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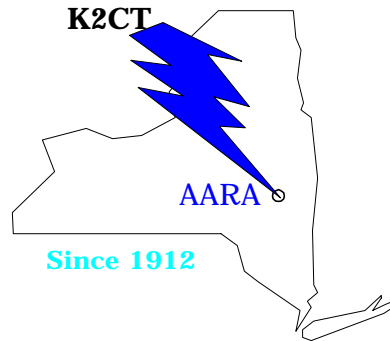
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League  
An ARRL Special Services Club

## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday FEB 8

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM  
Refreshments cookies,  
soda, diet soda, coffee

**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**

## FEB. Meeting

Chester Pawiak, KA2YPX

In 1944, Chester was the Flight Engineer  
of a B29

Then to the 309<sup>th</sup> Composit Group training  
to drop the A-bomb

In the 1980's he got his General Class  
Ticket and now can be found on 20-  
meter SSB ragchewing in Polish.

Come Check out his *8 decades* of  
experiences

**ITS 2002**

**PAY your AARA DUES**

**B-plus goes Electronic**

Dues for 2002 will be \$15 with  
B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web  
page in .pdf format [www.qsl.net/k2ct](http://www.qsl.net/k2ct)  
OR \$20 for first class mailing of  
the newsletter

**HF CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT:**  
**ARRL DX CONTEST**

It's that time of year again, and the ARRL International DX Contest is upon us. The CW weekend is February 16-17 and the phone weekend is March 2-3. Get on the air, have some fun, and send us your scores! Send a text version of your summary sheet to us at: [sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)

**It's time once again for Team Albany to kick some butt!**

73 de Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

**WA2UMX bulletin board becomes a DXCluster**

In the fall of 2000, Rich WZ2D, the long time sysop of WA2UMX, began the transition that changed the WA2UMX packet bulletin board into a DXCluster.

The change to a DXCluster was started because of the drastic drop in users of the WA2UMX pbbs as a mail server as more amateurs began using the Internet for their amateur-to-amateur mail.

Also after K2TR had a lightning strike at his QTH, the radio link from Fred's DXCluster to the WA2UMX packet system was never restored. This left many areas of eastern New York without a DXCluster.

If you have not tried a DXCluster, now is the time to do so and to tell your DX buddies that if they live in eastern New York, WA2UMX is now a DXCluster.

In you are in the Albany area, you can reach WA2UMX via its local VHF radiopoint on 145.05 MHz by just doing "c WA2UMX". For those in the Glens Falls area, you need to connect to GFL on 145.03 MHz then "c DXUMX c WA2UMX". For those in eastern Essex County, you need to connect to ESSEX or 145.01 MHz then "c DXUMX c WA2UMX". For those in Saratoga, Washington, Albany, and Schenectady Counties, connect to SRTGA5 on 144.95 MHz, then "c DXUMX c WA2UMX". For those in Schoharie, Montgomery and part of Fulton counties, connect to our Galway site as SRTGA1 on 145.01 MHz, then "c DXUMX c WA2UMX". For those in the Cherry Valley area, connect to Cherry on 147.48 MHz, then

"c DXUMX c WA2UMX". The Troy Club, N2TY, also maintains a node on 144.91 MHz. You can connect to Troy, then "c DXUMX c WA2UMX"

If you are sitting work and bored you can telnet to WA2UMX by doing <telnet://wz2d.net:7300>

When you get connected, you will need to learn the DXCluster commands that begin with "sh" for show.

For example, if you wish to use the QRZ server, just type "sh/qrz callsign".

Where does the WA2UMX DXCluster get its DX spots? The cluster gets its spots from amateurs across the world via a high speed Internet connection between DXCluster. For example when you log on, WA2UMX might tell you—

Cluster: 214 nodes, 1 local/ 829 total users  
Enjoy, Jim K2LM, Trustee WA2UMX  
Saratoga County RACES

**k2ct group at Yahoo! Groups**

By joining k2ct group, you will be able to exchange messages with other group members. Yahoo! Groups also makes it easy to store photos and files, coordinate events and more.

K2ct group at Yahoo! Groups is a free, easy-to-use email group service  
To learn more about the k2ct group, please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/k2ct>

**AARA Homepage**  
**[www.qsl.net/k2ct](http://www.qsl.net/k2ct)**

**PRB-1 into state law**

The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 04 Jan. 25, 2002

Wisconsin is poised to be the next state to incorporate the language of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into state law. ARRL Wisconsin Section Manager Don Michalski, W9IXG, said the antenna bill--Assembly Bill 368, "Amateur Radio FCC PRB-1 Amateur Radio Antenna Protection Act"--passed the State Senate this week on a voice vote. The bill now goes to Gov. Scott McCallum for his signature.

A copy of the pending legislation is available on the Wisconsin Legislature Web site, <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2001/data/AB-368.pdf>.

### New ARRL section pages debut:

The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 03 Jan. 18, 2002

Section News pages for all ARRL sections now are available on the ARRL Web site.

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/smlist.html>>.

Hams can log on to read the latest news from their section as well as keep up with what's happening in other sections around the country. The pages include ARRL section leadership contact information, links to hamfest and club listings, and a handy section boundary map. These new pages provide section managers with the means to communicate rapidly and efficiently with their constituents. ARRL members who are logged on to the site as members will find their section page link on the right-hand side of the screen--in the box just above the one that says "Current Feature Articles." Non-members will find a link to a page that lists all section pages. "Alert" messages tell hams of late-breaking section-related news, urgent events, or last-minute changes to publicized activities. To contribute news or photos, contact your section leadership

### New HF Antenna on the International Space Station

The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 04 Jan. 25, 2002

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station gained a new HF antenna January 25--although there's no HF gear aboard the ISS as yet. The antenna--the second of four slated for installation aboard the Service Module--was put into place during a spacewalk--or EVA--conducted by Expedition 4 Crew Commander Yuri Onufrienko, RK3DUO, and astronaut Dan Bursch, KD5PNU.

The antenna is a flexible-tape design--similar to, but longer than, a VHF-UHF antenna installed during a January 14 EVA by Onufrienko and astronaut Carl Walz, KC5TIE. ARISS Board Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said the antenna would be installed at the end of the Service Module in the 2 o'clock position (6 o'clock is pointing toward Earth).

The HF antenna is a 2.5-meter (8.2-foot) long flexible tape. Bauer thinks it will definitely work on 10 meters and speculated that it

might work on 15 or 20 too. Bauer added that he did not know when HF gear would be transported to the ISS nor when it might be made available for use by a future crew.

The EVA lasted several hours and also involved attaching six thruster plume deflectors on the ISS as well as the ham antenna work. Installation involved not only the mechanical deployment of the antenna but routing cables, establishing the RF connection and even photographic documentation.

A paper entitled "2001: an Amateur Radio Space Odyssey on the International Space Station," which details the development of ARISS and discusses the four new ARISS antennas is available via the ARISS Web site <<http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/EVAs/amsat01.pdf>>.

The Expedition 4 crew is tentatively scheduled to speak with students at Butte High School in Montana the week of January 28. The contact was being arranged either via Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, in South Australia or via WH6PN at Sacred Hearts Academy in Honolulu.

### Upcoming Events

FEB	9-10	North American Sprint CW
	8-11	Winter 6-meter Contest
	16-17	ARRL International DX Contest CW
	23-25	CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest
June	22-23	Field Day 2002

### Public Service:

For those of you who like to plan ahead, here is the 2002 schedule:

February 24th: Winter Marathon

April 21st: MS Walk

May 5th: Walk America

May 23rd: Corporate Challenge

June 9th: Bagel Run

July 13th & 14th: MS Bike Tour

July 21st: Thacher Park Trail Run

October 13th: River Marathon

October 30th & 31st: Pumpkin Patrol

## **NEW YORK TOWER BILL STATUS....**

Unfortunately the legislative news in New York State is not as good. We had been told to expect action on the bill when the Assembly went back into regular session. Well, they never did go back into regular session. The two bills, Assembly and Senate, are still alive and we are already pushing for action on them early in 2002. At the moment we believe it is a matter of getting our sponsors to push for action from leaders Silver and Bruno.

Shortly we hope to meet with our sponsors, Tocci and Volker, to see what needs to be done. Meanwhile keep your fingers crossed and stay tuned. We will keep you posted and let you know if your e-mails, phone calls and letter are again necessary. Hopefully they will not be necessary.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE:**

February 24th: Winter Marathon

### **WE Need YOU to Volunteer**

Contact Laurie M. Warner, N2OSB 872-9056

Or e-mail at [n2osb@arrl.net](mailto:n2osb@arrl.net)



**A t t h e J a n 2 0 0 2 M e e t i n g**

B-PLUS March deadline is Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>

***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](mailto: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](mailto:wd2ajs@arrl.net)

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## **It's 2002**

### **B-plus goes Electronic**

Dues for 2002 will be \$15 with B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web page in .pdf format [www.qsl.net/k2ct](http://www.qsl.net/k2ct)  
OR \$20 for first class mailing of the newsletter Checks should be made out to AARA and sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA, 307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159

## **SWAP SHOP**

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at [wd2ajs@arrl.net](mailto:wd2ajs@arrl.net) or call 489-3110

FOR SALE: WTB 3-1000 power amp tube contact John, WE2F 283-4304

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX101A \$125, Johnson Challenger \$150 contact Lee, W2FYA 436-1296