

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS



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

Website: <http://www.nparc.org> Club Callsign: N2XJ

VOLUME 45 September 2010 NO. 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Meetings

**Monday Sept. 27
Monday Oct. 11 & 25
7:30 PM
Salt Brook School**

**BARA Hamfest
October 9, 8 AM—2 PM
Washington Twp.
www.bara.org**

**Battle Ship New Jersey Visit
September 25
Contact Paul N2KDK
*pfcamp@ix.netcom.com***

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.

Club Officers for 2010

President: K2UI Jim Stekas
908-665-0299
Vice Pres.: N2KDK Paul Campano
908-508-9595
Secretary: K2JV Barry Cohen
908-464-1730
Treasurer: K2YG Dave Barr
908-277-4283
Activities: W2UDT Bill Hudzik
908-580-0493

On the Air Activities

Club Operating Frequency
145.750 MHz FM Simplex

Sunday Night Phone Net
Murray Hill Repeater (W2LJ) at 9:00 PM
Transmit on 147.855 MHz
With PL tone of 141.3 Hz
Receive on 147.255 MHz
Net Control K2AL

K2AGI Memorial Digital Net
First and Third Mondays at 9 PM (0100Z)
Look around 14.085 KHz for RTTY
Ops using AFSK should look around 14,086-
7. Contact K2YG for details.

Club Internet Address

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

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

Published Monthly by NPARC, Inc.
The Watchung Mountain Area Radio Club
P.O. Box 813
New Providence, NJ 07974
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Editor: K2EZR Frank McAneny
Editor Emeritus: KQ2E Bruce Havourd
Contributing Editors:
WB2QOQ Rick Anderson

Climatological Data for New Providence for
August 2010

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

TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temperature this August, 95 deg. F
(August 11)
Last August (2009) maximum was 91 deg. F.
Average Maximum temperature this August,
84.2 deg. F
Minimum temperature for this August, 56 deg.
F (August 27)
Last August (2009) minimum was 59 deg. F.
Average Minimum temperature this August,
66.6 deg. F
Minimum diurnal temperature range, 6 deg.
(69 - 63 deg.) 8/23.
Maximum diurnal temperature range, 27 deg.
(89 - 62 deg.) 8/7; (87 - 60 deg.) 8/29.

Average temperature this August, 75.4 deg. F
Average temperature last August, 74.3 deg. F

Number of days this August with temperatures
of 100 degs. or higher = 0.
Number of days this August with temperatures
of 90 degs. or higher = 7;
last August = 0.

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this August - 3.05" rain
Total precipitation last August - 7.14" rain

Maximum one day precip. event this August;
August 22, 1.44" rain.
Measurable rain fell on 11 days this August,
10 days last August.

**According to NJ State Climatologist, this
August was the sixth driest August on re-
cord, since statewide records commenced, in
1895.**

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Rick Anderson
243 Mountain Ave.
New Providence, NJ
(908) 464-8911
rick243@comcast.net

9/7/10

Lat = 40 degrees, 41.7 minutes North
Long = 74 degrees, 23.4 minutes West
Elevation: 380 ft.

SCIENTIFIC TIDBITS

MIT the Esoteric Champs

A team at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has figured out a way to transform polyethylene (usually a great electrical insulator but poor heat conductor) into a material that can dissipate heat as well as most metals. This has obvious potential in applications ranging from heatsinks in electronics to solar collectors and heat exchangers. The interesting facet is that, according to MIT, the material will “conduct heat very efficiently in just one direction unlike metal which conduct equally well in all directions.” This sounds eerily similar to James Clerk Maxwell’s hypothetical concept of a two-chambered box in which a gatekeeper (the demon) would allow only high velocity molecules to pass from chamber A to B and low velocity ones from B to A, thus increasing the temperature in B and lowering it in A. This would provide an exception to the second law of thermodynamics. Can the MIT material qualify as the demon? Well, not likely. But it should make one fantastic thermos bottle.

Technology Makes People Happy

Having access to PCs, the Web and communication devices can boost people’s sense of satisfaction and well-being, says a report by the U.K.’s Telegraph newspaper citing a British survey of 35,000 people worldwide. Those with lower incomes or less education appear to benefit more from access to IT as it seems to increase the sense of personal control in people’s lives, reducing anxiety. It provides choices, information and links to others, increasing feelings of security and personal freedom.

It would be interesting to see what such a survey would say regarding Ham radio operators. Especially regarding “personal control” and “a sense of well-being” in connection with the repeated breaking of the “smoke capsule” while constructing a difficult electronic project?

Jim Brown – WB2EDO



On September 15 this group made an excursion to Ham Radio Outlet in Delaware.

The trip report from K2JV follows:

The non-member is Bob Reiboldt KC2NKD from Tri County ARC.

We drove down (some on the NJTP and some on I-295), and met at the Delaware Memorial Bridge Plaza which is only a mile or so from HRO.

After about an hour and a half of looking and playing with the large number of operating Ham Rigs, we took in some local color for lunch at the "Dog House" across the road from HRO. Although known for it's hot dogs and steak sandwiches, at least some of our members forced down the huge turkey sandwiches they always have as "specials." Unfortunately no beer or alcohol is available at the Dog House. It's all you can do to get a seat at this very small place.

Then we made a short reentrance to HRO to buy up the last items needed, and drove home.

Since some of our members, who indicated that they wanted to go, were unable at the last minute, I suspect we'll have another safari to Delaware in the very near future.

Dx'ing from Vermont

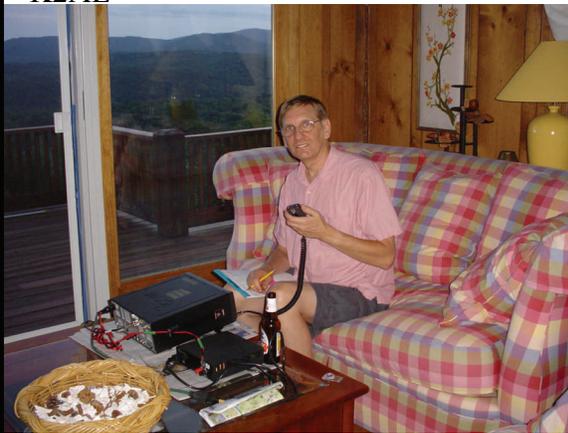
Here are a few photos from a trip in early August to my brother's place near Woodstock, Vermont, elevation 2,000 feet.

My daughter Lauryn (WW2OLF) and I had gone up to take a look at the Perseid Meteor shower from the dark skies of Vermont since there are virtually no lights nearby his house.

I also decided to take some ham gear along. While there I made contacts with Europe and Central America on 40 meter SSB. I had a nice QSO with a station in the Netherlands at 11 PM local time.

I used my Icom 746 and the "K2JV Field Day Dipole".

Overall, we had a great time sky watching, Dx'ing and enjoying the Vermont countryside. K2AL



Chief Operator



The antenna



Undercover Observer?



WW2OLF

The club was asked to provide a station at the Long Hill Township Community Day festivities on September 4. A VHF station was setup and some of the visitors were able to talk to stations in California via linked repeaters.

