

# **STATIC SHEET**

## 2011 Winthrop Mager Award



Bruce Brumm KC0ZMT, of Des Moines, was selected as the 2011 recipient of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs' Association's Winthrop Mager Award at the annual DMRAA Christmas Party on December 6.

He was selected by the nomination committee for his activity in Polk County ARES, his role as a board member of the DMRAA, contributed hours for VE testing, and other amateur radio-related activities. Most recently, he served as a co-chair for the Polk County ARES activation for the Polk

County Marathon. As a DMRAA board member, he is a chair for the DMRAA Hamfest and W0AK Field Day committees.

The award was presented by Wynell Mager-Kisner, the daughter of the late Rev. Winthrop Mager, for whom the award was named after, at the annual DMRAA Christmas Party on December 6 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.

The next award to be presented by the DMRAA will be the Bob Evans Award, which will be presented at the DMRAA Hamfest on April 21. The candidates will be nominated by and the recipient will be chosen by the DMRAA officers and board.

**Kevin Sanders - KØKDS**

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## Officers and Board

Kevin Sanders	KØKDS	President
George Noble	KK7FM	Vice-President
Kirk Nelson	WL7CLI	Secretary
Bill Claypool	NUØQ	Treasurer
Bruce Brumm	KCØZMT	
Ron Hobbs	NØXWI	
Chuck Hoveland	WØIBG	
Dennis O'Brien	KAØDOS	
Ben Sinclair	KCØZMX	

# President's Soapbox



## Kevin Sanders - KØKDS

By now most of you have made new year's resolutions for 2012, and some have already abandoned their resolutions. Of those that made resolutions, did you resolve to protect your investments?

Amateur radio investments, of course. Most of us pour a sizable amount of our paychecks into this hobby, and it's a good idea to make sure that equipment is protected. An article on property insurance that is specific to amateur radio appeared in the November 2011 edition of QST, and I thought it would be a good idea to review some of the points made.

While I haven't been working in property and casualty claims for a relatively long time, I've seen my fair share of policyholders understandably upset because losses they incurred were not covered under their policies, while they originally thought it would be covered. It's a good idea to read your policy's declarations and ask your agent (or your insurer's customer service department) questions every now and then. While most insurers generally use the same wording in the declarations, this column is no substitute for advice from your agent. So let's lay out the basics:

- A common misconception is that if your radios are bolted into the car somehow (via brackets, consoles, or otherwise), it's automatically covered. Not so! In fact, my insurer specifically lists "citizens band radios," "two-way mobile radios," and "scanning monitor receivers" as exclusions in plain English. So if your radios are damaged in a collision, or stolen, it will likely not be covered, but it can be filed under your homeowner's (or renter's) insurance policy, which brings me to...
- Your homeowner's deductible may be prohibitively high to claim the loss of some mobile radios. A common homeowner's deductible in the midwest is around \$1000, meaning filing a claim for a \$600 mobile radio just isn't going to help.
- Even if your loss exceeds your deductible, your homeowner's policy may have limits on what they'll pay for "electronic apparatus" -- my insurer's limits are \$1500,

and antennas are included in that limit. That may far exceed some mobile HF installations, and certainly most at-home installations.

- Assuming the loss isn't excluded or exceeding the policy's limits, your policy may only pay for the actual cash value (ACV), which means you will get paid only for what the item was worth, due to depreciation. For example, my Icom ID-800H is worth less now than when I bought it, due to depreciation. If your policy will pay for replacement cost value (RCV), then your insurer will pay you for the cost to replace the damaged or stolen item with a new item of like quality. Example: even though the value of my ID-800H has declined due to depreciation, my insurer will pay me to replace the radio with a new radio of like-quality, like the ID-880H.

So, if your insurance policies list similar exclusions or limits, it might be a good idea to purchase special property insurance specifically for amateur radio.

The ARRL provides a great insurance program to members through the Hays Affinity Group (<http://www.arrlinsurance.com>). The ARRL's insurance program covers radios, accessories, towers, antennas, rotators, computers, and other media. It carries only a \$50 deductible and will pay you replacement cost value for damaged equipment. Insurance premiums through the ARRL program are also inexpensive -- \$1.40 per \$100 of scheduled equipment.

To further protect yourself in the event of a claim, make sure you already have the make and model of the equipment, value, serial numbers, and proof of purchase, pictures, or video showing you rightfully owned the property.

With the midwest's unpredictable spring weather, now would be a good time to get things in order "just in case." Stop into your agent's office or give your insurer's customer service department a call to see what would and would not be covered, and your policy's limits, if any. And if you don't feel you are adequately protected, I highly recommend checking into the ARRL's insurance program.



# Technician Class in Waukee

## Kevin Sanders - KØKDS

Do you know someone that would be interested in obtaining their technician's license? It's not too late to enroll in this spring's DMRAA technician class!

Classes will be held each Thursday beginning at 7 p.m., starting on February 2nd and ending on April 12 when testing will be held. You do not need to live in the Waukee school district boundaries to attend — anyone is welcome to enroll.

The class will teach the fundamentals of amateur radio and students will learn the requirements to gain the entry-level “technician” amateur radio license. Learn how you can use radio equipment for enjoyment, experimentation, and public service. Testing will be held at the end of the course.

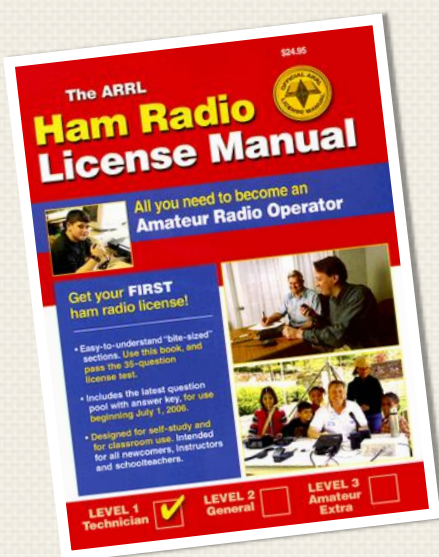
To enroll: Visit the Waukee Community Education website, click “online registration,” and then click on “special interest.” You can register for the class by clicking the link on the right-hand side. The name of the course is “Ham Radio Basics” and the course number is W1240.

Textbook: The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual (2nd Edition). Books will be available for purchase at the first class session for \$25. The DMRAA does not profit off the sale of these books.

WCSD enrollment fee: \$10

Location: South Middle School, 2350 SE La Grant Parkway, Waukee.

Questions? E-mail the DMRAA at [info@dmraa.com](mailto:info@dmraa.com) or Ron Hobbs N0XWI at [rwhobbs@aol.com](mailto:rwhobbs@aol.com).



# Great Events!

## Kevin Sanders - KØKDS

The DMRAA wrapped up 2011 with two very successful events -- the Chili Feed and Auction on November 22, followed by the Christmas Party on December 6. Both events saw great attendance, and many pounds of food were consumed. We were blessed with warm weather and good fellowship at each event.

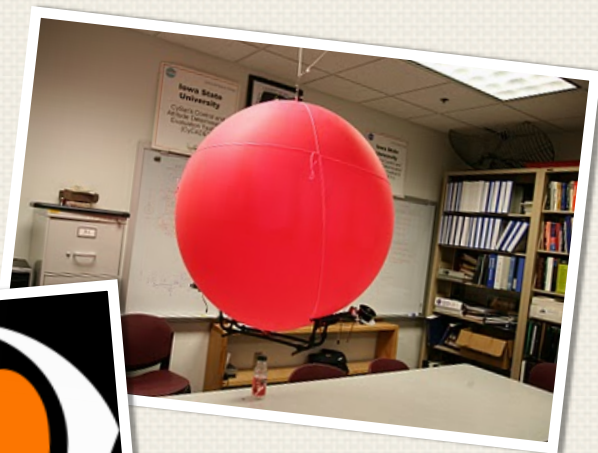
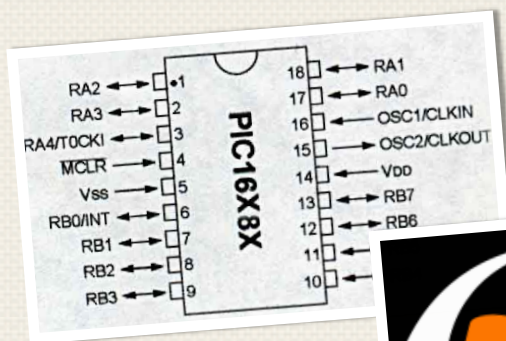
We're starting 2012's programming slate with a presentation by Steve Lindblom NØORU on PIC microcontrollers on January 24, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Waveland Hall.

February's presentation will be held on February 28, for the annual Des Moines spotter talk given by the National Weather Service, held at 7 p.m. in the upstairs recital hall at Plymouth Church. Even if you were at last year's presentation, it's a good idea to get a yearly refresher, and the NWS always includes new material each year. The annual Mid-Iowa Skywarn Association will also hold its

annual business meeting at 6:30 p.m. prior to the spotter talk.

March's presentation will be given by Matthew Nelson KBØMGQ on the topic of high-altitude ballooning. Matthew is well-versed in the matter, flying balloons in excess of 100,000 feet and working as the project manager and engineer for the Aerospace Engineering Department at Iowa State University. This will be a presentation you will not want to miss.

Do you have an expertise or radio-related interest you would like to share with fellow club members? Contact programming committee chair George Noble KK7FM at [hgsnoble@gmail.com](mailto:hgsnoble@gmail.com) if you have an idea.



## Area Nets

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### Ames

Sunday	147.240+	7:00pm	Story County ARES Net
Wednesday	147.375+ t114.8	9:00pm	Cyclone Amateur Radio Club

### Boone

Sunday	146.850-	9:00pm	Boone County ARES Net
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### Des Moines

Sunday	146.610- t114.8	8:00pm	Central Iowa ARES Net
Sunday	146.940- t114.8	follows ARES	Central Iowa Technical Net
Sunday	146.610- t114.8	9:00pm	ARTS Net
Wednesday	146.610- t114.8	11:00pm	Night Owls Net <b>NEW!</b>
Thursday	146.940- t114.8	7:00pm	Polk County ARES Net

### Marshalltown

Sunday	147.135+ t141.3	6:00pm	CIRAS Net
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### Perry

Monday	146.610- t114.8	8:00pm	Dallas County ARES Net
Monday	146.610- t114.8	follows ARES	HARC Net

### Webster City

Monday	147.015+	7:00pm	Hamilton County Radio Club Net
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### Statewide Nets

Mon-Sat	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

#### **ARES Nets serve several purposes:**

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

Please check in!

# Fortunate Hams

















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**Ben Sinclair - KC0ZMX**

After our weekly Buffet City feast of rice, egg rolls, sweet and sour chicken, and lots of ham, we read our fortunes before heading back to work (where we try not to fall asleep).

Tom Reis (N0VPR) saved all of our fortunes from January 6th. I believe there's a game where you add "in ham radio" to each fortune. At least, I think that's how it goes.

Let's see what happens:

-  You will enjoy doing something different this weekend ... in ham radio.
-  Don't worry about money, The best things in life are free ... in ham radio.
-  Tomorrow your friend or partner will tell you some exciting news ... in ham radio.
-  A pleasant surprise is in store for you tonight ... in ham radio.
-  A chance meeting with a stranger will possibly change your life ... in ham radio.
-  The most direct approach isn't always the best. Use diplomacy ... in ham radio.
-  Your first choice will be the wisest to follow at this time ... in ham radio.
-  Character is to man what carbon is to steel ... in ham radio.
-  A chance meeting with a stranger will possibly change your life ... in ham radio.
-  The next full moon brings an enchanted evening ... in ham radio.
-  Listen these next few days to your friends to get answers you seek ... in ham radio.
-  A chance meeting with a stranger will possibly change your life ... in ham radio.
-  A bold and dashing adventure is soon in your future ... in ham radio.
-  Your lost possession will be found within the month ... in ham radio.
-  A chance meeting with a stranger will possibly change your life ... in ham radio.
-  Keep your eye open for an opportunity soon to come ... in ham radio.

I think a few of us got the same fortunes!

# Ham of the Year

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The Iowa Ham of the Year is intended to recognize an Iowa ham, who has demonstrated his or her tremendous dedication to Amateur Radio through his or her activities.

## Requirements

Nominees for the Iowa Ham of the Year must meet the following requirements to be considered for this award:

- A current Iowa resident
- A licensed Amateur Radio operator
- A member in good standing with the ARRL

## Timeline

Nominations (including the nomination form and any supporting documentation) for the Iowa Ham of the Year must be submitted on or before March 15, 2012.

The nominee of the winner will be notified by April 5, 2012.

The official presentation and announcement of the award will be at the DMRAA Hamfest in Des Moines, Iowa, on April 21, 2012.

## Additional Information

Although all accomplishments and activities will be considered, the concentration should be on those activities that took place within the past calendar year, and it should be noted when each activity occurred.

The judges will select an award recipient based on their involvement in ham radio, especially community service, promotion, operating, technical knowledge, volunteerism and enthusiasm. All decisions of the judges are final. Nominations and all accompanying material must be mailed to Iowa Ham of the Year Committee, PO Box 81 Dunkerton, IA 50626 or e-mailed to [ke0j@dunkerton.net](mailto:ke0j@dunkerton.net) on or before March 15, 2012.

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# Ham of the Year

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Any questions about the award or nomination process should be directed to Joe Hoepfner, KE0J via e-mail to [ke0j@dunkerton.net](mailto:ke0j@dunkerton.net).

## Nomination Form

Iowa Ham of the Year Nomination Form

American Radio Relay League

### Nominator Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominee Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Why should your nominee be named Iowa Ham of the Year? (Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.)

Mail this form and answers to the question to Iowa Ham of the Year Committee, PO Box 81 Dunkerton, IA 50626 or e-mail required information to [ke0j@dunkerton.net](mailto:ke0j@dunkerton.net) by March 15, 2012.  
(If the form is mailed, it must be postmarked by March 15, 2012.)



# 2012 DMRAA Calendar

## General Meetings and Events

24 January, 2012  
28 February, 2012  
27 March, 2012  
**21 April, 2012 Hamfest**  
24 April, 2012

## Board Meetings

7 February, 2012  
6 March, 2012  
3 April, 2012  
1 May, 2012  
5 June, 2012  
3 July, 2012

## ARES Meetings

6 February 2012  
16 April 2012  
16 July 2012  
15 October 2012



All meetings start at 7pm at the Polk County EOC.

## Testing Sessions

**3/18/2012**

**5/20/2012**

Registration starts at 12:30 PM, testing at 1:00pm. (no admittance after 1pm)  
Johnstone Supply Classroom (2nd floor)  
11000 Justin Drive  
Urbandale, IA 50322  
Contact: Rick Allen ACØCFL  
(515) 795-2162  
[n0cfl@arrl.net](mailto:n0cfl@arrl.net)

**2/11/2012**

**4/14/2012**

Boone  
Boone Amateur Radio Klub  
Kruck P&H Warehouse Classroom  
9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**4/21/2012**

Marshalltown  
Central Iowa Radio Amateur Society  
RACOM Corporation (1st floor meeting room)  
10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

### 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 an 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.



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.

# January Board Meeting Minutes

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January 10, 2012

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. with the following people in attendance:

## Club Officers:

<b>President:</b> Kevin Sanders, K0KDS	Present
<b>Vice President:</b> George Noble, KK7FM	Present
<b>Treasurer:</b> Bill Claypool, NU0Q	Present
<b>Secretary:</b> Kirk Nelson, WL7CLI	Present

## Board Members:

Bruce Brumm, KC0ZMT	Present
Ron Hobbs, N0XWI	Present
Chuck Hoveland, W0IBG	Present
Dennis O'Brien, KA0DOS	Present
Craig Rose, KC0YHU	Present
Ben Sinclair, KC0ZMX	Present

## Guests:

Dean R Madsen, N0XR

## Review of Last Meeting Minutes:

The November Board Meeting minutes were read and approved.

## Treasurer's Report:

\$10,192.76

## Unfinished Business:

**Unpaid bills:** Receipts were presented for the following. Craig Rose, KC0YHU was reimbursed \$69.44 for the Chili Feed. Dennis O'Brien, KA0DOS was reimbursed \$172.60 for the Christmas Dinner. Kirk Nelson, WL7CLI was reimbursed \$134.61 for antenna mounts and hardware for the packet station at Lutheran Hospital.

**Hamfest:** The Hamfest is scheduled for April 21, 2012 at the State Fair Grounds. Bruce Brumm, KC0ZMT has purchased the connection adapter kit door prize. It was discussed and approved to purchase the MFJ-269 from Radio City. It was also decided to go with a gain antenna rather than a speaker microphone. There are new staff personnel at the Fair Grounds office and we have not received a contract or bill yet but the reservation has been made. It was decided to have online table reservation again this year. There will be a Club Consignment table with 10% of sales to go to the club; Chuck Hoveland will be coordinating its staffing. Guidelines for No-Charge tables were drafted as follows. The ARRL would not be charged for either table or tickets. Information only

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tables would not be charged for but their staffing would have to purchase event tickets. To qualify as a Information only table there can be no sales or donations solicited i.e. M.A.R.S. and SkyWarn.

**New Business:**

There will be License Testing at the Johnston building in Urbandale on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of odd numbered months.

**Polk County ARES update:** ARES meetings will be held at the Polk County EOC at 7:00 PM on 2/6/2012, 4/16/2012, 7/16/2012 and 10/15/2012.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

**Hamfest:** See Unfinished Business.

**Field Day:** The committee members will be Ron Hobbs, N0XWI, Dennis O'Brien, KA0DOS, Dean Madsen, N0XR, George Noble, KK7FM and Bruce Brumm, KC0ZMT. Ron Hobbs asked for what direction Field Day should take. Rather it should focus on public awareness or station operation. It was discussed that that it needs to focus on one aspect or the other but has not done well while trying to do both equally. It was decided that the question would be presented to the club members since it is their event. Due to procedure changes last year within the Parks department registration for Jolly Boat is now completed online and the web site does not list any contact information to a real person. The park regulations state that there will be no overnight activities. In the past after discussion with the Parks department permission had been granted for overnight Field Day activities but as of now permission can't be obtained. In the event that permission can't be obtained the committee is open to suggestion for other locations.

**Repeaters & Packet:** The 3 new antennas have been installed and coax ran and tested at Lutheran Hospital for the Packet station. Dean Madsen, N0XR is constructing coax stubs for the radios and ensuring all components fit in the rack properly before installing them at the hospital.

**Education:** A Technician class is scheduled at Waukee to begin 2/2/2012. There will be 8 training night with the 9<sup>th</sup> being testing. The information has been posted on the internet.

**Program:** January will be on PIC and microprocessor applications presented by N0ORU. February's program will be by the National Weather Service on SkyWarn and storm spotting to be held in the Chorus Practice hall. The March program will be on High Altitude Ballooning.

**Communications/PR:** The Static Sheet has room for articles from the membership. The Club now has Facebook and Twitter accounts.

**Membership:** There will be a new membership list generated for the February Board meeting.

**Awards:** No report. The Bob Evans award recipient is selected by the board and is to be presented at the Hamfest.

**Christmas Party:** See Unfinished Business

**Chili Feed/Auction:** See Unfinished Business

**Questions, comments, additions?:** None

The meeting adjourned at: 8:28 p.m.



# DES MOINES RADIO AMATEURS ASSOCIATION

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.

Des Moines Radio Amateurs Assn.

P.O. Box 88

Des Moines, IA 50301

DMRAA.com

E-mail: [info@dmraa.com](mailto:info@dmraa.com)



## Membership Application

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

\$40 2 years

\$60 3 years

Mail application and payment to:

DMRAA

P.O. Box 88

Des Moines, IA 50301

Email: [info@dmraa.com](mailto:info@dmraa.com)