

The Link

July 2009



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

Time for the Annual Mobile Clinic and Picnic!

It's summer already (at least the calendar days so, if not the weather) which means it is time for the Annual BARRA Mobile Clinic and Picnic, held at our 146.91/224.82 repeater site in the Town of Boston, NY. Join us on Monday, July 20th, with a rain date of the following Monday, July 27th.

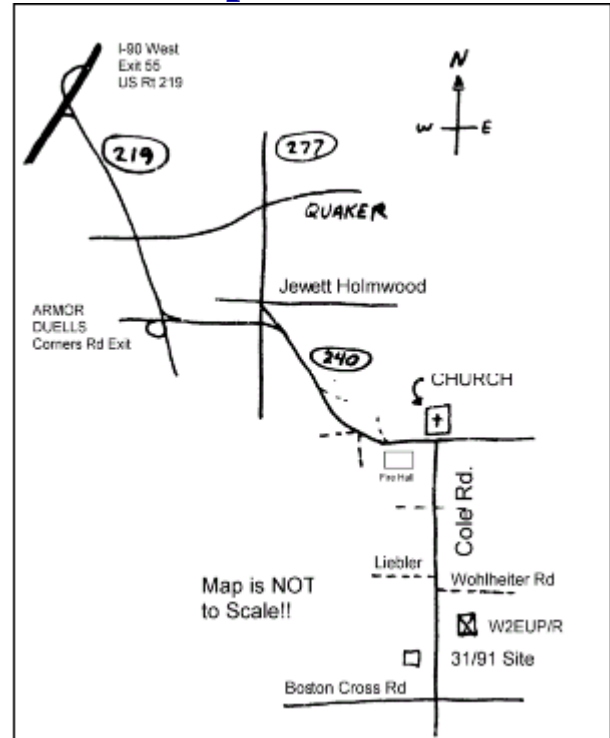
While the event has turned mostly into a picnic, its roots stem from the early days of repeaters when less-than-reliable converted and homebrew mobile radios ruled the day and needed a lot of TLC to stay "up to snuff," especially being subjected to rattling around in car. Sticking with that tradition, the crew will have various test equipment available for you to check out your mobile and/or handheld equipment. Today's modern "wonder rigs" don't need the constant tinkering that the old rigs required to stay on frequency, but many users have found that the new rigs tend to arrive from the factory with less than optimal deviation, tone or power settings. The Mobile Clinic is a great opportunity to put your rig "on the bench" and verify its specs.

If you anticipate having to make adjustments to your radio(s), please bring your rig's manuals and any necessary tools. Most of today's rigs can be adjusted without opening the case, but the information needed to get into the setup and service menus is still required. The Tech crew can advise on adjustments that your rig may need, but they aren't omnipotent and know every detail about every radio out there. Gather as much information about your rig as you can before heading out.

The picnic portion of the evening will be, as always, a bring-your-own. The club will provide a grill (WA2HVE promises to have the coals fired and waiting for all!) and some famous condiments from a well-known local hot dogger (thank you, Peter!). Members who plan to eat are asked to bring their own grillables, rolls, beverages & etc. Bringing a dish to pass or an extra hot dog or two isn't a bad idea, either, especially for those who may be coming directly from work and may not be prepared. Also, be reminded that the club's insurance policy forbids the consumption of alcoholic beverages on club property or at club events.

Plan on stopping by the 2009 edition of the BARRA Mobile Clinic and Picnic. Things will get started in the post-5 PM time frame and go until dark, or whenever. Drop by when you can. We look forward to see you there.

Map to Cole Road Repeater Site



TO W2EUP/R FROM BUFFALO:

Take the Thruway, I-90, westbound, to Exit 55, US Rt 219. Continue down US 219 to the Armor Duells Corners exit (after Mile Strip Rd).

At the top of the exit, turn right. Proceed to intersection with Rt 277, and continue straight through.

Proceed along Rt. 240 about 2.1 mi. as it bends and twists its way along. You will come to a stop light, bear to the left at the light. Watch for a fire hall on your right not far past the stop light – Cole Rd is soon after!

After the fire hall, very shortly on your left is a white church. Almost immediately is a right turn, watch for yellow "T" sign – this is Cole Rd! Turn rt. onto Cole Rd.

Proceed along Cole Rd approx. 6.1 miles. The site is less than ½ mile from the intersection of Liebler and Wohlheiter Roads. Look for two 100 ft. towers on your left.

Turn left onto driveway just past a pond and small house. Go up small hill and watch for directions for where to park. Please DO NOT park on the paved driveway – it is the driveway of our neighbors in the back.

The Mobile Clinic will begin around 5:30 pm and continue until dark, or thereabouts. In case of "iffy" weather, listen to 146.91/444.00 for updates about local conditions in Boston.

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	Charles Grammer KA2CQQ '11	886-4513
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '10	836-0417
Director	Damon Edwards, AB2UK '09	847-2140

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

W2EUP	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
---------	--------	---------

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

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. Regular mail recipients are charged \$4 beyond their dues.

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 \$2.50/mo; full page is \$20.00/mo. Contact the editor for rates for other sizes.

DUES

Basic membership rate: \$25.00

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

US Mail newsletter delivery: add \$4.00

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.).



Getting Ready for the Tech Net



Bruce, WA2HVE, sent in a photo of himself getting ready for another installment of the BARRA Tech Net. Bruce has been acting as net control for several weeks now and doing a fine job, giving Damon, AB2UK, a well-deserved break. Note Bruce's rig of choice to the right: a venerable GLB 414... no BARRA function should be complete without a 414!

Up She Goes!

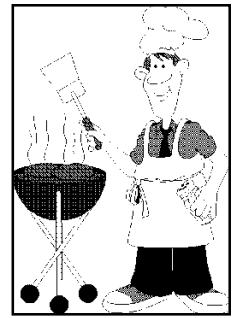


WA2HKS caught the raising of the Field Day antenna mast at the right moment. Seen are event chair Bill, KB2TOY, and your editor. It looks like they're doing it all by themselves, but in reality there were several other members just out of the shot on the guy lines helping to lift and secure the mast into place. The Field Day crew netted over 400 QSOs over the course of the weekend, along with a number of bonus items like a satellite QSO and copying the W1AW bulletin. The results are still being tabulated as of press time and we'll have a more detailed report in a future *Link*. Many thanks to all of the members who stopped by to help with setup, operating, and/or lend moral support -- or most importantly: brought coffee & doughnuts!

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. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, 2368 Eggert Road, Tonawanda, near Sheridan Drive. Doors open at 7:00 pm for rag chew, business meeting at 7:30, with program following.

Monday, July 20, 2009 -- Annual BARRA Mobile Clinic and Picnic at the Cole Road repeater site in Boston, NY.

Monday, September 21, 2009 -- Annual report of the Technical Committee to the Membership.

Monday, October 19, 2009 -- Annual Meeting of BARRA, Inc. for the purpose of hearing reports and election of board directors.



NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, AUGUST OR NOVEMBER

The *Link* is not published in March, May, August and November.

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.

Remember that summer meetings of the **Technical Committee** take place at the **Cole Road** repeater site!