

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS



Volume 27

APRIL 1992

No. 4

The Prez Sez:

It's April and activities are piling up. We've got a lot of things to prepare for. Many years ago I learned that unless I seriously keep a calendar, and put future planned activities on it, I miss an awful lot of them. I hope you've all got calendars ready and that you've got some dates already marked. Of course our first meeting of the month will be on April 13th. Your income taxes are due two days later! If this newsletter reaches you early enough you might even make it to the Trenton Computer Festival on April 11th and 12th which is the Computerist's "Dayton of the East."

The annual safari to the Dayton Hamvention will take place April 23rd through 26th. A large group of us are all set for the yearly pilgrimage.

Another activity to occur before you receive your next issue of the Spark Gaps will be a field trip to the Thomas A. Edison museum in West

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Packet Progress and then An Inside Look!

For our first meeting of the month on April 13th we hope to run through whatever minor business remains to be covered and then Andy, WA2DKJ and Terry WD4IGL will show us the latest in the "Poor Man's Packet" line. Bring your magnifying glasses as Andy is doing a job using surface mount technology. He seems to have discovered that space is an extremely precious commodity.

The program for our Monday April 27th meeting will feature some excellent videotape coverage of several club member's environments normally referred to as their "operating position" or "shack." Terry, WD4IGL, has spent many hours touring the area and "shooting footage" at numerous famous QTH's. Here is your chance to see it like it really is. The rules were that no special preparation or "cleanup" was to be made before the shooting. Terry has demonstrated unusual courage in his attempt to get his camera where we would be able to see everything. So far he has only suffered minor bruises and scrapes trying to maneuver through some of the obstacle courses. Whether this show will win an Oscar remains to be seen next year.

Lin Hulin, W2GZZ, Silent Key

We have suddenly lost another long time club member. Lin joined our club 22 years ago. He attended our club meeting on Monday, March 23rd and was active in the discussion of wood marquetry. He pointed out that it was his business to repair the sort of work that Bob, W2OKO, was describing. Lin said that when people had the broken pieces of pictures made of wood that they would bring them to him to restore. Lin died suddenly the following Thursday, March 26th.

In the past Lin had given us a talk on how he and the other members of the New Jersey DX Association handled the QSL cards for the ARRL Incoming Bureau for the Second District. These volunteers sort out thousands of QSL cards each month. He was 84 and had been an avid dx'er for many years. He obtained his Extra Class license in 1985. Lin homebrewed a lot of his station equipment. He loved to work with his hands. Many years ago Lin had built himself a "cabin", which was really a house, up on Cape Cod where he spent every summer at his favorite sport of fishing.



**New Providence
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

P.O. Box 813

New Providence

NJ 07974-0813

ARRL Affiliated Club 0213

Meeting Schedule

Our club meetings are normally held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 8:00 PM, in the basement meeting room of the New Providence Memorial Library, Elkwood Avenue. This is one block north of Springfield Avenue and one block east of Passaic St. Anyone is welcome. Note: if our normal meeting night is a holiday we usually meet the next night.

On the Air Club Activities:

Club Operating Frequency
145.75 MHz simplex phone
FM Phone Net
Sunday Evening 9:00 PM
On the Whippany repeater
Listen on 147.03 MHz,
Transmit on 147.63
Net Control: Bob, KB2IKC

RTTY Net
Sunday Evening 8:00 PM
60 WPM Baudot, 145.75 MHz
Net Control: John, K2AGI

Packet BBS 145.01 MHz
KA2UGQ-4 (Berkeley Hts.)
SYSOP Tom, KA2UGQ

Club Officers for 1992

President:

..... Barry Cohen K2JV
(908) 464-1730

Vice President:

..... Walt Creuz W2CIY
(201) 635-7920

Secretary:

..... Bob Barns KB2IKC
(908) 464-6785

Treasurer:

..... John Sheetz K2AGI
(908) 464-5671

Activities Manager:

..... Guy Brenert K2EFB
(908) 754-3204

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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..... Rick Anderson WB2QOQ

..... Bob Barns KB2IKC

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Climatological Data for New Providence for March 1992

The following information is provided by WB2QOQ, who has been recording daily weather events at his station for the past 10 years.

Maximum temperature for March, 63°F (Mar. 8th)

Minimum temperature for March, 15°F (Mar. 16th)

Average temperature for the month, 38.9°F; which is 3.1 degrees below the average temperature of 42.0°F for March for the past 10 years.

Heating degree days for March: 812, Heating degree days for February: 959, Heating degree days March last year: 669

Total liquid precipitation this March: 3.73". Precipitation March last year: 5.09". Snow this March, 9.5". Snow last March, 3.5".

Hamfests Etc.

Dayton Hamvention:

This is the BIG one! Friday April 24th through Sunday April 26th. If you don't already have your motel reservations it is probably too late.

Trenton Computer Festival:

This is the other BIG one! Saturday April 11th 10:00 to 6:00 and Sunday April 12th 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is held at Mercer County Community College, NOT at the old Trenton State College site. If you are going down U.S. 1 go to route 571 (Princeton-Hightstown Rd). Turn left onto 571. Take 571 to 535 (Space Center on left) and turn right onto 535 (Old Trenton Road). Mercer County Community College is about 5 miles from 571. Old Trenton Road passes Mercer County Park (automobile parking) on the right. Main campus entrance is next to park (beyond the parking entrance). If you go down the turnpike take Exit 8 at Hightstown onto 33 West. Take 33 West to 571 in downtown Hightstown. Turn right onto 571. Now you are headed west toward the Space Center mentioned above. Turn left onto 535 and continue as described above.

Prez Sez (continued)

Orange. Mark your calendars for May 5th for that one.

Next is the Memorial Day parade in New Providence (coordinated again by Rick, WB2QOQ) on May 25th. That is the day we would ordinarily have our main meeting of the month but since the library will be closed we'll see you all the next evening, TUESDAY May 26th. Moving to your June calendar, you should have already

marked the weekend of June 27-28 for Field Day.

Go get your calendars right now and mark up all of these dates before you forget and miss something.

Attendance at both the meetings and on our Sunday night two meter nets has been terrific. We have set recent records at both so I urge you all to come to the meeting on April 13th and break that record again.

73 de K2JV

**NPARC
Provides Communications for
New Providence Footrace**

On Sunday, March 29th, 8 club members assisted the Amazing Feet Running Club by providing communications for the annual 10 Kilometer footrace. This race, sponsored by the New Providence Recreation Commission, started on Elkwood ave., near the Library, wound its way through the back streets of town, and finished just in front of the Library, approximately 6 miles later. Our club has been providing communications at this race for the past 6 years. There were approximately 250 runners taking part in this year's race. Our communications took place without a flaw. Our members were stationed at the 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mile stations, the start and finish of the race, and also in the lead police car. Two meter handie-talkies, tuned to the club frequency, 145.75 MHz., were used for all communications. During the race we were approached by a person interested in the communications that we were providing, and asked if we could perform a similar service at a future race in Westfield. Thanks to the following club members who assisted in this public service event: Bob-KB2IKC, Terry-WD4IGL, Jim-KB2FCV, Joe-N2KRP, Harry-W2YEZ, Guy-K2EFB, Tony-KB2BBP.

Rick WB2QOQ

**Happy Birthday to You!
APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Jim Kern KB2FCV 10th

John Sheetz K2AGI 15th

Chris Daniels 23rd

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Bob Willis K2GLS 1st

**NEW PROVIDENCE
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
MARCH 31, 1992**

Balance Forward 1/1/92 1,786.52

Income

Dues Received.....68.00

Interest11.08

Auction.....365.79

ARRL Rebates4.00

Patches & Hats2.50

Total Income451.37

Expense

Postage95.99

Food & Refreshments66.38

Patches & Hats3.20

Miscellaneous.....20.00

Total Expense185.57

Balance 3/31/922,052.32

Welcome New Member

We want to welcome Chris Daniels of Chatham who joined our club on March 23rd. Chris is working on getting his Novice Class license and he will be 14 this month.

Happy Birthday Chris and good luck on your license.

**Trip to Edison Museum
Scheduled**

We have finally scheduled a field trip to the Thomas A. Edison museum on Tuesday, May 5th. We are to arrive at the museum at 2 PM and detailed arrangements will be covered at our regular club meetings this month. If you want to go on this trip and cannot make it to the meetings you may call either Guy Brennert (908) 754-3204 or John Sheetz (908) 464-5671 for final details. We will undoubtedly car-pool from a specific location or through some other means so it will be necessary to set up arrangements beforehand.

There is an admission fee to the museum of \$2 but if you are 65 years of age or over you may apply for and receive at the museum a free senior citizens lifetime pass good for all facilities in the United States operated by the National Park Service. This pass may then immediately be used to enter the Edison museum.

Swap and Shop

FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ-120 Receiver in good shape, with new tubes installed within the past few years.

WANTED: Source of small tank of helium gas to be used for inflating balloons at local church fair.

SALE: Craft and collectibles lawn sale New Providence Historical Society Museum Springfield Ave, May 9th. 10 AM to 4 PM. Interested vendors contact WB2QOQ

FREE to NPARC members: Public Service high band transceivers. 150-174 MHz. 6 Motorola trunk mount mobile units. 9 Motorola handie talkies. Surplus equipment from New Providence public service. On all above items contact Rick Anderson, WB2QOQ at 908-464-8911.

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-930 transceiver with automatic antenna tuner \$980, MFJ -931 Artificial Ground, Ten-Tech Model 605 single paddle electronic keyer, never used \$60, Butternut HF6V 6 band vertical antenna \$80. All with docs. Call John Sheetz 908-464-5671.

FOR SALE: Heathkit Oscilloscope IO-14. Calibrated DC to 8MHz with 5" flat screen CRT. Good working condition. 10-1/2"w x 14-1/4"h x 20" deep, weight 40 lbs. \$75 Call Harry Kundrat 908-665-1873.

FOR SALE: Clamshell type cartop carrier \$25 Call Bay Rowan 908-464-5090.