

The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hi folks! I am sure the weather will break soon and we will see a glimpse of spring. I can hardly wait.

There were a couple of hamfests in March and they were very well attended and everyone seemed to have a great time. Those hamfests were of course Marshall and Toledo. There are a few next month also that Norm (W8TTH) and I will attend. There is one at Mentor on the Lake or Madison Lake whichever you prefer to call it, one in Milford, and one at Cuyahoga Falls. They are not very big hamfests, but they are fairly well attended or at least they were last year.

Don't forget April is the month of the Michigan QSO Party, which is held the weekend of the 16th. We need your support like you gave last year putting us in first place in the contest. We want to hold on to this title if at all possible, but there will be other clubs out there willing to kick our behinds if they can. Get on the air and get those contacts. If you have questions on how the contest works, I am sure Ted (K8AQM), Mark (NU8A), or Dave (K8AA) can answer them for you at the April AARC meeting on April 1st.

Once again, I would like to thank our editor, Ted (K8AQM), for the great job he is doing with "The Tickler". Please support him by sending in articles and pictures. I also want to thank Bob (K2IBM) for the great job on the website. If you haven't been there to check it out, please do. It is located at w8tqe.com.

I don't have a whole lot more to say this month, but I am sure I have forgotten something and will have to bring it up at the meeting. Hope to see you all there.

73,
Ginny W8TTX

The G.O.A.T.

No, this is no “April Fools” joke. This really is a G.O.A.T. and I think by the time you read this you’ll be wanting your own G.O.A.T.! Here’s the commercial ad for The G.O.A.T.

Guywire Operated Antenna Trolley System

<http://www.goatsystem.com/basicgoat.html>

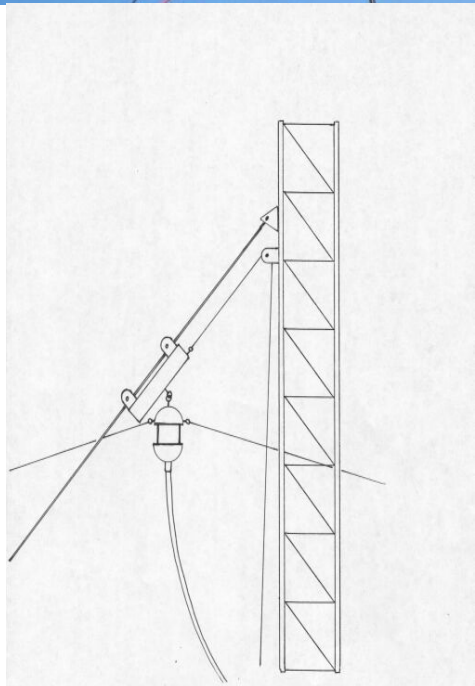
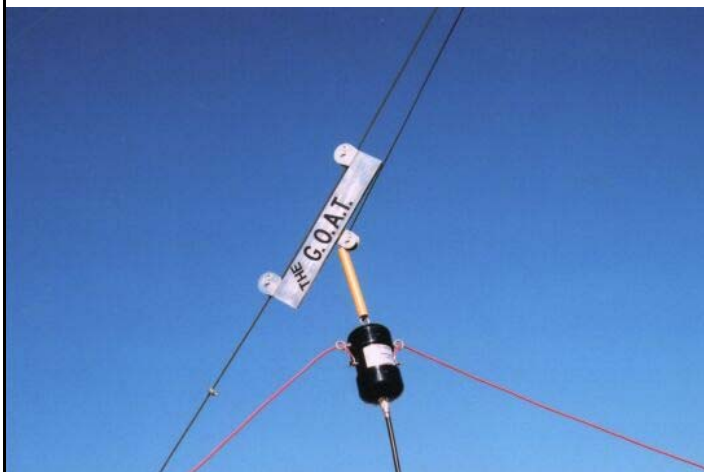
Product Information

As radio enthusiasts we are always looking for new, better, innovative and simple means of hanging metal in thin air for the purpose of sending and receiving radio signals. The G.O.A.T is a new, better, innovative and simple means of getting that metal up in the air. The design was developed, tested and refined over an extended period of time to give smooth and dependable service for many years.

If you are using a tower to support your rigid antennas, you may have either resorted to a yard arm to support wire antennas, simply attached them directly to the tower or been at a loss for an effective solution. The G.O.A.T will help solve your antenna erection problems. The G.O.A.T provides an extremely versatile means of hanging your antennas while using much of your existing hardware. You can locate your dipole or inverted V exactly where you want it and quickly reposition it or raise and lower it for adjustments. If rigid antennas are side mounted on a tower the G.O.A.T will permit antennas to move clear of the side mounted devices. No tower? No problem! The G.O.A.T will operate on almost any rope or non-electrified wire support. Support wire strung from a single tall tree or building to a smaller structure or support wire between other types of high objects can be all that is needed to "raise a G.

O.A.T". The G.O.A.T can even be used to haul hardware or tools to the top of your support structure.

N8CC has made his own “goat” and below is a picture of the “home brew” goat. This weekend we’ll give it a field test as we erect seven dipoles in preparation for the MiQP. Hopefully no more tangled-up wires as we set these antennas off Jeff’s tall towers. Pictures next month of our efforts.



This diagram shows how the G.O.A.T. uses the existing guy wires to raise the antenna to the desired height so it can be attached to the tower.



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...K8AA will have his new yagi up by this time?
 ...it's time to be thinking about collecting "goodies" for our "May 7 Pre-Dayton Hamfest?"
 ...K8GX is working on a 40M "Killer Death Ray" antenna for the MiQP?
 ...W8TTH said he was actually thinking of quitting his auction buying!!!?
 ...NU8Z and ND5S will be mobile in 19 counties for the MiQP? Go Mark and Ron!
 ...K8JWV said he might find time for ham radio "next year"?
 ...KG8CO was heard "rag chewing" on 75M?
 ...K8KIC and K8GX still hold their 10M cw net on Tuesdays, 8:00 PM on 28050 Khz?
 ...WE8Z is excited, his 5th wheel will be made in two weeks?
 ...K8TLT was QRV from KH6 this past month?
 ...the Monday night get togethers are still happening at the CAP building?
 ...K8AQM took half a ton of "modern" gear to N8CC's for the MiQP?
 ...no word from W8LNR regarding his "tower erection" has been heard?
 ...it'll be less than two month until Dayton when you read this?
 ...K8AQM is rebuilding the "White Rat" this spring?
 ...no one has heard from "Kurt"? Must be that dipole we built for him scared him away!
 ...no one has heard from Denny Puleson? He built the K-2 and got his license.
 ...K8KIC has been practicing with his Genlog program for the MiQP?
 ...the Pre-Dayton Hamfest allows us to swap junk without taking it to Dayton? May 7th 8:00-12:00 CAP.
 ...K8AQM could sure use so gossip/articles for the paper?
 ...N8CC has made himself (and K8AQM) a GOAT?

AARC Club Minutes

Board met at the CAP building March 4, 2005, at 7:00 pm. The following were present: President Ginny W8TTX, Dick K8GX, Larry K8LNR, Mark NU8Z, Dave K8AA, Norm W8TTH, Ted K8AQM, Art KC8GTA, Bob K2IBM and Bill KA8ARK. Financial Statement presented by Dave K8AA showed a balance \$4,135.37. Classes for potential hams will begin tomorrow March 5, at the CAP building. It was decided to make a donation to the Madison Fire Department in the amount of \$300 for the use of their truck to help us repair our antennas. The Program next month will be on the Michigan QSO party. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

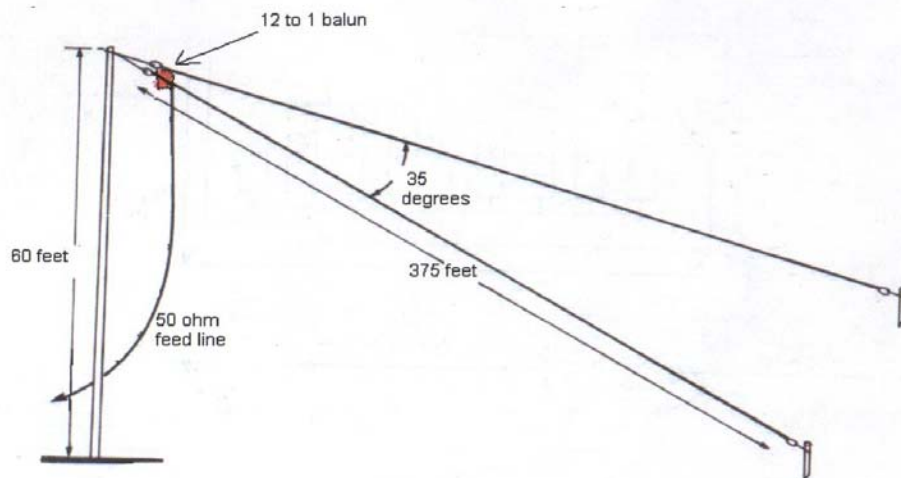
The Club meeting Mar 4, 2005 at the CAP building. The meeting was called to order by President Ginny W8TTX at

7:30 pm with 22 persons present. The minutes of the February club meeting were approved as printed in the Tickler and the Treasurers report presented by Dave K8AA showed a balance of \$4,135.37 was also approved. Club members were reminded to check out the W8TQE web site which is being managed by Bob K2IBM. Club members

thanked Bob K2IBM for his work on the Web site and Ted K8AQM for his work on the Tickler. A \$300 donation was made to the Madison Fire Department for the use of their fire truck in repairing our antennas last Fall. It was announced that the Michigan QSO party will be held April 16, 2005. Remember last year the Adrian club won the first prize. It was moved by Ken K8KIC and second by Mark NU8Z to help sponsor the Mad River radio club plaque for \$65, the motion passed. The Technician first class will be held here tomorrow, March 5. Motion to adjourn by Bob K2IBM second by Harold WA8QPS, motion passed. The program was by Mark NU8Z on his research on directional and non-directional beacons.

The New “Old” V Beam

Over in Nashville, MI lives W8MC, Mark Campbell. Mark only lives a mile from N8CC and of course they “hang around” together. Mark is recovering from hip replacement surgery but has been “thinking and working” on his antenna farm. Mark decided he wanted to put together a V beam antenna that would cover 40-10M. Mark got Jeff to climb his tower and hang a V beam for him. The diagram below shows the construction of the V beam at W8MC.



This antenna requires some serious real-

So what's so great about the V beam? The V beam is a relative of the rhombic antenna which is a wire antenna with very high gain, made cheaply with wire and has a very low angle of radiation (great for working DX). The antenna shown here does not require a tuner and exhibits an swr of less than 2:1 on 40-10M. The antenna is fed with 50 ohm coax and requires a balun of unusual ratio to match the antenna to the 50 ohm coax. The an-

tenna as shown here is bi-directional and bisect the V with a take-off angle of about 17-20 degrees.

Mark had to come up with a 12:1 balun and he had two choices; wind his own or pay \$200 for a commercially available balun. With the help of the article and schematic here, Mark opted for winding his own. It wasn't all that hard to wind the 12:1 balun but it wasn't exactly cheap either. Mark estimates he has about \$100 in parts for this beauty. Mark wanted it to handle the full 1500 watt legal limit and figures if a 100-200 watt version was desired then the price could be reduced. As you can see, Mark enjoys winding baluns and is very accomplished at it. Spacers were used to keep the torroids in their proper places and the coax attaches via an SO-239. The next step was to mount the balun in a weather proof container and attach the antenna and feedline.

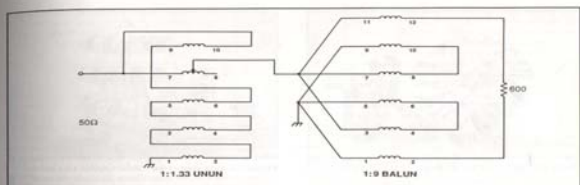


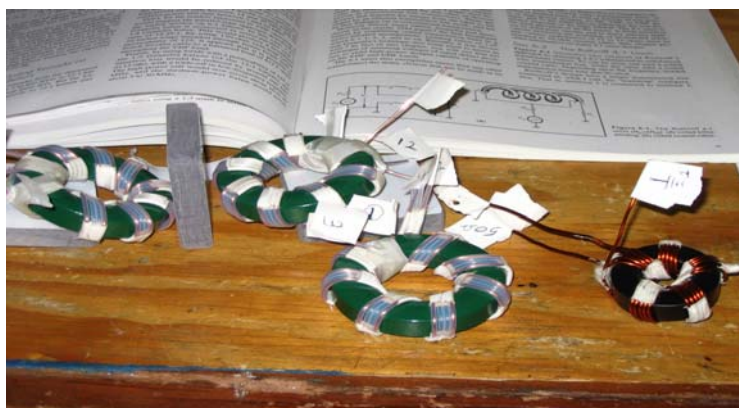
Figure 5-7. Schematic diagram of the series-type 12:1 balun using a 1:1.33 unun in series with a 1:9 Guanella balun.



Photo 5-6. Top view of the high-power 12:1 balun.



Photo 5-4E. Side view of the high-power 12:1 balun.

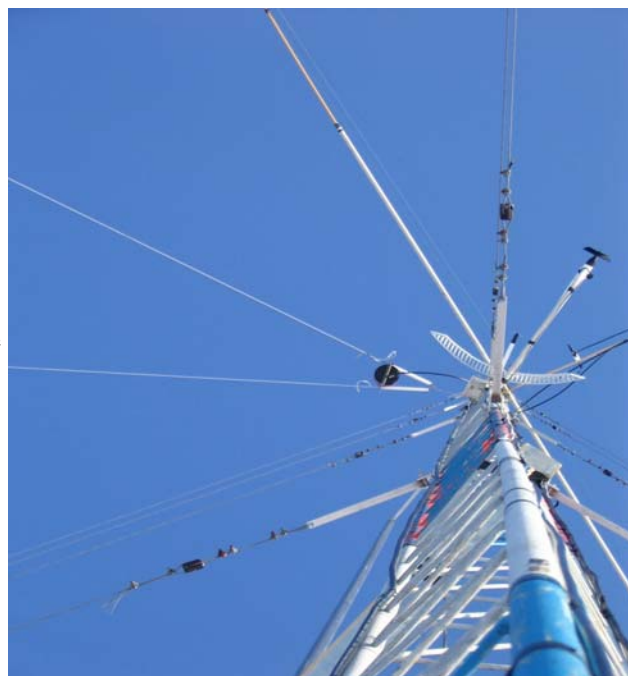




You can see what Mark used as his weather proof container for the balun project, a nice plastic Folger's coffee can! Note the PVC pipes on the top and bottom used to make sure the lid stays securely on. Finally, at a height of 60 feet and looking up from the ground you can see the V beam antenna on Mark's tower.

But the real question is, "Does it work?" Mark is very pleased with the way it works and is amazed at the low level of noise this antenna has when compared with his delta loop and other antennas. N8CC summed it up with the comment, "With the tribander you can hear stateside QSOs and about 3-4 S units less the DX could be heard. When we switched to the V beam the stateside QSOs were gone and the DX was 3-4 S units louder! The antenna appears very directional and has extremely small lobes of high angle radiation." As stated earlier, Mark does not use a tuner with the antenna and he operates on 40-10m with less than a 2:1 SWR on the bands. Maybe a V beam is what you need?

Thanks to W8MC and N8CC for their input.



Pre Dayton Hamfest!

At this time mark your calendar for May 7th and spread the word! The second annual Adrian ARC Hamfest for members and their friends will take place May 7 at the CAP building from 8:00 until 12:00. There is no cover charge nor fee but contributions to the club's repeater fund would be greatly appreciated. The purpose of this "pre-fest" was to prevent us carrying member's gear down to Dayton only to have it bought by locals and brought back again! Gather all your "fleas" and give everyone hear a chance to buy them without carting them to Dayton. Last year the club had nearly \$100 in donations and everyone had a great time, not to mention all the "junk" we swapped to each other! Spread the word to all the gang and invite your friends. No tickets, no door prizes, no parking fees; just plain out horse trading and ham radio fun! See you May 7th!

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The Tickler is the official paper of the Adrian Amateur Radio Club in Adrian, MI. It is printed monthly and is distributed to members of the club, local disaster officials, local electronic outlets and other editors of ham radio newsletters. Articles about activities of members are solicited. Permission is granted to any other publication to reprint items appearing here, provided complete source credit is copied including previous print source. The club owns and operates repeaters W8TQE on 145.370, - 85.4 PL or 537 from your touch tone pad and 444.675, 123 pl.

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

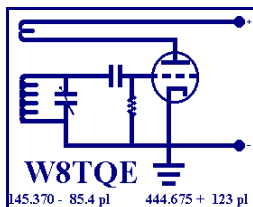
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
N8QZO 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
N8QZO has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 18, 2005
Hamfest Chair Eric, K8JVVW k8jvw@arrl.net

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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First Class