

## **President's Corner**

### **November 2010**

The Binghamton Amateur Radio Association capped off another wonderful event last month when we sponsored the annual Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air up at our shack. Twenty persons attended that weekend, including 6 BARA members, 6 other adults, and 8 scouts from the Baden-Powell Council, Hiawatha District, Troop 212. Nine of the attendees were amateur radio operators, and some (including myself) camped out on the hill overnight with the scouts. Ray Terry (K1OW), one of the campers, gave a fine demonstration of EME ("moon bounce"), including an introduction to several high-tech aspects of ham radio, such as the use of digital modes, and internet applications for coordinating contacts. I coordinated the event (through co-worker scout leaders), and John Rudy provided food (thanks Pauline!).

BARA is about to engage in another annual event – yearly elections. This time around, I will not seek re-election. Those of you read my column know how busy I've been with my 9-hour a day job & second career as a musician. What you may not know is that I am also involved in numerous other local groups: For example, my wife and I volunteer at the Cranberry Coffeehouse (a local folk music venue) each month, and we also participate in events sponsored by PAST (the Preservation Association of the Southern Tier). After five years as a BARA Officer (2 years as Secretary and 3 years as President), I've decided to make time for other worthy regional causes. I am proud of what BARA has accomplished during my tenure as BARA President (including getting back the shack, reviving Field Day as an organized club activity, transitioning the newsletter to a new editor & initiating electronic distribution; and organizing Jamboree on the Air), and I trust that the local amateur radio community has benefited from my efforts. Although I won't be an officer next year, I'll still be working behind the scenes to further BARA's interests, primarily concentrating on having more programs at our general meetings (I think this is key to attracting and retaining members; who wants to go to a boring business meeting every month?!).

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