

# B-Plus

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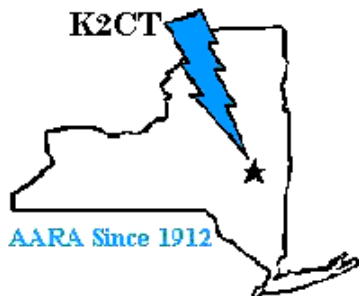
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay  
League  
An ARRL Special Services Club



## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center  
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

**Friday NOV 9**

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM  
Refreshments cookies,  
soda, diet soda, coffee

## NOV. Meeting

OUR PROGRAM WILL BE

A Film from ARRL

Videos and Discussions

More About Contesting in

the Albany Area, Propagation Forecasts

**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**

### Amateur Radio Course

The course will be taught on 9 Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 9:15pm in the Community Room at Crossgates Mall. They are not consecutive. The dates of our meetings are Oct. 16, 23, and 30, Nov. 6, 20, and 27, and Dec. 4, 11, and 18. These have been engraved in stone.

I have four copies of the text still available.

For further information, contact Bob Raffaele at 459-8435 (before 9:30 pm) or via w2xm@arrl.net. Bob, W2XM e-mail: [raffaele@capital.net](mailto:raffaele@capital.net)

# 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

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

Exam Date	Day	Doors Open	Exam Time
			(Doors will Close)
Nov 10	Sat.	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

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

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams [wb2sbo@aol.com](mailto:wb2sbo@aol.com) or 518-439-7357  
ATVET LIAISON: Jerry Murray, [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org) or [wa2iww@arrl.net](mailto:wa2iww@arrl.net) or 518-482-8700

**ATTENTION HF CONTESTERS**  
**CQWW REMINDER**  
Anyone who has not yet sent their CQWW Phone score to us is urged to do so! We expect to have a listing of scores in next month's B-Plus. So don't be left out! Also, remember to get on the air for the CW weekend on November 24-25. (Yes, we know, it's Thanksgiving weekend, but...) Send both sets of scores (a copy of your Summary sheet, plain text only) to:  
[sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)  
See you in the pileups during Thanksgiving weekend. (It's much more fun than being in the pileups at the shopping malls!)  
73, Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR



The group during a recent trip to Newington, CT W1AW

## FCC clarifies CORES amateur implementation

ARRL Bulletin Newington CT October 24, 2001  
The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has clarified several issues regarding Amateur Service implementation of the Commission Registration System--or CORES. Starting December 3, everyone doing business with the FCC--including amateur licensees--must obtain and use a 10-digit FCC Registration Number (FRN) when filing.

Once CORES becomes mandatory, the FCC will "auto-register" all amateurs who seek to register in ULS and will issue them an FRN. Amateurs then should use their FRN in place of their Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN--typically an individual's Social Security Number) when filing applications with the FCC. New or upgrade license applicants not previously registered in ULS will be registered automatically in both CORES and ULS when they provide a TIN on a license application filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

Although both ULS and CORES will contain a licensee's FRN, updating information in one system will not update the other. For amateurs, CORES registration will replace ULS "TIN/Call Sign" registration, but the ULS will remain the Amateur Service licensing database within WTB, and only ULS will associate an individual with a particular call sign and FRN. Once CORES/FRN becomes mandatory, those registering in ULS will be redirected to CORES registration.

CORES will offer exemptions to amateur clubs and to foreign entities not holding a TIN/SSN. Club station applicants also may use a trustee's TIN/SSN or a tax-exempt club's IRS-assigned EIN.

The WTB says that starting December 3, "all passwords will be maintained in the CORES

database." Amateurs also may use FCC Form 160 to register in CORES, and those doing so will be mailed a CORES password for on-line access.

The FCC continues to work out the details of how amateurs, CORES and ULS will coexist. Amateur Service testing with CORES is planned for early November.

## **Public Service:**

Well, it looks like it's been some time since I've reported on my loyal public service volunteers, so here goes! Going all the way back to the beginning of the year...

For the Winter Marathon in **March**, thanks to Tony W2BEJ, Howard WA2AFD, Matthew N2MDB, Debbie N2XXW, and Laurie N2OSB. We had some equipment problems, but the race itself was uneventful—the way we like it!

For the MS Walk in **April**, thanks to Nathaniel KB2HPX, Jack WA2YBM, and Laurie N2OSB. Special thanks to Nathaniel, who helped me tune my antenna so I could begin properly using my car rig!

For the March of Dimes "WalkAmerica" in early **May**, thanks go to: Bud WF2B, Mike KB2TYC, Herb N2TJM, Debbie N2XXW, Jim K2ZP, and Laurie N2OSB. Mike took the photos that you may remember seeing in an earlier edition of B+.

Later in **May** was the Corporate Challenge, which is somewhat of a challenge since it takes place early on a Thursday evening. Thanks to Jim K2ZP, Tony W2BEJ, Mike KB2TYC, Debbie N2XXW, Karen KB2UUC, Mac KB2SPM, and Ray N2ZQF. Ray got to ride around in the golf cart again, but Jim did not have to run so hard this year!

**June** brought the Bagel Run. Thanks to Tony W2BEJ, Jack WA2YBM, Marc N2XLC, Mike KB2TYC, Mike KB2VQS, Becky KC2BYZ, Nels WB2SBO, Dave NF2G, and Herb N2TJM. I am informed that this will be a shorter event next year, as they are eliminating the second race. No more traffic control of irritated church-goers!

In **July** we had the Thacher Park Trail Run, and thanks for assistance with that go to Tony W2BEJ, Jim K2ZP, Nathaniel KB2HPX, Ed N2API, Herb NT2JM, Laurie N2OSB, and Bill KA2OWW. They changed the course on us this year, but we'll know where to go next year.

Also in **July** was the MS Bike Tour out of Saratoga. Enormous amounts of gratitude go to Jack WA2YBM for all his help in recruiting and organizing! Thanks also go to Darlene N2XQG, Ed KB2UKT, Bob KB2TBB, Sue N2EKQ, Jim KG2H, Rebecca N2LPW, Ken AA2CW, Don N2CJO, John N2NHX, Henry KB2STR, Ted KC2BLE, Jack K2LOO, Walt AA2FT,

Jim KB2CJX, and Bob KC2VC. Special thanks to Jim for apparently recruiting the entire Polewczak family!

August and September gave us a bit of a break this year, but we started up again in **October** with the River Marathon. Thanks to Laurie N2OSB, Tony W2BEJ, Ken AA2CW, Dennis N2LBT, Bill KA2OWW, Nathaniel KB2HPX, Jack WA2YBM, Mac KB2SPM, Mike WD2AJS, Becky KC2BYZ, and Mike KB2VQS. We had a cooler day this year than last year, so the last runner finished in about six hours.

Our last public service event of 2001 will be Pumpkin Patrol on **October** 30th and 31st. Look for a list of participants in next month's edition of B+. For those of you who like to plan ahead, here is the 2002 schedule:

### **Upcoming events**

February 24th: Winter Marathon

April 21st: MS Walk

May 5th: Walk America

May 23rd: Corporate Challenge

June 9th: Bagel Run

July 13th & 14th: MS Bike Tour

July 21st: Thacher Park Trail Run

October 13th: River Marathon

October 30th & 31st: Pumpkin Patrol

On a personal note, I will be giving up the position of Public Service Chair at the end of this year. I would like to thank all of you who have consistently volunteered your time to help make our hobby look good. As I keep saying, public service helps us keep our spectrum. Now—one of you please volunteer to take over the position as Chair! As you can see, all of our events already have dates, and my records will provide you with contact information as well as lists of those who have worked previously. (Or just refer to the above article. You can run but you can't hide!) If you think you would be willing to put in a little extra effort for a year to keep this important part of our club on track, please let a Board member know.

Laurie M. Warner, N2OSB

Public Service Chair [n2osb@arri.net](mailto:n2osb@arri.net)

## Survey Seeks Input on Novice/Tech Plus HF Spectrum

NEWINGTON, CT, Jun 26, 2001--The ARRL Novice Spectrum Study Committee has begun soliciting input from the amateur community on possible ways to optimize use of the present [Novice and Technician Plus HF allocations](#). Survey results might form the basis for the ARRL to approach the FCC and request changes in the ways amateurs are authorized to use the Novice/Technician Plus subbands.

The Novice Spectrum Study survey is available to ARRL members on [the Web www.arrl.org](#). Members will be able to complete and submit the survey only once. Nonmembers are invited to e-mail comments and suggestions to [novicesurvey@arrl.org](mailto:novicesurvey@arrl.org).

The survey is designed to offer members an opportunity to express opinions and preferences on various options for possible future band and mode privilege changes in the current Novice/Tech Plus HF bands. The committee has set a goal of encouraging greater utilization of that spectrum without decreasing the privileges of any licensee.

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### Upcoming Events

Nov. 10-11 Worked All Europe RTTY  
17-19 Sweepstakes PHONE  
27-28 CQ WW DX Contest CW

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## 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>

The committee has been examining the status and usage of the present Novice/Technician Plus HF bands with an eye toward determining what changes to the Novice spectrum usage might be needed now that FCC no longer issues new Novice licenses. Approximately 40,000 Novice licensees remain in the current FCC database, and that number is dropping by some 6000 licensees each year through attrition and upgrading.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, appointed the Novice Spectrum Study Committee as a result action taken during the January meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors. The membership survey is part of the ARRL Board's mandate to the committee. The panel will present an interim report at the July ARRL Board meeting, and a final report at the annual meeting next January.

ARRL International Affairs Vice President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, chairs the study committee. Other members of the committee are Vice President John Kanode, N4MM; Hudson Division Vice Director Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML; Dakota Division Vice Director Twila Greenheck, N0JPH; Midwest Division Vice Director Bruce Frahm, K0BJ; and New England Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF.

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## Schenectady Radio Assoc

The next regular meeting of SARA will be in Olin Hall on the Union College campus on Monday, Nov. 5, beginning at 7:30 (coffee at 7).

The topic will be QRP (low-power operation). QRPers have as much fun as the big guns! Many people have switched from medium-to-high-power operation to QRP. It's different. It's fun. It's challenging. ...and the neighbors don't complain about interference!

The speaker will be Howard Friedman, WA2AFD. Howard has been a ham for about 30 years and he enjoys the technical and operating aspects of his hobby.

AARA members: call me at 459-8435 (before 9:30) if you need directions. Bob W2XM

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## SWAP SHOP

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at [wd2ajs@arrl.net](mailto:wd2ajs@arrl.net) or call 489-3110

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B-PLUS Dec. deadline is Dec. 2<sup>nd</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)

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.