



The Compass!

Official Newsletter of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club, INC.

August 2019

Volume 47

#8

***Next General Membership
Meeting: Thurs., Aug 29th, 8 PM***

Inside this issue:

- ***Maggie Fischer Cross Bay Swim Pictures***
- ***K2M Special Event Pictures***

***Join Us August 17th & 18th at the
Fire Island Lighthouse Special Event***



Long Island's Friendliest Amateur Radio Club!

President's Message



Summer time is here for sure after a great Field Day weekend with the mild temperatures and low humidity. This month we saw some wicked temperatures and very high humidity. If you were at the Maggie Fischer Memorial Cross Bay Swim I want to thank you for the great job you did this year. A big thank you to Lou NO2C for chairing the event, Mike KC2SYF for assisting him once again, and for providing his boat for the event. Next up was the K2M event, what a great time we all had at Gilbert Park. I would like to thank the Village of Brightwaters for the warm welcome and their enthusiasm for the event. It was great to see many of our members there. If you were there you got to see Mike KC2SYF's satellite setup which worked amazingly well. I would also like to thank Kevin AB2ZI for bringing down that awesome telescope he built. If you were there and you got to see Saturn and its rings, it was stellar. To the crew that showed up for the setup, I know all too well how hot it was and thank you all very much. The club trailer's AC worked overtime but the 99-degree day was a true test as the sun hit the roof. It only cooled down to 79 degrees but there was no humidity. As you all know I got called to work. It was in the yard in Deer Park and temperature when I pulled onto the asphalt was 105 degrees. I was very happy to get back to our site to see the stars and Saturn. The take-down crew did a great job. It was like 89 degrees at 10:45 when we started taking everything down and apart. I hope you got a chance to work K2M. I would like to also thank Mel KS2G for coming down and showing us some great newspapers from July 20th 1969 in which you can see in some pictures of the event. He also showed us a press information book. I would also like to thank Jim W2KfV for bringing down the poster from 1969 that was never opened until our event. Thank you to Lou NO2C for designing that great certificate hams get for having worked K2M. If you were there for

setup, operating or takedown I would like to thank you all very much. Without you all, there is absolutely no way we could have done this event. You should all give yourselves a great big pat on the back. You deserve it!

Next up we have the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend--August 17th and 18th This event is a great one but this year we cannot shuttle anyone down to the lighthouse per the federal park laws, so with that said, if you have a bicycle drive to Field 5 and bike on down. The distance is about 1 mile and there is a boardwalk to the lighthouse. Setup crew will be onsite very early in the morning to get the equipment down to the lighthouse. There is nothing we can do about this rule so we have to follow it in order to play radio there. Please contact Walter KA2CAQ at ka2caq@arri.net if you plan on coming down for setup.

A few weeks after that we have the Babylon Village Fair which will need operators anytime from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. This has been a public service event we have been doing for 20 years or more. So come on down! We will be on 147.535 simplex for the event all day. Bring your better halves along and let them browse the craft vendors. Check out the entertainment, get something to eat, take a stroll around Argyle Lake – that's always a nice thing to do. You can even bring a chair and sit in the shade. Just keep your eyes open for any emergency situations and give us a call, so we can assist whoever needs help. Please email me at w2hcb@arri.net to help with this event.

Jamboree on the Air is on October 18th, 19th and 20th, and Phil W2VU will need assistance. Please contact him if you can lend a hand. It is always great to see a kid's face light up when he talks to someone far away. Please contact Phil at w2uv@kd2gfo.com to help with this fun event.

Then we have the Suffolk County Marathon on October 27th and we need at least 26 operators on the course. It would be best if you have a mobile radio plus your HT. If you can assist we truly need your help. Please email me at w2hcb@arri.net to sign up.

On November 9th we have the Hope for the Warriors run. We will need a total of 30 operators on the course. Please go this link <http://www.ham.hopeforthewarriors.volunteerhub.com> to sign up as a Course Marshall. There are no barricades to move; you just stand along the course, watch for injuries and if you are at a turn, guide the runners in the right direction. We have to be on site at Cedar Beach at 05:30 a.m. I know that's early but unfortunately that is what it is due to the closure of Ocean Parkway for the event. This year it will be a 5-mile run, a 10-mile run and a 1-mile walk. Thank you to K2BBQ, W2YMM, WA2YBZ, KA2CAQ, K2KAF, AF2SC, NO2C, K2RYD, K2TV, K2IZ, KD2ONC, KC2ZUK, WB2QGZ, KC2TON, KC2SYF, KD2BAH, AB2ZI and K2LI for signing up to help this year. The new venue for the race is Cedar Beach. Make sure you dress accordingly as it might be a little cool

by the ocean. This list has members who are acting as net control on it, the post number is 30 and right now we only have 14 of them manned. So please sign up to help a great organization that helps our veterans.

Once you have gone to the link above please email me at W2HCB@arrl.net to help with this event.

I cannot stress hard enough the importance of the public service area of our hobby. Yes, I said "hobby." Why? Well, we like to experiment with antennas and build some interesting projects and chase DX stations, contest, rag chew, work parks or special events. That's all great. So why is public service important? We need to make sure we are seen and stay on the officials' minds as well as in the public eye. If people don't see us, we don't exist. It's simple: Stay in your basement or attic and have fun but remember - one day we can lose the support of officials and the public if not enough people show up and help out.

At the K2M event at Gilbert Park we used the new head sets for the IC7100 radios and they worked great. They will be an asset for net control duties at these other events.

I must say the weather has been very active in our neck of the woods. We've had heavy rain storms, lightning and thunder which have been crazy the last few weeks of July. I hope no one had any problems during the storms but if you did I hope everything is back to normal. As you've just read, we have a few events coming up so please sign up to help at them. It is always a great feeling when you help someone besides yourself. Like I always say yes have fun at whatever you do for fun but please make sure you also give back to the community in which we operate radio. Anyway, I hope you all stay cool as August will be the hot month as always. While most of you stay cool on those hot humid days there is nothing like hanging over an overheated big diesel engine or working on a huge air compressor that blew up the oil separator. Sounds like fun, right? But it's what I do day in and day out I can't complain 28 years in the field doing this type of work. It has its perks -- look what I get us for Field Day every year. Anyway, time to put the bow on this month's message always remember if you have a great idea please email us at info@gsbarc.org so we can see if we can make it happen.

73. John Melfi, W2HCB 

Elevation
Kilometers

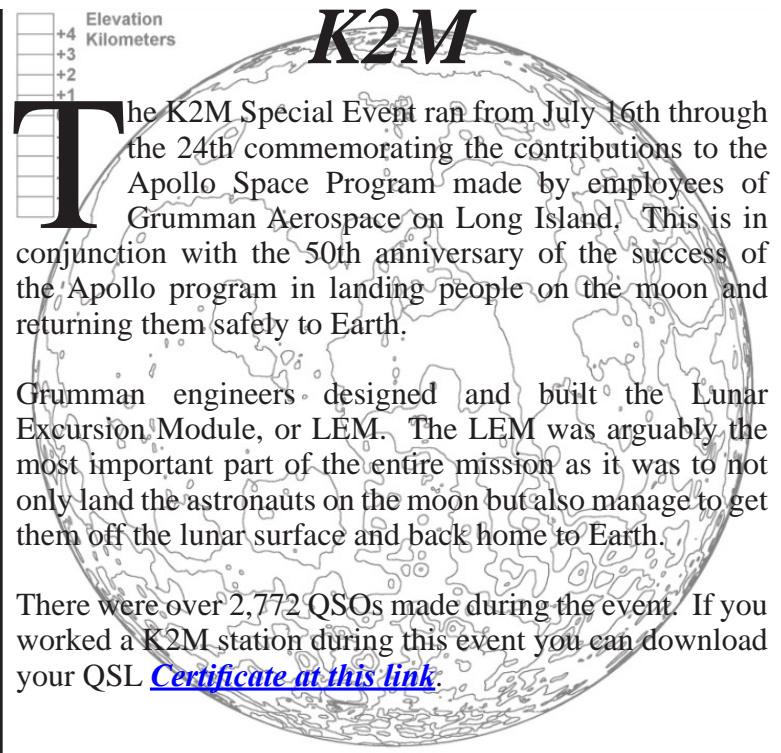
+4
+3
+2
+1

K2M

The K2M Special Event ran from July 16th through the 24th commemorating the contributions to the Apollo Space Program made by employees of Grumman Aerospace on Long Island. This is in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the success of the Apollo program in landing people on the moon and returning them safely to Earth.

Grumman engineers designed and built the Lunar Excursion Module, or LEM. The LEM was arguably the most important part of the entire mission as it was to not only land the astronauts on the moon but also manage to get them off the lunar surface and back home to Earth.

There were over 2,772 QSOs made during the event. If you worked a K2M station during this event you can download your QSL [Certificate at this link](#).



Can You Copy At 20 Words Per Minute By Hand?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



About a month ago, this email from the ARRL was sent to the CWOps mailing list:

From: Fusaro, Norm W3IZ [mailto:w3iz@arrl.org]
Sent: Monday, July 1, 2019 4:00 PM
Subject: W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate

Greetings Morse Code Enthusiasts.

I have some exciting news that I want to share with you! The ARRL has reinvigorated the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate program. Several things have changed beginning with our new sponsor, Vibroplex, a legend in Morse telegraphy equipment. If you see Scott Robbins W4PA and the Vibroplex team at a hamfest or convention please be sure to thank him for his support. The Vibroplex logo will appear on the newly designed certificates (see below) and in the award recipient page that will appear every month in QST.

That's right, each month in QST we will publish the most recent recipients of the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate, beginning with all the 2019 recipients. As a bonus, we are sending all the 2019 CPC holders a new certificate at no cost to replace their older style award.

The award is available to anyone who copies one solid minute of code during the qualifying runs. Complete program details can be found on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/code-proficiency-certificate>.

And to make the award available to more people we will double the number of opportunities to copy the CW text. Beginning September 2019, the qualifying runs will increase from twice per week to four times per week.

I am sharing this advance notice with the Morse code clubs

so that you can share it with your members. I have attached PDF files of the new certificate and the announcement that will appear in August QST, available in digital format July 8. I hope you are as excited about this as I am.

In closing, I want personally thank all of you who promote the use and proficiency of Morse code on the air waves and ask that you challenge your club members to submit their copy for the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate.

73,

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ
Director of Operations

Almost immediately after I posted this to my blog (at KB6NU.Com), my friend, Paul, KW1L, replied, "How does one copy legibly at 40 wpm?" When I replied, "Typing," he countered, "On page 98 of the July 2019 QST, it says, 'Legibly copy at least 1 minute of text by HAND...'"

To this, I replied, "Well, I guess you and I are both screwed then. I can't copy by hand at 20 wpm, and it's really not worth it to me to practice and get that fast. I'm guessing that I'm not alone in this regard. The upshot is that the ARRL is going to be sending out a lot fewer of these Vibroplex certificates than they think."

I then emailed W3IZ for a clarification. He shot back, "By hand is to mean not using a code reading machine." I suggested that he clarify this, both on the ARRL website and in QST. Of course, they haven't yet taken my suggestion, and the website still reads, "Copy one of W1AW's qualifying runs and submit one minute of solid copy (legible)." ☺

—Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), , and is one of the presenters the ICQPodcast (ICQPodcast.Com). Feel free to reply to his CW CQs at any speed you so choose.

NOTE: You can find an image of the new certificate at <https://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-Code-Proficiency-Certificate-Vibroplex-768x597.jpg>



Maggie Fischer Cross Bay Swim







GSBARC is no longer using Yahoo Groups due to issues with the platform. We have transferred everyone over to <https://groups.io/>

If you were a member of any of the Yahoo groups just sign up for a free groups.io account and you will have access to the new groups. [Groups.io](https://groups.io/) has most of the same features as the Yahoo groups and some additional ones as well, like the ability to have live chats. 🗣️

Club Apparel

Want a shirt, jacket, hat, sweatshirt or t-shirt with a Great South Bay club logo? We now use *Mr. Shirt*, located at 80 East Montauk Hwy. in Lindenhurst (www.mrshirt.com). Now you can get color matched backgrounds on your logo too. Check them out... 🗣️

ARES/RACES Information

- Div. 1—Town of Babylon ARES/RACES
Net: 146.685/R, Mondays 8:15 PM
EC/RO: John Melfi, W2HCB, (631) 669-6321
- Div. 2—Town of Huntington ARES/RACES
Net: 147.210 MHz +600/ PL 136.5,
Mondays 7:00 PM
EC/RO Steven W. Hines, N2PQJ,
<http://www.huntingtonnyaresraces.org/>
- Div. 3—Town of Islip ARES/RACES
Mondays 8:30 PM
EC/RO: John J Blowsky, KB2SCS, 631-467-2410
- Div. 4—Town of Smithtown ARES/RACES
Net: 145.430 MHz, PL136.5, Mondays 7:30 PM
EC/RO: Rich Johnston, KC2TON, 631-872-4039
- Div. 5—Town of Brookhaven ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Ted Debowy, AC2IR, 631-751-6576
- Div. 6—Riverhead ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Steve Casco, W2SFC, 917-701-3919
- Div. 7—Southampton ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Removed & Currently Vacant
- Div. 8—Southold ARES/RACES
EC: Don Fisher, N2QHV, 631-765-2757
RO: Charles Burnham, K2GLP, 516-779-4983
- Div. 9—East Hampton ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Eddie Schnell, WZ2Y, 864-973-9250
- Div. 10—Shelter Island ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Vacant (Neal Raymond, N2QZA, SK)

Suffolk County

ARES/RACES Net:

Mondays 2100 Local—145.330/R (136.5PL)

Alternate Frequency—146.820 (136.5 PL)

New York State

RACES Net (HF)

Sundays 0900 Local, 3993.5 KHz LSB

2019 VE Session Dates

- August 24th
- September 28th
- October 26th
- November 23rd
- December 28th

2020 VE Session Dates

- January 25th

All sessions are at the Town of Babylon EOC at 10 a.m., located in the basement in the rear of town hall. Please bring photo ID, a copy and your original amateur radio license (if you have one), and any CSCEs you may have.

Non programmable calculators are allowed. The exam fee is \$15 payable by cash or a check made out to "ARRL VEC."

Visit [FCC Universal Licensing System site](http://www.fcc.gov) to register for an FRN number to use on the paperwork.

The GSBARC Repeater List

- 146.685 W2GSB - shift 110.9 Hz Enc/Dec
- 223.860 W2GSB - shift 110.9 Hz Enc/Dec w/ ECHOLINK
- 223.860 - shift 156.7 Hz Enc/Dec Local use
- 440.850 W2GSB + shift 110.9 Hz Enc/Dec
- 446.775 KB2UR - shift 110.9 Hz Enc/Dec
- 927.3125 W2YMM - shift D606 Enc/Dec
- 440.250 W2TOB/B + shift DSTAR REF020A Babylon
- 445.725 WD2NY/B - shift DSTAR REF020A Selden

Grow Giant Vegetables with **MAGIC MANURE**, manufactured daily on the farm. 40- to 50-lb bags free for the taking, already bagged. Pick-up or Delivery to EOC available. References available upon request. Contact Salli at:

k2ryd@arrl.net



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Club Name Badges

Club name badges are available from *The Sign Man* (www.thesignman.com) of Baton Rouge, LA.

The badges which are 1-3/4 in. x 3 in. If you visit *The Sign Man's* webpage you can order the badges by using a drop down selection on the orders page and clicking on "Great South Bay ARC—NY" 🗣️

