

# SKYWARN TIMES

Vol. 5 No. 1 JANUARY- 2009 Editor: W8FWG
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SKYWARN NET: Fridays @ 9 pm EST, FREQ: 147.315 MHz, PL-100.0 Hz
NCS: DAVID TORREY, NCS OF THE FRIDAY NIGHT SKYWARN NET 483-4885

APRS: 144.390 MHz Packet (AX25) 145.090

SPOTTER'S LINK TO NWS: 1-800-828-8002 (Spotter's only):

ECHOLINKK NODE NUMBER: 405654

KEY UP: PTT, THEN USING TOUCH-TONE PAD: "A" + NODE NUMBER

KEY DOWN: PTT, THEN ##

NOAA WX HOME PAGE IN MARQUETTE: http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mqt/

AMATEUR RADIO STATION IN NEGAUNEE: WX8MQT

METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE: Robin J. Turner: KC8TII (906) 475-5782 EXT. 372 WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST: Matt Zika, KD8EFY (906) 475-5782 EXT. 726 OBSERVATIONS PROGRAM LEADER: David G. Petrovich, KC8UUC (906) 475-5782 EXT. 327

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**SKYWARN NET: (VIA THE COPPER COUNTRY)** 

#### **INFORMATION:**

"SKYWARN TIMES" A newsletter for persons interested in helping their communities by being weather spotters is published monthly, and always comes to you as the previous month.....(i.e., the October issue comes out on the first of November), and it shows the activity in SKYWARN for the preceding month. It is only sent out in electronic form, so you have to have an E-Mail address, in order to receive it.

#### **EDITORIAL:**

I don't often "editorialize" but every once in a while I get the "yen" to do it, so here goes. In view of the problems (over the years) to our KCRA repeater, it comes to mind that perhaps even the commercial grade, continuous-duty repeaters are suffering from "heat exhaustion"....that is failure of a component, or a solder connection to the repeater, due to the length of the transmissions. So, what I am thinking of doing is cutting down on the "key down" time of the repeater with some of those lengthy bulletins from ARRL (about 20 minutes), or some of the others (30 minutes) and by the use of "selective editing" of the material provided, we can reduce the "on-air" time of the repeater by more than 50%. In my opinion I think, in the long run, it is going to save us a lot of grief. And so, as a test, in the coming weeks I am going to try doing just that, and I invite listener comments on how they like the new format. I hope it will be to you liking?

## **CHECK -INS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2009**

Honor Roll: Checked in at least four times this month (BOLD PRINT) (Editor' Note: This month had five weeks in it, but our repeater failed for one of them!)

WB8FCY – Chuck – Jacobsville	3
W8FWG – George-Laurium	3
KD8GBH - David-Dollar Bay	3
K9GIR – Dennis - Eagle Harbor	4
K8HRO – Randy -Aura	3
N8HZH – Jon-Dodgeville	3
KD8JAM – Bill – Allouez	4
W8KQB - Tom - Elo	4
WX8MQT – Bill – Marquette	1
KB8XI - Roland - Hancock	3
K8YSZ – Gary- Bumbletown	4

Monthly Total: 35

NOAA WEATHER RADIO ALL HAZARDS AWARENESS WEEK IN MICHIGAN National NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards website February 1st - February 7th

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Awareness Week Schedule Sunday, February 1st

Overview of NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards

Monday, February 2nd

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards in Michigan

Tuesday, February 3rd

The Content of NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Programs

Wednesday, February 4th

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards and Safety Preparedness

Thursday, February 5th

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards and the Emergency Alert System

Friday, February 6th

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Receivers and Where to Get Them

Saturday, February 7th

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards and the Public Alert Radio

#### "315" GOES DOWN:

On January 3, 2009 (Saturday afternoon about 3:00 pm), [It actually failed Friday night during the Skywarn transmission and we had to cancel out the rest of the activities for that night.] We had to take the repeater out of service once again. A continuing problem with loss of RF output was the cause, and the repeater was sent to Anderson Communications of Marquette on Thursday, January 8, 2009 for repair. Bill (KD8JAM), did get a temporary "315" repeater working at his home, in Allouez using duplexers and a single antenna.) Anderson Comm. of Marquette repaired our repeater and tested it in a cold environment (their garage) for five days and it was picked up in Marquette by George (W8FWG) and brought back to the Copper Country on Tuesday afternoon, January 13. It was placed in service on Tuesday night, January 13 at 7:20 pm EST with Bill, KD8JAM, Howard, KD8ABP.

## NOAA Prepares to Launch New Polar-Orbiting Satellite for Climate & Weather

January 22, 2009

A new NOAA polar-orbiting environmental satellite, set to launch next month, will support NOAA's weather and ocean forecasts, including long-range climate predictions for El Niño and La Niña and support U.S. search and rescue operations. The new spacecraft – NOAA-N Prime – is scheduled to lift off from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on Feb. 4, 2009 at 2:22 a.m. PST.

"There is a growing demand for reliable coverage and accurate data from satellites to help us understand what's happening in the environment," said Mary E. Kicza, assistant administrator for NOAA's Satellite and Information Service. "This spacecraft will help meet those requirements."

As an example, Kicza cited the Advanced Data Collection System (ADCS) onboard the satellite that will relay meteorological and oceanographic data – even track migration patterns of wildlife – to help researchers improve their study of Earth's environment. It's the first time the ADCS will be flown on a NOAA satellite.

Once in orbit, NOAA-N Prime will be called NOAA-19, the latest in the series of NOAA polar-orbiting environmental satellites that have served the nation. It will circle the globe in an afternoon orbit, capturing valuable environmental data that will help support NOAA's long-range seasonal outlooks.

"NOAA-N Prime data will help us monitor current conditions in the atmosphere and oceans and keep tabs on long-term climate trends," said Wayne Higgins, director of NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "These data are increasingly important in polar regions, given the potential effects of a warming climate on the polar ice cap and sea ice extent."

NOAA is working closely with the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) to ensure seamless satellite coverage. Under an agreement, NOAA's two operational polar-orbiting satellites – NOAA-18 and N Prime – are carrying a EUMETSAT instrument. In return, through 2020, EUMETSAT is carrying key NOAA instruments on board its European-built MetOp satellites, which fly in morning orbits.

NOAA-N Prime also will contribute to the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems, or GEOSS. GEOSS is an ongoing effort among more than 70 nations to develop a worldwide network to monitor the world's changing climate.

Additionally, NOAA-N Prime will be a part of the international Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking system called SARSAT. NOAA satellites are able to quickly detect distress signals from emergency beacons and have supported more than 6,000 rescues in the United States and its surrounding waters since 1982.

NOAA manages the POES program and establishes requirements, provides all funding and distributes environmental satellite data for the United States. NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., procures and manages the development and launch of NOAA polar-orbiting satellites on a cost reimbursable basis. Twenty-one days after NOAA-N Prime is launched, NASA will transfer operational control of the satellite to NOAA. NASA's comprehensive on-orbit verification period likely will last up to 45 days after the launch.

For more information about NOAA-N Prime, including a fact sheet detailing the instruments and photos of the satellite, visit the N Prime Satellite Web page.

NOAA understands and predicts changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and conserves and manages our coastal and marine resources.

### There is 1 active alert issued by the National Weather Service for 49913

ALERT 1 - Non Precipitation Advisory WIND ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 1 AM TO 1 PM EST SUNDAY Issue Time: 2:56PM EST, Saturday Jan 31, 2009 Valid Until: 11:00PM EST, Saturday Jan 31, 2009

Urgent - Weather Message National Weather Service Marquette MI 256 PM EST Sat Jan 31 2009 Windy Conditions To Develop After Midnight Tonight...

Strong Low Pressure Over Southern Manitoba Will Move East Across Northern Ontario Tonight... Bringing A Cold Front Across Upper Michigan. Expect West

Winds To Increase Rapidly Behind This Front Over The Keweenaw Peninsula... With Gusts To 45 Mph Likely After Midnight. These Blustery Conditions Will

Continue Through Sunday Morning... Then Begin To Relax In The Afternoon As The Low Moves Farther Away.

Keweenaw-Northern Houghton- Including The Cities Of... Copper Harbor... Houghton... Hancock 256 PM EST Sat Jan 31 2009

The National Weather Service In Marquette Has Issued A Wind Advisory... Which Is In Effect From 1 AM To 1 PM EST Sunday.

Look For Southeast Winds Of 10 To 15 Mph To Turn To The Southwest This Evening... Then Increase Out Of The West At 25 To 35 Mph Shortly After

Midnight. Gusts To 45 Mph Are Likely As Well. Look For The Windy Conditions To Persist Through Sunday Morning... Then The West Winds Will Diminish To

15 To 25 Mph Sunday Afternoon. A Wind Advisory Means That Winds Of 35 Mph Are Expected. Winds This Strong Can Make Driving Difficult... Especially For

High Profile Vehicles. Use Extra Caution.

For NOAA Weather in your area tune to your local NOAA Weather All-Hazards Weather Radio. In the Copper Country it is 162.400 MHz. In the Marquette area it is 162.550 MHz.