

THE TARA NEWS

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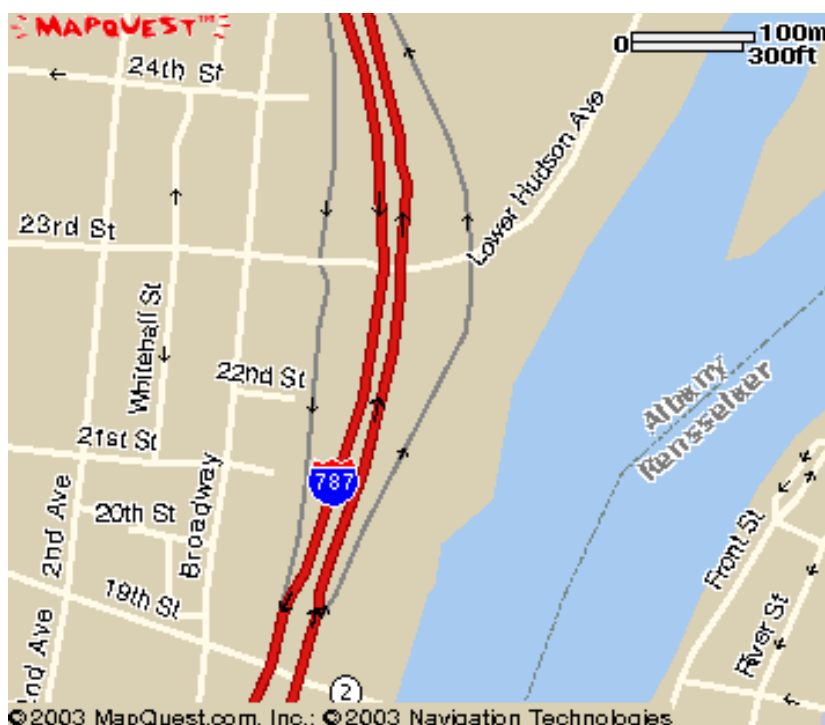
Tara Field Day 2003 and Picnic's Try a New Location

The TARA Field Day Committee and Board of Officers decided to take the show on the road for 2003. This year's Field Day and Summer Picnics will be held in Hudson Shores Park in beautiful uptown Watervliet, N.Y. for this year. Hudson Shores Park is located just off Exit 8 from I 787, just before Lower Hudson Avenue in Green Island.



This doesn't mean that our old home for our Field Day Site at Frear Park in Troy or our picnics at the Green Island River Park are gone forever. It just means that we wanted to try something new for our members. Each location has its' own merits. Frear Park in Troy gave the advantage of elevation whereas the Hudson Shores Park is directly on the Hudson River. Also, trying a new Field Day site for this year affords us the capability of trying different antenna set up ideas.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the City of Troy, the City of Watervliet and the Village of Green Island for their support and hospitality of our amateur radio events throughout the years.



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More than a Club



We're a Family



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More Field Day 2003 Site Pictures



TARA Digital Grid Dip Contest

From our new TARA Press-Manager

Karen Smith - KB2UUC

Let me introduce myself to you. My name is Karen Smith, KB2UUC, from Watervliet, New York and I've just been appointed as Press/Media Manager for TARA (Troy Amateur Radio Association). I am very excited to have been selected for this position and I look forward to working with TARA's Contest Team. Also, I hope to establish a working relationship with each of you. If you ever have any questions that I could answer for you, feel free to drop me a note. We're going to work very hard this year to bring you the very best contesting program possible. And, in return I hope each of you will help me get the word out to the digital users worldwide.

Now, for my first assignment. It seems I have a "Change of Date" for the 1st running of the Grid Dip Contest coming up. This contest was previously scheduled to take place on the 4th weekend in July, more precisely on July 26, 2003. This is NO LONGER true!! Thanks in part to a good number of you that alertly noticed a conflict with the Russian RTTY Contest on that weekend, we have changed our date. Our contest committee thought it would be disruptive and confusing to ALL of our faithful digital contesters to try and hold two digital contests at the same time. My friends the new date for the all "NEW" Grid Dip Contest (The Shindig) will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2003. I have included a revised press release below for all of you. I apologies on behalf of TARA for this error and any inconveniences that it has cause to you. However, we felt it was important to correct this matter immediately instead of letting it take place as originally announced. I'd like to once again thank the many that notified Ernie Mills, WM2U and Bill Eddy, NY2U, of this oversight. They too wish to express their apologies and they're making the corrections to the website as I write this message to you. Please take a peek at our new Four Seasons Contesting web page at http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_seasons.html that the guy's have been working on. It has all of TARA's contests listed on one page, making it easier for you, the users! Let us know what you think of the web site and I'll pass the word on to the proper folks in charge.

Thank you for reading this article and for your cooperation. I hope to see a lot of you in the contest soon.

Karen Smith, KB2UUC
press-manager@n2ty.org

CONTEST DATE: AUGUST 2, 2003

The TARA PSK-RTTY Grid Square contest (The Grid Dip). Sponsored by Troy ARA, 0000z through 2400z, August 2, 2003, PSK31, PSK63 and RTTY on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 meters.

Work stations once per band unless Rover has changed Locator.

Exchange NAME, & 4 Digit Grid Locator. Enter 1 of 5 categories. QRP, 5w max (RTTY 5w max). Low, 20w max (RTTY 100w max). High, 100w max (RTTY Legal Limit).

Rover, 50w max (RTTY Legal Limit) as a portable or mobile station operating from more than one Grid Locator, or SWL. Single/single only. Call CQ Grid Dip. Final score is QSO points x total different Grid Locators. Mults. count once per band. To be valid, scores must be received via our online score submission form found at http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_score.html or e-mail Logs to grid-manager@n2ty.org by the last entry date 30th August 2003. Logs must be available for review if requested. Please read web rules for details on http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_rules.html for more info e-mail to Bill Eddy, ny2u@n2ty.org or Ernie Mills, wm2u@n2ty.org

Watervliet Memorial Day Parade

On May 26th. the T.A.R.A. Public Service Team put on their best rain gear and smiled through the rain drops as they helped out and supported the Watervliet Memorial Day Parade. I think this Parade and rain are in some way connected, but we had a Super turn out of volunteers !!! I want to Thank You all for coming out in the rain and doing such a great job!!

A Special thanks to Ray N2ZQF for bringing his Boy Scout Troop 73 and his Troop truck and participating and David KC2IBF for marching in the rain!! Good Job David!!!

Mike KB2LTV	Steve KF2WA
Gary KC2HWE	Ed KC2HNC
Beth KC2BSC	Tom N2SQO
Bill KC2JDW	Duffy N2TZQ
Sue KC2IBI	Joe KC2HLC
Mac KB2SPM	Karen KB2UUC

And thank you to Margaret, Roy and Cathy for coming down and volunteering !!!!

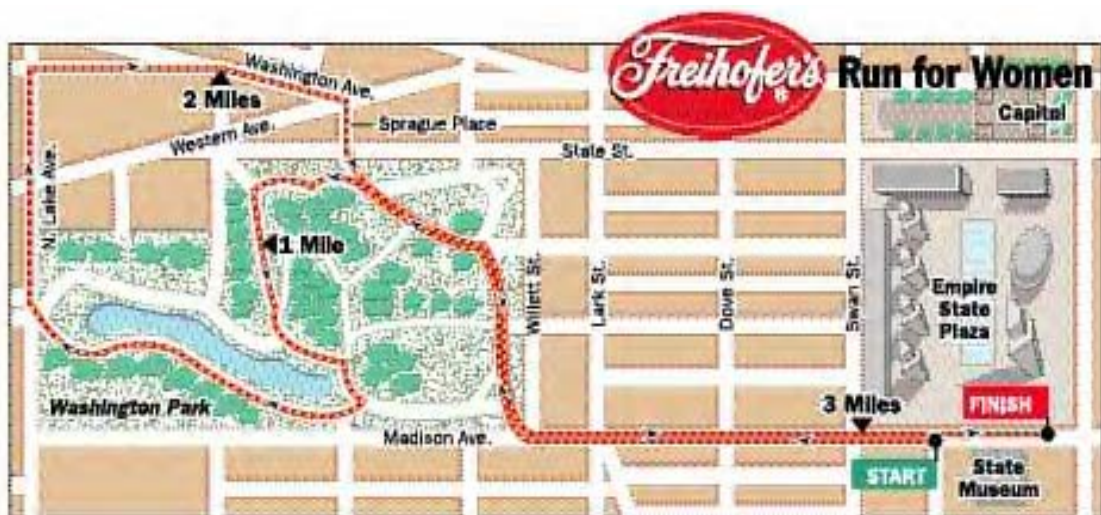
Info about the Freihofer Run for Women

Q: Where is the Freihofer's Run for Women held?

A: The start line is located on Madison Avenue, between the Empire State Plaza and the New York State Museum in Albany, NY. Packet Pick-up is on the Concourse Level of the Empire State Plaza (Madison Avenue Side). Packet Pick-up is available on Friday, May 30th from Noon to 9pm and Saturday, May 31st from 7am to 10am.
For directions to the Empire State Plaza, click [here](#)

Q: What is the Freihofer's Run for Women?

A: The Freihofer's Run for Women is the USA Open and Masters 5k Championships and Fitness Run. This race combines some of the top American women distance runners and over 3,500 women from the Capital Region and across the nation. From Olympians to recreational runner, it's a wonderful blend of competition, participation and camaraderie



Freihofer Run for Women

On Saturday May 31st, The City of Albany hosted the annual Freihofer's Run For Women. It turned out to be a very good run with record breaking attendance....almost 4000 women!

The weather held out and there were no problems.

Our TARA Public Service Team showed up in "Full Force" and did an outstanding job with the communications! I want to Thank" everyone who volunteered their services.

Mac Smith KB2SPM	Steve Kopecky KF2WA
Sue Fritts KC2IBI	Gary Laviolette KC2HWE
Beth Whiting KC2BSC	Nick Demos NW2D
Art Ceas KB2JZJ	Joe Pozefsky KC2KVV
Frank Gagliardi KC2HCE	
Ramsay Seielstad KC2GMW	
Leo Synakowski KC2KMA	
Kirk Swartfiguer N2LGE	Randy Stein KA2TJZ

And Thanks to Mike Spickler, KB2LTV and Frank Carey KC2HRL who also volunteered.

Thanks again to all!!!
Karen - KB2UUC

FCC SEEKS ASSISTANCE IN CURBING UNLICENSED 10-METER INCURSIONS

The FCC has requested the assistance of ARRL Amateur Auxiliary/Official Observers in monitoring for illegal operations on the 10 meter band <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html>. The request came in an April 28 letter from FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, who says incursions on the band by apparently unlicensed operators continue to be a major enforcement headache.

"This is the first phase of a renewed investigation effort and may be thought of as detect, collect data, and report," said ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. Skolaut forwarded the request to members of the Amateur Auxiliary May 1.

Hollingsworth said the FCC wants help with a stepped-up effort over the next six months—from May through October to identify any unlicensed operation on 10 meters, whether from business entities—including trucking companies—truckers or other individuals operating domestically." Hollingsworth said the FCC does not need direction-finding but would appreciate where possible "the names and cities of the operators, and license plate numbers and state if from a vehicle."

Skolaut said the FCC would like to concentrate on obtaining reports of this type of operation to help identify specific areas of the US where this problem is prevalent, although he concedes that not all illegal 10-meter operation originates in the US. "The FCC asks that OO's obtain as much information as possible and send their reports through normal channels to ARRL Headquarters," he said. The decision to record the transmissions of suspected interlopers was left to the discretion of the individual OOs.

The FCC request was made under a longstanding agreement between ARRL and the FCC regarding the use of Amateur Radio volunteers to assist in enforcement.



New 60m USB Band

The new five-channel 60-meter domestic secondary amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight local time on July 3.

The FCC Report and Order granting the allocation was published June 3 in the Federal Register. Federal government users are primary in the 5 MHz band.

The FCC has granted amateurs use of five 2.8 kHz-wide channels with center frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz. The channels will be available to General and higher class licensees. The only permitted mode will be upper-sideband USB phone, and 50 W ERP is the maximum power allowed.

The FCC has approved the new 60m band, although it's not really a band in the strictest sense being just five fixed frequencies. The only mode permitted is upper sideband, so the first column below contains the "window" frequencies and the second is the suggested carrier frequencies:

Channel Center Freq	Amateur Tuning Freq
5332 kHz	5330.5 kHz
5348 kHz	5346.5 kHz
5368 kHz	5366.5 kHz
5373 kHz	5371.5 kHz
5405 kHz	Common US/UK 5403.5 kHz

Users of the 60-meter channels should set their carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel center frequency. ARRL suggests restricting transmitted audio bandwidth to 200 Hz on the low end and 2800 Hz on the high end for a total bandwidth of 2.6 kHz.

ARRL recommends that amateurs considering modifying existing amateur equipment for operation on 60 meters contact the equipment's manufacturer for advice.

The chosen frequencies are a result of a small group of amateurs operating under an FCC-granted Experimental Class license for the past two years.

Father's Day - June 15th

Incumbents elected in Eight ARRL sections

Eight incumbent ARRL section managers have earned two years terms, three of them in contested races. Ballots were counted May 20 at ARRL Headquarters.

In the Maryland/District of Columbia Section, Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, turned away challenger Vic Curtis, WA3YUV, 826 to 266.

In the San Joaquin Valley Section, Charles McConnell, W6DPD topped Thomas M. "Mike" Zane, N6ZW, 304 to 251.

In the New Hampshire Section, Al Shuman, N1FIK, defeated Russell J. Santos, K1TSV, 478 to 95.

Sitting ARRL section managers in five other sections were unopposed for election or re-election and were declared elected. They are Dick Flanagan, W6OLD, Nevada; Bill Hudzik, W2UDT, Northern New Jersey; Bob Beaudet, W1YRC, Rhode Island; Mel Parkes, AC7CP, Utah, and John Dyer, AE5B, West Texas.

All new terms of office begin July 1.

SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT HR 713 - GETS A BOOST

The chairman of the Senate Communications Subcommittee, Montana Republican Conrad Burns, has signed on as a cosponsor of S 537, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. The commitment by Burns, the expected architect of the Senate's spectrum management legislation, indicates that the measure--an ARRL initiative on its third attempt in Congress--now has his attention. Burns' cosponsorship also could convince others to follow suit. (It may also indicate the bill may become a rider to Burns' other legislation.) See <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/04/04/4/?nc=1> for details.

"Actually, this is the best opportunity that we've ever had to get this bill through, because more members of Congress than ever before are paying attention to ham radio now," said Haynie, who's been in Washington this week to speak about Amateur Radio issues with lawmakers and regulators. In addition, Haynie pointed out, the House and Senate will be considering major spectrum reform bills, and the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act could serve as an amendment to that sort of legislation.

HR 713 and S 537 are aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. The legislation would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis and Crapo, both Republicans, have twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation.

"The League is doing all it can, but we know the success or failure will be in the hands of the amateur community," said Haynie, who pledged the ARRL's continuing efforts in Washington to get the bill enacted. "Letters and e-mails are the key to getting legislation passed."

A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site. Those writing their lawmakers are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail at specbill03@arrl.org.

The measures would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

The text of HR 713 and S 537 is available via the Thomas Web site.



"Sorry about the noise, I tripped...anyway, the name here is Roy...I am located near downtown Chicago, and I've been a ham now for 20 years..."

Broadband Over Power Line Poses HF Interference Threat

For those of us not quite in the loop... what is BPL/PLC and why does it matter?

I'm not really going to go into the details of it. I will provide some links that go into great detail about what BPL/PLC is, and what the effects are/will be. Suffice it to say that Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) also known as Power Line Communication (PLC) is a new relatively new technology that has been used somewhat in Europe and in Japan. It has had a very negative impact on HF communications in these places where it has been implemented. Basically what it does is use power lines to distribute data to computers, and these power lines that you see everywhere work just like antennas, very large dipoles in essence, and the frequency that this new technology occupies is the entire HF spectrum and beyond. And now there is a proposal to implement this technology here, in the U.S. What's worse is the FCC is looking really hard at accepting it and allowing BPL/PLC to be implemented. Comments on this can be found at:

http://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/websql/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.htm

We need numbers commenting against FCC Docket 03-104 -- and now. 500+ isn't going to cut it. Now if we could get even 5,000 that would be a "decent" showing, although honestly all licensed Hams and SWLs should be made aware of this and shown how to file their comments opposing this new technology ASAP.

If we don't and in a few years the HF bands are nothing but electronic hash we have no one else to blame but our own lack of knowledge or sheer laziness. Make no mistake about it, this is a very real threat to the entire HF spectrum, Ham bands and all.

Just imagine S-9 electronic "hash" from approximately 2 MHz to around 60 MHz or so, continuously.

Now imagine how much fun that turning on your HF rig would be and how effectively that you could communicate under this type of circumstance... Getting an idea of why it matters?

For more info on BPL/PLC please see:

Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio:

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc>
<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/04/30/2>

More Information on BPL/PLC and Ham Radio:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/04/30/2/more.html>

FCC Now Accepting Comments in 'Broadband Over Power Line' Inquiry:

<http://www.eham.net/articles/5409>

'Broadband Over Power Line' Poses HF Interference Threat:

<http://www.eham.net/articles/5325>

NTIA Administrator Cautions FCC in 'Broadband Over Power Line' Inquiry:

<http://www.eham.net/articles/5470>

What is FCC Docket 03-104 Asking?

<http://www.eham.net/articles/5590>

***Troy Amateur Radio Association
Field Day 2003
June 28th and 29th
Hudson Shores Park, Watervliet, N.Y.***

How to Breathe Life into A.R.E.S.

Ok, enough of the doom and gloom. ARES is alive and well. At least here in Georgia.

If your ARES program is dying then you need to breath some new life into it. People want to help. But sometimes they want to be asked. Go attend ham club meetings, hamfests and anywhere else you might find hams. If you have to, send them a personal letter asking them to participate. If you ask they will come.

Yes, everybody is busier these days. But many still seem to find time to help when an emergency strikes.

Get some younger people involved. You would be surprised how much energy they can breath into a group. You have to keep them interested though. They get bored in a hurry.

Have fun. Do membership drives, work parades, make yourself seen. Find new ways that you can help your EMA, Red Cross, Salvation Army and local hospitals. Get involved with SKYWARN and weather spotters. If your community has storm sirens get involved with the tests and hold a net during the test. Compile the reports and send them to the responsible party for the sirens. They can't monitor them all and would appreciate knowing which ones are and are not working. We hold a siren net the first Wednesday of the month. Not everyone can participate but those that can do. It also allows some of those that can't participate otherwise to participate. Like those that are stuck at home.

Another good way to be seen is to go to your 911 center on a weekend and cook lunch for everyone there. We've done cookouts and they are just overwhelmed that someone would fix them lunch. Drop off snacks at other times. Sooner or later people will start to recognize who you are. One of my guys cut his arm with a compound miter saw and had to call 911 since he was home alone. Lady that answered the phone recognized who he was right away. Got him the help he needed and then called him at home in a few days to make sure he was doing ok. She was one of the dispatchers that we fed on one of our cookouts.

Don't overlook your new hams. They want something to do with all the new toys. Some of them don't know about ARES. It's our job to educate and elmer them. (BTW, I've only been a ham for 2 1/2 years. I was appointed as EC after being a ham for 1 year.)

Will a "smart radio" ever put us out of a job? NO! If your only existence is about interoperability then you need to find more to do. It's about manpower. Free manpower. Our EMA Director gave us \$10k to spend on equipment for the new EOC. He said it is one of the best and cheapest investments he can make and get more back for his money.

If ARES is dying in your area get off your butt and go give it CPR or get out of the way and let someone else revive it. Ok, enough of this rant. None of these comments are meant to be personal or directed at anyone in particular. If you feel that way then maybe you could be part of the solution.

73,
Steve/K4SAH
EC Cherokee County, GA

Editors' Note: Thanks Steve for a great thought provoking article.



***Please Join your Local
A.R.E.S / R.A.C.E.S. Team***



The Loss of a Good Friend

Silent Key - Dave Watrous - WD2K

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the recent passing of our dear friend Dave Watrous, WD2K, of Columbia County, NY. Funeral arrangements, at the request of the family, were private.

We will always have many fond memories of Dave. Dave was one of the driving forces in Columbia County's RACES/ARES communications endeavors. He was also a very active member in the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. In addition to his amateur radio activities in Columbia County, Dave was an excellent volunteer examiner in that he assisted in giving amateur radio exams to local prospective amateur radio operators, as well as instructing local amateur radio operators.

My wife and I, fondly remember taking the Entry Level Technician Course at Hudson Valley Community College in 1989. Dave was a wonderful instructor and Elmer in that, he took a personal interest in the people in the class. I had a difficult time with the five word per minute code instruction. I kept freezing and Dave would come over to me and gently calm me down. Dave used to tell a story about me being so nervous with CW that he would keep a handful of pencils ready for me, because I kept breaking the ends off the pencils when copying CW.



On the final evening of the course, I passed the test with 75 words straight copy. You could see the look of pride and accomplishment in Dave's face, when I finally turned in my test and he smiled as he reviewed it.

After checking my copy, he came out into the other room to congratulate me. He said, great job kid you got your ticket. If it were not for Dave Watrous, I might not have been an amateur radio operator, today. His mentoring and friendship is one of the main reasons that I now teach the basic course for the last ten years and try to be very active in ARES and RACES.

He said to me, "Getting your ticket is a two way street, you benefit from the hobby but teaching others and performing public service is the way you pay it back. Dave also encouraged a group of local female amateur radio operators to form the re-birth of a local SAYLARC group.

Yes, Dave lent a warm helping hand to everyone he met. He was, indeed, a true mentor, in every sense of the word. He, Dave, brought dignity to the hobby of amateur radio.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to the Watrous family. God bless you, Dave. Although you've left us, physically, your spirit will live on, and you'll not be forgotten.

Ken Davis - KB2KFV

***A Good Friend
that will remain
in our memories***



New York State Antenna Bill S63/A2662 Needs Your Help Right Now !!!

A Joint Update from ARRL Directors: Frank Fallon, N2FF (Hudson) and Bernie Fuller, N3EFN (Atlantic)

You may want to use some of the text available on the Hudson Division website and insert it into you letter or email: <http://www.hudson.arrl.org>

To ALL New York State ARRL Members

The final session of the New York State Assembly for the year 2003 will be Thursday, June 19. We have only a few days left to get our antenna bills passed. Once again we need your help.

The legislature has had a lot of distractions in 2003 - a war in Iraq and then overriding the Governor on the budget. Our bill has not frankly not been a priority. Your letters, phone calls, and faxes could change that.

We need to pull out all the stops and press for passage of our bill, NOW. There is little time left in this session.

In the Senate the bill, S63, needs to be "put on the active list" on the Senate calendar and brought out for a vote. Remember the senate passed this same bill last year. Please ask the following three senators to put our bill on the active list.

Ask these Senators to put the bill on the "active" list for a vote:

Senator Joe Bruno, Majority Leader, 909 Legislative Office building, Albany, NY 12247 518-445-3191 fax 518-455-2448 email: bruno@senate.state.ny.us

Senator Dale Voker, 427 Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12247 518-4553471 fax 518-455-6949

Senator Hugh Farley, 412 LOB, Albany, NY 12247 518-455-2181 fax 518-455-2271

In the Assembly the bill has been through the Local Governments Committee and the Ways and Means Committee and as of last week it is now in the Rules Committee headed by Speaker Sheldon Silver. A2662 needs to be reported out of the Rules Committee and sent to the floor for a vote. We must ask Sheldon Silver to do that immediately.

Assemblyman Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the Assembly, LOB 932, Albany, NY 12247 tel: 455-3791 fax 518-455-5467 email speaker@assembly.state.ny.us

The following are Members of the Rules Committee who can ask Speaker Silver to release the bill to the floor for a vote. Please contact some of them.

Assemblyman	Telephone	Fax
Thomas F. Barraga	518-455-4611	518-455-5258
Nancy Calhoun	518-455-5441	518-455-5884
Ron Canestrari	518-455-4474	518-455-4727
Thomas P. DiNapoli	518-455-5192	518-455-4921
Herman D. Farrell Jr.	518-455-5491	518-455-5776
David F. Gantt	518-455-5606	518-455-5419
Richard N. Gottfried	518-455-4941	518-455-5939
Alexander B. Grannis	518-455-5676	518-455-5282
Roger L. Green	518-455-5325	518-455-3684
Aurelia Greene	518-455-5671	518-455-5461
Earlene Hooper	518-455-5861	518-455-4329
Rhoda Jacobs	518-455-5385	518-455-5385
Ivan C. Lafayette	518-455-4477	518-455-5946
Joseph R. Lentol	518 455-4477	518-455-4599
Vito J. Lopez	518-455-5537	518-455-5537
Nettie Mayersohn	518-455-4404	518-455-5408
Charlie Nesbitt	518-455-3751	518-455-3750
Catherine Nolan	518-455-4851	518-455-3847
Clarence Norman Jr.	518-455-5262	518-455-5768
Bob Oaks	518-455-5655	518-455-5407
Felix Ortiz	518-455-3821	518-455-3828
Chris Ortloff	518-455-5943	518-455-5943
Audrey I. Pheffer	518-455-4292	518-455-4723
Peter M. Rivera	518-455-5102	518-455-3693
Steven Sanders	518-455-5506	518-455-4801
Robin Schimminger	518-455-4767	518-455-4724
Michael J. Spano	518-455-3662	518-455-5499
Robert A. Straniere	518-455-4495	518-455-4501
James Tedisco	518-455-5811	518-455-5558
Paul A. Tokasz	518-455-5921	518-455-3962
David R. Townsend Jr.	518-455-5334	518-455-5391
Helene E. Weinstein	518-455-5462	518-455-5752
George H. Winner Jr.	518-455-4538	518-455-5922
Sandra Lee Wirth	518-455-4601	518-455-5257

Please spread the word that we need to act quickly via email and local repeaters. It would be very nice to finally get the bill passed before Field Day 2003. Have a GREAT time at Field Day. Frank and Bernie....your ARRL Directors

TARA OFFICERS: 1 YEAR TERMS

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THE TARA NEWS

Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 1292

Troy, New York, 12181-1292



Visit us on the Internet

At <http://www.n2ty.org/>

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 17, 2003

7:30 p.m.

Green Island Municipal Center

Intersection of

Hudson Avenue & George Street

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

**Parking Lot on Hudson Avenue
side of building**

Troy's Full Service Repeaters

145.170/R

444.225/R