

telstar



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

ISSUE 143 NOVEMBER, 1992

STARS and the Great Pumpkin!

STARS members joined with other amateur radio operators from WNY and across the state to assist the New York State Police in keeping Halloween safe for motorists on the New York Thruway in Operation Pumpkin Patrol.

Amateur radio operators watched 116 bridges over the Thruway (17 in Erie County) to report to the police anyone throwing objects off the bridges. They covered over 300 miles spanning between Albany to the east and Erie County to the west.

STARS member Ed Hollis N2NUN organized the efforts in Erie County and worked to come up with the volunteers in a short time frame.

STARS member Jay Lauder N2MHD arranged for the project to receive favorable publicity for amateur radio on Channel 4's early and late night news shows.

Our club's 147.09 repeater was used for local check-ins every half hour and then Ed communicated with state project leaders through a repeater east of Rochester.

STARS members participating included N2NNE Daryl, KB2NMV Peter, N2NOF Bob, KB2OMU Ed, N2LYJ Wally, N2MON Bill, N2PPC Joe, KM4XZ Terry, N2MRN Mike, N2QZV Bob, WA2QLE Bob and KB2NNN Jake. Ken KB2HRZ stopped by while on motorcycle patrol for the Cheektowaga Police Department.

November Meeting

The November club meeting will begin at 7:30 PM on Thursday November 5 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. and Hawkins Ave.). Everyone interested in amateur radio is invited; club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.



This is an important meeting in that our 1993 club officers will be elected. We have contested elections for Vice President and for a 2-year Directors

position and write-ins will be available for the other positions.

Our program will be very informative with Gary KB2YJ explaining packet radio nodes and Greg KE2VW talking about packet bulletin boards. This should be educational to newcomers to packet as well as veterans.

Other WNY amateurs participating included KB2KGX Len, N2OSL Jim, and N2SFZ Lou.

Trouble with people throwing objects from bridges was reported near Utica and Syracuse, but Erie County remained quiet all night.

Several of the amateurs were visited by local police during the event. One (who will remain nameless and call-less) was reported to the police as being slumped over his steering wheel! He claims he was reading!

Thanks to all those participating and we hope to see all of you (and more) back next year for the Night of the Great Pumpkin III!

★ STARS ★

STARS & ARRL Memberships

Membership in STARS is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio; an amateur radio license is not required.

Membership applications may be obtained by sending a SASE to Frank Modzelewski WG2H, 1818 Clinton Street, Buffalo, NY 14206, from the newsletter editor or from board members.

Annual dues are payable on January 1 and are \$15 for a single membership, \$23 for family memberships and \$8 for a student membership (through grade 12). The dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for new members plus there is an initiation fee of \$5 when first applying to the club. For example, a new member joining in July would pay \$7.50 (6 months X \$1.25/month) plus the \$5.00 initiation fee for a total of \$12.50.

Applications should be returned to Frank WG2H along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and voted on by the Board of Directors at their business meeting. The applications are then voted on by the general membership at the next regular club meeting.

Members should send their ARRL renewal memberships to Jack Cullum, Jr. KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits!

Club Nets

STARS club nets are open to all to exchange information on local amateur radio activities.

STARS HF net meets at 10 AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 Mhz +/- QRM. Net control is usually Guz WB2EZU.

STARS VHF net meets at 7 PM on Wednesdays on STARS club repeater WB2ELW 147.09/.69 (output/input). Net control is Bill N2GAO.

STARS Traders Net meets at 7:30 PM on Tuesdays on the 147.09 repeater. Net control is Ed N2NUN.

From the Prez

Our thanks go out to KA2RFT and his NOAA associates for our October program on SKYWARN. John will plan to repeat this in its entirety, in the near future.

I hope ALL of you can make this month's meeting, which will prove to be most exciting! We will have our annual elections, with an interesting contest for the Vice Presidents position, with NW2I, and N2NUN as our prime candidates, and for the Board of Directors member-at-large position, with KB2NMP and WB2WPM hitting the campaign trail. This will allow you to cast your vote for the candidates you think are best able to help lead WNY's premier amateur radio organization!!

Gary, KB2YJ and myself will put on a "Packet 101 & 102" demonstration. This will enable those without any "packet prowess" to understand just what all the fuss is about. We will be explaining what nodes are, how to access them, what a BBS is and does, and how to utilize its many functions. We will be doing all of our demonstrations "live", or on the air per se, via some special equipment I will be bringing... If all works out this will be "an experience". I will be attempting to cover ALL the major functions of the BBS, to clear up questions that even the veteran users may have... Even those who haven't thought much about packet, because they feel uncomfortable around computers, or just plain "don't like them", will be left with what we hope will be a thought provoking demonstration which will convey the magnitude of benefits packet can provide to EVERY ham, regardless of their area of interest in this dynamic hobby; be it CW, nets, SSB, DXing, ATV, mods, satellites, SWLing, fox hunting, repeaters, disaster management, etc. ALL can be enhanced with packet's assistance. Check out the program to see how... Remember packet serves to increase our enjoyment of the hobby, rather than simply serving as another mode of communication.

With the repeater installation essentially complete, we are now able to turn collective attention back to the Nike Base, which is in need of significant planning and inside work to finish our back meeting room; and to organize, and redesign our operating area to make it "user-friendly". Be sure to think of the possibilities for improving our "mega-station"

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ELECTION NEWS

Nominations for 1993 club officers made at the October meeting included the following:

President:

Greg Young KE2VW

Vice President:

Ed Hollis N2NUN

Pat Murray NW2I

Secretary:

Dave Baco WA2TVT

Treasurer:

Jack Cullum KB2ESM

Financial Secretary:

Frank Modzelewski WG2H

Director (2-year term):

John McKnight N2NMP

Shane Brady WB2WPM

Members in good standing will be given ballots at the November meeting to vote for these nominees or for candidates that they choose to write-in.

Terry Rockhold KM4XZ has one year remaining in his 2-year term as Director, and therefore his position is not up for election.

The Board voted to give space in the newsletter to candidates running for contested positions to address the members. The following were submitted by these candidates:

For Vice President:

Club Members,

As a Vice President nominee, I would like to take the time to tell you a little about myself. I have been around amateur radio for 20+ years. My family of HAMS stems back to my brother, Paul WA2DEZ, who was the first, taking me to

many HAM fests and Field Days. I always had a desire for HAM radio. From those days to today, I have come a long way. Newly licensed back in August of 1991, I have become a very active member in the amateur community. A member of STARS, ARES and SKYWARN, I have taken on a number of other responsibilities to help promote as well as better our hobby. Operation Pumpkin and the STARS Trader Net are just a part of my active role in this hobby. With the backing of my wonderful wife, Melissa N2PPB, I have been allowed to go forward with many ideas and spend much time with the hobby.

If elected Vice President, I bring the "young blood" much needed in our hobby. Both representing the older thoughts, as well as new ideas, I plan to become much more active in the driving force that has made our club what it is today. Thank you for allowing me to become a part of your club, and I hope that, if elected, together we can go forward in this wonderful world of amateur radio.

73,

Ed Hollis N2NUN

For Vice President:

My Dear Fellow Members,

For the past year, I have been meeting with you, and it is truly a pleasure each time I arrive at our club. I see the enthusiasm shown by our members, and I too take great pride in constantly learning "all about Radio" from you who have started in radio more than fifty years ago and you who have recently joined our fine organization. I have not been in radio very much longer than some of you, so I understand your desires to reach out, work diligently, and set your goals to the levels of great success. What is more valuable to me, is really sharing and caring with humility and patience. To look at another member and know that person is worth every moment of my time.

Now a short bio from yours truly. I was born in Jersey City, NJ and grew up in Brooklyn, NY. I arrived in West Seneca, NY in the mid forties. My OM Ray WA2UJU, my eldest son Ray AI2S (my Elmer), my brother in law Ron KE2TK and

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Election News

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my ten year old grandson Derek are all Hams. I raised six sons and have eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

I am a member of Lancaster RC and Pros RC. I have been program coordinator for Lancaster for 2 years and I teach morse code at my home. I enter many contests and have won CW entries for WNY.

I am asking our members for the nomination of Vice President for this coming year. I shall do my best in all matters concerning our club.

73's and 88's,
from Patricia Murray NW2I

For Director:

To the Members of STARS:

I, John McKnight, feel that I am a very good candidate for a STARS Board of Director, as I have been interested in Ham Radio for most of my life. I have attended STARS meetings and Board of Directors meetings since I have joined STARS and have a very good idea of the needs and interests of the club members.

Because I have been in business for over 30 years, I feel I am a very good leader with a lot of information needed to run an efficient and quality ham club.

I will strive for new things such as a new packet system at the Nike Base and will listen to the members with an open mind for other new improvements.

Your votes for me will be greatly appreciated at the STARS November meeting.

John McKnight KB2NMP

For Director:

Dear STARS Members,

The next meeting of STARS is very important, as new officers and board members will be elected for 1993. The members you elect will

carry the momentum of the club to even greater heights.

My name is Shane Brady, and I hold the Extra Class call of WB2WPM. I will be running for the position of Director, and will be looking for your vote. Hopefully the position of Director will be filled by someone with experience, knowledge and dedication to carry the club along. In under 2 years Stars has doubled in size. You need Officers and Directors with proven leadership skills to maintain this momentum. I believe I have those skills.

I have been licensed since 1974, where Amateur Radio became one of the driving forces in my life. Over the years I have belonged to a number of fine clubs. It has always been my practice to attend not only the general meetings, but the Board of Directors meetings as well, on a regular basis. I know what members want, and know how to go about obtaining those goals. Participation at all levels is a great learning tool, and I have participated in nearly all facets of Amateur Radio.

With my diverse interest in HF, DX, Contesting, QRP, Construction, Packet radio and being VE, I feel I know where most of the club members are coming from. With your help and input, I would like to take your ideas and help implement them into a coherent plan that will take Stars into the next year and beyond. Thank you for your consideration, and hopefully your vote.

Best 73, Shane WB2WPM

For Sale

Kenwood HT Model TH-215, like new in box with BC-7 rapid charger, PB-1 larger battery, and PB-2 regular battery. Cost new \$505. Sell \$325.

Ken K2YKE 834-4083

Kenwood HT Model TH-225 with carry case, extra battery, drop in charger, speaker mike, telescoping antenna. \$250 or best offer.
Hustler SF-2 two meter mag mount mobile antenna. \$10.
Cushcraft ARX-2B Ringo Ranger two meter base antenna. \$25.

Mark KE2YQ 822-6431

Amateur Radio Examinations

STARS will hold amateur radio test sessions on February 3 and April 7, 1993 in Hamburg, NY. For information, contact Norm Jones KD2KK at 824-1148.

Lancaster ARC (LARC) will hold test sessions on November 18, and December 16, 1992 and January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16, 1993 in Lancaster, NY. For information, call Chuck Koester WD2AIK at 937-3592.

ARATS will hold test sessions on November 7 and December 5, 1992 and January 9, February 6, March 6, April 17, May 8 and June 5, 1993 in Tonawanda, NY. For information, call Vern Siegel AA2AC at 693-5977 (days) or 634-5276 (nights).

Lockport ARA (LARA) will hold test sessions on January 30, March 27 and June 30, 1993 in Lockport, NY. For information, call Bob Demarco KA2EG at 433-4584.

Most sessions do not allow walk-ins, so call ahead and make a reservation.

People desiring to take Novice exams only should contact John Leitten KA2RFT at 648-0341 or write to Dick Haungs W2UJR, 11315 Cary Road, Alden, NY 14004-9547.

From the Prez

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and either convey them directly to WA2IQX, one of the Board members, or leave them in the Suggestion Box.

If anyone is able to videotape our presentation this month, it would be appreciated, as it would make a nice addition to our video library, which will be kept in the Nike Base facility, once the inside renovation is finished. Feel free to bring your Camcorder.. We can provide the electricity. (if our presentation display equipment doesn't draw too much current).

73, and see you at the election!!
Greg KE2VW

CQ WorldWide SSB Contest

STARS participated in the CQ WorldWide SSB contest, traditionally the biggest contest of the year, during the weekend of October 24-25.

Hosted by Terry KM4XZ, participants included Jay N2MHD, Ed N2OMU, Ed N2NUN, Melissa N2PPB, Joe N2PPC and Phil Green.

Working to have fun and make some new contacts rather than trying to rack up a big score, we still made some good contacts over some big pileups during the limited hours we worked including: Easter Island, South Orkney Island, South Cook Island, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, American Samoa, Senegal, Korea, China and many others.

Many other STARS members participated in the contest from their home stations.

CQ Codeless Techs

Looking for codeless Techs who would like to study together for that big upgrade. Maybe if we "band" together, we could even find an "Elmer" to help us.

For further information, contact me at 824-1056 or give me a call on the 147.09 repeater.

73's
Jay N2MHD

Surprise Party

I want to thank our VE's for making our Surprise Party at Lancaster for Dick W2UJR a really wonderful evening. Dick's daughter, her husband and grandsons made the evening extra special.

Our VE list includes: Vern AA2AC, Norm KD2KK, Dick K2RDD, Walter KE2CT, Gail W2CRY, Les KC2JY, Bob K2PPK, Jim AA2EN, Bill NJ2V, Chuck KC2SG, Ann WI2G, Ron KC2P, Carmine W2VLZ, Paul WA2JW, Greg KE2VW, Shane WB2WPM, Frank WZ2J, Bob WA2IQX, Ron KE2FM, Guz WB2EJU, Joe KE2SK and Pat NW2I.

73's & 88's to all, Pat NW2I



STARS



Board of Directors

President	Greg Young	KE2VW
Past President	Bob Witt	WA2IOX
Vice President	John Leitten	KA2RFT
Treasurer	Jack Cullum	KB2ESM
Finc. Sec.	Frank Modzelewski	WG2H
Secretary	Dave Baco	WA2TVT
Director	Terry Rockhold	KM4XZ
Director	Frank Weinstock	K2VTK

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Editor Terry Rockhold KM4XZ

Club Repeater

The club repeater (WB2ELW/R) is located near Colden, NY (147.09/.69 output/input). The repeater is open to all amateurs. Autopatch privileges are available to club members.

Club Meetings

Club meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins St.) at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome; neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

Business meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center at 7:30 PM and are open to all club members.

Club HF Stations

The club Nike Base HF Station (WB2ELW) is located on Lakeview Rd. 1.75 miles e. of Rte 20 next to the Hamburg Town Arena. The station is operated on most Mondays between 7-9 PM local time and is a great DX station. All are welcome.

A second club HF station is located at the Hamburg Youth Center.

STARS

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