



The BAARCer



August 2013

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

Page 1 of 8

Club Call Sign: WØUJ

BAARC REPEATERS

53.110- 123.0 Hz
147.225 + (main rpt)
 145.130 – Echo Link
 Node number 233515
 443.925 + 110.9 Hz
 Packet: 145.670 MHz
 MNBRD, BRDBBS
 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS
Crosslake 147.030+
Crosby 146.700 –
 141.3 Hz
Crosby 444.925 +
<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**

CAP Presenters: Cadet Emmett Richardson and Lt. Ron Finger



Club Members learned much about the very modern CAP.
 More details and photos of the Crow Wing Squadron's work on page 5.

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— **Events Calendar** —

- Sat., Aug. 3, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
- Sat., Aug. 17, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
- Sat., Aug. 24, Annual Fox Hunt and Picnic @ Lum Park—No reg. mtg. this month—More details coming
- Sun., Aug. 25. Lakes Country Triathlon—Start & Finish @ Whipple Beach — Baxter, <<http://www.lakescountrytriathlon.com/>>
- Aug. 24-26 Hawaii OSO Party—See minutes for details—look for Bill KH6OO
- Sat., Sept. 7, 10th Annual Cuyuna Bicycle Ride. <<http://cuyunalakestrail.org/index.cfm/pageid/20>>

2-Meter Hams needed for these Public Service Events
Listen for Activity Updates on our Sunday Night Nets
 Encourage New Membership: Dues are still only \$20/year— djbdesk@gmail.com

Thursday-July 25, 2013 - 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

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

Community & Special Events Director: TBD

Director-At-Large: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV

Emergency Communications Director: John Luce, WØWY

Repeater Trustee: Fritz Bertelt, WØKO

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

Secretary's Report: Fritz WØKO has sent thank you notes for recent Club donations. Website has been updated for August Picnic and Fox Hunt. **Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

Treasurer's Report: Report given showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. Included were details from recent sales of donated equipment by Fritz WØKO. John WØWY is waiting for a coax cost at the new Crosby repeater site. Rates for additional regular or lifetime memberships by spouses and family members were discussed. This situation is not covered in the Club By-Laws, but the following motion was formed after discussion and considering recent custom. **Motion:** *Additional regular membership fees for spouses and family members of "lifetime members" will be charged at the additional family member rate, currently at \$10 per person. Additional "lifetime memberships" within the family will be charged at ½ the usual rate as indicated on the current prorated age/fee scale.* Steve NØCRM, **Second** John WØWY, **Passed.**

Regarding the July Treasurer's Report; **Motion to accept:** Ron KØGOP, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

Membership Meeting Program: Program Calendar topics were discussed. Roger WØWUG will present a program on **Station Grounding** for the September 26 meeting. October 24 has been designated for our **BAARC Open House** meeting. The November 21 Program will be a demonstration of **Digital Modes** by Ron KØGOP and Al WØRC.

Upcoming Events: Annual BAARC Fox Hunt & Picnic, Saturday, August 24 at Lum Park. **Lakes Country Triathlon**, Sunday, August 25 at Whipple Beach, Baxter. **10th Annual Cuyuna Bicycle Ride**, September 7 will be co-chaired by John WØWY and Lyle KØLFV. **N8I CXpedition to Isle Royale National Park**, August 9-11 with info available at n8i.org. **26th Annual Mid-MN 150 Sled Dog Race** has been scheduled for Saturday, February 8 in Emily, Outing, and Remer. The Club received a donation request for the January **FT5ZM Amsterdam Island DXpedition**. A \$100 Club donation will be sent by Fritz WØKO with a request for them to provide a program for our May 2014 BAARC Spring Banquet. More info available at: amsterdamdX.org **Motion:** Lyle KØLFV, **Second** Steve NØCRM, **Passed.**

Digital & Emergency Communications: ARES: Roger WØWUG and his friend and former student Dan KØTI have completed all but 2 of the 21 donated county-owned Motorola VHF HT's for BAARC amateur use. The batteries are also being reconditioned, with several needing to be replaced. Ron KØGOP will make channel-plan stickers for the 11 applied channels, and Fritz WØKO will send a letter of thanks from the Club. John WØWY requested permission to get the 2 donated 800MHz mobile radios programmed by Granite City Electronics for Club use with the local ARMER system.

Old Business:

John WØWY circulated drafts of an MOU regarding Club duties for site maintenance (mowing, weed spraying) in consideration for our ongoing tower use at the new Crosby site. Changes were discussed for revision.

New Business:

Lyle KØLFV circulated his completed inventory of the former Club station equipment, listing current location of all items in storage or use. He will work with other members to inventory the Club trailer items next.

The business meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Thursday-July 25, 2013 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes

Brainerd Fire Station

Attendees: The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:05 PM with 24 members and guests present. During introductions, four new area HAM/visitors were welcomed; two from Civil Air Patrol's Crow Wing Composite Sqdn.

Information supplemental to Board Meeting Minutes: No other info presented; an event reminder from the June meeting: Our visitor from Hawaii, Bill KH6OO, invited Club members to participate in the **Hawaii QSO Party August 24-26**. The Battleship *Missouri* Amateur Radio Club will be operating from its shipboard station in SSB, CW, and digital modes on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, and 160m. For more information, visit: <http://www.hawaiiqsoParty.org/>

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM with a presentation on Civil Air Patrol Communications to follow.

--Respectfully submitted by Ron Finger, KØGOP, Secretary

DX and the Paper Chase

I've mentioned this before 'I am not an expert on propagation' but I'd like to touch on the past 30 days of propagation and describe it as the good, the bad, and the ugly. There is (as far as I'm concerned) no bad DX, but over the past month there was some really sloppy propagation making DX challenging to say the least. On the good side there was the morning (3:00AM) that I was unable to sleep. I followed my usual pattern of going down to 40-meters and I heard two operators chatting about the good conditions on 20-meters. BAM! I went up to '20' with my monobander pointed into the South Pacific and after the 2nd CQ I was chatting down under with a VK. The 2nd VK was connected with when we were finished. Then after closing with him, someone shouted my call from H44 from the Solomon Islands and in particular, Guadalcanal. It simply doesn't get much better than that. Remember, all of this took place in the wee hours when the high bands are usually closed. This is the sort of activity that keeps me coming back again and again. Those of you who follow my monthly journeys through the world of DX know that I'm now using CW. I'm not really that good, but I'm good enough to get the job done and having a wonderful time with the mode. Just prior to noontime today, I worked a station in Corsica on CW and we had a short QSO, rather than exchanging call signs and a 5NN signal report. I think we chatted for at least 2 minutes and as I think back, it's only been a short time since I decided to operate CW and...CW rocks. Try it, you'll like it. That's about it from Huntersville for this month, but remember: sit down at your station and call CQ. Who knows, you might get an answer from VK land. So long for now, 73 es gud dx from Bob/WØZPE.

Program Details of the 7-25-13 Meeting—arranged for and presented to showcase the excellent volunteer work of the he Civil Air Patrol, which has its beginnings during WWII.—continued from page 1

1st Lt. Ron Finger was joined by one of his Cadet COMMS assistants, C/2nd Lt. Emmett Richardson, in presenting this program on CAP's Communications' mission, equipment, and procedures. Brainerd's Crow Wing Composite Squadron is one of 23 within the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, and is comprised of 74 members including 43 cadets. Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the US Air Force and is tasked with many missions each year including Search and Rescue, Multi-Agency and Municipal Support, and Aerial Imaging. "Composite Squadrons" include Cadets between the ages of 12-18 and provide opportunities in Powered and Glider flight, Aerospace Education, Ground Team SAR Operations, among many others. Recent years have seen the transition of CAP Communications, from ad hoc amateur radio equipment to sophisticated digital HF and VHF equipment supplied by the USAF. Recent opportunities have expanded the CAP COMMS role in support of the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and the Air National Guard's Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System (MAAFS) in operation over Arizona.

Several types of CAP radios including HF, VHF, AM, and FRS were on hand for demonstration. Check < <http://www.cpmembers.com/> > (Continues with photos on p. 5)
CAP Program photos by Fritz WØKO

NEW UHF/VHF REPEATER SITE

After nearly two years of waiting, the BAARC has its new repeater site near Crosby, Minnesota, on-the-air.

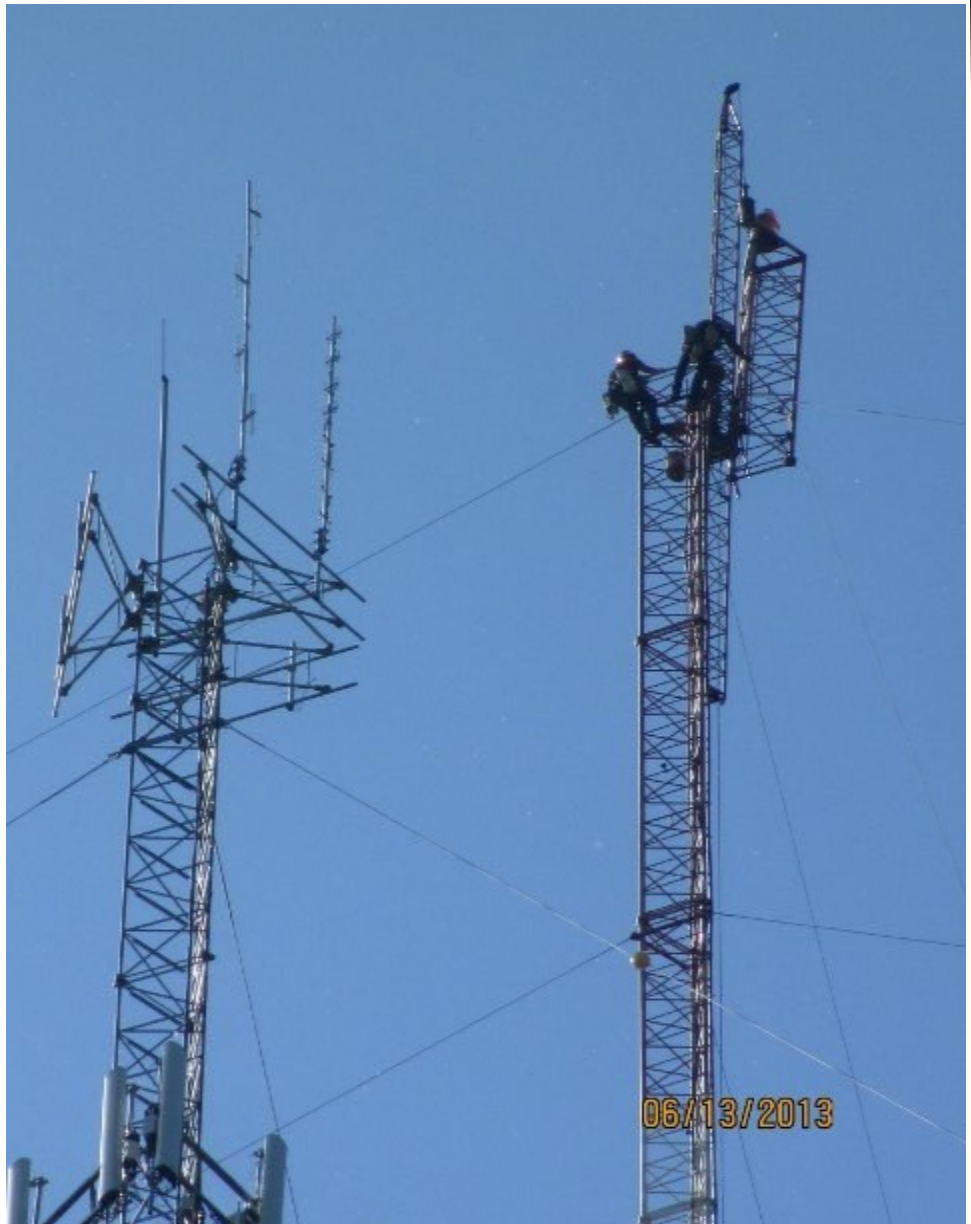
In the late summer of 2011 the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department and Consolidated Telephone Company jointly started plans to purchase an old 500-foot community TV tower and replace it with a larger tower, albeit a shorter one at 450-feet tall. At that time one of our members, John Luce, WØWY, became the project manager and proposed the Club locate two (2) stations there, one VHF and one UHF. The Club accepted as the "price was right." The primary purpose for the tower is twofold: to facilitate coverage for the new 800-MHz ARMER trunked public safety radio system; and to provide the telephone company a location for some 700 MHz and 3.65 GHz fixed wireless equipment for broadband services in a 15-mile radius of the site. (The site is also used by AT&T for mobile cellular and microwave linking.) The BAARC antennas are located at the top of the tower, and with modest transmitter power output and receiver sensitivity for both VHF and UHF repeaters the coverage seems to be in the 30 to 45-mile range.

The long-range plan is to be able to interconnect any of the Club's repeater stations as all of them are at locations where fiber optic cable is available which would provide a dedicated control path through a central controller to accomplish this. The benefit would be a much larger footprint of coverage with a goal to cover all of Crow Wing County as well as southern Cass and Aitkin counties. This wide-area coverage will in particular help with club service during severe weather months in the SKYWARN program from the Duluth Weather Bureau.

In the past two years many club members have become involved in putting the BAARC equipment on the air. Some of them are Steve, NØCRM; Al, WØRC; Roger, WØWUG; Lyle, KØLFV and Dave, KØNRI. And a special thanks to Roger WRØG for his contributions. -----

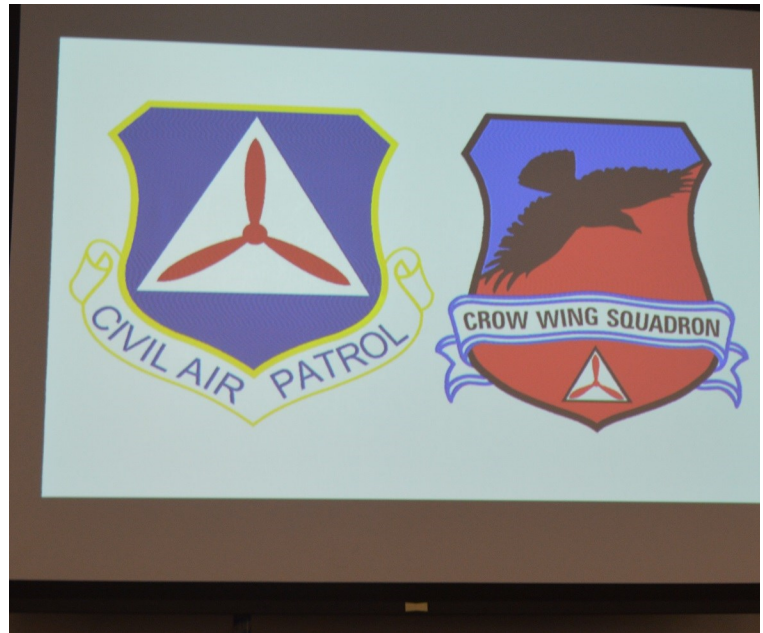
Text and photo on the right provided by John Luce, WØWY (BAARC Vice President). We appreciate his efforts for the BAARC.

New Tower on Left—Old on Right



Tower on the left is new one with our antennas also on it. The old one on the right was taken down as the photo shows the progression of the work done by tower professionals.

The Presentation on Civil Air Patrol: Top left is Cadet Emmett Richardson, an able high school student and volunteer to the community. He is demonstrating ELT (Emergency Locator Transmitter) direction finding.



CAP Major Cecil Schmidt shared with us his long-term experience with the CAP. Of particular interest was the CAP's work with Homeland Security, where CAP pilots assist in training missions with the military—all in the effort of protecting borders and U.S. citizens. Especially important are the SW, Gulf, and FL borders.

On the right, BAARC Secretary and CAP volunteer **Ron Finger, KOGOP**, told of how he first became intrigued with CAP work, tying it in with his other new hobby at the time: ham radio. He said that Joe Bayliss, NØUME (SK), in particular sparked his desire, noting that even though Joe was confined to a wheelchair, he found a way to get involved in public service. **Emmett Richardson** reaffirmed that teens can play a useful role and learn skills.



**Frequencies you could program into your VHF/UHF rigs—
Suggestions from AI WØRC and Rick KBØWWJ**

1. 147.225+ no tone Brd. N.
2. 146.700 — T-141.3 Crosby
3. 145.130 — no tone Brd. S. Echolink Node 233515
4. 147.030+ no tone Crosslake
5. 147.330+ no tone Sebeka/Wadena
6. 147.090+ T 123.0 Pequot Lakes/Jenkins
7. 147.360+ T-203.5 Aitkin
8. 147.015+ T-100 St. Cloud/Collegeville
9. 146.520 Simplex
10. 146.580 Simplex
11. 147.135 + T-123.0 Little Falls
12. 443.125 + T-123.0 Little Falls
13. 443.075+ Little Falls NØNRD-R Echolink Node 453256
14. 444.000+ D-Star Digital Little Falls

Current For Sale Lists

Astron RS-20A 12 VDC 20A Power Supply; Yaesu FT-2500 2M FM Radio; Yaesu FT-2600 2M FM Radio; Kenwood SW-2000 SWR/PWR Meter; Kenwood AT-180 HF Antenna Tuner; Kenwood SP-180 Speaker; Cushcraft AR2-B 2M Vertical Antenna; Cushcraft R-6000 40 – 6 Meter Vertical Antenna; Alpha Delta HF Dipole Antenna; W9INN HF Trapped Dipole Antenna—**Contact Lyle KØLFV for the above items @ <k0lfv@arrl.net**

Yaesu FT 900 HF, with built-in tuner, runs on 12v.; Yaesu Station Spkr., FT 2400 2m. rig, Astron RS 20A 12v. supply; FT 530 dual-band HT with new battery, speaker mic, case; MFJ 784 Tunable DSP filter; MFJ 986 3KW Tuner; Dentron 160-10 (KW) Transmatch, MFJ 546B Iambic Key Paddle, various non-ham speakers, Yaesu YSK 900 Separation kit; MFJ Keyboard Keyer; Microcraft Code Star; Microcraft Code Breaker; RF Concepts 2m 1-60 amplifier; Seth Thomas 24-hr wall clock; misc. items, keyboards, Heathkit VTVM, vhf and uhf base antennas. Yet to be taken down—64ft. tower, TA53M 5-band 4 ele. Yagi, HF vertical—possibly Cushcraft R7, cables. What do you need?

Do some research on values—Club prices negotiable. **Contact Fritz WØKO for a good deal for members <w0ko@arrl.net>** Most of these listed items are from the Gibson donation.

Welcome one of our newest Members: He is Stan Clark of Emily. As K3JKW he holds the Extra Class License and is pictured on the right.



Upcoming Events: Our Annual **Hamfest** will be on **Saturday, April 19, 2014**, at the Armory—so mark that down on your calendars. In addition, our **Annual Spring Dinner/Meeting** will on the **22nd of May**; we have a tentative commitment from **Dr. Ralph Fedor, KØIR**, who will present an interesting program on his team's **DXpedition to Amsterdam Island**. Our Club contributed to that effort. So in **January 2014**, we should be hearing signals from them coming from the Indian Ocean using call sign **FT5ZM**. This is definitely a big-time DX event.

One of Our Own BAARC Members was recognized: The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) also named **Monte Fronk, KCØWMC**, and Randolph Mantooth as co-winners of its 2013 IAEM-USA [Public Awareness Award](#) Certificate of Recognition. Fronk and Mantooth were recognized for developing and creating "Strength and Resiliency: Emergency Preparedness for Tribal Leaders," a 30-minute training video designed to educate elected Tribal leaders about disaster preparedness. Mantooth was one of the stars of the 1970s TV program "Emergency," which has been credited with inspiring a generation of firefighters and paramedics. -- *Thanks to Broadband-Hamnet webmaster Jim Kinter, K5KTF, and to Steve "Sid" Caesar, NH7C, Chief, Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs. (Info from the ARRL) Congratulations, Monty!!!!*

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Propagation: What is happening with Solar Cycle 24? The outlook for solar flux calls for 105 on July 26 and 27, then 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 130, 125, 120, 125, 120 and 125 on July 28 through August 8, 120 on August 9 to 12, 115 on August 13, 120 on August 14 to 17, 125 on August 18, 120 on August 19 and 20, and 125 on August 21 to 23. The latest projection shows a short term solar flux peak at 135 on September 4 and 5 after a minimum of 100 on August 27 and 28.—Yet another article about the current solar cycle says it is the weakest in the past 100 years, this time from Sky and Telescope: <http://www.skyandtelescope.com/news/The-Weakest-Solar-Cycle-in-100-Years-216752671.html> Also you can also listen for beacons if you suspect a quiet band is not actually dead (or make some calls.), or as DXer Bob WØZPE says—try the band—call CQ's—somewhere someone is thinking the same thing that the band is dead—but that often is not the case. It is just too many hams listening and not calling. See Bob's column this month. This information is taken mostly from the ARRL and K7RA's propagation reports.—de WØKO

**SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS**

|         |        |        |
|---------|--------|--------|
| 8/04/13 | Rick   | KBØWWJ |
| 8/11/13 | Rick   | KBØWWJ |
| 8/18/13 | Bob    | WØZPE  |
| 8/25/13 | Marcia | WØZMC  |
| 9/01/13 | Joe    | KBØVYJ |
| 9/08/13 | CJ     | WØWUH  |
| 9/15/13 | Doug   | KDØERE |
| 9/22/13 | Tom    | KDØMOM |
| 9/29/13 | Fritz  | WØKO   |

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.**

**Silent Key: KA3DQN, Wynn Roberts of Aitkin**, passed away in late June. He held the General Class license and participated in some of our public service events in the area. Our sincerest condolences go out to his family. On behalf of the Club, a card was sent, and his widow Sue wrote that Wynn really enjoyed our BAARC activities. Of course, Wynn will also be missed by our members.

**Thanks to Rick KDØVLR:** He is one of the new hams and National Guardsman from Little Falls. He volunteered to replace the memory batteries in the 2 mtr. rigs we have for sale. In addition, he programmed in repeater channels for the next owners. Older radios can be a challenge and learning experience. Two more are being worked on by him. We appreciate his extra effort.

**Welcome to Marwin KDØVLK** of Lakeshore. Newly licensed, he is now on 2 meters.

**Congratulations to John Luce, WØWY —BAARC VP:** John was recently named President (Chairman) of Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) Board of Directors. He has been a board member since 2005, representing District 5—Brainerd, Nisswa, and Baxter.

**Big Thanks to Lyle KLFV** for helping Fritz WØKO remove vhf antennas, masts, and cables from the Gibson site in 90F & 69DP.

**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