

# STATIC SHEET

## OFFICERS

- Scott Kirstein NØOOD  
President
- Tom Weaver NØTLW  
Vice-President
- Alisa Payton KNØWME  
Secretary
- Bill Claypool NUØQ  
Treasurer

## BOARD

- Rick Allen, NØCFL
- Dennis O'Brien KAØDOS
- Ray Harden WØRAY
- Bob Johnson, WØSMS
- Mike Waldron AEØMW

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AUGUST 2019



The many operators at the ARRL / DMRAA Field Day had a ball making contacts during the 1-day event. The thunderstorm forced the crew to shut down during the nighttime. The storm set a record of rain in Des Moines for June 22<sup>nd</sup>, a whopping 2.41 inches. That said this year's Field Day welcomed more than double last year's attendance. The DMRAA



utilized both ARES trailers and both State antenna trailers. Several antennas we station around the beautiful Fort Des

Moines Historical Museum which was also open for visitors. Many thanks to all who attended. Kudos to Dennis, KAØDOS, Bob, WØSMS and Tom, NØTLW. Pictures can be found on pages 13-14 and the statistics for this year are on page 16. For a complete gallery of pictures go to [DMRAA's Photo-stream](#) and scroll back to the Field Day photos.



## It is not too early to be thinking about the DMRAA ChiliFeed / Auction

The 2019 edition of our annual ChiliFeed / Auction is only a few months away. November 26th, 2019 to be exact. One starts by getting a couple of boxes and scouring the shack to find those great little treasures that are not being used like they once were. Put them in the box and before you know it, you'll have a need to take the box to the Auction.. Did we mention the all you care to eat chili? Chili Feed starts at 6:00 PM, Auction at 7:00 PM Cost is \$7.00 for the event. 10% commission to the club for the auctioneer. New this year, a door prize. A Diamond SX-40 Meter.



Membership  
has its  
Privileges'



**Come enjoy the fellowship**

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



# Upcoming Meetings

## August 27th, 2019 DMRAA Meeting



Rick NØCFL and Bob, WØSMS will help us build our own Go-Box antenna.

7:00PM  
Waveland Room, 2nd floor  
Plymouth Congregational Church  
42nd & Ingersoll Des Moines, IA

September 24th, 2019  
7:00PM

Tom, NØTLW will have a presentation on CW

2nd Floor Waveland Room  
Plymouth Congregational Church  
42nd & Ingersoll Des Moines, IA

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

## Future Meetings

We're looking for meeting ideas and presenters. Please feel free to make suggestions and offer to help with a presentation.

Contact  
Tom Weaver NØTLW  
at [info@dmraa.com](mailto:info@dmraa.com)



## You can Help?

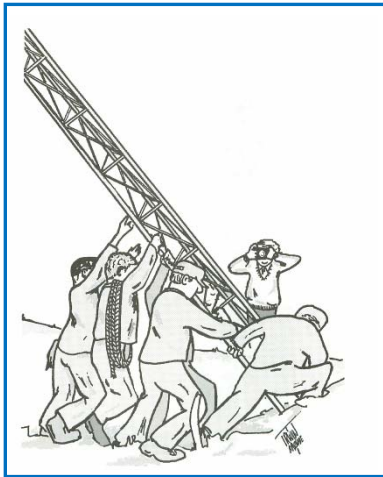
Are you interested in helping the club? There are many ways you can help -- assisting with an event, taking a few pictures or even writing a piece for this newsletter.

# Recent Meetings

The July 23rd meeting featured discussion about the 2019 Field Day. Held at the Fort Des Mines Muesum this year's event was considerably better attended than in recent years. Presenters commented on the goals in changing the location. The consensus was the location change and the effort in promoting the 2019 Field Day may the difference. The record overnite rain storm reduced the number os contacts, however the number was still greater than last year. Look for an even better outcome in 2020



# 2018 DMRAA Calendar



## Calendar 2019

### General Meetings and Events

27 August, 2019  
 24 September, 2019  
 22 October, 2019  
**26 November, 2019 ChiliFeed**  
**10 December, 2019 DMRAA Christmas Party**  
 28 January, 2020  
 25 February, 2020  
 24 March, 2020  
 28 April, 2020  
 June 23rd, 2020  
**June 26—27 ARRL Field Day**  
 July 28, 2020  
 August 25, 2020

### Board Meeting Dates

3 September, 2019  
 1 October, 2019  
 5 November, 2019  
 7 January, 2020  
 4 February, 2020  
 3 March, 2020  
 7 April, 2020  
 5 May, 2020  
 2 June, 2020  
 7 July, 2020  
 4 August, 2020  
 1 September, 2020  
 6 October, 2020



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 NUØQ for details.  
 Dues are calendar year

## President's Soapbox

At a recent board meeting, we had a brief discussion about exhibiting at the Iowa State Fair. This subject has come up before, and frankly, I'm all for it!

I feel as though it could be a great way to show off amateur radio, tell the general population of our story, be "in front" of inactive hams throughout the state – maybe even get them involved with their local club. In general do some "marketing" for the hobby.

Here's the challenge:

To exhibit at the Iowa State Fair – in the air conditioned Varied Industries Building – you are required to "staff" your booth from 9am to 9pm every day of the fair, you pay admission for each person working the booth, those people have to park, and, of course, there are the costs of renting the booth space and having something to exhibit.

Individually, none of those are insurmountable. The biggest challenge would be to find folks willing to commit to staffing the

booth. Just for the run of the fair, that would be 12 hours per day (likely for two people per shift) x 11 days – or 264 hours. As many of you know, we struggle to find volunteers to do "the work" of running the club. We need to find people willing to deliver a program for our monthly meetings, we (think) are always looking for new people to help with Field Day, the Chili Feed and Auction, the Christmas party, serving on the board, etc. And honestly we struggle.

My concern is that although we feel like we are looking "hard" for new volunteers – I hope if there is anyone reading this column (thanks, by the way), who would like to help out with something, you would let club leadership know. Even if we've asked before, and you said "no," maybe it works into your schedule better now, maybe you've found a new digital mode that you would like to share with meeting attendees, maybe there's a new chili recipe that you found in a family cookbook.

I also respect that not everyone wants to be involved at that level,

and we appreciate your membership and participation. This is a member organization, I just want to be sure we are providing value for everyone – and I realize hearing me talk all the time gets tiresome (or so I've been told ☺).

I mentioned Field Day, please take note of the photo spread and the "stats" within this issue. The Field Day committee put together a fine representation for our participation in the event, and I would like to thank them publicly as well.

Scott, NØOOD

Reality is the leading cause of stress, among those in touch with it.

Lily Tomlin



Don't forget to pay your 2019 DMRAA Dues





### Giving back through community service

Scott Kirstein  
NØOOD  
Polk County ARES EC  
515 490-7414 (cell)  
[n0ood@arri.net](mailto:n0ood@arri.net)



# Polk County ARES



Des Moines Rowing Regatta, Des Moines Marathon, and Living History Farms race. What do these three events all

teering (but we can always use more people J), I just want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to help

date this year. Also thank you tho the volunteers who have taken on an event from a leadership perspective. The feedback I con-



have in common?

That's right, they are the final three events of the year for Polk County ARES! I don't want to use this space to get all "preach-y" about volun-

out if they've been thinking about it.

Speaking of volunteers, thanks to all of you who have supported the ARES events to

tinue to get from event organizers and participants is always positive and grateful for your help.

Scott, NØOOD

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



## ARES MEETINGS DATES 2019

Monday, October 7

7:00 PM

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

## 2019 ARES Events

Head of the Des Moines Rowing Regatta  
September 28th, 2019  
IMT Des Moines Marathon  
October 20th, 2019  
Living History Farms Fun Race  
November 23th, 2019

Sign-up online at [DMRAA.com/ARES](http://DMRAA.com/ARES)

## ARRL Board Pledges to Oppose French Proposal for 144 -146



At its July meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors resolved that "at the appropriate time" ARRL will oppose a proposal by France to include 144 - 146 MHz among spectrum to study for non-safety Aeronautical Mobile Service applications with an eye toward sharing the spectrum with the Amateur Services. The action came as the Board met July 19 - 20 in Windsor, Connecticut for its second meeting of 2019.

The Board pointed out that 144 - 146 MHz is a primary global Amateur Radio allocation and the band enjoys widespread use for emergency communication. It also noted the investment by radio amateurs of money and effort to build repeaters, beacons, space infrastructure, and propagation research systems that have global reach. The AMSAT and ARISS communities would be severely affected, the Board observed.

ARRL International Affairs Vice President Jay Bellows, K0QB, advised that if it is added as an agenda item for study for WRC 2023, the Board should consider action.



### Static Sheet Deadlines

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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	145.310- t 114.8	6:00 pm	WIRES-X Net
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	146.940- t 114.8	7:00 pm	DMRAA information Net
Wednesday	53.250-	8:30 pm	Iowa 6 Meter Net 1.7mhz-
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

Sunday	444.725+	7:30 pm	Iowa DMR User Group Net
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

September 15 2019  
November 17 2019

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 N0CFL  
(515) 795-2162  
n0cfl@arrl.net

### Ames

None Listed

(Saturday) @ 10:00 a.m. in  
1220 Howe Hall

Location: Iowa State University campus, as noted above  
Contact: Matthew Nelson,  
KB0MGQ, 515-984-0010, or  
email at kb0mgq@gmail.com

### Boone 9:00am

October 12, 2019  
December 14, 2019

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

Contact: Steve N0NEU  
(515) 432-4006

### Marshalltown 9:00am

December 7, 2019

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

Contact:  
Brian Krumm, N0MXK  
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



## Buy / Sell

Many Electronic Parts for Sale.  
Many 74### series IC's for sale.  
Many 40## series IC's for sale.  
Many Transistors for sale.  
Many Diodes for sale example 1N4004 1A/400V 5=\$1.00. Also 1N34 equivalent 10=\$1.00.  
Many Generic PNP & NPN for sale.  
Small signal are 10=\$1.00.  
Many capacitors for sale.  
Seven segment LED's for sale.  
Many small power 1200:8 ohm transformers.  
(This was for SSTV/PSK-31 interface and amplifiers)  
Email me for your needs and I will let you know the availability and price.



Please no single piece orders. Electronics Nerd needing to share treasures.  
Larry KAØFTO  
[kzlzimmer@mchsi.com](mailto:kzlzimmer@mchsi.com)



Looking to add the slash zero Ø to your correspondence?

On your desktop computer using the numeric key pad hold the alt key while typing 0216. On a computer with no side key pad go to insert symbol and find the Ø in the list.

## Are you checking the website?

Timely news and notices are posted on the DMRAA website.  
[dmraa.com](http://dmraa.com)



Hungry and looking to meet local hams? On Fridays at the Bonanza Steakhouse 5029 NE 14th St, Des Moines, a group of hams meet for lunch. This is an informal meeting and provides an ex-

cellent opportunity to pass information while enjoying a nice selection from the salad bar or menu. The group (around 15) usually arrives around



11:30 and breaks up at about 1:00. All are welcome, including family members.

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



## A brief Description of First Net



# FirstNet®

First Responder Network Authority

FirstNet was created to be a force-multiplier for first responders – to give public safety 21st century communication tools to help save lives, solve crimes and keep our communities and emergency responders safe. To do that, FirstNet will build a new Band Class 14 network designed to be reliable, functional, safe and secure, and provide optimal levels of operational capability at all times. For the first time, public safety communications will be based on commercial standards. This will bring the benefits of lower costs, consumer-driven economies of scale and rapid evolution of advanced communication capabilities.

### BUILT FOR AND BY PUBLIC SAFETY

The 9/11 terrorist attacks brought to the forefront the many communications challenges that first responders face during emergencies and disasters. These issues were captured in the 9/11 Commission Report, which identified gaps in emergency communications and recommended a nationwide network for law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical personnel communications. The public safety community united to fulfill the 9/11 Commission's recommendation. Public safety organizations and associations advocated before Congress for a dedicated, reliable wireless network for first responders. Their advocacy efforts led to the passage of legislation in 2012 to create the First Responder Network Authority to deploy the FirstNet network in all U.S. states and territories, including rural communities and tribal nations.

More information can be found at

<https://www.firstnet.gov/network>

## General Study Class Starts October 17th

The General class is Thursday October 17 2019, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, through December 12th, 2019.

Testing will be on December 12th. (No Class on Thanksgiving)

The class will be held at the Edgewater retirement community. 9225 Cascade Ave, West Des Moines,

Contact Bob Johnson WØSMS at [rj104@q.com](mailto:rj104@q.com) for more details.

## 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@arrrl.net](mailto:n0vpr@arrrl.net)



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



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December 1 <sup>st</sup>	December 15 <sup>th</sup>	December 20 <sup>th</sup>

# WØAK Board Minutes DMRAA

## June 4th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

Scott Kirstein – NØOOD – President  
 Tom Weaver - NØTLW—Vice President  
 Bill Claypool – NUØQ – Treasurer  
 Lisa Payton – KNØWME – Secretary

Ray Harden – WØRAY – Board  
 Bob Johnson – WØSMS – Board  
 Rick Allen – NØCFL - Board  
 Dennis O'Brien – KAØDOS - Board  
 Michael Waldron – AEØMW – Board

*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*

1. **Review of May 7 minutes:** Bob WØSMS moved to approve as printed, Mike AEØMW seconded, Motion carried

2. **Treasurer's Report:** \$24,160.09

Fairgrounds' second invoice may have arrived; Bill NUØQ will check tomorrow  
 PAYPAL - Mike AEØMW will provide PW to Bill who will setup the account  
 for DMRAA

Flickr photo stream license cost of \$51/year removes limit on storage space

3. **Polk County ARES update:**

- (a) State Fair Parade on August 7; will need volunteers after Field Day event
- (b) Next ARES quarterly meeting: July 8, 2019

4. **Subcommittee reports:**

### Field Day:

(a) Field Day banner - Tom Weaver NØTLW will pick up from Tom Reis  
 NØVPR tomorrow

(b) Dean Madsen will do FT8 and is ready with radios and computers for Field  
 Day setup

(c) Tom Weaver NØTLW and Matthew Harvey KEØRPL to be interviewed on  
 WHO radio on Wednesday, June 19 (Van & Bonnie show). Public to be invited, Field  
 Day explained.

(d) Scott asked to review letters to media prior to sending out

(e) Both trailers and generators are scheduled to be delivered on Friday, June 21

(f) Scott NØOOD to invite John Davis to Field Day and will keep him in the  
 loop, also A.J.

(g) Burgers, link brats, patty brats and condiments to be served Saturday June

22

(link brats vs patty brats sparked a spirited debate)

## June Board Meeting Minutes cont.

(h) Club members to be sent email re: Field Day and asked to bring two friends or relatives

(i) Tom NØTLW will ask Bruce KCØZMT about sending emails to all DMRAA members

(j) Field Day setup to begin Friday afternoon June 21 at The Fort Des Moines Museum & Education Center (75 E. Army Post Road) after 1PM; volunteers welcome

### **Repeaters & Packet:**

(a) Kenwood repeater has been re-installed without notification to see if anyone notices

### **Education:**

(a) Technician class scheduled for October 12

(b) General class scheduled for July 11 evening at Edgewater; 8 week class

### **Programming:**

(a) July Mtg: Field Day Recap, how to improve it next year

(b) August Mtg: Antenna Build suggested by Rick NØCFL, KJ7TUO YouTube video mentioned

(c) Chili Feed Date TBD, Space reserved TBD - check with Tom Reis NØVPR

(d) Christmas Party Dec 10, Ray WØRAY recommends catering; spouses would appreciate

(e) Recommendation to invite all spouses to Christmas Party

### **Communications & Public Relations:**

(a) Tom NØTLW elected as chairman

**Membership:** Nothing to report

**Awards:** Nothing to report although award to Bruce KCØZMT was briefly discussed

### **5. New Business:**

(a) Vacancy on board tabled until July board meeting by Scott NØOOD

(b) Proposal from ARES to buy replacement antenna SBB5 in Emergency Services trailer

(c) Bob WØSMS moved we purchase one tri-band and one dual-band antenna

(d) Antenna purchase was seconded by Tom NØTLW, passed unanimously - \$150 budget

### **6. Old Business:**

(a) Bill NUØQ mentioned club owes Tom Reis NØVPR money, check written and given to Tom NØTLW for delivery

Motion to adjourn by Bob WØSMS, seconded by Rick NØCFL, motion carried at 8:40PM

*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*



# WØAK Board Minutes DMRAA

## July 9th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

### In Attendance:

Scott Kirstein – NØOOD – President  
 Tom Weaver - NØTLW—Vice President  
 Bill Claypool – NUØQ – Treasurer  
 Lisa Payton – KNØWME – Secretary

Ray Harden – WØRAY – Board  
 Bob Johnson – WØSMS – Board  
 Rick Allen – NØCFL - Board  
 Dennis O'Brien – KAØDOS - Board  
 Michael Waldron – AEØMW – Board

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Review June minutes: Motion to approve by Bob, 2nd by Tom. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report \$ 24,401.83 does not reflect field day bills

Expenses for field day were turned in by Bob 187.94, Tom W 69.90, Dennis 164.92, added to the banner cost, went over budget. Motion to approve the additional expense made by Ray, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike. Motion passed.

The post office box has been renewed.

Unfinished business

Flickr photostream. \$51 per year. Motion to accept the expense was made by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom W. Motion passed. Bill will get a check to Tom Reis.

We have a PayPal account which includes approval of our non profit status. We do not yet have a square, but the goal is to have one by the night of the chili feed/ auction.

Polk County ARES update

2019 events and meeting schedule

July 8 meeting was well attended

State Fair Parade - Wednesday, August 7

Rowing Regatta - Saturday September 28

Subcommittee reports:

Field Day – June 22-23, 2019 – "Always the fourth full weekend in June" An attendee got hurt, note made to post "how to" signs in the trailer and on the an-

## July Board Meeting Minutes cont.

tenna equipment to warn in the future. Bob reported that they had a lot of fun, the radios were in operation 12 of the 24 hours with more contacts than last year thanks to FT8 and Sideband stations. There were 39 signatures on the DMRAA log and 26 names on the visitor log. They served about 60 meals. Many volunteers pitched in and a ham Dave C KI5ERH was visiting and was very helpful as well. A major portion of the expense was for the food. We have been reinvited for next year.

Repeaters & Packet: No report

Education

July general class had 2 registrations and will be rescheduled. Possibly to follow the October tech class.

Programming

July – Field day recap to allow input from club members

August – Antenna build NØCFL will ask at July meeting if anyone wants to participate

September – TBD

October – TBD

November –

Chili Feed/Auction November 26. Bob is in charge of the chili committee. Signed up to bring a roaster of chili are: Tom (TRW) Scott, Pat, Bob and possibly Ron (TTO). Ray will check with Larry regarding the auctioneer.

December – Christmas Party December 10. Ray and Dennis are chairing with the possibility of having the meal catered. Meal to be partially paid by club, balance to each member/spouse attending will be about \$10.

Communications & Public Relations – DMRAA.org and .com need to be renewed. Motion to renew for 5 years was made by Mike, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott. Motion passed. Money will be delivered to Tom Reis to take care of this.

Membership – No report

Awards – No report

New Business

Dennis handed out an information sheet regarding the Ft Des Moines Museum. Board will review and decide whether to bring to membership for further action/discussion. This information will be discussed at the next board meeting. Bill will check with the insurance company to see if we are covered for liability at any functions the club decides to hold there. It was also suggested that the information / idea needs to be run by an attorney to see if there are any other issues that we would be opening the club up to.

Dennis wants to review and clean up the membership list to bring it up to current status. Will be discussed at the next meeting.

The secretary is starting school and will have limited availability on Tuesday

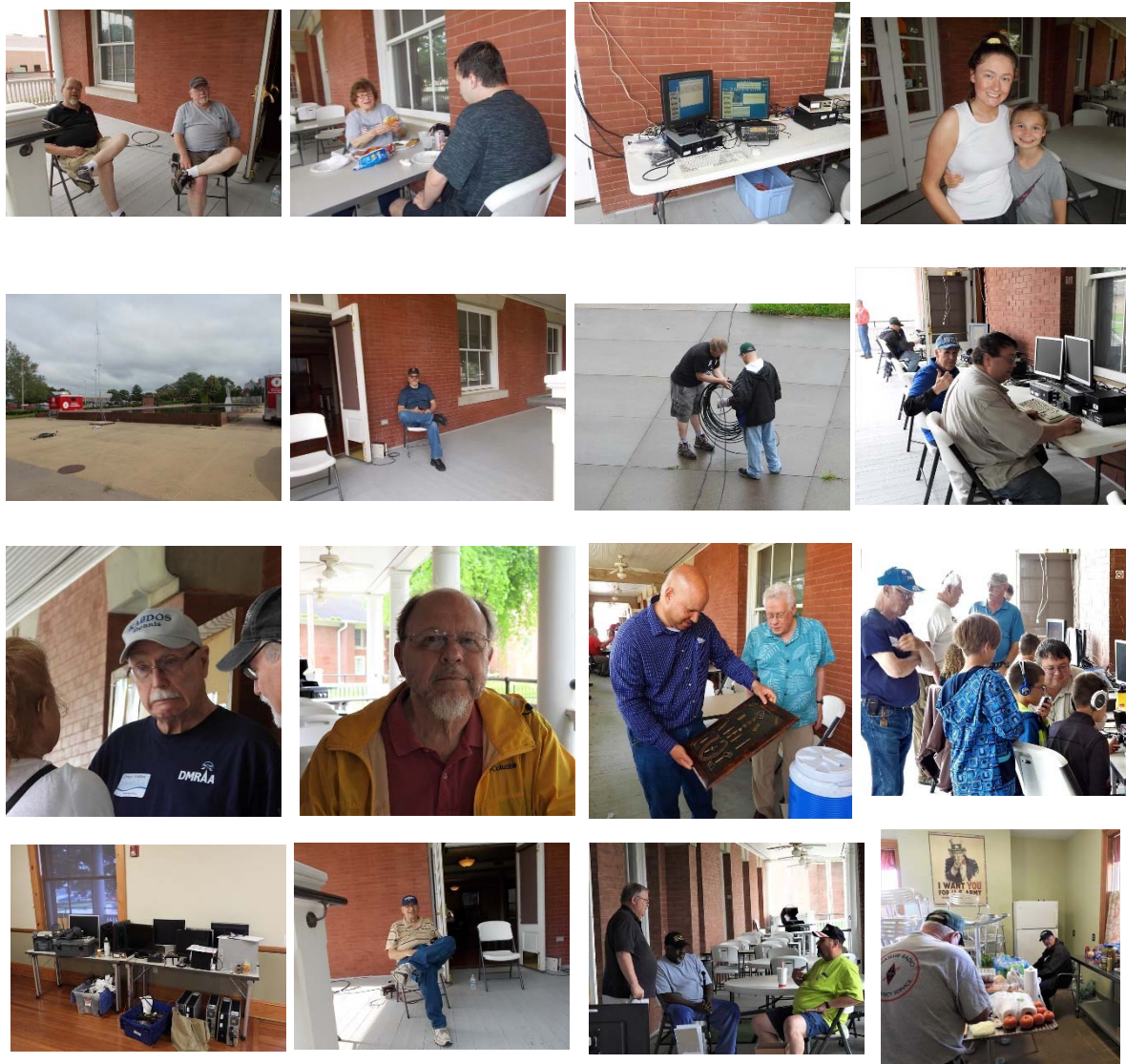
[Continued page 14](#)

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board meets  
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Ave  
Des Moines*

## 2019 Field Day Photos



## 2019 Field Day Photos



### July Board Minutes (cont)

evenings to attend board meetings in the foreseeable future. She will not be resigning at the request of the president. Tom Weaver will fill in when necessary to cover the meetings/minutes. In light of this event, filling the current board vacancy will remain tabled.

Motion to adjourn by Ray. 2nd by Bob. Motion carried at 8:27pm.

*the virtual*

*Static Sheet*

of the Des Moines Radio Amateurs' Association



# DMRAA Field Day 2019 Statistics

## QSO Breakdown by Band and Mode

W0AK				
Band	CW	SSB	Digital	Total
3.5	28	0	3	3
7	99	14	43	156
14	422	17	43	482
21	53	2	16	71
28	4	0	0	4
50	0	0	40	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>756</b>

W0SCI (GOTA) 11 QSOs

Comparison by Year				
Year/Category	Digital	CW	SSB	Total
2002 (3A)				920
2003 (3A)				760
2004 (4A)				1761
2005 (4A)				650
2006 (4A)				1156
2007 (4A)				1272
2008 (4A)	0	658	51	709
2009 (2A)	1	671	243	915
2010 (2A)	0	671	365	1036
2011 (2A)	0	1163	285	1448
2012 (2A)	0	896	466	1362
2013 (3A)	5	965	241	1206
2014 (4A)	0	1126	174	1300
2015 (4A)	0	1379	111	1490
2016 (3A)	0	1061	214	1275
2017 (3A)	0	1350	178	1528
2018 (3A)	0	590	90	680
2019 (3A)	145	578	44	767
<b>2019 - 2018 % Change</b>	<b>∞%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-51%</b>	<b>13%</b>

## W0AK QSO Breakdown by Date, Hour and Band

Day	Hr	3.5	7	14	21	28	50	Tot	Accum
6/22/2019	18		7	84				91	91
6/22/2019	19		4	97				101	192
6/22/2019	20		4	46	13		5	68	260
6/22/2019	21		2	12	41	4	2	61	321
6/22/2019	22		17	11	3			31	352
6/22/2019	23		9	27			2	38	390
6/23/2019	0		34	6	2		1	43	433
6/23/2019	1	3	27					30	463
6/23/2019	2	Shutdown due to thunderstorms that were forecast to last most of the night.							
6/23/2019									
6/23/2019	13								
6/23/2019	14						6	6	469
6/23/2019	15		39	10	4		10	63	532
6/23/2019	16		9	81	8			98	630
6/23/2019	17		4	108			14	126	756
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>756</b>

Other Iowa stations worked: K0TET, KD0ZV, KE0SQA, W0FS, W0DBQ, W0JW, WA9Z



# My path to Amateur Radio & CW

Tom Weaver, NØTLW

I remember buying walkie-talkies with my best friend as a kid, and talking back & forth long after our parents thought we were asleep. That was my introduction to the magic of radio. Remember - not that long ago, radio was science fiction. Later we launched a snow shoveling business and got ridiculously wealthy every winter.

In summers we became avid garter snake hunters around neighborhood woodpiles. You really had to sneak up on them to be able to grab one before it could duck back into the woodpile. One day I grabbed a good-sized darker colored garter snake that was part-way under the woodpile - and he turned around and grabbed me! Ouch; turned out to be a highly irritated bull snake.

Okay; on to the point... Fast forward to the mid-seventies and the CB radio hey-days. That got me interested again and I had a lot of fun with a base station and a mobile setup on 11 meters. One day I heard a couple of guys talking and got curious about their southern accents. I broke in from my mobile rig to say hi and ask them when they had moved into the Des Moines area. I then discovered they were actually several states away and was amazed. I'd heard of 'skip', but had never experienced it.

I checked around and found out about the big-time radio hobby called Ham radio. I wanted in! After much frustration learning Morse code I finally got my Novice license in 1977. Naturally, I learned CW completely wrong - writing the alphabet's dots and dashes out on paper, learning the code by count-

ing dits & dahs, etc. Can't say I was fond of CW back then; in fact, pretty much the opposite. Getting up to 5 wpm was agony. A few years later I got busy with life and left the hobby.

After getting re-licensed last fall (August, then upgraded to Extra in September), my XYL found my old Bencher paddles in the basement. They were bent but not broken and for some reason I grabbed some needle-nosed pliers and decided to bend them back into reasonable working order. After a week or so spent relearning the alphabet in early December I plugged the old pitted chrome Bencher into the back of my rig and called CQ. Sending QRS quickly became my top skill - what rhythm, what beautiful cadence I was able to put into those three letters!

By the end of December I had



amassed dozens of (s l o w) CW QSOs and for some reason I found I didn't dislike CW so much anymore. Two big reasons were the remarkable level of encouragement I received from nearly every CW op I encountered (so kind!), and the number of DX contacts that I was hearing compared to what I'd experienced on SSB.

One gracious CW op suggested I check into the CW Academy classes put on by CWOps.org. I enrolled in their January class and by

the end of May I had completed their level 3 class and was cooking along at about 20 wpm head copy. Suddenly CW became fun. They teach it right; learn the sound of each character as a whole by practicing listening to a send speed fast enough that you can't count dits & dahs.

No writing - just listen, head-copy & enjoy your progress. The classes are great fun, the instructors are fantastic, and all you need is a laptop or iPad on the Internet, paddles and a way to generate a CW side tone. The classes are conducted on Monday and Thursday evenings using the free Zoom video conferencing app.

I now really enjoy using CW as a second language and am beginning to hear whole words instead of just individual characters. It's brought me great joy as I continue to refine

my sending skills and my ability to head copy high-speed code. I've been able to work the world with CW on 90 watts and a dipole between trees at 20 feet. Take it from me - CW really grows on you, especially if you learn it right by enrolling in CW

Academy. It's a wonderful skill to acquire and now thanks to CWOps.org it's a fun journey. CW ops are the best!

I've since learned why CW is so effective at low power over long distances. I'm looking forward to presenting a more detailed discussion on CWOps.org, CW Academy and my experience this year learning and using the code during our September club meeting.

73, Tom Weaver NØTLW

# DMRAA 1-Day Class

**Looking to  
get your  
Ham  
License?**



**We Can  
Help**

## Amateur Radio Technician Class

Saturday, October 12th, 2019 8:00 AM to about 7:00 PM

The DMRAA philosophy concerning this Technician Class: **Yes you can!** We know that Ham Radio begins with a license and then the learning really starts. We encourage all interested person to consider this class. Enroll with a friend. There are no age restrictions as long as you are motivated.



**What:** Amateur Radio Technician Class

**When:** Saturday, October 12th, 2019 8:00 AM to about 7:00 PM

**Where:** 75 East Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA

Parking entrance is off Chaffee Road

**Cost:** \$ 100.00 This includes the text book, pre-course material, lunch with drink. HT Radio

**Testing:** Fee includes FCC Technician Class Test.

**Reasons to get an Amateur Radio License**

1. I always wanted one.
2. I want to help my community in times of need.
3. I love to play with cool tech things.
4. It will drive my husband crazy
5. I want to connect in a different way.
6. No need to learn Morse code

With **successful completion** of the examination each participant will receive a year's membership in the Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association.



### To Pre-Register (a must)

Individuals wanting to take the class can contact me for payment and books at:

Mark Globuschutz, KØMJG

[mglobuschutz@msn.com](mailto:mglobuschutz@msn.com)

2505 SW 36 St.

Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Home = (515) 289-4412 Cell = (515) 201-7669

Registrations with payment must be received by September 28th, 2019



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

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

