

# KCRA Newsletter

Keweenaw County Repeater Association, Inc.

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

### **SAD ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Preceding the meeting, the former Vice President, and now President, Gary Hansen, K8YSZ, announced that our President Lee J. Royce, KC8DYG passed away this afternoon, October 10, 2007, at 4:30 pm at the Marquette General Hospital in Marquette, following a short illness. A prayer followed and a moment of silence was observed in memory of Lee.

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### **LEE JOHN "Hodag" ROYCE:**

**Eagle Harbor: Lee John "Hodag" Royce (KC8DYG) age 47, passed away on Wednesday, October 19, 2007 at Marquette General Hospital following a lengthy illness. He was born February 21, 1960 in Laurium, the son of Dennis and Geraldine Royce and grew up in San Antonio, TX. He was employed as a truck driver for most of his career. Lee is survived by his parents, Dennis and Geraldine of Eagle Harbor, a sister, Ann M. (R.C.) Smith of San Antonio , two aunts, Betty Bylaska of Antigo, WI and Millicent (William) Sunderlund of Monroe, MI special friends, June Erlandson and George and Virginia Thurner, numerous other friends and cousins. Lee was preceded in death by his grandparents, and a sister; Sue Lynn in February 2006. He enjoyed working on computers and building models. He was president of the KCRA radio club. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, October 19 at the Ryan Funeral Home in Calumet with Pastor Kenneth Toth to officiate.**

*(Editor's Note: We would like to have as many members as possible be present on Friday, October 19, 2007 at the Ryan Funeral Home for the Memorial service of Lee.....Thanks)*

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### **FOURTH QUARTERLY MEETING:**

The October 10, 2007 meeting of the KCRA was held at the Keweenaw Pines Apartments near Mohawk at 7 pm EST, with 9 members and two guests present. K8YSZ, KD8CGA, WB8ZYL, W8FWG, KD8ABP K9JCO, N8HZH Virginia Thurner (Assoc.), Dianne Hansen (Assoc.) and guests, W8FMR and Ms. Waarala present.

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**NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE KCRA:**

Effective with the January meeting (January 9, 2008) and continuing throughout the year, we will be meeting at the residence of Gary and Dianne Hansen in Keweenaw County. Directions to their house would be: Travel Hwy U.S. 41 until you come to the Amoco station in Allouez (about 3 miles North of Calumet), Turn onto Bumbletown Road,.....keep following Bumbletown Rd, until you reach the top of Bumbletown Hill, keep going until you find where the blacktop ends (and the dirt road begins) you will see their log house, with a Fire Number out front in Red/White lettering showing: Fire# 1108. Our thanks to Gary and Dianne Hansen for their generosity in providing a meeting place for us in Keweenaw County. This will be our permanent headquarters unless otherwise notified.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:**

President: Gary Hansen, K8YSZ

Vice President (This position was Vacant at the opening of the meeting)

Secretary-Treasurer: George Thurner, W8FWG

Tech. Adv. Committee Chairman: Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF (Absent)

Tech Adv. Committee Members Paul Kemppainen, KC8FLK (Absent)

**APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP:**

Received from:

John L. Tobey III, W8JLT .

Mary Ellen Crider (Assoc.)

Katriina Hopper KD8DYN

Carroll Crist, K9JCO

A motion by David, KD8CGA and seconded by KD8ABP to accept all four passed unanimously.

Welcome new members.

**MINUTES – October 10, 2007 KCRA Meeting**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** (See attachment to this newsletter)

Was given by the Secretary-Treasurer.

**MINUTES:** The October, 2007 meeting opened with a prayer by Gary Hansen, K8YSZ in memory of our past president, Lee J. Royce, who passed away the afternoon of October 10, 2007 at the Marquette General Hospital. A moment of silence was observed.

After the roll call of officers, four new members were accepted (See Applications for Membership, above) and by a motion to accept by Roy, WB8ZYL, seconded by David, KD8CGA, all four became members of the KCRA, Inc. Welcome to you all! A treasurer’s report by George, W8FWG was given (See the enclosed report) The **ENGINEER’S REPORT:** showed the moving to the first floor of our repeater, the telephone line problem in August solved, the interference report received and the work done (adding a band-pass filter to the receive side of the system), and an explanation by W8FWG of our ongoing agreement with Keweenaw County to remain at this site in the future. A new company called “Air-Cell” will be setting up a new transceiver, building tower and antenna system, at this site, and will

provide additional income to Keweenaw County. At this writing there is no interference from the new system. **A/T COMMITTEE REPORT:** None. There was only one A/T Committee member present, the Chairman, Gary, K8YSZ. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Our call sign of K8MDH expires in December.....Do we wish to renew it for another 10 years? (This item added after the meeting closed, and will require executive board action before the next meeting in January of 2008). Under **OLD BUSINESS:** a brief discussion of why we chose the “carrier only” option over a PL tone on the repeater. (simplicity for all operators).**NEW BUSINESS:** It was mentioned that the LSPR Road Rally will be here on October 26 and 27, and permission is hereby granted for them to use the “315” repeater for safety purposes during the rally.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

**The following were elected by a unanimous vote for the years: 2007/2008:**

President: Gary L. Hansen, K8YSZ  
Vice President: Howard F. Klann, KD8ABP  
Secretary-Treasurer: George R. Thurner, W8FWG  
A/T Committee Members:  
    Glenn P. Ekdahl, WA8QNF  
    Paul A. Kemppainen, KC8FLK  
    David S. Sheffer, KD8CGA (New)

### **DISCUSSION OF PL TONES:**

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:** It was suggested by Terry, W8FMR that a preamp on the receive side might be beneficial to the increased sensitivity of the repeater, (George, W8FWG will check out the possibility of getting a preamp for this system with Bill Becks, WA8WG). Jon, N8HZH spoke of the recent linking of the “64” repeater by the Marquette club with another repeater in Munising, making for better coverage in that area.

**ARRL INSURANCE:** We are not eligible, since we are not an affiliated club. (Added by W8FWG, because of an inquiry at the July meeting).

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

**Your New or Renewal form for the year 2008 is now due for the year 2008.**

An application for Membership (or Renewal) Form is included with this Newsletter. The rates remain the same.....\$13.00/year per Full or Associate Member, and \$18.00/Year for a Family Membership. (all family members in one household may enroll under this one \$18 fee.) Also several FREEBIES are included! Free autopatch service in the 289, 337, 296 and 523 exchanges. You are entitled to have TWO free autodial slots (of your choice, if they are available.....call George, W8FWG at (906) 337-2542 for your assigned slots, and he will activate them for you. Autopatch calls include: 911 service, (Emergency, Fire, Police or Ambulance calls), 912 service (this is the Keweenaw Co. Sheriff's number)...and 916 (The U.S. Coast Guard), . so your membership is valuable, and you get something back for your annual dues.

**MEMBER ID CARDS:** Coming to you soon. George, W8FWG will be working on the new membership cards, as the applications for renewal come in.

**FREE 2007/2008 CALENDARS GIVEN OUT TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING DOOR PRIZE DRAWING:**

The door prize of 2 jars of thimbleberry jam was won by David Sheffer, KD8CGA.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn By: Roy, WB8ZYL and seconded by David, KD8CCGA, and meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. The formal business meeting adjourned and refreshments were served by: Virginia Thurner.

**LATE NEWS:**

Applications for Membership into the KCRA have been received from Terry (W8FMR) and Chari (W8QLT) Johnson. We welcome both Terry and Chari into the KCRA, Inc.

**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@arrl.net The officers of the KCRA are listed below:**

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