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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 SEPTEMBER 2018 — Volume 78, Issue 9

Monthly Meeting

September 7, 2018

CDH John R Albert Center*

7:00 pm Socializing

Membership Meeting 7:30 pm

PROGRAM

ARRL Update and Remote Operation

Matt Holden (KØBBC) will bring us up to date on what's happening at ARRL and talk about remote operation, including a live demonstration of remotehamradio.com.

Matt is the Director, Dakota Division, American Radio Relay League; Director, Association of Emergency Radio Organizations; Director, Vice Chair, Metro Skywarn; and Deputy Director, Bloomington AUXCOMM.



Support the League
www.arrl.org/join

CDH is Tobacco-Free

Cretin-Derham Hall is a tobacco-free school. Tobacco includes any kind or form of tobacco, nicotine products, e-cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars, chew, snuff, plugs, etc., prepared in such manner as to be suitable for chewing or smoking in a pipe or other tobacco-related devices.

SPRC Has Moved!

The Saint Paul Radio Club has benefited for many years from a relationship with the University of St. Thomas. Recent changes have resulted in us moving our activities to a new venue. These changes include the dissolution of the UST Radio Club, the increase in fees for the use of UST spaces, and repurposing of the lab where Circuit Builders met as a classroom.

Fortunately, Cretin-Derham Hall High School has invited us to use the Commons meeting room in the John R Albert Center for our monthly meetings and the annual auction (Directions are in the box, below). Plans for Circuit Builders have not been finalized.

The 145.310 repeater has been relocated. We need to remove the antennas from the UST OSS roof soon. If you'd like to help, please let a board member know.



Your email Bounced

Well, maybe yours didn't—but some of them do. If you haven't been receiving email every month from SPRC, make sure that we have your correct email address. Send it to:
n0pey at comcast.net



Marty Gammel KAØNAN, SK

Long-time SPRC member, Friendly Net control, laptop guru, buyer and seller of gear for all ages Harold "Marty" Gammel (KAØNAN) passed away on Tuesday, July 17, at age 72.

John Berglund (KØUBA) shared these thoughts:

Marty and I first met when he started coming to the St. Paul Radio Club and started classes with Ralph Andrea and Warren Koppy. He made the transition to ham radio from CB, took the tests, and got his license. He joined Gary (WDØERV) and me on Hewitt between Hamline and Fairview. A stone's throw from Marty was Scott (NØAR) on Taylor. Marty was not shy about asking questions—if I didn't know the answer, most certainly Scott did!

I very quickly appreciated knowledge he brought from CB, auto body repair, cooking, and his knowledge of

(Marty, Continued on page 2)

* The Commons meeting room in the John R Albert Center at Cretin-Derham Hall High School, 555 Hamline Ave. S., St. Paul MN 55116. From the intersection of Randolph Avenue and Hamline Avenue S., take Hamline southward for 3 blocks. The parking lot entrance is on the west side of Hamline Ave. opposite Watson St. The Albert Center building is about 400 feet west of the lot entrance—use the double-door entrance on the east side of the building.

(Marty, continued from page 1)

streets, highways, and towns in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He found great, inexpensive places to eat all along his routes as a truck driver--and more shortcuts than I can even remember. His appreciation for good music encompassed nearly all styles.

Marty so enjoyed hamfests that he would go with me to prowl the radio flea-markets and tailgaters' tables. I would set up my tables with tubes and some miscellany, and off Marty would go, hunting for treasures. He came back to set up his articles for sale, having found any number of great deals—he would even alert me to Morse keys that he saw, in case I needed them for my collection/accumulation. Later in the sale, after selling what he could, he would go out, prowl among boxes of miscellaneous radio/electronic assortments, and come back with one or more additional treasures, when I had thought that the bargains were all gone. He was an old-style horse trader and would negotiate to get the cheapest price. How he found some of those things remains a mystery to me and also to Scott! We went to Rochester, St. Cloud, Eau Claire (Pizza Del Ray), Brainerd, Duluth, Buffalo, Henderson, Rush City and all the local get-togethers. We had fun enjoying each other's company and his comments on all the places he had delivered to during his career. What a wealth of information.

Marty affiliated with the St. Paul Radio Club, although he did not maintain a membership for many years. He said, "If I'm not a member, I can't be elected to any office!" When the club met here at the church, he and I were the first to arrive (I had keys to the church) and the last to leave after doing a thorough security sweep of the church before locking up.

He assumed the role of Net Control Station for the St. Paul Radio Club's "Friendly Net" Wednesday evenings

from Gene (WTØR). He held forth calling the net for more than 15 years—missing only a few nets in all that time. We regulars normally were there; Marty acknowledged us and called for newcomers--welcoming them warmly from both coasts, the Gulf, and even Canada. Many newcomers got their first warm welcome from Marty. Even his aunt and uncle, Ellie and Merle Johnson, checked in with him.

He made antennas from copper plumbing pipe, helping many newcomers to VHF-local-area contacts by suggesting how to mount the antenna, how to feed it, and how to use it. When the price of copper tubing tripled, he turned to rehabbing and updating older computers for those among us who don't need all the latest bells and whistles. He checked them out (scrapping those too old to really be useful), set them up with Windows 7, his favorite, and then sold them to us at reasonable prices. I suspect that some of us here benefitted from his efforts.

Marty was a good friend and fellow ham for more than half of my 60 years as a ham radio operator. I shall miss his companionship, his sage wisdom, and his wide range of taught lessons.

Nancy, Cheryl, Bob, and Paul--thank you for sharing him with us all.

73 and God bless.
KAØNAN --. --. ... --.

Can you contribute to the Ground Wave?

It's nice to have the "regulars," but it would be even nicer to include tales, advice and whatnot from other St Paul Radio Club members (or non-members!).

**Send your contributions
to WA6ZMT@ARRL.net**



Bill Beaman KAØIYS, SK

George Lavallee reported that Bill Beaman (KAØIYS) passed away May 12th from Pneumonia. Bill was a member of the St. Paul Radio Club and a good friend of his. They moved to Kingman, Arizona, in the 70's. At the time of his death, he was the President of the Hualapai Amateur radio club in Kingman.

Bill you will be missed by many.

Old hams never die. They QSY to the big station in the sky. RIP Bill KAØIYS/SK.

Presidential Ponderings

Well here we are at the beginning of another season. After a summer of uncertainty, we have a new meeting place. See you on September 7th at Cretin-Derham Hall High School. This will also be the new home of the auction. So much for the bricks-and-mortar—on the other end of things, our website has been down for some time. Tom Bredemus is no longer able to look after our website, and the hosting company is in transition. We have members looking into the issue but, if you have time and special talents, contact Jay or Don.

The repeater has found a new home at Terry's (NØGOI) giving us better coverage as it's not on the west side of a couple hills. Thanks, Terry.

We ended the last season without the usual May elections, so again we're looking for volunteers to serve

(Ponderings, continued on page 3)

(Ponderings, continued from page 2)

as officers and board members.

I had to move a year ago, and still do not have regular Internet at home--just one reason that being president is a challenge.

Also the hamfest in Lake Elmo at Bob's place (8247 27th St. N, Lake Elmo) is coming up on Sept. 15th, 8am 'til noon. No cost to sell or buy. We can use more help to keep it going. Come at 7:00 a.m. to help set up and/or hang around at noon to help take down.

Not much going on for me--I do not have an HF antenna back up yet, so I'm not playing radio much.

Only one story to tell--I went camping up north during the peak of the Perseid meteor shower. Well, kinda. This was lakes full of islands in Voyager National Park, right on the Canadian border. The forest fires were smoking up the sky, so not much meteor viewing. We had our own island--friends I grew up with were there for a week, then some of us went up to join them for the second week. One of them has been going up there with his boat for a couple decades. He brought a power boat so we could get to and from OUR island ;).

A lot of fish were thrown back.

See you folks at the meeting.

73 de John, KDØCAC

Time to Renew

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.

Dale's Details

Dale Maroushek, NØPEY

September has many Ham related activities already, so why not one more? Some time ago, Ted

Thornquist (WØEMF) became a silent key. Most of his many hobby items have been disposed of, but a crank-down tower still needs to be moved. It is sold to a new owner from out of town.

Mining Club and SPRC members have helped Ted and Joanne in the past, and Joanne requested help again. Joanne has been very generous with donations to MARC for assistance. I'm sure a portion of that would be available to SPRC for some helpers. The job site is on the south shore of White Bear Lake: 205 Wildwood Ave, White Bear Lake 55110. Right where Wildwood splits to one ways at Owl St on your map app.

Since the Saturdays are filled with fests and special events, I have the new owner confirmed for a Sunday pick up. Which one will depend on confirming enough helpers at the same time. I know everyone will want to be first on the list, so pace yourselves please. I'm clear on all the dates: 9, 16, 23, or 30. Email me with your open dates--as soon as I confirm a minimum of four helpers, we can set the date. MARC will get this before SPRC, and I'll email the set date ASAP. That's n0pey@arrl.net

The job will be to crank it down, remove a 2 Meter beam, lay it onto a trailer, cut off the legs and send it on its way. I think I have a cutting torch available, but sawzalls would work too. While we are there, a couple other masts can be removed from the garage.

Dale, NØPEY

FACEBOOK USER?

Look for our group:

"St. Paul Radio Club"

THE LAKE ELMO TAILGATE SWAPFEST

September 15, 2018

8am-noon (Setup at 7:30am)

Free admission for buyers and sellers

Sponsored by the St. Paul Radio Club

Refreshments available

Talk in on 146.25/85

Any questions contact John at

john.faughn@gmail.com

or Bob at 651 770-7884

Buyers please park on the street

Sellers pull in driveway. Both indoor and outside spots available

8247 27TH St N, Lake Elmo MN 55042

East on 94 to Inwood Ave, go north to 27th St then turn left. Or From 694 go to 10th St go east to Inwood, then go north to 27th St

Door prize drawing at 11:00 am

1- \$50 and 2 - \$25 ARRL gift certificates

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

VE Report

For 2018/2019, we're still at the Maplewood Library (3025 Southlawn Dr., Maplewood) at 10:00 am on the first Saturday of each month from September through June. We will also be holding a session in conjunction with the M.A.G.I.C. Tailgater at Galilee Lutheran Church in Roseville on July 13th. See the Ground Wave calendar each month for confirmation.

2017/2018 a total of 10 sessions:

Candidates Served	61
Unique Candidates Served	55
Most in a session (January)	10
Fewest in a session (November)	2
Average	6
New Hams Licensed	32
New Technician Licenses	30
New General Licenses	17
New Extra Licenses	7
Hams with expired licenses	1
Pre-'87 Techs grandfathered	1
Candidates earning nothing	6
Total licenses granted	56
Number of exams given	83

Candidates who passed

Tech + General in same session 8

General + Extra in same session 1

All three in same session 1

(VE, continued on page 4)

(VE, continued from page 3)

VEs participating	11
Most in a session (March)	8
Fewest in a session (April)	3
Average per session	5

VEs who helped with exams:

Leon	WØCOE	10
Richard	WAØLIF	9
Greg	KCØRET	7
Ralph	NØAWN	7
James	NØALE	5
Shep	NØNMZ	5
Jim	KØQEI	3
Sam	WBØYUL	3
Richard	KWØU	1
George	NØSBU	1
Jeff	KAØUPA	1

THANK YOU to all the VEs!

How did they find us?

ARRL web site	47
SPRC web site	3
Referrals from other hams	2
Radio City	1

73, Leon, WØCOE

Wet Electronics? Now What?

Scott Holisky, NØAR

If it hasn't happened to you yet, it just might. You slip and your HT takes a dip in the lake or, even worse, you spill that cup of coffee on the keyboard of your laptop. Now what? All is not lost, but there are a few things you need to do right away to improve the odds of not suffering damage:

First and most important: **Turn off the device!**

Second: **Remove the power—if it**

has a battery take it out!

Third: Turn it over and shake as much liquid out as you can. Keep it inverted—don't allow the liquid to run deeper into the device.

What liquid is involved determines what should be done next. If it's just pure bottled water or rain water you are going to just dry it out; if its coke, things go from bad to worse. Liquids vary in the amount of conductivity they have. That spill may not have caused severe short circuiting and the electronics may be OK.

If you are not comfortable taking the unit apart, seek help at once. Laptops and phones should be taken apart and visually inspected to determine the extent that the liquid has been able to ingress into the unit. Sticky liquids may require the unit be submerged in distilled water or flushed with low moisture alcohol. Then the next step is to use an air compressor or the gentle exhaust of a vacuum to blow as much of the water out as possible. No need to blow parts off the board, just a moderate flow is the goal. Take your time—tip the unit on its side. Move around and work on it from all angles. A half hour spent blowing air may be the difference between saving the rig or not. Hair dryers and ovens are too hot and can easily cause more damage. Give the unit plenty of time to dry out (several days is not too much). A week might be better depending on

how wet the device was.

I am not a fan of using rice for absorbing water from a device. There is little air flow inside a bag and how do you really know how much moisture the rice has absorbed.

If at home you can always use a heating pad set on "low" as a base for your item. During the winter you can put it above or next to the air flow of a heat register. A food dehydrator is the ideal unit for your smaller items—moving warm air is what you want.

When you return the battery and give the unit a try for the first time, don't be too discouraged if it doesn't work. Take the battery out and return the unit to the heat source for another round of evaporation. Sometimes water gets under parts and shorts out the circuit board traces. It just takes time to wick it out.

One more tip. If you should drop anything into salt water, move extra quick to get the battery out. Salt water is very conductive and is chock full of ions that like to short things out. Re-submerge the unit in a container of fresh water and keep it in the water until you can get it to someone to take it apart and dry it.

Many electronic items that see filthy work conditions are frequently cleaned and returned to service using the above steps. Old gear can be cleaned and refurbished to nearly new condition with a little elbow grease and proper drying. A mishap need not result in total loss of your device. Good luck!

Fri Sept 7	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albert Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School**
Fri Sept 7	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albert Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School. See Page 1.
Sat Sept 8	9AM – NOON 25 th Annual Rush City Radio Rendezvous. Rush City High School, 51001 Fairfield Ave, Rush City, MN
Sat Sept 15	8AM – NOON Lake Elmo Tailgate Swapfest. 8247 27 th St. N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042
Sat Sept 15	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.
Sat Sept 22	8AM – NOON SMARTSFEST 2018. SMARTS Radio Club and Sibley ERT. Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Pkwy, Cologne, MN
Sat Sept 29	8AM - ? Twin City FM Club Last Chance Tailgate Swapfest. West Medicine Lake Community Club, 1705 Forest View Lane, Plymouth, MN
Fri Oct 5	6PM SPRC Board meeting, Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albert Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School**
Fri Oct 5	7PM Socializing followed by 7:30 PM SPRC Membership meeting. Commons Meeting Room, John R. Albert Center, Cretin-Derham Hall High School
Sat Oct 6	10AM VE testing. Ramsey County Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr., Maplewood. Contact Leon Dill, WØCOE@arrl.net or 651-425-0338
Sat Oct 20	9AM SPRC Breakfast. Denny's, 1664 University Ave, west of Snelling.

*Circuit Builders is not currently scheduled as we need to arrange a new space. Check the SPRCCB Google Group for updated information.

** Depending on business to be considered, Board Meetings are sometimes held electronically. Check with an officer or board member to confirm that the meeting will be at CDH.



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED