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BARA Facts

Newsletter of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

October 2006

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

The President's Corner

I just finished raking my leaves back into the woods. I'm sure they will be recycled into new leaves next Spring. In addition to leaves, Fall brings renewed excitement on the ham bands. There are contests of one sort or another almost every weekend. As winter settles in, many of us spend more time in front of the radio which also increases the activity.

The club pledge drive is over \$10K right now, very impressive. I hope we can make our goal early in 2007.

Meeting attendance seems to be down a bit. Why don't YOU come to a meeting? Let your officers know.

The next major club event will be at the November meeting when we elect officers for 2007. I hope to announce a full slate of candidates in next month's BARA FACTS. It is very important to maintain our officer structure (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, four Directors). The club Constitution and Bylaws describe the structure and are part of our incorporation. Our incorporation is key to maintaining our tax exempt status.

If you like or dislike the direction the club is headed, come to a meeting, come to a Board of Directors meeting (see the last page of BARA FACTS). Better yet, run for office. — 73, Bill N2BC

Emergency Communications

A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Congress approved the measure before adjourning for its

pre-election break. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law October 4.

Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the *21st Century Emergency Communications Act*. Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors — including communications service providers and media, hospitals, public utility services, emergency evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and non-governmental organizations.

The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment of "effective multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new legislation, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its Office of Emergency Communications. — *from the ARRL Letter for 5 October 2006*

'Nuff Said

It being a slow month in the world of Amateur Radio and there being nothing else of interest in the pile of

“unsolicited contributions” to the BARA Facts, we will close for now and save a page of print.

Remember Bill’s note on nominations and please consider becoming a part of the leadership of YOUR Radio Club — OUR BARA!

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 853

Binghamton, New York 13902

First Class

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Club Officers and Committees			
President	Bill Coleman	N2BC	748-5232
Vice President	Bob Handel	K2FU	693-4310
Secretary	Bob McCabe	KC2DSS	748-9808
Treasurer	Paul Slocum	N2NCB	687-2057
Directors	Steve Orzelek	N2MSB	775-0281
	Mel Snitchler	WE2K	723-9612
	Jack Connors	WB2GHH	724-8822
	Jim Lawson	KC2JED	797-1583
W2OW Trustee	Mel Snitchler	WE2K	723-9612
Newsletter	Ed Plesnar	KB2SCF	754-3810

BARA, The Binghamton Amateur Radio Association is an ARRL Affiliated Club

e-Mail Address: w2ow@arrl.net



Next General Meeting

7:30 PM, Wednesday, October 18th

Town of Binghamton Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, South of the Ross Park Entrance

Board Meeting

7:00 PM, Wednesday November 1st

Broome Community College Campus, Office of Emergency Services (West Side of Campus)

Exam Session

7:00 PM Monday, October 30th

Vestal Public Library, Route 434 Vestal

BARA Dues

\$18/year Single Member; \$27/year Family

DX Cluster

W2OW on 145.070 MHz with a Data Rate of 1,200 baud; questions to n2bc@stny.rr.com

Local Repeater Nets

146.73 MHz STAR Net (NTS Feeder) Every

Evening at 6:30 PM Local Time

146.82 MHz BRAT Net (Informal BARA) Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM Local Time