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St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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KØAGF

www.stpaulradioclub.org
Club Repeater: 145.310 MHz
PO Box 9375
North St. Paul, MN 55109

NEWS AND NOTES FOR OCTOBER 2013 — Volume 73, Issue 10

October MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 4, 2013

UST OWS LL54

7:30 PM

7:00 PM Socializing

PROGRAM

Alternative Energy

John Faughn, KDØCAC

John will share about 30 years of good and bad experiences building solar, thermal, wind, bio-diesel and geothermal alternative energy systems. We'll hear about his success in storing this energy to power all the comforts of home, including air conditioning and color TV, in his off-the-grid RV. He'll share links and info to help us get our projects right the first time.

John was first intrigued with ham radio about 50 years ago, but no one at school shared his interest. He got involved again about 8 years ago and is active with SPRC, the Mining club and MARA. He enjoys DXing at home and contests at the Mining shack. He's now working on learning to repair everything he uses in our hobby.

SPRC CIRCUIT BUILDERS

POTENTIAL PROJECT

Tom Bredemus, KCØINP

The Circuit Builders invite everyone to join them in an antenna project that's being considered.

The antenna is a half-wave wire antenna which is end fed with a matching network to allow for a 50 ohm coax connection. The plan is to make one for 20 meters. The antenna is somewhat stealthy since the coax connects at an end point and the antenna typically needs no counterpoise and usually does not produce RF on the coax, so no feed-line choke is recommended.

We will be building the match-box which consists of a weather-resistant box, custom toroidal transformer, capacitor (a length of RG174, or equivalent, coax), coax connector, wire for the toroid windings, half-wave length of antenna wire of the builder's choice, ring or spade lugs to crimp onto wires and a few pieces of hardware to connect the antenna wire, and support the antenna. The

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Presidential Ponderings

THINGS PRESENT

The new year is off to a good start. Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, has already received 47 membership renewals as of Friday, 9/13, setting a good pace. If you haven't sent in your 2013-2014 membership application, the form is available on our web site (www.stpaulradioclub.org), along with information on club activities.

How do you like our new location in Owens Science Hall (OWS), Room LL-54? I like the theater-style seating (with desk surfaces for stuff like coffee cups), as I like to take notes. The only problem that I've seen was getting enough power to run Jay Maher's (NJØM) "hot-rodded" soldering oven and computer and camera, etc., at the same time. If you are not happy with the space, let me know why.

Despite the lack of video during the heating sequence, Jay's presentation on surface-mount soldering was well received – great demo and lots of questions. If you missed the September meeting, come and check out the new space at our October 4th meeting. If you came to the September meeting, come on back and enjoy

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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 into the UST South Campus. Park in the ramp on your left or the surface lot ahead to the right. In general, on-campus parking re-

strictions are not enforced 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.

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the company.

Orcy Lyle (WØQT) has the Circuit Builders sessions going, complete with a suggested project (an End fed 20m antenna suggested by Tom B., KCØINP). These sessions, with access to the lab in Room 415 of OSS, are available by scheduling with Orcy. Contact her at WØQT@ARRL.NET and join the Google Group--SPRCCB.

The donations to support a DXpedition this winter totaled \$155 and the board directed Allan to send a check for that amount to the DXpedition. If you are personally interested in supporting the team, you can get information at their website, www.amsterdamdxdx.org.

The 2013 Public Service arena is almost over, but there are still activities around: the ADA Walk-a-thon October 5, and of course, the Twin Cities Marathon October 6.

Don't forget the SPRC Breakfast Club, which meets the third Saturday of each month at the Perkins Restaurant on University Ave, in the Midway area of St. Paul. There's lots of small talk, with some radio thrown into the mix, plus good food. Starts around 9:00AM and goes to "whenever".

THINGS FUTURE

As in many clubs, we have some open volunteer positions to fill. Specifics: 1) We would like someone to lead the Repeater Committee, 2) someone to help Joe Clysdale (our VP) with the monthly raffle/door prizes, or 3) someone to work on Public Information (club publicity). If you can help with the Repeater, or the Public Information function, please contact any of the offices. If you can help out Joe with the raffle/door prizes, please contact Joe directly (KDØJCC), 651.646.1766.

George, KØGCP

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antenna typically handles 100W with no issues. Some electrical tape, silicone sealant and solder for the coaxial connector socket will also be used.

Winding the toroid is not difficult, depending on the size we choose. My 20 meter end fed prototype was made out of parts I had sitting around, including the toroid core, and is not very pretty nor very well sealed from the elements but it performs well. I used it while operating QRP/battery mode during Field Day and made 60+ contacts during a few hours of operation. With 5 watts power I could work pretty much every station I heard.

FACEBOOK USER?

Look for our group:

"St. Paul Radio Club"

Antenna Equipment For Sale

Tom Sturm, NØBGO, is moving and has a few items available:

Cushcraft R8 vertical antenna \$300 or best offer. Completely assembled. Will disassemble to suit.

Create CR45 roof tower plus Create CR46 thrust bearing \$250 or best offer. Partially disassembled to facilitate transport.

KLM KT-34A tri-bander beam antenna \$300 or best offer. Partially disassembled to facilitate transport.

HyGain CDE CD 45-II Antenna Rotator - \$200.

Some miscellaneous hardware, cabling, and guys can be purchased at the same time or bundled with the purchase.

Contact Tom at 612 559-9689 or tpsturm@stthomas.edu.

Dale's Details

It was a good September for the Club. A well attended meeting, with a fine program by Jay with his tricky toaster oven to solder those surface mount parts all at once. The new room with desks to write and lean on is better than without them. Good to see the gang again since field day. We followed that with a good Board meeting that laid down some goals and plans to make them happen.

My main responsibility will be the Auction in January. We make improvements on the operation of this event every year. It is well attended, over 80 buyers usually, and has a large selection of ham-related gear to bid on. Prices are generally low and we move fairly fast.

Unlike a hamfest or yard sale, each item or sales lot will be presented to the audience with all the explanation you furnish. If you take the time to make groups of small items that vary in kind, you can get more bidders chasing your item. This feature makes it a good place to bring in your excess gear and not have to take it back home at the end.

Another great feature of the Auction is the "donation to the club" items. Look around your shack, workbench or garage for stuff you now know you will never find a job for. Bring them to the Auction and fill out a donation tag so all the money goes to our ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund.

If your license is about to expire, you may be seeing offers by "Ham helpers" that would love to get your license updated for you...for a small charge. Save your money, go through the ARRL web site, and use the FCC one if needed, to gather the info you need and send it in online. It is free and your new license will be in the mailbox shortly.

The Membership Data Base I now keep shows some interesting facts:

Total Members: 2011-91, 2012-95, 2013-100, 2014(so far)-49.

There are 158 names on the list with 15 VEs, 126 ARRL members and we mail 14 GWs.

Licenses held are 31 Tech, 41 General, 7 Advanced and 79 Extra.

Dale, NØPEY

New Zealand DX



After World War 1 and with the banishment of radio amateurs to the supposedly "useless shorter wavelengths" an amazing period of radio exploration took place. Amateurs all over the globe soon learnt that, far from being useless, these wavelengths seem to allow communication over long distances. Amateurs in ZL were at the forefront of this activity with the first ZL to VK QSO in April 1923, and then world record distance QSOs between ZL and Argentina in May 1924, ZL and California in September 1924, ZL and Connecticut on the US east coast just weeks later, and the ultimate Z4AA Frank Bell's QSO with Cecil Goyder G2SZ in London on 18 October 1924.

To commemorate the 90th anniversary of the record breaking activities of these early pioneers of Amateur Radio, ZM90DX will be on the air between 1 October 2013 and 31 October 2014 on all bands 1.8 MHz to 1.2 GHz and beyond in all modes. Activated by the Kiwi DX Group, an informal group of DXers and contest en-

thusiasts, ZM90DX will be used around New Zealand and a special commemorative QSL card will be available as well as an award program for contacts with ZL during this period.

Not only will ZM90DX be active at expected times and on expected bands, but in the spirit of those early pioneers the ZM90DX operators will also be calling CQ on bands and in directions one may not necessarily expect with the intention of exploring the boundaries of radio propagation.

This will be an unparalleled opportunity for Amateurs all over the world to work ZL while celebrating the exploits of those early trail blazers whose work paved the way for radio communications as we know it today.

Further details can be found on <http://www.zm90dx.com/>.

Note: "Please remember this is a ZL based activity NOT ZL9 Campbell & Auckland Islands". Ensure your logging software logs ZM90DX as ZL and NOT ZL9, Auckland / Campbell Islands. To update the Country File for your logging software visit: <http://www.country-files.com/>

Fall Tech Class

The St. Paul Schools/SPRC Tech class that was to start on Tuesday, September 24th, was canceled due to too few registrants.

There will be a General Class upgrade class in the spring.

Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Each fall, we renew our membership in SPRC. Please complete a membership application and bring it to the meeting or mail it to the PO Box.

What Is It?

Orcy Lyle, WØQT

I found this item at the Buffalo Hamfest, on the large group of tables holding a lot of stuff and junk.



It looked like a handy item, although I don't know what specific purpose the inventor may have had in mind for it. Unwind it a little and it looks like this:



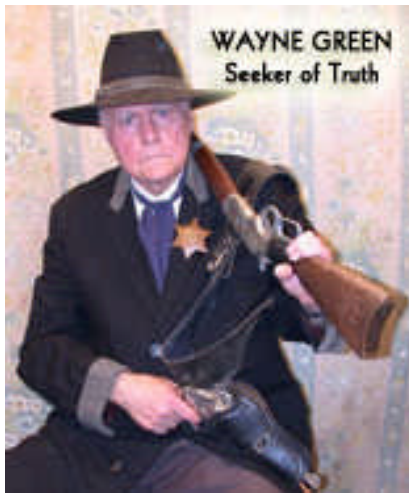
I'll call it a "holder." Here it is holding a soldering project:



And here it has a grip on a recipe:



I'm hoping that this item turns up again at Buffalo next year. It looks like two or three used together could be even handier than one. I'll buy two more (at \$2 apiece). What ideas do you have for this useful gadget?



Wayne Green, W2NSD, SK

Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD ("Never Say Die"), of Hancock, New Hampshire, died September 13. He was 91.

A well-known and often outspoken figure during what some consider Amateur Radio's golden years in the 1950s and 1960s, Green helmed CQ Magazine for 5 years before becoming the self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" in 1960 of 73 magazine, which he published until 2003.

"The purpose of [73] at that time was to get more hams building equipment," Green recounted in a radio interview several years ago.

A hallmark of 73 was Green's iconic, rambling, and wide-ranging "Never Say Die" editorials, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings. In 2012 Green contributed back issues of 73 to Internet Archive.

"Wayne will be remembered in many different ways by many different people, but he will be long remembered," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "He maintained his membership in the ARRL despite being a persistent critic. In the early days of packet radio he gave me some good advice as to how the ARRL should promote the new technology: 'Talk about it as if everybody's doing it, and eventually they will be.'"

Indeed, Green often was ahead of the curve in promoting such technologies as single-sideband phone, solid-state, FM, and the marriage of computers and ham radio, and he went on to found and publish Byte and other computer-oriented publications. "I live mostly in the future," Green was quoted as saying.

Former ARRL Contributing Editor Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, once wrote in his "Surfin" web column, "We take computers and the Internet for granted today. I first became interested in computers when Wayne Green, W2NSD, started writing about them in 73 magazine in the 1970s. Back then, you had to build your own from scratch or from kits."

Green maintained a larger-than-life presence, even in the years after he faded from the Amateur Radio spotlight, and he never did really retire. "Hey old buddy, I will miss you," radio talk show host Art Bell, W6OBB, posted to Wayne Green's blog. "NEVER SAY DIE is a phrase that will be with me till it's my time." Green was an occasional guest on Bell's "Coast to Coast AM" overnight talk program. There hardly was an issue that Green would not confront, and he expounded a variety of unconventional science, health, and medical theories - from cold fusion and the moon landing to AIDS and cancer cures. He continued to write and speak frequently on these topics and others, as well as on public policy, even at hamfests where he was a guest.

The "Final" in his blog sums up Green's overarching philosophy: "Wayne Green passed away September 13, 2013 in a peaceful, painless transition from this life on Earth. An eternal optimist, and one who loved to share his never-ending zest for life, he was a friend to many and will be missed greatly. Wayne was not afraid of dying and was very much ready to embark on his next great adventure to the afterlife."

Membership Meeting September 6, 2013

President George opened the meeting with a thank you to Dr. Joe Kreitzer, UST, for securing our new room location. The tables make it much better, and we still have all the audio visual support. Thanks to Tom Sturm, NØBGO, for introducing a new UST student who is now a proud member of both USTRC and SPRC: KC9IMC, Henry Kinane. Tom will be staying around teaching this fall, so maybe they can get the UST station better situated and on the air.

We all then introduced ourselves, something other clubs do, and is a nice addition to ours. I will bring stick - on tags that will be available so we continue to know who we are.

The treasury is in good shape, and will fill as membership dues are paid and coming in. For SPRC, Sept is our yearly starting month, so all members are requested to fill out a membership form to cover any changes in their data since history began. It will be attached to the GW or can be downloaded from the website.

Orcy, WØQT, will continue to keep the Circuit Builders group going. She is updating her email notification file, so you may see a new invitation soon. This will most likely cross over to the Breakfast notices too.

Planning for the January Auction will be handled by Dale, NØPEY again. A Saturday, Jan 25th, date is targeted.

Many SPRC members assisted the Mining ARC during the Regatta at Lake Elmo on August 3rd and 4th. MARC sent many thanks and a good time was had by all, with introductions to D-Link operation and battery operations.

Donations for the next DXpedition featuring our well known speaker, KØAR Ralph Fedor, were requested. The club itself offered \$100 toward it.

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November elections of the two at-large members of the SPRC Board are open. John, KDØCACC is willing to continue. Jay, KØJM is willing to pass the position to a NEW leadership candidate.

We are looking for volunteers to join the repeater committee, raffle and door prizes and a new position to do club publicity. Contact any Board member if you are interested.

Next meeting is October 4th.

Entered by Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, for absent Secretary Jeff Iverson.

Board Meeting September 13, 2013

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club Board of Directors was called to order on September 13, 2013, at 7:00 PM by President George Power.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Power, KØGCP, President
Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Past President

Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN, Secretary
Jay Maher, At-large Board Member
John Faughn, KDØCAC, At-large Board Member

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER INTERESTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Schrader, KDØREQ, Repeater Committee
Orcy Lyle, WØQT

Membership – Dale – number of 2013-2014 applications stands at 47.

Education – Allan will be contacting instructors for Technician License class for Fall.

Treasurer – Allan to cut check to DXpedition for \$100.00 from the club plus \$60 in donations from the “hat passing.”

Discussion – November elections for two at-large board members. John is willing to stay on. Jay will step aside

if someone else is interested, but also will stay on.

Discussion – Volunteer replacements: Scott Schrader, KDØREQ will join Repeater committee, but we need others. Terry Londroche was recommended if he is willing. We still need a Public Information Officer (PIO).

Discussion – a Richard Jones has donated to the club from the estate of his father a Yaesu FT-707 HF rig with the hope that it be given to a new, young ham. It was decided that we would hold a drawing for the rig among those who complete our next SPRC General class (planned for Spring 2014) and pass the General Exam at the next available SPRC VE Exam following the class.

Discussion – What to do with second Micor repeater? Where to store it? Do we have an alternative site for our repeater? These issues need to be addressed by the Repeater Committee.

Discussion – Program ideas for future – John Faughn will do a forum on batteries for the October meeting. November and December need to be firmed up. Jay will donate a book on antenna analyzers to anyone who will do a presentation of the same.

Dates for auction and banquet – Possible Auction date is January 25 at the same location as last year – need to confirm. Easter is April 20, 2014, so possible Banquet dates are a week either side of that. Holiday party will be at the regular December 6 meeting.

Discussion – Jeff’s idea: Jeff Lonto, (www.studioz7.com), speaking on the history of local media. Jay will investigate his availability on possible banquet dates.

Reminder – *Ground Wave* deadline for next issue is September 20.

John reported that the man with whom he had been having discussions about a tower in the Midway district

seems to be backing off a bit about giving us space inside the building – building a small building at the base of the tower might be a possibility – he will continue to investigate.

George handed out the last club brochure for Board members to update.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey A. Iverson, WB9DAN, Secretary

Hams Help in CO ARRL Bulletin Excerpts

ARES volunteers deployed in and around flood-stricken counties of Colorado, providing critical communication for shelters and state and local emergency operation centers. ARRL Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WMØG, said that "Every EOC is being staffed by ARES people. Almost every evacuation center has an ARES communicator, doing either voice or packet communications between EOCs and shelters."

Isolated towns of Estes Park, Lyons, and Jamestown relied solely on ham radio for contact with the outside.

US Congressman Cory Gardner (R-4) visited the state EOC to express his appreciation to the Amateur Radio operators responding to the historic flooding disaster.

Boulder County deployed miniature drone aircraft carrying Amateur TV cameras to survey the affected, more remote regions, to spot individuals needing rescue.

During the past year the Boulder County ARES team created the Mountain Emergency Radio Network (MERN) on its own time and money and put up two repeaters - one at Allenspark and another in Gold Hill. Some 65 individuals have gotten their licenses, and the team provided each with a radio.



St. Paul Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 9375
North St. Paul, MN 55109

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Meeting locations at UST are subject to change due to changes on The University of St Thomas campus.

Fri Oct 4	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54. See page 1.
Sat Oct 5	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Oct 5	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Fri Oct 11	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Oct 12	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Oct 19	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Oct 19	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Oct 26	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Nov 1	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OWS LL-54.
Sat Nov 2	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Nov 2	9AM VE testing. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Fri Nov 8	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Nov 9	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Nov 16	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Nov 16	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Nov 23	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Nov 30	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*

*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.