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THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH August 2023

Winlink Demo



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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/rrobert>

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!

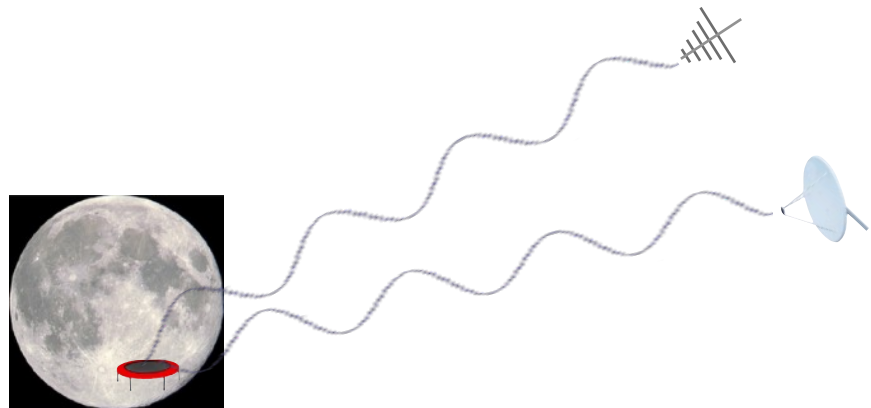
SEMARC BOARD MEETING

Our next meeting for the board is August 8th. 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 29th. No program has been planned at this time.

Moon Bounce



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

[Cont. on page 3](#)

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 **N0UC**
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 [WØJH Repeater](#)

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

[Social/Special Meetings](#)

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

VE Session Report

Dan Franz, WDØGUP

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 wd0gup@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 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

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

Planning Calendar

August 8th (T) Board Meeting

August 18th (S) VE Session & B'fast

August 29th (T) Club Meeting

September 12th (T) Board Meeting

September 16th (S) VE Session & B'fast

September 26th (T) Club Meeting

SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday (except December). The next VE session is on August 18th. Exams are held at 9:00 am at **Christ Redeemer Church**. Call 651-769-0358 for information, to register or to arrange for special needs. Information is posted on the webpages also.

SEMARC VICE PRESIDENT POSITION OPEN

Brian McInerney, NØBM, notified the board on Wednesday morning that he was resigning his vice president position due to personal reasons. Brian has vast experience and knowledge that he has shared with our club over the years, and he will remain a valuable club member. He will certainly be missed as a board member, but I'm sure he'll still provide good advice and share his knowledge as we move forward. Our bylaws call for a special election to fill vacant club officer positions. At our August regular meeting, nominations shall be submitted by club members. If no nominations are made, or if a quorum is not present, then nominations shall be taken at the next regularly scheduled club meeting. At the next regularly scheduled meeting following a proper nomination process, a special election will be held with the winner being selected by a simple majority of votes cast by club members. Also, in accordance with our bylaws, I have appointed Dick Roberts, NØUC, as vice president pro-tem until the special election process is completed. Thank you, Dick, for volunteering to fill this position for the time being.

Brian also resigned his committee positions. Dan Franz, WDØGUP, has volunteered to fill those positions for the time being. Thank you, Dan.

We are fortunate in having a great membership, and we need someone willing to fill the VP position for the remainder of this year. Most club activities for this year have been identified, but some detailed planning remains to be done. I can help with that if needed. Let me know if any of you can take this on.

The VP position is defined as follows in the bylaws:

"The Vice President shall organize club activities, plan, and recommend contests for operating benefits, and advance club interests and activities as approved by the club. The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in their absence and perform all appropriate duties as may be requested by the President."

Dave Larson KEØHAL, SEMARC President

ARRL MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

The ARRL Minnesota State Convention is shaping up. The date is October 14, from 0900-1600. See the attached flyer for more information. SEMARC has contributed \$200 in seed money as approved at the July membership meeting. The QR code on the flyer may not be working yet but will soon. (Or click on the image below)


PRESENTS



Seminars ARRL Forum
VE License Testing
QSL Card Checking
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 14, 2023
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Advance Registration (8/8- 9/31) - \$30
Registration (10/1 - 10/14) - \$40


Hennepin Technical College
9000 Brooklyn Boulevard
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

For More Information, see <https://mnconvention.org>

2023 ARRL Minnesota State Convention
Seminars

Digital Modes FT8/FT4/JS8Call	HF Operation from an Electric vehicle
QRP	Introduction to Logging and Spotting
POTA - Getting Started with Parks On The Air	NanoVNA, TinySA
"GO" Kits	Choke-UnUn Design and Measurement with NanoVNA
6 mtr Dxpedition	Get On The Air with a Limited Budget
6 meter EME	DX
ARES/EMCOMM	Satellite / ISS Communications
ARES/EMComm Technical Competency	Introduction to 6 meters
Introduction to Radiosport and Contesting	VHF Contesting
Transmitter Hunting (RDF) Radio Direction Finding	The World Above 50 MHZ
Expand Your Horizons with Remote HF Operation	A Gentle Introduction to HF
Repeater Digital Modes (AllStar)	Propagation and Solar Weather

**For more details
and signup info,
scan the QR Code!**



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 @w0cgm
-

SEMARC HAPPENINGS

Third Quarter shapes up to be another active one. August has Dan, WDOGUP, leading an interactive presentation on two-meter directional antennas for fox hunting. Get the chance to build a tape measure beam. Timely, as a hunt is scheduled for the last quarter of this year. I am still searching for a September program. All suggestions are welcome.... shoot me an email, but be prepared to help. :->)

Two POTA activations are scheduled for this quarter. The first for August 17 and the second for September 16. Mark your calendars, please. Dates may vary depending on other circumstances but I am trying my best to lock these in. One activation will be during the week; the other on a weekend. We are trying to accommodate both retirees and still-employed members. Stay tuned for further news.

As always, suggestions and offers of assistance are welcome. Many hands make for light work.

Brian N0BM

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)

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, NØBM.

FOXHUNT REDUX !!

Who could imagine such fun? The second foxhunt in the year. The fall hunt is scheduled for October 7 and begins at 9:00 AM. [Location to be announced](#)

Club lead is Dan, WD0GUP

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

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

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 N0UC

★ 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.

Hamfests 2023

Additional hamfests can be found on the ARRL hamfests page:

<https://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

08/05/2023

[Riverland Amateur Radio Club Swapfest](#)

Location: La Crosse, WI

Sponsor: Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://rarc.qth.com>

08/12/2023

[CVARC 2023 Hamfest](#)

Location: Chippewa Falls, WI

Sponsor: Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://w9cva.org/hamfest>

8/19/2023

Brainerd Tailgate Hamfest

Location: Brainerd, MN

Sponsor: Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://brainerdham.org>

09/16/2023

[Lake Elmo Tail Gate Hamfest](#)

Location: Lake Elmo, MN

Sponsor: Metro Area Repeater Association

Membership Meetings

Are held in Cottage Grove

Christ Redeemer Church 8500 Hillside Trail South

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

Real-time 2 Station WinLink Demo

SEMARC club members had a chance to experience setting up and using Winlink during a hands-on demo after the monthly club meeting.



WCARES Activities This Year

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

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 AE0EE and Minnesota Section Emergency Coordinator Benton Jackson K0BHJ, 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 KA0HYR 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

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** WC0HC 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

YAESU FT-2900R

75 watt heavy-duty 2-meter FM transceiver. High power output with no cooling fan needed due to large heat sink. Four selectable power output levels: 75/30/10/5 watts. 200 memories available.

A 10-channel Weather Band memory bank allowing quick access to NOAA weather broadcasts. When the 1050-Hz "Severe Weather" alert tone is transmitted, the FT-2900R may be configured to emit an alarm tone to get your attention quickly. Includes operating manual. Sells for \$110 plus \$59 shipping on eBay. Upgraded FT-2980 sells for \$190-215 online. **Asking \$100.**

MFJ-1793 80-40-20 VERTICAL ANTENNA

33 ft. tall, end loading, aluminum tubing, handles 1500 Watts PEP, requires guying and radials, counterpoises or ground screen. Installation manual and eight (8) radials included. Sells for \$279 new. **Asking \$175.**

BURYFLEX COAX

80 feet designed for underground. Adhesive lined heat shrink PL-259 connectors on both ends for weather protection. Used for less than 1 year. **\$80.**

Contact Joe Hibberd W3QLC

Joehibberd11@gmail.com



WORLDWIDE CONTESTS

Thank you to [Bruce Horn WA7BNM](#) for the sharing of his calendar
Main website <https://www.contestcalendar.com/>



Current Worldwide Contests

[click map for list](#)

