

QUA-RAE



The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie
The RAE is an ARRL Special Service Club

April

1999

The Prez Sez...

by Dave Ross, AA3OV

On March 20, I was fortunate to be among a group of Western Pennsylvania club presidents, Official Observers, and ARRL officials who met with Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who is the new FCC Legal Advisor for Enforcement. It would probably not be an exaggeration to say that Hollingsworth has done more to improve the quality of amateur radio in the last six months, than has been done in the ten years prior to his appointment.

Hollingsworth, carrying a slight southern accent from his roots in South Carolina, works out of Gettysburg, PA. This distinction, away from the bureaucratic jungle of Washington, is reflective of his ability to both work within the legal framework of FCC red tape, and still cut through to make immediate results "happen".

Hollingsworth isn't afraid to roll up his sleeves and jump in to help solve the problem. 75 meters, with a growing reputation as the amateur radio "bad neighborhood", has been an area where Hollingsworth has been heard jumping into QSOs representing the worst of amateur radio behavior. Simple actions like this have shown results on the air and renewed pride amongst American amateurs.

At the March 20 meeting, there were many discussions ranging from local concerns of repeater obscenity to HF jamming, as well as policy questions that Hollingsworth quickly distanced himself from. Similar to a district attorney, Hollingsworth's role isn't to set policy, merely to enforce it.

The focus so far has largely been HF, with its international implications. Citing competition for frequencies worldwide, Hollingsworth's message was that we cannot afford to isolate the US with poor amateur behavior, or we will see critical frequencies lost from the amateur allocations. Already there is finger-pointing at the US, and for practical spectrum-allocation reasons as well as national pride, we cannot afford to tolerate abuse of amateur privileges.

Hollingsworth was receptive to feedback from the group though, on the importance of increased focus on local communications, and in particular 2 meter repeater abuse. He admitted that as his time in the position continues, he is gaining a better understanding of the implications of repeater use on sustaining our hobby. When parents are embarrassed to allow their children to listen to the repeater, or the community listens to poor behavior on their scanners, or even when lives are jeopardized from 911 abuses, there comes a clear need for enforcement. Recently, a widely publicized case of repeater abuse in California was addressed with license revocations.

Hollingsworth, though a legal expert and not a technology expert, talked about some of the tools used to manage enforcement. The FCC utilizes a network of 14 HF direction finding sites to quickly locate, within an ellipse of 5x10 miles, any HF signal of even modest strength. He cited a recent case where a government agency placed a request to the HF Direction Finding Group for the location of each station currently in QSO -- one a land

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based station and the other maritime mobile. The request was completed, and both station locations pinpointed, in less than a minute.

Hollingsworth also talked of listening "pods" located throughout the country that can be accessed remotely through FCC dialups. One in particular is located behind the "D" in the famous Hollywood sign. This allows monitoring of West-coast HF transmissions that might not be heard on the East-coast, for instance.

There is little doubt that Hollingsworth "means business". There is also no question that he enjoys his work a great deal. He returns e-mail and phone calls personally, though the backlog is substantial.

There is a good reason to be optimistic about the future of amateur radio, and Hollingsworth is playing no small part in it. If you're interested in sending Hollingsworth a short note of appreciation, his e-mail address is rholling@fcc.gov.



VE Report

By Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

The weather was very bad for the March test session at Villa Maria and only one person came to test. A complete license was not gained so we have none to report. It was impressive that Dianne Miller K3LD made this drive alone from Fairview under such harsh conditions.

On Sunday, March 14, we conducted a test session at the Conneaut, Ohio Hamfest. Ten people came to test and those who earned a complete license were Raymond Cwynar N3RMV of New Castle, who passed Technician Plus, Bradley Harrison of Erie, Technician, Frederick Monda

KC8KVM of Conneaut, Ohio, General and Robert Blake KC8KST of Madison, Ohio, Technician Plus.

The VEs at this session were W3RX Steve Nehez, WD8OCV Don Otto, W8HVK Ray Keskinen, KB3A Chris Robson, KB3B Debi Robson, K3LD Dianne Miller, N2MQ Debbie Nelson, WX3E Dave Wellman, N3OCL Robb Jacobs, and W3CG Norma.

The next session at Villa Maria will be held on Saturday, April 3, at 8 AM.

Norma W3CG



The QUA-RAE is edited by Mark Testa, N3SFP. Articles can be submitted to the editor, preferably via e-mail or disk. E-mail n3sfp@erie.net. Articles can also be faxed if you call first. If you need to mail an article, send to 849 Newton Ave., Erie, PA 16511. Please have your article to the editor by the 15th. Any and all articles of interest to the ham community will be greatly appreciated!

The QUARAE is published by the Radio Association of Erie. The Radio Association of Erie is a non-profit club serving the tri-state area by providing emergency communications during a civil disaster, as well as providing communication support for public events. The club meets at 7:00pm the first Thursday of every month at the Red Cross chapter house, 4981 Pittsburgh Ave., Erie, PA. For membership information contact Bob

Schwimmer, N3FAW at 866-3027 or e-mail bobn3faw@velocity.net



MINUTES

RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE GENERAL MEETING February 4, 1999

Board members present: N3HPR, AA3OV, N3BZL, N3FAW, NBQ, N3NTJ and K3LD

AA3OV called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

New Calls: Thomas KB3DHO and Jeff KB3CIF
Upgrades: KB3CAB - Richard Moore to Extra

Secretary: Motion to accept the February minutes N3HPR second KB3CIS none opposed.

Treasurer: NBQ gave report

Board: N3HPR - Treasurer report, voter system, EOC, presidents conference, hamfest and prizes ordered for hamfest.

Membership: N3FAW- 177 members, 18 associate, 24 life members and 135 members.

Public Service: chairman is needed. Please contact Dave AA3OV if interested.

Repeater: AA3OV - Figured out a list of components needed for the 3 voter systems. Will be ordering in the next few weeks.

Contesting: KB3A - PA QSO contest, RAE came in 4th in the club competition. Chris has any 100 QSO mugs. Contact Chris if you ordered a mug. There were 3 from Erie that came in the top 20. -ARRL phone contest for DX the weekend of the March 6 & 7. -There will be QSO parties Wisconsin in March. Alaska and Ohio will have theirs on March 22 and Virginia is the end of the month.

Hamfest: N3HPR- Most of the chairs have been filled if anyone is interested in helping out contact Tom. Flyers are done just need to go to printers and tickets will follow. Already received letters from food sources and have sent out letters to all the vendors. Prizes are

in. First meeting will be in either April or May.

VE: Villa -March 6 and April 3 at Villa, Zurn Lecture Hall at 8:00. Gannon- March 20 and April 17 at Gannon at 12:30.

Skywarn: N3HPR - Beginners class for Skywarn will be March 31 at 6:30 and advance Skywarn on April 7 at 6:30 at the Hamot Auditorium. Open to public. Sign up on the Sunday Skywarn net at 9:00 on 61.

Old Business: EOC submitting application for permit for a 80 foot tower instead of 100 feet. 80 feet will be probably easier to approve than the 100 feet for the zoning restrictions.

-AA3OV- We have a fox transmitter available to anyone interested in having a fox hunt. Contact Dave.

-Anyone interested in getting a simplex contest together contact Dave.

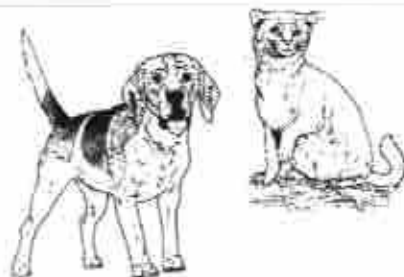
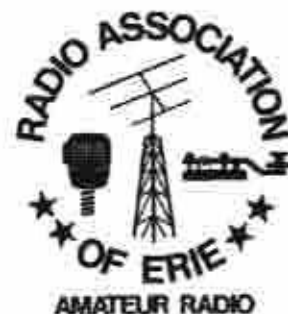
-Club wants to do another radio raffle like we did last year. We will be doing it in a couple of months.

Next Month: Guest speaker will be Bernie Fuller N3EFN.

The western presidents conference is coming up and Riley Hollingworth, the FCC enforcement officer will be attending.

50/50 - KE3XR - \$18.00. 50/50 second drawing- for \$162.50, Scott John W3TX not present.

Adjourn 8:07 motion: N3LBI second N3NTJ



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Tom McClain, D.V.M. Jeff Paavola, D.V.M. Mark Wilde, D.V.M. Raylene Hinley, D.V.M.

!!THE NEW 50-50 JACKPOT!!

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Winner Must be PRESENT

Here's how it works: After the regular meeting the usual ticket is drawn for the monthly 50-50 prize. The winning member gets one-half of that day's ticket proceeds, as in the past.

Then the *other half* of the money from that day's purchases is added to the money (if any) unclaimed from the previous meeting's drawing.

Next there is another drawing from a random selection of member names. If present, the member gets the accumulated jackpot. If he/she is absent, that day's money is added to the pot for next month. The club keeps nothing.

Next drawing will be at least \$162.50!

Radio Association of Erie officers for 1999

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Dave Ross, AA3OV

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Bob Fuller, N3LBI

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Dianne Miller, K3LD

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For Sale:

NEW!

ICOM 706 - 6m - 2m (vhf), 160m - 10m (hf) - current used price \$800.
Your price: \$550 (must sell)

AT180 Auto antenna tuner - Going price used \$400. Your price \$200. (must sell)

PS55 power supply (matches 706) - Getting \$200 for used PS55. Give me \$125 and take it home.

RADIO SHACK LIGHT DUTY ROTOR w/rotor box. \$25. I'll throw in brand new tripod for \$25 more.

AR-270b - Dual band 2m/440mhz vertical. On roof for two months. Like new condition. \$50 - compared to the \$79 book price.

Contact Steve LaJohn at 774-8147, Pager 879-7723, 146.61 repeater.

For Sale:

NEW!

Laser printer, 4 copies per minute, excellent copies, includes new drum, 2 cartridges toner. \$200, offers considered

Contact Bob, N3FAW, 866-3027

For Sale:

1 Wilson 6 element 20, 15, & 10 meters tribander - \$250.
1 MFJ-207 HF SWR Analyzer and freq. counter - \$50.
2 Commodore computers/keyboards, 2 drives plus 1 needing repair, power supplies for above, 1 monitor - \$65.
2 printers (1 Commodore, 1 PC).
2 Digicom packet boards (1/ps, 1 powered from computer).
Software

Contact Don Rhodes, WB3DNF, donr@juno.com 814-456-2166

For Sale:

Motorola Micro-Tac Lite, alpha-numeric cellular phone, 3 watt booster, hands free car kit, 2 NiMH and 1 NiCD batteries, 1 quick charger and 1 normal charger, Cigarette adapter power supply and case. Needs antenna. \$150.

Contact Greg Fisher, N3MHO, 814-456-2996 or gfisher@erie.net

For Sale:

Laser Printer, Texas Instruments Model Win/4. Good operating condition. Requires Win 95 and at least 32 meg RAM.

Contact Dick Engel, KA3KFO at 941-475-6438 or e-mail him your phone number and he will call. engelkoa@aol.com

For Sale:

Rotor: CDE Ham II w/control box. Very cheap. Must be removed from tower and may need some repair.

Turner Plus 2 Mic: Wired for Yeasu FT-101 series.

Azden 2 meter EM mobile: PCS-3000

Contact Bill, WB3JFE at wb3jfe@aol.com

For Sale:

KLM KT - 34XA Triband yagi. Never used, new in box. \$490.
Diawa MR - 750 rotor. Never used, new in box. \$200.
Cushcraft 40 - 2CD. Slightly used, great condition. \$200.

Contact Scott, W3TX, petvet@erie.net

My father was a member of your organization, I believe KA3ATO. He passed away a year ago today. We've sold off most of his radio equipment, but we still have a (I think 10 meter - 30 foot) antenna to sell. It has all the bits and pieces, is in good condition and about four years old. Price negotiable. Best offer.

Contact Mary Anthur, imp@erie.net

For Sale from estate of Harold "Andy" Anderson, W3YLI:

Kenwood TS-820-S w/speaker SP520	\$450
Asiatic microphone, model 10-DA	\$ 30
Heathkit HW-16 (transceiver w/VFO-HG-10B (incl. 3 spare tubes)	SOLD
Heathkit speaker model HS-24	SOLD
Vibroplex Bug (black handles)	\$200
Lafayette antenna SWR meter	SOLD
Heathkit code oscillator	\$ 10
MFJ antenna tuner model MFJ-16010	SOLD
Knight Space Scanner regm. mc/vr	\$ 25
Kenwood speaker microphone SMC-24	\$ 15
Nye/Viking Telegraph Key 114-310-001	\$ 10
U.S. Army Signal Corps telegraph key	
J-38 Lionel Corp.	\$ 25
J-30	SOLD

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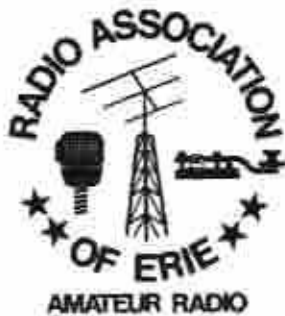
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Radio Association of Erie **Hamfest '99**



September 11, 1999