



The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Well I guess winter is finally here. Hopefully we won't have a real hard winter. In fact, I have had enough already. I won't mind if it stayed around 65° all year around. Maybe I should move further south, but then I do love Michigan.

Norm W8TTH missed the first day of Gun Deer Hunting Season as he and I left for the Fort Wayne Hamfest on Friday the 14th. He did however get to go out on the next Monday.

The hamfest was pretty good again this year. We always go down to Fort Wayne on Friday and set up. We meet a friend who also goes down on Friday after we have set up and go out for Sushi at a local Japanese Restaurant. We all had a great time and ate too much. Thanks to Ted that is my favorite cuisine and I enjoy it every chance I get. We always like to set up on Friday, because it makes it so we aren't as rushed on Saturday morning and of course Norm can spend that extra free time shopping. The aisles were not as close as they usually are, so I am sure they at least took one row out if not two. Most of the tables they did have set up were filled and that was good to see. I also saw a few of our club members at the show. It was nice to see you there and I hope you all found some good deals and had a good time. I know Norm and I did.

Thank you all for my re-election. I am looking forward to another good year with you all.

We are supposed to have our Board member election at the upcoming meeting, but I don't think we have to vote. We only had four people nominated. Those lucky people were Norm W8TTH, Larry W8LNR, Dick K8GX, and Neil KC8DAR. Neil KC8DAR still has to set on the board; because of my re-election. Therefore there should be no need to vote. Poor Neil.

I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving Day with your families. Eat and enjoy yourselves. Life is too short not to.

Don't forget our newsletter editor, Ted K8AQM, and our webmaster, Bob K2IBM. They both need articles and pictures to put in our Tickler and on our website. Please check out the website at www.w8tqe.com. They both do a great job for all of us.

The meeting this month will be November 24th, I hope to see you all there.

73,
Ginny W8TTX

Shortening a 100 Ft Tower at KG8EF's

Most of us try for the tallest tower we can put up, not KG8EF. Chuck had a 100 ft Rohn 25 tower and decided it was time to shorten the tower to 70 ft and raise a two element quad. On the left is a picture of Chuck's tower at the 100 ft level, beautiful! Chuck used this tower for a vhf antennas and to support 1 160m dipole, a two element wire beam (ZL Special) for 80m and another ZL Special for 40m. Between this tower and another 100 ft tower Chuck ran an 80m dipole.



KG8EF, KB8OXX, K8AQM, N8AMM, KG8CO and a non-ham began to dismantle the 100 ft tower. That's N8AMM Don Miles on the left at the 100 ft level beginning to take down the VHF/UHF antenna. Don had never climbed that high before this climb. KG8EF (on the right) climbed to relieve Don. It's a long way to 100 ft and you have to pass three sets of guy



wires to get to the top. It has long been a tradition here in Lenawee county that we climb with two belts so that as we pass guy wires of side mounted antennas we're never unstrapped from the tower. You can see the second strap of



Brian's belt as he goes around a set of guy wires. We usually attach the second belt when we're set at the working level as a safety feature. All of us here in the club that have been climbing towers for years practice this safe climbing measure.

With the help of the ground crew, KB8OXX, K8AQM, KG8EF and Ted Anderson, three sections and a set of guy wires were removed from Chuck's tower. But notice the directions from the ground crew "chief" KG8EF! You may think it's pretty "tacky" to lay back in a lazy lawn chair but stare straight up for three hours and see how your neck feels the next day! It does look bad I know but for anyone who has worked as ground



crew you know it makes a lot of sense. Doesn't take much effort to crank your neck to forty feet but 100 feet is another story.

Hopefully next spring the quad will go up!

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...K8UV has put up a 160m inverted L?
 ...NU8Z has a new Flex 5000 Software Defined Radio?
 ...K8UV has been tearing up the bands with his new 160m inverted L?
 ...K8NP is looking for an exciting program for his Florida gang? Any ideas?
 ...N8QEW is now in Florida? Lucky!
 ...K8KIC has new house wiring and waiting for his new high efficiency furnace?
 ...K8AQM is now dry walling his shack?
 ...KG8EF wants to "motorize" his 160m tuner? Any ideas for him?
 ...KB8OXK has a new 40 foot tower up? The tribander is next!
 ...the 10m Tuesday and Thursday nets are still very active? Join in!
 ...N8CC has been repairing his 4 element 40m yagi at 200 feet? Whew!
 ...WE8Z has been listening to the 10m CW net but won't check in? Are they too fast for you Denny?
 ...W8TTH is still going down to the Boyer work bees?
 ...K8KS has been checking in to the 10m gang?
 ...KC8ITC is getting pretty darn good with his bug?
 ...K8GX has been practicing hard with a straight key?
 ...W8ZJE has his 40m dipole back up and working fb?
 ...KC8TQB has his tilt-over tower up and is now looking for "aluminum" for the top?
 ...N8KBY is planning on getting his 1/4 wave 160m sloper up before winter?
 ...W8TTH is now "officially" selling his "dot slower" for bugs?
 ...K8KIC went to Fort Wayne and
 ...KD8IQO says 10m is really dead these days? Except for the Tuesday and Thursday nets!
 ...KD8IFM is very good at modeling antennas?
 ...K8TLT vacationed recently in North Carolina?
 ...K8NP fixed up WB8DUB's SB-220 amplifier?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio club board met at 7:00 pm on 10-27-08. with the following persons present: Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TMM, Norm W8TTH, Bob K2IBM, Dick K8GX, Bill KA8ARK, Larry W8LNR, Neil KC8DAR, Mark NU8Z. Dues are due. Nomination for board members, Election of officers.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 07:30 by Ginny W8TTX with 29 persons present, The minutes as published in the Tickler were accepted upon a motion by HAROLD WA8QPS Second by KEN K8KIC motion passed. The treasurer's report by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of \$4942.62, a motion by Bob K2IBM second by Dick K8GX accepted the report. There was no old business.

Election of officers nomination for board members was made for Dick K8GX, Larry W8LNR and Norm W8TTH. Nominations closed. Ginny W8TTX won election for president with Marge KB8TMM Vice president. Denny moved to adjourn, Harold WA8QPS second.

Secretary Bill KA8ARK.

program on dxpedition to Micronesia by Ted K8AQM

KC8A's "Old" 160m 1/4 Sloper

We've mentioned the 1/4 sloper antenna in several editions of the paper. Jack KC8A has a 160m 1/4 wave sloper strung from his thirty-five foot TV tower down hill to a tree about 125 feet away. You



can see the enhanced photo here of the antenna. Jack has used this antenna on 160m for many years ... in fact, over twenty years! And this is the same antenna from twenty years ago. It did break once but has and still does perform exactly as it did twenty years ago. The angle is about 45 degrees but the height is actually quite low.

I use this antenna for 160m, 80m and I even have one for 30m. At one time I had four slopers for 160m. There is some directivity (in the direction of the slope) but the main feature is the half size when compared to a dipole. It does seem to hear well and has proven itself as an antenna you can work DX with.

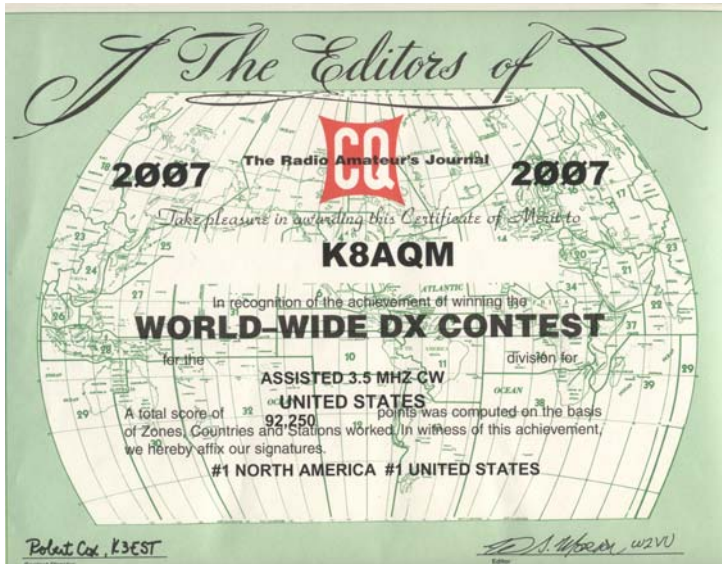
CQWW CW 2007

N8CC has a super station. His antennas for each band are competitive at the world level. Last year in the CQWW CW DX Contest N8EA operated 160m, K8AQM ran 80m, AC8W operated on 40m and K8DD was on 20m. Each of us took the 8th district top honors in our category and some of us did even better than the district. As you can see my placing was first place US and first place North America. There wasn't a lot of competition in my category (80m packet assisted) but to be the number one station in the country and live in the middle of the country is a testament to the superiority of Jeff's antennas.

On 80m I used Jeff's full size vertical and large radial system, a K2 transceiver and kilowatt amplifier but what really makes the station is the listening ability of Jeff's beverages. Those beverages are truly amazing. In fact, I have complained repeatedly to Jeff to either shorten his beverages so I can't hear the DX or give me a gain antenna that will allow the DX to hear me!

This year Jeff has taken me seriously and given me the antenna that will give me gain and hopefully allow the DX to hear me as soon as I hear them. Jeff has put up a three element 80m array to Europe and switchable to the South Pacific! I can hardly wait to give this new antenna system a try next week in the contest.

I feel extremely lucky to be an operator at the N8CC station and part of the many-manned crew that helps to cover Jeff's walls with all these certificates testifying to Jeff's great station.



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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

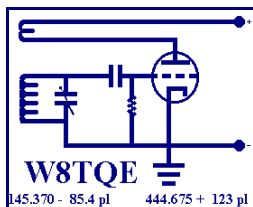
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 14, 2008
Hamfest Chair Ray, W8RAY Marge, KB8TMM

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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First Class