



The Link

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

September 2000

This Month's Meeting Topic: A Mystery!

Don't let the headline fool you, it's just a fancy way of catching your eye and letting you know that as of press time we do not have a meeting program topic for the September General Membership meeting lined up. Monday, September 18 is the date at the church.

There is one piece of business to transact, board nominations (see article below), so it is still important to attend the meeting. Gil, W2EUP, has offered to have a question & answer period about the repeaters and some of the work done at the sites this summer if a guest speaker can't be located.

Watch your e-mail for any last-minute updates sent through the BARRA list serve.

Board Nominations This Month

Once again it is time for the annual nominations of candidates to BARRA's Board of Directors. This year marks the end of the terms of Mark Lienert, KG2DE, and Steve Riek, N2QJE. Mark has already expressed the desire to not run again for the board.

So, bring your nominations to the meeting on the 18th (remember you can nominate yourself!). All members nominated will be asked if they wish to run. If we have more than two nominees, there will be a ballot election of voting members in October.

New Members

BARRA welcomes the following radio amateurs to its ranks:

WB2VFE	Ronald Chmiel	Williamsville
N2LFA	Mike Duff	Grand Island

The BARRA E-Mail Listserver

To join, send an empty e-mail message to:

barra-subscribe@perdix.acsu.buffalo.edu

To send a message to the list subscribers, address your e-mail to:

barra@perdix.acsu.buffalo.edu

AO-27 Satellite News

AMSAT News

AO-27 was returned to analog Amateur use on the first North American daylight pass on Saturday September 9, 2000. The satellite is functioning as an FM voice repeater on the following frequencies:

Uplink: 145.850 MHz

Downlink: 436.797 MHz

The current TEMPR states are as follows:

TEPR 4: 36

TEPR 5: 72

Periodically, over the next several months, the analog repeater will be turned off for a few days at a time to enable controllers the opportunity to gather Whole Orbital Data and verify the health of the satellite.

VHF Academy 2000 Rochester, NY

The Rochester VHF Group is sponsoring a one-day immersion into the world of VHF and above operation. Saturday, November 11, 2000 is the date for VHF Academy 2000. Spend the day at The Academy learning about VHF Propagation, Satellite Operation and VHF Contesting Strategies. Two more sessions on that day will deal with a technical treatment of equipment performance measurement and a hands-on lab in which Cadets will be able to actually build their own high-performance Rover antenna!

The day will begin at 8:30 am with a continental breakfast and end at 3:00 pm. By signing up early, The Rochester VHF Group will provide a full tuition (no cost to attend!). Additionally, a lunch will be provided (also at no cost). By signing-in at all five sessions throughout the day, you will also qualify for a one-year free membership in the Rochester VHF Group, with members-only access to their website (where you will be able to download the latest issues of The VHF Journal, the club newsletter).

Free VHF Academy attendance is open to any person, licensed or unlicensed, that is presently not a member of the Rochester VHF Group and who signs-up prior to November 5th. The academy will be held in the Rochester suburb of Greece, New York and is easily accessible by I-390. More detail to come.

Interested? Visit the Rochester VHF Group website at: <http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org> for more information and an eMail link. Otherwise, drop a note to express your interest to academy@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Inc.

Club Officers & Directors

President	Mark Lienert KG2DE '00	447-1738
Vice President	Steve Riek N2QJE '00	731-3452
Secretary	Brian Neri WA2CWF '02	838-1673
Treasurer	Ed Swan KD2JW '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	Gil Boelke W2EUP	
Link Editor	Doug Alderdice KA2WFT	
Associate Link Editor	Dave Sewhuk N2GH	
WNYSORC Representative Chair	Ben Bass N2YDM	
Membership,		
Roster & Passwords	KA2WFT, W2EUP, KD2JW	
Activities List	Ed Swan KD2JW	
ID Badges	KD2JW	
Erie County Emer. Coord.	Karl Weir N2NJH	

Voice Repeaters

WB2JQK	29.68 -	Buffalo
K2ISO	145.17 -	Wethersfield
K2GUG	146.73 -	Grand Island
W2EUP	146.91 -	Boston
W2OXB	147.00 +	Kenmore
W2EUP	224.82 -	Boston
WR2AHL	442.00 +	Wethersfield
WA2HKS	444.00 +	Buffalo
WB2DSS	444.75 +	Kenmore

Digital Repeaters

W2EUP-1	145.59	Niagara Falls
N2GH-1	145.59	Wethersfield, NY
K2IMF-1	145.01	Marilla, NY

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 Packet BBS

BARRA has a bulletin board area on the IPBUFF (N2NJH) Packet/Internet gateway system. Connect through any local node that shows IPBUFF in its node list. IPBUFF is available to 1200 baud users directly on 145.63 Mhz.

BARRA Home Page

<http://hamgate1.sunyerie.edu/barra.htm>

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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) 833-8375.

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.).

Pumpkin Patrol 2000 Needs Volunteers

The purpose of this event is to help the New York State Police on Halloween Night by watching over bridges along some of our major highways. The assistance rendered will be in the form of observation and subsequent notification of law enforcement authorities in the case of any trouble. We run this event through a controlled net on Halloween evening. The bridge assignments are on a first-call, first-get basis. What I mean by this is if you would like a specific bridge call me ASAP. We have plenty of bridges out there to watch over to assure a safe Halloween evening for all.

This year the pumpkin patrol will be working with and is sponsored by ARES. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service, ARES, is a national public service organization coordinated by the American Radio Relay League. It consists of licensed Amateur Radio Operators who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment to provide emergency communications for public service events as needed.

You DO NOT have to be an ARES member or belong to any clubs to help out with the pumpkin patrol. The pumpkin patrol is an amateur radio event and is open to ALL amateurs who are willing to lend a hand. All you need to help is a 2-meter rig with 2 meter privileges and a car would be helpful although not necessary (depending on the weather that evening). We also have people helping out from their homes by monitoring on scanners and other radios.

There will be an organizational meeting for the pumpkin patrol at the October ARES meeting and will feature guests from the NY State Police. This meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 9th at 7:00 PM at the Erie County Fire Training Academy on Broadway Avenue, just east of Union Road, and behind the Cheektowaga police station. I will also be at this meeting to talk to the people and register them at this time if they like.

Phone 992-2011
 Fax 992-2011 (shared with home phone line)
 E-Mail kb2out@juno.com
 E-Mail kb2out1@aol.com

Thank You
 Tony J. Balas Jr. (KB2OUT)
 Coordinator of Pumpkin Patrol 2000
 Erie County

E-Mail *Link* Started

With this issue, we hope to start distribution of *The Link* in electronic form for members who desire to receive it that way. As outlined in the July *Link*, members who want to receive the "E-Link" must send an e-mail requesting same to the editor at 73323.672@compuserve.com. So far only a few members have asked for this new service.

The E-Link will be sent to members in the Adobe PDF format, and it is hoped that in addition to being more convenient for members, it will save the club some postage.

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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, September 18, 2000 - Meeting Program TBA. If no speaker is arranged, Gil, W2EUP, has offered to have a Q&A time about the repeaters and the work done this summer at the sites.

Monday, October 16, 2000 - BARRA Annual Meeting and election of board members.

Monday, December 18, 2000 - Annual BARRA Christmas Party.

**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 GLB Electronics, 151 North America Drive (formerly Commerce Pkwy), West Seneca. 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 work parties every Wednesday evening, 8:00 pm, at GLB Electronics. Stop by and give a hand to a repeater or other BARRA project.

The Technical Committee has formal meetings the first Friday of each month around 7:30 pm at GLB. 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.

