

The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. I am ready for spring. I have had enough cold, snow, and ice this year and enough for the years to come. I can always dream can't I. I hope you have all stayed warm and dry this winter.

We haven't decided when to hold the Technician classes this year, but hopefully that will be determined at the next meeting, which will be held on Monday, February 26th. Hopefully, Kevin (N8JMN) was able to acquire some needed information regarding the new structuring requirements.

Norm and I once again went to the Mansfield Hamfest in Ohio this month. There were lots of people there and they were spending their money. We really enjoy this hamfest. There is still enough participation that the event is held in three buildings. Lots of people attend this hamfest since it is largest and first hamfest for the year in this area. Don't forget we have two fairly local hamfests coming up in the month of March. The Marshall hamfest will be held on March 17th and the TMRA (Toledo Mobile Radio Association) Hamfest on March 18th. Hopefully someone from the TMRA club will come to our meeting and sell advanced tickets.

If you haven't checked out our website, please do. It is located at www.w8tqe.com. Bob (K2IBM) is our webmaster and he does an excellent job keeping up the site. Please send your pictures, etc. to him, so they can be posted on the web. You can also revisit any of the past Ticklers. Ted (K8AQM) our Editor of the Tickler also needs your pictures and articles every month. He is always in need of good ham related gossip if you can't think of anything else to give him. He is the Editor though, so remember he will edit anything out about himself (*only if it's "unflattering"!...editor*)

Goodbye for now. See you on February 26th for the meeting.

73,

Ginny W8TTX

February Program

As we wait for NU8Z to have a "free month" to present the program on the new "Flex Radio" he and K8AA both have, we'll take a look at the professional video of the 2004 Dxpediton to 3B9C (Rodriguez Island). A large screen presentation will be presented after the regular club meeting. Rodriguez Island is out in the Indian Ocean and about as far away from Lenawee County as you can get.

News Flash

Rich KG7FS has taken the ball and running with a special award for the Adrian ARC from the FISTS club (a cw club) and will tell us about it at the meeting. Way to go Rich!

A Star is Born!

What does one say when there is a person destined for fame right here in our club! I am only sorry that available picture of W8TTH starring as "Little Cindy Lou" are just phone photos taken by an "unknown" photographer as was the article below submitted by another "unknown" author. Actually, I think it's pretty cool and I would really have enjoyed seeing the show...maybe there is a video out there somewhere! I'll check, it would make a great club presentation. We could sell pop-corn too!



Country House Restaurant. Afterwards we ventured on to the Tecumseh Civic Auditorium for the performance of "Every Christmas Story Ever Told". Speaking of performances.....our own Norm Schutte was chosen out of the audience to help out with the show. He was featured in the "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" segment and is now known as "Little Cindy Lou from Whoville". Great job Norm!



Jeff Covelli WA8SAJ, Drake Specialist

As you know by now I enjoy my old vintage radios. I have two Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitters that have Drake 2B receivers with them. I also use a Drake 2NT tx and another Drake 2B. I can fumble pretty well now within a cw transmitter but receivers scare me! What to do? Get an expert to go over the receivers! Jeff Covelli WA8SAJ is that expert and is recognized nationally as such. Jeff lives in the Cleveland area and rather than ship my Drakes and risk shipping damage, I decided a drive to Cleveland was in order. I had read about Jeff's work on eham and in Electric Radio magazine (the vintage radio magazine) and was very pleased to hear all the praise for his work. I knew I went to the right place when talking me in he said he'd have the coffee pot ready!

Jeff's shack is great, lots of old gear and all working perfectly! That's Jeff on the right and below you can see his workbench. Jeff receives gear from all over the country and had several Drake units on the bench "cooking". My radios were in pretty good physical condition but needed some electrical tune ups. After only 10 days I received word from Jeff they were ready to go and he'd send a jpeg of the three. The three units and their 2AQ Q-multipliers are pictured on his bench. Jeff had them all cleaned up, tuned up and running on an antenna as they "cooked" to check further issues. The receivers work great and I'm now enjoying cw QSOs with the vintage setup.

Rich KG7FS also has several radios with Jeff and had a Drake power supply rebuilt by Jeff.

You can add my name to the list of those praising Jeff's excellent work and at a very fair price!

You can contact Jeff at:
wa8saj@ncweb.com



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...N8EWY was concerned because his "little things" were sticking through his K2?
 ...K8AA has "the knack"?
 ...K8KIC worked a "Sweep" (all districts) in the K1Y straight key effort last month?
 ...Adrian ARC has the 2006 "Best Club" plaque for the MiQSO Party? Well done!
 ...The Museum Ship operating event will be June 9-10 this year?
 ...KG8CO has repaired a Viking II and is looking forward to 160m AM?
 ...W8LNR is joining the gang on Wednesdays at Marios? He orders "extra hot" sauce!
 ...K8AA has his "Flex Radio" just perking along?
 ...K8GX is looking for a new amp? Anyone have one for sale?
 ...KB8NVL will be joining K8AQM and KG8CO operating on board the HURON Lightship?
 ...WE8Z will head up the operation from the Willis B. Boyer in Toledo? Anyone want to go?
 ...N8EWY's K2 works great? He has joined the 10m SSB net on Monday nights.
 ...K8TLT was on from KP2 (Virgin Islands)?
 ...K8KIC can tell the difference between 60 HZ hum and 120 Hz hum? ...ask KG7FS!
 ...K8AA is thinking of building an RC plane with a camera?
 ...K8AQM made his Dayton 2007 room reservations?
 ...K8NP has "the big signal" from Florida?
 ...KG8CO just bought a Viking Ranger? Another boat anchor!
 ...K8AQM "acquired" a Johnson Challenger (1955-1965 vintage)?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club Board met at the CAP building on January 29, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 19:00 hours by President Ginny W8TTX. The following persons were present: Ginny W8TTX, Margie KB8TTM, Larry W8LNR, Norm W8TTH, Ted K8AQM, Bob K2IBM, Neil KC8DAR and Bill KA8ARK. The financial statement showed a balance of \$4,305.95.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club Meeting was called to order at 19:30 hours on January 29, 2007 by President Ginny W8TTX. Rollcall was by callsign. There were 29 persons present. The Minutes were approved, as published in the Tickler, upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS, second by Norm W8TTH. Motion passed. The financial report, presented by president Ginny W8TTX showed a balance of \$4,305.95. The report was accepted upon a motion by Norm W8TTH second by Harold WA8QPS. Motion passed. Old business: Annual Dues are due. The sign to be placed on the antenna tower, proposed by the committee is in the Tickler. Joe K8YZA reported that the new Races cards will be good till 2010. The old cards expired December 2006. Ted K8AQM Discussed the Michigan QSO party and showed the plaque, awarded to the Adrian club, for high score for the state of Michigan. Ken K8KIC took high score in the county. The Michigan QSO party will be held again in April. Ted K8AQM reported that an article about our club is to be published soon in The Daily Telegram. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS second by Marion WF8F at 20:09 hours. The program for the night was a video "Getting Started in DXing" shown by Ted K8AQM.
 Bill KA8ARK Secretary.

Al Cooper W8BHL, Silent Key

Unfortunately there aren't many members today in the Adrian ARC who had a chance to know Al. I am a bit luckier since Al would occasionally write a wonderful article of some tibat of historical amateur radio. There are several things about Al you should know: Al was a "life member" of AARC and was a FOUNDING member of our club, he, with Gail Griner W3IRE, literally built WABJ and ran the station for many years, Al was very active even after he moved to Toledo and would often check into the Sunday night 2m net, Al was a WW II veteran and a member of the Quarter Century Wireless Club. Al was 91 when he passed away and the picture below is the presentation plaque he received last year for

75 years as an amateur radio operator.

Al received his license when he was fifteen.

Although I never got the chance to meet Al personally, I always enjoyed his letters and articles which he would type (on a typewriter with keys!). You could tell by his writing he was a gentleman and enjoyed story telling of olden days of amateur radio.

Al was buried with military honors at St. John's Cemetery in Oregon, OH.

73 Al, you will be missed!

A special thanks to Dave Fuller N8DF Al's son in-law for information and the picture.



Old QSLs and Old Calls

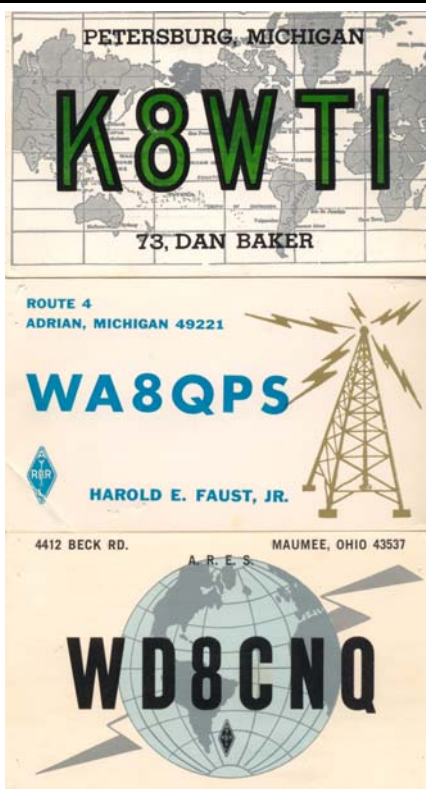
Actually there is only one old call here while the other two calls are still active. One of these calls changed to a 1x2 long before vanity calls were around. His work is with "radio" all day long and amateur radio is way down the list of his current hobbies. These days he does a lot of "hanger flying." Even so, his cw is still no doubt awesome.

The two "W" calls are close friends although one is seldom heard these days as he lives in Toledo and has a busy work schedule. In the past he use to come up to the lakes and I believe had a cottage on one.

The other "W" call climbed poles, crawled in and around houses and got to drive a truck all day. He even use to work for the same company as WA8UWQ. Today he is a "gentleman farmer". He has a bit of trouble keeping his yagi elements all horizontal in the same plane.

So do you know these people? Can K8KIC solve the mystery of the "Old QSLs and Old Calls" for this month?

Editor: I'm always looking for old member QSLs, got any I can scan?



Oh Man, I Don't Like Ice!



Last month we had an ice storm. Ice and antennas go together like oil and water! K8AA was telling me he was worried his Force 12 antennas just might not snap back from the heavy ice load. Of course the biggest worry are antennas made with wire and will they survive an ice load. To the left is my “new 5 band quad raised this past fall, on the right is my tower with the TA-33jr and 6m yagi. Every thing survived here except for a 160m 1/4 wave sloper and two wire 17m yagi that came down when a “big” tree limb fell across them. I’m happy to re-

port K8AA’s antennas are fine and no one else reported ice damage to their antennas.



CQWW 160m @ N8CC 2007

The end of January saw another K8XXX effort from the shack of N8CC in the CQWW CW 160m Contest. The operators where AC8W, K8AQM, K8DD, K8KS, KN8W, KT8X and N8CC. “We done good!” This was by far our best effort as we worked 1300 stations in the 48 hours, all 50 states and something beyond 50 countries. The score was over 416,000 points, a “first” for us to break 400,000.



We had a lot of support from Jeff’s local ham buddies who whipped up a batch of great blue gills to feed our food needs along with the appropriate chili and chips. Thanks to Walt K8AEM and Russ N8UU for the great fish dinners!

To the left is Roger KN8W who handles the late night shift with me. Roger is developing into a very good op and we enjoy his company and addition to the XXX crew. The second picture shows the back of Hank K8DD and Jeff N8CC working on Writelog during their “off air” time. Hank enjoys the “rate” during the main contest hours and Jeff is “as needed...if I have to op”. The bottom corner photo shows AC8W Stan in action (also a rate lover) and showing Kaz K8KS the ins and outs of Writelog. Kaz and I enjoy a cigar in the outer room where along with the fried fish smell Jeff gets a job for the remainder of the year.... cleaning the walls and ridding the smell of fried fish and cigars from his shack. That’s Dennis KT8X (of 5WDP fame) running the pile-up Saturday night.



Well, next year we’ll shoot for 500,00 points but we’ve several contest between to practice and improve the station before then. Our next major effort will be another run in the Michigan QSO Party. Same ops hopefully but with many more (N8KR, W8IQ, K8JVV, W8TTH, W8TTX and NJ8F) and as we’ll have 7-8 stations in operation (but only five on at once).

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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

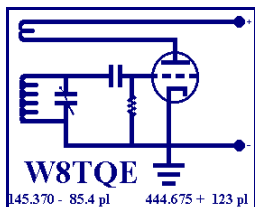
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 16, 2007
Hamfest Chair Ray, W8RAY Marge, KB8TMM

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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First Class