

Mountain Spark Gaps

New Providence Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 813
New Providence, NJ 07974-0813
ARRL Club Number 0213

August, 1987

Nets:

FM Phone 147.030 MHz	Sundays at 9:00 p.m. EDT	Bill King, W2LTJ
RTTY 145.750 MHz	Sundays at 8:00 p.m. EDT	John Sheetz, K2AGI
Westlink 145.750 MHz	Sundays at 7:30 p.m. EDT	Tom Brown, KA2UGQ
Westlink 147.030 MHz	Whippany Rptr. Simulcast	Tom Brown, KA2UGQ
Rusty CW 28.150 MHz	Wednesdays 9:00 p.m. EDT	Floyd Harvey, KA2DDG

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

August 24: Emergency Communications Tactics
Paul Schreiber, W2UH will explain the Union County Emergency Network and what is done in times of emergency such as widespread loss of power, water, phone communications, or storm damage and/or flooding. Among some of the members who have worked with him in emergency planning are Carl Felt N2XJ, Pres Conrad N2CXE, and Walt Cruetz W2CIY.

September 14: NPARC business meeting

MEETINGS TO COME:
Superconductivity

* NPARC Meetings are held in the meeting *
* room of the New Providence Memorial *
* Library on Elkwood Avenue at 8 PM on the *
* second and fourth Mondays of each month *
* unless otherwise noted. Business meet- *
* ings are held on the second-Monday *
* meetings and speakers will be scheduled *
* for the fourth-Monday meetings. *

NPARC CALENDAR

AUGUST:

- 22: Hamfest: RMARC (Oakland)
- 24: NPARC Meeting: Emergency Tactics

SEPTEMBER:

- 7: Labor Day
- 12: ARRL VEC upgrade session Union Cty Col.
- 14: NPARC business meeting
- 20: Ham Radio TV program via satellite

RTTY PICTURE OF THE MONTH



FREE QSL CARDS!

ATTENTION NOVICES (and others, too!) - Would you like to have your own QSL cards? For FREE? Well, here is your chance. Just call Tom Brown, KA2UGQ at 464-7958 in the evening to get some. A box of 500 colorful QSL cards which were pictured in QST a few months back and also mentioned in the February, 1986 issue of the Mountain Spark Gaps (back issues anyone?!) is available to anyone who would like them. Tom will give out 50 at a time to those who need them.

--From KA2UGQ

**The
New Providence
Amateur Radio Club**

Chartered January, 1965

The Mountain Spark Gaps

Editor Tom Brown, KA2UGQ
Distribution John Sheetz, K2AGI

HAMFEST WATCH

August 22 (Saturday): The 11th annual Ramapo Mountain ARC flea market from 8 AM to 1 PM at the American Legion Hall, 65 Oak Street, Oakland, NJ. Buyers \$2 (XYL/harmonics free), tables \$7 (tailgaters \$5). Sellers come at 6 AM. Door prizes, refreshments. Talk-in on 146.49 (+1 MHz) and 146.52 (simplex). More info: Sol Silverman, KA2VBZ at 652-1882 or Frank Lee, KA2ALS at 337-2290.

NP ARC CLASSIFIEDS

Have gear you want to sell to someone you know who is a member (or a friend of a member) of the club? Let Tom Brown, KA2UGQ know and it will appear right here in the next issue of the Mountain Spark Gaps. Contact Tom in the evenings at 464-7958 or on the club frequency Sunday nights after Westlink at 7:30. Think of it this way...some people read the Spark Gaps just to see what goodies are being offered for sale so you are bound to get rid of it quickly!

THE ORIGIN OF THE TERM "HAM" (ACCORDING TO WEBSTER)

In past Spark Gaps, explanations as to the origin of the term "ham" have been offered. Some say H.A.M. are the initials of the three radio enthusiasts who first transmitted on the commercial bands. Some say H.A.M. was once a magazine called "Home Amateur Mechanic" in which plans for "H.A.M." radio transmitters and receivers were often printed. Some say hams are lids who interfere with their television sets. Well, I asked 'ole Dan Webster what he thought...

Ham (ham) *Bible* Noah's second son: *Gen. 6:10*
ham (ham) *n.* [ME. *hamme* < OE. *hamm*, akin to G. dial. *hamme* < IE. base **konemo-*, shin bone (whence Gr. *knēmē*): sense 5 & 6 influenced by AM (ATEUR)] 1. the part of the leg behind the knee 2. a) the back of the thigh b) the thigh and the buttock together 3. the hock or hind leg of a four-legged animal 4. the upper part of a hog's hind leg, or meat from this, salted, dried, smoked, etc. *5. [Colloq.] an amateur radio operator *6. [*hamfatter*, said to be so named from former use of ham fat to remove makeup] [Slang] an incompetent actor or performer, esp. one who overacts —*vi.*, *vt.* *hammered*, *ham'ming* [Slang] to act with exaggeration; overact: often in *ham it up*

So there you have it - the REAL origin of the term HAM comes from the hind leg of a four-legged animal. Hope this cleared up all the confusion... (Now all we have to figure out is what Noah's second son's call letters were...)

--From KA2UGQ

TECHNO-JARGON GONE WILD

In a packet-radio article in the June 1987 issue of the British publication, "Fractical Wireless", author Roger Cooke, G3LDI, suggests that packet-radio jargon, like other Amateur Radio jargon can be very confusing to the neophyte packeteer. The penchant of some hams to work plain English into "modern" language, Cooke says, can often be carried to extremes. He offers the following example of what can happen when the eloquent is turned "hi-tech":

DAVID LYRIC TWO-THREE

"The Lord and I are in a sheep/shepard situation and I am in a position of negative need. He prostrates me in a green belt grazing area; he conducts me directionally parallel to non-torrential aqueous liquid. He returns to original satisfaction levels my psychological make-up; he switches me on to a positive behavioral format for maximal prestige of his identity.

"It should indeed be said that notwithstanding the fact that I make ambulatory progress through the umbrageous interhill mortality slot, terror sensations will be not instantiated within me due to paraethical phenomena. Your pastoral walking aid and quadruped pickup unit introduce me into a pleasurable mood-state.

"You design and produce a nutriment-bearing furniture-type structure in the context of no-cooperative elements; you act out of a head-related folk ritual employing vegetable extract; my beverage utensil experiences a volume crisis.

"It is an ongoing deductible fact that your inter-relational empathetical and non-vengeance capabilities will retain me as their target focus for the duration of my non-death period; and I will possess tenant rights in the housing unit of the Lord on a permanently open-ended time basis.

Source unknown

--Via KB2M

ARRL VEC PROGRAM

Know of anyone who is thinking of upgrading? Does someone you know want to go for their novice license? Don't forget that the NNJ VEC Board is alive and well and has sessions the second Saturday of each month. Exams are conducted at Union County College in Cranford, NJ. FCC form 610 applications with copy of existing amateur license and \$4.35 check payable to "ARRL VEC" should be received at least 30 days prior to exam date. Walk-ins are permitted but at risk of limited test materials. —Novice form 610 applications are exempt of the \$4.35 fee. Contact Carl Felt, N2XJ at 635-7686 for more information and/or 610 forms.

The next session will be on September 12.

KNOCKDOWN TABLE PROJECT

[The following is from the TRW ARC Crosstalk newsletter]

Ever since I built this handy table for our novice school -- actually I built three -- people are after the plans. And it couldn't be simpler. The illustration on the next page is approximately to scale. It is made from one 4' x 8' plywood sheef with no waste. Although you can use particle board, I would not recommend it as it will not stand up to a lot of setting up and taking down.

Five-eighths thick, sanded on one side, is the ideal material. Be sure to sand all edges smooth to avoid splinters in the fingers. A two-coat varnishing would also help the splinter problem.

These tables have served our club for many years in schools, hamfests, flea markets, and Field Day operations. Storage and/or transportation presents no problem.

Remember the slots are 6 inches deep, and as wide as the material is thick. Most of the cuts can be with a table saw using a plywood tooth blade. Use a sabre saw for the slots so that the bottom of the slot will be square. The slots can be deepened slightly if the table does not level up correctly.

The whole structure lies flat after disassembly and can be stored in a minimum of space until needed again.

--From WA4JET

HAM RADIO TV PROGRAM VIA SATELLITE

If you have access to a satellite TV receiver, tune in at 6 PM Eastern time on Sunday, September 20 to the Spacenet 1 satellite, transponder 12H (channel 23 on some receivers). This program which is being transmitted nationwide promises to give an interesting look into the Amateur Radio hobby and would make a good meeting program.

If you have a VCR, try to tape this program so it can be shown at a club meeting some night.

--Via WESTLINK

HF FACSIMILE FREQUENCIES

Here are some FAX frequencies for those of you who have interest in SSTV and/or FAX or have one of the new AEA PK-232 RTTY/CW/PACKET/AMTOR/FAX controllers:

EAST COAST

9157.5, 17447.5 kHz Mobile, AL
 4271, 9890, 13510 kHz Halifax, Canada
 4793.5, 10185, 12201,
 14671.5 kHz Washington, D. C.
 8502, 12750 kHz Boston, MA
 9389.5, 11035 kHz Brentwood, NY
 3357, 8080, 10865,
 16410 kHz Norfolk, VA

WEST COAST

8459 kHz Alaska
 4802.5, 7770, 9440, 11090,
 13627.5, 13862.5 kHz Hawaii
 8646, 17410.5 kHz San Diego, CA
 4346, 8682, 12730,
 17151.2 kHz San Francisco, CA

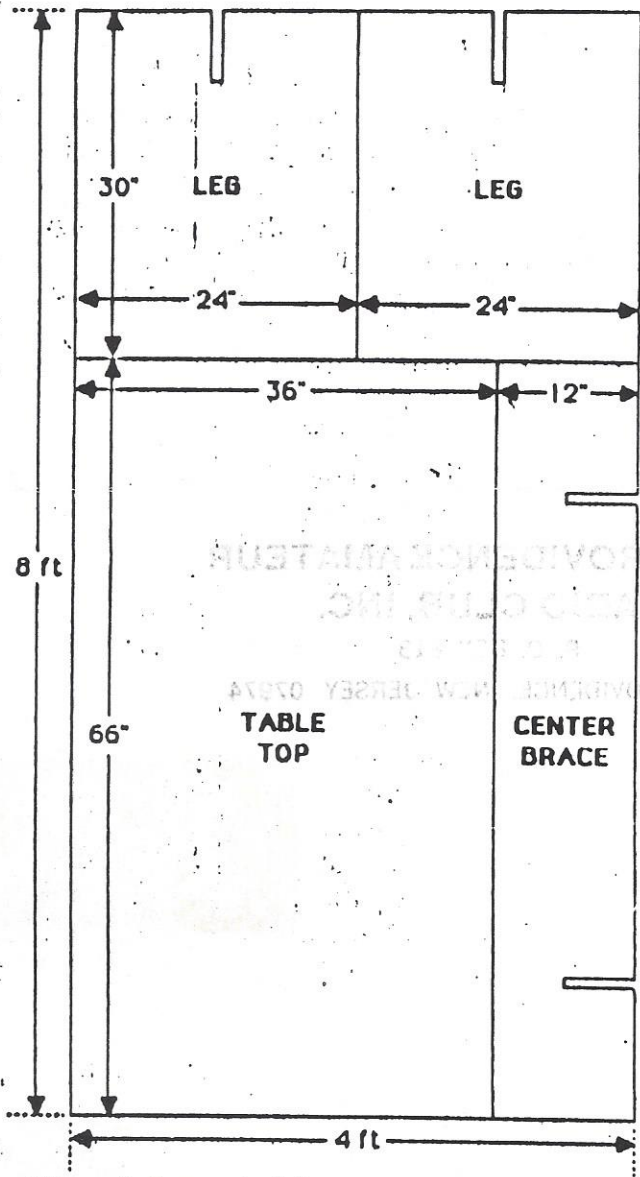
OTHER FAX SIGNALS

17670 kHz AP news service
 18435 kHz R news service

--From WB2IBO

GIVE GIVE GIVE GIVE GIVE

GIVE articles, classified ads, hints & tips, cartoons, >>> NPARC PICNIC RECIPIES <<<, or anything else to Tom Brown, KA2UGQ to make the Spark Gaps as good as the trees that were cut down to make paper to print it on!



Knockdown table



"I know you need the extra space for ham radio... so my mother is moving out!"

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

P. O. BOX 813

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