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)

November 2026

Volume 59 No. 11

Regular Meetings

Second & Fourth Mondays
at Salt Brook School

Nov 9 - Annual Business Meeting + Elections

Nov 23 - Regular Business Meeting

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

Club Officers for 2026

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
908-403-0877
Activities: KC2OSR, Sam Sealy
973-462-2014

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
Webmaster KC2WUF David Bean
Reflector: nparc@mailman.qth.net
Contact K2AL, Al

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Contributing Editors:
WB2QOQ Rick Anderson

Climatological Data for New Providence - September 2026

The following information is provided by Rick, WB2QOQ, who has been recording daily weather events at his station for the past 45 years.

TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temp. this September, 83 F (September 9)

Last September(2025) maximum was 84 F.
Average Maximum temp this September, 73.4 F

Minimum temp this September, 52 F (September 24)

Last September(2025) minimum was 50 F.
Average Minimum temp this September, 61.0F

Minimum diurnal temp range, 4 F (69 – 65 F) 9/2
Maximum diurnal temp range, 23 F(82 - 69 F) 9/10

Average temp this September, 67.2 F
Average temp last September, 67.7 F

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this September – 5.17” rain
Total precipitation last September – 2.44” rain

Maximum one day precip. event September 1, 1.43” rain
Measurable rain fell on 11 days this September
12 days last September.

YTD Precipitation – 35.61” rain/snow melt

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Rick Anderson 9/20/2026
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

November President's Report

Our Annual Meeting will be held at our November 9 meeting. The Annual Meeting is basically our annual business meeting where we go over the financial report, discuss any Executive Committee decisions and other Club business. It is also when we hold elections for Club officers for 2027. We have had some volunteers for several office positions, but we still accept nominations or other volunteers at the meeting and put the candidates up for confidential vote.

As you have heard, our Annual Holiday and Awards Luncheon is Saturday, December 12 (a bit later than usual- so mark your calendars) at the Vintage Tavern in Gillette. Dave K2YG has been sending out notices to the Reflector. The cost is $43 and includes pizza appetizers, salad, soda and coffee and a choice from 5 menu entrees. The Club will once again supply dessert, ice cream cake from Zitas. There is still room for more attendees so send K2YG an email at hdbarr@comcast.net to reserve a place ASAP.

And another reminder that the Club has reserved the Salt Brook School Cafeteria for Winter Field on Saturday, January 23. The Club will set up a dipole and our FT-710 radio, and we will supply pizza and soda for lunch. Should be fun. For more info on WFD see https://winterfieldday.org

And, as always, a reminder about our NPARC Digital, CW and FM phones nets that take place weekly. And of course, see you at our meetings on November 9 and 23 at Salt Brook School.

73,
AL - K2AL
President

NPARC 2027 Officer Elections

Al Hanzl - K2AL

Our Annual (Business) Meeting will take place on Monday, November 9, at the Salt Brook School Cafeteria. All are urged to attend, either on ZOOM or in-person. We currently have 69 voting members so we will need at least 18 members present for a one-quarter quorum.

Per Article II, Sec. 2 of our Constitution:

> ***The Club officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a term of one year by a majority vote. Officers shall hold office for the calendar year.***

Descriptions and duties of Club officers as written in our Constitution are listed below. Please consider running for office or start thinking about who you would like to nominate.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 1 - **The President** shall preside at all business meetings of this club.

The President shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and Bylaws, decide all questions of order, and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office of President.

Sec. 2 - **The Vice President** shall assume all duties of the President in the absence of the latter and shall otherwise assist with the management of the Club at the President's direction.

Sec. 3 - **The Secretary** shall advise the presiding officer whether a quorum exists at all business meetings, keep a record of the proceedings of business meetings and Executive Committee meetings, keep a current roll of members, accept and process applications for membership and insure their timely publication in the Club bulletin, carry on all correspondence, and read communications at each business meeting. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the Constitution and Bylaws of the Club and have a copy of the same available at every regular and special business meeting.

The Secretary shall cause all amendments, changes and additions to be attached thereto and shall permit the same to be consulted by members upon request. The Secretary shall, at the expiration of his/her term, turn over all Club records and memorabilia to the succeeding Secretary. The Secretary shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President.

Sec. 4 - **The Treasurer** shall be the custodian for all funds paid to the Club and shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and expended. The Treasurer shall make no disbursements of Club funds without proper authorization from the Club membership or the Executive Committee. At the end of each quarter the Treasurer shall submit an itemized state-

ment of disbursements and receipts. The Treasurer shall, at the expiration of his/her term, turn over all financial records belonging to the Club to the succeeding Treasurer. The books and records of the Club shall be open to members at each business meeting.

Sec. 5 - **The Activities Manager** shall ascertain the interests of the Club membership and plan activities accordingly. The duties of the Activities Manager shall include the responsibility for arranging formal programs. The Activities Manager shall encourage and promote programs to enhance the reputation of the Club and amateur radio in the community. The Activities Manager may appoint traffic committees, net controllers, or assistants to aid in specific activities. (Example: Field Day)

73 de K2AL

Popular Contests in October

Dave Barr – K2YG

Contest Name*	Dates (EDT)	Modes	Exchange	Notes & Websites
ARRL Sweepstakes CW	Sat 11/7 4pm – Sun 11/8 10pm	CW	Serial No. + Precedence + [your call] + Check + ARRL Section See note 1 for exch details.	QRP-LP-HP 160-10 m** See www.arrl.org for details.
WAE DX Contest RTTY	Fri 11/13 7pm – Sun 11/15 7pm	RTTY	RST + Serial #. Optional QTCs See note 2 for QTC details	LP-HP 80-10 m** Rules at: www.darc.de
CQ-WE (Western Electric)	Sat 11/14 2-6pm CW/Digi 8-12m Phone Sun 11/15 2-6 pm Phone 8-12m CW/Digi	CW SSB FM DIGI	Name; Western Elect QTH Code; Years of service	All Bands** For location codes see rules at: w8zpf.com
ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	Sat 11/21 4pm to Sun 11/22 10pm	SSB	See note 1 for details	QRP-LP-HP 160-10 m** Details at www.arrl.org .
CQ WW DX Contest CW	Fri 11/27 7pm to Sun 11/29 7pm	CW	RST + CQ zone	qrp-lp-hp 160-10 m** Details at www.cqww.com

Check www.contestcalendar.com for more contests and information.

Note 1: Sweepstakes exchange, which mimics traffic handling, is:
Serial Number; start at 001
Precedence (entry category): Q = QRP; A = <100w; B = >100w; U = unlimited; M = Multi Op;
Your Call Sign;
Check (2 digit year first licensed)
ARRL/RAC Section.

For example, my first exchange running qrp would be: 001 Q K2YG 56 NNJ.

Note 2: The WAE contest is simple, if you prefer, with only RST and serial number exchanged. However, scores can be increased by a factor of between 2 to 10 if you participate in the exchange of QTCs, which are lists of contacts including time, call and serial number for already completed contest contacts. QTCs should only be attempted if you understand the process and are using logging software that makes the QTC process fairly easy, such as N1MM+. You can avoid sending or receiving QTCs by simply saying “no” or “nil” when asked if you have or want QTCs. Most participants do not exchange QTCs.

** No WARC bands in any contest.

On the Road Again for the State QSO Party Challenge

Al Hanzl – K2AL

The State QSO Party Challenge was started to spark interest in the many state QSO parties that are sponsored by various groups and radio clubs across the country. There were 46 sanctioned State QSO parties in 2026. Several NPARC members try to participate in all of them or as many as they can. State QSO parties are friendly contests, good for non-contesters to try.

Traveling out of New Jersey to operate in state QSO parties is lots of fun because you become the "DX". I traveled to Vermont in August to operate the New England QSO party and made over 700 contacts over that weekend.

Last year in the New York State QSO Party I set a record in the Low Power All-Mode Portable category, so I decided to travel to New York for the NYQP again this year. The contest took place on Saturday, October 17. My nephew, Jeffrey, in Tuxedo, New York, Orange County, welcomed me into his home once again and another nephew, Eric, K2ESH, used his old baseball skills to toss lines over a few trees for hanging a G5RV antenna.





I setup my Yaesu FT-710 and LDG tuner on the dining room table and made 560 contacts in just over 11 hours. It was great fun and it was also nice to take in all the fall foliage.





The 2027 version of the State QSO Party Challenge starts again in February with the Vermont SQP. I would encourage you to try them out, operating from the home QTH or perhaps you can “hit the road” and operate “in-state”. See www.stateqsoparty.com for more information.

73 es GL de K2AL

