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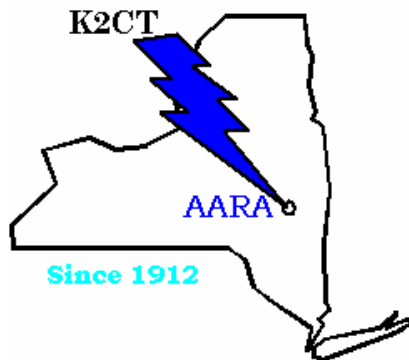
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay
League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave. Colonie
Friday Nov. 10

Social Hour 6:55 PM
Meeting begins 7:47 PM
refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee

NOW MEETING

Frank Fallon, N2FF, Director,
Hudson Division, ARRL

He'll speak about the
new Band Plan

What about BPL in NY.

ARRL and what is going on

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
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

NEW YORK PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
RECOGNIZES BPL INTERFERENCE
CONCERNS

The New York Public Service Commission (NYPSC) <<http://www.dps.state.ny.us/>> this week adopted a policy statement on deployment of BPL systems in the Empire State. While asserting that BPL technology "may provide significant benefits to New Yorkers," the commission also has acknowledged that BPL "poses a myriad of both traditional and unique technical and regulatory challenges." The policy statement, issued and effective October 18, says that while most BPL providers, equipment makers and vendors believe the FCC's Part 15 rules address interference issues, that was not the consensus opinion of those who commented to the Commission.

"Most parties were uneasy about potential interference problems that could arise with the deployment of BPL technology," the NYPSC policy statement pointed out, citing RF interference as "a major issue."

The NYPSC policy affirmed its decision that electric utilities should not be BPL providers. Utility Consolidated Edison still operates a BPL trial system in the Westchester County community of Briarcliff Manor that has been the target of BPL interference complaints from radio amateurs. The policy puts primary responsibility for RFI on the BPL provider, who, under the NYPSC model, would lease access to the electric utility's grid.

"The BPL provider is primarily responsible for responding to all customer service and collateral service complaints and issues, including any related to interference produced by BPL equipment," the policy statement says.

In his oral comments to the NYPSC, Robert Mayer, director of the New York Office of Telecommunications, characterized the interference issues as "serious and unresolved." Mayer told the Commission that radio interference is "probably one of the most fundamental questions" facing BPL and that it remained unresolved.

"It's one of the things that this commission needs to be most vigilant about as these trials are deployed to make an assessment of what interference issues exist," he said. Mayer also predicted an uphill battle for BPL in gaining market share.

The NYPSC's policy statement encourages electric utilities, BPL equipment manufacturers, and third-party BPL operators to participate in such trials. "Given the uncertainty surrounding the technical and economic viability of the technology," the policy noted, "trials would be for a limited service territory over a limited period of time."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the policy statement the NYPSC adopted this week effectively damns BPL with faint praise.

"In sharp contrast to the vacuous endorsements of BPL that sometimes emanate from public utilities commissions, New York State's has actually taken the time to assess the risks posed by BPL and to take steps to insulate the electric utilities and their customers from them," Sumner said. "The Commission found that BPL is not yet -- and may never be -- commercially viable, and that radio interference is a 'major issue' that has not been put to rest by the FCC."

Earlier this year, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) adopted regulatory guidelines for electric utilities and companies that wish to develop BPL projects in that state. The CPUC said BPL would bring Internet access to "underserved communities" in California.

ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI -- the League's BPL point person -- said the NYPSC's policy statement reflects "a fair and complete look at the issues" by regulators who didn't base their findings on presumptions and a preconceived desired outcome. "This is an example of how government is supposed to work, and New York's Amateur Radio community should appreciate this," he said.

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Volunteer CONTACT
Frank, N4ZHG 473-9256

FCC FINALLY DECIDES WT DOCKET 04-140 **THE BIG STORY!!!!**

From: Hudson Division Beacon e-mail edition
67 October 2006

As a result of a recent FCC announcement we will soon have a new band plan for many of our HF bands. See

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/20/104/?nc=1> for the full story.

You will see that there are a number of changes from what ARRL proposed and what FCC initially announced in their NPRM on this issue. One of the BIG changes is the BIG increase in the voice band which will soon start at 3600 for EXTRA class.

As a digital operator I am not too happy about being squeezed into a smaller segment on that band and many others may not be either. I am sure that CW operators feel the same way. It appears that the FCC decided to make this change after they released their NPRM as a result of a small group of hams sending a lot of comments suggesting this change.

There are also a number of errors or conflicts in the document that ARRL is attempting to have the FCC correct.

At the request of the Band Planning Committee we have put up an invitation for member comments on the FCC rules changes in WT Docket 04-140. Register your comments at:

<http://www.arrl.org/?artid=6864>

A chart showing the allocation changes has been posted to the Web.

Color and greyscale versions are available at <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>

It is our hope that by the end of the year the FCC will tell us what they plan to do about CW testing and when a change will be implemented. We are at least two years behind European countries making this change.

ATTENTION AARA CONTESTERS!

Send us your call, entry category, mode, power level, number of QSOs, number of country multipliers, and claimed score.

73, Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

Send all of the above (plain text only) to:
sue.walt@verizon.net

See you in the pileups! 73,

AARA *WE Need YOU to Volunteer* **AARA**

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.



Meeting OCT 2006



FOR SALE:

1. Yaesu 180600 FT-101 E Needs repair \$50.00
2. Kenwood TS8305 180 Watts Needs repair to switch.
3. Yaesu2156 B Works fine 1200 Watts 500.00
4. Kenwood TS-820 Remote VFO & Speaker \$300.00
5. Wood Vibrplex box. \$10.00
6. 3 Band Quad New \$100.00
7. Other free gear-cleaning house.

Call Lee Califano W2FYA
436-1296

The Amateur Radio Social Event of The Year

Order you tickets for the Amateur Radio Social event of the year at <http://www.bara.org>

The Bergen Amateur Radio Association will host the 2006 Hudson Division Awards Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Saddle Brook, New Jersey on a Saturday night, November 11th , at 7 PM. We will have a very good view from the 12 floor. Some attendees may want to work a little HT DX. The location is at the junction of Route 80 and the Garden State Parkway. Ticket price will be the same as last year, \$48 per person. Please join us to honor all those receiving a division award. Ticket and ad applications will soon be available on the division web site. BARA President Tony Izzo, K2AMI promises that tickets will be sold at the BARA Hamfest. No tickets will be sold the night of the event. Please don't leave it to the last minute!

This year's awardees are:

Amateur of the Year - Barry Cohen, K2JV (from NNJ) nominated by: K2AL, WW2OLF, KC2KMK, N2VI, W2FMI and KC2ONP (New Providence ARC/Salt Brook School ARC)

Grand Ole Ham - **Bob Raffaele, W2XM** (from ENY) nominated by: K2XA Saul Abrams

Technical Achievement: Elmer Sharp, WA2YSM (from ENY) nominated by: KB2ZE - Donald Hitt

Special Recognition for Public Service Excellence: Jeff Schneller, N2HPO (NLI) nominated by: Mike Lisenco, N2YBB and Charles Gallo, KG2V

The awards will be presented at the 2006 Hudson Division Awards Dinner hosted by the Bergen Amateur Radio Association at the Holiday Inn in Saddle Brook New Jersey just off Route 80 on Saturday night, November 11th at 7 PM. Please attend to help us honor these outstanding Amateur Radio operators who truly make us all proud to be part of the Amateur Radio Service. Tickets are \$48 and an application form is available at

<http://www.bara.org/>

We hope to see you there.

ATVET ALBANY TROY VOLUNTEER EXAM TEAM

Exam Date	DAY	DOORS OPEN	Exam Time (Doors will Close)
November 11, 2006	Saturday	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

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

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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