



# The BAARCer



March 2015

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 APRS  
**Crosslake** 147.030  
 MHz+  
**Crosby** 146.700 MHz-  
 Tone 141.3  
**Crosby** 444.925 MHz +  
<http://brainerdham.org>

**OFFICERS**

**Pres. + Web Editor:**

Steve Mott      NØCRM

**Vice President:**

Lyle Amundson   KØLFV

**Secretary:**

Ron Finger      KØGOP

**Treasurer:**

Doug Bergsnev   KDØERE

**Director-at-Large:**

Al Doree      WØRC

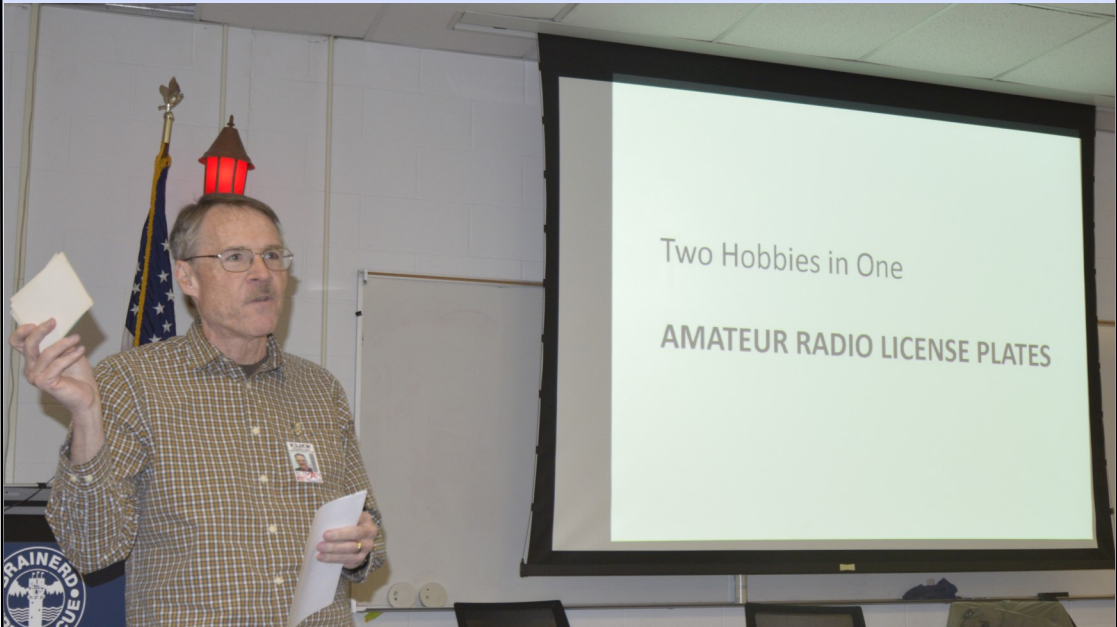
**Trustee + BAARCer  
 Editor:**

Fritz Bertelt    WØKO

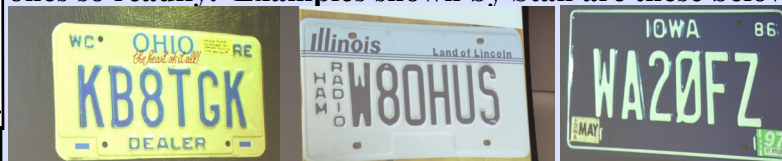
**Index  
of the BAARCer**

Mtg Minutes-	2
DX Report & ETC— HAMFEST—Apr. 18	3
More on Stan & plates	4
News—ARRL, etc.	5
Club happenings & ETC.	6
2015 Dues Form Please Send Dues In	7
Last Word—Updates Sunday Night Net	8

**Stan Clark, K3JKW, Presented Informative Program on Ham Plates**



The former college professor and administrator gave us an interesting view of the history of ham plates. MI was the first to issue them in 1939. In MN it was in 1952. Stan has been collecting them for years as he has moved from east to west, finally settling in Emily with wife Sue. Some plates issued actually have errors in the manufacturing. Because of the unusual one-of-a-kind ham plates, they become valuable to collectors—not just hams. So do not discard your old ones so readily. Examples shown by Stan are these below and on p. 4.



See anything unusual in the three samples on the left? A Dealer? Too many letters? 2 and Ø?

**— Events Calendar —**

**Sat., Mar. 7, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brainerd**  
**Sat., Mar. 21, Club Brkfst. @ 9 @ Northwind Grille in Brainerd**  
**—TECH GROUP meets afterwards @ 10:30 in Brd. Lib. Lge.Mtg.Rm.**  
**Thurs., Mar. 26 @ 4— Monthly BAARC Board and Membership Mtg. @ 7**  
**both meet @ Brainerd Fire Hall. (Program: Steve WØTNT on Cuyuna Area**  
**Rec.)**  
**Sat., Mar. 28, HAMFEST in Buffalo.**  
**Sat., May 2, from 9-2 —Duluth Area Hamfest (Arrowhead Amateur Radio**  
**Club) held in Superior at the Fairgrounds—same as before. Info <[http://](http://theaac.org/)**  
**[theaac.org/](http://theaac.org/)>**

**Listen for Activity Updates on our Sunday Night Nets**

E-mail Doug for info: [djbdesk@gmail.com](mailto:djbdesk@gmail.com)  
 See page 7 for new 2015 Membership/Dues Form

## Thursday-February 26, 2015 - 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

**Emergency Communications Director:** John Luce, WØWY

**Trustee:** Fritz Bertelt, WØKO

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

**Secretary's Report:** January Meeting Minutes were published in the February 2015 BAARcer; correction noted that Treasurer was present for January Board Meeting. The website and Google Calendar were updated for February. Membership roster shows 62 members, with additional renewals forwarded by the Treasurer. A thank-you letter was sent on behalf of the Club to Sarah Dye, KG7JIE, for her donation of many radio items from the estate of her late father and former Club Member, James Brown, W9VEQ.

**Motion to accept:** Lyle KØLFV, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report submitted showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. The Club has received several Membership renewals and a new Lifetime Membership. **Motion to accept:** Al WØRC, **Second** John WØWY, **Passed.**

**Membership Meeting Program:** Steve NØCRM reviewed recent and future Club programs and events. Future Club programs to be confirmed are: **March 26**, Steve WØTNT: Cuyuna Country State Recreational Area and **May's Spring Banquet**, Ralph Fedor, KØIR.

**Upcoming Events:** The next Club events will be the **Brainerd Hamfest** on Saturday April 18th and the **8th Annual Run For The Lakes Marathon** on Saturday April 25th.

**Digital & Emergency Communications:** The Annual **NOAA SKYWARN Ham Radio Coordination Meeting** will be held on Saturday March 14th at Salem Lutheran Church in Hermantown, MN. Interested members can contact John WØWY for more information if interested in attending. The **SKYWARN Spotter Training** meetings follow in April with the Brainerd session scheduled at 6:30 PM at the **Land Services Building** behind the Historic Courthouse. John was recently made aware of available grants to support Club expenses related to the SKYWARN program. The Club will consider applying for this next year.

Al WØRC reported on 2 new options for SKYWARN reporting to the Duluth NOAA weather office. WX event activation of the Echo Link system at Duluth is one possibility, while internet linking of our new Digital Repeaters with theirs is another consideration. More information will be available once the new Digital Interface boxes arrive and are configured.

**New Business:** The 145.130 repeater was moved to the High Rise site and is functioning with Echo Link and using one of the new digital units. Plans are to next swap the 147.225 and 146.700 repeaters between the Crosby and Crow Wing Power sites. Remaining equipment will be removed from the old South Brainerd tower site in March. Purchase and possible standardization of 2 new VHF repeater antennas was discussed. Al and John will do more research into the merits between the traditional metal "trombone-style" DB224 and newer, lighter fiberglass antenna designs.

The **BAARC Technology Group** held its second meeting following the Club Breakfast Meeting on Saturday February 21 at 10:30 AM at the Brainerd Public Library, Lyle KØLFV, Chairman, with many attendees. Work continued on the planning for a Club Remote Base Station. The next meeting is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, March 21, 2015 at 10:30 AM in the Brainerd Library large meeting room.

The board meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

## Thursday-February 26, 2015 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes

### Brainerd Fire Station

**Attendees:** The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:00 PM.

**Information supplemental to Board Meeting Minutes:** John WØWY reminded members of the MN Statute 299C.37 which allows MN Hams to operate radios capable of receiving police frequencies in motor vehicles. This has been amended to include the ARMER radios we are sometimes loaned by the CWC Sheriff's Department for event use. It is advised to keep a copy of this statute in your vehicle along with your FCC license at hand, during use. The BAARC website will be updated with the revised statute.

Al WØRC announced that FMS teacher Jim Reed has told him the FMS High Altitude Balloon Club will restart after all this school year. It had previously been cancelled in favor of athletic programs over science and technology pursuits. An interesting program on **Ham License Plates** was given by Stan K3JKW. Steve NØCRM gave a recap of the January **Jaycee Ice Fishing event.**

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



## More from page 1



Stan also relayed that his twin brother is licensed and that he (Stan) was his QSL manager when the brother was living in Papua, New Guinea, working as a Bible translator. Recently Stan has gotten back into the DX groove by having worked nearly 150 DX entities since November from his Emily QTH. This was done with 2 beams and a tower purchased from the Club. In addition, he is also a CW guy. The plates on the right have his current call and former one. **Thanks again for an excellent program, Stan. It was given in true professorial style—yes—even with humor.**  
**Editor's Note: TNX to Ron KØGOP for enhancing the plate photos.**

## German Radio Amateurs Breathe New Life into "Orphaned" Shortwave Channel —info ARRL

A few radio amateurs are frustrated broadcasters, and when German national broadcaster the Deutsche Welle closed down a 500 kW shortwave broadcast transmitter near Munich, an entity headed and



operated by hams applied for and was granted the vacant channel of 6070 kHz in the 49 meter shortwave band. DARC Radio -- which has a business association with the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club ([DARC](#)) but is privately owned -- now has a 10 kW broadcast station, branded "[Channel 292](#)," up and running, and a new Amateur Radio DX program will debut next month. "After the demolition of one of the world's biggest shortwave facilities of the Deutsche Welle last year, we managed to get an official radio broadcast license for the German Amateur Radio Club and have built up a shortwave transmitter with some parts of the old 500 kW transmitter from there," said DARC Radio Project Manager Rainer Englert, DF2NU, an ARRL member and president of the Munich South Section of the DARC. "As far as we know, there is no similar ham project like this worldwide." The Deutsche Welle used the 6070 kHz channel until mid-2013 for European transmissions. DARC Radio hopes to fund its operating expenses by leasing airtime. The DARC is a customer, and under its banner, a weekly Amateur Radio-oriented magazine of DARC news, contest schedules, DX information, interviews, DXpedition reports, market reviews, technical hints, and "some nice old music from the '70s and '80s" will debut on Sunday, March 22, at 1000 UTC, Englert told ARRL. The program will be in German, but the RSGB has expressed interest in contributing English-language program segments, he said. The inaugural DX magazine will be repeated on Monday, March 23, at 1600 UTC.

According to the DARC, the initial March 22 broadcast will air from a 100 kW transmitter in Austria, while the repeat broadcast on March 23 will emanate from Radio DARC's 10 kW transmitter near Ingolstadt, Germany.

## Amateur Radio Saved My Life —from the ARRL

September 30, 2013 started out as a beautiful day in the east-central Iowa town of Clinton, on the Mississippi river. I had just left my job at the end of the day and wanted to enjoy the fabulous weather. I decided to throw my leg over my motorcycle and see what the Fall countryside looked like.

After an hour of riding, the wind whipped up to the point where I decided to head home. My route took me by a construction site on the edge of town. This is where everything went wrong. I must have been gawking at the construction site and not paying attention to the road. A big gust of wind hit me and I landed in a 10 foot deep ditch.

I was unconscious and when I awoke in the ditch, by estimate an hour later, I had to figure out where I was. The motorcycle was on top of me pressing me into the dirt wall of the ditch. I looked up and could see the edge of the road, six feet above my head. I removed my helmet and considered my options deep in the ditch and unable to move my lower body.

I heard cars approach and stuck up my hand and waved -- nobody stopped. They could not see me in the ditch. I thought about trying to throw my helmet onto the road to attract attention but could not get my arms to work well. That is one of the last things I remembered for six days.

The balance of my ordeal was conveyed to me long after the accident by friends and two daughters. I had been riding the motorcycle with an H-T hooked into my pants pocket with a speaker mic attached to my collar. I was informed later that I had put out an emergency call on the 145.430 MHz machine in Clinton.

Two ham-friends heard the distress call and responded. One called 911, and the other drove to the area I described on the radio. He drove by my location twice and even the police could not find me from their cars. The other operator stayed on the phone with the dispatcher and tried to get me to give a better description of my location. My speech was slurred when I responded and then I apparently lost consciousness. The 911 dispatcher wanted me to call on my cell phone and give them a better description of my location - I never heard the request.

The officer that found me in the ditch said he and his partner had exited the squad car and walked along the side of the road until they spotted me at the bottom of the ditch, which had washed away at the bottom, wedging the bike and me into the wash out. Having lost consciousness, I never saw nor heard anyone until one of the emergency personnel woke me, stating they were going to get me out and to the hospital.

The next day October 1, 2013, I was transported by ambulance to the hospital in Iowa City. CT scans revealed a broken back pinching the spinal column, five cracked vertebra, a fractured pelvis, broken elbow and a bleeding brain injury. A year of surgeries, infections, pneumonia and physical therapy followed. I am grateful to be able to tell my story.

Amateur Radio, good friends, and emergency and medical professionals saved my life. -- *Gerald Johannsen, K9STP, Clinton, Iowa*

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## ARES News—from our Area—from the ARRL

SEC Comments: Conversion over to the new District system was seamless.

For more information, go to [www.MinnesotaARES.org](http://www.MinnesotaARES.org). Central District: DEC reports that Dan Anderson, **KDØASX**, Minnesota SEC, attended the semimonthly meeting of the DARC in Upsala, MN. Dan presented Kevin Dirks, **KAØWJC** with his badge and certificate as the DEC for the Central District. Dan and Kevin presented the EC badge and certificate to Tom Kilian, **KDØMOM** for his position as Morrison County EC.

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**Great BAARC Breakfast Turnout:** On Sat., Feb. 21, we had a 23-person attendance .Some new faces appeared and ,unfortunately, not enough time this time to meet/visit with all.

### Ham Among Devil's Brigade Members to Receive Medal

A 90-year-old California radio amateur—Stan McEtchin, WB6KDZ, of Paradise—was among the surviving members of the First Special Operations Force (FSSF), known as "The Devil's Brigade," received the Congressional Gold Medal on February 3. The medal recognizes the unit's extraordinary heroism and service during World War II.—from ARRL.



### FYI—DXpedition coming up this year—with another MN connection

Bill Kendall, KH6OO, in a message to WØKO says: "We got our license: T32DX - Christmas Island. We will be in operation October 28th to November 3rd." The operators will be KH6OO (the dad), Will WØZRJ (son from Baxter) and John (son from St. Paul) NØPJV. The father-and-sons team should have fun and provide some interesting QSO's. We in the BAARC and other DXers will be looking for them and that neat call sign. FYI: the Island is administered by Australia.—de WØKO.

### K1N Navassa is History now: Over 140,000 Qso's logged.

A few among the BAARC made the contacts also. Fritz is in contact with Ralph KØIR to get him to speak at the May 26th Dinner Mtg. in Nisswa. We have invited him and his wife as dinner guests. In about a week after you read this, we should have his final word.

### What's Happening in the CLUB?

Al WØRC and John WØWY reported on the activity improving our repeaters. With the purchase of the Yaesu digital units, more will be possible—even linking. That is where some of our money has been going: improvements. Watch for more. Thanks, guys, for your work for the BAARC also. By the way, the Licensing Class has about 4-5 students. TNX to Doug KDØERE and Al WØRC, the instructors.

### Lyle KØLFV, Our Club Salesman and VP:

Lyle makes the rounds to the hamfests spreading the word on our own upcoming one (April 18) and doing a great job selling donated gear. In fact, just this past month he picked up gear from the Jim Brown (WØVEQ) estate in Lakeshore. He catalogued it and at this month's meeting, he reported preliminary sales of nearly \$200. Some of those present got some real bargains while attending the February meeting. He has more to sell—not just from this donation. Contact Lyle <k0lfv@arrl.net> Thanks again for your effort, Lyle.

### Mitch ADØHJ is working on setting up our Club's remote operating site.

Lots of programming involved, but when finished it will allow Club members with an Internet connection to operate the station remotely without having to buy gear—all within their license class. More benefits come by being a member of the BAARC!!!! Thanks also for your expert help with this, Mitch.

### Appreciate the Coffee, Pop, Juice, and Snacks at our Meetings?

We have Shirley KØDCW to thank for always arranging and preparing it for the members at each meeting. Of course, occasionally we have seen Al pitch in—but Shirley is the hospitable soul doing it all the time. A big thanks, Shirley!!

### Review of the Icefishing Extravaganza

Thanks, Steve NØCRM, for the well organized presentation of the Club's biggest public service event of the year. It was clear that we as the BAARC have the respect and support of not only the law enforcement authority, but also the Brainerd Jaycees, who put in a lot of work every year. This event raises needed monies for various deserving charities and simultaneously spreads a lot of good will and positive publicity for our winter vacation area.



# Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Dues Year January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2015

(One Application for Each Person)



Name: (First, MI, Last-print) \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application : \_\_\_\_\_ Circle One: New / Renewal

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

The Official Club Newsletter, The BAARCer is available each month online at [www.brainerdham.org/baarcercer](http://www.brainerdham.org/baarcercer)

Circle One: \$20 Full Member / \$ 10 Additional Family Member / Student Member \$10

**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, Club Treasurer: [djbdesk@gmail.com](mailto:djbdesk@gmail.com)

**Membership Dues** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to BAARC. The Club is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Thus contributions are tax deductible.

**Voluntary Contribution** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Mail to:**  
(Tax Deductible)

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club**  
**Treasurer—Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE**  
**15912 Olsen Lane**  
**Brainerd, MN 56401**

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclosure:** Information provided here will not be sold/given to any other organization without the permission of the members.

Please mail one form, along with dues (check/money order) for each person.

**Check our club's Website for other Information and Newsletters.**  
**Regular Updates on the Sunday Night Nets on 147.225 @ 8 P.M.**

**SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS**

|          |       |        |
|----------|-------|--------|
| 03-01-15 | Rick  | NØBJN  |
| 03-08-15 | Dave  | KCØTGT |
| 03-15-15 | Fritz | WØKO   |
| 03-22-15 | Tim   | KDØYLO |
| 03-29-15 | Tim   | KDØYLO |
| 04-05-15 | Rick  | NØBJN  |
| 04-12-15 | Dave  | KCØTGT |
| 04-19-15 | Tim   | KDØYLO |
| 04-26-15 | Tim   | KDØYLO |

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

**Would you like to take a turn at NCS?**

**Want to know how your CW signal is being heard around the World?** Go to <[www.reversebeacon.net](http://www.reversebeacon.net)> Enter your call sign. TNX, Pat WØOPW, for sending this in. Call a CQ and some station will automatically give you a signal report and even tell you at what speed you sent.

**Have any For Sale or Want items?** Members can list here on a space-available basis. Contact Fritz.

**New Call sign for Dave: He now has a shorter one—KØISZ instead of KBØSCT. Congrats.**

**Missed Seeing Ron's (KØGOP) artwork at the Brainerd Airport?**—No problem, for the works are on permanent display. However, one piece can only be see if you take a flight. There was an open house display on Tuesday, Feb. 10. Congrats, Ron, on your artistry.

**DUES: PLEASE get them in. This BAARCer is the last reminder for 2015. Still only \$20/year.**

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