

# QUA - RAE

The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie

## March of Dimes- "Walk America"

The members of the Radio Association of Erie have done it again... another successful public service event, only with-out the inclement weather. It was a sunny and cool day for the walkers of Walk America. There was a great turn out of amateur radio operators. The careful planning made by Jack Haven N3RKO is greatly appreciated.

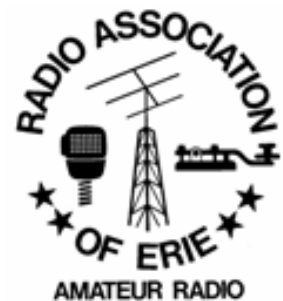
See page 2 for more Special Events coming this summer.



Radio Association of Erie

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**RAE Officers—2002****President**

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**Vice President**

Jack Haven, N3RKO

**Treasurer**

(Position Vacant)

**Secretary**

Dianne Miller, K3LD

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Chairman**

Robert Fuller, N3LBI

**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](mailto:tem@erie.net)**EOC Chairman**

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD

[slajohn@adelphia.net](mailto:slajohn@adelphia.net)**Membership**

Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW

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[rjl191@adelphia.net](mailto:rjl191@adelphia.net)**Repeater Chairman**

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD

[slajohn@adelphia.net](mailto:slajohn@adelphia.net)**SKYWARN E.C.**

Dave Henderson, N3EOY

[daveh@erie.net](mailto:daveh@erie.net)**Volunteer Examiner**

Rob Jacobs, N3OCL

[n3ocl@velocity.net](mailto:n3ocl@velocity.net)

Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

[w3cg@tbscc.com](http://w3cg@tbscc.com)**IMPORTANT DATES & TIMES****General Membership Meeting:****Thursday, May 1, 2003  
7:00 PM****\*\*\* \*\* Location Change \*\*\* \*\***

**RAE Club House- EOC**  
(take Rt. 99 south about 2-3 miles, make right on Bargin Rd. near lawn tractor shop, make right on Wagner Rd. and take till the end of the road.)

**Board of Directors Meeting:****Tuesday, May 27, 2003****Location:  
RAE Club House- EOC****Public Service Events****Mark Your Calendar****Earth Force- "Ride around the Bay"... May 17****Multiple Sclerosis- "M-S Walk.....May 18****Multiple Sclerosis- "M-S Bike Tour..... June 7****Caring Place Triathlon.....Sept 6**  
(all above events have yet to be approved at the upcoming meeting)**Info about upcoming events**

Earth Force would like us to do a special event on May 17 called "Ride Around the Bay" it is a 50 mile bike ride from Liberty Park to around Presque State Park than to Walnut Creek Access and back .

This will take a LOT of people and we may decide to utilize 146.610 machine.

Multiple Sclerosis would like us on May 18 to help with the "M-S walk" which starts at Health South out to Pittsburgh Av. and back to Health South.

Multiple Sclerosis would also like us to help them in the "M-S Bike Tour", a bike ride from Chautauqua Lake into Pa. and back to Chautauqua Lake

again. We would cover the Pennsylvania part. This event will be held on June 7th.

We have seen a great response from community organizations like these all interested in the work, safety, and help we provide. Amateur Radio involvement is good public relations for the Radio Association of Erie and Ham Radio itself. Member participation is extremely important to the image of the club.

Myself and other members would like to see the continued support this summer as in the years past.

Thanks to all those who participated at the March of Dimes- "Walk America."

Jack ...N3RKO Special Events Chairperson

## General Meeting Minutes- April 3, 2003

Board Members Present:  
KB3A, N3FAW, N3RKO,  
N3LBI, NI3Q 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

KB3A- Due to personal rea-  
sons KE3XR is resigning from  
the office of Treasurer.

Secretary's report- K3LD: mo-  
tion to accept the minutes that  
were printed in the QuaRae  
for March

Motion: N3LBI Second  
N3EPU

Treasurer's report-  
KE3XR: not present

N3FAW- Sigmund Stacey  
W3MMJ silent key Bob said  
his daughter told him to make  
memorials to VNA or  
RAE. N3LBI was told he had  
been in amateur radio for over  
50 years.

KB3B moment of silence for  
Sigmund

Board of Directors report-  
N3LBI: repeaters Fundrais-  
ing, Garage Sale, N3ZNP and  
neighbor John Kvoski worked  
on furnace, up and running,

classes, March of Dimes we  
need a few more volunteers,  
East Side Lighthouse event.  
N3RKO got 9 stackable chairs  
at the EOC.

Membership- N3FAW: 142  
members so far for 2003 mem-  
bership drive. Anyone who  
wants to join ARRL and hasn't  
been a member for 2 years or  
wants to be a new member go  
through the club and the club  
gets \$15.00 for each member-  
ship.

ARES / RACES/Skywarn:  
N3HPR- Past Tuesday night  
had the annual Skywarn be-  
ginner and advance training  
sessions. 41 people were pre-  
sent and Gary had a very good  
program.

Tom also mentioned that the  
cost for the cap code taps are  
being paid by Nick Slep-  
koff. We switched paging sys-  
tem from Arch to Mobilcom. If  
interested you can either get  
the Gold standard or the E-  
word which is cheaper but has  
8 cap codes, a lot of features  
and can even go from 4 to 2  
lines printing for those who  
have problems reading. If in-  
terested contact Dave N3EOY  
or Tom N3HPR for info.

QuaRae: KC2HVX Some are  
still having problems reading  
the QuaRae, make sure you  
have the latest version of acro-

bat reader 5.1. If you have  
any articles for Bob send it to  
him

Public Service- N3RKO-

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. We still need a  
few more operators.

Repeater: / EOC: N3SRD-  
Squelch tail in elongated and  
not sure what is causing it,  
thought he had it but it seems  
to be there. Hasn't happened  
though in the past 72  
hours. If you hear it jot down  
the time and let Steve know,  
he has been talking to other  
repeater ops and they seem to  
have something similar about  
the same time.

KC2HVX was over at the 82  
repeater and the new light  
that was just put in is out.  
Bob checked out the repeater  
site and other than needs  
cleaned everything checked  
out.

EOC- has heat, now that the  
weather is changing we will  
get out there. Steve will get  
out there to clean it up before  
hand.

## *General Meeting Minutes...continued*

N3RKO wants to set up a kids corner so that when a parent is contesting they have an activity. Jack donated a big TV which is out there, Jack will look for an antenna. He wants to snag one of the computers out there and set up games on it. Probably set it up downstairs. One radio station is up and ready 24/7 on a 3 element beam. Second station going up this weekend.

N3SRD- Emergicare has donated a computer and he will probably get another one for the EOC.

Contest- KB3A- Wants club station on the air. He also would like to get the 10 Erie Hams award going again.

What a better place than at the EOC. Chris has been in contact with the people living at the East side Lighthouse. They gave Chris permission to do the next lighthouse event there on the grounds. We have QSL cards for W3GV that was donated by N3RKO a few years back. Use them up.

VE- K3LD- As per the VE announcement in

last months QuaRae Rob Jacobs N3Ocl is the new RAE ARRL VEC VE liaison. They will have monthly sessions but you need to contact them to make arrangements. Contact Norma at w3cg@tbsec.com or phone 814-665-9124 or Rob Jacobs at n3ocl@velocity.net or phone 814-438-7804.

Saturday April 19 and May 17 at 12:30 at Gannon

Old: none.

New: none

50/50 W2FD Jerry which was donated back to the club for refreshments for next months meeting. Thanks Jerry.

Next meeting will be at the EOC on Wagner Road. Pending boards approval hope to have refreshments there.

Motion to adjourn: N3EPU Second: N3LKW  
Meeting adjourned at 7:46 Submitted by K3LD



### *In memory of a fellow ham*

Sid Stacey, born March 1915 and died April 2003, was a long time member of the amateur radio community. He had been a member of the Radio Association of Erie as far back as the RAE began keeping records in 1983. He was totally dedicated to ham radio and will be missed.

As an indication of his dedication, from his death bed three weeks ago he instructed his daughter, Sigma Toth, to send us his RAE dues for 2003. Also the RAE was specifically indicated in the public obituary to receive donations in his memory.

Rest Peacefully, your friends from the RAE.

## "Broadband Over Power Line" Could Pose HF Interference Threat

NEWINGTON, CT, Apr 25, 2003-- The FCC soon will invite public comment on the concept of using existing electrical power lines to deliver Internet and broadband service to homes and offices. The Commission this week initiated a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in ET Docket 03-104. A form of carrier-current technology typically known as power line communication



(PLC), it's also been called "PowerWiFi" and now--by the FCC--"Broadband over Power Line" (BPL). Whatever its name, the technology is raising serious interference concerns within the Amateur Radio community, since BPL would apply high-frequency RF to parts of the power grid. One aspect of the NOI is to gather information on potential interference effects on authorized spectrum users.

"Entire communities will be affected, so every amateur in that community could have part of the radiating system 'next door' on the power wiring on his or her street," cautioned ARRL Lab Supervisor

Ed Hare, W1RFI. Hare chairs the PLC Work Group of the IEEE C63 Accredited Standards Committee on Electromagnetic Compatibility, which develops standards for emissions and immunity for a wide range of commercial and consumer products.

The complete NOI has not yet been released, and until that happens, the FCC will not formally accept comments in the proceeding. The ARRL will be among those expected to submit detailed comments in ET 03-104.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, editorialized on the subject of PLC in "It Seems to Us . . ." in the October issue of 2002 QST. "Is it possible to do power line communications without causing interference to over-the-air communications?" Sumner asked. "Count us among the skeptics. What may be a fine transmission line at 60 Hz looks more like an antenna at HF. And that's a matter of physics, not economics." Concluded Sumner, "Radio smog results from putting RF where it doesn't belong."

### FCC Upbeat about BPL/PLC

The FCC appears enthusiastic about BPL, however, saying it has the potential to "provide consumers with the freedom to access broadband services from any room in the house without adding or paying for additional connections."

FCC Chairman Michael Powell led this week's love fest in a separate statement. "Broadband over Power Line has the potential to provide consumers with a ubiquitous third broadband pipe to the home," the chairman enthused. "The development of multiple broadband-capable platforms--be it power lines, Wi-Fi, satellite,



laser or licensed wireless--will transform the competitive broadband landscape and reap dramatic windfalls for American consumers and the economy."

The inquiry addresses the two types of BPL--"access" and "in-house." Access BPL would use medium-voltage (1 kV to 40 kV) power lines to deliver Internet and broadband applications. Hare says access BPL is likely to be a more significant interference source "because overhead electrical wiring is a much better antenna than the electrical wiring within a building." Hare said the industry would likely be unable to offer sufficient protection for Amateur Radio bands.

Reprinted from the ARRL Audio News

See the link below for the rest of the article.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/04/25/1/?nc=1>

## Club Meeting's

**Attention:** Effective this month, all Radio Association of Erie membership meetings will be held at the RAE Club House– EOC. Directions are located under dates and time on page 2. Chairs are provided on a first-come– first-serve basis, so please be prompt to the meeting which starts at 7:00 sharp.

As an added incentive coffee, pop, and hot dogs will be available. Please pass the word about the meeting and bring a friend. If you arrive early, please check out the TWO club HF stations. They are both set-up and ready for their operators. Join us just prior to the start of the meeting to get W3GV on the air.

## Newsletter Information

**This is a desperate plea for help. Every month I rely on the same people for club newsletter input. As time goes on, and I ask for readers to reply with articles and comments I get none to very few. So in an effort to get the club spirit moving, I will randomly call upon two or three people in the club to provide something of interest to the readership of this newsletter.**

**As always, information members would like printed in the newsletter, must be in my possession around the 16 of every month. This gives me plenty of time to produce this publication. Please submit your comments, suggestions, articles, comics, thoughts, etc. via email to [rjl191@adelphia.net](mailto:rjl191@adelphia.net) or send via postal service to 2608 Saltsman Road, Erie, PA 16510.**

**Thank You  
Bob LaPlaca  
RAE Newsletter Editor**

## Radio Association of Erie

P.O. Box 844  
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[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](mailto: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](mailto:slajohn@adelphia.net)  
Home- 774-0363  
Pager- 879-7723

#### *For Sale...*

Two 12VDC/25A regulated power supplies. Brand new in excellent condition. Each used twice for a long term project that ended prematurely. \$85 each.

Lots of vacuum tubes. See updated list at: [http://  
home.earthlink.net/~n3ntj/  
tubes.html](http://home.earthlink.net/~n3ntj/tubes.html).

Email me your want list for pricing, etc.

Matthew Steger, N3NTJ  
[n3ntj@earthlink.net](mailto:n3ntj@earthlink.net)

#### DONATIONS INFORMATION

The Radio Association of Erie (RAE) is, according to the Internal Revenue Service, a Section 501(C)3 tax-exempt corporation. As such, donations of funds or equipment can be income tax deductible. Consultation with a tax professional is advisable. A suitable receipt for tax purposes is available: contact Bob N3FAW (or any RAE officer).  
(Donations are welcome, of course.)

#### *For Sale...*

Yeasu 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](mailto:ka3cpvgrmpap@juno.com)  
836-9829

#### *I want...*

12V Car Charger for the  
Kenwood TR2600 HT

Marty Fox N3EPU  
881-1668