

# The LANDLINE

The Newsletter of the  
COPPER COUNTRY RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. BOX 217 - DOLLAR BAY, MICHIGAN 49922-0217  
Visit us on the World Wide Web: [www.ccraa.net](http://www.ccraa.net)

## **TIME CHANGE WEEKEND:**

**Yes, it's that time of year again, move your clocks ahead one-hour on Sunday morning, April 2, 2006.**

## **OUR SYMPATHY:**

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Sue Royce, (sister) to Lee, and Ann, and daughter of Dennis and Geraldine Royce of Eagle Harbor. Sue was a frequent visitor to the Copper Country and was working in the State of Minnesota. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 from the Ryan Funeral Home in Calumet. A memorial service will be held this summer for Sue, in Eagle Harbor. Burial will be in the Eagle Harbor Cemetery.

Our sympathy goes out to the Ekdahl family of Paavola, with the passing of Roger Ekdahl of Marquette. Roger was 52 years of age, and passed away in the Marquette General Hospital of Marquette. Funeral Services were held Thursday, March 9, 2006 at the Jukuri-Antilla Funeral Home in Hancock. Roger was a brother to Glenn, WA8QNF

## **MEMBERSHIP CARDS:**

Membership cards are being prepared for all CCRAA Members and will be available at the next meeting on April 4, 2006. Every member in good standing on file as of that date will receive their card, if they show up for the meeting. They are an attractive card, showing the person's name, call sign, FRN, License Expiration date, Latitude/Longitude, Grid Square, License class and county in which they reside.

## **U.P. HAM EXAM SCHEDULE FOR 2006**

The 2006 schedule is posted on the CCRAA's Web page at: [www.ccraa.net](http://www.ccraa.net)  
Please note that some times are Central Time. Also note that PRE-REGISTRATION "IS" required for the Iron Range Club.

## Surplus Policy;

CCRAA Surplus Property Policy and Procedure Policy:

It shall be the Policy of CCRAA to dispose of surplus property in accordance with the wishes of the membership. It shall also be the Policy of CCRAA that the membership shall be notified of possible property disposals before they happen.

Procedure:

1. a. Any member may make a recommendation to any elected officer that a certain item of property be declared Surplus. The recommendation may be verbal or written. If the officer accepts the recommendation, he or she will direct the newsletter editor to list the item in the following newsletter with a notation that the item may be offered for sale at the following Club Meeting.

1. b. Any member may make a motion at a Club Meeting that a certain item of property be declared Surplus and that the newsletter editor list the item in the following newsletter with a notation that the item may be offered for sale at the following Club Meeting.

2. At the appropriate point in the agenda of the aforementioned meeting, a motion to auction, sell, or otherwise dispose of the item(s) will be in order.

3. No motion for disposal of any item of property will be in order without a majority of the membership having been advised that the motion would be presented.

## Surplus Equipment;

Howard agreed to help haul the excess club equipment (listed in last month's "Landline" and repeated below) to the S&S.

**AMPLIFIER AUDIO (PA SYSTEM) BOGEN MODEL L330 30WATT**

\*\*\*\*\* (note: equipment sold)

AUDIO OSCILLATOR HP MODEL 200CD

BPF (155 BAND) (2)

COMPUTER DTH DATA 1000

DUPLEXERS (4) 155 BAND

FREQUENCY METER, GERTSCH MODEL FM3

OSCILLOSCOPE, DUMONT MODEL 304A

**SIGNAL GENERATOR HP MODEL 608E, TUNES 10-480 MHZ \*\*\*\*\***

(note: equipment sold)

SILENT 700 COMPUTER (ACOUSTIC COUPLED)

SCANNER (COMPUTER)

**SIGNAL GENERATOR MFG: STANDARD MODEL T60FM , (130-960 MHZ) \*\*\*\*\* (note: equipment sold)**

TRANSCEIVER (2M) REGENCY MODEL HR-212 CRYSTALS (12)

TRANSCEIVER, (HF) SWAN 500/117XCPS/D-104 MIC.

TRANSCEIVER, (HF) YAESU, FT301D /FP3010 PS/MIC

TYPEWRITER, IBM

VTVM HP MODEL 400C

## **SWAP-N-SHOP:**

CCRAA SWAP & SHOP APRIL 29, 2006 9:00 AM - Noon  
CHASSELL VFW HALL - MID-TOWN CHASSELL  
GPS - 47.01.34N, 088.31.31W  
Repeater info: 146.670 (-) or 146.880 (-) PL100 required  
Set-up Friday night at 6 PM if Needed  
ENTRANCE FEE \$3.00  
1/2 Table \$3.00  
Full Table \$5.00  
Door Prize  
Ladies VFW sales of Hot Dogs, Bakery , Coffee

73,  
Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF  
Home  
482-7743  
Cell  
369-2461

**Coming soon:** "Beyond Line of Sight", a book about the history of VHF propagation from the pages of QST, read by volunteer George Thurner, W8FWG, will soon be available to our blind members in 4-track tape format. Keep watching the e-letter and we'll let you know when we have this in our library. Thanks to George for his excellent reading!

Source: Courage Center, WA0TDA  
"Handi-Hams"

## **"A NIGHT TO REMEMBER":**

It was April 14, 1912 and the infamous "RMS Titanic", White Star Liner was making its maiden voyage from Southampton in Europe, to New York City in America when tragedy struck. Originally thought to be "unsinkable" because of her watertight compartments that could be closed off, in case of a disaster, this statement proved to be untrue, as the ship hit an iceberg almost head-on in the North Atlantic waters on the night of April 14. Because the ship was not filled to capacity of 3295 persons (2435 passengers and 860 crew), she carried 2200 on board on this ill-fated trip, and of those, only 700 were saved....with 1500 souls lost. (Among those saved was a Mrs. Sincok of Hancock, MI). The two radio operators aboard were Jack Phillips and Harold Bride, and a new International Distress signal was being introduced. It was the "SOS." Prior to this the "CQD" was used. "CQ" meaning a general call, with the "D" added meaning "Distress." At the direction of the captain, the distress calls went out, but since they weren't sure which to use, they sent both, the SOS and the CQD. Still unsure, whether their message would be received this message went out...."MGY CQD....Position 41 deg. 46 min. N., 50 deg. 14 min. W. require immediate assistance. We have collided with iceberg. Signing MGY." (ibid) [MGY was the call sign of the Titanic]. When colliding with the iceberg, she sustained a 300 foot gash, about the width of a doorway, which almost instantly flooded five compartments, before they could be closed off. Even though the steamer "Californian" was only 10 miles away from the Titanic, (about one hour), we don't know why it didn't respond to the disaster scene. No longer will the term "unsinkable" be used.....nor will there be limited lifeboats available (they had only room for 1200 persons), .....and from then on, watches (radio) will be kept and iceberg sightings reported.....and no longer will ship's radio be on for a part-time basis.....a radio watch will always be maintained. Not only that, there was a class distinction with "women and children" getting into the lifeboats first, followed by First Class passengers and then "steerage" passengers last of all. The "Rappahannock" signaled earlier that it had sustained major damaged to her rudder by colliding with icebergs, and this message was received by the Titanic.

*(We reprint this information to show the importance of keeping a "radio watch" even on our repeaters.....and simplex frequencies.....you may be able to help someone, someday.)  
Submitted by W8FWG*

## **==>FCC CLARIFIES RENEWAL PROCEDURES FOR VANITY CALL SIGN HOLDERS**

With the renewal window about to open for the first Amateur Radio licenses assigned vanity call signs in 1996, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has attempted to clarify filing procedures. The WTB says vanity call sign holders whose licenses expire on or after June 4, 2006, must file electronically or on paper via the Universal Licensing System (ULS) <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>> to renew their licenses. Amateur Radio renewal applications may only be filed within 90 days of the license expiration date.

"Licensees of stations assigned vanity call signs have the option of keeping the vanity call sign or requesting that it be changed to a sequentially assigned call sign," the WTB points out. Those opting to keep their vanity call signs for the new 10-year license term must pay the current regulatory fee, now \$21.90, when renewing (the vanity call sign regulatory fee may change in August or September). If the licensee no longer wants to keep a vanity call sign, no fee is required, and the applicant should request a sequentially assigned call sign instead.

Amateur Radio licensees holding vanity call signs granted prior to 1996 do not have to pay a regulatory fee when renewing. This is because Congress did not begin requiring the FCC to annually recover its regulatory costs until 1993. Additionally, such licensees are not specifically tagged as vanity call sign holders in the ULS.

To renew electronically via the ULS, licensees should log into ULS License Manager <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>> Online Filing (click on "Log In") using their FCC Registration Number (FRN) and Commission Registration System (CORES) password. Anyone doing business with the FCC must supply an FRN on any application.

To keep a vanity call sign, licensees should select "Renew" under the "Work on this License" option. Fees for electronically filed applications may be paid online or mailed to Federal Communications Commission, Regulatory Fees, PO Box 358835, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5835.

Online filers choosing not to renew a vanity call sign should select the "Systematic Call Sign Change" option from the "Work on this License" list. To obtain a new call sign, licensees should answer "No" to the question "Your license is eligible for renewal. Renew call sign (vanity call sign)?" Doing this will result in the issuance of a renewed license bearing a sequentially assigned call sign.

Licensees filing on paper must use FCC Form 605 (main form), and--if a fee is required--Form 159 (remittance advice). Licensees wishing to keep their vanity call signs should enter "Renew" under "Purpose" on Form 605 and enter the present call sign in item 5. Manual filers choosing not to renew their vanity call signs must file Form 605 (main form) Schedule D in order to obtain a new systematic call sign. The "Purpose" on the main form must be "Renewal/Modification," and the "Systematic Call Sign Change" question on Schedule D must be answered "Yes."

If no FRN is provided on the main form, an FCC Form 160 (registration) is also required for manual filing. All forms are available via the FCC Forms page <<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>>.

For more information on how to renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign, visit the FCC Help & Support page <<http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm>> or call the ULS Customer Support Hotline, 877-480-3201 (TTY 717-338-2824).

The ARRL handles routine non-vanity renewals for members free of charge. At this time, it does not process renewal applications for post-1995 vanity call sign holders, but ARRL plans to add that capability in the near future.

### **ICAO PHONETIC ALPHABET REPLACED!**

The entire world was astonished as the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) announced, that effective April 1, 2006 the Phonetic Alphabet used throughout the world was being scrapped for a newer version. (Not only that.....they've renamed it).....it is now called "Silent English." (See the full version of it listed below) Many of our military men and women, police officers, radio amateurs and the aviation industry were dumbstruck when this news hit all radio services of the existence of this in the world today. As radio amateurs, we encourage the use of the NEW Phonetic alphabet as soon as possible. Throughout the years, there have been several different versions of the phonetic alphabet, and this should really not come as surprise to anyone that once again it is upgraded. After all this is the 21st century. As a service to all radio hams, we are sending out an advance copy so you may start practicing using it, and becoming used to the new phonetics. As a radio "ham" of some years myself, I was a little reluctant to try something new, but I've learned to "bite the bullet" and accept the fact that we have to change with the times.

P.S. Because I wish to remain anonymous, I don't wish to give you my real call sign, therefore I will sign it, using the new alphabet. Please take the time to go to the new alphabet now, using the "code" listed below, and you will receive my "real" call sign. I hope you like the new system as much as I do. It takes a little doing, but you'll get used to it.....as the kids now-a-days say....."Trust Me!"

(Signed) Professor I. L. IRPA , PhD

WRONG-(EIGHT)-HALFPENNEY-WRONG-GNAW (Go to the chart [below] and discover my true identity.) You will be surprised, as I think some of you already know me! If you do know me, and call me.....I will disavow any knowledge of this work, however !

Hint: Take these phonetics now,.....apply them to the new "Silent English", and you'll have my real call sign.

In addition: Try it with your own call sign.....Remember.....you'll have to start getting used to it,..... for after April 1, 2006 the FCC is proposing a heavy fine, for using any other alphabet!

## **Silent English**

In 1968 an American linguist, answering the question "How do you pronounce TESOL?" (the acronym of the Association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) answered: "**T** as in castle, **E** as in give, **S** as in island, **O** as in people, and **L** as in calm." In fact you can, with some use of proper names and loan words, create a complete silent alphabet for English, as follows:

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A as in BREAD  
B as in DEBT  
C as in INDICTMENT  
D as in HANDKERCHIEF  
E as in GIVE  
F as in HALFPENNY  
G as in GNAW  
H as in HOUR  
I as in FRIEND  
J as in MARIJUANA  
K as in KNOW  
L as in CALM  
M as the first M in MNEMONIC  
N as in AUTUMN  
O as in PEOPLE  
P as in PSALM  
Q as in COLQUHOUN (a Scottish surname)  
R as in FORECASTLE  
S as in ISLAND  
T as in CASTLE  
U as in GUARD  
V as in MILNGAVIE (a Scottish place name)  
W as in WRONG  
X as in SIOUX  
Y as in PEPYS  
Z as in RENDEZVOUS

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## **MARS:**

Looking for a few "**Good**" **Amateur Radio operators??**

No not for the active duty, but to Join MARS(Military Affiliate Radio System).

The *Military* Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is an organization of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) licensed Amateur Radio Operators working with military stations who are interested in military communications and electronics. MARS creates interest and furnishes a means of training members in military communications procedures. It provides a potential reserve of trained radio communications personnel to provide auxiliary communications for military, civil, and/or disaster officials during periods of emergency and provides Department of Defense sponsored emergency communications on a local, national, and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications. MARS provides a volunteer manned communications system for handling MARS administrative traffic, morale and quasi-official record and voice communications traffic for U.S. Armed Forces and authorized U.S. government civilian personnel stationed throughout the world. Finally, it offers training designed to stimulate interest in military communications and electronics career fields.

### **JOIN ARMY MARS AND YOU -----**

1. Add to the enjoyment of your Amateur Radio hobby through the expanded horizon of Army MARS.
2. Become part of the Army MARS world-wide communications system in being and operationally ready. There are Army MARS stations in Japan, Korea, Panama, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Germany, and, of course, each of the United States.
3. Increase your communications skills and capabilities. Learn more about your hobby. Extension courses in communications-electronics subjects are free to all Army MARS members.
4. Operate and experiment on specially assigned military radio frequencies in voice and digital modes of communications.
5. Join a group of dedicated fellow radio amateurs participating in meaningful public service.
6. Affiliate with the United States Army and become part of the professional military communications family.

The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is an official Department of Defense and Department of the Army sponsored communications system. Therefore, it has official *status*, is assigned missions and functions, and authorized the use of assigned military radio frequencies.

Army MARS is directed and managed by the Department of the Army through the United States Army Signal Command and is a world-wide organization. It is comprised of both military and civilian personnel. In fact, the majority are civilian volunteers. Each volunteer Army MARS member is required to hold a valid Amateur Radio license from the Federal Communications Commission. These volunteers are under no service obligation, but must meet a 12-hour per calendar quarter minimum participation requirement. A volunteer may resign from Army MARS at any time without difficulty or prejudice by simply submitting a written resignation.

### **ELIGIBILITY TO JOIN MARS**

The applicant must:

be 17 years of age or older.

be a United States citizen or resident alien.

hold an Amateur Radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission. Amateurs with Novice class licensees are accepted for a one year trial period during which time they must upgrade to Technician class or higher. In addition to these prerequisites, MARS has certain eligibility and participation requirements such as maintaining a minimum of 12 hours participation time each calendar quarter and keeping MARS officials updated on the status of station and changes of address.

### **WHEN YOU JOIN MARS**

You are issued a MARS station license and Army MARS call sign. The station license expires on the same date as your FCC Amateur Radio station license or when revoked for any reason. To retain MARS membership, you are required to submit a request for renewal as soon as you have received your renewed Amateur Radio station license. The request for renewal must be submitted within 60 days of the MARS station license expiration. In addition, you are provided a manual on MARS communications operation procedures, message forms, logs, and other material needed for operation of your station. The manual, being U.S. Army property, must be returned when you leave the Army MARS program.

Howard., KD8ABP - MARS member In-Training

E-Mail: msgklann@pasty.net (General)

E-Mail: kd8abp@arrl.net (Amateur Radio)

Tel. 906-337-2168

Fax 906-337-0599

### **K.C.R.A. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Our sister club, the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. will hold its meeting on **Wednesday, April 12, 2006** at the Keweenaw Pines Apartments, in the Community Room, the Annex to Building "C." Keweenaw Pines Apts. are located just one-half mile north of the Cliff Drive Road near Mohawk. Time: 7:00pm EST. Visit our Web Page at [www.kcra-mi.net](http://www.kcra-mi.net) All persons interested in "ham" radio are invited to attend. Major door prize raffled! If you need further information before the meeting date, please call George Thurner, W8FWG (Sec.-Treasurer) at (906) 337-2542.

**Minutes of Last Meeting;**  
**COPPER COUNTRY RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION**  
MARCH 7, 2006

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Secretary Richard KC8FCX.

Members present:  
Richard KC8FCX  
Paul W9VLM  
Don WQ8G  
Walt W8ERB  
Mark WB9RQZ  
George W8FWG  
Richard K6IPC  
Howard KD8ABP  
Jack N8WAV  
Mark KC8YDU  
Chuck WB8FCY  
Paul KC8FLK  
Andy N8ZBJ  
Roland KB8XI  
Jon N8HZH  
Glen WA8QNF

Motion by Jack N8WAV to close the nominations after three (3) calls for nominations from the floor.

Nominees were:  
President-Glenn - WA8QNF  
Vice President- Paul KC8FLK  
Treasurer-Paul W9VLM  
Secretary-Andy N8ZBJ

With support the nominations were declared closed.

Secretary Richard, KC8FCX then cast a unanimous ballot for all candidates.

New officers were declared elected.

Jack, N8WAV reported on RACES and ARES. The local county OEM will be in charge at all local emergency's.

Howard KD8ABP reported on Red Cross as our new liaison. The disaster coordinator would like to have HAM's at disasters.

Chuck WB8FCY reported on radio communications. Houghton County OEM has contracted to have The Hancock and Herman repeaters replaced using FEMA funds. They will be installed with no cost to the club. Thanks to Jack KC8NPI.

George W8FWG reported on property, education, testing.

Club house generator ok. Brandon will be installing a 440 transceiver on 3-8-06 on the 75 foot tower.

Ten (10) people are in the class at Jeffers. They will have their radio up and running, weather permitting. Lake Linden is interested in having a radio class. There will be testing for commercial

license at the club house on 03-11-2006.

Glen WA8QNF reported on the Chassell Swap and Shop. It will be held April 29, 2006, 9 AM-12 noon. Food will be provided by the VFW. The hall rental is \$150. Tables are \$5 or \$3 for a half. A motion by Walt W8ERB was supported and passed to advance \$30 for door prizes. Entry fee \$3.

Three pieces of surplus property were sold at \$10 each. The rest will be taken to the Swap-N-Shop to be disposed. Howard KD8ABP motioned to use a table to display these items, motion supported and carried.

Check out our newly designed website: [www.ccraa.net](http://www.ccraa.net)

Two (2) members were accepted with their dues paid for 2006.

Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andy N8ZBJ

### **Next meeting May 2, 2006, Dollar Bay Fire Hall 7:00pm**

The "LANDLINE" is published monthly by the **Copper Country Radio Amateur Association, Inc.** Contributions for use in the LANDLINE, relating to the amateur radio service and to the CCRAA are welcomed at any time. Please submit your contributions directly to the editor, and they should be received by the 25th of the month before the meeting. Material received later may or may not make it into that issue. The LANDLINE Editor is Howard F. Klann, KD8ABP. If you have a question or a comment I can be reached at: (906) 337-2168 or E-mail to: [msgklann@pasty.net](mailto:msgklann@pasty.net). E-Mail copies are sent by Howard, KD8ABP. Complimentary copies to other radio clubs and the USPS copies are mailed by George, W8FWG. Please refer any delivery problems to the Editor (Howard, KD8ABP) at (906) 337-2168/ Fax (906) 337-0599. To find out more about the CCRAA Inc. or the Amateur Radio Service, please contact one of the officers listed below or write to the **CCRAA, POB 217, Dollar, Bay, MI 49922-0217** or visit us on the web: [www.ccraa.net](http://www.ccraa.net) **Ask for our new FREE booklet for new prospects to ham radio, for your friends who may be interested in ham radio. It's available in Adobe E-Mail format or via USPS.**

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**NEXT MEETING**  
**APRIL 4, 2006**  
**DOLLAR BAY FIRE HALL**  
**DOLLAR BAY MI 49922**  
**TIME: 7:00 PM EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**