

2013 OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED

Newly elected officers of STARS will be installed during this month's meeting on December 6th. The meeting will also serve as the annual Holiday Party, with food and beverage supplied. Members are encouraged to bring a dessert or "finger food" to enhance our dining pleasure.

Officers to be installed are:

President	Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK
Vice President	John Leitten, KA2RFT
Secretary	Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM
Financial Secretary	Judy Levan, N2TEZ
Treasurer	John Czuba, W2IV
Director (2 years)	Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY

MEMBERS FOUND SCREWING AROUND ON ELECTION DAY

On Election Day, November 6th, a small group of STARS members met at the Nike Base Clubhouse. A close inspection of those members found them screwing around and twisting a lot of nuts.

More specifically, thirty-six bolts were in-

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FEMA GRANT PROGRESS

As we left this topic last month, the federal government was to decide by the end of November which applicants (including STARS) would receive the FEMA grants.

This just in! FEMA states that over 2,000 applications have been received, and the current award announcement has been rescheduled for late December.

Stay tuned for further developments!

Thanx, go to **Bob Koster, KA2WYE**, and **John Leitten, KA2RFT**, for this update.

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-Carpus, 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](#)

WHAT ARE AIR FISH?

Find out by control-clicking the sample link in the box above. (No SCUBA gear required!)

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	Tim Hortons Cafe 342 Buffalo St, Hamburg

DID WE GOOF?

A few members brought to our attention the reference to a "5-11" signal report in one of last month's article. They argued that the maximum a signal can be is "5-9".

The reference to the "5-11" signal was an intentional exaggeration by the author, to call attention to a really great signal from a distant QRP transmitter. It sure did attract attention!

Author **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**, describes two "added" signals to RST reports. Specifically:

- 5-10 Super Strong Signal
- 5-11 Holy ****, you pegged my "S" meter!

For more info, check out this link:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RST_code

Thanx to **Scott Barto, KB2KOL** and **Don Niles, K2PMC**; for finding the possible "mistake". We very much appreciate this type of feedback.

If you see something we did not get right, let us know: wb2elw@verizon.net

STARS MEETINGS

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 December 6th, at 7:00 PM, at the Hamburg Youth Center.

All are welcome,

The STARS board usually meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse. This month's meeting will take place on December 27th.

All members are welcome.

(Continued from page 1)

SCREWING AROUND

Serted into the attachment plates of the four antenna tower sections. Then two nuts were used to secure each bolt.

As a result, the STARS antenna tower is now a single unified structure. Once wiring, a top mast, and a rotor are installed, the tower will be ready for a crane to raise it into position on the base.

Other remaining tasks include antenna installation, ground rod insertion, and final wiring.

Thanx for assistance to **Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY**; **John Leitten, KA2RFT**; **Dave Lawton, N2OZE**; and **Tom Winters, KD2CHX**.

Also, thanx to **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**, for long and successful work on reconditioning the rotor.



ABOVE PHOTOS BY **DAVE LAWTON, N2OZE**

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

The Nike Base Radio Clubhouse was not the only site receiving a new antenna tower. A new tower was recently delivered to **Linda and Ed Jablonski, KC2YMM & KC2YMN**, at their Orchard Park residence .

After working on the wiring, they still couldn't get the tower to extend or collapse. That's when an email requesting assistance was sent to all club members .

Help was offered by club members, and we are happy to report that the tower is operational. A wiring problem was solved through the effort of STARS President **Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK**.

Thanx to all STARS members offering support.



ABOVE PHOTOS BY **LINDA JABLONSKI, KC2YMM**

WIN THIS RADIO



A 7th **BAOFENG UV-5R** portable radio will be raffled off; ticket sales begin at the December 6th meeting. 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.

The **BAOFENG UV-5R** radio is a compact portable for operations on the 2 meter 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.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

June	Tomm Dean,	KA2NXY
July	Thomas Winters,	KD2CHX
August	Ed Patton,	N2ING
September	Scott Barto,	KB2KOL
October	Richard Gerster	K2RWG
November	Ed Baumeister	KD2CFS



NWS Special Event

NWS SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

SKYWARN™ Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service (NWS) and the American Radio Relay League. It celebrates the contributions that volunteer SKYWARN™ radio operators make to the National Weather Service. During the day, SKYWARN™ operators visit NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world.

This year, SKYWARN Recognition Day will occur on December 1st, from 0000Z to 2400Z (November 30th, 7 PM EST to December 1st, 7 PM EST). All amateur stations are encouraged to contact as many NWS stations as possible, on the 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meter bands, as well as the 70 centimeter band. QSL cards will be available. For details, use this link:

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/>

RENEWALS DUE

The deadline for renewal of STARS membership is January 1st, 2013. An application form is attached to the end of this newsletter.

This year, there is a special advantage in renewing early. The price of postage is scheduled to increase in the near future.

So, get your form to **Judy Levan, N2TEZ**, early, and save by avoiding the postage increase. That's more money in YOUR pocket!

STARS, 39 YEARS AGO

STARS Annual Report 1973

1973 was the last year we meet at the C.A.P. building at the Nike Site. Because: that building is to be part of the new ice skating complex, we were temporarily without a meeting place. However, thanks to Town of Hamburg Recreation Dept., Mr. Alan Greenfield director, we have obtained the use of the Senior Lounge in the Hamburg Youth Center, on Prospect Avenue for every Thursday evening. Since the facilities are a big improvement and the location more convenient, we are more than satisfied with the move. We still have the shack WB2ELW at the Nike Base.

Our Field Day exercises were cancelled when Field Day Chairman Bob Jamieson had a serious ankle injury. However, we were able to participate fully in the Erie County Fair having our station on the air every day and sending many messages for Fair visitors. The STARS sponsored Hamburg International Hamfest, on Sept. 16, 1973, was a big success. It was larger than the 1972 in every respect. More manufacturers and dealers, more in attendance, more prizes, better-known speakers, bigger flea market. We plan to expand even more next year, with the date the same - that is, the 3rd Saturday in September.

We have a new trustee, Joe 'Guz' Guzinski WB2EZU. Guz has been holding classes 3 Thursdays a month at the Youth Center. He has an enthusiastic group and is doing a fine job. Our programs have been given by members. They have been interesting and informative. *Tellstars* has been going out monthly, Lin having taken over when Guz got involved in the class and station responsibilities. Ernie or Jack have taken part in the operation of getting out the paper.

Officers for the year have been: Jack Miller, President; Joe 'Guz' Guzinski, Vice President; Lin Brownell, Secretary; and Valerie Orgera, Treasurer.

The big problem has been attendance. At the end of 1973 we had 21 paid members, but many of them are on shift work or away at college, so meetings are way too small. Hopefully, more young people will be able to get to the new meeting place. New officers were not elected at the last meeting due to lack of quorum

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Brownell, WB2HCL.

NEWSLETTER NAME

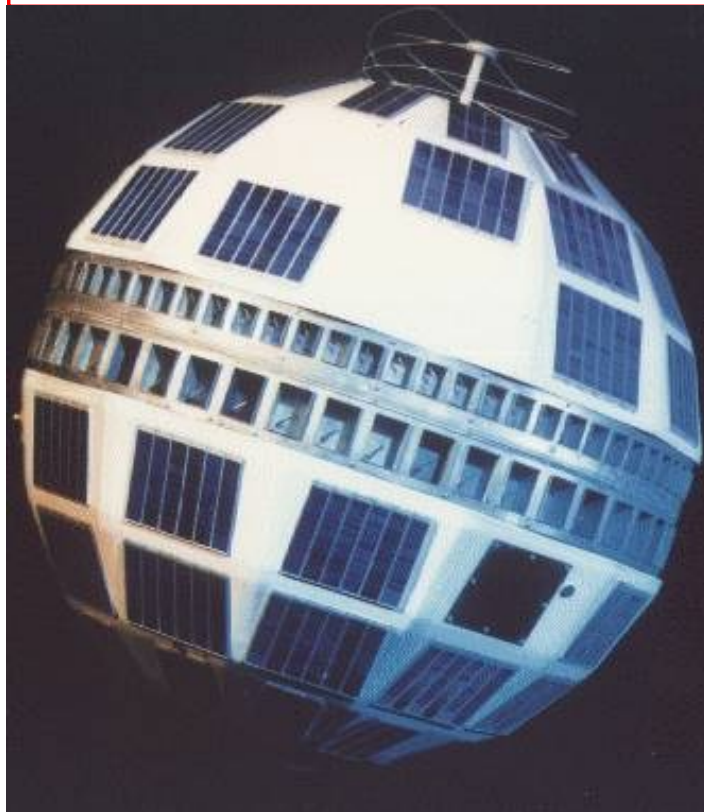
Most of us know this newsletter as "TELSTAR". It makes sense, being a name taken from one of our earliest communications satellites.

However, after studying the historical item to the left, it is apparent that the newsletter's original name was "TELLSTARS". This was not an error. The name appears throughout the writings from that period of time. It also makes sense, meaning to "inform members of the South Towns Amateur Radio Society".

If there are any well-seasoned members that can shed any light on this, we would like to know. When and why was the name changed?

Also, let us know which name you prefer.

For your comparative scrutiny, this month's title page features the old name. (No, it wasn't an error - this will not appear in the "We Goofed" section.)



Telstar (or Tellstars) wishes to thank
John Leitten, KA2RFT and **Don Niles, K2PMC**
 for the historical annual report on the left.

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 REPORT

STARS held an examination session at the Hamburg Youth Center on Saturday, November 17, 2012. Two showed, each earning an upgrade from technician to general. Congratulations for the advancement to:

John Morrow **KC2TXV**

James Sajdak **KC2JIB**

The VE team included **Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY**; **John Czuba, W2IV**; **Tomm Dean, KA2NXY**, and **Matt Starr, N2TFA**. **Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM** served as an "on-call" VE, as a safety precaution.

AREA VE SESSIONS

12/01/2012 [North Tonawanda](#)

Sponsor: ARA of the Tonawandas
Location: North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters
 495 Zimmerman Street - Basement
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/01/2012 [Jamestown](#)

Sponsor: CARS
Location: Prendergast Library
 509 Cherry Street 2nd floor conf rm
Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/04/2012 [Bradford PA](#)

Sponsor: McKean Cty ARC
 302 Congress Street
Location: American Red Cross Chapter House
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/10/2012 [Lyons](#)

Sponsor: Drumlins ARC
Location: Wayne Co Office of Emergency Mgmt
 7336 State Route 31
Time: 7:15 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/15/2012 [Erie PA](#)

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association
Location: Greene Twnshp Mun Bldg Rm 107
 9333 Tate Road
 (use district justice entrance)
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/15/2012 [Youngsville PA](#)

Sponsor: Warren County RACES
Location: Warren Co Emergency Mgmt Agency
 100 Dillon Drive
Time: 4:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[\(click on City for more info\)](#)

CONTEST CALENDAR



Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Nov 30, 2200Z - Dec 2, 1600Z	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	www.arrl.org/160-meter
Dec 1, 0000Z - Dec 2, 2359Z	ARRL EME Contest	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
Dec 1, 0000Z - Dec 3, 2400Z	TARA RTTY M��lee	www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_melee_rules.html
Dec 1, 0600Z - Dec 1, 0800Z	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	grp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng
Dec 1, 1200Z - Dec 2, 1200Z	VU International DX Contest	www.arsi.info/contests/international
Dec 1, 1600Z - Dec 2, 1559Z	Top Operators Activity Contest	www.procvclub.vo6ex.ro
Dec 1, 2300Z - See website	AWA Bruce Kelly QSO Party	www.antiquewireless.org
Dec 2, 0000Z - Dec 2, 2359Z	10 Meter RTTY Contest	www.rttycontesting.com
Dec 2, 1300Z - Dec 2, 1600Z	SARL Digital Contest	www.sarl.org.za
Dec 4, 0200Z - Dec 4, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	www.arsgrp.blogspot.com
Dec 5, 0200Z - Dec 5, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 7, 0200Z - Dec 7, 0300Z	SNS and NS Weekly Sprints	www.ncccsprint.com
Dec 7, 0200Z - Dec 7, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 8, 0000Z - Dec 9, 2400Z	28 MHz SWL Contest QSOs	swl.veron.nl/swlcontest.htm
Dec 8, 0000Z - Dec 9, 2400Z	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	www.arrl.org/contests-calendar
Dec 8, 1600Z - Dec 9, 1559Z	International Naval Contest	www.marinefunker.de/eng/show.php3?pos=15
Dec 8, 1700Z - See website	UBA Winter Contest	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
Dec 8, 2300Z - See website	AWA Bruce Kelly QSO Party	www.antiquewireless.org
Dec 9, 0000Z - Dec 9, 2359Z	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
Dec 9, 2100Z - Dec 9, 2259Z	Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	www.cgc.org/contests
Dec 11, 0000Z - Dec 17, 0200Z	High-Speed Meteor Scatter Contest	www.meteorscatter.org
Dec 12, 0130Z - Dec 12, 0330Z	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	naqcc.info
Dec 12, 0200Z - Dec 12, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 12, 1300Z - See website	CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test	www.cwops.org/onair.html
Dec 12, 1800Z - Dec 12, 2000Z	NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf
Dec 13, 2100Z - Dec 13, 2300Z	Russian 160 Meter Contest	www.radio.ru/cq
Dec 14, 0200Z - Dec 14, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 14, 0230Z - Dec 14, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Dec 14, 2100Z - Dec 14, 2300Z	Russian 160-Meter Contest	www.grz.ru/contest/detail/90.html
Dec 15, 0000Z - Dec 15, 2400Z	Feld-Hell Happy Birthday Sprint	www.feldhellclub.org
Dec 15, 0000Z - Dec 16, 2400Z	OK DX RTTY Contest	www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM
Dec 15, 1400Z - Dec 16, 1400Z	Croatian CW Contest	www.9acw.org
Dec 16, 1800Z - Dec 16, 2359Z	ARRL Rookie Roundup	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
Dec 16, 2000Z - Dec 16, 2359Z	Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	www.grparci.org/ (???)
Dec 17, 0200Z - Dec 17, 0400Z	Run For the Bacon	www.fqgrp.org
Dec 19, 0200Z - Dec 19, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 21, 0001Z - Jan 8, 2359Z	Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	arlhs.com
Dec 21, 0200Z - Dec 21, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 21, 0230Z - Dec 21, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Dec 21, 2100Z - Dec 21, 2400Z	AGB-Party Contest	www.ev5agb.com/contest/agb_party.htm
Dec 23, 0000Z - Dec 23, 1200Z	RAEM Contest	raem.srr.ru
Dec 26, 0000Z - Dec 26, 0200Z	SKCC Straight Key Sprint	www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/
Dec 26, 0200Z - Dec 26, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 26, 0830Z - Dec 26, 1059Z	ARC XMAS Contest	www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en
Dec 27, 0130Z - Dec 27, 0330Z	NAQCC Milliwatt Sprint	naqcc.info
Dec 28, 0200Z - Dec 28, 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Dec 28, 0230Z - Dec 28, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Dec 29, 0000Z - Dec 29, 2359Z	RAC Winter Contest	www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests
Dec 29, 1500Z - Dec 30, 1500Z	Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge	www.kkn.net/stew
Jan 1, 0000Z - Jan 1, 2400Z	ARRL Straight Key Night	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night

(Control + click to activate a link)



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

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

Full information at: <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

11/30/2012	SEC Championship Game Special Event
12/01/2012	25th Anniversary Holiday Train Show
12/01/2012	71st Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol
12/01/2012	Celebrating 150 Years of Union Pacific Rail Road
12/01/2012	UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities
12/07/2012	150th Anniversary - Battle of Prairie Grove, AR
12/07/2012	USS Lexington (CV-16) Pearl Harbor Day
12/08/2012	Bethlehem Christmas Special Event Station
12/08/2012	Christmas City Special Event
12/08/2012	Fire on the Rappahannock - 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Fredericksburg
12/08/2012	Pearl Harbor Commemoration
12/08/2012	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
12/08/2012	Pearl Harbor Special Event
12/08/2012	Texarkana USA 139th Birthday
12/09/2012	1938 W9BSP Ensor Transmitter Returns to Air
12/15/2012	Wreaths Across America
12/16/2012	12.21.2012 - Game Over
12/16/2012	Great South Bay ARC Holiday Party
12/18/2012	Christmas in Bethlehem
12/20/2012	N0D Domsday The End of the World!
12/20/2012	W2E - Domsday 2012
12/22/2012	Day After Domsday Operation



USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

(control + click to use link)

ARRL MAIN SITE

<http://www.arrl.org/home>

ARRL ATLANTIC DIV.

<http://www.atldiv.org>

CONTESTS:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

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

HAMFESTS:

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

STARS WEBSITE:

<http://www.wb2elw.com/>

STARS REFLECTOR:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/>

TELSTAR EDITOR

wb2elw@verizon.net

2013 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

If no, please include \$6 additional to cover the cost of printing and postage.

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 \$24

FAMILY \$27

STUDENT (through grade 12 OR full-time college student) \$8

RETURNED COMPLETED FORM AND DUES (Checks payable to STARS) to:

JUDY LEVAN N2TEZ ^{Signatu} Signat
120 UNIVERSITY BLVD
DEPEW NY 14043-2874