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**SEMARC**  
WØCGM

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## THE SEMARC TELEGRAPH *October 2023*

### SEMARC POTA Event



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### FIRESIDE CHAT

~ **STARTS Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>** ~

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://richardroberts.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 October 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 October 31<sup>st</sup>. No program has been planned at this time.

### Aurora Forecasts

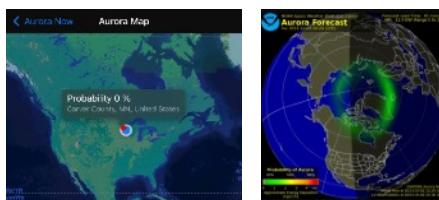
With auroras becoming more regular it's nice to have an app to see the current forecasts.

This is one app I use on my iPhone.

My Aurora Forecast & Alerts - [Available on Apple iPhone & iPad](#)  
[Also on Google Play](#) (Not sure if it's for Android &/or PC)

Another app I use is [Aurora Forecast](#) on iPhone

This is great for a PC [NOAA SPACE WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER](#)



### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:n0uc@comcast.net)

### THE DIGITAL CORNER

Digital Net follows SEMARC net on Wed pm.

Go to [www.w1hkj.com](http://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](mailto: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 [W0JH Repeater](#)

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

[Social/Special Meetings](#)

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

## VE Session Report

We had 3 candidates. 2 got General 1 got Extra.

We are now at our new location

[St Luke Lutheran Church, 7000 Hinton Ave S, Cottage Grove](#)

See you there,

Dan..

**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](mailto:wd0gup@hotmail.com) with any questions.

Dan Franz, WD0GUP

### 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, WD0GUP

Any questions call the club hot line at 651-769-0358 or email [wd0gup@hotmail.com](mailto:wd0gup@hotmail.com).

## Planning Calendar

October 10<sup>th</sup> (T) Board Meeting

October 21<sup>st</sup> (S) VE Session & B'fast

October 31<sup>st</sup> (T) Club Meeting

November 14<sup>th</sup> (T) Board Meeting

November 18<sup>th</sup> (S) VE & B'fast

November 28<sup>th</sup> (T) Club Meeting

### SEMARC VE Sessions

VE exam sessions are held every 3rd Saturday (except December). The next VE session is on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Exams are held at 9:00 am at [St Luke Lutheran Church Cottage Grove](#). Call 651-769-0358 for information, to register or to arrange for special needs. Information is posted on the webpages also.

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## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

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### SEMARC VACANT VP POSITION AND ELECTIONS COMING UP

We have had the vice president position vacant for a few months now. No one has stepped up at the last two general meetings, but we need to fill this position for the remainder of 2023. Most of the work that the vice president does has already been completed for the year. Please let me know if you are interested in stepping up to help the club and take over this spot for the last three months of 2023.

The description of the vice president's duties is as follows:

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.

I also need members for the nominating committee for elections of 2024 officers. Please contact me soon if you can help. Our policy and procedures say the following:

7.01 A Nominating Committee of at least two (2) members shall be responsible for recruiting candidates to all offices subject for election. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Nominating Committee at their October meeting.

7.02 The Nominating Committee shall contact all candidates and must obtain their consent before offering their names in nomination.

7.03 The Nominating Committee shall provide nominations to the Board of Directors for approval by the November Board meeting.

Dave Larson, KEØHAL

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## SEMARC Operating Events – 2023

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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.

### **FOXHUNT REDUX !!**

Who could imagine such fun? The second foxhunt in the year. The fall hunt is scheduled for October 7 and begins at 11:00 AM. [St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove](#)

Club lead is Dan, WD0GUP

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## Did you know ...

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

Visit [www.semarc.org/P10\\_UL.htm](http://www.semarc.org/P10_UL.htm).

## 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)

Advance registration \$30 – registration after October 1 is \$40

[Link To Website](#)

[Map to ARRL Minnesota State Convention](#)



**MINNESOTA**  
AFFILIATED RADIO CLUBS **PRESENTS**

**ARRL MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION 2023**

**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	
ARES/EMCOMM	DX
ARES/EMComm Technical Competency	Satellite / ISS Communications
Introduction to Radiosport and Contesting	Introduction to 6 meters
Transmitter Hunting (RDF) Radio Direction Finding	VHF Contesting
Expand Your Horizons with Remote HF Operation	The World Above 50 MHZ
Repeater Digital Modes (AllStar)	A Gentle Introduction to HF
	Propagation and Solar Weather

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



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## Volunteers On The Air (VOTA)

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“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>

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## SEMARC at Groups.io

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### 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](mailto:SEMARC+subscribe@groups.io)
  - Facebook - Visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1525920597716897>
  - Twitter - Follow us at @wØcgm
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## Winlink Training Net

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On April 6, 2022 we began 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](mailto:joehibberd11@gmail.com) about the net [n0uc@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:paulkanikula@gmail.com) or you can put it out on the groups.io for the benefit of everyone.

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## Membership Meetings

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Are held in Cottage Grove

[St Luke Lutheran Church, 7000 Hinton Ave S, Cottage Grove](#)

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.)

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## New Club Members

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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

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## Club Apparel

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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](http://semarc.org)), then contact our order coordinator Dan Franz at [wd0gup@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:joehibberd11@gmail.com).



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## WCARES Activities This Year

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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](mailto:joehibberd11@gmail.com)

Joe Hibberd W3QLC  
Emergency Coordinator  
Washington County ARES

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## Washington County ARES

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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](mailto:joehibberd11@gmail.com).

Joe Hibberd W3QLC

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## METRO SKYWARN

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### Metro Skywarn Weekly Radio Check-In

**Wednesdays 8:30pm – 8:45pm**

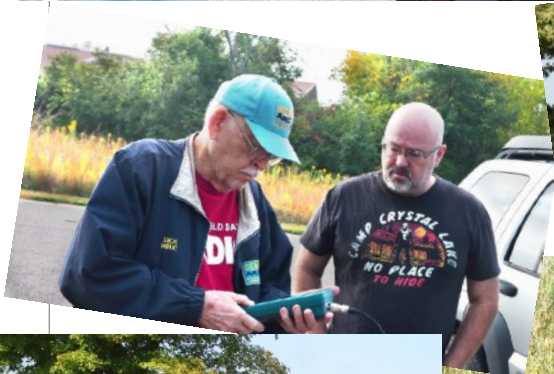
Join Metro Skywarn for our weekly amateur radio check-in at **8:30 p.m. every Wednesday** during our active Net Control Station rotation schedule (thru October 16th).

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!



## SEMARC POTA





## SEMARC New Home

St. Luke's Lutheran Church 7000 Hinton Ave. S. Cottage Grove







## 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](#)

