

telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

OCTOBER 2010

VOL 44 Issue 2

THE VIEW FROM BEHIND THE GAVEL



This year started out promising to be what I figured to be a normal year, trying to keep existing members and trying to add a few more. Keith, KC2DGC, and his team of instructors put on a wonderful and successful Technician Class training session for the West Seneca CERT team, graduating almost the whole class. This meant so much to them that Keith was invited back to teach a fall session also. In addition to this, the local Civil Air Patrol would like Keith to include them in a session too!!

Things were looking pretty good, then came August, and before the leaves could fall, our tower did. A tower committee has been formed and it is looking into several avenues to follow.

I am looking toward the future of our club, as I stated in a previous article, this is your club; everyone has a valued voice in the direction that the club takes. Every member is encouraged to attend not only the monthly meetings, but also the board meetings. Please attend and help shape the future of your club.

President Wayne, W2ZDP

FCC APPROVES USE OF WHITE SPACES FOR LONG RANGE WIFI

The Federal Communications Commission has approved the use of unlicensed broadcast spectrum known as "white spaces" that the agency hopes will amount to longer-range WiFi-like connections for mobile devices. In a unanimous vote on Thursday, September 23rd, the five-member FCC said the unused spectrum between TV stations will be used for such mobile broadband services in the hope of providing improved service to consumers on the go.



Technology companies including Google and Microsoft had advocated the concept while it was generally opposed by broadcasters and entertainment venues. The latter had had hoped for the same spectrum for wireless microphones displaced from other bands. Instead, the Commission reserved two vacant UHF channels for wireless microphones and other low power auxiliary service devices in all areas of the country.

- Amateur Radio Newline

OCTOBER MEETING

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday October 7 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!



2010 CLUB OFFICERS

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

 Clubhouse Chair: Don Niles K2PMC
 Telstar Editor: Judy Levan N2TEZ
 Webmaster: Marc Fruth N2UBT

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.

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 9th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event introduces the public (mainly 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.

The event is FREE to the public and is held rain or shine. Exciting activities are planned, including drilling/rock-coring and gold-panning demonstrations. 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 and STARS is all about. Club members will be there to answer any questions the kids (or their parents) may have.

Set up will begin at 8AM...the more STARS members that come out, the better. Why not spend an afternoon sharing the hobby with the kids!



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

A BUSY MONTH FOR THE STARS VE TEAM

The STARS VE team held three test sessions during the month of September.



On Saturday September 18th, the session was held at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Aves.) with one new Tech and two upgrades. Nicolas Larson KC2ZDN earned his tech license while Ed Jablonski KC2YMN and Linday Jablonski KC2 YMM upgraded to General.

On Tuesday September 21st, the VEs traveled to the Seneca Nation to test a couple of the students in the Seneca Nation Tech Class. David Bova and Ronald Jamison passed their Tech tests.

Then on Tuesday September 28th, another trip to the Seneca Nation resulted in four more new Techs to the amateur radio family: Steven Tome, Louise Bryant, Michael Gates, and Karen Isaman.

Calls were not yet available at press time for those tested at the Seneca nation.

Congrats to all the new hams and upgrades and thanks to the STARS VE team led by John KB2VWC and the VEs Ed N2ING, Scott KB2KOL, Jim N2TFA, John KA2RFT and Judy N2TEZ.

The next STARS Test Session is scheduled for Saturday November 18th 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.

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 downloaded from the club website or obtained by sending a SASE to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043.

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 \$15.50 (6 months X \$1.75 per month plus the \$5 initiation fee).

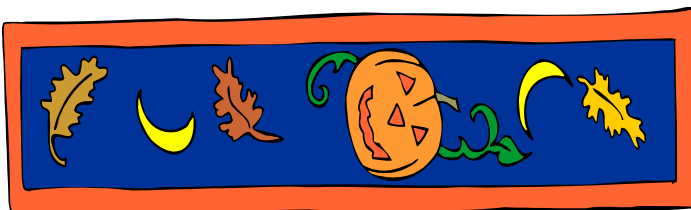
Applications should be returned to Judy N2TEZ along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and then voted on by the general membership at the next regular club meeting.

Members who are joining ARRL for the first time or who are renewing their membership should send their ARRL membership forms to Jack Cullum KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits!

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY!



*Keith Patterson KC2DGC
Paul Julyan WB2KFL
Ralph Miller KA2WCU
Jim Moxon N2OSL
Judy Levan N2TEZ
John DiLivio K2CF.*



DISSOLUTION OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLIES

When the Netherlands Antilles is dissolved on October 10th, it will have a major impact on amateur radio in general and the ARRL's DXCC awards program in particular. In a statement released by the ARRL, the League says that to clarify the administrative process by which the anticipated changes to the two existing Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities will be made, the ARRL Awards Committee has determined the following policies:

First, at 0400 UTC on October 10th, the two current Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities will be deleted. At the exact same time, operation from the islands of Curacao, Bonaire, Saint Maarten, Saba and St Eustatius will count for a yet-to-be-determined number of new entities (under the DXCC List Rule 1 for Criteria and Political Entities, and/or Geographic Rule 2 Separation of Entities). When the Awards Committee determines what Rule 1 or Rule 2 actions apply in each case, it will announce the final disposition of the entities on the DXCC list.

Finally, the DXCC desk says that it will not accept confirmations for these new entities until after January 1st, 2011.

- ARRL

ROYAL NAVAL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year with the special event callsign GB50RN on the air through October 9th. The station will operate on CW and SSB on 80 through 10 meters and on FM locally on the 2 meter and 70 cm bands. A special Anniversary Award is available to listeners and licensed amateurs who hear or contact Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society members and the special event station during the remainder of 2010. Full details can be found on the society website at www.rnars.org.uk.

GREATER BUFFALO HAMFEST

Sponsored by the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

When: Saturday October 9, 2010
Where: Ismailia Shrine Center
1600 Southwestern Blvd RT 20
West Seneca, NY 14224

Talk In 147.255 + pl 107.2

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

Indoor Table Reservations for sellers:
Tables Only \$7 includes one FREE admission

Email: kc2blh@aol.com **Phone:** 716- 825-7097
ask for Chuck KC2BLH



OCTOBER 2010 CONTESTS	
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 5
+ 432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 6
+ SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 7
+ CQ SA SSB Contest	0000Z, Oct 9 to 2400Z, Oct 10
+ WAB HF Phone	1200Z, Oct 9 to 1200Z, Oct 10
+ Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 9 to 0600Z, Oct 10 and 1400Z-2359Z, Oct 10
+ EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 9
+ Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 9 to 0500Z, Oct 10 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 10
+ FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 9
+ SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 10
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 10
+ 10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Oct 13
+ RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 14
+ JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17
+ Microwave Fall Sprint	0600 local - 1200 local, Oct 16
+ ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17
+ Iowa QSO Party	1400Z-2300Z, Oct 16
+ New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 16 to 0200Z, Oct 17
+ PODXS 070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint	2000 local, Oct 16 to 0200 local, Oct 17
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Oct 16
+ Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 17
+ Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 17 to 0100Z, Oct 18
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 18
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 18 to 2400Z, Oct 22
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Oct 23
+ 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Oct 23 to 1500Z, Oct 24
+ W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 27
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 30 to 2400Z, Oct 31
+ ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31
+ 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	0001Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31
+ 50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Oct 30 to 0300Z, Oct 31

If you're reading the Telstar while connected to the internet, click on the contest name above to link to more info.

NEW YORK QSO PARTY

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010 - 1400 UTC thru Oct. 17, 0200 UTC - 12 Hours

OBJECT: Stations outside of New York State work as many NY stations in as many NY counties as possible. Stations in New York State may work everyone. Multiple bands and modes.

EXCHANGE:

NY stations send Signal Report and County

Stations outside of NY send Signal Report and State, Canadian Province or "DX".



Birthday United States Navy 1775

Oct 9, 1600Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV41) Museum Radio Operations Room. SSB 14.320 7.250 D-STAR 012C 2m/7cm SOCAL rpters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. kk6fz@arrl.net

Commemorative Air Force Airshow

Oct 9-Oct 10, 1300Z-2300Z, KD5C, Midland, TX. Midland Amateur Radio Club. 21.300 21.031 14.250 14.031. Certificate. John Wilder, 4405 Lennox Dr, Midland, TX 797097. On-Line Certificate. Oct 9 1300 to 2359 UTC; Oct 10 1300 to 2300 UTC. Commemorating FIFI's return to the air after major overhaul. Check Web site for details. www.w5ggg.org

Nowhere KS Special Event

Oct 9, 1400Z-1800Z, WØUK, Nowhere, KS. Douglas County Amateur Radio Club of Kansas. 14.300 7.200 146.760 tone 88.5 Hz 147.030 tone 88.5 Hz. Certificate. Ken Blair, 1329 Kasold Dr - D2, Lawrence, KS 66049. DCARC invites you to find us "somewhere" on the 20 and 40 meter bands. We will be transmitting from "Nowhere" KS (from a stop along the Midland Railway) using the wØuk call sign. wØuk.net

North American QRP Club 6th Anniversary

Oct 11-Oct 17, 0000Z-2359Z, N1A-NOA, Kittanning, PA. North American QRP Club. 14.060 10.120 7.040 3.560. Certificate & QSL. Tom Mitchell, WY3H, 210 Garretts Run Rd, Kittanning, PA 06210. home.windstream.net/yoel

Harvest Classic Vintage Motorcycle Rally

Oct 23-Oct 24, 0000Z-0600Z, K5H, Fredericksburg, TX. Central Texas Motorcycle Charities. 14.250 7.225. QSL. Tom Tackett, 212 Oregon Tr, Argyle, TX 76226. For the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation. SASE and \$2 donation for commemorative QSL. Questions to w5ddw@arrl.net or k5wtt@arrl.net. harvestclassic.org

22nd Nascar Day Festival

Oct 23, 1330Z-1700Z, NC4AR, Randleman, NC. Tri County Amateur Radio Club. 14.270 7.208. Certificate. NC4AR, PO Box 747, Trinity, NC 27370.

OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

Nationwide events this month too numerous to list:

- **71st Anniversary of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary - October 23rd**
- **National Wildlife Refuge Month - October 9th through 17th**
- **Boys Scouts of America Celebrating 100 Years and Jamboree on the Air - October 16th and 17th**

25th Anniversary Mississauga Amateur Radio Club

Sep 18-Oct 18, 0000Z-2359Z, VC3M, Mississauga, On. Mississauga Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 All HF bands; no WARC bands. Certificate & QSL. Michael Brickell, 2801 Bucklepost Cres, Mississauga, ON L5N 1X6, CANADA. www.marc.on.ca