

Club Repeaters:
Erie:
146.610-
PL 127.3 hz

Waterford:
146.82-
PL 186.2 hz

QUARAE



Volume 5, Issue 1

Web Site: www.raerie.org

January 2006

RAE Holiday Party to be held Saturday January 14th at Nunzi's Place

Enjoy great food and friendship at the RAE's Annual Holiday Party on Saturday January 14th at Nunzi's Place located at East 38th and McClelland Avenue. **Social Hour will start at 6 pm with Dinner at 6:30 pm.**

The cost of the dinner is \$13.00.

The Buffet will consist of : Roasted Chicken, Beef, Roasted Potatoes, Rigatoni, Meatballs, Eggplant Parmesan, Veg/Relish Tray, Antipasto Salad, Fruit Salad, Hot Vegetable, Dessert Tray, Assorted bread tray and coffee.



Everyone enjoys that great Nunzi's food!

Plus have a chance to win some great door prizes!

For reservations, please contact Neil Shea by January 10th via e-mail twosheas@velocity.net or via twisted pair at 474-2346



Please note that there will not be a regular club meeting at the Red Cross this month. Regular club meetings at the Red Cross will resume in February.

Officers and Contacts — 2006

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ke3v@adelphia.net

Vice President

Neil Shea, N3ZNP
twosheas@velocity.net

Treasurer

Frank Graziano, KD3D
kd3dfrank@hotmail.com

Secretary/Newsletter

John Lis, N3NKV
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Chairman of the Board

Robert Fuller, N3LBI
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Board Members

Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX
Bill Marshall, KB3JSN
Dianne Miller, K3LD
Ron Seyboldt, WB3DOM

Membership Chairmen

Kevin McKenna
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Clubhouse & Repeater Committee Chairman

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD
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Dave Wellman, WX3E
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Upcoming Events

**Tues. - January 10th - Board of Directors Meeting
for old and new board members 7 pm**

Location: Red Cross 4961 Pittsburgh Ave,
off of West Grandview Blvd.

Sat. - January 14th - Holiday Party 6 pm

Location: Nunzi's Place E 38th and McClelland Ave

Tues. - January 24th - Board of Directors Meeting (Tentative) 7 pm

Location: Red Cross 4961 Pittsburgh Ave, off of West Grandview Blvd.

It's Membership Renewal Time

It's that time of year to renew your membership with the Radio Association of Erie. The new Membership dues for 2006 are lower than in past year.

Full Membership is \$15.00 with Full Voting Privileges

Associate Membership is \$11.50 with all Privileges except Voting

2nd Family Member is 50% off--Immediate Family, No QuaRAE

(Same privileges as Full Family Member)

New Ham membership is First Year No Charge-- All Privileges Except Voting

Life Membership is \$225.00 - Full Privileges

Full Time Student membership is \$8.00 with all Privileges Except Voting

In 2005, the club was able to upgrade the repeater system in addition to funding various activities at the clubhouse. If you can attend the RAE Holiday Party, please if possible bring in your dues payment for 2006. If your unable to attend, membership dues can be sent to:

Radio Association of Erie
P.O. Box 844
Erie, PA 16512



Erie County Hams Assist in LifeStar Recovery Effort

(McKean County, PA) – More than a dozen area Amateur Radio operators mobilized to support the Emergycare Search and Rescue effort to locate a missing LifeStar helicopter over the weekend of October 7-8.

The helicopter was on final approach to Bradford Airport late Friday evening, when radio contact with pilot Heinz Schulz was lost. The aircraft never arrived at the airport.

The following morning, a contingent of Erie first responders deployed to Cyclone, Pa, the village where local firefighters believed the aircraft might be found. Led by Steve LaJohn, N3SRD, Erie Co. Deputy ARES Emergency Coordinator, several hams traveled with Erie County's HAZMAT incident command vehicle. Maintaining contact with all search teams in the field, the hams kept Emergycare officials informed of each team's position, the search areas, and other relevant information.

"Reliable cellular phone coverage in this hilly and forested area was nearly non-existent," commented LaJohn, a 20-year veteran of EMS and Emergycare and a professional colleague of Schulz. "We used fire radios, county band, GMRS, and Amateur frequencies to alert McKean County officials, and to make sure we didn't lose track of anyone".

As the team's early responders traveled east to the scene, amateur operators from Warren, Erie, and McKean Counties worked together to connect area repeaters, and established a solid link from the search zone to Emergycare offices in Erie. "We were gratified, but not surprised at the level of assistance we received from the area's hams, and the owner of the Bradford repeater..." LaJohn continued. "...including all those who stayed off the air so we might have rapid access to the band". Ironically, the Pennsylvania QSO Party was underway, but hams stayed clear of the designated 75 meter frequency, in case HF became necessary. Peter – AA2AD, Lee – N3APP, Dave-WX3E, Mike-WB3IGK, Duane-KA3CUR, and Donnie, KB3CAA, and many others played vital roles in keeping the link operational, and manning the Erie County Emergency Management Agency ham station when ever searches were underway.

Over 100 Erie area personnel volunteered in the search. Elements of numerous fire companies, the sheriff's department, and municipal police officers joined Emergycare and McKean County search teams.

The aircraft was found Sunday afternoon, about four miles southeast of the airport. Tragically, Schulz was killed in the crash.

Emergycare, a non-profit emergency medical service sponsored by Hamot and Saint Vincent Medical Centers, operates in concert with LifeStar to provide EMS services throughout Northwest Pennsylvania with rapid response aviation to distant or limited access critical incidents.



Erie County Amateur Radio Participates in Katrina Rescue

Erie County ARES/RACES operators assisted in passing emergency traffic that resulted in the extraction and rescue of three New Orleans residents trapped in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Erie County Emergency Management officials were contacted early on the morning of August 31. A truck driver had passed his appeal for help for his friend and her family who contacted him via cell-phone. He reported that the victims were unable to reach New Orleans area emergency services, and somehow passed text messages to him in a desperate appeal for help. Erie Co. EMA passed the specific information on to ARES/RACES members, who quickly forwarded the critical information to a RACES net providing emergency communications to the rescue effort in the Gulf area. Within a half hour of receiving the initial notification, RACES Deputy Radio Officer Jerry, W3GHO, reported that helicopters had been vectored to the scene.

Kudos to W3GHO for his rapid and successful efforts in handling the emergency traffic.

“Jerry’s immediate action resulted in the success of the rescue”, said Dave Wellman, WX3E, and EC for Erie County ARES/RACES. “His vast experience and dedication are typical of our members, and demonstrates that Erie County’s hams are up to the task at any time. It took the whole team to get it done, including EMA and the EMCOMM operators who continue to serve so diligently in the Gulf region during recovery”.

Local “EMCOMM” ops, EMA Official Attend Western Area RACES Conference

Dave Wellman, WX3E, and ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator, Dale Robinson, KB3LSV and Deputy Director of Emergency Management for Erie County were joined by Bill Marshall, KB3JSN, and Public Information Officer in attending the Western Area RACES Conference held Saturday, October 1st in Latrobe, PA.

During the four-hour presentation, new RACES procedures were presented by Bill Armitage, Western Area RACES Director. Operating philosophy, RACES leadership responsibilities, and biennial evaluations and documentation were among the topics examined. Additionally, Sam Saraff, KE3PO, gave a PowerPoint presentation describing the Region 13 emergency communications trailers currently being considered for funding by the Region’s Counter-Terrorism Task Force.

The Western Area group sponsors regular meetings throughout Western Pennsylvania, and RACES member/operators registered with Western Area leadership meet every Sunday morning at 0900 local time for the weekly PEMA RACES net on 3990.5 KHz.

Swap and Shop

Channel Master Antenna Rotator Model 9537, for light weight antenna, digital control and display. Includes about 50 ft control cable. Like new \$35. Also Roof Tripod, 5 feet high, \$10. Bob N3FAW, 866-3027, bobn3faw@verizon.net

Wattsburg 10 Meter Beacon

Wayne Smith K3WJR (formerly WA3SNS) of Wattsburg operates a QRP beacon 24/7 with an output power of 850 milliwatts at 28.2044MHz. The antenna is an Antron-99 10-meter vertical, that is well grounded, but without radials. The 3-transistor transmitter, of W7ZOI's clever and compact Universal QRP Transmitter design and sometimes marketed under the name "Little Joe", comes as a bag of parts and a diagram. The keyer is the Wilderness Radio KC-1 Keyer/Counter. The controller was designed and built by K3WJR's son, Cory, who is not a ham yet. The beacon is located in grid square FN02CA



Reception Reports

Columbus	PA	14 miles
Downers Grove	IL	424 miles
Winchester	MA	439 miles
Swansea	MA	441 miles

Special Event Stations

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2400Z, Brant Rock, MA. Fessenden Amateur Radio Society (W1FRV), AA1A/BO. 100th year commemoration of transoceanic 2-way communications. 18.075 14.055 10.118 7.055. QSL. RAF.NESCO, Box 686, Brant Rock, MA 02020. Participating stations use /BO suffix. www.radiocom.net/Fessenden/

Jan 28, 1400Z-2100Z, Punxsutawney, PA. Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2006. 14.240 7.240 7.125 147.390. Certificate. Mike Miller, N3HBH, 1097 Wishes Rd, Reynoldsville, PA 15851. www.qsl.net/k3hwj.

Radio Association of Erie

P.O. Box 844

Erie, Pa 16512

Local HF/VHF/VHF Nets

DAY	TIME	BAND	FREQ	MODE	COMMENT
SUN	7:00 PM	6 METER	50.190	USB	SIMPLEX
SUN	9:00 PM	2 METER	146.610	FM	- OFFSET 127.3 PL ARES/RACES NET
SUN	9:00 PM	2 METER	146.820	FM	- OFFSET 186.2 PL ARES/RACES NET
SUN	9:00 PM	2 METER	146.700	FM	- OFFSET 186.2 PL ARES/RACES NET
MON	8:00 PM	2 METER	144.450	AM	SIMPLEX
TUES	8:30 PM	70 CM	446.100	FM	SIMPLEX
WEDS	7:00 PM	6 METER	50.520	AM	SIMPLEX
FRID	8:00 PM	2 METER	144.210	USB	SIMPLEX
SAT	8:00 PM	2 METER	146.550	FM	SIMPLEX
MON-FRI	8:00 PM	2 METER	146.700	FM	- OFFSET 186.2 PL "Erie Mailbag Net"
			LOCAL HF NETS		
DAILY	8:00 AM		14.340	USB	FORT PIERCE CONNECTION CT. CONNECTION NET FOLLOWS SNOWBIRD NET
DAILY	7:20 PM		7.230	LSB	
WEDS	20:30		28.400	USB	NOVICE TECH NET
SUNDAY	8:00 PM		29.000	USB	LAKE ERIE EMERGENCY NET