

WNY AMATEURS TO BE LIMITED TO 5 WATTS!

In a startling and unprecedented move, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will implement limitations on amateur radio activity in Western New York. More specifically, ALL amateur activity will be limited to no more than 5 watts power.

This power limitation will apply to all amateur transmissions originated north of "Line A" as defined in the FCC regulations Part 97. As a

reminder, Line A is defined in [Title 47—Part 97, Subpart A, Section 97.3 \(a\) \(30\)](#). The line was created to define an area near the Canadian border, where transmissions are restricted, so as to avoid interference with Canadian radio services. The definition of the line can be found at this official federal website: <http://www.ecfr.gov/> (select Title 47—Part 97).

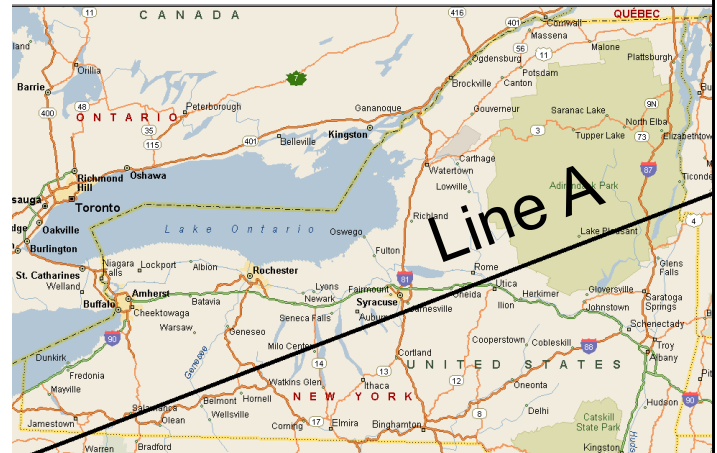
Historically, Line A referred to limitations on amateur UHF transmissions. However, effective April 15, 2013, ALL amateur transmissions north of Line A will be limited to 5 watts.

This action is tied to the Canadian government's displeasure with the United States' failure to approve the Keystone Pipeline, a necessary tool for sending Canadian petroleum to the refineries along the Gulf Coast. Other Canadian actions are anticipated, as diplomacy has failed to resolve the problem.

Line A transects Western New York along a straight line from Burbank, Ohio (coordinates 41° N/82°W) to Bangor, Maine (see map). Communities affected include Jamestown, Fredonia, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Plattsburgh. Unaffected communities include Olean, Watkins Glen, Ithaca, Utica and Albany.

Reactions to this new policy are wide and varied. However, few amateurs are happy with this

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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, KC2WRV

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

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

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](#)

KEVIN HUGHES TO SPEAK AT MEETING

For the April 4th meeting, Kevin Hughes, KC2OLD, will address the membership. Mr. Hughes works for the Erie County Emergency Services as the Communications Unit Leader (COML).

Topics will include the Erie County Public Safety Radio System, recent requirements for narrow band conversion, and the move to UHF frequencies.

Recently, Mr. Hughes travelled to Motorola headquarters in Schaumburg, Illinois. He also responded to Long Island to assist in the recovery from Hurricane Sandy's damage.

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 April 4th, 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 April 25th.

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

SOLDER FOR SALE

A limited number of rolls of solder are available to **STARS** members. The rolls of 63/37 rosin core solder can be purchased for \$5 each. To purchase, see **Jon Hall, KC2QKB**, at the next meeting.

METERS FOR SALE

A Weston milliammeter and a Burlington VU meter are for sale for \$10 each. See **Ken Pokigo, KA2AYK**, at the next meeting for further information.

MINI-HAMFEST

The possibility of a mini-hamfest at the Nike Base in June is being considered. If interested, make yourself available to **Ken Pokigo, KA2AYK**, or **Jon Hall, KC2QKB**.

HAMFESTS

04/13/2013 [Drumlins ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: VFW Memorial Post 6778
4306 Route 31
Palmyra, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Drumlins Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.drumlinsarc.org>

04/14/2013 [Binghamton ARA Hamfest & Technology Show](#)

Location: Broome Community College Ice Center
907 Upper Front Street
North College Drive
Dickinson, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Binghamton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.w2ow.org>

(control + click on name for full information)



NWS SKYWARN PROGRAM

SKYWARN TRAINING

Upcoming training is listed in the table below. For more information, and to register for a training session, use this link:

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

DATE	TIME	COUNTY	LOCATION	ORGANIZATION
April 9, 2013	7PM	Genesee	Batavia Genesee County Fire Training Center 7690 State Street Road	Genesee County Emergency Services
April 11, 2013	7PM	Orleans	Albion Orleans County Health Department 14012 Route 31	Orleans County Health Department
April 25, 2013	7PM	Erie	Cheektowaga Erie County Fire Training Academy 3359 Broadway	Erie County SMART
April 30, 2013	7PM	Niagara	Lewiston Niagara University Bldg/Room TBD	Border Community Service of Niagara University

ARES/RACES EVENTS

The Erie County ARES/RACES team (ECAR) is planning to assist at 3 events in the future.

On Saturday, **June 8th**, the team will work the "Tour de Cure". It is a bicycle event on a 100 mile route. It is expected to attract 2,000 participants.

On Saturday, **June 22nd**, the team will provide communications for the "Ride for Roswell". It is also a bicycle event, with a choice of routes from 9 miles to 100 miles. Over 7,000 participants are expected.

Under consideration for **October**, is an event on Goat Island (Niagara Falls). More details will be available in the future.

If you are interested in participating, join the Erie County ARES/RACES team. Their next meeting is at 7:30 PM, Monday, April 8th,, at the Erie County Fire Training Academy, 3359 Broadway, in Cheektowaga.

More information can be found at the ECAR website: www.ecar.wnyserv.com/.

STARS MUGS STILL AVAILABLE

A few **STARS** mugs are still available. Ask for them at the April 4th meeting.



WANTED: YOU !

Clubhouse Chairman **Patrick Groom KC2VWG**, has been charged with the responsibility of forming a team to redesign and tidy up the Nike Base Clubhouse Station.

If you can help Pat with this project, contact him at:

pgroom@verizon.net



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.

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LINE A

change to the Line A provisions.

Robert Koster, KA2WYE, upon learning of the new restrictions, declared, "This is war! We will resolve this issue in court."

Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM, when told about the new restrictions sat in stone-faced silence. After a few moments, she said, "This is not fair. My husband (**Ed, KC2YMN**) and I spent a lot of time and money to purchase state of the art amateur equipment, and to erect a sophisticated antenna tower. And now, all I can work with that equipment is 5 watts?"

Gene Kremzier, N2OBW, head of the Erie County ARES/RACES team was despondent. "How can we provide our communications service to events such as the Ride for Roswell and the Tour de Cure if our members are limited to 5 watts? There's got to be a resolution to this insanity."

Richard Kingsley, KE2BV, runs the Penn Yan repeater. The repeater is just north of Line A. "This will require us to relocate the repeater to one of our other properties, just south of Line A," said Kingsley.

Not all amateurs were unhappy. **Roy Butler, KC2FSW**, operates a repeater in Arkport, just south of Line A. "This is great! Now our repeater will be the strongest site in Western New York."

Amateur radio organizations are preparing to fight these new restrictions. Progress of their efforts will be announced in *TELSTAR*.

FEMA GRANT PROGRESS

As we left this topic last month, it was unknown when the federal government's decision would be made. No change to this information has occurred.

Originally, selections of grant recipients were to have been announced in November.

Accordingly, stay tuned for further developments on these grant awards!

WE HAVE CLASS!

STARS is planning classes for new or upgraded licenses.

Technician Class

STARS instructors will conduct a technician class on 4 successive Saturday mornings, beginning on April 6th. Testing will take place on a fifth Saturday, May 4th. These classes are sponsored by EMPact America, and will take place at their headquarters, 7615 Seneca Street, in Elma. Books are \$30; the test is \$15; instruction is free. The lead instructor will be **Keith Patterson, KC2DGC**. Persons interested in taking this class should register at www.preparehub.com/radioclass.

General Class

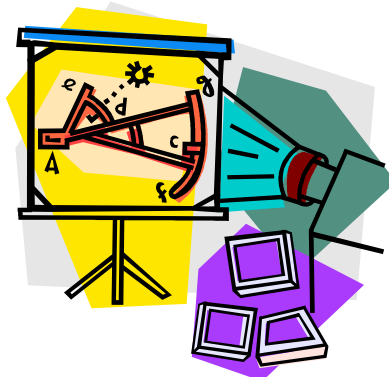
STARS is planning a general class. It will begin sometime in May, after the conclusion of the technician class mentioned above. Preliminary plans (subject to change) are for the classes to be held on Thursday evenings, at the Nike Base Clubhouse. **Ed Patton, N2ING**, will supervise the class. Persons interested in this class should email their intentions to attend to:

wb2elw@verizon.net

Extra Class

Preliminary plans to conduct an extra class are now being considered. Time and place are not yet determined. However, it is expected that the class will take place in the Summer or Fall. Persons interested in taking this class should email their intentions to attend to:

wb2elw@verizon.net



ORLANDO HAMCATION 2013 - PHOTOS

By Bob Koster, KA2WYE

The "Buddipole" experts, left to right, **Mark Culross, KD5RXT** (from Fort Worth, TX), and **Don Niles, K2PMG** (STARS member).



Booth with members of the Radio Club of Junior High School 22 of New York City, WB2JKJ.



Wayne Carpus, W2ZDP (former STARS president), talks with **Rich Budzynski, KI2X**, in front of the WB2JKJ booth.



Dayton Hamvention® 2013

"DX Hamvention"

May 17-19, 2013

Nearly 25,000 attended Hamvention® 2012.

(Check out the [2012 Hamvention Radio Ad](#))

Internet site for the Hamvention:

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

For a complete up-to-date listing of all Inside Exhibitors and Flea Market Vendors, please visit our friends at

PCBoard.ca



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 March 16, 2013. Three candidates showed. Two passed their technician examinations.

Michael Schmid **KD2DSL**

Michael Vogel **KD2DSM**

The third candidate passed an upgrade examination for the general level:

Kevin Hughes **KC2OLD**

Congratulations to all three candidates!

Volunteer Examiners included **Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY; Shane Brady, WB2WPM; John Czuba, W2IV; Tomm Dean, KA2NXY; Ed Patton, N2ING;** and **Matthew Starr, N2TFA.**

TOWER PROGRESS

Completion of the tower project is on hold, waiting for warmer weather.

Remaining tasks include painting the new top section, installation of antenna hardware, attachment of antenna cables, and erection of the completed tower.

AREA VE SESSIONS

04/06/2013 [Jamestown](#)

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

04/06/2013 [North Tonawanda](#)

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

04/09/2013 [Wellsville NY](#)

Sponsor: CCARET
Location: BRICO Technologies
 4371 Bolivar Road
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/20/2013 [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)

04/20/2013 [Rochester](#)

Sponsor: Rochester ARA
Location: RIT Gleason Engineering Bldg Rm 3139
 1 Lomb Memorial Drive
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

04/28/2013 [Geneseo](#)

Sponsor: Genesee Valley ARA
Location: Livingston County Government Center
 2 Court Street Rm 205
Time: 5:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

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

CONTEST CALENDAR

Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Apr 1, 7 PM - Apr 1, 11 PM	VHF Spring Sprints	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
Apr 1, 1400Z - Apr 1, 2000Z	Low Power Spring Sprint	www.hamradio.sk
Apr 1, 1900 EDT - Apr 1, 2300 EDT	144 MHz Spring Sprint	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints/
Apr 1, 1900Z - Apr 1, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml
Apr 2, 0200Z - Apr 2, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	www.arsqrp.blogspot.com
Apr 2, 1600Z - See website	OK1WC Memorial Contest	www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc
Apr 3, 0100Z - Apr 3, 0230Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.qrpfhxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Apr 4, 1700Z - Apr 4, 2000Z	SARL 80m QSO Party	www.sarl.org.za/
Apr 5, 0100Z - Apr 5, 0230Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.qrpfhxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Apr 5, 0200Z - Apr 5, 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Apr 6, 0400Z - Apr 6, 0800Z	LZ Open 40 Meter Contest	www.lzopen.com
Apr 6, 12 Noon - Apr 6, 6 PM	PODXS 31 Flavors Contest	www.podxs070.com
Apr 6, 1200Z - Apr 7, 2359Z	QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	www.qrparci.org/contests
Apr 6, 1500Z - Apr 7, 1500Z	SP DX Contest	spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl
Apr 6, 1600Z - Apr 7, 1600Z	EA RTTY Contest	www.ure.es/contest
Apr 6, 1800Z - See website	Missouri QSO Party	www.w0ma.org
Apr 7, 1900Z - Apr 7, 2030Z	RSGB RoPoCo SSB	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rropoco.shtml
Apr 10, 0030Z - Apr 10, 0230Z	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html
Apr 10, 1300Z - Apr 10, 1400Z and	CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test	www.cwops.org/onair.html
Apr 10, 1900Z - Apr 10, 2000Z and		
Apr 10, 1300Z - See website		
Apr 10, 1900Z - Apr 10, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml
Apr 12, 0230Z - Apr 12, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Apr 13, 1600Z - Apr 13, 1959Z	EU Spring Sprints	www.eu-sprint.com
Apr 13, 0000Z - Apr 15, 0000Z	Montana QSO Party	www.fvarc.org
Apr 13, 0000Z - Apr 14, 2400Z	Worldwide EME Contest	www.dubus.org
Apr 13, 0700Z - Apr 14, 1300Z	Japan International DX Contest	jidx.org
Apr 13, 1200Z - Apr 14, 2400Z	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/
Apr 13, 1400Z - Apr 14, 0200Z	New Mexico QSO Party	www.swcp.com/~n5zgt
Apr 13, 1600Z - Apr 13, 1959Z	EU Spring Sprint, CW	www.eu-sprint.com/index.php?page=140&lang=en
Apr 13, 1800Z - See website	Georgia QSO Party	www.georgiasoparty.org
Apr 13, 2100Z - Apr 14, 2100Z	Yuri Gagarin DX Contest	qc.qst.ru/en
Apr 14, 1200Z - Apr 14, 1800Z	International Vintage Contest	www.contestvintage.beepworld.it
Apr 14, 1500Z - Apr 14, 1700Z	Hungarian Straight Key Contest	hskc.ha8kux.com/
Apr 15, 0200Z - Apr 15, 0400Z	Run For the Bacon	www.fqgrp.org
Apr 15, 1800Z - Apr 15, 2000Z	NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	naqcc-eu.org/sprints/rules/current.pdf
Apr 16, 7 PM - Apr 16, 11 PM	VHF Spring Sprints	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
Apr 18, 1900Z - Apr 18, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml
Apr 19, 0230Z - Apr 19, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Apr 19, 2100Z - Apr 20, 2100Z	Holyland DX Contest	www.iarc.org
Apr 20, 0000Z - Apr 20, 2359Z	TARA Skirmish Dig Pfx Contest	www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpfx_rules.html
Apr 20, 0500Z - Apr 20, 0859Z	ES Open HF Championship	www.erau.ee
Apr 20, 1200Z - Apr 21, 2359Z	CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest	www.cqmmdx.com
Apr 20, 1600Z - Apr 20, 1959Z	EU Spring Sprints	www.eu-sprint.com
Apr 20, 1600Z - Apr 21, 0400Z	Michigan QSO Party	www.miqp.org
Apr 20, 1700Z - Apr 21, 1300Z	EA QRP Contest	www.eaqrp.com
Apr 20, 1800Z - Apr 21, 1800Z	Nebraska QSO Party	www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm
Apr 20, 1800Z - Apr 21, 1800Z	South Dakota QSO Party	www.dtdxcc.org/main2/SD_QSO_Party.html
Apr 20, 1800Z - Apr 21, 1800Z	North Dakota QSO Party	www.w0nd.com
Apr 20, 1800Z - See website	Ontario QSO Party	www.va3cco.com
Apr 20, 2000Z - Apr 20, 2200Z	Feld-Hell New Member Sprint	www.feldhellclub.org
Apr 20, 2100Z - See website	YU DX Contest	www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxmain.html
Apr 21, 1800Z - Apr 21, 2359Z	ARRL Rookie Roundup	www.arrl.org/contests
Apr 22, 0100Z - Apr 22, 0300Z	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	fqgrp.org/pigrun/
Apr 24, 0000Z - Apr 24, 0200Z	SKCC Sprint	www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/
Apr 24, 7 PM - Apr 24, 11 PM	VHF Spring Sprints	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
Apr 24, 1300Z - Apr 24, 1400Z and	CWops Mini-CWT Test	www.cwops.org/onair.html
Apr 24, 1900Z - Apr 24, 2000Z and		
Apr 25, 0300Z - Apr 25, 0400Z		
Apr 26, 0230Z - Apr 26, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html
Apr 27, 0001Z - Apr 28, 2359Z	Ten-Ten Spring Digital Contest	www.ten-ten.org
Apr 27, 1300Z - Apr 28, 1259Z	Helvetia Contest	uska.ch/amateurfunkpraxis/contest/info-kw
Apr 27, 1500Z - Apr 28, 0300Z	QRP To The Field	www.zianet.com/qrp
Apr 27, 1600Z - See website	Florida QSO Party	www.floridagsoparty.org
Apr 28, 1700Z - Apr 28, 2100Z	BARTG 75 Sprint	www.bartg.org.uk



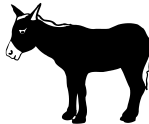








(Control + click to activate a link)



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

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

04/01/2013	Frost Buster Race			
04/01/2013	OzarkCon			
04/04/2013	Mule Days			
04/05/2013	National Public Health Week			
04/06/2013	819 Steam Locomotive Special Event			
04/06/2013	Missouri QSO Party			
04/06/2013	Relay For Life			
04/06/2013	World Famous Cambridge Glass 1902-1958			
04/09/2013	Honoring WWII Gunners at Buckingham Airfield			
04/09/2013	Sun n' Fun Fly In			
04/11/2013	101st Anniversary of the Titanic Voyage			
04/12/2013	Venice Sharks Tooth Festival			
04/13/2013	101 Years After The Titanic Sinking			
04/13/2013	42nd Annual Calico Fort Arts and Crafts Fair			
04/13/2013	90th Anniversary of the BVARA			
04/13/2013	Celebrating Ninety Years of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls			
04/13/2013	USS Midway (CV-41) Decommissioned 1992, CPO Grade Established 1893			
04/14/2013	Georgia QSO Party			
04/19/2013	Scoutfest 2013			
04/20/2013	24th Annual Cotton Gin Festival			
04/20/2013	Bayou Teche Black Bear/Wooden Boat Festival			
04/20/2013	GHARC Birthday Event			
04/20/2013	International Marconi Day			
04/25/2013	Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Warrick County, Indiana			
04/26/2013	Boy Scouts of America Lincoln Trail Hike			
04/27/2013	222nd Birthday of Samuel F.B. Morse			
04/27/2013	WB4NBE Commerative			

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