

**February 2022**

# 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: **March 3, 2022**  
Time: **7:00 PM**

**CLUB OFFICERS, 2022**  
Pres. Lou Gembolis KG8NK  
VP: Greg Hanson KI8AF  
Treas. Mike Beltz KD8JIR  
Sec. Scott Machalk WU8H  
Board Members:  
Fred Mouser KD8JIP (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**

**One of my goals this winter was to start using Morse code. After a grueling two months with CW Academy weekly lessons, I have only two Zoom sessions left! Getting used to working with a paddle instead of a straight key was an adventure for this old man. The whole goal of CW Academy was to start head copying instead of writing on paper, which is/was extremely difficult. I haven't yet reached my goal, but I can send and copy at 18 words per minute. Every one that uses Morse code tells me that speed will improve, just give it time. I enjoyed the class!**

**73, Lou, KG8NK**

## V.E. TESTING:

**March 12, 2022**     *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 Greg Hanson @ [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net).

## *The Business*

### HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION February 3, 2022

Attending: President - Lou KG8NK; VP - Greg KI8AF; Treasurer - Mike KD8JIR, 6 additional members and 2 guests.

President Lou KG8NK opened the meeting at 1900 hours with introductions.

The Meeting Agenda was approved.

The Secretary's Report, as presented in the Standing Wave, was approved. Motion by Don, N8HDT and seconded by Ralph, N8HXG.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Mike, KD8JIR and approved. Motion by Don, N8HDT and seconded by Jim, N8NAV.

Correspondence: Several membership renewals were received.

## **Committee Reports:**

### Repeaters:

- Greg, KI8AF, reported that the digital (DMR) problems have been fixed.
- Access to the .82 repeater seems to be directional.
- Access to the .27 repeater has been updated. Greg will acquire a new key. The repeater itself – and the associated links – is working fine.

### ARES/RACES:

- Jim N8NAV, our EC (Emergency Coordinator), reported that there is a tabletop exercise scheduled for March. He will be out of the area. A volunteer to coordinate has been requested. If no one stands up, we will not participate. Contact Jim if interested.
- If you are interested in becoming an ARES member, contact Jim.

### **Old Business:**

- The budget for 2022 was reviewed by the membership. There was discussion regarding whether to continue to supply the three local libraries with license study guides at a cost of \$90.00. The recently licensed Hams reported that they mostly used the online study resources. It was decided that the club would provide study guides, if needed. The 2022 budget was approved. Motion by Bill, KC8EWD and seconded by Don, N8HDT.
- Lou reported that the Noqueanon Ski Marathon went well and that the Hams did a great job!

### **New Business:**

- Paul, KB0P, will be coordinating for the UP 200 sled dog races. (February 17-21, 2022). As of the meeting time, Paul still has slots to fill. If you are interested in helping out, Paul's contact information is listed elsewhere in the newsletter.
- Due to continuing COVID-19 concerns, the Swap & Shop has been rescheduled for October 22, 2022, still at the Negaunee Township Hall. If you prepaid for a table and would like a refund, contact Fred, KD8JIP or Mike, KD8JIR.

Motion to adjourn at 1930 hrs by Don, N8HDT, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD. Approved.

Program: Lou, KG8NK, and Greg, KI8AF, gave an excellent presentation on Morse Code. They demonstrated several different types of keys and keyers and provided information on programs to learn the code.

Minutes submitted by Jim, N8NAV

## ***Upcoming License Testing***

As noted above, the next VE license test session is scheduled for March 12, 2022. Greg reports that, so far, no one has approached him. If you, or someone you know, wishes to test, PLEASE contact Greg, or Rich, ASAP!

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



Left side: Judi, KE8LRW, John ex-N8RSE, Jim, N8NAV, Dave, KD8DRF (hiding), Greg KI8AF  
Right side: Don, N8HDT, Tom, KC8OND, Bill, KD8ZEG, David KE8PND, Fred, KD8JIP

**Happenings!**

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

- UP 200 Sled Dog Races - February 17-21, 2022. Contact Paul Racine, KB0P.
- Dayton Hamvention – May 20-22, 2022 at the Greene Co. (Ohio) Fairgrounds. Contact Don, N8HDT, if interested in attending.
- HARA Swap & Shop – October 22,, 2022 at the Negaunee Township Hall. Contact Fred, KD8JIP.



**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!

### 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

### ANNOUNCING THE NEW WINTER CHALLENGE FOR 2022!

We are calling this

### **THE WINTER ALPHABET CHALLENGE!**

The official start date is January 1, 2022 (0000 UTC). The end date is March 31, 2022 (2359 UTC).

#### Rules:

Work one (1) station whose call (prefix) begins with a different letter of the alphabet. Exception: There are NO calls that begin with the letter Q (Quebec). So the Wild Card for Q is any station beginning with a number (#).

There was an EXCEL FILE attached to the January newsletter that you can use to update your records.

There will only be certificates for those who accomplish the complete challenge!

Submit your completed log sheets to Greg, KI8AF at [mimqtham@gmail.com](mailto:mimqtham@gmail.com) by April 15, 2022.

**Have fun!**

### Pics from Nokie 2022



Is that Lee, KD8BJC, hiding behind that mask? Is Greg, KI8AF, calling for assistance?





# News

from the desk of N8NAV



We all know how easy it is to be a Monday Morning Quarterback. I did not participate in the Noquemanon Ski Race in January. But I did monitor most of the activity on the 147.27 (K8LOD) repeater. So here are my Monday Morning Quarterback observations from the 2022 Noque:

1. It is vital for there to be complete and total communications between race officials (Incident Command) and the Ham Radio coordinator. A Ham Radio operator was assigned to Aid Station #5. There appeared to be no other personnel assigned to that particular spot. To his credit, the Ham operator (his name was Jim) stood his post and performed his duty (communications) admirably. The errant aid station was eventually located, quite some distance away. In an emergency situation, a Ham's exclusive duty is to provide communications. Therefore, it is important that Ham Radio operators are paired with appropriate support personnel (medical, law enforcement, housing, food service, etc.).
2. There were a couple of instances where information was requested/provided on individual racers. In such cases, spelling names phonetically saves time and is very helpful.
3. On at least one occasion it appeared that a station may have been utilizing the VOX setting on his/her radio. In a noisy environment, it is better to use PTT over VOX.
4. The sweep vehicles – usually a motorcycle in summer and a snow machine in winter – prove to be very noisy radio environments. It might prove helpful if those operators were provided with some sort of helmet-mounted headset.

To Eric, N8RRZ, who coordinated the operation and ALL of the operators who took time on a Saturday to participate – WELL DONE! There is nothing easy about either job, particularly in the dead of a UP winter. Participating in these events provides excellent training and I applaud your skill and tenacity!

And if you are not currently an ARES member, 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.

Here's wishing you a Safe and Happy 2022!

73 de Jim, N8NAV

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

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

Brian, K8BHZ has an extensive collection of QST magazine going back 30 years complete, and assorted issues dating through several decades prior to 30 year portion. He is offering these to anyone who is interested for free. Interested persons can reach Brian at [k8bhz@alphacomm.net](mailto:k8bhz@alphacomm.net).

## *Parting Thoughts*

### **1. Lucille, KD8PTE, provided the following:**

Greetings from your State Government Liaison,

As you may already know on January 25th, 2022, the Michigan House of Representatives passed Distracted Driving Legislation in the form of House Bills 4277, 4278, 4279. This is still not law yet in Michigan. The bills have been forwarded to the Michigan Senate where they are in the standing Committee for Judiciary and Public Safety for further action.

I have monitored and have been active with this legislation including providing documentation and testimony to preserve and provide an exemption for amateur radio operation using amateur radio equipment. I have been in touch with the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee Chair, Senator Roger Victory. I will be making contact with Committee Members also.

There is now a Senate bill 409 regarding distracted driving which I am currently monitoring. Assistant Section Manager Larry Camp is working with me. There may come a time when I request a call to action by the membership and other interested parties, to contact Committee members including additional Senators.

Please be attentive and prepared to respond and take action at a moment's notice. Instructions will be provided if and when this request is made through the Section Manager.

Thank you.

Ed Hude, WA8QJE  
ARRL State Government Liaison for Michigan

### **2. Our own VP, Greg, KI8AF, provided some additional information regarding upcoming local events:**

The annual UP 200 and Midnight Run races are scheduled for February 18, 19, and 20th. This event requires lots of help and a good deal of coordination. Paul KBOP has coordinated the Ham Radio operations for several years now and will do likewise again for the 2022 races. Besides all the regular Ham volunteers he gets assistance from, more are always needed. Paul is looking for a younger Ham (at least somewhat younger than him) in learning the coordinating and running HQ communications. Paul's contact info: [pwracine@gmail.com](mailto:pwracine@gmail.com)



**3. Our East Coast correspondent, Pete, K8PT, offered the following information:**

**Did you know that snowfall causes static to build on your antenna?**

When it discharges (hot side to the ground side) it CAN damage your radio. Under normal circumstances, light falling snow is far less hazardous than heavy blowing blizzard snow. Background for me personally.... A DXpedition a number of years ago set up a rig onboard the boat that they were using to sail to the island which happened to be an Antarctic island. They used one of the rigs that was designated for the DXpedition in order to be on the air maritime mobile during the sail. Unfortunately, the rig's receiver went dead so they brought out a second radio. At some point that second radio's receiver also went dead. They were using a deck mounted vertical antenna that was "above ground" and using the boat's ground for the groundplane. They were sailing through blowing snow which was causing snow induced static to build on the antenna and discharge across the coax connector in the radio thus damaging the receiver in both radios. After research, they figured this all out albeit a little late. On future "boat" maritime mobile setups, they added a "vertical antenna matching network" which essentially is a coil across the antenna (at the base of the antenna) which puts the entire antenna at "electrical ground" thus shunting any discharge to ground before it comes inside to the radio. On subsequent DXpeditions, they did not have any more issues with snow static discharge damage.

I found this link that shows you what it could look like.

[December 21, 2008 - Snow Static With Video At W1UJR - Amateur Radio Station W1UJR](#)

The conclusion is that you should always disconnect your antenna from your station during any storms, including heavy snow events.

de Bob Schenck, N2OO

**4. From the latest edition of Dale's (WA8EFK) Tales:**

HAMVENTION: Hamvention Covid Statement

Hams and vendors hoping to attend Hamvention 2022 are asking questions about plans to deal with COVID. Hamvention management is monitoring the situation closely. General Chairman Rick Allnutt, WS8G, has issued the following statement:

"We strongly anticipate that the Hamvention 2022 is a go. We cannot guarantee what government may decide about unknown changes in the pandemic. It has become obvious that the State of Ohio is very unlikely to call a halt to large gatherings anytime soon. Despite a recent large spike in Omicron COVID cases and hospitalizations, there is no move to restrict large indoor or outdoor events such as sports events."

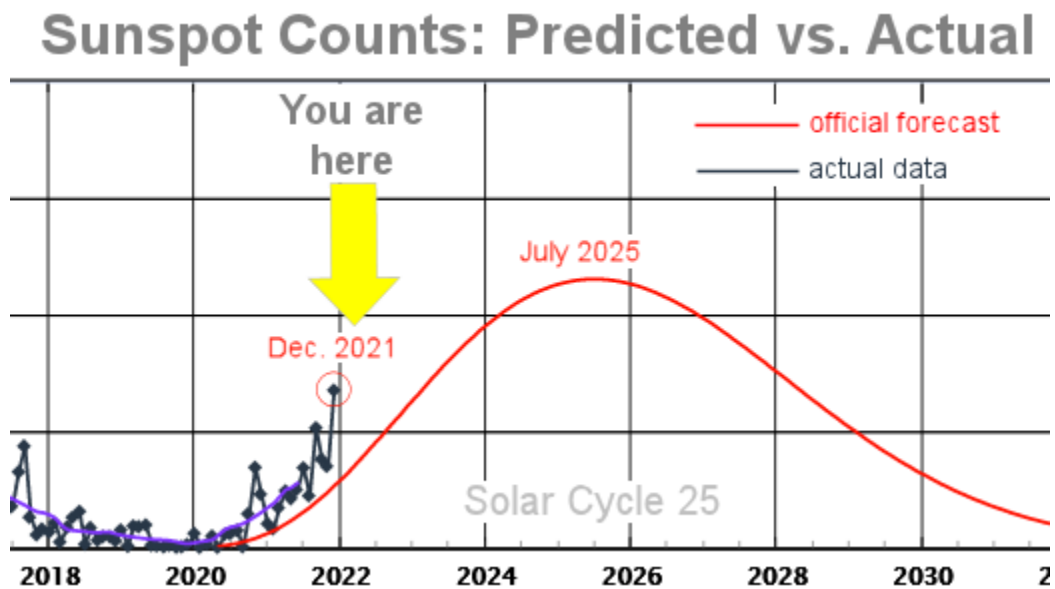
Allnutt added that he anticipates the official state guidance may be to recommend (but not require) wearing a mask and social distancing. Hamvention will support state guidance. We do not anticipate checking immunization status on site.

Some have asked whether COVID testing will be available at Hamvention. At this time there are no plans to have testing on site. Watch hamvention.org for any updates dealing with the COVID situation.

Hamvention, an official ARRL Sanctioned Event, will be held Friday-Sunday, May 20-22 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center.



5. And finally from Fred, KD8JIP, some information on where we fall in the Solar Cycle:



## 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 is usually net control, although she has recently been experiencing some radio problems and Dave, W7DEG, has stepped in to help!

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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