



The Ticker

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. We have had a great couple of days so far this month with temps close to 60°. I don't know about you, but I am ready for warmer weather. We have had way too much cold weather and snow this year for me.

Norm W8TTH had to work on the Marshall and TMRA Hamfest weekend this year, so I had to attend them by myself. As some of you already know I have been off work due to surgery and wasn't able to do any lifting, but thanks to our friend Adam KB8DMF from Wauseon I was still able to set up our tower hardware and sell at the Marshall show. Without Adam's help I wouldn't have been able to sell anything. It was a very profitable day for us. Norm and I do not set up in Toledo anymore, but I still went and met with all our friends. It was very enjoyable not having to tend to tables all the time and having the time to socialize with everyone. Now I understand why Norm doesn't stay at the tables more often. Both shows seemed to be well attended, but there were fewer vendors than the previous year.

I think the next hamfest of any size will be the Dayton Hamvention in May. I know Bob K2IBM put out an email from Mark NU8Z about getting vendor tickets. Make sure you respond to him in time to get yours.

I have been off work since February 20th, but during my time off work I have stayed busy preparing for my daughter, Robin's, wedding which will be April 4th. Even though I couldn't lift anything heavy I was still able to do all the shopping and make all of the invitations, flowers, etc. There is always a lot of things to do for these occasions and it was nice to have the free time to do it all. I am sure I will have forgotten something, but hopefully it won't be anything too important. I go back to work the Monday after her wedding, so that was good timing from Dr. Girardi for me. I had thought I would return three weeks earlier, so it was really a blessing.

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.

Don't forget the meeting next Monday, March 30th.

73s,
Ginny W8TTX

It is with sadness and regret we inform you of the passing of Marion Lange WFSF. Marion was a life time member of AARC and he will be greatly missed.

2009 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

It's that time of year again! It's time to gear it up and get ready for the 2009 Michigan QSO Party. The MiQP has something to offer for everyone and there is no shortage of reasons for joining in on the fun on April 18th, 2009.

In spite of the crappy conditions, last year was a good year for the MiQP. Activity was up and we had over 300 entries and we hope to do even better this year. We are hoping to see an increase in activity within the traditional amateur radio clubs in Michigan. I think that most clubs are looking for special activities and the MiQP has some features that should be considered in filling this need. This is a great event to generate club activity. Other than just a great excuse to get on the air, have fun and be hunted by hams around the country and world, the MiQP offers training opportunities for new hams; it can serve as a tune up for emergency operations by setting up and operating from your club EOC. It's a chance to fire up the club station, or get ready for field day by operating from some rare county.

In addition to the normally awarded plaques and certificates for the different categories, there will be a special 'Rookie of the Year Award' in 2009. It should also be noted that the ARRL has declared 2009 "The Year of the State QSO Party" and is offering a special certificate. Others will need to work Michigan stations during the QSO party to earn the Michigan flag for their ARRL award <http://www.arrl.org/awards/ysqso/>

As you can see from the rules listed below, this is only a 12 hour event. Please consider getting on the air for the whole thing, or any portion of the 12 hour period. You can operate from home, portable, mobile or at the club's station or EOC. With the support of mobile and portable stations, we plan on having activity in all 83 counties. Maybe someone in our club would like to activate a rare county?

Last but not least, we ask those of you that have participated in the MIQP to please help us get the word out and encourage other Michigan hams and radio clubs to participate and join the fun. See <http://www.miqp.org> for more details and the rules, !

Date /Time: Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, from 1600Z April 18th until 0400Z Stations may operate the full 12 hours. (12 noon on the 18th until 12 midnight local Michigan time)

Modes and Categories: Phone and CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. Single-op, multi-op, mobile and Emergencies Operations Center (EOC) and "Rookie" categories. Single-op entries are categorized by output power, QRP (5W or less), Low Power (100W or less), and High Power (greater than 100W).

Multipliers: Work stations once per band and mode. Work other states and Michigan Stations. MI to MI QSO's are allowed. Work portables and mobiles again as they change counties, state or province.

Exchange: Exchange QSO number and location (county for MI stations, state/province or "DX" for others).

Scoring: One point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO. Count multipliers once per mode. Multipliers are MI counties for all entries, plus states & provinces for MI entries only. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers.

Freqs: Suggested frequencies: CW-3545, 7045, 14045, 21045, 28045; Phone-3800, 7200, 14250, 21300, 28450.

Log Submittal: Mail logs no later than 30 days after the contest to: Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruett, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 or via e-mail to logs@miqp.org

More Information: For complete rules, along with free logging software, log and summary sheets, and Fliers see <http://www.miqp.org>

This Month's Program

The program this month will be a 50 minute video of the 2007 Dxpedition to 3X5A in Guinea, West Africa. This was an effort for the 2007 CQ World –Wide DX CW Contest.

AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that ...

- ... W8IQO is getting into "boat anchor" gear including microphones?
- ... W8TTH is back to work and missing Mario's Wednesday lunch with the guys?
- ... N8AMM is now practicing with a bug... but using "K8AQM" as his call to cover mistakes?
- ... KG8EF and KB8OXX are returning to the "Huron" to operate? Oh no!
- ... because it was a "good deal (\$1.00) K8UV bought a 6m antenna but doesn't own a 6m rig?
- ... K8TLT and N8JMN were spotted at the Marshall Hamfest?
- ... K8GX was/is back on the 10m cw net Tuesday evenings?
- ... KR8W now wears a "spot me in the crowd" yellow hat?
- ... N8CC has a shiny new/old J-36 bug thanks to K8GX and K8AQM?
- ... KG8CO is building a "VLF" band beacon station?
- ... K8AQM's new shack is full?
- ... K8KIC has a new refrigerator for his cashews?
- ... several members are interested in an "Extra Class" class?
- ... Eleven people showed up for the "Technician" class?
- ... N8AMM sounds great on a bug after just one week of practice?
- ... N8KR is going to be "aeronautical mobile" for the Michigan QSO Party?
- ... K8XXX will be active again for the MIQ Party at N8CC's?
- ... KC8ITC has a new/old J-37 key?
- ... K8HCL and K8KIC were at the Toledo Hamfest?
- ... K8AQM made his first DX QSO from home since October?
- ... N8KBY is ready to put up a 160m antenna?
- ... N8AMM is putting up his TH-3jr tribander?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club Board met at the Civil Air Patrol building at Lenawee County Airport at 7:00 pm on February 23, 2009. The following persons were present: Ginny W8TTX, Marge KB8TTM, Bill KA8ARK, Larry K8LNR, Norm W8TTH, Neil KC8DAR and Bob K2IBM. The hamfest was discussed and fliers were passed out announcing the training classes which are coming up on March 21 & 28. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Ginny W8TTX on February 23, 2009. The minutes were approved upon a motion by Harold WA8QPS second by Marion WF8F. We discussed the Technician classes which will be held March 21 & 28. The president Ginny W8TTX requested members show up to support the club during the classes. Mark NU8Z and Dave K8AA were recognized for the job they did on producing the Tickler in Ted's absence. Bruce KB8OXX announced that there would be a Bean Creek cleanup and would like volunteers to help on August 22. 10 am to 3:00 pm. Joe K8YZA reported on an emergency test that was held. We discussed having classes on how to use the 800 mhz system. Joe K8YZA wanted people who were willing to take the training to let him know so he could get an idea of the numbers of people willing to take the training. 17 persons volunteered. It was noted that the Marshall Hamfest will be held on March 24. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM. Ted had the program.
Secretary Bill KA8ARK.

World Radio Now On Line

CQ Magazine bought World Radio and although it is no longer published in hard copy, it is published on line. NU8Z has sent along the url for those wishing to check out World Radio on line:

<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

W8IQO's Rebuilt Shure 55S Microphone

Talk about a work of art! Ron W8IQO has rebuilt and restored this beautiful old studio-type Shure 55s microphone. Not only is it good looking but Ron has used it on the 10m net and it sounds great! Here is the story Ron sent along with the great pictures of this classic old microphone.

This is a middle to late fifties vintage Shure 55S. They don't have serial numbers so there is no way to pin down the exact year it was produced. You have to go by the type of wiring, symbol on the front of the grill, and a couple other minor differences from the early fifties microphones. I cleaned it up, disassembled it, repaired two broken wires and replaced the grill cloth with as close to the original color I could find. I'm waiting on a three pin Amphenol connector to make my new cable with. The one that was on it was broken.

It is mounted on a balanced mic boom.

73's

Ron

W8IQO

Ed note: Check out the Drake gear Ron has also restored shown in the background!



N8CC's J-36

Jeff N8CC came down to help operate in the K3Y/8 event in January with his old well-worn and used J-36 bug. It needed some very serious TLC. I offered to get the work done and spiff-up the old girl for him. Taking the bug apart, I took all the pieces except the base over to "Corky's Buffing". Corky has done all the buffing of the metal parts for the refurbished keys restored in the club. I painted the base and put new feet on it while K8GX did the re-assembly and adjusting of the J-36. Considering how the old bug looked you can understand how pleased Jeff was getting his bug back at the Marshall hamfest and looking great!

Echo Link

Al K8ADM has switched the output of his Echo Link program to the input of the W8TQE 2m repeater. Those of you using Echo Link can now connect your computers directly to the W8TQE 2m repeater if you wish. Contact Al K8ADM at k8adm@hotmail.com for information on getting into using Echo Link. I'm sure Dr. Bob K2IBM can also give you some direction on obtaining the software and getting started in Echo Link. Thanks Al!

K8AQM/KP2

It has been a very long winter and an especially cold one. What better excuse for a midwinter get-away to a tropical area than my wife's 60th birthday! With the help of K8TLT I was able to find a beautiful place in the U.S. Virgin Islands for a 10 day stay. Our tropical QTH was a 3 hour flight from Florida and arriving from Detroit in 85 degree weather was pure pleasure. Our "villa" on St. John Island was three quarters up a mountain and looked out into "Coral Bay". Wow, what a view and what a fabulous place!

Being a U.S. possession meant all I had to do for radio was to sign /KP2 after my call and of course make it through customs carrying all the radio gear. I took along my K2/100, power supply, tuner, a 40m dipole, 20m dipole and needed goodies for cw and ssb operation. Only in Detroit were there any custom issues and those were quickly resolved; a breeze. I had hoped to work a lot of state-side stations and many of my Straight Key Club friends. Ugh, after five days I had heard only one U.S. station but hundreds of European stations! Finally I was able to work a W9 on day six! The forth-coming weekend was to be the ARRL CW DX Contest and between swims and sunbathing I convinced Judy to let me have a few hours of operating time in the contest. 40m was difficult working US stations but after 50 QSOs I switched to 15m using the 40m dipole as my antenna on 15m. In just over two hours I was able to add another 150 QSOs to my log! 15m was great! It was a pleasure to work the big signal of my friend Jeff N8CC during this 15m run.



But this was a trip of "fun in the sun" and a celebration of a birthday so amateur radio was not the focus ... this time! I think our favorite picture and memory of the trip was the time spent there at the pool in our villa. It was also a pleasure to cruise the shops on St. Thomas where we also spent a

few days. Coming home and leaving when it was 85 F and arriving at Detroit where it was 12 F was a real shocker! I think this is the beginning of future winter trips to the sun and leaving Adrian's frigid winter weather.



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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

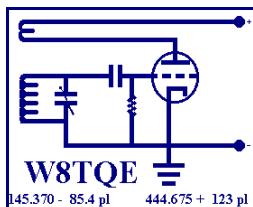
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 32th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 14, 2008
Hamfest Chair Ray, W8RAY Marge, KB8TMM

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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First Class