



# THE COMPASS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 5/6

“...serving the community through Public Service.”

May/June, 2004

## GSBARC 2004 OFFICERS

President: Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI  
Vice Pres: David Wandell, N2UHR  
Treasurer: Tom Carrubba, KA2D  
Corr. Sec.: Scott Verity, KC2FBV  
Rec. Sec.: Steve Schwenker, K2JY  
Dir. 2004: Charles Rousselet, N2MZX  
Dir. 2004: Jay Eichner, N2PIK  
Dir. 2005: Dom Stengele, WA2UJI  
Dir. 2005: Robert Smithline, N0UH

## Upcoming GSBARC Events

### Board Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 8:00 PM

July 8

August 12

September 9

### VE Session – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 12:00 PM

June NO VE – Field Day

July 25

August 22

### General Meeting – Last Thur. 8:00PM

June 24

July 29

August 26

### Open House 12:00 – 2:00PM

Every Saturday @ Town Hall EOC

Except for July & August

## NETS

### Newsline Report -

Monday 7:00 PM 146.685/R

### Club Info Net -

Monday 7:30 PM 146.685/R

### DX/Contest Info -

Monday 8:00 PM 146.685/R

### TOBARES Net -

Monday 8:15 PM 146.685/R

### Swap ‘n Shop Net -

Tuesday 7:30 PM 146.685/R

### 10 M Net -

Tuesday 8:00 PM 28.320

## REPEATERS

**2 M** 146.685/146.085 PL 110.9

**1 1/2 M** 223.860/222.260 PL 131.8

**70 CM** 440.850/445.850 PL 114.8

## President’s Message

By Walter, KA2RGI

## Field Day 2004

Well here we with Field Day occurring on the 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. Man does time go by fast. It seems like we just looking for people to assist with this years event, and now here it is.

So far things are look good. Joe, N2IMF will be coordinating setup on Saturday starting at 7:00 AM. I know he looking for all of the support he can. This the first year Joe has attempted coordination of an event such as Field Day.

Unfortunately Joe will be a little light handed because some of our regulars are unable to make it down on Saturday this year. I also will not be able to make it until Saturday afternoon. Frank, K2LI has stated he will be there to assist with cooking for Saturday.

The setup will be very similar to last years setup. We are not planning to put the tower this year because of lack of commitment of personnel to do the work.

I want to wish everyone a very happy and safe Field Day. Final preparations will be updated at the General Meeting. See you there.

**Happy Birthdays For May/June 2004**  
**Happy Birthday**

**May**

Alan, N2CRV  
David KC2GWO  
Joe, KC2HNM  
Frank, K2LI  
David, KB2NYS  
Peter, WB2OQQ  
Adam, KB2TCH  
Joe, KB2ZHD

**June**

Bero, KA2DZR  
Andy, KC2GWP  
Otto, KB2MBZ  
Paul, N2SLM  
Joann, N2TBG

If your birthday is not listed we may not have all the info in our database



**News of Interest**  
**Editors Note**

If you have any topics or websites of ham or computer related interests you would like to see appear in the newsletter please email me at [ehowley@optonline.net](mailto:ehowley@optonline.net)



**Website of the Month**  
Radio or computer related

The Rfcafe Your engineering website  
Good technical information, Try it out.  
<http://www.rfcafe.com/>



**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**BABYLON TOWN HALL EOC LINDENHURST, NY**  
Thursday April 10, 2003  
called to order by KA2RGI at 8:00PM

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

President	KA2RGI	Walter Wenzel
Vice President	N2UHR	Dave Wandell
Director 1	WA2UJI	Dom Stengele
Director 2	KC2EGK	Frank Spinazzola
Director 3	N2MUN	Phil Lewis
Director 4	N2MZK	Charles Rousselet

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Treasurer	KA2D	Tom Carrubba
Corresponding Sec.	KC2FBV	Scott Verity
Recording Secretary	KC2AUX	PattiLynn Wandell

KC2EXO, KC2KMD, KB2SIE, N2GBM, N2PIK

**RECORDING SEC. REPORT:** PattiLynn, KC2AUX  
Reading of the previous months minutes were suspended because Sec. was not present.

**CORRESPONDENCE SEC. REPORT:** Scott, KC2FBV  
Sec. was not present. What was received at PO Box was forward by email from Tom, KA2D.  
Bank Statement - checking  
Dues - K2DD  
Newsletter - LARC  
Payment notice - Marsh, club equipment insurance due 5/1/03

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Tom, KA2D  
Checking: \$1796.97

CD: \$2777.73  
Grand total of all funds: \$4574.70  
Membership Dues received.  
KC2EXO – Family Dues  
KB2SIE – Individual Dues

**APPAREL:** Spin, KC2EGK  
Club apparel is available. Jackets are ordered.

**CLUB STATION & EQUIPMENT:** Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing new to report

**DX & CONTESTING:** Tom, KA2D  
New IP Address for DX Cluster is 24.47.176.32  
For current DX bulletins check in to KA2D-8 on 145.07  
Also check into W2GSB DX Cluster.  
CQWW WPX Contest, SSB this weekend.  
DX Cluster will be working in contest mode.

**EDUCATION:** Phil, N2MUN  
March 4<sup>th</sup> new Tech Classes started at 7:30 at TOB EOC.  
Classes to run about 8 weeks to end of April.  
May 6<sup>th</sup> General Class to start.

**FIELD DAY JUNE 28-29, 2003:** Doug, KB2SIE  
Needs more committee personnel to help check out Field Day equipment. Equipment checks will done during "OPEN HOUSE" on Saturday's unless otherwise requested.  
New category "F" has been added (working out of EOC).  
Need to schedule time of on the operations.

**HAMFEST:** Walter, KA2RGI  
Scheduled for May 25 at Sunrise Mall, Massapequa, NY  
Hamfest approved by ARRL and on website. Hours are 8AM-2PM for buyers. Vendor setup starts at 7:00AM.

**LIBRARY:** Dom, WA2UJI  
Nothing new to report

**MEMBERSHIP:** Tom, N2MIG  
Member are asked to submit their email address if they have one. Your email address will be added to the roster.  
Total membership 115, 95 full, 10 family.  
April is cutoff month for dues/membership.

**NETS:**  
News line: MP format working, has better quality  
2-meter club info net: needs person for DX report, also needs backup net control  
Swap -n- Shop: All Good  
10 meter net: All good with 14 check-ins

**NEWSLETTER:** Walter, KA2RGI  
Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Gene Howley, KB2TXZ is new editor of the newsletter.

**HOME PAGE, WEBSITE, DX CLUSTER:** Tom, KA2D  
GSBARC is on line, DX Cluster running OK

**REPEATERS:** Walter KA2RGI  
144: Receiver needs a circulator to keep out unwanted frequencies. Investigating procurement of unit.  
220: Tested and will be back up as soon as the weather breaks.  
440: purchase a larger amp to increase coverage  
Spoke about recent meeting with Town and Tower Management.  
N2OJA donated some backup radios for use for repeater system.

**VE SESSIONS:** Tom, KA2D

2003 Test Fee is \$12.00

Next test session will be held on Apr. 27th at Town Hall  
March VE served 9 candidates. Great VE Support.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

Nothing to report

**ARES/RACES:** Walter, KA2RGI

EMS Exercise for March 30, 2003 went ok

SC Half Marathon critique is April 17 7:30 PM.

On the air training is continuing on weekly nets

**HEALTH & WELFARE / ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

KA2D is feeling better and TNX for the card.

KA2RGI TNX for bereavement card.

KC2AUX back at work but still has to take it easy.

TNX to all concern.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Nothing to report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

KC2EGK made a suggestion to have the club dues reduced to \$20.00 because of the amount of funds in the club treasury. Motion was discussed and no further action was made.

KC2EGK made a motion to make the club president's dues waved for the term he/she was in office. Motion was discussed and no further action was made.

Meeting was adjourned @ 9:13 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Walter, KA2RGI for PattiLynn, KC2AUX

**GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

BABYLON TOWN HALL EOC, LINDENHURST, NY

Thursday April 29, 2004

Meeting called to order by Walter, KA2RGI at 8:00 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President	KA2RGI	Walter Wenzel
Vice President	N2UHR	David Wandell
Corresponding Secretary	KC2FBV	Scott Verity
Director 2004	N2PIK	Jay Eichner
Director 2005	WA2UJI	Dom Stengele

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Director 2004	N2MZK	Charles Rousselet
Treasurer	KA2D	Tom Carrubba
Recording Secretary	K2JY	Steve Schwenker
Director 2005	N0UH	Robert Smithline

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Recording Secretary - Steve, K2JY  
Minutes were accepted as published in Compass.

It was forwarded to the membership that Steve, K2JY was stepping down from the position as Recording Secretary because of work commitments that were prohibiting his attendance at the meetings. The executive board is soliciting the membership for someone who would like to step in and fulfill the requirements of the position for the rest of his term.

**CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:** Corresponding Secretary - Scott, KC2FBV

**Hamfest announcement** for the Bergen ARA Hamfest for May 29, 2004

2 returned GSBARC Hamfest flyers

Scott reported he sent out information about May Hamfest to local papers and such.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer - Tom, KA2D

Motion to approve the GSBARC 2004 Budget was presented by Joe, N2IMF and was seconded by John, KA2YMQ and Charles, N2MZK. Motion was passed unanimously.

Checking 2136.26

CD: 2800.16

Total: 4936.42

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**APPERAL:** Chairperson – Rob, N0UH

New order going into supplier for t-shirts so we would have shirts for all sizes on hand.

Also putting in order for more caps since there is only one left.

Looking for cost of patches since some members have requested information about patches. Golf shirt order is also going in for: Adam, KB2TCH; Ken, KC2KXA; and Pete, N2GBM.

**CLUB STATION AND EQUIPMENT:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI

A motion was presented by Frank, K2LI to purchase Bud, WA2QAV's TS-570 for the club to own as another radio it would have for Field Day and Special Event Operations for \$500.00. The radio was previously owned by Rich, AC2P. The radio also has the voice chip in it. The motion was seconded by Rich, KA2VKD. A vote was taken and the motion was passed with a majority in favor, no negative votes and 1 abstention. It was also mentioned and approved that the club should purchase a Kenwood MC-60 desk microphone for the radio so it would match the unit already owned by the club and it would also be easier to operate. Need someone to move donated trailer from where it is stored before we lose it. Will get in contact with John, KC2HCB and alert him of the status.

**DX & CONTESTING:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D

K2TV mentioned the WPX SSB Contest is this weekend and reminded the members that K1EA now has CT for Windows as a free download for those who would like it to keep track of their records. He also reminded those that wanted to, to forward their logs as club participants for the contest.

**DX CLUSTER:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D

Cluster-up and running and nothing new to report.

**EDUCATION:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI

Morse code classes are continuing at Walter's new shop, 421 Broadway, West Babylon at 3:30 PM Saturdays. There is no fee for the classes. Classes will be ending in May.

Extra Classes are completed. There were 6 people attending the classes.

The next scheduled class is a Tech Class that will start after Labor Day. There is no fee for the classes. If anyone is interested they can attend any of the classes.

Have not heard from anyone else about any computer basic classes or any kit building classes. We will have more information on those classes later.

Does anyone have an interest in start a special interest group on any thing pertaining to amateur radio? If you do contact Walter to see what can be arraigned.

**LIBRARY:** Chairperson – Dom, WA2UJI

WA2UJI some Monitoring Times magazines (Scanner Mags) to the library.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D  
103 members total. 80 Full, 13 Family, 4 ARRL, 6 Complimentary.

**NETS:**

We are looking for anyone that would be interested in helping out with the club info net on Monday nights. Back up control operators would be helpful. If you are interested, let us know and we will provide you with the standard script used for the net. The Tuesday night ten meter net and the swap and shop net would always appreciate more check ins.

**Newsline Report:** NCS – Dave, N2UHR Nothing new to report.  
**2 m Net:** NCS – Dave, N2UHR Nothing new to report.  
**Swap n Shop:** NCS – Bud, WA2QAV will not be able to handle the net for the next few weeks. Joe, N2IMF will step in.  
**10 m Net:** NCS – Brian, N2NGE Nothing new to report.

**NEWSLETTER – COMPASS:** Chairperson – Gene, N2TZX  
Need additions articles for the Newsletter. Keep those ideas coming. Deadline for submissions is the Saturday after the Executive Meeting.

**REPEATERS:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
We will ordering the updated board for the controller by the next meeting for the 2m machine.  
We will also be purchasing the isolator for the 2m repeater as previously authorized also.  
440 repeater is having issues passing audio and will be looked at by the committee soon  
220 repeater also having audio issues and we are looking for an alternative to maintaining the current 220 system.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Field Day:** Chairpersons – Position Open  
June 26-27 - We are looking for field coordinators to help with getting ready for field day. Any help would be appreciated.  
**Hamfest:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
The hamfest will be held rain or shine on May 23, at the Massapequa Sunrise Mall, starting at 8 am and will end at 12 noon. Any help would be appreciated.  
**Air Power Museum:** Chairperson – Bud, WA2QAV  
The event we had two years ago was on June 8-9. Bud will be contacting the persons in charge of the APM to if any special events are scheduled that will work together for a special event station for later this year.  
**International Lighthouse Weekend:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D  
August 14-15 9AM-5PM Fire Island Lighthouse - Updated information about the event was forward to the Fire Island Newsletter and events calendar.  
**Club Picnic:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
August 21 11AM-5PM Town Hall Park - Nothing to Report  
**End of the Year Party:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing to Report

**VE SESSIONS:** ARRL Liaison – Tom, KA2D  
The next VE session is March 28 at EOC.

**WEBSITE - HOME PAGE:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D  
Up and running, nothing new to report

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Antenna Committee:** Chairperson – Open Position  
Some work was done recently on Joe, N2IMF's antenna. If anyone needs antenna work or assistance let us know.  
**Open House:** Chairpersons – Dave, N2UHR  
Nothing new to report  
**Public Relations:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
Information about the upcoming hamfest and the fire island event were sent out.  
**Technical Committee:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
If anyone is interested in joining the committee see Walter.  
**ARES/RACES:** EC/RO – Walter, KA2RGI  
ARES cards are available at the TOBARES meeting.  
May 2 – Suffolk County Special Olympics – West Islip High School Need 15 operators for the event  
May 2 – LI Canon Marathon – Eisenhower Park to Jones Beach  
May 9 – Elizabeth McNamee 5K Run – West Islip High School  
May 11 – Skywarn Basic Training Class – Mineola  
May 17 – Skywarn Basic Training Class – Southold  
May 19 – Skywarn Basic Training Class – Hauppauge  
May 26 – Skywarn Advanced Training Class – Centereach (Radio Central ARC Mtg.)  
June 5-6 – Good Samaritan Hospital 24 Hr. Hospice Walk – West Islip High School  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> Gen Mtg is Field Day Prep Meeting  
June 26-27 is Field Day.  
The full calendar of events on the [www.tobares.org](http://www.tobares.org) website.

**GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS:** Chairperson – Dave, N2UHR  
No speaker was present. Walter expanded on repeater situation and upcoming Hamfest preparations

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Chairperson – Scott, KC2FBV  
Jon, KC2YMQ lost his son this in car accident. Our sympathies go out to his family.  
Walter, KA2RGI had a fire at his house on 4/13. Thankfully he and his family are okay and minimal damage was caused to the house.  
Frank, K2LI's wife, Rose was in a car accident recently. She is okay but the car is history.

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
No old business was brought up.

**NEW BUSINESS:**  
No new business was brought up.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**  
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pete, N2GBM and was seconded by Danny, WB2COO.  
Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM  
50/50 was won by Ken, KC2KXA He donated his part back to the club. Total collected \$33.

Respectfully submitted by  
Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI for  
Steve Schwenker K2JY  
Recording Secretary



**GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**  
BABYLON TOWN HALL EOC, LINDENHURST, NY

Thursday May 28, 2004

Meeting called to order by Walter, KA2RGI at 8:17 PM

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President	KA2RGI	Walter Wenzel
Vice President	N2UHR	David
Wandell		
Recording Secretary	KB2IDZ	Margaret
Mielko		
Director 2004	N2MZK	Charles
Rousselet		
Director 2005	WA2UJI	Dom Stengele

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Treasurer	KA2D	Tom
Carrubba		
Corresponding Secretary	KC2FBV	Scott Verity
Director 2004	N2PIK	Jay
Eichner		
Director 2005	N0UH	Robert
Smithline		

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Recording Secretary – Margaret, KB2IDZ

Minutes were accepted as published in Compass. It was forwarded to the membership that Steve, K2JY was stepping down from the position as Recording Secretary because of work commitments that were prohibiting his attendance at the meetings. The executive board is soliciting the membership for someone who would like to step in and fulfill the requirements of the position for the rest of his term.

**CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:** Corresponding Secretary - Scott, KC2FBV  
Nothing to report

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Treasurer - Tom, KA2D  
Motion to approve the GSBARC 2004 Budget was presented by Joe, N2IMF and was seconded by John, KA2YMQ and Charles, N2MZK. Motion was passed unanimously.

Checking	2136.26
CD:	<u>2800.16</u>
Total:	4936.42

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**APPERAL:** Chairperson – Rob, N0UH  
New order going into supplier for t-shirts so we would have shirts for all sizes on hand.  
Also putting in order for more caps since there is only one left. Looking for cost of patches since some members have requested information about patches. Golf shirt order is also going in for: Adam, KB2TCH; Ken, KC2KXA; and Pete, N2GBM.

**CLUB STATION AND EQUIPMENT:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI

A motion was presented by Frank, K2LI to purchase Bud, WA2QAV’s TS-570 for the club to own as another radio it would have for Field Day and Special Event Operations for \$500.00. The radio was previously owned by Rich, AC2P. The radio also has the voice chip in it. The motion was seconded by Rich, KA2VKD. A vote was taken and the motion was passed with a majority in favor, no negative votes and 1 abstention. It was also mentioned and approved that the club should purchase a Kenwood MC-60 desk microphone for the radio so it would match the unit already owned by the club and it would also be easier to operate.  
Need someone to move donated trailer from where it is stored before we lose it. Will get in contact with John, KC2HCB and alert him of the status.

**DX & CONTESTING:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D

**DX CLUSTER:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D  
Cluster-up and running and nothing new to report.

**EDUCATION:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
Morse code classes are continuing at Walter’s new shop, 421 Broadway, West Babylon at 3:30 PM Saturdays. There is no fee for the classes. Classes will be ending in May. Extra Classes are completed. There were 6 people attending the classes.

The next scheduled class is a Tech Class that will start after Labor Day. There is no fee for the classes. If anyone is interested they can attend any of the classes.  
Have not heard from anyone else about any computer basic classes or any kit building classes. We will have more information on those classes later.  
Does anyone have an interest in start a special interest group on any thing pertaining to amateur radio? If you do contact Walter to see what can be arraigned.

**LIBRARY:** Chairperson – Dom, WA2UJI  
Nothing new to report

**MEMBERSHIP:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D  
103 members total. 80 Full, 13 Family, 4 ARRL, 6 Complimentary.

**NETS:**  
We are looking for anyone that would be interested in helping out with the club info net on Monday nights. Back up control operators would be helpful. If you are interested, let us know and we will provide you with the standard script used for the net. The Tuesday night ten meter net and the swap and shop net would always appreciate more check ins.

<b>Newsline Report:</b>	NCS – Dave, N2UHR Nothing new to report.
<b>2 m Net:</b>	NCS – Dave, N2UHR Nothing new to report.
<b>Swap n Shop:</b>	NCS – Bud, WA2QAV will not be able to handle the net for the next few weeks. Joe, N2IMF will step in.
<b>10 m Net:</b>	NCS – Brian, N2NGE Nothing new to report.

**NEWSLETTER – COMPASS:** Chairperson – Gene, N2TZX  
Need additions articles for the Newsletter. Keep those ideas coming. Deadline for submissions it the Saturday after the Executive Meeting.

**REPEATERS:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
We will ordering the updated board for the controller by the next meeting for the 2m machine.  
We will also be purchasing the isolator for the 2m repeater as previously authorized also.  
440 repeater is having issues passing audio and will be looked at by the committee soon  
220 repeater also having audio issues and we are looking for an alternative to maintaining the current 220 system.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**  
**Field Day:** Chairpersons – Position Open  
June 26-27 - We are looking for field coordinators to help with getting ready for field day. Any help would be appreciated.  
**Hamfest:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
The hamfest will be held rain or shine on May 23, at the Massapequa Sunrise Mall, starting at 8 am and will end at 12 noon. Any help would be appreciated.  
**Air Power Museum:** Chairperson – Bud, WA2QAV

The event we had two years ago was on June 8-9. Bud will be contacting the persons in charge of the APM to if any special events are scheduled that will work together for a special event station for later this year.

**International Lighthouse Weekend:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D

August 14-15 9AM-5PM Fire Island Lighthouse - Updated information about the event was forward to the Fire Island Newsletter and events calendar.

**Club Picnic:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI

August 28 11AM-5PM Town Hall Park - Nothing to Report

**End of the Year Party:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing to Report

**VE SESSIONS:** ARRL Liaison – Tom, KA2D

The next VE session is May 23 at EOC.

**WEBSITE - HOME PAGE:** Chairperson – Tom, KA2D

Up and running, nothing new to report

#### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Antenna Committee:** Chairperson – Open Position  
Work needs to be done N2MIG, KA2YMQ antennas.

If anyone needs antenna work or assistance let us know.

**Open House:** Chairpersons – Dave, N2UHR  
Nothing new to report

**Public Relations:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
Information about the upcoming hamfest and the fire island event were sent out.

**Technical Committee:** Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI  
If anyone is interested in joining the committee see Walter.

**ARES/RACES:** EC/RO – Walter, KA2RGI

ARES cards are available at the TOBARES meeting.

June 5-6 – Good Samaritan Hospital 24 Hr. Hospice Walk – West Islip High School

June 23<sup>rd</sup> Gen Mtg is Field Day Prep Meeting

June 26-27 is Field Day.

The full calendar of events on the www.tobares.org website.

**GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS:** Chairperson – Dave, N2UHR

No speaker is scheduled.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Chairperson – Scott, KC2FBV

25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary for Margaret & Joe Meilko

Dick Sherwood, N2NGF was heard on the repeater this week and is up in the area.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business was brought up.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was brought up.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Made by N2IMF 2<sup>nd</sup> by KC2EXP

Respectfully submitted by  
Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI for

Recording Secretary



#### **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**Babylon Town Hall EOC Lindenhurst, NY**

Thursday June 10, 2004

Meeting called to order by Walter, KA2RGI at 8:11 PM.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President	KA2RGI Walter Wenzel
Corresponding Secretary	KC2FBV Scott Verity
Director	N2MZK Charles Rousselet
Director	N2PIK Jay Eichner
Director	WA2UJI Dom Stengele

#### **BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Vice President	N2UHR David Wandell
Treasurer	KA2D Tom Carrubba
Recording Secretary	K2JY Steve Schwenker
Director	N0UH Robert Smithline

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:

KB2TCH N2IMF

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Recording Secretary - Open

Nothing on Report at this time.

**CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:** Corresponding Secretary - Scott, KC2FBV

PO BOX:

Bank Statement for May 2004

April 2004 statement has not been received

Newsletter from LARC

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer - Tom, KA2D

KA2D reported the GSBARC acct balances as follows:

Checking: \$1562.05 + CD: \$2806.79 = TOTAL: \$4368.84

NOTE: Copy of April statement required to verify.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**APPAREL:** Chairperson - Rob, N0UH

Robert N0OH is currently pricing club patches. Club Hats and Shirts should be available at the next General Meeting. Call sign badges, jackets, and golf T-shirts require advance orders.

**CLUB STATION & EQUIPMENT:** Chairperson - Walter,

KA2RGI

Club equipment list requires updating (5/1/2004)

The club equipment insurance policy is overdue.

**DX & CONTESTING:** Chairperson - Tom, KA2D

For up to the minute info, please check the W2GSB DX Cluster.

**DX CLUSTER:** Chairperson - Tom, KA2D

Cluster-up and running. Nothing new to report.

**EDUCATION:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

No classes at this time.

**LIBRARY:** Chairperson - Dom, WA2UJI

Nothing new at this time.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Chairperson - Tom, KA2D

103 MEMBERS (80 FULL PAID, 13 FAMILY, 4 ARRL, 6 COMPLIMENTARY)

NOTE: An updated membership roster is coming soon.

#### **NETS:**

**Newsline Report:** NCS - Dave, N2UHR

Joe N2IMF has been acting as Guest host.

**2 Meter Net:** NCS - Dave, N2UHR

Joe, N2IMF has been acting as Guest host. The DX Report has been reported by Bob, K2TV.

**Swap-N-Shop:** NCS - Bud, WA2QAV

No report at this time - Light Check-ins

**Ten Meter Net:** NCS - Brian, N2NGE

No report at this time - Light Check-ins

NOTE: As of late, net participation has been has been light... and additional participation is encouraged.

Even if you can only check-in to let us know that you're listening is fine. Any traffic, of course, will be deeply appreciated... particularly health and welfare

Additionally, members are also encouraged to pick up the Swap-N-Shop & 10 Meter Nets if their usual net control station is unavailable. It could be your chance for those 15 minutes of fame.

If anyone would like to be a standby net control operator for the two meter net, please contact Dave N2UHR for a copy of the net script. But, remember, it's just a guideline ... there's always room to improvise your own type and style of net.

**NEWSLETTER - COMPASS:** Chairperson - Gene, N2TZX  
No report at this time.

NOTE: Members wishing to submit material for the Compass are actively encouraged to do so.

**REPEATERS:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
2 Meter: Working  
440: offline - Receiver needs work  
220: offline

### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Field Day:** Chairperson - Joe, N2IMF

Joe N2IMF would appreciate ANY help as this is the first time he is acting as coordinator.

Walter, KA2RGI, opened FD discussion by discussing the options for Field Day setup.

Noteworthy items mentioned include:  
Radios are available for 5F setup. (10, 15, 20, 40, & 80 meters)  
The 2003 FD setup set-up did not include a tower.

The trailer/tower is not ready at this time and if a tower is put up this year, it will be by arm strong method.  
The 15 meter dipole requires checking prior to use.  
A 35 foot telescoping mast is available for use.  
The carport tent can house most of the stations and headphones will need to be used for efficient operating.  
1-047 is currently non-operational.  
There will be no satellites (AO-40 is non-operational).  
The Town sign can be seen going eastbound.  
Westbound sign is the town movie night.

Joe N2IMF will be acting as Field Day Coordinator.  
Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Frank K2LI will be doing some of the cooking so bring your appetites.

N2CRV Alan will not be able to attend.

Due to work obligations, KA2RGI will not be at the Saturday setup until 4 PM at the earliest.

The following items need to be discussed at the upcoming General Meeting: GOTA Station, Info Booth, Field Day Message.

Currently, there has been limited feedback from membership.

**Hamfest:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing to Report

**Air Power Museum:** Chairperson - Bud, WA2QAV  
Nothing to Report

**Fire Island Lighthouse Weekend:** Chairperson - Tom, KA2D  
The Fire Island Lighthouse event is registered with the ARRL.

**Club Picnic:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing to Report

**End of the Year Party:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing to Report

**VE SESSIONS:** ARRL Liaison - Tom, KA2D  
Due to Field Day, there is no VE Session in June.  
the next VE is Sunday, July 25th at the EOC.

**WEBSITE - HOME PAGE:** Chairperson - Tom, KA2D  
KA2D reports that the club web page has been updated.  
May & June issues of the COMPASS are needed.  
Up and running, nothing new to report

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Antenna Committee:** Chairperson - Open Position  
Nothing new to report

**Open House:** Chairpersons - Dave, N2UHR  
Nothing new to report

**Public Relations:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing new to report

**Technical Committee:** Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI  
Nothing new to report

**ARES/RACES:** EC/RO - Walter, KA2RGI  
Meets 3rd Thursday of the month at EOC (unless otherwise noted)  
TOBARES net meets every Monday at 8:15PM  
See <http://www.tobares.org> for complete event listing.

**GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS:** Chairperson - Dave, N2UHR  
06/24 - Regular monthly club meeting in the EOC at 8pm.  
Topic is Field Day 2004. This is the LAST meeting before Field Day.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Chairperson - Scott, KC2FBV  
Several members are currently under the weather.

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
Further discussion was brought up about the current club tower/trailer project that is currently in it's earliest working phases of assessment.  
Discussions indicated that the cost of the considered avenue should cost approximately one-sixth of what a new, "off the shelf" unit would cost.

Additional efforts are being made in a further attempt to minimize cost to the club while retaining product integrity.

Future uses planned for this item would include future field days, special events, and, foremost, emergency operations.

Further discussions will be held at a later date as more information becomes available.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

N2IMF brought up the proper use of the emergency term "BREAK".

An incident occurred recently where a breaking station with

an emergency was merely acknowledged as in a casual round robin.

It should be noted that the frequency should be turned over breaking station IMMEDIATELY for the duration of the emergency and NOT merely acknowledged and passed over.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.**

Respectfully submitted for  
The Recording Secretary  
by Scott Verity KC2FBV  
Corresponding Secretary  
=====

**Grounding in RF Environments**

By William D. Chesney,

**N8SA**

Director of Communication

Michigan Wing, CAP

Dec. 2003

**Proper grounding of radio stations is probably one of the least understood aspects of ham radio. It almost has a certain aura of mystique or magic about it instead of being the pure science it should be. This is a very important aspect of any radio installation. There are two major criteria we need to consider when doing the planning for this installation. The primary reason has to be safety, both for ourselves as the operator who will be seated at the controls, but also for our equipment and possibly the structure...probably our home. The second of course has to do with the performance of our antenna system and it's ability to radiate an efficient signal. Let's treat these separately for now and they will combine into a total plan at the end.**

**Surge (or Safety) grounding.**

We need to protect our installation and ourselves from lightning.

**There is no protection against a direct lightning hit!**

It has way more power than we can

shunt to ground safely or our budget can handle. That is what insurance is for. We CAN however make our installation an unattractive target to lightning. We can also take care of any secondary surges and static build up that can destroy equipment and give healthy zaps enough to more than get your attention. There is nothing more frustrating than trying to talk on a radio and you keep getting zapped on the chin while doing so! I speak of personal experience here. Let's let it go at that. The Safety ground has to consist of enough ground contact surface area to safely dissipate the surges into the soil safely. Multiple ground rods connected with solid 1/2" ground wire is best. You should have one rod where your antenna support structure is, whether it be a tower or mast or roof tripod, etc. It must have at least 4 gauge bare or insulated, NOT stranded wire. These surges can easily be hundreds of amps. DO NOT scrimp on the wire. This is your life you are dealing with. If stranded wire is used it should be no more than 8 conductors. Heavy bolt type connectors should be used for all connections. You should also employ a non corrosive type coating. All of these connectors and grease are available at your good home supplies or electrical supply houses. All grounds for the installation should be bonded together at the ground. NEVER

daisy chain grounds. ALL connections from devices should go DIRECTLY to closest ground point. Use eight foot copper ground rods for all. Bond the rods with single ott solid bare copper wire. Drive a ground rod for electrical supply to house if you do not already have one. Bond it to others with aforementioned wire. If you have overhead service to house, run wire direct to neutral wire at feed point and use split bolt connections with grease for corrosion. If you have underground service, ground at meter box. If your power company objects, run it to your service panel. You need a minimum of one eight foot ground rod for every protected structure, ie, every mast, tripod, vertical antenna, etc. These must all be connected together AT THE GROUND. Run bare copper between the separate ground rods to form a ground system. The bare copper provides additional surface contact area for the ground system. It should be underground, but does not need to be deep for any engineering reasons. Make sure you make yourself a map of the runs for future projects to avoid hitting and digging up the system in the future. Use heavy duty bolted connectors designed for this service. If you have access to a ground megger or ground tester the system should be less than 15 ohms. In sandy soil this can take several rods to achieve. I have had to put down 3 32 foot rods (consisting of four 8 foot rods with couplers and driven in with a power driver) in sand to get the measurement needed. This should take care of our safety grounds.

### **RF Grounding.**

Rf grounding is considerably different than surge grounding. First thing is you are working with RF. Since it is an AC signal it has impedance. The length of the ground runs has much more to do with the fraction of a wavelength

at the frequency involved than the DC resistance of the wire. While the DC resistance of a ground wire may be only a fraction of an ohm, the impedance (or the AC resistance at RF frequency) can easily be hundreds or thousands of ohms on the same wire. This can make it pretty difficult to get an effective RF ground. Remember an RF ground wire is just a short antenna! We want to make it as LOUSY an antenna as possible! We really don't need it radiating extra RF inside our shack. It is supposed to remove this stuff not cause it. An effective RF ground needs to be less than a quarter wave length at the highest frequency used. As you can see there is no such thing as an effective ground for VHF or UHF. We will concentrate our efforts to 10 meters and above. This means our ground wire from radio to ground must be about 9 feet or less! This is still pretty difficult. All radios, tuners, meters, etc in radio system should be grounded in a star ground configuration. The common point should be at the tuner if one is used, otherwise a ground bus bar can be purchased at an electrical house. All Connections to radios should be with either insulated or bare wire with as few strands as possible. RF likes smooth surfaces best. DO NOT USE braid for RF connections. This is an old wives tale! Your ground run should go directly to the ground where you should have a ground rod for the connection point, (which will be connected to all your other ground rods in the system as discussed above). This run must be less than nine feet to be effective. If you are on the second floor this will make this length impossible. Use of a shielded ground\* wire can stop radiation of the ground wire but you will still have a lousy ground. Nothing can change this. Ground wire tuners only turn your ground wire into a counterpoise for

your antenna, meaning it WILL radiate. This will only ensure that the low voltage point of your antenna will be at your radio. Next we need to form our RF counterpoise outside at our ground system. You will next need to add some bare copper wire at the RF feed point where your shack ground wire connects to. I prefer to use bare 8 gauge copper ground wire here. It is single conductor, bare copper and easily bent and run around house. Single strand is best but it should definitely be bare even if you have to strip insulation off wire. Run it around the house or anywhere it will stay out of the way of lawn equipment but not buried deeper than 1/2". This is CRITICAL. RF will not penetrate soil deeper than this at these frequencies. Those bonding wires you have between ground rods and ground rods do not exist to the RF! Burying this wire under wood chips or similar non conductive landscaping, etc is the way to go. This counterpoise should be as long as the wire antennas you have in the air. For most hams this will be about 130 feet. Longer is better. I run all the way around my house. I have found the eight gauge will push into the spacing used between driveway and foundation when persuaded with the proper tool, (READ HAMMER). You can connect the loop back on itself at the feed point. This can add several S units to the receive signal and dramatically reduce noise on the signal, though nothing will help all the noise on 80 or 160 meters. Years ago I installed a long wire antenna that was about 250 feet long and about 50 feet in the air. This should work fantastic you say. I had three ground rods outside window of shack with single ott solid copper ground wire direct to tuner. Ground wire length was only six feet. All three rods were spaced about eight feet apart with connecting bare wire interconnecting them...in other

words, a really good surge ground. What I did not realize at that time was how lousy my RF ground was. We could not tune the antenna on most frequencies and we kept getting zapped from the radio or microphone when we transmitted. Also, our signal reports were lousy. SO, after consulting some experts, I added 250 feet of counterpoise around the building consisting of some bare 6 gauge copper wire I had. The radio was on while I rolled it out and a friend was listening to the broadcast on 40 meters, (OK it was night time--- best time to do antenna work right!) Anyway he reported the broadcast was only about S 4-5 on meter. As I rolled out the counterpoise it rose to 40 over S9 and came in much clearer. We were able to tune everything easily now and SWR was rock stable. **When we did a signal test, the station we had talked to before accused us of running a contest amplifier. We could not convince them it was only 100 watts, same as before and the same antenna!**

#### **SUMMARY.**

**Don't underestimate the importance of a good ground system.** Include it into the planning of that ultimate shack you are working on. Don't scrimp on good copper wire and connectors. Aluminum can be used above ground but never in ground. Add one size to aluminum to achieve same current capability. Ground everything to the system. A ground run to ductwork in house can alleviate a lot of noise. A run to water pipes should go direct to ground...NEVER to radios, NEVER connect radios to ANYTHING inside the house for ground purposes. Always run all grounds from everything to ground directly. In other words, your furnace ducts will get one run, your water pipes will get one, etc. Don't daisy chain to save wire. If you have a chain link

fence in back yard, run a bonding wire underground from ground system to it and bond well. A solid aluminum or copper wire run along bottom of fence as a bonding device will make it a great addition to the system. Weave it through the bottom fence fabric and bond every few feet with a split bolt connector. The power company does this with all their fences around their power stations.

\* A shielded ground can be made using RG 8 or similar coax to replace the ground wire. Connect both inner and outer shields to the

Ground rod and connect the center only to the radio. Add a .1uf 1000 volt cap between ground and shield at this end.

**73 Bill - N8SA**

**Questions? Email Bill [here](#)**

**Editors note:**

**Many thanks to Bill for sharing this fine article with all of us! It's Hams like Bill who are willing to take their time and share their experience and knowledge with others that make this "hobby" so great!.....N4UJW**

**[Back to Main Hamuniverse.com Index](#)**



## GSBARC 2004 VE Schedule

Jan 18- 3:00 PM

Feb 22 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
March 28 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
Apr 25 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
May 27 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
June NO VE - Field Day -6/26-6/27Babylon Town Hall  
July 25 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
Aug 22 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
Sept 26 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
Oct 24 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
Nov 28 Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon  
December NO VE - *Season's Greetings*

### Committee Chairpersons

**Club Apparel** – Robert, N0UH  
**Club Station/Equip** – Walter, KA2RGI  
**DX/Contesting** – Tom, KA2D  
**Education** – Walter, KA2RGI  
**Hamfest** – Walter, KA2RGI  
**Library** – Dom, WA2UJI  
**Membership** – Tom, KA2D  
**Newsletter** – Gene, KB2TXZ  
**Home Page** – Tom, KA2D  
**DX Cluster** – Tom, KA2D  
**Repeaters** – Walter, KA2RGI  
**VE Sessions** – Tom, KA2D

---

### CLUB NET SCRIPTS

If anyone is interested in a copy of the basic 2 meter Monday night net script for GSBARC give Dave, N2UHR a call on w2gsb/r, home: 631-842-6340, or via email at: [n2uhr@arrl.net](mailto:n2uhr@arrl.net), or contact Walter, KA2RGI, 631-957-0218, or via email at: [ka2rgi@arrl.net](mailto:ka2rgi@arrl.net).

'73 de Dave, N2UHR!

---

**Great South Bay ARC**  
**P.O. Box 1356**  
**West Babylon, NY 11704-0356**