

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

NPARC—The Radio Club for the
Watchung Mountain area



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

VOLUME 45 December 2010 NO. 12

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Meetings

Monday Dec. 27 & Jan. 10, 2011

12/27 meeting will be at the

NP Municipal center

7:30 PM

Salt Brook School

Sunday Jan. 2, 2011

Kids Day

Berkeley Heights Rec. Center

Flyer Attached

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
Treasure: 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
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WB2QOO Rick Anderson
WB2EDO Jim Brown

Climatological Data for New Providence for
November 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 November, 61 deg. F
(November 13,22)

Last November (2009) maximum was 67 deg.
F.

Average Maximum temperature this November,
52.3 deg. F

Minimum temperature for this November, 25
deg. F (November 29)

Last November (2009) minimum was 28 deg. F.
Average Minimum temperature this November,
36.1 deg. F

Minimum diurnal temperature range, 3 deg.
(46 - 43 deg.) 11/3.

Maximum diurnal temperature range, 26 deg.
(60 - 34 deg.) 11/14.

Average temperature this November, 44.2 deg.
F

Average temperature last November, 48.3 deg.
F

Number of days this November with tempera-
tures of 32 degs. or lower = 9.

Last November = 2.

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this November - 2.52"
rain

Total precipitation last November - 2.10"
rain

Maximum one day precip. event this November;
November 3, 1.11" rain.

Measurable rain fell on 9 days this Novem-
ber, 15 days last November.

=====
Rick Anderson 12/10/10

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
The Amateur Radio Club for
the Watchung Hills Area

**In cooperation with the Berkeley Heights Recreation Commission
and the New Providence Recreation Department**

Presents “Ham Radio KIDS DAY”

**A chance for kids of all ages to operate a Ham Radio Station and speak with
other kids from all over the USA and Canada, and possibly from all over
the world!**

**This event takes place on
Sunday January 2, 2011 at the**

**Berkeley Heights Community Center, 29 Park Avenue next to the
Town Hall, between 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM**

No experience required. Just show up at any time in the afternoon.

**Licensed Radio Amateurs from NPARC will set up the station starting at noon, and will
be available to answer any questions which you or your parents may have.**

For information call:

Barry Cohen K2JV, 908-464-1730 (anytime)

Nick Esposito KC2ONP, 908-665-2457

Save The Date 2/13/2011

NPARC will Present

VHF/UHF FM SPRINT CONTEST

See web site for details

Highlights of 2010 Holiday Luncheon

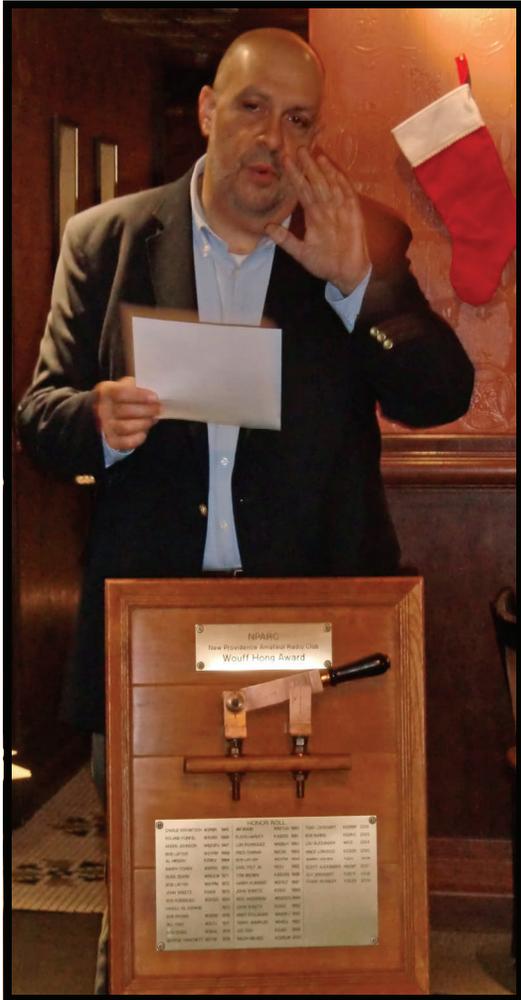
Introduction of next years officers

President	Paul Campano N2KDK
Vice President	David Berkley K2MUN
Treasure	Dave Barr K2YG
Activities	Sam Sealy KC2OSR
Secretary	Barry Cohen K2JV



K2MUN, N2KDK, K2YG. K2JV and KC2OSR were not present.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS



Presentation of the Wouff Hong Award to K2EZR



Presentation of the "Rookie of the Year" award to KC2WUF



Presentation of the "Grand Old Ham" Award to K2EFB

When the Wouff Hong Award was presented, a number of attendees were heard to say that they knew very little about the Wouff Hong and the Rettystitch. To cure that, the text of the presentation follows.



Original Wouff Hong



Rettystitch

The 2010 Wouff Hong Award:

When I was asked to present this year's Wouff Hong Award, I was baffled by how little I knew about the subject. I did some research, but could find very little about the origins of this most secretive and elite realm of Amateur Radio.

The original "**Wouff Hong**" is a mysterious device used in the early days of Ham Radio to combat the dreaded "**ugerumf**" that was proliferating on the air from unnecessary QRM. Precious little is known about how it was manipulated other than the assumption that it was held at the "smooth end" and that the two prong-like projections were applied to the offending operator in some fashion.

There is some speculation by Mr. Hiram Maxim, the "Old Man" himself, that before the invention of Radio, the Wouff Hong may have been used in southern states to beat monkeys.

The Wouff Hong, and the even more mysterious apparatus known as the "**Rettysnitch**" (as to which almost nothing is known) have stood together for nearly a century to provide – shall we say – "incentive" for good and considerate operating techniques. They have since become positive icons signifying all the best things about Ham Radio.

NPARC established the Wouff Hong Award in 1965. Since that time it has been awarded almost every year to an active Club Member who has provided exemplary service to the Club over a long period of time.

The Award is administered by the "Royal Order of the Wouff Hong" which is composed of a few of the long term Club Members. Appointment to the Royal Order is made by "The Secret Society of the Rettysnitch" which is so secret that no one knows how it is composed.

The Award Plaque was fabricated by Al Hirsch K2SKV.

When the Award is made to a particular Club Member, that member will take possession of the Award for one year, with the stipulation that it will be displayed in a prominent position in the member's home. This position must be such that visitors to the home will immediately, upon entering, see and admire the Plaque. It is the member's responsibility to explain the significance of the Plaque to all who will listen.

SCIENTIFIC TIDBITS

WATER & ELECTRONICS DO NOT MIX

Being a normal human being and fallible I have on occasion in the past subjected some of my electronic gadgetry to liquid baths, ranging from tea to laundry soapy water. After such treatment it did not come as a big surprise they failed to operate properly. However, after lengthy drying time some were resurrected and some were not.

Recently I came across an article that addressed this problem. The author admits to mistreating a keyboard by spilling a bowl of Cheerios and milk on it, and submerging a switching power supply and 2M transceiver in salt water as well as a cell phone and a MP3 player that went for a swim in his pool. I found his reclamation solution to drowned electronics very enlightening for all us bumble fingers.

The first step is rather obvious. Remove all sources of power, including batteries. This includes the thin lithium cells used in laptops, camcorders, and other handheld devices, and the 9v batteries used as backup for clock radios. Next, disassemble the unit, if you can, and remove speaker cones and anything else that would be damaged by additional contact with water. Step three is to spray the components liberally with distilled water. To do this, use a hand-pump sprayer on the highest setting. You want a powerful stream of water, not a fine mist. If the unit was immersed in salt water and it contains a power transformer, then dunk the part of the board containing the transformer in distilled water. The idea is to dissolve any salt deposits that may be forming between the windings. Follow up with a rubbing alcohol chaser to displace the water. Now examine the board for deposits between the traces. If you spot any, remove them with Q-tips and either rubbing alcohol or an alcohol-based cleaner. Dry the device with paper towels and place it in front of a fan in a warm (not hot) room. Do not use a heat gun or stick the board in your oven.

Physically check the device after four or five days. It should be bone dry. If it is not, then put it away and check it in another few days. When you are satisfied that there is no water in the device, drop in the batteries or attach the wall-wart and power it up. Hopefully, all will be in working order. If not, at least you have learned something from the teardown.

Jim Brown
WB2EDO