

The Link

September 2009



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

September's Program: Annual Report of the Technical Committee

Our welcome-back-from-summer program will be the Annual Report of the Technical Committee. It will be the year-in-review presentation of the various work parties that have taken place at our repeater sites. As always, it has been a busy year for the Technical Committee and there are a number of projects to see and hear about. The meeting is Monday, September 21st.

At the business meeting that will precede the presentation, the list of voting members will be presented (and is printed on page 3) and nominations will be taken for this year's slate of candidates for the board of directors. This year sees the expiration of the terms of Nelson, WA2ZSJ; Doug, KA2WFT, as well as Damon, AB2UK. Damon, you may recall, was a one-year appointment to fill the vacancy by the unexpected death of Jerry, WB2VLV last winter. Any member may be nominated, including incumbents, and you may nominate yourself.

We hope to see a good turnout for the meeting, see you there.

Refreshment Chair Still Needed

We are still in need of someone or someones to take on the role of refreshment chair for our general membership meetings. The job is not difficult: set up coffee and bring some doughnuts to the meetings. The church provides us with the coffee pots, we bring our own "makings." There are only six general meetings through the course of the year, so it's not a terribly demanding job. Split it up with another member or two and it becomes even easier!

If you, or a group of you, are interested in becoming our refreshment folks, contact a board member or your editor.

Don't Forget About Goodsearch!

Don't forget that BARRA gets the benefit of your web searches and web purchases if you use the Goodsearch web site. Usage has been down a bit this year so it's maybe time for a reminder.

To use the site and help BARRA financially, go to <http://www.goodsearch.com> and in the box labeled "Who do you Goodsearch for?" enter the club's full name: **Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association**. You only need to do that the first time you use the site, after that it remembers who you Goodsearch for. To make it even easier, go to the club web site, <http://barra.hamgate.net> and click on the Goodsearch logo toward the bottom of the page and it will take care of entering the organization for you.

Dousing the Flames



KA2IWK Photo

Ted, WA2HKS, douses the grill at the conclusion of the 2009 Picnic and Mobile Clinic as Bill, KB2TOY looks on.

146.73 Repeater Has a New Home

The 146.73 K2ILH repeater has a new home in North Tonawanda. Faced with the ongoing problems at the "blue tarp" hotel in Niagara Falls, the club was beginning to explore options in the north towns for a new site. Earlier in the summer we were approached by Bob Schober, K2CRR, of Kenilworth Electronics who offered the club space at his two-way radio site on Shawnee Road in North Tonawanda. A bit of trivia about this site, it was the original transmitter location of WBEN and was featured in Scott Fybush's excellent presentation to us last spring about commercial radio transmitter sites.

The repeater was installed at the site and the necessary paperwork filed with the repeater council and the repeater has been on the air from that site since mid-summer. Preliminary reports are that the machine has good coverage from this new location. There are a couple of technical issues to resolve at the site, but the machine is already getting good reports.

The repeater's former home at the hotel location, dubbed the "blue tarp" motel by the Technical Committee since the hotel has changed names several times in the last few years, and at each name change there'd be a blue tarp over the sign until a new one was installed, has had serious difficulties since last summer. The location had a significant electrical problem and to this day still does not have power restored.

BARRA is most appreciative of K2CRR's kind offer to allow us to have the 146.73 machine at his site. Check out 146.73 if you haven't recently. It needs a 107.7 Hz CTCSS tone.

Editor's Note: Our "Hobby Highlights" correspondent, Rich, KG2OR, submitted another article to us, but we unfortunately ran out of space. We'll run it next month, Rich!

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	Charles Grammer KA2CQQ '11	886-4513
Treasurer	Ed Swan W2EAS '10	836-0417
Director	Damon Edwards, AB2UK '09	847-2140

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

W2EUP	PL 107.2	29.68-	Boston
K2ISO		145.17-	Wethersfield
K2ILH	PL 107.2	146.73-	N. Tonawanda
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
---------	--------	---------

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 Serves

To join, send look up the group "barrabflo" on

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

The Tech Committee also has an email group, BARRA-Tech, on Yahoo Groups. Or, email the editor to receive an invite to join either or both groups.

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.).



Voting Membership Upgrade List

According to BARRA's by-laws, each year in September a list is compiled of those members who have participated in club or club-sanctioned activities in the preceding twelve months. These members are then eligible for full voting membership.

The list is by no means complete. It was put together at the last minute by your editor (as always!) with input from a couple of board members. If you have been left off the list or a particular activity is not credited, there is no slight intended. Please contact your editor with the corrections. The list, as corrected, will be presented at the general meeting on Monday for approval. Corrections can be made at that time as well.

N3AU	T	N2QJG	R
KA2CQQ	B,E,F,G,P,R,T	WB2RD	R
WA2CWF	F	K2RSK	C
N2DAY	P	W2SMW	P
WB2DSS	R	KB2TIN	F,R
W2EAS	A,E,B,R,T	KB2TOY	A,F,N,T
WA2EYF	F,T	WA2TVT	G,T
AJ2G	M	KC2UHJ	T
N2GH	R,T	AB2UK	A,B,F,N,P,R,T
WA2HKS	E,F,R,T	WB2VEU	T
WA2HVE	F,N,R,T	K2VGZ	T
N2IE	A	KC2VS	P
K2ILH	L,P,R,T	KA2WEY	F,P
KA2IWK	T	KA2WFT	A,B,E,F,L,N,R,T
K2JGI	A	KB1XW	T
KC2LGK	F	N2YDM	E,L,R,T
KC2LZG	T	N2ZDU	P
KG9NZ	F,T	WA2ZSJ	B,E,T
N2OBW	P	W2ZZA	F,R,T
WA2OLW	F		
KG2OR	L		
KC2PIT	F,T		

KEY TO ACTIVITIES:

A	Auction
B	Board Member
C	Event condiments/Ted's coupons
E	Equipment Move WNED
F	Field Day
G	Cole Rd Lawn Mowing
L	Link Article
M	PO Box Mail Pickup
N	Tech Net Control
P	Public Service Event
R	Repeater Trustee or Site Work
T	Tech Committee Member

Please direct any corrections, additions, etc. to your editor.

Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Ass'n

Post Office Box 507

N. Tonawanda, NY 14120-0507



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Calendar of Events

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, 2368 Eggert Road, Tonawanda, near Sheridan Drive. Doors open at 7:00 pm for rag chew, business meeting at 7:30, with program following.

Monday, September 21, 2009 -- Annual report of the Technical Committee to the Membership.

Monday, October 19, 2009 -- Annual Meeting of BARRA, Inc. for the purpose of hearing reports and election of board directors.

Monday, December 21, 2009 -- Annual BARRA holiday party. Come enjoy the fellowship of the season with the BARRA gang.



NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, AUGUST OR NOVEMBER

The *Link* is not published in March, May, August and November.

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.

Double-check your editor's work on the Voting Membership Upgrade List on Page 3. If you were forgotten, it wasn't intentional! Contact Doug with any corrections.