

# The Link

October 2004



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

## BARRA Annual Meeting is This Month

BARRA's by-laws dictate that each October the club hold its annual meeting where board directors are elected and financial reports are heard. This will take place Monday, October 18th.

At the September meeting board treasurer Ed Swan, W2EAS, was nominated for reelection to the board. There is only one board seat up for election this year.

Another important item covered at the September meeting was the approval of the voting membership upgrade list. There were, of course, corrections to the list and the corrections to date appear on page four of this issue. If we have still left someone off, or have missed a credit for someone already on the list, please let your editor know.

While the Annual Meeting may sound on the surface to be a ho-hum event, the financial reports are always of interest and are vital to the future of the club. We hope to see you at the meeting!

---

## Dues are Due.

It's hard to believe, but it is that time again already -- dues renewal time. On each members' mailing label, or by separate email to electronic paperless newsletter recipients, is the amount of your dues renewal. If we have overlooked a discount, please do not be shy and let us know.

Dues are important to the club's existence. It is our primary source of income and in the face of declining membership numbers that means less dollars to keep our many repeaters on the air.

On that subject, in this issue on page five is a membership application. This is a feature that your editor started back when he first took over *The Link*, printing it from time to time in the hopes a member would "drum up" a new member by passing the application on to that ham. In the age of the Internet and availability of the membership form on our web page it was thought that it was perhaps redundant to also print the application in these pages. Missing from the Internet version of the membership application is the personal contact of one member inviting another person who is either a ham or simply has an interest in ham radio to membership in BARRA. Clubs of all kinds as well as civic groups are facing the same membership issues so we all need to be a bit more proactive in preserving not only ham radio itself but BARRA as well.

As you renew your own dues, think about your radio friends who would enjoy membership in BARRA and pass on the membership application to them.

## From the Archives



This great shot of the late Gil Boelke, W2EUP, atop the wind generator tower at the former Cherry Creek repeater site has turned up. We're guessing that it was taken in the late 1970s or early 1980s.

---

## The Auction is Coming!

No, February hasn't suddenly snuck up on us. This is just a gentle early reminder that the annual BARRA Auction is not too terribly far away. It also isn't too soon to start pulling out those electronic items that you no longer need and setting them aside for our February event.

The Auction is a major fundraising event for the club and only by bringing items to sell does the club realize any proceeds, retaining 10% of the item's sale price.

At the 2004 Auction there were a couple of members who donated the entire proceeds of their lots to the club. While we certainly don't expect everyone to do that, we are extremely appreciative of those who go the extra mile to help out the club. Just bringing items of value to the auction means that you'll get a decent price for your stuff and the club gets a nice "cut."

Start rummaging about now! It's not too soon!

## 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	Brian Neri WA2CWF '05 941-5999
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '04 836-0417
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.	Gary Wysocki N2WLS

### 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.

### Club Call

BARRA holds the club call W2EUP in honor and memory of one of its founders, Gil Boelke, W2EUP.

## 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

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 INSTRUCTOR  
NRA - PISTOL - RIFLE - SHOTGUN

838-1468 EVE.

### 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.).



## Hobby Highlights

*Richard Sellers, KG2OR*

I have a MFJ frequency standard unit. It can calibrate my transceiver's frequencies within 25 to 100 kilohertz. It is comprised of a nice looking box, and a switch for 25, 50, and 100 kilohertz. I use it to measure my band frequencies. With that work accomplished, chances that I am outside a band when operating are highly unlikely. I can also calibrate my radio using CHU or WWV. Do you calibrate your radio frequencies often?



It is not a bad idea. Who wants to be cited by an official observer for using illegal frequencies? Listen to WWV on 10 MHz or CHU on 7.335 MHz. If your frequency is off then give the radio an adjustment. By the way, WWV and CHU are called utility stations. Utility stations have been developed for radio beacons, telemetry, RTTY, spying, aircraft and maritime communications, hurricane watching, satellite transmissions, emergency communications, and short wave reception of various kinds of geophysical data.

I found a couple of interesting web sites concerning utility stations. I hope you have a chance to use them. There are many lists indexed according to utility, country, and frequency. The lists can also be double clicked for more extensive explanations. The first one is: [www.panix.com/clay/ham/](http://www.panix.com/clay/ham/) and the second is: [www.ftp.funet.fi/pub/dx/text/utility/](http://www.ftp.funet.fi/pub/dx/text/utility/)

Our amateur radio spectrum is included within the range of utility frequencies. You might be able to pick up many of these stations with a good ham receiver, or scanner. Commercial aircraft, military, and maritime systems can give you some insight into real time work. Tune up and have fun researching. 73.

## BARRA

### Apparel is Still Available!

**T-Shirts \$7.00**

**Sweatshirts \$11.00**

**Quilt Lined Jackets \$35.00**

**Flannel Lined Jackets \$25.00**

Sizes:

Youth - Small, Medium, Large

Adult - S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

(slight add'l charge for **XXL** and **XXXL**)

**Contact:**

Leprechaun Graphics

1104 Seneca Creek Rd

West Seneca, NY 14224

(716) 675-3764

[weemagic@buffnet.net](mailto:weemagic@buffnet.net)

## Updated Annual Voting Membership Upgrade List

According to the BARRA By-Laws, each September a new roster of members is compiled for full voting membership eligibility. Voting membership is earned by participating in some club or club sanctioned event.

Below are listed the members who have participated in one or more BARRA activities during the previous year (October to September). This list was published in last month's *Link* and was voted upon with corrections at the September general membership meeting. The corrected list is shown below.

### BARRA VOTING MEMBERSHIP UPGRADES 2003-04

KF2AA	D		
WA2CWF	2459		
N2DAY	D	KEY:	
WB2DSS	12	1 - Repeater Trustee	
W2EAS	12369	2 - Tech Committee	
KC2ESC	D	3 - K2DSN QTH Work	
KC2FIV	6	4 - Cole Road Work	
AJ2G	A	5 - Field Day	
N2GH	127	6 - BARRA Auction	
K2GTM	2345	7 - Link (articles, etc.)	
WA2HKS	12345	8 - Meeting program	
WA2HVE	2345	9 - Board Member	
W2HYP	12	A - PO Box pickup	
N2IE	6	B - Cole Rd Lawn	
K2ILH	12347D	C - Tower work	
WB2JCB	4D	D - Public Service	
K2JGI	6	E - Other repeater	
WB2JQK	12		
KC2JUF	123456		
KC2LGK	56	WB2VEU	E
K2LMH	12	WB2VLV	D
N2MHG	C	KC2VS	6D
N2OBW	D	KA2WFT	2345679
WA2OLW	E	KA2WIO	249
KG2OR	7	KA2WYE	D
K2RSK	8	KB1XW	23
W2SMW	D	N2YDM	1246
KB2TOY	235	N2ZDU	C
KA2TVT	B	WA2ZSJ	369

As always, if a member was left off the list or a member on this list is missing a credit for an activity, please let your editor know.

Remember that *The Link* is available in full color as an e-mailed PDF document. Other clubs are stopping printing of paper newsletters altogether. While we aren't getting that drastic just yet, we'd like to encourage all who are able to participate in this beneficial program -- the club saves the postage and you get a nifty copy of *The Link*. To sign up e-mail the editor.

## Kenwood TMD700A Mobile Rig Available

A Kenwood TMD700A mobile APRS VHF/UHF dual band rig is available for sale. The rig is from the estate of Keith Laudenslager, K2DSN, and was kindly donated to BARRA by his XYL. The rig is very good condition and was used only a short time by Keith.

The D700 has built-in APRS and packet TNC capabilities requiring only an external GPS receiver with a standard NMEA interface to enable the user to become a mobile APRS unit.

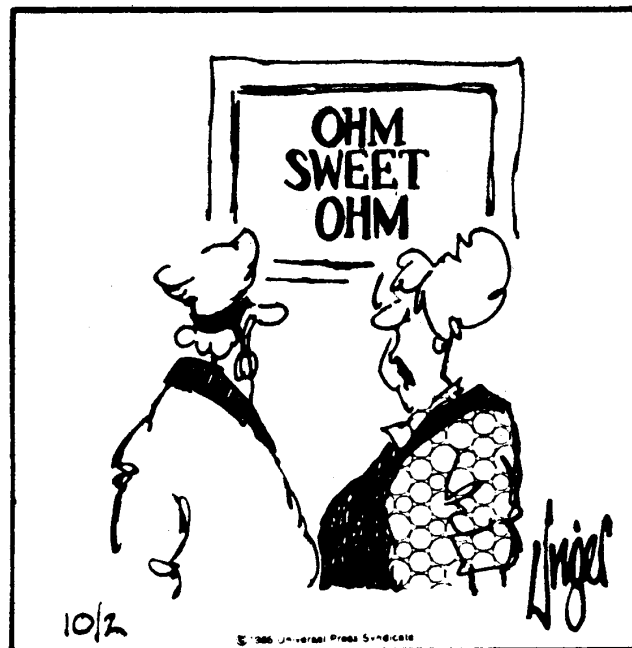
The rig is being offered to BARRA club members first and as the rig is nearly new an offer in accordance with that is expected. The latest AES catalog lists the Kenwood TMD700 at \$520 and most ham equipment dealers have the TMD700 on backorder from Kenwood because the rig is so popular.

If you are interested in making an offer on the rig, please contact Ed Swan, W2EAS, at 836-0417 or at [w2eas@arrl.net](mailto:w2eas@arrl.net). Technical questions about the radio can be directed to your editor, who is running one of these rigs and bought his the same day as Keith.



Seen in the October 1986 BARRA Link:

### HERMAN



"He makes \$35 an hour as an electrician."

# 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

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 \$20.00 (US Funds. Please deduct \$5.00 for each item below that applies)

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

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



*"Serving Western New  
York and the Niagara  
Peninsula"*

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

---

## Calendar of Events

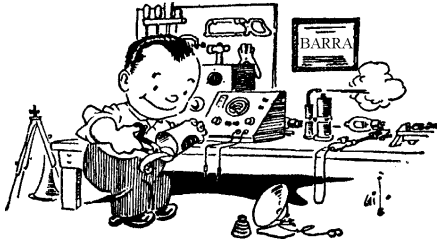
### GENERAL MEETINGS

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, October 18, 2004** -- BARRA Annual Meeting.

**Monday, December 20, 2004** -- Annual BARRA Christmas Party.

**Monday, January 17, 2005** -- Annual report of the Technical Committee to the membership.



**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.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

The BARRA Annual Meeting  
Will Take Place  
Monday,  
October 18, 2004