

GEORGE WILNER, K2ONP  
279-4025  
*PRESIDENT and  
TRUSTEE of K2CT*  
k2onp@arrl.net

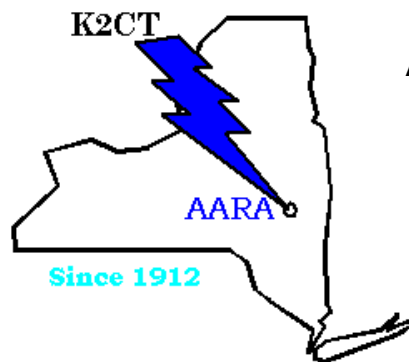
FRED FITTE, WA2MMX  
784-3861  
*VICE-PRESIDENT*  
wa2mmx@arrl.net

SAUL ABRAMS, K2XA  
439-5700  
*TREASURER*  
k2xa@arrl.net

BILL NETTLETON, K2BX  
283-6167  
*SECRETARY*  
k2bx@arrl.net

BRYAN DUFFY, KC2NIF  
439-2475  
*DIRECTOR*  
kc2nif@verizon.net

GUY HOOSE, WK2H  
371-3008  
*DIRECTOR*  
wk2h@arrl.net



SUE ROTHSCHILD, N2LBR  
456-3637  
*DIRECTOR*  
[sue.walt@verizon.net](mailto:sue.walt@verizon.net)

JOHN PRITT, N1JP  
753-6231  
*DIRECTOR*  
n1jp@arrl.net

DAVE JONES, W2GDJ  
279-4980  
*DIRECTOR*  
w2gdj@arrl.net

MIKE BERGMAN, WD2AJS  
489-3110  
*B-PLUS EDITOR*  
wd2ajs@nycap.rr.com

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

## AARA

Meets at the  
Colonie Community Center  
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

**Friday Sept. 14**

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

refreshments  
soda, diet soda, coffee etc.

### 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

## Sept. Meeting

The September Meeting will feature Frank Fallon  
N2FF, ARRL Hudson Division Director as our guest  
speaker.

Frank will apprise us of the latest issues facing  
amateur radio, and the status of BPL. He will also  
present Walt, WA1KKM with his award. Walt has  
won the Cover Plaque Award for his

“AARA 1, Murphy 0: Our Linux Logging Program  
at Field Day” article.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S PLANS FOR FALL 2007

Did that get your attention? And, by the way, what education committee? There are no plans yet, but "we" are considering classes or tutoring sessions for both the Tech and General exams. Prospective students should contact Bob, **W2XM** by telephone before 9:30pm (459-8435) or e-mail (W2XM@ARRL.NET); telephone is preferred.

Whether or not there are planned learning sessions, you may buy study materials for yourself through Bob. Place a pre-paid order with W2XM at or before September's meeting (Bob will NOT be at the September meeting); books will be available at the October meeting. Your price, including all taxes and shipping charges, will be as indicated.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual (to prepare for Tech exam)	\$24
ARRL's Tech Q & A	\$15
The ARRL General Class License Manual..	\$24
ARRL's General Q & A	\$17

**Hudson Valley Community College** as part of its **Center for Creative Retirement** is running a two-hour introductory course on Ham Radio on October 18 Ham Radio - A hobby for all ages and skill levels.

Ham radio is about 100 years old, but has evolved with modern technology. It provides an opportunity to communicate with fellow hams all over the world, including such rare places like Mongolia or Malyj Vysotkij Island, or such common places as England or France. You can provide public service during emergencies or just "rag-chew" with your new found friends in many countries. This course will introduce you to the thrills and adventures of Ham Radio and introduce you to the requirements you need to obtain your Ham Radio license. You do not have to be technically oriented nor do you have to learn Morse Code (which was one time a requirement to obtain a license) if you decide to study for and take a test for a license in the future.

The Instructor will be Harry (Bud) Hovey, WF2B. Bud has been licensed since 1964

and holds the highest class Ham License "Extra Class".

Course #50095 \$5  
1 Session, Room: Williams 113  
Thurs., 10/18, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Harry (Bud) Hovey, Instructor  
Registration by Phone (Payment by by MasterCard or Visa) Call: (518) 629 7339

## **September Is National Preparedness Month**

Hudson Division Beacon - e-mail edition - # 77 Aug. 2007

September Is National Preparedness Month - Plan - Be Prepared - Stay Informed [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
by George Sabbi - KC2GLG, ARRL NNJ  
Section ARES DEC - SKYWARN

Go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) to not only read about how you, your family and business can be prepared for emergency situations, but also to download several useful forms and informational sheets that can assist you in preparing your personal Emergency Plan.

The time to start education and preparation is well before there is an emergency situation at hand or even close. Noted among the important items to include in your personal emergency kit are: a radio able to receive standard broadcast frequencies and a radio able to receive the NOAA All Hazards Radio frequencies (both radios should have an ample supply of spare batteries). FYI...during an emergency, the NOAA frequencies will be used to disseminate important and possibly vital information and alerts for your area and not just for Weather related situations.

Additional recommended items to include in your personal emergency kit are: non-perishable food, sealed containers of clean drinking water, a first aid kit and a flashlight (again, remember to include spare batteries). A more extensive list of the basic items to have in your kit is on this Website: <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>

In addition to the Emergency Kit items and forms, there are special sections on the [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) website that fully address

preparations and needs for children as well as for people with disabilities and even for your business. Please take the time now to review and then implement this important information. Don't forget to also contact your local ARES and RACES team leaders to see how you can take part in their preparations and operations.

Remember, When All Else Fails...Amateur Radio Works...so be sure to have your HT and/or Amateur Radio Go Kit ready to include as part of your plan. Now is the time to make sure that you have not only your local repeaters, simplex and emergency communications frequencies pre-programmed, but also to make sure you have a way to power your HT or other Amateur Radio equipment beyond the initial few hours of a situation. Remember: Plan - Be Prepared - Stay Informed

#### The Study of "interference potential" of BPL

Hudson Division Beacon - e-mail edition - # 77 Aug. 2007

By now you should be aware that ARRL has had a bill introduced in the House and Senate requiring the FCC to study the "interference potential" of BPL. These are H.R. 462 and S 1629 both named "The Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007. See <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/06/15/101/?nc=1> and <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/01/18/101/?nc=1>

This is our major legislative trust at the moment. At this we are asking members to write to KEY legislators in both the Senate and House to get them to co sponsor and push this bill through the Commerce Committee. PLEASE NOTE: At this point we are contacting ONLY the following legislators:

In New Jersey - Senator Frank Lautenberg and Congressman Frank Pallone and Congressman Mike Ferguson

In New York - Congressmen Eliot Engel, and Congressman Edolphus Towns

Congressman David Israel has already signed onto H.R. 462

If you are in contact with the above legislators or have a relationship with any of them please let me know at [n2ff@arrl.org](mailto:n2ff@arrl.org)

If you are in contact with the above legislators or have a relationship with any of them please let me know at [n2ff@arrl.org](mailto:n2ff@arrl.org)

You can find a suggested draft letter to the congressman at <http://www.hudson.arrl.org/pages/BillHR462n2ffMessage.htm>

Please personalize the letter with specifics about yourself and your involvement in Amateur Radio, especially if you are or have been involved in emergency communications, the thrust of both bills.

Please **DO NOT email** the letters, use USPS, all sources we talk to tell us that e-mails are only counted. They are not read! *To be effective a letter must not appear to be a form letter but must be personalized.*

Once you have mailed off your letter please send me an e-mail copy at [n2ff@arrl.org](mailto:n2ff@arrl.org) and to our lobbyist in Washington DC at [arrl@chwatco.com](mailto:arrl@chwatco.com).

Please get involved in this legislative effort if your are concerned about BPL interference.

#### At the October Meeting

Dr. Richard Thompson is the Dean of Math & Science at the College of Saint Rose.

His subject will be based on his recent book about invtg oscillators during World War II. More next month.

If you have additional ideas for a meeting program let Vice President Fred, WA2MMX know.

**Public Service:**  
**Volunteer CONTACT**  
**Frank, N4ZHG 473-9256**

SK: Former member George Pitsas, KA2MLW, died August 4 after a long battle with cancer.

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

**WE** are looking for pictures of your Ham Shack Send pictures to Peter, N2KAD

**Please** try the 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.

The ARRL Letter Vol. 26, No. 34 Aug. 24, 2007

On August 23, the **FCC's Enforcement Bureau** released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions.

Norman Ball, KE6VWN, of Sunland, California, and Richard Martin, KE6RJI, of Maywood, California, both received Warning Notices informing them that the FCC had received written complaints concerning the K6GE repeater and cited their "failure to follow rules set forth by the licensee/control operators of the repeater system for its users." They were told that they had been told to refrain from using this repeater system, "but have apparently ignored both verbal and written requests" to do so. Both Ball and Martin were informed by the FCC that if they use the repeater again after receiving their letters from the FCC, "[the FCC] will initiate enforcement action against your license, which may include revocation, monetary forfeiture (fine) or a modification proceeding to restrict the frequencies on which you may operate." The FCC warned Ball and Martin that fines "normally range from \$7500 to \$10,000."

Mark F. Hubeny, N9ZHW, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, received notification from the FCC informing him that he never responded to their Warning Notice concerning the operation of his amateur station on non-amateur frequencies sent June 1 of this year. He was told he had 20 days to respond. The letter said, "Failure to respond appropriately to this letter of inquiry may constitute a violation of the Communications Act and our rules. We will afford you an additional 20 days from the date of this letter to respond."

Romeo C. Valdez, K6RMY, of San Jose, California, received notice from the FCC about a complaint filed against the operation of his station. "The complaint alleges that you are operating an unidentified repeater on 147.735 MHz," the letter said. Valdez was directed to "review and fully address the complaint within 20 days of receipt of this letter. Failure to respond to this letter would be a separate violation of the Commission's rules."

Smith Trucking, Inc, of Smithfield, Pennsylvania, was cited by the FCC for "operating radio

equipment without a license on the frequency 28.535 MHz and causing interference to licensed stations in the Ten Meter Amateur Band. The drivers were observed operating unlicensed in April and May 2007 on Route 19 between the Fairmont, West Virginia area and the Haywood power plant near Shinnston, West Virginia." The FCC admonished Smith Trucking to "please advise your drivers that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934...and subject them to a fine or imprisonment, as well as in seizure of any non-certified radio transmitting equipment."

### **FCC to Lower Vanity Call Sign Fees** **September 17**

From: arrl.org web site

The FCC will reduce the regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting September 17. In a *Report & Order (R&O)* released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in [MD Docket 07-81](#), the Commission will cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. This marks the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current program -- from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$171,990 in fees from the program.

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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