

BARA FACTS

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

February 2012



Left to Right: Tom Vroman - N2BGM & Vinnie Griggs - N1JPM Trying out the Yasue FT-897d that the club bought a couple months later during 2011 W2OW Field Day event on June 25. Photo taken by a of BARA Member (Sorry)

January's Regular Meeting

The January meeting of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc. was on Jan. 18th at 7:00 pm. Our President Brian Adee (K2DLB) is still not feeling up to par, so our Vice-President John Rudy (WB2FQZ) stepped in to fill in.

The meeting started at 7:08pm with the traditional introduction of everyone there. There were 18 members present and a visitor Tom Jenkins (N2YED) who came to see what the BARA Club did. John (WB2FQZ) informed the group that the minutes of December's regular meeting were in the BARA FACT newsletter, and some copies were on the table up front. He asked if anyone had any corrections or errors to point out. Not hearing any Ann Whyman (KB3UQC) made the motion to accept the secretary's minutes & Paul (N2NCB) seconded the motion. Not hearing any discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

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January's Meeting*

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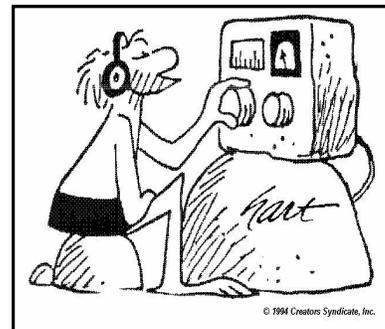
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BARA's Web Site Address:
www.w2ow.org



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January's Meeting

Then John (WB2FQZ) asked Paul Slocum (N2NCB) to give his report of the activities of the clubs treasurer. He basically said that some dues have come in and that he had paid for the lease and electricity for the shack. The club still had money and there were still members that have not paid their dues for this year still. When he was finished Tom Vroman (N2BGM) made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. It was seconded by Jerry Heller (KA2WQR) and then it was voted on and passed.

John (WB2FQZ) asked since we were talking about finances of the club, that this would be a good time to bring up the Budget for 2012 that Paul (N2NCB) has (had, not has) prepared for the club and that the Board of Directors have (had, not have) approved at their last meeting. Paul (N2NCB) handed out a copy of the 2012 Budget for BARA. He went through the hand-out and explained where (where not were) the numbers came from. Not hearing any questions Vinnie (N1JPM) made a motion to accept the 2012 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Warren (KC2NRG). John (WB2FQZ) called for the vote and it passed with no objections.

Ann (KC3UQC) voiced her concern with continuing cost of having the W2OW shack. It takes a lot of money out of our treasury and is anyone using it. Vinnie (N1JPM) said that he is up their (there, not their) quite a bit, as well as a few others. The use of the shack varies each year. It was suggested that we should have a sign-up sheet and ask all members to sign in so we can keep track of how much it is used.

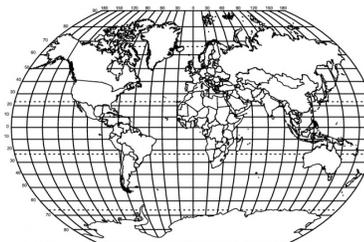
Under Public Services, Ford (AB2HS) said that on May 5 – 6, 2012 there is a Bridge Marathon Run and on Sunday there is a MS Walk. So he will be looking for people to help with communication for those two events.

With no other business to be brought up, Paul (N2NCB) made the motion to adjourn the meeting. George (N2GSS) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



**Binghamton
Amateur Radio Association**

is looking for someone to take over doing the newsletter. Vinnie Griggs (N1JPM) has told the Board of Directors that he is willing to put out the newsletter until the HAMFEST is over. So April BARA FACTS will be the last one that he will do.



BARA Board of Director's Meeting

The Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc., Board of Directors meeting was held on February 1st at the Broome County Emergency Service building at 7:00 pm. President Brian Adee (K2DLB) called the meeting together at 7:05 and asked if anyone had any corrections or comments of the Secretary's report as published in the BARA Fact. Not hearing any Paul Slocum (N2NCB) made the motion to accept the January 4, 2011 Secretary's report as printed. Tom (N2BGM) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Paul (N2NCB) then gave the Treasurer's report and explained the different items in his report. Vinnie (N1JPM) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Tom (N2BGM) seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Brian (K2DLB) asked if anyone had been up to the W2OW shack, and both John (WB2FQZ) and Vinnie (N1JPM) had not.

That led to the following committee – HAMFEST: John (WB2FQZ) brought up that at the next regular meeting, we need to make up a list of people that are willing to work and what they want to do. Ford (AB2HS) ran down a list of vendors that have agreed to come to the HAMFEST and some thoughts about parking arrangements. He also went through the different jobs that need to be done and what he thought would be a possible way of having the vendors coming to set up at different times, but it's still up in the air when we can get into the hall. Vinnie (N1JPM) has made the HAMFEST flyers and has been working on the HAMFEST tickets. Ford (AB2HS) asked Warren (KC2NGR) if he had the signs, and he said that they need to be touched

up with some paint. John (WB2FQZ) said he and Andy (KC2QYA) would touch them up. Warren (KC2NGR) said he would bring them to the regular meeting. Food for the HAMFEST is going to be done by the auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus. We need to get hold of Jack (WB2GHH) to see when we can meet with the Hall manager to sign the contract and pay for it then. Plus we must find out what needs to be done about insurance. The question was raised about prizes, and it was agreed upon doing the same as last year. Vinnie (N1JPM) has made out the paperwork and has received a confirmation about ARRL's help to sponsor the event. John (WB2FQZ) spoke about having something made up for a local paper in Conklin.

Brian (K2DLB) asked Ford if he had anything to report about Public Relations, Ford (AB2HS) said that on May 5 – 6, 2012, there is a Bridge Marathon Run (comma here, not after Sunday) and on Sunday, there is a MS Walk. So he will be looking for people to help with communication for those two events.

There was no old business to be brought up but under new business Vinnie (N1JPM) told the board that he was resigning from doing the BARA FACTS after the publishing of the April issue. He said that he would do it until the HAMFEST took place. Brian (K2DLB) asked if any of the board members knew of anyone that would agree to take it over, please let him know.

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Board of Directors Meeting

Stories of Omar, the Ham Hermit

Omar, the Ham Hermit Fixes his Rig

Continuing the clearly continuable adventures of Omar Doradius, W2UWU, the ham radio operator whose association with his fellow beings is almost exclusively through his radio, and whose relationship with his radios tends to be almost a form of human contact.

I need to fix something. It's not like a piece of equipment isn't working and you don't know what's gone wrong, so there's a lot of diagnostics till you find the part that's acting up and repair it. No, I mean to say I feel a deep down desire to put some misbehaving device on my workbench and make it work like new. Moments like this I wish some manufacturer would put out a kit that will go together with one or two components missing, for people like me who need to fix for fun.

So I'm scrounging through my shack trying to find something that broke and was tossed aside. There's the power supply that burned up when the transformer melted. No, nothing left there. I've got a few ceramic insulators that are chipped; a little dab of super glue will make them look like one piece again. But that's too simple for my needs.

I turn on my big rig, the one I built myself with no parts left over, and listen on 15 meters for some DX from South America. There's an entire continent of ham operators down there who always sound like they're driving their modulation too hard. I'll feel better if I can give them advice.

"SayKoo SayKoo SayKoo. Aquí llama CB7TY. ¡Cambio!" I hear Hosay in Cheelay 5-by-9 and grab the mic.

"Ahem!" Hosay understands English, but clearing my throat goes with tuning the transmitter. "CB7TY, this is W2UWU, Whiskey Two Uniform Whiskey Uniform." (Gotta do something about those phonetics; sounds like a drunken Army maneuver).

Suddenly the transceiver starts to vibrate: Dah-dit-dah-dit dah-di-di-dit dah-dah-di-di-dit..." It is converting the vox into Morse and transmitting CW on its own.

"W2UWU, this is CB7TY. Amigo, if you want to continue on CW let's go to 14,050."

"Okay, Hosay," I say into the microphone. But my transmitter says, "Da-dah-dah dah-dit-dah Dah-di-di-dit dah-dah-dah di-di-dit dit." Something's wrong. Something's wrong! At last I have something to fix!

"Stand by one, Hosay," and the transmitter somehow taps it out.

I check the mode switch. Since I installed it I should know how it works. The settings are clear: TEST / TUNE / LSB / USB / CW / HOT / COLD RINSE / AM / RTTY / DARK / LIGHT. It usually switches properly. I pop open the top panel and check the connections.

CB7TY has QSY'd to 14,050 and I hear him calling. He's got almost as good a fist as whatever it is keying my gray box. I clip a jumper onto the terminals from CW to USB and tap out a response. CB7TY de W2UWU... Then I hear a voice – my voice – issuing from the loudspeaker but originating from someplace in the near beyond, "CB7TW aquí llamando doble-oo dos..."

The rig translated my Morse into spoken Spanish and sent it back out onto a CW frequency. Something really is broken in there, and also a little illegal. What a great repair project for a winter's day, or a case for some lawyer. I grab the mic.

"Hasta luego, Hosay. I can't talk now. I mean, di-di-di-dit di-dah di-di-dit..."

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Note: 2 meter repeater change

The Auburn 147.000 repeater is now a positive input repeater. It used to be a 146.400 in 147.00 out. It is now a 147.600 in 147.00 out. The PL remains at 71.9. It is still linked with the 147.225 in Cortland.



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Johnson City, NY

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**Binghamton
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
(BARA)
is an ARRL affiliated Club**



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Officers:

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Tom Vroman	N2BGM	(607) 669-4874 tvroman@ix.netcom.com
Andy Rudy	KC2QYA	(607) 669-4380 arudy@stny.rr.com

Up Coming Event

February 8th, 2011 at 7:00 pm

SVARA Repeater Group Meeting

This is the local group that owns and maintains the local repeaters.

Broome County Emergency Service Building
153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive,
Binghamton, NY 13902

February 15th, 2011 at 7:00 pm

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Regular Meeting

Town of Binghamton Town Clerks Office
279 Park Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

February 27th, 2011 at 7:00 pm

Volunteer Examiners (VE) Testing

If you have studied to obtain your Amateur Radio license or would like to upgrade. There is a testing session on the

last Mondays of the month at:

Vestal Public Library
320 Vestal Parkway
Vestal, NY 13850

Contact: Bob Soltis - WA2VCS

wa2vcs@gmail.com or (607)754-7940

February 25, 2012 at 8 am to 2 pm

ARAST Winterfest

Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier

New York State National Guard Armory
128 Colonial Drive
Horseheads, NY 14845
Talk-In: 147.360+

March 7th, 2012 at 7:00 pm

BARA Board of Directors Meeting

Broome County Emergency Service Bldg.
153 Lt Vanwinkle Drive
Binghamton, NY 13902