

HAMFESTS & FLEA MARKETS

Annually there are a number of events of interest to hams in this area including Hamfests and Flea Markets, which provide a good opportunity to purchase new or used equipments, antennas, cables, etc. and to meet local hams. Below is a listing of the general dates and locations that these annual events usually occur. Details about the exact dates, times, and locations can be found on the SCARC website www.w0yl.com or at www.ar1.org.

WINTERSET – January, Winterset Flea Market, Madison County Fairgrounds
Contact: John Sawhill, WAØO, (515) 462-1342

MONTOUR – February, Central Iowa Radio Amateur Society Swap Meet, Montour Community Center
See <http://k0miw.org> for more details.

SHELDAHL – March, ARTS Spaghetti Feed & Auction, Sheldahl City Park Shelter
See www.artsiowa.org for more details.

DES MOINES – April, DMRAA Hamfest,
See www.qsl.net/dmraa for more details.

MARSHALLTOWN – July, 75 Meter Picnic and CIRAS Swap Meet, Marshalltown Community College
See <http://k0miw.org> for more details.

CEDAR RAPIDS – August, Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club Summerfest
See <http://www.cvarc.rf.org> for more details.

SHELDAHL – August, ARTS Pancake Breakfast and Flea Market, Sheldahl City Park Shelter
See www.artsiowa.org for more details.

MISSOURI VALLEY – September, Boyer Valley ARC Flea Market and Hamfest, Eagles Club Hall
See <http://bvarc.net> for more details.

STORY COUNTY 2-METER AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE NET

Each Sunday at 7:00 PM

147.240+ Repeater

Updates on testing, hamfests, and other local ham radio information.

CENTRAL IOWA TESTING OPPORTUNITIES

Details about the exact dates, times, and locations can be found on the SCARC Website
www.w0yl.com

AMES – four times per year

Contact: George Oster, NP2N, (515) 233-3535 or georgeoster@msn.com

ANKENY – 1st Saturday of each month

Contact: Joe Leto, WØIW, (515) 250-2108 or info@w0iw.com

BOONE – even months

Contact: Steve Huffman, NØNEU, (515) 432-4006 or n0neu@opencominc.com

DES MOINES – odd months

Contact: Rick Allen, NØCFL, (515) 795-2162 or n0cfl@ar1.net

CENTRAL IOWA REPEATERS & NETS

Location	Freq.	Net/Notes
Ames	147.240	Story Co. ARES, Sunday, 7 PM
Ames	147.375	Cyclone ARC Net, Wed. 9 PM
Boone	146.850	Boone Co. ARES, Sunday 9 PM
Des Moines	146.940*	Central Iowa ARES, Sunday 8 PM
	146.940*	Polk Co. ARES, Thurs. 7 PM
	146.820*	ARCS Net, Sunday 9 PM
Marshalltown	147.135	141.3 CTCSS, Sunday 6 PM
Sheldahl	147.075*	ARCS Net, Sunday 9 PM
Webster City	147.015	Hamilton ARC, Monday 7 PM
Statewide	3.970	Iowa 75 Meter Traffic Net, Mon. - Sat. 12:30 PM & 5:30 PM (6 PM in Summer)
	3.970	Iowa Traffic & Emergency Net, Sunday, 5:30 PM (6 PM in Summer)
	3.990.5	Iowa RACES Net, 1st Monday of each month, 5:30 PM

* Use 114.8 CTCSS

Check out the Story County Amateur Radio Club Website www.w0yl.com
For the Latest Updates to this Listing!

Amateur Radio In Central Iowa



2011 Edition

- Getting Started in Amateur Radio
- Story County Amateur Radio Club & Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- Central Iowa Hamfests & Flea Markets
- Central Iowa Testing Opportunities
- Central Iowa Repeater Frequencies & Nets

Prepared by

**STORY COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

What is Amateur Radio?



Amateur Radio, also known as "ham radio", involves radio communication and experimentation by people who enjoy radio as a hobby, and who also provide radio service in times of emergency. "Hams", who are licensed by their governments, operate two-way equipment from their homes, cars, or other locations to communicate with other hams across town, in the next state, or even around the world. Special sets of radio frequencies are set aside for use exclusively by amateur radio operators.

In the United States, the Federal Communications Commission licenses hams. Amateurs communicate with each other through a wide variety of modes, ranging from Morse code and voice transmissions that span the world on shortwave frequencies, to VHF/UHF voice modes through repeater systems in local areas, and even with digital modes and through satellites!

An important role of ham radio is emergency communications. Hams are well known for their role in providing communications during disasters and emergencies.

Who are Hams?

Just about anyone can be a ham. There are no age limits. Many people with disabilities find a door to the world with amateur radio. Some famous people are hams, but most are people from all walks of life who enjoy making friends around the world.

Anyone with an interest in radio, computers, satellites, electronics, or communications will find many opportunities in ham radio. Many people use amateur radio to keep in touch with friends and family members.

How Can I Become a Ham?



Getting an amateur radio license is easier than you might think. In the U.S., the Technician or entry-level license for VHF/UHF communications requires passing a written test on basic electronics theory and FCC rules and regulations. The General and Amateur Extra licenses that allow use of high frequency, or short wave, operations require passing additional written tests. Morse code tests are no longer required. Several books and materials are available at local bookstores or on www.arrl.org to help you study for your exam.

The license exams are offered on a regular basis in Ames, Ankeny, Boone, and Des Moines. The general schedule that has been followed in the past is listed on the back of this brochure. Specific information on times and locations for upcoming testing events can be found on the SCARC Website www.w0yl.com. Volunteer examining groups conduct tests for the FCC. The testing fee for 2011 is \$15 and covers the cost of testing materials, processing, and postage. There is no fee for the license itself. If you plan to test, please call the contact person and let them know in advance so they can plan for the event.

Hamfests provide opportunities for amateur radio operators to get together for swap meets, seminars, and friendship. Most hamfests begin in the early morning and wrap up in early afternoon and sometimes sooner. Testing is often offered at hamfests, usually during the first few hours of the event. Hamfests planned in the central Iowa area can also be found in this brochure.

STORY COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Story County Amateur Radio Club offers a wide variety of opportunities for persons interested in amateur radio. Among the yearly activities are programs on technical topics, radio operating activities, flea markets and sponsorship of ham radio classes.

The club meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 7:30 PM, in the conference room of the 4-H building on the southwest corner of 13th Street and Stange Road in Ames.

The club owns and maintains a repeater on 147.240 MHz. This repeater is funded by donations from users. For information or questions about the Story County Amateur Radio Club, contact Ron Nelson, KNØR, at (515) 292-7223 or via email at kn0r@arrl.net.

STORY COUNTY ARES



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) of Story County is a volunteer group of amateur radio operators who provide emergency and public service communications to the Story County community. Many ARES participants serve as SKYWARN severe weather spotters in cooperation with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Des Moines. The NWS conducts severe weather spotter training throughout Iowa and the training schedule can be found at www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/. One of these trainings is usually part of a SCARC club meeting in the spring.

Contact Clint Miller, KCØJUO, Emergency Coordinator for Story County ARES for more information at (515) 292-1066 or via email at kc0juo@arrl.net