



Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter

"The Voice of GNARC"

May 2007

President's Blog

Good news to convey to you. We have acquired Shady Beach in Norwalk for Field Day. Whether you are familiar with the location or not. I can say this much, the site is ready made for what we want. For those of you who are not familiar with the area, I suggest that you do a dry run just to see what I am talking about. It is the same road to Calf Pasture beach. This might even prove to be better than Veteran's Park.

Now we have to see whether we can outdo ourselves as regards to last year's performance. Ready yourselves folks we are going to do just that.

We have two important public service events coming up on May 19th and May 20th. May 19th is the Regional Special Olympics on the grounds of the Trumbull High School. As you know, this is for handicapped kids in the region and we consented to assist the organizers. This event is not a first. In 1995 we assisted with a special event station at Yale during the International Special Olympics.

May 20th is the annual Bloomin Metric bikathon staged from Calf Pasture beach in Norwalk. This is an event that covers several hundred square miles in South Western Connecticut and we are in of at least 12 mobile operators for this. I urge you to come out and give some assistance for these events, apart from being able to help in a worthy cause, it also gives valuable experience for ARES.

While on the subject of ARES. This is another request to access the ARES web site and register yourself as an ARES member. This is an annual procedure.

FACT: IF YOU PUT ALL THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY IN A STRAIGHT LINE. THEY

WOULD STRETCH ALL THE WAY TO JAPAN
Toy/K1WYQ

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on May 9, 2007 at the Shop Rite on Connecticut Avenue. Beginning at 8:00 pm.

Join us for pizza at John's Best on New Canaan Avenue at 6:00 pm.

Secretary's Minutes

GNARC Monthly Meeting, 11 April 07.

Attendance: 17 members, 3 guests.

Program: Tom Frenaye/K1KI, ARRL New England Division Director, gave the membership an overview of League activities in 2007 to date. He indicated that FCC activity continued to be a primary area of interest, particularly the recent decisions made on discontinuing CW licensing requirements and HF allocation changes. He indicated that while the total universe of hams in the US has not yet shown signs of increasing as a result of these changes, there has been a surge in upgrading activity.

Tom discussed BPL activity and noted that BPL does not appear to be on the rise across the U.S. and, that the technique is inherently limited in the bandwidth it offers. He noted that BPL is now being presented in some cases as a way for a utility to manage their own activity (eg. peak periods of usage, consumption, etc.). He also noted that the League has now appealed certain FCC rulings on BPL to the Court of Appeals.

Tom discussed the recent institution of Red Cross background checks for their volunteers including life style and credit as well as criminal checks.

“The Voice of GNARC”

May 2007

Page 2

Tom also discussed the continuing activities of the ARRL Foundation and it was noted that the Foundation had provided valuable financial assistance to the opening of the Vintage Radio Museum in Windsor, CT.

Finally, Tom noted that the World Radio Conference can be expected to review 7 Mhz allocations as well as other issues.

Business Meeting : Toy/K1WYQ noted that we have been offered Shady Beach in Norwalk for our 2007 Field Day activities (Veteran’s Park is occupied by a jazz festival). He also noted that the Bloomin’ Metric bike race is on May 20 and volunteer operators are needed. Allan/NN1H indicated that ARES recruitment will be his top priority this year and urged members to sign up for this important ham activity. The next VE session is 12 May, 9:30 AM at Government Center, 4th floor in Stamford.

Meeting adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Kirmayer/KK2C,
Secretary.

Dayton is Coming

Beginning next week hams from all over the world will start their annual pilgrimage to Amateur Radio’s Mecca, Dayton, Ohio. In addition to the goings on at the Hara Arena there are specialty groups meeting all over the Dayton area. If you are into Dxing, contests, QRP, mobile ops, VHF, or pedestrian mobile you can find a group meeting and having their own forums and dinners.

My favorite part of Dayton still remains the flea market. The thousands of folks wandering the aisles looking for the special something they know they can only find at Dayton.

There are sights, sounds and smells that can only be experienced at Dayton. You’ll find guys with

antennas on their heads (one guy actually has a tower!), CW in most every aisle, and Polish sausage on the grill. And the most memorable smell of all, when it rains you get to find out why many hams remain single!

Bobby, WP4YJ’s memories of Dayton follow.

Memories of Dayton Hamvention

I have been attending Dayton Hamvention since 1989 thanks to a ham friend in the Ohio area. Since that first time, I have experienced several memorable moments at Hamvention. My favorite part is seeing friends and having a good time.

In 1992 and 93, the three generations of Sambolin’s

attended (Sambo KP4CI, Sambo Jr. WP4WS and Sambo Jr. Jr. WP4YJ). It was great to see grandpa so happy that others in the family would carry on.



left to right WP4WS, KP4CI, WP4YJ

In 1993, grandpa asked me to take some photos of anything in the flea market to show the guys back home. So I decided to take pictures of old radios in the flea market area. In the several dozen pictures taken was one of a flea market space with some old radios and a hand truck for sale. Several years



later I would show these pictures to Tim W1GIG. To our surprise the photo with

the hand truck for sale was Tim’s flea market space!

In one of these two years (92/93), Pedro Castillo, WB9RVN, stopped us and remarked how great it was to see a family of hams. He then proceeds to tell us the story of how his son surprised him by getting his ham license. Later that year the story came out in QST.

I am happy to report that since then, Pedro, his son Peter and our family have become friends. Pedro lives in Lafayette close to me in Indiana and his granddaughter got her ticket several years ago.

Last one. Last year, Pablo K1PGA was able to attend Hamvention. On QRP ARCI’s vendor night, John N1OLO was going to sell some products. Ned KA1CVV, Pablo and I decide to go with John, but John is driving the rental truck, Ned sits up in front, so who gets to sit in the back as cargo? Pablo and I. As we get to the Holliday Inn, Pablo and I hear people just outside the truck. As John and Ned open the cargo door, Pablo and I, in our best-accented Spanish (south of the border) jump out of the truck and ask John and Ned, “What now Jefe? “

The hams and people around the truck just froze and turned to us with open mouths. You had to be there to see their faces turn white as ghost.

73

Bobby WP4YJ

For Sale

Member special for the month of May.

18 Ahr gel cells, brand new, with 1/4” FASTON terminals

Reg. Price \$32.00 Sale \$25.00

1000ma 2 stage Gel Cell Charger with alligator clips and FASTON leads

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“The Voice of GNARC”

May 2007

Page 4

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

May 2007

Contest Name	Time/Date/(Band)
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 9
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 11
Nevada Mustang Roundup	0001Z-2359Z, May 12
SBMS 2 GHz and Up WW Club Contest	0600 local, May 12 to 2000 local, May 13
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, May 12
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 12 to 1200Z, May 13
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 12 to 1200Z, May 13
Mid-Atlantic QSO Party	1600Z, May 12 to 0400Z, May 13
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 12
EACW International Contest	1800Z-2100Z, May 12 (40m) and 2100Z-2400Z, May 12 (80m) and 0500Z-0800Z, May 13 (80m) and 0800Z-1100Z, May 13 (40m)
50 MHz Spring Sprint	2300Z, May 12 to 0300Z, May 13
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, May 16
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, May 17
QRP Minimal Art Session	1900Z-2300Z, May 17
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, May 18
US Counties QSO Party, SSB	0000Z, May 19 to 2400Z, May 20
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 19 to 1200Z, May 20
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 19 to 1200Z, May 20
Manchester Mineira All America CW Contest	1500Z, May 19 to 2359Z, May 20
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 19 to 0200Z, May 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 21
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, May 24
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 26 to 2359Z, May 27
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, CW	0800Z-1300Z, May 26
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, May 27
ARCI Hootowl Sprint	2000 local - 2400 local, May 27
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 27 to 0300Z, May 28

June

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 1
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Jun 2 and 0430Z-0459Z, Jun 2 and 0500Z-0529Z, Jun 2 and 0530Z-0600Z, Jun 2
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 2 to 1200Z, Jun 3
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1500Z, Jun 3
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1459Z, Jun 3
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 2 to 0400Z, Jun 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Jun 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 8