

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

**STARS** will hold their annual Holiday Party during the monthly meeting on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Hamburg Youth Center, 200 Prospect Avenue, Hamburg. Basic food and beverages will be provided.

We are asking that all attendees bring a side dish to share. Good choices are accessory dishes, such as macaroni salad, baked beans or



coleslaw, as well as salads of all types. Desserts are also a favorite "dish to share".

Family members are also welcome to participate in the festivities, so dust off the XYL or OM and be sure to bring them to the party (they DO NOT have to be licensed amateurs).

Oh, there will be a very short meeting at the beginning of the celebration.

## SILENT AUCTION AT THE PARTY

This year, **STARS** will hold a silent auction during the Annual Holiday Party on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members are invited to bring good quality amateur equipment and other electronic items they are willing to sell. Items for sale should be in working condition.

The items will be displayed, with a bid sheet attached. If interested in an item, you are invited to write your bid on the sheet. Others bidders will then add their bids. Oh, if you see someone that beat your bid, you are invited to put in a second (or more) bid at a higher price.

At the close of open bidding, the highest bid on the sheet will be considered the winner.

As a fundraiser, **STARS** will take a 10% share of the winning bid.

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

# YOU GOOFED

Last month, *Telstar* requested information to include in the "Twinkling STARS" feature. Members were asked to submit their memories of members that are silent keys.

To date, NO such memories have been sent. Therefore, this feature has been suspended.

If ewe sea sum thing that is knot correct, pleas let-tuce no at the a dress bee low.

[wb2elw@verizon.net](mailto: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)

# NEXT MEETING TOPIC

STARS will hold their next meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The topics will include three things.

The first will be the installation of the officers elected last month. A detailed summary of the election can be found on page 3.

The second will be a silent auction. Please see page 1 for specific details.

The third will be the enjoyment of the holiday season through the annual party. Details will be found on page 1.



# 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 **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, 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. However, to avoid the Christmas Eve activities of most members, there will be no board meeting.

The next board will meet next on **January 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse, 2982 Lakeview Road, Hamburg.

All members are welcome.

# CLUB NETS

**Tuesdays**     7:30 PM     147.09 MHz (repeater)  
 (Input 147.69 MHz, CTCSS 88.5 for Hamburg or 107.2 for Colden)

**Saturdays**     10:00 AM     3.925 MHz +/- QRM

# STARS OFFICERS FOR 2016

During the November meeting, elections for the 2016 **STARS** officers were held. Votes were tabulated. Only one vote was disqualified for one office - voters had to choose only one candidate; two boxes were marked.

While permitted, only one write-in vote was cast.

**Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY**, upon election to the office of Vice President, resigned his Board of Directors position. The Board immediately named a member to assume the remaining year of Conrad's position. That person was the the candidate with the lower number of votes for the Board of Directors.

The **STARS** officers for 2016 are:

- President:** Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK
- Vice President:** Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY
- Treasurer:** John Leitten, KA2RFT
- Recording Secretary:** Scott Barto, KB2KOL
- Financial Secretary:** Patrick Groom, KC2VWG
- Director (2 years):** Jon Hall, KC2QKB
- Director (1 year):** Paul Blachowski, WA2DII

## 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	●

## ARRL FIELD DAY:

### STARS TAKES 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE

**STARS** (WB2ELW) earned first place in category "3E". That category was designated for operating three stations at a permanent locations, under emergency power. Nationwide, there were 15 entrants in this category.

Specifically, **STARS** scored 5.990 points, from 1,476 QSOs. The multiplier was 2.

Kudos to the **STARS** team of 11 members.

Further details can be found at the ARRL websites.

[2016 Field Day category 3E](#)

[2016 Field Day all results](#)

## TECH CLASS ENDS

After several weeks, the technician license class held by **STARS** and **EMPact America** in East Aurora has ended. Led by **Robert Koster, KA2WYE**; with assistance from **Shane Brady, WB2WPM**; **Tomm Dean, KA2NXY**; **Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY**; and **Gary Zanghi, KB2YJ**, exams were held on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Call signs are pending. Congratulations to:

<b>Gary Boerschig</b>	Technician
<b>Rebecca Boyd (KD2JUY/AG)</b>	General
<b>Bernard Bukoskey</b>	Technician
<b>Toby Byrnes</b>	Technician
<b>Garry Dragos</b>	Technician
<b>Gerald Dzierzewski</b>	Technician
<b>Quinn Schuster</b>	Technician

Other class members may test at a later date.

Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for the group included **Shane Brady, WB2WPM**; **Thomas Dean, KA2NXY**; **Gregory Hoerner, AC2MO**; **Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM**; **Edward Jablonski, KC2YMN**; and **Earl Kipler, W2EBK**.

## CLOSINGS ON WIVB

Should poor weather cause any scheduled **STARS** activity to be cancelled, the closing message will found on WIVB Channel 4 Buffalo.

If multiple closings exist, WIVB will not include all closings on the television broadcasts; however ALL closings will appear on their website:

[www.wivb.com/closings/](http://www.wivb.com/closings/)



## TEE SHIRTS ARE HERE



Many of you already know, **STARS** was offering to act as a collective purchaser for amateur radio related tee shirts.

Well, they arrived (just in time for Thanksgiving) and are ready for use in the approaching holiday season.

The tee shirt project manager (**Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM**) will bring them to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the Hamburg Youth Center.

She is requesting that purchasers bring the right amount of money to pay for them. Although unconfirmed, intelligence reports indicate the price will be \$9.06 per shirt.

So, come on down Thursday evening, enjoy the meal (don't forget to bring a dish to share), participate in the silent auction, celebrate the holiday with fellow hams (no turkeys), and, **PICK UP YOUR TEE SHIRT!**



## RENEWAL TIME HERE

Each year, **STARS** members are asked to renew their membership in the club. Annual dues are expected by January 1<sup>st</sup>. This is the first (polite version) of the annual renewal reminder.

Just think of all the benefits of club membership: the Nike Base Radio Station, the free Holiday Party, camaraderie with fellow amateur radio operators, attendance at meetings for educational, participatory, or amusement purposes, sponsored contests, raffles, and other features too numerous to mention.

We have made it easy! A renewal membership form is on the back of this newsletter. Use it!



## TUESDAY EVENING NET

Join other **STARS** members for interesting discussions at 7:30 PM on Tuesdays, 147.09 Mhz. repeater.

Recent check-ins have included amateurs in Locksley Park, Carnegie, Weyer, Jerusalem Corners, Creekside, Webster Corners, Forest Glen, and Looneyville.

## 2016 NYS QSO: W2E

**STARS** has been granted special call sign "W2E" for use during the 2016 NYS QSO Contest, scheduled for October 15-16, 2016.

## FOOTBALL POOL FILLED

The football pool fundraiser has filled. No further space is available. Thanx to all contributors.

## SKYWARN HONORED

On Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, the National Weather Service will observe **SKYWARN Recognition Day**. SKYWARN operators visit selected NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world.

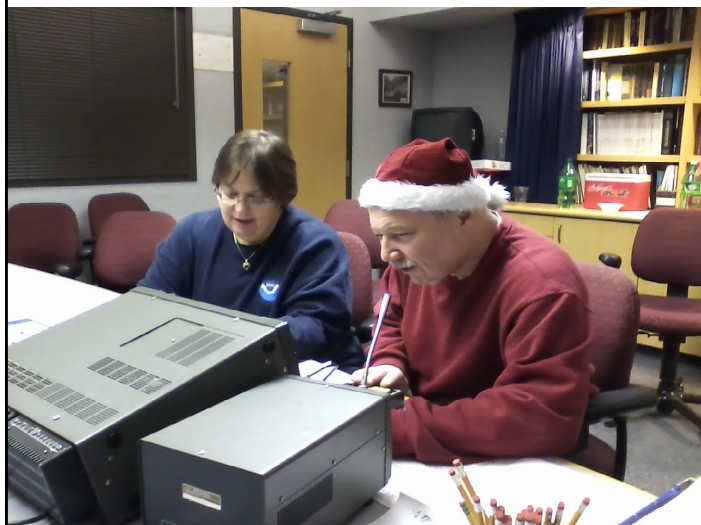
The National Weather Service Office in Buffalo (587 Aero Drive, near the airport) will participate in the event from 0000Z to 2400Z on December 5<sup>th</sup>. (For the unenlightened, that's 7 PM Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> to 7 PM Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.) An overnight break, from 1 AM to 2 AM is anticipated.

Operations are planned for HF frequencies, as well as 2 meter and 70 centimeter bands. Also, operations via IRLP and Echolink are expected (check it out at <http://hamradio.noaa.gov> )

If you are an amateur radio operator, and would like to assist with this event, please contact Judy Levan, N2TEZ, at [judith.levan@noaa.gov](mailto:judith.levan@noaa.gov) . As usual, refreshments will be provided.

For more information, use the following link:

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/>



JUDY LEVAN, N2TEZ and BOB KOSTER, KA2WYE at NWS, 2014

## EXAM SITES

### 12/05/2015 [North Tonawanda](#)

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

### 12/05/2015 [Jamestown](#)

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


### 12/08/2015 [Niagara Falls](#)

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

### 12/15/2015 [Meadville PA](#)

Sponsor: Crawford ARS  
 Location: St Brigid Church Social Hall  
 383 Arch Street  
 Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins)

### 12/16/2015 [Lyons](#)

Sponsor: Drumlins ARC   
 Location: Wayne Co Office of Emergency Mgmt  
 7336 State Route 31  
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

### 12/19/2015 [Erie PA](#)

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association  
 Location: Greene Twnshp Mun Bldg Rm 114  
 9333 Tate Road  
 (use district justice entrance)  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

(control-click on City for more info)



- Free; no charge for examination

## TESTING RESULTS

STARS held amateur radio license examinations on Saturday, November 21, 2015.

One candidate earned new credentials.

**Jeffery Luke** (call pending) **Technician**

The STARS VE team included **Earl Kipler, W2EBK;**  
**Shane Brady, WB2WPM;** **Thomas Dean, KA2NXY;**  
 and **John Leitten, KA2RFT** (on call).

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"You know something? The first Christmas didn't have much bling... except for the angel thing."

## 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.

[\(more info\)](#)

# CONTEST CALENDAR



Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Weds 0230Z-0300Z	Phone Fray	<a href="http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf">www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf</a>
Weds 1300Z - See web	CWOps Weekly Mini-CWT Tests	<a href="http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html">www.cwops.org/cwt.html</a>
Fridays 0200Z - 0329Z	QRP Fox Hunt	<a href="http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm">http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm</a>
Fridays, 0145Z - 0215Z	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com">www.ncccsprint.com</a>
Fridays, 0230Z - 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	<a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com">www.ncccsprint.com</a>
Dec 3, 0000Z - Dec 3, 0600Z	QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	<a href="http://www.qrparci.org">www.qrparci.org</a>
Dec 3, 1800Z - Dec 3, 2200Z	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests">www.nrau.net/activity-contests</a>
Dec 4, 2200Z - Dec 6, 1600Z	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/160-meter">www.arrl.org/160-meter</a>
Dec 5, 0000Z - Dec 5, 2359Z	TARA RTTY Melee	<a href="http://www.n2ty.org/seasons">www.n2ty.org/seasons</a>
Dec 5, 0600Z - Dec 5, 0800Z	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	<a href="http://qrp.ru/contest/wakeup">http://qrp.ru/contest/wakeup</a>
Dec 5, 1600Z - Dec 6, 1559Z	TOPS Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.yo2rr.ro/TAC%20Rules.html">www.yo2rr.ro/TAC%20Rules.html</a>
Dec 5, 2300Z - Dec 13, 2300Z	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party	<a href="http://www.antiquewireless.org">www.antiquewireless.org</a>
Dec 6, 0000Z - Dec 6, 2359Z	Ten-Meter RTTY Contest	<a href="http://www.rttycontesting.com">www.rttycontesting.com</a>
Dec 6, 1300Z - Dec 6, 1600Z	SARL Digital Contest	<a href="http://www.sarl.org.za">www.sarl.org.za</a>
Dec 6, 2100Z - Dec 6, 2259Z	CQC Great CO Snowshoe Run	<a href="http://www.cqc.org/contests">www.cqc.org/contests</a>
Dec 8, 0100Z - Dec 8, 0300Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	<a href="http://www.arsqrp.blogspot.com">www.arsqrp.blogspot.com</a>
Dec 9, 0130Z - Dec 9, 0330Z	NAQCC CW Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc.info/sprint201512.html">http://naqcc.info/sprint201512.html</a>
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 13, 2359Z	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/10-meter">www.arrl.org/10-meter</a>
Dec 12, 1200Z - Dec 13, 2359Z	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
Dec 12, 1600Z - Dec 13, 1559Z	International Naval Contest	<a href="http://www.marinefunker.de">www.marinefunker.de</a>
Dec 13, 2000Z - Dec 13, 2359Z	QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	<a href="http://www.qrparci.org">www.qrparci.org</a>
Dec 17, 0130Z - Dec 17, 0330Z	NAQCC CW Sprint	<a href="http://naqcc.info/sprint201512.html">http://naqcc.info/sprint201512.html</a>
Dec 18, 2000Z - Dec 18, 2359Z	Russian 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html">http://qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html</a>
Dec 18, 2100Z - Dec 18, 2359Z	AGB-Party Contest	<a href="http://www.ev5agb.com/contest">www.ev5agb.com/contest</a>
Dec 19, 0000Z - Dec 19, 2359Z	Feld Hell Sprint	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub">http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub</a>
Dec 19, 0000Z - Dec 19, 2359Z	OK DX RTTY Contest	<a href="http://okrtty.crk.cz">http://okrtty.crk.cz</a>
Dec 19, 0000Z - Dec 19, 2359Z	RAC Winter Contest	<a href="http://wp.rac.ca/?s=winter+contest">http://wp.rac.ca/?s=winter+contest</a>
Dec 19, 1400Z - Dec 20, 1400Z	Croatian CW Contest	<a href="http://9acw.org/index.php/rules/english">http://9acw.org/index.php/rules/english</a>
Dec 20, 1800Z - Dec 20, 2359Z	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup">www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup</a>
Dec 21, 0200Z - Dec 21, 0400Z	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	<a href="http://fpqrp.org/pigrun">http://fpqrp.org/pigrun</a>
Dec 23, 0000Z - Dec 23, 0200Z	SKCC Sprint	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
Dec 26, 0830Z - Dec 26, 1059Z	DARC Christmas Contest	<a href="http://darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en">http://darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en</a>
Dec 26, 1200Z - Dec 27, 1159Z	World Wide Iron Ham Contest	<a href="http://ironham.com.br/?page_id=22">http://ironham.com.br/?page_id=22</a>
Dec 26, 1500Z - Dec 27, 1500Z	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	<a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew">www.kkn.net/stew</a>
Dec 27, 0000Z - Dec 27, 1159Z	RAEM Contest	<a href="http://raem.srr.ru/contest/raem_2014">http://raem.srr.ru/contest/raem_2014</a>



(control +click to activate a link)

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

(Check out the "Sample Link" on page 2 for some neat Christmas music!)



# SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

12/3 - 12/9	W2W	Pearl Harbor Commemoration	 
12/5	W8VP	1914 Waller-McMunn Hamshack	
12/5	N0C	74th Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol	
12/5 - 12/6	W4CAR	Battle of Great Bridge	
12/5 - 12/13	W7P	Celebrating the Discovery of Pluto	
12/5 - 12/6	WR4BC	Christmas From Bethlehem, GA	
12/7	W5KID	Pearl Harbor Day, Anniv. of Death of Rear Admiral Isaac Kidd	
12/10 - 12/23	W2S	NJ Santa's Workshop	
12/12 - 12/13	WX3MAS	Christmas City Special Event	
12/12 - 12.13	K7CCH	Holiday Lights at Shore Acres	
12/12	NI6IW	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Special Event	
12/13 - 12/14	KB7QPS	6th Anniversary of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner First Flight	
12/18 - 12/24	KC5OUR	Bethlehem, New Mexico	
12/26	WE7GV	WE7GV Happy Holidays Special Event	
12/31 - 1/2	K1R	72 Rag Chew New Years Special Event	



## 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>
	<a href="http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php">http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php</a>
HAMFESTS:	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar">http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar</a>
STARS REFLECTOR:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/</a>
STARS WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.wb2elw.net">http://www.wb2elw.net</a>
TELSTAR EDITOR:	<a href="mailto:wb2elw@verizon.net">wb2elw@verizon.net</a>



# 55th Annual Winter Hamfest

The Areas Longest Running Winter Hamfest



## New Larger Location More Parking & More Elbow Room

 Fully Handicap Accessable

Cambria Volunteer Fire Company,  
4631 Cambria Wilson Rd, (Route 425) Lockport  
3/4 mile South of Ridge Rd. (Route 104)  
5 mile North of Saunder Settlement Rd. (Route 31)  
or You can Get On & follow Route 425 (North)  
from the I-290 (Youngmann) or Route 62 (Niagara Falls Blvd)

## January 23rd - 2016

### General Admission: \$ 6.00 (open at 8 AM)

So Come Join Us for a Great, Saturday  
Event 8am- Noon  
To Break the Winter Duldrams!

Grab those Needed Parts.  
Look for a Great Deal,  
or Just Meet with Other Hams.

BaoFeng GT-3 Mark II Dual-Band Hand Held	as Hourly Door Prize 9am ~ 10am ~ 11am ~ Noon
---------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

See Our Website for more info  
[www.lockportara.us](http://www.lockportara.us)

**Rw AntennaStore**

### 2016 STARS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of ARRL? YES NO

Do you want to receive your *Telstar* by email? YES NO

If no, please include **\$15** additional to cover the cost of printing and postage

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS: Additional Names and Calls

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: **STARS** Annual dues payable by January 1

SINGLE	\$24
FAMILY	\$27
STUDENT (through Grade 12)	\$8

RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND DUES TO: PATRICK GROOM KC2VWG  
4320 SALEM DR  
BLASDELL NY 14219-1039