

# 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)

## OUR SYMPATHY:

We extend our sympathy to the Ray Dube family. Ray, a CCRAA member and holding the call sign of **KC8YDV** passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, December 6, 2005. He will be missed by all of us at the radio club.

## RADIO ON THE NET: FIND HAMS BY ZIP CODE:

Want to find a ham living in your Zipcode or some other? Well just take your web browser over to [www.perconcorp.com/google\\_ham.html](http://www.perconcorp.com/google_ham.html) - put in the numbers and go click with your mouse. Within a second or two you will be rewarded with a listing of all radio amateurs who reside in the same zipcode as you entered. The website is a service provided by Per Con Corporation Spectrum. Per Con is a company which, among other things, provides CD-ROM and online services to the FCC's field offices as well as customer mapping and on-line product support. (WA0KDC)

*Source: From "Amateur Radio Newslines #1476", dated Friday, November 25, 2005).*

*Note from Geo., W8FWG: "I tried it and it works! Not only does it work, but it draws a map of the area, with little*

## REPEATER LINKING:

Paul, KB0P will be presenting a talk on "Repeater Linking" at the January 5, 2006 meeting of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association in Marquette, following the regular business meeting. It will be a discussion of the different methods of linking, including Echolink (one of the new ones via the Internet), and will be described in basic layman terms. All interested people are invited to attend.

## NEW U.P. REPEATER COMING!

Word has been received on Dec. 20, 2005 of a new 70 cm (FM voice) repeater for the Calumet area. To be installed at the Osceola (CMX) site, just 2 miles south of the Village of Calumet, it is the work of Brandon, N8PUM in exchange for the 6M gear that the club gave to him a few months back. It supports either 50W or 100 W output, and consists of two Motorola Mitrek rigs, a duplexer, and a controller. It will be using the call sign of W8CDZ. The frequency, (TBA) will be in the "440 band." Keep watching this page for updates on the target date. As of today, it looks like January or February of 2006. Thanks Brandon....this is the best news we've heard all year, and we look forward to our new UHF repeater for the CCRAA !

## A SECOND 440 MACHINE!

Right on the heels of the installation at Calumet (Osceola site) we are hearing of a proposed 70 cm (440 MHz) repeater out in Keweenaw County! K9SJ (Mike) is planning an installation on Brockway Mountain, up near Copper Harbor for this summer. He has the machine all ready to go, but it needs an antenna system, and he is working on that. He also wants to build it's own independent power supply (there is no commercial A.C. power on Brockway).....so it will probably be battery and a combination of solar and wind power to keep it operating. He is getting it coordinated via K8NB (Noel) at UPARRA, and that will be a welcome addition to the Keweenaw. Mike is an Electrical Engineer and has traveled the world over, installing radio systems; his latest work being that of installing a microwave relay system from Calumet to Brockway, Eagle Harbor and Copper Harbor

for the Internet service provider "Pasty.NET" of Calumet. Since coordination may take up to 45 days, we don't know the frequency setup yet either. We are hoping that this installation will give coverage to Copper Harbor from Calumet, a 2M system just doesn't "cut it" as the reception in Copper Harbor is poor on VHF. Will UHF do it? Only time will tell. Our thanks to Mike for his interest in our area. (

#### **GOOD WEATHER SITE:**

Here's a good local site (for Houghton County) sponsored by Michigan Tech. I think you'll like what you see here. Goto: [www.mtukrc.org/weather.htm](http://www.mtukrc.org/weather.htm) "KRC" is the Keweenaw Research Center at the Houghton County Airport, where they do winter studies for the army. Thanks to Glenn, WA8QNF for telling us about this one. It's a good one!

#### **WE'RE MOVING:**

Effective Friday, January 6, 2006 the bulletin transmissions normally heard on Wednesday night at 9 pm on the 146.88 machine from Hancock, will be moving to a new day (Friday) and a new repeater (147.315 MHz). Along with that, you'll be hearing a new voice on that transmission too.....it won't be right away, but we've "recruited" Howard, KD8ABP, to be your host on alternate Fridays, once we get the program rolling! With the change, we'll be able to offer our bulletin service to the hams in Marquette County. The Keweenaw repeater covers 5 counties, and with the added coverage we feel more "hams" will reap the benefits of our transmissions. The new sponsor will be the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. So, on Friday nights, there's going to be a lot of activity on the airwaves.....Starting at 9 you'll first hear the Keweenaw County ARES Net (Normally run by Gary, K8YSZ), followed by the SKYWARN Net.....and then the bulletin transmission. We've changed our ARRL Bulletins too, and now are featuring "ARN" (Amateur Radio Newslines).....a service for amateur radio operators that originates in California, but has world-wide connections with professional news announcers who are also "hams." You'll have a full hour (or more) of amateur radio news....of, by and for radio amateurs. Please join us each week. We wish to thank the CCRAA for allowing us

to present the bulletins each week on the "88" machine.

#### **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.

#### **NEW EXAMINING GROUP FORMED:**

A new group named the "UPRE" "Upper Peninsula Radio Examiners" has been formed for the purpose of giving COMMERCIAL radio exams in the U.P. of Michigan. Up to this time there were only four locations presently in the State of Michigan. Accreditation of new examiners was received December 21, 2005 with the following Examiners certified by NRE (National Radio Examiners) of Arlington TX: Walter Anderson (W8ERB).....Roland Burgan (KB8XI).....Gary Hansen (K8YSZ).....Danny Miller (KB8W).....Charles Savolainen (WB8FCY) and George Thurner (W8FWG). Headquartered in Laurium, with Test Center Manager W8FWG, this group becomes the first Commercial Examining group in the Upper Peninsula of the State of Michigan.

This group will be giving COMMERCIAL radio exams on a quarterly basis, the second Saturday of : March 11.....June 10.....Sept. 9.....Dec. 9, 2006. The FCC currently issues eight types of commercial radio operator licenses. Three radiotelephone, Two Global Maritime Distress and Safety System, and Three Radiotelegraph. The GMDSS Radio Operator and Maintainer licenses were first issued in 1994 and will eventually take the place of radiotelegraph licenses at sea.

The cost of the exam is \$35 per exam per sitting. As in "ham" radio testing, three examiners are required. Study guides are available from: George R. Thurner, W8FWG 225 Kearsarge Street, Laurium, MI 49913-2109 for a fee. Call or E-Mail (906) 337-2542 .....[w8fwg@arrl.net](mailto:w8fwg@arrl.net) for more information.

LOCATION: OSCEOLA CLUBHOUSE (DIRECTLY BEHIND THE MICHIGAN

STATE POLICE POST), TWO MILES  
SOUTH OF CALUMET JUST OFF HWY.  
U.S. 41

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL BE  
ANNOUNCING THE EXAMS IN ADVANCE,  
AND THE EXAMINATIONS WILL BE BY  
APPOINTMENT ONLY. IF THERE ARE NO  
CANDIDATES TO TEST, THERE WON'T  
BE ANY NEED FOR EXAMINERS TO  
APPEAR AT THE EXAMINING POINT.

#### **HAMS NOT NEEDED?**

#### **MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR ROMNEY DISMISSES HAM RADIOS ROLE IN E- COMMS**

It appears as if Massachusetts  
Governor Mitt Romney does not  
know the role radio amateurs  
play in emergencies or maybe he  
just does not care. At least  
that's what hams in New England  
are saying after Romney  
dismissed the role of Amateur  
Radio operators in emergency  
communications during a recent  
televised "town meeting." The  
program was WCVB television's  
"When Disaster Strikes: Segment  
Two." It featured public safety  
and volunteer organization  
officials from across  
Massachusetts among its guests  
and in the audience.

According to reports, Governor  
Romney seemed to get agitated  
when host and moderator Natalie  
Jacobson asked questions about  
communications interoperability,  
and communication without  
commercial power. Based on his  
answers, Romney was next asked  
by Jacobson if in the end it all  
came down to depending on ham  
radio to which the governor  
replied - quote: "No, we don't  
need to deal with ham radio  
operators..."

Embarrassed public safety  
officials later tried to put in  
a good word for Amateur Radio.  
The National Weather Service  
Warning Coordination  
Meteorologist Glenn Field was

prepared to state the importance  
of Amateur Radio. Salvation  
Army Colonel Fred Van Brunt beat  
him to the punch talking about  
his organization's quest to  
improve its communications  
capabilities and how Amateur  
Radio has been an important  
aspect of this.

#### **AMATEUR RADIO VANITY CALL SIGN PROCESSING WILL RESUME JANUARY 4, 2006;**

The FCC has announced that  
routine processing of Amateur  
Radio vanity call  
sign applications will resume  
Wednesday, January 4, 2006. The  
Wireless  
Telecommunications Bureau (WTB)  
suspended vanity processing in  
September as  
an indirect result of its  
hurricane-related extensions of  
certain regulatory  
and filing deadlines. The  
Commission said licensees or  
applicants needing  
relief beyond the initial  
extension periods should follow  
the process for  
submitting waiver requests  
provided in §1.925 of the  
Commission's rules.

In September, the FCC said it  
had to suspend routine vanity  
call sign  
processing because the  
extensions included the two-year  
grace period and  
could conceivably affect the  
vanity program.

#### **CODE PROFICIENCY PROGRAM BACK HOME;**

A group in Michigan has asked if  
it would be possible to extend  
the long-standing on-air Code  
Proficiency program so Code  
Proficiency Qualification runs  
(tests) could be given locally  
and not just by W1AW broadcasts.  
I'm preparing a proposal for the  
coming Board meeting todo this.  
It sounds to me that this could  
be a good program for

meetings, hamfests/swaps and similar get-togethers.

**KIDS' TURN AT THE RADIO: FIRST KIDS DAY OF 2006 IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2006;**

The second Sunday in January is the day to turn your shack over to the kids for some ham radio fun with a purpose. The first running of Kids Day 2006 begins Sunday, January 8, at 1800 UTC and continues until 2400 UTC with no limit on operating time (the second Kids Day will be Saturday, June 17) Kids Day provides a terrific opportunity to show youngsters what Amateur Radio is all about--and that includes its role in emergency communication. ARRL Education and Technology Program ("The Big Project") Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, says Kids Day can be a great opportunity spark change and get kids and families thinking about emergency preparedness.

Call "CQ Kids Day." The suggested exchange for Kids Day contacts is firstname, age, location and favorite color. It's okay to work the same station more than once if the operator has changed. Suggested frequencies are 14.270-14.300, 21.380-21.400 and 28.350-28.400 MHz. Contacts via VHF repeaters are okay too, with permission from the repeater owner. Observe third-party traffic restrictions when making DX QSOs  
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html>

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate, which becomes the youngster's personalized "sales brochure" for ham radio, Spencer says. The League asks everyone taking part in Kids Day to complete a short survey and post comments afterward  
<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kids-day-survey.html>> Doing this

provides access to download the certificate page, or participants can send a 9x12 self-addressed, stamped envelope to Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009.

Visit the ARRL Web site for full information on Kids Day  
<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>>

**NEGAUNEE SWAP-N-SHOP**

The Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association (HARA) announces the Swap-N-Shop at Negaunee on the first Saturday of February, Feb. 4, 2006. It will be held at the Negaunee Twp Hall, down HWY M-35 (near the Michigan State Police Post). Time: 9am to 2 pm Eastern Time. Talk-In will be on the 147.27 MHz repeater (100 Hz needed). Featuring refreshments, ham gear and computer gear for sale, trade or barter. Admission is \$4, Tables are \$6. For more information contact Bob Serfas, N8PKN at: (906) 225-6773 or E-Mail to: N8PKN@aol.com

**New Book;**

ARRL web has announced that QST contributing editor H. Ward Silver, N0AX, has authored another book in the popular "Dummies" series. This one is "Two-Way Radios & Scanners for Dummies", and features a basic introduction to two-way radios in general. N0AX is the author of the previously-released "Ham Radio for Dummies", which concentrates on ham radio basics. These books can be purchased directly from ARRL, and are \$21.99 each. There is more information at: <http://www.arrl.org>

**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR:**

How times flies! January of 2006 is upon us, and time to renew your membership with the club. Basic membership is just \$10/Year and Autodial slots (optional) are just an additional \$5. If you'd like a key for the clubhouse (also optional) it is just \$1 more. If you'd care to make a donation for any of the items listed at the bottom of the form,

those too are much appreciated, as expenses are always ongoing. Our dues structure runs from January 1 to December 1 each year. You can pick up a Membership Application/Renewal Form at any club meeting or use the one (enclosed) to renew your membership. The forms are also available on our web page at [www.ccraa.net](http://www.ccraa.net) Thank you and Happy New Year!

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

Our sister club, the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. will hold its first meeting of the new year on Wednesday, January 11, 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.-Treas.) at (906) 337-2542.

### **Minutes of Last Meeting;**

The meeting scheduled in December was cancelled due to the weather, and therefore there are no minutes or communications as of this time...

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

The **ALANDLINE@** 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

reached at:: (906) 337-2168 or E-mail to: [mmsgklann@pasty.net](mailto:mmsgklann@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.**

### **PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARY**

### **TREASURER**

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**CCRAA, INC.  
POB 217  
DOLLAR BAY MI 49922-0217**

(Place

**NEXT MEETING**

**January 3, 2006**

**DOLLAR BAY FIRE HALL**

**DOLLAR BAY MI 49922**

**TIME: 7:00 PM EASTERN Standard Time**