## Telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF S.T.A.R.S (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

**JULY 2021** 

**VOL 53 ISSUE: 11** 



## STARS

STARS is the SouthTowns' largest ham radio club, with our clubhouse and

tower located at the Town of Hamburg Recreation Center, Lakeview Rd.

To learn more about STARS, visit wb2elw.net.

During Covid restrictions, we have remained active with online meetings, collaborative contesting, our two nets, and local UHF chat.

So, warm up those radios and join us ON THE AIR and ONLINE!

Saturdays 10 AM HF net 3.925 MHz;

Mondays 8:30 PM UHF 446 MHz simplex chat for locals - bet you can hear us!

**Tuesdays** 7:30 PM VHF UHF net 147.090 (107.2) and 442.325 (88.5)

General CLUB meetings: first Thursday of the month at 7 PM (NOW IN PERSON AT THE NIKE BASE!)

Email Joe KB2JDB, club secretary, if you'd like to be invited!

Need help getting on the air? Let us know...

Thanks and 73! joe@joeclaus.com

The Telstar would like to thank all of those who wrote in with notes, suggestions, content submissions, etc.

All ideas are welcomed and encouraged! If there is something you would like included in next month's edition, please email: **TELSTAR@WB2ELW.COM** or **KD2UOE@GMAIL.COM** 

We are always in search of new and exciting content and feedback from our audience is what keeps the ball rolling.—-WHAT DO YOU GUYS WANT TO SEE MORE OF?—-

Likewise, if something was published in error—please reach out via email so that corrections can be made, lawyers contacted and settlements reached.

Enjoy & please try to make it a point to pop in to the zoom meeting—new faces keep the hobby exciting and maybe you'll get a participation trophy for the best zoom background! Who knows!?

#### MONTHLY MEETING INFORMATION ON FOLLOW-ING PAGE:

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

STARS IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE ANOTHER IN-PERSON MEETING.

HELP US MAKE IT GREAT! - BY ATTENDING!

WHEN: JULY 1ST 2021 @ 7PM

WHERE: NIKE BASE "CLUBHOUSE" (RAIN OR SHINE)

2982 Lakeview Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075

HOPE TO SEE AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE!

#### "ZOOMERS":

(First session) THURSDAY July 1st at approximately 7:00pm (Business Meeting) followed by General Meeting after. (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

nowed by deficial Meeting after (ALL ARE WELCOME

NO PRESENTATION SCHEDULED

**ZOOM CREDENTIALS AND LINK:** 

(CLICK HERE TO JOIN MEETING)

Meeting ID: 859 544 1881

Passcode: 888888

For phone audio dial-in, call: 1-408-638-0968 (SAME MEETING ID & Passcode)



#### WHAT A SITE TO BEHOLD!

MORE THAN JUST A HIGH TOWER, STEEL STRUCTURE, AND SOME RADIATING ALUMINUM... THIS TOWER AND ANTENNA STAND FOR SOMETHING GREAT. TEAMWORK, UNITY, PRIDE, HARD WORK & HISTORY...(SOMETHING S.T.A.R.S HAS A LOT OF)!

IT TAKES A LOT FOR A CLUB TO COME TOGETHER AND ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS - AND NONE OF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GREAT GROUP OF PEOPLE HERE...SO, THANKS TO YOUALL (AND APPROXIMATELY 200 INDUSTRIAL ZIP TIES) FOR HOLDING THE CLUB TOGETHER!!! -NOW HERE'S SOME SHOTS FROM FIELD DAY 2021





#### **2021 FIELDDAY WORKHORSE KB2KOL**

#### DIGS THROUGH THE FIELD-DAY BIN OF YORE...

...ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE AND EXPLAIN "DUPE-SHEET" LOGGING TO YOUNG GUN KD2UOE, A STRANGE BUT ALL TOO FAMILIAR SCENT OF DEET BUGSPRAY AND CITRONELLA FILLED THE CLUBHOUSE.

KEPT COMPANY BY SCOTT'S NOSTALGIA AND CONTAGIOIUS ENTHUSIASM...

MATT (KD2UOE) COULD FEEL THE EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR AS FIELD DAY 2021 APPROACHED.



Phone Contact Dream Team
KA2RFT Logging and KC2VWG Operating







THE SOUTHTOWN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (S.T.A.R.S.) CLUB CAME TOGETHER AND OPERATED FIELD DAY UNDER SPECIAL EVENT CALL WHISKEY –TWO-ECHO (W2E).

THE EXCHANGE FOR THE EVENT WAS SIMPLE, CALL: W2E/CLASS: 3E, SECTION: WNY

AS WITH ANY MULTIPLE OPERATOR EVENT TAKING PLACE AFTER A LONG HIATUS (COVID), THERE WERE OF COURSE SEVERAL OBSTICLES TO OVERCOME. AMONG THE MOST CHALLENGING: DOUGHNUT SELECTION FROM THE 24+ THAT ARRIVED VIA RICK (W2RLN) AND JASON (W2ESC) AT A TIME WHEN PILEUPS WERE PEAKING AND EVERYONE WAS LOOKING FOR A PICK ME UP.

FOR ONLY THE SECOND TIME THIS YEAR THE CLUBHOUSE WAS FILLED WITH ENERGY, AMBITION AND DRIVE AS MEMBERS FUMBLED OVER RADIOS AND EACHOTHER TO MAKE CONTACTS ACROSS THE BANDS. **SEVERAL POINTS WERE MADE CLEAR WITHIN THE FIRST BIT OF OPERATION**:

- ♦ THE NEED FOR MORE MODERN EQUIPMENT.
- ♦ A NEED FOR HEADSETS & FOOTSWITCHES.
- ◆ THE NEED FOR ORGANIZATION BETWEEN WORK STATIONS.
- ◆ PRESENTATION(S) ON PROPER STATION OPERATION & ETIQUETTE.
- ◆ THE AWESOME ABILITY FOR THE CLUB TO ACT AS A COHESIVE BODY AND COME TO-GETHER TO GET IT DONE, DESPITE ANYTHING!!!

ONE THING WAS FOR SURE, OUR ANTENNA WAS WORKING ALMOST AS HARD AS OUR OPERATORS AND DOING WHAT IT DOES BEST— MAKING AND BREAKING PILE-UPS...

ALL IN ALL— W2E MADE MANY CONTACTS (FINAL SCORE TO BE PUBLISHED NEXT MONTH) AND EVERYTHING WORKED OUT. THANKS TO ALL WHO PUT IN TIME BEFORE AND AFTER THE EVENT TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE, MUCH WORK WENT INTO THE TESTING, PLANNING AND SETUP (BEHIND THE SCENES) SO THAT WE COULD COME IN AND OPERATE AND HAVE FUN.

IT WAS TRULY A TREAT TO COME SPEND TIME WITH EVERYONE --- NOW I SEE WHY SCOTT (KB2KOL) DUBS THIS THE "BEST WEEKEND OF THE YEAR" - HERE'S TO LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT ONE.

















KB2KOL Logging...... W2RLN Operating

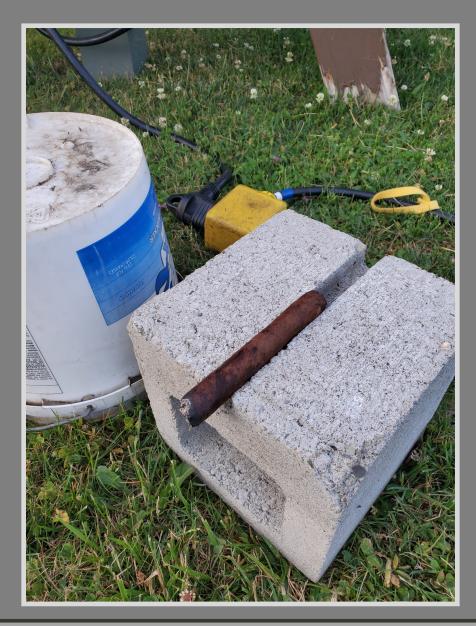


WHAT A MOTIVATION IT IS TO OPEN THE SLIDING DOOR BETWEEN THE LOUD, OFTEN CHAOTIC PHONE OPERATION AND THE CW AREA... TO BE GREETED BY THE COLD A/C AND QUIET (BUT EFFICIENT) OPERATION OF SCOTT (KB2KOL) AND GERRY (KA2MGE)—TIME TO START PRACTICING SOME CW.





**KB2KOL Operating CW!** 



UNLIKE ANY OF OUR OPERATORS—THE ONLY THING THAT BURNT OUT ON SATURDAY NIGHT WAS THIS STOGIE...WHICH WAS FOUND STILL RESTING HERE SUNDAY AM...(NEXT TO A BUCKET BEGGING TO BE KICKED).

THERE IS SOMETHING MAGICAL ABOUT STANDING UNDER OUR ANTENNAS, AND BRIGHT MOONLIGHT BOUNCING OFF FRESHLY FALLEN DEW ON THE GRASS... SUCH AN HONOR!

### STARS IN THE MEDIA FOR FIELD DAY -FROM BOB KOSTER (KA2WYE)

#### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

2021 ARRL Field Day — June 26 – 27 Ham Radio Operators On the Air for Nationwide Event June 26 – 27

Ham radio operators from the SouthTowns Amateur Radio Society located at 2982 Lakeview Rd., Hamburg, NY 14075 will be participating in a national amateur radio exercise from 12:00 PM on Saturday until 2:00PM on Sunday, June 26 – 27. The event is ARRL Field Day (www.arrl.org/FieldDay), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by ARRL, the national association for amateur radio in the United States.

Hams from across North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network.

Some hams from Western New York will also use the radio stations set up in their homes or taken to their backyards and other locations to operate individually or with their families. Many hams have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment.

This year's event is also noteworthy given that a particularly active hurricane season is predicted. "Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers," said Ken Pokigo KC2AYK Club President of STARS. "Ham radio functions completely independently of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others, Pokigo added.

During Field Day 2020, more than 18,000 hams participated from thousands of locations across North America. According to ARRL, there are more than 750,000 amateur radio licensees in the US, and an estimated 3 million worldwide.

Among the tenets of the Amateur Radio Service is developing and practicing skills in radio technology and radio communications, and even contributing to international goodwill. Hams range in age from as young as 9 to older than 100. A self-study license guide is available from ARRL: <a href="https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?">The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual</a> (www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual) and for <a href="https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?">Kindle</a> (https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed? <a href="https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?">asin=B07DFSW94G</a>). For more information about ARRL Field Day and ham radio, contact Bob Koster KA2WYE (KA2WYE@WB2ELW.NET) and visit <a href="https://www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio">www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio</a>.

### LED DRIVER POWER SUPPLY



FOR ANYONE LOOKING FOR AN INEXPENSIVE AND VERY CONIENIENT WAY TO POWER RADIOS, LED'S, HOBBY PROJECTS ETC...

HERE IS A SMALL LED DRIVER POWER SUPPLY RATED FOR 12V/30A FOR ONLY 24 DOLLARS...

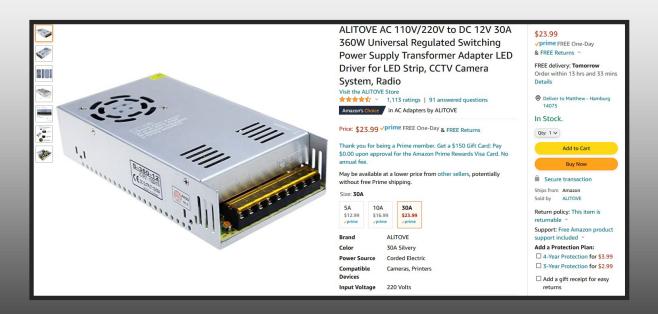
I PURCHASED THIS TO KEEP IN A GO-KIT BUILD BUT HAVE FOUND IT TO COME IN HANDY SO OFTEN THAT IT RARELY STAYS IN THE BOX FOR MORE THAN A FEW DAYS...

I'VE USED IT TO TEST & POWER RADIOS, CHARGE PHONES, PROVIDE LIGHTING, POWER SCANNERS & TUNERS AND MORE—CAN'T BEAT THE VALUE, SO I FIGURED I WOULD SHARE!

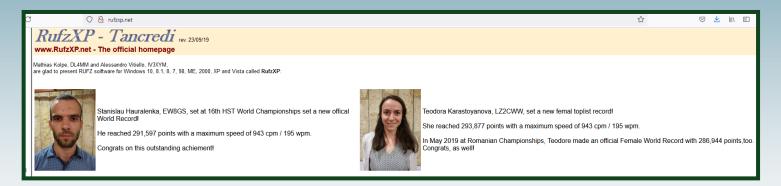
I HAVE USED IT TO POWER AN HF RIG AT 90 WATTS WITH LITTLE TO NO NOTICABLE HEAT OR RFI (IN MY APPLICATION)...

THE LINK IS BELOW FOR ANYONE INTERESTED.

(CLICK HERE TO SEE THIS PRODUCT ON AMAZON)



### http://rufzxp.net/



#### What is RufzXP?

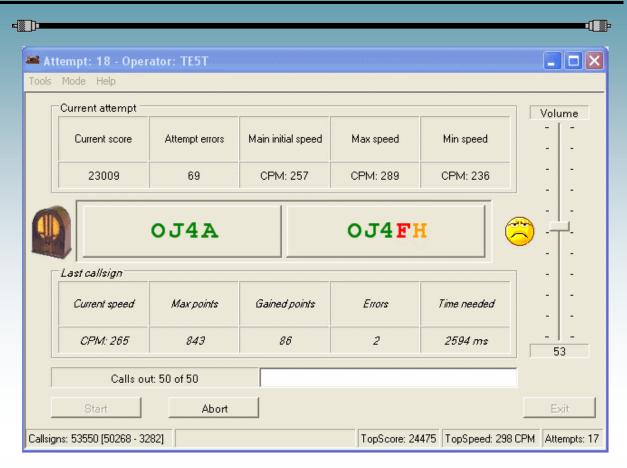
"Rufz" is the abbreviation of the German word "Rufzeichen-Hören", which means "Listening to Callsigns". RufzXP is an excellent training software for improving code speed and CW practice, particularly (ultra) high speed memory copying of true amateur radio calls. Focussing on improvement of CW proficiency, it is no contest simulator and does not provide for QRM. It provides additional tools for keeping track of training progress and comparing with other operators via International RufzXP Toplist.

RufzXP is a "must" for every serious high speed telegraphy operator and is an official competition of IARU High Speed Telegraphy Championships.

The appendix "XP" indicates that this completely new version takes advantage of latest software technology and runs with MS Windows 8 and 7 (and additional XP, VISTA, 2000, NT, ME, 98).

"Tancredi" is the name of this special RufzXP version.

GREAT FOR GETTING INTO CW—HONE YOUR SKILLS AND GET BETTER AT THE COPY!



#### **How does it work?**

RufzXP is pretty simple. You do not need a manual for the basic functions. It sends a chosen number of random selected true amateur radio callsigns (50 by default) to be typed with keyboard into a field on the screen. After the key was pressed, the computer gives its next call. If the call was copied correctly, the transmitting speed increases slightly, if not, it decreases. So the software automatically adapts its transmitting speed the to users maximum performance. Every last call can be heard once again by pressing F6 key (50% penalty).

The number of points for each call is primarily related to the CW speed sent, the number of errors and the length of the call. Typing time is of minor influence. Always think if the heard call is useful or not.

Tone settings and other options can be modified in Option Form. (F2/F12).

<START> button or F5-key starts the attempt. Good luck!

For more details see built-in help. (F1)

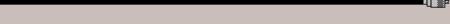
At the end of each run the software gives you a precise score. This enables you to track your performance. And with a little practice you will see good progress very soon.

You may compete with others around the globe. Simply use the integrated function to post your encrypted score to the RufzXP International Toplist.

There are already more than 2000 participants with their scores.

RufzXP is an official contest at the IARU High Speed Telegraphy Championships.

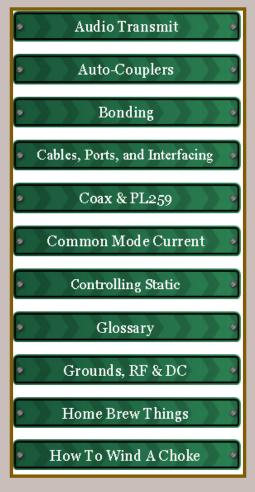
So don't hesitate, download RufzXP now and check it out! Have fun!



#### http://kObg.com/



» ABCs »
Alternators & Batteries
Amplifiers, Commercial
🌶 Antenna Cap Hats 🥀
<ul> <li>Antenna Coil Adjustment</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Antennas, Commercial</li> </ul>
Antenna Controllers
Antenna Efficiency
<ul> <li>Antenna Matching</li> </ul>
Antenna Mounts
Antenna Myths
Antenna Problems
Antenna Shootouts
<ul> <li>Audio Filters &amp; Speakers</li> </ul>









### **WELCOME TO HTTP://K0BG.COM**

THIS SITE WAS SENT IN TO BE FEATURED BY A MEMBER WHO KNEW I WAS GETTING INTO ("BURIED BY") A MOBILE HF INSTALL INTO A DIESEL PICKUP TRUCK... AT FIRST GLANCE I THOUGHT I WAS STARTING OFF AHEAD.... READ, NO SPARK PLUGS, LESS RFI—I WAS WRONG... NOT COMPLETELY, BUT MOSTLY!

WHEN IT COMES TO MOBILE INSTALLATIONS, ONE THING IS FOR SURE—

#### THERE ARE A MILLION WAYS TO SKIN A CAT!

HOWEVER, NOT ONLY ARE THERE MULTIPLE WAYS TO REACH THE SAME GOAL, BUT THE SACRIFICES AND COMPROMISES WE MAKE WHILE BUILDING OUR MOBILE STATIONS ARE WHAT ULTIMATELY DICTATE OUR SUCCESSES OR SHORT-COMINGS.

IN BUILDING MY MOBILE STATION, ONE THING HAS REMAINED CONSTANT.... AND THAT IS CHANGE.

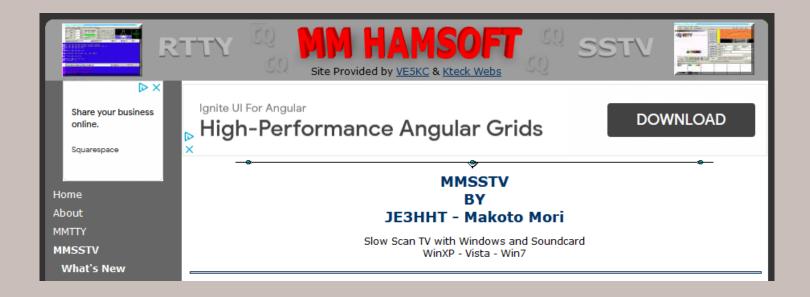
I ENCOURAGE ANYONE WHO IS CONSIDERING INSTALLING A RADIO INTO THEIR RIDE, TO CHECK OUT THIS SITE....

THE WAY IN WHICH THE INFORMATION IS LAID OUT IS VERY COMPREHENSIVE, MAKING FOR EASY READING AND SITE NAVIGATION.

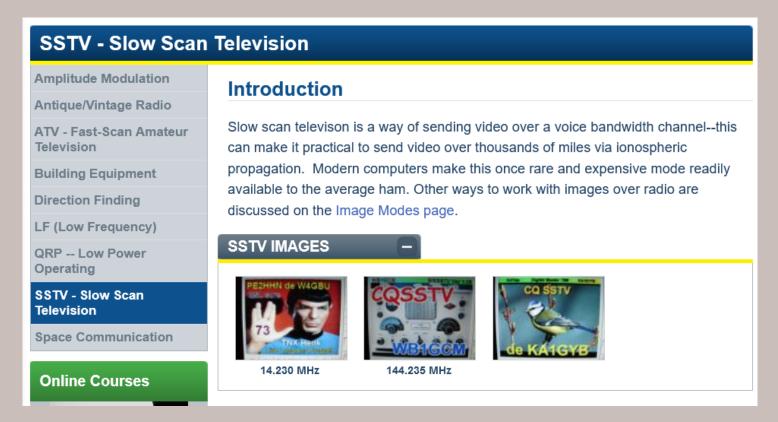
FOR THE NEW HAM, OR SEASONED VET—ANY IMPROVEMENTS ARE WELCOMED, AND I BELIEVE THIS SITE HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE...

HOPE IT HELPS GET SOME MORE OF YOU OUT THERE AND ON THE AIR MOBILE!

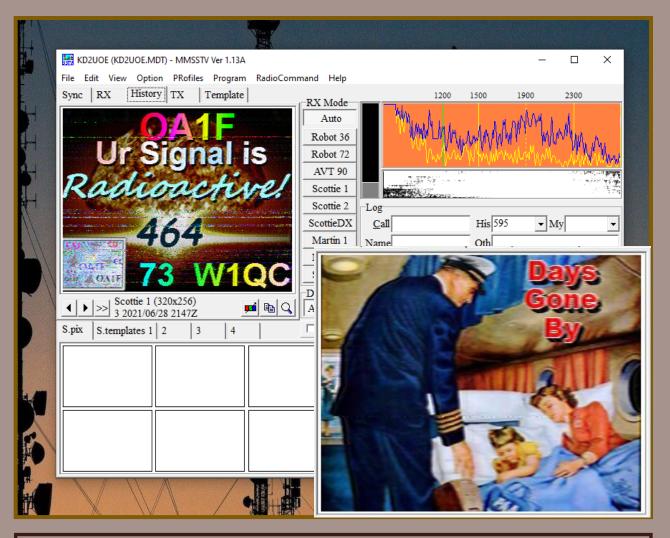




#### WHAT IS SLOW SCAN TELEVISION??? OR "SSTV"?



#### https://hamsoft.ca/pages/mmsstv.php

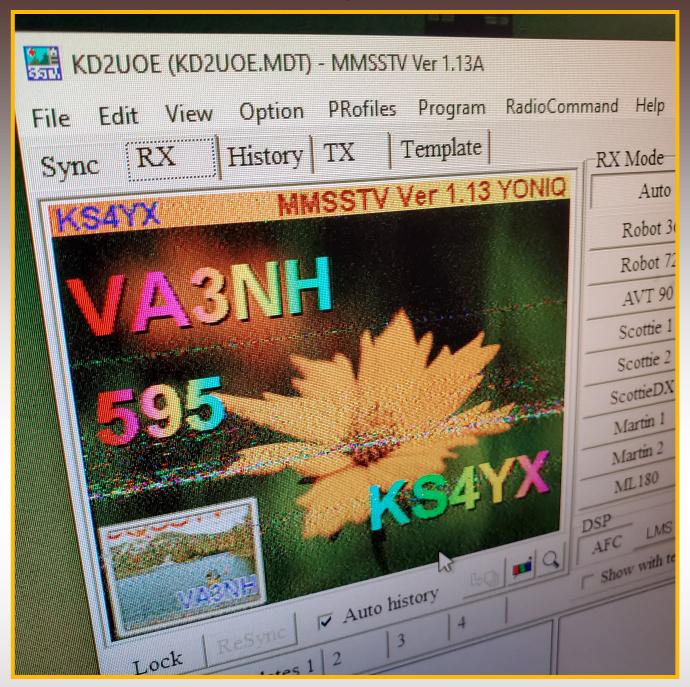


TODAY'S MODERN RIGS ARE A BREEZE TO CONNECT TO A COMPUTER—USUALLY REQUIRING NOTHING MORE THAN A COMM (USB/OTHER) CABLE AND CHANGING A FEW SETTINGS WITHIN THE RIG.

WITHIN MINUTES, YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE PROGRAM SEEN HERE AND START DECODING (AND COLLECTING & SENDING) "OVER THE AIR" QSL CARDS...

WHAT STARTED OUT AS A PASSING INTEREST, HAS CAUGHT MY ATTENTION AND NOW KEEPS ME BUSY THROUGH ALL HOURS OF THE NIGHT— I LOVE SEEING/MAKING NEW CONTACTS AND INTERESTING PHOTOS AND CAPTIONS COME THROUGH... HERE I AM MONITORING 14.230USB FOR ALL INCOMING SSTV TRANSMISSIONS. -KD2UOE

MORE INFO HERE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slow-scan\_television



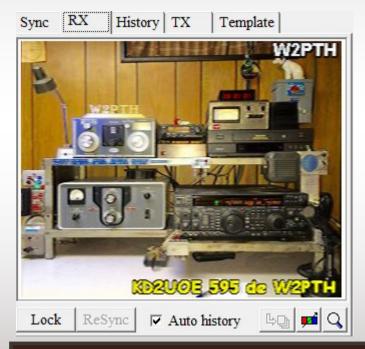
HERE IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF A BEAUTIFUL SCAN THAT I COLLECTED BETWEEN VA3NH & KS4YX.

THE PROGRAM IS VERY INTUITIVE AND OPERATES ALONG SIDE MS-PAINT. ALLOWING YOU TO TURN ANY IMAGE INTO A QSL CARD.

WHAT I WAS MOST AMAZED AT WAS THE PROGRAMS ABILITY TO PULL A DECENT IMAGE FROM A SIGNAL THAT APPEARED TO BE MOSTLY NOISE... ASTOUNDING!









JUST AS I WAS HITTING "PUBLISH" I STARTED RECEIVING THESE AMAZING SCANS FROM STU (W2PTH), WITH WHOM I HAD A SHORT QSO ON 14.230. I MENTIONED OUR CLUB (AND THIS ARTICLE) AND COMPLIMENTED THE QUALITY, NOTING THE STRANGE PROPAGATION OF THE DAY...

HE MENTIONS THE SITE: <a href="http://worldsstv.com/">http://worldsstv.com/</a>

THE SITE LISTS A BUNCH OF RECENT SSTV IMAGES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD... ALWAYS LEARNING—ENJOY AND HAVE FUN! 73

#### LAST MONTH'S (JUNE) MEETING:

JUNES MEETING TOOK PLACE AT THE NIKE BASE CLUBHOUSE...

THOSE IN ATTENDENCE ENJOYED THE FOOD AND COMPANY OF FELLOW HAMS, INCLUDING A VISIT FROM SEVERAL NORTHERNERS WHO WISHED TO SHARE IN THE FESTIVITY...AND SUPPORT OUR GET TOGETHER... THE FIRST IN QUITE AWHILE...

LASTING WELL INTO THE EVENING AND INTO DARK, A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL, RE-NEWING SPIRITS AND ENCOURAGING US ALL TO LOOK FORWARD TO FIELD DAY!



#### ABOVE:

4

JOE KB2JDB, EXHIBITS HIS EXQUISITE COLLECTION OF MINIATURE RADIOS (SOME AS SMALL AS A ZIPPO LIGHTER), DRIVE-ON MAST, MOBILE ANTENNAS, GO-KITS, CHARGERS/POWER SUPPLYS/BATTERIES, ETC... TRULY A TREAT TO THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT!

THANK'S JOE!









#### ABOVE:

MATT (K2EAG) & KEN (K2BNY) - (BOTH NATIVE TO THE NORTH) ENJOY A SHOW OF BRUTE STRENGTH AS JOE (KB2JDB) ATTEMPTS TO BOX WITH HIS MINI GENERATOR!

#### LEFT:

MIKE (KB2FX) - A NATURAL BORN LEADER, TAKES THE GRILL BY THE TONGS AND SAYS: "LET'S EAT!"



JOE (KB2JDB) AND SCOTT (KB2KOL) DISCUSS THE UPCOMING TOW-ER WORK AND POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THE WIRE ANTENNA(S). ...MEANWHILE, MIKE (KB2FX) GUARDS THE REPEATER.

THESE SLIDES ALSO DETAILED THE COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF BIRD DROPPINGS ATOP THE TOWER—THANKS JOE!



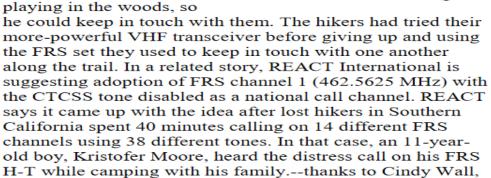


#### -TEACH A MAN TO FISH, HE EATS FOR A DAY-GIVE A KID A RADIO, THEY COULD SAVE A LIFE!

## Youngsters Hailed in Radio Rescue

Two young Oregon brothers are being credited with quick thinking after they intercepted a plea for help transmitted via a Family Radio Service UHF transceiver by some injured mountaineers more than 80 miles away. Fletcher and Parker Wold, ages 7 and 5 respectively, of McMinnville, heard the call for help put out by climbers Iain Morris, 23, and Jim Clark, 38. Morris and Clark had been caught in a

rock slide on Mount Hood June 20, and Morris was seriously injured. The brothers immediately alerted their dad, Mike Wold, who contacted authorities, triggering a full-scale mountain rescue. Mike Wold says he gave the boys the hand-held transceivers to use when playing in the woods, so



The ARRL Letter 6/30/00

KA7ITT; REACT

(TAKEN FROM JULY 2000 TELSTAR—AVAILABLE HERE: "TELSTAR")



### HAMFESTS & HAPPENINGS:

### KNOW OF A HIDDEN GEM? HEARD OF A CANCELLATION THAT ISN'T LISTED? PLEASE KEEP THE CLUB INFORMED AT: TELSTAR@GMAIL.COM.



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### 07/10/2021 - RAGS Hamfest

Location: Camillus, NY Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse

Website: http://www.ragsclub.org

Learn More



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

#### 07/17/2021 - Batavia Hamfest

Location: Alexander, NY Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

Website: http://w2so.org

Learn More



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 08/21/2021 - Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association Hamfest

Location: Avoca, NY Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association

Website: https://www.klara.us

Learn More



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 08/21/2021 - East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association Hamfest

Location: Rensselaer, NY Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association

Website: http://www.egara.club

Learn More

## HAMFESTS & HAPPENINGS:

## **Batavia Hamfest**

Saturday - July 17, 2021

**Alexander Firemen Grounds** 

10708 Alexander Rd.Route 98, Alexander, NY 14005 MAP

Outdoor Flea Market - FREE Tailgating 6:00am - till Buy/Sell Ham radio gear

Overnight Camping Allowed- Arrive after 6PM on Friday (the night before hamfest).

Only \$8.00 admission includes free tailgating and free indoor spaces

VE Exam 8:00 AM To Pre register for test - contact John Maxwell maxwell@acsu.buffalo.edu or Call 716-404-9256

Talk In: 147.285 PL 141.3 Batavia repeater

Breakfast and lunch available

Sponsored by: The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club - w2so.org

Questions: contact - Luke N2GDU

luke48@gmail.com

#### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

THIS SHOULD BE A GOOD ONE! - MANY LOCAL HAMS ARE PLANNING THE TRIP TO ATTEND, IF YOURE DECIDING WHICH ONE TO COMMIT TO, MAKE THIS ONE OF THE ONES THAT MAKES THE LIST! A BUNCH OF US ARE PLANNING ON GOING DOWN THE NIGHT BEFORE TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT.

## CONTEST CALENDAR

QRP Fox Hunt: 0100Z-0230Z, Jul 2	
Geographic Focus:	United States
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	CW
Bands:	20m Only
Classes:	Single Op (Fox/Hound)
Max power:	5 watts
Exchange:	RST + (state/province/country) + name + power output
QSO Points:	1 point per QSO
Multipliers:	(none)
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by:	0230Z July 3, 2021
E-mail logs to:	(see rules)
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint: 0145Z-0215Z, Jul 2	
Geographic Focus:	North America
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	RTTY
Bands:	(see rules)
Classes:	(none)
Exchange:	Serial No. + Name + QTH
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by:	July 4, 2021
E-mail logs to:	(none)
Post log summary at:	http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

CCC Sprint: 0230Z-0300Z, Jul	
Geographic Focus:	North America
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	CW
Bands:	(see rules)
Classes:	(none)
Exchange:	Serial No. + Name + QTH
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by:	July 4, 2021
E-mail logs to:	(none)
Post log summary at:	http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

## CONTEST CALENDAR

K1USN Slow Speed Test: 2000Z-2100Z, Ju	ıl 2
Geographic Focus:	Worldwide
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	CW
Bands:	160, 80, 40, 20m
Classes:	Single Op (QRP/Low/High)
Max power:	HP: >100 watts
	LP: 100 watts
	QRP: 5 watts
Exchange:	Maximum 20 wpm
	Name + (state/province/country)
Work stations:	Once per band
QSO Points:	1 point per QSO (starting with Jan 4 contest)
Multipliers:	Each state/province/country once per band
	W/VE do not count as country mults (starting with Jan 4 contest)
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by:	2359Z July 4, 2021
Post log summary at:	http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

K1USN Slow Speed Test: 0000Z-0100Z, Ju	ıl 5
Geographic Focus:	Worldwide
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	CW
Bands:	160, 80, 40, 20m
Classes:	Single Op (QRP/Low/High)
Max power:	HP: >100 watts
	LP: 100 watts
	QRP: 5 watts
Exchange:	Maximum 20 wpm
	Name + (state/province/country)
Work stations:	Once per band
QSO Points:	1 point per QSO (starting with Jan 4 contest)
Multipliers:	Each state/province/country once per band
	W/VE do not count as country mults (starting with Jan 4 contest)
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by:	2359Z July 7, 2021
Post log summary at:	http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

## CONTEST CALENDAR

ARS Spartan Sprint: 0100Z-0300Z, Jul 6	
Geographic Focus:	North America
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	CW
Bands:	80, 40, 20, 15, 10m
Classes:	Skinny
	Tubby
Max power:	5 watts
Exchange:	RST + (state/province/country) + Power
Work stations:	Once per band
Submit logs by:	July 8, 2021
E-mail logs to:	spartansprint[at]yahoo[dot]com
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	http://arsqrp.blogspot.com/2009/02/so-whats-spartan-sprint-and-how-do-i.html

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 010	0Z-0159Z, Jul 6
Geographic Focus:	Worldwide
Participation:	Worldwide
Mode:	SSB
Bands:	160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6m
Classes:	Single Op (QRP/Low/High) Overlay: Youth (26 years old or younger) Youth YL (female 26 years old or younger) YL (female older than 26 years
Max power:	HP: 1500 watts LP: 100 watts QRP: 5 watts
Exchange:	RS + age group (OM, YL, Youth YL or Youth)
Work stations:	Once per band
QSO Points:	1 point per QSO with OM 5 points per QSO with YL 10 points per QSO with Youth 15 points per QSO with Youth YL
Multipliers:	Each DXCC once per band
Score Calculation:	Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by:	0159Z July 7, 2021
E-mail logs to:	(none)
Upload log at:	https://logs.wwsac.com/
Mail logs to:	(none)
Find rules at:	https://wwsac.com/rules.html

https://contestcalendar.com/

July 2021	
RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
→ Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 3
DL-DX RTTY Contest	1100Z, Jul 3 to 1059Z, Jul 4
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jul 3 to 1400Z, Jul 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jul 6
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 10 to 1200Z, Jul 11
■ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jul 10 to 2359Z, Jul 11
- QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2300Z, Jul 11
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 12
IARU Region 1 70 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jul 17 to 1400Z, Jul 18
Horth American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Jul 17 to 0559Z, Jul 18
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z, Jul 17 to 2100Z, Jul 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Jul 18 to 0100Z, Jul 19
- RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 24 to 1200Z, Jul 25
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	1700Z-2100Z, Jul 25
- SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 28

#### **June Nike Tower Maintenance**

By Michael Fetto, KB2FX

July, 2021 Telstar

On Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, much-needed maintenance was performed on the Nike Base tower. We had not been up there since the summer of 2019 and the past two winters have taken its toll on cables, connectors, straps, lanyards and guides.

We were assisted by the Scranton Fire Department. Chief Jack Chiappone was more than willing to assist as Hamburg Fire's new ladder tower is not yet in service. Chief Jack, along with Firefighter Steve arrived with Ladder Tower Scranton 6 at 0900 to plan and execute the job.

Joe (KB2JDB) and Matt (KD2OUE) were the tower crew of the day assisted on the ground by Joe (KD2LHF) and myself (KB2FX).



**Getting ready...** 



The entire effort took a little more than three hours. Tasks accomplished included:

- Clean-up of the tower top equipment box, router removal, ring-out and labeling of power and signaling cables for future uses.
- Checked, cleaned and re-oriented the coaxial bulkhead connectors for improved sealing, future use and maintenance.
- Installed a new pulley/rope system.
   (Second to be installed on next session.)
- Inspected Mosely HF and Comet UHF/ VHF Co-Linear antenna coaxial pigtails.
   Re-taped and secured as required.

**Going Up** 



Steve, Matt and Joe corroborating

- Re-aligned HF antenna to rotor. Secured pipe-to clamp connection. (Will fortify further on next session.)
- Secured free-floating coaxial transmission lines running the tower with new, fortified ties.
- Re-aligned and secured several PVC guides for the 160m ladder transmission line.
- Cleaned up tower base area and secured cable bridge and associated transmission lines.
- Reviewed effort and documented other future work tasks.



Matt securing himself and transmission lines



**Joe and Joe reviewing the mission** 



Scranton Chief Jack, BFD Lieutenant Mike and CHFD (Past Chief) Mike monitoring the Op

Thanks to everyone including the members at the in-person STARS meeting of June 3<sup>rd</sup> for their review and input.

We will be planning another maintenance session this summer/fall and are keeping track of what will be next, which will be reviewed at a future STARS meeting.

-MIKE, KB2FX

#### THIS PAGE WILL NOT CHANGE:

BELOW PLEASE FIND A COPY OF THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM AS WELL AS THE NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM.

THE LINKS ABOVE EACH WILL TAKE YOU TO THE CORRESPONDING FILE ON THE WB2ELW WEBSITE AND ALLOW YOU TO PRINT THEM.

#### RENEWAL FORM (CLICK HERE)

#### South Towns Amateur Radio Society 2021 Membership Renewal \_\_\_\_Call Sign \_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_\_Class \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_ Email Address Are you a member of the ARRL? YES NO FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS: Additional Names and Calls \_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Class \_ \_\_ Name \_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_ Dues: STARS annual dues payable by January 1 \$24 Single Student Membership (to grade 12 or full-time college student) \$8 RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND DUES (checks payable to STARS) TO: Joe Barrile KD2LHF 6073 Dover Road Lake View, NY 14085

#### **APPLICATION FORM (CLICK HERE)**

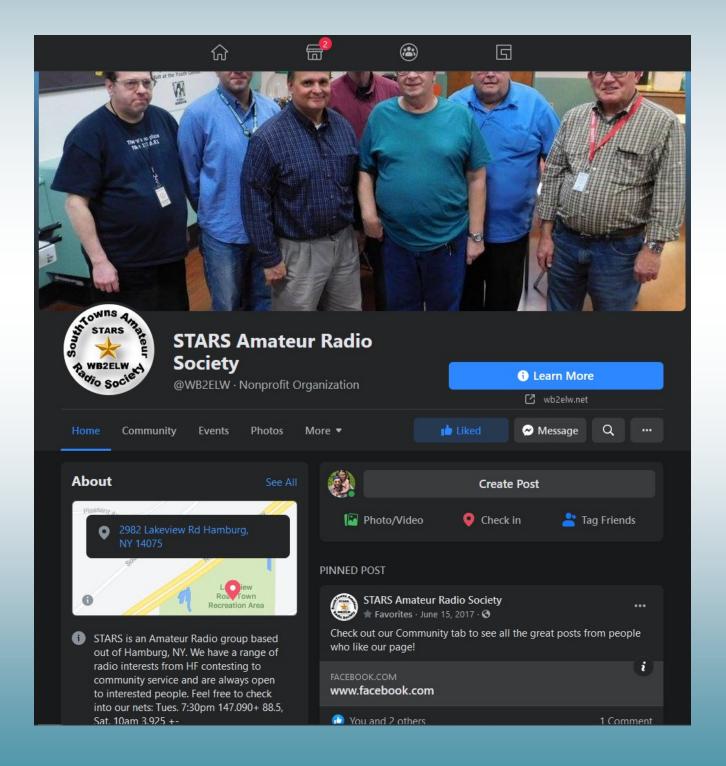
No Society	ip Application
Name Call Sign _	
Address Class	
City State	Zip
Phone	
Email Address	
Are you a member of the ARRL? YES NO	
Please list any other amateur radios clubs you belong to:	:
Do you know a club member? If yes, who?	
Bands and/or operating modes used:	
Occupation:	
Signature:	Date:
Dues: STARS annual dues payable on January 1 are:	Initiation Fee \$5.00 Pro-rated Dues
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); \$.61/mo (student) for the remainder of the year. All new members must pay a \$5 initiation for when submitted.  Mail application and dues (checks payabl Joe Barrille KD2LHF. 6073 Dover Road. L	Total Enclosed  e. Dues must accompany application le to STARS) to:
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); \$.6/mo (student) for the remainder of the year. All new members must pay a \$5 initiation few when submitted.  Mail application and dues (checks payab Joe Barrille KD2LHF, 6073 bover Road, L	Total Enclosed  e. Dues must accompany application le to STARS) to: ake View, NY 14085
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 for when submitted.  Mail application and dues (checks payabl Joe Barrille KD2LHF. 6073 Dover Road. L	Total Enclosed  e. Dues must accompany application le to STARS) to: ake View, NY 14085
Single Membership \$27; Student 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); \$.6/7mo (student) for the remainder of the year. All new members must pay a \$5 initiation for when submitted.  Mail application and dues (checks payab Joe Barrile KD2LHF, 6073 Dover Road, L Out Mitthe foor \$8 tool  Dues Received By:  Date:  Date:	Total Enclosed  e. Dues must accompany application le to STARS) to: .ake View, NY 14085
Single 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 (finally); \$.67/mo (student) for the remainder of the year. All new members must pay a \$5 initiation fee when submitted.  Mail application and dues (checks payab Joe Barrile KD2LHF, 6073 Dover Road, L 6a Mit Witz Bow Ts Lao  Dues Received By:	Total Enclosed  e. Dues must accompany application le to STARS) to: ake View, NY 14085

IF YOU ARE UNSURE IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP TO DATE, PLEASE CONFIRM WITH MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, JOE BARILLE (KD2LHF), TO ENSURE YOU ARE KEPT UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST TELSTAR PUBLICATION, CLUB EVENTS, PROMOTIONS, ETC.

Just a friendly reminder of the STARS Amateur Radio Society Facebook Page...

If you are on Facebook—stop by, like and share!

Here is a link: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WB2ELW">https://www.facebook.com/WB2ELW</a>





#### **BLUE & UNDERLINED:**

WHEN YOU SEE SOMETHING IN TELSTAR IN BLUE LETTERS AND UNDERLINED, IT MEANS IT IS AN INTERNET LINK. CLICK ON IT TO OPEN THE ASSOCIATED LINK IN A BROWSER.





THANK-YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO KEEP THE CLUB IN ORDER AND FUNCTIONING (BOTH LOCALLY AND FROM AFAR)....

THANKS RICK (W2RLN) FOR RUNNING THE TUESDAY NIGHT NET AND ALWAYS BEING PROMPT AND PRESENT,. AND THANKS TO BOB (WA2YSJ) FOR YOUR COMMITMENT WITH THE HF NET ON SATURDAY MORNINGS!

THANKS ESPECIALLY TO MIKE (KB2FX) AND KEN (KC2AYK) FOR HANDLING THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF THINGS, BEHIND THE SCENES.... IT'S A LOT OF WORK AND WE ALL APPRECIATE YOU!

-STARS MEMBERS

#### CLUB OFFICERS 2021

**President Ken Pokigo KC2AYK** 

V. President Al Mitzo WA2TTT

**Treasurer John Leitten KA2RFT** 

**Recording Sec'y Joe Claus KB2JDB** 

Financial Sec'y Joe Barille KD2LHF

Membership Chair Joe Barille KD2LHF

**Director 1yr Bob Koster KA2WYE** 

**Director 2yr Jon Hall AA2CC** 

Clubhouse Chair Al Mitzo WA2TTT

**Fundraising Chair Jon Hall AA2CC** 

**Hospitality Chair Bill Donovan KD2QLF** 

#### CLUB OFFICERS 2021

**Net Control Stations Rick Neubeck W2RLN (VHF)** 

**Bob Lehning WA2YSJ (HF)** 

**NYQP Chair John Leitten KA2RFT** 

**Photographer Gerry Maira KA2MGE** 

**Program Chair Larry Plumb WA2TLY** 

**Repeater Chairs Mike Fetto KB2FX** 

Ken Pokigo KC2AYK

**Special Events Chairs Joe Claus KB2JDB** 

**Bob Koster KA2WYE** 

**Telstar Editor Matt Ovitt KD2UOE** 

**VE Team Liason Bob Koster KA2WYE** 

Webmaster

Field Day Chair Gerry Maira KA2MGE

### GIZMOS, GADGETS AND WHAT-HAVE-YOU!?

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? GOT SOMETHING TO SELL OR TRADE? THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL FIND HERE!

FEEL FREE TO SUBMIT YOUR I.S.O. (IN SEARCH OF) OR WANTED TO SELL AD TO THE TELSTAR AT:

#### TELSTAR@WB2ELW.COM

IN HOPES TO FIND OLDER LAPTOP (XP). MUST HAVE RJ45 JACK FOR NET CABLE AND SERIAL (DB9) PORT... PLEASE CONTACT JOE IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING - HE IS DESPERATE AND WILLING TO BARTER OR BUY IN A SELLERS MARKET.

-JOE KB2JDB

HAVE MANY HP DESKTOP P.C. TOWERS, OPERATIONAL, CLEAN W/ FRESH INSTALL OF WINDOWS 7 OR 10. MAKE FOR GREAT SHACK COMPUTERS, SOME COULD USE RAM OR EXTRA HARD DRIVE, MANY ARE 15 OR 17.

ASKING \$30.00/EACH—OR TRADE FOR HAM GEAR.

-MATT KD2UOE



### GIZMOS, GADGETS AND WHAT-HAVE-YOU!?

## Gear from James Blosser KC2QG (SK)

Radio Shack TRC-495 Base Station Transceiver 40C

Ham-Key

MFJ Econo Keyer II MFJ-401C

Qty 2 Audio & Video Selector VSW81

MFJ-260C 300W Dry Dummy Load

Radio Shack Stereo Speaker Selector

Pyramid 13.8V Power supply 6A 8A Surge

Mirage BD-35 144/440 Amplifier -- 45W on VHF, 35W on UHF

ARRL Small Antennas for Small Spaces 2ED (Book)

Arrl Operation Manual for Amateurs 11th edition

The ARRL Handbook for radio communications Volumes 1-6 (2021)

MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II

Uniden Speaker BC7

Tenway UV5R PRO

Radio Shack 100 Channel Programmable Scanner 800MHz Hyperscan

Radio Shack Pro 2066 150 channel Trunking Scanner

GT-3TP Dual Band Handheld (Baofeng 8W)

Ideaworks mini digital multiband receiver with alarm clock

CCRANE shortwave reel antenna

Cannon Battery Charger only for Cannon Battery

Comet Duplexer CF-706

World radio tv handbook (2020)

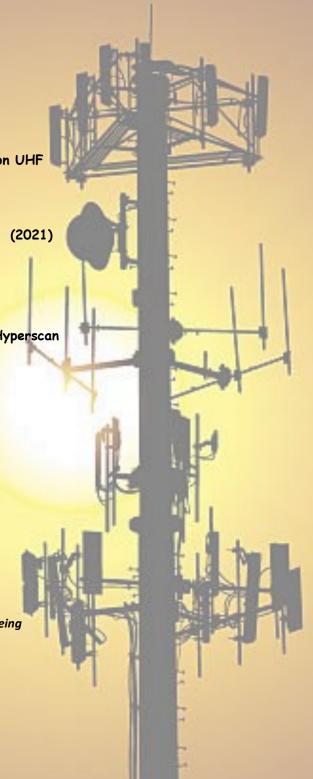
ARRL Repeater Directory 2020

Radio Shack DX-399 Portable SW Receiver

Gear listed here is to be offered to STARS members only for the time being

Interested parties are asked to contact Jon AA2CC (716)361-8757

- Jon AA2CC



### GIZMOS, GADGETS AND WHAT-HAVE-YOU!?

(4) LINKSYS SPA941 VOIP PHONES W/ POWER ADAPTER (READY TO USE WITH HAMSHACK HOTLINE) - \$20/EA

-MATT KD2UOE

Cushcraft #10-4CD 4 element 10 Meter yagi on a 16' boom (new-still in the box) \$175.00

Cushcraft #A503S 3 element 6 Meter yagi on a 6" boom (new -still in the box) \$130.00

Alliance #HD-73 heavy duty antenna rotator w/control box and length of control cable (like new) \$150.00

Midland #23-126 field strength indicator/standing wave bridge (vintage) \$15.00

Heathkit #GD-1B grid dip meter w/coils (vintage) \$15.00

Vibroplex keyer paddle (vintage) s/n 260796 \$20.00

Heathkit #DX-35 (vintage) 50 watt xtal controlled cw/am transmitter \$50.00

Drake #2-NT (vintage) 70 watt xtal controlled cw transmitter \$50.00

Bird #25-T-MN 25 watt RF load (new) \$20.00

Microwave Assoc. #44004 100 watt RF load (used) \$50.00

Antenna mount kit (chimney) up to 1-1/2" mast \$15.00

1 pr heavy duty galvanized mount brackets wall or pole to antenna mast \$20.00

1 pr heavy duty galvanized mount brackets pole to antenna mast \$30.00

1 pr heavy duty galvanized mount brackets telephone pole to antenna mast \$50.00

Anyone interested in any of the above can contact me by e-mail or telephone (<u>WA2YSJ@roadrunner.com</u> or 716-947-4974 there is an answering machine)