



The BAARCer



July 2008

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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Club Call: WØUJ

Brainerd Repeaters:
 53.110 MHz- 123.0 Hz
 147.225 MHz +
 145.130 MHz- Echo Link
 Node number 233515
 443.925 MHz + 110.9 Hz
 Packet: 145.670 MHz
 BBS MNBRD, WØUJ
 Club DX Cluster:
 147.525 MHz BRDDX
 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS
 Crosslake 147.030 MHz+
<http://brainerdham.org>

President:

Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

Vice President + WWW

Editor:

Steven Mott **KCØYTE**

Secretary:

Darrell Schneider **ABØVP**

Treasurer:

John Myers **W3MQD**

Director-At-Large:

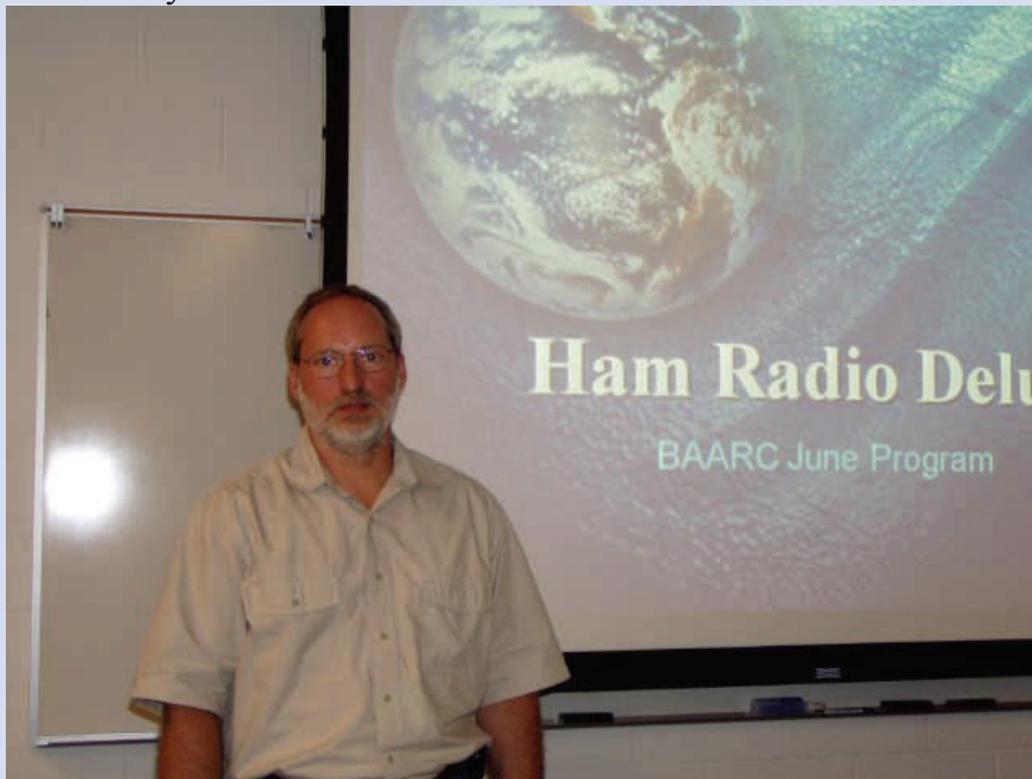
John Luce **WØWY**

Trustee + BAARCer

Editor:

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

BAARC Vice-President Steve Mott, KCØYTE, presented a ham radio logging program that can also control transceivers and modes. The software is free and easily connectable to many transceivers on the market today. Photo credit: WØRC.



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— **Events Calendar** —

- July 5, Sat. Breakfast at Northwind Grille 9 a.m.**
- July 11, Fri. Table Set-Up for Hamfest at Armory—Check with WØRC**
- July 12, Sat. Brainerd Hamfest and VE Testing at Brainerd Armory**
- July 13, Sun. Net at 8 p.m.**
- July 17, Thurs., Repeater Planning Mtg. 3 p.m. @ Library**
- July 19, Sat. Breakfast at Northwind Grille 9 a.m.**
- July 20, Sun. Net at 8 p.m.**
- July 26, Sat. Club Foxhunt 10-12, + Mtg + Picnic @ 2 p.m.—details later**
- Aug. 2 Sat. Breakfast at Northwind Grille @ 9**
- Aug. 28, Thurs. Board Mtg. @ Library, and Reg. Club Mtg. @ 7 @ Fire Hall**



Respectfully submitted, **Darrell ABØVP**, Secretary . Our heartfelt thanks to Shirley KØDCW for filling in so ably for Darrell.

June BAARC Board Meeting Minutes

The June 26, 2008, BAARC Board Meeting was called to order by President Lyle KØLFV at 4PM at the Brainerd Public Library. In attendance were Vice-President, Steve KCØYTE, Treasurer, John W3MQD, Director, John WØWY, Emergency Communications, Al WØRC, Repeater Trustee, Fritz WØKO, and members, Terry KIØFW, and Shirley KØDCW.

The May Board Meeting Minutes, as published in the BAARCer, were accepted as written following a motion by John W3MQD, and seconded by Terry KIØFW. Our Treasurer, John W3MQD, gave the financial report, which was accepted unanimously following a motion by Steve KCØYTE and a second by Al WØRC.

Upcoming BAARC events include: ARRL Field Day, June 28 & 29, and will be held at Cuyuna Overlook. Our Brainerd Hamfest is July 12, 2008. Workers are needed for the Hamfest. If you can help, contact Al WØRC. The BAARC Annual Fox Hunt and Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2008. Watch your e-mail for the location. September 6, 2008 .is the Cuyuna Bike Tour. This is a fun event and we need operators. If you can work, contact John WØWY.

Al WØRC gave an update on emergency communications and future plans. He also reported on BAARC participation in the Regional Distribution Node (RDN) operation. BAARC operators included John WØWY, Al WØRC and Roger WØWUG. The group reported that it was a very interesting learning operation. Al also reported that the Mille Lacs Band's antennas are up and operational.

Fritz WØKO will work on rewriting the BAARC mission statement to include "The Amateur's Code."

Our next membership meeting will be on Saturday, July 26th and will be our annual Fox Hunt and Picnic. The location will be announced by e-mail. Our August 28th meeting will be held at the Brainerd Fire Station. A motion was made by Shirley KØDCW and seconded by Fritz WØKO to authorize Steve KCØYTE to use "Front Page" software to publish our BAARC website. The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM.

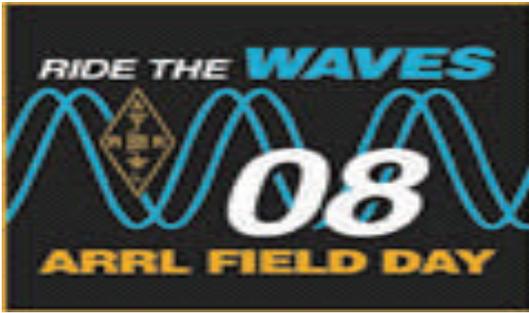
June BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes

The June 26, 2008, BAARC Membership Meeting was called to order by President Lyle KØLFV at 7 PM at the Brainerd Fire Station with 24 members and three guests present. The May Meeting Minutes, as published in the BAARCer, were accepted as written. Treasurer John W3MQD, gave the financial report. Both items were accepted as presented, following a motion by Fritz WØKO and a second by John WØWY. Upcoming BAARC Events: ARRL Field Day is June 28th - 29th and will be held at Cuyuna Overlook in Crosby/Ironton, starting with breakfast at 0800 at Marv's Country Café. Brainerd Hamfest is July 12, 2008, and will be held at the Brainerd Armory. Workers are needed for set-up on Friday, July 11th at 12:30 PM at the Armory, as well as the day of the Hamfest, starting at 0700. If you can help, contact Al WØRC or Lyle KØLFV. Saturday, July 26, 2008, is our annual Fox Hunt, starting at 10:00, followed by our picnic at noon. Bring food for your own family and a dessert to share. The Cuyuna Bike Tour is on Sept. 6th. If you can help, contact John WØWY. Al WØRC gave an update on the Regional Distribution Node (RDN) Exercise that BAARC recently participated in as main communications for 14 counties. The participants included Al WØRC, John WØWY and Roger WØWUG.

Our next Membership Meeting will be held on July 26, 2008, and will be our annual Fox Hunt and Picnic. The location will be announced by e-mail and on the Sunday night net. Our August meeting will be August 28th and will be held at the Brainerd Fire Station starting at 7 PM. The program will be reports on Dayton Hamvention, Field Day and the Hamfest.

A very interesting program was presented by Steve KCØYTE on "Ham Radio Deluxe."

Respectfully submitted, **Acting Secretary, Shirley KØDCW**



More participants, more visitors, and more fun is the way the event was described. Photos are from KCØYTE. To the right: Skee's motorhome and Club trailer.



To the left: Greg NØLJY with Lyle KØLR (in light cap).

Below is pictured the beam being set up. Expect a bigger write-up next month.



THANK-YOU NOTE: Claudia Jones sent the Club a thank-you note on behalf of the entire Tom Jones Family. She writes, "Thank you for your prayers and support for Tom and family. Cancer can only conquer our bodies—not our souls. And I know Tom is busy in Heaven doing good things for others. God is gracious and good to us all. Blessings to you and yours, Claudia ."

Super Salesman KØLFV: A big thanks goes to Lyle for having recently sold donated gear at hamfests and via the Internet. So far he has earned the Club around \$1100.—GREAT JOB!

RDN (Regional Distribution Node) Exercise conducted June 24, 2008. The Central Region Department of Public Health and the Central RFeigion Hospital Group took part in this emergency exercise in which 14 counties participated. The exercise had two control points, the MACC, at the Red Cross Center in St. Cloud and the RDN Center at the Crow Wing County Highway Garage at the Brainerd Airport. the scenario of the exercise was that if there were an emergency in Central Minnesota that required medical supplies sent to the central regional hospitals, this could be done with a coordinated and organized effort. This effort would be coordinated and managed by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Jan Jonessen coordinated the efforts at the MACC and notified all the counties that they had to send a truck to the RDN (Remote Distribution Point) at the county garage and pick up medical supplies to be distributed to the hospitals. John Bowen, KDØCIZ, Crow Wing Co. Emergency Manager and Michelle Jordan from the Crow Wing County Public Health Department coordinated the efforts at the RDN. Of course, this is all part the national emergency management system and Ham Radio played a big part in providing emergency communications between the MACC and RDN. John WØWY was at the EOC office in Brainerd, and Al WØRC was at the RDN. Roger WØWUG also participated. A packet-radio connection was made between the RDN and the EOC, and voice communications was the link between the EOC/RDN and the MACC using the St. Cloud repeater, where Jack WØMBD was the NCS at the MACC. All in all, the exercise ran smoothly providing participants and groups with ideas on noted improvements and future plans for effectiveness. These would be coordinated and managed by the MDH, locally coordinated by Jan Jonessen. de WØRC

Bike Ride: Pictured are three of the many riders, taking a break, who participated in the Tour of the Lakes Ride at which BAARC members provided communication.

Charles W5CCL submitted this photo of people obviously enjoying the area and activity. See full story on p. 5.



Mission Statement: The Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club is comprised of about 85 licensed Amateur Radio Operators who meet monthly to exchange ideas, improve radio skills, organize activities that are of service to the area, promote development of Amateur Radio, and join together in the mutual interest in Ham Radio. **In addition, the Club endorses and honors the Radio Amateur's Code : The radio amateur is considerate, loyal, progressive, friendly, balanced, and patriotic.** The BAARCer newsletter is provided to club members for information and entertainment as a non-profit service. The material is supplied "as is" and without warranty. Permission is granted to copy and distribute any information published here provided the source is credited. Because space is limited in the BAARCer newsletter, you will often find more photos and more details for club news stories on the BAARC website at: <http://brainerdham.org>

13 Club Members Help Make 2008 Bike Tour A Success

The year 2008 marked the 19th annual Tour of the Lakes bike ride which was held Saturday, June 7th. Over 1,200 riders of all ages participated under partly cloudy skies and in temperatures ranging from a 6 AM start of 53-degrees to an afternoon finish of around 72-degrees.

"The weather was really the only unknown," said Sharon Bodie, the event director from the sponsoring Paul Bunyan Cyclists club of Brainerd/Baxter, "and we were so thankful that the rain we had during the week held off on Saturday."

Besides the nice weather, the tour organization was very commendable according to comments heard by many of our club members and from many participants who came from as far away as Iowa and Thunder Bay. A very large group comes every year from the Twin City Bicycle Club. They were evident this year with their bright gold and black riding outfits.

BAARC members were evident too in our bright green safety vests assisting in many ways with the organization and administration of the event. Specifically: Terry KIØFW, shadowed the tour director handling administrative details; Rest Stop information of all types were handled by amateurs, Curt NØCRM; John W3MQD; Charles W5CCL; and Alan AAØAS; the bike maintenance vehicles (support and gear, SAG wagons) were manned by John WØWY, Shirley KØDCW, and Darrell ABØVP; rover units were, Roger WØWUG, and on their bicycles, Kathy KØTHY and Lyle KØLR; with net control duties from the club's EMCOM trailer done extremely well (again) by Al, WØRC; and, our most senior member, 87-year-old, George Swanson, KCØBH. A BIG thanks to all of you for an outstanding job and sticking-it-out for a long day.

Both Al and George commented on the Club's use of a growing number of APRS units again this year. "It really makes the dispatching of SAG units much more timely and efficient to know where you guys are at all times," said Al. "It saves time (and fuel) to send the closest unit," he said. George said he really likes the new large-screen computer monitor so that the "whole 35 and 70 mile courses" can be seen with all units displayed along with various significant waypoints on the detailed base map of the area the tour covered. (Thanks to Al for creating the map, too.) Hams running APRS were: AAØAS, W5CCL, KØDCW, WØWUG, and WØWY—in vehicle/mobiles, and KØTHY and KØLR on bicycle mobiles. Next year we hope to add a few more.

The best news to report is that there were no known public safety activities/incidents/accidents or medical emergencies that involved any of the event participants. The worst news to report is that there were **no** root beer floats at the end of the ride. And did we hear those complaints! 73's John WØMY

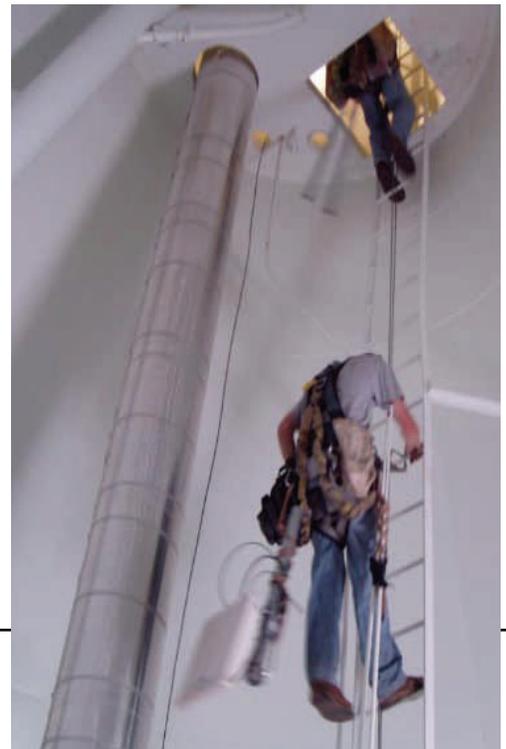
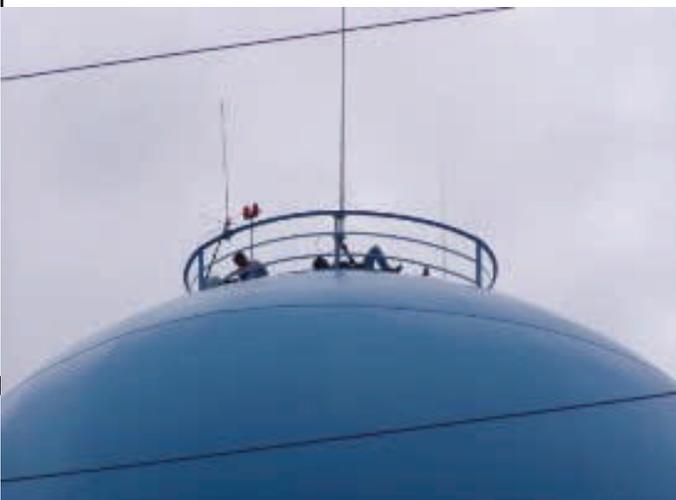
WØRC was at the Mille Lacs Reservation site assisting in the installation of their emergency communication system. The photos and information

are from Al: These photos are of the tower company crew and Granite City Communications installing antennas and microwave equipment at the Band's new 150-ft. water tower just north of the Casino. The activities took place on June 26, 2008. The antennas include UHF and VHF repeater installations and should be operational in the near future. By the way, Monte Fronk, KCØWMC, is the Emergency Manager for the Band.



As you can see, these guys are very agile climbing inside and on top of the water tower. The UHF and VHF antennas are visible in the top picture against the cloudy skies.

These professionals do this like it's second nature, according to Al.





This year's **Brainerd Area Hamfest will be Saturday, July 12th**, at the Brainerd National Guard Armory in Brainerd. The hours will be 9 AM to 1 PM. New this year will be VE testing at 10 AM followed by a seminar on VSWR by Mark WØMH. Be sure to mark your calendar and tell your friends to attend this fun event. Attending is a good way to support the BAARC. We need help on Friday @ noon to set up tables and take them down afterwards early Saturday afternoon..

August 8 - 10, 2008, there will be a Rochester Amateur Radio Expo. It will be a "R.A.R.E. Experience" in Rochester, MN. The Rochester Amateur Radio Club will host the first annual R.A.R.Expo. They welcome Hams and guests visiting from around the country. It is a special honor for the Expo to be designated as the 2008 ARRL Dakota Division Convention. They have a wide range of offerings for the Ham Radio community. For more and complete details, go to: <http://www.rarexpo.org>

Membership Renewal: HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? Please pay your 2008 dues if you have not already done so. DUES collection is behind schedule and John W3MQD, our able treasurer, would like to keep the books updated. Only 60 have paid up so far. You have probably forgotten. Please help him do that job. Support the BAARC and stay informed with the BAARCer by paying your dues right away. We also urge you to take the monthly bulletin by the Internet rather than by mail. It will save the club money. Thanks. The Management.

DX and the Paper Chase: DX is alive and well but...you have to go looking for it. The opening on June 19TH to Europe on 20 meters was reminiscent of the top of cycle 23 with signals coming from all directions of the continent. There was a DX window on 17 meters later on the same day into South and Central America. One of the more exciting DX quests is BT1OB, the Chinese Olympics station that's QRV from Beijing with poor signals to my QTH so far, but I'll be waiting to snag them when the opportunity arises. For those of you who may be new to DXing there is one recourse in my shack that is as vital as a linear and that's my laptop that's connected to www.dxscape.com for real time DX spots. Another important resource is a good computer logging system. My logging program is Contact Log 2.5 by N3FJP. Computer logging makes it fun to keep a good record of your contacts. In my next column I'll be discussing how to get that elusive QSL card. In the meantime with very little help from the sun, remember when the DX gets tough, the tough get going! 73 for now and good DX. *de Bob/WØZPE*
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Check out our new Mission Statement which has elements from the Amateur's Code added—p.5. Give us your input.

Sunday Night Net Control Operators on the 147.225 MHz+ Repeater at 8 PM:

7/06/08	Skee	WØDCY
7/13/08	Lyle	KØLFV
7/20/08	Jim	WØIRE
7/27/08	John	KØJO

8/03/08	Paula	WØHA
8/10/08	Mark	WØMH
8/17/08	Shirely	KØDCW
8/24/08	Al	WØRC
8/31/08	John	WØMY

Can't make the schedule? Find a substitute operator. BAARC Sunday Night Net Control Coordinator is Fritz WØKO. Contact him to volunteer.



BAARC, Inc.
Ham Radio at its best in the Lakes Area
Affiliated with the ARRL

Find us on the Web:
<http://www.brainerdham.org>

- - Upcoming Meetings & Activities - -

The **Brainerd Area Hamfest will be Saturday, July 12th**, at the Brainerd National Guard Armory 9 AM to 1 PM. Be sure to mark your calendar and tell your friends and make net announcements.

We'd like to see all BAARC members attend the gathering.

The Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club **Fox Hunt and Picnic** has been moved from August to July 26th this year. Get your equipment in shape and mark your calendar for this fun event.

More Information on Club activities with updates is always available on the BAARC Web site at: <http://brainerdham.org> Check the Sunday Evening Net at 8 p.m. on 147.225.

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Happy Independence Day, America!!!!!!!

Honor our Military, past and present—they have made our American way of life possible.

United We Stand



First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested

Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club
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Brainerd, MN 56401