

telstar



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY) ISSUE 191 AUGUST 1997

STARS Goes To The Fair!

The Erie County Fair will run this year from Thursday August 7 - Sunday August 17th. Last year, as the year before, over 1 million visited the fair!!

Our exhibit will have live atv, live RTTY, operational packet (to send traffic.. last year 197 messages were sent), an HF special event station that will work 10, 15, 20, 40 meters. A new 10/15/20 meter beam has been obtained (thanks to Greg KE2VW) and installed and is working great!

We will have an antique radio display, the Skywarn display, a live code practice send/receive generator, and a code reader! Last year we had SSTV, and we may this year, if we find an interested operator.. We will have a video, and play the "rhythm of the code" as our background "music"

Almost all shifts have been spoken for as of press time. There are 3 hams on each shift, and Greg will be there every day, all day, to orient new hams to the equipment.



Greg could undoubtedly use some people who would be able to fill in for any slots that might come open again because of illness, work commitments, etc. Give him a call if you would be willing to serve as a backup.

This display lets people in Western New York know about all the different aspects of amateur radio. Last year almost 50 people signed up to take amateur radio classes!

August Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, August 7 at the club's Nike Base club station (1.75 miles east of Route 20 on Lakeview Road). All interested in amateur radio are invited, neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

After a brief business meeting, we will have our annual mini-cookout. Hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks will be provided by the club. We ask the members to bring finger foods, appetizers or desserts to share. Sorry, no champagne!



The meeting will be outdoors, so don't forget to bring lawn chairs to sit on. In case of inclement weather, please listen to STARS 147.090 repeater for possible information regarding rescheduling the meeting.

STARS Raffle '97

STARS is again holding a big summer-time raffle!

The winner will receive choice of one of the following:

ICOM IC-2000H 2 meter 50W mobile transceiver, or ICOM IC-T7A Dual Band HT, or Garmon GPS45XL GPS receiver, or Kantronics 9612 plus/128K 9600 baud TNC, or Bearcat BC-890XLT 200 Channel Scanner, or \$275.00 in cash

Tickets will be a donation of \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. The drawing will be at the Buffalo

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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.



STARS Raffle '97

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Hamfest on September 20, 1997.

This is an important fund raising effort for STARS. We ask members support both in buying tickets and in taking packets of tickets to sell to family, friends, workmates, etc. You may obtain tickets at club meetings or by calling Terry K2OO at 656-0865 or Paul KC2AKZ at 592-5165.

Chaffee Hamfest

The Pioneer Radio Operators Society (PROS) will present their 6th annual Chaffee Hamfest on Saturday, August 23rd at Manion Park in Chaffee, NY.

From Buffalo, take NY 400 South to Route 16 to Chaffee. Turn right on Grove St. (across from the hotel) and proceed one quarter mile to the hamfest.

Talk-in will be on the 145.390 repeater. Gates open at 6 AM.

There is free tailgating (with admission). Refreshments will be available and there will be door prizes and dealer displays.

Advance sale tickets may be ordered by sending your name, address, phone number, and a check payable to PROS for \$3 times the number of tickets desired to Bob Michals, 1500 Genesee Road, Arcade, NY 14009. Also send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for them to return your tickets.

Tickets may also purchased at the gate for \$4.

This hamfest is billed as "A good old fashion tailgating, coffee drinking, rag chewing good time!"

For more information, contact Mike Buttino N2LBV at 496-8241 or Mike Wrona KB2TDN at 675-2071.



STARS Gossip Column

Well, August is upon us, and the Erie County Fair is about to open. STARS has a very impressive display at the fair. Greg KE2VW needs members to assist, so please volunteer and make it a successful display. Greg has a list and would like you to sign in for a slot.

Remember the club meeting is on August 7 at 7 PM at the Nike Base, with a cookout as usual. Everyone interested should bring a chair.

One thing that the DX'ers forget to do is to send a new envelope with your old and new call. Keep them separate for faster turn around on your QSL cards. You know that we are very fortunate in sending out going QSL cards through Kash WB2RAJ. It is a quick and simple way, and he will be glad to assist you. There is a small service charge, but it

is well worth it, so see Kash and start collecting your out going cards.

Please attend the meetings. There are so many changes up coming, and you must keep up with the latest info.

The Nike Base is sure busy weekends. Keep in touch with Rick N2VZ, and he will let you know where and when the new DX stations will be active.



Happy Hamming Guz WB2EZX

FCC Puts Priority on Electronic Applications

When vanity call sign Gate 3 opens on August 6, 1997, the FCC will process electronic applications ahead of paper applications each day. Previously, the FCC did not distinguish in how it handled electronic and paper Form 610V applications. In recent months, the FCC has been receiving more electronic applications than paper applications. The FCC says it will process electronic applications, then paper applications received on any given day.

The FCC also has established a firm deadline for receipt of application fees to accompany electronic applications. After Gate 3 opens, fees for electronic applications must be received by the FCC's fiscal agent, Mellon Bank, within 10 days of the date of application or the application will be dismissed. The fee will remain at \$30 for the ten-year term until September 15, 1997, when it will increase to \$50 for the ten-year term.



Applicants can find the electronic Form 610V on the FCC's Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amradsrv.html>. Electronic applications require a Form 159 for any method of payment. Mail payments accompanying electronic applica-

tions to Federal Communications Commission, Box 358994, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5994.

Paper applications require an FCC Form 159 if payment is by credit card or if the application package contains multiple applications being paid for with one check. Individual applications do not require a Form 159 if payment is by personal check or money order.

Send paper applications containing payments to Federal Communications Commission, Box 358924, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924.

To avoid processing delays, applicants should make sure the information on their license is up to date. If you have changed your name or address, you must file Form 610 with the FCC to request modification of your license to show the correct information. In the case of a club station, you must file Form 610B.

Gate 3 opens the vanity call sign program to Advanced class amateurs. The FCC has not said when it will open Gate 4, for General, Technician Plus, Technician and Novice class operators.

For more information, call the FCC Consumer Information line at, 888-225-5322 (CALL FCC).

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MS Bike Tour

The 1997 MS Bike Tour will be held September 6 & 7 sponsored by the Western New York chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Volunteers are needed to provide communications for the event.

The ride will start at a school near Clarence Center on Saturday morning and will continue northeast to a lunch stop near Medina. There the Buffalo riders will be joined by 500 to 600 riders from an MS bike tour out of Rochester. The whole group will then ride south to Darien Lake Theme Park where they will enjoy the park and spend overnight. On Sunday, they will take a more direct route back to Clarence Center.



Volunteers will provide communications at check points and mobile from EMT vehicles, sag wagons, bike repair vans etc. The only requirements to volunteer is to have 2 meter radio equipment and 2 meter privileges. Prior experience doing public service events is not required; we will have a number of experienced people to work with you.

If you would like to volunteer for one or both days or just want more information, please contact Terry K200 at 656-0865 or by packet at the STARS KE2VW BBS or by e-mail at k200@bigfoot.com.

If you have already volunteered for the ride, please contact Terry again to reconfirm that you are still interested and available.

For Sale

From the estate of Ken K2KYE (who was a non-smoker):

Kenwood TM-2570A 2 meter transceiver
 Kenwood R-1000 communications receiver
 ICOM IC-2GXAT 2 meter transceiver
 Kenwood MC-85 microphone
 Kenwood SWT-1 SWR meter
 Kenwood TS-50 power supply
 Yaesu 2K040014 (not sure what this is)

Contact Mrs. Pearl Haas at 834-4083

ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

By Francie Baltazar-Schwartz

Jerry was the kind of guy you love to hate. He was always in a good mood and always had something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a unique manager because he had several waiters who had followed him around from restaurant to restaurant. The reason the waiters followed Jerry was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Jerry was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation. Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Jerry and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?" Jerry replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, Jerry, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood.' I choose to be in a good mood.

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life."

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes it is," Jerry said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. You choose to be in a good or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live life."

I reflected on what Jerry said. Soon thereafter, I left the restaurant industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

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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 at the Erie County Fairgrounds in Sept. All candidates for this session must preregister. For information on STARS test sessions, contact Norm Jones KD2KK at 824-1148.

For information on Lancaster ARC exams, call Chuck Koester WD2AIK at 937-3592.

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.

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Several years later, I heard that Jerry did something you are never supposed to do in a restaurant business: he left the back door open one morning and was held up at gunpoint by three armed robbers. While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness, slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found relatively quickly and rushed to the local trauma center. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds, but did ask him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door," Jerry replied. "Then, as I lay on the floor, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live, or I could choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked. Jerry continued, "The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the emergency room and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read, 'He's a dead man.' I knew I needed to take action." "What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big, burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes,' I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply...

I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Bullets!' Over their laughter, I told them, 'I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if

I am alive, not dead." Jerry lived thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything.

IT'S KC5VPF IN FOR KC5KII ON MIR

NASA is making an eleventh-hour substitution for the next US astronaut to serve aboard the Russian Mir space station. Astronaut Wendy B. Lawrence, KC5KII -- a US Navy Commander -- has been replaced by her backup, David A. Wolf, KC5VPF -- a medical doctor -- for the next long duration stay on Mir, starting in September. He'll take over from astronaut Michael Foale, KB5UAC, who's been aboard Mir since May. The change will enable Wolf to act as a backup crew member for spacewalks planned over the next several months to repair the damaged Spektr module on the Russian outpost. Wolf is scheduled to remain aboard Mir for four months. He had been scheduled to join the Mir crew on a subsequent shuttle-Mir docking mission in January.

NASA explained that Lawrence, 38, is not tall enough to fit the Orlan suit which Russian cosmonauts use for spacewalk tasks and has not undergone spacewalk training. Wolf, 41, does fit in the Orlan suit. Lawrence will continue training in the backup role, in the unlikely event that she is needed.

NASA also says it might delay the September launch of the shuttle Atlantis on the next shuttle-Mir docking mission, STS-86 by 10 days, so Wolf can complete spacewalk training in Russia. That flight will deliver Wolf to the Russian station. Wolf is fully trained on both Mir and Soyuz capsule systems. Because of her knowledge and experience with Mir systems and with crew transfer logistics for the Mir, NASA also will fly Lawrence on STS-86.

In the wake of the damage to the Mir from a collision with a Progress rocket in June, NASA and Russian space officials have agreed that it would be mutually beneficial to have all three crew members on the Mir qualified for spacewalks. Foale was said to be disappointed to not get a chance to help repair the troubled space station after Russian crew member Vasily Tsibliev developed apparent heart problems. --NASA

The ARRL Letter 8/1/97



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 Hawkins 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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