



## Pioneer Students and Scouts Earn Radio Licenses

Pioneer High School Radio Club announces that the 1996-97 school year has been a banner year for new Ham Radio licenses. A Teacher Center Mini-Grant awarded last year to Joe Claus, Pioneer High School Earth Science teacher, helped make the difference. A classroom set of Amateur Radio instructional materials consisting of two different sets of texts - at different reading levels, a videotape program, flashcards, a computer testing program and Morse Code mini-computer were obtained. These allowed a variety of learning techniques that, along with hands-on instruction, helped a large number of students to succeed. Earning a license involves passing a written exam on rules, electronics and operating skills.



Counting last year's successes, a total of 14 students from Pioneer High School, 5 Boy Scouts and one Scouter have earned Amateur call signs. Pioneer students were allowed to use Amateur Radio in lieu of the required Earth Science project. Boy Scouts earned Radio merit badges, and some went on to earn licenses. One adult leader also became licensed.

Most of the new "hams" are active amateur radio participants. Some of the younger ones are using radio equipment belonging to the High School Radio Club or its moderator, Mr. Claus.

## Monthly Meeting

STARS monthly club meeting will begin on Thursday, June 5 at 7 PM at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. and Hawkins Ave.). All interested in amateur radio are invited; neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

Plans will be discussed at this meeting for our Field Day operations to be held June 28-29.

A representative of PRAXAIR will put on a demonstration of liquefied gases such as Liquid Nitrogen at -321 degrees and Liquid Oxygen at -300 degrees. He will do a variety of experiments with common items such as food, rubber and a rose. This unique program was arranged by STARS member Gary KB2YJ who also works for PRAXAIR. Bring your spouses and children to see science in action!



Every Sunday night, a group of new and experienced talk in a roundtable meeting on-the-air using a repeater at 145.390 MHz. Licensed hams are invited to join in and meet the newest operators. Those with scanners a monitor the meetings Sunday nights at 8 PM.

The radio club has recently obtained its own club call sign - KC2AIF - which it uses for all on-air activities. The club plans to visit the Rochester Hamfest in June for its annual field trip.

Welcome these newcomers to our hobby:

Curtis Andrews	KC2BLT
Peter Baird	KC2BDZ
John Jordan	KC2BLV
Brett Pirby	KC2BLX

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## STARS & ARRL Memberships

Membership in STARS is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. A license is not required. Membership applications may be obtained by sending a SASE to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043, 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 per month) plus the \$5 initiation fee for a total of \$15.50.

Applications should be returned to Judy N2TEZ along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and voted on by the Board of Directors at the 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 usually Tony KB2OUT.

STARS Swap Net meets at 7 PM on Tuesdays on STARS WB2ELW 147.09 repeater. Net control is usually Leo KB2TTY.

## Pataki Proclaims Amateur Radio Month

The State of New York has more than 38,000 licensed amateur radio operators who have demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing emergency radio communication.

These amateur radio operators promote international goodwill through contacts with foreign stations and cosmonauts on the Mir space station. They provide educational opportunities for young people through the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment and Mir Experiment, which brings the voices of space travelers into our classrooms. They donate their services free of charge to federal, state, and local emergency service agencies in the interest of the citizens of the State of New York.

Amateur radio operators are on alert for any emergency, local or world-wide, and practice their communications skills during the American Radio Relay League's "Field Day" exercise, which this year will take place the weekend of June 28-29, 1997.

It is fitting to give recognition to the far-reaching technological achievements of amateurs and this important emergency preparedness exercise, and call upon all citizens to pay tribute to the amateur radio operators of the Empire State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York, hereby recognize June 1997 as

### AMATEUR RADIO MONTH

in the Empire State.

/s/  
George E. Pataki  
Governor

## Going On Vacation?

Gary KB2YJ suggested that we remind members to be careful about discussing vacation plans over our repeater. Don't forget that almost any scanner can pick up our repeater, and you may be telling a thief when your house will be vacant to rob!

# STARS Gossip Column

Well, June looks like a very busy month, what with school closing and other activities to keep amateur radio. You know there are fourteen new Generals but as yet no equipment to put their action to use. It only takes 144 feet of #12 stranded wire to put up a good 80 meter antenna. 80 meters is a good place to tune up. STARS has a frequency of 3.925 MHz +/- for QRM every Saturday at



10 AM. Use an antenna tuner, and you will work the band on SSB without any trouble. When you join, you can check in on the frequency and get the hang of it. After a few months, you can take over the net control job. At least once in a while.

STARS is a learning club and wants all the members to participate in all activities, but do not forget Field Day activities. You will be welcome with open arms. Field Day is the last full weekend in June (6/28-29). Gene KE2LO is Chairman.

Happy Hamming Guz WB2EZX

## Malicious Interference

Periodically, we have experienced malicious interference on our repeater from people who we will call "jammers." These people love to cause trouble for others while hiding behind the fact that people don't know who they are. Find out who they are, and most will be quick to change their ways. You can help us to minimize this problem, even if you don't have special direction finding equipment.

First, let me tell you what not to do. Don't talk about or to the jammers over the repeater. They are trying to get a rise out of you; and, if you show they are upsetting you, they win! The best advice is to act like you don't hear them.

Also, don't talk about our efforts to locate them over the repeater. Resist the temptation to make comments like "we are getting beam headings on you", "we will be showing up at your door step soon", "does anyone hear the jammer on the input?", "we know that one of them lives around the Galleria area", etc. We have been making threats like that for months, if not years, and it has not eliminated the jammers. It just reminds them to be cautious about their transmissions. We want them to think they can cause all the trouble they want, and they will never be caught. Why? Because the more they transmit, the faster we will find them! It is particularly frustrating to spend hours out in the field waiting for the jammer to finally show up, only to have someone come on the repeater and say something to remind the jammer that he better not transmit any more that day.

OK, what can you do to help us? When you hear jammers on the repeater, switch to the input frequency (147.690 MHz for our repeater) and see if you can hear them. If you can, note the S-meter reading, the direction of strongest signal (if you have a beam antenna) and your location.

Also note the time, day, type of interference (carrier, noise machine, derogatory comments, etc.) and call sign of person they were trying to interfere with (if applicable).

Even if you can't hear the jammer on the repeater input, note that. That will let us know that he probably isn't in your area.

Then, pass the information on to the club so we can consolidate it and take action from there. You can call Terry K200 at 656-0865 to report your information or mail it to him at the address on the back of the newsletter or send it via packet at the STARS KE2VW BBS.



## Lancaster Hamfest

The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club will present their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Lancaster Hamfest on Sunday, June 8 at the Darien Center Firehall on Route 77 north of Route 20. Talk-in will be on 147.255 (+600).

The hamfest will begin at 6 AM. There will be an extensive outdoor flea market. Each admission ticket entitles the bearer to a no charge outdoor flea market space. There will also be an extensive indoor flea market.

There will be informative programs. There will also be a fox hunt at noon with a \$25.00 prize and lots of door prizes awarded hourly.

STARS will have a table there to recruit new members. Members are encouraged to help staff the table awhile during their visit to the hamfest.

## Fair Display

Hi all:

The first meeting for the EC Fair exhibit will be held on Saturday, June 14th at 10 am at the Nike Base.

We have a great deal to discuss, so please make every effort to attend. It should be a fun year again!

73, Greg KE2VW

## New Repeater System

At the May meeting the club members voted to pay off the anonymous donor in full. This was accomplished through the generous donations that we have plus transferring money from our general fund to the repeater fund.

So we no longer owe the donor anything, but we still need additional donations to help reimburse our general fund and to buy additional items to upgrade the system in the future.

The new controller has proved to be much more difficult to program than we anticipated. Paul WA2IJW, our Repeater Chairman, is about 50% done with the programming. He expects to have more time to work on the programming on the near future.

## New Club Logo

Club members at the May club meeting selected the logo below as our new club logo. We will be using it on Tee shirts, badges, letterhead, etc.



## ARRL Appointment

STARS Newsletter Editor, Terry K2OO, was recently appointed as a Public Information Officer for the Western New York Section of the ARRL. Terry will be working with Dick Stein K2ZR, who is ARRL Public Information Coordinator for Western New York (and also a STARS member), to help publicize ARRL and amateur radio activities.

## STARS Board of Directors

President	Tony Balas, Jr.	KB2OUT
Past President	Greg Young	KE2VW
Vice President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Fin. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Director	Vern Siegel	AA2AC
Director	Gene Metzger	KE2LO

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will hold a test session at the Buffalo Hamfest in September. You must pre-register for this session. For information on STARS test sessions, contact Vern Siegel AA2AC at 693-5977 (days) and 634-5276 (nights).

Lancaster ARC will be holding a test session on 6/11/97 at the Aurora Middle School, Lancaster, NY. For information on Lancaster ARC exams, call Chuck Koester WD2AIK at 937-3592.

ARATS will be holding a test sessions on 6/7/97 at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. For information on ARATS exams, call Vern Siegel AA2AC at 693-5977 (days) and 634-5276 (nights).

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

## Pioneer Students

(Continued from page 1)

Kelly Zientek	KC2BEA
Greg Dimon	KC2BSJ
Rick Berst	KC2BDX
Joe Annunziato	KC2BOT
Matt Baker	KC2BLU
Michelle Kohlhagen	KC2BLW
Jaemie Richardson	KC2BDU
Kathy Stevenson	KC2BSH
Mike Berst	KC2BDY
Rob Greiner	KC2BDW

Last year's hams included:

Jaci Chernan	KB2ZHS
Aaron Lons	KB2ZHT
Terry Lute	KB2ZHA
Luke Dusterhus	KB2YPO
Josh Dusterhus	AB2AV (Extra class!)
Jonathan Claus	KB2ZGZ

Next year's plans include learning Morse Code - still a requirement for upgrading to higher class licenses, and lots more new radio amateurs!

Editor's Note: Joe Claus KB2JDB is a member of STARS and PROS. He introduces amateur radio to Scouts each year during Jamboree-On-The-Air. Joe is to be highly commended for the great job he does with the youth of our area!

## Field Day '97

Don't forget to include STARS Field Day in your plans for June. We will again be located in the field behind the Hamburg Moose Lodge on Church Street 0.25 miles from Route 75. Church is between Schmidt's Auto Glass and the Dairy Queen.

We will begin setting up at 11 AM (local time) on Saturday June 28 and take to the air at 2 PM. Then it will be non-stop contesting until 2 PM on Sunday.

If you have never seen or participated in a Field Day, you won't want to miss it. We will be using all kinds of antennas, all kinds of rigs and all kinds of modes.

We view Field Day as an excellent learning experience and everyone is invited to participate. Even if you don't have

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# STARS



## CLUB REPEATERS

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

The southern club repeater (KE2VW/R) is located in Perrysburg, NY (146.97/.37 out/in, with a PL of 151.4 Hz).

The club UHF repeater is located near Hamburg (442.325 MHz with a PL access of 151.4 Hz.)

## CLUB PACKET

The STARS KE2VW BBS, located in Colden, NY is accessible on 145.71 MHz (direct) or on 145.61 MHz or 145.65 MHz (indirect) by typing: C BBSVW, using 1200 baud. Or connect using 19.6K baud on 441.050 MHz (direct)

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 Ave. at Hawks Ave.) at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Nike Base Club Station at 7:00 PM and are open to all club members.

## CLUB HF STATIONS

The club Nike Base HF Station (WB2ELW) is located on Lakeview Road 1.75 miles east of Route 20 next to the Hamburg Town Arena. The station is operated on most Saturdays between 1 and 3 PM local time. A second club HF station is located at the Hamburg Youth Center.

## CLUB WEB PAGES

The club has a home site on the World Wide Web at <http://www.cmp-express.com/stars/>.

# STARS

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