

# Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club

June 2011

PO Box 343 Paris MI 49338 Pres. Jim Woolen Web Page: [www.braarc.net](http://www.braarc.net) Editor: Phil – [phildolly@power-net.net](mailto:phildolly@power-net.net)

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## President's Message

Where has the time gone by this year? We are already in the middle of May! I attended my youngest daughter's Baccalaureate service

on the 15<sup>th</sup> and by time you read this message, I will have attended her high school graduation on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Today (May 17<sup>th</sup>) – as I write this message to you – I will be flying to the Washington, DC area for my third year of Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award training as an examiner for the national program. It is also hard for me to believe that is has been five months since my mother's death at the end of last year.

We have a lot of exciting opportunities for you to participate in the coming months.

We will provide communications for the "Girls on the Run" event on June 4<sup>th</sup>. I think Tom Behler, KB8TYJ already has his quota of volunteers, but call him if you want to participate. I am sure he could always use more than less. We have helped on this event quite a number of times.

Field Day will be held on June 25th. So far, Mike McKay, Gregory Woolen, Jeff Sell and Don MacConnel have expressed interest in participating in Field Day activities, helping to set up, or loaning equipment for the event. Please consider participating in this worthwhile endeavor. Unfortunately, I will be in Indianapolis that entire weekend and cannot participate.

I hope to see you at the next club meeting on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety

73s, Jim  
K4UIH

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## Minutes for May 5, 2011 Meeting

1. Guests present at the meeting: Brian Coe; Andy Bono W8NCZ; Bob Carpenter K8YHJ (former and renewed member).
2. Updated club directory was distributed
3. Club Badge order reminder
4. Net control operator sign up
5. Next club breakfast (5/28) and club meeting (6/2) reminder
6. Club reports – all approved
7. Girls On The Run – June 4<sup>th</sup> – contact Tom Behler for info or to help

8. Mecosta County Hacker Space – Jeff Sell, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was not well-attended. Still working to organize the group.
9. Gregory and Jim Woolen still working on ordering emergency vests
10. IRA Link is down – took a lightning strike.
11. Repeater discussion – we need to talk about working on the road to the hill – it is impassible by normal vehicle.
12. Annual dinner – we are looking into several possible places (Maxfield's? Falcon Head?) – stay tuned for more details
13. Tom Behler is in contact with EMDs – he will keep us posted as to a possible VE Exam for their personnel
14. Gregory Woolen is our new Youth Coordinator. May be working with the Charter School to encourage youth participation.
15. Discussed mentoring for new hams from the Ham In A Day class. Jim Woolen will send invitations to these students inviting them to our next meeting and encouraging them to participate with Field Day.

16. The "I'm Not At Dayton Foxhunt" is scheduled for Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Sounds like fun – come out and participate.
17. Program - Discussion of Field Day. It was felt that we wanted to hold Field Day. Don Macconnel will inquire about permission to use the Superintendent's site. Jeff Sell agreed to be co-chair. We need an additional person to volunteer as co-chair. Sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers. \$250 was approved for field day funds. Field Day T-shirt/pin/hat order form was circulated. Will appear in June newsletter.
18. Don Macconnel did a Tech corner presentation using a wi-fi (cell phone) controlled helicopter.
19. 50/50 drawing – Bruce Werner was the winner.
20. Jeff Sell agreed to bring refreshments for next month.

Submitted by: Sue, KC8IFP

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### **Announcements:**

(More detail on all announcements on the BRAARC website.)

Saturday, May 28: Breakfast at Sharon's in Rogers Heights, 9-10. Talk-in on 146.74 for those who don't know where Sharon's is.

Thursday, June 2: Regular BRAARC meeting at Big Rapids Public Safety, 7pm.

Saturday, June 4, 9:45am – 11:30am

Northend Park ([map](#))

Your help is needed for this fun event at Northend Park. We will be providing communications along the race route.

Saturday, June 11, 9am – 10am

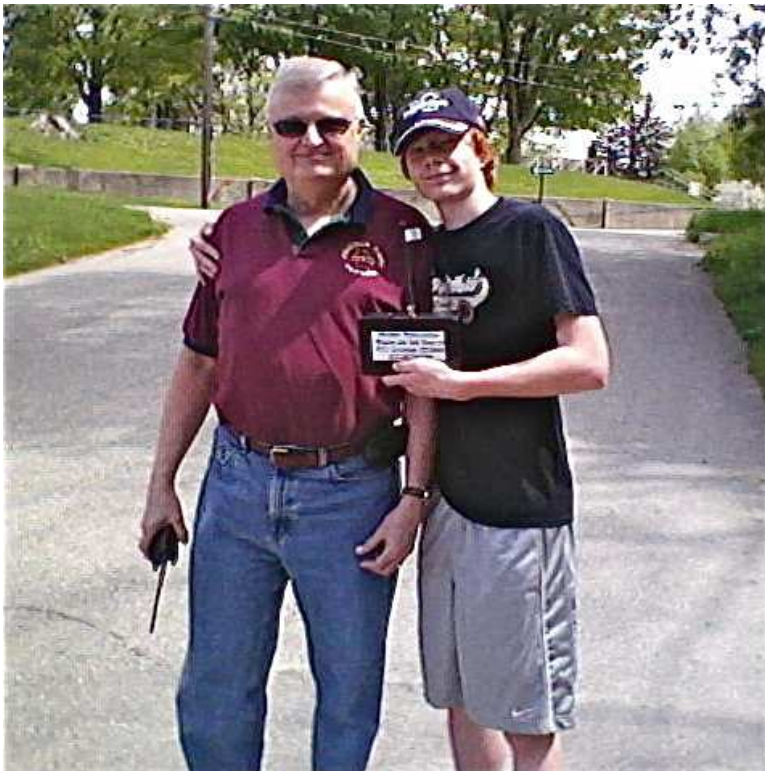
VE Testing <http://kc8yzp.angelfire.com> See website for information: request pre-registration 7 days in advance for testing. Call 989-400-1385; M-F; 9A to 5P. Testing in Canadian Lakes. See website for details, maps and contact points. Thanks N8ERV VEC





## **“I’m Not at Dayton” Fox Hunt a Success**

The weather was perfect for the Club’s second “I’m not at Dayton” Fox Hunt. We met by the Big Rapids Community Pool and each of us had some sort of fox hunt antenna. Tom Behler had a genuine “coat hanger” directional antenna. Made of a metal coat hanger this little antenna is actually directional.



**Jim and Gregory Woolen—Winners!**

Other antennas ran from small Yagi’s to fancy National RF TDA rigs to just plain rubber duckies. At exactly 11 a.m. Mike McKay’s automatic fox turned itself on and started sending a CW signal on 146.565 mHZ.

Off went the crowd who wandered in circles for a while and knowingly headed east across the Charter School athletic field. It wasn’t long before the team of Jim Woolen, K4UIH and his son Gregory, KD8NRO found the fox and brought it back. This is the second time Gregory has been a winner. Shown here are the winners. You have to admit that they are a fine looking team.

Shown below are the rest of hunters. After we all returned from the hunt there was a wonderful potluck picnic with loads of good food, conversation and good times.



**Fox Hunters minus Patricia McKay, Sue Behler and Helen Popovich who were working on the picnic and Don MacConnel who was taking the picture.**



# BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 28, 2011  
@  
Sharon's in Rogers Heights  
@  
9:00AM



**June 2011**  
**PO Box 343 Paris MI 49338**

