

# **MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS**

**NPARC—The Radio Club for the  
Watchung Mountain Area**



**Website: <http://www.nparc.org>**

**Club Calls: N2XJ, W2FMI**

**Facebook: New Providence Amateur Radio Club  
(NPARC)**

**September 2025**

**Volume 58 No. 9**

## **Regular Meetings**

**Second & Fourth Mondays**

**at New Providence Municipal Bldg (3rd Floor)**

**Sept 8 - Mobile One Do You Copy? - W2GLS**

**Sept 22 - Topic To Be Announced**

## **Upcoming Events**

**Digital Net Mondays at 9 PM – 28.085 MHz (+/-)  
CW Training Net, 9PM Thurs – 28.050 or 7.030 MHz**

*Check announcements in the Reflector for details.*

## Meeting Schedule

**Regular Meeting: 7:30—9:00 PM  
2nd & 4th Monday  
of each month**  
Watch for Emails

### **Everyone is Welcome**

If a normal meeting night is a holiday,  
we usually meet the following night.  
Call one of the contacts below  
or check the web site

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## Club Officers for 2025

President: K2AL, Al Hanzl  
908-872-5021  
Vice President: W2EMC Brian DeLuca  
973-615-1262  
Secretary: K2AL, Al Hanzl  
908-872-5021  
Treasurer: K2YG, Dave Barr  
908-277-4283  
Activities: N2TO, Kevin Glynn  
917-885-4424

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## On the Air Activities

Club Operating Frequency  
145.750 MHz FM Simplex

Sunday Night Phone Net  
Murray Hill Repeater (W2LI) at 9:00 PM  
Transmit on 147.855 MHz  
With PL tone of 141.3 Hz  
Receive on 147.255 MHz  
Net Control K2AL

Digital Net  
Mondays 9 PM  
28.084 — 28.086 MHz  
Will be using PSK and RTTY  
Net control KC2WUF

CW Training Net  
Thursdays 9 PM  
28.050 or 7.050 MHz  
Net control K2YG

## Club Internet Address

Website: [www.nparc.org](http://www.nparc.org)  
Webmaster KC2WUF David Bean  
Reflector: [nparc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:nparc@mailman.qth.net)  
Contact K2AL, Al

## MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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Editor: K2UI Jim Stekas  
Contributing Editors:  
WB2QOQ Rick Anderson

## Climatological Data for New Providence - July 2025

The following information is provided by Rick, WB2QOQ,  
who has been recording daily weather events at his station  
for the past 44 years.

### TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temp. this July, 95 F (July 30)  
Last July(2024) maximum was 99 F.  
Average Maximum temp this July, 87.2 F

Minimum temp this July, 61 F (July 4,5)  
Last July(2024) minimum was 61 F.  
Average Minimum temp this July, 69.4 F

Minimum diurnal temp range, 12 F (81 - 69 F)7/18  
Maximum diurnal temp range, 24 F(85-61 F)7/5, (89-65)7/31

Average temp this July, 78.3 F  
Average temp last July, 79.1 F

Heat wave – July 28-30, 91, 93, 95 degs.

### PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this July – 11.15” rain  
Total precipitation last July – 2.66” rain

Maximum one day precip. event - July 14, 5.77” rain  
Measurable rain fell on 12 days this July  
15 days last July.

YTD Precipitation – 34.74” rain

=====  
Rick Anderson 7/16/2025  
243 Mountain Ave.  
New Providence, NJ  
(908)464-8911  
[rick243@comcast.net](mailto:rick243@comcast.net)  
Lat = 40 degrees, 41.7 minutes North  
Long = 74 degrees, 23.4 minutes West  
Elevation: 380 ft.  
CoCoRaHS Network Station #NJ-UN-10

## September President's Report

I hope everyone is enjoying some of the cooler weather as Autumn approaches. It is a good time to inspect antennas before the colder temperatures are upon us.

### NJQP

Don't forget the New Jersey State QSO. It takes place on Saturday, September 20 from 10AM to 10PM. The exchange is simple, a signal report (I always send 59 or 599) and your county. NJ stations can work anyone/anywhere. It is your chance to be "the DX" as stations will be looking for New Jersey. And you can win a nice plaque. There is also a "Club Score" competition. NPARC came in third out of 13 clubs submitting scores in 2024. And that was with only seven entries. I am sure we can do even better this year! So, try to get on the air and make some contacts and make the NJQP a successful one.



### MEETINGS

Courtesy of the NP Board of Education and Salt Brook School, we have once again received permission to use the Salt Brook School Cafeteria for Club meetings for the 2025-2026 school year. Our next Club meetings are on Monday, September 8 and Monday, September 22. We plan to continue with ZOOM links for those unable to attend in person.

Hope to see you at the meetings and in the NJQP.

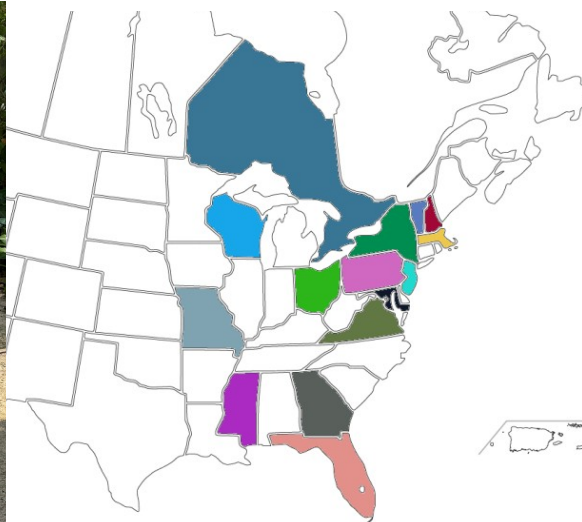
73,  
Al K2AL

## 2025 Skeeter Hunt

The "Skeeter Hunt" is an annual four hour QRP operating event sponsored by the NJQRP Club each August. Operators are encouraged to get outside and operate portable with homebrewed or kit built radios.

### Al - K2AL

I usually operate from my backyard. This year I once again used an MFJ End Fed Half Wave antenna thrown over a branch, my Elecraft K1 for 40 and 20 meters, an Elecraft T1 QRP tuner and a 12 volt battery.



I made 23 QSOs and worked 14 states and Ontario and some non-Skeeter POTA stations. It was hot, but at least the heavy rains and lightning held off until after everything was put away.

### James - KB2FCV

On Sunday August 17th I took part in the 4 hour NJQRP "Skeeter Hunt" signing skeeter #189. I setup in my backyard near the Passaic River with my Elecraft KX-1 and a long wire antenna with counterpoise. I made a total of 12 CW QSO's, working 9 states, mostly on solar power. Initially, my power source was the internal alkalines, but when the sun came out I removed the alkalines and switched to solar power until the sun went down.



The Skeeter Hunt was a lot of fun, and I do my best to participate every year.

# Popular Contests in September 2025

**Dave Barr – K2YG**

Contest Name*	Dates (EDT)	Mode s	Exchange	Notes & Websites**
Tennessee QSO Party	9/7 Sun 1-11pm	CW Phone Digi	TN: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP All Bands Rules: <a href="http://tnqp.org">tnqp.org</a>
WAE DX SSB	9/12 Fri 8pm to 9/14 Sun 8pm	SSB	RS/Serial Number Optional QTCs. See rules	LP/HP 80-10 m Rules: <a href="http://www.darc.de">www.darc.de</a>
ARRL September VHF	9/13 Sat 2pm to 9/14 Sun 11pm	All	4 Character Grid Square	LP/HP 6 Meters and above. Rules: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf">www.arrl.org/september-vhf</a>
Iowa QSO Party	9/20 Sat 10am – 10 pm	CW Phone Digi	IA: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP All bands Rules: <a href="http://www.w0yl.com/IAQP">www.w0yl.com/IAQP</a>
New Jersey QSO Party	9/20 Sat 10am – 10 pm	CW Phone Digi	NJ: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP 80-10 m Rules: Google NJQP
Texas QSO Party	9/20 Sat 10am-10pm 9/21 Su 10am-4pm	All	TX: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP All bands Rules: <a href="http://www.txqp.net">www.txqp.net</a>
Wash. State Salmon Run QSOP	9/20 Sat 12n-3am 9/21 Sun 12n-8pm	CW Phone	WA: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP 160m–6m. Rules: <a href="http://salmonrun.wwdxc.org">salmonrun.wwdxc.org</a>
New Hampshire QSO Party	9/20 Sat 12n-12m 9/21 Sun 8am-6pm	CW Phone Digi	NH: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP 80-10m Rules: <a href="http://w1wqm.org/nh-qso-party">w1wqm.org/nh-qso-party</a>
CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY	9/26 Fri 8pm to 9/28 Sun 8pm	RTTY	W/VE rst/zone/state-prov	qrp/LP/HP 80-10m <a href="http://www.cqwwrtty.com">www.cqwwrtty.com</a>
Maine QSO Party	9/27 Sat 8am to 9/28 Sun 8am	CW Phone	ME: rs(t) + County Non: rs(t) + state/prov/dx	qrp/LP/HP 160 thru 10 m. Rules: <a href="http://www.ws1sm.com">www.ws1sm.com</a>

Check [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com) or contest specific websites for more information on these and many other radio contests.

\* State QSO Parties allow out-of-state stations to contact only in-state stations for that specific contest. In-state stations may contact all contest stations. See websites for county abbreviation lists.

\*\* No WARC bands in any contest.