

# **KCRA Newsletter**

**Keweenaw County Repeater Association**

**Vol. 34, No. 2**

**Second quarter 2024**

***In memory of Gary Hansen, K8YSZ and George Thurner, W8FWG***

**Meeting minutes – Saturday, April 13, 2024**

**Call to order at 11:41 a.m.**

**Roll call of officers, [all present]:**

President/Treasurer Bill LaBell, KD8JAM

Vice President Don Lafreniere, W8PSP

Secretary Dave Gonigam, AG8NT

**Also present:**

Karen LaBell, KE8TXB; Jeff Stricker, W9GY; Joe Dowd, KE8DUP; Kelly Dowd; Stuart Kauppila, W8EEK; Mike Hicks, KL2YE; Mike Musiel, K9SJ; Reece White, KE8ZDM; Logan Johnson, KD8VRD; Leina Johnson, KR8VEN; Tim Anthony (callsign pending); Antonia Burich, KE8SMB; Cristy Kirschke, KC8SGQ; Kevin Kirschke, N8ZGO; Matt Miller, KD8OOS; Mike Sprague, KC8ZPX; Amber Kraft, KD9KKY.

**Engineer's report**

Bill went to the Mt. Horace Greeley site on Saturday April 6 to investigate why APRS was down. Turned out to be a bad power supply; he swapped out the power supply previously used with the Yaesu VHF repeater and all is in working order again.

Bill also turned up the audio on the controller so it would better match the ID.

**Treasurer's report**

Balance at the end of the quarter: \$4,784.24.

**Secretary's report**

See minutes from the January meeting. No changes or corrections.

## Old business

Successful April exam session on the 6th — 5 new Technicians and 2 currently-licensed Technicians upgrading to General.

Thanks as always to [pasty.net](http://pasty.net) for covering the club's telephone and electric costs.

## New business

**PayPal:** At the moment, members can pay dues using PayPal but cannot make donations. Bill is troubleshooting.

**CopperDog:** While the races were cancelled this year, special-event station K9C was in operation as usual — mostly FT8, some phone. QSL cards have been steadily coming in, though at a slower pace as last year.

**Field Day, June 22-23:** Per a proposal from the CCRAA, Bill will approach the Houghton County Historical Society about returning to its site on M-26 in Lake Linden. Kevin says the Civil Air Patrol trailer should be available.

**Weather alert:** With thunderstorm/tornado season approaching, Dave volunteers to take over activation of the automated weather alert announcement on the .315, a task long handled by George Thurner, W8FWG (SK). The consensus is that this feature is still valuable at times of watches and warnings; Bill will set up Dave with the credentials.

**Water mitigation** on the 4th floor of the repeater site: This will be addressed during the next site visit.

**International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend, Aug. 17-18.** Plans once again are to activate the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse. Jeff or Bill will reserve the special-event callsign K9L.

**Superior Maker Fest:** Both the KCRA and CCRAA were represented as about 450 attendees showed up for this event on March 23 at Houghton High School. Younger attendees were interested both in CW and in Don's FT8 activity projected on a big screen.

**Hamfest revival?** Discussion about a 2025 revival for the Chassell Hamfest, last held in April 2019 — and about relocating the site to the VFW Post in Calumet. The consensus was that if the KCRA/CCRAA revive the event, it would be best to return to the Chassell VFW Post — both for space and for proximity to attendees from the Marquette area.

## Adjournment:

Stuart motions, Antonia seconds. The meeting adjourns at 12:04 p.m.

## Next meeting:

Saturday, July 13, 2024, 11:30 a.m., at The Hut Inn on U.S. 41, about a mile north of M-203.