

## CHINESE AUCTION FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!



PHOTO BY LINDA JABLONSKI, KC2YMM



PHOTO BY CONRAD BARRICK, KC2WRY

On October 3rd, STARS held its annual "Chinese Auction" fundraiser at the Hamburg Youth Center. The event was attended by nearly 100 persons. In addition to the auction items, raffle tickets were sold, and refreshments were served.

On behalf of the Board, **President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK**, has expressed his sincere thanx to all members whose contributions of time or materials made this event such a success.

## NYS QSO PARTY

On October 19th, STARS members operated the Nike Base Clubhouse station for the NYS QSO Party contest. Operations began at 10 AM and ran until 10 PM.

After 11 hours of operation, the **STARS** team had only recorded a little more than

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## RENEWALS DUE

The deadline for renewal of **STARS** membership is January 1st, 2014. An application form is attached to the end of this newsletter.

Please take an opportunity to complete the form and send it to **Judy Levan, N2TEZ**, at the address listed on the form.

In addition to access to the Nike Base Clubhouse radio station, with all its equipment, your membership will guarantee reception of **Telstar**.



## ZOMBIE FEST

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Zombie Preparedness and Family Safety Fair was held on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Jamison Business Park. The event, sponsored by [Em-pact America](#), was an unusual combination of fun and safety. In addition to a wide assortment of real animals, monsters, and scary beings of unknown origin, there were rides, food, and safety demonstrations.

**STARS** had a demonstration table set up with various amateur radio devices. The table was staffed by **Bob Koster, KA2WYE**, near the exit to the outdoor attractions.

In addition to real people, ghosts and skeletons were reported to have been attracted to the table. One photograph appears to confirm an eerie visitor.



## JOANNE BURRIS (SK)

Last March, **Joanne Burris** was the guest speaker at the monthly **STARS** meeting. She spoke very well about the Civil War, and the presentation was well received. Also, she really enjoyed that experience and felt very welcomed by our members.

**Dave Ludlow, KG4LQT**, a neighbor and friend, reports that Joanne passed away on October 6th. He attended her wake and funeral.

## AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS IN PROGRESS

Classes for those interested in upgrading to an amateur extra license are underway on Wednesday evenings at the **STARS** Nike Base Clubhouse.

Led by **Ed Patton, N2ING**, 9 members are attending.

## WANTED

- ⇒ Heathkit SB220 Amplifier
- ⇒ Yaesu Rotator

Contact: **Shane, WB2WPM**  
867-9008  
[wb2wpm@arrl.net](mailto:wb2wpm@arrl.net)





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## NYS QSO PARTY 2013

7,000 points. Team leader **John Leitten, KA2RFT**, urged the operators to try hard for more contacts. After all, we had more than 8,000 points last year.

By 9:15 PM, doubts were growing that we wouldn't meet last year's total.

Then, the dam broke! The 40 meter band opened up. **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**, parked in an open spot and called "CQ". One by one, several dozen non-stop QSOs materialized from stations ranging, from Florida to California. Most QSOs came from the Midwest.

In those last 45 minutes, STARS scored one-third of the points for the entire 12 hours of the contest.

Members signing in for the contest included **John Leitten, KA2RFT**; **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**; **Jon Hall, KC2QKB**; **John Czuba, W2IV**; **John DiLivio, K2CF**; **Scott Barto, KB2KOL**; and **Tomm Dean, KA2NXY**.

Thanx to all who participated. Now let's see if our efforts will give us a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish for a third year!



N1MM LOGGING PROGRAM ON NYS BACKGROUND



MAP WITH ANTENNA SETTINGS FOR NYS COUNTIES



CHECKLIST OF COUNTIES CONTACTED



PHOTO BY TOMM DEAN, KA2NXY

**John Czuba, W2IV**, (left), watches **John Leitten, KA2RFT**, (center) operate the radio, as **Pat Groom, KC2VWG**, (right) uses the computer for logging.

# SOME BEGGING, BORROWING AND REPURPOSING GETS AN ARES® STATION ON THE AIR

By Pam Ware, AB3PW

(reprinted from ARRL website)

<http://www.arrl.org/pam-s-shack-bridges-the-gap>

Hams are known for their ingenuity — the ability to make something out of nothing — or at least very little. I felt challenged to see just how “cheap” my ham shack could be. To begin, loaners are good and free is even better. Read on to see just how low this project could go!

## Bridge Over a Quiet Zone

I live in New York, in a quiet zone between the Genesee County RACES / Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club (LARC). Two wise Elmers, Luke Calianno, N2GDU, of LARC and Harold Hay, W2ABQ, of RACES realized that a station at my home could bridge their communications gap. I was no stranger to disaster communications, having attended [EmComm East](#) in September 2011. At the conference I installed [Fldigi](#) [a digital modem program — *Ed.*] on my laptop and found many Elmers there ready to help me master its operation.

My home office already had WiFi, an HP OfficeJet J4580 All-in-One printer, lamps, and external speakers (see Figure 1). Everything plugged into the APC Back-UPS model ES 750 in the open area in front of the filing cabinet (a discard from my neighbor) so that it would be a quick process to shutdown in case of storms. Free so far...

On loan from RACES was an IC-281H transceiver, a Signalink USB modem, an Icom HM-77 microphone, and an Astron RS-20S power supply. Free so far...

Luke loaned me a battery charger; he and Harold also talked me through connecting all the components. I looped the extra cable lengths through the filing cab-

PHOTO BY PAM WARE, AB3PW



inet handles until I got all the components set up comfortably. Free so far...

## Free Is Best

The wall charts in my shack were courtesy of NOAA, ARRL®, and Icom. The certificates came from the New York State Police for participating in their Pumpkin Patrol Halloween kids' activity. The other certificates and service awards came from LARC. Free so far...

As Minister of Baking for LARC, I had a dozen plastic containers from Crisco sticks, so office supplies could be kept neatly sorted and visible. File folders and additional office supplies came from a previous employer who relocated out of state. Even the furniture in the shack was free— my filing cabinet had been discarded by a neighbor, and the desk and chair were handed down from my childhood home.

Finally, Harold used his homebrew potato launcher to install the outside antenna (see Figure 2) along with an assist from Howard Flint, KC2EZJ, who drilled a hole through the wall — nothing fancy there.

Total: \$0.00! Success...oh, yes, I did have to pay for taking the FCC exams.

(Pam also has her own blog at: [www.thepamshack.net](http://www.thepamshack.net) )



## AMATEUR RADIO TIPS

Jon Hall, KC2QKB, brought this site to our attention:

<http://www.kb6nu.com/>

This site sponsors KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog. On a regular basis, they send tips, such as the one below:

### Use Receiver Incremental Tuning to clarify Signals

Most modern transceivers have a control called Receiver Incremental Tuning (RIT). Yaesu calls this control the clarifier. What this control does is to offset the receive frequency from your transmit frequency. For example, if your transceiver's frequency is set to 7040 kHz, and the RIT is set to -0.02 kHz, you'll be transmitting on 7040 kHz and receiving on 7039.98 kHz. Why would you want to do this? Well, if you're operating CW, the RIT control lets you vary the tone of the received signal. You can set it to whatever frequency you can hear best, and if there's some interference from nearby stations or noise, sometimes varying that tone can make the signal more readable. Similarly, the RIT control will change the tone of a SSB signal. This can also make them more readable.

If you haven't tried this control yet, do so next time you're on the air.

73,

Dan KB6NU

## PUMPKIN PATROL 2013

On October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, under the direction of the **New York State Police**, over 300 volunteers from 17 organizations in 19 counties covered 570 miles of the Thruway. Activities included assignment to Thruway bridges, to deter mischief and report violators.

Members of **STARS** participating this year include **Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM; Ed Jablonski, KC2YMN; Tomm Dean, KA2NXY; and John Morrow, KC2TXV.**

## LETTER TO EDITOR

My congrats on a long and outstanding job culminating with mounting the beam on our new tower. The antenna committee can be proud of itself..

WELL DONE !! BRAVO !! BULLY!! YEA !! HIGH FIVES !! FIST BUMPS !!

Wayne, W2ZDP

(past **STARS** President)

## 2 METER REPEATER

The **STARS** 2 meter repeater (147.09) has been experiencing difficulty in relaying received signals. .

## 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](mailto:wb2elw@verizon.net).



## TESTING NEEDS

- Legal photo ID (a driver's license is excellent!)
- 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

[\(more info\)](#)

## ARRL'S RADIO WAVES

*Radio Waves* is a newly reinvented newsletter from the ARRL. Designed for news about license instruction and radio science education, read about it at:

<http://www.arrl.org/announcements-news-briefs-newsletters>

The October issue can be reviewed at:

[http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Radio%20Waves%20Newsletter/Oct-2013\\_Radio\\_Waves.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Radio%20Waves%20Newsletter/Oct-2013_Radio_Waves.pdf)

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(Thanx to **Bob Koster, KA2WYE**, for this info.)

## EXAM SITES

11/02/2013 [North Tonawanda](#)

Sponsor: ARA of the Tonawandas  
Location: North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters  
495 Zimmerman Street - Training Rm.  
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/02/2013 [Jamestown](#)

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

11/09/2013 [Wellsboro PA](#)

Sponsor: Tioga County ARC  
Location: Senior Citizens Center  
Queen Street  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/13/2013 [Canandaigua](#)

Sponsor: SQUAW Island ARC  
Location: Ontario Co. Safety Training Facility  
2914 County Road 48  
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/14/2013 [Niagara Falls](#)

Sponsor: Niagara Radio Club, Inc.  
Location: Venture Forthe, Inc.  
3900 Packard Road  
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/16/2013 [Hamburg](#)

Sponsor: **STARS**  
Location: Hamburg Youth Center  
200 Prospect Avenue  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)



11/26/2013 [Lancaster](#)

Sponsor: Lancaster ARC  
Location: Lancaster ARC- Club House Building  
525 Pavement Road  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

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

# CONTEST CALENDAR



Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Nov 1, 0230Z - Nov 1, 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
Nov 2, 1200Z - Nov 3, 1200Z	Ukrainian DX Contest	<a href="http://urdx.org">urdx.org</a>
Nov 2, 1200Z - Nov 3, 1200Z	Himalayan Contest	<a href="http://www.arsi.info/contests/himalayan">www.arsi.info/contests/himalayan</a>
Nov 2, 1700Z - Nov 3, 0500Z	Radio Club of America QSO Party	<a href="http://www.radioclubofamerica.org">www.radioclubofamerica.org</a>
Nov 2, 2100Z - Nov 4, 0259Z	ARRL November Sweepstakes	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>
Nov 2, 2100Z - Nov 4, 0300Z	Collegiate ARC Championship	<a href="http://www.collegiatechampionship.org">www.collegiatechampionship.org</a>
Nov 3, 0900Z - Nov 3, 1100Z &	High Speed Club CW Contest	<a href="http://www.highspeedclub.org/">www.highspeedclub.org/</a>
Nov 3, 1500Z - Nov 3, 1700Z		
Nov 3, 1100Z - Nov 3, 1700Z	DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"	<a href="http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport">www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport</a>
Nov 4, 1600Z - See website	OK1WC Memorial Contest	<a href="http://www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc">www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc</a>
Nov 5, 0200Z - Nov 5, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	<a href="http://www.arsgrp.blogspot.com">www.arsgrp.blogspot.com</a>
Nov 7, 1800Z - Nov 7, 2200Z	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html">www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html</a>
Nov 8, 0230Z - Nov 8, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
Nov 9, 0000Z - Nov 10, 2400Z	Worked All Europe DX Contest	<a href="http://www.waedc.de">www.waedc.de</a>
Nov 9, 0001Z - Nov 10, 2359Z	10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party	<a href="http://www.ten-ten.org">www.ten-ten.org</a>
Nov 9, 0700Z - Nov 10, 1300Z	Japan International DX Contest	<a href="http://jidx.org">jidx.org</a>
Nov 9, 1200Z - Nov 10, 1200Z	OK-OM DX Contest	<a href="http://okomdx.crk.cz">okomdx.crk.cz</a>
Nov 9, 1200Z - Nov 10, 2359Z	Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
Nov 9, 1400Z - Nov 10, 0200Z	Kentucky QSO Party	<a href="http://www.wkdx.com">www.wkdx.com</a>
Nov 9, 1900Z - Nov 11, 0500Z	CQ WE (Western Electric)	<a href="http://cqwe.cboh.org">cqwe.cboh.org</a>
Nov 13, 1300Z - See website	CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test	<a href="http://www.cwops.org/onair.html">www.cwops.org/onair.html</a>
Nov 13, 1800Z - Nov 13, 2000Z	NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc-eu.org/sprints/rules/current.pdf">naqcc-eu.org/sprints/rules/current.pdf</a>
Nov 13, 2000Z - Nov 13, 2100Z	RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml">www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml</a>
Nov 14, 0130Z - Nov 14, 0330Z	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc.info">naqcc.info</a>
Nov 15, 0230Z - Nov 15, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
Nov 15, 1600Z - Nov 15, 2200Z	YO International PSK31 Contest	<a href="http://www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2012EN.htm">www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2012EN.htm</a>
Nov 16, 0000Z - Nov 17, 2359Z	ARRL EME Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>
Nov 16, 1000Z - Nov 17, 1000Z	SARL Field Day Contest	<a href="http://www.sarl.org.za/">www.sarl.org.za/</a>
Nov 16, 1200Z - Nov 17, 1200Z	LZ DX Contest	<a href="http://lzdxbfra.org/rulesen.html">lzdxbfra.org/rulesen.html</a>
Nov 16, 1600Z - Nov 16, 1800Z	Feld-Hell Turkey Shoot Sprint	<a href="http://www.feldhellclub.org">www.feldhellclub.org</a>
Nov 16, 1600Z - Nov 17, 0700Z	All Austria 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.oevsv.at">www.oevsv.at</a>
Nov 16, 2100Z - Nov 18, 0259Z	ARRL November Sweepstakes	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>
Nov 16, 2100Z - Nov 18, 0300Z	Collegiate ARC Championship	<a href="http://www.collegiatechampionship.org">www.collegiatechampionship.org</a>
Nov 16, 2100Z - Nov 17, 0100Z	RSGB Second 1.8 MHz Contest	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml">www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml</a>
Nov 17, 0000Z - Nov 17, 2400Z	EPC PSK63 QSO Party	<a href="http://eu.srars.org/index.php">eu.srars.org/index.php</a>
Nov 17, 1300Z - Nov 17, 1700Z	Homebrew and Oldtime Contest	<a href="http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html">www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html</a>
Nov 18, 0200Z - Nov 18, 0400Z	Run For The Bacon	<a href="http://www.fpqrp.org">www.fpqrp.org</a>
Nov 21, 0130Z - Nov 21, 0330Z	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html">naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html</a>
Nov 22, 0230Z - Nov 22, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
Nov 23, 0000Z - Nov 24, 2359Z	CQ World Wide CW Contest	<a href="http://www.cqww.com">www.cqww.com</a>
Nov 27, 0000Z - Nov 27, 0200Z	SKCC Straight Key Sprint	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
Nov 28, 0000Z - Nov 28, 0600Z	Top Band Sprint	<a href="http://www.qrparci.org/contests">www.qrparci.org/contests</a>
Nov 28, 2000Z - Nov 28, 2100Z	RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml">www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/rsprint.shtml</a>
Nov 29, 0230Z - Nov 29, 0300Z	NCCC Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a>
Nov 30, 0000Z - Nov 30, 2359Z	Feld Hell Sprint	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/">sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/</a>



(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>

10/06/2013	250th Anniversary of the Royal Proclamation of 1763	
10/31/2013	100 Years of Elk in Arizona	
11/01/2013	Stuart Air Show	
11/02/2013	Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald (Split Rock Lighthouse)	
11/02/2013	The Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association's third annual station open house	
11/03/2013	Extra Hour Special Event Station	
11/08/2013	38th Anniversary Sinking of Edmund Fitzgerald	
11/08/2013	Veterans Day Special Event hosted by Armored Force Amateur Radio NET	
11/09/2013	Paducah Amateur Radio Association Celebrating 60 Years as an ARRL Affiliated Club	
11/09/2013	"Stuck in Lodi Again" , 50th Anniversary of the Lodi ARC	
11/09/2013	150th Anniversary of Sailing Ship Euterpe/Star of India	
11/09/2013	203rd Anniversary of Formation of Guernsey County, OH	
11/09/2013	Clark County Amateur Radio Club 60th Anniversary	
11/09/2013	DuPont National Forest Rescue Drill	
11/09/2013	Frontier Day	
11/09/2013	Honoring Veterans for Veterans Day	
11/09/2013	NCTECH Sweet Sixteen Operation	
11/09/2013	Smith Mountain Fire Tower Anniversary	
11/09/2013	US Veterans Day; US Marine Corp Birthday established 1775	
11/10/2013	50 Anniversary Arecibo Observatory	
11/11/2013	USS South Dakota Battleship Memorial, 5th Anniversary	
11/11/2013	Veterans Day	
11/15/2013	520 years Puerto Rico Discovery	
11/16/2013	Gammons Gulch Old West Movie Set Special Event	
11/16/2013	TRYON Amateur Radio Club 40th Anniversary	
11/17/2013	150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address	
11/17/2013	Discovery Day of Puerto Rico	
11/17/2013	NRA's 142nd Birthday Party	
11/18/2013	150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address	
11/23/2013	103rd Anniversary of Columbia Univ. Amateur Radio Club	
11/23/2013	150th Anniversary of the Battle of Ringgold Gap	
11/23/2013	Loss of the 5 Sullivan Brothers	
11/23/2013	W6OI and VE9TEN and DL0X Special Event	
11/29/2013	Steamship Portland Special Event	
11/30/2013	72nd Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol	
11/30/2013	Boorman House Christmas Special	
11/30/2013	Radio on the Square	
11/30/2013	The First Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth	 

## 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 REFLECTOR:**

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

**TELSTAR EDITOR:**

[wb2elw@verizon.net](mailto:wb2elw@verizon.net)

