

telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

NOVEMBER 2009

VOL 43 Issue 3

2010 CLUB ELECTIONS

At the October club meeting, the following individuals were nominated for 2010 officers and directors:

Vice President: Jim Starr N2TFA
Treasurer: Jack Cullum KB2ESM
Secretary: Wayne Carpus W2ZDP
Financial Secretary: Judy Levan N2TEZ
Director (2-yr term): John Crawford
KB2VWC

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.

Notice anything about the above nominations??? No one that was nominated for the office of President accepted the nomination. Therefore, we currently have no one running for President. Since the vote for President will be a write-in one, YOUR vote is even more important.

Please come and be heard at the November meeting!

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY!



4th: Pat Murray NW2I
17th: Ray Koeppel KC2EZF
18th: Charles Mann KC2TET
23rd: John Morrow KC2TXV

NOVEMBER MEETING

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

EARTH DAY AT THE PENN DIXIE SITE

STARS took part in celebrating Earth Science Day at the Penn Dixie Site on Saturday October 10th. The event introduces kids to the earth sciences and provides an opportunity to learn first-hand what earth scientists do and the importance of earth sciences to society.

STARS members Wayne W2ZDP, Kyle KC2RQO, Jim N2TFA and Keith KC2DGC manned the exhibit. With a steady stream of interested kids and adults they spent the morning and early afternoon talking about amateur radio and just what we do.

Our exhibit consisted of radios (of course), a static display about amateur radio and our club, and pamphlets about amateur radio, STARS and the ARRL.

WHAT YOU MISSED IF YOU MISSED THE LAST MEETING

...Excerpts from the minutes

President's Report:

- Keith reports that the 2-meter repeater is having issues, he will look into the problem.
 - The coax's for the remote base need to be replaced before placing it on the air again.
 - A reminder that October 10th is Earth Sciences Day at the Penn-Dixie site
- October 17th will feature two events, J.O.T.A. at Pioneer High School and the Diabetes Walk at Coca-Cola Field in Buffalo

Director Reports:

John, KB2VWC:

- The next VE session will be on November 21st
- The VE schedule is posted on the ARRL web page

Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK:

Spoke about the proposed balloon launch, noting preliminary ideas, working in separate groups on different aspects of the project. Various ideas were discussed at length.

Club House Chairman:

- Purchased the Balun for the antenna project, he will speak to Jerry, KA2MGE, to set a date for the work.

Jerry also asked if the Dentron Amp. could be modified for the 17 meter band, this will be looked into.

New Business:

- Greg, KE2VW, reports that he helped a Ron AA2VM get back on the air, and wondered if the club had an internal group to help members in

need of assistance.

Joe, KB2JDB, is looking for surplus radios and computers for use by the Pioneer High School Computer and Radio Club.

Following the meeting, an informative presentation on Ham Radio Deluxe was given by Don, K2PMC

ARRL PRESIDENT NOT TO SEEK RE-ELECTION

After serving two terms as ARRL President, Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has decided not to seek re-election when his current term expires January 16, 2010.

Harrison began his ARRL career as a volunteer ARRL elected official in 1983 when he became the Section Manager in the League's Arkansas Section. Subsequently, he has served as Delta Division Director and Vice President.

In 2000, he was elected First Vice President; he was elected President in 2006.

—ARRL News

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

TIME TO RENEW!

It's time to renew your STARS membership. A 2010 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

Are you still receiving a paper copy of the Telstar? Why not consider getting it by email. 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. In addition, you'll be helping out the club by saving us costs of printing and postage.

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?

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

With the upcoming holidays, here are some meeting dates to note:

- | | |
|---|--|
| November 5 | Regular Club Meeting 7PM
NIKE Base |
| November 19 | Board Meeting 7:30PM
NIKE Base |
| December 3 | Regular Club Meeting—Holiday Party
7PM Hamburg Youth Center |
| No Board meeting scheduled in December. | |
| January 7 | Regular Club Meeting 7PM
NIKE Base |

VE SESSION

STARS will be holding a VE Test Session on Saturday November 21st. 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 \$15.00
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.

WORLD WIDE DXPEDITION TROPHY

The Strange Radio Team asks everyone to take part in their annual survey for the World Wide DXpedition Trophy (WWDT). You may choose one out of the 70 DXpeditions which took place between Jun 1,2008, and Jun 1,2009. The survey is running until Jan 31 at: <http://www.strangeradioteam.com/wwdxt/index.asp>

FCC ISSUES FIRST WAIVER FOR GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED DISASTER DRILL

On Tuesday October 27, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) granted the first waiver that allowed amateurs to participate in a government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster drill and communicate on behalf of their employers during the drill. The waiver request was made on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. That state will be conducted a full-scale exercise on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 from 8 AM-5 PM (EDT) to test their emergency response to the possible release of chemical agents at Blue Grass Army Depot, located near Richmond, Kentucky.

ZS10WCS 2010 WORLD CUP SOCCER SPECIAL EVENT STATION

From 1 November, members of the North West Amateur Radio Club will operate the 2010 World Cup Soccer special event station. The call sign ZS10WCS will be on the air over weekends as propagation conditions allow.



PHU QUOC ISLAND DXPEDITION

Manfred DK1BT, Wolf DL4WK, Andy DL5CW, Sigi DL7DF and Frank DL7UFR plan to be active 4-17 November from Phu Quoc island (AS-128), Gulf of Thailand, Vietnam, using the callsign XV4D. They will be active with several stations on 160m through 10m on CW, SSB. One station will be exclusively dedicated to RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV.

Their equipment consists of 3 transceivers (2 x K2, 1 x IC7000), 3 x kW linears, 2 x 18 m Low-band Vertical, a 2-ele vertical for 40, a 2-ele vertical for 30, 2 Spiderbeam for 20/17/15/12/10, some Beverage antennas as well as some laptop computers.

Pilot for this DXpedition is Bernd, DF3CB.

The QSL route is via DL7DF either direct to: Sigi Presch DL7DF, Wilhelmsmuehlenweg 123, D-12621 Berlin, Germany or via the German QSL bureau DARC to DL7DF. If you prefer a direct QSL please send a SASE and 1 IRC or 3 US\$ for outside of Europe and 1 IRC or 2 US\$ for mail within Europe.

Further info, plus logsearch, will be available at: www.dl7df.com/xv/index.php

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.



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

CHANGES FOR THE 2009 NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES

Amateurs throughout the US and Canada will take part in the longest-running domestic contest, the 76th ARRL November Sweepstakes. Since 1930, this tradition in Amateur Radio has brought out all kinds of amateurs -- from seasoned contest veterans to neophytes, from long-time traffic handlers to operators new to HF.

The CW running of Sweepstakes takes place next weekend, November 7-9, while the SSB weekend is November 21-23. Each event runs from 2100 UTC Saturday until 0300 UTC Monday. All entrants may operate 24 out of the 30 hours.

According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, there are some big changes with the 2009 ARRL Sweepstakes, specifically with log submission deadlines and the turnaround time for final results. "The contesting community has long asked for a faster turnaround with the contest results," he said. "This year, we will aim for having the results online on the ARRL Web site in a PDF only 60 days after each edition of Sweepstakes. This PDF will only be the scores; the detailed report and analysis will still be in the May and June issues of QST, as always."

To make this faster turnaround possible, logs must be received at ARRL HQ **within 15 days of**

the end of the contest, not 30 days, as it has been for years. Log submission deadlines are 0300 UTC Tuesday, November 24 for CW and 0300 UTC Tuesday, December 8 for Phone. Kutzko said that the preferred method of log submission is the Cabrillo electronic format.

Numerous certificates and plaques will be awarded, thanks to ICOM America, the principal awards sponsor of the November Sweepstakes. Special participation pins and Clean Sweep mugs will be available for purchase as always. Pins are available for \$6 to any station that submits a log with more than 100 QSOs. Clean Sweep mugs will be available to any station that submits a log with all 80 Sections worked; mugs cost \$12.

"Sweepstakes has been a part of Amateur Radio for nearly eight decades," Kutzko said. "Don't sit this one out. Check the ARRL Contest Branch Web site for your Sweepstakes 'how-to' package, get on the air, have fun and take part of one of Amateur Radio's finest traditions -- CQ SS!"



STARS
Hamburg, NY



2009 November Sweepstakes
 CW: 2100 UTC November 7 - 0300 UTC November 9
 SSB: 2100 UTC November 21 - 0300 UTC November 23

Amateur Radio Quiz: Assault 'n Batteries

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

n0ax@arrl.org

Solar cells -- can't top 'em. Ultracapacitors -- can't top 'em. They produce an unstoppable electromotive force! Powering everything from power amplifiers to personal phones, no other practical product packs the punch of electrochemical cells, the first true electrical device. Ubiquitous though they may be, our knowledge of their inner workings is often weak. Discharge your memory banks into this quiz to see how you measure up!

1) What causes the terminal voltage of a battery to drop under load?

- a. ennui b. internal resistance
c. contact delamination d. electromigration

2) Who invented the first electrochemical cell?

- a. Volta b. Voltaire
c. Volare d. Voldemort

3) What's the difference between a battery and a cell?

- a. Cells are only found in laboratories.
b. There's no difference -- the terms mean the same thing.
c. Batteries have more current capacity.
d. Batteries are made up of more than one cell.

4) Volume being equal, which type of battery will deliver the most energy?

- a. Lead-acid b. Zinc-air
c. Lithium-ion d. Carbon-zinc

5) Which type of charger maintains a battery at a stable voltage?

- a. Constant current b. Trickle
c. Float d. Training

6) Which type of battery can be recharged?

- a. Primary b. Secondary
c. Tertiary d. Stationary

7) What does "MH" stand for in the battery type abbreviation "NiMH"?

- a. Metallic Hydrogen b. Maximum Horsepower
c. Metal Hydride d. Mega Henries

8) What is necessary for a battery to produce the flow of electrons?

- a. A completed external circuit.
b. A liquid or gel electrolyte.
c. Free metallic cations.
d. An acid and a base, separated by a dielectric.

9) A deep-cycle battery is specially designed so that it can be used in what way?

- a. Supplying pulses of high current.
b. To maintain a constant output voltage with wide variations of current.
c. Underwater applications, such as sonar and remote vehicle propulsion systems.
d. Be repeatedly discharged to low output voltage between charges.

10) If a battery is a "pull-out," what does that mean?

- a. It slides in and out of a battery holder.
b. It has been removed from some other piece of equipment.
c. It failed to meet manufacturer specifications and is sold at a discount.
d. These are new batteries, just received from the manufacturer.

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

1. b -- Current flowing through the internal resistance causes a voltage drop, just like a separate resistor. 2. a -- He was rewarded (eventually) by having the unit of electromotive force -- the volt -- named after him. 3. d -- For example, a 9 V battery consists of six 1.5 V cells in series. That's why we buy "D cells" and not "D batteries." 4. c -- This is the reigning energy density champ of consumer batteries, but new "chemistrisies" are being devised all the time! 5. c -- Float charging applies a constant voltage to the battery after full-charge is reached. 6. b -- Although it helps for the battery to be stationary, only secondary batteries can be recharged. 7. c -- Some metallic hydrides (compounds of metal and hydrogen) can store and release electrons quite effectively. 8. a -- Without a path for the electrons, the chemicals in the cell cannot react by exchanging electrons. 9. d -- A regular automotive battery used in this way quickly loses its energy storage capacity. Batteries with a large reserve capacity (RC) are the right ones to use. 10. b -- Rechargeable batteries are often removed from service on a fixed schedule to ensure that equipment operates properly. They may have significant service life left, but generally less than that guaranteed by the manufacturer. Caveat emptori! Bonus -- The assumption is that the battery maintains a constant output voltage. The units of voltage are joules ÷ coulombs, so $Ah \times V = \text{joules (or energy)}$.

2010 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 SIGN _____ NAME _____

CLASS _____ BIRTHDAY (Month/Date) _____

CALL SIGN _____ NAME _____

CLASS _____ BIRTHDAY (Month/Date) _____

CALL SIGN _____ NAME _____

CLASS _____ BIRTHDAY (Month/Date) _____

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