



December 2020

“THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH”

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SEMARC BOARD MEETING

Our next meeting for the board is December 8th. We plan to have a virtual meeting. Skip will send out an email to all members the day before with instructions on how to join in on the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12th at 7pm. This will be a virtual meeting. The new club officers will be installed and 2020 business concluded.

REGULAR MEMBER MEETING

Our next regular member meeting is December 29th. We usually don't have a December meeting but the board decided to have one this year to keep members more in touch because of the COVID pandemic. Meeting will include ratification of board voting slate. No program but a general discussion instead.

NOTE FROM THE PREZ, RYC KDØZWM

Well, 2020 is nearly behind us. Thankfully. Now we just look forward, cautiously to 2021. Looking back, what has 2020 done for us? Well, it's taken away our choice as far as working face to face. But, has it taken anything else away? Nothing really. We still have the opportunity to work on projects; on the radio; participate in events; and hold our meetings. We don't see each other's cheerful faces in person, but we still get to see each other. We've held field day and special event station for the USS Ward, just like we've done in previous years. How will 2021 be different? We'll still be holding meetings and operating stations. In January we'll again do the Winter Field Day and in the summer our regular Field Day. The board is considering having 2 additional special events. One commemorating the State of Minnesota becoming a state and one more in the fall. The Red Cross will be holding 2 more emcomm exercise and likely 2 additional ones plus the popular Winlink Thursdays.

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 QSY to 144.950.
Mode is BPSK125. Other modes possible.
Sign up with NØUC for net bulletins & help.

VE SESSION REPORT

For the last session we had 6 candidates total (4 Technician and 2 General). All four unlicensed passed the Technician and the 2 Techs passed the General. One of the unlicensed passed his Tech, General and Extra exams with a total of only TWO wrong answers (on the Extra exam). I recruited him to join SEMARC and become a VE. He sounded interested in that. Congratulations! Reminder no testing in December.

Joe Hibberd W3QLC

MNARES SEC ANNOUNCED

It will, or has been announced that Benton Jackson will be the new SEC for MNARES. He comes from the Maple Grove Radio Club, HCEM AuxComm, is a graduate of the AuxComm courses and all 5 of the AERO courses. I personally recommended him and think he will be an excellent SEC and I look forward to working with him. Joe Reinemann will be involved with ARES but not as deeply as before. His Red Cross duties have made it difficult to do both. I hope that you all have the opportunity to meet and work with Benton.

Ryc Lyden KDØZWM

WINTER FIELD DAY

Winter Field Day 2021 will be different than last year, and done very similar to the ARRL Field Day, just not as hot :). As I am in my shack today, I am looking at the bare, brown ground. Don't hold me to this, but pretty sure by the end of January, we'll have some of the white stuff around us.

When: January 30th through January 31st. 1:00 pm to 1:00. I will provide the link to the rules at the end of this article.

How: Bands: All Amateur bands, HF, VHF, & UHF except 12, 17, 30 and 60 meters.

Modes: Any mode that can faithfully transmit the exchange intact without a conversion table... CW, SSB, AM, FM, DStar, C4FM, DMR, Packet, PSK, SSTV, RTTY, Olivia, Satellite, etc...(note FT8 & FT4 cannot).

Suggested Frequencies: For suggested frequencies, please refer to the rules.

Where: WFD (Winter Field Day) will have 3 categories and distinction is important:

Indoor: Operation from inside a remote, insulated, heated (or cooled, depending on your local weather), and weather-protected structure where an Amateur station is normally not available. (Park buildings/cabins, community center, senior center, cottage, etc). An EOC or Club shack may be utilized, providing all equipment used is set up by the contestants.

Outdoor: Operation from a location partly or fully exposed to the elements and at least 30 feet away from your normal station location and not using any part of a previously erected antenna system or ham station. A campground, park pavilion, canopy, picnic table, tent, pop-up camper, or a backyard shed/tent/deck, etc may be used. Operation from a non-insulated car/truck/van/boat (mobile or not) is considered "outdoor". In order to claim the "outdoor" bonus, all stations in your entry must fit the definition, no exceptions.

Home: Operation from inside a home or inside another structure attached to a home that could or would be the usual location of an Amateur station (garage, sunroom, etc), generally using a previously erected antenna system. A "Home" entrant may still be eligible to claim the "alternate power" bonus if not using commercial power. Use of any pre-existing (on site) or permanently installed antenna system or station components renders your station a "Home" station

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SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday. The next VE session is on January 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

- Dec 8-(T) Board Meeting
- No VE Session in December
- Dec 29-(T) Member Meeting
- Jan 12-(T) Annual Club Meeting
- Jan 16-(S) VE Session
- Jan 26-(T) Fireside Chat Member Meeting

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club

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



WINTER FIELD DAY -CONTINUED-

So for WFD 2021, I will be operating one radio, from home - I will be operating as 1I Minnesota (one eye Minnesota).

Logging
I know we are going to be having a LOT of questions in regards to logging. I need to be very upfront, due to work /time constraints, I will be unable to manually create or transcribe anyone's log for this event. I am going to be using N3FJP's software Winter Field Day version of the logging app that I personally purchased last year. This was \$8.99. I looked to see if they offer anything where we could all use it, but they request that all stations be located within the 1000 foot circle.

Paper logs are accepted and they will take a Cabrillo File attached to an email, and not in the email body. These can be emailed to: wfda@winterfieldday.com via email before 0000 UTC March 1st to be considered.

Please review the official rules to determine bonus points, multipliers, etc. and other questions. WFD rules will be the final say on any issues.

Rules
https://a2a53e2b-2285-4083-9cff-c99fe5ba1658.filesusr.com/ugd/71c7085_2445ed4b22f74e048fe9bd41c8dba103.pdf

DAVID BLUME KDØIRF

ANTENNA LAUNCHER

SEMARC has purchased a "Big Shot" line launcher to assist members in getting wire antennas into high locations. Winter is a great time to put a line over trees. If you are you want help putting up a line, contact Joe Hibberd at joehibberd11@gmail.com.

JOE HIBBERD W3QLC

ARES NEWS

Winter is a good time to up your knowledge base by taking training courses and signing up for new app's. FEMA courses are very valuable. The latest additions of 100, 200, 700 and 800 are the minimums. The ARRL has rewritten its Emergency Communications course

and is reputed to be a good one. The digital world of ARES is moving towards Winlink. Practice can be on local nets or the coming American Red Cross drill next November. And, keep your batteries charged, especially for the HT's. All ARES members are encouraged to fire up the radios and participate in the local 2m nets. It is good practice for us all. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

JOHN REGAN KAØHYR

UPDATED SEMARC CALENDAR

A 2020 calendar updated for December is being sent with this publication. Watch for a 2021 SEMARC calendar to be e-mailed to club members later this month.

FIRESIDE CHAT MEMBER MEETING-JANUARY 26

We will have an informal meeting for general discussion as a way to stay in touch due to COVID restrictions on in-person get-togethers.

SKIP JACKSON RECOGNITION

Saving the best for last! The plaque pictured below has been presented to Skip Jackson KSØJ in recognition of 16 years of service as ARRL Minnesota Section Manager. Skip's contributions have had an immeasurable impact on amateur radio in the state of Minnesota and SEMARC will always be thankful for his efforts. It's extremely unusual to find anyone who has been as dedicated to ham radio as Skip has been over such an extended period of time. Well done Skip!

