January 2021





The monthly newsletter of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette, Michigan. Comments and suggestions can be sent to the club at P.O. Box1183, Marquette, MI 49855 or to the editor at n8mav1@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.





With January almost half over – maybe only two more months of Winter? Hopefully by early summer most of us will have received the COVID-19 vaccine and we will be able to return to somewhat normal. Even though there are no Hamfests scheduled so far, I would think that several will be scheduled for this summer.

The FCC has made several changes that will affect Ham Radio. First, they have increased the cost of the licensing fee to \$35, which include renewals, first license, and vanity calls (down from the \$50 originally proposed – Ed.). Second, they are going to require everyone to have a FRN number, including before testing. Third, you must provide an email address to obtain a license.

The ARRL and the State Emergency Service are scheduling several drills in the near future. The first drill will be a simplex drill in which we will be required to forward messages county by county to Lansing. We are requested to use our assigned county simplex frequency which, for Marquette, is 147.44. More to follow in the ARES News column.

73, Lou, KG8NK

HARA wishes everyone a Happy & Healthy 2021!

V.E. TESTING:

March
2021
8:00am) Marquette County Health Dept. Bldg.,
(Stay
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

evening preceding the Saturday test date. Contact Rich N8GBA at 249-3837, n8gba@att.net or Greg

KI8AF 225-1594, 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. *Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc.*

<u>Note</u>: 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

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 Radiorelated programs of interest to the membership. If you have something in mind, please contact VP Greg Hanson @ ki8af@arrl.net.

<u>QST</u> <u>QST</u> <u>QST</u> <u>QST</u> <u>QST</u>

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 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!





Someone REALLY enjoys Heathkit gear. Stay tuned to next month to find out who owns this impressive collection.

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



As Lou mentioned in his remarks, there is a State of Michigan-sponsored emergency drill coming up this weekend (January 16, 2021). Lou has provided the following details:

Next Saturday - January 16, 2021 9:00 am to 10:30 am Eastern Time State Simplex Drill

The state EOC is conducting a statewide simplex drill to provide a means of sending emergency messages from each county through a relay system to the SEC. Using the assigned county simplex frequency, we are tasked to forward messages to surrounding counties to be passed forward to the EOC.

Our goal is simply to see if we can reach any other county and make contact within our county. Please use the following frequencies:

Marquette: 147.44

Alger: 147.46 (our best chance)

Delta: 146.45 Houghton: 146.42

I will be taking check-ins on 147.44 MHz (simplex). Everyone is encouraged to participate!

73 & Stay Safe!

Jim. N8NAV

Buy, Sell, or Trade

We have our first contributor to this column.



MFJ-1707 RF Sense T/R Antenna Switch. This is used for transceivers that don't have a separate connection for a receive antenna. I never used it so it's basically new and I do have the box for it. Today it sells for \$120 so I'll ask \$40 OBO.

Rich, W8YV w8yvrich@gmail.com (906) 869-3047 cell



An MFJ 459 Memory Keyer with the original manual and box. I paid \$170 new, it's in excellent condition and would ask \$30.

Rich, W8YV w8yvrich@gmail.com (906) 869-3047 cell

These items are priced to sell, so you'd better jump on them quick!

Wanted

Les, WA8LE, is looking for a "clean and working" Yaesu FT-101E or EE. If you can help, contact Les at:

wa8les@gmail.com

Parting Thoughts

1. It is with great sadness that the club has learned of the passing of Bart, K8IRC, originally of Iron Mountain. Our sincere condolences to his family.

2. FCC to Require Email Address on Applications Starting on June 29, 2021

12/31/2020

Effective on June 29, 2021, amateur radio licensees and candidates must provide the FCC with an email address on all applications. If no email address is included, the FCC may dismiss the application as "defective."

On September 16, the FCC adopted a *Report and Order* (**R&O**) in WT Docket 19-212 on "Completing the Transition to Electronic Filing, Licenses and Authorizations, and Correspondence in the Wireless Radio Services." The **R&O** was **published** on December 29 in the *Federal Register*. The FCC has already begun strongly encouraging applicants to provide an email address. Once an email address is provided, the FCC will email a link to an official electronic copy of the license grant. An official copy will also be available at any time by accessing the licensee's password-protected Universal Licensing System (ULS) account.

Licensees can log into the ULS **License Manager System** with their FRN and password at any time and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address. For questions or password issues, call the CORES/FRN Help Line, (877) 480-3201 (Monday – Friday, 1300 – 2300 UTC) or **reset the password** on the FCC website.

The only way to refrain from providing an email address on an application would be to submit a request to waive the new rule, providing justification for the request. (The FCC would not be obliged to grant such a request.)

Under Section 97.21 of the new rules, a person holding a valid amateur radio station license "must apply to the FCC for a modification of the license grant as necessary to show the correct mailing and email address, licensee name, club name, license trustee name, or license custodian name." For a club or military recreation station license, the application must be presented in document form to a club station call sign administrator who must submit the information to the FCC in an electronic batch file.

Under new Section 97.23, each license must show the grantee's correct name, mailing address, and email address. "The email address must be an address where the grantee can receive electronic correspondence," the amended rule will state. "Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the grantee failed to provide the correct email address."

3. FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

12/30/2020

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications." In a *Report and Order* (*R&O*), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address.

This fall, ARRL filed comments in firm opposition to the FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees and **urged its members** to follow suit.

As the FCC noted in its R&O, although some commenters supported the proposed \$50 fee as reasonable and fair, "ARRL and many individual commenters argued that there was no cost-based justification for application fees in the Amateur Radio Service." The fee proposal was contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (*NPRM*) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for

Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "Ray Baum's Act."

"After reviewing the record, including the extensive comments filed by amateur radio licensees and based on our revised analysis of the cost of processing mostly automated processes discussed in our methodology section, we adopt a \$35 application fee, a lower application fee than the Commission proposed in the NPRM for personal licenses, in recognition of the fact that the application process is mostly automated," the FCC said in the R&O. "We adopt the proposal from the NPRM to assess no additional application fee for minor modifications or administrative updates, which also are highly automated."

The FCC said it received more than 197,000 personal license applications in 2019, which includes not only ham radio license applications but commercial radio operator licenses and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) licenses.

The FCC turned away the arguments of some commenters that the FCC should exempt amateur radio licensees. The FCC stated that it has no authority to create an exemption "where none presently exists."

The FCC also disagreed with those who argued that amateur radio licensees should be exempt from fees because of their public service contribution during emergencies and disasters.

"[W]e we are very much aware of these laudable and important services amateur radio licensees provide to the American public," the FCC said, but noted that specific exemptions provided under Section 8 of the so-called "Ray Baum's Act" requiring the FCC to assess the fees do not apply to amateur radio personal licenses. "Emergency communications, for example, are voluntary and are not required by our rules," the FCC noted. "As we have noted previously, '[w]hile the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service, the amateur service is not an emergency radio service."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. The FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service, which had been excluded previously. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual *regulatory* fees, but not from *application* fees.

"While the Ray Baum's Act amended Section 9 and retained the regulatory fee exemption for amateur radio station licensees, Congress did not include a comparable exemption among the amendments it made to Section 8 of the Act," the FCC R&O explained.

The effective date of the fee schedule has not been established, but it will be announced at least 30 days in advance. The FCC has directed the Office of Managing Director, in consultation with relevant offices and bureaus, to draft a notice for publication in the *Federal Register* announcing when rule change(s) will become effective, "once the relevant databases, guides, and internal procedures have been updated."

FRNs at Exam Sessions

Federal Registration Number (FRN): VECs are required by the FCC to submit your FRN with your license application form. New license applicants should create an FCC user account and register their Social Security Number (SSN) in the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) before attending exam sessions. Registrants will be assigned an FRN which will be used in all license transactions with the FCC. For instructions on how to register your SSN and receive an FRN from the FCC, visit the FCC's Registration page and the FCC's Registration instructions page.

4. As we finally (whew) say goodbye to 2020, a Ham friend of mine provided the following:

Here are 12 things to consider as we get closer to closing the door on one of the most horrible years of our lifetime:

- 1. The dumbest thing I ever bought was a 2020 planner.
- 2. I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.

- 3. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.
- 4. The world has turned upside down and backwards. Old folks are sneaking out of the house & their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!
- 5. This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her dog. It was obvious she thought her dog understood her. I came into my house & told my cat. We laughed a lot.
- 6. Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
- 7. Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?
- 8. This virus has done what no woman has been able to do. Cancel sports, shut down all bars & keep men at home!
- 9. I never thought the comment, "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!
- 10. I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- 11. I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to the Backyard. I'm getting tired of the Living Room.
- 12. Never in a million years could I have imagined I would go up to a bank teller wearing a mask & ask for money.



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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