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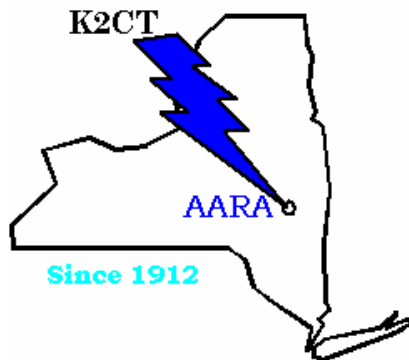
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay
League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Friday Nov. 18

Social Hour 6:55 PM

Meeting 7:45 PM

refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee

NOV. Meeting

November meeting date

Friday Nov. 18th

At the November Meeting
Fred Fritte, WA2MMX will speak about
Ham Shacks.

An interactive talk with lots of pictures of
ham shacks and their operators. Why
are the radios set up like they are? Why
are the antennas switched from over
there? etc.

K2CT Repeater
Talk-in repeater
145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 103.5Hz
or
444.30 (+) w/pl tone 100.0Hz

NEW pl TONE on
K2CT Repeater 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 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

ARRL COO TESTIFIES ON CAPITOL HILL TO AMATEUR RADIO'S VALUE IN DISASTERS

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 38 Sept. 30, 2005

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, testified on behalf of the League September 29 before the US House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. Addressing the hearing topic, "Public Safety Communications from 9/11 to Katrina: Critical Public Policy Lessons," Kramer reiterated and amplified comments ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, delivered earlier this month to the House Government Reform Committee. As Haynie did on September 15, Kramer testified on the successful efforts of Amateur Radio operators who provided communications during the Hurricane Katrina response.

"Amateur Radio was uniquely suited to this task by virtue of the availability of HF communications covering long distances without fixed infrastructure," Kramer pointed out in his testimony. In addition to those who responded to support relief agencies in hurricane-devastated areas, thousands more radio amateurs outside the affected area monitored radio traffic and relayed health-and-welfare messages, he said. See full story at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/09/30/2/?nc=1>

Emergency Communications

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 38 Sept. 30, 2005
Amateur Radio volunteers fill communication gap when telephones fail: When a telephone outage occurred in Southern California October 18, the Long Beach Emergency Communications and Operations Center (ECOC) declared a "communication failure protocol," and ARES/RACES members and other ham radio volunteers stepped in to help. The outage disabled 911 service in communities along the coast and through parts of Los Angeles and Orange counties. It also cut off at least 150,000 telephone and Internet service customers for up to 12 hours along with many cell phone users. Radio amateurs worked with police and fire officials to support the departments with auxiliary communications. Hams also were stationed at 17 of the largest nursing homes in town. The emergency net successfully

relayed traffic through the ECOC to the hospitals, nursing homes and ambulance services, ensuring access to 911. When the City of Long Beach built its new ECOC three years ago Emergency Services Coordinator Casey Chel, KD6DOV, had the foresight to include a complete Amateur Radio facility for those rare occasions when all other communication systems might fail. Those plans paid off on October 18.--Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach

OPERATING EVENTS

November 12 - 13 ARRL EME 50 MHz - 1296 MHz
19 - 21 ARRL November Sweepstakes
(Phone)
26 - 27 CQ WW DX Contest CW

HF CONTEST 2005 CQ WW

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 19-21, and the World-Wide CW weekend, **November 26-27**. We want those scores too! Please send a plain text copy of your summary sheet to us at: sue.walt@verizon.net**

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

Don't be left out!

Please include the following information when reporting your score to us:

**Call used in the contest
Mode (CW or Phone)
Entry Category
Power Level
Claimed Score
Number of (non-dupe) QSOs
Number of Country Multipliers
Number of Zone Multipliers**

See you in the pile-ups!

**73,
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR**

Special Event Stations

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special-event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9×12 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope to address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information.

Nov 19, 1500Z-2100Z, Guthrie, OK. Edmond Amateur Radio Society, K5EOK. Oklahoma Statehood Day in original State Capital Building. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. Certificate. Edmond Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 48, Edmond, OK 73083. www.k5eok.org.

Nov 20-Nov 26, 1600Z-0400Z, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Murgas ARC, K3YTL. Centennial of Rev Joseph Murgas wireless overland transmission. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. May request certificate or QSL. Murgas ARC, PO Box 1094, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. www.gsl.net/k3ytl.

Nov 25, 1400Z-2200Z, Provincetown, MA. National Park Service, W1P. 107th anniversary of the loss of the Steamship *Portland*. 14.260 14.050 7.260 7.050. QSL. Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC, Cape Cod National Seashore, 99 Marconi Site Rd, Wellfleet, MA 02667. www.nps.gov/caco/heritage/Portland.pdf.

Nov 26-Nov 27, 0000Z-2400Z, All Call Areas, USA. Ten-Ten International, W6OI. Celebrating 43 years and 75000 members. 28.340 28.400 CW and PSK. QSL. Jack Moore, K5CC, 371 Ridge Creek La, Bulverde, TX 78163. www.10-10.org. (Certificate for all call areas.)

Nov 26-Nov 27, 1400Z-2000Z, Plymouth, MA. Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO. The first Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts. 18.140 14.280 7.250 3.890. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382. www.wa1npo.org.

Nov 26-Nov 27, 1400Z-1900Z daily, The Villages, FL. The Villages Amateur Radio Club, K4VRC. The 10th anniversary of the Villages Radio Club. 147.000 14.275 7.250 3.940. Certificate. Ed Crowell, 1570 St James Cir, The Villages, FL 32162.

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.

Public Service:

Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2F at 283-4304

AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA

SWAP SHOP

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

- For sale:**
- 1) Create CR18, 6' Roof Tower. \$100
 - 2) Create CK46 Thrust Bearing \$50
 - 3) Alliance/Dual Speed Antenna Rotor and Control unit HD-73 \$200
- Note: all of above three together for \$300
- 4) 2 meter mag mount antenna. Used once. \$10
- Great stuff for the hobbyist:*
- 1) Home Brew Antenna Switch. 4 position. The switch is a ceramic very low loss unit. Doesn't look too great but would outperform almost any commercial. \$1
 - 2) Power-One, HB2-3.0A, Power supply. Stats 2V @ 3A. New. \$2
 - 3) Power-One, B24-1.2 Power supply. 20/24v @ 1.3/1.2 A. Boxed and new. \$2
 - 4) Lambda, LOT-R-5152 Power supply. +/- 5v @ 12A. +/-12 to +/-15v @ 3 A \$10
 - 5) HP 6516A DC Power supply. 0-3000v @ 0-6mA \$8
 - 6) HP6281A DC Power supply. 0-7.5v @ 0-5 A \$8

Much more to come. : Ernie WM2U
emills@nycap.rr.com phone after 5:00pm or leave a message if not in at 518-877-7499

"HAM AID" ELIGIBILITY EXPANDED TO RITA, WILMA VOLUNTEERS

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 42 October 28, 2005

Thanks to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the ARRL's "Ham Aid" program has been expanded. In addition to Hurricane Katrina Amateur Radio volunteers, Ham Aid now will cover those who are serving or have served in the wake of hurricanes Rita and Wilma. CNCS provided ARRL with \$170,000 in grant extensions to support Ham Aid. The fund offers limited reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses to ham radio volunteers who are providing or have provided emergency communication support in communities devastated by hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

"To date, there is adequate funding to support the hundreds of hams who traveled to the Southeast since late August," said ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. She points out that the same reimbursement procedures already in place for Hurricane Katrina Amateur Radio volunteers will apply to hurricane Rita and Wilma volunteers <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/cncls/>>.

In an effort to distribute funding to as many ham radio volunteers as possible, Hobart says expense reimbursements at present are limited to \$25 per day for a maximum of four days, or a total reimbursement per radio amateur of \$100. Amateur Radio volunteers are eligible for one expense reimbursement per hurricane event. For now, the program only covers per-diem reimbursements between September 1 and December 31, 2005. The period may be extended, however, based on availability of funds.

Hobart says she wants to allay fears of Amateur Radio volunteers who believe accepting the money is contrary to FCC Part 97 rules. §97.113 prohibits "Communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules." Hobart says Ham Aid reimbursements are not for providing "communications" but to help with such costs as travel, meals, lodging and other necessities.

"These out-of-pocket expenses can be a hardship for some Amateur Radio volunteers," Hobart said, noting that

some hurricane volunteers have come from the ranks of the unemployed or seniors on fixed incomes. "If we can help one ham to serve where badly needed, that's what this grant is intended to do." She encouraged all who served in the field in the aftermath of Katrina, Rita or Wilma to put in for the reimbursement nonetheless--if for no other reason than to honor those who have volunteered before them throughout ham radio's history.

"These volunteers should consider applying anyway and then donate the reimbursement to their club or to another emergency communication-related project," she said. "I'd like to see this money support ARES and our emergency response capabilities in the field." Hobart says the CNCS grant is a tangible expression of the value that the federal government puts on Amateur Radio as an emergency communication asset.

"I hope people take advantage of the helping hand CNCS has extended," Hobart says. "Let's put this funding to work as CNCS intended."

Hobart says the League will accept reimbursement request applications on a first-come, first served basis for as long as funds are available. Reimbursement checks will be mailed to the address the radio amateur provides on the form.

The CNCS grant is an extension of the ARRL's three-year Homeland Security training grant, which has provided certification in emergency communication protocols to nearly 5500 Amateur Radio volunteers over the past three years. This grant extension does not cover additional ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications training program reimbursements, however.

Cash donations from individuals are also being accepted by the ARRL to support hams in the field assisting with hurricane relief and recovery efforts. To make a donation go to the ARRL general donation form and select "Ham Aid" (this is a secure site) <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic>.

ATVET DATES

Albany Troy Volunteer Examiner Team

Exam Date	Day	Doors Open	Exam Time(Doors will Close)
November 12, 2005	Saturday	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, atvet@n2ty.org or 518-482-8700

Thank You!

Gerald Murray, WA2IWW Phone: 482-8700 e-mail: atvet@n2ty.org

Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Bill, K2BX with your address corrections: Bill Nettleton, K2BX 7 Frederick Pl., Troy, NY

12180or e-mail at k2bx@arrl.net

B-PLUS Dec. deadline is Nov 26th.

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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