

# B-Plus

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ERNIE POPP, K2EP  
477-9581  
PRESIDENT  
k2ep@arrl.net

JERRY MURRAY, WA2IWW  
482-8700  
VICE PRES  
wa2iww@arrl.net

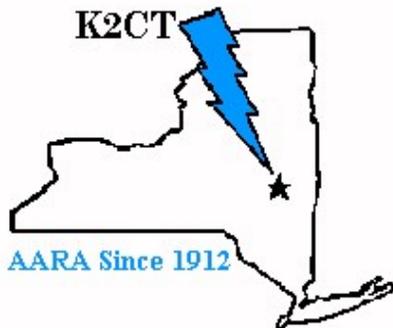
SAUL ABRAMS, K2XA  
439-5700  
TREASURER  
k2xa@arrl.net

BILL NETTLETON, K2BX  
283-6167  
SECRETARY  
k2bx@msn.com

SCOTT EUTERMARKS, N2MQQ  
725-9123  
DIRECTOR  
n2mqq@hotmail.com

DAVE PATTI, KB2HPW  
279-4662  
DIRECTOR  
kb2hpw@juno.com

SUE ROTHCHILD, N2LBR  
456-3637  
DIRECTOR  
sue\_and\_walt@compuserve.com



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



## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center  
1653 Central Ave.  
Colonie

**Friday June 9**

Social Hour 6:45 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM  
Refreshments  
cookies. soda. diet soda

SEYMOUR MILLER, K2XF  
286-1328  
DIRECTOR  
k2xf@aol.com

GEORGE WILNER, K2ONP  
279-4025  
TRUSTEE of K2CT  
k2onp@aol.com

B-PLUS EDITOR  
MIKE BERGMAN, WD2AJS  
489-3110  
wd2ajs@arrl.net

## June Meeting

**K2CT repeater**  
**Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz**  
**Alternate KC2CLR 146.07/67**  
**pl tone 127.3hz**

## Field Day Strategies

VHF June QSO Party contest June 10-12  
See page 4

What about the novice station?

Will 10 meters be open, 20, 40 or 80 meters

6 meter openings, satellite, VHF

Should we try digital modes?

Upgrade Exams, Contest Roundup

QSL cards

## Field Day T-SHIRTS

(Tee shirt pictured on page 3)

\$10.00 if the order is large enough. Contact  
Ernie, K2EP, at 477-9581 to sign up for one.

**Pay your Dues \$15/year**

Checks should be made out to AARA and sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA, 307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159

**AARA Web site**

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

**Public Service:**

April 30 was a beautiful day for the March of Dimes WalkAmerica in Albany. We spent a couple of hours outside, then were offered free pizza! Thanks to Mike KB2TYC, Herb N2TJM, Jay K2QNU, Susan N2ZOF, Jim K2ZP, Tom KC2FCR, Laurie N2OSB, and especially to Bud WF2B, who acted as Net Control.

**Events coming up:**

June 11 (Sunday): Bagel Run in Albany  
July 18 (Sunday): Thatcher Park Trail Run  
October 15 (Sunday): Mohawk-Hudson River Marathon  
October 30 & 31 (Sunday & Monday): Pumpkin Patrol

Let me know if you're interested in working any of these events! I am also going to try to do a display at the Punkintown Fair in New Salem, the evenings of July 27, 28, & 29. Ideas ranging from low to high tech are flying- if you'd like to help, please contact me. This is an excellent chance to impress the community and interest other potential hams.

And speaking of reaching out to the community, don't forget to mention Field Day to all your friends and neighbors. For the cost of a day at the park, they can also see us at work (or is it play)!

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

**Albany Troy Volunteer Examiner Team**

This year the exams that are held on Saturday's will start at 10:30 AM. The Wednesday night schedules will start at 7:00 PM just as in the past.

For **ALL exam dates** the doors open 45 minutes prior to the starting times listed below. For those of you that missed last year's exams you'll find out that the parking lot next to the old Troy Armory is now gone!

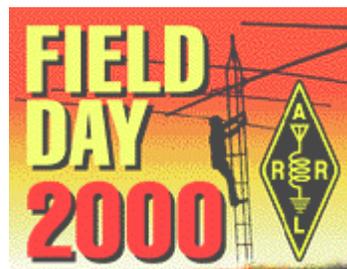
You'll be best to go south on 15th Street just a bit further until you see a set of traffic lights that are in front of the Troy Armory & Robinson Swimming Pool. Take a right at the lights, then go in until your first right-hand turn and go straight in. You'll see that in goes in about 50 yards then you must turn right again. I think this parking lot will be a lot easier for all of you. Plus there is Handicapped Parking too!

If you need better directions just call me at 273-9248 or give me a shout on the 145.17 MHz / 444.225 MHz repeaters.

If any of you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any of the following addresses: [ny2u@n2ty](mailto:ny2u@n2ty) -- [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org) -- [mrbill1953@aol.com](mailto:mrbill1953@aol.com)

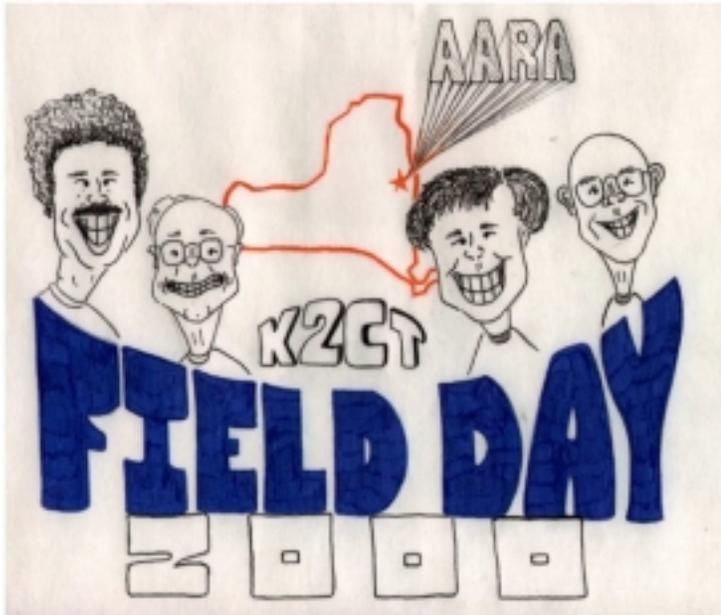
**LOCATION: RPI CAMPUS  
CII BUILDING -- ROOM 3051**

<b>JUNE 28</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>JULY 26</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>AUGUST 23</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 27</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>OCTOBER 14</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 11</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>



Field Day pin from ARRL

**ATVET SCHEDULE**



AARA Field Day Tee-shirt

**IS this something you might want????**

Contact Ernie, K2EP at 477-9581

### **FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN**

John, N1JP [n1jp@arrl.net](mailto:n1jp@arrl.net)

### **FOOD SERVICE COORDINATOR**

Seymour, K2XF

Well folks, summer's finally here and it's fun in the sun. It's also the time for **Field Days**, June 24 and 25. As most of you know, it's a great way to get reacquainted with HF communications, meet and yak with old friends, and to eat, and eat, and eat some more! And....all of this takes place in Thacher State Park, at the site of Hailes Cave, in the beautiful Heldeberg Mountains.

Bill, K2BX will be flipping up some pancakes, eggs and bacon for breakfast, and later, some barbecue chicken for dinner. Seymour, K2XF will be whipping up lunch with those great Helmbold's hot-dogs and hamburgers. I also wouldn't be surprised to find some more great food, brought in by a few members from their home kitchens. This great fare will all be free, just for showing up!

Nathaniel and the boys will again be heading up the erection of all the towers, antennas, and generator. This is a great time for many of you to observe and learn how to construct all this equipment and maybe gain some great ideas on how to set up your own station back at home.

Ask all the questions you want the advice will all be free.

The radios and computers will again be set up under the pavilion, but this year we will be running 4A. This means 4 individual HF stations and a Novice station. For you CW ops there will be **two** CW stations and for all you phone enthusiasts there will be **two** phone stations to operate. That means less waiting and more operating time! For you folks that are just learning or working on getting your ticket, team up with someone who is operating by helping with log entries, and don't hesitate to ask questions. Oh, by the way, for you night owls, this event goes all through Saturday night into Sunday morning. Sleeping over is permitted

OK, so we are all going to meet up at Thacher Park and have all this fun and camaraderie, but what's this event all about, you ask? Remember the tornado that devastated Mechanicsville two summers ago, or the terrible ice storm in the north country, where so many people were without food, heat or electricity? Yes, that's right, this event helps us hone our skills in setting up an emergency communications center so that we can be there to help, aid and assist our neighbors and friends.

So the Days are **June 24, starting at 1800 UTC to June 25th**, ending up at 2100 UTC. The place will be **Thacher State Park**, at the **Hailes Cave site**, talk in will be on 145.19, the K2CT repeater. If you don't have a ticket, we'll run one out to you at the gate. Oh by the way, forget your diet this weekend folks as there will be tons of great food and remember it's all **FREE**. Come share this great weekend with a great group of people.

PS, Your family likes to swim? There's a pool within the park, and can be enjoyed for a small fee

## 2000 ARRL June VHF QSO Party

Once again it's time for contesting. I mean the **2000 ARRL June VHF QSO Party**.

The contest runs from **Saturday June 10** at 1800 UTC until 0300 UTC on Monday. In other words from 2 PM Saturday until 11 PM Sunday Night.

The Place: AARA 's contest station in the Heldebergs. About 5miles south of Albany

**We need OPERATORS, OPERATORS, OPERATORS.**

Scheduling is flexible. Come for an hour or come for the entire contest. We will have 6 mtrs, 2 mtrs, 70 centimeters, and 220 Mhz radios.

There is something for every VHFer to do. If you are SERIOUSLY interested in working at a topnotch contesting station, give me a call at 518 286-3586 or

Jim Noble K2ZP E-MAIL me at [k2zp@arrl.net](mailto:k2zp@arrl.net)  
VHF Contest Chairman

## SWAP SHOP

**WANTED or Trade:** Won a CD of the 2000 ARRL Handbook. I would gladly trade it for a printed copy. Contact Bob, W2XM 459-8435 or [w2xm@arrl.net](mailto:w2xm@arrl.net)

**For Sale:** 20x CD for computer. Make offer. Contact Jack, WA2YBM at 869-1074

## Upcoming Events

June 10-12	June VHF QSO Party
17	Kid's Day Operating Event <a href="http://www.arrl.org/ead/kd-rules.html">www.arrl.org/ead/kd-rules.html</a>
17-18	SMIRK 2000 QSO Party 6meters only <a href="http://www.smirk.org">www.smirk.org</a>
23-25	<b>Field Day 2000</b>

B-PLUS is not published in July or August but a Mid-Summer issue might be issued if enough articles are received

**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) 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.

The AARA Roster is out.  
A \$2 donation would be appreciated

## 145.19 Repeater update 5/2k

The repeater has been plagued with an unidentified signal causing it to remain keyed and emit a raucous sounding buzz that we call "spooge". This problem at first was believed to be the rusty chain link fence surrounding the transmitter site, radiating in response to the high RF field from the television station. It appears that this is not the case, as the problem has not gone away with the advent of warm weather and rain.

AARA has decided that the best way to combat the problem at this time is to introduce a PL (Private Line) access system on the machine. This work has been completed and the repeater now requires a 107.2 Hz PL tone to activate the transmitter. This means that users will need to configure their radio to transmit this tone.

We still regard this machine as an "open repeater" and do not want to discourage anyone from using it. Regular automated announcements are carried on the machine reminding users of this tone requirement. We hope this will not impede anyone from making use of the machine and are looking into ways to temporarily disable the PL requirement for users without tone capability.

Please continue to utilize the machine and we will inform you of any future changes. If you have any questions or special needs regarding the repeater please let one of the board members know.