

THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

JULY 2017

VOL. 50 ISSUE 11

# REPEATER ANTENNA REPLACED

Club members have noticed intermittent issues with the Hamburg repeaters for a while. The issues seemed to occur during bad weather, when it was wet and windy. After diagnostics, it was determined that the issue was likely in the antenna or the feedline near the antenna. On Tuesday, the fire department brought out a ladder truck and the repeater antenna was replaced. The feedline near the termination point was also upgraded to LMR-400.

The 2 meter net was held later that day. The weather was calm, and all reports were good.

After inspection, the old antenna was found to have developed water damage in the top section. Repairs will be attempted and the old antenna may be used as a backup repeater antenna or as an antenna for another radio.

#### FIELD DAY 2017

Last week, STARS participated in ARRL's Field Day. STARS operated 3-Echo as WB2ELW for the entire 24-hour period. Contacts were made using CW, SSB, and PSK31.

The logs are currently being processed and more details will be available soon.

# NEXT MEETING: RADIO PROGRAMMING

The Hamburg Memorial Youth center is closed during July and August. The next meeting will be held at the Nike Base Clubhouse.

Joe Claus, KB2JDB, will be hosting a presentation on programming handheld radios with a computer. Richard Neubeck, W2RLN, will also demonstrate how to program Baofeng radios manually.

#### 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 in Hamburg.

During July and August the youth center is closed and meetings are held at the Nike Base Clubhouse at 2982 Lakeview Road in Hamburg.

This month's meeting will be on July 6th, at 7:00 PM, at the Nike Base Clubhouse. All are welcome.

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

The next board meeting will be July 27th. All members are welcome.

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#### **CLUB OFFICERS**

President Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK

Vice President Paul Blachowski, WA2DII

Secretary Scott Barto, KB2KOL

Financial Sec'y Patrick Groom, KC2VWG

Treasurer John Leitten, KA2RFT

Director (l yr.) Jon Hall, AA2CC

Director (2 yr.) Allen Mitzo, WA2TTT

Clubhouse Chair Allen Mitzo, WA2TTT

Fundraising Chair Don Niles, K2PMC

Hospitality Chairs Richard Neubeck, W2RLN

Net Control Stations Scott Barto, KB2KOL (VHF)

Bob Lehning, WA2YSJ (HF)

NYQP Chair John Leitten, KA2RFT

Photographer Richard Neubeck, W2RLN

Program Chair Larry Plumb, WA2TLY

Repeater Chairs Pat Groom, KC2VWG

Ken Pokigo, KC2AYK

Special Events Chairs Joe Claus, KB2JDB

Bob Koster, KA2WYE

Telstar Editor Owen Torres, KD2LXF

VE Team Liaison **vacant!** 

Webmaster Don Niles, K2PMC

## **CLUB NETS**

STARS holds two nets every week -- one on 2 meters and one on 75 meters. All are welcome to participate.

 Tuesdays
 7:30 PM
 147.09 MHz (Repeater)

 Saturdays
 10:00 AM
 3.925 MHz ± QRM

2017 Goals	
Participate in Field Day.	
Participate in NYS QSO Party.	
Conduct fundraising events.	
Acquire new equipment.	
Attend mini-maker faire(s).	
Conduct club build project(s).	
Install three yagi antennas.	
Present 4 monthly programs.	
Conduct training on club equipment.	
Conduct general and extra classes.	
Install satelite antennas.	
Maintain repeater system.	0

### VE TEAM LIAISION NEEDED

STARS is seeking a member to fill the position of Volunteer Examiner liaison for the club. This person would be responsible for interaction with the ARRL in arranging the FCC exams conducted through the year.

Candidates will preferably be an amateur extra, with VE credentials from the ARRL. Currently, STARS conducts exam sessions on the third Saturday of each odd-numbered month. If interested, contact a board member, or reply to <a href="wb2elw@verizon.net">wb2elw@verizon.net</a>.

## New Telstar Editor

Owen Torres, KD2LXF, has taken over as the Telstar editor.

If you have any questions, or if you have something to contribute to an upcoming edition of the Telstar, please send an email to <a href="wb2elw@verizon.net">wb2elw@verizon.net</a>.

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#### LICENSING EXAMS

2017-07-08 **Dunkirk** 

Sponsor: NCARC
Time: 12:00 PM
Contact: Darlene J. See
716-450-9752

moremilk5l@stny.rr.com

Location: Salvation Army

704 Central Ave

Dunkirk NY 14048-1366

Walk-ins allowed.

2017-07-11 Niagara Falls

Sponsor: Niagara Radio Club, Inc.

Time: 6:30 PM

Contact: Darren Wade. Robbins

716-478-9663

ac2in@niagararadioclub.com

Location: Venture Forthe, Inc.

3900 Packard Rd

Niagara Falls NY 14303-2236

Walk-ins allowed.

2017-07-15 **Alexander** 

Sponsor: Lancaster ARC

Time: 8:30 AM
Contact: John H. Ma:

t: John H. Maxwell 716-404-9256

maxwell@acsu.buffalo.edu

<u>maxweneaesa.bu</u>

Location: Batavia Hamfest

Alexander Firemen Grounds

10708 Alexander Rd

NY Route 98

Alexander NY 14011-9428

Walk-ins allowed.

2017-08-05 **Jamestown** 

Sponsor: Chautauqua ARS

Time: 2:00 PM

Contact: Russell D. Trippy

716-489-4279

Email: <u>w2rdt@yahoo.com</u>

Location: James Prendergast Library

509 Cherry St 2nd floor

Conference Room

Jamestown NY 14701-9540

Walk-ins allowed.

BATAVIA HAMFEST

The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club will be hosting the Batavia hamfest Saturday July 15th.

The hamfest starts at 6:00 AM at the Alexander Fire Department Grounds at 10708 Alexander Road (Route 98) in Alexander, NY.

An outdoor flea market, free tailgating, and licensing exams will be offered. The admission is \$7.

Talk-in is on 147.285MHz (141.3Hz tone).

For more information, visit <u>w2so.org</u>, or contact Luke

Calianno, N2GDU:

1105 Ransom Road Lancaster, NY 14086

716-481-5747

luke48@gmail.com

# STARS LICENSING EXAMS

STARS offers licensing exams at 9:00 AM on the third Saturday of each odd-numbered month. The exams are conducted at the Hamburg Memorial Youth Center at 200 Prospect Avenue in Hamburg. Walk-ins are allowed.

Candidates must bring the following items to the exam:

- Legal photo ID (a driver's license is excellent).
- Your SSN or FRN. FRNs can be obtained on the FCC website.
- Current license and/or CSCE, if any, with a non-returnable photocopy of each.
- \$15 in cash, check, or money order.
- Two #2 pencils with erasers, and a pen.

Calculators are permitted, so long as any programming has been cleared.

STARS website: wb2elw.net

Telstar editor: wb2elw@verizon.net