



# The Link

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

October 2002

## This Month's Program: RF Safety

This month Bruce Small, KM2L, will speak to us about the new RF safety regulations and how they affect us as amateur radio operators. It promises to be an interesting program, so don't miss it! Monday, October 21st is the date.

The program will begin with a brief description of the ARRL RF Safety Committee and their activities, followed by a discussion about what is known about the health effects of electromagnetic radiation, and will conclude with a discussion of the FCC regulations about RF safety and how they apply to repeater operators.

## Riley-isms

*From ARRL Letter*

FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth has endorsed a list of several points that he feels help to define the concept of "good amateur practice." Section 97.101(a) of the Amateur Radio Service rules refers to "good engineering and good amateur practice"—considered to refer to maintaining the highest standards of engineering and on-the-air comportment. But the rule lacks specifics.

"Good amateur practice is a hard thing to define," Hollingsworth conceded. "I'd have to say it's operating with the realization that frequencies are shared, that there's going to be occasional interference and that's no reason to become hateful and paranoid."

Hollingsworth says amateurs have to realize that more people than ever are listening in, especially since September 11, 2001, and that amateurs always need to remember that "our rights end where another person's begin."

A Michigan Amateur Radio club has been credited with distributing a list of "Riley-isms" culled from Hollingsworth's various talks at conventions and hamfests and club meetings around the US. Hollingsworth—who verified that he had been cited accurately—says his various comments represent an effort to flesh out what "good amateur practice" consists of for considerate the Amateur Radio operator. According to Hollingsworth, good amateur practice means:

- \* giving a little ground—even if you have a right not to—in order to help preserve Amateur Radio and not cause it to get a bad name or hasten the day when it becomes obsolete.

- \* respecting band plans, because they make it possible for every mode to have a chance.

- \* being aware that we all love Amateur Radio, and there's no need to damage or disgrace it just to save face.

- \* keeping personal conflicts off the air. Settle your arguments on the telephone, the Internet or in person. Just keep them off the air.

- \* cutting a net or a contest a break, even if you don't have to and even if you have no interest whatsoever in nets or contesting.

- \* realizing that every right carries responsibilities, and just because you may have a right to do certain things doesn't mean it's right to do them in every circumstance.

- \* you don't "own" or get preference to use any frequency.

- \* not operating so that whoever hears you becomes sorry they ever got into (or tuned in on) Amateur Radio in the first

*concludes in next column*

## Board of Directors Election This Month

According to the BARRA By-Laws, October is the month for our Annual Meeting and the election of directors for the board. With the change in the number of directors as a result of our By-Laws amendment last spring, there are three board positions expiring this year, but only two need to be elected.

The three outgoing directors are secretary Brian Neri, WA2CWF, and directors Voit Drankhan, KA2WIO, and Keith Hendershot, KB2VKK. Brian and Voit have been nominated and have agreed to run again. There were no further nominations from the floor at the September general meeting. Nominations will still be taken at the October meeting.

## Missing: One White Stick Antenna

Have you seen it? The whereabouts of our very nice white stick antenna, formerly of the Wethersfield site, appears to have gone missing. There has been some confusion over who may have taken it on behalf of the club from the site when it was removed from the tower. It was at first believed that Gil might have taken it, but it has not turned up at the shop or in his effects at home. Joe, K2LMH, the closest trustee to the site also does not have it, as well as Dave, N2GH, or Mike, W2HYP, who round out the Wethersfield crew.

If anyone either has the antenna, or know who has it, please contact a board member or Ted Ertl, WA2HKS, at 674-3325 or [tertl@erie1.wnyric.org](mailto:tertl@erie1.wnyric.org).

## GLB Shop Cleanout: Nearing the End

As of this writing, very little remains in the old GLB Electronics building in West Seneca. It has been quite a task to clear the building of the items that were contained in it. Coordinating this massive undertaking was Keith Laudenslager, K2DSN, who along with Ed Swan, W2EAS, were at the shop nearly every Wednesday evening over the past 16 months or so.

Gil's family has been especially kind in allowing BARRA to dispose of much of the shop's contents for its benefit, and the club's future is a bit more secure as a result.

There are still some lingering items to deal with at the shop but it is anticipated that the property will be sold by the end of the year, and close out an important era in BARRA's history. Our thanks again to Keith and Ed for their untiring efforts.

*Riley-isms con't*

place.

Hollingsworth notes that the list "doesn't touch on a lot of other technical issues, such as using 1500 W when your signal report received is 40 over 9." Good amateur practice, he said, "just means a lot of things that can't always be quantified."—thanks to Riley Hollingsworth

## 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 '04 877-0417
Directors	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '02 941-5569 Keith Hendershot KB2VKK '02 668-0391

### 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
K2DSN 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

### UO-14 Retransmissions

The downlink of amateur satellite UO-14 is retransmitted on every pass over the Buffalo area on our 444.00 and 146.91 repeaters. For information on uplinking to the satellite, see the BARRA web page.

### 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.

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### 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)

*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](mailto: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](mailto: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.).

## New Member Wins Award for BARRA

When new member Dave Halik, KC2JUF, attended this summer's LARC hamfest, the last thing on his mind was winning an award for his new club. However, he did come away with an impressive trophy on behalf of BARRA.

The hamfest organizers held a little friendly competition event among the local clubs, which was to take one of the amateur radio license element written tests. Some clubs competed with a team of people. In BARRA's case, only Dave volunteered to take a crack at it.

Dave, working alone, finished first. He turned in his paper and it was immediately scored and he found that he had missed six questions. Figuring any one of the other clubs' teams would do better than that, he left the venue and eventually the hamfest grounds, never knowing until some days later that he had, in fact, won the top prize.

The trophy was presented officially to the club by Dave at the general meeting in September, and it has traveled some, too. In the photo, Dave is at the Cole Road site with it!

So congratulations to new member Dave Halik, KC2JUF for bringing home a nice award for BARRA!



WA2HKS Photo

## Don't Forget to Get Your BARRA Mug!



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## 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, October 21, 2002** -- Annual BARRA Meeting with election of Board members. Program presentation by Bruce Small, KM2L, on the topic of "Is electromagnetic radiation safe?" and "How do I know if I am in compliance with the new regulations?"

**Monday, December 16, 2002** -- Annual BARRA Christmas Party. Come out and join in the holiday spirit with BARRA friends and families. DVD player door prize raffle courtesy of Crest A/V Electronics!

**Monday, January 20, 2003** -- Annual report of the Technical Committee to the membership. Come hear and see the year in review of BARRA's repeaters, sites, and projects.

**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 Crest A/V Electronics, 1570 Main Street, Buffalo, between Michigan and Ferry Streets. 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.



The cold weather is coming...  
will we hear our tow truck  
friends again??