

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

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2007 CCRAA Club House, Osceola, Time 6:30 pm EDT. Hot dogs served and short business meeting. CCRAA clubhouse, (W8CDZ) is located on Tower Rd., right Behind the Calumet State Police Post. **GPS 47.13.000N, 088.27.887W, elevation 1211 feet.**

SILENT KEY:

We report with sadness, the passing of a good friend and fellow radio ham.....KC8HYC, William C. Chesney of Marquette. "Bill" as he was known was a supervisor for Michigan Bell Telephone Co., and passed away at his home in Marquette. He is survived by a son William of Hale, MI; a daughter Patricia (Gene) of Big Bay, one grandchild Cheyne and one great grandchild Julian Greason. He was predeceased by both parents, a sister Bonnie, and his by his wife Delores in 2003. Bill served in the Army in the Aleutian Islands. He was the Switching Systems Manager, retiring in 1979, with 39 years of service with Michigan Bell.

(Submitted by: Geo., W8FWG)

CLUBHOUSE LIGHTING REPAIR:

Our thanks to clubhouse PROPERTY COMMITTEE members (Howard, KD8ABP and David, KD8CGA) for their help in removing, then reinstalling the fixture. Special thanks to Walt, W8ERB who did the repair work (at no cost to the club), installing a new ballast for the light. Thanks to all who donated their time and technical expertise!

FIELD DAY – 2007:

This year field day will held on June 23,24 2007,
Location Lake Linden RV park.
POC for Field Day is Doug Polzien N8KSO
Come on out and visit and join in.....
Tnx & 73,
Glenn, WA8QNF

UP HAMFEST-2007:

July 28, 2007 at Escanaba
Sponsored by DCARS & Bay de Noc College
Events include Swap & Shop, meetings & Door Prizes
Hamfest information, directions can be found on the dcars.org web site.
Contact Hamfest chairman Rich Thompson, n8oyr@dcars.org
Talk in on 147.24 repeater
Howard(KD8ABP)

Open House;

Ever wonder how we make a weather forecast?

The National Weather Service in Marquette invites you to our Open House. This event, held at our office in Negaunee Township, will showcase weather Wonders, educational activities, as well as give you an opportunity to tour our Office, see and learn the products and services we provide and ask meteorologists Your hardest weather questions.

Saturday, August 25th, 10 AM EDT – 4 PM EDT.

National Weather Service

112 Airpark Drive South

Negaunee, MI 49866

For more details, please visit us online at: www.weather.gov/mgt or call us at: (906) 475-5212

Howard(KD8ABP)

HY- GAIN ANTENNA,KD8CGA;

Last week George (W8FWG) and myself (KD8ABP) assisted in the erecting Of a Hy-Gain 2mtr Yagi mounted on a rotor in Ahmeek.

Dave Sheffer (KD8CGA) now has contact via local repeaters with his

Yaesu HT VX-6 and is working on a 12VDC battery system....

Good solid contacts into 315, 88 and the 67 ...

Howard (KD8ABP)

315 REPEATER UPDATE:

Its now fully operational with the controller programmed

And the PL tone of 100 is now removed. The repeater has two Marine Deep-Cycle Optima 12vdc batteries in parallel, electric battery blankets, And an insulated storage container. During normal use the power supply Provides for a charge and a thermostat will control the battery blankets during the winter months. When the repeater goes into battery back-up a tone will be heard over the carrier of the repeater.

The KCRA looks forward to signal reports and would like to hear “What” you think about the repeater???

73,

Howard (KD8ABP)

SPAM AND YOUR COMPUTER:

Hello; I hope this will those of us who use the Internet and E-mail.

This was a message via ARRL's For Sale web-site. Think before firing

Off a E-mail in the future and I hope this will help all of us.....

_____ * SPAM * Have any of you noticed that after you post an ad on this website, the amount of spam you receive goes up drastically? That's because the spammers use E-Mail address seeking programs that hunt and grab your E-Mail address. Get smart and DO NOT show it as AA1AA@ARRL.COM. Rather, use AA1AA at ARRL dot Net, or maybe AA1AA (@) ARRL (.) com. Anything that breaks up the usual email address format. Also, I don't think the added X's etc. will deter the E-Mail grabbers either since they've gotten sophisticated

Howard(KD8ABP)

Subject: 2007 ARRL GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION:

Please help us get the word out about the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2007 in Independence, Ohio. This is in conjunction with the Cleveland Hamfest which takes place Sunday, September 23, 2007 just a short ride from the Convention location. We will have discount tickets available for the Cleveland Hamfest.

A PDF file is attached. Please print it and announce the Convention and display the flyer at your next meeting, possibly add it to your newsletter. Should you have any trouble viewing the PDF file more information is available at www.2007gldc.com

ANTENNA REPAIRED:

Our doublet, wire antenna suffered some damage due to high winds and was repaired by Dave, KD8CGA and Geo., W8FWG on Thursday, May 24, 2007. A new 450 ohm feedline was purchased and installed, and tested, AOK again!

SUMMER CCRAA MEETINGS:

Once again, Auto Value of Calumet is supplying hot dogs for a picnic type of meeting, for the months of June, July, August and September, resuming in Dollar Bay with the October meeting. (Thanks to Paul, W9VLM for this generous gift!) Please come at 6:30 PM EDT for the next four months, and enjoy the picnic. The officers promise a very brief business meeting starting at 7 PM. If you have ham visitors from out of town they are also invited. Spread the word!

HAM EXAMS ON DEMAND:

We have a new policy in our ham radio testing. While we now officially give exams only twice a year (Spring and Fall), if a candidate feels they are ready, they can take an exam at any time giving the V.E. Team at least a 48 hour notice. (A week ahead of time would actually be better!) The test site is the clubhouse of the CCRAA. Thank you CCRAA, for allowing the V.E. Team to process exams here in Calumet.

HAMS RECOGNIZED:

Because of the efforts of our Newsletter Editor (Howard, KD8ABP) we've received a very attractive certificate from the Governor of the State of Michigan, recognizing us "hams" during the week of June 23, 2007. (I'll bring it to the June 5th club meeting for all to view. (Geo., W8FWG)

ALLTEL PURCHASED:

Alltel, the cellular company that now shares property at our clubhouse site has been bought out by another company. As far as we know it will not affect our operations as an Amateur Radio Community operating here. (Houghton County actually owns the property on, so we are awaiting a confirmation of this note from the OEM (Jack Dueweke, KC8NPI) in Houghton.) [LATE BREAKING BULLETIN]: Jack telephoned me just moments ago, assuring us, that there would be no change in our status as a "ham" club at Osceola, with the purchase of Alltel by another company.....Thanks Jack!....That is good news!] (Submitted by Geo., W8FWG)

CMXBBS BACK ON THE AIR:

The packet radio system known as CMXBBS (Calumet Bulletin Board System) operating at our club had a defective TNC (Terminal Node Controller). Geo., W8FWG has taken it out of service

and has substituted one of his own, until the club's unit can be repaired and returned to service. This makes all systems at the clubhouse operational once again.)

NEW PACKET ACCESS TO THE WORLD:

N8MLI (Steve) of Ishpeming has established a new route from Keweenaw via his station in Ishpeming to Negaunee giving the Copper Country access once again to "the world" via packet radio. For more information please contact Geo., W8FWG by E-Mail. (w8fwg@arrl.net) or telephone him at (906) 337-2542 on how the new node is set up.

TOWER HELP WANTED:

Mostly "diggers". We would like to put up another tower on the property at the clubhouse, and permission has already been granted by Houghton Co. For us to add it. All we need are some helpers to dig a hole, and put in the new antenna system. Note: No climbing will be needed, it will be assembled on the ground, temporarily guyed, and filled a concrete base, once it is vertical. We will reuse some existing transmission line that we already have at the club site. It will serve the packet radio community. This is a summer project!

(Submitted by Geo., W8FWG)

CODE PROFICIENCY PILOT FIELD TEST:

The field study of the Code Proficiency Program begins in June as I reported in the last issue of Words. The encoded text has been received as has the decoded written text. These have been distributed to the VE teams that will conduct the pilot testing.

There is no charge for this testing. Eight code speeds of 5 through 40 wpm, in steps of 5 wpm, are offered. Keep your eyes on your local club newsletters and special e-mail announcements for further details.

Now that developing Morse code proficiency is totally a matter of personal choice, why not challenge yourself to learn this "old" modern method of communicating.

The Code Proficiency program is totally unrelated to FCC licensing. It also is available only at the four test locations in the Great Lakes Division.

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
ARRL Great Lakes Division
5065 Bethany Rd.
Mason, OH 45040
E-mail: k8je@arrl.org; Tel.: 513-459-0142

**COPPER COUNTRY RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
May 1, 2007**

- I. Called to order by president Glenn-WA8QNF at 7:00 PM.

- II. Members present: Glenn-WA8QNF Paul-KC8FLK
Paul-W9VLM Andy-N8ZBJ
Mark-KB9RQZ Virginia-Associate
George-W8FWG Roland-KB8XI
Chuck-WB8FCY Walt-W8ERB
Scott-new member Ron-W8ILS
John-KC8FSO
- III. Minutes for 4-3-07 were approved.
- IV. Treasurer balance-\$3981.
- V. Public service-Andy reported on the Superior Search, 4-30-07. Two people found safe at 745 AM. Seven Hams showed up. Senior walk in Houghton, Fourteen hams helped police. Everything turned out ok.
- VI. Radio operations-Chuck, reported on problems with 88 repeater. Several problems are being dealt with. 67 repeater will be checked soon.
- VII. Property-George, reported, the road is in rough shape. A broken feed line on the tower will be dealt with. Packet is still out. Light, will be repaired by Walt. Generator needs work on sparkplug line.
- VIII. Field Day will be held in Lake Linden on June 29, 2007.
- IX. UP Directory-George reported that it was very successful. \$245.
- X. Paul reported that the Swap Shop made \$139.
- XI. Summer meetings will be held at the Osceola clubhouse from June thorough September.
- XII. Announcements: Swap shop at Escanaba on July 28, 2007
A. Next meeting: June 5, 2007 at Osceola clubhouse, 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Andy-N8ZBJ, secretary

KCRA MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Our sister club, the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. will hold its meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 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. **GPS location 47.18.044N, 088.22.835W.** Visit

our Web Page at www.kcra-mi.net All persons interested in "ham" radio are invited to attend. Door prize to be raffled! If you need further information before the meeting date, please call George Thurner, W8FWG,(Sec.-Treas.) at (906) 337-2542.

NEW U.P. HAM DIRECTORY-2007 EDITION:

We have sold out all but eight, of our 107 copies of the 2007 U.P. Ham Directories. If you would like to have a copy in 2008 (next year) it would be good to place your advance order now! Contact George, W8FWG at (906) 337-2542 or E-Mail him at: w8fwg@arrl.net

OFFICER LISTING:

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. 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 **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

Glenn P. Ekdahl
WA8QNF
(906)482-7743
wa8qnf@arrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul A. Kemppainen
KC8FLK
(906)482-4150
pak77@lighthouse.net

SECRETARY

Andrew C. Kangas
N8ZBJ
(906) 483-3820
andykangas@cs.com

TREASURER

Paul M Christensen
W9VLM
(906) 487-5271
pungvait@hotmail.com

CCRAA, INC.

POB 217

DOLLAR BAY MI 49922-0217