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# **BARA** Facts

Newsletter of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

## **November 2009**

Website: [w2ow.org](http://w2ow.org)

### **The President's Corner**

You may have noticed the lack of a newsletter the past few months. This is a regrettable circumstance that was bought about by a calamitous attempted transition from the previous editor (Ed, KB2SCF, who always did a marvelous job) to a person who was supposed to have replaced him, but wound up being incapable of taking on the task. As a result, BARA is currently left without a newsletter editor, and therefore, without a newsletter. I have taken it upon myself to get this newsletter out single-handedly because there are a number of important issues that need to be conveyed to the membership. I will not, however, be able to put out a regular newsletter – my 9-hour a day job, my second job as a musician by night, my serving as BARA President, and other community involvement leave me insufficient time to take on the task of newsletter editor as well. I have inquired among several people, none of whom is available for this task. I hope that someone reading this has the desire and capability (some level of computer literacy is required) to take on this task, and **save the BARA Facts!** If that person is you, please contact me ([allen@lutins.org](mailto:allen@lutins.org) / 729-4817).

### Elections

The November meeting, as always, is our election meeting. I have managed once again to cajole enough members into running so that we have a full slate. None of the seats are contested, but there is always room for write-ins if someone has a desire to help the club out (that includes the Presidency!). It is *imperative* that we get a decent

turnout that evening – if we do not get a quorum (10 members *in addition to* officers present) the elections cannot be held. If we are unable to properly install all the officers required by our constitution, we could

jeopardize our non-profit status, which would cost the club dearly. We have not had a quorum at the last few meetings, so please try your best to come out to the November meeting.

### Dues

At the last Board Meeting the dues structure was altered slightly. While dues will *not* be going up this year, we are requesting that dues be paid up by the January meeting each year. By moving the dues deadline from each member's personal calendar year to a consistent calendar date, we accomplish the following:

- (1) Members no longer need to rely on receiving a paper copy of the newsletter to remind them when their dues are to be paid; and
- (2) Budgeting planning and paperwork are rendered easier.

We hope that, by eliminating the need to check the newsletter label for one's dues deadline, we can encourage more people to switch to reading the electronic version of the newsletter, and save the club significant postage fees.

Your dues amount will, of course, be pro-rated this year. Since dues works out to \$1.50 a month (quite the bargain!), this January you will owe \$1.50 for each month since the last time you paid dues (for example, if you paid dues in May, you owe for the following 7 months, which is  $7 \times 1.50 = \$10.50$ ). In subsequent years you will owe a full year's dues by the January meeting date.

Hopefully this will not be perceived as a difficulty by anyone. If you have any concerns about this, or any other issue that ever arises at BARA, as

always I urge you to contact me – I'm always happy to talk to any member or prospective member about any aspect of BARA's functioning.

#### Holiday Dinner

In lieu of our December meeting, we will be hosting (as always) our annual BARA holiday dinner. This year's dinner, like last year's, will be held at The Spot diner. The Spot is fully handicap- accessible, and rather than having to choose between two dishes, guests may order anything they wish from the full regular menu. I will be there on December 16th, and hope to see you there as well!

## Errata

In my *President's Corner* I discussed the new dues structure adopted by the club, but I regret that my description of how people would “catch up” on their dues was erroneous. My description was based on dues being paid for a *previous* year, but of course we here at BARA pay our dues for the *following* year. I also forgot that there are two different rates (individual and family). So here's how it really works:

All members will now pay dues by the January meeting. This coming January, you will receive credit for the number of months you already paid forward. For individual members, that amounts to \$1.50 a month, and for family memberships that comes to \$2.25 a month.

Here's an example: If your individual dues are to be renewed this March, you receive credit for January and February ( $\$1.50 \times 2 \text{ months} = \$3.00$  credit), so you only owe \$15 for the year (\$18 individual membership - \$3.00 credit). Of course, if your dues are paid through December, you owe nothing this year!

I hope this isn't confusing, and my humble apologies for getting it utterly wrong in the newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this (or any other!) BARA policy, please feel free to contact me at 607-729-4817 / [kc2klc@lutins.org](mailto:kc2klc@lutins.org)

-allen lutins (KC2KLC)