

August 2010



## 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 [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.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 County Health Department Bldg., Lower Level, Negaunee Township.  
Date: **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
Time: 7:30 PM

### CLUB OFFICERS, 2010

Pres. Lou Gembolis KG8NK  
VP: Lane Dawson WD8PAJ  
Sec. Jim Jacobson W8QQE  
Tres. Fred Mouser KD8JIP  
Board Members:  
Past Pres. Paul Racine KB0P  
EC Rich Schwenke N8GBA  
Eric Pellinen N8TEV

### STANDING WAVE

Editor, Greg KI8AF  
Publishing, Lane WD8PAJ  
Distribution, Greg KI8AF

### REPEATERS

KG8YT, 147.270 / .870 with 100 Hz PL-Tone Marquette  
K8LOD, 146.910 / .310 Ishp.  
N8RRZ, 146.640 / .040 Gwinn with 100 Hz PL-tone  
K8LOD-3.144.390 APRS Digi Mqt

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR US

**Ore To Shore Bike Races 8/14**

**International Lighthouse Event 8/20-8/22.** (see page 5)

### *Poor Club Participation = Poor Score*

While the annual ARRL Field Day event isn't supposed to be a contest one has to admit that all parties concerned are trying their very best to outdo all others. No one is going to win, have a decent score or showing without support from its members were a club is concerned. HARA's 2010 Field Day totals reflect this only too well. With all the informational emails sent to members about HARA's Field Day event we were hoping for a much better showing of support for operating, setup and takedown or just to visit at the club picnic that coincided with Field Day. Granted the weather wasn't the best but in previous Field Days we've experienced much worse. We had indoor facilities for the picnic and a covered area for K8LOD station operating.



There were a few that helped the handful that are always there and thankfully a few new volunteers. Not wanting to miss someone I won't list those that participated if even in some small way, but you know you were there and we do so. If someone asks if you were there please speak up and out and let them know you were. With this year small turn out of club member participation some very serious consideration will have to be given about attempting to have HARA Field Day activities next year, **but a grateful thank you to those that helped and supported the activities.**

## V.E. TESTING:

- 09/11 **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. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837 or e-mail: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net)
- 10/09 **Houghton:** 8:30am eastern time, V.E. Exams at Michigan Tech. University in Houghton, MI will be held in the ballroom of DHH (Douglass Houghton Hall at Michigan Tech). Free Parking in Lot #14, front of DHH, across from Wadsworth Residence Hall. Use door #9 on the South-East side of DHH. Contact Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF at (906) 482-7743 if you have questions
- 08/07 **Iron Mountain:** 9:00am central time, (arrive by 8:30am) Dickinson County Library (conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD (906) 776-1553, 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802
- 10/09 **Gladstone:** Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Howard St. John (906) 428-9476 Email: [hsj99@charter.net](mailto:hsj99@charter.net) VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: Gladstone City Hall Main Meeting Room 1100 Delta Ave. Gladstone, MI 49837

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. *Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc.*

## Birthday Wishes

The "Birthday Wishes" column is now back by request. If you notice an error or your birthday is missed please advise the editor. Birthday Wishes for the month of August go to: Don KC8PYD, Bob N8PKN, Bruce WB8NJP, Lane WD8PAJ, Hank KD8CGJ, Adam KD8IAX, Rich KD8IZL and Karen KC8UXJ.

## What's Your Favorite Ham Website?

Solar Data Banners & Widgets <http://www.hamqsl.com/solar.html>

## PR.....Happenings

Our PR committee needs input from each of us if we expect them to do their part in getting the word out about our organization and amateur radio. Please contact a committee member well in advance of a happening. PR committee members are: Lee KD8BJC [leerowe@charter.net](mailto:leerowe@charter.net) or 346-9278, Lane WD8PAJ [laned@chartermi.net](mailto:laned@chartermi.net) or 486-8697.

H.A.R.A.  
Meeting minutes July, 2010

Call to order, agenda Lou KG8NK called meeting to order and made opening remarks. Introduction of members.

Additions to agenda, old business, Rich N8GBA Computer, New business, Books, EOC. Greg KI8AF changes to budget items. Jim W8QQE Teal Lake triathlon.

Secretary's report motion to approve Rich N8GBA, second Norm W8WND, motion approved.

Treasures report Greg KI8AF brought up the point that we need to establish a date for the budget to take effect, calendar year or fiscal year. After discussion it was decided to make budgets effective for fiscal year. Motion by Greg KI8AF second by LeeKD8BJC motion passed.

Correspondence None at this time.

Committee Reports:

Paul KB0P has tuned all the repeaters, a significant improvement have been noted, thanks Paul. Equipment received from estate for the swap shop. More antennas may be available, one on CO Rd 510 for example.

A Wisconsin group is interested in linking repeaters around the great lakes, Lou is in contact. Iron Mountain may be interested in linking to the 27 repeater foe sky warn and other emergencies.

ARES RACES nothing new at this time.

Radio Grant the grant to put radio stations in all the EOC's in the Upper Peninsula is moving along.

PR Mining Journal received photos of book grants to libraries

Field day event went well, Greg did a good job on cw, and attendance was poor. A discussion took place on what to do about field day and other activities the club needs to do to increase interest in ham radio.

Testing next testing session will be in September

Raffle tickets nothing back from the state yet.

Computer club officers are looking at options for a computer, we may need to allocate more money, or just go with an external disk drive.

Bike race we need volunteers August 14<sup>th</sup>

There was a discussion about purchasing a bigger club banner, Lee will look into pricing. Motion by Jim W8QQE second by Mike KD8JIR motion passed

Teal Lake triathlon operators needed

The club needs the vests to be returned, only two left. If you have one please return. We may have to purchase new ones.

We need people to put on programs at our club meetings, get involved!  
50 / 50 was won by Greg KI8AF



Field Day 2010 Photos



## Lighthouse Weekend

August 20-22, 2010 is the annual Lighthouse weekend where amateur radio operators operate from lighthouses and lightships communicating with other operators throughout the World. This is not a contest, so you can take your time and talk with another station as long as you want. This is a good time for Technicians to get the flavor of HF. We will be operating from our local lighthouse near the Coast Guard Station. The basic objective is to promote public awareness of lighthouses and lightships, promote amateur radio and foster goodwill.

Two years ago as a Technician I had my very first contact on HF and Pete K8PT asked me if I knew where the station was located that I had talked with. I told him I did not, and he told me Bogota, Columbia. That was a real thrill for me.

Pete has put together a good description of our participation in the annual event. See <http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/light.html>.

If you are interesting in working this event, please call Dave KD8DRF at 249-5488 or e-mail [dlthomas@chartermi.net](mailto:dlthomas@chartermi.net) to schedule time(s) that you want to operate.

The schedule starts at 8:00 p.m. on 8/20 and closes at 4:00 p.m. on 8/22. We will have two rigs running. We will operate as many hours as we have operators. In other words, we are not committed to be on the air all the time. We could also use help in setting up and tearing down. Set up would be after lunch at Bonanza on 8/20 and tear down on 8/22 at 4:00 p.m., or when we have run out of operators for that day.

Let's have some fun and support this event!

Dave Thomas KD8DRF

## U.P. Hamfest, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Escanaba

The event is getting close. Something unique this year is get your 1<sup>st</sup> table free with each additional table only \$5.00. There will be vendors, swap'n'shop, meetings, door prizes and food. Entry is \$5.00 with the doors opening at 9:00 am. For more info contact John at [wd8rth@dcars.org](mailto:wd8rth@dcars.org).

More info at <http://dcars.org/UPHAMFEST/hamfest.htm>

### ***HARA's Emergency Vests.....HELP!***

Over the years and for many public service events HARA has loaned out club "emergency services" vests to individuals that were helping with such events. Most of them have disappeared or at least have not been returned to the club. If you have forgotten to return one of the vests could you please do soon in the very near future? You can give it to any club officer, it will be greatly appreciated.

### **For Sale**

Rigblaster Plus.

Heathkit Model #HD-1250 Solid State Dip meter.

Kris 4230500 (small) Power/SWR meter (QRP type).

Everything reasonably priced

[k8pt@arrl.net](mailto:k8pt@arrl.net)

B Peter Treml – K8PT/V31PT

725 W. Magnetic St.

Marquette, Mi. 49855





## N8GBA

I started studying for a Novice license back in the early sixties from a Radio Shack manual. At that time I did not know of anyone who had a license or that there was a club as it was kind of a secret. In December 1965 I found a class at K.I.Sawyer and signed up. At that time it was a one year non renewable license. The class was in the evening once a week and I had to drive out to the base. They gave the test in two parts and on different weeks. I took the first part and was drafted and gone in the service before I could take the second so I did not get a license. It would not have made any difference if I would have because it was good for only one year; you either up graded or lost your license. In 1984 I saw an ad in the newspaper about a class at the high school and signed up. You had to be able to do five words a minute. The class was taught by Ron Adams KE8Z, Hal Vagda WA8MDD, and Gary French NJ8H who is still a member of our club. Also in this class were Joe N8HLH, Brian N8TLD, and Mark KF8RV. I got the call of KA8UIA. After that I decided to go all the way, next was the Tech so I asked for a call sign change, You got whatever they gave you, so I got N8GBA and have never changed it since. With the general class, I had a hard time with the code as you had to be able to copy thirteen words a minute. I have a hearing problem, but I kept after it and after the fourth try I still failed it .At our next club meeting Stu KO8U did a demo with code and I no problem copying it so I ask him if he could find out what the tone was and I called George W8FWD and ask him if he could make a test at that tone and he said that he would. At the next secession I got my General class license. Next was the Advanced which you did not have to take any code for. It was no problem as I never had any problems with any of the written test. You had to know everything in the book as there was no multiple choice questions, you either new it or you didn't. Next was the Extra and you had to be able to receive twenty words a minute, there again was a problem. I must have had two thousand hours listening to code. I was working out of town and it took an hour and a half to get there and I listened to the code all the way there and back, any free time at home and when I went to bed I put the earphones on and went to sleep with code on my mind. I failed the first code test up in Ironwood so I again called George W8FWG and at his next session I got my

extra on May 9, 1987. In March 1987 I became a volunteer examiner and have done over 70 test secessions as well as have taught many tech classes and one general class.

Most all of my VHF radios were new but all of my HF radios were used including the speakers. The only new equipment in my shack is the antenna rotator and a tuner for one radio. On the top shelf from left to right is a heath Kit SW-717, Grundig Satellit 800, National NC 57, on top of that is several other SWR meters, Electronic Keyer, a Ten-Tech 9 band receiver, an old Mic and the round silver ball on the wall is called a Ball Aerial which I do not know much about. On the bottom is a Rigblaster, Yaesu Ft-1000 with a Yaesu MD-1 Mic, Yaesu SP-5 speaker and on top of the speaker is Macaw SWR meter, Yaesu G-800SDX antenna rotator, Yaesu SP-6 speaker, Yaesu FT-847 with the Yaesu MD-100 Mic, A Bencher keyer and a Yaesu antenna tuner. On the back wall is a series of coax switches to control either radio. I do have a lot of other test equipment.

On the outside I have a ground mounted Butternut vertical with 54 radials which cover 10-80 meter, on the 48 foot tower from the top down is a Comet Tri band Vertical, a 2 meter beam, 6 meter beam, a Mosley 10-20 meter beam, a 160 meter dipole and a 2 meter umbrella antenna.

### **Volunteering your time Counts!**

Each month many members volunteer their time for club activities some of which might include repeater maintenance, ARES, EOC operations, Life Tracker, newsletter, PR, club business, etc. All these volunteered hours and mileage can be credited to HARA and amateur radio but only if you report them. AEC Dave Thomas KD8DRF reports these numbers monthly. So at the end of each month please contact Dave with services rendered, hours and mileage. Contact Dave at dlthomas@chartermi.net

**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>

And that's a wrap for another month. Please if you have an article or something which you may think will be of interest to the club membership get it to me. Also if you have any comments or suggestions please get a hold of me. 73 until next month, Greg KI8AF@arrl.net



*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 [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net) Club info, membership, dues, etc can be found on our website at [www.qsl.net/k8lod](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod). Annual membership dues can be sent to the above address directly.*