

CLEAN UP PARTY AND ANTENNA WORK

As a follow-up to August's NIKE Base antenna party, a clean-up party was held on Saturday September 15th.

Over the years, the NIKE Base has become the storing place of so much "stuff" left by well-intentioned club members that we were running out of room. And while we thought it was our clubhouse, the little pests in the building had become so comfortable and taken over you would have thought they were letting us use "their" clubhouse.

Determined to clean up the place and make it look like "our" NIKE Base again, a group of STARS members went to town on the place. The storage room and vault were cleaned out. What was left was neatly organized on the shelves and off the ground. The floor was completely vacuumed and even the overhead lights were cleaned out. Work continued all day with even more cleaning done at the September Board meeting. (Yes, even including the refrigerator.)

While the cleaning was going on inside, more work was being done on the antennas. The wire antenna system at WB2ELW has been completely overhauled. The old



dipoles have been replaced by new 160, 80 and 40 meter dipoles. Each dipole is made from #14 copper wire with a 1 to 1 balun at the feedpoint. Each antenna has its own pulley and anchor line assembly which allows the center and ends of the antenna to be raised or lowered from ground level. The center pulley for each an-

OCTOBER MEETING

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday October 4 at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Avenues). All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

We look forward to seeing you there!



tenna is anchored at the 70' level of our tower.

The antennas have been tuned for minimum SWR in the approximate center of each band. This major enhancement to our wire system, in addition to our existing TH6DX tribander will guarantee that WB2ELW will generate an outstanding signal on all the HF bands.

Thanks to the STARS members who came out to help: Scott Barto KB2KOL, John Crawford KB2VWC, John DiLivio K2CF, Judy Levan N2TEZ, John Leitten KA2RFT, Don Niles K2PMC and Keith Patterson KC2DGC.

If you were at the NIKE Base before this work was done, you're not going to recognize the place.

If you haven't, WHY?

VE SESSION

STARS held a VE Test Session on Saturday September 8th. The session was held at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Aves.)



The STARS VE Team led by John KB2VWC included Scott KB2KOL, Ed N2ING and Judy N2TEZ.

A "paper-upgrade" for Gordon P. Rusch N2FEH of West Seneca was processed.

Five people took tests and three new Technician licenses were earned. Congratulations to: William Voigt, III KC2SDJ, Ahren Voight KC2SDK, and Elizabeth Burton KC2SDL.

Amazingly, the test was held on Saturday morning the 8th and the call were posted to the FCC website on Monday the 10th. Now that's efficiency!

The next scheduled STARS Test Session is November 10th at the Youth Center. Walk-ins are allowed, but pre-registration will speed up the check-in process.

For more information, or to register for the test, contact John Crawford KB2VWC 649-5933.

TELSTAR BY EMAIL

Are you still receiving a paper copy of the Telstar? Why not consider getting it by email. Why get the Telstar by email?

1. You'll receive all the latest news about STARS faster. The Telstar is posted to the web, emailed, and dropped in the mailbox the same day.
2. You'll be helping out the club by saving us costs of printing and postage.

If you would rather get your Telstar my email, send me (Judy) a note at n2tez@msn.com.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN...

10 years ago

...from the Telstar October 1997

STARS will be participating with the New York State Police again this year to implement the Pumpkin Patrol in the Greater Buffalo area. Tony KB2OUT will again be our coordinator for this event.

15 years ago

...from the October 1992 Telstar

An announcement was made that the Board of Directors had signed an agreement with the management of WIVB Channel 4 to relocate the club's 147.09 repeater to Channel 4's main transmitter and antenna site in Colden, N.Y.

20 years ago

...from the October 1987 Telstar

Welcome new member Jack Cullum, Sr (no call). Congratulations to Frank Modzelewski, KA2SFE, for his upgrade to general.

35 years ago

...from the October 1972 Telstar

The Hamburg International Hamfest was a ringing success. THANKS to a lot of hams, from a lot of clubs. I won't single out any particular club but you know who they are...A special vote of thanks to those two wonderful gals Val and Lin. Valerie K2KQC was chairman of the hamfest and she really put her hear into it. Lin WB2HCL contributed greatly too.

- Hap WB2YNR

40 years ago

...from the October 1967 Telstar

HEARD ON THE AIR: Well fellows, I'd like to carry on with you, but the XYL just came home. She wants to use the dryer, so I'll have to QRT.

EARTH SCIENCE DAY AT THE PENN DIXIE SITE

STARS will once again take part in Earth Science Day at the Penn Dixie Site on Saturday October 13th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event introduces the public to earth sciences and provides an opportunity to learn first-hand what earth scientists do and the importance of earth sciences to society.

The event is FREE to the public and is held rain or shine. Exciting activities are planned, including a drilling and rock-coring demonstration. Boy and Girl scouts can earn credit toward merit badges and pins.

We'll be setting up the club rigs and a display about what amateur radio is all about. Club members will be there to answer any questions the kids (or their parents) may have.

The more STARS members that come out, the better. We'll be out there early setting up the antennas. We'd love to have you join us!



MISSING

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS STARS MEMBER?



OK...our second club member nominated for the column...Bob Witt WA2IQX. Before we have his picture placed on milk carton—have you seen him? Is he OK? Has anyone heard him on the air?

Please report any sightings at the next club meeting!

Do you know of a STARS member that's MIA? Is there someone you think should be in next month's MISSING column? Drop an email to a Board member and we'll do our best to find them!

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Jamboree on the Air will celebrate its 50th year this year when it gets on the air October 19-21. Normally a 48 hour event, this year's JOTA will be 50 hours long in recognition of the anniversary.

An on-the-air operating event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau, JOTA was founded in 1958 by Les Mitchell, G3BHK. It has grown to become the largest international Scout event. More than half a million Scouts and Guides in more than 100 countries participate in JOTA, involving as many as 10,000 Amateur Radio stations.

The event relies on the Amateur Radio community and local hams for its success. Getting Boy and Girl Scouts (including Cubs and Brownies) on the air to talk with other Scouts around the world provides a great opportunity to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Scouts usually enjoy communicating by speaking into a microphone, but some radio amateurs are able to provide other modes, such as slow-scan TV or amateur TV, satellites, packet radio, RTTY or even EME!

WESTERN NEW YORK TIES TO SHUTTLE MISSION

The next mission of the Space Shuttle has ties to western New York. STS-120 is the 23rd shuttle mission to the International Space Station, and will launch an Italian-built U.S. multi-port module for the station. It is scheduled for launch on October 23rd.

Retired Air Force Col. Pamela A. Melroy will command the STS-120 mission to take the Node 2 connecting module to the station. Melroy, a veteran shuttle pilot, is the second woman to command a shuttle. Melroy is a Rochester area native and her parents still reside there.



The 46-year-old graduated from Bishop Kearney High School, Rochester, New York, in 1979. She earned a Bachelor of science degree in physics and astronomy from Wellesley College in 1983 and a Master of science degree in earth & planetary sciences from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1984.

She is a member of the Wellesley College Board of Trustees, the Society of Experimental Test Pilots, the Order of Daedalians, and the 99s. She is the recipient of the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster; Aerial Achievement Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster; and Expeditionary Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster.

Melroy was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program in 1983. After completing a masters degree, she attended Undergraduate Pilot Training at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas and was graduated in 1985. She flew the KC-10 for six years at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana, as a copilot, aircraft commander and instructor pilot. Melroy is a veteran of JUST CAUSE and DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM, with over 200 combat and combat support hours. In June 1991, she attended the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force

Base, California. Upon her graduation, she was assigned to the C-17 Combined Test Force, where she served as a test pilot until her selection for the astronaut program. She has logged over 5,000 hours flight time in over 45 different aircraft. Melroy retired from the Air Force in February 2007.

Selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in December 1994, Melroy reported to the Johnson Space Center in March 1995. She completed a year of training and evaluation and is qualified for flight assignment as a shuttle pilot. Initially assigned to astronaut support duties for launch and landing, she has also worked Advanced Projects for the Astronaut Office. Melroy served on the Columbia Reconstruction Team as the lead for the crew module. She served as deputy project manager for a crew survival investigation team and also performed CAPCOM duties in mission control. Melroy served as pilot on two flights (STS-92 in 2000 and STS-112 in 2002), and has logged over 562 hours in space.

Melroy is assigned to command the STS-120 mission that will deliver the Node 2 connecting module to the International Space Station.

On this mission, STS-120, Marine Corps Col. George D. Zamka will serve as pilot. The flight's mission specialists will be Scott E. Parazynski, Army Col. Douglas H. Wheelock, Stephanie D. Wilson and Paolo A. Nespoli, a European Space Agency astronaut from Italy. Zamka, Wheelock and Nespoli will be making their first spaceflight.



Expedition 15/16 Flight Engineer Clayton Anderson will return to Earth from the space station aboard shuttle mission STS-120. That flight will carry his replacement, Daniel Tani, to the station. Tani will return on shuttle mission STS-122.

Because of her ties to western New York, many activities have been planned with area schools and kids from throughout western New York will be able to speak with her through amateur radio.

GREATER BUFFALO HARVEST HAMFEST & WESTERN NEW YORK ARRL SECTION CONVENTION

Sponsored by the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

When: Sunday October 14, 2007
Where: Ismailia Shrine Center
1600 Southwestern Blvd RT 20
West Seneca, NY 14224

7:30 AM Hall opens for general admission
8:30 AM VE Test session
10:00 AM ARRL Guest Speaker Norm Fusaro
ARRL Clubs Manager
10:30 AM Demonstration and talk
11:00 AM Talk-in Prize Drawing \$25
Talk In 147.255 + pl 107.2

Hamfest Web Site: gbhamfest.hamgate.net
Admission: only \$7



NIKE BASE CHAIRMAN

The STARS Board of Directors has unanimously named Don Niles K2PMC as the club NIKE Base Chairmen. Don has already done a tremendous job with the antennas and we know he's going to do a great job!

Thanks Don for taking on this role!

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on a quarterly basis. For information on or to pre-register for Lancaster exams, call Hal Cameron NH7R at 832-0031. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be hold test sessions on the first Saturday of the month (except when falling on a holiday weekend, when they will be on the second Saturday) starting promptly at 10AM at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman Street. Walk-ins accepted, pre-registration is highly recommended. For information on or to pre-register for ARATS exams, call Vic Godzik K2YW at 694-9738 or email 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.

CLUB NETS

STARS club nets are open to all to exchange information on local amateur radio activities.

STARS WB2EZX Memorial HF net meets at 10AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM. Bob Lehning WA2YSJ is usually the net controller.

STARS co-sponsors, along with WB2JPQ, the Sunday morning RagChew Net at 9:30AM on 28.380 Mhz.



STARS has been
designated a Special
Service Club by the ARRL.

OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Oct 6, 1500Z-2000Z, Seney, MI. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club, W8W. Seney NWR: 104 Years of Service. 14.250 14.070 7.250 7.060. QSL. Lake Effect ARC/NWR2007, 36 Southfork St, Marquette, MI 49855. www.pilgrimriver.com/nwr2007

Oct 6-Oct 14, 0100Z-2359Z, Milford, CT. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club, W1M. 104 years. 21.310 14.265 CW 7.110. QSL. Kevin Gunther, 2 Milford Point Rd, Milford, CT 06460. beeltee@optonline.net

Oct 7-Oct 13, 1500Z-2000Z, Newburyport, MA. Pentucket Radio Association, K1W. 21.310 14.265 7.240 3.880. QSL. Larry Caruso, K1LGC, 77 Whittier Rd, Haverhill, MA 01830. www.pra625.org

Oct 12-Oct 14, 1700Z-0300Z, Reelfoot Lake, TN. Dyer County Amateur Radio Association, W4R. 14.262 7.262 3.962. Certificate. Dyer County Amateur Radio Association -- W4R, Howard Runions, 1355 Tatumville Rd, Newbern, TN 38059. hireddux@yahoo.com

Oct 13-Oct 14, 1600Z-2000Z, Seney, MI. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club, W8W. 104 Years of Service. 14.250 14.070 7.250 7.060. QSL. Lake Effect ARC / NWR2007, 36 Southfork St, Marquette, MI 49855. www.pilgrimriver.com/nwr2007

Oct 6, 1300Z-2000Z, Portsmouth, VA. Portsmouth Amateur Radio Club, W4POX. 40th Anniversary of the Portsmouth Lightship Museum. 28.360 21.360 14.260 7.210. Certificate. Portsmouth ARC, PO Box 7696, Portsmouth, VA 23707. w4pox@arrl.net

Oct 6, 1400Z-2000Z, Radioville, IN. Starke County Amateur Radio Club, W9JOZ. Radioville, the town that never existed. 14.652 14.250 7.225. QSL. John Poindexter, 204 South Main St, Knox, IN 46534. w9joz@w9joz.org

Oct 6, 1500Z-1900Z, Dallas, GA. Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society Inc, W4RSC. Artillery Through The Ages Pickett's Mill Battlefield. 14.265. Certificate. W4RSC, PO Box 1873, Hiram, GA 30141. www.silvercometars.com

Oct 6-Oct 7, 1300Z-2000Z, Torrington, CT. CQ Radio Club, K1BCI. To Work All States for our 60th Anniversary! 21.273 14.273 7.273 3.973 6 m. QSL. CQ Ra-

dio Club, 33 Sunset Ln, Torrington, CT 06790. www.cqradioclub.com

Oct 20, 1300Z-1730Z, Randleman, NC. Tri-County Amateur Radio Club, NC4AR. 19th Annual NASCAR Day Festival. 14.270 7.268. Certificate. NC4AR, PO Box 747, Trinity, NC 27370.

Oct 20, 1400Z-1800Z, Norman, OK. University of Oklahoma Amateur Radio Club, W5TC. 2007 National Weather Festival. 28.350 21.270 14.225 7.175. QSL. OU Amateur Radio Club (W5TC), c/o Judson Ahern, 100 E Boyd St., Room 810, Norman, OK 73019. ouarc.ou.edu

Oct 20-Oct 21, 1600Z-0500Z, Woodland, CA. Yolo District Boy Scouts, W6Y. Jamboree on the Air, 100th Anniversary of World Scouting. 14.290 7.190 IRLP 5750 EL 107315. QSL. Bill Ragsdale, K6KN, PO Box 1500, Woodland, CA 95776. yolobsa.editme.com/JOTA

Oct 20-Nov 3, 1200Z-2300Z, Honeoye, NY. Ontario County (NY) RACES, K2S. Space Shuttle Mission STS-120 commanded by Col Pam Melroy. 18.155 14.265 7.265. QSL. Norm Schrader, 6009 Pine Haven La, Honeoye, NY 14471. wb2ggm@yahoo.com

OCTOBER CONTESTS

Classic Exchange -- CW, from 1300Z Oct 7-0700Z Oct 8. Frequencies: 1.810, 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.135, 28.050, 50.100, 144.100 Mc. Score: QSOs on all bands x equipment age multiplier. For more information: gsl.asti.com/CX.

VHF Fall Sprints -- CW/Phone/Digital, 432 MHz, 7-11 PM local Oct 3. (See September *QST*, p 90, or www.svhfs.org).

PSK Rumble (The Fall Classic) -- sponsored by Troy ARA, 0000Z-2400Z Oct 6. Frequencies: 160-6 meters. For more information: www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_rumble_rules.html.

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10-10 Day Sprint -- Phone/CW/Digital, 0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10. One QSO per station, regardless of mode. Logs due 25 Oct. (see August *QST*, p 96 or www.ten-ten.org).

VHF Fall Sprints -- CW/Phone/Digital, Microwave (902 MHz and higher), 6 AM-12 PM local Oct 13. (See September *QST*, p 90, or www.svhfs.org.)

Straight Key Sprint -- sponsored by the Straight Key Century Club from 0000Z-0200Z Oct 10 (WES Weekend Sprint, 0000Z Oct 28-0000Z Oct 29). Frequencies (MHz): 3.550, 7.055, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050. Categories: SKCC Member, Non-Member. For more information: www.usatek.net/~yoel/contests.html

North American RTTY Sprint -- sponsored by the *National Contest Journal*, 0000Z-0400Z Oct 14. Frequencies 80-20 meters. North American stations work everyone; others work NA stations only. For more information: www.ncjweb.com.

Oceania DX Contest -- CW, 0800Z Oct 13-0800Z Oct 14 (see Oct 6-7).

FISTS Fall Sprint -- CW, sponsored by FISTS CW Club from 1700Z-2100Z Oct 13. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Categories: SOAB (QRP and QRO), Club. For more information: www.fists.org.

W/VE Islands QSO Party -- CW/SSB/Digital from 1600Z Oct 20-2359Z Oct 21. Frequencies: 160-6 meters. Categories: Island Fixed, Expedition, Rover, non-island W/VE, DX, SWL. Non-island stations contact W/VE Island stations. Modes are combined in new rules. For more information: www.usislands.org.

VHF Fall Sprints -- CW/Phone/Digital, 50 MHz, 2300Z Oct 20-0300Z Oct 21. (See September *QST*, p 90, or www.svhfs.org. Logs due four weeks from contest.)

QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party -- CW, sponsored by QRP ARC International from 1200Z Oct 20-2400Z Oct 21, operate 24 hrs max. Frequencies (MHz): 1.810, 3.560, 3.710, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060. Categories: SOAB, SO-High Band (20-6), SO-Low Band (160-40).

For more information: www.qrparci.org.

Great Pumpkin Sprint -- PSK31, sponsored by the Penn-Ohio DX Society (PODXS) from 2000 Oct 20-0200 Oct 21, local time. Frequencies: 160 meters. Categories: QRP, LP (<50 W), MP (<100 W). For more information: www.podxs.com/html/160_meter_sprint.html.

ARRL International EME Contest, 0000Z Oct 27-2400Z Oct 28, 50-1296 MHz (see August *QST*, p 104, or www.arrl.org/contests).

CQ World Wide DX Contest -- SSB, sponsored by *CQ Magazine*, 0000Z Oct 27-2400Z Oct 28 (CW is 0000Z Nov 24-2400Z Nov 25). Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Categories: SOAB and SOSB (HP, LP, QRP), MS, M2 (new), MM. MS has 10 minute rule. For more information: www.cqww.com.

10-10 International CW/Digital Contest, 0001Z Oct 27-2359Z Oct 28. Logs due Nov 12 (see August *QST*, p 96, or www.ten-ten.org).

Straight Key Weekend Sprint -- 0000Z Oct 28-0000Z Oct 29, see Oct 10-14.



STARS
Hamburg, NY

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins Avenues) at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome. Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Nike Base Club Station at 7:30PM and are open to all club members.

CLUB HF STATION

The club Nike Base HF station is located on Lakeview Road 1.75 miles east of Route 20 next to the Hamburg Town Arena.

HAM RADIO TRIVIA

Test your knowledge with these questions taken from the great QRZ.COM trivia website. There's thousands more on the website!

- Which of the following is not an amplifier?
 - Drake L 4 B
 - Heathkit SB-220
 - Yaesu TM-2100
 - Collins-L-1
- Which of the following would not be an insulator?
 - Vinyl
 - Rubber
 - Mica
 - Graphite
- Which propagation mode is common on 6 meters?
 - F-layer
 - E-layer
 - Tropo
 - All of the above
- In Fast Scan Amateur Television (ATV) (FSTV), how many frame (still pictures) are there in 1 second?
 - 120
 - 60
 - 30
 - 6
- What are the three main parts of a typical triode electron tube?
 - Filament, Sink, and Anode
 - Grid, Plate, and Filament
 - Screen Grid, RF Choke, and Plate
 - Plate, Screen, and Cathode
- When calibrating true north on your antenna rotator with a compass, in which state would you most likely not have to worry about magnetic declination?
 - Texas
 - Alaska
 - Ohio
 - Wisconsin
- When tuning a trapped vertical antenna for lowest SWR, one should always:
 - Tune the antenna to the highest available frequency first
 - Tune the antenna to the lowest available frequency first
 - Tune the antenna to 20 meters first
 - Use a dummy load to protect the transceiver

- A mismatched transmission line is indicated by which of the following measurements:
 - A reflection coefficient greater than 1
 - An SWR less than 1:1
 - A load impedance greater or less than 50 ohms
 - An SWR greater than 1:1
- Which statement about a three-element Yagi antenna is true?
 - Low feed-point impedance increases bandwidth
 - The reflector is normally the shortest parasitic element
 - The driven element is the longest parasitic element
 - The director is normally the shortest parasitic element
- Vacuum tubes operate by _____?
 - Magic
 - Secondary Emission
 - Spurious Emission
 - Thermionic Emission



STARS Board of Directors

President	Bob Koster KA2WYE
Vice President	Keith Patterson KC2DGC
Treasurer	Jack Cullum KB2ESM
Fin. Secretary	Judy Levan N2TEZ
Secretary	Wayne Carpus W2ZDP
Director	John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC
Director	Scott Barto KB2KOL

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

1-c (Yaesu doesn't make a TM-2100. Their amps usually start with performance tubes.); 3-d; 4-c; 5-b (Some tubes may have indirectly heated cathodes, but most triodes have grid, plate and filament); 6-insulator. Graphite is used in resistors, potentiometers, and in high FL e.g. FL-2100); 2-d (Graphite is a metal, so it wouldn't be a good conductor.); 7-a (When tuning a trapped vertical, one should always start with the highest frequency trap, located near the feedpoint, and move sequentially upward toward the lowest frequency trap. This method avoids detuning adjustments already made); 8-d (One must know the transmission line impedance to be able to determine if answer C is correct); 9-d; 10-d.