



THE WECA GRAM

March 2006



The Mile 23 Team -
New York City Marathon,
November 2005
Charlie KB2LLV, Joe
KB2BRH, Sharon
KC2LLC, Stan
WA2NRV, Will
(Wires) KC2FYY,
Jason KC2KIX,
Mike, Pat K2PAT, S-
teve, Ann KC2MFF

WECA Plays Key Role in Marathon Another Sunday in New York



About 25 WECA members helped "run" The 2005 New York City Marathon as communication volunteers that was held on Sunday, November 6, 2005.

WECA members covered assignments including "The Family Reunion area", "Mile Captains", "finish line area", countless "Shadows" for the NYC Road Runners Club officials and many other key positions as communicators using Ham Radio, net control protocol procedures as well as "hi-tech" systems including APRS, WIFI and EV-DO.

Several members got involved in assisting runners who were lost or injured during the race. Many thanks to everyone who participated - it was the biggest year yet!

For more on the Marathon, or other WECA news, visit our web site at www.weca.org.



Charlie, KB2LLV, with a medical team assisting a runner at the Marathon

Thanks to Charlie for the Photos

Public Service Update Busy Spring!

By Robert, N2TSE and Lyle, K2LCA

We have a busy public service schedule for this spring at WECA. Robert, N2TSE has been busy working with a variety of organizations to secure our support for their events. This year we have two spring time events.

First is the March of Dimes walk on **April 30th** in White Plains. We'll need operators to man the rest stops, to be shadows for the walk organizers, and track the start and end points of the walk.

Second, on **May 20th**, will be the Health Walk. This is a new event for us and we want to make sure we have a good showing.

Also, we've been asked to help out at the Salute to Israel parade in New York.

If you're interested in participating in any of these events, contact Robert, N2TSE at n2tse@weca.org.

WECA participates in JOTA

WECA again supported the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air on October 15th. JOTA was held at the Croton Point Park. We helped the scouts make contacts throughout the U. S. It was a great opportunity to show a new generation amateur radio.

Public service events are the best way to get training in good operating procedures in ham radio. If you're new to ham radio, we'll team you up with an experienced operator to learn the "ropes."



WECA at JOTA
Two photos from past years at JOTA. Tom, WB2NHC, works with cub scouts. Wires, KC2FYF, helps one of his fellow scouts make a DX contact.



Letters from members Alan Janover, N2DRO

Dear WECA:

Remember me? I'm the guy that took those pictures at Field Day that have become such an integral part of Tom's Field Day power point presentations.

Well, I am in big trouble now. I need a place to live. I am essentially homeless hold up in a hotel in Lyndhurst, New Jersey. Living in this hotel costs three times my income.

Last April I went into the hospital for the very first time to have an operation to reconstruct my right foot. I was told that my stay would be lengthy, so I gave up my apartment. I have been in and out of hospitals and rehabs ever since. However, my treatments have now come to an end. I am not sick enough to be in a hospital, and I am no longer eligible for Medicaid. This precludes me from getting into an assisted living facility which is actually what I really need.

I am writing to ask if anyone can help me either find a suitable living arrangement or a source of funds to fend off the expense of living in this hotel. Once a living arrangement is found, I



will need help moving my property from a storage facility. When I am back in my own environment with my computer I will be able to start making a living once again.

March Member meeting will be on Monday, March 13th at the Westchester County Center. Social half hour starts at 7PM with the program beginning at 7:30PM

Terry Long, KC2BUV, will be our featured speaker speaking about Skywarn, weather and the Southern District Net.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give to a fellow ham. Please contact me through Tom WB2NHC. I look forward to hearing from you real soon.

73

Alan L. Janover, N2DRO

From our Director at Large Stan, WA2NRV

By Stan, WA2NRV

This is the time of the year that we realize why we are "Ham Radio Operators" Because we can take advantage of our hobby while sitting in a nice warm room

in an easy chair. We don't have to be outdoors in the snow and sleet with ice skates or ski's. Of course all that changes during an emergency situation. Then we volunteer to run out to help our fellow citizens.

Our VE sessions produced new hams last month and three WECA VE's. Milt KC2GWK, Ed WA2JXI, & Stan WA2NRV & Tom WB2NHC participated. If you would like to join us for the April 13th session contact me.

On a sad note, Fritz KB2O's wife passed away last month. She was also a ham. The sympathy of our members are with you Fritz. Fran N2OLU is home and improving slowly. He hopes to be on the air shortly.

If you know of any happy events or not so happy ones please let me know so WECA can take appropriate action.

From our President

By Lyle, K2LCA

Guess what? Elections are coming up soon. Bob, N2DVQ has volunteered to chair the nominating committee this year. We're looking for two members to join the committee to assist Bob in putting the nomination slate together. The following officer and director positions are open this year:

- President
- Executive Vice President
- Vice President - General Counsel
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Director-at-Large
- Public Service
- Digital Modes
- Membership Services
- Public Relations
- Emergency Services

Now is your chance to make a difference - run for office!



Solid State Brick

Attached is a picture of a uniquely designed "Solid State Brick" that Frank, WA1UIL, had on display at the Hosstrader's Hamfest in NH. Thanks to Norm for the photo.

Do you want New York State Funding BPL in Westchester County?

Send a letter to help us fight

By Frank Fallon, N2FF

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has agreed to provide up to \$200,000 in funding in support of a Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) project in Westchester County, New York. The project has been the source of documented harmful interference to radio communication frequencies in Briarcliff Manor, New York since July 2003. The ARRL has complained repeatedly about the interference, most recently on January 5, 2006 (see <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/01/06/3/>). NYSERDA has been aware of the problematic nature of the Briarcliff Manor installation since June 2004 but elected to go ahead with its funding anyway.

The Briarcliff Manor BPL system is violating the FCC rules in three ways: 1) it is exceeding the absolute emission limits set out in Part 15 of the FCC rules; 2) it is causing harmful interference to amateur radiocommunication; and 3) it is not listed in the BPL database, www.bpldatabase.org

A 25-page technical report documenting BPL emissions and interference as of December 5, 2005 is at: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/Briarcliff-Complaint-Engineering-0106.pdf>.

If you share our dismay that NYSERDA's funds are being used to support a known source of radio spectrum pollution, write to Governor Pataki, NYSERDA President Peter Smith and Con Ed to demand that the State of New York use its influence to ensure that the Briarcliff Manor BPL project is either brought into compliance with the FCC rules immediately, or shut down. Write to:

Governor George E. Pataki
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

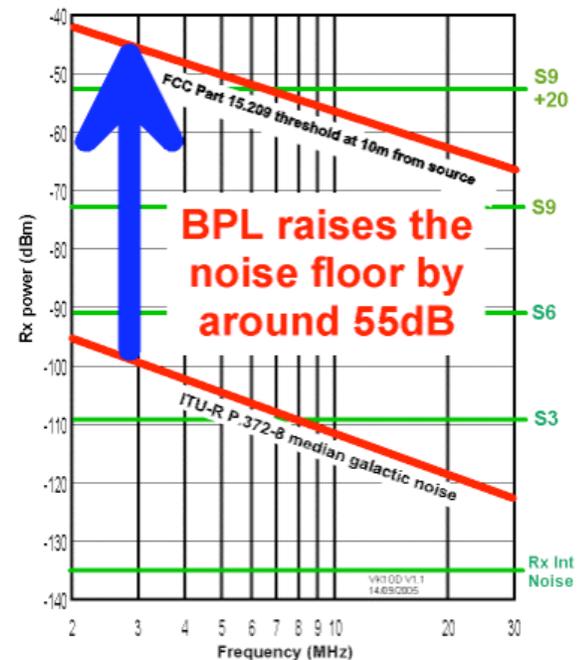
Mr. Peter R. Smith, President
NYSERDA
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Mr. Hyman Schoenblum, Vice President,
Corporate Planning
Consolidated Edison Company of New York
4 Irving Place
New York, NY 10003

The Hudson Division web site has samples of the letters you should write.

[\[Click here for sample letters\]](#)

Please send a copy of of your letter to n2ff@arrl.org.



Are you ready for BPL enablement of your home and neighbourhood?

Broadband over power lines (BPL) is a technique for transmission of high speed data (broadband Internet) over powerlines. Access BPL technology injects radio frequency energy into powerlines which were not designed for transmission of radio frequency energy, and leak substantial energy that causes interference to radiocommunications services

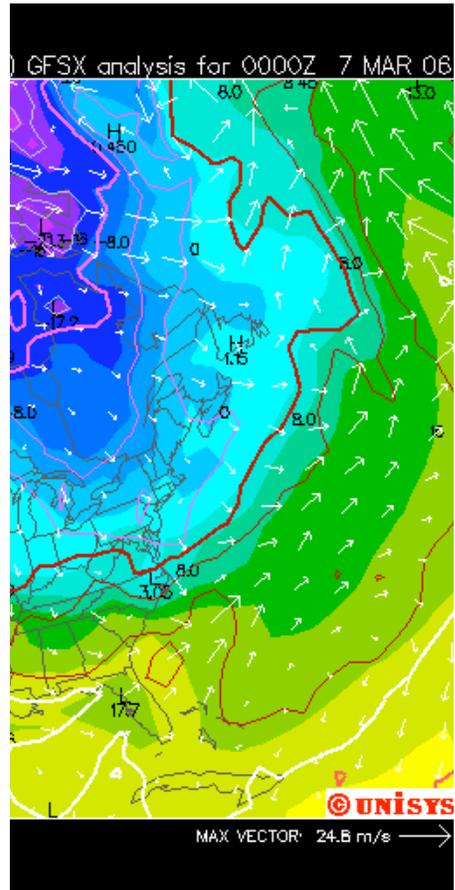
It's a new year...
So time for a new look

By Lyle, K2LCA

As you can see, we have made changes to the WECAGram this year. Why? Well most of our members receive their WECAGram via email, or access it off our web server. This format gives it a cleaner look while, at the same time, saving download time.

As editor, I'm always looking for new material and feedback from members. Please send your comments, suggestions, photos, and ARTICLES! :-)) to wecagram@weca.org.

WECA Officers and Directors (2005-2006)		
OFFICERS		
President	Lyle Anderson	K2LCA
Executive VP	Jim Faulkner	N2WQG
VP/General Counsel	Michael Weitzner	N2EJI
Treasurer	Andrew Farber	N4OOX
Secretary	Milton Galambos	KC2GWK
Repeater Trustee	Russ Stevenson	N2AMP
President Emeritus	Robert Muller	KC2FYZ
DIRECTORS		
County Liaison	Michael Volk	KC2MFA
Digital Modes	Richard Benda	WB2QJA
Director At Large	Stanley Rothman	WA2NRV
Emergency Services	Thomas Raffaelli	WB2NHC
Education	Ed Granato	WA2JXI
Engineering	Robert Wilson	N2DVQ
Membership	Ronald Devenuti	N2TJE
Newsletter Editor (acting)	Lyle Anderson	K2LCA
Publicity	Ann Rodler	KC2MFF
Public Service	Robert Kantor	N2TSE
Repeater Operations	Dwight Smith	N2FMC
Social Activities	Jim Faulkner	N2WQG
Information Technology	Peter Johnson	N2TFC



Unisys GFS 1000mb Wind
 This is a sample for Terry's web site. It shows part of the 1000mb wind model. See more at <http://www.kc2buw.com>

THEWECAGRAM

P. O. Box 831

Sleepy Hollow, New York 10509-0831

(914) 741-6606