

The Link

February 2008



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

It's Time for the Annual Auction!

BARRA's most popular event of the year, the Annual Auction is once again upon us. Monday, February 18th is the date for the 2008 edition of our swap-fest. The inimitable Bob "Dutch" Dutschman, K2JGI, will once again be our auctioneer.

Everyone, BARRA member or not, is welcome to buy and/or sell. BARRA retains 10% of the selling price of each item and all proceeds of the Auction are used to help pay for our meeting space at the church. In previous years some generous sellers have donated the entire proceeds of their lots to BARRA and we are always most appreciative of them. We recognize that not everyone is in a position to do that, but we just mention it as a reminder that it is an option for your lot.

Doors will be open at 6:45 PM for folks to start bringing in their sales lots and for potential buyers to get a chance to look everything over. Admission is \$2.00/person, and refreshments will be available for sale throughout the evening.

All electronic items are "fair game" for the auction, with the emphasis of course on ham radio and communications items or related parts and accessories. Dig through your closets, the basement, the garage, the loft, etc. and see what you can bring to sell, and maybe put a smile on the XYL's face, too! Having buyer's remorse from the recent Lockport hamfest? Bring those items to the Auction!

See you there.

Proposed Change in BARRA General Meeting Schedule

The BARRA board of directors has proposed a change in the general meeting schedule. The discussion started with how the turnout for the January Technical Committee report was down a bit due to the inclement weather that night, something that happens often for the January meeting. Your editor vividly recalls having to call off the January meeting one year when he was president because the conditions were REALLY bad that night!

The current "crazy" meeting schedule was born out of reducing the number of meetings for several reasons: cutting expenses on the newsletter, which isn't published in the "off" months (this was before e-mail distribution of the newsletter), declining meeting attendance, and the difficulty in securing adequate programs for all the general meetings.

What is being proposed is moving the meetings closer to a more or less every-other-month schedule: September (proposed new Technical Committee Report month), October (our annual corporation meeting and election of board directors), December (the holiday party), February (The Auction), April, June and July (The Mobile Clinic and Picnic). With the change, it primarily eliminates

Hobby Highlights

Richard Sellers, KG2OR

If you are unable to join a DX expedition then one alternative may involve an Internet adventure. Have you ever had a QSO with a station in Antarctica? Whether you have, or have not, it will be helpful to start with the home page of the "Worldwide Antarctic Program." <http://www.waponline.it/Home/tabid/58/default.aspx> It will let you observe Antarctic station logs, bulletins, videos, churches, special links, and live web cams. For example, I used "Ham's Link" and verified a QSO between AY8XW and DX specialist Dr. Small, KM2L. He told me over the phone that the QSO "was on 11/23/02 on 20 meters." Other interesting and valuable parts on this site includes Antarctic history, stories about aviation, ships, radio, and exploration. There is a very good documentary about Admiral Richard E. Byrd's first South Pole flight in 1928, two years after he flew over the North Pole in 1926. Please see <http://www.waponline.it/default.aspx?tabid=132>

We can research station activity, Internet schedules, news, and web cam broadcasts. One of the links is SYOWA Web cam at <http://www.nipr.ac.jp/~webcam> Fixed cams in this polar region are subject to adjustments depending upon solar positions. Sunrise and sunset takes months at a time. Attendants will point a cam toward the snow if the sun is rising or setting at the horizon. This procedure is done to avoid long periods of glare.

Since Admiral Byrd's settlement of "Little America" in 1928, radio, telephone, and computers have made Internet adventures possible. We can instantly learn from Arnewsline that expedition 3YOE recently had an emergency: a crew member was bitten by an elephant seal, or that 3YOE has changed split frequency to 14.260 MHz due to European QRM.

It is amazing that telecommunication culture has been able to synchronize global communications in many modes. It is only eighty years since Admiral Byrd's explorations. Apparently the door to exploration is open, and urbanization has made it possible to view closely the coldest continent on earth.

73 de KG2OR, Richard Sellers.

the January meeting and the weather-related woes associated with that. By putting the Technical Committee Report in September, it can come fresh on the heels of the summer's work at the repeater sites, when most of the Tech Committee's work is done, and can be a good "welcome back" program each year.

What do you think about the proposed schedule? Drop a note to your editor at ka2wft@arrl.net or phone a board member (numbers on page 2) to share your thoughts. If enacted, the new schedule would take place starting this September.

DUES ARE DUE! THIS IS YOUR LAST LINK IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RENEWED!

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 '10	836-0417
Director	Dave Halik W2ZZA '08	824-3432

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

APRS Digi-peater

K2ILH-2	144.39	Amherst
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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

WA2OLW (Leprechaun Graphics, 675-3764) still has BARRA jackets and T-shirts available.

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

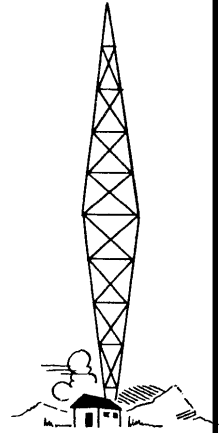


It's time for the

Annual BARRA

Ham Radio & Electronics

AUCTION



And Everyone's Invited to Buy or Sell!

Ham Radio Gear . Scanners . Computer Equipment . Parts
Books . CBs . Test Equipment . More!

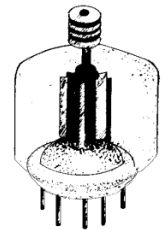
Monday, February 18, 2008
St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church
Brighton & Fries Roads

Tonawanda, NY

(Across from Kenmore East HS)



Doors open at 6:45 pm
Auction begins at 7:30 pm

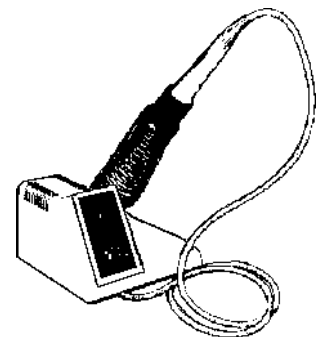
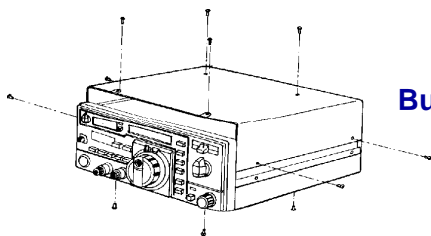


BARRA Retains 10% of each item's selling price.

\$2.00 per person donation
Refreshments Available

50/50 RAFFLE!

For more information contact:
Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association
PO Box 507
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
<http://barra.hamgate.net>



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.

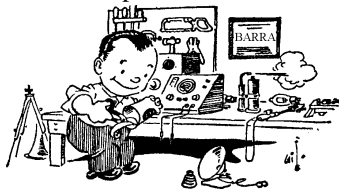
Monday, February 18, 2008 -- Annual BARRA Auction. Turn electronic trash into treasure at our fun-filled event.

Monday, April 21, 2008 -- SKYWARN training with members of the National Weather Service.

Monday, June 16, 2008 -- Meeting program TBA.

Saturday-Sunday, June 28-29, 2008 -- ARRL Field Day. BARRA will operate a station from the Cole Road site.

Monday, July 21, 2008 -- 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.

The **BARRA** Auction is this month!
Dig out those unused electronic items
that can be turned into **cash** at the Auction.
See you there:
Monday, February 18, 2008!!