

# B-Plus

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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 Jan. 12**

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM  
Refreshments

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## January Meeting

Jerry (WA2IWW) will talk on amateur radio satellites and a brief introduction to several space-related topics:

Matthew (KA2KCI) will talk about his experiences working two of the FM Voice EasySats (UO-14 and AO-27)  
**WITHOUT A COMPUTER**

**Current news on Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS)**  
**Current news on AMSAT Oscar 40 (Phase III-D)**  
**Tracking Programs** 📡 **Kansas City Tracker**  
**Planetary Motion** 📡 **Doppler Shift**  
**And MORE See you at the meeting**

### **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**

## AARA ANNUAL SPRINT

2000

<u>Call</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>
W2GDJ	Dave	55
K2CT	Dan*	41
N1JP	John	37
N2MQQ	Scott	37
WD2AJS	Mike	35
K2XF	Seymour	35
KV2F	Arnie	34
K2BX	Bill	34
K2EP	Ernie	33
WB2VXS	Dave	30
W2UV	Ed	27
WB2SBO	Nels	26
N2FIN	Jim	25
WK2H	Guy	25
N2LBR	Sue	21
WA2AFD	Howard	20
WA1KKM	Walt	2
KB2JTG	June	2

\*Saul K2XA, operator

### NEW FCC SYSTEM MEANS QUICK LICENSE GRANTS ARRL Letter Dec 29

The FCC's new system to handle batch-filed amateur applications from Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has cut processing time from hours to minutes. The FCC inaugurated the more rapid amateur license application processing system December 28--slightly ahead of its original schedule.

"Way to go, FCC!" said an enthusiastic ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, after his office fed its first batch of license applications into the system. Jahnke says five dozen ARRL-VEC applications resulted in license grants about 52 minutes later. The W4VEC in North Carolina and Central America VEC also took advantage of the new system for the first time.

Except for a two-hour window right after midnight each day, the speedy new system looks for VEC submissions each hour on the half hour. With FCC license grant processing now measured in terms of hours instead of days, the major factor now determining the time from exam to license grant is how quickly VE teams get their test results to their VECs.

The FCC has been estimating a processing window of up to 90 minutes, depending on volume and arrival time. License grant results should be available immediately on the Universal Licensing System Web site,

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>, using the license search option. Applications processed by the FCC one day will appear in the public update("zip") files the following morning. Public call sign servers on the Internet should be able to update within 24 hours after FCC action—rather than the 48 hours that's been typical.

On-line filings from individuals, weekend filings and FCC-manually processed applications put into the hopper during weekdays at Gettysburg will continue to be handled as have been. These are batched for midnight processing, and weekend filings will not queue up until Monday midnight.

# AARA Needs You

I need people to help at the Vhf Contest this year. It begins on **Saturday January 13** at 2:00PM and goes to Sunday January 14 at 11:00 PM.

We are planing to challenge the Troy club this year so it should be an interesting contest. If you can make it if only for a couple of hours please let me know. For those that don't do VHF contesting you are missing an opportunity to make a score for AARA.

Jim K2ZP VHF Contest Chairman  
[k2zp@arrl.net](mailto:k2zp@arrl.net)

**The New AARA Roster Coming in  
FEB 2001**

**ANY CHANGES** in your personal info by Jan 3 let us Know contact Bill, K2BX at [k2bx@arrl.net](mailto:k2bx@arrl.net).

**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!

Sorry this is a bit late! I seem to have trouble keeping the deadlines in mind... But I can't neglect to thank all of you wonderful volunteers! Incidentally, I still have miscellaneous items, T-shirts and such, for some of you. If you think you didn't receive a freebie that you should have, let me know!

The HMRRC Mohawk-Hudson River Marathon took place on Sunday, 15 October. It seemed like a beautiful day to us volunteers, but the runners found it a bit warm, and consequently the race took somewhat longer than expected. Thanks to Ken AA2CW, Joey KB2SRD, Bill KA2OWW, Dennis N2LBT, Mike KC2DTL, Debbie N2XXW, Nathaniel KB2HPX, Tom N2SQO, Laurie N2OSB, Karen KB2UUC, Tom KC2FCR, Jim K2ZP, Jack WA2YBM, Becky KC2BYZ, Mac KB2SPM, Mike KB2VQS, and especially to Craig N2UID and Tony W2BEJ who acted as Net Controls and stayed to the bitter end.

Our largest event of the year is always Pumpkin Patrol, and this year was no exception. I had a tremendous response to my call for volunteers, and some people were unable to find a place on the schedule. Make a note for next year—volunteer early! The combined Albany/Rensselaer County net covered 18 bridges for two nights, involving a total of 41 people. I would especially like to thank those of you who volunteered for the first time at this event. Please make a habit of it!

Winter is the slow period for Public Service. The next event I have on the schedule is the HMRRC Winter Marathon on **4 March**. That should be followed in quick succession by the MS Walk later in March and the March of Dimes Walkathon in April, although I don't have dates for those events yet. If you see something that appeals to you, please don't hesitate to contact me and volunteer.

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

**Albany Amateur Radio Association members**

Compiled by George, K2ONP for B-Plus

**IN DECEMBER we Missed some people, so here is the list again.**

Notice the jump in score

**CQWW DX CONTEST – 2000 – SSB**

Call	QSO's	Zone	Countries	Score	Time On
<u>Single Operator, High Power</u>					
W2ZU	514	79	243	389,760	18 hrs
WK2H	252	45	189	132,489	
<u>Single Operator, Low Power</u>					
WE2F	864		321	997,000	29 hrs
W2UV	302	56	141	157,797	
<u>Single Operator, Assisted</u>					
K2XA	2446	158	614	5,044,312	38 hrs
<b>W2GDJ</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>2,801,748</b>	<b>36 hrs</b>
N1EU	1477	134	495	2,632,994	25 hrs
K2ONP	1101	123	401	1,623,876	25 hrs
N1JP	1106	113	391	1,565,928	
K2BX	1116	108	383	1,565,799	
K2XF	835	91	295	907,486	30 hrs
K2EP	545	84	266	537,600	
<u>Multi Single</u>					
N2LBR	961	107	341	1,202,432	35 hrs
(N2LBR and WA1KKM, Ops.)					

A total of (old 14,294,374) **19,559,221** points submitted by AARA for the YCCC. Thanks to all that participated. If you like to participate in future contests contact George, K2ONP at the meeting or e-mail [k2onp@aol.com](mailto:k2onp@aol.com)

**Upcoming Events**

JAN	13-14	NA QSO Party	CW
	20-22	ARRL Jan VHF Sweepstakes	
	26-28	CQ WW 160 meter DX Contest	
	27-28	Kansas QSO Party	

**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](mailto:wa2iww@arrl.net)

ARRL VEC ANTICIPATES  
 \$10 TEST FEE FOR 2001

# 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 dieing? Is this really going to be a dieing 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](mailto:n2zqf@nycap.rr.com)

Ray Ginter N2ZQF at 765-2069

# *Technician No Code Class*

## **KA2BSA with the help of SMARA**

Will be offering a full 12 week No  
Code Tech Class.

Classes will begin on February 18<sup>th</sup>  
2001

And ending on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2001 (weather  
permitting)

Cost: \$ 25.00 includes study book and  
other materials

Make check payable to: SMARA

Place: Schenectady Museum  
15 Nott Terr. Heights. Off Nott Terr.  
Schenectady, NY 12308

Time: Sunday afternoons from 2-4pm

This class is part of a continuing  
education program. Focusing our  
attention to bringing youth into the  
hobby but not limited to kids. Anyone  
is able to participate in the class. The  
class is limited to the first 25 people to  
sign up. Sign up by calling Ray  
N2ZQF at 765-2069 or John KA8GRH  
at 382-7890 ext. 283. To guaranty  
study books for the first night payment  
must be received by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2001

Class is offered to both children and adults.

Send payment to: SMARA

PO Box 6143

Schenectady, NY 12306

An exam session will be scheduled at  
the completion of the class.

Exam fee will be \$ 10.00

A new law signed by Governor Pataki in  
October will make telemarketing calls illegal  
to those who have put themselves on a "do  
not call" list. We had such a law in Florida  
and it did make a difference.

This law takes effect April 1, 2001.

To register so you do not get calls, go to:

<https://www.consumer.state.ny.us/prereg.htm>

### **SWAP SHOP**

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS  
at [wd2ajs@arrl.net](mailto: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 see picture below  
contact Matt, W2EQV at 439-9531



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B-PLUS Feb. deadline is Jan 28<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)

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