

The Link

April 2007



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

This Month's Program: Upstate NY MS Society Bike-a-Thon

This month we will be visited by Keith Freeberg, N2BEL, who will tell us about the Upstate NY MS Society's Bike-a-Thon coming in mid-September. Keith will provide an overview of the event and solicit amateur radio volunteers to assist with communications.

As we all (should) know, amateur radio is tied closely to public service events like this and indeed is part of our mandate from the FCC. This is a perfect event to participate in public service and further "earn" your amateur license.

We hope to see you there.

From the Archives

From the March 1991 BARRA Link newsletter

LINK TO TORONTO HUB:

At the March 1, 1991 Tech Committee meeting, three members from the TFMCS were present to discuss linking codes and operations of both the BARRA and TFMCS HUB systems. Present at the meeting were:

VE3ARV Van Vanderburgh, TFMCS Technical Director
VE3BEG Lyman Gifford, TFMCS newsletter editor
K2DSN Keith Laudenslager, BARRA newsletter editor
W2EUP Gil Boelke, BARRA Technical Director
WA2HKS Ted Ertl, BARRA 444 repeater trustee
K2IMF Don Ismert, BARRA Control Station
WB2OIFed Jackson, BARRA Control Station
VE3POJ John Meskes, TFMCS computer specialist
WB2VEU Andy Foremiak, BARRA Control Station
KA2WFT Doug Alderdice, BARRA president

BARRA committee covered the operation of the microcontrol system used for the Boston site and the linking operation to other sites. The operation of the Hub was when covered by TFMCS members. Many of the operations between the two systems turned out to be similar in nature. (Great minds think in the same channels??)

Conclusions from this meeting were that nothing need be done at the TFMCS Hub end of the link as BARRA had been assigned a spot back in 1983 as part of the Hub linking system. At the BARRA end of the link, software needs to be updated to accept only those codes intended for it that from the TFMCS link. Also, to link codes to the Hub from BARRA, the touchtones must be regenerated. At the present time, there is a bug in the software that does not allow us to do this.

BARRA has committed that the software will be implemented by April 1, 1991.

BARRA Field Day is Coming Soon!



KA2WFT Photo

Save the weekend of June 23-24! That is the weekend of the annual ARRL Field Day event, in which BARRA will once again be participating. This year's chairman is Bill Brown, KB2TOY. For a successful entry, we need all sorts of folks to help. From setup starting Saturday morning, to operating throughout the contest, including overnight, to tear-down Sunday afternoon, there are plenty of tasks to go around, and the old saying "many hands make light work" surely applies.

Members who have participated in previous years speak of a fun time. The site for the Field Day station will once again be our Cole Road repeater site. HF antennas are erected and operating positions are set up in "Chet's Shack," our auxiliary building on the site.

A proposal for this year is to have a club-wide picnic at the site Saturday evening. Even if your early summer schedule doesn't permit helping out with the FD station, come on out for some hot dogs and share some fellowship with the rest of the BARRA gang and offer encouragement to the FD operators.

Operators are needed throughout the weekend. Please plan on stopping by and spending a few hours running a rig. Even if you have never operated HF before, come on out anyway. The operators on-site will show you how it's done. Operators are especially needed during the overnight hours when the bands are wide awake but the operators who have been at it all afternoon aren't!

If you can help out in any way with BARRA's Field Day station, contact Bill Brown, KB2TOY at kb2toy@arrl.net.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Nelson Oldfield WA2ZSJ '09	634-6394
Vice President	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT '09	834-2664
Secretary	Greg Miller K2GTM '08	565-1807
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '07	836-0417
Director	Dave Halik W2ZZA '08	825-4417

Committees & Chairs

Technical	Ted Ertl WA2HKS
Link Editor	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT
Associate Link Editor	Dave Sewhuk N2GH
WNYSORC Representative Chair	Ben Bass N2YDM
Membership,	
Roster & Passwords	KA2WFT, W2EAS
Activities List	Ed Swan W2EAS
ID Badges	W2EAS
Erie County Emer. Coord.	Vince Harzewski N2JRS
Erie County RACES Officer	Gene Kremzier N2OBW

Voice Repeaters

K2GTM	PL 107.2	29.68-	Boston
K2ISO		145.17-	Wethersfield
K2ILH	PL 107.2	146.73-	Niagara Falls
W2EUP		146.91-	Boston
N2YDM	PL 107.2	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

BARRA Tech Net

Join the BARRA Technical crew on the 146.91/444.00 system Wednesdays at 8 PM for answers to your technical questions.

RAWNY Net

Stop by Monday evenings at 7:00 pm and join the RAWNY club's net which meets on our 146.91 and 444.00 repeaters.

BARRA on the Internet

<http://barra.hamgate.net>

Club Calls

BARRA holds club calls W2EUP and K2ISO in honor and memory of two of its founders, Gil Boelke, W2EUP, and Hugh Wilson, K2ISO.

CBS-Scanners-Ham-Marine-Business Radios-Radar Detectors

HIRSCH'S

WNY's Largest Communication Store Since 1961
219 California Drive - Williamsville, NY 14221

Hours-M,T,Th,F 10-5:30; Sat. 10-5:00; Closed Wed.

(716) 632-1189

Sales - Service - Installation

Recruit a member!

Use the membership application on
Page 5 to invite a ham radio friend
to join BARRA!

Don't Forget to Get Your
BARRA Mug!



These great looking, sturdy, quality ceramic mugs sport the BARRA buffalo logo, are dishwasher safe, and let you show your club colors in style!

Only \$5.00 Each!

Available at all club meetings

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

The Link is published eight times a year by BARRA, the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc. The opinions expressed herein, however, are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors or membership of BARRA. Letters to the editor are solicited and must be signed. Names and addresses will be withheld if requested. Material for *The Link* should be sent to the Editor:

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n
P.O. Box 507
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120-0507

or may be submitted electronically to the editor's e-mail address: ka2wft@arrl.net. The editor may be reached by telephone in the evenings at (716) 834-2664.

DISTRIBUTION

The Link is available in both print and electronic formats. If you wish to receive *The Link* in the Adobe cross-platform PDF format by e-mail instead of regular mail, please notify the editor at ka2wft@arrl.net. Regular mail recipients are charged \$4 beyond their dues.

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 \$2.50/mo; full page is \$20.00/mo. Contact the editor for rates for other sizes.

DUES

Basic membership rate: \$25.00

Family member in the same household as first member: \$3.00

Discounts from basic rate

Senior Citizen (65+): -5.00

Disabled: -5.00

Voting member: -5.00

Full-time student with ID: -5.00

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.).



Hobby Highlights

Richard Sellers, KG2OR

The subject of this "Hobby Highlight" is legislation governing the use of mobile communication devices. Ham operators and CB have been sort of exempt from fines regarding the use of hand held devices.

Our way of handling the devices may change. According to *Arnewsline KQ6FM*, Oregon might not protect the interest of hams and their mobile equipment. The focus is upon restricting cellular and text messaging in moving autos. New York State Senator Carl Kruger introduced laws to prohibit walking through traffic with iPod. People have been killed crossing the street with iPods on! In Washington State *Arnewsline* says Representative Joyce McDonald wants all types of communication devices off in cars while driving. The point of these laws could put hams off the road. The only situation to use amateur modes may be maritime mobile! However, there is opposition. Wyoming wants to help CB operators. The hams are having trouble achieving similar umbrellas. In New Mexico, hams will oppose legislation to prohibit mobile communications.

These State laws are being developed to protect individuals in traffic. Part 97 of the FCC rules gives us the right to use frequencies for fixed and mobile stations. Our rights are an issue. Can people handle driving and operating at the same time? I enjoy operating mobile FM, and I have seen operations with HF CW, phone, direction finding, and laptop. Are we in danger enjoying the hobby? Is urban more dangerous than rural? Distractions are the concern. Our next political lobby is on the horizon. Let us hope we can retain our hobby in the mobile context.

73.



WA2OLW (Leprechaun Graphics, 675-3764) still has BARRA jackets and T-shirts available. Space didn't allow us to run the larger ad this time.

AixiZ Service and International LLC

OEM Laser Components

WWW.MFGCN.COM

Chuck Maricle W5CM

2007 BARRA Auction

Action shots from BARRA's annual night of deals and bargains
Pix by KA2WFT



Bill, WB2JQK, along with Greg, K2GTM, Dave, W2ZZA and Frank, WZ2J peruse the lots before "showtime."



Sandy, KC2LGK, serves up hot coffee to Brian, WA2CWF.



Dutch, K2JGI, starts the ball rolling.



The gathered throng.

Many thanks to all who participated by buying, selling, as well as with setup and takedown.



Buyers queue up for Dutch's "famous" 12V fluorescent lamps.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association

Post Office Box 507
North Tonawanda, NY 14120-0507

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____ Date _____

Telephone No. _____ E-Mail Address _____

Can we print your phone # in the club roster? YES NO

I wish to receive the newsletter in PDF format by e-mail attachment YES NO

** Note: If you wish to receive a paper newsletter by US Mail, please add \$4.00 to your dues.

I hereby make application for membership to the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association and agree to abide by the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations set forth by the FCC and this Association and shall to the best of my ability work towards the advancement of Amateur Radio and the goals set forth by the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association.

Your Signature _____

Recommended by _____

BARRA dues structure: Initial Application \$25.00 (US Funds. Please deduct \$5.00 for each item below that applies)

- Senior Citizen (Age 65+)
- Disabled Member
- Full-time student with ID

ADD: Newsletter by US Mail 4.00

Total enclosed dues, less any of the above (if applicable) \$ _____

Applications are voted upon once a month at our Board meetings. You will be advised of your status by the Membership Chairman.

Are you a member of any other Amateur group? If so, which ones? _____

Are you a ham? _____ When did you become a ham? _____

License Class _____ What bands/modes do you operate? _____

Member of ARES _____ RACES _____ ARRL _____

Other hobbies and interests _____

What is your occupation? _____

Name wanted on your name tag (first name, one only, please) _____

Why do you want to become a member of BARRA?

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n

Post Office Box 507

N. Tonawanda, NY 14120-0507



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Calendar of Events

GENERAL MEETINGS

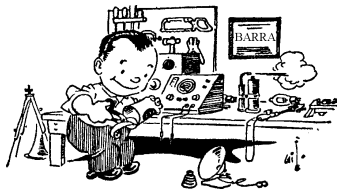
General meetings are held at St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church, Brighton and Fries Roads, Tonawanda, across from Kenmore East HS. Doors open at 7:00 pm for rag chew, business meeting at 7:30, with program following.

Monday, April 16, 2007 -- Presentation and solicitation for ham radio help with the Upstate NY MS Society's WNY bike-a-thon to be held in September. Presenter will be Keith Freeberg, N2BEL.

Monday, June 18, 2007 -- Meeting program TBA.

Saturday-Sunday, June 23-24, 2007 -- BARRA Field Day! See Page 1 for details.

Monday, July 16, 2007 -- Annual BARRA Mobile Clinic and Picnic at the Cole Road repeater site.



**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 **Athens Family Restaurant**, 2801 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga, between Genesee Street and George Urban Blvd. 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 formal meetings the first Friday of every month at 7:00 PM in Room 117 of the BOCES Potter Road Career and Technical Center, 705 Potter Road, West Seneca (Corner of Slade, Potter and Orchard Park Rds). 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.

Save the Date!
BARRA Field Day is coming soon!
Saturday and Sunday
June 23rd-24th, 2007
Club picnic Saturday Evening