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# B-Plus

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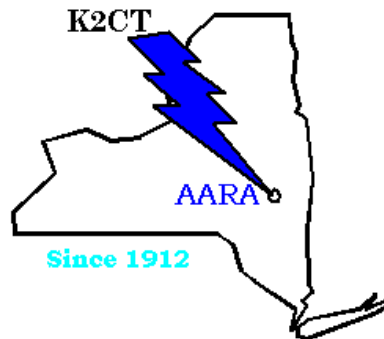
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay  
League  
An ARRL Special Services Club  
**101<sup>st</sup> Year**

## AARA

AARA Meets at the  
**Bethlehem Town Hall**  
**445 Delaware Ave**  
**Delmar, NY 12054**

**Friday OCT. 11th**  
Social Hour 6:55 PM

refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee etc.

## OCT. MEETING

Al Weatherwax, Dean of the School of  
Science and Professor of Physics and  
Astronomy, Sienna College

The AARA Raffle, drawing is tonight.

The start of contest season.

Have some fun then send score to  
sue.walt@dososaur.com



### K2CT Repeater

Talk-in repeater 145.19 (-) MHz  
pl tone 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 mailing of the newsletter  
Checks should be made out to AARA  
and sent to:

Saul Abrams, K2XA  
307 Maple Rd.  
Slingerlands, NY 12159

## CONTESTS

### October 2013

Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 12 to 0800Z, Oct 13
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	1200Z, Oct 12 to 1200Z, Oct 13
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2200Z, Oct 13
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2359Z, Oct 13
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 13
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 19 to 2359Z, Oct 20
<b>New York QSO Party</b>	1400Z, Oct 19 to 0200Z, Oct 20
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 19 to 1459Z, Oct 20
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 20
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 20 to 0100Z, Oct 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 23
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Oct 23 to 0400Z, Oct 24
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27

HEY Did  
you see:  
Frank,  
N4ZHG has  
a "Hint and  
Kinks" tip  
in Oct.  
QST



### November 2013

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 2 to 0300Z, Nov 4
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Nov 3
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 9 to 2359Z, Nov 10
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 16 to 0300Z, Nov 18
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 23 to 2400Z, Nov 24

### December 2013

TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 7
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## Public Service: "Amazing Help" -- Hams Play Critical Role in Colorado Flood Evacuation

from The ARRL Letter for Sept 26, 2013 [entire article click here](#)



Amateur Radio volunteers assisting with communications in the aftermath of the devastating Colorado flooding came in for high praise recently for their role in helping to safely evacuate youngsters and others from a mountain environmental education center threatened with being cut off by road washouts. In an [Op-Ed piece](#) last week in the *Longmont Times-Call*, Sandra Harem, the executive director of the [JPII Outdoor Lab](#) in Estes Park, Colorado, cited the "amazing help" from hams and others in getting the students, school staff and Lab staff out of harm's way on September 12.

"The staff of the JPII Outdoor Lab would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the volunteers of the [Mountain Emergency Radio Network](#)

[MERN] and so many others who helped the seventh-grade students, chaperones and staff of St Vincent De Paul Catholic School and staff of the JPII Outdoor Lab get home safely to their families," Harem said.

On September 12, Harem called the Larimer County Sheriff's Office to inquire about road conditions. Because of the heavy rainfall, she and the school's assistant principal were getting a group of seventh graders ready to leave as soon as possible. "The sheriff's office said Highways 34 and 36 were closed," she recounted. "We worked on alternative routes."

An hour later, the director of the affiliated High Peak Camp told Harem that they needed to relocate in case power went down. The sheriff's office advised relocating to a Red Cross evacuation center in Allenspark, which subsequently invited the group.

Hearing the call, MERN volunteer Karel Kosman, KDØRFT, contacted fellow MERN member Steve Coles, KDØRFQ, that the group needed help evacuating. Coles deployed to the JPII Outdoor Lab and helped relocate the students, staff and chaperones safely, Harem said. [entire article click here](#)

After Coles left to help others, communication was cut off, so the assistant principal and Harem drove to the Allenspark Fire Station and to the Estes Park Police Station hoping to get better information. "It took us until 9 PM to return to our group at Highlands [the shelter site] by hiking and a few helpful car rides, because Highway 7 had ruptured in two places," Harem said.

Among others, Harem praised Coles for "his tireless patience, persistence and care of all of the students, chaperones and staff," and Kosman "for radioing on our behalf to Steve Coles." She also thanked all MERN members "for making it possible to have such effective communication during an emergency."

ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WMØG, says MERN is an Amateur Radio repeater system built by members of the Boulder County ([BCARES](#)) group and was the brainchild of BCARES Emergency Coordinator Allen Bishop, KØARK.

"The two MERN ham radio operators that were involved in this rescue, Steve Coles, KDØRFQ, and Karel Kosman, KDØRFT, are two of some 60 mountain residents who attended the ham radio classes put on by BCARES members in the mountain communities over the last year and were recently licensed after taking the FCC exam given by ARRL Volunteer Examiners who are also members of BCARES," Ciaccia pointed out.

He notes that the hams at the Boulder OEM and the EOC were BCARES operators who were monitoring all traffic from the MERN repeaters as well as from other EOCs on the air from flooded counties along the Front Range as well as communications from the state EOC. "The hams who happened to be monitoring at the Boulder EOC at the time were George Weber, KAØBSA, and Dave Sharpe, KIØHG," Ciaccia said. "These two hams, coincidentally, had been Steve and Karel's MERN ham radio license instructors and Volunteer Examiners as well as part of the BCARES group who built and installed the MERN repeaters." [entire article click here](#)



**For sale:** A Diamond-brand five-quarter-wavelength 2-m vertical with mounting hardware. \$50. [W2XM@arrrl.net](mailto:W2XM@arrrl.net)

**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). ATVET will again be holding their exam sessions in the C.I.I. Building (Low Center for Industrial Innovations), Room 3045, on the Campus of RPI, Troy, NY

October 12, 2013	Saturday	9:20 AM	10:00 AM
November 9, 2013	Saturday	9:20 AM	10:00 AM

**More Info contact: ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, WA2IWW** [atvet@n2ty.org](mailto:atvet@n2ty.org) or 518-482-8700

**Are You Changing Your Address:** Please contact Walt, WA1KKM 456-3637 or via e-mail [sue.walt@dososaur.com](mailto:sue.walt@dososaur.com) 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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send stubs to Saul, K2XA

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Raffle to Benefit the  
**ALBANY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**  
First prize: Fourth Generation iPad w/ Retina Display, 16GB Hard Drive  
Newest Version, includes 1GB RAM, 1GHz Apple A6  
Or  
**\$475 CASH**  
Drawing to be held on October 11, 2013  
\$5 each 5 for \$20

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