

TELSTAR

February 1991
Issue # 123



The Monthly Newsletter of S.T.A.R.S.
Southtowns Amateur Radio Society
Club Station WB2ELW

Next Meeting : February 7, 1991

Editor:
Steve Yekich KB2EQV
825-8049



Dues are Due!!! If
you have not paid
your dues please see
Membership Chairman
Frank Modzeleuski

HG2H

VHF Communications open house - February 16, 9am - 5pm, 280 Tiffany Ave.,
Jamestown, NY (716) 664-6345.

Dayton Hamvention - April 26, 27, 28 - Dayton Ohio.

Rochester Hamfest - May 17, 18, 19 - Rochester New York

The revised edition of the 1991 repeater codes are in the Telstar. **DISREGARD
AND THROW AWAY LAST MONTHS REPEATER CODES!!!!!!**

In next months Telstar I will have the new 1991 roster available

NIKE BASE

As usual the stations that we have worked at the Nike Base on Monday nights have been excellent. The past month we worked 9N Nepal, near India, ZL7 Chatham Is., VU2 India, and other great DX stations.

STARS also hosted the annual "Snow Fest". We opened the Nike Base for the weekend to show amateur radio to the public. Although we had to compete with the Bills game on Saturday, we had a good time. I would like to thank everyone for stopping out to see us that weekend, but I would like to have seen more of our members out there. Some of the stations that we worked were lots of European stations, Many South African stations, 8R Guyana and others.

One of the members asked me if they could run a contest from the Base. I said sure, remember it's yours, the members to use, and if you want to run a contest then so be it. We have great equipment to use and if you want to bring your own equipment to use or try out, that's fine. Just give me a call and I would be more than happy to open it up for you.

I have obtained another recliner to furnish the Nike Base. Paul Anton Upholstering KB2FMD donated the chair to STARS and I would like to thank him for that and also for helping transport the 8 foot couch to the Base.

In the upcoming month we hope to install insulation to further improve the heating of the building, and we hope to have a new operating table installed also.

Why not stop down to see us on Monday nights and see what you're missing. We are open from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. If you need directions or have questions give me a call on the repeater or the phone # 825-8049.

Steve KB2EQV Chairman

This letter is concerning the new no-code license class recently approved by the FCC, following the ARRL initiative.

I am writing to address the no-code aspect of this new class. I support the no-code provision, and although I am currently working on twenty words a minute, and now enjoying the code, I do not feel in this day and age that this requirement serves any useful purpose; outside of the fact that it does tend to demonstrate the motivation of applicants in their desire to work to achieve the goal of becoming an amateur operator. In essence, this provision tended to "weed out" those whose motives were not as strong.

My support for this new class has recently weakened, following two phone calls I received from local "11 meter" operators, each of whom stated he is interested in becoming an amateur operator, "strictly so that I can use the two meter band, as I don't give a !!!!! about those other frequencies."

These two individuals then went on to ask me if they could obtain the 300 questions with answers required for the exam.

I explained to them that according to my knowledge they would be responsible for elements 2 and 3A, which was a total question pool of somewhere around 550 questions. From this they would be given an exam consisting of 55 questions.

Their response was "how do you expect me to be able to memorize that number of answers". I explained that ideally one should learn the theory, and be prepared to answer the questions, some of which do require simple memorizing i.e., band frequency privileges, whereas other require a fundamental understanding of electronics and propagation theory.

They laughed at this point, and told me that I had been "brainwashed" by the ARRL and other hams, and we were all fools to expect that anyone would spend the time necessary to learn the theory when the questions and answers were readily available.

One of these two individuals I have known for a number of years, and have always respected him as a good operator on the 11 meter band.

It would seem from other discussions I have had, that this does represent a consensus of a fair number of current 11 meter operators.

Based on this, I would request that ARRL immediately consider the following options with regard to this examination:

1. Supply all questions from the question pool, without answers. This would allow the students fair opportunity to see the questions asked, but would require them reading the material to obtain the correct answers. This would certainly represent no hardship on any individual.
2. Supply one or two sample questions from each section with the correct answers. Do not include ALL THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THAT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE USED DURING THE EXAMINATION.
3. Allow the local VEC'S to design questions slightly modified from the pool, that they can be administered during the examination.

We have already removed the code element from the examination requirements, and I sincerely feel that unless you, who represent all of ham radio, would like to convert our license to a "giveaway" type license, that you should ensure that some element of time and effort must still be spent by the applicant for the examination. Although memorizing the list of answers will represent some time spent, it is certainly, I hope, not the type of approach we would like to encourage in the new applicants.

In my naivete, in accepting the new code class strictly as written, I failed to take into account human nature, which will take the easiest way out of a situation.

I would certainly hope, as our elected representative, you will give this matter due thought, by seriously considering one of the three above-mentioned options.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory E. Young KE2VW

The editorial submitted above by Greg was sent to the ARRL Headquarters

Well, another standing room only meeting in January. I am glad that Frank WG2H our membership chairman brought along enough repeater code pamphlets for 1991 as everyone wanted to be updated with the new codes. Then Bill N2GAG, our two meter chairman, ran through the highlights of the new codes. You know everyone, as a rule, goes through the motions of operating the repeater which is fine but Bill gave us insight on what happens and why. It was a very interesting talk and everyone now knows how the repeater works. Not only that, Bill N2GAG, John KA2RFT, and a group went to the repeater site and gave it, the coax, and the antenna an overhaul the Sunday after the meeting. They want reports on it's operation and coverage.

I hate to keep repeating certain facts every year, but it is good to be reminded that your license expires every so often so take a look at it. It should be hanging on the wall in your shack ??? If your friends see it is time to renew it, thank them. At present, after two years (they are trying to get it changed to five years) you will have trouble renewing it. You worked hard to get it don't lose it.

How many of you, while thumbing through your monthly Ham radio magazines, run across articles on packet radio? There are some members in our club that are in it now. In fact one of our members Gary KB2YJ has set up a packet cluster station, temporarily, at the Nike Base and it seems to operate very efficiently. That is something to think about. There are two meter stations in the New England states that operate through nodes and packet clusters to Ohio. They pass along information to all who are hooked up to it. Maybe over the months we will have more on this exciting form of communication.

One of our members brought in some calendars at the January meeting. I brought the surplus home so if you want a 24" x 30" calendar on one sheet or a 8 1/2 x 11" on one sheet I will bring them to the February meeting. If you need one sooner drop down to my QTH and pick one up.

Another nice carry over from last year is the "for sale" articles that are brought to the meeting. If the article is too large just bring the manual and maybe someone might be interested in taking it home.

As per our membership chairman we wish to welcome the following new members to the club:
Kenneth Jachim KE2SR
John Hasselback WA2DRG
Daniel R. Hunter KE2LD
Don Colan KE2XQ

Happy Hamming
Guz WB2EZU

VEC TEST SESSIONS - DICK W2UJR

STARS will hold their next VE test session on Apr. 17, 1990 at the Hamburg Junior High School, 360 Division St. Hamburg NY, Rooms 117/119. Technician through Extra exams will be given. All candidates must be pre-registered and there will be NO WALK-INS. Please send your 610 application, a copy of your license, a check for \$5.25 (The fee for 1991) made out to ARRL/VEC and a copy of any element credit certificate that is applicable.

For more information on STARS test sessions call Norm Jones KD2KK 824-1148.

Lancaster ARC will hold VE test sessions on Feb 20 and Mar 20, 1991. If you need information for Lancaster test sessions call: Stan N2IAE 887-6608
Send applications etc to:

Dick Haugs W2UJR
11315 Cary Rd.
Alden, NY 14004-9547

Now that the holidays are over, you have lots of time to study for upgrading.

Dick Haugs W2UJR
VE Liaison

FCC SAYS "YES" TO NO CODE LICENSE
On Dec 13, 1990, the FCC removed the requirement for 5 wpm code from the Technician class license. This will permit the new Technician license to operate on all frequencies above 30 Mhz on all modes and with full 1500 watts Peak envelope power.

The new NO-CODE technician exam will include the Novice EL 2 (30 questions) and the technician EL 3A (25 questions). These elements must be administered at a regular registered 3 volunteer examiner test session. The NO-CODE technician can upgrade to Technician with H.F. privileges by passing the 5 wpm code test at a VE test session. FCC will not issue a new technician license. The candidate must retain his 5 wpm certificate for as long as he holds his technician license.

The NO-CODE technician license will be implimented sometime in Feb. 1991. The Novice license exam will remain intact. Two general or up amateurs will continue to be able to administer novice exams.

VEC SESSIONS

Lancaster ARC - Feb 20, Mar 20, May 15, June 19.
Southtowns ARS - April 17.
A.R.A.T.S - Jan 26, Mar 9, Apr 6, May 4, June 8.

Dick Haungs W2UJR

Vern Siegel AA2AC

FOR SALE COLUMN

Heathkit SB-1000 Amplifier, 1000 Watts, 10-160 meters. \$550 Brand new with manual - KEN N2IFS - 824-3810
Icom IC-2AT HT 2 meters, 2 alkaline battery packs/charger, and headset. \$300 - KEN N2IFS - 824-3810

ALL EQUIPMENT BELOW IS NEW (1 YEAR OLD OR LESS) & IN MINT CONDITION:

Kenwood SW 2100 power/swr meter - \$105.00 or best offer
Kenwood PC-1A phone patch - \$75.00 or best offer
Kenwood 2 meter HT package including: 25AT HT covering 141-163 Mhz, DTMF pad with (TSU-6) CTCSS encoder, HD 12 volt battery, (SC-16) leather case, (BC-10) desk charger, (SM-32) speaker-microphone, (DC-1, PG-2N & PG-2V) battery/power supply, cables & adapters, and second duck antenna (for low swr 141-163 Mhz). Sacrifice for \$350 or best offer. - Greg Young KE2VW - 537-2830 eve. & weekends.

Kenwood 520-SE and MFJ antenna tuner, model 941-C. Milt WB2JFL #494-1029
KDK FM 2030 - \$180.00, HEATH SB-220 - \$425.00. George W2VJ #684-3562
Two (2) sections of Rhone 45G Brand new. Cost \$145.00 each new. Will Sell for \$125.00 each. Will deliver within 50 miles. Bernie KB2FRY #366-4356

It is with the greatest of sorrow that I must get rid of my special collection of transmitter and radio tubes. Some of them are 60 yrs. old. If you ever went to the Erie County fair they were on display in the education building for over five years in a row. I am open to all offers but want to sell the collection intact if possible, for the price of \$500. There are 112 tubes in the collection. Some are 8" in diameter and 22" long, others are 1'dia by 1'long. The weight on some is 20-25lbs. The original price on some of the tubes ran from \$2200.0 to \$1200.00 each, 40 yrs ago. They are not guaranteed to be in working condition but were pulled out of the transmitter in working order.

I will also trade these for a 35-40 watt all mode 2 meter rig, with power supply and a home base antenna. For more information or to make a appointment to view them please call Guz - WB2EZU at 627-3724

WANTED

2 Bedroom -Ham Radio QTH-, Elma, Marilla, Alden, Lancaster area. Rent/Buy, Handiman -special- OK!. Please contact K2CEC, Dennis 716-685-9808, 716-687-2168 (work) or 147.090.

BULLETIN 2 WORLDWIDE
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT JANUARY 11, 1991
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

THANKS TO PAUL YOUNG, K1XX, AND THE SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND DX
ASSOCIATION AND PAUL, K19E, AND THE CONNECTICUT DX ASSOCIATION,
AND IARU DIVISION OFFICER, E. W. DAVID, UNS1A, FOR THE FOLLOWING
DX INFORMATION.

FROM THE DXCC DESK. DOCUMENTATION FOR 709AA HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND
ACCEPTED. THE 709AA, AS WELL AS THE 7019A CARDS FOR THE NEW YEMEN
REPUBLIC, WILL BE ACCEPTED ON OR AFTER MARCH 1, 1991. ON THIS DATE,
46 AND THE OLD 70, NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN COUNTRIES, WILL BECOME
BELIEVED ON THE DXCC COUNTRY LIST.

BELGIUM, ON NOW DT. FOR THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KING OF
BELGIUM, THE BELGIAN RTTY HAS AGREED TO USE THE DT CALLS, REPLACING
THE ON CALLS, UNTIL JULY 31, 1991.

CAYMAN ISLAND, ZF2. BRUCE FRANK, K0B2, WILL BE ACTIVE AS ZF2MJ FROM
JANUARY 19 TO FEBRUARY 2. MOSTLY ACTIVE ON 10 THRU 20 METER CW.
SOME SSB IS PLANNED. QSL TO PO BOX DX, COLBY KS, 67791, USA.

SAN FELIX, X00. JOHN, X0XK, HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON HIS OWN, AND WITH
MURPHY, CE3SS AS A HELPER. OFTEN FOUND ON 14236 KHZ AROUND 0200
OPERATING EITHER SPLIT OR ON HIS OWN. LISTEN AROUND 14230 TO
14240 KHZ ON HIS FREQUENCY WITH A LIST OPERATION. ALSO TRY 28493
KHZ AROUND 1400 TO 1800 UTC. QSL TO CE3SS, AFTER JANUARY 15TH.

MARION ISLAND, Z90T. ZS8MI, GERARD, HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON 21246 KHZ AT
1630 UTC. ALSO, 14250 KHZ AT 1300 UTC AND 7947 KHZ AT 1900 UTC FOR
EUROPE. LOOK AROUND 14625 KHZ FROM 0100 TO 0300 UTC TOO.
Adding local user: W2R9AJ

CANTON ISLAND, T31. KIYOKO, WILL SIGN T31KY FOR THE NEXT 2 TO 4
WEEKS. SHE IS FOUND ON 10 TO 20 METER SSB.

ETHIOPIA, ET. AN ITALIAN OPERATION FROM ETHIOPIA IS EXPECTED ON OR
ABOUT JANUARY 15. BE ON THE LOOKOUT.

AFGHANISTAN, YA. YAMER, ADMEZ, HAS BEEN ON 40 METER CW AT 1900 AND
AROUND 0630 UTC, LISTENING UP. VALERY, Y1LW IS ALSO ACTIVE FROM
YAMER ON 8A THRU 10 METERS. THEY ARE WORKING THE EASTERN USA FROM
0300 TO 0300 UTC ON 7000 KHZ. ALSO WORKING SREBUK ON 03495 AT 0200
UTC AND 14615 KHZ AT 0400 UTC.

RECTORIAN, ISLAND, US6. WREBX HAS BEEN REPORTED ON 03495 KHZ AROUND
2130 UTC.

MALAGASY REPUBLIC, SR8. STAD1 HAS BEEN ON 2851.9 AT 1700 UTC SEVERAL
DAYS THIS PAST WEEK.

MALAWI, 707. 707LA AND 707ED ARE FOUND AROUND 0551.9 TO 0553.9 AT
1700 TO 1900 UTC. 707ED IS ALSO ON 40 METER CW. QSL MANAGER FOR
707LA IS 091AS.

OMAN, A41. A41JZ IS ACTIVE ON WEDNESDAY UTC FROM 0200 TO 0300 ON
3502 AND 7002 KHZ.

ALBANIA. HAMMIN REPORTS THAT THE HA GROUP WILL TRY TO PURSUE THIS
ONE AFTER THINGS SETTLE DOWN IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THEY ARE ALSO
INVESTIGATING OPERATIONS FROM ET AND 9U.

WARC BANDS. W61AB IS ACTIVE MOST DAYS FROM 1100 TO 1400. QSL U1A
W82ND. ALSO REPORTED ON THE WARC BANDS ARE AP2JZB, 7X2URK AND
A22AA.

NNNN

KB2YJ de KD2YF 12-Jan 0436Z

MID EAST MONITORING

RADIO BAGHDAD, 11755, 11810, 11830, 21585 KHZ 8PM
KOL ISRAEL, JERUSALEM 7465, 9435, 11605 KHZ 8PM
RADIO JORDAN 13655, 9560, 8AM
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES RADIO, DUBAI 15435, 17865, 21605 10PM
VOICE OF TURKEY, ANKARA 17785 8AM

S.T.A.R.S

Board of Directors

President: Bob Witt WA2IQX
Vice Pres: John Leitten KR2AFT
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Secretary: Dave Baco W82TUT
Director: Frank Weinstock K2UTK
Director: Bob Sendor KB2JHY



Club Meeting Place

Hamburg Youth Center
Located at Prospect and Hawkins St.
Club Meeting, First Thursday of the Month at 7:30 PM

Business Meeting, Fourth Tuesday of each month at the Youth Center at 7:00 PM.

CLUB REPEATER LOCATED IN ORCHARD PARK, N.Y.
INPUT FREQUENCY 147.69 WB2ELW REPEATER
OUTPUT FREQUENCY 147.89

Southtowns Amateur Radio Society

S.T.A.R.S

Steve Vekich
4340 Chisholm Trail
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

Club H.F. Station - Hamburg Recreation Center (Nike Base)
Lakeview Road, Hamburg, N.Y. Every Monday Night at 7 Pm

STARS RADIO NETS

75 Meters - Every Saturday
at 10:00 AM, 3.925 +/- MHZ

2 Meters - Every Wednesday
at 7:00 PM, 147.69 / 09 MHZ

Dues

Single \$15
Family \$23
Student \$8



TO ARS:

JOHN CULLUM JR KB2ESM
6871 E. WEBSTER
ORCHARD PARK NY, 14127