



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

FEBRUARY 2013

VOL 46 Issue 6

TOWER PROGRESS

First, the good news. The antenna tower has been refinished, painted, and assembled. Stand-offs were attached and cables were strung. Erection was imminent.

Then, the bad news. Heavy snow hit the area. A snow plow working the park area struck the tower while it lay on the ground. The upper section was bent and rendered unusable.

Then, the good news. The snow plow operator agreed to reimburse STARS for a new section.

Then the bad news. A new section would probably take six to eight weeks to arrive.

Then the good news. A new section arrived quickly, and was placed near the damaged tower. However, no one realized this until one member noticed it while exiting the board meeting.

Then the bad news. More work will be needed to prepare the new section.

Then the good news. STARS members are anxious to see this project succeed, and will provide ample manpower when called upon. Stay tuned for further details.

CIVIL WAR AT STARS

Joanne Burris will speak about the Civil War at the February (or March) STARS meeting.

Joanne is well-read on the Civil War, and has visited most of the battlefields She is known for providing presentations to groups of all ages, with plenty of little-known stories of the war.

A "story teller in the old tradition", she only asks the loan of the listener's imagination. She will let you see the events of the times through the eyes of those who were there.

FEMA GRANT PROGRESS

As we left this topic last month, the federal government postponed until the end of December their decisions regarding which applicants (including STARS) would receive the FEMA grants.

FEMA states that over 2,000 applications had been received, and that more time was needed to properly review them.

Accordingly, it is unknown when their decision will be made.

Stay tuned for further developments!

☆

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

CLUB OFFICERS

President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK

Vice President John Leitten, KA2RFT

Secretary Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM

Financial Sec'y Judy Levan, N2TEZ

Treasurer John Czuba, W2IV

Director (1 yr.) Pat-Groom, KC2VWG ----

Director (2 yr.) Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY

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)



<u>sample link</u>

RADIOS AVAILABLE

My parents are moving into a Senior apartment complex and need to downsize. I'm looking for someone interested in a *Hammarlund* HQ100A receiver, and/or a *Swan* 500cx tranceiver. If interested, please contact me.

Regards,

Jack Lucernoni

Depot Operations Manager
Aircraft Group, Military Global Support

Moog

716-687-5562 716-984-1090 [Cell] jlucernoni@moog.com

WE GOOFED (NOT!)

Despite sending out over 100 issues of the newsletter last month, no one brought any mistakes to our attention.

We take pride in getting things right, and encourage readers to notify us about any errors. We will then set the record straight in the following issue.

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

wb2elw@verizon.net

STARS MEETINGS

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

 $\overset{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

☆

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

☆

☆ ☆

☆

★ 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 February 7th, 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 February 28th.

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 Tim Hortons Cafe

342 Buffalo St, Hamburg

From Your President

Happy New Year!

Well we started off our New Year with a bang (the sound of steel against steel)! On a trip to the Nike base, the evidence was clear. The horizontal array of steel we call "our tower" was hit by a snow plow. The once highly visible mesh of steel experienced one of our typical January weather swings, from 50° down to 10°, and was covered by 2 feet of snow. I'm sure they meant well in keeping our area clear of snow, but that one last scoop caught the side arm and bent up our tower. Mainly, the top section of the tower was ruined. The side arm was also trashed, as well as the Heliax transmission line and some RF connectors. I just want to keep everyone up to speed and remind everyone that we do not give up. That horizontal beauty will still have its day of perpendicular celebration. Although things looked bleak a couple of weeks ago, they are getting back on track. After a couple of talks with the Town of Hamburg, with follow through by John Leitten, KA2RFT, we were able to get the Town to buy us a new tower section. To the board members surprise, the new section was present for the Thursday board meeting. Brand new! It arrived quicker than expected and now we can get moving again with the tower project. I've already repaired the transmission line and connectors and straightened out the thrust bearing mounting bolts. The next step will be to get the tower section into the clubhouse. We will reinstall the rotor and all the other hardware needed to prep the top section for reconnection with its better half. How's that for a comeback?

Moving forward:

Since that worry of "what to do about the damaged tower" is gone, I started to think about where we are headed next. We had a good discussion at the January board meeting about where we are headed. We have a dream for our club. We want to see STARS continue to thrive and we want to lead our club in a direction that moves us toward becoming a top notch organization with a professional grade operating facility. The new tower will be the start. Revitalization of the clubhouse will be the next step, including a general cleanup, minor remodeling, and reorganization of the operating area. **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**, was chartered with leading our new committee for work on the clubhouse. We will be seeking committee members to stand behind Pat. If interested, please speak up and offer your participation at the membership meeting. I will expect a plan from this committee. Following board review and approval, we will be off and running.

Participation:

This year we want active participation from as many members as possible. At last month's membership meeting, we heard suggestions for several goals and objectives for the club in 2013. Some of them are "no brainers"; others are new ideas that will make our club interesting and fun. Let's not drop the ball on these. As I have said in the past, we have many differing skill sets and interests among the members of the STARS club and we should be able to have an exciting time sharing knowledge and experience with each other. That's what our club should be all about, having fun with Amateur Radio and learning from each other. Please don't expect the board members to be your only source of knowledge and handiwork. Get involved, volunteer your knowledge, your handiwork, and your time. The club will become more exciting if we can draw off our membership to create, lead and participate in programs and committees. This year, we wanted to start some license upgrade classes. That's a program that will need a leader. If you can help with this, please come and speak up at the February membership meeting.

2013 Goals and Objectives:

We will be discussing our goals and objectives for 2013 at the February meeting. We had great ideas at the last meeting. Now we have to decide which ones we will pursue and when we will work on them. We can't do everything this year, but I'm sure we can plan to make progress on many of our goals. We will review them at our February meeting, making decisions on which to follow, and how to begin.

Lets have a great year with STARS in 2013!

Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK President

RAFFLES COMPLETE



The final **BAOFENG UV-5R** portable radio was raffled off at the January 3rd meeting.

If you have one of these radios, and need assistance in programming it, contact **Tomm Dean**, **KA2NXY** at tommdean@verizon.net.

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	KD2CF5
December	Linda Jablonski	KC2YMM
January	Ed Patton	N2ING

RENEWALS DUE

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

If you have not yet renewed your membership, this will be the last issue of *TELSTAR* you will receive.

So, get your form to **Judy Levan**, **N2TEZ**, and avoid a publication blackout.

CLASS PLANNED

Keith Patterson, KC2DGC, and his STARS instructor team have their hands full. They are preparing to teach a technician class on Saturday mornings during the month of April.

Sponsored by **EMPact America**, the classes will take place in Elma. WBEN's **David Bellavia** mentioned this class several times during his recent guest hosting duties. More information can be found at:

http://www.preparehub.org/events/ event_details.asp?id=283222&group=

Are you interested in helping? Contact Keith Patterson, KC2DGC, at kc2dgc@verizon.net

SNO-CROSS EVENT

A Sno-Cross event is planned for February 22nd to 24th at the Seneca Allegany Casino. Amateur radio operators may be needed for communications purposes.

If available and interested, contact Robert Koster, KA2WYE, for further information at:

rkoster53@roadrunner.com

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.

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 SESSION RESULTS

STARS conducted an examination session on January 19, 2013. One candidate showed, and passed both the technician and general examinations.

Congratulations to the new general amateur operator:

Gregory Hoerner KD2DJV

All STARS Volunteer Examiners were the new black pole shirts with the ARRL VE loge, as shown in the picture below. The shirts enhance the professional appearance of our VE team.

VEs included Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY; Shane Brady, WB2WPM; Tomm Dean, KA2NXY; Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM; and Matthew Starr, N2TFA.



AREA VE SESSIONS

02/09/13 <u>Bath NY</u>

Sponsor: Civil Defense Center

Location: Route 54

Time:

Time: 4:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

02/16/2013 Erie PA

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association
Location: Greene Twnshp Mun Bldg Rm 107

9333 Tate Road

(use district justice entrance)
9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

02/16/2013 <u>Rochester NY</u>

Sponsor: Rochester ARA

Location: RIT Gleason Engineering Bldg Rm 3139

1 Lomb Memorial Drive

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

02/16/2013 <u>Meadville PA</u>

Sponsor: Crawford ARS

Location: St Brigid Church Social Hall

383 Arch Street

Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins)

02/24/2013 <u>Geneseo</u>

Sponsor: Genesee Valley ARA

Location: Livingston County Government Center

2 Court Street Rm 205

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



GET YOUR MUG SHOT

Did you know that STARS has an official mug? How many do you have? What!? You don't own one?

Well, you must really be wet behind the ears. Remember, you cannot get a mug shot without a mug.

For a limited time only, **STARS** is offering official mugs for sale at the bargain price of \$5. So, come to the February meeting and these mugs will be available for sale. Hurry, for when these mugs sell out, they are gone!

Use them for your favorite hot or cold beverage. The opaque sides of the mug are great for hiding those annoying pulp-like foreign bodies floating around in your orange juice. Or, you can use them as miniplanters for those small flowers you adore. Or, get two and use them in your radio shack. One for each ear will keep unwanted lid noises from entering your body.

Best of all, you can use a **STARS** mug for those special large shots you enjoy after a hard day. Buy now and enjoy a "mug shot" tonight. (Shots not provided with mug sales.)

(Void where prohibited, as per local custom. Mug not suitable for molten lava containment.)



PHOTOS IN THIS COLUMN NOT PROVIDED BY
LINDA JABLONSKI, KC2YMM

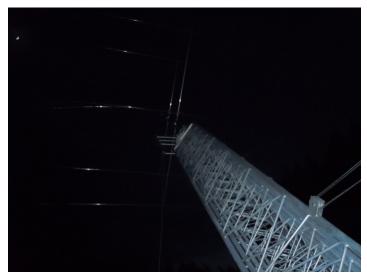
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

When we first saw this photo, we thought an "antenna king" war was imminent. So, we decided not to include the photo in *TELSTAR*.



Since then, we found that this picture does not portray any ill will whatsoever. It turns out that Pat Groom, KC2VWG, provided invaluable assistance to Linda and Ed Jablonski. KC2YMM & KC2YMN, during the assembly of their antenna tower. Among other tasks, Pat aligned the rotor system. Thanx, Pat!

JABLONSKI TOWER AT NIGHT



PHOTOS IN THIS COLUMN PROVIDED BY
LINDA JABLONSKI, KC2YMM

CONTEST CALENDAR

Start and Finish Contest Title Sponsor's Website

Feb 4, 1600Z - See website **OK1WC Memorial Contest** Feb 4, 2000Z - Feb 4, 2130Z RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB Feb 5, 0200Z - Feb 5, 0400Z **ARS Spartan Sprint** QRP Fox Hunt Feb 6, 0200Z - Feb 6, 0330Z Feb 8, 0200Z - Feb 8, 0330Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Feb 8, 0230Z - Feb 8, 0300Z NCCC Sprint Ladder Feb 8, 1400Z - Feb 10, 0200Z YL-OM Contest Feb 9, 0000Z - Feb 10, 2359Z YLISSB QSO Party Feb 9, 0000Z - Feb 10, 2400Z CQ WW RTTY WPX Feb 9, 1000Z - Feb 10, 1000Z SARL Field Day Contest Feb 9, 1100Z - Feb 9, 1300Z Asia-Pacific Sprint Feb 9, 1200Z - Feb 10, 1200Z **Dutch PACC Contest** Feb 9, 1200Z - Feb 10, 1200Z **KCJ Topband Contest** Feb 9, 1500Z - Feb 10, 0300Z Louisiana QSO Party Feb 9, 1500Z - Feb 10, 1500Z **OMISS QSO Party** Feb 9, 1600Z - Feb 10, 0400Z New Hampshire QSO Party Feb 9, 1700Z - Feb 9, 2100Z FISTS CW Winter Sprint Feb 9, 2100Z - Feb 10, 0100Z RSGB - First 1.8 MHz Contest Feb 9, 2300Z - Feb 10, 2300Z AM QSO Party Feb 10, 1400Z - Feb 11, 0800Z Classic Exchange Milwaukee FM Simplex Contest Feb 10, 1900Z - Feb 10, 2130Z Feb 10, 1900Z - Feb 10, 2300Z Maine 2m FM Simplex Challenge Feb 11, 1300Z - Feb 15, 2359Z **School Club Roundup** Feb 13, 0130Z - Feb 13, 0330Z NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint Feb 13, 0200Z - Feb 13, 0330Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Feb 13, 1300Z - See website CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test Feb 14, 8 PM - Feb 15, 2 AM PODXS Valentine Sprint Feb 15, 0200Z - Feb 15, 0330Z QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint Ladder Feb 15, 0230Z - Feb 15, 0300Z Feb 15, 2100Z - Feb 16, 2100Z Russian WW PSK Contest Feb 16, 0000Z - Feb 17, 2400Z **ARRL Int'I CW DX Contest** Feb 16, 2000Z - Feb 16, 2200Z Feld-Hell Annual WAS Sprint Feb 18, 0200Z - Feb 18, 0400Z Run For the Bacon Feb 18, 1800Z - Feb 18, 2000Z NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint Feb 20, 0200Z - Feb 20, 0330Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Semi-Automatic Key Evening Feb 20, 1900Z - Feb 20, 2030Z Feb 22, 0200Z - Feb 22, 0330Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Feb 22, 0230Z - Feb 22, 0300Z NCCC Sprint Ladder Feb 22, 2200Z - Feb 24, 2200Z CQ WW 160 Meter SSB Feb 23, 0600Z - Feb 24, 1800Z REF Contest Feb 23, 0800Z - Feb 23, 1000Z SARL Youth Day Sprint Feb 23, 1300Z - Feb 24, 1300Z **UBA** Contest Mississippi QSO Party Feb 23, 1500Z - Feb 24, 0300Z Feb 23, 1800Z - Feb 24, 0600Z North American QSO Party RTTY Feb 24, 0900Z - Feb 24, 1100Z and **SARL Digital Contest** Feb 24, 1300Z - Feb 24, 1600Z Feb 24, 1500Z - Feb 24, 1700Z High Speed Club CW Contest Feb 24, 1500Z - Feb 25, 0059Z North Carolina QSO Party Feb 25, 0100Z - Feb 25, 0259Z CQC Winter QSO Party Feb 27, 0200Z - Feb 27, 0330Z **QRP Fox Hunt** Feb 27, 1300Z - Feb 27, 1400Z and **CWops Mini-CWT Test** Feb 27, 1900Z - Feb 27, 2000Z and Feb 28, 0300Z - Feb 28, 0400Z

www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml www.arsqrp.blogspot.com www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter rules.htm www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter rules.htm www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html www.ylrl.org www.ylsystem.org www.cqwpxrtty.com www.sarl.org.za/ jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt www.dutchpacc.com www.kcj-cw.com/contest/13 toptest rules e.pdf lagso.w5yl.org www.omiss.info www.w1wqm.org www.fists.org www.rsgbcc.org www.antiquewireless.org www.classicexchange.org www.w9rh.org

www.qsl.net/ws1sm/contest.html
www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

naqcc.info

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

www.cwops.org/onair.html www.podxs070.com

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/384.html

www.arrl.org/contests www.feldhellclub.org www.fpqrp.org

<u>naqcc-eu.org/sprints/rules/current.pdf</u> <u>www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm</u>

www.agcw.de

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

www.cq160.com

concours.ref-union.org/contest

www.sarl.org.za/

www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules

www.arrlmiss.org www.ncjweb.com www.sarl.org.za/

www.highspeedclub.org/ www.ncqsoparty.org

www.cqc.org

www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

AC

www.cwops.org/onair.html

(Control + click to activate a link)



For more information on contests: $\frac{\text{http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar}}{\text{org.ontest-calendar}}$

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

02/01/2013	Buddy Holly Memorial,	54th Anniversary of the	Death of Buddy Holly
------------	-----------------------	-------------------------	----------------------

02/06/2013 Washington County Sportsman Show

02/08/2013 In Memory of JY1, the late King Hussein of Jordan

02/09/2013 Thomas A. Edison's Birthday

02/09/2013 Women Marines Birthday, Boy Scouts of America Founded 1910

02/14/2013 150th Anniversary of Emporia State University 02/16/2013 8th Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off (FYAO)

9th Annual "Freeze Your Keys" Winter Operating EventAstronaut and former Senator John H. Glenn, Jr; Local Hero

02/16/2013 Boy Scout/Girl Scout Nova Con 2013 02/16/2013 George Washington Special Event 02/18/2013 Antarctic Activity Week - 10th Edition

02/18/2012 Harry S. Truman

02/22/2013 DL89 Activation, Big Bend National Park

02/22/2013 George Washington's Birthday

02/23/2013 2013 Lost Dutchman Legend Celebration02/23/2013 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima

02/23/2013 HAM Days 2012 (Hamfest and Emergency Services Fair)

02/23/2013 Rotarians on Amateur Radio End Polio Now

02/24/2013 North Carolina QSO Party









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 _					·		<u>-</u>
ADDRESS							
-							
PHONE	BIRT	HDAY (Mo	nth/D	ate)		<u></u>	
EMAIL ADDRESS							
Are you a member	of ARRL?			YES		NO	
Do you want to red	eive your Tels	star by ema	ail?	YES		NO	
If no, pleas	e include \$6 a	dditional t	to cov	er the c	ost of p	rinting a	and postage.
FOR FAMILY MEMI	BERSHIPS: Add	ditional nai	mes ar	nd infor	mation:		
CALL SIGN		NAME	<u> </u>				
CLA	SS		BIRTH	DAY (M	onth/Da	ate)	
CALL SIGN		NAME	<u> </u>				
CLA	SS		BIRTH	DAY (M	onth/Da	ate)	
CALL SIGN		NAME	<u> </u>				
CLA	SS		BIRTH	DAY (M	onth/Da	ate)	
DUES: STARS	Annual dues	s payable b	y Janu	ary 1			
	SINGLE \$24						
	FAMILY \$27						
	STUDENT (tl	hrough gra	de 12	OR full-	time co	lege stu	ıdent) \$8
RETURNED COMPL	ETED FORM A	AND DUES	(Check	s payak	Signatu ole to ST	ARS) to:	:
		JUDY LEV	AN N	2TEZ	Signat		
		120 UNIV	ERSIT	' BLVD			

DEPEW NY 14043-2874

HamCation_® 2013 - INFO

HamCation Hotline 24x7 call 407 841 0874 Outside Florida call 800 214 7541 E-mail info@hamcation.com

Quick Reference Guide

Dates-

February 8, 9 & 10, 2013

Times-

Friday Feruary 8: Noon to 6 pm Saturday February 9: 9 am to 5 pm Sunday February 10: 9 am to 2 pm Talk In -

KB4UT 146.760 (-600/no PL) (Backup on 145.015 (-600/no PL) D-star K1XC 146.820 (-600)

Tickets -

\$12.00 for all three days \$ 10.00 purchased before January 19 2013

Where -

Central Florida Fairgrounds 4603 West Colonial Drive Orlando, Florida 32808

Coordinates -

- 81.438338, 28.55671,0

RV Info -

Check-ins begin Wednesday February 6 2013, 2:00 pm till 8:00 pm. Check-ins daily 7:00 am - 8:00 pm Must be out by 11:00 am Monday. Enter through SOUTH gate - main Entrance. No camping outside gates!

Swaps info -

Set-up time for Swaps Tables Thursday February 7, 2013, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Friday February 8, 2013 7:00 am to 12 noon. Enter through EAST gate

Tailgate info -

Tailgate admissions Thursday
February 7, 2013 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
Friday February 8 2013,7:00 am -noon.
First come first served.
Enter through SOUTH gate.
Items must be left to secure space.

CHARGE TO FAMING AREA #1

Testing info - Saturday February 9, 2013, 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Must be preregisterd, mail: testing@hamcation.com.

Forums-Saturday February 9, 2013 only. Children Safety Village 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Ladies Program at the Office, 9:00 am.

Hotels info - HamCation® Specials!

Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Red Roof Inn. Drury Inn Suites. Hampton Inn. See for details and reservations hotel tab on

the web site.