

Mountain Spark Gaps

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

June, 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 JUNE

June 22: NPARC Meeting: Surprise! (There will also be some last minute Field Day discussion).

June 27/28: Annual Field Day!

July 13: NPARC Business Meeting

 * 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

June:

- 22: NPARC Meeting
- 27\ Field
- 28/ Day

July:

- 3: Independence Day
- 5: Hamfest: Murgas ARC (Wilkes-Barre, PA)
- 11: VEC Testing at Union County College
- 13: NPARC Business Meeting
- 19: Hamfest: Sussex ARC (Sussex Cty Frngds.)
- 25: NPARC Annual Picnic @ K29KV's

The Mountain Spark Gaps

Editor Tom Brown, KA2UGQ
Distribution John Sheetz, K2AGI

RTTY PICTURE OF THE MONTH



HOW MUCH POWER ARE YOU RUNNING?

10 watts, you say? Well, you could also be a little more creative next time someone asks you how much power you are running and say:

- 34 BTU/hour
- 8600 calories per gram per hour
- 1 billion ergs per second
- 442.5 foot-pounds per minute
- 0.01341 horsepower

They are all equivalent to 10 watts. So how much power did you say you were running?

--From KA2UGQ

FREE AT&T WORLD TIME CONVERSION WHEEL

Every now and then on the Westlink Report aired each sunday night at 7:30 PM on 145.75 and 147.03 MHz there is something which can benefit members of the Amateur Radio community. Well, quite a few weeks ago there was an offer of a free time conversion wheel that the AT&T International Callers Club has produced. If you would like a free time wheel, call AT&T toll free at 1-800-443-5550.

--From Westlink

HAMFEST WATCH

July 5 (Sunday): The 8th annual Wilkes-Barre, PA Hamfest and Computerfest at the ICE-A-RAMA in the Coal Street Sports Complex, Coal Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA, 8:00 AM. (Setup at 6 AM). Admission \$3, outdoor tailgating \$2 (bring own table) or indoor spots w/table \$8. Talk-in on 146.61 (-600) and 146.52 (simplex). More info: K3SAE at (717) 388-6863.

July 19 (Sunday): The Sussex County ARC Hamfest at the Sussex County Fair Grounds, Plains Road off route 206, Augusta, NJ, 8:00 AM. Admission \$3, tailgating \$5, indoor w/table \$7. Talk-in on 147.30 (+600), 146.52 (simplex) and 224.50 (222.9 input). More info: Don Stickle, K20X at 663-0677.

NPARC CLASSIFIEDS

For sale by Bill Wadsworth, W2ZKE (725-6543):

Tempo S1 2-meter handheld rig with leather case, microphone, antenna, battery. Use it to join in on the club nets!

For sale by Bob Mendelsohn, W20KO (464-5244):

- Audek model 600 - 13" CGA monitor for IBM, Apple, others.
- Magnavox 12" monitor

Computer monitors are in excellent condition and still under warranty.

[If you sent in an ad to be put in the Mountain Spark Gaps and it has not appeared yet, please contact me. Sorry for the inconvenience due to my poor organization these past months! -Tom Brown, KA2UGQ]

If YOU would like to place a FREE ad in the Mountain Spark Gaps, contact Tom Brown, KA2UGQ on packet (KA2UGQ @ WA2SNA-1), on UNIX (..!ihnp4!mtune!ky2d-2!ka2ugq), on the phone (464-7958), or any any NPARC meeting.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE A SUCCESS!

The New Providence Memorial Day parade turned out to be a success this year, with about 40 units participating in the parade. As in previous years, the New Providence Amateur

Radio Club marched, this time with 11 patriotic members representing our club. Our unit consisted of our club sign decorated with flags and carried by two people up front, followed by a red Toyota pickup truck. Radio communications was maintained throughout the entire parade route. The truck was decorated with flags front and rear, along with signs containing Amateur Radio-related statements. In the bed of the truck was a cassette player with a pair of loudspeakers. The cassette tape contained a continuously playing promotion about Amateur Radio. Our unit seemed to be a success, judging by the applause and cheers that were received along the parade route (especially from our own family members!). After the parade, the Senior Citizens provided hot dogs, drinks, and dessert to all who visited their center off Livingston Avenue.

Looking ahead, possibly we could improve on this year's unit in a few areas such as adding some recorded material to the cassette tape and incorporating some Amateur Radio display or equipment in the bed of the pickup truck. Any ideas for next year's parade are welcome. Next year we will start preparing in advance. Thanks to the following parade participants for making this event a success:

Tony KB2BBP, John KB2CBC, Pres N2CXE,
Floyd KA2DDG, Bob W2EME, Pete N2EXG,
Rick WB2QQQ, Tom KA2UGQ, Carl N2XJ,
Harry W2YEZ, and Bob W2YFM.

--From WB2QQQ, NPARC President

ANNUAL NPARC TRANSMITTER HUNT: THE HUNTERS AND THE HUNTED

The annual NPARC transmitter hunt was held on Sunday, June 7 starting at 1:00 PM from the Bell Laboratories west parking lot. Five cars set out to find the rabbit, otherwise known as Al Perkins K2QKV and Bob Willis K2GLS. Al and Bob were transmitting morse code while the five cars frantically searched everywhere for them. As some of the cars were riding around in a small housing development about 500 feet from the transmitter, Al and Bob decided to use a different strategy - they killed the morse code and played highly-muffled German language tapes to drive the hunters away.

But Al and Bob were not in that small development where the signals were so strong that they were full-scale even with no antenna

connected! "Ah ha! They must be in the rest area on route 287 about 500 feet away from us! Hmm...but how do we get there from here?" Well, to get there from here involved a long drive of quite a few miles to find an entrance to route 287. If you have an Exxon map, look about an inch directly below Morristown and find a little blue dot to the right of route 287. That blue dot is the rest area where Al and Bob were playing the German tapes from.

The statistics:

First: Bob Brown, W2EME and
Tom Brown, KA2UGQ - Navigator
Mary Margaret Brown - Driver

Second: Rick Anderson, WB2QOQ - Driver/Nav.

Third: John Sheetz, K2AGI - Driver
Bob Barns - Navigator

Left Bill King, W2LTJ and
early: Harry Kundrat, W2YEZ

Lost: Floyd Harvey KA2DDG and
Bob Latter, W2YFM

Broken: Bill Wadsworth, W2ZKE

There may be another hunt held in the fall.
Read the Spark Gaps to keep posted!

For those of you who can't wait, try hunting transmitters with satellites - read the article in March 1987 QST, page 88.

--From KA2UGQ

ANNUAL NPARC PICNIC SCHEDULED

The third annual NPARC pool party/picnic at Al Hirsch's house in Warren (a map will be provided in the next Spark Gaps) has been scheduled for Saturday, July 25 (raindate July 26) at 1 PM. All members and their families are invited.

Members should bring their own main course (hamburgers, hot dogs, etc.) and can cook using the outdoor grille. In addition to the main course, please let Al know about any additional item you would like to bring (salad, dessert, ice, soda, chips, and the like). To make this a club activity, everyone is requested to bring something within their specialty.

The picnic will start at 1 PM at Al's house in Warren (see map below). The POOL WILL BE OPEN so BRING YOUR BATHING SUITS, towels, and sun-tan lotion.

If you would like to attend the pool party/picnic, please contact Al Hirsch, K2SKV at 469-6374.

--From K2SKV

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 VE 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 held on July 11.

CLUB OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

President Rick Anderson, WB2QOQ
Vice President Mike Shepnew, KA2UGR
Secretary Paul Meinschein, WB2JVG
Treasurer John Sheetz, K2AGI
Activities Manager (Position Open)

Education Bob Latter, W2YFM
Field Day Bay Rowan, W2GKF
Legal Al Hirsch, K2SKV
Property Bob Latter, W2YFM
Publicity Harry Kundrat, W2YEZ
Refreshments Ernie Kolb, N2EFR
Regulations Bob Latter, W2YFM
Roster John Sheetz, K2AGI
V. E. Coordinator Carl Felt, N2XJ

"Mountain Spark Gaps" newsletter:
Editor Tom Brown, KA2UGQ
Distribution John Sheetz, K2AGI

Club chartered: January 11, 1965
Incorporated: May 1969

An ARRL Affiliated Club, #0213