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B-Plus

JOHN NABEREZNY, WE2F
283-4304
PRESIDENT
we2f@arrl.net

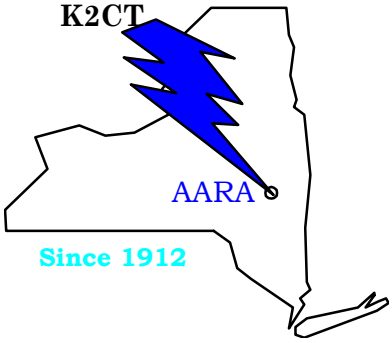
DAVE JONES, W2GDJ
279-4980
VICE-PRESIDENT
w2gdj@arrl.net

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

BILL NETTLETON, K2BX
283-6167
SECRETARY
k2bx@arrl.net

ED GOSCH. W2UV
465-6307
DIRECTOR
w2uv@arrl.net

NELS WILLIAMS, WB2SBO
439-7357
DIRECTOR
wb2sbo@arrl.net



WALT LEGOWSKI, WA1KKM
456-3637
DIRECTOR
sue.walt@verizon.net

SEYMOUR MILLER, K2XF
286-1328
1-yr DIRECTOR
k2xf@arrl.net

GEORGE WILNER, K2ONP
279-4025
TRUSTEE of K2CT
k2onp@arrl.net

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

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

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday Oct. 10

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

OCT. Meeting

Stephen Mendelsohn, W2ML , will be our guest speaker. Steve has visited us before and it's always a pleasure to have him at our meetings.
Steve is currently on the ballot as a candidate for Director of the Hudson Division ARRL. With BPL and elimination of code requirements hot topics, Steve will bring us the latest on these and other important matters.
Please make plans to attend and welcome Steve to Albany.

K2CT Repeater
Talk-in repeater
145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 100.0hz
or
444.30 (+) w/pl tone 100.0hz

AARA Dues

B-plus is Electronic
Dues are $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

HAWAII SCHOOL CONTACT MARKS 115TH ARISS QSO

The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 38 Sept. 26, 2003
Students from second grade through high school at Punahou School in Honolulu, Hawaii, quizzed NASA International Space Station Science Officer Ed Lu, KC5WKJ, on September 15 about how he's faring aboard the ISS. The early morning contact between NA1SS on the ISS and WH6PN in Honolulu marked the 115th Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school group contact. Lu told the students that living in space makes him appreciate life on Earth.

"One of the things about living in space is it makes you appreciate the things you have on the ground," Lu said, "a lot of little things that you never think about--for instance, we don't take showers up here." The other side of the coin, though is being able to see how beautiful Earth looks from space, Lu added. In response to a later question, Lu noted that living in space is not as isolating as it once was, since the crew now has access to e-mail and telephone.

Lu and Expedition 7 crew commander Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, will return to Earth in October after having been aboard the ISS since April. Malenchenko and Lu became the first primary ISS crew to travel to the ISS via a Russian Soyuz TMA-2 spacecraft instead of arriving on a US space shuttle. With NASA's shuttle fleet still grounded, the crew will return on a Soyuz vehicle as well. Astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/foale.html> and cosmonaut Alexander Kaleri, U8MIR <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/kaleri-ay.html>--both veterans of the Russian Mir space station--have been named as the ISS Expedition 8 crew.

In responding to another question, Lu pointed out that ISS crews are quarantined for about a week before launch, in part to make sure they are not sick or coming down with something. During the storm's peak on September 18, Eilbacher said, electrical power and telecommunication problems abounded, but ham radio operators "filled the gap providing a crucial communication link between Red Cross chapters and shelter locations." Amateurs in the storm-struck region staffed state and county emergency operating centers

But the quarantine period also provides some needed quiet time, "to keep you away from all of the hullabaloo that surrounds the launch," he said. "At that point you just need to study and prepare and think about your mission and get ready." Without the quarantine period, he said, "you wouldn't have any time to yourself."

"Aloha to everybody down there!" Lu said in wrapping up the contact. He said he hoped to visit Hawaii and possibly the school within the next year.

Punahou School science center co-director Gail Peiterson said the questions asked were a representative sample chosen through a student competition.

Handling Earth station duties for the contact was Nancy Rocheleau, WH6PN, who operated from the Sacred Heart Academy station. ARISS School Contact Coordinator Tim Bosma, W6ISS, moderated the contact. Two-way audio for the QSO was provided by an MCI-WorldCom teleconferencing link.

RED CROSS UNIT COMPLIMENTS AMATEUR RADIO ASSISTANCE DURING ISABEL

The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 38 Sept. 26, 2003
Amateur Radio assistance in the Hurricane Isabel relief and recovery stage has continued this week in the Southeast. Ham radio's role has drawn compliments from the American Red Cross of Central Maryland, which praised the amateurs' dedication.

"I want to thank the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the amateur radio community for coming out and supporting the American Red Cross over the critical 72 hours when Hurricane Isabel passed over Maryland," said Frank M. Eilbacher, KC0EKL, a Red Cross disaster communications lead. "We recognize you took time away from your families and, for some of you, your own personal disasters to support us."

and shelters, as well as the Maryland/Delaware American Red Cross Hurricane Watch Center.

The Salvation Army also has responded to affected areas including North Carolina, where Hurricane Isabel came ashore September 18. Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) volunteer Carlos Varon, K2LCV, from Flushing, New York, this week accompanied two Salvation Army canteen units from New York City to Morehead City, encountering heavy rain and wind on the way.

Varon, who took along his "orange box" portable ham station, reports the Salvation Army has been operating up to a half dozen field canteens. Carteret County Emergency Coordinator Rich Wright, KR4NU, and his ARES team have been supporting the SATERN operation. Operators were deployed this week to provide communication between the canteens and the local command post. Plans call for expanding the operation to shadows some Salvation Army officers. Varon has been working out of a Salvation Army warehouse facility, expediting the deployment of necessities bound for storm victims.

The Salvation Army is providing relief to affected residents and emergency response workers in North Carolina, Washington, DC, and Baltimore, Maryland, as well as in smaller communities.

Earlier this week, ARRL North Carolina Section Manager John Covington, W4CC, reported that some ARES teams were providing communication support for localities--most in the hard-hit northeastern portion of the state--that still lacked power and telephone service. Covington said hams established point-to-point communication between shelters and emergency operations centers in affected counties. In one community, hams helped a fire dispatch center that lost its antennas in the storm.

In keeping with the Boy Scout motto, "Be prepared," Venturing Crew 80 of Alexandria--in Northern Virginia just outside Washington, DC--responded to requests for assistance from the Alexandria EOC and Fairfax ARES as Hurricane Isabel approached. The crew specializes in emergency communication and first aid and counts several ARES members among its membership and leadership. Some of the scouts remained on duty for several days.

Venture Crew members helped support communication at the Alexandria and Fairfax EOCs, at the Alexandria American Red Cross chapter house and at Red Cross shelters in both communities. While distributing bulk bottled water to homes lacking running water, crew volunteers got to meet Virginia Gov Mark Warner, who was visiting a shelter to thank volunteers.

Members of the Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club and the Alexandria Radio Club also provided communications support to Alexandria and Fairfax operations. Repeaters operated by both clubs were used during the emergency response.

Power has begun returning to the half-million or so residents who still had none at the new week began. ARRL Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Gregory, N4NW, reports commercial power finally returned to his home September 24. He'd spent 141 hours running his home from an emergency back-up generator. Gregory, who lives in Stafford County, lost power September 18. This week he strongly advised amateurs involved in public service communication to have a supply of emergency power available for such situations, so they can remain on the air.

Radio controlled ECHOLINK node is up and running. It's on 147.550 simplex using the standard DTMF control codes for ECHOLINK. The coverage area is approximately a 10 mile radius centered on Delmar. For further info contact John, K2QY at jgalt54@aol.com

DX-Cluster can be accessed at telnet://na2na.net

Public Service:

Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2F at 283-4304

AARA *WE Need YOU to Volunteer* **AARA**

ATVET 2003

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams
wb2sbo@aol.com or 518-439-7357
ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray,
atvet@n2ty.org or 518-482-8700

October 11, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)
November 8, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)

Each candidate should bring:

a. Social Security Number (required for CORES registration, ULS registration, and FCC Form 605 (application))
b. A picture ID and non-picture ID
c. Original and photocopy of any amateur licenses
d. Original and photocopy of any CSCE documents
e. Pens and Pencils
f. Calculator
g. $12.00 exam fee (cash, check, or money order payable to ARRL/VEC)\

CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2003 CQ World Wide DX Contest is coming soon! The phone weekend is October 25-26 and the CW weekend is November 29-30.
If you get on the air for either weekend, big score or small, send us your scores!
All scores received will be published in B-Plus. Send your information to us by e-mail at: sue.walt@verizon.net

See you in the pile-ups!

73,
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

AARA Homepage
www.qsl.net/k2ct

Upcoming Events

November, 2003

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 1 - 0300Z, Nov 3
QRP ARCI Running of the QRP Bulls 2100Z, Nov 1 - 0300Z, Nov 3
IPA Contest, SSB 0600Z - 1000Z, Nov 2 and 1400Z - 1800Z, Nov 2
High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z - 1100Z, Nov 2 and 1500Z - 1700Z, Nov 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z - 1700Z, Nov 2
WAE DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Nov 8 - 2359Z, Nov 9
Japan Int. DX Contest, Phone 0700Z, Nov 8 - 1300Z, Nov 9
OK/OM DX Contest, CW 1200Z, Nov 8 - 1200Z, Nov 9
Anatolian ATA PSK31 Contest 1800Z - 2400Z, Nov 8
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB 2100Z, Nov 15 - 0300Z, Nov 17
North American Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB 2100Z, Nov 15 - 0300Z, Nov 17
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 15 - 0100Z, Nov 16
LZ DX Contest 1200Z, Nov 22 - 1200Z, Nov 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 29 - 2400Z, Nov 30

December, 2003

ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, Dec 5 - 1600Z, Dec 7
PSK31 Death Match 0000Z, Dec 6 - 2400Z, Dec 7
TARA RTTY Sprint 1800Z, Dec 6 - 0200Z, Dec 7
TOPS Activity 80m Contest 1800Z, Dec 6 - 1800Z, Dec 7

SWAP SHOP

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

B-PLUS OCT. deadline is Sat. Nov.1sr.
Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Bill, K2BX with your address corrections: Bill Nettleton, K2BX 7 Frederick Pl., Troy, NY 12180 or e-mail at k2bx@arrl.net

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