



www.arrl.org



# St. Paul Radio Club

## KØAGF

www.stpaulradioclub.org  
Club Repeater: 145.310 MHz  
PO Box 9375  
North St. Paul, MN 55109

### NEWS AND NOTES FOR DECEMBER 2013 — Volume 73, Issue 12

#### Holiday Meeting

December 6, 2013

UST OWS LL54

7:00 pm Socializing

Membership Meeting 7:30 pm

  
 Please bring a treat to share--  
 finger food, hot dishes, cold food,  
 anything you like and think others  
 might enjoy (Sorry, alcohol is not  
 allowed).  
 The club provides beverages, a  
 meat/cheese platter with small  
 rolls, plates, napkins, silverware,  
 glasses, etc.  
 If you have a short Holiday video  
 that you think others might like,  
 bring it along and we'll put it up  
 on the screen.  


PROGRAM

#### Antenna Modeling

Pat Wintheiser, WØOPW

Pat Wintheiser from the Brainerd area will give a presentation on the use of antenna modeling to analyze different designs that we hams might use. About a dozen different designs

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### Minnesota Youth Amateur Radio Council

MNYARC has for years worked behind the scenes to encourage and assist youth in amateur radio. Like most non-profit groups, we have been limited in our activities by a shortage of funds. That can now change!

An anonymous benefactor has presented us with a challenge grant. If we raise \$5,000 in new money by December 24th, they will match that amount as their holiday present to MNYARC. This is a huge challenge and a HUGE opportunity for MNYARC.

Your contribution, combined with this grant, will allow us to do some things that we have only dreamed about. Here is a list of possible projects and opportunities:

Give a dual band handheld radio preloaded with MN ARES and Skywarn frequencies to each new Minnesota ham under age 18.

Provide study materials for rent to prospective hams with full reimbursement of the rent if they pass their Technician class license exam.

Provide micro grants to schools or

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### Presidential Ponderings

##### THINGS PAST

With the November general meeting behind us, the club leadership continues with minimal changes. The election of our two Board Members-at-Large resulted in continuing terms for Jay Maher and John Faughn, and with no other candidates stepping forward, they were elected unanimously. I am thankful that they are willing to continue to serve you. With Jeff Iverson resigning from the office of Secretary (for medical reasons), Don Kelly stepped up to cover the position until the May elections of standing officers.

We also discussed the auction rules, with small changes to the bidding structure and the service charges for the sellers. The revised rules are now part of the auction flyer, which is included with this Ground Wave issue.

Gary Follett did a great job describing the business end to buying and selling radio equipment. He spent some time discussing the art of pricing equipment, showing what he is willing to pay to buy in contrast to what we as sellers think we should get for our treasures – hint: our treasures aren't as valuable as we dream. He

*(Continued on page 2)*

The OWS building is located on the University of St. Thomas (UST) South Campus.

From I-94, take Cretin Ave south about a mile to Grand Ave. Turn right into the UST South Campus. Park in the ramp on your left or the surface lot ahead to the right. In general, on-campus parking re-

strictions are not enforced after 6:00 p.m. on Fridays, but do not park in spots with parking meters unless paying or displaying a handicapped placard.

Enter the building just north of the parking ramp and take the elevator (in the hallway to the right) or stairs to the lower level. LL54 is not far

from the stairs.

For detailed maps, see [www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps](http://www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps).

OWS: Owens Science Hall

Contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651-962-6315 or [kjschu-](mailto:kjschu-)

*(Continued from page 1)*

will be shown and analyzed in the time allowed. Pat designed the Nec2Go antenna modeling program; based on the standard Nec2 Fortran engine, the user interface uses Visual Basic for the graphic design. A lot of engineering went into it, keeping ease of use primary in mind.

In 1958 Pat was licensed as KNØOIW in St. Peter, Minnesota. After earning a degree in Mathematics and Physics, he began his career as a computer programmer for the Boeing Company in 1966. Numerous life twists and turns brought him back to the Seattle Washington area in 1991 at Boeing again. He was QRX from Ham radio at the time and it wasn't until finding the extraordinary book 'Antenna Techniques for Low Band DXing' by Jon DeVoldere that he found himself hooked on radio again in 1995. He upgraded to Extra in 1997. Pat retired June 1, 1999 and now lives at his Crow Wing River cabin in Cass County, Minnesota.

*(Continued from page 1)*

community groups assisting youth radio clubs.

Assist new ham radio operators in finding Elmers and opportunities to provide public service in their community.

Obtain/create lesson plans and provide demo materials on the principles of amateur radio.

Upgrade and maintain our mobile communications unit which is made available to public service groups and as a training tool for youth operators.

Visit with amateur radio clubs within Minnesota and assist them with engaging youth in amateur radio.

New opportunities as they arise.

To learn more about the Minnesota

Youth Amateur Radio Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, please visit <http://www.mnyarc.org>.

To help us reach our goal and receive this grant please go to the MNYARC web site and select the "You can help" link and hit the "DONATE NOW" button.

You can also send checks to MNYARC at:

MN Youth Amateur Radio Council  
PO Box 27253  
Golden Valley MN 55427

As a friend of MNYARC please share this challenge with your friends.

*(Continued from page 1)*

also discussed what he looks for in a Hamfest—our club seems to do pretty well meeting his auction standards.

### THINGS PRESENT

#### December 6 is our Holiday Party.

The club will provide light sandwich fixings, fruit and beverages. We ask that you bring a treat to share.

I promise to try to keep the business meeting portion to a minimum.

The December 6 meeting program is Pat Wintheiser (WØOPW) from the Brainerd area—he will give a presentation on antenna modeling using a software program that he developed. He will discuss several antenna designs created with his software.

Remember also that we have a table set aside for a mini-sized (or personal-sized) Hamfest, from 7:00PM to 7:30PM, during the social time. If you don't sell the item(s), you could donate them to the club for the evening raffle, or you must take them home.

One of the many constant issues in amateur radio is "how to attract new hams." One successful approach is to get youth involved, and that targeted recruitment is the reason for the Minnesota Youth Amateur Radio Council. As most non-profit groups, they have

been limited in their activities by a shortage of funds. They are doing a fund raising campaign described elsewhere in this Ground Wave. I encourage you to check out their website, and, if you are so inclined, give them support.

### THINGS FUTURE

With our club auction coming up next month (January 25), I'll suggest again that you might like to go over your collection of radio equipment and perhaps do a little judicious pruning of the collection. If you discover objects that you might wish to part with for a small profit, consider the club auction. We need both larger items for the live auction portion, and small items (or collections of items) for the silent auction portion.

You might even get enough cash from the sales to put a down payment on the next, newer radio you have been dreaming about, so you can fill the holes in your shack created by selling older gear.

George, KØGCP

UST tobacco-free  
starting January 1st.

### Membership Meeting November 1, 2013

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club was called to order by President George Power (KØGCP) at 7:30 PM. The members and guest introduced themselves (First name, call, QTH).

30 Members signed in  
1 Guest signed in

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes approved as printed in the Ground Wave.

**Treasurer's Report:** All three funds are in good shape. Details are available from Treasurer Allan Klein (WØNLY) at [allankmn@cs.com](mailto:allankmn@cs.com).

Membership Secretary: Dale

*(Continued on page 3)*

Maroushek (NØPEY) reported that we now have 84 paid members.

Committee Reports:

**Education:** Allan reported that an Upgrade to General class will be held for eight Thursday nights beginning on January 30 at Highland Park Jr. High School. He is looking for instructors and students.

**Circuit Builders:** Orcy Lyle (WØQT) announced that there will be a meeting Nov. 2 at 9:00 AM.

**Public Service/Emergency Communications:** Ralph Bierbaum (NØAWN) announced that the MS150 ride will take place on June 6 - 8, and that 4,000-4,500 riders are expected. They will need about 120 ham operators, and many non-licensed volunteers too.

**VE Exams:** Leon Dill (WØCOE) announced that exams would be given on Nov. 2 at the Roseville location.

Old Business:

**Repeater:** Terry Londroche (NØGOI) presented photos and an explanation about the new repeater equipment he is working on for the KØAGF site. He explained the coil changes he had to make to get the new receiver tuned to our frequency. The transmitter will more than double our output power (from 20 to 45 watts). Batteries can be used if there is a power failure.

New Business:

**Board Election.** George announced that there were two at-large Board spots to be filled as the result of John Faughn (KDØCAC) and Jay Maher's (NJOM) terms having ended. He stated that both were willing to serve for another term, but that they would also welcome "new blood." He called for any nominations, but there were none. John Faughn and Jay Maher were reelected to serve on the Board.

**Secretary:** George announced that Jeff Iverson (WB9DAN) had resigned as secretary for medical reasons. He asked for nominees to fill out Jeff's

## General Class

Starts in January

The St Paul Radio Club will offer a series of classes for Technician Class licensees who want to upgrade to General, and for anyone else interested in learning more about technology.

The Classes will be held on Thursday evenings, from 6:00 to 8:30, at Highland Park Junior High School at the corner of Snelling and Montreal. They will start on January 30 and end on March 20. The whole series will cost \$10, plus you'll need a copy of the ARRL General Class License Manual. Advance registration required at [commed.spps.org](http://commed.spps.org). Registration opens on January 3, 2014.

"This is a great opportunity for people who want to brush up on their general knowledge, as well as those Techs who want to upgrade so they can work the world," said Allan Klein, WØNLY, the Club's Education Coordinator.

Anyone interested in teaching one session should contact Klein at [allankmn@cs.com](mailto:allankmn@cs.com).

term that will extend until the end of May. Don Kelly (WA6ZMT) volunteered, and was elected to serve as Secretary for the rest of Jeff's term.

There was discussion about Jeff's condition, and Don and Dale reported that Jeff was recovering from a stroke and had reported that he was making progress. Several members stated that they wished Jeff good luck with his recovery.

**Auction:** The SPRC auction will be held on January 25 at OLG (same location as last year). Dale presented a proposal to remove the \$10 cap on commissions and to change the bidding increments. Don Kelly made and John Faughn seconded a motion that, following discussion, was passed making the following changes from last year's rules:

1. Seller's Commission will remain at 10% of the sale price of each lot, but there will be no cap on the commission.
2. The bidding increments will be as follows:

\$ 0 - 25                      \$ 1

\$ 26 - 100    \$ 5

\$ 101 and above    \$ 10

The auctioneer has discretion to use different incre-

ments.

**KFAI Legacy Project.** George announced that KFAI was preparing a program on the history of amateur radio in the Twin Cities, and was looking for two people to interview within the next few weeks. Volunteers should check with George for details.

**ARRL CW Sweepstakes:** Ed Jacobson (WBØVHF) said that the Mining Club was looking for CW operators to participate in the CW Sweepstakes this weekend.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Program:** Gary Follett (WØDVN) presented a program on buying and selling radio parts and equipment through a variety of channels. He talked about hamfests, club auctions, surplus stores, and online sites. He said that he would post his Power Point slides online for those who were not present.

**Raffle:** The raffle drawings were held, with a special prize from Radio City (an HT with license book, instruction manual, etc.)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Allan Klein  
Temporary Secretary



St. Paul Radio Club, Inc.  
PO Box 9375  
North St. Paul, MN 55109

## ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Meeting locations at UST are subject to change due to changes on The University of St Thomas campus.

Fri Dec 6	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54. See page 1.
Sat Dec 7	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Dec 13	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Dec 14	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Dec 14	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, <a href="mailto:WØCOE@arrl.net">WØCOE@arrl.net</a> or 651-688-9964
Sat Dec 21	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Dec 21	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Dec 28	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Jan 3	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54.
Sat Jan 4	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jan 4	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, <a href="mailto:WØCOE@arrl.net">WØCOE@arrl.net</a> or 651-688-9964
Fri Jan 10	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Jan 11	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jan 18	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Jan 18	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jan 25	8:30-1:00 St. Paul Radio Club Annual Auction.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. 401 Concord Street, Saint Paul, MN 55107

\*Circuit Builders is each Saturday morning if someone is available to open the lab and there is no conflicting activity. Check the SPRCCB Google Group to confirm that the lab will be open.