



The BAARCer



October 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 rptr)
 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**

Roger Williams, WØWUG, Veteran Electronics Instructor with M.A. Degree, conveyed his knowledge and experience to eager learners: Topic—lightning protection for hams and their gear. He gave practical advice based on 40 yrs. work.



A few Notes by WØKO on his Presentation on page 3.

Index of the BAARCer

Mtg. Minutes—Ron	2
DX Report— WØWUG Notes	3
Photos @ Mtg 9-26-13—WØKO	4
Project from Ted KCØVTW—diagram And Photos	5
For Sale Items By Fritz WØKO	6
For Sale Items By Lyle KØLFV	7
Last Word—Updates Sunday Night Net	8

— Events Calendar —

Sat., Oct. 5, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Sat., Oct. 19, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.
Thurs., Oct. 24, Board Mtg @ 4 and Membership @ 7 @ Brd Library: This a
Special Membership Drive Mtg—OPEN HOUSE.—Meet prospective
Members/Hams from the Area
Thurs., October 31—Annual Goblin Patrol—Details at Mtg. and on Net—
(Volunteers Needed)

Check the Club's Website and Activity Calendar
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-September 26, 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
Repeater Trustee: Fritz Bertelt, WØKO

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

Attendees: Steve NØCRM, John WØWY, Doug KDØERE, Ron KØGOP, Al WØRC, Terry KIØFW, Roger WØWUG, and Dave KBØSCT.

Secretary's Report: Club membership rosters were distributed showing 71 paid members. 14 other members have been placed on inactive status pending receipt of their annual dues. The website will be updated for the October BAARC Open House. Several new member ID badges have been completed and will be distributed at the 7PM meeting.

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 showing the liquidation and transfer of funds from 3 low-yield certificates into the higher interest HamFest Account. **Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

Membership Meeting Program: Program Calendar topics were discussed. Roger WØWUG will present a program on **Station Grounding** for the 7PM meeting. A post card invitation for the **7PM October 24 BAARC Open House at the Brainerd Library** was presented by Ron KØGOP. 100 will be printed and mailed to area Hams. Fritz WØKO's welcome letter and Club application will also be distributed at the meeting. Our annual **Year in Review** prepared by Steve NØCRM and a demonstration of **Digital Modes** by Ron KØGOP and Al WØRC is also planned.

Upcoming Events: The final Club event of the year, the **Halloween Goblin Watch**, will be held on Thursday October 31 with details to be arranged at the October 24 Open House Meeting. The **Brainerd Jaycees \$150,000 Ice Fishing Extravaganza** is scheduled for Saturday, January 25th. The **26th Annual Mid-MN 150 Sled Dog Race** has been scheduled for Saturday, February 8 in Emily, Outing, and Remer.

Digital & Emergency Communications: ARES: Al WØRC will research battery replacements for the donated Motorola VHF HT's. The old battery reconditioning has not been very successful, so the Board is considering purchasing 10 new ones. Ron KØGOP has made channel-plan stickers for the 9 HT750 radios without a display. Fritz WØKO has sent a thank you note to Dan KØTI for his help with reprogramming the donated HT radios.

Old Business:

John WØWY submitted the MOU regarding our ongoing tower use at the new Crosby site. It has been accepted without any Club responsibility for site maintenance.

Doug KDØERE will invite our Club insurance agent to attend the October Board Meeting to discuss "limits of liability" provisions under our current policy, and whether changes are in order to that coverage.

New Business:

The tower and antennas will need to be removed before winter from the former Club station location at the BHS-South Campus. An interested tower climber's previous offer was discussed and will be considered.

A new location for a Club station is still undecided. Several options include space at the Crow Wing County EOC, Brainerd Fire Department Training Room, and even another area at South Campus.

The business meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Thursday- September 26, 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 22 members and guests present. **Information supplemental to Board Meeting Minutes:** No additional info presented.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM with a presentation on **Station Grounding** by member and former Electronics Instructor Roger Williams, WØWUG following.

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

DX and the Paper Chase

This past month has been somewhat of a bust as far as band conditions go. The bands had good openings if you were there to take advantage of them and as always...you can't be heard listening. I think I set a record calling CQ's, but it's the difference in working DX or just turning the station off. I prefer to look for what's out there and enjoy the DX that answers. I worked the Island of Guam on CW early one evening, and that's enough to put a smile on your face. DX is there but... but there are times you have to look for it. There was some rare "stuff" out there including Burma, but the propagation was out to lunch. When the going gets tough, the tough get going and the rewards are there. I worked some good DX into Europe during the month with good openings early in the morning and late in the evenings. It's a matter of looking for what's available. Lately I've been using CW more and more. I need the practice. An example—this morning there was ample DX on 12 meters, but I was in the mood to do some CW—so it was down to 17 meters to check out the best CW signals. I was very fortunate to have one of my better days that allowed me to work four DX stations on CW with a minimum of mistakes. I set my internal keyer for 24 WPM and spent some quality time sending without mistakes...each word was formed and sent to my keyer at my dumbo speed of 13-15 WPM. The keyer took care of the rest. I wish that I'd paid more attention to learning the code years ago when the FCC still had the CW requirement to upgrade. I upgraded to Tech Plus at 5 WPM and I decided to drop the code when the FCC did the same. Big mistake—as I missed out on using the most fascinating mode in the hobby. Now that the fall season is here, perhaps band conditions will improve...take advantage of the openings by sitting down at your station and calling CQ because someone somewhere is going to answer you, and this is what the hobby is about. So long for now from the tiny berg of Huntersville, 73 es gud DX from Bob/WØZPE

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**Roger's Presentation:** Short, fat wires for grounding are preferred—the greater the surface area of these grounding wires, the better. Keeping them straight is generally best. Try not to have sharp bends because lightning will jump to a better path rather than the one you want it to go. Ground straps can be created from used coax—like RG 8—by stripping the outer plastic and peeling the braid back. Connect all your gear to a common ground/s. In addition, your electrical system ground should be part of it—all grounded together. Consumers can buy commercial devices for the main house panel and individual electronic equipment. For that you may want to talk to a licensed electrician. However, if you have extra AC cord, tie a few loose knots here and here—that may also help. Be encouraged that we live in MN where we have 30-40 thunderstorm days per year. FL is perhaps the worst state for lightning. Did you know that there are some 100-200 lightning strikes somewhere in the world every second? We all benefited from his overhead and handout presentation—in addition to his tying in his vast practical experience in industry and education. Even though he is long retired, Roger can still master giving a lecture that is both informative and practical. To top it off, he made it interesting with his unusual sense of humor. Thanks again, Roger, for another good lesson we need to incorporate into our hobby practices and re-learn from time to time..

*I hope these notes did justice to his content—de Fritz WØKO*

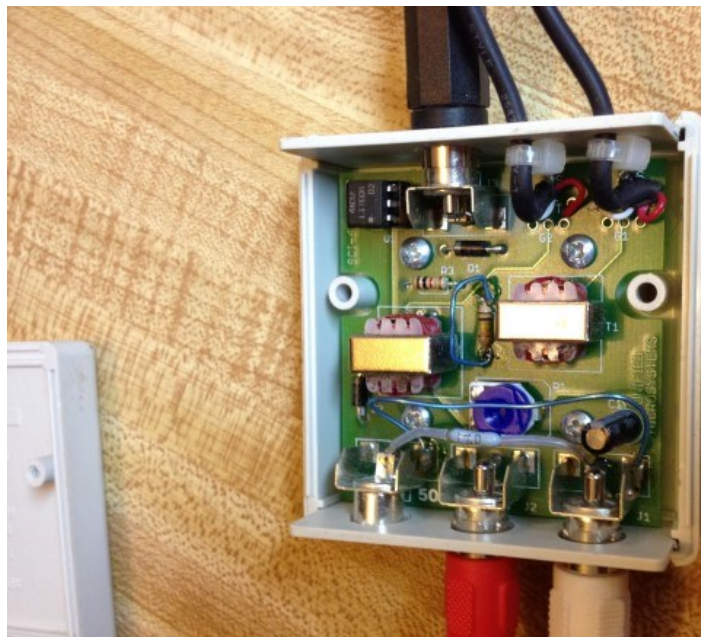
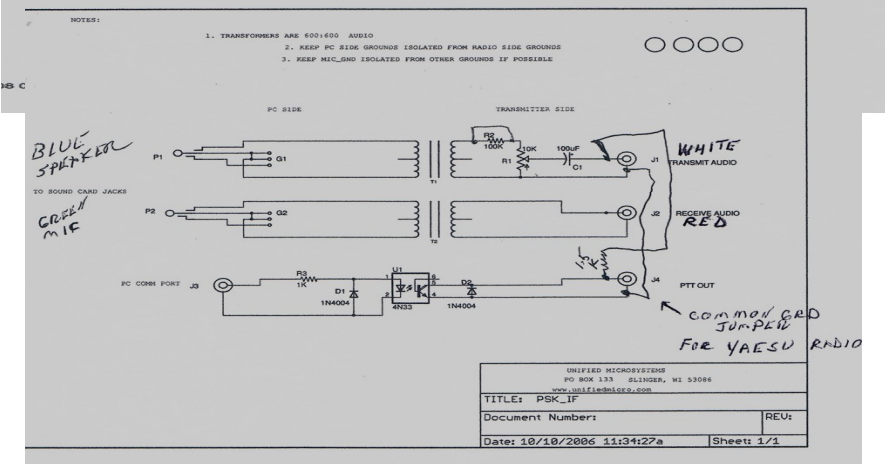
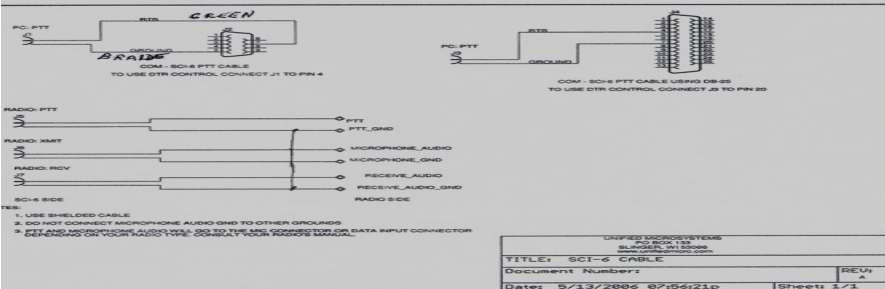
Random Pictures from the September 26, 2013, Meeting—all photos in this newsletter by WØKO



Even with a wide-angle lens, it's hard to get everyone in. Nevertheless—we had an attentive group.

**A Project: Ted KØVTW** winters with a ham Club in the Southwest and he and a group have built these units as projects and fundraisers. He told us about them at recent breakfasts. Have questions? He can be reached <tedberquam@earthlink.net>

“ Here is the information that I used for connecting handy talkies (Radio) to a laptop computer for emergency communication on 2 m. I bought the little transformer isolation box from Micro Systems.—(Micro System 600 Ohm ground) .It is very nice, well made and easy to assemble at around \$25 as depicted in the photos.”



Neat Project!!! Readers will need to enlarge the diagrams and photos. Thanks for sending the write-up/description, diagrams and photos, Ted.

## Alan, AAØAS, Sent This Interesting Item for an Event October 9th.

At an amateur radio club meeting here in Iowa City one of the members who is a physicist at the University of Iowa gave the program. The physicist is Don Kirchner, KDØL, who has built a detector that is on the Juno satellite that is headed for Jupiter. It is going to fly by the Earth on October 9 at about 1 pm.

Flying close by the earth will give it a sling-shot type of assist to give it the energy to get to Jupiter.

His detector measures radio energy (over a very broad band) in the 10-meter band. One of his mentors was James van Allen, who discovered the Van Allen radiation belts around the earth.

Anyway, he is getting hams around the world organized to send signals to the spacecraft as it comes very close to earth. He will get data back from the craft a day or two later, and will be able to see if his instrument was sensitive enough to pick up the ham signals.

Since he is looking at such a wide part of the spectrum, it apparently will take a lot of energy to activate the detector.

That is solved by assigning hams to a number of adjacent frequencies and having them key down with a Morse code signal at precisely timed intervals.

Interested hams can go to a website that will tell him exactly when to activate his key.

I think he will have the hams say "HI" dit dit dit dit dit dit

Sounds sort of crazy, but if you have any interest, here is the website link from the ARRL:

<http://www.arrrl.org/news/ham-radio-community-invited-to-say-hi-to-juno-spacecraft> Don Kirchner's ham info (KDØL) can be accessed on QRZ.com where he has a link to NASA and this project:

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/hijuno/> Our thanks to Alan for this interesting info.

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Club Items For Sale: Yaesu Station Spkr.; Dentron 160-10 KW Transmatch; MFJ 546B Deluxe Iambic Key Paddle; 5 non-ham speakers, Yaesu YSK 900 Separation kit—new in box; small 2m HT amplifier; EF Johnson CB tester—w/manual, 2 CB radios, Tunable low-pass filter; Heath V TVM--works (military-type); 2m Ringo Base Ant; misc. items, computer keyboards. Yet to be taken down—64ft. Rohn BX 64 Tower with TA53M 5-band 4 ele. HF Yagi, HF vertical—possibly Cushcraft R7, cables. What do you need? Prices negotiable/make an offer/members get priority. Contact **Fritz WØKO** <w0ko@arrrl.net>

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 please contact me. Thank you
Lyle KØLFV Home 218.765.3100 Email k0lfv@arrl.net

HF Transceivers

Yaesu FT-101B HF Transceiver (Project)
Kenwood TS-870 HF Transceiver with DSP
Hallicrafters Radio Rcv/Xmit BC-699-B (Project)
Uniden HR2510 10M All Mode Transceiver

HF Linear Amplifiers

Amp Supply LA-1000 HF Linear Amp (Very Good Condition)
Ameritron AL-811H HF Linear Amplifier

VHF UHF FM Transceiver

Midland VHF FM Radio Model 70-1440B (Programmable)
Yaesu CPU-2500R 2M Mobile FM Transceiver

Power Supplies

VHF Engineering PS25C Power Supply
Kenwood PS-52 DC Power Supply
GSC 20R 20 Amp Power Supply
Astron RS-35A DC Power Supply (older model)

Miscellaneous Ham Radio Equipment

Omega Antenna Noise Bridge TE7-01
Yaesu DMU-2000 Digital Monitor Unit (Like NIB)
Yaesu YC-601 Digital Display
Kenwood PC-1 Phone Patch
Kenwood MC-60 Desk Microphone
Ameritron ARB-704
Astatic D-104 Desk Microphone
Shure 444 Desk Microphone
MFJ-287 H/T Speaker Mic
Realistic 19-310 H/T Speaker Mic
Kantronics Field Day Code RTTY Reader
MFJ-1118 DC Outlets with Meter and Switch
Generic 5 Position Coax Switch
Bencher XZ-2 Audio Filter
James Millen Grid Dip Meter
AEA DM-1 Deviation Meter
CSI CS-900 Simplex Auto Patch
Turner Sidekick Desk Microphone
JPS Com DSP Notch Filter NF-60
Realistic PRO20 Headphones
Koss K6 Headphones
CW Semi-Auto CW Key BK-50
Vibroplex Deluxe Iambic CW Keyer
Realistic Low Pass Filter
Kris Model 136 Pwr/SWR Meter
PDC 550 Pwr/SWR/Mod Meter
Thorotest SWFS-2 SWR/FS Meter
Antique Head Phones
Heathkit B-1 Balun Coil Assembly

