

B-Plus

AARA

Meets at the
Bethlehem Town Hall
445 Delaware Ave
Delmar, NY 12054

Fri. MARCH 10th

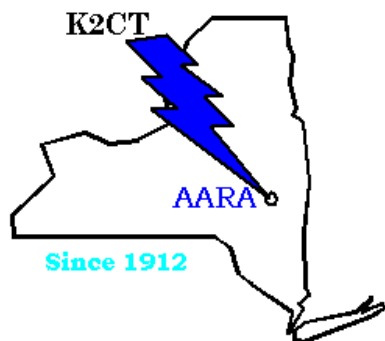
Social Hour 6:55 PM

refreshments
soda, coffee, cookies etc.

www.k2ct.net

**Affiliated with the American Radio Relay
League**

An ARRL Special Services Club
105th Year



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MARCH MEETING

Please **PAY** your Dues.

Gerald Murray, WA2IWW will
discuss:

"New Area Code 838 to overlay Area
Code 518"

He will discuss the upcoming new
Area Code, and a brief history of
Area Codes within New York State.

Field Day is June 24th and 25th 2017

145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 103.5Hz

AARA Dues

Dues cheerfully accepted,
Dues are \$20.

B-PLUS Newsletter sent via the
K2CT Web page in .pdf format
www.k2ct.org

Checks should be made out to
AARA and sent to:

Saul Abrams, K2XA
307 Maple Rd.
Slingerlands, NY 12159

ATVET Albany Troy Volunteer Examiner Team

If you can HELP OUT: call Gerry, WA2IWW

Contact **ATVET LIAISON: Gerry, WA2IWW** atvet@n2ty.org or 518-482-8700

If you are interested in amateur radio, and would like to take the exam, the Albany/Troy VE Team (ATVET) stands ready to assist. ATVET is a joint effort of the Albany Amateur Radio Association (AARA), and the Troy Amateur Radio Association (TARA). We are affiliated with the ARRL/VEC, and have been proud to provide testing opportunities since 1984.

Contesting

March 2017

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Mar 11 to 2359Z, Mar 12
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 11
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 11 to 1600Z, Mar 12
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 11 to 1900Z, Mar 12
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 12
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Mar 17 to 1000Z, Mar 19
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 18 to 1200Z, Mar 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 22
FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 25
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 25 to 2400Z, Mar 26

April 2017

LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 1
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 1 to 1500Z, Apr 2
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 6
JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 8 to 1300Z, Apr 9
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Apr 8 to 2359Z, Apr 9
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 8 to 2359Z, Apr 9
Hungarian Straight Key Contest	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 9

AARA CONTESTERS ON THE AIR

2016 ARRL 160-METER CONTEST RESULTS

STATION	CATEGORY	QSOs	MULTS	CLAIMED SCORE
W2GDJ	SO (H) A	803	91	150,514
W2EG	SO (L)	441	70	54,900
K2EP	SO (H) A	297	72	44,496
N2SQW	SO (H)	242	62	31,124
WA3AFS	SO (H)	80	67	12,730
WA1KKM	SO (L)	65	29	3,770

2016 ARRL 10-METER CONTEST RESULTS

STATION	CATEGORY	QSOs	MULTS	CLAIMED SCORE
W2GDJ	SO (HA) CW	450	56	100,800
N2SQW	SO (HA) MX	61	27	5,238
WA3AFS	SO (H) MX	20	18	1,368

73, Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

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AARA is on Facebook

[/www.facebook.com/AlbanyK2CT/](http://www.facebook.com/AlbanyK2CT/)

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Exam Date	Day	Doors Open	Exam Time (Doors will Close)
Mar. 11 TH, 2017	Sat.	9:30 AM	10 AM
April 15 TH, 2017	Sat.	9:30 AM	10 AM
May 13 TH, 2017	Sat.	9:30 AM	10 AM



AARA Jan Meeting

FCC Chairman: Enforcement Consent Decrees Must Get Okay from Full Commission

02/10/2017 ARRL.org

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai has put in place another process reform measure that he says will enable the commissioners “to become more fully involved in the agency’s enforcement activities.”

From time to time, the FCC Enforcement Bureau resolves cases by entering into a consent decree, in which the party under investigation agrees to comply with certain terms — and typically make a “voluntary contribution” to the US Treasury — in exchange for the government’s closing its inquiry.

“But over the past few years, in cases in which the full Commission has previously voted to propose and/or impose a forfeiture, such consent decrees have generally not been presented to the Commissioners for a vote,” Pai said in announcing the change. “Instead, they have simply been signed by the Chief of the Enforcement Bureau at the direction of the Chairman’s Office.” Pai said in many instances, the commissioners were given scant notice of consent decrees prior to their public release.

“That process ends now,” Pai said. “If Commissioners vote to propose and/or impose a forfeiture, the Enforcement Bureau should not settle that matter without their approval.” As of February 9, any consent decree settling a *Notice of Apparent Liability* or *Forfeiture Order* issued by the full Commission must now be approved by a vote of the full Commission. “This will help promote Commissioners’ involvement in and accountability for important enforcement decisions,” Pai said.

[FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition to Allocate New 5 MHz Band](#)

02/16/2017 ARRL.org

The FCC has invited comments on the ARRL’s January 12 ***Petition for Rule Making*** to allocate a new, contiguous secondary band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service. The League also asked the Commission to keep four of the current five 60-meter channels — one would be within the new band — as well as the current operating rules, including the 100 W PEP effective radiated power (ERP) limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum. The FCC has designated the League’s *Petition* as RM-11785 and put it on public notice. Comments are due Monday, March 20. ARRL plans to file comments in support of its petition.

The proposed ARRL action would implement a portion of the *Final Acts* of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) that provided for a secondary international allocation of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service; that band includes 5,358.5 KHz, one of the existing 5 MHz channels in the US. The FCC has not yet acted to implement other portions of the WRC-15 *Final Acts*.

“Such implementation will allow radio amateurs engaged in emergency and disaster relief communications, and especially those between the United States and the Caribbean basin, to more reliably, more flexibly and more capably conduct those communications [and preparedness exercises], before the next hurricane season in the summer of 2017,” ARRL said in its petition.

The League said that 14 years of Amateur Radio experience using the five discrete 5-MHz channels have shown that hams can get along well with primary users at 5 MHz, while complying with the regulations established for their use. “Neither ARRL, nor, apparently, NTIA is aware of a single reported instance of interference to a federal user by a radio amateur operating at 5 MHz to date,” ARRL said in its petition. NTIA — the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, which regulates federal spectrum — initially proposed the five channels for Amateur Radio use. In recent years, Amateur Radio has cooperated with federal users such as FEMA in conducting communication interoperability exercises.

The League said in its petition that while the Amateur Radio community is grateful to the FCC and NTIA for providing *some* access to the 5-MHz band, “the five channels are, simply stated, completely inadequate to accommodate the emergency preparedness needs of the Amateur Service in this HF frequency range,” ARRL said. Access even to the tiny 15-kHz wide band adopted at WRC-15 would “radically improve the current, very limited capacity of the Amateur Service in the United States to address emergencies and disaster relief,” ARRL said.

The WRC-15 *Final Acts* stipulated a power limit of 15 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP), which the League said “completely defeats the entire premise for the allocation in the first place.” ARRL said the FCC should permit a power level of 100 W PEP ERP, assuming use of a 0 dBd gain antenna, in the contiguous 60-meter band. “To impose the power limit adopted at WRC-15 for the contiguous band would render the band unsuitable for emergency and public service communications,” the League said.

The ITU *Radio Regulations* permit assignments at variance with the *International Table of Allocations*, provided a non-interference condition is attached.

Interested parties may comment on RM-11785 using the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System (**ECFS**).

The **RVWARS club** auction will take place March 20th the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Churchtown firehouse.
If you need specific directions please email WA2UET@arrl.net or check rvwars.com for the recent newsletter for a map.

Just a reminder, this is March in lieu of our regular monthly meeting,
Saratoga ARA will hold its annual Swapfest at the Cooperative Extension Building,
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa.

Doors open at 8 AM, and we start closing up at about 11, so that we can have a VE exam session at noon.

Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Walt, WA1KKM 456-3637 or via e-mail sue.walt@dososaur.com with your address corrections

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@nycap.rr.com

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