



The QUARAE



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Prez Says



Well we made it to sunny and warm (too warm!!) Florida last week and had no problems on the road. The drive through PA was really pretty this year with the fall colors on the trees. I got my HF antenna (GAP Titan Vert.) put up in the woods behind the house, a copper pipe J pole in the attic for 2M and a mag mount on a cookie sheet on top of a bookcase in my shack for 440. Seems to work OK.

As many of you know I received an Email from Kevin Doyle of the FCC Philadelphia office concerning our 146.61 repeater causing interference to the Coast Guard channels and other frequencies as well. I called Kevin and asked who was complaining and of course it was our friend Richard Wagner

N3BWG who lives in the apartment building next to St. Vincent Hospital. I explained to Kevin that he has been complaining to the FCC for years and I thought the FCC had dealt with him in the past and it was all over. But alas, he has continued to send Emails to the FCC so Kevin planned a trip to Erie to check out the repeater. I called Rick WA3MKT and asked him to get with Kevin and set up a meeting to check things out. They got together on Wed. 10/23 at St. Vincent, checked out the repeater and found nothing wrong with our signal, in fact they were impressed with the installation of the repeater and it's supporting paperwork. Kevin tried to contact Richard on the phone and a knock on the door to no avail. He refused to talk to the FCC. Rick told me he contacted Richard and he said that the FCC finding nothing wrong was unacceptable. So I think the FCC is in for more Emails but now they know that our repeater is OK. Hopefully we won't have to deal with it anymore.

**Radio Association of Erie Club Meeting –
November 7 at the Red Cross at 7 PM.**



**Elections for Officers for
the coming year**

I would like to THANK Matt KB3CAT, Jeremy KB3BAM, Adam KB3THU and Rick WA3MKT for the installation and maintenance of the .61 and .82 repeaters.



The new Crank-up Tower with a Seven Element Tri-band antenna and 1500W amplifier are installed and working at the clubhouse so stop out and give them a try. I understand that they were used when the Boy Scouts were at the clubhouse and worked great. The bands have been open so some DX should be easy to get.

73, Doug AD4UL

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably a wise investment.

October General Meeting Minutes

A regular club meeting of the Radio Association of Erie was held on October 3rd, 2013 at the Wagner Road clubhouse. The president and

secretary present, a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 1900 by chair AD4UL.

New hams- none

Visitor- KA3CTQ Dan

Upgrades- none

SK- Larry Herman W3JTF & Don Quiggle WA3UNX

Secretary's report- Motion made by KB3THU to accept as published, it was seconded, and approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report- KB3ZSF gave his report

Board of Directors- believe the post cards are working on bringing hams back to the membership

Repeaters- crew was to visit 82 the following day. Audio was adjusted. 61 will be tended to when 82 is done.

Public service- letter from the Barber Beast on the Bay was read thanking us for the first annual event. AD4UL was going to meet with them later this week.

Website- some people have noticed the cache is sometime not refreshing, but could possibly be a user end problem as well. Facebook page and twitter account are both up and running.

Newsletter- doing well, John is always looking for article. You may email him at jlindvay@msn.com.

Clubhouse- tower is here, hinged up this weekend. Rotor, cable and mast ordered. Tribander was going to be on the air. Lightning protection for the rotor is needed. Hours for the

clubhouse were discussed. Thursday evening is still open to all members to come out and operate.

Contesting- PA QSO Party is this weekend, the 12th and 13th.

Good to the order- George Elliot donated two publications to the clubhouse library. The SET (simulated emergency test) is scheduled for October 5th. All hams are encouraged to at least check in. W3IAX explained a bit on D-Star. Dstarusers.org. KA3CTQ is asking for some assistance for the Jamboree on the Air with the Boy Scouts. Operators are needed at the clubhouse on October 19th.

Elections- Nomination forms are on the front desk

Motion to adjourn by KB3JZL at 1952

If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments

VE Session Results

We have three new Technicians and one new General. Congratulations to Matthew Kerr KC3BLB from Edinboro. Congratulations to Matthew Bajoras (callsign unavailable) and Aleksandr Omak KC3BLD, of Erie. Our new General is Richard Quinn KB3ZVH.

There are two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.

Local Electronics Stores

Where does one get parts, such as resistors, capacitors, chips, wire, transformers, and all the stuff you need to repair or build electronic

circuits? It is hard to buy electronic components today. Mostly everything must be bought off the web. I wasn't always like that. There used to be an abundance of electronic parts stores in Erie. Maybe you remember them. Erie used to have a lot of stores that sold electronic parts, even ham radios. I used to buy TV antennas from an electronic store on 10th and Parade Street, as a teenager. I would make spending money installing them on roofs. I can't be sure what the name of the store was but I think it was Young Brothers. I can remember drooling over the test equipment that I couldn't afford at Duncombes.

Radio Shack was a good place to get parts. I still go to the store in the mall and see what is on sale. Just recently they cleared a lot of inventory offering it for sale at 60 per cent off. You can buy common value resistors and capacitors but none rated over 50 volts. They still sell a few components, but mostly it is just another cellphone outlet. With this new movement of MAKER DIY (Do It Yourself) technology, expect to see them offer more electronic kits.

George Younkin N3SRF suggested the LEVCO store that is open for business, hidden away in a transportation hub at 141 East 26th Street. They offer a few parts. They also sell very good coax. Phone number is 814-452-3487

This is from Steve Miller. "Warren Radio was founded in 1934 by Warren Smith and Bill Shuster. Warren Smith left to go West and founded Warren Radio Co. Bill Shuster stayed in Erie with Warren Radio Inc. Many hams worked there, but the oldest ham there was LaRue Shick, W3MMI. He started part time in 1934 and was part time until he died in October 1990. He worked full time at GE. Other hams

were Bing Hahn, WA3AWB, Al Fryer, K3FXM, Bill Trabold WA3UCR, Paul Mazza WA3PZQ, Len Steffanelli WA3BJH (now N8AD), Tim Price KA3CKS, Andy Price KA3CKT. We were distributors for EF Johnson, Eico, Hallicrafters's, National, and Hammarlund back in the day. The other stores in the area were JV Duncombe on 8th and Parade, Jordan Electronics somewhere on East 12th street, Young Brothers on 19th and Peach, Erie Electronics Supply first on 21st and Liberty, and after that on West 26th Street near I-79.”

This is from Craig Hill. “The one I have the most memories of is Erie Electronics. It was owed by John Kozak, W3NXK. John had an assortment of components and also some Amateur Radio equipment. John did some television repair and always claimed he had the store as a tax shelter. We thought it gave him something to do and also got him away from his wife and as a result a much better marriage. Anytime you stopped in, John was willing to stop what he was doing a have a gab session. Many times the subject of Amateur Radio was the topic. John monitored the local repeater and if I remember correctly it was the 34/94 repeater. Many hams would stop in and sometimes there would be four or five there at the same time. I think about Erie Electronics many times when I run six meters. John had a number of Amateur Radio antennas in the back of the store. He had two, Cushcraft, 10 element, six meter yagis. N3JOC and I would ask John how much he wanted for the antennas and then make him an offer of much less. That went on for a number of years until one day John took our offer. My antenna stayed in the garage for about 20 years or so. Al, N3JOC put his up and used it. But after I bought my first radio that ran six meters, an IC-706, I put the antenna up and

started using it. Since then the antenna has been put on its own tower and has now worked 86 countries. I hope in the near future to try it out on moon-bounce. So those are my memories of Erie Electronics. I will be interested to hear what other people’s memories are of this and other electronic stores in Erie. 73, Craig - K3PLV”

Next issue we will explore online sources for parts. If you have any memories or stories about electronic stores in the area, please email them to me.

Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving .



Doesn't It Look Wonderful?

Ham Radio Calendar

November 5- Election Day. Buy your favorite politician a HT

November 7- RAE Club Meeting at Red Cross

November 9 - Worked All Europe DX Contest
See www.waedc.de

November 9 - 10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party.
See www.ten-ten.org

November 9 -Japan International DX Contest.
See jidx.org

November 10 -50th Anniversary Arecibo Observatory KP4AO, Arecibo, PR. Caribbean Amateur Radio Group / Arecibo Observatory Amateur Club. 14.280. QSL. Arecibo Observatory Amateur Club, HC 03 Box 53995, Arecibo, PR 00612. The event will be broadcast on USTREAM

November 9 - Kentucky QSO Party. See www.wkdx.com

November 11 – Veteran’s Day. Buy your favorite veteran an HT

November 12 – Wattsburg Club Meeting

November 14 – Union City Club Meeting

November 16 - ARRL November Sweepstakes Phone. See www.arrl.org/contests

November 16 – VE Exams

November 18 – Conneaut Club Meeting

November 28 – Thanksgiving Day. Buy your favorite turkey an HT

December 3 – Corry Club Meeting