

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS



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

Website: <http://www.nparc.org> Club Callsign: N2XJ

VOLUME 45 November 2010 NO. 11

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Meetings

Monday Nov. 22 & Dec. 13

7:30 PM

Salt Brook School

Saturday Dec. 4

NPARC Holiday Luncheon

See Detail Inside

Sunday Jan. 2

Kids Day

Berkeley Heights Rec. Center

February 13, 2011

NPARC FM VHF/UHF Sprint

See website for details.

Meeting Schedule

Regular Meeting: 7:30—10:30 PM
2nd Monday of each month at the
Salt Brook School Cafeteria
Springfield Ave. and Maple St.
New Providence

Informal Project Meeting: 7:30—9:00 PM
4th Monday of each month at the
Salt Brook School Cafeteria
Springfield Ave. and Maple St.
New Providence

Everyone is Welcome
If a normal meeting night is a holiday,
we usually meet the following night.
Call the contacts below.

Club Officers for 2010

President: K2UI Jim Stekas
908-665-0299
Vice Pres.: N2KDK Paul Campano
908-508-9595
Secretary: K2JV Barry Cohen
908-464-1730
Treasurer: K2YG Dave Barr
908-277-4283
Activities: W2UDT Bill Hudzik
908-580-0493

On the Air Activities

Club Operating Frequency
145.750 MHz FM Simplex

Sunday Night Phone Net
Murray Hill Repeater (W2LJ) at 9:00 PM
Transmit on 147.855 MHz
With PL tone of 141.3 Hz
Receive on 147.255 MHz
Net Control K2AL

K2AGI Memorial Digital Net
First and Third Mondays at 9 PM (0100Z)
Look around 14.085 KHz for RTTY
Ops using AFSK should look around 14,086-
7. Contact K2YG for details.

Club Internet Address

Website: <http://www.nparc.org>
Webmaster K2MUN David Berkley
Reflector: nparc@mailman.qth.net
Contact K2UI, Jim

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

Published Monthly by NPARC, Inc.
The Watchung Mountain Area Radio Club
P.O. Box 813
New Providence, NJ 07974
©NPARC 2010 All Rights Reserved
Editor: K2EZR Frank McAneny
Editor Emeritus: KQ2E Bruce Havourd
Contributing Editors:
WB2QOO Rick Anderson
WB2EDO Jim Brown

Climatological Data for New Providence for
October 2010

The following information is provided by
Rick, WB2QOO, who has been recording
daily weather events at his station for the
past 29 years.

TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temperature this October, 75 deg. F
(October 1)

Last October (2009) maximum was 70 deg.
F.

Average Maximum temperature this October,
63.3 deg. F

Minimum temperature for this October, 37
deg. F (October 30)

Last October (2009) minimum was 34 deg. F.
Average Minimum temperature this October,
47.0 deg. F

Minimum diurnal temperature range, 4 deg.
(54 - 50 deg.) 10/4.

Maximum diurnal temperature range, 25 deg.
(66 - 41 deg.) 10/17; (74 - 49 deg.) 10/25.

Average temperature this October, 55.2 deg.
F

Average temperature last October, 52.7 deg.
F

Number of days this October with tempera-
tures of 70 degs. or higher = 6.

Last October = 2.

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this October - 4.27"
rain

Total precipitation last October - 5.75"
rain

Maximum one day precip. event this October;
October 1, 2.40" rain.

Measurable rain fell on 15 days this Octo-
ber, 14 days last October.

=====
Rick Anderson
11/8/10

243 Mountain Ave.
New Providence, NJ
(908) 464-8911

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

NPARC - AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 2010 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 4th, 11:30 AM

Our Annual Holiday Luncheon will be held at

Charlie Brown's Steakhouse

522 Southern Blvd. Chatham Township, NJ

Luncheon will be served at 12:15

A cash bar will be available starting at 11:30.

Lunch will include,

Open Salad Bar

AND your choice of one of the following entrees:

- 1) 8 oz. Top Sirloin
- 2) Grilled Chicken with Penne Pasta
- 3) Sesame Ginger Chicken
- 4) Cedar Plank Tilapia

soda/coffee/tea will be included

Dessert: Brownie Sunday

TOTAL COST IS \$25. PER PERSON

Keep the top portion of this form so you will remember when, what and where!

Cut on dashed line and return the bottom portion of this form.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BEFORE NOVEMBER 25th!

Enter the names of those who will be attending, (PLEASE PRINT)
and their menu selection:

Name: _____

Entrée (1 - 4): _____

Name: _____

Entrée: _____

\$25. per person

Make check payable to NPARC

Send with this reservation to:

Dave Barr, Treasurer
29 Montrose Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901

Your Telephone Number:

(_____) _____

SCIENTIFIC TIDBITS

GOODBYE COPPER

International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) has developed a new device it calls “nanophotonic avalanche photodetector,” so-named because an incoming light pulse triggers the release of a few charge carriers, each of which frees some others, and so on, until the original signal has been amplified several times. Until recently, existing avalanche devices could not be used to detect fast optical signals because the avalanche effect took too long to build up. However, the new device, said to be the fastest ever built, can receive optical data at a rate of 40 GBps and simultaneously multiply them by a factor of ten. Plus, they operate with a supply of just 1.5V, so they could conceivably be powered by an AA battery instead of the 20V to 30V required by conventional devices. According to IBM, being based on standard silicon and germanium, it can be produced using standard chip manufacturing processes. The bottom line is that it may soon be possible to replace the copper wires between computer chips with light pulses. According to Dr. T.C. Chen, a VP at IBM Research, “With optical communications embedded into the processor chips, the prospect of building power-efficient computer systems with performance at the exaflop level might not be a very distant future.”

Kind of boggles the mind, doesn't it?

KDKA

It seems like only yesterday, but it was really 90 years ago (November 2, 1920) when the first commercial radio station went on the air. An experimental version had actually existed in Westinghouse engineer Frank Conrad's garage since 1916 as amateur station 8XK. (I wonder if he was related to our former NPARC member SK Pres Conrad.) It was eventually moved to a shed atop the K Building of the Westinghouse East Pittsburgh works and licensed as KDKA. The first broadcast provided election night coverage (Harding vs. Cox) from 6:00 P.M. until noon the following day. Between news and occasional music, announcers asked the audience, “Will anyone hearing this broadcast please communicate with us, as we are anxious to know how far the broadcast is reaching and how it is being received.”

Brings back memories for a few of us, doesn't it?

Jim Brown
WB2EDO

A total of six members made the trek to Newington to visit and tour the ARRL HQ. Arriving at about 1030, the group toured the facility including the QSL Bureau, the Technical Laboratory, publication facilities for QST and ARRL books, the DXCC Center, and many others. We were greeted by the ARRL Staff and the tour was guided by Len Cowles K1PYU. After the tour we broke for lunch at Yanni's Restaurant, a local Italian spot, and we were joined there by Harold Kramer WJ1B the Chief Operating Officer of the League. Then it was on to W1AW for operating time under the supervision of Joe Carcia III NJ1Q, the W1AW Station Manager.

We all traveled in one car courtesy of Barry Campbell K2BC. The trip up and back, even including heavy traffic in NY State took about 3 hours each way. We had about 5 hours to spend at headquarters, and every minute was worth it.

The people in the W1AW photo, left to right are: Andy N2FYE, David K2MUN, Joe Carcia NJ1Q, Hillary KC2HLA, Barry K2BC, Bruce KQ2E, and Barry K2JV





David K2MUN, Andy N2FYE, Len Cowles K1PYU



Bruce KQ2E and the Rettysnitch