W8TQE
145.370 - 85.4 pl 444.675 + 123 pl

The Tickler

Volume 43, Issue 4 April, 2014

From the Prez.....

Hi everyone. Our weather has been a little unusual this year with the temps getting up in the 60s one day and down to the 30s and snow on the next day. I hope however now that the weather may finally be straightening up.

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter. I enjoyed mine with our 4 grandchildren. We colored eggs. We grilled our dinner and then ate before The Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Bunny put eggs filled with candy all over the yard. He was a real busy bunny while we were coloring eggs, but the little ones enjoyed the hunt and will enjoy their candy. It was nice to see them all laughing and playing together. It was a good day all around.

Norm W8TTH and I did not attend any hamfests this month, but The Dayton Hamvention is just around the corner as May is closely approaching. The Hamvention will be held May 16th, 17th, and 18th this year. We will once again be in the same location as we always have been. Hope to see you all there.

It was decided at the meeting last month that we will hold the one day class on October 18th. It will once again be the format that is used by KB6NU and the material can all be found on kb6nu.com. I apologize to all of you for what I said in last month's newsletter I had a lapse of memory and resorted back to saying that we were going to hold a 2 day class. Shame on me.

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.

My letter is pretty short this month and I am sure I forgot something. Hopefully I will remember by the meeting, if I did.

I hope to see you all at the meeting.

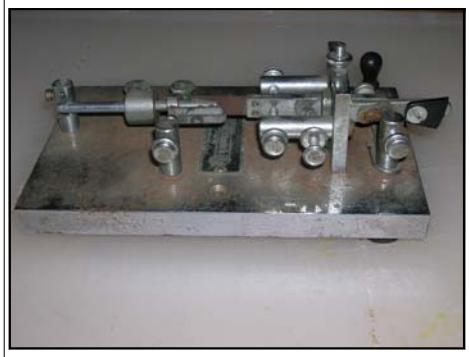
73,
Ginny W8TTX

Club Repeaters

The club purchased two Kenwood used repeaters from Adrian Communications. Since the FCC has required commercial stations to use narrow band FM repeaters, the older wide band repeaters for 2m and 440 have swampped the market.

Our repeater fund had been growing and it was thought that should outr old repeater finally give out we would need to purchase a new one. Thanks to the market glut of wide band FM repeaters the club now has two "spares." These repeaters will be stored at the W8TTH QTH and will be tested and checked out for use if needed.

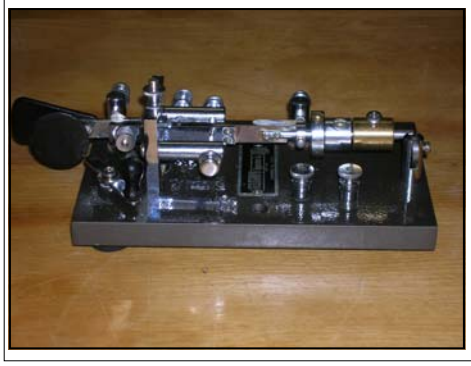
Another $25 Bug Saved!

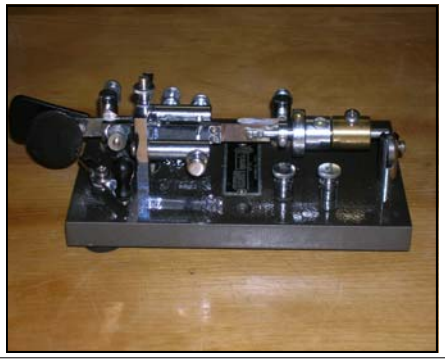


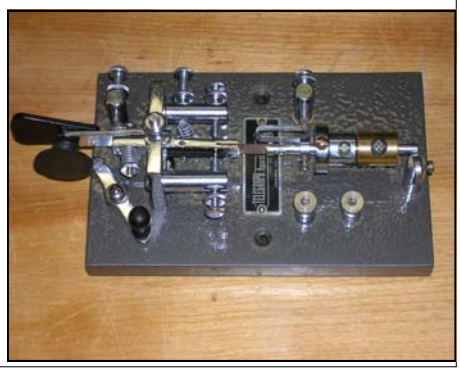
I just really enjoy working with TAC bugs! I was able again to find a "junker" on ebay at a great price that I felt sure I could restore and make useable at one of my stations. The last $25 buck bug I restored was a "Les Logan" model but this is one of the first efforts produced by TR McElroy and the company he worked for was the Telegraph Apperatus Corporation (TAC for short) and made in the late 1930s.

This project required the usual clean-up and soaking. A sanding of the pitted chrome cleaned all the rust off and "Brasso" brought the shine back to the chrome parts. The base was spray painted with a self etching primer and then a couply coats of Rustoleum Hammered paint makes a very fine looking base from what was rusted, pitted chrome. A few stainless steel bolts to replace the rusted steel ones and a new paddle replacing the broken one and the bug is good to go!

Now I own 12 of these TAC bugs...my shack is full of bugs!







AARC Club Gossip! .....

Did you know that…

..KD8TTM Bill, worked 117 DX stations with his dipole and 100w in the CQWPX Contest? Cool!
...KD8SVQ Jeremy, has a multi band dipole up for his FT-100D station?
...another Alpha amplifier has "come home" to the K8AQM station?
...K8V will be the Museum Ships call from the SS Valley Camp this year at Sault St. Marie?
...the 2m Sunday was a great success for the-first-Monday-of-the-month operation?
...K8KIC is known world wide as "Old Man 3?"
...KD8TTM is known world wide as "Old Man 3.5?"
...KD8SVQ is working DX like crazy?
...WE8Z got the club two fine sets of headphones/mic for the club's TS-570 rigs?
...NU8Z designed the K8V web page? Check out "www.K8valleycamp.com"
...KD8SKO has recently had quite an "experience?" Ask him about Monday two weeks ago!
...KD8TTM is going to be oprating a special event station (W4M) in August?
...K8AQM is selling his Collins 32V1 and 75A1 radios?
...KG8CO is QRV as KH6/KG8CO?
...K8KIC is building a "fallout shelter" for his air conditioner?
...K2IBM managed to time out the repeater during the AREC Net? He enjoys rag chewing too much!
...N8KR is QRV from Florida now?
...K8KIC is counting the days till he can play eurche with his regular partners?

AARC Club Minutes

The March board met at the Civil Air patrol building at the Lenawee County Airport on March 31, 2014. The meeting was called to order by President Jennie W8TTX at 7 PM. The following persons were present: Jennie W8TTX, Bob K2IBM, Mark NU8Z, Larry W8LNR, Norm W8TTH, Bill KA8ARK, Art KC8GTA. Items discussed were: Adrian Hamfest, Sept 14, Dayton Hamfest May 16 - 18, Museum Ship weekend June 6 - 8, Ham classes in October 18. Board meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The Adrian Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM March 31, at the Civil Air Patrol building at the Lenawee county airport by President Jennie W8TTX. There were 21 persons present. The February Minutes were approved upon a motion by Don N8AMM second by Willis WB8NPI and voice vote, The treasurer's report by Mark NU8Z showed a balance of $5,555.07 and was approved by a motion from Ted K8AQM second by Rich K8UV and voice vote. Ted K8AQM reported that two repeaters were purchased for $250 each and will be stored with Norm W8TTH to be held for emergency use. The balance of the repeater fund will now be called the club station fund as approved by a motion by Rich K8UV second by Joe K8YZA and passed by voice vote. The Sunday night net was discussed and a motion was made by Don N8AMM second by Norm W8TTH to have the Sunday net only on the first Sunday of the each month at 8:00 PM. The motion was passed by voice vote. A motion was made by Ken K8KIC second by Don N8AMM to support the Mad River QSO party in the amount of $55.00. Motion passed by voice vote. It was decided that the ham class will be conducted in the KB6NO format and will be held on October 18. The meeting was adjourned by Ted K8AQM at 8:33 PM.

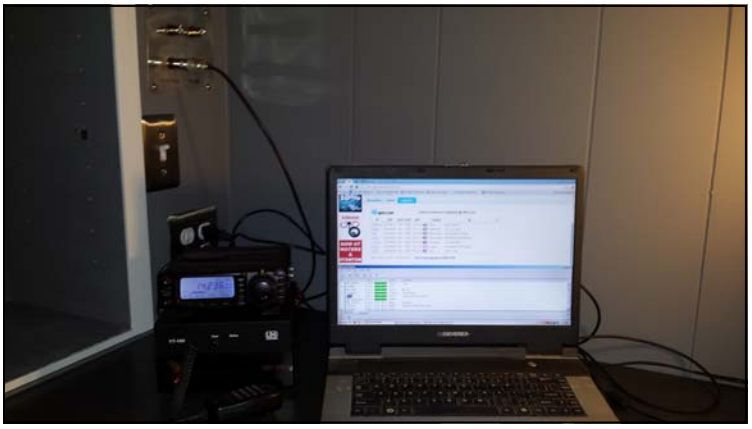
Secretary Bill KA8ARK

The KD8VSQ Station

Jeremy KD8VSQ, has been an amateur since our last "Tech class" in the fall. Jeremy is now a "General" and has become a very active ham working both domestic station and DX. His station includes a Yasu FT-100D, SEC1223 power supply, an LDG auto tuner and a multi band dipole cut for 40, 20 and 10 meters. With his tuner Jeremy can also work 17 and 12m. You can see Jeremy's fine station layout below and the multi band antennas in his yard. With the help of Bill KD8TTM, Bill's son Clinton (the tree climber) and Jeremy's Dad the station is complete and working very well. Jeremy is logging with both the QRZ site and Writelog program.

Jeremy has logged for Ken K8KIC in the SKCC SKS two hour event and is learning CW so he'll soon join us in these regular SKCC events. Also on the horizon for Jeremy is to up grade to Extra and to spend lots of time with Denny WE8Z, Bill KD8TTM, Don KD8SKO and Ken K8KIC oprating during the Museum Ships Operating Event down in Toledo at the "SS Schoonmaker" in June.

Wait till Jeremy learns about Field Day and the fall DX contests! He'll go crazy!



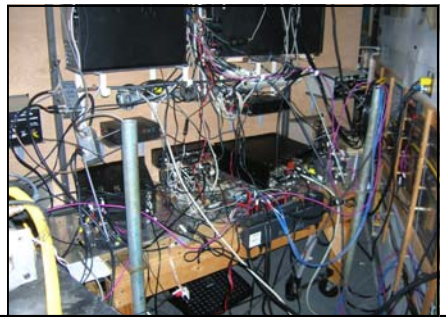
Heathkit on the Rock(s)

While touring in San Francisco Brian KG8CO, visited "the Rock" (Alkatraz prison) and saw they had what appears to be a Heathkit Apache receiver behind the glass in one of the prison office displays! How cool is that, who knew! Do you think they had the 75 meter band playing to the inmates? Did they have a "club call" and were making QSOs?

N8CC's High Tech Station!

You have all heard about the antennas at N8CC and what a great contest station it is but now Jeff has moved into an entirely new area of high tech. Jeff's station can be operated remotely from the internet; that's cool for sure but Jeff has also designed a high tech operating position. Having back issues Jeff is sometimes forced to stand when sitting gives him pain. Take note of the position of his operating table in the first picture….normal. Now, look at the second picture and note that the operating desk is not at the same height. No, Jeff is not standing in a hole, he has the entire desk raised by those devices in the third picture! Pretty cool, the desk raises to whatever is a comfortable height for Jeff while standing! Operating while standing releaves his back pain issues.

You would think that with all the "wireless high tech" in the N8CC shack something could be done about the interconnecting wires between his two stations! You can clearly see the "mess/nightmare" of wires behind his operating position! From the front panel all looks well but behind…..oh man!



N8KR on Vacation/Field Day

Ken N8KR, continues his travels and visiting with SKCC members whenever and wherever he goes and recently took time out to operate a bit in the April WES from Mississppi as WS8KCC/5 and "OM1." Ken and his wife were heading to Florida with stops along the way. Here Ken is taking a break during WES. "Me thinks" Ken may be working too hard and getting too old as can be read in the note accompanying his photo: *"Ocean Springs, MS at the Best Western. Had the station set up in the pool area for WES. Deb said there were some "bathing beauties" in the pool. Darn!!! I must be getting old . . . all I saw was the ts-440s! "*

Ops and Loggers

The April SKCC Straight Key Sprint was a gathering this month at the K8AQM shack with Jeremy KD8VSQ, Bill KD8TTM, Ken K8KIC and Ted K8AQM as the ops and loggers for the event. Both KD8VSQ and KD8TTM are learning cw and the "art" of cw contesting. Ken, K8KIC and Bill, KD8TTM ran 40m for the entire two hour event and worked 51 stations. Jeremy KD8VSQ and Ted, K8AQM ran 20m and 80m and worked 50 stations. One highlight of the event was to work Ken N8KR/4 on both 20 and 40 while he is in Florida.

It was a great time and we all had a good time. Thanks to K8KIC we did not have to throw away any cashews after the event! We hope it won't belong before KD8TTM and KD8VSQ become the cw ops (K8KIC will always be THE cw op). I know I look forward to becoming their logger in future events.

President
Virginia Schutte, **W8TTX**
w8ttx@yahoo.com
Vice President
Bob Warwick, **K2IBM**
k2ibm@comcast.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
K8AQM1629T@comcast.net

The Tickler is the official paper of the Adrian Amateur Radio Club in Adrian, MI. It is printed monthly and distributed to 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 8:00 p.m. The ARES Net on 145.370 - 1st Monday of the month…..
Tuesday and Thursday 10 Meter CW Chat at 8:00 p.m. on 28.050 +/- QRM
Tuesday and Thursday 10 Meter SSB 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
K8ADM has access to Echo Link

Adrian ARC 38th Annual Hamfest and Computer Show

September 14, 2014
Hamfest Chair
Mark NU8Z@comcast.net

AARC Web Page and E-mail Reflector

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