



THE TELEGRAPH

Third Quarter, 2026

Meeting Updates

The Club continued its member meetings with two strong programs in July and August.

John, K0JDD returned to the podium with a presentation on AllStar Link, a network of ham repeaters, base stations and hotspots connected by VOIP. This system allows multiple ways for amateurs to connect with other amateurs across the US and the world. John's presentation compared an analysis of linking efforts (ECHO Link, and others) with Allstar Link. Of course, as members might suspect of John, Allstar is an open-source enterprise and one which an amateur can continually improve.

Serving as a hotspot can be achieved with as little as a raspberry-pi device. John demonstrated linking during the meeting and talked about the devices and where and how to construct them and program them. He also reviewed the SHARI 818 a radio interface designed for access to Allstar Link.

A copy of John's presentation has been uploaded to the SEMARC website and all members are encouraged to review it.

John admitted that he had yet to figure out and try all the possible practical uses of AllStar. We should coax him back in 2027 to hear what more he has accomplished.

John Pope, WA0VPJ gave our August presentation. He discussed the formation and operation of IHS, a Minnesota-based medical mission to the Honduras. In addition to a fascinating discussion

of the development of the mission and the geography of the Honduras, John detailed how amateur radio supports the mission and how it has changed through the years. He told a couple of humorous and interesting tales of ham radio exploits and slight misadventures.

John's presentation has yet to be uploaded to the website, although he promised to forward it to the program committee.

Future Meetings

Rosalie White, K1STO joins us remotely for the September meeting. Rosalie is an experienced ham with more than 20 years on the staff of the League and is now an ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) international delegate and member of the ARISS USA senior management team. Join us to hear about ARISS and, hopefully, other of her amateur radio exploits through the years. I suspect it will be an interesting evening.

All of us are required to prepare for the October meeting. The topic of discussion will be members telling their stories about how they got into amateur radio. All are encouraged to bring something they have constructed as part of a show-and-tell at the meeting. Hopefully, it will be an enjoyable and interesting meeting.

The November meeting topic is still in flux. Check NAOL's weekly bulletin for more information. Thanks to K0JD, N0UC and N0BM for a year of good programs. Help will be needed in the new year...don't be afraid to volunteer.

Operating Events

As you all know, the SEMARC Field Day on the last full weekend of June was a success. Our Chair, **Dave Blume K0DIRF** orchestrated another great event. Dave reported that our score is projected to be more than 3000. That's a respectable score, as we decided to shut down early on Sunday morning because of the threat of severe storms. In fact, we ended our participation five hours early. Takedown was done by 9:45 AM. As is often the case, the ARRL FD bulletin cautioned all participants to be weather aware. This year, that was the case for the SEMARC FD.

A special note of thanks to Dick, N0UC, who in spite of the vagaries of weather, out of site satellite passes and band conditions, managed to snag a satellite contact for the club, and the scoring bonus associated with the QSO.

A hearty well done for all who contributed to another great club FD.

Future Operating and Other Events

One club operating event remains for the last quarter of the year. W0M commemorates the anniversary of the first successful trans- Atlantic radio transmission and reception. **KF0NOK**, **NA0L**, **K0JDD** and **N0BM** are heading up this event. The event is designed so that members can operate from their own stations on modes, frequencies and times of their choosing. Please be alert to weekly bulletins and other emails from members of the team as we close in on the date, December 12, 2026.

Autumn brings an upsurge in on-the-air activities. Members don't need the club to get on the air and participate in special events, contests and state QSO parties and public service events. A regular check of QST will alert members to opportunities they may enjoy.

The editor has his eye on a number of on-air celebrations:

- QSO parties in CA, AZ, PA, SoDak, NY and IL
- the ARRL Sweepstakes, both SSB and CW
- the Stew Perry and ARRL 160 meter contests
- the CQWW DX contests
- the WAE RTTY test
- the ARRL Rookie Roundup
- and the Winter RAC gathering

We all have grumbled one time or another, when we turned on the rig and encountered the wall-to-wall sound of a major contest. But, it's an opportunity to learn more about your rigs, propagation, geography and earn some points for the awards that you may be pursuing. The editor is a Little Pistol (100 watts and a wire) and is always amazed at what can be accomplished, even at a relaxed approach. Be open to it.

Periodic Opportunities to Meet, Participate and Socialize

NAOL's weekly Sunday Bulletins are an easy way to keep abreast of activities in a timely fashion. Chuck does a great job of reminding members about net activities other events and gatherings, just so that you'll be able to get them on your calendars. Some of these opportunities are regular and well acknowledged; others require a little more planning. For the club to be successful, we all need to tackle those opportunities, enjoy them and, if possible, volunteer to lead or support them. Consider how you can help for the rest of 2026



Dan Franz, WD0GUP, SK



Members were surprised and saddened to learn of Dan's recent death. All who wish will have the chance to remember Dan and express condolences to his family. Visitation for Dan will be held at the Kok Funeral home in Cottage Grove on September 23, between 4:00 and 7:00 PM.

A mass of Christian burial will be held on September 24 at the Church of St. Rita in Cottage Grove at 11:00 AM, with visitation at the Church for one hour prior to the service.

Below are a few words about one member's remembrance of Dan and a number of photos from the archives of SEMARC, NAOL, KFONOK and NOUC.

Many of you have known Dan longer than I have. I'll remember him as the guy who facilitated my fifty-year quest to have an amateur radio license. He lent me a handheld radio when I showed up at a fox hunt not knowing anything – and he waited for me to return from the woods. I have one of his dowel-and-brazing-rod direction-finding yagis.

His advice to shop for parts at Menard's leaps to mind whenever I walk into that emporium. What was it he used to say? That ham radio would consume as much money as you were willing to spend.

And it was a casual comment he made at a meeting that prompted me to study the handbook and become a Volunteer Examiner. He lives on in my memory. Figuratively speaking, he had a good heart.

Enjoy every sunrise. Forward we go. The Arrow of Time flies in only one direction.

73 de KFONOK



Fox Hunt



Field Day



Club Business

