

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

July 2021

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:

Annual Club Picnic
Sands Township Hall

Date: **Thursday, August 5, 2021**
Time: 5:30 PM

CLUB OFFICERS, 2021

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

When I see on the news the weather in other parts of the US - hurricanes, heavy rains, extreme heat, I am glad I live in the UP! We almost never need an emergency Skywarn Net and seldom is there a request for storm spotters from NOAA.

There has been significant interest in digital radio which is rapidly growing and gives you the opportunity to experiment with other modes. Digital radio opens up the entire world with just a handheld radio. We will have future programs on digital operating at our meetings.

On August 5th we will be having our annual HARA Picnic at the Sands Township Hall. Bring your family or guest (more to follow).

73, Lou, KG8NK

V.E. TESTING:

September Stay Tuned *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 at 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 arrrl.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@arrrl.net.

The Business

HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

JULY 1, 2021

Officers present were: President Lou KG8NK, Vice-President Greg KI8AF, Treasurer: Mike KD8JIR, excused absence for Secretary Lee KD8BJC. Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm.

Introductions and attendance: The Club had 8 members present.

President's Report: Lou gave a report on his current DMR and D-Star operations, some of the pros and cons for both as well as some definite frustration at time.

Secretary's Report: A motion to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the July issue of the Standing Wave was made by Dave KD8DRF and seconded by Dave KE8PND. Motion Approved.

Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's report was presented.

Business:

A. Field Day wrap up report and discussion was held. All agreed that we met our objects of having a good time, introducing folks to what it is about and some of the set up and gear involved, and for sure some good food and comradeship. The West Branch Hall was a great location for the event and thanks goes to Mike KD8JIR for all his assistance.

B. Repeater operations at the .27 site seem to be working fine with some reports of better connectivity for some. There was some discussion on the needed feedline connection repairs at the .82 repeater site. More information will follow once we have a better handle of the cost of repairs.

C. The Sands Township Hall, near the corner of 553 and 480, has been secured for our annual summer picnic to be held on Thursday, August 5th. More information will be sent out.

D. There was a good representation of Marquette County hams at the recently held LARS Swap held in Newberry, MI.

Adjournment: At 7:37 pm a motion to adjourn was made by Ralph N8NXG and seconded by Dave KD8DRF. The motion was approved.

Post Meeting Program: Mike KD8JIR gave a great program on surveying. He recently retired from the profession after a 40-year career. He demonstrated the use of many of the pieces of equipment needed to survey accurately. He explained what goes into the necessary work to make sure you know where you are, where you want to end up, and how to get there. Very interesting program for sure. Many thanks, Mike!

Minutes reported by Greg KI8AF

Friday Lunch is back!



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

HARA ANNUAL PICNIC

When: Thursday, August 5, 2021

Where: Sands Township Hall

Time: Doors open at 5:30 pm -picnic at 6:15 pm

HARA will provide hot dogs, brats, buns, condiments and coffee.

Please bring your own beverage and table settings. You can also bring a dish to pass.

It is going to be great to see each other and restart the club for another year. More to follow!

The picnic is held in lieu of our regular August meeting – Ed.

Happenings!

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

- Grand Island Marathon – July 24, 2021 in Munising/Grand Island. Contact Allen Augustyn, W8FYZ
- Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic – August 14, 2021 in/around Marquette. Contact Eric, N8RRZ
- UP Hamfest – August 7, 2021 in Rapid River. See www.k8pl.org for details.
- Tahqua Trail Run – August 14, 2021 in Tahquamenon Falls State Park. Contact Dave Dake, KC8QZG
- Northwoods Hamfest – August 21, 2021 in Tomahawk, WI. Contact Al Russ, KD9LJS
- LeDemi Grand Marathon – September 18, 2021 in Munising/Grand Island. Contact Allen Augustyn, W8FYZ



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

At a recent Friday lunch session, an idea was floated about putting together some sort of a monthly challenge for our HARA membership. Some ideas included trying a new band or mode, working a certain number of new states or DX countries, participating in an on-air contest or Special Event. The "prize", in addition to personal satisfaction, could be something like a certificate (aka wallpaper) and/or your article in the Standing Wave.

Your thoughts and ideas are always appreciated. You can send them to a Club officer or me.



News

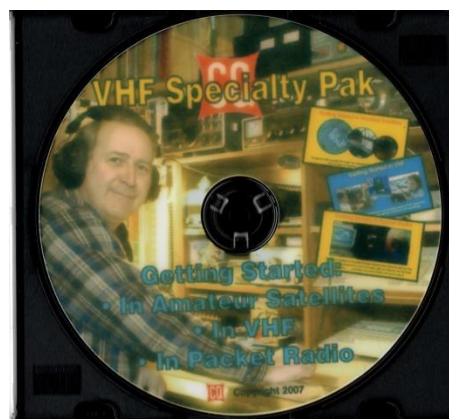
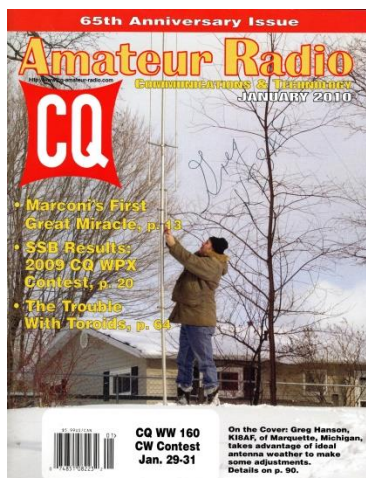
from the desk of N8NAV



HARA Ham of the Year!

Congratulations to Greg, KI8AF, for his selection as our club's Ham of the Year for 2021! In addition to his work on our local repeaters, Greg is an Assistant ARES EC, net control for the Friday night 10-meter net, distributor of the Standing Wave newsletter, Vice President of HARA, organizer of the VE testing and schedules the monthly meeting programs – to name a few chores. He is also a genuinely nice guy who is always willing to lend a hand!

What you may not know is that Greg's fame extends well beyond the confines of Marquette County. As you will note below, his picture (along with several other Marquette Co. Hams) graced the pages of the 2007/08 CQ Amateur Radio Calendar, the front page of the January 2010 issue of CQ Magazine (proving that January is the perfect month for outside antenna work) and CQ's VHF Specialty Pak of programs.



KNLS

My earliest radio memories include lying in bed at night – with my headphones on as not to disturb my brothers or parents – and listening to “distant” AM broadcasts. Once I obtained a shortwave receiver (my first was a Realistic DX-150B – which I still own) those nightly listening sessions expanded to the shortwave bands. Although the number of shortwave stations has dwindled over the years, I still enjoy periodic listening sessions.

In June, my wife, Ann, and I visited Alaska. In addition to being our 50th state visited, we have a good friend – from our US Navy days – who lives there. In a nice little town in the southern part of the state named Anchor Point. Anchor Point is also home to shortwave broadcaster KNLS (New Life Station).

Detailed information on the station is contained on their website, www.knls.org. I will not attempt to repeat it here. The station began broadcasting in Anchor Point in July 1983. During our visit we learned that the station’s Christian-based programming originates in their main studios in Franklin, Tennessee. The programs are sent to Anchor Point via the Internet and transmitted from this impressive site.

Ann and I received the royal visit treatment from Thomas, who is also KL0K, and John. These very nice gentlemen are responsible for keeping the two imposing 100 kW transmitters happy and the programs flowing. As the photos indicate, we got to view the control board, the two transmitters and their associated equipment and the antenna field. As with most shortwave broadcasters, KNLS has the ability to “steer” their signal to a particular recipient. The main target for this facility is Russia, China and the Pacific Rim; although I was able to hear them from home during their 09795 kHz transmission at 1200Z with good results.

I will relate one amusing tidbit. If you have driven the highways and byways of America – or other countries for that matter – you have noticed rather extensive antenna fields for our AM/FM and Shortwave broadcasters. As I mentioned before, Anchor Point is a relatively small town (population 1,930 as of 2010). So while driving in the area both Ann and I were looking for the KNLS antenna field and not having any luck. Thomas provided directions to the station which is at the end of a relatively long dirt road in the hills above the town. It wasn’t until we were almost in the parking lot that we were able to see the antennas. We told our hosts – and they agreed – that the station is well off the beaten path!

We were also somewhat alarmed when Thomas donned a shotgun prior to our venturing out into the antenna field! He related that bear or moose sightings were rare, but it pays to be prepared. And he assured us that the shotgun was only to scare the creatures.

So if you find yourself visiting beautiful Alaska in the future, a side trip to the Kenai Peninsula and the towns of Seward, Homer and particularly Anchor Point, are well worth your time!

Our sincere thanks to Thomas and John for their overwhelming hospitality and the considerable time they spent showing us around their outstanding station!

73 de Jim, N8NAV

A Ham Radio aside. I did not bring an HT with me on this trip (I usually do). I met two separate Hams – the first one, a KL4, while pumping gas outside of Denali– and Thomas who offered to lend me an HT while I was in the area so that I could check into their local nets. The spirit of Ham Radio fellowship lives!



Jim, N8NAV, poses by the KNLS sign.



The KNLS antenna field from the access road.



A closer view of part of the KNLS antennas.



Jim at the controls?!



Our hosts Thomas, KL0K (left) and John (right)



One of the two 100 KW transmitters.



And the inside of the transmitter.



Can anyone ID this equipment?

Buy, Sell, or Trade

Please advise when items have been bought or sold.

Les, WA8LES, is looking for Bencher Paddles (dual paddles) Chrome or Black. Base ok. Will be using this at the Ham Shack this summer.

Contact Les at wa8les@gmail.com or 906-399-7132

Lee, KD8PJC, has a fox hunting antenna for sale. No other details provided.

Her contact info: ldrowe@charter.net

Parting Thoughts

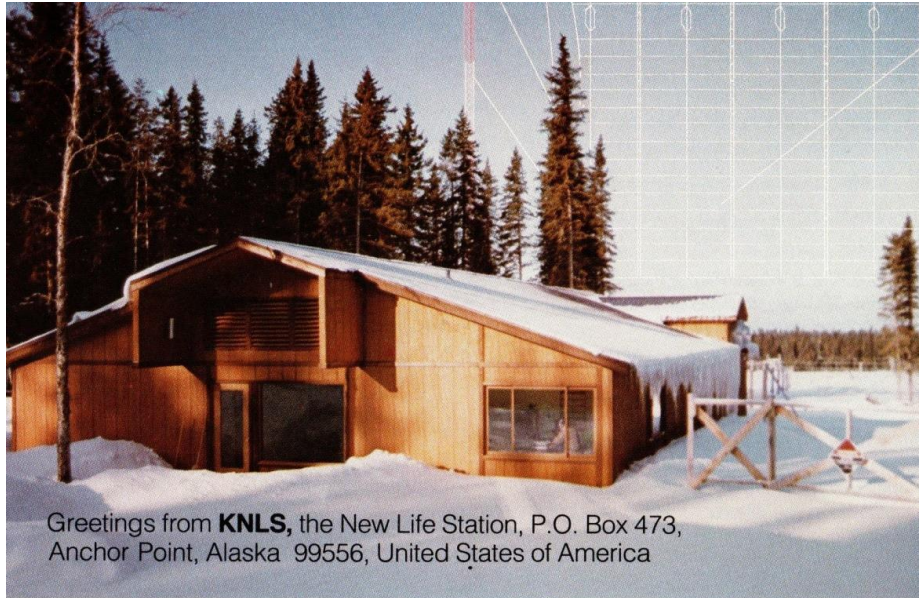
1. The Standing Wave's east coast correspondent, Pete, K8PT, recently paid us a visit. You never know who will show up for Friday lunch! Pete is on his way west, including a trip to Alaska. It was great to see you, Pete! Safe travels!



2. From Scott Yonally N8SY, Vice Director, Great Lakes Division:

Work on the Great Lakes Division Convention has really taken off. We've already had several Zoom planning meetings and are now working to get a really great lineup of forum speakers. We already have several locked in and I know that you definitely won't want to miss hearing from them! The great folks of Bowling Green Kentucky are going to host the 10th Annual Vette City Hamfest / ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention on October 2nd! As that it is only 3 months away, you'll want to make sure that this event gets on your calendars now. We want everyone in the Great Lakes Division to come out and have a blast with us.

3. Earlier in this issue of the Standing Wave, I penned an article about Ann and my visit to Shortwave Broadcaster KNLS. Today in the mail I received this beautiful QSL card!



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.

The DMR net meets on our local KB0P DMR repeater and/or the U.P. Michigan Talk Group. Lucille KD8PTE is usually net control.

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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