



THE TELEGRAPH

September, 2025

August Meeting Update

From the editor's perspective, our August meeting was another success. A number of members gathered at the Central Fire Station in Cottage Grove to hear Assistant Chief Nick Arrigoni lead a program on CPR, the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs), and assorted questions from members. We paired up in four teams, with all having a chance to conduct CPR and use the AED. It is information that will prove useful in the instance we need it during our Field Days or other offsite events. All present agreed it would be advantageous to have additional training, as our interests and the Department's community education activities allowed.

Thanks to Dave, KE0HAL for arranging this program.

Subsequent to the program, a brief business meeting was held. In short: yes, we have a treasury; yes, a significant portion of it is devoted to education and scholarship; yes, the club will be sending a check to the ARRL Foundation this month, as they undertake certain administrative responsibilities for our

scholarship fund; yes, our VE team is just beginning to evaluate whether it wants to go to electronically administered exams - more information is needed from the ARRL, our VEC; yes, the September swap shop/hamfest is still intended, although final specifics are not established----stay tuned to Board discussions and the weekly Sunday mailing for more information.

Operating Events

There are still three operating events scheduled for the remainder of 2025.

Still remaining; a September/October 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.

As noted previously, the August POTA outing was delayed, due to summer busyness, other family commitments, vacation trips, etc. A POTA outing was discussed at the last Board meeting. The Board always tries to make the outings as easy and inexpensive as possible. A number of members do not have state park stickers and there is a reluctance to require interested members to have to pay for a sticker. We are researching some sites in the metro area, easy to access and not requiring a park sticker. The editor notes two locations: the St. Croix Boom Site north of Stillwater; Browns Creek State Trail and Aquatic Restoration Area in Stillwater (a bonus two for one in POTA operations). The Boom Site is small, adjacent to the road and can be noisy; Browns Creek has more parking, space and is a quieter site. If any of you have other suggestions, let the Board know your thoughts, as well as your willingness to help organize the event.

Hopefully, several of you participated in the August Meteor Scatter QSO Party sponsored by HamSCI. At least a couple of you shared results on the SEMARC i.o. group. Let us know or come to the September meeting to discuss how things went for you.

September is amateur radio preparedness month. It's a time for all of us to take stock of our stations, their ability to be quickly activated or deployed, the condition of our antennas and emergency power generating capacity. As the experts say, reviewing and updating your emergency plans, including those for your family, is an important thing to do on a periodic basis. Help is available both on the ARRL and FEMA websites; family emergency and bug-out preparations are

distinct from those related to amateur radio, so be sure to check out the FEMA recommendations.

Preparedness considerations in September are followed by the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET), which takes place on the first Saturday and Sunday in October. The dimensions and focus of the SET here will be guided by the Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Washington County. The EC is one of our club, Darreck Lisle, K00OI. He was appointed earlier this year and has the able expertise and knowledge of a few previous EC's who now serve as Assistant Emergency Coordinators (AECs). You know all these folks.....KC0OIO, KA0HYR, N0UC (and others I may have forgotten).

PLEASE be ready to help in the conduct of the SET. Let's set some time aside at the September member meeting to discuss our plans.

And, let's not forget PROGRAMS!

The Club will close out the program year in fine fashion, as they used to say. Please note your calendars for the last third of the year:

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

October – Bill Lippert, AC0W 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.

As in the past, no member meeting in December, but followed by the annual meeting in January.

The Club has had good programs this year, in significant measure to the program Committee: N0UC, K0JDD and N0BM. More help is needed for the coming year. Please consider volunteering to help.

Periodic Opportunities to Meet, Participate and Socialize

Activity tends to pick up a little this time of the year, once the fall chores are done. That includes all the SEMARC nets, training sessions, programs and operating events. The SEMARC website is gold for those of you who are setting your calendars for the last third of the year. For those of you whose ham activities are more of the on-demand nature, NA0L does a great job of reminding everyone of their opportunities with the Sunday morning bulletin.

Member Profiles

Our member profile section will resume in October.

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