

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 Oct. 9

Social Hour 6:45 PM

Board Meeting 7:15 PM

Meeting 7:45 PM

refreshments will be available

October Meeting

Joint AARA-YCCC Meeting

AARA is pleased to announce the Third Annual Combined AARA-YCCC meeting to be held in lieu of the regular October AARA meeting.

Guest speaker will be Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, president of the YCCC. Jeff is known as one of the most experienced and best low-band operators in the world. He has recently published a book on 160 meter operation which has received wide acclaim. The subject of Jeff's talk will be some general thoughts and comments on low band and particularly

160 meter operating. Jeff will also relate some of his own 160 meter operating experiences.

Talk-in
repeater
145.19 (-) MHz

This is an excellent opportunity for those of you in the area that are members of the YCCC to meet your attendance requirements. Also, new memberships in the YCCC will be accepted at this time.

This meeting promises to be one of the outstanding AARA meetings of the year
u don't want to miss it!

Pay your 1998 Dues \$15/year
 Checks should be made out to AARA and
 sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA, 307 Maple Rd.,
 Slingerlands, NY 12159

From: The ARRL Letter Sept. 25, 1998
FCC ADOPTS UNIVERSAL LICENSING
SYSTEM

Amateurs can say good-bye to the FCC Form 610 series in a few months. The FCC has adopted its long-proposed Universal Licensing System, which replaces Form 610 with a new, electronic Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services. Applicants may continue to use the old forms for six months after the new rules go into effect, however.

The FCC also adopted proposals to permit automatic reciprocal licensing of foreign hams wishing to operate in the US, pursuant to recent international reciprocal operating agreements.

The FCC said the ULS will "fundamentally change" the way the Commission receives and processes wireless applications and makes licensee information available to the public. The rules adopted September 17 will--in the FCC's words--"consolidate, revise, and streamline" license application procedures for radio services under the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The FCC last November began initial collection of licensee data to populate the ULS. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Access to the ULS is via <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>.

When the FCC first aired its ULS plan, some licensees expressed concerns because ULS registration would require applicants to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number, typically a Social Security Number. In its public notice, the FCC assured that "all TIN information will be kept confidential."

The FCC's action consolidates 40 existing forms into four ULS application forms, including the new Form 605. Electronic filing in the ULS will not yet be mandatory for individual amateurs. Hams will have the option of filing electronically or on paper. However, electronic filing via the ULS will be required for Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in the Amateur Service. Mandatory electronic filing requirements go into effect July 1, 1999 or six months after the use of ULS in a particular service--whichever is later.

An official Report and Order detailing the FCC's actions is expected to be released soon. The FCC's Public Notice is available on the FCC Web site at http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/News_Releases/1998/nrwl8040.html.

SWEEPS BAND CHANGE RULE WON'T BE
ENFORCED THIS YEAR

The ARRL Contest Department will not enforce a new general band-change rule for the 1998 ARRL November Sweepstakes because of what it called "widespread confusion" within the contesting community. The General Rules for All ARRL Contests, published in the December 1997 QST, limit multioperator Sweepstakes entrants to no more than six band changes per hour, a change from previous years. As defined by Sweepstakes rules, even some solo operators must enter in the multiop category. "If you use packet, you go immediately to multiop class," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV. The Sweepstakes rules only allow one transmitted signal at any given time.

While the General Rules were included by reference in the 1998 ARRL November Sweepstakes Rules in the October 1998 QST, the announcement did not emphasize the change. As a result, Kennamer says the League will not enforce the six-band-changes-per-hour rule this year.

"Because of the change in the way the rules are published, and because we feel that all participants may not have been fully informed about the differences between the multioperator category of the past and the current rule, for this year only, the band change limitation will not be

enforced," Kennamer said. But, he added, "unless something changes, we'll enforce it next year."

Single ops who do not use packet spotting networks in their quest for a clean sweep will not be affected by the rules change, Kennamer said.

For further information Contact Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, e-mail bkennamer@arrl.org.

Newest Edition of The FCC Rule Book: The new 11th edition of The FCC Rule Book from ARRL includes everything you need to know about the rules that govern the Amateur Radio Service. This handy tome includes easy-to-read explanations, and it's been updated and reorganized to make it even more user-friendly. The book include all of Part 97 as well as the US Amateur Band Plan, information on repeaters, public service, and interference; technical standards, including RF exposure rules, and much more. This latest edition is available in mid-October. Order item 6966. It's just \$12. Call toll-free 888-277-5289 or visit ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/>.

From: THE HUDSON LOOP Sept. 28, 1998

From ARRL Bulletin 74 (ARLB074) September 17: Amateurs can say good-bye to the familiar FCC Form 610 series. The FCC has adopted its long-proposed Universal Licensing System, which will replace the Forms 610 with a new Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services. Applicants may continue to use the old forms for six months after the new rules go into effect, however. An effective date will be announced when the FCC issues the official Report and Order.

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Craig's Corner by Craig Wood N2UID

Hi again Just got finished with the girl scout walk and as the year winds down so does this years public service events. This year is going fast. Been hearing talk on many repeaters about pumpkin patrol and it seems like one big undertaking. It's been kind of quiet on 2 meters but what I have heard is talk about a solar flare that killed the bands. My friend Jim in MA. sez he usually talks to his friend Dave in MD. on 40 but the bands haven't co-operated. Heard our friend WX2Q is in the hospital and will be out soon. Got a letter from K2ZP about the repeater fund drive. I don't have a problem with that, it's a

great repeater and anyone will tell you it has GREAT coverage. Lets give it the best support we can. As you all may know I'm finally on the internet. If you have a story and want to pass it on I can be reached by e-mail at n2uid@empireone.net I'll sign now so 73 de Craig

A WARM Roundup By Bud Hovey, WF2B

Fall has arrived so it's a good time to take a look at where we stand with the WARM (Worked Albany Radio Members) award. For some of the newcomers to the club you may not be familiar with this award, which is given for working the requisite number of Albany ARA members and or other stations located in any Albany, any where in the world. The original certificate was granted for making 25 or more QSO's with AARA members and I received my first certificate in 1967 under the call of WB2OGN, all of which were made on 6 meter AM. In 1981, AARA decided to redesign the certificate and make it available to all hams, not just local ones. The first new certificate was issued in February 1981 to W2OOJ, Bill Lowenberg, along with 13 other hams during the next few months. WD4IBT, from Albany, GA was the first ham from out of our immediate area to get the award. OZ5EDR, a Danish club station was the first DX to get the award about a year later. Since then there have been 22 DX stations including Canada, Germany, Gibraltar, Russia, Korea, Netherlands, Slovenia, Japan, Lithuania, and most recently Argentina.

During Albany's Tri-Centennial celebration in 1986, we awarded 10 certificates for contacts with our Tri-Centennial station plus the appropriate other QSO's. Our 10 meter sprints have accounted for almost half the awards. NC2Q, Barbara was the first YL to get the award. One feature is the "President's Endorsement" which is given for contacting at least five different Albanys. This endorsement

has only gone to five hams - KB2CV, WD4IDT, K2VV, WD2AER, and WD4RAF.

If you want a copy of the rules, visit the AARA web site. They should still be there, or e-mail a request to me wf2b@n2ty.org. When you

work a station mention the award to them, especially if they are from out of this area. Remember, repeater contacts do not count.

Upcoming Events...

November	7-9	ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
	21-23	ARRL Sweepstakes, phone
December	4-6	ARRL 160-Meter Contest April QST
	12-13	ARRL 10-Meter Contest Jul QST

Upcoming Public Service Events

Sunday October 18 Mohawk-Hudson Marathon Runs from Schenectady Central Park to Downtown Albany mostly along the bike path. Need 8 people

Friday and Saturday October 30 and 31 Pumpkin Patrol in conjunction with NYS Police and NYS Thruway Authority need 10 people/units each nites

I doubt if I will attend Oct. meeting, a sign up sheet will be available at the Meeting.

April Stack K2ZCZ

Community Service and Public Information
Albany Amateur Radio Association

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

free ad to members send or call Mike, WD2AJS

Albany Troy Volunteer

Examiner Team

A.R.R.L. VEC Affiliated	A.T.V.E.T.
<u>Oct. 10, 1998</u>	Saturday 9:30 AM
Nov. 7, 1998	Saturday 9:30 AM

C.I.I. Building (Center for Industrial Innovations), Room 3051, on the Campus of R.P.I. \$6.35. Contact Nels Williams, WB2SBO @ 439-7357 for more Info

edited by Mike Bergman, WD2AJS, 45 Swartson Ct., Albany, NY 12209 489-3110 and April Stack, K2ZCZ. Articles and B-PLUS+ Swap Shop Items accepted and solicited via mail, phone, or e-mail at michaelib@aol.com 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.

