

telstar



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

ISSUE 231 FEBRUARY 2001

ARRL Board Approves Dues Increase, Alters Morse Position

Meeting in Irving, Texas, January 19 and 20, the ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues from \$34 to \$39 annually for full members younger than 65, and from \$28 to \$34 for full members 65 and older. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001. The last ARRL dues increase was in July 1997.

The dues increase resulted from a need to fund initiatives to expand the League's advocacy activities on behalf of Amateur Radio--including the defense of amateur spectrum--and to enhance ARRL Headquarters' abilities to serve members during a period of projected deficits. The Board okayed a \$1 greater increase for seniors in an effort to narrow the dues gap, as more and more ARRL members fall into the senior category.

At the same time, the Board approved the hiring of development and sales and marketing professionals on the Headquarters staff as part of an overall plan to augment revenues.

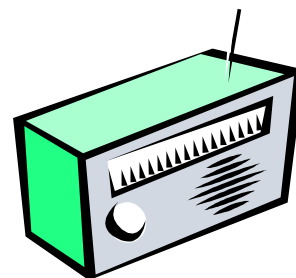
"The ARRL carries out a lot of activities that no longer can be fully funded by dues or publication sales revenues," ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained. While voluntary contributions towards Amateur Radio advocacy are helping greatly, "we need to professionalize these activities if we are going to sustain them," he said.

Sumner said putting more emphasis on voluntary contributions was "the only route to financial security" for the ARRL. Among ARRL programs that will rely heavily on voluntary contributions is "The Big Project" educational

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February Meeting

STARS monthly club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, February 1 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. at Hawkins Ave.). All interested in amateur radio are invited; neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.



Besides our normal business meeting, we will have our mini flea market at this meeting. Unlike many flea markets, there is no charge for setting up a table (provide your own) to sell goods. This is strictly a service provided by the club.

So, come on out and buy, sell or just browse around!

Don't Miss Out!

Your dues to renew your 2001 STARS club membership were due on January 1. Did you remember? If we received them in time, your 2001 membership card and repeater codes are included with this newsletter. If not, we have included another 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 February 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

Anybody tried of winter yet ? Well I certainly am.!

I guess that may not be the way to start of my monthly column but I just could not help myself, sorry.

In a high note Lancaster is having their annual Winter Hamfest this month, so this might beat the cabin fever that we all my be feeling.

I really do not have much to write about this month, as you know I do my best to keep you, the member, as informed as I can. It has been a real slow month in the Club business.



Due to scheduling problems, we are having are our Annual Flea market at this month meeting. If you have any thing that you may want to sell bring them, and you may need a table if you have a lot of items.

Next month we are having Ted WA2HKS to give us a talk about his Satellite Gateway system, and he also has a video of the Phase 3d launch, so don't miss this.

This weekend (Feb. 3-4) is the Town of Hamburg Sno-Fest. We will have the Nike Base open from about 10 am to 3 pm Saturday and Sunday. We can use the help operating the HF station and etc., so come down. Until next month, 73's

Gary KB2YJ
President

Amateur Radio Trivia

If you would like to test your knowledge of amateur radio trivia, check out The ClickTRON Ham Radio Trivia Challenge website at <http://www.clicktron.com/trivia/ham>.



Amateur Radio Classes

The Northern Chautauqua Amateur Radio Club (NCARC) is proud to announce that it will be holding Amateur Radio Classes at the Fredonia BOCES. The classes will be on Wednesday evenings starting on JANUARY 31st, 2001 and run for 10 weeks until to April 4th, 2001. The Classes will run for two hours, from 7-9pm and will be held in room 154. The format for the classes will feature lecture and questions for the first hour, with live radio demonstrations, guest speakers, and fun for the second hour. The book used will be, "Now You're Talking", 4th edition ARRL 2000. Any and All Hams are invited to participate and are asked to spread the word about this class to anyone that may be interested. For more information, contact Terry Lindburg at kb2oaz@arrl.net or Mark Wolf at w2maw@arrl.net or any board members of the NCARC. Check out the NCARC website at: <http://www.netsync.net/users/ncarc/> Thanks and 73's



Mark, W2MAW

Equipment For Sale

Hi guys;

Pass the word.. I have a TM742A, Kenwood triband mobile, with detachable face plate. Have 2 meters and 440 in it. You can add a third band.. 6 meters, 220, or 1.2 GHz. In mint condition. Has CTCSS decode board added. Asking only \$450.

Anyone interested can call me at 537-2830 evenings.

Have other gear (amateur and computer at good prices). Need the \$\$ for that IC 756 pro I want!

Will offer all gear local first, before listing on ebay. I would rather local hams get enjoyment from the gear, rather than someone I don't know..

73,
Greg KE2VW
geyoung@acsu.buffalo.edu

New Hamfest and Computer Show

The Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Amateur Radio Club will be holding its first annual Spring RIT Hamfest and Computer Show this coming March. Held indoors on the RIT campus in Henrietta, the fest will include Rochester-area vendors, several forums, and, of course, a flea-market area!

Doors will open to the public at 8:00 am on March 17th, 2001 and all areas of the fest will remain open until 4:00 pm.

Exhibitors and flea-market vendors are invited to arrive at 7:00 am to set up. General admission tickets will be available only at the door, at a price of \$3 for the general public and \$2 for students. Table spaces in both the flea-market room and the exhibit room will be \$8 per table, and must be purchased before March 1st by sending a check for the table fee plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The RIT Amateur Radio Club, 70 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. Make checks payable to "RIT Amateur Radio Club".



To get to the hamfest, take I-90 to I-390 North. Exit at NY-252 (Jefferson Road) and go west until you reach the RIT Campus, about a mile west of Southtowns Plaza. From the main entrance, bear right onto Ward Road (by the electronic sign) and park in the G or H parking lots. Just follow the signs from there to Building 4! Talk-in will be on 146.55 MHz simplex. Feel free to contact us with any questions at (716) 475-7467 or by emailing k2gxt@rit.edu.

STARS VE Exam

The STARS VE team held an amateur radio exam on Saturday, January 31. Seven candidates were served.

Three candidates earned new Technician class licenses, including a father and son team. One candidate upgraded to General Class, and one upgraded to Amateur Extra.

VE's participating included Jim Livingston N2SKT, Joe Lazzaro N1EAH, Dan Rozek W2CQX, Judy Levan N2TEZ and Terry Rockhold K2OO.

The next STARS VE team exam will be on March 10.

NWS Second Annual Special Event A Huge Success!

The NWS and the ARRL held their second annual Special Event during the first week of December to celebrate the contributions that amateur radio operators make during times of severe weather. Amateurs searching for NWS offices could be found throughout the general class portion of the HF bands Friday night and Saturday December 1st and 2nd.



Hams here in Buffalo manned HF and 2m radios for 24-hours making 778 contacts. Enough to make the Buffalo office third highest in number of contacts out of over 80 NWS offices. Contact was also made with 47 other NWS offices and with hams in Canada, Germany, Bahamas, Virgin Islands, Columbia, Puerto Rico and Asiatic Russia. QSL cards have been exchanged with over 150 hams and we plan to display these when we attend the area hamfests.

The event would not have been the success that it was here without the support of the local hams. Special thanks go to: WB2AIV and N2OSL for the use of their masts to raise the second HF antenna; N2HBI for his homebrew made for the NWS; the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club and the Southtowns Amateur Radio Society for the use of the HF radios for the event; and our operators: AA2PF.... W2IV.... KA2RFT.... AC4W.... W2GUT.... N2OY.... N2KZF.... N2NJH.... K2WEK.... N2OSL.... KE2PW...AB2LI.... KC2HEQ.... KC2DAD.... N2WYA.... KA2IWK.... WB2AIV.... KF2JY...KC2GKB...and KC2GVO.



Pictured above: Jay Clark KF2JY watches as his son James KC2GKB works 40 meters during the NWS Special Event. Jay's younger son, Alex KC2GVO was Buffalo's youngest operator. Jay, James and Alex are all STARS members.

Photos of the event locally can be found on our website at www.wbuf.noaa.gov/event2000
Nationally, the final standings can be found at www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000

NWS Buffalo SKYWARN E-Newsletter
January, 2001

The Greater Buffalo "Winter" Hamfest

February 18, 2001

Location: Main Transit FD Hall
6777 Main St., (just west of Transit Rd.)
Williamsville, NY
Only 1 mile from NY State Thruway I 90 exit 49

Go to the Hamfest web site for all information
<http://larc.hamgate.net>

In Door vendor Bldg: Opens at 8AM
Admission : Still only \$5
Tables: \$6
Lots of prizes
Talk In ; 147.255

General questions & Table reservations
Email: <luke@towncountryflorist.com>

Sponsored by the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

STARS Board of Directors

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------|
| President | Gary Zanghi | KB2YJ |
| Vice President | Rick Doherty | KD2QV |
| Treasurer | John Cullum, Jr. | KB2ESM |
| Finc. Secretary | Judy Levan | N2TEZ |
| Secretary | Keith Patterson | KC2DGC |
| Director | John Crawford, Sr. | KB2VWC |
| Director | Terri Karr | KB2TRS |

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 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 the third Wednesday of each month 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 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.

PROS will be holding test sessions on the Third Saturday of the month at the Old Sardinia Town Hall, Savage Road off Rte. 39 in Sardinia, NY. For information, contact Pat Murray at 652-8178.

Some exams, do not allow walk-ins, so call ahead and make a reservation.

Next ISS Contact

Next ARISS school awaits a date with KD5GSL: Students at the George West Elementary School in George West, Texas, will be the next in line to speak via Amateur Radio with Space Station Alpha Commander William "Shep" Shepherd, KD5GSL. The contact is being arranged under the auspices of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station--or ARISS--program. The contact will be during the week of January 29, but a specific date and time have not been set. Successful ARISS contacts have been completed so far with schools in Illinois, Virginia, and New York. A contact with a school in Canada is being arranged. For more information on ARISS, visit <http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/> .--ARISS

The ARRL Letter 1/26/01

Editor's Update: The George West Elementary School in George West, TX USA is scheduled for 1/30/01 from 12:16 to 12:26 UTC (7:16 am to 7:26 am EST). The downlink from the ISS will be on the public 145.800 MHz frequency.

ARRL Board Meets

(Continued from page 1)

initiative proposed last year by ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP.

The Board also revised its position on whether Morse code proficiency should continue to be an international licensing requirement for operation below 30 MHz. The Board approved a resolution that "recognizes and accepts" that the Morse requirement likely will be dropped from Article S25 of the international Radio Regulations at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference. But the Board held the line on retaining a domestic Morse requirement, saying that each country should be allowed to determine for itself whether it wants to have a Morse requirement.

The Board declared that Morse code deserves continued support as "an important operating mode" as well as in terms of spectrum and "should be retained as a testing element in the US." The resolution also calls on ARRL Headquarters staff to "develop a program designed to promote the use of Morse."

The resolution supersedes all previous Board policy statements regarding Morse code and Article S25.

The Board also established a committee to solicit membership input to update the ARRL's position on refarming the HF Novice bands "in light of the 1999 FCC license restructuring Report and Order." The five-member panel will be named by President Haynie. It will report to the board in one year.

The ARRL Letter 1/26/01

Space Station QSO

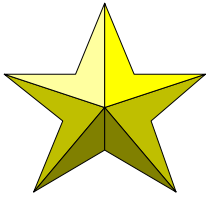
The QSO between Space Station Alpha Commander William "Shep" Shepherd KD5GSL on the new International Space Station and school children at Sheldon Elementary School in Varysburg, NY mentioned in our January newsletter was successfully completed on Thursday, January 18.

The Buffalo News published a story on the contact on January 19. The story can be found at:

<http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20010119.1044468.asp>

Pictures can be found at :

[Http://eag.buffnet.net/iss.html](http://eag.buffnet.net/iss.html)



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 WEB PAGES

The club has a home site on the World Wide Web at <http://www.wb2elw.com>

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.

STARS

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