

STARS MOVES FROM 2015 TO 2016

STARS celebrated the close of 2015 with the annual Christmas Party at the Hamburg Youth Center. In addition to the provided food and beverage, members brought a dish to share, thus providing a variety of food choices.

In addition to desserts and salads, a tasty pot of burst stuffed cabbage made its appearance. Also appearing was the traditional Christmas-colored pepper relish dip.



A short business meeting was held, and the new **STARS** officers for 2016 were sworn into office.

As advertised, a silent auction was held for disposition of good electronic equipment. The photo below shows **President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK**, announcing the results of the auction.

More photos are on page 3.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PAUL BLACHOWSKI, WA2DII; KEN POKIGO, KC2AYK; JON HALL, KC2QKB; ROBERT KOSTER, KA2WYE; AND CHLOE (GRANDDAUGHTER OF KC2YMM & KC2YMN)

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK
Vice President	Conrad Barrick, KC2WRV
Secretary	Scott Barto, KB2KOL
Financial Sec'y	Patrick Groom, KC2VWG
Treasurer	John Leitten, KA2RFT
Director (1 yr.)	Paul Blachowski, WA2DII
Director (2 yr.)	Jon Hall, KC2QKB
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed red;"/>	
Clubhouse Chair	Patrick Groom, KC2VWG
Telstar Editor	Tomm Dean, KA2NXY
Webmaster	Don Niles, K2PMC

~~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 at the a dress bee low.

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 January 7th.

The featured speaker will be you. So, make sure you do your homework and preparation for the session.

In particular, the meeting will be used to review our progress in the past year, and more importantly, lay out a plan for progress for **STARS** in the new year.

All members will be encouraged to participate. It is hoped that a blueprint for our 2016 activities will be established.

This blueprint will allow the creation of a new progress chart for 2016, which will be published in each monthly edition of *Telstar*.

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 **January 7th**, 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, 2982 Lakeview Road, Hamburg.

The next board meeting will be **January 28th**, 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 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	●

STARS 2016 GOALS

<p>?</p> <p>(to be determined)</p>	<p>●</p> <p>●</p> <p>●</p>
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RENEWALS PAST DUE

Each year, **STARS** members are asked to renew their membership in the club. Annual dues are expected by January 1st. This is the second (formal 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!

HOLIDAY PARTY 2015



RICK NEUBECK, KD2GEF, ENJOYS THE SHADE OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

JOHN LEITTEN, KA2RFT; EDWARD PATTON, N1ZIN; AND PAT GROOM, KC2VWG; ENGAGE IN HOLIDAY DISCUSSIONS

FOOTBALL POOL FILLED

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

Expected prizes are: 1st Quarter - \$100; Half - \$300; 3rd Quarter - \$100; and Final - \$500.

BETA TESTERS NEEDED

Patrick Groom, KC2VWG, and Scott Barto, KB2KOL, have embarked on a new venture. We have begun creating interface cables for Yaesu radios that have previously not existed. The cables were originally intended to interface newer Yaesu radios with LDG generic, non-radio specific autotuners. The LDG Company has stated that they produce no interface cables for Yaesu radios to mate with LDG generic tuners.

Our original cable that went to market, now for sale on eBay, was to interface the Yaesu FTDX-3000 with any generic LDG autotuner having an one-eighth inch radio port. The "PLUS" version cable, also for sale on eBay, allows for amplifier integration (T/R relay and ALC control) in addition to the LDG autotuner.

We are now in the next phase of development and are in need of some BETA testers that would be willing to help test our interface cables for additional Yaesu radios. We need amateur radio operators that have a Yaesu FTDX-1200, FT-450, and/or FT-950 radios mated together with either a generic LDG autotuner, an amplifier, or both. We would be able to offer you the interface cable at an extremely discounted price. We would just ask that you try it out, and provide feedback on the cable itself, as well as the instruction sheet, and the eBay listing contents. The cable would then be yours to keep and enjoy. Please contact Patrick, Scott, or both, to express your willingness to help, and also to describe your exact setup - what you would like to interface together (radio model, tuner model, amplifier model if applicable, etc).

The current cables can be found on eBay using the following search terms:

"Yaesu FTDX-3000 Interface Cable for LDG autotuners including T/R Relay and ALC" or

"Yaesu FTDX-3000 Interface Cable for LDG autotuner"

Thanks in advance, and 73,

Scott, KB2KOL
Patrick, KC2VWG

kb2kol@arrl.net
pgroom@verizon.net

NEW AMATEURS

In the December issue, it was noted that the STARS class in West Seneca concluded, and that several candidates had passed their examinations.

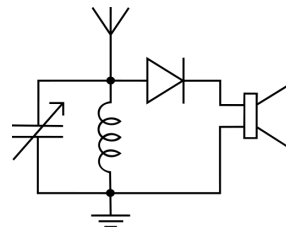
However, licenses issued were not yet available.

They're now available. Congratulations to these new amateurs:

Gary Boerschig	KD2JYW	Technician
Rebecca Boyd	KD2JYV	General
Bernard Bukoskey	KD2JYU	Technician
Toby Byrnes	KD2JYT	Technician
Garry Dragos	KD2JYS	Technician
Gerald Dzierzewski	KD2JYR	Technician
Quinn Schuster	KD2JZY	Technician

Also licensed, from the November VE session held in Hamburg:

Jeffery Luke KD2JWN Technician



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/

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS HONORED

Several times a year, **STARS** conducts examination sessions for persons who want to earn amateur radio licenses. These sessions are held under the authority of the **American Radio Relay League**, a designated Volunteer Examination Coordinator for the Federal Communications Commission.

STARS provides a minimum of three Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for each of these sessions. They are responsible for conducting the examinations, grading the results, and completing the necessary paperwork allowing candidates to become licensed amateur radio operators.

STARS thanks all VEs, and has awarded certificates to those who have made this year's exams possible.

Those amateurs are:	[sessions]
Anthony Balas, KB2OUT	1
Conrad Barrick, KC2WRY	6
Shane Brady, WB2WPM	5
John Czuba, W2IV	1
Thomas Dean, KA2NXY	8
Raymond Feness, K2RMF	1
Gregory Hoerner, AC2MO	3
Edward Jablonski, KC2YMN	2
Linda Jablonski, KC2YMM	3
Earl Kipler, W2EBK	3
John Leitten, KA2RFT	4
Matthew Starr, N2TFA	3
Mark Wolf, W2MAW	1

Certificate of Appreciation 2015

This certificate is awarded to
Conrad "Lee" Barrick
KC2WRY

in recognition of valuable contributions to
STARS as a Volunteer Examiner
 for 6 sessions during 2015.




South Towns Amateur Radio Society

Signature	Thomas Dean, KA2NXY	Date	1/7/16
Signature	Kenneth Pokigo, KC2AYK President	Date	1/7/16

EXAM SITES

1/02/2016

[Jamestown](#)

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

1/06/2016

[Springville](#)

Sponsor: CCARET
 Location: Bertrand Chaffee Hospital
 222 East Main Street - Board Room
 Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

1/09/2016

[North Tonawanda](#)

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

1/09/2016

[Coudersport PA](#)

Sponsor: Potter County VE Team
 Location: Sweden Vly Faith United Meth Church
 1451 Route 6 East
 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

1/12/2016

[Niagara Falls](#)

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

1/13/2016

[Canandaigua](#)

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

1/16/2016

[Hamburg](#)

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



1/16/2016

[Rochester NY](#)

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

1/24/2016

[Geneseo](#)

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

1/26/2016

[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)



- Free; no charge for examination

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	www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf
Weds	1300Z - See web	CWOps Weekly Mini-CWT Tests	www.cwops.org/cwt.html
Fridays	0200Z - 0329Z	QRP Fox Hunt	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm
Fridays,	0145Z - 0215Z	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Fridays,	0230Z - 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Jan 1,	0000Z - Jan 1,	ARRL Straight Key Night	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night
Jan 1,	0000Z - Jan 1,	AGB New Year Snowball Contest	www.qsl.net/eu1eu/agn_nysb.htm
Jan 1,	0800Z - Jan 1,	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	www.sartg.com/contest/nyrules.htm
Jan 1,	0900Z - Jan 1,	AGCW Happy New Year Contest	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
Jan 1,	1400Z - Jan 1,	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
Jan 1,	1500Z - Jan 1,	QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Jan 2,	0000Z - Jan 2,	PODXS 070 Club PSK Fest	www.podxs070.com
Jan 2,	1200Z - Jan 3,	WW PMC Contest	www.s59dcd.si/en10
Jan 2,	1500Z - Jan 3,	Original QRP Contest	www.qrpsc.de/contestrules
Jan 2,	1800Z - Jan 3,	ARRL RTTY Roundup	www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup
Jan 2,	2000Z - Jan 3,	EUCW 160 Meter Contest	www.eucw.org/eu160.html
Jan 3,	1800Z - Jan 3,	Kids Day Contest	www.arrl.org/kids-day
Jan 5,	0200Z - Jan 5,	ARS Spartan Sprint	arsgrp.blogspot.com
Jan 6,	2000Z - Jan 6,	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Jan 9,	0500Z - Jan 9,	Old New Year Contest	www.radio.ru/cg
Jan 9,	1200Z - Jan 10,	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
Jan 9,	1200Z - Jan 10,	UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
Jan 9,	1800Z - Jan 10,	North American QSO Party	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Jan 10,	0630Z - Jan 10,	NRAU-Baltic Contest	www.nrau.net/nrau-baltic-contest
Jan 10,	0900Z - Jan 10,	DARC 10-Meter Contest	www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest
Jan 10,	0900Z - Jan 10,	NRAU-Baltic Contest	www.nrau.net/nrau-baltic-contest
Jan 10,	1000Z - Jan 10,	Midwinter Contest	midwintercontest.veron.nl/contest_mw_eng.htm
Jan 13,	0130Z - Jan 13,	NAQCC CW Sprint	naqcc.info/sprint201601_160.html
Jan 13,	2300Z - Jan 17,	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial	www.antiquewireless.org
Jan 15,	1800Z - Jan 15,	LZ Open Contest	www.lzopen.com/lz-open-contest
Jan 16,	1200Z - Jan 17,	Hungarian DX Contest	www.ha-dx.com/HADX
Jan 16,	1800Z - Jan 17,	North American QSO Party	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Jan 16,	2000Z - Jan 17,	Feld Hell Sprint	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
Jan 18,	0200Z - Jan 18,	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	fqrp.org/pigrun
Jan 21,	0130Z - Jan 21,	NAQCC CW Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprint201602.html
Jan 23,	0000Z - Jan 24,	YL-ISSB QSO Party	www.ylssystem.org/qsoparty
Jan 23,	1200Z - Jan 24,	BARTG RTTY Sprint	www.bartg.org.uk/
Jan 23,	1900Z - Jan 23,	WAB 1.8 MHz Phone	wab.intermip.net
Jan 23,	0000Z - Jan 24,	Montana QSO Party	www.fvarc.org/
Jan 24,	1200Z - Jan 23,	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	www.ukeicc.com/
Jan 24,	2000Z - Jan 24,	QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Jan 27,	0000Z - Jan 27,	SKCC Sprint	www.skccgroup.com
Jan 27,	2000Z - Jan 27,	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Jan 29,	2200Z - Jan 31,	CQ 160-Meter Contest	www.cq160.com/rules.htm
Jan 30,	0000Z - Jan 30,	Feld Hell Sprint	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
Jan 30,	0600Z - Jan 31,	REF Contest	concours.r-e-f.org/contest/
Jan 30,	1300Z - Jan 31,	UBA DX Contest	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
Jan 30,	1700Z - Jan 31,	Winter Field Day	www.winterfieldday.com
Jan 30,	1900Z - Feb 1,	ARRL January VHF Contest	www.arrl.org/january-vhf
Jan 31,	1400Z - Feb 3,	Classic Exchange	www.classicexchange.org

(control +click to activate a link)

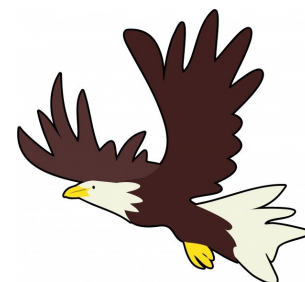
For more information on contests: <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>



SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

12/31 - 1/2	K1R	72 Rag Chew New Year's Special Event	
01/02 - 1/31	K3Y	10th Annual Straight Key CW Event	
01/03 - 1/10	W2HRU	Ham Radio University/NLI Section Convention	
01/09	W0CS	Eagle Watch on the Mississippi River	
01/09	W4FFC	Florida Constitution Convention Commemorative Special Event	
01/09 - 1/10	N0E	Lake of the Ozarks Eagle Days Special Event	
01/09	NI6IW	USS Midway Museum Ship; Desert Storm Special Event	
01/14 - 1/19	K7B	Lake Havasu City 6th Annual Balloonfest	
01/15 - 1/31	N6S	2016 Southern California Linux Expo (SCaLE)	
01/15 - 1/18	K5D	Silent Key Memorial Weekend	
01/15 - 1/18	W4RKC	Virginia's Lee-Jackson Day	
01/23	KS0KS	Kansas Day	
01/29	WX0EK	State of Kansas 155th Birthday	
01/30	WE7GV	Tubac, Arizona, Collector Car Show	
01/30 - 1/31	W6PW	100th Anniversary San Francisco Radio Club	
01/30	K8PRC	Cabin Fever Special Event	
01/30 - 1/31	W6VAH	Jerry L. Pettis VA Hospital ARC Fifth Anniversary	



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

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

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