

 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 April 2022 – Volume 82, Issue 4

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY April 1, 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

Entrance to CDH for our meeting

Meetings are held at Cretin-Durham Hall High School on Hamline and Randolph in St. Paul.

Park in the lot off Hamline near the athletic field. Enter door 21 at the Ryan STEM Center addition. Door 21 will lock at 7:45 so if you arrive after that, please call me to let you in. 612-201-0818 Br. Bob

SPRC Banquet 2022

Plans for a 2022 SPRC Banquet at our old favorite UST did not work out. However, we still have an option available to us if we move it a little farther south to Jameson's Irish Bar (886 Smith Ave S, West St Paul, MN). They have a private room which would work well for our small group. The buffet is not available with less than 20 attendees, but they do a plated service instead. A presentation about the CDH STEM center was floated as a possible program but that may or may not happen. I'm sure we can fill the time with other conversation. There could even be a few door prizes and other shenanigans. I'm afraid the asparagus harvest will be poor this year though.

I would appreciate it if those people who have already expressed interest in the Banquet could confirm about this new venue. Same date and time, Saturday April 23rd likely 5-9PM. If you haven't contacted me before and want to get in on the fun, please email me at jay@umn.edu ASAP.

Program

The April 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.

Our guest speaker for the April meeting will be Ed Fong (WB6IQN). As many of you know, he is the inventor of the DBJ-1 and DBJ-2 antenna that was featured in the February 2003 and March 2007 QST. His most recent antenna was the TBJ-1, a triband base antenna that was published in March 2017 QST. The DBJ-1 is a highly effective dual band VHF/UHF base station antenna and the DBJ-2 is the portable roll up version. The DBJ-2 won the QST Plaque of the Month Award. Both of these antennas are featured in the ARRL VHF antenna Handbook and also in the ARRL Antenna Classic Handbook. There are over 40,000 of these antennas in use today. About half are used by hams and the other half by government and commercial agencies.

Ed will give a history on how these antennas were developed and the theory on how and why they work so well. There is no “black magic” to antennas. He will explain in a non-mathematical manner to convince you for overall performance and simplicity his approach is one of the most practical.

Ed Fong was first licensed in 1968 as WN6IQN. He later upgraded to Extra Class (when 20 WPM was required) with his present call of WB6IQN. He obtained the BSEE and MSEE degrees from the Univ. of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. from the Univ. of San Francisco. A Life Senior Member of the IEEE, he has 12 patents and over 40 published papers and books in the area of communications and integrated circuit design. He is employed by the University of California, Santa Cruz (previously with Berkeley from 1997-2010), as an instructor teaching graduate classes in RF design and high speed interface. In his 35-year career, he has done work for Stanford University, National Semiconductor, Advanced Micro Devices, and numerous startup companies in the Silicon Valley.

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).

Dale's Details by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

The meeting is on April 1st, so the question is, will there be, or will there not be a gag hidden within the GW? Remember when QST used to do that and all the letters they got to print later as unsuspecting Hams fired back at them?

Thanks to the big six table sitters at Midwinter Madness, George, Art, Bob, Ben, Pete, and myself, we shared the job of explaining the Club and what we can do together, to all customers. We gained one member and others may show up in the mail from the folks that picked up information. It was good to see that all the Club Corral tables were well attended and busy exchanging conversations.

The sales floor was smaller, but well stocked and from my observations, gear was moving out the door. The parking lot was full of "pin cushion" vehicles with funny plates, and the weather was ok, despite the morning fog that slowed the travel time a bit. I also noticed a heavy increase in female participation, be they hams or family. The kitchen crew did another fine job of food service for the masses.

Looking ahead we may have a Banquet in April, I don't know, not on that committee. In May we have the election of Officers', who will lead SPRC for the next couple years? And in June, the big Field Day event at Benson Airport. Heard a rumor that Kevin plans to feed us like Kings this year. And Bro. Bob will be keeping the liquid line going, so I may get to operate some this year.

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

Well, we broke down and bought a different house. This one is in Cottage Grove. While we upsized just a bit, it was more of a reallocation of square footage than anything else. I will finally get an actual work room for all my hobbies and interests. I do not own any boat anchors to assist in the heating of the room so I will be putting in a supplementary electric base board heater. No cold basement for me!!

Now the moving process begins and with that a cleaning of the shack. I'm not sure if that is a good or bad thing. Thankfully I only have the accumulation of 3-4 years of stuff as a Ham to sort through. Still, I seem to have accumulated stuff that will need to go! They seemed like good purchases at the time.....

Spring is in the air (Sort of). Time to think and plan for summertime activities both Ham Radio related and not. Have you considered joining the club at Benson's Airport on June 26-27 for Field Day? I participated in my first Field Day last year and it was great. If you have never participated, you should. If for no other reason than to re-spark your Ham Radio passion. Plus, you can see all the different modes in action! It really re-ignited my interest in Ham Radio and pushed me into taking the CW Ops morse code training. I am getting better at morse code! Be there or be square!

Speaking of Field Day, I have been conversing with Pete - KD0SQJ and it looks like we will have some of the old favorites for eats during field day and there will also be some new additions. We will be serving 3 meals on Saturday. Sunday we will serve B-Fast and I think lunch. Snacks will be available all day both days. Do stop by, grab a bite, and check it out. Food and snacks are free. More to come in the following months.

Have any of you put together your PIXIE kits? Let's get them done and we can play with them on field day or any other day for that matter. I burned up my first one, (Hint: Don't apply 12 volts and leave it running for 10 minutes). Now I power my second one with a 9-volt battery. They do work by the way. Pretty cool. When you accepted the kit, you promised to build it, I'm holding you to that promise.

Now it's time to harp on volunteering. Currently the same folks are doing all the work. For some of them it's been years/decades of doing the work. They are tired and are looking for either assistance or for someone to take over before they totally burn out. It's time for you to step up before they walk away and we have nothing. It may be coming sooner than you think..... Again, most duties will take little more than a couple hours a month of your time and the entire club will benefit from your efforts. Time to step up or watch the club slowly fade away.

OK enough with the doom and gloom. On a brighter note, I 'm hearing a lot of members talking about POTA (<https://parksontheair.com/>) and it would seem that they are planning on activating a few parks this year/summer, myself included. It's not overly complicated and a great way to make contacts. Cost of entry seems to be moderate, especially if you already own a portable HF rig. Plus, it has the added benefit of getting our hobby out into the public eye. The web site is full of information on all aspects of the "sport". I'm thinking you get a friend or two together and head out to a nice park somewhere. Set up on a couple of park tables near each other and fire up the rigs. You can sit around, BS and solve the world's problems while making contacts. Hmm, fresh air, warm weather, BS-ing with friends in the great outdoors. Does it get any better??? Just remember to bring food and beverages....maybe even a few of the adult type??? Check it out! You might have fun. Until next month, may your signals be strong and your antennas have extra gain....73

Spring for Pete's Sake. By Pete Guldán KDØSQJ

The Extra Study sessions are going well. We have had some really good Elmer's helping us cover the chapters. I hope in early May I'll have some good news for you about upgrades. As of right now we are planning to offer a weekend "Ham Cram" class for the Technician license in the fall at CDH. It will likely be during the MEA weekend October 21-23.

Spring is officially here regardless of what the forecast says so it's time to grab a gear and hammer down on the Field Day planning. June 24th -26th is the weekend to mark on your calendar. The League has made a few rule changes. The maximum transmitter PEP is 100 watts for stations submitting a log. The home stations operating on normal grid power and antennas (Class D) are now able to work for points all other stations. The aggregated club scoring will also be permanent. There is also a change on the bonus points for media publicity.

We will once again be at the Benson's Airport in White Bear Township for the big club public location. I will also be encouraging those of you who would like to operate your home station or your own portable location. You can submit your results with club affiliation and we can add that to our aggregated score. I will be available if any of you need help turning in your results to the League. I am definitely looking forward to those spring and summer activities. Now where is that mustard for my bratwurst?

March Board Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

Board members present, (Absent or virtual):

Lou Michaels (Pres.)-WD8NOV (Excused)

Kevin Welna (V. Pres.)-W5LNA

Art Thell (Secy.)-NØIWQ

Allan Klein (Treas.)- WØNLY (Zoom)

Br. Bob Walsh-WCØJ

Ben Otto-KEØRFZ

Don Kelly-WA6ZMT (Zoom)

Also present:

Dale Maroushek-NØPEY

Jay Maher-NJØM

Jeff Iverson-WB9DAN (Zoom)

Pete Guldan-KDØSQJ

6:15 VP Kevin called the meeting to order.

Secy. Art moved to approve the February minutes. Second by Don. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Funds: General \$14,441 Education \$1382 Repeater \$982

Repeater Report: Dale It works

Membership report: Dale Total 102 (2022) members.

Old Business:

Equipment inventory: Ben, Br. Bob, and Art
Completed and in the record.

Insurance policy—add inventory to ARRL policy:
Will add the inventory to the policy.

Website issues:

Dale and committee: Old website is gone. New website up and running.
Don will check out.

I checked it out—looks good. Great job, guys!

Circuit Builders:

Keven has built one. No response yet from other recipients of the kits.

Field day: Pete Weekend of June 25th.

Have permission again to use Benson's Airport.

March Membership Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

7:45 Call to order by V. Pres., Kevin

15 Members present plus Zoom.

Reports:

Treasurer's report:

Funds: General: \$14,441 Education: \$1382 Repeater: \$982

Membership report: 102 (2022) Members.

Repeater report: It works

Auction report:

Gross Receipts: \$7274 (including cash drawer)

Ticket printing \$147

Food \$38

Donation CDH \$500

Cash Drawer \$495 \$1180

Net profit \$6094

Education: Extra classes are on track—Chapter 5 this week. Could use 3 Elmers.

Circuit builders: Kevin would like response from other kit recipients.

SPRC Website issues: Old website is gone. New one works & updated.

Midwinter Madness: March 19. SPR Table will be staffed by Pete, George, Ben, Dale, Br. Bob.

Announcements:

SPRC Breakfast for March is moved out to Saturday March 26.

Banquet: In flux

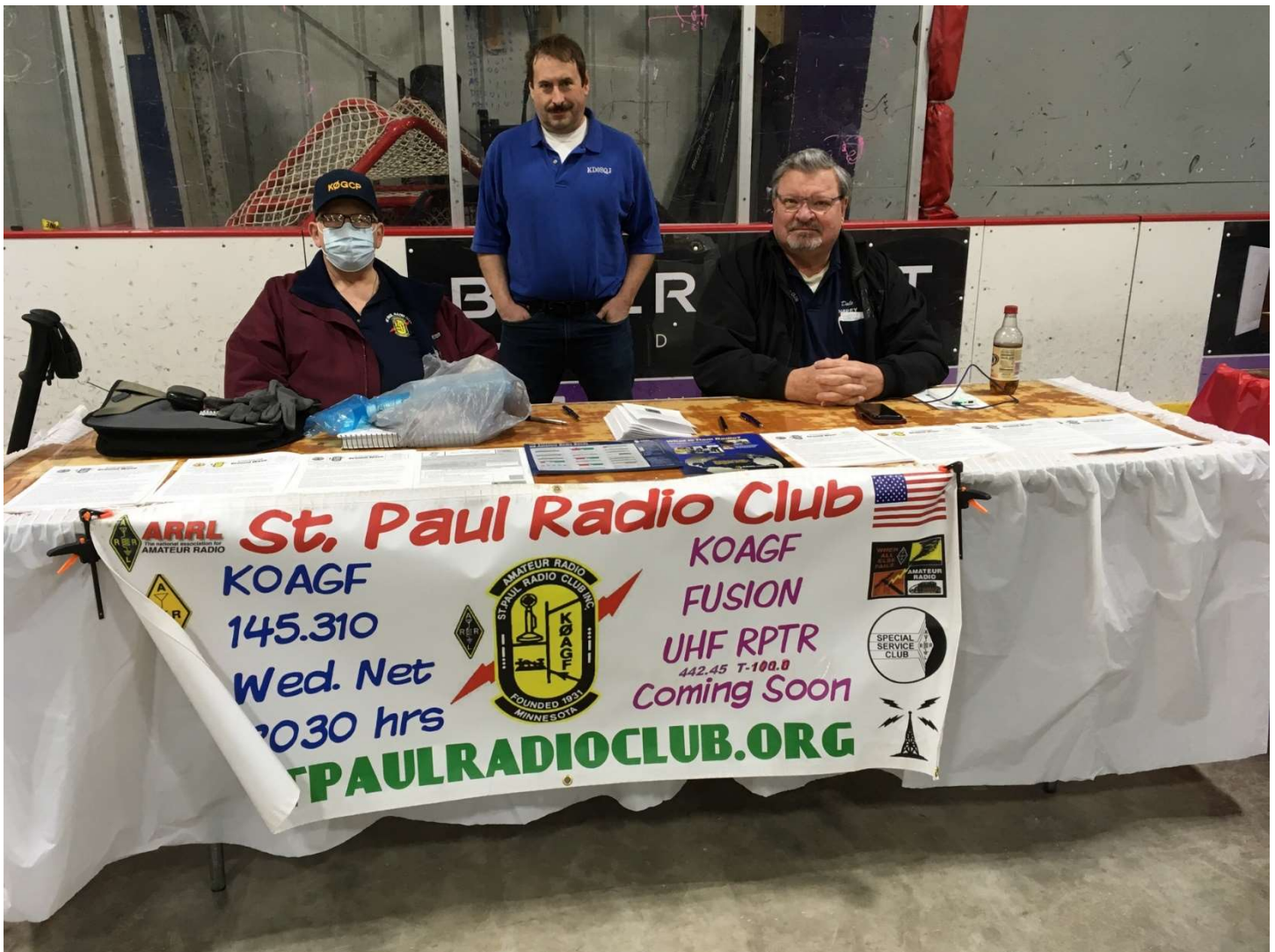
Field Day 6/25: Benson's Airport is confirmed. Need chairs & other volunteers.

8:03 Adjourn

Editor's Notes – by Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN

Speaking of new volunteers, I am looking for someone who wants to take over as editor of the Ground Wave. It takes about 3-5 hours a month depending on how clean and prompt the input is. Let me or a Board member know if you are interested.

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

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/join/83542281662?pwd=QjhLNhBZ2RuaUxrMWV4Z3laSWRLZz09>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83542281662?pwd=QjhLNhBZ2RuaUxrMWV4Z3laSWRLZz09>

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/83542281662?pwd=QjhLNhBZ2RuaUxrMWV4Z3laSWRLZz09>

SPRC Calendar

Fri Apr 1	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. *
Fri Apr 1	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 Apr 2	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 Apr 16	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.
Sat April 23	5PM-9PM SPRC Banquet? See note in this GW.
Fri May 6	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. *
Fri May 6	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albers Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School.
Sat May 7	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 May 21	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.