

 <p><a href="http://www.arrl.org">www.arrl.org</a></p>		<p><b>St. Paul Radio Club</b>  <b>Ground Wave</b></p> <p><i>Dan Meyer, NØKFB, Editor</i>  <i>Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Publisher</i>  <a href="http://www.magicrepeater.net/sprc.htm">http://www.magicrepeater.net/sprc.htm</a></p>	<p><b>KØAGF</b>  Club Repeaters:  145.310 MHz, 442.450 MHz  114.8 Hz tone</p> <p>PO Box 9375  North St. Paul, MN 55109</p>
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**Devoted to the future of Amateur Radio as a hobby and public necessity**  
**SPRC Nets: Wednesday 7:30 PM 28.310 MHz USB; 8:30 PM 145.310 MHz FM 114.8 tone**

**NEWS AND NOTES FOR JUNE 2023 – Volume 83, Issue 6**

**NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY September 8th, 2023**

However, there are other exciting events happening soon, most notably Field Day planning and Field Day. See the article that starts below and the calendar on the back page for more information.

**Directions to our Field Day site**

From I-694 and US Highway 61 go north about 6.1 miles to 5860 US Highway 61, on the right side of the road. Follow the gravel driveway past the hangers and water tower and you will find the site. Talk-in on 147.120+

**CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day by Pete Guldán KDØSQJ**

Field Day schedule.

The final walk through for planning at the site will Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> after the SPRC breakfast at Denny's around 11AM or so at Benson Airport.

The final planning meeting will be Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup> at Davanni's 1905 Donegal Dr. Woodbury. Show up around 5 to 5:30 if you want to buy some food or beverage and we will start the meeting at 6PM. We need to clear out of the room by 8.

Setup begins at Benson Airport at 3PM Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1PM Saturday until 1PM Sunday is when we make all of the contacts. Sunday at about 1PM we grab a quick lunch and then finish the tear down process.

Continued on Page 3

## The Prez Sez by Ralph Bierbaum NØAWN

Dayton was a no-go this year for Janet and I. On departure day, Janet, KDØBZZ awoke with a badly infected tooth, so instead we were able to get into the UofM Dental School and she was able to get a root canal on that miserable tooth. It took about three days before Janet started feeling better, which all that matters. One good thing about Dayton; it will be there next year.

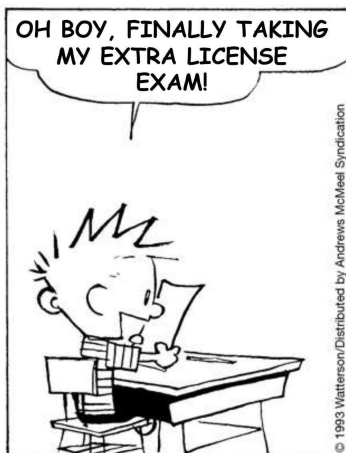
Meanwhile....

FIELD DAY is coming and that is always a good time at the combined event with Mining Radio Club and the St. Paul Radio Club. A fine group of people to do a field event with. This cooperative event has been going on for a long as I've been in

the club and a great example of hams can work together.

Field Day is one of my favorite events, mostly because I get to see old friends and meet new ones. Amateur Radio is the depository of the fine art of socialization and conversation. As such, it is up to each of us to continue to practice the art. This year, my personal effort will be directed toward greeting each guest, ham and visitor alike, an area I need improvement in. I urge you all to do the same. We call ourselves the friendly club, and we are, so let's make friends an look for those orphan hams looking for a club.

73, see you at Field Day  
Ralph Bierbaum, NØAWN



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What is the effective isotropic radiated power of a repeater station with 200 watts transmitter power output, 2 dB feed line loss, 2.8 dB duplexer loss, 1.2 dB circulator loss, and 7 dBi antenna gain?



WATTERSON 4-11

## CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day by Pete Guldan KDØSQJ

(continued from page 1)

Yep... Almost here, That calendar thingy again. Funny thing happened. I was looking at June in a free calendar my credit union (Spire) gave out a while ago and the dates were off by 2 Days. Sometimes 'FREE' isn't worth the price. What is worth the price is your participation is Field Day. You can get on the air from your home shack or your own portable or mobile station if you want. Just make sure when you send in your results to include your club affiliation. If you have questions how to do this just give me a holler at [kd0sqj@arrl.net](mailto:kd0sqj@arrl.net) and I should be able to help. If you use logging software make sure you have the latest version because there have been changes to the way some Canadian provinces are reported. N3FJP users version 6.6.7 is current.



Another way to participate is with a friendly radio club or two at a public location. Obviously this is the what I recommend. The League has a nice map on their locator so you can find what's near you. <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>. If you do attend any other club locations please let me know if they are doing anything that we might want to add into our setup. The SPRC and MARC are once again teaming up for our public Field Day location. We will be at Benson Airport 5860 Highway 61 North in White Bear Township. When you come in the driveway go around the hangar building on your left. Past the water tank we will be along the tree line on the right. Be sure to park so you are clear of the taxiway in case any aircraft need to taxi through the area.

This is a family friendly event and you are encouraged to invite friends and family. The Saturday night supper would be the best time to showcase what we do in our hobby/service. Make sure everyone signs in at the welcome table to get a meal ticket. No meal ticket, No meal. No we are not charging anything for the tickets but we want to keep track of who shows up for safety, security, and to give a true tally to ARRL about total participants. I hope to see you all there. 73 Pete

## Dale's Details by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

### SPRC Field Day History

A little of everything! Waay back in 1991 when (former)NOPEZ and I were first licensed, and gas was much cheaper, we took the opportunity to tour as many FD sites as we could to see who did what, where and how. I recall visiting Burnsville, nice place and plenty of food. Over to SEMAC, on the ball field with I think 6 or 8 stations. We missed the meal. Up to SPRC at the ski jump with the chalet to lounge in and tents for stations. Don Greenheck gave us the tour. I remember a very noisy genset. Believe it or not, back then SPRC had over 250 members with a good percentage active to the point the operator and logging signup sheets had waiting lists!

Then to the hill behind 3M, with campers and space to spread out. One push up mast with a small beam and wires in 3 directions. MARC could roster 7 to 12 at meetings and about 20 to 25 for FD. They needed the help more than SPRC, so we tagged on with them until about 2000. Then I had to split my time with both when I became an officer with SPRC. I think we figured it out one time that SPRC and MARC merged FD in 2008, out at Tartan Park. If you missed attending one of those years, that's a whole other story for later.

So over 15 years working together, first with MARC leading the way with assets, and now SPRC picked up the load and is the host. SPRC also lost an annual picnic in here some place, and after a couple years of FD food, Skip Jackson suggested we have a spaghetti and meat ball feed for everyone on Saturday evening. He offered the recipes and we made a quick serve dinner with a combination of roasters full of sauce and meat, garlic bread from a mega propane heater, and fresh pasta every 6 minutes. The year it rained a river over us in on file with pictures. Other years we were blessed by my sister in law and then my niece making cupcakes and pastries for dessert. Another secret was usually a salad or two in big bowls that fell off the Park truck, Thanks Jim! Normal crowd was about 70.

We experimented with Jambalaya one year, and fried chix tenders and onion rings another. The big steak feed on the first /last Tartan Park exit was fantastic! Once we lost the tables and roof, logistics of tables, chairs and shelters have hampered big dinners.

Operations of the stations has followed the hobby starting with CW and SSB, then we added VHF/UHF in many forms with improvements each year. When Digi showed up, it was a challenge, but it will be a great scorer this year. When people and gear were available, we made the 5 solar contacts and sometimes the 5 Satellite contacts too.

Our best update has been in station locations, RV's and trailers with Air Conditioning to fight off the summer heat. The end of June can be vicious and sunburn is everywhere. Bring your cream or wear pants and long sleeves. Hats for sure! Benson Airport is an ideal spot for us, away from the crowd but easy to find.

OK, I know many of you are waiting for the continuing adventures of 20 year old Spec 4 Dale as he condors the then US Possession of Okinawa, but I will pick that up in September. What I will do is tell the stories I can't put in the GW at FD, Friday and Saturday nights. Find out just how much trouble a young GI can get into without adult supervision.

Dale Maroushek, NØPEY

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## **Notes from the Editor by Dan Meyer NØKFB**

You may not be aware there is an exciting amateur radio event being planned in October. Over a dozen seminars on ham radio related topics are being presented. An organization has been created for this group; the Minnesota Affiliated Radio Clubs, and is planning the event. I have volunteered to take care of audio-visual needs for the seminars. *I need help*, as there are multiple events being planned to happen at the same time, and I need helpers to make sure everyone in the room can hear the presenter and to make certain the presentation is being recorded; if there is a problem you can not resolve let me know. No experience is necessary! If you can operate a 2 meter radio you have enough technical skills to be of assistance. My contact information may be found in the officers contact list in the Ground Wave. Thank you for your consideration to help us make this event a success! -- Dan Meyer NØKFB

## Ramblings from the VP's Work Bench by Kevin Welna W5LNA

Finally it is Spring / Summer!!!

Alas other than field day, my radioactivity is pretty much on the back burner. Summer is the time I devote to Skeet shooting, USPSA shooting, Steel Challenges, model planes and camping. I still do get on the air both HF and VHF but not nearly as much as I should. Although I have been trying to keep up with my CW training and practice. I can definitely see some degradation in my skills.

Speaking of field day, do come out and check it out. It is a great time and an excellent way to put faces to call signs. There will be plenty of refreshments, snacks and maybe even some cooked food. More importantly, there will be plenty of opportunities to get on the air on almost all bands and modes even if your not yet licensed!

The Memory Keyer is on the shelf unless we get some rainy days. I still need to proto-board the design. Again, I have no idea if the design even works or if there are mistakes\missing connections in the design. (And I think there may be a couple.....) I will definitely be working on this again come Fall\Winter. In addition, I see there is a new offering from QRP Labs!!! A multi band CW\Digital (80, 60, 40, 30, 20m) 5W QRP rig: <http://shop.qrp-labs.com/qmx> CHECK IT OUT!!!!

Currently they seem to be as rare as hens teeth but I am sure by fall they will\should be easier to come by. At under \$100 and all the SMT parts already on the board, this looks to be an excellent kit!! QRP Labs makes a great product with tons of features built in. Anyone else game to build one? It even looks\ sounds like there may be a SSB transceiver in the future! What a excellent POTA rig you can leave in your car for that spur of the moment activation. I will certainly be getting one for a winter project later this fall. I can't wait!! Email me if you are interested in building the kit maybe we can get a group build going and compare notes and issues?

It is an exciting time to be in Ham Radio!!

Well the 3D printer is somewhat idle these days as the laser cutter is going strong cutting parts for model planes out of balsa and plywood. There is a definite learning curve trying to come up with a good speed to laser power ratio. I'm still not there but getting closer. Interestingly, plywood is not all that pleasant to cut due to the glue and varying density of the wood layers, it is somewhat difficult to cut regardless of the laser settings. The trick is to vaporize the wood with out burning it and plywood does not cooperate at all in this area.

On a happier note, I was able to get out with one of my gliders recently and it flew well. It needs a bit of trimming and a bit more programming of the radio to tame down the control surfaces. I have since done this and I am now waiting to get it back out to test my changes. In the mean time I am continuing my building\painting of 3 other planes I hope to fly yet this summer.

See you at Field Day!

That's if for this month. Till next time:

May your signals be strong and your antennas have extra gain....73

Kevin Welna W5LNA

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## **Time to get on the air! by Scott NØAR**

Every Field Day we have a portion of folks that just show up and hang out avoiding operating any of the stations. If getting on the air isn't your cup of tea that's just fine. If you are avoiding the fun, this is the short plea for you to set aside some time get on the air and make a few contacts. Sure the radio isn't something you're familiar with but for the most part you don't have to do much adjusting! It is more than OK to ask the person using the gear to show you how it works. We all started out at ground zero and no one expects you to start anywhere else! If the on-air activity level seems overwhelming you can start at the higher frequency stations or the GOTA.

The lower end of the HF bands seem to be full of stations operating at blinding fast speeds, the top ends seem to slow down to a more civil speed. If you want to build up your cw proficiency for Field Day there is a YouTube site that has a practice session at just the speed you need. If you go to: <https://tinyurl.com/446y5pm6> you will find plenty of practice just for the FD exchange. The author Kurt Zoglmann has many more practice lessons on his site.

Just a quick note to the newly licensed folks. Field Day is the perfect opportunity to learn about making contacts, various radios and the different bands we can operate in. At the end of the day there are no trophies, awards or certificates handed out. Speed or the number of contacts you rack up isn't a factor, having a good time is the only reward. Pull up a chair and join in the fun.

73 Scott

## Club Wearables

Some folks have been asking about our Club Wearables. Many different items may be ordered at: <https://www.hamthreads.com/> It's the same website with a new owner. Dale spoke with Diane and she assured him they still have our logo in three sizes, hat/chest/back, so you can have it positioned on your favorite item wherever you like. You can shop on line, pick the clothing piece you want, list the logo, name and callsign and pay. Sit back and it comes to your house. If you have questions, give them a call 817.602.1834

## HELP WANTED

Your St. Paul Radio Club is looking for a VE Liaison – someone to coordinate the amateur radio exam sessions.

Our exam year runs from September through June with a session on the first Saturday of each month, plus an additional session in conjunction with the MAGIC Repeater Tailgater in July. All sessions are being held at Galilee Lutheran Church in Roseville at 9:30 am.

No experience is necessary, as you will be provided with on-the-job training for five months if you act now. All you really need to qualify is a willingness to help out the club and your fellow hams. The person for this position needs to be 18 years of age or older; and never have had your amateur station or operator licenses suspended or revoked, hold a valid Amateur Extra class license and be an accredited ARRL Volunteer Examiner. To become a VE, you merely have to take an open book exam from the ARRL, and you don't even need to purchase a manual as it's all online. You don't even need to be a member of the ARRL to qualify!

We currently have a large team of experienced VEs who help out with the monthly exams so anyone volunteering for this position will have plenty of help. The time commitment for this position is about three hours per month plus the exam sessions themselves, which are typically another two hours. All paperwork / forms and instruction on their use will also be provided. This is a great opportunity for someone to help out our club with this important position. c Contact Leon, WØCOE, with your willingness to help or with any questions by sending an email to [w0coe@arrl.net](mailto:w0coe@arrl.net).

**Leon, WØCOE**



# BoD Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

**Saint Paul Radio Club  
Hereinafter referred to as “SPRC”  
Board Meeting Minutes  
05-05-2023**

Board members present: (If \* or R)

Ralph Bierbaum-(Pres.)-NØAWN *	Kevin Welna (V. Pres.)-W5LNA *
Art Thell (Secy.)-NØIWQ *	George Power- (Treas.)-KØGCP *
Br. Bob Walsh-WCØJ *	Ben Otto-KEØRFZ *
Lou Michaels WD8NOV	

Also present (If \* or R):

Jay Maher-NJØM *	Jeff Iverson-WB9DAN	Dale Maroushek-NØPEY *
Pete Guldán-KDØSQJ *	John Crabtree-KCØG *	Don Kelly-WA6ZMT *
Dan Meyer-NØKFB *	Janet Bierbaum KDØBZZ *	Dawn Holmberg KØWC *

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**6:08** Pres. Ralph called the meeting to order.

President: Call for added agenda items: \_\_\_\_\_

## Old Business:

Secretary’s Report: Move to accept minutes of April Meeting as published in the Ground Wave.

Move Art                      Second Ralph                      Approved

Treasurer’s report: George

General Fund: \$7439.84, Repeater Fund: \$1234.25, Education Fund: \$1280.38

Total Cash on Hand: \$9954.47.

Noted and recorded: Secy.

Repeater Report: Dale:

VHF works, UHF will perform test.

Move to approve expenditure of \$250 to cover repeater repairs.

Move: Kevin Second: Ralph    Passed

Membership Report: Dale,

137 members, including 3 new.

Old website report: Ralph

Old website is placed totally off-line.

New website needs update with GW, pictures, and history.

Banquet Report: Jay

Attendees: 24. Food reported as good to excellent (fish).

Service was slow. Large family event also in progress. Discussion indicated we would consider Jameson's again & discuss service issue with management.

Banquet financial report: Total cost: \$1012.97. Attendees paid: \$330.00

SPRC Club cost: \$682.97

Kevin moved to approve the figure. Seconded by Ralph. Passed

VE Report:

Tests coming up: 4. Next tests 5/6/23.

Training Report: Pete

Upgrade classes ongoing. Steve Scott, Extra Class student, will test out at Dayton Hamvention.

Plan training session in the Fall followed by a weekend Ham Cram.

Field Day:

Setup: June 23 3:00 pm      Operate June 24-25.

Location: Same as last year--Benson's Airport, Hwy 61 north of White Bear Lake.

Need chair and co-chair for: GOTA, CW, SB, and Digital.

Also need co-chair for Event chair (Pete).

**Info in the Ground Wave**

**New Business:**

Don Kelly:

Minnesota Section Convention is in the planning stages for October 2023.

TCFMC will facilitate the event. Clubs are invited to sponsor events, etc.

SPRC is committed.

**Club Breakfast:**

Third Saturday, May 20. At 9:00 AM

At Denny's, 1664 University Ave. across from the Ax Man.

Adjourn:

Move:                      Second:                      Approved

**7:00: Adjourn.**

## Membership Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

Saint Paul Radio Club  
Hereinafter referred to as “SPRC”  
Member Meeting Minutes  
05-05-2023 7:30 pm

**7:30 Call to order** by Pres. Ralph

\_30\_ Members present plus Remote.

Dakota Div. Director, Bill Lippert (ACØW) report:

ARRL expressed thanks for the SPRC donation to the Spectrum Defense Fund.

VOTA (Volunteers on the Air) 2023 Year-long operating event. Consult ARRL website.

Bill encouraged members to respond to the ARRL Member Survey regarding potential dues and subscription changes.

A great thank you to Jay Maher (NJØM) for all his fine work managing the SPRC Banquet. A good time was had by all.

Treasurer’s Report, George:

General Fund: \$7439.84, Repeater Fund, \$1234.25, Education Fund: \$1280.38

Total cash n hand: \$9954.47

Membership report, Dale: 137          Incl. new members: 3

Repeater Report, Dale: Antenna is replaced. Works.

The club still needs a VE Liaison. Important but not a lot of work.

Dayton Hamvention: Group from SPRC is going. Event had about 28,000 attendees in 2022.

Training Report, Pete:

Expect regular 9-week classes followed by Ham Cram in the fall.

Also offering General and Extra class upgrade in the fall.

Field Day: Set-up June 23. Operating Event June 24-25.

**Please consult your Ground Wave for detailed setup and operating information.**

Please consider volunteering for one of the chair or co-chair positions. These guys need our help.

Other operating events:

POTA: Great activity for new HF operators to get their feet wet.

Activators need hunters. Lots of activity.

**Club Breakfast:** Normally Third Saturday----May 20, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

Place: Denny's at 1664 University Ave. Across from the AxMan.

**Adjourn: 8:00**

**Program:** Daniel Petsinger, KDØTGF

**Subject:** DMR (Digital Mobile Radio)

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## **St. Paul Radio Club Breakfast**

**Saturday June 17th, 2023 9:00 am**

**(Third Saturday of each month)**



**Denny's Restaurant**

**1664 University Ave. W.**

**One block West of Snelling Ave.**

**(Across from Ax Man)**

## SPRC Contact Information

President	Bierbaum, Ralph, NØAWN	<a href="mailto:rwbierbaum@comcast.net">rwbierbaum@comcast.net</a>	612-201-9510
Vice President	Welna, Kevin W5LNA	<a href="mailto:kwelna@gmail.com">kwelna@gmail.com</a>	651-354-5515
Past President	Michaels, Lou WD8NOV	<a href="mailto:louthephotoguy@gmail.com">louthephotoguy@gmail.com</a>	612-638-8159
Treasurer	Power, George KØGCP	<a href="mailto:georgecpower@gmail.com">georgecpower@gmail.com</a>	651-233-3215
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## SPRC Calendar

Sat Jun 17 7AM-Noon TCFM Club Spring Tailgate Swap Meet.  
West Medicine Lake Community Club. 1705 Forestview Ln N, Plymouth, MN

Sat Jun 17 9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, St Paul.

Sat Jun 17 After SPRC Breakfast.  
Walk through at Benson Airport for Field Day Planning.

Tue Jun 20 Field Day Planning meeting.

Fri Jun 23 3:00PM. Field Day set up.  
Benson's Airport, Hwy 61 north of White Bear Lake.

June 24-25 SPRC/MARC Field Day Weekend. Benson Airport.

*Please note: for all Field Day related events, please see the article in this issue of the Ground Wave for more information.*

Sat July 8 9:30 AM VE testing. Galilee Lutheran Church.  
145 N McCarrons Blvd, Roseville, MN 55113.  
Reservations required. No walk-ins until further notice.  
Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrrl.net or 651-425-0338.

Sat July 8 Magic Repeater Group Tailgate Swapfest. Galilee Lutheran Church.  
145 N McCarrons Blvd, Roseville, MN 55113.  
See <http://www.magicrepeater.net/fest.htm> for more information.

Sat Jul 15 9 AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave.

Sat Aug 19 9 AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave.

Fri Sept 8 6 PM SPRC Board meeting  
Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. \*

Fri Sept 8 7 PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting.  
Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School.

Sat Sept 9 9:30 AM Amateur Radio testing administered by Saint Paul Radio Club  
volunteer examiner team. Galilee Lutheran Church, 145 N McCarrons Blvd,  
Roseville, MN 55113.

\* Depending on business to be considered, Board Meetings are sometimes held electronically. Check with a Board member beforehand to confirm a meeting.