

# The Ticker

## *From the Prez.....*

Hi everybody. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. However, it has been a little wet lately. Norm and I rode our motorcycles up to St. Ignace for the Junior Diabetes of America Fund-Raiser for the weekend and we rode back with everyone else in the rain on Sunday. Even the race at MIS was rained out and of course people left early and we noticed a little of the race traffic, but they weren't going the same way that all of us were on the bikes. That was a good thing.

It's that time of year again when we have our Ice Cream Social meeting. It will be held next Monday night, August 27<sup>th</sup>. Ted (K8AQM) and Judy (WD8LCH) have once again offered to host the event. We should all thank them for once again sharing their home with us. Their address is 1600 Wolf Creek Highway, Adrian, MI. Please bring your own bowls, spoons, favorite toppings, and lawn or folding chairs. Neil (KC8DAR) will once again be supplying the main course. Water and soda will be provided.

Don't forget the Findlay hamfest will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>. There are usually a lot of vendors there. It is a good time for socializing. Of course, you **MUST** remember our hamfest is the very next **Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please get a hold of Margie (KB8TMM) if you can help in any way with our hamfest. September 16<sup>th</sup> will be here soon. I am sure there will be a place for you to help 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 Monday's meeting to see where help is still needed. It will be a short meeting due to the Ice Cream Social.

I hope to see you all at the Ice Cream Social meeting Monday on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

73 for now,  
Ginny W8TTX

## My “New” Old J-38

By Ted K8AQM

I’ve had a J-38 for years. Like most of us the key has been mounted on a nice piece of wood with a no-slide pad underneath. It has been a great key and I’ve had many great QSOs through the years with this key. I’ve “cleaned” it several times, that is, I used a q-tip and wiped the dust out of the cracks and crevasses. A friend of mine is restoring a 1968 Honda motorcycle and one day told me about this local fellow who polishes metal. After showing me some of the aluminum he had polished that looked like chrome now, I got the idea that my old J-38 might shine up nicely.

I carefully disassembled the American Radio Hardware J-38 and placed the parts to be buffed into a small Zip-lock bag and kept the washers separate and well placed in the shack here. My friend asked me to come along and meet “Corky”, the buffer and to bring my key parts while he took another load of Honda parts to be shined. I was a bit wary to leave my J-38 small parts in Corky’s extremely old and cluttered shop but my friend convinced me all would be well. Two weeks later Corky called and had both our parts cleaned, polished and ready for pick up.



Wow! Was this my old J-38 that was gleaming in the parts bag? Every brass screw, every lever, arm and nut was just gleaming! And the price for this outstanding work; a mere \$10.00! I couldn’t wait to get back to the shack and reassemble the key and mount it on it’s new cedar base I had made during the two week wait. Thinking that the key might again tarnish in that air and humidity, I decided to coat everything (except the contacts) with Turtle Wax Clear ICE. In about thirty minutes I had the key waxed, put back together and mounted. The results can be seen in the pictures below.



The wood is hand rubbed cedar with tung oil and “no-slide” glued on the bottom. I didn’t know there were three types of metal in this key, copper, brass and white metal. The key looks like a million bucks now and I’m looking forward to using it in the next SKS! Oh yeah, I disassembled my Lionel J-38 and it’s going to Corky tomorrow! Now if I can just find the small eyelet and top binders for the front posts I’ll have a “new” old J-38!

*PS Since this was written I found the small brass eyelet and brass binding posts! Also the Lionel J-38 is back and restored!*

## *AARC Club Gossip! .....*

### *Did you know that....*

...W8TTH and W8TTX had a great trip back home on their Honda Gold Wing from Montana?  
 ...N8AMM (formerly KB8NVL) has been heard "pounding brass" on his straight key? A rumor?  
 ...K8UV has a TH-6DX now at 40 feet?  
 ...The Adrian ARC **DID NOT** win the club competition in the 2007 Michigan QSO Party?  
 ...WE8Z is still waiting for Willis B Boyer QSLs to arrive?  
 ...KD8FOP has a TA-33 up now at 40 feet?  
 ...KG8EF recently rebuilt his wire antennas for 80, 40 and 17m? "Born-again" ham?  
 ...K8AA is still waiting for his K-3 transceiver?  
 ...KG8CO bought a solid state amp? ALS-600 by Ameritron  
 ...K8AQM bought K8AA's old SB-200?  
 ...N8AMM has a TH2jr tribander to raise?  
 ...W8LNR still hasn't fired up his amplifier? It's been four months!  
 ...WE8Z, K8KIC and K8UV were all sending on their straight keys?  
 ...K8UV and K8AQM have newly powder-coated cases for their HT-37 boat anchors?  
 ...NU8Z shared his 80m "Too Good to be True" antenna measurements with K8AQM?  
 ...the ice cream social is August 27 at K8AQM's place?  
 ...Dohn N8EWY seems to have disappeared from amateur radio? Where are you?  
 ...Art KC8GTW seems to have also disappeared? And where are you Art?  
 ...Findlay Hamfest is Sunday September 9th?  
 ...N8CC Jeff has built a 4-phase sloper system for 80m?  
 ...K8AA and grandson Kyle built a go-cart...cool?  
 ...K8AQM is waiting for his new Tokyo High Power Dxpedition amp to arrive?

## *AARC Club Minutes*

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club board met at the CAP building at The Lenawee County Airport on July 30 2007 beginning at 7:00 PM . The following persons were present, President Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TMM, Larry W8LNR, Dick K8GX, Neil KC8DAR, Mark NU8Z, Bob K2IBM, Norm W8TTH and Bill KA8ARK. The board discussed the Hamfest Sept 16, the Ice cream Social Aug 27. Everyone should bring chairs, spoons, and toppings, the Plaque for the Mad River Radio Club. The financial report by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of \$4,121.92. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club met at the Civil Air Patrol building at the Lenawee County Airport with 28 persons present. Bob K2IBM motioned and Cletus K8TLT second to accept the minutes as published in the Tickler. Motion passed. The treasurers report as presented by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of \$4,121.92 was accepted upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS, second by Ken K8KIC. Motion passed. A signup sheet was passed out for persons to work at the hamfest. There is a need for workers so please sign up. Norm W8TTH moved to buy the plaque for the Mad River Radio Club second Rich KG7FS. Motion passed. People were reminded of the August meeting Ice Social, bring your chair, plates, spoons and toppings. On the 23rd Monroe will be having an emergency drill and may be asking us to assist with communications. See Ginny W8TTX if you can help. At 8:08 pm Harold WA8QPS motioned to adjourn second by Dick WA8SGZ. The motion passed. The Program tonight by Ted K8AQM was a video on the D68 DXpedition in the Indian Ocean .

Secretary Bill KA8ARK



## ANTENNA ROMANCE ...de K8UV

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married.

The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

Since they were a perfect match, soon they generated harmonics.

Wrapped the harmonics in dipoles.

But later the harmonics turned out to be parasitic elements.

The true story -- she was a tri-bander and he felt trapped, so they went on separate beam headings

## And the Big Ones Are Up!



At long last the big antennas and the big tower at KG8CO's QTH are operational. It wasn't easy and it wasn't cheap! Brian has had a KLM 4 element 40m yagi for quite some time and had a 4 element 20m and 2 element 40m that was planned to be place half way up his 110 foot Rohn 45 tower. The big 40 is rotating at 110 feet and the 40/20 is fixed NE at 65 feet. Brian hired a crane to lift the antennas into place while he and Don N8AMM sat at the top of the tower to secure the big antenna in place. The ground crew which included KG8EF, K8AA, KB8OXX, WE8Z, K8AQM and Roger Young (a non ham) got all things in order and provided the needed ground support. The crane arrived at 9:00 AM and it became a toss up as to which would happen first; antennas up or storm coming in. Mother nature tried her best to stop the antenna raising effort with strong winds and threatening weather. You can see the size of the tower vs the truck in the photo to the left, to the left and below is the 4 element 40m ready to be raised.



Brian and Don hold tight and direct the crane to "gently" place the 40m yagi into position. Brian's hat blew off and both had pants and shirts flattening and billowing in the wind as the crane brought the antenna to them.



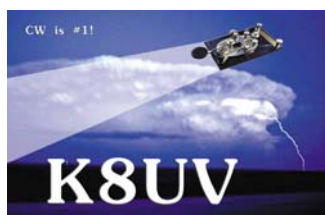
With the top antenna secure and in place (far left), it was time to climb down to where the 40/20 would be side mounted. This was no small antenna either as shown on the lower left. The crane hoisted the antenna and wove it between the guy wires to Brian and Don where they secured it to the W8TTH side mount facing the NE. And just as Brian and Don came down the weather came in and things looked very nasty! We'll have an in-depth club presentation on this project in the fall.



## Our Manchester Connection

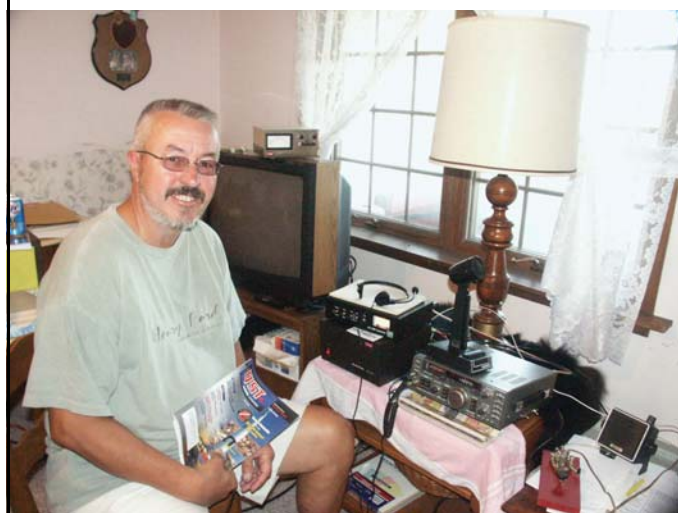


Rich K8UV (formerly KG7FS) has become a regular in our club and at our club functions. An avid CW fan, Rich is a member of FISTS, SKCC and as you can see in the picture, a collector/operator of "boat anchor" equipment as well as his TS-570. Recently Rich has added a Hygain TH-6 to his antenna farm and a "spiffy" restored J-38 to his CW keying collection.



Also from Manchester and a member (also new General Class operator) is Rory KD8FOP. Rory is new to HF radio but has jumped in with both feet. He recently erected a 40 foot tower with a Mosely TA-33 and G5RV. Rory operated SSB with his TS-140 but Rich is leaning on him to learn that code and join in the fun of CW. One of Rory's very first

contacts with the new antenna was Hawaii, guess it works very well.



The Adrian ARC has been lucky to have members from the Manchester area and along with Dave KC8TQB, Rich and Rory represent Manchester very well in the amateur radio field.

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

**Directions to 1600 Wolf Creek:** From US-223 go north 1/4 mile, second drive past Lenawee Christian School on the left. Drive up the hill.

**Time:** Meeting starts 7:30 PM till ...

**Bring:** a lawn chair, large bowl for ice cream, spoon, favorite topping, and appetite! Ice cream provided by the club. Water and soda supplied.

**XYLs, kids and "significant other" most welcome! (KG8EF stay home, Pat and dogs most welcome!)**

## 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

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

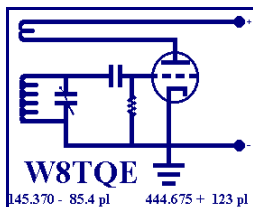
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan  
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

### Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

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

### AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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



Adrian Amateur Radio Club  
Box 26  
Adrian, MI 49221



**First Class**