

February 19, 2017

Good evening everyone,

Tonight marks another milestone for Northern Cook County Skywarn Net. This net has been on the air each week, with few exceptions, for 22 years. It is to the credit of all the net control operators, past and present, and all of you for participating regularly. Thank you seems insufficient for your commitment in keeping this net on the air.

We meet here each week to test our equipment and pass news of interest. This is important because every once in a while something may not work like it is supposed to. It may be the repeater or a Net Control Operator's station. The premise for the net is simple and yet is very important in the role we all play when there is a severe weather event.

The support of the amateur radio community in every corner of the Chicago Metro area is vital in the process of keeping the National Weather Service informed with timely and accurate information they need so the NWS can issue accurate weather warnings with a greater degree of confidence.

If you participate actively each week then you know the value of what we do. If you are not normally active in severe weather spotting then I urge you to take a spotter training seminar and get involved. We can never have enough spotters in the field to cover every area. Net Control Operators are also needed. We are volunteers. To make sure we are able to run a net during a severe weather event we need more help. Even if you never ran a net before don't let that stop you. We can show you how. Please consider joining us. I will stand by after the net or you can email me at [N9SXS@ARRL.NET](mailto:N9SXS@ARRL.NET).

I want to also acknowledge the Board and members of the North Shore Radio Club for their support and for those of their repeaters for Skywarn activities.

Before you leave home in the morning be sure to check the weather forecast. When you do leave your home don't leave that HT in the charger. Take it with you. Support the local weekly nets here or in your area your live and please be available when a severe weather event occurs.

Thank you all again for your continued support.

Happy 22<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to our net.