



# The Link

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

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October 2001

## October's Meeting: BARRA Annual Meeting and APRS Presentation by KA2IWK

Monday, October 15th is the date for BARRA's Annual Meeting followed by a presentation on APRS by Jim Collins, KA2IWK. In his presentation Jim will discuss: "Is packet dead? Not with APRS" and will address such issues as:

- how much (or little) equipment you'll need for mobile and home setups
- how to get yourself on the map
- Fun things to do with APRS
- What is the real intention of APRS?

This should prove to be an interesting presentation and we look forward to Jim's talk.

As always, doors are open at 7:00 PM for eyeball QSOs, and the business meeting begins at 7:30 PM. The program will follow the meeting.

We hope to see you there!

## Board Nominations

At the Annual Meeting this month we hope to elect some members to the board of directors. We have two positions available this year. At the September meeting current board treasurer Ed Swan, W2EAS, was nominated to run again and Ed accepted the nomination. However, as of press time we have no other candidates. Several members have been approached but their replies have not been received as this issue of *The Link* was being prepared.

Bring your nominations to the meeting on the 15th so that we can continue with the board business at hand!

## Refreshment Chair Needed

At the September meeting, Mark Lienert, KG2DE, announced his intent to resign from his duties as refreshment chair for the General Meetings. We are thus on the lookout for a member to take over this task.

The job is not difficult: it only requires the member doing this job to attend the eight general meetings throughout the year and bring a dozen or two of donuts, set up the coffee maker in the church kitchen, and maintain a small stock of canned pop. There are a couple of boxes of all the supplies that will be needed, and the funds collected at each meeting are used to purchase more materials as needed. Mark will be glad to break the new person in, and remember serving as refreshment chair qualifies for voting membership and the appropriate dues reduction!

## W2EUP is Now a BARRA Club Call

Thanks to the diligent efforts over the past few months by treasurer Ed Swan, W2EAS, as of October 7th BARRA has secured the call sign of BARRA founder, the late Gil Boelke, W2EUP. It was felt truly fitting and appropriate that BARRA obtain Gil's call for use primarily on the 146.91 repeater, which has beaconsed Gil's call for many years.

Ordinarily, to obtain the call of a deceased ham we would have had to wait for Gil's license to expire and wait for the call to be deleted by the FCC. However, with the cooperation of Gil's family, Ed was able to accelerate that process by submitting various documents to the FCC advising them of Gil's demise, and positioned the club to be ready to request W2EUP as soon as it became available in the FCC database.

BARRA thanks Ed for his determined efforts, as well as Gil's family for graciously allowing BARRA to apply for his call.

## Electronic Version of The Link is Available

Just a reminder to the membership that this publication is available in electronic format as an alternative to receiving it by mail. We have been advised that postage rates are going up once again January 1st and for every member that elects to receive the newsletter electronically the club saves \$3.06 per year in postage -- under the *current* rates!

The electronic *Link* is provided in Adobe PDF format directly to your e-mail account. All that is required to read it is the free Adobe Acrobat Reader, available at Adobe's website. The electronic *Link* looks exactly the same as the paper version, with the added feature of color titles on the articles. To see examples, check out some of the back issues of *The Link* on our website, <http://barra.hamgate.net>.

If you would like to subscribe to the *e-Link*, drop a note with your e-mail address to the editor at [73323.672@compuserve.com](mailto:73323.672@compuserve.com).

### *The BARRA E-Mail List Serve*

To join, send an e-mail message to:

[majordomo@hamgate.net](mailto: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](mailto:barra@hamgate.net)

## 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 '02	838-1673
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '01	877-0417
Directors	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '02	941-5569
	Keith Hendershot KB2VKK '02	668-0391
	Gene Kremzier N2OBW '01	632-4369

### 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.	Karl Weir N2NJH	

### Voice Repeaters

WB2JQK	29.68 -	Boston
K2ISO	145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2GUG PL 107.2	146.73 -	Niagara Falls
W2EUP	146.91 -	Boston
N2YDM	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

### 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 Home Page

<http://barra.hamgate.net>

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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, nor 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 CompuServe address: 73323,672. If submitting through the Internet, the full address is 73323.672@compuserve.com. The editor may be reached by telephone in the evenings at (716) 834-2664.

**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.).

**N2YDM Named 147.00 Trustee**

With the recent death of Jack O'Connor, W2OXB, a new trustee for the 147.00 repeater was needed. It was suggested by the Technical Committee and approved by the board of directors to name Ben Bass, N2YDM, as the new trustee. Ben's call will grace the repeater as soon as a new controller chip can be programmed.

Ben already has some plans to revamp that repeater and link it with the 444.750 WB2DSS repeater which is housed at the same site in Kenmore. The boxes sit next to each other, they may as well talk to each other!

**A Tremendous For Sale Offering**

BARRA member Ron Chmiel, WB2VFE, has a special For Sale offering, a Drake TR-7 HF transceiver package which includes: power supply, service manual, a selection of filters, remote speaker, and extra band chips. Ron will accept the best offer for the package and will donate the purchase price to the W2EUP Memorial Fund. What a deal! Some lucky ham will get a great HF rig package and the W2EUP Memorial Fund will get a nice shot in the arm.

For questions, or to place a bid, call Ron at 633-6533 (home) or 867-0246 (cell).

**RAWNY Holding General License Classes**

On Monday evenings from October 1st, 2001 through December 17th, 2001, the RAWNY Club is holding General Class license classes at The Church of the Nativity, Colvin Blvd near Sheridan Drive. The cost is a donation and will be used by RAWNY to help pay for its meeting space at the church. The text used is the ARRL General Class License Manual and is \$15. Code instruction is included in these classes.

For more information, contact Kevin, WA2FKV at 693-3917 (days) or 834-3042 (nites) or at wa2fkv@arrl.net. Another contact person is Gene, KA2IWJ, at 833-0248 or ka2iwj@arrl.net.

**Dues are Due**

Beginning this month, BARRA membership dues are up for renewal. Check your mailing label for the amount of your dues. *E-Link* recipients will receive a separate e-mail indicating their amount due.

Dues may be paid in person at the October meeting, or by mail to the club PO box.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n

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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, October 15, 2001** - Annual BARRA Meeting and presentation by Jim Collins, KA2IWK, on APRS.

**Monday, December 17, 2001** - Annual BARRA Holiday Party. Bring the spouse!

**Monday, January 21, 2002** - Annual report by the Technical Committee. Hear the "year in review" of maintaining BARRA's extensive repeater network.

### BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at Crest A/V Electronics, 1570 Main Street, Buffalo. 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 each month around 7:00 pm at the former GLB shop in West Seneca. 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.

**NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN  
MARCH, MAY, AUGUST OR NOVEMBER**  
The *Link* is not published in those months