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St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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KØAGF

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NEWS AND NOTES FOR MAY 2016 — Volume 76, Issue 5

Monthly Meeting

May 6, 2016

UST OWS LL54

7:00 pm Socializing

Membership Meeting 7:30 pm

PROGRAM

MARS

Dick Roberts, NØUC

Dick will present a program outlining the mission of the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) as well as MARS member duties and the important role MARS plays today. Started in 1925 when Major General Saltzman asked the ARRL to partner with the Army, the program is still a mandate of the Department of Defense with a long history of service to our country.

Licensed since 1959, Dick is the Army MARS State Director, an ARRL Assistant Section Manager for Minnesota and the treasurer of the South East Metro Amateur Radio Club (SEMARC).



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SPRC Banquet 2016



Eating and visiting—the main point of any social gathering.

All banquet photos courtesy of Dawn Holmberg, WXØZ

Dale's Details—Banquet Edition

Many of you did not attend the Banquet to witness the presentation of the Member of the Year award. We try to keep this a secret and make it a surprise to the lucky winner. In the past, I made one presentation in Morse code to Jeff Iverson, and another went to "Richard" which is Mert Nellis's real first name. Sometimes we have to enlist the help of the spouse to encourage the winner to attend. This year, hopefully, we pulled off the ultimate spoof.

The winner, who usually attends Board meetings, missed one, and the plan began. Skip Jackson is always on the top of the list, but being the Section

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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, then park in the ramp on your left or the surface lot on the right. In general, on-campus parking restrictions are not en-

forced 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.

(Dale's Details, Continued from page 1)

Manager, he has told us many times not to award him. I called him and he agreed to the spoof, and became the Boards Secret MOTY for 2016. My mind started thinking about these two guys and the similarities they have, and came up with the encoded introduction. President George joined in—since Skip will probably not be attending, we will have to do it in his absence, which will make the spoof even bigger! Here is the text:

His call sign is his initials separated by the required zero (KSØJ NJØM)

He has spent many years in a local high-tech industry (3M UofM)

He has demonstrated leadership abilities and has been rewarded for them (true)

He has presented highly interesting programs to the club over the years (true)

He has cooked a few Field day meals for us that were outstanding (true)

He always has a smile on his face, is interested in what you are doing, and is willing to help (true)

You may think this winner is as old as you think he is (think retired), but I think there is something fishy going on (Jay works with fish), so does his wife Rachael (the hint)!



**Member of the Year
Jay Maher, NJØM.**

Dale's Details Dale Maroushek, NØPEY

Finally it has arrived, the election of Officers. The change of command, new leadership coming, opportunity for new members to step up into the administration of Club activities. You will not be alone—the rest of the Board will educate and support you just as they did in 1998 when I stepped into the President's shoes with no previous experience to speak of. Since then, there is only a two year period that I did not hold an office, but I still offered guidance services to the Board.

So let's look at the rules from the by-laws that apply to elections:

"Section 4. The officers of this Club shall be elected for a term of two years, by ballot of the members present at the regular meeting in the month of May. At such election the past Vice-President shall automatically be nominated as one of the candidates for President. President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are to be elected in even-numbered years. Two Directors-at-Large are to be elected in odd-numbered years at the November meeting.

Section 5. All officers and directors shall take office immediately upon announcement of the vote results.

Section 6. Whenever a vacancy occurs in any office, or in the Board of Directors, such vacancy shall be filled by special ballot at the first next regular meeting. The term to be filled shall be the term of the vacant position."

What this says is very plain. John Faughn, our VP will become a candidate for President and has accepted such. Secretary Don is willing to stay on, with George taking notes when Don is away. Treasurer Allan has offered to stay, too, and has done a remarkable job over the years in any position he's had. George is running hard for the coveted Past President

position and I hope he gets it. IF, that's a big IF as you see, no one is nominated and accepts, or volunteers to run for VP, or any other position, we try again next September and onward until the positions are filled.

It has been requested that my Details column continues when I become "just a member" again. If you are willing to listen, I'll be on the soap box (oops, since we are trying to get young hams, they won't know what a soap box is), my opinions will be available.

If you haven't heard, SPRC and MARC will be doing Field Day one more time at Tartan Park! As information is nailed down we will put the plan together and let you know how you can help.

Dale, NØPEY, Since 1991

Presidential Ponderings

If you are into public service, which usually involves taking your radios into the field and then often operating in less than optimum conditions (not so lovely weather; lack of shelter, food, and water; no mains electricity; etc.), then you would appreciate what Ralph Bierbaum (NØAWN) presented to us at the April meeting. He showed us multiple versions of his "go-kits" and explained how he configured his equipment in the complete, self-sufficient boxes. He also discussed personal preparations for field life, what you need to bring to support yourself in rough conditions, and touched on education for proper emergency communications (the FEMA IS series of classes). Not to downplay any of our programs this year, but this one was just what I wanted – thank you Ralph. Ralph has graciously given the club permission to share his MS PowerPoint presentation on "go-kits".

By the time you read this, the 2016 club banquet will be history. Dr.

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(Presidential Ponderings, Continued from page 2)
Ralph Fedor (KØIR) will have regaled us with the details of the Navassa Island DXpedition in 2015 which opened up a highly sought-after site after over 15 years of planning and preparation. The Member of the Year award and the Flying Ham awards were presented (details elsewhere) and door prizes were handed out to lucky ticket-holders.

The May 6th meeting is our last meeting before the summer break. Our program will have Dick Roberts (NØUC) talking about the MARS program. "The Military Auxiliary Radio System provides Department of Defense sponsored emergency communications on a local, national, and international basis. . . . One major mission that MARS has had for many years is to handle morale, welfare, and official record and voice communications traffic for **Armed Forces** and authorized **U.S. Government civilian** personnel stationed throughout the world. MARS establishes programs to create civilian interest, recruit qualified volunteers, and furnish training in military communications, techniques, and procedures." (quoted from Wikipedia) This would be of interest to most of the DXers in our club.

Also, we have to handle the officer elections for the upcoming two-year period. With the slate of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer to be determined, we could use some new thoughts on where the club is headed and what we can do to draw new members. We have a great membership list, but usually only 35% of the members attend the meetings. As I said in last month's column, we have an older membership. What would you suggest to the new officers to increase attendance and draw new, younger members? The officers do appreciate your feedback.

73. See you on May 6.

George, KØGCP



Ralph Fedor Shares His Navassa Island DXpedition experience.

Membership Meeting April 1, 2016

No one from the UST Radio Club was present at 7:30 p.m.

George Power (KØGCP) called the SPRC Membership Meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

28 members and two guests introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report—No minutes were available for the February member meeting. There were no corrections to the February board meeting minutes as published in the Ground Wave.

Committee Reports:

Membership—Dale Maroushek (NØPEY) reported that we have 138 paid members.

Circuit Builders—Orcy Lyle (WØQT) will hold the CB session tomorrow (4/2) in OSS415.

Repeaters--Joe Zwirn (WØXL) indicated that the repeater seems to be OK after connections on the roof were cleaned up by Tom Sturm (NØBGO).

VE Sessions--Leon Dill (WØCOE)—There will be a VE session tomorrow, 4/2. Three have signed up.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

The SPRC Banquet will be April 23rd with a program on a DXpedition to Navassa Island by Ralph Fedor (KØIR). Registration forms (in the April Ground Wave) should be sent to Jay Maher (NJØM) by April 13th.

Elections for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be held at the May 6th meeting.

Field Day—June 25-26, 2016. Ed Jacobson (WBØVHF), 2016 Field Day Coordinator, said that we'll be joining the Mining Club at Tartan Park for one more year. K9NJ will be the CW Chair, KØRJW the GOTA Chair. Looking for SSB and VHF chairs—email WBOVHF@arrl.net. There will probably be a planning meeting a week or two before Field Day, but not necessarily the 3rd Tuesday as in the past.

Filter Order—Dale Maroushek (NØPEY) reported that he has 10 orders committed, so we qualify for the 20% discount.

Midwinter Madness—Dale also pointed out that we were short of volunteers to staff the SPRC table at the Buffalo hamfest.

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Business Mobile—Don Kelly (WA6ZMT) says that his late cousin left a lot of business radio equipment and documentation circa 1970-1990. Anyone interested should contact Don, wa6zmt@arrl.net.

DXpedition—Ed Jacobson (WBØVHF) said that some Minnesota contacts have been made with the Hurd Island DXpedition and members should give it a try.

Telegraph Operators--Dawn Holmberg (WXØZ) said that help is needed for the Telegraph display at the Train Fest at the Union Depot

Hamfests, etc.—John Faughn (KDØCAC) Reminded us of the Brainerd Hamfest on April 16th and the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club Hamfest on May 7th.

The Business meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Program—Ralph Bierbaum (NØAWN) brought multiple Go-boxes for various event types and shared his experience developing and using them.

Board Meeting

April 8, 2016

Members present: George Power, Dale Maroushek, Jay Maher, Mike Thompson, Orcy Lyle and Don Kelly (by telephone).

The room reservation for the 5/6 meeting has been confirmed.

The club credit card has arrived.

No program has been confirmed for May—haven't reached Dick Roberts.

Everything's in place for the banquet. Ralph Fedor for the program. Member of the Year award ready. Jay will handle door prizes, canned ham and speaker gift card. Jay said few members have signed up.

Allan, Don and John have agreed to be nominated for their offices.

Mike Thompson indicated that the trustee reassignment is final.

George will see if Moos Tower is a feasible alternative repeater site.

There's no new info for a potential Fusion presentation.

Dale reported that the filters have been ordered and may arrive by Monday. He'll take the club radio to Harry for a tune-up. Perhaps

\$60.

George talked about property: The 2M repeater, DR-1, and FT1000 are SPRC's. The DX400 was donated to SPRC but doesn't transmit. The radio in 429 is the UST Radio Club's.

We need to determine how we can provide value to UST to continue to use their resources.

The Provost may be a resource for a program on radar mapping.

Libraries may be suitable meeting places. Some libraries charge for meeting space. We could meet at a church. Orcy pointed out that we need a central location, nice people and AV service.

Doing a tech class at UST may attract faculty as well as students. Allan, Don, Orcy, and Mike have volunteered. Tom will probably help, too.

Don suggested that we provide member meeting information to UST so it's published for students and faculty. George emails notices to the ARES District 6 Reflector.

Orcy reported that at a Skywarn meeting they acknowledged all the local clubs except SPRC. We could ask for a show-of-hands of Skywarn-certified members at our meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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

Fri May 6	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54. See Page 1.
Sat May 7	10AM VE testing. Ramsey Cty Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr., Maplewood. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat May 7	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri May 13	7PM SPRC Board meeting. OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415) **
Sat May 14	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat May 21	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat May 21	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat May 28	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jun 4	10AM VE testing. Ramsey Cty Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr., Maplewood. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Jun 4	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jun 11	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jun 18	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Jun 18	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
June 25-26	Field Day Weekend, Tartan Park

*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.

** Depending on business to be considered, Board Meetings are sometimes held electronically. Check with an officer or board member to confirm that the meeting will be at UST.