

November 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

What a nice break in the weather this past week. Hopefully all of your Ham Radio projects are completed by now, especially outdoor issues. Antennas are up and working, new coax replaced if needed, and connectors sealed properly.

The digital modes are having a robust renewal of interest especially FT-8. Have you thought of exploring FT-8, building an NVIS antenna, operating satellites or using Winlink?

We are thinking of having a Zoom meeting in December and could have a short program on some of the above topics. More to follow!

Please stay safe and remember our Sunday night net.

73,

Lou, KG8NK

Late word has reached the Standing Wave that Lou recently had a fall on the ice and sustained some minor injuries. Our wishes for a speedy recovery are with him – Ed.

V.E. TESTING:

December, 12, 2020 (see below) *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@arrl.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.

QST QST QST QST QST

From Greg, KI8AF, I have just received word from the MCHD that we can host a VE test session on Saturday December 12th. We will need to practice social distancing, everyone to be wearing a mask, etc. We will limit attendance to 10 individuals which will include 3 or 4 examiners.

Date: December 12, 2020
Time: 8:30 am
Location: Marquette County Health Department Building (basement level)
Cost: \$15.00
Contact: Greg KI8AF (ki8af@arrl.net or 225-1594) as **you must pre-register**

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.

Cancellations!

The following is a list of local events that have been cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- The HARA Christmas party.
- The UP 200 Sled Dog Race.
- HARA Swap and Shop (or Shop and Shop) for Feb 2021.

As of this writing, the Noquemanon Ski Races are still scheduled per the Ski Race Committee,



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! This past week (November 13th) we had ten check-ins, which set a record! The net meets at 28.400 MHz 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!

HARA H&W Net

This net is being temporarily suspended. Stay tuned for updates. Ed

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.

Lou, KG8NK



News

from the desk of N8NAV



As I have mentioned before, I am very slowly getting my feet wet as the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Ham Radio Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Marquette County. Over the past few months we have been a part of ARES exercises utilizing 2-meter FM voice – both simplex and using repeaters. In November, some of the group were participants in a Red Cross exercise in which a digital mode known as Winlink was utilized. Now, other than some FT-8 work, I am not much of a digital operator. In fact, until the week of the exercise I didn't even have Winlink installed on my Ham Radio applications PC! Following some very detailed verbal and written instructions, I think I successfully submitted the required message traffic, although I have yet to receive an acknowledgement. As Lou mentioned in his opening remarks, as soon as we can get clear of these COVID-related restrictions, it will be great to have some hands-on training on some of these topics. I hate to sound like a broken record, but Stay Tuned!

We've now had a couple of brief brushes with winter weather. Stay safe and if you need to travel, please be careful! The winter months can be challenging both from travel and power perspectives. So I encourage you to keep Amateur Radio emergency preparedness in mind. If you are interested in joining ARES, please complete a registration form at: www.arrl.org/ares and forward it to me at n8nav1@charter.net.

Buy, Sell, or Trade



As much as I wish, this is **NOT** my Ham Shack. But I thought it an appropriate picture for this topic.

With the cancellation of most (all) of the Hamfests, including our own February Swap & Shop, the suggestion has been made to dedicate a portion of the Standing Wave to those interested in parting with some of their radio-related treasures. **PLEASE** limit your offerings exclusively to those items (no camps, snow blowers, etc.). Send your items to me at n8nav1@charter.net. Please include all pertinent info (name, call, contact info, description of equipment, asking price, etc.). Pictures are encouraged.

Parting Thoughts

1. **A note about club dues.** Normally the HARA Christmas Party is an excellent opportunity to renew your annual club dues. Unfortunately, the Christmas Party – along with just about everything else – is canceled this year. So it has been suggested that I include a short reminder that your club membership renewal period starts on January 1st of each year. Dues are \$15 for individual members and \$20 for a family membership. They can be mailed to the club P.O. Box 1183, Marquette, MI 49855.

2. Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP

Have you seen, the solar flux numbers are up in the 90s!

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, "chewing-the-fat" QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. However, there is a very easy and quick requested signup form that can be found at <https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/>. Once you have read the page, and optionally registered for the event simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. So lets grab that **bug**, clean those contacts, and let'er fly! We want to hear that "Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the date! The event begins on Saturday November 21st (00:00 UTC) and concludes Sunday Nov. 22nd (23:59 UTC), 2020

That's 4:00 PM Friday (Nov. 20th) afternoon until 3:59 PM Pacific Time Sunday (Nov. 22nd Pacific LOCAL Time).

For more information, to register your station, and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an **On-line chat window** link can be found near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at <https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/> We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM



3. From page 66 of the December issue of QST:

Skywarn Recognition Day 2020: COVID-19 Adjustments

Each year on SKYWARN Recognition Day, radio amateurs celebrate the relationship between the amateur radio community and the National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN program. The purpose of the event is to recognize amateur radio operators for their vital public service during times of severe weather, and to strengthen the bond between them and their local NWS office. The event is co-sponsored by ARRL and the NWS.

During the event, radio amateurs typically participate from their home stations and stations at NWS forecast offices (**ours in Negaunee has the callsign WX8MQT – Ed.**) with the goal of making contacts with as many NWS forecast offices as possible. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions this year, participation from NWS forecast offices will be minimal. Because of this, the focus will shift to contacting as many SKYWARN-trained spotters as possible.

Operators are encouraged to exchange their name, location, SKYWARN Recognition Day number, and current weather conditions with other participating stations. Radio amateurs who wish to participate may sign up for a SKYWARN Recognition Day number by completing the registration form on the event website. For more information and full operating guidelines, visit www.weather.gov/crh/skywarnrecognition.

SKYWARN Recognition Day 2020 will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC on December 5.

4. As reported in an email posting by Greg, KI8AF, last month, the FCC is contemplating imposing a \$50 fee for new, or renewed, Ham Radio licenses. The chance for individuals, or groups, to comment on this proposal ended on November 16, 2020. Our own Eric Smith, N8RRZ, composed an extremely well-written response. It is rather lengthy. So rather than attempt to copy and paste it here, it is included as a separate attachment to the Standing Wave. Many thanks Eric for your commendable effort on behalf of radio amateurs across the U.S.!



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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