

2023 SEMARC Operating Events

SEMARC hosts many activities during the year: on-air nets (CW, FM, digital); meetings, both in person and virtual; special virtual meetings like Fireside Chats; volunteer exams, and OPERATING EVENTS!

Operating events provide chances for club members to meet, practice their operating skills and have fun. Our operating events are also good opportunities for members without stations or who are new to the hobby, to gain lots of experience in a fun atmosphere. In each of the events described below, a club lead is identified, so that everyone knows who to contact to offer their help or find out how to participate.

Events scheduled for 2023.... (some more may be added)

Winter Field Day

Designed to encourage emergency communications capabilities during winter months; takes place January 28 and 29 at Fire Station #3 in Cottage Grove. We will attempt to work as many other stations as possible in the 24 hours of the event. Club lead is Dave, KDØIRF.

Minnesota QSO Party

Sponsored by the Minnesota Wireless Association, this event is an on-the air party, where stations around the country and the world try and work stations in each of Minnesota's counties. Unlike other operating events, this one does not allow club scores nor does it allow member scores to be assigned to a SEMARC entry. It takes place February 4th from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. There will be an intra club scrimmage on this event. Let's see which of our members has the highest score for the party! Club lead is Brian, NØBM.

FOX HUNT!!!!

Who doesn't love to chase and find the radio fox? This event requires participants to use their radio direction skills to find hidden transmitters. In the past, there has even been an opportunity for members to hunt the fox using only their cell phones. The spring hunt is scheduled to be on April 29 and begins at the Zion Lutheran Church at 9:00 AM. Club lead is Dan, WDØGUP.

WØCGM/35

SEMARC celebrates the 35th anniversary of its founding in 2003. We anticipate celebrating that achievement with an on-the-air operation from May 18 to May 20. Thursday and Friday during that time span will allow individual club members to operate as WØCGM/35 from their home stations. If there is sufficient enthusiasm, we will close the celebration as a club, operating from Fire Station #3. Fun time, good club. Club lead is Brian, NØBM.

ARRL Field Day

This is the granddaddy of field operating events, where tens of thousands of U.S. hams take to the field, show their capabilities for emergency setup and work as many other stations as possible in a 24-hour period. Takes place June 24 and 25 this year. The club will gather and operate at Fire Station # 3 in Cottage Grove. There are many ways club members can contribute to the success of our FD effort: setup and take down; safety officer; operating and logging; copying the field day bulletin; satellite QSO; running for coffee and snacks, etc. Club lead is Dave, KDØIRF...and he can use help in this effort.

Parks On The Air Activation

Many hams take to state and federal parks to activate as part of POTA. In the past, we have operated from Mississippi River National Recreation Area and Afton State Park. We are holding August/September for a POTA activation; date, time and place to be determined. If there is sufficient member interest, we may have an activation each month. Club lead is Brian, NØBM.

FOX HUNT REDUX!!

Who could imagine such fun? The second fox hunt in the year. The fall hunt is scheduled for October 7 and begins at the Zion Lutheran Church at 9:00 AM. Club lead is Dan, WDØGUP.