



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

JULY 2012

VOL 45 Issue 11

FIELD DAY ATTRACTS DOZENS OF MEMBERS

It was a beautiful day! The weather was fair and the temperature was perfectly comfortable without any jackets or sweaters. STARS set up and operated four or five separate stations for multiple bands from 70 centimeters through 80 meters. Antennas included a Buddipole, Hustler, conventional dipole, as well as a hand-crafted Moxon quad, built by Don Niles, K2PMC. A Honda EU 2000 generator was used for power, as well as a solar array provided by EMPact America.

Contacts numbered in the hundreds, with a single pair of operators logging over 400 QSOs. CW contacts were 138, while SSB contacts were 534. Field Day Chairman Pat Groom, KC2VWG, reports a total of 2670 points, of which 1050 are bonus points.

The furthest contact appeared to be with S57DX of Vrhnika, Slovenia. Also, one contact was made with Spain.

(Continued on page 4)

JULY MEETING AT THE NIKE BASE CLUBHOUSE

This month's meeting on July 5th will take place at the STARS Clubhouse at 2782 Lakeview Road, near the Hamburg Town Arena. Featured at the meeting will be a cookout. Hamburgers, hot dogs and pop will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert. Food is scheduled for 6 PM, while the meeting will take place at 7 PM.

Another BAOFENG UV-5R radio will be offered for a raffle. Once 25 tickets are sold,

(Continued on page 7)

FUND RAISER FOR AUGUST MEETING

STARS will hold a "Chinese Auction" at its August meeting. Funds raised will be applied to the reconstruction of the Clubhouse antenna tower.

The auction/meeting will take place at the Nike Base Clubhouse Station, 2982 Lakeview Road, just west of the Hamburg Town Arena, and will be open to the public.

STARS is requesting donations of gift bas-

(Continued on page 7)

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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

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

Jon Hall, KC2QKB Director (1 yr.)

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

NEW STARS MEMBERS

At the June meeting of STARS, three new members were voted into the club:

KD2CFS Edward Baumeister **Technician**

Technician Robert Caldwell KD2CFT

Howard Marien KD2CAE General

All three new members recently passed examinations conducted by STARS at the Hamburg Youth Center.







WE DID NOT GOOF!

No one reported any errors in the June 2012 issue of Telstar. We are approaching perfection.

If ewe sea something wee did knot get rite, lettuce no.



wb2elw@verizon.net ******

STARS MEETINGS

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

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

the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse near the ★ Hamburg Town Arena at 2982 Lakeview Road in A Hamburg.

All are welcome.

The STARS board meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse

The next meeting is July 26th. $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Longrightarrow}$

All members are welcome.

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

WIN A PORTABLE



Hey, graduates of the recent technician class! Why haven't we heard you checking into any nets? Could it be you still have not purchased a radio? Won't your significant other let you spend anything toward ham radio? Are you too chicken to study all the models available and make an informed purchase? Is that what's troubling you, bunkie?

Well, put away those fears, take hold of your destiny and come to the July 5th meeting. STARS will raffle off a new *BAOFENG* UV-5R portable radio. Tickets go on sale at the July meeting for 5 dollars. The winning ticket will be drawn as soon as 25 tickets are sold. If those tickets are sold during the meeting, the winner will be chosen that night. Oh, seasoned amateurs can also purchase raffle tickets.

The BAOFENG UV-5R radio is a compact portable for operations on the 2meter and 70 centimeter bands. The unit has 128 memory positions and includes an LED flashlight built into the top. Use the LED to brighten your life, or to waste battery capacity.

Proceeds from the raffle will support the on-going tower reconstruction project.

LETTER FROM NC

Greetings from somewhere south of the Smith & Wesson Line, Northerners call it the Mason-Dixon line. By the time that Y'all read this I will have finally jumped through the hoops that the mortgage company has put up, and moved into my new home. In this post 9-11 world that we live in, the Patriot Act has made us average citizens account for every cent that we have. I'm surprised that they didn't want the serial number from the first dollar that I earned.

Life down here is at somewhat of a slower pace, no one in any hurry. There are no loud cars down here, just loud pick-up trucks and most of them sporting 102" whips. There is a large processing plant for the Smithfield Ham company in town and everyday several truckloads of live hams pass by the house.

My on-the-air activities have been obviously somewhat limited, but I have been able to make a few contacts, the most notable one was my one and only Field Day contact, with WB2ELW. It sure was nice to work the club station and say "hello".

There is a small (22 members) but somewhat active club down here and I have made several friends already, via the local two meter repeater, but I have to learn their Southern Drawl to fully understand them .I will be back in Buffalo the first part of August for two weddings, and I'll be looking for everyone on the club repeater and maybe get in a few "Eyeball" contacts also.

73's and good luck to all from Clinton, NC 28328

Wayne, W2ZDP (former President of STARS)

CLUBHOUSE OPEN

The STARS Nike Base Clubhouse Radio Station is open on all Thursdays, other than meeting nights. Members are welcome to operate the equipment, watch others operate, or simply act like statues. It's just west of the Hamburg Town Arena on Lakeview Road.

(Continued from page 1)

FIELD DAY

No injuries were reported. However, the birds using the clubhouse for a nesting area were not very happy.

Only one prank of note: one unnamed troublemaker lit up a radio panel with a laser beam, just as **John Leit-ten**, **KA2RFT**, pressed the transmit key. Thinking it was a short, he jumped about 3 feet.

President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thanks everyone who assisted in making this Field Day a memorable one for STARS.

Photographs, courtesy of Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM, and Dave Ludlow, KG4LQT, are included below.



Dave Ludlow, KD4LQT, adjusts his military surplus radio.



Solar array, loaned to STARS by EMPact America.



Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM, adjusts the Buddipole antenna.



John Leitten, KA2RFT; Tomm Dean; KA2NXY; Bob Koster, KA2WYE; Keith Patterson, KC2DGC; Ed Jablonski, KC2YMN; and Don Niles, K2PMC maneuver the Moxon quad.



Jon Hall, KC2QKB; Don Niles, K2PMC; Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK; and John Czuba, W2IV enjoy the shade in the canopy.



Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK, inspects radio, while **John Leitten**, **KA2RFT** operates and **Scott Barto**, **KB2KOL** logs.



Judy Levan, N2TEZ; and **Don Niles, K2PMC**; collaborate on a connection.



The Honda EU 2000 generator, so quiet that crickets were employed to chirp while power was being made.



Jon Hall, KC2QKB; and Ed Jablonski, KC2YMN; adjust the Buddipole, under direction of Ed's granddaughter, Chloe.



Judy Levan, N2TEZ; and **Tomm Dean, KA2NXY**; check out the energy supply for operators.



Jon Hall, KC2QKB; and **Don Niles, K2PMC**; enjoy the coolest operating positions.

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.

NEW EXTRA EXAMS

So, you've been studying that pool of questions for the extra exam. You kept putting off sitting for the test, figuring another week or so of study would be helpful. Well, that's commendable!

Unfortunately, the questions you studied were part of a pool that is changing on July 1st. **STARS** will hold their first session with the new question pool on Saturday, July 21st.

For a look at the new questions, buy a new study manual, or stare at the pool at:

http://www.arrl.org/question-pools

AREA VE SESSIONS

07/07/2012 **Jamestown**

Sponsor: CARS

Location: Prendergast Library

509 Cherry Street 2nd floor conf rm

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

7/21/2012 <u>Hamburg</u>

Sponsor: STARS

Location: Hamburg Youth Center

200 Prospect Avenue (nr Hawkins Ave)

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

(control +click on City for more info)



QST GOES DIGITAL

NEW! Introducing the Digital Edition of QST. In addition to receiving QST by mail each month, ARRL members have access to the digital edition of QST. You can choose to read QST online, or download the entire issue to your computer or laptop. The new format offers several advantages including enhanced content, convenient access, and a more interactive experience. Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access the current digital edition of QST and archived editions.

(Continued from page 1)

JULY MEETING

a winner will be chosen. Last month's radio was won by Tomm Dean, KA2NXY, He reports the radio is working very well. He even participated in the West Seneca CERT Net by using the portable to contact the STARS repeater in Colden from Blasdell. Transmission quality over the 13.5 mile distance was excellent!

Members attending should bring lawn chairs to supplement the existing seating.

Are the poles moving? No, not the neighbors down the block, but the magnetic north and south poles.

Such is theory of some scientists. The topic will be addressed at the July 5th meeting at the Nike Base Clubhouse.

Steve Leitten, **KA2RDI**, a professional geologist, is a Senior Project Manager with GES, Inc. (an environmental assessment and remediation company). He will speak on that subject. Questions are welcomed.

HAMFESTS

07/14/2012 NW PA Hamfest

Location: Greene Township Municipal Bldg.

9333 Tate Road

Erie, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless & Union City

Wireless Associations

Website: http://nw-pa-hamfest.com

07/21/2012 Batavia Hamfest

Location: Alexander Fireman Grounds

Route 98

Alexander, NY 14005

Type ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

Website http://larc.hamgate.net

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FUND RAISER

kets for the auction. If you can provide such a gift, or can solicit them from local businesses, your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Members attending should bring lawn chairs to supplement the existing seating.

A BAOFENG UV-5R portable radio may be made available for a raffle.

Food will be available.

REPORTERS WANTED

Is there an area of amateur radio you would like to see addressed in Telstar? We are seeking reporters to write columns on a regular basis.

If you have an affinity for and knowledge of particular subject areas within amateur radio, your services are requested as a regular columnist.

Topics could include contesting, digital modes, emergency service, equipment review, antenna issues, satellite communications, regulation/legal issues, or any of a number of other areas.

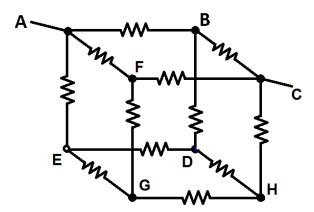
Interested? Contact us at: wb2elw@verizon.net.

TOWER PREPARTIONS CONTINUE

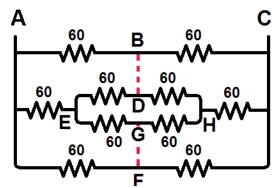
Preparations for installation of the new radio tower are being finalized. Plans include the purchase of concrete and rebar rods, excavation of a foundation hole, continued painting of new tower sections acquisition of rotor hardware, and enlistment of a crane service.

Members should stay tuned for calls for work crews to assist in the project. Particular questions should be directed to John Leitten, KA2RFT.

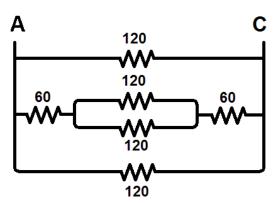
SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE



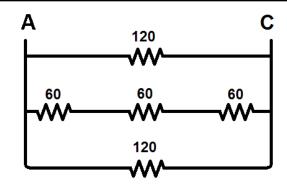
Looking at the cube, points D and G are equally apart from terminals A and C. Thus their potential is exactly half that of the entire cube. Likewise, points B and F meet that same criteria. So, the ends of resistors BD and FG have equal potential at both ends. Thus, no current flows through these resistors; they can be omitted from the circuit.



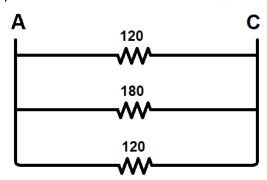
The four sets of series resistors are combined.



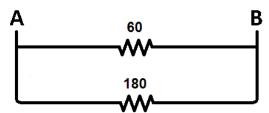
The two parallel resistors are combined.



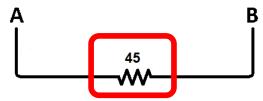
Next, the three series resistors are combined.



For simplicity, the two parallel 120 ohm resistors are combined.



Finally, the remaining two parallel resistors are combined.



Congratulations to **Pat Groom**, **KC2VWG**, for being the first person to submit the correct answer. He has been awarded a STARS hat and a STARS mug.

A good analysis of all three cube problems (edge, face, and entire cube) can be found at the following site:

http://web.physics.ucsb.edu/~lecturedemonstrations/ Composer/Pages/64.42.html

CONTEST CALENDAR

Start and Finish Contest Title Sponsor's Website

Jul 1, 0000Z - Jul 1, 2359Z Canada Day Contest Jul 1, 1000Z - Jul 1, 1400Z WAB 144 MHz Low Power Phone Jul 2, 0000Z - Jul 8, 2400Z Ten-Ten Spirit of 76 QSO Party Jul 2, 1600Z - See website **OK1WC Memorial Contest** Jul 2, 1900Z - Jul 2, 2030Z, RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW Jul 3, 0200Z - Jul 3, 0400Z **ARS Spartan Sprint** Jul 4, 2300Z - Jul 5, 0300Z MI QRP July 4th Sprint Jul 6, 0100Z - Jul 6, 0230Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Jul 6, 0200Z - Jul 6, 0300Z SNS and NS Weekly Sprints Jul 7, 0000Z - Jul 7, 0400Z FISTS Summer Sprint Jul 7, 0000Z - Jul 8, 2400Z Venezuelan Indep Day Contest Jul 7, 1100Z - Jul 8, 1059Z DL DX RTTY Contest Original QRP Contest Jul 7, 1500Z, - Jul 8, 1500Z, Jul 7, 8 PM - Jul 8, 2 AM 070 Club Firecracker PSK31 Sprint Jul 8, 0000Z - Jul 8, 2359Z Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon Jul 8, 1100Z - Jul 8, 1700Z DARC 10-Meter Digital Corona Jul 8, 2000Z - Jul 8, 2359Z **QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew** Jul 9, 1800Z - Jul 9, 2000Z, NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint Jul 11, 1900Z - Jul 11, 2030Z, RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB Jul 11, 1300Z - See website CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test **QRP Fox Hunt** Jul 13, 0100Z - Jul 13, 0230Z, Jul 13, 0230Z - Jul 13, 0300Z, NCCC Sprint Jul 14, 0000Z - Jul 14, 0400Z, FISTS Summer Sprint Jul 14, 1200Z - Jul 15, 1200Z IARU HF World Championship Jul 14, 1200Z - Jul 15, 1200Z **DMC RTTY Contest** Jul 15, 2000Z - Jul 15, 2159Z CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush Jul 19, 0030Z - Jul 19, 0230Z NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data Jul 19, 1900Z - Jul 19, 2030Z, Jul 20, 0100Z - Jul 20, 0230Z, QRP Fox Hunt Jul 20, 0230Z - Jul 20, 0300Z, NCCC Sprint 144 MHz Digital EME Championship Jul 21, 0000Z - Jul 22, 2400Z Jul 21, 1600Z - Jul 21, 1800Z Feld-Hell Ten Meter Sprint Jul 21, 1800Z - Jul 22, 2100Z CQ WW VHF Contest Jul 21, 1800Z - Jul 22, 0600Z North American QSO Party RTTY Jul 22, 0900Z - See website **RSBG Low Power Contest** Jul 23, 0100Z - Jul 23, 0300Z Run For the Bacon Jul 25, 0000Z - Jul 25, 0200Z, SKCC Sprint Jul 25, 1300Z - Jul 25, 1400Z, & **CWops Mini-CWT Test** Jul 25, 1900Z - Jul 25, 2000Z, & Jul 26, 0300Z - Jul 26, 0400Z Jul 27, 0100Z - Jul 27, 0230Z, **QRP Fox Hunt** Jul 27, 0230Z - Jul 27, 0300Z, NCCC Sprint Jul 28, 1200Z - See website MARAC US Counties QSO Party Jul 28, 1200Z - Jul 29, 1200Z **IOTA Contest**

www.rac.ca/service/contesting

wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php

www.ten-ten.org

www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc

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

www.arsqrp.blogspot.com

www.migrp.org

www.grpfoxhunt.org/summer rules.htm

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

www.fists.org/sprints.html

www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm

www.drcg.de

www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html

www.podxs070.com/

www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/

www.darc.de/ukw-funksport

www.qrparci.org/contests

naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf

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

www.cwops.org/onair.html

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

www.fists.org/sprints.html

www.arrl.org/contests

www.digital-modes-club.org

www.cqc.org/contests

naqcc.info

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

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

www.DUBUS.org

sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub

www.cqww-vhf.com

ncjweb.com/naqprules.php

www.rsgbcc.org

www.fpqrp.org

www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/

www.cwops.org/onair.html

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

www.marac.org

www.inarao.org

www.rsgbcc.org

www.njqp.hamshack.info

(Control + click to activate a link)

New Jersey QSO Party

Jul 28, 1600Z - Jul 29, 1600Z

For more information on contests: http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar



SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

07/01/2012 07/01/2012 200th Anniversary of Friendship and Peace Between Canada and USA Following War of 1812 200th Anniversary of Peace and Friendship Between USA and Canada 07/01/2012 Cyprus holding EU Presidency 07/01/2012 07/01/2012 Greenville Farm Power of the Past Lake Pleasant, NY 200th Anniversary 07/01/2012 07/01/2012 Nettlecombe Tout Shutter Telegraph over 200 yrs 07/04/2012 Independence Day at Fort Missoula Van Wert, OH Holiday at Home 07/04/2012 07/05/2012 CK6S - 100th Anniversary of Calgary Stampede 07/07/2012 41st Annual Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree & Craft Festival 07/07/2012 99 Years on the Lincoln Highway 07/07/2012 Great River Shakespeare Festival 07/07/2012 Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant 07/07/2012 Lumbee Indian Homecoming 07/08/2012 Flag Bearing of the Puerto Rico Delegation to the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London 07/10/2012 Telstar's 50th Anniversary QSO Party Anniversary of Eddie Stinson's Birth 07/11/2012 07/11/2012 Philipsburg Heritage Days 2012 Nude Awareness Celebration - Nude Recreation Week 07/12/2012 07/13/2012 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812 07/13/2012 Friday the 13th Special Event Operation 07/13/2012 Oakland County Amateur Radio Society 75th Anniversary 07/14/2012 43rd Annual Winnebago-Itasca Grand National Rally 07/14/2012 80th Anniversary of Sandusky Radio Experimental League 07/14/2012 Independence Day 07/14/2012 Mid-Summer Festival The Red River Bridge War Special Event 07/14/2012 07/15/2012 60th Anniversary Oldest Continuously Operating Amateur Radio Club in the Metro New Orleans Area 07/20/2012 Marlette Michigan's 150th Anniversary Celebration 07/20/2012 Operation Red Sleigh Christmas in July Candor NC Peach Festival 07/21/2012 **Custer Institute** 07/21/2012 07/21/2012 Halifax on The Air (All Halifax Towns) 07/21/2012 Hjemkomst 30th Anniversary 07/21/2012 RAGBRAI 40th Annual Bicycle Ride Across Iowa 07/22/2012 Brickvard 400 3905 Century Club Net 2012 Eyeball 07/24/2012 07/25/2012 EAA AirVenture 2012 07/26/2012 75th Anniversary of DCECU 07/27/2012 Camp Perry National Match Great Texas Balloon Race and National Hot Air Balloon 07/27/2012 07/27/2012 Swiss Davs 07/28/2012 3rd Annual Maker Faire Detroit Grand Mesa 100+ 07/28/2012 07/28/2012 Ham Holiday Morgan's Raid of Campbell Station OH

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)

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

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

Niagara County Community College's 50th Anniversary Celebration

TELSTAR EDITOR wb2elw@verizon.net

07/28/2012

07/28/2012