

The Link

January 2006



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

This Month's Program: Report of the Technical Committee to the Membership

Each January the Technical Committee reports to the club membership its activities of the previous year. The Technical Committee is that body of BARRA that designs, builds and maintains its repeater systems and support equipment. The Tech Committee also undertakes the physical plant work at our club-owned repeater site in Boston, NY.

It has, as always, been a busy year for the Tech Committee and various key personnel of the committee will present different portions of the program. A report of Field Day will also take place. Following the report format of the last few years, numerous photos will be shown, and it is a great way for members who cannot travel to our many repeater sites to see those locations and the equipment located therein.

Monday, January 16th is the date. As always, the doors will be open at 7 PM for rag chew and refreshments, followed by a brief business meeting at 7:30 PM. The program will begin after the business meeting. We hope to see you there!

Where Do Your Dues Go?

In the last Link the proposal to raise dues beginning in 2007 was presented. It will be discussed at this month's general meeting and put to a vote in April. BARRA's dues have not changed since 1978.

In reviewing the financial report submitted by our treasurer, W2EAS, at the October Annual meeting, here are some of the major items on our balance sheet, making a brief report of where do your dues go:

Income

Dues \$1,130.00
Rent 1,700.00

Expenses

Insurance \$ 613.00
Electric Cole Rd 783.69
Taxes Cole Rd 1,020.49
Autopatch 223.23
Link Postage 153.07

Annual Auction is Next Month!

Good heavens, has it been a year already? The Annual BARRA Auction is approaching quickly -- next month! Easily the most popular event of BARRA's yearly events, the Auction is that fun-filled activity where one ham's stuff is turned into another ham's treasure, and the club benefits, too.

Start digging out your electronic goodies taking up space in closets, cellars, lofts, etc. and bring them to the Auction. BARRA retains 10% of the selling price to help raise funds to pay for our excellent meeting space at the church. As an added benefit, some members in the past have donated their entire Auction proceeds to the club. While we recognize that not everyone can do that, we certainly don't discourage it!

Why not begin your spring cleaning a little early and start pulling out those items that you can bring to next month's Auction. Mark the date on your calendar, Monday, February 20th and plan on attending!

Don't Forget to Check In With the BARRA



Wednesday Evenings at 8 PM
146.91/224.82/444.00
"Extra points for checking in on 220"

*Dues are due!
Check your mailing label for your
renewal amount.*

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Nelson Oldfield WA2ZSJ '06 634-6394
Vice President	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT '06 834-2664
Secretary	Greg Miller K2GTM '08 565-1807
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '07 836-0417
Director	Dave Halik W2ZZA '08 825-4417

Committees & Chairs

Technical	<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
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
WB2DSS	PL 151.4	443.925 +	Niagara Falls
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

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DEALER - D555
GUNSMITH - G428

K2PWL
IRWIN LASHER
DEALER IN FIREARMS & ACCESS.

CERTIFIED NRA INSTRUCTOR
PISTOL - RIFLE - SHOTGUN

445-3808 CELL
838-1468 EVE.

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.

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

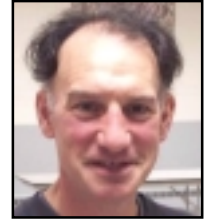
Full-time student with ID: -5.00

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

As you well know it is not necessary to log QSOs. However, I think it is still popular to log contacts. I perform logging, mostly on HF. VHF is another issue. I do not log local communications, but if I were to obtain something unusual, like tropospheric ducting, than I would log the call.



In September 2003 QST, pgs. 56-57, I found a couple of discussions in "Hints and Kinks," about 'Logging Hints.' For mobile or portable situations, William Parmley, KR8L, of Idaho, suggests making a paper log from Microsoft Works. The ARRL sells the "Mini Log Book," a smaller version of the log book. Robert Hunt, KY7C, of Prescott, Arizona, says that a digital voice recorder works well.

I have some ideas myself. Use a computerized note pad, or lap top, or bring your cell phone which has internet capability, and store the call through your e-mail. Considering everything about logging, if your paper trail is in doubt, then these suggestions will help you.

73 de Richard Sellers, KG2OR.

Remember that the Link is available as an emailed full color PDF document attachment by email. The club saves postage costs -- something especially important now with the recent postage increase -- and you receive a sharp-looking unmangled copy of the newsletter. To get your next Link by email, contact the editor at ka2wft@arrl.net

Genesee Radio Amateurs, Inc. First-Ever Winter Hamfest

St. Mary's R.C. Church
18 Ellicott St (Rt 63 South) & Evans St.
Batavia, NY 14020

Saturday, February 11, 2006

8:00am to 2:00pm

Setup 6:00am

Contact Alice Tyler bluebird1956@yahoo.com

or

Joe DeFazio w2dig2@bluefrog.com or 585-343-1145

Hamfest Chairperson

Alice G Tyler — KC2OKL
128 Tracy Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020-1502
585-343-5752



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

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 \$20.00 (US Funds. Please deduct \$5.00 for each item below that applies)

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

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?

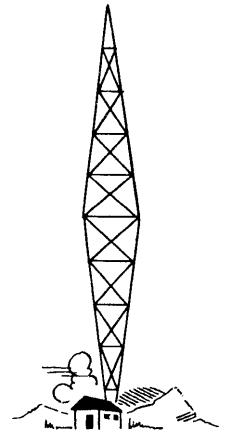


It's time for the

Annual BARRA

Ham Radio & Electronics

AUCTION



And Everyone's Invited to Buy or Sell!

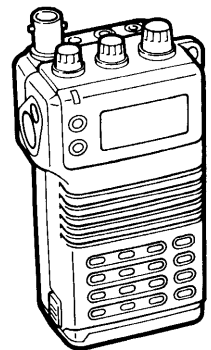
Ham Radio Gear . Scanners . Computer Equipment . Parts
Books . CBs . Test Equipment . More!

Monday, February 20, 2006
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

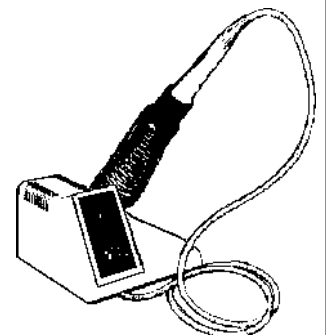
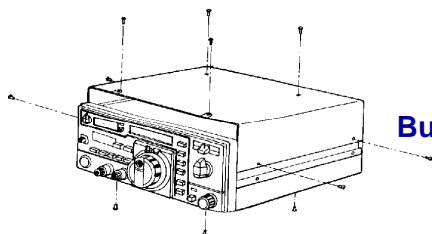


BARRA Retains 10% of each item's selling price.

\$1.00 per person donation
Refreshments Available

DOOR PRIZE 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

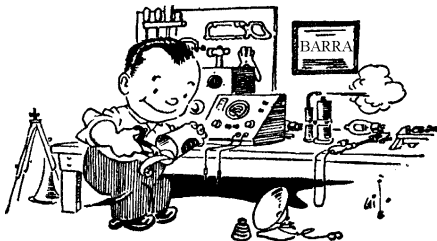
GENERAL MEETINGS

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, January 16, 2006 -- Annual Report of the Technical Committee to the membership. Hear the year in review of the work of the Tech Committee.

Monday, February 20, 2006 -- Annual BARRA Auction! Turn your electronic trash into cash!

Monday, April 17, 2006 -- Meeting program TBA. Vote on proposed dues increase.



**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.

Don't Forget the Annual
BARRA Auction
Next Month
Monday, February 20, 2006!