



The BAARCer



May 2012

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

Page 1 of 8

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 + WWW

Editor:

Steve Mott **NØCRM**

Vice President:

John Luce **WØWY**

Secretary:

Ron Finger **KØGOP**

Treasurer:

Doug Bergsnev **KDØERE**

Director-at-Large:

Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

Trustee + BAARCer

Editor:

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

OUR APRIL 14TH HAMFEST DECLARED A SUCCESS: Although table rentals and attendance was down a little, nearly 200 hams attended and told us they appreciated the effort we all put in. Winners of the Entry-Ticket drawings were Steve WØTNT (\$50 Gift Certificate for Radio City) and George WDØHXR (\$50—which was mailed to him). Raffle winner of the Yaesu FT 2900 was Terry KIØFW. Shown below on the left is Dave KCØTGT (our able Emcee and Presenter) handing the gift certificate to WØTNT. On the right is KIØFW with a new two-meter FM radio.



Index

Thanks to all our ham friends from far and wide for the support!!

Mtg. Minutes-	2
DX Report & MAY Dinner Reservations	3
Balloon Program Forestview Students	4
April HAMFEST	5
April HAMFEST	6
Licensing/Testing VE	7
Last Word—Updates Sunday Night Net	8

— Events Calendar —

Sat., May 5—Club Brkfst @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Sat., May 5—Duluth-Superior Hamfest—same location in Superior
Sat., May 19—Club Brkfst @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Thurs., May 24, BAARC Monthly Mtg—Our **Annual Dinner-Meeting**—see p. 3 for Reservations/Info. **Note:** No Board Mtg & It is one week earlier because of the Memorial Day Holiday weekend.
HAPPY & SAFE MEMORIAL DAY—Remember the Fallen Military
Sat., June 2, Tour of the Lakes Bike Ride. Volunteers needed. More details soon.
Sat. & Sun., June 23 & 24—Annual ARRL Field Day—More details to follow.
Listen for Activity Updates on our Sunday Night Nets
Encourage New Membership: Dues are still only \$20/year—a bargain for all you get. E-mail Doug for info: djbdesk@gmail.com

Thursday-April 26, 2012 – 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes

Brainerd Fire Station

President: Steve Mott, NØCRM

Vice President: John Luce, WØWY

Treasurer: Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE

Secretary: Ron Finger, KØGOP

Director At Large: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV

Past Presidents: Charles Lane, W5CCL, Al Doree, WØRC

Community & Special Events Director: TBD

Director At Large: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV

Emergency Comm. Director: John Luce, WØWY

Repeater Trustee: Fritz Bertelt WØKO

Attendees: Steve NØCRM, John WØWY, Doug KDØERE, Ron KØGOP, Lyle KØLFV, Al WØRC, Shirley KØDCW

The President opened the meeting at 4:00 PM with 7 members in attendance. The April 2012 minutes were approved as published in the BAARCer. The Treasurer's report was given, discussed, and approved by John WØWY and Al WØRC. Doug presented his completed report for the April 14th Hamfest, with 42 tables and 189 tickets sold. It proved to be another good fundraiser for the Club.

Upcoming Events: The **Brainerd Jaycees Run for the Lakes Marathon** will be held on April 28. Volunteers are requested to sign up for the few remaining positions. Volunteer operators will report to the Nisswa comms trailer location by 7 AM Saturday. Upcoming program speakers: **Skip Jackson of ARRL** will be available sometime in the fall, while Steve WØTNT has arranged our **Spring Banquet** speaker for May 24. **Brian Dirks** will make a presentation on animal radio tracking used to establish patterns and movements of several different wildlife species. Club Treasurer Doug KDØERE will be taking the \$18 dinner reservations and payments through May 17, a week before the event.

Digital & Emergency Communications: John WØWY discussed the ARMER project and presented the two surplus mobile 800 MHz radios that the Club received from Hennepin County through Roger Laurence WRØG. These will be programmed for emergency use on the common "liason" channels and mounted on "go-boards" containing speakers, mikes, and Anderson Powerpole connectors. They can then be operated by ARMER trained Club members as necessary for community events or disaster relief. Several Club members met with CWC Emergency Services Manager John Bowen, KDØCIZ, prior to the Board Meeting to receive after-hours access cards to the CWC EOC radio room. This access will ensure communications capability for training or emergencies during times when other EOC staff may not be present. Cardholders were chosen on the basis of proximity, ECOM interest, and experience. John also reported on the recent 4/19 **SKYWARN Mock Severe Weather Drill**, with 18 stations checking in—16 with current SKYWARN training, and 7 with APRS capability. Geographic coverage included southern Cass, Crow Wing, and eastern Aitkin counties.

Old/New Business: The second flight of the **Forestview Middle School Balloon Project** was recently completed with assistance from Al WØRC, John WØWY and other Club members. A special presentation by teachers and students involved in this impressive project followed during the 7PM Membership Meeting. Al was again thanked for his dedicated efforts and attendance at every meeting with the students and teachers on the project. The recent **Ham Classes** concluded with 12 new or upgrading hams completing testing prior to and during the hamfest. John and Al thanked the other VE's: Fritz WØKO, Ken KØIF, Terry KIØFW, and Roger WØWUG for their efforts in administering, correcting and compiling the many tests and records. A motion was made, seconded and passed by Al and John to purchase a multimedia projector for Club use when we are unable to use the Fire Station meeting room.

Thursday-April 26, 2012 - 9:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes

Brainerd Fire Station

Following an excellent 7PM presentation by the **Forestview Middle School Balloon Project** teachers and students, the President opened a short business meeting with 21 members and guests present. The April 2012 minutes were approved as printed in the February BAARCer. The Treasurers report was presented, approved and seconded. Upcoming events and old and new business were discussed, along with a report on digital and emergency communications.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 PM.

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

DX and the Paper Chase

How sweet it is...a spring time snowstorm, lots of good DX and two more QSL cards for DXCC credit in the mailbox. Band noise was the down side of the past month, but all in all, the bands did deliver and I took full advantage of the quality of the DX. I was disappointed in not making a contact with Mount Athos and Monk Fr. Apollo, but I did enjoy listening to him operate. I believe the entire ham world was trying to get him as the pileups became larger with every hour he was on the air. Fr. Apollo is the one and only operator in Mount Athos, making his call rather rare. I did work another new one: Tajikistan (EY) by breaking through a monster pileup on 17-meters. Breaking the pileup is the adrenalin that keeps this DX chase interesting and rewarding. There are lots of good DXpeditions that are QRV, and my sights are set on getting my share. There is a website that announces DXpedition dates and QSL information. Just Google announced DX and you'll be directed to the website. It's a great resource for all DXers. Marcia and I attended the BAARC hamfest where we enjoyed seeing old friends and sampling KØDCW's chili (good stuff). We had difficulty finding a parking spot, and how good is that? There was a nice crowd and lots to see. I'm looking forward to a great DX month ahead and hope some of you will join me in the chase. That's about it for now, but...remember to sit down at your station and call CQ because someone somewhere is listening for your call. Don't disappoint anyone of them. So long from Huntersville for now, 73 and good DX from **Bob/WØZPE**.

BAARC ANNUAL DINNER-MEETING

The Annual BAARC Spring Dinner-Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2012, at the Nisswa American Legion Post. The Legion is located on Main Street, approximately ½ mile north of the Highway 371 stoplight.

Social Hour: 5 – 6 PM (Drinks may be ordered at the bar)

Dinner: 6 PM - BBQ Ribs, Baked Chicken, Yukon Gold Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Ranch Salad, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, and Coffee.

Very Brief Business Mtg. & then Program: 7 PM. **Brian Dirks, MN-DNR “Wild Animal Tracking”**

Cost: \$18/person (price includes tax and gratuity). **Checks made out to BAARC are preferred.**

Reservations must be made by May 17th.

No refunds for cancellations made after May 17th.

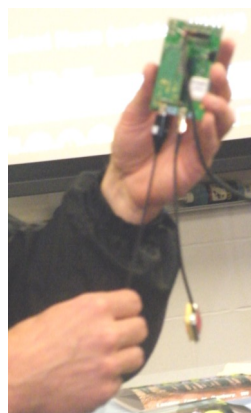
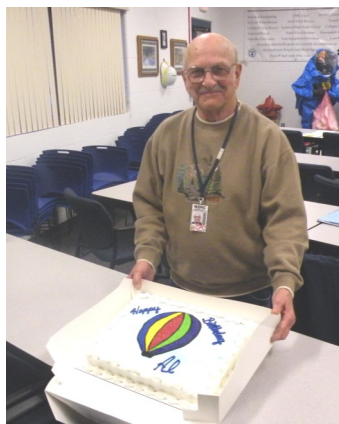
Note: Individual name tags with call signs will be available at check-in.

For Reservations: Call **Doug KDØERE** on Sunday Net or @ 218-820 6675 or email **djbdesk@gmail.com** by May 17th.

Members and non-members are cordially invited. This Dinner-Meeting takes the place of the regular monthly meeting. Food is always superb at the Nisswa Legion.

Thursday, April 26, 2012 Program: The Amazing Middle Schoolers and Their Teachers: A Community/School/Amateur Radio Learning Opportunity with Ballooning.

The members of the BAARC met their teachers—**Jim Reed**, Technology Instructor; **Corey Olson**, Engineering Instructor. In addition, **Al Doree**, WØRC and Technical Advisor from our Club along with **Dave Timm**, KBØWGO, Baxter Police Liaison Officer for Forestview Middle School, helped provide the ham radio ingredient for the successful two launches we have all read and heard about in the media. Other members of our Club provided assistance as well. Some 13 selected students did the creative work, and we were treated to an outstanding program featuring two of the gifted student leaders: **Rachel Cleveland** and **Travis Jensen**. Of course, not all of them could attend since it was a school night. The purpose of the balloon club and its activities was to inspire young people in engineering, mathematics, and science. Ham radio certainly contains all of those elements and more. The students' poise and brilliance were demonstrated by the expressions of their knowledge and leadership skills. What they did is what some college-age students would struggle with. Their talented and dedicated teachers emphasized that there was nothing wrong with making mistakes—we all learn from mistakes, so they were freed from having to be perfect. The result was a collaborative and insightful adventure in this realm of the sciences and all the ramifications. We can only share with our readers who were not present a glimpse of what the rest of us witnessed. As adults we could not help but think how lucky these students are to have a supportive school system interacting with the greater community in a learning experience. Envious, we all wished we had had those kinds of learning opportunities when we were their age. **Congratulations, Students and Teachers. Thank you for the informative presentation. Students, your parents must really be proud of your achievements. It surely is a great predictor of what is in your academic future.**



Photos top l-r: **Mr. Corey Olson**, **Mr. Jim Reed**, **Rachel Cleveland**, **Travis Jensen**. Bottom l-r: **Al WØRC**, first introduced the balloonist group from Forestview and later shared his (balloon inspired) birthday cake with the entire group to honor the students and their teachers on their efforts. Al is clearly young at heart and certainly chronologically also. **Charles W5CCL** is shown viewing the payload. The next photo shows a part of the electronic tracking system and antenna. On the far right is **Officer Dave Timm, KBØWGO**, who assisted in the project. He and a team of hams tracked the balloons using the 2-meter repeater system—an important part of the project because of the APRS features. (Photos and text by WØKO)

Hamfest 2012 Photos of Many of the Attendees and BAARC Members and Friends/Workers:



Pictured here is the Friday, 13th, Set-Up Crew: Ladies from the fabulous kitchen: l-r—**Terri** (NØCALL-yet & YL of **Chris KDØLFA**; **Shirley KØDCW**, **Michelle** (NØCALL-yet & XYL of **Jerry NØMR**. Men in the back row from l-r—**Skee WØDCY**, **Chris KDØLFA**, **Lyle KØLFV**, **Rick KDØLFC**, **Steve WØTNT**, **Roger WØWUG**, **Al WØRC**, and **Jerry NØMR**. Not pictured—**WØKO**, who took the photos here and also helped out.



Happy for some cash flow to pay the bills was our very busy Treasurer **Doug KDØERE** —on the left. Costs keep rising!! **Al WØRC** hamfest chair and **Lyle KØLFV** expertly co-chaired the event. **Shirley KØDCW**, kitchen chairwoman, again had the food and drink details in place. The chili was super!! Not pictured but again helping on Saturday were **Jim WØJDS** with front door ticket sales; **Marilyn Amundson** (XYL of **Lyle KØLFV**) sold coffee, rolls and donuts at the entrance. Big door (back) entrance sales and control were **Steve WØTNT**, **Wynn KA3DQN**, and **Greg NØLJY**. Below on the right is the Take-Down Crew from Sat.: Back row l-r: Men—**Rick KDØLFC**, **Roger WØWUG**, **Dave KCØTGT**, **Jim WØYA**, **Chris KDØLFA**. Middle Row **Michelle** (NØCALL-yet), **Shirley KØDCW**, **Al WØRC**, and **Jerry NØMR**. Front row l-r: **Doug KDØERE**, **Terry KIØFW** and **Steve WØTNT**. Not pictured is **WØKO**, who took these photos and was a member of the crew.

Raffle Tickets were again sold by **Chris KDØLFA** and **Fritz WØKO**. **Skee WØDCY** took charge of our signs again. Also not pictured was **Becky KDØHBH**, who not only helped in the kitchen but also upgraded to General Class that same day. Finally, **WØRC**,



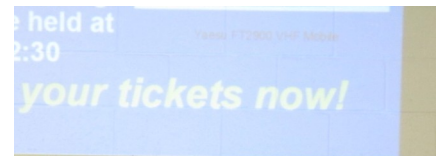
KØLFV, **KØDCW** thank all the Club members and friends for their volunteer help. Also a big thanks to those members who donated their homemade bars and cookies for sale by the Club. Did you notice the neat PowerPoint display on stage provided by **Dave KCØTGT**? It helped keep all informed throughout the event. Without the combined effort of all these participants, we would not have had such a smoothly run hamfest. In addition, even though it was work for BAARC members, it was still fun. Visitors, many repeat ones from over the years, also enjoyed the camaraderie we amateur radio operators have. Many thanked us as well.

More Hamfest Photos: Steve WØTNT provided this panorama from his unique high-tech camera phone with AutoStitch.



Steve also sent this one of Lyle and Terry. By the way, Lyle manned the Club table and sold many items for the BAARC. He also helped publicize the event at other earlier hamfests and gatherings. In addition and as noted elsewhere, John WØWY and Al WØRC conducted the second of this week's testing session with help from VE's KIØFW, WØWUG and WØKO. Of course, the friendly Radio City vendors spent the day as well. Thanks to all who helped. Our apologies if we left anyone out.

Below are two photos supplied by Fred Luce, a new ham with Technician call sign—KDØRQY. Fred is John's son— Fred has a brother named Andy NØREQ. Now there are 3 Luce hams. Lower right photo shows Emcee Dave, KCØTGT, with the constant updates on the ticket drawings. As is common practice at many hamfests, all members of the clubs must buy entrance and raffle tickets—thus all are eligible to win also. BAARC does this too.



Successful Teaching Plus Tenacious Learning = Successful Test Sessions

In the past our two very successful instructors have turned out many newly licensed and/or upgraded hams in the area. Al Doree, **WØRC**, and John Luce, **WØWY**, have again produced a crop of new ones and upgrades. On April 10 a VE test session was conducted (though not with these two instructors because they each had a family member testing). All 7 examinees had success. These two instructors are pictured on the left, and the complete team of Volunteer Examiners with the two instructors are pictured on the right. Seated from left to right: Ken Mehr, **KØIF**; Roger Williams, **WØWUG**; Terry May, **KIØFW**; and Fritz Bertelt, **WØKO**.



The second session conducted at the Hamfest on Saturday, April 14, produced 4 more successes. Examiners for that session were **WØWY**, **WØRC**, **KIØFW**, **WØWUG**, and **WØKO**. We wish the new hams and upgrades our heartiest congratulations and a big welcome to the expanded world of ham radio. (Photos by **WØKO**)

RESULTS OF THE VE TESTING IN BRAINERD

Tuesday, April 10th: New Hams, Technicians—Landon Routledge, **KDØRQZ**, Crosslake; Fred Luce, **KDØRQY**, Pequot Lakes. Upgrades, General—Rhonda Vedder, **KDØQZK**, Aitkin; Tom Eggert, **KCØNGJ**, Deerwood; and Rick Peterson, **KDØLFC**, Merrifield. Upgrades, Extra—Shirley Doree, **KØDCW**, Motley; and Doug Bergsnev, **KDØERE**, Brainerd.

Saturday, April 14th: New Ham, Technician—Craig J. Anderson, **KDØRRS**, Pequot Lakes. Upgrades, General—Becky Sundstrom, **KDØHBH**, Crosby; Geoffrey Howell, **KDØPDB**, Verndale. Upgrade, Extra—Gene Richards, **KØCKU**, Milbank, SD.

A special thanks to all the VE's who volunteered their time in administering the tests: Fritz **WØKO**, Ken **KØIF**, Al **WØRC**, Terry **KIØFW**, Roger **WØWUG** and VE Coordinator, John **WØWY**. — (Thanks, to John **WØWY** for the info. Please greet and congratulate these members of the hobby)

SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS

05/06/12	David	KCØTGT
05/13/12	Jeff	KDØHBI
05/20/12	Doug	KDØERE
05/27/12	John	WØWY
06/03/12	Fritz	WØKO
06/10/12	Charles	W5CCL
06/17/12	Steve	WØTNT
06/24/12	Lyle	KØLFV

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

PLEASE???????

SIMPLEX NET IS OPTIONAL.

Our thanks to NCS Volunteers for the Sunday Night Nets.

Thanks, Ron KØGOP for doing time-consuming update work on our Website. BAARC members, be patient—more improvements coming. **Congratulations**, Ron, on the cool artwork in the latest Lake Country Journal.

Thanks for a Donation from Bob KDØAU: Bob Smith of Nevis, one of our members, generously donated a Heathkit HW-101 with power supply, etc. We appreciate it, Bob. An acknowledgement letter was sent from the BAARC.

Mock Severe WX Drill Held 4-20-12: John WØWY, our ARRL EC for Crow Wing County, conducted it with 18 stations checking in on the repeater. Of those 7 had APRS capability and 16 were Skywarn-trained and current. **John Bowen, KDØCIZ** and Crow Wing County Emergency Services Mgr., was pleased with John's organizational effort and the Club members' responses. **Now that we could have severe WX, be alert and monitor the repeater. At the meeting on Thursday John also noted the progress the County is making with the new ARMER 800 MHz system of communication. It is state of the art—very sophisticated.**

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting which will be the Annual Dinner-Meeting with informative program. (see p. 3).

United We Stand



First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested

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