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BARA

Facts

Newsletter of the Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

July 2008

Website: <http://w2ow.org> OR <http://www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/bara>

The President's Corner

Summer's here, and there's tons of amateur radio-related activities in which to participate. Field Day was held this past weekend, and I had a blast! It was my first time on HF since 1981, and I'm definitely going to get back up to the shack again this summer (don't yet own my own HF rig). Field Day proved its worth as an emergency preparedness exercise as we worked through the typical problems one encounters in such a situation. (Forgot the power supply? Use a car battery and jumper cables! Not getting any reception? Try swapping out antenna cables — the one you're using may have a bad connector!) We had a respectable amount of participation, and racked up around 500 contacts across three operating stations at the site. I originally said we would only be in it for the fun, and would avoid being too competitive, but my adrenaline really got pumping as west coast stations, sometimes half a dozen to a dozen in a row, jumped at the opportunity to QSO us on 20 meters (and to tell us how fine our less-than-100-watts signal was booming in on their end). I hope Mark (KC2SOQ) and Andrew (KC2QYA) didn't think I was getting too bossy as I shouted with excitement, "call them! get them! QRZ!" late into the night.

This month I will be attending the Wilkes-Barre MURGAS hamfest in Pennsylvania. I love hamfests because you will see things there you don't get to see anywhere else. My XYL even enjoys accompanying me to them once in a while; she loves seeing the old console radios, and she appreciates the artistic, aesthetic appeal of the big old vacuum tubes. I bought a Variac at an amazing price not too long ago, and recently put it to good use slowing down a fan that was too fast on the "low" setting, so that we could enjoy a very light breeze on us at the dinner table (no AC in our house).

Later this month the Empire State Games will be coming to the Souther Tier, and we hams will be providing vital emergency communications to this

prestigious event. The games take place July 23rd through 27th, and it's never too late to volunteer to help out. If you're interested, let me know (contact info at back of newsletter).

And next month (on August 20) is the BARA picnic. The picnic is always a fun time to meet the families of fellow hams, and you never know what kind of entertainment might be there (in recent years we've had operating rigs, items for sale/swap, and a demonstration of radio-controlled aircraft). BARA provides the staples (hamburgers/hot dogs/buns) — feel free to bring a dish to flesh out the menu!

Hope to see y'all soon at one of these events. —
73 de allen lutins KC2KLC

Board Meeting Notice

BARA Members and all interested parties are advised that the BARA Board Meeting Location has been changed to the Conference Room at the Studios of WSKG at 501 Gates Road (off the Old Vestal Road near Willow Point). The meeting will be held on the usual schedule (7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month). Guests and visitors should arrive a few minutes early and walk in with the Officers and Directors so that there is no confusion as to where you are going.

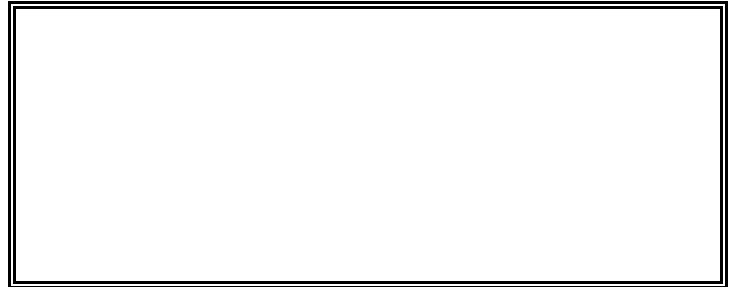
The location change is made necessary by increased security at Emergency Services and is effective until further notice.

Empire State Games

Please take K2KLC's words and the invitations extended through the Facts to heart and consider volunteering for the Empire State Games. Time is short and help is always needed. Please contact allen, or Ford, AB2HS, for more information.

Binghamton Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 853
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First Class



Club Officers and Committees			
President	allen lutins	kc2klc	729-4817
Vice President	Jack Connors	WB2GHH	724-8822
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	John Rudy	WB2FQZ	669-4308
W2OW Trustee	Mel Snitchler	WE2K	723-9612
Newsletter	Ed Plesnar	KB2SCF	754-3810

Next General Meeting
7:30 PM, Wednesday, July 16th
Town of Binghamton Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, South of the
Ross Park Entrance
Board Meeting
7:00 PM, Wednesday August 6th
Conference Room, WSKG Studios, 501 Gates Road, Vestal

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

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



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

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