

# **B-PLUS**

## **Albany Amateur Radio Association – AARA**

### **March 2026**

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**AARA Next Meeting:**  
Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
7:30 PM - Slingerlands Firehouse

**Topic:**  
Antenna Upgrades

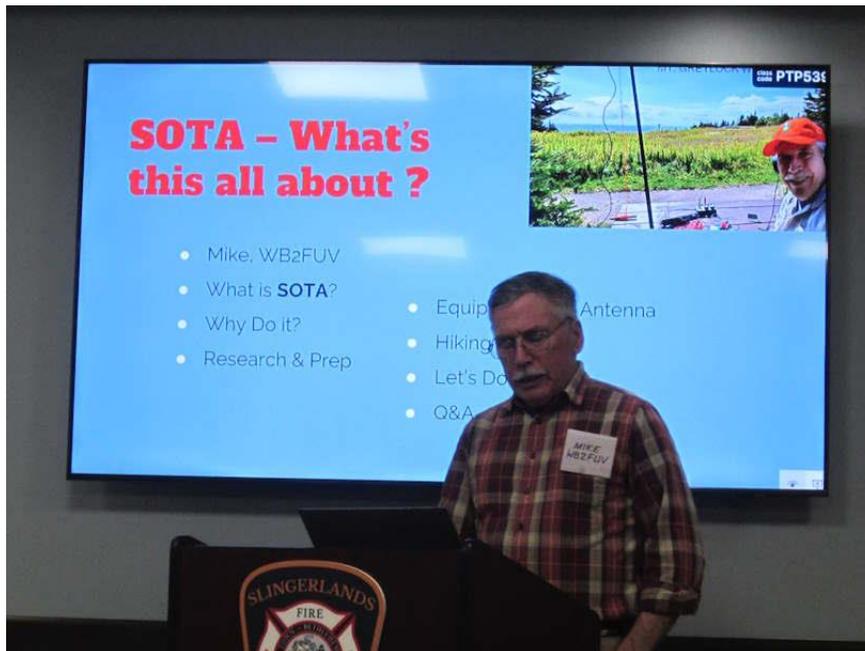
PLEASE Pay Your Dues  
Dues are \$20  
Checks can be sent to:

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

# February 2026 Meeting



Dave Galletly KM2O presents Fred Lass K2TR with the December, 2025 QST Cover Plaque award for his article "The Tomato Stake Antenna – An Optimized 6 Meter Array."



Mike Moran WB2FUV did a presentation on SOTA – Summits on the air.

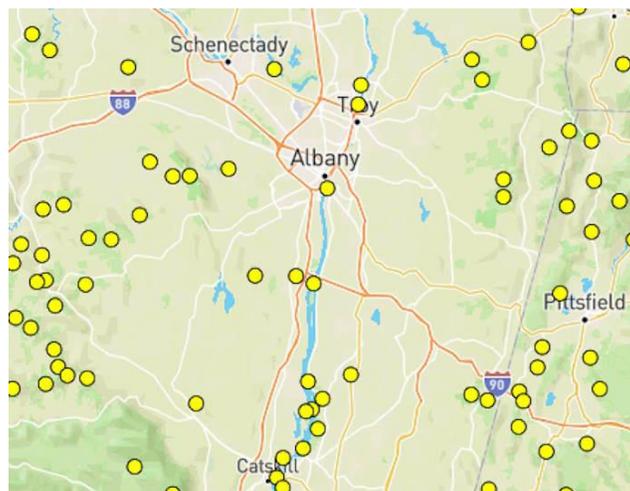


Mike showing some the locations and conditions that he has operated at. Information for SOTA operations is available at [www.sotadata.org.uk](http://www.sotadata.org.uk)

SOTA is an award scheme for radio amateurs that encourages portable operation in mountainous areas.

There are awards for activators (those who ascend to the summits) and chasers (who either operate from home, a local hilltop or are even Activators on other summits).

Bob Schwenk W2XL talked about POTA (Parks On The Air). There are plenty of sites near the Capital District if you wish to participate:



Source: [parksontheair.com](http://parksontheair.com)

# XX9W – Macao DXpedition



A DXpedition to Macao, China is planned for March 19-31, 2026. Details are at: <https://www.dxfriends.com/xx9w>.

## A HamClock Alternative

It was noted at the meeting that HamClock will stop functioning in 2026 due to the passing of its originator. Openhamclock.com provides an alternative:



Lots of interesting features to play with.

## **Shack Pix Needed**

Take some digital photos of your operating station – we can display them at the meeting. Show off your equipment!

## **S.A.R.A. 2026 Swapfest**

The Saratoga Amateur Radio Association will host its annual swapfest on March 14, 2026 at the Cooperative Extension building at 50 West High Street in Ballston Spa. Doors open at 7:30 am. There is no charge to attend or to sell your items. There will a VE session at noon, to register go to: [hamstudy.org](http://hamstudy.org).

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## **Swap Shop**

Have radio gear you want to buy, sell, trade, or give away?

Please send your item descriptions to [wa3afs@arrl.net](mailto:wa3afs@arrl.net) or [dgherring@hotmail.com](mailto:dgherring@hotmail.com)

### **Important Links:**

Find a license class in your area: [www.arrl.org/class](http://www.arrl.org/class)

Find a license exam in your area: [www.arrl.org/exam](http://www.arrl.org/exam)

### **The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin:**

<http://www.eidxa.org/EIDXBulletin.html>