



TELSTAR

JUNE 1987 - NO. 62

SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President = John Leitten KA2RFT
Vice pres. = Bill Siska N2GAD
Secretary = ? ? ?
Treasurer = Malcolm Vallone WA2VER
Fin. secy. = Chuck Louise KC2SG
Director = Matt Gorski NS2M
Director = Nick Stanko KA2SEZ

== ==

THE PRES SEZ

Wow! What am I going to write about? For quite a long time I would list the chairmanship open, but not now, everything is filled. We also have a candidate to fill in as secretary. How about that! STARS sure come through again.

The action in the HF band is getting better and better. I have been spending most of my time between 28.3 and 28.5 MHz. It's great to hear the enthusiasm of the operators, some are on the air after a 6 to 7 year slump. Low and behold they also like to send out cards, so much so, I found out my log has not been taken care of, my notes in the round file were some help -- shame on me -- I won't let that happen again. What seems old hat to many is new and exciting to others. Want info on 10-10#? See you at the next meeting. I have a sheet that explains all, or talk to Gus, N2EAF, WNYS top 10-10er. Gus has collected over 1000 numbers.

June 27, 28 will be field days. Due to the efforts of Matt, NS2M, we will be able to use the grounds in back of the Hamburg Moose Lodge on Church St. A very special thanks to Matt for this fine job. Maps will be passed out next meeting, June 4th. We will also go over on how to work a dupe sheet. These are very handy to use for a fast log in the shack, and a must for field day.

Stay Involved
John, KA2RFT

P.S. I have been working on a beam for the low end SSB 10 meter band. Hope to find time to have it up and tested for the July Telstar. Roof mount, TV rotor, parts all local. Keep you posted.

73 John, KA2RFT

== ==

STARS VE TESTS RESULTS

The following are the results of the Volunteer Examiner Session held at the Hamburg Junior High School on April 29.

We had 23 candidates and they did considerably better than was done at the session held last November.

8 novices upgraded to technician; 3 generals upgraded to advanced; 3 took the 20 wpm code test with 1 passing; 10 passed element 3A - 3 failed; 4 passed element 3B - 2 failed; 1 failed element 4B.

More walk-ins appeared at the session than was anticipated, so it was bedlam there for a time. However, I received a letter from ARRL and we rated 100 percent with them on the session. At this time, I want to thank Guz - WB2EZU, John - KA2RFT, Matt - NS2M, Vince - KC2NY, and Joe - N2BGJ for the tremendous job that they did at the session. The next STARS VE session will be in the middle of October (date not yet finalized).

We are think of conducting a session sometime this summer in Lancaster if we can round up enough candidates. If you are interested in upgrading, please contact any of the VEs and give them the info. Again thanks to everyone who participated.

Dick Haungs, W2UJR

== ==

REPEATER NEWS

When I first purchased my new car, the only maintenance required was gas in the tank, air in the tires, and fresh oil in the engine. After 40,000 miles it seemed like half the car needed repairs; new brakes, muffler, shocks and tires.

As those of you who use the 7.09/7.69 STARS repeater may know, it has reached 40,000 miles. The machine could use a great deal of repair and fine tuning to bring it up to snuff. In addition, I have heard some comments from our members regarding changes to the repeater and the desire for some additional features being added.

After recently assuming repeater maintenance responsibilities, I have reviewed the repeater and have attempted to assemble a plan for repeater repair and enhancements.

In light of declining club member participation in such areas as Ham-O-Rama, from which a substantial revenue is collected each year for club participation; repeater enhancements, continuance of the phone patch feature, and even some repeater repairs may be hanging in the balance.

In the June General meeting, all issues regarding the future of the 7.09 machine will be discussed (repeater problems and enhancements, such as adding emergency power, are topics which require input from all members). At the meeting, an audio tape from Advanced Computer Controls will be presented. This is an excellent tape which outlines all features of the ACC state-of-the-art RC-850 Repeater Controller, such as that used on the Ridgeway machine.

So bring your ideas and complaints to the June meeting. It's one you won't want to miss. We want you to keep the STARS repeater up and running smoothly for the next 40,000 miles and maybe even make the neighbors wish they had a "Cadillac" like ours.

See you at the meeting

Bill, N2GAD

Vice-President

== ==

NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS

What you are about to see is an amateur radio station licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. Before you ask the questions = here are the answers:

1. The total cost of the equipment is \$ _____.
2. No, we cannot send a message to your brother in Hong Kong: Suggest you call Western Union.
3. This is strictly a hobby: We do not have facilities or the time to fix TV sets and hi-fi sets. We suggest you see a local serviceman.
4. Yes, the antenna in the back yard is necessary for the proper operation of the equipment.
5. The farthest station that we have contacted has been Ubangiland.
6. The cards on the wall are called QSL cards.
7. Oh! No! Never does the equipment interfere with the operation of television sets.

also

If you are invited to speak on the microphone please observe the following rules:

1. Speak in a low and soothing tone.
2. Do not disagree with me in any manner.
3. Say no bad words or tell off-color jokes.

furthermore

Do NOT touch anything, turn any knobs, sit on equipment, etc. seven have died by electrocution in the past few months.

Signed _____

ARS

(via RTTY mailbox)

== ==

STARS GOSSIP COLUMN

Well STARS can be proud of their participation in the FCC examination held near the end of April. There were 23 that took the test and at least half of them went home upgraded or a certificate for passing part of the test. Let us not rest on our laurels as the summer is just starting. Beginning in June and until the end of October we will be opening up the

Nike base on Mondays for the members. There is talk of having it more than one day per week so let your thoughts be known so that a schedule can be arranged. The first day is set aside for clean up and redesign of the storage room. We were able to obtain some shelving from a food market through one of our members so we would like to see the carpenters and builders present to give us their ideas as well as assistance in making this a success in the usual STARS manner. Also there is a redesign GSRV wire antenna which should provide some interesting testing. The radio station at the youth center will be closed and the equipment taken to the Nike base.

At the June 4th meeting an election will take place to obtain a new secretary for the club. All nominations will be accepted up until voting time at the meeting, this is a very important position and carries voting privileges on the board of directors.

As usual we will participate in field day activities and a site is already picked out. Get in touch with Dave, KD2EY, for more info and what is needed to make it a success.

There is a special event station on the calendar for the club during the month of July - get in touch with Gary, KB2YJ, regarding this. WB2ELW will be used as the call and it will work from your home QTH so that should make it easy.

With all this action and the two nets (Wednesdays at 1900 - the WB2ELW repeater hours and Saturdays at 1000 hours on 35 khz SSB) there is no reason you can't enjoy the fine points of amateur radio as the organization is doing everything possible to make it interesting.

See You All June 4th

Guz, WB2EZX

== ==

HAM GEAR NEEDED

WANTED: any info on an E. F. Johnson Viking Courier. If you have any manuals I would like to borrow them to make copies. Gene, KA2IWI, 833-0248 after 1900 hours, or Ken Kase at 824-5594. Thanks.

== ==

ARRL NEWS

39

The FCC has accepted in part the ARRL petition for reconsideration in PR docket 85 196, The FCC rulemaking which transferred maintenance of the question pools to the volunteer examiner coordinators. In its original order, the commission made it possible for every VEC to maintain its own question pools independent of other VECs. In its petition the ARRL argued this could make some question pools easier harder than others. On reconsideration FCC accepted ARRL arguments and changed section 97.521 to require VECs to maintain one common question pool for each examination

SOMETHING MISSING !!

element and to require that the present question pools will stay in effect at least until January 30, 1988.

ARRL also petitioned FCC to continue to maintain the question pools, but FCC has again declined saying it had the authority to allow the VECs to assist it with the amateur examination workload.

The FCC affirmed its earlier ruling that all telegraphy test elements must contain all 26 letters, 10 numerals, 4 punctuation marks and 3 prosigns. The telegraph examination may be as long as necessary to satisfy the requirements. HQ has only received a brief FCC news release on this action. More details will appear in the ARRL letter and QST.

== ==

COMING EVENTS 1987

<u>General Meeting</u>	4 June at 7:30 PM Youth Center
<u>Board Meeting</u>	23 June at 7:00 PM Youth Center
<u>75 Meter Net</u>	Each Saturday at 10:00 AM +/- 3925 khz
<u>2 Meter Info Net</u>	Each Wednesday 7:00 PM 147.69/.09
<u>Telstar deadline</u>	20 June
<u>Town of Hamburg</u>	18 - 19 July = 175th town anniversary
<u>Erie County Fair</u>	14 - 23 August
<u>Ham-O-Rama</u>	12 September = Falls Convention Center

== ==

VE TESTS AND TEST SITES

RAVE phone 838 3961	Upgrading information
12 July 1987	Batavia Hamfest, Alexander NY, complete 610 form and SASE by 13 June to: Ron Lawson = 4966 Batt. Elba T.L. Rd. = Batavia NY 14020 = (716) 344-1378
12 September 1987	HAM-O-RAMA, Niagara Falls NY, details unavailable at this time
14 November 1987	contact Jim Collier, K20B, 688-8293

Prior to attending any exam session contact the person handling that particular session. Several points of interest = make a copy of your license and also have your original license as you may be asked to produce that as well; two sources of I.D., preferably one with a photo. Another thing to ponder is that walk ins may not be permitted.

NOTE: any technician who has passed element 3 (prior to 21 March 1987) will not have to take element 3(B) to pass the theory end. SO SAVE AND MAKE COPIES OF LICENSE, OR PROOF OF COMPLETION DATED PRIOR TO 21 MARCH 1987.

== ==



YEP!

YOUR

ARTICLE

DONT WORRY!
WE WILL
FIND

ROOM