

B-Plus

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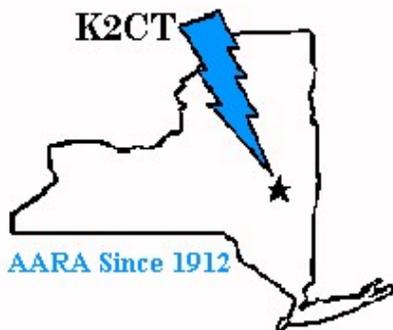
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An ARRL Special Service Club



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AARA April DINNER

Friday April 20

Bavarian Chalet, Western Ave
Guilderland, NY

Next Regular Meeting
1653 Central Ave. Colonie
Fri. May 11

April AARA DINNER

The AARA Dinner will be Fri. April 20th .
This year's dinner will be at the Bavarian
Chalet, Western Ave Guilderland, NY.
[Map](#) (last page) Dinner Chicken Cordon Bleu or
Roast Prime Rib.

The evening will start off 6PM with cash bar
and hors d'oeuvre. Only \$30.00
Speaker : Jim McKnight, K2LM audio and
visual presentation on photography and
digital cameras But make plans **now** to
be there.... Sign up with Ernie, K2EP or ED,
W2UV at the meeting, by email or by phoning
them(above). k2ep@arrl.net , w2uv@arrl.net

K2CT repeater
Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 100.0hz
or 146.67 (-) MHz pl tone 127.3Hz
linked to
444.30 (+) MHz pl tone 100.0Hz

Raffle Tickets are **sell, sell** this is the big club **fund raiser** Top Prize: **Digital Camera** We Need You to Sell Sell Sell The digital camera is a wonderful prize and the money is a tremendous boost in all our club efforts Get your sold ticket stubs to someone going to the dinner or send to Saul Abrams, K2XA 307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159 More tickets can be printed from the www.qsl.net/k2ct / [meetings info](#) / tickets

ATVET SCHEDULE

Albany Troy Volunteer Examiner Team

If you would like to help the ATVET Team contact Jerry, WA2IWW at 482-8700 or e-mail wa2iww@arrl.net ARRL VEC ANTICIPATES \$10 TEST FEE FOR 2001

ATVET will again be holding their exam sessions in the C.I.I. Building (Center for Industrial Innovations), Room 3051, on the Campus of R.P.I.. Examination room doors will open 40 minutes prior to the exam time, with exams starting at the times indicated above. **NOBODY** will be admitted into the exam room after the starting time. ATVET

Exam Date	Day	Doors Open	Exam Time
May 12	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
June 27	Wed.	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
July 25	Wed.	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
August 22	Wed.	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
Sept 26	Wed.	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
Oct 13	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
Nov 10	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

(Doors will Close)

never requires any pre-registration for any of their exams. A test fee of \$10.00 either cash, or check (payable to ARRL-VEC <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/>), is required for those taking any of the exam elements offered by this team. Make sure you bring two proofs of identification, with one being a picture ID. Also bring all of your original documentation (current license, CSCEs...etc.), along with photocopies, calculators, pens and pencils to the exam session. Anyone needing special handicap arrangements is asked to call in advance. The CII Building is handicapped accessible. Cancellations, if needed, will be announced on both the Capital District

Repeater Net (Nightly on 146.94MHz at 6:30 PM) and WGY - 810 AM. Talk-in on 145.17/R .

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams wb2sbo@aol.com or 518-439-7357

ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, atvet@n2ty.org or wa2iww@arrl.net or 518-482-8700

NEW YORK PRB-1 EFFORT CONTINUES

Hudson Division Beacon April Issue

Our PRB-1 Task Force has again been able to get bills introduced into the Assembly and Senate in the State of New York. Earlier in mid-January our group met at the home of Assistant Directors Herb and Barbara Sweet, K2GBH and WA2KCL of Hyde Park, NY with Westchester Assemblyman, Ron Tocci to discuss the bill and assure its reintroduction. Present at the meeting were N2FF, N2GA, KR2L, K2DO, W2GLA, K1XV, **Dave, WB2VXS** and **June, KB2JTG**. By late February the two bills had been reintroduced.

The Assembly bill is A.1565 and the Senate Bill is S.2893. Last year our bill cleared all the necessary committees in the Assembly and was awaiting a move to the floor for a vote when the session ended in early July. We expect this year to be able to again get through the Assembly committees and hope that A.1565 will receive priority and a vote in the 2001 session. The Senate bill, S.2893, has four sponsors - Volker, Larken, Maziarz, and McGee - which indicates a very good support level for the bill. Members of the

task force are planning a trip to Albany to meet with key legislators.

We need thousands of letters, e mails and phone calls to get passage of both bills. The division web site, <http://www.arrlHUDSON.org> has more information, a copy of the bill, sample letters and a means of looking up the addresses of state legislators. Please help us achieve this important goal so that more NY amateurs may have a chance at an effect antenna system. NY clubs may want to arrange letter writing nights

All AARA members who participate in contests are asked to send a copy of their summary sheet and soapbox comments (plain text only, please) to Walt and Sue. Send an e-mail to :

sue_and_walt@compuserve.com

Pay your Dues

Checks should be made out to AARA and sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA, 307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159 **ONLY \$15/year**

Public Service: Upcoming events:

Please contact me or see me at a meeting if you would like to work at any of these events.

Remember, public service is a way of justifying our use of the spectrum!

A new Public Service season is beginning. Last year we donated 675 hours to the community. Way to go, volunteers!!! A list of the events for 2001 of which I am currently aware (I expect a couple more to be scheduled) is below.

Please contact me if you are interested in working. Having volunteers ahead of time can eliminate those desperate last-minute phone calls...

22 April (Sunday) MS Walks in Albany and Schenectady

6 May (Sunday) March of Dimes "Walk America"

24 May (Thursday) Corporate Challenge

14 July (Saturday) MS Bike Ride: Saratoga to Ticondaroga

15 July (Sunday) MS Bike Ride: Ticondaroga to Saratoga

15 July (Sunday) Thacher Park Trail Run

14 October (Sunday) Mohawk-Hudson River Marathon

30 October (Tuesday) Pumpkin Patrol

31 October (Wednesday) Pumpkin Patrol

Laurie M. Warner, AARA Public Service Chair
(518) 872-9056 or n2osb@arrl.net

PUBLIC SERVICE Thanks to Debbie N2XXW, Howard WA2AFD, Matthew N2MDB, Tony W2BEJ, and Laurie N2OSB, who worked the season's first public service event, the Winter Marathon. It was held on Sunday 4 March, just before the blizzard, and was fairly uneventful except for some equipment problems. That's the way we like it! (Well, not the equipment problems)

2001 ARRL DX CW CONTEST AARA RESULTS

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
W2ZU	1,472	282	1,244,466	32
WF2B	100	66	19,800	--

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
WE2F	???	???	1,379,376	--

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
N1EU	2,526	521	3,948,138	37
K2ONP	2,263	427	2,898,903	35
W2GDJ	1,573	372	1,755,468	--
N1JP	1,033	369	1,140,210	--
K2XF	928	342	952,128	24
K2BX	658	295	582,330	--
K2EP	506	230	349,140	--
NA2NA	148	106	47,064	--

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
N2LBR	1,592	330	1,576,080	35

(N2LBR and WA1KKM, ops.)

TOTAL FOR CW WEEKEND

AARA -- -- 15,893,103 --

2001 ARRL DX PHONE CONTEST AARA RESULTS

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
W2ZU	674	211	425,642	15
WF2B	383	172	197,628	--

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
K2XA	2,861	474	4,068,342	37
W2GDJ	1,755	407	2,142,855	34
WE2F	1,270	322	1,226,820	--
N1EU	949	393	1,118,871	--
K2XF	937	300	843,300	25
K2BX	892	311	832,236	17
N1JP	827	293	726,933	--
WK2H	467	207	290,007	13
K2EP	475	199	283,575	--

CALL	QSOs	COUNTRIES	SCORE	HOURS
N2LBR	905	276	749,340	32

(N2LBR and WA1KKM, ops.)

TOTAL FOR PHONE WEEKEND

AARA -- -- 12,905,549 --

GRAND TOTAL (BOTH WEEKENDS)

AARA -- -- 28,798,652 --

Thanks to everyone who sent us their scores!
73, Sue and Walt sue_and_walt@compuserve.com

Upcoming Events

April 20 AARA Dinner **Bavarian Chalet**

Suspending Wire Antennas

Bob, W2XM

At the last two meetings of AARA, the membership was treated to presentations by experienced amateurs who described their radiating systems. The talks were so well received that I was encouraged to take this opportunity to provide some additional practical information regarding low-band antennas...specifically, their installation.

The W2XM farm includes a horizontal V for 75 and 80 meters. Of course, there is a support at the feedpoint. Since the feedline is supported here, its weight does not pull downward on the antenna wires, and so it does not contribute to the tension in them.

The facility also includes a 40-and-15-meter dipole which shares a center insulator and a feedline with a 20-meter dipole. The feedpoint is only 12 feet above the roof, so only 12 feet of RG-58 weighs upon the antenna.

With a typical, almost horizontal, center-fed dipole which is supported only at the ends, the tension in the wire which is caused by the weight of the cable can easily exceed ten or twenty times the weight of the cable. (Of course, as the weight of the cable pulls down on the feedpoint, the antenna becomes less straight and less horizontal...but let's keep this simple so that the author's point is clear.) I try hard to minimize the apparent weight of the cable and thus the tension on the wire...because I hold up the ends of my wires with Bungee cords!

I buy whatever length of Bungee cord I need from Shaker Ace Hardware on Rte. 155 in Latham. (Most stores have bungee cords in lengths of up to about two or three feet; the hardware store I mentioned sells the real Bungee-brand elastic rope in whatever length the buyer wants, right off the spool.) The Bungee brand appears to be more weather-resistant than other brands I've used; I've

had some pieces of Bungee-rope in use for more than five years.

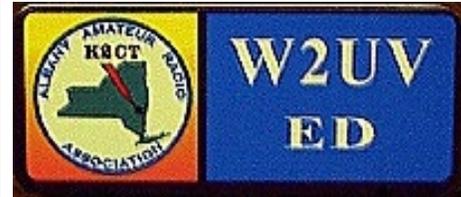
For each end of a dipole, I typically use twenty feet (unstretched) of Bungee rope. I adjust the tension by stretching the Bungee approximately ten feet. There is still another ten feet available for tree

or tower sway. (These lengths are approximate and are only intended to give the reader the idea.)

Shaker Ace Hardware stocks two thicknesses of Bungee rope, 6 mm and 9 mm (slightly less than quarter inch and slightly less than three-eighths inch). The 9 mm Bungee is a good choice for various types of wire antennas.

My wire antennas used to break several times a year. Since I've completed putting Bungees on all of them, not one has come down. W2XM/2 has operated from several schools over the years. Bungee antenna supports have always been used because they forgive measurement errors and because they always hold the wire taut (the wire stays high and it looks good)

We are taking orders for the official AARA call sign name tag.



\$7.00 each with one or two lines of text as shown. For a magnetic back, add \$2.00. Contact ED, W2UV@arrl.net

SWAP SHOP

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at wd2ajs@arrl.net or call 489-3110

FOR SALE: cleaning house, all gear cheap call Lee Califano, W2FYA at 436-1296

Hey Take A LOOK ↓

Check out our new updated page at QRZ.com.
<http://www.qrz.com/database?callsign=ka2bsa>

I just did a little web surfing at QRZ. There are now 39 amateur radio stations in Voorheesville NY. 9 of which are scouts and our club station KA2BSA. We have 10 members of the troop enrolled in the class at the Schenectady museum. If they all successfully complete the class and receive a license that would be 20 ham stations in Voorheesville. That will be 40% of Voorheesville hams are involved in scouting. Of that group, they will be 24.5% of the hams in Voorheesville under the age of 21. It is a shame how we can sit back and say the youth of today are not interested in ham radio. All it takes is a little effort on your part. Lets keep the ball rolling.

Ray, N2ZQF

By popular demand, our club sweatshirts can now be ordered in gray. The following two styles can be ordered in S, M, L, XL & XXL.

Either style is available with logo only, call sign only, name only, call sign with name, or anything else you might want printed. XYL's name, etc. \$20.00 each, regardless of print options. Add \$2.00 for XXL. **Contact Ed, W2UV**

877-4897

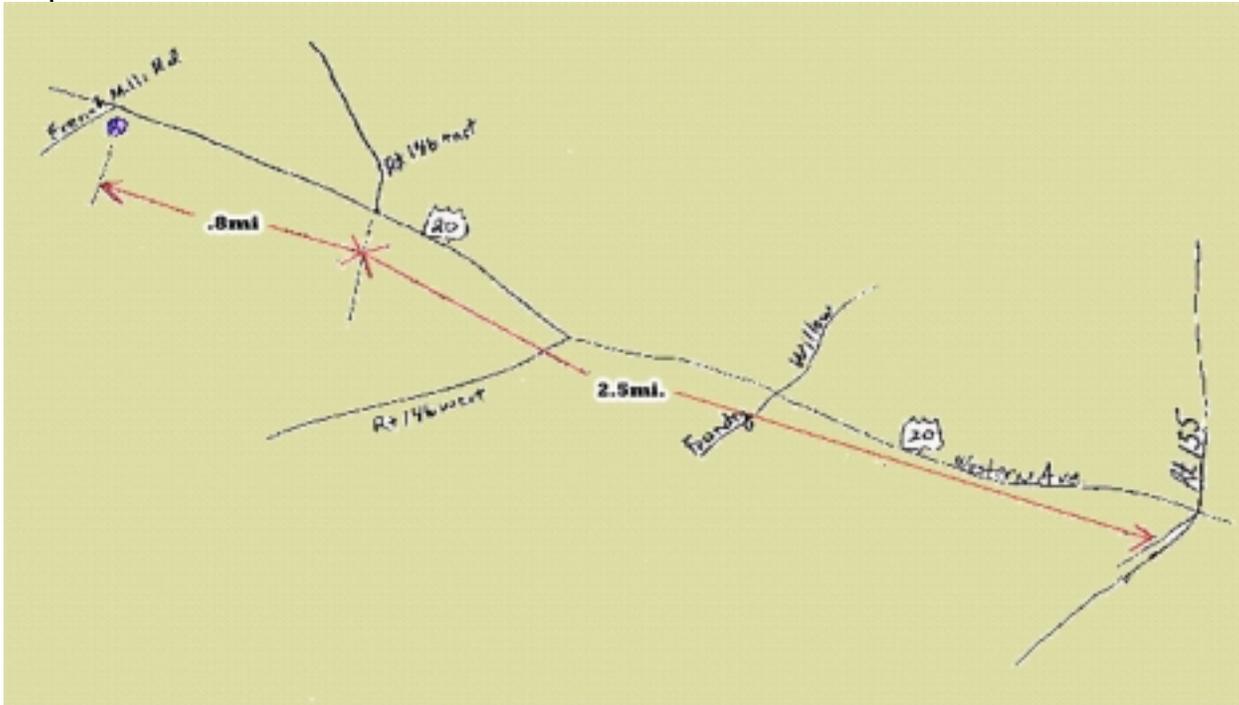
Small AARA logo



Full front AARA



Map to Bavarian Chalet Western Ave 3.3Miles west of Rt155



B-PLUS May deadline is April 29th

Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Bill with your address corrections write to Bill Nettleton, K2BX 7 Frederick Pl., Troy, NY 12180 or e-mail at k2bx@arrl.net

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