

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

November 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. 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: Nov, 5, 2009
Time: 7:30 PM

CLUB OFFICERS, 2010

Pres. Lou Gembolis KG8NK
VP: Lane Dawson WD8PAJ
Sec. Jim Jacobson W8QQE
Tres. Fred Mouser KD8JIP
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

Club Christmas Party 12/3/2009

Skywarn Recognitions Event 1900
12/4/09 to 12/5/09 1900 hrs at the
NWS Office Negaunee Township

2010 Club Officers

Thanks are in order for the few that stepped forward and volunteered for the club officer positions. While both Lou KG8NK and Lane WD8PAJ both have a couple of years under their belts in the president and vice-president respectfully, nonetheless they took on those positions for one more year. Jim Jacobson W8QQE took on the club secretary duties while Fred KD8JIP will be our new club treasurer. Thanks to the four of them and please help them out when you might be asked or they are in need of assistance.



Paul KB0P at our October monthly meeting as he presented a great program about the last message sent by Samuel F. B. Morse. You can read about it elsewhere in this issue of the *Standing Wave* but you really missed a great presentation if you failed to attend.

V.E. TESTING:

Jan. ? **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

12/12 **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

Jan.? **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

11/07 **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

Jan.? **Gladstone:** Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Howard St. John (906) 428-9476 Email: hsj99@charter.net VEC: ARRL/VECLocation: Gladstone City Hall Main Meeting Room 1100 Delta Ave. Gladstone, MI 49837

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.*

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 November go to: Debra KC8ULA, Pete K8PT, Rita KB8PEM, Lou KG8NK, John W8AT and Lee KD8BJC.

ARRL Board Adopts Guidelines and Recommendations on the Appropriate Use of Amateur Radio

On Friday, September 25, the ARRL Board of Directors adopted [guidelines on the appropriate use of Amateur Radio](#) on behalf of commercial, non-profit and government entities, as well as recommendations for additional steps to be taken by the ARRL to educate radio amateurs and others on how to prepare and train for public service and emergency communications while complying with the current FCC Rules.

At its meeting in July 2009, the ARRL Board created an ad-hoc committee to study the issue and prepare suggested guidelines. The committee submitted its report to the ARRL Executive Committee, which reviewed and revised the document. After additional discussion among Board members by electronic mail and teleconference, the Executive Committee submitted the document to the Board for formal adoption.

Entitled *The Commercialization of Amateur Radio: The Rules, The Risks, The Issues*, the document offers guidelines to assist radio amateurs and anyone wishing to utilize the capabilities of Amateur Radio in understanding the FCC Rules that prohibit communications in which the amateur has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. While the FCC Rules in this regard have not changed in many years, there has been increasing discussion of the issue as growing numbers of employers and non-amateur organizations recognize the value of Amateur Radio as an emergency communications resource and encourage their employees to obtain amateur licenses. Also included are guidelines for evaluating the appropriateness of Amateur Radio volunteers providing communications services to commercial enterprises and other entities for which other communications systems are available.

"The guidelines are not intended to be the last word on the subject, and surely will not be," observed ARRL First Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, and chair of the ad-hoc committee. "The report includes several recommendations for additional steps that the ARRL needs to take to help amateurs and the organizations we serve to better understand the Rules and to ensure that what we do to prepare to be of service in emergencies is consistent with the current Rules."

Some Tech Talk

The NTSB has issued an urgent interim recommendation re: the fatal Metro collision in June.

< http://www.nts.gov/recs/letters/2009/R09_15_16.pdf >

The letter discusses the failure they found:

"Testing found that a spurious high-frequency modulated signal was being created by parasitic oscillation from the power output transistors in the track circuit module transmitter. This spurious signal propagated through the power transistor heat sink, through the metal rack structure, and through a shared power source into the associated module receiver, thus establishing an unintended signal path. The spurious signal mimicked a valid track circuit signal. The peak amplitude of the spurious signal appeared at the correct time interval and was large enough to be sensed by the module receiver as a valid track circuit signal, which energized the track relay. This combination -- of an alternate signal path between track circuit modules and a spurious signal capable of exploiting that path -- bypassed the rails, and the ability of the track circuit to detect the train was lost."

and makes recommendations for WMATA, and other involved parties.

Comment: Attention has long focused on the track signaling circuit that inexplicably failed to detect the stopped train. What was not know was why it failed; when AC track signals have been in use for a century. After a great deal of work on the scene and off, NTSB has part of the answer. The RISK here is this was and is the classic "all the eggs in one basket" protection scheme. It was a very sturdy basket, but...

Now the issue is how to retrofit real redundancy into this system...and how to pay for it.

HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the October 1, 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 24 members present.

The following items were added to the agenda under New Business: GB - Class, Raffle, and Skywarn Recognition Day. A motion was made by Norm, W8NWD, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Rich, N8GBA, seconded by Ralph, N8HXG, to approve the September 3, 2009, meeting minutes. Motion passed without dissent.

Lee, KD8BJC, presented the treasurer's report and noted the bank has changed the date when it mails out the statements. A motion was made by Bill, KC8EWD, seconded by Rich, N8GBA, to approve the treasurer's report as printed. Motion passed without dissent.

Correspondence/mail: Sheree, KD8EDS, stated a letter has been received from Gordon, N8UAI, stating he is not renewing his HARA membership due to his age, the fact he has been inactive for almost three years, and has given his radio equipment to his son, Steven, KG7YK.

Committee Reports:

APRS/Packet/Repeater - Paul, KB0P, reported that right now the 27 repeater is isolated from the system, the 440 repeater is turned off, and the controller for the Motorola 64 repeater is on order. The weather alert should be on the air soon. He is also working on an information book for the repeaters which will hopefully be done this winter. Rich, N8GBA, noted Fred, N8BTS, has been contacted to change the antenna on the 27 repeater before the weather becomes an issue.

ARES/RACES - Rich, N8GBA, stated this Saturday from 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. there will be a SET using 58 simplex. Lou, KG8NK, noted the EOC equipment has been approved, and the next step is waiting for the paperwork.

PR - Lee, KD8BJC, reported she had submitted three notices to the TV station and 2 showed up. Lane, WD8PAJ, noted he has received positive responses from the radio stations. A discussion followed regarding Channel 13; and Lane, WD8PAJ, will check with Eric, N8RRZ.

Tech - Paul, KB0P, is working on a manual for the repeaters.

Election of Officers - Lou, KG8NK, called for nominations from the floor for President and Vice President and heard none. Dave, KD8DRF, seconded by Rich, N8GBA, nominated Jim, W8QQE, for the office of Secretary. Lee, KD8BJC, seconded by Greg, KI8AF, nominated Fred, KD8JIP, for the office of Treasurer. A discussion followed, and Lou, KG8NK, and Lane, WD8PAJ, agreed to remain in their respective positions of President and Vice President for another year. Dave, KD8DRF, moved, seconded by Greg, KI8AF, to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for Lou, KG8NK, for President; Lane, WD8PAJ, for Vice President; Jim, W8QQE, for Secretary; Fred, KD8JIP, for Treasurer; and for the Board of Directors to remain the same (Paul, KB0P; Rich, N8GBA; and Eric, N8TEV). Motion passed without dissent.

Sled Dog Race - Lou, KG8NK, stated the race is the third Saturday in February; and the Headquarters most likely will be at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.

Christmas Party - Lane, WD8PAJ, will reserve the Trinity Lutheran Church hall in Ishpeming. The consensus of the group was for Greg, KI8AF, to go ahead and purchase a hand-held radio in the \$100 to \$140 price range for the door prize.

Ski Race - Rich, N8GBA, will be taking care of this event.

GB - Class - Rich, N8GBA, purchased a new battery for the generator in the amount of \$59.28. A Tech Class will begin January 4 at 6:30 p.m. and will run twice weekly for 6 to 7 weeks at a cost of approximately \$50. Lane, WD8PAJ, and Lee, KD8BJC, will get a notice out about the class.

Raffle - Rich, N8GBA, noted an officer needs to see John, N8RSE, to sign a form pertaining to the raffle tickets for the Swap and Shop in February.

Skywarn Recognition Day - Bill, KC8EWD, announced the event will be held beginning on Friday, December 4, at 7 p.m. through 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 5. Three-hour segments are available, and call Matt, KD8EFY, if interested.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Chad, KD8LAG.

Paul, KB0P, will have a Morse code presentation after the meeting.

Jim, W8QQE, moved, seconded by Norm, W8NWD, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Motion passed without dissent.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheree, KD8EDS
Secretary

HARA Annual Christmas Party

Preparations are well underway for holding our annual Christmas potluck party. It is scheduled for Thursday December 3rd, 2009 and will be held in the lower level of the Trinity Lutheran Church, 414 E. Ridge St, Ishpeming. This is the same location as we've hosted the event in past years. We plan on having a few door prizes one of which will be a brand new 2 meter HT rig. If you happen to have a great item just lying around that could be used as a door prizes please let us know. Also, remember that only currently paid up licensed members will be eligible to have a chance at winning the HT, so get your membership or renewal paid up now.

On the Bands

Well, the Solar Flux Index (SFI) and really no signs of sunspots other than a very very rare sighting once in a great while but I've managed to work a bit of DX recently. Maybe most hams just rely on the sunspot (SSN) numbers to increase before one makes a serious effort to work some DX or just get on the bands a little more. I have found some stations are out there be it somewhat slim pickins'. Granted for QRPers it is pretty dead on the bands but then I've pushed it up to a full 100 watts. Some of my recent contacts include K4M Midway Island, LX/SP1DPA Luxembourg, TK/IK2SNG Corsica, HB9SPACE Swiss Air Force Museum special event station, TX5SPA Tubuai Island, FO/SP3DOI French Polynesia, 5N0OCH Nigeria and BV2009WGK Taiwan. Some of these countries I've made contact with in the past but there are also a few new ones in my list. So, if you don't get on the air your logbook will look fairly empty. Also if you get on the air and liven up the bands you can help dispel the statement "boy the bands are really dead."

And a heads up for everyone! **Pete K8PT** will be a DXer again, this time in Central America.

BELIZE, V3. Pete, K8PT will be QRV as V31PT from Ambergris Cay IOTA NA-073 from November 24 - Dec 6th. This will be a holiday style operation on 40 - 10 meters only using SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via K8PT

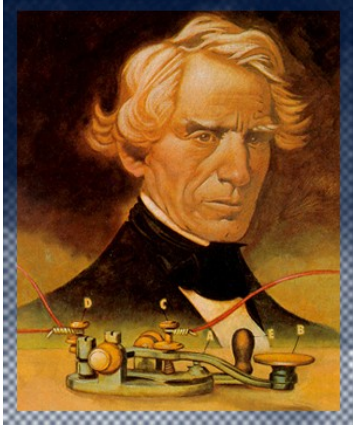
Morse's Farewell

HARA Presentation

By

Paul Racine, KB0P

You may have heard the story of the first telegraph message that was sent by Morse, from Washington to Baltimore in 1844, but very few people have heard the story of his last telegraph message.



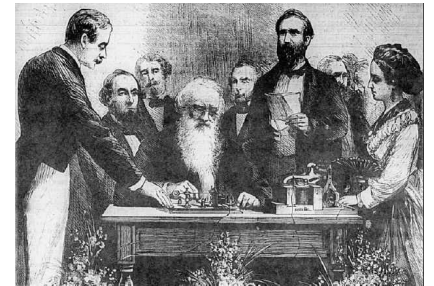
Samuel F.B. Morse was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts on April 27, 1791. An artist and painter, he developed an interest in the possibility of electrical telegraph during a long sea voyage from Europe back home to the United States, in 1832. The electric telegraph was invented and demonstrated during the late 1830's and the first commercial electrical telegraph line was officially opened on May 24, 1844.

Samuel F. B. Morse was almost 80 years old when Western Union decided to recognize his accomplishments by honoring him in a celebration. New York City was chosen as the location of the celebration, some 27 years after the introduction of the electric telegraph. Steam whistles blew from all the passenger ships as they arrived in port, all waving the flags of their country of origin. By the hundreds, telegraphers from around the world began arriving in New York City on Thursday

and the celebration began early in the morning on Saturday, June 10, 1871.

The skies were clear and the temperature reached 74° as about 10,000 people gathered for the event. The days scheduled included the dedication of a statue of Samuel Morse in Central Park, boat excursions around Manhattan, displays by local retailers and manufacturers of telegraph equipment, city tours, and to be concluded that evening with a reception by The Academy of Music, during which Mr. Morse would bid a farewell to the telegraph fraternity by sending a special message to be concluded with his signature.

The auditorium was filled to standing room capacity by those who were fortunate enough to obtain the highly sought after tickets. Even on the stage, there was seating for 500 prominent and extinguished guests as they all quieted themselves for the event. At about 8:00 PM, escorted by William Orton, the President of Western Union and the Master of Ceremonies, the aged Samuel Morse feebly stepped up on stage. The crowd cheered and the ladies in the audience waved their white handkerchiefs as Mr. Morse was seated at the table and telegraph apparatus that was specially prepared for this special event. Some of the notable individuals seated with Morse were Cyrus Field, the founder of the New York Tribune; Claflin, the governor of Massachusetts (the birth state of Morse); and General Jefferson Davis, the former president of The Confederate States of America. A special surprise to Samuel Morse, his friend Annie Ellsworth was close by, who is the one that suggested to Morse to use "What Hath God Wrought" as the first telegraph message in 1844.



The small table and telegraph instruments in front of Mr. Morse was covered with a white cloth to conceal the setup to the audience. During the hour of introduction, speeches, and remarks, the telegraph instrument under the cloth was clicking away as Western Union was busy putting together the massive circuit in preparation for the historical message; cutting in lines and correcting circuit issues. In anticipation, the telegraphers who were sitting the closest to the stage were winking at each other as they were copying the traffic in their heads.

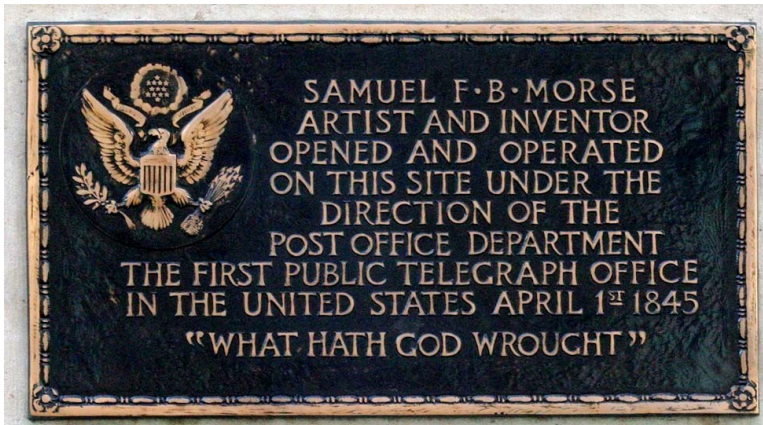
At 9:00 PM, as the white cloth was removed and the table and telegraph equipment was first revealed to the audience, Mr. Orton (the President of Western Union) announced that it was prearranged that all the telegraph lines going to the major cities and towns in the United States and Canada were connected to the telegraph apparatus on this table.

The beautiful and accomplished Miss Sadie Cornwell was then escorted to the table and positioned herself to send the body of Professor Morse's message to all the cities and towns, simultaneously.

"Greetings and thanks to the Telegraph fraternity throughout the world. Glory to God in the Highest, on Earth Peace, Goodwill to men."

As Miss Cornwell was escorted away from the table, the crowd went wild in anticipation of what was to come, next. Mr. Orton then escorted Samuel Morse to the telegraph table. Mr. Morse took his seat and reached out his arm toward the key. The auditorium went quiet and all held their breath as not to miss a beat. Then Morse, with a steady and firm hand slowly sent his signature,

"S F B M O R S E"



When the last dot was complete, the crowd gave Samuel F B Morse a standing ovation and cheered for several minutes. Mr. Morse was visibly overcome by emotion, and as Mr. Orton quieted the crowd, he stated, "Thus the Father of the Telegraph bids farewell to his children."





Fred KD8JIP at the recent Reno, NV air show. Now is he communicating or is directing air traffic? Fred let us know!

FCC Issues *Public Notice* on Amateur Service Communication During Government Disaster Drills

On Tuesday October 20, 2009 the FCC released a *Public Notice* clarifying the Commission's rules relating to the use of Amateur Radio by licensed amateurs participating in drills and exercises on behalf of their employers. Entitled *Amateur Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills*, the *Public Notice* addresses participation by paid employees of organizations taking part in drills.

The Public Notice -- [DA 09-2259](#) -- affirms that the Commission's rules "specifically prohibit amateur stations from transmitting communications 'in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer.'"

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, offered "This *Public Notice* is intended to clarify a difficult issue. A wide range of unofficial -- and frankly some incorrect -- interpretations have been offered on this topic in various public forums recently. DA-09-2259 is the official FCC notice on this issue. Though issued jointly by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau ([WTB](#)), the Enforcement Bureau ([EB](#)) and the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau ([PSHSB](#)) under delegated authority from the Commission, the *Notice* makes it clear that WTB is the Bureau at the FCC with jurisdiction over the Amateur Radio Service rules and their interpretation."

The *Public Notice* states that, in order to facilitate participation by employees who wish to engage in government-sponsored drills and emergency exercises on behalf of their employers, a waiver can be requested from the WTB *by the government agency sponsoring the drill or exercise* (and not by the individual who wishes to participate in the drill or exercise). Such a request must follow established procedures for requesting a temporary waiver of the

Commission's rules. The government entity conducting the drill must include in its waiver application the following information:

- When and where the drill will take place,
- Identification of the amateur licensees expected to transmit amateur communications on behalf of their employer,
- Identification of the employer(s) on whose behalf the amateur(s) will be transmitting, and
- A brief description of the drill.

"It should be noted," Henderson said, "that the waiver request must be filed and acted upon *in advance* of the drill. The waiver must be actually granted by the Commission *before* the amateurs participate in the drill. It is not enough to apply -- the waiver must be granted first."

The public notice also emphasizes that in an *actual emergency*, the Part 97 rules "provide that an amateur station may use any means of radio communication at its disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and the immediate protection of property when normal communications systems are not available. In those specific circumstances, rule waiver is not necessary."

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 or 346-9278, Lane WD8PAJ laned@chartermi.net or 486-8697.

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>

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. Also if you have any comments or suggestions please get a hold of me. 73 until next month, Greg KI8AF@arrl.net



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