



# The BAARCeR



August 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 in Crosby  
**147.225 MHz+ Crosby**  
Tone 110.9 Tx only

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146.700 MHz-  
Tone 141.3 Hz

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

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147.030 MHz+ Crosslake

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443.925 MHz Gull Lake+  
Tone 110.9 Hz

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444.925 MHz Crosby

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**Packet:** 145.010 MHz  
MNBRD, BRDBBS  
144.390 MHz WØUJ  
APRS I-Gate Node

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

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of the BAARCeR**

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**MN's ARRL Section Manager Skip Jackson (KSØJ) and Affiliated Club Coordinator Frank Karnauskas (N1UW) presented the American Radio Relay League's benefits to us licensed amateurs in the hobby. Their program was on 7-28-16. Skip is pictured on the left and Frank on right.**



The benefits of membership are many—too many/much to list here; however, it is most important for as many of us as possible to pay the \$49/year ARRL membership for which you get QST and many free services. The League is the only non-profit that supports/defends us in dealings with the FCC and Congress—now for over 100 Years. Our frequencies are often at stake. Many commercial interests want them. These are powerful money-driven forces who do not care about our public-service, volunteer-driven hobby. Skip and Frank are volunteer officials helping all of us—even the non-members of the League. Thank you, Skip and Frank. Keep it up!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**— Events Calendar —**

**Sat., Aug. 6, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille—Brd.**  
**Sat., Aug. 20, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille —Brd.**  
**ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC and FOX HUNT same day.—More details later.**  
**Thurs., Aug. 25 - NO Monthly Board & BAARC membership Mtgs.**  
**Sat., Aug. 27,—Our annual BAARC Tailgate Hamfest @ Crow Wing County Fairgrounds—Free—Note: Location within sight of our regular Hamfest @ Armory.**  
**Sun., August 28, Lakes Country Triathlon: Baxter—Starts @ 8:30 a.m.**  
 Operators needed. More details later.  
**Join/Rejoin—Still only \$20 Dues/ Year—Please get your check in to Doug WØDWB, BAARC TREASURER**  
**15912 Olsen Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401**

## Thursday-July 28, 2016 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

**President:** Steve Mott, NØCRM

**Vice President:** Lyle Amundson, KØLFV

**Treasurer:** Doug Bergsnev, WØDWB

**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, Ron KØGOP, Al WØRC, John WØWY, Shirley KØDCW, Mitch ADØHJ, Terry KIØFW, and Roger WØWUG.

The President opened the Board Meeting at 4:03 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** Membership roster shows 86 paid members for July 2016. The Club website was updated for the August 20 Foxhunt and Picnic, and the June BAARCer was published to the website. Other activities included updating fliers for the August 27 Tailgate Hamfest, thank-you letters to the Kendalls for their presentation and equipment donations, Gary Doucette and the Crow Wing County Fair Board, and Brian Walsh of Brian's Welding. The Secretary read a letter received from Bill Kendall KH6OO, inviting all Club members to look him up for a tour of the battleship "Missouri", should we ever find ourselves in Hawaii! The final draft of the Club's ARRL Service Club application was completed by the Board and will be filed by the Secretary. **Motion to accept:** Lyle KØLFV, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was delayed till the 7 PM Membership Meeting in the Treasurer's absence.

**Membership Meeting Program:** Steve NØCRM reviewed recent and future Club programs and events. Future Club programs include: **The Search for Amelia Earhart** – October 27 with Kenton Spading. A program on electronics 101, coax termination, and CW was discussed.

**Upcoming Events: BAARC Picnic and Fox Hunt:** August 20 and the **BAARC Tailgate Hamfest & VE Testing:** 10 AM Saturday, August 27, 2016. The usual Lum Park location for the Picnic/Fox Hunt is back following the completion of the sewer/water project there. **Lakes Country Triathlon:** Sunday, August 28 at Whipple Beach, Baxter.

**Digital & Emergency Communications:** Al WØRC and John WØWY and Mitch ADØHJ gave informational updates on the **Club Repeaters.**

**New Business:** No new business was discussed.

The board meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

## Thursday-July 28, 2016 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:00 PM with 26 members and guests present. Besides the aforementioned Board items, the Secretary read the letter received from Bill Kendall KH6OO. The Treasurer gave the Treasurer's Report showing all month's account transactions and balances to date.

**Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Dave KDØVJL, **Passed.**

A program on the **ARRL Activities and Dakota Division** was given by Skip Jackson KSØJ and Frank Karnauskas N1UW.

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

## DX and the Paper Chase

I lost track of the number of days without sunspots this past month. The Solar Flux Index was well below 100 with the 'A' index as high as 77. This does not fare well with chasing DX. Don't despair as there are plenty of HF opportunities available, not the least of which is an old-fashioned rag chew around the country (and Canada). Just call CQ and watch what happens...every answer to your call is a journey into the unknown with another radio operator eager to make a new friend or renew old acquaintances. What a wonderful hobby. I worked a station in Russia and one in Mexico using CW. When operating CW I don't call CQ, but instead I answer someone else's call. As I type this column, the bands are doing fairly well. They're noisy but operable with a little patience along with some dial tweaking to reduce some of the noise. That's all from Huntersville for now, but remember: sit down at your station and call CQ as you look for new adventures on the bands. Best 73 es gud DX from Bob/WØZPE.

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## First Annual BAARC Wacky Antenna Award

Terry May, KIØFW, experimenter with antennas of all types, especially for Field Days, won this year's first Wacky Antenna Award. It was presented to him by the BAARC at the July meeting. Congratulations, Terry.



## **Ham Radio Outlet buys AES—from the ARRL Letter 7-14-16**

"Together with this interview process, HRO examined what it would take to perhaps acquire one or more of the AES store locations. At the time of these interviews, many opportunities were explored with current AES senior management," the release continued. "We are very excited to announce that HRO was successful in providing offers of employment to a number of soon-to-be-former AES employees, and that to some, we have offered positions that involve HRO-sponsored and funded relocation."

HRO announced that once AES shuts its Milwaukee location at 5710 W Good Hope Road on July 28, Ham Radio Outlet will undertake an extensive remodeling project to create a new HRO Milwaukee store at the same site, which will open at the end of August.

"It is with great pleasure that we are able to continue Terry Sterman's and Phil Majerus' legacy of providing a fantastic Amateur Radio store in Milwaukee, Wisconsin," said HRO President Robert Ferrero, W6KR. "It is our immediate goal to have the largest, most well-stocked Amateur Radio retail store in North America and perhaps even the world."

After AES closes on July 28, all former AES locations' direct and toll-free telephone numbers will be redirected to the closest HRO location, and the AES website will be directed to HRO's website.

A family-owned business, HRO is the world's largest Amateur Radio dealership, with locations from New England to the West Coast.

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## **FCC Finds a Fix for Amateur Radio Application Batch Processing Problem—from the ARRL Letter**

It's taken a couple of weeks, but the FCC has resolved a computer programming problem that had affected its ability to accept and process batch-filed Amateur Radio applications, resulting in a backlog for the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator ([VEC](#)) and others taking advantage of automated processing. The FCC information technology staff had been attempting to fix the glitch that had affected the Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) Electronic Batch Filing (EBF) system since it first cropped up on June 28. At first the problem had affected the processing of all Amateur Radio and commercial license applications, said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who alerted the FCC IT Department.

By June 30, it appeared that the FCC had corrected the broader problem, but the EBF remained unable to process ARRL VEC's automated, batch-filed applications and exam sessions. VECs that were manually logging in to upload their files were unaffected. ARRL and FCC IT staffers put their heads together to solve the problem of the blockage.

"The FCC IT staff was astutely attentive to the problem every step of the way, as they worked with our IT department to find a solution," Somma said. "We appreciate the specialized service we received."

ARRL's IT Department and the ARRL VEC confirmed on July 14 that the problem had been fixed, the backlog of more than 1200 applications and 300 exam sessions cleared, and the flow of automated, batch-filed applications and exam sessions able to resume.

## **Amateur Radio Parity Act Receives Favorable House Energy and Commerce Committee Report**

An [amended version](#) of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, [H.R. 1301](#), received a unanimous favorable report on July 13 from members of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill now will go to the full House for consideration. Before reporting the bill out of committee, the panel first voted to accept the amended language, "in the nature of a substitute." Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, said the substitute bill represented "a good balance" that came in the wake of months of meetings, hard work, and compromise, and he recommended the measure to his colleagues.

**Handiham Program's Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, ex-WAØSGJ, SK—from the ARRL**

[Handiham](#) stalwart Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, ex-WAØSGJ, of Rochester, Minnesota, died on May 30. She was 84. Sister Alverna joined the then-fledgling organization in its earliest days, when founder Ned Carman, WØZSW, came up with the idea of sharing Amateur Radio with people who have disabilities.



"Ned enlisted the help of a group of local nuns, the Sisters of St Francis, on April 30, 1967," retired Handiham Program Coordinator Patrick Tice, WAØTDA, recounted on the Handiham website. "[T]he sisters were committed to helping Ned with his new project, and several received their licenses. Among them was Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, WAØSGJ, who would eventually become the Educational Coordinator for the Handiham System at Courage Center in Golden Valley, Minnesota." Tice praised Sister Alverna's "kindness and patience" and said her guidance, encouragement, and hard work led to many new radio amateurs over the years.

"Making friends on the radio, learning the math and science of electronics, and striving toward goals were all things that would make the lives of Handiham members better," he said. During her active years, Sister Alverna was an ARRL member.

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**Future FAA Rules Could Affect Some Amateur Radio Antenna Support Structures —from the ARRL Letter**

Yet-to-be-developed Federal Aviation Administration ([FAA](#)) rules stemming from the recent passage in Congress of [H.R. 636](#), the FAA Reauthorization Act, could pose additional marking requirements for a small number of Amateur Radio towers. The bill instructs the FAA to enact rules similar to state-level statutes now in place that are aimed at improving aircraft safety in the vicinity of meteorological evaluation towers (METs) set up in rural areas. In the wake of fatal crop dusting aircraft collisions with METs, often erected on short notice, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommended in 2013 that states enact laws -- sometimes called "crop duster" statutes -- requiring marking and registration of METs. While some state crop duster laws exempt ham radio towers, the federal legislation does not. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said, however, that the list of exemptions in the federal legislation restricts application of the new rules to a very small subset of Amateur Radio towers.

Imlay said **the law excludes towers erected adjacent to a house, barn, electric utility station, or other building, or within the curtilage (enclosed area occupied by a dwelling, grounds, and outbuildings) of a farmstead, among other exclusions.**

"We do not anticipate that a significant number of Amateur Radio antennas will be subject to these rules," Imlay said, "but we need to monitor the FAA rulemaking process carefully to head off requirements that could put the cost of installing and maintaining affected structures out of any reasonable reach."

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**The ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOA) event runs during all of 2016 to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.**

Please see July [QST](#), page 84, August [QST](#), page 83, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web sites for details.

**FOR SALE**

**Lyle is coordinating the sale of the following listed Amateur Radio Equipment offered by our Radio Club or by some of our Members. List includes donated, estate and/or personal items. Some may have been sold by the time you read this. If you are interested in one of the listed items, please contact Lyle KØLFV. Email [lmamundson@gmail.com](mailto:lmamundson@gmail.com)**

**HF Radios and Transceivers**

Alinco DX-SR8T HF All Mode Transceiver (Like New in Box)  
ICOM IC-706 MKIIG HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver w/CW&SSB Filters (MARS Mod)  
Kenwood TS-850 SAT HF All Mode Transceiver  
Heathkit DX-35 Xtal Controlled Transmitter  
Icom IC-756 Pro HF All Mode Transceiver  
Sierra Wilderness QRP Transceiver 15/20/40M  
Vectronics VEC-102K World Band Receiver Kit NIB (Unassembled)  
Midland S.A.M.E. Digital Weather/All Hazards Alert Radio WR-120  
Midland S.A.M.E. Digital Weather/All Hazards Alert Radio WR-100

**Linear Amplifier**

Ameritron AL-80B 1KW HF Linear Amplifier

**VHF UHF FM Transceiver**

Midland VHF FM Radio Model 70-1440B (Programmable)  
Yaesu FT-2400 2M FM Transceiver (Missing Mtg Brkt)  
Yaesu FT-1802 2M FM Transceiver w/Box (Missing Mtg Brkt)  
Yaesu VX-170 2M FM Handheld (Missing Charger)  
Yaesu VX-170 2M FM Handheld Complete w/box  
Yaesu FT-1500M 2M FM Transceiver (Missing DC Cord)  
Kenwood TM-D710A VHF/UHF FM Transceiver (Missing DC Cord & Manual)  
Baofeng UV-5R VHF/UHF FM Handheld

**Power Supply**

Kenwood PS-50 13.8 Volt 20 Amp Continuous Power Supply w/box

**Antenna Tuners**

MFJ-941D 300W Manual Antenna Tuner (Lighted Dial Mod)  
LDG RT-100 Automatic Antenna Tuner  
LDG YT-450 Auto Antenna Tuner  
LDG AT-200 PRO Auto Antenna Tuner  
MFJ-931 Artificial Ground Tuner  
Palomar FT-340 Antenna Tuner  
MFJ-1026 Noise Cancelling Antenna (NIB)

**Speakers**

Vertex MLS-100 Mobile Speaker  
Kenwood SP-23 Base Speaker

**SWR Power Meter**

Modified MFJ-267 Dummy Load SWR/Wattmeter (Missing Load Resistor)

**Microphones**

Heil ProSet PS-IC Communications Headset  
Heil ProSet IC Communications Headset  
Heil Pro Micro Single Side Communications Headset  
Yaesu HM-36 Handheld Microphone  
ICOM HM-118TN DTMF Handheld Microphone  
Heil PR10 Desk Microphone  
Kenwood MC-60 Desk Microphone

**Continued from page 6****Miscellaneous Ham Radio Equipment**

Better RF Company IC-706 Tune Control

ICOM RMK-706 Accessory Kit (MB-62 Mtg Brkt MB63 Ctr Hd Mtg Brkt)

Vectronics VEC-201 CW Keyer

**GPS**

Garmin Nuvi 750 Series GPS

**Rotator**

Wilson WR-500 Rotor with Control Box, Connectors and Manual (Project)

**Antennas**

Cushcraft R-6000 Vertical (Like New) 20M thru 6M

MFJ-1778 G5RV HF Dipole Antenna (As New)

Barker &amp; Williamson BWD 1.8-30 Mhz Folded Dipole Antenna (New in Box)

High Sierra HS-1800/Pro Screwdriver Mobile Antenna with Remote Control

Huster Mobile Antenna Mast with Assorted Coils

BuddiPole HF Dipole Portable Antenna System

Alpha Delta Surge Protector TT3G50

**Test Equipment**

HPS40 Personal Hand Held Oscilloscope With Probes

**Coax**

DX Engineering DXE-8UDX100 50 Ohm Low Loss Coax 100 Ft Assembly w/PL-259

New 50 Ohm Coax LMR-400 (Specify Quantity)

New 50 Ohm Coax RG8X (Specify Quantity)

**From K7RA's Weekly Propagation Report via ARRL****At 0537 UTC on July 28, 2016 the Australian Space Forecast Centre issued a geomagnetic disturbance**

**warning:** "Elevated geomagnetic activity possible due to the expected arrival of a high speed solar wind stream from a coronal hole on 28 July. "INCREASED GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY EXPECTED DUE TO CORONAL HOLE HIGH SPEED WIND STREAM FROM 28-29 JULY 2016. "GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY FORECAST 28 Jul: Unsettled to Active, possible Minor Storm periods 29 Jul: Quiet to Unsettled, possible Active periods."

**Petr Kolman, OK1MGW of the Czech Propagation Interest Group sent us this forecast:**

"Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period July 29-August 24, 2016, "Geomagnetic field will be: Quiet on August 23-24; Mostly quiet on August 1-2, 12-14, 17-18, 22. Quiet to unsettled on July 31, August 5-7, 10-11, 19. Quiet to active on July 29-30, August 3-4, 8-9, 15-16, 20-21. Active to disturbed on August (3-4). "Increases in solar wind from coronal holes are expected: July 29-30, August 2-4, 7-9, 20-21. "Parenthesis (August 3-4) means lower probability of activity enhancement. Petr Kolman, OK1MGW (OK1HH and OK1MGW, weekly forecasts since 1978)"

**Spaceweather.com reported:** "Earth is entering the outskirts of a broad stream of debris from Comet Swift-Tuttle, source of the annual Perseid meteor shower. Forecasters don't expect the shower to peak until August 11-13, but already NASA cameras are detecting Perseid fireballs streaking across the night sky as the shower slowly intensifies." Meteor trails can enhance propagation.

**SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS**

08-07-16	Rick	NØBJN
08-14-16	Doug	WØDWB
08-21-16	David	KCØTGT
08-28-16	Jay	KAØDYN
09-04-16	Rick	NØBJN
09-11-16	Doug	WØDWB
09-18-16	TJ	NØTEG
09-25-16	Jay	KAØDYN

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?**

**For Sale:** Ameritron AL-80b amplifier. Call Charles, W5CCL @ 218-866-0250.

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**Congratulations, TJ!!!!** KØTEG recently completed his studies at the college.

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**Need some free campfire wood?** Fritz has some at his QTH. About two large wheelbarrow loads or so are available to pick up. E-mail him.

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**Do you know of a Club Member needing a card of cheer?** Let Fritz know, and on behalf of the members he will send an appropriate card fitting the situation.

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**Can you fill in as NCS?** Some times even our regulars can't make the schedule, so we need a fill-in NCS. It is easy. The pay is \$0—but fun.

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