

# **MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS**

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



**Website: <http://www.nparc.org>  
Club Calls: N2XJ, W2FMI  
Facebook: New Providence Amateur Radio Club  
(NPARC)**

**VOLUME 54 No. 11 November 2021**

## **Regular Meetings**

**Second & Fourth Mondays  
“ZOOM” until we can all  
get together again**

## **Upcoming Events**

**Digital Net Mondays at 9:00 PM  
PSK on 80 or 10 meters  
CW training Net, Thursday at 9:00 PM  
Watch for Email announcements.**

## Meeting Schedule

**Regular Meeting: 7:30—9:00 PM  
2nd & 4th Monday  
of each month**

ZOOM until further notice

### Everyone is Welcome

If a normal meeting night is a holiday,  
we usually meet the following night.  
Call one of the contacts below  
or check the web site

## Club Officers for 2021

President: W2PTP Paul Wolfmeyer  
201-406-6914  
Vice President: K2GLS Bob Willis  
973-543-2454  
Secretary: K2AL: Al Hanzl  
908-872-5021  
Treasurer: K2YG Dave Barr  
908-277-4283  
Activities: KC2OSR: Sam Sealy  
973-462-2014

## —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

### Digital Net

Mondays 9 PM  
28,084 — 28,086  
Will be using PSK and RTTY  
Net control K2YG

## Club Internet Address

Website: <http://www.nparc.org>  
Webmaster KC2WUF David Bean  
Reflector: [nparc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:nparc@mailman.qth.net)  
Contact K2JV, Barry

## MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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WB2OOQ Rick Anderson  
W2PTP Paul Wolfmeyer  
K2UI Jim Stekas

## Climatological Data for New Providence for October 2021

The following information is provided by  
Rick, WB2OOQ, who has been recording daily  
weather events at his station for the past  
40 years.

### TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temperature this October, 77 deg. F  
(October 16)

Last October (2020) maximum was 71 deg.  
F.

Average Maximum temperature this October,  
66.0 deg. F

Minimum temperature this October, 42 deg. F  
(October 19)

Last October (2020) minimum was 30 deg. F.

Average Minimum temperature this October,  
53.5 deg. F

Minimum diurnal temperature range, 4 deg.  
(63 - 59 deg.) 10/10

Maximum diurnal temperature range, 22 deg.  
(77 - 55 deg.) 10/16

Average temperature this October, 59.8 deg.  
F

Average temperature last October, 55.5 deg. F

### PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this October- 7.25"  
rain.

Total precipitation last October- 5.20"  
rain.

Maximum one day precip. event this October-

October 26, 4.20" rain.

Measurable rain fell on 11 days this Octo-  
ber, 14 days last October.

YTD Precipitation - 52.97"

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Rick Anderson

11/22/2021

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-

## President's Column November 2021

We had two business meeting in November and the Executive Committee met as well (more on that later). We were not ready to do elections at the meeting on November 8, so we called and held a special business meeting on November 22—this meeting constituted our NPARC annual meeting. Thanks to Tim Farrell KD2EKN and Kevin Glynn N2TO we had a proposed slate for 2022. That slate was elected at the meeting.

Your officers for 2021, with the exception of our Vice President Bob Willis, have agreed to serve in 2022. The new Vice President is W2EMC Brian DeLuca. I welcome him to the Executive Committee.

I want to personally thank Bob K2GLS for his service to NPARC the past five years as Vice President. He has been an excellent Executive Committee member and partner (and sounding board) to me. He has helped plan (and test and manage) for Field Days. He has stepped up with programs, such as Kwajalein. His program on FT8, and subsequent coaching, got me started on FT8! (And his technical expertise has “saved my bacon” several times, including with my pipe organ!) Thanks so much Bob!!

I also want to repeat my plea from last month and encourage members to think about serving in a leadership position at NPARC. The future of your club is at stake.

At our Executive Committee meeting, we initiated two in-person activities:

We decided to try to schedule one meeting a month at Salt Brook School, where we have previously met. (The second meeting would remain on ZOOM for the time being.) We are close to approval of our application.

We decided to request permission to use Salt Brook School for our NPARC auction in February. That was the location of our successful 2020 auction.

Our selected date is February 26—a Saturday afternoon event.

So now it's on our holiday luncheon December 4 at Chimney Rock. We are about at capacity—so many of us are looking forward to it. We plan greater spacing for attendees than in the past, probably minimum three feet. Masking is encouraged, except during the actual meal.

December will have only one NPARC meeting—the date is Monday December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Dues (still only \$20) are due and can be paid via check at the luncheon or mailed to Dave Barr K2YG, 29 Montrose Ave, Summit, NJ 07901.

Don't forget the nets!!

And if you have input, give me a call—

73,

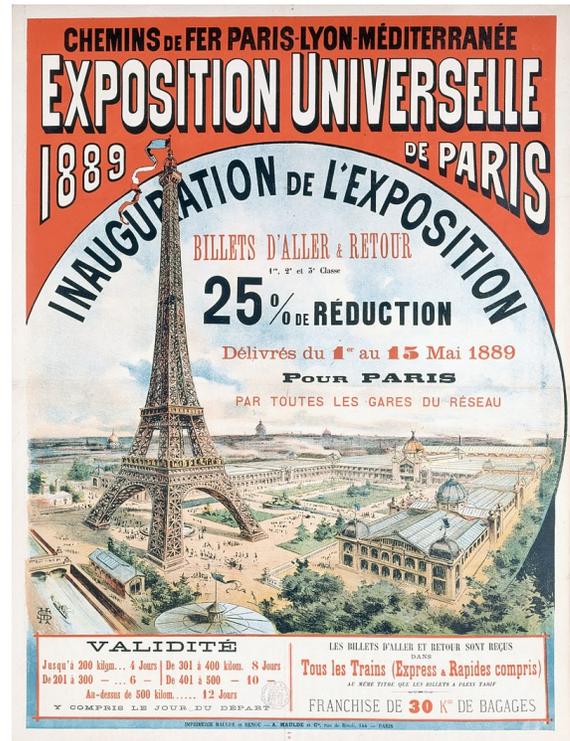
Wolf W2PTP, 201-404-6914, [W2ptp@arrl.net](mailto:W2ptp@arrl.net)

## Eiffel's Radio Tower

Jim Stekas - K2UI

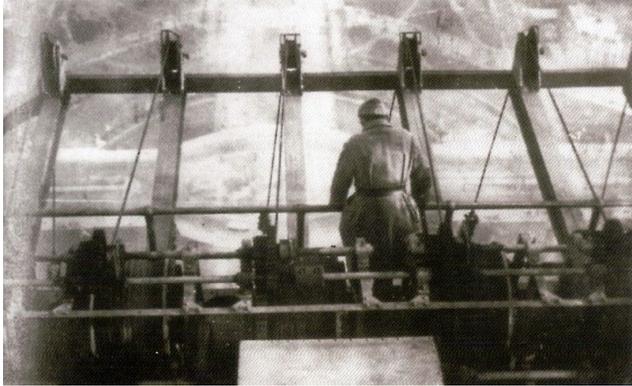
On January 26, 1887, Gustave Eiffel broke ground and began construction of a 300m tower for the upcoming Paris Exhibition of 1889. When completed on March 31, 1889, the structure had consumed some 7,300 tonnes of iron, 2.5 million rivets, and 60 tonnes of reddish-brown paint. Many considered the structure an architectural monstrosity that marred the beauty of Paris. Detractors could take comfort that the tower was only "temporary" and would be removed by its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.

While the Eiffel Tower was being built in Paris, Heinrich Hertz was experimenting with electromagnetic waves using the most rudimentary equipment. He measured standing waves, polarization, and the speed of the wave which was the same as for light. In 1889, Hertz delivered a lecture on his important scientific work in Heidelberg. He saw no practical applications for "Hertzian" waves.

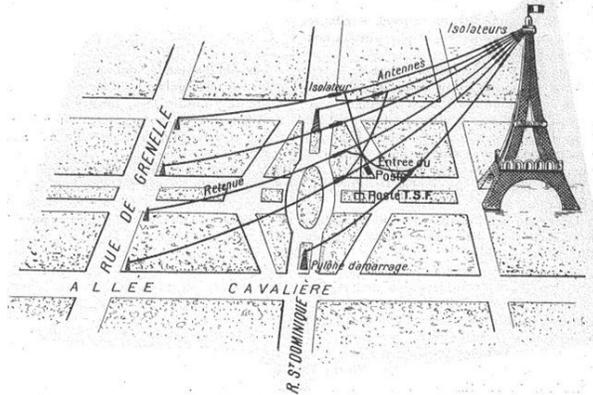


*Ducretet transmits from the Eiffel Tower.*

During the six months the Exposition was open, the Eiffel Tower wowed some 2 million visitors. But a few short years later its future was unclear. As Eiffel wondered what purpose could justify keeping his tower aloft, Guglielmo Marconi was working furiously on his wireless system which he demonstrated in 1894 and patented in 1896. On Nov, 1898, Eiffel funded radio experiments from the tower. M Ducretet was able to transmit wireless telegraphy that was received at the Pantheon some 4km away. Eiffel's 300m iron tower was a perfect complement to a technology that didn't even exist when shovels broke ground.



*Antenna cable attachments.*



*Six cable fan antenna*

Once its benefits for radio communication were realized, the Eiffel Tower's future was secure. In 1903, the tower was given over to military communication and ranges as far as 400km were achieved. By 1913, communication range had increased to 6000km and telegraph traffic was passed with ships at sea and the US. German signals intercepted by the Eiffel Tower station during WWI provided valuable intelligence and contributed directly to victory at the Battle of the Marne.



*WWI Station*

Experimental 60-line animated TV transmissions began in 1931. Images increased to 180-lines in 1935, and regular broadcasts were made a several times per week. The occupying German forces took over the tower during WWII in the face of sabotage. French broadcasts resumed in 1945 and the tower played a big role in the development of TV broadcasting leading up to a live broadcast of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953.

Today the Eiffel Tower supports 45 TV channels and 32 radio stations. The added antennas make it 12m taller today than when it was first built. Thanks to radio, the Eiffel Tower is still going strong over 120 years passed its expiration date.

### References

1. [www.tou Eiffel.paris](http://www.tou Eiffel.paris)
2. [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) – Multiple articles.