

# TELSTAR

SEPTEMBER 1987 - 85

## SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President = John Leitten KA2RFT  
Vice pres. = Bill Siska N2GAD  
Secretary = John Murray KB2ACZ  
Treasurer = Malcolm Vallone WA2VER  
Fin. secy. = Chuck Louise KC2SG  
Director = Matt Gorski NS2M  
Director = Nick Stanko KA2SEZ

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## October 14th TEST SESSION

The VE testing session will take place on Wednesday evening from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Hamburg Junior High School.

We are not allowing any walk-ins at this session because we must know before the test session how many will be present. At the April session 15 walk-ins showed up and that is too many people to process at one time. If you pre-register, the information is already on hand and is much simpler to just check your I.D. and give you the test.

Please register beforehand. Send your completed 610 form, a check for \$4.35 made out to ARRL/VEC, and a copy of your license to:

Dick Haungs W2UJR  
11315 Cary Road  
Alden, NY 14004

It must arrive not less than one week before the session (by the 7th of October).

One note about the new 610 forms (dated 12/31/89), under 2D (examination to upgrade operator license) there is no space to state the class you are upgrading to - so send a note along with your 610 form and let me know what elements you want to take or the class you intend to upgrade to. The older forms have a space for that info.

However, should you decide to upgrade at the last minute, we will accommodate a few walk-ins, subject to the discretion of the VE team. KEEP IN MIND THAT THE PRE-REGISTERED CANDIDATES HAVE PRIORITY OVER THE WALK-INS AND SHOULD WE RUN OUT OF TEST MATERIAL THE WALK-INS WON'T BE TESTED.

Dick, W2UJR

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## UNDERSTANDING REPEATERS Part II

### TOWER AND GUY WIRE NOISE

In some repeater installations, there may be a problem with intermittent "crackling noises" on the repeater signal, (particularly on weak received signals), especially when there are high winds. This noise is caused by poor and intermittent metal to metal connections on the antenna tower or nearby metal objects such as guy wire connection points, tower leg joints, supporting mast intermittently touching the tower's top collar, rusty joints, etc. These metal objects pick up RF from the repeater's transmitted signal, or any other RF in the immediate area, and when moved slightly, will arc microscopically to any other metal object touching it. The arc, (which is a very level effect), produces a wideband RF noise which is radiated, picked up by the repeater's antenna, and heard in the receiver which is, of course, then re-transmitted.

The solution to these intermittent joints is to either bond or insulate ALL the poor connections. Any volunteers?

AI May W2CKFV

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## COMING EVENTS 1987

General Meeting	3 September 7:30 PM = Youth Center
Board Meeting	<del>22</del> September 7:00 PM = Youth Center
75 Meter Net	Each Saturday at 10:00 AM +/- 3925 khz
2 Meter Info Net	Each Wednesday 7:00 PM 147.69/.09
Telstar deadline	20 September
Ham-O-Rama	12 September = Falls Convention Center

### VE testing

14 October = Hamburg Junior High =  
Wednesday 7:00 PM = check article at  
the beginning.

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### TINKERERS

In the book "Amateur Radio, Super Hobby!" by Vince Luciani, K2VJ, the story is told of a preacher, lawyer, and a tinkering ham radio operator in a far-away country ===== having been convicted of a crime against that country, and without wasting any time, the dictator ordered them to be immediately executed by guillotine.



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The condemned prisoners were led into the courtyard. As they approached the guillotine, the preacher asked to go first and to be placed over the base of the guillotine on his back so that he might spend his last moments on earth looking upward toward heaven. His wish was granted. As the huge blade was released and came hurtling downward, it stopped suddenly, only inches from the preacher's neck. A miracle! Impressed the dictator took it as a sign from above and set the preacher free.

Next came the lawyer who, trained to respect precedent, also asked to be beheaded facing upward. His wish was also granted. And, again, as the blade hurtled down, it once more stopped suddenly, only inches from the prisoner's neck. The dictator set the lawyer free also.

Then came the turn of the tinkering radio amateur who asked to be placed on his back at the guillotine. And as all was made ready to again release the blade one more time, the tinkerer shouted out, "Wait a minute, I think I see the problem."

Maybe that is why there so few "Tinkering Ham Radio Operators" left anymore!

rtty mso  
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STARS

GOSSIP

COLUMN

The August meeting at the Nike base was wall to wall members and a lot of problems were resolved, including the status of the repeater and the upgrading of same, sounds like quite a project. Maybe Bill, N2GAD, will give a report in the paper to those unable to get to the meeting. The membership is very cooperative and that means the upgrading of the STARS repeater will get into full swing.

By the way, Joe, K2QNG, how about a report from your new QTH regarding the clubs and their way of running them - perhaps we can learn something from them. Hi! Hi!

The Nike base is still in the process of getting upgraded, with any luck there could be a favorable report to give at the next meeting.

One of the most important events coming up will be the election of officers in October. At the September meeting, nomination of officers will take place in order to get the names on a ballot. You can see that it isn't too early to think about this important project, and help select your officers for 1988. The only requirements being you be 18 years or older, hold a valid amateur license and a paid-up member for a minimum of one year.

Don't forget the STARS VE test on October the 14th. Get your filled in forms (610) to Dick, W2UJR, as soon as possible and he will fill you in on what you need to have. At the rate that everything is changing it is to your advantage to upgrade now.

Another successful special event station has been operated by STARS, if you worked WB2ELW (18 July), bring in your QSL card at the next meeting and we will present you with your certificate.

Having talked with Matt, NS2M, and he states that our fair station interferes with the electronic equipment so they (WB2ELW) will have to keep quiet hours during those demonstrations. Because of this all messages shall have to placed on other nets to reach their destination.

See you September 3rd  
Guz, WB2EZU

P.S. Please read the president's article - the meeting date could be changed.

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## TOWER NEWS

The following was submitted by KA2NZC, Charles Cortwright, a public service radio communications supervisor with the Elmira City Police Dept.

PROPOSED NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATION ON TOWER CONSTRUCTION BILL #2605

Today I received some information relative to this proposed piece of legislation, after reading the proposed legislation I realized that this would impact all public safety operations (police, fire, EMS, highway, special emergency, local government), it would make installation/implementation of such new/modified systems so cost prohibitive that government would be handicapped.

Being concerned about this subject, I contacted Mr. Mark Schnieder at the local offices of Assemblyman George Winrue. He advised me that the proposal died in committee and was not reported out to the full assembly. He also advised me that there is no companion senate bill and thus it would have been unlikely that the bill would have passed and become law.

I expressed my concern to him in as much as I had previously been unaware of this proposal even though I am very active in many public safety radio/communications organizations. I will be alerting them to the proposal to prevent an introduction of this or similar legislation.

I would hasten to point out that the main reason cited by Mr. Schnieder for the defeat of this legislation was the impact that it would have on public safety radio. This aspect should be addressed in any communication that might be spread concerning this issue.

This piece of communication by scope alone should have not gotten as far as it did. Even though the bill is dead at this time the issue should be pursued along all channels possible, commercially, public safety and AMATEUR so as to let the law makers know that this should not be brought up again.

Lt. Charles Cortwright (KA2NZC) Communications Supervisor  
Elmira City Police Dept. = Elmira, NY  
relayed by Dick K2RDD  
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## REPEATER NEWS

At the August meeting, The club voted in favor of purchasing and placing on the air, a new repeater system for use on 147.090/147.690 mhz. As a result of this vote, the repeater portion of the package (a General Electric Master-Pro Commercial Repeater) has been purchased. Only the purchase of the RC-85 Controller remains to be made. This will be done after all donations have been received.

Donations made at the August meeting have satisfied 64% of the required amount needed for the new system. This means that only \$180 remains to be collected from the members, in the form of donations, to meet our goal.

A "bare bones" repeater will be available to all members, however, members who donate \$10 or more will receive exclusive use of many additional features offered by the new repeater system for a period of 12 to 18 months. That means that you could have access to a talking "5" meter, reverse auto patch, speed dialing plus more just by donating.

Send all donations to club secretary = Mal Vallone, WA2VER = 25 Euclid Ave. = Hamburg NY 14075. Remember, time is running short, if you have not already done so please get your donation in.

As many of you may have noticed, the repeater was down in July due to damage incurred during a severe thunderstorm. It was back on the air in 6 days. My thanks go out to Dick, K2RDD, and Craig, WA2QCH, for their assistance in the repeater revival

Bill Siska, N2GAD  
Vice President, STARS  
Repeater chairman

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## HAM GEAR

FOR SALE: GLB PK-1 Packet radio Terminal Node Controller (TNC) \$70 - call Bill N2GAD after 5:00 PM = 668-6480

FOR SALE - complete INFO-TECH unit including model 300 keyboard that generates CW, RTTY, ASCII code (sug price \$450) = Model M200E, tri mode converter for all modes (sug price \$525) = Sano 9 inch video monitor (sug price \$220) - I have all the manuals and patch cords to receive signals - will take \$400.00 for complete unit.

\* A L S O \*

I am upgrading my station and will sell my Kenwood T599A and R599A separate transmitter and receiver units. They work in transceive position - have all manuals and cables plus set of 6146 transmitting tubes. \$400 complete  
For more information contact Guz - WB2EZU - at 627-3724 from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.

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## CHANCES

### ADDRESSES

Bernice Prockton (A) KA2LDL  
67 Burmon Dr  
Orchard Park NY 14127

Joe Prockton (E) N2BGJ  
67 Burmon Dr  
Orchard Park NY 14127

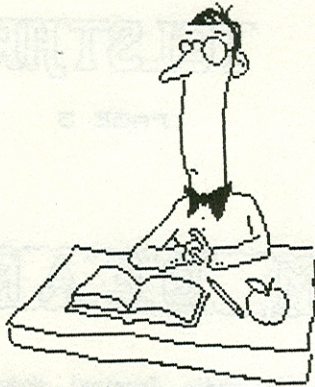
### UP GRADE

Sam Quinones = N24HE = to general

### NEW CALL

Jose Villar = KB2CLU

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THE PRES SEZ

The closing of the Fair Station marks the end of the heavy vacation time. This is the time we (at least I) start to spend more time in the Ham Shack. Now that is not to imply that nothing was going on this fine summer, we were very active.

One of the new things we did was to provide communication for the American Lung Association. On August 14, 15, 16, WA2VER, KA2ZLZ, K2ECK, N2GAD, WA2DVC, W2QMK, KA2RFT, with N2CZG (standing by at home) all hit the road with our 2 meter gear. What a test, with each of us in a 4 sided valley and 30 miles from one end to the other. In the past they tried CB and mobile phone, etc., all failed. Even we were surprised on how well the 2 meter repeaters covered what we had to do. The Lung Association were very impressed with what we can do. And did we pass a lot of traffic! From getting an ambulance to a truck mechanic, at the same time helping to keep track of the 183 bicycle riders going up and down the hills in the 90 degree heat trying not to get lost on the back roads. We had fixed check points and a sweep van, 4 to 5 operators a day. It was work but the dance and picnic made up for all. I strongly recommend that you try to participate in this event next year, you will have a ball - they have already asked us back. Now that they know what we can do and we know what they want and need, things should be even better next year.

Upgrading of the repeater 147.090 is moving along. We have purchased and received the transmitter, receiver, power supply, and cabinet. We are well on the way to the \$500 goal for the controller. This \$500 is to come from the club members. So, if you want to use the new goodies then send in

JOE PROCKTON  
67 BURMON DR  
ORCHARD PARK NY 14127

NOTES

NEXT MEETING  
YOUTH CENTER

your \$10, \$20, or more to Mal WA2VER (make sure you include your call with the contribution). If you don't want to help, you will still be able to use the new repeater but a bare bone system. The sooner we have the money, the sooner we can order the controller.

Please note our next meeting will be September 3rd, at THE YOUTH CENTER. It will be nice to see all who have been unable to attend the summer meetings because of vacations, etc. Also keep in mind the election of Officers for 1988 will be here before you know it.

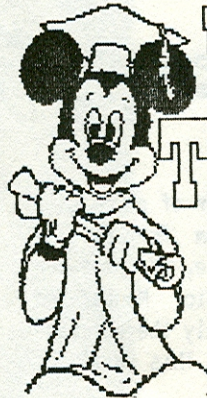
See you all the 3rd  
John, KA2RFT

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SILENT KEY

21 August 1987 - It is with deep regret that we mourn the loss of one of our members, Walter M. Predziak, KA2RGJ. The funeral was held Monday, 24 August from Resurrection Church, interment - St. Stanislaus Cemetery. On behalf of all members of the South Town Amateur Radio Society, we wish to express our condolences to his family.

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WE TESTS  
TEST SITES

RAVE HOTLINE  
876 - 6593

CALL FOR  
TESTS - SCHOOLS

12 September 1987

HAM-O-RAMA, Niagara Falls NY, contact  
Harold Freund KT2V = PO Box 485 =  
Buffalo NY 14215 = (716) 834 6181  
Register before August 12th

14 October 1987

Hamburg Junior High School = see  
article at beginning of newsletter

14 November 1987

10 AM - Saturday = Niagara Com. College  
contact Jim Collier, K2QB, 688-8293

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