



THE CLIPPER

Official Newsletter of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club

February 2009

Volume 37

Issue 2

News from the ARRL...

ARRL Executive Committee Issues Mobile Amateur Radio Operation Policy Statement (Feb 3, 2009) -- On January 30, at the instruction of the Board of Directors at its January 2009 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted a policy statement on mobile Amateur Radio operations. The statement addresses the growing number of proposed state and local laws and ordinances regulating the use of cellular telephone and text messaging, inadvertently affecting Amateur Radio mobile communications.

ARRL Continuing Education Online Course Registration (Feb 5, 2009) -- Registration remains open through Sunday, February 22, 2009 for these online course sessions beginning on Friday, March 6, 2009: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1; Radio Frequency Interference; Antenna Design and Construction; Technician License Course; Analog Electronics, and Digital Electronics.

Judge Rules in Favor of Amateur in Palmdale Antenna Support Structure Case (Feb 6, 2009) -- On Friday, February 6, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Yaffe issued a ruling in favor of Alec Zubarau, WB6X, of Palmdale, California, in Zubarau's case against the City of Palmdale. Last year, after Zubarau received a valid building permit from the City to erect an antenna support structure, the City of Palmdale revoked Zubarau's building permit after he had erected the tower... ♦

Read more on these stories on the ARRL website at www.arrl.org

Upcoming Club Events

At the February 26 General Meeting

Mel, KS2G will be giving a presentation on "contesting and the NIMM logging program"

Boy Scout Camporee

at Cathedral Pines, April 18th, Middle Island
Multi Stations modes & Info

Hamfest

Saturday May 9th
Fireman's park Lindenhurst, NY

W2GSB/APM

Air Power Museum in Farmingdale May 16th
Coord Bud, WA2QAV & Jay, N2PIK

Radio Days

at The Tilles Center Westbury, April 18th,
1 Station setup with vertical & info table

Kids day at the EOC

June 20th

Field day

June 27th & 28th

Fire Island Lighthouse

Lighthouse/Lightship weekend
August 15th & 16th

Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club

2009 Contact Information

Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club supports the Town of Babylon Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES). The members of the GSBARC stand ready to serve the people of the Town of Babylon in time of emergency via the W2GSB repeater system. TOB ARES Emergency Coordinator; Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI - 631-957-0218 TOB EOC - 631-957-4246

GSBARC Meetings:

All meetings are held at the Babylon Town Hall, E.O.C., located in the basement. Access is via the rear of the building down the stairs. Press top buzzer for access. Go to the main hallway and turn left. Proceed to E.O.C. on the 3rd door on right.

Executive Officers Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M.
Restricted to GSBARC members only.

General Membership Meetings:

Last Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M.
Open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio.

Weekly Open House:

Saturdays – September thru June at 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.
Weekly Question and Answer sessions plus specialized training and projects.

Membership:

Club membership is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio.
Dues are \$30.00 per calendar year plus a one time \$5.00 initiation fee.
Please make checks payable to the Great South Bay A.R.C.
Please submit dues to the Treasurer at a meeting or by mail to:

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

The Compass is published by the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club
Submissions to the COMPASS are welcomed in the following formats:
ASCII text (.txt) or MS Word (.doc) format.

FCC Volunteer Exam Sessions:

Club sponsored ARRL VE sessions are held the Babylon Town Hall E.O.C., on the 4th Sunday of each month at 12 noon.

Great South Bay Nets:

Newsline Report	146.685 /R	Monday	7:00 PM
Net Coordinator:	Matias Valentin, KC2SJJ	631-234-8908	
Backup NCS:	*** OPEN ***		
2M Club Info Net	146.685 /R	Monday	7:30 PM
Net Coordinator:	David Wandell	631-532-5207	
Backup NCS:	John Cresson, W2JGH	631-661-2038	
Backup NCS:	Art Altarac, WA2KXE	516-771-2630	
DX Information	146.685 /R	Monday	8:00 PM
Net Coordinator:	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696	
Backup NCS:	*** OPEN ***		
TOBARES Net	146.685 /R	Monday	8:15 PM
Net Coordinator:	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218	
Backup NCS:	ARES AEC's		
10 M HF SSB Net	28.320 MHz	Tuesday	8:00 PM
Net Coordinator:	Brian Keegan, N2NGE	631-242-8315	
Backup NCS:	*** OPEN ***		
Swap & Shop	146.685 /R	Wednesday	8:00 PM
Net Coordinator:	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321	
Backup NCS:	*** OPEN ***		
CW Net	28.350 MHz	Wednesday	8:45 PM
Net Coordinator:	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696	
Backup NCS:	Kevin Morgan, AB2ZI	631-979-0624	
2M Club INFO Net	146.685 /R	Thursday	10:00 AM
Net Coordinator:	Jay Eichner, N2PIK	631-427-0162	
Backup NCS:	*** OPEN ***		

Repeaters:

146.685 / 146.085	W2GSB	2B PL 110.9
223.860 / 222.260	W2GSB	3B PL 131.8
440.850 / 445.850	W2GSB	2A PL 110.9

Executive Officers

President	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Vice President	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
Secretary	John Cresson, W2JGH	631-661-2038
Treasurer	Tom Favilla, N2MIG	631-957-5985

Directors

#1 Term ends 2009	Frank Cannata, K2LI	631-957-0246
#2 Term ends 2009	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
#3 Term ends 2010	Jay Eichner, N2PIK	631-427-0162
#4 Term ends 2010	William Dahl, W2ANQ	516-221-8865

Standing Committee Chairpersons (by alphabetical order of committee)

Club Apparel	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Club Equipment	Kevin Morgan, AB2ZI	631-979-0624
Compass Staff (Editors)	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
	John Smale, K2IZ	631-226-4835
	Kevin Morgan, AB2ZI	631-979-0624
Compass Staff (Printer/Mail)	Pete Maxwell, N2GBM	631-231-7426
Compass Staff (Email)	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
DX & Contesting	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
Education	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Field Day Coordinators - (GSBARC)	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
	John Cresson, W2JGH	631-661-2038
Field Day Coordinator - (TOBARES)	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Guest Speakers & Programs	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
Health & Welfare	John Cresson, W2JGH	631-661-2038
Hamfest Chairperson	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Librarian	Alan Shaw, N2CRV	631-422-3935
Membership	Tom Favilla, N2MIG	631-957-5985
Open House Coordinators	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
QSL Manager	Bud Eagan, WA2QAV	631-643-7071
Refreshments	Mike Sartoretti, KC2SYF	631-831-9954
	Tom Navas, KC2MOX	631-226-4030
Repeater Committee Chairman	William Dahl, W2ANQ	516-221-8865
Sergeant of Arms	*** OPEN ***	
Technical Committee	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
	Danny Albrecht, WB2COO	631-957-1033
Trustee for W2GSB	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
TOBARES ROEC	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
VE Liaison & Contact	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Web Site Administrator	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218

Special Committee Chairpersons (by alphabetical order of committee)

Annual Picnic Coordinator	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Annual End of Year Party Coordinator	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Antenna Committee	Jon Gittens, KA2YMQ	631-842-8486
Ham Radio University - Liaisons	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
	Joe Meilko, N2IMF	631-539-6394
Special Event – Air Power Museum	Bud Eagan, WA2QAV	631-643-7071
Special Event – Boy Scouts - Camporee	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Special Event – Boy Scouts - JOTA	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Special Event – Fire Island Light House	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Special Event – Radio Days	John Melfi, W2HCB	631-669-6321
Special Event – Skywarn Recognition Day	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218

Visit the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club Online:

<http://www.gsbarc.org> or the alternate site: www.qsl.net/gsbarc
email to: info@gsbarc.org



Updated 02/08/2009

Homebrew Buddipole Project Update

Final testing of the prototype is under way at this time. I can now give a cost estimate per person.

For the wire, various PVC piping, connectors and adapters, plus banana plugs, alligator clips, spade/lug connectors and SO-239 adapters, the total is \$40 per person. Additionally, each member interested in building one of these needs to buy a set of telescoping whips.

See www.buddipole.com/stainsteelte.html you will need to buy 2 whips for the project. (I bought a pair of the extra long black ones). The standard short whips are \$12 each plus shipping. ☎

Board Minutes, continued from page 7...

Open House – KA2RGI, K2TV, W2HCB

12:00 noon to 2:00 PM Saturdays at the EOC.

Technical Committee – Bob K2TV & Danny WB2COO

Still working on W2FBB linear amp

KA2CAQ mic
W2EUL radio

Special Events

- April 17, 18 2009 Boy Scout Camperee at Cathedral Pines Park.
- April 18 Wireless Historical Society Radio Day at CW POST in Westbury: Meeting Sunday Feb. 22nd at 1:00 pm need someone to represent the club
- KA2RGI is coordinator of Radio Day
- May 16 & 17 Air Power Museum – Coordinators Bud W2QAV, Jay N2PIK
- June 20 Kids Day
- Help needed
- June 27 & 28 Field Day

– Coordinators John W2HCB, John W2JGH

- Need pins for carports checking needed. Bungy chords
- August Club Picnic – Coordinator, open
- August 15 & 16 Fire Island Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
- December 2009 End of the Year Party – KC2SYF
- May 9 Hamfest Coordinator John W2HCB

Invitation to vendors were sent out

American League, Marine Corps, and PC Users to be invited

Commitment from 5 vendors

Guest Speaker and Programs

– Bob K2TV

Mel KS2G to give presentation on contesting with the N1MM logger.

Club Refreshments Mike, KC2SYF and Tom KC2MOX

Feed the kitty guys, this is not a budget item

Old Business

No old business

New Business

New banner designs discussed. Design chosen, to be sent out for pricing.

Motion to close by W2ANQ
Second by KC2OYH

Meeting closed at 9:40 PM

Minutes taken and typed by John, W2JGH. ☎

2009 Dues are Due!

Don't forget to send in your dues for 2009, or give them to Tom, N2MIG, at a meeting or open house.

Any member not paid up by March 30th will be dropped from the roster. As of January 31st we have 84 members, 40 of whom are currently due. Remember, this is *your* club! Please help to support it. ☎

Welcome new members

KB2NQN, Steve from Roslyn
N2PPN, Rich from Levittown
KC2TJC, JC from Lindenhurst

Other groups that members are involved with...



HISTORY of the SKCC:

The Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) was founded in January, 2006, by a group of CW enthusiasts who enjoy pounding brass. At first, it was thought that there would only be a handful of members, and there were plans to have one award for contacting 100 members. The group quickly grew from there and, in a few months time, we were well on our way to 1,000 strong.

Today, three years later, there are over 5,200 members, a number of awards, a newsletter, elmers, and even contests and sprints for the members to participate in. There are many volunteers who work on the front lines and behind the scenes to coordinate awards, the website, and contests and sprints.

PURPOSE: To promote the use of Morse code, particularly using straight keys, bugs, or side swipers.

To help, encourage, and elmer new CW operators.

To HAVE FUN.

(<http://www.skccgroup.com/>)

QST

Elecraft XG-2 Review

by Ken Boasi, N2ZN

I first saw a review of the Elecraft XG-1 Receive Test Oscillator in the July/August '07 NCJ. The XG-1 really struck me as something that could be really useful, but as something you wouldn't use all the time. The XG-1 and XG-2 can be used to check receiver sensitivity and S-meter calibration, both important tests. The real purpose of getting this unit, in my view, is to make sure that my receivers are performing to spec, especially after pounding them with SO2R and mult-op contest operations. I thought it was a really good idea to get one and build it, but it must have been forgotten in the mess of other things going on in my mind.

A few weeks ago, I was surfing around Elecraft's website (probably looking at something I can't afford), and I came upon the XG-1 and XG-2. Being reminded of the NCJ article from a year and a half ago, I finally decided to get it.

The main difference between the XG-1 and XG-2 is that the XG-1 is 40 meters only, while the XG-2 gives you 80, 40, and 20 meters. The XG-2 kit is \$59, and the total came to \$66.26 with shipping.

Elecraft's customer service is quite good (as many of you know), and the kit was in my hands just two days after I placed my order. There's really not a whole lot to the kit, as you can see in the picture above. I would say it took me about an hour and a half

to do everything—open the bag, inventory the parts, warm up the soldering iron, put it together, and test it out. If you've never built a kit before, the Elecraft "mini-module" kits may be the place to start.

There is no enclosure for the kit; just three stick on rubber feet are included to make the kit sit on the table sturdily. You have to supply some adapters to make the male BNC jack compatible with the input on your rig (why they used a male BNC instead of a PL-259 or a female BNC, I'm not sure). I tested the XG-2 at the 50 microvolt setting first; 50 microvolts is the standard signal level to achieve an S9 signal. Sure enough, there was the S9 signal right on 7040, 3580, and 14060, just like it was supposed to be. Nice to know my receiver hasn't blown out because of the second transmitter during the CW contest a few weeks ago!

I guess this little unit may see some use at Field Day when we start wondering why the bands have gone so quiet! In a practical use, I am sure we have all turned on the radio for an operating session, and wondered to ourselves if the radio sounded a little "off". I know I have, and knowing I can check the receiver whenever I need to is a big help. Of course, the main reason in my shack for receiver deafness is usually the fact that the antennas are once again lying on the ground! Now if Elecraft made a tower that was as easy to put together as the XG-2, then they'd be onto something! ☺



Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting Minutes February 12, 2009

Board Members Present

W2HCB W2JGH N2MIG K2TV W2ANQ KA2RGI
K2LI

Board Members Not Present

All members present.

Club Members Present

KB2TCH N2IMF AB2ZI KC2EGK KC2RZG
N2PIK N2IMF WB2COO KC2MOX

Secretary's Report – Previous Minutes

No corrections, minutes stand as published.

Motion to accept by K2LI

Motion second by W2ANQ

Correspondence

Nothing to report

Committee Reports

Apparel Chairperson – John W2HCB

Item are available, see John if you are interested in any club apparel.

Club Station and Equipment - Chairperson Kevin, AB2ZI

Any club member who has club equipment is requested returned it to Town Hall for photo and inventory. K2TV volunteered to assist.

DX Cluster – W2GSB 145.670 - Chairperson Walter KA2RGI

KA2RGI has requested that someone else take over the DX cluster. The DX cluster requires an antenna and internet connection. This cluster allows persons who do not have internet access to get DX information through 2 meter packet.

Education – Chairperson Walter KA2RGI

KA2RGI has requested that some else take over a chairperson of education and will not be available to teach the extra class. General classes going on.

AB2ZI volunteered to help but can't chair position

AB2ZI is putting together a morse code class. Day and time to be determined.

VE Session – ARRL Liaison and contact Walter KA2RGI

KA2RGI has requested that someone else take over as VE Liaison. He will act as liaison until the position is filled

VE sessions will be on the 4th Sunday of the month
Library – Chairperson – Alan N2CRV

Group discussion on library material. Suggested at the next hamfest donate the CQ, World Radio and QTS's to whom wants them.

Motion by W2ANQ

Board approved

NETS

Newsline Report 7:00 PM Monday – NCS – Mat KC2SJZ

Up and Running.

Club Info Net 7:30 PM Monday – NCS Dave, N2UHR.

Backup NCS John, W2JGH and Art, WA2KXE

Would like to have more volunteer net control stations.

DX & Contesting 8:00 PM Monday- NCS Bob, K2TV

Nothing to report.

Swap-N-Shop 8:00 PM, Wednesday – NCS John, W2HCB

List is updated.

Ten Meter Voice Net 8:00 PM, Tuesday – NCS Brian N2NGE

Ten Meter CW Net 8:45 PM Tuesday - 28.050

Compass – Bob, K2TV \ John K2IZ \ Kevin, AB2ZI

Ready to go just need Board Meeting minutes

Repeaters W2ANQ

I would like to thank Bill WB2QGZ for the use of

his station monitor and his expertise in tuning up the new 2 meter Repeater.

I would also like to thank WA2KXE for donating the PL reeds for both repeaters to the club.

2 meter repeater K2TV bob and I have setup the first unit to replace the old 685 machine. It is ready to go in; there will be no voice id, just a CW ID to comply with FCC Part 97 regulations.

220 Repeater, It is working well there is some preventive maintenance that needs to be done, replacement of the coax. Once again a club member has stepped up to help out and donate some 1/2 inch hard-line for the system.

All machines will be evaluated for update and maintenance over the next couple of month's weather and schedules permitting.

Of significant note is that if there is a major problem with these machines, at present there is relatively no mechanism in place for repairs or replacement. We need to discuss a yearly plan within the budget to allocate monies to this end.

I am in receipt of the old club repeaters. An update on their status will be forthcoming dependent on the technical committee's schedule.

The issue with the Interference and jamming continues. I am still accepting logs from members via e-mail. Thank you to those who have sent them.

The following as a list of equipment that will be needed over the next few months for the repeaters:

Hard-line approx 200 FT @ apx \$400
Commercial N adapters for hard-line (6) @ \$180
Grounding buses and line (3) @ \$190
Lightning protection (3) @ \$200
Channel elements MSR 200 (1) @\$120
Pre amp for 2 meter repeater (1) @ \$215

Possible replacement of mounting hardware for antennas at Good Samaritan Hospital = \$100.00

Not to mention that the club laptop had to have the drive replaced all of a sudden it went bad (must have been lightening). Another donation thank god.

The controller interface needs a specific cable @ \$30.00

I also would like the 220 mhz antenna that was purchased by the membership and then put on a club tower out back be taken down and inventoried.

We require an updated access list to be forwarded to the town for the repeater. (685)

We also require an updated contact list be sent to the contact at Good Samaritan Hospital in case of emergency.

I would also like to have the coordination materials

for all three repeaters.

I have spoken to John in regard to the status of the 440 repeater and its continued use, and the possibility of maintenance o a loaned machine.

In regards to the present posted repeater rules, I would like to amend these over the next month or so.

With that said we would also require an MOU with TOBARES and possibly the town in regard to the repeaters.

Report given by W2ANQ

Discussion on 440 repeater coordination. KA2RGI stated If GSBARC wants coordination of 440 they can have it. Space was coordinated through TOBARES to get installed.

Access to repeater shack Gill Hanns is in the process of making a key for the club to access to repeater room.

Website - Walter KA2RGI

To be taken over by KC2RZG

Yahoo Group – Joe N2IMF

AB2ZI to be added as a Yahoo Group moderator. Document that need to be updated the President must give authorization to update and create documents.

Antenna Committee – Jon N2YMQ

Need antenna work? Contact John by email, jon_gittens@hotmail.com

ARES/RACES - EC/RO Walter KA2RGI

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month at EOC unless otherwise scheduled.

TOBARES Net every Monday at 8:15 PM

See www.tobares.org for complete event listing

Events see website for details

March 8 West Islip Drug Education

March 29 Suffolk County Half Marathon

July 24 GSBARC event, Great South Bay Swim from Fire Island docks to Gilbert Park

KA2RGI agreed to be event coordinator with GSBARC approval. No objection from the board.

Health and Welfare – John W2JGH

The club took a collection and made a donation to the National Kidney Society in the name of Barbara Carrubba.

Continued on page 4...

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Post office
will not
deliver mail

Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club
P.O. BOX 1356
West Babylon, NY 11704-0356



ARES/RACES Information

Div. 1—Town of Babylon ARES/RACES

Net: 146.685/R, Mondays 8:15 PM
EC/RO: Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI, 631-957-0218

Div. 2—Town of Huntington ARES/RACES

Net: 147.210 MHz +600/ PL 136.5,
Mondays 8:30 PM

Div. 3—Town of Islip ARES/RACES

EC/RO: John J Blowsky, KB2SCS

Div. 4—Town of Smithtown ARES/RACES

Net: 145.430 MHz, PL136.5, Mondays 8:30 PM

EC/RO: Joe Albertus, KB2JOE

Div. 5—Town of Brookhaven

Div. 6—Riverhead ARES/RACES

EC/RO: Don Rollock, W2EUL

Div. 7—Southampton ARES/RACES

Div. 8—Southold ARES/RACES

Div. 9—East Hampton ARES/RACES

Div. 10—Shelter Island ARES/RACES

Suffolk County ARES/RACES Net:

Mondays 21:00 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

2009 VE Session Dates:

- February 22, 2009
- March 22, 2009
- April 26, 2009
- May 24, 2009
- June 28, 2009
- July 26, 2009
- August 23, 2009
- September 27, 2009
- October 25, 2009
- November 22, 2009
- December 27, 2009

All sessions are at the Town of Babylon EOC, located in the basement in the rear of town hall. Please bring photo ID, copies of your amateur radio license (if you have one), and any CSCE's you may have. Non programmable calculators are allowed. Fees for 2009 are \$15 payable by check or

February Birthdays

Bob Myers, K2TV

John Babcock, KB2ZGS

John Linn, KC2NGP

Dave Wandell, N2UHR

Julie Ann Zilavy, N2XOB

Important Notice!

Equipment Inventory

An inventory of all club equipment will be conducted during the month of February.

Any member in possession of club equipment should return it at the earliest possible time. Bring it to either an open house, board meeting or general meeting.

The equipment must be inventoried and all serial #'s verified for insurance purposes.

For further information contact Kevin, AB2ZI, the club's newly appointed equipment manager.

New 10Meter CW Net

Several members have shown interest in CW (i.e. Morse code, aka "real ham radio"). To that end we are starting up an informal CW net on 10 meters to follow the club's 10 meter voice net on Tuesday nights.

*The frequency for the net will be **28.050 MHz** and will be a slow speed CW training net. More detailed information will be posted in the club's Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GSBARC/>*

This net is open to anyone, not just club members, who'd like to get proficient in Morse code. 73 