



The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hello everyone. I hope everyone is enjoying the weather. We better enjoy it while we can; it won't last forever.

We are putting out the paper a little sooner than usual this month. Ted (K8AQM), our editor, is on his way to St. Pierre and I am sure he will have lots of fun while he is there. He will be back at the end of the month. I can hardly wait to hear all of his radio and other related stories. It will be interesting to see how many contacts all of the guys have made while in St. Pierre.

Thanksgiving dinner will be this week. I hope you all don't eat too much. You will only have a few weeks until you can eat another big dinner. Christmas is just around the corner. Maybe we will have a little bit of snow for Christmas and then it can go away.

Fort Wayne hamfest was good again this year. I don't think it was quite as big as usual, but there were quite a few vendors set up. It was good to see some of our club members there checking out the bargains. There were quite a few there this year.

With the election of three board members at the last meeting, our elections are done once again for another year. The board members are Norm (W8TTH), Dick (K8GX), and Larry (W8LNR). Congratulations to all of them. Hopefully we will have another great year.

Please send any pictures you may have of past club events to Bob (K2IBM) and he will scan them into his computer for the website. All photos will be returned promptly. Bob has done a fantastic job with the website. Please go and check it out at www.w8tqe.com. Also, don't forget to send Ted (K8AQM) any articles or pictures that you would like to see in the newsletter. He is always in need of good articles. Thanks go out to Ted and Bob for the great jobs they are doing for the club.

At the November meeting, Ted (K8AQM) made a gesture to be the head of a committee to brainstorm and organize future programs for the club meetings. Anyone with ideas needs to get a hold of Ted. These ideas are not limited to just ham radio. There are other things that the group shares as common interests. A couple I can think of are photography and flying. I am sure that you can think of plenty more.

I want to remind everyone that we need to set dates for the Technician classes. We will have to decide these dates soon. In the past two years we have done a video class and that has worked out just as good as our old 14 week classes did. It is much easier to get people to a two-day class. Also, the success results were just as good, if not better than they had been in the past. Start working on the people you know that want to become hams and get them hyped up to take a class. We need to keep our hobby going by getting new people involved. There is no one more capable of convincing others to get involved than you are. It is your hobby. Get excited and tell others about all the fun you have. If you are excited others will be too.

That is all for now. Hope to see you at the meeting on December 2nd.

73,

The Big One Goes Up!

The need for antennas has changed at "AQM". It use to be only mono-banders of stacks would do as we pursued the contests but contesting no longer holds the number one position in my amateur radio goals so the stacked mono-banders are now history. A log periodic antenna covering 7.0-30 MHz does everything I need so Irish Hills Crane Co, was brought in to remove the single Hygain 204 20M monobander and replace it with the new log periodic. With the help of many friends; NU8Z, WE8Z, K8ADM, KG8CO, K8AA and of course W8TTH the old 204 was lowered and the new log was ready to go. The photo to the right is the crane used here and below the 204 is being



removed and lowered while NU8Z, K8ADM and KG8CO ready the log for raising. It takes a lot of help and preparation to get an antenna weighing 100 lbs with a boom of 30 feet into the air. W8TTH and I were on the tower and it sure



looks pretty as the big antenna rises up to the 105 foot level to meet us. You just hope for a basically wind-free day and that there is no damage done to the antenna elements as they weave their way through the trees and to the top where we wait to bolt the



antennas in place. But I have to tell you it's not a good feeling when K8JWV shows up with the "meat wagon". Sure he was just curious but Norm and I were wondering what he knew that we didn't! But finally the antenna is up and in place and it looks so good against the blue sky. The swr is where and what



it should be and the signals are loud and easy to copy.

A huge "thank you" to all the guys who made it possible and to K8AA for taking the photos.

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...NU8Z "enjoyed" the grilling he got at his first board meeting?
 ...KG8CO, N8CC and K8AQM are planning another summer Dxpedition to the South Pacific?
 ...W8LNR is married to a wonderful woman? Poor lady!
 ...K8AA and K8AQM got to work their friend Ned from KH6BB on the Battleship Missouri?
 ...KG8CO has the biggest antennas in Lenawee County? Four elements on 40M at 125 ft!
 ...NU8z remarked going into the AQM Shack is like going into a radio museum?
 ...K8NP is restoring old gear now and building from a 1963 handbook?
 ...N8CC now has 4 elments on 40M, 2 4 el on 20M, 2 5 el on 15M, 2 5 el on 10M, 2 full wave loops on 80M, a 1/4 vertical on 80M, a 1/4 wave vertical on 160M, 6 1000 ft beverages for listening, 2 40M di-poles, a 20M dipole, a 15M dipole...and NOTHING on 2M or 440! Is that an antenna farm or what?
 ...the new log periodic at K8AQM works great!
 ...KG8CO stress tested his guy wires by "bouncing" W8TTH's gin pole off them after falling 70 feet?
 ...W8LNR has learned the cheapest part of a tower is actually the tower sections?
 ...everyone wants K8AQM to replace "The White Rat"? Who's going to pay for the new shack?
 ...W8LNR has his 6M beam up at 90 feet and his 2M vertical at 95 ft, TH-6 next at 80 feet?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club board met on November 4, 2005 at the CAP building. The following persons were present, President Ginny W8TTX, Larry W8LNR, Ted K8AQM, Norm W8TTH, Bob K2IBM, Mark NU8Z, Art KC8GTA, Alan N8TIB, Alex N8QZO and Bill KA8ARK. We discussed the current repeater and the cost of the telephone at the site. also the possibility of having to move to another site if we do not pay the telephone bill. We also discussed the lagging number of members and various things which might be done to remedy the situation. The thermostat in the CAP building has been changed so it must be set up each time we meet, due to the anticipated heat cost increase. The board adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club met at the CAP building and was called to order by president Ginny W8TTX with 23 persons present. Roll call was by call sign. The minutes of the October meeting were approved upon a motion by Nick KC8ONZ second by Norm W8TTH. The treasurer's report by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of \$5,066. A motion by Bob K2IBM to approve the treasurer's report second by Nick KC8ONZ was approved. Joe K8YZA talked about the Races program and the need for individual pictures for the members. Joe also needs volunteers for packet radio. See Bob K2IBM for pictures of the new board members. Starting in January we want to begin having programs at all meetings. See Ted K8AQM if you would be willing to serve with him on a program committee. A show of hands indicated 75% of those attending would consider meeting on a night different from Friday. Denny WE8Z motioned to donate \$600 to the CAP in appreciation for use of the building, second by Dick K8GX. Motion passed. Board members elected were Norm W8TTH, Dick K8GX and Larry W8LNR. A motion to destroy the ballots was made by Dick K8GX second by Norm W8TTH. Motion passed. Motion to adjourn by Nick KC8ONZ, second by Dick K8GX passed.

Bill KA8ARK secretary.

That Was Exciting...KG8CO



KG8CO has an awesome setup. You can see his three towers here; 100 ft, 80 ft, and 125 ft. The tall tower needs antennas to match his log periodic and his huge five band yagi. Those antennas are ready for his big tower. Brian has a 4 element 40M yagi and a dual band 2 el 40m and 4 el 20M antenna ready to go up. Brian has everything ready and we all got together to “tram” these antennas up. Unfortunately mother nature decided to make an



otherwise beautiful day very gusty, but we decided to give it a go anyway since our nice days are numbered. We had a great crew assembled, KG8CO and W8TTH on the tower with K8AA, N8TIB, KB8ECG, Brian’s father-in-law and K8AQM on the ground.

W8TTH gives some last minute directions to K8AA on

getting the antennas into place as he and Brian prepare to scale the tower. KB8ECG explains to K8AQM how we’re going to attach the antenna and get the “big sucker” up. Older guys like AQM need a lot of direction.

Anyway, it’s off to the top for KG8CO and W8TTH. The wind was blowing now with gusts of 20-25 mph. Brian and Norm had some rotor work to do before we hauled up the gin pole and got ready to send the 4 element 40M up via



a tram line. Communications between climbers and ground needs to be done via radio as distance and wind make hearing very difficult between the two groups of workers. We used a smaller rope called the tag line, to get tools and such up and down the tower and a much bigger rope to supply the “pull and lift” to the antennas. In fact, K8AA drives a large lawn tractor to provide the lift as the antenna hangs below and slides up the tram line to the top. But first the gin pole has to go up. Brian’s father-in-law and K8AQM provided the pull to raise the gin pole. The pole is



quite heavy and requires two people to comfortably raise it to the 120 ft level. K8AQM had just mentioned that the rope seemed pretty frayed and ought to be replaced very soon. The gin pole was raised another 10 feet to about 80 feet when, “twang,! ...pop!...zoom!” The line snapped and the gin pole was plunging down from 80 feet trailing the rope behind. It missed one set of guy wires but caught the lower set and “bounced” off tangling itself at 35 feet! Everyone paused and



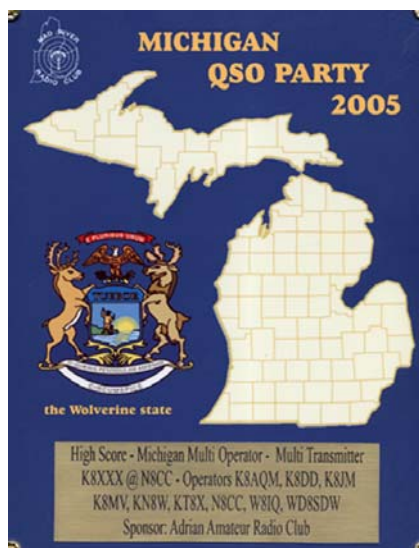
took a collective breath before asking, “everyone ok?” Brian and Norm were checked on and although a bit shaken from the ginpole-guy wire collision, all seemed well. It was at that point that everyone decided, “enough, quit while we’re ahead.” Brian and Norm came

down and you can see the look of relief on Brian as he was able to “walk away” from the project. But K8AA and K8ADM seemed to enjoy the adventure and looked disappointed the excitement was over! We’ll wait for better weather and a new rope and again tackle this antenna project at KG8CO’s.



Brian wishes to thank all those who came to help out in this project.

A special thanks to N8TIB for the great pictures.



Award To Be Issued

Last year (2004) the our club won the “club award” for the Michigan QSO Party. This past year a group of talented and “not-so-talented” operators were determined to set a new all-time high multi-multi score in the MQP and to bring new testers on board to “learn the tricks of the trade.” We gathered at N8CC’s shack in Barry County and assembled an awesome pile of hardware to compete under the call, “K8XXX“. Although there were a total of four new testers visiting Jeff’s shack, we only managed to get two to actually sit down and “make a go” of it. They did very well and enjoyed themselves immensely. Hopefully they’ll be back next year and even bring a few of their friends to sit in and join the fun.

We did set an all-time high score and won our entry category. The best part for the Adrian Club lies in the fact that it is the award sponsored by the Adrian ARC!

President

Virginia Schutte, **W8TTX**
w8ttx@yahoo.com

Vice President

Marge Willey, **KC8TMM**
k8gx@tc3net.com

Secretary

Bill Groover, **KA8ARK**
billgro@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Mark Hinkleman, **NU8Z**
k8aa@arri.net

Executive Board

Neil Griffith, **KC8DAR**
njgriffith@verizon.net

Dick Densel, **K8GX**
K8gx@tc3net.com

Norman Schutte, **W8TTH**
Norm@normsfab.com

Larry Lacy, **W8LNR**
W8LNR@aol.com

Editor: Ted Rachwa
K8AQM

K8AQM@arri.net

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Local Area 2 Meter Net and 10 Meter Chats

Sunday 9:00 p.m. The ARES Net on 145.370 - Ken, K8KIC-Net Control
Tuesday 10 Meter CW Local Chat at 8:00 p.m. on 28.050 +/- QRM
Tuesday and Thursday 10 Meter Local Chat 9:00 p.m. on 28.325 +/-QRM

Local Area Repeaters

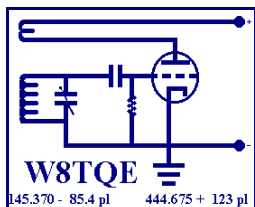
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September , 2006
Hamfest Chair Eric, K8JVVW k8jvw@arri.net

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

www.w8tqe.com
adrianarc@mailman.qth.net



Adrian Amateur Radio Club
Box 26
Adrian, MI 49221



First Class