

STATIC SHEET

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OCTOBER 2017

DMRAA ChiliFeed / Auction November 21st 2017

Ah Chili!

Are you getting ready for the annual auction? This is the time to clean out the shack-find new homes for all those "orphan" radios and gear your haven't used recently. We have seen several new Hams at the meetings and they will be looking for some quality radio gear. Do your part! Of course the Chili Feed will satisfy your food cravings and you'll be able to concentrate on bidding! The ChiliFeed / Auction will be held at St.



Paul Presbyterian Church, 6426 Merle Hay Road in Johnston. (same place as last year) Admission is \$6. This

includes both the meal and the auction. Note: The meal is included with your admission to the auction. Please bring your unwanted items to sell. The club gets 10% of the sale price. Buy-backs are \$1. You may pay your DMRAA dues for 2018.

Please feel free to bring family and friends.

Operation Stable Mercury

Operation Stable Mercury was held September 7th and 8th at Camp Dodge in Johnston Iowa. This event has been offered on a yearly basis for several years. With a goal of bringing communication assets from across the community and state, it offers an opportunity for various entities to test and stress their radio equipment and operators. The two-day event started with the premise of an EF-4 tornado that cut a ¾ mile swath across the greater Des Moines area. The event was given 5 distinct Incident Command ICP posts which then worked thru an Area Command

Post ACP. For exercise purposes, the ACP was positioned on Camp Dodge proper and the 5 ICP were positioned in the training area north of Camp Dodge. Each was ¼ to a ½ mile from each other and a mile or so from the ACP. Each ICP had different communication responsibilities unique to the needs of the ICP. Some of the unique communication assets included an Iowa State Wide Interoperability Communications trailer STR. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary had their trailer with many HF abilities. Jasper county provided their Emergency Command Post. The Iowa Air National

Guard brought their Mobile Emergency Operations Center MEOC. Story County ARES provided another area with HF abilities. The 71st Support Team brought their WMD communications truck. Satellite uplinks were common in the field. The local MARS group communicated thru MARS links. All of the 5 ICPs were supported by the ACP which was supported by 671st Troop Command. This meant that the Area Command area had air-conditioned tents and meeting facilities. (Continued, pg 9)

Rowing Regatta
News
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Come enjoy the fellowship

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



Upcoming Meetings

October 24th, 2017 Meeting

TBD

Please join us.
7:00 PM
Recital Hall, 3rd floor
Plymouth Congregational Church
42nd & Ingersoll Des Moines, IA

November 21st Meeting Chilifeed / Auction 6:00 PM

St. Paul Presbyterian Church
6426 Merle Hay Road
Johnston, IA

The DMRAA meetings provide an excellent opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy fellow hams. Please feel free to invite newly licensed amateurs to attend.

Future Meetings

Brad & Scott are looking for meeting ideas and presenters. Please feel free to make suggestions and offer to help with a presentation.

Brad Boeckmann KC9DMQ
brad.boeckmann@gmail.com

Scott Kirstein, N0OOD
n0ood@arrl.net



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.

Past Meetings

September's DMRAA meeting was all about Digital Mobile Radio. The presentation was directed to the enthusiasm of DMR in Des Moines and the across the State of Iowa. At our meeting in March there were 10 hams registered to use DMR, at the September meeting the number had grown to 83. Wow! The meeting was very well attended (over 50 people) all anxious to hear the latest and get their questions answered. The help desk was open for programming radios after the presentation. Tom, N0VPR was the presenter with help from Kevin N0IWT and Ray, W0RAY. There was a raffle for a TYT MD2017 dual-band HT The winner was a very happy Greg, KC0EMP



If you have any suggestions for future meetings, please contact Vice-President
Brad Boeckmann
KC9DMQ at info@dmraa.com



Giving back through community service

Scott Kirstein
NØOOD
Polk County ARES EC
515 490-7414 (cell)
nood@arri.net



Polk County ARES



As we approach the end of 2017 from an ARES events perspective, again I am reminded of the value of the service we provide to our "customers" – and why that matters.

As many of you are (sometimes painfully) aware, radio operators throughout polk county gather at various times throughout the year to provide emergency communications for a number of different organizations' events – whether it be the American Lung Association's Fight for Air Climb (an indoor event held in the stairwells of several downtown Des Moines buildings), or the Living History Farms Cross Country Race (an outdoor event held in whatever weather conditions mid-November throw at us).

Each of these events – as a stand alone project – provides amateur radio operators an opportunity to "give back" to the community, and help out in an very valuable way (the estimated personnel time and equipment costs to rent radios and provide additional staff for the Fight for Air Climb would cost the Lung Association tens of thousands of dollars if they had to pay for the radio coverage we provide for

free).

I know some of you have just reacted negatively to that last sentence – I heard the groans J.

"Of course they want to use us. We can't charge them anything, so why wouldn't they?" "What do we get out of it?" These and many like them are all questions I have been asked – sometimes pointedly – by folks who do not see the reason why ARES is so important.

My response is typically, something along the lines of: "The FCC gives us (the entirety of amateur radio) this spectrum in exchange for among other responsibilities public service. These events count as public service."

Here's the other thing, these events also serve as training opportunities which help out with an actual "need" for the community as a whole. Participation in ARES events teaches operators (new and old) how to work within network operations, how to keep your transmissions brief and to the point, situational awareness, and many other "soft skills" that become much more important during times of emergency than during the morning drivetime "ragchew" – which is not to discourage a morning roundtable conversation – emergency communica-

tions just call for a different discipline.

As I look back at these paragraphs, I realize that KCØZMT is the only one who gets a "Soapbox" in this publication – and I'll get off of mine now, with this final thought: "While many of you have read these thoughts before because you have been a ham for several years (it's not too late to do your first ARES event, by the way) – many more are just coming into the hobby and are looking for a way to get involved and help out others (maybe also getting some help for themselves with radios, antennas, etc.), ARES activities are a pretty low-impact way to get started as a ham."

Scott, NØOOD

Polk County ARES Meetings

Polk County EOC at
1907 Carpenter Avenue
Des Moines, IA



ARES MEETINGS DATES 2017

7:00 PM

Monday, October 9th, 2017

**Polk County Emergency
Operations Center
1907 Carpenter
Des Moines, IA**

2017 ARES Events

Des Moines Marathon, October 15th, 2017
Living History Farms Fun Race
November 18th, 2017

Sign-up online at DMRAA.com/ARES

2017 DMRAA Calendar



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

Calendar 2017

General Meetings and Events

24 October, 2017
21 November, 2017 Chili
Feed / Auction
12 December, 2017 DMRAA
Christmas Party
23 January, 2018
27 February, 2018
27 March, 2018
24 April, 2018
22 May, 2018
26 June, 2018
24 July, 2018
28 August, 2018

Board Meeting Dates

7 November, 2017
2 January, 2018
6 February, 2018
6 March, 2018
3 April, 2018
1 May, 2018
5 June, 2018
3 July, 2018
7 August, 2018
4 September, 2018
2 October, 2018
6 November, 2018



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 Scott Kirstein
NØOOD
for details.
Dues are calendar year

President's Soapbox

Let's discuss capabilities.

In 2014, a particular goal of mine was met when we established the WØAK-2 (146.985) repeater on the VA Medical Center. Shortly afterwards, the board also voted to add a third repeater location at Broadlawns hospital, WØAK-3 (145.130). With these updates, and including the WØAK- (146.940) repeater tech refresh in 2103, the DMRAA has significantly contributed to building and maintaining a robust, up-to-date repeater infrastructure in Polk County, providing wide, reliable coverage. Another excellent repeater and site has recently become available and the board has voted unanimously to acquire it. There are still some details to be worked out, but we should also soon see the 145.310 repeater at Alleman identifying itself in Morse as WØAK.

Some of you might state that there are already plenty of underutilized repeaters available. This is generally true. However, from a disaster planning and recovery

point-of-view, these actions are very prudent. We never know what resources will be available to us during a disaster. Thus it makes sense for us to provision capability wherever we can. This gives us more flexibility to adapt to a disaster situation. As an example, we maintain packet radio at Lutheran hospital and it gets used in that role. But if we need to, we can take advantage of the emergency power and antennas at the hospital, and bring up another 2m or 70cm repeater -- all depending on the needs as dictated by the situation.

It is incumbent on us to be prepared and manage the resources given to us wisely. The group that manages these resource decisions is the club board. While we all have diverse opinions and skill sets, one of the most valuable qualities of the board that I have observed during my various tenures is the ability to govern by consensus. It is very rare that there is dissent or negative discourse on any subject. When there is, further detail and discussion usually clears up any misunderstandings and the

votes are nearly universally unanimous. This does not mean that we are led by "yes men". Quite the contrary -- we have a diverse group which appears to more-than adequately represent the breadth of the club's membership. The feedback we receive regarding our actions is generally positive. As always we welcome feedback. Please feel free to speak to me or any of the board members. You can also send email to info@dmraa.com.

We look forward to continuing to serve with you.
Bruce D. Brumm KC0ZMT
President, DMRAA

"To disagree, one doesn't have to be disagreeable."

Barry
Goldwater
K7UGA/sk



**Don't forget
to pay your
2017
DMRAA
Dues**



Have you
checked into a
net lately? →

ARES Nets serve

several purposes

- **Operator training**
- **Training of Net control operators**

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-	8:00pm	Boone County ARES Net
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CRESTON

Sunday	443.400+ t 151.4	8:30pm	SW Iowa Amateur Radio Assn.
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DES MOINES

Sunday	145.390- t 114.8	7:00 pm	Saylorville Fellowship Net
Sunday	29.670- t 103.5	7:30 pm	Iowa Ten Meter Net
Sunday	146.610- t 114.8	8:00 pm	Central Iowa ARES Net
Sunday	146.940- t 114.8	follows ARES net	Central Iowa Technical Net
Sunday	443.400 t 151.4	8:30 pm	SW Iowa Amateur Radio Assn Net
Monday	146.820 203.5 PL	6:30 pm	State Wide ICN Net (Mason City, Pella, Des Moines, Bedford)
Monday	146.940- t 114.8	7:00 pm	DMRAA information Net
Wednesday	53.250-	8:30 pm	Iowa 6 Meter Net 1.7mhz-
Wednesday	146.610- t 114.8	11:00 pm	Night Owl Net
Thursday	146.940- t 114.8	7:00 pm	Polk County ARES Net

INDIANOLA

Saturday	146.60- t 114.8	7:30am	Warren County ARES Net
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PERRY

Monday	145.190- t 114.8	8:00pm	Dallas County ARES Net
Monday	145.190- t 114.8	follows ARES net	HARC Net

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



Amateur Radio Testing Sessions



Des Moines 1:00pm

November 19, 2017

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 NØCFL
(515) 795-2162
n0cfl@arrl.net

Ames

Nov. 8 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM
Dec. 2 (Saturday) 10:00 AM

Location ISU Campus – Building and Room TBA

Contact: George Oster,
NP2N
515-233-3535

Boone 9:00am

December 9, 2017

Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Conference room behind the cafeteria at the Boone County Hospital, 1015 Union St, Boone, Iowa

Contact: Steve NØNEU
(515) 432-4006

Marshalltown 9:00am

December 2nd

Check-In: 9:30 AM
Exam Starts: 10:00AM
Location: RACOM Corporation
201 West State Street
Marshalltown, IA

Contact:
Brian Krumm, NØMXK
n0mxk@arrl.net
641-752-9658

Time 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

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

Looking for something?
We'd be happy to help you by listing your want items Here

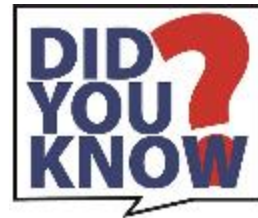


Time to Eat?

Buy / Sell

You could be selling your excess gear on this page.

info@dmraa.com



The DMRAA.COM website sees on average 150 unique visitors a week. There are 190 visits and they perform over 650 actions per week.

These visitors spend approximately 4 minutes enjoying the information available for and about the DMRAA.

Check us out at

DMRAA.COM

Are you checking the website?

Timely news and notices are posted on the DMRAA website.

dmraa.com



Hungry and looking to meet local hams? On Fridays at the Buffet City 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 (around 20) 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.



Strays



We hear that a General license study class is being considered after the first of the year, Stay tuned!

ARES Reflective Vests

Polk County ARES now has several Class 3 Level 2 Safety Vests available for purchase. These are better quality surveyor type vests with sleeves and several pockets in sizes m thru 3XL. They have the words "RADIO COMMUNICATIONS" on the back.

Cost is \$20.

Contact Tom, NØVPR

n0vpr@arrl.net

Note: You need not be a Polk County ARES or DMRAA member to purchase a vest.



Static Sheet Deadlines

Item submission deadline	Publish Date (Email sent)	Web edition posted
February 1 st	February 15 th	February 20 th
April 1 st	April 15 th	April 20 th
June 1 st	June 15 th	June 20 th
August 1 st	August 15 th	August 20 th
October 1 st	October 15 th	October 20 th
December 1 st	December 15 th	December 20 th

WØAK Board Minutes DMRAA

Board Meeting Minutes

There are no DMRAA board minutes in this issue. The minutes for the October board meeting have not been approved yet.

DMRAA Stainless Steel Travel Mug



We still have Limited Edition 30-ounce DMRAA Stainless Steel Travel Mugs available. These will make great gifts for anyone on your lists, and at \$20.00 each, will support the DMRAA as well. Contact Scott, NØOOD

The Des Moines
Radio Amateurs
Association
board meets
monthly in the
upstairs
conference
room at the
East Euclid
Hy-Vee
2540 E Euclid
Ave
Des Moines

Operation Update

Operation Stable Mercury continued from page 1)

Their unit provided military communications and monitoring of the event and safety issues that could arise. Couple this with the Army National Guard wing from Boone providing Blackhawk helicopters for video monitoring and aerial repeaters allowed for a very active event scenario. Polk County ARES provided a direct link from the ACP to all 5 ICPs. Messages were passed and problems solved in real time. Many variations in link paths were used, including repeaters both analog and digital as well as simplex. A bonus was the ability to coordinate communications with a similar exercise in Joplin Missouri. We had compliments from a representative from FEMA Region 7.

The exercise coordinator Col (ret) Rob Hedgepeth complimented the professionalism of all the participants. He is most grateful that the Amateur radio community donates their time to integrate with many of the served agencies during time of need.



VOL NTEER
all that's missing is U!

FISHING BOATS THEY WERE NOT!

By Larry Zimmer, KAØFTO



September 30th 2017 8:30AM to 4:15PM. There were 68 scheduled races and at least 300 boats entered in the race. OK that was when the 2017 Head of the Des Moines Rowing Regatta was scheduled but I was up at 5:15AM and returned home at 5PM. IT IS NOT LIGHT AT 6:15AM! That was the approximate time I made it to Prospect Park. If you remember the weather it was great. I believe it was 51F when I left home at about 5:45am. My light jacket felt good until about 1pm when I finally at least unzipped it. At one time our tent/shelter was almost picked up, by a gust of wind, and looked like it was headed for the river. My home brew J-Pole was taped to one of the legs and thought it was going to be in the river pulling my attached radio and me.

Most of the trees had been removed from the east side of the river, but of course much was growing back. After the wind gust we tied off one leg to what looked like a wild Sunflower. With the Botanical Gardens just about 200 feet away that was useful for health breaks.

After various early meetings I arrived at the START LINE, my position, on the east side of the river just in front of the Botanical Gardens at about 7:45am. When I looked at the spot that we were supposed to be located there was nothing there? Within minutes volunteers arrived and started setting up the table and shelter. They brought a Deep Cycle Marine battery and a 12VDC to 110AC 60cycle inverter. This was to power their WI-FI Hotspot and to charge their Laptop. It worked great in 2015 and worked great this year. I did not even have to provide backup in case they lost some times or boat numbers like I did in 2015. They had one of those ATOMIC CLOCKS that are synced to WWV for timing and I did not look but think the time on the laptop was also synced to WWV. They of course entered the start times and boat numbers via the laptop but also a manual paper record in case the laptop crashed.

My equipment consisted of a Yaesu FT60R, running 5 watts, with a home brew J-Pole at about 10 feet. We used the 145.130 MHZ repeater, that I could have used my rubber duck antenna, but used the J-Pole in case I needed to run Simplex. I had a spare FT60R and a spare battery, that I switched to in the afternoon,

as well as a Battery Holder for Alkalines. Most of my traffic consisted of questions about boat location or whether they had checked in or not. I of course relayed on to my official when the one mishap we had happened and the status of same.

HEALTH AND WELFARE! That is important and is a service we provide. Even though the Race Officials had their own business band radios it does not hurt to have more than one report on an item rather than miss it. Many times my official asked me to pass traffic as he was busy on other duties.

Was it long? Yes. Was it fun? Yes. Would I recommend it to others? Yes. There were a few bumps around lunch time moving Hamms/officials but all in all problems were identified and then solved!

Gain antennas and HIGH POWER is needed!!! Do not put your body in the direction of the Repeater if you have your HT on your belt!

But of course I will include a few photos.

Photo1=Our set up from my point of view.

Photo2=My J-Pole before the wind gust.

Photo3=Actual start line before the race.

Photo4=What the whole day was about. You can almost see the white number on the front of the boat.





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

NOTE: Dues are for calendar year.

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

