

# telstar



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

ISSUE 289 JANUARY 2006

## 2006 STARS Board of Directors

In the photo at the right, 2004-2005 President Keith Patterson KC2DGC hands the gavel over to 2006 President Bob Koster KA2WYE. Keith will serve this year as Vice President and Secretary. Looking on are George Ebert N2NOB, Director; John Crawford, Sr. KC2VWC, Director; Judy Levan N2TEZ, Financial Secretary; and Jack Cullum KB2ESM, Treasurer. These people will make up the 2006 STARS Board of Directors.



## January Meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on January 5 at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. at Hawkins Ave.). All interested in amateur radio are invited; neither an amateur radio license nor club membership is required.

This month's program speaker will be Joe Gearhart, who is President and Newsletter Editor for the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club.

Joe will do a demonstration of the Buddipole antenna system. The Buddipole is described as a HF/VHF portable dipole antenna system which is designed to be modular, versatile, and efficient.

Joe will also demonstrate another portable HF antenna system using a Outbacker antenna with an aluminum stand.



## Did You Renew Yet?

Your dues to renew your 2006 STARS club membership are due on January 1. Did you remember?

Why not take time right now to fill out the renewal form included with this 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 January club meeting.



## 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 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!



## From Your President: A Happy New Year!

A Very Happy Holiday Season to all the membership and the best wishes for the New Year to you all and your families. After a very busy last few weeks before the holidays, I was thinking again about taking the reins of our fine amateur radio society and again writing my monthly article. I was thinking about how can we as an organization come to the aid of the community. Then I remembered something written a few years back as an example, some of you may recall it. It's a true story to reflect on with a bit of humor added, here it is. (Reprinted from January 2002 Telstar)

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

"This Christmas season I was reminded of a full page picture advertisement in a late 1960's "Men's Bunny Magazine" (I found it cleaning out a remodeled room at work, but I only read the articles and looked at the advertisements). It was a November or December issue. I remember it was a cognac ad, and it featured a gentleman and his wife or significant other enjoying an adult beverage and a roaring fire in a remote log cabin in the middle of a snow storm. In the picture there is a Christmas tree off to one side and a bearskin rug in front of the fire (some of you may have seen this one, it was very cozy scene indeed).

No doubt you are wondering, what's this have to do with Ham radio? Well, the point here is they were prepared, maybe just for that evening but prepared. That's the theme of my message. The old boy scout motto, BE PREPARED!"

This is the theme that Keith has pressed for our club the last 2 years, and I have stressed before many times. Always be ready to help out in an emergency. Amateur radio has proved time after time to be the only means of communication from a disaster area.

Also first and foremost, I would like to personally thank Keith KC2DGC our past president, for his past 2 years of service to the club. I would also like to thank all our board members for unselfish service to our club: John KB2VWC, Scott KB2KOL, Jim WB2TJO and George N2NOB. I have a very special thanks for our long-term board members: Judy Levan N2TEZ and Jack Cullum KB2ESM who have served our club loyally for many years, and let's not forget our tireless Telstar editor Terry Rockhold K2OO.

73's  
Happy New Year 2006  
Bob (KA2WYE) Koster

## 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. Bob Lehning WA2YSJ is usually the net controller.

# 2005 SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

The 2005 SKYWARN Recognition Day was held on December 3, 2005. This event is to celebrate the contributions that volunteer SKYWARN radio operators make to the National Weather Service (NWS). During the day, SKYWARN operators at 106 weather offices contacted other weather offices and other radio operators across the world.

SKYWARN operators manning the WX2BUF station at the Buffalo NWS office included STARS members John



KA2RFT, Mark N2LAB, Joe KC2HWC, Jay KF2JY, James W2CIA and Judy N2TEZ. They were joined by Bill WB8JPX, Luke N2GDU, Joe WV2NY, Bill KC2KTZ, Bill WB2AIV, Bill

KC2NWU, Jim KB2RPV, Tom KB2NCI, Bill WB2SXY and his wife Pam.

During the 24-hour event, they made 543 QSO's to hams in 46 states, including contacts with 60 other NWS offices. Beside the permanent twin-sloper antenna behind the office, they also installed a temporary 5-band vertical antenna in front of the office. Pictures of their operations can be viewed at:

<http://www.wbuf.noaa.gov/event2005.htm>

If you had a QSO with WX2BUF during the event and would like to receive a QSL card (see photo at right), send a SASE to: WX2BUF - SKYWARN, National Weather Service, 587 Aero Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

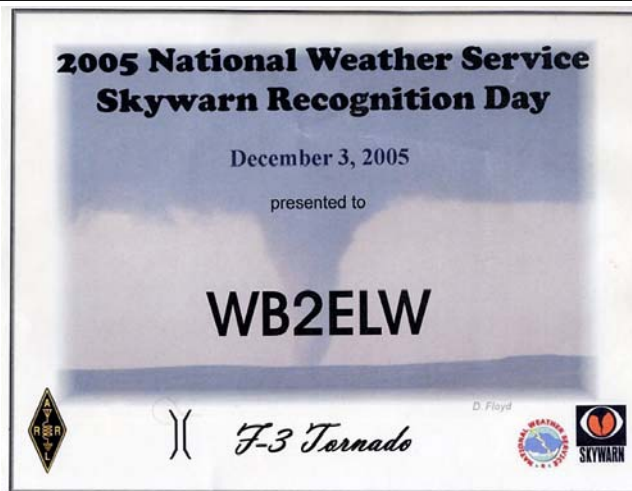
Terry K2OO activated the STARS Nike Base Club Station using the club's WB2ELW call sign. Limited to working only NWS stations, STARS made contact with 53 different NWS offices. STARS qualified for an F3 Tornado Certificate (see photo at right).

STARS club station operated great, and Terry received many compliments from the NWS stations that he worked such as "Great signal!" and "Your signal came right over the top of the other ones!" Some of the operators that he worked asked about Hamburg and Buffalo, or said that they came from WNY or had relatives here. Terry reversed this when he talked to Jose at the National Hurricane Center in Miami about his time living in West Kendall, FL.

The station reporting the warmest temperature to Terry was Ft. Worth, TX with 85 degrees and sunny. The station in Winnipeg, Manitoba (the only Canadian weather station taking part in the event) reported the coldest temperature of minus 20 degrees Celsius which is minus 4 degrees Fahrenheit.



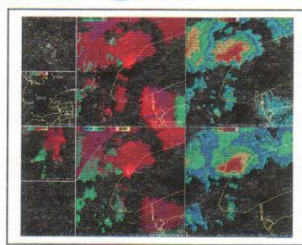
**STARS Member John Leitten KA2RFT at the WX2BUF microphone during the 2005 SRD event.**



**2005 SRD Certificate awarded to STARS WB2ELW.**

## WX2BUF

7<sup>th</sup> Annual  
NWS-ARRL  
SKYWARN  
Recognition  
Day



National Weather Service Buffalo N.Y.

DATE	TIME	STATION	RST	FREQUENCY	MODE
12/03/05					

# LARA Hamfest

The Lockport Amateur Radio Association (LARA) will be holding their 45<sup>th</sup> annual Hamfest on Saturday, January 28.

They will be returning to the South Lockport Fire Hall, Transit Road (Route 78) at Ruhlman Road (1.2 miles North of Route 93), Lockport, NY 14094.

Setup for vendors begins at 7 AM. The Hamfest will be open to the public between 8 AM and noon.

Door prizes will include a Yaesu FT-2800M 2-meter mobile transceiver and a Yaesu VX-107 5-watt full feature 2-meter handheld transceiver. A Hustler MX-2M mag mount will be given away as a check-in prize.

Flea market tables will be available for \$5.00 per 8 foot table. Flea market tables can be reserved by sending a check or money order to be received by 1/16/05 to: Duane Robinson, PO Box 142, Ransomville, NY 14131.

Admission is \$5.00 with children under 12 free. There will be plenty of free parking.

Food will be available: hot dogs, hamburgers, beef on weck, donuts, coffee and pop.

Talk-in will be on W2RUI/R on 146.82 (-) (PL 107.2).

For information call Duane Robinson W2DLR at 791-4096 or e-mail w2dlrham@aol.com.

# Craig Stoll K2RCB - SK

STARS member Craig Stoll K2RCB (previously WA2PCH) became a silent key on Tuesday, December 27, 2005 after suffering a heart attack.

Craig had been a member of STARS for many years and was the host for the WB2ELW repeater at his home on Cole Road before it was moved to its present location. Craig was awarded a Life Membership in STARS for his years of service.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends in this trying time.



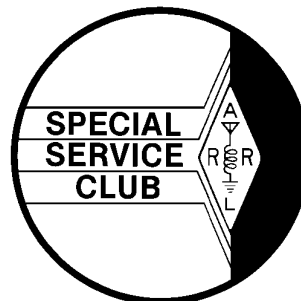
# Out-of-State STARS Members Visit

Two of our STARS out-of-state members were back in our area for the holidays. Dave Tinkham K2ECK was visiting from Sebring, FL, and Tom Kocialski KC2CAG was here from Centennial, CO.

Both men were visiting family and friends in the area and had a chance to talk to STARS members and other local hams over the STARS WB2ELW repeater and other local repeaters.



**Tom Kocialski KC2CAG in his home radio shack.**



# STARS Board of Directors

President	Bob Koster	KA2WYE
Vice President	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Finc. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Director	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VVC
Director	George Ebert	N2NOB

# AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding test sessions on 1/14/06, 3/11/06, 5/13/06 and 7/8/06 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 Hal Cameron NH7R at 832-0031. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be holding test sessions on the first Saturday in the month (except when falling on a holiday weekend, when they will be on the second Saturday) starting promptly at 10 AM at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. Walk-ins accepted, pre-registration is highly recommended. For information on or to pre-register for ARATS exams, call Vic Gadzik K2YW at 694-9738 or e-mail k2yw@hotmail.com.

PROS holds test sessions as needed at 585 North Star Road, East Aurora. For information, contact Pat Murray NW2I at 652-8178.

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

# CQ CQ CQ, This Is N2ZNU...

My name is Steve Landry, and I am owner of Buffalo Woodworks. We manufacture some of the finest laser engraved plaques. We invite you and your club members to view our plaque selection at:

[www.buffaloodworks.com/amateur\\_radio.htm](http://www.buffaloodworks.com/amateur_radio.htm)

We offer club discounts up to 50% off our retail price.

73, Steve Landry N2ZNU



Sample of The Shack Plaque

# W3ABC Honored

Former ARRL Atlantic Division Director Hugh Turnbull W3ABC was honored on December 3 by the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) for "exceptional contributions to Amateur Radio in general and for outstanding work in the selection of recipients for the QCWA scholarship awards."



Hugh was presented a special award plaque by the QCWA President John Johnson W3BE at the annual meeting of The Green Mountain Repeater Association. Congratulations Hugh!



Sample of The License Plaque



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

## 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.

# STARS

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