

October 2014



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. 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: **October 2, 2014**
Time: **7:00 PM *****

CLUB OFFICERS, 2014

Pres. Fred Mouser KD8JIP
VP: Bruce Carlson N9MDE
Sec. Mike Beltz KD8JIR
Treas. Lucille Scotti KD8PTE
Board Members:
Lou Gembolis KG8NK (Past Pres.)
Ralph Watters N8HXG
Lane Dawson WD8PAJ
EC – Jack Nelson N8JRN

STANDING WAVE

Editor, Greg KI8AF (final issue)
Publishing, LaneWD8PAJ
Distribution, Greg KI8AF

REPEATERS

K8LOD, 147.270 / .870 with 100 Hz PL-Tone Marquette
K8LOD, 146.910 / .310 Ishp.
N8RRZ, 146.640 / .040 Gwinn with 100 Hz PL-tone
K8LOD-3.144.390 APRS Digi Mqt
KBOP, 146.820/.220 w/100 Hz Tone Ely Township

WHAT'S NEXT FOR US

October is Election of Officer's Month

Each October HARA elects club officers for the upcoming year and that time is once again upon us. So you, as a HARA member can do your part by volunteering to take on one of the clubs officer's positions. It sounds like club secretary Mike KD8JIR and Lucille KD8PTE our treasurer are willing to remain in their current positions for at least one more year. Thanks to both of them for doing their part.

But the president and vice-president positions will be vacated and need to be filled by a club member. Do your part, step forward and volunteer.

This and That Reminders

A few members meet each Friday for noon lunch at the Market Place located on the NMU campus. The Market Place is in between Gant and Spalding Halls. All are welcome.

The 10 meter Friday evening (7:00pm) net is starting to pick up steam again the end of summer close at hand. The frequency is 28.400 MHz. All are welcome.

Welcome Bill KD8ZMJ to our local ham radio ranks.

Some work has started at the 27 site for repairs to our 2 meter antenna and the installation of another 440 antenna. There is more work to be completed before winter sets in.

V.E. TESTING:

12/13 **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.
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@arri.net.

10/04 **Hancock:** 9:00am eastern time, ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 400 INGOT STREET, HANCOCK, MI
Ingot Street is located across from the Quincy hill lookout, just north of Hancock...Contact: Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF at (906) 482-7743 if you have questions

??/?? **Iron Mountain:** 9:00am central time, (arrive by 8:30am)
Dickinson County Library (conference room), contact Mark J. Lewis N8UKD (906) 776-1553, 412 Fairmount St. Kingsford, Mi 49802

10/11 **Gladstone:** Delta County Amateur Radio Society Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins welcome) Contact: Dave Palmgren - N8DP, n8dp@dcars.org, (906) 428-2271
VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: 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.*

HARA's Monthly Meeting Programs

December 2013: Christmas Party

January 2014: Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) antennas

February 2014: HF station setup and operation. Bruce N9MDE

March 2014: ARES and RACES. Lou KG8NK

April 2014: Repeater design, installation and setup. Paul KB0P

May 2013: Storm Spotter Training: NWS staff

June 2014: Field Day 28, 29

July 2014:

August 2014: Summer Picnic

September 2014: G5RV antenna discussion

October 2014: G5RV antenna construction

November 2014: Winter Spotter Training. NWS staff

December 2014: Christmas Party

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 October go to: James KC8YTW, Gerald W8SAX, Joe N8HLH, Jim AB8NF, Dale ND8A, and Brian N8TLD.

What's Your Favorite Ham Website?

<http://k9yc.com/TXNoise.pdf> and k9yc.com/K6XXAmpTalk.pdf

<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>

Past September meeting

At last month's meeting we discussed the G5RV antenna developed by Louis Varney, G5RV – Silent Key. We discussed various aspects of the G5RV and why Mr. Varney developed it.

We also discussed methods of feeding it including the use of a coax choke or a 1:1 current balun. It's interesting to note that there is a low-angle vertical component radiated off of the 450 ohm ladder line because of the mismatch between the ladder line and the coax feeding it. A coax choke is then used to keep rf from being radiated off of the coaxial cable (feed line).

If a 1:1 balun were used to link the coax to the ladder line, it would be very effective at reducing common mode currents on the coax. But that would reduce the low angle component.

So we concluded that the use of balun or choke would depend on the operation and working conditions.

After the meeting, I did some research on making a simple choke by wrapping coax around a pvc core. I have done this and it's easy to do and effective. But I found that people have had problems with the bending effect and sun breaking down the cable dielectric etc. In place of this, a ferrite clip on choke can be used. They slide over the coax at the feedpoint. Everyone seemed to enjoy the discussion, I know I did!

Hands on night – October meeting

It was later decided to not build the two G5RV antennas as a group. Rather we could buy a ready made antenna(s) to give out at the Christmas Party. There is very little cost difference, but the version we would have made may be a better quality.

The VP position

At the September meeting I announced that I would be stepping down from the Vice President position effective at the October meeting. I was very honored to be nominated for club positions a year ago and have enjoyed the Vice President duties. I enjoyed being involved in the club presentations/programs and appreciate the support I received. My emphasis is not so much technical, but learning and advancement. Hopefully we all learned this year and it will better position us to “elmer” others and make sure all of the growing emergency communication works effectively, or could be set up in a hurry if required!

While I respect and appreciate the time and talent that many hams provide, I like others, see room to progress here and there. I did put a lot of thought into this, interviewed and met with people, and submitted a summary to the club board and officers for consideration.

I realize that there are others with plans for progressing and I plan to be a part of that.

Best of 73's, Bruce, N9MDE



Recent work at the 27 repeater site captured on film by Fred KD8JIP

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 member is: Lane WD8PAJ laned@chartermi.net or 486-8697 and Bruce Pierce KH6IK at rbrucepierce@gmail.com or 906 232-0798.

My Final Edition as Editor of the *Standing Wave*

It has been over 11 years since I took the reins as editor of HARA's *Standing Wave* newsletter. It has been an enjoyable adventure but with that came lots of work and time spent trying to put together a good quality monthly newsletter. It is time to put someone else in charge of the *Standing Wave*: someone with fresh ideas and maybe a different slant on articles that have appeared in our newsletter. Hopefully we have someone in the wings that can take on the editor's duties in the very near future. In the meantime I'll still be at the monthly meetings, helping out with the different events we work and maybe even contributing a photo now and then to the new *Standing Wave* editor. So the time has come to pass the ~~toeh~~ keyboard. It's been a ride!

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 and my tenure as editor.



“Remember to look forward and be positive”

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