



The BAARCeR



November 2016

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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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

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

~~~~~  
**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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## Members of the St. Cloud Radio Club gave a presentation on Digital Mobile Radio —DMR.

James Kantor, KCØARX, and Lee Denny, KEØEMB, were kind enough to put on an interesting program dealing with the subject of digital mobile radio. They provided an interesting reference sheet printed here which should help our members get more information. We thank these ham neighbors to the south for doing this on Thursday, October 27, 2016.

**DMR REFERENCE INFORMATION**

The following web sites will help you become more familiar with the DMR radio hobby:

- 1) To become a DMR radio user, you need a DMR digital radio user ID number:  
<http://www.dmr-marc.net/cgi-bin/trbo-database/userreg.cgi>
- 2) To learn about the DMR world-wide network and how it works:  
<http://www.dmr-marc.net/>
- 3) A DMR Guide can be found at:  
[http://www.trbo.org/docs/Amateur\\_Radio\\_Guide\\_to\\_DMR.pdf](http://www.trbo.org/docs/Amateur_Radio_Guide_to_DMR.pdf)
- 4) Our Minnesota DMR enthusiast web site is: <http://mndmr.net/>
- 5) A second Minnesota DMR web site is: <http://www.twintrbo.com/>
- 6) Minnesota DMR Talk Group FleetMaps for all our repeaters:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BzUdsOWg7f9acHBUEG5FR0RZTIU>
- 7) A few more DMR educational web sites are: <http://www.dmr.net/>  
<https://brandmeister.us/> <http://hoosierdmr.net/> <http://www.k4usd.org/>
- 8) A software program is available to create and convert codeplugs at:  
<http://n0qsg.no-ip.org/contact-manager/>
- 9) A description of how to build your own codeplug is available at:  
<http://kd0tfs.blogspot.com/2015/12/modifying-dmr-code-plugs-zones-and.html>
- 10) A live Net Watch screen shows who is talking at what talk group:  
<http://cbridge.k4usd.org:42420/MinimalNetwatch>
- 11) A more technical description of DMR radio can be found at:  
<http://www.trbo.org/index.html>
- 12) A list of world DMR repeaters <http://dmr.ham-digital.net/dmr-rptr.php>

Most of the above websites have many more links and references and will serve you as a great way to learn and figure things out. Remember – if you are new to the hobby you MUST obtain a radio user ID number before you start using your new digital radio. Program it into the radio via its "codeplug". Each radio transmission will send out your user ID for others to see who they are talking to on their radio display. Remember that you can key up over 2,000 repeaters world wide with your call, so do it correctly from the start.

Any questions feel free to contact: James, kc0arx, kc0arx@w0sv.net  
Lee, ke0emb, ke0emb@w0sv.net

### — Events Calendar —

**Sat., Nov. 5, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille—Brd.**

**Sat., Nov. 12, BAARC Repeater Mtg from 10-12 @ Fire Hall in Brd.**

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**Note: Because of Thanksgiving—a change in schedule—  
Thurs., Nov. 17 - Regular Monthly Board & BAARC Membership Mtgs.  
@ 4 and 7 P.M. @ Brd. Fire Hall. —MN ARRL Section Presentation.**

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**Sat., Nov. 19, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille —Brd.**

**Please Pay Your 2017 Dues**

**Join/Rejoin—Still only \$20Dues/ Year—Please get your check in to  
Doug Bergsnev—WØDWB, BAARC TREASURER  
15912 Olsen Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401**

## Thursday, October 27, 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, Ron KØGOP, Al WØRC, John WØWY, Shirley KØDCW, Mitch ADØHJ, Dave KØISZ and Roger WØWUG.

The President opened the Board Meeting at 4:00 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** Membership roster shows 90 paid members for October 2016. The October BAARCer was published to the website and the Club website was updated for the October 20-21 Haunted Trail event. Other activities included 7 new Member ID badges, and updating of the Club roster and Gmail contact list.

**Motion to accept:** John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report pages forwarded by the Treasurer in his absence.

**Membership Meeting Program:** Steve NØCRM reviewed recent and future Club programs and events. The November and December membership meetings will be held a week early due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Meeting dates will be November 17 and December 15.

**Upcoming Events:** Northland's "Haunted Trail" event on Thursday, Oct 20 – Friday Oct 21, included 11 Club participants and was a great success and the final event of the year.

**Digital & Emergency Communications:** Al WØRC informed the Board that a second IP address has been installed at the Crosby 225 repeater site, by CTC, and can now link with other Club Fusion repeaters.

**Old Business:** The antennas for the HF remote base have been installed on the roof of the high-rise. The possible November 19 date of the next Repeater Committee meeting was discussed. John WØWY will research options for Granite City to reprogram the 10 newer Club HT's with updated repeater CTCSS tones. John also gave a list of possible locations for a future Club storage container, and is working through the approval process. Mitch ADØHJ presented a reimbursement request for \$128.99 for collateral material for the Club repeaters.

**New Business:** The president reviewed the pending candidates who have agreed to serve as Club officers for 2017.

**Motion to accept nominated candidates and present to the membership:** Steve NØCRM, **Second** Ron KØGOP, **Passed.** Additional nominations will be solicited from the membership at the 7PM meeting.

The board meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

## Thursday, October 27, 2016 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes Brainerd Fire Station

The President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:00 PM with 25 members and guests present.

Treasurer's report submitted showing all month's account transactions and balances to date.

The St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club gave an informative presentation on the **Digital Mobile Radio system** in use by their group.

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

## DX and the Paper Chase

DXing for me over the past 30 days or so has been "pick and choose" from what looked interesting from the several DX spotting services. Now the DX operators will rag chew rather than just give a signal report and off to the next call. I called CQ once over that period and ended up in Wales, England, and Greece from one call...all 3 were nice rag chews. For instance, I met an interesting operator who designs antennas, and I finally found out all the skinny on my Hy-Gain vertical. When Hy-Gain went belly-up, it was purchased by Telex. He went with Telex until they sold out to MFJ. The boxes that arrived at my QTH almost 20 years ago were clearly labeled "Telex," and now I know. He's presently designing military antennas and is at the 50 yard line at all NFL football games. There you'll see the antenna he designed for the NFL. So—you never know who is going to be at the other end of your microphone. Remember: sit down at your station and call CQ and you might meet the interesting guy that designed your antenna or just enjoy meeting someone new. That's what this wonderful hobby is all about. So long from Huntersville, best 73 es gud DXing from Bob/WØZPE

**Upcoming Event in Feb:** Feb. 11, 2017—Annual Dogsled Race, info relayed to Al WØRC from Dan Levno. Stay tuned for more specifics, but mark the date on your calendars. Snowfall/weather could change everything—as in the past.

**Tomas Hood, NW7US, the editor of the CQ Magazine Propagation column, sent this late Thursday night:**

**—via ARRL**

"Space Weather is now the focus of a new executive order issued on 13 October 2016, as U.S. President Obama takes aim at preparing the nation's infrastructure for 'extreme space weather events.'

"Space weather, which covers the Sun-Earth connection and includes the conditions with which radio amateur shortwave communications occur, is a hot area of research and development, and funding.

Space weather has the potential to not only affect radio communications but also to affect and disrupt health and safety across the world.

"Issuing an executive order is one way to ensure funding, but it also serves as a reminder that we amateurs are positioned in several ways to participate in the national readiness in the space weather arena: firstly, we are emergency communicators, many of whom are passionate about being prepared to offer their communities with selfless radio communications service, but additionally, being well-educated on space weather science and applications of space weather and radio propagation knowledge.

(By the way, for those interested readers, I am still offering a comprehensive space weather and radio propagation course that includes material on forecasting; see <http://sunspotwatch.com/swc> ) and <http://bit.ly/2e5odRP>

## Haunted Trail Event—Arboretum, Baxter —Report by Ron Finger, KØGOP

Thanks again for giving up one or even two of your weekday nights to support our Club event, the Arb's "Haunted Trail." By doing so, we are also supporting their biggest fundraiser of the year, and providing a safer Halloween activity for Brainerd area youth and families. A favorite part for many of us, is the opportunity to spend some time outdoors in the crisp fall air before winter returns!

Attached are photos of our Thursday and Friday crews. Visitor attendance for this years event was 1100 for Thursday and 2000 for Friday, for a total of 3100! Just as important, it was another year without any mishaps or incidents. The new Arboretum Executive Director, Matthew Hill, asked me to pass on his thanks to the Club, saying: "Again, we can't thank you guys enough!"

### 2016 Operators were:

Charles - W5CCL

Mitch - ADØHJ

Bob - K6RCO

John - WØWY

Lyle - KØLFV

Terry - KIØFW

Alan - AAØAS

Hunter - KEØIVB

Duane - KEØIUV

Doug - WØDWB

Ron - KØGOP

### **Some suggestions for us to consider for next year's event:**

- operator rotation to the next numbered station after each 20 minute net check-in, to provide better event familiarization.
  - station numbering via a structure or tree tag (attached by us in advance, and removed at closing).
- better coordination with the Arb on their selected trail paths (for our map).

Some suggestions for the Arb to consider:

- a separate (no-scare) trail for younger visitors or
- an ATV wagon or similar for evacuation or
- one of our operators (rover or nearest) escorting them off the trail.

The first item was suggested last year as well, but they are struggling with the added personnel needed. I did the last item twice this year, but it takes a while!

If you have any other suggestions, please reply, and I will include them in our after-action report for their wrap-up meeting next week.

73' Ron



The left photo shows Thursday's group of volunteer BAARC operators. On the right, the Friday's Group. Photos thanks to Ron KØGOP.





# Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Dues Year January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017

(One Application for Each Person)



Name: (First, MI, Last-print) \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application : \_\_\_\_\_ Circle One: New / Renewal

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ARRL ? Circle One: Y / N

The Official Club Newsletter, The BAARCer is available each month online at [www.brainerdham.org/baarcer](http://www.brainerdham.org/baarcer)

Circle One: \$20 Full Member / \$ 10 Additional Family Member / Student Member \$10

**Note:** For first-time members, pay \$5 per quarter for the time remaining in the year you join. For information on a life membership, contact Doug, Club Treasurer: [djbdesk@gmail.com](mailto:djbdesk@gmail.com)

Membership Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Contribution (Tax Deductible) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to BAARC. The Club is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Thus contributions are tax deductible.

Mail to:  
**Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club Treasurer—Doug Bergsnev, W0DWB**  
**15912 Olsen Lane**  
**Brainerd, MN 56401**

I hereby make this application and agree to abide by the Club By-Laws.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclosure:** Information provided here will not be sold/given to any other organization without the permission of the members.

Please mail one form, along with dues (check/money order) for each person.

**Check our club's Website for other Information and Newsletters.**  
**Regular Updates on the Sunday Night Nets on 147.225 @ 8 P.M.**

## **Pacific Seafarer's Net Assists in Maritime Rescue of Sailors on Sinking Sailboat—*from the ARRL Letter***

The [Pacific Seafarer's Net](#) relayed a call for help and contacted the US Coast Guard on September 28, after the SV *Rafiki* began taking on water some 230 miles south of Cold Bay, Alaska. At approximately 0300 UTC, Charles Houlihan, KD6SPJ, a net relay station, received the distress call from the sailboat's captain. Houlihan, who was also at sea in SV *Jacaranda*, contacted Randy VanLeeuwen, KH6RC, a net relay station in Hawaii. He, in turn, got in touch with Hawaii USCG District 14 to report the incident and provide *Rafiki's* location. The Hawaii USCG district then contacted the 17th USCG District in Alaska, which handled the rescue. VanLeeuwen kept in constant radio contact with the *Rafiki* until contact was lost. Fred Moore, W3ZU, in Florida, and Peter Mott, ZL1PWM, in New Zealand, also were on frequency and in contact with the vessel's captain until a US Coast Guard rescue helicopter arrived.

The Jayhawk helicopter crew was able to hoist the captain and a crew member to safety at around 1000 UTC, after dropping survival suits. Both men were reported to be uninjured, but the vessel was abandoned. The two men were taken to Kodiak, Alaska, for medical attention.

The incident occurred just before the net's daily roll-call, when a call is put out for medical, emergency, or priority traffic. The Pacific Seafarer's Net convenes daily on 14.300 MHz at 0300 UTC to monitor the progress of maritime Amateur Radio operators sailing in the Pacific. ***Thanks to the Pacific Seafarer's Net and the US Coast Guard***

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## **Suspicious Bangladesh Border Ham Band Signals Now of Interest to Indian Intelligence**

What have been called "highly suspicious" VHF transmissions along the Bengal-Bangladesh border now are being considered signals of interest to India's Intelligence Bureau. After several days of monitoring, Ambarish Nag "Raju" Biswas, VU2JFA, told The [Indian Express](#) that he and his team have determined that the transmissions, taking place on Amateur Radio frequencies, are coming from the area of Basirhat in West Bengal. The voice communications have been heard at night. Federal Ministry of Communication officials in India had asked Biswas, the secretary of the West Bengal Amateur Radio Club, and his fellow hams to keep an ear on the strange VHF signals.

The West Bengal-Bangladesh Border. [Google Maps]

Biswas told The Indian Express that he'd found the recent signals suspicious because he'd heard similar communications in 2002 and 2003. Subsequently, police arrested six "extremists," from Gangasagar, an island in the Ganges River delta, he told the paper.

An earlier article in the [Hindustan Times](#) reported that the signals were being heard in the dead of night, with participants said to be in motion and speaking in some sort of code in Bengali and Urdu with a Bangladeshi accent. They also used numerical codes, according to the report.—From *the ARRL Letter*

# Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

## Official Ballot for the Election of Officers for the Year 2017

Circle the Choices or Write In a Name

**President: Steve Mott, NØCRM**

**Write-In:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice-President: John Luce, WØWY**

**Write-In:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer: Doug Bergsnev, WØDWB**

**Write-In:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary: Ron Finger, KØGOP**

**Write-In:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Director-at-Large: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV**

**Write-In:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Directors

Past President:

Charles Lane

W5CCL

Past President:

Al Doree

WØRC

### Following are nominated by the Executive Board and elected by the Membership

Repeater Trustee:

Fritz Bertelt

WØKO

Director of Emergency Communications:

Dave Schuldheisz

KØISZ

Community and Special Events Director:

TJ Graves

KØTEG

**Voting Directions: Bring a printed copy of the ballot to the Meeting on November 17th or mail it to the Secretary to arrive on or before the meeting that day. If you write in anyone's name, please check with that member beforehand. In the past when we have had no opposition candidates for next year's offices, the membership present votes to approve a unanimous ballot. In other words, the Secretary can cast a unanimous ballot unless there is objection.—Bring/mail your dues also.**

**SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS**

|          |      |        |
|----------|------|--------|
| 11-06-16 | Rick | NØBJN  |
| 11-13-16 | Doug | WØDWB  |
| 11-20-16 | TJ   | KØTEG  |
| 11-27-16 | Jay  | KAØDYN |

|          |       |        |
|----------|-------|--------|
| 12-04-16 | Rick  | NØBJN  |
| 12-11-16 | Doug  | WØDWB  |
| 12-18-16 | David | KCØTGT |
| 12-25-16 | 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?**

**Silent Key:** We are saddened to report the passing of Stan Clark, K3JKW, on Oct. 1. He was 67. For several years he courageously battled cancer. We were happy to have had him among our fraternity and grateful that some of us in the BAARC were able to help him get his station going in Emily. This made his final short years more enjoyable. Our members will recall his program on ham license plate collecting. No question, he will be missed. BTW, Stan was a great CW operator. Our sincerest condolences to Sue and family to whom we sent a condolence card.

**Dues are still only \$20/year—a real bargain when you consider what you get. Get your 2017 dues to Doug WØDWB, our Treasurer.**

**Thank You, Veterans.** Your service to this country is much appreciated. Enjoy your day, Nov. 11, with lots of special recognition—in fact, it should be all 365/year.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING: WE HAVE MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR: A FREE COUNTRY, OUR FAMILIES, OUR FRIENDS, AND IF YOU READ THIS—OUR HEALTH!**

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