

The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hi everybody. It has been a little dry so far this summer. I wish we could take some of the rain that Texas has had. Those poor people have been floating away and worse.

Last month a lot of folks attended the meeting. It was great to see you all there. Those of you that didn't attend missed a great presentation by Ted K8AQM on the Museum Ship event. It was very interesting and we all learned a lot about the history of the W.B. Boyer and the Huron.

The Van Wert hamfest was this month. Next month the Jackson hamfest will be held on August 11th.

Of course, you **MUST** remember our hamfest is the very next **Sunday, September 16th** after the Findlay hamfest. If you go to Findlay, please stop by our tables and pick up some of our AARC hamfest flyers. The more people that get exposed to them the more people may show up. Please get a hold of Margie (KB8TMM) if you can help in any way with our hamfest. September 16th will be here soon. I am sure there will be a place for you whether you would like to help setup or cleanup, help with the parking, or help in the kitchen. All help will be appreciated. Once again I can't stress this enough that the hamfest is where we get most of our money to keep our club and station operational.

I encourage all of you to attend the July and August meetings to see where help is still needed.

Sorry I don't have a lot to say this month. I had to write my letter a little early, because Norm W8TTH and I were going to be out of the state for a couple of weeks. I will let you know how our motorcycle trip to Montana went. Hopefully we will have dry weather for the whole trip, but I suppose we won't be that lucky.

73 for now and I will see you all at the July 30th meeting,
Ginny W8TTX

Working Toward 10,000 QSOs

I played a little in the Canada Day Test on July 1st and put in about 3.5 hours. I made 2 Q's on 160m and 93 on 75M. I worked all the "border" providences except VE5, rats! The good catches, I thought, were 2- VE1's, 3- VO1's, 2 -VE9's and 9- VE7's.

My logbook shows 8,279 Q's. The bad part is I thought I had until the end of 2008 to get my goal of 10,000 Q's but I was licensed in February so I only have seven months. I guess I have to "put the pedal to the medal" (<-- intentional!) to get to that 10,000 mark.

Well Field Day helped boost my totals a little bit. I now have 8,182 Q's in my logbook. A little over 1,800 to go before the end of 2008. You would think I could keep up the 100/month pace. Of course some months there isn't a lot of contest activity. I'll just keep chugging away.

73...KB8ECG Dave

FD and the Maple City Fest

As you may know, we were asked to put together an amateur radio station at the Maple City Fest at the airport. The "Fest" was the same day as Field Day so a group headed by NU8Z Mark put together two stations just outside the CAP building. W1SJG supplied a super tent and with the help of K8KIC,



W8TTH, N8QEW, K8AA, W8LNR and KC8ONZ. Here K8KIC directs the crew how to properly raise the tent for the two stations. The antennas used were a 40m and 20m dipole strung from W8TTH's portable tower. These were the same antennas used by the W8WBB crew a few weeks before. There is an "incredible" story about the number of ways we "screwed up" these simple dipoles



but I think NU8Z covered it at the last meeting. Below is the finished oper-



ating positions with the guys relaxing as K8KIC tests the operation on 40m before the start of Field Day. The club's two TS-570 rigs were used along with two lap tops for logging.



Hmm, I think I found the reason why our antennas proved to be such a problem. Is that K8AA with a pair of cutters in his hands and holding the coax! Ah ha! The truth is out, now we know what/who went wrong!

Below K8KIC runs 40m while NU8Z logs and K8YZA hunts on 20m. Ken and Mark worked a 100 plus stations on 40m CW. Ken said there was no problem holding a frequency and running with W8TQE.

In the end, we didn't get the public exposure we had hoped for but it was a bit of fun

and by 5:00 everything was torn down and put away. Thanks again to all those who helped set up and those who visited. A special thanks to Jim Brown for the fine tent and to W8TTH for use of his truck and tower. WE8Z supplied the antennas and K8AA a great job with soldering PL-259s (when he wasn't playing antenna gremlin!).



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...KG8CO finally got his big 4 L 40m antenna and 40/20 antenna up? What a super sight!
 ...KG8EF is planning a big antenna party August 11 to take down and repair his TH-7DXX?
 ...K8AA is excited about his soon-to-arrive K3 from Elercraft?
 ...K8AQM has a "polished" and restored J-38 key? It's beautiful!
 ...N8AMM is enjoying his new call? Formerly KB8NVL.
 ...K8AQM bought K8AA's old SB-200 for Dxpeditions?
 ...K8UV is known as "the radish King" at the Manchester Chicken Broil?
 ...W8TTH just bought a Navy Flameproof straight key? What? CW?
 ...K8NP also has a Navy Flameproof key? A real "oldie" too.
 ...KD8FOP upgraded to General and has a new tower up?
 ...K8AQM got "the White Rat" leveled thanks to KD8FOP? Those "boat anchors" caused it to list!
 ...N8QEW and the FL boys put their tilt-over tower up in sand with no cement? Ugh!
 ...W8LNR still hasn't got his new amp on the air?
 ...KG8EF has discovered the joys of computer logging and rig control?
 ...K8AQM is building a 2 element 5 band quad for KG8EF?
 ...KG8EF is now a member of the Straight Key Century Club?
 ...WE8Z, an SKCC member, was on in the last Straight Key Sprint?
 ...K8GX still hasn't fixed his tower? Work always goes better in "Zero" degrees Dick!
 ...K8NP made "a killing" at JCC buying electronic items? As did K8TLT and K8HCL.
 ...K8KIC almost took down his 40m dipole? Ask him why...hee hee!
 ...K8UV has a refurbished J-38 and new mahogany paddles on his Bencher?
 ...KG8EF doesn't have an VHF/UHF radio that works? That's 2 HTs and a base radio! Sheez!

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club board meeting met on June 25, 2007 at 0700 pm at the cap building. the following persons were present. president Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TTM, Larry W8LNR, Norm W8TTH, Mark NU8Z, Neil KC8DAR, Brian KG8CO and Bill KA8ARK We discussed the upcoming Hamfest and adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The Adrian Amateur Radio club met at the Civil air Patrol building at the Lenawee Count Airport on June 25, 2007 and was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Ginny W8TTX with 38 persons present. Rollcall was by call sign. A motion to accept the minutes, as published in the Tickler was made by Norm W8TTH the second was made by Eric K8JWV. Motion passed. A motion was made by Chuck KG8EF to accept the financial report by which was presented by Mark NU8Z which showed a balance of \$3,668.52 second by Norm W8TTH. The motion Passed. Mark NU8Z reported on the Summer Blast program and field day which was held at the Lenawee County Airport on June 23. Joe K8YZA reported on a meeting which will be held at the new County Emergency Operatng Center in October. Further details to be in the July Tickler. The upcoming Hamfest was discussed. Selling tickets will be moved back by the granstand to help relieve traffic on the Addison St. entrance. Jack KC8A motioned to adjourned second was made by Ken K8KIC. Bill KA8ARK, Secretary. Ted K8AQM presented the program on Lighthouse contesting..

Why do you want to do that? ... because it's Field Day!

I wanted to operate at least some amount to time in Field Day this year. The club was only going to operate on Saturday morning and early afternoon. That wasn't in my schedule. I decided to operate at home since the XYL was working and I had the kids. I knew I wouldn't have a lot of time to spend but...it's Field Day! I knew the best time was after the kids were in bed so 75 meters was one of the bands of choice. If I could fit in some time on 40 meters, that would be a bonus. As for what mode, CW was out because I wanted to make more than 5 QSO's. I didn't know RTTY was a choice (next year!) so I chose SSB. The next choice was a category. I didn't want to operate as 1D (with commercial power) since you can't work everyone. I scanned the list and thought about battery power. I have a deep cycle battery but it is old and I didn't want to take a chance. Then I thought about my van (battery included!). Hey and it even has a rig (FT-100). It also has a full complement of mobile antennas. Did I really want to sit in my van all night...well it's Field Day! How am I going to get the computer in there to log? Ah why not pencil and paper...it's Field Day! Saturday morning the kids were watching cartoons so this was the time to make my move. I started setting up Field Day Central. Since everything was already in the van, I just had to move it so the antenna was away from the power lines. The shack!

The 75 Meter antenna

The operating position

The rig and other items like munchies.

About 4:30 I noticed the kids were busy and very well behaved. While this made me nervous, I decide to try 40 meters anyway and see what happens...hey it's Field Day. I was just about ready to start and I looked up to see the 40 meter delta loop. Then I looked at the 40 meter mobile whip. After a couple double takes, I ran over and unhooked the coax from the house and ran it to the van. I had about a foot of coax to spare. I thought the extra gain would come in handy because...it's Field Day. About a half hour into my operation, my second harmonic came up and asked me what I was doing. I said well ..uh..it's Field day? She shook her head and moved on. An hour and half later I stopped. I had 53 QSO's and the battery was still alive. I went ahead and started the van to re-charge the battery for later that night. I went back to my normal routine until about 9:45. I decided to move the van so it was under the 300 watt night light on the barn. When I got out of my van I look down and saw a run of coax. I followed it up to my 80/160 dipole then I looked at the mobile whip. Well I didn't need the double take this time. Plus, right at that spot was a barrel connector splice. Wow, how convenient. After that I went back to the house to get my hot water for tea and my munchies. Ah, just in time to start at 10 pm. Since I didn't have a lot of time, I decide to just sit and call CQ verse hunt and pounce. Hey it's Field Day. Wow did time fly, it was a little after 1:00 am and it slowed down a little. I had the longest gap I had between QSO's was 7 minutes. I happened to look out my window and noticed the cat in the driveway staring at me. I said go away...it's Field Day! (I don't like cats). Someone asked me if I noticed a lot of traffic that night. I was so busy I don't really remember. I'm sure the XYL will find out at the next PTO meeting. Well, 2 O'clock rolled around and I'm not as young as I used to be. I was trying to decide if I should stay up or go to sleep. As you know ...it's Field Day!. Well I have my limits. Good Night.

The next morning I got some coffee going and staggered out to the van to get the log. I wasn't sure if the effort was worth it. I started counting the calls. While I was doing this I recall realizing that I wasn't the only one with a paper log since I had many people who called me over and over through the night...well its Field Day. I was just about to the end of my count when I felt the grin on my face. I realized that it was a great...you guessed it..Field Day!

I removed the dupes and in 6 hours time I had made 300 QSO's. 53 on 40M between 4-6pm on Saturday and 247 on 75 between 10pm and 2am Saturday/Sunday

Lessons learned:

1. Do NOT use a paper log unless it is the only choice. I spent as much time getting the paper log converted and loaded into my log book (Logger32...great program!).

2. Learn your radio features BEFORE it's an emergency. I lost many Q's in mini pile ups since I didn't know how to use the RIT etc on this particular radio.

73, KB8ECG Dave

Running with K9SKC

By K8AQM Ted 1629C

During the month of June I was fortunate enough to use K9SKC in the monthly SKS and due to the Memorial Day holiday, the end of the month weekend sprint too. It's different using another call and especially one which offers "bonus points" in these monthly events. In addition to enjoying rag chewing, I am a contesteer and Dxer. I have been an amateur for 46 years and through time built myself a pretty good station with regard to making QSOs.

I know what it's like to be the "hunter" and the "hunted." Running K9SKC is the "hunted" and with that in mind I strove to make this call sign available to as many people as wanted it in these two events. "Going for rate" as contesters say, all the available weapons were used, kilowatt amplifiers, a log periodic for 40-10m(at 110 ft) as well as a 2 element quad on 20m(at 70 ft). But the real way to increase QSOs is to run multi-multi, that is, multi operators running multi transmitters at the same time. In the SKS for June K8UV Rich #2205 (formerly KG7FS) and I did this. Rich ran 40m while I ran 20m and even managed one QSO on a heavily QRNed 80m band. Together we gathered 24 40m QSOs, 24 20m QSOs and the one lonely 80m QSO (although I tried to raise others on 80) for a total of 49 QSOs. It was great fun and both Rich and I enjoyed ourselves. Kilowatts and great antennas make a commanding presence on a band. We enjoyed the pileups on K9SKC but especially enjoyed the comments thanking us for the "bonus points". I must admit, we did have a few requests for a repeat of our number "00" and had to explain the call was the SKCC club call. I worked KJ7BS Mark who was running QRP and was really pleased to add K9SKC to his QRP score. It was rough copy but a solid QSO (hey Mark, it's the guys that pull the weak QRP signals through that should get the bonus points...hihi!).

It has been a pleasure to use K9SKC during June and a special "thank you" to Kevin K4VD for having this club call available. Now that my time is over with K9SKC, I hope to get back to chasing SKCC numbers and work on some of my awards within the club. I hope to work K9SKC myself during the months ahead and whoever runs the call will be active and QRV on as many bands as possible.

This is the K8AQM shack with AQM on the right with "amazing Grace" after the June SKS. Rich K8UV and good friend, is holding the official SKCC coffee mug. In the October or November SKS we will run the Drake 2B rxs and Hallicrafters HT-37s you can see. We enjoy multi-op and pounding brass. Rich also fires away on his bug...ugh!

See you in the SKS!

73...Ted K8AQM 1629C



Old Time Stuff

By K8UV

On the left is an actual license for amateur radio from 1923. I guess you could say the antenna on the right is part of a real "antenna farm" circa 1930's. Below is "mobile radio" as it use to be! That's a



Drake rig on the left and the right is an "Elmac" rig that was actually made here in Michigan back in the 1950's.



President

Virginia Schutte, **W8TTX**
w8tx@yahoo.com

Vice President

Marge Willey, **KB8TMM**
maggie214@frontiernet.net

Secretary

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

Treasurer

Mark Hinkleman, **NU8Z**
Cqnu8z@comcast.net

Executive Board

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

Dick Denzel, **K8GX**
K8gx@tc3net.net

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

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

Editor Ted Rachwal
K8AQM

K8AQM@arrrl.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

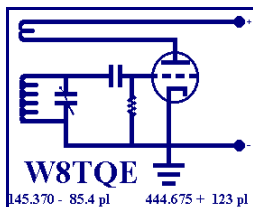
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

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

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