



BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JUNE 19, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Gary Stevens Wins Bid For Club Secretary

Elected By Landslide Vote at the June Meeting



UPTON - It what could be deemed as a close race between Gary and an empty chair, the members present at the June meeting swiftly moved and voted him into office before he could

run out the door. Following in the footsteps of other great club secretary's, he said " I just hope I can cut the mustard!"

In the Shack

Clean up efforts continue and members are actively repairing and tuning equipment. Warren Hirzel has been busy working in the shack making sure things are in working order. Rich Conte and Joe Terranova are coordinating an effort to repair the antenna rotor so we the HF rig will be useful.

Hugh McNeill is requesting that we make copies of our FCC Licenses and hang them prominently on the walls. If you like you can scan your into an image or pdf file, email it to me and I will do the rest.

We are looking for volunteers interested in restoring some vintage ham gear. Let us know if you are interested.

-Gary Stevens
KD5SFQ

Baofeng transceivers are popping up everywhere. After all, who can resist a dual band handheld for under \$50? The UV-5R boasts a 5 Watt output and seams to be of reasonable quality for the price. The battery life is pretty amazing.

While programing from the menu or with it's free software is akin to navigating a city you have never been before without a map, it does



work well with the open source programming software Chirp. <http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home>. If you have not tried one yet, plan on attending the July club meeting where it will be demonstrated. If time permits , perhaps you can even give it a test drive.

The bottom line is not bad for the price!



RESURRECTING AN IC-2710

by Gary Stevens

When I found out that there was going to be a hamfest on Long Island, I race home to mark my calendar and crack open my piggy bank. I dreamed for weeks about finding a dual band transceiver that was a bargain. I arrived early and circled quickly trying to find the right rig... A tech special that was almost free.

I found an IC-2710 right away but the price was a bit steep from my budget. So I waited and watched. Lot's of people were asking about the rig but everyone was passing on it. The backlight on the LCD was out and the screen acted strange when it was powered on. I finally talked the owner down into the almost free price range and handed over the cash. I was happy as I drove home with my new project.

Thanks to Google, I quickly found the user and service manuals in PDF form. Now they are on both my iPhone and iPad for quick reference when needed.

Next I cleaned the rig with alcohol and glass cleaner. The contacts were grungy and dust was caked on to the case.

Then I perform a factory reset on the unit. As I suspected, all the nonsense with the display disappeared and the unit sprang to life.

Next I attacked the backlight issue by removing the detachable head, removing the two screws that held the back on and circuit board was revealed. There were three, 3mm lamps soldered to rather large pads. Once removed it was obvious that they were burned out and in need of replacement.

Then I searched EBay and found some 12 volt wheat bulbs used in automotive radios. Five for \$4.95 seemed reasonable and only \$2.95 for shipping. So I ordered them and the seller quickly shipped them. The next few days I had visions of a perfectly working rig dancing in my head.

I don't know why but my package was sent all over NY and Ohio for weeks before it was deemed undeliverable by the USPS. The seller apologized and sent more immediately. Those bulbs arrived a few days later.

Finally they arrived and I installed them. You can see the results in the above photo. I get good reports from others on the audio and over all transmission quality.

Now I can't wait till the next Hamfest so I can find another treasure... A tech special that is almost free!

Calendar

June 22-23 All Day

Field Day! This year the club will be participating with the Suffolk County Radio Club at the Grace Lutheran Church. The church is located on Mastic Road in Mastic Beach.

July 16 at 12 noon

Club meeting onsite at the Shack.

Contributors



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CLUB
SECRETARY

Gary has been in Amateur Radio since 2002 and holds a General License



YOUR NAME
GOES HERE

Let's face it, clubs are more fun when people participate.

Share your HAM moments with us by writing a short blurb for the NEWSLETTER. Just send me your article or chicken scratch. It's all good!