



The BAARCer



April 2016

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

Page 1 of 8

Club Call Sign: WØUJ

BAARC REPEATERS

53.110 MHz- 123.0 Hz

Main Repeater

147.225 MHz+ Crosby
Tone 110.9 Tx only

146.700 MHz-
Tone 141.3 Hz

145.130 MHz- Echo
Link-Node Nr. 233515
AllStar Node 42508

~~~~~  
147.030 MHz+ Crosslake  
~~~~~

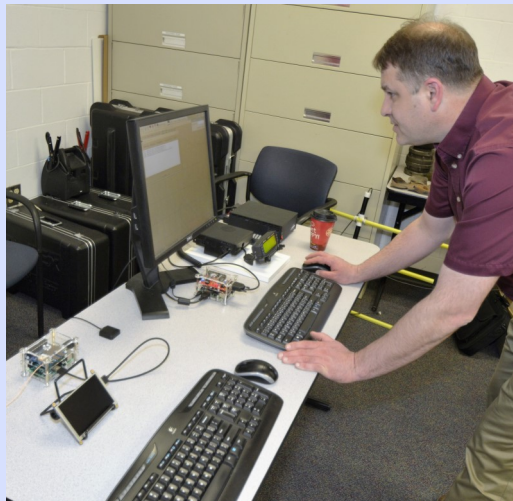
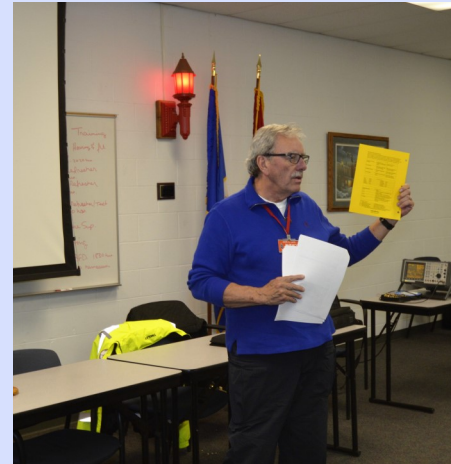
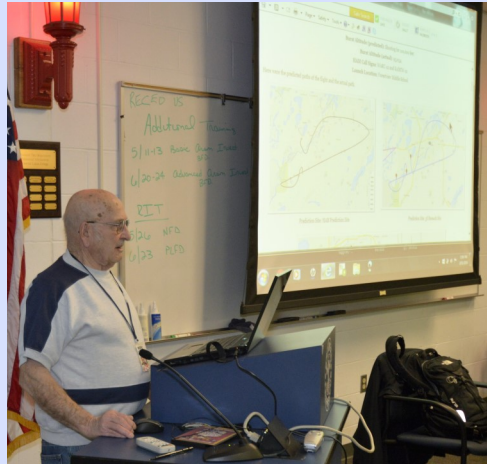
443.925 MHz Gull Lake+
Tone 110.9 Hz

~~~~~  
444.925 MHz Crosby  
~~~~~

Packet: 145.670 MHz
MNBRD, BRDBBS
144.390 MHz WØUJ
APRS I-Gate Node

~~~~~  
Officers for the Year  
are listed each  
month by name and  
title on Page 2—top  
of the Minutes.

## MULTI-PRESENTATIONS AT MARCH MEETING



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### MORE ON PAGE 5 WITH PIX & BRIEF WRITE-UPS.

#### — Events Calendar —

**Sat., April 2., Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille—Brd. Tech Mtg afterwards.**

**Sat., April 16—Annual Brainerd Hamfest @ Armory in Brainerd—Help needed— Friday at Noon for set-up and takedown Sat. afterwards. We need the usual staffing at the doors, in the food service, entrances, raffle ticket sales, etc. BARS & COOKIES needed. Contact TJ KØTEG to volunteer.**

**Thurs., April 21. Regular Monthly Board & BAARC Membership Mtgs. @ 4 & 7 @ Fire Hall—NOTE: Program by Pat WØOPW on antenna modeling & the G5RV multiband.**

**Thurs., April 28th in Brainerd—SKYWARN refresher—**

**Sat., April 30, Run-for-the-Lakes in Nisswa—volunteer with KØTEG.**

**Sat., May 7—Duluth-Superior Hamfest —same place.**

**Thurs., May 26. Dinner-Mtg—see p. 7**

**Thursday-March 31, 2016 - 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:** Al Doree, WØRC**Repeater Trustee:** Fritz Bertelt, WØKO**Director of Emergency Communications:** John Luce, WØWY**Community & Special Events Coordinator:** TJ Graves, KØTEG**Attendees:** Steve NØCRM, Lyle KØLFV, Doug KDØERE, Ron KØGOP, Al WØRC, TJ KØTEG, Dave KØISZ, John WØWY, Shirley KØDCW, and Mitch ADØHJ.**Secretary's Report:** Membership roster shows 71 paid members for 2016. The Club website was updated for March including the March BAARCer and the Club Google calendar updated and linked to the website. Other activities included updating Gmail contact list and member photos. The flyer for the 2016 Tailgate Hamfest was updated. 6 new Club Member ID Badges were distributed. **Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.****Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report submitted showing all month's account transactions and balances to date. The Ham License classes are going well with 19 students still attending. **Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.****Membership Meeting Program:** President Steve NØCRM reviewed recent and future Club programs and events. Future Club programs include: **G5RV Antenna Design** by Pat WØOPW – Apr 21 and **ARRL Dakota Division Visit** – June 30. The April Board and Membership meetings were **moved to April 21** to accommodate the **SKYWARN training class on April 28.****Upcoming Events:** Dates were announced for **Brainerd Hamfest:** April 16, 2016; **Brainerd Jaycees Run for the Lakes Marathon:** April 30, 2016; **BAARC Spring Banquet:** May 26, 2016 and the **BAARC Tailgate Hamfest:** August 27, 2016. Fritz has again secured **Ralph Fedor KØIR**, DX-pedition guru, for the May 26 **Spring Banquet.****Digital & Emergency Communications:** Al WØRC and John WØWY gave updates on CWC EOC, St. Josephs Hospital VHF station, and discussed information from the **SKYWARN Coordination Meeting:** March 19, 2016, in Duluth including **Echolink** usage, and the April **SKYWARN** test and training classes.**New Business:** The second meeting of the new **Club Website Committee** will be held Saturday April 2 at 10:30 AM at the Brainerd Fire Station training Room, following the **Club Breakfast Meeting at the Northwind Grille.** Among the areas to be discussed is the need to include social media content such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Flickr.John WØWY discussed an event need presented by Lt. Scott Goddard of the CWC Sheriffs Office, for communications assistance during the **Breezy Point Fly-In** May 7, 10 AM - 3 PM. They will have the CWC communications trailer onsite and need 6 operators. A sign-up sheet will be available at the membership meeting.

The board meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.

**Thursday-March 31, 2016 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes****Brainerd Fire Station**The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:00 PM with 37 members and guests present. Besides the aforementioned Board items, demonstrations were given by several members including a **Raspberry Pi microcomputers, APRS monitor/stations, Echolink stations, adapted PC power supplies** and several tables of radio items for sale. Roger WØWUG offered members an opportunity to test the specs of their HT's.

Several presentations were made on SKYWARN, Echolink, and a recap of the Forestview High Altitude Balloon Launch #7.

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

## DX and the Paper Chase

The past 30 days have produced some screwy band conditions that one might describe as up, down, sideways and every which way. The next question is what does one do? Well, one goes with the flow and works what's available or try breaking a pileup loaded with QSB and QRM. When you do, you've joined the ranks of the international DX community. I had an eye out for an opening to work San Andreas Is., but getting a beam heading was an issue until I found out that they were using a vanity call sign instead of HKØ. Anyway I was able to work them easily. What a neat deal they have going for logging. They're using a real-time log program that's posted and available for lookup as soon as you hang up the phone. What wonderful times we live in. Sadly, Heard Island (VK9) has not been heard in my station and it's one that I need. Perhaps in a day or so the bands will straighten out a bit. The paper chase is on for VP8, South Georgia Island, that I'd like to have my QSL card so it can be checked at the Brainerd Hamfest this month. That's all from downtown Huntersville for now, but again I remind you to sit down at your station and call CQ (dust off your CW paddle) because someone somewhere is listening for your call. Don't disappoint. So long for now, 73 es gud DX de Bob/WØZPE.

## "Elmer" Inspiration, Elmer "Bud" Frohardt Jr, W9DY, SK

The ham radio mentor who inspired the term "Elmer" -- Elmer P. "Bud" Frohardt Jr, W9DY (ex-W9GFF), of Madison, Wisconsin -- died on March 22. He was 93. A friend and co-worker of the late Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (later VA3ZBB), who edited QST's "How's DX?" column, Frohardt was the "Elmer" that Newkirk had in mind when he used the name in his March 1971 column, referring to someone who helped to mentor new Amateur Radio licensees.

"Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost interest,'" Newkirk had written. "We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give *you* a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh."

On AC6V's "[Origin of Ham Speak](#)" web page, John Becker, K9MM, is quoted as saying, "Bud was very well known locally for his involvement with the RAMS (Radio Amateur Megacycle Society) radio club, and he was always helping newcomers to the hobby."—from *Daily DX* and *ARRL Letter*

### **Comedian, Actor, TV Writer and Personality Garry Shandling, ex-KD6OY, SK**

Comedian, actor, and TV personality Garry Shandling, ex-KD6OY, died March 24 after suffering an apparent heart attack in Los Angeles. He was 66. Shandling became a ham as a teenager in the 1960s, long before he entered show business.

When I was 13 I had a ham radio set (true!), so I could sit in my room and talk to people the world-over. Geeky? Or just ahead of my time!!?" Shandling tweeted in May 2011.



Shandling grew up in Arizona and majored in electrical engineering at the University of Arizona, but he went on to earn a degree in marketing and complete some post-graduate work in creative writing. He worked in marketing for a time, until a script he wrote for "Sanford and Son" turned into his first big break into entertainment.

His most-recent Amateur Radio license -- issued to him under a pseudonym, Dave Waddell -- expired in August 2009. The call sign was KQ6KA. Shandling obtained the call sign under an assumed name, apparently so that he could get on the air without being recognized as a celebrity. Prior to KQ6KA, he held KD6OY under his real name, as well as WA7BKG in his early years as a ham. —from *The ARRL Letter*

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### **Roger Williams, WØWUG, added more to his presentation on tuning duplexers—see the March issue.**

This month he wanted you to see what was inside the canisters. Thus, here are two views of the insides—something most of us will probably never see.



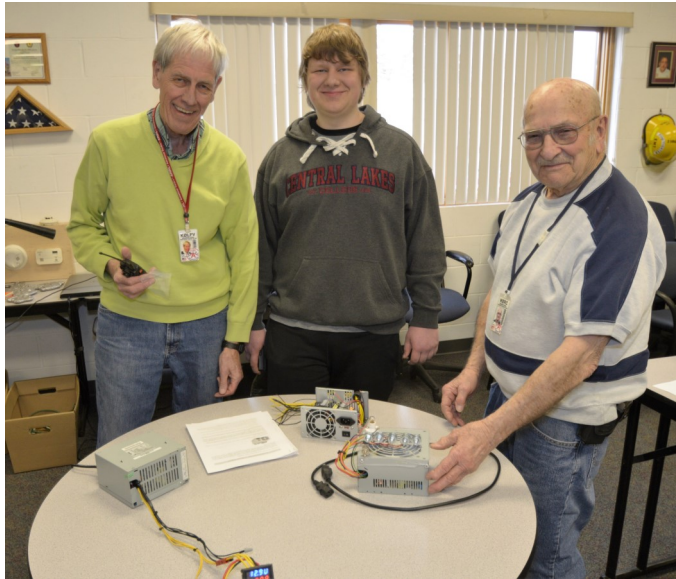
The left photo is looking into the cavity filter. Note the long center tuning rod, but the adjustable part is the narrower tip on the bottom. Note also the rod adjusts the pass-band frequency characteristic.

On the right, the picture shows the silver-plated inductive coupling loop that injects RF signals into and out of the filter. Also note the small trimmer capacitor that adjusts the notch frequency characteristic.

—de Roger W. WØWUG



## Meeting Activity Photos continued from Page 1



**Al WØRC** presented a video showing the recent 7th High Altitude Balloon launch by the Forestview Students and Faculty. Al and Shirley have assisted in the past. This launch, like all the others, had new features and learning experiences. By going to their website, you too can see what the STEM program is all about with teachers Cory Olson and Jim Reed. Al also updated the members on the progress with our repeaters and their locations. You will see a listing and newer format in the future—see p. 1 on the left. Note: the KØJO/R is on the air from Motley with an antenna at 60feet—thanks to Al.

**John WØWY**, Emergency Coordinator for the Club being a liaison with the County, reviewed the standard SKYWARN procedures. We have the use of our repeaters and links, along with Echolink—all should help facilitate communication with the NWS in Duluth. On April 28th, as John reminded the members, there will be a refresher course conducted by Carol Christianson of the NWS. Please attend even if it is your first time—we can all learn or re-learn.

**Mitch AØØHJ** demonstrated his Pi applications. Raspberry is his favorite—HI! Seriously, this engineer uses the technology for many digital applications. You will hear more of this. Check the current QST, which has an article also covering this subject.

**Nick KØNLR, Lyle KØLFV, and Al WØRC** showed off their re-use/re-build of older computer power supplies. Their cleverness in recycling gives them 12v supplies that can supply 15 amps—enough for a lot of VHF and HF rigs.

**Geoff NØCNC**, who is sporting this new shorter call sign, reported that the Bertha repeater can cover Wadena for the SKYWARN activities, and he and others will activate the Wadena area group during WX events.

**TJ KØTEG** also gave a quick demonstration of a dongle allowing easy access to D-Star participation.

**Ron KØGOP** reported that more improvements on our Club's website are coming. Remember, this takes time and the work is provided by volunteer labor from Club members.

**Shirley KØDCW and Al** requested you bring some homemade bars and cookies for the Club to sell at the Hamfest on April 16. As was mentioned on the nets and at the meeting, we will again be setting up for the Hamfest on Friday the 15th at 12 noon. The actual Hamfest day starts for us members/workers at about 7 a.m. on Saturday and will end after we do our usual take-down—putting tables back, etc.—usually on or before 3 p.m..

## Members Attended Buffalo, MN, Hamfest and Promoted our BAARC Hamfest



Pictured here from the Buffalo Hamfest are some of our members who attended and helped out advertising our upcoming April Hamfest. Pictured from left to right are the following: **Mitch ADØHJ**, **Kyle KEØHUC**, **Nick KØNJR**, **Michael KEØAFZ** and **Lyle KØLFV**. Not pictured is **Dave KDØVJL**. Hopefully this handing out a lot of flyers of our upcoming Hamfest will help increase our attendance. Everyone pictured and mentioned helped out with our advertising event. It's especially good to see new members getting involved with our Club activities. (Editor's Note: Photo and text credit—Lyle, KØLFV—BAARC VP)

## A Welcome to two of our newest Hams and BAARC Members



Pictured (l-r): Nick Reed, KØNJR, got his Technician's License in February and recently upgraded to General—along with a shorter call sign. Kyle Isam, KEØHUC, also earned his Technician's License in February. Both of these gentlemen are students at Central Lakes in IT and Robotics respectively. We are happy to have them in the ranks of amateur radio operators and in our Club. Congrats, Guys!

# **BAARC Annual Spring Dinner-Meeting** **YOU AND YOUR GUESTS ARE INVITED**

**Where and When?** **Thurs., May 26, in Nisswa at the American Legion** with socialization starting at **5:00**, dinner at **6:00**, the program at **7:00** , and ending at **9 p.m.**

**PROGRAM:** **DXer Extraordinaire Ralph Fedor, KØIR.** He will discuss the physical and psychological dangers involved and how the expeditioners learn to survive—skills needed in life. This knowledge can benefit us all. Ralph is always informative and entertaining.

**COST:** The total cost is only —**NOTE: E-MAIL COMING LATER ON EXACT COST.**

**Buffet Meal:** ———**menu to be determined.** When you commit, you must pay BAARC, for the number of meals ordered. Doug prefers checks.

**HOW:** Checks must be payable to **BAARC.** No Refunds. **To reserve, contact Doug Bergsnev, BAARC Treasurer, 15912 Olsen Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401. Ideally, payment must be received by him by mail on or before May 22nd.**

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

**P.S. Our thanks again to Jim Shubert, WØJDS, for arranging it with the Nisswa American Legion.**

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## **Biographical Summary: Ralph Fedor, M.D. - KØIR**

Ralph has been a licensed amateur radio operator since 1961 and has been active almost continuously, beginning with CW traffic nets in the 1960’s, but ultimately finding his passion in contesting, DXing, and DXpeditions.

Ralph is a retired board certified radiologist and is married with four grown children and ten grandchildren. He and his wife, Saundy, live near Waite Park, MN. He is a member of the Minnesota Wireless Association, the Twin City DX Association, the Southeastern DX Club, and the St. Cloud Radio Club.

His travels have taken him to some of the most remote places on earth. He has crossed the Equator 12 times and traveled in everything from zodiacs to Russian icebreakers and helicopters. He has visited places like Peter the First, the South Sandwich Islands, South Georgia Island, the Falkland Islands, Antarctica, Saba, Malpelo, Bhutan, Desecheo, Heard Island, Easter Island, Kerguelen Island, Deception Island, The South Shetland Islands, the South Orkney Islands, Navassa Island, Amsterdam Island and multiple countries in between. He has given presentations in Europe, Asia, South America, Australia, New Zealand and throughout the U.S. His DXpedition videos on YouTube have been viewed over 32,000 times, his Google Earth images have had over 875,000 views, and he and his DXpedition team members have made over 3.9 million DXpedition QSO’s. Ralph is the chairman of the board of directors of the International DX Association. He holds ten DXpedition of the Year awards and is a member of the CQ DX Hall of Fame.

For our program, Ralph will bring together his medical background and expedition experience with a presentation on human survival.

**SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS**

|          |      |        |
|----------|------|--------|
| 04-03-16 | Rick | NØBJN  |
| 04-10-16 | Doug | KDØERE |
| 04-17-16 | TJ   | KØTEG  |
| 04-24-16 | Tim  | KDØYLO |
|          |      |        |
| 05-01-16 | Rick | NØBJN  |
| 05-08-16 | Doug | KDØERE |
| 05-15-16 | Dave | KCØTGT |
| 05-22-16 | TJ   | KØTEG  |
| 05-29-16 | 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?**

**Know of any Member needing a card of cheer ? Let Fritz know.~~~~~**

**Our thanks to our Net Control Operators. Their pay is lousy, but they do a great job anyway!! Hi!~~~~~**

**For Sale now before going to the Hamfest: Icom 756 Pro II, covers 160-6, with 60 meters & Mars unlocked by dealer, receives way below BC band. Recently Fritz got an Icom 7600 and finds he does not need another rig. KØMAH agrees and says she wants unused gear moved out!!! Hi! The rig was completely gone through by Gary KØGX. It is a high quality rig with lots of bells and whistles & gets super audio reports & has great filtering—with built-in tuner. Try it locally before buying. Asking 1300. He can demo it at his station also. If needed, a new unused Icom matching supply is available extra. ContacFritz—w0ko "at" arrl.net  
**TALK UP OUR HAMFEST IN QSOS!!!!****

**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