



The Link

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

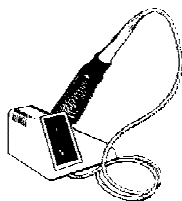
January 1999

Program for January: Annual Report of the Technical Committee

The program for the January meeting each year is the Report of the Technical Committee, which is the summary of all of the club repeater projects that have taken place over the previous year.

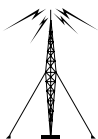
The Technical Committee is a group of members that work on the club's repeaters, sites, and associated equipment. The committee meets formally the first Friday of each month, and works each Wednesday evening. Any member is welcome to come out to the meetings and/or work sessions, all of which are held at the GLB Electronics shop.

Whether you join the committee or not, be sure to come out to the general meeting on Monday, January 18 and hear how the Tech Committee kept busy this year.



Cellular Deal Falls Through for BARRA

The lease arrangement proposed to BARRA by Frontier Cellular almost one year ago has resulted in Frontier not leasing space from us. Due to significant pressures by the neighbors around our Cole Road property, Frontier was forced by the Town of Boston to look at other sites on the Cole Road hill, and has resulted in their occupying a parcel to the south of our repeater site.



The proposed lease, had it gone through, would have meant financial stability for the club for many years to come. Without the deal, we need to continue selling raffle tickets and pinching every penny.

Despite the negative outcome (for BARRA) of the proposed arrangement, it is not due to a lack of effort. Board treasurer, Ed Swan, KD2JW, has gone above and beyond the call of duty in the lengthy negotiating process which began last January. In addition to many hours of work on the telephone, he has met with lawyers and representatives of Frontier, and was subjected to many unpleasant phone calls from the neighbors around the Cole Road site who were very much against Frontier's plans.

BARRA owes a huge debt of thanks to Ed for his work.

See you at the meeting January 18th!

Annual Auction is Next Month

BARRA's annual event of the year takes place next month, The Annual Auction! Once again our auctioneer will be Bob "Dutch" Dutschman, K2JGI. Dutch, in his inimitable style, always makes the event even more interesting -- "Here, take this mike *and* these circuit boards for a buck!!"

Go through your stuff and see what you no longer need or use and bring them to the auction next month and turn them into cash for both yourself and the club. BARRA retains 10% of the selling price, up to \$5 per item.

Help make the Auction our best ever: Start rooting up your used equipment now! See you there!

Dues are Due

Everyone is reminded once again that membership dues are due. The status of your dues is shown on your mailing label. If you believe that there is an error in what is shown on your label, please contact the editor or Ed Swan, KD2JW, BARRA treasurer. Remember that BARRA's largest source of income is membership dues. Thanks!

Sell Those Raffle Tickets

Included in this month's *Link* is another book of raffle tickets. Sales have been particularly slow this year -- let's hope it is because of the weather. Remember that the raffle is a fundraiser for the club, and that we are always facing increasing costs -- postage being the latest hit to the pocketbook.

It costs a great deal of money to operate this club. Liability insurance for the club is \$611 per year -- or at least 30 memberships if we assume \$20 dues, and it is actually over 40 memberships when we consider the discounted dues. We have only a little over 100 members. Those other 70 (or fewer) memberships are needed to pay for the autopatch (about \$15 per month -- \$180 per year -- and that line is set up at the cheapest possible option, meaning we have to pay for every call placed on the 'patch), property and school taxes at Cole Road total almost \$700, and NYSEG charges for the Cole Road site add to the mix. We are most fortunate in that our repeaters located at other sites are allowed through the good graces of our hosts, requiring either no rent & utility charges, or only a token amount. We have been further fortunate to have WNGS-TV as a tenant at Cole Road and their rent helps to defray our costs somewhat, but the brunt of the burden is placed on memberships and fundraisers.

Remember that the raffle ticket sales are an excellent "payback" for your coworkers and neighbors who have hit you up for their (or their kids') clubs and organizations! Sell them a BARRA raffle ticket or two!

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Mark Lienert KG2DE '00	447-1738
Vice President	Steve Riek N2QJE '00	731-3452
Secretary	Brian Neri WA2CWF '99	838-1673
Treasurer	Ed Swan KD2JW '01	877-0417
Directors	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '99	941-5569
	Keith Hendershot KB2VKK '99	822-3393
	Gene Kremzier N2OBW '01	632-4369

Committees & Chairs

Technical	Gil Boelke W2EUP
Link Editor	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT
Associate Link Editor	Dave Sewhuk N2GH
WNYSORC Representative Chair	Ben Bass N2YDM
Membership,	
Roster & Passwords	KA2WFT, W2EUP, KD2JW
Activities List	Ed Swan KD2JW
ID Badges	KD2JW
Erie County Emer. Coord.	Karl Weir N2NJH

Voice Repeaters

WB2JQK	29.68 -	Buffalo
K2ISO	145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2GUG	146.73 -	Grand Island
W2EUP	146.91 -	Boston
W2OXB	147.00 +	Kenmore
W2EUP	224.82 -	Boston
WR2AHL	442.00 +	Wethersfield
WA2HKS	444.00 +	Buffalo
WB2DSS	444.75 +	Kenmore

Digital Repeaters

W2EUP-1	145.59	Niagara Falls
N2GH-1	145.59	Wethersfield, NY
K2IMF-1	145.01	Marilla, NY

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 Packet BBS

BARRA has a bulletin board area on the IPBUFF (N2NJH) Packet/Internet gateway system. Connect through any local node that shows IPBUFF in its node list. IPBUFF is available to 1200 baud users directly on 145.63 MHz.

BARRA Home Page

<http://hamgate1.sunyerie.edu/barra.htm>

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barra-subscribe@perdix.acsu.buffalo.edu

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

barra@perdix.acsu.buffalo.edu

Remember that writing articles for The Link earns you voting membership and a reduction of dues. This month's issue is small because there was precious little material from club members to put in it. Articles related ham radio, of course, are most welcome, but those on related topics are also encouraged. It is cold and the snow is deep outside -- so why not stay warm inside and write an article?

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



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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, January 18, 1999 - Annual report of the BARRA Technical Committee. Come hear the "war stories" of keeping the BARRA machines up and running.

Monday, February 15, 1999 - Annual BARRA Auction. Turn your collection of unneeded electrical widgets into cash to benefit yourself and BARRA.

Monday, April 19, 1999 - Meeting program TBA.

**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 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 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.