

THE AERO AERIAL



W3JEH 223.84/222.24 REPEATER

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, Md
Volume 9 Issue 2
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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
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer	Trustee
Ron Distler	W3JEH	Resource Coordinator	Club Nets

Committees

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 -)
W3JEH (223.84 MHz -)

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

Aero Net Reports

December

10 Meters: AC3P (NCS) K3ROJ

2 Meters WB3FMT (NCS) AC3P AC3F KB3JVP

Station Activities

KB3PGN takes her Harpalooza Tour to Annapolis. **AC3F** was heard on 80 meter CW with her Vibroplex straight key on New Years Day. **AC3P** is field testing a new G5RV lite antenna. **KB3JVP** is rebuilding his radio room.

Alan Markham WA3WRT (SK)

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Al Markham, WA3WRT, on December 28, 2011 at the age of 85.

Although Al was not an Aero ARC member he was a Volunteer Examiner with AERO's VE Team and helped with many test sessions over the years until poor health required him to stop.

Al was also very active in traffic handling and was one of the Directors of the Maryland Emergency Phone Net and Baltimore County Races prior to 2005.

Al will be greatly missed.

W3JEH Repeater Back On Air



On the bench for repair



Ready to go



Antenna System

Ron W3JEH is pleased to announce the return of his 1.25 meter repeater to the airwaves.

Ron took the machine offline to correct a malfunctioning volume control. What started as a simple repair evolved into a virtual overhaul of the system. Early last year the repeater rf functions were working but the audio levels remained low. However after careful tweaking of all the levels in the circuitry, the W3JEH repeater came back to life with a good signal with audio punch.

Ron's repeater consists of a Hamtronics receiver and 1 watt exciter which drives a 25 watt Hamtronics amplifier. The antenna is a Cushcraft 222 Mhz Ringo Ranger at 45 feet. Adding in the height above average terrain puts the antenna at 345 feet above sea level.

Ron invites everyone to try out to 223 Mhz machine. The operating frequencies are 223.84 Mhz output; 222.24 Mhz input.

The repeater is not only well-heard in Eastern Baltimore County, KB3SVC near Rising Sun was able to hold a QSO with AC3P in Middle River through it.

R.I.P. Mini-fest

The annual January Mini-fest at Timonium is no more. According to their website, The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club decided to hold a members-only auction for old gear at their facility in Owings Mills during their regular meeting.

The Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest will still be held on Saturday March 31st. For more information go on the WEB to <http://www.gbhc.org/>.

T-MARC NEWS

Welcome to 2012 everyone.

December 2011

Applications in Process:

KB3AVZ - Received application for coordination for UHF in Oakland, Md.
Sent Notice of Proposed Coordination to neighboring coordination groups
Sent Construction Coordination for 442.6000.

Bull Run Mtn. ARA - Received application for coordination for 220 pair in Haymarket, Va. Sent Notice of Proposed Coordination to neighboring coordination groups

DelMarVa VHF & Microwave Soc - Received application for coordination for UHF pair in Bluemont, Va. Sent Notice of Proposed Coordination to neighboring coordination groups

DelMarVa VHF & Microwave Soc - Received application for coordination for UHF pair in Haymarket, Va.

E-STAR - Sent Notice of Proposed Coordination to neighboring coordination Groups and co-channel systems within TMARC for VHF pair.

W4GMF -- Sent Notice of Proposed Coordination to co-channel system within TMARC area for VHF pair. Objection received and being reviewed.

Coordinations Withdrawn / Cancelled:

448.3250	KT4ER	Bluemont, Va.
927.2125	KT4ER	Bluemont, Va.
902.2125	KT4ER	Haymarket, Va.
147.2550	SPARC	Prince Frederick, Md.

On Air Status Requests sent to:

448.3250	KT4ER	Bluemont, Va.
927.2125	KT4ER	Bluemont, Va.
902.2125	KTEER	Haymarket, Va.
923.2500	WB4APR	Annapolis, Md.
923.2500	K3ATV	Rockville, Md.
224.9400	K3ATV	Rockville, Md.

Other:

Received 1 UHF notice of proposed coordination from SERA
Received 1 VHF notice of proposed coordination from SERA
Reviewed / Updated ARRL Repeater Directory listings

73,

T-MARC
The Mid-Atlantic Repeater Council
www.tmarc.org

Leap Year Net

Usually the Aero Fifth Wednesday Net is on the 440 repeater. In 2008 we held a special Leap Day Net on February 29th. At that time we said there would be another net in 2012.

It's 2012 and the calendar shows that the this time February 29 falls on a fifth Wednesday. What to do?

In 2008 the Leap Year Day Net was held on 6 meters. This year plans were being made to hold the special net on the W3JEH 223 Mhz. Repeater. Since not everyone in the club has a 222 Mhz radio a compromise has been reached.

On February 29th there will be a Tri- Band Leap Day Net at 8 pm local. Those who can should check in on the W3JEH 223 Mhz. Repeater. Those who do not have 222 Mhz. Capability may check in on either the 147.24 repeater, or the 449.575 machine. Those machines will be patched through to the W3JEH repeater.

This plan will allow anyone who wishes to participate in the 2012 Leap Day Net.

Field Day Planning

Planning for Field Day 2012 is underway. On Thursday, January 12 a meeting was held to determine how to breakout areas of responsibility and to ask for volunteers to help.

In previous years almost all of the jobs were handled by Bob WA3SWA. With the change of venue, Bob would like to relinquish some of the jobs and have other members take them on.

At the meeting were WA3SWA, WB3FMT, ND3D and AC3P.

Some areas for consideration were Antennas, Rigs, Shelter, Tables and Chairs, Safety, Publicity and many others. Volunteers are needed to coordinate these and the other areas.

A volunteer does not have to supply the items in each category but only has to contact those who can help procure them.

A call for volunteers will go out at the regular meetings.

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for February 2012

February 7th – Full Moon. “**Lateness**” for the Native American Mohawk tribe and the “**Moon of Ice**” for the Celts. Mercury is at superior conjunction 04:00 EST (09:00 UT).

February 9th – Uranus 0.3 ° below Venus at 00:00 EST (05:00 UT).

February 14th – Last Quarter Moon

February 19th– Uranus in conjunction with the Sun 16:00 EST (21:00 UT).

February 21th – *New Moon*

February 22nd – Asteroid Pallas (2nd largest asteroid 325 miles wide) is in conjunction with the Sun 13:00 EST (18:00 UT)

February 24th – The Moon passes 6° North of Uranus at 08:00 EST (13:00 UT).

February 25th – The Moon passes 3° North of Venus 17:00 EST (22:00 UT).

February 27th – The Moon passes 4° North of Jupiter 01:00 EST (06:00 UT).

February 29th – Leap Day and First Quarter Moon

Planet Lookout (mid-month)

Mercury – In evening twilight sets at 18:18 EST, magnitude 1.4 size 5 arc seconds.

Venus – Evening Star sets around 21:15 EST, Magnitude -4.2 size 16.7 arc seconds.

Mars – Rises before 19:30 EST, Magnitude -0.9 size 13.1 arc seconds.

Jupiter – High in the south-west at sunset and sets around 23:15 EST local time, Magnitude -2.3 size 37.4 arc seconds.

Saturn- Rises around 22:30 EST, Magnitude +0.5, size 18.1 arc seconds.

Uranus - In Pisces sets around 20:30 EST, Magnitude +5.9 size 3.3 arc seconds.

Neptune – In Aquarius sets before 18:00 EST, Magnitude +8.0 size 2.4 arc seconds.

Pluto – In Sagittarius, Raises at 04:00 EST, Magnitude +14.1 size 0.1 arc seconds.

Leap of Fate

...26, 27, 28, 29... what! Wait!! What an extra day? Yes it ok it's a Leap Year 2012 is one of 25 such years between 2000 and 2104. Year 2100 is not a leap year. The rule for leap years is a year every 4 years, but not every 100 years, then again every 400 years. But why?

It is thought that the concept of a leap year came from the Egyptians. The Egyptians first began using a calendar with a leap year during the Ptolemaic dynasty (300-30 B.C.) Many people credit Julius Caesar for the use of the leap year in his Julian calendar, but he almost certainly took the ideas from the Egyptians. One legend says that he took the idea from Cleopatra. So in 46 B.C., Julius instituted a single year some 445 days long—later known as the Year of Confusion—to correct years of drift in one fell swoop and prepare for the start of a reformed calendar. That so-called Julian calendar reorganized the 12 Roman months into a 365-day year with a leap year every four years. It was a great improvement—but with a lingering flaw.

But a nagging, problem arose: 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds isn't exactly a quarter day. In 730 A.D., the Venerable Bede, a monk, pointed out that the 365 1/4-day Julian year was 11 minutes, 14 seconds too long. That running error added up to 1 day every 128 years.

In 1582, Pope Gregory XII noticed that the spring equinox (day and night are of equal length) fell upon March 11 instead of March 21. The pope fixed the problem by erasing 10 days, declaring that the day following Oct. 4, 1582 would be known as Oct. 15, 1582. To make the calendar more accurate: leap year was modified so that if the first year of a century is divisible by 400, it is a leap year; if it's not, then that year isn't a leap year. Oh, and another small change – New Year's Day went from March 25th, to January 1st.

The Gregorian calendar, which now hangs our walls, wasn't popular when it was first developed 1582. Britain and the American colonies accepted the new calendar 170 years later, in September 1752. At that time 11 day's were lost, (September 3rd thru 13th) and it caused riots in the streets. Russia didn't accept the Gregorian calendar until 1918.

Oct 1582

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



February 2012

			Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm			Virginia Frostfest Richmond, Va www.frostfest.com
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	10 Meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 pm	9	10	11
 12	13	 14	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm	16	17	ARRL DX Contest CW
ARRL DX Contest CW 19	President's Day  20	21	2 Meter Net 147.24 Mhz 8 pm  22	23	24	25
Annandale Winterfest www.viennawireless.org 26	27	28	Aero Leap Day Net 8 pm 223.84/449.575/147.24 29			