

STARS OBJECTIVES FOR 2016

At the January meeting of the STARS board, a tentative list of objectives for 2016 was developed:

INSTALL SATELLITE ANTENNA AT CLUBHOUSE
CONDUCT FUND RAISING EVENTS
PARTICIPATE IN ARRL FIELD DAY
PARTICIPATE IN NYS QSO CONTEST
HOLD AT LEAST 4 MONTHLY PROGRAMS
CONDUCT A HOME BREW BUILD PROJECT
PARTICIPATE IN BURGERFEST
INVESTIGATE LINKING REPEATER SYSTEMS
ACQUIRE NEW EQUIPMENT
ENHANCE BACK-UP POWER FOR REPEATER

MEMBERSHIP DUES NOW PAST DUE

Hey, did you renew your membership and pay your dues? If so, good for you!

However, if you didn't, we suggest you get the lead out of your nether regions, perk up your energy levels, complete the renewal application appearing at the end of this document, straighten out your financial reserves, and send a check with the application to **STARS**.

We did use the nice approach. It's now time to strengthen our request. Rumors have it that key board members have been soliciting unsavory characters for collection purposes.

Why take the risk? If you haven't paid up, **DO IT NOW!**

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

Clubhouse Chair	Patrick Groom, KC2VWG
Telstar Editor	Tomm Dean, KA2NXY
Webmaster	Don Niles, K2PMC

WE ALL GOOFED

Even though 10 errors were in last month's issue, no member brought them to our attention.

The headings on pages 2 through 10 misspelled the word "January" by omitting the letter "N".

In a photo on page 3, the caption writer reversed the lettering for the member whose back faced the camera. It should read, "Ed Patton, N2ING".

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.

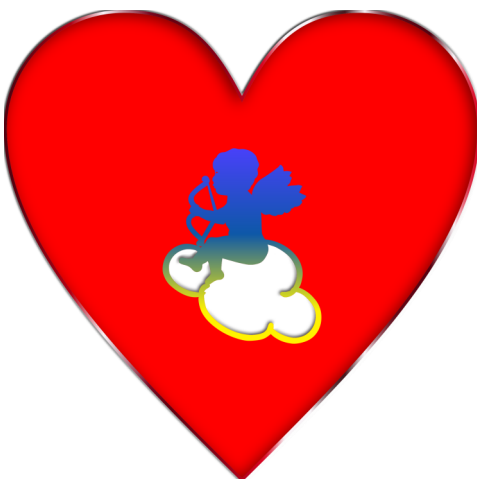
Try it!  [sample link](#) (control + click)

NEXT MEETING TOPIC

STARS will hold their next meeting on February 4th.

Instead of a formal speaker, the meeting will be used to review the objectives for 2016. Members will be invited to comment on them, and volunteer for work on the projects.

Oh, by the way, if you missed them, the objectives are on the font cover.



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 **February 4th**, at 7:00 PM, at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center.

All are welcome,

The **STARS** board usually meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of each month, at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse.

The next board meeting will be **February 25th**, at the Nike Base Radio Clubhouse, 2982 Lakeview Road, Hamburg.

All members are welcome.

CLUB NETS

Tuesdays	7:30 PM	147.09 MHz (repeater)
Saturdays	10:00 AM	3.925 MHz +/- QRM

IRLP INFO

As you know, the **STARS** VHF repeater in Hamburg has the ability to connect to other radio systems around the world by using IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project). By using a four digit DTMF code, you may connect with other repeaters around the world.

Usually, this will connect you with one other node. However, certain sites have the ability to connect multiple repeaters. These sites are called "reflectors".

STARS is trying a new policy of keeping the repeater connected to an IRLP reflector on a regular basis. This means many other systems can connect with the **STARS** repeater at the same time.

The reflector in use is 9057. Members wishing to contact a single system can still do so. Simply disconnect from the reflector by using DTMF keys 73, and then connecting with the node of your choice by using its four digit code. Just remember, at the conclusion of your single node use, return the connection from that node to the reflector node 9057.

More information about IRLP can be found at:

<http://irlp.net>

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/



Steve Wiseman W2SMW - SK

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of **Steven Wiseman, W2SMW**.

Steve was an active member of the Erie County ARES/RACE team, as well as the SMART team.

STUDYING FOR EXTRA?

How are you doing with your studies for the amateur extra license exam? Did you purchase any books? Have you taken practice exams?

That's good. But when are you going to take the test?

Well, if you don't take it within the next four months, there is a chance that your study materials will be out of date.

You see, the question pool for the amateur extra exam has been revised. New tests will be put into use on July 1st, 2016. **STARS** will only administer exams from the current pool on March 19th and May 21st.

Make sure your investment in time and materials is worth it. Plan on taking the exam before July 1st.

TUESDAY EVENING NET

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

One feature of this net is the practice of allowing all check-ins to respond to discussion topics.

FOOTBALL POOL

Fasten your seat belts! The football pool winners will be known this weekend. Watch the Super Bowl.

COMEX 16.1

Air Force and Army MARS will be participating in a simulated national crisis situation Joint MARS communication exercise on Feb 12, 2016 (COMEX 16-1). The hours for COMEX 16-1 is 8:00 AM until 8:00 PM Eastern Time. This is a relatively short time period. COMEX 16-1 is based upon a total loss of internet and telephone communications.

All requests for information from MARS and information being returned to MARS should be done on Amateur HF, VHF and UHF frequencies. Internet linkage, such as IRLP & EchoLink, should NOT be used. (In this COMEX the Internet is down!)

While there has not been set any specific requirements for Ham Radio supplied information to MARS, we are anticipating that information will be requested to be supplied by Hams to MARS Ops. Exactly what info? Wait and see - it is an communication exercise...

Many Ham Radio Clubs have MARS Ops as members. Coordination should now be ongoing to work out communication links with the Hams and MARS Ops.

When possible the contact between Hams and MARS Ops should be set up BEFORE COMEX 16-1.

Region 2 ARRL Division Directors and Section Managers are requested to maintain contact with all Ham Radio clubs in their areas.

Contact ws2q@arrl.net or aaa2r9@usarmymars.us to arrange for participation in COMEX 16-1.

Any questions, give me a call at 732-921-2608.

Harvey Klein, AAA2R9/WS2Q

Civil Affairs Officer

US Army MARS - Region 2

Work Tel: 908-688-8900

Home Tel: 973-538-1768

Cell Phone: 732-921-2608

Email: aaa2r9@usarmymars.us or ws2q@arrl.net

TESTING RESULTS

STARS held amateur radio license examinations on Saturday, January 16, 2016.

All four candidates earned new credentials.

David Breau	KD2KEI	Technician
David Cross	KD2IIK	Extra
Kenneth Knox	KD2KEH	Technician
David Poole	KD2KEG	Technician

The STARS VEs included **Shane Brady, WB2WPM**; **Thomas Dean, KA2NXY**; **Ed Jablonski, KC2YMN**; **Matthew Starr, N2TFA**; **Greg Gibbs, WA2GKG** (on call) and **John Leitten, KA2RFT** (on call).

HAMFESTS

02/21/2016 [Manchester Mid*Winter](#)

Location: Richland County Fairgrounds
750 N. Home Road
Mansfield, OH

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hamfest.w8we.org/>

02/27/2016 [Winter Hamfest](#)

Location: Big Flats American Legion
45 Olcott Road South
Big Flats, NY

Sponsor: LIM Amateur Radio Group

Website: <http://www.ka2lim.com/7.html>

02/28/2016 [WASHfest](#)

Location: Castle Shannon Volunteer FD
3600 Library Road
Pittsburgh, PA

Sponsor: Wireless Association of South Hills

Website: <http://n3sh.org/>

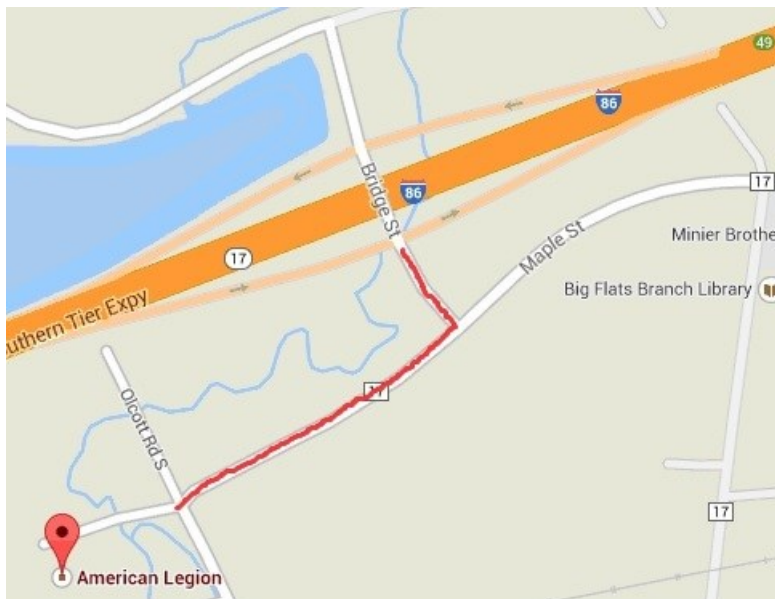
(control + click on name for full information)

Winter Hamfest

February 27th 2016

Big Flats American Legion

45 Olcott Rd. S, Big Flats, NY 14814



\$5 Entry

\$10 for a flea market table

first come, first served

Food Available

50/50

\$100 Grand Prize (Need to be present to win)

Drawing at 12 noon

Doors open to public at 8:00 a.m.

Vendors welcome at 6:30 a.m.

VE Testing

Contact Phone number 607-739-7305

Shake off the winter blues and come out and have a cup of coffee and a conversation with friends and maybe find a new toy in the flea market.

Rt. 86 Exit 49 Big Flats, NY

EXAM SITES

2/03/2015

[Springville](#)

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

2/06/2016

[Jamestown](#)

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

2/06/2016

[North Tonawanda](#)

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

2/09/2016

[Niagara Falls](#)

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

02/10/16

[Bath](#)

Sponsor: Civil Defense Center
 Location: Route 54
 Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

2/16/2016

[Meadville PA](#)

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

2/17/2016

[Lyons](#)

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

2/20/2016

[Rochester](#)

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

2/27/2016

[Albion](#)

Sponsor: Community Amateur Radio Club
 Location: Hoag Library
 134 S. Main Street - Kirby Room
 Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

2/28/2016

[Geneseo](#)

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)



- 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
Feb 1, 2000Z - Feb 1, 2130Z	RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship, SSB	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/
Feb 2, 0200Z - Feb 2, 0400Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	http://arsgrp.blogspot.com
Feb 3, 2000Z - Feb 3, 2100Z	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Feb 5, 1400Z - Feb 7, 0200Z	YLRL YL-OM Contest	http://ylrl.org/index.php
Feb 6, 0000Z - Feb 6, 2359Z	Triathlon DX Contest	http://triathlon-dx-contest.gr
Feb 6, 0000Z - Feb 7, 2359Z	Vermont QSO Party	www.ranv.org/vtqso.html
Feb 6, 0001Z - Feb 7, 2359Z	10-10 International Winter Contest, SSB	www.ten-ten.org
Feb 6, 1200Z - Feb 7, 1200Z	F9AA Cup, CW	www.site.uro.asso.fr
Feb 6, 1200Z - Feb 7, 1159Z	Black Sea Cup International	http://bscc.ucoz.ru/index/0-21
Feb 6, 1400Z - Feb 6, 2359Z	FYBO Winter QRP Sprint	www.azscqrptions.com
Feb 6, 1400Z - Feb 6, 2359Z	Minnesota QSO Party	www.w0aa.org
Feb 6, 1600Z - Feb 6, 1900Z	AGCW Straight Key Party	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
Feb 6, 1600Z - Feb 7, 0400Z	British Columbia QSO Party	www.orcadxcc.org
Feb 6, 1700Z - Feb 6, 2100Z	FISTS Winter Slow Speed Sprint	http://fistsna.org
Feb 6, 1800Z - Feb 7, 1759Z	Mexico RTTY International Contest	www.rtty.fmre.mx
Feb 7, 0000Z - Feb 7, 0400Z	North American Sprint, CW	http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
Feb 8, 1300Z - Feb 12, 2359Z	ARRL School Club Roundup	www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup
Feb 10, 0130Z - Feb 10, 0330Z	NAQCC CW Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprint201602.html
Feb 10, 2000Z - Feb 10, 2130Z	RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship, Data	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/
Feb 13, 0000Z - Feb 14, 2359Z	CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	www.cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm
Feb 13, 1000Z - Feb 14, 1000Z	SARL Field Day Contest	www.sarl.org.za
Feb 13, 1100Z - Feb 13, 1300Z	Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
Feb 13, 1200Z - Feb 14, 1200Z	Dutch PACC Contest	http://pacc.veron.nl
Feb 13, 1200Z - Feb 14, 1200Z	KCJ Topband Contest	www.kcj-cw.com
Feb 13, 1200Z - Feb 14, 2359Z	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
Feb 13, 1500Z - Feb 14, 1500Z	OMISS QSO Party	http://omiss.net/Facelift/qsoparty.php
Feb 13, 1600Z - Feb 14, 2200Z	New Hampshire QSO Party	www.w1wqm.org/nhqso
Feb 13, 1700Z - Feb 13, 2100Z	FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint	http://fistsna.org
Feb 13, 1900Z - Feb 13, 2300Z	RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/
Feb 14, 0000Z - Feb 14, 2359Z	PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint	www.podxs070.com
Feb 14, 1400Z - Feb 17, 0800Z	Classic Exchange, Phone	www.classicexchange.org
Feb 17, 1900Z - Feb 17, 2030Z	AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
Feb 18, 2000Z - Feb 18, 2130Z	RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship, CW	www.rsgbcc.org/hf/
Feb 20, 0000Z - Feb 21, 2359Z	ARRL International DX Contest, CW	www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
Feb 20, 0800Z - Feb 20, 1000Z	SARL Youth Day Sprint	www.sarl.org.za
Feb 20, 1200Z - Feb 21, 1159Z	Russian PSK WW Contest	www.rdrclub.ru
Feb 20, 2000Z - Feb 20, 2159Z	Feld Hell Sprint	http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
Feb 20, 2300Z - Feb 21, 2300Z	Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	www.antiqwireless.org
Feb 22, 0100Z - Feb 22, 0259Z	CQC Winter QSO Sprint	www.cqc.org/contests
Feb 22, 0200Z - Feb 22, 0400Z	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	http://fpqrp.org/pigrun
Feb 24, 0000Z - Feb 24, 0200Z	SKCC Sprint	www.skccgroup.com
Feb 24, 2000Z - Feb 24, 2100Z	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Feb 26, 2200Z - Feb 28, 2200Z	CQ 160 Meter Contest, SSB	www.cq160.com/rules.htm
Feb 27, 0600Z - Feb 28, 1800Z	REF Contest, SSB	http://concours.r-e-f.org/contest
Feb 27, 1300Z - Feb 28, 1300Z	UBA DX Contest, CW	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
Feb 27, 1400Z - Feb 28, 0059Z	South Carolina QSO Party	http://scqso.com/rules
Feb 27, 1800Z - Feb 28, 0559Z	North American QSO Party, RTTY	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
Feb 28, 0900Z - Feb 28, 1700Z	High Speed Club CW Contest	www.highspeedclub.org
Feb 28, 1300Z - Feb 28, 1600Z	SARL Digital Contest	www.sarl.org.za
Feb 28, 1500Z - Feb 29, 0059Z	North Carolina QSO Party	http://rars.org/hcqsoparty




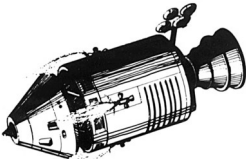



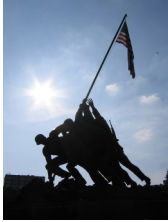



(control +click to activate a link)

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

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

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

02/01 - 2/29	KB9GSY	JY1 MEMORIAL 2016	
02/01 - 12/31	W5KS	Lawton City Parks on the Air	
02/05 - 2/06	NN4SA	Apollo XIV (14) - 45th Anniversary	
02/05 - 2/07	AB5ER	Valentine's Day from Romance, Arkansas	
02/06	W9TY	Commemorating the Diamond, IL Coal Mine Disaster of 1883	
02/06 - 2/07	K5C	Shuttle Columbia Special Event Station	
02/10 - 2/17	N6F	145th Anniversary, Fort Point, San Francisco	
02/13 - 2/15	W0JH	Frozen Lake Portable: Ice Station W0JH	
02/13 - 2/14	K4US	George Washington Birthday	
02/13 - 2/18	N4H	H L Hunley Commemorative Event	
02/13	NI6IW	USS Midway Museum Ship; USMC Women's Reserve Establishment Special Event	
02/15 - 3/27	KL7RST	Worked All NCDXA "RST" Stations	
02/15 - 3/27	VY1RST	Worked All NCDXA "RST" Stations	
02/15 - 3/27	VE8RST	Worked All NCDXA "RST" Stations	
02/15 - 3/27	VY0RST	Worked All NCDXA "RST" Stations	
02/17 - 2/21	N4DAB	2016 Daytona 500 Speedweeks	
02/20	W0EBB	12th Annual "Freeze Your Keys" winter operating event	
02/20 - 2/22	WS7G	George Washington's Birthday	
02/24	W7ASL	Snowbird Field Day at Red Mountain Park, Mesa, AZ	
02/26 - 2/28	K9C	Copper Dog 150 Sled Dog Race	
02/27	W0FSB	71st Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima	
02/27 - 2/28	N4N	LaBelle Swamp Cabbage Festival 50th 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

2016 STARS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-mail address _____

Are you a member of ARRL? YES NO (circle one)

Do you want to receive your *Telstar* by email? YES NO (circle one)

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
 (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **STARS**) 4320 SALEM DR
 BLASDELL NY 14219-1039



South Towns Amateur Radio Society

New Membership Application

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____ Class _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Are you a member of the ARRL? YES NO (circle one)

Please list any other amateur radios clubs you belong to: _____

Do you know a club member? If yes, who? _____

Bands and/or operating modes used: _____

Occupation: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dues: **STARS** annual dues payable on January 1 are:
 Single Membership \$24; Family Membership \$27;
 Student Membership (to grade 12 or full-time college student) \$8. New members joining after January will pay dues on a pro-rated basis of \$2/mo (single); \$2.25/mo (family); \$.67/mo (student) for the remainder of the year. All new members must pay a \$5 initiation fee. Dues must accompany application when submitted.

Initiation Fee	\$5.00
Pro-rated Dues:	_____
Total Enclosed:	_____

Mail application and dues (checks payable to **STARS**) to:

PATRICK GROOM KC2VWG, 4320 SALEM DR, BLASDELL NY 14219

(Do Not Write Below This Line)

Dues Received By: _____ Date: _____

Board Review:

President: _____	Treasurer _____	Director (2 yr) _____
Vice President _____	Secretary _____	Director (1 yr) _____
Past President _____	Financial Sec'y _____	

Membership Approval Date _____