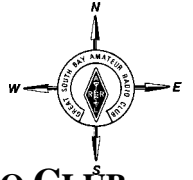


THE COMPASS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 3

"..serving the community through Public Service."

March, 2005

GSBARC 2005 OFFICERS

President: Thomas Favilla,	N2MIG
Vice Pres: Joseph Mielko,	N2IMF
Treasurer: John Cresson,	KC2JGH
Corr. Sec.: Walter Wenzel,	KA2RGI
Rec. Sec.: Margaret Mielko,	KB2IDZ
Dir. 2005: Dom Stengele,	WA2UJI
Dir. 2005: Frank Cannata,	K2LI
Dir. 2006: Jay Eichner,	N2PIK
Dir. 2006: Alan Shaw,	N2CRV

Upcoming GSBARC Events

Board Meeting – 2nd Thursday 8:00 PM

Apr. 14, May 12, June 9

VE Session – 4th Sunday 12:00 PM

Mar. 27, Apr. 24, May 22, June 19

General Meeting – Last Thur. 8:00PM

Mar. 31, Apr. 28, May 26, June 30

Open House 12:00 – 2:00PM

Every Saturday @ Town Hall EOC

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

Club Info Net -

Wednesday 9:30 AM 146.685/R

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

WEB SITE

www.gsbarc.org

Mirror Site: www.qsl.net/gsbarc

Next Hamfest:

Feb 27 - LIMARC Indoor
Levittown Hall, Levittown, NY

Antenna Theory Basics

At this month's meeting there will be a talk on antenna basics. There will be a discussion of yagi antennas and ground wave vertical antennas. This is the same talk that was given at HRU. Our guest speaker will be Walter, KA2RGI.

The Half-Wavelength Dipole Antenna

The radiation from an ideal dipole antenna in free space is not uniform in all directions. It is strongest in directions perpendicular to the wire, and nearly zero along the axis of the wire. The plane radiation pattern for an ideal half-wavelength dipole antenna is a figure-eight at right angles to the antenna.

When placed over real ground, this idea pattern is modified. The antenna height above ground, the conductivity of the ground and other nearby objects all affect the pattern. A half-wavelength dipole exhibits excellent directivity when it is placed at least one-half wavelength above the ground. This is approximately a figure-eight pattern, with the maximum radiation at right angles to the antenna. A dipole cut for the 40-meter band must be mounted at least 20 meters (about 65 feet) above the ground to exhibit such directivity. If the antenna is lower the directivity effects are reduced. When an antenna is lower say about a quarter-wavelength the pattern is more nearly circular. This pattern means there is no directional advantage. Waves reflected from the ground significantly distort the ideal pattern.

Despite this apparent disadvantage, the dipole is the most common and practical antenna for the 80 and 40-meter bands. The impedance at the feed point of a half-wavelength dipole suspended horizontally at least one-quarter wavelength above the ground is close to 70 Ω , so a dipole can be feed directly with 75- Ω coaxial cable. The feed point impedance will be less than 70 Ω if the antenna is mounted less than one-quarter wavelength above the ground. Coaxial cable with the characteristic impedance of 50 Ω is often used as the feed line to dipole antennas.

GREAT SOUTH BAY ARC YAHOO REFLECTOR



GSBARC has a new reflector that is being used to help keep members up to date with some information and emails.

To become part this Yahoo Group go on the web to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gsbarc/> and click the button on top "Join This Group", or contact Joe, N2IMF for more information.

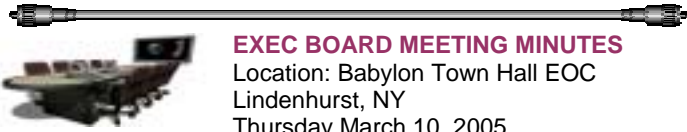
? Have you renewed your membership with GSBARC this year? ?

If you do not do so by the March General Meeting you will be removed from the GSBARC Membership List?

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



Location: Babylon Town Hall EOC
Lindenhurst, NY
Thursday February 24, 2005
No Meeting because of Snow Storm.



EXEC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Location: Babylon Town Hall EOC
Lindenhurst, NY
Thursday March 10, 2005

Meeting started at 8:00 pm

Board Members Present:

President Tom N2MIG
V. President Joe N2IMF
Treasurer John KC2JGH
Rec. Sec. Margaret KB2IDZ
Corr. Sec. Walter KA2RGI

Directors Present

Frank K2LI

Members Present

Rob KC2MCF
Danny WA2COO
Spin KC2EGK
Adam KB2TCH



Correspondence

PO Box:

Membership Dues: KB2IEV, KA2CAQ, KC2KXA,
KB2IEW, K2LDC, & WA2VQJ

Bank Statement: Bank of NY

LARC Newsletter

Long Island Wireless Historical Society Newsletter- Distance

Sparks and Membership Renewal App.

Yellow Book Update



Compass:

Submission Deadline – Saturday after Exec. Board Meeting

Updated compass on www.qsl.net/gsbarc site and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gsbarc/sites>. Updated on www.gsbarc.org still pending action from web host.

Web Site:

www.gsbarc.org - Updates still taking very long to occur since we do not have direct access to website to update files. Email, info@gsbarc.org still not working. . Have sent multiple requests to web host to correct problems.
www.qsl.net/gsbarc- Up to date w/updates.



Education:

Technician Class Theory:

Next scheduled class Sept 20th.

There may be a special class for scouts in spring if requested, waiting to hear from Scout Masters.

General Class Theory:

Dick North, KC2NMJ, passed his General @ Grumman's Feb. VE Session.

Cancelled 3/8 Class due to weather conditions.

Extra Class Theory:

Starts April 5th @ 7:30 pm TOB EOC—Phil, N2MUN instructor

Repeater Report:

146:

Been attempting to get phone modem working on repeater for remote operation, so far NG.

220:

No Change. Waiting for assistance with audio of repeater, which is still giving issues.

440:

Have 440 repeaters working on ID board for repeater so it can go online.

Backup machine is 2nd on line at builders when he returns from vacation in two weeks.

Chris Baumgartner's repeater is offline until it can be repaired.



Club Equipment:

Nothing new to report.

TOBARES:

ARES cards are ready. RACES applications have been handed into county for processing.

On the air training is continuing on weekly nets.

Monday 8:15 pm – 146.685/R110.9 PL

Monthly meeting is the third Thursday @ TOB

EOC 8 pm. Next meeting is March 17th.

Skywarn Monthly Net – 1st Wed. 8:00 pm – 145.310/R118.8 PL

Skywarn Basic Training Class- Thurs. April 21st at 7:30 pm at TOB EOC.

Skywarn Advanced Training Class – Wed. May 18th at 7:30 at TOB EOC.



Scheduled Public Service Events:

There will be no Suffolk County Half Marathon; it has been cancelled due to lack of county support.

April 17th – National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Walk- Belmont Lake State Park, North Babylon, 9:00 am

May 1st- March of Dimes Walk America – Sheraton Hotel, Hauppauge NY 8:00 am

May 1st - Canon LI Marathon – Eisenhower Park, East Meadow, NY 8:00 am

May 8th- Elizabeth T. McNamee Memorial 5K Road Race – West Islip High School, West Islip, NY 8:30 am



Treasurer's Report:



February 10, 2005 \$ 3,068.96

Previous Balance

February 10, 2005

5.00 Bank

of NY Maintenance Fee

March 10, 2005

\$ 3,063.96 Present Balance

Nets

Needs help for the 2M net. Joe N2IMF will not be able to do the 2M net due to work related obligations.

Hamfest will be tabled for this year...

New Business

GSB Cross Bay Swim would like our assistance to help on August 5th. We would help keep track of the swimmers.

It was agreed to give our assistance to help them along with Islip.

Went over the Lighthouse Flyer and some suggestions were made. The flyer will be redone with the suggestions and then put on the group website for all to see.

Rob KC2MCF was given a check to purchase the In Focus IFS LP540 Projector.

Motion to adjourn at 8:40



Battery Back-Up Modification of Astron Power Supplies

Concept: Battery Back Up Modification for Astron Power Supplies.

This modification allows a battery to be floated on the Astron power supplies for battery back up while protecting the regulator chip from damage when Commercial AC power is removed.

Caution: It essentially is adding a current limiting resistor in line with the voltage feed back of the regulator chip, otherwise destruction of the chip will result.

Modification: Installation is straight forward:

Cut the trace on the PCB between Pin 4 of IC UA723 and the wiper of R5.

Install a 10K ohm 1/4 or 1/2 watt resistor to bridge the cut trace between Pin 4 and R5.

Set the output voltage by adjusting R5 to desired voltage with no load or battery connected to the power supply.

Voltage settings:

A) For standard deep cycle marine batteries, set voltage to 13.50 vdc. (Do not forget to periodically check water level in battery!)

B) For sealed gel cell batteries, set voltage to 13.80 vdc.

!! Use of standard car batteries are not recommended.

It is HIGHLY recommended that a fuse rated at equal to or less than the maximum current rating of the power supply be installed between the battery and the power supply. This will protect your system in the event that the power supply's crowbar circuit fires and tries to pull the current of the battery to ground.

Recommended hook up should be:

- 1.) Hook equipment to the battery.
- 2.) Hook battery to power supply.

In this configuration your equipment is being powered by the battery and the power supply is serving two functions;

One is keeping the battery charged, and second to aid during high current draws. It will also allow the battery to act as a surge protector adding some additional protection to your equipment from line surges.

A couple of additional comments presented by Joe Montierth

One, the 10K resistor can be 1/4 watt or even 1/8 watt, the 1/2 watt is overkill. There is not much voltage across it to generate any heat.

Two, depending on the size battery it is attached to, you might want to reduce the current limit point on the Astron. The 35 amp Astron will current limit somewhat above the 35 amp point, maybe around 37-39 amps. If you have it attached to a BIG battery, it can run several hours at the current limit, and burn itself out. If you parallel R4 with a 1K pot, you can adjust the current limit to a point less than 38 amps, usually about 70-80% of the power supply rating is good.

Three, always turn the PS "on" before attaching it to the battery. This will keep the internal caps charged up, so they don't have to suddenly charge through the pass transistors on the Astron.

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The Astron Corporation Irvine, California 92618
949-458-7277 pst.

GSBARC VE Schedule

Feb 27, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Mar 27, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Apr 24, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
May 22, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Jun 19, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Jul 24, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Aug 28, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Sep 25, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Oct 23, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Nov 27, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon
Dec 18, 2005	Babylon Town Hall EOC – 12 Noon



Birthday Wishes

March

Walter, KA2CAQ

Brian, N2NGE

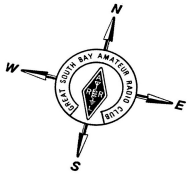
Jay, N2PIK

Gene, KB2TZX

Bob, N0UH

Dom, WA2UJI

If your birthday is not listed we may not have all the info in our database. Let Ken, N2ZN know your correct information.



Great South Bay ARC

P.O. Box 1356

West Babylon, NY 11704-0356