

The Link

January 2004



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

Monthly Program Features Annual Technical Committee Report to the Membership

It's January so it's time for the annual Technical Committee Report to the membership. Every year the Tech Committee gives the members a review of the work done at the various repeater sites throughout the year, along with photos, site history, and an amusing anecdote or two.

This year will be no different. The Technical Committee is putting together another photo-filled presentation which help tell the story of each of BARRA's repeaters.

It takes quite a team of members to keep our many machines up and running. While the late KA2BIW often referred to the Tech Committee as "The College of Cardinals," it is by no means an exclusive group, nor is it intended to be. All members are always welcome to participate in the committee's activities. As we saw this past summer with the shack foundation work at Cole Road, repeater work doesn't always require superior knowledge of electrical engineering -- a strong back is often more useful!

The Technical Committee has meetings the first Friday of each month at the Potter Road BOCES school (location and time on back page) to assess the status of each of the repeaters as well as current projects. Even if you are only curious about the Committee's work, feel free to stop by a meeting.

We hope to see a good turnout for the committee's report on Monday, January 19th. Bring a ham friend!

Dues are Due

Time is running out on your membership dues renewals! Very shortly we will have to say good-bye to those who have not sent their renewals to us. As always, the status of your dues is shown on your mailing label, or by separate e-mail if you get the newsletter electronically. And while you're at it, you might want to encourage your ham friends to join, or re-join if they are BARRA "alumni." A membership application is available on the club web site, <http://barra.hamgate.net>

Raffle Sales Continue

The annual BARRA Raffle will be pulled at next month's Auction and included once again are a book of tickets with your newsletter. An apology from your editor is due the electronic subscribers for failing to send a raffle ticket file to everyone last month. Tickets are always available at meetings and of course at the Auction on February 16th.

Happy Birthday, John!

Recently, BARRA co-founder and life member John Latta, W2PVL celebrated his 88th birthday. A group of John's friends and fellow BARRA members turned out to help him celebrate the occasion. Many happy returns, John.

Our thanks to Rich Poczalski, WB2DSS for the photos below and for organizing the event.



W2PVL, Birthday Boy.



Helping John celebrate was Carl K2QV (ex W2PPL), Peter K2RSK, Kevin N2IE, Rich WB2DSS and W2PVL.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Nelson Oldfield WA2ZSJ '03 634-6394
Vice President	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT '03 834-2664
Secretary	Brian Neri WA2CWF '05 941-5999
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '04 877-0417
Director	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '05 941-5569

Committees & Chairs

Technical	<vacant>
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.	Gary Wysocki N2WLS

Voice Repeaters

WB2JQK	PL 107.2	29.68 -	Boston
K2ISO		145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2DSN	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
WB2DSS	PL 151.4	443.925 +	Niagara Falls
WA2HKS		444.00 +	Buffalo
WB2DSS	PL 151.4	444.75 +	Kenmore

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>

Back issues of *The Link* and a membership application are available on our web site.

SpaceLink

Please note that due to a serious problem with the UO-14 satellite, the SpaceLink is no longer in operation.

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

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

FFL#
16-12569

N.Y. STATE LIC. #
DEALER - D555
GUNSMITH - G428

K2PWL
IRWIN LASHER
DEALER IN FIREARMS & ACCESS.

CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR
NRA - PISTOL - RIFLE - SHOTGUN

838-1468 EVE.

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.

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

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

Rich Sellers, KG2OR

I found a title in the ARRL periodical index by KA2WFT, Doug Alderdice, BARRA's VP and newsletter editor. In *QST*, September 1985, pg. 65 Correspondence, Doug wrote "Novices and Elmers." Intrigued, I called Doug for an interview. In his letter, he agreed with the author of an article in an earlier *QST* who wrote about Elmers being key to getting new hams started, citing his own experience with Elmers. Doug's Elmer in amateur radio was his best friend and his father. He met them while attending Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania. Doug started with a Drake receiver that he bought at a hamfest that his Elmers took him to and a Heathkit DX-40 that he borrowed from them.



The start of my ham radio hobby is a good memory. Year after year, the challenges in amateur radio generate communication, meetings, research, field trips, new ideas and repairs. The FCC and the ARRL negotiate the changes. There have been many changes in the past few years! Doug Alderdice's letter in the September 1985 *QST* is a stimulus to exchange ideas about our own experience. Connect with yourself, observe the logs, field trips, expeditions, magazines, equipment, and tests. Perhaps you will reach a new plateau.

73 de KG2OR, Richard Sellers.

BARRA Apparel is Still Available!

T-Shirts \$7.00

Sweatshirts \$11.00

Quilt Lined Jackets \$35.00

Flannel Lined Jackets \$25.00

Sizes:

Youth - Small, Medium, Large

Adult - S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

(slight add'l charge for XXL and XXXL)

Contact:

Leprechaun Graphics

1560 Harlem Rd

Cheektowaga 14206

(716) 896-2928

weemagic@buffnet.net



FOR SALE

ICOM IC-718

100W SSB or CW all bands

(BRAND NEW IN THE BOX, NEVER USED)



Specifications:

Dimensions: 24cm (W), 8.6cm (H), 23.9cm (D)
 HF all band Amateur transceiver
 USB, LSB, CW, RTTY (FSK) and AM are built in.
 Simple operation
 One Touch Band Switching
 Direct Frequency Input via 10 Button Keypad
 Auto Tuning Steps (TS).
 Easy to Use Front Panel Controls
 Front Mounted Loud Speaker
 Optional DSP Capability
 IF Shift
 Microphone Compressor
 RF Gain Control
 Adjustable Noise Blanker
 RF Attenuator and Preamp
 Total of 101 Memory Channels
 Ample CW Features
 Built-in keyer with CW reverse
 VOX (Voice Operated Transmitter)
 Flexible Filter Selection
 Digital S/Rf Meter
 High Frequency Stability
Optional Voice Synthesizer
 CI-V Interface Capability With Optional CT-17
Mic and power cord included

\$450.00 firm

(The IC-718 sells on eBay every week for this price and more, Why pay shipping ?)

Will deliver in western New York (40 miles or less from Buffalo)

Contact Dave KC2JUF or Sandy KC2LGK at 716 825-4417

Email dave.halik@verizon.net or sandy.kay@verizon.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 16, 2004

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

Auctioneer:
Bob "Dutch" Dutschman, K2JGI

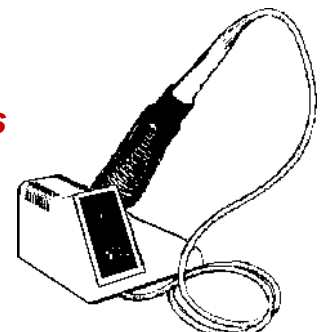
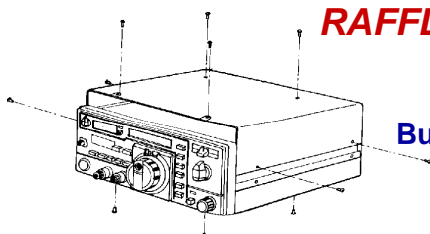
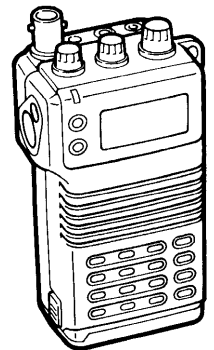
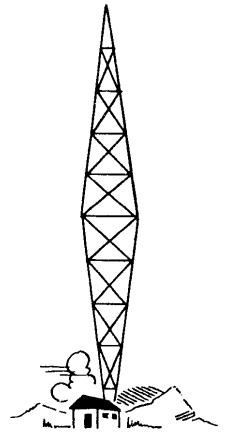
\$1.00 per person donation
Refreshments Available

RAFFLE! VCR, DVD Player and Cash Prizes

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



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

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, January 19, 2004 -- Annual report to the membership of the Technical Committee. Many photos will be presented along with details of work done at our various repeater sites over the past year.

Monday, February 16, 2004 -- Annual BARRA Auction! Turn trash into cash and put a smile on the spouse's face!

Monday, April 19, 2004 -- Recall local ham operators and QSOs of the past with the help of the vast audio archive of Peter, K2RSK, who will regale us in an evening of reminiscences.

**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 Airport Cafe, 4212 Union Rd, in the Airport Plaza, at the Union Road exit of the 33. 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.

**Don't Forget the Annual BARRA
Auction coming up next month,
February 16th, 2004 at 7:30 PM!**