

B-Plus

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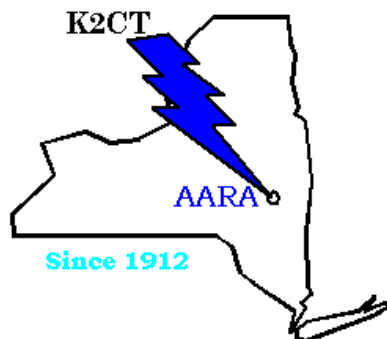
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay
League
An ARRL Special Services Club
101st Year

AARA

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

Friday March 8th

Social Hour 6:55 PM

refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee etc.

March MEETING

Submarine Communications

Randy Stein, KL7TJZ will talk about submarine communications with the surface fleet while being submerged.

Randy served for 4 ½ years as a radio operator and technician onboard the submarine USS Tullibee. After the Navy, he worked for 17 years at a local commercial two-way radio shop as a technician and service manager.

AARA Dinner

Friday April 12, the 2nd Friday on April
see page 3

K2CT Repeater

Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 103.5Hz

AARA Dues

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

www.k2ct.net

OR

\$20 for mailing of the newsletter
Checks should be made out to AARA
and sent to:

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

FREE to AARA Members: The club has two 17-inch CRT Monitors. Both work well, but are no longer needed. If interested, contact: Walt, WA1KKM, 456-3637, sue.walt@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Mirage 2 mtr amp. B1016; 10 watts in, 160 watts out. Includes receiver pre-amp. \$150.00 contact Saul, K2XA@arrl.net

***** **AARA CONTESTERS ON THE AIR** *****

2013 ARRL DX CONTEST -- CW RESULTS

STATION	CATEGORY	QSOs	COUNTRIES	CLAIMED SCORE
W2RE (+N1EU+W2EG+ops.)	M/S	5163	571	8,839,080
N2LBR (+WA1KKM)	M/2	1666	395	1,974,210
K2ONP	SO (H) A	1464	401	1,759,989
K2XA	SO (H) 20M	2003	112	673,008
K2EP	SO (H) A	633	297	564,003
N1CC	SO (L) A	559	256	429,312
WK2H	SO (H) A	524	270	423,630
WC2L	SO (L) A	314	225	211,950
WF2B	SO (H) A	308	146	134,904
K2BX	SO (H) A	199	176	105,072
W2GDJ	SO (H) A	215	159	102,555
N1JP	SO (H) A	177	174	92,394
K2XF	SO (H) A	105	91	28,665
WA3AFS	SO (H) A	44	44	5,808

73, and thanks for all the scores!
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR



Jan 2013 meeting

Photo by Bud ,WF2B

K2QY

WA1KKM

K2XA

Amateur-created "Varicode" Adopted as ITU Recommendation

02/21/2013 News at ARRL website

On Tuesday, February 19, François Rancy -- Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau ([ITU-R](#)) of the International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) -- announced the simultaneous adoption and approval by correspondence of a new Recommendation entitled *Telegraphic Alphabet for Data Communication by Phase Shift Keying at 31 Baud in the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services*. The alphabet -- commonly called "Varicode" because the more frequently used characters (in the English language) occupy fewer bits -- was developed by Peter Martinez, G3PLX, in the 1990s. Martinez was awarded the ARRL Technical Innovation Award for the year 2000 by the ARRL Board of Directors for his development of PSK31, which uses Varicode for transmission efficiency in much the same way as the Morse code. In ITU parlance, it [now](#) becomes Recommendation ITU-R M.2034.

Adoption of the Recommendation is the culmination of work conducted in ITU-R Study Group 5 and its Working Party 5A during 2011 and 2012. Working Party 5A is responsible for studies of techniques and frequency usage in the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services, as well as certain aspects of the land mobile and fixed services.

The Recommendation was proposed by the United States, and ARRL Chief [Technology](#)

Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, advocated for the Recommendation's adoption as United States spokesperson for Amateur Radio issues at Working Party 5A. "The text of the Recommendation borrows heavily from the [technical description of PSK-31](#), prepared by Steven Karty, N5SK, on the ARRL's website," Price explained. "Steven's thorough description of Peter's invention enjoyed relatively smooth sailing within the United States preparatory process and at the ITU."

Adoption of an ITU-R Recommendation requires multiple levels of review. Following proposal by an administration, a draft Recommendation is vetted by one or more relevant ITU-R Drafting Groups, Working Groups, Working Parties and Study Groups, usually through several meeting cycles. "We are grateful to United States 5A delegates -- particularly delegation leadership from the FCC, NTIA and the State Department -- for supporting this effort at every [step](#) of the process," Price said. "We also appreciate the deliberations of ITU delegates from dozens of countries who evaluated the draft as it proceeded to adoption and approval." "Nothing that radio amateurs do on the air will change as a result of this ITU decision, but it is significant nonetheless," observed ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "It provides further documentation in an important international forum of radio amateurs' continuing creativity and contributions to the art and science of radio communication."

ATVET [Albany Troy Volunteer Examiner Team](#)

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). 1st Exam=**March 9th doors open 9:25am exam 10AM**

If you like to help out next season contact: ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, WA2IWW
atvet@n2ty.org or 518-482-8700

AARA Dinner

Friday April 12, the 2nd Friday on April
at The Western Turnpike Golf Course from 6p-10p

- 1) Sliced Sirloin of Beef
- 2) Chicken Cordon Bleu
- 3) Haddock Francaise
- 4) Plain Fish No sauce, No Breading
- 5) Gluten Free-Chef's Choice

The cost is \$35 per person
I will be at the March 8th Meeting
or mail it to **Stephen Hans, KC2VUE**
25 Delamater Way
Troy, NY 12180

MARCH CONTESTS ON THE AIR

EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 9 to 1600Z, Mar 10
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 9 to 1900Z, Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 10
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 10 to 0100Z, Mar 11
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Mar 13
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 16 to 0200Z, Mar 18
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Mar 16 to 1000Z, Mar 17
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 16 to 1200Z, Mar 17
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 16 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 16 (432)
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Mar 16
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 21
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 21
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z, Mar 31

APRIL

SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 4
LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 6
PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest	1200-1800 local, Apr 6
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 6 to 1500Z, Apr 7

TARA'S Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest
Apr. 20th 2013 00:00 UTC through 23:59 UTC -
Rules at n2ty.org

Public Service: American Red Cross to Phase Out Emergency Communication Response Vehicles

2/21/13 ARRL website The American Red Cross has made the decision to phase out and decommission its Emergency Communication Response Vehicles (ECRVs) due to changes in technology, as well as a new satellite system and other factors regarding the vehicle fleet. "Retrofitting the decade-old vehicles with new equipment is not a good use of donated funds, as the long-term strategy is to move to more portable systems," American Red Cross Disaster Services Technology Manager Keith Robertory, KG4UIR, told the ARRL. "This is consistent with the trends in the telecom and technology industries." Read more [click](#)

"Exam-prep Jepperdee" Bob,W2XM

Engineer-turned-educator W2XM has developed three versions of "Exam-prep Jepperdee" which can be found on the ARRL website. Each contains questions from the appropriate FCC question pool and can facilitate a fun-filled review when used with W2XM's game hardware (relays, lights, sounder, and push-buttons; all junque-box or flea-market items). The web addresses are

<http://www.arrl.org/tech-prep-resource-library>

<http://www.arrl.org/studying-for-the-general-license>

<http://www.arrl.org/studying-for-an-extra-license>

A new Tech-exam-prep version is under construction by the author and is scheduled for completion March 1.

Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Walt, WA1KKM 456-3637 or via e-mail sue.walt@verizon.net 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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