

# telstar



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTH TOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

ISSUE 281

MAY 2005

## STARS Goes to Dinner!

On Thursday, May 5, 2005, STARS will be holding First Annual Dinner Meeting. The meeting will be at ZJ's Family Restaurant which is in Hamburg Village Square (Plaza), 140 Pine Street, Hamburg, NY 14075. Their phone number is (716) 646-5950.

Time: Dinner.....6:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
Meeting...7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Buffet style dinner consisting of:

Turkey or Pork  
Gravy  
Stuffing  
Mashed Potatoes .  
Cranberries  
Bean Medley

Those with special dietary needs can be accommodated by ordering from ZJ's menu.

The cost for the dinner (including drink, dessert and tip) is \$14.00 and is payable to Jim Sojka WB2TJO after the dinner during the club meeting portion of the evening, or, for our fixed income members, at the JUNE MEETING. This will give members the opportunity to budget accordingly. Making change will be difficult, so

### May Meeting

The May monthly meeting will be a special Dinner Meeting. See article on the left for details.



please have the exact amount available if possible.

As with all of our meetings, spouses, friends, guests, etc. are invited; neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is necessary.



**SKYWARN Training.** Bob Hamilton N3QOT (pictured above) joined with STARS Financial Secretary Judy Levan N2TEZ to make a great presentation on SKYWARN at STARS April meeting.

## STARS & ARRL Memberships

Membership in STARS is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. A license is not required. Membership applications may be obtained by sending a SASE to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043, from the newsletter editor or from board members.

Annual Dues are payable on January 1 and are \$21 for a single membership, \$27 for family memberships and \$8 for a student membership (through grade 12). The dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for new members plus there is an initiation fee of \$5 when first applying to the club. For example, a new member joining in July would pay \$10.50 (6 months X \$1.75 per month) plus the \$5 initiation fee for a total of \$15.50.

Applications should be returned to Judy N2TEZ along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and voted on by the Board of Directors at the business meeting. The applications are then voted on by the general membership at the next regular club meeting.

Members who are joining ARRL for the first time or who are renewing their membership should send their ARRL membership forms to Jack Cullum, Jr. KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits!



## Club Net

STARS club nets are open to all to exchange information on local amateur radio activities.

STARS WB2EZU Memorial HF net meets at 10 AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM.

## Keep Your Summer Safe and Injury Free

Two comments before I begin. Join me in recognizing Judy Levan N2TEZ and her National Weather staff for presenting an excellent SKYWARN program at our April meeting. Each time I have attended this presentation I have always come away with a better understanding of their dedication and the effort put forth to keep the public informed. I especially like the NWS web site which is loaded with maps to meet any aspiring amateur forecaster's needs.

Secondly, this month we will have our first dinner meeting. Jim Sojka WB2TJO has done a wonderful job making all the necessary preparations to make this unique meeting a success. It continues to follow my commitment this year to provide you with a more relaxed and fun meeting experience. Like any meeting, this is open to the public and a good opportunity to bring a guest.

Besides my normal work load I have been busy completing safety training courses for my yearly personal development plan required by my employer. To give you an idea, here is a sample of what I have taken:

Spill Prevention	Blood Pathogens
Hazard Communications	Ladder Safety
Gaseous Agent Fire Suppression	Emergency Evacuation
General Emergency Preparedness	

Most of these safety courses are yearly requirements and even though that may seem redundant I can't help but see them not only as important for my work but also for personal life. Look through this list and I think you will agree that some of them directly apply to amateur radio and most of them to our personal lives.

This summer we will all be working projects that require a level of safety awareness. Many of us will be working with ladders, power equipment, handling chemicals, working with electrical circuits, or using flammable liquids and materials. At times I tend to be in too much of a hurry to obey rules of safety. Safety practice reviews help me consciously think about what I really need to focus on.

My point is we may think we have the knowledge or skills to maintain a degree of safety but it is important to review the material on a regular basis. It would be comforting to know that all STARS members follow good safety practices. If you are interested in safety review courses I would be happy to provide you with the material at my disposal. In most cases safety knowledge and practices are the difference between life and death or serious injury.

73, Keith Patterson KG2GDC

# Scouts Visit STARS Nike Base Club Station

On Saturday April 23, Terry Rockhold K200 hosted a visit by members of Cub Scout Den 411 and Boy Scout Troop 411 of Hamburg, NY at STARS Nike Base club station. The scouts were also accompanied by adults, relatives and friends.

Terry explained the purpose of QSL cards and passed around several QSL cards received by WB2ELW from various countries. Each of the scouts was given a STARS WB2ELW QSL card to take home.



The scouts had a chance to experience local communications over the STARS WB2ELW repeater. STARS Director George Ebert N2NOB talked to the scouts from his home station in Sloan, NY. STARS President Keith Patterson KC2DGC also visited with the scouts from his truck and then came to the Nike Base to meet them in person.

Keith and Terry talked about the role of amateur radio in providing emergency communications in disasters such as in hurricanes and in the ice storm that affected Eastern NY. A short video from the ARRL showed emergency communications in real life situations.

The scouts were also told about Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) when scouts visit amateur radio stations to talk to scouts in other locations.



The use of digital communications was demonstrated by monitoring PSK31 transmissions from various states, Italy, Belgium and Russia.

A British special event station for the International Marconi Day was heard on SSB, and Terry made a two-way contact with a station in Lithuania.

The scouts were invited to visit STARS Field Day location in June.



Pictured at left are Mrs. Donna Marie Chmiel and some of the scouts who visited the Nike Base club station. Mrs. Chmiel and her son Mike (far left) arranged for the visit. Unfortunately, we didn't get pictures of the other visitors because they had already left before we remembered to get the camera out!

## Dayton Hamvention® 2005

The Dayton Hamvention® 2005 will be held on May 20-22, 2005 at Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road, Trotwood, OH. For you GPS buffs, the arena is at: N39°49.307' W84°15.422'.

The Hamvention® 2005 is the world's largest amateur radio gathering and trade show. They have 500 inside exhibit spaces and a 2500+ space outdoor vendor area.

Some of the major exhibitors include APRS, AES Amateur Radio Supply, the ARRL, Ameritron, AMSAT, AOR USA, Batteries America, Bencher Inc., Diamond Antenna, Elecraft, General Motors Corp., The Ham Station, Heil Sound Ltd., Hy-Gain, ICOM America Inc., Kanga US, K1CRA Radio Store, MFJ Enterprises, R & L Electronics, Mirage Communications, Peet Bros., Radio Works, SGC Inc., SteppIR Antennas, TAPR, Ten-Tec Inc., The Vibroplex Company, WB0W Inc., West Mountain Radio, Winradio Communications, The Wire Man, Yaesu (Vertex Standard) and many more.



There will be a multitude of forums presented including ones for TAPR/Digital, QRP, 10-10 International, Kit Building, Gordon West, ARES, YLRL, County Hunters, AMSAT, ATV, SSTV, FCC, VHF/UHF Microwave, ARRL, Fox Hunting, Contesting, DXing, Public Relations, Software Defined Radio, Bicycle Mobile Hams, Disaster and Ham Radio, Antenna Design, MARS, SKYWARN, etc.

The ARRL National Convention 2005 along with the ARRL EXPO exhibits area will also be held at the site. This is a great chance to meet top ARRL officials and learn about ARRL departments and activities. You will also have a chance to meet Astronaut Tony England W0ORE.

For more information, see <http://www.hamvention.org/>.

Transplanted STARS member **Tom Kocialski KC2CAG** sent word that he will be coming from Denver to Dayton for the hamfest. Look for him there!

## New Two-Ham Team Takes Over Aboard ISS

International Space Station Expedition 10 crew members Leroy Chiao, KE5BRW, and Salizhan Sharipov have formally handed over command of the station to the Expedition 11 crew of Commander Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and US Astronaut and ISS Science Officer and Flight Engineer John Phillips, KE5DRY. A formal change-of-command ceremony was held aboard the ISS today (April 22).

"We are at the end of our mission," said Chiao, who headed the Expedition 10 crew. "Salizhan Shapirovich Shapirov and I look back with pride at our mission and accomplishments. We are proud to have represented the international partnership in space and to have moved us forward in our collective efforts to further our reach into the cosmos."

Chiao then handed the microphone over to Krikalev. "John Phillips and I are ready to accept the responsibility of operating and maintaining the ISS," the new commander said. "We will take good care of her and continue the forward push in our international efforts of space exploration." Chiao then formally passed command of the ISS to Krikalev, which he accepted. Accompanying Krikalev and Phillips on

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## STARS Board of Directors

President	Keith Patterson	KC2DGC
Vice President	Scott Barto	KB2KOL
Treasurer	John Cullum, Jr.	KB2ESM
Finc. Secretary	Judy Levan	N2TEZ
Secretary	John Crawford, Sr.	KB2VVC
Director	Jim Sojka	WB2TJO
Director	George Ebert	N2NOB

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding test sessions on 5/14 and 7/9 in 2005 at Grace Lutheran Church (McKinley Pkwy. and Newton Road) in Hamburg. All candidates should report to the church by 9 AM. Walk-ins are allowed, but pre-registering will reduce time at exams. For information or to pre-register for STARS tests, contact Terry Rockhold K2OO at 656-0865.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lancaster ARC Club House, 525 Pavement Road, Lancaster. For information on or to pre-register for Lancaster exams, call Joe Gearhart WV2NY at 892-2760 or e-mail him at wv2ny@adelphia.net. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be holding test sessions on 4/2, 5/7 and 6/4 during 2005 starting promptly at 10 AM at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman St. Walk-ins accepted, pre-registration preferred. For information on ARATS exams, call Vic Gadzik K2YW at 694-9738 or e-mail wb2aiv@arrl.net.

PROS holds test sessions as needed at 585 North Star Road, East Aurora. For information, contact Pat Murray NW2I at 652-8178.

Some exams do not allow walk-ins, so call ahead and make a reservation.

## New Two-Ham Team

*(Continued from page 4)*

the April 15 Soyuz "taxi flight" was European Space Agency (ESA) Astronaut Roberto Vittori, IZ6ERU, of Italy.

Over the past week, the five space travelers have been involved in various crew handover duties and briefings. And while the newcomers have been settling in, Chiao and Sharipov--who have been aboard the space outpost since last October--have been gathering up their gear, understandably eager to go home.

Krikalev, 46, and Phillips, 54, both have been aboard the ISS before. Now returning as the crew commander, Krikalev was a member of the very first crew to

occupy the ISS in November 2000. By the time his Expedition 11 stay is over, Krikalev will have spent more time in space than any other human. Phillips was a member of the shuttle Endeavour STS-100 crew and coordinated two spacewalks at the ISS to install Canadarm2. He's been wanting to return ever since.

During his brief visit, Vittori conducted experiments aboard the station under a commercial agreement between ESA and the Russian space agency. He also put in a little radio time, talking to youngsters back on Earth during three Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss/>> ) contacts.

On April 18, he conducted ARISS school group QSOs with two technical schools. One of the schools was named for wireless pioneer Guglielmo Marconi, and his daughter, Princess Elettra Marconi, assisted in the event and extended greetings to Vittori, at one point saying her father "would have been proud of you for your marvelous mission."

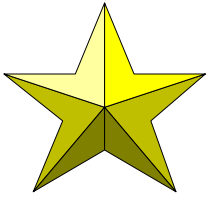
On April 20, Vittori answered questions from youngsters gathered at the European Space Research Institute (ESRIN) in Frascati, Italy. The ESA had invited more than 120 pupils from primary schools in the region to the event. All of Vittori's school group contacts were conducted in Italian. Special event station IIOESA will be on the air on HF from Rome until May 15 to celebrate the Vittori's flight.

The departing crew and Vittori will leave the ISS Sunday, April 24, aboard the Soyuz transporter that carried Expedition 10 into space last fall. They're scheduled to land that evening in Kazakhstan.

Although he made few casual Amateur Radio contacts, Chiao set an ARISS record during his duty tour by racking up a total of 23 ARISS school group contacts. The first Expedition 11 ARISS school group contact is scheduled for May 4.

The ARRL Letter 4/22/05





# STARS



## CLUB REPEATERS

The club repeater (WB2ELW/R) is located near Colden, NY (147.09/.69 output/input, with a PL of 107.2 Hz). Use a PL of 141.3 Hz for the Nike Base remote receiver.

STARS honorary southern repeater (KE2VW/R) is in Arkwright, NY (146.67/.07 out/in, with a PL of 107.2 Hz).

The club UHF repeater is located near Colden, NY (442.325 MHz with a PL access of 107.2 Hz.)

## CLUB WEB PAGES

The club has a home site on the World Wide Web at <http://www.wb2elw.com>.

## CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect Ave. at Hawkins Ave.) at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Nike Base Club Station at 7:30 PM and are open to all club members.

## CLUB HF STATION

The club Nike Base HF Station (WB2ELW) is located on Lakeview Road 1.75 miles east of Route 20 next to the Hamburg Town Arena.

# STARS

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