

July 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



With COVID-19 cases rising, wearing masks and social distancing now being enforced in Michigan it is probably not a good idea that we have any HARA meetings in the near future. Our July outdoor meeting was not well attended. Most events and group meetings are now cancelled, including large gatherings outside.

The HARA Board will be meeting in the near future to discuss issues that are going to be coming up and what should be done to keep our members informed and involved in Amateur Radio. Now is the time to work on your equipment, including your radios and antennas to enable you to get on the air. Your involvement in HARA's two weekly nets is appreciated and keeps us informed and you on your radio.

If you want to get involved in ARES, I will be sending information which will help you get started. I will send out a report after the Board meeting to keep you informed what we are working on and issues that must be addressed.

Be safe!

Lou KG8NK

V.E. TESTING:

**Tentative
September,
12, 2020**

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@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.*

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

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@arrl.net.

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 is Back!



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

.27 Clean-up

Our dauntless repeater guru, Paul, KB0P, recently visited the site of our 147.27 repeater and performed some much-needed cleaning.



Many Thanks for your continuing support, Paul!

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!



News

No specific ARES news this month.

Press Release by the Intrepid-DX Group
[Wednesday, July 1, 2020](#)

First Annual "Dream Rig" Youth Essay Contest.

The Intrepid-DX Group is a US based 501 C(3) nonprofit organization that promotes Amateur Radio activities in developing countries.

Announcing our first annual Youth Essay Contest-Prize is a Dream Rig!

The Intrepid-DX Group recognizes the importance of including Youth in our great hobby because they are our future! We are establishing an annual Dream Rig Youth Essay Contest to learn the suggestions of young people for attracting other young operators to Amateur Radio.

What is the Prize?

The prize is a factory fresh ICOM IC-7300! See the features here:

<https://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/hf/7300/default.aspx>

Contest Rules:

- 1) Two-page Essay answering these questions: A) What are your amateur radio goals? B) What can we do to attract more youth to amateur radio?
- 2) USA Amateur Radio License Holders Age 19 or younger.
- 3) Promise to keep the radio for one year, not flip it, trade it or sell it, and to use it on the air.
- 4) Send essay in text or MS Word attachment to intrepidgroup@gmail.com by [July 31, 2020](#).
- 5) You may alternatively mail it to: The Intrepid-DX Group, [3052 Wetmore Dr, San Jose, CA 95148, USA](#). Entries must be postmarked by [July 31, 2020](#).
- 6) The winner of the Essay Contest will be announced on our Website and Facebook page [on August 10, 2020](#).

All submissions become the property of the Intrepid-DX Group and may be published.

Questions: Send an email to pauln6pse@gmail.com

Follow us on our homepage www.Intrepid-DX.com and/or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/The-Intrepid-DX-Group-180857615282553>

HARA H&W Net

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.

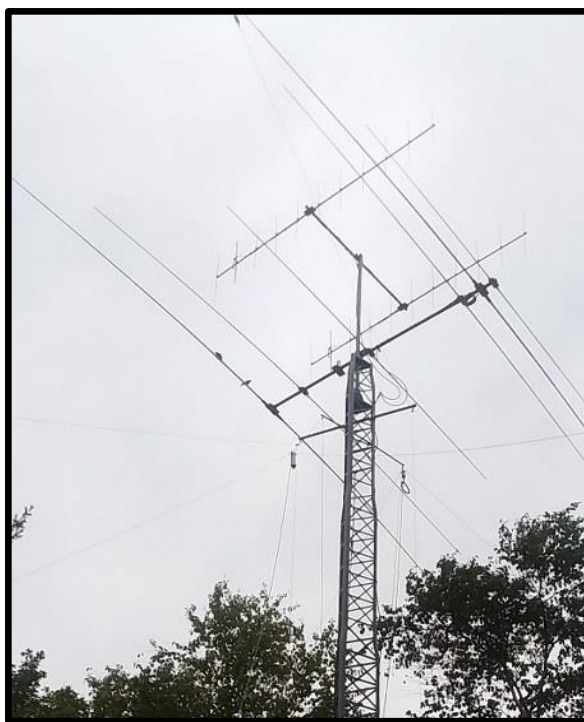
Items of Interest

COVID-19, Not Much Good About It

But.... it did give me the time and opportunity to get some much needed and wanted antenna work done. My projects didn't happen overnight and took several weeks to complete.

First and foremost I had a very badly bent 40 meter element that was mounted on my hf beam boom that I removed. It needs to be straightened before I even think about putting it back up. For now the beam looks much neater and easier to turn. While on top of the tower I also removed a sloper antenna that wasn't performing very well. Likewise I removed a 13 element 2 meter VHF horizontally polarized antenna that I was no longer using. The tower was getting cleaned up and better looking, at least to the ordinary citizen but maybe not a ham operator.

Now it was time to add some wire and lots of it or at least as much as I could get strung out on my city lot. First I changed the configuration of my G5RV to a half wave dipole antenna. I removed the twin lead from the feedline, added about 16 feet of wire on each leg and added a 1:1 current balun at the feed point of the antenna. Next I installed two inverted "L" antennas running up two sides of the tower.



You'll really need to strain your eye sight to see the wire antennas. The top of all wire antennas are below the beam antennas. The backside (right) of the tower you see a small circle of coax which is the current balun for the 20 meter Delta Loop. On the front side (left) of the tower you see a tubular piece which is the current balun for the new dipole. The PVC pipe running perpendicular to the tower and below the main beam is the support for the two endfed verticals. Actually both are inverted "L" antennas. The left one is an 88ft random length while the one on the right is a 40 meter EFHW. The ends run to the corners of my roof peak.

Below is what the base of the two inverted “L” looks like. On the left the small red box is the 9:1 balun with the blue one being a current balun. On the right you see the blue current balun and a home brewed 49:1 Un-Un.



Here is the 49:1 Un-Un that I built. Now some that are in the know might say “wait there looks to be an extra turn around the core”. Well, in fact there is an extra turn but, I didn't want to do something like I do when normally working with lumber, you know “cut it twice and it is still to short”. It is much easier to remove a turn rather than trying to add one if needed.



It has been a busy antenna season for me so far and I even had time to help the Standing Wave Newsletter Editor install a couple of new wire antennas.

Well back to some more antenna and feedline maintenance, 73 Greg KI8AF

Parting Thoughts

Last month I included a somewhat humorous story on tower safety. Safety around any part of our Ham Radio hobby, however, is no joke. Whenever you, or a friend, is working around electronic equipment – whether indoors or out – make sure safety is ALWAYS your #1 concern – Ed.



Greg, KI8AF, on my tower. Note that he is always properly belted in and that his tool bag is on a separate line.

Our intrepid “foreign” (3-land) correspondent, Pete, K8PT, has been busy this month! In addition to the Youth Essay Contest information above, Pete forwarded the following:

For More Information Please Contact: Tim Duffy K3LR, TDuffy@DXEngineering.com

Join the Elmers at DX Engineering and a host of Ham Radio luminaries on Saturday, July 25, 2020, for the first DXE Virtual Hamfest and DX Academy—two online events combined into a full day of fun, learning, and drawings for DX Engineering gift cards (must be registered and present on Zoom during the drawings to qualify).

Both events are free and open to all—click [here](#) to register. Once signed up, you will receive a link to access the events in real-time on the Zoom webinar platform, or you can watch live on the DX Engineering YouTube channel.

DXE Virtual Hamfest

The day kicks off with the DXE Virtual Hamfest, featuring presentations from top contributors to [OnAllBands](#) (DX Engineering’s blog site), and the latest news and answers to your questions about recent and upcoming products, including the [RF-KIT RF2K-S Linear Amplifier](#) (sold exclusively in North America by DX Engineering), the [RT-4500HD Heavy-Duty Rotator](#), and the [Ladder Line Surge Protector](#).

Schedule (All Times Eastern)

- 9 am: Introduction by Tim Duffy, K3LR, CEO of DX Engineering
- 9:15 am: DXE Product Discussion with Scott Jones, N3RA
- 9:30 am: Ward Silver, N0AX, Radiosport: Training for Public Service
- 10 am: DXE Product Discussion with Steve Hannah, KC8YSU
- 10:15 am: Sean Kutzko, XX9X, Working Amateur Radio Satellites
- 10:45 am: DXE Product Discussion with Tim Duffy, K3LR
- 11 am: Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, Youth in Amateur Radio
- 11:30 am: DXE Q&A, Wrap-up, and Drawing for a \$1,000 DX Engineering Gift Card

DX Academy

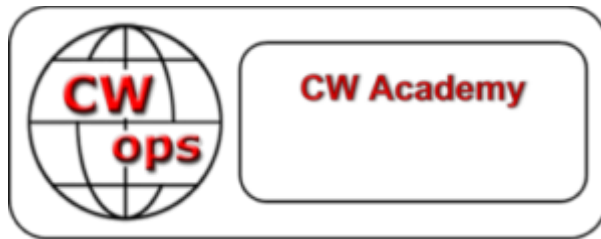
The afternoon will be all about improving your skills at making long-distance contacts. Sponsored by Icom America and DX Engineering, the first-ever online DX Academy brings together experts to share advice from their years of on-air experience.

Schedule (All Times Eastern)

- 1 pm: Introduction by Tim Duffy, K3LR
- 1:15 pm: Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z, Low Band Antennas for DXing
- 2:15 pm: Ray Novak, N9JA, Icom Product Showcase, IC-705
- 2:45 pm: Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, VP6R DXpedition to Pitcairn Island
- 3:45 pm: Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, Operating Tools and Ideas for Becoming a Better DXer
- 4:45 pm: Wrap-up and Drawing for a \$1,000 DX Engineering Gift Card

Look for more information on [DX Engineering's Facebook page](#) and [OnAllBands](#) in the coming days.

DX Engineering
DXEngineering.com
1-800-777-0703



I'm Pete, W1RM and you worked me on CW as K2D in the recent 13 Colonies event. Thanks for the QSO.

During the 2,000+ QSOs I made, I observed a wide range of CW skills. For those of you who would like to improve your CW proficiency, both sending and receiving, I recommend you look at enrolling in the CW Academy (CWA), sponsored by CWops. CWA is open to any and all and is a service provided by members of CWops at absolutely no charge or obligation other than a desire to learn and improve your CW receiving and sending.

CWA has beginner-to-25 wpm classes that are run classroom style online. Check it out at <https://cwops.org/cw-academy/cw-academy-options>.

If you are a proficient CW operator, please pass this email on to anyone you know who wants to learn or get better with CW.

By way of background, I've been a CW operator since 1956 when I started as KN2UTV in New York. I am a founding member of CWops (my number is 8) and its first president.

CW forever!

73,

Pete, W1RM
CWops Past President



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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