
telstar



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

ISSUE 240 NOVEMBER 2001

2002 Club Elections

At the October club meeting, the following individuals were nominated to run for 2002 STARS club officers and directors:

President Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Vice President John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VWC
Treasurer John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Secretary Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Financial Secretary Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Director (2-year term) Scott Barto	KB2KOL

The election for these offices will be held at the November 1 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 Terri Kar KB2TRS, who will be serving the second year of her two-year term as Director, and Gary Zanghi KB2YJ, who will be serving as Past President, will make up the 2002 STARS Board of Directors.

November Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, November 1st 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 2002. 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.

This is your chance to come out, see some old friends, and cast your ballot to help determine the future of our club! We hope to see all of you there!

Time To Renew

We have included a 2002 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.

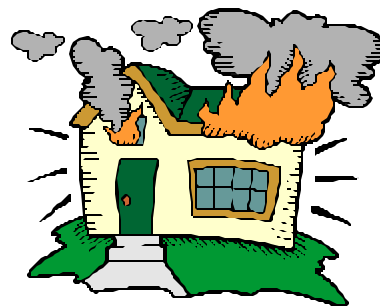
STARS WB2EZU Memorial HF net meets at 10 AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM.

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

Well, November is here and at our meeting we will be holding Election of the Officers for the year 2002. You can look elsewhere in the Newsletter for the list of Candidates. Just remember that even though all offices are uncontested, you may still announce that you are running for an office. You may also use the write-in section of the ballot to draft someone for an office. So good luck to everyone.

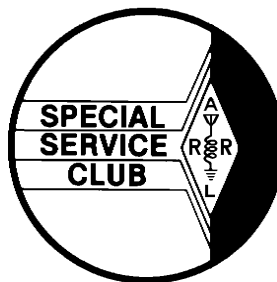
On a safety issue, please remember to inspect and test your smoke detectors, and replace the batteries. Do you have a Carbon Monoxide detector or two in you home? One near the furnace and one near your sleeping area.



Now is a good time to add wires to your ground stake. Either use bare wire to dissipate static buildup, or 1/4 wave long coated wires to act as reflector. Once you have mowed your grass for the last time, lay the wires on the ground in a fan configuration away from your ground stake. Then pin them to the sod using small sticks or gutter spikes and fender washers. This will hold them to the ground until spring. This will let the sod grow up and around them over the winter. In the spring, do a first cut the grass a little high then a few days later a second cut. Most likely the wires will disappear. into the grass.. You may do this every year and it helps to keep static noise off your HF receiver. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me

I hope to see all of you at the Meeting.

Sincerely,
Gary J Zanghi KB2YJ
President.



STARS is
an ARRL
Special
Service
Club!

PROS Swap Meet

The PROS club will be having a Swap meet on November 3 2001 , at 8 AM until 2 PM. This will be held at the Sardinia Historical Society building on Savage Rd. in Sardinia.

There will be refreshments available and a cash door prize. Tables will be available for 5 dollars for an inside one and 3 dollars for outside setups. The admission will be free and there is plenty of parking available. Talk-in frequency will be the 145.390 repeater.

If any more info is needed, please contact Gary KB2YAA at 592-9554 or Norm AI2I at 942-6855

VE Exam

The STARS VE Team held an exam session on October 13. As a result of that exam, one candidate upgraded to General class. VE's serving at the exam included Jim N2SKT, Joe N1EAH, John KB2VWC and Terry K2OO.

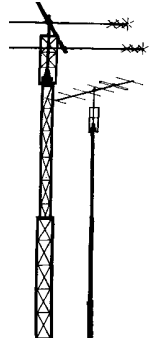
Gin Pole Help!

Dear Radio Op's:

My Son Ray-Ai2S who lives in Java, NY is putting up a new antenna system for me. It is a C-3S series It covers 20, 15, and 10 Meters(plus17&12) Multi-Monoband Yagi Antenna. This is a big project, and he is hoping to complete it before the bad weather sets in.

Is anyone out there who has a Gin pole Ray can borrow? He tried to contact a friend who has one, but he is out of town. We would really appreciate someone to help us. Ray is very reliable, and he will be sure to return same in good condition.

If you wish to send Ray, E-mail you can contact him. His E-mail address is - Ai2S@buffnet.net or you can send me e-mail (MURNW2I@aol.com).



Thank you for your considering. It is appreciated.

Best 73-88-Patricia -NW2i



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• **KDS 17" Monitor**
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WHOLESALE PRICING WITH A MATEUR RADIO CALL SIGN



73, DAVID KB2LCR
 Owner

CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest

The STARS Nike Base club station was active last weekend as STARS members competed in the CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest, the biggest international SSB DX contest of the year.

The STARS team included Keith Patterson KC2DGC, Gerry Maira KA2MGE, Scott Barto KB2KOL, John Dlivio K2CF, Bruce Settlemeyer KC2GJX, Bob Lehning WA2YSJ and Terry Rockhold K2OO.

Also visiting the station during the contest was Don Czapl, who is a student in the Technician Class being sponsored by STARS, ARATS and the University of Buffalo Radio Club at UB's North Campus. This gave Don his first chance to see how amateurs can communicate all over the earth! He also got to see some of the equipment that they have been talking about in class such as transceivers, antenna tuners, antenna switches, grounding systems, yagi antennas, dipoles, tnc's, SWR/power meters, etc.

STARS station performed great during the contest, and the STARS operators were told by many contacts that STARS had a good signal into their part of the world. That really picks up the spirits! The team was able to break through most pile-ups on the first or second try.



The team took advantage of the differing propagation properties of the bands from 10 meters to 160 meters to reach into all parts of the world. STARS team worked 70 countries on 10 meters, 75 on 15 meters, 60 on 20 meters, 21 on 40 meters, 18 on 80 meters and 8 on 160 meters. We think that this was the first time that we had worked international DX stations since acquiring the 160 meter antenna.

Some of the countries worked included Brunei, Eritrea, Jordan, Israel, the Philippines, Greenland, Kazakhstan, Chagos, Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Crete, Madeira Island, Cape Verde, Canary Islands, Moldavia, French Guiana, Juan de Nova, Grenada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Mariana Islands, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Bosnia, Ukraine, Anguilla, Turks & Caicos, Bermuda, Macedonia, Paraguay, and many, many others!

The STARS team's final score was 609,168 points (unofficially). A total of 635 QSO's were made over the weekend.

ISS Crew Chief Adds Some Spice To JOTA

Although he's been licensed a relatively short time, International Space Station crew commander Frank Culbertson, KD5OPQ, sounded like a contesting pro last weekend during Scouting's Jamboree On The Air. A former Boy Scout himself, Culbertson--operating NA1SS--worked a string of JOTA participants in the US and abroad October 20-21. Culbertson even brought along his Scout T-shirt.



Among the happy customers was Al Lark, KD4SFF ("Scouting for Fun"), who reports that at least three Scouts spoke with NA1SS over the weekend from Lark's N4ISS backyard JOTA setup in Greenville, South Carolina. "Frank was also excited to speak to a Scout from his home state of South Carolina." Lark said the Scouts now are very interested in obtaining their ham tickets.

On a Sunday pass over the US, Culbertson also logged contacts with K2BSA--the official Boy Scouts of America station near Dallas, as well as with other stations in the Southwest, Midwest and Northeast.

In Louisiana, Cedric Walker, K5CFW, said he had 16 boys from Troop 48 in New Orleans on hand to participate in JOTA. Walker said the QSO with Culbertson was crystal clear and was "an unforgettable thrill for every one of them."

(Continued on page 5)

STARS Board of Directors

President	Gary Zanghi	KB2YJ
Vice President	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VWC
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Fin. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Director	John Crawford, Jr.	N2OY
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 11/10 in 2001 and 1/12, 3/9, 5/11 & 7/13 in 2002 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 Terry Rockhold K2OO at 656-0865.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lancaster ARC Club House, 525 Pavement Road, Lancaster. For information on Lancaster exams, call Hal Cameron NH7R at 832-0031 or Bill Klepser WB2AIV at 839-3525.

ARATS will be holding test sessions on at 10 AM on 11/3 & 12/1 in 2001 and 1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4 & 6/1 in 2002 at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. For information on ARATS exams, call Vic Gadzik K2YW at 694-9738 (evenings) or 278-3830 (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM days).

PROS will be holding test sessions at 10 AM on the third Saturday of the month at the Sardinia Historical Society Building, Savage Road off Rte. 39 in Sardinia, NY. For information, contact Pat Murray NW2I at 652-8178.

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

(Continued from page 4)

In Oklahoma, Boy Scouts from Troop 850 in Guthrie and Troop 116 in Oklahoma City managed a quick contact with Culbertson on a Saturday pass. "At 17,000 miles per hour, he didn't have much time to chat," explained Assistant Scoutmaster John Dronberger, N5YZA.

>From Australia, Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, in Paringa said a young woman in his Scouting group of about 60 also snagged a contact with Culbertson. "Frank did a fine job over Australia on the scheduled pass," Hutchison said.

While over Europe, Culbertson whipped through a series of contacts --some with JOTA operations and others with non-participating stations. Recently, Culbertson has been more active in making casual FM voice contacts, and he's also been averaging two ARISS school contacts a week.

The ARRL Letter 10/26/01

Lockport Amateur Radio Association Hamfest/Auction

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Location- Eagles Hall, 6614 Lincoln Ave, Lockport, NY

Setup time for vendors 7:00 AM
Public admitted 8:00 AM
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Entrance to event \$5.00/ under 12 free
Food is available
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To reserve your tables contact the Hamfest/Auction Chairman: Duane Robinson W2DLR at 716/791-4096 or W2DLRHAM@AOL.COM The tables are being reserved now so don't wait till you find they are all gone.

SEE YOU THERE!
Bob Radmore N2PWP
rradmore@wzrd.com

FCC Says Band Plans Do Matter

The FCC recently asked three amateurs to respond to complaints alleging that they deliberately transmitted SSB on top of CW stations operating in the vicinity of 1820 to 1825 kHz. The FCC has never designated mode-specific sub-bands in the 160-meter amateur band. Instead, operators are asked to voluntarily adhere to the ARRL band plan, revised this past summer, which recommends a lower limit of 1843 kHz for SSB operation.

In the wake of the complaints, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote George Wehrung, W5TZ, and Dennis Clauder, KT5S--both of Texas--and Derrick Vogt, WA4TWM, of Kansas in mid-September. Hollingsworth asked each to respond to allegations from several other operators that their SSB transmissions deliberately interfered with attempts by others to operate on CW between 1820 and 1830 kHz. Copies of the complaints were sent to all three operators.

"Band plans are voluntary in nature," Hollingsworth acknowledged in each of the similarly worded letters. He said the FCC depends upon voluntary compliance because it minimizes the necessity for the Commission to be called in to resolve amateur problems. "Where interference results from band plans not being followed," Hollingsworth continued, "the Commission expects substantial justification to be shown by the operators ignoring the band plans." Hollingsworth requested that Wehrung, Clauder and Vogt each reply to the complaints within 20 days.
The ARRL Letter 10/12/01



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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k200@bigfoot.com