

# The Link

September 2008



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

## This Month's Program: Report of the Technical Committee to the Membership

No, it's not *deja vous*, we are having a second viewing of the annual Technical Committee Report to the Membership!

As reported in the last *Link*, the general membership voted to eliminate the January meeting from our calendar. The January meeting, of course, was the traditional month for the Tech Committee report. The meeting was eliminated due to the poor attendance most years because of the usual mid-January Buffalo weather.

So, that means a sort of re-run of the excellent presentation of the Technical Committee, on Monday, September 15. It won't be exactly the same as the January presentation, of course, there have been a number of projects and activities that have taken place since then and will be reported on.

The Technical Committee Report is a member's best opportunity to see and hear about all of the BARRA repeaters and sites in one "visit" without having to travel to the far-flung locations. Repeater trustees and Technical Committee members will speak at the presentation.

With the Report now in September, you now have no excuse to miss it! We'll see you there.

## Technical Committee Meeting Report

*Charles Grammer, KA2CQQ*

The Technical Committee met Friday, September 5, and discussed a number of club issues, the status of the repeaters, future events, and a project or two. Topics included moving (again) the club gear and material that was recently moved to the WNED-AM site (see article at right), mowing the lawn at the Cole Road club site and continuing structure improvement, and the future (bright?) of the Wednesday Tech Nets.

The 10 meter repeater needs a new trustee with K2TGM having moved away, and the 444.000 repeater had a few glitches, but WA2HKS has it back up to snuff. The 146.73 machine has been off the air due to site issues, but once it is back, K2ILH has proposed to link it to 444.000. Looking forward, the September 15 general meeting will be devoted to Technical Committee presentations.

Following the meeting, most of the group QSYed to the Garden View Restaurant for continued conversation and supper or dessert.

## BARRA Bids Adieu to K2GTM

As many members already know, BARRA board member and Tech Net co-founder Greg Miller, K2GTM, (pictured at right) has left the Buffalo area for greener pastures in 4-land (Virginia). Greg submitted his resignation at the August board meeting, which was accepted with regret. He chaired his last Tech Net on Wednesday, August 20th.

Greg has pledged to remain a BARRA member, though in absentia. He is still on the list serves and is reading the mail, as it were, on our ongoing activities here.

Active in many BARRA events, Greg was seen at all of our recent Field Day attempts, took over trusteeship of the 10M repeater, participated in many Tech Committee work parties and is probably best known for his running of the Tech Net, with which he leaves a big void. For now, backup controllers Bill Brown, KB2TOY; Damon Edwards, AB2UK; and Doug Alderdice, KA2WFT, will rotate hosting the net each week.

BARRA wishes Greg well in his new situation and thanks him for all the things he has done for the club in his relatively short time with us. Don't be a stranger, Greg, keep in touch!



WA2HKS Photo

## Storage Space Needed

The club has a collection of parts and repeater accessories from the former GLB Electronics shop that need a home. We have had the items in two different locations over the years and find ourselves in need of a home for it yet again. There is no "junk" in this collection of items; it's been weeded several times by the Tech Committee and it is down to items that can be useful to the club.

In a perfect world, a space about eight to ten feet square would be great. But, a smaller space or two would work, too. If you have access to such a space and would be willing to let the club store these items there, please contact a board member.

Recruit a member!

Use the membership application on  
Page 5 to invite a ham radio friend to  
join BARRA!

## 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

I found an interesting web site while reading Amateur Radio Newsline. The web site is <http://www.radiomarine.org>, the Maritime Radio Historical Society. It is based on the West Coast, and their projects are in the San Francisco area. Along with the National Park Service, and the San Francisco Maritime Museum, the Maritime Radio Historical Society has been successful returning many "vintage" facets of Maritime Radio into the public domain. Commercial maritime Morse, old radios, vapor rectifiers, active radio stations, WWII radio, and videos comprise the web site. The Maritime Radio Historical Society is providing an excellent public service, and it constitutes the basis for my September Hobby Highlights.

73 de 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"

## Voting Membership Upgrade List 2007-08

According to the BARRA's By-Laws, each September a list is compiled of all the members who participated in a club or club-sanctioned activity in the previous year. These members then become voting members for the coming year and are able to vote on matters that come before the club, as well as being eligible to receive a reduction in dues.

Below is the list as best as can be put together on short notice before press time. The list is not meant to be complete. If you were omitted, please accept our apologies and notify your editor right away. It is not our intention to slight anyone. We have so many activities over the course of a year that it is tough to remember the activities themselves, let alone the folks who helped out! The list, with any amendments, will be voted on at the September meeting. An amended list will be published in the October *Link*.

As always, we are very appreciative of all of our members who take the time to do something for the benefit of the club. It is this unique membership structure that makes BARRA what it is!

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  
N2HP P  
WA2HVE F, O, T  
N2IE A  
K2ILH O, P, R, T  
KA2IWK T  
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:

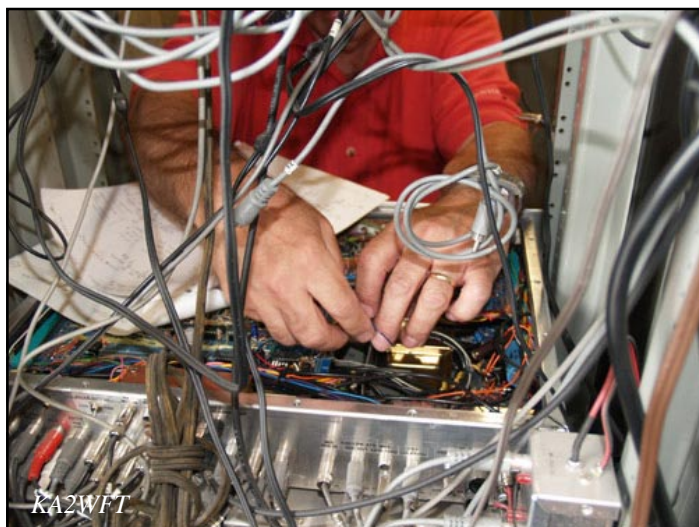
A: Auction  
B: Board Member  
D: Meeting Refreshments  
F: Field Day  
H: Rochester Hamfest Club Table  
L: Link newsletter  
M: PO Box mail pickup  
N: Tech Net controller  
O: Meeting program  
P: Public Service event  
R: Repeater Trustee  
T: Technical Committee (Mtg or Work Party)  
X: Other club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



Joe, N2ZDU, on the Cole Road east tower earlier this summer.



10 Meter repeater receiver and link hardware at the UB Main Street site.



**Delicate Surgery:** WA2HKS applies an electronic "patch" to the voting system hardware at the 444.00 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

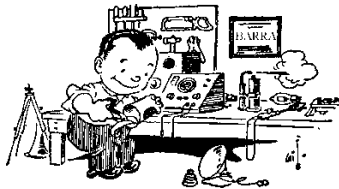
### GENERAL MEETINGS

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, September 15, 2008** -- Report of the Technical Committee to the membership... our new September program with the elimination of the January meeting, see Page 3.

**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.



**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.