





www.semarc.org

THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH June 2023



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FIRESIDE CHAT

On hold until Fall

The Fireside Chat is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month. They are held 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 June 13th. 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

No membership meeting in June. Our next regular member meeting is July 25th. No program has been planned at this time.

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Pat Story WØMCQ SK

Saddened to report that Pat's wife Helena has notified us that Pat passed away Monday May 8th at the age of 81 he had been ill since December. Pat was a member for many years and a good friend. He and I work at Dakota County interacting on a regular basis he always left me with a smile on my face. Public Service was important to him and the first to volunteer to make it happen. He was a volunteer fire fighter for St. Paul Park and you would find him pulling double duty by working his full-time job then reporting for duty as a fire fighter. He loved his hobby of many years and worked on projects from behind the scene to make it successful. He was proud of his Collins KWM 2 and kept it in like new condition. Pat will be missed by all that knew him.

Dick Roberts NØUC

NOTICE: 146.985 Repeater

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 **till further notice**. Our Wednesday will be held there.

Dick NØUC

~ 146.985 Update ~

The repeater has been relocated to FS3 (Cottage Grove Fire Station #3) but not installed waiting for paperwork from the city. When spring arrives, snow melts and paperwork catches up with verbal permission, we will install the new repeater antenna.

This will allow us to turn the 146.985 back on for use.

Once on we will plot the new coverage area hopefully returning handheld usability to our group.

Dick NØUC

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club

Dick Roberts, NØUC 1655 - 68th Street West Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-2222 651-208-0889 n0uc@comcast.net

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Cont. from page 2

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 n0uc@comcast.net 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 www.w1hkj.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 n0uc@comcast.net 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 <u>WØJH Repeater</u>

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

May VE Session Report

We had 4 candidates, two techs got their general and 2 more generals got their extra.

I am looking for Extra's or soon to be Extra for VE's.

I am not in trouble, but am short of VE's for testing session. We provide all the training. There is an open book test from the ARRL that needs to be taken.

Contact me @ 651-247-2164 or wd0qup@hotmail.com with any questions.

Dan Franz, WDØGUP

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 selfsurvey 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

Any questions call the club hot line at 651-769-0358 or email wd0qup@hotmail.com.

Planning Calendar

June 13th (T) Board Meeting

June 17th (S) VE Session & B'fast

July 11th (T) Board Meeting July 15th (S) VE Session & B'fast

June 27th (T) No Club Meeting

July 25th (T) Club Meeting

SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday (except December). The next VE session is on June 17th. 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.

Volunteers On The Air (VOTA)

"As announced in the January 2023 issue of QST (see announcement link below), ARRL is celebrating a year-long operating event honoring all ARRL volunteers: Volunteers On the Air."

https:/www.ARRL.org/VOTA

W1AW/0 Minnesota Signup

https://ok.arrl.org/w1awmn/

https://contests.arrl.org/docs/2023-VOTA-State-Activations-Schedule.pdf

SEMARC at Groups.io

SEMARC at Groups.io

This is an email groups service that enables users to post and share messages to all who have signed in to the group. Sign up information is listed below under "Contacts".

SEMARC Contacts

- · Groups.io Post your messages at https://groups.io/g/SEMARC If you're not a member of the message group yet, contact SEMARC+subscribe@groups.io
- · Facebook Visit us at https://www.facebook.com/groups/1525920597716897
- · Twitter Follow us at @w@cgm

Hamfests 2023

Additional hamfests can be found on the ARRL hamfests page: https://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar

06/03/2023

Aurora '23..

Location: Plymouth, MN. Type: ARRL Convention.

Sponsor: Northern Lights Radio Society.

Website: http://www.NLRS.club

06/17/2023

Spring Tailgate Ham Fest. Location: Plymouth, MN. Sponsor: Twin City FM Club.

Website: https://TCFMC.org

08/26/2023

Northern Plains Regional Radio Council Hamfest.

Location: Brewster, MN.

Sponsor: Northern Plains Regional Radio Council. Website: https://www.facebook.com/groups/NPRRC

Membership Meetings

Are held in Cottage Grove

Zion Lutheran Church 8500 Hillside Trail South

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

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.)

New Club Members

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

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 ApparelOrderForm.pdf (semarc.org), then contact our order coordinator Dan Franz at wd0gup@hotmail.com. 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.

Did you know ...

The SEMARC webpage contains links to many websites that are helpful to new hams and experienced ones. Visit www.semarc.org/P10_UL.htm.

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Minnesota GI Bill and Amateur Radio

The Minnesota GI Bill program provides assistance to eligible Minnesota Veterans, currently serving military, National Guard and Reserve members who served after September 11, 2001, and eligible spouses and dependents up to age 62.

Eligible participants can use the benefit in Higher Education, On-the-job training/Apprenticeship, or License and Certification.

MN GI Bill Eligibility Requirements

- A <u>Veteran</u> who is serving or has served honorably in the U.S. armed forces at any time, or;
- A non-veteran who has served honorably for a total of five credible years or more cumulatively as a member of the Minnesota National Guard or any other active or reserve component of the United States armed forces, and any part of that service occurred on or after September 11, 2001, or;
- A surviving spouse or dependent of a person who has served in the military at any time and who has died or
 has a 100% VA-determined permanent and total disability as a direct result of military service and eligible to
 receive federal education benefits under Chapter 33 Fry Scholarship or Chapter 35. Spouse and Dependent
 applicants must provide a Certificate of Eligibility.
- Minnesota resident see specific program for resident requirements.

According to Charles Egerstrom, a benefits manager at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, this benefit includes amateur radio exam and license fees, including the FCC amateur radio license fee for new and renewal licenses. The MDVA will reimburse most educational expenses up to a maximum of \$3000 per year and \$10,000 for a lifetime. Reimbursement can be made up to one (1) year after the date the expense was incurred.

To apply, visit MDVA PROGRAMS & SERVICES PORTAL. You will also need to submit a copy of your FCC amateur radio license and a Form W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number | Internal Revenue Service

For more information, visit Minnesota GI Bill / Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs or contact your county Veterans Service Office (VSO). If your VSO is not familiar with the eligibility of amateur radio fees, refer them to Mr. Egerstrom at 651-336-2371.

Joe Hibberd, W3QLC

Estate Planning for Your Radio Equipment

The ARRL has an estate planning workbook that is a resource to guide you through developing a plan to handle your amateur radio estate. It covers:

- How to handle your station and its many assets
- Exploring your desire to leave behind a legacy by which fellow hams can remember you
- Using part or all of your station assets to support amateur radio causes

Planning in advance will help your family or friends. Creating YOUR plan can be a simple, fulfilling way to share your commitment to amateur radio with future generations.

The ARRL Estate Planning Workbook is available at https://www.arrl.org/estate-planning-workbook

Thanks to Joe W3QLC for finding this

Dan Franz WDØGUP 100th VE session

Our Volunteer Examiner (VE) team leader Dan Franz WDØGUP reached a VE milestone on Saturday, May 20 when he worked his 100th VE session. It was celebrated with a little party. Congratulations, Dan! Here's to the next 100 sessions.

Other SEMARC VE members who have reached the Century Club are:

- Karl Ericksen WA2DEE (175)
- Brian McInerney (156)
- Dave Finley KA8VHF (116)

Congratulations and thank you all!



Map Of Hams QTH

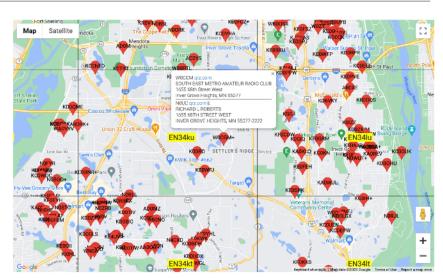
Here is an amazing website that will show the QTH of other hams living near you (or anywhere in the US).

Just enter your call sign.

It's surprising how many there are.

https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map

Joe Hibberd W3QLC



Winlink Training Net

On April 6, 2022 we began 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 Joe Hibberd joehibberd11@gmail.com about the net n0uc@comcast.net

CU on the nets, 73

Dick NOUC

In addition to the afore mentioned Winlink "active" training nets, there will be "passive" practice nets for participants to continue to learn how to configure their stations, and to practice their skills using the Winlink Express software. You simply send a Winlink message to net control to verify that your system is set up correctly and working. If there is not an active training net after the SEMARC Activity Net, you can assume the passive net will be running. The details needed to check into the passive net are here:

https://paulkanikula.wixsite.com/home/winlink-net

Any comments or questions about the passive nets can be sent to KF9CP at paulkanikula@gmail.com or you can put it out on the groups.io for the benefit of everyone.

SEMARC Operating Events – 2023

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)

ARRL Field Day

This is the granddaddy of field operating events, where tens of thousands of US 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/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, KD0IRF...and he can use help in this effort.

POTA Activation

Many hams take to state and federal parks to activate the, as part of parks-on-the-air. 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, N0BM.

FOXHUNT REDUX!!

Who could imagine such fun? The second foxhunt 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, WD0GUP

SEMARC Operating Events – 2023 & WØCGM/35

May 20th 3:31p.m., we completed the on-the air celebration of the club's anniversary, under the call WØCGM/35. A number of our members helped to ensure this was a successful club effort. In fact, about 20% of the membership operated in the event. We made over 200 contacts, either as a group at Fire Station #3 or from our home stations. At the fire station, we tried out a new NVIS antenna constructed by Dave Blume. Although the bands were quite poor this morning, the antenna acquitted itself well. It is a crossed wire horizontal configuration operating on 80-40, with the wires at right angles to each other in an inverted vee. We may or not use it at Field Day; we'll see.

I'd like to thank the following for their efforts: Dave, KEOHAL; Dave, KDOIRF; Dick, NOUC; Joe, W3QLC, Dan, WDOGUP; Dave, WB8VHF; and last, but certainly not least, Art, NOIWQ. This was a real club effort, and we all enjoyed each other, especially at the Station today.



Dave Finley KA8VHF and Dave Blume KD0IRF operating May 20 W0CGM/35

SEMARC Operating Events – 2023

So....two or three more field events this summer and it would be terrific to see the club come together, operate and have some fun.

The first is Field Day. Our chair, Dave Blume, can certainly use some help on this one. Check the FD article in the most recent QST to see all of the roles members can play to support a successful club effort. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Dave to help, whether it's copying the FD bulletin, writing an article for a local publication, inviting public officials to the site, charging up your batteries, dusting off you voice and CW memory keyers, serving as host for visitors, etc. Of special mention, Chris Feld did a great job last year as safety officer for the event. No pressure, Chris, but it would be great to have you in the return role.

I'm just a cheerleader.... Dave Blume is the leader on this. Please work with him.

Second, the REP drill for the Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant. Although this is not an exclusive SEMARC effort (support from SARA), a significant majority of the ARES staff in this drill have been our members. Recently, Joe Hibberd assumed the EC duties for Washington County; it's a big responsibility. Please consider helping out in this drill. Joe led the team for the recent flood monitoring and assistance effort in Lake St. Croix Beach. He and other ops will be recognized at an upcoming city council meeting for their help. I am otherwise committed that evening, but those who will be cited for their efforts should attend. As a matter of fact, there is a rumor that a bar is close by and maybe, just maybe, folks can have a cool one and do an informal review of the deployment. OK, OK, don't be offended. I'm Boston Irish and you know the joke about some Irish lawyers...they never could pass the bar. Anyway, attendance at the Council meeting would be a good way to show appreciation for your fellow club members.

Last, a POTA deployment. I haven't yet picked the date for this field operation. I did, however, based on recommendations from other club members, drive to Spring Lake Park Reserve in Cottage Grove. It's a beautiful site with a number of places where we could operate. It's also part of the Mississippi River National Recreation Area...and a quieter radio site than or previous POTA activations from the National Recreation Area.

Please stay tuned for further developments.

73

Brian NØBM

Last, a POTA deployment. I haven't yet picked the date for this field operation. I did, however, based on recommendations from other club members, drive to Spring Lake Park Reserve in Cottage Grove. It's a beautiful site with a number of places where we could operate. It's also part of the Mississippi River National Recreation Area...and a quieter radio site than or previous POTA activations from the National Recreation Area.

Please stay tuned for further developments.

73

Brian NØBM

Good afternoon,

Here are a few updates for members to put on their calendars for the next few months.

Programs

I am always fascinated by the hobbies and side interests of other hams, whether they relate to model aircraft, trains, photography, astronomy, metal work or woodworking, computers and programming; often those hams find ways to merge their interests with ham radio.

May's meeting features a program by Chuck, NAØL on drones. Everything you always wanted to know about them...how they are controlled, how they are regulated, what sparked his interest, what sort of organized activities further the hobby, etc. A demonstration is planned, as long as the weather permits flight. Join us for an enjoyable evening.

SEMARC Operating Events – 2023

No program in June. I think most of us will be a little weary from FD and preparing for the Prairie Island REP drill. If you haven't yet committed to the REP drill, please do so with Joe, W3QLC. Speaking of FD don't forget to help Dave KDØIRF, our FD Chair. Lots has to be done to make this a successful Club effort. Many hands make for light work. By the way, Dave will make a presentation to the CG City Council soon. It's a great opportunity and also allows publicity exposure and points for the club's FD efforts. You should be able to view his presentation the night of the meeting or on CG's YouTube channel after.

No program for July...any suggestions and/or volunteer presenters, please let Brian NØBM know. August returns with a bang-up program. Dan, WDØGUP, will return with a program on fox hunting, specifically a hands-on workshop to make two-meter beams to be used in the hunts. Sure to be a pleaser. Put it on your calendar!

Events

The club just concluded the 35th anniversary celebration with a hybrid club-member operation. Fun by all and more than 200 contacts.

Next up is FD, the last full weekend in June. Make a commitment. Contact Dave, KDØIRF and discover how you can help. Lots to do, lots of fellowship and fun.

POTA is on the docket for the summer/early fall. Dates still to be determined. Consensus is that Spring Lake Park Reserve in CG would be a great location, as it is part of the Mississippi River Recreation Area. An attempt will be made to have two POTA efforts, one on weekdays and one on weekends. Members are split between retirees and those still working. We want to accommodate as many as possible. Volunteers/help is always appreciated. Contact Brian NØBM if you wish to help.

Brian McInerney NØBM SEMARC Vice President

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 Events tab 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.

The ARRL, upon the recommendations of Minnesota Section Manager Bill Mitchell AEOEE and Minnesota Section Emergency Coordinator Benton Jackson KOBHJ, has appointed Joe Hibberd W3QLC as the new Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Washington County. Joe will be working with former Washington County EC John Regan KAOHYR for the transition. A meeting of Washington County ARES will be scheduled for the Spring.

Anyone interested in joining Washington County ARES should contact me at joehibberd11@gmail.com.

Joe Hibberd W3QLC

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WCARES Activities This Year

We will provide communications in and around Park High School in Cottage Grove during the two (2) Radiological Emergency Plan (REP) drills in June in support of the FEMA evaluation of the Prairie Island Nuclear Electric Generating Plant. We will also provide communication in support of two (2) Minnesota VOAD drills this summer. As a result, we encourage all amateur radio operators to join WCARES.

Our ARES Unit participates in SEMARC's weekly 8:00 p.m. Wednesday evening 2-meter nets on the 147.180 repeater with a PL tone of 74.4 in Newport and PL tone 100.0 in Forest Lake. We also use this pair of repeaters for our monthly 2-meter net on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining Washington County ARES should contact me at joehibberd11@gmail.com

Joe Hibberd W3QLC Emergency Coordinator Washington County ARES

Hi guys,

The REP drills at Park High School are approaching soon, and I would like to get a couple more WCARES members to help out.

Please respond if you are able to participate in the drills on Wednesday, June 7 and on Wednesday, June 28. Both drills are from 5:00 - 8:00 PM.

Thanx.

73 and Be Safe,

Joe W3QLC

Emergency Coordinator Washington County ARES

ARRL and FEMA

ARRL and FEMA Sign Agreement: Ham Radio is as Relevant as Ever

https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-and-fema-sign-agreement-ham-radio-is-as-relevant-as-ever

The agreement emphasizes the importance of skilled Amateur Radio Operators in times of crisis and the role of ARES leadership within the emergency communications space.

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!

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For Sale Yaesu FT-818ND

A nice little radio for QRP. All mode, ultra-compact portable.

HE/VHE/UHE SSB/CW/AM/FM

6 watts output.

9.6 volt, 1900 mAh Ni-MH battery included.

Weighs 2.5 lbs. Measures 5.3 in wide, 1.5 in high, 6.5 in deep.

QST technical review at PROD REV.indd (dxengineering.com)

Also included LDG Z-817 autotuner.

Both for \$650.00

Contact Joe W3QLC at joehibberd11@gmail.com



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WORLDWIDE CONTESTS

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



May Worldwide Contests click map for list



Does Anyone Use This Page?



I only ask to see if it benefits anyone.

It is mostly a static page so no extra work for me.

I find it fun to see if I can hear any of the distant contests.

Just curious if there are some that enjoy hunting contests and make use of this page.

It will not go away no matter the response.



Thank you

Roger AEØTE