

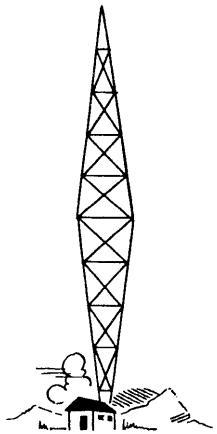
The Link

June 2006



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

This Month's Meeting: Field Trip to WKBW-TV's Transmitter



This month's meeting is a special one, a field trip to the transmitting facility of WKBW-TV in Colden, NY. Arranged through board member Greg Miller, K2GTM, this promises to be a don't-miss event for the membership. The day is our usual June meeting night, Monday, June 19th.

Because of the special arrangements made with Channel 7, we must ask for this event that all attendees be BARRA members in good standing (if you need to renew, you can do it on the spot at the site that night), and only members that are 18 or over, please.

Directions to the Channel 7 site, from

Buffalo:

Take the 400 south to the Maple Road exit.

Turn right at the bottom of the ramp and take that to Main Street in East Aurora. Turn right at the stop light.

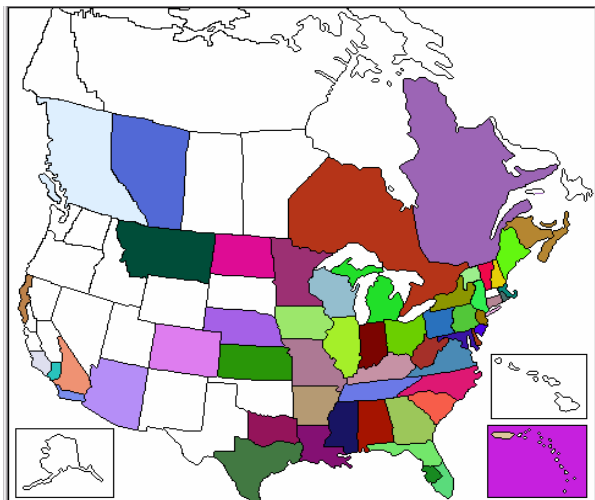
Take the first left, which is Center Road.

"Go for miles" on Center Road until you come to a tall tower on your left, this is the Channel 7 tower.

The address is 8909 Center Road, should you wish to Mapquest it.

Plan on gathering at 7 PM at the site. See you there!

Map of the states and provinces worked by the
2005 BARRA Field Day effort:



BARRA Field Day 2006 is June 24-25 at the Cole Road Repeater Site

Dave Halik, W2ZZA

BARRA's Field Day operations will be hosted by K2GTM, W2ZZA, and KC2LGK once again this year. Setup will begin around 9:00 AM on Saturday June 24. We are looking for volunteers to help erect antennas, put up tents and set up gear. This year we will run Class 2A and will be using the club call sign of W2EUP. If between now and the day of the event anyone comes forward with a third HF Radio and Antenna (a vertical would be nice as space is limited) we could operate 3A. The ARRL Field Day rules can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/06-fd-Rules.pdf>

If you have never operated Field Day or don't have HF privileges, no problem! A control operator with HF privileges will be on duty to help you and keep you legal. As in past years we will be using the N3FJP Field day logging software <http://www.n3fjp.com> to track our progress over the 24 hour operation period. It was quite a bit of fun last year trying to fill in all the map sections. (See last year's map at the lower left) On-air operations will begin at 2:00 PM and end on Sunday June 25 at the same time.



Traditional flag raising at Field Day

Volunteers will be needed again on Sunday at 2:00 PM for tear down. Help is always appreciated at that time as the host operators are usually very tired after being on the air for 24 hours.

This year plan on working an air shift, come out for an hour or stay the entire weekend. If you are a CW operator and have a favorite key or bug please bring it with you. (CW contact points count double!) Bring your tent or camper or just come out for the day (or night). A camp fire is usually going all night so don't forget your lawn chairs for those late night or early morning fire side rag chews.

If you can't make it this year you can still help the club score by copying the ARRL Field Day Bulletin. <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/w1aw-fd-sked-2005.html> Or why not just get on the air from the home QTH and run GOTA mode. We may work you from the Field Day Site.

Volunteers please contact Dave at w2zza@arrl.net or Greg at k2gtm@arrl.net to sign up. On the weekend of the event talk-in will be on the 146.910 and 444.000 repeaters.



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

Sales - Service - Installation

FFL#
16-12569

N.Y. STATE LIC. #
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 \$2.50/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

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

On April 6 of this year, Bill Edgar, N3LLR, Atlantic Division Director of the ARRL, spoke at the Southtown Amateur Radio Society's (STARS) meeting. Terry Rockhold, K2OO, told us about this meeting on our RAWNY net.



N3LLR, told us that the ARRL is trying to create an image which all people will recognize: advocacy, membership, public service, and education. The ARRL is developing the "Hello Campaign" which sets up a special service club's articulation with ARRL and club memberships. In the state of Maryland, there will be a test for education conventions. Grass roots is the league's position for cultural and legal positions. He emphasized the amateur radio operators' relevance to society with a film. In the shuttle disaster, 2003, hams were used in the hills of Texas. There was no other way to discover missing parts; radio communication was essential.

Walter Kronkite, KB2GSD, as moderator, focused upon BPL. It showed Jim Haynie, lobby hiking in Washington with senators. He showed the senators how BPL threatens radio reception with interference. It can also be a problem to fire and police radio. Bill Edgar said that maybe in ten years BPL won't be a problem. W1AW has a non-interfering BPL system on its site which Motorola built. Today our rules must be used to defend our spectrum and frequencies. There were other discussions about Winlink 2000 and the CW issue. N3LLR thought that the United States will probably eliminate the code requirement in the future. It was a very informative presentation.

73 de KG2OR.

Save the Date!
Monday, July 17th

**THE ANNUAL BARRA
MOBILE CLINIC & PICNIC**

at the Cole Road repeater site

Bring a friend

AixiZ Service and International LLC
OEM Laser Components

WWW.MFGCN.COM

Chuck Maricle W5CM



BARRA Excels Again at AIM Tournament

The recent Memorial Day weekend saw various BARRA members at points around the Town of Amherst providing communications for the 2006 edition of the Amherst International Memorial Soccer Tournament.



In a reprise of last year's activities, BARRA volunteers helped to relay score results of the various matches that were taking place at the five different fields. The match results were used by the tournament folks to determine further team pairings later in the weekend. Other tournament-related traffic was also passed.

It appears as though this will be a yearly activity for BARRA, since we have now had two successful years. It would be great if we could get enough volunteers to staff all of the sites over the entire weekend. That did not occur last year or this year. One site was completely unstaffed both last year and this year, and another site was without coverage Saturday afternoon and evening. That left the net control talking to folks untrained in radio procedure on the township's commercial repeaters from those uncovered sites. Plan NOW to spend some time with the AIM tournament next Memorial Day weekend!

Many thanks go out to the volunteers (in no particular order) who found time in their busy holiday weekend to show what ham radio can do: W2ZZA, KC2LGK, W2EAS, N2YDM (and Cody), WA2HVE, KB2TOY, WA2ZSJ, KA2IWK, K2ILH, N2ZDU and K2GTM. Net control was KA2WFT both days.

Door Needed at Cole Road

We have a request from our "director of buildings" at Cole Road, Bruce, WA2HVE. The building known as "Chet's Shack" at the repeater site is currently undergoing an external facelift along with other physical plant improvements. The original door on the shack has seen better days and needs to be replaced.

Would anyone happen have an entrance door, preferably steel, laying about that BARRA could make good use of? We are looking for a width of 32-36 inches. Failing a spare door being available, would anyone care to donate one?

Please contact Bruce, WA2HVE, at rbbarrrows@adelphia.net if you can help out.

Autopatch at Cole Road Removed

In an effort to curb expenses in the face of losing our tenant at Cole Road, and the realities of modern living, the general membership at the April meeting voted to remove the autopatch at Cole Road. This will save the club about \$220 a year in expenses for a resource that sadly has been underutilized for many years.

Earlier in the spring the club was informed that WNGS-TV, a paying tenant at the Cole Road site for many years, would not be renewing their lease at the end of June. This has caused a serious cash flow problem in the club and all expenses are under review.

The membership also approved the first increase in dues since the late 1970s to \$25/year.

Gene Collins, KA2IWJ, SK

Kevin Kedzierski, WA2FKV

It is with sadness that I inform you that on Friday, June 9, 2006, Gene Collins, KA2IWJ, became a silent key.

A member of RAWNY for 26 years, and BARRA for many years as well, Gene served on the RAWNY Board of Directors including terms as president, vice president, and treasurer. He was also the RAWNY QSO newsletter editor.



As an Extra Class licensee, Gene was very active in serving the amateur radio community helping new hams enter the hobby as an Elmer and instructor for The RAWNY Technical Institute teaching classes for the technician, general and extra class licenses. A major contributor at RAWNY's annual Youth Night, Gene also served as Field Day co-chairman for over 20 years, RAWNY's resident computer expert, acting club historian and was instrumental in developing RAWNY's presence through a permanent club station on board the USS *Little Rock* at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Serviceman's Park.

At BARRA, Gene was a regular attendee of the general membership meetings and the occasional technical committee meeting as well. He could be counted on to support BARRA's activities and was instrumental in arranging a joint meeting and tour of the *Little Rock* with BARRA and RAWNY a few years ago.

As a long time friend and associate, Gene's upbeat attitude, friendly manner and generosity, which made both our club events special will be missed.

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"

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

** Note: If you wish to receive a paper newsletter by US Mail, please add \$4.00 to your dues.

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 \$25.00 (US Funds. Please deduct \$5.00 for each item below that applies)

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

ADD: Newsletter by US Mail 4.00

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?

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, June 19, 2006 -- Field Trip! Tour of WKBW-TV transmitter facility in Colden, NY. Members 18+ only, please.

Saturday/Sunday, June 24-25, 2006 -- Field Day contest. BARRA will set up a station at the Cole Road site. Come and operate!

Monday, July 17, 2006 -- 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.

Spring and summer work parties at the Cole Road repeater site have begun! If you want to help, contact site trustee Dave Halik, W2ZZA at dave.halik@verizon.net or 825-4417