

telstar



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

ISSUE 247 JUNE 2002

STARS Field Day 2002

STARS Field Day 2002 will be held at Glen Meadows Park in Hamburg on June 22-23. See page 4 for a map and directions to the site.

Field Day has a long tradition as an emergency preparedness exercise, operating equipment "in the field" using power sources other than the commercial mains. As ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out in his "It Seems to Us..." editorial in June 2002 *QST*, Field Day also presents an ideal opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio to the general public and to local officials and to convey an important message in the process.



"No matter what, there *will* be hams and they will be able to communicate with one another. *No matter what*," Sumner wrote.

Set-up for STARS Field Day will begin around 10 AM on Saturday morning. This can be a real learning experience as bows and arrows or slingshots are used to fire lines over trees to haul wire antennas into the air. Generators will be set up to provide emergency power.

Then at 2 PM on Saturday afternoon, the contesting will begin and the airwaves will come alive with stations from all over the US and Canada.

For the first time, they will be joined this year by stations from other parts of Central and South America, including the Caribbean.

June Meeting

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



Former STARS President John Leitten KA2RFT will be our featured speaker.

John will go over the plans for STARS Field Day 2002. He will answer your questions and will tell how you can help make the event a great success!

So come on out and see what is going on!

The contesting will continue until 2 PM on Sunday afternoon (rain or shine).

STARS will be running stations on CW and SSB. They may also be demonstrating other modes such as RTTY, SSTV, PSK31, etc.

Regardless of your experience, you are invited to come and operate or log stations or just to hang out and have fun! Even if you don't have HF privileges, you can operate under the supervision of another amateur with a higher class license. This is a great chance to learn how to improve your operating skills.

We will be planning a supper around 6 PM on Saturday. So, bring your lawn chairs, your family and your neighbors and come on out. The park provides very nice surroundings. Although the park normally closes at dusk, we have been given a permit to be there all night.

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.



From Your President

Field Day: A Emergency Preparedness Exercise

The true spirit of Field Day dictates that hams pack up their gear, haul it into the elements, and set up their stations. This year were going to go back to that. Sure we could just set up a station at the Nike base as we have in the past few years. And it's possible and quite permissible under the rules to do so. Yes I know that most likely in a real emergency we might just do something like that, but a true emergency preparedness



exercise is to operate in less than ideal conditions using an emergency power source and most preferably in the public eye. This is why bonus points are awarded to those who take the show into a public arena of some sort.

My first Field Day experience was about 15 or so years ago as technician plus ham. It was with the STARS club, Running Field Day at the VFW Post and I volunteered to setup the packet station and help with other Field Day activities. We had a great time camping and operating all mode HF and VHF packet, and U/VHF simplex. Setting up antennas, Preparing the generators, stringing the electrical lines, erecting the tents, the list goes on and on these are great ways to hone our skills and get ready for an unforeseen event and hope it never comes. This year's Field Day will take place at Glen Meadows Park in the Village Of Hamburg.

What we need now are some volunteers to work in the field committees The committees that come to mind are site set up, equipment, operator, food and public ity. Please come forward and set a small amount of time aside to become a participant in this great once a year (FUN) training event. Let's all come together to make this the "The Greatest Weekend of the Year"

See you at Field Day

Bob Koster KA2WYE

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.

STARS Information Net is held on the second and third Thursdays of the month at 7:30 PM on the STARS 147.090 MHz repeater (107.2 Hz PL tone needed).

Gowanda School ARC

I would like to thank the members of STARS for agreeing to sponsor the Gowanda Central Schools' Amateur Radio Club. As a result, our school has been chosen as one of only ten schools in the nation that have received a complete amateur radio station funded by the "Big Project" through the American Radio Relay League.

I began the application process in November by forming a committee of interested teachers and staff. It just so happens that there are two licensed amateurs, two former licensees and one aspiring amateur who are all interested in the project, and are employed by the school district. We first visited the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club, under the direction of Joe Claus KB2JDB, to gather ideas and set goals for what our club could eventually become. "WOW," is the only word to describe the success of Joe's club. We were very much inspired to continue with the application for the "Big Project" grant. We left the visit tired, just from watching all of the activity that took place during a typical Pioneer Ham Club Meeting.

After months of editing, re-editing, and editing some more, we submitted our application to the ARRL. In April, our school received notification that we had been chosen as a

"pilot school" for the project. This means that our school will be receiving the following equipment, for free, to get our club started by next September: Yaesu FT-847, 160 meter-70 centimeter all-mode transceiver, matching power supply, Cushcraft R-6000 6-band vertical, Cushcraft tri-band VHF/UHF Yagi, 300 feet of LMR-400 coaxial cable with all connectors, and a manual MFJ antenna tuner. A key contributor to our school's effort, the physics teacher at the high school, has donated an antenna rotor. Our required "reference library" which consists of several ARRL publications, has been purchased through money from another grant that the school district had previously been awarded. As we proceed with our club, the ARRL is asking us to submit a few lesson plans to them, as they are taught, which will help to develop a curriculum that can be used by all schools. We are also asked to submit photographs of our "club in action" for publicity. Certainly not too much to ask considering what we are getting in return!

I am truly sorry if I leave anyone out, but I want to acknowledge other donations that have been made to the Gowanda Central School ARC by STARS members. A special thanks to Joe KB2JDB, Bruce KC2GJX, Paul WB2KFL, and Gary KB2YJ. Again, thank you all for your support. I am very excited to move ahead with this project.

73's Scott KB2KOL



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WHOLESALE PRICING WITH AMATEUR RADIO CALLSIGN



73, DAVID KB2LCR
Owner

New STARS Field Day Site

STARS Field Day 2002 will be held at Glen Meadows Park on Olympiad Drive in Hamburg.

If you are coming from the north:

Go south on Route 75 (Camp Road) from the Hamburg exit of I-90.

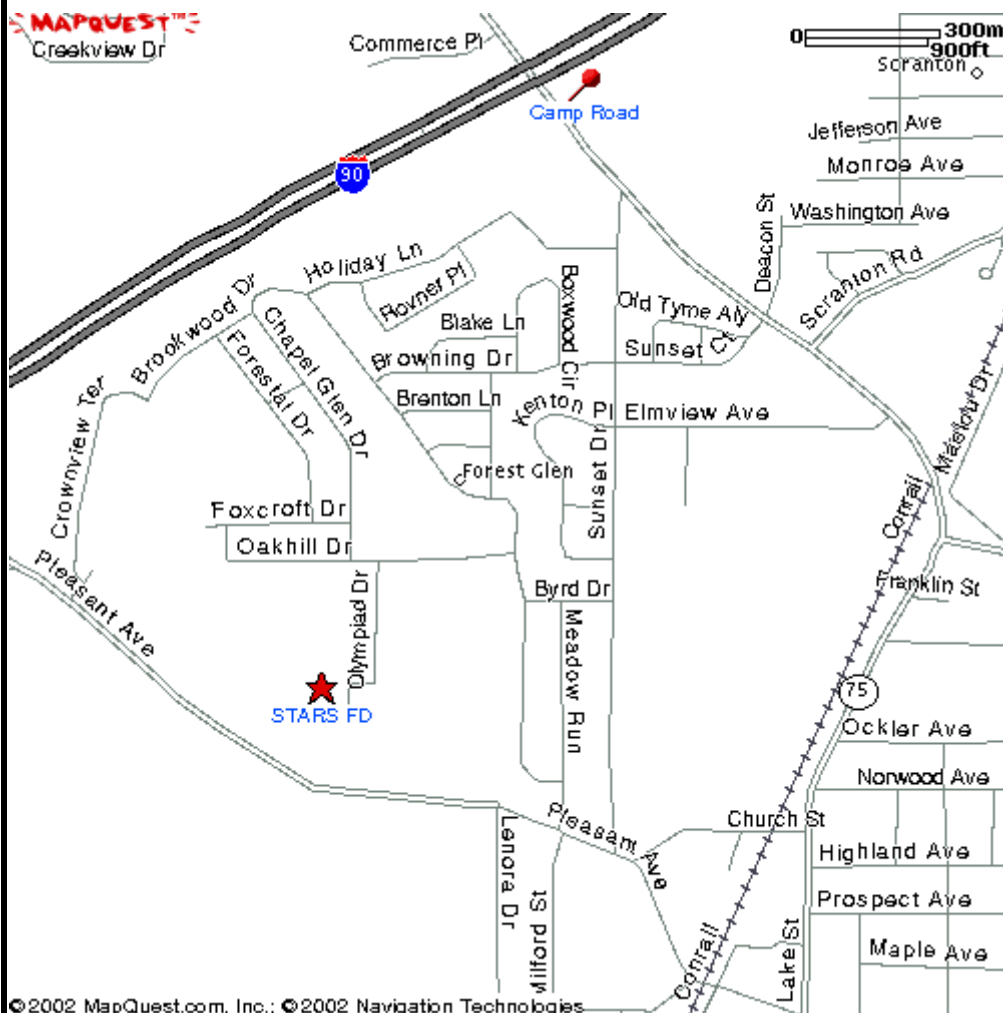
- Right on Sunset Drive
- Right on Byrd Drive
- Right on Brookwood Drive
- Left on Oak Hill Drive
- Left on Olympiad Drive into Glen Meadows Park.

If you are coming from the south:

- Go north on Route 75 (Lake Street) from Main Street.
- Left on Pleasant Ave.
- Right on Sunset Drive
- Left on Byrd Drive.
- Right on Brookwood Drive
- Left on Oak Hill Drive
- Left on Olympiad Drive into Glen Meadows Park.

STARS Field Day site will center around the shelter which is at the far end of the park. This is a nice park with trees for our wire antennas. The park says it closes at dusk, but we have permission to be there all Saturday night.

Please note that some maps show Olympiad Drive connecting to Pleasant Ave. It doesn't, so you must enter the park from Oak Hill Drive.



STARS Board of Directors

President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
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Secretary	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
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Director	Terri Karr	KB2TRS

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will hold test sessions on 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

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

STARS VE Exams

STARS VE team held a VE exam session at the Grace Lutheran Church on Saturday, May 11.

The team served 4 candidates. Two people qualified for new Technician class licenses and one qualified for an upgrade to General class.

VE's serving at the exam were Jim Livingston N2SKT, Joe Prockton N2BGJ, Tom Kocialski KC2CAG and Terry Rockhold K2OO.

STARS VE team will hold their next exam session on July 13 at the Grace Lutheran Church.

Remember that the new Extra class question pool goes into effect on July 1.

General Class Theory Course

The General Class theory course co-sponsored by STARS and ARATS concluded on May 20 with the VE exams given by the ARATS VE team assisted by John KB2VWC..

To date 15 members of the class have passed their General Class theory exam. Some still need to pass their 5 wpm Morse code exam to become Generals, while other members already had credit for the code and were upgraded to Generals immediately. Four more members of the class will be taking their exams shortly.

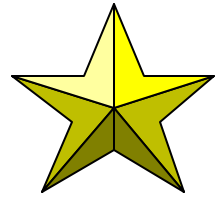
Congratulations to all concerned!

General Class Theory Course Students: (Front row) Richard Gerster K2RWG and Dennis Mooney KC2IUL; (Second row, seated) Yong-Chul Shin KC2IOH, Angela Pessecow KC2IUQ, Julius Pessecow WA2HNS, Becky Brady KC2IRK and Mike Brady KB2WYI; (Third row) Jim Gardner KC2JPS, Don Czapla KC2IUO, Ann Riley KC2IUM, Lee Rose KB2IHJ and Don Hunter, Jr. KC2IUJ; (Fourth row) Pete Fairchok KC2FOI, Jack Cu Ilum KB2ESM, Mike Breier KC2FEN and Bob Squier KC2IUR. Not pictured: Virginia Roth KB2UGZ, Larry Hadsall KC2IUS and Joe Ermer KB2OLM. Instructors were Terry Rockhold K2OO and Jim Livingston N2SKT.





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

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