

NPARC HYBRID MEETING Nov 10, 2025

ZOOM Coordinator: K2UI

Location: Salt Brook School Cafeteria, New Providence, NJ

Time: 7:30PM-8:45PM

Attendees: K2AL K2DAM KD2EKN W2EMC W2EWQ KE2EZM KE2FKE K2GLS KC2HLA
KA2HZP KD2ONY KC2OSR W2PTP K2UI K2YG W2GLS

On ZOOM: KD2CMS K2CMW AC2GL WB2QOQ N2TO KC2WUF

23 Total Attendees

ZOOM AI Notes – Nov 10, 2025 Edited by K2AL

Quick recap

The meeting began with administrative matters including Club shirt distribution, officer elections, and plans for an upcoming luncheon where awards will be presented. Greg Smith, W2GLS, presented a talk on the history of Morse code, focusing on Alfred Vail's contributions and the development of Morse code, which led to an in-depth discussion about Vail's role and the technical challenges he faced. The conversation ended with announcements about upcoming events including a Scouting Forward Dinner and Operation Toy Train, along with a brief discussion about sharing antenna wire and coaxial cable.

Next steps

- KC2OSR: Passed around the Get Well card for Kieran Kern KC2TOP and collect signatures, then Sam will hand-deliver it to her.
- KD2EKN/Nominating Committee: Present slate of five officer candidates at the next meeting
- AC2GL : Coordinate with K2AL via email about how to handle getting Club shirts to him
- N2TO: Encourage members to reach out to current officers or Tim KD2EKN about officer positions for next year
- K2YG- Still taking reservations for the Holiday Luncheon (KD2CMS added to the list)
- W2GLS- Will be joining NPARC as a member. K2AL to subscribe Greg to the Reflector.

Summary

Club Officers and Events Update

The meeting covered several topics, including the distribution of shirts to members and a reminder about proper drying to prevent logo curling. Tim KD2EKN discussed the need to identify new club officers for the upcoming year, with elections scheduled in two weeks. The group also mentioned an upcoming luncheon on December 6th at the Vintage Tavern in Gillette, where awards will be presented.

Additionally, Sam KC2OSR shared that he would be delivering a card to a club member, KC2TOP, who was injured in a car accident.

Morse Code Invention Discussion

Greg Smith, W2GLS, presented a talk titled "Who Really Invented Morse Code," focusing on Alfred Vail's contributions to the development of Morse code. N2TO introduced Greg as our guest speaker. The conversation ended with W2GLS starting his slideshow presentation which was recorded on ZOOM and posted on the NPARC Reflector.

Morse Code and Alfred Vail

W2GLS discussed the history of Morse code and its inventor, Alfred Vail, and shared his research and insights on Vail's contributions, highlighting his role in developing Morse code and the telegraph. They explored Vail's background, the financial and technical challenges he faced, and the controversy surrounding the patent rights. The discussion included details about the first working telegraph prototype, the Morristown demonstration, and the lasting impact of Morse code on communication. Greg and KC2OSR added context on the choice of letters in Morse code, Greg explaining it was based on frequency of use. KA2HZP demonstrated several classic sounder keys and explained how they were used

Morse Code and Radio History

The meeting covered several topics related to Morse code, telegraphy, and amateur radio. W2GLS presented information on Morse code history, including the inventors Morse and Vail, and their contributions. Rick WB2QOQ shared memories of a 1988 special event station at Historic Speedwell commemorating the electromagnetic telegraph's anniversary. The group discussed practicing Morse code using online tools and K2CMW advertised the the weekly NPARC CW Net. KD2EKN announced two upcoming events: a Scouting Forward Dinner featuring Jeff Sestari as a speaker, and Operation Toy Train's schedule for collecting toys for charity across multiple states. The conversation ended with a brief discussion about antenna wire and coaxial cable that KC2OSR had available for sharing or recycling.

The next meeting is on Monday, November 24 at the Salt Brook School and on ZOOM. It will be our Annual Meeting and 2026 office elections will take place at the meeting.

The NPARC Holiday Luncheon is on Saturday, December 6 at the Vintage Tavern, Valley Road, Gillette starting at 11;30AM. Contact K2YG to make your reservation.

The December 8 meeting will feature a talk by W2EWQ, "The Impact of Amateur Radio on KN2SIS/W2EWQ" and is the last meeting for 2025.