

# Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club

October 2012

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Perhaps by the time you read this message, a new president will assume leadership for the club! At our September 6<sup>th</sup>

meeting, the following people were elected to begin serving terms as officers on October 1<sup>st</sup>: President – Jeff Sell (K8OE); Vice President – Mike McKay (KD8DIB); Treasurer – Jens Rick (KC8OIV); Secretary – Monica Herndon (KD8GGB). Please give your full support to these volunteers with your attendance at club meetings and participation in club events.

At our September 6<sup>th</sup> club meeting, I brought birthday cakes for two of our “aging” members: Bill Stankey for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and Jeff Sell for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Even though Bill was not in attendance, we all enjoyed eating part of his cake. Congratulations to Jeff and Bill for reaching important milestones in their lives!

I also notified those in attendance that all of our active equipment and antennas were now insured through the ARRL program (The Hays Affinity Group). I also donated the \$136 cost of the first year premium to the club.

During the meeting, I personally presented a \$50 gift card from iTunes to Jeff for his service as vice president last year and for his continued dedication to the club. I sincerely appreciated all that he did for our club during the past years. Our programs have been enriched through his leadership.

It is time to also begin thinking about the year-end club party. Last year we had a potluck at the Meceola Dispatch Center and did a silent auction for “white elephant” items to raise funds for the club. Your new leadership will be asking for your input on this fun social event.

The annual Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and we will again provide communications for the event. Contact Tom Behler if you can help on that day.

Since I will be in Chicago on the night of the October club meeting, I Hope to see you November club meeting. The next club meeting will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety. I believe Mike McKay will be officiating as Jeff Sell will be out of the area.

73s,

*Jim*

Jim Woolen  
K4UIH

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## BRAARC Club Meeting Minutes September 6, 2012

1. Happy Birthday to Jeff Sell and Bill Stankey.
2. Please try to sign up for future Club nets. We are in desperate need of net controls.
3. Carmen Atteberry sent a thank you note for the flowers that were sent to Gary.

4. Gary Atteberry has been added to the Silent Key Plaque.
5. The insurance policy has been paid for all the club equipment – including antennas. The annual premium is \$136.00 - this year's premium was paid by Jim Woolen as a donation to the club.  
The insurance is through the ARRL recommended company in the area of \$10,000-\$11,000.
6. 6 meter repeater appears to be working better
7. Secretary's report approved.
8. Treasurer's report approved.
9. Welcome to a visitor to our Club – Ted Nowak WW8K.
10. Jim Woolen presented Jeff Sell with a thank you for his wonderful club programs from the past year.
11. Club elections were held –
 

President	Jeff Sell
Vice President	Mike McKay
Treasurer	Jens Rick
Secretary	Monica Hernden
12. Big Bad Wolf Race went well. No problems to report. We will need at least 6 people to volunteer in future years.
13. CROP Walk scheduled for Sunday 9/30. Be at St. Paul's Church around 1 pm. Walk begins around 2 pm. Please contact Tom Behler if you can help participate.
14. Emergency Committee Meeting 9/13 7 pm at Meceola Central Dispatch

15. The club voted to donate \$50 to Hospice of Michigan in memory of Gary Atteberry. Jens will see that this is done.
16. Jim Woolen will organize a fundraising event in October at Buffalo Wild Wings. More details to come.
17. We need to start planning for the year-end party – sometime in December.
18. Jeff Sell is taking an ARRL Emergency Communication Course on-line. Cost \$50. Starts 10/31 and runs til the end of December. If anyone else would like to take it, perhaps a group could study together. Let Jeff know.
19. Discussed whether to stop paying for additional web addresses. Vote of members indicated that we will continue to pay for only the normal braarc.net address.
20. Jeff's program for the evening involved two comical YouTube videos concerning ham radio. Also took an ARRL quiz of ham radio knowledge.
21. Jeff Sell asked for suggestions concerning future club events and activities.
22. Thank you to all past Board members for their service to the Club.
23. We will be looking for volunteers to help with Ham In A Day in the Spring.
24. Dan Astelford WA8AEN won the 50/50 drawing.
25. Tom and Sue Behler volunteered to bring snacks for the next meeting.

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**Announcements:**

Saturday, Sept 29 – Club Breakfast, 9am, at Sharon's in Roger's Heights.

Sun, September 30 – CROP Walk, 12:40pm – 1:40pm  
1 Damascus Rd, Big Rapids Mi 49307

Thu, October 4, Next BRAARC club meeting, 7pm – 9pm  
435 N. Michigan Ave, Big Rapids, Mi 49307 ([map](#))

Big Rapids Department Of Public Safety Building. Presentation Topic: The Kermadecs DX Adventure

## Club receives donation of Equipment and Supplies

Club friend Chuck Boboltz, WA8KEP recently donated a truck load of great equipment and supplies to the club. Members Bill, N8MZB and Mike, KD8DIB received this donation on the clubs behalf and are currently reviewing the materials.

This donation is a treasure trove of amateur radio DIY. There are many different types of resistors, capacitors, and components. There are many larger components that will be very useful in many future projects. Additionally, included in this donation is a public address (PA) system that will be a great addition to the club float in the upcoming Festival of Light Parade.

Chuck, WA8KEP doesn't attend club meetings but he regularly attends club breakfasts. Next time you see him, please be sure to offer a word of "thanks" for his support of the club. The club is very lucky to have so many supporters that are so generous with their time, equipment, and supplies.

Thank you to all who support the club!



Chuck, WA8KEP supervises donation





## **1st annual WB8WIA candy drive**

It's time to ask that yearly question. No, it isn't whether you've done your taxes yet. It's... have you been naughty or nice?? Believe it or not SANTA is coming to town very soon and the Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club needs to welcome Santa in style. How do we do it? Well, with a parade and the Festival of Lights of course. November 17, 2012 at 6pm is the scheduled date and time for the event. More details on the float decorating and candy tossing will be provided in a later newsletter. Wait a minute, did I hear candy?? Yep, that's right. We'll be making sure we give lots of candy to the children lining the parade route. But, hold on now! Where are we going to get all that candy? Well, that's where you come in. This year marks the first of a hoped-for annual tradition... the WB8WIA annual candy drive. Gary Atteberry, WB8WIA SK, was always an enthusiastic candy provider and candy distributor for the parade. We want to honor Gary and keep the tradition going strong. So, we are counting on you to **BRING BAGS OF CANDY** to the next two club meetings (October and November) so we will have lots of candy to hand out to the children on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. I know Gary will be watching, and smiling, and probably wearing his silly hat. So if you want Santa to definitely put you on the NICE list, make sure you donate a bag or two of candy... and come join in the fun on November 17<sup>th</sup>!



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Solution to last month's puzzle

