

The Ticker

From the Prez.....

The weather seems to have chilled down a lot already. I am still hoping to have some more nice motorcycle riding weather yet this year. You can never have enough.

Norm W8TTH and I went to a couple of hamfests this month. We visited the Kalamazoo Hamfest which was held on the 12th of October and Holland Hamfest which was held on the 18th October. They both were pretty nice events, but the attendance was down from last year. It is always a nice break to go away for the weekend and get away from W.O.R.K. It is nice to take little mini vacations.

The next upcoming hamfest that Norm and I will attend will be in November. The Fort Wayne Hamfest is held the 15th and 16th. It will be here before we know it. Time flies so fast anymore. I have noticed a lot lately that the older I get the faster it goes by me. We always have a real good time while at the Fort Wayne Hamfest and it will be the last show of the year that we will attend.

Don't forget that this month is when we hold our Officer's Elections and there will also be nominations for our new Board members. Once again the members that attended the September meeting nominated Marjie KB8TMM and me for President. I guess we would like to thank them all. Mark NU8Z remains our Treasurer and Bill KA8ARK remains our Secretary also thanks to the members that attended. I guess you all must feel we are a great team together. I know you are right.

I don't really have a lot to say this month. It has been a busy month for Norm and me. We have had something going on every weekend this month. We attended an Antique Car Show the first weekend, a hamfest each of the next two weekends, and my grandson's 1st Birthday party on the last weekend of the month. I am glad not every month is not like this one.

Don't forget to check out the website at www.w8tqe.com and get any new information and pictures to Bob K2IBM. He is our web master and we need to support him and the club by sharing things through the website. Also, don't forget our newsletter editor, Ted K8AQM. He also needs our support by giving him articles and pictures. They both do a great job for all of us.

The meeting this month will be October 27th, I hope to see you all there.

73,
Ginny W8TTX

October Program

This month's program will be a Powerpoint presentation of the trip to Micronesia last February by Brian KG8CO (V63OC) and Ted K8AQM (V63TR)

More from the Hamfest

Here are a collection of K2IBM's snaps fro the hamfest. I guess you could say these are the club's "young bucks". That's Don N8AMM, Brian KG8CO and Ron KD8DNV.



And here are some of the “old dudes” or the “has been” young bucks. Ted K8AQM, Gerry KD8IFM, Randy N4UUJ and Chuck KG8EF.



Now talk about “laid back!” Wow, Dick K8GX and Norm W8TTH really know how to enjoy a hamfest. Norm’s trailer is a usual gathering place at other hamfests for the AARC guys.



Thanks Dr. Bob for
the great hamfests pictures.



K8XXX Wins The Multi-multi MQP

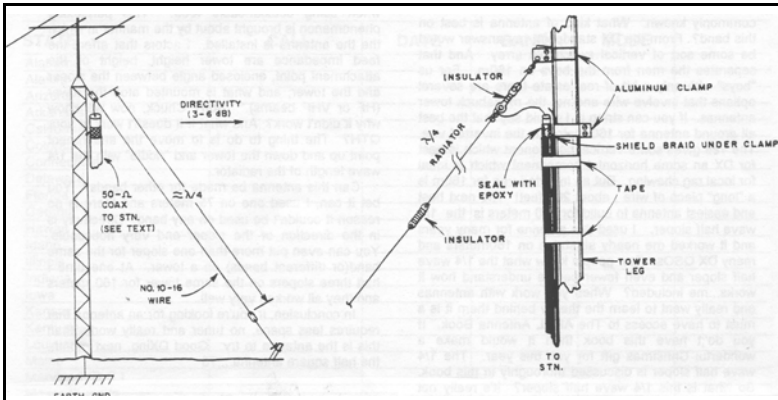
The Adrian ARC sponsors the multi-multi category plaque in the Michigan QSO Party. The multi-multi category is a “no holds barred” effort of unlimited stations and number of operators. As of late it has been a continuous battle between K8XXX running from N8CC’s super station and the Mad River Radio Club crew who operate K8MQP. This past year it was K8MQP at K8CC’s super station so it was super station against super station and K8XXX won. K8XXX is operated by a group which included N8CC, K8KS and K8AQM all from the Adrian ARC. W8TTH contributes equipment and support for the contest group. Thanks to the Adrian ARC for sponsoring this plaque.



Again the 1/4 Wave Sloper

Need a shortened antenna that works? Try the 1/4 wave sloper. I now use two on 80m and have used the 1/4 sloper on 160m I had four switched in four directions on 160m . It's basically half of an inverted Vee.

Les N8KBY is making one for 160m. He has promised to give a report on it's performance.



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...KB8HW came to a Monday night gathering? Great to see Bob again!
 ...N8QEW is now off to Florida and the sun?
 ...KG8CO put out 120 radials each 100 ft long for his 160 vertical?
 ...K8KIC has a new furnace and “talking” thermostat...but it’s a male voice rather than a female voice?
 ...W8TTH has a new “old” dump truck?
 ...N8CC has a three element parasitic array on 80m?
 ...KD8DNV upgraded to General? He has a new low band rig too!
 ...K8AQM got his electrical approval of the new shack?
 ...KG8CO got his 120 ft tower shunt fed for 160m?
 ...W8TTH has the D Star repeater up and running?
 ...NU8Z has a new CW monitor? His wife’s new stove; relays key when Mark does!
 ...KD8DNV has a new “used” 90 ft tower and three element 10m yagi?
 ...K8UV had K8KS visit his shack and create an SKCC pileup on 20m?
 ...When K8KIC “sleeps through” the 10m sked, Gerry KD8IFM keeps the 10 minute time?
 ...WA8QPS’s grandson is an apple growing wizard?
 ...you’re running out of antenna fixin’ weather?
 ...the new K8AQM shack is now insulated and ready for drywall?
 ...K8GX has his basement shack all heated now for winter QSOs?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club Board met at the CAP Building at the Lenawee County Airport on Sept. 29, 2008, President Ginny W8TTX called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following persons present: Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TMM, Mark NU8Z, Norm W8TTH, Larry W8LNR, Neil KC8DAR, Bill KA8ARK, Dick K8GX, Ted K8AQM and Joe K8YZA. We were reminded that dues are due. The Findley Radio club is planning an educational meeting sometime next year and wanted to know how many members would plan to attend such a meeting. Joe K8YZA reported on the recent SET. Eight people showed up from our club and did a great job however 20 persons could have been used. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

The Adrian Amateur Radio club met at the Civil Air Patrol building on September 29, 2008 with 21 persons present. The Treasurer's report was presented by Mark NU8Z and showed a balance of \$5,516.40 the report was accepted upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS with a second by Joe K8YZA. The minutes as printed in the Tickler were accepted upon a motion by Norm W8TTH second by Mark NU8Z. Treasurer Mark NU8Z reported that The Hamfest made some money and reminded us that membership dues are due. A report on work done on the Willis B. Boyer club station was presented by Denny WE8Z. Denny WE8Z motioned to donate \$600 to The Adrian Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, the second was by Ken K8KIC, motion passed. Nominations for club officers were as follows: Mark for Treasurer, President Ginny W8TTX and Margie KB8TMM and Bill KA8ARK for secretary. Ken K8KIC motioned to close the nominations and Denny WE8Z seconded the motion. Joe K8YZA reported on the recent Simulated Emergency Test (SET). 8 members from our club were present however 20 hams could have been used. Norm W8TTH motioned to adjourn the meeting second Tom N8QEW. Bill KA8ARK secretary.

September SET

Eight local ham operators took part in the Annual Simulated Emergency Test, often referred to as the SET. The local hams taking part were Ken Filter, (K8KIC), Lowell Scheely (KC8JJT), Cletus Brooks (K8TLT), Dr. Bob Warwick (K2IBM), Eric Smith (K8JVV), Neil Soto (KC8TUN), Pete Ossman (KD8IJC), and Joe Pullen (K8YZA), most of which are also members of the Adrian Amateur Radio Club.

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Field Organization Leaders including Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, Section Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Many other Section Leaders like the Section Manager and the Section Traffic Manager may have a hand in planning the exercises and/or reviewing the results. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other public-service oriented groups can be involved. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. Although the main SET weekend this year is October 4 -5, local and section-wide exercises for Michigan were held on Saturday, September 27 to avoid an annual conflict with the opening weekend of the archery deer hunting season, as many of the state hams are bow hunters.

The first hour of the exercise consisted of training and operating the District 1 Medical Trailer at the Madison Township Fire Department, station 88. The next 2 hours consisted of message handling and tactical communications (simulated). Tactical communications conducted on behalf of served agencies were for about two hours. Seven stations operated on emergency power during the complete test. One repeater owned by the Adrian Amateur Radio Club on the WLEN tower was used during the test, with the primary net control being filled by Ken Filter, who has done this for years. Ken is also the local net manager for the weekly Lenawee County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) net. Many of the operators are also RACES certified by the Lenawee County Emergency Management Division and authorized by the Michigan State Police Homeland Security Emergency Management Division. RACES is the acronym for Radio Amateur Civilian Emergency Services.

Liaison was maintained during the SET with an NTS section or local net by K8KIC, KC8JJT, and K8YZA. Packet radio, a digital form of communications, was also used during the test in addition to the normal voice communications. Simulated communications were handled for seven agencies, including Madison Township Fire Department (station 88), Adrian Fire Department (station 71), Bixby Hospital, Lenawee County Emergency Operations Center, Siena Heights University, Adrian College, and Washtenaw County Emergency Management Division. The six communities in which agencies were contacted include City of Adrian, Lenawee County, Madison Township, Adrian College, Siena Heights University, and Washtenaw County.

Photos from Pete Ossman KD8IJC



160m Shuntfed Tower At KG8CO



Wouldn't it be nice to have a 120 ft tower with a four element 40m yagi on the top? Brian KG8CO thinks so. Brian has three towers in his yard, all suitable for shuntfeeding. Shuntfeeding is a simple way to put a "grounded" tower into operation as a vertical antenna. Although Brian has a 160m inverted Vee at 120 feet, he wanted a low angle vertical to work DX on 160m. Enter shuntfeeding at KG8CO.

First step was to lay a field of radials down around the tower and attach them to the tower legs. Brian did that first class; 120 100 foot radials attached around the tower.

You can see them in the picture below.

Next, cut a 35 foot piece of 7/8 hardline and attach it to the tower with PVC stand-offs. You can see the hardline and stand-offs in the pictures on the right. The standoffs place the hardline 12-15 inches away from the tower with the hardline attached above to the tower. At the bottom



of the hardline a thick braid is attached which will connect to the antenna tuner at the base of the tower. Brian has a large weather proof box at the base of the tower where a "super" antenna tuner is housed to resonate the tower to the desired frequency. Another braided cable is used to connect the base of the tower to the grounding post on the tuner. The tuner has a roller inductor and two large variable capacitors along with monitoring meters. Using this system Brian was able to bring the swr at the desired frequency down to 1.2:1. Brian has the antenna tuned to about 1850 KHz and can go 30 KHZ each side to the 2:1 swr points.

Brian hasn't given the antenna a thorough test yet as 160m is still quite noisy but as the winter is upon us Brian will be ready for some very serious 160m work.

The real tough issue with working DX on 160m is "hearing". As they say, "If you can't hear them, you can't work them." The best antenna for receiving on 160m is a "beverage". Brian doesn't have any beverages yet but he does have a very fine listening loop system that is directional. We'll look forward to hearing how this 160m system works from Brian later in the year.

For those of you wondering if you can shuntfeed a tower on other bands ... of course, and you don't need anything more than 40 feet for



80m and maybe even 160m.



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

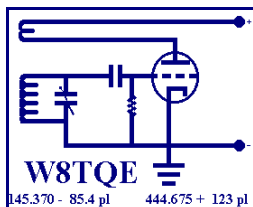
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 14, 2008
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