



# The BAARCer



August 2011

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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**Club Call Sign: WØUJ**

**BAARC REPEATERS**

53.110 MHz- 123.0 Hz  
 147.225 MHz + (main rptr)  
 145.130 MHz- Echo Link  
 Node number 233515  
 443.925 MHz + 110.9 Hz  
 Packet: 145.670 MHz  
 MNBRD, BRDBBS  
 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS  
 Crosslake 147.030 MHz+  
<http://brainerdham.org>

**OFFICERS**

**President:**

Charles Lane W5CCL

**Vice President + WWW**

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Steven Mott NØCRM

**Secretary:**

Ron Finger KØGOP

**Treasurer:**

Doug Bergsnev KDØERE

**Director-at-Large:**

Lyle Amundson KØLFV

**Trustee + BAARCer**

**Editor:**

Fritz Bertelt WØKO

## Happy Winners at the Brainerd 2011 Hamfest



On the left, **Al WØRC** presented **Gene WØZOK** of Horace, ND, with the blue ticket raffle drawing prize: a Yaesu FT-1900R/E. Gene was here with his son, also a ham. In fact, nearly 150 visitors attended 7-09-11 on a hot day. Nevertheless, there was a lot fun had by all, many telling us they would be back next year.

On the right, **Jim WØYA** presented **John KØUBA** of St. Paul with a \$50 check, which was one of two prizes from the entry tickets. The other winner, who was not present at the time of the drawing, was sent his check. He was **Dennis NTØT** from Devils Lake, ND. On stage behind Jim was master emcee **David KCØTGT**, who, needless to say, was very busy during that day.



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— **Events Calendar** —

- Sat., Aug. 6, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.**
- Sat., Aug. 20, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.**
- Sun., Aug. 21, Lakes Country Triathlon—Dave KCØTGT, Chair—Ops. needed.**
- Note: Normal Aug. Monthly meeting cancelled—held instead with Picnic & Fox Hunt**
- Sat., Aug. 27, Annual BAARC Picnic and Fox Hunt— Terry KIØFW, Chair.**
- Sat., Sept. 10, 8th Annual Tour of Cuyuna Bike Ride—WØWY, Chair. Ops. needed. Details to follow.**

**CHECK THE SUNDAY NIGHT NETS FOR ANY UPDATES/CORRECTIONS**

**Thursday, July 28, 2011 – 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes****Brainerd Fire Station****President:** Charles Lane, W5CCL**Past President:** Lyle Amundson, KØLFV**Treasurer:** Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE**Special Events Co-Director:** Dave Fournier, KCØTGT**Secretary:** Ron Finger, KØGOP

The President opened the meeting at 4:03 PM with 4 board members and 1 member in attendance. The June minutes were approved as printed in the BAARCer. The secretary reported the addition of a new member, Matthew Ganz, KDØNEL, bringing the Club membership to 51. The Treasurer's Report was presented and approved. Doug KDØERE suggested raising the Club Hamfest account (working capital) by 25% to better accommodate the necessary transactions for that event. A motion and second were made by Lyle KØLFV and Charles W5CCL, and passed.

**Upcoming Events:** Discussions regarding the **Lakes Country Triathlon** on August 21, **BAARC Picnic and Fox Hunt** on August 27, and **Tour of Cuyuna Bike Ride** on September 10, were tabled until the regular meeting, as those chairs were not present.

**Old Business:** Al has notified the Board that the Fire Hall will be unavailable for the November meeting. Doug volunteered to visit the Brainerd Public Library to reserve their public meeting room for that date.

**New Business:** Ron KØGOP reported that the Club website's Google Calendar has been fixed. Lyle and Charles will meet to finish the physical inventory at the Club station and trailer. Doug has received a competitive insurance quote for the Club's policies from a local agent, and needs a list of covered assets. Doug will invite the agent to attend and discuss policy specifics at the next Board meeting in September. The acquisition of a Davis weather station to install at the APRS antenna site at the Historic Crow Wing Courthouse was briefly discussed. Concerns were expressed as to whether the cost was justified with the many weather options already available. Discussion was tabled for now.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 4:38 PM.

**Thursday, July 28, 2011 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes****Brainerd Fire Station**

The President opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with 23 members and guests present. A motion to accept the published minutes for June was approved. The Treasurer's Report was then presented by Doug, and approved. Doug explained the need for the higher working capital in the Hamfest account to the membership, which approved the increase.

**Upcoming Events:** Dave KCØTGT will be sending out an email with details on the **Lakes Country Triathlon**. Terry KIØFW will also be sending information regarding the **BAARC Picnic and Fox Hunt** to be held on August 27.

**New Business:** Members were informed about the Club website and inventory. The Club is still looking for a Dow Key relay to complete the remote station project. The Davis weather station addition was also briefly discussed and tabled. The Membership Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

--Respectfully submitted by **Ron KØGOP**, Secretary

## Our 2011 Hamfest Work Crews



Pictured in the front row is the Armory Set-Up Crew (setting tables, chairs, fans up & preparing the kitchen) of 7-08-11(l-r): George **WDØHXR**, Chris **KDØLFA**, Wynn **KA3DQN**, Shirley **KØDCW**, Michele **NO\_CALL\_YET**, Terri **NO\_CALL\_YET**, Jerry **NØMR**, Al **WØRC**. Back row (l-r): Ron **KØGOP**, Steve **WØTNT**, Alan **AAØAS**, David **KCØTGT**, Lyle **KØLFV**, Dustin **KDØLEV**, Charles **W5CCL**. Taking the pix was Fritz **WØKO**.



Pictured here is the Take-Down Crew (doing the reverse work on the armory floor—putting everything back in storage). Of course, the Kitchen Crew had a big clean-up job also after serving all of our guests. This was all done on 7-09-11: Front row kneeling (l-r): Alan **AAØAS**, Terry **KIØFW**. Standing (l-r) Doug **KDØERE**, Lyle **KØLFV**, Al **WØRC**, Steve **WØTNT**, Fritz **WØKO**, and Chris **KDØLFA**. Thanks to Terri for taking the pix for our BAARCer.

### 2011 Hamfest was Another Fun Event: Lots of Visitors and Lots of Activity

Again **Al WØRC** Chaired and **Lyle KØLFV** Co-chaired the event. Of course, much preparation went into it. For example, Lyle distributed flyers of the event at all the area hamfests nearly one year in advance. Al did a lot of the planning and making arrangements with the State and Armory, plus talking the event up at every opportunity. We are finding that our costs keep climbing. The chairpersons declared it a success. Still, we want to highlight some of the participants and their roles. Not all are pictured in this BAARCer.

**Jim WØJDS** again manned the front entry selling our \$6 tickets. **Charles W5CCL, Club President**, also filled in to give breaks at various stations. **Ed KAØEXB** and **Alan AAØAS** again controlled the big door to let vendors in and collected for the \$12/table. They and **Steve WØTNT** also sold entry tickets there. Earlier in the day Steve put out and later took down our Hamfest signs. At the front of the armory with prize distribution duties was **David KCØTGT**, who again did an excellent job as friendly greeter and emcee. **Jim WØYA** helped at the PA. **Terry KIØFW** did talk-in. Again **Lyle KØLFV** handled Club sales and donations and also filled in with other necessary jobs—such as set-up and take-down. Lyle's lovely YL **Marilyn** also helped with the coffee and pastry sales in the morning. In the kitchen we were fortunate to have an experienced crew again headed by **Shirley KØDCW**. She was assisted at various times by **Kathy KD5EGN, Michele, Terri, Sue N9XIX, and Kaye NØTMZ**. They are pictured in this BAARCer also—as are the set-up and take-down crews. In addition to the normal hamfest routine, we had a VE test session. The team of **KIØFW, WØWY, and WØQT** examined prospects. The results were very good—see the picture of the new Extras from the area as one example. Finances were important again, so **Doug KDØERE (BAARC Treasurer)** filled in as cashier near the food area. Of course, afterwards he had the added duty of providing the accounting for all the cash and balancing the books. **Chris KDØLFA** and **Fritz WØKO** again sold the raffle tickets for the 2-meter radio. As usual, **Radio City** was present, and we trust they had a good business day as well. More of our detailed numerical information will be presented at the Club meeting. Again, a big thanks to those who brought bars, cookies, other goodies to be sold—they went over big with the crowd.

Above all, **Al and Lyle** thank all the Club members for acting as a team and providing a labor of cooperation again. Of course, we, the members of the BAARC, owe a **BIG THANKS** to all the hams who attended from far and wide. We noticed many regulars from past hamfests. Without these visitors attending, our event would surely not have been a success.

## Another Feature of the Hamfest was the VE Testing Session



These three pictured above are all new EXTRA class hams: (l-r) Matt KDØNEL of Hewitt upgraded to EXTRA, Scott Wegner of Bertha went from no license to EXTRA—Amazing! Charlie KDØNRH of Fridley went from General to EXTRA.

Congratulation , fellows, on having earned new privileges! The BAARC has recorded another first in FCC amateur radio licensing at the examination held in conjunction with the July 9<sup>th</sup> Hamfest. A non-ham, Scott Wegner from Bertha, entered the room and asked to take the Technician exam, Element 2. He passed. He then asked if he could take the Element 3, General test. VE coordinator, John Luce, WØWY, said, “Yes, of course.” He passed that one too. Scott then asked if he could take the Extra test, Element 4. He took that test. VE Terry May, KIØFW, who was the first to correct the exam, said, “I couldn’t believe it. When I put the scoring template over the answer sheet and saw mostly black marks (indicating correct answers), I knew he’d passed again.” And he had. VE Orcy Lyle ,WØQT, and John confirmed the same. John said, the only thing wrong was that Scott wasn’t one of his and Al’s students. Scott works in the electronics/computer field and reportedly got some preparatory help from his friend Blake Rickbeil, NØWSH. Others taking tests and all passing were: Matt Ganz, KDØNEL, Hewitt, upgrading to Extra; Charles Anderson, KDØNRH, Fridley, also making Extra; and, Geoffrey Howell, (no call), Verndale, testing for Technician. My thanks to the two fellow VE’s and a big Congratulations to all of these students who did very well!—from John Luce, WØWY, BAARC VE Coordinator

**The ARRL was well represented again:** As informed hams know, the **American Radio Relay League** is our only voice in Washington. Consequently, we BAARC members encourage all hams to belong to the League and to a Club like ours. With ARRL membership you get the fine QST publication every month. With BAARC membership (only \$20/year) you get this monthly BAARCer, plus the use of our repeaters. Pictured below on the left is Greg Widin, **KØGW, ARRL Dakota Division Director** representing us. On the right is Skip Jackson, **KSØJ, Dakota Division Section Manager**. Frank NIUW , ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator, was not able to attend. All three do excellent work in promoting our hobby We appreciate these officers effort to attend our events can. making the whenever they



**The Kitchen Crew :** Top (l-r) Sue N9XIX, Kathy KD5EGN, Kaye NØTMZ, Michele NO\_CALL\_YET, Shirley KØDCW, and Terri NO\_CALL\_YET.



**At the Entrance:** Pictured below on the left selling coffee, water, pop, and pastries was Marilyn, YL of Lyle KØLFV. **In the Middle:** Treasurer Doug KDØERE doing cashiering duties in the kitchen area with his grandson, Dylan KDØLFE providing assistance. **On the right:** Veteran front gatekeeper Jim WØJDS again welcomed the visitors and collected the necessary fees.



**Welcome to Our Newest Member:** He is Matt Ganz, KDØNEL, of Hewitt. The Minutes reported him as having just joined. By the way, you can see a picture of him on page 5 with the two other new Extra-Class hams who upgraded/passed VE test elements at our Hamfest in July. Additionally, it sounds like he will be heard more often now on our repeater. On July 31 he had an excellent signal into the net session conducted by Joe KBØVYL. Again, congratulations, Matt, on the upgrade and on becoming one of our members in the BAARC.

## DX and the Paper Chase

I do a lot of rag chewing on HF and its something both enjoyable and educational for me. There is a lot to learn from other operators, especially those "old timers" who enjoy imparting some of their vast knowledge, and believe me—there are some sharp Hams out there with years and years of experience. The QSO's always seem to end up chatting about DX, and that's where my heart lies. How is DX lately? Well, it's out there if one really wants to work it. Cycle 24 is not like our last sun cycle and this means you're going to work harder, and working harder means to get on frequency and call CQ. I worked a station in the Philippines a month or so ago, and I got him by calling CQ. Talk about getting the adrenalin flowing! I've worked the Philippines on several occasions, but I was unable to obtain the ever elusive QSL card that I needed for my DXCC 300 endorsement. This time the card has been received. As most of you may be aware, there's a brand new country out there that was established about a month ago, and its Southern Sudan. The first thing that comes to mind is "how quickly will there be a DXpedition," and the answer is in a New York minute. **STØR** will be QRV with five operators until August 10<sup>th</sup>, and you cannot believe the huge pileups. To me, this is just part of the challenge of DXing. If you can break the pileup and get into the log, you've experienced what every DXer feels and makes this hobby what it is. If you're wondering if there's a smile on my face, the answer is absolutely. There was no way I was going to let this one get away. I'm in the log for 17 meters SSB. What a thrill for me just to bust the pileup. On a personal note, my shack is a disaster of late as I am completely redoing and undoing 16 years of poorly managed additions, wiring, coax and just plain junk everywhere. I've been at this project for over a week, and there's more to go. When the remodeling is completed, I'll have the shack I've always wanted. In the meantime, there are jumper coax cables that keep me on HF--I don't want to miss anything. Remember, sit down at your station and call CQ because someone somewhere is out there listening for your call. So long from Huntersville for now, 73 and good DX from **Bob/WØZPE**.

## How to be a Volunteer that Leaders Love ———First Installment Edited by WØKO from an article provided by WØRC

David Coursey, N5FDL

This month I'll touch on what it takes to be the volunteer every leader wants on his or her team. [Here are the first four tips:](#)

**Sign-up and show-up** - This is really simple, but can't be overstated. Leaders need dependable volunteers and need them to commit early. We need to be able to plan based on the number of volunteers we can expect.

People respect our group because they know if we commit to something, we will deliver. This group reliability depends on volunteers who are equally reliable.

**Dress like an emergency communications professional** -- I feel stupid saying this, but what we wear impacts the image of all Amateurs. Now that we wear orange or green safety vests much of the time, individual fashion expression is not so apparent to served agencies or the public. However, as unpaid professionals we need to look like the paid professionals we work alongside.

In general, dress in office work/casual office attire when on an assignment, unless you have a special reason (cleared with your leaders) for dressing differently.

**Smile, Darn Ya, Smile!** - We all have better and worse days, but great volunteers develop a "game face" and "game attitude" they bring to public events. Whiners are not allowed. Egos get checked at the door.

**Seek Feedback (And Offer It)** - We all need to talk about what we do well as well as where we could improve. Volunteers need to understand that the people who provide feedback (volunteer bosses) are sometimes insensitive louts. Please forgive us. We didn't mean to hurt your feelings. We are here to serve the public and our communities and we win or lose as a team.

The key to this is being a decent human being and treating others the way you'd want to be treated yourself. Sound familiar?

**SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS**

08/07/11	Marcia	WØZMC
08/14/11	Bob	WØZPE
08/21/11	Dylan	KDØLFE
08/28/11	Doug	KDØERE
09/04/11	Fritz	WØKO
09/11/11	Joe	KBØVYJ
09/18/11	John	WØWY
09/25/11	Steve	WØTNT

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

**Thanks to our volunteer NCS.**

**Remember:** It's not necessary to do Simplex Net—it's all up to you.

**Congratulations:** Al (KØMVI) and Terese last month celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. We wish them many more years of togetherness. A card was sent on behalf of our Club congratulating them on that real milestone.

**Thanks to Our Crow Wing County EC, John WØWY:**

Our county was listed in the ARRL Field Activity Report for the month of June. We are among some 44 ARRL affiliated clubs in MN. Certainly, we are doing many things right!!!!

**Got any items to donate, for sale, trade, or wanted?**

Let Fritz WØKO know. We let members advertise free here—always.

**WX Extremes—Be Alert:** On July 30 we had another storm event nearby. Hail was reported near Garrison; funnel clouds were sighted. WX conditions were reported by a few members: KBØVYJ, KØIF, KIØFW, W5CCL, KDØERE, KØGOP, KDØLFA, KCØTGT, and WØKO. Lucky for us, the watches and warnings ended soon. Nevertheless, we certainly need NWS radar closer to the Brd. Area.

United We Stand



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

Address Correction Requested

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