



# The Ticker

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

Hi folks. I hope your winter is going okay. We have had our share of nasty weather for the winter and I am ready for spring. Just try to keep dry and stay warm.

I can't wait for the local hamfests to start up this year. There are a few in the winter months, but they are not that close to us. Norm W8TTH and I usually attend the Mansfield, Ohio Hamfest, but we did not go this year due to conflicting interests. It is usually a good hamfest, but I haven't heard how it was this year. Next month we have a couple of fairly local hamfests. They are the Marshall Hamfest and the TMRA Hamfest. These two share the same weekend. The first is on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and the other on the next day. They are usually both pretty nice and well attended. Once again and I can't plug these guys enough, don't forget to thank Ted K8AQM for the great job he does on our newsletter and Bob K2IBM for the fantastic job he does with our website. Make sure you keep those pictures and articles going to both of them.

I don't have a whole lot to say this month. I am sorry I wasn't able to attend the meeting last month. There are too many things going on right now and it doesn't help that I am working a modified 3<sup>rd</sup> shift with my starting time at 9 pm. It makes it real hard to get everything done in a timely manner on a normal day. When you have only one other task you may do fine, but when you have several thrown in all on the same day you are in real trouble. Now that I have become a grandma of two all at once, I have added grandma/mom's taxi service to my long list of other duties and sometimes everything seems to run together. I guess I haven't gotten used to regular 3<sup>rd</sup> shift yet and with my new hours, I get even less sleep or at least I feel that way. I guess I am saying there isn't enough time in day to get everything done. I know you have all been and done that. I will try not to schedule any more things on meeting days.

Hope to see you all at the meeting. 73s,

Ginny W8TTX

**This month's program will be on the restoration of the "Willis B. Boyer" in Maumee, OH where WE8Z heads the Museum Ship Operating Event in June. Don't miss it! Presented by W8YFT Ray Johnson; a Power Point presentation.**

## Straight Key Century Club K2A/8



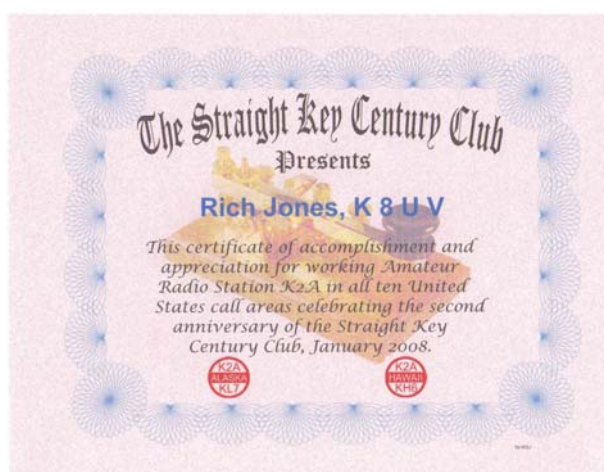
The month of January is the birthday of the SKCC (Straight Key Century Club). This club is a group of straight key enthusiasts who enjoy restoring and using straight keys, bugs and side swipers. There are several member of SKCC in our club; K8KIC, K8GX, N8AMM, KG8EF, K8UV, N8ROR, and K8AQM. Even W8TQE has a club membership (all memberships are free).

This year and last year saw a special call issued; last year K1Y and this year K2A. Next year the plan is to activate K3A as the “birthday” call.

The idea of the celebration is that each call district (including KH6 and KL7) will simultaneously

activate this call all month so each member can try to earn a “sweep” of all K2A/ districts and earn a very fine certificate. In the picture above K8UV and I did a “multi-multi” of K2A/8 during the month. It’s quite an enjoyable experience to have stations all over the country respond to our CQ and thank us for a new K2A district as they search for all the districts. Many operators try to work as many K2A districts on as many bands as possible even though they have already achieved the award for working all the districts.

To my knowledge at this time K8UV, K8KIC and K8AQM have worked all K2A call districts including K2A/KH6 and K2A/KL7. Here are the certificates:



It was great fun to be both the “hunter” and the “hunted” during the month of January. K8UV, K8KIC and I used the 2m repeater to alert each other to some new K2A station when we heard them on. Oh we’ll keep using the straight keys through out the year, but for myself, I can hardly wait until January 2009 when the hunt for K3A stations begins again!

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

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

... K8AA's K3 arrived...finally?  
 ...W8TTH reworked K8KIC's straight key cable and helped K8AQM fix his quad? Thanks Norm!  
 ...NU8Z was presented with a straight key? He needs a "special" cable to interface it with his Flex radio!  
 ...WA8QPS and K8HCL got "fleeced" by K8KIC and W8TTH in five games of euchre?  
 ...K8AQM's new "white rat" will happen?  
 ...by the time you read this KG8CO and K8AQM will be warm in "sunny" Micronesia (V63)?  
 ...K8TLT is helping K8AQM with "wood working" a stereo case?  
 ...K8KIC was able to load his 80m dipole on 160m?  
 ...K8KS, NU8Z, N8CC really did well in last month's CQWW 160m contest?  
 ...KC8A sent some great pictures for our club history?  
 ...W8YFT will present a program on the "Willis B Boyer" restoration?  
 ...WE8Z is off to Florida now?  
 ...KG8EF has signed on with K8JWV and K8AQM to activate the "Huron" and KB8OXX is a strong "maybe"?  
 ...KC8TQB has an IC-765?  
 ...K8KIC bought a "home theater sound system" after the last club meeting?

## *AARC Club Minutes*

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club Board met at the CAP building on January 28, 2008 beginning at 7:00 P.M. Those present were:

V-President Marjie KB8TMM, Larry W8LNR, Dick K8GX, Norm W8TTH, Neil KC8DAR, and Mark NU8Z. Topics of discussion were Dues, weather training, classes, CAP donation \$600, fairgrounds fee for swap \$600, fee paid to Bob K2IBM for web site \$60, fee for MI QSO party \$65.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by V-President Marjie KB8TMM at 7:30 P.M. on January 28, 2008 at the CAP building at the Lenawee County Airport. Roll call by call sign with twenty nine persons present and two guests. The 50/50 raffle was won by Hannah Brown (granddaughter of Jim Brown (W1SJG)) The December minutes were approved as printed in the Tickler on a motion by Norm W8TTH, with a second by Harold WA8QPS. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Jim W1SJG, with a second by Harold WA8QPS. It was noted that dues are due. There was no Old Business. Under New Business, weather training will be in Addison, so AARC will not be hosting it this year. There were three persons that may be interested in classes: Jerry Norman (Rich K8UV will tutor him), Peter Osmund, and Craig Kiss. The donation of \$600 was approved on a motion by Ken K8KIC with a second by Norm W8TTH. There was an announcement made on paying the fairgrounds for the 2008 swap, there was no objection. There was an announcement made that Bob K2IBM was paid \$60 for the web site work. The donation of \$65 for the 2008 QSO party was made on a motion by Ken K8KIC with a second by Rich K8UV.

The meeting was adjourned without a motion.

Ted presented another great DXpedition, to a coral atoll (really just several large rocks) in the South China Sea called Scarboro. These "hams" were the epitome of DXers.

Acting Secretary, Marjie KB8TMM



## They Don't Make Them Like This Anymore!

de K8UV



Of course I'm talking about the poster you understand. When was the last time you saw a government poster advocating learning code and joining the service? I'd bet there were "several" broken-hearted hams over this poster back in the days when it was published. And even today, those of us that enjoy CW get a "twinge" looking at the bug and of course the sender too.

What hurts though is the thought of those hard and uncomfortable headphone this poor woman is wearing! Those are definitely "ear crushers" she has on. I had a set of those when I first started and they were really awful!

I wonder how successful the government was in recruiting with this poster? There must be some data out there relating to the number of woman CW ops in the service. Gee, I bet they had a better CW "swing" with that bug than any of us ever had!

I don't know where he comes up with these "oldies" but thanks to K8UV efforts bits of forgotten history pop up here in the Tickler on a regular basis.

Guess I'll just keep sending CW and search for that perfect "WAVE". Ha!

## K8AA's K3 Has Arrived!



Way back in May Dave K8AA, ordered a K3 transceiver from Elercraft. Dave did all the research and found the K3 would be several steps up from his K2 transceiver that had served him well through the years and on a recent Dxpedition to Samoa. It's been a long wait but on January 25 the K3 arrived. It comes in two forms; either "factory assembled" or "assembly required". Since Dave was well experienced with building the K2 and other projects the "assembly required" was ordered. Unlike the K2 the K3 "assembly required" was little more than plugging in pre-assembled boards. Dave said the assembly took about six hours and was really straight forward with no problems. The picture above shows the K3 at the desk with Dave's

Alpha 99 amplifier and his computer system for his Flex Radio.

Comments from Dave on the K3's performance are outstanding. In a comparison with the Flex on 160m Dave was able to hear stations on the K3 not heard on his Flex. I had a chance (with K8KIC and K8UV) to hear the vox system on the K3 and it was absolutely smooth and perfect. Dave showed me some of the features of the K3's filtering system and I left very impressed. It seems to be a CW man's

*(continued on the page 5)*



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dream that also is just as smooth in SSB mode. A separate second receiver board is available and Dave plans to add that soon. There are multiple filter possibilities with the K3 along with its excellent DSP and automatic antenna tuner.

Dave is so pleased with the K3 so far that he wonders if he will sell his Flex and purchase a second K3 as a backup! Dave commented that the K3 has certainly been worth the wait.

The K3 is a great radio and highly adaptable to any mode. It is slightly bigger than the previous K2 but incorporates all the K2's fine features plus all those features K2 users wished they had! I'm sure we'll hear more from Dave

about the K3 performance and possibly get a chance to see the rig some Monday night.

## Part of the K8KS 160m Crew @ N8CC's Last Month



Kaz K8KS put together a crew to operate the CQWW 160m Contest last month at Jeff's, N8CC. Here are some of the ops who helped Kaz to an outstanding score: clockwise top right; NU8Z Mark and NF8J Paul, the Kaz-man himself and making three QSOs per minute, K8MJZ Stan, Kaz again wondering where all those wires go, K8QKY Steve and of course Mark NU8Z lost in the "ozone", oops, "rf zone" pulling out that DX station.

You've heard it before, "N8CC has one of the finest 160m stations in the Midwest" and it's no lie. With a quarter wave insulated base vertical (over 100 1/4 wave radials) and six beverages there is very little he can't work. Here are the line scores of the K8KS effort:

total points: 512,238  
domestic mults: 58  
DX mults: 60  
QSOs: 1404

They worked days non-stop. Not only that, they were only one of two stations in the contest to get

K2A/8 into their log (the other was W8JI). Way to go guys, great score!





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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

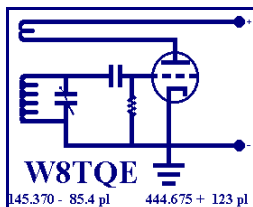
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan  
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

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

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

### AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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**First Class**