



BARA Facts

Newsletter of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

July/August 2011

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

President's Corner

June was somewhat of a busy month getting ready for Field Day on June 25th and 26th. The 2 meter beams are up and usable. Ray Terry K1OW replaced some elements on the one beam during field day weekend. I would like to thank Vinnie N1JPM and Tom N2BGM for their help with the antenna's and tower. The club would like to thank Stan Progy W2EWM for cutting the grass at the shack property. I don't know how he does it, but we certainly appreciate it. Vinnie also did some weed wacking and mowing close to the building to make it better for the weekend.

Field Day was very good. We had 57 people visit the site at one time or another throughout the weekend 18 members, 19 boy scouts, 4 boy scout leaders, 8 family members of the boy scouts, 3 friends/family of members. Norm McSweyn N3YKF

Tom Siglin WA2LTD gave a talk to the boy scouts and gave a radio demonstration to allow the boy scouts to achieve their radio merit badge. Norm McSweyn N3YKF gave a demonstration of satellite operations. and Ray Terry K1OW setup for moon bounce operation. We had 2 HF Stations on the air also

The highlight of the weekend was a visit by ARRL Officials
Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar N3LLR,
Atlantic Division Vice Director Tom Abernathy W3TOM,
Western NY Section Manager Steve Ryan N2ITF,
Assistant Section Manager Diane Ryan KC2SOA

They showed up at the shack about 11:15 and visited for about 1/2 hour. It was nice to see them there as no one knows of any other time that ARRL Officials have been to the site.

The best part was the food according to several members. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips salads, soda, etc
John Rudy WB2FQZ and Andy Rudy KC2QYA did very well in keeping us fed. I think a good time was had by all.

Just Remember the August 17th meeting will be the annual picnic starting at 5:00 PM at Otsiningo Park Pavilion. Come Early, Stay Late Bring a guest. Anyone has anything to sell, bring it along someone may bite.
Burgers, Hot dogs, Rolls and condiments, and soda will be provided by BARA. Bring
A dish to pass. Salads, chips, deviled eggs, Lasagna, cookies, brownies, etc.
Are welcome. Hope to see you at the picnic in August

Brian Adee

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2011

at the Binghamton Town Hall

Binghamton, NY

Board Members:

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

Board members absent: Director: John Carrington - WB2SGS, Director: Andy Rudy – KC2QYA

General members:

Ford Drake- AB2HS, Bill Coleman– N2BC, Lee Savidge-W3EFE , Bill Jaker- WB8RAE, George Kilpatrick –N2GSS, Ann Whyman – KB3UQC, Jerry Heller – KA2WQR, Drew Dreskur – KA1M, Jack Connors – WB2GHH

Visitors: Sharon Drake –N2WGM

For the **THIRD** Month in a row, **No Meeting** was held, due to insufficient membership present to hold a meeting as bylaws required

Hope to see a better turn out for the July Meeting, July 20, 2011 at 7:30pm

Noted by Secretary, Vinnie Griggs, N1JPM.

Meeting called to order at 7:36 p.m. by **President**, Brian Adee (K2DLB)

Secretaries Report:

Warren (KC2NGR), made the motion to accept the March 2, 2010 Secretaries Report as printed. Tom (N2BGM) seconded the motion. It voted on and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report was read and explained. Vinnie (N1JPM) made a motion to accept the Treasure's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Warren (KC2NGR). It voted on and passed.

Committee Reports:

Radio Shack- Brian (K2DLB) mentioned that we have renewed our contract for another five years with the owner of the land where the W2OW shack is located. He also said that he was in the works on obtaining a small excavator to work on the drive way some more than the town had already done. Hopefully install some water bars and try to make a ditch on one side of the driveway. Tom (N2BGM) mentioned that he stopped up at the shack last weekend and mentioned that it needs some house keeping up there. Lots of dead grass and things need to be swept out plus straightened out after Field Day. Lee (W3EFE) brought up that he had mentioned to a few members that we should try to get a group of serious contesting members and try to participate in the ARRL's November Sweepstakes Contest.

Hamfest- Nothing to report this month

Fundraising- Nothing to report this month.

Programs- John (WB2FQZ) was not at this meeting.

Old Business:

2011 Field Day – Brian (K2DLB) spoke about the group from ARRL personal that showed up at W2OW just when Field days activate started. (**Steve Ryan - N2ITF** Western New York Section Manager plus his wife **Diane Ryan – KC2SOA** Assistant Section Manager, **Bill Edgar - N3LLR** Atlantic Division Director, **Tom Abernethy, W3TOM** Atlantic Division Vice Director) Tom (N2BGM) said that he believed everyone who was there had a great time. Few members but a lot of fun things happened. It was great to have had food and drinks their compared to last year. That John (WB2FQZ) & Andy (KC2QYA)

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2011

@ Broome County Emergence Service

153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive

Binghamton, NY

Board Members:

Present: President: Brian Adee – K2DLB, **Secretary:** Vinnie Griggs – N1JPM, **Director:** John Carrington – WB2SGS, **Director:** Warren Marks – KC2NGR, **Director:** Tom Vroman – N2BGM **Absent: Treasurer:** Paul Slocum – N2NCB, **Vice-President:** John Rudy – WB2FQZ, **Director:** Andy Rudy – KC2QYA

Visitor: Lee Savidge – W3EFE

did a good job cooking and having things all together when chow time came.

Lee (W3EFE) spoke about his observations and how much fun it was for him. He also mentioned that the main radio is on its last legs and not putting out the power that it should but with the amp it was... ok. There were approximately 19 Boy Scouts there from the Town of Binghamton Scout Troop #5. There has been some feedback that other scouting troop would like to join in next field day. TOM Siglin (WA2LTD) for his experts worked with THE Boy Scouts, so they could earn their Amateur Radio Merit Badge.

We had Ray Terry (K1OW) there with his moon bounce equipment set up and a 40 meter antenna that he made up. Norm Sweyn (N3WKF) who brought his set up for satellite communications for just the afternoon that Saturday and who had so much fun being at the W2OW site again, he stayed almost all night into Sunday working hard setting up antennas, talking to the scout and anyone interested in his set up.

Brian (K2DLB) asked about how many people were up there. Vinnie (N1JPM) said that all the numbers have not been tallied up yet but estimated about 17 BARA members plus 19 boy Scouts with four leaders and 11 visitors

New Business: Vinnie (N1JPM) asked the board their feeling about changing the constitution, so either remove the number people required to have a meet or just remove the part about not counting the officers, so the club can move forward. We all looked over the constitution & bylaws on how it was written or thing required to change them. After a lengthy discussion, it was found that we were interrupting the constitution wrongly over the years. It is clearly written out that the officers of the club are the President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasure not including the directors. In the past, the club included the directors as officers, but it clearly shows the directors are the voice for the membership at the board meeting but are not officers. So as of this time, the board feels that we could have had a meeting last month but did not count the directors present. We all agree that we probable could leave the constitution and will be able to hold meetings in the future.

Changing the time: Tom (N2BGM) asked if we could change the times of the meeting from 7:30 to 7:00, to help getting the meeting over earlier, so people would not be out so late. The board looked

over the bylaws and said it would have to be done by how it is listed in the by-laws to change things. Nevertheless, the thoughts would be ok and would have to be done with the membership agreeing. He also asked if it is passed to change the Board meeting time, as well.

Any other Business- John Carrington (WB2SGS) makes the motion to adjourn the meeting, Warren (KC2NG) 2nds it. Vote was unanimously passes.

- Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Vinnie Griggs, N1JPM.

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2011
Broome County Emergence Service
153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive
Binghamton, NY 13905

Board Members:

President: Brian Adee – K2DLB, **Secretary:** Vinnie Griggs – N1JPM, **Treasurer:** Paul Slocum – N2NCB, **Director:** Warren Marks – KC2NGR, **Director:** Tom Vroman – N2BGM, **Director:** John Carrington – WB2SGS

Absent: **Vice-President:** John Rudy – WB2FQZ,

Director: Andy Rudy – KC2QYA

Visitor: Lee Savidge – W3EFE

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President, **Brian Adee (K2DLB)**

Secretaries Report:

Paul (N2NCB), made the motion to accept the July 6, 2011 Secretaries Report as printed. Warren (KC2NGR) seconded the motion. It voted on and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report was read and explained.

Brian (K2DLB) asked some questions about the procedure when a new member applies for membership and how the membership fees are figured out for the ensuing year as spelled out in the clubs by-laws. After an explanation by Paul (N2NCB), it is

apparent that the club needs to redo the membership form. In conjunction the one on the web site too.

Vinnie (N1JPM) made a motion to accept the Treasure's Report as presented. Warren (KC2NGR) seconded the motion. It voted on and passed.

Committee Reports:

W2OW Shack – Vinnie (N1JPM) reported that he was been straightening up the W2OW Shack some and has rearranged the coaxes into the two main radio room. He has labeled the different coaxes (w/the band they are made for) coming into the shack and hooked them up to the patch panel. In addition, he has labeled the patch panel so you know which one you are choosing. So when you come to the shack, you will need to choose what antenna and what room you want to use. Then when you leave you need to unplug the jumper coax from the antenna that you have plugged in. He also has put up a ceiling fan in radio room #2 to help circulate the air in the room. He also is in hopes to bring up a weed whacker and try to trim some over the brush and weeds away from the shack before this fall sometime. He mentioned that the driveway seems rougher with all the heavy rains that we have received this year. Brian (K2DLB) said that he is in hopes to borrow some equipment sometime this year and hopes to try to fix and ditch some of the driveway to help cut down the water from continuing to wash out the driveway.

Old Business:

Changing the time of the meeting- Brian (K2DLB) asked if there was an interest to propose the change of time of the meeting, as well as, the time for the Board meeting. Tom (N2BGM) said that he was still in favor of it and plans on make a motion to do so at the next regular meeting held. The board's feelings are the earlier the meeting the quicker we can get out of the meeting, especially when the winter months hit, as well as.

Constitution changes: Brain (K2DLB) asked about how the board feels about keeping the constitution the same about the quorum requirements or should we look into changing them. Vinnie (N1JPM) spoke that after not having enough members last month for a regular meeting, making it a total of four meetings in a row. He feels that we definitely need to change something about the requirement to start holding a meeting. The club has come to a standstill, and money

is going out that is budgeted but no new members can be voted in. No fundraising plans can really take place, and things are needed up at the shack for future plans. The board looked over the constitution again and discussed different scenarios. What would help the club continue and not get bogged down again like it has been in the past? After discussing it over for a while the following proposal was drafted up, and Vinnie (N1JPM) volunteered to present the proposal to the next meeting when we have enough to do so.

Changing the time of the Board meeting- Tom (N2BMG) said that he was going to pursue changing the meeting time for the board of Director's meeting to 7:00pm and was going to bring it up after the membership decides to change the regular meeting time. John (WB2SGS) spoke up and made the motion "To change the BARA Board of Directors meeting to start at 7:00pm" (instead of 7:30pm as in the past). Paul (N2NCB) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Newsletter- It was brought up that the upcoming newsletter will be a joint newsletter for July and August. The board realizes that it might be a little while for it to be available for the BARA Web site, with Bill Coleman (N2BC) recovering from his surgery. Brian (K2DLB) asked why not just email the newsletter directly to the membership. After discussing it further, Paul (N2NCB) said that he will do that when he receives the Newsletter from Bill (KB2SIN).

Picnic- August 17 at the Otsiningo park- Brian (K2DLB) inquired if there were any questions about the upcoming picnic. It was asked if John (WB2FQZ) was getting the food, as in the past and now one knew if he was or not. Brian (K2DLB) asked Warren if he was still going to do his part (cooking & getting the charcoal), and he said he was, and that he would get hold of John and see if he was bringing the food. The time for the food to be ready is 5:00pm and hopefully there will be enough people there to have a meeting. Lee (W3EFE) asked if they thought more people would come if it was held an hour later so for those who work until 5:00pm could make it to the picnic. Paul (N2NCB) said that it's been that way and when he used to work until 5 o'clock, he always took off early to be there.

New Business:

Equipment for the W2OW Shack- Vinnie (N1JPM) asked the board opinion on him asking the

membership, if they decide to purchase the proposed Yaesu FT-897d to looking into also purchasing an Automatic Antenna Tuner and a Nifty mini-manual for the FT-897d. He felt that since it's a menu-driven radio, the manual would be handy for those not familiar with that radio and having an auto tune would help with getting the most out of that radio and making it easier for those new or wanting to use different antennas up there. Brian (K2DLB) suggested purchasing the one that bolts directly on to that radio. The rest of the board agreed.

Family Membership- Vinnie (N1JPM) said that he had a question about family membership and how many voting members are in a family membership because we was unable to find it in the BARA Constitution. Paul (N2NCB) started that for every one in a family membership that holds a valid Amateur Radio License is entitled to have one vote. John (WB2SGS) makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Warren (KC2NGR) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

· Minutes submitted by Secretary, Vinnie Griggs, N1JPM.

"Special Thanks"

The Binghamton Amateur Club would like to thank Stan Progy (W2EWM) for taking on the chore of brush hogging the field area around the W2OW radio Shack again this year. His man has done it for many years, and we are lucky to have a member like this one, which just does it because, it something he can do for this club..... THANKS STAN!

From the desk of Vinnie Griggs - N1JPM

I thought I would write a quick article about some things have gone on for events for BARA. The concern about not being able to hold regular meeting because of the requirements that BARA has for governing rules that I feel worked well earlier in BARA's years. Nevertheless, with the change of times and smaller membership, I feel that we need to revisit it now. In November of 2009, our dear member Jack Connors (WB2GHH) brought up the matter of changing it then. (That was my first meeting at BARA), But it did not go very far. I feel he had an

insight then, but it was not meant to be that year. However, with THREE consecutive meeting not being held because of the lack of 10 members at a meeting, not including the officers has not allowed us to do any business.

As your new secretary this year, I ran for this office because I wanted to be involved and let the membership know what is going on, and that we want people to come and enjoy the doing of BARA. I took a real interest last year and upgraded to a general class amateur radio operator because we have the W2OW shack wish is really cool and a lot has been done up there in the past and would love to spark more interest into it for all the members. It slow but I do see a spark of life still.

There is a small group of members who are trying to get the shack back on the air and enjoy working the radio that we do have and being instrumental in helping setting up a new set of antennas that have gone up for VFH, hopefully more to come but with no meeting, the club's hands are tied.

On June 25-26, the club participated in FIELD DAY 2011, with a lot of people showing up and questioning about Amateur Radio. With the BOY SCOUT TROOP #5 of Binghamton and the family's I saw people walking all over and taking an interest in what we were doing. I have to take this time and thank LEE Savidge (W3EFE) for his hard work in getting the word out and acting as liaison for the club and the scouts. He made signs for the road showing how to find us and getting with TOM Siglin (WA2LTD) for his experts by coming up and spending all afternoon with the Scouts working with them, so they could earn their Amateur Radio Merit Badge. We had Ray Terry (K1OW) there with his moon bounce equipment set up and a 40 meter antenna that he made up. We had the pleasure of having a past member who has moved away from the Triple Cities and gladly returned up to the W2OW shack for the FIELD DAY activates and the scouts, Norm Sweyn (N3WKF) who brought his set up for satellite communications for just the afternoon that Saturday and who had so much fun being at the W2OW site again, he stayed almost all night into Sunday working hard setting up antennas, talking to the scout and anyone interested in his set up and just grabbing the mike when one was free & calling CQ Field day. (Glad you came, Norm)

However, the best time that I had up, there was in the evening when Lee (W3EFE) and I took to the air waves for a long stretch in the evening and had our own pile up of people trying to get our exchange for Field Day. I really had not been on the HF air waves much and tried to keep up with that moment that last a long time, with people wanting your exchange and never touching the radio. I am afraid, which I know some of you have had happened to you. I think I have the contesting bug and at the W2OW shack, which has happened to some of you to in the past. It was a great time and looking forward to in having other events in the future and hope more members can come up to the shack and show some of us newbies how it used to be when the W2OW shack was really up and going.

I hope you enjoy some of my thought and adventures with BARA, and I try to do my best to report what is happening in the club by the minutes, I submit to the newsletter to help the members know what your club is doing. Please come to some of the meeting and mark on your calendar August 17, for the **BARA Picnic** at Otsiningo Park. Not sure the exact time yet but last year it was around 5 pm when we ate. Hope to see more faces there.

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

T1A10 - What is the FCC Part 97 definition of an amateur station?

- A. A station in an Amateur Radio Service consisting of the apparatus necessary for carrying on radio communications
- B. A building where Amateur Radio receivers, transmitters, and RF power amplifiers are installed
- C. Any radio station operated by a non-professional
- D. Any radio station for hobby use

General Class

G1A10 – Which of the following frequencies is within the General Class portion of the 15 meter band?

- A. 14250 kHz
- B. 18155 kHz
- C. 21300 kHz
- D. 24900 kHz

Extra Class

E1A10 – If a station in a message forwarding system inadvertently forwards a message that is in violation of FCC rules, who is primarily accountable for the rules violation?

- A. The control operator of the packet bulletin board station
- B. The control operator of the originating station
- C. The control operators of all the stations in the system
- D. The control operators of all the stations in the system not authenticating the source from which they accept communications

Back to Basics Answers:

Technician – A

General – C

Extra – B

Letter from the Editor:

Due to numerous commitments, Work schedules and Coast Guard Aux courses, I will be stepping down as Editor of the BARA facts effective immediately.

If any of you would like to take this over, please feel free to contact the President, or if you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

I would like to thank those of you that have assisted me with articles in this endeavor and those that have not, which allowed me to open my horizons and gain enormous insight and education & commitment within the amateur radio community.

I hope those of you that have sent me articles and supported this newsletter in the past will continue to do so in the future.

Thank You!

William Jakaitis – KB2SIN

2011 Club Officers

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

Next General Meeting

7:30 PM, Wednesday, Sept. 21st

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

Board Meeting

7:30 PM, Wednesday Sept. 7th

*Office of Emergency Services
Lt. Vanwinkle Dr. (Behind BCC)*

Exam Session

Monday Sept. 26th -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



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