

THE TELEGRAPH August, 2025

July Meeting Update

Summertime and the living is easy...down the stairs, disconnect the antenna.... mow the lawn a couple of times a week..... check the link on the main repeater....down the stairs, connect the antenna again, fight to copy traffic on NTS......up the stairs.....down the stairs to disconnect the antenna....mow again, but suck smoke from fires in Minnesota, Idaho and the Canadian Provinces... forget the timeline for the Telegraph.

Anyhow, the July meeting featured a presentation on Geochron by Patrick Bolan, KF7ZSU. Some of the older members remember the Geochron mechanical clocks and there was an involuntary sucking of breath as they remembered the price. They were fantastic machines and Geochron continues to make them...but, there is a software offering that can be connected to a 4K TV that offers even more! Is that possible? Yes.... members were amazed at the layers of data that could be displayed on the screen. Some good questions were asked by those present; Patrick stopped the presentation to write them down as possible improvements in the future.

Importantly, NOUC reported the signing of an MOU with the ARRL Foundation under which the League will assume some administrative and publicity functions associated with expanding publicity and review of candidates for the SEMARC scholarship. The MOU completes the culmination of a direction approved by the members at the January, 2025 Annual Meeting.

The area from which candidates will be selected will be expanded to include the state of Minnesota.

Everyone expects: greater visibility for the scholarship, greater publication of it as an educational offering, a likely increase in interest expressed by students who are hams, as the application process for the ARRL scholarship program makes students eligible, and simplified administration for the Club. All in all, great outcomes.

Shortly after the meeting NOUC reported that a problem with a link to the main repeater had failed. Sure enough, he and Geoff, WB0OND, resolved the problem quickly. Kudos to Dick and Geoff, both of whom held the original hammers and soldering irons establishing and maintaining the repeater for all these years. Thank you

Operating Events

There are still operating events scheduled for the remainder of 2025, three by SEMARC and one as a follow-up to an earlier program by HamSCI.

The tentative August POTA outing was withdrawn at the July meeting; folks on vacation, other family and business needs, etc.

Still remaining; a September POTA outing: an October Foxhunt: and a December special event station commemorating the anniversary of the first transatlantic communication of a wireless signal by Marconi.

Recommended from an earlier program: On August 11th and 12th, HamSCI is sponsoring a meteor scatter QSO party. Runs the full 48 hours. Go to your WSJT suite and check out MSK, which most of us will use to participate. Make sure to enable PSK reporter and any contacts will be automatically reported. You can also report stations decoded. Check out the HamSCI insert in August QST to learn more.....and remember, you heard about it first at SEMARC!

And, let's not forget PROGRAMS!

The August program is anticipated to be one about first aid, conducted by the CG Fire Department. Details are still being ironed out for the program, so stay alert to our fine weekly mailing from NA0L for updates. As you all know, both the winter and summer FD ops expect first aid capabilities. It will be a great opportunity to strengthen our relationship with the city. Thanks to KE0HAL for taking the lead on this.

Note your calendars:

September – make a foxhunt antenna by WD0GUP; Dan says that both tape measure and yagi antennas can be made...just show up and build!

October – Bill Lippert, ACOW will present an ARRL update. Bill visited us at the FD site in June and talked a little about League activities.

November – An ARISS presentation by Tanya Anderson, ARISS-USA Director of Education. Hopefully, a few insights that the Club can use in its own educational outreach activities. Thanks to K0JDD for taking the lead on this.

The Club has had good programs this year, in significant measure to the program Committee: NOUC, KOJDD and NOBM. More help is needed for the coming year. Please consider volunteering to help.

Periodic Opportunities to Meet, Participate and Socialize

Summertime can be the doldrums for ham radio activity...unless it's a SEMARC-organized activity. Don't forget our weekly nets and CW sessions, FD, the REP drill and a future POTA operation. Keep that in mind and also call up the SEMARC repeater to generate a little more activity.

Member Profiles

Our member profile section will resume in the fall.

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