

B-Plus

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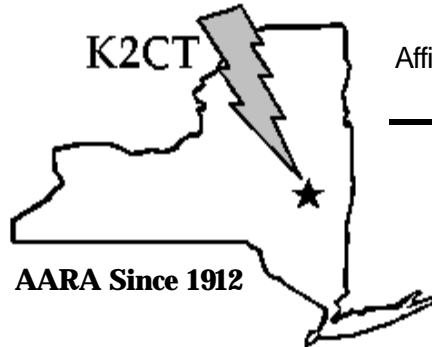
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League
An ARRL Special Service Club

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AARA

Meets at the

Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday June 11

Social Hour 6:45 PM

Board Meeting 7:15 PM

Meeting 7:45 PM

refreshments

Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz
or 145.37 (-) MHz tone 127.3

June Meeting

Ernie Mills, WM2U, will demonstrate the new digital mode, PSK31. Based on an idea by SP9VRC and developed by Peter Martinez, G3PLX, PSK31 is emerging as the new, useful and fun mode. Instead of keying using *Frequency Shift*, FSK, this mode uses *Phase Shift Keying*, PSK. It is a particularly attractive mode since it requires no lock condition or handshaking with a second radio station, and roundtable QSO's with more than two stations can be enjoyed. Some of these techniques are somewhat confusing to set up at first but that is why you need to hear Ernie make it all so easy.

FIELD DAY

The Field Day Event is June 26th and 27th. More on the final plans. AARA will be entering the event in the 4A category. Ice, Extension cords, Coolers, Sat. morning People, Over Nite Operators, etc. all are needed. Come to the meeting and give a hand.

Anyone not able to make the meeting call me at 518 286-3586.

73 Jim Noble K2ZP - Field Day Chairman

AARA web site:

<http://users.aol.com/k2ct/index.htm>
soon to be <http://www.qsl.net/k2ct>

Pay your 1999 Dues \$15/year
Checks should be made out to AARA and
sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA, 307 Maple Rd.,
Slingerlands, NY 12159

Upcoming Events

June 4-6 Atlantic Div. Convention Rochester, NY
12-14 June VHF QSO Party QST May 99
26-27 Field Day 1999

Bill, K2BX at the stove cooking



MESSAGE

FROM PAMELA MOUSE (secret member of AARA)

Several people say it's a rat race! Well, that is partly true. However, we mice have a role to play in the scheme of life, and I am happy to report that I am privileged to have a snug home in the basement of the Colonie Community Center at 1653 Central Avenue, Albany, New York. This is the same place where the Albany Amateur Radio Club meets every second Friday of each month, except for July and August. During those two months I have peace and quiet as not many humans come here during the hot weather. The Center is a busy place during the rest of the year.

Last year about this time I was just entering the back door after raiding a nearby bird feeder and filling my cheeks with sunflower seeds. Hearing a human behind me, I quickly dashed into the first room on my right. I hid under the table. Soon I smelled an aroma of coffee brewing, and I was quite sure I smelled doughnuts. I quietly spit out the seeds I was holding in my cheeks, and I peered out from my hiding place. After awhile several tall humans entered the room and each one was holding a black box. I crouched closer to the wall for fear they had guns. My heart was racing. There was no way I could escape and return safely to my room in the basement.

One of the humans banged his hand on the table, and the other humans sat down. They put away their black boxes. I listed carefully. One of the humans was reading the "minutes" of the previous meeting. Then a human mentioned they were going to have a field day. Now that is right up my alley. I know all about fields. However, you want to spend more than a day in a field in order to thoroughly enjoy it. There is so much to see and do in a field.

Someone said they would bring a watermelon, someone else would buy the potato salad, someone else was going to bring a cooler with ice in it, someone else was going to bring cookies, a human named "Tone knee" said he'd bring his appetite, and everyone laughed. I had to cover my mouth with my paws so I wouldn't give myself away. Someone's chair collapsed, and the human landed on the floor. He quickly got up and the meeting continued. This was sounding more like a picnic to me, and I wanted to know more about it.

The man in charge said the event was going to take place each year on the last weekend in June at Thatcher Park. I had to think fast about my means of transportation to this place. A fellow by the name of Scott has a truck. I'd hitched a ride in his truck and bump my way to the park. I hoped it wouldn't be too far. I had lots of chores to finish up before the hot weather arrived.

The big guy spoke again and said that everyone was to bring his gear. I thought about the gear I found in the basement. It was part of a child's Erector set which was left behind one weekend. The sweeper person had found it and threw it in the trash. I could bring my gear. Then someone said that everybody had to get their rear in gear and get moving to finalize the plans. I questioned this idea because I felt everyone's rear was much too big to fit into my gear. It moved by itself with just a tiny push with my paw. I thought "These humans are funny folks." The plans got finalized with someone offering to took. I think they vam boozled the same human into cooking again this year. I think his name is Seemore.

SK, WB2PAR

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Shirley Miller, WB2PAR . Shirley was a member of AARA. She passed away on Tuesday May 25, 1999. Shirley was a good friend and the apple of Seymour's eye. We all express our condolences to K2XF and family

In 1896, a radiotelegraph system was demonstrated and patented in England by Italian Guglielmo Marconi. Previously, an American tinkerer named Dr. Mahlon Loomis (a dentist) had performed an experiment involving the production and detection of an electromagnetic signal; however, this feat was not well documented and radio technology did not develop from it.

Many historians think that the summer of 1899 was when radio came to America. The July 1899 edition of American Electrician contained construction plans for a basic wireless communications system similar to Marconi's. This summer, radio will have been part of Americana for exactly one century. I hope there is celebration; we, as a fraternity, completely missed the boat in 1996. Because ideas traveled slowly a hundred years ago, we are given another chance - a final chance - to celebrate the centennial of our beloved technology.

The word "radio" has only been with us (and our British friends!) since 1906. Has anyone noticed that the word "wireless," which had been a historical adjective for about fifty years, is alive and well again as a descriptor of a class of modern devices? submitted by W2XM

B - PLUS + S W A P S H O P

free ad to members send or call Mike, WD2AJS

For Sale: 40 foot crank- down, tilt-over Wilson rotating tower \$200, or \$300 with Ham II rotator. **2** 2-meter Handhelds. Inexpensive. Call for info. If you like to get a 2-meter rig this is your opportunity. Call Saul at 439-5700 or e-mail at abrame@rpi.edu

UAlbany's Radio Station

After having been removed from its previous location in 1996, UAlbany's amateur radio station will likely be on the air again by September. The location is to be the Earth Science building. WA2ZWS will initially have facilities for 2-m voice and packet; HF is also planned; UHF may follow. Special thanks to Prof. John Delano, trustee Bob, W2XM, and students N2MDB and KB2RIA.

Former Club Member

There are probably many club members who remember Sven Krumke, DL1ZR. During the academic year '92-'93, he was doing graduate level study in Computer Science at UAlbany. He operated 2-m FM as W2/DL1ZR; he used the HF gear at WA2ZWS; and he attended several club meetings (he spoke at AARA and he bought his TV at the SARA auction).

This writer has received word from Sven (by e-mail and subsequently by a telephone call) that he just married that beautiful girl with whom he has been seen throughout the Capital District.

They'll be living in Berlin for the next two years or so. DL1ZR is only on VHF and UHF for now; he might be on an HF band soon with an Isooop. de W2XM

NEWINGTON, CT, May 11, 1999--In lieu of a legal name change, the ARRL Executive Committee will recommend to the Board of Directors to emphasize the abbreviation "ARRL" in conjunction with the tag line "The National Association for Amateur Radio." The action came at the Committee's meeting May 1 in Irving, Texas. The move, if accepted by the full Board, would not actually change the name of the organization, but the "ARRL" moniker and tag line would appear on all League correspondence and publications instead of the full name.

The EC also recommended putting off further discussion of a name change at least until the January 2000 board meeting. At that time, the Board is scheduled to receive a report from League Executive Vice President David Sumner on planning for Amateur Radio in 2010 and beyond.

At its January meeting, the Board tasked the Executive Committee to develop a name change proposal for consideration at the Board's July meeting to change the League's name to one that more clearly reflects the focus and purpose of the organization to hams and nonhams alike. The Executive Committee recommendation to emphasize the "ARRL" abbreviation and new tag line followed a discussion of various alternatives. Hudson Division Director and EC member Frank Fallon, N2FF, stressed that the organization's name should make its purposes and objectives clear to outsiders.

Earlier this decade, the ARRL Board declined a suggestion from the Long Range Planning Committee to change the League's name to the American Amateur Radio League-

-ironically the same name first suggested by ARRL founder Hiram Percy Maxim in 1914.

In other Committee actions, the EC voted to reaffirm the League's position that the FCC continue to issue a paper license document to amateur licensees. The Committee also was advised that the League will not seek FCC reconsideration of its petition to expand the special events call sign program. The FCC turned down the request last month but invited the League to revisit the issue later.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Contact Laurie by email at n2osb@arrl.net, or by phone at 872-9056.

Laurie M. Warner, N2OSB
Public Service Coordinator

Albany/Troy Volunteer Exam Team

1999 Examination Schedule

| Date | Day | Doors Open | Exam Time (Doors will Close) |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| July 28, 1999 | Wednesday (evening) | 6:20 PM | 7:00 PM |
| September 29, 1999 | Wednesday (evening) | 6:20 PM | 7:00 PM |
| November 13, 1999 | Saturday | 9:20 AM | 10:00 AM |

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams, WB2SBO at 439-7357 or wb2sbo@aol.com

ATVET LIAISON: Bill Eddy, NY2U at 273-9248 or ny2u@n2ty.org

General E-Mail can be sent to atvet@n2ty.org

ATVET will 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 at 9:20 AM, 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 exam schedules. A test fee of \$6.45 either cash, or check, is required for those taking any elements above Element -2 or Element -1A.

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 .

B-PLUS June article deadline is Sun, June 27th.

Are You Changing Your Address:

Please contact Bill with your address corrections write to

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