Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The **BAARCer**



February 2011

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

Page 1 of 8

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 MNBRD. BRDBBS 144.390 WØUJ-5 APRS Crosslake 147.030 MHz+ http://brainerdham.org OFFICERS President: W5CCL Charles Lane Vice President + WWW Editor: Steven Mott NØCRM Secretary: Ron Finger KØGOP Treasurer: Doug Bergsnev KDØERE Director-at-Large: Lyle Amundson KØLFV Trustee + BAARCer Editor: Fritz Bertelt WØKO Index Meeting Minutes 2 Club News & DX Rpt. 3 4 George KCØBH's

History

Form

Updates

Final Dues 2011

Sunday Night Net



Thursday, January 27, 2011 – 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes

Brainerd Fire Station

President: Charles Lane, W5CCL **Vice President:** Steve Mott, NØCRM **Secretary:** Ron Finger, KØGOP Past President: Al Doree, WØRC Special Events Co-Director: Dave Fournier, KCØTGT E-Communications Director: John Luce, WØWY

President Charles W5CCL opened the meeting at 4:00 PM with 6 board members in attendance. The Secretary reported a current Club membership of 70 members, with 30 new ID badges distributed. After discussing the expired memberships of the 2010 Ham Class members, the secretary was asked to send out a renewal email reminder. The secretary was also asked to check with Fritz WØKO regarding receipt of any pertinent Club mail prior to future meetings. The Treasurer's report was waived until the 7 PM membership meeting.

Upcoming Events: Al WØRC reported on preparations for the **Mid-MN 150 Dog Sled Race** in February. Club member Jim Horn KBØINZ has offered to man the finish line in Remer, which in the past has required staffing into the late evening. Al is planning on running an APRS equipped snowmobile to sweep the course through the last checkpoint to provide real-time sweep updates. The Club has again been given permission to use the WRØG repeater for the event. It was discovered that due to recent changes, 2 Club events are scheduled for the same day. Both the **March of Dimes Walk** at Forestview School in Baxter, and the **Brainerd Jaycees "Run For The Lakes" Marathon** in Nisswa will be held on Saturday, April 30th. Terry KIØFW reported that the **March of Dimes Walk** will require key intersection coverage by 4 to 6 operators over 2-3 hours starting at 10 AM. Details on the **Brainerd Jaycees "Run For The Lakes" Marathon** event were not yet available, but usually requires 12 or more operators.

Digital & Emergency Communications: John WØWY recently met with John Bowen (KDØCIZ), Crow Wing County Emergency Management Director, regarding a radio equipment inventory at the EOC site at the Historic Crow Wing Courthouse in Brainerd. With the approaching ARMER 800MHz system switchover, there are mixed concerns over the usage and compatibility of existing amateur radio equipment at that site. On another note, John is providing CTC with documentation regarding our use of the donated broadband connections at the Club Station and future repeater site.

Old Business: Steve NØCRM reported on progress learning the new web design software recently purchased for the Club website. He and Ron KØGOP will be using the books and video tutorials to maintain the current website, as well as preparing a new and improved website from the ground up. Lyle KØLFV will be seeking help to complete the Club equipment inventory when he returns in early February.

New Business: John WØWY and Jim WØJDS discussed the need for a different backup generator for the Club trailer. The current backup generator is too underpowered at .9KW to be useful, and it was suggested that a 2KW Honda generator be purchased instead. A motion to purchase a new generator was made by AI WØRC, seconded by John WØWY and passed. A follow-up motion to sell the old backup generator to Terry KIØFW for \$75 was made by John WØWY and seconded by AI WØRC and passed. John and Steve NØCRM were tasked with purchasing the new unit. Dave KCØTGT reminded anyone with past event details or contact info to forward that information to him for inclusion in the Master Event Book he has been compiling. The Treasurer will be asked to file a donation application with the Brainerd Jaycees for the recent **Ice Fishing Extravaganza** event by the Monday deadline. The Board Meeting was adjourned at 5PM.

Thursday, January 27, 2011 -- 8:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

The membership meeting followed an informal presentation at 7:00 PM by Brainerd Fire Chief Kevin Stunek. Vice President Steve NØCRM opened the Membership Meeting at 8:00 PM with 18 members and guests present. The Secretary reported a current Club membership of 70 members, with new member Pat WØOPW, and new call sign and Extra Ken KØIF introduced. The Treasurer's Report was then presented by Doug KDØERE, and approved. Doug also reported on the completed Club financial audit, and was thanked for his past year's efforts with a round of applause. **Digital & Emergency Communications:** John WØWY reported on his meeting with John Bowen and CTC's request for broadband usage feedback. (see Board Meeting minutes)

Upcoming Events: Details were given on the upcoming **Mid-MN 150 Dog Sled Race, March of Dimes Walk, and Brainerd Jaycees "Run For The Lakes" Marathon.** (see Board Meeting minutes) Club members were urged to sign up to provide coverage for both events. AI WØRC announced the upcoming **St. Cloud Hamfest** for February 19th with \$5 admission and VE testing at 10 AM. VE testing will be available at the **Grand Rapids Courthouse** on February 26th. **Old Business:** Steve NØCRM reported on Club website progress. (see Board Meeting minutes) Following a motion by Shirley KØDCW and second by AI WØRC, it was decided to postpone the "**2010 Year in Review Slideshow**" until the February meeting. The Membership Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

--Respectfully submitted by Ron KØGOP, Secretary

Lyle KØLFV Reports Receipt of Donations: The Cuyuna Lakes Trail Association (the Bike Tour people) presented a check to the Club for \$100 for our much appreciated participation in their event. Also— the person from Duluth who intended to buy an antenna and tower had to back out—sent \$50 to the Club. Of course, we thank them very much.

The 2011 Ice fishing Extravaganza was declared another success by Dave KCØTGT and Steve NØCRM (co-chairs). Participants from the BAARC were hardy souls who braved the subzero elements on Gull Lake. WØRC transported members and officials around the course. W5CCL and WØJDS officiated as Net Controls. NØCRM and KIØFW assisted in the medical area and elsewhere as needed. KCØTGT worked the entrance area. Also helping with various duties were Chris KDØLFA, WØWY, KØGOP, and KA3DQN. Not all of the participants and officials were pictured in the front-page photo insert. Our thanks to all who volunteered for this charity event and to those providing the information for this publication. Thanks to John WØWY for the photos and to all for the participation. Luckily his camera did not freeze up! More @ <www.icefishing.org >

DX and the Paper Chase

How's DX? Not bad, not great, but if you're willing to spend time looking and then working the pileups, there is some pretty good stuff out there. I was able to snag a new one just after the New Year got underway. I worked a station in Cameroon with a weak signal (TJ3AY). It took me several days to find a signal strong enough to work. The single operator was operating barefoot with a ground plane antenna, and he was working simplex with a pretty substantial pileup behind him. He also used an online log that you can confirm your contact with. My call appeared several days after the initial contact was made, and my QSL is on the way to his QSL manager in France. I sat back (with a smile) and reflected on my fascination with DX as I get ever closer to my 300th confirmation. This is why I'm in the hobby. The excitement along with the rush of adrenalin when the operator answers your call through the pileup is satisfying to the extent that I want to get back on the air and search for another DX. In the meantime, rag chewing is something that I also enjoy—there's nothing better to sharpen your operating skills than working an interesting station for an extended chat. Also, QSL cards for the brand new entities (PJ6 PJ7 PJ4 and PJ2) arrived this month. Maybe DX is great!!! The following are two more rules to use while working DX and they are: (A) I will call and listen for a reasonable interval. (B) I will not call continuously. (C) I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine. There are five more rules which I will include in future articles. I might add that these rules are beginning to appear on DX websites as more DXpeditions take to the field. In closing, sit down at your radio station and call CQ because someone somewhere is listening for your call. Don't disappoint the caller. So long from Huntersville for now and 73—Bob WØZPE.

KCØBH—Short History: Work, Military, Ham Radio, Public Service, and BAARC. My early life began in Fridley, Minnesota. Grandad settled there after coming to America from Sweden in a sailing ship. He was a 17-year-old bricklayer by trade and recognized that there was a rich clay deposit along the Mississippi River in Fridley. So instead of laying bricks, he set up a plant to make bricks! He later in his career ran for and won two terms in the Minnesota Senate. After elementary school I went on to high school graduating in 1938 from Mound High School. Then it was on to the University of Minnesota, where I majored in Personnel Administration and Reserve Officer Training. MILITARY. This was in a period when the war clouds were swirling over Europe. After four years in ROTC I was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps and ordered to duty in Texas in June of 1942. Here is where the personnel training paid off. I was appointed Personnel Officer at Hensley Field. This base was a fast expanding part of the Air Transport Command, and I was kept very busy doing personnel work. I later was given a specialized personnel assignment to the Southwest Pacific, mainly in the Philippine Campaign in connection with enemy action in the Schoeten Islands (Biak). In March of 1946 I was released from active duty as a Major, and I remained in the Air Force Active Reserve. GENERAL MILLS. Along with my Reserve duty, I applied for and was hired by General Mills in its World Headquarters Personnel Department on April 1, 1946. RETIREMENT. After 34 years at General Mills, I retired. Simultaneously, I retired from the Air Force Active Reserve at a rank of Colonel. All of these communications activities sharpened my ability to conduct emergency drills/ exercises.HAM RADIO. In 1968, while I was Director of Personnel for the James Ford Bell Technical Center, I tried out for my Ham license. In those days one had to pass a Morse code test at 13 words per minute (send and receive) for both the Advanced and General license. Once I got through the General, the Advanced written test was a snap. We had to take the tests in front of an FCC examiner. I received my Novice license (WØVBU) and my Advanced ticket in 1968. PUBLIC SERVICE. After becoming frustrated trying "DX" with 100 watts, I joined the Emergency Communications Response Team in the Twin Cities. This was an active group with many practice "drills" at the Mpls.-St. Paul Airport and with evacuation plans for the two nuclear plants. As luck would have it, no emergencies occurred. The floods of the Red River Valley in 1997 and the devastating Saint Peter Tornado in 1998, gave me an opportunity to respond and provide emergency communications for the Salvation Army. Along with the SA affiliation, we did two Habitat for Humanity 500-mile Bike Rides as Ride Communicators, annual stints as Net Control and/or SAG wagon duty with the Twin City Iron Man Bike Ride in April each year. UP NORTH. In 1983 after a trip to South Africa, we decided to spend all summer at our cabin. I had heard about BAARC and learned about the "breakfast . on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays" in (at that time) the Front Street Cafe. As I entered the meeting room, Fritz Bertelt (WØKO) rose and greeted me. I have felt welcome ever since! LEGENDARY NC DUTIES/INVOLVEMENT. My participation in Club activities started immediately with the "Tour of the Lakes" Bike Ride. Net Control, as I recall, was located in one of the buildings of the Brainerd Arboretum. Ken Magloughlin (KAØJSW-SK) was very helpful in describing the routes and where rest stops were located. SAG wagons were somewhere along the route, and the NC had to "remember" where they were. The NC job was a difficult one, and after sweating it for a couple of years, I developed an aid. This consisted of a sheet of tin to which the map of the bike route was applied and little match box cars with magnetic bottoms were placed on the map as the hams in SAG wagons reported their positions. This created a more effective monitoring of the" bike flow." When AI Doree (WØRC) developed the APRS system in 2003, the NC job became a whole new issue. With the laptop computer and GPS, the handling of SAG wagons diminished because now we could watch the wagons take up new positions in real time. After 15 years as NC, technology finally caught up and passed me by. MANY EXERCISES USING HAM RADIO SKILL AND MANY OPERATORS. Some time in 1991, Sylvia Pentel (NØMRW), the organizer and leader of the Emergency Communications Response Team of Minneapolis, met with Ken Magloughlin (SK) and several others at a dinner meeting at the then Holiday Inn. Her proposal was for the BAARC to organize and manage a large-scale Federal emergency exercise. Preliminary plans called for a disastrous tornado hitting the Long Prairie Fair Grounds during its annual County Fair. Federal involvement included an Infantry Unit, an Ambulance/First Aid unit from Duluth, a medical triage/air evacuation unit at Fort Ripley, and participation by the CAP, National Guard Helicopter, Todd County Sheriff, and Long Prairie Police. Ken and I (KCØBH) took on the challenge and recruited 35 ham radio operators to act as shadows to all unit heads. The importance of our role was exhibited when we were the only group to be assigned our own separate building. Ken and I decided to have two Net Controls. One NC was to handle Fair Grounds traffic and the other was to handle traffic for the Fort Ripley Airport. Preliminary tests between Long Prairie and Fort Ripley were "Q 5" on the Friday before the event was to take place. The satellite Net Control at Fort Ripley was

February 2011

The BAARCer

directed by Don Carlson (NDØM). At the start of the exercise on Saturday morning, it became obvious that we couldn't hear Fort Ripley Airport, and Fort Ripley couldn't hear Long Prairie. Fortunately, our plan called for a troubleshooter. Greg Maas (NØLJY) quickly diagnosed the problem: "...too much RF from the Army, the Sheriff, Local police, etc." Consequently, Greg's solution was to set up a portable repeater in his car atop a nearby hill. From then on our traffic was seamless and favorably commented on by the Federal Director, who was riding "shotgun" with our ROVER, John Luce (WØWY). Needless to say, in the debriefing, the Ham Radio phase was given many favorable comments. One operation that was set up and operated successfully during the exercise was an HF Packet station setup by Bill NØBSN and Norris KDØRI from the Minnetonka Radio Club. Working independently they were able to send typed messages to St. Paul via Tod Olson (KØTO) in Long Lake, MN. A written turnaround reply showed up on the Long Prairie computer in 20 minutes (and in printed form). In 1992 that was a noteworthy accomplishment! Another large scale event in BAARC's history (1997) was the Veterans World Cup Orienteering Contest in a remote part of Fort Ripley. This was a particularly difficult assignment because of the glacial-moraines topography. Several of BAARC's members solved the problem by bringing in the trailer tower and cranking it up 50 feet. This gave us 100 percent coverage with BAARC's Kenwood local repeater set-up. The contest arrangements consisted of two starting points, where contestants were issued a topographical map, a card for punching their arrival at numbered way points. Each person had a timed start. Early in the contest, one of the first-aid stations called in a "code red "emergency. It seems that a contestant fell and impaled his chest with a stick. Al Doree (WØRC) climbed aboard a Motley Fire Department pickup truck and set out to find and bring the victim to HQ to where an ambulance had been summoned. The victim didn't speak English, so NC had the added task of finding a Swedish-English translator. As I remember, there were some 300 contestants ranging in age 21-95 were running at break-neck speeds through the woods. Over the years there were several special events. The annual Cancer Wallk was a special event that Ken Magloughlin (KAØJSW-SK) and Terri Monroe (deceased) had asked BAARC members to help with by providing communications before, during, and after this fundraising event. I recall one year that Ken assigned me to be Terri's shadow. I never walked so far, so fast just trying to keep track of Terri! Another annual responsibility was the monitoring the Memorial Day Parade to Evergreen Cemetery. Also the CANOE RACES on Serpent Lake were particularly hectic inasmuch as it was an overnight race with money awards for the winning team. Unfortunately a lightning storm occurred, and we had to terminate the race and all the canoes were ordered to the nearest shore. It was a difficult job getting all contestants collected, along with the radio operators stranded on pontoons around the race course. I was in the comm. trailer with the windows open when one of the hams, who had been left on a pontoon an unusually longtime, blasted Ken with language that would befit a drunken sailor. There were times when Net Control couldn't do anything right!! A similar experience occurred during the Handicapped Fishing Event. In that event several pontoons were loaded with wheelchaired people, and they spread out into the many bays and coves. The BAARC mission was limited to several chase boats. When a weather emergency was called, finding the pontoons and getting them to safety had some fingernail-biting minutes. Final Observations/Comments— GOBLIN WATCHES. Since I didn't participate, I am unable to describe the efforts put forth in the annual Goblin Watches that assisted local police in patrolling the cities on Halloween, the Ice Fishing Extravaganza on Gull Lake and the Sled-Dog Race. These events are real evidence of the BAARC members' ability to handle community events. CLUB SERVICE TO COMMUNITY. Over the years that I was active, I noted a continuing effort by our Club leadership to serve the community: for example, installing antennas on the various hospitals, lending use of our tower trailer to the Sheriff, assigning use of tower antenna locations when needed by the ambulance service, participating in disaster drills with local police and fire departments. The 2010 Tornado in Wadena afforded another great chance to help a neighboring community with communications during a period of great need. And, yes, in earlier years we mowed weeds around the Gull Lake tower equipment and shed in exchange for a tower location for one of our repeaters. (Editor's Note: George worked harder than most of us younger guys). All of these involvements drew and still draw favorable responses and provide the opportunity for Club members who would and should pay back to the community for use of the FCC array of frequencies allotted to Ham Radio.

(Contributed by George Swanson, KCØBH--12-28-10)



Lyle's Equipment List ,Etc: I am coordinating the sale of the following listed Amateur Radio Equipment offered for sale by the BAARC and by some of our Members. The list includes donated, estate, and personal items. If you are interested in one of the listed items, please contact me. I am happy to report that the equipment from the NØUME estate brought in \$185 for the Club. We still have a few items from KCØBH's donation to sell. Whatever does not sell locally will go to the Hamfests coming up. Thanks—Lyle, KØLFV.

Yaesu MD-100A8X Desk Microphone ICOM IC-T7H Dual Band H/T with Batt & Spkr/Mic Yaesu FT-270 2M FM H/T Rebirb (NIB) Yaesu FT-11R 2M FM H/T Yaesu FT-1802 2M FM Transc. Re-Firb (NIB) Yaesu FT-1802 2M FM Transc. Mic, DC Cord, Brkt	Tripp Lite 3A 12VDC regulated pwr. supply MFJ-850 AC line monitor MFJ-1116 Deluxe DC power strip Generic J-38 Straight CW key CTA AA Charger w/2 rechargble. AA nicads Garmin nuvi 205W GPS Navigator Upgraded Firmware
Uniden BC370CRS Receiver Scanner MFJ-969 300W Tuner 160-6M (Roller Inductor) Motorola Mobile Powered Speaker W/Cable Radio Shack Nova 10 EarPhones Oregon All-Hazard WX Radio WR113 H/T Uniden Bearcat BC235XLT H/T Scanner	Garmin nuvi 1200 Ultra-thin GPS Navigator (NIB) 2M ¼ wave mag. mt. mobile ant.(generic) Belkin 150W Inverter 12VDC in 120VAC out

<u>Amateur Radio in Space: NASA's Nanosatellite Heard by Hams</u>

When a NASA nanosatellite -- <u>NanoSail-D</u> -- ejected unexpectedly on January 17 from the Fast Affordable Scientific and Technology Satellite (<u>FASTSAT</u>), the agency called upon Amateur Radio operators to help track it. <u>NASA asked radio amateurs to listen</u> on 437.270 MHz for the signal and verify that NanoSail-D was operating. NASA received almost 470 telemetry packets from 11 countries.

According to NASA, the nanosatellite was last heard at 1354 UTC on January 21. Telemetry indicates that the sail deployed on schedule and the satellite is now believed to be out of power, which NASA said was to be expected. NASA is now asking for visual tracking and sighting reports of NanoSail-D, which is about 650 km above the Earth. According to the agency, when the nanosatellite's sail reflects off the Sun, it could be up to 10 times as bright as the planet Venus -- especially later in the mission when the sail descends to lower orbits. You can track NanoSail-D on the web or on your smart phone. (Info from the *ARRL Letter*)

Propagation—Cycle 24. (from the ARRL). Tad "Like a comet pulled from orbit as it passes a Sun" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers were up for the past week (ending January 26) by more than 11 points to 32.6, compared to the previous week. The average daily solar flux rose more than 3 points to 83.5. The planetary A index average was down 2 points to 2.9, and mid-latitude A index was down 1.5 points to 2.4. The latest prediction from NOAA/ USAF shows lower solar activity with solar flux for January 27-28 at 79 and 78, then 76 for January 29 through February 2, 78 on February 3-4 and 80 on February 5-6. They show planetary A index at 5 on January 27-February 2, then 10 on February 3-4 and 7 on February 5. Geophysical Institute Prague sees quiet conditions January 28 through February 1, quiet to unsettled February 2 and unsettled February 3.

February	2011
----------	------

R R	ME	Prof Area Amateu MBERSHIP APPLICA Year January 1, 2011, to Deco (One Application for Each F	TION FORM ember 31, 2011		
Name (First, MI, La	st)		Call Sign:		
Street Address: _		License	e Class:		
City:		State: Zip			
Phone: ()	Additio	onal Phone: ()		
Date of Application	n:	Circle One: New / Renewal			
E-mail Address:	Member_ARRL? Circle One: Y / N				
I would like to receiv	ve the BAARCer _ via	a the Internet / US Mail (Circle	• One).(Internet saves Club money)		
Circle One: \$20 Fu	II Member / \$10 Add	ditional Family Member / \$10 \$	Student Member		
		er: <baarctreasurer@charter. Make checks payable to BAARC. The Club is a</baarctreasurer@charter. 	g in the year you join. For information on a life .net> Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club Treasurer - Doug Bergsnev KDØERE 15912 Olsen Lane Brainerd, MN 56401		
Voluntary Contribution	\$				
Total Enclosed	\$				
I hereby make this a	application and agree	e to abide by the Club By-Laws	э.		
Signature:			Date:		
Disclosure: This infor	mation will not be sold	I or given to another organization w	vithout express permission of the BAARC members.		
Please ma	il one form, along wit	th dues (check/money order), for	r each person who wants to be a member.		
Check our Club's Website for other Information and Newsletters. Regular Updates on the Sunday Night Nets on 147.225 www.brainerdham.org					

Brainerd, MN 56401 bsoA IliH anendA 78181 c/o M. Fritz Bertelt WØKO Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

Address Correction Requested

lisM esslD ferl7

bnst2 eW betinU



February	2011		The BAARCer Page 8 of	
SUNDAY	NIGHT NET	OPERATORS	Thank-You Note from John WØWY. As you know	
02/06/11 02/13/11 02/20/11	Dylan Doug	KDØLFE KDØERE WØDCY	condolence card, and many of us attended Terri's memoria where we and others celebrated her great life. John had th note to the BAARC:"Thank you for the beautiful card with it	is to say in his ts comforting
02/27/11	Skee Joe	KBØVYJ	words. Terri was able to get to know many Club members 25 years in Brainerd. The presence of Club members at he service on 12-3-10 was very supportive to me and my fami	er memorial ly. 73—John."
03/06/11 03/13/11	Marcia Bob	WØZMC WØZPE	Congrats! Ken Mehr is now KØIF—formerly	
03/20/11 03/27/11	Jim Fritz	WØJDS WØKO	Got Your own History in Ham Radio, career to Send it to Fritz for future inclusion in the <u>BAARCe</u>	
Night Net Control Coordinator is Fritz WØKO. To volunteer: w0ko "at" arrl.net		ARC Sunday linator is Fritz	DUES are still being collected for 2011 . Please see page 7, print it, and send your \$20 in. It is still a bargain considering what you get as a member. Other clubs provide far less. Help our treasurer get this done soon. Again, thanks to all who have done this.	
Δ	BAARC, In io at its best in ffiliated with th Find us on the p://www.brainer	the Lakes Area e ARRL Web:	Silent Key: W6WWR, "Andy" Avery Anderson Pequot Lakes passed away January 9th. We se condolence card to the family. Lyle KØLFV ha him many times with radio and computer issu made visits to the nursing home. Al WØRC an W3MQD assisted him at various times also. Interestingly, Andy was a WWII vet and later Anheuser-Busch as brew master. Of course, h missed in the community. The memorial was	ent a ad helped ues and had nd John worked for he will be