

 www.arrl.org		St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave <i>Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN, Editor</i> <i>Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Publisher</i>	KØAGF www.stpaulradioclub.org Club Repeaters: 145.310 MHz, 442.450 MHz 114.8 kHz tone PO Box 9375 North St. Paul, MN 55109
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SPRC Nets: Wednesdays 7:30 PM 28.310 MHz USB; 8:30 PM 145.310 MHz FM 114.8 tone

NEWS AND NOTES FOR January 2022 – Volume 82, Issue 1

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 2022

- 6:00 PM Board Meeting (all are welcome to attend or watch)
- 7:00 PM Refreshments and Socializing
- 7:30 PM Business Meeting Followed by Program

Program

The January meeting will be a hybrid meeting. That means there will be an in-person meeting at Cretin-Durham Hall (CDH) and a meeting on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. Zoom details are at the end of the newsletter.

Parking on the east (Hamline) side of the campus should be available.

The program will be an auction run through and a slide show of some of the equipment the club will be selling.

Don't forget the SPRC Auction coming up January 22, 2022.

Program Suggestions

An important part of our member meetings, be they on-line or in-person, is our programs. The board plans the programs and we would like your suggestions of what you would like to see. If you would like to present a program, that's a great idea, too! Please send your suggestions, including potential presenters' contact information if appropriate, to dk@donkelly.biz (or WA6ZMT@arrl.net, if that's easier to remember).

From the President

I Wish all members a Happy New Year and look forward to the auction coming up on the 22nd. I can't think of anything more.

Dale's Details by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

Happy New Year! I suppose some of the readers have been hit by a day or two of bad weather, but the East Metro has been missed by Mother Nature's bad side for many months now. After all that beautiful snow cover, it mostly melted away by Christmas and

we had another brown landscape to look over. Reindeer hoof divots all over the yard again!

January is the Auction month, the 22nd is the date. But first, be sure to watch for last minute announcements caused by events that we have no control over. If Covid or variant XXX cause's mandatory closures of school, city, county, state, country or world shut down, it will disappear until a later date.

That being said, the first forty pictures of "the good or big stuff" are posted on the website under Auction, along with the flyer and rules. This site, <http://www.magicrepeater.net/sprc.htm>, not that other old one. About 40 more may be posting as days go on, but we hope to be able to show them at the meeting as a slide show with verbal explanation and questions answered from what we know. Big Thank You out to George, N0SBU, our webmaster for doing all the posting, Mark, N7LAS, and Lou, WD8NOV, for the photography.

As you can now see, there is a ton of stuff down there that needs new homes. The CDH Station will be the primary home. I'll be talking with Br. Bob about room at the new station or STEM Center to build a library with some of the books and manuals. They may want some of the hardware and electronic parts for building projects too. As we unpack some of the boxes, we expect to find more items to go into the "FREE" section, described later.

Other goodies will find their way to the Silent Auction section and be boxed in hopes that bidding wars will break out because Jim and John, who both want a special prize inside, and are willing to duel over them. Keep it in mind, that AFTER the auction, side sales are an option if you work together.

The Live Auction as we call it, will have the usual talented Auctioneers and a couple new ones. These include our friends Jay, Brian, Tom, Ralph, Dale, Ben (he has to try it) and Joe. They have been instructed and agree to pick up the pace and move through this stuff quickly.

First the begging. We control this sale via 3 computers, a couple printers, a banker, one runner and an alternate. Six people are needed just to fill the slots. I need to identify you volunteers, something I have not had to do in the past. SO, who are those that will be manning the control table?

I was happy to get all the helpers at the photo session, and we have a couple photos of most of them to show at the meeting. However, the amount of stuff down there and the job of getting it up to the sales areas Friday night will be massive. Many hands make easy work but, follow the route here as it gets complicated. First is sales room set up. Br. Bob usually has it about right, but always something to adjust. Everything is in three rooms in the Brother's basement. It needs to be picked in a "sort of order", loaded onto/into carts, moved up the elevator, out the door, around or into the garage, into the

building, into the room or the foyer, unloaded, tagged into the items list, and displayed nicely. Then the carts go back down for more, and repeat. Two easy jobs for the semi mobile will be door guys at the school and the House. We had a dozen guys at the photo shoot, 20 to 25 helpers would be better on Friday night the 21st. And you get firsthand look at all the goodies! Step up and help us out.

The rest of the plan. We haven't finalized this yet, but we may have a garage out there, for free stuff. If things work out, we plan to open the garage later, like noon, so we can get a few bucks for the stuff we displayed before you leave for home. That stuff may never make it back into inventory, for next year, and we don't want it back as a donation in the future either.

The Live and Silent auctions will run like they have in years past, only quicker. The Minimum Bid has always been a stumbling block. Let me explain. The seller thinks his item is worth XX dollars and lists it as Minimum. We open the auction item and get nothing. We ask the seller if they will lower the minimum. They agree and the minimum drops to -XX, say half price. It gets a bid, and another and the next one is right back to the original minimum bid. STOP THAT, it wastes time, just bid the minimum and let's go here! Large more expensive items are researched and listed fairly, just dive in and take it home with you.

The Silent Auction minimum bid is \$1. I shop the dollar store and buy many things. Value is in the eyes (or storage space, or XYL's look, or the challenging project for 2022) of the beholder. Go in there, be aggressive. If it looks interesting, buy it! After the auction, sell it, trade it, throw it, we don't want it either.

Like Field Day, take down is factor two of this event, and many hands will make it easier too. What we created we need to remove. Hopefully we get by with tons less than before to return to the basement. Tables and clean up always take time, usually only an hour. Leftover food is offered free first, then removed.

Speaking of food. With loving kisses and a cremation plan, I persuaded my XYL Deb to work the Hot Dog stand again this year...for the last time. She has been staffing it for many years and is not a Ham, just my guidance advisor. I'm sorry she failed us, but I am willing to take her place in the future. BUT, that means I won't be the White Hat Chairman. Planning ahead, I have Ben on the hook to pick up the business and he is willing to take over next year.

Last of all, the most important part of this Auction is that it is a Benefit that contributes to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. Whatever money you contribute at the Auction, be it bidding on an item, donation for coffee or buying a refreshment at the stand, all the profits goes to the ARRL.

Just one more thing, (I've heard that before somewhere, Colombo!) SPRC Auction may have to limit, or at least screen and remove donations in the coming years. Storage and

manpower being the limiting factors. The last two donations we had were “picked over” by staff and we left the donator with unwanted items to dispose of.

Ok, that’s a wrap for this month. We will do an Auction dry run again at the meeting like last year. Just to make sure all the stuff still talks together nicely. If it is a sign of the times, I just bought and installed a new HP Pro 6978 printer to my network and everything went beautifully. Just followed the directions and it showed up on all the stations just like that!

Ramblings from the VP’s Work Bench - Kevin Welna - W5LNA

PIXIE Kits are here! If you requested one, please contact me (651.354.5515) so I can get your kit to you!

Well, it’s been a busy December. Alas I have not been all that “radioactive”. Between Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s preparations plus friends/family gatherings, this time of year makes it hard to do much of anything. On a more positive note (Maybe) winter has hit with a bit of a vengeance and temps are starting to fall. This is a great time to dig through your hobby stuff and pursue that which interests you while staying warm. I have been accused of having hobby ADHD as well as having the hobby of collecting hobbies..... Alas it true. What can I say, everything interests me!

So, what’s on the bench? Currently a stick and tissue rubber powered airplane. (Dumas Products - Mr. Mulligan) I found the kit in the basement along with lots of other neat stuff...so I decided to build it. As a kid, I built a bunch of Comet, Gillows and Sterling stick and tissue models. Almost none of them flew and being in a hurry, they were all of questionable build quality. This time I decided to do it right (more or less) and get the correct tools and take my time and not rush the process. This meant purchasing fresh X-Acto blades, single sided razor blades, T-Pins and a couple squares of 12 x 12 x 1/2” cork board and I stole the wife’s roll of wax paper. I already has a bottle of Tight Bond wood glue that I could water down. All up it was about \$20. To date, all the structures are built and sanded. Next is covering the model. For this I am currently watching a few You Tube - How to Videos. Interestingly, model airplane dope is getting hard to find and I do believe that it is no longer being manufactured to prevent people from sniffing it and because of the “dangerous” chemicals used in its manufacturing... At least that’s what they said at the local hobby shop. Another wonderful childhood memory/smell deleted by do-gooders.....Alas I digress...

One of the best parts of re-visiting my youth and this hobby is that I can incorporate using my 3D printer into the hobby. If I need a tool, part, clamp or whatever, I either look online and find a design or I can design one on my own and print it out.

Why not revisit your youth and build a model or whatever else you liked as a kid? Today’s kits are way better than the kits of old. The parts are all laser cut. They

actually fall out of the balsa sheet! No more smashed/crushed parts that bear only mild resemblance to the drawing of the part on the plan. The cost of entry is little more than lunch at a Denny's and the pleasure/feeling of Zen you will get is priceless. It will only take up about 2-3 square feet of space. I am by no means an authority on building these types of kits, but if you decide to give it a go, I will be happy to discuss/collaborate and/or print off any part(s) or tool(s) that you may need.

With the air frames built, my workbench has opened up a bit. So now it's time to start on the PIXIE Kit along with a couple other electronics kits and experiments. I did find a good PC board clamp-vice for soldering, it's a little weak in a couple of spots but I think I can redesign it with a brass tube down through the center of the pivot ball and into the base to give it more structural integrity.

I am looking forward to learning more about how transceivers work as well re-remembering my electronics schooling from 40 years back. Did I mention that I received a new digital oscilloscope from my wife for my B-Day?! I have a great wife!!! I think the O-Scope will help in this endeavor.

While all 20 Pixie kits I ordered are spoken for, you can still order one up from Pixie Kits and join us in building this little guy. You can find the kits online (China) for as little as \$5 without an enclosure. Again, it's cold out there! Here is a great way to mitigate cabin fever so why not give it a go? More to come on the Pixie in future articles.

Last time I checked, the STEM space at CDH is not yet ready for us. That being the case, I don't believe we can get together to build the Pixies. Maybe, we can at least get together to test and talk about them? Maybe we can do a net on the St. Paul repeater? Time will tell. For now, let's assume that we will have to build the kits on our own.

My second Morse Code class starts January 6 of 2022. I have been a bit lax in practicing so I will have to kick that in gear ASAP. While my recognition speed has faltered due to a lack of use, I still remember all the letters, numbers, and punctuation that I learned from the first class. So at least some of it is sticking in my brain. Truly I cannot recommend CW OPS training enough. It's free, the process works and is proven to work. It's fun and since you meet twice a week for an hour via zoom, you are motivated/held accountable to practice. It got me over my hump and back on track. I wish I would have started with them, rather than trying to learn it on my own. They got results faster and with better retention in 8 weeks than I could do in 1.5 years trying on my own.

Imagine if you will, you are sitting at your radio and listening on a cold winter night. Moonlight filtered through the clouds robs the view out your window of all color, leaving only shades of grey. The room is darkened. All you have is the glow from your dials and maybe a tube or two in the back of the radio glowing and adding a bit of extra heat and ambiance to the room. The wind is whipping up snow and ice crystals. As they hit your

windows, they make a hissing noise while trying to claw their way into your home and steal your warmth. Suddenly, from the depths of the static and noise, you hear the lone CQ call of a fellow ham looking to make a connection. Its neither strong nor weak, it's just audible enough for you to get a callsign without much effort. Your hand moves to your key. You respond and a new friendship is born.....

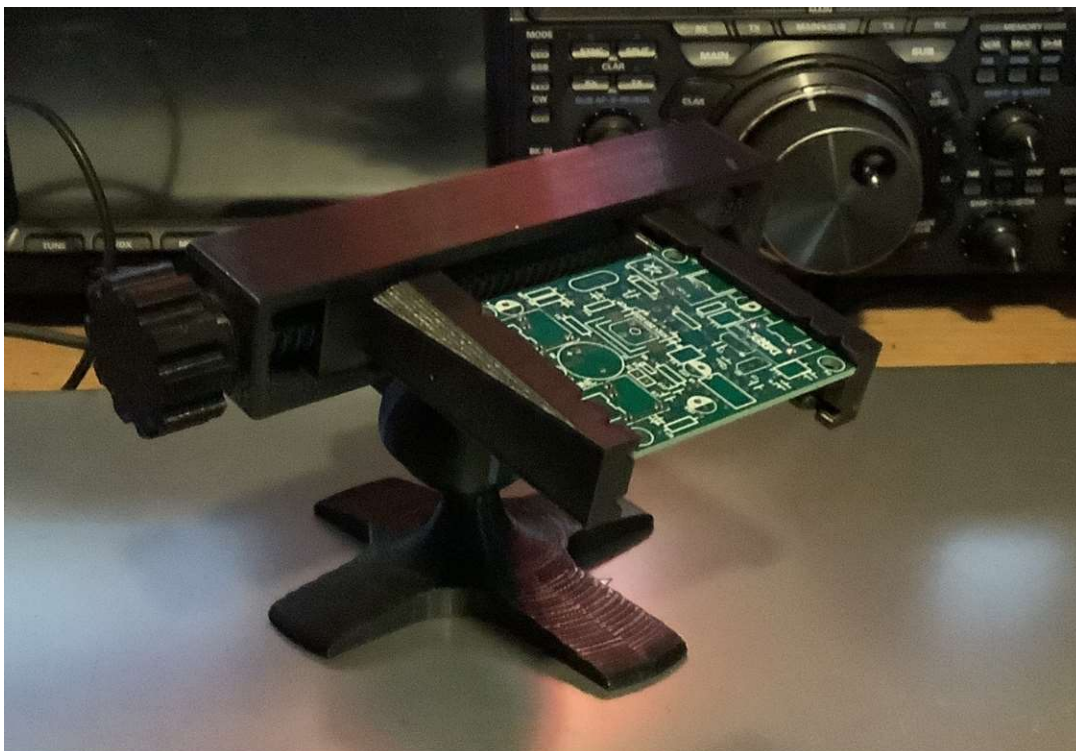
OK maybe it not romantic for you, but, its cold out there, why not try/learn something new and do it where you can stay warm?

Just a thought.

I've added a few pics of some of the stuff I have recently printed and the airplane. I hope you enjoy them. Maybe they will inspire you to try something new and\or get you to relive your youth.



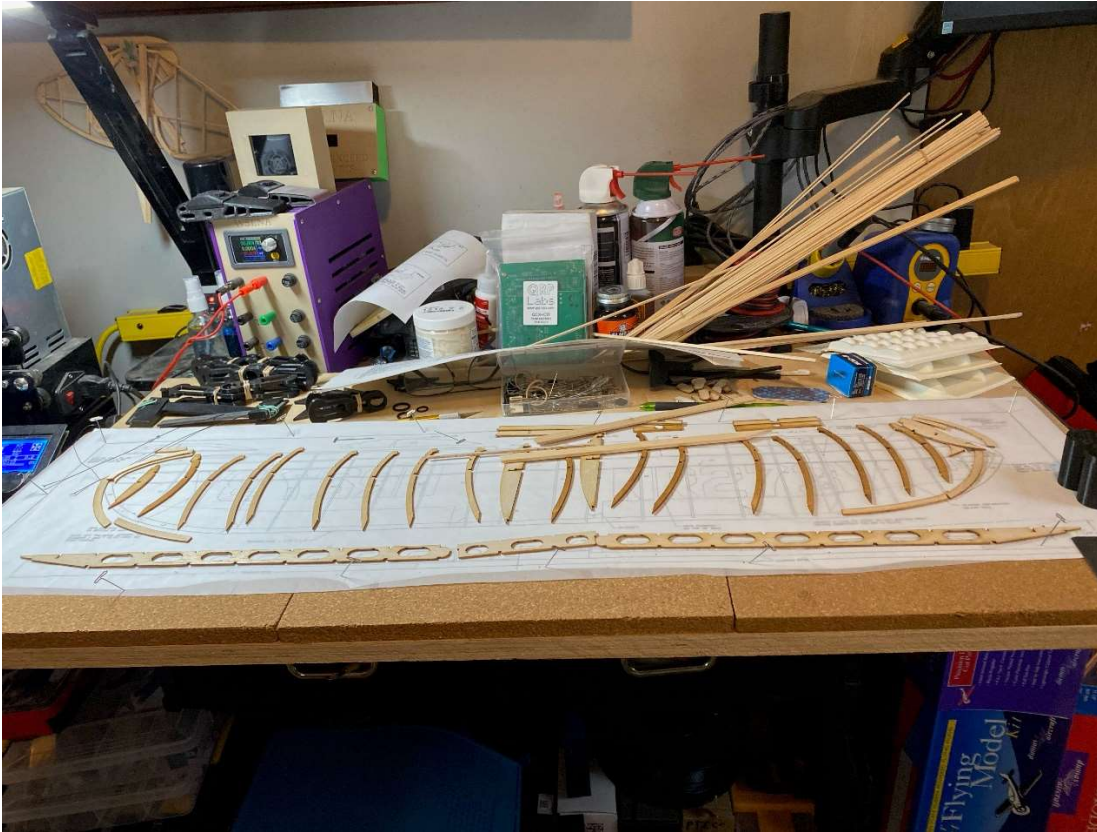
HT Desk Stand, 3D Printed PC Board Holder\Vise, Model Building Clips and Clamps



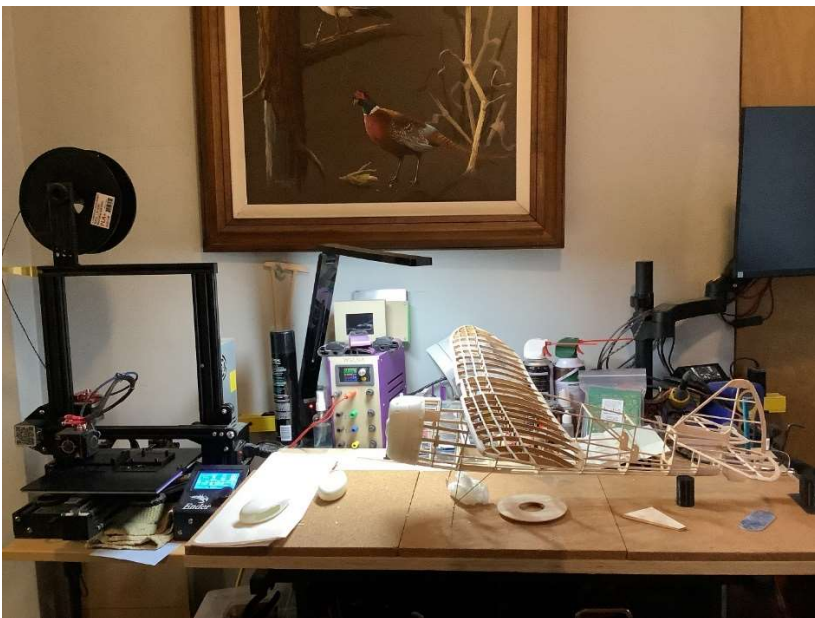
Vise in use holding a PIXIE board.



My Shack. Behind me is my workbench.



Getting ready to build the wing. Yes, that's my work bench for everything.....This is my "Big" plane building board. Its 3' x 1'. My regular board is 2'x1'. When I need the bench for other things, I just slide the building board(s) behind the printer.



Plane is built and ready to be covered in tissue. I sure hope it flies! I will find out this summer. If you look under the printer, you will see my small building board. I am

planning on building a second one of these planes and installing a micro radio control for elevator and rudder. RC in a rubber powered plane!

There, does that make it more Ham Radio related?

December Board Meeting Minutes

VP, Kevin: Called the in-person meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

Board members present:

Kevin Welna-W5LNA

Ben Otto-KEØRFZ

Art Thell-NØIWQ

Br. Bob Walsh-WCØJ
(Zoom)

Don Kelly-WA6ZMT (Zoom) Allan Klein- WØNLY

Excused: Lou Michaels WD8NOV

Also present:

Dale Maroushek-NØPEY

John Crabtree-KCØG

Jay Maher-NJØM

Pete Guldán-KDØSQJ

Old business:

Kevin report: Pixie kits program is going strong. 11 takers.

Financial report: Fund balances: Education \$1382, Repeater \$982, General \$8522.

Dale, Repeater report: Both repeaters are working fine.

Br. Bob (CDH): Getting started with having school club meetings with interested students on Fridays. Students are intrigued with Morse code and requested instruction on that. Morse was demonstrated to them using 4 letters. Several ideas were proposed by Kevin and others regarding teaching methods.

Kevin: Re-approached the idea of increasing the board members to 9 while leaving the quorum at 5.

Dale commented that we can add more members if the positions can be filled.

Kevin and Art will review the by-laws in this context and report back at some future time.

New Business:

Auction: Consensus was to have the club do one auction and see how it works.

Dale: Is working to recruit people to work on photos, etc. for auction advertising.

George Lavalley (NØSBU) can upload the photos to the website if they are .jpg format.

Pete stepped up to take on the Education Coordinator position. He also agreed to stay on again as Field Day Coordinator.

Dale: Needs to shed some functions. Spread the wealth! We need others to step up and take the load off some who have been carrying more than their share (My comment).

Kevin and Ben will attempt to rejuvenate the Circuit Builders.

Art agreed to take on the Public Information function.

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) is in process between CDH and SPRC with the aid of Jay Bellows-KØQB and others.

Kevin stated that it will be revisited in the following weeks.

Statements also were made regarding the actual ownership of the equipment donated to CDH—that this equipment needs to become the property of CDH as that was the wish of the donating person and family.

Concern was voiced whether SPRC club members will have access to the station during evenings. Br. Bob: The Memorandum of Understanding between SPRC and CDH will include wording that defines use of the station by SPRC members.

7:00: Art moved to adjourn. Ben seconded.

Art NØIWQ

December Membership Meeting Minutes

Kevin: Called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Ralph moved to adjourn.

Pete seconded.

Approved.

Adjourned at 7:05 pm.

A sumptuous repast was spread out to be enjoyed by all.

Art NØIWQ

Editor's Notes – by Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN

I would like to remind everyone about our St. Paul Radio Club Facebook page. We have over 100 members who are interested in what we are doing. Find the group and ask to join.

Remember, contributions to the *Ground Wave* are always welcome. Send them in a Word document (.docx) or Open Office document (.odt) as an email attachment to jaiverson@juno.com. Deadline is one week before the next meeting.

Officer Contact Information

President	Michaels, Lou WD8NOV	louthephotoguy@gmail.com	612-638-8159
Vice President	Welna, Kevin W5LNA	kwelna@gmail.com	651-354-5515
Past President	Kelly, Don WA6ZMT	dk@donkelly.biz	651-276-4838
Treasurer	Klein, Allan WØNLY	allankmn@cs.com	612-720-1324
Secretary	Thell, Art NØIWQ	thellaj@comcast.net	651-457-5533
Member At-Large	Otto, Ben KEØRFZ	ke0rfz@gmail.com	651-352-9590
Member At-Large	Walsh, Bob WCØJ	brw.fsc@gmail.com	612-201-0818

Zoom Information

Simply click the link below (or copy and paste link into your browser if that doesn't work) or call in from any phone. If you're not familiar with Zoom and would like to arrange to practice, text Don at 651 276-4838 or email dk@donkelly.biz.

Since they are all the first Friday, I've just scheduled all meetings on the first Friday until May. The link will be the same for all of them.

SPRC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SPRC Monthly Meeting

Every month on the First Friday

Jan 7, 2022 06:00 PM

Feb 4, 2022 06:00 PM

Mar 4, 2022 06:00 PM

Apr 1, 2022 06:00 PM

May 6, 2022 06:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcoc-uqjpjosHNYgigyhldJi19w4O3qkrK_G/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGr qz8oGNyUth-FRpwqGY-ga-rxiH5dgo1kmxbiGih6Zin_Z7tVZp0sAdPC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83542281662?pwd=QjhLNGhBZ2RuaUxrMWV4Z3laSWRLZz09>

Meeting ID: 835 4228 1662

Passcode: 440211

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83542281662#,,, *440211# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,83542281662#,,, *440211# US (Tacoma)

Dial +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 835 4228 1662

Passcode: 440211

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/440211>

SPRC Calendar

Sat Jan 1	10AM VE testing. Galilee Lutheran Church. 145 N McCarrons Blvd, Roseville, MN 55113. Reservations required. No walk-ins until further notice. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-425-0338.
Fri Jan 7	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. *
Fri Jan 7	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. See page 1.
Sat Jan 15	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.
Sat Jan 22	8:30AM - ?? SPRC Auction, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School.
Fri Feb 4	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. *
Fri Feb 4	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School.
Sat Feb 5	10AM VE testing. Galilee Lutheran Church. 145 N McCarrons Blvd, Roseville, MN 55113. Reservations required. No walk-ins until further notice. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-425-0338.
Sat Feb 12	9AM-1PM St. Cloud ARC COVID Fever Reliever Hamfest 2022. St. Cloud Armory, 1710 Veteran's Drive, St. Cloud, MN
Sat Feb 19	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.

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