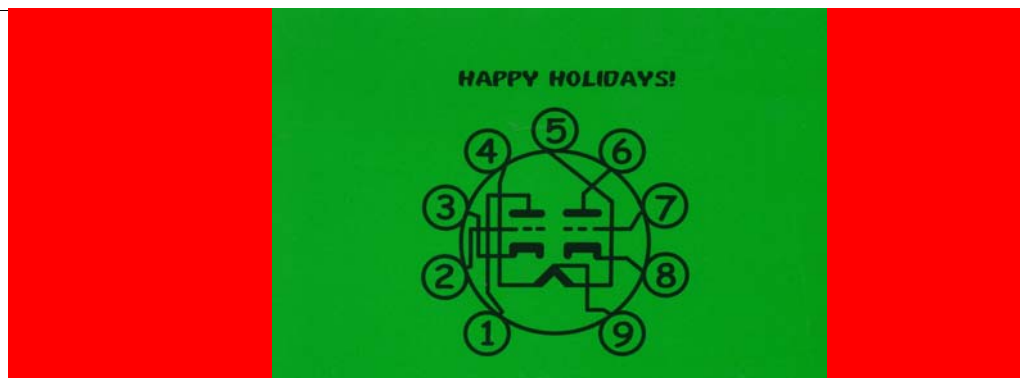


The Ticker



From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. Winter has been fairly kind to us so far this year. Let's hope it stays that way.

It was determined at our November meeting that this month we will have an after Christmas Snack night. We will have it during our regular meeting and after. As always spouses are always welcome to all club functions. Please bring one of your favorite snacks to share with your fellow hams.

Board members were elected during last month's meeting. They are: Norm W8TTH, Larry W8LNR, and Dick K8GX.

Norm and I hope you all have a great Christmas this year and get to spend time with your families. Christmas is a time for joy and happiness. Enjoy yourselves.

Thanks to Bob K2IBM we have a great website and you can find anything out you want to know or learn about the club from the site. Don't forget to check out the website at www.w8tqe.com. I would also like to thank Ted K8AQM for the great job he does on this newsletter. Make sure you send articles and pictures to both of them.

See you on December 28th for the meeting and snack time,

Ginny W8TTX

News Flash!

The new tower is up at the airport and the vhf/uhf antennas are in place. Thanks to the work of W8TTH the club's VHF/UHF antenna is side mounted at 70 feet. The CAP antenna is also on a stand-off at 70 feet. The D-STAR repeater antenna, police and fire depart antennas are at 90+ feet.

December Program

After all the program hassle of the past two month there will be a DVD video presentation of several Dxpeditons **IF** I can make it back from the holidays in time for the meeting!

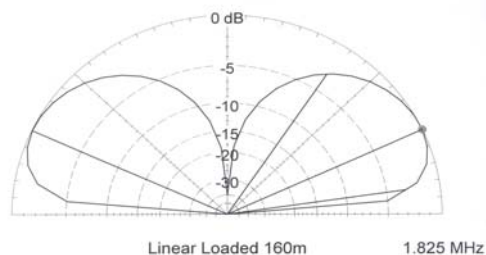
Linear Loaded 160m Vertical

Lately N8AMM, KG8CO and I have been working with EZNEC to design antennas for the JD1 trip. Size, angle of take-off and gain have played a major roll in our designs. Lately verticals with linear loading have shown some very good promise. Promise is fine but the proof is in the actual working and construction of the antenna. N8AMM “volunteered” his QTH and station as the building/working site for the 160m linear loaded vertical. The vertical would use 40 feet of fiberglass military poles, 20 feet of 450 ohm ladder line and 120 feet of wire for the vertical and top hat. To the left is the vertical completed but the lower picture shows how we “taped” the ladder line to the mast on one side and the vertical wire on the other side. Because we had only two inches of separation more wire was needed for the vertical than we originally intended. At the top of the 20 ft of ladder line we bridged the two wires, one leg at the bottom would attach to the tuner and the other leg would attach to the vertical wire running up the other side of the pole. That means there is 80 feet of wire running vertically up the 40 ft. pole. The top horizontal wire runs about 80 feet out ... this was way more wire than we planned but needed to bring the swr down to 1:1.

After getting the antenna “vertical” we laid our radial field out. Recent studies have shown there is very little need to make radials longer than the antenna is vertical. Of course this made our work much easier, we measured and cut 25 forty foot radials and spread them around the vertical. With an impedance of nearly 47000 ohms a tuner was needed at the base of the antenna (the best place to tune a vertical). The two lower pictures show our 300 watt B&W tuner used to bring the impedance right down to match our 50 ohm coax.

Now, the question is, “but does it work?” Don ran only 100 watts and operated ssb making contacts. All reports have been very good with good reports from the south, the east coast and midwest. At this time and using only 100 watts no attempt to work DX has been made but several DX stations have been heard; Europeans, Russians and stations in the Caribbean among them. We plan to give it the “QRO” test in February’s CQWW SSB 160m Contest.

The chart on the right is the calculations given by EZNEC on what to expect from this antenna given our restraints of space, weight and materials. We like the take-off angle to get us over our hill to the USA and the gain is good. Of course it is a compromise and nothing like N8CC’s super 160m station but it should prove a “player” from JD1 and N8AMM’s QTH.



Elevation Plot	0.0 deg.	Cursor Elev	25.0 deg.
Azimuth Angle	2.93 dBi	Gain	2.93 dBi
Outer Ring			0.0 dBmax
3D Max Gain	2.93 dBi		0.0 dBmax3D
Slice Max Gain	2.93 dBi @ Elev Angle = 25.0 deg.		
Beamwidth	48.3 deg. -3dB @ 8.3, 56.6 deg.		
Sidelobe Gain	2.89 dBi @ Elev Angle = 155.0 deg.		
Front/Sidelobe	0.04 dB		

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that ...

...N8AMM has installed new antennas? A 40m and 17m (planned) ZL Special antenna is now radiating.
 ...K8HCL is playing euchre again with K8KIC and the other “card sharks”?
 ...K8GX and K8KIC have the same piano keyboards?
 ...K8AQM had a visit from N8RAY? Ray was in-charge of the Huron Lightship station K8HLM.
 ...N8AMM has put up a linear loaded 160m inverted L?
 ...K8NP built a “neat” headset and mic combo ... plus a foot switch?
 ...W8TTH’s call is in the new club antenna base? Why not, he did all the work!
 ...Straight Key Century Club “K3Y” event is coming in January?
 ...Right after Christmas WE8Z and K8NP will join N8QEW in Florida?
 ...K8AQM had an 85 foot tower taken down to 30 feet? Ugh, that hurts!
 ...According to K8KIC this is “cashew season”?
 ...KG8CO and N8AMM have been chatting with KG8CW on 160m SSB?
 ...K8TI bought a “bug” from W8TTH and will be on 10m with us soon?
 ...K8UV will operate Straight Key Night as “K3Y/8”?
 ...W8LNR was food shopping just before going to lunch? Bad idea!
 ...The new 90 foot tower at the CAP is up?
 ...K8AQM is beginning to climb towers again? Just a little... 50 feet.
 ...The 10m nets are still active on Tuesdays and Thursdays?
 ...K2IBM helped restore K8AQM’s laptop to “use-ability”?
 ...KC8TQB has a TA-33 up at his QTH for 10m and to join the net?
 ...N8AMM is organizing the “Fitzgerald” operation?
 ...NU8Z should become a fiction writer? He’ll sell millions!
 ...W8TQE will be active in January as K3Y/8?
 ...K8KIC, N8AMM and K8UV will each be K3Y/8 in January? For only a few hours.

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio club board met at the CAP building on November 30, 2009. The following were present, President Ginny W8TTX, Mark NU8Z, Norm W8TTH, Bill KA8ARK, Larry W8LNR, and Dick K8GX. Board member election tonight. Snack, goody night next meeting, bring significant other. New Tech pool questions will be published next June. Adjourned 7:30 pm.

The meeting was called to order by president Ginny W8TTX at 7:30 pm with 22 persons present. The October minutes were approved upon a motion by Ken K8KIC second by Dick K8GX. The financial statement presented by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of \$5,099.44. Motion to accept financial statement was by Norm W8TTH second by Ron W8IQO was passed. The next license class is to be held in April 2010. The club received a certificate from Mad River Radio Club indicating that Adrian ARC achieved 1st place in the 2009 Michigan QSO Party. Board member election was held. Winners were Dick K8GX, Larry W8LNR, and Norm W8TTH. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Joe K8YZA second by David KC8TQB. The program scheduled for tonight was postponed due to technical difficulties.

Secretary Bill KA8ARK

If you die while running the pile up, the list of people that will miss you will be much longer

=====

Dear Mrs. Smith

Sorry about the recent loss of husband. It was so said that he should die so far from home in such a isolated place. You don't know me, but I just recently met your husband. As a matter of fact, I was the last person to talk with him before he passed. Having recently lost a loved one myself, I know you would be very much interested in hearing his last words. We were operating CW on 14015 and 23:06Z (6:06PM your time on Saturday October 1st).

I was calling him along with at least 2,000 of his other new friends. First he said "K8A?" That caught my attention! He then said "QM?" I was then sure he was talking with me.

With joy and excitement I responded to your late husband. I said "3Y0/K5WW ur 599 de K8AQM" He responded in bad or rather shaky CW. He said, "K8AQM ur 599 TU" This was follow by a series of e's or S's that must of lasted 10 minutes. I know he worked me before he died, but I don't think he had a chance to log me in his computer.

Mrs. Smith, in return for the valuable and very important information that I have provided you, Do you think there is a chance that you could get me one of the Dxedition's QSL cards. I really need Bouvet for a brand new country. I know it may seem a bit early to make such a request. With the 2 week wait and all for the ship to return to the island for their pick up, it is likely your husbands body is not home yet. On the positive side, good thing it was very cold there on Bouvet.

With my deepest sympathy
Ted K8AQM

PS.. I don't know if your husband had any insurance, so I enclosed a greenback and a SASE.

(By NU8Z)

Bases Installed



The bases are installed at the CAP building for the new EOC antenna system and our club antenna. Beating the winter weather was the goal for getting the cement poured and the EOC had scheduled pouring of cement. Fortunately for us Norm W8TTH keeps a close eye on airport happenings and managed to have the hole dug and the base made for our new tilt over tower given to us from N8FLC's estate. Norm made the base in his shop, framed the hole and oversaw the pouring and smoothing of cement for our antenna tower.

K8TI and Adrian Communications are involved with the EOC tower. Floyd's Rigging is scheduled to install the EOC tower (90 feet) and antennas on December 23 weather permitting. So by the time of the next club meeting a new 90 foot tower with several antennas for vhf and uhf should be in place. With any luck and the work of a couple of club members we hope to have a vhf/uhf antenna and pole side-arm installed around 60-70 feet by the next club meeting.

Again, thanks to the efforts of Norm W8TTH we have our base made and in for our tilt-over/crank-up tower and most likely our vhf/uhf antennas and pulley in place. Our TA-33 yagi can be installed in the spring and various wire antennas made and hung..

73,

K8AQM



Great Certificate

The crew from the club who operated from K8HLM last year received a very fine certificate for their operation in the Museum Ships event last June. As you can see the certificate not only has the call of those involved with the operation but also a very nice picture and of the ship in the background.

This will be our last operation from the Huron for sometime. You have heard plans are rolling along for a major effort this June operating from the Edmund Fitzgerald Museum at Whitefish Point in the U.P. The call will be KG8EF, "Kilowatt 8 Edmund Fitzgerald"

CQWW CW @ N8CC

Once again N8CC hosted a large group of operators for the CQWW CW contest in November. Each operator operated with his own call on a single band.

KT8X on 160m	AC8W on 40m	N8LJ on 15m
K8AQM on 80m	K8DD on 20m	K8QKY on 10m

As usual we all did very well and will be in the top ten nation wide on our respective band and perhaps even a higher rating in North America. Jeff's station is amazing, each band has world-class antennas and the station is so well designed that station intermod is not an issue ... even when each station is running 1500 watts! Computer logging and internet are available at each operating position. The first picture on



the left shows the logging computer screen used by K8DD; his K3 driving Jeff's Henry 8K amplifier.

One of the best parts of operating at Jeff's is the social gathering that occurs. You can see some of the visitors from around the Battle Creek area who stop in and check-out the operation. Jeff always welcomes visitors and gives a great tour of his station including, weather permitting, the antenna farm. That's Lee N8LJ discussing operating 15m with a visitor and AC8W Stan in the background running 40m. Dennis KT8X (160m op) relaxes during the day in the outer room with Jeff as they discuss conditions, antennas and possible station improvements for next year.



One of the regular treats occurs on Saturday night when N8UU Russ shows up with a "ba-zillion" blue gills and croppies and his deep fryer! Wow, talk about great food, everyone stops operating to enjoy this special treat. Russ brings so many fish that no one walks away hungry! Sunday morning it's off to Nashville for a breakfast and then back for the final day of the contest. Yes, we take breaks and yes we do very well but we never forget this is a hobby and the main goal is to have fun!



We've done this now for four years under separate calls. Now that we know what to do we're thinking of running as "multi-multi" next year as K8XXX. It's cool to work a five band DXCC in a weekend!

Thanks Jeff for the chance to work at a world class station!

President

Virginia Schutte, **W8TTX**
w8tx@yahoo.com

Vice President

Marge Willey, **KB8TMM**
maggie214@frontiernet.net

Secretary

Bill Groover, **KA8ARK**
billgro@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Mark Hinkleman, **NU8Z**
Cqnu8z@comcast.net

Executive Board

Neil Griffith, **KC8DAR**
njgriffith@verizon.net

Dick Denzel, **K8GX**
K8gx@tc3net.net

Norman Schutte, **W8TTH**
Norm@normsfab.com

Larry Lacy, **W8LNR**
W8LNR@aol.com

Editor Ted Rachwal
K8AQM
K8AQM@arrrl.net

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 28.328 +/-QRM

Local Area Repeaters

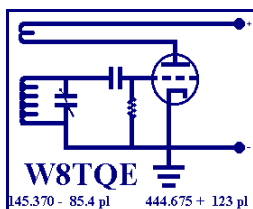
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September , 2010
Hamfest Chair Ray, W8RAY Marge, KB8TMM

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

www.w8tqe.com
adrianarc@mailman.qth.net



Adrian Amateur Radio Club
Box 26
Adrian, MI 49221



First Class