

The Ticker

From the Prez.....

Hello folks. The weather still seems to be holding out good for us. We haven't gotten too much snow yet and don't want any more.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. Maybe if you were really good this year, Santa got you some new ham equipment. If not you will have to wait until the TMRA hamfest in March to pick up what you need, unless you hit one of the smaller hamfests this winter. Wouldn't it be nice if AES, R & L, and all the other radio equipment shops had after Christmas sales like the department stores? There I go hallucinating again. At any rate, if you were lucky enough to get something new, bring it to the club meeting or take it to one of the Monday or Wednesday night gatherings to show it off.

I had so much time off I wasn't sure what I was going to do with it all, but I spent most of the first week off with a nasty cold/flu bug or something. The second week wasn't too bad, but all that time off will make it real hard to return to work. It will be a long time before we get another holiday. I wish they were spread out a little more evenly throughout the year.

Make sure you visit the website. Andy (WA8UWQ) has added a new page. He has put up pictures of past club events. He still can use any pictures you are willing to share with dates if available. He will return in the same condition he received them in. Andy has done a lot of updating to the site lately. Please get on the Internet and check it out.

For those of you that missed the December meeting Jim Anderson, the Lenawee County Emergency Management Director presented the program. It was a very informative program and brought us up to date on what the county expects from our group.

The January program will be presented by Ted (K8AQM) and Dave (K8AA) and the topic will be the Sigma V Vertical Antenna. This presentation was originally scheduled for December, but was postponed until this month due to the 160-meter CW contest, which fell on the same weekend as the meeting. I hope the guys had fun and made a lot of contacts.

Once again, I want to remind everyone that Technician classes start again on January 20th. Get busy and get people interested in the hobby. The more people we have in the club, the more people there are to help participate in club functions and events. Also, there will be more people to meet and talk to on the radio. We don't want anyone to miss out on all the fun.

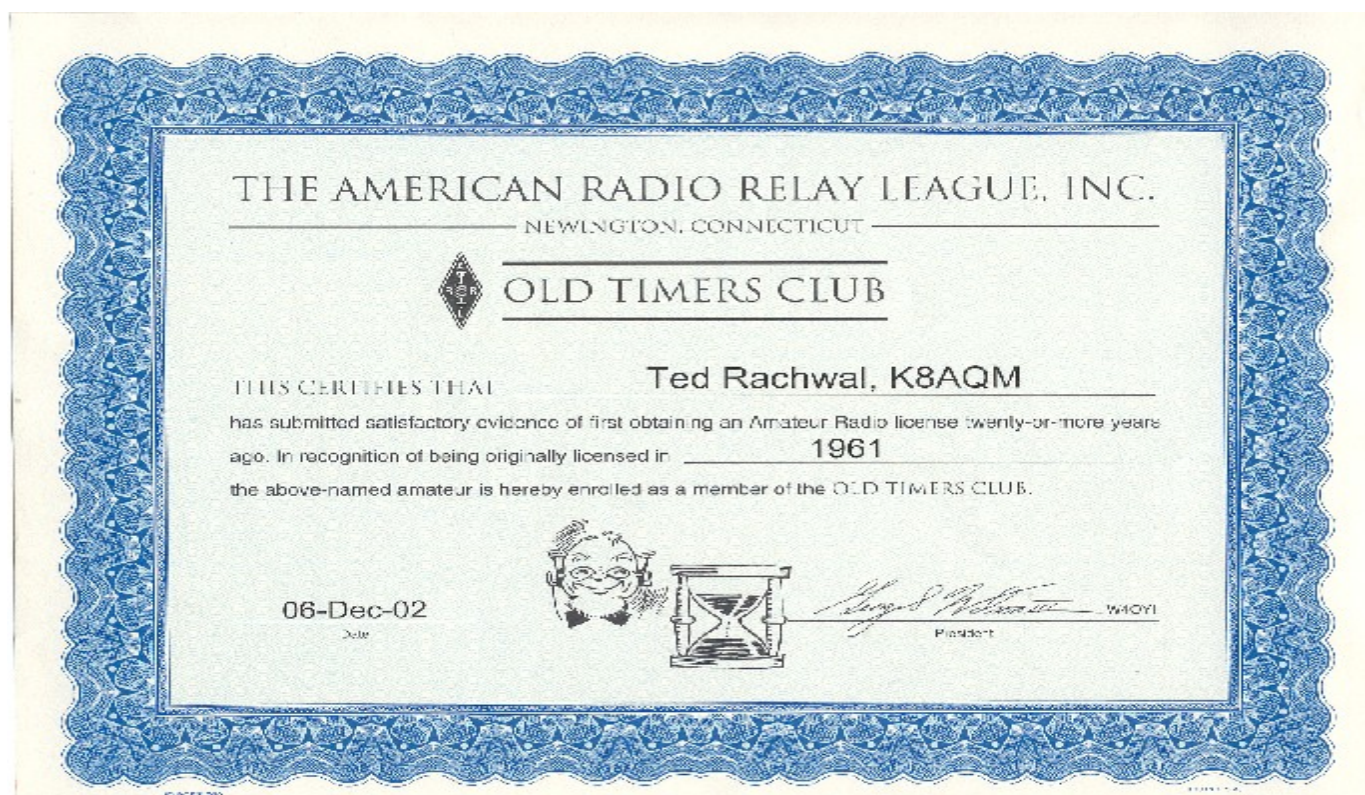
We did have one person volunteer to help Dick (K8GX) and myself, Jim (KC8TFA) has stepped forward and is willing once again this year to help us prepare new hams for their Technician test. WE STILL CAN USE YOUR HELP. There is always room for other instructors. Dick should have a syllabus showing the dates and topics of discussion for the classes by our January 3rd meeting. Please contact any of the club officers or board members if you are willing to help.

That is all for now. Hope to see you at the meeting.

73,
Ginny W8TTX

The Old Timers Club

Several months ago I was reading through QST and happened upon one of their "Strays". The article was about "The Old Timers Club" and offered a chance to become a member and to receive a certificate so saying. When I was just starting out in ham radio I visited several shacks of the locals in Port Huron and I remember seeing several certificates on the walls that I have never forgotten. The three certificates were a Code Proficiency Award, Rag Chewer's Club and an Old Timers Club. Here was my chance to complete my own set of three! These are not highly sought operating certificates like the DXCC, WASS and WAC awards but something that was important to me in my amateur radio history. The only qualification for the Old Timers Club was to be a ham for 25 years. I sure qualified easily! Why not get your own and join me in the Old Timers Club, after all, most of us in the club qualify!



K8XXX Cluster Lives...sort of

WA8UWQ and K2IBM have been working hard to revive the K8XXX cluster operating under a new cluster system called "DX Spider". Andy and Bob have spent weeks working on the cluster and as of this writing the cluster is connected to K8NA cluster via the internet. Although Andy and Bob worked all day Saturday on the cluster, users can only connect via the internet at this time. The RF links have been troublesome but neither Bob nor Andy have given-up yet and they will lick this problem and K8XXX will again be QRV for southeastern Michigan on 2m, 220, and 440.

The Spider DX Cluster is a free program and runs in Windows but was originally written for LINUX. With the use of a language called "PERL" the cluster can be run in Windows. There are several Spider Clusters running in the internet system with the K8DD Spider Cluster being the first in Michigan.

Give the guys some encouragement and let them know you miss and need the cluster back. They need your support!

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know...

- ...K8AQM recently bought a K2 transceiver...more QRP!
- ...K8JVW has his antennas up and ready to work DX this winter?
- ...K8GX has his new tower and yagi up but his 11 el 2m beam at 30 ft beats his 11 el 2m beam at 60 ft?
- ...KG8CO has been heard on 440 but not on the HF bands Dxing for quite awhile?
- ...KB8ECG decided he didn't need any Christmas radio gear?
- ...I couldn't find anyone who got radio gear for Christmas...ugh!
- ...K8NP will be QRV from Florida for January until it's warm?
- ...the Monday night meeting at the CAP is a real gabb fest?
- ...the Wednesday night technical classes will continue January 7?
- ...K2IBM talks to his computers all day but can't be found on 440 nor 2m...ask WA8UWQ!
- ...NU8Z has found cheap rooms at Dayton for this year...\$50 a night!
- ...WE8Z isn't the only one who lets smoke out of circuits? 17 inch monitors and 2m RF don't mix!
- ...you really should think about owning a Sigma V antenna?
- ...K8AA has a wireless internet connection now...and it works too!

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club board met at the CAP building at 19:00 on 12-6-02. The following persons were present, Ginny W8TTX, Dick K8GX, Norm W8TTH, Neil KC8DAR, Eric K8JVW, Dave K8AA, Andy WA8UWQ, Bill KA8ARK. We discussed mailing the Tickler, since we can save considerable money on postage we will discontinue mailing it to anyone who has an E-Mail address beginning with the New Year. We need someone to take responsibility for repeater maintenance while Neil K8NP is away for the Winter. January program will be put on by Ted K8AQM & Dave K8AA on the Sigma 5 antenna. The Feb program will be put on by Hank K8DD on his dxpedition.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by President Ginny W8TTX at 19:30 on 12-6-02 at the CAP building with 28 persons present. A motion was made by Andy WA8UWQ to accept the minutes as published in the Tickler, Joe K8YZA second. Motion carried. The Treasurers report by Dave K8AA showed a balance of \$4,114.18. Motion to accept the report by Harold WA8QPS second by Eric K8JVW. Motion Passed. Old bus. Beginners classes will start January 20 and times will be 7:00 to 9:00 pm. We need instructors for the classes. George upgraded to general, Need a volunteer to take responsibility for maintenance on the repeater as Neil K8NP is going to Florida for the Winter. Ginny has a letter stating that licensed hams are allowed to carry scanners in their auto. See her if you want a copy. Joe K8YZA reported on the fact that the Homeland defense organization will be wanting Hams to upgrade their skills to be of more value to them in time of need. He sent around a list to up grade our e-mail address. Andy WA8UWQ motion to adjourn, second by Joe K8YZA. Motion passed. Secretary Bill KA8ARK. The program was by Jim Anderson, the County Emergency Coordinator.

Big Time Power Comes to Lenawee County

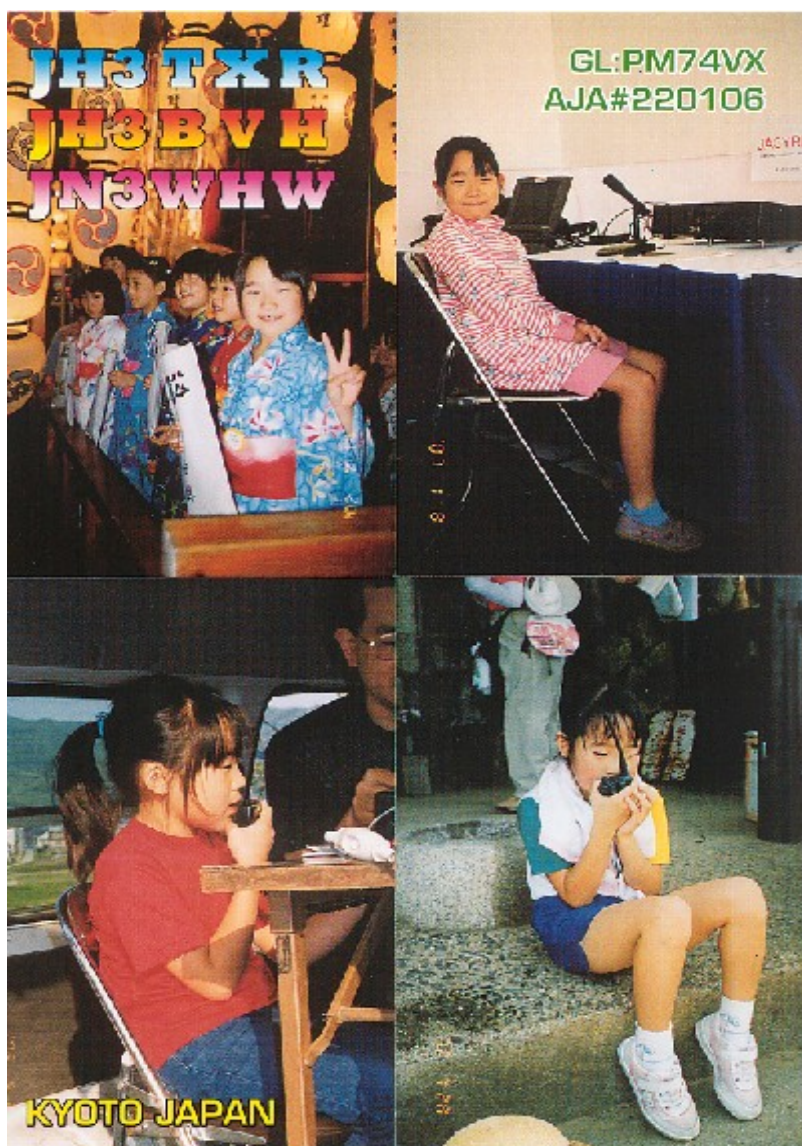
During the late 80's and the early 90's K8AQM was the station to be reckoned with. Those days are past and AQM is just another station in Lenawee County. Today and in the future there is a new BIG station and that is NU8Z. NU8Z, Mark has been working DX and worked about everything there is to work and win every DX award there is to win. It's not easy being the "Big Dog" and Mark has fought the good fight through the years clawing and scraping his way to the DXCC Honor Roll. But once you've worked it all and claimed your moments of glory what's left...why contesting of course! Mark has entered the contesting area now has made quite a splash in the Midwest contest circles. But unlike Dxing where just "being there" is a major part of success, contesting requires MORE. And when I say MORE I'm talking about MORE everything like, two radios(Mark has these), at least two major antenna systems (Mark has this now as several of you helped install his second tower and multi element antenna this past fall) and two amps(Mark has an Ameritron AL-811H...the "H" is for the high power version)...but Mark had only one until recently. Not to be out-done by the big contest stations K8CC, N8CC, K8AA and of course "DX Central" a.k.a., KG8CO, Mark had a new amplifier delivered that definitely delivers MORE. To get his new amplifier into the shack Mark had to borrow W8TTH's High Low. Below Mark is maneuvering his new amplifier into place in his shack.



As you can see Mark's amplifier is a beauty. Those contest pileups can be brutal as Mark has found out and he hopes his new amp will give him the edge in breaking those east coast pileups on those DX multipliers.

There were some areas of concern I discussed with Mark but he assures me the amp is "legal" and Consumer's Power will install the necessary three phase line to his shack. When questioned about the effect of this amp on Mark's family life Mark just smiled and replied stoutly that two boys were more than enough family for him. Mark foresees finding other operators to man his station during multi-op contests might be a problem and is currently looking for operators beyond their fatherhood years(40 and older) and those with full medical benefits with regard to radiation poisoning and sickness. Finally, the issue of TVI was brought up and after the first test of the amplifier running "full legal power" Mark discovered there were no more working TV sets in Tecumseh so TVI will not be an issue.

So when does the club get a tour of the new station Mark and when did you decide "DX Central" was such a threat to your operating efforts?



Meet JN3WHW

The little angel on the left is Shoko Yamamoto. Shoko is the daughter Shozo(JH3TXR) and Keiko (JH3BVH) who live in Kyoto Japan and are my very good friends. I met Shozo while living in Moriyama, Japan and through him I was introduced to Dxing in the Pacific. In 1992 Shozo married Keiko and came to the US for a visit and I got to meet his lovely wife Keiko, Jeff, N8CC and I visited Shozo on our 1996 Pacific tour and met his then four year old daughter, Shoko.

Shoko is an amazing little girl who is very accomplished in playing the piano and composing her own music. Shozo sent me a cd of videos from her performances and she is excellent. In addition to playing and writing music Shoko also sings quite well. Along with such musical talent Shoko found time to gain her entry level license and now is found on 440 MHz as well as participating in contesting efforts with the Kyoto DX Club. I received a Christmas card this year signed in English from Shoko so speaking and writing English is another of Shoko's many talents.

I would be happy to loan my cd of Shoko's music to anyone who would like to listen to her perform.

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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

Monday 10 Meter Local Chat at 9:00 p.m. on 28.495 +/- 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

N8QZO 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan

Local Area DX Packet Clusters

K8AQM 144.910 and 446.575 Adrian, Michigan

K8XXX 144.970, 441.150 Adrian, Michigan

Adrian ARC 30th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

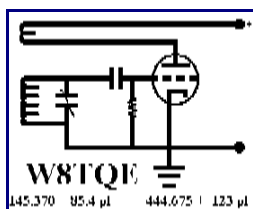
September 15, 2002

Hamfest Chair Eric, K8JVV kc8jvw@tc3net.com

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