

# KCRA Newsletter

Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc.

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

### MINUTES

The July 11, 2007 meeting of the KCRA was held at the Keweenaw Pines Apartments near Mohawk at 7 pm EST, with 6 members present. George, (W8FWG,) Virginia (Assoc.), Lee (KC8DYG), Roy (WB8ZYL), Dennis (K9GIR), David (KD8CGA).

#### ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

President: (Present)  
 Vice President (Absent)  
 Secretary-Treasurer: (Present)  
 Tech. Adv. Committee Chairman: (Absent)  
 Tech Adv. Committee Members (Absent)

#### APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP:

Deferred to July 18, 2007 meeting due to lack of Quorum  
 Received from John L. Tobey III, W8JLT of Harrison, MI .  
 Mary Ellen Crider (Assoc.)  
 Katriina Hopper KD8DYN  
 Carroll Crist, K9JCO

#### TREASURER'S REPORT: (As amended from the July m-2007 meeting)

Was given by the Secretary-Treasurer.

Beginning Balance: January 1, 2007.....	<b>\$1633.84</b>
Income to date: (Dues).....	565.00
Subtotal:.....	<b>2198.84</b>
Total Expenses:	
Telephone Bill	208.58
Check forwarded to CCRAA	50.00
U.P. Directory Ad	50.00
Anderson Comm (Antenna work)	522.60
Anderson Comm. (Battery cable)	50.00
Repeater expenses, Meter, grounding kits, Documents)	121.95
Advance to N8HZH	7.00

Total Expenses..... **1010.13**

Note: Labor costs were saved with David (KD8CGA) and Howard (KD8ABP) helping Anderson Com on the antenna work. 6 hours X 2 X \$40/Hr = \$480.00

Thank you, David and Howard !

Adjusted Balance:	\$1633.84
Income (Deposits)	+565.00
Subtotal:	\$2198.84
Expenses) (minus)	\$1010.13
Total:	\$1188.71

Check Book Balance: \$1188.71

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** (None available)

Reporting for Gary (K8YSZ)

“Our new Motorola repeater is in place and turned on, and the old GM-300 units taken out of service. It is operating now from the first floor of the building and is working satisfactorily.”

**A/T COMMITTEE REPORT:**

There were no A/T Committee members present, so yours truly (W8FWG) gave this report.

“This repeater’s battery-backup was given a good test, when approximately one week after it was installed, the commercial power failed, and it resorted to backup power. Surprisingly enough I found two other hams besides myself who were up in the early morning hours to verify this. Commercial power returned at 7am that morning, for a total outage of three hours that our backup batteries supplied.

The backup battery cable (Original cost of \$120) was given to us for just \$50, by Anderson Communications of Marquette. Our thanks to Fred Anderson (N8BTS) for this gift!”

**OLD BUSINESS:**

PL Tones on the repeater. We went from PL-100.0 to PL107.2, back PL100.0 and finally NO PL Tone. It was the wish of the membership to have no PL tone on the repeater at all, unless we experience a lot of interference. Since the change can be made remotely, (by Control Operators) this turns out to be the best method, and we are now operating with NO PL-TONE on the repeater.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No quorum for the third quarter, therefore no business could be transacted. A new digipeater, operating on 144.390 MHz was installed by George, W8FWG, on the fourth floor of this site.. Should this system cause any problems to the existing voice repeater on 147.315, remedial measures will be taken by Geo., W8FWG.

**EQUIPMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE:**

George, W8FWG, will be getting some estimates on equipment insurance for our club.

**A/T COMMITTEE REPORT:** In the absence of any committee member, Geo., W8FWG gave a brief description of the new repeater "It is a commercial grade Motorola and has 100W of output power. It is called an MSR-2000, and we recently obtained a test set for it, plus two service manuals. The installation is now located on the first floor of Bldg 154 (27 Tower), and utilizes a run of ½ inch heliax to the fourth floor and out to the antenna. The antenna was moved to the far side of the roof at this installation providing a shorter feedline with no connectors in between. It has an ERP of about 200W, and we reused our existing duplexers and ACC RC-96 controller. While the duplexers meet their original specifications they are now 25 years old, and thought should be given to buying a new set of duplexers. (Cost: About \$1500.00). Make and Model? TX/RX was suggested for a good four-cavity duplexer by the installer, Bill Becks, WA8WG. Reports from listeners reveal that it has proven to be better than the old installation.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

We have been approached by one of our members (Dick (KA8L) asking for communications help on August 4, 2007 in what is termed "The Copperman Triathlon." It consists of three events,....a swim across Lake Fanny Hooe (in Copper Harbor), a bicycle race from Copper Harbor to Esrey Park, and back, and finally a run through the woods. Radio "hams" will be stationed at strategic points along the routes to insure the safety of the participants. Four of our members have agreed to participate. Thanks to all, who will be helping with this event.

It was also suggested to give a door prize of food, in lieu of any other item, for the time being. The door prize was won by David Sheffer.,. KD8CGA.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn By: David, KD8CGA and seconded by Dennis, K8GIR, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at: 7:25 pm EDT

The formal business meeting adjourned and refreshments were served by: Virginia and George Thurner.

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**DATE CORRECTION:**

The DCARS Hamfest (Delta County Amateur Radio Society) (Escanaba) is going to be held on July 28, (not August 4<sup>th</sup>), as was previously published.) The reason for this is a scheduling problem with a vendor, and another Hamfest occurring on the same date. Mark your calendars for JULY 28, 2007

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**LATE BREAKING NEWS:**

Two of our members, Richard (KC8VMV) and Janet (KC8VMW) have completed their training to become Volunteer Examiners (VE's) and are now members of our local CCRAA/HARC examining Team. We look forward to working with both of these newly appointed examiners. They are part of the ARRL/VEC. Our local group now has 27 members in it.  
 Congratulations to Richard and Janet

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**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 NO PL tone, and with a positive split. The editor is George R. Thurner, W8FWG. The proofreader is Virginia C. Thurner. W8FWG can be reached by telephone at: (906) 337-2542 or by E-Mail at: w8fwg@arrrl.net The officers of the KCRA are listed below:**

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