

THE AERO AERIAL

The Aero ARC Celebrating 65 years of Amateur Radio Fun



Thanks to HANDIHAM for the use of this graphic.

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, Md
Volume 8 Issue 10
October 2011
Editor Frank Stone AC3P

Officers

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President	Repeater
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President	VE Testing
Lou Kordek	KB3LJF	Recording Secretary	Public Service
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary	Webmaster
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Phil Hock	W3VRD
Pat Stone	AC3F
Bob Landis	WA3SWA
Al Alexander	K3ROJ
Frank Stone	AC3P
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

LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Frequency (MHz)	NET NAME
Daily	9 – 10 am	147.03	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 st Tues	7:30 pm	145.330	Baltimore ARES Net
2 nd Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> 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

The Aero Quantum Mechanics Net: Anytime any Frequency contact WB3FMT. The last one was on 449.575 MHz on Tuesday 8 pm on March 30'. Who knows where or when the next on may be?

Aero Net Reports

August

70 Cm: AC3P(NCS) KA3SNY KB3PGN W3VRD KA3VAE

10 Meters: AC3P(NCS) KA3SNY W3VRD

2 Meters: AC3P(NCS) W3JEH KB3VAE KA3SNY WB3FMT (patched from 40 Meters)

Station Activities

Wishes for a speedy recovery to Mary Miko, YF of Joe, **WB3FMT**. **KB3JVP** is working on another antenna project. **AC3P** reports the Mini-Quad survived tornado warnings, tropical storm warnings and an earthquake. The ARRL sent a thank you to **AC3F** for 75 VE test sessions.

VE Testing



The final test session at White Marsh was held on Saturday, September 17th. There were three applicants, all of whom became new licensees. Congratulations to new General, Thomas Minnick KB3WMW, and new Techs; Michael Kladias, KB3WMV and Jeffery Starling, KB3WMX. The participating VEs were WB3FMT, AC3P and AC3F.

The next session will be at the Essex Library on November 19 at 12:30 p.m.

Public Service

Set your calendars for October 15th for the running of the Baltimore Marathon. Operators will be needed for this citywide event. The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club is the point for this operation, so check with a BARC member for information.

Also October 15th is Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air weekend. Aero ARC will be working with the scouts on this project. Contact Richard KB3VAE for more info.

Vanity Call Fee Increase

As of September 9, the FCC increased the fee for a vanity call sign by 90 cents. The new fee is \$14.20; up from \$13.30.

Unpaid Political Announcement

The following is included at the request of a candidate for ARRL office and not an endorsement by the Aerial Staff.

Hello MDC members in the ARRL Atlantic Division. My name is Phil Theis, K3TUF, and I'm running for the Atlantic Division Director position.

Directors serve on the corporation's Board of Directors, without compensation, and are responsible for financial and administrative policy decisions in the day to day, and long range operations of the League. They serve a three year term and are voted upon by the members in their geographic division. The Atlantic Division Director represents 13,000 such members.

Growing up in the Philadelphia EPA area I was licensed in 1962 as KN3TUF and served in numerous ham radio positions along the way. You can check out my website (k3tuf.com) for all the extremely interesting details of my life :-)

My wish is to keep this hobby exciting and every move I make as Director would take all of the many interests we have into account. We are a diverse bunch of hobbyists and that's what makes it so much fun.

I want to have the input of all of the members in the Atlantic Division. So I would publish the agenda prior to Board meetings to solicit your feedback. I would also bring the ARRL into the modern communication age by using the most popular forms of social media to reach particularly the newer members of our hobby. We amateurs communicate extensively via the Net and we need to reach those members who use social media but are not club joiners.

In previous balloting for Director, the majority of ballots ended up in the trash; I'd like to see a good turnout in this election process. Please look for your ballot in the coming days and exercise your right to choose your representative at the ARRL Board of Directors. It's your choice.

And please take a look at my website: k3tuf.com

Phil Theis K3TUF

D Expedition to Number 2 Land by WB3FMT

It started out as a routine Thursday evening on August 4, 2011, when I received a call from Up State New York, my son Michael had been in a serious car accident. We were called by his wife's uncle that he had been in a car accident with little details, other than that he had a broken right leg (he broke the femur, tibia, fibula bones) and some other injuries. Mike lives outside a town named St. Regis Falls, New York, this small town in the northern country of upstate New York, is 501 miles from my QTH in Essex, Maryland. Mike was sent to a local hospital about 20 miles away, and then ground transported to a Trauma Center in Burlington, Vermont 107 miles away (a 3 hour ambulance ride). Friday evening they operated on Mike and put titanium rods in the femur and a rod in one of the lower leg bones as well as plates and screws. I was called by the surgeon Saturday morning stating that Mike was doing well and would be expected to be released from the hospital on Monday August 8th. The aunt of Mike's wife Nicole used a van outfitted with a mattress to transport Mike 107 miles back home. Meanwhile on the home front Mary and I made preparations to go to New York, this is an 11 hour drive, using interstates 83, 78 and 81 to reach Watertown, then another 103 miles on a two-lane highway (like Philadelphia Road). While we were getting the necessary supplies, food, snacks, medical supplies (for me and the XYL) along with crutches and wheelchair to be used by Mike. Frank (AC3P) suggested that I take my ICOM 706 to be able to keep in touch with the guys and gals in Essex and Middle River Maryland. Great Call on Frank's part.

First of all in the town of St. Regis Falls, NY there are no cell phone towers, he does not have cable, Satellite TV, or Internet at his house. Mike likes it in the ruff; he and his family live in a log cabin a quarter of a mile from a 2 mile dirt road before you get to a paved road. Places are not close or convenient where he lives at the top of the Adirondack Park in many places in this area electricity is not an option but a luxury. Some travel information; a trip to the Post Office or local Quickie Mart is a 9.4 miles round trip, the closest Wal-Mart is located 40 minutes one way in Malone, NY (52.2 miles round trip), and the closest hospital Alice Hyde Medical Center is in Malone and is 52.8 miles round trip from Mike's house. You just don't go out to a fast food sub shop or have a pizza delivered.

Mike's closest relative is his wife's uncle Marty a 67.4 miles round trip to Hogansburg, NY located on the Akwesasne Mohawk Indian Reservation. I was able to go into Canada via the Indian Reservation, I did not need a passport while on Indian land.



ICOM 706 setup



G5RV



G5RV from the porch

On the 11th I set up the radio station on a kitchen counter top, consisting of an ICOM 706 MKIIG, a MFJ 969 Tuner, and a G5RV antenna and a 2 meter/440 magnetic mount. After running test on G5RV I made a tuner setting cheat sheet for 75/40/20 meters. Frank (AC3P) and I were able to contact each other that evening. Not much happened while I was gone, except for Flooding in Eastern Baltimore Country, Tornado warning for Dundalk, Maryland; Earthquakes felt from Virginia up thru Connecticut, the Baltimore Archbishop reassigned to Rome and a Hurricane Irene. I returned home on September 1st to avoid the locus and impending meteor impact.

While in the North Country of New York, the modest setup enabled me to make 107 contracts. Thanks to Frank (AC3P) and Al (W3YVQ) I was able to keep in touch and monitor conditions in eastern Baltimore Country. Don't let anyone sell you short on using a G5RV antenna, it works quite well, as it does for Field Day. I was able to contact 24 US States including California KW6LA, New Mexico KBOEO and 9 foreign countries, (Canada VE3LQ, Netherland PI4DX, England M00GY, Ireland EI7JN, Italy IK2YFT, Germany DL5RBW, Spain EF1DR, Jamaica West Indies 6Y5JH, and Australia VK6TQ.) An finally a light house N1QLL (US0041). The Australia contact was a reverse pile up, I got on a 40 meter net and every one took turns talking to the VK6 station. I talked to a number of special event stations in the Kansas QSO party for the state's 150 anniversary of its statehood. Of the 108 HF contacts 17 were on 75 meters, 72 on 40 meters and 19 on 20 meters.



Tuner Cheat Sheet

Storm Clouds

Border Patrol

Stop Sign in Mohawk

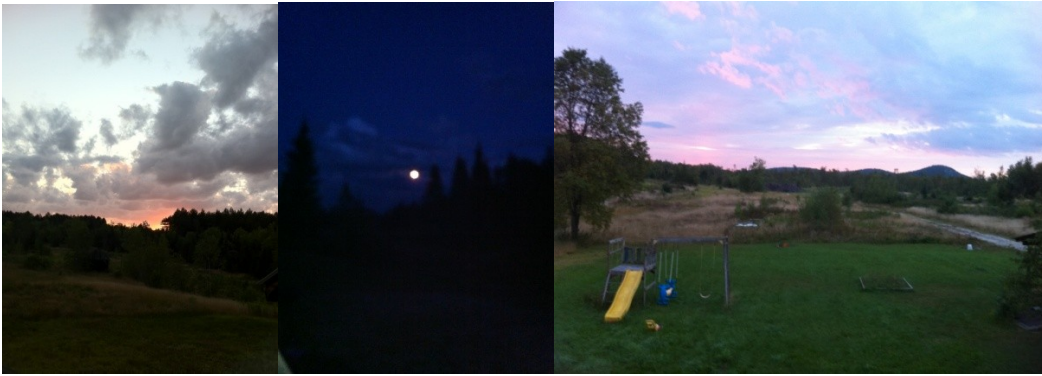
Some facts using the G5RV; it was connected to 2 trees and the porch roof. The elevation was strung from the side porch (facing east) the antenna feed point was connected to a tree about 16 feet high, the right leg was connected to another tree about the same height, the left leg of the g5 was tied off to the porch roof forming about a 125 degree angle. The twin feed line connected to the porch at about 115 degrees. The height of the feed line was almost as high as the G5RV. The antenna's legs faced due east and southwest. Broadside was north and south. The soil in the North Country as it is called is mostly sandy mike's property sits an elevation of 1,450 feet above sea level and is 44.49 North Latitude.

Was able to run the ICOM at 100 watts had to make a setting chart to be used with the tuner, one for dry and one for wet weather. I used the wet settings most of the time. I was able to tune the rig on 75, 40, 20, 17, 10, and 6 meters in either dry or wet conditions. I had limited success working the Maryland Emergency Phone Net on 3.820 on 80 meters due to thunderstorms in upstate New York and Maryland.

Since I am an amateur astronomer I had to check out the skies.

Essex Md. 39 19 N
 St Regis Falls NY 44 39 N
 + 5 20 N

I was able to see stars in the bowl of the bowl of Ursa Major (Big Dipper), all of Ursa Minor (Little Dipper), Draco. I could see stars down to at least + 5.5 magnitude, which was checked against the Sky6 and Cartes du Ciel (planetarium programs). In upstate New York there was almost no light pollution. Even with a full Moon on the 13th of August I could still see the Milky Way. I could see the Milky Way split below Lyra towards Scorpius; I could not see the all of the bottom stars in the tail. Next time I go to St. Regis Falls, along with the ICOM I am going to take my Celestron CPC 1100, 11 inch telescope.



Sunset

Moon Rise

Sun Rise

Thanks to Frank and Al for helping Mary and myself keep in touch with the rest of the family back home in Essex, Maryland during all of the catastrophes.

73' Joe Miko WB3FMT

In Memoriam

Casper J Falkenhan

We are saddened to report the passing of Mr. Casper J Falkenhan, the father of club member Eric, WA3TAD. Mr. Falkenhan passed away on August 29, at Eric's home after a long illness. He was a WWII veteran who was in the 101st Airborne Division and served in the European Theater. After returning from the war Mr. Falkenhan married Gloria Gray and worked for the Salvation Army and Stark Film Co. in Baltimore. In the late 1960's he started his own business, Audio-Visual Services.

Mr. Falkenhan is predeceased by his wife, Gloria and a son Mark. In addition to Eric, he is survived by daughter, Mrs. Marylou Farnsworth of Wilson Point and five grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held at Orem's Methodist Church where he was a longtime congregant on September 17th.

Our condolences go out to the Falkenhan family in what has been a very difficult year.



October 2011

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CARafest Howard County Fairgrounds www.carafest.org 2	3	4	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm 5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	10 Meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 pm 12	13	14	Baltimore Marathon Jamboree on the Air 15	
16	17	18	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm 19	20	21	22	
Mason-Dixon Hamfest Westminster http://qis.net/~k3pzn 23	24	25	2 Meter Net 147.24 Mhz 8 pm 26	27	28	29	
30	Happy Halloween  31						

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for October 2011

October 3rd – First Quarter Moon and Venus passes 3° N. of Spica in Virgo.

October 11th - Full Moon “**Hunter Moon**” for both Native American tribes and the Colonial Americans. This is the smallest moon of 2011 the moon is at apogee (furthest point) 252,546 mi or 406,434 km.

October 12 - 13th – The just past full Moon will be near Jupiter, upper right on the 12th and left on the 13th.

October 20th – Last Quarter Moon

October 21th – Orionid meteor shower peaks at approx 20 per hour, Prospect Fair, Moon just past Last Quarter.

October 26th – New Moon

October 27th - The Moon passes 0.2° S. of Mercury at 02:00 UT (22:00 EDT).

October 28th - Venus is 1.8° N of the Moon 05:00 UT (01:00 EDT on 10/28).

October 29th - Jupiter is at opposition high in the sky. Planet size is 50 arc seconds, magnitude -2.9 and is about 60° above the southern horizon. Great viewing op.

Planet Lookout

Mercury – In evening twilight during last half of the month Magnitude -0.5 size 4.8 arc seconds.

Venus – Low in the West after Sunset. Magnitude -3.9 size 10.3 arc seconds.

Mars – In morning sky moving into Leo . Magnitude +1.2 size 5.4 arc seconds.

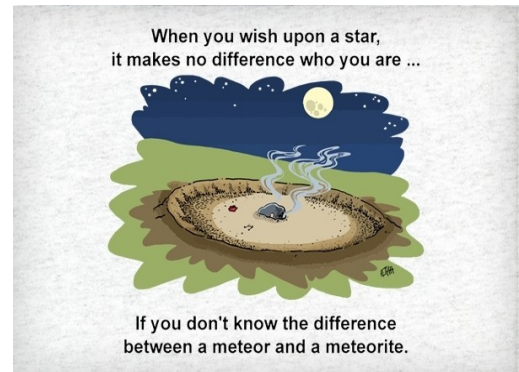
Jupiter – Opposition on 28th , high in the South, Magnitude -2.9 size 49.5 arc seconds.

Saturn- Behind the Sun

Uranus - In Pisces, Magnitude +5.7 size 3.6 arc seconds.

Neptune – In Aquarius, Magnitude +7.9 size 2.5 arc seconds.

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



The word **meteor** comes from the Greek *meteoros*, meaning high in the sky. Meteoroid is a rock in space, Meteor is what we see in the sky and Meteorite is what lands on the ground. All the items above are the same thing, it just depends how we see it. The rock (meteoroid) is small grain of sand to boulder size rocks in space. The proposed definition is between 100um and 10 meters. Meteors are sometimes called shooting stars. The meteor is the visible event we see in the sky. This visibility is due to the heat produced by ram pressure not friction. Like the shock wave on a supersonic jet. A fireball or bolide is a very bright meteor brighter than magnitude -4 or greater. The Meteorite is the portion of the meteoroid that hits the ground and survives. Meteoroid orbit the Sun. Not all of the orbits are the same, some comet remnants that form meteor showers.

There are 7 major meteor showers per year; their name is based on the constellation from which they appear to come from. The light and phase of the Moon affects the number of meteors you can see.

Name	Peak dates	Meteors per Hr
Quadrantids	Jan 3 rd	120
Lyrids	Apr 22 nd	20
Eta Aquarids	May 6 th	60
Perseids	Aug 13 th	90
Orionids	Oct 21 st	20
Leonids	Nov 17 th	15
Geminids	Dec 14 th	120