

telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

NOVEMBER 2007

VOL 41 Issue 3

2008 CLUB ELECTIONS

At the October club meeting, the following individuals were nominated to run for 2008 officers and directors:

President:	Keith Patterson KC2DGC
Vice President:	Scott Barto KB2KOL
Treasurer:	Jack Cullum KB2ESM
Secretary:	Wayne Carpus W2ZDP
Financial Secretary:	Judy Levan N2TEZ
Director (2-yr term):	Ken Pokigo KC2AYK

In addition to these nominated candidates, there will be lines for write-in votes on the ballot. People interested in being a write-in candidate may announce this prior to the election.

STARS members wishing an absentee ballot may request one from the Membership Chair. Absentee ballots must be returned by the date of the election to be counted.

W2XB—LIFE MEMBER

Don Blachura W2XB was presented his long overdue Life Membership Certificate at the October club meeting. In the photo to the left, Judy Levan N2TEZ presents Don Blachura W2XB with his certificate.

Don was one of the original Charter members of STARS when the club formed in 1967.

Congratulations Don!

NOVEMBER MEETING

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday November 1 at the **NIKE Base Clubhouse**. All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

Club elections will take place. Come out and be counted!

We look forward to seeing you there.



WHERE WE'VE BEEN...

10 years ago ...from the Telstar November 1997

Congratulations on the following upgrades/new calls: Paul Julyan WB2KFL upgraded to advanced; John Crawford Jr. N2ZDL upgraded to general; Mark Kumro KB2RAS changed his call to W2MKW.

20 years ago ...from the November 1987 Telstar

KA2SEZ should be congratulated for the nice improvement that came about to the NIKE base. No more Fibber McGee's closet attack every time you open the storage room door. - Guz's Gossip Column

35 years ago ...from the November 1972 Telstar

Speaker at the next meeting: "The Wonderful World of DX". So plan to attend and bring your friends as it should be a very interesting talk. - Hap WB2YNR

40 years ago ...from the November 1967 Telstar

CONTEST: At the last meeting it was decided by the members to open the selection of an official club emblem. All those wishing to submit a design, bring or send them to the next meeting. The prize for the winning design will be a current edition of the U.S. Callbook.

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

VE SESSION

STARS will be holding a VE Test Session on Saturday November 10th. The session will be held at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Aves.)



All candidates should arrive by 9AM. Walk-ins will be allowed, but pre-registering will help speed up the processing the day of the test.

All candidates should bring the following to the test session:

1. An original photo ID or two other original forms of ID, plus a photocopy of the ID(s) to be turned in to the examiners for their records.
2. Your current amateur radio license (if any) plus a photocopy of it.
3. The original copies of any applicable Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) plus a photocopy of each.
4. A test fee of \$14.00
5. Your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN). Your application for a new or upgraded amateur radio license will be rejected by the FCC if you do not provide one of these numbers.

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 by email, send me (Judy) a note at n2tez@msn.com.

EARTH SCIENCE DAY AT THE PENN DIXIE SITE

STARS took part in the 10th Annual Earth Science Day at the Penn Dixie Site on Saturday October 13th.

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.



We made several QSOs, including one in Stockholm who reminded us that he made a contact with us in 2002 and never received our QSL card. (That's been taken care of!)

Thanks to STARS members Keith Patterson KC2DGC, John Crawford KB2VWC, Jack Cullum KB2ESM, John Leitten KA2RFT, Scott Barto KB2KOL and Wayne Carpus W2ZDP who came out to help and introduce the kids to amateur radio.

TIME TO RENEW!

It's time to renew your STARS membership. A 2007 renewal form is included on the last page.

Why not take the time right now to complete the form and mail it along with your dues to:

Judy Levan N2TEZ
120 University Blvd.
Depew, NY 14043-2974

STARS continues to be one of the largest amateur radio clubs in the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area, but we need each of you to help keep us great. Won't you do your part by renewing your membership today?

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) celebrated its 50th year this year on October 19-21. JOTA is an annual event during which Scouts meet other Scouts through amateur radio contacts.

STARS was host to the Girl Scouts Troop 581 and members of their families. Troop 581 is sponsored by the Hamburg All Saints Lutheran Church.

Anne Fanelli WI2G, Scott Barto KB2KOL, Wayne Carpus W2ZDP and John Leitten KA2RFT were at the Nike Base club house to welcome, explain amateur radio and help each Girl Scout and some family members make a contact. All contacts were done on forty meters, all were located in New England area.

The girls did a wonderful job of communicating their name (using the phonic alphabet). They also passed on information about our QTH, WX, what hobbies they like and their age. The girls also learned and used some "Ham Talk" i.e. QSL, QTH, YL, 73, CW, SSB and "OVER"

After all our guests had made a contact (total of 14) Anne did a demo CW contact with K1BSA.

All the work done over the summer on the antenna system and the on going work in the operations room has resulted one superior station to operate. When WB2ELW transmits all stations on frequency hear it 5 9 plus. STARS members all had a good time participating in JOTA the Girls said "That was fun doing a cool thing".



AMATEURS CALLED IN TO SERVICE IN CALIFORNIA

As fires raged through parts of the San Diego area and other areas in Southern California, ham radio operators did their part to ensure the safety of residents either affected or threatened by the fires. ARES groups in San Diego were activated on Monday, October 22 and continued to assist their served agencies until early Wednesday morning. Sixty hams were called to service by the County of San Diego's Emergency Medical Service.

According to ARRL San Diego Section Emergency Coordinator James J. Cammarano II, KG6R, hams assisted at the San Diego Medical Operations Center, six trauma centers and 16 community hospitals. Hams served as a resource, Cammarano said, "to be used in case primary circuits to hospital communications were lost due to either overload or power interruptions." In addition to these 60 amateurs, another dozen or so hams were activated by the Red Cross.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, learned that San Diego ARES volunteers were activated and now they are in standby mode. "They are ready to go at a moment's notice, but there are currently no plans for re-activation," he said. As in any emergency situation, information can quickly change and the ARRL will continue to monitor the situation and inform members if the situation changes.

As the fires started to spread, hams started a FIRE-NET on the Palomar ARC 146.73 MHz repeater. Initial operations started by collecting fire information as to fire location, wind directions, shelter locations and initial evacuations. Hams provided eyes and ears on the ground where the danger was.

Ron Roberts, Chairman of the San Diego Board of Supervisors estimates that 560,000 people were ordered to evacuate their homes, and thousands more were evacuated in San Bernardino, Los Angeles and Orange counties.

Firefighters received help from Mexico, the state and federal governments and even inmates from California's prisons. About 7000 firefighters were battling the blazes, including 2300 inmates from California's Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, according to Governor Schwarzenegger.

President Bush Declared a federal emergency for seven counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura.

—ARRL News

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding test sessions 11/10/2007 and in 2008 on: 1/12, 3/8, 5/10, 7/12, 9/13, and 11/8. For information or to pre-register for STARS tests, contact John Crawford KB2VWC at 649-5933.

LARC Holds it's VE tests on the last Tuesday of selected months (usually every other month). Test sessions are held at 7:00 PM, at the Lancaster Office of Emergency Management at 525 Pavement Rd, Lancaster. Pre-registration is requested for all sessions, but not required. For more information or to find out test dates you can Contact John Maxwell W2JM at maxwell@buffalo.edu / OR - Joseph Gearhart WV2NY at : 894-2407 / wv2ny@roadrunner.com.

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.

FOR SALE

The XYL of SK Bob Doering, KC2QYX, former STARS member, is selling a Yaesu FT-1000 Mark V Field. The radio is in mint condition and has the factory installed filters, which include a narrow 500hz CW filter. It works like a charm and puts out a full 100W. This unit is available to club members for \$1200.

For more information or if you're interested, contact Don Nile K2PMC at 627-5297 or email k2pmc@adelphia.net.

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.

CLUB NETS

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

STARS WB2EZU 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.

OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

LOSS OF THE EDMUND FITZGERALD

Nov 1-Nov 5, 1700Z-1700Z, Whitefish Point, MI. Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society, N8F & K8F. 18.160 14.260 7.260 3.860. Certificate. www.qsl.net/w8njh

Nov 2-Nov 5, 2100Z-1900Z, Split Rock, MN. Stillwater Amateur Radio Association, WØJH. Stations operating at Split Rock Lighthouse (ARLHS USA 783). 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.860. Certificate. Shel Mann, NØDRX, 1618 West Pine St, Stillwater, MN 55082. www.radioham.org

Nov 3, 1500Z-2000Z, Detroit, MI. Livonia Amateur Radio Club, W8F. 10 15 20 40 m (80 m if conditions allow). Certificate. livoniaarc.5gbfree.com

VETERAN'S DAY AND MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY

Nov 9-Nov 12, 1400Z-2000Z, Arlington Heights, IL. Armored Force Amateur Radio Net, KA9NLX. 28.640 21.375 14.325 7.283 7.030 3.985 possibly 2m. Certificate. jpaskev@aol.com

Nov 10-11, 1500Z-2200Z, Waterloo, IA. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club, WØFSB. Marine Corps birthday and honoring Greg (Pappy) Boyington. 14.240 7.240. Certificate. t-mc-nulty@msn.com

Nov 10, 1600Z-2300Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 COMEDTRA, NI6IW. Commemorate Veterans Day and Marine Corps Birthday. 14.325 7.260. QSL. w9bq@aol.com

Nov 10-Nov 12, 1300Z-2100Z, Iron Mountain, MI. Mich-A-Con Amateur Radio Club, K8V. 14.280 14.060 7.230 7.060. Certificate. www.grz.com/k8v

Nov 11, 1200Z-2359Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Assoc, N2UL. CQ Veterans' Day, *Freedom is not Free!* 28.420 14.260 449.975. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

Nov 11, 1300Z-2359Z, Bellevue, NE. Strategic Air Command Memorial Amateur Radio Club, KOAIR. 14.254 7.178 3.8. QSL. k0qrl@sacmarc.org

Nov 11, 1500Z-2230Z, Baton Rouge, LA. USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. SSB 14.250 to 14.320 CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm

(Continued on page 6)



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

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Nov 11, 1700Z-2200Z, Interlachen, FL. USS Essex CVS-9 Aircraft Carrier, WA2SEI. Honoring all veterans and all WWII ships. 14.250 50.145.

QSL.wa2sei@yahoo.com or www.qrz.com/wa2sei

Nov 11-Nov 12, 1300Z-1930Z, Grand Rapids, MI. Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance, W8USA. Veterans Day from the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. SSB 21.280 14.290 7.275 CW 14.045 7.045. Certificate.

www.w8usa.org

Nov 11-Nov 12, 1600Z-0100Z, Santa Cruz, CA. United Veterans Council of Santa Cruz, K6V. Veteran's Day 2007, from the Veteran's Memorial Building. 14.280 7.250. QSL. United Veterans Council, 846 Front St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS:

Nov 10-Nov 11, 1900Z-2300Z, Glendale, AZ. Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club, K7R. NASCAR Race at Phoenix International Raceway. 28.360 21.360 14.260. QSL. Johnne Ables, W1YB, 16829 N. Orchard Hills Dr, Sun City, AZ 85351. www.w7tbc.org

Nov 24-Nov 25, 1400Z-2000Z, Plymouth, MA. Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO. The first Pilgrim landing at Plymouth Massachusetts. 18.140 14.280 7.250 3.890. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382.

Nov 24-Dec 9, 0000Z-0000Z, Paris, FRANCE. Association des Radioamateurs de Paris, TM8IRC. 80th Birthday of the International Radiotelegraph Convention. 21.270 14.270 7.070 3.770. Certificate. ARP, 66 Avenue de la Republique, Paris 75011, FRANCE. arp75.free.fr

OCTOBER CONTESTS

2007 Fall IBM QSO Party--SSB, from 0000Z - 2400Z Nov 3. (CW/RTTY/PSK31 Nov 10) For scoring and more information: ibmqprules.w0ry.net.

[ARRL November Sweepstakes](http://www.arrl.org/contests) -- CW, from 2100Z Nov 3-0300Z Nov 5. (Phone from 2100Z Nov 17 to 0300Z Nov 19; see October QST, p 102, or www.arrl.org/contests.)

High Speed Club CW Contest, sponsored by the Radio Telegraphy High Speed Club (HSC) from 0900Z-1100Z and 1500Z-1700Z Nov 4. Frequencies: 80-10 meters,

10-30 kHz above band edge. Categories: SOAB-LP (<150W), SOAB-QRP (<5W), SWL. For more information: www.dl3bzz.de.

IPA Contest -- Phone/CW, sponsored by The International Police Association Radio Club. CW from 0600Z-1000Z and 1400Z-1800Z Nov 3, Phone from 0600Z-1000Z and 1400Z-1800Z Nov 4. Frequencies: 80-10 meters with 15-minute band change rule. Categories: SOAB, MO (includes club and special event stations) and SWL. For more information: www.ipa-rc.de.

Radio Club of America QSO Party, SSB/AM, from 1700Z Nov 3-0500Z Nov 4. See Web site for frequency schedule. Exchange: RST, QTH, name, equipment used. RCA members sign their calls "/RCA". For more information: www.radioclubofamerica.org.

2007 Fall IBM QSO Party--CW/RTTY/PSK31, from 0000Z - 2400Z Nov 10 (see Nov 3)

Kentucky QSO Party -- CW/Phone, sponsored by the Western KY DX Association from 1400Z Nov 10-0600Z Nov 11. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: wkdx.com/page2.html

Japan International DX Contest -- Phone, from 0700Z Nov 10-1300Z Nov 11 (see April QST, p 97, or jidx.org).

Worked All Europe DX Contest (WAEDC) -- RTTY, from 0000Z Nov 10-2359Z Nov 11. Same rules as WAEDC Phone and CW, except everyone works everyone. QTC may only be exchanged between continents (see August QST, p 96, or www.waedc.de).

[ARRL November Sweepstakes](http://www.arrl.org/contests) -- Phone, from 2100Z Nov 17-0300Z Nov 19 (see Nov 3-4).

RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest -- CW, from 2100 Nov 17-0100Z Nov 18 (see Feb QST, p 101). For more information: www.rsgbhfcc.org.

PSK63 QSO Party -- sponsored by the European PSK Club from 0000Z to 2400Z Nov 18. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, near PSK calling frequencies. Categories: SOAB, 100 watts max, spotting assistance allowed. For more information: www.eu.srars.org.

CQ WW DX Contest -- CW, from 0000Z Nov 24 to 2400Z Nov 25 (see October QST, p 91, or cqww.com).

[ARRL EME Contest](http://www.arrl.org/contests), from 0000Z Nov 24-2400Z Nov 25. Frequencies: 50-1296 MHz (see August QST, p 96 or www.arrl.org/contests).

HAM RADIO TRIVIA

1. If the FCC rules say that the amateur service is a secondary user of a frequency band, and another service is a primary user, what does this mean?
 - A. Nothing special; all users of a frequency band have equal rights to operate
 - B. Amateurs are only allowed to use the frequency band during emergencies
 - C. Amateurs are allowed to use the frequency band only if they do not cause harmful interference to primary users
 - D. Amateurs must increase transmitter power to overcome any interference caused by primary users
2. If you are operating on 28.400 MHz, in what amateur band are you operating?
 - A. 80 meters
 - B. 40 meters
 - C. 15 meters
 - D. 10 meters
3. As a general rule, what effect does antenna height above ground have on the RF exposure environment?
 - A. Power density is not related to antenna height or distance from the RF exposure environment
 - B. Antennas that are farther above ground produce higher maximum permissible exposures (MPE)
 - C. The higher the antenna the less the RF radiation exposure at ground level
 - D. RF radiation exposure is increased when the antenna is higher above ground
4. Which of the following antennas would (generally) create a stronger RF field on the ground beneath the antenna?
 - A. A horizontal loop at 30 meters above ground
 - B. A 3-element Yagi at 30 meters above ground
 - C. A 1/2 wave dipole antenna 5 meters above ground
 - D. A 3-element Quad at 30 meters above ground
5. On what value are the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits based?
 - A. The square of the mass of the exposed body
 - B. The square root of the mass of the exposed body
 - C. The whole-body specific gravity (WBSG)
 - D. The whole-body specific absorption rate (SAR)
6. What could happen to your transceiver if you replace its blown 5 amp AC line fuse with a 30 amp fuse?
 - A. The 30-amp fuse would better protect your transceiver from using too much current
 - B. The transceiver would run cooler
 - C. The transceiver could use more current than 5 amps and a fire could occur
 - D. The transceiver would not be able to produce as much RF output

7. How does the Doppler effect change an amateur satellite's signal as the satellite passes overhead?
 - A. The signal's amplitude increases or decreases
 - B. The signal's frequency increases or decreases
 - C. The signal's polarization changes from horizontal to vertical
 - D. The signal's circular polarization rotates
8. If you are talking to a station using a repeater, how would you find out if you could communicate using simplex instead?
 - A. See if you can clearly receive the station on the repeater's input frequency
 - B. See if you can clearly receive the station on a lower frequency band
 - C. See if you can clearly receive a more distant repeater
 - D. See if a third station can clearly receive both of you
9. Why should you pause briefly between transmissions when using a repeater?
 - A. To check the SWR of the repeater
 - B. To reach for pencil and paper for third-party communications
 - C. To listen for anyone wanting to break in
 - D. To dial up the repeater's autopatch
10. What device produces a stable, low-level signal that can be set to a desired frequency?
 - A. A wavemeter
 - B. A reflectometer
 - C. A signal generator
 - D. An oscilloscope
11. What point in an antenna system is called the feed point?
 - A. The antenna connection on the back of the transmitter
 - B. Halfway between the transmitter and the feed line
 - C. At the point where the feed line joins the antenna
 - D. At the tip of the antenna
12. What does horizontal wave polarization mean?
 - A. The magnetic lines of force of a radio wave are parallel to the Earth's surface
 - B. The electric lines of force of a radio wave are parallel to the Earth's surface
 - C. The electric lines of force of a radio wave are perpendicular to the Earth's surface
 - D. The electric and magnetic lines of force of a radio wave are perpendicular to the Earth's surface

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

Pool

How did you do? All the questions are from the Technician Question Pool.
 1-C; 2-D; 3-C; 4-C; 5-D; 6-C; 7-B; 8-A; 9-C; 10-C; 11-C; 12-B.



2008 STARS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ BIRTHDAY (Month/Date) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Are you a member of ARRL? YES NO

Do you want to receive your Telstar by email? YES NO

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS: Additional names and information:

CALL _____ NAME _____ CLASS _____

CALL _____ NAME _____ CLASS _____

CALL _____ NAME _____ CLASS _____

DUES: STARS Annual dues payable by January 1
SINGLE \$21 FAMILY \$27 STUDENT (through grade 12) \$8

RETURNED COMPLETED FORM AND DUES (Checks payable to STARS) to:
Judy Levan N2TEZ
120 University Blvd
Depew, NY 14043-2874