

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

NEW PROVIDENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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NEXT MEETING ... JUNE 10 ... FINAL PLANS FOR OUR BIG 1968 FIELD DAY

June meeting of New Providence Amateur Radio Club will be devoted to making final plans for the 1968 Field Day, scheduled for the weekend of June 22 - 23.

Date of the meeting is Monday, June 10, at Lincoln School, starting at 7:30 p.m., sharp.

Although some of the preliminary planning already is underway, this meeting will bring everyone up-to-date and the finishing touches can be put on our plans so the whole thing will come off smoothly, says Field Day Manager Arden Johnson. Such advance planning, especially this year, is most essential in view of the changes in operations that have been made.

In fact, some of the changes are major, not the least of which is that no construction on the site can be started until the "opening gun is fired." This is set for 1500 EDT, Saturday, June 22. This timing, however, can have one advantage. If we act promptly and mesh our operations properly we can have three additional hours in which to rack up points.

The plan is to get some stations on the air quickly, and then go on with construction so that all stations are functioning at 1700 EDT. And, of course, keep going strongly until closing time on Sunday, at 1300 EDT.

All of this will take some coordination and the Club will need the help of everyone who can make it. These are the main points we need to discuss at our meeting on June 10.

There are some other changes in the rules that will be discussed including power multipliers, and also the rule that will not allow any amateur operating during Field Day under the Club call to go home and "check in" to make points. However, those amateurs who, for one reason or another, cannot get out to the Club site can work from home using his own call sign to make as many contacts on as many bands as possible.

It looks like Field Day will be a little different this year and it may well be for the best.

So don't miss this important meeting to find out what is being planned, to find out what you need to bring with you, and to have a good time.

The date: Monday, June 10, Lincoln School cafeteria, at 7:30 p.m.

BOB LATTER DOES IT AGAIN!

It is not likely that you could have missed it, but the June issue of QST featured Bob Latter, W2YFM, and his Automatic Band Scanner / Transmitter Monitor. You will recall that Bob gave us a preview of this device at a recent meeting, and now everyone knows what we knew first. For the QST article he has included some improvements. Congratulations on another fine job, Bob!

ANTENNA DESIGNERS HAVE A WINNER

Andy, WB2WGM, and Arden, WB2GPG, are sporting new log periodic antennas for their transmitters. Their own private design seems to be working well, and Andy says it makes MARS RTTY operation much improved. Arden reports the SWR is less than 2:1 across the band with a gain of closeto 12 db.

NEW NOVICE LICENCES LISTED

In the last issue of Sparkgaps we noted the completion of examinations for Novice licenses, some of whom took advantage of the Club's license program. Here are some of the new call signs you may have been hearing on the air lately:

Dave Latter, WN2FVE; Dav Lax, WN2GAG; Bill Millar, WN2GCW; Steve Clark, WN2FRS, and John Clark, WN2FRU (the latter two are father and son). In addition, Don and Terry Joslyn are awaiting word from the FCC. The first four listed above are members of NPARC, and the others are invited to join so they can add to their experience and skill by becoming acquainted with other hams in the community!

WORD TO THE WISE DEPARTMENT

It has long been recommended that antenna systems, including hoisting ropes, be inspected from time to time, and at least yearly. Al, K2SKV, now adds his voice to this admonition apparently for a good reason.

He has been about to undertake this inspection, putting it off from day to day awaiting better weather. Well, the weather didn't get any better and neither did the rope. In fact, the rope just didn't wait at all. So if anyone can use a piece of frayed and broken rope, talk to Al... he can fix you up handily.

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Don't forget the June Meeting ... Monday the 10th ... 7:30 p.m.