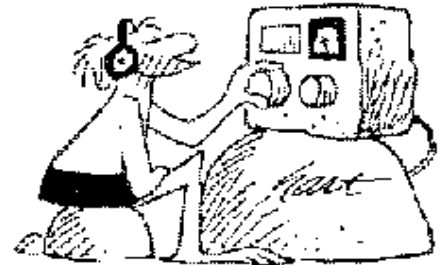


BARA FACTS



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/>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We all missed the Y2K bug and it is reported that at least some of us missed the FLU bug. That's good. I bet many of us missed the opening on 6 meters in January. That's bad. Anyone have any good reports or contacts during the January VHF contest? Other contests? Hopefully you'll find some of the past and future radio-active events elsewhere in this newsletter.

Most of us have gotten over the initial trauma resulting from the FCC's new requirements for upgrade that will take effect in April. Some, after having tossed off the shackle of CW in excess of 5WPM, have presented themselves to the VEs. In GENERAL, effort was applied to ADVANCE and in some cases a little EXTRA effort was needed. For all who have already presented themselves to the VEs, regardless of the outcome, you're to be congratulated.

Keep trying.

Our year 2000 HAMFEST planning is off to a good start. Hedy AA2MU is the task master this year and is cracking the whip to get us all focused. As most of you know (or should know) this event just does not happen. At least sixty (60) tasks must be planned and executed in a specific sequence if MAY 6 is to be a success. As always, your help - in addition to your presence on May 6 - is requested. Can you spare a few hours NOW and a two hour period on May 6? YOUR help will certainly be a relief for the FEW that have already offered their services. Let Hedy or Paul know of your availability at the next General Membership meeting on Wednesday, February 16th.

73 GHH

HAMFEST UPDATE

Things are moving along for our 2000 Hamfest. The Village of Owego has us penciled in for the Fairgrounds for May 6th. The 4H Club has approved the use of the building. The VE's are lined up to give tests and process applications for upgrades. Flyers have been delivered to a few Hamfests and we are beginning to contact vendors about attending.

In order to make this Hamfest a success we need people to commit 2-3 hours of time on the day of the Hamfest. Please take a look at your calendar now and mark it off as Hamfest day and block out some time to help. If everyone chips in to help a few hours either the day before for set up, during the Hamfest or after to help clean up it will allow everyone to spend some time enjoying the day. Remember if we don't run the Hamfest we will need to find other ways to fund club activities or else raise the dues.

First we need help on Friday afternoon to set up and organize the tables in the 4H Building. We need ticket taker for opening the gate and to relieve the 1st and hopefully the second shift. People are needed to run the BARA table and sell 50-50 tickets. We need a few people who can do talk in on the Owego repeater.

We also need to obtain a PA system, set it up and have some to do announcements. One person doesn't need to do it all. If you can help with any part of the PA system speak up because without one it will be hard to raffle off door prizes and keep things running.

Also if you are planning to go to any Hamfests before for ours in May, please contact me or Bob Mess about obtaining some flyers to take with you.

If you can help out please either call me at 748-4387 or see me at the club meeting.

'73 de AA2MU Hedy

NEW QUESTION POOLS AVAILABLE

Newington CT February 9, 2000

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators Question Pool Committee has released revised Amateur Radio examination question pools into the public domain. The revised questions, covering the new Elements 2, 3 and 4 that become effective April 15, 2000, now are available on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org>.

The QPC anticipates that the Element 4 question pool will remain valid until June 30, 2002, the Element 3 question pool until June 30, 2003, and the Element 3 question pool until June 30, 2004.

QPC Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, says the five-digit numbering system used in past question pools continues to be used in the new question pools. Graphics have been integrated. Minor revisions still are possible.

Current Novice, Technician, Advanced and Amateur Extra graphic sheets remain available and valid. Examinations for the new Elements 2 and 3 will contain 35 questions; examinations for the new Element 4 contain 50 questions.

FORD DRAKE WA2ZSC NAMED PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Jack Connors, WB2GHH, BARA President, has announced the appointment of Ford Drake, WA2ZSC as BARA's Public Service Coordinator. Ford is known as "Mr. Public Service" in the Southern Tier and will bring valuable input to the members of BARA. Thanks Ford!

NEW MEMBER DRIVE

Enclosed in the newsletter this month is a new member application. Find a ham friend and twist an arm or two!

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Join us at the February general meeting – Paul Slocum, N2NCB, will present "The National Traffic System" and a video tape from the ARRL.

HAM RADIO MOVIES

Pileup On The Orient Express

Gone With The Wind -- A Yagi Story

Dxpedition To Skull Island By K1NG/KØNG

Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Kid

The Maltese Falklands

To Live and Let Diode -- ØØ73

CasaBlanker

Silence Of The Hams - Starring Rachel Squelch

M1SH MASH -- With RF Burns

Gone With The Windom -- The Sequel

Nightmare On Elmer Street -- With JA1SON

VERTICLE!! Directed By Alfred Switchbox

