

**Club Repeaters:**  
**Erie: 146.610-**  
**PL 127.3 hz**  
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**Waterford: 146.82-**  
**PL 186.2 hz**

# QUARAE



Volume 4, Issue 2

February 2005

## 2005 Holiday Party

The Radio Association of Erie held its annual holiday party at Nunzi's Restaurant on January 15th. It was a fantastic evening filled with prizes, food, and fun. Our club president Chris Robson- KB3A and xyl Debi KB3B helped organize a wonderful event.

Our club has had much success in its endeavors over the past year. Members attending that evening gave a moment of silence to remember many silent keys who past away during the year. The gathering two weeks ago has allowed us to refocus what we mean to the community and what we have to offer. The new year we have ahead will prove to be challenging and "radio active" year for our club.



## Officers and Contacts — 2004

### President

Chris Robson, KB3A  
crobson@robsonco.com

### Vice President

Neal Shea, N3ZNP  
twosheas@velocity.net

### Treasurer

Frank Graziano, KD3D  
kd3dfrank@hotmail.com

### Secretary/Newsletter

John Lis, N3NKV  
john@jjlis.com

### Chairman of the Board

Robert Fuller, N3LBI  
n3lbi@adelphia.net

### Board Members

Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX  
Ron Prindle, N3BXL  
Joe McLain, KB3ALU  
Bill Marshall, KB3JSN

### Membership Chairmen

Bob Schwimmer  
bobn3faw@verizon.net

### Clubhouse & Repeater Committee Chairman

Steve LaJohn, N3SRD  
slajohn@adelphia.net

### Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

Rob Jacobs, N3OCL  
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### Webmaster

Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX  
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### ARES/RACES E.C.

Dave Wellman, WX3E  
ucdavid@aol.com

### SKYWARN E.C.

Steve Lajohn, N3SRD  
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## Upcoming Events

**Thurs. Feb 3 - Radio Association of Erie General Meeting**  
**Time: 7 pm**  
**Red Cross—4961 Pittsburgh Avenue**  
**off of West Grandview Blvd.**

**Tues Feb 22- Radio Association of Erie Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Time: 7:00 pm**  
**Red Cross — 4961 Pittsburgh Avenue**  
**off of West Grandview Blvd.**

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## DXCC Listings Now Available on ARRL WEB

The ARRL Web site now features up-to-date listings of DXCC awards earned. The new system shows every issued DXCC award known to ARRL's computerized DXCC system, with the exception of individual standings for 5BDXCC. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, says the Web site listing is even more complete than the DXCC Yearbook ever was, since the printed list did not list inactive band-accounts for the previous year.

“This will list everything and everybody,” Mills emphasized. “The new system makes available a separate listing for each DXCC award type—band or mode.” Even more important, Mills notes, is that it essentially renders obsolete the manually generated monthly and yearly reports. “Under the new system, DXCC listings will updated daily,” he emphasized.

The DXCC standings of all ARRL members will remain in dark type. Call signs of non-members who have not submitted credits for 10 years or more are in grayed-out type.

Each listing by band or mode is complete in a separate Adobe PDF file. The largest listing (DXCC Mixed) now runs to more than 50 pages, but the size of the PDF file is only about 150 kbytes because of file compression. Printing format options include US letter-sized or ISO A4 paper.

The DXCC listings can be found at  
<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/#listings>.

## RAE General Membership Meeting Minutes December 2, 2004

Radio Association of Erie  
General Membership Meeting  
December 2, 2004

**Board Members Present:** KB3A, N3RKO, KC2HVX, N3FAW and K3LD

**Not present:** KD3D, N3LBI, N3BXL and KB3ALU

Meeting brought to order by President KB3A at 7:05 pm, The general membership meeting took place at the RAE clubhouse.

**Secretary's report-** K3LD: motion to accept the minutes that were printed in the QuaRae for November. Motion: KA3CPV Second: K3GJK

**Treasurer's report-** K3LD gave report

**Board of Directors report-**K3LD-, website, repeater, Christmas party, Budget and new board members.

**Membership-** N3FAW: 46 members so far for 2005

**QuaRae:** N3NKV – John will be post the QuaRae on the website. Next months will be a small one maybe 2 to 4 pages long.

**Website:** KC2HVX- Bob is revising the website and will be brought up later online.

**ARES:** WX3E- Dave and Bill (WB3JSN ) are in the process of getting grant money to refurbish a trailer that will be used for ARES/RACES communications and promotional trailer so as to promote amateur radio for Erie County. The trailer was donated to the Union City Wireless and the members voted so that it will be used for Erie County ARES/RACES program. A motion was brought to the membership to store the trailer to

protect it during the winter, it was tabled and the board will make that decision at the next meeting.

**Contesting report-** KB3A: 10 meter contest Dec 11 & 12 at the EOC. Anyone interested come out to the EOC and try it. Dec 4th is Skywarn recognition of National Weather Stations contest.

WW3JC conducted the first M-Com (Level I) classes at the clubhouse. 3 took the class and all passed. Anyone interested in taking the next class on January 8 and 15th contact Lee. It will cost \$45.00 for ARRL members and \$95.00 for non-members and when you pass you get the \$45.00 back if you are a member.

WX3E will be having a short Hazmat class sometime in the spring. Details to follow.

**Holiday Party:** Christmas Party set for January 15 at Nunzi's. They put on a very nice buffet last year. Anyone interested contact Debi or Chris (KB3B and KB3A).

6:00 PM - Socializing - - 6:30 - Dinner  
Cost each \$13.00

Menu:Roasted Chicken, Beef or Ham, Roasted Potatoes, Rigatoni, Meatballs, Wedding Soup, Veg/Relish Tray, Antipasto Salad, Fruit Salad, Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, Hot Vegetable, Dessert Tray, Assorted bread tray and coffee.

**VE:** K3LD- If anyone is interested to take a test, you have to contact Rob (N3OCL) cell phone # 814-881-5238 or email at N3OCL@verizon.net so that we can make sure to have the test at the RAE clubhouse.

**Continued on PG. 4**

## November Minutes Continued

We had one person Joe Paluh test during the meeting and passed his Tech. Congratulations Joe!

WB3DOM informed members that KC3LV is very sick and to keep him in your prayers.

Also Ron said they are updating the PA QSO Party with results from 2004.

N3ZNP made a motion to top off the fuel tank for the club. 2nd KC2HVX all in favor.

50/50: N3ZNP

**Motion to adjourn:** KC2HVX Second: NI3Q

Meeting adjourned at 8:00

## Morse Code Ringtones on Cellular Phones

I always chuckle when some teeny-bopper's mobile phone sends the letters SMS in Morse when a text message arrives (though I'd bet the significance is lost on just about all of them). This got me to wondering how I can customize the ringer on my own mobile to send Morse Code ringtones for more than just SMS. I have a relatively-new LG mobile that allows customized polyphonic ringtones for either every call in general or specific to each number that caller-ID matches to a number in my phonebook.

After a little homework I found the easiest way to do this requires a data connection from my PC to the phone and three pieces of software. First was the Susteen Data Pilot software that came bundled with the phone's USB cable; this allows the phone to communicate with the PC. This is the medium through which everything is loaded, but you don't actually DO anything with it.

Next, I needed to generate sound files of the various Morse words or phrases that I wanted. I used a freeware program called WinMorse 2 to generate these WAV files, which I then converted to MP3 format (you can use any standard audio conversion program readily available on the web).

Finally, I uploaded the MP3 files to the phone using BitPim version 0.7.23 (use whichever version is the most recent), another free piece of software which happens to communicate with

my phone. You need to ensure compatibility between your phone and this software, or else use software specific to your phone.

Once this was accomplished, I went into the phone's menu and associated these new Morse tones with individual numbers and a general "CQ CQ DE W2IRT" for any unknown or unmatched number. All of these were recorded at a nice 25 wpm speed at 800 Hz and are loud enough to be annoying--er--be heard in noisy environments (yeah, that's it). It's also unique enough that when it goes off a dozen people won't all be reaching for their own phones at the same time.

I don't know if there's a way to do this with Midi files or for phones that don't have so-called polyphonic ringers, but I'm sure it's possible (though maybe a little harder to do). Give it a try and see if you can spot another ham in the room!

- by Peter Dougherty W2IRT posted via E-Ham.Net



## More Holiday Party Pictures



## Upcoming Contests

February 14-19th- School Club Round Up

February 19 -20th - ARRL International DX Contest (CW)

## 2004 PA QSO PARTY PRELIMINARY RESULTS

|        | CW     | CW    |       | TOTAL |         |          |         |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|----------|---------|
| CALL   | 160/80 | OTHER | PHONE | QSOS  | COUNTYS | SECTIONS | SCORE   |
| KA3B   | 25     | 42    | 33    | 100   | 46      | 13       | 9,814   |
| W3NGO  | 77     | 167   |       | 244   | 56      | 43       | 41,650  |
| WB3DOM | 164    | 261   | 540   | 965   | 67      | 68       | 172,292 |
| K3GY   | 134    | 278   | 490   | 902   | 63      | 72       | 160,600 |
| W3GV   |        | 80    | 657   | 737   | 63      | 67       | 103,187 |
| W3PIX  |        |       | 536   | 536   | 59      | 57       | 63,912  |
| KE3V   | 23     | 72    | 184   | 279   | 59      | 26       | 59,260  |
| NI3Q   |        |       | 100   | 100   | 40      | 15       | 5,700   |
| N3FAW  |        |       | 70    | 70    | 28      | 18       | 3,620   |
| N3BXL  |        |       | 23    | 23    | 14      | 7        | 483     |
| N3NTJ  | 10     |       | 466   | 476   | 67      | 44       | 55,746  |
| KD3D   | 63     | 230   | 328   | 621   | 66      | 57       | 100,476 |

| CALL   | COUNTY    | CLUB | CLASS | POWER | LOCATION |
|--------|-----------|------|-------|-------|----------|
| KA3B   | BERKS     | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| W3NGO  | CLINTON   | RAE  | CW    | LOW   | PORTABLE |
| WB3DOM | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | HIGH  | HOME     |
| K3GY   | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| W3GV   | ERIE      | RAE  | MM    | LOW   | HOME     |
| W3PIX  | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| KE3V   | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | QRP   | HOME     |
| NI3Q   | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| N3FAW  | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| N3BXL  | ERIE      | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| N3NTJ  | LANCASTER | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | HOME     |
| KD3D   | MCKEAN    | RAE  | 1     | LOW   | PORTABLE |

The overall preliminary point total for the club was **776,740**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY** and was provided from the PA QSO PARTY WEB Site with a last update of November 30, 2004.

To find out more information about the PA QSO PARTY, you can join the PAQP reflector, by visiting <http://mailman.gth.net/mailman/listinfo/paqso> and follow the instructions

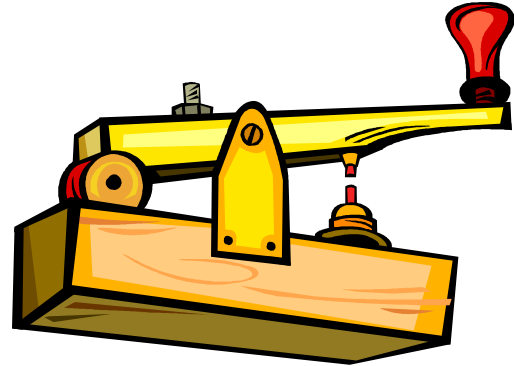
A reflector is an e-mail net in which all members share a common interest. Any member can send an e-mail message which will be forwarded to ALL members of the net. It's a great way to keep abreast of news of the PA QSO Party.

## An Update on CW from Our Neighbors Across the Pond

### *INDUSTRY CANADA REPORTS "OVERWHELMING AGREEMENT" TO DROP MORSE*

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) reports that an Industry Canada (IC) analysis has found "overwhelming agreement" that Canada should move away from retaining a Morse code requirement as "the sole means of gaining access" to the HF amateur bands. IC has posted a summary of comments from the amateur community to RAC's Recommendations from Radio Amateurs of Canada to Industry Canada concerning Morse Code and Related Matters.

"Amateurs should note that while the responses heavily favored deletion of the Morse Qualification as a requirement for access to the HF bands, Industry Canada still has to make and announce a decision on Morse retention or deletion," RAC emphasized. IC reported 123 comments in favor of relaxing the code requirement in Canada and only 19 "clearly opposed." Another six comments were inconclusive.



The regulatory agency also has attempted to gauge the level of support for each of RAC's 12 license restructuring recommendations. IC said it would formulate a plan to implement changes emerging from the consultation process.

RAC notes that until IC announces a decision to delete Morse, Canadian amateurs not holding the Morse Qualification may not operate on the HF bands.

The Industry Canada comment summary is on IC's Web site:  
<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08280e.html>

Here in the US, the FCC has made no recommendation or decision regarding the future of the current 5 WPM (Element 1) Morse requirement for HF access. It's also reviewing several petitions, including one from the ARRL, that propose further Amateur Radio license restructuring.

### Swap and Shop

**For Sale**—HEATHKIT SB-1000 (1000 watt) linear HF amplifier with manuals---\$500.00 or best offer. Contact Joe Ponchak KA3CPV at 836-9829 or via e-mail [ka3cpvgrmpap@velocity.net](mailto:ka3cpvgrmpap@velocity.net).

**For Sale**—30 foot tower (3 ten foot sections) \$60.— three element beam antenna (20 - 15 - 10 meters) \$50. Contact Dick Bainbridge W3GZO at 814-838-4878 or e-mail [w3gzo@velocity.net](mailto:w3gzo@velocity.net)

If you have something for swap and shop or an article for the QUARAE, please contact John Lis N3NKV via e-mail at [john@jjlis.com](mailto:john@jjlis.com) or via twisted pair at 825-5565.

***Radio Association of Erie*****P.O. Box 844****Erie, Pa 16512****Local/Regional Nets**

| <b><u>Net Name</u></b>             | <b><u>Frequency/Mode</u></b> | <b><u>Day(s)/ Start Time</u></b> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Erie Area Mailbag Net</b>       | 146.700(-) FM                | M-F 8:00 pm                      |
| <b>ARES/SKYWARN Net</b>            | 146.610(-) FM                | Sunday 9:00 pm                   |
| <b>International Simplex Net</b>   | 146.550 FM                   | Saturday 8:00 pm                 |
| <b>2 Meter AM</b>                  | 144.450 AM                   | Monday 8:00 pm                   |
| <b>6 Meter AM</b>                  | 50.520 AM                    | Wednesday 7:00 pm                |
| <b>6 Meter SSB</b>                 | 50.190 USB                   | Sunday 7:00 pm                   |
| <b>Lake Erie Emergency Net</b>     | 29.000 USB                   | Sunday 8:00 pm                   |
| <b>Novice-Tech Net</b>             | 28.400 USB                   | Wednesday 8:30 pm                |
| <b>Flintstone RTTY Net</b>         | 28.280 RTTY                  | Saturday 8:30 pm                 |
| <b>Mid CARS Net</b>                | 7.258 LSB                    | Daily Anytime                    |
| <b>East CARS Net</b>               | 7.255 LSB                    | Daily Anytime                    |
| <b>PA EMA Net-Full State</b>       | 3.9935 LSB                   | Sunday 8:00 am                   |
| <b>PA EMA Net-Central</b>          | 3.9935 LSB                   | Sunday 8:30 am                   |
| <b>PA EMA Net -West</b>            | 3.990 LSB                    | Sunday 9:00 am                   |
| <b>PA EMA Net- East</b>            | 3.9875 LSB                   | Sunday 9:00 am                   |
| <b>WPA Phone &amp; Traffic Net</b> | 3.983 LSB                    | Daily 6:00 pm                    |
| <b>EPA Phone &amp; Traffic Net</b> | 3.917 LSB                    | Daily 6:00 pm                    |