



The BAARCer



December 2009

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

Page 1 of 8

Club Call: WØUJ

BAARC 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
 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS
 Crosslake 147.030 MHz+
<http://brainerdham.org>

OFFICERS

President:
 Al Doree **WØRC**

Vice President + WWW

Editor:
 Steven Mott **KCØYTE**

Secretary:
 Darrell Schneider **ABØVP**

Treasurer:
 John Myers **W3MQD**

Director-At-Large:
 Roger Williams **WØWUG**

Trustee + BAARCer Editor:

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

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Congratulations to Our Newly Elected and Appointed Team Of Officers for 2010



Top l-r: President Charles Lane (W5CCL), Vice President Steve Mott (KCØYTE), Secretary Ron Finger (KDØGOP). Bottom l-r: Treasurer Doug Bergsnev (KDØERE), Director-At-Large Roger Williams (WØWUG), Director of Emergency Communications John Luce (WØWY). They will assume duties officially on 01-01-2010 @ 0000 Hrs.

— Events Calendar —

Sat., Dec. 5, Club Breakfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brainerd
Thurs., Dec. 17, Board Mtg. @ 4 in Library Large Conference Room
Thurs., Dec. 17, Membership Christmas Mtg. @ 7 in Lib. Large Conf. Rm
 This is our annual Before-Christmas Get-together. Bring **Some Goodies to Share.**
Sat., Dec. 19, Club Breakfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brainerd
 ~~~~~  
**Sat., April 17, MN Repeater Council (outstate) Meeting at the Fire Hall—Details Later—Mark your Calendar**  
**Merry Christmas & A Healthful & Prosperous 2010 to You and Your Families.**

## **November 19, 2009 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes – Brainerd Library Small Conference Room**

President Al WØRC opened the meeting with Vice President Steve KCØYTE, Past President Lyle KØLFV, Charles W5CCL, Ron KDØGOP, John WØWY, Shirley KØDCW, Curt NØCRM, Roger WØWUG, and Secretary Darrell ABØVP in attendance. Treasurer John W3MQD arrived about 4:30 PM. Previous Membership and Board meeting minutes as published in the BAARCer were approved by all. The Treasurer's Report dated 10/31/09 was approved by all following a motion by John WØWY and second by Lyle KØLFV.

- There was a unanimous vote of Board members approving the establishment of a new Board position of Director of Emergency Communications following procedures detailed in the BAARC By-Laws including the nomination of John WØWY to fill the position to be voted on by the General Membership following a motion by Vice President Steve KCØYTE and second by Past President Lyle KØLFV.
- John WØWY moved that the 2010 Hamfest be scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Armory to be co-chaired by Al WØRC and Lyle KØLFV, second by Steve KCØYTE, approved by all.
- Lyle KØLFV moved to approve the payment of \$50 for the conversion of a Motorola radio from commercial frequencies for use as a UHF(444.925) Portable Repeater, second by John WØWY, approved by all. Steve KCØYTE moved that BAARC donate \$100 to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund, second by John WØWY, approved by all.

The remaining 4:00 PM. BAARC Board Meeting for 2009 will be December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Brainerd Library Large Conference Room followed by the Membership Meeting at 7:00 PM in the same location.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM – motion: Lyle KØLFV & John WØWY – second: Shirley KØDCW.

## **November 19, 2009 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Minutes – Central Lakes College-Room E313**

President Al WØRC opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with twenty-one Hams and guests in attendance. Previous meeting minutes as published in the BAARCer were approved by all following a motion by Lyle KØLFV that was seconded by John W3MQD. Treasurer John W3MQD presented a Year-to-Date Financial Report dated 10/31/09 that was approved by all – motion: Fritz WØKO – second: Jim WØYA. President Al WØRC reported that the BAARC Board had approved a \$100 contribution to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund.

**Club Officer Election** – Secretary Darrell ABØVP reported that ballots had been received without any write-in votes; the only votes were for the nominated candidates as shown on the ballot. The membership unanimously accepted the election of the candidates as listed on the ballot (“white ballot”) following a motion by Fritz WØKO and second by Shirley KØDCW. In response to the nomination of the Board of Directors, Jim WØYA moved to initiate a vote by the membership to appoint John WØWY as Director of Emergency Communications, second by Shirley KØDCW, approved by unanimous vote of all members present. **Officers for 2010:**

President – Charles W5CCL  
 Vice President – Steve KCØYTE  
 Secretary – Ron KDØGOP  
 Treasurer – Doug KDØERE  
 Director at Large – Roger WØWUG  
 Emergency Services Director – John WØWY

The remaining 7:00 PM. BAARC Membership Meeting for 2009 will be December 17<sup>th</sup> – Brainerd Library Large Conference Room – Christmas Party – Please bring treats to be shared by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. Respectfully submitted, *Darrell ABØVP*, Secretary





**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 of 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>

## DX and the Paper Chase

Several years ago Microsoft® used a catchy slogan while marketing its Windows® operating system that asked: "Where Do You Want To Go Today?" Before I sit down at my radio station daily, I ask myself the same question and by the end of the day I've been somewhere near and far. Any of you who have been on HF over the past several weeks can say "I've been someplace." As the mystery of propagation unfolded thanks to sunspot Cycle 24, DX has been plentiful and the signals have been exemplary. There are several DXpeditions going on that have been racking up the numbers as the bands continue to improve. On 17-meters in the morning hours, European stations have been wall to wall and the signals have been superb. You know the band conditions are good when the DX stations want to have a QSO rather than a 59 and good DX. Late in the afternoon (early evening) the JA's have been booming in on 17...it's getting to be like old times at the top of Cycle 23. I'm closing in on my DXCC 300 endorsement and I noticed that almost every one of the last 100 DXCC countries (entities) that I have confirmed have come from DXpeditions. The DX community owes a huge debt of gratitude to the hearty souls who work so hard to put on these events all over the world, so Radio Amateurs can achieve DXCC credits. Some of these DXpeditions cost upwards of \$500 thousand for ships, helicopters, and logistics beyond one's imagination. My hat is off to all of the hearty souls who have a love of the hobby and share it with the DX community worldwide. For those of you who would like some midnight reading, I would encourage you to bring up the ARRL website (DXCC rules) and read The Ethics And Operating Procedures For The Radio Operator. The manual is in PDF form and if I had my way, every Amateur would be required to read this prior to upgrading to operate HF. That's about it from the friendly DXer from way up in Huntersville for now reminding you to sit down at your radio and call CQ because someone somewhere is listening for your call. So long from Huntersville, 73 and good DX from **Bob/WØZPE**.

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**Bits and Pieces:** We are always looking for some program ideas. Or could you put one on? Do you know of someone in another club who has done a program that would be of interest? Please let Steve KCØYTE, our able VP know. His e-mail address is <steve.mott at landisgyr.com> (replace the at with the @ sign, to prevent Spam)

Wonder how to make the Ø in your ham radio correspondence? Just hold down the **Alt** key while typing in **0216** on the numerical keypad—and there you will have it! We have some **72** members now—at last count for 2009. Please make the job of treasurer easier by sending your 2010 dues in ASAP.

**Our thanks to Roger WØWUG** who helped arrange some valuable repeater programming help from Dan Karg, KØTI, of Woodbury. Karg programmed the 444.925 Motorola repeater that was donated to the Club and will be used as a portable here. Dan also reprogrammed a Motorola mobile unit that Al WØRC was going to use as a standby APRS node. Thanks, Roger and Dan.

***PUBLIC SERVICE and SPECIALEVENT ACTIVITIES of BAARC as  
SIGNIFICANT  
COMMUNITY SUPPORT and MEMBER  
PROFICIENCY TRAINING***

**Introduction**

Over many years, more than 40, the Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club (BAARC) has been a part of the greater Brainerd Lakes Community. The members have done this by continually operating the club in the public interest by providing regular meetings, face-to-face, and over-the-air activities, to further the Club's role and to extend its vision to all interested persons. Club radio communications activities have supported a wide variety of community organizations engaged in non-profit and/or public services. Members have used their own equipment and/or operated the club's radios and computers to provide administrative and public safety information in support of specific activities.

**General**

In 2009, BAARC club members volunteered their time in support of other organizations engaged in these community activities: the Jaycees Ice Fishing Contest in January which involved over 10 thousand participants and their Marathon in April which attracted several hundred runners and public spectators; during the Mid-Minnesota Dog Sled Race in February members kept track of the progress of all the teams by accounting for each at several checkpoints along the 65-mile course; in June and September radio operators provided logistic and public-safety radio services to two community-based bicycling clubs assisting them in their day-long activities; and on Halloween in October the Club provided direct communications support to the law enforcement agencies in Crow Wing County to reduce the threat of and/or report vandalism and other inappropriate community activity.

This Club activity has its benefits in at least two ways: first, in adding to the served organization's ability to run or operate their event, and second, by providing BAARC members with training in operating under wide and varied conditions that would simulate what could be anticipated in a community communications emergency, such as a loss of 9-1-1 service, where a separate link to the 9-1-1 answering point would be established using ham radio operators and their equipment. It also could be handling health and welfare messages for displaced persons as the result of a natural disaster and/or the activation of emergency shelters. Member participation in each of the above mentioned events supports the development of communications skills needed in the event of an emergency call-out.

Other BAARC activities have similar usefulness in the way they engage operators and various types of equipment. These include those activities that mix social interaction with the communications tasks, such as the annual Field Day, where for a 24-hour period Club and member stations operate under simulated emergency conditions with the public invited to attend and observe. Another is the Crosby Mines Pick-Up Day, when members are able to donate to the state DNR some work by picking up trash in return for use of the beautiful Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area. Also, the annual Club-sponsored Hamfest, where many amateurs from all over our area gather to meet one another, buy and sell equipment, and have an opportunity to get a license by being tested by designated volunteer FCC examiners. Of course, there are other purely social activities like the Saturday Morning Breakfasts held about twice each month and the Annual Spring Dinner. These are followed by the late Summer Picnic with its annual Hidden Transmitter Hunt.

Other BAARC activities include the FCC amateur license classes for entry-level Technicians, mid-level General class, and the Extra class license for those interested in going that far for full-privileges. In addition, participation in SKYWARN weather-spotting activities is one of the oldest Club public service dating back to the 1970's, according to our records. The latter activity is sponsored by the National Weather Service and is directed, in this area, from its Duluth office. Equally important and relatively recent in its use here is the APRS capability that many BAARC members have has aided SKYWARN weather spotting, as it is read-out in Duluth enabling the NWS personnel to direct hams activity in the field to produce more accurate and faster results.

As a result of having so many BAARC members willing to participate in these and other activities not mentioned and achieving a high level of interest in emergency communication services, the Club's Executive Board of Directors took action this past year to formalize its relationship with the ARRL in the area. The outcome was the recommended appointment of a county Emergency Communications Coordinator. John Luce, WØWY, received this appointment. His additional role will be to continue to liaison with Crow Wing County Emergency Management Services Personnel. Thereby we develop our readiness at the EOC and with the Communications Supervisor at the 911 Law Enforcement. Furthermore, we organize and coordinate our efforts in planning and participating at the regional, state and national levels under the ARRL's ARES, or Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

**(Editor's Note: This Report was presented at the 11-19-09 meeting and also written up by John WØWY, BAARC Director of Emergency Communications and ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Crow Wing County)**





**A Christmas of Blessings to All of Our Fellow Club Members and Their Families.** Ron Finger, KDØGOP, our secretary-elect and professional artist created this masterpiece. He got his inspiration from WØYA's copy of Sky & Telescope and liked the play on words between "Holiday Lights and Northern Lights." Ron goes on to say : "I think it's a good reminder of how God always outdoes us with His wonders; that's why I put in the forlorn little string of lights outside the house." We cannot agree more, Ron! Thanks you for this gem.

**BAARC Membership Fee Schedule (established 02/04/04)** :Many of you have been asking, especially those of you who would like a lifetime membership. This information is provided by our Treasurer John W3MQD. Regular Dues form in on p. 7

**Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club Dues and Fee Schedule:**

|                                                                 |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>REGULAR ANNUAL DUES</b> (Jan. 1-Dec. 31)-----                | \$20  |
| Additional Family Member-----                                   | \$10  |
| Student Membership-----                                         | \$10  |
| <b>LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP FEE</b> (Must Present Age Documentation) |       |
| 30 and under-----                                               | \$600 |
| 31-40-----                                                      | \$500 |
| 41-50-----                                                      | \$400 |
| 51-60-----                                                      | \$300 |
| 61-70-----                                                      | \$200 |
| 71-80-----                                                      | \$100 |
| 81 and over-----                                                | \$50  |

Send your dues/fee payable by check to the BAARC to John Myers, BAARC Treasurer, 34570 Beaver Trail, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472. If you send it later than in December of this year, it should go to our newly elected Treasurer. See his address on the Membership Form on page 7 or on the Web.

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**BAARC Public Service and Special Events Activities for 2009**—Info from KØLFV

|                           |                                                 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Jaycees Fishing Contest   | Sat., Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>                     |
| Mid-MN 150 Sled Dog Race  | Sat., Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>                      |
| Brainerd Jaycees Marathon | Thurs., Apr. 30 <sup>th</sup>                   |
| March of Dimes Walk       | Sat., May. 6 <sup>th</sup>                      |
| Tour of Lakes Bike Ride   | Sat., Jun. 6 <sup>th</sup>                      |
| BAARC APRS Workshop       | Sat., Jun. 20 <sup>th</sup>                     |
| BAARC Field Day           | Wknd., Jun. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> |
| BAARC Hamfest             | Sat., July 18 <sup>th</sup>                     |
| Lakes Country Triathlon   | Sun., Aug. 23 <sup>rd</sup>                     |
| BAARC Picnic & Fox Hunt   | Sat., Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup>                     |
| Tour of Cuyuna Bike Ride  | Sat., Sept. 12 <sup>th</sup>                    |
| Goblin Watch              | Sat., Oct. 31 <sup>st</sup>                     |

By the way, it should be noted that Steve KCØYTE and Lyle KØLFV collaborated on the great pictorial tour of many of the Club's 2009 activities—all presented in slide-show format. As was mentioned, John WØWY presented a detailed narration at the meeting also—members have that in written form from John on page 4. Also Lyle and his son Tom (NØVFM) put together a neat video (film) of our 2009 Hamfest. That creative effort was a new experience for us, and it was a pleasure to see much of the activity that weekend in June brought to life on the screen. Thank you, Guys!!

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# Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Dues Year January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2010



(Please submit one application for each person.)

Name (First, MI, Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_ Check one: New application: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ARRL? \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the **BAARC'er** newsletter via the Internet \_\_\_\_\_ via the US mail \_\_\_\_\_ (Internet saves club money)

**Amateur Radio Interests:** If there is a program you would like to see at an upcoming meeting, please indicate the topic and possible presenter. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ The goal is to make Club meetings fun and informative.

**Check one:** \$20 Full Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Additional Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Student Member \_\_\_\_\_ Note: For first-time members, pay \$5 per quarter for the time remaining in the year you join.

**Check one:** \$20 Full Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Additional Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Student Member \_\_\_\_\_ Note: For first-time members, pay \$5 per quarter for the time remaining in the year you join.

Membership Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to BAARC. The Club is a 501C3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible. Mail to:**

Voluntary Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club  
Treasurer - Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE  
15912 Olsen Lane  
Brainerd, MN 56401**

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby make this application for membership in the BAARC and agree to abide by the Club By-Laws.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclosure:** With the data, the club can plan activities of interest to the majority of the members. This information will not be sold or given to another organization without express permission of the BAARC members. Please mail one form, along with dues, for each person who wants to be a club member.

**SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS**

|          |       |        |
|----------|-------|--------|
| 12/06/09 | John  | WØWY   |
| 12/13/09 | Fritz | WØKO   |
| 12/20/09 | Joe   | KBØVYJ |
| 12/27/09 | John  | KCØWCG |
|          |       |        |
| 01/03/10 | Steve | WØTNT  |
| 01/10/10 | Lyle  | KØLR   |
| 01/17/10 | Wynn  | KA3DQN |
| 01/24/10 | Terry | KIØFW  |
| 01/31/10 | Doug  | KDØERE |

Can't make the schedule? Find a substitute operator. BAARC Sunday Night Net Control Coordinator is Fritz WØKO. To volunteer: w0ko "at" arrl.net



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

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

**Condolences to John KCØWCG of Wadena.** Many of us know of him by his taking on NCS duties even though he is not a member of the BAARC. John's youngest daughter died last month, and we, may of us as parents, can certainly identify with the loss an offspring would be. The BAARC has sent a card to him and his family, and John acknowledged it on the Sunday night net. He now knows that our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

**Know anyone who needs a card of cheer?** Please let Fritz know of any Club member hospitalized or ill, so that the Club can send an appropriate card for that occasion and others.

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Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club's 10th Annual Hamfest is scheduled for July 24, 2010, in the Brainerd Armory. Mark this on your calendar and help spread the word.

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**Remember: Bring a treat to Dec. Mtg.**

United We Stand



**First Class Mail**

Address Correction Requested

Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club  
c/o M. Fritz Bertel WØKO  
16167 Ahrens Hill Road  
Brainerd, MN 56401