



THE TELEGRAPH

December, 2025

November Meeting Update

The Club was pleased to have Tanya Anderson, Director of Education for ARISS-USA as our presenter. Despite the predicted winter storm, both the speaker and members were able to hear Tanya speak. Thanks to NOUC and the Board quickly deciding to hold the meeting remotely. We have used Dicks WebEx account to maximum advantage this year for distance presentations.

Tanya spoke on a number of topics about ARISS: how it is organized, what it is doing in STEM education and work force development; the teachers' workshops it has conducted; and how to get on the Discord server to monitor activities of the organization.

Members expressed positive impressions with the synopsis Tanya presented: ARISS placed the first operational payload on the ISS; it engages between forty-thousand and two-hundred thousand students a year in activities with the ISS; between 50 and 60 volunteer members work on the wide range of ARISS activities a year; contacts between the station and astronauts have been successfully accomplished in 49 states. Only one of the Dakotas has yet to be involved... saying which one would not be politic here in the Telegraph. :>)

As a trained educator (middle school) and with great familiarity, she described the challenges of finding individual teachers to champion ARISS and STEM activities in schools. She concluded, among other things, that successful work with schools on ARISS and amateur radio required a constant search and cultivation of trust with prospective educators and administrators.

We will ask Tanya to forward her PowerPoint presentation to KOJDD and upload to the SEMARC website for those who were unable to join the November meeting.

Board Officers and Members

Dan, WD0GUP and others discussed the efforts of the Board to settle its membership in the new year. The discussion was made a little easier by the agreement of each Board member to continue to serve. Thanks to every one of them.

A motion was made, seconded and passed by members present, to unanimously accept the slate of candidates presented by the Board and recommend its approval by members at the annual meeting in January

Operating Events

There is only one operating event left in 2025. That will be the club's special event commemorating the first successful transmission of radio waves across the Atlantic Ocean. Of course, the individual most associated with that event is Guglielmo Marconi (no call sign at that time). As NAOL indicated in the last Sunday Bulletin, the transmission first heard was Morse Code for the letter, "S".

W0M, is the call sign for the special event. It would be acceptable for phone operators to abandon the ICAO phonetic alphabet just this once for "wireless zero Marconi":>)

The event will be held on December 13th and 14th. The event will include an opportunity to join a multi-member operation at Fire Station #3, as well as individual times for members to work from their home stations. A sign-up sheet will be released to all members to be available for them to choose individual operating slots from their home stations

Dave, KE0HAL has begun organizing the effort at Fire Station # 3. Brian, N0BM is organizing the sign-up for individual members. PLEASE continue to monitor mailings and postings to the SEMARC io. group.

We have developed an electronic certificate that can be sent by SEMARC operators to those stations they contact. Please watch the SEMARC website and NAOL's Sunday bulletins for more information.

Special thanks to KOJDD for the design of the W0M certificate and the process for producing and distributing it via email. John helped organize this event in a way that makes it more professional and allows great publicity for SEMARC.

PROGRAMS

John, K0JDD, Dick, N0UC and Brian, N0BM have almost concluded the program calendar for 2026. As most members are aware, there are nine program slots available. Eight have commitments by individual speakers. Only one remains and N0BM is working on a commitment for that remaining slot.

The Board has been appraised of the schedule and the program Committee will work to ensure the program calendar is posted on the Club website and updated as necessary.

Periodic Opportunities to Meet, Participate and Socialize

Members should stay informed about activities two ways: NAOL's weekly Sunday Bulletins and the Telegraph. 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. Think about that in the new year.

Holiday Season

This is the time of the year where many of us review our achievements and challenges and prepare for the new year. Whether it's updating your wills, celebrating with family, planning radio activities for the contest season, deciding on your POTA activations in the new year, upgrading your licenses, etc., it can be a busy time.

But also, a time for reflection. If you google it, you will find there are 11 major holidays in December, across a wide range of religion and cultures. It is an amazing world out there and the Amateur's Code and the conditions of our licenses require that we engage in operating practices that create national and international goodwill. Important to remember and practice.

We all have great stories about our histories in ham radio. There used to be an old TV show that started, "there are a million stories in the naked city". Maybe not so many in SEMARC, but a bunch of them I bet. Maybe we should make that a program supplement in 2026. I was fortunate to discuss one such memory with John, K0JDD and he has allowed me to include it in the Telegraph. Give it a read: it's attached to this mailing of the Telegraph.... only because I am a Luddite and can't get the PDF inserted below.

