

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: March 6, 2007 Dollar Bay Firehall, Time 7:00 pm

SPECIAL "NO CODE" EDITION, WITH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

NO CODE FOR THE RADIO HAM IS HERE!

FROM: ARRL HQ.

It's Official! Morse Code Requirement Ended Friday, February 23, 2007 at 12:01 EST.
NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 24, 2007 –

On Friday, February 23, 2007 at one-minute after midnight the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement officially disappeared from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. After that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination. The appearance in the Federal Register of the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, 30 days ago, started the countdown for the new rules to become effective. Deletion of the Morse requirement -- still a matter of controversy within the amateur community -- was a landmark in Amateur Radio history.

"The overall effect of this action is to further the public interest by encouraging individuals who are interested in communications technology or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become Amateur Radio operators; and eliminating a requirement that is now unnecessary and may discourage Amateur Service licensees from advancing their skills in the communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the "Morse code" R&O that settled the matter, at least from a regulatory standpoint. The League had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants, but the Commission held to its decision to eliminate the requirement across the board. The R&O appearing in the Federal Register constitutes the official version of the new rules.

Until 1991, when a Morse code examination was dropped from the requirements to obtain a Technician ticket, all prospective radio amateurs had to pass a Morse code test. With the change the US will join a growing list of countries that have dropped the need to demonstrate some level of Morse code proficiency to earn access to frequencies below 30 MHz.

The new rules also put all Technician licensees on an equal footing, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination. Starting February 23, Technicians will gain CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Once the revised rules are in place, an applicant holding a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) may redeem it for an upgrade. A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions. For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE

for Element 3 may apply at a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) test session, pay the application fee, which most VECs charge, and receive an instant upgrade.

The FCC R&O includes an Order on Reconsideration in WT Docket 04-140 -- the so-called "omnibus" proceeding, modified Part 97 in response to ARRL's request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of other rule changes that became effective last December 15. The Commission designated 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, although that segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data. The ARRL had requested that the upper limit of the CW/RTTY/data subband be set at 3635 kHz so there would be no change in the existing 3620 to 3635 kHz subband.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page.

A LONG TRADITION:

A Morse code requirement for Amateur Radio licensing has been on the books in the US in one form or another since 1912, and CW continues to be a favorite mode, especially in the contesting, DXing and QRP communities. The transition to a Morse code-free licensing system in the US has not been without controversy, however, and the issue has been a divisive one within the Amateur Radio community since the FCC eliminated the 13 and 20 WPM Morse code exam elements in 2000.

In eliminating the code requirement altogether in the Report and Order in WT Docket 05-235, the FCC said the change "eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio."

More than two dozen countries around the globe already have dropped their Morse code licensing requirements in the wake of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003. WRC-03 delegates agreed to let individual national administrations decide whether or not they wanted to retain a Morse code test for HF access. Cyprus appears to be the latest country to have eliminated its Morse code requirement. Others already on the list include the United Kingdom/Great Britain, Canada, and Germany.

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE:

Stan Strangle, K8NYT, AKA "Electronic Sales" of Bruce Crossing is going out of business, see the attached flyer for some good deals on books and equipment
Stan, we wish you well in retirement!

TIME CHANGE COMES EARLY THIS YEAR!

MARCH 11, 2007

For Microsoft's "fix" goto: Microsoft.com/office/timezone.msp to see whether you have anything to worry about. Some WINXP owners use a Microsoft Internet Service called "Automatic Update" that routinely downloads bug fixes and patches to their PCs, and they may have received a fix Feb. 12 Those who don't use this service will have to get the patch from Microsoft's web site. Alternately a manual fix may be made by adjusting your computer's time clock. Don't forget your VCR either! Cell phones should display the correct time, as they are adjusted from their service provider networks.

(Submitted by Geo., W8FWG)

**COPPER COUNTRY RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2007**

I. Meeting was called to order by president Glenn-WA8QNF at 7:00 PM.

II. Self introductions with the following members present:

Glenn-WA8QNF

Andy-N8ZBJ

Virginia Thurner-associate

Gary-K8YSZ

Dianne Hansen-associate

Gavrielah-KD8CTL

Eric Lee-new member

Paul-KC8FLK

Paul-W9VLM

George-W8FWG

Walt-W8ERB

Roland-KB8XI

III. Reports:

Secretary-minutes for 1-2-07 were approved. Seven (7) applications for 2007 were approved.

Treasurer-new balance \$3390. A request for a letter to MBANK for the transfer of funds to the current officers was approved and the secretary will take care of this. This is being done to transfer all our funds to one bank.

Property-George-Osceola is ok. TNC were replaced after being donated by John Kempainen. Snow needs to be removed from roofs, if you would like to volunteer get a hold of George or Glenn.

IV. Election-no new nominations. Next meeting is election.

V. Swap and Shop will be April 21, 2007. 9:00 AM-12 noon. Admission-\$3.00, Tables for vendors-\$5 for whole table \$3 for half table. Will be held at Chassell VFW on US-41. Refreshments to be provided for a fee. Door prizes drawings. 88repeater talk-in. 50/50 will be held with a change in prizes. The 50% will be split 25-15-10% respectively.

VI. Financial auditors were appointed, Gary-K8YSZ and Walt-W8ERB. To be done at next meeting.

VII. Next meeting: March 6, 2007. Dollar Bay Fire Hall 7:00PM

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Kangas, N8ZBJ, Secretary

VE TEAM-George-Next test session will be April 14, 2007, 8:30 AM at Wadsworth Residence Hall at MTU. Questions? Call. Geo., W8FWG at (906) 337-2542 or E-Mail him at: w8fwg@arrl.net .

U.P. HAM DIRECTORIES-George-New price is \$5/each. A vote to advance \$300 for this committee to purchase supplies was approved.

CHASELL SWAP-N-SHOP:

Scheduled for Saturday, April 21, (third Saturday of April) at the VFW hall in Chassell, see the bulletin (attached to this newsletter) for full details.

KCRA MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Our sister club, the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. will hold its meeting on Wednesday, April 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 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.

UPRE:

The Upper Peninsula Radio Examiners (UPRE) has announced a March 10, 2007 exam testing session in Calumet at the Osceola Clubhouse of the CCRAA, on Saturday, March 10, 2007 starting at 9:30 am. All applicants are reminded to pre-register as this test session is by appointment only. Please note: **THIS IS NOT FOR HAM RADIO**, it is for **COMMERCIAL radio only**. For more information please call the Test Center Manager (TCM) George R. Thurner, TCM-16728 at (906) 337-2542 or Mobile phone at (906) 369-2542, or contact him by E-Mail at: w8fwg@arrl.net

This is a National Radio Examiners (W5YI) Test session. The cost is \$35 per license.
(Submitted by Geo., W8FWG)

CCRAA CLUB SURVEY

DATE: JAN. 1, 2007

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT FCC'S DECISION TO ELIMINATE THE MORSE CODE AS A REQUIREMENT FOR OBTAINING A HAM RADIO LICENSE?

CONFIDENTIALITY:

(NO NAMES OR CALL SIGNS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL TALLY)

PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE ITEM:

- A. I AGREE WITH THE FCC DECISION TO ABOLISH THE CODE AS A REQUIREMENT FOR OBTAINING AN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE.
- B. I DISAGREE WHOLE-HEARTEDLY WITH THE FCC'S DECISION.
- C. I REALLY DON'T CARE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ABOUT THEIR DECISION.
- D. I AGREE WITH ARRL.....THE CODE SHOULD BE KEPT FOR THE EXTRA CLASS LICENSE

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESULTS BY E-MAIL TO: w8fwg@arrl.net (Just say: "A,B,C, or D")

WE WILL ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE "LANDLINE."

FOR SALE:

Base & Mobile 10 meter radios:

(Commanche Warrior):

(1) 10 meter AM/FM/SSB base/mobile radio,
AC/DC power, manual, (2) microphones.

(BlackHawk):

(1) 10 meter AM/FM/SSB mobile radio,
DC power, manual, mount, microphone.

\$300.00., contact Howard(KD8ABP)

906-337-2168

UP-TO-DATE FREQUENCY ALLOCATION CHART

A fully updated Frequency Allocation Chart for US amateurs has been released by ARRL. The chart may be downloaded at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html. The chart became effective February 23, 2007 (*Come to the March 6, 2007 meeting and obtain one free!*)

U.P. HAM DIRECTORIES: Last call.....The new, (2007) Editions will be available at the Chassell "Swap" on April 21. Your price \$5.00. (Add \$3.00 S 7 H if we have to mail them) Have a buddy pick one up for you and save the mailing costs.

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**