

The Link

October 2003



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

This Month: BARRA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

The Annual Meeting of BARRA will take place Monday, October 20 for the purpose of hearing reports and electing officers for the coming year. At last month's meeting, the incumbent officers whose terms are expiring were nominated for re-election. President Nelson Oldfield, WA2ZSJ, and Vice-President Doug Alderdice, KA2WFT, are the board directors whose terms are up and have been nominated for re-election. Several other names were submitted from the floor at September's meeting, but the prospective nominees declined the nomination.

As of this writing, your board directors are trying to secure a program for the evening following the business meeting. Stay tuned to the BARRA List Serve (directions for signing up on page two) for any last minute changes.

Even without a program, the October meeting is an important event in the yearly life of BARRA, so we hope that you will plan on attending. See you there.

A Call for Programs

The Board is interested in *your* ideas for meeting programs. At each general membership meeting we like to have a program of interest to the membership, usually of a radio- or ham-related nature, but sometimes a topic of general interest is a good fit for the group, too.

Do you have an interesting job that you could present to us? Perhaps you're into a special niche of ham radio and could share your experience with us. Or...? Let us know!

Contact any board member with your thoughts and ideas and we will follow them up.

Do You Have Any Club Equipment?

The Technical Committee is looking to update its inventory records which have been woefully neglected for some years and wants to know who has what of the club's stuff. Ben Bass, N2YDM, has graciously consented to compile the new inventory list and needs to hear from you. If you have any club equipment squirreled away let Ben know at benbass@verizon.net or at 833-8683.

Don't forget to sign up for the e-mail version of this newsletter! It comes to you fresh and in color!

Updates to Voting Membership List

Thanks to information received from Gene, N2OBW, we have a list of BARRA members who participated in public service events in the previous year and have added them to the voting membership list, which appeared in last month's *Link*.

The members participating in public service were:

K2ILH	KA2WYE
KC2ESC	KC2VS
N2DAY	N2OBW
W2SMW	WB2JCB
WB2VLV	

As always, if we have missed a member's participation in either a public service activity or in a club activity, please let your editor know ASAP and that member will then be eligible for voting membership (and the \$5 discount!) for 2003-04.

Kudos to BARRA for ESG

Bob (KD2IM) and Paula (N2FDA) Brackett

Excerpted from September 2003 issue of the LARC Longwire, newsletter of the Liverpool Amateur Radio Club

The Empire State Games were a success this year due in part to the tireless effort of the Amateur Radio volunteers. We had less than an optimum number of volunteers this year, leaving some competitions unsupported and all of those who worked put in long days. The best part was that no one complained of the long hours! Coverage was provided for the sports that normally result in the most injuries. If we had been able to cover all of the competition it would have been 700 hours of support!

We would also like to express out sincere appreciation to the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association (BARRA) for the use of their 146.91 repeater. This is a marvelous machine with two receivers on VHF using a 1.2 GHz link, five UHF receivers, and incorporates a voter to select the best signal. There are also links for 220 MHz and satellite that they kindly turned off during the games. This repeater is located south of Buffalo at Boston with a potent output. The receivers are spread around the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area providing excellent multi-band linking and coverage.

We still have BARRA coffee mugs available at \$5 each, and WA2OLW still has BARRA jackets and T-shirts available. Space didn't allow us to run the full-size ads this time.

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 '05 941-5999
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '04 877-0417
Director	Voit Drankhan KA2WIO '05 941-5569

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	PL 107.2	29.68 -	Boston
K2ISO		145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2DSN	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

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.

SpaceLink

Please note that due to a serious problem with the UO-14 satellite, the SpaceLink is no longer in operation.

Best Wishes, Keith!

We have learned that Keith Laudenslager, K2DSN, has had a rather serious medical diagnosis recently. As a result he will be facing some difficult procedures in the near future and we want to send our best wishes along to him from everyone in BARRA. We are sure that he will be glad of cards which can be sent to 11698 Liberia Road, East Aurora, NY 14052-9538.

Dues are Due!

Beginning with this issue, dues for 2003-04 are now due. Check your mailing list (or separate e-mail for e-Link recipients) for the amount you owe. We have attempted to apply all applicable discounts, but if we goofed, be sure to let us know!

A special thanks to the handful of members who renewed early at the September meeting!

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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

Richard Sellers, KG2OR

I have had a couple of interesting VHF (146.910 MHz) contacts from the Batavia Downs parking lot. I made a Monday night net this summer with a mobile whip antenna and five watts. It is probably about thirty five miles to UB, and sixty miles to Cole Road. When conditions permitted I made a good QSO, some other times I made the repeater, but lacked a voice. That's the way it is! Back in August I wanted to tell the net something. It was one of the days I couldn't make it into the repeater. The clouds probably got in the way, because it rained later. I think that this is the next best place to air the news.



On August 25, 2003 at 135.39 AM EDT, the Space Infrared Telescope Facility was launched on a Boeing Delta II Rocket. Maybe you heard about it on the TV or commercial radio. I have written about SIRTf in various past issues of "Hobby Highlights," and I was quite pleased to find at www.sirtf.com a web site full of information about the launch and news concerning the system. Check it out! We have been waiting a couple of years for this project to get off the ground. 73 de KG2OR.

Public Service Opportunity

Gary Tillinghast, KB2YAA

The PROS Club and the Cattaraugus County Emergency radio group will be working together to provide communications for a Horse and Rider endurance race in Allegany State Park. This will happen on Saturday, October 18 and will start just after sunrise.

The first group will leave about 7 to 7:30 me. or there about. There are four loops that the riders will participate in and all horses and riders are given a 30 minute break, so the horses can rest and get checked out by a vet. We have six checkpoints set up and will need 15 to 18 Hams to help out. The Horse and Rider group will provide all refreshments and will be delivering them to all checkpoints. We will pair up operators, so everyone gets a chance to stretch out the muscles from time to time.

If you can only make it for part of the day, that would be fine. The Cattaraugus County group will be bringing out the communications trailer from Little Valley for the central communications site. We will need you to bring an antenna that you could get up in a tree or on a pole for best communications. We do have a couple of spots that will need a good gain antenna. If you can help, you can email Gary at tillfam3@netzero.net or give him a call at 716-592-9554. We will be using a simplex frequency and have a set of repeaters for backup. All participating will need to check in at the central communications site before going out to the check station, for you will get a list for all participants in this race. You will be staying in your car or near it at the check point. Thanks.

Gary KB2YAA



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Dave.Halik@verizon.net or Sandy.Kay@verizon.net



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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 20, 2003 -- BARRA Annual Meeting and election of officers.

Monday, December 15, 2003 -- Annual BARRA Christmas Party. Bring the spouse and/or a ham friend and enjoy holiday fellowship with the BARRA gang. Good food, fellowship and door prizes await those who attend!

Monday, January 19, 2004 -- Annual report to the membership of the Technical Committee.

Monday, February 16, 2004 -- Annual BARRA Auction! Turn trash into cash and put a smile on the spouse's face!

**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.

Official Notice

The Annual Meeting of the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc. will take place
Monday, October 20, 2003 at 7:30 PM
for the purpose of hearing reports and electing members to the board of directors.