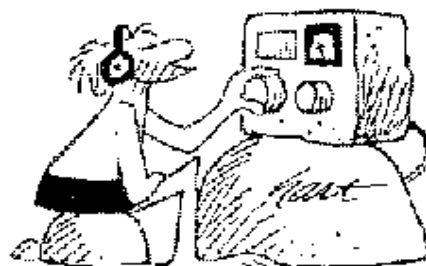


BARA FACTS



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

Check out BARA on the web!

<http://www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/bara/>

Are you helping out with the hamfest??

TALK-UP THE BARA HAMFEST !!

May 6, 2000

Marvin Park Owego, NY

PRESIDENTS CORNER

EMPIRE STATE GAMES NEED US - In late July and early August the New York State Empire State Games are to be held in Binghamton. There exists an enormous communication void to be filled. Vivian Douglas, WA2PUU, who has been the New York State Empire State Games Communications Coordinator for the last 31 years estimates that as many as one hundred (that's correct, 100) amateur radio operators may be required.

Why so many? Because of the widespread geographical locations of the venues, the week long schedule of daily events from 7 AM to 11 PM. This is not a one or two hour engagement. Ideally, a full shift commitment of time would be desired. As I understand it, the intended action is that a HAM will be assigned as a 'shadow' to each venue manager and to other select event management key personnel. HT, earphone operation will be the order of the day. Spare batteries will be a must. Relay stations (possible mobile) may be required to get from the venue to the control point.

Where are the venues? Don't know specifically. No formal schedule yet available. But I can guess with some certainty that Cayuga Lake, Broome County Sportsmen Association (Foley Rd , W. Windsor), SUNY Binghamton various sites on campus will be on the list, to name a few. HAMS must reregister (weeks ahead of the event) in order to get appropriate identification to assure access and apparel (the 'green shirts' are the communicators).

So, keep your ears and eyes open for Empire State Game details as they become available. Clear your calendar for the last week in July and the first week in August. Possibly pick your sport, pick your venue. No local coordinator has yet been identified (volunteer).

When this does happen please step up and get your call sign on the roster. This is not a BARA or a SVARA or a ARES or a RACES event. This is an AMATEUR RADIO public service event requiring the participation of club members and non members over a wide area of the Southern Tier. So talk it up with those 'quite' HAMS. This is the closest thing we have had to a 'communications emergency' in the last fifteen years. Are we ready? Are you ready?

Wb2ghh@arrl.net

SAFETY FIRST

By now some of you may have heard of a local amateur's sad experience a week ago while doing some antenna work. A fall resulting in a broken leg in three places requiring insertion of pins and all that good stuff.

Just think, never more a speedy entry through airport security. A lucky person you might say. A fall doing antenna work could have been far worse. Why bring this up? Ah, spring, the time to climb, the time to prune, the time to make ready for those events in June. But alas, he fell not far. He fell from a height of 8 Mason jars. A six foot ladder, a three foot step into space was all that was required to get this red face. Oh the hurt.

I should not jest. I must be EXTRA careful - for he might score my next attempt at acquiring more. How to end this blabber I do not know except to say - BE CAREFUL OUT THERE YOU NEVER KNOW. Prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

WB2GHH

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

The April general meeting will be the last get-together for the general membership before the Owego Hamfest. Plans are getting finalized, but there is always room for more helpers!

We are in need of folks to help with setup (Friday afternoon, May 5 at the park) and cleanup (May 6 after the 'fest).

The June general meeting will feature "Kids Night." There will be displays, demos, maybe a video. Bring your kids, your neighbor's kids, etc.

There will likely be another hamfest meetnig or two between now (April 14) and the hamfest. Keep tuned to the .13/.73 repeater.

CONGRATS TO KB2YEN

Jack has been appointed Broome County Emergency Coordinator. Jack will be presenting an overview of his duties and his involvement with the Amrican Red Cross at the April meeting. Stop in and say hello!

FIELD DAY PLANS!

Time is getting short - almost June and time for Field Day. This year we are going back to Susquehanna (Oakland actually). About 10 years ago we had Field Day at my family's farm and had a great time. There are 85 acres, a pond, a stream (unless it dries up), woods, and plenty of room for camping.

Bring the kids, the dog, your in-laws and we will put them on the radio, go for some hikes, and generally have a good outdoor family weekend.....

Bob WS2U

Editor's note: Field Day is always the last full weekend (of rain) in June – that's June 24/25 by my Y2K calendar.

UPGRADE NEWS – TIME TO USE THE SHACK

I heard that the last session of the Endicott VE team on April 15 was a 'standing room only' affair – GREAT!!

Have you recently upgraded? Are you familiar with the club shack and the terrific capabilities we have up there? Contact any club officer if you have questions about the facility.

JACKETS, SWEATSHIRTS ??

Rick Melton, N3VKM is looking to determine interest in obtaining club jackets and/or sweatshirts. It has been quite a while since we got any of these. See Rick at the club meeting if you are interested.

LICENSE CLASS?

For the past 4 or 5 years the club has held a Novice / Tech licensing class in the Spring. With the recent li-cense restructure we decided to hold off until the dust has settled.

We would like to test the water to see if there is enough interest in an upgrade class for General or ???. We have no plans, no material, and most importantly... no students!

The plans and the materials are easy... we need to know if anybody out there is interested. Please see me at the club meeting, give me a call (748-5232) or drop an email (n2bc@stny.rr.com).

Let me know what you are interested in... General, Extra, code? Thanks! Bill N2BC

NEW FLICK COMING

Prizes Pledged in Frequency Promotion Competition (April 14, 2000) –

An ICOM IC-746 HF-VHF transceiver is among the prizes pledged by manufacturers for the club that does the best job of promoting Amateur Radio at a local theater screening the movie Frequency. The ham radio-related sci-fi thriller debuts April 28.

N2ZOK, SK

Wlad Hagelin, N2ZOK recently passed away. Wlad was a BARA member 73 Wlad