

 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 May 2022 – Volume 82, Issue 5

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY May 6, 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

Program

The May 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 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.

2022 SPRC Banquet Recap from Jay Maher - NJ0M

After missing two years due to Covid, the 2022 SPRC Banquet was a welcome return to near normal. Most of the faces were the same but so many things were different it is



hard to know where to begin. We had a small crowd of 15 so we opted out of our old favorite UST and gathered in a private room at Jameson's Irish Bar in West St. Paul. No buffet this year but everyone had their choice of chicken, sirloin, or walleye. As a fish guy by trade, I have to point out that the walleye was the predominant choice, but they were all good. Some of the members slipped away from time to time for a tall glass of cold milk and we finished the meal with a slice of chocolate cake. There was no program but as you can imagine, no silence in the room.

To finish off the night, we caught up with our backlog of Member of the Year awards. Only one of the awardees was present – Pete Guldán (KD0SQJ). Pete has

repeatedly done sterling work with Field Day and has branched out into education to coordinate this spring's Extra Class sessions. Pete shared a parable about why you shouldn't miss meetings (Hint – it has something to do with becoming FD Chair). I won't mention the other two winners here as the Board may be wanting to announce those awards at a later date. As traditional, we ended with door prizes. Dale Maroushek (N0PEY, who I have on good authority is a true mensch and I heartily agree) came away with the grand prize of a current ARRL antenna handbook. There was no Canned Ham "prize" to get stuck with this year because I felt with this small of a crowd it was like playing dodge ball in a coat closet. It will probably return to the Banquet next year. You should too.

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@arri.net, if that's easier to remember).

Dale's Details by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

It's been a busy Radio month and May looks like a bigger one. We had an April fools meeting and lost out of a program due to a presenter family emergency. We get to see it at the May meeting.

A couple of Saturdays of work crews at Terry's for tower and repeater preparation. Breakfast had twelve attending, might need to ask for a special room?

The Banquet was small, only fifteen, but the food was excellent and the venue acceptable. Wife loved the fish and the steak was seasoned and cooked correctly. We presented the three Member of the Year awards but only one was there and he was surprised. Hopefully, there will be a full Banquet recap in this issue.

What's coming up in May? Meeting on the 6th to start us off, VE testing on the 7th, or a trip to Superior, WI for the Arrowhead Hamfest.

The 14th gets us chasing local Progressive Hamfests (see next article) and ending up at Hams in the Park, if you are inclined.

The 21st is a toss-up, breakfast first, and then a trip to Plymouth for the antique radio show.

I'm sure the last weekend will stay clear in observance of Memorial Day. I'll be wasting bait in Mille Lacs trying again to be catching rather than just fishing.

On the home front, I'm having tree trimming and removal to facilitate easy tower up and down and a path thru the trees for the OCF 160M so it doesn't have to be replaced every two years, due to wire wear on the branches. That includes much tower work and reconditioning of all cables. Yes, that means at some point this month, I will be looking for helpers to improve my station. Costly yes, but it also will allow the trees that are staying to do better without the dangerous or scrubby competition. The Hostas in the ground may suffer, but they always comeback with style. We decided to go with Red Mulch for our flower beds and garden décor, so I have a pallet of mulch and 50 feet of edging bricks to install around the front bed and side. My knees will never be the same.

Well, it's late and the cat, Louie, wants his treats and a warm leg to sleep against. I must obey him or he will sit on my chest until I stop breathing.

A What Kind of Hamfest? by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

Have you ever heard of or attended what was referred to as a “Progressive Dinner”? I don’t know if folks do these anymore, but back in the 70’s, it was a way to “share” the responsibility and courses of a dinner party. Alice offered Appetizers on Aldrich Ave., then we all drove to Sue’s for salad on South St. then moved to Elise’s for the Entree on Eleventh St., then over for Dessert at Doris’s on Day St., ending up for Cocktails at Candy’s on Cane Court. I can hear you now, just go to a restaurant!

So why not a Progressive Hamfest? Let’s look into the operation of a traditional fest, and compare the pros and cons. I’m treating it just like a yard or garage sale, which most homeowner’s policies cover.

A Hamfest is a radio/computer/electronics gear sale that gets sellers and buyers together. Some have fees to sell and/or buy, and many have overhead bills. The seller has to plan/pack/load/drive/unload/display/sell/repack/reload/drive/unload/replace their stuff back at home. That is a lot of work. The buyers get up/drive/shop/pay/drive/unload and play with the new toys.

As I see it, the buyers have the best deal while the sellers are overworked. We start out as buyers until we have something to pass along, then we become sellers. I used to sell often, but then the work factor came in, and I only sold or donated to the SPRC Auction. How do we fix that? The Progressive Hamfest.

Ray Johnson, WB0EBG, has set the stage with a follow up on his previous Yard sales. He lives a half mile south of me. I checked QRZ and there are many more Hams in this area from Oakdale to Roseville, Woodbury to White Bear. Ray has picked May 14, 0800 to 1200 for this sale. Let’s say more of us join him by having a sale too. We advertise it to Hams in emails and on nets, and locations can be found on QRZ or by address on your phone mapping app.

Now the sellers only have to pull the stuff out, display it, sell it, put it back and count the money. The buyers still just drive around from place to place picking a route that they are happy with. This will be year two, we may only get 6 sellers, but that makes your trip over to Ray’s 10 time better in my book.

So, who is out there willing to commit and join the planning and execution of this Ham Adventure? I’ll be the Point of Contact and get this started.

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

Well another month has come and gone. I’m still in the process of moving to the new digs. With the crappy weather we have been having, progress has been SLOW. On the up side, it has giving me time to practice my Morse Code both sending and receiving. I’m still not very good, but I do see some improvement. With most of my gear sitting

on the floor of the new house, I am quite limited in my ability to be "Radio Active" but I do get out occasionally on HF and I'm still able to attend the VHF nets around town.. We have a meeting coming up in the near future and it's time to elect officers. There are a number of positions up for election/reelection. Please show up and vote. Let your voice be heard.

Time to get on my soap box:

For the betterment of the club I want to encourage you to step up and volunteer for any position within the club. It's your club and without your participation it will not survive. I am not asking for much, just a couple hours a month and since most of the members are retired, I know you have the time!!! Do you like the programs? What about Field day? Do you like attending the meetings and getting face time with friends and fellow Ham operators? All of this is in jeopardy if you refuse to help, volunteer and/or participate. It's in your hands. If the club dissolves due to a lack of participation, That will be on you.

OK Enough said on that subject.

Planning for Field Day is coming along nicely. I am looking forward to participating in the event. Do come and visit and participate. It's quite fun.

I'm still researching antenna structures for at the new house. Not sure which way I will go other than I think I want a tower/mast that can be cranked up and down. After the winds we experienced during April I do believe that this is a prudent move on my part. There is a limit of 35 feet above ground on antenna structures. BUT! I m thinking a 35' crank up with a rotor and 10' mast would be great. Then If I get caught, I can always lower it.....(HI HI). I am lucky in that I currently use a couple of magnetic loop antennas from MFJ which only need to be a minimum of 1 loop diameter above the ground to function properly. Again higher is better but I have had good luck with them only about 5' above the ground. I just have to get them set up and run coax at the new house.. This might be a good project this fall or winter as we all know that erection of antennas in snow storms\rain storms or Sub 0 weather is good for adding 4-6 Db of gain to an antenna. I have heard that mounting a antenna on a +50' tower in the middle of an electrical storm is good for 10 - 12 Db..... HI HI.

Anyway that is for now, Sorry I do not have more to report on or projects in the works at this time. Maybe there will be more once the move is done and the new shack is up and running.

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

Tribal Knowledge by Pete Guldán KDØSQJ

In the arid southwestern desert there's a tale about a Native tribe with a perfect record. Naturally the San Francisco new-media experts were baffled. They dispatched

their most eminent social influencer to research this dubious account. Water is life in that landscape and this one tribe was said to always have make the rain come forth when they performed their rain dance. When this modern-day ink slinger interviewed the Chief they asked why their tribe never failed to produce. The Chief looked into the phone on the selfie stick and said "It's simple, we just keep dancing until it rains." I am pleased to report there are four new amateur extras who upgraded as a result of our study sessions. There are a few others who stopped dancing before they could taste the sweet rain of their upgraded license. When you are ready to start dancing we will be here for you. I would like to personally thank all of our tribal leaders, Elmer's and Fudd's who helped us. We couldn't have done it without you. Well we could have but it wouldn't have been as fun and it would have taken twice as long.

Field Day planning is underway There are a few tweaks from last year at our Benson's Airport location and for those of you using your home stations as well. Some of the specific details will be worked out in the near future. I will share them with you when the so-called cement dries. June 24-26 is the weekend that I would like to see you with your friends and families at Benson's. Final planning meeting and site survey will be Saturday June 18th after the SPRC club breakfast at around noon. Setup will begin around 3pm on Friday June 24th around 3PM. We plan to have some quick food options for supper to keep all the worker bees going strong. Saturday morning the setup continues with Eggs Benedict on the menu. The usual burgers/brats/dogs for lunch so we can get back to work on any final issues. We start the radio action at 1PM and go for 24hrs. Evening meal we are planning on a big spaghetti dinner with all the fixings. We are even planning cake and ice cream for dessert. Antenna building after dinner and normal evening socializing. Stations will be operating the whole 24hrs and we should have details about signing up for your time to work the stations soon. We should find something for breakfast and lunch on Sunday as well. After 1PM the take down and packing up kicks into high gear. Every year I try to make Field Day a little better than last year. Your help and knowledge as a member of our ham radio tribe is what makes this a happen. I hope to see you there. 73.

March Board Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

St. Paul Radio Club

Board Meeting Minutes

04-01-2022

Board members present, (Absent or virtual):

Lou Michaels (Pres.)-WD8NOV (Excused)

Art Thell (Secy.)-NØIWQ

Br. Bob Walsh-WCØJ

Kevin Welna (V. Pres.)-W5LNA

Allan Klein (Treas.)- WØNLY (Zoom)

Ben Otto-KEØRFZ (Zoom)

Don Kelly-WA6ZMT (Zoom)

Also present:

Jay Maher-NJØM Jeff Iverson-WB9DAN (Zoom)

Pete Guldán-KDØSQJ (Zoom) John Crabtree KC0G (Zoom)

6:15 VP Kevin called the meeting to order.

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

Treasurer's Report: Allan

Funds: General \$8.370 Education \$1,402 Repeater \$1,014

This is after payments to ARRL, Galilee Church, and Midwinter Madness.

The ARRL Club Insurance for equipment previously approved is: \$1.40 per \$100 replacement cost with a \$50 deductible. This covers inventory as well as the CDH station equipment. The Club will need to insert more detail (model & serial #'s) in our inventory listing. Provision is already available for that data and some is already in.

Allan has paid privately \$200 to ARRL for insurance and \$45 to CDH. He will submit that in an invoice and SPRC will reimburse.

Repeater Report: Dale No report.

Membership report: Dale No report.

Old Business:

Is looking for response on build progress from those who have Pixie Kits.

Ham Cram course at CDH MEA weekend (10/21-23) for Technician Class.

No fee for test.

Field day: Pete

Weekend of June 25th.

Needs Chair for VHF, Digital and SSB stations.

Br. Bob will again notify CDH students of Field Day activity.

He will also handle liquid refreshment.

Kevin:

Working on food for lunch, dinner and Sunday breakfast.

Prediction: 60-70 people for dinner

Education: Pete

Extra class is proceeding well.

Banquet: Jay

Has reservation at Jameson's, 886 Smith Ave. S., W. St. Paul.

April 23. Time—not yet set. Possibly doors open at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30, out by 8:00. Stay tuned. Program not set at this time.

Need count and commitment. Room handles 12-20 people.

Cost to person \$12.50 (total cost \$25.00, shared with club). Plated menu (three choices)

Don moved to accept, Art seconded, approved.

POTA (National, state, regional POTA) or other excuses to operate!

New Business:

Don: Volunteered to chair nominating committee for officers.

May: Election of officers (President, V. President, Secretary, Treasurer)

Volunteers for activities.

May program: Ed Fong—rescheduled from April

7:07 Adjourn. Moved by Art, Seconded by Don

March Membership Meeting Minutes – by Art Thell, NØIWQ

St. Paul Radio Club

Member Meeting Minutes

04-01-2022 7:00 pm

7:00 Call to order by V. Pres., Kevin

14 Members present plus Zoom.

Reports: (by Kevin)

Treasurer's report:

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

Membership report:

Repeater report:

Education: Extra classes are on track

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

Banquet: Scheduled for 4/23 at Jameson's 886 Smith Ave. South, W. St. Paul

Cost \$12.50 (Total \$25.00 shared by club).

Need commitments: Please contact Jay Maher NJØM.

Field Day 6/25: Benson's Airport is confirmed.

Need chairs & other volunteers—please note Board Minutes.

Program—rescheduled to May.

Conducted individual member introductions.

7:55: Adjourn

Editor's Notes – by Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN

I am looking to retire as editor of the Ground Wave. I am in my 5th year and ready to be done. It takes about 3-5 hours a month depending on how clean and prompt the input is. There are 9 issues per year (September-May) with an abbreviated June issue for Field Day news. Let me or a Board member know if you are interested. I will help the new person get started with the templates. All it takes some facility with Microsoft Word. I am guessing that Open Office would work as well.

Sorry we missed the Banquet. Sounds like a good time was had by all. We originally were going to be out-of-town that weekend, but Easter dinner turned into a super spreader event for our family and all 5 of us came down with Covid, so we were in town but ill. Not too severe symptoms; just bad cold like. We were all vaccinated and boosted (me twice).

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

SPRC Calendar

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. See Page 1.
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.
Sat Jun 4	9AM-5PM 2022 Aurora Conference, Northern Lights Radio Society. West Medicine Lake Community Club, 1705 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441
Sat Jun 18	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.
Sat Jun 18	7AM-Noon Twin Cities FM Club Spring Swap Meet. West Medicine Lake Community Club, 1705 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441
Jun 25-26	Field Day Weekend. SPRC at Benson Airfield

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

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

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-uqpjosHNYgigyhldJi19w4O3qkrK_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/u/kdYAGIKilf>