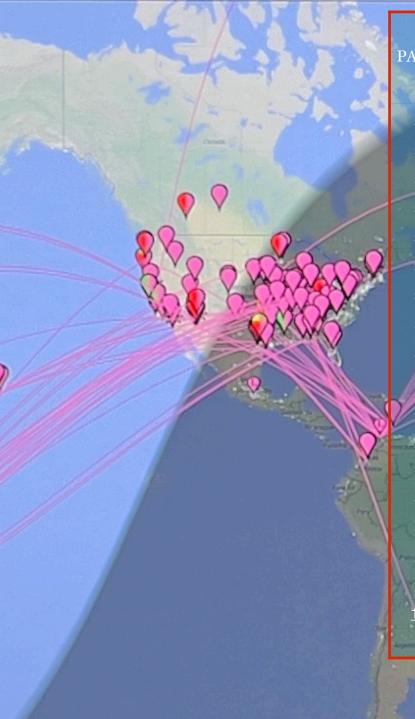


RZ 🛛 eHam 🕤 gslne THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH August 2022

* anyone using FT8 • over the last 30 minutes • Got Display options Permalink ۳

monitors. Display all reports.

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THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH



FIRESIDE CHAT

The Fireside Chat is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month. This month it is on Tuesday, August 2nd and Tuesday, August 16th at 7:00 p.m. It will be a Webex virtual meeting at:

https:// richardlroberts.my.webex.com/ meet/rlrobert

The format is open and will be without an agenda or focus. It will be a great opportunity for both new and experienced hams to ask questions and share experiences. Please join us!

SEMARC BOARD MEETING

Our next meeting for the board is August 9th. We plan to have a virtual meeting. Joe Hibberd will send out an email to all members the day before with instructions on how to join in on the meeting.

REGULAR MEMBER MEETING

Our next regular member meeting is August 30th. No program has been planned at this time.

Cont. on page 3

How About Trying FT8



Did you know ...

The SEMARC webpage contains links to many websites that are helpful to new hams and experienced ones.

Visit <u>www.semarc.org/P10_UL.htm</u>.

NOTICE:

146.985 Repeater is out of service for repair and users should switch to the 147.18 South with 74.4 tone or 147.18 north with 100 tone <u>till further</u> <u>notice</u>. Our Wednesday will be held there.

Dick, NØUC

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club Dick Roberts, NØUC 1655 - 68th Street West Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-2222 651-208-0889

MEMBER MEETING PROGRAM SURVEY

The Board is always looking for program ideas for the member meetings. What would you like to see for programs this year? Please send your ideas to **Dick Roberts** <u>nOuc@comcast.net</u> and he will bring your ideas to the Board meeting.

ARES REPORT

Just a reminder that our ARES repeater frequencies are 147.180, PL 74.4 in Newport, or PL 100 in Forest Lake.

INFORMAL CW ROUND-TABLE NET

Every Wednesday evening at 1900 hours on 28.110 MHz

WEDNESDAY NIGHT 2M NET

Our club holds a 2-meter net every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. It is an informal, but controlled, net on the 146.985 repeater. We are in the need for several alternate Net Control Stations who can fill in when one of the scheduled NCS is not available.

If you are interested, please contact:

Dick Roberts at n0uc@comcast.net

THE DIGITAL CORNER

Digital Net follows SEMARC net on Wed pm.

Go to <u>www.w1hkj.com</u> 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 <u>n0uc@comcast.net</u> for net bulletins & help.

Stillwater Amateur Radio Association

SARA has graciously welcomed SEMARC members to attend their events, and more...

Round Robin Ragchew on the SARA repeater

147.060 - info to access the repeater is here WØJH Repeater

Tuesday's - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Wednesdays - 9:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Social/Special Meetings

Thursday Evenings: Social and informal "Eyeball QSO" sessions from 6PM to 8PM

Club Apparel

You have seen some members wearing SEMARC caps, shirts and jackets. If you would like to order one for yourself, visit our website at <u>ApparelOrderForm.pdf</u> (semarc.org), then contact our order coordinator Dan Franz at <u>wd0gup@hotmail.com</u>. Dan will accept your order and payment, then order the item(s) from our vendor Advanced Sportswear in Newport.

If you have questions, contact Joe Hibberd at joehibberd11@gmail.com.

August VE Session Report

No report.

Any questions call the club hot line at 651-769-0358 or email wd0gup@hotmail.com.

VE News, we will be normalizing VE operations as it relates to COVID. For the time being I will still preregister candidates and VE's. That means no walk-ins but we also will not have head count restrictions. I also have incorporated a self-survey and ask anyone that answers yes to any of the questions to call me.

Thanks to all VE's that helped us get through this tough COVID time.

Dan Franz, WDØGUP

Planning Calendar

August 9th(T) Board MeetingAugust 20th(S) VE Session & B'fastAugust 23rd(T) Fourth TuesdayAugust 30th(T) Club Meeting

September 13th (T) Board Meeting September 17th (S) VE Session & B'fast September 27th (T) Club Meeting

SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday. The next VE session is on August 20th. 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.

Winlink Training Net

Starting on April 6, 2022 we will be holding a Winlink training net after our regular Wednesday two meter activity net for persons interested in using the Winlink programs and for ARES members to improve their proficiency in using the tool during emergency communication events. This net will start after completion of the activity and last about an hour.

The net will start on the 147.18 repeater to collect a roster and setup the instructions for the training and practice. We will then move to the MN ARES digital frequency to do the hands on portion of the net. We will be concentrating on point to point communication. Since during most communication emergencies the loss of the internet is very likely the need for P2P is high. During a communications emergency it is all hands on deck so you don't need to be an ARES member to help out. It is easier to learn now than during the emergency. We will be learning how to move traffic via P2P to a local destination or to a gateway station that has internet connectivity. The use of forms and message content is for a different training segment for another time not this net.

Before net time make yourself acquainted with winlink and winlink express. Take time to view the youtube links and install the needed software. We will be using VARA FM during the hands on portion of the nets. The links are provided below. There will be a number of questions that will pop up and we will work through those as the nets go along. As these are training nets hopefully your questions will get answers. As you have heard many times practice make perfection or as us older fellows say "practice helps us remember". If you have questions on ARES send to John Regan jeregan3@gmail.com about the net nouc@comcast.net

CU on the nets, 73 Dick NOUC

SEMARC POTA EVENT

SEMARC will have a POTA (Parks on the Air) event on **Saturday, August 27** at Jaycee Park in Hastings. Set up at 0900 and start operating at approximately 1000. We will operate two rigs on SSB, CW, and FT-8. **The park number is K-3381** (Mississippi River National Recreation Area) and the **club call sign is WØCGM**. We have permission from the city of Hastings to use the park for this activity. See below comments on logging both the club's and personal call sign to get credit for activating. In the POTA system you need 10 contacts to have a successful activation. We will also have an electronic logging system which Dave KDØIRF will set up. See you there! I promise you'll have fun.

Dave KEØHAL

Q: How do club calls work in POTA?

A: The Trustee (or someone with permission) needs to register the club's call sign to get its own account in POTA....For the Full Name, please put the name of the club.. (e.g. Anne Arundel ARC).

Once that is established, then you can run the activation as the call sign in the logs for "Station Callsign", but also, in the "Operator" field, put your own call sign.... That way, both the individual call, AND the club gets credit.

2022 SEMARC OPERATING EVENTS

SEMARC is planning the following operating events for 2022. Anyone willing to chair one of these events, please email Dave Larson, KEØHAL, at <u>daveanddanita@usfamily.net</u>. <u>Help is needed with this many events</u>. There are always some members willing to assist with set up and take down.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TIME	LOCATION	CHAIR
8/27/2022	POTA EVENT	10AM TO 4PM	JAYCEE PARK HASTINGS	KEØHAL
9/10/2022	US AIR MAIL COMMEMORATION SPECIAL EVENT KØA	10AM TO 4PM	Cottage Grove Fire Station #3	TBD
10/8/2022	FOX HUNT	10AM TO 2PM	ZION LUTHERAN PARKING LOT	WDØGUP

Minnesota Section -- ARES, Your New Situation Unit

At Hams in the Park earlier this month, a member of the public walked up to our communications trailer and asked what we were up to. I explained amateur radio and emergency communications. He asked the usual question--what is your role in the age of cell phones? It's a good question--an excellent answer was found at our "Downdraft 2" exercise last week. This coordination and exercise was called by Ryc Lyden, KD0ZWM, the Minnesota Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MNVOAD) President and Minnesota ARES (MNARES) ASEC-L.

Minnesota Section Emergency Coordinator Benton Jackson, KOBHJ, said, "The exercise was designed to use ARES volunteers to practice communicating between VOADs. In addition to ARES, we had volunteers from the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Team Rubicon. We paired up a VOAD volunteer with an ARES communicator at each work site, and they had a lot of fun generating simulated traffic. We also had VOAD volunteers at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to provide simulated traffic."

Led by MNVOAD, we were hosted by Washington County and the City of Cottage Grove. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Team Rubicon sent top leaders. The State of Minnesota was there. We built a flooding scenario using the HSEEP Exercise Planning Template. We had several simulated worksites, including a sandbag production site, a

sandbag distribution site, and a Temporary Evacuation Point. The main EOC was out of Cottage Grove City Hall, with no fixed antennas for us. All information was then relayed to the Washington County EOC. We brought serious experts, and did our best.

Our host and coach was Emergency Manager Gwen Martin (PhD, Emergency Management). After the exercise, we asked how we did. She was so impressed with the information that we were providing, using our CAN-P (Conditions, Actions, Needs and Personnel Accountability) reporting that she called it "pure gold" for the emergency manager and wants to promote this to other emergency managers.

Actions speak louder than words: We were invited back next year for a larger version of the exercise, with an evacuation scenario for an island that regularly floods. Martin then thought for a minute, and said she would use us as part of the "Situation Unit" in future large events. This unit is under the Planning Section in the ICS: they prepare the maps and briefings for the Incident Management Team (IMT). There is even a position called "Field Observer" -- Field Observers (FOBS) are responsible for collecting incident status information from personal



A Red Cross volunteer with an ARES communicator in the field. [Photo courtesy of Minnesota Section Emergency Coordinator Benton Jackson, KOBH.II

observations at the incident and providing this information to the EOC. The EM Martin also indicated that from now on she wants the Comm Team to be at the table next to her.

This exercise fixes so many role problems for us--we are not just the third wheel over in communications. We are now where we need to be, with the trusted, seasoned professionals, providing leadership with reliable situational awareness, not swayed by organizational politics, or rumors on social media. -- -- Erik Westgard, NY9D, Assistant SEC-T, ARRL Minnesota Section

Washington County ARES

Welcome to the Washington County ARES website (ARES Unit 163MN01).... Face-to-face ARES activities are in suspension until further notice due to Covid-19.... Check the two ARES Digital Nets in Minnesota and participate; Info under the <u>Events tab</u> gives details... 60 Meter Interoperability exercises scheduled = see events tab and participate with us!!....The 147.180 Repeater is running at the Newport site (PL 74.4) and Forest Lake site(PL 100); we use this repeater for drills and activations. This covers the entire county and is in our WashCoARES Emergency Communications Plan... Support our Amateur Radio Clubs through your participation.

John Regan, KAØYHR

August 2022

SEMARC Repeaters / Antennas

The City of Hastings notified SEMARC that the city water tower where our transmitter repeater antenna is located will be repainted. The notice stated our antenna and feedline needed to be removed by a licensed climber with special insurance. The cost would be around \$2000. Because the antenna was nearing the end of its useful life, it was decided to scrap the antenna. It is presumed a new antenna installation would be even more than \$2000. As a result we are looking for a new (less expensive!!) replacement location.

If you have any suggestions for a new repeater location in Hastings or southern Washington County, please contact <u>Dick Roberts NØUC.</u>

Good morning SARA and SEMARC leadership,

I am pleased to announce a new UHF repeater on the Allen King Power plant smokestack in Bayport. Please feel free to pass this information onto your membership.

442.975, DCS of 612.

Mixed mode FM and P25 digital

P25 NAC = \$145

Background and technical details:

Last fall I was fortunate to add a part time radio technician to our team, Tristen (KD9RFH). Tristen has placed a Motorola Quantar repeater (110 watt station) in one of the county equipment racks in the 600' interior level on the Allen King plant smokestack. The station is programmed for mixed mode operation in FM and P25. Initially the station was connected to a former St. Croix County abandoned UHF antenna (CommScope DB636 / 8.1 dBi gain) on the Wisconsin side at 675 feet. Coverage into western Wisconsin was good but Minnesota was poor. Mobile coverage faded near Highway 36 and I694 due to shadowing from the concrete stack behind the antenna. A Telwave ANTPD24 power divider was then installed after the duplexer to split the station to an east and west antenna. A new Laird FG4405 antenna (7dBi gain) was installed on the Minnesota side at about 610 feet. The coverage into Minnesota has now been improved although transmit power into each antenna is approximately halved.

Questions, comments, or suggestions can be provide to Tristen: Tristen.Mortel@co.washington.mn.us

Respectfully, Nate



NATE TIMM | Radio System Manager Washington County Sheriff's Office 15015 62nd St North, Stillwater, MN 55082 651-430-7863 Desk 651-439-9381 Dispatch 1-651-764-5185 Mobile

nate.timm@co.washington.mn.us Website: <u>http://wcsheriff.net/</u>

"Commitment to Excellence"

THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH

August 2022

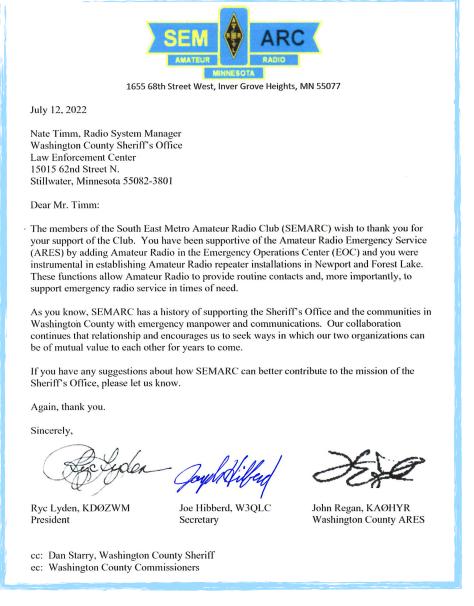
Letter of Appreciation

SEMARC presented a letter of appreciation (and a SEMARC mug) to Nate Timm, KBØUXV, Radio System Manager for Washington County Sheriff's Office, following the July 12, 2022 meeting of the Washington County Commissioners. The letter acknowledged Nate's support of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) by adding Amateur Radio in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). He was also instrumental in establishing Amateur Radio repeater installations in Newport and Forest Lake.

Making the presentation to Nate were Joe Hibberd and Dick Roberts. Sheriff Dan Starry observed.

Photo by Dave Schultz KB0SED





Fourth Tuesday

This is a reminder of **Fourth Tuesday** -- a <u>brand new</u> SEMARC event held when a month has 5 or more (hi, hi) Tuesdays.

Fourth Tuesdays are informative sessions on a topic of interest to both new and experienced hams. Last months topic was "Your First QSO" presented by Dick Roberts NØUC.

They are held at 1900 hours at <u>Cottage Grove Fire Station #3</u> 7500 75th St. S. in "old" Cottage Grove. This months meeting is on the 24^{th.}

CUL and 73,

Joe Hibberd W3QLC - SEMARC Secretary

METRO SKYWARN

Metro Skywarn Weekly Radio Check-In

Wednesdays 8:30pm – 8:45pm

Join Metro Skywarn for our weekly amateur radio check-in at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday during our active Net Control Station rotation schedule (thru October 16th).

These check-ins will be done on the 146.700- PL 127.3 WCOHC Downtown Minneapolis repeater.

This is your opportunity to **test your equipment** out outside of an active severe weather net. You can also ask the net control operators questions and just say hello!

For Sale

CUSHCRAFT Ringo Ranger 2m vertical base station antennas

Model ARX-2 with Manual; Current Retail price \$109; My price \$25; Pickup only; Cash; 2 available; Located in Southern Washington County, MN; Contact kd0co1@embargmail.com

CUSHCRAFT 2 meter vertical & horizontal YAGI base station antenna 144-148 MHZ

Model A148-20T with Manual; 10 element on vertical and horizontal; Boom Length 11 feet Current Retail price \$280; My price \$125; Pickup only; Cash; Located in Southern Washington County, MN

Contact kd0co1@embarqmail.com

New Club members can:

Keep in touch, post amateur related articles, sell amateur related items or asked for help and/or questions of other members.

This is a private network for our member's only and does not allow incoming or outgoing traffic to other networks. Members will be getting an email requesting them to join and they can opt in or out. This will occur in the first week of November

Dick NØUC

Membership meetings are held in Cottage Grove at the

Zion Lutheran Church 8500 Hillside Trail South

We meet on the LAST Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Except December & January

Watch for updates and more information in the Sunday Bulletin email message.

New members, especially those who passed one of our VE exam sessions, are encouraged to attend so that we can meet you in person.

We hope to see you there.

(As is our tradition anyone with a birthday in the meeting month is asked to bring cookies or other snack to share.)

CLUB APPAREL

You have seen some members wearing SEMARC caps, shirts and jackets. If you would like to order one for yourself, visit our website at <u>ApparelOrderForm.pdf (semarc.org)</u>, then contact our order coordinator Dan Franz at <u>wd0gup@hotmail.com</u>. Dan will accept your order and payment, then order the item(s) from our vendor Advanced Sportswear in Newport.

If you have questions, contact **Joe Hibberd at** joehibberd11@gmail.com.

Help your XYL, children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors get their Technician license.

https://k0ltc.org/tech_license_class/

Did You Know ...

SEMARC owns a "Big Shot" slingshot for use in shooting a line into a tree or other tall object to raise a wire antenna.

Contact Joe Hibberd if you want to use it.





 THIS MONTHS WORLDWIDE CONTESTS

 Thank you to Bruce Horn WA7BNM
 for the sharing of his calendar
https://www.contestcalendar.com/



± K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Aug 1
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 1
<u>+</u> OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Aug 1
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 1
<u>+</u> ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 2
<u>+</u> Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Aug 2
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 2
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 2
<u>+</u> Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 3
<u>+</u> A1Club AWT	1200Z-1300Z, Aug 3
<u>+</u> CWops Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 3
<u>+</u> Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Aug 3
<u>+</u> Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Aug 3
± CWops Test	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 3
<u>+</u> Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Aug 4 and 0200Z-0300Z, Aug 5
<u>+</u> CWops Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 4
<u>+</u> CWops Test	0700Z-0800Z, Aug 4
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 4
<u>+</u> NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Aug 4 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Aug 4 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Aug 4 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Aug 4 (Dig)
<u>+</u> SKCC Sprint Europe	1900Z-2100Z, Aug 4
<u>+</u> QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 5
<u>+</u> NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 5
<u>+</u> NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 5
<u>+</u> K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Aug 5
<u>+</u> Batavia FT8 Contest	0000Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7
± 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7



± European HF Championship	Cancelled for 2022
<u>+</u> NRRL MGM Weekend Contest	1400Z, Aug 6 to 1400Z, Aug 7
<u>+</u> North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 6 to 0559Z, Aug 7
± ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	1800Z, Aug 6 to 1800Z, Aug 7
± SARL HF Phone Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Aug 7
\pm K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Aug 8
± ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 8
<u>+</u> OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Aug 8
± ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 8
<u>+</u> Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Aug 9
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 9
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 9
± NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Aug 10
<u>+</u> Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 10
± A1Club AWT	1200Z-1300Z, Aug 10
<u>+</u> CWops Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 10
<u>+</u> Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Aug 10
<u>+</u> VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Aug 10
<u>+</u> Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Aug 10
± CWops Test	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 10
± CWops Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 11
<u>+</u> CWops Test	0700Z-0800Z, Aug 11
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 11
<u>+</u> EACW Meeting	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 11
± QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 12
± NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 12
<u>+</u> NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 12
<u>+</u> North American Meteor Scatter Sprint	1500Z, Aug 12 to 1459Z, Aug 14



<u>+</u> MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint Contest	1500Z, Aug 12 to 1459Z, Aug 14
± K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Aug 12
± WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 13 to 2359Z, Aug 14
<u>+</u> SARL Youth Sprint	1200Z-1300Z, Aug 13
<u>+</u> Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z, Aug 13 to 1200Z, Aug 14
<u>+</u> SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Aug 13 to 2400Z, Aug 14
<u>+</u> Kentucky State Parks on the Air	1400Z-2200Z, Aug 13
<u>+</u> Maryland-DC QSO Party	1400Z, Aug 13 to 0400Z, Aug 14
<u>+</u> FISTS Saturday Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Aug 13
± 50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Aug 13 to 0300Z, Aug 14
± 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Aug 15
± K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Aug 15
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 15
<u>+</u> OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Aug 15
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 15
<u>+</u> Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Aug 16
± ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 16
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 16
<u>+</u> Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 17
<u>+</u> A1Club AWT	1200Z-1300Z, Aug 17
<u>+</u> CWops Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 17
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± VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Aug 17
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<u>+</u> Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Aug 18 and 0200Z-0300Z, Aug 19
<u>+</u> CWops Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 18
<u>+</u> CWops Test	0700Z-0800Z, Aug 18













<u>+</u> QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 30
<u>+</u> ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 30
<u>+</u> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Aug 30
<u>+</u> Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 31
\pm A1Club AWT	1200Z-1300Z, Aug 31
<u>+</u> CWops Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 31
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