

# 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](http://www.ccraa.net)

## **Health and Welfare:**

Lee J. Royce, KC8DYG has retuned home from Marquette General hospital and is back home at This time.  
Geo.,(W8FWG)

## **APRS DIGI UPDATE:**

APRS digipeater taken out of service. ( W8FWG-9, Herman), was taken out of Service as a result of our not being able to connect to the Marquette node directly. Bill, WA8WG has recovered the equipment (transceiver and tnc) and will be reinstalling it in the Gladstone/Escaaba area in the future. Thanks to Bill for allowing us to try this experiment from Herman.....unfortunately, it did not work out for us. .The good news? Plans are being formulated for an APRS digi up at the Keweenaw site. Equipment to be provided by Geo., W8FWG  
Howard(KD8ABP)

## **440 Repeater Update:**

The 440 located at the CCRAA club house has been taken out-of-service, and is being worked on by Chuck, WB8FCY. When it is repaired, it will go back into service at the Osceola (CMX) site.  
Howard(KD8ABP)

## **10th Anniversary of CCRAA on the Web**

This month marks the 10th anniversary, believe it or not, of the CCRAA website. The page began as a collaborative effort between Mike Swiatkowski, AA9VI; George Thurner, W8FWG; The Husky Amateur Radio Club of Michigan Tech and the CCRAA. The internet revolutionized the world in the 1990s and the CCRAA was one of the first clubs in the Upper Peninsula to have a presence on the world wide web.

During the winter of 1996, an idea to promote partnership between the CCRAA and HARC was conceived by HARC member and MTU student, Mike Swiatkowski. The idea was for HARC to host a website on its server inside the shack at Wadsworth Hall, at no cost, for the CCRAA. HARC members supported this idea with a resounding affirmative vote and the CCRAA website was born. George emailed Mike several club documents, membership lists, "Landline" archives, amateur exam

schedules, and other useful club information on a daily basis. The website has undergone a few makeovers in the last 10 years. Most notably, in 2002 the website moved to [pasty.net](http://pasty.net). Charlie Hopper graciously agreed to host the website on highly reliable and fast servers at [pasty.net](http://pasty.net). His son, Jonathan Hopper also helped establish and register the familiar name [ccraa.net](http://ccraa.net). Both have been very helpful in setting up the website so it can be edited by Mike and George.

Today, you can access all kinds of club related business information and technical ham information at the speed of light! Relocated members across the U.S. and hams across the Copper Country can read all about the new equipment at Hancock, Osceola, and Herman, find out information about the Dog Sled Race, PRO Rally, ARES, or just read the latest edition of "The Landline" Please join the club in celebrating 10 years on the internet.

Mike and George are always looking to spice up the web page. If you have any ideas on what to add to the CCRAA website, please contact Mike at [aa9vi@arrl.net](mailto:aa9vi@arrl.net) or George at [w8fwg@arrl.net](mailto:w8fwg@arrl.net). Merry Christmas and 73!

Mike, (AA9VI)

### **OMNIBUS BILL UPDATE:**

The FCC today (Nov. 15, 2006) announced that the so called "Omnibus Bill" appeared in the Federal Register. This is WT Docket 04-140, and it means that 30 days later, or Dec. 15, 2006 it takes effect at 12:01 EST. This bill makes changes to frequency allocations for us "hams", and it makes three important changes to the VE program.

It is too lengthy to show the entire work here, but it may be viewed at either the FCC web page or the ARRL web page. This bill has nothing to do with the elimination of the Morse code as a requirement for obtaining a ham radio license. That information has yet to come, from the FCC.

The three important changes in the V.E. Program are:

1. "No public announcement need be made of upcoming exam sessions." (but we are allowed to continue doing so)
2. The "10-day" rule in getting our exam results to the VEC (ARRL, in our case) ..... is eliminated.
3. The 10-day rule with the VEC (ARRL, in our case) getting the exam information to the FCC..... is eliminated.

W8FWG, as V.E. Team Liaison for the Copper Country area has already notified all of the V.E. Team members of this forthcoming change.  
Geo.,(W8FWG)

### **ARRL E-MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE:**

If you are an ARRL member you can get [\(callsign\)@arrl.net](mailto:(callsign)@arrl.net) as your E-Mail address. Please note this is merely a "reflector"....and you have to have a valid E-Mail address to start with. This is an ARRL MEMBER ONLY feature. How do you sign up for it? Follow these steps:

1. Goto the ARRL web page [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)
2. Goto the "Member Data page" (Have your Membership Number from the mailing label on QST ready)
3. Enter a valid E-Mail address
4. Check the checkbox for [\(callsign\)@arrl.net](mailto:(callsign)@arrl.net)

5. Give ARRL 3 days in which to complete the transaction.

You can use the new ARRL address interchangeably with your regular E-Mail address. The advantage is that "hams" will find it easier to remember your E-Mail address, if they know your call sign.

Geo.,(W8FWG)

## **ARLB025 W1AW to change its 80-meter digital frequency**

ZCZC AG25

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 25 ARLB025

>From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT November 20, 2006

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB025

ARLB025 W1AW to change its 80-meter digital frequency

In response to the expansion of the 75-meter phone band down to 3600 kHz, W1AW will shift its 80-meter digital bulletin frequency down to 3597.5 kHz, effective Friday, December 15, 2006.

The new frequency will be in use beginning with the regularly scheduled 6 PM EST (2300 UTC) digital bulletin on Friday December 15, 2006.

The old 80-meter digital frequency (3625 kHz) has been in use for well over two decades. The expansion of phone privileges on 75 meters (as part of Report Order, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149)) prompted the change.

A possible change in the 80-meter CW frequency is being considered.

NNNN

/EX

Howard(KD8ABP)

## **SOLAR UPDATE:**

Heliophile Tad "Who Let the Spots Out?" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This week saw the odd combination of average daily sunspot number declining while the solar flux rose. It isn't so odd for this to happen when there are very few sunspots, and one rises slightly while the other declines slightly. But this time, the solar flux rose quite a bit. Average daily sunspot number dropped nearly 19 points to 27.7, and average daily solar flux rose over 8 points to 94.3. There is a big sunspot number 923, currently moving off center to the western limb. This sunspot is so large that it could be seen unaided at sunset, although this is not safe viewing.

Perhaps this spot radiated plenty of energy at 2.8 GHz (the frequency at which solar flux is measured), but the combined area and number of spots didn't make a high sunspot number.

Conditions should be good this weekend, although today (November 17) unsettled geomagnetic activity is expected. After today geomagnetic conditions should stabilize. Predicted planetary A indices for November 17-20 is 15, 10, 5 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled to active conditions for November 17, unsettled November 18, quiet to unsettled November 19, quiet November 20-22, and quiet to unsettled on November 23.

The predicted solar flux is 95 through the weekend. This is relatively high for this point in the sunspot cycle. If we had zero sunspots we would expect to see the solar flux nearly 30 points lower, around 67.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. For a detailed explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/k9la-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>.

Sunspot numbers for November 9 through 15 were 29, 13, 13, 18, 30, 41 and 50 with a mean of 27.7. 10.7 cm flux was 89.4, 91.1, 97, 96.7, 95.2, 94.5, and 96.1, with a mean of 94.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 10, 36, 20, 7, 2, 4 and 5 with a mean of 12. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 29, 20, 9, 1, 3 and 6, with a mean of 10.7.

Howard (KD8ABP)

COPPER COUNTRY RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
November 14, 2006

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by president Glenn-WA8QNF
- II. Program-George-W8FWG
- III. Members present:

WA8QNF-Glenn	KC8YTW-Jim
N8ZBJ-Andy	KB8XI-Roland
KC8FLK-Paul	WB8FCY-Chuck
W8VLM-Paul	K8YSZ-Gary
KC0NPE-Ben	W8FWG-George
K6IPC-Richard	KB8FCX-Rich
WQ8G-Don	
- IV. After correcting the October minutes to read 67 instead of 88 repeater. A motion by Rich-KB8FCX, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim-KC8YTW to accept was passed. Eleven (11) members renewed their membership for 2007.
- V. Treasurer's balance-\$2467.
- VI. UP Directory: A motion by Andy-N8ZBJ, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck-WB8FCY, to change the price to \$5/per copy, passed.
- VII. Repeater's-Chuck-WB8FCY, is monitoring both repeaters.
- VIII. Property- George-W8FWG, Bryan-WB8WKN, fixed the packet system. VE-George, 2 testing sessions per year at MTU.
- IX. Surplus property. A motion by Rich-KB8FCX, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul-KC8FLK to adopt new policy passed.
- X. Christmas party will be held at Dollar Bay Fire Hall on December 5, 2006 beginning at 7:PM. Please bring a dish to pass. (Serving 20). Soda and coffee will be provided.
- XI. Next meeting-December 5, 2006, 7:PM Dollar Bay Fire Hall. Andy-N8ZBJ

**Next meeting Tuesday December 5, 2006 – Dollar Bay Fire Hall, 7:00pm**

**\*note: Please bring a dish to pass (serving 20), Thank you.....**

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](mailto:msgklann@pasty.net). Club Members receive E-Mail copies sent by Howard, **KD8ABP**. Complimentary copies to other radio clubs and the E-mail copies are handled 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](http://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.**

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