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# St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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## KØAGF

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## NEWS AND NOTES FOR JUNE 2014 — Volume 74, Issue 6

### Presidential Ponderings

#### THINGS PAST

The 2013-2014 club season is “a wrap”. We’re pretty much done for this academic calendar year, with the exception of Field Day. It was appropriate that our last program was the video on the ARRL—100 years. We’ve had many excellent programs since the St. Paul Radio Club was founded in 1931. We’ve offered licensing classes, worked with special projects, celebrated new members and mourned the loss of others (the Silent Key brigade). We have a club history to ponder (and we are working on properly archiving it).

#### THINGS PRESENT

The May meeting elections resulted in the same officers leading the club as last year, with the members who filled in as “acting officers” (Vice-President and Secretary) agreeing to accept a full term, and last year’s (President and Treasurer) continuing on for another term. I do want to sincerely thank John Faughn, Don Kelly and Allan Klein for accepting the new terms, and to Orcy Lyle and Jay Maher for continuing their terms as Board Members-at-Large. Dale Maroushek is still our Past President (he did so want to move on <grin>).

[SOAPBOX MODE ON] Despite a desire to get new leadership (and new energy), not much has changed. The general meeting continues with the same format as in years past, mostly because it works well. We struggle to find new programs that are interesting

Like most radio clubs, we run on volunteers. With established programs,  
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### Field Day 2014

June 28-29, 2014

Tartan Park

#### Field Day Planning Meeting

7:00 p.m. June 17th

MARC Trailer

### W1AW in Minnesota

As part of the celebration of the ARRL’s Centennial, W1AW is running this year as a portable operation in all 50 states. Active two different times in each state, in Minnesota the first time was during February, at the time of the Minnesota QSO party. The second time is June 11-June 17.

All ARRL Members in Minnesota are eligible to sign up and run W1AW/0 from their own stations. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many of us to “be the DX.” Those who operated last time reported great pile-ups and lots of fun. Full details are on the web site of the Minnesota Wireless Association, [www.w0aa.org](http://www.w0aa.org), on the Centennial QSO Party Page. Down at the bottom is a link to the spreadsheet detailing times, dates, bands and mode availability. The direct link to the sheet is <http://sdrv.ms/1dSbef5>.

Send your reservation request to Bill, (ACØW) at [mnw1aw@charter.net](mailto:mnw1aw@charter.net).

We have a good start in filling things up. One area we need help is the low bands.

For the VHF & UHF enthusiast, WØZQ is coordinating those operating slots. Contact him directly at [w0zq@aol.com](mailto:w0zq@aol.com).



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### Dale's Details

June is such a busy month for activities of all kinds. Luckily Memorial Day was observed a week early this year and the weather in Clear Lake, Iowa, was fantastic. Fishing was slow, but the family had a great time in the RV. Unbeknown to us, the generator had died while loading up on Friday. So, it’s in the shop and hopefully back for concession stand duty at the Mining Sun Sale this Saturday.

Contracted a new deck construction project, the old one was a 1976 model that was moved around the corner in 1985 when the kitchen was added. Talk about good return on investment! Hopefully the new one will be up and in use for Father’s Day inauguration.

We end the month with ARRL Field Day weekend at Tartan Park with the Mining Club, which includes the SPRC Picnic on Saturday evening the 28<sup>th</sup>. I haven’t missed participating in FD activities somewhere since I was licensed in 1991. In those days, the Club had over 200 members and there were waiting lists for operators and loggers for every hour and every

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the lack of supporters results in programs declining, until they are so weak and poor that they are dropped. There seem to be plenty of ideas for programs for radio clubs in QST and other club newsletters, but without people to lead and develop those programs, new programs will never start. The lack of enthusiasm for volunteering seems widespread in many areas of our society, as pointed out by the press in books and magazine articles, but nobody has an answer. I can only hope that you value the experiences that the St. Paul Radio Club has to offer enough to help out with the club's programs.

If you have an idea for a program, help our program person (Jay Maher) develop that program by contacting possible presenters and letting Jay know about them.

Please share your expertise in the hobby with other members by putting on a program (either alone or with others) to share at a club meeting.

If you would like a special project, such as a Fox Hunt, or Special Operating event, we can help you develop it, but we need you to generate the idea(s) and the enthusiasm to get it started.

Let us know what you like about the current programs and what you would like to see in the future.

### THINGS FUTURE

The year is capped off in June with Field Day at Tartan Park, on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, and with setup on the 27<sup>th</sup>. I'll be working alongside Dale to provide some good eating from Friday night through Sunday noon. There will be a board meeting in June (date to be determined) with the Mining Club, to finalize details.

I hope to see many of you at Tartan Park.

George, KØGCP

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station.

Things change, don't they, and we understand. Nowadays we have the dedicated group of members who come out and set up the site on Friday afternoon, cover as many bonus point categories as they can and operate a few hours in between. Then Sunday afternoon they put in all back in the boxes and go home.

For the picnic we usually gather 60 plus folks to enjoy the meal and treats, have a social time and continue operations though the night. We have experienced severe weather, lost park power, downed trees but mostly fantastic times when things work right. We have learned by doing, the usual SSB, VHF and CW ops, and tried PSK-31 and other digital modes, Satellite contacts, Space Station contacts, QRP ops and anything any one wanted to try or demonstrate.

As the mantra goes, FD is not a contest. We set up the stations; you can operate them any way you want to. Hunt and pounce or call and run, single or with a logger. The final planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Mining Club Trailer at Tartan Park. Use the 147.12 repeater for talk in.

I will be attaching other FD info and documents with the GW, use what you can, respond accordingly and we will see you at FD.

Dale, NØPEY, Chief Cook and bottle washer.

## FACEBOOK USER?

Look for our group:

"St. Paul Radio Club"

## We Have a Winner!

Each of our General class attendees who passed the General exam was eligible for a chance to win a donated Yaesu FT-707, complete with manual, microphone and power supply. The lucky winner was Lee Bellefeuille (KDØVAS), an SPRC member.

Allan has tested the FT-707, and reports that it's a great little rig. The receiver is downright "hot" and the transmitter works fine, at least into a dummy load.

When we find out more about Lee's location, we'll see if we can help with an antenna, too.

## Membership Meeting May 2, 2014

A meeting of the St. Paul Radio Club membership was called to order on May 2, 2014, at 7:30 PM by President George Power, KØGCP.

Signed in on Members sheet: 26  
Signed in on Guests sheet: 2

**Introductions:** Everyone present introduced themselves.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes were approved as printed in the *Ground Wave*.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Allan Klein, WØNLY) General fund: \$5,272—\$270 auction expense, \$20 Midwinter Madness, \$75 plaque, \$500 ARRL. Repeater fund: \$1,023—\$161 crystals. Education fund: \$877.

### Committee Reports:

**Education** (Allan Klein, WØNLY) The General Class completed, some attendees have already passed the exam. The transceiver drawing will be held soon.

**Circuit Builders** (Orcy Lyle, WØQT) No Circuit Builders this weekend.

**Public Service/Emergency Communications** (Ralph Bierbaum,

NØAWN) Ironman was cold and wet. Volunteer opportunities for help on three MS Bike Rides. The Bike MS on May 10; the MS-150 on June 6-8<sup>th</sup>; and the MS Tram on July 14-18. Contact Ralph for more information.

**VE Exams** (Leon Dill) VE exams are scheduled for tomorrow.

#### Old Business:

Lots of kudos for Jay, Dale and UST for the banquet. Jeff Lonto's talk on "Twin Cities Broadcasting in the Analog Age" was great.

#### New Business:

Officer elections: No nominations/volunteers from floor. Dale moved, Leon seconded election of George Power—President, John Faughn—Vice-President, Don Kelly—Secretary and Allan Klein—Treasurer. Passed

Terry and John said we need to check the problem with the HF antenna for the UST station.

George explained that board members would meet after the program to discuss repeater issues.

Planning meeting for Field Day will be June 17th at the Mining trailer.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

The program was the video "ARRL 100 Years of Radio" courtesy of Skip Jackson.

The raffle was completed at 8:32.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, Secretary

## Board Meeting May 9, 2014

As there was no business that required a meeting, no board meeting was held in May.

## SPRC MINI-HAMFEST

We'll continue to offer a "mini-hamfest" to the amateur community during our social meeting time from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. This will not be the place to bring in tons of boat anchors or thousands of parts and magazines, but if you have one or two things you would like to sell, this may be the place for you.

The rules are simple:

There is no fee for selling or buying – this is a service to the amateur community.

Each seller will be allowed a maximum of two linear feet of table space.

There will be absolutely no selling during the program or business meeting.

If your item does not sell, you are welcome to donate it as a door prize.

If your item does not sell and no one wants it as a door prize, you are obligated to take it home with you (it is now illegal in Minnesota to put electronic equipment in the trash – it must be recycled properly – which often means you must

This space is NOT intentionally left blank. It's available for your input to the Ground Wave—and you haven't submitted anything to fill it!

Tue Jun 17	7PM Field Day Planning Meeting. MARC trailer, Tartan Park
Sat Jun 21	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
June 27	6PM Field Day Setup. Tartan Park
June 28-29	2014 Field Day. Tartan Park
Sat Jun 28	6PM SPRC Field Day Picnic. Tartan Park
Sat Jul 12	8AM – 12PM 11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Magic Repeater Yard Sale, 37 W. Hatch Ave, St. Paul, MN.
Sat Jul 19	8AM – 12PM Chippewa Valley ARC Tailgate Swapfest, Eagles Club parking lot, Village of Lake Hallie, WI
Sat Jul 19	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Aug 16	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.

Circuit Builders is taking a break for the summer