



The BAARCer



January 2009

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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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 MNRD, WØUJ
Club DX Cluster:
147.525 MHz BRDDX
144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS
Crosslake 147.030 MHz+
<http://brainerdham.org>

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



Lyle KØLFV

presided for the last meeting of the year and the last of his term of four years as President of the BAARC. The Members of the BAARC appreciated his service to the Club and the community at large. A pre-Christmas social took place after the meeting with lots of goodies.

— Upcoming Events Calendar —

Sat., Jan. 17, Club Breakfast @ Northwind Grille @ 9 a.m. in Brd.

Sat., Jan. 24, Annual Jaycees Ice Fishing Event on Gull Lake

Sun., Jan. 25, Start of Beargrease Race in NE MN.

Thurs., Jan. 29, Board Mtg. @ Lib. @ 4 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 29, BAARC Monthly Mtg. @ Brd. Fire Hall @ 7 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 7, Mid-MN Sled-Dog Race—WØTNT, Coordinator. Volunteer!

Fri., Feb. 27 & Sat., 28, Training Mtg. for Voluntary Organizations

Active in Disasters @ Camp Ripley—Interested? Call Paul Oby—KCØESE @ 651 646 0259. More info needed? Go to www.mnvoad.org

CONTINUE TO KEEP JOHN KØJO AND HIS CARING XYL KAY IN YOUR PRAYERS—PLEASE!!!!

December 18, 2008— 4:00 PM— BAARC Board Minutes – Small Mtg. Room—Brainerd Public Library

The meeting was opened by President Lyle KØLFV while in attendance were Treasurer John W3MQD, Coordinator of Public, Digital and Emergency Services Al WØRC, Advisor Shirley KØDCW, Special Projects Director Terry KIØFW, and Secretary Darrell ABØVP.



The Report of the November Meeting as published in the BAARCer was accepted as written. Treasurer John W3MQD led a discussion of the Financial Report dated 11/30/2008. Al WØRC moved to approve the Financial Reports; the motion was unanimously approved following a second by Terry KIØFW.

Al WØRC reported on the month's activities in Digital & Emergency Communications. There was a discussion of the importance of the APRS coverage provided by the Sebeke Water Tower site and the damage done by high winds that broke the antenna. The Wadena Radio Club doesn't have the \$200 that is needed to replace the antenna; it was decided to bring the matter to the membership to discuss and vote on BAARC's providing the funding.

A Draft of the Brainerd Public School Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed. Only the Forestview School will be available for BAARC membership meetings as there is no solution to the South Campus staffing-cost problem. We will maintain and have access to the Club Station at South Campus. The meeting was adjourned about 5:00 PM.

December 18, 2008— 7:00 PM—BAARC Membership Minutes – Large Meeting Room – Brainerd Public Library

President Lyle KØLFV opened the meeting with about twenty Hams and two guests in attendance.

The November Membership Meeting Minutes as published in the BAARCer were accepted as written after a motion by Jim WØYA and a second by Mike WAØLVG. Treasurer John W3MQD presented a Year-to-Date Financial Report dated November 30, 2008. John WØWY moved to approve the financial reports that were unanimously approved following a second by Jim WØYA.

Upcoming BAARC Events and Activities:

- * Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza – Jan. 24th – Operators are needed
- * Mid-Minnesota 150 Dog Sled Race – Feb. 7th – will start at Emily and end at Remer – Steve WØTNT will lead the event with support from John WØWY, Al WØRC, Shirley KØDCW, and others – Operators are needed.

Jon KBØMNM moved approval of about \$200 for the installation of an antenna for the Sebeke Water Tower that was broken in a high wind. Fritz WØKO seconded the motion following a discussion of the importance of that node in maintaining APRS coverage in the area. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote by the membership.

The business meeting was adjourned about 7:35 PM. The next Membership Meeting will be on January 29th, 7:00 PM at the Brainerd Fire Station.

The Brainerd Fire Station will be available for BAARC monthly membership meetings through May 2009. The Annual Gala Christmas Party with lavish snacks, refreshments and lively conversation followed.

Both sets of Minutes respectfully submitted with wishes for a Happy New Year to All, Darrell Schneider, AAØVP, 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>

Santa, also known to us as Darrell ABØVP, read a humorous ham-radio related poem about the night before Christmas. Darrell's melodiously modulated voice was pleasure to hear. All members present at the meeting got into the spirit.



All Photos in this Issue from the December 18, 2008, Meeting by WØKO.



Enjoying the evening were **Terri Monroe, XYL of John Luce, WØWY**. Terri is justifiably smiling as she has reached the 13-year cancer-survivor milestone—with many more years ahead. No wonder John is also smiling about his record-setting wife, who always radiates a smile for all.



Chatting here were **John KBØMNM** (on left) and **Mike WAØLVG**. They were no doubt discussing John’s job prospects in Arizona, a place John’s XYL Karen would love be. More news on that may be forthcoming soon.



On the right are (l-r) **ABØVP, WØMQO**, and **KIØFW** enjoying coffee and talk.

DX and the Paper Chase

As this newsletter goes to press, the holidays have passed. Nevertheless, I want to wish all of you and your families Merry Christmas and a very Healthy and Happy New Year. Keeping the meaning of Peace on Earth in our hearts and the meaning of Christmas in our daily lives will brighten our futures in these troubled times. The month of December was not too kind to the world of DX with the sunspots gone and the sun uncooperative...nonetheless, there was DX out there to those of us who got on HF and called CQ. The signals left a lot to be desired, and the DX window to Europe pretty much closed during the last 3 weeks of December. This station worked ZK's and ZL's on 40-meters in the wee hours of the mornings and with sporadic openings, some European stations on 17-meters. During the 10-meter contesting weekend the region also was under blizzard conditions. Normally this doesn't cause any concern, but this time, my beams loaded up with a good coating of hoar frost making it all but impossible to transmit a signal. The 10-meter band was full of contesters and even though I was unable to make any contacts, I heard their signals. Yesterday (Dec 17TH) I worked a station in Morocco on 17-meters...I heard him calling CQ and I was lucky enough to get his attention. Since there was no pileup, we were able to have a very nice QSO exchanging operating conditions and WX reports. I keep a conversion table at my operating position that converts Fahrenheit to Celsius and this makes the other operators feel more comfortable when you give the report in Celsius. When we signed, there was a huge pileup behind me waiting for Morocco (CN) and I found myself grinning that I had the first leisurely QSO, and the rest of the stations would have to be satisfied with a 59 and GUD DX. As we head into 2009, we're all eagerly waiting for some cycle-24 sunspots to liven up the world of DX. In the meantime, don't forget to turn your HF radios on, key up and call CQ because there is a whole world of operators out there waiting to QSO with you—**So long from Huntersville, 73 for now, and good DX from Bob/WØZPE.**



Gleaned from the ARRL Propagation Report on Sunspot Cycle —Jan. 2, 2009.

2008 was a year of very low solar activity. Over forty percent of this year's propagation bulletins reported zero sunspots for their respective weeks. The average daily sunspot number for the year was 4.7, and in 2007 it was 12.8.

The yearly averages of daily sunspot numbers for 1999-2008 were 136.3, 173, 170.3, 176.6, 109.2, 68.6, 48.9, 26.1, 12.8 and 4.7.

Two years ago we wrote, "This is the first bulletin of 2007, the year we'll likely see the end of sunspot cycle 23, the beginning of cycle 24, and the minima between cycles". One year ago in the first bulletin of 2008 we noted the same quote from the previous year, and wrote "Now a year later we might say the same about 2008".

This is probably still true for past year, because since early 2008 we saw cycle 24 spots, and what looks like a slow increase in activity toward the end of the year, although a week of sunspots at the end of December would have helped to sustain the upturn.

We've been looking at a three-month moving average of sunspot numbers, and the average for October-December, centered on November, was 4.4, about the same as the number 4.5 centered on October.

More info and updates available from these websites.

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/k9la-prop.html>.

Archived propagation bulletins is at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://www.arrl.org/qst/propcharts/>.

Good Luck and Good DXing in 2009.

WØUJ Autopatch Instruction—An Open Autopatch (for use by members and non-members):

- * Brings up the Autopatch (gets dial tone)
- # Brings down the Autopatch (hangs up the phone)
- *** Time-out Override (use after phone contact is made)

Without Override, the phone will hang up automatically after about 3 minutes.

Reverse Autopatch Number: The number is available, but it must be used securely. Ask an officer in private about its use and functions.

Speed-Dial Numbers

- 2 for County Law Enforcement Center in Brainerd
- 3 for MN Highway Patrol
- for MN Road Information (non emergency)

Note: Occasionally, a ring will be heard over the repeater from a caller. Then answer the call in the usual manner and just say: "Hello." Don't reveal that this is a repeater/autopatch to some unknown person on the line at that time. Many wrong-number calls come in this way. Just punch the patch down. As always ID after you have done this.

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Bob KGØZK, formerly of the BAARC, now in Hilton Head area has a favor to ask:

"Our local radio club, the Sun City Hilton Head ARC, is working with a local middle school to present a ham radio demo to a select group of 36 8th-grade science students. We've already done a demo for the principal, the 8th-grade science teachers, and the science "coaches" and pretty well blew them away with the technology, including working Europe from a car in the parking lot.

On Monday, Jan.12, we will be on the air with the kids from noon to 1:30 PM local (11 AM to 12:30 p.m. Central) and would appreciate some contacts from MN. We will be on EchoLink using the Ireland repeater with the operator call **KJ4BSM** and on 20 or 40 M (depending on band conditions) using the calls **W4QNW** and **KI4ROL**. We will also be using 2 local repeaters, so we will have a total of 5 stations (4 mobile) on the air, plus HTs for local communication. Happy New Year—de Bob."

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**Steve Weber, WØTNT**, pictured here on the left, has volunteered to be our Club Station Manager. As you know, he has come up fast in the ranks of ham radio. Also being an EXTRA CLASS licensed operator, he will have all privileges at his disposal with this new task. Watch for upcoming announcements from him and give him your support and cooperation. Soon WØUJ should again be heard far and wide.

**PLEASE SEND IN YOUR 2009 DUES NOW TO MAKE THE JOB EASIER FOR TREASURER JOHN—W3MQD.**



# Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club MEMBERSHIP FORM



Dues Year January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009

ARRL Affiliated

(Please print/copy this and 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.

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

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

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

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

Mail to: **John Myers, W3MQD (BAARC Treasurer)**

**34570 Beaver Trail,**

**Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**

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

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

**SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS**

1/11/09 Darrell AB0VP

1/18/09 Shirley KC0DCW

1/25/09 John KC0WCG

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>

**United We Stand**



**First Class Mail**  
Address Correction Requested

**Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club**  
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Brainerd, MN 56401