



THE CLIPPER

Official Newsletter of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club

August 2008

Volume 36

Issue 8

Fire Island Lighthouse Special Event Station



Editors:

Bob, **K2TV** (k2tv@arrl.net) &
John, **K2IZ** (k2iz@arrl.net)
Kevin, **AB2ZI** (ab2zi@arrl.net)

Nets:

Newline Report:

Monday 7 PM 146.685/R

Club Info Net:

Monday 7:30 PM 146.685/R

DX/Contest Info:

Monday 8 PM 146.685/R

Swap 'n Shop Net:

Wednesday 8PM 146.685/R

10-M Net:

Tuesday 8 PM 28.320

USB Club Info Net:

Wednesday 10 AM 146.685/R

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting:

2nd Thursday 8 PM Aug. 14th, 08

VE Session:

4th Sunday @ 12 PM next VE session is Aug. 24th at the EOC

Open House:

12-2 PM Every Saturday @ Town Hall EOC. September after Labor day through June.

All are welcome, bring a friend!

Repeaters:

2M: 146.685/146.085 PL 110.9
1-1/2M: 223.860/222.260 PL 110.9
70cm: 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. 1200 baud packet or follow the telnet link on <http://www.gsbarc.org>

Club Happenings

This is the premier of a small column to highlight the activities of GSB club members between meetings, whether it be at the EOC, a member's QTH, or anywhere else.

As most of you know the official club open houses end after field day and don't resume, officially, again until after Labor Day in September. This does not mean that club members can't arrange for impromptu get-togethers at the EOC. Several of us have been finding ourselves down at the EOC for various activities ranging from straightening out the logs from field day and antenna design, troubleshooting and installation.

Bob, K2TV, and several of us have been discussing doing some more workshops. The project we're thinking about doing first is a 300 ohm ladder line J-Pole antenna for use with an HT. These are great antennas to put in your Go Kit or a backpack and they perform much better than the stock rubber duck antenna.

If anyone has any ideas for projects they'd like to take on (e.g. a QRP rig, ground plane antenna, connector assembly, etc.) send an email to Bob, K2TV at k2tv@arrl.net or Kevin, AB2ZI, at ab2zi@arrl.net, or just see us at a meeting (or give a shout on one of the club's repeaters, 2 meter or 70 cm). 73, Kevin, AB2ZI. 

Upcoming Meetings:

The Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club's next meeting will be on **Thursday, August 28th, at 8 p.m.** in the Town of Babylon zE-emergency Operations Center in the basement of the Babylon Town Hall 200 East Sunrise Highway, North Lindenhurst, NY. To enter the EOC, go around to the rear of Town Hall and go down the stairs between the two wings of the building. Ring the **TOP** door bell button and you will be "buzzed in". Make a left turn in the hallway and the EOC is located down the hall on the right. Talk-in on 146.685 MHz 110.9 Hz PL.v

August Birthdays

KC2SYF Michael Sartoretti
KC2SPN Carmine Rublowsky
KA2RGI Walter Wenzel
KC2FBV Harold Verity
KC2EXP Cliff DeBear

Presidents Message

August 2008

At last month's General Meeting a motion (by Bill, W2ANQ) was made to change the process of the meeting structure back to an elaborate reading of the committee reports at both meetings. This motion was brought before the GSBARC Executive Board at the last meeting, and was discussed by the board and those present, and the board choose to leave the meetings as is for the remainder of the year. The primary reason for the change in meeting structure was because I had heard from many of the membership that they were bored by the business portion of the meeting and wanted to hear more interesting information presented at the General Meeting. When I ran for the office of President I stated that I would change the meeting setup, going back to previous format we used in years past to allow more time for any speakers we would have at a General Meeting. The Executive Board felt the same way and decided to have no action on the motion because it felt that the membership had already spoken out on the meeting by electing me as the President and also the fact that it is now 9 months after the fact. They also stated that if there is a change to occur it should occur with the next term of officers of the organization, and between now and then if the membership feels pro or con they should speak to either the board or the directors so their opinions can be heard.

As I have mentioned already I am not running for another term as club president. It is time for everyone in the club to think about what direction they want GSBARC to continue in. Think about what you can do to assist in those matters. I am glad to see new faces stepping up and taking the lead. The only thought I have on the matter is please be aware of why some things are done the way they are, and what

effects some rapid decisions without preplanning can have on the club and its resources.

The summer months usually are a time when people's thoughts of Amateur Radio wane and the family becomes the main focus. This year it seems the activities have kicked into a higher gear and lot of things have been happening.

Here are some those happenings:

Repeaters – Bill, W2ANQ has accepted the challenge of coordinating the work on the GSBARC repeaters (2m & 220). Thank you Bill for taking on the task. Most of the work is on hold waiting for the riggers for the tower. (That's another committee I am no longer in charge of, it only feels like I have another hundred or so to go.)

Education & Classes – John, KC2JGH is going to teach the Tech Classes this September. If anyone wants to work with him on the classes please let him know. The General & Extra classes are also open for instructors. If there is any other classes you would like now is the time say what you would like classes on.

Equipment – A donated HF vertical antenna was installed on the east wing of Town Hall so a second radio could operate. This use of a second or third HF antenna was approved by the Town only as a temporary installation—not as permanent. TOBARES (Town of Babylon RACES) does have permission to install 2 additional permanent vertical antennas on the brick face of the east wing for additional equipment that will be in the radio room at the present time.

Special Events – Fire Island Lighthouse – everything went very well. I was not able to attend because of last minute family issues and conflicting

schedules. The Friends of Long Island were also there and handled a presentation while we operated radios. It was a very good team operation. The Lighthouse Administration was so happy to have us that additional hours of operation were approved. We were also invited to be part of the their Anniversary affairs on Nov. 1, 2008. Let us know what your thoughts are ASAP. John, KC2HCB and Bob, K2TV are heading a committee to see how the membership feels about the event and what our involvement will be.


Hamfest – John, KC2HCB is chairing the Hamfest for April, 2009. He will need assistance. Speaking of Hamfests do not forget about the TOBARES Hamfest in October.

As you can see there has been a lot of work done and action in just the last month. I am very glad to such enthusiasm. I hope it will continue.

One last item:

Are you interested in having an email through the club? (i.e. callsign@gsbarc.org). If you are please let me know. There are 2 ways to have a club email:

- 1) Redirected email address. This where you have another email and the callsign@gsbarc.org email address is redirected to your other email address (i.e. tom&jerry@email.net).
- 2) Full email address. This would be like having another complete independent email address. You would have to go on to the email server and retrieve your email from like just like your optonline.net, verizon.net, yahoo.com, gmail, or other similar ISP email accounts.

If you are interested please let me know and I will setup an account for you and sent you the information.
73, Walter, KA2RGI
President, GSBARC 

Observations of a Club

By Kevin Morgan, AB2ZI

I've always been fascinated by humans and our different forms of social interaction. Humans exhibit traits of pack dominance, hive mentality, and sometimes individual reclusiveness. We're a complex species to say the least. As a member of the species myself (though my wife sometimes would beg to differ) I have been at times amused, and other times appalled by the behaviors we exhibit in various social settings.

People have evolved to gather in groups and communities for protection, the sharing of resources, and to find mates. Once these communities or groups solved the problems of food and shelter they began to have some free time on their hands. Social interactions led to people breaking down into more specialized groups. Initially much of this breakdown took the form of apprenticeships to certain skills or trades. Later on, with more leisure time available, the rich and upper classes were able to dabble in other interests. Eventually our societies became successful enough that even the rest of us were able to have interests outside of work. Some of these interests, or hobbies, were expensive and naturally lent themselves to sharing of expenses and thus were cooperatives or "clubs" formed.

Now in the interest of full disclosure I have to tell you that I am something of a joiner. That is, when I find something of particularly strong interest that can benefit from the input and guidance of others, I will usually seek out a club. I've belonged to many different types of clubs (motorcycle, woodworking, woodturning, etc.) and have noticed an interesting thing. They all tend to organize themselves along similar lines.

Now, I'm not talking about just the hierarchies or organization or the use of various rule systems (e.g. Robert's

Rules of Order). I'm talking about the various ways in which members participate and the resulting cliques and subdivisions within the organization form. Of the various types of personalities that make up a club, I have observed the following personalities:

1. The Leaders—these are typically those alpha types who have a desire to be in charge. These people may or may not be the most knowledgeable or experienced in the field, but they have the desire to be in charge for reasons ranging from narcissism to altruism. Leaders vary in their ability to lead and much of the club's "tone" is set by the ways they choose to lead. E.g., they can lead by bullying their underlings (the "Alpha dog" approach); they can lead by inspiration, or other various methods depending on their personalities. Regardless of which approach is used, a successful leader is a good diplomat. Able to keep control of the meetings and work with the unique personalities vying for control without losing control him- or herself.

2. The Highly Motivated—I also call these the "true believers"; they exhibit lots of energy and will usually volunteer at the drop of a hat for any and all committees or projects. These are some of the most easily disillusioned among the membership (see #3).

3. The Disillusioned—these members truly love the club and want to do all they can to make it work, but at the same time begin to harbor resentments against those who don't show the same level of enthusiasm that they do. In many ways these members act like a virus of sorts, infecting the club organism at times with a fever to do more, and at other times spreading dissent when they've finally become disillusioned and begin to spread gossip about other members who just don't do as much as they should (in their opinion, of course). These members can also be seen holding

court among themselves at various times (e.g., before, during, and after a meeting) and are quick to point out how much other people are not doing.

4. The Herd—or "pack." These are the main body of the membership. They're the more even-keeled members who regularly attend meetings (not necessarily every meeting, hey, they have a life!) and do what they can, when they can. These are some of the most important members because they are what prospective members see when they come to a meeting. After all, who wants to join a club if there aren't any members at the meeting except for the leaders and highly motivated members who are complaining about the members who aren't there or who don't do anything? This does not help to recruit new blood. More importantly, they are paying their dues!

Dues are what keep the club working. The more members you have paying dues, the less you need to charge for dues (a big plus when recruiting potential new members) and the more the club is able to do.

Anyone who's ever been a member of a club has at one time or other heard the expression that all the work gets done by ten percent of the members. I have found this to be true. What's more, there's nothing wrong with it. If you want to get more participation you have to lead by example. You have to generate true enthusiasm for participation. Meetings should be enjoyable, not a chore. If you've ever not felt like going to a meeting because you knew how boring or tedious it was going to be, then there is a larger problem that needs to be addressed, and not by the entire membership in a marathon bore fest, but by the club's leadership.

Do what you want to do to make the club work for you! If you don't like how things are run, then run for office. If you volunteer to do something, don't expect praise and

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W2GSB/LH: Fire Island Lighthouse Special Event Station



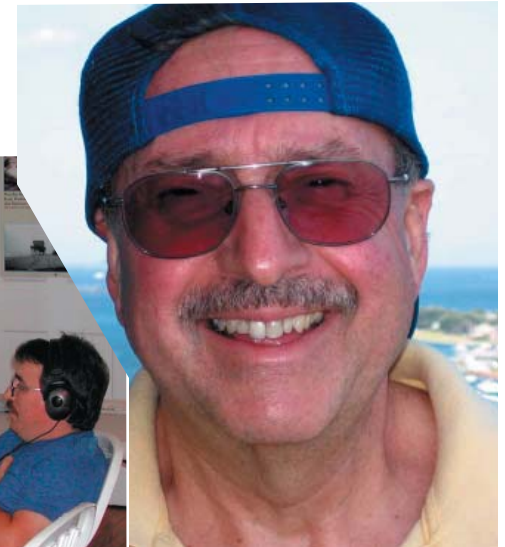
Larry,, Walter, KA2CAQ, and Bob, K2TV having a rag chew.



Frank, K2LI, chillin' and grillin'



Walter, KA2CAQ, Operated PSK31 around the world on 25 watts!



Bob, K2TV



Bob, K2TV, John, KC2HCB and Bill, W2ANQ on the air.



John, KC2HCB simultaneously calling CQ and catching 40 winks!



Bob, K2TV, and John, KC2HCB enjoying the view from the lighthouse observation deck



Walter, KA2CAQ, Bob, K2TV, and Bud, WA2QAV taking their turn



Kevin, AB2ZI works to update his logs, while Walter, KA2CAQ, does some more PSK31 operating



My two cents

By John Melfi, KC2HCB

A great weekend was had by all at the Fire Island Light House... It all started Saturday morning around 7 a.m. I pulled up to the light house and was met with excitement by Larry the keeper of the light house, by 8 a.m. everyone was there and we got going

I would like to say that the team that setup and operated had a great time. K2tv built an open wire 'Zep' antenna and we were looking for a place to hang it when Larry looked at us and said, "What's the problem? You have a 192 foot high lighthouse," and convinced us to hang the antenna from the lighthouse to a pole down below, descending on an almost 45 degree angle.

Once all the antennas were up and feed lines attached we set the radios up. I would like to thank K2LI, KA2CAQ and K2TV for the use of their radios for the event, and also the club for providing its radios, coax, and power supplies.

The Special event station was up and on the air with no problems whatsoever: When we all work together everything runs smooth.

Larry was so happy we were there he convinced us to operate all night because he wanted to see how radio propagation changes when the sun goes down. With everyone present we took a poll to decide if we would stay or go and the results were a unanimous "yes let's do it!"

A few operators were like a little kid getting a present, I won't mention their calls, but they know who they are. I would like to thank KC2JGH for running out for dinner on Saturday night.

We all worked like a well-oiled machine, and believe me, I know how smoothly a well-oiled machine runs.

All I can say is wow, that Zep antenna kicked butt! 25 watts on

PSK and we went around the world. K2LI's G5RV also worked very well, and the club's 40m dipole also worked very well—we had no problems with getting out on the air.

A few operators went home and several stayed and played all night. What a cool thing being in a 150 year old light house at 2 a.m. talking to someone in another light house in another country or stateside. We couldn't believe this was happening, it was one of the coolest thing we had done as a group of ham radio operators

Sunday morning which started around 5:30 a.m. radios were still being run by operators with blood shot eyes still calling "cq cq cq W2GSB/LH calling cq cq cq, anybody anywhere, w2gsb standing by..."

We had breakfast around 7:30 and kept operating 'till the afternoon.

The bands were fading away so we reduced the size of the station and started to clean up.

While I was talking to one of the lighthouse staff members, she told me that the lighthouse turns 150 years old November 1st and asked if we could be there for the event. They love when we are there and want us back ASAP

We also made a donation to the lighthouse brick fund and got a nice certificate that we hung up at the EOC for everyone to see.

All I really wanted to say is *thank you, thank you, thank you!* It was GREAT! 73, John, KC2HCB ~~73~~

My Lighthouse Experience
By Kevin Morgan, AB2ZI

It didn't look like I was going to participate in the club's Fire Island Lighthouse special event station on the weekend of Aug 16th and 17th due to home improvement projects at my house. I was doing my best to try to wheedle some time around our busy schedule when I got a call from John, KC2HCB saying they needed

people and that they had gotten permission to stay overnight. I had to pick out siding and buy molding on Saturday morning and I had a landscaper coming on Sunday at 11 a.m. for a consultation. So after agreeing to be home in time for the landscaper appointment, I got the go ahead to be away on Saturday night.

After packing up the car and getting gas I was on my way a little after 6 p.m. I got into contact with the guys at the lighthouse on the way, but they were having trouble hitting the club's repeater. I was happy to learn that we didn't have to park in a parking field, but was able to drive right up to the lighthouse and park there.

After meeting Larry, the representative of the lighthouse, and getting settled in with what the equipment set up was and which stations were being operated on the various frequencies and modes, I went around with my camera taking some pictures. It was getting near sunset and I was interested in getting some photos of that and I'd also always wanted to shoot the lighthouse with light from the setting sun. The sunset turned into a spectacle of oranges reflecting off the water, through the clouds, and illuminated the lighthouse in an orange bath that gave it a subtle softness.

I soon tired of being mosquito bait and headed for higher ground. The view from the observation deck of the lighthouse was phenomenal. I was joined by Walter, KA2CAQ, and we took a load of pictures of both the sunset and the moonrise. We also got some pictures of the rotating light. Returning to ground level, I tried my hand for a couple of hours of calling CQ on 80 meters. I've heard that the nice thing about Amateur Radio is that there are so many different things to do with it, there's something for everyone. This being my first time operating at a club event I soon came to the conclusion that sitting on a single frequency calling CQ

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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 August 14, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Walter Wenzel, KA2RGI
Vice President Bob Myers, K2TV
Secretary Patti-Lynn Wandell, KC2AUX
Treasurer Don Rollock, W2EUL
Director 2008 Jay Eichner, N2PIK
Director 2008 Jon Gittens, KA2YMQ

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Director 2009 Frank Cannata, K2LI
Director 2008 Tom Favilla, N2MIG

CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:

W2ANQ, KB2TCH, KC2JGH, KC2MOX
AB2ZI, KC2HCB, KC2OYH, N2UHR

SECRETARY'S REPORT: – Patti-Lynn Wandell, KC2AUX
Nothing reported

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Previous minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE –

PO BOX:

Nothing

OUTGOING:

Nothing

TREASURER'S REPORT: – Don, W2EUL
Report was given. Finances are in good standing. Motion to accept report was made

KA2YMQ and seconded by K2TV.
The club has recently changed banks. For details contact Don, W2EUL the Treasurer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

APPAREL: – Charles, N2MZK & John KC2HCB

Shirts, hats and other club gear are in stock. Just two golf shirts are on order.

To order contact John via his email:

kc2hcb@arrl.net

CLUB STATION & EQUIPMENT: – Walter, KA2RGI

A HF, 6 meter, 2 meter, 440 MHz vertical antenna donated by Charles N2MZK, was installed by K2TV, K2TCH, AB2ZI, KC2JGH, KC2EGK, KC2HCB.

Walter, KA2RGI stated that anything that has to be put up here at Town Hall must be approved prior to being put up. A non-scheduled work session becomes an insurance

liability for the town if someone should get hurt. Antenna installations such as the above mentioned should be mentioned at a club meeting so the club can be involved.

DX CLUSTER – W2GSB 145.670: – Walter, KA2RGI

Is working at present

EDUCATION: – Walter, KA2RGI

TECH CLASS: Will start on Sept. 16th 2008

GENERAL CLASS: Will start in Jan. 2009

EXTRA CLASS: Will start in April 2009

Classes are Tuesdays at 7:30 PM at Town Hall EOC.

Also there have been requests made for Basic computers and Packet operations.

BASIC ELECTRONICS CLASS: Will resume after Field Day, on Saturday

LIBRARY: – Alan, N2CRV

Please remember to sign out your selections from the library.

Bob, K2TV will donate CQ magazines.

Adam, KB2TCH will donate Monitoring

Times & Popular Communications magazines

NETS:

BACKUP NCS NEEDED FOR ALL NETS

KC2JGH has volunteered to be backup net control

Newsline Report: 7:00 PM Monday – NCS

- Matt, KC2SJZ,

Nothing new to report.

2 Meter Net: 7:30 PM Monday - NCS - Don, W2EUL

Nothing new to report.

DX & Contest Report: 8:00 PM Monday

For up to the minute info, please check the W2GSB DX Cluster. If anyone enters any contest please enter the club as Great South Bay ARC so we can get credit. Contact Bob, K2TV for details.

Swap-N-Shop: 8:00 PM Wednesday - NCS

– KC2HCB

Swap-N-Shop: Thursday at 10:15 AM with

Jay, N2PIK

Jay reported that the net is suspended until September, and will then be held on Thursday mornings.

Morning Club Info Net (2 Meters): Thursday at 10:00 AM - NCS - Jay, N2PIK

Jay reported that the net is suspended until September, and will then be held on Thursday mornings

Ten Meter Net: 8:00 PM Tuesday - NCS

- Brian, N2NGE

Nothing new to report.

NEWSLETTER – COMPASS: – Bob, K2TV

, John, K2IZ, and Kevin AB2ZI

Email pictures from the Lighthouse to Bob, K2TV RWMYERS@SUFFOLK.LIB.NY.US

NOTE: Deadline to submit material for the Compass is the Saturday after the Board Meeting.

REPEATERS: W2GSB Trustee – Walter, KA2RGI

Chairman - Bill, W2ANQ

146.685: Still waiting for the work crew to go up on the tower, everything is set to go when the weather warms up.

223.860: Bob K2TV that it is on the air at Walter's house.

440.850: Working

VE SESSION: ARRL Liaison & Contact

- Walter, KA2RGI

Sunday, August 24, 2008 @ 12 Noon

Back up ARRL Liaison is needed!!

Websites: – Walter, KA2RGI

Back online

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Election Committee: Don W2EUL

A Chairperson will be appointed September as per the Constitution. Volunteers should get in touch with Don, W2EUL

Antenna Committee: Chairperson –Jon, N2YMQ

John needs some volunteers to help with several requests.

Contact Jon, N2YMQ via his email: jon_gittens@hotmail.com

ARES/RACES: EC/RO - Walter, KA2RGI

Meets 3rd Thurs. of the month at EOC.

TOBARES Net every Monday at 8:15PM

Upcoming Public Service Events:

Babylon Beatification Fair: September 7th
Volunteers should contact Walter, KA2RGI

MS 150 Bike Run: September 13th & 14th

Volunteers should contact :

Bill, N2NFI @ 631 926-0126

- email Bill, N2NFI : n2nfi @arrl.net

Don, W2EUL @ 631 929-0705.

- email Don, W2EUL: w2eul@yahoo.com

Guest Speakers & Programs:

Mtg. / Speaker / Topic
Aug / Bob K2TV / HF digital radio operation

Sept. / Ken WB2AMU / 6 meter operation

If there were any topics you would like to hear about, let Bob, K2TV know.

Health And Welfare: – Patti-Lynn Wandell, KC2AUX

Tom, N2MIG is dealing with some health issues

Frank, K2LI is dealing with his asthma
KA2UJP is recovering from a heart episode

Open House: – Walter, KA2RGI and Don, W2EUL,
Held weekly from the 2nd Sat. in Sept. to 2nd Sat. in July.

Technical Committee: – Bob, K2TV, Danny, and WB2COO

Charles, N2MZK had his HF ANTENNA TUNED UP at the Saturday Open House

OLD BUSINESS:

During the last General Meeting, Bill, W2ANQ made a motion That the usual Business of the General Meeting be brought back before the General Membership Meetings, i.e.: Minutes, Treasurers report, Committee reports, etc of the Executive Board meeting. Frank, KC2EGK 2nd the motion. Discussion ensued, no amendments where made. A motion to close discussion was made by Danny, WB2COO and 2nd by Tom, N2MIG

This has been the precedence for the last few years. The Constitution does not outline what the General meeting consists of. Last fall when Walter ran for President it was put before the general membership, that there would be no repeating of the EXECUTIVE Board minutes and processes brought up at the General meetings so as to have more time for our guest speakers. This was agreed on by the membership at the time.

Upon discussion at the EXECUTIVE Board meeting, the 6 board members present voted not to change anything at this time. 5 yes votes and 1 abstention.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kevin AB2ZI will be joining the editing staff of the Compass

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Hamfest: Coordinators – Walter, KA2RGI, Jay, N2PIK, KC2HCB

Air Power Museum:

Coordinators – Bud, WA2QAV; Bob, K2TV; Jay, N2PIK

Field Day: Coordinators – Walter, KA2RGI; Don, W2EUL; Adam, KB2TCH

UN Special event: is on hold for now, awaiting further word from the UN security personnel

Int'l Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend at Fire Island: Coordinator – Walter, KA2RGI
3rd full weekend in August 0001 UTC Sat to 2359 UTC Sun

Event Date: August 16-17, 2008.

Saturday 7AM-5PM

Sunday 9AM-5PM

Setup is @ 7AM

The club will not supply food.

A BBQ grill will be on site, John KC2JGH will bring propane for the grill. Walter KA2CAQ will supply ice. Send Bob, K2TV an email to coordinate any food or donation of food you would like there.

Tell the guard at the entrance to the lighthouse that you are there working the special event, there is a possibility that you will be able to access free parking in the parking field.

No parking at the lighthouse, offload equipment and move your vehicles back down to the parking lot.

If you call on the repeater someone will come and pick you up, if you feel you cannot walk to the lighthouse.

Club Picnic: Coordinator – Walter, KA2RGI
Event Date Saturday August 23, 2008 @ 11 AM – 5 PM

Location: Babylon Town Hall - East Lawn.

Meeting closed by Walter, K2TV at 10:20

Respectfully submitted by, KC2AUX, PattiLynn

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ognition for “all that you do for the club,” do it because you want to do it, or just don’t do it. If you’re looking for praise for doing something you will be disappointed.

All that being said, I’d like to add a personal note; I like small meetings. I like it when there are a large number of (dues paying) members in a club who don’t show up for meetings, and in the case of GSBARC, open houses. Small groups make it easier for me to get to know people. Hey, I’m a new

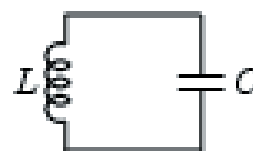
member, right now I’m in that window of opportunity that will determine just how involved I’m going to become, but I’m still new enough to have fresh enthusiasm. So don’t let (us) new members see conflict and pessimism at meetings and events. Make it fun. It *is* supposed to be fun, after all!

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over and over again, especially (or mostly) when no one is returning the calls is not my thing. It could also have something to do with the fact that the North America QSO party contest was also running this weekend. After a short break I changed tactics and started the patented K2TV “comb” method of scanning the band for stations calling CQ contest and began logging some stations. Soon after that it was recommended to me that I return to a single frequency and go back to calling CQ. Eventually a couple of contesters hijacked the frequency (I assume they couldn’t hear me or else they wouldn’t do that, right?) and since I was falling asleep at the microphone I decided to get a nap.

I woke up around 5:30 in the morning and soon John, KC2HCB, was cooking breakfast and Larry had a pot of coffee brewing. Another beautiful day, weather-wise was on deck and after a great breakfast and some farewells I had to leave for home.

It was one of the best nights out I’ve had in a very long time. I couldn’t have asked for more: Great lighthouse, great people, perfect weather, and of course, Amateur Radio. I can’t wait to do it again. 73, Kevin, AB2ZI




Place Postage
here
Post office will
not deliver
mail without
postage

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



At the next meeting...


The presentation for the August 28th meeting will be a video on "Digital Voice for Amateur Radio" focusing on HF Digital. This is actually a 2-part presentation with the 2nd part to be shown at a future meeting. Also at this meeting will be a slide show of photos from the Fire Island Lighthouse special event the weekend of Aug. 16-17. 

SPOTS!

Share your best discoveries here. I'm going to start the ball rolling with my 2-meter surprise of the month. This repeater net is known as "*The Northeast Connect*", aka the WB2BQW Net.

This is a linked network of repeaters based on 145.250 MHz, with a PL Tone of either 100.0 or 114.8 Hz. On Long Island there are 2 repeaters: One in Farmingville and the other in Riverhead. Both are using 100.0 Hz tones to access. Other machines are

located in Green Brook, NJ (114.8 PL), Waterbury, CT (no PL listed and a note on the web site says it does not perform well, another location is being sought), Egremont, MA (114.8 PL), Blooming Grove, NY (listed as Washingtonville in the directory, uses 100.0 PL), and Lake George, NY (114.8 PL).

This is an open net and has awesome coverage. So program your rigs for 145.250, 100.0 PL and 145.250, 114.8 PL. By the way, these machines are *all* IRLP node 3390 and Echolink 14070! 

Check out the *Compass's* new look, now with more room for articles and photographs. Submit your article or photo today! Get involved, remember, it's your newsletter!

Inside this Edition of "The Compass"

- *The Fire Island Lighthouse Special Event Station, with:*
 - *Photos and Editorials*
- *Message from the president*
- *Minutes from the August 14th Board meeting*
- *New Columns Inside!*

Electronic Formula of the month
"Resonant Frequency"

$$F_r = 1/(2\pi\sqrt{LC})$$

From the Ham Dictionary:
stealth antenna n. (stēlth ān-tēn'ə)
1. An antenna installed when the ham's wife is away visiting her mother. Hopefully hidden well enough that she doesn't notice it for several weeks, after which you can claim it's always been there. 