

telstar



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

ISSUE 194 NOVEMBER 1997

1998 Club Elections

At the October club meeting, the following individuals were nominated at run for 1998 STARS club officers and directors:

President:

Tony Balas KB2OUT
Gary Zanghi KB2YJ

Vice President:

Dennis Langheier K2CEC
Robert Koster KA2WYE
John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC

Treasurer:

John Cullum, Jr. KB2ESM

Secretary:

Leo Karr, Jr. KB2TTY

Financial Secretary:

Judy Levan N2TEZ

Director (2-year term):

Dennis Langheier K2CEC
John Czuba KG2IM

The election for these offices will be held at the November 6th club meeting at the Hamburg Youth Center.

STARS rules do allow write-in candidates beyond those nominated at the October meeting.

Gene KE2LO during 1998 will be serving his second year of a two-year term as Director.

November Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, November 6 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. at Hawkins Ave.). All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend; neither an amateur radio license nor club membership are required.

We will be talking about the work on our repeater systems, Jamboree-on-the-Air, the Pumpkin Patrol, and many other topics.



This is a very important meeting as we will be voting on officers and directors for 1998. It is vital that we get a good attendance at this meeting so that the vote will reflect the wishes of as many members as possible.

Time To Renew!

Enclosed with your newsletter is a renewal form for your 1998 STARS membership. Please fill out the form and send it and your annual dues to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043.

Congratulations!

Paul Julyan WB2KFL upgraded to Advanced class, and John Crawford, Jr. N2ZDL upgraded to General class.

Mark Kumro KB2RAS received the new call W2MKW.

Paul Williams KB2UMT was accepted as a new STARS member at the October meeting.

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 Levian 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 KB2TIY.



From the President

I am very happy to report that our 2 meter repeater is running at 100%. Paul did repair the 2 meter amplifier and put it back in line on Thursday Oct. 23rd.

The STARS 440 repeater is also up and running at 100%. The 440 repeater is located at the Ch. 4 site right beside our 2 meter machine. The 440 repeater also has the same functions as the 2 meter side. You use the same codes to run both. You can access the STARS 440 repeater on 442.325 with a PL of 151.4 HZ.

By the time this article comes out there is a good chance our remote receive unit will be up and running. On Sunday Oct. 19th Paul WA2IYW, Leo KB2TIY and myself Tony KB2OUT went out to the NIKE Base and put up the 2 meter RX and the 440 TX to Colden which will be used by our remote receive unit.



I have been talking to the scouts from this area on different ways we (STARS) can help their groups. I would like to see our club work with the local scout groups in helping them obtain amateur licenses, achieve their communications badges, etc. I did talk to some of the kids at the NIKE base on the weekend of Oct. 18th, which was the 40th Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), and they definitely did show an interest. The scout leader offered me the use of a local fire hall to do our teaching and testing since most of the kids do not drive. I am looking forward to working with this and other groups in the very near future.

Our new welcome committee will be at the Nov. STARS meeting. This committee will be headed up by Rick KD2QV. One of the objectives for this group will be to make all new members and visitors feel a part of and welcome to the club. We will also have coffee and donuts available at the monthly club meetings. Stop by and say hello to Rick and his new team.

We have covered quite a bit of ground in 1997, and I am looking forward to 1998.

Thank You
Tony J. Balas Jr. KB2OUT
President of STARS

STARS 1998 Elections

Candidates in contested elections for 1998 STARS officers and directors were invited to submit articles for publication in this newsletter. The content of the articles was entirely up to the candidates. No editing was done to the articles beyond correction of any obvious misspellings. The articles are presented below by office and then alphabetically by candidates call sign.

For President:

Tony Balas, Jr. KB2OUT

My name is Tony Balas (KB2OUT) some of you may know me as your Wednesday-evening Net Controller and present president of STARS. I have been nominated for the office of President again for 1998 which I have graciously accepted. I was the Vice President of STARS for 2 years, 1995 and 1996 and your president in 1997.

I coordinated the 1993, 1996 and the 1997 Pumpkin patrols. I am the clubs Wednesday evening Net Controller (Going on 5 yrs now), worked with various organizations on bike treks and walks, a substitute Net Controller for the Tuesday evening Swap Net. I'm on the Repeater committee and work as one of the repeater control operators. I teach novice technician courses for STARS and hold a accredited volunteer examiners license. As you can see I am no stranger to volunteerism. I do believe if you expect people to volunteer you have to be a volunteer yourself therefore setting a good example.

In 1997 we did purchase and paid for a new repeater, controller and all the equipment necessary for our remote receive unit. Established a new welcome committee to help new members and visitors to the club. Along with our Life and honorary memberships we've added a new one for those who have helped out with numerous events and services for the club. These people will receive a certificate honoring them for all their help.

Lets dedicate our time to the programs we have (youth center station, radio classes and testing) . I've talked to a local scout leader about all the different ways STARS could work with them. I would like to see more hands on classes like soldering, kit building, basic repairs of equipment, antenna making, etc. started.

This is your club.... what would you like to see done ???

Sincerely : Tony B. Jr. (KB2OUT)
President of STARS

For President:

Gary Zanghi KB2YJ

Fellow Club Members,

First: I would like to thank the membership for the nomination for President of Stars.

Second: A brief history. I have been a licensed ham since 1978 and a Stars member since the early 1980's. I have and still operate on 160-450 MHz most modes except CW hi-hi.

Third: If elected as YOUR President I would wish to start some new programs for the members. CW practice through the repeater, somewhat like what WIAW is now doing on the low bands, next a Digital net that will assist old and new users in learning how to use the different modes in their multimode tnc's and the programs that run them. Also lets get WB2ELW on the map, many members have worked very hard to put together a GREAT low band station, lets use it!

Fourth: Volunteerism at club functions needs to be improved, I know all of us are very busy with our families and jobs, but if we as a club want to have a great club that all of us as Stars members can be proud of everyone needs to help out.

Fifth: I would like to have your ideas for changes, not just let the Board lead the club, and I as Prez will address all issues equally and not let my personal interests sway my decisions.

In closing I want Stars to be the best Amateur Radio club in the area and as we approach the millennium be the best we can be.

73's Gary KB2YJ



STARS 1998 Elections

For Vice President:

Dennis Langheier K2CEC

Hello, I am Dennis J. Langheier, currently licensed as K2CEC-general class since 1961 and prior to that (1957) KN2CEC-novice. I have also held the following calls, DL4ET (germany) AE1ET US-ARMY MARS K2ELE-52-N.Y. state Civil Defense, AA2CEC USAF MARS. This is a over 40 years of amateur radio experience., with 3-yrs in the army signal corps as a radio teletype team chief for 7th headquarters in europe.

I am currently employed as a Quality assurance specialist with the u.s. dept of defense for 16 yrs. I am certified in electronics, mechanical, and the aerospace commodities. I have worked on the space shuttle from the nose to the engines. Among the programs I have been active in are the Apollo moon shot series(LEM) as well as other various military items.

I have been a Stars member for about 5 years. I was Net control on the swap net for 1-year, and have given a fast scan atv demo between the nike base and the youth center. I have been a frequent check in on the Stars VHF and HF radio nets. I served at the hamburg fairgrounds stars display 2 years running.

If I am elected I would like to start electronic training basics to advanced for new hams who are looking for the "how to" ways to do those things that are not being taught elsewhere. Also other modes of operation such as ATV on a budget, basic trouble shooting, soldering, using various types of antennas, and other similar items....

I am looking forward to a very exciting year for the Stars club, and if I am elected to either the V.P., or the board of director's position, I will do my best to represent all the members equally.....

Thank you Dennis-K2CEC.

For Vice President:

Robert Koster KA2WYE

My name is Bob Koster and I would like to thank the membership for again nominating me for vice president to serve a second term. If elected I will continue to work to upgrade the club repeaters, Nike base and youth center computer systems. I hold a general class amateur radio license (KA2WYE), 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 (Certificate of Competence for Operator Of Mobile Laser with accredited Laser Safety Officer Status), Buffalo Museum of Science, Laser Holography, 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 Hazard containment.

I have had intensive computer training including Personal Computer Repair, Operation Systems including DOS versions 2.3 through 6.22 OS/2, LINUX, Windows 3.11x & 95x, Microsoft Office Pro, Basic Computer Programming in C, C+, Turbo Pascal and Visual Basic.

I have worked at American Axle and Manufacturing as an Operations Analyst for the last 2.5 years compiling data and preparing corporate reports. Currently I am working as a Quality Control Technician (Compound) in the Gear Lapping Department. Before these positions 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 also a member of the following organizations, the Firebird Amateur Radio Club, Packet Association of Western New York (PAWNY original founding member), Amateur Radio and Television Society of Western New York (President), Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES-RACES), American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateur Satellite Corp. (AMSAT) and the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.

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

STARS 1998 Elections

For Vice President:

John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC

Hello fellow STARS members,

I am John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC, candidate for vice president for the year of 1998. I would like to thank you for the nomination.

I have been a ham (Technician Class) for two years and have been a member of STARS for a bit longer as my son earned his license and wanted to join STARS about a year before I was licensed.

My main involvement in club activities over the past two years has been with field day and the STARS display at the Erie County Fair. This involvement will continue in the future.

If elected as your vice president, I would make every effort to promote STARS at public functions and to work with standing committees to develop and implement programs to help recruit new members, and once we have them, to work with them to develop their interests. We as a club have tremendous assets-equipment and personnel and we ought to make better use of them.

Thank you for your consideration.

73's de John Sr. KB2VWC



For Director:

Dennis Langheier K2CEC

See article under For Vice President

For Director:

John Czuba KG2IM

Dear Members of STARS,

My name is John Czuba, my call is KG2IM and I'm running for a position on the STARS' board of directors.

I carry an advanced class license. I am also a volunteer examiner and a ARRL member.

Since my membership with STARS, I have participated with the clubs' field days, fair exhibit and have worked on the repeater antenna. I am impressed with the STARS organization and the talents we have available in our club. I am convinced that we have the best amateur radio club in Western New York.

I believe that to enjoy the benefits of club membership, you must participate in activities and offer any services that you are able to provide to the club. Amateur radio is exciting, interesting and alive. I think that my work experience and experience with other organizations and clubs will allow me to be of benefit to STARS. I would like to help steer this organization in the right direction as we head into the next millennium.

I am employed by the NFTA's Metro Rail, am a veteran and belong to various veterans organizations.

I ask for and would appreciate your vote for board member.

Respectfully, John Czuba, KG2IM

STARS Raffle

The lucky winner of the 1998 STARS summer raffle, held at the October club meeting, was STARS member John Vogelman KB2ENI. John decided to take the \$275 cash as his prize.

FCC Opens Vanity Gate 4.

Christmas will arrive a bit early for General, Technician Plus, Technician and Novice Class hams. The FCC has announced that vanity call sign program Gate 4--the last vanity gate--will open December 2, 1997, for General, Tech Plus, Technician and Novice class hams to request a vanity call sign on or after that date. The potential number of applicants from these four license groups is huge--well over a half million hams.

Applicants may use either the electronic Forms 610V and 159 on the Web or hard-copy Form 610V and 159--but not both. Both versions--plus fact sheets and answers to frequently asked questions--are available at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur>. The application fee is 50 dollars, payable by check (to "FCC"), bank draft, money order or credit card. Do not send cash. The FCC gives processing priority to electronically filed Forms 610V for which the filing fee and Form 159 have been received. The FCC now requires all vanity filers to include a Form 159, which must be mailed to the FCC with your fee.

It's up to applicants to make sure that their applications do not arrive before December 2, 1997. The FCC will return all applications that arrive early. All other vanity call sign gates will remain open, and Amateur Extra and Advanced class operators continue to be eligible to file for vanity call signs under those filing gates.

Any call sign requested must be appropriate for the class of license you hold. This means that Technician, Tech Plus, and General class licensees may ask for a Group C (1x3) or D (2x3) call sign. Novice class licensees may only request Group D call signs.

Electronic filers must mail the Form 159 Fee Remittance Advice to FCC, Amateur Vanity, PO Box 358994, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5994. The Form 159 and the fee must be received within 10 days of electronically filing your Form 610V or your application will be dismissed.

Those filing on document Forms 610V and 159 must mail the application package containing a completed Form 610V with a copy of your license attached, Form 159 and the proper fee in a sealed envelope to FCC, Amateur Vanity, PO Box 358924, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924.

Application packages via courier or delivered by hand must be prepared in the same way, sealed in a second, outer envelope, and addressed to Federal Communications Com-

mission, c/o Mellon Bank, 525 William Penn Way, 27th Floor, Room 153-2713, Pittsburgh, PA 15259, ATTN: Wholesale Lockbox Shift Supervisor. This address should only be used for applications delivered by hand or courier.

For general information, call the FCC's toll-free National Call Center, 888-225-5322 (CALLFCC).

ARLBO64

PROS Auction

The Pioneer Radio Operators Society (PROS) Third Annual Auction will be held on November 8, 1997 at the Sardinia Town Hall on Savage Road in Sardinia, NY. Doors open at noon with a continuous flea market until 2:30 PM. The auction begins at 3 PM.

There is a \$4.00 donation and a 10% commission on flea market and auction items. There will be refreshments and a 50/50 raffle.

From Buffalo, take NY 400 South to Rt. 16 through Chaffee to Genesee Rd. Turn right and go to Savage Road. Turn left and go one quarter mile. The Town Hall is on the right.

For further details, contact Don Galloway KB2DNL at 492-4566, Mike Buttino N2LBV at 496-8241, Mike Wrona KB2TDN at 675-2071, or Ken Cavaliere KB2SCN at 625-9775.

Centerville Dog Sled Races

If you are looking for a public service event that is something different, how about the Third Annual Centerville Dog Sled Races.

As in the case of the first two races, volunteers are needed to provide to several types of communications.

Should you be interested in working this event, contact Patricia Scott N2LUQ at 688-2724 or try catching her on the 145.39 repeater.



AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will hold test sessions on 11/8 in 1997 and 2/14, 4/18 and 7/11 in 1998 at the Grace Lutheran Church (McKinley and Newton Roads). Walk-ins should arrive by 9 AM and pre-registered candidates should arrive by 9:45 AM. For information on STARS test sessions, contact Norm Jones KD2KK at 824-1148.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on 11/19 & 12/17 during 1997 and 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/29, 5/20 and 6/10 during 1998 at the Aurora Middle School, Lancaster, NY. For information on Lancaster exams, call Chuck Koester WD2AIK at 937-3592.

ARATS will be holding test sessions on 11/1, 12/6 during 1997 and 1/10, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, and 6/6 during 1998 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.

Ariane 502 Launch A Success

The Ariane 502 launch that was to have carried the Amateur Radio Phase 3D satellite into orbit is being declared a success. The Ariane 502 flight took off from the European Space Agency's facility in Koror, French Guiana, South America, October 30, and the upper stage payloads separated and deployed into a geostationary transfer orbit as planned. In August, ESA dropped Phase 3D from the Ariane 502 manifest when it became clear that AMSAT would not be able to make necessary modifications to the P3D spaceframe to handle additional stress and vibration in time to meet the launch schedule. AMSAT is hoping to fly Phase 3D aboard a future Ariane 5 launch and was anxiously awaiting the outcome of the Ariane 502 launch. The first Ariane 5 flight failed, and the launch vehicle had to be destroyed shortly after launch. —AMSAT



ARRL Letter 11/01/97

MIR Healthy Enough For School Contacts

The ARRL Educational Activities Department has gotten the official okay from Johnson Space Center to start scheduling school QSOs with David Wolf, KC5VFP, aboard Mir. The spacecraft's health seems to be improved now that the new computer is installed. A series of problems with Mir, including several computer failures, had put the school contacts on a back burner for the past few months.

For more information on possible Mir school contacts, get in touch with Educational Activities Department, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0267; e-mail sarex@arrl.org.

Meanwhile, the current Mir crew of Wolf and Cosmonauts Anatoly Solovyev and Pavel Vinogradov remains very busy working and experimenting. Wolf reported recently that

he's working up to 16 hours a day—a schedule that gives him little spare time for Amateur Radio. Wolf has been active infrequently on 145.985 MHz FM simplex, and the packet system also was active briefly. During a QSO

with Wolf, Miles Mann, WF1F, asked him when he expected to be back on 2 meters. "David said he had six items on this top-priority list, and Amateur Radio was currently number 6," Mann said. The PMS 2-meter station had been turned off while the 13 KB mailbox was completely full.

Mann said the crew needs up to an hour a day to read, reply and delete the daily load of packet mail just to keep the mailbox open. "At the present time, the crew's workload is just too heavy to support this," he said.

The SAFEX II 70 cm repeater is still turned off. The crew is still trying to build up power reserves in the batteries of the space station. The space station is now getting power from all solar panels, except the one that was damaged by the Progress supply rocket collision in June. —SpaceNews via Miles Mann, WF1F





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 Per-rysburg, NY (146.97/37 out/in, with a PL of 151.4 Hz).

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

CLUB PACKET

The STARS KE2VW BBS, located in Colden, NY is acces- sible 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

Terry W. Rockhold K200
4805 Transit Road #1903
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 656-0865
k200@bigfoot.com



JOHN CULLUM JR. KB2ESM
6871 WEBSTER RD.
ORCHARD PARK NY 14127