COMPASS
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President's Message

Well it's May and it certainly doesn't feel like spring with all the cloudy skies above and cool temperatures. Just hang in there; things will get better-we may actually dry out.

There is some good news to report-our 220 repeater has been received and is ready to be put on the air. It's time to dust off your 220 rigs & HT's or consider buying some new gear. As soon as time permits, the repeater will be put on the air, hopefully sometime before Field Day.

The club will be sponsoring a special event station at the **AIR POWER MUSEUM** for Armed Forces Day weekend **May20-21**. We will setup operations at the museum at **10AM** and operate until approximately **4PM** each day. Please come down and operate. If you have not visited the museum, it's quite an experience. Please contact Bud, WA2QAV or myself for further information.

Operators are needed for **Field Day**, even if you can only come down for an hour or two. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Your help is also needed for set-up and take down operations on **Saturday and Sunday (June 24 and 25).**

Our May meeting will feature Ken, N2ZN who will be discussing the N1MM software application used on **FIELD DAY**.

As mentioned before, we need contributions from the membership in the form of articles and photos for each month's edition of the Compass. Ken is always looking for articles and other content to make the Compass more interesting.

Just a word about our club nets: alternate net controls are needed for all nets. If you would like to help out please contact the net control of your choice as listed in the Compass. Sample net scripts are available on our website and net controls are always available to help and advise anyone interested.

For those of you who may be unaware, Frank, K2LI had major surgery on his back and is recuperating at home. We wish him a speedy recovery.

73, *Jay*, N2PIK

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GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AGENDA OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Location: Babylon Town Hall EOC Lindenhurst, NY

Date: Thursday May 12, 2006

General Meeting called to order by Jay Eichner, N2PIK at 8:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

President	Jay Eichner, N2PIK
Rec. Secretary	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI
Corr. Secretary	PattiLynn Wandell, KC2AUX
Treasurer	John Cresson, KC2JGH
Director 2007	David Wandell, N2UHR
Director 2007	Bob Myers, K2TV

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Vice President	Frank Cannata, K2LI
Director 2006	Tom Favilla, N2MIG
Director 2006	Alan Shaw, N2CRV

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:
KB2TCH, WA2LUY, KC2OOZ, KC2OYH, KC2PLS KC2OYI, W2EUL, N2IMF

PREVIOUS MINUTES:
Recording Secretary – Walter, KA2RGI

No business transacted during General Meeting Previous Executive Board Minutes accepted as published in the Compass.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:
Corr. Secretary – PattiLynn, KC2AUX

PO BOX:
Sent letter to thank K1RFD for being the Speaker at our last meeting. Larkfield ARC Newsletter, Bank Statement

TREASURER'S REPORT:
Treasurer – John, KC2JGH

4/13/2006	Open account	$1409.70
5/15/2006	Ending Balance	$1409.70

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

APPAREL:
Chairperson – Charles, N2MZK

Club Hats and T-Shirts are available at the next Meeting. Callsign badges, jackets, and golf shirts require advance orders.

CLUB STATION & EQUIPMENT:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

Bud was to get a TS-570 power cord. Jay will check with Bud. Ken, N2ZN has donated a Rascal radio interface for the club station and had PSK31 running on the system last weekend.

DX & CONTESTING:
Chairperson – Bob, K2TV

For up to the minute info, please check the W2GSB DX Cluster. If anyone enters any contests, please enter the club as Great South Bay ARC so we can get credit. 6 meters is dead. Others bands have been picking up.

DX CLUSTER – W2GSB 145.670:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

The cluster is up and running after replacement of the NIC. There were issues with a Windows 2000 update that caused another problem with the software running. Nothing else to report.

EDUCATION:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

General Theory Class has ended. 5 WPM classes have ended. Extra Theory Class has ended due to lack of students. Tech class to start May 27, 10 AM to 2 PM.

LIBRARY:
Chairperson – Alan, N2CRV

There are extra QST'
s for members to take home.

MEMBERSHIP:
Chairperson – Ken, N2ZN

New members: KC2OYI & KC2OLA. 65 MEMBERS (58 FULL PAID, 6 FAMILY, 1 LIFE) 4 ARRL, 7 COMPLIMENTARY-Total 76

NETS:
Newsline Report:
NCS - Dave, N2UHR / Don, W2EUL

Needs people to back up for nets. Because of May 22 being Skywarn Training, if no one takes the weekly net there will not be a net.

2 Meter Net:
NCS - Dave, N2UHR / Don, W2EUL
Needs people to back up for nets. Because of May 22 being Skywarn Training, if no one takes the weekly net there will not be a net.

Ten Meter Net:
NCS - Brian, N2NGE

Needs people to back up as NCS.

Weds. 2 Meter Net:
NCS - Jay, N2PIK

Net proceeding OK- has had a good amount of net check-ins. Jay thanked Bud for filling in this week.

NEWSLETTER - COMPASS:
Chairperson – Ken, N2ZN

NOTE: Deadline to submit material for the Compass is the Saturday after the Board Meeting. Next edition will be out next week. Ken needs a submission for the May Shack of the Month.

REPEATERS:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

146.685: 2m circulator is inline. It seems like most of the intermod has been corrected. We had a problem with the PL on the repeater output and reset the controller to fix it. We are still working on some additional remote control functions.

223.860: Received radio from Zimmerman Electronics. Need to install controller and set up other options on this repeater. We are hoping to have the 220 repeater on line for Field Day.

440.850: Was working, but went off air today as per Bob, K2TV.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Field Day:
Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI; Don, W2EUL; Ken, N2ZN; Danny, WB2COO

KC2OYH will assist with food preparation during Field Day. The permit request has been given to the Town. We will have to set up like last year because the Breast Cancer event will be using front lawn of Town Hall. The number of stations for FD has not been decided on yet; we are still waiting for confirmation on more radios. All we have right now is 4 radios. We need radio chairpersons to commit to oversee each station. We need people to commit-there are many open time slots and duties to perform. W2EUL gave some additional info. The antennas still need to be checked out. Hopefully the plans will be finalized at the May General meeting. Walter went through lists from last year and showed what still has to be done for this year. More will be discussed at the Saturday Open Houses. A discussion on the carports followed. The cost to repair KA2RGI's carport cover or a new purchase were discussed. Seeing as the cost of a new unit was almost the same as the replacement of just the cover, a motion was made to purchase a new carport (see new business). The use of computers for logging was also discussed and it was mentioned that we have about 5 laptops. If members have any computers we can use please let us know. Joe N2IMF said he would set up a VHF station for FD.

Hamfest:
Chairperson – Cliff, KC2EXP

Use of Sunrise Mall for Hamfest for this year may be possible for a small fee. Dates were submitted, and we are waiting to get more info from Cliff

Air Power Museum:
Chairperson - Bud, WA2QAV; Bob, K2TV; Jay, N2PIK

Date is confirmed for Armed Forces Day, May 20-21, 2006 from 10AM until 4 PM. PR has been sent to QST, CQ and World Radio. We will be using Outbacker, R7, and 4BTV antennas. If you are planning to attend please let the chairpersons know. A discussion of the DX-77 vertical antenna was brought up and it was unclear of its current status.

Fire Island Lighthouse Weekend:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

Nothing to report at this time.

Club Picnic:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

Permit request has been given to the Town for August 26.

End of the Year Party:
Chairperson - Walter, KA2RGI

Nothing to report at this time.

VE SESSIONS:
ARRL Liaison & Contact - Walter, KA2RGI

Next VE session is Sunday, May 28, 2006 at 12 Noon.

WEBSITE:
Chairperson – Walter, KA2RGI

Nothing to report at this time. Have not had time to update sites.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Antenna Committee:
Chairperson - Position Open

KC2OYH will assist with any roof work needed but needs schedule of work to be done. Walter will be working on Nick, WB2SKE's antenna next weekend (5/20).

Open House:
Chairpersons - Dave, N2UHR

Nothing new to report

Public Relations:
Chairperson – PattiLynn, KC2AUX

Nothing new to report

Technical Committee:
Chairpersons - Bob, K2TV, Danny, WB2COO

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. NTS Training going; it is also the topic at the Monthly meeting. 5/13 – MS Walk @ Belmont Lake, 5/14 – Elizabeth T McNamee 5K Run @ West Islip High School, 5/22 – Basic Skywarn Training @ Berkner Hall, BNL, Upton, NY 7:00 PM. W2TOB-9 mail drop back on line on 145.07

GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS:
Chairperson – Frank, K2LI

Date/Speaker/Topic
May – Field Day Preparation and N1MM Logging Program – Ken Boasi, N2ZN; June – Field Day wrap up; July – Antenna Demo – Walter, KA2RGI; Sept – Traffic Handling – John Smale, K2IZ. Frank has requested info on any other speakers

HEALTH AND WELFARE:
Chairperson – PattiLynn, KC2AUX

K2LI is home recovering after back surgery. N2MIG and N2PIK visited him today.

OLD BUSINESS:
A query was presented if club equipment insurance was completed (it was).

NEW BUSINESS:
Motion to purchase a second club owned carport was presented by N2IMF and seconded by W2EUL.
A discussion followed about cost to repair KA2RGI's carport cover or purchase a new one. A vote of the board was made and carried by unanimous vote. A vote will be presented to membership at the May general meeting.

Possible club outing:
Information was presented to the board about the club attending a Ducks baseball game. The stadium is in Central Islip at Southern State Parkway, Exit 43A. Group tickets are for 25 people or more:

Mon – Thurs $8 per ticket (1st 700 are reserved); Fri, Sat & Sun $9 per ticket; Premium Group Seats $10 per ticket (limited availability)

Another option was presented:
Plesser's Pre-Game Picnic: $30 Adult $23 Child 9 and under. Price includes box seats. 90 minutes before start of each game 50-300 can join pre-game picnic package. Picnic includes all you can eat buffet (hamburger, Nathan's hot dogs, chicken, Pepsi beverages, cookies, snacks, watermelon, potato and macaroni salad. New for 2006-Ribs, roasted corn, tossed salad and potato chips) Check with Walter, KA2RGI for more info.

Joe, N2IMF asked if any of the club members were interested in going on board a casino ship that goes 3 miles off shore from Bay Shore. The trip is about 4 hours long.

Matt, KC2OOZ and Justin, KC2OYH asked if any club members were interested in Bunny Hunting (transmitter hunts) to let them know. They will be discussing setting up some hunts at the May 20th open house for after Field Day.

MOTION TO CLOSE: 1st N2UHR 2nd N2MIG
Meeting closed 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Walter M. Wenzel, KA2RGI
Recording Secretary

DX Cluster Basics,
and how to get the most out of the DX Cluster
by Ken, N2ZN

The DX Clusters we use today are a great source of information for the DX'er, the would-be DX'er, and even dyed-in-the-wool ragchewers. Within the DX Cluster network lies a gold mine of information about active DX, formerly active DX, QSL routes, propagation information, and much more. Nowadays, DX cluster usage has become so easy that thousands of hams are connected at any given moment through a worldwide network that can pass information to any point of the globe within seconds. As soon as you spot something, your spot is seen in Europe, Japan, South America, and all over the United States and Canada. Things have not always been this way, though.

In the beginning, the DX Cluster was a one node, small area coverage system that operated on VHF using packet radio. A TNC, 2 meter rig, computer, and cables were needed, and as long as you could reach the cluster, you could get spots form whoever else was connected. Even before packet radio, hams had attempted spotting in various ways using 2 meter simplex, 2 meter repeaters, and even the "two ring" (on the telephone) system to pass DX information to each other. Many DX clubs sponsored repeaters that the club members would monitor, and stations would announce the calls and frequencies of the DX on the repeater. Eventually, packet radio and DX Clusters did away with 2 meter spotting nets.

The first DX Cluster nodes were standalone nodes that were not connected via backbone to any other nodes. Whoever was connected to the node saw the DX info that was posted, and nothing else. Eventually, cluster nodes began to connect to each other via backbones, and the coverage area expanded. The spots now came from local stations, and stations located within a few hundred miles, maybe. As more backbones were added between nodes, more information became available, and users would see spots from large areas, possibly from across the country. Finally, the DX Cluster network evolved into what it is today; an international network of hams passing information back and forth. With the addition of the Internet, traditional VHF cluster nodes were able to show spots coming in from around the world. Also, hams were able to access the cluster network without needing to have VHF packet radio. The cluster is available through Internet telnet and websites such as www.dxscape.com and DX Summit (http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com), and www.dxwatch.com. Now with radio and internet fully linked, the system grew tremendously. However, along with the tremendous growth came tremendous competition.

Think about it: if your local DX cluster is not linked to anything, and 10 people are connected to it, only 10 people see what is spotted. So, if P51DX shows up on 14.195, and it is spotted on your little node, then only 10 people will see it and only 10 people will be competing with you to work him. If your little node is connected to two others with 10 people each, now 30 people are competing with you for P5. If 10 nodes are connected with 10 people each, now there are 100 people in the pileup. If the clusters are linked worldwide, now the pileup can have thousands of stations from around the world, some of which may be closer, have bigger stations, or have a propagation advantage. For the DX'er with a small station, competing with thousands of better equipped stations can be a frustrating experience.

Of course, the pileup will be proportional to the rarity of the DX. If a KP2 station is spotted on 20 meter SSB, then there may not be much of a pileup. However, if a very rare station, such as a PY0S (St. Peter & Paul Rocks) or SY (Mt. Athos) comes on the air, then the entire world will be trying to work them. Again, the smaller station may get frustrated calling for hours in the pileups. So what use could the DX Cluster be to smaller stations?

For one, it could be used to check propagation information. If you monitor the cluster for an hour and notice that all of the spots are for European stations on 20 meters, then you can assume that the band is open to Europe on 20. If you see spots for JA stations on 15 meters, then it is safe to say that the band is open towards Japan, which in turn could yield stations from HL, UA0, BY, BV, DU, KH2, and KH0. At this point, try tuning the band. See what is coming in. Follow the pattern indicated by the cluster and tune carefully, listening for stations in the area the band is open to. Tune all portions of the band. If you are CQ'ing endlessly on 20 SSB with no luck, you may be missing the Spratly Islands on 20 CW. It also helps to have digital mode capability as well, to be complete. P5/4L4FN worked plenty of RTTY during his time in North Korea, and many DX'ers missed out on him because they had never been on RTTY and were not equipped for it. Again, careful tuning is key.

By not engaging in massive pileups, and using the cluster as a propagation guide, you will know what to look for as you tune. The hope, of course, is to find the DX before it is spotted and work it before the masses show up with their kilowatts. If you catch a rare DX on his initial CQ, your chances of working him are much greater than in a pileup. By the time the kilowatts show up, you will have him logged and be off to the next conquest. Again, scan the CW, SSB, and digital modes. And by digital modes, you can include RTTY *and* PSK31. DX stations do show up on both digital modes.

Propagation is also judged through the cluster by the frequent WWV reports put out by various users of the cluster. While you are connected, you will see "WWV de XX0XXX:" every few hours. This helps you keep your eye on what is going on, solar-conditions wise.

(A brief note on propagation numbers: you want the "SFI" number to be as high as possible, and the "A" and "K" indexes to be as low as possible. A solar report showing "SFI=80, A=20, K=5" is awful, indicating a point near the bottom of the cycle. A report showing "SFI=200, A=1, and K=1" is excellent, and occurs closer to the cycle peak. However, even at the bottom of the cycle, you will still be able to work plenty of DX. Watch the A and the K index-when they get down to 1 or so, get on the radio, no matter what the SFI is!)

A very useful feature of the DX Cluster is the archived spots that are searchable through several websites. One of the better ones to use for this function is DX Summit (http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com). When you go to that site, you will see a link entitled "Spot Database Search". Click on it and you will be directed to the next page which contains the search engine. You can set the search options to show spots only by a certain band, or all bands, and how many results to show. When you enter a station's callsign into this search engine, it will report back to you all of the times that the station has been spotted on the cluster network within a time period. This is very helpful if you are trying to find if a certain station is active, or if a country has had any recent activity. It also can help you establish that station's operating practices so you will know where to be if you want to work him.

For example, if you need to work Zimbabwe (Z2), just go to the spot database search, and type "Z2" into the search engine. It will respond with a list of the last spots of Z2 stations. You can ask for as few as 25 spots and as many as 10,000 spots-use more if you want to see activity over a broader timeframe. From the list, you pick Z22JE to try to work. You see that he is active at different times of day, and that he doesn't get spotted by U.S. stations until around 1800z. You can also see the bands and frequencies he is active on. So, from this search, you can find that Z22JE is usually active around 1800Z every day and is workable from the U.S.A. at that time. Also from your search, you see he prefers 20 meters SSB, and shows up around the same frequency every day. So, by using the cluster search, you know where to be at what time in order to work him and put the new one in your log.

Since DX spots show up from all over the world, you have to be careful as to which spots you pick, because band conditions at your station may be very different from those in Europe or Japan or even the west coast of America. Always pay attention to the spotter's call. If you see a new one spotted, note the call of the spotting station. If JA1AA spots BS7H on 80 meter CW, and it is noon at your station, then you will certainly not be able to work him. That path works from Japan because that is the time for propagation between those two points. There may be many times you see things on the clusters that you cannot hear, simply because they are being spotted by stations in different portions of the day, or with better propagation to the DX station. Most DX Clusters and DX Cluster websites have "filter" options, where you can elect to see only spots from the U.S.A, or spots from certain call districts, or by continent, or by CQ Zone, or by band, and so on and so on. You can also choose no filter and see everything that comes through the cluster. This is fine, but be sure to determine between spots which you can work and spots which you will not be able to work because of propagation.

What do you need to get active on the cluster? First, you need a computer. Without question, a computer in the shack is nearly essential these days. Logging, digital modes, DX Cluster, rig control, and so much more are done through the shack computer. Often, one program can perform all of these functions, too. DX Cluster can be accessed though the above mentioned websites, which work fine. Also as mentioned above is telnet: once you obtain the TCP/IP address of a DX Cluster node, just type "telnet://xxx.xxx.xxxx" into your web browser, and the default telnet program will launch and connect to the telnet node. Once connected, you will be asked to log in, and once you log in, you will be in the cluster in real-time (The DX Cluster websites

usually reload every few minutes and are not quite in real-time). Of course, if you have packet radio capability, there are still many nodes left on traditional packet. The W2GSB DX Cluster is accessible on 145.67 MHz by connecting to W2GSB and logging in.

So, for the beginning DX'er or even just those who are new to DX Cluster, there are many functions available beyond the "sit and wait for DX" that most stations use. If you use the cluster as a propagation guide and a searchable database, it will become yet another tool in your arsenal to try to wring the DX out of the bands. Careful tuning and propagation knowledge are invaluable skills to have, and the ideas presented here regarding DX Clusters are true: it seems they provide a lot of help, but the rarer the DX, the bigger the pileups. Learn to outsmart the pileups. The best DX will always be the all time new one you find yourself.

UPCOMING DX CALENDAR

EL2PM	Until 5/31/06
SV9/G3VMK	Until 6/2/06
HH/PS7EB	Until 11/25/06
CN2WW	Until 5/29/06
5B/OO5S and 5B/OQ1C	Until 5/30/06
4W5M	Until 6/2/06
S79RS	Until 6/5/06
VI9NI	Until 6/20/06
J5UTM	Until 5/25/06
ZC4DG	Until 5/31/06
KH6ND/KH5	Until ?? (currently active)
KH6ND/KH5	QRV for CQWPX CW (SOSB 40)
5B/NN3AA	CQWPX CW
7W2OM	Until 5/30/06
WH0W	CQWPX CQ
OY/	Until 6/8/06
P29VV	6/16/06-6/19/06
C9	6/29/06-7/13/06
5W	7/28/06-8/10/06
3D2BD (Rotuma)	8/5/06-8/17/06
V5/G3RWF	9/15/06-10/6/06
5A7A	11/14/06-11/28/06
VK9AA (Cocos-Keeling)	10/25-10/29 and 11/20-11/27/06
TZ5A	CQWW CW

GSBARC SHACK OF THE MONTH

This month: Jay, N2PIK



On the top shelf you will see a Kenwood TM-3530A 220 rig, and my Yaesu FT-50R and Yaesu VX-7R HT's. A Bearcat 800XLT scanner is to the right of the Yaesu's. Underneath the shelf, you can see a Yaesu FT-5100 dual bander, a Radio Shack 10 meter Transceiver, and a Yaesu FT 5200 dual bander. In the bottom row, there is a Yaesu FT-757GXII with Yaesu FC-757AT for HF.

73, Jay, N2PIK

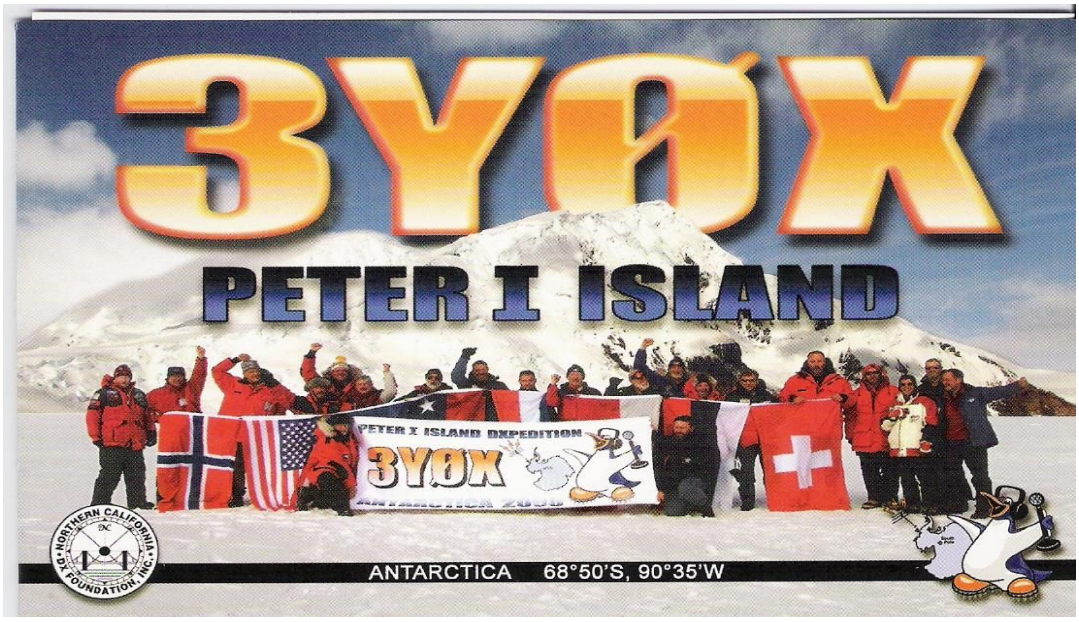
Thanks Jay...and we are officially looking for the June "Shack of the Month"; just a digital picture and short writeup on your station will do. All submissions to be sent to the editor.

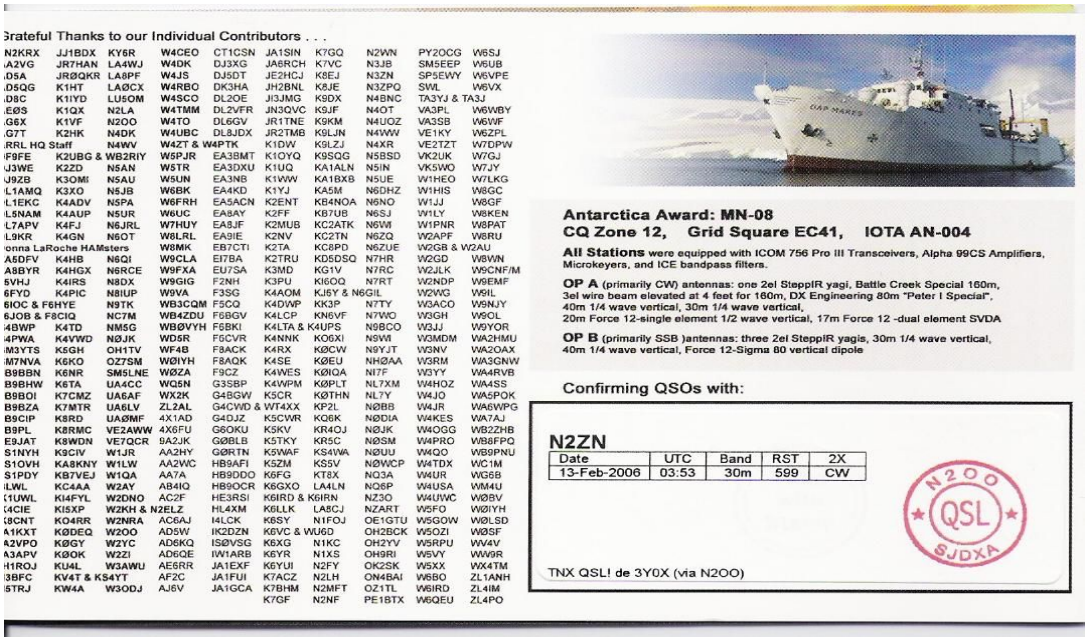
Air Power Museum Photos (some of them, anyway)





QSL Card of the Month





This is the QSL card from the February 2006 3YØX DXpedition to Peter I Island. This operation was supposed to have taken place in 2004, and then again in 2005. Due to various problems, it did not take place until this year. Peter I Island is an island claimed by Norway that lies deep in Antarctica. The island is very difficult to reach, and being extremely remote, it requires special transportation. An icebreaker was chartered to take the team to Peter I, and then a helicopter was needed for landing, as there is no way to land at the shore due to the steep cliffs. Peter I was in the Top 10 most wanted DX entities before this expedition, and it is unknown when another expedition might take place, due to the very high costs involved. The team made over 85,000 QSO's and operated on a variety of modes including EME. The QSL route for this operation is via N2OO, and the website with more statistics, pictures, and video is http://www.peterone.com.

GSBARC 2006 VE Schedule

Contact & Liaison: Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI (631) 957-0218

Location: Babylon Town Hall EOC –12 Noon

~~Jan 22,~~ ~~Feb 26,~~ ~~Mar 26~~, ~~Apr 23~~, May 28, Jun 18
Jul 23, Aug 27, Sep 24, Oct 22, Nov 26, Dec 17





Birthday Wishes

May

Alan, N2CRV
David, KC2GWO
Artie, WA2KXE
Frank, K2LI
Dave, KB2NYS
Pete, WB2OQQ
Justin, KC2OYH
Adam, KB2TCH

If you are not listed here and you should be, check with N2ZN-he may not have your info.

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

Swap 'n Shop Net -
Tuesday 7:30 PM
146.685/R

10 M Net -
Tuesday 8:00 PM
28.320

Club Info Net -
Wednesday 10:00 AM
146.685/R

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting – 2nd Thursday 8:00 PM
June 8, July 13, August 10

VE Session – 4th Sunday 12:00 PM
May 28, June 25, July 23

General Meeting – Last Thursday. 8:00PM
May 25, June 29, July 27

Open House 12:00 – 2:00PM
Every Saturday @ Town Hall EOC
September through June

Field Day- June 24-25
Setup begins at 7 A.M.

Repeaters

2 M
146.685/146.085 PL 110.9

1 1/2 M
223.860/222.260 PL 110.9

70 CM
440.850/445.850 PL 110.9

Web Site
www.gsbarc.org

Mirror Site: www.qsl.net/gsbarc

DX Cluster

Connect to W2GSB on 145.67 MHz.

A Note from the Editor

Summer is upon us...sort of, and that means Field Day is upon us. The event will take place on June 24-25 on the East Lawn of Babylon Town Hall. Unfortunately, this year we will again be confined to the rear of the lawn, as an event has again been scheduled in conflict with ours, and will be using the front of the lawn on Sunday. It appears that this will be the case for some years to come, because of the town's commitments. Therefore, we should be coming up with a plan to utilize the space we have for maximum effectiveness. This year, it is expected that members will operate and make QSO's. For some years now, our final scores have been far below our potential, and the problem is not enough operators/operating. Please make plans to come down to Field Day and help man the stations. Overnighters are needed, as well as ops for Sunday morning/afternoon. Setup will begin promptly at 7 A.M. on Saturday. Keep in mind that setup is important, but we are setting up with a goal in mind, and that goal is to have our station(s) on the air for 1800Z (2 P.M.) and to **OPERATE**. We already have commitments of equipment from several members, and of this writing, we have enough antennas, rigs, and computers to run a 5A operation plus a GOTA station. Is this enough, or should we run more? Will there be satellite, VHF, packet, digital, SSTV, ATV, or a solar station this year? It is not known at this time. At the May General meeting, we will be nailing all of the plans down. The Field Day coordinators will be making a presentation on how we are to set up and what equipment we have available. Further ideas and discussion will take place at this meeting. In addition, I will be demonstrating the logging program we plan to use this year, which is N1MM Logger. The Field Day coordinators have decided to lay CT to rest due to it being a bit outdated and not quite as functional as N1MM. Relax-the commands are the same, and there will be "cheat sheets" set up at each station to help you if you get lost. As long as my laptop cooperates, I'll be giving everyone a sneak peek at the program on May 25.

Thanks again to our contributors for this month, with N2PIK delivering us the Shack of the Month. I would also like to thank KC2OOZ for stepping forward and volunteering to help out with some of the graphic design that you will see in the Compass in the coming months. When you start to notice the funny graphics and seizure-inducing color patterns, you can thank Matt for that. See everyone at the May 25 meeting.

73, Ken, N2ZN

FIELD DAY: What we Have and Have Not

HF Rigs:

2 Kenwood TS-570's

1 Kenwood TS-430

1 Kenwood TS-140

1 Kenwood TS-440

1 Icom IC-718 (GOTA station)

Total: 5 HF Stations plus 1 GOTA.

Antennas:

Triband beam (to be mounted on tower)

Full size 80 meter dipole (to be mounted on the light poles at the baseball filed)

Full size 40 meter dipole (baseball field lights)

20/15/10 meter dipole

DX-77 vertical

R7 vertical

4 Outbacker mobile antennas.

1 40 meter wire beam

1 military vertical antennas

Misc:

6 laptop computers

2 desktop computers

1 soundcard interface

2 keyer/paddle combos

Generators, extension cords, power strips

Car port (possibly 2)

Various tents

Headphones

Microphones and power supplies for all rigs.

Coax/feedlines/connectors

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.
Except Nov. & Dec. when it is the First Thursday.
Restricted to GSBARC members only.

General Membership Meetings:
Last Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M.
Except Nov. & Dec. when it is the Second Thursday.

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 $25.00 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

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 and the 3rd Sunday in June and December

The Compass is published by the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club
Submissions to the COMPASS are welcomed in the following formats:
ASCII text or MS Word 2000 .doc format.

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 3/22/06

Executive Officers

President	Jay Eichner, N2PIK	631-427-0162
Vice President	Frank Cannata, K2LI	631-957-0246
Recording Secretary	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Corresponding Secretary	PattiLynn Wandell, KC2AUX	631-842-6340
Treasurer	John Cresson, Jr, KC2JGH	631-661-2038

DIRECTORS

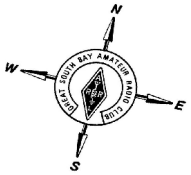
#1 Term ends 2006	Alan Shaw, N2CRV	631-422-3935
#2 Term ends 2006	Thomas Favilla, N2MIG	631-957-5985
#3 Term ends 2007	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
#4 Term ends 2007	Dave Wandell, N2UHR	631-842-6340

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Club Apparel	Charles Rousselet, N2MZK	516-935-2046
Club Equipment	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Compass Staff (Editor)	Ken Boasi, N2ZN	631-587-3243
Compass Staff (Printer/Mail)	Pete Maxwell, N2GBM	631-231-7426
Compass Staff (eMail)	Ken Boasi, N2ZN	631-587-3243
DX & Contesting	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
Educational	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Field Day Coordinators	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
	Don Rollock, W2EUL	631-929-0705
	Ken Boasi, N2ZN	631-587-3243
Guest Speakers & Programs	Frank Cannata, K2LI	631-957-0246
Health & Welfare	PattiLynn Wandell, KC2AUX	631-842-6340
Hamfest Chairman	*** Position Open ***	
	*** Position Open ***	
Librarian	Alan Shaw, N2CRV	631-422-3935
Membership	Ken Boasi, N2ZN	631-587-3243
QSL Manager	Bud Egan, WA2QAV	631-643-7071
Refreshments	Don Rollock, W2EUL	631-929-0705
	Tom Navas, KC2MOX	
Sergeant at Arms	*** Position Open ***	
VE Liaison & Contact	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Web Site Administrators	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
	David Wenzel, KC2GWO	631-957-0218

SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Annual Picnic Coordinator	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Annual End of Year Party Coordinator	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Antenna Committee	*** Position Open ***	
Ham Radio University Liaisons	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
	*** Position Open ***	
Open House Coordinator	Dave Wandell, N2UHR	631-842-6340
Special Event – Air Power Museum	Bud Eagan, WA2QAV	631-643-7071
Special Event – Fire Island Light House	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Special Event – JOTA	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Special Event – Skywarn Recognition Day	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218
Technical Committee	Bob Myers, K2TV	631-226-4696
Trustee for W2GSB	Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI	631-957-0218



Great South Bay ARC
P.O. Box 1356
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