

QUA - RAE

The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie

Blessing Others with Kindness

The warm weather that just passed, caught the kindness of great people. While many of us were busy with other people, other projects and activities, Pat and Jack Haven retrieved these wonderful chairs for the club house of the Radio Association of Erie. Covered in dirt and grim, they polished them up and donated them to the club. They are currently at the EOC/ club house awaiting for club members. The chairs are just what the club needed to make things a little more comfortable, especially when your spending hours operating the club station W3GV.



"I would like to personally thank on behalf of myself and the rest of the club, Pat and Jack Haven for their continued contribution to the club. Thank you for your time and effort. Special thanks to you Pat for the revitalized look to the chairs, the members will appreciate it."

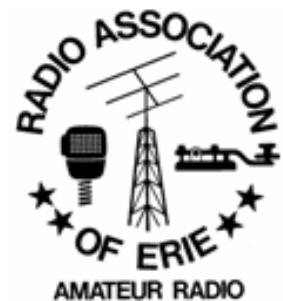
THANKS!

Bob LaPlaca~ kc2hvx

Radio
Association
of Erie

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April 2003



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RAE Officers—2002**President**

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Jack Haven, N3RKO

Treasurer

Michila LaJohn, KE3XR

Secretary

Dianne Miller, K3LD

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Board Members

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Neil Shea, N3ZNP

Ronald Prindle, N3BXL

Richard Waldinger, NI3Q

ARES/RACES E.C.

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tem@erie.net**EOC Chairman**

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD

slajohn@adelphia.net**Membership**

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Bobn3faw@adelphia.net**Newsletter Editor**

Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX

rjl191@adelphia.net**Repeater Chairman**

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD

slajohn@adelphia.net**SKYWARN E.C.**

Dave Henderson, N3EOY

daveh@erie.net**Volunteer Examiner**

Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

w3cg@tbscc.com**IMPORTANT DATES & TIMES****General Membership Meeting:**

Thursday, April 3, 2003
7:00 PM

**RAE club meetings are now
being held at our winter
location.**

Location:
American **Red** Cross

Board of Directors Meeting:

Tuesday, April 22, 2003

Location:
American **Red** Cross

**Public Service Events****Mark Your Calendar**

March of Dimes...April 27

Edinboro Triathlon...June 7

Caring Place Triathlon...Sept 6

We had a sign up sheet at the March meeting but still need MORE help on this event. They

expect up to 4000 walkers and cover a large area at Presque Isle and need our help. The March of Dimes is about "Saving Babies, Together"... Lets all pitch in and help! If I don't hear you on the radio and you want to share your time in this event give me a call at 824-4309.

Jack ...N3RKO Special Events Chairperson

A note from your Editor

Hello everyone! I just wanted to take the time to thank everyone for their patience. It has been a busy 2003 for myself as it has been for some of you. I have been able to resolve many issues for viewers. In large, the problem some users are experiencing is that their Adobe Acrobat Reader version is out of date. To resolve this users can visit www.rae.d2g.com and click on Club Newsletter. On that page there will be a link for you to upgrade your software for free. If you are experiencing ANY difficulties, please upgrade to

the new FREE version #5.1. If that doesn't resolve your difficulties, I am officially making myself available for one-on-one help at your home. All I need is a email or phone call.

On another note, all change of personal information, including e-mail changes or additions for the newsletter MUST be done through Bob Schwimmer N3FAW. Send him email at Bobn3faw@adelphia.net. This will expedite things much faster. Thanks for your patience and help.

~ Bob LaPlaca KC2HVX, Editor

General Meeting Minutes- March 6, 2003

Board Members Present:

KB3A, N3FAW, N3RKO,
N3LBI, N3IQ and K3LD

Not present:

N3BXL, N3ZNP, and KE3XR

Meeting brought to order by
President KB3A at 7:00, Gen-
eral Membership Meeting at
the Red Cross

Guest: KB3DPM Dale

Secretary's report- K3LD: mo-
tion to accept the minutes
that were printed in the
QuaRae for February
Motion: N3EPU Sec-
ond N3RKO

Treasurer's report-
KE3XR: not present

Board of Directors report-
N3LBI: repeaters Fundrais-
ing, Garage Sale, Furnace,
Gravel for driveway, classes,
charge card for membership
dues.

Membership- N3FAW: 134
members so far for 2003 mem-
bership drive. Chris has of-
fered the service of having
Master Card and Visa for
membership fees and maybe
other fees. Needed is your
Name, Address, phone #, card
number and expiration date.

ARES / RACES: N3HPR- not
present

Skywarn: N3EOY- Skywarn,
April 1 at Hamot. Registra-
tion is at 6:00 and program

starts at 6:30. Checkin to
Sunday night net at 9:00
on .61 if interested.

New Skywarn paging system-
Mobil Com cost either
\$129.00 or \$69.00 for the unit
and \$12.00 plus tax per
month. If interested contact
Dave Henderson for details.

QuaRae: KC2HVX 7 pages
this month. If you are having
trouble viewing it, it could be
that your computer may not
be configured right. If you
have any questions contact
Bob. WB3DOM suggested
having special events and
such included. Bob said he
may be able to add a link to
the site. Any suggestions con-
tact Bob.

Public Service- N3RKO- Guest
Pat Davis- Thanked us for
working the Edinboro Triath-
lon and had a check for us for
\$150.00. She really appreci-
ates all our help. The next Ed-
inboro Triathlon is Saturday
June 7 and the Community
Blue race is September 6. Put
those dates on your calendar
to work. Thank you Pat.
-March of Dimes is April 27
we will meet at McDonald's at
11:00. If interested contact
Jack or check in Sunday
night at 9:00 on .61.

Repeater: / EOC: N3SRD-
Squelch tail in elongated and
not sure what is causing it,
but will look into it.
For the .82 repeater a genera-
tor is in the budget. Steve is

looking into 220 equipment
for linking .82 and .61. Steve's
goal this year is to get the
electricity and heat into the
EOC. Also Dennis Sharrer has
the donated generator from
Lou Hahn at his place that
needs work. Steve would like
to get that available.

Contest- KB3A- Field days is
about 3 months and will be at
EOC.

VE- K3LD- **NOTE:** Saturday
at Panos on 38 St. East will no
longer be there, are checking
into other

possibili-
ties.

Saturday March 15 and
April 19 at 12:30 at Gannon

Old: N3SRD- .64 is on the air
out in Greene Township.

New:

Larry N3XOG- Salvation
Army is working on a Saturn
Team (like RACES) communi-
cation for the Salvation
Army. They would like any-
one interested to contact him.

Motion to adjourn:
KC2HVX Second: N3RKO
Meeting adjourned at
7:47 Submitted by K3LD

Ideas, Plans, and Projects

The Radio Association of Erie would like your help this year with many "in the works" ideas, plans, and projects. As many of you know, the club prides itself on the ability to support our community through the Public Service Events managed by Jack Haven. But Public Service Events are not the only thing the club does.

The new year brings many new things. The club will need your help in the very near future to make these projects succeed. The club is planning a summer "Yard Sale" to bring in additional income or to locate items that the club needs. Just like the chairs that were on their way to the DUMP. They were cleaned up by Pat Haven (RKO'S Wife) and have already made their way to the club house for our members comfort!



You may have something that the club could use for the "Yard Sale" or in the club house, we would like to hear from you. Please join us at the next club meeting for more information. We hope to see you there.

~Jack N3RKO



VE Announcement

As of February 1, the RAE ARRL VEC VE Liaison is Rob Jacobs N3OCL. Rob has been active with the VE TEam for a number of years, and is very dedicated to the promotion of Amateur Radio.

Upgrading at the test session held on February 22, at the Kuhl Fire Dep't on Route 8, was James Yunker N8KXG of Jefferson, Ohio who earned a General Class license.

The VEs at this session were Don Otto KD8OCV, Pete Albright AA2AD and Rob Jacobs N3OCL.

The test fee as of January 1 is \$12.00. The same as before, if an exam is passed and the candidate wishes to upgrade further at the same sitting, there is not any second fee. This also includes a code exam if desired. If an exam is failed and a second try is desired, the fee must be paid a second time.

If only a code exam is being taken, the fee must be paid.

With testing on the slow side with only one, two or three testing monthly, the VE Team procedure has changed. Some Amateur Radio Club VE Teams are only holding test sessions when there is a demand, while others have scheduled theirs for every 3 or 6 months.

We will continue to hold monthly sessions as people notify us that they wish to test. When contacted, arrangements will be made for a convenient date, time, and location.

Anyone wishing to test may contact me at w3cg@tbscc.com or phone 814-665-9124 or Rob Jacobs at n3ocl@velocity.net or phone 814-438-7804

~Norma W3CG

ARRL Surveying Interest in High-Speed Digital Networks

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 21, 2003--The ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group is surveying the amateur community to gauge interest in IEEE 802.11b "Hinternet" activity. The HSMM Working Group encourages spread-spectrum communication modes including such protocols as IEEE 802.11b operating on Amateur Radio frequencies under FCC Part 97 rules. It's adopted "Hinternet" (a contraction of "ham" and "Internet") as a way to describe the technology. The HSMM Working Group's survey is on the ARRL Web site.

Just too easy: Mark Williams, AB8LN, holds an Intel 2011 802.11b radio interface card that has some of the shielding removed to show the electronics inside.

"The primary goal of the survey is to encourage amateurs to get on the air and start playing with this cheap digital microwave gear," says HSMM Working Group Chair John Champa, K8OCL. Hinternet Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) typically use direct-sequence spread spectrum between 2412 and 2437 MHz and are capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals. Hinternet aficionados adapt commercial 802.11b interfaces designed for Part 15 operation to amateur use.

The HSMM Web survey is brief and permits an opportunity for open-ended input. It asks if respondents have a IEEE 802.11 or "other high-speed digital station" running under Part 97. If so, amateurs are asked to register their stations. It also asks respondents to explain how they might use a high-speed digital system or network if they were to set one up. Champa urged Hinternet-minded

amateurs to also report what they've learned and any new applications to the ARRL IEEE 802.11b reflector operated by Texas A&M University (and linked from the "HSMM Resources" menu under "Contacts").

Find the antenna: A closer look at the radio interface card used by AB8LN. The dipole-based antennas have been etched right onto the circuit board. [Mark Williams, AB8LN, Photos]

Asked if the Hinternet is catching on within Amateur Radio, Champa simply points to the more than 15,000 hits to the HSMM Working Group's Web site. The Hinternet also is the focus of the article "High Speed Multimedia Radio" by Kris Mraz, N5KM, in the April 2003 issue of QST.

Hinternet proponent Mark Williams, AB8LN, of Milford, Michigan, says he envisions growth of amateur 802.11b operation to cover all large metropolitan areas in the US, not just the few miles some contend is the outer limit for such point-to-point connections. "This is just too easy," he says. "With some of the Amateur Radio pioneering that we are famous for, we should be able to push this technology to its limits--50, 75 and 100-mile links at 2.4 GHz." He said wireless networks dedicated to Amateur Radio stretching across states and linking hams everywhere with high-speed voice and video are possible.

"File-sharing and e-mail, network gaming and pop-up chat are just the tip of a titanic iceberg," he predicted.

The "Spruce Tree Antenna" at the Hinternet station of Ernst Kiefer, N8EK, in Howell, Michigan. "It's a commercial 19-dBi parabolic

with a 500-mW 2.4-GHz bi-directional amplifier mounted behind it," Kiefer explains. "The tree is 66 feet tall, and the antenna is 72 feet above ground level to get the signal above other trees."

Applications abound for public service work too. Amateurs recently involved in the Texas search for debris from the shuttle Columbia used a 802.11b high-speed system on ham radio to link the net control station in Nacogdoches with the Internet. The link utilized directional antennas to provide a robust connection through the intense radio traffic in the area. The 2.4-GHz radio cards produced 100 mW. Net control operators utilized the link to look up call signs and for quick e-mail communication, weather-radar monitoring and weather tracking. Pictures of the link as well as other operations are available on the Richardson Wireless Klub, K5RWK, Web site.

An earlier ARRL Technology Task Force survey of ARRL members and other amateurs conducted revealed that the top interest in new technologies was in high-speed digital networks. Suggestions included high-speed data links (up to 20 Mbit/s), Ethernet at 2 Mbit/s on 10 GHz using Sofan Gunplexers, encouraging the development of a high-speed amateur digital network, and high-speed digital audio/video.

A little more than two years ago, the ARRL Board of Directors unanimously approved an initiative to develop high-speed digital networks for the Amateur Service. That initiative led to the formation of the High-Speed Multimedia Working Group.

~Reprinted-- ARRL Audio News

EOC Now Has *HEAT*

For all of us who froze the past two winters at the EOC, we have been saved. The EOC/club house now has *HEAT*. That's right! The common goals of the club have been acted upon. A determined group of individuals outfitted the clubs existing furnace with a new oil tank and respective pipe lines.

Just after the weather broke this winter, Neal Shea N3ZNP, Bob Schwimmer N3FAW, and Neal's friend John Kovski (a non club member) entered the EOC, a cold and damp building.

When they left, all had changed! The installation of the new tank and pipes, produced a feeling like no other. *HEAT!*

A test run showed that all is working well.

To the gentlemen:

The officers, board of directors, and members want to thank Neal Shea N3ZNP, Bob Schwimmer N3FAW and John Kovski for a job "WELL DONE!"



Radio Association of Erie

P.O. Box 844
Erie, Pa 16512



[http://
home.earthlink.net/
/~n3ntj/rae.html](http://home.earthlink.net/~n3ntj/rae.html)

NEW WEBSITE!!!!
[http://
www.rae.d2g.com](http://www.rae.d2g.com)

A Special Service Club

Check out what your fellow Hams' have to offer!

For Sale...

KLM KT34XA Triband yagi

- for 10-15-20 Meters.
- New in original box with original manual!
- DXperience 6 elements on a 32 foot boom.
- Terms: \$495, OBO cash or Paypal. Pick-up only in Girard PA (7 miles west of Erie, PA).

Contact Scott Johns
W3TX@arrl.net

I want...

The RAE Club is looking for a piece of equipment that you might just have... If you have a **220 Transceiver we would like to hear from you!!**

Please contact *Steve LaJohn*.
Email- slajohn@adelphia.net
Home- 774-0363
Pager- 879-7723

Can we trade?

If have something that you would like to trade, just drop me a note at my NEW email account. It's rjl191@adelphia.net.

For those that don't have email and would like to contribute to the ad listings or write an article for the QuaRae you can contact me by phone. My local phone is: 897-9872. My pager number is: 878-6652. Paging me is preferred since I am out and about most of the day. Just dial the number, wait for the tones, then dial your home phone number, and I'll call you back ASAP.

For Sale...

Approx. 130' of Cable Xperts RG8/U, 95% shield with foam PE. Never used and still circle-wrapped in the original ties. \$80 obo (includes shipping).

Matt- N3NTJ
n3ntj@earthlink.net

For Sale...

Yeadu FT-757GX

- 9 band HF Rig. With Manuals and extras—\$475.00
- Heathkit SB-1000(1000 watt) linear amplifier with manuals—\$600.00

Contact Joe Ponchak
ka3cpvgrmpap@juno.com
836-9829

I want...

12V Car Charger for the Kenwood TR2600 HT

Marty Fox N3EPU
881-1668