



The Compass!

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

September 2018

Volume 46

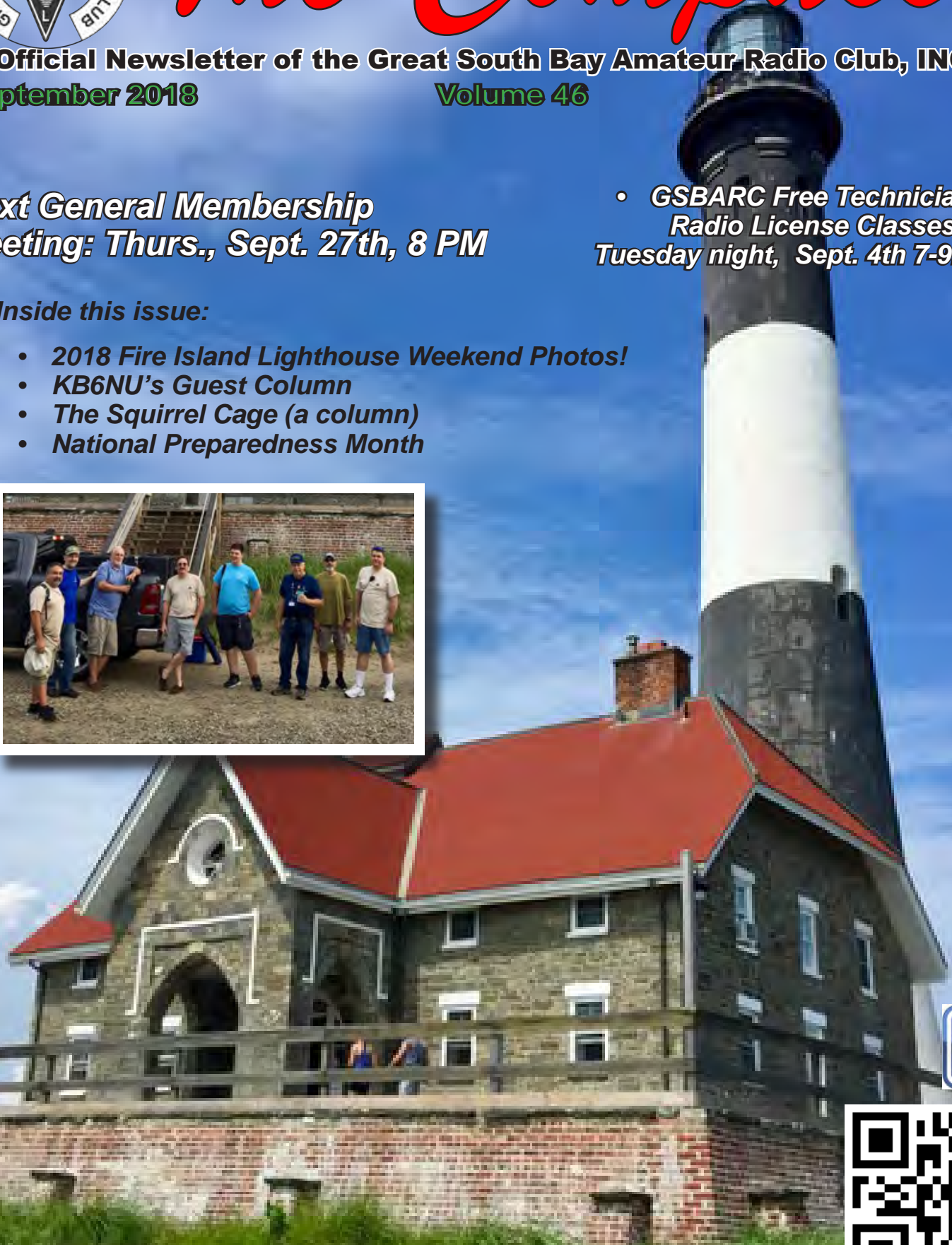
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Next General Membership Meeting: Thurs., Sept. 27th, 8 PM

• **GSBARC Free Technician Ham Radio License Classes Begin Tuesday night, Sept. 4th 7-9:30 PM**

Inside this issue:

- **2018 Fire Island Lighthouse Weekend Photos!**
- **KB6NU's Guest Column**
- **The Squirrel Cage (a column)**
- **National Preparedness Month**



Long Island's Friendliest Amateur Radio Club!

President's Message



August was a strange month – going from a very hot and humid day to a few cool mornings not to mention all the rain. The Fire Island Lighthouse event went terrific. Setup was done by a small crew – to those who were there thank you very much. Walter KA2CAQ did an awesome job as the coordinator for this event from the permit filing to constant communications with the lighthouse crew. It all made this a very smooth event. The operators who were there did an outstanding job as conditions were not the best. We operated outside on the first day and dealt with some heavy downpours in the late morning, but we didn't miss a beat, and everything was dry by the afternoon. As we operated we had good stream of visitors. On Sunday we had some issues trying to set up our shelter, but Mother Nature had a different idea: the winds were massive. As we tried to set it up, the top turned into a big sail. The lighthouse staff had us set up inside instead. Anthony at the lighthouse was fantastic as always and the rest of the staff was the same. On Sunday at one point we had all three stations going with all YL operators – Salli K2RYD, Caryn KD2GUT and Ria N2RJ. Ria N2RJ came all the way from New Jersey to operate from the lighthouse to see our setup and take a tour of the lighthouse. She is also running for Hudson Division Director. As she explained to us, to operate from a lighthouse in New Jersey was a longer drive than coming to Fire Island. We all had a great time at the event – so thank you to the Fire Island Lighthouse Crew and the National Parks services as well as the park rangers. If you there early Sunday morning you got to meet Lucy, our four-legged friend who ran all over to hide treats.

We also got a visit from Alice W2DVA and Amelia. It was great to see them both and get the updates on Justin K2ZMB. Justin, we all miss you buddy and we all can't wait till you get back to your family and normal or almost normal life. If you missed this event, then plan on attending it next year it is always great time and a lot of fun. By the way all the great pictures were taken by Leon KD2ONC.

Thank you Leon – great job! So how did we do? There were 480 QSOs made. Thank you to Lou NO2C for recovering the data from the laptop that died.

As hurricane season has started we need to make sure we are all ready if called upon to assist. Make sure all your radios, power supplies, batteries and generators are all in good operating condition. If you were at the general meetings you all know we are planning some upgrades for our trailer and the computers we use for Field Day -- for all stations. We are also planning the south side remote input for the 2 meter repeater to make it easier to get into the repeater from the south of Montauk Highway with an HT.

September 9th is the Babylon Village fair, a very laid-back public service event. We could use operators throughout the day starting at 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. local time. We will use 147.535 MHz and the 440 repeater for this event. Give us a call on either frequency when you arrive. Parking is always tough so keep that in mind.

October 28th is the Suffolk County Marathon. Please email KB2SCS -- he needs operators for this event. Reach him at kb2scsjb@gmail.com

November 10th is the Hope for the Warriors run. We need a lot of operators for this event. Once again thank you to all who have helped in the past. Please step up to lend a hand as the run needs many operators. If you are new to amateur radio – no worries – stop on down to any of our open houses and we can make sure your radios are all set for the event. Please email me W2HCB at w2hcb@arrl.net to lend a hand. The day starts at 6 a.m. local time and the latest out time is around 11:30. We have a lot of spots that can get you out early.

No matter what you do in amateur radio, a little public service can give you a great feeling. Knowing that we always ready to lend a hand when needed gives the communities we live in a good idea of what we do.

At our general meeting, guest speaker Ria N2RJ gave a presentation on how she would serve as a good director of of the ARRL's Hudson Division. She is running as a candidate. Ria discussed the reasons why Hiram Percy Maxwell started the ARRL in the first place.

Next month we hear from Mike N2YBB, the current division director. Mike will talk about his re-election platform. ARRL members will receive ballots in November so make sure you vote! Don't complain if you don't vote. You've got to be part of the process! See you all at the September meeting

On closing I would like to wish the best of luck to our members away from home and up at college: Jennifer KC2TMA on her third and final year at SUNY Geneseo

Continued on page 4

3D Printed Parts For Ham Radio

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



One of the things that I keep telling myself that I need to learn how to do is 3D printing. This morning, I ran across a couple more 3D printing projects for ham radio that I thought I'd pass along.

The first I found on reddit: 3D Printed Parts for Portable Tape Measure Yagi Designs (https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/963br3/3d_printed_parts_for_portable_tape_measure_yagi/). The summary on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:3042505>), which is a website where "makers" share their designs, says:

"These parts are made for use with 1-in. PVC pipe and 1-in. Harbor Freight tape measure steel. You can use electrical tape to attach the element holders to the side of the pipe, and use the driven element bridge to give structural rigidity across the driven dipole element. I have used this with up to 5 elements on 2m with good success. When not using the antenna, just pinch the elements to remove them from the holders, and store them INSIDE the tube! you can add some end caps to make this ultra portable. Use these parts with any of the multitude of tape measure YAGI design guides online."

Here's a look at an antenna made with these parts:



The element holders are attached to the boom with electrical tape in the photo above. While I haven't tried it, I'd suggest that the antenna might be a bit more robust if you could screw or perhaps glue the holders to the boom.


There are lots of other cool amateur radio 3D printing projects available on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/search?q=ham+radio&dwh=415b6d8da129c3c>). Browsing through the list quickly, here are just two that look like they might be useful to me:

- Soldering Fingers (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:1725308>). This project looks simple and quick.
- μ Bitx Case (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:2925336>). I still gotta do something with the μ Bitx I bought. This looks like it might get me started.

Finally getting in gear

Last week, I attended a 3D printing class at our local maker space, All Hands Active (allhandsactive.org), and now I feel like I can finally attempt a 3D printing project. I'm thinking about starting out with the simple Soldering Fingers project. If that goes well, I'll try a Raspberry Pi case and finally start using that in the shack. And, while these projects all seem pretty cool, I feel like I'm only scratching the surface.

Have any of you 3D printed anything cool for your ham radio projects? Is there another source of designs for ham radio 3D printed stuff besides Thingiverse?.

When he's not building dipoles or teaching ham radio classes, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about your experiences with simple HF dipoles at cwgeek@kb6nu.com. 

President's Message... cont'd from page 2

before going off to law school, Jackie KD2ENX on her second year at SUNY Binghamton and Gabbi KC2WUP on her second year at SUNY Geneseo. Good luck and have a great first semester! We hope you all have fun and do an awesome job. Hard work pays off.

73. John Melfi. W27CB 

Inside the Squirrel Cage

by Caryn, KD2GUT



With King Hussein of Jordan having had the call sign JY1 and the late King of Thailand HS1A, how could I have drawn the wrong conclusion about the Prince of Denmark? Even U.S. politicians (remember the late Barry Goldwater K7UGA?) have been into amateur radio. So, really, I was making an honest assumption here:

I recently was invited to a play about the Prince of Denmark at the Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport and, of course, jumped at the chance. Ham radio has made its way into films (“Frequency” and “A Quiet Place”) and TV (“Last Man Standing”) so I was certain that this prince of a guy simply had to be out there on stage, in full Elizabethan garb, calling QRZ. Even his name - “Hamlet” - gave me hope. I believed that through “Hamlet,” the play’s author, William Shakespeare, was banding together with us across time and space on HF.

Sure, sometimes you find yourself seeing the potential for amateur radio in everything -- but Shakespeare was a literary genius. This simply had to be a classic tragedy he created in which the son of the King of Denmark investigates his father’s suspicious death, that of his royal father who was discovered fatally impaled upon his own multiband vertical dipole.

Zounds! That hope, forsooth, vanished as quickly as a satellite pass. I thought wrongly that the visionary bard was tuned in to our hobby. All the world, after all, is simply a staging area for amateur radio, no? Alas, poor Marconi, we knew him well but Bill Shakespeare apparently did not. He even missed his chance for a QSO with his audience when writing “Romeo and Juliet” whose very names populate our phonetic alphabet. (“Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art your signal?” “Juliet, I give you a 3 and 3. Thee not be up in the balcony but down in the mud.”)

Make no mistake about “Hamlet,” though. Shakespeare’s genius really did light up the night at the Vanderbilt Museum and the play really was the thing, even if radio wasn’t. For me, it was simply a midsummer night’s dream. ☺

September Is National Preparedness Month

“Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.” That is the theme this September for National Preparedness Month, an opportunity for us to remind our families, friends, and communities to get ready for disasters and emergencies before they strike. Thinking ahead can save lives. So we are working to create a “culture of preparedness” nationwide, which requires all Americans to prioritize preparedness efforts in their daily lives. I urge all of you to take the time to evaluate your preparedness and learn how to protect your family so that if disaster strikes, you are ready.

National Preparedness Month is divided into four weeks. Each week we will publish recommended steps you can take to ensure you are prepared:

- Week 1 (September 1 – 8): Make and Practice Your Plan
- Week 2 (September 9 – 15): Learn Life Saving Skills
- Week 3 (September 16 – 22): Check Your Coverage
- Week 4 (September 23 – 29): Save For an Emergency

There are a number of resources available to help you implement the steps recommended for each week of National Preparedness Month. You can begin to boost your level of preparedness by taking small steps, such as discussing an emergency communications plan with your family over dinner, installing carbon monoxide detectors, reviewing your insurance coverage, or starting an emergency savings fund.

In addition to utilizing these resources, I hope you will consider taking part in the National Day of Action on September 15th. This is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and businesses to take an action, such as learning a life-saving skill or participating in an exercise or drill, to increase preparedness. Please visit www.ready.gov for more information and resources. And if you have the ability to help others, please consider joining a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

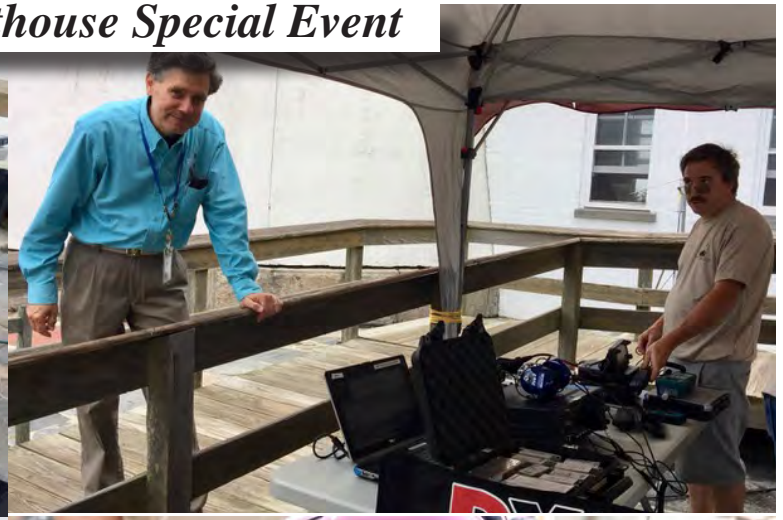
With these resources and training, you can be a lifeline for your family and fellow citizens.

Thank you for all that you do to serve our country.

Best regards,

Kirstjen M. Nielsen
Secretary of Homeland Security

Fire Island Lighthouse Special Event











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, W2ZY, 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 (136.5 PL)

Alternate Frequency—146.820 (136.5 PL)

New York State

RACES Net (HF)

Sundays 0900 Local, 3993.5 KHz LSB

FREE- Old Homebrew amplifier

Comes with two American made 572Bs. All original schematics 1961 QST. Needs repair of metering circuits--which I am no longer able to do. Impressive cabinet work. See photos K2OHK profile on QRZ.com.

Would happily GIVE to ham who would put it back on the air. —Ed, K2OHK 631 265 6463

2018 VE Session Dates

- September 22nd
- October 27th
- November 24th
- December 22nd

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 CSCE's 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" ☺

