

Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association of Marquette County
"ARRL Affiliated Since June 7, 1933"

January 2026
Happy New Year

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: February 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

Happy New Year, the ARRL Year of the Club. More information about that below. Late last year we changed our bylaws to only have 4 “business meetings” per year. The February meeting will be the first meeting under the new format dedicated to the hobby of ham radio only. There are details of the meeting farther down in this newsletter with the “general” plan for the evening. So, if you get bored with the business minutia of club meetings, come and see what’s different this month AND next month also.

The first part of the February meeting will be “Elmer time.” The intent is to help new hams or those who want to branch out into other aspects of the hobby to ask questions and get help from our many very experienced hams. Bring your questions, bring your radio gear, bring your test equipment or anything else that you what help understanding how to use.

Another new item for the February meeting is a member “shop and swap.” Bring your goodies that you don’t want/need any more. Bring your cash to buy somebody else’s goodies that they don’t want. ☺

In order for this meeting format to work we need members to attend and we need those willing to present a program/project. Last month Fred, KD8JIP, did a pretty good job of demonstrating the ham clock program.

We still need ham radio operators to assist with the UP200. Please contact me if you are willing to volunteer. Thanks.

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

January 8, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association was held on Thursday January 8, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Marquette County EOC, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present. In attendance were Tom KE8TPT – President, Scott WU8H – Vice President, Mike KD8JIR – Treasurer, Josh KF8DNQ – Secretary, 8 additional members, and 0 guests. A quorum was met.

The meeting minutes of the November meeting, as published in the Standing Wave, were approved.

ARES/RACES Committee:

- Scott, WU8H mentioned the two upcoming events, Noquemanon Ski Race, and the UP200. An ARES meeting will also be scheduled to discuss attendance and scheduling.

Repeater Committee:

- All repeaters are working well and there are no changes to report at this time.

Old/Ongoing Business:

- NMU is the owner of equipment on Mt. Mesnard. Antennas and feedline for UHF and VHF were left in place and available for use. However; a proposal would need to be submitted to NMU for HARA use. Probability of being approved is high.
- Membership is encouraged to join Discord
- Ideas for classes/presentations are welcome for non-business meetings

New Business:

- A motion was made to approve the 2026 annual budget. Motion passed.
- A motion was made to approve returning trailer and generator to Marquette County. Motion passed.
- A motion was made to add an Organizational/Business Membership to the club. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Josh KF8DNQ, Secretary

Presentation:

Fred KD8JIP gave a presentation on Elwood Downey's Hamclock. Fred brought in his Hamclock and walked through many of the highlights of the Hamclock and some of the capabilities. He also provided a user guide for Hamclock use. Thanks, Fred, for the excellent presentation! It was very informative!

Special Note from President Tom

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

Looking for presentations!

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 Vice President Scott

February Meeting

February will be our first non-business meeting resulting from the recent changes to the bylaws. Here is the plan for February 5:

7:00-7:30 - Elmer Session and Ragchew

7:30-7:45 Presentation. Currently, I'm considering doing a short presentation on meshtastic. There are many people here more familiar with meshtastic than I am but I can do the 30,000 foot overview. If you have a meshtastic device, bring it for some show and tell.

7:45-8:30 - Member Swap. Do you have a bunch of spare stuff laying around that you would like to get rid of? Bring it to the February meeting and find a buyer. The swap is open to members in good standing. You can renew your membership during the meeting if needed. We have limited space at the EOC so, let's not get carried away. If this goes well, I'm hoping to do this more often.

Times are wildly estimated and we can adjust on the fly as needed.

See you there!!!

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:

- Noquemanon Ski Marathon - January 23-24, 2026
- UP200 - February 12-16, 2026



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

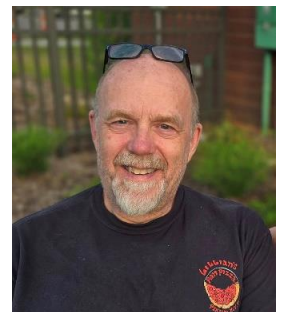
For details, see their website at:

www.parksontheair.com.



ARES News

from the desk of WU8H



Happy New Year!

Work is ongoing at the EOC. It looks a lot nicer with the hutch out of there and we put a shelf up to clear up some desk space. We are working on the HF antenna which is giving us some grief at the moment and still working on making everything look nice.

I’m going to have an ARES meeting soon so keep an eye out for that. It will likely be a hybrid in-person and Zoom meeting so we can get as many ARES members as possible to participate. Following that meeting, I’d like to set up an individual meeting with each member to get to know what you want out of ARES. We’ll talk more about that at the meeting.

Also, at the meeting, I'd like to discuss the 2m net and whether we should keep it or not. It was started as an emergency net and I see it as a place for ARES members (and others) to get online once a week or so and hone their skills. This includes the skill of being net control occasionally.

We have the following public service events coming up:

Noquemanon Ski Marathon, Jan 23-24

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

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 – New Years 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 whatever makes you happy, 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/2026/01-radio_waves.pdf

NOTE: If you are using Thunderbird as your email client and the link provided above is not functioning properly, there are alternative steps you can take to access the content. First, you can try forwarding this email to yourself, which will refresh the links and allow them to work as intended. Alternatively, you can copy the link from this message and paste it directly into your web browser's address bar. Either of these methods should help you access the newsletter in the event that you might encounter any issues with Thunderbird.

73,

Scott, N8SY

2. More from our friends at ARRL:

Michigan Section News

December 15, 2025

Greetings to all who read this.

With very mixed emotions, I welcome you to the latest and my last Section News column.

Over many years, I have had the pleasure of spending countless hours with some of the finest amateur radio operators in the world. These are the hams of Michigan (and beyond in many cases). We have done some neat things, breaking trail into new avenues, some with great success and others that didn't turn out as we would have liked. Generally speaking, any let-downs were not result of lack of trying on the part of Amateur Radio Operators.

The time has come to turn the page and let some fresh ideas bubble to the surface and take hold. Our new Section Manager for 2026/2027 is Ralph Katz, AA8RK from Ann Arbor.

I ask all Michigan hams to support Ralph in his new endeavor and also to continue to support the ARRL as our national voice. As with all organizations, the ARRL has some difficulties and I personally believe that if criticism is offered, one must also provide a valid, reasonable and do-able alternative to the current program(s). To just be negative is not fruitful and not adequate. Anyone can do that. Change begins from inside organizations. If one is not a member, then the opportunity to criticize does not really exist.

Michigan 2026 Hamfest/Convention Schedule

Feb 8, 2026 Cherryland ARC Annual Swap and Shop, Traverse City, MI

Feb 21, 2026 Livonia ARC Annual Shop and Swap, Northville, MI

Mar 21, 2026 Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club, Lowell, MI

Apr 11, 2026 AC8RC Mini-Swap, Burnips, MI

Jun 6, 2026 IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI

I end this column with sincere appreciation to the ARRL hams of Michigan for allowing me to lead our team.

Looking back at serving as a volunteer in the Michigan ARRL Section since the mid 1980's, I cannot think of a finer group of folks to serve and spend time with. I do not expect to completely disappear from sight, but I do plan to enjoy not driving the bus.

Very best 73, Larry, WB8R

wb8r@arrrl.net



3. From our East Coast correspondent Pete, K8PT:

Subject: Free Amateur Extra Class Starts January 15

If you or anyone you know is interested in attending an Amateur Extra Class licensing course, please pass along the following information, and feel free to publicize it with your radio club or any group you feel would benefit.

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Extra Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, January 15, 2026, and will run through Thursday, March 26. There will be 11 sessions. The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time and will also be recorded. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum.

Note: Attendees should hold (or be studying for) the General Class Amateur Radio License.

Please publicize this with anyone that you think would be interested. Those wishing to sign up should email roland.anders@comcast.net.

We have overlapping mailing lists, so if you received a duplicate of this message, thank you for your understanding.

Thanks.

73,
Rol Anders, K3RA

4. 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, anyone can – Ed.** If interested, contact Scott, WU8H.

Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association
2 meter Emergency Net Preamble

This is the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Ass'n 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 the net is to handle traffic and generally promote good fellowship among radio operators. It may also be used for drills or training purposes.

Amateurs may also use this time to inform others of equipment they wish to sell trade or need. The price or condition of this equipment may be discussed at this time.

All stations are invited to check in. Stations with traffic, mobiles and stations operating on emergency power will be given preference in transmissions.

After all traffic has been handled, each station will be welcomed for a round of transmissions.

Please give your call, name and location at the beginning of your transmission.

Your net control this evening is _____, my name is _____ and I am located in _____.

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

I will now stand by for Formal traffic and formal traffic only. (Pause, any informal traffic or announcements)

I will now stand by for mobiles. And mobiles only. (copy all calls as they check in)

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

I will now stand by any stations to check in.

Start rounds of transmissions in the order they check in, except for mobiles & priorities.

Stand by every 10 minutes for further check ins.

Before you sign the net clear, call the net manger and give your report, # of mobiles, # of battery power and # of base stations, # of traffic handled, and your message number. Each message will count as 1 piece of traffic. Then sign the net clear for general use. Thank all who joined tonight and give your call sign.

Thank you for being net control tonight. Net reports are sent to the ARRL Net MGR.

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 Noqueamanon 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. Lucille, KD8PTE and her assistants do a bang-up job as net control!

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>

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