

telstar



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

ISSUE 170 NOVEMBER, 1995

1996 Club Elections

At the November club meeting the following people were nominated to run for offices for 1996:

PRESIDENT

KE2VW Greg Young

VICE PRESIDENT

KB2OUT Tony Balas, Jr.

SECRETARY

WA2TVT Dave Baco

TREASURER

KB2ESM John Cullum, Jr.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

N2TEZ Judy Levan

DIRECTOR (2 Year Term)

AA2AC Vern Siegel
KA2WYE Bob Koster

After the meeting, Gene KE2LO declined a nomination for Vice President and Mick N2PZX declined a nomination for Director.

The election for these offices will be held at the club meeting on November 2. Write-ins are allowed for any office.

November Meeting

The November club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday, November 2 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. at Hawkins Ave).

Besides our business meeting, we will be having our election of 1996 club officers.



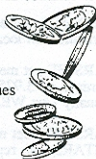
Our program will be a video on VHF/UHF radio. It covers the full range of these frequencies from 6 meters to microwave and from FM repeaters and packet radio to ATV and EME radio. This will show the new Technicians all the things they can do with their privileges.

Dues Increased

At the September club meeting, a motion was passed to increase the club's dues to \$21 for a single membership and \$27 for a family membership. Student members will continue to pay \$8.

These new dues will become effective for the 1996 year.

This is the first increase in the dues in about 10 to 12 years and will help to insure that we have adequate funds to meet our club needs in the future.



★ 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 \$21 for a single membership, \$27 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 \$10.50 (6 months X \$1.75/mth) plus the \$5.00 initiation fee for a total of \$15.50.

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 WB2E2U.

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 Marc N2UBT.

Meet The Candidates

We invite candidates in contested elections to submit articles for the newsletter. Except for possible write-ins, the only contested election we have this year is for Director. The following articles were submitted by the candidates:

Vern Siegel AA2AC

Married: 4 Children (one is a ham)

EDUCATION: BSEE: Okla. State Univ.
MSEE: Northwestern One year advanced study MIT

EMPLOYMENT: Project Engr. Bell Aircraft, Guided missile development, Helicopter trainer Device, Automatic aircraft landing device. V.P. Sierra Research Corp. Original founder: Aircraft navigation devices. V.P. Kistler Instrument Corp. Original founder: Unique measurement devices Pres. Radatron Corp. Original founder: Automobile electronics, radar detectors Pres. SR Instrument Corp. Original founder: Medical scales and marine electronics

HAM EXPERIENCE: Extra Class License, General Radiotelephone License, 2nd Class Radiotelegraph License, G.M.D.S.S. Maintainer and Operator License. Ham Novice/Tech and Gen./Adv. Class instructor, one to two courses per year. VE examiner. Operate Packet BBS (AA2AC-5) and data link from Rochester to Pt. Colborne, Can. Involved in Data satellites (KO-23, KO-25, etc) and APRS.

Bob Koster KA2WYE

My name is Bob Koster and I am a candidate running for the board of directors.

I hold a general class amateur radio license, and have been active since the mid 1980's. Also a graduate of Erie Community College (State University Of New York) with an Associate of Science Degree and background in Computer Electronics. Additionally I have completed special training from the following organizations, New York State Department of Labor

See Meet the Candidates on Page 5

STARS GOSSIP COLUMN

Wish to thank everyone who made it possible to have a very efficient nomination of officers. Hope the election will go as smooth as the nominations did. So be prepared for the voting at the November meeting.

You know, there is one thing that many members don't know. After the election, the President will be appointing chairpeople to the various committees. If you are interested in a very important committee, why not let the President know of your wishes. And remember, if you are asked to be on a committee, don't think they are picking on you, feel proud that they want you in order to make the committee more efficient.

As the year in coming to a close, what with the daylight savings time changing and cold weather is upon us, please take care of your antennas so

you will enjoy care-free transmissions without too much trouble. One thing, please please read Greg's article on VHF/UHF frequency planning in the October newsletter. Greg is trying to coordinate WNY and Southern Ontario hams in a foolproof type of band planning. You might not be interested in it now, but for the future, keep it in mind. As you know, STARS is a learning club, and we must keep up with the times. If you read it once, go through it again, it is very important.

By the way, the January newsletter will have an article on the most important things that happened in 1995. If you can't get in touch with me, put a message for me on the STARS KE2VV BBS.

Happy Hamming Guz WB2EZX

PROS Auction

The First Annual PROS Auction will be held on Saturday, November 11 at the Sardinia Town Hall, 1/4 mile south of Genesee Road in Sardinia, NY. Doors open at noon, and the auction begins at 3 PM.

They will be selling ham radio, computer and electronic equipment.

There is a \$3.00 donation per person and a 10% commission. Refreshments will be available, and there will be a \$50 door prize and a 50/50 raffle.

For more information, contact Mike Buttino N2LBY, 12109 Savage Road, Sardinia, NY 14134 or by calling him at (716) 496-8241.

In Sympathy

Shorty Comstock, WB2FCS, passed away on October 25, 1995. Although not a member of STARS in recent years he was an active member in years past before his age and health took its toll.

We extend our sympathies to his family.

JOTA

STARS members demonstrated amateur radio to many Scouts on October 21 at a local scout camporee during the annual international Jamboree-On-The-Air. A mobile HF station was setup outside the Health Building and inside there was another HF station and a VHF/packet/satellite station. Each scout left with a pamphlet about amateur radio with a coupon to send to the ARRL to receive more information.

The scouts had a great time talking to scouts in other parts of the US and Canada, watching packet transmissions from the Dove satellite and making autopatch calls to parents and friends.

STARS members staging this great demonstration included: Joe KB2JDB, Mark KB2RAS, Tom KF2VX, Paul WA2JW, Frank K2VTK, Woody AA2TL, Dick N2XBO and Sean KB2UGV.



REPEATER CORNER

Paul Wendzikowski, WA2IJW

Here's a follow-up to an earlier article I wrote (The HT Boosters, Telstar, June 1995). In that article were directions for building Tiger Tails and a full 1/4 wave whip for your HT, for the 2m band.

Those with dual-band HTs may know that their 2m 1/4 wave whips will work on 440 MHz, or at least the SWR will be OK. The 19 inch whip is a 3/4 wave whip on 440 MHz, a length which presents a low impedance and reasonable match (low SWR). However, the radiation pattern from a 3/4 wave whip is not very good for our purposes—big lobes extending up into the air 48 degrees above the horizon!

To fix this, we can build a dual-band whip which is a 5/8 wave antenna on 440 MHz, with lobes much closer to horizontal giving 3 dB gain, while still radiating pretty much like a full 1/4 wave whip on 2m. You do it by making a 15 inch whip with a curly-Q inductor at the base as shown below (not to scale).

Top of Antenna Coil (2 turns 1/2" ID)

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<-----> <---> <---->
15" 5/8" 2/3"

The inductor, or loading coil, does the impedance matching—at 440 MHz it makes the 5/8 wave radiator electrically look like a 3/4 wave radiator again, and at 2m, it makes the shortened 15 inch whip electrically look like a 1/4 wave radiator again—your HT is happy because it sees a nice low impedance match on both bands.

The best wire to make this from is #18 copperweld because it's easy to form, springy, and will retain its shape. But #14 or #12 copper wire will work just to give it a try. Use a 1/2 inch dowel or drill bit to form the coil. Dimensions are not super critical, nor is the neatness of the coil winding job. This whip is soldered into a phono connector, then plugged into a Radio Shack adapter (278-254) as described in the earlier article.

You can use your Tiger Tails with this antenna, just like the regular 19 inch whip. A 19 inch Tiger Tail will be best on 2m and OK on 440 MHz, but best results on 440 MHz are with a 15 inch Tiger Tail. Have fun experimenting with this antenna—it makes a huge difference on 440 MHz.

Wednesday Night Net

I would like to say thank you to Paul WA2IJW for an excellent job with the special net on Wed. Oct. 11th. Paul had all the answers to your questions on our repeaters.

My special guest speaker on Wed. Nov. 8th will be Kash WB2RAJ. He will answer any questions you may have on rules and regulations in general in amateur radio. (SSB, REPEATERS, CW, ETC.)

Like always, I am looking for people to speak on these special nets. If you, or you know of someone, who would like to help out by being a speaker, drop me a line on BBSVW or call me at 992-2011 (Evenings)

Thank You !

Tony B. KB2OUT
Wednesday Evening Net Control

SKYWARN Newsletter

Western New York SKYWARN announced that it had two winners in a contest to name it's newsletter. STARS member Bob Dudek WA2ABN was one of the winners with the name NOAA's ARC. William Hale KA2BCH was the other winner with the idea of retaining the KB2UQX name.

STARS Board of Directors

President	Terry Rockhold	KM4XZ
Vice President	Tony Balas, Jr.	KB2OUT
Treasurer	Jack Cullum	KB2ESM
Fin. Sec.	Frank Modzelewski	WG2H
Secretary	Dave Baco	WA2TVT
Director	Vern Siegel	AA2AC
Director	Mike Wojcieszak	WA2HEV

Amateur Radio Examinations

STARS will be holding a test session on Nov. 18, 1995 at the Hamburg Sr. High School; this was previously scheduled for Nov. 11. STARS will also hold test sessions on Jan. 13, March 16, and May 11, 1996 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins). Walk-ins should arrive by 9:00 AM and pre-registered candidates should arrive by 9:45. The tests start at 10 AM.

For information on STARS test sessions, contact Norm Jones KD2KK at 824-1148.

Lancaster ARC will hold test sessions Nov. 15, and Dec. 20, 1995 and Jan. 17, Feb. 21, Mar. 20, April 24, May 15, and June 12, 1996. For information on Lancaster ARC exams, call Chuck Koester WD2AIK at 937-3592.

ARATS will be holding test sessions on Nov. 4, Dec. 2, 1995 and Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 2, April 13, May 4, and June 8, 1996. For information on ARATS exams, call Vern Siegel AA2AC at 693-5977 (days) or 634-5276 (nights).

Most sessions except for STARS non-hamfest exams do not allow walk-ins, so call ahead and make a reservation.

Commercial Radio Examinations

Examinations are being given monthly for the following commercial radio licenses: General Radiotelephone Operator License; Marine Radio Operator Permit; First, Second and Third Class Radio Telegraph Operator's Certificate; Global Maritime Distress and Safety System Operator's License; Global Maritime Distress and Safety System Maintainer's License; and a radar endorsement for the above licenses.

Exams are held at the Aurora Middle School, 148 Aurora Street, Lancaster. For information and registration contact Vern Siegel at 634-5276 and Chuck Koester 937-3592.

The exams are scheduled for Nov. 8, and Dec. 13, 1995 and Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 13, April 17, May 8 and June 5, 1996.

Meet the Candidates

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(Certificate of Competence for Operator of Mobile Laser with accredited Laser Safety Officer Status), New York State Department of State, Essentials Of Firemanship and Fire Police Courses at the Erie County Fire Training Academy. Other training includes Radiological Monitoring and Chemical Hazards.

I have had intensive computer training including PC repair, DOS versions to 6.22, Advanced Windows 3.11, Office database management, Computer Programming in C, C+, Turbo Pascal and Visual Basic.

Currently I work at American Axle and Manufacturing as an Operations Analyst compiling data for corporate reports. Before this position I was employed at the same location as a Supervisor Of Operations where I supervised gear finishing and heat treat operations for the Saginaw Division Of General Motors.

I am a member in the following organizations, The South Towns Amateur Radio Society, Firebird Amateur Radio Club, Packet Association of Western New York, Western New York Amateur Television Club, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES-RACES), American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateur Satellite Corp. (AMSAT) and the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences

Lastly I would like to say that although my fellow candidates are qualified, I feel that I have the "Right Stuff" to make our club grow for the future. Thank you for your vote!

Congratulations

Congratulations go to new STARS members Richard Gerster KB2VVZ, Lembit Enders KB2VWA, and John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC for getting their new Technician licenses and their new calls!

If you have a new license or call or have upgraded your license, call Terry KM4XZ at 656-0865 so he can let our other members know.



STARS



Club Repeaters

The club repeater (WB2ELW/R) is located near Colden, NY (147.09/.69 output/input). Auto-patch 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 Hz).

The club UHF repeater is located near Hamburg. (442.325 MHz w/ PL of 151.4 Hz.)

Club Packet

The STARS KE2VW BBS is located in Colden, NY. On 145.71 MHz: C KE2VW-5 or 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
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Depew, NY 14043
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