

The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. I hope everyone has had a good new year so far. I hope you are staying warm during this cold snap we are having. I am sure our heat bills will reflect the low temperatures. I hope you are all feeling well and have managed to keep away from the flu that has been going around.

There is a hamfest in Mansfield, Ohio on February 17th, however we won't be attending again this year because there is another event that same weekend that Norm W8TTH is attending. If you have never been to that hamfest, you may think about going. It is a little far away, but it is usually a good show with a lot of vendors. Also, in March we can all look forward to the Marshall and TMRA hamfest.

I don't have a lot to talk about this month as we have already had one meeting, so this will be a short letter. I do hope to see you all at the meeting this month as it is always good to see you and talk at you directly. WE MISS YOU.

Don't forget to check out our website at www.w8tqe.com. Thanks to Bob K2IBM it is a great look website and you will find anything you need to know about the club on the site. Make sure to send him pictures and articles. He can use them all.

I would also like to thank Ted K8AQM for the great job he does with the tickler. Make sure to keep him supplied with pictures and articles. We don't want him to make things up to fill the paper. He is very creative and imaginative as you all should know from the past. Don't forget the meeting on January 28th.

73,
Ginny W8TTX

Christmas Toys!

Ken N8KR and Rich K8UV got some cool Christmas toys. N8KR got a new "pump key" while K8UV got a restored sounder to play with. Must be these two were on the "nice" list rather than the "naughty" list! I'm surprised, cause I know them both!



Finding Antique Radio Transceivers and playing with them!

By Ken, N8KR

Now that I have your attention, perhaps I can keep it for a while! Over the course of the past 6 months, I have owned 14 different HF radios (12 of them were transceivers) in my quest to find and repurpose radio gear currently collecting dust. Now that I'm retired and have nothing better to do, I can write about my adventures. In this issue I want to feature my very first ham radio: the Tempo One.

When I was first licensed back in 1978, transceivers were the rage in ham radio. One radio that could send and receive without fixed crystals and separate units. I remember finding a silver faced Tempo One for \$350. I was ready to hit the novice bands!

The Tempo One was marketed by Henry Radio. (Remember their big amps?) Actually, the Tempo One was manufactured by Yaesu and sold in Europe as the FT-200. There were no transistors in the Tempo so tubes ruled. Actually, there are 17 tubes in the Tempo and I recall using the radio case as a coffee warmer for those long cw rag-chews I had as a novice. There was a separate power supply/speaker that provided the 600 volts to the 6JS6C's and other voltages to the other components. Naturally, you had to tune these radios for each band and learning the art of "dipping the plate" soon became second nature. Of course you dare not forget to calibrate the tuning dial after changing bands. (I wonder how many newbies can read an old analog dial?) Shortly after moving to Adrian in 1981, I sold my Tempo and welcomed the new digital Yaesu FT-101ZD.

Early in October I found a black-faced Tempo One in a storage barn in Indianapolis. The owner lost interest in the radio in the late 70's and let it sit and collect dirt and dust for nearly 35 years. It looked terrible and I remember the look my wife gave me when I was about to put it in our car. It was a retirement project. Perhaps I could make a few bucks on this old radio and bring it back to life? Working on a Tempo One is pretty easy. You have tubes and you have a chassis where every component and value is labeled.



Check this out:

To top it off, the manual has a simple to understand schematic and block diagram. I remember working on my old Tempo. Everything made sense and alignments and final neutralizations and setting biases had simple directions. It was hard to mess up!

Removing the radio from its case and the power supply from its case, I took the cases, ran them in the dishwasher and got the paint brush and the vacuum out and began removing the dust and dirt from the components. Washing tubes and a little tuner spray and I was ready to plug it in . . . but not yet. Time to slowly bring those filter caps in the power supply back to life. Over the course of the next three days I

had the power supply plugged in (along with the radio) to a variac and starting with 50 volts I worked my way to 110. By the time I got to the third day, the radio had life. I added an antenna and it received. . . and the audio: so wonderful and rich. It was a familiar sound. The SSB audio was rich and full. It was much better than any of my fancy solid state rigs. It wasn't long and the band switch had visited all of the ham bands. Time to tune it up. . . and it did, just as easy as I had remembered, and putting out a cool 175 watts!

Well, the case is back on the radio. It looks new. (Did I mention that under all of the dirt was the original plastic film covering the front face of the radio - - it was still in place!) I've made many ssb q's with it and today, I ran SKCC WES cw with the J-38. The Tempo has NO cw filter so your ears become the filtering agent. There isn't much demand for the old Tempo One. I had it on my flea market table at Fort Wayne. I think I had a couple of "chuckles" as people remembered this old, drifting, cw-filterless rig. But I've decided it's going to have a permanent home at N8KR. Here she is:



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

...NU8Z and KG8CO tracked down K8KIC's noise... Problem fixed!
 ...N8KR had the nerve to show up in Adrian last week with a "tan"!?!
 ...both W8TTH and K8AA got to tack on motorcycle miles last week?
 ...N8AMM has the rotor working now under his 17 and 12 meter yagis?
 ...W8TQE made 620 hand keyed cw QSOs last week?
 ...NU8Z bought a "bug" (semi automatic telegraph key)?
 ...KG8CO is gearing up for a big 160m cw contest at the end of January and ssb at the end of February?
 ...KB8ECG is now a member of the Straight Key Century Club?
 ...K8UV likes his new refurbished sounder from the old telegraph days?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio club board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 7, 2013 at the Civil Air Patrol building by President Ginny W8TTX with the following persons present: Ginny W8TTX, Larry W8LNR, Norm W8TTH, Dick K8GX, Neil KC8DAR, Bob K2IBM, Mark NU8Z, and Bill KA8ARK. The board discussed day and time of the Sunday Net the poll Mark NU8Z took showed 15 for 8:00 pm and 3 for 9:00 PM. we will discuss this at the meeting. We also discussed rewiring of the shack however no action was taken. Mark NU8Z will send a letter to all hams in the county inviting them to join us at our future meetings to participate in operating the club station with a mentor if desired. The meeting Adjourned at 7:34 PM.

The Adrian amateur radio club meeting minutes for November were approved with a motion by Norm W8TTH second by Dick K8DX. The financial statement by Mark NU8Z showed a Balance of \$6,951.00, the report was accepted with a motion to accept the report by Norm W8TTH second by Dick K8GX. Motion by Cletus K8TLT second by Ken K8KIC to change the Sunday night net from 9:00 pm to 8:00 PM motion passed. Norm W8TTH, Larry W8LNR, and Dick K8GX were reappointed to the board as they were the only persons running. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.
 Secretary Bill KA8ARK.



N8KR/4

Got this note from Ken while he was enjoying Florida sunshine last month...ugh!...ed

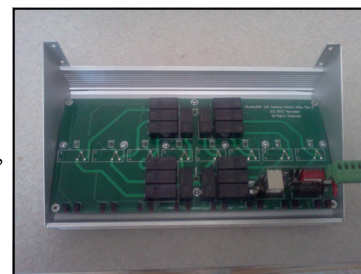
Wow! First contact and it was with you . . . Amazing! You had a bone crushing signal on 40 meters! Did you manage to get the "T" for the club? In my packing for the trip down here, I forgot a power supply. I picked up a power supply from the estate but it was 7 amp continuous so not quite enough for the 706, which has a cw filter. I ran the Paragon, as seen in the picture. 5 minutes before the event the display went goofy and every led lit with garbage. Fortunately, the rig has a voice module to tell what frequency you're on. Bummer! Something else to fix. The tightest filter on the rig is 2.4. To make things worse, I had no idea if I was actually zero-beating as people came back to me both real low and high pitch. 20 worked great. 17 q's in 40 minutes. When 20 died 40 was really tough. Crappy antenna.... 15 feet high was about all I could muster here.

I was on the porch. 70 degrees. In shorts. Beer on the table.

Dual Receiver Beverage Boxes



Always working to improve his station, Brian KG8CO, has added a system where his two FT-1000MP radios can share the same beverage antennas. The boxes also protect the front end of the receivers while the radios are transmitting. "KG8CO" on 160m is truly becoming an awesome station. The boxes will be tested this month in the CQWW 160m CW contest! Go Brian!



On the Web!

Boy, it's been a busy holiday season. I hope everyone got what they wanted for Christmas. No ham radio stuff here, but I did get a nice Golf GPS which I'm looking forward to using. It will come in handy by telling me how far I should have hit the ball! Santa also brought me a new 32 GB Nexus 10 tablet. I love that thing. Highly recommended!

Well, below is some stuff that that you may be interested in investigating and checking out.

QT Radio Client: This is a computer program that allows access to SDR receivers. I have mentioned this type of thing before, but this is something a little different. The program is resident on your computer and allows you to access numerous SDR radio servers. Some of the servers have the ANAN radio mentioned in the below Apache Labs write up.

here is a list of online receivers

<http://qtradio.napan.ca/qtradio/qtradio.pl>

Here is the windows QtRadio zip file

<http://napan.com/ve9gj/qtadio-master-2012-11-11.zip>

Here are instructions for building Windows version

http://napan.ca/ghpsdr3/index.php/QtRadio_on_Windows

Apache Labs: If you are interested in SDR radio, then see the N9VV website. N9VV is the unofficial US representative for [Apache Labs](http://www.apache-labs.com). This is a company in India that manufactures the new [TAPR Group](http://www.apache-labs.com) designed Hermes transceiver boards. This is part of the [HPSDR project](http://www.apache-labs.com). The Indian manufacture board is called "ANAN". They have a 10 watt version and will releasing a 100 watt version this month. (Jan 2013). They also have a new much more powerful version coming out that has dual FPGA's for the creation of 2 data sets that allow you to do all sorts of net stuff such as diversity reception. These are true direct up and down conversion radios. They convert the RF from the antenna directly to the digital domain. This allows for less distortion and much greater flexibility via digital enhancing on the received signal. These radios are semi kits and are by no means appliance type radios. But that being said, most anyone can get them working. It's all about tinkering. Hey, that's what ham radio ops are suppose to do..right? Both models can run up to 8 receivers simultaneously. Check it out, If nothing else it is interesting reading and lets you know what's out there on the bleeding edge. See <http://www.n9vv.com/hamradio.html> and <https://apache-labs.com/index.php>

"StumbleUpon": This is a website that I discovered a number of years ago, but have started using again since I got my new tablet. This website allows you to indicate your areas of interest which may fall in any number of categories. You then select the category and hit the "stumble" button and a new interested related website pops up. On a tablet, it's as simple as turning the page. This program adds new meaning to the word "browsing" Check it out at <http://www.stumbleupon.com>. Believe me, you will stumble upon something great.

Eham.Net Links: This is a page on the [Eham website](http://www.eham.net) that allows searching for ham radio related websites. Just select a "category" such as QRP, antennas, etc, and see what pops up. The sites are rated using a One through five star rating method. This is not an "all inclusive" listing; it only has the websites that are submitted. But who knows where they will lead you. See <http://www.eham.net/links/> That's all for this month.

Mark NU8Z

N8AMM's New Antennas!

Check it out! Don N8AMM has a couple of new antennas on his new tower. Don put up a 40 foot tower and has installed a three element 12m yagi and three element 17m yagi to add to his antenna arsenal. With the help of Brian KG8CO Don got the first antenna (12m) on the mast and then raised the mast 10 feet to add the 17m antenna. Don built the 12m antenna from an old 10m yagi and a few "extra" pieces of aluminum and modeled the antenna through the EZNEC antenna modeling program. The 17m antenna was an old 15m Hygain yagi that N8CC made into the three element 17m but no longer needed.

Don just needs to get the rotor cable and coax into the shack and he'll be "golden" on 17 and 12 meters.



K3Y/8...aka W8TQE Scores Big!

This month saw W8TQE activated as K3Y/8 in the Straight Key Century Club's birthday activity. Club members operating and/or visiting included K8KIC, NU8Z, KG8CO, K8UV, N8AMM, N8KR, KB8ECG, W8TTH, N8CC, K8KS and K8AQM. There were many other visiting ops during the two day event; here are just a few of the pictures from the operation.

Last year we finished with 327 QSOs and this year we made 620 QSOs! We worked all bands 6m through 160m. The equipment worked well and the operators just had no trouble making contacts. We hams had "ham" sandwiches, chili, chips, cashews, beef sticks and all sorts of goodies. There is no doubt each of us consumed more calories than we made QSOS but that's half the fun. The other half is the great time we had just operating and joking together.

Hats off to Dave KB8ECG. Dave came to "watch", ended up applying for an SKCC number which he got the next day and promptly got on the air from home and worked us on several bands. Also kudos to NU8Z who proved old habits of how to

send with a straight key is like falling off a riding a bike, you never forget!



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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 37th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 2013

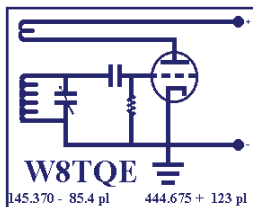
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First Class