



# The Link

Official Journal of the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

April 2001

## Program for April: Ham Astronaut Video

This month's program will have us taking a look at the hams in space program that has taken place over the past few years. Vince, N2WUV, is kindly lending us an ARRL video that discusses and covers this exciting topic.

As always, the program will follow a brief business meeting. It all happens Monday, April 16. Doors open at 7 PM, brief business meeting at 7:30 and the program will follow that. See you there!

## Utilizing Band Plans

*Rich Sellers, KG2OR*

The "Band Plan" has been formed to orient the amateur radio operator into a range of frequencies; given communication mode and type of emission. According to the FCC rules and format of the plan licensed operators should be able to communicate efficiently. Ideally the agreement reads like a formula. The reality of the experience depends upon time, conditions, access, interference, equipment quality, bandwidth, filtering, and direction.

In "The Help Desk" pg. 62, QST January 2001, there was published a "Considerate Operators Frequency Guide." It covers all the bands, and frequency allocation for transmission modes: cw, data, sstv, rtty, automatically controlled stations, qrp, satellite, repeater, earth moon earth, ssb, etc. It notes FCC rule 97.101(b) which delineates freedom and availability of frequencies within the bands. No one actually owns any amateur frequency. When calling ask, "is this frequency in use?"

Operators, clubs, and nets, use the radio for promoting the hobby. QRM, QRN, frequency shifts, propagation, and atmospheric conditions contribute to the hobby's exciting moments and places. Operating your rig in any mode should be possible without too much interference if you plan it in a timely manner. I am saying that if you want QRP cw on 40 meters at 8:00 PM EST on 7.040 MHz you might not make a contact. There will probably be lots of QRM and noise.

*continued on Page 3*

### **The BARRA E-Mail List Serve**

To join, send an e-mail message to:

**majordomo@hamgate.net**

with the message: subscribe barra in the main body of the note.

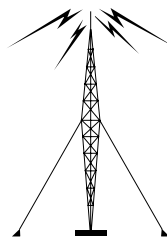
To send a message to the list subscribers, address your e-mail to:

**barra@hamgate.net**

## New York Makes Another Attempt at Ham Antenna Bill

*ARRL Letter*

True to their word, supporters of an Amateur Radio antenna bill in the State of New York are back this year with new bills introduced in both houses of the legislature. ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, says measures to incorporate the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into state law have been filed in the Senate as S.2893, with four sponsors, and in the Assembly as A.1565.



If approved, the companion measures would require localities to

"reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas and would prevent localities from restricting antenna structures to less than 95 feet above ground level or from restricting the number of support structures. The bills have been referred to the Local Government Committee.

An effort to get an antenna law on the books in the Empire State last year failed to make it through the legislative process despite gaining significant support. This year's bills are identical to last year's.

Fallon said he's hoping that support for last year's campaign will carry over to this year's effort, and he's calling on New York amateurs to "help make ham radio history in New York" by getting behind the bills.

In addition to contacting their Assembly representatives and state senators, Fallon said, hams should contact the two chairs of the Local Government Committee, Assemblyman Thomas P. DiNapoli, Senator Mary Lou Rath, as well as Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno.

The Hudson Division Web page <http://www.arrl-hudson.org> has a copy of the bill, links to find names and addresses of state representatives, and copies of sample letters.

"As one of the ARRL Directors who has been dealing with this issue for a number of years I am very happy about all the efforts in the other states and now again in New York," Fallon said.



*Hoppy Spring!*



## Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

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### Voice Repeaters

WB2JQK	29.68 -	Buffalo
K2ISO	145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2GUG PL 107.2	146.73 -	Niagara Falls
W2EUP	146.91 -	Boston
W2OXB	147.00 +	Kenmore
W2EUP	224.82 -	Boston
WR2AHL PL 110.9	442.00 +	Wethersfield
WA2HKS	444.00 +	Buffalo
WB2DSS PL 151.4	444.75 +	Kenmore

### RACES Net

Stop by Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm and join the Erie County ARES/RACES net which meets on the 146.91 and 444.00 repeaters. N2NJH is net control.

### BARRA Home Page

<http://barra.hamgate.net>

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Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n  
 P.O. Box 507  
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or may be submitted electronically to the editor's CompuServe address: 73323,672. If submitting through the Internet, the full address is 73323.672@compuserve.com. The editor may be reached by telephone in the evenings at (716) 834-2664.

**ARTICLES**

Articles for the *Link* on any subject, technical or general interest, are always welcome and encouraged. When submitting material to the *Link*, please type it or submit it electronically, if possible. Remember that the editor reserves the right to make necessary changes including reformatting and condensing for space and that Full Membership may be obtained by writing articles.

**LINK DEADLINES**

All material must be submitted to the Editor by the end of the month previous to the issue (e.g. December 31st for the January issue). Of course, if the material is received earlier than that date, you will have a better chance of getting your article in the next issue. All advertising is subject to the same deadline.

**ADVERTISING**

Want-Ads are free to BARRA members and are published in the next available issue. Ads from other hams are accepted free on a space-available basis. Ads appearing in other club newsletters with which BARRA has an exchange agreement are reprinted on a space-available basis.

Display advertising is available at the prevailing rates. Business card size is currently \$2.00/mo; full page is \$16.00/mo. Contact the editor for rates for other sizes.

**DUES**

Basic membership rate . . . . .	\$20.00
Family member in the same household as first member . . . . .	3.00
Discounts from basic rate	
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Each new member recommended . . . . .	-1.00

**Note:** A voting member is a member who has performed a service for BARRA (e.g. helped out at an activity, written a *Link* article, etc.).

**Our Condolences**

We were saddened to learn of the recent death of the daughter of Dick Diehl, WB2JCB. Dick has been an active member of BARRA for many years and our prayers and thoughts are with him and his family during this difficult time.

**Utilizing Band Plans** *continued from Page 1*

However, trying the same QSO during the grey line, dawn or dusk, then you may have more success. The best thing to do is find your niche and exploit it.

It would not hurt to bone up on your operating skills. Know your receiver's capabilities. Bandwidth, minimum discernable signal, Q, signal strength, and antenna gain should be understood from the start of operation. Use the "ARRL Extra Class License Manual" as a guide for reference.

U.S. amateur bands are scarce resources. The "Band Plan" gives us a great opportunity to be ethical about our calls. It can be cumbersome to interact when an operator is doing QRP cw and someone enters on top with 100 watts. The "Band Plan" if accepted and used will order the traffic.

73 de Richard Sellers KG2OR

**WANT ADS**

Want-Ads are accepted FREE from BARRA members. Non-members may also submit ads free and the ads will be printed subject to space available. Also as space permits, want-ads from other club newsletters with which BARRA has an exchange arrangement will be printed.

**FOR SALE:** Kenwood TS-440S HF rig with built-in tuner. Covers 160 thru 10 meters. Comes with PS-50 power supply and manuals. Low hours. Asking \$895. Call Randy, KA2RFW, 649-1925.



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## Calendar of Events

### GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held at St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church, Brighton & Fries Roads, Tonawanda, across from Kenmore East HS. Doors open at 7:00 pm for rag chew, business meeting at 7:30, with program following.

**Monday, April 16, 2001** - ARRL Hams in Space video.

**Monday, June 18, 2001** - Dave Viglione of the FCC will give a presentation on chasing down interference complaints and other FCC activities.

**Monday, July 16, 2001** - Annual BARRA Mobile Clinic and Picnic at the Cole Road repeater site in Boston, NY.

**NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN  
MARCH, MAY, AUGUST OR NOVEMBER**  
The *Link* is not published in those months

### BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at the former GLB Electronics building, 151 North America Drive, West Seneca. The meetings begin at 7:30 pm and members are always welcome to sit in on a meeting or bring concerns to the board.

### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Technical Committee has work parties every Wednesday evening, 8:00 pm, at the former GLB shop. Stop by and give a hand to a repeater or other BARRA project.

The Technical Committee has formal meetings the first Friday of each month around 7:30 pm at GLB. Come on out to BARRA's own CCITT (Coffee & Crumpets Interrupted by Technical Talk), where progress of current projects is evaluated and new projects are planned. The meetings usually conclude with munchies at a nearby restaurant.

