



The Link

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

December 1994

New Repeater Trustee for 145.17

Very soon you will notice a new callsign on the 145.17 repeater and ask yourself "who's that?" Joe Flynn KE2PM, a long-time member of BARRA, has been named trustee of the 145.17 repeater at Wethersfield upon the resignation of 5.17's trustee for the last 11 years, Les Hill KC2JY.

Les's resignation was regretfully accepted by the board at the October meeting. A follow-up letter to Les cited the work he and Joe Fahrner KA2BIW have accomplished over the years at that site. Les and Joe have not only done a great job in keeping the machine on the air and bringing about many improvements, but they have also done a lot behind-the-scenes to maintain good relations with our landlord, WNUC 107.7 FM.

While we thank Les for his work with 145.17, we look forward to a new relationship with KE2PM. Welcome aboard, Joe!

Christmas Party This Month

This month marks the holiday get-together at the church. On Monday, December 19th, starting around 7:30, pizza and chicken wings from DiPaolo's Pizzeria will be available for members, friends, and their families. To cover the cost of the food, \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family will be collected. This is always a fun event and a good opportunity for members' families to get in on the act. XYLs always seem to find something in common with each other (besides the fact they're stuck with a ham!), and makes a pleasant evening for all. We hope to see you there!



New Board Officers

In September, Mark Lienert, N2RJA, and Steve Riek, N2QJE were nominated as candidates for the board of directors. This year marks the end of the terms for Doug Alderdice, KA2WFT, and Gil Boelke, W2EUP. Doug chose not to run again for the board, opting instead to take over publication of the *Link* from N2NJH. Gil also decided to not run again for the board, but as a charter member he will still maintain a background role in the board's activities. Maybe we can refer to him as a "board member *emeritus!*" Since there were two expiring terms and two candidates were nominated, Mark and Steve were elected through one ballot cast by the president at the October meeting.

Proceeding according to BARRA's by-laws, at the November board meeting the new board officers were appointed and elected from the new roster of board members. The officers are:

President	Stan Niesiolowski KB1XW
Vice President	Bob Schneider AJ2G
Secretary	Brian Neri WA2CWF
Treasurer	Ed Swan KD2JW
Directors	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO
	Mark Lienert N2RJA
	Steve Riek N2QJE

We wish the new officers & directors well in their new terms and offices.

New *Link* Editors

Beginning with this month's issue, the *Link* has a new editor, Doug Alderdice, KA2WFT, coming off a six-year stint on the board of directors, the last five of which as president. Doug brings to the *Link* a new look and a promise to bring more material to the pages of this tome. He also brings with him several years of college newspaper experience and a "gift of written gab" which should help fill out the pages of future *Links*.

Also, Dave Sewhuk, N2GH, has volunteered for the position of Associate Editor. Dave, originally from Buffalo, now lives in the Rochester area and has been a BARRA member for many years. More recently, he has been one of the key players in the 442.00 repeater project at Wethersfield.

Through the miracle of modern technology (The Information Super Highway??) Doug & Dave will be collaborating electronically on each issue of the *Link*. Now the editors have a new wrinkle for a late issue - "The Internet Ate It."

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Stan Niesiolowski KB1XW '96	282-7159
Vice President	Bob Schneider AJ2G '95	837-1046
Secretary	Brian Neri WA2CWF '96	838-1673
Treasurer	Ed Swan KD2JW '95	877-0417
Directors	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '96	941-5569
	Mark Lienert N2RJA '97	693-5960
	Steve Riek N2QJE '97	692-5669

Committees & Chairs

Technical	Gil Boelke W2EUP
Link Editor	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT
Associate Editor	Dave Sewhuk N2GH
Membership	Dick Diehl WB2JCB
Roster & Passwords	Keith Laudenslager K2DSN
Activities List	Ed Swan KD2JW
ID Badges	KD2JW
Emergency Comm. Dir.	Al Scheu KA2HGX
Erie County Emer. Coord.	Ray Baker N2DAY

Voice Repeaters

KE2PM	145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2GUG	146.73 -	Grand Island
W2EUP	146.91 -	Boston
W2OXB	147.00 +	Cherry Creek
W2EUP	224.82 -	Boston
WB2HYP	442.00 +	Wethersfield
WA2HKS	444.00 +	Buffalo

Digital Repeaters

W2EUP-1 (NIAGRA0)	145.59	Niagara Falls
K2IMF-1	145.01	Out of Service
N2GH-1	145.59	Out of Service

BARRA 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. N2DAY is net control.

BARRA Packet BBS

BARRA has a bulletin board area on the IPBUFF (N2NJH-5) packet system. Connect through any local node that shows IPBUFF in its node list. IPBUFF is also available directly on 145.63 MHz. Access the BARRA area by typing 'A BARRA' at the IPBUFF prompt. Check out IPBUFF for late-breaking news and other announcements.

Editor's PTT

Seasons Greetings to my fellow BARRA members and their families! As I embark on my new adventure in the club as newsletter editor, I would like to thank my now-former fellow officers and directors, as well as the membership for the opportunity for serving you on the board of directors. Spending the last five years on the board was a fun, at times nerve-wracking, other times exasperating, but an overall exciting experience. I will admit that it was a bit overwhelming that night in November 1989 when I found myself as president! But with the help of the other board members, committee chairs, repeater trustees and the general membership, it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. As I exit, I wish N2QJE and N2RJA the very best as they begin their terms on the board. And while we are passing the thanks around, I'm sure I express the thanks of all club members to Karl Weir, N2NJH, the outgoing *Link* editor, for his service to the club. We look forward to Karl's involvement in upcoming packet radio projects.

But lo! (using the language of the season) you are not rid of me just yet! When Karl expressed the desire to hand over the *Link* to someone else, it got my mind buzzing - I might like to do that! I have been spending the last few years doing some desktop publishing as a sideline and why not put this experience to good use for the benefit of BARRA?

The *Link* is a vital connection to our members. Not everyone can make it out to the meetings so the only way these members can stay in touch with what's happening is through the very aptly named *Link*. I hope to keep you, the members, informed and up-to-date on the happenings in BARRA, and in general ham life around the area. Many of you may not know that we exchange our newsletter with several other radio clubs in and around WNY and to a lesser extent the greater northeast, with clubs in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Eastern New York State participating. This is a resource that the *Link* has not utilized very much in the past. I hope to include items of interest culled from our friends' newsletters, with the wish that the other clubs take similar notice of ours.

As always, if you think something should be in the *Link* write it up! Not a writer? Give me a call or drop me a note with some details and I will do my best to flesh it out.

In closing, I hope that the new look and format of the *Link* is to your liking and helps you to get the most out of your BARRA membership. A club that cannot communicate with its members is destined for doom. (You can quote me on that.)

Happy Holidays.

KA2WFT



The *Link* is published monthly by BARRA, the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc. The opinions expressed herein, however, are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors, nor 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 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) 833-8375.

A WORD ON 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 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), or by mail or electronically by that date. 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. 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	
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.).

Advertising Wanted

In years past, the *Link* featured advertising from members' businesses and as well as others. This has not only helped the advertisers in getting out their message, but has also helped the *Link* to offset its production and mailing costs. The advertising in recent years has been virtually non-existent due to a variety of factors, not the least of which was no one in the club actively seeking advertisers, and not having a current rate schedule in place.

For the moment, KA2WFT will be seeking out advertisers, but another member would be welcome to fill this role. To get things started again, the board has announced the following advertising rate schedule for the *Link*:

Business Card size	\$2.00/mo
Quarter Page (3½ x 5)	4.00/mo
Half Page (7½ x 5)	8.00/mo
Full Page	16.00/mo

If you or someone you know is looking to advertise, submit your copy to the editor. If you do not have a ready-made ad, contact the editor anyway and something can be put together!

Remember that the *Link* is sent not only to BARRA members, but to almost thirty other radio clubs around the local area and the northeast as well. While not every member of all those clubs read our newsletter, they do get passed around.

BARRA members looking to advertise equipment wanted or for sale will continue to be included free in our new "Want Ads" section. In months when members' ads are light, want ads from other club newsletters will be included as space permits.

About that Membership Application

Another new feature to the *Link* will be the inclusion of a membership application every now and then. In this issue you will find one on page 9. Please pass it along to a ham friend who is not currently a member. And, if you sign the "recommended by" blank on the application, you will receive a \$1.00 discount off next year's dues for every new member you recommend. If you recommend as many new members as your dues - you guessed it - your dues next year are **FREE!**

The next time you hear a non-member grousing about something they don't like about BARRA, send them an application. We listen to members a lot better than we do the non-members!

*Got an idea for the Link? Write it up!
Not a writer? Call the Editor!*

REPEATERS

or

Our Machines that go "KerChunk" in the Night

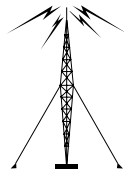
146.73 - The mount for our antenna at the 850' level of WUTV's tower broke last spring and was repaired by 29's commercial antenna crew during a scheduled down time in mid October. Further analysis of this antenna is needed to assess its usefulness. We have been running with an antenna at the 200' level for some time now.

146.91 - The weather receiver has been modified to include a battery charger monitoring circuit. If the weather radio cannot be dialled up, then the system is running on the batteries indicating that the charger is not working or the commercial mains are off. There were some problems with the charger at the end of the summer which resulted in the system running on batteries for over a week. KB1XW has made a lot of trips to the site recently and has been cleaning and straightening up the shack and the equipment. Very soon (if not by press time) a dial-up link to the 442 system will be on line. Check out the next *Link* for further details.

224.82 - The repeater has been functioning well since it was worked on this summer. Stations as far away as Toronto have been heard working through this machine.

145.17 & 442.00 - See the article "Lots of Work at Wethersfield" on page 5 of this issue.

444.00 - A trip to the UB site was made the day after Thanksgiving by WA2HKS, WA2CWF and KA2WFT to install the long-awaited receiver voter. At press time only the two receivers at the UB campus are on line, but there are plans to integrate a remote receiver at Cole Rd to really blanket the area covered by this machine. The installers were wowed by the performance of the voter on test signals from K2DSO, watching the voter switch between receivers as Joe moved around in his mobile. WA2HKS has once again done a phenomenal job building the voter board into a combined controller to add even more remote functionality to the UHF system. One of the many features of Ted's implementation is the output of a PL tone on the 444 frequency to indicate which receiver is voted. This feature has been installed on only one of 444's two transmitters, so you may not always hear the tone. Watch future *Links* for more details.



Testing Info

Looking to upgrade? Know a friend who is? There are many opportunities available locally in the next few months to make the move up at a VE testing session.

Lancaster ARC is holding test sessions on the following dates:

December 21, 1994

In 1995: January 18, February 15, March 15, April 26, May 17 and June 21

All sessions are held at 7:00 pm in room 114 at Aurora Middle School. For more information call Chuck Koester, WD2AIK, 937-3592. All candidates must pre-register at least one week in advance, no walk-ins will be accepted. Send a completed FCC Form 610, a copy of your license, and a check for \$5.75 payable to Dick Haungs. If applicable, include copies of any element credit certificate(s). Be sure to bring your *original* license and certificate(s) to the test session. Send applications to:

Dick Haungs W2UJR
11315 Cary Road
Alden, NY 14004-9547

ARATS test sessions are held at the Fire Hall on Zimmerman Road, N. Tonawanda, 9:00 am. Dates:

December 10, 1994

1995: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3.

For more information call Vern Siegel, AA2AC, 634-5276.

STARS will hold test sessions on December 3, 1994, March 11 and June 10, 1995 at the Hamburg Youth Center, Prospect and Hawkins Aves. Walk-ins should arrive by 9 am and pre-registered candidates by 9:45, with tests starting at 10:00 am. For more information call Norm Jones, KD2KK, 824-1148.

Lockport ARA holds its test sessions in the Community Room of Lockport Savings Bank, 56 East Ave. Dates in 1995: January 28, April 29 and July 8. For more information call Judy Cianchetti, N2KJB, 751-9223.

Remember that due to recent FCC rule changes, Novice exams can no longer be given under the "Elmer method" and are now given only at VE test sessions, though no fee is charged for those exams. No test fee is charged for no-code Tech upgrade to Tech with HF privileges.

Info from Lancaster and STARS newsletters



UPGRADE!

See you at the BARRA Christmas Party!!

Lots of Work at Wethersfield

After what seemed like an interminable delay, the installation pains of the 442 repeater at the 147.17 repeater site have been resolved. Both are working great - now check them out! The two meter repeater had been running on the backup RCA repeater for a long time due to an earlier failure in the GE system. In May, Mike Rink, WB2HYP, brought the GE MASTR Pro equipment home and refurbished the system to a working state and replaced the final tubes. The system was brought back to the site in early June and installed as the primary repeater. At that time, there were some interference problems detected and without the proper instrumentation to correct it properly, the solution was to reduce the power on the two meter system to effect what was hoped to be a temporary fix. Due to schedule conflicts and other problems Mike was unable to go back and finish the job until recently.

In early October a work party consisting of WB2HYP, W2TR, WA2EWU and N2GH went to the site armed with new interconnect cabling and test equipment. The GE re-installation was completed and the cabling upgraded. All RF jumpers within the systems are now either SuperFlex hardline or double shielded coax.

The systems got a tuneup, netting the receive and transmit frequencies. The initial power out of the GE was found to be 110 watts! This more than likely was the source of the interference between the two repeaters discovered back in June. The GE repeater power supply was re-wired to provide 62 watts output into the duplexer. This repeater is rated at 80 watts and running in this reduced mode should provide trouble free operation for a long time. The GLB preamp was re-installed on the repeater's receiver.

The 442 system was transmitting 54 watts into the duplexer with very good receiver sensitivity. A final check with weak signals verified that desense was minimal on and between the 145.17 and 442 systems. A check of the receiver sensitivity on both systems was found to be very good. Thanks go out to Signal Service, Inc. for the loan of their service monitor and non-members Gary Sienkiewicz, W2TR, and Jim Hastings, WA2EWU, for their assistance.

As a technical milestone BARRA is one of the first clubs to utilize diplexer technology to re-use our existing hardline for the operation of two simultaneous repeaters on the same coax. The diplexer vendor, TX/RX Systems, was interested in our installation as this is a new product for them. There is still an occasional noise burst, most likely caused by a broken commercial antenna that is leaning into our two meter antenna on the tower. The owner of this antenna has been notified and this will hopefully be resolved soon.

Many thanks to our patient members who waited out the summer for 145.17 to get back on in full force! We think you'll find it was worth the wait!

N2GH

Auction is Coming

Mark your calendars! The auction is coming soon! Monday, February 20, 1995 is the date for the annual evening of fun and deals. Bob "Dutch" Dutschman, K2JGI, will be our auctioneer once again. Dutch's wide knowledge of equipment and tangential comments make the evening a don't miss.

For each item sold, BARRA collects 10% of the selling price, to a total of \$5.00 per item to help pay the rent for our fine meeting space at St. Bart's. Anyone wishing to sell equipment is welcome - SPREAD THE WORD! Start sorting through your junk - er, stuff - to see what you don't need anymore and set it aside for the Auction.

New Members

BARRA welcomes the following new members:

N2TIE Ron Norton, Buffalo

WB2KAO Tim Magee, Rochester

Also, please add the following member to the list of voting members due to his assistance with the marathon and other activities:

WB2VLV Jerome Musialowski

Due\$ Are Due

'Tis the season not only for Santa but for your BARRA dues as well. Check your mailing label to find the amount of your dues. If it shows "\$0.00" you're paid up! Almost 50 members have renewed so far -- many thanks!! If you have just sent in your check and your label shows that you owe, your check probably crossed paths with the labels. Be sure to check next month to make sure it is up to date. If you have any problems or questions about your dues, please call club treasurer Ed Swan, KD2JW, at 877-0417, or catch him at the Christmas party.

License Renewal

All amateurs should be aware that there is no FCC fee for renewing our licenses. Simply fill out a current version of Form 610 (current version is dated 11/93) and mail it to:

Federal Communications Commission
1270 Fairfield Rd
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Paying any organization money to file Form 610 for us is not required. You might want to clip & save the FCC address above as it is not printed on single sheet copies of the 610.

From Atlantic Division News

Raffle Update

In this issue of the *Link* you will find a book of raffle tickets for our upcoming drawing at the annual Auction in February. These tickets have been updated to reflect the drawing date. If you still have tickets from the summer raffle, you may continue to use them. You will recall that the board at the September meeting moved to postpone the summer raffle until February as not enough tickets had been sold to cover costs. Many of you have already bought tickets and we are looking forward to an exciting drawing! With the cash prizes, it should be easier to sell tickets to coworkers, neighbors, and so on. If you need more tickets, call KA2WFT at 833-8375 in the evening.

The cost of doing business for BARRA, like any other business, has gone up considerably in the last few years and we need ways of increasing our income. The last thing that we want to do is raise dues. Here are some examples of our costs:

Liability Insurance (required by our landlords at WUTV, UB and WNUC *and* the church): \$612.00/yr
 Property/School taxes at Cole Rd: \$650.00/yr
 Postage for the *Link*: \$350.00/yr

Add to that the telephone charges for the autopatch (\$180/yr), electric costs for Cole Rd (\$200/yr), recent repairs to the antenna at 146.73 (\$260) and you get the idea. In the days of the Ham-o-rama, we counted on a large portion of our operating budget from our share of the profits from that event. Upon the breakup of the hamfest, we got a sizeable portion of the assets which has gotten us through the last few years. That money is now gone and we are operating at a deficit. The government can do that, but we cannot! We need to bring in more members (pass on that membership application!), sell ads in the *Link*, support the raffle and to continue to look for other ways of supplementing our income. The board in the past few years has trimmed everywhere that can be trimmed and further trimming will result in cutting something essential. Remember the unpopularity of turning off the autopatch at 146.73?

Any ideas from our members are welcome! Drop a note to or call a board member. Come to a board or general membership meeting -- we need to hear from you!!



FCC Shows Interesting Film

At the October general meeting, John Ronecker of the Buffalo FCC office showed an interesting film on the use of radio in the nation's defense during WWII. Titled "Patrolling the Ether," a propaganda film made by MGM in 1944, it gave a glamorized look at the R.I.D. - the FCC's radio interception and intelligence service that kept a watch over the airwaves for any espionage transmissions to or from the Axis powers and their agents in the States. The group watching the film got many chuckles out of the then-state-of-the-art equipment, complete with field engineer in vest and tie rotating - by hand - a large directional antenna array.

While the film seemed schlocky and corny in 1994, it was deadly serious business in 1944. There *were* foreign agents in this country sending information to the "other side." The film took some artistic liberties with the plot, but according to John was accurate in showing the procedures used by the R.I.D.

After the film, John took questions about modern radio concerns including legislation and interference.

Membership Chair Sought

Leigh Reichert, KC2VS, BARRA's membership chairman for the last few years has stated that he wants to turn the position over to another member. In the interim, Dick Diehl, WB2JCB, has volunteered to serve for *limited* amount of time while a new chair is sought. The duties of the membership chair are largely clerical, keeping track of dues paid, issuing membership cards, sending new member packets to new applicants and so on. Leigh and Dick will be glad to show you how to do it!

If you are interested, please contact Leigh, Dick or a board member.

Refreshment Chair Needed

Are you a new member to BARRA? Have you been looking for a way to help out but don't feel you're technically up to it? We have just the non-technical job for you!

At the October meeting, KA2WFT expressed the desire to resign the position of refreshment chairman, a job he has been doing by default for quite a while. Basically this task involves providing the "tea & crumpets" for the general meetings. There are three boxes with all of the necessary supplies that need to be stored between meetings. The proceeds from the sale of the coffee and doughnuts is used to buy more supplies as needed, with any extra turned over to the treasurer.

The person or persons taking on this job need to get to the church early (around 7:15) to get the coffee going - the church lets us use their pots. Remember that this is a job which qualifies for full noting membership in BARRA! If you are interested, call KA2WFT at 833-8375, or a board member.



Repeater of the Month

With all the new members in BARRA it seems that it would be good to provide features and functions of each repeater in the club. This occasional feature will focus one of the club's repeater systems. This month we will highlight the 145.17 and 442.00 repeaters at Wethersfield.

History

The two meter system went on the air in 1983 at the commercial WUWU (now WNUC) 107.7 FM site in Wethersfield Springs. Owner and club member Ron Chmiel, WB2VFE, graciously offered tower and shack space to house our club equipment. W2EUP and Ed Jackson, WB2OIF, then set out on a marathon repeater building session. In a remarkable few days they had a working system complete with DTMF control. The system was installed and Hugh Wilson, K2ISO, was appointed trustee. With Hugh's untimely passage as a silent key the torch was handed to Les Hill, KC2JY. Under the care of KC2JY and Joe Fahrner, KA2BIW, a second (back-up) system was installed, providing more reliable service. Joe Flynn, KE2PM, is our current trustee of the 145.17 repeater.

In March 1993, Mike Rink, WB2HYP, bought Rochester's 442 repeater from Gary Sienkiewicz, W2TR, and was looking for a site to house the system. Dave Sewhuk, N2GH, a club member from Buffalo who now lives in Rochester, suggested to Mike that the 145.17 repeater site may be available for his system. A proposal was made to the board and technical committee to house Mike's repeater and affiliate his repeater with the club. The proposal was approved in April of that year and preparations were made to get the project off the ground. The approvals were finally secured with the site owner and in May 1994 the antenna and diplexer were installed at the site and the repeater was on its way to being on the air. Mike is the trustee for this repeater.

After a few installation problems the system is on the air as the newest member of the BARRA system.

Location

Wethersfield Springs, NY, 30 miles SE of Buffalo.

Equipment

145.17 - General Electric MASTR Pro tube-type repeater with GLB ID-2 identifier and home-brew DTMF controller. A StationMaster antenna is located 400 ft up the tower.

442.00 - Kendecom transceiver, IC-900 multi-band remote base for 28 Mhz, 50 Mhz, 144 Mhz and 220 Mhz bands, TPL 50W power amplifier, and ACC RC-85 controller. At 450 ft the 442 system utilizes a Hustler 6 dB gain Omni Stick antenna.

The coax that serves both repeaters is 500 ft of pressurized 1 5/8" Heliac hardline.

Coverage

Mobile coverage east to west from Rochester to Niagara Falls. North to south from Lake Ontario to southern tier.

Features

The 442 machine is the first BARRA repeater with voice response controller. The controller supports a remote

frequency agile remote base on 4 bands. Using touch-tone control, a band and frequency is selected from the 442 input (see code sheet on page 8 of this issue). This allows users to access 2M, 10M, 6M or 220 Mhz repeaters that may not be accessible from your location or try out operation on a band for which you may not have the equipment. The controller supports a real time clock and scheduler. Currently the scheduler automatically dials up a few traffic nets such as the swap net, Hilltop reports, live space shuttle rebroadcasts and short wave listeners net. See the *Link* or listen in for the current schedule.

In the Job Jar

Link to 145.17, link to 146.91 to access the autopatch, Toronto Hub and a future 6M link to the Cleveland area.

If you wish to contribute your time, talent and occasional muscle to system improvements c'mon out to a Wednesday night work party at GLB or contact W2EUP.

N2GH

FCC News

The FCC has released a 7-page order amending its amateur rules, effective December 20, 1994, to reflect what the commission calls "nonsubstantive procedural changes":

1. To permit electronically filed data from VECs (paper applications will still be accepted)
2. To authorize operation as soon as the new license data appears in the amateur service licensee database, rather than (as now) when the license document has been delivered (details of how licensee can determine his call sign will be announced later)
3. To add a new rules section, "Examinee Conduct," to emphasize that an examinee must comply with the instructions given by the administering VEs.
4. To treat "Technician Plus" as a license class.
5. And to provide for a "Renewal Short Form" which the FCC says will be mailed to licensees in advance of their expiration date beginning sometime in 1995. The FCC added that renewal applications would be accepted no more than 90 days before the expiration date.

WIAW Bulletin

The FCC has set December 19, 1994 as the comment date for a Notice of Proposed Rule Making to convert a block of spectrum from federal government to commercial use, including two UHF bands shared by amateur radio on a secondary basis with the government.

The proposal would allocate 2390 to 2400, 2402 to 2417 (both shared by amateurs), and 4600 to 4685 MHz to the Fixed and Mobile Services.

The FCC said it received a number of responses to its Notice of Inquiry on the proposed reallocations, including formal comments from "the amateur community." The reply comment date on the NRPM is January 3, 1995.

From WIAW Bulletin

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



*"Serving Western New
York and the Niagara
Peninsula"*

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Calendar of Events

GENERAL MEETINGS

All general membership meetings are held at St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church, Brighton and Fries Rds, Tonawanda across from Kenmore East HS.

Monday, December 19 - Annual Christmas Party. Gather at 7:30 pm Spouses welcome. \$3.00 ea or \$5.00 per family.

Monday, January 16, 1995 - Annual report by the Technical Committee. Business meeting starts at 8:00 pm, gather for eyeball QSOs at 7:30. Program follows the business meeting.

Monday, February 20, 1995 - Annual BARRA Auction! Dust off those goodies you don't use any more and turn them into CASH! Auction begins at 7:30, Doors open at 6:45 pm.

**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 GLB Electronics, 151 North America Drive (formerly Commerce Pkwy), West Seneca. The meetings begin at 7:30 pm and members are always welcome to sit on a meeting or bring concerns to the board.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Technical Committee has work parties every Wednesday evening, 8:00 pm, at GLB Electronics. 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.

