
telstar



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

ISSUE 248 JULY 2002

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Field Day 2002 was outstanding. I would like to thank the entire membership and everyone who came out this year to Glen Meadows Park in the Town of Hamburg (our very gracious hosts), you all made IT REALLY HAPPEN!!! We lucked out this year with no rain.

The new site attracted many of our members, non-members and guests. I would like to express a special thank you to my board of directors for everything they did to make this a fun and educational event. We had a covered shelter (a pole barn type structure) that worked super, Keith KC2DGC put up a tent in the "wild" so we would have a "remote" operating station (and sleeping area ?) That also worked out great. Jack KB2ESM and John KB2VWC ran the "chow tent", John KA2RFT our "Field Marshall" who explained what we were doing on 2 Broadcast Television stations (WIVB and WBLO) and of course Scott KB2KOL our Co-Chairman and field day scout who investigated all the sites and wisely advised the membership of this one.



We operated a TWO ALPHA (2A) and a GOTA (Get On The Air) station. Running three HF transmitters, a NTSC Fast Scan Television transmitter (thanks to K1CRA and KC2AYK), a packet station and we had generator capability of over 12+ Kilowatts at the site. Enough to run a few small houses I believe. A quick count of contacts and bonus points puts us in the 4000 point category.

Again I want to thank all who helped, operated or just plain came out to support the effort. I would like to list all here but time does not allow it. But I will make sure we get a full list for a future edition.

July Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on July 11 at the club's Nike Base Club Station on Lakeview Road near Hamburg, NY.

There are lots of events going on to talk about such as Field Day, the Erie County Fair Display, hamfests, public service events, etc.

This meeting will be outdoors, so don't forget to bring your lawn chairs to sit on. In case of bad weather, listen to the STARS 147.090 repeater for information.



Please Note: Because of the holiday, this month's meeting will be held on July 11, not July 4.

Now that Field Day is history, we can turn our FULL attention to the Erie County Fair. If you can help out, NOW IS THE TIME TO SIGN UP. I will have a sign up sheet at the July 11 meeting at the Nike Base. Get signed up now for a prime shift. I am contacting the leaders of other organizations (LARA, ARES and ARATS) and believe they are eager to help. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on for the meeting.

73,

Bob KA2WYE



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.

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).

Greater Buffalo Hamfest & Exposition/ WNY ARRL Sect. Convention

August 4th, Main Transit Fireman's Grounds

20 acres of Pure Ham Radio Excitement at it's best !!!!
Hamfest / convention Web Site: <http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/>

Complete with

Midway, All You can Eat Pan Cake breakfast,
Huge flea 20 Acres,
Several army vehicles, hover crafts,
Several communications trucks, fireman demos, Fox Hunt,
Disaster preparedness, Ham dealers, contests , trophies,
Demos, forums, FREE parking, VE testing ,
Plus much more!

You can enter to win...

"the Vehicle with the Most and Gaudiest Antenna Array
Contest"

Trophies for winners..

You have seen the cars with all of those antennas ..

Now is your chance to show off and win a nice trophy!

For information email : wgittere@buffnet.net

"WNY Section Clubs convention champion 2001 contest"

Entering section clubs will compete in a club show down

Take home the Club Champion Trophy

WNY section clubs were mailed a club packet ..

If your club did not receive one..

email: luke@towncountryflorist.com

For general information:

Hamfest / convention:

<http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/>

VE Test session:

http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/GBSHF_test.htm

Maps & Directions:

http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/GBSHF_location.htm

Contacts:

http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/GBSHF_contacts.htm

Hamfest questions: Email : Bob Becker: <mailto:REBECKERTV@aol.com>

(Continued on page 5)

2002 STARS Field Day

Photos by Terry Rockhold K200
For more Field Day photos see:
www.pbase.com/k200



John Leitten KA2RFT interviewed by Ch. 4 News



STARS President Bob Koster greets Dean Messing, Deputy Commissioner, Erie County CD/Disaster Preparedness



Kevin Retzer K9KVN operates GOTA station



Ed Taublieb KB2KVA provides some music



John Leitten KA2RFT, Keith Patterson KC2DGC, Anne Fanelli WG2I and Scott Barto KB2KOL at CW station



Bob Koster KA2WYE prepares equipment for ATV demo

Last Ditch Effort Needed on Tower Bill - June 28, 2002

We thought it would all be over by now. It is not. Although the Senate passed S 2893 over a week ago in a 49 to 19 vote, the Assembly still has not acted on the bill. We have been attempting behind the scenes to overcome the opposition to the bill from the local government lobby - the Association of Town and the New York Council of Mayors and Municipal Officials - who see this bill as an erosion of their ability to control our antennas. They erroneously claim it is a home rule issue. They claim that they continue to need to "balance the issues" in Amateur antenna applications. They refuse to recognize that the FCC took it up itself to do the balancing almost seventeen years ago when it issued PRB-1. NYCOM is either lying or badly distorting the facts here. Since they were not successful in stopping the bill in the Senate they appear to have pulled out all the stops in lobbying the Assembly. We need to counteract them with letters, faxes, e-mails and phone calls. We are not happy to have to ask you to once again help but there seems to be no other way.

After discussion with our sponsor, and upon his advice, we are appealing to you to help get this bill passed this year. There will be no better opportunity than 2002 to get it done. Please personalize the two letters attached and send copies to Speaker Silver, our co sponsors and your own assembly representative as soon as possible. If you know any of the members of the Rules Committee you might want to write them also. That information is available at <http://www.assembly.state.ny.us>

Currently the assembly is not in session but we expect them to return either Tuesday, July 2, or the following week - July 9th for a day or two of sessions. Speaker Silver will determine when they return and for how long. We need to act immediately.

Write Assemblyman Sheldon Silver, LOB 932, Albany, NY 12248. Telephone 518-455-3791 and fax 518-455-5459. Email speaker@assembly.state.ny.us

Get your relatives, friends and neighbors to do the same. Tell your legislators about our long proud history of public service.

Write-Phone-FAX-E-mail. Check <http://www.hudson.arrl.org>

Here is a sample letter to send to speaker Silver. Please personalize it and send it.

June 27, 2002
Speaker Sheldon Silver
New York State Assembly
932 LOB
Albany, NY 12248 Re: A. 1565 Tocci

Dear Speaker Silver,

The Senate understood our Amateur Radio antenna bill was non controversial and did not limit local government when they passed their version (S.2893) by a vote of 49 to 19 over a week ago. They clearly understood this is not a home rule issue for since 1985 federal law has taken away local government power to balance and directed local government to accommodate our antennas with the least regulation possible. They were not swayed by and saw through the lobbying effort of the Association of Towns and NYCOM. The Senate realized that our self limiting legislation was the way to insure a continued pool of unpaid self trained communications volunteers in a time of need such As 9/11. Over 800 ham operators worked for more than two weeks without pay during the 9/11 response. As the governor has repeatedly told us that he will sign the legislation, we need you to allow the Assembly to do the right thing and vote the bill. Please assign it a calendar number and send it to the floor of the Assembly before the current session ends.

We need this law ONLY because local governments refuse to accept the federal law that gives hams the right to erect these support structures. Local government erroneously believes that this is a "home rule" issue; they feel they still have the right to engage in the "balancing of interests." Federal law has unquestionably preempted local law with respect to the balancing. Most local governments "just don't get it." That's why we need this law. Hams don't need to spend lots of money on legal fees to achieve their goals; they need this law. Please remember that hams provide

(Continued on page 5)

STARS Board of Directors

President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Past President	Gary Zanghi	KB2YJ
Vice President	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VWC
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Finc. 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 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 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.

NY Tower Bill

(Continued from page 4)

their services FREE OF CHARGE. Local, state and federal government and the citizens of our beloved country are the benefactors of their work when disaster strikes.

Please ignore the selfish criticism from NYCOMM and the Association of Towns or any other "home rule" people; they are simply spouting a knee jerk reaction to what they feel is loss of local control. But they have already lost local control because the Federal government preempted them with the issuance of PRB-1. This is simply "sour grapes."

Hams are very angry that the selfish local government lobby simply ignores all the good we have done over so many years and lies about power being taken from them.

Sincerely,

Your name (Amateur Call)

The co-sponsors of A 1565 are: (Please note only two of them use e-mail - Fax machines may be off at night)

Assemblyman Paul Tonko, 713 LOB, Albany, NY 12248, telephone 518-455-5197, fax 518-455-5435, email tonkop@assembly.state.ny.us

Assemblyman Steve Levy, 827 LOB, Albany, NY 12248, telephone 518-455-5937, fax 518-455-4784, email - none

Assemblyman Robin Schimminger, 847 LOB, Albany, NY 12248, telephone 518-455-4767, fax 518-455-4724, email schimmr@assembly.state.ny.us

Assemblyman Richard Smith, 619 LOB, Albany, NY 12248, telephone 518-455-4462, fax 518-455-5560, email - none

Assemblyman Harvey Weisenberg, 731 LOB, Albany, NY 12248, telephone 518-455-3028, fax 518-455-5769, email - none

To our cosponsors and your own representative to the Assembly send the following letter:

Editor's Note:

We had to delete the second letter due to space limitations.

The complete article can be viewed at:

<http://www.hudson.arrl.org/>

FROM:

Bernie Fuller N3EFN - Atlantic Division Director
and
Frank Fallon N2FF - Hudson Division Director

Greater Buffalo Hamfest

(Continued from page 2)

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

Contests : Bill Gittere: <mailto:wgittere@buffnet.net>

SEE YOU at :the Greater Buffalo Hamfest & Exposition / WNY ARRL Section Convention
August 4th, Main Transit Fireman's Grounds,
Williamsville, NY

We "Kicked It Up Another Notch" !!! Just for You !!!!!!!



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
4805 Transit Road #1903
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 656-0865
k200@bigfoot.com