

December 2020



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 Club info, membership, dues, etc. can be found on our website at www.qsl.net/k8lod

MONTHLY MEETING: Marquette County Health Department Bldg., Lower Level, Negaunee Township.
Date: Unknown
Time: 7:00 PM

CLUB OFFICERS, 2020

Pres. Lou Gembolis KG8NK
VP: Greg Hanson KI8AF
Treas. Mike Beltz KD8JIR
Sec. Lee Rowe KD8BJC
Board Members:
Fred Mouser KD8JIP (Past Pres.)
Steve Novotny KE8HEP
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.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

There is really not much happening with HARA since last month with the current lock-down and COVID-19 cases on the rise in our area. There are no Hamfests scheduled in the UP, but hopefully next summer, with a vaccine having promise to stop the virus, we will have them once again.

The last three weeks have certainly been interesting with my broken rib healing slowly. I have been spending time exploring FT-8 and trying to work satellites and the ISS. There are so many modes to explore with amateur radio. Be safe,

73,

Lou, KG8NK

V.E. TESTING:

March 2021 **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 or Greg KI8AF 225-1594, ki8af@arrrl.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. *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 arrrl.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

Future: Greg KI8AF, Antenna Analyzers, Antenna Tuners and Dummy Loads

NOTE: The above is a partial list of upcoming programs. The Club is always looking for Ham Radio-related programs of interest to the membership. If you have something in mind, please contact VP Greg Hanson @ ki8af@arrrl.net.

QST QST QST QST QST

From Treasurer Mike, KD8JIR – The end of the year marks the expiration of your HARA club membership. This is a reminder to mail your club dues to the club P.O. Box 1183, Marquette, MI 49855. Please see the membership section of the club website at <http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/membership.html> for additional details.

The Business

Due to Governor Whitmer's continuing executive orders regarding group events, monthly HARA club meetings are suspended indefinitely. Stay tuned to the various nets and the Standing Wave for updates.

Friday Lunch has been temporarily suspended!



If interested in attending, contact Greg, KI8AF, at ki8af@arrl.net.

Cancellations!

The following is a list of local events that have been cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- The HARA Christmas party.
- The UP 200 Sled Dog Race.
- HARA Swap and Shop (or Shop and Shop) for Feb 2021.

As of this writing, the Noquemanon Ski Races are still scheduled per the Ski Race Committee,



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! The net meets at 28.400 MHz 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!

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!

HARA H&W Net

This net is being temporarily suspended. Stay tuned for updates. Ed

Please join us for the HARA Health and Wellness Net on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm on the K8LOD 147.27 (100 Hz tone) repeater.

Let us know how you are handling the COVID-19 issue and what you are doing to stay safe!

We are also planning on sending out items regarding Amateur Radio to keep our great hobby going!

Just check-in with your callsign. When it is your turn we will ask for your name, location, and comments.



News

from the desk of N8NAV



I am going to indulge myself this month and take the opportunity to stand on my soapbox. During a monthly conference call for the area Emergency Coordinators in District 8 (Upper Peninsula), the idea of having another try at using 2-meter simplex to pass message traffic from county to county was discussed. This has been tried on several occasions without much success. And, of course, some of the comments I have already heard is "why bother, it hasn't worked in the past". I believe it was Albert Einstein who came up with a definition of stupidity that states doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. So, how can we shift that paradigm? How can we, in Marquette County, pass message traffic to our neighboring counties?

According to QRZ.com there are 440 licensed Hams in Marquette County. I don't know how accurate that estimation is currently? But even if that figure is close, I'm guessing that at least some of these folks live outside of the City of Marquette; which means that they may live within 2-meter simplex range of Baraga, Dickinson, Iron, Alger, or Delta Counties. So, one of the first goals of a successful emergency drill might be to enlist these folks in the effort. How do we locate and make contact with these Hams? Hopefully they are members of HARA and therefore reading this missive.

I am totally open to ideas and suggestions on how we can make this work. As it stands now, the next attempt at passing message traffic via 2-meter simplex will be in January. More information will be forthcoming, so watch your email and the January issue of The Standing Wave.

I'll retreat from my soapbox now...

73 & Happy Holidays!

Jim, N8NAV

Buy, Sell, or Trade



As much as I wish, this is NOT my Ham Shack. But I thought it an appropriate picture for this topic.

With the cancellation of most (all) of the Hamfests, including our own February Swap & Shop, the suggestion has been made to dedicate a portion of the Standing Wave to those interested in parting with some of their radio-related treasures. **PLEASE** limit your offerings exclusively to those items (no camps, snow blowers, etc.). Send your items to me at n8nav1@charter.net. Please include all pertinent info (name, call, contact info, description of equipment, asking price, etc.). Pictures are encouraged.

There have been no takers, so far. But if Santa is good to us, there may be some good deals coming next month!

Parting Thoughts

1. The club conducted a VE test session on December 12th. We had one candidate pass his General Class exam. Congratulations David, KE8PND! The next test session is tentatively scheduled for March 2021. Stay tuned!
2. It is with great sadness that the club has learned of the passing of Howard, KD8DBF, of Grand Marais and Mark, KF8RV of Marquette. Our sincere condolences to their families.



3. Along with just about everything else this year, a “modified” SKYWARN Recognition Day event was held on December 5th. Since admittance to most National Weather Service (NWS) offices was severely restricted (or not allowed), most of the operations took place from individual homes (although I understand the John, KC8ULE, was planning on operating from our NWS office parking lot). I am happy to report that there was quite a bit of activity on the airways. Between 20 and 40 meters, I managed to contact 21 SKYWARN members in 17 states! Let’s hope for a return to a “normal” event in 2021.

4. As reported in an email posting by Greg, KI8AF, last month, the FCC is contemplating imposing a \$50 fee for new, or renewed, Ham Radio licenses. **The chance for individuals, or groups, to comment on this proposal ended on November 16, 2020.** Our own Eric Smith, N8RRZ, composed an extremely well-written response. It is rather lengthy. So rather than attempt to copy and paste it here, it is included as a separate attachment to the Standing Wave. Many thanks Eric for your commendable effort on behalf of radio amateurs across the U.S.!

As a footnote to the above, the following was received in Dale's Tales for December, "OUR EFFORTS to convince the FCC to reconsider their proposed new fee structure for Amateur Radio licensing have been very strong and have included a wide range of opposing arguments. As of today, the FCC has received nearly 4000 responses to the NPRM. Thank you for your efforts.

With the expected changes to the Commission due to the departure of Commissioner O'Reilly and Chairman Pai, the FCC will not be expected to offer any major decisions through the remainder of this year".

5. **And from Judi, KE8LRW**, Fred relayed to me that there was some conversation on the Sunday Night Net about the HARA Facebook page. The way the page is set up is that the admins of the page have to Publish or Share the posts that people make. I had my sister in CA do a few test posts to make sure it was working properly. It was. There are 4 admins to the page; Lou, Fred, Greg and myself. What that means is that when people post to the page, they won't see it appear instantaneously. It will not appear on the page until an admin publishes it. I check the page at least a couple of times a day as I admin on several other FB volunteer group pages as well.

The other thing I think that may possibly be happening is that people are getting to the HARA FB page by Justin Carlson? Not sure if that is kept up, or what happens if club members try to post on that. IF he has no need of that, then it would be nice if he took that page down. We don't have the ability to do that, he would have to.

SO - the suggestion was made that we publish the link to the CORRECT Facebook page for HARA via email, on the website, and in the newsletter - which is why you are all copied on this email.

The link to the correct Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/k8lod/>
(Someone please double test that link before you all publish it). You should see the HARA logo, and then a header picture of Fred and Dave manning a table somewhere.

Thank you,

Judi Mouser
KE8LRW



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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