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St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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KØAGF

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

NEWS AND NOTES FOR

MARCH 2014 —

Monthly Meeting

March 7, 2014

UST OWS LL54

7:00 pm Socializing

Membership Meeting 7:30 pm

PROGRAM

Minnesota ARES

Dan Anderson (KDØASX) will bring us up to date on ARES issues. Dan is the Minnesota ARRL Section ARES Section Emergency Coordinator, overseeing amateur radio emergency communicators who dedicate their time and equipment to help served agencies in need. Over the past four years, ARES personnel statewide have volunteered more than \$1 million worth of their time. Dan is also Senior Emergency Management Coordinator for Hennepin County Emergency Management, specializing in data collaboration and communications. As part of his duties, he oversees communications, and has put together the HCEM Auxiliary Communications Team to serve the needs of the Hennepin County Emergency Operations Center. This group, along with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office's Communications Response Team (formerly the Mobile Amateur Radio Corps), make up the county's identified RACES operators. He holds a General-class amateur radio license.

Instructors

still needed for

General Class

The "Upgrade to General" class is off to a good start. There are ten students with a wide variety of ages and experience. But teachers are still needed. Allan Klein taught the first night and John Faughn taught the second night. Ralph Bierbaum did the third. Jay Maher will teach components on 3/6, and Jeff Iversen will teach Antennas on 3/20.

So far, there isn't anyone for for 3/13 (Modulation Modes) or 3/27 (Safety). We also need someone for the final evening, on 4/10, which is Course Review and Practice Exam.

The classes are Thursday nights, from 6:00 until 8:30 (or earlier, at your discretion). They meet at the Highland Park Middle School, at the corner of Snelling and Montreal in St. Paul.

Each class session covers one chapter of the ARRL's General Class License Manual (the students all have a copy). The students have been instructed to read the chapter in advance of the class. You are free

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Presidential Ponderings

THINGS PAST

Last month I mentioned instances of antenna damage due to wind and winter conditions. I suggested that you check your guy wires and other supports. Well, I'll plead mea culpa to ignoring my own advice, as my first attempt at an exterior apartment antenna came down in the February 20-21 rain/ice/snow and wind combination. As one of my old Army sergeants once said, "Do as I say, not as I do." Hopefully our current cold weather snap will be over soon.

Skip Jackson provided our February general meeting program with a History Channel video on Cracking the Enigma Code. The declassified archives provided a glimpse into a group of people, whose minds approach cryptography somewhat like chess-players approach their games (multiple layers of moves, seeking patterns where many of us would see only rubbish. Now, much of the analysis has been turned over to computers (which, in turn, can generate even more complex cyphers). It was a enjoyable look at the past.

THINGS PRESENT

We are working on programs for our general membership meetings which

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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.

OWS: Owens Science Hall

Contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651-962-6315 or kjschumann@stthomas.edu for any accessibility requests.

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to teach any way that you want, but some teachers use a set of PowerPoint slides prepared by ARRL that guide them through the important points in each chapter. Each teacher is supplied with a hard copy of the PowerPoint slides, a manual, and a laptop/projector combo that projects the slides onto the screen. The PowerPoint slides are preloaded onto the laptop, but the source disc is also sent along as a backup. Teaching is easy and fun, and makes for an educational experience for the teacher as well as the students.

Interested teachers are requested to select their first and second choices and let Allan know as soon as possible by email at allankmn@cs.com. He will then put together a schedule that matches your choices and let you know.

Is anyone interested in doing any of them?

SPRC Banquet 2014

Just a reminder that the 2014 SPRC Banquet will be held Saturday, April 26th, in the Rogge-Leyden Room of the Anderson Student Center on the UST campus. Doors will open at 5:00 and dinner will start at 6:00 PM. Reservation forms will be in next month's Ground Wave. Save the date for a fun night of good food and conversation, topped off with a presentation by Jeff R. Lonto. Jeff is a local author and media/culture historian who will speak on Twin Cities Broadcasting in the Analog Age. Many of our members know him from his books which include "Chronicles from the Analog Age--Random Slices of Life, Culture and Media from the Old Millennium," and "Fiasco at 1280--The Rise and Hard Fall of a Twin Cities Radio Station." This promises to be a great program, be sure to make it.

will be interesting to the wide range of interests in our club. Our upcoming programs include Dan Anderson in March and John Crabtree in April. One of our goals is to work with other Twin Cities clubs in developing a list of programs and presenters, to share our expertise and to tap their expertise so we can learn about other areas in amateur radio.

THINGS FUTURE

Two local events in the next month or so: 1) the Eau Claire, WI Equipment Auction March 8, 2014, www.ecarc.org, and 2) the Midwinter Madness, Buffalo, MN Mar 29, 2014, www.k0ltc.org.

We will have a club table at the Midwinter Madness, so there is another reason to attend (to draw up a chair and represent the SPRC). I plan to attend, mostly to put some faces to the callsigns that I hear weekly.

Other events coming up include the Club Banquet on April 26th, with Jeff Lonto as the speaker, and our Club elections on May 2nd. Offices open for election include: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let the current officers know so we can answer any questions you might have about the offices.

The year is capped off in June with Field Day on the 28th and 29th, with opportunities to help with setup on the 27th. I'll be working alongside Dale to provide some good eating from Friday night through Sunday noon.

George, KØGCP

Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Each fall, we renew our membership in SPRC. Please complete a membership application and bring it to the meeting or mail it to the PO Box.

Dale's Details

Dateline Feb. 20, 2014 2200 hours: Dave Dahl says this is the snow storm of the year, I agree. Just came in from my first snow blowing adventure, now the wind is coming up and it will fill it all back in by morning. Then the city plow will pile the entrance with all the street snow and if Deb really wants to go to work, I'll be up to blow that out again.

I had to retrieve a propane torch from the back shed, that my son needs to melt his ice dams. The trudge was through knee deep snow across the back yard. Had to pass by the boat parked back there, which made me think of the RV waiting in storage up north. In a good year, I can get 8 months of fun from them, but mostly 6 months is it. That is, until Deb and I can retire and have more time to be free.

Friday and Saturday late nights this week are for the CQ 160 SSB contest, and I'm coming up sick. Maybe I can get a shift alone so I don't pass this on to others. Have some Mic disinfectant around at all times. Mining ARC has played this one for many years, and we usually do very well. Thanks to those that signed up to participate.

Hopefully when you read this, the weather will be better, the bands will be open and the shack will be warm. There was a good one in the SPPP today. A telemarketer called a guy here, who answered, and was asked what the temperature was. The local says one below zero. Caller says he heard it was twenty below zero in MN. Local says "oh, you mean outside"!



Support the League

Hunt Donation Boosts Defense Fund

Mary Hunt, widow of long-time SPRC member John Hunt (KGØJD) who died last year, gave some of his equipment to the Club with the goal of having it sold at the auction and the proceeds sent to the Spectrum Defense Fund. The donation raised \$181 for the Fund. The Club thanks Mary for this donation. Thanks also are due to Tom Bredemus, KC0INP, who helped with the transaction.

Membership Meeting February 7, 2014

Members and guests enjoyed snacks and visiting during the pre-meeting social time. No UST Radio Club representative spoke up, so the December meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club was called to order by President George Power (KØGCP) at 7:35 PM. 21 members and four guests introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report: The January minutes were approved as printed in the *Ground Wave*.

Treasurer's Report: Details are available from Treasurer Allan Klein (WØNLY) at allankmn@cs.com. Allan was not present.

Membership: Dale Maroushek (NØPEY) reported that we have 108 paid-up members.

Circuit Builders: Orcy Lyle (WØQT) announced that the lab is available for spring and Circuit Builders will start February 22nd. The parts for the antenna project are being ordered. Hopefully, when the antennas are ready we'll be able to test outside.

AUCTION: Dale Maroushek (NØPEY) provided an auction update, extending the thanks that were omitted in the *Ground Wave* to John Crabtree for providing the sound equipment.

VE Exams: Leon Dill (WØCOE) announced that VE exams were last Sat-

urday with 10 testing. The next will be on March 1st at the Roseville location.

Old Business:

MN QSO Party: Dale Maroushek (NØPEY) said there were seven operators at two stations with 483 contacts and a multiplier of 109 for 107,000 points.

New Business:

ARRL Convention: George announced that tables are available for half price to exhibit at ARRL's "First 100 Years" celebration.

CORRESPONDENCE: A ham-shirts.com advertisement is available for members' perusal.

VA HOSPITAL: There was a discussion suggesting that ham radio would provide a diversion for the vets in the spinal ward and community living center. George suggested contacting Handihams and Skip suggested David Adriansen, the amateur radio advocate at the VA Hospital.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

After a break to enjoy more refreshments (there was no raffle as the raffle materials were unavailable), Skip Jackson (KSØJ) showed a video and shared his knowledge about the German's Enigma encryption program in World War II.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Kelly, WA6ZMT

Board Meeting February 14, 2014

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club Board of Directors was called to order on February 14, 2014, at 7:04 PM by President George Power.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Power, KØGCP, President
John Faughn, KDØCAC, Vice Pres.

Allan Klein, WØNLY, Treasurer
Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, Secretary
Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Past Pres.
Orcy Lyle, WØQT, At-large Member

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER INTERESTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

Treasurer: Allan reported that he's prepared to send checks to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund and to Our Lady of Guadalupe. It was agreed to send a check for \$75 to the MN Wireless Association for the MN QSO Party.

Auction: Auction procedures were discussed. In the future, we'll try taking a break 10-20 minutes before the live auction ends, then close the silent auction at the end of the break. We'll make sure that bidders understand that they can't leave early if they have bid on silent auction items. Buyers may not remove items until we confirm that they have been paid for.

Program Ideas: March: Dan Anderson, April: John Crabtree, May: Possibly Greg Widen, Dakota Division Director.

Banquet: Jay confirmed by email that the room reservation has been made for April 26

Repeater: John Faughn will follow up on the availability of the tower on Selby.

Bylaws: George distributed copies of the bylaws. 2007 is believed to be the current version. The current electronic version has not been located.

Midwinter Madness: Allan will order a table for SPRC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, Secretary

FACEBOOK USER?

Look for our group:

"St. Paul Radio Club"



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.

Sat Mar 1	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Mar 1	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Mar 7	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54. See page 1.
Sat Mar 8	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Mar 8	8AM – 2PM 27 th Annual Eau Claire ARC Auction, Saving Grace Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI
Fri Mar 14	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Mar 15	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Mar 15	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Mar 22	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Mar 29	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Mar 29	8 AM – 1 PM Midwinter Madness Hamfest, Buffalo Civic Center, Buffalo, MN.
Fri Apr 4	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54.
Sat Apr 5	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Apr 5	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Apr 11	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Apr 12	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Apr 19	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Apr 19	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Apr 19	9 AM – 1 PM Brainerd ARC Hamfest, National Guard Armory, Brainerd, MN
Sat Apr 26	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Apr 26	6 PM SPRC Annual Banquet, Rogge-Leyden Rm, Anderson Student Center, UST campus, doors open at 5:00

*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.