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St. Paul Radio Club Ground Wave

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KØAGF

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NEWS AND NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2012 — Volume 72, Issue 6

NO

September Meeting

We were not able to confirm a meeting place in time for our planned September 7th meeting, so there will be no September meeting.

If you have suggestions for an appropriate meeting place, please pass them along to president George at georgecpower@gmail.com.

The location and program for the October meeting will be determined soon.

John Musick Hunt Jr. KGOJD SK

John, 67, passed away at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, on June 25th, 2012, from complications of multiple myeloma. John earned his Ph.D and was a clinical microbiologist who retired from the MN Dept. of Health. He also worked at Regions Hospital and tutored at Learning in Style. His many interests included music, bird watching, foreign cultures, foreign languages, science, and of course, ham radio. He was always curious and fascinated by other people's news, ideas or adventures.

A long time member of the St. Paul Radio Club, John was the door prize chair for over a decade. He taught amateur radio license classes, took part in circuit builders, club activities, field day and was often heard checking into the Wednesday evening nets when time allowed. John was also an active participant in ARRL Field Day and SPRC special event activities.

John and his daughter, Sarah, KB5EEI, took part in their first radio fox hunt last summer. He kept Sarah involved in the hobby throughout the years, passing on the interest of ham radio to another generation.

John loved Field Day and was able to participate from his home this year. I talked with John the Monday before Field Day while he was awaiting his appointment at Mayo Clinic. John

Presidential Ponderings

THINGS PAST

A nice touch from the state government, Mark Dayton issued a proclamation for June 23 & 24, declaring them to be Amateur Radio Operator Recognition Days. Some may consider this action to be a bit of political fluff, but it does recognize that we, as amateurs, do provide good services back to the community in emergency communications, Skywarn, and general radio education efforts.

Of course, the timing matched Field Day, which can be both serious and fun. It is serious, in that we get out of our shacks and into the field to operate, despite the heat. It is fun, as we have time to eat, socialize, eat, talk shop, eat, do our radio stuff, eat, . . . etc. Kudo's to Ed J. for heading the efforts, and to Dale, who arranged the food, and the host of other volunteers.

On the public service side of radio, members have assisted with several events this summer:

American Diabetes Association "Ride to Cure"

Multiple Sclerosis "150" and "The Ride across Minnesota"

We lost a member this summer, John Hunt. During the very short time that I knew him, he had his hands helping us in several projects, including: net control for the Wednesday night 2m chat net, working the door

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STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: During times of national, state, and local emergency, and for community and public events, amateur radio operators have provided communication resources at no cost to Minnesotans; and
- WHEREAS: Amateur radio organizations, such as Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), are organized and trained to provide effective emergency communication support; and
- WHEREAS: Amateur operators trained in spotting and reporting severe weather assist the National Weather Service and the State of Minnesota through the SKYWARN program; and
- WHEREAS: Amateur radio clubs throughout Minnesota provide courses of instruction and assistance to elementary and high school students about amateur radio, enhancing students' interest in science, geography, and physics, and provide an opportunity for students to become licensed amateur radio operators.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim June 23-24, 2012 as:

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR RECOGNITION DAYS

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 31st day of May.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

Mark Ritchie
SECRETARY OF STATE

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was looking forward to operating QRP from home using his MFJ Cub transceiver on battery power and possibly making a few contacts on FM with his handheld radio. He told me how his son and daughter installed VHF and UHF antennas in the home attic for use during this special weekend.

John is survived by his beloved wife Mary, daughter Sarah, son Kevin and sister Susan. He was so proud of them all.

His kind spirit, selflessness, great sense of humor, genuine interest in the stories of others and unmatched integrity will be missed by all of those who knew him.

73 my good friend!

KGØJD de KCØINP

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prize raffle at our monthly meetings, the Washington School radio classes project and probably many more that I did not know about. He is missed by all.

The MAGIC yard sale on Saturday, July 28, had good weather and good attendance. Next year it will be on Saturday, July 13, which is two weeks earlier than the usual schedule.

THINGS PRESENT

Like the old Saturday adventure movies, STAY TUNED for information on our new meeting space. As construction progresses through several phases at St. Thomas, we may have multiple moves during this year – we will try to get the information to you in a timely fashion.

THINGS FUTURE

Several events to look forward to planning: Christmas party, January auction, club banquet, etc. If I have missed anything, I am sure you will

let me know about it <grin>. If you have suggestions, please feel free to

contact me at georgecpower@gmail.com, or through the club address in the newsletter.

Upcoming hamfests include:

Worthington, MN (SW MN) Saturday Sept 8. Third Annual NPRRC Hamfest, details at www.nprrc.org.

Rush City, MN (East Central Radio Club Rendezvous) Saturday Sept 8.

Carlton County RACES (NE MN) Saturday Sept 29.

Fargo, ND (RRRA) Saturday Sept 29.

For details, see the MAGIC repeater website: <http://www.magicrepeater.net/marty.htm>.

George
KØGCP

Dale's Details

Estate Planning

by Dale Maroushek NØPEY

Over the many years that I looked out over all the smiling faces of SPRC member, unfortunately many of them have disappeared. They say WWII veterans are going away at a thousand a week or more. Korea vets will follow them quickly, and then my Vietnam era folk will continue the listings. Some of us aren't in very good shape right now!

I can't find any statistic charts on Hams passing, but my gut feeling is we are losing Hams on an equal ratio. I estimate that over 40 local hams will die next year. So what happens to the Ham gear? I don't mean to be vulgar or insensitive, but unless each of us has a written

PLAN for our family members to follow, or include OUR wishes in a WILL, all of our work to purchase, develop, maintain and operate a station becomes an estate problem. Add in the tonnage of Ham stuff that SOME of us have saved, and you have the next "NIGHTMARE" for the family! Who do they contact, how much is it worth, how do they sell it, or take it down, fix the holes in the house, and many other questions.

Unfortunately for all of us, this is becoming a more prevalent role for Hams as individuals or Clubs around town. Members of the SPRC and Mining Clubs have done a few of these over the past 10 years that I have been involved. I have learned various ways to do the job that benefits all parties concerned--it really depends on the wants and wishes of the family members involved. Some simply donate the gear, others want big bucks. Some want quick results, for others later is fine, Since I'm talking to Hams, I think you know the picture of what YOUR family is looking at.

Take a good look around your shack, shop, garage and antenna field. I just did exactly that, as I was bringing another person's estate load into the house. I really need to start moving out the tons of stuff I have accumulated mostly for this hobby, but other hobbies too. Where to start? What resources are available? How do I move the small stuff?

Start by categorizing your stock into major groups, and then into sub groups, so you can maintain control of the inventory. For example: Major group is Antennas; Sub groups HF, VHF, UHF, beams, verticals, wire, mobile, HT, Coax and other feed lines, miscellaneous hardware and parts. You will be able to determine just how far you need to divide your inventory by the size of your stock.

Where to sell it? Hamfests used to be

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the answer, but we all know they are few and far between. And even when we have one, it's tough to sell the same things others are selling to people that already have enough of it! The local swap nets on TCFM and MARRA do work, and don't be afraid to list gear on any local net all week. On line sales like Craig's list, E-Bay, QTH are great, but then you have to ship stuff and that takes time. Bring stuff to Club meetings and see if anyone is interested, and tell them you have more gear for sale at home. Bring photos or post them online for people to see. Submit lists and pictures to your Club website if they offer that options, like SPRC does.

The small stuff can be bagged into "bonus" packs to go with the larger items. SPRC might have to restart the "bag Swap" meetings again. You won't get your expected dollar value back, but at least it will be gone! Then we are down to donations to any place that will take them. If you really think someone may buy it at a thrift store, donate it and take the tax deduction. If it is just trash, not recyclable, and not toxic, say good bye to it and into the trash it goes.

Watch for my inventory reduction sale starting soon!

Dale Maroushek, NØPEY

St. Paul Community Ed to Sponsor Licensing Class

SPRC will offer a Technician licensing class as part of the Community Education Program at St. Paul Public Schools. The class will be held in February and March, and will be advertised in the Community Ed catalog that is mailed throughout the City.

"I am very excited to get the exposure that comes from the Community Ed

catalog" said Allan Klein, WØNLY, our Education Coordinator. "I'll bet that we have a lot of students that register because they read about the class in the catalog. In recent years, our classes were getting smaller and smaller because it was hard to advertise them. This year should have a lot more students," Klein said.

The Community Ed staff has offered advice on how to make the classes more attractive to the public. For example, they have learned that an eight-week commitment scares a lot of people away. They say that the shorter, the better. We have reduced the number of class sessions from 8 to 6, but lengthened them a bit (from 6:00 to 8:30) in order to be able to cover the necessary material.

Details are still being finalized. The locations under consideration are Highland Park Senior High School on Snelling and the Creative Arts Center (formerly YWCA) on Kellogg Blvd. downtown. Classes will be either Tuesday or Thursday evenings.

George Power, KØGCP, our new President, said "This is very good news. I know we have been trying for years to get more students, and this should really help. Thanks to all the members who made it finally happen."

Anyone interested in teaching one night or otherwise helping out with the classes in February or March should get in touch with Klein at WØNLY@arrl.net.

VE Exams

by Leon Dill, WØCOE

The first exam of the season will be Saturday, September 8. The exams will still be at 9:00 on the first Saturday of the month (for the most part), and still at the main Roseville City Hall building. This year, we'll be downstairs in the Hawthorne Room—slightly larger than the Aspen Room from last year, but still the same style of conference room with one large

table and a bunch of (comfortable) chairs. There was no room available in City Hall on the first Saturday in September and in December, so we've moved to the second Saturday for those months. The dates are Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 8, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4, June 1.

Last year we served 51 candidates in 60 "appearances" (some came back for a second, third or fourth time). Four to six examiners were generally there to help.

30 passed the Technician exam (2 failed), 20 General (8 failed) and 13 Extra (1 failed). Most of the unsuccessful candidates had passed one exam and were trying another.

We had some perfect scores: 6 Tech, 4 General and 3 Extra.

New licenses earned included 24 Tech, 19 General and 13 Extra.

Patrick Humphreys, ACØZW, "ran the table"—passing all three elements in one sitting—and got a perfect score on all three exams!

Five candidates passed both the Technician and General exam in one sitting—one of them having perfect scores on both exams.

We had one candidate who passed his General and Extra exams in two successive months.

One candidate came three months in a row and passed each succeeding exam to get his Extra.

Three Advanced class hams upgraded to Extra.

Two Father/Son combinations got licensed together.

And our most persistent candidate passed his Technician, then came in three different months and eventually got his General. That was a ham who was not to be denied—and he was at Field Day!

All in all, it was a fun year, and I'm looking forward to another!

(See who helped on the next page!)

The examiners who helped were:

Name	Call	Sessions
Leon	WØCOE	10
Ray	KGØDK	8
Al	AEØAL	8
Greg	KCØRET	7
Ed	WØVC	6
Ralph	NØAWN	4
Shep	NØNMZ	3
Lou	ACØX	1
Brian	NØBM	1
Gary	NØAGH	1
Orcy	WØQT	1

Board Meeting August 10, 2012

Called to order at 7:04PM.

Board members attending:

George Power, KØGCP, President
Allan Klein, WØONLY, Treasurer
John Faughn, KDØCAC, Board Member at-large
Jay Maher, NJØM, Board Member at-large, program chair, input Calendar
Dale Maroushek, NØPEY, ex-President and Ground Wave mailer

Others attending:

Skip Jackson, KSØJ, Membership and SM
Orcy Lyle, WØQT, Past-President

MEETING LOCATION: We do not have a meeting space yet for the September 7th general membership meeting. Dale has checked with Joe Kreitzer, who has confirmed that our old space in Murray-Herrick is unavailable due to construction. Joe is looking into spaces at the new student center. We are also looking at alternative spaces, both on and off campus, in case the student center is not available.

MEETING PARKING: Parking should not be an issue, as the lot west of the OSS Science Building should be available on Friday nights.

GROUNDWAVE: The September issue deadline is August 17 by the calendar, but practically, it is August 24. GW articles go to Don Kelly. Hopefully, we can announce a meeting location for September 7th.

COLUMN HONORING JOHN HUNT: George will ask Joe Clysdale and Tom Bredemus about writing a tribute for the GW.

PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER AND LATER: Jay is taking the lead on meeting programs. George provided a listing of programs presented in the last two years for SPRC and another club, to generate ideas. Our fall backs are the ARRL videos. Other possible programs under discussion included high altitude ballooning, working the MS-SCRAM (150 and Tram events), and satellite communications.

PARTICIPATION IN BOY SCOUTS JOTA: An invitation to help with the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) this fall, October 20 and 21. After discussing the issues with campus security on a weekend, especially with construction work going on, we have chosen not to participate as a club. (Skip reports that SEMARC will participate, with Jim Mohen as our liaison.)

POLICIES REGARDING MEMBERSHIP REFUNDS: With very few occurrences of such requests, we decided not to have a formal policy. Each request will be considered by the board.

UPDATING CLUB MATERIALS (MEMBERSHIP DATABASE, CLUB BROCHURE): Skip provided an updated club application form for 2012-2013, and will update the club brochure as soon as he gets updated copy. He will meet with Dale regarding transferring the membership database to Dale during the 2012-2013 year.

LICENSE CLASSES: Allan tried to get a Tech class into the St. Paul Community Education schedule, but they did not accept our application. We are discussing the appropriate class offerings between SPRC and SARA (Stillwater

Area Radio Association), with whom we have cooperated for many years. We may have a separate offering for the Washington School Project, below.

WASHINGTON SCHOOL PROJECT: With the passing of John Hunt, our assistance with the school's program is on hold. Allan and Jay will contact Denise (at Washington) to see what can be worked out. Jay will give a short spiel for the project at the September 7th meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: We had a discussion about efforts to welcome visitors to the club, and are considering a "official welcoming team" to help visitors and prospective members get to know our club. We are considering posting the regular meeting sign-in sheets in the meeting minutes, to help people remember names.

OTHER STUFF: John is going to re-search linking our repeater to other area repeaters, in order to generate more use of our repeater. The idea behind the linkage is to make participation in metro area chat nets more accessible to people with low-powered radios, and to make our presence know more widely in the community.

Adjourned 8:20PM.

Submitted 8/13/2012 by George Power, KØGCP

Support the League
www.arrl.org/join

"Real" RTTY Equipment

Would you like a Teletype model 15 or two? How about a HAL ST-6 RTTY Terminal Unit?

Contact Don Kelly, WA6ZMT, right away at 952 474-2766 or dk@donkelly.biz.



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 Sep 7	September meeting cancelled—see page 1
Sat Sep 8	9AM VE testing followed by EC exams. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, W0COE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Sep 8	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Sep 8	9AM – Noon East Central Minnesota Radio Club Radio Rendezvous. Rush City High School
Fri Sep 14	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Sep 15	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Sep 15	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Sep 22	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Sep 29	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Sep 29	9AM – Noon. Carlton County RACES Fallfest. Four Season Sports Facility, Hwy 210, Carlton, MN
Fri Oct 5	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Program TBD, Location TBD
Sat Oct 6	9AM VE testing followed by EC exams. Roseville City Hall. Contact Leon Dill, W0COE@arrl.net or 651-688-9964
Sat Oct 6	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Fri Oct 12	7PM SPRC Board meeting, OSS 121 UST campus (Alternate location is OSS 415)
Sat Oct 13	9AM Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Oct 20	9AM SPRC breakfast. Midway Perkins on University Ave east of Snelling.
Sat Oct 20	After Breakfast. Circuit Builders. OSS 415 UST Campus*
Sat Oct 27	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.