

# telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

FEBRUARY 2009

VOL 42 Issue 6

## A NEW DIRECTION FOR STARS

by Keith KC2DGC, STARS President

STARS will have a new direction for 2009 and beyond that should invite some renewed interest and involvement from our members as well as encourage new members to join us. This is going to be an exciting year.

I have always felt that emergency communications is the most significant fundamental purpose of amateur radio. In keeping with that philosophy it has been my goal to establish a relationship with the town of Hamburg to provide our club's support when called upon.

For the last 5 years Bob Koster KA2WYE and I have been promoting the idea of our club supporting the town of Hamburg during an emergency disaster. The first step was taken in 2005 when Jack Cullum Jr. KB2ESM and I meet with town treasurer, Jim Spute, to discuss the issue. Since then there has been very little communication between us, mostly because Jim and those who would have been our point of contact have since retired and the program was at a standstill.

To get the ball rolling, I asked for volunteers to sign up for a new STARS Ecomm Team in the fall of 2008, which 12 of you generously did. The first week of January 2009 I called the town of Hamburg and spoke to Tom Partridge who is the new Emergency Management Team representative. Tom has a long history with emergency management and his participation in Ride for Roswell demonstrated the value of amateur radio's role supporting the event.

Tom and his team are at the beginning phase of forming an emergency disaster response plan for the town.

## FEBRUARY MEETING

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday February 5 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.

Our presentation will be a BuddiPole demonstration.



Hope to see you there!

**BUDDIPOLE**

In the past, the town did not have this plan in place so the local fire company was called upon to fill this role. As we talked, he expressed his interest in getting our support, particularly during the early stage of their plan development process.

A special meeting was held at the Nike Base club station January 21, 2009 where Tom stated, "For the 18 years I've been with the town, I did not know about STARS". The meeting was very upbeat and productive. We explained our capabilities to Tom and he will be taking a list of facility renovation requests from us to the town board. Those requests include upgrading the commercial power, a backup power supply, and a phone line at the Nike Base club station.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY!



7th: Thomas Morrissey KC2TRG  
26th: Bob Koster KA2WYE

## CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00PM at either the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins Avenues) or the NIKE Base Clubhouse. 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 Sunday morning RagChew Net at 9:30AM on 28.380 Mhz.

*Don't forget to complete your Membership Survey that was included in the December Telstar!*

The completed survey should be returned to Scott Barto KB2KOL at 7090 Boston State Road, Hamburg, NY 14075.

Better yet, deliver it in person at the February meeting!

## STARS Board of Directors

President	Keith Patterson KC2DGC
Vice President	Scott Barto KB2KOL
Treasurer	Jack Cullum KB2ESM
Finc. Secretary	Judy Levan N2TEZ
Secretary	Wayne Carpus W2ZDP
Director	John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC
Director	Ken Pokigo KC2AYK

*(Continued from page 1)*

The new STARS Ecomm Team will hold special meetings to develop a procedure consistent with the towns Emergency Management Team and Erie county EOC guidelines. We will provide training such as FEMA emergency response courses, NBEMS (narrowband emergency messaging system) and CERT (community emergency response team). We will conduct un-official simulated walk-through exercises to measure our readiness and evaluate our performance.

Much of the STARS Ecomm activity will mirror what we already do at the Field Day exercise. The major difference is chain of command structure we will operate under for the field resources we will support. Mostly, only a Technician class license is required as the bulk of communications will be VHF/UHF.

In 2008 we sponsored meeting programs directly related to amateur radio and emergency disaster preparedness. Our February 2009 meeting program will be a demonstration of the "Buddipole" portable antenna system where we will actually put it on the air to test its performance. This type of antenna system is ideal for public demonstrations and emergency disaster deployment.

I'm very excited about getting this program underway. The opportunity for STARS to work directly with the town and its Emergency Management Team to establish the emergency disaster response plan that includes amateur radio support is a big feather in our cap. It is also important to our communities. By joining our STARS Ecomm Team you can help us in this new direction.

See you at the meeting!

Keith Patterson KC2DGC



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

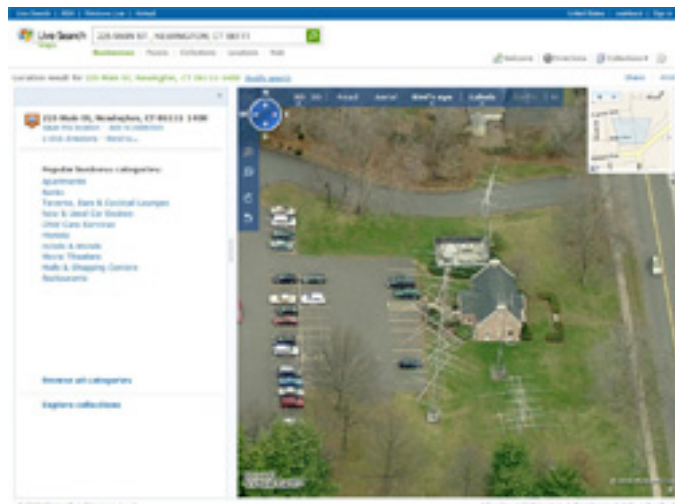
## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO SURF ON THE WEB?

If you're just surfing the web and want to try out something neat, try getting a bird's eye view of your antennas.

Go to Microsoft's [Live Search Maps page](#), type in your address in the Live Search field then press the magnifying glass button.

When the Web page returns with a map, click on the "Bird's Eye" link at the top of the map. Also, click on the "magnifying glass plus" icon on the left side to magnify the image and you will be able to check out the antenna farm, if any, at the station you selected. A caveat: Not all locations have the bird's eye view available at this time.

Click on the compass points (N, S, E and W) of the compass icon in the top left corner to change the view (you can view the site from each of the four compass points).



[Microsoft's Live Search Maps](#) provides a bird's eye view of the W1AW antenna farm (looking north).

## CONGRATULATIONS KC2ULT!

STARS held a VE Test Session on Saturday January 17th. Congratulations to Kevin Frederickson who passed his Technician exam.

For earning his license at a STARS test session, Kevin becomes an Associate member of STARS through 2009.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Statue of Liberty's index finger is 8 feet long, and it displays a fingernail measuring 13 by 10 inches.

## VE TEST SESSIONS



STARS VE sessions are the third Saturday of every other month 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. For more information, or to register for the test, contact John Crawford KB2VVC 649-5933.

LARC holds it's VE tests on the last Tuesday of the 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. Contact John Maxwell W2JM at maxwell@buffalo.edu / OR - Joseph Gearhart WV2NY at : 894-2407 / wv2ny@roadrunner.com .

ARATS holds test sessions on the first Saturday of the month 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 Bill Klepser WB2AIV at 839-3525 or email wb2aiv@arrl.net.

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

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Tower of London, for which construction was begun in 1078 by William the Conqueror, once housed a zoo. It also has served as an observatory, a mint, a prison, a royal palace, and (at present) the home of the Crown Jewels.

## HAVE YOUR RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

STARS continues to be one of the largest amateur radio clubs in the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area, but we need each of you to continue to help keep us great.



STARS dues are \$21 for individual members, \$27 for a family, and \$8 for student members.

A renewal application is available for download on our website at [www.wb2elw.com](http://www.wb2elw.com)

Send the completed application along with your dues check made payable to STARS to:

Judy Levan N2TEZ  
120 University Blvd.  
Depew, NY 14043-2874

### Can't remember if you'd renewed?

If you have a "VALID THROUGH 2009" sticker for your laminated nametag, you're all paid up. Don't have one? You haven't renewed yet.

## ARRL EXPANDS MEMBER ACCESS TO QST ARCHIVE

ARRL is pleased to announce that online access to the QST archive will be expanded. Beginning February 1, 2009, ARRL members will be able to search and view QST -- from December 1915 through December 2005 right from their computer. As an added benefit, ARRL Diamond Club members at the Brass level and above, as well as ARRL Maxim Society members, will be able to get images from the entire QST archive, right up through December 2008, an additional three years.

The online archive was first introduced to members in fall 2008, providing PDF copies of articles from the huge QST archive, from December 1915 through December 2004. Since then, thousands of members have enjoyed searching, viewing and printing their favorite articles, projects and more. The membership benefit is a service of the ARRL Technical Information Service (TIS). Access to the archive is free for ARRL members.

## LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD NOW EASIER THAN EVER

In order to better accommodate new users as well as existing account holders, ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) ([www.arrl.org/lotw/](http://www.arrl.org/lotw/)) has been updated. According to ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Asst. Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, these improvements were made based on LoTW help questions and listening to users.

"Through the efforts of Membership and Volunteer Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, and Information Technology Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z, we have also added an automated results table on the LoTW Users Home Page that lists members in numeric order who have achieved the Triple Play Award," said ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B.

Added enhancements include:

- An LoTW User's Corner that includes quick links to log onto your account, save or renew a certificate and ways to address PC failure.
- The GET STARTED section has been simplified with links for each of the four steps in the certificate process.
- LoTW instructions are now available in nine languages: English, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Russian, Slovenian and Spanish. Options to select a language have always been available, but they have now been moved up front to the GET STARTED page. The languages are identified with icons of flags to represent each language.
- The GET STARTED pdf file has been updated to include new screenshots and refinement of some of the processes.
- The software download section now consists of only three icons representing the three operating systems for which software is available: Windows, Mac and Linux. The user simply selects their operating system and they are redirected to the download specific to their system.
- A new link has been added for QSL Manager, Club Calls and DXpeditions. This link gives details on establishing an account for these special operations and includes a section for 1x1 call signs.

—ARRL News

## CHARTER MEMBERS and LIFETIME MEMBERS PLAQUES

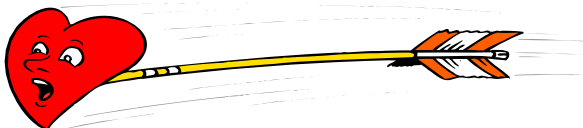
The STARS Board of Directors is moving forward toward acquiring two plaques to be displayed at the NIKE Base Clubhouse. One will list club members awarded Lifetime Membership and the other a list of STARS Charter Members. To the best of available information, the two lists are presented below. We know that the 'Charter Member' list is incomplete. Look over the lists and if you know of any errors or omissions, please let Scott KB2KOL or Judy N2TEZ know. The plaques will be ordered after the next Board meeting (Feb 26) so please respond by then.

### The Lifetime Members list:

Lin Brownell	WB2HCL	1984
Ralph Chaney	WA2CHZ	1985
Joe "Guz" Guzinski	WB2EZU	1985
Ernie Beetow	WB2GIM	1985
Val Orgera	K2KQC	1990
Bill Siska	N2GAO	1992
Bob Witt	WA2IQX	1992
John Leitten	KA2RFT	1993
Greg Young	KE2VW	1994
Frank Modzelewski	WG2H	1995
Terry Rockhold	K2OO	1996
Craig Stoll	WA2PCH	1998
Norm Jones	KD2KK	1999
Jack Cullum	KB2ESM	2002
Gary Zanghi	KB2YJ	2003
Tony Balas	KB2OUT	2003
Judy Levan	N2TEZ	2006
Don Blachura	W2XB	2007

### DID YOU KNOW?

A building in which silence is enforced, like a library or school room, is referred to as a "silentium."



### The Charter Member list:

Beetow, Ernie	WN2COD
Blachura, Don	WN2CEF
Boldun, John Jr	WN2DIX
Boldun, John Sr (Jack)	WA2CFE
Brown, Ron	WN2EKW
Brownell, Bill	WN2GNA
Brownell, Lin	WB2HCL
Chaney, Ralph	WA2CHZ
Cole, Leonard (Hap)	WB2YNR
Grabowski, Steve	WN2DDL
Grubb, Charley	K2VUK
Guzinski, Joe (Guz)	WB2EZU
Helta, Henry (Hank)	WB2TGL
Helta, Jerry	WB2SUX
Jamieson, Allen	WA2WBO
Jamieson, Fred	WA2VVE
Jamieson, Robert	WA2VVF
Jimenez, Jim M.	WB2YVP
Jimenez, Jim W.	W2YEH
Limpert, Ray	WA2FBE
Miller, Jack	K2EQB
Mullner, George	WB2QWR
Obad, Leo (Skip)	WN2CEH
Orgera, Valerie	K2KQC
Shaw, Bob	WN2DVW
Sickau, Jim	WB2TVP
Spies, Fred	K5IIX
Stirling, Dan	WN2CNH
Stirling, Rob	WN2FLY
Uhlman, Paul	WA2PCN

## A BIG THANKS!

To all those who have already contributed to our "BuddiPole fund" at our meetings.



Can you "Chuck a Buck"?

## LAURA L. SMITH NAMED TO AMATEUR RADIO ENFORCEMENT ROLE

Laura L. Smith of Pennsylvania has been named by the FCC to fill the vacancy created when Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, retired in 2008 as Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. Hollingsworth served in that position for more than 10 years as the FCC's enforcement watchdog over the Amateur Radio Service.

A 1990 graduate of the Pepperdine University School of Law, Smith began her legal career with the FCC, working in the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. She also served as Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. Smith is currently licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 1998, Smith left the FCC to become Executive Director of Governmental Affairs for the Industrial Telecommunications Association (ITA), now Enterprise Wireless Alliance. In that role, she monitored FCC and legislative proceedings and participated in all regulatory proceedings relevant to the private wireless industry. In 2001, Smith became ITA's President and Chief Executive Officer. While in that position, she was instrumental in the formation of the Consensus Group, a group of public safety and private wireless entities responsible for drafting the "Consensus Plan," a proposed resolution for interference in the 800 MHz band; this was adopted by the FCC in 2004.

Smith returns to the FCC after serving Of Counsel with the Maryland law firm of Shulman Rogers. While there, she dealt with telecommunications matters and provided counsel to numerous entities in the private radio and public safety communities. Smith has served as an industry consultant and written columns for a variety of trade publications including "Mobile Radio Technology Magazine" and "The Private Wireless Magazine."

In an October 2008 letter to then-FCC Chairman

Kevin Martin, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, urged Martin to name a successor to Hollingsworth: "The appointment of a replacement Special Counsel in this position is of critical importance to the Amateur Radio Service, as the delay in finalizing the appointment stands to undermine in very short order an exceptionally successful and low-cost program of enforcement in the Amateur Service."

Calling the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program "spectacularly successful," Harrison reminded Martin of the "long period in the late 1980s and 1990s during which the Commission was essentially uninvolved in enforcement in the Amateur Service. The Amateur Service, consisting of some 680,000 licensees of the Commission, is in essence a self-regulating service; however, due to the shared frequency allocations in the Service and the long distance propagation of amateur communications, a very few rule violators can cause severe disruption in the Service. On the other hand, even a minimal Commission presence has a very strong deterrent value."

When Hollingsworth was appointed as Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, Harrison said that Hollingsworth "established a visible presence in the Service and very quickly, and with very little investment of Commission resources, using little more than the awareness of an enforcement presence, created strong deterrence against rule violations."

Upon learning of Smith's move to the Amateur Radio enforcement role, Harrison remarked that he was "very pleased to see the Commission move forward with the hiring of a new Special Counsel responsible for enforcement of the Amateur Radio Service rules. Ever since Riley Hollingsworth announced his retirement, we have met with the Enforcement Chief numerous times and corresponded with FCC Chairman Martin to ensure this position remains intact at FCC. The Commission acknowledges the self-regulating environment we maintain, but also understands that we need their assistance occasionally to resolve a few situations. They have continually reassured us that this is an important matter for them, and Ms Smith's hiring confirms that."

—ARRL News

## FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

Feb 5, 1400Z-2000Z, San Angelo, TX. San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, W5QX. **Celebrating National Weatherman's Day.** 14.260 7.260. Certificate. SAARC, PO Box 4002, San Angelo, TX 76902. [www.w5qx.org](http://www.w5qx.org)

Feb 7, 1400Z-2000Z, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, W5NAC. 6th Annual Space Shuttle Columbia Recovery SES. 21.350 14.250 7.250. QSL. Nacogdoches ARC, 167 County Rd 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. [www.w5nac.com](http://www.w5nac.com)

Feb 7, 1400Z-2200Z, Rochester, NH. Great Bay Radio Association, W1FZ. 75th Anniversary of the Great Bay Radio Association. 14.250. Certificate. Larry Inman, K1SRJ, 397 Salmon Falls Rd, Rochester, NH 03868. [www.w1fz.org](http://www.w1fz.org)

Feb 7-Feb 8, 1500Z-2100Z, Milan, OH. The Thomas Edison Memorial Radio Club, NI8G. Celebrating Edison's Birthday, who was born in Milan, OH. 21.370 14.270 7.270 3.770. QSL. Jack Hubbard, NI8N, 13113 River Rd, Milan, OH 44846. Times are daily.

Feb 7-Feb 8, 1700Z-2359Z, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM. Gary Keck, KE7DX operating as, K5G. Carlsbad Caverns Natl Park Operation, New Mexico QSO Party. 14.280 7.260 14.050 7.045. QSL. Gary Keck, KE7DX, PO Box 18135, Tucson, AZ 85731. [pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqsoparty](http://pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqsoparty)

Feb 14, 1400Z-2200Z, Leavenworth, KS. Kickapoo QRP Amateur Radio Club, WOEBB. 5th Annual 'Freeze Your Keys' Winter Operating Event. 14.280 14.060

7.280 7.030. QSL. Gary Auchard, 34058 167th St, Leavenworth, KS 66048. [wOebb@juno.com](mailto:wOebb@juno.com)

Feb 14, 1700Z-2359Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. Commemorating the establishment of Navy Operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica in 1955. SSB 14.320 7.250 CW 14.060 7.055 PSK-31 7.070-7.080 RTTY 14.080 7.080 2m/70cm SOCAL rep WIN. QSL. USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Radio Room, 910 Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. [af6ha@yahoo.com](mailto:af6ha@yahoo.com)

Feb 16-Feb 20, 1400Z-2100Z, Ft Myers, FL. Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, W4LX. Celebrating Thomas Edison's Birthday and our 17th year. 28.340 21.350 14.240. Certificate. FMARC, PO Box 061183, Ft. Myers, FL 33906. [stellagurka@embarqmail.com](mailto:stellagurka@embarqmail.com) or [fmarc.net](http://fmarc.net)

Feb 20-Feb 23, 0100Z-2359Z, George, WA. Eastern Washington DX Club, W7G. George Washington's Birthday from George, WA. 14.250 18.135 7.225 3.880. QSL. Brian Nielson, 11650 Raod 1 SE, Moses Lake, WA 98837. [w7bjn@nwi.net](mailto:w7bjn@nwi.net) or [www.qrz.com/w7g](http://www.qrz.com/w7g)

Feb 21, 1500Z-2300Z, Kent, OH. Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc, KD8CKP. 4th Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off (FYAO) QRP Special Event. 21.320 14.320 7.245 3.830 EchoLink KC8RKV node. Certificate. Al Atkins, KB8VJL, 12433 Chamberlain Rd, Aurora, OH 44202. [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)

Feb 21-Feb 22, 1600Z-2100Z, Alexandria, VA. Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club, K4US. Commemorating George Washington's 277th Birthday. 14.240 7.240 7.035. Certificate. Mount Vernon ARC, PO Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307. [k4us@mvarc.com](mailto:k4us@mvarc.com) or [www.mvarc.com](http://www.mvarc.com)



**CW February 21-22**

**SSB March 7-8**

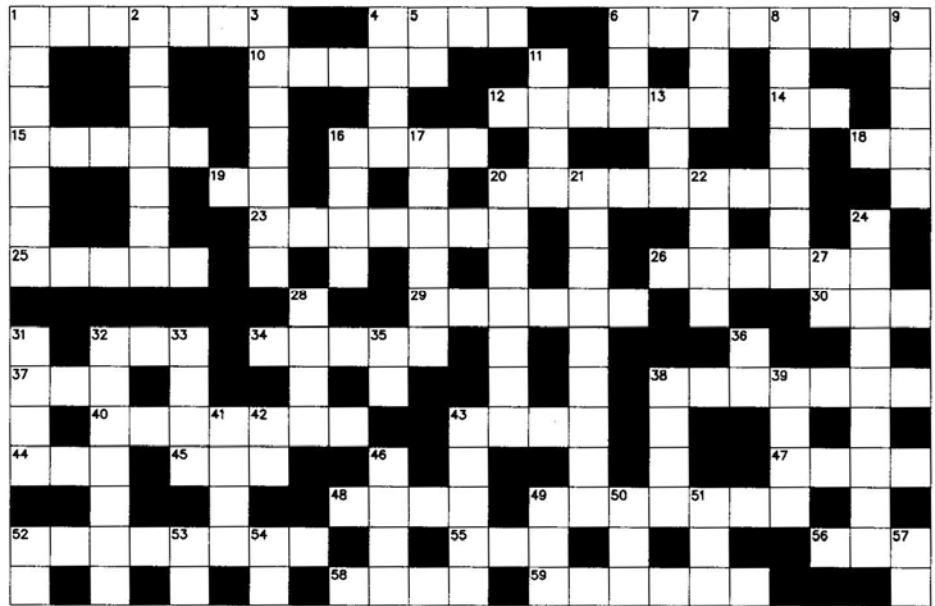


# A Crossword of Power and the Circuitry Associated with it

Another great puzzle from H. Ward Silver, NOAX

## ACROSS

1. Short \_\_\_\_\_
4. Binding \_\_\_\_\_ (type of connector)
6. Devices that can open and close circuits (plural)
10. Part of a motor that rotates
12. ac wall \_\_\_\_\_
14. North America (abbreviation)
15. Type of lug
16. Switch panel, or stack of cards
18. Alternating current (abbreviation)
19. Checked out; good
20. Below ground
23. Unwanted current flow
25. Condition of a circuit
26. Part of a motor that is stationary
29. Tube element that collects gaseous impurities
30. Black wire is \_\_\_\_\_
32. Problem with a circuit
34. Single or triple \_\_\_\_\_
37. Lower (abbreviation)
38. Motor component that forms inductance
40. Supplier of power
43. Stain
44. Generator fuel
45. Loud noise
47. Another name for circuit power supply voltage
48. Energized circuit
49. Function of a fuse
52. These devices open circuits
55. Much about nothing
56. Old
58. Hold in one state
59. This always comes first



## DOWN

1. Structure for mounting components, used for ground
2. Carries ac wiring
3. Slow charge
4. Single-\_\_\_\_\_, single-throw
5. Opposite of AND
6. Short-\_\_\_\_\_ listener (abbreviation)
7. Internal (abbreviation)
8. Attach to a circuit
9. Painful experience with electricity
11. Protective component
13. External (abbreviation)
16. De-energized circuit
17. Restore energy to a battery
20. Return circuit for ac power
21. Supplies energy by itself
22. Small piece is one \_\_\_\_\_
24. This must be properly done for safety
27. Overhead (abbreviation)
28. Worn-out
31. Male connector
32. Commutating contacts
33. System of ac power distribution
35. Single-operator (abbreviation)
36. Opposite of OFF
38. Powered
39. Soil; gets into contacts and causes trouble
41. Term for ac utility connection
42. Opposite of out
43. Open a circuit
46. Between nano and femto
49. Above ground (abbreviation)
50. Clumsy technician
51. Type of conduit (abbreviation)
52. Break (abbreviation)
53. Unit of high voltage (abbreviation)
54. Radio Frequency (abbreviation)
57. Electrical Engineer (abbreviation)

Answer to Puzzle

