

# MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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



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

VOLUME 47 NO. 05 May 2012

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Regular Meetings

**Tue. 5/29 7:30 PM & Mon. 6/11  
Salt Brook School**

**New Providence Memorial Day  
Parade May 28—See Page 3**

**KID'S DAY  
Saturday June 16  
Berkley Heights Rec. Center**

**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](mailto:nparc@mailman.qth.net)  
Contact K2UI, Jim

## MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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Editor: K2EZR Frank McAneny  
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WB2QOO Rick Anderson  
WB2EDO Jim Brown

## Climatological Data for New Providence for April 2012

The following information is provided by Rick, WB2QOO, who has been recording daily weather events at his station for the past 29 years.

### TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temperature this April, 91 deg. F  
(April 16)  
Last April (2011) maximum was 84 deg. F.  
Average Maximum temperature this April, 65.4 deg. F  
Minimum temperature for this April, 30 deg. F  
(April 6)  
Last April (2011) minimum was 32 deg. F.  
Average Minimum temperature this April, 41.6 deg. F  
Minimum diurnal temperature range, 10 deg.  
(54 - 44 deg.) 4/22  
Maximum diurnal temperature range, 34 deg.  
(74 - 40 deg.) 4/14; (91 - 57 deg.) 4/16

Average temperature this April, 53.5 deg. F  
Average temperature last April, 53.3 deg. F

Number of days this April with daily maximum temperatures of  
60 deg. or higher - 22; last April - 16.  
Number of days this April with daily minimum temperatures of  
40 deg. or higher - 14; last April - 20.

### PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this April - 2.44" rain.  
Total precipitation last April - 6.57" rain.

Maximum one day precip. event this April;  
April 22; 1.57" rain.  
Measurable rain fell on 6 days this April,  
18 days last April.

=====  
Rick Anderson  
5/9/12

243 Mountain Ave.  
New Providence, NJ  
(908) 464-8911

[rick243@comcast.net](mailto: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

## New Providence Memorial Day Parade

NPARC members are invited to participate in this years Memorial Day Parade, taking place on Monday, May 28. Last year there were only 6 members taking part in our parade unit; which was a poor showing. 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. I have been contacted by the parade committee and I will be submitting the entry form for our club unit shortly. Our unit will walk the parade route, down Springfield Ave., between Central Ave. and Academy St. Please consider taking part in this community event. Contact me to be placed on the club parade participation list or with questions. As an incentive, free hot dogs, drinks, dessert, after parade; at NP Senior Center for all participants ! Please contact Rick, WB2QOQ.  
rick243@comcast.net; (908) 464-8911.

So far nine people have signed on. If we have double that the club will really look great. Don't forget that a lot of folks are watching. K2EZR



**2010 Marchers.**

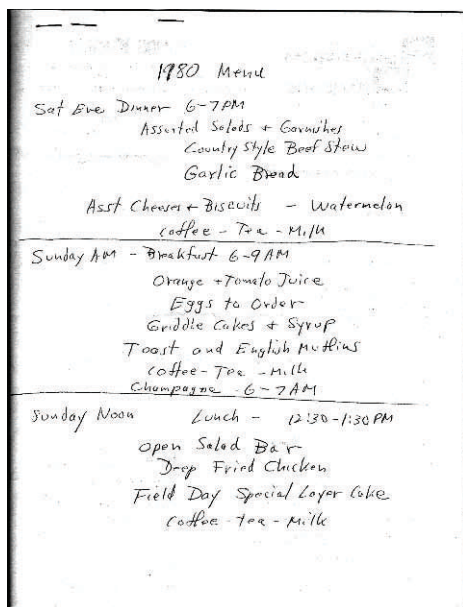
**As you can see we have done better in the past!**

# Odds and Ends



Bharat, M00KB, sent this picture of the sun along. If you look carefully, sun spots can be observed (the little dark spots). The photo was taken with a cell phone camera on 5/20 in Denville, NJ using a friend's telescope.

Thanks Bharat



Food menu from NPARC Field Day 1980.

Sorry I missed it.

# SCIENTIFIC TIDBITS

## TOUCHABLE 3D TV:

Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) have announced development of a combined haptic interface using sensory illusion and 3D television, i.e., a system in which the user experiences the feeling of touch and resistance in a 3D virtual reality. In layman's terms, 3D feelyvision has arrived.

The "I 3 Space" technology was presented at CEDEC (a conference for game developers) who are likely to be among the first to put it to commercial use. Basically, what you have is the usual 3D video system with a major twist: the system not only projects images, it creates the feeling of touch and resistance in the air by providing continuous vibration patterns that your nerves mistake for actual tactile and kinesthetic sensations. It even lets you stretch, bend, and otherwise deform the images.

Beyond implementation in gaming, the technology holds great promise for things like 3D CAD, surgical simulation for medical training, and sensory experiences that heretofore would be too embarrassing to describe herein. But it doesn't take much imagination to guess where that leads us. If this technology can easily be commercialized, it should start showing up on the consumer shelves relatively soon. Man's imagination is an awesome thing.

## A WIN FOR RELATIVITY

Using what the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) rates as the world's most precise clock (accurate to within 1 second in 3.7 billion years), scientists have again demonstrated that Einstein's "twin paradox" is correct. In one experiment, they set up; two of the clocks with one about a foot higher in elevation than the other. Because the height difference made the upper clock slightly less subject to gravitational forces, it ran faster. One conclusion that we can draw from this is that your head is genuinely older than your feet, so at least when you can't think anymore, maybe you can still dance. The difference won't be especially pronounced, though, as your head will be only about 90 billionths of a second older even as you approach age 80. This may seem of little practical interest but, in fact, such comparisons of super-precise clocks eventually may be useful in geodesy, the science of measuring the Earth and its gravitational field, with applications in geophysics and hydrology, and possibly in space-based tests of fundamental physics theories.

Jim WB2EDO