

telstar



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

ISSUE 283

JULY 2005

STARS Field Day 2005

Over 30 STARS members and guests gathered at Glenn Meadow Park in Hamburg over June 25-26, 2005 for the nation's biggest test of emergency communications.

STARS ran in the 2A category of the event with a CW station and a phone station. Both stations were utilizing wire antennas and seemed to be very effective. As usual, STARS was able to contact club stations set up in emergency mode in the field from all over the country., as well as non-club, home, mobile and EOC stations.

One notable contact that was made during the event was with W1AW, the station located at the ARRL Headquarters in Newington, CT. Three scouts visited on Saturday and were able to make some contacts under the supervision of experienced club members.

We will have more details on the QSO's, bonus points, total score, etc. in next month's newsletter.



STARS member Ed Taublieb KB2KVA working the 40 meter phone station during Field Day 2005.

July Meeting

This month we will be having a field trip to the Radio Control Aircraft Field at the Nike Base on Thursday, July 7. The entrance to the airfield is about 0.5 miles west of the entrance to our Nike Base Club Station on Lakeview Road and is on the same side of the road. There are soccer fields near the entrance and a small sign for the airfield.

The RC Aircrafters of WNY will present a demonstration of their airplanes. Their members will begin arriving around 6 PM, so STARS members can arrive any time after that. President Keith KC2DGC would like to have a short business meeting after the demonstration.



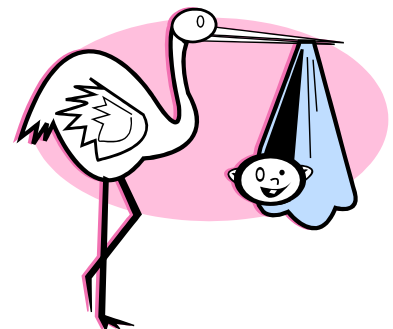
You don't have to bring anything, but sunglasses, binoculars, cameras and lawn chairs would probably be nice to have.

A Tradition Continues!

John W. (Jack) Cullum, Jr. KB2ESM reports that his son (John W. Cullum III) and daughter-in-law became the proud parents of a new son on June 2, 2005.

June 2 also just happened to be Jack's birthday.

Now, what should the new son be named? Yes, you are right! John W. Cullum IV, of course!



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.

Are We Having Fun Yet?

Field Day 2005 was a very successful event again this year. Setup was routine and without any problems. We decided against erecting a 30 tower because the beam elements are 30 feet long and it would have been too much effort for a minimal benefit.

The big favorite among those who attended was the food. The Saturday night dinner was catered with Chiavetta's chicken dinners. Jack KB2ESM had the usual hotdogs and hamburgers for lunch and no one went away hungry. Many thanks go out to those who attended and especially to chairman Scott KB2KOL who once again has done a terrific job.



We're not done having fun yet. Our next meeting will be very interesting. Program chairman Jim WB2TJO as scheduled the RC Air Crafters of WNY to demonstrate radio controlled aircraft at their site adjacent to the



Hamburg Recreational facility. It should be exciting and this is a hobby that some of you might consider. What a great hobby to enjoy your amateur radio license with

and share with your children. Don't miss this meeting and be sure to bring the family.

We are also making plans to sponsor an amateur radio demonstration July 17 at the Penn Dixie site for the Hamburg National History Society's "Big Toy Event". Chairman George N2NOB has been working on the details and is looking for volunteers for this one-day event. Volunteers can call George Ebert N2NOB at 892-8088 (or) any STARS board member which will get you a free pass. This is another opportunity to provide public awareness about amateur radio and a great event for the whole family.

73, Keith Patterson KC2DGC
STARS President

STARS 2005 FIELD DAY PHOTOS



Ralph K2ZUW at the CW station.



Jim WB2TJO and Scott KB2KOL talk over things.



John Sr. KC2VWC and John KA2RFT do paperwork.



Jack KB2ESM grills some hot dogs and hamburgers.



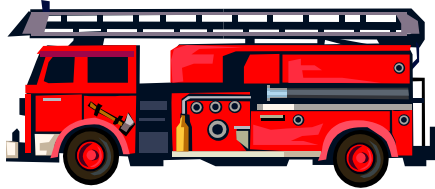
Bob KA2WYE and Jim WB2TJO show that you can be pretty tired during the last few hours of Field Day Weekend!



Big Toys Event

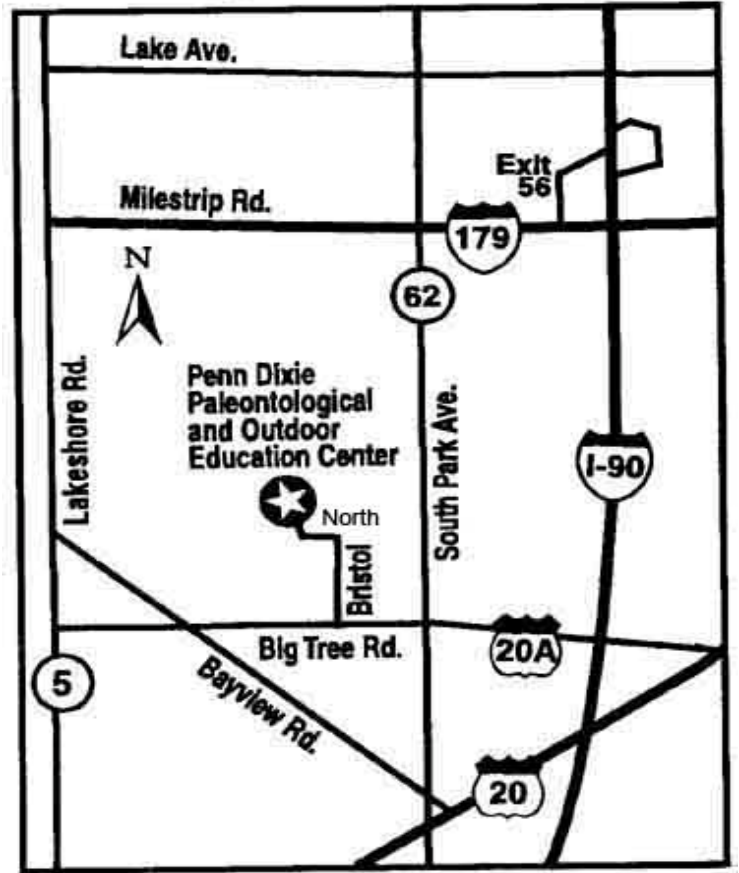
STARS will demonstrate amateur radio to visitors at the Big Toys Event on Sunday, July 17, 2005 from 11 AM to 4 PM at the Penn Dixie Site (see map & directions at right). This is a fund raiser for the Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center.

You can come and sit at the wheel of your favorite "big toy". There will be over 30 vehicles on site including a Mercy Flight helicopter, emergency vehicles, a snowplow, a US Army Hummer, fire trucks, antique military vehicles, a drill rig, a water rescue boat, a police cruiser and a Brinks truck. Also available will be telescopes for viewing sun spots, fossil digging, and a toy raffle with drawing at 3 PM. A food vendor will be on site.



If you would like to volunteer to help staff an amateur radio station or to answer visitor questions, contact George Ebert N2NOB at 892-8088. More info will be available at the July 7 STARS meeting.

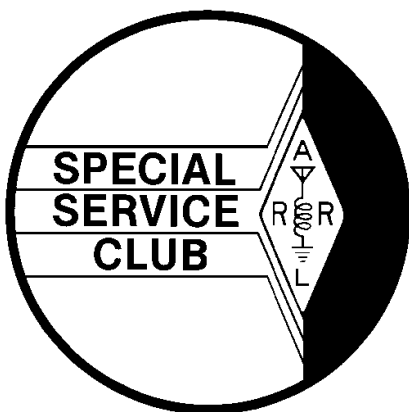
Admission will be \$6 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Hamburg Natural History Society members pay \$2 for adults and \$1 for children under 12. STARS members who are assisting with the amateur radio demonstration can obtain a free pass from George Ebert N2NOB, but any family members must pay the normal admission.



Directions To Penn-Dixie Site:

From the Thruway (I-90) - Exit 56 (Milestrip Road. After toll booth, right onto Milestrip Rd. Left onto S. Park Ave. (Rte. 62). Right at traffic light onto Big Tree Rd. (Rte. 20A). Right onto Bistol. Left onto North St. Follow signs to Penn-Dixie Site.

From Southwestern Blvd. (Rte. 20) - North onto S. Park Ave. (Rte. 62). Left at traffic light onto Big Tree Rd. (Rte. 20A). Right onto Bistol. Left onto North St. Follow signs to Penn-Dixie Site.



STARS
Is An
ARRL
Special
Service
Club!

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.	KB2VWC
Director	Jim Sojka	WB2TJO
Director	George Ebert	N2NOB

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding test sessions on 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 starting again in September 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.

Batavia Hamfest

The 25th Annual Batavia Hamfest and Computer Show will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2005 at the Fireman's Recreation Center, 10708 Route 98, Alexander, NY 14005. This is sponsored by the Genesee Radio Amateurs (GRAM).

Gates open at 6:30 AM. Admission is \$7.00 at the gate. Talk-in is on the 147.285 MHz (+600) repeater. Check-ins will be taken on 146.52 MHz simplex.

There will be an indoor and outdoor flea market. Vendors must reserve inside tables.

Main prize is an ICOM IC-708 dual band mobile radio. There will also be hourly door prize drawings.

There will be a breakfast served and a chicken barbeque for lunch. There will be a fox hunt at 10:15 AM.

Campers and motor homes welcome after noon on Friday, July 15th. There will be a hospitality night on Friday.

For inquires and information, call Rob McLean (585) 343-1347. Or email: kc2mhh@bluefrog.net.

Visit their website at: <http://gram.hamgate.net>.

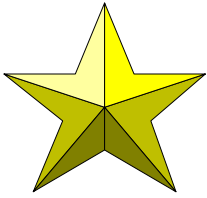


HF saves the day after motor home breakdown:

Well outside cell phone and ham repeater range, ARRL member Bob Johnson, W7LRD, his wife and their two dogs found themselves May 6 in their motor home broken down "in the middle of nowhere" 70 miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada. To the rescue came Johnson's trusty Icom IC-730 and some friendly fellow radio amateurs. "I found Bruce, VA7BEB, on 20 meters, and he started getting my information to my insurance company for road service," Johnson recounts. But the propagation gods were not smiling.

Enter Phil, W7PDZ, and Larry, KA0MZL. "Phil continued where Bruce left off, while Larry notified the Nevada Highway Patrol," Johnson continues. "The highway patrol showed up and took note of our situation. A tow truck out of Pahump, Nevada, came and took us to an RV park across the street from an auto parts store!" The next day Johnson was able to pin down the problem--a failed ignition coil. He picked up and installed a new one, and he and his family were good to go. "Without the assistance and perseverance of these gentlemen, it would have been a very long day and possibly night," he says.





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

Terry W. Rockhold K200
4805 Transit Road #1903
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 656-0865
k200@bigfoot.com