

# The Tickler

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

Hi everybody. I hope everyone is getting along well this winter. I think it has treated us fairly well so far this year. We certainly have had enough snow already as far as I am concerned. Hopefully it will continue to be this mild. I would like my heat bill to stay low and I know you all do.

Marjie KB8TMM, my Vice President, has not been able to attend the last couple of meetings and will not be back for awhile. She is staying at home with Ray W8RAY who is very ill. If you get a chance, please send him a card to show how much you care or call to see if he is up to visitors.

Last month we had our Between the Holidays Snack Night at our meeting. There weren't a lot of us at the meeting, but I think all that attended had a good time. We had lots of good things to eat and I am sorry you missed it all, if you didn't attend.

We discussed the new EOC Tower that is located at the Civil Air Patrol Building. It sure looks a lot nicer than the old structure that was previously holding all the antennas. The D-Star equipment will also soon be moving from Norm's garage out to its new location at the club station. Our club will also be putting up a 40 foot crank up tower that we inherited from the Estate of Robert Ingersoll N8FLC. All of this will help us to become a more operational station and enable us to help out the community more efficiently.

Norm W8TTH and I attended the Hazel Park Hamfest again this year which was held on January 17<sup>th</sup>. There was a little fog in the morning on the trip there, but at least the weather was a lot better than last year. Last year we had lots of snow and it was very slippery. Lots of vehicles were off in the ditches and stranded in the medium. As far as the hamfest went I thought it was smaller than last year, but I didn't travel far from our table. Attendance seemed fair at best. Norm however found some deals and of course we saw a lot of our friends at the show.

There are a couple of hamfests coming up in the month of February, but I don't think Norm and I will be able to attend. They are Mansfield, Ohio which is Valentine's Day and Livonia, MI which is the next week on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Don't forget to check out the website at [www.w8tqe.com](http://www.w8tqe.com) and give any information or pictures to Bob K2IBM that you would like to post on the site. He is a great web master and we all should appreciate the way he keeps up the website. Also, this newsletter would not be possible without our editor, Ted K8AQM. He also needs support from you by sending him articles and pictures. Without these two fellows, information about our club and upcoming events would not be readily available to all of us. Thank them both the next time you see or hear them.

The meeting will be on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you all there.

73s,

## New EOC Tower At The CAP



What a beauty! Have you seen the new tower out at the CAP? It was a very cold November morning when the installers came to put together the new EOC tower at the airport. The crew of two men assembled the tower all in one piece (90 feet). Floyd's Rigging arrived with a huge crane and the next thing you know, the crane was "lifting" the assembled tower. Once totally off the ground the two workers gently "walked" the tower over to the base and the crane operator lowered it squarely on to the bolts.

After the base was secured on the free standing tower, the various antennas had to be installed. W8TTH worked assembling the antennas and had everything ready to go. There are three antennas at the top (EOC repeater, police and fire departments). The two lower antennas are one for the CAP communications and one for the radio club. The tower will also support a wire antenna for the CAP yet to be installed. Coax is rolled at the bottom of the tower and connected to all the antennas. Antenna finish work

will be done as weather permits.

Thanks to W8TTH for his work on this antenna project.

## K8YZA Receive Award

A few weeks ago, I had announced a new award program for the Michigan ARRL Section. That is the Honor Roll for Emergency Coordinators/Radio Officers and their counties who had achieved a full calendar year of 100% monthly reporting. We owe a great deal to these individuals and their groups' efforts. They all have worked diligently to insure that their local programs are in place and effective. It is not an easy task to effectively manage a volunteer program. It requires true leadership to keep everyone motivated, interested and willing to donate many hours of time, while receiving only the reward of: "Thanks, you have done a great job". Importantly, these new awards apply to the local teams as well. It takes the support of every organization member to make the team fully effective. We now acknowledge that effort and thank the EC/RO and members from the following counties for making the annual goal and becoming Charter Members of the Michigan ARPSC Honor Roll:

Alcona Stan Darmofal W8SZ  
Branch Larry Camp WB8R  
Gratiot Bill Rogers KC8OUF  
Keweenaw Gary Hansen K8YSZ  
Marquette Rich Schwenke N8GBA  
Midland John Wolters W8QN  
Ontonagon Al Trainer KC8OCK  
Washtenaw Doug Cox N8ZLR

Baraga Randall Bell K8HRO  
Calhoun Dave Smith KC8COT  
Hillsdale Dan Sprow KC8RYF  
Lenawee Joe Pullen K8YZA  
Mason Gary Berk KC8MWF  
Monroe Jerry Stone WB7RUM  
Ottawa Stave VanderHill N8UJD

Benzie Tom Schoonover K8BTE  
Chippewa Marv DeWitt KC8ML  
Ingham Tom Shaver KC8NJK  
Livingston Bruce Pollock N8WW  
Mecosta Steve Cowan KD8DHz  
Oakland Larry Hornsby KB8PO  
Saginaw Ron Huss KC8YVF

Berrien Tom Dummering KC8MGD  
Clinton Dave Oulette WB8MWG  
Jackson Tim Bair WD8PMD  
Luce Dave Drake KC8QZG  
Menominee Paul Sorensen NS8V  
Oceana Dave Robertson N8UKH  
Tuscola Roger Edwards WB8WJV

**ARRL Michigan Section Director: Dale WA8EFK**

## ***AARC Club Gossip! .....***

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

...KG8CO has a QRP transmitter?  
 ...N8AMM is working a lot of DX on 160m these days with just 100 watts?  
 ...K8TI has been showing up on 10m, on the nets?  
 ...W8TTH visits all the cw contests?  
 ...K8KS is involved with Haiti relief?  
 ...K8AQM got help from N8AMM to install a new 160m antenna?  
 ...KR8W's wife makes delicious snacks?  
 ...K8KIC actually ate very few cashews at the last gathering of radio and cards?  
 ...W8TTH enjoys loading up his tower guy wires on 10m?  
 ...K8GX still doesn't have his ham shack built in his basement?  
 ...K8NP, N8QEW and WE8Z have been freezing in Florida?  
 ...K8UV enjoys rag chewing with his straight key? No "glass arm" here!  
 ...N8AMM will be K3Y/8 for the SKS sprint next Wednesday night?  
 ...K8KIC was the first "8" to work all district in the Straight Key Event this month? He beat K8AQM!  
 ...KG8EF turned 70 this month? Ask him about his party! Oh Boy!  
 ...KR8W will present a program on his unique homemade antenna tuner?  
 ...W8TTH has a "mega" stereo system in his shop...just for Rush Limbaugh?  
 ...K8TI bought a "bug" from W8TTH but hasn't put it on the air yet?  
 ...K8AQM is using WE8Z's TS-840 and is enjoying it?  
 ...KG8CO is using his DX-60 to work WAS and is doing very well?  
 ...N8AMM has become the "antenna tuner tester" on 160m verticals?  
 ...KB8OXX is building a super ham shack?

## **WA8SGZ SK**

**It is with sadness and regret we acknowledge the passing of WA8SGZ Dick Mattis. Dick has been a club member for many years. Dick died January 17, 2010, he will be greatly missed.**

## ***AARC Club Minutes***

The December meeting of the Adrian Amateur Radio Club board meeting met at the Civil Air Patrol building at the Lenawee County Airport on December 28, 2009 at 7:00 pm and was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

The club met following the board cancellation and began with a few snacks. The minutes of the November meeting were approved on a motion by Norm W8TTX second by Alan N8TIB. Classes for new hams is to be held the first full week in April. Curtis Parsons, Lenawee County Emergency services coordinator, brought us up to date on the progress of the new tower. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Dave K8AA.

Secretary Bill KA8ARK.



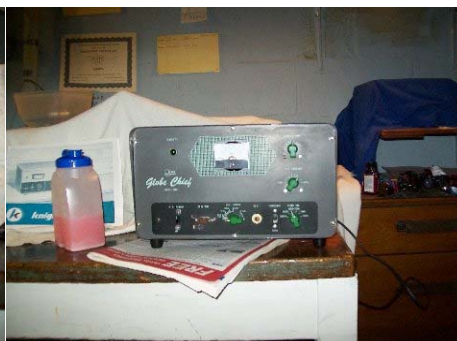
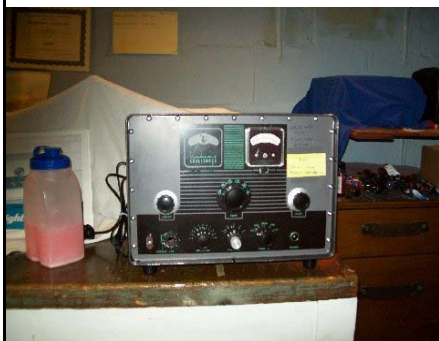
## KG8CO Works N8SFY

Brian KG8CO has an excellent station; three very tall towers, 4 elements at 125 ft on 40m, log periodic, TH-11 and a slue of wire antennas. He has two FT-1000MPs, an Alpha, a Tokyo Hi-power amp and many other great pieces of gear. He also has a DX-60 and small Heathkit rx that he has lately been enjoying the use of. It might surprise you but there are plenty of stations on the air using this older gear.



Brian recently worked N8SFY Craig in Brooklyn and after their great ragchew Craig sent these pictures of his older gear. He was using the Knightkit T-60 transmitter and the Heathkit rx just like Brian's.

Brian's goal is to work WAS with the DX-60 (50 watts output). He is well on the way. ...get into the SKCC Brian...ed



## A New Shack ... oh yeah, garage too

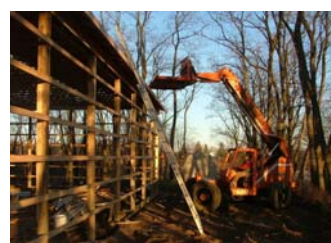
Bruce KB8OXX sent these along and labeled them as his new shack. If this is so then maybe I'll move all my gear out to his place, what a beauty! Here are Bruce's comments about the building:



*"Not to be out done by Ted in the construction of a new ham shack, Bruce enlisted the assistance of Chuck and Nathan (my son) to build a bigger building. Since the beginning of November they have augured holes, placed poles, installed trusses, covered the roof and are now working on the eaves and walls. We all now realize our true age and how out of shape we have become since (retiring?). Climbing ladders, swinging hammers, digging holes has taken its toll on Chuck and I and now we're both complaining of aches and pains that we haven't had for 25 years or so. The building is 40' X 60' and 14'6" from the floor to the ceiling. We hope to get it finished except for the concrete by spring."*



This is all fine Bruce but what about the towers? How high, how many and what antennas? ... ed. I am surprised it's square if Chuck did the measuring!





## K3Y/8 2010

Again this year the Straight Key Century Club celebrated it's fourth birthday with a month long operation of special event station K3Y. For a month the membership of SKCC (over 6300 members) have been pounding brass and chasing the K3Y/# stations around the bands.

Last year we operated as K3Y/8 from my new shack that wasn't quite completed. We made just over 100 QSOs using straight keys and bugs. Now the shack is complete although there are antenna projects yet to be done, and we operated again for ten hours. We had a blast; three stations going and wracking up the QSOs on five bands. We finished with 162 QSOs, 38 states and eight countries.

N8AMM got introduced to the J-36 bug, K8UV used the Navy Flameproof while K8KIC pounded out the Qs on a Lionel J-38. There were also a couple of Vibroplex bugs in operation too. The radios were 2 K2 and an FT-1000mp; two Alphas and a Tokyo Hi-power supplied the "smoke" for the log periodic, three tribanders and the several wire antennas. Everything was logged neatly with the Sprint Logger program. We were even connected to the SKCC chat room, live! Everything worked flawlessly.

But that's just the radio stuff, the real fun was the gathering! Can you imagine what happens when you have K8KS, K8UV, K8KIC, KR8W, N8AMM and K8AQM all in the same shack! Oh yea, let's not forget W8TTH who came to visit and KT8X with his 2 year old and three year old! Wow, great fun! Did I mention the food? How about 7 quarts of chili, beer, soda, water, coffee, great snacks (brought by KR8W), cashews (just for K8KIC) and venison sticks supplied by N8AMM. Ugh, the next day was rough!

We put various ops guarding the food table (N8AMM, K8UV and KR8W) while the "watch" dog "Grace", did just that, watched! I was actually able to work a few Qs while Grace "watched"! We even managed a couple games of euchre during the afternoon!

A good time was had by all and we received many "tnx QSOs" for our multi-multi straight key operation. Maybe next year you can come join us and work some straight key or even just watch. It's in January and we may have just recovered by December.

73,

Ted K8AQM skcc# 1629T



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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

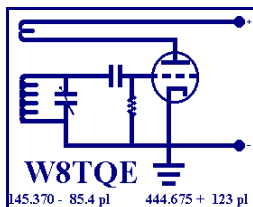
W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl Adrian, Michigan  
W8TQE 444.675 + 123 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM 443.375 + 107.2 pl Adrian, Michigan  
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

### Adrian ARC 35th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 19, 2010  
Hamfest Chair Ray, W8RAY Marge, KB8TMM

### AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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**First Class**