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# **BARA** Facts

*Newsletter of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association*

**February 2011**

Website: <http://w2ow.org> OR <http://www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/bara>

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## **President's Corner** **February 2011**

Well it was a cold month for the beginning of a new year, but we all made it through. Hopefully when it gets cold it gives all hams more time to stay inside rag chewing, contesting or DXing on the low bands. Even though it is cold we still have outside things that have to be done.(some of us have to go to work). Then there are some that are retired and have all kinds of time to operate the low bands anytime they want. Warm weather will be here soon

It was nice to see a decent turnout for the January business meeting. We had a total of 23 people in attendance  
19 members, 2 new members, 2 guests. I would like to welcome the two new members, **Ed Fedor-N2RWH** and **Steven Chodkowski – K2CZ** to the club and hope they enjoy their membership with the club. Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings, member or not, on the third Wednesday of each month.

Just a reminder to all members. Dues are due and can be paid at the regular monthly meeting or sending them to Paul at the club address: BARA, P.O. Box 853, Binghamton, NY 13902-0853

If you have any questions or ideas for the club, please contact one of the officers listed on the last page of the newsletter.

**Hope to see you at the meetings.**

73s Brian Adeo K2DLB

## **BARA Business Meeting Minutes**

### **Board Members:**

**President: Brian Adee** – K2DLB, **Vice-President: John Rudy** – WB2FQZ, **Secretary: Vinnie Griggs** – N1JPM, **Treasurer: Paul Slocum** – N2NCB, **Director: Warren Marks** – KC2NGR, **Director: Tom Vroman** – N2BGM, **Director: Andy Rudy** – KC2QYA

### **General members:**

**Bill Coleman** – N2BC, **George Kilpatrick** – N2GSS, **Jerry Heller** – KA2WQR, **Ed Fedor** – N2RWH, **Charles Westgate** – WC2R, **Ford Drake** – AB2HS, **Bill Jaker** – WB8RAE, **Lee Savidge** – W3EFE, **Ann Whyman** – KB3UQC, **Pat O’Keeffe** – NE3B, **Bob Mess** – WS2U, **Steven Chadkowski** – K2CZ, **Jack Conners** – WB2GHH, **Tom Siglin** – WA2LTD.

**Visitors:** Ed – AB3LU, Daniel Chodkowski

Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President, **Brian Adee** (K2DLB)

### **Secretaries Report:**

Dec. 15, 2010 - BARA General meeting minutes from the Holiday Party was read and approved.

### **Treasures Report:**

Treasures Report was read and explained.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Radio Shack-** John (WB2FQZ) reported that he traveled up to the BARA Radio Shack earlier last week and noticed that the driveway going up to the shack was in rough shape. But will have to wait to spring to do anything about it. Checked the shack out and everything was fine but very cold inside.

**Ham Fest-** Brian (K2DLB) reported that probably 10 or so more tables will be needed for the Ham Fest. Bill (N2BC) will look into the cost from Taylor Rental. ARRL has been notified and is listed on [Arrl.org](http://Arrl.org) website, as well as, to be publicized in QST. There are a few things that still need to be done but otherwise everything is going well.

Ford (AB2HS) made an announcement that there is a need for ladies to help with the tickets at the door on the day of the Ham Fest on 17 of April.

Sharon (N2WGM) will be over seeing the door and ticket sales for the Ham Fest. She would like to break it up with couple hour shift at a time to make it easier for all. Please contact her.

John (WB2FQZ) inquired if Andy Young of AY Solar that had a solar presentation last year could set up a small booth in this year's Ham Fest. He explained that he would not be selling anything but would just advertise his business. The membership felt that he could just buy a table just like anyone else at \$10.00 a table.

Steven (K2CZ) asked if there was any other local business like AY Solar that we should get hold of to see if they would like to participate in the Ham Fest. Brian explained who was scheduled already for business to attend the Ham Fest but said if anyone can think of any other business that they think would be a interest in the Ham Fest to get hold of him.

**Public Relations-** Brian (K2DLB) asked Bill (WB8RAE) if he would like to continue as our Public Relations person. He said he would and had nothing to report.

**Old Business:** Nothing was reported

### **New Business:**

**Fundraising-** Brian (K2DLB) mentioned that at the Board Meeting this month, which the board was trying to put together some fundraising events this coming year. John (WB2FQZ) was going to get hold of the people at Doug’s Fish Fry for the details about having them do one of their fundraisers for our club. Tom (N2BMG) was going to contact the people at Brooks BBQ to inquire to them on the details of having them sponsor a Chicken BBQ for a fundraiser to help out our club, as well. Brian (K2DLB) mentioned of some different organization that he was told about, on how much they have made in some previous fundraisers and some things that they did for those fundraisers, which made it more appealing if we could have the same success. There was a discussion about different locations throughout the area that people have seen these types of fundraisers, as well.

Tom (WA2LTD) told about a group he belongs to and told about how they raised money by selling chickens from a local Grocery Market cooking them for the group and selling them for a fundraiser for them. Brian (K2DLB) thought we could be more

successful if we picked a local favorite BBQ group (like Brook's) and go that route. Then he asked about Phil's Chicken but the feelings were that Brook's BBQ had a more popular following. The important factor of these fundraisers is to have a group who knows cooking these food items to assure that it is done correctly.

**Membership List-** Ann (KB3UQC) mentioned that at another HAM meeting she attended that she was given a membership list with the names, call signs and contact information of all the members and was wondering if BARA has a list of the membership for members to have, in case they want to get hold of them, as well as, see who are the members of this group. Paul (N2NCB) said, "No, we do not" but could be done. Ann asks if this idea could be thought about for the future. Brian (K2DLB) said we could look into making one up but there might be some information that members might not want to be published.

**Programs-** Ford (AB2HS) said that he has e-mailed the National Weather about having a Advance Skywarn Training session at the February or March meeting. Bill (WB8RAE) asked about having it at the National Weather Service, up at the airport, so people can see where and what its all about. Ford (AB2HS) said that their room is too small to get all of us into it. Ford (AB2HS) said that a tour might, be able to be arranged, if there were people interested in seeing the office. Ann (KB3UQC) asked if we could book a Winter Skywarn session early for the fall this year. Ford (AB2HS) said we could probably book a Winter Skywarn session in September or October. Brian (K2DLB) asked if Ford (AB2HS) and John (WB2FQZ) could get together and line that session up for the fall.

John (WB2FQZ) said that he has been in touch with Broom County Airport with a gentleman names Ed Nach who is an Air Traffic Controller who specializes air traffic communications to see if he could find someone to come put on a presentation for this group about.

**New Membership-** Vinnie (N1JPM) read off the following people who have applied for new membership: Ed Fedor – N2RWH. **Motion to accept Ed Fedor- N2RWH as a member of BARA,** by Ford (AB2HS), seconded by Jerry (KA2WQR).

Voted and motion passed. The second application is Steven Chodkowski – K2CZ. **Motion to accept Steven Chodkowski- K2CZ as a member of BARA,** by Bob (WS2U), seconded by Jerry (KA2WQR) Voted and motion passed

Tom (WA2LTD) asked if dues were due. Paul (N2NCB) said that the New Year start January and reminded everyone that they can pay at the meeting or they can be mailed in. The Individual membership - \$18.00 and Family Membership - \$27.00.

**Facebook-** Brian (K2DLB) received an email from a BARA Member, asking if we wanted to put a profile on Facebook for people to sign up on and for members as well. We can use it for communications to the members and maybe gain new members. Tom (WB2LTD) thought it would be a good idea but also brought up who would maintain the sight. It was asked, who was the Webmaster for the club now and Bill (N2BC) is that person but was not interested in the Facebook site. After a lengthy discussion, and Bill (N2BC) and Jack (WB2GHH) both mentioning that we already have a website ([W2OW.com](http://W2OW.com)), a yahoo group and people can go there for information. Jack (WB2GHH) makes a motion. **That we do not move forward in having a Facebook page for the club.** Ford (AB2HS) seconds the motion. Voted and passed.

**Empire Games-** Bob (WS2U) asked if the BARA group was aware that the Empire Games, which has taken place in Binghamton and the BARA group helping with the communications is no longer happening.

**Budget-** Paul (N2NCB) handed out a copy of the budget that was approved by the Board of Directors. He spoke about each item that was listed and explained how he came up with the figures. He spoke about the number of events that have zero money allocated for them in 2011 budget. He explained that those events can go on but it will be up to the club to vote in the amount when those events come up. Between the income that comes in to the club and the fixed expenses that we have for the Radio shack, there is a shortage already. There was a question about the Ester Valky Scholarship and how it came about. Paul (N2NCB) made a short explanation about how the scholarship came about. Bob (WS2U) made

the motion, **To accept the 2011 budget as presented.** Seconded by Jack (WB2GHH). Voted and Passed.

**Any other Business-** Vinnie (N1JPM) made a plea for the membership to **PLEASE** get your copy of the BARA NEWSLETTER by email or W2OW.com instead of by mail. He pointed out that the club pays a lot for having the BARA Shack but the club has not budgeted or spent any money for years for equipment for the shack.

Tom (WA2LTD) brought up making a premium membership to help raise money. Not sure what we can do for that type of membership, but something to think about. He also mentioned of contacting the local school radio clubs or technology club about BARA. But the feelings were that there were no clubs around anymore. Tom (WA2LTD) did mention that Broome Community College had a Amateur radio room ran by Joe Pisani (N2YR) Has the club ever thought about putting some of their money into bank CD's? Paul (N2NCB) said that there is none invested at this time.

Steven (K2CZ) asked about doing a mass mailing to all the HAMS in the area. Jack (WB2GHH) and Bill (N2BC) said that this kind of mailing had been done in previous years and costing the club hundreds of dollars with no new members joining. Jack (WB2GHH) stood up and mentioned that last year when the board of directors voted not to buy a portable tower that came to light to him. He put the word out to the BARA membership and others that there was an opportunity to buy a portable tower. He was pleasantly surprise of the donations of money that came to him so he was able to buy this portable tower and donated it to the BARA club.

Brian (K2DLB) brought up that if anyone had articles for the BARA NEWSLETTER to make sure they forward them to [Bill Jakaitis](#) KB2SIN no later than the Saturday after the BARA Board Meeting (which is the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month). . He asked even if it's a article that was published somewhere else, as long as we get the person's name who wrote it, and you think it would be interesting to the group.

Vinnie (N1JPM) also mentioned that you would find the minutes to all the meetings from now on, in the newsletter with the exception of the money amounts. That way, you can see, what is happening in

the club. He also asks that if there is something you feel or see is not being done correctly please let him know. This is the first time acting as a secretary for a club. My email is [vinnie.griggs@yahoo.com](mailto:vinnie.griggs@yahoo.com)

Jerry (KA2WQR) makes the motion to adjourn the meeting, Ed (N2RWH) 2nds it. Vote was unanimously passes

- Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.
  - Minutes submitted by Secretary, Vinnie Griggs, N1JPM.
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### **Radio club membership is good deal**

Published: Syracuse.com, STAR November 07, 2010 by KI2K Though the number of licensed amateur radio operators in the United States continues to climb, we are still very much a minority. To many, normal amateur radio interests and activities are viewed as esoteric. As with any other highly specialized hobby, finding other people who share your interests can be challenging, which is where local radio clubs come in? Here in the Syracuse area, the Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse (RAGS) and Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club (LARC) are the two most visible amateur radio organizations. Other clubs can be found in Cortland, Fulton, Tompkins and Jefferson counties, and in the Oneida and Mohawk Valley areas. We are truly fortunate to have many excellent, active clubs in the area. The benefits of club membership are a steal given how inexpensive it typically is to join.

LARC and RAGS, for example, routinely feature programs at monthly meetings that cover a wide range of topics, including demonstrations of various radio modes, tours of local broadcasting facilities orexperts in wireless networking, Teachers in Space, or weather operations and forecasting. RAGS serves as the hosting agency for local radio-oriented civil defense programs, and LARC sponsors repeaters that are quite popular around the Central New York area. Club newsletters keep members informed on organization and area events, and organizational functions like hamfests, picnics, auctions, and field day operations allow many opportunities to work with fellow hams face to face.

Perhaps the biggest value to radio club membership -

- fellowship in the greatest hobby in the world --  
makes joining worthwhile.

**Jack WB2GHH**

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## **BACK to the BASICS**

In this article I would like to go over some basic questions, definitions and/or formulas. This will be old hat for most but for some, a refresher. I will split this up into Technician, General & the Extra class.

### **Technician Class**

#### **T1A06 – What is the FCC Part 97 definition of telecommand?**

- A. An instruction bulletin issued by the FCC
- B. A one-way radio transmission of measurements at a distance from the measuring instrument
- C. A one-way transmission to initiate, modify or terminate functions of a device at a distance
- D. An instruction from a VEC

### **General Class**

#### **G1A06 – Which of the following frequencies is in the 12 meter band?**

- A. 3.940 MHz
- B. 12.940 MHz
- C. 17.940 MHz
- D. 24.940 MHz

### **Extra Class**

#### **E1A06 – What is the maximum power output permitted on the 60 meter band?**

- A. 50 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to an isotropic radiator
  - B. 50 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to a dipole
  - C. 100 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to an isotropic radiator
  - D. 100 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to a dipole
- 

## **The Sun and its affect on Radio Propagation**

The Sun generates a colossal amount of energy, some of which provides light and heat for us here on Earth. It also generates ultraviolet light and X-rays which have an effect on radio propagation. As a result the ionosphere is formed in the upper atmosphere and this enables radio waves to be reflected, or more correctly refracted back to earth, thereby enabling global radio communications on the HF or short wave bands.

The levels of energy emanating from the Sun are not always constant. This in turn affects the condition of the ionosphere, which in turn affects HF radio propagation. Monitoring the energy from the Sun can give a good indication of the state of short wave radio communications, and this can be used by the users of the HF radio bands including radio amateurs, short wave broadcasters and commercial users.

At times there are major disturbances on the Sun and these can have major effects on radio propagation conditions. Solar flares and other forms of disturbance known as Coronal Mass Ejections can totally change the condition of the ionosphere and give rise to auroral activity.

Of the two types of disturbance, it is now thought to be the CMEs that are the major cause of auroras. These CMEs consist of gigantic eruptions on the surface of the Sun that throw vast quantities of material into space, along with this there is a huge increase in the level of radiation emitted.

Under normal conditions the Sun emits matter and this forms what is known as the solar wind. When CMEs occur, the solar wind significantly increases and this affects the Earth when it arrives.

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### **Sporadic E Basics**

Sporadic E arises when very intense clouds of ionization start to build in the lower reaches of the E region of the ionosphere. The level of ionization may be up to five times greater than those normally achieved at the peak of the sunspot cycle and this is the reason why signals well into the VHF region of the radio spectrum can be reflected. In view of the very high levels of ionization, the levels of loss are

particularly low and even low power stations can be heard at good strength.

In view of the altitude of the sporadic E ionization, the maximum distances that can be achieved are generally around 2000 kilometers. However double hop skip has been noted on lower frequency on many occasions on the lower frequencies where sporadic E is more common.

The ionization causing sporadic E is found to build up steadily. Initially only frequencies lower in the radio spectrum are affected, but as the level of ionization increases so do the frequencies that are affected. The highest frequencies that may be affected vary from one "cloud" to another with some affecting radio frequencies only as high as about 30 MHz whereas others may affect frequencies that extend well into the VHF portion of the spectrum. It is also found that the sporadic E clouds become opaque below a certain frequency, dependent upon the state of the cloud.

In view of the much higher levels of ionization that are required for reflecting signals into the VHF portion of the radio spectrum, some of the openings that occur high in frequency, e.g. on the 144 MHz amateur radio band may only be very short lived. Sometimes they may last an hour or more, but at others they may only last a few minutes. It is also found that the openings that affect the higher frequencies are much less frequent than those that only affect the lower frequencies.

The ionized clouds that give rise to sporadic E vary greatly in size, but they are very much thinner than the E region in which they occur. Typically their dimensions are measured in meters, in comparison with the E region that is measured in tens of kilometers. As a result the reflections from sporadic E clouds occur as a result of an extremely sharp change in electron density. The shape in other planes also varies considerably with some clouds being very approximately circular while others may be relatively long and thin. In many respects the shapes are not of great importance but they do help explain why some stations may experience sporadic E propagation whereas others may not experience it or the areas where stations they can hear are totally different. They are also surprisingly thin.

It is found that the sporadic E clouds are very mobile. The winds in the region of the atmosphere where they are formed can reach speeds of 400 km per hour. As a result the ionized clouds can move very quickly, and this can lead to the areas where the signals are reflected to changing quite rapidly.

Sporadic E often enables radio signals well into the VHF portion of the spectrum to propagate over great distances. It also provides a means of radio propagation at the top end of the HF spectrum when normal ionosphere propagation may be at the low point as a result of the sunspot cycle. While sporadic E can enhance communications in most instances it can also degrade them in others. The very high levels of ionization in the clouds will reflect any signals in the HF radio bands and thereby prevent them from reaching the higher F region where they might also be reflected, but reach greater distances because of the greater altitude. As a result when sporadic E is in existence short-range signals might be detected when longer range signals would be expected. However the sporadic nature of them and the mobility of the clouds mean that any effects are likely to be relatively short lived.

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#### Answers to Back to the Basics.....

Technician Class	<b>C</b>
General Class	<b>C</b>
Extra Class	<b>B</b>

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#### NEW MEMBERS

BARA would like to welcome the following new members to the club....

**ED FEDOR – N2RWH**

**STEVEN CHODKOWSKI -K2CZ**

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## Silent Key's

ROBERT K MINER, N2TLV 2/4/11

John E. Basa, Friend of BARA Deceased.

I note with sadness an obituary for John E. Basa Sr in a recent issue of the Press & Sun Bulletin. John was a friend to many Town of Binghamton residents. He was also a friend of W2OW. Current members of BARA will more than likely not know of him. Oh, so many years ago starting in the mid 1950's, John was a club benefactor in his special way. W2OW used to run a six meter net on Sunday mornings at 11 AM, from the hilltop using equipment from the Doc Philly (original owner of call sign W2OW) estate. BARA then was a very active VHF club in addition to HF. W2OW participated in many VHF contests from the hilltop.

I know it may now be hard for youngsters of the club to believe but in the winter months, especially for the January VHF contest, we (the Southern Tier) would actually get SNOW of significant measurable amounts. John, the supervisor of the Town of Binghamton highway department, knowing our Sunday net schedule, would most always make certain that Milk's Road was passable. Milk's Road at that time was not paved and the only homes were on the lower section close to the town "barns." Harley Milks Sr, the landlord of the W2OW site had his residence set back about 100 yards from Milk's Rd on the left about half way up the hill. That residence has since been demolished.

I recall on one occasion John and his Oshkosh (with plow) got as far as the W2OW driveway and was "forced to" take a left and "had to" proceed up the driveway to the shack before he could turn around. John's "misfortune" resulted in a plowed drive through the 2 foot of snow with larger drifts and left a parking area at the shack because of the radius of his turn around. YEA. That year we had quite a bit of snow and the easiest time getting to the SHACK. When things really got rough Harley would fire up his snowmobile and provide taxi service to the hilltop.

Years later I would bump into John at town meetings

or community dinners and breakfasts. Always a smile and a positive outlook. Each time we met it wouldn't take long before we entered into the "remember when" zone. A good friend will be missed.

de WB2GHH

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## Question of the month....

**Which conditions are most likely favorable for long distance HF communications?**

- A) High Solar Flux – High A- Index
- B) High Solar Flux – Low A- Index
- C) Low Solar Flux – High A- Index
- D) Low Solar Flux – Low A- Index

**ANSWER: B - High solar flux = greater ionization & low A-index = quiet geomagnetic conditions. Both are conducive to better DX.**

## Upcoming BARA Programs:

**February** – Transmitter project by Tom Siglin  
**March** – Skywarn Training by Ford Drake

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## Letter from the Editor...

**If** you are holding a copy of this newsletter in your hand right now, then you are one of the 23 members of BARA still receiving a hard copy in the mail, **obvious right??** How would you like to be a part of saving **YOUR** club an additional **\$121.44** this year? That is what it costs to send this newsletter to 23 members every year!!! So how about saying **YES** to cutting costs!!!! Read your copy of the **FACTS On-Line!!!** Contact either myself or Paul, N2NCB and we will take you **OFF** the mailing list. In this economy **EVERY** little bit helps! Thank you!!! And 73's  
William Jakaitis ...KB2SIN

# Board Meeting Minutes Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

February 2, 2011

## Board Members:

**Present- President: Brian Adee – K2DLB, Vice-  
President: John Rudy – WB2FQZ, Secretary:  
Vinnie Griggs – N1JPM, Treasurer: Paul Slocum –  
N2NCB, Director: Warren Marks – KC2NGR,  
Director: Tom Vroman – N2BGM,**

**Absent: Director: John Carrington – WB2SGS,  
Director: Andy Rudy – KC2QYA**

Meeting called to order at 7:31 p.m. by President,  
Brian Adee (K2DLB)

## *Secretaries Report:*

January 15, 2011 - BARA Board meeting minutes  
were presented and approved.

## *Treasurer's Report:*

Treasurer's Report was read and explained.

Income- 50/50 Raffle- \$26.00 (Thanks to  
Steven Chadkowski (K2CZ), donate his half of the  
winning back to the club)

Dues- \$563.00

Other Income- \$122.00

Expense- Shack Lease- \$250.000

Utilities- \$25.12

Final balance: **\$4,908.71** as of 02/02/2011

Paul (N2NCB) reported that all the checks that had  
been outstanding for a while. Have all been cashed  
and his records and the bank statement all match.  
Brian (K2DLB) inquired to John (WB2FQZ), if his  
check that he wrote to the Cook Enterprise for the  
club towards the porta-potty rental had been cashed  
yet. John (WB2FQZ) said it had not been cashed as of  
this meeting. He will look into it. If they do not cash  
it, he will return it back to the club to be used in the  
future.

## Committee Reports:

**Radio Shack-** John (WB2FQZ) reported that he had  
nothing to report. Tom (N2BGM) mentioned that he  
was up near the shack because of the snowmobile trail  
that passes near by it. But reported that there was a lot  
of snow around it but did not go inside. Also noted  
that the gate was down but it was because the  
snowmobile trail travels the road up towards the  
shack.

**HAM Fest-** Brian (K2DLB) asked what the board  
wanted to spend toward the door prizes for the HAM  
Fest? Last year it was in the range of \$250 was spent  
on the door prizes. Those were for two radios, one  
was an Icom 2 meter radio & one Alinco handheld  
radio (HT). The board believed that Brian (K2DLB)  
and the committee have done a successful job in the  
past and to continue doing what they have done for  
door prizes. Brian (K2DLB) informed the board that  
the committee was going to ask the commercial  
venders for gift certificates this year instead of items  
for door prizes. Think that way they would encourage  
the winners to buy more from those venders.

Brian (K2DLB) brought up an email he  
received about having tyvek wristbands and tickets  
for the HAM Fest. It would be easier to identify the  
people that have already paid and the ones who had  
not going in and out the door. The prices for the  
wristband that a particular company sells (as seconds,  
with design imperfection) are approximately \$3.97 for  
500 wristbands. The board feels it would be better  
than making a mark with a marker on someone's  
hand.

Brian (K2DLB) asked about printing tickets.  
He has found a program on the Internet, which will  
allows people to print their own tickets. Vinnie  
(N1JPM) said he would donate the card stock paper  
for the tickets.

Vinnie (N1JPM) made the motion: **To  
authorize Brian (K2DLB) to print the tickets and  
purchase the wristbands for the HAM Fest.**  
Seconded by Paul (N2NCB). Motion voted on and  
passed.

Brian (K2DLB) asked what the board wants to  
do for the non-members that work on the HAM Fest.  
After a short discussion of the board member, Paul  
(N2NCB) made the motion: **To give ladies that are  
not BARA members that help at the HAM Fest a  
free admission (wristband) to it.** Second by Vinnie  
(N1JPM). Motion voted on and passed

**Programs-** John (WB2FQZ) that he had been in touch with Ford Drake (AB2HS) and that in March for the program, there will be an Advance Skywarn Training Session scheduled. That Tom Siglin (WA2LTD) was going to give a talk about his transmitter project that he has been working on at this February business meeting. John (WB2FQZ) is still wait to hear back from his contact at Broome County Airport and is in hope they can do a presentation in either April or May. An idea of a Field Day presentation for the May meeting would be a great idea, as well. However, we are still looking for ideas from the membership for other presentations.

- **Old Business:**

**Fundraising-** Brian (K2DLB) asked Tom (N2BGM) if he has been in touch with Brook BBQ. He said he waited to today to call Brook's and the person who he need to talk with was out and would call him back.

John (WB2FQZ) said that he got hold of the person who runs Doug's Fish Fry To-Go and got a quick description on how they run the fundraising portion of their business. First, that they were booked up until February 2012 already but we could be put on a call list if an organization backs out of their date they had reserved. Second, that we would be responsible for all advertising of the event. Third, that Doug's To-Go gets the first \$2000 of money collect and then any money after that point we would get 10% of the money after that point. The board discussed may scenario and finally decide that we felt it would not be worth it but would give it some more thought. John (WB2FQZ) said he would contact them again and ask more questions.

**Absentee Ballots-** Vinnie (N1JPM) brought up that this board was given the task to; "Look into adopting a absentee ballot for future officer's elections". It was voted on at the November 2010 business meeting to have the board, look into developing a absentee ballot for the membership that are unable to attend the clubs election of officers and the board at that time elected to allow the new incoming board to work on this task.

- **New Business:**

**Bon ton's-** Paul (N2NCB) received a letter from Bon Tons Store informing our group of a not-for-profit

opportunity that they are offering group nation wide to help with their fundraising this year. This is how it works, We are given "easy to sell" coupon booklet from Bon Tons that we can sell for \$5.00 a booklet and the club can keep 100% of the money. In the booklet there are different discounts for different items in the store and online, in the booklet. After a short discussion the board, we decided to table this offer.

**Club Bylaws/ Constitution-** Brian (K2DLB) received a email from the Elmira group that have combined a bunch of Amateur Radio clubs that put on the Elmira HAM Fest called CCARES (Chemung County ARES). They are looking into applying for 501.c3 statues and would like to know how ours are written. The Board saw no reason why not to do that. Vinnie (N1JPM) made the motion; **To allow Brian (K2DLB) to send a copy of our bylaws/ constitution to the group.** Seconded by Paul (N2NCB). Motion voted and passed.

**Equipment for sale-** Brian (K2DLB) received an email that Bob Groh W2IFA, a former member, who has moved to Rhode Island. Has some misc. equipment for sale and wonder if the club would be interested in it for the shack. Brian (K2DLB) read over the list and the board did not believe there was anything of interest at this time. Paul (N2NCB) suggested that this list could be listed in the BARA Facts under "Equipment for Sale" and see if someone might be interested in the items.

**Donated Equipment-** Brian (K2DLB) received an email from Joe Marckx (AA2RE), a past member of the club and he would like to donate some radio equipment that he has not used in many years. In his email he ask in return that we write a document of the worth of the equipment, so he could use it for a tax deduction. Brian (K2DLB) read off the list that was sent to him and the board discussed about the items listed

Reminder that **Andy Rudy (KC2QYA)** has refreshment duty for February & **Tom (N2BGM)** has refreshment duty for March, for the business meeting...

**Any other Business-** Tom (N2BGM) made the motion; **To adjourn the meeting.** Seconds by Paul (N2NCB). Motion voted and passed.

**Board Meeting**  
**7:30 PM, Wednesday March 2nd**  
 Office of Emergency Services  
 Lt. Vanwinkle Dr. (Behind BCC)

**Exam Session**  
**February 28th – 7PM**  
 Vestal Public Library, Route 434 Vestal

**BARA Dues**  
 \$18/year Single member; \$27/year Family

**Local Repeater Nets**  
 146.73 (**PL-100**) MHz STAR Net (NTS Feeder) Every Evening at 6:30 PM Local Time  
 146.865 (**PL 146.2**) MHz BRAT Net (Informal BARA) Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM Local Time

**BARA, The Binghamton Amateur Radio Association is an ARRL Affiliated Club**

e-Mail Address: [w2ow@arri.net](mailto:w2ow@arri.net)



*Our Printing Sponsor: Unicorn Electronics, Valley Plaza Drive, Johnson City, NY*

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.  
 ·Minutes submitted by Secretary, Vinnie Griggs, N1JPM.

## 2011 Club Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Brian Adee</b>	<b>K2DLB</b>	<b>206-4800</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>John Rudy</b>	<b>WB2FQZ</b>	<b>669-4308</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Vinnie Griggs</b>	<b>N1JPM</b>	<b>651-8884</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Paul Slocum</b>	<b>N2NCB</b>	<b>687-2057</b>
<b>Directors</b>	<b>Tom Vroman</b>	<b>N2BGM</b>	<b>669-4874</b>
	<b>Andy Rudy</b>	<b>KC2QYA</b>	<b>669-4308</b>
	<b>John Carrington</b>	<b>WB2SGS</b>	<b>648-8364</b>
	<b>Warren Marks</b>	<b>KC2NGR</b>	<b>372-0290</b>
<b>W2OW Trustee</b>	<b>Mel Snitchler</b>	<b>WE2K</b>	<b>723-9612</b>
<b>Editor</b>	<b>William Jakaitis</b>	<b>KB2SIN</b>	<b>648-2112</b>

### **Next General Meeting**

**7:30 PM, Wednesday, February 16th**

Town of Binghamton Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, South of the Ross Park Entrance

