

Mountain Spark Gaps
 New Providence Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 813
 New Providence, NJ 07974

February, 1986

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Nets:

FM Phone	145.750 MHz	Sundays at 8:00 p.m. EST	Bill King, W2LTJ
RTTY	145.750 MHz	Sundays at 8:00 p.m. EST	John Sheetz, K2AGI
CW	28.150 MHz	Wednesdays 9:00 p.m. EST	Floyd Harvey, KA2DDG

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MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Monday, February 10:

Bob Willis, K2GLS, will talk about packet radio. In addition to an interesting talk and view graph presentation, there will be an actual DEMONSTRATION of packet.

Upcoming Events:

The how, why, what, where, and which of antennas.

HAMFEST WATCH

February 9: The West Orange ARC will hold its first hamfest at the Orange Elks Club, 475 Main Street, at 8 AM - 4 PM. Admission at door. Buyers \$3, sellers \$10/table. Talk-in 146.55 and 224.80. For further information, reservations, and tickets, call Mike at 736-4611 after 5:30 PM, Rob at 731-9506, or 674-8148 anytime.

FREE QSL CARDS

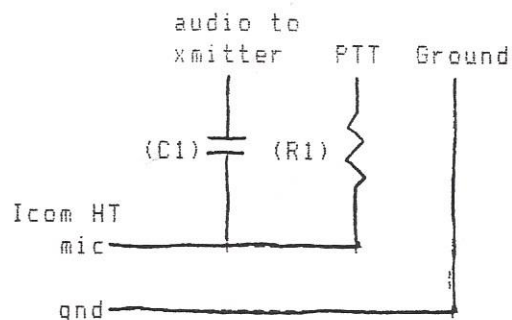
The State of New Jersey is offering 500 free QSL cards to radio amateurs living in New Jersey. To obtain these cards, simply send your name and callsign along with \$3.00 to cover postage and handling to:

New Jersey Department of Commerce and
 Economic Development
 1 West State Street, CNB23
 Trenton, NJ 08625

Note: These cards will not have your call-sign or other information printed on them. You will have to get them printed yourself.

SCHEMATIC SECTION

Here is a schematic that is handy when you are trying to interface something (RTTY, Packet, another microphone) to an Icom IC-2A, 2AT, or 02AT handheld rig:



- R1 -- 25k resistor
- C1 -- 0.47 uf capacitor

WHAT TIME IS IT?

TIME CONVERSION CHART

UTC	EST	CST	MST	PST
0000	1900	1800	1700	1600
0100	2000	1900	1800	1700
0200	2100	2000	1900	1800
0300	2200	2100	2000	1900
0400	2300	2200	2100	2000
0500	0000	2300	2200	2100
0600	0100	0000	2300	2200
0700	0200	0100	0000	2300
0800	0300	0200	0100	0000
0900	0400	0300	0200	0100
1000	0500	0400	0300	0200
1100	0600	0500	0400	0300
1200	0700	0600	0500	0400
1300	0800	0700	0600	0500
1400	0900	0800	0700	0600
1500	1000	0900	0800	0700
1600	1100	1000	0900	0800
1700	1200	1100	1000	0900
1800	1300	1200	1100	1000
1900	1400	1300	1200	1100
2000	1500	1400	1300	1200
2100	1600	1500	1400	1300
2200	1700	1600	1500	1400
2300	1800	1700	1600	1500

NEW RADIO SERVICE PROPOSED

On October 20, 1985, Donald L. Stoner W6TNS sent a petition to the FCC regarding the creation of the "Public Digital Radio Service". He states, "Presently, computer-to-computer communication by the general public is confined to the telephone network. Millions of computer owners find that it is increasingly expensive to utilize this network to satisfy their communication needs." This proposal outlines not a channelized scheme of communication but rather a local area network, such as packet radio offers. The Public Digital Radio Service would allow an infinite number of local area networks to be interconnected into a national packet radio network.

Donald L. Stoner W6TNS has been a radio amateur since 1954. For an extended period, he was the Novice and Technician editor of CQ magazine. He was also responsible for the idea which grew to become the OSCAR satellite. He has also been an educator and has taught at Chaffey College in Southern California.

To all that are interested in reading this interesting document, it is available in its full form (ten pages) from Tom Brown, KA2UGQ.

SHUTTLE WATCH

Date	Mission
March 6	Shuttle mission 61-E (Columbia) ASTRO-1 ::: ultraviolet astronomy telescope CHAMP ::: Comet Halley Active Monitoring Program
March	NOAA-G ::: weather and search-and-rescue satellite (NOAA)

IN MEMORY...

Shuttle flight 51-L exploded Tuesday, January 28, 1986 at 11:39:12 AM EST just 72 seconds after liftoff. Seven astronauts were killed:

Francis Scobee - commander
Michael J. Smith - pilot
Ronald McNair
Ellison Sizuka
Gregory Jarvis
Judith A. Resnik
Christa McAuliffe - civilian teacher

PACKET BAND PLAN PROPOSAL

The following frequency plan for Michigan packet radio was adopted for further discussion by the Packet Radio In Southern Michigan (PRISM) Spectrum Planning Committee.

144.91 MHz	Experimental and QRP
144.93 MHz	Local Area Network (LAN)
144.95 MHz	Local Area Network
144.97 MHz	Local Area Network
144.97 MHz	Non digipeated packet (simplex)
145.01 MHz	Inter-LAN and mail forwarding
145.03 MHz	Local Area Network
145.05 MHz	Local Area Network
145.07 MHz	Local Area Network
145.09 MHz	Experimental and QRP

"Michigan Repeater Council policy does not allow coordination of packet channels on 144-148 MHz. These are designated as simplex channels that may be used in any mode by amateurs at any given location. Activity in this area is by "gentleman's agreement". Any one is allowed to install a digipeater or a PBBS. The type of packet activity allowed on a particular channel is determined by the need, not by the council. The above listed frequencies are recommended as a guideline for a "gentleman's agreement" in Michigan.

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The objective is to avoid conflicts with existing voice operations on the above frequencies. We feel that it is important for packet radio to expand in a contiguous group of frequencies, and not all over the 2 meter band. This will help "carve out" a segment of 2 meters that ultimately will become recognized as the "packet sub-band."

(The above note excerpted from the ARRL Gateway newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 9)

(Ed. note: Hopefully this frequency coordination will take place not only in Michigan, but nationwide. If something is not done about the growing packet activity, it may spread all over the band, and this coordination will serve to separate packet from voice operators

SHUTTLE NOTE

Due to the unfortunate crash of the space shuttle Challenger, all space flights have been canceled pending NASA's investigation of the crash.

**RESULTS OF JANUARY NPARC
INTEREST SURVEY**

Here are some of the more popular items for future NPARC club meeting programs as taken from about 20 survey sheets:

TOPIC	# OF VOTES
Lightning protection	11
Antennas	11
Modems, interfaces	9
Picnics	9
Electrical and RF safety	8
HF/VHF gear (new and old)	7
Packet Radio	7
Troubleshooting, servicing	7
CW send/receive	6
Computer hardware/software	5
Field trips	5
General Computer principles	4
RTTY	4
Speech synthesis, recognition	4
145.750 MHz contests	3
MSO functions	3
TRAINING (VE, classes, etc)	3
DX contests	2
How IC's are made	2
Measurements, calculations	2
Repeaters	2
Satellites	2
Phone patching	1

Computer survey results:

Heathkit	4	Sinclair/Timex	2
Commodore 64 .	3	AT&T	1
Single-board .	3	Atari	1
Apple	2	Kaypro	1
KIM	2	Vic-20	1

They can be used with:

RTTY	6	Packet ..	4
CW	3	Amtor ...	1

RTTY PICTURE OF THE MONTH



JANUARY AUCTION REPORT

Many things were sold and some of the items were real bargains! One such bargain was a Heathkit Warrior kilowatt amplifier which sold for \$31! Many old radios and old/new equipment was exchanged. The highest priced item at the auction was a Radiola-3 and sold for about \$39. Many other radios and transmitters were sold at bargain prices such as \$2!

FOR SALE

The following items are for sale by Bill King, W2LTJ:

QST Magazines - 250 pounds of them
1930 - 1966
Best offer takes ALL

FLUKE Model 885A DC Differential volt-meter. Precision 6 digits.

Make offer to Bill, W2LTJ, 377-5653.

For sale by Ernie Kolb, N2EFR:

Kenwood TS-820, VFO-820, and MC-50 Mic. 1.8 to 30 MHz coverage. FSK input for RTTY, Packet, etc. Spare finals are available. The radio is in mint condition both physically and electrically. Make offer to Ernie, N2EFR, 665-0141.

Please contact Tom Brown, KA2UGQ at 464-7958 if you wish to place a wanted/for-sale ad in the Mountain Spark Gaps.

