

Joe Prockton
67 Burmon Dr
Orchard Park NY 14127



TO:

John W. Cullum Jr
6871 E. Webster Rd
Orchard Park NY 14127



TELSTAR

February 1988 - No. 90

FEBRUARY

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	1	2	3	4 STARS REG NOTE	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 TELSTAR SERVICE	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 BOARD NOTE	24	25	26	27
28	29					

1988 DUES ARE DUE

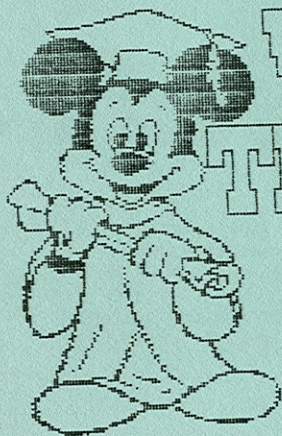
^{WILL}
This could very well be your
last issue of the TELSTAR
unless your 1988 dues are in

SEND DUES TO:

Richard Dukat K2RDD
15 Sherwood Rd.
Lancaster NY 14086

Make check payable to:

South Towns Amateur Radio Society



WE TESTS TEST SITES

RAVE HOTLINE
876 -6593

CALL FOR
TESTS - SCHOOLS

SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
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President = Bill Siska = N2GAD
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Director (past President) = John Leitten = KA2RFT



VE REPORT

by Dick Haungs W2UJR

The VE test session will take place at the Hamburg Junior High School on Wednesday, April 13, 1988 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Technician through to extra exams will be given. There will be no walk-ins. Please send your completed E18 form, a copy of your license and a check for \$4.55 made out to the ARRL/VEC before April 6, 1988 to:

Dick Haungs, W2UJR
11315 Cary Road
Alden NY 14004-9547

Those of you who do not want to wait until April 13 can take your upgrade exam at Lancaster on February 17, 1988. For details call Lou Esposito 683 7706.



TELSTAR DEADLINE
19th of February
ARRL RENEWAL
see Mal W2ZVER
by Joe N2RCJ

Generally this date has been set but at times, believe it or not, there are other things I would like to do and feel that a fixed schedule is not always possible. Do have to do some running around to get things

telstar #98 (2)

order especially when it comes in all at once. Last month, an article came in after the closing date but everything had already been set up and mailed so regretfully could not insert it on time. The mail, I feel, sometimes comes by pony express and have had mail arrive several days late. At any rate by fluctuating the due date it could keep all of us on our toes. If you choose to keep the deadline close, all I can say is chance it but PLEASE do not be disappointed if the article does not appear in time - believe that this had been expounded on once before.

Will agree that articles are always needed but also I have to work with whatever accommodations available regarding the printing end so do not need any conflict on that end. However, if anyone else has a better way of having it printed the field is yours. The printing, other than getting the articles, is the second most difficult part of the task, availability wise.

Something that has not been mentioned lately in the newsletter is that I should let you know that Mal Vallone, W2ZVER, is the contact man regarding joining ARRL or re-newing your membership and receiving the GST. Using Mal as the contact person does not cost any more but the club could benefit by going through him. Mal states that he will take care of your application promptly so that there would be no delay.

Enuff of that let us continue with some of the good stuff.



EBBS

Dick Dukat, K2RDD

OUR FUTURE IN SPACE

NASA took another big step toward a manned space station recently when it announced contracts worth about \$6.5 billion had been awarded to four companies - Boeing Aerospace, MacDonalD-Douglas Astronautics, General Electric-Astrospace Div. and the Rocketdyne Div of Rockwell. Those contracts should lead to a permanent base in orbit by mid 1990's.

It is possible that astronaut Tony England, W00RE, expressed it best in the ARRL video tape "The New World of Amateur Radio" when he predicted that amateur radio will be an integral part of the space station planning. Indeed AMSAT and the ARRL have a plan to put voice, TV, and packet for space station into formal proposal in the near future, but the space station will not be with us for some time.

telstar #98 (3)

Here are the near future plans for manned flights and amateur radio. They currently center on Dr. Ron Parice, WA4SIR, a civilian payload specialist, who is currently scheduled to fly on the space shuttle in middle 1989. Dr. Parice is a member of AMSAT and lives in Silver Springs, MD near the Goddard Space Flight center. He is slated to take along ham gear on the space shuttle sometime by the middle of 1988.

So it was good news when WA4SIR was scheduled to fly an early mission and the hams at Johnson Space Center in Houston TX - the group that put Owen Barriot, WSLFL, and Tony England, W00RE, on the air from orbit - are hard at work pushing through a proposal they believe the officials of the space agency will approve. It will call for uplinking some real time TV from earth to the shuttle as a demonstration using frequencies in the 70 cm band. It will also call for two meter voice, slow-scan TV and a heavy emphasis on packet radio. As before, an antenna in the window will probably be used.

And so, we hams are following the space program very closely as always. It must be stressed though, that all of this is tentative as of this writing, but hams who have thrilled to space contacts in the past can look forward to a resumption of such activities once the shuttle program demonstrates that it has fixed its problems.

73 - Dick, K2RBD

LIGHTNING

RELATED ARTICLES



The following article appeared in the September 1987 RTTY Journal and is printed with the author's permission:

OL' MAN LIGHTNING

by

Dick Uhrmacher K0VKH

I've seen an increasing number of lightning hit/near miss reports, that indicate to me that many Hams do not understand the basic reason for the required 'three wire' AC system, now in most homes. This system is not for the protection from lightning hits or near misses, (although it will help in dissipating unwanted energies on the AC system), but rather the three wire system is primarily designed to direct shorted appliances to "ground" easily, rather than killing the person utilizing that

telstar #90 (4)

appliance. Unfortunately, when a direct lightning hit occurs, (and in many cases just a near miss), many documented cases of energies flowing back through the AC grounding system are seen, which are just as destructive as hits/near misses that find their way in via antennas, rotor cables, power lines, etc.

So, after all of these years of being told that a "good station ground" is essential, what is a fellow to do to improve his station protection? First of all a good, low impedance, station ground is absolutely essential! And, each piece of equipment in the shack should be connected to this low impedance ground, either through a direct ground system, or through the building three wire ground system.

But now comes the proviso! The only safe way to protect your equipment from lightning damage is to completely disconnect it from BOTH the AC power system, AND from your single point ground system, (as well as from antennas, rotor cables, etc.)! This complete isolation is a hassle of course, as you need to be aware of each cloud as it comes over the horizon, and then unplug and disconnect your equipment.

In my personal station, (which includes something over 20 individual pieces of equipment), I try to make things as easy as possible, yet satisfy myself that ol' Mr. Lightning Bolt won't visit me unexpectedly! I use four of the "multiple outlet" power strips, so that unplugging the AC line only requires the removing of four plugs. And, I use a single point ground system, with each piece of equipment connected to it, which utilizes a large "alligator clamp", (from an old set of car battery jumper cables), that facilitates easy removal of the ground system.

At the first sign of lightning activity, I disconnect the four AC strips, disconnect the ground system, antennas and the rotor cable, and go get a cup of coffee! Should I take a direct hit, (Heaven forbid!!), at least my equipment will be safe from the transients on the AC, ground, and antenna paths. It's a bit of a hassle to be plugging and unplugging each time a cloud comes over the horizon, but it's sure better than paying the repair bills!

We will be continuing with other approaches to the problem of lightning with the hope that you would best be able prevent any misfortune. This series of articles should be available for a couple of more months. One thing must be pointed out is that this article is complete inasmuch as it pertains to the lightning and electrical aspect of the original article. This was the main reason that I have asked for permission from the author(s). As for myself I am not an authority on anything.

telstar #90 (5)

General Meeting = 1st Thursday = 1930 hours = Youth Center
Board Meeting = 4th Tuesday = 1900 hours = Youth Center
75 Meter Net = Each Saturday at 1000 hours = +/- 3925 khz
2 Meter Info Net = Each Wednesday at 1900 hours = 147.68/09

A	CHARLIE	P	ICING	MEASURE	PERCENT	SHOWERS	TURN
ABE	CHECK	FAIL	IDENTIFY	MEETING	PHONE	SHUT	TWELVE
ABOUT	CIRCUIT	FAILURE	IGNITE	MEGA	PLEASE	SIDE	TWENTY
ABOVE	CLEAR	FARENHEIT	IGNITION	MESSAGES	PLUS	SERRA	TWO
ACKNOWLEDGE	CLIMB	FAST	IMMEDIATELY	METER	POINT	SIGHT	-TY(air)
ACTION	CLOCK	FEBRUARY	IN	MIRE	POLICE	SKI	U
ADJUST	CLOSED	FEE	INBOUND	MILES	POSITION	SLEET	UNDER
ADVANCED	CLUB	FF-	INCH	MILLI	POWER	SLOPE	UNIFORM
ADVISE	CODE	FILED	INCREASE	MILLION	PRACTICE	SLOW	UNIT
AERIAL	COME	FINAL	INCREASING TO	MINUS	PRESS	SMOKE	UNLIMITED
AFFIRMATIVE	COMPLETE	FIRE	INDIA	MINUTES	PRESSURE	SHOW	UNLTD
AIR	COMPUTER	FIRST	INDICATED	MIST	PRIVATE	SOUTH	UNL
AIRPORT	CONDITION	FIVE	INFLIGHT	MOBILE	PROBE	SPEED	UP
ALERT	CONGRATULATIONS	FLAPS	INFORMATION	MODERATE	PROGRAMMING	SPRAY	USE(air)
ALL	CONNECT	FLIGHT	-ING(air)	MONDAY	PULL	SQUAWK	USE(wb)
ALLOT	CONTACT	FLOW	INNER	MONTH	PUSH	STALL	V
ALPHA	CONTROL	FOG	INSPECTOR	MORE THAN	STOP	START	V VALLEY
ALTERNATE	CONVERGING	FOUR	INTRUDER	MOTOR	STORM	STORM	VARIABLE
ALTITUDE	COUNT	FOURTH	IS	MOVE	SUNDAY	SWITCH	VERIFY
AMATEUR	COURSE	FOXTROT	IT	MUCH	SYSTEM	SYSTEM	VICTOR
AMPS	CROSSWIND	FREEDOM	J	N	RADIO	RADAR	VISIBILITY
AND	CURRENT	FREEDOM	JANUARY	NEAR	RARE	RANGE	VOLTS
ANSWER	CYCLE	FREQUENCY	JULY	NEGATIVE	RANGE	T	W
APRIL	D	FRIDAY	JUNE	NET	RATE	TANGO	WAIT
AREA	DANGER	FRONT	JUNE	NEW	READY	TARGET	WAKE
ARRIVAL	DAYTON	FULL	K	NIGHT	REAR	TAXI	WAKE UP
AS	DAYTON	FULL	KEY	NO	RECEIVE	TECH(air)	WARNING
AT	DECEMBER	G	KILO	NO	RED	TELEPHONE	WATCH
AUGUST	DECREASE	GALLONS	NOTES	NORTH	RELEASE	TEMPERATURE	WATTS
AUTO	DECREASING	GATE	L	NOT	REMARK	TEN	WAY
AUTOMATIC	DEGREES	GEAR	LAND	NOVEMBER	REMOTE	TERMINAL	WEATHER
AUTOPLOT	DELTA	GEAR	LANDING	NUMBER	REPAIR	TEST	WEDNESDAY
AUXILIARY	DEPARTURE	GO	LATE	O	REPEAT	-TH(air)	WELCOME
B	DIAL	GO	LAUNCH	OBSCURED	REPEATER	THANK YOU	WEST
BAND	DIRECTION	GOLF	LEAN	OCLOCK	RICH	THAT	WHISKEY
BANK	DISPLAY	GREEN	LEFT	OCTOBER	RIG	THE	WILL
BASE	DOWN	GROUND	LESS THAN	OFF	RIGHT	THE (ing)	WIND
BATTERY	DOWNWIND	GUSTING TO	LEVEL	OHIO	ROAD	THE (short of)	WITH
BELOW	DRIVE	H	LIGHT	OHMS	ROGER	THIR-	WRONG
BETWEEN	DRIZZLE	HALF	LMA	OL	ROMEO	THIRD	X
BLOWING	DUST	HALF	LINE	ON	ROUTE	THIRTEEN	X-RAY
BOARD	E	HAZARDOUS	LIST	ONE	RUNWAY	THIS IS	Y
BOOST	EAST	HAZE	LOCK	OPERATION	S	THOUSAND	YANKEE
BOZ	ECHO	HEAVY	LONG	OPERATOR	-S(air)	THREE	YELLOW
BRAKE	-ED(air)	HELP	LOOK	OPERATOR	SAFE	THUNDERSTORMS	YESTERDAY
BREAK	EIGHT	HENRY	LOW	OSCAR	SAND	THURSDAY	YOU
BROKEN	ELEVATION	HERTZ	LOWER	OTHER	SANTA CLARA	TIME	YOUR
BUTTON	EMERGENCY	HIGH	LUNCH	OUTER	SATURDAY	TIMER	Z
BY	ENGINE	HOLD	M	OVER	SCATTERED	TO	ZED
C	ENTER	HOLD	MACHINE	OVERCAST	SECOND	TODAY	ZERO
CABIN	EQUAL	HOLD	MAINTAIN	OVERCAST	SECONDS	TOMORROW	ZONE
CALIBRATE	EQUATE	HOUR	MANUAL	OVERCAST	SECURITY	TONIGHT	ZULU
CALL	ERROR	HOURS	MARCH	OVERCAST	SELECT	TOOL	
CALLING	ESTIMATED	HUNDRED	MARKEA	OVERCAST	SEQUENCE	TORNADO	
CALM	EVACUATE	ICE	MAY	P	SEQUENCE	TOUCH-DOWN	
CANCEL	EVACUATION	ICE	MAYDAY	PAPA	SERVICE	TOWER	
CAUTION	EXIT	ICE	MEAN	PARTIALLY	SET	TRAFFIC	
CENTER	EXPECT	ICE	MEAN	PASS	SEVEN	TRANSIT	
CHANGE		ICE	MEAN	PATCH	SEVERE	TRM	
		ICE	MEAN	PER	SHORT	TUESDAY	
		ICE	MEAN	PER	SHORT	TURBULANCE	

Repeater Brag Message Contest

We all brag from time to time, especially when it comes to our Ham Shack and Ham Equipment. Well, here's your chance to brag about STARS and the new STARS (WB2ELW) Repeater on 2 meters (147.292/147.690). Featured above is a list of the vocabulary contained in our RC-65 Repeater Controller. Put a message together which shows off STARS and/or the Repeater and submit it to the Club Board. If the board chooses your message as being the 'Braggiest', you will be awarded a new Ham Radio Hand Book or Call Book. The writer of the second best gets a 1988 Repeater Directory, and third best will receive a STARS club patch.

Rules

- 1) "Brag about STARS", should be the theme used when writing the

telstar #90 (6)

messages.

- 2) All entries must be in to the Club Board by the March 3rd General meeting.
- 3) Message lengths shall be as follows;
 - a) 48 characters long maximum for a special ID and must contain the call WB2ELW.
 - b) 24 characters long maximum for pending ID and must contain the call WB2ELW.

Note: A word counts as 2 characters and a letter or number counts as 1 character, for example: Welcome 2 the repeater (counts as 7 total characters).

You may submit a Special ID message, a Pending ID message, or both if you choose.

- 4) You may submit as many messages as you wish, however, only one prize per person will be awarded. Send them to any Board Member or bring them to the March General Meeting.

If possible, all messages submitted will be used throughout 1988. So, be creative and BRAG a little.

Bill NEGRO



STARS GOSSIP COLUMN

Most of the committee chairpersons have been appointed with some openings still existing. Nick, KAESEZ, nika base chairman, stated he wishes to have the clubrooms opened other than just Monday evenings. Should you desire to assist please let him know so that a schedule could be arranged. Other days have been set up in order to get the work done. If you haven't seen the club rooms why not make it a point to visit it this year - suggestions for improvements are always welcome.

If you are planning to upgrade at the STARS/VE - FCC testing I will have some 610 forms available at the February meeting. They are to be sent to Dick Haungs, W2UJR (ed note = check info under VE REPORTS), it is necessary for him to have it so that he may be able to obtain the proper type and amount of tests to order, apparently the ARRL is clamping down on the supplies. The testing will be on Wednesday, April 13th at 7:00 PM, room 119 at Hamburg Junior High. Should you need more info contact

telstar #90 (7)

me at 627 3724.

By now most of those monitoring 2 meters are acquainted with the upgraded repeater and there is nothing but praise to be expressed to the two meter committee for a job well done. This is only the beginning so observe and be surprised.

In this issue is a list of Bob Farrell's (KC2VW - silent key), equipment. (this list to be printed in its entirety as space permits). Dick, W2CY, has volunteered to dispose of it for Mrs. Farrell. Keep the phone number and list handy should you desire to obtain any of the gear. Bob's electronic library has been donated to the club and will be distributed at the club meetings in conjunction with the regular prize.

Even if it is ONLY two months away it isn't too early to get your act together for the April flea market to be held prior to the business meeting. This is the time to either trade or sell them to the members. If the articles are too large bring the manuals and make arrangements with any prospective member to view them.

See you February 4th = Guz = WB2EZX



KB2ESM - NEW CALLS
- KA2ESM = John Cullum = (N)
KA2ESN = Gary Wood = (N)

THE PREZ SEZ



The January General Meeting was an interesting one, especially for me since it was the first meeting that I chaired. Due to KA2RFT's terrific attendance record last year, I was unable to obtain any practice while being Vice President. All this aside, the January meeting was a productive one in which many committee chairman's positions were filled

telstar #98 (8)

leaving only a few open positions.

A Program Coordinator is needed for arranging programs for the General Meetings. These can range from a guest speaker to a demonstration or even a video presentation (VCR). Please note that it is not necessary for all programs to be Ham related. Any subject that may be of interest to the club body are welcome. So far this year, 3 meetings are already taken care of. If you have any ideas or would like to fill this position, call me.

So you say you're a Know-It-All on Amateur Radio, many of us are not but would like to be. Perhaps you can help educate us all, we would like to fill the position of Technical Assistant. If you have a special knowledge in a specific area of Ham Radio such as HF, Packet Radio, Computers, EME, etc. you may be very helpful to a fellow club member with advice. It would be great to have several Technical Assistants, each with expertise in a different area. Call me if you are interested.

One more Ham-O-Rama Rep is needed. Club Vice President, Larry, K2KVS, has thusfar volunteered his services. Being a seasoned veteran at the H.O.R. game, Larry's experience can make the co-H.O.R. Reps job easy to get into. So, if you are interested in helping the club by donating only one extra evening per month by filling this very important club position, call Larry, K2KVS, myself or any board member.

All current committee chairmen will be published in the next few Telstars for your information.

The American Lung Association (ALA) Bike Trek will be here before you know it. It's time to begin organizing communications for this upcoming event, to be held in August. The ALA has been in contact with us regarding this annual event. My thanks to Charlie, WB2DVC, for accepting the job of club coordinator, for the bike trek, only one day before the first ALA Organizational Meeting. Watch future Telstars for further bike trek events.

If you have a Commodore 64 Computer and interested in getting to Packet Radio, you won't want to miss the February 4th meeting. Kraig, WB2PALW, will be our speaker. He will demonstrate one of the latest innovations in Packet Radio, the Digi-Com 64 System. This system allows C-64 owners to enter Packet Radio inexpensively, while retaining all the features of a complete Packet Radio System. Copies of all software and documentation will be available so bring a spare floppy disk.

Don't forget about the Wednesday Night Informational Net on the new

telstar #98 (9)

WB2ELW 2 Meter Repeater. The January 13th net brought in 18 checkins and lasted over an hour! The new repeater will continue to remind you about the net throughout each Wednesday. Don't be shy. Check in.

Stay Involved,
Bill N26AD

P.S. Don't forget to call or see Mal, W42VER, for ARRL memberships and renewals. You'll be helping the club.

HAM GEAR

NEEDED = The Iroquois High School in Elma is offering ham radio classes as a part of the technology program. This program was previously known as industrial arts. The class meets during school hours and students will receive HS credit for completing the class. Six students have already passed the exams and by the time you read this I'm sure there will be more. We have a station on 40 (cw novice) and two meters. Look for us from 0810 to 0905, we may be operating under K2ZLW or one of the new novice calls. These new novices will be looking for equipment soon, so if you have some equipment to sell, loan, or donate please let us know. I can be reached at home or at Iroquois High School - Box 32 - Elma NY 14059 = Attn: R. Chaney K2ZLW = 73 & CUL.

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FOR SALE = Contact "Buz" WB2E2U at 627 3724 = complete Info-Tech unit including model 300 keyboard, model M200E Tri-Mode Converter and 9 inch video monitor, some cables and all manuals = Pioneer cassette recorder #KT201 including counter, built in mike and V.U. meter can be used with batteries and 10 VAC = GE 12 volt (adjustable) 10 amp power supply with volt and amp meter, variac voltbox input 110 to 120 VAC - output 0 to 135 VAC with four outlets and line plus load meter, good for 7.5 amps.

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ESTATE (radio equipment) = The following equipment of the late KC2VW is being offered for sale. As yet there are no prices to be quoted, but if you are interested please contact = W2CY, Dick - 48 South Lake St - Hamburg NY 14075 - phone 649 6582 (calls taken from 10 AM til 11 PM = #1 - AEA-150 144 antenna = #2 - B&W 550A coax switch = #3 - B&W 595 coax switch = #4 - Dentron BLA1000B hf linear amp = #5 - Electro-Voice 638 microphone = #6 - Heath SA-2060A antenna tuner = #7 - Heath HM-102 vswr power meter = #8 - HM-2141 uhf wattmeter = #9 - Heath antenna = #10 - Heath (as a package) SB-102, SB-600, HP23B, 641 microphone = #11 - Janel 2 meter preamp = #12 - Kenwood (as a package) 9130 transceiver, MC-46 microphone, TK1 charger, KPS12 power supply = #13 - Micronta CB tester

telstar #90 (10)

(three meters) = #14 - Micronta vswr/power meter (two meters(?)) = #15 - Micronta 100k multimeter 22-152 = #16 - radio shack vswr bridge = #17 - Ten-Tec (as a package) 560 Corsair I, 263 remote vfo, 260 power supply, 228 antenna tuner, 214 microphone, 209 dummy load, 268 1.8kc filter = #18 - Yeasu FT-209RH two meter hand held.

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WANTED = PEB peripheral box for the T199-4/A - contact Joe Prockton 825 8508

NOTICE

SEVERAL MORE ARTICLES WERE TO HAVE BEEN PRINTED BUT HAVE TO BE PUT OFF (including the serial of the 'Andrea Doria') BUT DON'T DESPAIR WE WILL GET TO THEM. BY THE WAY DON'T HOLD BACK ON ANY MATERIAL THAT YOU MAY HAVE. joe==

Repeater Operating Practices

- 1) Monitor the repeater to become familiar with any peculiarities in its operation.
- 2) To initiate a contact simply indicate that you are on frequency. Various geographical areas have different practices on making yourself heard, but, generally, "This is W1AW monitoring" will suffice. One practice that is looked upon with disfavor universally is calling a long CQ on a repeater.
- 3) Identify legally; you must identify at the end of a transmission or series of transmissions and at least once each 10 minutes during the communication.
- 4) Pause between transmissions. This allows other hams to use the repeater (someone may have an emergency). On most repeaters a pause is necessary to reset the time.
- 5) Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Your monologue may prevent someone with an emergency from using the repeater. If your monologue is long enough, you may time out the repeater. Your transmissions are being heard by many listeners including non-hams with "public service band" monitors; don't give a bad impression of our hobby.
- 6) Use simplex whenever possible. If you can complete your QSO on a direct frequency, there is no need to tie up the repeater and prevent others from using it.
- 7) Use the minimum amount of power necessary to maintain communications. This FCC regulation minimizes the possibilities of accessing distant repeaters on the same frequency.
- 8) Don't break into a contact unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person.
- 9) Repeaters are intended to facilitate mobile operation. During the commuter rush hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater to mobile stations; some repeater groups have rules that specifically address this practice.
- 10) Many repeaters are equipped with autopatch facilities which, when properly accessed, connect the repeater to the telephone system to provide a public service. The FCC forbids using an autopatch for anything that could be construed as business communications. Nor should an autopatch be used to avoid a toll call. Do not use an autopatch where regular telephone service is available. Abuses of autopatch privileges may lead to their loss.
- 11) All repeaters are assembled and maintained at considerable expense and inconvenience. Usually an individual or a group is responsible and those who are regular users of a repeater should support the efforts of keeping the repeater on the air.

telstar #90 (11)