

## 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 "trustworthy 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If you still think railroad operations are controlled with semaphore signals, you are sadly out of date.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)*

# 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
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Clubhouse Chair	Pat Groom, KC2VWG
Telstar Editor	Tomm Dean, KA2NXY
Webmaster	Marc Fruth, N2UBT

# 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](mailto:wb2elw@verizon.net)

# 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!

# STARS MEETINGS

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:wv2ny@roadrunner.com)

For more info:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/buf/skywarn.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 cook-out 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&region=New\\_York](http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/cities/region.cgi?country=United_States&region=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:** Marletown 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

[Rochester](#)

**Sponsor:** Rochester ARA  
**Location:** RIT-Gleason Engineering Bldg, Rm 3139  
**Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/22/2012

[Geneseo](#)

**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 mail-box 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 control-click 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 copy-ing 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 [Drumlins ARC Hamfest](#)

**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](mailto: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/heritage-discovery-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)

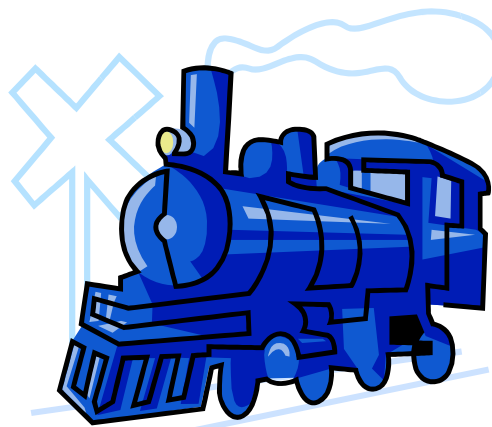
## RAILROAD CONTROL

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

- 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

E N K L N R N E R W A A T R A L L C  
 A R N E O O A S O S D N H N D O H H  
 U K D N R W E S T S E N E C A E G A  
 R E L K T B L A S D E L L L E R O M  
 D N A S H U L U S S N N A K T L B A  
 A M W N C F I G L T L L T W S L L R  
 S O L I O F V R E G A O F N W D D R  
 D R O L L A G U I R W U A N E D W A  
 N E D L L L N B A A A V R N N R A W  
 M T R O I O I M G N E M N O G S N W  
 A S O C N K R A P D R A H C R O S O  
 R A C N S T P H M I E A A E W A L B  
 I C N A A W S T H S A P M U R A O A  
 L N O M O W D I N L V G E D R S D F  
 L A C K A W A N N A B I I W T O T U  
 A L H O L L A N D N N N L O E I R N  
 L C D N A M D A D D I R N L E E I A  
 L G N E D L O C L A R E N C E L M A

**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  
 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, 1500Z - Apr 15, 1700Z

## 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

## Contest Title

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  
 SARL 80m QSO Party

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  
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB  
 NCCC Sprint Ladder  
 Montana QSO Party  
 JIDX CW Contest  
 EU Spring Sprints  
 New Mexico Centennial QSO Party  
 EU Spring Sprints  
 QCWA Spring QSO Party  
 Georgia QSO Party  
 Yuri Gagarin DX Contest  
 Run For the Bacon  
 International Vintage Contest  
 Hungarian Straight Key Contest

## ARRL Rookie Roundup

VHF Spring Sprints  
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data  
 Holyland DX Contest  
 TARA Skirmish Dig Pfx Contest  
 Worked All Provinces of China - Test  
 ES Open HF Championship  
 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

## Sponsor's Website

[www.dubus.org](http://www.dubus.org)  
[www.arlhs.com](http://www.arlhs.com)  
[www.w0ma.org](http://www.w0ma.org)  
[www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules/spring-contest](http://www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules/spring-contest)  
[www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml)  
[www.arsgrp.blogspot.com](http://www.arsgrp.blogspot.com)  
[www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc](http://www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc)  
[www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL\\_2011\\_Contest%20Manual\\_issue\\_9.pdf](http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL_2011_Contest%20Manual_issue_9.pdf)

[www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html](http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html)  
[www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html](http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html)  
[www.fvarc.org](http://www.fvarc.org)  
[www.lzopen.com](http://www.lzopen.com)  
[www.jidx.org](http://www.jidx.org)  
[www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com)  
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[www.spdxcontest.info](http://www.spdxcontest.info)  
[www.ure.es/contest](http://www.ure.es/contest)  
[alexanderkorda@hotmail.com](mailto:alexanderkorda@hotmail.com)  
[www.sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints](http://www.sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints)  
[www.naqcc.info](http://www.naqcc.info)  
[www.cwops.org/onair.html](http://www.cwops.org/onair.html)

[www.naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf](http://www.naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf)  
[www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml)  
[www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html](http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html)  
[www.fvarc.org/?q=node/77](http://www.fvarc.org/?q=node/77)  
[www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html](http://www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html)  
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[www.swcp.com/~n5zqt](http://www.swcp.com/~n5zqt)  
[www.eu-sprint.com](http://www.eu-sprint.com)  
[www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm)  
[qqp.contesting.com](http://qqp.contesting.com)  
[gc.qst.ru/en](http://gc.qst.ru/en)  
[www.fpgqr.org](http://www.fpgqr.org)  
[www.contestvintage.beepworld.it](http://www.contestvintage.beepworld.it)  
<http://hskc.ha8kux.com/data/2011/Hungarian%20Straight%20Key%20Contest%202011.pdf>

[www.arri.org/contests](http://www.arri.org/contests)  
[sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints](http://sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints)  
[www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml)  
[www.iarc.org](http://www.iarc.org)  
[www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara\\_dpx\\_rules.html](http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_rules.html)  
[www.mulandxc.org](http://www.mulandxc.org)  
[www.erau.ee](http://www.erau.ee)  
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[www.eu-sprint.com/index.php?page=140&lang=g](http://www.eu-sprint.com/index.php?page=140&lang=g)  
[www.eagr.com](http://www.eagr.com)  
[www.w0blk.org](http://www.w0blk.org)  
[www.va3cco.com](http://www.va3cco.com)  
[www.feldhellclub.org](http://www.feldhellclub.org)  
[www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxmain.html](http://www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxmain.html)

[www.cwops.org/onair.html](http://www.cwops.org/onair.html)  
[sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints](http://sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints)  
[www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html](http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html)  
[www.dubus.org](http://www.dubus.org)  
[www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)  
[www.hdxa.net](http://www.hdxa.net)  
[www.pkrvq.org/zbior.html](http://www.pkrvq.org/zbior.html)  
[www.uska.ch](http://www.uska.ch)  
[www.zianet.com/qrp](http://www.zianet.com/qrp)  
[www.floridagsoparty.org](http://www.floridagsoparty.org)  
[www.bartg.org.uk](http://www.bartg.org.uk)



(Control + click to activate a link)



## SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

04/01/2012	100th Anniversary of the Sinking of RMS Titanic (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)

<b>CONTESTS:</b>	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar">http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar</a> <a href="http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php">http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php</a>
<b>HAMFESTS:</b>	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar">http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar</a>
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS:</b>	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations">http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations</a>
<b>STARS WEBSITE:</b>	<a href="http://www.wb2elw.com/">http://www.wb2elw.com/</a>
<b>STARS REFLECTOR:</b>	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/</a>
<b>TELSTAR EDITOR</b>	<a href="mailto:wb2elw@verizon.net">wb2elw@verizon.net</a>

Answer: Cold cuts