **ELECTIONS**
May 25: 2 meter Net 147.24 MHz. Repeater 8 p.m.
May 27-29: CQ WPX CW Contest
May 29: Memorial Day Hamfest Howard County Fairgrounds
Md. FM Assoc. <http://www.marylandfm.org>