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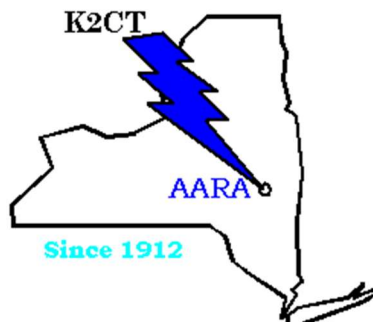
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B-PLUS DEC 2021

AARA Meeting

Friday, Dec. 10, 2021

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85030266089?pwd=YnkreHdpM29sSmVVcWsrbm9DNDRWUT09>

AARA DECEMBER MEETING

Please PAY your Dues.

AARA Dues

Dues cheerfully accepted,
Dues are \$20.

Title: AARA December 2021

Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85030266089?pwd=YnkreHdpM29sSmVVcWsrbm9DNDRWUT09>

Location: Meeting ID: 850 3026 6089
Passcode: 876862

When: Friday, December 10, 2021
7:15 PM – 10:15 PM

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

Checks should be made out to
AARA and sent to:

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

We will hold elections during the December meeting .
Here is the slate of nominees.

Pres. John Fritze K2QY
VP Gerry Murray WA2IWW
Treas. Saul Abrams K2XA
Secr. Bruce Goldstein WA3AFS
3 Yr. Dir Fred Lass K2TR

Nominations will also be taken at the meeting.

Note: Dues for 2021/2022 are due. Please send your \$20 to:
Saul Abrams
307 Maple Rd
Slingerlands, NY 12159-3615

Special Events	100th Anniversary - 1st DX Message Sent	12/11/21
Contests		
	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 11 to 2400Z, Dec 12
	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Dec 8
	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 19
	ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Dec 18 to 2359Z, Dec 19
	NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 17
	NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 24
	NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 31
	Winter Field Day	1900Z, Jan 29 to 1900Z, Jan 30

Two 160-Meter Events in December Give Nod to 1921 Transatlantic Tests

ARRL.org 12/02/2021

160-meter operators can revel in two opportunities in December that promise to fill the airwaves with activity to test skills and stations on that band. The events take place a century after the Transatlantic Tests of the 1920s, which ushered in the dawn of international amateur radio communication.

The annual **ARRL 160-Meter Contest** begins at 2200 UTC on Friday, December 3, and ends at 1559 UTC on Sunday, December 5. This 42-hour CW-only contest is most similar to the original Transatlantic Tests. This contest typically attracts a good crowd and presents a challenge to operator skill and station performance.

The Radio Society of Great Britain (**RSGB**) is planning to activate special call signs to commemorate the centenary of the Tests. Stations from the UK and Crown Dependencies will use up to seven different call signs, each having a “6XX” suffix: G6XX, England; GD6XX, Isle of Man; GI6XX, Northern Ireland; GJ6XX, Jersey; GM6XX, Scotland; GU6XX, Guernsey, and GW6XX, Wales. In addition, listen for UK stations appending the suffix “/2ZE” to the station’s call sign. Use of this commemorative suffix has been authorized for use December 1 – 26 by Ofcom, the UK’s communications regulator.

On December 12 — and not to be confused with the ARRL 160-Meter Contest — ARRL and the RSGB will jointly sponsoring the **160-Meter Transatlantic Centenary QSO Party**. This 6-hour event will run from 0200 to 0800 UTC. The event coincides with the 100th anniversary of the successful Second Transatlantic Tests. Participating stations will operate only on CW, trying to contact the two official call sign activations, W1AW and GB2ZE. At times the stations may listen for callers 1 kHz above their transmitting frequency, to shift the pile-up from their transmit frequency. They may also periodically ask for DX callers only. The exchange is call sign and signal report.

During the QSO Party, ARRL will activate W1AW from Newington, Connecticut. RSGB will activate GB2ZE with help from a team of stations, including members of the GMDX Group of Scotland sharing the operating duties. GB2ZE commemorates the call sign of Paul Godley, 2ZE, who was sent by ARRL to the UK to lead the second Transatlantic Test in December 1921.

W1AW will be active for all 6 hours. Stations operating as GB2ZE will follow this schedule:

- 0200 UTC, from the commemorative station at Ardrossan, Scotland
- 0300 UTC, from GM3YTS.
- 0400 UTC, from GM0GAV.
- 0500 UTC, from MM0ZBH.
- 0600 UTC, from MM0GPZ.
- 0700 UTC, from GM4ZUK until 0800 UTC or until the band closes at sunrise.

The GMDX Group will award a *quaich* — a traditional Scottish drinking cup representing friendship — to the first stations in North America and the UK to complete contacts with both W1AW and GB2ZE during the QSO Party. A commemorative certificate will be available for download. Participants will not have to submit logs. The official logs from W1AW and GB2ZE will be used to determine the winners and for certificates.

For additional details, visit <http://www.arrl.org/transatlantic> or rs.gb.org/main/activity/transatlantic-tests.

Senator Blumenthal Supports Amateur Radio at Senate Confirmation Hearing

ARRL.org 12/04/2021

Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT) received an affirmative reply from FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel when he asked her to commit to providing his office “an update on the steps that the FCC is taking to support amateur radio operators.” The Senator posed the **written question** as part of Rosenworcel’s renomination hearing conducted by the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

Blumenthal took note specifically that “Radio amateurs voluntarily provide an array of public services, especially emergency and disaster-related support communications when infrastructure has been destroyed by a hurricane or similar disaster. Their contributions in this area are regularly recognized by local and state authorities.”

“ARRL is grateful to Senator Blumenthal for his support

and recognition of radio amateurs,” said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. Blumenthal has previously co-sponsored legislation supporting amateur radio, and his staff was recently briefed by ARRL on pending amateur radio matters at the FCC. Roderick added, “We need the partnership of the FCC and Congress to ensure our rules and spectrum continue to support the march of technological innovation in our vibrant Amateur Radio Service.”

Multiple proceedings to update or change the FCC’s amateur Part 97 rules to account for changes in technology and operating practices have been languishing at the FCC, some going back five or more years. ARRL is hopeful that these will be addressed soon.

The Senate Committee approved Rosenworcel’s renomination with a bi-partisan vote on December 1, 2021. She has served on the FCC since 2012, and the Committee’s vote to approve her nomination for an additional term sends it to the full Senate for final consideration.

edited by Mike Bergman, WD2AJS, 45 Swartson Ct., Albany, NY 12209 518 489-3110. **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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