

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

**NPARC—The Radio Club for the
Watchung Mountain Area**



**Website: <http://www.nparc.org>
Club Calls: N2XJ, W2FMI**

VOLUME 47 NO. 03 March 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Meetings

Mon. Apr. 9, 2012 7:30 PM

Municipal Center

Mon. Apr. 23, 2012 7.30 PM

Salt Brook School

FM Simplex Sprint Contest

Sunday, Apr. 22, 2012

See page 3

New Providence Memorial Day

Parade May 29—See Page 4

2012 ARRL Field Day

June 23—24

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.
When Schools are closed,
Meetings are held in the Recreation
Department Meeting Room in Borough Hall

Club Officers for 2012

President: N2KDK Paul Campano
908-508-9595
Vice Pres.: K2MUN David Berkley
908-500-9740
Secretary: K2JV Barry Cohen
908-464-1730
Treasurer: K2YG Dave Barr
908-277-4283
Activities: K2JV Acting

On the Air Activities

Club Operating Frequency
145.750 MHz FM Simplex

Sunday Night Phone Net

Murray Hill Repeater (W2LI) at 9:00 PM
Transmit on 147.855 MHz
With PL tone of 141.3 Hz
Receive on 147.255 MHz
Net Control K2AL

Club Internet Address

Website: <http://www.nparc.org>
Webmaster K2MUN David Berkley
Reflector: nparc@mailman.qth.net
Contact K2UI, Jim

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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WB2QOQ Rick Anderson
WB2EDO Jim Brown

Climatological Data for New Providence for
February 2012

The following information is provided by
Rick, WB2QOQ, who has been recording
daily weather events at his station for the
past 29 years.

TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temperature this February, 61 deg. F
(February 1)
Last February (2011) maximum was 63 deg. F.
Average Maximum temperature this February,
46.7 deg. F
Minimum temperature for this February, 17
deg. F (February 12)
Last February (2011) minimum was 9 deg. F.
Average Minimum temperature this February,
29.2 deg. F
Minimum diurnal temperature range, 8 deg.
(39 - 31 deg.) 2/5; (38 - 30) 2/11.
Maximum diurnal temperature range, 31 deg.
(57 - 26 deg.) 2/27.
Average temperature this February, 38.0 deg.
F
Average temperature last February, 32.5 deg.
F
Number of days this February with daily
maximum temperatures of
50 deg. or higher - 8; last February - 5.
Number of days this February with daily
minimum temperatures of
32 deg. or higher - 8; last February - 5.

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this February - 1.62"
rain/melted snow; 1.25" snow.
Total precipitation last February - 2.64"
rain/melted snow; 3.5" snow.
Maximum one day precip. event this February;
February 14; 0.71" rain.
Measurable rain fell on 8 days this Febru-
ary, 5 days last February.
Measurable snow fell on 2 day this February,
2 days last February.

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Rick Anderson 3/6/12
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 FM Simplex Sprint Contest

An Easy Contest for Beginners and Experienced Hams

Sunday, April 22nd, 2012

The purpose of this contest is to encourage amateurs to learn the basics of contesting and simplex operations and expand the scope of their VHF-UHF operating techniques beyond that needed for repeater operation.

This event is a sprint, lasting 3 hours, from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm EST.
Contacts are limited to FM simplex on the following amateur bands:

2 meters: 2 – 3 PM

70 centimeters: 3 – 3:30 PM

6 meters: 3:30 – 4:30 PM

1.25 meters: 4:30 – 5:00 PM □

There will be separate categories for Kids and Adults, and for Base Stations, HTs, and Mobile Stations. Certificates for all entrants!

For Contest Rules, including recommended frequencies, the contest exchange, scoring and submission of logs:

Check our website at <http://www.nparc.org>

Or: Barry K2JV on 908-464-1730 or e-mail to: k2jv@arrl.net

This contest is for everyone!! Get ready now on all bands possible. Help with rigs and antennae is available from NPARC Members.

New Providence Memorial Day Parade

NPARC members are invited to participate in this years Memorial Day Parade, taking place on Monday, May 28. Our club has annually participated in this town event, for as long as I can recall; and a decent attendance in this club activity is requested. Last year there were only 6 members taking part in our parade unit; which was a shame. This is the one public event where hundreds of town's people get to see the club members, and a good attendance is most welcomed. As in prior years youth club members are more than welcome to join us, whether you're licensed or not.

Our unit will walk the parade route, down Springfield Ave., between Central Ave. and Academy St. Please consider taking part in this community event. Additional details to follow.

Please contact Rick, WB2QOQ, if you have questions.

rick243@comcast.net; (908) 464-8911.



2010 Marchers.

As you can see we have done better in the past!

NPARC Annual auction 2012



Setup The Hardest Part



The Registration Table



Food Table and crew



Cashiers



Registration Table Help-ers



Budding Auctioneer



Auctioneers and Buyers



Taking a break before the action starts

SCIENTIFIC TIDBITS

Although this subject is not strictly in the realm of amateur radio, it does qualify as a scientific subject and I feel will be of interest to our readers. The science of developing stem cells for therapeutic purposes is in its infancy, but the promise this area holds for curing a myriad of medical problems is unlimited. Two recent examples testify to this potential.

Embryonic stem cells injected into the eyes of two legally blind patients appear to have restored some of their sight. This is the first direct evidence to date of such therapy helping patients with eyesight problems. This largely unexpected success is a major milestone that will offer tremendous encouragement to scientists working in the stem cell field. Embryonic stem cells can morph into any type of cell in the body, so in theory they could be used to treat a host of serious ailments, from Alzheimer's to paralysis, by replacing cells damaged by injury or disease. But scientists have not yet determined whether injecting stem cells into people would stimulate tumors or cause other health problems. This study was an attempt to answer that question. Stem cells were transformed into retinal cells and implanted into the eyes of two women suffering from macular degeneration, which is, up to this point, an untreatable cause of blindness. The new retinal cells caused no harmful effects, and they improved the women's vision. You can imagine the joy these women experienced.

At the University of Georgia researchers are developing a material they hope will speed bone healing. The team used adult stem cells to create a protein that aid healing and put it into a gel. In tests on rats and sheep, this "fracture putty" significantly sped healing. More tests are necessary but the evidence so far is very encouraging.

These are only two examples of the huge number of possibilities that exist with stem cell therapy. The progress that has already been made with spinal cord injuries gives hope to literally millions of people worldwide. We hope that the well-publicized moral issues involved with the harvesting of stem cells can be compromised and not impede the progress in this vital area.