



# The Tickler

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

Hi everyone. It has been a pretty good summer so far. Not too hot, not too wet, not too cool. It was just right.

Norm W8TTH and I spent about 2 1/2 weeks of July up North. Part of the time we spent in Buckley at the Old Engine Show grounds where Norm helped work of the equipment, etc. to prepare for the upcoming show which is held from August 13<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. We also spent a week up at the Black Lake UAW Education Center. Norm received a Family Scholarship, so we were both able to attend. We had a fantastic time. We met a lot of people from different parts of the country. There were folks from Canada, Puerto Rico, and of course the U.S. They fed us way too well as we had a buffet three times a day and the food was just wonderful.

I was sorry to hear that Harold WA8QPS passed away while Norm and I were at the Black Lake training. He was a very active member and will be missed by us all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the whole family.

We didn't make the Van Wert Hamfest again this year due to my family reunion being on the same day. I hope some of you made it there.

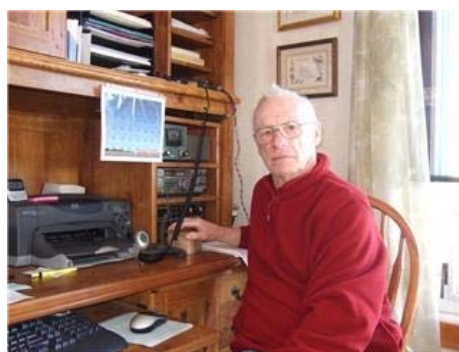
Don't forget our Hamfest is coming up soon. September 20<sup>th</sup> will be here before we know it. Please contact Marjie KB8TMM and Ray W8RAY to see where you can help out. Help is always appreciated and there is always room for suggestions on how to make things better.

Don't forget to check out the website at [www.w8tqe.com](http://www.w8tqe.com) and get any new information and pictures to Bob K2IBM. He is our web master and we need to support him and the club by sharing he keeps up the website. Also, don't forget our newsletter editor, Ted K8AQM. He also needs our support. Get him articles and pictures. We don't need him making up a bunch of stuff to put in the paper. Without these two we wouldn't know what was going on with the club. They do a great job.

The meeting this month will be July 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you all there.

73,s

Ginny W8TTX



**It is with great sadness and regret that we inform you of the passing of Harold, WA8QPS. Harold was a long time member of the club, a great contributor and a close friend to many of us. Harold's cheery attitude will be missed along with his soft voice found on 2m every morning and on the Sunday nets. 73 OM and rest peacefully.**

## N8AMM's New Tower and Yagi



A new tower and yagi sure look nice against a blue sky. Don N8AMM with the help of Brian KG8CO has a TH-3jr at 50 feet now and a great signal on 20, 15 and 10 meters. Those of us who have yagis up know it's really no small feat no matter how high you go, it's a lot of planning, work and expense. Don had Norm W8TTH make him a bracket to secure the tower to the house (\$) and of course there was the cement (\$) to pour after the hole was dug. A rotor (\$) turns the array and that means rotor cable (\$). Don added a uhf/vhf vertical to the top (\$). The antennas are both fed with RG-213



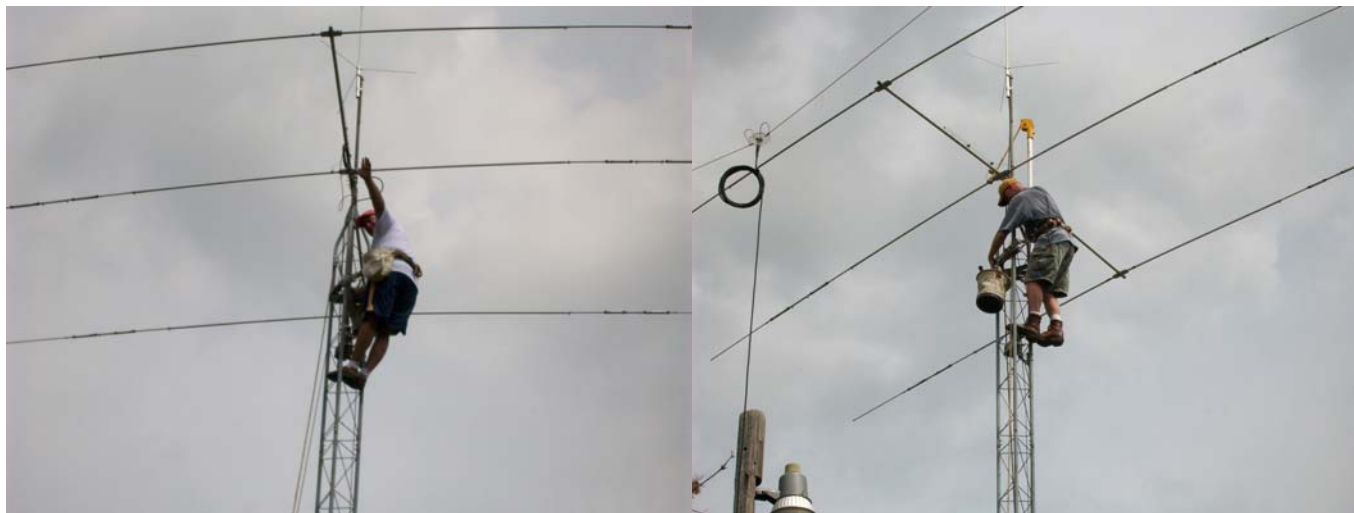
(\$).

A rope, gin pole, pulley and tag line are required tools along with the needed wrenches, bolts, tape and nuts. What seems like an easy job of just putting up the antenna is a lot more complicated and requires a lot of planning.

And of course "someone" has to climb the tower and actually do the tower building and antenna mounting. Below you can see that Don and Brian shared the work. You can see another of Don's antenna (a dipole) in the picture with Don on the tower.



The antenna really works and Don now has a "huge" signal on our weekly 10m get-togethers. By the time you read this he will have tested how well it works for DX in the IARU Radiosport contest.



## AARC Club Gossip! .....

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

... K8NP has his new digital voice keyer working just great? Ready for the Boyer next year.  
 ... K8KIC, N8AMM, N8AMM and KG8CO are using "Morse Runner and really like it?  
 ... K8AQM finally got his 80/40 shorty dipole from MFJ? Only took a six weeks!  
 ... **K8DX has been seen in the area? BEWARE! This guy is bad news, steals gear!**  
 ... K8KIC worked 246 Qs in Field Day from his home?  
 ... papers have been submitted to re-sanction our repeater?  
 ... N8FLC left his amateur radio gear to the Adrian ARC?  
 ... N8AMM has a big signal now on 10m thanks to getting his beam up with KG8CO's help?  
 ... K8GX drafted his lovely wife Karen into helping him get his HF antennas back up? Sheez!  
 ... KC8A is back home from the hospital? Yea!  
 ... KB8OXK is now on Echo Link?  
 ... K8ADM has Echo Link back running smoothly on the repeater?  
 ... K8UV has been working daily DX on 20 and 15m?  
 ... KB8ECG has a new RTTY DXCC Award? Way to go Dave!  
 ... KG8CO took down his TH-11, repaired it and got it back up?  
 ... WE8Z has two computers now for the Boyer? He still needs another CRT monitor ... help?  
 ... N8AMM worked 25 countries with his new yagi and over 100 QSOs?  
 ... NU8Z lives in one of the top 100 cities to live in in the USA?  
 ... K8KIC sold his TS-570 and had three offers in one day?

## AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio club board met at the CAP building at the Lenawee County Airport on June 29, 2009. The meeting was called to order by president Ginny W8TTX at 7:00 PM. The following persons were present: Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TTM, Bob K2IBM, Mark NU8Z, Norm W8TTH. Larry W8LNR and Bill KA8ARK. The board discussed the repeater trustee position and the confusion the state has with our club license. The board adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club met at the CAP building on June 29, 2009 at 7:30 PM. the meeting was called to order by president Ginny W8TTX with 24 persons present. The minutes were approved with the addition of a statement that "Les Howard N8KBY donated his winnings in the drawing back to the club repeater fund". Norm W8TTH motioned and Bruce KB8OXK seconded the approval of the minutes as published in the Tickler and corrected by the previous statement. Norm W8TTH motioned and Don KC8OGW seconded the motion to accept the financial statement which showed a balance of \$3,806.69 and was presented by treasurer Mark NU8Z. The motion passed. Ted K8AQM reported on recent activities of club members on the museum ship Huron. The operation was conducted under conditions of extreme weather (40 degree wind chill) however 1122 contacts were made. Denny WE8Z reported on activities on the Boyer but there was no report on the total number of contacts made. Marge read a letter of thanks from the ARRL section manager for being the first in the state to contribute to the ARRL Michigan PRB1 committee. Denny WE8Z moved that we submit Kevin N8JMN's name to the state coordinator to confirm his position as W8TQE station trustee. Tom N8QEW seconded and the motion passed. A motion to adjourn was made by Bruce KB8OXK and second by Don KC8OGW. Motion passed. The program was a show and tell. Secretary Bill KA8ARK.



## Calling All Interested In RTTY!

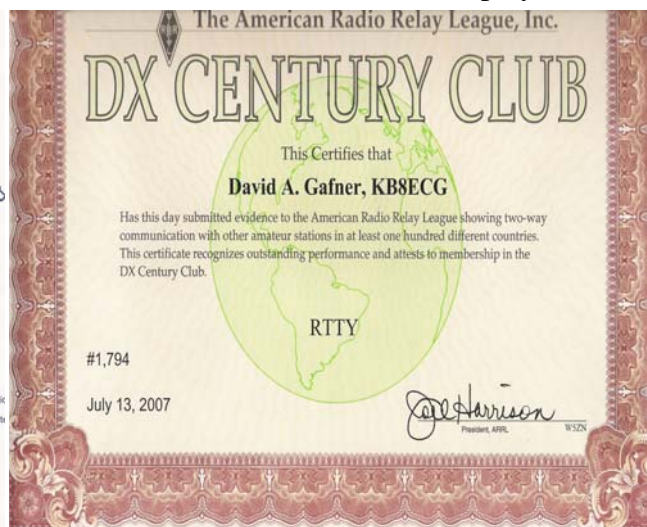
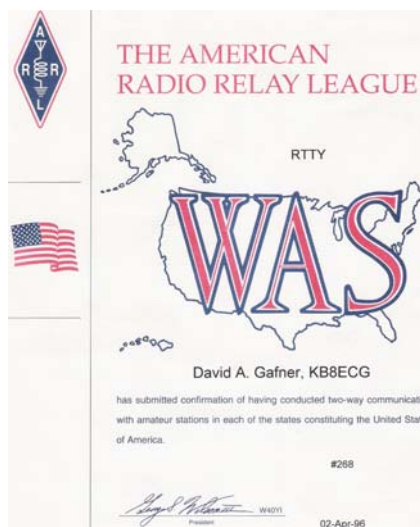
Dave, KB8ECG is planning on a RTTY operation for all those interested in learning how to do RTTY and those who do know how to have a “relaxed” effort in this year’s CQWW RTTY contest. The date is September 25-27 ... the weekend after our hamfest. Dave says it’ll be an effort designed as “fun” and a learning experience. The plan is to operate three station from the K8AQM shack and work as hard at it as we wish. Dave is more than willing to teach anyone who wants to come to the event how to use the software and to run RTTY.

The three radios will have power behind them and some pretty good antennas to be heard easily. Right now the rigs are scheduled to be two K2/100 radios and a Yaesu FT 1000MP with a couple of Alpha amps and an AL-811A. Antennas will be a log periodic and a two element quad with additional wires for the low bands.

Come watch, come play and come learn. As you can

see by Dave’s awards he does know something about RTTY operation. You don’t even need to type, just click the mouse.

Contact Dave via the club roster email address for more information. See you in September!



## The K8AQM Shack

Well, the shack is done now and all the gear is in place. I can’t thank all of you who helped make it happen for your time and effort. W8TTH, N8CC, KG8EF, KB8OXK and K8AA all gave me a hand in making this happen. Oh yeah, less I forget ... there were those who made “other things” happen (like to my door!) so I better add K8GX and W8LNR to the list. K8KIC, N8AMM, W8IQO and K8KS helped bring the station on line in January for the first effort. Thank you all and to N8ROR for helping me spend all the money to build this shack ... Rory, my wife will get you for that!



## WALTER CRONKITE, KB2GSD (SK)

Legendary CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, who held the title of "Most Trusted Man in America," passed away Friday, July 17 after a long illness. He was 92. The avuncular Cronkite anchored the CBS Evening News for 19 years until 1981 when he retired. During that time, he reported on such subjects as the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights movement, the Apollo XI lunar landing, Vietnam and the Vietnam-era protests, the Arab-Israeli Six Day War, Watergate and the Begin-Sadat peace accords.

Cronkite, an ARRL member, narrated the 6 minute video "Amateur Radio Today" (<http://www.arrl.org/ARToday/>). Produced by the ARRL in 2003, the video tells Amateur Radio's public service story to non-hams, focusing on ham radio's part in helping various agencies respond to wildfires in the Western US during 2002, ham radio in space and the role Amateur Radio plays in emergency communications. "Dozens of radio amateurs helped the police and fire departments and other emergency services maintain communications in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC," narrator Cronkite intoned in reference to ham radio's response on September 11, 2001. "Their country asked, and they responded without reservation."

Walter Leland Cronkite was born in St Joseph, Missouri on November 4, 1916, the only child of a dentist father and homemaker mother. When he was still young, his family moved to Texas. "One day, he read an article in "Boys Life" about the adventures of reporters working around the world -- and young Cronkite was hooked," said his obituary on the CBS Web site. "He began working on his high school newspaper and yearbook and in 1933, he entered the University of Texas at Austin to study political science, economics and journalism. He never graduated. He took a part time job at the Houston Post and left college to do what he loved: report."

(<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/07/17/eveningnews/main5170556.shtml>)

In 1963, it was Cronkite who broke into the soap opera "As the World Turns" to announce that the president had been shot -- and later to declare that he had been killed." CBS called it a "defining moment for Cronkite, and for the country. His presence -- in shirtsleeves, slowly removing his glasses to check the time and blink back tears-- captured both the sense of shock, and the struggle for composure, that would consume America and the world over the next four days."

One of Cronkite's enthusiasms was the space race. In 1969, when America sent a man to the moon, he couldn't contain himself. "Go baby, go." he said as Apollo XI took off. He ended up performing what critics described as "Walter to Walter" coverage of the mission -- staying on the air for 27 of the 30 hours that astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong were on the moon. In 2006, NASA honored Cronkite by giving him their Ambassador of Exploration Award. "His marathon, live coverage of the first moon landing brought the excitement and impact of the historic event into the homes of millions of Americans and observers around the world," NASA said in a news release announcing the award. Cronkite was the first non-astronaut and only NASA outsider to receive the award. (<http://www.arrl.org/?artid=6130>.)

Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, was Cronkite's radio engineer at CBS for many years. "I had many chances to discuss my favorite hobby, ham radio, with 'the world's most trusted anchor man,'" he told the ARRL. "Gradually, his interest increased, but on finding that he had to pass a Morse code test, he balked, saying it was too hard for him; however, he told me he had purchased a receiver and listened to the Novice bands every night for a few minutes. At the CBS Radio Network, Walter would arrive 10 minutes before we went on the air to read his script aloud, make corrections for his style of grammar and just 'get in the mood' to do the show. In those days Rich Moseson, W2VU, was the producer of a show called "In the News," a 3 minute television show for children voiced by CBS Correspondent Christopher Glenn. On this day, Rich was at the Broadcast Center to record Chris' voice for his show and had dropped by my control room to discuss some upcoming ARRL issues." At the time, Mendelsohn was the ARRL Hudson Division Director.

"When Walter walked into the studio, I started to set the show up at the behest of our director, Dick Muller, WA2DOS," Mendelsohn recalled. "In setting up the tape recorders, I had to send tone to them and make sure they were all at proper level. Having some time, I grabbed "The New York Times" and started sending code with the tone key on the audio console. For 10 minutes I sent code and noticed Walter had turned his script over and was copying it. We went to air, as we did every day, at 4:50 PM and after we were off, Walter brought his script into the control room. Neatly printed on the back was the text I had sent with the tone key. Rich and I looked at the copy, he nodded, and I told Walter that he had just passed the code test. He laughed and asked when the formal test was, but I reminded him that it took two general class licensees to validate the test and he had just passed the code. Several weeks later he passed the written test and the FCC issued him KB2GSD."

Mendelsohn helped Cronkite make his first Amateur Radio contact: "Having passed the licensing test, Walter was now ready to get on the air. His first QSO was on 10 meters about 28.390 MHz. He was nervous and I called him on the phone to talk him through his first experience. As we talked on the air, a ham from the Midwest come on and called me. Acknowledging him, I asked the usual questions about where he was from, wanting to give Walter a bit of flavor of what the hobby was about. I turned it over to Walter, and following his introduction, the gentleman in the Midwest said, 'That's the worst Walter Cronkite imitation I've ever heard.' I suggested that maybe it was Walter and the man replied, 'Walter Cronkite is not even a ham, and if he was, he certainly wouldn't be here on 10 meters.' Walter and I laughed for weeks at that one."

## 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

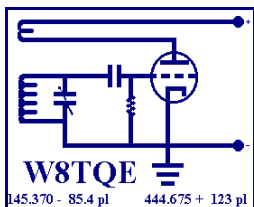
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan  
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan  
W8TQE has access to Echo Link

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

September 20, 2009  
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**