

Seaside Tsunami Amateur Radio Society

The WA7VE



www.freewebs.com/wa7ve_stars

January 2011
Volume 4
Issue 2

More News About Christmas Giving!!!

Class Schedule for Feb.

No data available.

Hams & Eggs in Seaside currently meets at 8:00AM every Thursday at McKeown's restaurant. The first Thursday of each month we will meet at a restaurant other than McKeown's. The location will be announced the night before on the STARS Net.

The ARES net operates on the WA7VE repeater at 145.490 Mhz. at 7:00 PM Wednesday evening.

The monthly STARS Meeting is scheduled for Sat. Feb 12th @ 5pm at the Clatsop Community College Seaside Campus

STARS Officers & Board of Directors

Trustee	Hal Denison
President	Robin Knoll
Vice-President	Pat Haggard
Secretary	Pat Tanner
Treasurer	Vanessa Knoll
ARES-EC	Jeff Holwedge



Santa and his elves (generous STARS members and others) then purchase gifts for the entire family and deliver them on Christmas day. This year STARS helped a family of four. The "elves" loved it almost as much as the children and adults that received the benefits of this club's love and generosity. Thanks to all involved and we look forward to helping out others again next year in even a bigger way.

Here is a Christmas story that missed last month's newsletter deadline. The STARS members took on the responsibility of helping a family in the Wishing Tree program. The Wishing Tree group qualifies a family and places their information on a decoration on a tree in businesses around the community. Various individuals and groups pick a family listed on a Christmas "bell" ornament on those tree's.



COMING SOON! STARS Logo T-shirts

John Patterson, KE7RKG, has worked tirelessly to bring high quality T-shirts with the STARS logo on them to fruition. You will be able to order your t-shirt, sweatshirt or Polo at the next STARS membership meeting. The club is handling this clothing at cost so T-shirt prices start at only \$8.00. Larger sizes cost a bit more.

Field Day Planning Set to Begin

You read that correctly. It is never too early to start planning for a successful Field Day. President Robin Knoll would like to find volunteers for the following subcommittee's. We need help with an Antenna, Equipment, Location and the Food committee's. We have broken up the Field Day responsibilities into smaller chunks of responsibility so it will be less work. Please lend a hand so we can have a great Field Day.

Nuggets For Newbies

I am new to HF and I need a few QSL cards but I am not quite ready to order a big supply of them. I am not sure what design I want to create or use. What can I do?

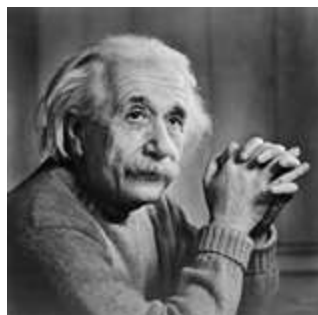
Good question. I like to roll my own so to speak. I like the idea of having several different QSL cards that reflect what is happening at that moment. I could be operating at Field Day, a DXpedition, a Scout activity or perhaps I am just on vacation and operating mobile from a picturesque or unusual location. I like using several different pictures for the background of my QSL card(s). Here is what I do. I download one of the various templates available on the internet and create my own QSL card using my printer at home and some heavy card stock from an office supply store. If you do not want to cut out the QSL cards yourself you can obtain 67 lb. card stock from qslpaper.com that has micro perforations so you will not need to find one of those large machete like paper cutters. You can also roll your own QSL card with the help of a template from this site http://www.qsl.net/n9bt/qsl_template.htm.



There are a few things to remember about QSL cards. First, Be sure you use the correct date for the contact. The date must use the UTC time for the operator **receiving** the card. Just because you are on Pacific Daylight Standard Time does not mean the other operator is also in the time zone. When you are on HF and talking around the world the other operator can easily be across the international date line. Use the ISO standard of DD/MM/YY to format the date so as to avoid any confusion.

Second, use a security envelope and do not include any call sign in the sending or receiving address. Many folks know that QSL cards usually include dollar bills or IRC (International Reply Coupons) to pay for the return postage for the QSL card. Do not leave signs on the outside of the envelope that would indicate cash or cash equivalents could be inside. Your QSL card could become "lost" in this situation. There are QSL services available but that story is for another newsletter. If anyone is actually reading these articles would you be so kind as to send a reply to this email?

Ask An Elmer



Why do cars have a negative ground? Cathodic protection is the answer. The English found out the hard way that vehicles wired with a positive ground suffered more metallic body corrosion than their negatively grounded counterparts. That is because the anode (Positive side) sacrifices itself to the anode (Negative side) of the vehicle, since corrosion is an electrolytic process.

What are all those acronyms on a battery rating actually stand for?

SLI – Staring, Lighting & Ignition

CCA = Cold Cranking Amps

RC = Reserve Capacity

AH = Ampere Hours

In America batteries are built to standards of case size, location of terminals, terminal type, polarity and position. You will see sizes such as 24, 27, 31 (like my Optima deep cycle battery), 34, 35, 65, 75, 78, 8D, etc. You can have SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) Post, GM Side Post, L Stud or combo SAE and stud or combo SAE. Are you tired yet? Me too.

ARES Check Ins for January

We had eight five check-ins on the STARS ARES net that takes place every Wednesday night. Four different hams operated as Net Control and many of us gained good experience with the process. Last year Tim Crawford of Arch Cape had the most check ins and won \$25.00 at the January membership meeting. John Patterson had the second most check-ins and won \$15.00 and Alice Wood came in third on check-ins and won \$10.00.

Dues are due and payable now. Just \$15.00 per person or for a family. Help your club remain strong by paying your dues in a timely way.

Help us grow our club. Ask an area ham to join us in our fun!