telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

APRIL 1, 2012

VOL 45 Issue 8

MARSHMALLOWS IMPROVE RADIO SIGNALS

Can you improve your radio's transmission ability without spending a fortune on amplifiers? The answer is, "YES!" In an unexpected discovery, it has been found that putting a marshmallow on the tip of your antenna can increase your signal up to 3 decibels.

This discovery was made by Phil Nelson, N2PN. "We were attending a picnic at the Sunken Meadow State Park on the north shore of Long Island. My son, Gary, was toying with the idea of toasting marshmallows in a creative way. He put a marshmallow on the car's antenna and tried using a magnifying glass to focus the sun's rays on the marshmallow. Well, needless to say, it did not work. He soon abandoned his efforts, but forgot to remove the marshmallow. Later, I got into the car to use the installed amateur radio. I didn't realize that a marshmallow was on the antenna. I signed into a net with other amateurs. At that time, one of the par-

(Continued on page 7)

IS YOUR SCANNER WORKING CORRECTLY?

A few weeks ago, the Town of Hamburg began using a new frequency for their police operations. When entered into the "trusty old scanner", operations were coming through, loud and clear.

Well, most of the time! Between transmissions, the scanner channel produced a lot of scratchy sound. The sound was annoying, even to the point of irritating the XYL to an extreme state of discomfort. I was not far

(Continued on page 6)

APRIL MEETING TOPIC IS RAILROAD CONTROL

If you still think railroad operations are controlled with semaphore signals, you are sadly out of date. Today's railroad operations use radio in very sophisticated ways.

In fact, you can listen in to hear where trains are, how switches are set, and whether or not any wheels on the cars are defective.

ATCS (Automatic Train Control Systems) use radio for operating the track signals and

(Continued on page 6)

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CLUB OFFICERS

President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK

Vice President John Leitten, KA2RFT

Secretary Keith Patterson, KC2DGC

Financial Sec'y Judy Levan, N2TEZ

Treasurer John Czuba, W2IV

Director (past pres.) Wayne-Earpus, W2ZDP--

Director (1 yr.) Jon Hall, KC2QKB

Director (2 yr.) Pat Groom, KC2VWG

Clubhouse Chair Pat Groom, KC2VWG

Telstar Editor Tomm Dean, KA2NXY

Webmaster Marc Fruth, N2UBT

BLUE AND UNDERLINED

When you see something in Telstar in blue letters and underlined, that means it is an Internet link. Hold the "Control" key and click on it to open a link to an Internet site.

(control + click) sample link

HAMS AND EGGS

Would you like to get together with other amateur radio operators for an informal breakfast meeting? If so, "Hams and Eggs" may be for you.

The gatherings take place on the fourth Saturday of each month, at 9:00 AM, at Peg's Place Restaurant, 4046 Lake Shore Road, Athol Springs (Hamburg). It's north of St. Francis High School, near the intersections of Lake Shore Road, St. Francis Drive, and Big Tree Road.

Bring your YL, XYL, OM, or even the kids. All are welcome!

WE GOOFED!

The March issue gave an incorrect date for the Board meeting. The correct date is/was March 22nd.

Also, the first page listed an incorrect call sign for Pat Groom. The correct sign is KC2VWG.

Thanx to Pat Groom, KC2VWG, and Scott Barto, KB2KOL, for bringing these items to our attention.

If you see something we did not get right, let us know:

wb2elw@verizon.net

STARS MEETINGS

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STARS meetings are at 7:00 PM on the first
 Thursday of each month at the Hamburg Youth
 Center, 200 Prospect Avenue (near Hawkins
 Avenue) in Hamburg.

The next meeting is April 5th, at 7:00 PM

All are welcome,

The STARS board meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse near the Hamburg Town Arena at 2982 Lakeview Road in Hamburg.

The next meeting is April 26th.

All members are welcome.

Occasional changes are made for holidays and
 special events.

CLUB NETS

Saturdays 10:00 AM 3.925 MHz +/- QRM

Sundays 9:30 AM 28.380 MHz

Sundays 10:30 AM 147.09 MHz (repeater)

4th Saturdays 9:00 AM Peg's Place Restaurant

Athol Springs

SKYWARN TRAINING

SKYWARN is a volunteer program of the National Weather Service that trains observers to report dangerous weather. Upcoming training classes include:

Friday April 13th at 3:00 PM

Location: Buffalo State College

Department of Geography and Planning,

Classroom Building Room A209

Contact: Dr. Stephen Vermette -

vermetsj@buffalostate.edu

Monday April 23rd at 7:00 PM

Location: Town of Perinton

Recreation and Parks Dept

1350 Turk Hill Rd Fairport, NY

Contact: Matt Steffen -

msteffen@perinton.org

Tuesday April 24th 7:00 PM

Location: Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

Lancaster Office of Emergency

Management

321 Columbia Ave Depew, NY

Contact: Joseph Gearhart -

wv2ny@roadrunner.com

For more info:

http://www.erh.noaa.gov/buf/skywarnt.htm

W5YI-SK FRED MAIA

CQ columnist Fred Maia, W5YI, a leading amateur radio journalist, educator and pioneer of volunteer examining, passed away on March 28 after a battle with cancer.

A memorial service was scheduled for 3:00pm, Saturday March 31, 2012, at Moore Funeral Home, 1219 North Davis Dr., Arlington, TX 76012.

HELP! YOU'RE INVITED

Calling all STARS! Calling all STARS! Your help is needed for a "Tower Party" work detail on Saturday, April 14th, at 9:00 AM.at the Nike Base Clubhouse, near the Hamburg Ice Rink. The objective will be the preparation and painting of the first three sections of the antenna tower.

While painting mitts will be available, please bring big and small paint brushes for the "hard to get" spots. Also needed will be wire brushes, especially those intended for use with a portable drill. Be sure to wear old clothes that can handle a spill or two (or three).

An associated cookout has been suggested. Details will be discussed at the monthly meeting on April 5th.

Rain(/snow) dates are April 21st and April 28th.



DID YOU EVER SEE THE SPACE STATION?

Yes! You can see the International Space Station at certain times as it orbits the Earth. No special equipment is necessary. It appears as a very bright star, slowly moving across the sky.

It is most often visible just before sunrise or just after sunset.

To find out when it will be visible near your home, use the following web site:

http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/cities/region.cgi?country=United_States®ion=New_York

TESTING NEEDS

- Legal photo ID
- Current license and/or CSCE documents, if any, and a non-returnable photocopy of each
- Federal Registration Number (FRN); if none, then Social Security Number (SSN)
- \$15 in cash, check or money order
- Two #2 pencils with erasers, and a pen

(more info)

VE MANAGER NEEDED

STARS has an opening for the position of VE (Volunteer Examiner) Manager. Duties include the scheduling of exams and personnel, and liaison activities with the ARRL/VEC. (STARS usually offers exams on the 3rd Saturday of each odd-numbered month, at 9:00 AM.)

The ideal candidate would be an amateur extra who is certified as a VE by the ARRL.

If interested, contact **Ken Pokigo**, **KC2AYK**; or **John Leitten**, **KA2RFT**.

VE SESSION RESULTS

STARS conducted a VE session on Saturday, March 17th, at the Hamburg Youth Center. STARS volunteers included Jim Starr, N2TFA; Ed Patton, N2ING; and Tomm Dean, KA2NXY. Jay Clark, KF2JY, and John Czuba, W2IV, provided backup assistance.

Five candidates took exams. All exams were passed leading to two new technicians (KD2BVP and KD2BVQ), one new general (KD2BVR), and two new extras (KC2YMM and KC2YMN).

STARS next exam session will be at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 19th, at the Hamburg Youth Center.

AREA VE SESSIONS

04/07/2012 **Jamestown**

Sponsor: CARS

Location: Prendergast Library

Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/14/2012 Newark

Sponsor: Drumlins ARC (Hamfest)
Location: Marbletown Fire Department
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/14/2012 North Tonawanda

Sponsor: ARA of the Tonawanda's

Location: Fire Headquarters Training Room
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/21/2012 Erie PA

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association
Location: Greene Twnshp Mun Bldg Rm 107
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/21/2012 <u>Rochester</u>

Sponsor: Rochester ARA

Location: RIT-Gleason Engineering Bldg, Rm

3139

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/22/2012 <u>Geneseo</u>

Sponsor: Genesee Valley ARA

Location: Livingston County Government Center

Time: 5:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

(control +click on City for more info)



DAYTON HAMVENTION

The 2012 Dayton Hamvention opens May 18th at the Hara Arena for its 61st consecutive year. According to organizers, the hamfest is expected to bring more than 20,000 people to the greater Dayton area.

The three-day event includes exhibits, a flea market, forums and education sessions.

For more information about Dayton Hamvention -- scheduled for May 18-20, 2012 -- use the following link: Hamvention website.

TELSTAR BY EMAIL

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 save the extra \$6 charge for printing and postage costs.

Also, when received via the Internet, you can controlclick on anything appearing underlined in blue. Those are hyperlinks that will bring you directly to the mentioned Internet site. This is especially useful in the Contest Calendar section. Those links would have to be copied into your keyboard if you only had a paper/ mailed copy. Perfection is necessary during the copying phase.

Finally, each edition of Telstar has a "Blue and Underlined" box. In that box is a "sample link". If you haven't checked those samples, each one will bring you to an entertaining web site, unrelated to ham radio.

DID YOU KNOW...

Question: What are frozen bandages used for?

(Answer can be found at the bottom right corner of page 10.)

HAMFEST

04/14/2012 <u>Drumlins ARC Hamfest</u>

Location: Newark, NY
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Drumlins ARC

Website: http://www.drumlinsarc.org

GET INVOLVED

Let the editor know what you like or don't like about the **TELSTAR** news letter. Or, better yet, write an article.

Contact the editor: — wb2elw@verizon.net

RAILROAD MUSEUM

NOW OPEN

Ed Patton, N2ING, tells us that the Western New York Railway Historical Society has opened a new museum at 100 Lee Street in South Buffalo. Lee Street is off South Park Avenue, just east of Smith Street. Known as the Don Owens Center, the museum is part of the Heritage DiscoveRY Center (sic). Hours of operation and other information can be found at:

http://www.trainweb.org/wnyhdc/ heritagecenter8.htm

Of note, plans are being made for other museums, such as the Steel Plant Museum, to co-locate with the railway museum on Lee Street.

In particular, mention has been made of a radio museum. Part of that museum would be an operating amateur radio station that would be active during normal hours.

More information can be found at this link:

http://www.buffalorising.com/2011/11/heritagediscovery-center-opens-this-month.html (Continued from page 1)

SCANNER

behind

I checked the frequency on my old portable scanner. I found the same irritating noise. Was the new Hamburg transmitter defective? Could two separate scanners be wrong?

The new frequency is 460.3375 MHz.. After checking the FCC records, I found that the City of Buffalo was already using 460.325 MHz and 460.350 MHz for their police operations. That meant Hamburg was only 12.5 KHz away from two busy stations.

It turns out that both scanners were built years ago. At that time, stations were always at least 25 KHz apart from the nearest station on the spectrum. However, in recent years that rule has changed, as the FCC began issuing frequencies with less separation. The old scanners were not designed for such a small degree of difference.

I set one scanner to the Hamburg frequency, and set the other to the Buffalo frequency. I soon found that the scratchy noise heard on the Hamburg frequency always occurred when Buffalo was transmitting on a nearby frequency.

Time for a new scanner? I checked the catalogs and found that some scanners were touted as useful for the new narrow FM frequencies. After brooding about it for a few days, I finally ordered a new Uniden Bearcat BCD996XT from Scanner World. It arrived the next day.

Setting up the new scanner was a problem. Instead of a clearly written instruction manual, it included a CD of "Scanner User Guides". Navigating the CD was worse than finding your way through a corn maze, or a tightly constructed IC. Clarity matched permanent ink. Banks and channels are a thing of the past; a new method is used.

Once programmed, it worked fine. No interference! I could now peel the XYL from the ceiling.

Is it time for you to upgrade your scanner?

(Continued from page 1)

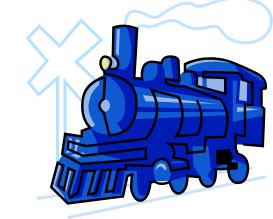
RAILROAD CONTROL

Switches. Controls are set out in the 900 megahertz range. The switches and lights communicate with a main controller, much like packet operation.

At home, you can download software and see a train dispatcher's board. You will see train movements in live time, very much like a flight tracker.

By using the expanded receive frequency capabilities of your two meter rig, you can hear the train engineers and hot box reports on railroad channels in the 160 megahertz range.

Robert W, Korthals, KC2QHY, is the most knowledgeable person on ATCS in Western New York. Join us on April 5th at 7 PM for his presentation on this topic.



STARS TRAINS...

A team of instructors from STARS is conducting technician training in West Seneca on Thursday evenings. Eighteen are students attending the classes. They represent a wide variety of backgrounds, from the local CERT to members of the Buffalo 912 group. Included are leaders from the "Ride for Roswell".

Led by Keith Patterson, KC2DGC, the team includes Robert Koster, KA2WYE; Wayne Carpus, W2ZDP; Tomm Dean, KA2NXY; and Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY.

License testing will take place on April 12th.

(Continued from page 1)

MARSHMALLOWS

ticipants from a significant distance asked where I was. He stated I was 5-9 at his station, when he listened on the repeater input. When I told him I was at Sunken Meadow, he thought I was pulling his leg, and said I couldn't be there since the signal was so good."

Only after the net ended, did Phil realize that a marshmallow still sat on the top of his antenna. When he saw it, he removed it. But later on, he found that his radio did not measure up to its earlier performance. On a hunch, he replaced the marshmallow and tried again. This time, success, with a very good signal report.

Phil mentioned his findings to a close friend, Professor Richard Kunze of SUNY Stony Brook's College of Engineering. Initially, Kunze laughed and told Phil to "stop playing with the radios." But then, Kunze tried to duplicate the reported marshmallow effect. To his amazement, he found a significant improvement to a radio's transmitting ability, when a marshmallow was placed on the antenna tip.

After subsequent experimentation, Kunze found that the marshmallow served a significant purpose. Normally, the movement of a radio signal from a wire antenna to air represents a traumatic change for radio energy. A marshmallow, with air mixed throughout a semi-solid substance provides a gradual medium for the transition of radio energy from wire to air. This decreased the loss of energy through change, and provided a stronger, radiated signal.

Since then, Kunze reported his findings to the National Radio Research Council. They repeated the experiment and unanimously began to recommend that marshmallows could be used to improve radio signals.

The news is spreading slowly throughout the world of radio users. Marshmallows are now being spotted on the antennas of many mobiles.





WORD SEARCH ERIE COUNTY

Ν Ν E K L R Ν Е R W Α Α Т R L L C F S 0 S Н R Ν 0 0 Α D Ν N D 0 Н Н Α S Т S U K D Ν R W E Ε Ν Ε C Α Ε G Α R E S D Ε R K Т В Α L Ε O М S S S В N Ν Ν Α K Т D Α U Α G Т S N C Т W R Α M S O F R E G Α O F Ν W D D R D R Α G U R U Α Ν Ε D W Α E Ν В Α Α R N Ν R Α W Ν D Α S R O M G Ν E M 0 G Ν W M 0 Ν S C Ν K R Α P D R Α Η C R S Α OR Α C Ν S Τ Р Н M 1 Ε Α Α E W В S ı C Ν W Т Н S Α Р M U R 0 Α Α R S F N \mathbf{O} M 0W D N G Ε D D C K Ν Ν Α В W Т O Т U Α Н 0 Α Ν D Ν Ν Ν 0 Ε R Ν C D D D D R Ε L Ν Α M Α Ν Ε ı Α Ε G Ε C R Ε Ν D O L Α Ν M Α

AKRON ALDEN AMHERST ANGOLA **AURORA** BLASDELL BOSTON **BRANT BUFFALO** CHEEKTOWAGA CLARENCE COLDEN COLLINS CONCORD DEPEW **EASTAURORA** EDEN **ELMA EVANS FARNHAM** GRANDISLAND **HAMBURG** HOLLAND KENMORE LACKAWANNA LANCASTER **MARILLA NEWSTEAD** NORTHCOLLINS ORCHARDPARK SARDINIA SLOAN SPRINGVILLE **TONAWANDA WALES** WESTSENECA WILLIAMSVILLE

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



CONTEST CALENDAR

Start and Finish

Mar 31, 0000Z - Apr 1, 2400Z Mar 31, 0001Z - Apr 8, 2359Z Mar 31, 1800Z - See website Apr 1, 0600Z - Apr 1, 1000Z Apr 2, 1900Z - Apr 2, 2030Z Apr 3, 0200Z - Apr 3, 0400Z Apr 3, 1600Z - See website Apr 5, 1700Z - Apr 5, 2000Z Apr 6, 0130Z - Apr 6, 0200Z Apr 6, 0200Z - Apr 6, 0300Z Apr 7, 0000Z - Apr 8, 0000Z Apr 7, 0400Z - Apr 7, 0800Z Apr 7, 0700Z - Apr 8, 1300Z Apr 7, 12 Noon - Apr 7, 6 PM Apr 7, 1200Z - Apr 8, 2359Z Apr 7, 1500Z - Apr 8, 1500Z Apr 7, 1600Z - Apr 8, 1600Z Apr 9, 1400Z - Apr 9, 2000Z Apr 9, 7 PM - Apr 9, 11 PM Apr 11, 0030Z - Apr 11, 0230Z Apr 11, 1300Z - See website Apr 11, 1300Z - Apr 11, 1400Z and Apr 11, 1900Z - Apr 11, 2000Z and Apr 12, 0300Z- Apr 12, 0400Z Apr 11, 1800Z- Apr 11, 2000Z Apr 11, 1900Z- Apr 11, 2030Z

Contest Title

SARL 80m QSO Party

Worldwide EME Contest Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party Missouri (MO) QSO Party **UBA Spring Contest, SSB** RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW ARS Spartan Sprint **OK1WC Memorial Contest**

NCCC RTTY Sprint SNS and NS Weekly Sprints Montana QSO Party LZ Open 40 Meter Contest Japan International DX Contest PODXS 31 Flavors Contest QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party SP DX Contest **EA RTTY Contest** Low Power Spring Sprint VHF Spring Sprints NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint

NCCC Sprint Ladder

Montana QSO Party

JIDX CW Contest

EU Spring Sprints

EU Spring Sprints

Georgia QSO Party

Run For the Bacon

VHF Spring Sprints

Holyland DX Contest

QCWA Spring QSO Party

Yuri Gagarin DX Contest

ARRL Rookie Roundup

International Vintage Contest

Hungarian Straight Key Contest

TARA Skirmish Dig Pfx Contest

ES Open HF Championship

RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data

Worked All Provinces of China - Test

RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB

New Mexico Centennial QSO Party

Sponsor's Website

www.dubus.org www.arlhs.com www.w0ma.org

www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules/spring-contest www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml

www.arsqrp.blogspot.com www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc

www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/

SARL 2011 Contest%20Manual issue 9.pdf

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html www.fvarc.org

www.lzopen.com www.jidx.org www.podxs070.com

www.grparci.org/contests www.spdxcontest.info www.ure.es/contest

alexanderkorda@hotmail.com

www.sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints www.nagcc.info

www.cwops.org/onair.html

www.naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html www.fvarc.org/?q=node/77

www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html www.eu-sprint.com

www.swcp.com/~n5zgt

www.eu-sprint.com www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm gqp.contesting.com

gc.qst.ru/en www.fpqrp.org

www.contestvintage.beepworld.it

http://hskc.ha8kux.com/data/2011/Hungarian%20Straight%20Key%

20Contest%202011.pdf www.arrl.org/contests

sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints

www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml

www.iarc.org

www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara dpx rules.html

www.mulandxc.org www.erau.ee

www.cqmmdx.com

www.miqp.org

www.eu-sprint.com/index.php?page=140&lang=g

www.eaqrp.com www.w0blk.org www.va3cco.com www.feldhellclub.org

www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxmain.html

Apr 15, 1500Z - Apr 15, 1700Z

Apr 13, 0230Z - Apr 13, 0300Z

Apr 14, 0000Z - Apr 15, 2400Z

Apr 14, 0700Z - Apr 15, 1300Z

Apr 14, 1600Z - Apr 14, 1959Z

Apr 14, 1400Z - Apr 15, 0200Z

Apr 14, 1600Z - Apr 14, 1959Z

Apr 14, 1800Z - Apr 15, 1800Z

Apr 14, 1800Z - See website

Apr 14, 2100Z - Apr 15, 2100Z

Apr 15, 0200Z - Apr 15, 0400Z

Apr 15. 0700Z - See website

Apr 15, 1800Z - Apr 15, 2359Z Apr 17, 7 PM - Apr 17, 11 PM Apr 19, 1900Z - Apr 19, 2030Z Apr 20, 2100Z - Apr 21, 2100Z Apr 21, 0000Z - Apr 21, 2400Z Apr 21, 0000Z - Apr 21, 2359Z Apr 21, 0500Z - Apr 21, 0859Z Apr 21, 1200Z - Apr 22, 2359Z Apr 21, 1600Z - Apr 22, 0400Z Apr 21, 1600Z - Apr 21, 1959Z Apr 21, 1700Z - Apr 22, 1300Z Apr 21, 1700Z - Apr 22, 1700Z Apr 21, 1800Z - See website

Apr 21, 2000Z - Apr 21, 2200Z Apr 21, 2100Z - See website Apr 25, 1300Z - Apr 25, 1400Z and Apr 25, 1900Z - Apr 25, 2000Z and Apr 26, 0300Z - Apr 26, 0400Z

Apr 25, 7 PM - Apr 25, 11 PM Apr 27, 0230Z - Apr 27, 0300Z Apr 28, 0000Z - Apr 29, 2400Z Apr 28, 0001Z - Apr 29, 2359Z Apr 28, 1100Z - Apr 29, 1700Z

Apr 28, 1200Z - Apr 29, 1200Z Apr 28, 1300Z - Apr 29, 1259Z Apr 28, 1500Z - Apr 29, 0300Z Apr 28, 1600Z - See website Apr 29, 1700Z - Apr 29, 2100Z CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest Michigan QSO Party EU Spring Sprint, SSB EA QRP Contest South Dakota QSO Party Ontario QSO Party Feld-Hell New Member Sprint YU DX Contest

CWops Mini-CWT Test VHF Spring Sprints NCCC Sprint Ladder Worldwide EME Contest Ten-Ten Spring Digital Contest Nebraska QSO Party SP DX RTTY Contest Helvetia Contest QRP To The Field Florida QSO Party **BARTG 75 Sprint**

(Control + click to activate a link)



www.dubus.org www.ten-ten.org www.hdxa.net

www.pkrvg.org/zbior.html

www.uska.ch www.zianet.com/qrp www.floridaqsoparty.org www.bartg.org.uk





SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

04/01/2012	100th Anniversary of the Sinking of RMS Titanic
04/04/2042	(12 separate Special Events from 4/01/12 to 4/15/12)
04/01/2012	100th Anniversary of the National Cherry Blossom Festival
04/02/2012	Frost Buster Race
04/06/2012	Celebrating National Public Health Week
04/07/2012	150th Anniversary of the Great Locomotive Chase The "General"
04/07/2012	40th Annual RARSfest, ARRL NC State Convention
04/09/2012	OzarkCon
04/13/2012	Venice Sharks Tooth Festival
04/14/2012	819 Steam Locomotive
04/14/2012	A Celebration of Morse Code
04/14/2012	General Hardee's Retreat Civil War Reenactment
04/14/2012	Northeast Tennessee District 7 Skywarn Recognition Day
04/14/2012	USS Midway (CV-41) Decommissioned 1992, CPO Grade Established
04/19/2012	Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics
04/20/2012	Earth Day Celebration
04/21/2012	Armies Though Time 2012
04/21/2012	Black Bear Festival St Mary Parish Louisiana
04/21/2012	From the Only International Boundry Marker Within the US
04/21/2012	GHARC Annual Birthday Event
04/28/2012	2012 Arrowhead District Spring Camporee
04/28/2012	Ft Miles Delaware Special Event Station
04/28/2012	GCARA Goodyear Blimp Base Special Event Station
04/28/2012	International Save the Frog Day Frognot Texas
04/28/2012	One Year Anniversary of April 27, 2011 Alabama Tornadoes
04/28/2012	T-town Twister
 -	

For more information about these Special Events, 'control+click' on this link: http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

(control + click to use link)

CONTESTS: http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php

HAMFESTS: http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar

SPECIAL EVENTS: http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

STARS WEBSITE: http://www.wb2elw.com/

STARS REFLECTOR: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/

TELSTAR EDITOR wb2elw@verizon.net Answer: Cold cuts