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# telstar



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

ISSUE 243 FEBRUARY 2002

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## HAMBURG SNO-FEST

The Town of Hamburg Recreation Department sponsors the annual SNO-FEST, Hamburg's favorite winter weekend carnival. This family orientated event is scheduled for February 2nd & 3rd at the Lakeview Road Recreation Area (NIKE BASE). This years featured event will be a Buffalo Sabres Alumni game.

The Sno-fest also offers free public skating, cross country skiing, hay wagon rides, snow mountain tubing, face painting, mascot visits, snowshoeing and more. Competitive events such as a snow sculpture contest, and skating races are also offered. Local papers will carry detailed information.



STARS will have our club house open from 10 AM to 3 PM both days to demonstrate amateur radio activities. They plan to work SSB, CW, PSK31, SSTV and RTTY stations. They also will be cooking up hot dogs! Everyone is invited to stop by to rag chew or do a little operating. For more information, contact John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC, STARS chairman for event, at 649-5933.

## VE Exam

STARS VE team held an exam on January 12. Six candidates showed up and all six got new licenses or upgrades. We had three new Techs, one upgrade to General and two upgrades to Extra.

VE's helping with the exam included Jim Livingston N2SKT, Tom Kocialski KC2CAG, John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC and Terry Rockhold K2OO.

## February Meeting

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

A program on amateur television (ATV) is tentatively planned. Sounds complicated, but is easier and cheaper than you would think. Everyone with a Tech class license and higher already has the frequency privileges needed.



## Don't Let Us Lose You!

If you have renewed your 2002 membership, your membership card and repeater codes will be mailed to you shortly. If you haven't renewed, this will be the last newsletter that you will be receiving

Why not take time right now to fill out the renewal form included with your Nov. newsletter 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. If you can't find the renewal form, just put your name, call, address, phone number, email address and class of license on a piece of paper. Also, please let us know if you would like to receive your newsletter via email or regular mail.

## BARRA Auction

The annual BARRA auction will be held Monday, Feb. 18 at the St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church, Brighton & Fries Roads, Tonawanda, NY (Across from Kenmore East HS). Doors open at 6:45 PM; auction begins at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to buy or sell ham radio and other electronic items.

## 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 who are joining ARRL for the first time or who are renewing their membership after a lapse of two years or more should send their ARRL membership forms 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! STARS no longer benefits from normal yearly renewals, so they should be sent directly to the ARRL.



## Club Net

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.

## From Your President

Last month I said we should be prepared and ready to serve our community, state and our country. But how do we become prepared? How do we know if we're ready and up to the task?

Well, the first step we must take is to be sure our families are prepared to be self sufficient during times of crises. Only knowing that they are safe and ready to face a winter storm, a tornado, flood, severe weather conditions, natural or man made disasters can we be of service to others and to our communities. Disasters can happen anytime and anywhere. And when disaster strikes, you may not have much time to respond. A highway spill or hazardous material could mean evacuation. A winter storm could confine your family at home. An earthquake, flood, tornado, or any other disaster could cut water, electricity, and telephones for days. After a disaster, local officials and relief workers will be on the scene, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it may take days. Your family will cope best by preparing for disaster before it strikes. One way to prepare is by assembling a Disaster Supplies Kit. Once disaster hits, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies. But if you've gathered supplies in advance, your family can endure an evacuation or home confinement. Here is a list of basic supplies you may need compiled by Steffen Strayer for the American Red Cross. I have condensed the list, but you can find the originals on the world wide web or at your local FEMA or Red Cross center.

There are six basics you should stock for your home: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies, and special items. Keep the items that you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy-to carry container--suggested items are marked with an asterisk(\*).

Possible Containers Include-

- ☒ A large, covered trash container,
- ☒ A camping backpack,
- ☒ A duffle bag.

Food & Water

Store water in plastic containers such as soft drink bottles. Avoid using containers that will decompose or break, such as milk cartons or glass bottles. A normally active person needs to drink at least two quarts of water each day. Hot environments and intense physical activity can double that amount. Children, nursing mothers, and ill people will need more. Store one gallon of water per person per day.

Keep at least a three-day supply of water per day (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for each person in your household for food preparation/sanitation).\*

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## The Greater Buffalo "Winter" ARRL Hamfest

February 24, 2002

Location: Main Transit FD Hall  
6777 Main St., Williamsville, NY  
Only 1 mile from NY State Thruway I 90 exit 49

Jam-Packed with Buyers and Wall to Wall with Sellers

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast !

Hamfest web site <http://larc.hamgate.net>

In Door Vendor Bldg: Opens at 8AM  
Admission : only \$6  
Tables: \$10

Table reservations  
<<mailto:luke@towncountryflorist.com>>

Sponsored by the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Our Future Hamfest Dates :

August 4, 2002  
Greater Buffalo Hamfest & Exposition  
Western New York ARRL Convention

## General Class Theory Course

STARS and ARATS will co-sponsor a general class theory course beginning March 20. The instructors will be STARS and ARATS members Terry Rockhold K200 and Jim Livingston N2SKT.

The course will be held at the Greenhaven Public Library which is near the intersection of I-290 and Niagara Falls Blvd. The course will run one night a week for ten weeks with the final night being the VE Exam. The first two classes will be held on Wednesday nights and then the remaining classes will be held on Monday nights. The hours will be 6:45 to 8:45 PM.

The course is open to all interested hams. For more information or to pre-register, please call Terry at 656-0865 or email him at [k200@bigfoot.com](mailto:k200@bigfoot.com).



## Thank You Letter

Church Saints Peter and Paul~ Parish Outreach Office  
36 Pine Street  
Hamburg, NY 14075-5189

January 3, 2002

To The Members of Southtown Amateur Radio Society  
WB2 ELW

I think in all the hustle and bustle around here in the last 3 weeks before Christmas, that my note in reference to your donation got "lost". However, in my efforts to clear my desk this morning, that note reappeared.



Thank you for thinking of our Outreach program as you made plans for your Christmas party. The needy here in Hamburg certainly profited from your generosity. From the many donations that we received, we were able to provide a very decent Christmas meal for at least 100 households and gifts for about 600 children. It's a great feeling to see parents' faces light up when they know that they are going to be able to provide a good Christmas for their families. You helped to make that happen.

Thank you for your kindness and your generosity. May you and all your loved ones be blessed abundantly in this new year of 2002

Sincerely yours,

Ms Sarah Roark  
Parish Outreach Coordinator

## New Net

The ILS (Interlink system) is proud to present a new net. This will be a net like no other. On Tuesday night at 7:00 PM. will be the place and all amateurs are invited. This will start on February 12 and will run every other week. This will include all working repeaters and Amateurs from PA., Canada and WNY as well. All listings will need to be amateur related. Phone numbers will be needed and a price. All items will be listed on the [WB2JPQ.com](http://WB2JPQ.com) web site for two months and can be renewed after that. Please add this notice to your Newsletter and All nets and thanks .

Gary Tillinghast KB2YAA

# From Your President

*(Continued from page 2)*

## Food

Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food. Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking, and little or no water. If you must heat food, pack a can of sterno. Select food items that are compact and light-weight. \*Include a selection of the following foods in your Disaster Supplies Kit: Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables

## First Aid Kit

Assemble a first aid kit for your home and one for each car.

A first aid kit\* should include:

Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes

Assorted sizes of safety pins

Cleansing agent/soap

Latex gloves (2 pairs)

Sunscreen

2-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)

4-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)

Triangular bandages (3)

Non-prescription drugs

2-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)

3-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)

Scissors

Tweezers

Needle

Moistened towelettes

Antiseptic

Thermometer

Tongue blades (2)

Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Non-Prescription Drugs

☒ Aspirin or nonaspirin pain reliever

☒ Anti-diarrhea medication

☒ Antacid (for stomach upset)

☒ Syrup of Ipecac (use to induce vomiting if advised by the Poison Control Center)

☒ Laxative and Activated charcoal (use if advised by the Poison Control Center)

## Tools and Supplies

Mess kits, or paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils\*

Emergency preparedness manual\*

Battery-operated radio and extra batteries\*

Flashlight and extra batteries\*

Cash or traveler's checks, change\*

Non-electric can opener, utility knife\*

Fire extinguisher: small canister ABC type

Tube tent

Pliers, Channel locks

Tape (Duct tape remember McGiver)

Compass, Whistle

Matches in a waterproof container

Aluminum foil

Plastic storage containers

Signal flare

Paper, pencil

Needles, thread

Medicine dropper

Shut-off wrench, to turn off household gas and water

Plastic sheeting

Map of the area (for locating shelters)

## Sanitation

☒ Toilet paper, towelettes\*

☒ Soap, liquid detergent\*

☒ Feminine supplies\*

☒ Personal hygiene items\*

☒ Plastic garbage bags, ties (for personal sanitation uses)

☒ Plastic bucket with tight lid

☒ Disinfectant

☒ Household chlorine bleach

## Clothing and Bedding

\*Include at least one complete change of clothing and footwear per person.

Sturdy shoes or work boots\*

Rain gear\*

Blankets or sleeping bags\*

Hat and gloves

Thermal underwear

Sunglasses

## Special Items

Remember family members with special requirements, such as infants and elderly or disabled persons

For Baby\*

☒ Formula

☒ Diapers

☒ Bottles

☒ Powdered milk

☒ Medications

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# STARS Board of Directors

President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Past 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	Scott Barto	KB2KOL
Director	Terri Karr	KB2TRS

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will hold test sessions on 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 Peter Orendorf AB2KG 662-0096 or e-mail him at [fouroz1@aol.com](mailto:fouroz1@aol.com)

ARATS will be holding test sessions on at 10 AM on 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.

## Contests

Following is a list of some contests that STARS could participate in if there is enough member interest. We would operate from the Nike Base Club Station. Hours of operation would depend on the number of interested members.

February 16-17, 2002: ARRL International DX CW contest

February 22-24, 2002: CQWW 160 meter SSB contest

March 2-3, 2002: ARRL International DX Phone contest

We have a great station out at the Nike Base. Why not come out and help log some points for the club?!? If you would be interested in any of the following contests, please let me know via e-mail: [bart0977@yahoo.com](mailto:bart0977@yahoo.com) or on the air.

73's and Good DX,  
Scott KB2KOL

## Club Equipment

For insurance purposes, the officers of STARS need to take an inventory of all club equipment. If you are in possession of any club equipment, please return it to one of the officers. If you know of anyone that has borrowed any club equipment, please let a club officer know. Thank you for your cooperation.

## ARRL Memberships

For the last several years, we have asked you to renew your ARRL membership through STARS because the club got \$2 for each renewal. Now, the ARRL does not offer this to the club, so your annual renewals should be sent directly to the ARRL instead of going through STARS.

ARRL does offer the club \$15 for each new membership or for a renewal after a lapse in membership of two or more years. See page 2 for details of how to send these through our club.

## From Your President

*(Continued from page 4)*

For Adults\*

- ☒ Insulin
- ☒ Prescription drugs
- ☒ Tooth Brushes and Denture needs
- ☒ Contact lenses and supplies, extra eye glasses

### Important Family Documents

Keep these records in a waterproof, portable container:

- ☒ Will, insurance policies, contracts deeds, stocks and bonds
- ☒ Passports, social security cards, immunization records
- ☒ Bank account numbers, Credit card account numbers and companies
- ☒ Inventory of valuable household goods, important telephone numbers
- ☒ Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)

Store your kit in a convenient place known to all family members. Keep a smaller version of the Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of your car.

Keep items in airtight plastic bags. Change your stored water supply every six months so it stays fresh. Replace your stored food every six months. Re-think your kit and family needs at least once a year. Replace batteries, update clothes, etc. Ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications. I hope this lists gets you started on being prepared for anything!

73's  
Bob KA2WYE Koster



# 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 some Saturdays between 1 and 3 PM local time. A second club HF station is located at the Hamburg Youth Center.

# STARS

**Terry W. Rockhold K200**  
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**Depew, NY 14043**  
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**k200@bigfoot.com**