

February 2026

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 or 381, 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:

**HARA Monthly Meeting
Marquette Co. EOC
Conference Room**

Date: March 5, 2026

Start: 7:00 PM

CLUB OFFICERS for 2026

Pres: Tom Perry KE8TPT

VP/EC: Scott Machalk, WU8H

Treas: Mike Beltz KD8JIR

Sec: Josh Cadotte KF8DNQ

Board Members:

Lou Gembolis KG8NK (Past Pres.)

Jim Belles, N8NAV (Retired EC)

Dave Thomas KD8DRF

Greg Hanson, KI8AF

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



We had our first monthly meeting without a business meeting. It was a success. There were 14 people in attendance with a lot of discussion. There was much discussion about the high cost of TV and internet services and alternatives that some guys found to lower costs. The main topic was the Meshtastic system. Scott made a presentation. Then he and others lead a lengthy discussion about their knowledge and experiences with the system. I learned a lot!

I think one of the standing items at these meetings should be the opportunity to “swap and shop.” Bring the excess equipment that you want to sell. Someone may be looking for that item.

Before adjourning for the night, we setup some programs for the future. Mike, KD8JIR, will give a presentation on how to use an antenna analyzer at the March meeting. They do a lot more than just give you the SWR. It should be an educational night. We don’t have anything yet for the April or May meetings, so send Scott or myself your ideas. At the June meeting we will be building and testing end fed half wave (EFHW) wire antennas. There may be a small fee for parts if you want to build your own antenna. This will be a hands-on project with help/guidance from some of our most experienced and good-looking hams! See you there.

73 Tom KE8TP7 KE8TPT@gmail.com

V.E. TESTING:

**March
14, 2026**

Marquette: 8:30am eastern time, (arrive by 8:00am) Marquette County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) conference room. The EOC is located across the parking lot from the Health Department.

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 at ki8af@arrl.net.

There are new procedures for license testing recently implemented. If you need assistance, please contact Greg, KI8AF.

Note: Other clubs in the area may offer license testing. For a listing you can go to the ARRL website at 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 Scott Machalk @ smachalk@gmail.com.

The Business

HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

February 5, 2026

The FIRST non-business meeting club get-together! General discussions followed by a nice presentation on Meshtastic by Scott, WU8H and a mini Swap & Shop. The March meeting will be more of the same, so be sure to attend!

Special Note from President Tom

As currently available, the below is a listing of Program Presentations:

Mike, KD8JIR will give a presentation on how to use an antenna analyzer at the March meeting.

Special Note from Treasurer Mike

The Marquette Post Office was/is going through a renovation. The HARA club post office box has changed from 1183 to 381. Post office officials have assured Mike that either number will get the mail to him.

A Note from Greg, KI8AF

We are looking for one (1) individual wanting to go to Hamvention 2026. Dates are May 13-17th. If interested please contact Don N8HDT at don856761@aol.com AND Greg KI8AF at ki8af@arrl.net for more information.

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, KD8ZMJ, Dave, KD8DRF

Happenings!

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

- Dayton Hamvention, May 15-17, Greene County (Ohio) fairgrounds



HARA 10-meter Net

Some years 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. The group meets on **28.396** (+/- QRM) 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

Parks on the Air (POTA)

Ongoing

For details, see their website at:

www.parksontheair.com.

ARRL 250

Ongoing

W1AW portable operation in all 50 states

www.arrl.org/america250-was



ARES News

from the desk of WU8H



Well, we are in the second half of winter and it's starting out a little milder than the first half.

We had an ARES meeting in January and I sent out a follow-up email asking for a few things. One of those is for a photo so we can get some badges made. Brian Hummel has the ability to make those up for us so, please get me your photos so I can go in and get them made in one shot.

Also, ARES is now taking over responsibility of the 2m Emergency net. This is a good chance to practice your hand at being net control in a low-pressure environment. Make sure to sign up for an upcoming Sunday so we can share the load.

Special Events/Emergencies:

I used to be confused about what was required during emergencies and special events as far as identifying with our assigned call signs. I know we usually use tactical call signs, but I wondered if this relieved us of our duty to give our assigned call.

Here is the rule in 47 CFR § 97.119:

“Each amateur station, except a space station or tele-command station, must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions.”

While tactical call signs are permitted, there are no provisions for substituting tactical call signs for your assigned call signs.

It's important to remember to self-identify during events and emergencies. These situations do not relieve the operator from their responsibility to follow 47 CFR and identify at the end of each conversation with 10 minutes being the max. (I would hope that our conversations don't last 10 minutes during an event or emergency). So it is best practice during an event or emergency to finish each conversation with your call sign.

We have the following public service event coming up:

UP200 Sled Dog Race, Feb 13-15

As a reminder, please turn in your ARES hours by the 5th of the following month so I can get the report completed and turned in by the 8th. These numbers get reported to the state so they can see how many hours we put it.

Scott
WU8H
Marquette County ARES EC



Scott, WU8H conducted an ARES meeting at the Marquette Co. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in January.

A Note from Scott, WU8H

Subject: MI-CIMS Training

There is a MI-CIMS class on Thursday, February 19, 2026 in Escanaba. There are still plenty of seats available for this class for anyone who is interested in this training. The training is scheduled from 9am to 1pm at the Delta County Sheriff Department. Let me know if you're interested and I'll get you on the roster.

Scott

Buy, Sell, or Trade

Please advise when items have been bought or sold.

Bill, KD8ZMJ has an HF and 2-meter antenna system for sale. The HF side is a wire dipole (on the left) and the 2-meter (on the right) is from Comet. Bill is selling the antennas, masts and coax for \$150.

The equipment has all been taken down.

Bill has moved. So if interested, contact Mike, KD8JIR at: mbeltz@tds.net.

Bill, KD8ZEG has several nice pieces of Yaesu equipment for sale. If interested, you can contact him at: billk47h@aol.com.



Shack Memories

Still no takers. So I will continue to hold this space available.

Parting Thoughts

1. From the ARRL Great Lakes Division:

Subject: The Great Lakes Division News – Groundhog Day Edition!

There's lots of great new information that you just can't get anywhere else. Oh, and did I tell ya'... You can even save a copy on your favorite computer, tablet, phone, OR print it off and give a copy to a friend!

So, grab a big glass of warm apple cider, a snack stolen from your wife's pantry and sit back in your easy chair with a fire going in the fireplace and have a great read!!

https://arrl-greatlakes.org/glnews/2026/02-radio_waves.pdf

73,

Scott, N8SY

2. More from our friends at ARRL:

Subject: Recruiting W1AW/8 Operators

Greetings,

Did you know that the ARRL is holding a Year-Long Worked All States (WAS-250) operating event to recognize the 250th Anniversary (Semi quincentennial) of the US Constitution? (<https://www.arrl.org/america250-was>) Have you been working ARRL America250 stations? Did you contact Nebraska and/or New York last week? How about Louisiana, South Carolina, and/or West Virginia this week? Are you chasing WAS or Triple Play? How would you like a respite and switch from chaser to chased?

For seven days in February, (Wednesday February 18 at 00:00 UTC to Tuesday February 24 at 23:59 UTC,) ARRL Michigan Section operators will be putting W1AW/8 on the air! The goal of this operation is to activate as many bands (excluding 60 Meters) as possible on the three modes of CW, Phone and Digital, plus satellite. Interested in being a W1AW/8 operator? The requirements are straightforward:

The operator must be an ARRL Michigan Section member. The operator's transmitter and antenna must physically reside within the state of Michigan. Notice to snowbirds and other travelers: if you can control a Michigan based transmitter per FCC regulations, you're welcome to participate as well. In other words, as W1AW/8 you can send Hellschreiber from your chaise lounge on Miami Beach! The operator is expected to observe all FCC regulations, including only operating on frequencies/modes allocated to their license class and at permitted power levels. All logging must be submitted in ADIF format. Get on the air, make contacts, and have fun!

Notice that there's no requirement for station hardware or experience. So yes, while we want all the mega-transmitter/multi-antenna/multi-thousand hour experienced operators we can get, we also encourage relatively new operators with 100 watts and a wire to apply. We can shepherd/shelter you with appropriate band and time slot suggestions to keep you from getting into the pileup deep end. In return you get to gently develop your pileup handling skills.

Still interested? If so, please e-mail me (fschebor@arrl.net) with your:

Name and call as it appears on your FCC license.
Your class of FCC license.
Your QTH address and maidenhead grid ID.
Your phone number (would only be used in an emergency).
Your e-mail address (if different from the address you're responding from.)
A couple of sentences that describe your capabilities and experience
- saves me from reading all the QRZ bios :-)

If your schedule won't permit the February event, you're not out of luck. The February event is the first of two. The second event will be seven days starting October 28 thru November 3. A call for that event will be made in July/August.

Lastly, I was a member of the 2014 ARRL Centennial W1AW/8 operators. Our group had a blast! Please consider joining us!

73,

Fred Schebor K8NGW

fschebor@arrl.net

Michigan America250 Coordinator

IMPORTANT PS: As you might surmise from the timing of this e-mail, we are way behind the 8-ball in setting up this operation. If you have IT skills that would allow us to get an on-line presence for time slot scheduling and reporting, please let me know in a separate e-mail. Thank you!



3. A couple **from** our East Coast correspondent Pete, K8PT:

A. Subject: [WM3PEN] [SJDXA] 60 meters info

W8GEX, Joe Pater reminds everyone starting February 13, the FCC will restrict U.S. amateur radio stations from operating at 100 watts on 5.357 MHz, limiting power to just 9.5 watts on that frequency. To continue operating at 100 watts, many U.S. DXers will move their FT8 activity to a new frequency: 5.371.5 MHz, effective the same date. Operators are encouraged to inform friends, club members, and relevant news outlets about this change to ensure a smooth transition. While many other countries will continue using the original frequency, it is important to notify anyone planning DXpeditions of the U.S. shift to 5.371.5 MHz

B. Subject: [WM3PEN] Belarus threatens ham radio ops

<https://boingboing.net/2026/01/20/belarus-threatens-ham-radio-operators-with-death-penalty-for-espionage.html>



4. On a very sad note, most of you know that we recently lost a stalwart member of our local Amateur Radio community – Lucille Scotti, KD8PTE. I will not attempt to comment on Lucille’s substantial list of life accomplishments. If you would like to know more, please visit Lucille’s obituary at <https://www.fassbenderswansonhansen.com/obituaries/Lucille-T-Scotti?obId=47081501#/obituaryInfo>

As a Ham Radio operator, Lucille was right up there with the best of them! Her cheerful voice could often be heard on the K8LOD 147.27 repeater, the UP DMR Net (as Net Control), the local Friday night 10-meter Net and the Sunday Night 2-meter Net (as a Net Control). During my tenure as the ARES EC, Lucille was always available to participate in an exercise, often as one of the Net Controls.

The below paragraph was taken from Lucille’s bio on a Ham Radio link:

While in my early 70s, I passed my Tech exam in March of 2011 and my General one month later. I had no background in amateur radio or electronics but I was interested in emergency communications, public service and rag chewing so I studied on my own using ARRL manuals. My Elmer, John, KC8ULE helped me choose my rigs both in UHF/VHF and HF. And members of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette County (K8LOD) helped me put up my vertical antenna. Elcom Systems of Marquette donated and installed the 25 foot mast on which was mounted my dual band VHF, UHF antenna and a dipole. It takes a village not just to raise children!

Her very good friend, John Forslin, KC8ULE offered the following:

Lucille took the ham radio motto to heart: When all else fails, HAM RADIO. That is, against the risk of natural or man-made civil emergency, ham radio operators were there to provide community communications and support local civil emergency responders. Hams use their own time, their own equipment, their own skills developed through their own training and practice to be ready when they might be called into service. Lucille drove herself to prepare for her license exams, passed them just a month apart, and overcame rookie jitters in short order. Most recently, her radio skills and confidence in the craft were on display nationally as she convened a radio net with participants from all over the country. She was universally appreciated by her fellows in this role for good reason. She was able to carry on conversation with everyone she met on the radio, and she was great at making everyone feel welcome.

The radio community misses her voice, her skills and her demeanor!

5. Subject: New Winlink Node in Grand Rapids

There is a new Winlink/BBS/Chat node in Grand Rapids. Located on top of the "Butterworth" Corewell hospital, look for MI7GRD, at 1200 standard packet on 147.56 Direct Winlink/RMS call is KC8EST-10. Sponsored by the Kent County Emergency Services Team.

Tom K8TB

6. For those of you who do not subscribe to the Marquette Mining Journal, there was a very nice article about locals Hams in the below edition:

<https://www.miningjournal.net/news/2026/02/hamming-it-up-in-the-u-p/>

7. As has mentioned previously, the Sunday night 2-meter Emergency Net needs some assistance in the form of some extra Net Controls (Moderators). To help the project along, the preamble is presented below. It doesn't take a lot of extra effort to "run" a net. As a back-up Net Control for a 20-meter net, I speak from experience. **If I can do it, anyone can – Ed.** If interested, contact Scott, WU8H.

Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association 2 meter Emergency Net Preamble

This is (call sign) and I will be acting as net control for the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association 2-meter net held in cooperation with the Marquette County Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

This net meets each Sunday evening at 7 pm, local time.

The purpose of this net is to encourage interest in, and to provide information about, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in Marquette County, as well as to provide experience for ARES members in both participating in a net, as well as serving as net control.

All amateurs are welcomed to this net. You do not have to be a member of ARES to join this net.

This is a directed net. Please address all transmissions to net control. As always, Priority or Emergency transmissions will take precedence and will be handled immediately.

At any time during the net, use the proword **Break** for a priority transmission or emergency.

When checking in please give your call sign, name and location at the beginning of your transmission.

Your net control this evening is (**your call sign**), my name is (**your name**) and I am located in (**your location**).

I will now stand by for mobiles and anyone with a time constraint to please check in at this time. (copy name and call as they check in)

I will now stand by for stations operating on emergency battery power, this includes handheld radios.

I will now stand by for any stations to check in.

Start rounds of transmissions for the remaining operators in the order they checked in.

After each round, ask if there are any more check-ins.

Once you have completed the number of rounds desired, sign off the net:

This now concludes the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association 2m Emergency Net. Thank you for checking in this evening. We now return this frequency back to general use.

A Note from Your Friendly Newsletter Editor

The reader will note that this copy of the Standing Wave is significantly shorter than usual. For several months, the standard length has run to 12+ pages – sometimes significantly longer! You will also note the lack of photos. So I'd like to take this opportunity to remind that this is **YOUR** newsletter. I **ALWAYS** appreciate items of interest for the local Amateur Radio audience – and particularly photos. In addition to the “usual” (club meetings, presentations, shack memories, etc.), we have two (2) **MAJOR** operating events coming in the next couple of months – the Noquemanon and the UP 200. So I encourage you to submit your items to me, at n8nav1@charter.net, by the 10th of the month. I thank you in advance! 73 de Jim, N8NAV

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.

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

And of course, don't forget the Marquette Co. 2-meter Emergency Net @ 7:00 pm on the K8LOD (147.27, 100 Hz tone) repeater!



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 or 381, 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>

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 or 381, Marquette, MI 49855. Club info, membership, dues, etc. can be found on our website at www.qsl.net/k8lod. Annual membership dues can be sent to the above address directly.