



The BAARCer



November 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 rpt)
 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**

Pat Goff of Crow Wing Power (10-25-12) presented an informative program on grounding—the how-to with concerns for safety—always. Hams as well as ordinary citizens want to be safe around electrical equipment and secure from lightning. Getting a good ground is possible. Some areas have better luck due to soil conductivity and driving multiple interconnected rods like the short one shown. Also using quality instruments to measure the resistance is key.



Below is the type of meter (yellow one) that would clamp around a ground rod connected to the system. The other is a meter for measuring electro-magnetic fields. More on page 3.

Index

Mtg. Minutes-	2
Pat Goff—Notes & pix—Goblin Watch	3
FOR SALES—LFV & KO	4
DUES Form 2013—send it in ASAP.	5
2013 BALLOT & ELECTION Info	6
DX Report —ZPE Fargo Hamfest—LFV	7
Last Word—Updates Sunday Night Net	8

— **Events Calendar** —

Sat., Nov. 3, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.

Sat., Nov. 10, Celebrating 30 Years in Business—Radio City, Moundsview

Sat., Nov. 17, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.

Thurs., Nov. 29, Club Meeting: Board @ 4 and Membership @ 7 @ Fire Hall.

Program by Skip Jackson, KSØJ, MN ARRL Section Mgr. Dakota Division.

Check the Club's Website and Activity Calendar

Listen for Activity Updates on our Sunday Night Nets

Encourage New Membership: Dues (see p. 5) are still only \$20/year—a bargain for all you get. E-mail Doug for info: djbdesk@gmail.com

Thursday-October 25, 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

Repeater Trustee: Fritz Bertelt, WØKO

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

Secretary's Report: September meeting minutes approved as published in the October BAARCer and accepted in lieu of reading. **Motion to accept:** Lyle KØLFV, **Second** John WØWY, **Passed.**

Treasurer's Report: Report given showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. Report on YTD donated equipment sales by Lyle KØLFV presented. **Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

Membership Meeting Program: The program calendar was reviewed through January 2013, with ARRL speaker still to be determined for November. Special Jan 31 membership drive program committee formation was discussed.

Upcoming Events: Goblin Watch: John WØWY has 4 volunteers so far, with more needed. **Mid-MN 150 Sled Dog Race** scheduled for Feb 9 with 3 race events planned. **FMS Balloon launch:** Al WØRC attended first class with 17 students planning a Jan. or Feb. launch with additional WX-related payloads. Ron KØGOP discussed possibility of adding a Club event in support of the **Arboretum's Haunted Trail** next Oct; it will be revisited in spring. Skip Jackson, ARRL has inquired regarding holding **MN Repeater Council Meeting** at the Apr 20 **Brainerd Hamfest**, providing additional exposure for the Club. **Winter Ham Classes** to be held for Technician and General licenses with details to be announced by Al WØRC and John WØWY.

Digital & Emergency Communications: John WØWY: Request from ARRL through ARES for Club participation in a "simulated emergency test." County assessment is generally favorable regarding ARMER implementation so far. Al WØRC: Gull Lake Repeater site needs new on-site computer; Lyle KØLFV will provide a replacement. Investigated repetitive "Ker-chunking" on Crosslake repeater and after cycling trim-pots, the problem resolved itself. Will have Internet connection installed to allow some remote adjustment capability. Lakewood Health System 2M antenna relocated to other side of tower to allow better propagation for monthly Central MN Hospital Net. An additional Club operator is being sought to man the CWC Public Health Department radio for this short net at 1PM, on the first Wednesday of each month.

Old Business:

Crosby Tower Project: Update: further progress temporarily stalled as AT&T delays vacating existing equipment on old tower. Adjacent old tower must come down before installation of our new antenna at top of new tower.

Membership Meeting Committee: The Board still seeks interested members to create a membership drive or open house, inviting local residents and non-member Amateur Radio operators to join the BAARC

Limits of Club Liability: Steve NØCRM has made contact with an insurance professional that will be available to meet with the Board at a future time to discuss issues and options.

Coax Prep and Crimping Tools: Ron KØGOP showed recently purchased tools, and will give a short demonstration on their use by Club members at a future Club meeting.

New Business:

Crosby Repeater Work Orientation: Steve NØCRM suggested we start training interested Club members to become familiar with the installation, testing, and maintenance of our repeater equipment. Experienced members can pass on their skills to the next generation through hands-on teaching at the Crosby site on a weekday evening TBD.

2013 Club Ballot: All incumbents have agreed to placement on the ballot to be published in the BAARCer.

Club Comms Trailer: No action at this time, but interested members may form a committee for future planning.

BAARC Business Cards: Ron KØGOP will provide a Club business card PDF file for all 2013 paid members.

2013 Club Dues: The dues will remain the same at \$20 Member, \$10 Additional Family Member, \$10 Student.

145.130 MHz Repeater Tower Sale: John WØWY reported the county will seek a buyer for the Brainerd tower.

The board meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Thursday-October 25, 2012 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes

Brainerd Fire Station

The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:05 PM with 17 members and guests present.

Membership Meeting Additions to Business above: No additional items.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.———Respectfully submitted by **Ron KØGOP**, Secretary

Pat Goff's Presentation: He suggested that a house wired to code has usually the bare minimum of a ground—and often, in fact, have a very poor ground. You want one that measures low ohms (resistance). You want the least resistance to current, so that the surge, lightning strike, etc. goes to ground and not through you or some other valuable investments you have. We also learned that just because you have surge protectors in your house does not automatically protect your gear. You must have a low-resistance ground with it. Crow Wing Power is constantly improving its power quality and works with customers to obtain optimum results. Often the problem is not with the power company but with the quality of the equipment installed by the builder/homeowner. Problems can often be traced back to an ineffective electrical grounding system. CWP aims to provide class A service in its power grid—that means 117-126 volts. Have your light bulbs been burning out faster than they should? Well, you may not be buying the right kind—according to Pat. You should be buying 130 volt bulbs. Your older ones probably were rated for 120 volts—yes, that is why they were cheaper. Compact fluorescent bulbs should have a power factor of at least 94% to last longer.

Regarding EMF—citizens have been bombarded by the media with often misleading or false information regarding this subject. Electromagnetic fields are nearly everywhere because the earth itself is a big magnet. So very low levels of a harmless field might measure .1 milligauss. However, baby monitors may produce more radiation, and may be more harmful because it is on all the time and is relatively close to the baby. We all have learned that we should not put our faces up to the glass door on a microwave oven to watch food cook—it could be harmful. Just common sense is involved—putting distance between you and the potentially offending devices. It could be as little as a foot or less, depending on the electrical equipment. So if a person wanted to check his household for levels of this kind of electromagnetic field (radiation), he would need one of those measuring devices shown on page 1.

Grounding



On the left is the reading before any additional ground rods are driven in and connected. Rods are usually 8 ft. long and can be added to if you can pound it down far enough. Sometimes that is not possible, so you have to pound additional rods down. You still have to connect them with heavy #6 gauge copper wire that is also buried a few inches. These readings were obtained at WØKO's. With more rods and interconnections, Fritz might have gotten even lower readings.



Thanks, Pat, for another expertful presentation!!!!

+++++

Goblin Watch 2012 Uneventful:

The communities of Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Brainerd, Baxter, Crosby, and Ironton had extra ham radio observers to help report suspicious activity to law enforcement. Fortunately there were no problems to report, and law enforcement officials in the County and the various communities appreciated the extra eyes and ears provided by a team of experienced BAARC members who served to observe and report.

Club participants were the following: Dave KCØTGT—Crosby-Ironton; Doug KDØERE and John WØWY—Brainerd; Rick KDØLFC—N. Brd; Dave KBØSCT and Dave KBØWGO—Baxter; Jim WØJDS—Pequot Lakes and Nisswa; Net Controls operating from the new 911 Com. Center were alternately Doug KDØERE and John WØWY. Thanks guys! This Goblin Watch/Patrol is just another public-service function of the Club to serve the various communities in Crow Wing County. (KDØERE & WØWY)

I am coordinating the sale of the following listed Amateur Radio Equipment offered for sale by our Local Radio Club and by some of our Members. List includes donated, estate and personal items. If you are interested in one of the listed items contact me. Thank you Lyle KØLFV <k0lfv@arri.net>

ICOM IC-718 HF All Mode Transceiver (like new)	500
ICOM AH-4 Antenna Tuner (like new)	200
ICOM IC-720 HF All Mode Transceiver w/PS-15 & Hand Mic	275
ICOM IC-3210A Dual Band FM Mobile (no mtg brkt)	80
MFJ-8100 Shortwave Radio	35
Icom IC-SP2 Speaker Phone Patch	35
Astron RS-20M Metered 12VDC 20Amp Power Supply	60
Mirage B23A 2M Power Amp w/pre-amp	35
ICOM IC-2SA 2M FM Hand Held	40
ICOM IC-u2A 2M FM Hand Held	35
TYT TH-UVF1 Dual Band H/T (Like NIB) w/extra battery	80
Icom IC-2AT 2M H/T With Speaker Mic	20
Icom IC-2AT 2M H/T With Speaker Mic	20
Kenwood TR-2400 2M H/T	25
Kenwood TR-2400 2M H/T No Batt	20
Kenwood ST-1 Powered Base for TR-2400	20
Yaesu DMU-2000 Digital Monitor Unit (Like NIB)	750
MFJ-989C 3KW Antenna Tuner	200
ICOM AT-100 Automatic External Antenna Tuner	150
Hand CW Key J38 Generic	10
Vibroplex Original Deluxe Model CW Keyer 218672	90
Johnson Viking Phone Patch	5
Swan SWR-1 SWR/Power Meter (Collectable Condition)	20
Uniden Bearcat H/T Scanner BC235XLT (New Battery)	30
Univ Service Coax Rationmeter 2-200 Mhz (swr/pwr meter)	15
Johnson Low Pass Filter	10
Cushcraft R3 Tuning Unit	25
Archer CB Tester	5
CSI CS900 Simplex Auto Patch	35
Antique Head Phones	15
Honeywell Test Meter (volt current meter)	10
Explorer 14 HyGain QK-710 40M Add-On Kit	90
Beldon 8237 Coax New on Spool (VHF)	.60/ft
Beldon 9913 Coax New on Spool (HF)	.40/ft
DX Engineering 43-ft. Vertical w/radial kit New in Box	450
Cushcraft R-6000 Vertical (Like New) 20M thru 6M	260
Universal 60-Foot Aluminum Tower Heavy Duty	750
Rohn HDBX 48 Foot Tower (needs to be taken down)	100
Cushcraft A3 Tri-Band 3 Element Beam (needs plastic kit)	60
Rohn AX 48 Foot Tower	100
Rohn 25 Series 38 Foot Tower	80

Additional Equipment For Sale by Fritz WØKO. If you are interested in one of the following items, you can contact him at: w0ko@arri.net

Maxi Tuner 3KW Antenna Tuner -1.7-30 Mhz —(Styled like Collins Line)	300
Antenna Specialists Commercial 5-Element 2M Beam (like new)	135
Vibroplex “Vibrokeyer”—single-lever paddle—Standard (like new w/manual)	125
Heathkit HD 10 Outboard Keyer unit with manual—Collector Item)	45
Tri-legged Roof Mount —new	BO
(2) antenna masts —new—lightweight and heavy duty , ea. 10-12 ft.	BO



Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Dues Year January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2013

(One Application for Each Person)



Name (First, MI, Last) _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____ License Class _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Additional Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Date of Application: _____ Circle One: New / Renewal

E-mail Address: _____ Member ARRL? Circle One: Y / N

I would like to receive the BAARCer via the Internet / US Mail (Circle One). (Internet saves Club money)

Circle One: \$20 Full Member / \$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. For information on a life membership, contact Doug, our treasurer: <djbdesk@gmail.com>

Membership Dues \$ _____

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

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

Voluntary Contribution \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Disclosure: 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 (check/money order), for each person who wants to be a member.
Check our Club's Website for other Information and Newsletters.

Regular Updates on the Sunday Night Nets on 147.225

www.brainerdham.org

Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

Official Ballot for the Election of Officers for the Year 2013

Circle the Choices or Write In a Name

President: Steve Mott, NØCRM

Write-In: _____

Vice-President: John Luce, WØWY

Write-In: _____

Treasurer: Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE

Write-In: _____

Secretary: Ron Finger, KØGOP

Write-In: _____

Director-at-Large: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV

Write-In: _____



Please print and bring the marked ballot to the Thursday, November 29, 2012, 7 P.M. Membership Meeting, which will be held at the Brainerd Fire Hall.

You may also pay your 2013 dues at that time in person or by mail.

You can also mail the completed ballot to:

**Ron Finger, KØGOP
BAARC Secretary
14092 Memorywood Drive
Baxter, MN 56425-1009**

Ballots received by mail on or before 1 PM or in person by the Secretary on November 29, 2012, will be counted at the 7 PM Membership Meeting.

Kathie Dumont Lord—KØTHY—SK

Kathie, age 72 of Aitkin, died in her home near Aitkin on October 3, 2012. She was born in Massachusetts on October 4th, 1939, the daughter of William E. and Katharine Crocker Dumont. Kathie attended Oak Grove School in Maine and Roanoke College in Virginia. She lived in Arizona and California prior to moving to Minnesota in 1985. Kathie enjoyed biking, kayaking, cross-country skiing, riding her horse and working in her gardens. For a number of years, she was a volunteer at Children's Hospital in St. Paul. She was also an amateur radio operator with the call sign KØTHY. Kathie is survived by her companion Lyle Koehler (KØLR) of Aitkin, sister Ruth Huking of Ogden, Utah, brothers Bill Dumont of Kirkland, Arizona and Warren Warner of Santa Barbara, California. No formal memorial service is planned. Kathie loved being active and outdoors, and that is the way she wanted to be remembered. Our sincerest condolences to Lyle and her family members. On behalf of the BAARC, a card was been sent. (The basic information above is from the obituary in paper)

Seen at the Recent Fargo Hamfest:

Fritz WØKO and Lyle KØLFV.

Lyle was selling mostly Club stuff and Fritz was selling a silent key's gear. In addition, Lyle was handing out info (flyers) promoting the BAARC's 2013 Hamfest to be held April 20. The two promoted our Club's event. While doing That, the attendees at Fargo were glad ours will be held in April again. Lyle and Fritz met with many who came to previous Brainerd hamfests.



(Photo provided by Bud, ham from the Cities, who comes regularly will Del to Brainerd)

DX and the Paper Chase

Another month has gone by at warp speed and it brought with it some very good band conditions and some not so good band conditions. The hot news was a 24-hour worldwide opening on 10 meters, and what an opening it was!!! Those of you who worked 10 during Cycle 23 remember how easy it was to work the world with nothing more than a metal coat hanger stuck out of the window. My first DXCC award was almost 50% on 10 meters. Everyone in the world seemed to be on the band last week—it was a blast. Then suddenly it became sporadic and disappeared the next day. There was lots and lots of DX to chase when the band conditions cooperated. Just this evening after dark I might add, I worked Gambia (C5Ø), and then the German research station in the Antarctica (DPØ) with a very sizeable pileup while working simplex. You may remember the TV show on *Discovery Channel* that chronicled the construction of the station that stands on steel poles above the highest snow levels. Anyway, it was fun to bust a pileup that huge operating barefoot. I smoked my amplifier last week...I have no clue what happened because the exciter power is 25-30 watts only with almost flat VSWR's. It'll be leaving for the hospital by the end of the week. Meanwhile I'm still doing CW and gaining on it. It's stage fright plain and simple because you're always working some dude that's pounding brass at 30 WPM—these operators are truly awesome. I'm constantly practicing in my head even when I'm in bed trying to sleep. I'll get there because I simply will not give up. Its like working DX: you have to have patience and follow the lead of the other operator. I might add that the CW signal does get the job done even during poor band conditions. I am looking forward to better band conditions this coming winter. Well, that's just about it from Huntersville and my shack to yours: don't forget to sit down at your station and call CQ. Someone somewhere is listening for your signal. So long from Huntersville for now, 73, and good DX from **Bob/WØZPE**.

SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS

11/04/12	Doug	KDØERE
11/11/12	Rick	KBØWWJ
11/18/12	Dave	KBØSCT
11/25/12	John	WØWY
12/02/12	Dave	KBØSCT
12/09/12	Fritz	WØKO
12/16/12	Steve	WØTNT
12/23/12	Bob	WØZPE
12/30/12	Marcia	WØZMC

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 all NCS Volunteers.

BAARCer by Mail. Can you get yours via the Club's website? It can save us money and time. We still mail 7. Let WØKO know.

U.S. VETERANS. **Thank you, all Veterans!** Especially on this month's Veteran's Day, let us remember to personally thank any veteran we meet. The men and women who have served our nation deserve the expression of gratitude. We especially salute and thank our BAARC veterans who served our country so admirably.

Happy Thanksgiving to all BAARC Members and their Families: Comparing our lives to those in other lands, we realize that we are truly blessed—have lots to be thankful for. May God continue to bless this great country of ours: *the United States of America.*

Thanks, Lyle Amundson, KØLFV, for your big efforts in raising funds for the Club by selling estate gear at hamfests. The recent total came to \$5446. Lots of time and effort!!! Lyle is the Super Salesman of the BAARC. Thanks, Lyle!!!

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