

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS



Volume 27

JUNE 1992

No. 6

Happiness is a Field Day Meal

Field Day, which is nigh upon us, is noted for two things: rain and good food.

The first field day of the NPARC, back in 1965, was held, informally, at the foot of the observation tower in the Watchung reservation. The tower was, and is, just east of the picnic ground off of the Route 22 side of the traffic circle in the park.

We had card tables - cluttered with gear which was run from a two cyliner opposed generator and a 12 volt battery which ran Bob Latter's, (SK) W2YFM, "Field Day Special" about which an article won Bob a QST Cover Award. We covered the gear with big sheets of plastic when it rained. The event was organized by Roland Kunkel, W4URS/2.

What made it all worth while was the food; the beginning of a tradition for NPARC. That year we all brought something and shared. One of the members

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**New Providence
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

P.O. Box 813

New Providence

NJ 07974-0813

ARRL Affiliated Club 0213

All Out for Field Day Preparation!

Our June meetings are all aimed at getting ready. On Monday, June 8th we will go over arrangements for Field Day. It is important that everyone participating in our Field Day activity this year attend both June meetings.

You've got an extra week to get ready for Field Day! In the last issue of the Spark Gaps your editor jumped the gun on the date for Field Day weekend. Field Day is really the LAST rainy weekend in June, which this year will be on June 27th and 28th. Please correct your calendar if you happened to read last month's Spark Gaps. (Probably little likelihood of anyone having gotten it wrong!)

Our second June meeting (on Monday June 22nd) will be almost a week before Field Day so we will be covering all of the last minute details for a smooth operation. This year Jim, KB2FCV, is planning to provide each station with a computer and the necessary logging software that will permit us to rapidly find duplicate calls and also do our logging. If you are going to be participating in Field Day please be sure to attend our June meetings where instruction will be given in the use and operation of the record keeping computers.

June VHF Contest

The ARRL sponsored June VHF QSO Party will take place the weekend of June 13. The object of this contest is to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degree by 1 degree grid squares as possible, on the VHF/UHF bands above 50 MHz. Most of the activity will take place on 6 meters and 2 meters, but there will be contacts made on 1296 MHz and above. The modes of operation will be SSB, CW, and FM. The contest starts at 1400 local time Saturday, and continues until

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Annual Picnic Coming Up

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday August 15th** for our annual NPARC summer picnic.

As in recent years this will be held at Al, K2SKV, and Martha's, KA2PNF, house. details will be covered in the July-August issue of the *Spark Gaps*.

We just want you to know far enough ahead that you don't make other plans for that date. The rain date will be the following day so you can mark Sunday August 16th for that.

11:30

3 pm

Meeting Schedule

Our club meetings are normally held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 8:00 PM, in the basement meeting room of the New Providence Memorial Library, Elkwood Avenue. This is one block north of Springfield Avenue and one block east of Passaic St. Anyone is welcome. Note: If our normal meeting night is a holiday we usually meet the next night.

On the Air Club Activities:

Club Operating Frequency
145.75 MHz simplex phone
FM Phone Net
Sunday Evening 9:00 PM
On the Whippany repeater
Listen on 147.03 MHz,
Transmit on 147.63
Net Control: Bob, KB2IKC

RTTY Net
Sunday Evening 8:00 PM
60 WPM Baudot, 145.75 MHz
Net Control: John, K2AGI

Packet BBS 145.01 MHz
KA2UGQ-4 (Berkeley Hts.)
SYSOP Tom, KA2UGQ

Club Officers for 1992

President:
.....Barry Cohen K2JV
(908) 464-1730
Vice President:
.....Walt Creuz W2CIY
(201) 635-7920
Secretary:
.....Bob Barns KB2IKC
(908) 464-6785
Treasurer:
.....John Sheetz K2AGI
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.....Guy Brenert K2EFB
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MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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Climatological Data for New Providence for May 1992

The following information is provided by WB2QOQ, who has been recording daily weather events at his station for the past 10 years.

Maximum temperature for May, 93°F (May 22nd)

Minimum temperature for May, 37°F (May 6th)

Average temperature for the month, 60.2°F; which is 1.5 deg. below the average temperature of 61.7° for May for the past 10 years.

Heating degree days for May, 172 Heating degree days for April, 460 Heating degree days last May, 82

Total liquid precipitation this May 2.18" Precip. last May(1991) 3.16"

June VHF continued

2300 local time Sunday. Anyone can participate in the contest. There are the multi-operator stations who will be operating many different bands at the same time, from hilltops around the country. There will be stations operating from their home stations. There will be QRP stations. And there will also be stations who will get on the air for a short time, to see how far they can work, or just give out points to the stations who are actively

participating in the contest. On the 2 meter band, most of the activity will take place on the lower end, 144.1 - 144.25 MHz. using CW, and SSB; but there will also be some FM activity on the simplex frequencies, 145.75, 146.55, 146.58 MHz. The contest rules can be found in May QST page 126. If anyone would like more information or a copy of a grid square map showing all the grids, contact Rick, WB2QOQ, (908)464-8911, or on 145.75 MHz. 73 from FN20

Swap and Shop

FOR SALE: MFJ-931 Artificial Ground \$60. With docs.
Call John Sheetz 908-464-5671.

FOR SALE: Many types of multiband SW receivers such as Echophone, National, Hallicrafters, Lafayette, etc. All tube type working units. Call Harry Kundrat 908-665-1873.

FOR SALE: Clamshell type cartop carrier \$25 or best offer.
Call Bay Rowan, 908-464-5090.

Hamfests

Bergen ARA - Hudson Division Convention

Saturday June 6th, Teaneck, NJ. 7 AM to 4 PM. Fairleigh Dickinson Univ. 1000 River Rd., Rte 4 at the University exit. Admission \$5. Tables \$30. Talk-in on 146.19/.79, 146.10/.70. Contact Jim Joyce, K2ZO, 201-664-6725; no calls after 10 PM.

Raritan Valley RC (A lot of NPARC members will be selling!)

Saturday June 13th, Watchung Hills High School, Warren, NJ. 8 AM to 2 PM. Admission \$5, Sellers Indoor Tables \$12, Outdoor Spaces \$7. Indoor table registration must be pre-paid and received by June 1, 1992. Make check payable to R.V.R.C. and mail to Guy, KE2CG, 240 Grant Ave., Piscataway, NJ 08854.

NPARC Partipates in Memorial Day Parade

Our club was one of the many local organizations participating in the annual New Providence Memorial Day Parade this year. We were in position #23; a slight improvement from our position #25 last year. The parade started at the corner of Springfield and Central aves., and continued down Springfield, stopping at the Methodist and Presbyterian churches for short presentations, before passing through the center of town and finishing up by the library. We had only nine club members participating in the event this year. We had hoped to have a larger representation from our membership, especially since our ranks have been growing. With a membership of approximately 100, we should have had a better turn out at this event. Those that were present did an excellent job of representing the NPARC. Our entry in the parade, consisted of our club sign carried by Jim and Harry. Behind them were our members on foot, with flags and handie-talkies, followed by the little red Toyota pick-up truck, washed, waxed, and shined just for the occasion, driven by Rick. As last year, the truck had flags, and signs, along with the large scale version of the club logo. Everyone was wearing our new official club cap, and club logo patch. The group was cheered at a number of locations along the route, and it was great to have Floyd, KA2DDG and his wife, as well as Dave, KE2TE, and his family, cheering us on, as we passed.

Along with the club members in the parade, we also had Tony KB2BBP and Bob KB2IKC providing communications be-

tween the two churches along the parade route, where the procession stopped for Memorial Day observances. The group used the club frequency, 145.75 Mhz for communication during the parade. The parade lasted just about an hour; just long enough to work up an appetite. After the parade a number of people went over to the Senior Citizens Center for some free hotdogs and other goodies. This turned out to be another successful club activity, thanks to the following members: Press N2CXE, Bob W2EME, Jim KB2FCV, Carl N2XJ, Harry W2YEZ, Bob KB2IKC, Cameron, KB2IRS, Tony KB2BBP, and Rick WB2QOQ.

A Dayton Side Light

by Bay Rowan, W2GKF

Beyond the wonders of an enormous flea market, truly exciting parts displays, and great traveling companions, there was one, or rather three, contemporary incidents which should be historicized. Upon departure from Dayton, Carl Felt "enjoyed" a full body scan, with hand wand, administered by Candy of the airport security police. This was shortly followed by Carole's exuberant meeting with Carl in the waiting lounge. Upon boarding, Carl greeted flight attendant Michelle, apparently another close friend. Seated adjacent to each other, Carole and Carl sustained animated conversation throughout the flight home. W2YEZ and I kept copious notes for the furtherance of our social education.

Editor's Note: Don't miss the terrific article on page 80 of the June issue of 73 Magazine with a great picture of Carole and Carl. She did a fantastic job on the biography of Carl's entire life!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Tom Couper KA2PUN 8th

FOUR PAIRS in a row!

Dick Brodeur N1ETC 10th
Ron Henderson WA2FWH 10th

Jim Brown WB2EDO 11th
Hal Miller KB2FN 11th

Mike McGovern KC2KE 13th
Bay Rowan W2GKF 13th

John Colvin N2FZG 17th
Russ Reed WB2HXR 17th

Kevin Wang KB2HAL 19th
Rick Stealey KT2Q 22nd
Ernie Kolb N2EFR 28th

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Al Hirsch K2SKV 3rd

Welcome New Member

Jim Josenhans, WB2LEH, of Berkeley Heights joined our club on May 6th. Jim is retired from Bell Labs Murray Hill and has held an Advanced Class license since 1950. He is preparing to really get radioactive with the Kenwood TS-930 and the Butter-nut vetical which was recently advertised here in the Spark Gaps. As of the moment he is not able to join us on 145.75 but he says maybe later.