

B-Plus

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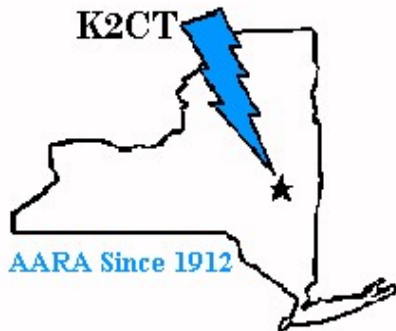
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Affiliated with The American Radio Relay League
An ARRL Special Service Club



AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave.
Colonie

Friday Feb. 9

Social Hour 6:55 PM
Meeting 7:45 PM

Refreshments
cookies, soda, diet soda, coffee

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February Meeting

Let's talk low band antennas.

The sun spot cycle has peaked and it won't be long before we are all chasing DX on 40, 80 and 160 meters.

Come to the February meeting and see what some of your fellow hams are using for antennas.

Topics will include inverted L, wire loops, and phased verticals. If you have a favorite antenna, come and share it.

Raffle Tickets are printed **sell, sell** this is the big club **fund raiser** Top Prize: **Digital Camera** We Need You to Sell Sell Sell More tickets can be printed from the www.qsl.net/k2ct /meetings info

K2CT repeater
Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 107.2hz
or 146.67 (-) MHz pl tone 127.3Hz
linked to
444.30 (+) MHz pl tone 100.0Hz

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
			(Doors will Close)
Feb 10	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
March 10	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
April 14	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
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

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

SK: Another Amateur Radio legend is gone. **William I. "Bill" Orr, W6SAI**, of Menlo Park, California, died in his sleep January 24. He was 81.

An ARRL member, Orr was best known for his numerous amateur radio books and reference works, many aimed at beginners. His titles include The Radio Handbook, The Beam Antenna Handbook, The Quad Antenna Handbook, The VHF-UHF Manual and The W6SAI HF Antenna Handbook, some written in collaboration with Stu Cowan, W2LX. Ironically, friends say, the lack of an antenna in recent days had kept Orr off the air.

Orr owned a condominium in Maui, Hawaii, and operated from there two or three times a year as KH6ADR. Orr's wife, Sunny, died about five years ago, and he lived alone. He is survived by four daughters and a son.

ATTENTION HF CONTESTERS

In light of the multi-megapoints being generated by AARA members in the major HF contests lately, Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, and Sue Rothschild, N2LBR, have been charged with the task of keeping track of them all. As the club's new scorekeepers, we will assemble and tally all scores in the major HF contests submitted by AARA members, for publication in B-Plus.

The next big contest is the ARRL International DX Contest. The CW weekend is February 17-18 UTC, followed by the phone weekend on March 3-4. **All AARA members** who participate in these contests are requested to send a copy of their summary sheet and soapbox comments (plain text only, please) to us at:

sue_and_walt@compuserve.com

Get on the air, have fun, and enjoy the sunspots while they last. We hope our oil-cooled abacus is up to the task of totaling everyone's points!

AARA Web site

<http://www.qsl.net/k2ct>

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...

4 March (Sunday) Winter Marathon

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

AARA DINNER

The AARA Dinner will be Fri. April 20th . This year's dinner will be at the Bavarian Chalet, Western Ave Guilderland, NY. Dinner selection not competed yet. The evening will start off with cash bar and hors d'oeuvre \$? Speaker ? But make plans noew to be there.... Sign up with Ernie, K2EP or ED, W2UV at the meeting, by email or by phoning them. the k2ep@arrl.net , w2uv@arrl.net phone no. on page 1

2001 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

There was a great time had by a few guys who decided to operate the VHF contest on January 20 & 21st. Despite the freezing temperatures and 15 inches of snow on the ground the station was manned and operating for 17 hours. The 8 ft by 8 ft. heated enclosure was comfortable for 4 operators. The operating stations constructed by John, WE2F provided an efficient use of the available space. Jim, K2ZP was able to get 3 old 486 computers up and running to use for logging. A week prior to the contest, John N1JP and Bill K2BX hiked in to the VHF station with the monitors & keyboards and got the computers set up and ready to go.

On Saturday the 20th the contest started at 1900 Z. Over the weekend the station was manned by: by John N1JP, John WE2F, Jim W2FWS, Ernie K2EP, Seymour K2XF, Mike, WD2AJS, Saul K2XA, Bill K2BX, Barry N1EU & Jeff W2ZU. The results are as follows:

50 MHz. 111 Qso's
144 MHz. 98 Qso's
220 MHz. 28 Qso's
432 MHz. 49 Qso's

Total Score: 23,168

Special thanks to Dave, N2DU for the use of his 220 MHz Transceiver and to Herm's son in law, Craig McMillian for plowing out the road to the contest station.

Upcoming Events

Feb	10-12	North America Sprint CW
	10-12	CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
	12-13	Novice Roundup
	17-18	ARRL International DX Contest CW
	24-25	CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest
Mar	3-4	ARRL International DX Contest SSB
	10-11	North America Sprint RTTY
April	20	AARA Dinner MAKE PLANS NOW

We are now 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

We Want YOU

The youth of the capital district is seeking knowledge in the field of Amateur Radio. Are you willing to HELP. If there is one thing I have learned over the last 15 years of working with children. It is they have a thirst for knowledge. They are willing to learn if we are willing to teach.

ARE WE WILLING TO TEACH ???

I have listened to a lot of discussions over the last few years. I have heard comments like the younger generation is not interested in ham radio they have the Internet. Is this really true? Recently a group of about 200 girl scouts were introduced to the hobby at a local club radio station. About 20 of these girls expressed an interest in getting their license. That is 10% of just one group of children. In 1999 our local Boy Scout Council has served more than 36,800 youth members. If we got just 2% interested that would be 736 new hams. I heard the average mean age of Amateur Radio Operators has gone from 56 to 55. Is this because we are doing such a good job in getting younger hams interested in the hobby? Or is it because the older hams are dying? Is this really going to be a dying hobby? Or are we going to something before its too late?

I would like to propose some ideas for you to consider:

- Donation of used/new equipment to youth groups like KA2BSA.
- Donation of used/new equipment to local scout camps that are instructing ham radio and/or communications as part of their program.
- Dedicate some of your time to introduce the hobby to other youth groups (girl scouts, boy scouts, 4H, etc.).

- Open club stations or your own station for special events like Kids Day.
- Open your station to a group of girl scouts, brownie scouts, venture scouts, explorer scouts, boy scouts, or a cub scouts on the third weekend in October for Jamboree on The Air.
- Help instruct a class for children wanting to be hams.
- Financial donations to groups like KA2BSA to help keep the groups we have in operation.
- Start a youth program in your local club.

I am willing to go the extra mile for the benefit of the hobby.

ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP ?????

If you are willing to help and give a big push in the direction of Youth For Tomorrow. I am willing to push the issue and the facts to the local Boy Scout Council. Please send me an email.

I am looking for a commitment of how you are willing to help. The area in which you live. The clubs you are affiliated with. The groups you wish to work with, and the time you have available. Please send me an email at n2zqf@nycap.rr.com

Ray Ginter N2ZQF 765-2069

SWAP SHOP

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

FOR SALE: E-Z Way Tower 40 feet Hy-Gain Thunderbird TH5DX-S 5 element 3band beam 10, 15, 20-meters Telex heavy duty rotor R200-S \$600.00 contact Matt, W2EQV at 439-9531

B-PLUS March deadline is Feb 25th

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

edited by Mike Bergman, WD2AJS, 45 Swartson Ct., Albany, NY 12209 489-3110. **Articles** and B-PLUS **Swap Shop items** accepted and solicited via mail, phone, or e-mail to wd2ajs@arrl.net Permission to reprint is granted if credit is given for article source as "Albany Amateur Radio Assoc. B-Plus"; and credit for specific bylines to the author when so identified. The contents of this publication are copyrighted in all other respects.