



The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
 Middle River, MD
 Volume 17, Issue 11
 December '21

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN Fill in: Joe M

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Website:	http://w3pga.org	Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Aero-Amateur-Radio-lub/719248141439348			

About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Essex SkyPark, 1401 Diffendall Road, Essex. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time. Meetings canceled if Baltimore County Public Schools are closed or dismiss early.

Repeaters

W3PGA - 2 M : INPUT : 147.84 MHz, OUTPUT : 147.24 MHz, PL 123.0

W3PGA - 70 Cm: INPUT : 444.575 MHz, OUTPUT : 449.575, PL 123.0

W3JEH -1.25 M: INPUT : 222.24 MHz, OUTPUT : 223.84 MHz

Club Nets

Second Wednesday Net – 70 Centimeters (449.575 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m.

Fourth Wednesday Net – 2 Meters (147.24 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m.

Fifth Wednesday Net – 10 Meters (28.445 MHz) @ 8 p.m. Local Time

Radio License Exams

The Aero Amateur Radio Club Sponsors Amateur Radio License Exams with Examination sessions are throughout the year. Walk-ins are welcome; arrive after start time. \$15 charge.

2022 Examination Schedule DUE TO COVID-19 DATES May be **Canceled**

Time:	12 pm new Time	12 pm
Dates:	January 15	March 19
	May 19	June 25 @ Skypark
	Sept 24	Nov 12

American Legion Post 180, 1331 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD 21237

Contact: Patricia Stone AC3F, email: ac3fac3p@yahoo.com, landline: 410-687-7209

LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Freq. (MHz)	Net Name
Daily	9 – 10 am	145.330	Oriole Net
Daily	6 pm	3.820	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 – 7 pm	145.330 no PL	Balto. Traffic Net (b/u 146.670 PL 107.2)
Daily	7 pm & 10 pm	3.643	MD/DC/DE Traffic Net
2 nd Tue	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County RACES Net
2 nd Wed	8 pm	449.575	Aero ARC Net
4 th Wed	8 pm	147.240	Aero ARC Net
5 th Wed	8 pm	28.445	Aero ARC Net
Fridays	7:30 pm	145.330	Back in the Day Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

Repeater News

Both Repeaters are operational again. A new controller radio was installed and the knock-down and start-up sequences were tested and are operational. Each repeater has its own control separate key sequence.

The two-meter repeater now operates in either Analog FM or Fusion C4FM. The 440 repeater will only operate in either Analog or Fusion but not in an Auto Mode., so it was set to the Analog FM mode.

DEC 15th Meeting "Meet and Greet"

The December 15th meeting will be a Meet and Greet no formal meeting. Just a gathering of folks to say HI have some coffee and some cookies. If you would like to bring a little something feel free. The get together starts at 7:30pm. Hope to see you all then.

A Christmas Tail by Gary KN4AQ.

Yes, it's a Christmas poem. But I offer it in the spirit of the holiday season to all, whatever you believe or celebrate. In a troubled world, this is a time when we remind ourselves that peace is the goal. I hope we find it soon. Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through two-meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Technicians,
Took their HT's to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,

And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
By a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam -
A flying sleigh,
With an eight-element beam,

And a little old driver
Who looked slightly mean,
So I thought for a moment
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,
The Santa of Hams,
On a mission this Christmas
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of *CQ*,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,

And filled out all my late
QSLs, for a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth
Till the station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp...
(Never worked right before –
Now it works like a champ).

A new low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV.
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That wouldn't compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box.
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?
An Elecraft, TEN-TEC
Or Flex, could it be!"
(If he thought I'd been bad
It might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those weekends
I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly

Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy.
It was *my* call he sent.
But the cards and the postage
Will cost a month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone - no goodbye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pile up was big.
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
Came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What an old ham expects:
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX."

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A Christmas warning. If you are getting you daughter a Hippo for Christmas, remember the load
bearing factor of your deck.

