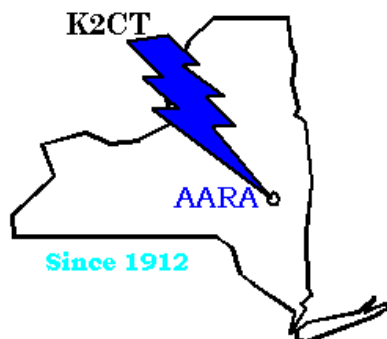


Published by the **Albany Amateur  
Radio Association**  
OCT. 2009

# B-PLUS

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

Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League  
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## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center

1653 Central Ave. Colonie

### Friday OCT 9

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

refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee etc.

## OCT. MEETING



Join us this month for a discussion and demonstration of APRS. Automatic Packet Reporting System has been around since the late 80's when Bob Bruninga WB4APR developed it. It is a GPS and packet based tracking system designed to transmit real time position data that can be mapped. Amateurs have actually used **APRS** in the Capital Region on local search and rescue events to aid authorities. The equipment required will be demonstrated along with software programs UIVIEW and XASTIR. Our speakers are John Fritze K2QY and Rick Giguere N1BOI. Here is your chance to learn about the basics of this fun and very useful mode. Come and see

### 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

how easy it is to get started in this mode and what the future holds for this service.

## AMATEURS WITH GENERAL CLASS LICENSES TO BE GRANTED RECIPROCAL LICENSES IN SOME CEPT COUNTRIES

The ARRL Letter  
Vol. 28, No. 36 Sept. 11, 2009

On Thursday, September 10, the Federal Communications Commission released a new Public Notice implementing changes in CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. DA-09-2031 continues to allow US licensees "to utilize temporarily an amateur station in a European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) <<http://www.cept.org/>> country that has implemented certain recommendations with respect to the United States," subject to the regulations in that country and implements recent changes in the agreement <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf)>.

When an Amateur Radio operator with US citizenship holds an Advanced or Amateur Extra Class license, they continue to be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as amended) <<http://www.erodocdb.dk/docs/doc98/Official/wor d/TR6101%20off%20140905.doc>>. There is no change in reciprocity for those license classes. What has changed is that US citizens holding a General class license -- who had lost all CEPT reciprocal privileges in 2008 -- are now granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with ECC Recommendation (05)06 (as amended) <<http://www.erodocdb.dk/docs/doc98/Official/wor d/Rec0506.doc>>.

The Public Notice states that while operating an amateur station in a CEPT country, the person "must have in his or her possession a copy of this Public Notice, proof of US citizenship and evidence of an FCC-issued Amateur Radio license. These documents must be shown to proper authorities upon request." The Public Notice can be found online on the FCC's Web site <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf)>.

According to ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, the changes in the CEPT reciprocity are a two-part result of changes made by the European Communications Office (ECO) in February 2008 when they re-examined US license class equivalency in comparison to their HAREC examination contest. "The result of that review was full CEPT reciprocity was only granted to US Amateur Extra and Advanced class licensees, leaving

US General and Technician class operators without CEPT reciprocal privileges." The new public notice now reflects that change.

"In order to re-obtain at least some limited privileges under CEPT for those class licensees, the ARRL approached the FCC, asking that the US consider accepting ECC Recommendation (05)06" Henderson continued. "Reciprocal agreements between the US and other countries are actually diplomatic arrangements and come about through the agreements through the State Department. In the winter of 2008/2009, the FCC followed up on our request and contacted the US Department of State, asking that the US formally approach the ECO with a request to become party to the recommendation."

At its meeting in late spring 2009, Henderson said that the ECO working group that handles issues pertaining to Amateur Radio accepted the US request to join ECC Recommendation (05)06, and authorized US General Class licensees to operate under that recommendation's terms. It did not extend those privileges to US Technician class licensees.

Henderson stated that it is important to note two things about ECC Recommendation (05)06: "First, not all European countries have implemented this recommendation. Therefore, a US General class operator does not have reciprocal privileges in many countries, including popular US travel destinations like Italy, the UK or France. Second, as with any reciprocal operation, the band frequencies and privileges are those allowed by your host country -- they are not the frequencies and privileges extended by your FCC license. Travelers need to make sure they are familiar with the authorized privileges for the CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License if operating using ECC Recommendation (05)06 or T/R 61-01."

CEPT countries participating in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 as of September 10, 2009 include Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre and Miquelon, St Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia and Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom(including

Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

CEPT countries participating in ECC Recommendation (05)06 as of September 10, 2009 are Belgium, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Germany, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland.

## Contest Summary

### Sep 19-20

ARRL 10 GHz Cumulative Contest  
Scandinavian Activity Contest--CW  
CIS DX Contest--CW,Digital  
South Carolina QSO Party  
Washington State Salmon Run  
QCWA Fall QSO Party  
North American Sprint--Phone  
Fall VHF Sprint--144 MHz

### Sep 26-27

CQ WW RTTY Contest  
Scandinavian Activity Contest--Phone  
Texas QSO Party  
Classic Exchange--Phone  
Fall VHF Sprint--222 MHz  
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint--CW

### October 3rd and 4th

California QSO Party (CQP)



## >>> 2009 CQ WW DX CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT <<<

The Fall 2009 contest season is upon us! So once again, it's time to send us your scores. The CQ WW

phone weekend is on October 24-25 and the CW weekend is on November 28-29.

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

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

73, Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

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

Peter Hines, N2KAD, webmaster. E-mail [hines@nycap.rr.com](mailto:hines@nycap.rr.com) with any suggestions.

## SWAP SHOP

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at [wd2ajs@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wd2ajs@nycap.rr.com) or call 489-3110  
FREE QST Magazine 1978 thru 2004  
take 1 year or all  
Contact Nels , WB2SBO 439-7357

## THE DOCTOR IS IN THE ARRL LETTER

The ARRL Letter Vol. 28, No. 35 Sept. 4, 2009

"The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Jim Walker, KN6TC, of Wiggins, Mississippi, asks: My repeater's PC controller to radio interface provider requires a "COS (Carrier Operated Signal) from the radio." The manufacturer states that this "greatly reduces drop out and falsing" that are sometimes experienced while using VOX receive/transmit control. It seems to be an alternate for VOX, but I have failed to receive an answer as to what it is in terms I can understand. Neither radio nor interface providers have responded to my e-mail questions.

The Doctor answers: Early repeaters were generally switched to transmit by a carrier operated relay, or COR. The relay would be actuated if the repeater receiver detected a carrier on frequency, as indicated by the opening of the squelch. This was a much more reliable switching mechanism than if the repeater transmit switching responded to detected speech (VOX), since VOX could toggle back and forth due to gaps in speech.

In the early days of repeaters, the equipment was constructed around vacuum tube and relay technology. Current technology is based on solid state devices -- including transistor switching -- that is more reliable than the earlier electromechanical relays. Thus, the more general term "COS" for Carrier Operated Signal, Carrier Operated Squelch or Carrier

Operated Switch is often used instead of COR. For more information, check out this Web site <<http://www.repeater-builder.com/tech-info/repeaterterm.html>>. Do you have a question or a problem? Send your questions via

e-mail <[doctor@arrl.org](mailto:doctor@arrl.org)> or to "The Doctor," ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 (no phone calls, please). Look for "The Doctor Is IN" every month in QST, the official journal of the ARRL.

## **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
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 17</b>	<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
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 has 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).

### **Help Needed for SET Sat. OCT 10<sup>th</sup>**

As you are aware, September is National Emergency Preparedness Month. The ARRL uses October for their events, but anytime is a good time to think about what would happen in an emergency. The time is drawing closer for our proposed **Simulated Emergency Test**, scheduled for Saturday, October 10th between the hours of 9AM and 12AM (noon). Total time should take about 2 hours within that 3 hour window. We will be practicing a simple evacuation drill with a APRS demonstration. Letters are out to the organizations involved asking permission to the various locations.

As far as I know this is the first time such a **SET** will be taking place in the Capital district totally brought together by Amateur Radio. It behooves us as ham radio operators to put on a well organized and professional event. Yes, I expect things to go wrong, and messages to perhaps fail. This should be a learning experience that will benefit us all.

Those that have text messaging on their phones will receive an alert prior to the **SET**. If you would like to be included in this notice please e-mail me your phone number and I'll put you on my list. Some services have a tiny charge for this, about \$.10 for message.

**I have contacted several area groups for volunteers, but can always use a couple more. If you are interested in participating please e-mail John back via [k2qy@arrl.net](mailto:k2qy@arrl.net)**

73 John, K2QY

**Are You Changing Your Address:** Please contact Walt, KA1KKM 456-3637 or via e-mail [sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net) with your address corrections

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)  
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# Albany County Amateur Communications Emergency Services

## Proposed October 10<sup>th</sup> SET Simulated Emergency Test

### What's a SET?

#### It's a Simulated Emergency Test

#### What is the purpose of SET?

1. To find out the strengths and weaknesses of ARES, NTS, RACES and other groups in providing emergency communications.
2. To provide a public demonstration--to served agencies such as the American Red Cross, the emergency management agency and through the news media--of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.
3. To help radio amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated-emergency conditions.

John K2QY is coordinating an effort involving amateur operators for the Town of Bethlehem Emergency Drill. This is scheduled to take place on October 10, 2009 in the town between 10am and noon. We will be operating on repeaters 146.64, 147.12 (100hz) and 146.52 simplex. The drill will be based on evacuation preparedness. Please plan on attending if you are able, this will not only help your skills as an emergency communicator, but it's important to show local authorities that we are a real resource for them and can deliver in times of need. **If you are interested in participating please e-mail John back via [k2qy@arrl.net](mailto:k2qy@arrl.net)**

**Scenario:** Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd, Delmar NY. An electrical fire has broken out in a utility room resulting in disrupted communications. All residents are safely outside. Both Elsmere and Delmar Fire Departments have been called via cell phone and have responded. While the fire remains burning, the volunteer firemen are gaining control and expect to have it extinguished shortly. The concern is that there could be flare-ups for the next few hours as the fire has penetrated the infrastructure. It is felt that in order to allow the fire departments to do their job unimpeded that it would be wise to evacuate the residents to a makeshift short-term shelter at Bethlehem Middle School. A few residents have suffered minor smoke inhalation.

#### **Immediate Needs:** Set up communications at

Good Samaritan Home (GSH)

Bethlehem Middle School (BMS)

Bethlehem Town Hall

Net control station (NCS) at Town Hall

NCS backup at Bethlehem Middle School

APRS station as needed

Communications in vans or other moving vehicles, including APRS

Communications with Ambulance and police if needed

## **Our Job:**

Coordinate communications between GSH, BMS, and the Town Hall officials  
Supply communications and track vehicles between GSH and BMS  
Make sure all evacuees; necessary health items, food, water and supplies arrive at the evacuation site.

Perhaps scout out minor supplies at the local CVS or Hanniford

Keep town officials informed as to progress of evacuation and needs requests

**Frequencies:** Since this is a basic shelter drill of short-term duration it is felt that the Bethlehem repeater on **146.640** (-600) would suffice. Back up would be **147.12** (+600)/**100Hz tone**. In the event of catastrophic communications failure **147.52** simplex would still cover the immediate are. APRS will be conducted on **144.39**.

## **Possible problems:**

Repeater could crap out

We would need to utilize untrained amateurs

Power may be shut off at GSH

Accounting for all evacuees

Evacuees with smoke inhalation would need examination on site then moved to BMS once OKed by medical personnel

Those with any serious problems should be sent to nearest hospital

Accounting for medications, or need to have emergency prescriptions filled

Residents may be forced to stay overnight needing sleeping arrangements

Residents will need eating arrangements

Friends and family would wish to know of condition of relatives

An Evacuee may need hospitalization from unrelated illness

**Completion:** Our job is done when all evacuees are safely at shelter, hospital or other final destination. We can then secure our stations by order of NCS. The FDs will continue with the fire prevention and follow up. Medical and GSH staff will be on hand to aid residents.

We may wish to insure that Town's fire coordinator has been informed and is on sight, as well as the town's building inspector to reevaluate the damage

**Expectations:** What we expect in this simple drill is for things to break, communications not work flawlessly, not all messages to get passed. Why? The simple answer is to see what works and what doesn't. How can we improve our response time? What more can we provide to our served agencies? How can we better mesh with our served agencies?

**Follow up reports:** All those who participated should write up a short comment report. All comment reports will be consolidated into one larger report for all interested parties to review. Recommended changes in procedures based upon reports.