



The Ticker

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. I hope you are getting everything you wanted to do done this summer.

Norm W8TTH and I went to 3 hamfests this month, the Chelsea Hamfest, the Fulton County Hamfest, and the Monroe Hamfest. We saw a few of our club members at the shows and everyone seemed to have a good time.

The only hamfest I can think of that is coming up in the month of July is the Van Wert Hamfest which is July 20th.

Everyone needs to start thinking about our upcoming hamfest. September 14th will be here before we know it. Help is always appreciated and there is always room for suggestions on how to make it a better event. Please contact Marjie KB8TMM and Ray W8RAY to see where you can help out.

Don't forget to check out the website at www.w8tqe.com and give any information or pictures to Bob K2IBM that you would like to post on the site. He is a great web master and we all should appreciate the way he keeps up the website. Also, this newsletter would not be possible without our editor, Ted K8AQM. He also needs support from you by sending him articles and pictures. Without these two fellows, information about our club and upcoming events would not be readily available to all of us. Thank them both the next time you see or hear them.

Norm and I will not be attending the meeting this month. We will be on our journey to South Carolina. We are planning on spending several days traveling the Blue Ridge Parkway. Of course, we are riding our motorcycles and it should be a great ride as long as the weather cooperates.

The meeting this month will be June 30th. There will be a presentation by Ted K8AQM following the meeting. He will show and tell you all about the recent Museum Ship Event that was held June 7th and 8th. Norm, Dick K8GX, and I visited the Willis B. Boyer located in Toledo on the Maumee River. It is a fantastic ship and they are in the process of renovation. Ted and some of the other members were up in Port Huron and Mackinaw City on other vessels. I am sure there are some great pictures and stories. Don't miss it.

73,s
Ginny W8TTX

This month's program will be pictures and stories from the club operations at the "Willis B. Boyer" and the lightship "Huron". Don't miss the fun and the stories!

AARC Has a Few Bugs



Everyone knows Ken K8KIC enjoys CW but do you know Ken has inspired many of us to improve the CW we already know? Dick K8GX credits Ken with pushing him beyond the 25 wpm barrier and I have to add that Ken has bought many evenings of enjoyment with my CW. Rich K8UV and Dave KC8ITC also join in with Ken on the 10m CW nets. Ken flies with his paddle and also wields a mean straight key. With all the hoopla on getting bugs on the air Ken showed us last month his "home brew" bug.

K8GX and K8AQM decided to upgrade Ken's bug and for only a partial "thank you" for the very much appreciated CW enthusiasm Ken has brought to us, a Vibroplex bug was

secured for Ken and with hard work by K8GX refurbished and presented to Ken at last month's meeting.



The two pictures show Ken as he was presented his "new-old" bug at the last club meeting. Thank you Ken for all your efforts in bringing us along on the CW bands!

By the way, as a teacher, I noticed that for the rest of the evening meeting Ken paid no attention to the meeting but made a very thorough investigation of his new bug! Shame on you Ken, you should pay attention in class!

Join Ken and the rest of us Tuesday night at 8:00 PM on 28050 khz with your paddle and Thursday night at the same place for a slow speed gathering with straight keys and the occasional bug...about 12 wpm.

K8GX, The Master Bug Refurbisher



Dick K8GX has become the person who "refurbishes the chrome". After collecting a battered Vibroplex Original bug, Dick began to work it over. He takes the bug completely apart and polishes each piece. Those spaces that are "tight" he fires up his Dremal tool and buffs the part to a shine. Pictured here is Dicks 1961 Vibroplex Original



with everything shining and as good as new. The base was cleaned and the brass plate also polished.

Dick worked on Ken's Vibroplex and polished the old girl to a shining glow. Dick's latest project is to try to restore a glow to K8AQM's \$37.50 purchase of a Vibroplex Original Deluxe key...it's really in bad shape!

If you have a bug and are thinking about getting it looking like new talk to Dick for some restoration tips. Way to go Dick!

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...K8KS has joined the Straight Key Century Club? He's number 4444.
 ...K8KIC has a Vibroplex bug as well as his "home brew" bug?
 ...K8UV bought another Ten Tec Century 21 at Monroe?
 ...W8TTH made an "extend-a-dot" for K8AQM's bug?
 ...K8KS bought a Vibroplex bug at Monroe?
 ...K8AA was overheard asking about 6M yagis at a dealer in Monroe? What does this mean?
 ...KC8ITC got his bug refurbished from Vibroplex?
 ... "The White Rat" is finding a new home with N8AMM?
 ...WE8Z has received requests for 100 QSLs from the Boyer operation?
 ...K8AQM's new shack is roughed in now?
 ...N8AMM and KC8ITC have refurbished straight keys?
 ...K8AQM passed his nephew on his Boy Scout radio merit badge?
 ...N8QEW is looking for a Lionel straight key for his Lionel collection?
 ...KG8EF managed NOY to fall in the water at the Huron lightship?
 ...someone will receive awards at this club meeting?
 ...Straight keys and bugs seem to be catching on in our club?
 ...K8KS received his Centurian award from the Straight Key Century Club?
 ...there was no Field Day activity from W8TQE?
 ...N8CC lost power at his house for five days?
 ...there are great pictures of both the Boyer and Huron operation for our program?
 ...K8GX is the "official" chrome polisher for bugs?
 ...the 10m net is still going strong on Tuesdays and Thursdays; 8:00 pm cw, 9:00 pm ssb?
 ...KC8A is recovering from surgery?
 ...KB8OXK has turned into a pileup runner super star?
 ...K8JVV wants to return to the Huron next year?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio club Board met on May 27, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Civil Air Patrol building at the Lenawee County Airport. The following persons were present. Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TTM, Larry K8LNR, Mark NU8Z, Dick K8GX, Ted K8AQM, and Bill KA8ARK. We discussed problems encountered at Dayton, Field Day 2009 and dues are due June 1. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The Adrian Amateur radio club meeting was called to order by Ginny W8TTX at the Civil Air Patrol building on May 27, 2008 at 7:30 pm. There were 25 persons were present. Rollcall was by callsign. The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$3,953.35 and was accepted upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS second Keven N8JMN. The April Minutes were accepted as published in the Tickler upon a motion Harold WA8QPS second by Dave KC8TQB. The Museum Ship Event weekend, Weekend after next. Antennas are up and checked. There was no old business. Dick K8GX discussed all the things Ken K8KIC has done for the club and presented him with a 1951 Vibroplex bug. in recognition of his efforts. President Ginny W8TTX asked club members if there was anyone who was interested in having Fieldday. No one came forward. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm. Bill KA8ARK Secretary..

W8TTH the Wizard!

Norm W8TTH is a wizard when it comes to metal work and design! Those of us not use to a bug find slowing the “dits” down to match the “dah” is tough. Ken K8KIC is finding taming his bug is difficult even with two weights on his new “Black Warrior”.



There are several makers of devices on the market that will slow the bug down. I recently bought one called “Extend-a-dot” for \$20.00 and Vibroplex sells one for \$29.95. The Extend-a-dot does work but is a plumber’s delight and looks like a series of sewer pipes connected to the bug.

Along comes Norm W8TTH, takes one quick look and says, “I can design and make a better one.” My bug is the “Chevy” of the Vibroplex models, simple and with a flat bar (as opposed to the circular style of K8KIC’s, K8GX’s and KC8ITC’s) as the weight holder. Norm decided to keep the look of the bug as it is and came up with the design shown in the pictures. It is a simple machined brass block with two cuts in it for attaching and extending the weight farther out. It’s a great idea and “looks” like it belongs on the bug. The bottom left picture is my new J-36 Vibroplex, made 10-28-40 which also used a flat stock bar and Norm’s invention fits perfectly on it too.



Norm is working on an extender for the round rod bugs and should have it designed and built for next month. It will no doubt be a perfect match for those style bugs. Norm “The Wizard of Metal” can design and build anything! Thanks Norm for the great design and great product!

73...K8AQM



Best Pictures from the Huron and the Boyer



The Huron Crew



Kung FU operator W8MAG

The New and the Old White Rat

Since somewhere in the early 80's K8AQM has been operating from "The White Rat." There have been many DX and domestics contests, the areas first RTTY contest, special event and casual operations from this sight. Lots of Chili, beer, Subways and sodas have been consumed there. DX a-plenty has been worked, awards won for many stations and a packet cluster once lived in this building. All this along with laughs, learning and somewhere in the neighborhood of several hundred mice have all en-



joyed The White Rat". But alas, it's time to move on and upgrade. The "Rat" on the left is being replaced with the 20 x 16 building shown on the right. The new building is roughed in and beginning to shape up. It will have a bathroom, no more fighting off biting mosquitoes during a run to the woods!

Ah but the "Rat" will continue to live and make more QSOs and memories! Don N8AMM has asked to have the "Rat" and move it to Morenci to be used as his ham shack. When the Rat is emptied and the ground frozen W8TTH plans to bring his forklift over once Don has removed the porch, lift it up, replace the tires and haul the Rat through the yard to be place on a flatbed trailer and hauled off to Morenci! What a project that will be! Don's XYL says, "... fine so long as it's free." and My only request is visitation rights along with one sign removal from the side drawn by WA8UWQ's XYL and daughter several years ago. LONG LIVE THE RAT!

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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

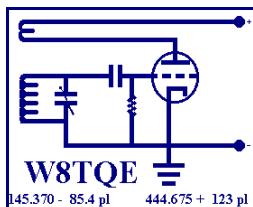
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

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