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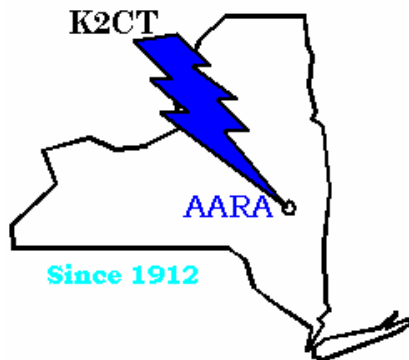
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay  
League  
An ARRL Special Services Club

## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

**Friday Oct. 14**

Social Hour 6:55 PM  
Meeting 7:45 PM

refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee

## OCT. Meeting

AARA Oct. meeting will have a DX video recommended by Frank Fallon, N2FF Director, Hudson Division, ARRL. and

**Pumpkin Patrol** guest and updates and

Contesting in the Fall 2005

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

**NEW pl TONE**  
**on NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

Starting Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> the K2CT repeater will be using a new pl tone of **103.5Hz.**

## **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

## **M.S. Bike Ride July 9 – 10, 2005**

### **Jack Donnelly WA2YBM**

Amateur radio operators from around the Capital District again provided communications for the annual Multiple Sclerosis Society 150 mile bike ride. Each ride consisted of a 75 mile ride each day. The starting gun was sounded each morning at 8 A.M. to begin that day's ride. There were 5 rest stops each day approximately 15 miles apart. The third stop was for lunch served by volunteers. Each of the other four rest stops consisted of volunteers cheering the riders on and supplying water and other goodies.

On Saturday night after all riders were safely back to Moreau State Park Campground, a chicken BBQ was served. A five piece band provided music for the rest of the evening for our listening pleasure. In a campground, it was obviously Country music.

Two groups of two each road the route on Friday putting up signs for the riders to follow – left turn, right turn or straight ahead at all intersections. With over 150 riders over the two days, nobody got lost. Amazing!

We had ambulance support, bike repair, sag wagons for those that just plain pooped out, vans to supply the food to all the rest stops and pick up what was left after all the riders had passed by. Both days were sunny and just warm enough to ride in. In other word, perfect weather.

By the end of the third day, seventeen Hams, some both days, volunteered any were from 4 hours to a total of eighteen hours each. Amateur radio has supported the M.S. ride now for eighteen years. Two of the Hams have worked this event for all eighteen years – Don Roberts W2CJO and Jack Donnelly WA2YBM who has coordinated the event every year.

Those that participated came from locations between Albany, Saratoga, Ft. Edward and.

Warrensburg and places in between

The following Hams took part in the ride: Jack K2LOO, Pete W1NXB, Jim KC2CJX, Walt AA2FT, Ken AA2CW, Stormy N2VLS, Dan AB2TG, Ernie KC7BYD, Sandy KC2MID, Ed KC2MIH, Bob KB2TBB, Henry KB2STR, Dick WA2NFD, and Matt KC2ETE, and Ed KB2UKT.

A humungous Thank You to all. Without each and every one, this event would not have been as successful as it was.

## **OPERATING EVENTS**

**October** 22 - 23 ARRL EME 50 MHz - 1296 MHz  
29 - 30 CQ WW DX Contest phone  
**November** 5 - 7 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)  
12 - 13 ARRL EME 50 MHz - 1296 MHz  
19 - 21 ARRL November Sweepstakes  
(Phone)  
26 - 27 CQ WW DX Contest CW

## **HF CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT** **2005 CQ WW**

The 2005 CQ World Wide DX Contest is almost here! The phone weekend is **October 29-30** and the CW weekend is **November 26-27**. If you get on the air for either weekend, big score or small, send us your score(s)!

All scores received will be published in B-Plus. Send your information (plain text) to us by e-mail at: [sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)

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

## ARRL ANNOUNCES 2005 TOY DRIVE FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS

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

In the wake of unprecedented hurricane devastation in the Gulf Coast region, the ARRL has announced it will again sponsor a toy drive to brighten the holidays for youngsters left homeless or displaced as a result of the storms. Country singer and ARRL member Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, has agreed to serve as honorary chairperson for the 2005 toy drive. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, is urging the Amateur Radio community to pitch in.

"Last year, hams from all over the country brought smiles to children during the holidays," Haynie said. "We made a lot of friends, and we did a lot of good. No one expected that we would need to do it again so soon, but the recent hurricanes' destruction changed the plans of a lot of people."

Last year, individual radio amateurs and clubs across the US joined together to collect new toys for youngsters affected by a series of four hurricanes in Florida. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the 2004 effort was a success beyond anyone's wildest dreams, and there was no question in his mind about doing another toy drive for the latest hurricane victims.

"Not only can it be done, it really must be done. It is simply the right thing to do," he said. "We are asking hams from all over the country to begin gathering new toys for shipment to Memphis, Tennessee. ARRL Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, has secured a receiving warehouse and is recruiting ham volunteers there."

Ham radio clubs and individual amateurs should send new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Plan mailings and shipments to arrive prior to Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24, for distribution over the holidays.

"Just as we did last year, we are asking the donors to please put a QSL card into the box with the toy," Pitts added. Non-hams are encouraged to join this effort too.

"Early in December, we will divide the toys among the various agencies and states that

need help the most at that point in time," Pitts explained. "We are making these arrangements so that we can maximize the areas receiving aid while maintaining the unique identity that this is the Amateur Radio Community's response."

Pitts says he's heard from many Amateur Radio clubs that are already gathering toys together. "Please check with your local club and see if they are planning a mass shipment," he urged. "If not, perhaps you can help organize one for your area."

Monetary donations to purchase new toys for special age groups and to help cover operational expenses also are welcome. Those wishing to donate money instead of toys can send a check to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

## [www.k2ct.net](http://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](mailto:hines@nycap.rr.com) with any suggestions.

**SK KY2I:** It is with deep sorrow that we note the passing of Arnold Plue, KY2I, on Sept. 10, 2005.

Arnold was the father of KA2CUP, father-in-law of K2VV, grandfather of KB2QPL, and former treasurer of AARA.

### SWAP SHOP

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

### Public Service:

**Pumpkin Patrol Oct 30 and Oct 31**

**Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2E at 283-4304**  
**AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA**



## AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA "CC&R BILL" REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 37 Sept. 23, 2005

New York Congressman Steve Israel has reintroduced legislation that could make it easier for radio amateurs living in communities with deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) to erect suitable antennas. Arkansas Congressman Mike Ross, WD5DVR, signed aboard as an original cosponsor of the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" (HR 3876). ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, attended Israel's public announcement of the bill September 19 on Long Island.

"Unfortunately if all new housing developments contain deed restrictions forbidding outside antennas there will probably come a time when there will not be enough ham radio operators to help their neighbors and countrymen," said Fallon. He believes Israel's bill will help to ensure that Amateur Radio will continue to be able to provide emergency communication should a disaster occur.

Fallon, who heads up the League's grassroots lobbying initiative, noted the bill's introduction comes in the immediate aftermath of positive media coverage of Amateur Radio's response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster. He was on hand for Israel's public announcement, which took place at the home of ARRL New York City-Long Island Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D.

The one-sentence measure is identical to the text of the CC&R bill that has been introduced in the last two sessions of Congress: "For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation relating to station antenna structures in the Amateur Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local

regulation." The measure would put private land-use regulations, such as homeowners' association rules, on the same legal plane as state or local zoning regulations under the FCC's PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, this week encouraged League members to write their elected representative and ask that they cosponsor and support the bill, especially given two hurricane emergencies in short order.

"Amateur Radio is certainly a part of this nation's communications infrastructure," Haynie said. "What we're asking for is just a fair shake so we can put up antennas and help our fellow citizens." While the League has ramped up its efforts to educate members of Congress about Amateur Radio, Haynie said lawmakers respond best to individual members.

HR 3876 has been assigned to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Information about the bill and a sample letter to use when contacting your representative are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr3876/>>.

In his formal announcement this week, Israel said that "often unsung" Amateur Radio volunteers were instrumental in helping residents in the hardest hit areas in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, including saving stranded flood victims in Louisiana and Mississippi.

"State and local governments, as well as disaster relief agencies, could not possibly afford to replace the services that radio amateurs dependably provide for free," said a statement from Israel's office. "However, the hundreds of thousands of Amateur Radio licensees face burdensome regulations that make it extremely difficult to provide their public services."

## 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](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org) or 518-482-8700

Thank You!

Gerald Murray, WA2IWW Phone: 482-8700 e-mail: [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org)

**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)  
B-PLUS Oct deadline is Oct 1st.

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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**NEW PL TONE  
ON NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**STARTING NOV. 1<sup>ST</sup> THE  
K2CT REPEATER WILL BE  
USING A NEW PL TONE OF  
103.5Hz.**