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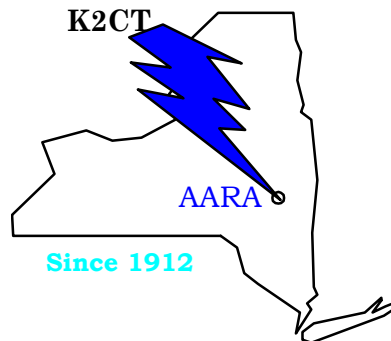
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League  
An ARRL Special Services Club

## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center  
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

**Friday NOV 12**

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM  
Refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee

## NOV. Meeting

How to Buy and Sell Ham Gear on eBay

Guy WK2h will cover how to get setup, searching techniques, using My eBay, feedback ratings, bidding, what to do if you win, and getting started selling.

### **K2CT Repeater**

**Talk-in repeater**  
**145.19 (-) MHz**  
**pl tone 100.0hz**  
**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

## SWAP SHOP

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at [wd2ajs@arrl.net](mailto:wd2ajs@arrl.net) or call 489-3110

### MOVING

I will be moving in the spring and am looking to lighten the load. I'm not looking for money for these items, just like to know that they're going to a "good home". Please contact me if you have an interest or would like further information: **Laurie, N2OSB at 872-9056 or [warnerlm@usadatanet.net](mailto:warnerlm@usadatanet.net)**

**1.)** 18" (measured diagonally) B&W GE television. I don't know exactly how old it is, but I would guess at least 30 years, since I remember it from when I was quite young. The case is plastic in shades of brown or beige, and it has a carrying handle on top. The picture is excellent, and it will accept an auxiliary input. I was using it up until a few years ago, when I got fed up with trying to make out shadowy scenes from shows like "The X-Files" and finally got a color set. Excellent for amateur television, or for watching "Casablanca"!

**2.)** Samsung VCR model #VR3319. This is 10-15 years old. It still has the remote control and the instructions. The reason I stopped using it was that the belt which moved the VHS tape kept breaking. It's simple to replace (I did so several times) and a little tinkering might reveal the cause for the repeated failure. It's possible that the replacement belt I obtained wasn't exactly the right size, and I also used rubber bands. I wanted a VCR/DVD anyway.

**3.)** Furniture (but not until spring): a three-seat couch and matching armchair (rock/swivel). I got these second-hand from my parents, so I'm guessing they're 15-20 years old. They are structurally sound, no wiggles or creaks. However, they are upholstered in a woven synthetic fabric which has started to give way in random places. They are still quite comfortable and look reasonably good, but not "like new". Slipcovers would fix all! Again, I'd just like to know that they're being used, so if there are no takers but someone has a favorite charity (especially one that does pick-ups), I'll accept that suggestion also

## ATTENTION AARA CONTESTERS

If you were on the air for the CQ World-Wide DX Phone Contest or the ARRL CW November Sweepstakes, we want your score! Still upcoming are the Sweepstakes Phone weekend, November 20-22, and the World-Wide CW weekend, November 27-28. We want those scores too! Please send a plain text copy of your summary sheet to us at:

[sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)

Get your score published in B-Plus!  
See your call in print!

Don't be left out!

73,

Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

[sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)

## ARISS INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES PONDER "SUITSAT" POSSIBILITIES

The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 42 Oct. 22, 2004

If plans come together in time, an outdated Russian spacesuit could become the most unusual Amateur Radio satellite ever put into orbit. Being called "SuitSat" for now, the idea--from ARISS-Russia's Sergei Samburov, RV3DR--sparked wide-ranging discussion among delegates to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International Team meeting October 11-13 in Alexandria, Virginia. With diminishing stowage space aboard the ISS, several Orlan spacesuits used for space walks have been declared surplus. Samburov's notion is to have an ISS crew equip one of them as an Amateur Radio satellite--possibly including a camera in the helmet area--and launch it during a space walk. ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, says the project is on a fast track because it must be ready to roll in less than a year.

"It is on a very short schedule," Bauer said. "They're talking about launching in November of 2005, and to launch then, it really has to be ready in June of next year. It's going to be a big challenge," Bauer said. A second Orlan suit is expected to be available in 2007.

Bauer says the fact that SuitSat will have to be integrated in orbit by cosmonauts adds even more to the complexity. And after all that, SuitSat might float in space just a month or two before deorbiting. As a result, delegates tried to keep the "KISS" principle in mind during their brainstorming on how to equip SuitSat. "We've got to keep it simple, and we've got to keep the costs down," Bauer commented.

In addition to an onboard camera and a downlink transmitter, other ideas floated included the installation of temperature and radiation sensors, a beacon, a text-to-speech voice synthesizer so SuitSat could "speak" to students from data uplinked via packet, a full-duplex repeater and a GPS receiver to track SuitSat as it orbits Earth. The Orlan suits are pressurized and thermally protected, and have ample room inside.

"I think we're doing a good job of engineering this thing on the fly," Bauer remarked during the discussions. "This has excited a lot of people." ARISS delegates agreed that the project might pique the interest of students, teachers and the news media. The ARISS Project Selection and Use Committee is studying the proposal, and ARISS is soliciting ideas from the Amateur Radio community on what to include.

The ARISS delegates also heard updates on ISS hardware projects already in the pipeline, including launch of a multiband, multimode Yaesu FT-100D transceiver and a slow-scan TV system to the ISS, possibly within the next year.

Re-elected during the session were Bauer as ARISS International Chairman, Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, as Vice Chairman, and Rosalie White, K1STO, as Secretary-Treasurer. Following the meeting, Bauer said he was pleased to see the ARISS team--now in its eighth year--"on the same page" and working smoothly.

"Every time we have an ARISS meeting, the camaraderie, the teamwork internationally get better and better," he said.

Samburov offered similar sentiments. "It seems to me we have become more than just colleagues," he said. "We have become friends, with a great deal of trust among ourselves."

### **Public Service:**

**Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2F at 283-4304**

**AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA**

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

For the past several years the AARA's web site has been hosted on QSL.NET.

This was a free service which did not have advertisements. Over the past few months the performance of the QSL.NET site has degraded substantially to the point where down loading the latest copy of B Plus has been next to impossible.

Over the past few weeks the Board of Directors of AARA met and approved spending some funds for a better performing web site.

The purpose of this e-mail is to announce [www.k2ct.net](http://www.k2ct.net). The Club Web site has been revamped and moved there.

With this move we are able to do a few more interactive things. For example, you will be able to "log in" to the site by clicking on the "login" test on the left hand side of the screen. An e-mail will be going out shortly with your user id and password. I strongly encourage you to change your password.

After logging in you will be able to change your contact information.

We need more content for the site and anything can be changed. We need more photos too. E-mail them to me at [hines@nycap.rr.com](mailto:hines@nycap.rr.com) and I will get them posted.

**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

# ATVET 2004

Albany/Troy Volunteer Examiner Team

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams [wb2sbo@aol.com](mailto:wb2sbo@aol.com) or 518-439-7357

ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org) or 518-482-8700

Each candidate should bring:

- Social Security Number (required for FCC CORES/ULS registration)
- A picture ID and non-picture ID
- Original and photocopy of any amateur licenses
- Original and photocopy of any CSCE documents
- Pens and Pencils
- Calculator
- \$12.00 exam fee (cash, check, or money order payable to ARRL/VEC)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Doors Open</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Room</u>
Sat.	November 13	9:20AM	?	?

## DIGITAL BROADCAST TROUBLESOME TO SOME, EXPERIMENTAL OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHERS

The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 43 Oct. 29, 2004

A digital broadcast signal on 3995 kHz has prompted some members of the amateur community to contact ARRL to say it's QRMing the top 10 kHz of 75 meters and asking what can be done about it. Not much, as it turns out. The signal, from Deutsche Welle in Germany, is legal since radio amateurs share that part of the band with broadcasters in Region 1 (which includes Europe). The international Radio Regulations do leave the door open to request that the station reduce power or change its antenna pattern, however.

"Digital shortwave will revolutionize cross-border broadcasts and will initiate a worldwide renaissance of radio," Deutsche Welle Director General Erik Bettermann said this month during a panel discussion at Munich Media Days. Deutsche Welle plans to gradually shut down its analog shortwave transmissions, he said, as DRM receivers

became more available globally--something not anticipated until late 2005.

Although the station has been broadcasting for some time on the same frequency in conventional AM, it's attracted more notice from hams since July, when it began testing using digital format--also referred to as "DRM," (Digital Radio Mondiale, French for "Digital Radio Worldwide"). Of course, the vagaries of propagation will be a big factor as to the amount of interference US hams experience at any given time.

Radio amateurs meanwhile have been experimenting with programs such as HamDream

<<http://www.qslnet.de/member/hb9tlk/>>, a DRM program adapted for Amateur Radio use by HB9TLK. It enables digital voice and data transmissions using bandwidths on the order of 2.3 to 2.5 kHz.

DX-Cluster can be accessed on web at <telnet://na2na.net>

AARA Home Page  
<http://www.k2ct.net>

B-PLUS Dec deadline is Sat. Nov. 27th

**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](mailto: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](mailto:wd2ajs@arrl.net)  
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