



The BAARCer



January 2013

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 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:

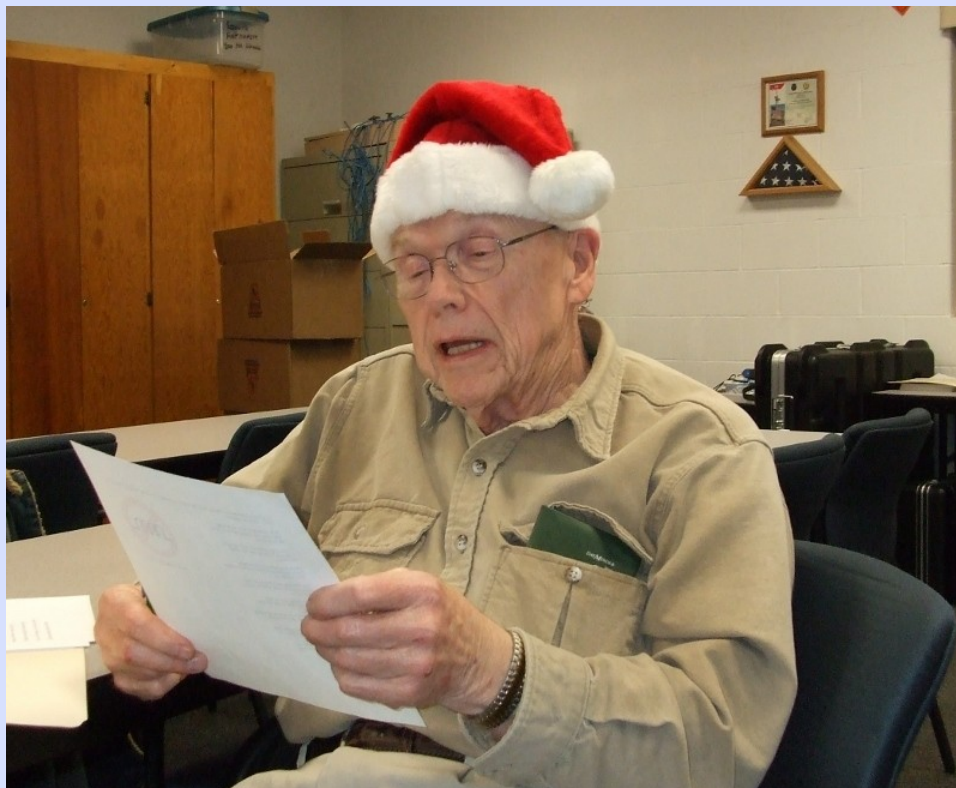
Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

Trustee + BAARCer

Editor:

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

Another Club Christmas Get-together at the Brainerd Fire Hall



Not only were we honored by the presence of the Mayor of Crosslake, Darrell Schneider (ABØVP), but he also did his annual Christmas Readings—with updates. The members present brought Christmas goodies to share. Our thanks to Lyle KØLFV for all the photos here.

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— **Events Calendar** —

Sat., Jan. 5, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Sat., Jan. 19, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Thurs., Jan. 30, Club Meeting: Board @ 4 and Membership @ 7 @ Fire Hall.
 FMS Balloon Launch possible in Jan./Feb.—more details on the Net.

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

A Prosperous & Healthful New Year to All Our Members.

**Thursday-December 20, 2012 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes
Brainerd Fire Station**

No Board Meeting was held for December.

**Thursday- December 20, 2012 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes
Brainerd Fire Station**

The Vice President, John WØWY, opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:15 PM with 19 members and guests present.

Secretary's Report: November meeting minutes approved as published in the December BAARCer and accepted in lieu of reading. **Motion to accept:** Dave KBØSCT, **Second** Shirley KØDCW, **Passed.**
The Secretary reminded the Club that next month's membership count will show a drop as several inactive memberships are carried until the end of the calendar year, and then removed from the roster. The Club welcomed new members Eric KDØTKO, David Satre and Curtis Richmond (no call sign yet).

Treasurer's Report: Report given showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. **Motion to accept:** Al WØRC, **Second** Darrell ABØVP, **Passed.**

Upcoming Events: FMS Balloon launch: Al WØRC reported that the students he has been working with have been taught soldering/desoldering skills and completed a circuit board project, towards a planned January or February launch. **Winter Ham Classes** will be held for Technician and General class licenses by Al WØRC and John WØWY. John reported that classes will meet once a week starting on February 7, and end prior to VE Testing at the **Brainerd Hamfest** on April 20.

Digital & Emergency Communications: John WØWY: Progress on the new Club repeater site is still awaiting the relocation of the AT&T equipment from the adjacent old tower. A January timeframe is still anticipated.
Al WØRC: The Echo Link repeater feature sometimes requires rebooting to correct a glitch. Thanks to Al for his efforts to keep things running!

Old/New Business:

Pat WØOPW asked to open a Club discussion on how we use the Club funds, as far as benevolence, projects, etc. John WØWY thanked him for his question and interest, and advised the Club that those issues are engaged each month at the **Executive Board Meetings**. John invited any and all interested members to attend these meetings that are held on the afternoon of the regular Membership Meeting (usually the last Thursday of the month) at 4 PM. Meeting location is usually at the Brainerd Fire Hall, but always listed in the BAARCer Club newsletter, available by mail or on the Club website: www.brainerdham.org.

Dave KDØNRI reported on an interesting and useful **Coax Calculator** he found on the Internet. It will provide dB loss calculations for various lengths and types of coax cable. This and other calculators can be found at the Times Microwave Systems website at <http://www.timesmicrowave.com/cms/tech-resources/cable-performance-calculators/index.shtml>.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM. **Motion to adjourn:** Jim WØYA, **Second** Darrell ABØVP, **Passed.**

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

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PLEASE—Get your 2013 Dues in ASAP.

DX and the Paper Chase

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from my radio shack to yours. It is so refreshing when working HF to hear Merry Christmas and not Happy Holidays. It seems to me that Ham radio operators are more tuned to reality and less to the madness of political correctness. The past 30 days have been absolutely the best a DXer could ask for. There was abundant worldwide DX and...more importantly, there were DXpeditions to those far-off places with call signs that are on the most "wanted list" —Auckland & Campbell Islands (ZL9) that I was able to make contact with on two bands. Lesotho (7P8) that is another new one for me. There was a DXpedition to Mauritania (5T0) that I worked two bands phone and two bands CW, and last but not least—Vatican City (HV) that I've been trying for years to work. The Vatican radio station is not on the air often, and when it is, look out because the pileups are humongous. As for the paper chase, a QSL card from the London Olympics arrived. I have quite a collection of cards from worldwide Olympic games radio stations. Propagation (as usual) was up and down making HF challenging at times, but it was worth putting out the effort to work the new ones. DX chasers, give our best regards to our fellow operators who go that extra mile along with huge expense of putting on a DXpedition to far away places. The politics involved in getting permits sometimes takes years before a DXpedition gets underway. The new OQRS online response service includes a small donation to help offset the huge costs of DXpeditions, plus it's so easy to get QSL cards without all the fuss direct mail requires. IRC's will be discontinued in 2013 by the Postal Service, making the OQRS system the 21st century method of DX QSLing. I would like to add a comment on using CW. As those of you who read this column know, I recently took up the mode and I'm having an absolute blast in my old age using CW. Try it, you'll like it. That's about it for this month as the new year approaches, so remember to sit down at your station and call CQ. Someone somewhere is listening for your signal. Don't disappoint him/her. So long from Huntersville for now, 73 and good DX from **Bob/ WØZPE**.

ADDDITIONAL /MISCELLANEOUS NOTES : All members may not get the monthly reports sent out by Skip **KSØJ** and Frank **_NIUW**, MN ARRL Club Coordinator, but you should know that as reported, our active EC for Crow Wing County, John Luce, **WØWY**, faithfully sends in his monthly reports. We know not all Clubs have such a diligent official. So—thanks, John, for doing this every month and making our Club look good in the eyes of others in this hobby.

According to the FCC, as reported by the ARRL, your ham license does not allow you to broadcast outside your assigned/permitted frequencies:

After unsuccessfully appealing to the FCC to cancel his \$20,000 forfeiture, Joaquim Barbosa, N2KBJ, of Elizabeth, New Jersey must pay \$16,000 for "willfully and repeatedly violating Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by operating a radio transmitting equipment on the frequency 296.550 MHz without Commission authorization."

Editor's Note:

That could have bought some pretty nifty legal ham radio equipment and antennas.

More Photos from the Christmas party. All pix courtesy of Lyle KØLFV. More on page 6.



Above: Treasurer Doug KDØERE (l) with Fred WØJGY, who was the winner of the Icom 2AT 2 mtr. Xcvr given as the main door prize at the meeting.



Another new member Curtis Richmond and XYL also enjoying the Christmas gathering.



Ron KØGOP with new member David Satre. He will be getting relicensed after the next class.



More OTs: Santa Darrell ABØVP, Jim WØYA and John WØWY, our VP, enjoying the visit and goodies.

Not pictured in these sets of photos, but attending, are Orcy WØQT and Lyle KØLFV. Of course, we appreciate Lyle's efforts to get everyone or as many as possible into pix. Nevertheless, Lyle reported that everyone had a goods time at this yearly pre-Christmas event.

Word to the Wise:

The white noise that you hear on an empty frequency is the transmissions of all the hams who have gone before us. (Relayed by Sean **N7OUW**)



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
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

More pictures of the Event—taken by Lyle KØLFV.



In front, Shirley KØDCW and Al WØRC with Dave KØSCT and XYL Janie behind them.



New ham Eric KDØTKO with OT Pat WØOPW probably discussing antennas and BALUNs.



Even Santa Darrell needs to eat.



Dave KDØNRI and his XYL Barb enjoying the event.

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NOTE: Know of a member who needs a card of cheer, perhaps someone who is hospitalized, recovering? Please let Fritz WØKO know. Likewise, if you know of the death of a member or a close relative of a member, please communicate that as well. In those cases, the club sends a card of condolences. Remember, Fritz is not a mind reader. But he is working on that and other skills needed—HI!

HAVE ANY FOR SALES/WANTS? Send them via e-mail to Fritz <w0ko@arrl.net>. Members can list here on a space available basis. Looking for used gear? Previous issues had lists of gear. Lyle KØLFV is, we think, the best source for this information locally. It is one route to an economical way to fund a station or to add to an existing one. Besides, the Club itself has donated gear for sale that Lyle can tell you about: <k0lfv@arrl.net>.

FROM THE LEAGUE:

New Ham Frequencies being Considered—At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), delegates approved a means of satisfying Agenda Item 1.23: a 7-kilohertz-wide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service, with a power limit of 5 W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location). Before this portion of spectrum is made available to radio amateurs in the US, the FCC must first approve its use and amend its rules to reflect the change. As such, the ARRL filed a *Petition for Rulemaking* on November 29, asking the FCC to amend Parts 2 and 97 of its rules and create a domestic Amateur Radio allocation at 472-479 kHz, conforming to the allocation status and limitations set forth in the international Radio Regulations.

Solar Update: Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers fell 13.5 points this week, from 61.1 to 47.6, while the average daily solar flux was about the same this week as last, rising 1.1 points to 102.7. The geomagnetic indices were even quieter this week than last week. The predicted solar flux : December 30-January 3, 100 on January 4-5, and rising to 105 on January 6-8. The predicted planetary A index: December 30-January 5, 7 on January 6-7, 5 on January 8-9, and rising again to 8 on January 10-11. Look for more on the ARRL website -- including reports from last weekend's [ARRL 10 Meter Contest](#), updated forecasts and some minor revisions from both NASA and NOAA to the latest predictions for the peak of Solar Cycle 24, For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the [ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page](#). (Edited for upcoming dates—WØKO)

Ham Radio History: December 13 marked 100 years of Amateur Radio licensing, which began in 1912. Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, noted in the January 2012 *QST* editorial "It Seems to Us" that in the four months following the August 13, 1912, passage of the legislation, 1,185 amateur stations were licensed - just a small fraction of the number that were active at the time. We are well over 700,000 in the US now...for a quick tally of the current numbers check out [AHØA's web site](#).

Another Expensive Operation for a Violator Ham:

On December 5, Glen Rubash, KCØGPV, of Dwight, Kansas, was issued a \$10,000 fine for what the FCC called “willfully and repeatedly” violating Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 88.3 MHz in Manhattan, Kansas. The agents determined that the signals on 88.3 MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the Commission’s rules and therefore required a license. Part 15 sets forth the conditions and technical requirements under which certain radio transmission devices may be used without a license; specifically, [Section 15.239](#) provides that non-licensed broadcasting in the 88-108 MHz band is permitted only if the field strength of the transmission does not exceed 250 µV/m at 3 meters. The FCC noted that its records showed that no authorization was issued to Rubash, or to anyone else for operation of an FM broadcast station at or near this location.

SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS

01/06/13	Rick	KBØWWJ
01/13/13	Dave	KDØNRI
01/20/13	John	WØWY
01/27/13	Joe	KBØVYJ
02/03/13	Rick	KBØWWJ
02/10/13	Marcia	WØZMC
02/20/13	Bob	WØZPE
02/27/13	Joe	KBØVYJ

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.

DUES: Please make the work of our treasurer easier by sending in your 2013 dues now. See the Minutes on page 2 and also see the dues form on page 5—print it from the Internet and mail it in with your check. \$20 is still a bargain. If you are one of the 10 or so who receive the BAARCer via snail-mail, you can make it easier and less expensive for the Club by receiving the monthly newsletter via the Internet—it's faster and in color. Please let Fritz or one of the officers know.

HAM RADIO CLASS: Al WØRC and John WØWY have again generously agreed to teach a class for prospective Technician and General class students. Sessions will start Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m. at the Brainerd Fire Hall Feb. 7th for approximately 10-11 sessions, with the last one being the test session—April 20th at our hamfest. The text costs about \$25. The ARRL charges a testing fee of \$15 due at that time. More details in the upcoming newsletters and on the Sunday nets. Al and John have been producing high pass rates with classes. Contact them at <w0rc@arrl.net> or <w0wy@arrl.net>.

Sincere Condolences: On behalf of the BAARC a card was sent to Mike Morris, WAØLVG, and his family on the recent death of his wife Merilee. We extend our heartfelt condolences to them.

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