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# St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, Editor  
Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Interim Publisher

## KØAGF

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

### NEWS AND NOTES FOR DECEMBER 2012 — Volume 72, Issue 9

## DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

December 7, 2012

UST OSS LL18

7:30 PM

7:00 PM Socializing

December Program

**What's Coming from China?**

Dan Fish, KBØXC

Do the Chinese HT Radios measure Up? What's in the future for mobiles and HF products?

These are concerns Ham's may have regarding perceived quality of goods from new suppliers. Dan will give us some background information and things to look for.

Dan had over 15 years of Manufacturing Quality Control experience in his former life before Radio City became his current vocation!

The OSS 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 restrictions are not enforced after 6:00 PM on Fridays, but do not park in spots with parking meters unless paying or displaying a handicapped placard.

## Silent Key

Merle Johnson, NØXN

Merle Johnson NØXN, formerly WAØUXN, passed away on Sunday, November 25th.

Marty Gammel, KAØNAN, reminds us that his uncle Merle and his aunt Ellen were members of the St. Paul radio club for many years. Ellen, WAØUXO, Marty's dad's sister, is still an active ham at age 80.

## Holiday Party/Potluck

Our Annual Holiday Party is in association with the December Membership Meeting. The club will provide coffee and soda along with trays of fruit and sandwich fixings (meat and silver dollar buns). Members are encouraged to bring treats or simple entrees to add to the table. There will be a brief meeting, program (see column 1) and plenty of conversation. The room is a bit more cramped than what we've had in the past but we may spill out into the hall. This event is always a lot of fun so be sure to make it.

Enter either of the buildings north of the parking ramp and take the elevator or stairs to the lower level. LL18 is at the north end of the main hallway.

For detailed maps, see [www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps](http://www.stthomas.edu/campusmaps). OSS: O'Shaughnessy Science Hall

Contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651-962-6315 or [kjschumann@stthomas.edu](mailto:kjschumann@stthomas.edu) for any accessibility requests.

## Presidential Ponderings

### THINGS PAST

We seem to have settled into our new space (OSS LL-18)—the few comments that I've heard have been favorable (and folks appreciate the softer seating). Makes one wonder what they choose for seating in their shack.

Our November presenter, Randy Gawtry, did a great job presenting the Ham Radio Deluxe software from his company, Timewave Technology, Inc. Based on the Q & A session, it was obvious to me that there are a lot of SPRC users of the HRD package. Randy donated a Certificate for a copy of HRD Version 6, for our raffle.

### THINGS PRESENT

Again, I am asking you for suggestions on how we can get UST students involved with their (and our) clubs. One of our guests (at the November meeting) was seen huddling with Tom Sturm, working on plans for involving the senior generation students (those attending as Seniors Auditing), but we still need to work on getting some of the younger student body actively involved in the UST radio club. Please send your ideas to me at: [georgecpower@gmail.com](mailto:georgecpower@gmail.com).

We are always looking for interesting topics for our programs. If you have topics that you would like to see included in our programs, and especially if you know of speakers for those topics, please let Jay Maher

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(NJØM), jay@umn.edu, know about them. (Or contact any of the club officers with your topics and speakers.)

We're looking for articles (by you budding writers out there) for our Ground Wave. If you would like to provide an article on your favorite aspect of amateur radio, please contact Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, our newsletter editor, about writing a short article for the Ground Wave. His address is: dk@donkelly.biz.

### THINGS FUTURE

Our Christmas party is part of the December 7 general meeting. Expect a very short business meeting, a great presentation by Dan Fish on the Chinese HT radios, and some good eats (please bring a small treat to share).

The club auction will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in January, 1/26/2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The location is Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 401 Concord St., Saint Paul, MN 55107-2475. See the auction flyer for more details.

George, KØGCP



## SPRC Auction

January 26 — New Location



**This popular annual event is not just a "silent" auction!**

See the flyer received with this newsletter and share it—everyone is welcome to come to sell or buy.

## Membership Meeting

November 2, 2012

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club membership was called to order on November 2, 2012, at 7:36 PM by President George Power, KØGCP.

Signed in on Members sheet: 31

Signed in on Guests sheet: 0

Secretary's Report: (Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN) The minutes were approved as printed in the *Ground Wave*.

Treasurer's Report: Allan Klein, WØNLY, is in Washington, DC, so he emailed his reports.

The Education Fund and the Repeater Fund are unchanged since May, 2012. The General Fund has had income of about \$795 from dues, and expenses of \$40 for the repeater council dues. Members may request balances from Allan.

### Committee Reports:

Education (Allan Klein, WØNLY)

1. Washington school is just finishing the first quarter of the St. Paul Public School's calendar system. The second quarter starts this coming Monday. During the first quarter, a total of 17 students learned to solder and built crystal radios. The first ones were completed 10/31, and Denise Kapler, the teacher, reports that there was great excitement when the first ones were hooked up to an antenna and ground, and stations were heard. Of course, the students immediately wanted to know how to make them louder! Club members who participated during the first quarter were Allan Klein, Orcy Lyle, and Steve Huntsman.

We are not going to do anything during the second quarter. Instead, we are going to spend some time putting up a decent antenna on the school roof so that we can operate the ham radio equipment during the third quarter, when we will resume meetings on a weekly basis. We do need volunteers

to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 1:45 until 3:00, starting sometime in mid-winter, whenever the third quarter begins. More details as we get closer to the third quarter.

2. Tech class in St Paul Community Ed program.

Nothing new on the classes. We are awaiting the details from the Community Ed. section of the St. Paul public schools, but they have agreed that we will do a Tech class in the winter. I'm hoping to convince them to include a General class in the spring, but that has not been decided as yet. There will be a \$10 per student "administrative fee" imposed by the Community Ed section.

Circuit Builders (Orcy Lyle, WØQT)

Tom Sturm is looking into availability of lab. If lab is available Orcy will try to open it whenever there is interest.

Upcoming events: Christmas party 12/7, January auction 1/26 at Our Lady of Guadalupe, April buffet 4/27 in Student Union)

Old Business:

The Slow-speed CW net mentioned last month is on 3.553 Mhz.

New Business:

Radio City is having a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on November 10 from 10 – 5 PM.

Tonight's program will be Randy Gawtry, of TimeWave Technology, Inc. on Ham Radio Deluxe.

The December program will be Dan Fish, of Radio City, talking about the new Chinese HTs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey A. Iverson, WB9DAN, Secretary

### Classified Ads

Have something of interest to your fellow hams? Highlight it in the Ground Wave for free.

## Board Meeting November 9, 2012

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club Board of Directors was called to order on November 9, 2012, at 7:07 PM by President George Power.

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Power, KØGCP, President  
Joe Clysdale, KDØJCC, Vice President  
Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, Past President

Jeff Iverson, WB9DAN, Secretary  
Jay Maher, NJØM, At-large Board Member

John Faughn, KDØCAC, At-large Board Member

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER INTERESTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, *Ground Wave* editor

Treasurer's report – Allan not here.

Current signatories on the checking accounts are Allen and Orcy. Allan has our only copy of checkbook, but funds can be withdrawn personally at bank.

Membership report – Skip not here.

Education – No updates on Technician License class in St. Paul Community Education program. Check with Allan on price of books – may be cheaper from Amazon than ARRL.

Education – Washington School – no teaching during 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Allan helping them to put up antennas.

Newsletter – *Ground Wave* deadline for next issue (Nov 16).

Programs -- December (Dan Fish – Chinese radios), need programs for January – May.

Ed, WBØVHF has given us the opportunity to inscribe an ARRL Diamond Terrace Brick. We decided to do name of club, call sign, and year of founding.

Details for Christmas party at December general meeting on 12/7. We will get a couple of meat/cheese

plates from St. Thomas and ask members to bring food pot luck.

Auction will be for Saturday, January 26, 2013 at Our Lady of Guadalupe. Jay's contact is Brother Robert Walsh, FSC. Facilities use fee is \$150, less than last year's site. Dale will check on PA system and computers. For publicity we will advertise by e-mail, at Radio City, and on the nets. May also try Craig's List this year.

Spring banquet – April 20, 2013. Program by Joe's nephew. See [www.spacedata.net](http://www.spacedata.net).

Ongoing process of updating of membership database. There are some errors. Skip will be turning the database over to Dale and we will then devise a correction process.

How to develop the UST Radio Club? Ideas from October and November general meetings. Recruiting stu-

dents? Member recruitment coordinator or social welcome committee?

ARRL books in Libraries program: probably not a good investment for large metro systems that cull books regularly. Perhaps a small library or school would be better,

Wearables and badges: we need to get links back on website and in *Ground Wave* when there is room.

Other volunteer positions? Membership liaison: someone to greet visitors.

Looking for a tube tester – Manny Block, WØPIG has one others can use.

Tom Sturm has cleared use of lab for Circuit Builders.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey A. Iverson, WB9DAN, Secretary



This 137' tall, 1200' diameter "elephant cage" is at Misawa AFB, Japan, for a little while longer. It will be dismantled in 2013, fifty years after its erection, leaving just one operational—near Anchorage, AK.

## Vanishing Elephant Cages

Don Kelly, WA6ZMT.

I was introduced to Ham Radio in 1962 by friends at K9IU, the station in the student union at Indiana University. I was at IU for Russian language school courtesy of the Air Force. Then I went to Goodfellow AFB, TX, for the technical part of my training as a Voice Intercept Processing Specialist.

I bring this up because, as many hams, we had lots of toys to play with in the service. One of the toys was the AN/FLR-9. Orcy would love it—best fox

hunting antenna ever, but not very mobile.

It consists of three concentric phased arrays covering 1.5 to 30 MHz capable of pinpointing the direction of an HF signal thousands of miles away.

The design of the "Wullenweber" antenna dates to early in World War II and the German technology was exported to both the Soviet Union and United States. The USSR eventually built about 30 of the "Krug" antenna and the US installed about 20 around the world.



St. Paul Radio Club, Inc.  
PO Box 9375  
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## ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

Sat Dec 1	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Dec 7	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. UST classroom OSS LL-18. See page 1.
Sat Dec 8	9AM VE testing followed by EC exams. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Dec 8	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Dec 14	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Dec 15	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Dec 22	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Dec 22	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Dec 29	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jan 5	9AM VE testing followed by EC exams. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Jan 5	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Jan 11	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Program – TBD, UST classroom OSS LL-18
Sat Jan 12	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Jan 18	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Jan 19	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Jan 19	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Jan 26	8 AM – 1 PM SPRC Annual Auction, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Hall , St Paul (see GW for info)

\*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.