

May 2009



# 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 [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net). Club info, membership, dues, etc can be found on our website at [www.qsl.net/k8lod](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod)

**MONTHLY MEETING:** Marquette County Health Department Bldg., Lower Level, Negaunee Township.  
Date: **May 7, 2009 \***  
Time: **7:00 PM (note time change)**

### CLUB OFFICERS, 2009

Pres. Lou Gembolis KG8NK  
VP: Lane Dawson WD8PAJ  
Sec. Sheree Gembolis KD8EDS  
Tres. Lee Rowe KD8BJC  
Board Members:  
Past Pres. Paul Racine KB0P  
EC Rich Schwenke N8GBA  
Eric Pellinen N8TEV

### STANDING WAVE

Editor, Greg KI8AF  
Publishing, Lane WD8PAJ  
Distribution, Greg KI8AF

### REPEATERS

KG8YT, 147.270 / .870 with 100 Hz PL-Tone Marquette  
K8LOD, 146.910 / .310 Ishp.  
N8RRZ, 146.640 / .040 Gwinn  
K8LOD-3.144.390 APRS Digi Mqt

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR US

\*NWS Storm Spotter Training session at the May meeting. If you've missed a year of two of this training it is time for a refresher.

^S.K. Enterprise Project end of May  
^Field Day/Picnic June 27 & 28

### Recent Antenna Projects.....

Below KI8AF's two-meter Slim Jim antenna. It is really flat across the entire band. To the right and at the bottom are a couple of views of Dave KD8DRF's Tri-band model EE-3 ground plane.



So what is your latest Project? Let the *Standing Wave* editor know and it will be included in the newsletter. It's your club and your newsletter so why not let other members know what you're up to.

## **V.E. TESTING:**

- 05/16 **Iron River:** 9:00am central time, at the Beef-A-Roo Restaurant in Iron River. NOTE: Pre-registration is required, contact Dan Waters, AA9GJ at 906 265-4240 or e-mail: [dmwaters@ironriver.tv](mailto:dmwaters@ironriver.tv)
- 06/13 **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. Contact Rich Schwenke, N8GBA at 906 249-3837 or e-mail: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net)
- 07/11 **Houghton:** 8:30am eastern time, V.E. Exams at Michigan Tech. University in Houghton, MI will be held in the ballroom of DHH (Douglass Houghton Hall at Michigan Tech). Free Parking in Lot #14, front of DHH, across from Wadsworth Residence Hall. Use door #9 on the South-East side of DHH. Contact Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF at (906) 482-7743 if you have questions
- 05/02 **Iron Mountain:** 9:00am central time, (arrive by 8:30am) Dickinson County Library (conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD, 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802
- 07/11 **Gladstone:** 9:00am arrival time with testing beginning at 9:00am, at the Gladstone Public Library. Contact Howard W8HSJ at (906) 428-9476 or [w8hsj@dcars.org](mailto:w8hsj@dcars.org)

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. **If you've been assigned a FRN from the FCC you must use it on all forms rather than your SSN. Don't forget your FRN.** Please have the correct fee as examiners do not carry change. *Please contact the individual(s) listed to confirm date(s), location(s), etc.*

## **Birthday Wishes**

The "Birthday Wishes" column is now back by request. If you notice an error or your birthday is missed please advise the editor. Birthday Wishes for the month of May go to: Peter KC8YTX, John N8RSE, LeRoy N8WQG, Rick W8LHT, Bob N8XAE, Paul KB0P, Delan KD8FPO and Mark KF8RV.

## **S.K. Enterprise Project**

**Help is still needed.** We need control operators at both the mission control site (Graveraet School) and the shuttle, so the student radio operators can use the amateur radio equipment. There is four training sessions planned prior to the start of the actually shuttle launches so the students will be well versed in radio procedures. All one has to do is sit along side them and be the legal control operator. Each mission last only about three (3) hours (1000-1300). Missions are scheduled for May 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29 and June 1<sup>st</sup> and several time slots are still open. Please get a hold of Greg KI8AF (225-1594 or [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net)) and volunteer a few hours of your time, the students will really appreciate that.

## **HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

### **Minutes of the April 2, 2009, Meeting**

#### **Negaunee, Michigan**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Lou, KG8NK.

Club officers present: President Lou, KG8NK; Vice President Lane, WD8PAJ; Secretary Sheree, KD8EDS; and Treasurer Lee, KD8BJC. Introductions followed with 25 members present.

Amendments to the agenda were made as follows: Old Business - First Aid; New Business - delete MARS, add Enterprise Project (simulated space shuttle), Lighthouse, and Class. A motion was made by Bill, KC8EWD, seconded by Bruce, KG8YT, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Mike, KE8IL, seconded by Rich, N8GBA, to approve the March 5, 2009, meeting minutes. Motion passed without dissent.

Lee, KD8BJC, presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Bill, KC8EWD, seconded by Norm, KD8BPC, to approve the treasurer's report as printed. Motion passed without dissent.

**Correspondence/mail:** Lee, KD8BJC, noted the club has been receiving *CQ* in place of *World Radio*; and the subscription expires in September. A discussion followed on extending the *CQ* subscription, and the consensus was to not continue it.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**APRS/Packet/Repeater** - Paul, KB0P, reported he and Mike, KE8IL, have put a streaming audio of the 27 repeater on a link which may be turned on at the HARA website. A discussion followed concerning getting information out about the streaming audio link to the public. Rich, N8GBA, noted some equipment salvaged from the Morgan Meadows site included an antenna that would work better than the existing one on the 27 repeater .

A motion was made by Rich, N8GBA, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD, to contact Fred, N8BTS, to replace the antenna on the 27 repeater with the one salvaged from the Morgan Meadows site as soon as possible. Motion passed without dissent.

**ARES/RACES** - Rich, N8GBA, and Lou, KG8NK, stated there is a digital test coming up in May.

**PR** - Lee, KD8BJC, reported she sent an article to *The Mining Journal* for immediate release concerning tonight's meeting but did not see it published. Information about a class and testing was sent to the Escanaba paper and the *Mining Gazette*. Bruce, WB8NJP, suggested putting announcements on the local informational television stations by contacting the individual city halls. Lane, WD8PAJ, volunteered to do this.

**Technical Committee** - Greg, KI8AF, and Paul, KB0P, reported no update.

**First Aid** - Greg, KI8AF, has been working with Hank, KD8CGJ, to set up a first aid class consisting of about 6 hours to be held at the Tourville Health Club on Ridge Street. The charge is \$3 for cost of the certification card. The following individuals expressed interest in attending a class on April 6-7: Norm, KD8BPC; Rich, N8GBA; Lee, WD8PAJ; Lane, WD8PAJ, and Ralph, N8HXG. Another class may be held in late summer or early fall.

**2009 Programs** - Lou, KG8NK, reported Spotter Training is next month. **The May meeting will be held at 7 p.m. followed by Spotter Training at 7:30 p.m.** Bruce, KG8YT, and Paul, KB0P, are working on some programs. Pete, K8PT, is tentatively scheduled to do a PowerPoint presentation at the June meeting. It was suggested the July meeting could be followed by a presentation on the Dayton trip.

**Field Day/Picnic** - Lou, KG8NK, stated arrangements need to be made by the next meeting if the club is going to hold a Field Day event. A discussion followed, and the consensus of the group was to hold a picnic and set up a couple of radios as was done last year. Lane, WD8PAJ, volunteered to reserve the Ishpeming Township Hall for June 27 and 28.

**Enterprise Project (Simulated Space Shuttle)** - Greg, KI8AF, noted the event will be run on simplex the same as last year. There are 18 slots to be filled on May 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 29, and June 1 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Greg, KI8AF, to volunteer.

**Lighthouse** - Greg, KI8AF, is checking on behalf of Pete, K8PT, to see if there is interest in the event to be held August 14, 15, and 16. Let Pete, K8PT, know if you are interested.

**Class** - Rich, N8GBA, stated he needs help with a class starting next Thursday night at 7 pm. The cost of the class is \$40, and he will be unable to continue the class in its entirety as he will be laid up for a couple of months. Contact Rich, N8GBA, if you can help.

Rich, N8GBA, stated some equipment needs to be moved to another storage space.

Lou, KG8NK, reported federal legislative action is occurring regarding utilization of the bands by attempting to sell some of them to companies for profit. The ARRL is fighting this.

- The 50/50 drawing was won by Wayne, W9VKI.
- Brandon, N8PUM, won the Noquemanon drinking glass.
- Bill, KC8EWD, won a hat.

Lee, KD8BJC, asked club members if there is anything they would like to donate as a prize.

Bill, KC8EWD, moved, seconded by Mike, KE8IL, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion passed without dissent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheree, KD8EDS  
Secretary

### **My Early Forays into Radio**

My twin brother, Warren (W9VKG), and I were born in 1936. We had an early interest in electricity and radio. When we were about 8 years old we had read about radio in my mother's encyclopedia, which was already obsolete, being a 1920's edition. This encyclopedia described how spark transmitters were used previously for communications. Warren and I, having poked around in my grandfather's garage, found an old model T Ford spark coil. We determined that if we hooked it up to a six volt battery, that it would product a spark across about 1/2 to 3/4 inch gap.

We lived on the outskirts of a very small (Pop 800) farming village in Wisconsin, called Glenwood "**City**", which reminds me of our '**International**' Airport at KI Sawyer. Grandfather had one cow to keep our family supplied with milk along with a chicken coop (no longer populated). This coop became our illegal ham shack with its own distinct odor. My brother and I managed to climb up on the roof to put up a hertzian antenna about 20 ft long.

After building a key, we filled the ether with a band covering the whole frequency spectrum -- at least the broadcast band. I am sure the few neighbors that were within a mile heard us also. We heard it at our house which was a couple of hundred yards away from my grandpa's place. I only reveal all this now since I think the statue of limitations has run out.

Growing up in Glenwood “City”, which is about as isolated as it gets, did not help us much in finding contacts (Elmers and the like) who knew anything about radio. Warren and I read mostly out dated books from our small (about 200 students in high school) school library trying to learn more about electricity and radio. Again we turned to our grandpa’s place for hands on stuff.

This time before we got back to radio, we were attracted to a bomb which we surmised was a signal bomb for the railroad train. It had no fuse but it could be tied to the rails and explode when it was the engine ran over it. Our solution was to build a bonfire to ignite it. This we did because we liked explosions and the bomb had been in grandpa’s garage too long. Well, into the fire it went. It seemed to be a big flop. We waited a long time (seemed like eternity). Nothing!!

We tried poking or prodding with a long stick and waiting for another eternity. Finally I picked it up to see what was wrong. As I was examining it, you guessed it, it went off. After regaining my sight (another eternity) in a couple of minutes, I spent a lot of time that night thanking the Lord for sparing my eyesight.

At about this same time we decided that we wanted to build our own radio. We found some battery powered early tube (01A tubes) radios (TRF). We proceeded to strip them down and save all the parts. We found another tube radio which had more modern tubes in it. Now we needed a tube manual which cost twenty five cents. The county fair was hosted in Glenwood “City” and being resourceful, sneaking in, and keeping our eyes on the ground, we found enough change to buy the tube manual. Every year we would come back richer from the county fair than when we went in.

The tube manual with all its charts, graphs and data was all “Greek” to us. However, we could find the pinouts. We found a schematic for a super regenerative receiver. Try as we might, it wouldn’t work. ***Finally we noticed the pinouts were bottom view!!*** They were bottom view and not the top as we had thought. (The grid does not function very well as the plate or the plate as the grid). Working late one night after school, after basketball practice, after milking the cow, after shoveling the manure and finishing our home work, we made all the necessary changes. ***It worked!!!*** We listened to many South American broadcast stations. We went to bed on top of the world. We finally had our first working radio!

More about our early experiences in radio soon – God willing!

Wayne Weingarten (W9VKI)

My early radio part 1&2



Rich N8GBA & Lee KD8BJC practicing 2 person CPR



Hank KD8CGJ instructs Rich N8GBA & Norm KD8BPC on proper procedure for the “log rolling technique” if necessary. Ralph N8HXG has the easy role.

## **PR.....Happenings**

Our PR committee needs input from each of us if we expect them to do their part in getting the word out about our organization and amateur radio. Please contact a committee member well in advance of a happening. PR committee members are: Lee KD8BJC [leerowe@charter.net](mailto:leerowe@charter.net) or 346-9278, Lane WD8PAJ [laned@chartermi.net](mailto:laned@chartermi.net) or 486-8697.

## **For Sale**

Uniden BC-340CRS Scanner with Built in AM/FM Radio, Alarm Clock and Weather Scan, 100 Channels. Covers 25-54, 108-174, 406-512 MHz, Includes manual, box, and all accessories. \$50.00  
de Jim, N8NAV 362-8999 (cell)

## **International Lighthouse Weekend**

The Marquette Lighthouse and the special event callsign W8L have been secured, so now it is up to you to partake. The weekend is August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We'll be setting up some time after lunch on Friday August 14th with operations starting at 1900 hours and running to about 1800 hours on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Pete K8PT to volunteer and select a time slot for operating. This is a fun event, you get a great view of the lower harbor and great for PR as the Marquette Maritime Museum shows many tours through the lighthouse and guest are always curious as to what we are doing.

## **Hamvention Live Broadcast (Look for us at Hamvention 2009)**

For the 7th year now, W5KUB.COM will be broadcasting live streaming video and audio of the 2009 Dayton Hamvention. New this year, we have lots of prizes to give some lucky viewers. We will go live Wednesday May 13 at 1300GMT and broadcast our 500 mile drive live. We will continue broadcasting on Thursday as we set up in the Fleamarket, possibly tour the Air Force Museum, and then for the entire hamvention. The broadcast will end once we get back home to Memphis, TN on Sunday night. In addition to the video, the site has a chat room where you can chat with other hams around the world. We have viewers on in over 150 countries. The site is up 24 x 7 x 365 days per year with recorded ham videos when not in the live mode. The site is <http://wa5kub.com> or <http://w5kub.com>. You can also check out the prizes at <http://tmedlin.com/2009prizes.html> Hope to see you in Dayton or on the web. *So look for the yooper gang at Dayton.*

## **ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND MILITARY/AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TEST (09 MAY 2009)**

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual military/amateur radio communications tests in celebration of the 59th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on Saturday, May 16, 2009, the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted 09 May 2009 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention (15-17 May 2009), which is the same weekend as the actual Armed Forces Day.

The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur cross band communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. These tests give Amateur Radio operators and Short Wave Listeners (SWL) an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills, and to receive recognition

from the Secretary of Defense and/or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital Armed Forces Day message from the Secretary of Defense.

#### MILITARY-TO-AMATEUR CROSS BAND SSB & CW TEST CONTACTS.

Military-to-Amateur cross band operations will take place on the dates/times in ZULU (UTC), and frequencies listed below for each station. Voice contacts will include operations in single sideband voice (SSB). Some stations may not operate the entire period, depending on propagation and manning. Participating military stations will transmit on selected Military MARS frequencies and listen for amateur radio stations in the Amateur bands indicated below. The military station operator will announce the specific amateur band frequency being monitored. Duration of each voice contact should be limited to 1-2 minutes. The following stations will be transmitting on MARS frequencies listed below which are provided as "Window/Dial Frequency" in kHz.

Some stations will use CW to provide the opportunity to check in by Morse code. Check out <http://www.eham.net/articles/21452> for times, frequencies and modes.

#### Dayton Hamvention Purchase? Are you interested?

As you know there are several local hams headed the Hamvention 2009. If you'd like them to look for something in particular or buy something for you let one of them know. A telephone call back to you can possibly be made prior to an actual purchase but, also remember someone would be going out of their way to make such a purchase and you should expect all sales to be final.

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And that's a wrap for another month. Please if you have an article or something which you may think will be of interest to the club membership get it to me. If you have any comments or suggestions please get a hold of me. 73 until next month, Greg KI8AF@arrl.net



*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 [ki8af@arrl.net](mailto:ki8af@arrl.net) Club info, membership, dues, etc can be found on our website at [www.qsl.net/k8lod](http://www.qsl.net/k8lod). Annual membership dues can be sent to the above address directly.*

**PS: Don't forget Mother's Day, its Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>.**