

STARS IRLP LINK OPERATIONAL

Would you like to communicate with Ireland (or other areas of the world)? Do you have a high frequency radio with a tall antenna nearby? Are the propagation properties favorable?

Well, forget the HF radio, big antenna, and questionable propagation properties. You can now use your 2 meter hand-held portable to reach all over the world. The key to this ability is **IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project)**.

IRLP uses VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) to take your 2 meter radio signal to a distant repeater. While you use radio to get your message in, it's the Internet that takes it across the country or the world. At the end point, the signal is retransmitted on the distant repeater.

For **STARS**, the **IRLP** link is connected to the Hamburg repeater (147.09 Mhz./input 147.69 Mhz./CTCSS code 151.4). You will need to know a four digit node ID for the distant repeater with which you wish to connect. Those four digit codes can be found at: www.status.irlp.net

To use an IRLP node:

1. Call on your local repeater to see if it is clear.
2. While holding the transmit button, press 7 3 (to clear any existing connection)
3. While holding the transmit button, type in the four digit node number. If successful, you will hear a message that you have successfully connected.

Use your portable for communication.

1. To end, call and announce you are closing the link.:
2. While holding the transmit button, press 7 3

Watch a sample contact at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGySkr3MtNc

More information about IRLP can be found at: www.irlp.net .

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK
Vice President	Scott Barto, KB2KOL
Secretary	Mettieirene Wagner, KD2DFQ
Financial Sec'y	Judy Levan, N2TEZ
Treasurer	John Leitten, KA2RFT
Director (1 yr.)	Jon Hall, KC2QKB
Director (2 yr.)	Conrad Barrick, KC2WRV

Clubhouse Chair	Pat Groom, KC2VWG
Telstar Editor	Tom Dean, KA2NXY
Webmaster	Don Niles, K2PMC

WE GOOFED

Scott Barto, KB2KOL brought our attention to a slight error in the last edition. It was mentioned that a school radio club existed at Gowanda High School. In fact, the radio club is for the entire school district (grades 5 to 12), and involves TWO buildings, the middle school and the high school.

We take pride in getting things right. If you see something ink or wrecked, let us know.

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 the link to open.

Try it!  [sample link](#) (control + click)

MARCH MEETING

This month's meeting on March 5th will feature a "Show and Share" session on QSL cards that members have acquired.

Check your files and storage bins, locate those special QSL cards you have gathered over your years as an amateur radio operator, and bring them down to the meeting at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center.

Be prepared to discuss those with special meaning or significance. Oh, by the way, bring one of your own QSL cards with you, so we can see what our members are sending around the world.

All cards will be examined, and treasured. The outstanding cards brought in will be considered for priz-

STARS MEETINGS

STARS meetings are usually at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month, at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center, 200 Prospect Avenue (near Hawkins Avenue) in Hamburg.

This month's meeting will be on March 5th, at 7:00 PM, at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center.

All are welcome,

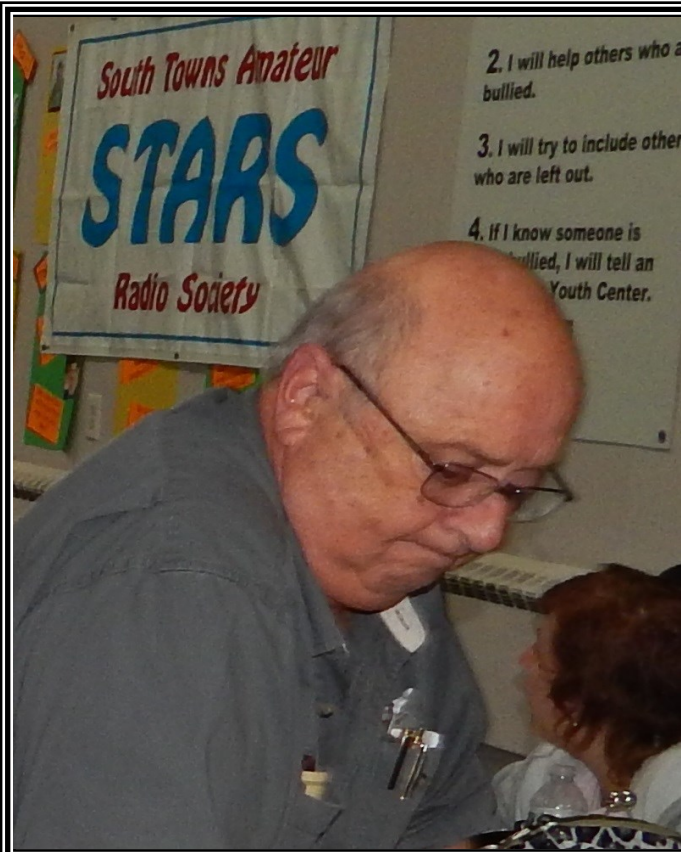
The STARS board usually meets at 7:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse, just west of the Hamburg Town Arena, 2982 Lakeview Road, Hamburg.

This month, the Board will meet at 7:00 PM on March 26th, at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse.

All members are welcome to attend.

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)



RICHARD W. GERSTER K2RWG - SK

It is with regret we announce the passing of **STARS** member **Richard W. Gerster, K2RWG**. Dick passed away on February 6th, after a several week hospital stay.

Dick spent several decades in the Air Force on the mechanical team for the 914 Airlift Wing (formerly Tactical Airlift Group) in Niagara Falls. His service included assignments throughout the world, including South America and Alaska.

Following that service, he continued using his mechanical abilities while employed by the main Post Office on William Street, Buffalo.

He is survived by sons Michael and Mark.

STARS TO CONDUCT TECHNICIAN CLASS

STARS, West Seneca CERT, & Empact America will hold weekly classes for amateur technician licensure beginning on Wednesday, March 4th and testing on Wednesday, April 15th. For information and registration, go to:

www.eventbrite.com/o/stars-west-seneca-office-of-disaster-preparedness-amp-empact-america-7941838424?s=33031241



NWS 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
Tuesday March 3, 2015	7:00 PM	Monroe	Lennon Hall Room 306 SUNY Brockport	SUNY Brockport Meteorology Club Register with: Jacob Sojda jsojd1@u.brockport.edu
Wednesday March 11, 2015	7:00 PM	Ontario	Ontario County Safety Training Center 2914 County Road 48, Canandaigua, NY 14424	Ontario County Office of Emergency Management Register with: Debra Trickey Debra.Trickey@co.ontario.ny.us














CLUB GOALS

In last month's *Telstar* an article by **President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK**, outlined a series of goals that **STARS** would work on in the coming year. To keep our focus on achieving these goals, **President Pokigo** is asking *Telstar* to publish a progress chart for these goals in each issue.

To keep it simple for publishing purposes, each goal will be matched with a colored circle to indicate progress. A red circle means the goal has yet been addressed. A yellow circle will indicate that work has begun, but the objective has not been completed. A green circle will indicate the goal has been reached.

When a goal first reaches the green circle status, a short description of the accomplishment will be included in *Telstar*.

The 2015 goals outlined last month are:

Upgrade WB2ELW website	
Install an IRLP node	
Implement UHF repeater	
Install a satellite antenna	
Complete N1MM linking	
Rebuild antenna interface box	
Offer several monthly programs	
Conduct a "Homebrew Build Project"	
Participate in Field Day	
Participate in the NYS QSO Contest	
Participate in additional contests	
Conduct 1 major fundraiser	
Participate in Hamburg's Burgerfest	

The IRLP has been implemented, and is working. Adjustments will be made pending a test period.

The N1MM linking project has been completed.

CLUB REPEATERS

Currently, the **STARS** club has two repeaters, with a third in the planning stage.

The first (and oldest) repeater is based at the transmission tower of WIVB television in Colden, NY> It is a 2 meter VHF repeater, with an output frequency of 147.09 Mhz. Its input is on 147.69 Mhz., with a CTCSS tone of 107.2 necessary for entry. It has an automated speech identification scheduled for each 10 minutes of use. Club members refer to it as the "COLDEN" repeater.

The newer repeater is a Yaesu System Fusion DR-1X. It is based in Hamburg, NY, at the **STARS** clubhouse radio station. Like the Colden repeater, its output frequency is 147.09 Mhz, and its input is 147.69 Mhz., however a CTCSS tone of 151.4 is necessary for entry. Its automatic station identification is in Morse code. Club members refer to it as the "HAMBURG" repeater.

The Hamburg receiver is capable of handling C4FM digital communication, as well as the more common conventional FM.

A third repeater for UHF is scheduled for installation in the future.

FIELD DAY PLANS

Each year, the American Radio Relay League sponsors an emergency preparedness exercise. The event is known as "Field Day". All amateur radio operators are invited to participate in the event.

At the Board meeting this past week, tentative plans are being developed to hold the annual Field Day activities at the **STARS** radio clubhouse.

The **STARS** clubhouse is located about 100 yards west of the Hamburg Town Arena, at 2982 Lakeview Road in Hamburg.

HAMFESTS

02/28/2015 [Winter Hamfest](#)

Location: Big Flats America Legion Hall
45 Olcott Road South
(near Interstate 86, Exit 49)
Big Flats, NY

Sponsor: LIM Amateur Radio Group

Website: <http://www.ka2lim.com>

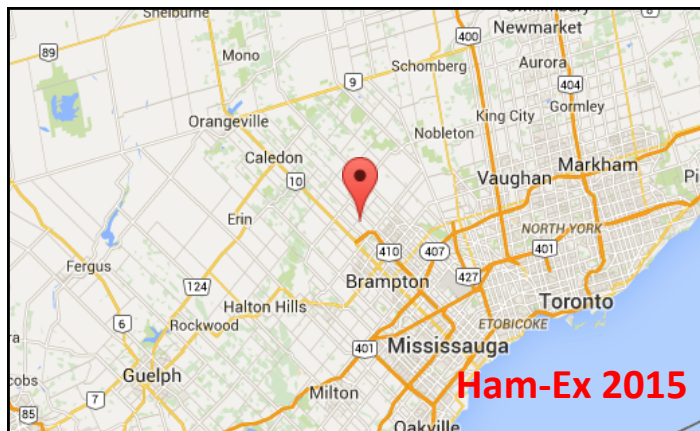
03/28/2015 [Ham-Ex 2015](#)

Location: Brampton Fall Fairgrounds
12942 Heart Lake Road
Caledon, ON

Sponsor: Peel Amateur Radio Club &
Mississauga Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.ham-ex.ca>

(control + click on name for full information)



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To: Hamvention Tickets, P.O. Box 1446, Dayton, OH 45401



May 15-17, 2015 Hara Arena, Dayton, Ohio

AREA EXAM SITES

03/07/2015 [North Tonawanda](#)

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

03/07/2015 [Jamestown](#)

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

03/11/2015 [Niagara Falls](#)

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

03/21/2015 [Hamburg](#)

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



03/22/2015 [Geneseo](#)

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

03/31/2015 [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)

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
- Calculators are permitted as long as any programming has been cleared.

[\(more info\)](#)

PAPER LICENSES

Effective February 17th, The Federal Communications Commission has ended the automatic issuance of papers/cards as amateur radio licenses.

The official standard will be the FCC database of license information, available to all on the Internet.

For those who insist on a paper of some sort, the FCC will issue a paper copy upon written request. For more information, see the ARRL article:

www.arrl.org/news/fcc-paperless-amateur-radio-license-policy-goes-into-effect-on-february-17

NEW GENERAL EXAMS

Are you studying for your upgrade examination for a general amateur license? Have you been delaying your exam for "unmentionable" reasons?

Well, it will behoove you to take that exam before July 1st, 2015. On that day, a new set of examination questions will be in place for general exams.

So, take it before July 1st, or start studying a new set of questions.

CONTEST CALENDAR



Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Feb 27, 2200Z - Mar 1, 2200Z	CQ WW 160 Meter	www.cq160.com
Feb 28, 0000Z - Mar 1, 2400Z	Worldwide EME Contest	www.dubus.org
Feb 28, 1300Z - Mar 1, 1300Z	UBA Contest	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
Feb 28, 1800Z - Mar 1, 0600Z	North American QSO Party RTTY	www.ncjweb.com
Mar 1, 1200Z - Mar 1, 1400Z	SARL Hamnet 40m Sim. Emergency	www.sarl.org.za
Mar 1, 1500Z - Mar 2, 0059Z	North Carolina QSO Party	http://rars.org/ncqsoparty
Mar 2, 1630Z - Mar 2, 1730Z	OK1WC Memorial Contest	www.memorial-ok1wc.cz
Mar 3, 0200Z - Mar 3, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	www.arsgrp.blogspot.com
Mar 3, 1900Z - Mar 3, 2100Z	YL CW Party	www.agcw.de
Mar 4, 1100Z - See website	CWOps Weekly Mini-CWT	www.cwops.org/cwt.html
Mar 4, 2300Z - See website	John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	www.antiquewireless.org
Mar 7, 0000Z - Mar 8, 2359Z	ARRL Int'l Phone DX Contest	www.arrl.org/contests
Mar 7, 0600Z - Mar 7, 0800Z	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	http://grp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng
Mar 7, 1200Z - Mar 7, 2359Z	Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
Mar 7, 1800Z - See website	Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	http://uarl.com.ua/openrtty
Mar 8, 1100Z - Mar 8, 1700Z	DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	www.darc.de
Mar 14, 1000Z - Mar 15, 1000Z	RSGB Commonwealth Contest	www.rsgbcc.org
Mar 14, 1200Z - Mar 15, 1200Z	F9AA Cup, SSB	www.site.urc.asso.fr
Mar 14, 1400Z - Mar 14, 2000Z	AGCW QRP Contest	www.agcw.de
Mar 14, 1400Z - Mar 15, 0200Z	Louisiana QSO Party	http://laqp.org
Mar 14, 1500Z - Mar 14, 1800Z	QRP ARCI Spring Digital Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Mar 14, 1600Z - Mar 15, 1600Z	EA PSK63 Contest	www.ure.es
Mar 14, 1800Z - Mar 15, 0800Z	Tesla Memorial HF Contest	www.radiosport.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial
Mar 14, 1800Z - Mar 15, 1800Z	QCWA Spring QSO Party	www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm
Mar 14, 1900Z - Mar 15, 1900Z	Idaho QSO Party	www.idahoarrl.info/qsoparty
Mar 15, 0000Z - Mar 15, 0359Z	North American RTTY	www.ncjweb.com
Mar 15, 1800Z - Mar 16, 0100Z	Wisconsin QSO Party	www.warac.org
Mar 16, 0000Z - Mar 16, 2359Z	PODXS St Patrick's Day Contest	www.podxs070.com
Mar 16, 0200Z - Mar 16, 0400Z	Run For the Bacon	www.fqgrp.org
Mar 17, 1700Z - See website	CLARA Chatter Party	www.clarayl.ca
Mar 19, 0030Z - Mar 19, 0230Z	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	http://naqcc.info
Mar 19, 0030Z - Mar 19, 0230Z	NAQCC CW Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprint201503.html
Mar 21, 0200Z - Mar 22, 0200Z	BARTG HF RTTY Contest	www.bartg.org.uk
Mar 21, 1000Z - Mar 22, 1000Z	SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital	www.sarl.org.za
Mar 21, 1200Z - Mar 22, 1159Z	Russian DX Contest	www.rdxcc.org
Mar 21, 1300Z - See website	Oklahoma QSO Party	www.k5cm.com/okqp.htm
Mar 21, 1400Z - See website	Virginia QSO Party	www.gsl.net/sterling
Mar 21, 1400Z - Mar 21, 1800Z	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	www.agcw.org/index.php/en/
Mar 21, 1700Z - Mar 21, 1900Z	Feld-Hell Leprechaun Sprint	www.feldhellclub.org
Mar 28, 0000Z - Mar 29, 2359Z	FOC QSO Party	www.g4foc.org
Mar 28, 0000Z - Mar 29, 2400Z	Worldwide EME Contest	www.dubus.org
Mar 28, 0000Z - Mar 29, 2400Z	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm
Wednesdays, 0200Z - 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Fridays, 0145Z - 0215Z	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Fridays, 0200Z - 0330Z	QRP Fox Hunt	www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Fridays, 0230Z - 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com







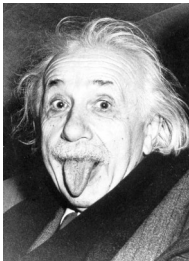
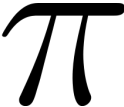





(Control + click to activate a link)



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

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

03/01/2015	N2XJ	New Providence (NJ) ARC 50th Anniversary	
03/01/2015	8N3HC	Reopening of World Cultural Heritage "Himeji Castle"	
03/06/2015	AA5KC	Fort Clark Springs Festival	
03/07/2015	W1BSA	W1BSA from the USS Massachusetts	
03/08/2015	W8BAP	Lost Hour Special Event Station	
03/08/2015	WM3PEN	Pennsylvania Charter Day	
03/13/2015	N6E	100th Anniversary of the Panama Pacific International Exhibition, 1915, San Francisco	
03/14/2015	N4G	Commemoration of the 234th Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse	
03/14/2015	K9TAL	Commemoration of the 96th Birthday of The American Legion	
03/14/2015	NI6IW	Launching of USS Midway (CV-41) Celebration Special Event	
03/14/2015	N2RE	Pi Day	
03/14/2015	WE7GV	WE7GV Celebrates 100 Years of QST Magazine	
03/14/2015	N8P	World Wide Pi Day / Einstein's Birthday	
03/20/2015	K5NRH	K5NRH 10 Year Anniversary	
03/21/2015	W4BKM	33rd Annual Cherry Blossom Festival	
03/22/2015	OT70BULGE	Remembering The Battle for the Bulge	
03/24/2015	W4LX	Honoring WWII Gunners at Buckingham Airfield	
03/28/2015	KK5W	14th Annual Greater Houston Hamfest	
03/28/2015	W4P	35th Annual Florida International Airshow	
03/28/2015	N4H	Battle of Horseshoe Bend (Creek Indian War) Anniversary	
03/28/2015	WX4BCA	Bluebird and Blue Grass Festival	 

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/
STARS WEBSITE:	http://www.wb2elw.net
TELSTAR EDITOR:	wb2elw@verizon.net