



The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
 Middle River, MD
 Volume 18, Issue 2
 February 2022

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

Officers

President Joe Miko WB3FMT

Vice-President Rob Ballou AE3B

Recording Secretary Larry Hill KB3QWC

Corresponding Secretary Pat Stone AC3F

Treasurer Warren Hartman W3JDF

Resource Coordinator Ron Distler W3JEH

Committees

Repeater Phil Hock W3VRD
 Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
 Ken Erisman NE3A
 Dave Brunner AC3EO

VE Testing Pat Stone AC3F

Public Service Bob Landis WA3SWA

Webmaster, Facebook Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ

Trustee: Dave Fredrick KB3KRV (W3PGA)
 Jim Marshalek KC3FBL (AE3RO)

Club Nets Joe Miko WB3FMT

Contests Bob Venanzi ND3D

Website: <http://w3pga.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Aero-Amateur-Radio-Club/719248141439348>

About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Essex SkyPark, 1401 Diffendall Road, Essex. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time. Meetings are 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 MHz, PL123.0
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. Local Time
Fourth Wednesday Net – 2 Meters (147.24 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time
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 the ARRL VEC. Examination sessions are throughout the year. Walk-ins are welcome; arrive no later than 30 minutes after start time. \$15 charge.

2021 Examination Schedule DUE TO COVID-19 DATES May be **Canceled!**

Time:	12 noon	12 noon	
Dates:			
Where:	American Legion, Rosedale	American Legion, Rosedale	

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

Contact: Patricia Stone AC3F, email: ac3f@juno.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)

SILENT KEY – Calvin Davenport, Jr.



Calvin J. Davenport, Jr.
October 13, 1953 ~ January 16, 2022 (age 68)

Sad news Calvin AB3PP S/K on January 16, 2022. Survived by wife, two sons, two daughters, six grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends.

Calvin was a member of the BTN and a former member of the Aero Arc family.

Our thoughts and prayers for the family.

Net Reports

1-12-22: 440 net, 20:00 to 20:32 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, K3DON Don Joppatowne, AC3EK Harry Overlie, KB3QWC Larry Middle River, N3RES Ray Lutherville, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, AC3F Pat Middle River, N3FQC Don Perry Hall, WA3QLY Tom Middle River
12 participants on the net.

1-26-22: 2 meter net, 20:00 to 20:30 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, K3DON Don Joppatowne, N3FQC Don Perry Hall, KB3VAE Richard Bowley's Quarters, N3RES Ray Lutherville, AC3F Pat Middle River, KB3QWC Larry Middle River, WA3QLY Tom Middle River
8 participants on the net.

FIELD DAY 2022 – Voting on the Menu

If you haven't done so, please get your vote in! Ballot found on last page. Due before Feb. 16.

MEETINGS

1-5-22: Meeting canceled due to illness of a number of members.

1-19-22: Zoom meeting, due the large number of Covid infections in the State.

HAM NEWS

HB331 - Amateur Radio Station Antenna Structures, or Third Time's the Charm!

Local Government - Regulation of Amateur Radio Station Antenna Structures has been assigned a number, HB331. The Environment and Transportation Committee will hear it on Tuesday, February 8, at 1:00 pm, so spread the word to your fellow radio operators! [See below for navigating to the information on how to submit testimony.]

SYNOPSIS

Requiring that an ordinance adopted by a county or municipality to regulate amateur radio station antenna structures may not preclude amateur radio communications, must accommodate amateur radio communications, and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the purpose of the ordinance.

HISTORY

You may remember that this will be the third time this legislation has been introduced. The first time, the bill passed the House unanimously, then COVID shut down the entire session. Last year, the bill again passed the House, but the chairman on the Senate side bottled up ALL legislation in his committee.

STRATEGY AND INSTRUCTION

So, it is untrue to say that the legislation failed. Personally, I believe if this gets from the House to the Senate with the same unanimous numbers, it will pass the Senate and be signed by the Governor. Delegate Boteler was assured by Del. Kumar Barve, the Chair of the Environment and Transportation Committee, that there should be no problem in achieving a favorable vote from his committee.

Since it's been heard twice before, Del. Joe Boteler, Marty Pittinger KB3MXM, MD Section Manager, ARRL, and Tom Henry N3TJR will be part of the panel to answer any questions that may come up. If additional oral testimonies (Zoom only) are needed, I'll let Joe Miko WB3FMT know, and he can blast it out to the Club.

Also note, all bill hearings are live on YouTube (<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/>) The MGA hearing schedule can be found here:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Meetings/Day/guidelines>

And please feel free to call your House legislators and the committee members to voice your support of HB331. They need to know the amateur radio community is still engaged on this issue. You can also provide written testimony via an MyMGA Account, which you must set up first. If you have previous written testimony, look it over. Maybe you want to add something, like recent events where amateurs were essential, for example, or you could just resubmit your previous testimony (but changing to the new HB331 bill number).

Joe Miko WB3FMT had one of the best testimonies I've seen, and literally became the foundation of Del. Boteler's presentation to the Committee last year.

We may not need as much effort with the House side as with the Senate side. We should still call and write, but we should not need any additional in-person witnesses other than the three persons mentioned above.

Once it gets to the Senate, that's when we need to push. We will need any new written testimonies (I believe the ones from the House side carry over to the Senate), phone calls, etc. to help get this bill to the Senate floor for a vote. My task is to make sure Del. Boteler is ready to make the presentation to the committee, and I'll need YOUR help to make sure he is adequately prepared, so anything you think worth mentioning, send it to me N3TJR@arrl.net.

LOOKING AHEAD

I know for two years running I've expressed confidence that this bill would pass, but the unforeseen events of the past two sessions derailed our efforts. It does not mean that the legislation is bad.

Once this passes, we can begin to use it as a foundation for petitioning counties and local communities to give amateurs the reasonable access we need for emergencies. I have been working closely with Marty Pittinger KB3MXM to help craft the narrative and methods of communications to (finally) achieve the goal of not only getting HB331 passed, but what to do going forward.

If there are any updates or changes, I'll let Joe Miko WB3FMT know, and he'll send it out to the club members.

You can also email or call me directly at 443.629.5600 with any questions. I am genuinely open to any suggestions for the future, and I know the Aero Club is an actively engaged amateur community. I'm proud to be a member.

73s,

Tom Henry N3TJR

N3TJR@arrl.net

Legislative Aide for Del. Joseph Boteler

[Anyone who wants to submit testimony will have to make a MyMGA Account (<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Account/Register/Tracking>) and sign up with the committee on Friday, February 4, between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. To find guidelines for submitting testimony, go to mgaleg.maryland.gov/ and click on the Committees tab, then House, then Environment and Transportation, and scroll down to and click on [Witness Guidelines and Committee FAQs](#).]



VE CORNER

by Pat Stone, AC3F

Information pertaining to the Jan. 22 VE testing was not available at "press time".

Hamfests

Sunday, March 27, 2022: Winterfest, ARRL Virginia Section Convention

Location: Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003

Website: <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/>

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society

Talk-In: 146.685 MHz Repeater (neg offset, 110.9Hz CTCSS)

Contact: Mike Aimone , WA9AHZ, 4835 Powell Rd., Fairfax VA, 22032, Phone: 703-870-1730

Email: dontay155@gmail.com

Sunday, April 24, 2022: Maryland Mobileers Spring Hamfest

Location: Odenton Volunteer Fire Company, 1425 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/marylandmobileers/hamfest?authuser=0>

Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.805/107.2

Public Contact: Bruce McPherson , AB3AC, 484 Peach Leaf Ct Odenton, MD 21113, Phone: 410-456-2500, BMCPHERSON73@VERIZON.NET

Saturday, April 30, 2022: York Hamfest

Location: Elicker's Grove Park, 511 Roth Church Rd, Spring Grove, PA 17362

Website: <http://yorkhamfest.org>

Sponsor: York Hamfest Foundation

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.330+ PL123.0

Public Contact: Duane Sterner, KB3QLQ, 7197 Hershey Rd. Spring Grove, PA 17362, Phone: 717 332-1385, duane.sterner@yahoo.com

Aero Members Participate in FT Roundup

by Bob Landis, WA3SWA

On the weekend of December 4-5, 2021, Harry (AC3EK) and I participated in the FT Roundup contest. The results have been posted on <https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft-roundup>.

In the single operator category, there were six entries from the state of Maryland. I was #2 with 4601 points and Harry was #4 with 2924 points. Of 632 total worldwide single-op entries, I was #327 and Harry was #391.

The single-op entries from Maryland were:

KB3AAY 15142 points

WA3SWA 4601 points

N3XL 3078 points

AC3EK 2924 points

N8URE 2139 points

W3IDT 448 points

There were two multi-op entries from Maryland as well:

WA3EKL 7905 points

N3DPB 5670 points

ARES Activates as Wind-Driven Year-End Fire Destroys 1,000 Colorado Homes

Members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® ([ARES](#)®) in Colorado, volunteering for the Boulder County (Colorado) Amateur Radio Emergency Services ([BCARES](#)), turned out on December 30, 2021 as the devastating Marshall Fire roared through Superior and (portions of) Louisville, Colorado. Intense winds whipped a grass fire south of Boulder near Marshall into a massive firestorm that became too large and fierce for firefighters to battle.



"The only battle was evacuation, as the towns of Louisville and Superior and [the] northern suburbs of Denver lay in the fire's wind-driven path," said Amateur TV (ATV) enthusiast and equipment dealer Jim Andrews, KH6HTV, of Boulder. Andrews said the only thing limiting the fire's spread was the fact that the winds diminished by that evening.

"By that time, hundreds of homes had burned down," Andrews said, whose own house was among them. "This was not a typical forest fire, but an urban firestorm." Thousands of people were evacuated.

BCARES Board of Directors Chairman and Region 1, District 3 Emergency Coordinator Allen Bishop, K0ARK, said that a request from the Boulder Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to activate the

emergency operations center (EOC) is what initiated the ARES activation. "At that time, staffing was initiated with the activation of the BCARES Radio Network, with three BCARES members assigned to the EOC," Bishop said.



The BCARES Net was promptly activated.

ARES volunteers supported communication at evacuation sites and established emergency communication as commercial power failures and preventive shutdowns by utilities caused a loss of commercial communication. "Within about 8 hours," Bishop said, "battery back-up systems for cell phones and landlines failed, and 911 services went down."

"To facilitate a restoration of these emergency services, BCARES activated the Mountain Emergency Radio Network ([MERN](#))," Bishop said. Established in 2010, MERN consists of repeaters installed at fire stations in Gold Hill and Allenspark, at community centers in Nederland and Raymond, and the privately owned Airlink Repeater. "These repeaters provided the emergency communication links that facilitated the restoration of 911 communications back to the dispatch center for the duration of the power outages," Bishop explained. The Allenspark Neighbors Emergency Network (ANEN) and Airlink (Alternate Access Radio Network) participated.

According to Bishop, as the Marshall Fire expanded, evacuation center support was requested at three locations to provide on-site situation reports using Winlink. Bishop said BCARES members and mutual-aid ARES operators from neighboring Districts established local communication with the BCARES EOC radio position from designated field locations. BCARES was activated for 2 days. One person died as a result of the fire.

As Andrews reported, Boulder County announced on New Year's Day that nearly 1,000 homes were lost. In addition to his own home, the fire destroyed his daughter's home next door, as well as the homes of all his close neighbors. "We had no official warning of the coming firestorm," Andrews said. "My only warning was from our daughter who saw it happening." Andrews added, "KH6HTV VIDEO, as a supplier of ATV gear, will be out of operation for a very long time to come." Andrews edits the monthly Boulder Amateur Television Club TV Repeater's REPEATER newsletter.



Jim Andrews, KH6HTV, shared this photo of what remained of his home. [Jim Andrews, KH6HTV, photo]

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for February 2022

Feb 1st – New Moon; Space Shuttle Columbia STS 107 disintegrates on re-entry killing all 7 aboard, 2003

Feb 2nd - Jupiter is 4° N of the Moon 21UT, 16EST

Feb 3rd - Luna 9, USSR 1st craft to make a soft-landing on the Moon in 1966.

Feb 5th Quasar 3C273 identified by Maartin Schmidt at 2.44 BLY in 1963

Feb 7th – Uranus is 1.2° N of the Moon 20UT, 15EST.

Feb 8th – First Quarter Moon

Feb 9th - Ceres 0.03° S of the Moon 11UT, 06EST

Feb 12th – Venus greatest illuminated extent -4.9, 22UT, 17EST.

Feb 16th – Full Moon, “Snow Moon” for Traditional and “When the spruce tips fall Moon” for the Passamaquoddy (Great Lakes) American Indian. Also, Mercury greatest elongation W (26°) 21UT, 16EST.

Feb 18th - Zodiacal Light Vis in West after evening twilight for next 2 weeks.

Feb 23rd - Last Quarter Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:50 EST and Sunset 17:42 EST

Mercury Evening Rise 05:30 Set 15:32; Mag +0.1; Size 7 seconds

Venus Morning Rise 04:18, Sets 14:37 Mag -4.9 and 39.1 arc seconds.

Mars Morning Rises 04:42, Sets 14:18, Mag +13 and 4.5 arc seconds wide.

Jupiter Evening, rises 07:33, Sets 18:46, Mag -2.0 size 33.2 arc seconds.

Saturn Evening, rises 06:29, Sets 16:50, Mag +0.7 size 15.3 arc seconds.

Uranus Evening **Rises** 10:06 Sets 23:42; Mag +5.8 size 3.4 arc seconds.

Neptune Evening Rises 08:02 Sets 19:40; Mag +8 size 2.4 arc seconds.

OPIUCHUS: Forgotten till now!

What is the origin of the constellation?

Mythology. As is the case with all of the Zodiac constellations, Ophiuchus was recorded in the 2nd century by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy, and the name is Latin for "serpent bearer". The snake is often associated with doctors, so Ophiuchus is often associated with healing images. The Romans associated the constellation with Asclepius.

Is Ophiuchus the 13th star sign?

The 13th star sign is supposedly a constellation called Ophiuchus and that means it dramatically shifts the dates of the 12 other star signs. Infographic shared via BBC The Social. Is Ophiuchus a real zodiac sign? Not in our astrological system! So, it changes nothing for us.

Ophiuchus is a large constellation straddling the celestial equator. Its name comes from the Ancient Greek ὀφιοῦχος (ophioûkhos), meaning "serpent-bearer", and it is commonly represented as a man grasping a snake. The serpent is represented by the constellation Serpens. Ophiuchus was one of the 48 constellations listed by the 2nd-century astronomer Ptolemy.

NASA broke the news early in 2020 in a blog post that explained that when ancient Babylonians created the zodiac over 3,000 years ago, they wanted dates on the calendar to correspond with star constellations. But, there were 13 constellations, and they were working with a 12-month calendar. So they ditched Ophiuchus.

Ophiuchus's: Place in the Zodiac Nov. 29 to Dec. 17. Right after Scorpio Nov 23 to Nov 29. And before Sagittarius which would be Dec 17 to Jan 20.

FIELD DAY 2022

SATURDAY EVENING DINNER - PREPARED BY SUSAN LANDIS

NAME & CALL

Please select only ONE of the following and enter your selection here _____

Submit your selection via email to Bob before February 16th at wa3swa@gmail.com or bring this form to the meeting.

In the event of a tie, we will have a runoff vote.

- | | | |
|------------|-------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 - | MAIN | BBQ Pulled Chicken |
| | SIDE | Seasoned Roasted Potatoes |
| | SALAD | Tossed Green Salad |
| | BREAD | Dinner Rolls |
| 2 - | MAIN | Ham with Pineapple and Brown Sugar Sauce |
| | SIDE | Baked Cheesy Potatoes |
| | SALAD | Tossed Green Salad |
| | BREAD | Dinner Rolls |
| 3 - | MAIN | Baked Mac and Cheese with Smoked Sausage |
| | SIDE | Fried Apples |
| | BREAD | Dinner Rolls |
| 4 - | MAIN | Asian Chicken and Vegetable Stir Fry |
| | SIDE | Fried Rice |
| | BREAD | Egg Roll Bites |
| 5 - | MAIN | Sloppy Joes |
| | SIDE | Seasoned Roasted Potatoes |
| | SALAD | Tossed Green Salad |
| | BREAD | Dinner Rolls |

FIELD DAY 2022

COOKIES!! - PREPARED BY SUSAN LANDIS

NAME & CALL

Please select THREE of the following and enter your selection here _____

Submit your selection via email to Bob before February 16th at wa3swa@gmail.com or bring this form to the meeting.

In the event of a tie, we will have a runoff vote.

- 1 – Sugar Cookies
- 2 – Snickerdoodles
- 3 – Molasses Cookies
- 4 – M&M Cookies
- 5 – Oatmeal Raisin
- 6 – Peanut Butter
- 7 – Caramel Slices
- 8 – Butter Rum Meltaways