



November 2019 "THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH" Vol. 11, No. 11

SEMARC BOARD MEETING

The November board meeting was cancelled. Our next meeting for the board is December 10th. Location is Zion Lutheran Church and the time is 7:00pm. Any member may attend this planning session. Board members and committee chairs are usually present.

SEMARC BREAKFAST

We will gather this month on the same day as VE testing, November 16th, for breakfast at The North Pole Restaurant in Newport at 7:30 am. No reservations, just show up for a good breakfast and great company. We will be in the back room.

REGULAR MEMBER MEETING

Our next regular member meeting is November 26th. Location is Zion Lutheran Church at 7:00 pm.

Program will be "Directed Net Exercise". Our own Brian McInerney NØBM will be presenting.

We will have refreshments as usual with coffee and water supplied by the club and some cookies from members with November birthdays.

NOTE FROM THE PREZ. RYC KDØZWM

As we approach the end of another year we can be proud of our accomplishments. We have several opportunities for hobby, sport, training and socializing. At our next meeting we will be voting on our slate of officer candidates for the 2020 calendar year. Again, if you wish to run for office please let a board member know. It's been a pleasure to serve on our board and be a member of this club.

73's Ryc

ARES NEWS - JOHN REGAN, KAØHYR

TRAINING

1. AERO (Association of Emergency Radio Organizations) will hold classes on amateur radio communications and net con-

trol duties. A Net Control Operator is a critical and much needed operator in a call out. Watch for the schedule after the first of the year.

2. FEMA courses have been updated and the latest versions are on the fema.gov website. Taking the latest versions is a good winter activity. The recommended courses are the ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 courses. Completing all four courses and printing your Certificate of Completion for each course prepares you to take the AUXCOM course in the spring.

3. AUXCOM certification is becoming a requirement for some of the larger emergency events within the region. Four of our Washington County ARES members have taken the AUXCOM course. It is taught by two of our local hams. Winter training is a good exercise to prepare for the spring and summer storms and flooding. Watch for the next course announcement.

4. ARRL has revised it's initial Emergency Communications course (EC 001). It too is a web based course that you can sign up for and complete on line at your convenience. This is a good course to start with in terms of radio operation.

5. Skywarn training is sponsored by the SARA and SEMARC clubs beginning in early spring. Watch for the announcement on the class schedule after the first of the year.

John Regan, KAØHYR
C: 651-491-6611

CHASING THE GREY LINE

A conversation with a fellow member of SEMARC set me thinking about DX, propagation and the use of the grey line. For those new to the hobby or just catching the DX bug, the grey line is a line that separates light from darkness on the globe. Propagation along the grey line is quite efficient; a primary reason is that the D layer (which can absorb HF signals) disappears rapidly on the sunset side of the grey line and has yet to be built up on the sunrise side.

For years, hams have chased the grey line. I had a set of transparencies (the old days), set to the latitude and longitude of my QTH here. It was easy, given the date and the month, for me to visualize the grey line for my QTH. Alas, the transparencies were lost and are no longer a marketed tool.

Too bad... the transparencies were pretty inexpensive (read: ham cheap). Now, if I want a representation, I can

have a very expensive clock on the wall showing me the same visual. One of those clocks outstrips the cost of my station significantly.

Thankfully, with cell phones and station laptops, most hams can get a real time picture of the grey line. Try some of the following sites for information: www.DX.QSL.net; www.smeter.net; www.rsgb.org(propagation); www.fourmilab.ch; or www.W3WVG.com, where you can download and execute grey line software for free.

Get ready for some fun using this tool and your new knowledge about grey line propagation.

Brian McInerney NØBM

FROM JOE HIBBERD W3QLC

The club website (www.semarc.org) has been updated. If you have any photos of club activities within the last two years, please send them to joe.hibberd1@gmail.com. Please identify the date, activity, and names & call signs of those pictured.

FOR SALE

PK-232 MBX with manual \$75

Home brew large tuner with two air capacitors and a ceramic Roller inductor in a nice enclosure with knobs. \$50.

Contact: Fred Sauer KDØCO 651-437-8909.

SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday. The next VE session is November 16th. Exams are held at 9:00 am at Zion Lutheran Church. Call 651-769-0358 for information, to register or to arrange for special needs. Information is posted on the webpages also. No testing in December.

Planning Calendar

- Nov 16- (S) VE Session and Breakfast
Nov 26- (T) Member Meeting
Dec 10- (T) Board Meeting
No VE Session, Breakfast, or Member Meeting in December

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club

Dick Roberts, NØUC
1655 - 68th Street West
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-2222
651-208-0889

The Digital Corner

Digital Net follows SEMARC net on Wed pm. Go to www.w1hki.com for software & help.

Fldigi v. 3.23.09 Flmsg v. 2.0.17
Flamp v. 2.1.03 Flwrap v. 1.3.4

Meet on 146.985 and QS Y to 144.950. Mode is BPSK125. Other modes possible. Sign up with NØUC for net bulletins & help.