



The BAARCer



April 2009

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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Club Call: WØUJ

BAARC REPEATERS

53.110 MHz- 123.0 Hz
 147.225 MHz +
 145.130 MHz- Echo Link
 Node number 233515
 443.925 MHz + 110.9 Hz
 Packet: 145.670 MHz
 BBS MNRD, WØUJ
 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS
 Crosslake 147.030 MHz+
<http://brainerdham.org>

OFFICERS

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Al Doree **WØRC**

Vice President + WWW

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Treasurer:

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Trustee + BAARCer

Editor:

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

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Al WØRC (left) with presenter Skip Jackson, KSØJ (middle) (ARRL Section Mgr. for MN), who informed the Club about the value of belonging to the ARRL. He convinced Wynn KA3DQN (right), so he and others joined the League at that meeting. Skip is a retired EE from the Cities and an active Volunteer for the American Radio Relay League in this State. Mentioned was his carrot-nut-pineapple-raisin cake recipe.—See p. 8 on getting a copy.

— Events Calendar —

- Sat., April 4, BAARC Breakfast** at Northwind Grille @ 9 in Brainerd
- Sat., April 16, SKYWARN Training /Refresher in Brainerd @ 6:30** Pass the word.
- Sat., April 18, Hamfest in Fargo**
- Sat., April 18, BAARC Breakfast** at Northwind Grille @ 9 in Brainerd
- Sat., April 25, Brd. Jaycees Marathon in Nisswa**—volunteers needed
- Thurs., April 30—DINNER-MEETING-NISSWA LEGION** starting 5:30 p.m.
 See page 7 details—WØGJ—DXer is speaker on **Desechio** Event
- Sat., May 2, Hamfest in Superior**
- Sat., Sun., June 27+28—Annual ARRL and BAARC Field Day**—more details later
- HAMFEST JULY 18--SATURDAY—BRAINERD**

March 26, 2009 - 3:00 PM – BAARC/St.Cloud Radio Club Joint Meeting – Brainerd Fire Station

President Al WØRC opened the meeting with John WØWY, Vice President Steve KCØYTE, Director Roger WØWUG, Shirley KØDCW, Terry KIØFW, and Secretary Darrell ABØVP in attendance; Lyle KØLFV and Steve WØTNT arrived later. Three men represented the St. Cloud Radio Club: Tom Weyhrauch KDØDOS- (MN Dept. of Health Backup Operator), Jack Maus WØMBD- (Radio Coordinator for the Hospitals), and Art Carlson WAØNJR- (Pres. of St .Cloud Radio Club & Trustee of the St. Cloud Repeater).

Al WØRC had prepared an agenda that led the discussion that centered on the hospitals and coordinating activities. John WØWY had prepared drawings to show the layout of the areas radio communication assets that aided the discussions. Roger WØWUG and Terry KIØFW provided the benefit of their experiences. The meeting concluded with the scheduling of the next meeting on May 28th @ 3:00 PM at the Brainerd Fire Station.

March 26, 2009 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes – Brainerd Fire Station

President Al WØRC opened the meeting with all of the above BAARC members in attendance. The Minutes of the February (March 5th) Meeting as published in the BAARCer were accepted as written following a motion by Terry KIØFW and second by Roger WØWUG. Treasurer John W3MQD provided Al WØRC with information to lead a discussion of the Financial Report dated 2/28/09. Lyle KØLFV moved to approve the Financial Reports; the motion was unanimously approved following a second by Shirley KØDCW.

John WØWY moved that the Club pay for the supper of Skip Jackson KSØJ, an ARRL volunteer, as guest speaker on the ARRL at the membership meeting tonight; second Terry KIØFW; approved.

The meeting was adjourned about 5:00 PM. Respectfully submitted, *Darrell ABØVP*, Secretary

March 26, 2009 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Minutes – Brainerd Fire Station

President Al WØRC opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with twenty Hams and a guest in attendance. In order to allow Skip Jackson KSØJ to drive back to the Twin Cities at an earlier time, his presentation on the ARRL was made before the membership business meeting.

President Al WØRC reopened the membership meeting at 8:05PM. The February (March 5th) Membership Meeting Minutes as published in the BAARCer were accepted as written after a motion by Wynn KA3DQN and a second by Jim WØYA. Al WØRC in behalf of Treasurer John W3MQD presented a Year-to-Date Financial Report dated February 28, 2009. John WØWY moved to approve the financial report that was unanimously approved following a second by Jim WØYA.

The National Weather Service Annual Skywarn Training Event will be April 16th Thursday at the Crow Wing County Social Services Building at 6:30 PM.

The Brainerd Jaycees' Nisswa Marathon April 25th is the next Ham Event – as many as 30 operators needed. The next Membership Meeting will be for dinner with guests at the Nisswa Legion on April 30th, social 5:30 to 6:00, dinner 6:00 to 7:00, with a program on the K5D Desechio Island Ham Expedition by Glenn Johnson, WØGJ.

The meeting was adjourned about 8:45 PM. Respectfully submitted, *Darrell ABØVP*, Secretary



Mission Statement. The Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club is comprised of about 85 licensed Amateur Radio Operators who meet monthly to exchange ideas, improve radio skills, organize activities that are of service to the area, promote development of Amateur Radio, and join together in the mutual interest of Ham Radio. **In addition, the Club endorses and honors the Radio Amateur's Code : The radio amateur is considerate, loyal, progressive, friendly, balanced, and patriotic.** The BAARCer newsletter is provided to club members for information and entertainment as a non-profit service. The material is supplied "as is" and without warranty. Permission is granted to copy and distribute any information published here provided the source is credited. Because space is limited in the BAARCer newsletter, you will often find more photos and more details for club news stories on the BAARC website at: <http://brainerdham.org>

6-Meter Repeater Antenna Moved

It wasn't the coldest day in the last few weeks, but it may have been the windiest. But isn't that the way it is when we decide to do antenna work? It seems the weather never cooperates completely.

Well, three hardy souls decided to tackle the project on the roof of the Brainerd HRA's High Rise, some 114-feet above the ground. That's "earth ground" not "signal ground" or "chassis ground" or some other connection. Led by club President Al Doree, WØRC, and Past President Lyle Amundson, KØLFV, and joined by Kurt Doree, KCØYTC, the crew made a somewhat difficult task look easy. "It wasn't that hard," Al said, "once we got going and figured things out."

The antenna was located on the east parapet wall of the building at the main-roof level. The move was to the top of the elevator penthouse about 25-feet higher, and about 145-feet above average terrain. "Our coverage might improve somewhat," Lyle said, "but we're getting a good signal out now." A radius of 35 to 45 miles of Brainerd is what the system is designed for. The repeater committee believes that the repeater receiver sensitivity could be improved, however, and they'll continue to work on that.

The move was necessary as AT&T, one of the cellular providers on the rooftop, is changing its antennas from four omni-directional unipoles to three directional antennas covering 120-degree sectors, and the Club's 6-meter ground plane was in the way (physically) of one of them.

Anyway, it's up and running. Give it a try at 53.110 MHz, minus offset of 1 MHz, with a 123.0 Hz tone on the input.

John Luce, WØWY

Central Minnesota Hospital Emergency Team : Photo from 3- 29-09 taken by ABØVP:

Participants standing from left to right: Darrell ABØVP- (Sec. of BAARC), John WØWY, Tom Weyhrauch KDØDOS-(MN Dept. of Health Backup Operator), Jack Maus WØMBD-(Radio Coordinator for the Hospitals), Art Carlson WAØNJR-(Pres. of St. Cloud Radio Club & Trustee of the St. Cloud Repeater), Al WØRC-(Pres. BAARC). Seated: (middle) Roger WØWUG, Terry KIØFW, Shirley KØDCW. Front (seated) Lyle KØLFV on left and Steve -(VP of BAARC) on right..



KCØYTE 's Notes—not all of them

- Review of agenda from AL
- Introduction of Jack: He has been running the Central region Hospital net...for about 4 years.
- X and O map of mostly hospitals all have radios in them now. By and large almost all are installed and operational, but do not have operators that actually engage.
- Issue #1 : Getting volunteer hams to get radio on air. Looking for operators near by to get on the air
- Issue #2: Coverage, how do we get everybody within range of coverage.
- Jack commented about feeding the Collegeville repeater from the North.
- Al indicated that the Mille Lacs band cross band repeater is not optimal (there is a delay caused by the repeater still holding the squelch)
- One area that is hard to get to is from Collegeville to Alexandria and Wadena
- Art indicated that the Alexandria repeater had a problem (probably PA failure and will be looked at very soon)
John Luce presented a map that details the distance from Collegeville to all of the other repeaters, he also talked about the limits of pushing to Collegeville in Simplex mode.
- A Second map was presented by John indicating the move of the BAARC repeater to Gull Lake tower and the respective distance to the other repeater locations.
- One consideration to review is the RDN exercise last year and data/traffic passing ability of the system.
- Al talked about Outpost and packet for pushing data.
- Art talked about Simplex forward and store repeaters (don't have to contend with repeater pairs) per Art
- System Architecture:
 - Getting onto the Long Prairie would help BAARC out.
 - Or help Longville...upgrade their system
- Per Jack: Within the last month a chunk of money has been allocated(\$2500) to help the situation
- Art does not see an issue with getting a dedicated 147.225 radio for the hospital (this will eventually be the Net Control for the Hospital Net.)
- 1330 ground height +15' tower.... Cold Spring 1.5 miles south of townthen Microwave to Collegeville
- St. Cloud club agreed to run tests from the ramp of the hospital to 147.225 @ Crow Wing as a prior test.
- Per Art VHF systems seem to be easier to obtain.
- 3rd Thursday of each month is the St. Cloud clubs meeting, so a follow up of this meeting next month would not be an issue.
- We will target another joint meeting .

DX and the Paper Chase

The K5D DXpedition is history, and—history they made with over 115,000 QSO's all around the world. The DXpedition headed by Glenn Johnson (WØGJ) and his group of dedicated operators are to be congratulated and a big "thanks" from the worldwide DX community goes out to them. March was once again looking in vain for the elusive Cycle 24 which seems to be taunting DXers worldwide. This doesn't mean that there wasn't good DX to be worked—quite the contrary as I worked South Africa and a host of European countries on 15 meters by calling CQ to what seemed to be a "dead" band without a signal heard until my CQ was answered. I'm convinced more than ever that calling CQ will garner results...you just have to key the mic and call. The 17-meter band had sporadic openings into Europe and later in the day into VK land, and the band also had some "dead" zones where nothing was heard and nobody came back to my call. As usual, I avoid 20-meters and head down to 40-meters, which is much more civilized when the higher bands are not cooperating. The Wadena Club is in the process of memorializing the call of KØJO/SK by assigning John's call to the Wadena repeater. The paperwork is in the mill and when all the hoops are gone through, NØWN will be retired as the repeater call sign and it'll be replaced with KØJO in memory of John Oehlenschlager SK. I'm looking forward to the worldwide CQ contest March 28TH and 29TH when the possibility of contacting a "new one" is good. Remember, pick up that mic and call CQ...someone is listening for your call. So long from Huntersville, 73 and good DX from Bob/WØZPE.

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Mid-Minnesota 150 Thank-You Note to the Club via John WØWY—

Dated 2-17-09

"Would you please share this with your Club members. I want to thank you folks for your help and support of our race again this year. It would be very difficult for us to successfully pull this event off without your involvement. I hope we can continue to work together as we look forward to the running of our 23rd annual event next year. Thanks Again, (signed) Dan Levno"

+++++

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) have updated the requirements to earn the Radio Merit Badge. The ARRL is involved and much information is available, according to John WØWY. On the Web try <<http://www.arrl.org/scouts/>>

Buffalo Hamfest Pix

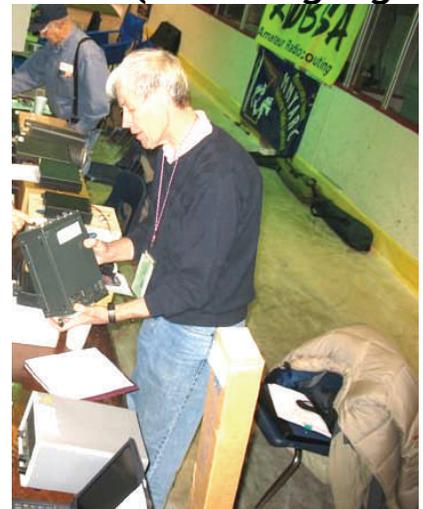
Al WØRC (seated below)



WØWY pix.

+

Lyle KØLFV (standing right)



Al is chatting with long-time BAARC member Bob KØUSJ (now of the Twin Cities area).

Lyle is a successful seller of used radio gear for the Club and others. Both of the guys really enjoy hamfests—no matter where they are.

BURGHARDT'S NO LONGER SELLING HAM GEAR—NOW JUST REPAIRING GEAR ONLY

According to recent ARRL Letter of March 20, 2009, Burghardt to No Longer Sell Amateur Radio Equipment: On March 16, Jim Smith, WØMJY, owner of Burghardt Amateur Center in Watertown, South Dakota <<http://www.burghardt-amateur.com/>>, announced that the company will no longer sell Amateur Radio transceivers and accessories. The company, now called Burghardt Radio Repair, has canceled all backorders. In an e-mail, Smith blamed the current economic conditions for the change that forced the company "to re-evaluate our goals and direction. We will continue to provide radio repair service as it has become a very busy business. Our technicians are very experienced and parts inventories are good. Thank you for your support in the past and we look forward to continuing our relationships through our servicing facility." Jim Smith's son, Mike Smith, KCØFTM, told the ARRL that even though the company has had to lay off employees in the past couple of months, "Burghardt will concentrate on service, just like we have been doing since 1973." Burghardt was founded in 1937 by Stan Burghardt, WØIT (SK), as Burghardt Radio Supply. He sold the company to Smith in 1982, remaining active in the company until January 2002. Burghardt passed away in 2004 at the age of 93.

FCC REJECTS REQUEST TO INCREASE QUESTION POOL

According to a March 20, 2009 ARRL Bulletin, in April 2008, Michael Mancuso, KI4NGN, of Raleigh, North Carolina, filed a petition with the FCC, seeking to increase the size of the question pools that make up the Amateur Radio licensing exams. Mancuso sought to increase the question pool from 10 times the number of questions on an exam to 50 times more questions. On March 19, 2009, the Commission notified Mancuso that it was denying his petition.

In his 2008 petition, Mancuso claimed that the current question pool is too easy to memorize and "that there has been a significant increase in the number of Amateur Radio operators receiving their licenses over at least the last decade or more who do not appear to possess the knowledge."

Mid-Winter Madness 2009

Once again the Buffalo Civic Center and the Robinsdale ARC played host for the Midwinter Madness Hamfest, Saturday, March 28th, and BAARC was well represented.

Attendance was good but seemed somewhat down to observers. The final count had not been announced when BAARC attendees left shortly after noon. Club members in attendance (that were seen) were: President Al WØRC, Lyle KØLFV, Roger WØWUG, Skee, WØDCY, Greg NØLJY, Bob KØUSJ, and John WØWY. Al, Lyle, and John ran a "club table" where items consigned to the club were sold and our hamfest was promoted.

Robinsdale ARC were great hosts, as usual, and there was good food and prizes for attendees. Nearly all the tables had been sold and occupied when doors opened at 8 AM. And, last minute-bargain hunters were buying things as they were being packed up just before closing time. "I was very impressed with the amount of stuff I sold for John's estate, (KØJO, SK), "Al WØRC said. "People were buying unusual things like CNC connectors and old Cinch Jones plugs, but gear that John had used on SHF frequencies, too," he said.

"All in all for me," Lyle, KØLFV said, "there just isn't enough money to pay for the show (people) you get at an event like this either." Hey, Lyle, ham radio is a very diverse hobby. **de John WØWY.** (See John's pix on page 5)

BAARC's (Thursday) April 30th Dinner-Meeting: Nisswa Legion Club

The **BRAINERD AREA AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB**

Cordially Invites You and A Guest(s) To
Our "**SPRING DINNER**"

April 30, 2009

Nisswa American Legion Club
25807 Main St., Nisswa, MN 56468

Social Hour – 5:30 - 6:00 PM

Buffet Dinner – 6:00 PM

Program – 7:00 PM

Glenn Johnson – WØGJ

**"Desecheo: So Near, Yet so Far! #6 Most
Wanted"**

Please send a check made out to BAARC
before April 22, 2009, for \$15/person and
the names of all guests to:

Jim Shubert – WØJDS
8271 Hidden Creek Ct.
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472
218-543-5041

For BAARC info, see <http://brainerdham.org>



SUNDAY NIGHT NET OPERATORS

4/05/09	Lyle	KØLR
4/12/09	Pat	WØETY
4/19/09	Dick	WØECJ
4/26/09	John	KBØMNM
5/03/09	Jim	KBØLYP
5/10/09	Linda	KCØGVZ
5/17/09	Charles	W5CCL
5/24/09	Richard	NØHW
5/31/09	Alan	AAØAS

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



BAARC, Inc.
Ham Radio at its best in the Lakes Area
Affiliated with the ARRL

Find us on the Web:
<http://www.brainerdham.org>

80 Years Ago—as found in the Brainerd Dispatch reprinted 3-10-09.

“There will be a meeting of the Brainerd Radio Club in the Farmers Room of the courthouse next Wednesday. All radio owners, whether members or not, are asked to come for a discussion of how to clear present radio interference in the city.”

Some Club Member Sick or Hospitalized Needing Some Cheer?

Send Fritz a message with the information needed and he will send a card on behalf of all the BAARC members.

His e-mail address is in the other box on this page and easy to recall.

THANK-YOU NOTE RECEIVED.

The BAARC received a nice thank-you note from the Miller family in Brooklyn Center. It was in response to the condolences we sent upon the death of Jack Miller, WØJEM.

Want a copy of the Recipe Skip Jackson (KSØJ) talked about? Send Fritz an e-mail request—Carrot-Nut-Pineapple-Raisin Cake. w0ko@arrl.net

Your Dues Status? Check with Treasurer John W3MQD via e-mail johnm@uslink.net

United We Stand



First Class Mail

Address Correction Requested

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