

The Tickler

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. I hope everyone is doing well. Maybe summer will arrive soon and the weather will start staying a little more consistent.

The meeting this month will be one day later due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Therefore the meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 29th.

Norm W8TTH and I went to the Dayton Hamvention which was held on May 18th through the 20th. Several of our club members attended. It is always a good time to visit with everyone. And of course it was a good time every evening to be with friends. It was fairly well attended this year by vendors and buyers alike. Norm and I had good sales again this year. It is always good to see people specifically looking for our tower hardware. The weather was also fantastic this year. A little hot, but great.

Please check out our website for news of our upcoming Field Day Event. Our club along with the Civil Air Patrol, Bits and Pieces, and The US Coast Guards are going to participate in the Summer Blast that is happening on the same weekend as our Field Day. We will need your help and it should be a fun day. The summer blast is only going to take place on June 23rd.

Don't forget to check out the website at www.w8tqe.com. Once again thanks to Bob K2IBM for maintaining the site. He does a fantastic job.

I would like to thank Ted K8AQM for producing and editing this newsletter. Don't forget to send him any articles you may want published. He also likes pictures. Just remember he can edit the pictures as well as the text.

Don't forget the Monroe Hamfest is next month on Father's Day. Norm and I will be there as always. It is always a pretty good show to attend and it is always good to see all of your friends that also will attend.

I hope to see you all at the meeting.

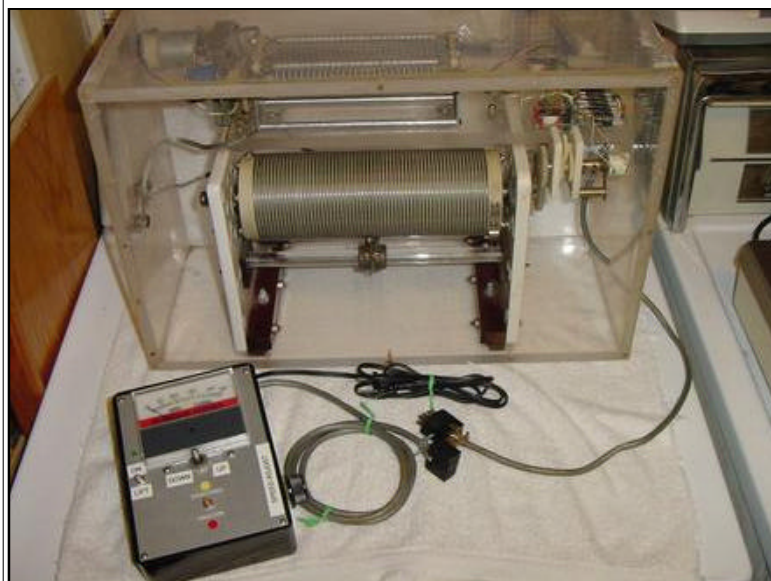
73s,
Ginny W8TTX

No Program this month!

Due to the need to discuss Field Day, station preparation and the Museum Ships operating event. There will be no program. See you next month with stories to tell!

Now That's A Tuner!

If you have had the problem that your antenna is too short to reach the bottom of the band or too long to reach the top of the band with a low SWR then has KG8CO Brian, got a tuner for you! Here is a



home brew antenna tuner built by a ham in Delta, Ohio which Brian bought off eBay from a ham in Pennsylvania. The coil and the capacitor are both motor driven and this baby will definitely handle the smoke! Placed at the base of Brian's 160m vertical the tuner will allow him to have a perfect 1:1 SWR anywhere on the 160m band and the best part is the tuner is controlled from the shack, no trudging out to the tower through the snow or in the middle of the night to change settings from phone to cw on the tower.

Thanks to W8TTH for his skill in helping to set the motor and gears all in order on the drive shaft!

Abra-Kadabra, Presto-Change-O!

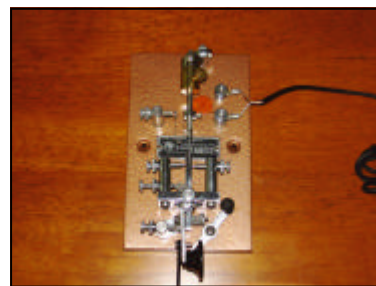
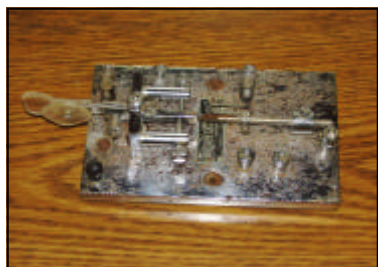
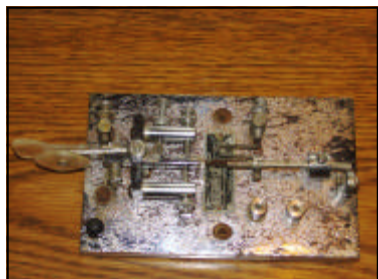
I like the "Hole-in-the Wall" bug made in the late 30s and early 40s by The Telegraph Apparatus Company (Teddy McElroy et al). I own five

and have a sixth on the way. Here is my latest restoration of a "chrome disaster" into a beautiful copper hammered-finish base and polished chrome and stainless steel parts.

This "disaster" was purchased for about \$35.00 with shipping. Another \$10.00 worth of stainless steel bolts, washers and nuts plus some good old "Brasso" brought all that was to be shiny, shiny!

The real work was the process of bringing the base around and give it a new life. Sanding as with my other Hole-in-the-Wall bugs shown in earlier issues took off all the loose chrome plating and scratched the remainder ready for the etching paint. Two coats of etching, two coats of hammered copper and an hour of re-assembly along with a "real" knob and paddle and "presto-change-o" you have a quality operating and looking Hole-in-the-Wall bug!

Oh yeah, I have another disaster Hole-in-the-Wall on the way. Color for that base?



AARC Club Gossip!

Did you know that...

- ...K8KIC had a “shocking” experience with a telegraph sounder? Ask him about it!
- ...Lots of gear was sold at Dayton this year?
- ...N8AMM is now working “days” and can make the club meetings?
- ...N8KR bought an Alpha amplifier?
- ...N8CC bought an L-4B (Drake)?
- ...KG8CO bought a 2m KW (home brew)?!?!!!
- ...K8AQM bought a \$2 SWR bridge?
- ...Museum Ships operating event is fast approaching? Contact Denny WE8Z to operate down in Toledo.
- ...The club’s TA-33 is back on the tower and “almost ready” to go?
- ...K8AQM now owns 14 “bugs”?
- ...W8TTH is not only the “metal master,” he is also the “grill master”?
- ...KG8CO bought a Butternut vertical? His 120 ft tower just doesn’t get it done!
- ...W8TTX and W8TTH have the most photographed motorcycles at Dayton?
- ...Poor K8KS just can’t sell his Nye Viking antenna tuner?
- ...NU8Z introduced some Swiss operators to “wasabi” at Dayton?
- ...KG8CO has received a Japanese operating award ... no joke?
- ...W8LNR lost his voice in Dayton? Better than losing his wallet!
- ...WE8Z came back from Dayton with no major purchases? But he did have to get his truck fixed!
- ...the SKCC booth at Dayton was a major success? Nearly 150 “check-ins”!
- ...W8TTH’s tower parts are a HUGE success at Dayton? Need tower parts, see Norm!
- ...K8ADM and son were at Dayton?
- ...K8TI road his motorcycle to Dayton?
- ...K8KIC is back to the card games every-other Wednesday?

AARC Club Minutes

The Adrian Amateur radio club board met at the Civil Air Patrol building on April 30, 2012 with the following persons present. President Ginny W8TTX, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following persons present: Larry W8LNR, Bob K2IBM, Norm W8TTX, Mark NU8Z, Denny WE8Z, Neil KC8DAR, Bill KA8ARK, We discussed our participation in the Summer Blast, The Dayton Hamvention and our hamfest scheduled for the 16th of September also The museum ships weekend on June 2 and 3rd. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm on April 30, 2012 by Mark NU8Z. Dave KC8ITC won the 50/50 drawing and donated his share back to the club. The minutes for March 26 were approved as published in the Tickler upon a motion by Norm W8TTH, second by Dave KC8ITC. A motion by DR. Bob K2IBM second by Norm W8TTH to accept Mark NU8Z’s financial report which shows a balance of 7259.49. Field day and open house, during the summer blast was discussed. The General class has been completed a Technician class will be held in the future if there is anyone interested. It was announced that the Museum ships week end is scheduled for June 2 & 3. Club badges are to be ordered soon at a cost of \$10 each. See Mark if you are interested. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Joe K8YZA second by Norm W8TTH at 8:25 pm. Program by Ted K8AQM.

Secretary Bill KA8ARK.

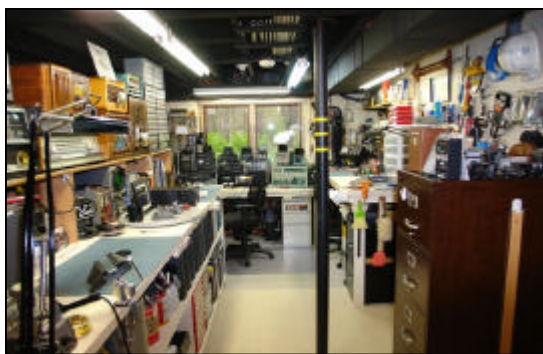


He With the Most Toys Wins!

Ok, so I have a lot of gear in my shack **BUT** I can't hold a candle to the toys shown here in the K8JJC shack! That's Paul K8JJC, up in Alto, MI (near Grand Rapids and N8CC) and he isn't in his "shack". Paul refers to it as "the DX salon"...sheez! Every piece of gear works, has been restored and can be switched to a multitude of antennas.

The lower picture contains another station or three and although "we" would call it a shack and work area, Paul refers to it as "the DX Bunker"...wow! And here is a close-up of the "DX Bunker" shack.

Yup, clearly Paul is in the "finals" for "He with the Most Toys Wins". I'm just an "also ran"! Boo Hoo, Boo Hoo!



Pre Dayton Sale...A Bust!

"What if they

gave a party and nobody came?" Hmm, just like this year's pre Dayton sale. Three sellers and 2.5 buyers came to this year's event. K8AQM, K8NP brought their gear and estate items ready to wheel and deal. K8UV, K8KIC, K8AA and W8TTH came to buy; K8UV, K8AA and K8KIC came mainly to support and enjoy the social time while W8TTH actually was a buyer. Not much action this year and a lot of ef-



fort by the sellers to bring all the gear. It is doubtful this event will take place next year.

It was suggested that perhaps a better way to make this a successful event is to hold the event on the night of the club meeting at the end of April.

Dayton 2012... Fantastic!

This was a perfect weather-wise Dayton, blue skies, sun and decent temperatures; couldn't have been better! And there were plenty of shoppers, over 25,000 tickets were sold this year. Shopping and sales were brisk both Friday and Saturday. We had plenty of items on the tables with personal gear and many pieces of estate gear. That's Denny WE8Z making last minute adjustments just before opening at 8:00 AM on Friday.



Only a few hours later W8LNR Larry sits at a much diminished pile of equipment. We had gear from WE8Z, N8KR, K8AQM, K8TLT, KB8TQZ, K8KS, N8CC, estate gear from N8QEW and estate gear from the brother of KB8TQZ. W8TTH and W8TTX did well with tower parts from "Norms Fabrication" and sold many items plus several very substantial orders in the pipe.

It was a long grueling day of shopping and walking through the arena and the flea market. Everyone was exhausted and sore. W8TTX to the rescue!!! Several of the guys got shoulder, arm and hand massages from Ginny. They say a picture is worth a thousand words so think of all the words Mark NU8Z is thinking as Ginny administers to his shoulders, ... the moans could be heard isles away! Poor W8LNR Larry lost his voice while in Dayton. NU8Z and K8KS kept us all laughing with their jokes and quips. KG8CO and NU8Z connected with a couple of Swiss operators and Saturday night at the sushi dinner they introduced the poor lads to "wasabi"...or.. Green fire! International relations with Switzerland may be at risk and at an all-time low but the boys sure had fun!

If you haven't been to Dayton with the gang then you really have missed some very serious fun! Plan on it next year!



Sound ... Oh the Pain!

Every cw operator today wonders about copying “clacking” from the old days’ sounders; ca it be done? Well thanks to K8UV who gave K8AQM a Western Union sounder and a bit of elbow grease the old sounder was “clacking” away. K8KIC “had to know” if he could copy cw without a tone. At one of the Monday night BS gatherings Ken got his chance. Using a straight key as they might have in the old days to send, Ken copied everything perfectly!



We examined the unit and K8NP got the idea to see what the 7.5 volt wall-wart would produce with the two magnetic coils. At first Neil felt nothing across the terminals and after telling us there was no feeling he decided to “wet his fingers”. Oh yes, there was just a “slight” tingle across the coil terminals. Neil suggested to Ken that he should check-out the “slight tingle” and since Neil and Ken are good friends ...why not! Ever hear Ken yelp before, me neither but it was “the shout heard across the room”! Ken said bad things about the “slight tingle!” Was it a set-up by Neil? We’ll never know for sure but I must admit K8AA and I had a great laugh ... so did Neil come to think of it!



The “clacker” was great fun and it was actually quite easy to copy code in this very old fashion cw method. Thanks Rich K8UV for the fine gift.

De K8AQM

Club Treasure

Last summer NU8Z decided we needed to clean-out the club room. Literally bags of old fliers and trash were removed and found in our cupboard was the “treasure” shown here. This is a WWI artillery spotting receiver made in 1918 by the DeForest Radio Labs. This receiver(cat whisker crystal detector) was used to receive spark transmission from “Jenny” WW aircraft and the message relayed by wires to the artillery for fire coordination.

K2IBM and NU8Z checked sources on the internet and these units(not nearly as clean as ours) sell for \$800-\$1200. Our plan is to take the radio to the Antique Wireless swap in Lansing in August and sell the unit. Of course if some club member wishes to buy the unit for \$800 we would be happy to sell it locally!



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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 37th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 16, 2012

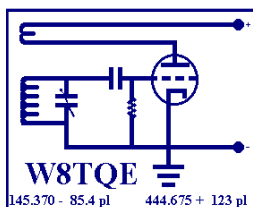
Hamfest Chair

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First Class