

# KCRA Newsletter

Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc.

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## Michigan's Northernmost VHF-FM Voice Repeater"

### MEETING OPENED:

The meeting was opened and called to order by President Gary Hansen, K8YSZ at 7 pm EDT. Self introductions followed and showed: President Gary L. Hansen presiding. There were six other members present. W8FWG, KD8JAM, W9GY, KB8XI, KC8RGO and KD8ABP.

### ROLL CALL:

A roll call of officers showed President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer present along with A/T Members: K8YSZ, KD8JAM, KD8ABP and W9GY. There were no new member applications received.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Our fiscal year started on January 1 and ends on December 31. May we count on your generosity to continue your membership for 2014? Membership dues remain the same for the year 2014 and are just \$13.00 for an individual, and \$18.00 for a family. Renew your membership today by sending your dues to:

KCRA, Inc.  
c/o William R. LaBell, KD8JAM, Treasurer  
59897 Apple Street  
Allouez, MI 49805

### ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP:

1. Speed dial: Call \*911 (star-911) for police, fire, ambulance - (Negaunee Dispatch).
2. Speed dial: Call \*912 (star-912) and get the Keweenaw County Sheriff (Ron Lahti's office).
3. Speed dial: Call \*916 (star-916) and get the U.S. Coast Guard, Station Dollar Bay.
4. Low cost, affordable membership to its members.
5. Information exchange with fellow members (trouble-shooting, etc.).
6. FREE Autopatch service (The only autopatch system in the entire U.P. of Michigan!).
7. TWO, FREE autodial slots (Your choice of 2-digit dialing: speed dialing).
8. Internet connection to the repeater while away from home, without your ham gear (Echo Link).
9. Meetings only four times/year (Quarterly).
10. Delicious refreshments, including coffee and cake after the meeting.
11. Free Deviation (Modulation) testing by W8FWG, to any ham (even non-members).
12. 100% backup power, during extended commercial power outages.

**KCRA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:**

Quarterly meetings of the KCRA are held during the months of JAN-APR-JUL-OCT, on the second Wednesday of Each quarter. The April 9, 2014 meeting of the KCRA was held at the home of Gary Hansen 1108 Bumbletown Road, Allouez Twp, Keweenaw County at 7 pm ET.

**HAM EXAMS BY CCRAA/HARC:** Are scheduled for: April 12, 2014 at the Zion Lutheran Church near the top of Quincy Hill. The address of the church is: 400 Ingot Street, Hancock, MI.

This location provides a barrier free entrance. Time: Applicants please be there NLT 8:30am, with the exams to start at 9:00am sharp. Questions? Please call Glenn Ekdahl at (906) 482-7743.

WA8QNF, K8YSZ, W9GY and W8FWG participating as Volunteer examiners.

**V.E. TEST SCHEDULE:**

**January 18, 2014** Exams at the Zion Lutheran Church in Hancock, A Saturday at 9am.

**April 12, 2014** Also at the Zion Lutheran church in Hancock. (WA8QNF Team Captain, Examiners K8YSZ, W9GY, W8FWG) will be working at the April 12, 2014 test session in Hancock.

**July** – CANCELLED [Because it is midsummer, and traditionally poor, or no attendance]

**October 4, 2014** (Note: This is one week earlier to avoid running into the Columbus Day holiday.)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Showed a balance of \$1,171.37 . (A monetary donation was received from Stan, WB8QJZ)

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Given by Gary, K8YSZ, that the repeater is operating properly.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:** George, W8FWG (No Report)

**CORRESPONDANCE:** (None)

**OLD BUSINESS:** Constitutional Review committee. K8YSZ (Gary) and KD8JAM (Bill) will be addressing the update, in the near future. Other: Objects appearing on the APRS\_FI are interfering with our local settings. The "offender: has been contacted by E-Mail, in hope this can come to an amiable solution.

**TIME CHANGE:**

The time change, occurred the first Sunday in March, 2014 reverted Daylight Saving Time (DST).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The CD150 (CopperDog150 dog sled race was successfully run once again, thanks to volunteers from both the CCRAA & KCRA. We were pleased to have 12 , 800 MHz radio's loaned to us for this event. Thank you, WB8ZPN of Calumet. Thanks also to Bill, KD8JAM for heading up this operation, and our thanks to his daughter Lori, for running the computer for this event, she did a great job. Thank you, Lori!

T-Shirts for SWAP will be obtained from the River Valley Bank in Calumet.

**QUESTION ON FD?**

Is the KCRA going to operate Field day this year?

The answer was "Yes" If we get permission to run it at the Houghton County Historical Center in Lake

Linden. Do we have a portable generator? Vance has a high capacity generator that he would bring. If the Lake Linden depot (Houghton County Historical Society) were to be used, the computers for logging could be run from AC power mains, while the FD amateur stations would be fed by the generator. (Yes, that is legal, to do it that way.)

**MOTION:** It was MSP that the sum of \$100.00 be allowed for FD expenses. Motion by KD8ABP, second by KB8XI. The motion carried unanimously.

**ANOTHER QUESTION?:**

Does the KCRA have a Liaison person to the CCRAA? The answer was no, but a volunteer appeared. He is "Jeff", W9GY, who volunteered to be the Liaison person to the CCRAA.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

Howard, KD8ABP asked if there were any other persons interested in a table for the Chassell Swap-Fest? George offered to call Stan, K8NYT, as he is a radio dealer/distributor here in the U.P. of Michigan. (Late breaking news: George contacted Stan on Friday, April 11, and Stan ordered three tables.)

**AT MT. HORACE GREELEY:** Howard, KD8ABP offered to donate a 2M/70CM antenna for use of a repeater at the Mt. Horace Greeley (315 repeater site).

**AND:** A letter was drafted asking for one of the 440 (surplus) repeaters from the Cleveland Cliffs Mining Company as several would become available. If a new 440 repeater would then be obtained, the frequency coordinator, K8NB would have to be notified to obtain a frequency pair. The letter was forwarded to Brandon Anderson N8PUM showing our interest at KCRA to obtain one.

**APPRECIATION:** Vance, KC8RGO thanked a number of the KCRA members for their technical expertise, in improving his HF station at his home along the Houghton Canal at Osma Plat.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Will be July 9, 2014 the second Wednesday of July, 2014.

**DOOR PRIZE: A barbecue tool was won by Jeff, W9GY**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Vance, KC8RGO and seconded by Roland, KB8XI, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at: 8:12 pm EDT.

The formal business meeting adjourned and refreshments were served by Gary, K8YSZ. Thanks from all of us!

**KCRA NEWSLETTER is published four times annually ( January, April, July and October)**

**by the Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc. It is a Michigan based, non-profit organization for the purpose of operating and maintaining a VHF voice repeater, in**

Keweenaw County, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The repeater operates on a frequency of 147.315 MHz, with a 100.0 Hz PL tone and a positive split. The editor is George R. Thurner, W8FWG. (906) 337-2542 or by E-Mail at: [w8fwg@arrl.net](mailto:w8fwg@arrl.net) The officers of the KCRA are listed below:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Call sign</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>	<u>E-</u>
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	Jeff M. Stricker	W9GY	(906) 337-4158	<a href="mailto:jeffw9gy@pasty.net">jeffw9gy@pasty.net</a>

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**BULLETIN  
AMATEUR RADIO  
HAMFEST & SWAP**

**SPONSOR: CCRAA & KCRA**

**Date: April 26, 2014**

**Time: 9am to 3 pm**

**Location: Chassell VFW Post 6507  
42103 Wilson Memorial Dr., Chassell, MI**

**Talk-in Freq: 146.880 PL-tone 100.0 Hz  
Admission: \$2 and 12 and younger "Free"**

**Door Prizes**

**Tables: \$10**

**Dealers/Vendors set-up 8am**

**POC: Howard Klann (KD8ABP)**

**906-337-0234**

**ccraaclub@gmail.com**