

telstar



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

ISSUE 228 NOVEMBER 2000

2001 Club Elections

At the October club meeting, the following individuals (listed alphabetically by call sign) were nominated to run for 2001 STARS club officers and directors:

President	
Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Gary Zanghi	KB2YJ
Vice President	
Tony Balas, Jr.	KB2OUT
Rick Doherty	KD2QV
Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Treasurer	
John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Secretary	
Open	
Financial Secretary	
Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Director (2-year term)	
Terri Karr	KB2TRS

Subsequent to the October meeting, Dave Baco WA2TVT and Jay Clark KF2JY declined nominations for Secretary and Director, respectively.

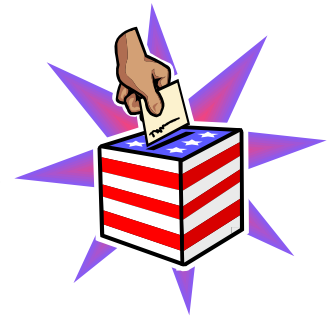
The election for these offices will be held at the November 2nd club meeting at the Hamburg Youth Center.

In addition to these nominated candidates, there will be lines for write-in candidates on the ballots.

The winners of the above contests plus John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC who will be serving the second year of his two-

November Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, November 2nd 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 is required.



This is a very important meeting as we will be voting on officers and directors for 2001. 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.

year term as Director will make up the 2001 STARS Board of Directors. Should Gary Zanghi KB2YJ not be re-elected as President, he will be a voting member of the Board of Directors for one year as Past President.

Time To Renew

We have included a 2001 renewal form with this newsletter. Why not take time right now to fill it out and send it along with your dues to Membership Chairman Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043 or bring them to the November club meeting.



STARS continues to be the largest amateur radio club in the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area, but we need each of you to help keep us great. Won't you do your part by renewing your membership today?

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 WB2EZU Memorial HF net meets at 10 AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM.

STARS VHF net meets on Wednesday at 7:30 PM on STARS club repeater WB2ELW 147.09/ .69 output/input— PL of 107.2 Hz).

From Your President

November 2nd STARS will hold it's election of Officers for the year 2001. By the time you read this it will be too late for you to take advantage of our Mail in Ballot. If you want to vote you will have to come to the meeting.

Not very much to report to you this month in the way of news, but I did get an E Mail from K7ZQR complimenting Us on our web site. It seems the his local radio Club is also called STARS, and when doing a web search WE popped up, how about that !

Our problems with the repeater phone patch has been traced down to the some sort of over loading of their system, and as of this writing it still has not been resolved. For all of you that have had problems with the auto patch I am sorry. We have been hounding Verizon about getting it repaired but they have been very slow to react.

Ed "KB2KVA" has informed me that the next Hams and Eggs breakfast will be held on November 12th at the Kirils. The restaurant is located on U.S. Route 20 about a mile past the football stadium. It will be a Buffet style breakfast for about \$6.00 per person "not bad for all you care to eat".. Remember this is open to all Amateurs, so spread the word. Contact Ed KB2KVA at 872-0120 or at KB2KVA@JUNO.COM for reservations. It has always been a great time, so don't you miss out. This will be the last one for the year.



It is still not to late to help out with Pumpkin Patrol 2000 Tony KB2OUT may still need a few people to fill in just in case someone has to cancel. Give Tony a call at 992-2011 if you can help out.

I would like to see the house packed for the election; so if you can find the time in your busy schedule, please attend the meeting and vote.

Sincerely,
Gary J Zanghi KB2YJ
President

STARS 2001 ELECTIONS

The following articles were submitted by some of the candidates for STARS 2001 club officers and directors who were nominated for the positions at the October meeting.

Candidates were asked to limit their articles to 350 words based upon a decision made by the Board of Directors in a prior year. One article submitted was well in excess of this limit; however, the only other candidate for this position did not object to us publishing the longer article and chose not to submit a longer article himself.

For President: Bob Koster KA2WYE

Dear Members:

First I would like to thank you the membership for nominating me for this prestigious office. If elected I can promise you one thing and that is, I as your president will work for you the membership to make this club the premier amateur radio club in WNY. I believe amateur radio should be a rewarding and most of all FUN hobby.

Many of you feel that we as a club have lost some of the fraternal spirit that makes clubs great. In my 12 years as a member of STARS I have seen this club work together on many projects and meet many challenges. I would like to see that strong camaraderie again. If elected to this position I will do all in my power to make this a club for ALL members not just a governing clique. But most of all I guarantee that I will uphold the document we call our club constitution.

I have served you the membership before as Vice President for two terms and would like to again serve you with a clear vision for the future of this club. The following projects will be my "PETS"

1. Investigate the possibility of making our repeater ARES/RACES/ARRL compliant by inserting a LONG TONE ZERO (LITZ) override to allow emergency access to the STARS repeater.
2. Increase attendance at monthly club meetings to get a better understanding of where you as the membership want to take this club into this millennium .
3. Develop a education and training program with the ARRL and a Education Institution to enhance all interested members skills in radio communications (including working with other clubs CD/RACES/ARES/ETC.)

Some of you already know my leadership abilities include being a Supervisor of Operations for General Motors Saginaw Division, An Operations Analyst for American Axle and Mfg., and currently Quality Assurance Auditor with QS/ISO9000 certification. I hold a Associate Of Science Degree from SUNY plus extra Credit and CEU Hours, have been certified as a New York State LASER SAFETY OFFICER, trained as a FIREMAN and FIRE POLICEMAN.

For more information about my qualifications connect to my website at <http://www.buffnet.net/~rkoster>

Thank you in advance for your support!

Bob KA2WYE Koster

For President: Gary Zanghi KB2YJ

Recently I was looking back over the past 2 years since I took a more active roll in the leadership of STARS. . In August 1998 several Club members approached me about running for the Office of President. So I turned to them and said Yes I will run.

After you elected me as your President in November, we went to work on what seemed to be an impossible task. Repairing the Club assets and cutting our operating costs.

The repeater was not coordinated with the local repeater council for the Colden site. I talked to the Club in Corry PA and got them to agree not to oppose our coordination, because of the 100 mile rule. This paved the way for the former Repeater Chairman to write some letters and clear the way for us to get our site coordinated. Do to no fault of STARS we were never coordinated for the Colden site so under the Repeater Council rules "any newly coordinated repeater must have a PL on the RX".

The repeater although working, was not working as well as it could have been. We had noise problems in the main repeater, the remote RX was only working part time when it was turned on. In my opinion the repeater was in need of a total rebuild from the floor up. As many of you have seen on our field trips to the Ch4 site. Part of the rebuild was done at the request of the Ch4 Engineering management. We begged, borrowed and looked for donations from where ever and from whom ever we could get them from. Thus three weeks later all the repairs were finished and we now

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have a repeater that we all can be proud of.

Next we tackled cutting costs, with new technology we were able to offer to deliver our newsletter The Telstar via E Mail. Many of you have chosen to receive the Telstar this way, thus cutting our overhead.

Next project was to upgrade our HF station. With a loan from Norm, KD2KK we were able to purchase a IC 765 and sell the IC 735. With the proceeds for our raffle last year and the sale of the IC 735 we were able to pay off our loan a year and half early.

Next, the Nike Base building that we use at the good graces of the Town of Hamburg was in poor shape outside. Many members pitched in and we water blasted the building and put a fresh coat of paint on it. Also some of the bad spots of wood were repaired. This year the floor in the board room was painted and it looks sharp.

With the move of our web site to a new server, and obtaining the domain name of WWW.WB2ELW.COM has made our web site easier to find and faster loading also.

We now have 12 repeater control operators and we have added to the number of people that can open up the Hf station at the Nike Base.

I have been called the Mr Haney of Ham radio "A Green Acres relate". With my contacts at work, I was able to get 3 pick-up truck loads of computers, monitors, printers and other assorted electronic goodies donated to the Club. Some of the better stuff we sold which brought in badly need funds the rest we donated to local schools. The kids learned about computers as they tore them apart and rebuilt most of them. Many of these computers are in homes of the students that rebuilt them. In some cases, some of these families would not have any computer available to them. We at STARS should be proud that we helped out the less fortunate.

Even though some of our operating cost have gone up for the last two years, we have been able to save money. With the proceeds from our raffle this year we can finish the year with a very healthy treasury .

I feel that is my job as the President to protect the assets and vested interests of this Club. The Presidents that have proceeded me, have worked to improve this Club during their terms and I do not want to disappoint them.

What does the future bring? To me, the future brings a Club with more people getting involved and putting the Club, back in the hands of the members.

Sincerely,
Gary KB2YJ
President

For Vice President: Tony Balas, Jr. KB2OUT

Most of you may already know me. I have been a member of the STARS club since the early 90's. I am no stranger to the position I seek this year as your Vice President. I held the office of Vice President in 1995 and 1996 and also the Presidency in 1997 and 1998. I have been a part of the STARS VE team now for many years and also have been the coordinator for the amateur radio event called Pumpkin Patrol since 1993.

As your Vice President, I would like to see the camaraderie brought back through out the club and all of it's members. We have to work together as a single unit, not in separate cliques. Also, we have to keep in mind that this is a hobby and should be treated as such, not like city politics. As I have always stated in the past and still am a firm believer of, this is your club, and you should be directing us as your Board of Directors on what you would like to see done. As your vice president, I will assure you that your voices will be heard, and as in the past, my phone line will always remain open to ALL.

Thank You
Tony KB2OUT
Candidate for Vice President of STARS

For Vice President Rick Doherty KD2QV

Seeking Re-Election as STARS Vice President for Third Term.

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STARS Board of Directors

President	Gary Zanghi	KB2YJ
Vice President	Rick Doherty	KD2QV
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Finc. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	Dave Baco	WA2TVT
Director	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VWC
Director	Paul Julyan	WB2KFL

President Gary Zanghi KB2YJ may be reached at Kb2yj@aol.com or by calling 549-8476

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will hold test sessions on 11/11 in 2000 and 1/13, 3/10, 5/12 and 7/14 in 2001 at Grace Lutheran Church (McKinley Pkwy. and Newton Road) in Hamburg. All candidates should report to the church by 9 AM; Walk-ins are allowed, but pre-registering will reduce time at exams. For information or to pre-register for STARS tests, contact Tony Balas, Jr. KB2OUT at 992-2011 or Terry Rockhold K2OO at 656-0865.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on 11/15 and 12/13 in 2000 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 11/4 and 12/2 in 2000 and 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5 and 6/2 in 2001 at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. For information on ARATS exams, call Vic Gadzik at 694-9738.

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

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There are 200 plus reasons why I am seeking re-election for a third term as STARS Vice President. They are the names and callsigns of all of you the many members of STARS.

Please re-elect me to a third term as Vice President.

PS: Is there an annual salary? Health Care? Just kidding!

Best regards,
Rick Doherty - KD2QV

Editor's Note: The preceding articles were listed by position and then alphabetically by call sign.

2000 NWS Special Event

The ARRL and the National Weather Service will once again team up for an on-air-event during the first weekend of December. This Special Event is primarily aimed at recognizing the contributions that amateur radio operators make to the National Weather Service (NWS) during times of threatening weather.

The event will provide an opportunity for NWS personnel and amateurs to learn more about each other and their capa-

bilities during severe weather situations. It will also give amateur radio operators an opportunity to examine NWS operations and technology. NWS personnel will be encouraged to get on the air – under the supervision of a licensed control operator – and to consider getting licensed themselves.

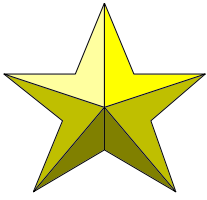
The 24 hour Special Event will take place from 7 PM EST on December 1st through 7 PM EST December 2, 2000. Participating stations will operate on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters...as well as the 70 centimeter UHF band. While the bulk of the contacts will be on SSB, all other modes - - including FM, CW, RTTY, and PSK31 - - may be used. Repeater contacts are also invited. Last year, 56 National Weather Service Offices participated.

The object for all amateur stations will be to exchange QSO information with as many National Weather Service Special Event stations as possible. The special event stations must work on the grounds of participating NWS offices. Certificates will be given to those stations that work a significant number of NWS offices...or a majority of offices within a particular region. Detailed information on these certificates, QSL cards and the special event in general can be found on the internet at www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000

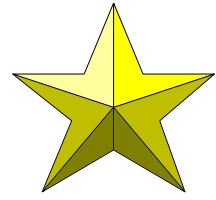
For the National Weather Service, the object of the special event will be to contact as many other amateur stations as possible. The Buffalo office of the NWS will provide the base operators with a place to work the event, access to an area outdoors for additional antennas, power to run the equipment, and of course...coffee. Those interested in working as a base operator at the NWS office should contact Ed Gutowski, W2GUT. His email is skywarn@intotem.net. You can also contact Bob Hamilton, N3QOT, or Judy Levan, N2TEZ, at the NWS Buffalo Office.

Hams and Eggs Breakfast

There will be a Hams and Eggs Breakfast on Sunday , November 12, 2000 at 10:00 AM sharp. It will be at Kiril's Restaurant, 3700 Southwestern Blvd., Orchard Park. All hams and their significant others are welcome. We will have a private room. It will be a breakfast buffet with eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, toast , coffee and tea. The price is \$5.95 per person plus tax and gratuity. We need to tell the restaurant in advance how many to expect. Please send an E-mail to Ed Taublieb :KB2KVA@juno.com or leave a message on his business answering machine , 874-0120. This is a very enjoyable gathering and it gives the significant others the opportunity to meet the hams that they have only heard on the radio.



STARS



CLUB REPEATERS

The club repeater (WB2ELW/R) is located near Colden, NY (147.09/.69 output/input, with a PL of 107.2 Hz). Autopatch privileges are available to club members.

STARS honorary southern repeater (KE2VW/R) is in Arkwright, NY (146.67/.07 out/in, with a PL of 107.2 Hz).

The club UHF repeater is located near Colden, NY (442.325 MHz with a PL access of 107.2 Hz.)

CLUB PACKET

The STARS KE2VW BBS, located in Colden, NY is accessible on 145.61 MHz or 145.65 MHz (indirect) by typing: C BBSVW, using 1200 baud. Or connect using 19.2K 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.wb2elw.com>

STARS

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