THE COMPASS

Official Newsletter of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club

September 2016 | Volume 44 | Issue #9

Upcoming Club Events

Next General Meeting: Thurs. Sept. 29th, 8 PM at the EOC

Sat. Sept. 17th, Northport Cow Harbor Run

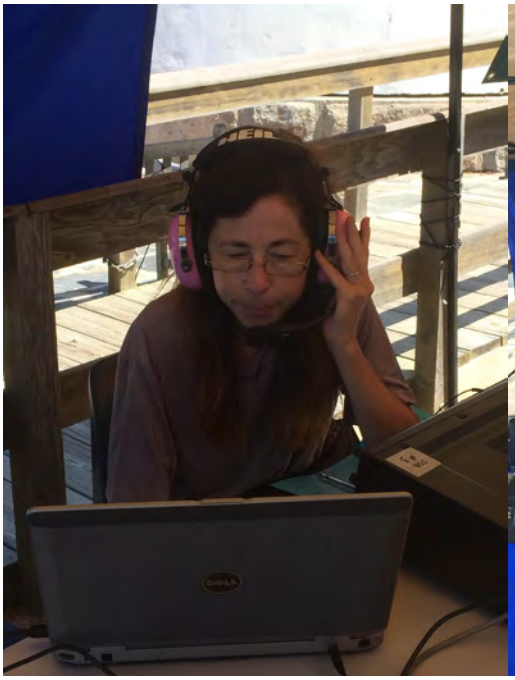
GSBARC's FREE License Classes Tuesday nights 7–9:30 PM.

Currently Running: Technician Class

Open Houses on Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. and also Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gsbarc

2016 Fire Island Lighthouse International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend Activation



Inside this issue of The Compass...

Upcoming Special Events

Sat. Sept. 17th, Northport Cow Harbor Run

JOTA Oct. 15-16 at Cathedral Pines Park in Yaphank

Sun. Oct. 30th, Suffolk County Marathon

Hope for the Warriors Run, Saturday Nov. 12

President's Message

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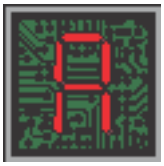


s I start this month's message, we are under a warning for Tropical Storm Hermine, although we did not take a direct hit.

Thanks to all who took part in the net we ran. Special thanks to Phil KD2GFO for handling the duties as net control. I hope that everyone had a safe Labor Day weekend. Now is the time of year we get into the busy time of public service events. Why do we do so many? Well, it keeps us in the public's eye and lets them know we are still relevant. A lot of people don't understand what amateur radio can do for them. Many people think the cellphone is the king -- but we all know too well what can happen.

I would to see more involvement in the public service area of our club. These events are often very easy to do and don't take the whole day. Look at this way: We love to play radio from contesting to rag chewing, chasing DX and simple repeater usage. It's a lot of fun, that's for sure! I myself try to balance out my operations from all of the above and include public service.

September, October and November are very active with public service events around our area. In our back yard, we have fairs, runs and marathons. Please find some time to help out with a few if you can. Many clubs step up to help us out, which is very kind of them to do.

This month, we have the Babylon Village Fair on the 18th – it's a daylong event in a great park: Argyle Park in Babylon Village. We start around 10 a.m. and the fair runs till 5 p.m. Our job there is to assist with medical calls and in locating a lost child. Sometimes even a lost adult! The Babylon Beautification Society runs this event. Make a day of it! There's great food and entertainment. If you can help out, please email me at ***w2hcb@arrl.net***

In October, we have the Suffolk County Marathon. The contact for this event is KB2SCS. Please email him at kb2scsjb@gmail.com if you are able to help on October 30th

Then in November – the big one! – the Hope for the Warriors Run. The organizers depend on amateur radio operators to blanket that run to help with medical dropouts and emergencies. The run is on November 12th starts 6 a.m. for us, ending by noon at the latest. Please email me at w2hcb@arrl.net if you can assist with this event.

By the way, this organization is outstanding for how it helps our veterans.

Did you get to work KC2SYF at the White House NPOTA event? Mike did an awesome job getting that going and the crew did a great job making more than 1200 contacts. We are in the process of setting up for the Ellis Island NPOTA event. The tentative dates are October 1st and 2nd

Phil KD2GFO has the Jamboree On The Air event again on October 14th -16th in Cathedral Pines Park on Middle Island Road in Yaphank. Please email Phil at pfjaco@verizon.net if you can help out. Operators AND campers are needed!!

We have decided that since everyone enjoyed last year's Winter Night Out, we will do it again.

We are once again going to La Famiglia in Babylon Village since the reviews from last year were through the roof! We figured, why not go back there? The date is Saturday, January 14th at 6 p.m. in Babylon Village.

It has been crazy trying to get back on the air here after the mess in February! I finally got to run the pipe for my feed lines and mount the electrical which will house the lightning arrestors and grounding buss bar.

As far as the shack itself, I'm still putting it together, waiting for more parts and pieces. Lots of fun.

Thank you to the crew who helped out at the EOC the first weekend of this month. Great job all!

We're also starting a new raffle, prizes are an ICOM ID-5100A, a UHF DVAP and a Baofeng UV5X3 tri-band HT. Tickets are still only $5 each or a book of 5 for $20. We ask all members to buy a book if they can to help support the club.

I hope to see you all at the events and meetings in the next few months – and, of course, the Winter Night Out.

73, John Melfi, W2HCB

Inside the Squirrel Cage

by Karen, KD2GUT

The played-out argument that pits digital against old school hasn't become just a drag. It's turned into a drag race.

But just as incandescent and LED bulbs never put the candle industry out of business and cars haven't put horses totally out to pasture, the same holds for Snapchat and plain old Smartphone texting: Neither has vanquished one of the best and most efficient ways to send a message quickly and directly: Code. In fact, Code has survived wars more brutal than this simple philosophical debate over whether it's actually still relevant at all.

It is. So to prove this point, well, gentlemen (and YLs), start your engines:

Two hams did just that, revving up for a now-infamous televised digital drag race more than a decade ago. Chip Margelli K7JA and a Utah teenager known for his speed-texting skills took on a fast-paced challenge in which the contenders sought to be first in delivering the same message to their recipients as millions of viewers of Jay Leno's "Tonight Show" watched.

The contest could be called a classic by now. That mad dash (and more than a few mad dots) that were dispatched on late-night TV during the Friday, May 13, 2005 talk show demonstrated what most seasoned fists probably already knew: The Code contest screeched to a roaring finish. CW delivered. Hands down.

Anytime I think I should just stick with PSK-31, and not make the effort, because it seems an easy compromise between ham radio and texting, I'll search for this demo on YouTube, a nice pop-culture tribute to Samuel F.B. Morse.

Continued on page 4

BTECH/BAOFENG UV5X3

By John Smale, K2IZ

The Great South Bay ARC has a 220 repeater and I used to talk on it. Around 8 or 9 years ago, I bought a YAESU VX-6R. This radio, along with the Kenwood TH-F6A, is a tri-band radio, covering 2 meters, 220 and 440.

At the time I bought the 6R it listed, with accessories, for more than $300.00. It is a really great radio but it did cost a bit.

Along came the Baofeng brand of radios, and you could buy a dual-band HT for less than $30.00. As I keep telling people, it's not such a disaster if something happens to it. Take, for example, the Maggie Fischer Cross Bay Swim. I drop the Baofeng over the side of a boat, I can handle that. Drop the Yaesu VX-6 and I'm going in the water after it.

With another hurricane season upon us, I was looking around to see if anyone made a more inexpensive HT that was also a tri-bander. I found out that the Yaesu VX-6R is now a dual-band HT. Kenwood still makes the TH-F6A but DX Engineering now lists it as a "close out," even though Kenwood still lists it on their web site.

In the wee hours a few mornings back, when sleep eluded me, I was scrolling through a news app on my cell phone and saw something about Baofeng introducing a tri-band HT on August 16th, 2016.

A few hours later I did a GOOGLE search and saw the BTECH/Baofeng UV5X3 listed on Amazon for less than $65, including a few added accessories. I felt this would be another great HT to add to the emergency Go Kit. The HT covers the 2 meter, 220 and 440 bands and has the same power features as the Yaesu VX-6R, 5 watts high power on

Continued on page 4

Baofeng UV5X3, continued from page 3...

2 meter and 440 and 4 watts high power on 220. Another feature they list is the HT's ability to be programmed with the latest version of CHIRP, using an FTDI chip cable.

I ordered one and I wanted to be able to give a review for the people who read the GSBARC Compass. The UV5X3 looks like the UV5R, but there is a different tag on the front panel. The symbol reminds me of the Death Star from "Star Wars" and the name says BTECH. Other than that, the front panel looks the same as the UV5R.

The basic unit comes with the usual Baofeng parts, belt clip, battery, charger and ear phone/mic cable. The only difference is there are 2 antennas, one for 2 meters and 440, and a shorter one for 220. I did a search but didn't find a tri-band HT antenna for the 5X3 at this time. Remember the BAOFENG/BTECH uses a male SMA connector; DIAMOND has tri-Band antennas, but they also list "Not for use with BAOFENG."

Some people suggest using a gender changer; personally I prefer to stay away from them due to the possibility of having something snap off. NAGOYA does have a tri-band mobile antenna: NA-320A, but I will wait until they come out with one for the HT.

The manual has a new look, printed on heavy stock paper with lots of colors and pictures. It goes into detail but it is still lacking a simple "basic steps chart" for clearing a memory channel and installing a new channel into that memory slot, along with something that gives the splits on all three bands.

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) had one of their members publish a detailed list of how to program the radio via the touch tone pad. When you download and print it, there is a way that you can fold it up and it fits into your wallet or Go Kit, plus it is a good way for newcomers to amateur radio to be able to understand some of the basics of programming. How many times have we had newcomers show up at Open House and ask for help programming their HTs?

http://rags.rochesterham.org/e-RAGS/RAG_May_2015.pdf

A major note: when using CHIRP, when you do a "read from radio" you have to select BTECH instead of Baofeng and then select the UV5X3. Of course you also need to make sure you have the right COM port selected.

The battery and charger look to be the same as the ones used in the UV5 series, which makes it kind of nice to be able to swap battery packs and reuse the same chargers. I also bought a car battery adapter eliminator, something to use in the field.

To be honest, the first unit I ordered had to be sent back. I couldn't read the radio from the computer: yes it was an FTDI cable, yes the computer did recognize the port, I was able to program in a couple of channels but after a few hours, the radio lost its display. They do list an email site for BTECH and I sent off a list of what was happening. This was around 2200 in the evening, within 30 minutes I received a reply. The tech site seems to be in South Dakota. We exchanged emails for the next hour, they reviewed everything I had done and finally said to send it back to AMAZON for a refund. I reordered and the next one they shipped worked. I was able to read the radio, program and upload channels and made a few contacts.

This will make a nice addition to my Go Kit. Now I have the ability to access all 3 repeaters used by Great South Bay ARC from the EOC.

The Squirrel Cage, continued from page 3...

It inspires me. I like that CW engages my listening skills – that's what radio is supposed to do and it's what texting doesn't do. So it's back to CW University for me.

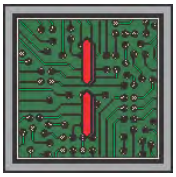
As for that quicksilver message send by Margelli and being copied by Ken Miller K6CTW?

It said: "I just saved a bunch of money on my car insurance." Well, if you're planning to be in this drag race, it's best to give yourself good coverage too.

Inside the Classroom with AB2ZI

Foundations

By Kevin, AB2ZI

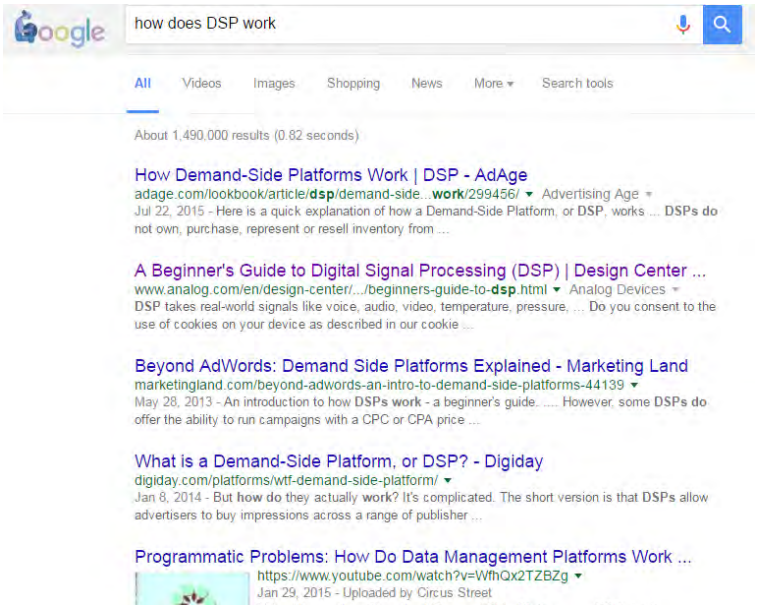


In any hobby or endeavor, there is a requisite foundation of knowledge one must acquire in order to more thoroughly participate in that subject. One needs to learn the specific vocabulary used to communicate effectively. This is why our amateur radio license manuals (and instruction books on other topics) have glossaries of terms located within them.

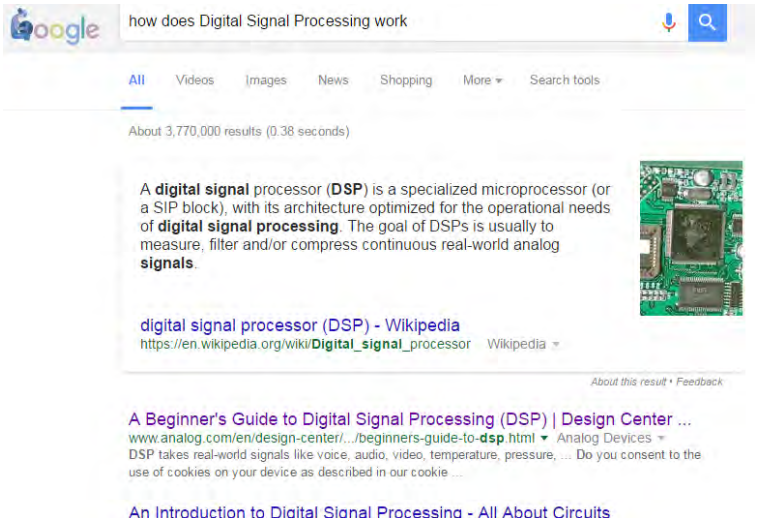
In addition to learning the vernacular, sometimes one must also take on other relative topics to the subject. In amateur radio that means math and physics. Now when I say physics, I don't mean you have to study quantum mechanics and nanotechnology, but you do need to understand some of the electrical laws and how they interact. Of course, you could just memorize the Technician pool, get licensed, and go your merry way without ever understanding any of the subject matter. There are plenty of hams who'll help you set up your mobile rig, or program an HT for you so you can make use of the local repeaters and that's all just fine.

However, amateur radio is about the hobby of radio electronics. In the electronics world you'll be confronted with milliamps, microvolts and megawatts. You'll hear talk of tropo-ducting, meteor scatter and solar flux indices. Discussions of decibels, gain and effective radiated power will be overheard among groups of hams along with many other exotic sounding topics.

Fortunately hams are a friendly bunch and don't consider any questions to be stupid. Hams love to share their knowledge and will happily talk for hours about all topics ham related. Thanks to the internet this is one of the most incredible eras to be learning about just about anything you could imagine. Among the resources available on-line we have Wikipedia, YouTube and a seemingly infinite number of websites available to us. Two of the most useful and important resources, in my opinion, are Google and YouTube. You can literally search for just about anything on Google. Searching has become so advanced we can just type in a plain question as if we were asking for information from a live person. For example, suppose you heard someone talking about DSP filtering and wanted to know how it worked. Go to your browser and the Google site and type in "how does DSP work," you don't even need to use a question mark. Here's what came up when I did just that:



Notice there are different results depending on which definition of "DSP" you are using. We want "Digital Signal Processing" so the third result down would be a good starting point. We could also have spelled out want "Digital Signal Processing" to aid in narrowing down our search. This would result in this list being returned:



Not only have we narrowed down our results to just the area of interest we wanted, in this case electronics, but there seem to be more results available as well. The first search netted about 1-1/2 million results, while the narrower search criteria returned over 3.7 million!

Continued on page 6...

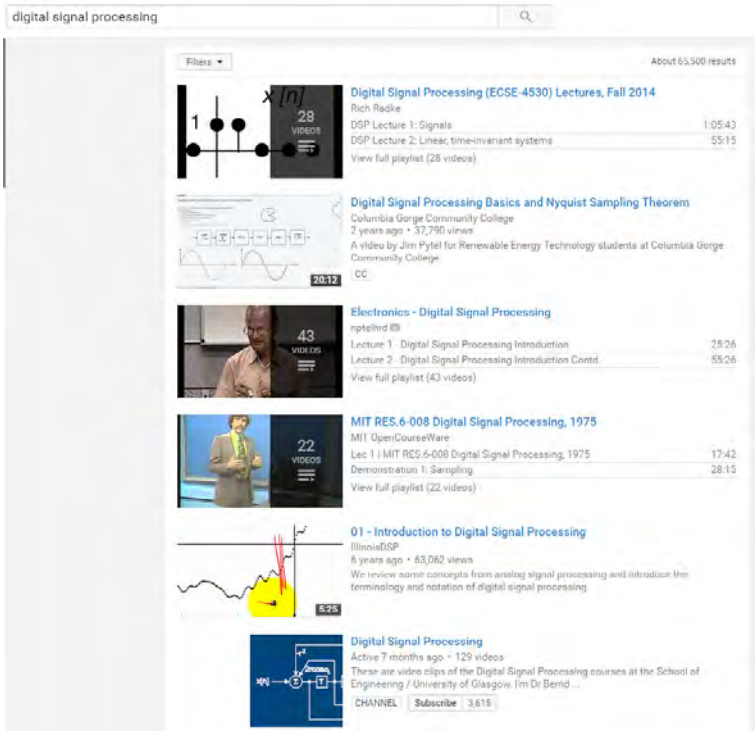
Inside the Classroom, continued from page 5...

With the on-line resources available to us today, there's absolutely no excuse for not being able to at least attempt to get answers to your questions. It's all about taking your curiosity on line.

YouTube works much the same way, and in fact it's a rare search nowadays that doesn't also return some video results from YouTube.

YouTube is a resource that can aid you greatly, especially if you have an account that you log into when you use the site. This will help the site recommend videos for you to watch related to your video watch and search history. This will help you find videos that explain topics in different ways using different animations, simulations or live experiments. When you find someone who explains things in a way you can relate to you should always subscribe to their channel and "like" the videos to help them get feedback and to aid the algorithms on the site to customize what you are presented with as recommendations.

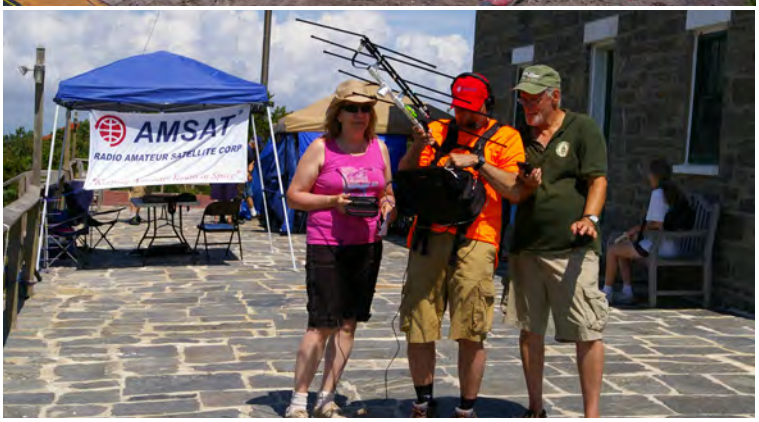
Here's a search for Digital Signal Processing on YouTube:



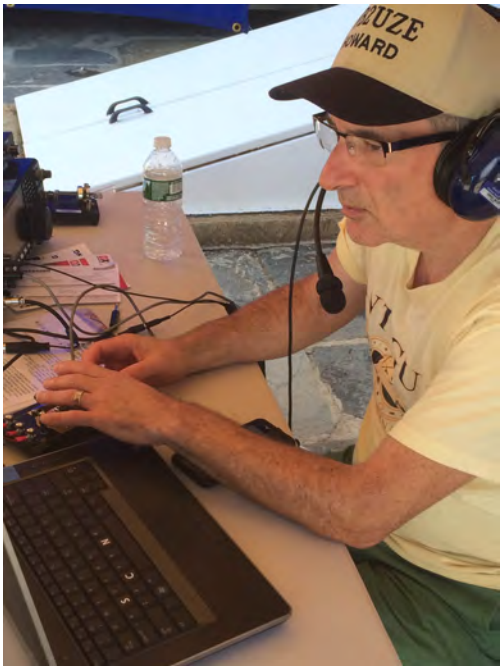
I personally find videos to be much more enlightening than trying to read dry technical articles.

A note on math: Please try to remember and accept that math requires practice, the proper kind of practice. There are basic rules that govern how to work through problems and some really cool 'tricks' you can use to make mental math more intuitive. I'm happy to help anyone who wants to improve their math skills. Also, pick up a calculator! The one recommended is the Texas Instruments TI-30Xa (not the solar model). I have extensive help files up on the education group to help you get the most out of this amazing $10 scientific calculator.

73 and see you in class.



Fire Island Lighthouse 2016



NY QSO Party – Get Ready for October 15!

By Dean NW2K

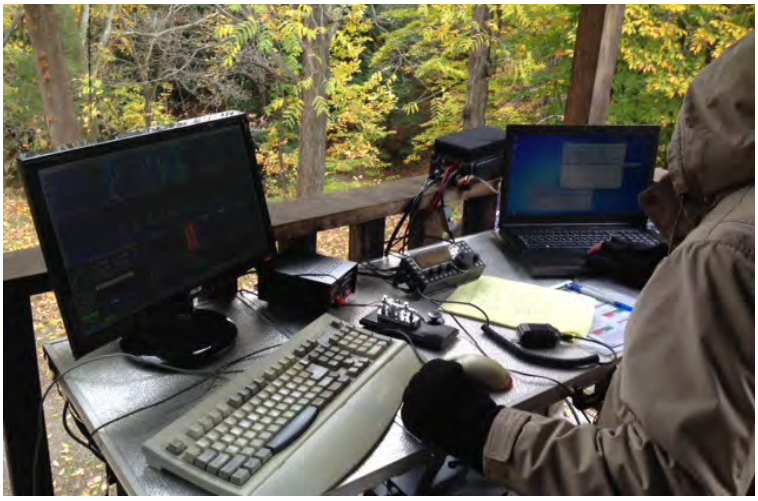
It's all about NY on October 15 as radio amateurs from around the world get on the air to work all 62 NY counties, Chautauqua to Clinton, Niagara to Suffolk. A dozen or more mobile operators will take to the mean streets of NYC or the bucolic surrounds of the Southern Tier and North Country. Brave souls will sneak out to the woodlands to activate a rare county, Field Day style, as temps may dip into the 30s. And good, solid Elmers will open up their shacks to new hams and build excitement as the spotlight is on US!

Carey K2RNY at W2FU NYQP 2015

The NYQP game is easy to play as all operating modes and bands are eligible. The QSO exchange is simple for NY operators: signal report and county. For those eager out-of-state ops wanting to work all 62 counties, they'll send a signal report and their state, province or DX.

There's a category for all operating styles from single-operator-QRP to multi-operator-high-power-mobile! And the 48 plaques, which are awarded to category winners, are simply beautiful and I think they're the best in the business. Serious "furniture" for the discerning ham's shack! The state-wide NYQP Plaque Sponsorship Team and the Rochester DX Association really step up to the plate each year to make all the effort worthwhile.

Please start thinking about your NYQP operations. Mobile or Fixed, SSB, CW or digital, the important thing is to get on the air with friends and make some "noise" and help promote amateur radio spirit in NY. Please consider using this event to introduce new hams into the mix. Elmering has always been an important aspect of our hobby and NYQP is a perfect vehicle from which to teach operating concepts and station engineering. Make a new antenna, try a new digital mode, operate a vintage rig, have fun!



Jack WA2CHV in CAT County NYQP 2015

There is a page at the NYQP website (www.nyqp.org) that we've created to announce activity across the state. It's called "2016 Planned Activations" and it's easy to list your plans online to alert others of your activity in that rare or not-so-rare QTH. It helps all of us make informed choices on how to operate to maximize fun. The event's rules are also listed at the site.

Karen K2KAR with Dave WJ2O NYQP 2015

In 2015, we had a record 314 logs, 156 from NY, 135 stateside, 14 from Canada, and 9 from DX. 5,670(!) unique call signs participated in the event, with 43,065(!) reported QSOs. Contacts were made in all 62 counties from 49 (missed AK) states, 9 (AB, BC, MB, NB, NT, ON, PEI, QC, SK) provinces, and dozens of DX countries. There were 57 amateur radio clubs (25 New York and 32 out of state) involved the event. Let's set some new records in 2016!

Need any assistance or have any questions? Wondering which are the rare counties? Have a question about logging software? The NYQP Team is at the ready...send me a note any time at NW2K@arrl.net or check out the great NYQP website (www.nyqp.org) for all the details. We'll help you get on the air on October 15!

Urge the Senate to Support the Amateur Radio Parity Act

Amateur radio operators provide communications support for, and participate in public service events on behalf of our communities. During and in the aftermath of disasters and emergencies, when other forms of communications are unavailable, we provide communications for first responders and Federal, state and local governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, and to our neighbors when communications systems are overloaded or fail. Radio Amateurs contribute to the future of telecommunications as we participate in the development of innovative technology in this digital age. Amateur Radio is non-commercial, and we provide our services at no charge to anyone.

We cannot do any of these things, however, unless we can erect an effective outdoor antenna at our residences.

On September 12, The U.S. House of Representatives passed the "Amateur Radio Parity Act" to protect the rights of Radio Amateurs.

Now is the time to contact your U.S. Senators and urge them to support this important legislation.

Click here to visit the ARRL Webpage that will allow you to send these emails instantly!

Send Message

UV-5R Programming

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

I haven't owned a handheld, 2M FM radio in about 20 years. Back in the old days I had an ICOM IC2AT. What a nice, simple radio it was! Straightforward, everything in front of you, well-labeled and easy to read – white letters on a black or dark green background.

You dialed in the frequency with thumb wheel switches on the top of the unit: 1MHz, 100kHz and 10kHz. There was a slide switch for 5kHz steps. There were volume and squelch controls and a slide switch for power ON/OFF.

On the back of the unit there were 3 slide switches for selecting simplex or duplex operation, repeater offset in duplex and high or low power. The 5 other switches in the picture may have been for PL tone selection but I am not sure as my radio did not have this option.

Well – that radio is gone!

This winter I wanted to see what all the hoopla was over the Baofeng UV-5R. How much radio can you get for $30? Turns out you get a lot of radio for $30. Maybe it is not the best but for $30, it works! It has a few unusual features such as a white LED to use as a flashlight (it also blinks) and you can listen to FM broadcast stations.

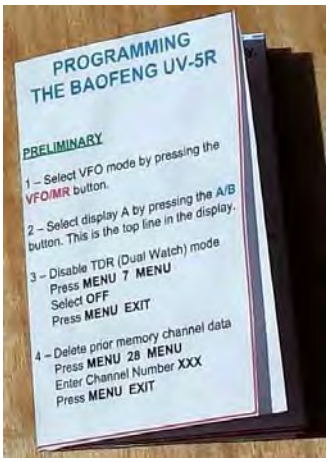
The keypad is small, which is not a real problem except when you try to read the blue letters on the black keys. To compound the blue letter problem they put 4 letters on some keys (STEP, SAVE, SCAN, BEEP). NOTE: All keys have at least 1 larger white character. Then they buried all the functions, including squelch control, in a menu accessible through the front panel keypad. AHHH - the wonders of the microcontroller!

I had heard grumbling about how difficult the radio was to program and that you needed to purchase a programming cable and software to do the work for you. So I purchased the software and cable. I don't know if the software was a help because my computer would not recognize the CD with the program on it.

I tried following the instructions in the manual – to no avail! I searched the web and found 2 documents that do a great job of walking you through the programming procedure for setting up the memory channels. I believe these were created by KC9HI, KB5ELV and KK4ITX. The most important instruction was "The following steps must be followed exactly. Do NOT skip steps along the way."

I have condensed this information into a credit card size booklet that is easy to carry in your wallet, purse, glove box, go bag, etc. for those times when you need to change / add a channel. The document describes adding repeater and simplex frequencies as memory channels and also as temporary frequency selections.

The following page contains the document which should be printed. This is an 8 page booklet. Follow the instructions for cutting and folding the document carefully. If your fingers are like mine, the folds do not come out perfectly – but it works!


PROGRAMMING
THE BAOFENG UV-5R

PRELIMINARY

1 – Select VFO mode by pressing the VFO/MR button.

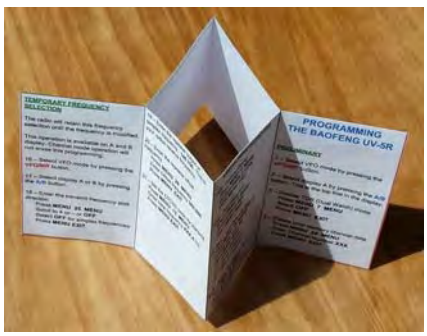
2 – Select display A by pressing the A/B button. This is the top line in the display.

3 – Disable TDR (Dual Watch) mode
Press MENU 7 MENU
Select OFF
Press MENU EXIT

4 – Delete prior memory channel data
Press MENU 28 MENU
Enter Channel Number XXX
Press MENU EXIT

1. Print out the document
2. Cutout the document following the red outline
3. Fold along the black and blue dashed line so the text is on the outside
4. Fold along the black vertical lines. Reverse the folds.
5. Using a sharp knife, slit along the blue dashed line only.
6. See the picture for folding into a booklet

(reprinted from the RaRa Rag)



PROGRAMMING THE BAOFENG UV-5R

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Enter Channel Number **XXX**
Press **MENU EXIT**

USEFUL MENU DEFINITIONS

TXP - Transmit Power
Press **MENU 2 MENU**
Scroll to **HIGH** or **LOW**
Press **MENU EXIT**

TDR – Dual Reception
Press **MENU 7 MENU**
Scroll to **ON** or **OFF**
Press **MENU EXIT**

SC-REV – Scan Resume Method
Press **MENU 18 MENU**
Scroll to **TO**, **CO**, **SE**
Press **MENU EXIT**
TO – Time Operation
CO – Carrier Operation
SE – Search Operation

ABR – Display Illumination Time
Press **MENU 6 MENU**
Scroll **OFF** to **10** seconds
Press **MENU EXIT**

RPTR CHANNEL PROGRAMMING

5 – Enter the repeater offset frequency.
Press **MENU 26 MENU**
Enter Offset frequency **000.600**
Press **MENU EXIT**

NOTE: 600 KHz (000.600) for 146 MHZ and 5 MHz (005.000) for 440 MHz.

6 – Enter the transmit frequency shift direction
Press **MENU 25 MENU**
Scroll to **+** or **–**
Press **MENU EXIT**

7 – Set the CTCSS code for transmit
Press **MENU 13 MENU**
Enter tone frequency **XXX.X** Hz
Press **MENU EXIT**

NOTE: The up and down arrow buttons with scroll the list of tones for selection. Tone OFF is one of the selections.

8 – Enter the repeater output frequency, **146.700**. This is your radios receive frequency.

9 – Store the receive frequency
Press **MENU 27 MENU**
Enter the Channel Number **XXX**
Press **MENU EXIT**

NOTE: Memory Channel Numbers are 000 to 127.

10 – Press ***SCAN** button. This displays your radios transmit frequency.

11 – Store the transmit frequency
Press **MENU 27 MENU**
Enter the same Memory Channel Number as above. **XX**
Press **MENU**

12 – Press ***SCAN EXIT**

SIMPLEX CHNL PROGRAMMING

Adding a simplex channel is similar to a repeater channel. First, follow the PRELIMINARY instructions, 1 – 4.

Be sure to have a Memory Channel available.

13 – Set the transmit frequency shift direction to OFF for simplex frequency operation.
Press **MENU 25 MENU**
Scroll to **OFF**
Press **MENU EXIT**

14 – Enter the simplex frequency, **146.520**. This is your radios transmit and receive frequency.

15 – Store the receive frequency
Press **MENU 27 MENU**
Enter the Channel Number **XXX**
Press **MENU EXIT**

19 – Enter the repeater output or simplex frequency, **146.700**. This is your radios receive frequency.

20 – Enter the repeater offset frequency.
Press **MENU 26 MENU**
Enter Offset frequency **000.600**
Press **MENU EXIT**

21 – Set the CTCSS code for transmit
Press **MENU 13 MENU**
Enter tone frequency **XXX.X** Hz
Press **MENU EXIT**

TEMPORARY FREQUENCY SELECTION

The radio will retain this frequency selection until the frequency is modified.

This operation is available on A and B display. Channel mode operation will not erase this programming.

16 – Select VFO mode by pressing the **VFO/MR** button.

17 – Select display A or B by pressing the **A/B** button.

18 – Enter the transmit frequency shift direction
Press **MENU 25 MENU**
Scroll to **+** or **–** or **OFF**
Select **OFF** for simplex frequencies
Press **MENU EXIT**

HINTS

- Clear the desired memory channels first. Step 4.
- To program multiple memory channels repeat steps 5 – 12.
- If you need to back out of the programming sequence, press **EXIT**.
- Always verify that you have successfully added your new Memory Channel by selecting channel mode and then the desired memory channel. Verify the receive frequency. Press the PTT button to verify the transmit frequency. BE SURE to give your call sign.
- Keep a log of your channel number vs frequency vs tone vs offset.

8.4"

6.6"

YAHOO!

GSBARC has a New Yahoo Group and the old one has been deleted

If you are a member in good standing and want to join the club's new Yahoo group, go to:

https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/gsb-arc/info

and click on "Join Group" Be sure to add a note when filling out your information with your call sign so we know who you are!

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, (###) ###-####
Div. 3—Town of Islip ARES/RACES
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: Joe Albertus , KB2JOE, 631-664-6709
Div. 5—Town of Brookhaven ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Ted Debowy, AC2IR, 631-751-6576
Div. 6—Riverhead ARES/RACES
EC/RO: < Unknown — no longer in state. >
Div. 7—Southampton ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Dennis O'Rourke, KB2ZWW, 631-728-5424
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: Nat Raynor, N2NEI, 631-324-3738
Div. 10—Shelter Island ARES/RACES
EC/RO: Neal Raymond, N2QZA, 631-749-9330

Suffolk County ARES/RACES Net:

Mondays 2100 Local - 145.330/R (136. 5PL)
Alternate Frequency - 145.370 (136.5 PL)

New York State RACES Net (HF)

Sundays 0900 Local, 3993.5 KHz LSB

2016 VE Session Dates

- September 24th
- October 22nd
- November 26th
- December 17th

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 to register for an FRN number to use on the paperwork.

GSBARC Free License Class Schedule:

Technician: Sept. 6th thru Nov. 15th

General: Nov. 22nd thru Jan. 31, 2017

Amateur Extra: Feb. 7th thru May 23rd.

Note: All Classes Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9:30 PM. Class text book is the current ARRL License Manual for that level. For more info email Kevin, AB2ZI at kmorgan6@optonline.net

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"

2017 Annual GSBARC Field Day Raffle is here!

Prizes for 2017 are:

1st Prize:
ICOM ID-5100 VHF/UHF Transceiver

2nd Prize:
UHF Digital Voice Access Point (DVAP)

3rd Prize:
BTECH/Baofeng UV5X3 Tri-Band HT

Tickets are $5 each or a book of 5 for $20

Winner Need Not be Present to Win.