

*Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette County*  
*“ARRL Affiliated Since June 7, 1933”*

**January 2024**

*Happy New Year*

# The Standing Wave



The monthly newsletter of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette, Michigan. Comments and suggestions can be sent to the club at P.O. Box 1183, Marquette, MI 49855 or to the editor at [n8nav1@charter.net](mailto:n8nav1@charter.net) Club info, membership, dues, etc. can be found on our website at [www.qsl.net/k8lod](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod)

## MONTHLY MEETING:

Marquette Co. Health Department  
Lower Level, Negaunee Township  
Date: February 1, 2024  
Time: 7:00 PM

## CLUB OFFICERS for 2024

Pres. Tom Perry KE8TPT  
VP: Brad Mattson KE8TPS  
Treas. Mike Beltz KD8JIR  
Sec. Scott Machalk WU8H  
Board Members:  
Lou Gembolis KG8NK (Past Pres.)  
Jim Belles, N8NAV (EC)  
Dave Thomas KD8DRF

## STANDING WAVE

Editor, Jim Belles N8NAV  
Distribution, Greg KI8AF

## REPEATERS

With the proliferation of local and regional repeaters, it is no longer feasible to list them individually. However there is an extensive list – and map – contained in the HARA website at [www.qsl.net/k8lod](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod).



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's a new year so we need to pay the 2024 dues. I estimate that about half of the people on our "membership list" did not pay dues for 2023. Some haven't paid for even a longer period. You will see in the minutes from our January meeting that we approved a deficient operating budget. That is, we are about \$500 short of income to just pay our annual operating expenses. Help the club by getting your dues up to date please.

In reading the minutes of the last meeting you will see we have a lot of things going on; some new, some old. In order to keep the club viable and growing we need more members to get active. Pitch in where you can. Bring your ideas to a meeting and see where they go. Future club activities that are going to need a lead planner are: Field Day, summer picnic, Swap & Shop and Christmas party. Help out where you can. We are always looking for someone to put on a short informational/educational program after our business meetings.

While I'm writing this message, I'm taking a break from writing a letter to start the process of applying for grant money to maintain our repeater system. I'm also working on an insurance claim to replace the damaged duplexers on the .64 repeater.

Stay warm and safe and hopefully I will hear you on the air during the UP200 and Midnight Run. We still need ham radio operators for the races. Sign up!

73. Tom KE8TP7 [KE8TPT@gmail.com](mailto:KE8TPT@gmail.com)

## V.E. TESTING:

**March 2024** *Marquette: 8:30am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bldg., U.S. 41 just east of the Michigan State Police Post. You MUST preregister at least by the Tuesday evening preceding the Saturday test date. Contact Rich N8GBA at 249-3837, [n8gba@att.net](mailto:n8gba@att.net) or Greg KI8AF at [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net).*

Please arrive one-half hour early for test sessions to give time to process applications. Testing applicants should bring the following items with them: Two pieces of I.D. one being a photo I.D., Original license and one clear copy of their license if applicable, Completed form 605 (one will be provided if you don't have one), pencils, calculator and the test fee of \$15.00. Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change. **You must have an FRN and provide a valid email address.** *Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc.*

**Note:** Other clubs in the area may offer license testing. For a listing you can go to the ARRL website at [arrl.org](http://arrl.org). Click on *Licensing, Education, Training*, then *Getting Licensed*, and then *Find An Exam Session*. You can search by zip code or other criteria.

## HARA's Monthly Meeting Programs

NOTE: The Club is always looking for Ham Radio-related programs of interest to the membership. If you have something in mind, please contact VP Brad Mattson @ [barbarajquestavez@braxmail.net](mailto:barbarajquestavez@braxmail.net)

## *The Business*

### HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

January 4, 2024

#### **Attending:**

President – Tom, KE8TPT; Treasurer – Mike, KD8JIR, Secretary – Scott, WU8H, 10 additional members, and 0 guests.

#### **President's Comments:**

President ,Tom KE8TPT opened the meeting at 19:00 with introductions.

#### **Agenda:**

The agenda was updated to add 1 item under new business: Technician Class. A motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Scott, WU8H, seconded by Rich, N8GBA. Approved.

#### **Secretary's report:**

Motion to approve the November meeting minutes as published in the Standing Wave was made by Rich, N8GBA, seconded by Dave, KD8DRF. Approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer's Reports for November and December were presented to the members by Mike, KD8JIR. Motion to approve by Scott, WU8H, seconded by Fred, KD8JIP. Approved.

### **Correspondence:**

New correspondence included Corporate Filing Renewal form from the State of Michigan.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Repeaters:

- Greg, KI8AF reported that all repeaters are working with the exception of the .64 in Gwinn which still needs the new duplexers installed.
- Rich, N8GBA reported that he is still having issues with the .27 repeater. Tom, KE8TPT will talk with Paul, KB0P for ideas.

#### ARES/RACES:

- This is a slow season for ARES so it's a good time to complete your training if you haven't already done so. Jim will provide a listing of required courses in his column.
- See Jim, N8NAV for more information on anything ARES related.

### **Old Business:**

- Newsletter Deadline Date: Jim, N8NAV asked that submissions for the newsletter be submitted to him by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Future Funding sources and repeater system Upgrades: Tom, KE8TPT will be sending a letter to the Marquette County Foundation to get their input on possible funding sources/grants.
- 2024 Calendar of events: So far, the 2024 calendar of events includes the Noquemanon Ski Marathon and the UP200/Midnight Run. Tom, KE8TPT reported that there are still slots available for the UP200 and Midnight Run. See him to sign up.
- 2024 Budget planning: Mike, KD8JIR and Tom, KE8TPT have compiled a 2024 budget based on typical income and expenses. The typical income is \$2751 and typical expenses are \$2250. The budget was put before the members for approval. Motion to approve by Scott, WU8H, Seconded by Lou, KG8NK. Approved.
- ARRL End of Year Report: Tom, KE8TPT does not have access to this function on the ARRL site. Lou, KG8NK will log into the site to update the information, and allow Tom to have access.
- Update HARA Equipment Inventory: Greg, KI8AF is working on this list and it is nearly complete.

### **New Business:**

- Zoom Recording of Meeting: A motion was made by Fred, KD8JIP and seconded by Mike, KD8JIR to investigate the possibility of broadcasting the monthly meetings on Zoom or a similar platform. Scott, WU8H will investigate and report back to the membership. Approved.
- Insurance Claim for .64 duplexers: Mike, KD8JIR and Tom, KE8TPT will work together to complete the claim.
- Set up for Noquemanon Ski Marathon: Gear will need to be moved from the storage bin to the Superior Dome to support the race. Greg, KI8AF and Dave, KD8DRF will coordinate the set up.
- Set up for UP200/Midnight Run: Greg, KI8AF and Lou, KG8NK will coordinate the setup for the UP200/Midnight Run.

- Executive Board Meeting: An email will be sent out to coordinate a date and time for an Executive Board Meeting.
- Technician Class: A motion was made to approve \$50 maximum to purchase a teacher's book and newspaper announcement for a Technician License Class. Rich, N8GBA and Greg, KI8AF will coordinate the class, but would like one more helper. Motion Made by Mike, KD8JIR, seconded by Bill, KE8KCA. Approved.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 19:48 by Scott, WU8H, seconded by Tom, KE8TPT. Approved.

**Program:** There was no program for tonight's meeting.

Meeting minutes submitted by Scott, WU8H.

### ***A Note about Meetings***

The winter season – with early darkness and the potential for difficult weather – sometimes makes attending our monthly HARA club meetings a challenge. We are currently investigating alternative presentation methods. In the meantime, a reminder that whenever **ANY** of the area school districts (MAPS, NICE, Ishpeming, etc.) are closed, our meeting is canceled.

### ***HARA dues are due!***

In order to renew your membership, you can attend one of the club meetings or send your renewal to the club mailbox. The address is listed at the beginning and end of each newsletter.

### ***HARA Membership List:***

The following is a list of members who 2024 dues are paid:

KC0TPU, KI8DF, KC8BLB, K8ET, W8ART, N8PUM, KE8CUG, J. VEIHT, KE8SXO, KD8BJC, KD8EDS, KG8NK, KI8AF, KE8MMF, KE8TPT, N8ITK, KE8KCA, WU8H, W8PTZ, KI8AYH, WA8VHO, KE8HEP, KE8HEN, KD8DAY, KD8JIR, KD8IAW, N8GBA, N8HXG, KD8QIR, N8NAV, KE8CTZ, KE8PND, NZ8U, KD8PTE, W8YV, KC8EED, WD0BCF, KH6IK, KD8JIP, KE8LRW, KB8QFG, KD8ZEG

If your callsign or name does not appear on this list, please contact Mike, KD8JIR at the club mailing address.

**Friday Lunch is back!**  
**(meet in the back room at Big Boy at 11:00 am)**



Left side: Marge (XYL of Bill, KE8KCA), Fred, KD8JIP, Rich, N8GBA, Bill, KD8ZEG, Joe, AJ8MH, Greg, KI8AF  
Right side: Bill, KE8KCA, Lou, KG8NK, Judi, KE8LRW, Sheri, KD8EDS, Mike, KD8JIR, Bill, KD8ZMU, Dave, KD8DRF

## **Happenings!**

The following is a list of local events that, as of press time, are happening:

- Noquemanon Ski Marathon – January 26-27, 2024. Stay tuned.
- UP200 Sled Dog Race/Midnight Run – February 16-28, 2024. Contact Tom, KE8TPT for details.

## **Technician License Class**

Rich, N8GBA, would like to put together a class to help prospective Hams pass the Technician Class license exam. He is looking at holding the class on Monday evenings over the course of 4 – 6 weeks. The class will be free, but attendees must purchase their own copy of the Technician Class license manual – available from the ARRL at a cost of \$30. If interested, please contact Rich at [n8gba@att.net](mailto:n8gba@att.net).



## HARA 10-meter Net

Some months ago, the club established a weekly get-together on 10 meters. The original intent was to give those Hams with a Technician-class license a chance to gain experience on HF SSB. Since that time, it has grown into a combination rag-chew, Health & Welfare and generally an old-fashioned good time! We continue to have a good showing of “regulars” and visitors! With the Cycle 25 (hopefully) increase in propagation, 10 meters appears to be hopping. 28.400 MHz is a calling frequency, so we have decided to move our net to **28.396** on Friday nights at 7:00 pm local time. Net control is usually Greg, KI8AF. Because it is a local net, you don’t need to run much power or have a big antenna installation to be heard. So finish your Friday fish fry early and join us on 10 meters! We look forward to hearing you! **10-meter propagation is really hopping, so let’s hear you on the air!**

### A Note about Photo Submissions

A couple of things to keep in mind when submitting photos to be published in the Standing Wave:

1. We always prefer shots of Hams in action over those just depicting random people or scenery.
2. We’d love to include captions to go along with the photo. So please identify the individual Ham(s) as well as the activity. THANKS!

### Challenge

#### **Parks on the Air (POTA)**

#### Ongoing

For details, see their website at:

[www.parksontheair.com](http://www.parksontheair.com).



## News

from the desk of N8NAV



As I have mentioned in past articles, winter time in the UP constitutes a “slow” season for ARES activity. That’s not to say that we still can’t have a weather-related emergency (blizzard, power outage, etc.) so it is ALWAYS a good idea to be prepared!

But this time of year provides an excellent opportunity to tackle the courses that every ARES member should complete. These are the Incident Command System (ICS) courses offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov). Specifically:

ICS-100  
ICS-200  
IS-700  
IS-800

Additionally, the ARRL offers an *Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications* course (EC-001) at their website – [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). All of these courses are offered on-line and at no cost. Unless there are major revisions, you only have to complete each course once. A reminder to provide me with a copy of all completion certificates so that I can keep my training files current.

We are always looking for new ARES members. If interested, you can download an application from the ARRL website, [www.arrl.org/ares](http://www.arrl.org/ares) and email it to me at [n8nav1@charter.net](mailto:n8nav1@charter.net), or contact me and I will arrange to get an application to you.

73 & Wishing All a Happy and Safe New Year! Jim, N8NAV

## **Antenna Projects**

### **A Hexbeam Antenna**

I was interested in the HEXBEAM idea for several reasons:

1. It is far lighter than alternative Yagi's – this HEX weighs only about 25 pounds, yet is as directional as many Yagi's and can cover 6 bands.
2. It presents very minimal wind resistance.
3. One doesn't need a tower – I put this up with a Rohn50 push-up pole. The Rohn50 is advertised to go to 43 feet; this HEX is about 26 feet above ground at the 6-meter radiator, 29 feet at the 20-meter radiator. But I'm using only about 22 feet of the pole, and also only the larger (stronger) sections on the bottom.
4. It's so light – with the antenna (25) and the pole (35) that I put the Yaesu 450 rotator on the bottom of the pole, for much easier access (I put this 4 feet off the ground for heavy snowfall ). (The whole pole rotates).
5. Specs for a HEX are: 5.4 dBi Gain; Front/Back ratio of more than 10 dB.
6. SWR without a tuner is extremely low over all bands except for the high end of 10 meters. If one ever wanted to add an amplifier, the HEX will take 2000 watts.
7. A number of guys on the air who have multiple antennas told me that, if they had to have only one antenna, they would keep their HEX: of all their antennas, it provided the most bang and convenience for the buck.

As you can see in the photos, I used a 16-foot 6x6 cemented in the ground 4 feet deep. The rotator is at 4 feet above ground; the thrust bearing is at 12 feet; the bottom (6-meter) part of the antenna is at 26 feet; the top (20-meter) is at 29 feet. I'm not an engineer, but I get the feeling that the strength of the whole arrangement is in the thrust bearing. (Some people report not even needing a thrust bearing – but then I think you would need multiple guys. I used only one set of Maistrant guys (non-metallic) just below the 6-meter radiator). (If, later on, I want to raise the HEX 5 feet more, I can use another set of guys).

By reputation, the “sweet spot” for a Hexbeam is about 30 feet above ground – this one is close to that for the 20-meter band. I compromised a bit on the height to avoid more wind. The set-up is so close to the house because the HEX has a turning-radius of 11 feet, and I don’t have open-yard area without a host of very tall trees nearby.

The HEX has 6 pairs of drivers-&-reflectors, 20 Meters through 6 Meters. One can think of it as a 2-element, zig-zaggety yagi, with the “open” segment of the antenna the direction of strongest radiation. (I don’t know why, but it seems to act more like a 3- or 4- element beam).

My legs are pretty bad, so I had to have a whole lot of help with this. One son-in-law knew how to make the wooden supports for the radiator and the thrust bearing, and I hired a roofer to attach the shingle anchors for the guys to the roof. We had a family party one day and hoisted her into the ether.

Hiawatha members are welcomed and encouraged to stop by KH6IK and take a look. Share ideas and swap stories!

73, Bruce, KH6IK



### **Buy, Sell, or Trade**

**Please advise when items have been bought or sold.**

**Nothing in the shopping cart this month!**



# **Parting Thoughts**

## 1. From Dale's Tales:

Greetings, welcome to Dale's Tales - The Final Edition.

It has been a Great Ride serving the amateur radio community, thank you all. From the early beginnings of taking on an ARRL position in the mid-1960s as an AEC, through several terms as EC, then SEC, Section Manager, Vice Director and then as Director, little did I suspect this whole collection of events. I know as I walk out the door today that many projects continue on the path to improvement, not all are complete and some are specifically designed to continue to grow in scale. Now, I ask that you give my successor Scott N8SY the same level of support that you gave me over these many years. Our goal must be to continue to grow ARRL and Amateur Radio. The two are inseparably intertwined and the very future of the World's Greatest Hobby needs your involvement today more than ever. This year, the Year of the Volunteer, has been a good way to close out, Volunteers on the Air has loaded my log with contacts, most of my antennas stayed up, I did not cook any equipment and I have heard a lot of kind words from this ham community. And now I send you my Best Wishes for the coming New Year and all that follow. Thanks, you are the best!

73, Dale Williams WA8EFK Outgoing Director Great Lakes Division ARRL [dale.wms1@frontier.com](mailto:dale.wms1@frontier.com)

## 2. Comments from ARRL Director Scott, N8SY:

The Great Lakes Division Newsletter is now on-line!

There's lots of great information for you to read. So, grab a favorite beverage, a sweet snack to munch on and sit back in your easy chair and have a great read!! >> <http://arrrl-greatlakes.org/gldnews/2024/01-gldnews.pdf> <<

73, Scott, N8SY

## 3. From Section Manager Larry, WB8R:

Greetings from the southland (Branch County).

Forestry Department Tower Issue.

Update Our Call to Action is currently on hold pending the go-ahead signal. In December, our Congress (both House and Senate) pretty much come to a screeching halt as all Senators and Congressmen head home for the holiday season on December 14. The 2024 calendar indicates that they will reconvene on January 8, 2024. This means that nothing much will be happening until January of next year. In last month's Section News, we advised the hams of Michigan to prepare for a letter writing (email) to our legislative representatives, urging that they exempt amateur radio from the US Forestry Department usage fees that Forestry Service tower users are faced with having to pay. There are several amateur radio repeaters that currently utilize Forestry Service towers in the Northern Michigan and Upper Peninsula areas to provide amateur radio emergency communication capabilities in remote areas. This is a national problem as the US Forestry Department is the caretaker of a tremendous amount of public land across the country. We are part of a coordinated effort to persuade our congressional representatives to exempt amateur radio repeaters on Forestry Department towers from the fees. More information when it becomes available. Stay tuned.

Michigan Section November 2023 ARPSC Volunteer Summary.

In November 2023 the Michigan ARPSC had 1210 members with 71 DEC/EC's reporting. The ARPSC volunteers of the Michigan section contributed a combined total of 3588 person hours which represents \$114,100 in value to the State of Michigan. The hams of Michigan contributed a combined total of 1754 hours of net activity which contributed a combined total of \$55,777. In November, 2023, the Amateur Radio volunteers of Michigan contributed 5342 hours which is a total combined value of \$169,877 to the State of Michigan. **(A note for Marquette Co. ARES members (and anyone contemplating joining our ARES group) – the figures presented here represent a portion of the volunteer hours that you submit to me each month. You are very much an integral part of providing valuable volunteer services to our county and state! I applaud your continuing dedication! Ed.)**

From my family to yours, we wish you and your family good health and best wishes for peace and prosperity in the holiday season and the new year. 73, Larry, WB8R Michigan ARRL Section Manager 517-617-4883 [wb8r@arrl.org](mailto:wb8r@arrl.org)



4. From our East Coast correspondent, Pete K8PT:

Pete had a couple of items to pass on this month:

A. CQ Magazine no more?

Well I have been calling this for a few years now --- looks like my prediction has become true - CQ Magazine might have gone out of business.

Steve W4DTA

=====

Many hams have noted not receiving paper copies of CQ magazine since earlier this year, and the last electronically published issue was October.

Quoting Rich Moseson, W2VU, editor of CQ Magazine: "Unfortunately, CQ has temporarily suspended publishing at this time. We are working very hard to secure the necessary funding to continue operations but until we can make those arrangements, everything is on hold."

The CQ contests will continue to be held, uninterrupted, by the WWROF (as they have been for many years now).

I myself - the CQ Contesting Editor for the past several years – am launching a contesting website that will specialize in short turnaround news flashes and gossip from the contesting world.

Tim N3QE

Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW - E-mail addresses:

[<kb8nw@hotmail.com>](mailto:kb8nw@hotmail.com) and [<kb8nw@arrl.net>](mailto:kb8nw@arrl.net)

Editor of the Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX - DXer's Tool of Excellence)

President of the "Northern Ohio DX Association" (NODXA)

DX Advisor for the "Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Past ARRL Assistant Director of the Great Lakes Division (1996-2022)

Sysop of the "Basic Amateur Radio Frequency BBS" (BARF80.ORG)

B. For those who are contemplating volunteering for wintertime activities – like the Nokie and UP 200 – remember to dress warm and bring LOTS of equipment! Ed.



C. A very nice video showing young people excited about Amateur Radio:

<https://www.today.com/video/high-school-students-use-ham-radio-skills-to-contact-space-station-201408581756>

5. From our Michigan Section Emergency Coordinator:

As we close out 2023 and enter into the first days of 2024, I look back at all that we have accomplished over the course of the year. I would like to extend my thanks to each of you and your volunteers for all of their hard work in supporting public service and public safety. Whether it's helping with a race or parade event, weather spotting and reporting through SKYWARN, assisting in public safety incidents or search and rescue operations, or even training and exercising to develop and maintain your skills, every hour you donate of your time and talent is greatly appreciated. It's my sincere wish that you all have a safe, healthy, and happy 2024.



**Max Schneider** • Michigan Section Emergency Coordinator  
**Amateur Radio Emergency Services**

989-859-4288 • ke8don@arrl.net  
 www.mi-arpesc.org

6. And finally, from Lucille, KD8PTE a look back:

<b>Western Union 92 Code</b>	
Published in the Telegraph Instructor, 1859	
1	Wait a minute.
2	Very Important.
3	What time is it?
4	Where shall I go ahead?
5	Have you business for me?
6	I am ready.
7	Are you ready?
8	Close your key, stop breaking.
9	Priority business. Wire Chief's call.
10	Keep this circuit closed.
12	Do you understand?
13	I understand.
14	What is the weather?
15	For you and others to copy.
17	Lightning here.
18	What's the trouble?
19	Form 19 train order.
21	Stop for meal.
22	Wire test.
23	All stations copy.
24	Repeat this back.
25	Busy on another wire.
26	Put on ground wire.
27	Priority, very important.
28	Do you get my writing?
29	Private, deliver in sealed envelope.
30	No more - the end.
31	Form 31 train order.
32	I understand that I am to...
33	Answer is paid.
34	Message for all officers.
35	You may use my signal to answer this.
37	Inform all interested.
39	Important, with priority on thru wire.
44	Answer promptly by wire.
55	Important.
73	Best Regards.
77	I have a message for you.
88	Love and kisses.
91	Superintendent's signal.
92	Deliver Promptly.
134	Who is at the key?

## Local Weekly DMR Net

The weekly DMR net starts each Sunday evening at 6:30 pm local time and is finished by the start of the HARA Sunday evening net at 7:00 pm.

The DMR net meets on our local KB0P DMR repeater and/or the U.P. Michigan Talk Group. Lucille KD8PTE, and her assistants do a bang-up job as net control!

Repeater: 442.200 MHz receive/447.200 transmit U.P. Michigan Talk Group: 31268



That's a wrap for this month!

**HARA membership** New member or need to renew your membership? Dues can be mailed to the: Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 1183, Marquette, MI 49855. Dues annual rate structure: Single \$15.00, Family \$20.00, Associate \$10.00, Family associate \$15.00, Student \$7.50. More information and an application form is available at <http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/membership.html>

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