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# St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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## KØAGF

www.stpaulradioclub.org  
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North St. Paul, MN 55109

## NEWS AND NOTES FOR MARCH 2010 — Volume 70, Issue 3

### MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 12, 2010\*

Socializing — 7:00 PM  
Meeting — 7:30 PM

The March program will be presented by Donn Baker, WA2VOI and Jon Platt, WØZQ. The topics will be:

Getting the most from Your '706,' "Using the 6m, 2m, and 432 CW and SSB capabilities of multiband radios, and "10GHz DXing - A Nebraska Road Trip," how microwavers use "troposcatter" and "rainscatter" to make QSOs over hundreds of miles on "line-of-sight" only bands.

First licensed in 1961 as WN2VOI/WA2VOI, Donn has always been interested in VHF-and-up activities, never having operated below 50MHz until 1992. Most of his operating has been, and still is, portable and mobile (or "Rover") with the majority of his activity being on the microwave bands the last few years. Donn recently retired from a career in the aerospace and computing industries. He is a member of the ARRL, a Charter Life Member of the Central States VHF Society, and member and Past President of the Northern Lights Radio Society, and a recipient of the Society's "Wesslund Award" for Elmering.

**\* PLEASE NOTE THAT BECAUSE OF ROOM SCHEDULING ISSUES, OUR MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF MARCH (3/12/2010)**

### SPRC Planning Calendar

- Sat Mar 6 SPRC VE Session.
- Fri Mar 12\* SPRC Membership Meeting.
- Sat Mar 13 8:30AM Eau Claire Auction.
- Fri Mar 19\* SPRC Board Meeting.
- Sat Mar 20 SPRC Breakfast.
- Sat Mar 20 SPRC Circuit Builders.
- Sat Mar 27 Midwinter Madness Hamfest
- Sat Apr 3 SPRC VE Session.
- Fri Apr 9\* SPRC Membership Meeting.
- Fri Apr 16\* SPRC Board Meeting.
- Sat Apr 17 SPRC Breakfast.
- Sat Apr 17 SPRC Circuit Builders.
- Sat Apr 24 SPRC Annual Banquet. Rm 304 MHC. Doors open at 5pm, dinner served at 6pm.

**\* PLEASE NOTE THAT BECAUSE OF ROOM SCHEDULING ISSUES, THE MARCH AND APRIL BOARD AND MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL**

### Calendar Details

Unless otherwise specified, the following details apply to SPRC events:

#### Membership Meetings:

7:00 PM Socializing; 7:30 PM Business Meeting & Program. Room 155 of the Murray-Herrick Campus Center at UST.

#### Board Meetings:

7:00 PM. Room 435 (4th Floor Lounge across from elevators) of the O'Shaughnessy Science Hall (OSS) at UST. (Alternate location is the 2nd Floor Lounge).

#### Circuit Builders:

11:00 AM. Room 415 of the O'Shaughnessy Science Hall (OSS) at UST. The University of St. Thomas (UST) is located at the intersection of Cretin & Summit Avenues, about 6 blocks south of the Cretin Exit on I-94 in St. Paul. On-campus parking restrictions are not enforced after 6:00 PM on Fridays. For detailed maps, see <http://www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps>.

#### Saturday Breakfast:

9:00 AM. Perkins in the Midway on University east of Snelling.

#### VE Sessions:

9:00 AM. Followed by EC Exams - Call David M. Buending AD2B, 952-486-0836, or ad2b at arrl.net for info

### Dale's Details by NØPEY

Let's begin by saying Thank You to those who have contributed articles to the GW, participated in radio contests, and made plans come alive for future Club activities. We are seeing some new faces coming forward and therefore new ideas too. Thank You!

We have confirmed speakers for upcoming meetings and the Banquet. Some very interesting current topics and a great DX-pedition recap that should keep you on the edges of your chairs are planned. Watch the GW and/or the Web site for more information.

Officer candidate volunteers for the May election should contact Fred McCormick. Please sign up early to avoid the rush, giving you more time to campaign, and not miss the deadline. We would love to have new people with new ideas join the fun of leadership.

More members have found the fun of contesting out at the Mining Club Station. Mert, John, Jim joined Ed and me this past month. We had fun with the MN QSO party, but lacked a good CW effort so not a great score. The CQ 160 CW side cleared over 78000 points and we just finished the SSB side this morning with a score of 73505, 10000 over last year. Just like Field Day, I keep them fed well. Contact Ed Jacobson about the ARRL DX contest this weekend, or the CQ Worldwide Prefix contest the end of March.

Lots of new radios and antennas to play with out there, you can be on the top of the pile instead of in the pileup!

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Dale, NØPEY, SPRC President

## Heard on the Bands

by Brian McInerney, NØBM

Stations heard and worked on the bands during February:

- Contests, state QSO parties and lots of fun
- OM2VL and CU2JT working me during the Minnesota QSO party
- 36 QSOs and 20 multipliers in a two hour effort in the party
- highlight: F5IN calling over me and being chased away by stations wanting to work Minnesota stations
- PA7F, PI9TP, PI4DX, PI4THT and others worked during the PACC CW contest
- W1WQM having fun in the NH QSO party
- KE5AL and others enjoying the FISTS Winter CW Sprint on 20 CW
- 90 QSOs and 49 countries worked in 2-3 hours during the ARRL CW DX contest, mostly on 40 and 20
- K0QB hearing the Vatican City and the Sovereign Order of Malta operating during the Contest
- and don't forget - the ARRL SSB DX contest is coming in March

Give the bands a try...they are coming back...share some of your QSOs and DX with the club.

## Auction Results

The Club's January auction was a record success. After paying all expenses, the Club sent \$4878 to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. This is much more than usual because one person donated equipment that raised \$4228 for the Fund. But even without that donation, the Club raised a record \$650 for the Fund. Thanks and congratulations to all those who participated in the event.



Support the League

<http://www.arrl.org/join>

FACEBOOK USER?  
Look for our group:  
"St. Paul Radio Club"

## SPRC EXTRA CLASS

The Extra Upgrade Class is off to a good start. The Class is about half way finished. There are about 12 regular participants, but there have been up to 19 at some sessions. There is no cost for the class, any anyone is welcome to attend any or all of the weekly sessions. The classes are held each Tuesday night at 6:30 at the Roseville Fire Hall, 2701 North Lexington Ave.

The classes will use a "discussion group" format, rather than straight lecture. People will be expected to have read the chapter before the class. The book will be the ARRL License Manual for the Extra Class, 9th edition (green cover). It should be purchased in advance of the first class from either Radio City or ARRL.org. The retail price is \$24.95. There is no fee for the class. People are requested to reserve a spot by sending an email message to [allankmn@cs.com](mailto:allankmn@cs.com).

The remaining topics are:

3/2

Components and Building Blocks

3/9

Electronic Circuits

3/16

Signals & Measurements;  
Modes & Equipment

3/23

Antennas and Feedlines

3/30

Propagation; RF Safety

## ST. PAUL RADIO CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

The St. Paul Radio Club Banquet will be held April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:00 pm in Room 304 MHCC on the University of St. Thomas campus. If you've been to the Banquet before, you know this is a great chance to get out and enjoy a fantastic meal and a fun program. Ralph Fedor, **K0IR**, will share stories of his many DXpeditions to locations such as Easter Island, South Georgia, and Desecheo Island in a multimedia presentation. Come and get a taste of what it is like on one of these big trips to difficult locations during an evening where your only strain will be what to choose from the buffet. Dinner will be \$10.00 per person and tickets must be bought in advance. We will have a few prizes to be given out by random drawing. Directions to Room 304 MHCC can be found below. Menu details and reservation information are listed below as well.

### St Paul Radio Club Annual Banquet

When: Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> Doors open at 5:00, dinner served at 6:00 PM

Where: Rm 304 Murray-Herrick Campus Center (see directions below)

What: Buffet style dinner with program by Ralph Fedor

*Fresh Sliced Fruit Display, Caesar Salad and Pasta Salad*

*Beef Tips with Wine Sauce, Pearl Onions and Wild Mushrooms*

*Flat Grilled Herbed Chicken w/ Sauce Bernaise*

*Mashed Yukon Gold Potatoes*

*Fresh Seasonal Vegetable*

*Assorted Artisan Breads / Butter*

*Dessert*

*Vegetarian meal option available upon request*

Cost: \$10.00/person - must be paid no later than April 10<sup>th</sup>. Print out this form and bring it with your payment to the meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>, April 9<sup>th</sup> or mail it to:

Jay Maher

3332 Longfellow Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55407

Checks should be written to St. Paul Radio Club – Banquet. Please do not send cash through the mail.

**Directions to Banquet:** From the Cretin-Vandalia exit on I-94, take Cretin Avenue six blocks south to the St. Thomas campus. The Murray-Herrick Campus Center (MHCC), is off of Cleveland Ave. South, which is two blocks east of Cretin. Enter the parking lot from Cleveland Ave. South, between Ashland and Portland Avenues. Going south on Cleveland, the entrance to the parking lot is at the bottom of a hill. Turn right (west) into the parking lot. On the left (south) side, and close to the west end of the parking lot is a loading dock. Take the sidewalk alongside the building, to the right of the loading dock, into the building and go to the elevator on the left. Take the elevator to **Room 304**. Room 304 is toward the southeast corner of the building, in the old part of the building. It is necessary to take the elevator (or stairs) in the old part of the building because the old 3<sup>rd</sup> floor does not hook up with the new 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Parking permits on campus are not enforced after 6 p.m. on Fridays (or on weekends).

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St. Paul Radio Club Annual Banquet

Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:00 PM (doors open at 5:00)

Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Names (and callsigns if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you need a vegetarian meal? If so, list number required: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: 10.00 person – must be paid by April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

If you are unable to print out this form, include a note with all of the above information with your payment.



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PO Box 9375  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED