

telstar



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

ISSUE 270 JUNE 2004

Stars Field Day 2004

STARS Field Day 2004 will be held at Glen Meadows Park in Hamburg on June 26-27. 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.



Field Day 2003 set a new record for participation with 2,115 clubs and individuals submitting entries. Stations participated from the Arctic Circle to the Antarctic continent. Residents of the International Space Station also joined the fun.

Set-up for STARS Field Day 2004 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 and parts of Central and South America, including the Caribbean.

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, ATV, etc.

Regardless of your experience, you are invited to come and

(Continued on page 5)

June Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7 PM on Thursday, June 3 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 2004. 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!



Photo Above: STARS Field Day Chairman John Leitten KA2RFT (left) and Kevin Retzer K9KVN (right) operate from Glen Meadows Park during STARS Field Day 2002.

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.

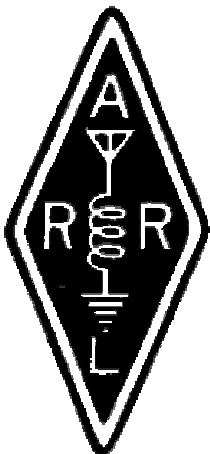
Members who are joining ARRL for the first time or who are renewing their membership after a lapse of two years or more should send their ARRL membership forms to Jack Cullum, Jr. KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits! 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, third and fifth Thursdays of the month at 7:30 PM on the STARS 147.090 MHz repeater (107.2 Hz PL tone needed).



STARS Summer Raffle

STARS Summer Raffle is now in the home stretch! We have a chance to have fun and raise funds for the club at the same time.

There will be two winners each receiving a \$150 gift certificate from Wal-Mart.

The drawing for the prizes will be held at STARS Field Day site at Glen Meadow Park in Hamburg on Saturday, June 26, 2004 at 5 PM.

The winners do not need to be present to win (but we want people to come and join us for the fun!).

The donation for each ticket will be \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00. Packets of tickets to sell have been mailed to members.

Additional tickets to sell will be available at the June club meeting, or you can call Judy Levan N2TEZ, Raffle Chairperson, and leave a message at 684-6673 or drop her an e-mail message at fcstr59@msn.com.

You can turn in the stubs and money at our June meeting or send them to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Boulevard, Depew, NY 14043-2874.

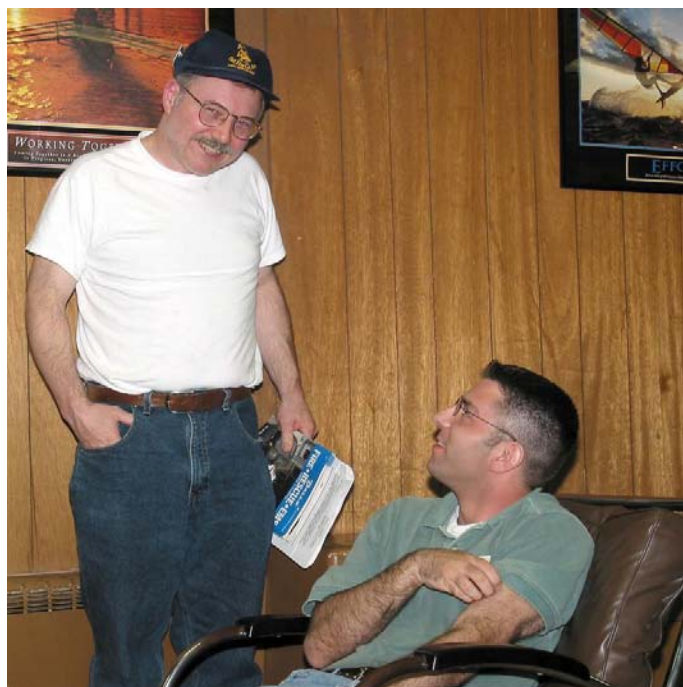


Photo Above: Past President Bob Koster KA2WYE (left) and STARS Vice President Scott Barto KB2KOL (right) enjoy the activities at the May general meeting.

Erie County Fair Display

This year the ham radio booth at the Erie Country Fair will be organized and structured by Luke Calianno N2GDU as your ARRL WNY Section - Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC)

In the past STARS sponsored the EC Ham Radio booth. I was recently approached by STARS and asked if I would take charge of the booth. I said yes .. and would do it under my title of ARRL WNY Section - Affiliated Club Coordinator.

My conditions are that all of the Buffalo area clubs would be asked to chip in and share manning the booth...to take the load off any one club.

Plus any participating club can put up their banners and distribute / solicited any club brochures / membership , etc.



I am asking all Buffalo area club presidents / newsletter editors to spread the word to your members. Use your email reflectors/ newsletters / nets , etc

We need volunteers to man the four hour shifts over a ten day period. Volunteers receive a free admission ticket.. so when they are finished with their shift they have plenty of time to enjoy the fair.

More detailed info will follow as we get closer to the fair in August.

Please email me with any ideas / suggestions or comments.....

73's, Luke N2GDU

 Luke Calianno - N2GDU
 ACC - Affiliated Club Coordinator
 WNY Section ARRL
<mailto:luke@towncountryflorist.com>

Rochester Hamfest

The Rochester Hamfest, Computer and Hobby Show combined with the ARRL Atlantic Division Convention will be held June 4 through June 6, 2004 at the Monroe County Fairgrounds, Route 15A, Rochester, NY. This is the largest hamfest in our area and is attended by many Buffalo area hams.

The outdoor Flea Market will open at 6 AM on Friday, June 4 and will run continuously all weekend. The indoor vendors in the Exhibit Hall will be open from noon to 5:30 PM on Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM on Saturday and 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM on Sunday.

Tickets are \$7.50 in advance (closes May 15) or \$9.00 at the gate. Outdoor flea market vendor permits are \$10.00 per 10' x 20' parking space. For ticket information, call (585) 538-9555 before 9 PM. For other information, call (585) 424-7184 during business hours.

Former STARS member Bill Edgar N3LLR, ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director, will present a program about ARRL's communication courses from 9 to 10 AM on Saturday at the Dome Center Room A (Second Floor).

STARS Board member Judy Levan N2TEZ along with Bob Hamilton N3QOT, both of the National Weather Service, will present a program on SKYWARN training. This will be held in the Dome Center Room A (Second Floor) from 10:30 to 11:30 AM on Saturday.

The ARRL Forum with Bernie Fuller N3EFN, Atlantic Division Director and Bill Edgar N3LLR, Atlantic Division Vice Director, will be held on Saturday from noon to 1 PM at the Dome Center Room A (Second Floor). They will talk about what is taking place in the ARRL, the Atlantic Division and the FCC.

Scott Bauer W2LC, ARRL Western New York Section Manager will conduct a Western New York Section meeting on Saturday from 1:30 to 2:00 PM in the Henrietta Room (First Floor).

Kevin Kedzierski WA2FKV of RAWNY will be giving W2RUF code proficiency tests on the Dome floor.

Ed Gable K2MP, ARRL Field Checker, will check your QSL cards for WAS, VUCC and DXCC starting noon Saturday in the Dome. Go to www.arrl.org for details and forms. For questions, contact k2mp@arrl.net.

For more information, check out their web site at: <http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/>.

STARS Field Day 2004 Site

STARS Field Day 2004 will be held at Glen Meadows Park on Olympiad Drive in Hamburg.

If you are coming from the north:

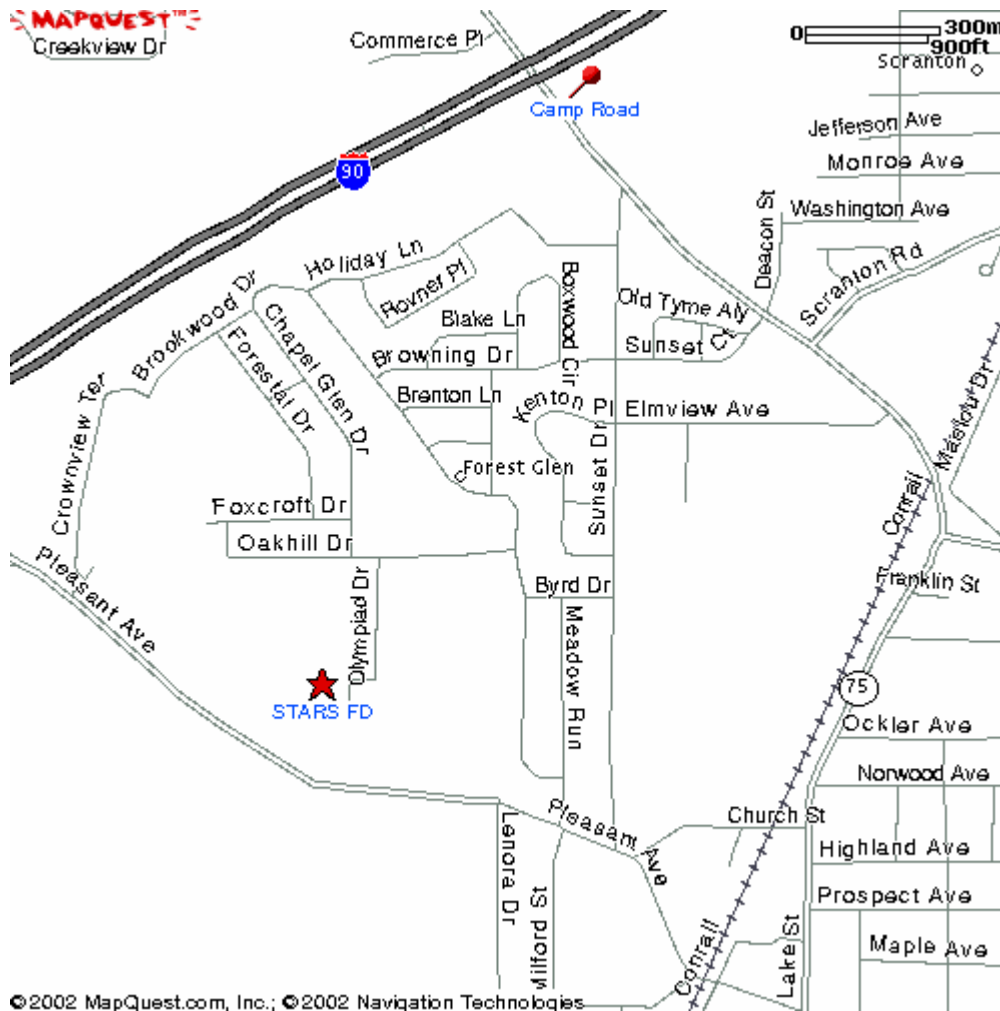
Go south on Route 75 (Camp Road) from the Hamburg exit of I-90.
Right on Sunset Drive
Right on Byrd Drive
Right on Brookwood Drive
Left on Oak Hill Drive
Left on Olympiad Drive into Glen Meadows Park.

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	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Past President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Vice President	Scott Barto	KB2KOL
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Fin. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VWC
Director	Jim Sojka	WB2TJO
Director	Bruce Settlemyer	KC2GJX

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding a test session on 7/10 in 2004 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 or to pre-register for Lancaster exams, call Peter Orendorf AB2KG 662-0096 or e-mail him at fouroz1@aol.com. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be holding a test session on 6/5 in 2004 at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. For information on ARATS exams, call Vic Gadzik K2YW at 694-9738.

PROS normally holds 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 Field Day 2004

(Continued from page 1)

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. Prior to supper (around 5 PM) we will be holding our raffle drawing for the two winners of \$150 gift certificates from Wal-Mart.

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.

There will be sign-up sheets at the June STARS meeting to indicate any equipment or side dishes that you can bring to Field Day.

QSL Card of the Month

Jim Sojka WB2TJO suggested that we start a QSL Card of the Month in the Telstar for STARS members. We have cleared a spot on the back page for this purpose.

To kick-off the new feature, we are featuring the club's WB2ELW QSL card. The design is getting a little age on it (Scott KB2KOL is one of the little kids pictured and the club building is the wrong color!), but it still looks pretty good.

If you would like your QSL card featured, mail a copy to Terry Rockhold, 4805 Transit Rd Apt. 1903, Depew, NY 14043 or, if you have it stored in your computer as some type of image file, you can mail it to k2oo@bigfoot.com.

The day before we were set to publish this newsletter, we received the June issue of Lancaster Amateur Radio Club's newsletter, and they are starting to feature members' QSL cards too. I guess it was a case of great minds working along the same lines!

Silent Key

We were sad to hear at the STARS May meeting that former STARS member Gary "Woody" Wood WG2W (ex-KB2ESN) became a Silent Key the day before the meeting.

We would like to express our sincere condolences to all of his family and friends.



Goodbye!

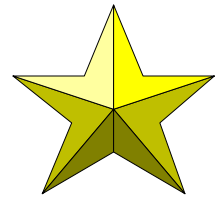
STARS has lost the services of two valuable members due to their moving out-of-state. They are Bruce Settlemyer KC2GJX and Tom Kocialski KC2CAG.

We wish the best luck to these men and their families as they settle into their new homes!





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). Use a PL of 141.3 Hz for the Nike Base remote receiver.

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 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 7:30 PM and are open to all club members.


CLUB WEB PAGES

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

CLUB HF STATION

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.

QSL Card of the Month


 ERIE COUNTY
U.S.A.
 WB2ELW
South Towns
Amateur Radio Society
Hamburg, N.Y.

STARS own WB2ELW QSL card.

STARS

Terry W. Rockhold K200
4805 Transit Road #1903
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 656-0865
k200@bigfoot.com