



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

MAY, 2015

VOL 48 Issue 9

# STARS COMPLETES AMATEUR CLASS

For the past several weeks, STARS, in cooperation with West Seneca CERT and Empact America, has conducted a training program for those interested in becoming amateur radio operators. Led by Chief Instructor Robert Koster, KA2WYE, instructional staff and examiners included Shane Brady, WB2WPM; Thomas Dean, KA2NXY; Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY; Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM; Ed Jablonski, KC2YMN; and Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK. The class took place on Wednesday evenings, at the West Seneca Emergency Operations Center.

Before the scheduled examination date, 4 members took and passed licensing examinations at another location. Two of those "early birds" took extra level examinations on the same night their classmates were taking their technician exams. Congratulations go to:

Edward Battaglia	KD2ILR	Extra
Arthur Gburek	KD2IPP	Technician
Lisa Gee	KD2IPO	Technician
Greg Gibbs	WA2GKG	General
Ed Hausauer	KD2IPM	Technician
Loreen Hayes	KD2IPL	Technician
John Krull	KD2IPK	Technician
Cory Messerchmidt	KD2IPJ	Technician
Cindy Minnich	KD2IPI	Technician
Steven Moeller	KD2IPR	General
Deborah Perrucelli	KD2ILQ	Technician
Aaron Price	KD2ILJ	Extra
Joseph Puntillo	KD2IPH	Technician
Julie Puntillo	KD2IPG	Technician
Ronald Runo	KD2IJL	Technician
Laurence Williams	KD2IPF	Technician
Sharon Winkler	KD2IPE	Technician

# 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, KC2WRY

Clubhouse Chair Pat Groom, KC2VWG

Telstar Editor Tomm Dean, KA2NXY

Webmaster Don Niles, K2PMC

# 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)

# TUESDAY NIGHT NET

Scott Barto, KB2KOL, reports that the STARS
Tuesday Night Roundtable net is going well. In fact,
recently it had its largest number of check-ins to
date, with 9 amateurs. Find it every Tuesday at 7:30
PM local time on our 2 meter repeater - 147.090 MHz,
PL tone of 88.5 (new) or 107.2 Hz.

After taking check-ins, brief club announcements are given, followed by comments on the "topic of the



evening." You may even hear check-ins from some of our "snow-bird" members via IRLP. Recent topics included memory use and Field Day activities. Please join us and bring a friend.

# WE GOOFED

It has been brought to our attention that the April First cover story about low profile automotive antennas for amateurs could not be valid.

The article suggested using a car's hood as a radiating element, while the rest of the body served as a ground plane. The hood was allegedly insulated by using nylon hardware. Several members reported that the hood hinges are usually inaccessible, in the space between the firewall and the inside fender.

Another member noted that the nylon bolts pictured were actually items intended to secure toilet seats, and that they could not bear the weight of a hood.

We apologize for the misinformation. The reporter responsible for the article has been reprimanded, and suspended for an eleven month period.

wb2elw@verizon.net

# STARS MEETINGS

☆ ☆

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

☆

☆

**☆☆☆☆☆** 

☆

☆☆

☆

\*\*\*\*\*

★ 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 May 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00
★ PM, at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center.

All are welcome,

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

☆

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

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

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

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
★ May 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse.

\*\*\*\*\*

All members are welcome to attend.

# STARS REPEATERS

Two Yaesu System Fusion repeaters are now in service at the Hamburg Clubhouse. Both utilize a CTCSS tone of 88.5 Hz for access.

The 2 meter repeater on 147.09 MHz will accept analog or digital radio transmissions. Whether entered with a digital signal or an analog signal, the output will be analog.

The UHF repeater on 442.325 MHz also will accept either type of signal. However, if a digital signal is received, it will be repeated as digital.

The 2 meter and UHF Colden repeaters remain in service, with an access tone of 107.2 Hz. .

# STARS WEBSITE

The STARS website, under the management of Don Niles, K2PMC, continues development. It is accessed at www.wb2elw.net.

One of the more interesting features, is the erection of the tower at the STARS Radio Clubhouse (don't try this at home!) The video can be found under the tab for "STARS Gallery".

If you haven't been there lately, check it out. Also, if you have anything that should be included on the website, send it to **Don Niles**, **K2PMC**:

k2pmc@arrl.net



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	LOCATION	ADDRESS	SPONSOR	CONTACT
Friday May 1, 2015 3 PM	Buffalo State College	Classroom Building Room A209	Buffalo State Geography and Planning Department	Dr. Stephen Vermette vermetsj@buffalostate.edu
Wednesday May 6, 2015 7 PM	Wyoming County Public Safety Building	151 North Main St Warsaw, NY 14569	Wyoming County Office of Emergency Services	Tony Santoro asantoro@wyomingco.net
Thursday May 7, 2015 7 PM	Penfield Town Hall	3100 Atlantic Ave Penfield, NY 14526	Monroe County Office of Emergency Management	Fred Rion FRion@monroecounty.gov
Tuesday May 12, 2015 7 PM	Genesee County Fire Training Center	7690 State Street Rd Batavia, NY 14020	Genesee County Office of Emergency Services	Tim Yaegar – tim.yaeger@co.genesee.ny.us
Wednesday May 13, 2015 6:30 PM	Jefferson County Office Building	175 Arsenal St Watertown, NY 13601	Jefferson County Office of Emergency Management	Joseph Plummer
Tuesday May 19, 2015 7 PM	Saint Peter's Episcopal Church	12 Elm St Westfield, NY 14787	Chautauqua and Erie Amateur Radio Club	Richard Odebralski 716-224-2170
Thursday May 28, 2015 7 PM	Cayuga County Office Building Sixth Floor	160 Genesee St Auburn, NY 13021	Cayuga County Emergency Management	Brian Dahl bdahl@cayugacounty.us

# **AMATEUR REPEATERS**

#### **WESTERN NEW YORK**

(2 Meter - VHF)

Location	Listen From	Transmit To	CTCSS	Callsign
ALBION	145.270	144.670	141.3	WA2DQL
ALMA	147.210	147.810	123.0	KA2AJH
AMHERST	147.390	147.990	88.5	W2DXA
ARKWRIGHT	146.670	146.070	88.5	K2XZ
BATAVIA	147.285	147.885	141.3	W2SO
BEMUS POINT	145.290	144.690	127.3	WA2LPB
BOSTON	146.910	146.310		W2EUP
BROCKPORT	146.760	146.160	110.9	WR2AHL
BUFFALO	146.865	147.465	151.4	WB2ECR
CHURCHVILLE	145.210	144.610	110.9	N2EPO
CLARENCE CENTER	147.360	147.960	107.2	AG2AA
COLDEN	145.310	144.710	88.5	W2IVB
COLDEN	147.090	147.690	107.2	WB2ELW
DELEVAN	145.390	144.790		K2XZ
EDEN	146.835	146.235	88.5	WB2JPQ
FREWSBURG	146.790	146.190	127.3	W2DRZ
GAINSVILLE	145.490	144.890	88.5	WB2JPQ
HAMBURG	147.090	147.69	88.5	WB2ELW
JAMESTOWN	146.940	146.340	127.3	K2LUC
JAMESTOWN	145.330	144.730	127.3	KS2D
KENMORE	147.000	147.600	107.2	K2LED
LANCASTER	147.255	147.855	107.2	W2SO
LEWISTON	146.775	146.175		WB2NCR
LIMESTONE	146.850	146.250		W3VG
LOCKPORT	146.820	146.220	107.2	W2RUI
NORTH TONAWANDA	146.955	146.355	151.4	W2SEX
PERRYSBURG	147.135	147.735	107.2	KC2DKP
POMFRET	146.625	146.025	127.3	W2SB
RIPLEY	145.470	144.870	127.3	N2FMM
WETHERSFIELD	145.170	144.570		K2ISO
WETHERSFIELD	146.640	146.040		K2XZ
WETHERSFIELD	147.315	147.915	141.3	KC2QNX
WETHERSFIELD	147.105	147.705	141.3	N2FQN
WHEATFIELD	146.730	146.130		KD2GBR

### HAMFESTS

05/15-17/2015 <u>Dayton, Ohio</u>

Location: HARA Arena

1001 Shiloh Springs Rd

Dayton, OH

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Associa-

tion

Website: www.hamvention.org

3 miles south and 3.5 miles west of the intersection of Interstate 70 and Interstate 75.

(control + click on name for full information)

# STARS 2015 GOALS

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	

# Hamvention® 2015

# **Homebrew Radio**

Is this your year to take the trip to Dayton?
We are gearing up for the biggest Hamvention yet.

Ticket Prices: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. General Inquiry: Dayton Hamvention® 937.276.6930 P.O. Box 964 Dayton, OH 45401

# www.hamvention.org

Buy your Tickets, Flea Market, and Inside Exhibit spaces online. OR Send SASE with a check made out to Dayton Hamvention To: Hamvention Tickets, P.O. Box 1446, Dayton, OH 45401



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

# AREA EXAM SITES

#### 05/06/2015 Springville



Sponsor: Cattaraugus County ARET

Location: Bertrand Chaffee Hospital Board Room

222-224 East Main Street

Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

#### 05/12/2015 <u>Meadville PA</u>

Sponsor: Crawford ARS

Location: St Brigid Church Social Hall

383 Arch Street

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

#### 05/13/2015 Niagara Falls

Sponsor: Niagara Radio Club, Inc. Location: Venture Forthe, Inc.

3900 Packard Road

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

#### 05/16/2015 Hamburg

Sponsor:





200 Prospect Avenue

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

### 05/16/2014 Rochester NY



Sponsor: Rochester ARA

Location: RIT Gleason Engineering Bldg Rm 3139

1 Lomb Memorial Drive

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

# 05/31/2015 <u>Geneseo</u>

Sponsor: Genesee Valley ARA

Location: Livingston County Government Center

2 Court Street Rm 205

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

(control-click on City for more info)



: (no fee charged)

# 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)

# 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  $1^{st}$ , 2015. On that day, a new set of examination questions will be in place for general exams.

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

# PAPER LICENSES

Effective February 17<sup>th</sup>, 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

# CONTEST CALENDAR

#### Start and Finish Contest Title Sponsor's Website



Wednesdays 1300Z – See web	CWOps Weekly Mini-CWT Tests	www.cwops.org/cwt.html
Fridays, 0145Z - 0215Z	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Fridays, 0230Z - 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
May 1, 1300Z - May 1, 1900Z	AGCW QRP/QRP Party	http://www.agcw.org/
May 2, 0000Z - May 3, 2400Z	Worldwide EME Contest	www.dubus.org
May 2, 0001Z - May 3, 2359Z	Ten-Ten Spring CW Contest	www.ten-ten.org
May 2, 1000Z - May 4, 0400Z	2 GHz and Up World Wide Contest	www.ham-radio.com/sbms
May 2, 1200Z - May 2, 1700Z	Microwave Spring Sprint	http://sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
May 2, 1200Z - May 3, 1159Z	ARI International DX Contest	<u>www.ari.it</u>
May 2, 1300Z - May 3, 0700Z	7th Area QSO Party	http://7qp.org
May 2, 1600Z - May 3, 0400Z	Indiana QSO Party	www.hdxcc.org/inqp
May 2, 1700Z - May 2, 2100Z	FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint	http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints
May 2, 1700Z - May 3, 2359Z	Delaware QSO Party	www.fsarc.org
May 2, 1700Z - May 3, 0459Z	Radio Club of America QSO Party	www.radioclubofamerica.org
May 2, 2000Z - See website	New England QSO Party	www.neqp.org
May 4, 1630Z - May 4, 1730Z	OK1WC Memorial Contest	www.memorial-ok1wc.cz
May 4, 1900Z - May 4, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml
May 4. 2300Z - May 5, 0300Z	MIE 33 Contest	http://www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/annual/38/38rule-e.html
May 5, 0200Z - May 5, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	www.arsqrp.blogspot.com
May 7, 1700Z - May 7, 2100Z	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 1159Z	HPC World Wide DX Contest	http://pskclub.gr/contest
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 1200Z	F9AA Cup, PSK	www.site.urc.asso.fr/urchaut-6/om-6/131-trophee-
	• •	f9aa.html
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 1200Z	Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest	www.contestvolta.com
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 2400Z	Armed Forces Comm'ns Test	www.netcom.army.mil/mars
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 1200Z	CQ-M International DX Contest	www.cq-m.ru
May 9, 1200Z - May 10, 2359Z	Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
May 9, 1500Z - May 10, 1500Z	Portuguese Navy Day	www.nra.pt
May 9, 1700Z - May 10, 1700Z	Nevada Mustang Roundup	www.nvqsoparty.info
May 9, 1700Z - May 9, 2100Z	FISTS Spring Sprint	www.fists.org/operating.html#sprints
May 9, 2300Z - May 10, 0300Z	50 MHz Spring Sprint	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
May 13, 1900Z - May 13, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml
May 14, 1600Z - May 14, 2200Z	QRP Minimal Art Session	http://www.grpcc.de/contestrules/mas/grpmasr-e.html
May 16, 0000Z - May 17, 2400Z	Worldwide EME Contest	www.dubus.org
May 16, 0800Z - May 16, 1500Z	Portuguese Navy Day	www.nra.pt
May 16, 1200Z - May 17, 1200Z	Aegean RTTY Contest	www.aegeandxgroup.gr/
May 16, 1200Z - May 17, 1200Z	His Majesty King of Spain Contest	http://concursos.ure.es/en
May 16, 1600Z - See website	Feld-Hell Hamvention Sprint	www.feldhellclub.org
May 17, 1000Z - May 17, 1400Z	Worked All Britain — 7 MHz Phone	http://wab.intermip.net
May 17, 1300Z - May 17, 1659Z	UA2 QSO Party	http://www.grz.ru/contest/detail/382.html
May 18, 0200Z - May 18, 0400Z	Run For the Bacon	www.fpgrp.org
May 21, 0030Z - May 21, 0230Z	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	http://nagcc.info
May 21, 1900Z - May 21, 2030Z	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml
May 23, 0000Z - May 24, 2400Z	EPC WW PSK Contest	www.eupsk.com
May 23, 0800Z - May 23, 2359Z	Portuguese Navy Day Contest, Digital	www.nra.pt/portuguese-navy-day-contest2015.html
May 23, 1200Z, - May 24, 1200Z		www.eupsk.com/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf
May 23, 2100Z - May 24, 0200Z	Baltic Contest	www.lrsf.lt/bcontest/english/rules html.htm
May 27, 0000Z - May 27, 0200Z	SKCC Sprint	www.skccgroup.com/operating activities/weekday sprint/
May 27, 2000Z - May 27, 2100Z	UKEICC 80m Contest	www.ukeicc.com/which-contest/
May 30, 0000Z - May 31, 2359Z	CQ WW WPX Contest	www.cgwpx.com
May 31, 8 PM - May 31, Midnight		www.qrparci.org/contests
May 31, 1300Z - May 31, 1600Z	SARL Digital Contest	http://www.sarl.org.za/
way 51, 10002 - Way 51, 10002	Or the Digital Contest	http://www.ball.org.za/
	1	[1st]
(Control + clic	k to activate a link)	P

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

# SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

05/01/2015 KC9HYY/LUS100 100th Anniversary Sinking of RMS Lusitania

05/01/2015 PH70CALM Celebration Activities of 2nd World War Liberation of the city of Margraten

05/02/2015 K5SRC Oklahoma Steam Thresher and Gas Engine Show 05/02/2015 WE7GV TITAN MISSILE MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENT New Hampshire Old Man Collapse Anniversary

05/06/2015 W9IMS Grand Prix of Indianapolis

05/08/2015 W7G 1869 Transcontinental Rail Road Golden Spike Commemorative

05/09/2015 KW4P Inaugural Special Event Celebrating 150th Anniversary of Last Shot Fired of the Civil War

05/09/2015 WW1USA Sinking of the Lusitania

05/09/2015 NI6IW USS Midway Museum Ship Armed Forces Day Special Event

05/10/2015 W5TSP Texas Star Party

05/14/2015 W7E Overland Expo West 2015

 05/15/2015
 K2BSA/1
 Jubilee 2015

 05/16/2015
 W9DUP
 Armed Forces Day

05/16/2015W5ANational Safe Boating Week05/16/2015W5IPerrin Field Special Event Station05/16/2015W0WPikes Peak Boy Scout Merit Badge Day05/16/2015W2GSBW2GSB American Air Power Museum

05/16/2015 W6SFM W6SFM Bug Roundup Event 05/17/2015 GB5LCT Lamberts Castle Shutter Telegraph

05/1//2015 GB5LC1 Lamberts Castle Shutter Lelegraph 05/18/2015 W9IMS Indy 500 Special Event

05/20/2015 K2CAM Lindbergh Flies to Paris

05/22/2015 W4M Bishop CA Mules Days Celebraion

05/23/2015 W3M 50th Anniversary Chesapeake Maritime Museum

05/23/2015 K7UGA Honoring Barry Goldwater

 05/23/2015
 N4J
 JFK Bunker on Peanut Island FL479S

 05/23/2015
 W4B
 WBCCI Region 4 39th Annual Rally

05/25/2015 KC9HYY/EOI Empress of Ireland 101th Anniversary Sinking

05/27/2015 W9H Ham Nation Bicentennial Broadcast other stations are W0H, W1H, W5H, W6H, and W7H

 05/30/2015
 K2JJI
 Amateur Radio Relay For Life

 05/30/2015
 K1PBO
 Cape Cod Mini Maker Faire

 05/30/2015
 W2RME/50
 CVARA 50th Anniversary

 05/30/2015
 KE4YVD
 Kentucky History

05/30/2015 W9BRO Night Watch & Brothers Nets Hand Shake 05/30/2015 W2EF President Grover Cleveland Birthplace





# USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

(control + click to use link)

ARRL MAIN SITE: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/home">http://www.arrl.org/home</a>

ARRL ATLANTIC DIV.: <a href="http://www.atldiv.org">http://www.atldiv.org</a>

CONTESTS: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar">http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar</a>

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: <a href="http://www.wb2elw.net">http://www.wb2elw.net</a>

TELSTAR EDITOR: wb2elw@verizon.net