

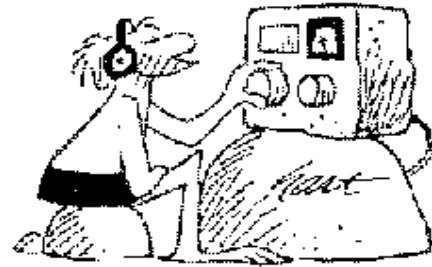


Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 853

Binghamton, NY 13902

Established 1919



© 1994 Creators Syndicate, Inc.

W2OW Fred W. Porterfield Memorial Station

W2OW Repeater 147.39/.99

PRESIDENTS CORNER

I am not sure where the year has gone. The events of the year seem a blur as I focus on the New Year's coming. Some major events we made successful were the Hamfest and Club Picnic. I remember those the easiest because I get to EAT at them! There was a good Nov-ice/Tech class early in the year that I didn't get to eat at but I remember that because K2QR (teacher Dick) dropped his eraser so many times.

The repeater had a refurbish at Kendecom and seems to have settled into an easy to use phone patch system. All the "how to" info was published in the newsletter so people don't have to squint at those little cards that go in your wallet.

I remember a few contest efforts at the Club Shack. I got to eat AND sleep!

I remember our January '95 meeting and thrashing out a dues increase - the first in many years. I got to eat nothing - can't forget being hungry!

I remember KB2HUZ getting stuck in the elevator at St. Paul's - same no eats meeting!

I remember a coffee break effort on I-81 Southbound. I got to eat but HAD to stay awake (it was real strong coffee!).

I remember a Dine-a-Mate drive. I am still getting to eat because of that one.

On the down side - I remember the passing of Harley Milks. I don't need to eat or be hungry to remember that. We all miss Harley.

Also on the down side - we didn't get to latch up the relationship with STARC (hamfest). Key people were unable to execute due to personal (read jobs/new house/new spouse) needs. We need to act fast on this one as MAY

is almost here if we want to execute with STARC Hamfest slot.

We also didn't get to rebuild the shack. I really wanted this one on a personal level but couldn't catch it along with all the other issues.

The good news here is that there is a few hundred \$\$ donated already for its rebuild along with a few hundred \$\$ worth of NEW materials ready to go.

That's a good lead in for 1996. Lots of things to do.

Hamfest(s), shack rebuild, fund raisers, fox hunts, contest, radio classes. But first we need to finish off 1995! Elections will occur at Morey's. Plus our Holiday Bash. As I type this there are 55 FIRM sign ups for the Buffet dinner and about an additional 15 or so people coming for the business portion of the evening. Please come and vote! Business meeting starts at 8pm. Nominations close at 8:30. We are woefully weak on candidates! No one at all for the two top slots of VP and Prez. I really hope I get a call soon from some courageous individuals ready to take the plunge! We do have at least one candidate for each board slot as well as unopposed Treasurer and Secretary candidates. Maybe more important than any of those is the NEWSLETTER editor slot! AA2MU (Hedy) has graciously consented to remain Publisher (Copy, Fold, Label, Stamp) but we need an Editor or there will not be a January Newsletter!

Time to wrap it up.

This is my last column as the President. I have about 150 club members to thank for putting up with me the last two years. I AM NOT going to write 150 call signs here! I would like to thank the Officers and Club Members for working with me and supporting the club. The club is FOR the members. I tried to remember that each time we made a decision. I enjoyed your support and will continue to return that support to the club thru other means as I leave office.

One final TNX - to AA2MU - for being my anchor thru the many times I came home from a late night 'behind the scenes' effort too wound up to sleep or just too tired period.

I wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday Season (and a new HT for XMAS).

73 de AA2EQ QRT

SWEEPSTAKES '95

On the third weekend in November we gathered at the W2OW site for the ARRL Sweepstakes phone contest. We personed the station for 28 of the 30 hours, overcame computer problems and poor band conditions to complete our best effort in several years.

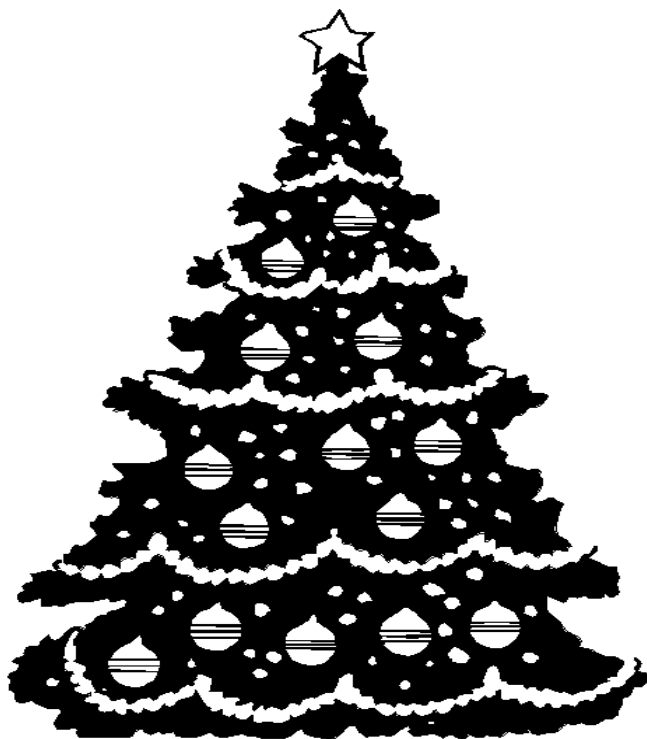
The only real Glitch was a computer that locked up every 10 minutes or so due to RF getting into the keyboard. WF2A to the rescue ... He brought another computer and typed in the 75 or so contacts that we had made in the first hour and a half.

Our totals were 590 contacts, 73 sections, 86,140 points. This total will be higher in QST because several other stations indicated that they were in the club competition and their scores will be added to W2OW's. Our best band was 80 followed by 15 and 40.

Operators were: AA2MU, WS2U, WF2A, N2MSB, AA2EQ, N2XYW, KB2V KR, KA2ZKR, WE2K, AND N2HR. N2XYW gets the yeoman duty award, he not only spent the night operating - he also came up in the afternoon to help out. Also N2HR has earned a Native American moniker. He will henceforth be known as "He Who Hears Signals That Aren't There".

The logs were printed and submitted about a week after the contest. The best outcome of the whole weekend is that we did this as a club and had a really good time. Maybe next year we can have an even bigger effort.

de WS2U



HOLIDAY PARTY

The party is on for December 20 at Morey's Restaurant, just North of BCC. Everyone should have received a phone call reminder, but if you didn't... no problem with showing up at the door.

The schedule for the evening is:

- 6:00 PM Open Bar
- 7:00 PM Buffet dinner

The business meeting times are:

- 8:00 PM Business meeting start
- 8:30 PM 1996 officer nominations close followed by election of 1996 club officers.

Remember, you do NOT need to attend the dinner in order to participate in the business meeting. We are planning to hold tightly to the 8:00 PM and 8:30 PM times.

Hope to see lots of people there!

STILL LOOKING.....

Hey! there are some great openings available in YOUR club.... There are still 1996 officer slots without any candidates - nothing important... just the President and Vice President. Also, someone needs to step forward to take charge of BARA FACTS.

I've held off with the editorializing - but I can't hold it any longer. There are over 125 people in OUR club. It seems to me that some of you would come forward.

Personally, I'm getting a bit worn out - not just with the club activities, three teenagers can be a drain too. There are also some important personal and work related issues that I just have to focus on for 1996.

I'm sure that many of you have these same kind of draws on your time. But somewhere out there, someone or two or three or four people have the time and energy it takes to grab on to these important tasks.

Well, here's wishing you all the best for the holidays and for a happy and healthy 1996. And for those that do come forward to lead the club - THANKS!

73 and happy DX WF2A