

OFFICERS

- George Noble KK7FM
President
- Kevin Sanders KØKDS
Vice-President
- Kirk Nelson WL7CLI
Secretary
- Bill Claypool NUØQ
Treasurer

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- Bruce Brumm KCØZMT
- Ron Hobbs NØXWI
- Chuck Hoveland KDØSSH
- Dean Madsen NØXR
- Dennis O'Brien KAØDOS
- Craig Rose KCØYHU

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2010 Winthrop Mager Award

Larry Vandewater NØBKB is the recipient of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association's 2010 Winthrop Mager Award.

Vandewater, of Greenfield, is an Extra-class amateur radio operator that has a hand in many aspects of amateur radio in central Iowa, and was recently featured in an article about amateur radio in The Iowan, where he was accurately described as a "spark" in the radio community, for introducing new technology to the community and for elmering new hams.

He maintains various amateur radio repeaters in central Iowa, and was instrumental in bringing D-STAR digital voice to Des Moines, primarily as a hardware engineer for the repeater. He has

also given several demonstrations on D-STAR digital voice around central Iowa. Other interests include APRS and amateur radio ballooning.



Aside from maintaining amateur radio repeaters, he is also the engineer for an FM broadcast radio station in Greenfield.

The self-described semi-retired farmer and aircraft pilot regularly participates in Polk County ARES

events and Skywarn activations. He has also participated in amateur radio examinations as a Volunteer Examiner.

In the past, he has been very active with other clubs organization, now a past-president of the Des Moines Amateur Radio Technical Society (ARTS), the Creston amateur radio club, and the southwest Iowa repeater system. He has also assisted throughout the years with the equipment and technical expertise with the equipment used by the Mid-Iowa Skywarn Association, K0DMX, at the National Weather Service in Johnston.

The award was presented by Wynell Mager-Kisner,

(continued on page 6)

Technician Class offered in Waukee

The DMRAA is pleased to announce that they will be offering a second technician study class in Waukee. The fall class offered in Des Moines resulted in 9 new hams. Dennis, KAØDOS, Ron NØXWI and George, KK7FM are the instructors.

The class will run from February 14th until April 21st. The class cost is \$10 and students will need to purchase a study guide from the ARRL.

The first session will be a meeting the instructors event with several examples of amateur stations being demonstrated. Please feel free to invite any prospective Hams. These clas-

ses are open to all regardless of their residence.

Club president George Noble noted how pleased he is that the club has the resources to plan and promote activities like this that encourage Amateur Radio in Central Iowa. If you'd like to help the instructors, please contact them.



Ham Radio License

Learn to use radio equipment and see how those radios can play a key role in public service, too. Great opportunity to learn something new, and expand your public service skills. Members of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association (DMRAA) will guide you through the requirements for obtaining the entry level Technician Class License. Talk to people in your area or around the world. Morse code is no longer required for licensing. The official ARRL License Manual (Second Edition) is required. Copies will be available at the first class for \$20. All ages welcome,



DMRAA's George, Ron, and Dennis
children under the age of 14 need to be accompanied by an adult.
Instructors: DMRAA Members

7:00—9:00pm

February 24—April 21



Come enjoy the fellowship

DMRAA
meetings are
the 4th
Tuesday of
the month.
Be sure and
mark your
calendars!



Upcoming Meetings

January 25th 7:00 PM

**Plymouth Congregational Church
42nd & Ingersoll
Waveland Room**

The January presentation will be given on January 25 by Kirk Nelson WL7CLI on the topic of packet radio. With an overview of digital and packet radio; some of the differences, similarities and capabilities.

February 22nd, 7:00PM in the Recital Room on the 3rd floor will be our annual Severe weather spotter training. Presented by the National Weather Service, this training will help us do an even better job assisting our community during dangerous weather. This meeting is open to the general public and certainly all hams should avail themselves of this opportunity to learn about thunderstorms, tornados and such. Please bring a neighbor.

Note: The MID-IOWA SKYWARN ASSN. Will hold a brief General Meeting beginning at 6:30pm. MISA supports Amateur Radio operations and operator training in conjunction with the National Weather Service.



Future Meetings

George, KK7FM is looking for meeting ideas and presenters. Please feel free to make suggestions and offer to help with a presentation.

You can Help?



Are you interested in helping the club? There are many ways you can help. Assisting with an event, taking a few pictures or even writing a piece for this newsletter.

Our May meeting includes the election of officers and board. If interested please contact an officer or board member so you can be considered for nomination.

Recent Meetings

November 23 brought not only chilly weather but also the annual DMRAA Chili Feed & Auction. Over 50 guests in attendance consumed several crock pots of chili and several pounds of treats and drinks at the St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston.

Tables encircled the room full of electronic goods of interest to amateur radio operators, ranging

(Continued on page 9)





Giving back through community service

Scott Kirstien
NØOOD
Polk County ARES EC
515 202-2244(cell)
n0ood@arrl.net

Polk County ARES Meetings
Polk County EOC at
1907 Carpenter Avenue
Des Moines, IA



Polk County ARES



I hope all of you had a successful holiday season, and got to spend time with those you care about most. As we prepare for the ARES event season of 2011, I would like to thank those of you who have stepped up and agreed to take a leadership position for the various events. While we do still have some opportunities, I have talked to several of you who are still contemplating whether you can commit to helping out at that level. This year's NDMS Drill will be a much higher impact drill than in recent years'. While the date is still fluid, it will be either May 18 or May 19. And will likely have operators in position at hospitals, the airport, and various locations throughout Des Moines as early as 5:30am. Everyone participating will have to be NIMS compliant, and be able to handle formal traffic. We will need as many operators during the drill as possible, so please look into your availability on these dates. Due to inclement weather, we had to re-schedule our

January meeting, until February 7th. Jon Davis will be teaching and certifying attendees in IS-100 and IS-700. We are also planning on offering a class in traffic handling at the April 11th meeting. So after the April meeting, we will be ready for the NDMS Drill from a training perspective. Our next event will be the Fight for Air Climb on March 27. This event replaces the 801 Power Climb, and while it will still be downtown, it won't be at 801 Grand. If you are available, please contact either Dan Miller ACØOF or myself, and we'll get you on the list.

Thanks, again to Polk County emergency Management for allowing us to meet at the County Emergency Operations Center. Also, thanks to Jon Davis for giving up an evening to come out during his recovery to teach the NIMS classes at the February meeting.
73, Scott, NØOOD

GENERAL STUDY CLASS

General Classes will be held at the Johnstone Supply Classroom, 11000 Justin Drive, Des Moines, Ia. on Wednesday nights starting January 13th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Contact Bill Schemmel at 515-865-1066 or wiliam.schemmel@sprint.com for more information and to register for the class.

Books must be purchased from ARRL prior to class.

Full schedule:

January 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

Wanted

Looking for a decent used 220 MHz mobile rig.

Please contact Scott Kirstien at n0ood@arrl.net or call 202-2244

ARES MEETING DATES

February 7, 2011
April 11, 2011
July 11, 2011
October 10, 2011



2011 ARES Events

Fight For Air Climb - March 27
Easter Seals Walk With Me April - 14
NDMS Drill - May 18 or 19
MS Walk - May 21
Jordan Creek Duathlon - TBD
Dam to Dam June - 4
Copper Creek Triathlon - TBD
MS-150 June - 25-26
ARRL Field Day - June 25 - 26

Flatland Youth Festival July 17
Big Creek Triathlon - TBD
State Fair Parade August - 10
Asthma Walk - TBD
Head of Des Moines Rowing Regatta September - 24
Get Your Rear In Gear 5K run October - 1
Des Moines Marathon October - 16
Living History Farms Cross Country Race November - 19

2011 DMRAA Calendar

DMRAA Calendar 2011

Packet Radio
Kirk Nelson,
WL7CLI

25 January, 2011

Plymouth Congregational
Church
42nd & Ingersoll
Des Moines
7:00PM
Waveland Room

General Meetings and Events

25 January, 2011

22 February, 2011

22 March, 2011

26 April, 2011

24 May, 2011

23 April, 2011, Hamfest

24 May, 2011

28 June, 2011

26 July, 2011

23 August, 2011

27 September, 2011

25 October, 2011

22 November, 2010

Chili Feed / Auction

7 December, 2010
Christmas Party

Board Meeting Dates

1 February, 2011

1 March, 2011

5 April, 2011

3 May, 2011

7 June, 2011

5 July, 2011

2 August, 2011

6 September, 2011

4 October, 2011

1 November, 2011



You now have the option
of paying for up to 3
years when renewing
your membership in the
DMRAA.

1 Year = \$20

2 Years = \$40

3 Years = \$60

See Bill Claypool NØUQ
for details.

President's Soapbox

As many of you are aware, in December, we added 9 new Hams (KDØNEV-KDØNFE) from the Technician class taught by Dennis (KAØDOS), Ron (NØXWI), and me. We are feeling terribly proud like new parents. We hope they will become active as Hams and as members of the DMRAA. That will depend on how helpful and welcoming the membership will be. Remember your own start in Ham radio?? Many of us are presently members because some other ham was welcoming and helpful to us in getting started. For certain, passing the FCC Technician exam did not make us competent radio operators. The license really only gave us the opportunity to begin to learn, for real, how to operate. All of us made mistakes that we can laugh about today because someone encouraged us and supported us through the fear of looking stupid. (I now seem to be able to do stupid things with very little support.)

Taking my own story as an illustration, I don't know if I would ever have taken the test if not pushed by a friend. He was not

much help to me after that because he was using all his time and energy pursuing a new activity. I joined a local club. Like any club, the members were a little clique-y and tended to talk with their friends at meetings. Fortunately, I got enough from just listening to presentations that it didn't bother me too much that no one looked after me. However, I never got on the air until 6 months later at Field Day. I went out late in the evening to see what FD was about (not to operate). A man I later learned was a well known DX'er and contesteer was working a station and asked me to help log. He showed me what he was doing and eventually conned me into operating. After that, I became one of the "boys" at the meetings. Unfortunately, for every story like mine, there is another story of someone who gets licensed and is ignored long enough to give up and go away, or worse, is criticized for his/her first tentative efforts and thereafter withdraws from the field. Another piece that recently caught my eye was on the ARRL web site, I think. It was about/by a ham who had been inactive for many years, but in the process of moving to a

new area, thought to update her data with the FCC. It was picked up by a local club that routinely checked for new hams in their geographic area. They contacted her and encouraged her to get active with them. The result is that she is now an active participant in their club after having been inactive for many years. My experience of the DMRAA has been one of a warm welcome when I came here, but I did come as an Extra licensee with some experience. I am very hopeful that the membership will seek out and encourage the new people so that they will become active with us. This is how the organization thrives. In the process, maybe we will be encouraging to each other also, as we try new things. From this, we get growth in numbers, but also in experience/expertise. Remember, participation breeds participation.

73

George, KK7FM

*Even if
you're on
the right
track, you'll
get run over
if you just
sit there!*
Will Rogers



George Noble
KK7FM



Have you
checked into a
net lately? ➔

*ARES Nets serve
several purposes*

- *Operator
training*
- *Training of Net
control
operators*
- *Passing formal
traffic*

Please check in!

Area Nets

AMES

Sunday	147.240+	7:00pm	Story County ARES Net
Wednesday	147.375+ t 114.8	9:00pm	Cyclone Amateur Radio Club

BOONE

Sunday	146.850-	9:00pm	Boone County ARES Net
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DES MOINES

Sunday	146.940- t 114.8	8:00pm	Central Iowa ARES Net
Sunday	146.940- t 114.8	follows ARES net	Central Iowa technical Net
Sunday	146.820- t 114.8	9:00pm	ARTS Net
Thursday	146.940- t 114.8	7:00pm	Polk County ARES Net

(note) The Des Moines Sunday night nets are available thru the Sheldahl 147.075+ t 114.8 repeater

MARSHALLTOWN

Sunday	147.135+ t 141.3	6:00pm	CIRAS Net,
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PERRY

Monday	146.610- t 114.8	8:00pm	Dallas County ARES Net
Monday	146.610- t 114.8		follows ARES net HARC Net

WEBSTER CITY

Monday	147.015+	7:00pm	Hamilton County Radio Club Net
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STATEWIDE NETS

Monday—Saturday	3,970	12:30pm & 5:30pm (6:00pm summer)	Iowa 75 Meter Traffic Net
Sunday	3,970	5:30pm (6:00pm summer)	Iowa Traffic and Emergency Net
Monday	3,990.5	5:30pm (1st Monday of the month)	Iowa RACES Net

Amateur Radio Testing Sessions

Des Moines 1:00pm

03/20/2011 1:00pm

04/23/2011 9:30am

DMRAA Hamfest

05/15/2011 1:00pm

07/17/2011 1:00pm

09/18/2011 1:00pm

11/20/2011 1:00pm

Registration starts at 12:30 PM
(no admittance after 1pm)

Location: Johnstone Supply
Classroom (2nd floor)

11000 Justin Drive

Urbandale, IA 50322

Contact: Rick Allen ACØCFL
(515) 795-2162

Ames 7:00pm

Saturday, January 29, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, June 22, 7:00
location TBA

1304 Howe Hall, Iowa State
campus

Contact:

George Oster, NP2N

515-233-3535

Boone 9:00am

Feb 12,

Location:

Kruck P&H Warehouse Office,
807 6th St., Boone, Iowa

Talk-In: 146.850

Contact:

Steve NØNEU

(515) 432-4006

Ankeny 2:00pm

1st Saturday of the month,

Note: May testing will be on
May 14th

Location:

Ankeny Public Library
1210 NW Prairie Ridge Dr.

Contact:

Joe Leto WØIW

515-250-2108

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Have questions?

Fell free to send questions to the club.

Email
info@dmraa.com



1st Place photo
Lowell Abarr KB6SDI



Runner up
Tom Reis NØVPR

(Winthrop Mager continued from page 1)

the daughter of the late Rev. Winthrop Mager, for whom the award was named after, at the annual DMRAA Christmas Party on December 7 in Des Moines.

The purpose of the Winthrop Mager Award is to perpetuate the memory of the Rev. Winthrop Mager W0MJH, and to stimulate the activity in all fields of amateur radio in the central Iowa area. Any radio operator with any class license who is a member of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs' Association is eligible. Nominations are due by the end of the November meeting each year. Nominees are those amateur operators that have shown outstanding support for amateur radio, promotion of the amateur radio service and have done so with the utmost respect for the community and fellow operators.

Time to Eat?

Hungry and looking to meet local hams? Friday's at the City Buffet on University (next to Toys R Us) a group of hams meet for lunch. This is an informal meeting and provides a

n excellent opportunity to pass information while enjoying a nice selection of Chinese cuisine. The group usually arrives around

11:45 and breaks up at about 1:00. All are welcome, including family members.

Caution! Considerable amount of amateur radio topics will be discussed.





Ham Radio

in the 21st Century

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes Minutes – January 2011

The meeting convened at 7:02 p.m. with all elected officers and board members in attendance with the exception of Chuck Hoveland, KDØSSH.

Guests in attendance:

Scott Kirstein, NØOOD, Polk County ARES Coordinator and Tom Reis, NØVPR.

Review of Last Meeting

Minutes:

The November Board Meeting minutes were read and approved.

Old Business:

Hamfest: Bruce Brumm, KCØZMT reported that he will be sending the hamfest flyer to the ARRL and also placing it on the DMRAA web site once it is created. It was decided that wrist-bands will be used instead of tickets. Ron Hobbs, NØXWI asked that if anyone has a name of a vender to pass it to him and he would invite them. A motioned was made by Ron Hobbs, NØXWI that a limit of \$500.00 be set for the door prize(s). It was seconded by Craig Rose,

KCØYHU and passed by the board.

New Business:

Field Day: Dennis O'Brien, KAØDOS reported that Windsor Heights rejected the clubs request to use the park. The committee is now looking for a location for field day. Some suggested site are; a park in Urbandale, Big Creek, and the old Douglas Elementary school.

New Club Officers: It was suggested that candidates for club officers and board members be recruited.

Treasurer's Report:

\$7309.86

Subcommittee Reports:

Program: January's program will be on digital communications equipment by Kirk Nelson, WL7CLI. February's will be by the NWS.

Communication/PR: No report

Hamfest: Under Old Business

Field Day: Under New Business

Education: Of the 12 students 9 passed their Technician License test. Waukee Community

Education has asked for a Technician class to start on the last Thursday in February.

Repeaters: Dean Madsen, NØXR, reported that the two new radios will be placed into service at the packet node location. Kirk Nelson, WL7CLI reported that the repeater information was sent into the Iowa Repeater Council..

Membership: No report

Christmas Party: Huge success.

Chili Feed/Auction: Craig Rose, KCØYHU, provided a full written report of all supplies and expenses.

Awards: The Bob Evans award will be selected by the club's board members.

Other Business:

Scott Kirstein, NØOOD, Polk County ARES Coordinator reported that the next ARES meeting will be held at 7 pm on January 10th at the Polk County EOC located at 1907 Carpenter Ave.

The meeting adjourned at: 8:50 p.m.

*The Des
Moines Radio
Amateurs
Association
board meets
monthly in the
community
room at
Dahl's
33rd &
Hubbell*



2010 DMRAA Christmas Party



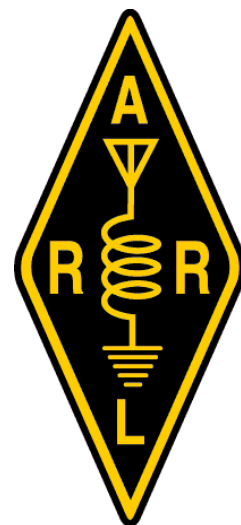
Jean NØGHP and Larry NØBKB Vandewater



Larry NØBKB and Wynell Mager-Kisner



Past and present Winthrop Mager Recipients
Left to right, Bill NUØQ, Lowell KB6SDI
George KK7FM, Ron NØXWI, Dan ACØOF
Mike KV4VG, Wynell Kisner, Larry NØBKB
and Tom NØVPR



Up & Coming News

Hamfest Details

New Location!

CQ CQ CQ

The Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association is pleased to sponsor our annual Hamfest.

The DMRAA website will be updated periodically with more information as it becomes available.

<http://www.dmraa.com/hamfest>

<http://www.iowastatefair.com/gettinghere.php>

Location

Iowa State Fairgrounds

Elwell Family Center Building

Saturday April 23rd, 2011 8:00am-1:00pm

Featured Vendors

Radio City -- <http://www.radioinc.com/>

WB0W -- <http://www.wb0w.com/>

D&L Antennas -- [http://](http://dandlantenna.com/shop/catalog/)

dandlantenna.com/shop/catalog/

Admission

Adults: \$6.00 12 & Under: Free

Flea Market

Tables: \$20.00, 1st; and \$10.00 each additional

No tailgating.

Contact Ron Hobbs, N0XWI for reservations

<mailto:rwthobbs@aol.com>

VE Testing

Testing will be held in the nearby Maytag Family Theatre.

Technician, General, & Extra exams will be offered.

Testing Fee is \$15.00

Registration: 9:00am with Testing:

9:30am-12:00pm

No one admitted for testing after 9:30am

Please contact Rick Allen, N0CFL at

n0cfl@arrl.net with any questions.



Winter RF Fest

3rd Annual Winter RF Fest

Sponsored by HARC (Hiawatha Amateur Radio Club)

February 26th 2010 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Amateur Radio Testing (Check-on at 9 a.m. doors close at 9:30 a.m.)

Crossroads Church

2810 1st Ave.

Perry, IA 50220

Talk in on 146.610

Contact Bob Dittert

515-465-2383

n0qix@arrl.net

or Craig Rose

515-252-7053

kc0yhu@arrl.net

for more info.



(Continued from page 2)

from handheld radios to boat anchors, soldering irons to do-it-yourself project textbooks. Thousands of dollars worth of goods moved among the hams. Several members and the auctioneer commented that it was the best chili feed and auction in recent history. Special thanks to Craig Rose KC0YHU for organizing this year's event, and Dennis O'Brien KA0DOS, Larry Vandewater N0BKB, and Tom Reis N0VPR, for supporting the event this year.

The event also saw a photo contest take place. Lowell Abarr KB6SDI, won the contest with a photo of Marti Driessnack KC7VUJ (wife of George Noble KK7FM) with Nolan Boeckmann KD0LJO (before

he earned his license) at Field Day 2009. Tom Reis N0VPR won second place with his picture of radio operators working on the tower trailer at the Boy Scouts of America Encampment at Water Works Park late last year.

Only a couple weeks later on December 7, the annual DMRAA Christmas Party took place back at the normal meeting location in the Waveland Hall of the Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines. The potluck-style dinner had a great turnout, including several newly-minted hams from the Des Moines Adult Community Education program and area VE testing. Guests were treated to a performance from the accordion group, The Accordz, during dinner, serving up holiday music.

The Winthrop Mager Award was presented by Wynell Mager-Kisner, the daughter of the late Rev. Winthrop Mager, for whom the award was named after. Larry Vandewater N0BKB was the recipient of this year's award.

The January presentation will be given on January 25 by Kirk Nelson WL7CLI on the topic of packet radio. The meeting will be held in the Waveland Room of the Plymouth Congregational Church at 42nd and Ingersoll in Des Moines beginning at 7 p.m.



Extension Door Chime!

Why?

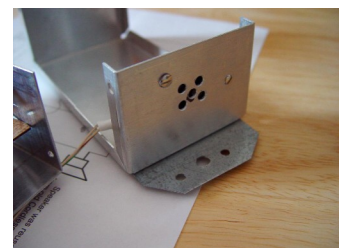
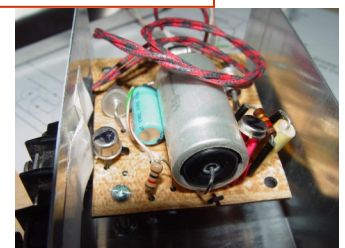
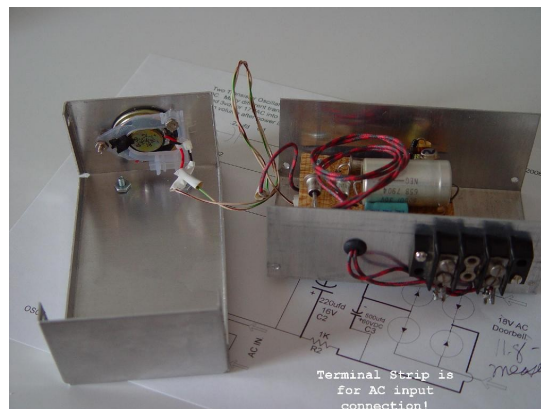
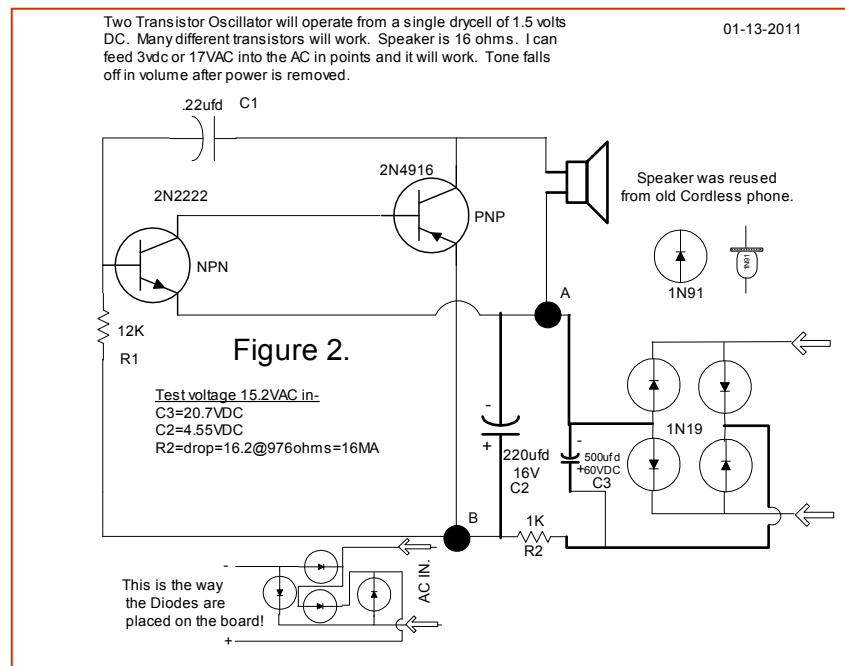
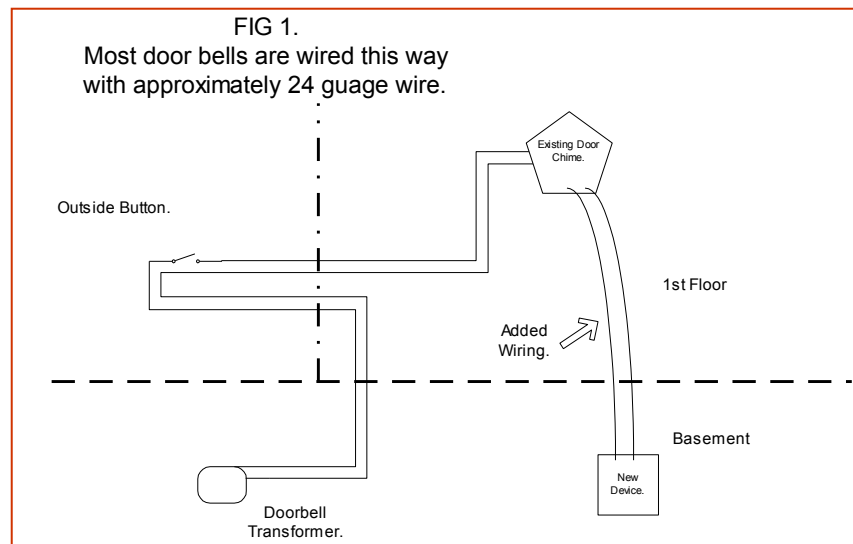
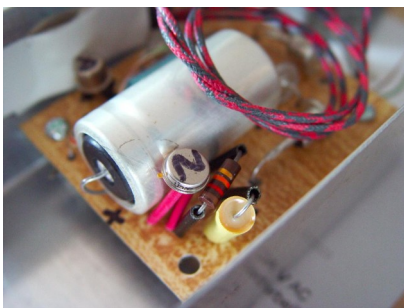
Larry Zimmer
KAØFTO

Do you need a door chime in the basement if so try this circuit from your junk box. Why not just use a purchased Door Chime? You may find that with the extra wire the voltage drops so it will not operate as that is what happened to me.

The circuit I used is a very simple oscillator. I put it together and added R2 and C2 this allows the tone to sound like WHEEOOO when the outside button is pressed. C3 and the 4 diodes are to allow it to operate on AC. If you want just the oscillator by itself for some other function remove C2, C3, R2, and the 4 diodes and connector DC – to point A and DC + to point B. You could add a telegraph key in series and you would have a code oscillator. Change values of C1 and R1 to change the tone. The diodes were what I had on hand as any diode with a PIV of 100 volts should work and the current requirement is very low.

I used a Mini-box that I had on hand but any enclosure should work as long as you can mount your speaker inside. Depending on you size of speaker this will affect what size your final enclosure will be. I used just plain kitchen Formica for the circuit board and drilled holes to mount the components. I used 1.5" small 6X32 bolts to mount the circuit board above the bottom of the Mini-box.

The following photos show the crude way I put this together.





Des Moines Radio Amateurs Assn.
P.O. Box 88
Des Moines, IA 50301
DMRAA.org or DMRAA.com

E-mail: info@dmraa.com

Can you hear me now?

The Static sheet is bi-monthly (six per year) publication of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association. It is provided via email to the membership of the DMRAA. Please feel free to forward to prospective club members and interested Amateur Radio Operators.

The DMRAA is affiliated with the ARRL,
The national association for Amateur Radio.



DMRAA Membership Application

Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Email: _____

Call Sign: _____ Class: (E) (A) (G) (T)

ARRL Member: Y / N

What are your primary interests in amateur radio? _____

What are you interested in learning about? _____

How would you like to volunteer with the club? _____

Dues \$20 Single
 \$60 3 Years

Mail Application and payment to
DMRAA
P.O. Box 88
Des Moines, IA 50301

