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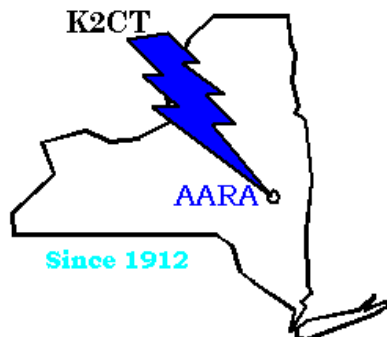
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# B-PLUS

[www.k2ct.net](http://www.k2ct.net)

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

## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center  
[1653 Central Ave. Colonie](http://1653 Central Ave. Colonie)

## Friday MAY 8

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting begins 7:47 PM

refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee etc.

## MAY MEETING

Join us this month as we welcome **Frank Fallon, N2FF**, ARRL Hudson Division director to inform us about the latest happenings in Amateur Radio. **Please** plan on attending and bring a question or two of League or policy concerns you may have. We appreciate Frank taking the time to join us this month, as he is our elected, direct advocate for our hobby. It is easy to forget that without the League and many volunteers like Frank, we may not have any frequency spectrum, certainly a critical component to our existence. Come and join us for a discussion with Frank to support and further our hobby.

### **K2CT Repeater**

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

or

444.30 (+) w/pl tone 100.0Hz

### **AARA Dues**

Dues are \$15 with  
B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web page in  
.pdf format [www.k2ct.net](http://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

## Dinner Recap:

Our Annual AARA club dinner was held on April 3rd, 2009 at the Shaker Ridge Country Club. Each year, the group has this special opportunity to gather in a completely different venue, share a meal and have a presentation.

We were pleased to present our special club service award to Walt Legowski WA1KKM for his dedicated service to our club and the hobby in general.

Also, this year we were especially pleased to present one of our very rare Life Memberships to Jim Noble K2ZP. Jim has been a long-standing member and contributor to our club in so many ways and this is a very fitting response to recognize that.

Congratulations to Walt and Jim!!

This years event featured Mr. Ray Misiewicz speaking on the top secret spy missions that were conducted by the US Navy with custom modified submarines during the cold war. Thank you Ray! To all who attended the event, THANK YOU for your support of our club!

Nathaniel, KB2HPW





ARRA Dinner April 2009

The following appeared in the

**Daily DX** dated April 21, 2009 (Volume 13, No. 078) with permission from Bernie W3UR submitted by Bud, WF2B

### International Reply Coupons (IRCs)

Most DXers are familiar with the International Reply Coupon

([www.g3swb.org.uk/irc.html](http://www.g3swb.org.uk/irc.html)) or more commonly known as an IRC. The IRC was first introduced on October 1, 1907. Its purpose in Amateur Radio, but even more so for DXers, has been an international postage type of money system. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) designs, prints and distributes the IRCs to the UPU member nations ([www.upu.int/members/en/members.html](http://www.upu.int/members/en/members.html)).

A DXer in one country could theoretically send one IRC from his country to a DXer in another country. The receiving station can then take the IRC to his post office and exchange it for postage for "the minimum postage for an ordinary priority letter-post item or an ordinary airmail letter sent abroad for the reply". In most countries one IRC is sufficient for the minimal size envelope back to the sender. There are some however that requires more, even though this totally conflicts with the UPU. W9OL, Bill, and N6DHz, James, have Web pages ([www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC\\_Chart.htm](http://www.qsl.net/w9ol/IRC_Chart.htm) and [www.n6dhz.com/irc-chart.html](http://www.n6dhz.com/irc-chart.html)) that are good references for how many IRCs or

greennstamps (\$) to send overseas.

Over the years the IRC has been modified or updated and yes even gone up in price. The current IRC

([www.dailydx.com/images/irc2007.jpg](http://www.dailydx.com/images/irc2007.jpg)) and

([www.dailydx.com/images/IRC-2007-100.jpg](http://www.dailydx.com/images/IRC-2007-100.jpg)) is called the

Beijing model No. 2"

International Reply Coupons (IRC) with the Michelangelo "two fingers about to touch, framed in a postage stamp". This IRC costs \$2.10 in the United States and has been available for purchase since the July-August

2006 time frame. These IRCs are valid through December 31, 2009 and will no longer be available after August 31, 2009. In other words they must be turned into the post office by the end of this year, otherwise they will be worthless.

A new designed IRC was displayed in Geneva on August 8, 2008 the plenary meeting of the 24th Universal Postal Congress. The Nairobi model ([www.dailydx.com/images/2008-08-08\\_irc.jpg](http://www.dailydx.com/images/2008-08-08_irc.jpg)) was created by Luxembourg's Rob Van Goorand, a graphic artist. The new IRCs are expected to go on sale on July 1, 2009.

### The ARRL Letter

Vol. 28, No. 16 April 24, 2009

Thomas Dick, KF2GC, Returns as Northern New York SM: Thomas Dick, KF2GC, of Saranac Lake, has returned to the office of Section Manager of Northern New York. He has taken the reins of the Northern New York Field Organization from Tom Valosin, WB2KLD, who had been Section Manager since 2007. When Valosin decided not to run for another term of office, Dick submitted his nomination petition to run for Section Manager; the open position was re-solicited in the January 2009 issue of QST. Since Dick's nomination was the only one received by the receipt deadline, he was declared elected and his term of office extends through December 31, 2010. Dick has several years of prior



experience as a Section leader: He served as the Northern New York Section Manager from 2000-2006 and as Section Emergency Coordinator from 1998-2000.

"Hints and Kinks": Do you have an idea or a simple project that has improved your operating? Maybe you've taken something commonly found around the home and developed a ham radio use for it? Why not share your hints with fellow hams in "Hints and Kinks," a monthly column in QST. If we

publish your hint, you will receive \$20. Send your hints via e-mail to <h&k@arrl.org>; or to ARRL Headquarters, Attn: "Hints and Kinks," 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please include your name, call sign, complete mailing address, daytime telephone number and e-mail address. Items in "Hints and Kinks" have not been tested by QST or ARRL unless otherwise stated. Although we can't guarantee that hints published will work for every situation, QST makes every effort to screen for harmful information

## 2009 CQ WPX PHONE CONTEST RESULTS

STATION	CATEGORY	QSOS	MULTS	CLAIMED SCORE
KM2O	SO20 (H)	248	185	120,805
W2GDJ	SO (H)	175	145	60,320
WB2KLD	SO (L)	157	134	55,342
WA3AFS	SO (H) A	100	98	37,044
WF2B	SO (H) A	135	115	33,810
K2XA	SO (H)	26	?	1,200

73,  
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

## ATVET 2009 EXAM SCHEDULE

### 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).

CII Building - Room 3045  
RPI Campus  
Troy, NY

Day	Date	Doors Open	Exam Start
Wednesday	July 22	6:20 PM	7:00 PM
Saturday	October 17	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
Saturday	November 14	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

The 2009 Exam Fee will be \$15.00 (payable to ARRL-VEC)

ATVET is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC, and have been proud to provide testing opportunities since 1984. If you have any questions, please feel free to phone Gerald Murray, WA2IWW, (evenings and weekends) at 518-482-8700, or e-mail me at [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org).

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](mailto:wd2ajs@nycap.rr.com). Permission to reprint is granted if credit is given for article source as "Albany Amateur Radio Assoc. B-Plus"; and credit for specific bylines to the author when so identified. The contents of this publication are copyrighted in all other respects.