

# MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

NOVEMBER 1989

New Providence Amateur Radio Club, Inc., P. O. Box 813, New Providence, NJ 07974-0813  
ARRL Affiliated Club No. 0213

## MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 13th

### REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING WITH ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our last BUSINESS MEETING of the year will include the election of officers for the year 1990.

In case you may not know, or have forgotten, our club was chartered on January 11, 1965 so we will celebrate our 25th anniversary next year. We hope to plan some sort of reunion with as many of our past members as we can gather together. If you happen to run across any former members please get their address and telephone numbers so we can notify them when the time comes.

For a technical presentation at our first November meeting Bob Latter, W2YFM, will show us a recent implementation of his favorite antenna tuner, the Z-MATCH. This is a tuner which does not require an adjustable inductor. The tuning is all done with two capacitors.

Our second meeting of the month, on November 27th, will feature a talk on grounding and lightning protection by Mike McGovern, KC2KE.

This will wrap up our formal meetings for 1989. We will be looking forward to seeing you all in December at our annual Holiday Dinner.

## HOLIDAY DINNER COMING UP PLEASE GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN SOON

Our annual Holiday Dinner is scheduled for Tuesday December 19th. For only a dollar more than last year we have upgraded our menu. We have an entertainment program which should appeal to everyone. Bob Barns, KB2IKC, will present a program of music (no R&R) created by digital synthesizers driven by a computer. The emphasis will be on how to make music even though you can't play an instrument. The program is called "What! You want to buy a PIANO?".

This is our Fun Event of the year. Last year we had 62 people at the banquet. With the way our membership has grown we expect more this year.

A reservation form is included with this issue of the Spark Gaps. Please be sure to fill out the form and return it with your payment so we can make out place cards. This method worked well last year. The place card gives you a way to reserve the seat of your choice and it also tells the servers which menu selection you have.

If you have any questions or problems please call John Sheetz at 464-5671.

**DON'T FORGET  
SEND IN YOUR  
DINNER RESERVATION**

# NOW!

## ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee has selected the following slate of officers for the year 1990:

For President:

Tony Lockhart KB2BBP

For Vice President:

Andy Stillinger WA2DKJ

For Secretary:

Pat Casey N2FXA

For Treasurer:

John Sheetz K2AGI

For Activities Chairman:

Warren Mahland K2BIV

Elections will be held at our regular business meeting on November 13th. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at that time.

## BILL SLICHTER W2FGN IN HOSPITAL

We just received news that Bill W2FGN is in Sloane-Kettering Hospital in New York City after having had surgery. We understand he will probably be there a few weeks and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

## CLUB OFFICERS

President .. Harry Kundrat W2YEZ

V. Pres .... Tony Lockhart KB2BBP

Secretary ..... Pat Casey N2FXA

Treasurer ..... John Sheetz K2AGI

Activities Mgr ..... Jim Stekas NJ2F

**BUD SNYDER KB2GN  
IS A SILENT KEY**

We are saddened to report that our long time club member Bud, KB2GN, passed away on Thursday, October 26th. As many of you know Bud had been fighting lung problems for quite a while. His wife Scotty said that he was alert right up to the last day. Bud joined our club in February of 1978 and was active in a variety of ways. He built a direction finding system for use in our hidden transmitter hunts. He was a regular participant in our Sunday night phone nets. Bud held an Extra Class license and participated in a CW net with some of his MIT classmates on Sunday mornings. Although Bud lived in an urban apartment he managed to put up both HF and VHF antennas and had good signals on both. We will miss him at our club activities and also on the Sunday night phone net. Our sympathy is extended to his wife Scotty and other members of his family.

**KB2IKC'S TECH LICENSE  
FINALLY ARRIVES!**

Bob Barns reports that he is no longer "temporary KT". After several weeks he did receive his Technician Class license. Bob has been active on 145.75 MHz and is participating in the Sunday night phone net. The long delay between Bob's Novice license and Tech license seems to have been caused by the fact that he took both the Novice and Tech exams on the same day. Apparently the two get separated "in the mail" within the FCC. Anyway congratulations to Bob.

**WE HAVE NEW MEMBERS**

Tom Couper KA2PUN joined our club on October 10th. Many of us already knew Tom both from hearing him on the Whippany repeater and from his extemporaneous presentations at club meetings.

Molly Reed N2JJY joined on October 23rd. Molly is the XYL of Russ WB2HXR who joined our club last March. We are always glad to have family participation.

Welcome to both Tom and Molly.

**SCOTT KILLIAN KB2GDN  
IN CALIFORNIA**

Scott Killian has moved to San Luis Obispo, California. His telephone number is (805) 545-8378. So far we have no word as to how Scott rode out the earthquake. Hopefully he will be on the air with some of our members and bring us up to date. Good luck Scott.

**NEW PROVIDENCE  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 1989**

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Balance Forward 1/1/89 ... | 1544.69 |
| Income                     |         |
| Dues Received .....        | 372.00  |
| Interest.....              | 51.20   |
| Auction.....               | 158.05  |
| ARRL Rebates.....          | 12.00   |
| Contributions .....        | 22.00   |
| Patches.....               | 19.50   |
| Miscellaneous.....         | 90.00   |
| Total Income.....          | 724.75  |
| Expense                    |         |
| Postage .....              | 226.83  |
| Food & Refreshments.....   | 155.29  |
| Field Day .....            | 217.24  |
| Contributions .....        | 145.50  |
| Miscellaneous.....         | 87.75   |
| Total Expense.....         | 832.61  |
| Balance 9/30/89 .....      | 1436.83 |

**DUES REMINDER**

We now have about two-thirds of the dues payments for 1990 already in. If you haven't sent yours please locate the form that was sent to you and return it with your dues. Try not to be the last one to pay their dues! Dues were actually due in September. For six bucks a year how can you go wrong? Also we would like to get out a new roster since we have recently had so many new members that the last one is rapidly getting out of date. I hate to drop people from the roster simply because they have forgotten to pay their dues. **DO IT NOW.**

Your treasurer, K2AGI.

**JIM KB2FCV  
SPORTING NEW HF RIG**

Jim Kern brought in and demonstrated his new Kenwood TS-440 transceiver at our October 9th meeting. We had wattmeters and a dummy load to observe the output and everything looked beautiful. We seem to have quite a batch of 440's in the club. Maybe we should start a "440 user's group"!

**TRANSMITTER AND RECEIVER  
FOR SALE**

Bob Paskouskas W2OWS has a Heathkit DX-100 transmitter and a Hammarlund HQ-129X receiver for sale. The transmitter was professionally wired and has had the 10-meter band components improved for full output on that band. He is asking \$50 for the transmitter. The HQ-129X receiver includes a matching speaker and is in good condition. He would like \$75 for the receiver. He is out of the hospital and can be reached at area code (718) 846-2144 which is in Queens, NY. The equipment is in New Providence and he can arrange for anyone who is interested to see it.

## OVERLOOK HUSTLE A BIG SUCCESS

"ON YOUR MARK, GET SET -" and the next thing heard was the ear-piercing blast of the race starter's air horn, signifying the start of the first annual 5 mile Overlook Hustle run. Without delay, 400 plus runners who were lined up the width of the street and many rows deep were on their way.

This race was sponsored by the Overlook Hospital Auxiliary. As you may know, our club was asked to assist by providing communications for the race. It turned out to be an event that kept us on our toes. Helping with the event was Jim, KB2FCV and his dad at the 1 mile location; Harry, W2YEZ at the 2 mile; John, K2AGI at the 3 mile; Andy, WA2DKJ at the 4 mile; and my wife Louise and myself at the start/finish line. Before the race began, our first job was to travel the entire course, which by the way, was held on the scenic rolling back roads of Summit, and verify that all of the 48 course marshals were at their assigned locations. As the race proceeded each of our members stationed at the 1, 2, 3 and 4 mile positions would call in the numbers on the tags affixed to the shirts of the first three male and female runners as they ran by. We also called off the elapsed race time to the runners as they went by. The runners' number info was received by me at the finish line and Louise and I correlated the numbers with the runners' names and gave that information to the PA announcer.

The communications, using two-meter handie-talkies on the club frequency of 145.75 MHz worked out very well. The first

runner crossed the finish line in just over 25 minutes. By the way, the oldest runner to complete the 5 mile run was a gentleman 80 years young. The race committee was pleased with our participation in the event, and we have made note of some possible improvements for next year's race.

Thanks again to all club members who made this event a success. This makes two such running events in which our club is involved, the Overlook Hustle and the New Providence 10 km run held in the spring. Events such as these demonstrate the effectiveness of using Amateur Radio as an instrument in providing reliable communications for local public service events.

Rick WB2QOQ

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### CONVERSION INFO WANTED

Shel Darack WA2UBK has a Heathkit HW-16 transceiver which is normally crystal controlled on transmit for 80, 40 and 15 meters with a vfo tunable receiver. He would like to loan it to a Tech for use on the novice bands but all of his transmit crystals are out of the novice band. He would like to modify the unit to be able to transceive using the existing vfo in the receiver portion for both receive and transmit frequency control. He attempted such a modification several years ago but was unhappy with the results so he returned it to its original state.

If anyone has made this modification or knows where there is information describing such a change please get in touch with Shel.

He can be reached at AT&T Bell Labs, Murray Hill on 582-3736.

### TRAIN TRIP WIPES OUT FOX HUNT

I am sorry to report that the rescheduling of our Fall fox hunt from Sunday to Saturday wiped out participation to the point where we had to cancel the fox hunt. The rescheduling was caused by the fact that I had signed up for the Fall Foliage Excursion to Port Jervis on the train on Sunday. The train trip was great with 550 people aboard six cars. I am convinced that that is the way to travel and avoid the frustrations of the highways. Too bad they are tearing up thousands of miles of rails. It looks like we have to think up some new angle to stimulate participation in the hidden transmitter hunts. If anyone has any suggestions we will be happy to listen.

K2AGI

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### DAYTON RESERVATIONS

Bay Rowan has reserved four rooms for the Dayton Hamvention next april. He has two double rooms left on a first come, first served basis. These are for two nights on the last weekend in April and will cost \$36 per person per night. If you are interested call Bay at 464-5090.

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### GORDON DART PASSES THE TEST!

Gordon Dart has passed the Novice test and is awaiting receipt of his call. He has already purchased a Kenwood TS-440 like we saw Jim Kern KB2FCV demonstrate at our first October meeting.

It looks like we have to start up a "440 users group"!! We will alert you to Gordon's new call as soon as he gets it.

Congratulations Gordon.