

telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

ISSUE 300

DECEMBER 2006

2007 Club Officers

Elections were held at the November STARS meeting. Congratulations to the STARS Officers and Directors for 2007.

President:	Bob Koster KA2WYE
Vice President:	Keith Patterson KC2DGC
Treasurer:	Jack Cullum KB2ESM
Secretary:	Wayne Carpus W2ZDP
Financial Secretary:	Judy Levan N2TEZ
Director:	Scott Barto KB2KOL
Director:	John Crawford, Sr. KB2VWC

The officers will be sworn in at the upcoming December meeting.

2006 ARRL Field Day Official Results

The ARRL has released the official results for the 2006 ARRL Field Day. Member of ARRL can view a searchable database of scores after logging into the website at www.arrl.org.

The numbers in 2006 again show that Field Day is one of the most popular on the air operating activity in amateur radio. An official total of 2169 entries were received from groups and individuals. Add to the 2169 an additional 30 checklogs and that brings the total received reports to 2199 - the third highest total ever for ARRL Field Day.

Those entries represented a reported total of 32,506 participants - the fourth highest total reported par-

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December meeting

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday December 7 at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Avenues). All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

In addition to inducting the Club Officers for 2007, we'll be enjoying our annual Holiday Party. The club will be providing pizza and pop. Members are invited to bring finger foods to share. (Desserts are always a favorite!)

Also remember to bring donations for our food drive.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Time to Renew

Don't forget to renew your membership. STARS continues to be one of the largest amateur radio clubs in the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area, but we need each of you to continue to help keep us great.

A renewal application was included in last month's Telstar and is available for download on our website at www.wb2elw.com

Send the completed application along with your dues check made payable to STARS to:

Judy Levan N2TEZ
120 University Blvd.
Depew, NY 14043-2874

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let me start by wishing a Very Joyous Holiday Season to the membership. Now that we quickly see winter weather approaching let us remember to always be prepared, in our homes, in our motor vehicles and wherever we travel. Winter storms or natural disasters can happen anytime. We as Amateur Radio Operators must be ready, willing and able to assist in any communication emergency.

With the Holidays fast approaching, I must remind you to keep your vacation plans private. Do not mention that you are going to be away or your schedule on the repeater. There are a lot of listeners with scanners out there and with the call sign databases some ill-intended people could make you a victim very easily.

STARS will be holding our annual Holiday party on December 7th at the Hamburg Youth Center after a brief business meeting. The Club will provide the soft drinks and pizza but please feel free to bring some finger foods or something special homemade (desserts always welcome). Please try to make it to this very extraordinary festive event.

I am looking forward to another great year with the Club and all the activities that we have throughout the year. Again let me close by wishing A Very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season to you from myself and family.

73's
Bob (KA2WYE) Koster

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participation ever. And those numbers don't include those that participate from home and don't submit a Field Day summary for inclusion in the results.



The total number of QSOs completed during FD2006 was 1,236,825 - up slightly from 2005. There were slight increases reported on CW and Phone while digital contacts had 300 fewer completed Qs.

The STARS WB2ELW station had an official score of 2,878 points from 690 total contacts by 24 participants. In the Western New York Section, STARS placed 3rd out of the 5 stations in the 2A category and 8th out of 40 stations in all categories. Nationwide, STARS placed 167th out of 455 stations in the 2A category and placed in the top third of all stations in all categories.

STARS has always viewed Field Day as a learning experience for all...no matter what your expertise level. This year's numbers represent a fine job by those that participated.

December Special Events

Pearl Harbor Day

- Dec 7, 1500Z-2230Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Pearl Harbor Day. CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040 SSB 14.250 to 24.320. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS Kidd Museum, 305 South River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm

The Holiday Season

- Dec 9, 1400Z-2200Z, Brainerd, MN. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, W0UJ. Winter Wonderland - The Brainerd Lakes Area. 28.450 21.350 14.250. QSL. Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 189, Ironton, MN 56455-0189. www.brainerdham.org
- Dec 9-Dec 10, 1400Z-0200Z, Nazareth-Bethlehem, PA. Christmas City and Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Clubs, WX3MAS. Annual

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STARS has been designated a Special Service Club by the ARRL.

Visit STARS on the web at
www.wb2elw.com

Christmas greetings from the twin Christmas Cities. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270. Certificate. CCARC/DLARC WX3MAS, Greystone Building Gracedale Complex, RR 8, Nazareth, PA 18064. www.dlarc.org

- Dec 16-Dec 23, 1400Z-2300Z, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, W8ZQ. Winter Festival of Lights from Oglebay Park. SSB general portions of 80 40 20 m. QSL. Joe McCready, WB8CTC, PO Box 192, Blaine, OH 43909. Times are daily.
- Dec 16-Dec 25, 1400Z-0000Z, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Celebrating the Christmas season from Bethlehem NM. 28.270 21.270 14.270 7.270. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. www.qsl.net/kc5our
- Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Machrihanish, Sc. The American Radio Relay League, GB1FVT. The 100th anniversary of Fessenden's Christmas Eve Broadcast. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT, Avalon, Peninver Campbeltown, Argyll, Sc PA28 6QP. Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org

Celebrating Amateur Radio and Public Service

- Dec 9-Dec 10, 1700Z-2359Z, Stockton, CA. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, W6SF. Commemorating 75 years of friendship and community service! 14.250 14.055 7.250 7.055. Certificate. Stockton-Delta Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 690271, Stockton, CA 95269. www.w6sf.org
- Dec 24-Jan 8, 0501Z-0500Z, Atkinson, NH. Atkinson Amateur Radio, K1D. Kid's Day and Amateur Radio Awareness. 21.273 14.273 7.257. QSL. Peter Schipelliti, W1DAD, 7 Dearborn Ridge Rd, Atkinson, NH 03811.
- Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Brant Rock, MA. The American Radio Relay League, W100BO/W1F. 100 Years of Wireless by Voice. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. Special Event Station W1F, PO Box 121, Plainview, NY 11803. Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org w1f.k2cx.us
- Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ. "Hello" 100 Years of Voice Over Radio.

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 downloaded from the club website or obtained by sending a SASE to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043.

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 \$15.50 (6 months X \$1.75 per month plus the \$5 initiation fee).

Applications should be returned to Judy N2TEZ along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and 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 KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits!

21.240 14.260 7.260. QSL. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. www.armad.net

- Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, Newington, CT. The American Radio Relay League, W1AW. Hello Centennial Event, representing the future of radio. AM, SSB, FM Echolink/IRLP. QSL. W1AW/hello, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Other stations are invited to join in; contact hello@arrl.org www.hello-radio.org/event
- Dec 29-Dec 30, 2000Z-2000Z, St Louis, MO. AOR and WinDRM Digital Voice Community, KOPFX. "Hello" Celebrating 100 Years of Voice over Radio Worldwide. 14.236 7.296 7.225. QSL. Mel Whitten, PO Box 698, Bridgeton, MO 63044. www.melwhitten.com

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

STARS will be holding test sessions during 2007 however specific test dates have not yet been determined. For information or to pre-register for STARS tests, contact John Crawford KB2VWC at 649-5933.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on a quarterly basis. For information on or to pre-register for Lancaster exams, call Hal Cameron NH7R at 832-0031. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be hold test sessions on the first Saturday of the month (except when falling on a holiday weekend, when they will be on the second Saturday) starting promptly at 10AM at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman Street. Walk-ins accepted, pre-registration is highly recommended. For information on or to pre-register for ARATS exams, call Vic Godzik K2YW at 694-9738 or email k2yw@hotmail.com.

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



Club Nets

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

STARS WB2EZU Memorial HF net meets at 10AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM. Bob Lehning WA2YSJ is usually the net controller.



"Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order Takes Effect December 15

With publication in the Federal Register November 15, the long-awaited changes to the amateur rules are set to take effect 30 days later, at 12:01 AM EST December 15. The so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, includes a significant expansion of the 75 meter phone band and a variety of other changes. The highlights:

- For Amateur Extra class licensees, the 75 meter phone band will start at 3600 kHz, while Advanced class licensees start at 3700 kHz and Generals at 3800 kHz. The high end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band is now 3600 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band).
- On 40 meters, Amateur Extra and Advanced licensees will be able to operate phone beginning at 7125 kHz, while Generals start at 7175 kHz. The top end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band will be 7125 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band).
- There are no changes to the 20 meter band.
- On 15 meters, the General class phone band now starts at 21275 kHz.
- On 10 meters, Novice and Technician Plus licensees can now operate CW/RTTY/Digital from 28000 kHz to 28300 kHz.
- In addition, Novices and Tech Plus licensees can use CW only on the same frequencies as General and Advanced licensees on the 80, 40 and 15 meter bands: 3525 kHz-3600 kHz; 7025 kHz-7125 kHz and 21025 kHz-21200 kHz.

The Report & Order as published in the Federal Reg-

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ister clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released October 10: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/data emissions in the 7075-7100 kHz band. Several controversial aspects of the proceeding are still to be resolved.

The FCC has released an Erratum that corrects one error that inadvertently limited J2D emissions to an occupied bandwidth of 500 Hz. J2D emissions are data sent by modulating an SSB transmitter.

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 for the Nike Base remote receiver. STARS honorary southern repeater (KE2VW/R) is in Arkwright, NY (146.67/.07 output/input with a PL of 107.2 Hz). The club UHF repeater is location near Colden, NY (442.325 MHz with a PL of 107.2 Hz).

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins Avenues) at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome. Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Nike Base Club Station at 7:30PM 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.

Ham Radio Trivia

The QRZ website has a great section of trivia questions. Here's just a sample. Test your knowledge...

- What company(ies) competed with Heathkit in the late 1960's-early 1970's as a maker of Amateur Radio kits?
 - Eico
 - Knight
 - Lafayette
 - All of the above
- Who made the only stand alone 80 to 10 meter kilowatt transceiver for amateur use?
 - Hallicrafters
 - Hammarlund
 - Clegg
 - Heathkit
- The common name for a Wohllenweber HF/DF antenna is a
 - squirrel cage
 - giraffe cage
 - elephant cage
 - sterba curtain
- When was the amateur radio Advanced class license first offered?
 - shortly after WWI
 - just before WWII
 - shortly after WWII
 - April 15, 2000
- How many callsign regions meet at the Four Corners of UT, AZ, CO and NM?
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
- Which state is not in the 8th US call district?
 - Indiana
 - West Virginia
 - Ohio
 - Michigan
- How many call sign districts border the Great Lakes?
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
- In what year was CQ magazine first published?
 - 1936
 - 1942
 - 1945
 - 1950
- When were the first 10 year licenses issued?
 - 1984
 - 1988
 - 1990
 - 1992

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

1-d, 2-a, 3-c, 4-c, 5-c, 6-a, 7-d, 8-c, 9-a