



BARA FACTS



Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

December 2011



Novembers Regular Meeting



Ray Terry-K1OW, ARRL Field day 2011 attempting to make a contact with his Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) set-up

Photo by John Carrington- WB2SGS

WOW... What a meeting 27 members and guest were at the Novembers Regular Meeting.

Our President Brian Adey (K2DLB) started off the meeting, with asking everyone to introduction themselves to the group. Vinnie Griggs (N1JPM) welcomed our three new-est members who were present for their first meeting and encouraged everyone to take some time and welcome each of them into the club.

Brian (K2DLB) informed the group that the minutes of October's regular meeting were in the BARA FACT newsletter, and some copies were on the table up front. He asked if anyone had any corrections or errors to point out. Not hearing any George Kilpatrick (N2GSS) made the motion to accept the secretary's minutes & Paul Slocum (N2NCB) seconded the motion. Not hearing any discussion, the motion was voted on and passed. Paul (N2NCB) gave his treasurer's report. Not hearing any questions, George (N2GSS) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Vinnie (N1JPM). It was voted on and passed.

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November Meeting



Special "Thanks" to:

UNICORN ELECTRONICS

Valley Plaza Drive
Johnson City, NY

"For there support for printing the newsletter all these years"

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November's Regular Meeting

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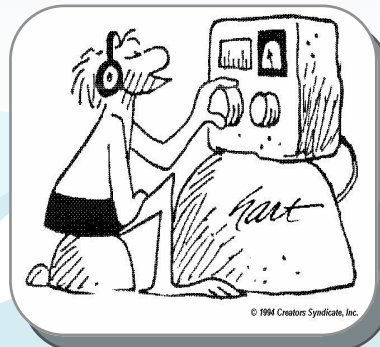
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BARA Officer's

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BARA's Web Site Address:

www.w2ow.org



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November's Meeting

Brian (K2DLB) asked John Rudy (WB2FQZ) if he had he had anything to report on the W2OW HAM Shack? John (WB2FQZ) spoke that he found out that there is so Creek run gravel, which has been stocked piled in Kirkwood from clean-up after the flood in September, which he could get for a nominal cost or even free if we were interested in. He said that we would have to find someone to truck it up to the shack to help repair the driveway into W2OW. Over the past few year, the drive way has been slowly washing down the hill, and a few loads would help in filling in some of the ruts and possibly help build up the areas where the ledge has always been in the middle of the drive way.

He inquired if anyone knew the standard rate for hiring someone with a dump truck. Rob Gault (KC2VMP) said it was around \$100 an hour. After some discussion, Brian (K2DLB) asked if anyone knew of someone who could truck it up for a nominal fee or even for free, please let him know because this could help improve the driveway so people with hesitation about coming up due to the drive way being in rough shape might get active again. Brian (K2DLB) then asked Bill (N2BC) how he made out with the Kenwood that has not worked for a while. He said he went through it and checked things over and found it working again. He never found anything definitely wrong but things are wearing out, and the radio is old, plus some of the parts are not made anymore. So he has returned it back to the W2OW shack but makes no guarantees.

That when the subject of the HAMfest came up during the meeting. Brian (K2DLB) has been in touch with the HAMfest, which is held the Saturday before ours in April. They asked about if either group had heard from the same vendors to see if they were still interested in doing it again in 2012. He also said that he was looking into other places to see if we could find a cheaper place recognizing that the cost really eats into the profit of the HAMfest. So if anyone knows or has connections to a cheaper place, please let him know. There was some discussion about thing that we need to make a new place work as well as the Port Crane Fire Station.

Mark Sweet (KC2AVX) reminded the group that there is an "Early Bird Net" at 5:25 – 5:55a.m. during the week on the 146.730- PL 100 in Binghamton, this is linked to the 146.895- PL 107.2 in Ithaca. The number of people that have checked in has been slowly declining. He has taken over as net control because he hated to see it just die and is looking to get the word out about it. If you are up at that time of the morning or traveling through

these areas, feel free to jump in and say hello to the group.

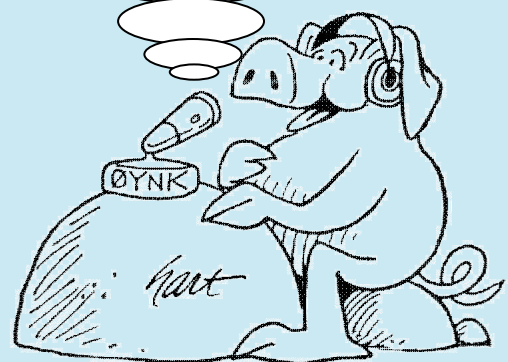
Brian asked if there were any other businesses that need to come up before we had the 2012 elections to begin. Not hearing any, Brian (K2DLB) said that the officers that are serving now are willing to remain as officers for next year. He said that Andy (KC2QYA) would gladly step down as a director due to his busy schedule with after-school activities. Not hearing any volunteers, Vinnie (N1JPM) handed out paper ballots, and Brian (K2DLB) asked if Bill (N2BC) & Rob (KC2VMP) would be the election committee and tally the ballots and report the results back to the secretary. The election Committee reported that the officers were all voted back into office for 2012.

With the elections over, Ford (AB2HS) reminded the group that next month's meeting will be at THE SPOT DINNER RESTAURANT on Front Street on December 21, 2011, with cocktail hour from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. We will be sitting down to eat at 6:00pm, with a meeting to follow. He also spoke about Skywarn Appreciation Day on December 2 & 3.

With no other business to come before the group, Paul (N2NCB) made the motion to adjourn the meeting. George (N2GSS) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. Meeting was over in less than an hour.

For a presentation, Andy Rudy (KC2QYA) had put together a question & answer trivia game which covered a large range of questions about Amateur Radio. With a lot of laughs, his presentation went off well with the group and looking forward to the next time he puts one together.

CQ...CQ...CQ... Hope to see you all at the Holiday Party/ Meeting at The Spot Dinner, 1062 Front Street, on December 21st, cocktail from 5-6 pm, Dinner at 6:00pm. Open to all



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A look back at 2010 Holiday/Meeting party....



Paul Slocum-N2NCB



George Kilpatrick-N2GSS

Allen Lutins-KC2KLC



Cedric Myers-W2YFB

Tom Siglin-WA2LTD

Bill Jaker-WB8RAE



Photo's by: Jerry Heller-KA2WQY



Andy Rudy-KC2QYA



George Kilpatrick-N2GSS



Brian Adee-K2DLB

Ford Drake-AB2HS



Bill Jaker-WB8RAE

Paul Fisher-K2ABX

Pat O'Keeffe-NE3B



Sharon Drake-N2WGM

Louise Heath-KC2HKB

Bonnie Heath

Malcolm Heath-KC2EOV

Omar, the Ham Hermit

Resuming and moving ahead with the unfolding adventures of licensed Amateur Radio operator Omar Doradious, W2UWU, whose human contacts are more likely to be p-to-p and not i-to-i.

These winter days the days are so short that night falls even before the day is done, and one of these days the falling night is going to crash and bring the dipole down with it. Snowflakes are blowing across the open wire, which sets up a static discharge that flashes its way down the transmission line. *Bzzbzz chhchchhch*, I can almost pick up something comprehensible. *Bzzbzzz kkckkbbccjhj*. They tell me it was like this in the regal days of King Spark, except without the ozone smell.

I warm my hands over the 6146s glowing in the linear and adjust the transmatch: forward – reverse – forward – reverse... with any luck I'll flatten out those static bursts and melt the icicles on the copper wire. *Bzzchhh bzzzkkchhh*. It must mean something, maybe my antenna is calling out to its master, "Ground me! Ground me!"

I can usually copy International Morse at 25 words a minute if there isn't any fading and the words are short. If my contact slows down I can even communicate in foreign languages like French, Swedish, Greekish (my Doradious heritage), Japanese, Gibberish and Overseasish. But these sparks seem to be plain dit-dahish.

NØRTH, NØRTH de WIND WIND WIND AR
They're calling each other through my antenna – nothing is touching the rig at all, which is good since they'd likely zap a cap in the finals.

WIND de NØRTH – GE – COOL TONITE K

NØRTH de WIND R R R ES BRRR HI HI K

These have to be air currents conjoining above my QTH. Can I QSO the winds? If I wind a new coil will the winding wind up calling WIND? I reach for the key (hoping it isn't also charged with errant electricity).

NØRTH WIND de W2UWU. HW CPY? K K.

I wait for a response. I know they can hear me. Outside the winds sweep through, the windows rattle, the darkness takes up a position in the night sky. Will they answer?

NØRTH de WIND – A BREAKER WANTS TO BLOW IN K

WIND de NØRTH – NEG CPY – QTH? K

I THINK HE'S A HERMIT

OUTA RANGE NØRTH de WIND

Bzzchhh bzzzkkchhh. Bzzchhh bzzzkkchhh.

An enormous blast of 500-watt wind shakes the trees, the shack, the copper wires and me. A burst bursts. Ping! Ping! This side of the ionosphere twists and shakes, whistles and roars, then catches its breath. The buzzing fades. A winter night settles down, calm, cold and clear.

© 2011 Bill Jaker, WB8RAE



Louis Alfoncitsitti Jr.

Formally known as KD2AHY has upgraded to EXTRA Class. His new call sign is.

AC2HL

**So listen for the new call sign
and say "Congratulations"...**

**Are you up in the morning?
How about joining in on the
EARLY BIRD NET...**

For all you early-morning risers, there is a local net on the 1476.730/146.895 (w/146.2pl tone) looking for you. This net has been around for quite some time. Mark Sweet-KC2AVX has taken over as net control. Mark came up to me, Vinnie Griggs (N1JPM) at the November's BARA Meeting inquiring if I could put the word out that this net is looking for anyone up at 5:25 am through 5:55 am every Monday through Friday to check-in and tell the gang what was new or plans in your part of the world.

They sometimes even have a great trivial question for the group to weigh in on. So if you're up or mobile at that time of the morning, you will always find someone on and ready for a nice QSO to help start the day off right. So get on the air and give them a shout.

Special Note:

There was **No** Board of Directors Meeting held in December.

The Longest Morse Code Message Ever ?

On October 26, 1864, James W. Nye, Governor of the Territory of Nevada, began sending a telegram to President Abraham Lincoln.

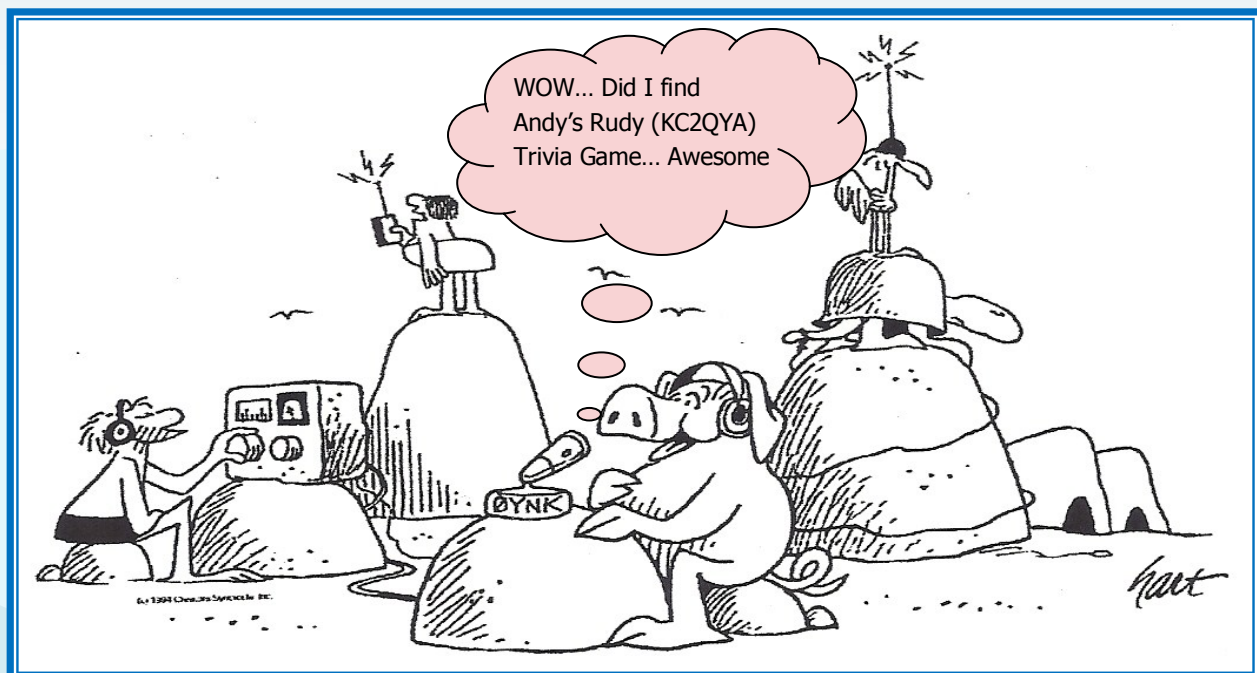
This message, transmitted in Morse code, contains the entire text of the Nevada State Constitution.

Sending such a long telegram at the height of the Civil War was a challenge -- with no direct link from Carson City to Washington, DC, telegrapher James H. Guild worked seven hours to transmit the message to Salt Lake City, where it was resent to Chicago, then Philadelphia, and finally to the War Department's telegraph Office in Washington, DC, two days later, where a 175-page transcription was made.

The final page shows the total word count (16,543) and cost (\$4313.27—or \$59,229 in today's dollars) of the transmission.

Frustrated that certified copies of the Nevada Constitution, sent earlier by overland mail and by sea, had failed to arrive in Washington, DC, by October 24, Governor Nye of the Nevada Territory ordered that the State Constitution be sent by wire.

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Longest Morse code*



New Rules for 60 Meters

USA's Federal Communications Commission released a REPORT AND ORDER on November 18, 2011 with new 5MHz rules for the Amateur Radio Service. The effective date: 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

The FCC adopted the use of the name "60 meter band", to refer to 5MHz amateur radio in the frequency range 5330.5-5406.4 kHz, but USA hams are still only allowed to transmit on 5 specific channels in the band.

The FCC changed the rules to allow: Phone (Upper Sideband), RTTY, Data, and CW; with specific limitations on the use of these modes.

Amateur radio is a "secondary user" in this band, and must not cause harmful interference to other services! Amateur Radio Service must accept interference from other primary services and other nations services.

Operators transmitting data or RTTY must exercise care to limit the length of transmission so as to avoid causing harmful interference to US Government stations.

New 60 meter band 5MHz Channel List: General, Advanced, or Amateur Extra Class license only.

Suppressed Carrier

VFO Dial frequency

5330.5 kHz USB (center of channel = 5332.0)

5346.5 kHz USB (center of channel = 5348.0)

5357.0 kHz USB (center of channel = 5358.5) New!

5371.5 kHz USB (center of channel = 5373.0)

5403.5 kHz USB (center of channel = 5405.0)

Note: FCC deleted the channel at 5366.5 USB (center=5368.0) and "replaced" it with channel 5357.0 kHz USB (center=5358.5)

The maximum allowed power level is now 100Watts PEP (ERP) effective radiated power referenced to a dipole. If another type of antenna is used, the station licensee must maintain a record of either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

Upper Side Band Phone, Data, or RTTY transmissions may use dial (VFO) USB suppressed carrier frequency at 1.5kHz below the center of the channel.

Transmissions must not exceed the 2.8kHz bandwidth channel. RTTY modes such as PSK31 must not exceed 60Hz necessary bandwidth. Data modes must not exceed 2.8kHz bandwidth. CW bandwidth must not exceed 150Hz bandwidth and the CW frequency should be at the center of the channel.

Data stations operating under section § 97.221 automatically controlled digital station, are not allowed on these 5MHz channels.



LOCAL RADIO NETS

146.73/146.895 (PL146.2) MHz Early Bird Net

Monday thru Friday at 5:25-5:55 AM Local Time

146.865 (PL 146.2) MHz BRAT Net (Informal BARA)

Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM Local Time

146.73 (PL-100) MHz STAR Net (NTS Feeder)

Every Evening at 6:30 PM Local Time

All are encouraged to join in to ALL the nets listed.





Binghamton
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
(BARA)
is an ARRL affiliated Club

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Longest Morse code

Three days after receiving this telegram—just eight days before the Presidential election—Lincoln proclaimed, in accordance with an Act of Congress, that Nevada was admitted into the Union, thus hoping to ensure his own re-election, as well as the election of like-minded Republicans in Congress.

This 175-page transcription of the longest telegram in the holdings of the National Archives is on display in an exhibition entitled "BIG!, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Archives," features big records, big events, and big ideas – and includes this 1864 telegram.

The exhibition runs through January 3, 2010 in Washington, DC, before being prepared for national touring.

Up Coming Event

December 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm
SVARA Repeater Group Meeting

This is the local group that owns and maintains the local repeaters.

Broome County Emergence Service Bldg.
153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive,
Binghamton, NY 13902

December 19, 2011 at 7:00 pm
Volunteer Examiners (VE) Testing

If you have studied to obtain your Amateur Radio license or would like to upgrade. There is a testing session on the last Mondays of the month at:

Vestal Public Library
320 Vestal Parkway
Vestal, NY 13850

Contact: Bob Soltis - WA2VCS
wa2vcs@gmail.com or (607)754-7940

December 21, 2011 at 7:00 pm
Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Holiday/Regular Meeting

The Spot Restaurant
Cocktail Hour: 5:00-6:00pm
Dinner starts at 6:00pm

1062 Upper Front Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

January 4, 2012 at 7:00 pm
BARA Board of Directors Meeting
Broome County Emergence Service Bldg.
153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive,
Binghamton, NY 13902

Officers:

President:	Brian Adee	K2DLB	(607)206-4800
Vice-President:	John Rudy	WB2FQZ	(607)669-4308
Secretary:	Vinnie Griggs	N1JPM	(607)651-8884
Treasurer:	Paul Slocum	N2NCB	(607)687-2057

Directors:

John Carrington	WB2SG	(607)648-8364
Warren Marks	KC2NGR	(607)372-0290
Tom Vroman	N2BGM	(607)669-4874
Andy Rudy	KC2QYA	(607)669-4308

Web Site: www.W2OW.org