

QUA - RAE

The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND EVENT



Club members participated in a special contest this past month. The Museums ships weekend event was sponsored by the Salem Amateur Radio

club. Our club used it's HF rig now operating at the EOC to make 12 out of 86 special ship contacts.

The Radio Association of Erie will receive a certificate of participation from the sponsoring club. Look for the names in the next newsletter.

Newsletter Changes

Beginning August 2002 the RAE club newsletter received a new look. Can you tell the difference from last month's? As the new editor, I thought I would introduce a slight layout change. What do you think?

What would you like to see in the Qua-Rae? A swap- list? A story from an Elmer? If you have a suggestion, feedback, or something you would like to submit please e-mail me at: kc2hvx@hotmail.com.

As in the past, material submitted for publishing, must be in the editor's "hands" **BY the 15th of each month!** No exceptions will be made unless informed via a phone call. My pager number is 878-6652.

Radio
Association
of Erie

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 2002



Inside this issue:

<i>ARRL Grant</i>	2
<i>Items for Sale</i>	2
<i>Field Day Results</i>	2
<i>General Minutes</i>	3
<i>UCWA Hamfest</i>	4
<i>VE Report</i>	5
<i>Special Announcements</i>	6

RAE Officers—2002**President**

William Craig, N3ZUD

Vice President

Ronald Prindle, N3BXL

Treasurer

Michila LaJohn, KE3XR

Secretary

Dianne Miller, K3LD

**Board of Directors-
Chairman**

Robert Fuller, N3LBI

Board Members

Jack Haven, N3RKO

Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW

Dennis Sharer, KA3WYO

Neil Shea, N3ZNP

EOC ChairmanSteve LaJohn, N3SRD
slajohn@adelphia.net**Membership**Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW
Bobn3faw@adelphia.net**Newsletter Editor**Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX
kc2hvx@hotmail.com**Repeater Chairman**Bill Craig, N3ZUD
bcraig@velocity.net

ARRL Receives Grant

ARRL Receives Homeland Security Training Grant (Jul 18, 2002) -- The ARRL will receive a \$181,900 homeland security grant from the US

government to train Amateur Radio operators in emergency communication. The League was among several dozen non-profit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs. The grant, from the Cor-

Amateur Radio was included in part of a \$10,000,000.00 grant from the federal government.

poration for National and Community Service special volunteer program, will provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training to 5200 volunteers nationwide, starting in 2003.

For the complete story, visit <http://www.arrl.org/arrletter/02/0719/>

Courtesy of ARRL Audio News

Items for Sale

Hey! Check out what's for Sale.

- Yeasu 757GX 9 Band HF
— 10-160 meters
— 100 watts
\$400
- Kenwood Power Supply
— Regulated
— w/ matching power connector
\$50

- Heath Kit SB 1000 Linear
\$600

For more information contact Joe Ponchak KA3CPV. His phone number is 836-9829 and email address is KA3CPVgrmpap@juno.com.

Field Day Results

Field Day chairman Matt Fuller KB3CAT has compiled the results. The weekend event was worked as a 4A station.

Contacts were made on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters with 301, 225, 371, 80, and 2 contacts respectfully.

There was 913 phone contacts and 66 CW contacts made.

The club received a total of 2490 points. Great job Hams!

Four-hundred bonus points were earned that weekend, thanks to our guests Nick Sleptoff Director of the Erie County Emergency Management Agency, Bernie Fuller Atlantic Division Director for the ARRL, and other visitors. The club received a total of 2490 points. Great job hams! Hope to see you all there next year!

General Meeting Minutes– July 11, 2002

Board Members Present: N3ZUD, N3LBI, N3FAW, N3RKO, N3BXL, N3ZNP, and K3LD

Not present: KE3XR and KA3WYO

Meeting brought to order by President N3ZUD at 7:25, the first General Membership Meeting at the E.O.C.

Visitor: Lou Hahn, WB3KVH

Secretary's report- K3LD: motion to accept the minutes that were printed in the QuaRae. Motion: N3SRD Second: KB3B

Treasurer's report- KE3XR: not present

Board of Directors report- N3LBI: The IRS now has the RAE Club verified as a non-profit organization and is now eligible for the Grant from Verizon. Once we get the check, which should be the end of July, Ron (N3BXL) will apply again in October for 2002. Field Days was a success at the E.O.C. A lot of people came to check out the E.O.C. and commented on how much fun they had and how impressed they were on all the work that has been done. There were quite a few enthusiastic comments and it was talked up on the repeater and the nets. Quite a few old hams came out and has a chance to reminisce on when they had last been at the E.O.C. Also discussed was getting the electrical wiring inside the E.O.C. up to code. There will be a meeting with the Repeater Committee and E.O.C. Committee soon.

Bernie Fuller (N3EFN): Hoped that we realize how fortunate we are with hav-

ing the E.O.C. Only about 3 or 4 clubs have a club (which can even be a tent) not a facility like ours. He also mentioned that the people that are doing the work should be thanked.

Membership- N3FAW: 163 members

Contest- KB3A: Field Day went well and the totals are being compiled. New Jersey QSO is August 17.

Ritty North American QSO is this weekend. PA QSO is in October and he would like our club to do a lot better. Chris has heard some people would like to work out of the E.O.C. and he thinks we should have something set up.

N3RKO- War Ship Contest is coming up July 20 & 21.

QuaRae: KC2HVX (Bob) is the editor for the QuaRae. He did the QuaRae this past month and already has an idea for July which will have 6 pages instead of 4. Anyone who has an article or pictures e-mail them to him.

Public Service- N3RKO- Paddle Erie August 24, 2002. Jack received a Thank You card Pam Massi from MS for the walk and bike events. They really appreciate the time and knowing that their walkers and bikers have someone making sure that they are safe.

N3RKO had a picture that he donated for an appreciation award for working the last event. AD4UL won.

VE- Norma (W3CG) Saturday August 3 will be at Panos on 38 St. East. Saturday July 20 & August 17 at 12:30 at Gannon.

Repeater & EOC: N3ZUD
.61

1. Cell wave antenna needs repaired soon
2. Remotes need antennas turned toward site (DONE)



Get down from there you monkey!

3. Levels need to be adjusted and ID'er and audio mute need fixed (ID/Mute DONE)

4. Remotes to be adjusted for flat audio (Remote 3 done replaced St. V's remote (#2) Remote 2 DONE)

5. Repeater Voter and receivers adjusted for proper audio level

6. Modem to computer interface of Repeater Controller (DONE)

440

1. Repeater needs going over again to make sure it is operating properly

2. May also go over old Maintenance repeater at the E.O.C. to see if we can put it on our 440 frequency

3. Would like to link to .82 but need UHF antenna at Sharp Road (repeater committee)

E.O.C.- GREAT JOB EVERYONE!
Needs:

1. Meeting for Repeater/Technical committee to help resolve issues

2. Control Op / Repeater training

3. Programmers training

Education: N3BXL- Ron wants to have a repeater training class. We have a 90 watt 440 repeater that he wants to have tested.



continued on page 5

UCWA Hamfest & Swap Meet

The Union City Wireless Association UCWA held their first Annual Hamfest & Swap Meet on Saturday July 13th, 2002. The event officially began at eight o'clock that morning. It was held at the local CB grounds just one and one half mile from route 8 in Union City, Pa.

As with any club, money is needed to purchase new and maintain aging equipment. With the growth of the club, new members brought new ideas, talents, and suggestions. Members of the UCWA decided to hold a Hamfest so that they could meet a club goal. The club was in need of a

new repeater antenna.



The sale of 50/50 tickets and pre-admission tickets allowed the club purchase and install the antenna just before the Hamfest. The goal of the club was achieved. The Hamfest was such a success that the club has already decided to have the event next year.

VE Report

Amateur Radio test sessions are now at a new location. They are now held at City Diner & Bakery/Panos Restaurant, 1523 East 38th Street in Erie. The VE team and myself will be there on the first Saturday of each Month at 8 A.M. As always we will display our free standing orange VE sign at the entrance.

Panos generously provided us with a private room. The July session was held there and people enjoyed having

VE team moves to Panos Restaurant after the Villa Maria ended all room rentals.

coffee and food available at their early arrival and later....

At the last VE session, earning the Technician license were Paul Biekert of

Westfield, N.Y., David Copeland of Weslaco, Texas, William Yochim of Albion, and Andrew Harvey of Erie.

Thanks to our VEs Robb Jacobs N3OCL and Debbie Nelson N2MQ for helping at this months session.

Norma W3CG, ARRL VE Liaison

Special Announcements

The March of Dimes is hosting it's Paddle Erie fund raising event Saturday August 24 2002. Radio Operators will be meeting at Mc D's on Peninsula Drive at 0700 hours. Sign-up for the event will take place at the general meeting this Thursday.

The Erie International Airport will be holding an emergency response drill this August the 28, 2002. That's a Wednesday evening. Exact time and other specific information hasn't been released. When it has been released, a special email will be sent to all email recipients of the

newsletter. **Only** ARES members with a valid ID badge will be allowed to participate in the drill. For more information, please contact Tom McClain N3HPR.

Surfin': US Packet Networking Is Back!

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU
Contributing Editor
July 27, 2002

This week, let's surf to a Web site that hopes to help revive the US packet radio network.

Charles Brabham, N5PVL, e-mailed me about a new Web site that's dedicated to packet radio networking and networkers. He intends his USPN Web site to serve as a resource and a refuge for people who want to build packet networks and get a national digital network back on the front burner again.

"Over the past 10 years, it has been difficult to find a place to discuss packet networking without the conversation becoming lost in the noise level," N5PVL wrote. "It is much like trying to discuss Morse code. At the USPN site, packet networking remains in the spotlight as the primary concern of the Web site and its forums. It never gets lost in the noise there."

N5PVL added, "A lot of hams miss the US packet network and some of them are out doing something about it. I hope that the USPN Web site will give US packet networkers a common ground upon which they can keep up to date on developments, build consensus, develop acquaintances with other net-

workers, and work to tie the different networks together into a coherent US national digital network."

The Web site has a forum for discussing packet networking, a library of informative articles related to packet and packet networking, and a large collection of useful hyperlinks. There is a standalone "Network" hyperlink on the home page of the site that provides links to known US packet radio networks.

Currently, the network hyperlink include the Arkansas Packet Network

"Over the past 10 years, it has been difficult to find a place to discuss packet networking without the conversation becoming lost in the noise level"

(APN), Northeastern States FlexNet Network, Southeastern Emergency Digital Association Networks (SEDAN), Florida SEDAN, Washington State HF Factor System and ARES/RACES Oregon Packet Information Web sites. If your packet network is among the missing, contact N5PVL (webmaster@uspacket.net), who is the Webmaster at USPN

Until next time, keep on surfin'

Editor's note: Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU,

resides in downtown Wolcott, Connecticut, and is a member of the QQCC (QST quarter century club), i.e., he has been a QST writer for 25 years. Since getting his ticket in 1969, Stan has sampled nearly every entrée in the Amateur Radio menu (including a stint as Connecticut Section Manager), but he keeps coming back to his favorite preoccupations: VHF and packet radio. As a result, he runs a 2-meter APRS digipeater and weather station from his mountaintop location in central Connecticut. Stan has been a long time advocate of using computers with Amateur Radio and wrote programs to dupe contests and calculate antenna bearings way back in 1978. Today, he uses his Mac to surf the Internet searching for that perfect ham radio Web page. To contact Stan, send e-mail to wa1lou@arrl.net.

General Meeting Minutes— continued

Old Business: Keep selling pizzas and pretzels. Let Micki (KE3XR) have your order by July 25, pick up will be August 3 at the American Red Cross.

New Business: KC2HVX- has been checking into a paging software for Skywarn. Instead of going through ARCH modems, we will soon be able to the internet. He will have more details.

Good of the Order: N3ZNP- wanted to

know if anything was being done to prevent vandalism at the E.O.C. it will need to be discussed.

Bernie Fuller (N3EFN) Board of Directors meeting they are talking about removal of the section news and contest line score from QST. Bernie thinks both should be retained .

Also Jamboree on the Air is going to be in conjunction with a major scout pro-

gram and wanted to know if we would think about working with Mercer Club.

Motion to adjourn: KC2HVX Second: N3EFN
Meeting adjourned at 8:30

Submitted by K3LD

Radio Association of Erie

P.O. Box 844
Erie, Pa 16512

[http://
home.surf.free.com
/~n3ntj/rae.html](http://home.surf.free.com/~n3ntj/rae.html)

A Special Service Club



Our FIRST Membership Meeting



The club held it's first general membership meeting at the Emergency Operations Center EOC on July 11th. The meeting was held on a beautiful sunny evening.

As you can see, membership turnout could have been better. So, I expect to see some of you who don't always show up!! The EOC is a fantastic place. There are many photos on the side wall, some of which maybe be of you.

The next general membership meeting will be held at the EOC at 7pm on Thursday August 1st. The EOC is located on Wager Road in McKean. Take route 99 from Interchange Rd passed Hershey Rd to Bargin Rd. The turn for Bargin Rd is near a lawn tractor dealer. Turn right on to Bargin and then turn right onto Wagner. Hope to see you there!