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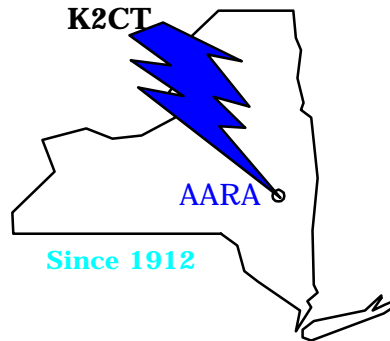
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday June 14

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

JUNE Meeting

Field Day will be the main topic

June 22-23 AARA will be located at the Hailes Cave Pavilion in Thatcher Park. Route 157 off of Route 85
Map can be found on the [K2CT](#) web site then go to *meetings and location*.

Initial setup Fri. 2:30PM to erect the three towers.
Come up and assist if you can. Talk-in 145.19 Repeater

Sat. June 22 setup starts at 8:00AM or so.
Food provided. Contest runs 2PM till
2PM Sunday when take down starts

WE NEED YOUR HELP Food ALL DAY

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
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

ATVET exam sessions

Exam Date	Day	Doors Open	Exam Time (Doors will Close)
July 24, 2002	Wed	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
October 12, 2002	Sat	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
November 9, 2002	Sat	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

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

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

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 never requires any pre-registration for any of their exams. A "NEW" 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 .

HF CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT:

Send a text version of your summary sheet to us at: sue.walt@verizon.net

73 de Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

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>

Interference

Migrating RV TV amplifiers bringing interference with them: As many recreational vehicle owners make their seasonal trek northward, unintentional radio interference may be hitchhiking. As reported in February 2001

<<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/02/14/3/>>>, certain amplified TV antennas

have been found to produce interference in the 400-500 MHz range that could cause problems for Public Safety and Amateur Radio systems. Winegard has been replacing its

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offending Sensar antenna units at no cost.

See the Winegard Web

site<<http://www.winegard.com/products/mobile/sensar_customers.html>> for details.

The FCC's Dave Galosky in the Office of Engineering and Technology says Winegard estimates there still may be thousands of defective units in the field. Boat and RV owners using these antennas may experience interference to onboard systems, such as GPS. According to the FCC, similar antennas from three other manufacturers also produce interference. The Radio Shack RS 1624--made by TDP Electronics--transmits a spurious emission at 468 MHz and at its second harmonic, 936 MHz. The Shakespeare Seawatch 2050 antenna and an unspecified antenna model made by RCA/Thompson also have been reported to generate similar interference, the FCC says. The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 20 May 17, 2002

AARA Homepage
www.qsl.net/k2ct

A WIN IN KINDERHOOK: ARRL, PRB-1 CREDITED IN ANTENNA BATTLE

The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 22 May 31 , 2002

A New York amateur is crediting the limited federal preemption PRB-1 and ARRL with helping him win approval for an antenna support structure on his property. Fred Fitte, WA2MMX, spent the better part of a year trying to gain the necessary approvals from the Town of Kinderhook. He finally got a building permit earlier this month.

"It's been a really ugly battle for about eight months," Fitte said. "I can't say enough good things about the League."

The Town of Kinderhook would not allow a ham radio antenna support structure in excess of 35 feet without a variance. "PRB-1 is what saved my bacon," said Fitte, who finally won approval of his request to erect a 50-foot tower on a 3-1 vote of the town's zoning board of appeals. PRB-1, which is spelled out in the FCC Amateur Service rules under §97.15(b), requires municipalities to "reasonably accommodate" amateur communication. Fitte said that by the time he had presented his case, "it was real clear that the zoning board of appeals knew what they had to do."

Fitte singled out ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF—who attended every hearing—and ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI—who attended several—for special mention. A required trip to the town's planning board for a "site review" was routine and uneventful, he said.

Fitte called Fallon "a crusader in the effort to keep ham radio active and moving forward," and said he became an ARRL Life Member because of his efforts. He also credited his legal counsel, Al Millus, WB2EQR, and Dr George Wilner, K2ONP, head of the Hematology Department at Albany Medical Center, whose expert testimony addressed concerns about possible RF exposure.

Fitte said the zoning board "acknowledged that PRB-1 was a major factor in the decision" and that if his application had been considered based solely on a request for a variance, it would not have been granted.

Despite its earlier opposition, Fitte said, the ZBA eventually came to conclude that his

application did not significantly alter the character of the neighborhood, did not affect property values and did not have a negative environmental impact. In addition, he said, the board agreed that no negative health impact based on RF exposure was proven. More pertinent, however, was a conclusion that a 35-foot structure would not be conducive to effective communications and that 50 feet--his request--was the bare minimum. Fitte said the ZBA also accepted Hare's assertions before the board that 75 feet was the accepted height for optimum communications.

The zoning board's approval did not come without some restrictions, however. Fitte's tower was approved for the left side of the house. Fitte had hoped to erect it on the right side of the structure, nearest to his ham shack. The ZBA okayed a total height of 75 feet--50 feet of tower and 25 feet of antenna, an outcome he called "a pleasant surprise." He also agreed to install an anti-climbing device and to remove the structure when he moved. He also must provide proof of license renewal every 10 years.

With a building permit now in hand, Fitte says he intends to get his town's zoning code changed to provide an exemption for Amateur Radio antenna support structures. But that will have to wait for a tower-raising party, he said.



AARA DINNER 2002 pictures can be viewed at the [AARA web page](#) then to the *meetings and locations* tab

Upcoming Events

June 15-16 Kid's Day Operating Event
15-16 Smirk QSO Party 6M

22-23 Field Day 2002

Public Service: *2002 Schedule*

WE Need YOU to Volunteer

Contact Laurie M. Warner, N2OSB 872-9056
Or e-mail at n2osb@arrl.net

July 13th & 14th: MS Bike Tour
July 21st: Thacher Park Trail Run
October 13th: River Marathon
October 30th & 31st: Pumpkin Patrol

Amateur Radio Operator Honored

Antarctic ledge named after amateur: A ledge in the Antarctic has been named after a Connecticut ham who provided phone patches for scientists working in the region. Larry Skilton, K1IED, says that to his knowledge, he's the first Amateur Radio operator who's never been to Antarctica to have a place named after him for services rendered. Skilton Ledge is described as a relatively flat rectangular rock platform at the southeastern margin of Midnight Plateau in the Darwin Mountains. The upper surface is ice-covered, but a rock cliff forms the southern end. Skilton made phone patches in the US to complete radio communications from US Antarctic Project science stations including Palmer, McMurdo, Byrd surface station and particularly South Pole. He worked a regular nightly schedule for 11 years, between 1990 and 2001 and arranged the completion of several thousand calls. The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 22 May 31, 2002

B-PLUS Sept. deadline is Sat. Aug 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

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

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To All Who Would Help The Cause

From: Bob, who wants to see many new licensees

Friends, I'll probably do it again this fall (run a licensing class). I am seeking copies of *Now You're Talking* that the present owners would be willing to donate or sell. I would then offer them to new students at perhaps \$10 each. If I make any "profit," I would use that money to buy things for the course.

I want to get discounted copies of the text for the students because on July 1, 2003, it will become obsolete. I'd hate to see the students pay full price for a book that they will not be able to pass on to other prospective hams. Bob W2XM 459-8435

SWAP SHOP

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

FOR SALE:

KENWOOD TS-820 Transceiver w/digital readout, Remote VFO-820, Speaker 820. **All mint condition with manuals** **Contact Seymour, K2XF** at 286-1328 or e-mail k2xf@arrl.net

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

FOR SALE: AARA's own Kenwood TS-830 w/VFO contact Saul, K2XA 439-5700 or email k2xa@arrl.net