

STATIC SHEET

PAGE 1

JUNE 2009

OFFICERS

- Tom Reis NØVPR
President
- Craig Long KCØYNN
Vice-President
- Tre' Critelli KAØFRW
Secretary
- Bill Claypool NUØQ
Treasurer

BOARD

- Bruce Brumm KCØZMT
- Rick England KØCSS
- Ron Hobbs NØXWI
- Dean Madsen NØXR
- George Noble KK7FM
- Dennis O'Brien KAØDOS

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DMRAA Hamfest a Blast!

Nearly 400 hams from Missouri, Minnesota, Illinois, and of course Iowa turned out for a great Hamfest in Des Moines at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. They swapped stories and gear. The weather was near perfect for a Hamfest, enough rain to prevent working in the yard, but nice enough to come to the Hamfest.

WBØW and Radio City were kept busy serving eager hams. The coffee and donuts were plentiful.

This was the first time that the



Bruce Colgrove, WØDMS from Lincoln, NE was the happy winner of the Icom IC 91-AD. He was happy to find out that he didn't need to be present to win. UPS made his day three days after the Hamfest. Bruce assures us that he will be back in 2010!

While our Hamfest isn't quite as large as the Hamvention in Dayton, it was certainly as much fun.

Hamfest was held in the Walnut Center. The consensus is that the facility worked very well. Hopefully we'll be able to use it again next year.



Field Day 2009

Spring has sprung and the Hamfest is over. The mind of every radio-loving amateur now turns to one of our favorite events, Field Day. The DMRAA and ARTS clubs will again be jointly conducting Field Day operations at the Jolly Boat shelter in Big Creek State Park, just west of Polk City. Please see the attached flyer for more information or simply visit www.dmraa.com/fieldday.

What is Field Day? Field Day



is sponsored by the ARRL and is the culmination of Amateur Radio Week. It is a publicly-held training exercise that helps radio amateurs prepare for emergencies. Skilled work and planning is required to select radio equipment, frequencies, and antennas to facilitate operating under less-than-ideal conditions.

During Field Day, operators set up in local parks,

at shopping malls, or even in their own backyards, and get on the air using generators or battery power. Field Day was designed to test operators' abilities to set up and operate portable stations under emergency conditions such as the loss of electricity. During the weekend, radio operators then try to contact as many other Field Day stations as possible.

(Continued Page 6)



Come enjoy the fellowship

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



MAY Meeting

Plymouth Congregational Church
May 26, 7:00PM
42 & Ingersoll Avenue
Des Moines

2009 –2010 Officer and Board Member Election

The by-laws of the DMRAA require the membership to vote yearly for the officers and for those board positions that expire this year. This election will take place at the May meeting. A copy of the ballot can be found on page 9 of this Static Sheet.

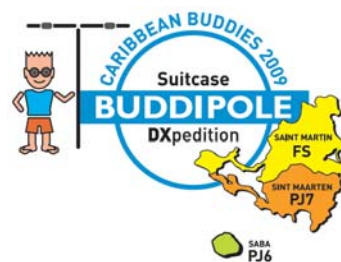
DMRAA/ARTS Field Day Made Easy

This brief presentation will highlight this years' DMRAA/ARTS Field Day effort, provide a brief summary of Field Day and the rules our participants need to consider. It will also explain the contest operating style that Field Day uses and the use of the logging software in the hope of renewing excitement about Field Day. Hopefully both newly licensed Hams and Field Day veterans will be motivated to attend our Field Day and overcome any mic fright to get on the air.

Future Meetings

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

July 28th!
ARRL Iowa Section Manager Tom Brehmer, NØLOH is our guest speaker.



April Meeting
Mike Greenwood KC4VG gave a wonderful presentation on a recent DXpedition to St. Martin in the Caribbean. Complete with video, pictures and audio, the presentation made all attending anxious to load up some gear and head south.

Bob Evans Award

Dan Miller, ACØOF is this years recipient of the prestigious Bob Evans award. The DMRAA board recognizes Dan's huge commitment to the many aspects of Ham radio. He has been the Polk County A.R.E.S. EC., and also the VE Team Liaison for Polk County. We want to thank Dan for all his hard work.

The Bob Evans award is presented yearly by the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Assn.





Giving back through
community service

Dan Miller ACØOF
ARES IOWA Section EC
515-285-7981 (home)
515-491-0186 (cell)
danielmiller347@gmail.com

Polk County ARES Meetings
Johnstone Supply Classroom
(2nd floor)

11000 Justin Drive
Urbandale, IA 50322

Polk County ARES

Polk County ARES

Polk County ARES is alive and well! At our April meeting, I brought everyone up to date on the progress of the trailer. We are still waiting for the Polk county Attorneys to complete the contracts, and we are working on getting the Polk County ARES LLC completed. We will have yearly operating expenses for the trailer, and will have to come up with a way to generate some revenue. Passing the hat and fund raisers were some suggestions. We are still looking at options. The trailer will be a great asset to the Amateur Community once all of the red tape is cut! Pictures will be posted on the Polk County ARES website very soon.

Our participation in drills at the Airport and NDMS as well as County ARES activities during disasters was discussed. When we are working for the Served

Agencies, we are no longer part of the "Hobby" culture. We take on the role of providing a SERVICE. The served agencies require that we maintain a level of training and participation in ARES in order to receive the privilege of having ac-



cess to certain areas requiring a badge. They take this very seriously, as should we.

We have several up coming events and drills. The next event we have is the MS Walk on May 9, followed by the Jordan Creek Mall Duathalon on May 17, Dam to Dam on May 30, Copper

Creek Triathlon June 14, and the Vigilant Guard Exercise on June 16,17, and 18. There are others but these are coming up soon. If you would like to assist, please contact me and I will put you on the list. I will be posting the details on the Polk County ARES web page, so check it frequently.

We are becoming a recognized and important part of the Emergency Communications activities in the community. It is through your efforts and professionalism that we have attained this status. You are to be commended for your dedication and participation. I want to express my thanks and I appreciate your support.

Dan Miller ACØOF
ARRL Iowa Section Emergency Coordinator, Amateur Radio Emergency Services

*Editors note:
Craig Long KCØYNN is now the Polk County Emergency Coordinator*

UPCOMING

ARES EVENTS

2009 Polk County ARES Meeting Schedule

July 13
October 13

ARES EVENTS

Dam to Dam May 30
Copper Creek Triathlon June 14
Big Creek Triathlon August 2
State Fair Parade August 12
MS150 August 29-30
Asthma Walk TBA
Head of Des Moines Rowing Regatta September 26
Des Moines Marathon October 18
Living History Farms Cross Country Race November 21

2008 —2009 DMRAA Calendar

DMRAA Calendar 2009

May Program

Election & Logging
Plymouth Congregational
Church.
7:00PM
Waveland Room 3-4
42nd & Ingersoll Avenue
Des Moines, IA

General Meetings and Events

26 May, 2009 Elections
23 June, 2009
27 June, 2009 Field Day
28 July, 2009
25 August, 2009
22 September, 2009
17 October Jamboree on the Air
22 October, 2009
24 December, 2009

Board Meeting Dates

2 June, 2009
7 July, 2009
4 August, 2009
1 September, 2009
6 October, 2009
3 November, 2009
1 December, 2009



DUES???

Making a

change is

easy.

Making a

difference,

now there is

a challenge!

The President's Soapbox

Thank you, first to the officers and board members of the club and secondly to the nearly 400 hams that turned out for the recent Hamfest. It was fun to see all the "hamming" going on. It's only been a few weeks but the board has already been discussing ways to add to the experience in 2010. We want to get the testing closer to the Walnut Building and maybe even be able to offer a few education seminars during the Hamfest.

I'm also pleased that we will continue to have meetings during the summer months. I believe that this is a very positive step into growing the club and thus offering even more benefits to being a club member.

Another benefit that comes with membership is the ability to list ham related items in the "BUY / SELL" section in the Static Sheet. I listed an HT and a fellow in Texas contacted me! The same could happen to you.

This month's meeting will include the annual election of officers and board members. I believe that the ballot represents our club well. I trust you'll agree. Please be sure to attend the May meeting and vote.

73

Tom, NØVPR

Member Profile: Dean Madsen

Dean Madsen was interested in computers, electronics, and science at an early age. During the summer of 1987 Dean checked out a few books on model rocketry and electronics from the Storm Lake Public Library. One of the books happened to be a 1960's version of the ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook.

Like most twelve year olds, Dean wasn't very good at following his parents' directions to put away his books when he was done reading and he left the collection on the front counter of his father's retail music store. A customer came in looking for sheet music saw the ARRL Handbook and started talking to Dean's father. The customer, Bob Lamb, KØEVC (sk) offered a tour of his station and to help Dean earn his license. Dean passed his novice exam before returning to school at the end of the summer and received the callsign KBØBFA.

Dean continued to study and upgrade

his license, obtaining the call sign KEØWO in the process, until he passed his extra class code and theory tests the fall of his sophomore year of high school. His excitement for ham radio eventually led his parents and two brothers to earn their "no-code" technician licenses.

Dean discovered packet radio one summer when Tom, WØPDT (sk), brought his portable packet station with him to Storm Lake. Dean was immediately hooked, and started hooking up and programming every computer he could get from a Xerox 820 clone with 8" floppy drives, a Commodore 64, to an IBM XT clone to play with packet radio and operate a Packet Bulletin Board System.

Dean graduated from Storm Lake High School, attended Iowa State University and Des Moines Area Community College studying in areas of engineering, computer science, electronics and network administration. During this time, Dean's radio activity level dropped off, due to being

occupied with other activities and apartment living not being conducive to outside antennas. In 2005 Dean's interest in ham radio was reignited and he started to rebuild his radio station at the new QTH. In the fall of 2008 Dean changed his call sign to NØXR.

Dean enjoys the shootings sports, golf, software defined radios and working with the related technology such as the CW Skimmer software. Dean mostly operates contests using RTTY, CW and occasionally SSB. He serves on the board of directors of the DMRAA and is also Treasurer and the membership person for the Dragon Trail Chapter of the Izaak Walton League (Ankeny, IA).

Dean, now 34, lives in Des Moines with his dog, Bullet (aka "Bullet the Field Day Dog"), and works as a System Specialist in the Information Technology Department of Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino.



Dean Madsen
NØXR



Have you
checked into a
net lately? →

ARES Nets serve
several purposes,
including

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

Please check in!

Time to up-
grade your
license?
→→→→

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 Shehdahl 147.075+ t 114.8 repeater

MARSHALLTOWN

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

May 17, 4 new Extras and
one new Tech!

July 19, September 20

November 15

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

Location:

Johnstone Supply Classroom
(2nd floor)

11000 Justin Drive

Urbandale, IA 50322

Contact: Dan Miller ACØOF

AMES 7:00pm

Location:

1304 Howe Hall, Iowa State
campus

Contact: George Oster, NP2N,
515-233-3535

BOONE 9:00am

June 13, 9:00 AM

Aug 1, 9:00 AM

Location:

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

Talk-In: 146.850

Contact: Steve NØNEU

(515) 432-4006

BUY, SELL, TRADE

Need to find a new home for your extra gear?

This Buy, Sell & Trade page may be your answer. This service is offered to DMRAA members.

Contact
Tom, NØVPR
n0vpr@arrl.net



More Field Day →

(FIELD DAY page 1)
"We want the community to know that in the event of an emergency, we will be ready to assist in any way we can," says Tom Reis, DMRAA President. "While people often think that cell phones or other communications technologies have replaced ham

radio, we can still provide an important communications service that others can't." Field day is also fun! Attendees will have a chance to try



new or different radios, build friendships with other radio amateurs, learn new skills, and make contacts with people around the world. Everyone is welcome to attend, from the serious contester to the unlicensed newcomer. We hope that anyone who is interested in seeing what Amateur Radio is all about will come out for Field Day and bring a friend.

For
Sale:



Butternut
HF9V 9

band vertical antenna. Contact
Dan Miller ACØOF at 515-285-
7981 or
(danielmiller347@gmail.com)



May Club Election

Des Moines Radio Amateurs Assn. 2009 – 2010 Officer and Board Ballot

Officers

President	Tom Reis	NØVPR
Vice President	Kevin Sanders	KØDSM
Treasurer	Bill Claypool	NUØQ
Secretary	Tre Critelli	KAØFRW

2 Year Board Member

Bruce Brumm	KCØZMT
Dean Madsen	NØXR
Craig Rose	KCØYHU

1 Year Board Member

Ron Hobbs	NØXWI
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ARES UPDATES

There have been many changes in Iowa ARES in the past month. Jim Lasley, NØJL has stepped down as the Iowa Section Manager. He has been replaced by Tom Brehmer, NØLOH. Jim Snapp, NAØR has stepped down as the Iowa Section Emergency Coordinator. Tom Brehmer has appointed me to serve as Jim's replacement. Craig Long, KCØYNN has been appointed as the new Polk County Emergency Coordinator. I will continue to help Craig during the transition phase of his appointment. Craig will take over the Public Service events and continue the working relationships we have had with the Emergency Management Office and other Served Agencies around Polk County. I will do my best

to continue to promote ARRL and ARES in the State of Iowa. I have some big shoes to fill. Jim Snapp will continue to be involved with ARES, the State EOC at the Joint Forces Center with RACES, and the National Weather Service. Jim has worked hard and provided excellent leadership for many years. He is to be commended for his tireless efforts.

I hope everyone in the Amateur Radio Community in Polk County will give Craig the support and assistance he needs to carry on as the Polk County EC. I have enjoyed working with everyone and being part of the Polk County ARES Group. We have come a long way together, and I hope

to see continued growth under Craig's direction.

I will be working to continue the efforts started by Jim Snapp, and promote the continued efforts around the State, working ARES groups in as many Iowa Counties as possible. Feel free to contact me with any suggestions or ideas that will help promote the State of Iowa ARES efforts. Thanks for all your support.

73,

Dan Miller, ACØOF
Iowa Section Emergency Coordinator



2nd Graders and Telegraph

What a combination!

What do 2nd Graders and Older Ham Radio Operators have in common?

They both loose interest listening to History at about 6-7 minutes. The 2nd Graders start looking around the room for something more interesting and the Older Ham Radio Operators start going to sleep!

For the second year in a row I was invited back to Runnells Elementary to talk to the 2nd Graders about Telegraph, Morse Code, and Ham Radio. My most difficult task was trying to hold my presentation to 30 minutes! Remember to a 2nd Grader 30 minutes to us is about the same as 12 hours to them! It was just as much fun for me again this year as it was last. Looking out in the audience of more than two dozen eyes looking at you is one of the neatest things to experience. These little folks were extremely well behaved and were ready to soak up anything they heard and saw.

My main idea was to create interest and curiosity to these folks to pursue something other than video games and watching TV. I always try to create questions in their minds so they can pursue new ideas and use their imagination!

I have 26 items of history related to Morse Code, both Telegraph and Wireless, and usually get down to the 10th item before it is time to change the subject or do some hands on as I try to detect when they are losing interest. The teachers at some time may have already talked about the History of the Kate Shelly Bridge, Railroads, and the fact that the Railroads used Telegraph for many years before converting to the technology now that uses Satellites and Remote Control Centers. I bring out, that before all of the modern communication systems we have today, the only way to communicate was sending a letter. It is difficult for me to imagine how long it would take to find who our new elected president was if you had to hear about it via letters that may or may not get through. I always think that most Telegraph Offices were in Railroad Stations. Samuel Morse requested \$30,000

to wire the United States for Telegraph in the early 1840's. OK ENOUGH HISTORY OR I WILL LOOSE THE OLDER HAM RADIO OPERATORS!

As you can see by the attached photos I always bring some show and tell items such as- QSL cards received, QSL cards I send out, photographs of my Tower in the back yard, A small Transceiver (ICOM-706 1.8Megahertz thru 440Megahertz),

Two Meter (146Megahertz) Handy Talkie, home built Crystal Set, large Vacuum Tube, miniature vacuum tube, transistor, integrated Circuit

Cassette with a Morse code tape that I play as the students arrive. Morse Code Keyboard, Morse Code Key, Code Oscillator, Home brew Telegraph Sounder.

At some time in the session each student and the teachers are provided with a Morse Code Character sheet. I would then send a few characters and ask the students to write down what they hear in dots and dashes. An example I use is the letter P .--. and then ask them what they would write down as most are ahead of me and are trying to look up the character and write it down. The answer I am looking for is dot dash dash dot. I know this is not the correct method to learn Morse Code but works best for the short time we are together. Once they are familiar with my crude method, I call on the Teachers to ask the pre-selected students to come up one at a time and select a word they will look up and send to the rest of the class to see which one finds the word first. The students seem to enjoy this. I even let one of them send the same letter on the Morse Code Keyboard to show how much easier it is but remind them that this keyboard is for sending only and does not help with receiving. I, of course, pick on one of the teachers to show their abilities at sending as well and the students always get a kick out of this.

The photos at the end were provided to me from the Runnells Elementary administration and I was given permission to use them and writing this article by Tammy Steenhoek one of the 2nd grade teachers.

Fig 1 was when I was giving my items of history.

Fig 2 was one of the first students as she was selecting her word to send and practice sending a letter.

Fig 3 As you can see I had a table full of show and tell as one of the students was finding the Morse code character for one of the letters in his secret word.

Fig 4 One of the teachers finding the Morse code character for her word.(She did ok)!

Fig 5 The end came to fast and I even ran 15 minutes over my time limit.

Where do you stop? Communications is such an interesting field and is growing at an amazing rate. I worked 47 years in communications and having retired in 2005 it is extremely hard to believe the advances just since then. Telegraph and Morse Code are obsolete and the Amateur Radio Operators are the only ones still using it. I wonder how long it will be before they cease to use it as well?

Thanks Runnells for allowing me to share part of history with you!

Larry S. Zimmer KAØFTO



2nd Grade photos



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 5



Fig 5

What are you doing to promote Amateur Radio?





Ham Radio

in the 21st Century

Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes for April 4, 2009

All officers and Board members were in attendance except for Craig Long (KCØYNN) and Dennis O'Brien (KAØDOS). Dan Miller (ACØOF) was also in attendance. After approval of the March 2009 meeting minutes, the DMRAA Board and Officers discussed two items of old business: confirmation of the Field Day site and the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the 146.985 repeater which has now been entered into. The following items of new business were discussed:

- (1) Hamfest preparations: confirmation of set up/tear down times, logistics and staffing for the event;
- (2) a new D-Star subcommittee was approved by the Board, with Tom Reis (NØVPR) to head the subcommittee;
- (3) a draft Nomination ballot was reviewed and approved for submission for the election next month;
- (4) the Board determined that this year's Bob Evans Award would be given to Dan Miller.

The treasurer reported \$4,168.89 was the current balance of the Club account and authorization was given to pay \$50 to Park Place on Fleur as an honorarium for allowing the repeater to be placed at that location. This was consistent with past years. Subcommittee reports were then provided, with relevant

discussion concerning potential upcoming programs; the possible creation of a PR officer for the club so as to better publicize the events; discussion about possibly assisting in the Boy Scout Merit Badge program and/or Jamboree on the Air; detailed discussion of Field Day preparations, notification of ARRL and other related issues.

Minutes for May 5, 2009

All officers and Board members were in attendance. Kevin Sanders (KØDSM) and Dan Miller (ACØOF) were also present. Items of old business discussed

included:

- (1) Post-Hamfest review of events, notes and thoughts on how to make 2010's Hamfest even better.
- (2) Tom Reis (NØVPR) provided a report on the status of the D-Star Subcommittee and potential procurement of 1.2 Ghz repeater for data and possibility of additional 1.2Ghz mobile rigs if funding can be obtained from outside sources;
- (3) the final Nomination ballot was approved and authorized for publication on the website. Write-ins at the May meeting will be accepted and are encouraged. Items of new business discussed included:

- (1) 2010 Hamfest: approval was given to have the location be at the Walnut Center again and try to get testing held at the FFA building

across the street, date approved for Saturday, April 24, 2010, and authority given to reserve location for that date;

- (2) the summer schedule of meetings was tentatively approved so that general meetings will continue to be held all summer. Treasurer's report: approximately 400 people attended the 2009 Hamfest, resulting in an approximately \$2,000 profit after all bills are taken care of. Current funds in the account, including profit from Hamfest, is \$7,196.09. Subcommittee reports included: confirmation of May program on logging for Field Day by Dean Madsen (NØXR), discussion of possible programs for June; approval to obtain dmraa.org domain name which is now available, dmraa.com will be retained so that both will be in use, The desire to get more individuals involved in improving the website; membership subcommittee will be obtaining list of newly licensed hams in Central Iowa area for mailing; continued discussion of possible Boy Scout Fall Jamboree on the Air and Merit Badge acquisition, also the possibility of a Tech class in the fall; discussion of Field Day preparations and need for flyer to be distributed to members and posted. Last discussion concerning changes in ARES leadership.

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



The Des Moines
Radio Amateurs
Association and
Amateur Radio
Technical Society
will jointly host
2009 ARRL Field
Day operations.



Talk-in: 147.075
tone 114.8

GPS Coordinates:
41.80887N,
-93.74403W



www.artsiowa.com



DMRAA
P.O. Box 88
Des Moines, IA 50301
E-mail:
info@dmraa.com

www.dmraa.com

Field Day 2009

Jolly Boat shelter
Big Creek State Park

June 27 – 28, 2009

Always the fourth full weekend in June

Search for WØAK at the URL below

Field Day Locator: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>

Info or Questions, contact: KCØZMT@arrl.net

FREE

— Everyone is Welcome!! —

FREE



Schedule of Events

27-June, Saturday

9:00am Setup

1:00pm Field Day Begins!

Operating and Learning

HF, VHF, UHF, D-Star,

NVIS, and GOTA station

5:00pm Chow Time — Potluck supper

9:00pm Night Owls Operate

28-June, Sunday

7:00-8:00am Donuts and Coffee

1:00pm Field Day Ends, teardown.

ARRL FIELD DAY
2009



More Info: <http://www.dmraa.com/fieldday> http://www.iowadnr.gov/parks/images/maps_pictures/bigcreekmap.pdf



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

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

Dues \$20 Single

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

