



# The BAARCer



April 2014

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+  
 Crosby 146.700 MHz+  
 Tone 127.3  
 Crosby 444.925 MHz +  
<http://brainerdham.org>

**OFFICERS**

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**Editor:**

Steve Mott **NØCRM**

**Vice President:**

Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

**Secretary:**

Ron Finger **KØGOP**

**Treasurer:**

Doug Bergsnev **KDØERE**

**Director-at-Large:**

John Luce **WØWY**

**Trustee + BAARCer**

**Editor:** Fritz Bertelt  
**WØKO**

March Meeting, which was preceded by another blast of MN Winter, did not deter many Members from attending 3-27-14. They were treated to multifold presentations: (1) John WØWY with Steve NØCRM on the latest from the WX service in Duluth and Skywarn. (2) Dave KØNRI presented a design for launching your wire antennas—a spud-gun variation. Also he showed off his construction of a 10-mtr., 2-element beam. The third part of was on a new experience in ham radio for him—AllStar Link Network. (3) Finally, Lyle KØLFV presented a Kenwood video on its latest flagship-model transceiver—TS990—showing the process of construction, testing, and packaging in Japan. Shown here are John on the left and Steve on the right. (More p. 7)



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**— Events Calendar —**

**Sat., April 5, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brd.**  
**Sat., April 19, Brainerd Annual Hamfest—Armory—Members' Help Needed Friday—18th at 12:00 noon for set-up. Sat. various assignments—HELP!**  
**Thurs., April 24, Club Meeting: Board @ 4 and Membership @ 7 @ Fire Hall.**  
 Program: Recent Trips to Japan presented by Steve NØCRM  
**Sat., April 26—Jacees Nisswa Marathon —volunteer help needed**  
**Thurs, May 22, Annual Dinner-Meeting @ Nisswa American Legion—**  
 Presenter: Ralph Fedor, KØIR, Topic: Amsterdam Island DXpedition—see p. 4  
**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**

**ATTEND THE BRAINERD HAMFEST—BRING A FRIEND**

## Thursday—March 27, 2014 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

**President:** Steve Mott, NØCRM  
**Vice President:** Lyle Amundson, KØLFV  
**Treasurer:** Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE  
**Secretary:** Ron Finger, KØGOP

**Past Presidents:** Charles Lane ,W5CCL; Al Doree, WØRC  
**Director-at-Large:** John Luce, WØWY  
**Repeater Trustee:** Fritz Bertelt ,WØKO  
**Emergency Communications Director:** John Luce, WØWY

**Attendees:** Steve NØCRM, John WØWY, Ron KØGOP, Lyle KØLFV, Jim WØYA, Dave KØNRI, Dave KBØSCT and Roger WØWUG.

**Secretary's Report:** February Meeting Minutes were published in the March 2014 BAARCer; no corrections were noted. The website was updated for the BAARC 2014 Hamfest. Activities included updating membership rosters and minutes, and making new ID badges. **Motion to accept:** Lyle KØLFV, **Second** John WØWY, **Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Report delayed to Membership Meeting.

**Membership Meeting Program: Meeting program topics:** May Spring Dinner Program: "Amsterdam Island DXpedition" by Ralph Fedor, KØIR, May 22, Nisswa Legion. The public and local radio clubs will be invited with a paid reservation, by a Brainerd Dispatch Calendar announcement. Registration deadline is May 16. June meeting moved to 19th: "Field Day Prep". April 24th meeting program: "Recent Trips to Japan" by Steve Mott NØCRM; family and friends invited.

**Upcoming Events: SKYWARN Spotter Training** will be held on April 16, 6:30 PM at CWC Land Services Building, Brainerd. The **Brainerd Hamfest** will be held on April 19th, with VE Testing available for all license classes. **BAARC SKYWARN Weather Net** will be held on April 24, 1:15 PM on the 147.225+ repeater. The **Brainerd Jaycees "Run For The Lakes" Marathon** on Saturday, April 26th, is the next Club event in Nisswa.

**Digital & Emergency Communications:** The **SKYWARN informational meeting** was held on March 8th, at Midway Town Hall, Duluth ,with Al WØRC, Terry KIØFW, John WØWY, and Steve NØCRM attending. John and Steve discussed the updated protocols for SKYWARN reporting; a special emphasis is being placed on spotter APRS capability.

**Old / New Business:** Lyle KØLFV proposed replacing the older, unreliable PC's at Club repeater sites with refurbished DELL small-format towers available from a Saint Cloud supplier for \$125 each. **Motion to purchase 4 units at \$125 each:** John WØWY, **Second** Ron KØGOP, **Passed.**

The board meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

## Thursday—March 27, 2014 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

**Attendees:** The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:00 PM with 19 members and guests present.

**Information supplemental to Board Meeting Minutes:** Treasurer's report submitted showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. John WØWY and Steve NØCRM discussed the Duluth SKYWARN Meeting, upcoming training dates, and Echolink spotter reporting. New Protocol sheets were prepared and distributed to Club members.

Chris KDØLFA announced his upcoming wedding to fiancé and frequent Club volunteer, Terri on July 26. Members and friends are invited RSVP; congratulations Chris and Terri!

Ron KØGOP made an invitation to any licensed operators that would like to man area stations for the Central MN Hospital net held at 1PM on the first Wednesday of each month. The Net is held by Jack WØMBD on the 147.015+ Saint Cloud repeater (100 Hz tone), and is usually completed prior to 1:30PM. Roll call includes 35 stations in 13 counties including the 3 Crow Wing County stations in downtown Brainerd: EOC, CWC Public Health, Brainerd Fire Station, and 2 Medical Center stations at St Joseph's Essentia and Cuyuna. Currently, regular staffing is held only at the EOC. Members Dave KØNRI and Rick KDØLFC came forward to help with the monthly duties; additional operators can contact Ron KØGOP for more details.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM with a following program featuring several radio projects by Dave KØNRI.

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

## DX and the Paper Chase

And now the paper chase begins with 3 new entities awaiting QSL cards which will bring my total confirmed to 298 countries. After the Amsterdam Island DXpedition (FT5ZM) went QRT, another began at Christmas Island (VK9X) by two operators from the US with a pair of vertical antennas and a very laid-back attitude. I was unable to copy them for the first 4 days, but on the 5th day they had good signals on 17 meters, and that's where I was able to get in their log. This was a lot of fun as the operators were so laid back they engaged several stations in short QSO's (WX etc...), which is almost unheard of in the world of DXpeditions. There was little time to waste as the band I like the most (12 meters) for DXing suddenly came alive with worldwide DX along with this cycle's best propagation on the band. This was my opportunity to work DX using CW. In my wildest imagination I would have never thought I would be promoting a mode that seemed to be beyond my reach. I've been able to develop a "fist" allowing my brain and my CW paddle to communicate with other operators (most much better than I). I've mentioned my new vertical antenna with 30-meter CW capability...I have been using the antenna for some really nice CW QSO's with operators who like me are slow senders.

This is a very narrow bandwidth and it's not too crowded. There's good DX available with little QRM on the band. Winter is on the wane making this a perfect time to enjoy the bands and the DX they have to offer before it's time to get outdoors to mow the grass. That's it for now. Take time to get on 12 meters and enjoy the season's best DXing. Also, remember to sit down at your station and call CQ because someone somewhere is listening for your call. Don't disappoint anyone!! So long from Huntersville for now, 73 es gud DX from **Bob WØZPE**—

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## Regulatory: Radio Amateur Facing Substantial Fine for CB Violation

interfere with the communications of other CB stations," the FCC said in a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* ([NAL](#)) released March 21. In May 2013 an FCC agent used mobile direction-finding techniques to positively identify the source of a continuous carrier of CB channel 19 (27.1850 MHz) to the residence of Orloff Haines, KF5IXX, in Enid, Oklahoma. Haines was not at home, but his wife showed the agent her husband's CB station, which was transmitting on channel 19. This Oklahoma Amateur Extra class licensee is facing a \$12,000 fine for this illegal activity. -from ARRL.

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## Amateur Radio, Federal Government Engaged in Joint 5 MHz Communication Exercise

Amateur Radio operators and federal government stations are engaged in a 12-day nationwide test of their capability to communicate with each other on HF in the event of an emergency or disaster. The High Frequency Interoperability Exercise 2014 ([HFIE-2014](#)) is running concurrently with the federal National Exercise Program ([NEP](#)) 2014. Activity is taking place on two of the five 60 meter channels. The primary center-frequency channel is 5358.5 kHz, and the secondary center-frequency channel is 5373.0 kHz. Amateur Radio is secondary to government users on the band. The joint readiness exercise that began March 27 will continue through April 7 and include all areas of the US. Participants will use Automatic Link Establishment ([ALE](#)), a standardized digital selective calling protocol, to establish communication between stations.—from the ARRL

# **YOU AND YOUR GUESTS ARE INVITED**

**BAARC Annual Spring Dinner: Thurs., May 22., in Nisswa:** Our thanks to Jim Shubert, WØJDS, for arranging this again with Dan of American Gourmet Caterers.

**Where and When:** Nisswa American Legion  
with socialization starting at 5:30, dinner at 6:00,  
and the program at 7.

**PROGRAM: DXer Extraordinaire Ralph Fedor, KØIR,**  
of recent Amsterdam Island  
DXpedition (FT5ZM) fame.

**COST:** The total cost is only \$15 (which includes tax and tip)—same price as last year

**Buffet Meal:** BBQ Ribs and Baked Chicken , Yukon Gold  
Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Ranch Salad, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, and Coffee.  
However, BAARC must commit to a final count by Friday, May 16 . When you commit, you  
must pay BAARC, for the number of meals ordered.

**HOW:** Check must be payable to BAARC. No Refunds. To reserve, send your check to  
Doug Bergsnev, BAARC Treasurer, 15912 Olsen Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401. Must be received  
by him by mail on or before May 16th.

**QUESTIONS:** Doug's phone # 218 820 6675 and his e-mail  
<djbdesk@gmail.com>

P.S. We have invited, via the Brainerd Dispatch, neighboring non-club  
members as well. By the way, Ralph is an excellent speaker—loaded with  
interesting facts presented in an entertaining way. In short, from past  
experience, we know it is a topic that many non-hams will also find  
enjoyable.

**Our history of the ARRL and Amateur Radio brings with it interesting art work. This one of the spark days of radio is neat!!** The sample is by Howard V. Brown from *Radio News*. It has this caption: "Obvious, old Maggie isn't pleased with the rotary spark gap!"



In our modern era of digital photography saturated with color images, it's easy to forget that the important role the Commercial Artist once played in the field of print media.

Early radio magazines also provided some employment for a few commercial artists. One such artist was Howard V. Brown, who was once well known for his cover art on issues of *Radio News* and other Gernsback publications. Brown studied at the Art Institute of Chicago from 1899 until 1902. During the World War I, he was employed as a camouflage artist. The names of some of these illustrators remain familiar today, including N.C. Wyeth and Norman Rockwell, both of whom made a sizeable portion of their income creating cover art for popular magazines and books. The 1920s brought Brown considerable notoriety as he created cover art for *The Popular Magazine*, *Excitement*, and *High Spot Magazine*. He also sold covers to *Science and Invention*, *Astounding Stories*, *Startling Stories*, *Thrilling Wonder Stories* and the aforementioned *Radio News*. Another commercial artist of the 1920s, whose work was quite familiar to radio amateurs, was Clyde E. Darr (Amateur Radio call sign 8ZZ). Darr was employed as a commercial artist by the Timken Axle Company at Detroit, Michigan. He illustrated many of the covers of *QST* throughout the 1920s until his untimely passing in 1929.

Darr remains an overlooked pioneer in the field of broadcasting. Like Frank Conrad of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Darr began experimenting with radiotelephone broadcasting from his home at 137 Hill St. in Highland Park, Michigan. Darr's experiments in broadcasting soon caught the attention of James Edmund Scripps, the Publisher of the *Detroit Evening News*, who requested Darr's assistance with the installation of a radiotelephone station at the Detroit News Building on Lafayette Avenue in Downtown Detroit. This experimental radiophone station would eventually become WWJ, one of the oldest continuously operating broadcast stations in the United States.

Text edited by WØKO from *QNI—The NTS Newsletter*, Volume 3, Issue 1. Our thanks to Red WOØW for sending it.

## **A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL**

In 1940 and 1941, the US Army continued its road to full mobilization, holding large-scale "maneuvers" in various parts of the country. The Army needed more frequencies on HF, and plans were made to turn over the entire 80 meter band to the Army. In return, US hams were allowed to use voice on 40 meters for the first time.

Then, on December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered his famous "date which will live in infamy" speech, asking Congress to declare war against Japan. Soon, the US was fully involved in World War II. Amateurs were immediately ordered off the air, with a special exception for W1AW to alert the few hams who were unaware of the FCC order. On January 10, 1942, all stations, including W1AW, were put off the air for the war's duration. ARRL continued to lobby for permission for hams to operate for civil defense purposes, however.



WERS licenses were given to communities and not individuals, but participants had to hold an Amateur Radio license. Civil Defense radio volunteers transformed the auto radio in this auxiliary police car into a short-wave War Emergency Radio Service set, permitting auxiliary police communications officers to maintain two-way contact with their control center. [Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information photo]

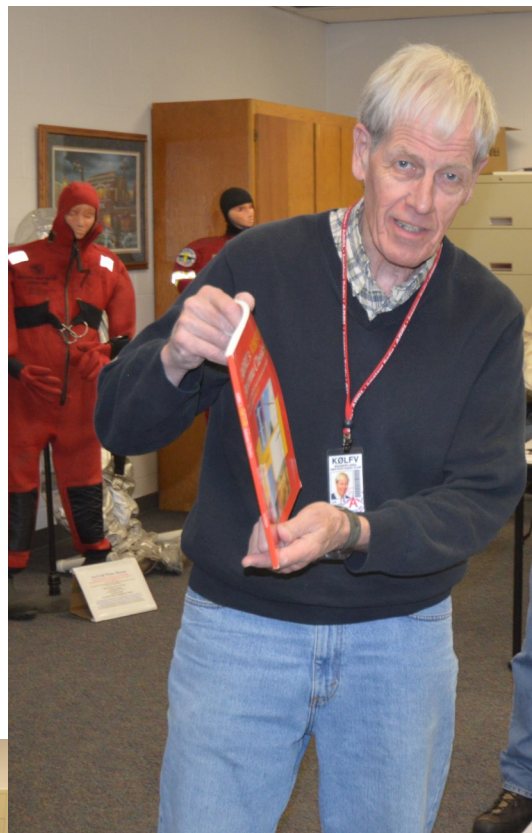
In June 1942, the FCC established the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS). It allowed radio amateurs to supply communication for their communities. An interesting sidelight is that the Government Printing Office was so overwhelmed at the time that the WERS order and information were promulgated via the ARRL and QST.

ARRL again offered its and its members' support to the war effort, but this time, Amateur Radio had become a well-known and respected entity within government circles, and the government quickly took advantage of the offers. Because radio manufacturers weren't able to keep up with the military's demands for new equipment, the ARRL put together lists of equipment that hams were willing to sell to the government. Many hams volunteered for military duty, and more than a few times a newly sworn-in military operator would find himself sitting down in front of the equipment he had recently sold to the government!

By March 15, 1942, about 15,000 hams were known to be in the military. Many other hams were working in critical defense jobs. Once again, hams answered the call! The ARRL and QST were soon working hard to issue publications used by the military, by training schools, and by radio clubs throughout our country to train more radio operators and repairmen. In addition, the ARRL started making plans to ensure the reappearance of Amateur Radio after the war ended.

—-from the ARRL—-

TOP LEFT: Dave KØNRI showing his antenna wire launcher (modified potato gun). RIGHT: Lyle KØLFV again producing neat Door Prizes. In addition, he manages to pull a neat and informative video from his "digital box" to show at a meeting.



Just below: Dave and his 10 m. beam.



Lyle presents ham radio books, test equipment, ham radio shirts—etc—all given away as door prizes at meetings. So it pays to attend! In addition at many meetings members will bring radio publications for others to take—FREE!!!!

**Comments from John Luce, WØWY—our Emergency Coordinator:** We still do not have a reliable path for feeding WX information into the NWS in Duluth, so we have to rely on the 1-800-685-8112 number for now. The Echolink route may work again later. In the meantime, help convene a net on our main repeater when WX is threatening. Take the critical and reportable information and call it in. On April 16th at 6:30 PM a SKYWARN spotter refresher/training session will be conducted at the Crow Wing County Land Services Bldg.—Brd. As always—more updates available on the Sunday night nets. **HOSPITAL NETS:** Ron KØGOP has been actively checking into the system and he encourages others to do likewise. You can do it from the fire hall, where there is a station in the cupboard in the back. Or from other installations in the county. The Net is held on every first Wednesday at 1 PM and meets on the Collegeville/St. Cloud 147.015+. (T100Hz)

**SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS**

04-06-14	Rick	NØBJN
04-13-14	CJ	WØWUH
04-20-14	Fritz	WØKO
04-27-14	Doug	KDØERE
05-04-14	Rick	NØBJN
05-11-14		
05-17-14		
05-25-14	Doug	KDØERE

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

**Can you help fill the schedule above?**

**Rick NØBNJ reports that the Paynesville Repeater is now Working very well. Try it!! Frequency is 145.270 with a minus offset. Many good reports of its coverage, for it has a 200-foot ant.**

**OUR THANKS TO AI WØRC and Helpers: He has been working on some temperamental repeaters and equipment of ours—the Echolink in particular. One may have fixed itself over the winter; the other repeater needs another a part. He also reports that the Gull Lake 443.925 is again up and running. He and John WY were up to the High Rise. New radio has been ordered. Stay tuned for updates. See p. 7 note from WØWY.  
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**See p. 4—May 22 Dinner-Mtg. at the American Legion in Nisswa. Talk it up—get your reservation in. We hope to have a good turnout.**

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**Events coming—volunteer help needed—see page 1 and check the net each Sunday.**

**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