

September 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: **September 3, 2009**
Time: **7:30 PM**

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

1. Election of Officers
2. NWS/Skywarn Recognition
3. Christmas Party
4. Noquemanon Ski Race
5. Swap'n'Shop
6. U.P. 200/MNR

HARA Dues are Due

Yes it is that time of year. The club's year starts on September 1st of each year. Dues are very reasonable, in fact they haven't risen in more years than one can remember. Think what a dollar bought you fifteen or twenty years ago compared to today, yet HARA has managed to keep dues at the current level because of fund raisers, prudent spending and keeping the membership level high. Membership rates are as follows: single \$15, family \$20, associate \$10, family associate \$15 and student \$7.50. Please get your dues mailed to our secretary at the address shown above or better yet come to the September meeting and pay in person.

Election of Club Officers

Yes just like paying dues annually we need to elect club officers annually. And that will take place at the October monthly meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the September meeting or if you are interested please get hold of one of the current club officers. Those members currently serving have done so for a few years now and they'd not only like a break but also give other members a chance to serve in one of the elected positions. It is hard to believe that with a membership as large as we have it is like pulling teeth in getting members to want to serve in one of the four elected positions. Many of the members sitting at each monthly meeting have served in the past, and for many of them, more than one or two terms but for those of you that haven't served or to our new members please think about running for an officer position. The duties aren't demanding and help is always at hand.

V.E. TESTING:

09/17 **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

09/12 **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**

10/10 **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

10/10 **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/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.*

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 September go to, but first belated August birthday wishes to Adam KD8IAX. Now onto September: Dennis WD8OKJ, Stu KD8DRD, Chuck W8GEV, Ted KB8HLZ, Mike KE8IL, Jim N8NAV, Dwight W8ABX, Fred N8BTS, Steve KD8CCP, Mary KB8CKR, Rod KB8DNS, Pat KB8PEN, Brandon N8PUM and Eric N8RRZ. Lots of birthdays to announce for September, sure hope I didn't miss anyone.

HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the July 2, 2009, Meeting

Negaunee, Michigan

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Lou, KG8NK, who highlighted the article in the last club newsletter regarding the Alger County Ham Club who is in need of financial support. The Salvation Army is looking for ham operators for the Saturn Program.

Club officers present: President Lou, KG8NK; Vice President Lane, WD8PAJ; Secretary Sheree, KD8EDS; and Treasurer Lee, KD8BJC. Introductions followed with 19 members and 3 guests present.

Additions to the agenda were made as follows: New Business - Lighthouse, Exercise, and Bike Race. A motion was made by Rich, N8GBA, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Dave, KD8DRF, seconded by Mike, KE8IL, to approve the June 4, 2009, meeting minutes. Motion passed without dissent.

Lee, KD8BJC, presented the treasurer's report and stated the bank financial statements now close at the end of the month. A motion was made by Greg, KI8AF, seconded by Mark, KF8RV, to approve the treasurer's report as printed. Motion passed without dissent.

Correspondence/mail: Sheree, KD8EDS, stated an email has been received from Dale, WA8EFK, ARRL Section Manager - Michigan, thanking the club for its contribution to the ARRL Michigan PRB-1 Committee. A letter was received from the ARRL Scholarship Foundation acknowledging the \$25 contribution in memory of Silent Key Graham, W8JOM. An email was received from Dennis, N3DG, stating there are 259 Electronic QSLs at no cost waiting for K8LOD at eQSL.cc.

Committee Reports:

APRS/Packet/Repeater - Greg, KI8AF, reported APRS is back, Packet is down, and the repeater is working well.

ARES/RACES - Lou, KG8NK, stated there is a Homeland Security grant available for amateur radio equipment for every EOC center in every county in the U.P. provided certain conditions are met within a certain time frame.

PR - Lee, KD8BJC, submitted notice of tonight's meeting to *The Mining Journal*, and it was printed in last night's paper. Greg, KI8AF, reported the last testing session resulted in 5 new Techs and 1 upgrade.

Tech - Greg, KI8AF, reported no update. Rich, N8GBA, and Greg, KI8AF, put the amateur television equipment together which needed parts; and it was used at the simulated emergency exercise. A motion was made by Dave, KD8DRF, seconded by Mike, KE8IL, to approve bills in the amounts of \$106 and \$25.35 for parts needed for the amateur television equipment. Motion passed without dissent. Rich, N8GBA, noted the antenna on the 27 repeater will be changed out as soon as Fred, N8BTS, is available.

Lighthouse - Greg, KI8AF, reported Pete, K8PT, is looking for hams to operate at the Marquette Lighthouse on August 14, 15, and 16.

Exercise - Rich, N8GBA, stated a simulated plane explosion exercise was held last Saturday at the airport. All emergency services participated including 9 club members. The club's amateur television was used, and a discussion followed concerning the possible use of a digital transmitter in the future. A meeting was held after the exercise to go over the details and the few problems that occurred.

Bike Race - Rich, N8GBA, reported help is needed for the bike race on August 8.

- The 50/50 drawing was won by Pat, AB8RE.
- Caps were won by Dave, KD8RF, and Lee, KD8BJC.

A presentation on CW will be made by Bruce, KG8YT, after tonight's meeting.

Mike, KE8IL, moved, seconded by Norm, KD8BPC, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion passed without dissent.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheree, KD8EDS
Secretary



Ore To Shore 2009

Pete K8PT watching for more racers at the Beaver Dam location west of Forestville.

HIAWATHA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the August 6, 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 18 members present.

A motion was made by Norm, KD8BPC, seconded by Rich, N8GBA, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion passed.

The minutes of the July 2009 meeting were distributed for review. A motion was made by Bill, KC8EWD, seconded by Ralph, N8HXG, to approve the July 2, 2009, meeting minutes. Motion passed without dissent.

Lee, KD8BJC, presented the treasurer's report and noted this year's club dues expire at the end of August. A motion was made by Jim, WB8IEH, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD, to approve the treasurer's report as printed. Motion passed without dissent.

Correspondence/mail: Sheree, KD8EDS, stated the annual Nonprofit Corporation Update required by the State of Michigan has been received and is due by October 1. She will check with the State to see if the form can be filed after the October election of officers to avoid an additional filing fee.

Committee Reports:

APRS/Packet/Repeater - Greg, KI8AF, reported Paul, KB0P, made an update to the repeater and some maintenance has been performed. Rich, N8GBA, stated the antenna on the 27 repeater will be changed out as soon as Fred, N8BTS, is available.

ARES/RACES - Rich, N8GBA, noted E-Team training is upcoming. Lou, KG8NK, encouraged ARES/RACES members to attend.

PR - Lee, KD8BJC, stated she was gone most of the month and will be gone most of the upcoming month and needs someone to get information out to the newspapers, especially the September testing information. Lane, WD8PAJ, volunteered to take care of this.

Tech - Greg, KI8AF, reported no update.

Bike Race - Rich, N8GBA, stated more volunteers are needed for the bike race on August 8. A discussion followed regarding details of the race.

Field Day 2010 - Lane, WD8PAJ, reported the Ishpeming Township Hall is available for next year's Field Day but a deposit must be made in order to reserve the location. A motion was made by Jack, N8JRN, seconded by Bill, KC8EWD, to reserve the Ishpeming Township Hall for June 26-27, 2010, for a \$25 per day deposit. Motion passed without dissent. Lane, WD8PAJ, will take care of reserving the hall.

Lighthouse - Greg, KI8AF, reported Pete, K8PT, is looking for hams to operate at the Marquette Lighthouse on August 14, 15, and 16. Contact Pete, K8PT, if interested.

Nominating Committee for Officers - Lou, KG8NK, stated the current officers are not running for re-election and asked for volunteers to serve on a Nominations Committee. There were no volunteers. The Constitution and Bylaws call for nominations in September and election of officers in October.

Sled Dog Race Coordinator - Lou, KG8NK, reported he is looking for someone to take this position.

Jim, W8QQE, noted he had seen a wind generator for about \$500 at Menard's and suggested it would be a nice addition to emergency services if there is any grant money available for this.

Norm, KD8BPC, reported the wiring was completed at the 91 repeater site.

Lee, KD8BJC, stated while traveling in the Sault Ste. Marie area she was able to chat with another traveling ham operator and had questions on how to use APRS. A discussion followed.

- The 50/50 drawing was won by Bill, KC8EWD.
- An HT stand made by Pete, KG8YTX, was won by Jim, W8QQE.
- Caps were won by Richard, KD8IZL; Norm, KD8BPC; and Bill, KC8EWD.

Jim, W8QQE, moved, seconded by Jack, N8JRN, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Motion passed without dissent.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheree, KD8EDS
Secretary

On The Bands

International Lighthouse Weekend



What a busy weekend. Little did we know that Lighthouse weekend here in Marquette would include a grand opening of the new Coast Guard Station? Guests and cars inundated the property. Greg Hanson, KI8AF, who is high in the food chain of the Coast Guard auxiliary put on his fancy uniform and reported for duty, giving tours and meeting lots of nice folks. Pretty flashy Greg, you clean up pretty well.



However, Friday, he had his work close on and after our weekly lunch at Bonanza a contingent went down to the lighthouse to set up. This was the largest group for set up that I recall and we did it in record time...two hours flat. Thanks guys. We set up the R-7 vertical at about 70 feet over the water next to the light and then set up a G5RV from the light down to a tree in a sloping fashion. With two stations set up and water all around us, these antennas should and did, do well.



We came back at 8 p.m. to start the Lighthouse activities. Interestingly, not many people signed up on the operating schedule to operate the two stations but we had operators ready to go at the start. In fact we had about 5 times the people needed at the start with most wanting to operate. I hope not many were disappointed. Next year, lets sign-up on the schedule and spread it out. Band conditions were fair to poor with Friday night with heavy QRN which took a toll on the number of QSO's we made. However, Saturday morning it cleared up and Joe, AJ8MH was up early and had a great 4 hour run.

During the operation on Saturday and Sunday the Maritime Museum conducted lighthouse tours and they brought groups up to the second floor to see our operation. It was a great opportunity to present ham radio to lots of visitors and explain lighthouse weekend.



N8NRG, Bill operated CW during the weekend and John KC8ULE operated PSK-31 and of course most of the operation was SSB. It was a great time to help new operators get some HF experience and Dave, KD8DRF took to it well. Lyn, KC8GKH operated both Saturday and Sunday and seems to really enjoy this event. Who would not enjoy the beautiful views from the second floor overlooking the lower harbor with those wonderful breezes ever present?



Paul, KB0P stopped up and told me he had never been in the Lighthouse before. I hope you got up the actual light Paul; it's a thrill to look out over the water and imagine the history of it all. Well, here are our totals. 459 QSO's, 47 States (we missed Hawaii, Utah and Wyoming), 13 countries and 9 known lights. I sure had fun...I hope you did too. Thanks to all that helped and if you didn't get a chance to participate, plan to do it next year. 73, Pete-K8PT

Whopping 10% increase for ILLW 2009

The **International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend (ILLW)** held on 15 & 16 August had an all time record **442** registrations from 50 countries. Coinciding with this amateur radio fun event annual on the third weekend in August is the International Association of Lighthouse Keepers world wide open day on the Sunday with some lighthouses open to the public along with a festive atmosphere. The ILLW began in 1995 some 13-years ago in Scotland as the Northern Lighthouses Award for ham radio operators, and became an international event two years later.

ILLW Event Coordinator and Webmaster **Kevin Mulcahy VK2CE** reports that this year saw a 10% increase in registrations to the website illw.net. Alaska was a first this year with an entry for Sentinel Island. Germany listed 55 lighthouses, Australia 49, USA 47, and England 43. Malaysia celebrated its lighthouse weekend with nine lighthouses. Kevin VK2CE says the Azores, Balearic Islands, Egypt, Slovenia, Panama were some of the smaller countries represented with one entry from each.

He says some ask us what the connection is between amateur radio and lighthouses. In a word, 'communication'. Lighthouse keepers communicated with ships via flags in the early days, then radio in later years. Most lighthouses have a flag pole with a cross bar near the top for signal flags. Some even have a small building near the flag pole for storage of flags. Semaphore was another mode of communication as well as Aldis lamps. The lighthouse weekend aims to keep the memory alive of those men and women who maintained these navigation aids sometimes in terrible conditions. It is also an aim of the weekend to bring to the public's attention the plight of some of these beautiful structures some of which have been neglected and vandalized over the years through lack of use and supervision.

The **Ayr Amateur Radio Group**, the sole organizer of the ILLW, sincerely thanks all participants who have supported the event this year and in past years. Without this support the event would not be the success it is. 10 entries have already been received for next year's ILLW on 21-22 August 20

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.

EMCOMM and You!

Lou KG8NK and Greg KI8AF attended the E Team training offered through the Marquette County Emergency Management and Michigan State Police. E Team was designed by emergency managers and first responders to facilitate the task of managing incidents, disasters, and planned events. The notification process is via E Team Alert and/or email, telephone, cell phone or pagers. This is a statewide system that involves government at all level as well as other groups that maybe called upon.

Couple More Photos from Lighthouse Weekend



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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