

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)**

June 2026

Volume 59 No. 6

Regular Meetings

Second & Fourth Mondays

at Salt Brook School

June 8 - Field Day Planning

June 22 - Field Day Planning (Zoom Only)

Upcoming Events

June 27, 28 – Field Day at NPHS

**Digital Net Mondays at 9 PM – 28.085 MHz (+/-)
CW Training Net, 9PM Thurs – 28.050 or 7.030 MHz**

Check announcements in the Reflector for details.

Meeting Schedule

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

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 2026

President: K2AL, Al Hanzl
908-872-5021
Vice President: W2EMC Brian DeLuca
973-615-1262
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 MHz
Will be using PSK and RTTY
Net control KC2WUF

CW Training Net
Thursdays 9 PM
28.050 or 7.050 MHz
Net control K2YG

Club Internet Address

Website: www.nparc.org
Webmaster KC2WUF David Bean
Reflector: nparc@mailman.qth.net
Contact K2AL, Al

MOUNTAIN SPARK GAPS

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Contributing Editors:
WB2QOQ Rick Anderson

Climatological Data for New Providence - April 2026

The following information is provided by Rick, WB2QOQ,
who has been recording daily weather events at his station
for the past 45 years.

TEMPERATURE -

Maximum temp. this April, 91 F (April 16)
Last April(2025) maximum was 83 F.
Average Maximum temp this April, 66.7 F

Minimum temp this April, 27 F (April 8)
Last April(2025) minimum was 28 F.
Average Minimum temp this April, 44.4 F

Minimum diurnal temp range, 10 F (70 – 60 F) 4/18
Maximum diurnal temp range, 35 F (79 - 44 F) 4/10

Average temp this April, 55.6 F
Average temp last April, 53.6 F

PRECIPITATION -

Total precipitation this April – 2.85” rain
Total precipitation last April – 3.5” rain

Maximum one day precip. event - April 25, 1.45” rain
Measurable rain fell on 13 days this April
13 days last April.

Measurable snow fell on 0 days this April

YTD Precipitation – 12.09” rain/snow melt; 34.8” snow

=====
Rick Anderson 5/30/2026
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

May NPARC President's Report

Looking Ahead to Spring

We had a nice turnout of Club members marching at the New Providence Memorial Day Parade. Paul, W2PTP, once again drove his classic Chrysler and several of us gathered at the American Legion afterwards for refreshments. Congratulations to Rick, WB2QOQ, who was the parade's Grand Marshall.

The calendar has quickly turned over to June, and of course that means Field Day is rapidly approaching. Field Day is the weekend of June 27-28. We had our first FD planning meeting and things are falling into place as most of last year's FD volunteers have stepped up once again. We could always use some "new blood" to step up and help. Watch the NPARC Reflector for news and updates.

For Field Day, we will once again be using the Club's two Yaesu FT-710 HF radios, operating Class 2A, NNJ Section. Kevin N2TO has put together an operator and logger sign-up sheet on Google Drive. He sent the link on the Reflector. We always need operators and loggers, especially early on Sunday morning. Email Kevin at n2to.kevin@gmail.com to sign up.

We will continue our Field Day planning at the June 8th meeting at the Salt Brook School. It will be our last meeting at the school until the Fall. We are looking for an alternate site for Summer meetings.

To look ahead, the Sussex Hamfest will be held on Sunday, July 12 at the Sussex County Fairgrounds in Augusta, NJ. The Club has rented two indoors tables to use for selling your stuff or simply to get out of the sun (or rain) for awhile.

73,

AL - K2AL
President

Frank P. McAneny – K2EZR (SK)

September 18, 1937 - May 29, 2026

Frank P. McAneny, K2EZR, of New Providence, NJ, passed away peacefully at home on May 29, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family. Frank was a long time member of NPARC who was very active in the club. For many years Frank used his sling shot to launch antenna guy ropes high into the trees for Field Day at Governor Livingston High School.



Frank was a dedicated member of the New Providence Amateur Radio Club. He edited and published the club's monthly newspaper, "The Mountain Spark Gaps", for many years. His yard was famously crisscrossed with antennas reaching high into the tree-tops. Ever inventive, he engineered a slingshot and fishing reel device to launch his antennas exactly where he needed them. For many years NPARC relied on Frank's launching skills for the club Field Day antennas.

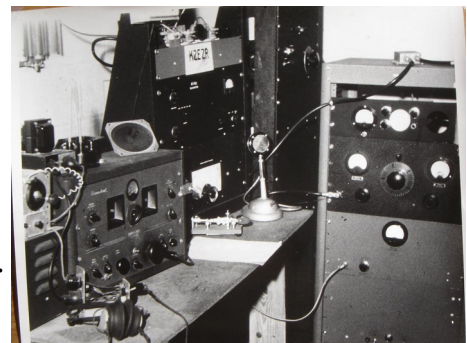


Frank and Barry Cohen, K2JV (SK), actively worked to expose local elementary school student to ham radio. Many kids got a chance to make their first contacts over the NPARC station on Kid's Day. They also set up several ARISS contacts where Salt Brook School students spoke with astronauts on the International Space Station before an auditorium filled with fellow students and teachers.

In recognition of his contributions to NPARC, Frank received the prestigious Wouff Hong award in 2010 and was honored with a lifetime NPARC membership.

From Frank's QRZ page:

" Licensed as KN2EZR in 1953, upgraded to tech. and then general and advanced over the years. Was pretty active until I married, started a family and went to graduate school all at the same time. That pretty much pushed ham radio aside and the equipment pictured went into storage. At the urging of my brother-in-law (KF6DXV) I tried digital when I retired in 1999. I built a PSK-80 "Warbler" and was hooked again. Currently using a FT-590SG and working mostly FT8. Picture is shack circa 1961. "



New Providence Memorial Day Parade 2026

Rick Anderson - WB2QOQ

The club continued its streak of taking part in the town Memorial Day, Monday, May 25; and the weather was decent, with a few sprinkles of rain.

There was a total of 10 taking part; 7 walkers and 3, including Paul, in his classic car. This year, as last, we had the addition of a 1956 Chrysler 2-door hardtop, in our parade unit; owned by Paul Wolfmeyer, W2PTP. As in past years, our members gathered in the library parking lot, prior to motoring to the designated starting place on Central Ave. The bulk of members rode to Central Ave., in vehicles. On Central Ave. the Club banner was assembled and club took our position amongst the other groups taking part.

The parade route, as always, followed Springfield Ave., from Central, through the center of town, to Academy St. We were greeted along the parade route, by the many residents enjoying the parade along the way. Some members visited the N.P. American Legion Post 433, after the parade; where hot dogs, salads, and drinks were provided. We had our own club table, and conducted club conversation; of course!

It was another successful club event, which has been taking place for Over 29 years. We'll have to open the Archives and search for when the club began taking part in this parade!

Thanks to the following members who took part in the parade: David Bean, KC2WUF; Brian DeLuca, W2EMC; Tim Farrell, KD2EKN; Al Hanzl, K2AL; Don Madson, K2DAM; Eric Russell, KD2ONY, Jim Stekas, K2UI; Sam Sealy, KC2OSR; Hank Steckler, K2OT; Paul Wolfmeyer, W2PTP. Rick Anderson, WB2QOQ did not take part with the club this parade as he had the honor of being the Grand Marshal.

Hope to see you next year!
73, Rick WB2QOQ





Parade Participants with Classic Car following !



Popular Contests in June 2026

Dave Barr – K2YG

| Contest Name* | Dates (EDT) | Modes | Exchange | Notes & Websites |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| VK Shires | 6/5 Fri 8 pm to 6/6 Sat 8pm | CW SSB | VK: rs(t) + Shire Non: rs(t) + CQ Zone | No Power Classes. 160-10 m**. Rules & shires: wia.org.au |
| Kentucky QSO Party* | 6/6 Sat 9am-9pm | CW SSB RTTY | KY: rs(t) + county Non: rs(t)+state/prov | QRP/LP/HP 80-10 m**. Info at: www.kyqsoparty.org |
| ARRL Int. Digital | 6/6 Sat 2 pm to 6/7 Sun 8 pm | Digital (No RTTY) | 4 Character Grid Square | QRP/LP 160-6 m** Rules at: contests.arrl.org |
| Atlantic Canada QSO Party* | 6/7 Sun 10am to 9pm | CW SSB | VE1/9,VO1/2,VY2 rs(t) + prov + county/div Non: rs(t) + State/Prov | QRP/LP/HP 80-10 m**. More info at: acqp.ca |
| ARRL June VHF | 6/13 Sat 2 pm to 6/14 Sun 11 pm | All Modes | 4 Character Grid Square | 50 Mhz & Up. Rules at: www.arrl.org |
| All Asian DX Contest CW | 6/19 Fri 8 pm to 6/21 Sun 8 pm | CW | RST + Age | LP/HP 160-10 meters**. More info at: www.jarl.org |
| Feld Hell Sprint | 6/19 Fri 8pm to 6/20 Sat 8 pm | FeldHell Use FLdigi | Name, FH# (if member); QTH; Grid | No power restrictions. For info see: Feldhell Club |
| S Perry 160m Challenge | 6/20 Sat 11 am to 6/21 Sun 11 am | CW | 4 Character Grid Square | QRP/LP/HP 160 m only. More info at: www.kkn.net |
| West Virginia QSO Party* | 6/20 Sat 12 N to 12 Midnight | Phone CW Digital | WV: rs(t)+County Non: rs(t)+st/prov | QRP(5/10w)/LP/HP 80-10 m**. More info at: www.gsl.net |
| ARRL Kids Day | 6/20 Sat 2 pm to 8 pm | SSB | Name + Age + QTH + Favorite Color | 80-10m** +repeaters (w/permission.) Info at: www.arrl.org |
| ARRL Field Day | 6/27 Sat 2 pm to 6/28 Sun 2 or 5pm | All Modes | #Xmtrs/Class(A-F)/ ARRL-RAC Section | QRP/LP/500 All Bands**. Read rules at: - www.arrl.org |

Check www.contestcalendar.com for more contests and information.

* State QSO Parties allow out-of-state stations to contact only in-state stations for that specific contest. In-state stations may contact all contest stations. See websites for county abbreviation lists.

** No WARC bands in any contest.

State QSO Party Portable

Al Hanzl - K2AL

The State QSO Party Challenge runs from February thru October and combines 47 individual state, Canada province and various call area QSO parties into one operating event. See <http://stateqsoparty.com>

Your running score is determined by how many total contacts are made in all the QP's times the number of QSO parties you operate in. To get credit for operating a QSO party you must make a minimum of 2 QSO's.

Several NPARC members are participating in the State QSO Party Challenge. State QSO parties are easy to work and are friendly contests. And several NPARC members frequently take "First Place New Jersey" in their category.

I make a big effort in the New Jersey State QSO Party in September and have finished first place "NNJ" several times and decided to take the Challenge "to the road". Last October I operated portable Orange County New York from my nephew's home in Tuxedo Park and took first place Portable, Low Power while setting a record score for that category with 560 contacts.

Earlier this month I ventured to my brother W2IOC Ken's QTH in Vermont and participated in the New England State QSO party as K2AL/1. Along with the three other State QSO parties taking place that weekend (7th Call Area, DE and IL), I made a total of 795 contacts, 690 in the NEQP. So overall, lots of fun, and it is nice to be the "DX".

There is also a club competition in the Challenge, so if you participate, make sure to send in your score to the 3830 website www.3830scores.com and give New Providence ARC some points.

K2AL



The W2IOC Fan Dipole for 80-10 Meters



Operating K2AL/1 with my Yaesu FT-710 and LDG AT-200Pro Tuner



View of the Green Mountains and Killington from the shack

