



The BAARCer



September 2015

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 rptr)
 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>
2015 OFFICERS

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 Steve Mott **NØCRM**

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 Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

Secretary:
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Director-at-Large:
 Al Doree **WØRC**

**Trustee + BAARCer
 Editor:**
 Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

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Some of the Fox Hunt and Picnic Crew from August 22, 2015



Pictured from l-r at Lum Park: Dylan KDØLFE, Doug KDØERE, Charles W5CCL, Dave KDØVJL, Mitch ADØHJ, Michael KEØAFZ, and Lyle KØLFV. Others came later. More pix and write-up on the following pages. Our thanks to Lyle for again organizing the event. Also we appreciate Terry's always providing the transmitting FOX, but this year he got a chance to be a FOX hunter. Of course, thanks to Charles for cleverly hiding the FOX on public property.

— Events Calendar —

Sat., Sept 5, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille—Brd.
Sat., Sept. 19, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille —Brd.
Thurs., Sept. 24, Board and Regular Membership Mtg. @ 4 and 7 p.m. at the Brd. Fire Hall.

**Join/Rejoin— \$20 Dues yet for 2015?—Please get your check in to
 Doug KDØERE.**

UPDATES ON SUNDAY NIGHT NETS—ALWAYS!

FOX HUNT DETAILS AND PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE PROVIDED BY LYLE KØLFV

This year the Fox was hidden by Charles W5CCL and we had three teams and some individuals who hunted the Fox. The Team of Mitch ADØHJ and Dave KDØVJL found the Fox first in 59 minutes and the second person to find the Fox was Michael KEØAFZ in 64 minutes. Third place was the team of Doug KDØERE and Dylan KDØLFE and the fourth team to find the Fox was John WØWY and Brooks K4RXXR. Also hunting the Fox were Terry KIØFW, CJ WØWUH with wife Lauren, and Orcy WØQT.

After the Fox Hunt we had our Picnic and attending our Saturday event were the following: Al WØRC, Shirley KØDCW, TJ KØTEG, John WØWY, Brooks K4RXXR, Charles W5CCL, Lyle KØLFV, Fritz WØKO, Terry KIØFW, Mitch ADØHJ, Dave KDØVJL, KDØERE, Dylan KDØLFE, Michael KEØAFZ, Orcy WØQT, Pat WØOPW, and CJ WØWUH and wife Lauren.

Pictured below are the First and Second Place Fox Finders, and it's interesting to note the technology differences in equipment that you can use to find the Fox. For example, Mitch ADØHJ and Dave KDØVJL (not pictured here) used an offset attenuator and commercially made VHF Beam to home in on the Fox while Michael KEØAFZ used his car mounted home brew VHF antenna and his H/T duck taped to a piece of dryer vent to find the Fox a few minutes after Mitch and Dave. It's all about innovation and being creative to hunt the Elusive VHF Fox



Mitch on the left with his attenuator built from a kit for less than \$20. Michael on his right with vent pipe version. The fancy and sporty red car?—Michael's!

Below More Triathlon Photos by KDØPDB



DX and the Paper Chase

Last month I worked a new one, Laos (XW1), and checked into his Club Log for OQRS (on line QSL response system). My QSL card was in the mailbox 4 weeks later for number 306 toward DXCC honor roll. I'll have less than 30 more to go to achieve my lofty goal of Honor Roll. These will be the toughest ones on the DXCC list making it all the sweeter. As far as DX goes for the last several weeks, it was pretty much a bust mostly because of poor band conditions. I was off the air for a week because of station issues with an antenna switch that is used for toggling back and forth between 2 radios, one of which is used for CW and the other for phone. The problem is behind me so I'm back in the game chasing DX. With band conditions as they are (poor) my plan is to concentrate more on the CW mode for the next several weeks and hopefully I'll be back in the DX saddle. Keep your fingers crossed for better band conditions and with that...so long from Huntersville for now. Don't forget to sit down at your station and call CQ because nobody can hear you listening.

Best 73 es good DX from **Bob/WØZPE**

Latest On the T32DX operation from Bill Kendall, KH6OO—

Our assigned call is T32DX; look us up on QRZ.com for a view of the Island. We will be staying at the Captain Cook Hotel on the north of the Island. Planes only fly in once a week. We hope to be on the air **October 27th to November 3rd.**

Our equipment was tested during the ARRL Field Day at Leech Lake and is now packed ready to ship. We have about 200 pounds to take including a KX3 and FT817, each with a 100 watt amplifier. Two antennas will be deployed near the beach: a vertical dipole and a full 1/4 wave elevated vertical.

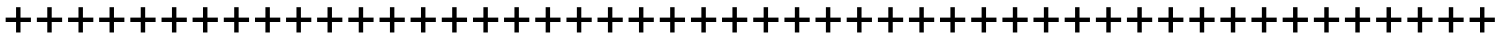
Our primary band will be 20 meters. We will have capability to operate 10 meters through 40 meters. Modes will be SSB, CW, and if conditions are not good, we will try for some JT9/65 digital. There is no Internet available, so logs will be posted as soon as we return. Logs will be uploaded to LOTW, e-QSL, Club Log, and QRZ Log. You can also request a paper QSL via OQRS on Club Log. We do plan to QSL 100% via bureau.

This trip has been in the planning stage for just over a year. Will (WØZRJ) and John (NØPJV), my two sons, proposed this trip while visiting in Minnesota last year. This is my 60th year as a licensed radio amateur—thus a perfect celebration. I served in the U.S. Navy for a time as a Communications Technician and for you "Old timers," who might remember in the 1950's a signal from Adak, Alaska,—KL7AIZ my first DX operation. By the way, my first call sign was KNØCOU. We hope to see you in our log! —**TNX, Bill, for the update & good DXing with sons.**

Fox Hunt and Picnic—Sat., August 22, 2015



Top photo shows Lyle manning the talk-in station at the Park with TJ KØTEG assisting. Top right are Mitch with his beam and attached attenuator with Dave KDØVJL—that team came in first. Michael KEØAFZ was second. Lower photo on left shows the Grandpa and Grandson team of Doug KDØERE and Dylan KDØLFE—they came in third. On the lower right is Charles W5CCL, the master hider of the FOX. Pix by WØKO.



More Triathlon Photos by Geoff KDØPDB—thanks for sharing them.



Amateur Radio Volunteers Face Fire Threat While Supporting Emergency Communication—de ARRL

The North-Central Washington town of Republic touts "air you can't see" on its website. That's not the case this week. Wildfires in the US Northwest have not only hampered the air quality and visibility, but led to a Level 2 evacuation order in the Ferry County community of about 1000 residents. That could rise to Level 3. Amateur Radio volunteers in Ferry County have been on the front lines of the wildfire emergency there. In Republic, a combination of Ferry County Search and Rescue (SAR), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and ARES/RACES volunteers have been supporting communication for a shelter housing some 4 dozen evacuees -- with more to come, according to Ferry County ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer Sam Jenkins, WA7EC.

"We are now close to our maximum support level for local volunteers," Jenkins told State RACES Officer Monte Simpson, AF7PQ, who also is ARRL Western Washington Section Manager. "We are now expecting to operate for several weeks at the Republic High School. The firefighters say they are going to attempt to defend our emergency operations center/emergency shelter at all costs," Jenkins added. "We are standing our ground."



A view of Republic, Washington, via the town's webcam on August 26, shows how smoke from the wildfires has reduced visibility and air quality.

In addition to being the Ferry County ARES EC and RACES RO, Jenkins explained, he also heads the SAR component of the dual Ferry County SAR-CERT contingent. "I have networked these three units together over time to increase the effectiveness of our small, poor, but valiant teams," he told ARRL. At present, he's working under the RACES banner.

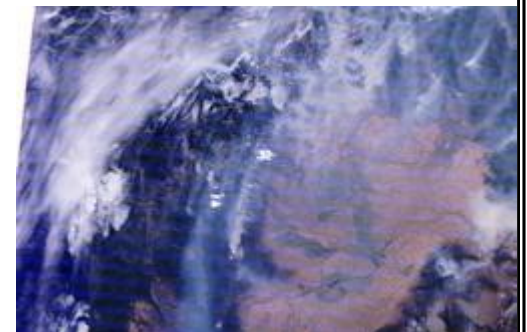
Firefighters from several states and British Columbia, Canada, have been working the Kettle Complex of three fires in Ferry County, which covered nearly 60,000 acres as of August 26. No injuries have occurred and no homes have been lost. Support teams from the Washington National Guard are assisting fire managers to ensure safety. West of Republic near Omak, the Okanogan Complex at more than 280,000 acres is now the largest fire complex in the state's history.

wildfires continue to burn actively across the West. The NIFC reports that 66 large fires -- or complexes -- have burned nearly 1.6 million acres in 11 states. Twelve fires are burning in Washington alone.

According to the National Interagency Fire Center ([NIFC](#)),

Jenkins said his team of volunteers would like to have additional support, but, he told Simpson, "I would expect that it is asking a lot for anyone to leave the comfort of their home to travel to a place where the smoke is so thick you can cut it with a knife, and not know if they would escape."

Radio amateurs responding to the wildfire emergencies have been using VHF repeaters as well as HF on 75 and 40 meters, including SSB and digital modes, and IRLP.



An August 26 MODIS satellite image indicates the extent of the wildfire situation in Washington. [Image courtesy of the

"We are doing our best at doing our thing," Jenkins said. "I am concerned about what is happening in our sister counties."

Editor's Note: The latest information about the Washington State wild fires is that they are not contained.

FCC Proposes to Fine Ohio Radio Amateur for Malicious Interference, Failure to Identify

The FCC has proposed levying an \$8000 fine on a Cincinnati, Ohio, radio amateur, Daniel R. Hicks, KB8UYZ, who at one point had volunteered to track down the interference he was causing on a number of primarily VHF repeaters. In a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* released on August 20, the FCC Enforcement Bureau asserted that Hicks intentionally interfered with other Amateur Radio operators' communications and failed to identify properly. According to the *NAL*, an agent from the Bureau's Detroit office first responded to multiple complaints of interference on various repeaters in April 2014.

"The agent, working with a local amateur group which included Mr. Hicks, was unable to locate the source of the transmission," recounted the *NAL*, signed by FCC District Director James Bridgewater. Nearly a year later, in response to continued interference complaints, an agent from the Bureau's Detroit office returned to the Cincinnati area to take another crack at finding the source of the transmissions.

"This time, the agent did not advise the local Amateur Radio group that he was in the area," the *NAL* stated. "The agent used mobile direction-finding techniques to locate the source of the transmissions to...the address of record for Mr Hicks' amateur station, KB8UYZ."

Tailgate Hamfest 8-29-15— Our thanks to Lyle KØLFV for this report

On Saturday the 29th of August the Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club sponsored a Tailgate Swapfest at the Crow Wing County Fairground which turned out in my estimation to be a success. We had approximately 20 sellers and an additional 50 to 60 folks that showed up to shop and look around and,, not to forget, all the Rag-Chewing that went on between the Hams that attended. Everyone that I talked to was impressed with the Fairgrounds, the number of people selling and buying .

This positive feedback has encouraged us to host another Tailgate in 2016. We had visitors that came from Thief River Falls, Twin Cities, Duluth, the St Cloud area and from the Brainerd Lakes Area.

A VE testing session was held at 10AM with one passing his Extra Exam, one new Technician, and one who will have to come back and retake his General Exam. Congratulations to Michael KEØAFZ for his upgrade to Extra and to the new Technician Dave Meyer from Verndale.

Every Radio event has its humor: When Lyle KØLFV and Mitch ADØHJ were closing up the Public Safety Building and checking the grounds prior to leaving, a car drove in with two ladies and they had seen our Ham Fest sign in front of the Fairgrounds and wanted to know where they could get some ham. I am not sure if they wanted a Ham Dinner or to buy some ham; however, they left disappointed that they could not get any ham. Hi! Hi!

Again a sincere thank you to all of you who helped make this event happen. It was another very successful and enjoyable Brainerd Lakes Ham Radio Event. 73.

Event Co-Chairs: Al WØRC and Lyle KØLFV

Baxter Triathlon held 8-30-15



L-R: Standing Geoff KDØPDB, Rick NØSEH, Terry KIØFW, Jan KDØRAV, Tom KDØMOM, John WØWY, Dave KØISZ; Kneeling: TJ KØTEG and Leon KDØAFY. Not pictured: KØLFV (who took this photo), Alan AAØAS, Marwin KDØVLK, and Dave KDØVJL.

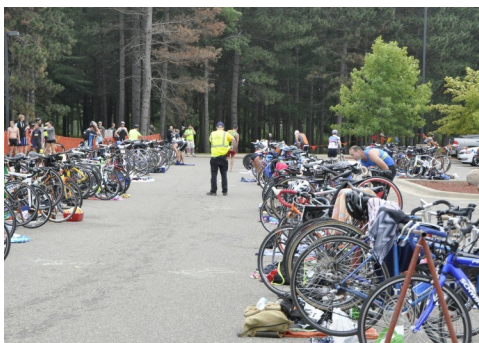
“It was a perfect day for the swimmers, bicyclists, and runners” said Marwin Bogue (KDØVLK), “and we couldn’t have done it without the help provided by the BAARC.” Marwin is an officer in Kiwanis of Baxter, an area service club that is the main sponsor and facilitator of the triathlon.

BAARC has participated in each of the 16 years the triathlon has run providing public safety monitoring of the 13.6-mile bike ride and the 3.2-mile run. Careful planning by BAARC’s event co-chair and net control op Dave, KØISZ, proved important in facilitating smooth location transition as the event unfolded. His detailed assignment maps provided excellent direction to all the operators.

Operators participating were Lyle, KØLFV; Tom, KDØMOM; Jan, KDØRAV; Geoff, KDØPDB; Terry, KIØFW; T.J, KØTEG; Dave, KDØVJL; Marwin, KDØVLK; Leon, KEØAFY; Rick, NØSEH; Alan, AAØAS; and event co-chair, John, WØWY.

To help with the communications interface with the local police department’s officers on the street and the dispatchers, the Club used the ARMER radio system. An added benefit this year was the participation of Baxter PD Sgt. Dave Timm, KDØWGO, who was on duty and carried one of the club’s portables in his squad car. Members will remember Dave for all of his hard work in the club’s tracking of the Forestview Middle School’s high-altitude balloon events.

New triathlon records were set this year. The fastest finisher’s time was 59-minutes. John, who provided a sweep function, noted that the slowest time turned-in was 2 hours and 16 minutes. In all there were slightly fewer participants this year at 125 according to the sponsors. ***Thanks to John WØWY for this report. Action photos below provided by Geoff KDØPDB. Our thanks to all who contributed to the effort.***



SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS

09-06-15	Rick	NØBJN
09-13-15	Dave	KCØTGT
09-20-15	Tim	KDØYLO
09-27-15	Tim	KDØYLO
10-04-15	Rick	NØBJN
10-11-15	Dave	KCØTGT
10-18-15	Fritz	WØKO
10-25-15	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?

FARGO HAMFEST—Sept., 26th at the usual place and times—Fairgrounds. State ARRL Convention will meet also.

No BAARC Minutes this time because we did not have a formal meeting. This gives Ron KØGOP, our very busy secretary, a break from the usual routine.

Be aware that many in the Club are working hard, often behind the scenes, to improve our repeaters and other gear. Specific details will follow as they finalize/are completed. For now, thanks to the may technical volunteers for the BAARC.

We wish everyone a HAPPY LABOR DAY 9-7-2015. On this day we honor the workers of the past and also thank present-day laborers. Both groups, along with capital have made and are making this beloved country of ours great!!!

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