

# The Link

October 2008



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

## October General Meeting: Annual Meeting of BARRA, Inc.

According to BARRA's by-laws, the annual meeting of the corporation is to take place each year in October. At the meeting we will review the financial reports for the previous year, and elect new board members.

This year we have two board positions open. The terms of Greg Miller, K2GTM, and Dave Halik, W2ZZA, expire this year year. Greg left the area at the end of the summer and submitted his resignation from the BARRA board at that time. We have a roster of four candidates vying for the two positions and thus we have a balloted election this year. The timing is a bit tight for returning ballots because the full roster wasn't known until just before press time. Had things been a bit more timely, *The Link* would have been sent out sooner.

Because things have come together rather quickly at the last minute there was no time to get the traditional biographies and photos of the candidates. The four candidates in alphabetical order are:

**Charles Grammer, KA2CQQ**

**Dave Halik, W2ZZA**

**Bob Hughes, KA2WEY**

**Jerry Musialowski, WB2VLV**

The rules for voting: each voting member (as approved at the September general meeting, and printed on Page 4) will receive either by US Mail or email one ballot. The ballot may be brought either in person to the general meeting on **Monday, October 20th, 2008** beginning at 7 PM, or returned to the club PO box by US Mail. Ballots will be counted during the general meeting which begins at 7:30 PM. Ballots returned by US Mail *must* have a return address, so we can make sure no one votes more than once... we promise to remove your ballot without looking at it and will place it in the general ballot box. Ballot envelopes will be opened at the meeting in full view of anyone wishing to observe the process. Ballots will be tallied by volunteer members at the meeting who are not on the ballot. The top two candidates receiving the most votes will be deemed elected.

**All ballots must either be mailed in an envelope with a return address to the club PO box to be received by 3 PM Monday, October 20th, 2008, or delivered in person to the BARRA Annual Meeting, Monday October 20th, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the church.**

## Window Work Party at Cole Rd

Saturday, October 11th saw some window work at Cole Road. No, not Windows of the Redmond kind, but windows of the fenestrating kind! The windows on the A-frame building at the site have been showing their age of late and it was decided to replace them before the coming winter. We received the following report from Bruce, WA2HVE, who along with Damon, AB2UK, spear-headed this project:

"It was just Damon, Ted (WA2HKS) and me and Ted had to leave at 11:30, but not only did he help us with the windows, he also furthered Damon's education on the 10 meter repeater. ... We finally pulled out around 4:00 PM.

"We got the two rotted windows in the east wall out and installed replacement windows. Damon did most of the work ... I forgot to bring out the caulk (it was there in a box on my work bench all ready to go I just had to put it in the car -- vapor lock of the brain) so I will be going back out Wednesday to seal them with caulk. I plan also to apply a piece of felt above the windows as a temporary water diverter until we can properly frame the windows (which will not be until the Spring).

"While Damon was doing the lion's share of the window work, I installed a handle on the door of Chet's Shack to pull it closed. Now we don't have to use the key to pull on it. I also installed a GFI receptacle in the electrical outlet box in Chet's Shack. It is now safe to use it to plug in power tools you will be using outside. Finally, I re-glued the gasket that seals the door of Chet's Shack. The bottom of it had come loose and I wanted to fix it before it got torn or distorted.

## BARRA Meeting Site Affected by Church Changes

Many may have seen the article in the Buffalo News recently regarding changes coming at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, the site of our general meetings. In short, St. Bart's is splitting with the Episcopal diocese and will be moving out of the church facility at the corner of Brighton and Fries Roads. The St. Bart's congregation has purchased the former Temple Beth El building a few blocks away on Eggert Road near Sheridan Drive.

At press time, the BARRA board has not had official contact with the church regarding BARRA's future with them in their new building. The board will, however, have a report for the membership at the October 20th meeting. The board has heard that St. Bart's hopes to complete their move by Christmas time, so it would appear that our last meeting at Brighton and Fries may be the October 20th meeting.

Stay tuned to the club's email list serves and/or come to the meeting on October 20th for the latest developments.

## Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

### Club Officers & Directors

President	Nelson Oldfield WA2ZSJ '09	634-6394
Vice President	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT '09	834-2664
Secretary		<vacant>
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '10	836-0417
Director	Dave Halik W2ZZA '08	656-8010

### Committees & Chairs

Technical	Ted Ertl WA2HKS
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.	Vince Harzewski N2JRS
Erie County RACES Officer	Gene Kremzier N2OBW

### Voice Repeaters

K2GTM	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
WA2HKS		444.00+	Buffalo
WB2DSS	PL 151.4	444.75+	Kenmore

### APRS Digi-peater

K2ILH-2	144.39	Amherst
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### 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

*WA2OLW (Leprechaun Graphics, 675-3764) still has BARRA jackets and T-shirts available.*

## 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](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. 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. Regular mail recipients are charged \$4 beyond their dues.

### 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

US Mail newsletter delivery: add \$4.00

**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

This "Hobby Highlight" is about Dave Holdeman, N9XU. He made a microphone for his Icom IC 718. The electrical and plumbing parts he used were purchased at local shops. In the October 2008 *QST*, ppg. 76-77 he published "The Shower Head Microphone."



His creation falls into "Generic Functionalism." Last season, March 2008, I wrote about this theory of classification for amateur radio parts which, when assembled, become amateur equipment, however the parts themselves may not be prescribed for radio. In my conclusion I asked, can "Generic Functionalism" be relevant to amateur radio? Compared to patent classification, the generic is either an expired patent, or part of "Generic Functionalism" initially. In a cost effective ham shack creating your own radio equipment from home equipment maybe equally entertaining and cost less. As far as history is concerned, the importance of generic ingenuity and its place as "Home Brew" might be measured by the number of articles published in the area of "Generic Functionalism."

73 de Richard Sellers, KG2OR.

## 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"



## Updated Voting Membership Upgrade List 2007-08

In last month's *Link* was the list of members eligible for voting membership upgrade per the BARRA by-laws. There were a couple of corrections at the September general meeting, and below is the list that was approved by the membership at that time. As always, if we have missed a member's activity, please let your editor or a board member know ASAP.

N3AU F, T  
KA2CQQ F, P, T, X  
WA2CWF F, H  
N2DAY P  
WB2DSS R, T  
K2EAG O  
W2EAS A, B, H, T, X  
WA2EYF L, T  
AJ2G M  
N2GHR  
K2GTM A, B, F, N, R, T, X  
WA2HKS O, R, T, X  
W2HYP R, T  
N2HP P  
WA2HVE F, O, T  
N2IE A  
K2ILH O, P, R, T  
KA2IWK T  
K2JGI A  
KC2LGK D, F, L, H  
KC2LZG T  
KG9NZ F, T  
N2OBW P  
WA2OLW F, T  
KG2OR L  
KC2PIT F, T  
N2QJG X  
K2RSK X  
W2SMW P  
KB2TOY A, F, N, T, X  
KC2TRG F  
KA2TVT F, T, X  
AB2UK F, N, P, T, X  
WB2VEU T  
K2VGZ T  
WB2VLV P, T, X  
KC2VS P  
KA2WFT A, B, F, H, L, N, O, T, X  
KB1XW T  
N2YDM A, R, T  
N2ZDU P, T  
WA2ZSJ A, B  
W2ZZA A, B, D, F, H, L, N, R, T, X

Key:  
A: Auction  
B: Board Member  
D: Meeting Refreshments  
F: Field Day  
H: Rochester Hamfest Club Table  
L: Link newsletter  
M: PO Box mail pickup  
N: Tech Net controller  
O: Meeting program  
P: Public Service event  
R: Repeater Trustee  
T: Technical Committee (Mtg or Work Party)  
X: Other club activities



Damon, AB2UK, and  
Bruce, WA2HVE,  
discuss the next step  
in the A frame window  
replacement project.



## Random Pix

A few featured photos of BARRA activities from the summer and early fall, caught by WA2HKS.



Rich, WB2DSS; Ed, W2EAS; and Bruce, WA2VHE, contemplate the effectiveness of the grill at the Mobile Clinic in July.



Bill, KB2TOY; Charles, KA2CQQ; and Greg, K2GTM, deal with moving club equipment and records from the Crest A/V site in August.



Give to a friend! Encourage membership in BARRA!

# 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?

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## Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n

Post Office Box 507

N. Tonawanda, NY 14120-0507



### FIRST CLASS MAIL

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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, 2008** -- Annual meeting of BARRA, Inc. Election of board members and hearing of reports.

**Monday, December 15, 2008** -- Annual BARRA Holiday Party. Come share seasonal fellowship with the BARRA gang.

**Monday, February 16, 2009** -- Annual BARRA Auction! Turn your unused electronic goodies into cash!



**NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JANUARY, 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.

The Annual Meeting of BARRA, Inc. will take place Monday, October 20, 2008 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of hearing reports and electing board directors.