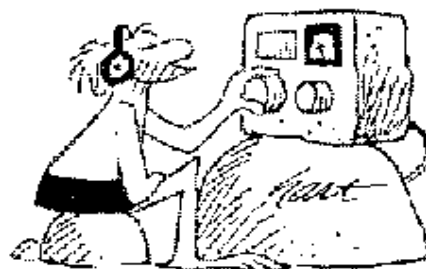


# **BARA** FACTS



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**

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## **PRESIDENTS CORNER DE WB2GHH**

(Liverpool) - Thought I needed a different perspective for this month's article so I relocated up north for a few days. I'm not up here on a LARC. My POP-POP services were requested for a few days. I had a heck of a time wrestling the keyboard from my 8 year old grand daughter. Of course I had to get her back to the operating chair to check me out on this rig. No SOP was available.

I forgot to pack my HAM crystal ball so I have to use my back up 1N34 or maybe it's the improved version, a 1N34A. Regardless, the whisker is pointing to a few happenings in the next few weeks that some of you may find interesting. First, you may want to do a check ride of the route to the Horsehead's HAMFEST on Sep 30<sup>th</sup> by attending the "Wings of Eagle" air show at Elmira airport on Sep 23-24. Tickets, for the air show, (a few bucks cheaper), may be available at the Wegman's ticket service area. Sorry, no coolers allowed into the air show. Hope to see some of youse guys and gals at both events. Get back early enuf and participate in the contest that weekend.

A date of importance is just around the corner. In fact many of us need to do some individual and group preparation in order to get the most out of this activity. What is it? It's the ARES SET (Simulated Emergency Test) On October 7, 2000. This year BARA will be participating by providing the club's executive aircraft for use during the SET. Repairs to the aircraft are almost complete following the unfortunate accident during SET a few years ago. Only the ELT (Emergency Locating Transmitter) has yet to be reprogrammed and checked out.

So what do you have to do? Well if you found the HT and spare batteries for the Empire State Games half the effort is completed. Now all you have to do is figure out what kind of DF (direction finding) antenna you might be able to cobble up and brush up on your dfing skills. How bout that second harmonic, close in techniques? Then again you may only be able to participate from the QTH.

Is that two meter beam zeroed in on mag north? Will you help those in the field by providing some 'headings'? What frequency might you and 'those' in the field use to coordinate you team's efforts.

Oh, by the way, my 1N34A whisker just tickled me and indicates that this year, the person who retrieves the !@#%&^\* (as N2LZM named it while stuck in the mud) will receive a valuable prize. So, get on your mark. Get SET. Go.

de WB2GHH

## **ESG WRAP UP**

Empire State Games 2000 - Amateur Radio Emergency Communications at its Finest in Western New York

Vivian Douglas WA2PUU, the state Amateur Radio communications coordinator, worked with Nancy Kirch KF1L, of Binghamton, the host city communication chairman, and Jack Smith KB2YEN, Broome county emergency coordinator to provide emergency communications for the Empire State Games held from July 27 through July 30, 2000 in Binghamton New York.

The K2TDV repeater 146.13/73 and the K2TDV repeater 146.295/895, which are linked together, were used to cover the Empire State Games for the duration of the event.

There were 120 hams involved in the operation at 41 venues in Broome, Cortland, Tioga and Tompkins counties in Western New York. One challenge for this year's Empire State Games hosted by Binghamton was handling the venues located in the Cortland (swimming) and the Ithaca (sailing) areas.

All participants were major contributors to the event, however a special thanks goes to Vivian WA2PUU, Jack KB2YEN, Nancy KF1L, Andy KB2LUV, Howie N2VJV, Nancy KA2HQF and Ford AB2HS for their efforts.

This year the fewest number of medical and emergency calls were reported. This was attributed to the cool summer we have had, and the few thunderstorms that passed through did not create any unexpected problems.

Nancy Kirch KF1L was responsible for base station setup and signing up local operators to cover the event's locations. There were 120 hams involved in the operation. KB2YEN did yeoman duty helping with recruiting, his organization during the event and filling in on short notice in many areas.

The Empire State Games is held at a different site each year, since the games left Syracuse as their permanent location. Each year a few dedicated hams have traveled to each location, they are: Nancy Coe KA2HQB of Clay (since the early 1980s). Vivian Douglas WA2PUU of Syracuse and Jim Mozley W2BCH of Camillus, who I believe have both worked every year. For Jim, this year makes a total of 32 games, 20 summer games and 12 winter games. Thank you Vivian and Jim ! Other traveling operators this year (out of some 34) were Pete Chapman NA2A of Rome, Harold "Bud" Hesler KF2EY of Lee Center. From Syracuse; Bob Edgett WB2CBC, April Ashby KA2CUN, Ed Swiatlowski WA2URK, and John Santelli N2YDU and from Buffalo Bob Kerns K2VNM. The Rochester area was represented by Roger and Ruth Harmaart WB2BWQ and N2MXN, Jon Dickason N2JAC, Ken Harnaart N2NXB, Bob Carlson KA2BNL (Canandaigua), Bob Verburg N3GDM (Walworth), Chuck Biss WB2KIO (Williamson), Bob KD2IM and Paula Braskett N2FDA from Freeville.

An estimated 950 man-hours were volunteered by the Amateur Radio communication group at an estimated labor cost of \$9,500. No, the hams were not paid for their services, this is an estimate of what it would have cost the event organizers, if they had to pay for the free volunteer service that they received. A good deal at a rate \$10 per hour. Us Amateur Radio operators are worth more than that ! Including the cost of equipment, the estimated cost of the free volunteer services provided was \$49,500.

In addition to those mentioned above the following contributed to the Empire State Games emergency communications effort.

Special arrangements were made by Andy Slaugh KB2LUV, for the Cortland site. Bob Brackett KD2IM and Howie Claflin Jr N2VJV covered the crossband operations setup from Ithaca. Operators covering those sites were Malcolm Heath KC2EOV, Jeff Sweet KC2EOT, Merle Hopkins WW2X, Chris Perrine KB2FAF, Ruth Kredell N2PXB, Elmer Fairbank N2OK, and Andy Slaugh KB2LUV.

At the rowing venue at Dorchester Park near Whitney Point were Richard Bear, WA2COA, Ray Heath KC2GIL, and John Wright KC2FLO. Covering the ice hockey events at the Broome County Arena and Polar Cap Ice Rink were John Sternberg W2OYT, Diane Carr N2SRE, Hedy Clothier AA2MU, Jacqueline Blakeslee KB2GFG, Kay Gruss N2UMU, Robert Garrett NU2P, Dave VanSlooten WB2ALY, Ed Feder N2RWH and Dorothy K2YEH and Schuyler Madison KC2DYR.

At Mid-Way Bowling Lanes were Gay Canough KB2OXA, Marie Rigby K2AOV, Don Gottschall KB2COS, and John Santelli N2YDU. At basketball, which ran 12 hours a day at the Binghamton High School and the Binghamton University's East Gym, were the following hams: Bob Mess WS2U, Mark Sweet KC2AVX, Rob McCabe KC2DSS, Charles Larrabee KC2LCA, Bill Jaker WB8RAE, Tom Tefft W2TRT, Steve Hanzlik K2CDJ, Victor Fiori N2LZM, Don Kunkel N2NON, Robert Cole N2VJO, Chas Shell N2JRI, Stephen Baums K2AAB, Leon Decker KB2CKK, Kevin Stickle WN2CVP, Duncan Pickens KG2PX, Frank Scoblick N2HR, and Carl Franck KB2K.

Off-site hams reporting on the weather conditions during the short storms were Jerry Babcock KG2FY, Joe Brown KB2AVB, Mark Ritter KA2VDY, Karl Coddington AB2JO, Gerald Smith WA2QEL, Elwyn Erway K2TAE, Charles Lefevre Jr N2ODG, Deborah Apalenek N2LZN, William Osier NK2H, Lee Rogers KC2FWT, Mathew Cole KC2FDC, John Sarpolis N2SOY, Don Buffington AE3K, Mel Snitchler WE2K, Tom Siglin WA2LTD, and Lynn Finch W2MSJ.

Tom Apalenek WA2IVD, Steven Darrow N2SFV, were at the masters track location. Jack Connors WB2GHH, Peter Kofira KB2JZG, Bill Shook K2OH and Duane Cheney WB2RLI enjoyed the shooting venues. Dick Farman K2QR and Erie Farman N2JYA worked several cycling events.

Mike Carr KF2MH, Sharon Drake N2WGM, Bob Weybrecht N2QEW, Dave Morford KB2TTT and Dave Thompson N3AAJ were at the waterpolo events held in Owego.

At the archery range were Don Pierce AB2HT, Ford Drake AB2HS and Howard Dingman AA2CO.

Steve Campbell WA2WVU and Duane Vosburg WA2MKL and Joe Long WA2EJT were at the fencing competition. Martin Stratton KC2CWN and Roger Morse KC2FWS covered the judo venue.

Richard Dupree NN2K, Dorothy Hanzlik K2YEH and Richard Alcott N2MGM enjoyed their ice hockey assignments.

Various sports were covered by Mel Wightman KB2FLU, Jim White KF2WJ, Sally Crow KC2CCE, Albert Rood N2RGP, Richard Crow N2SPI, Dick Mead K2UNY, Wendy Slaugh KB2NCW, Michael Levie W2IQO and Alan Kline KB2VFC. Marvin Shoemaker N2ZMN, Douglas Herzig K2ALE, Jim Brewster KB2OLV and Curt Lawson N2NFS chalked up time at the volleyball courts. Barb Intrieri N2ZQY and Matt Intrieri K2DTQ signed in from masters swim in Owego.

Larry Schrader W2ESG on occasion covered double duty driving Medical Mobile No.3

Nathan Franck KC2GLK, 12 years old, and Blake McCabe KC2GQX, 10 years old, were the youngest working at the Empire State Games and William McCabe W2ZHZ, at 81 years young was one of our oldest.

Vivian WA2PUU would like to thank Nancy Kirch KF1L and Jack Smith KB2YEN for their help in recruiting and being available during games week, to Jerry Adams K2TDV for his antenna experience, and Joyce Yakamavich WB7TXO for helping with scheduling.

Thank you to all who participated, your volunteer efforts are what makes the local communities in which you live great places to work, live and visit. It is people like you who make New York a great state and America a great country. You have represented Amateur Radio in fine style, thank you for being there !

From W2LC, SM WNY section ARRL

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## LAST CALL FOR HATS & JACKETS

Hats and Jackets with the club logo and your call/name are still available. The order will be finalized at the September meeting. Jackets are \$40 (\$43 for us big folk), hats are \$5.

If you want a hat or a jacket, be at the September meeting!

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## SHACK SECURITY

It has been reported that the club shack was found unlocked. Apparently whoever was up there must have made a mad dash to the post office to send off a QSL for that new country. We have had the locks dusted for fingerprints and are performing DNA tests on the donut crumbs!

Seriously, please be sure that you secure the shack when you are finished. Secure means: all antennas disconnected, main circuit breaker off, both door locks in place with their combinations scrambled or set to 0000.

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## SET 2000

Y2K's version of the Simulated Emergency Test will be **October 7<sup>th</sup>**. SET-master is KB2YEN. Jack will likely get some assistance from "Mr. Sneaky", WB2GHH.

I understand there will be message prepared completely in Latin and addressed to some guy named Jones in Llanfairpwllgwyngyll, Wales (look it up, that's a real place!).

I am also preparing a suitable transmitter for Fox Hunt duty on the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

As is likely to happen in 'real life', the events will kick off on our local repeaters, you will have to guess which.

There will be prizes awarded in (at least) the following categories:

- Phonetics-by-the-book
- First to the Fox
- Most miles logged finding the Fox
- Most river mud collected on (or in) a 1976 AMC Pacer de N2BC

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING PROGRAM

AA2EQ is going to pass along some of his DXing antenna secrets at the September meeting. Ron is apparently going to dispell the rumor that using a female voice is the key to snappy callbacks when chasing the rare ones.

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## PICNIC A SUCCESS

A giant tip-o-the-hat to N2RWK and N2MGM for spending the evening working the grill instead of the radio. Ron and Rich came thru again – THANKS!

A thanks go out to Hedy AA2MU for organizing things. And thanks go to all the folks who attended and brought along goodies.

Our little micro-fest prior to the picnic was quite successful.

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## CONTEST SEASON

Don't forget that Fall is the beginning of the Contest Season. We are hoping to try to 'snag' some new blood this year (YOU!). The main goal is to have some fun, come to the September meeting and get on the team!