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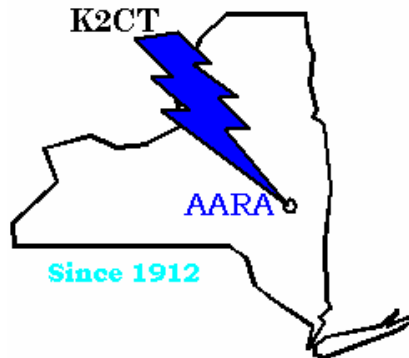
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay
League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday March 11

Social Hour 6:55 PM
Meeting 7:45 PM

refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee

MARCH Meeting

AARA March meeting will feature Steve Bozak of Bozak Antennas. Steve will speak about building his antenna and a whole lot more. As an old friend of AARA his discussions are always interesting and entertaining.

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

Please Note: **AARA Annual Dinner**
Friday April 8, 2005

AARA Dues

Dues are \$15 with
B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web page in
.pdf format www.k2ct.net

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



We regret to announce the passing of Ken Kroth W2VJB. We have lost a real gentleman of the hobby. Rest in peace Ken.

2005 ARRL DX CONTEST – CW RESULTS (PRELIMINARY LISTING)

STATION	CATEGORY	QSOs	CLAIMED SCORE	
			COUNTRIES	
N1EU	SO (H) A	1974	433	2,564,226
K2ONP	SO (H) A	1474	351	1,552,122
N2LBR				
(+WA1KKM)	M/S	746	268	599,784
K2XF	SO (H) A	681	281	574,083
K2BX	SO (H) A	604	236	427,632
K2EP	SO (H) A	463	247	343,083
N1JP	SO (H) A	469	219	307,476
NW2J	SO (L)	278	124	103,416
NA2NA	SO (H) A	155	111	51,615
WF2B	SO (H) A	100	90	27,000

Thanks to everyone who sent us their scores so promptly!

Be sure to send us your phone scores for publication in next month's issue of B-Plus. (It's also not too late to send us your CW scores.) Send your results to us in plain-text format ONLY at: sue.walt@verizon.net

Do your part to keep the pages of B-Plus filled with interesting reading material!

73,
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

AARA Annual Dinner

Friday April 8, 2005

at the Shaker Ridge Country Club.
Cash Bar Cocktails 6:00 PM to End
Dinner 7:00 PM

Choice of:

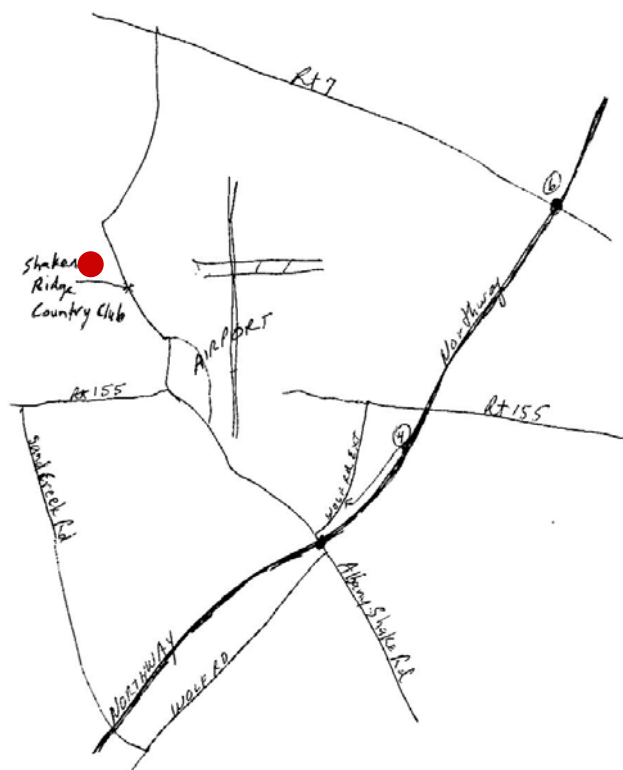
- 1.) Cranberry Harvest Chicken,
- 2.) Prime Rib of Beef au Jus,
- 3.) Char Grilled Salmon Filet.

\$25.00 per person (please pay in advance)
If you know for sure you are coming let WF2B know
at WF2B@verizon.net

Send checks (made out to AARA) to:
Bud Hovey
15 Sylvan Lane
Troy, NY 12180-8542

Bud expects to be at the March meetings and will
accept checks or cash at that time.

Bud Hovey, WF2B We should have your
selection by March 25.



On 146.94 MHz Repeater from 6:30-8:00 AM Jock, KB2GOM runs a 2-meter Commuter Net.

During severe inclement weather, June, KB2JTG runs a 2-meter Commuter Net from 4:00-6:00 PM

This Week in Amateur Radio

For more information see the TWIAR web site. <http://www.twiar.org>

SWAP SHOP

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

SWAP: Hughes Network Systems Elliptical Satellite Dish (35" w X 22" t) and fixed pole mount (with both DSS and FSS LNB's attached (condition unknown). Free (or for swap credit towards used 2 m equipment). Contact Bryan (KC2NIF) at Bryan88@yahoo.com

For Sale: TenTec Omni D with factory mode to model B and factory mode to include 30 meters and 12 meters. Ten Tec Auxiliary VFO, and TenTec Power supply. Microphone and other extras. Last chance at \$350.00 before I advertise it on TenTec reflector. Bud Hovey, 283-2337 or wf2b@verizon.net.

FCC PROPOSES HOLDING THE LINE ON VANITY CALL SIGN FEE

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 07 Feb. 18, 2005

The FCC has proposed retaining the current \$20.80 Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee for the 10-year license term. The fee went from \$16.30 to \$20.80 last August. In a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2005" (MD Docket 05-59) released February 15, the FCC says it's proposing to collect more than \$280 million in regulatory fees for fiscal year 2005, as mandated by Congress "to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and

rulemaking, user information, and international activities."

The FCC anticipates 8000 vanity call sign applications during FY2005--up from 7800 applications in FY2004--and it expects to raise \$166,443 from vanity call sign fees.

More information on vanity call signs is available on the ARRL Web site

<<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vanity.html>>.

Public Service:

Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2F at 283-4304

AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA

www.k2ct.net

WE are looking for pictures of your Ham Shack

Send pictures to Peter, N2KAD

Please try the new site and let me know what you think. If you have any feedback please let me know.

73, Peter Hines, N2KAD, webmaster hines@nycap.rr.com with any suggestions.

HAM RADIO SAVES A HAM IN ALASKA

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 08 Feb. 25, 2005

Two Alaskan hikers on a day outing in rugged mountains near Anchorage saw their afternoon turn into something entirely unexpected February 12. One of them--Jesse Jones, KL1RK--slipped and fell more than 200 feet down a steep ravine, losing his snowshoes in the process. Jones found himself trapped between a low overhang on one side and a swift-moving stream on the other. Even worse was the fact that his descent could continue into the water at any moment, and almost certain death from hypothermia. With more than 10 feet on the ground, the loss of his snowshoes meant he could not walk out. On the plus side, Jones had taken along his 2-meter handheld transceiver. After several unsuccessful tries, he finally was able to access the wide-area WL7CVG repeater atop Mt Susitna, almost 40 miles distant.

"As a control operator for the repeater, I heard his weak 'Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!' call just a few minutes after 4 PM local time," reports Jim Wiley, KL7CC. "I immediately called 911 and was placed in contact with the local fire department rescue coordinator. I was able to pass on Jesse's messages to the local rescue coordinator, including coordinates from a GPS unit he was carrying." Wiley says the rescue coordinator's office called out the local mountain rescue group and the Alaska State Troopers, who immediately left for the scene.

The rescue team met with Jones's climbing partner, who had been able to hike out to a place where he could assist the rescuers. Jones was able to keep in touch via 2 meters to report his condition, but his signal into the repeater was marginal. Although uninjured, the sub-zero cold was numbing his extremities to the point that he was having trouble operating his transceiver.

Unable to execute the rescue themselves, the team called an Air National Guard unit, which flew a helicopter to the scene. While the presence of high-voltage power lines just above Jones' position complicated matters, the chopper was able to lower some para-rescue jumpers to a nearby location, from which they could rappel to his position and, after a few hours, extricate him.

Briefly hospitalized for a checkup, Jones was released just before midnight, cold and a bit hungry, but otherwise okay. Wiley says several local hams also assisted the effort, either directly or by their connection with local emergency service groups.

Additional details of the rescue and photos are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/02/24/1/>>.

"Cardless" Five-Band DXCC The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 08 Feb. 25, 2005

"Cardless" Five-Band DXCC testimony to Logbook of the World's value: New Hampshire contest station KC1XX (chief op Matt Strelow) recently achieved Five-Band DXCC solely through contact data submitted to the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW). With more than 255,000 QSOs already in the worldwide contact database, KC1XX recently was able to confirm 100 DXCC entities on 80 meters to qualify for the award. Because most participants have linked their DXCC data into LoTW, it is not always possible to determine band totals derived solely from Logbook confirmations. Major contest stations like KC1XX serve to demonstrate the value of participating in LoTW, however, because these stations frequently do not have DXCC, and their totals are due entirely to LoTW-verified contacts. The largely single-op contesting and DX station of John Sluymer, VE3EJ, in Ontario also has qualified for 5BDXCC through LoTW-verified QSOs, while several others are closing in on achieving 5BDXCC using the same route. Meanwhile, Brian Alsop, K3KO, in North Carolina, has already confirmed 221 DXCC entities entirely via LoTW. The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 08 Feb. 25, 2005

TECH CLASS

Jay Freud 383-3421 will be teaching a Tech Class.

Tech Class at Clifton Park Public Library for 6 Tuesdays starting March 1st. from 6pm - 8:30pm.

Call Jay for details but you must call the Library at 371-8622 for info on the materials and room...

B-PLUS April deadline is March 26th.

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

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

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