



Bergen Amateur Radio Association

BARA Bulletin

December 2017

Volume 54 Number 12

Our 54th Year

www.BARA.ORG

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MERRY
CHRISTMAS



From the ARRL ...

Amateur Radio Parity Act

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 is alive, but with legislative action slowed to a glacial pace on Capitol Hill in recent months, there's been no real progress to report since this past summer. At present, the bill is under consideration by the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and it remains an active concern for ARRL.

The bill remains in play until the current session of Congress adjourns, which doesn't happen until December 31, 2018. Once the bill has been passed by both chambers, the FCC would still have to implement its essence in the Part 97 Amateur Service rules.

BARA Officer Election Results

The election of BARA officers for 2018 took place at the BARA business meeting on November 5th.

Results are:

President - Vacant

Vice-President - Jim Joyce, K2ZO

Treasurer - David Levine, K2DSL

Secretary - Susan Barber,
WA2ZZ

Trustee - Bennett Norell,
KO2OK

All are for a one-year term except Trustee which is a 3-year term.

BARA 2018 Dues

\$25 per member

\$35 per family

See David, K2DSL, at a meeting or mail your check, payable to BARA, to:

David Levine, K2DSL

11 Mackay Ave

Waldwick, NJ 07463

If paying by check, make the check payable to "BARA" and place your call sign on the memo line of the check.

PUBLIC SERVICE**BC RACES NET**

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.
 7:45 PM on the W2AKR Repeater
 146.790 MHz; PL 141.3 Hz.
 Net control is NJ2BC
 Directed training net for all authorized
 Bergen County RACES stations and
 authorized liaison stations.

Bergen County ARES Net

8:30 PM Thursday

NJ2BS Repeater

146.835 MHz

(-600 kHz, PL 151.4 Hz)

- ◆ Announce Training and Volunteer Activities
- ◆ Share Tools and Techniques for Emergency and Public Service Operations
- ◆ Foster Personal Preparedness and Resilient Communities

Contact W2TTT for information

New HF Digital Net**Focused on EMCOMM**

The New Jersey Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NJ -NBEMS) Net meets every Sunday Morning at 9:30 AM on 7.073 MHz using OLIVIA-8-500. This net is NOT affiliated with RACES or ARES, so any Radio Amateur with appropriate operating privileges may participate.

FLDIGI is the preferred sound card software because FLAMP and FLMSG are used for message handling. This is a training net for new users, so operator error is expected and well tolerated.

For additional information contact Bill, KC2VUT at arrl.net, Rick, N2PHI at comcast.net or Karl, W2KBF at arrl.net.

VE EXAM SCHEDULE

The next Ham License test session is scheduled for:

January
(Date to be announced)

at the
Township of Washington
Senior Center
350 Hudson Ave.
Twp of Washington, 07676

The FCC has imposed a Testing fee of \$15.00 per exam/retest.

Required documents:

- Two forms of ID required for all transactions.
- Social Security Number if unlicensed or **FRN** Number if licensed.
- Original CSCE if prior test credit is claimed.
- If license upgrade, a signed copy of current FCC license

Calculators are permitted, iPhones and iPads are not permitted.

Questions may be directed to:

Don Younger, W2JEK
 201-265-6583

Question Pool Revision:

The Extra exam question pool was revised on Sept 1, 2016.

Current Question Pool:

Technician, Element 2-Sept 1, 2014
 General, Element 3 - Sept 1, 2015
 Extra, Element 4 - Sept 1, 2016

Practice tests and study guides available at QRZ.COM.
www.qrz.com/hamtest

Link of the Month

Looking for links to interesting videos or products that may be of general interest to members.

WA2LXE

K2BAR NETS**SSB Net:**

Mondays 9:00 pm

10 Meters – 28.375 MHz

Net Control: Jim, K2ZO

FM Nets:

Wednesdays 9:00 pm

2 Meters: 146.79 MHz.

PL 141.3

Net Control: Dan, WA2CLP

Thursdays 8:30 pm

70 cm: 444.100

PL 141.3

Net Control: Marco, KC2ZMA

Thursdays 9:00 pm

Technical Net

Pearl River

NJ2BS Repeater

2 Meters: 146.835 MHz. (-600 kHz)

PL 151.4

Net Control: Gordon, W2TTT

DMR NET

Thursdays at 7:30 PM

BCFMA DMR Net

70 cm: 444.100

PL 141.3

BARA Meeting Minutes November, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:22 PM.

President's Report:

Jim K2ZO reported that we did well at the Hamfest and extended thanks to everyone that helped. The Foxhunt was fun, although no one found the fox. It would be nice to have more people participate. Congratulations to Linda Doering, KD2OIO on her new Technician license.

Treasurer's Report: David K2DSL was not at the meeting, so no Hamfest or monthly financials were reported.

Net Reports: Jim K2ZO reported that the nets are going fine, although it would be great to have more people.

Elections:

Nominations were taken from the floor. There were **no nominations for President** and one nomination each for the positions of VP, Treasurer, Secretary, and Trustee. One vote was cast by the Secretary.

The results were as follows:

President — vacant

VP — Jim, K2ZO

Treasurer — David, K2DSL

Secretary — Susan, WA2ZZ

Trustee — Bennett, K2KO

2018 BARA Auction: The date for the Auction is Sunday March 4, 2018.

2018 BARA Spring Hamfest: The date for the Spring Hamfest is Saturday May 26, 2018.

Program:

Tony K2AMI presented a slide show of BARA's activities throughout 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM (Bill, WA2JKY, Jim, KC2VRY).

Respectfully submitted,
Susan, WA2ZZ
Secretary



The ARRL **International Grid Chase** is a new 2018 year-long operating event. The objective of the ARRL International Grid Chase is simple: Work stations in as many grid squares as possible and upload your log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World.

If you are not currently registered with Logbook of The World, this is a good reason to get started. Go to <https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help/getting-started/>. Registration and uploading are *free*.

Every new grid square contact confirmed through Logbook of The World counts toward your monthly total, so you have an incentive to start the chase as soon as you ring in the New Year.

At the end of each month, your totals on the Grid Chase leader board will reset to zero. Fear not, though. The online scoring system will maintain your monthly totals for a



AO-91 Open for Amateur Use

AMSAT-NA's latest Amateur Radio CubeSat, RadFxSat (Fox-1B), now known as AO-91, has been opened for general use. AMSAT Engineering officially announced that AO-91 was ready for use at 0650 UTC on Thanksgiving Day, November 23.

The latest CubeSat in the Fox series was launched on November 18 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

The Amateur Radio package is similar to that currently on orbit on AO-85, with an uplink on 435.250 MHz (67.0 Hz CTCSS) and a downlink on 145.960 MHz.

grand total at the end of the year, when an annual summary will be released and awards given to top finishers in various categories.

The ARRL International Grid Chase is open to all amateurs, regardless of location or license class. Any operating mode is eligible as well as every band, except 60 meters. You'll find the complete rules at www.arrl.org/aigc2018.

BARA BULLETIN

The BARA Bulletin is published monthly by the Bergen Amateur Radio Association. Subscriptions are included in the annual membership dues. Membership is open to anyone interested in radio communication.

BARA RESOURCES

QSL Bureau:

Warren Hager, K2UFM

Public Service:

Club Contesting:

Phil Barber, WA2LXE

VE Exams:

Don Younger, W2JEK

Donnan917@aol.com

Hamfests:

Jim Joyce, K2ZO

Webmasters:

wm@at'bara.org

Tony Izzo, K2AMI

David Levine, K2DSL

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Interested in learning more about amateur radio and meeting new people? Then join the Bergen Amateur Radio Association (BARA). Dues are \$25 per year. Send your application request to:

David Levine, K2DSL

11 Mackay Ave.

Waldwick, NJ 07463

e-mail to k2dsl@at'arrl.net.

Please include your name, address, town, zip, call sign, license class, and phone number.

Upcoming Events

Dec 3 - BARA Awards Dinner

Dec 5 - Kit Night

Dec 8 - 10 - ARRL 10 Meter Contest

Dec 12- Kit Night

Dec 19 - Kit Night

Dec 26 - Kit Night

Jan 2 - Kit Night

Jan 7 - BARA Business Meeting

Jan 6,7 - ARRL RTTY Roundup

Jan 13,14 - North American QSO Party - CW

BARA KIT NIGHT

7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Township of Washington Senior Center
350 Hudson Ave., Township of Washington, 07676

- ◆ Build a kit related to Amateur Radio (partial BARA funding available)
- ◆ Diagnose/repair a defective piece of equipment
- ◆ Discuss radio and computer problems
- ◆ Technical assistance available
- ◆ Seek/give technical opinions

If you don't read the newspaper, you are uninformed.
If you read the newspaper, you are misinformed.

— Mark Twain

**MEMBER REPORTED CONTEST SCORES
SUBMITTED
FOR AGGREGATE CLUB SCORE**

DARC-WAEDC-RTTY Contest

| | Power | QSOs | Pts | Mults | Score |
|-------|-------|------|-----|-------|--------|
| K2AMI | Low | 116 | 116 | 122 | 14,152 |

ARRL Sweepstakes - CW

| | Power | QSOs | Sections | Score |
|-------|-------|------|----------|-------|
| W2JEK | QRP | 62 | 35 | 4,349 |

ARRL Sweepstakes - SSB

| | Power | QSOs | Sections | Score |
|--------|-------|------|----------|--------|
| WA2ZZ | Low | 136 | 54 | 14,638 |
| WA2ALY | Low | 107 | 55 | 11,770 |
| W2JEK | QRP | 64 | 33 | 4,224 |
| K2AMI | Low | 38 | 30 | 2,280 |

CQ WW DX Contest - CW

| | Power | QSOs | Pts | Zones | DXCC | Score |
|-------|-------|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| K2TWI | Low | 317 | 903 | 34 | 147 | 163,443 |
| W2AW* | Low | 437 | 1239 | 25 | 86 | 137,529 |

(W2AW operated single band - 20 Meters)

CQ WW DX Contest - SSB

| | Power | QSOs | Pts | Zones | DXCC | Score |
|--------|-------|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| W2AW* | Low | 407 | 1169 | 23 | 98 | 141,449 |
| WA2ALY | Low | 123 | | | | 32,780 |

(W2AW operated single band - 15 Meters)

* W2AW is the contest call for N2GM

DX Insights

CONWAY REEF, 3D2

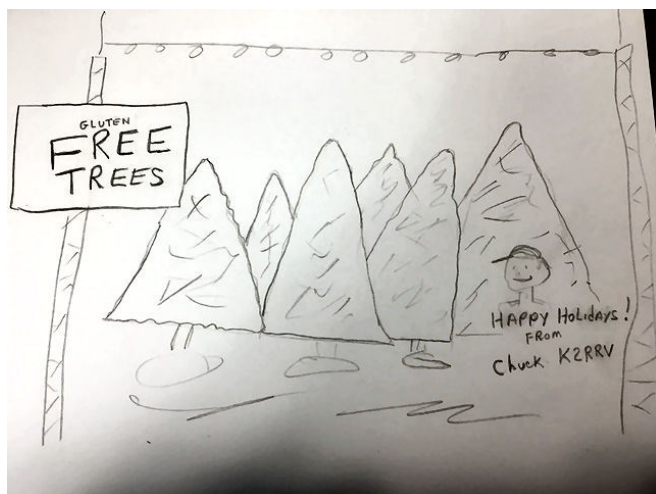
#37 on the DXCC MOST WANTED LIST

Conway Reef is a coral reef approximately 300 mi. southwest of the Fiji Islands and is a part of the Fiji Republic. The reef is uninhabited and only approx. 2 mi. long by 370 ft. wide. It is surrounded by very shallow coral heads, which makes Conway very inaccessible. Only small craft can gain access to the reef. There is very little vegetation on the reef. It does host three species of Booby birds. The reef is very remote from the main Fiji chain which does qualify it as a separate DXCC Entity.

There have been several DXpeditions to the Conway Reef over the years. The last DXpedition was in 2012 by a mixed group of Hams from around the globe using the call sign 3D2C. The World-Wide DX Team made 71,693 contacts which made the DXpedition one of most successful operations ever from Conway Reef.

Coming in early 2018 is the #2 DXCC Entity Bouvet Island. The Bouvet Island DXpedition Team will put 3Y0Z on the air in early 2018. Check out their web site bouvetdx.org for all info and updates.

73, Happy Holidays
W2FT, Harry



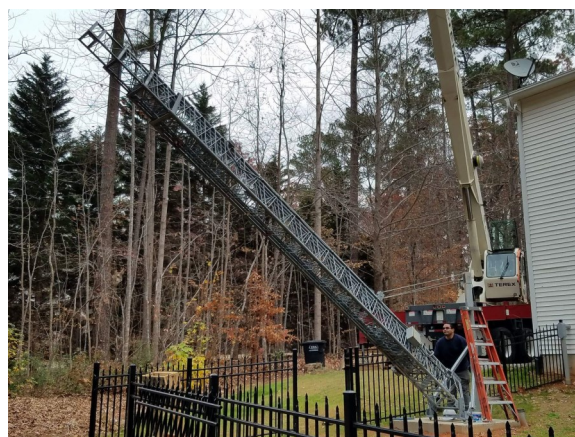


WA2ALY's "Rube-Goldberg"

160 meter 1/4 wave, inverted 'L' antenna, and the DX-88, nine (9) band vertical sharing the same ground radial plate. The antennas are remotely switched from the shack.



Ham Radio Command Tent at the 2017 NYC Marathon.
Photo courtesy of AJ4WD



Howdy Y'all,

The tower is now on it's perch level as level can be. Now that I will not be jet setting around the country for a while, I can continue with shack relocation and antenna installation projects. It's all downhill from this point thank goodness. Slowly but surely it'll get done. Y'all be good now!!

Hector, W2NPR



Next Business Meeting
Sunday, Jan 7
at the
Twp. Of Washington
Senior Center

President

Jim Joyce, K2ZO
K2ZO 'at' ARRL.NET

Vice-President

Tony Izzo, K2AMI
K2AMI 'at' ARRL.NET

Secretary

Susan Barber, WA2ZZ
WA2ZZ 'at' ARRL.NET

Treasurer

David Levine, K2DSL
11 Mackay Ave.
Waldwick, NJ 07463
K2DSL 'at' ARRL.NET

Trustees

Bennett Norell, KO2OK
KO2OK 'at' ARRL.NET

Gordon Beattie, W2TTT
W2TTT 'at' ATT.NET

Chuck Lemken, KC2SST
CLEMKEN 'at' HOTMAIL.COM

BARA Bulletin

Phil Barber, WA2LXE, Editor
WA2LXE 'at' ARRL.NET

Presidents Emeritus

Bill James, WA2QHL - SK
Dominick Interdonato, NB2F - SK
Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML - SK



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Westwood, NJ 07675