

telstar



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

ISSUE 154

JULY, 1994

THANKS!

STARS members joined with amateur radio operators from around Western New York to provide communications for bike treks sponsored by the American Lung Association and the Multiple Sclerosis Society during June.

Terry KM4XZ and Tony KB2OUT combined to find all the volunteers needed for the two events.

The workers for the American Lung Association ride held on June 18 & 19 included Jim N2OSL, Larry N2YDN, Harry N2DNS and his wife, Mike WA2HEV, Marc N2UBT, Marc N9ELC, Les KC2JY, Mike N2NMS, Ralph N2UKU, Tony N2UKQ, Bob (aka Bill) N2UKT and Terry KM4XZ.

Workers for the Multiple Sclerosis ride held on June 25 & 26 (Field Day weekend!) included Tony KB2OUT, Marc N2UBT, John NG2I, Tony N2UKQ, Steven N2QJE, Bill N2QJG, Bill K2ILH, Larry N2YDN, Ken N2NOE, Woody KF2VG, Les KC2JY, Norm N2QYP, Harry KB2NDS and his wife, Dave K2ECK, Chris N2WYD, Joe N2WUY, Fred KA2EUS, Ralph N2UKU, Mark N2LAB and Terry KM4XZ.

Special thanks go to John Thomas K2XZ for the use of his 145.390 repeater for both bike treks. It is a super repeater with unmatched coverage for that area. As Dave K2ECK said, "It is amazing that I can be riding my bicycle in Olean and talk to someone in Orchard Park."

Communications went great on both rides, we really want to thank all those who gave up their time to worthy charities. (Secret: Most people said they had a great time doing it!)

July Meeting

The July club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on July 6, 1994 at the STARS Nike Base Club station on Lakeview Road west of Hamburg.

The meeting will be outside, so please bring folding chairs to sit on. In case of bad weather, please listen to the STARS 147.090 repeater for possible rescheduling of the meeting. All are invited to attend; neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.



We will be talking about the exhibit at the Erie County Fair, Field Day, the Batavia Hamfest, the bike treks, and lots of other items. Also, you will have time to visit the club station, talk with your friends and do a little operating.

STARS Raffles

Our raffle for the PK-88 was won by new STARS member Bill Parker N2WYA! The drawing occurred at the Lancaster Hamfest.

We plan a great new raffle for this summer. The winner will get his/her choice of a new Kenwood 2 meter or 440 HT with accessories, a Cushcraft R7 vertical antenna, a Cushcraft A3S HF beam antenna, a gift certificate from East Coast Amateur Radio or \$250 in cash! Now here is a raffle for everyone!

The drawing for the new raffle will be held at the Buffalo Hamfest in September. Tickets will be \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 and will be available soon.



★ 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 WB2EJU.

STARS VHF net meets at 7 PM on Wednesdays on STARS club repeater WB2ELW 147.09/.69 (output/input). Net control is Tony KB2OUT.

STARS Swap Net meets at 7 PM on Tuesdays on STARS WB2ELW 147.09 repeater. Net control is Jeremy N2UIW.

Dxpedition Operator Jailed!

Robert Wilber N4GCK, one of the operators on last February's Dxpedition to Peter I Island (3Y0PI), was jailed shortly after returning to the US. No, this isn't a new FCC penalty for failing to properly control a pile-up!

Wilber plead guilty to bank fraud and mail theft. Wilber reportedly took checks totaling some \$113,00 from the mailbox of a University of Michigan professor and cashed them. He was photographed at an automatic teller machine and his photo appeared in the paper on December 20, 1993. Wilber avoided arrest long enough to join the expedition, and he surrendered upon his return, having spent all the stolen money.

Under a plea agreement, he will receive 24 to 37 months in federal prison and be subject to three to five years of federal supervision following his release.

Based upon an article in the ARRL Letter, May, 1994.

Erie County Fair

Plans continue on STARS Erie County Fair exhibit, and it should really be a good one.

Greg KE2VW will hold planning meetings July 9 and July 30, both Saturday mornings starting at 9 AM at the Nike Base clubhouse.

Greg is accepting sign-ups for slots to man the exhibit. The days (8/11 to 8/21) will be divided up into 3 shifts: 10 AM to 2 PM; 2 PM to 6:30 PM; and 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM. The first 2 volunteers to sign-up for a shift will get a complimentary pass for free admission to the fair. Contact Greg to sign up.

Field Day

We haven't received the final summary of STARS 1994 Field Day efforts, but hope to publish them in the August newsletter. From what we have heard from people who attended, propagation was a little weak this year, but everyone had fun.

STARS GOSSIP COLUMN

It was nice of John KA2FRT, our Field Day Chairman, to spend some time at the May meeting to finalize all the loose ends.

You know on Page 32 of QST, June 1994 is a very nice article on inexpensive interference filters that can be used to help keep interference down to a minimum.

Hamfest fever is upon us and hope that everyone has had a chance to attend a hamfest by now.

At least twice a year, I like to remind our members to check on the expiration date of your license. The FCC does not send you a notice when it expires, it is up to you. Remember you worked hard and long for it so please let's keep it.

The Nike Base station has been open on Saturdays and sometimes on Sundays. Monitor

STARS repeater a half hour before opening time of hours so you can pay a visit and enjoy yourself with the nice station.

As a general rule, I don't pick separate articles to talk about, but in order for our members to taste a little bit of DX, I would like to inform our members about St. Paul island, a part of Canada on the tip of Nova Scotia that our Canadian hams will operate this year for a while. The light house has not been used for 30 years. It is a separate country on the DXCC list. They use a CY call and come in very nice to our WNY section. So give them a call. For more information, get in touch with our member Kash WB2RAJ, the never sleep DXer, and he will keep you posted on time, bands and signal strength, or pick up the DX Packetcluster on your packet radio screen also.

Happy Hamming Guz WB2EJU

Batavia Hamfest

The Genesee Radio Amateurs, Inc. (GRAM) will hold their 14th Annual Batavia Hamfest on Sunday, July 10, at the Firemen's Grounds in Alexander, NY. The outdoor flea will begin at 6 AM and the indoor vendors will begin at 8:30 PM.

Tickets are \$5.00 at the gate and flea market space is available for \$1.00 for an 8' or \$2.00 under cover. Talk in will be on the 145.310 Mhz repeater, and there will also be a contest with check-ins on 146.52 simplex.

There will be door-prizes including an ICOM IC 735 HF transceiver with power supply, and ICOM IC 281 2 meter transceiver with 440 receive, a Kantronic KAM Plus multimode TNC, and a Kenwood TH-22AT 2 meter HT.

Syd Chyswell W2ICZ will be presenting a program at 11:00 AM on the use of satellites with APRS Packet, and there will be an ARRL forum at 10:00 AM.

For the first time, STARS will have a table at the hamfest to tell everyone about our club. We also will have tickets for sale for our great new raffle.

New Members

We want to welcome the following seven new STARS members who were voted in at the June meeting:

Keven Michalski	N2???	Technician
Mark Kumro	KB2???	Novice
John Slivka	WA2X	Extra
Richard Stein	K2ZR	Extra
Ben Siracusa	N2UIT	Advanced
Jeff Warner	KF2GB	Advanced
Steve Bissell	-	-

Dick Stein is the current president of ARATS, our biggest neighbor club to the North!

This brings our current 1994 membership to 242. We also have at least six more applications for new members to vote on at the July meeting.

Sorry!

I was swamped under this month with the bike treks, buying a car, the holiday and work and had to go with this small newsletter. Will try to get back to the regular version next month!

The Editor



STARS



Club Repeaters

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.

The southern club repeater (KE2VW/R) is located in Perrysburg, NY (146.97/.37 output/input, with PL access of 151.4 MHz). This also is an open repeater.

Club Packet

The STARS KE2VW BBS is located in Colden, NY. On 145.71 MHz: C KE2VW-5 or C BBSVW. On 145.61 MHz, C STARS, then C BBSVW. On 446.825 MHz, you can connect using 9600 baud directly to BBSVW.

Using a telephone modem you can reach the STARS KE2VW BBS by calling 537-9334.

Club Meetings

Club meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins Aves.) at 7:00 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 Nike Base Club Station 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 Saturdays between 1 and 3 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

Terry W. Rockhold KM4XZ
4805 Transit Road #1903
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 656-0865



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