

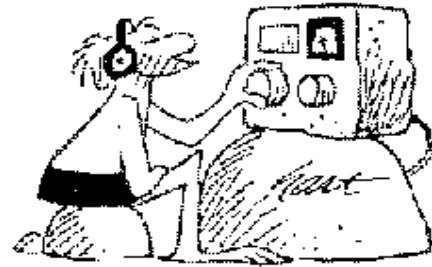


Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 853

Binghamton, NY 13902

Established 1919



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W2OW Fred W. Porterfield Memorial Station

W2OW Repeater 147.39/.99

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

I would like to thank Joe, N2XYR and company for an absolutely great program last month. I had tons of positive comments about it. I think Joe made it look easy enough so that even I might try and build an antenna or power supply. I would also like to thank the Ladies of the Church for being so gracious under pressure and getting us permission to use the sanctuary area of the church after our little schedule mix-up.

For those of you who didn't make the meeting - when we started arriving at the church we found the tables downstairs all set for a fancy Din-Din with lots of hungry looking Ladies around! We ended up in the Ordnung room. It was a little COZY but it made for a great meeting. You could actually hear everyone talking easily and everyone was close enough for Joe to see the puzzled look on their faces when he started explaining how to homebrew things!

We also had a great chat about the possibility of two hamfest and the STARC absorption by BARA - no decisions were made - we just got a nice smattering of views and thoughts from the club members to stir some thinking for the future.

This leads me to a correction - last news letter I mentioned that our gang had been "voted in". Not so! I spoke with Dick, KB2LDY and he assures me it hasn't happened yet. I have asked Dick to present at our next meeting on the topic and unless he has to be out of town he will help us see what's going on with the STARC/BARA relationship.

Another piece of news from the last meeting - elections are coming up in December. I would really like to see a full field of candidates. Please see Steve, N2MSB if you want your name on the ballots. Along those lines I mentioned at the meeting that I will not be running for a third year - so the President's slot is wide open. I have enjoyed

the experience but think its time to let someone else get their hand on the tiller. Hedy and I also bought a home in late August that I see keeping me too busy to fulfill the level of commitment needed of the President.

My thanks to all those who participated in the coffee break September 23rd/24th - we made about \$270 profit and kept a lot of drivers more alert thru VERY strong caffeine injections! If you weren't there you missed out on some great weather and a lot of fun.

On to new news - The club shack will be closed the weekend of October 21st/22nd. Its rebuild time! If you are interested in helping, please give me a call so we can get an efficient crew plan layed out. Thats much better than everyone showing up randomly. If you can't show up to help but can contribute a few bucks - see our treasurer. He will earmark the dollars you give him for that project. We are putting in new windows, doors, siding and who knows what else. This is all dependent upon the weather! Give me a call at 748-4387 if you want to help out.

The goal for the shack is to get it fixed up before the snow flies and HF contest season kicks in. A note about contest season - Bob WS2U and Frank N2HR are leading a serious SWEEPSTAKES contest effort to kick off the Fall HF contesting. We intend to WIN. This doesn't mean we aren't out to have fun - it means we are after operator schedules and commitments for specific time slots so we can keep the rigs on the air with AWAKE/ALERT operators. New hams and ANY license class are welcome and will be paired with more experienced operators to assure maximum fun and a maximum score. Signups for Sweepstakes will be at both the October and November meeting.

Thats it for this month - see you at the October 18th meeting at 7:30PM. 73, de AA2EQ

## COFFEE BREAK - THANKS!

50 gallons of coffee, a little fog, some wonderful sunshine, some QSOs on HF and VHF - all added up to over \$270 for the BARA treasury!

Thanks go to AA2EQ for organizing, WB3IOU for getting the permits, N2QEW and N2YZI for generators, N2LZM for tables and a huge coffee pot, N2MSB for his truck, and to AA2MU, N2YOW, KA2CNG, WB2SGS, W2OYT, N2SOY and NK2H for staffing the tables.

We had a bit of a scare on Saturday morning - with 10 or 12 dozen donuts on hand, two overflowing school buses full of football team, band and cheerleaders stopped in the rest area... Luckily, we spotted them before they spotted the donuts!

Thanks to all who helped make the coffee break a real success. de WF2A

## 1996 CLUB OFFICERS

The 1996 Officer slate will be elected at the December general meeting. I thought I'd take a few lines and describe the general role and responsibilities of each of the officer positions.

First, the qualifications... to hold office the person must be a full member of the club - this means a licensed amateur, and a member in good standing (i.e. dues are current!).

A second qualification - the prospective officer should be prepared to WORK! In addition to our monthly general meetings, there are monthly board meetings and frequently officers are involved in various committees also.

The term of all club officers is one year, from January 1 through December 31. An officer may succeed him or herself an unlimited number of terms.

**PRESIDENT:** Responsibilities of the President include: presiding over monthly general meetings and board meetings; performs as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors; general planning; setting the goals for the club.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Serves in the capacity of President in the event of the absence or unavailability of the president; responsible for planning general meeting presentation agenda.

**SECRETARY:** Keeps the minutes of all meetings; processes membership applications; handles the general correspondence of the club.

**TREASURER:** Handles the money!!

**DIRECTORS:** There are four Directors. The Directors approve or disapprove general expenditure recommen-

dations for presentation to the general membership. These folks are the main 'think tank' of the club, they provide direction and goals, recommend committees and committee members. In general, the officers of the club work as a team to lead the club.

These 'jobs' can take a lot of time - and most importantly anyone thinking about becoming an officer should be ready to commit to the club that they will spend the time required!

Contact Steve N2MSB if you have any questions or are interested in participating as an officer.

## LICENSE RENEWAL NOTIFICATION

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT  
September 22, 1995

The FCC has begun mailing notices of upcoming amateur license expirations. Those amateurs whose licenses would expire in December 1995 are being sent, by First Class Mail, a computer-generated Form 610-R "short form."

The Commission's Gettysburg facility expects to mail more than 5000 such notices this week, covering expirations from December 1 to December 20, 1995.

The new Form 610-R may be signed, dated, and returned to the FCC to renew the license, provided that no changes (such as address) are needed. It will be permissible to correct misspelled words. For other changes along with renewal, it will be necessary to file a regular FCC Form 610.

For some time the ARRL has been sending license expiration notices as a free membership service. That service will be discontinued once the new FCC program is established.

There is no monetary fee for an amateur license renewal.

Editor's note: I have heard (not seen first hand) that another large club, not the ARRL, was sending out renewal reminders AND asking for \$5 or \$10... There is NO FEE for renewing your license! de WF2A

## HT SAVES HAM'S LIFE

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT  
September 28, 1995

Amateur Radio has been credited with saving the life of a shooting victim.

On Monday, September 25, 40-year old Rory Clark, KD6RKL, of Citrus Heights, a Sacramento suburb, was shot while standing at a bank automatic teller machine. Using his hand-held transceiver, he called for help on a local repeater. The repeater owner and operator, Chris Huber, N6ICW, was listening and autopatched the call to 911, according to ARRL Sacramento Valley Public Information Officer John Arnot, KD6SSZ.

Huber helped Clark in passing information to the "911" operator about his location, condition, and suspects. This assistance, and the ability to contact a listening ham operator on the spot "saved Rory's life," in the words of local authorities.

The story was covered by all three television network affiliate stations, which focused not only on the crime and victim, but also on Clark's ability to call for help with his hand-held.

Huber was interviewed by two of the three TV stations. One of the TV stations interviewed a sales clerk at the local Amateur Radio retail outlet, The Radio Place, about the positive aspects of ham radio. The taped conversation between Clark, Huber, and the "911" operator was played on the news broadcasts.

Local hams rushed to his and his family's assistance, and continue to be of support, Arnot said. Among them was Jim Rosima, KD6SSW, who took Clark's family to the hospital after the incident.

Editor's note: Mr. Clark was released from the hospital October 4, 1995 and is doing well. He noted he's happy to be back to home cooking and to be able to use his radios again!! de WF2A

## THE FUNETIC ALFABET

In our day to day communications, many abbreviations are used. Sometimes, these abbreviations must be said to someone else. The letters B, C, D, E, G, P, T, V and Z and the number 3 all sound quite alike. The letters A and K and the number 8 all sound alike, too.

But the standard Phoenetic Alphabets are out of date. In one, the word for 'F' is 'Foxtrot'. No one even knows how to do the Foxtrot any more and the listener might think you were asking for this dance, which is silly as there is no music playing.

With all that in mind, the following updated alphabet is submitted for your approval. When there is more than one choice, select the word which most clearly communicates the correct letter.

**A** as in aisle aye(I)  
**B** as in bilharziasis bohemian bee  
**C** as in czar (zar) cue  
**D** as in djin (gin) doublespeak double-ewe  
**E** as in eurythmia euphony ewe(U) eye(I)  
**F** as in flocks flatulent  
**G** as in gnome gin gee  
**H** as in honor  
**I** as in ignimbrite I(I) ideogramatically  
**J** as in junta (hunta) jay  
**K** as in knobkerrie  
**L** as in llama (yama) lederhosen lanuginous labyrinthodont  
**M** as in mnemonic  
**N** as in nematode  
**O** as in oedipal oh  
**P** as in phlox (flocks) pneumatic pea  
**Q** as in quiche queue  
**R** as in ratiocination rest (see wrest)  
**S** as in see  
**T** as in tsar (zar) tee  
**U** as in umiak (oomiak) utilitarianism uncommunicative  
**V** as in valetudinarianism vee  
**W** as in wrest(rest) why(this list)  
**X** as in xylophone  
**Y** as in you(U) yew(U)  
**Z** as in zwieback(swyback)

With this new list, a STEP becomes SEE - TSAR - EWE - PHLOX. And a CAT would be spoken phoenetically: CZAR - AISLE - TSAR.

There now, isn't that a great help. Please use the words in this list whenever you must communicate letters on the airwaves. Your rate of communication is sure to climb and all will appreciate the higher

(Sorry about this - YOUR news item should have been here instead of this filler)