



June/July 1992

Editor: Tim O'Sullivan, KE8OC

SUMMER'S HERE (I Think)!

By golly, it's time to get out and get going on that project you've been putting off until the weather warms up. There are rumors floating around about antenna repairs going well out at K8AQM's, new 5 el. beams going up at KW8N's, Prop pitch rotors going up at K8CC's, heck, we even got a new "FISH" in town. Seems like there's lots of doin's going on in Mad River country, Field Day plans to be made, maybe your call will be the next on the traveling plaque, radio sport strategies to consider, MRRC meetings to attend, all kinds of stuff.

We have meetings scheduled at K8AQM's in Adrian on July 18, and at KN8Z's near Columbus on August 1. Both stations are a sight to see, so come on out and have a blast. See Ya soon!

THE MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

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From the 'Big Fish'

By Steve Miller, WD8IXE

Well, another Dayton and the MRRC election railroad was true to form. I was late to the meeting and was promptly informed of my newly acquired post of Big Fish. It just shows what happens when you're not around to defend yourself.... I'd first like to thank K8CC for his efforts as Big Fish over the past several years. Dave has put forth a lot of effort in guiding the club and providing us with helpful information for operating techniques and station design (not to mention contest software). Also, I'd like to thank the other club officers for their continued efforts. I hope everyone will help **support** the club by checking into the 3825 monday night net, paying dues (\$7) if you have not already done so, submitting scores for the club, and sending articles to the editor whether they are humorous, technical, opinionated, intriguing, or your favorite *tequila* recipe.

The Dayton hospitality suite was another success. All comments have been positive. Hats off to Ken, WD9INF, for again running the suite activities in **fine fashion**. At last count, the club cleared about \$40. Also, thanks to those who assisted with the suite. A good team effort makes it more enjoyable for everyone. Make your 1993 plans early as reservations for next year are already in place. It's never too soon to reserve your favorite bartending time slot. Contact Mike, AA8FE, who will coordinate the 1993 suite operation.

May is past concluding another contest season with the WPX CW contest. Conditions were quite

**The MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB net
occurs every Monday evening at
8:30pm EST on 3825 Khz ± QRM.**

poor with the solar flux index dropping below 100

'BIG FISH' Continued

for the first time in several years, a trend which will continue as we approach the next sunspot minimum. Outside of some multi-op efforts, MRRC activity was scarce. We will easily best last year's *paltry* 7.45M club score but, there is much room for improvement from a participation standpoint even if WPX isn't your favorite contest. Hopefully, we will be ready to make some **serious** noise when the new contest season kicks off this fall.

May is also the beginning of antenna season with the K8AQM and KW8N stations already in gear. Whether it's a shunt-feed for 160, that **killer array for 80**, or another yagi for multiplier hunting, now's the time to improve station performance for next fall.

June means Field Day. Even if field day isn't *really* a contest, it is a very popular operating event for most of us. This year marks return of the **MRRC 1A FD competition**. The plaque is waiting to be claimed by this year's champion. Good luck to all the FD groups, I suspect the competition (or perhaps the mosquitos) will be fierce.

July brings the first MRRC meeting of the summer. Things start in Michigan as Ted, K8AQM/7J3ABO, will host a meeting on July 18th. It will be interesting to see how those new Icom boxes look in place of the 820s in Ted's shack. Directions to the Adrian meeting appear elsewhere in this issue, hope to see you there.

Another meeting is slated for August 1st at the KN8Z homestead. Swimming, barbeque, and a tour of Doc's station are among the planned activities. You can even ask Doc why he uses **kilowatt** toroids on his receive antennas! Other meetings include the Findlay Hamfest, WD8LLD (October), and K8MR (January). Everyone must attend two meetings per year to remain eligible for log submissions toward the MRRC club score.

Through the efforts of Goose, WD8LLD, MRRC will sponsor Sweepstakes plaques for the Great Lakes Division in the single operator, low power class, both modes. Our arch-rivals in the NCC have obtained sponsorship of the high power S/O plaques. Since the Great Lakes Division is Mad River territory, I intend to watch Mad River **rise to the challenge** and win all awards within our domain. Personally, my SS score from last year wasn't quite good enough and I'm already more gung-ho for the next SS than ever before... *watch out!!!*

A reminder that Dave, K8CC, is compiling Station Profiles and will establish a new Station Rating System for the benefit of the club. This is an excellent way to **compare your results** with similarly equipped stations and scope out possibilities for a multi-op or guest-op position. Please send your station information to Dave and let us know what's happening at your station.

Also the **MRRC Championship** begins with the upcoming contest season. Jeff, KU8E, will keep track of the scores. Jeff and Jim, K8MR, will devise the point structure which will use a weighted scoring system. I suspect the scoring will be similar to that used by the NCJ and/or the WRTC championship competitions. If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions for scoring, categories, etc..., please contact Jeff, Jim, or myself.

The ARRL Contest Advisory Committee is studying new ideas for club competitions. New club categories may be instated for the ARRL 10 and 160 meter contests. While 8-land is not the prime location for 10 meter contests, we are well placed to be a **dominant force** on 160. Over past years, many MRRC members have placed highly and even won 160 contests on a national scale. If new club categories are implemented, MRRC should strive to become the first ever 160 meter club champion. This may be the only chance for the club to enjoy a geographic advantage like the East Coasters have for DX contests and the Texans/West Coasters for domestic contests.

And finally, a few words about my role as **BIG FISH**. Basically, Mad River is fine as it is and I intend to keep things pretty much the same. My goals as Big Fish are simple: 1) Get Mad River stations on during contests. 2) Turn in all logs. 3) Recruit new operators/members. and 4) Enjoy operating. Actually, achieving these goals is pretty easy, but their success depends mainly on you. Go Mad River!

73, Steve, WD8IXE

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

By Dave Pruett, K8CC

One of the best parts about amateur radio is the opportunity it affords for meeting fellow hams. As contesters, we are doubly fortunate in that when we get together with like-minded hams, we share specific interests within our fine hobby, which usually leads to a pretty good time.

Such was the case for me recently, when I found myself in southern W6 on business only a week after the trouble in Los Angeles. Fortunately, my trip took me somewhat south of LA to Orange County (ORG for us SSers) rather than downtown. After two intense days of business, it was time for some amateur radio.

First, I needed some wheels. The woman at the car rental desk at Orange Country airport was quite cooperative, and for only \$5 over the base rate, she handed me the keys to a Chrysler LeBaron convertible. (The convertible turned out to be a mixed blessing - not being used to the southern latitude sun, I managed to acquire a nasty sunburn during my visit). Thus equipped, I headed south towards San Diego to visit with well known contester Glenn Rattmann, K6NA.

When I arrived at Glenn's, he informed me that a bunch of the local DXers regularly get together for lunch on Fridays. Since this was Friday, we hopped into the convertible and headed into downtown Escondido for lunch at a Chinese all-you-can-eat buffet. (It sounds kinda wierd, but the food was actually quite good). There I met Rick, N6ND, Brian, K6STI (author of the YO/MN antenna modeling programs), as well as George, W6ZZ, and Jim, W6YA.

One of the first things that I noticed in California is that it is either extremely inconvenient, or terribly expensive, to acquire even a reasonable location for a contest station. Here in W8, most potential QTHs are neither outstanding nor terrible from the RF standpoint, and are affordable to quite a few of us. In southern California, there are many large hills, such that there is blockage in one direction or another for a station in the cities. Furthermore, the prices for even a modest home are outrageous.

After lunch, we headed out to the N6ND QTH, which is located on top of a rather large hill with a spectacular view in all directions. This station has been run multi-multi in several of the past DX contests, and is equipped with hardware appropriate for the task. The big tower is 200' of 45G, with a 2L KLM 80M yagi, plus three 20M

PV4 yagis, spaced evenly up the tower. The 80M beam and top 20M beam are independently rotatable. The second tower is 100' of 25G, with a 4L KLM 40 at 100', a homebrew 7L 10M yagi at 110', plus two other 5L 10M yagis stacked at 75'/50' on a common rotator. The third tower is also 100' of 25G, with stacked 5L/5L yagis for 15M. Inside, Rick runs a TS950SD and a much-modified Dentron DTR-2000 amplifier.

After visiting N6ND, we headed back down the mountain towards K6NA. The station is located on a ridge outside of Escondido, with an impressive view of its own. Glenn says that his QTH is about 25 miles inland from San Diego (which is on the ocean), and since the overall climate is dry, he has virtually no problems with salt corrosion on his antennas. In several directions, he has other hills higher than the station, but they are far enough away to not be a factor.

The K6NA station has three towers. The baby one next to the house is only 40' high with a 5L 10M yagi on top. The tower was originally intended to be 70', but Glenn says the 10M beam works well enough most of the time that there is little incentive to make it grow. Tower number two is 140' high, and has stacked 5L KLM 20s at 140'/60', and stacked 4L 15s on 3/4 wave booms at 155'/90'. Tower three is 140' high, with a homebrew 3L 40 and is also shunt-fed for 160. The top beams on towers two and three are turned with prop-pitch motors, with HAM-series rotators used for the others.

Glenn's antennas for 80 are quite interesting. Towers two and three are broadside to NE, and have 40' aluminum booms crosswise at the top at the 130' level. Stretched between these booms are a pair of 80M folded dipoles, fed individually with open wire line. One dipole is fed RF through the open wire via a Johnson Matchbox in the shack, while the other dipole is tuned as a reflector with a coil. Reversing directions is accomplished with relays. Glenn demonstrated the impressive F/B of the array, which seems to work quite well. To go NW/SE, he has a switchable parasitic inverted vee array. The K6NA station RF is supplied from a TS940S and an Alpha 78.

After touring the antenna farm, we spent the evening chewing the rag about our common interests in contesting. The past few CQWWs, Glenn has been operating from 9Y4H, in addition

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN' (continued)

to performing most of the work to put the station up (80' tower, KT34XA, 40, etc.). He is also an expert on prop pitch rotators - we sat up until 2 AM while I picked his brain for solutions to the 40M rotator problem at K8CC.

The next morning, we set out for a visit to the W6MKB antenna farm. Terry lives on what would be a typical lot in most W8 cities, and in what appears to be suburban Escondido. For a picture of the W6MKB antenna farm, check page II-100 in ON4UN's book "Low Band DXing".

The tower at W6MKB is 120' of some sort of guyed commercial tower of bolt-together construction. Protruding 70' out of the top of this tower is a home-made self-supporting tower that rotates, supporting yagis for all bands from 3.5 through 432 MHz! Get a load of these antennas: 80M 3L full-size on a 80' boom, 40M 4L full-size on a 80' boom, 20M 8L on a 100' boom (unreal!), 8L 15, 8L 10, plus more VHF yagi elements than I could count! These are, without a doubt, the largest amateur antennas I have ever seen!

Inside, Terry is running a TS950S and one of the Alpha 77 amplifiers from the W6AM estate. In fact, you might have seen a picture of Terry's shack without realizing it. The recent amateur magazines have had Alpha advertising in them showing Jim Neiger, N6TJ smiling proudly for the camera with his DXpedition-ready Alpha 87. Jim does not have a domestic station of his own, so the photo was taken at Terry's operating position.

All too soon, it was time to make our way to the airport for the trip home. About this time, I was really feeling the effect of the sun from the previous afternoon, so I was glad to have nothing to do but sit for the next five hours or so. Nonetheless, I was sorry to have to leave. In my short time in W6, the southern California DXers/contesters made me feel tremendously welcome. W8UA and I are making plans to go to California for the Visalia DX/contest convention in April of next year. Maybe you'll want to join us.

Score Rumors

WPX CW

KW8N 58
581
858
470
15
1982 697 4,060,722 M/S

WD8LLD 1
71
470
922
303
21
1788 995 3,071,900 M/M

AC8W 1132 551 1,416,070 M/S

K8MFO 502 342 502,740 40m

VHF QSO PARTY

K8CC 559 228 136,136
(6m/2m/70)

K8MFO 257 156 42,652 6m

K8MR 268 90 24,120 6m

WD8AUB 59 32 1,888 2m

FIELD DAY

K8MR (1A) CW SSB
+KU8E, KT8X 80 302 344
& WD8LLD 40 443 558
20 105 60
15 11 0
6 0 10
2 36 1

total 897 972 = 1869
5.5K

KW8N (2B Batt.) CW SSB
+N8MSF 80 264 163

40 198 142

20 60 88

2 4 0

total 531 393 = 924
8.0K

**MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB MEETING
11:30AM JULY 18, 1992**

@ K8AQM - 1600 Wolf Creek Hwy
Adrian MI
(313)263-4066
Talk-in:145.37 -600 W8TQE/R

FROM SALINE/DETROIT AREA

1. take U.S. 12 to M-52 and head south to Adrian.
2. at 2nd traffic light turn right on Sienna Hgts. Dr.
3. go 1 block to Bent Oak and turn right.
4. go 1 block to stop sign and turn left(only way) on Riverside Dr.
5. take Riverside Dr. past hospital and golf coarse to Wolf Creek(road ends).
6. turn left on Wolf Creek, go across bridge and up hill. 300 ft. past bridge on the right is the driveway, mailbox is across the street from the driveway.

FROM JACKSON

1. take U.S.127 south to U.S.223
2. follow 223 to Adrian.
3. at first traffic light, turn left and look up!

FROM TOLEDO

1. take U.S.23 north to exit 5(Samaria/Adrian), turn left.
2. follow 223 to Adrian.3
3. continue on 223 thru adrian to the school(around the two lane bypass).
4. turn right and look up.

**MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB MEETING
12:00 NOON, AUGUST 1, 1992**

**"The FIRST ANNUAL KN8Z BARBECUE AND GOAT F@&%
for UNWED DXERS AND CONTESTERS"**

11355 Marcy Rd.
Canal Winchester OH
(614) 837-1460
Talk in:145.21 -600

Doc will be cooking dogs, burgers, beans, and other misc. items and will supply pop and beer... hard stuff is BYOB. Everyone is welcome to bring their swim trunks if they desire. Doc say's "the only rule is that we allow no lids, kids, or space cadets..hi hi..".

ROSTER

Mad River Radio Club

AA8AV	Ken Meier	280 Woodland Drive	South Lyon	MI	48178	(313) 437-2277
AA8FE	Mike Bruening	10415 S M-106	Munith	MI	49259	(517) 596-2651
AA8GS	Marty Wilker	5820 Siegrist-Jutte Rd.	Celina	OH	45822	
AC8W	Stan Arnett	801 Range Road	Port Huron	MI	48060	(313) 364-6674
AF8A	Gary Mikitiin	6389 Eastondale Road	Mayfield Hts	OH	44124	
K3LA	Barney Scholl	P.O. Box 673	Sharon	PA	16146	
K7EG	Jim Denny	5107 Riverside Drive	Delaware	OH	43015	(614) 881-5505
K8AQM	Ted Rachwal	1600 Wolf Creek Hwy	Adrian	MI	49221	(517) 263-4066
K8CC	Dave Pruett	2727 Harris Road	Ypsilanti	MI	48198	(313) 481-0755
K8CV	Walt Amos	4612 Woodland	Royal Oak	MI	48073	
K8DD	Hank Kohl	1640 Henry	Port Huron	MI	48060	(313) 982-7088
K8JM	John Millett	1206 Rosewood	Ferndale	MI	48220	(313) 399-6041
K8MFO	Don Karvonen	6905 S. Carr Rd.	Apple Creek	OH	44606	
K8MJZ	Stan Barczak	11220 Churchill Road	Rives Junction	MI	49277	(517) 569-2008
K8MR	Jim Stahl	30499 Jackson Road	Chagrin Falls	OH	44022	(216) 831-6954
K8NLD	Larry Zabkowski	18082 Gaylord Ct.	Fraser	MI	48026	
K9ALP	Lou Arnold	221 W. Cooke Rd.	Columbus	OH	43214	
KA8POW	Chuck Hannemann	4123 Seneca Highway	Clayton	MI	49235	(517) 445-2570
KA8PTT	Mike Anascavage	408 Postle Blvd.	Columbus	OH	43228	
KB8AIZ	Larry Linder	2001 Ida Maybee	Monroe	MI	48161	
KB8ECG	Dave Gafner	841 Valley Circle Drive #103	Saline	MI	48176	(313) 429-8199
KC8EK	Jim White	9550 Dixon Road	Rives Junction	MI	49277	(517) 569-2632
KC8MK	Jim Hurt	P. O. Box 20271	Columbus	OH	43220	(614) 442-0324
KD8B	Terry Osborn	508 Dalton Rd.	Jackson	MI	49201	
KE8FX	Bob Hall	760 N Maple Grove	Hudson	MI	49247	(517) 448-8349
KE8OC	Tim O'Sullivan	744 Foothill	Canton	MI	48188	(313) 397-9732
KF8TY	Barry Schieferstein	535 Crimsonrose Run	Westerville	OH	43081	
KN8S	John Sullivan	41731 Danbury Ct.	Canton	MI	48188	(313) 981-2641
KN8Z	Doc Sheller	495 Main Street	Groveport	OH	43125	
KO9Y	Greg Clark	6400 Village Park Dr Bldg 6#102	West Bloomfield	MI	48322	
KT8X	Dennis Ward	335 Abbot Hall MSU	E Lansing	MI	48825	(517) 355-6375
KU8E	Jeff Clarke	7382 Bridewater Blvd	Worthington	OH	43235	(614) 764-4621
KU8U	John Lane	PO Box 286	Fowlerville	MI	48836	
KW8N	Bob Hayes	9192 Bender Road	N Ridgeville	OH	44039	(216) 327-4710
N8ATR	Pete Michaelis	12224 E River Road	Columbia Station	OH	44028	(216) 236-5426
N8CC	Jeff Benson	9325 M-66	Nashville	MI	49073	
N8CEO	Maurice Schietecatte	5677 Mason Road W	Fowlerville	MI	48836	(517) 548-1359
N8COA	Buck Switzer	654 Georgia	Marysville	MI	48040	(313) 364-9640
N8CXX	John Tymensky	12333 Sandy Bottom Drive	South Lyon	MI	48178	(313) 437-7147
N8DMM	Mary Michaelis	12224 E River Road	Columbia Station	OH	44028	(216) 236-5426
N8EA	Joe Holstein	1515 Sashabaw	Ortonville	MI	48462	(313) 628-7455
N8ET	Bill Kelsey	3521 Springlake Drive	Findlay	OH	45840	(419) 423-5643
N8HTT	Ed Gassman	12614 Snyder Church Rd.	Baltimore	OH	43105	
N8JEC	Michael Price	998 McLeod Park	Pickerington	OH	43147	
N8JMN	Kevin Brooks	11639 Teachout Road	Onsted	MI	49265	(517) 467-7695
N8MSF	Rob Hayes	9192 Bender Rd.	N. Ridgeville	OH	44039	
NA8V	Greg Chapoton	45666 Cass	Utica	MI	48317	(313) 739-4029
NU8Z	Mark Hinkleman	108 E Kilbuck Street	Tecumseh	MI	49286	(517) 423-5906
NZ4K	Pat Collins	815 N High Street #17	Columbus	OH	43215	(614) 291-6927
NZ8O	Dick Bennett	275 Forward Pass	Pataskala	OH	43062	
VE2ZP	David Goodwin	15 Promenade Oval	Aylmer	QU	J9H1T9	(819) 684-1432
VE3RIK	Rik	Box 385	Sarnia	ON	N7T72J	
W8FN	Randy Farmer	8115 S Palmer Road	New Carlisle	OH	45344	(513) 845-3331
W8IQ	Kurt Meyers	2376 Dana Street	Toledo	OH	43609	(419) 385-6437
W8UA	Mike Socha	3757 Brighton Road	Howell	MI	48843	(517) 546-9269
W8UPH	Bob Gensler	820 Circleview Drive	Toledo	OH	43615	(419) 385-8082
W8WD	Brian Petku	8909 Sashabaw Road	Clarkston	MI	48348	(313) 620-1127

WA8OSE	Don Price	8600 Mohawk Tr.	Pickerington	OH	43147	
WA8UWQ	Andy Hubbell	8823 Sheperd Rd.	Onsted	MI	49265	
WB8B	Robert Karpinski	31567 Louise Dr.	Warren	MI	48093	
WB8OHO	Craig Aronson	11819 fowlerville Rd.	Fowlerville	MI	48836	
WB8VMN	Tom Pruett	521 Larchmont	Westland	MI	48185	(313) 722-3642
WB8WTS	Jim Galm	9877 Wilson Mills Road	Chardon	OH	44024	
WD8AUB	Doug Klein	164 Third Street	Wadsworth	OH	44281	
WD8LJP	Tim Mitchell	6016 Granville	Sylvania	OH	43560	(419) 882-1149
WD8IXE	Steve Miller	220 Freyn Drive	Centerville	OH	45458	(513) 433-8090
WD8LLD	Goose Steingass	1690 N Honeytown Road	Wooster	OH	44691	(216) 262-6866
WD8O	Steve Murphy	15650 Veronica	East Pointe	MI	48021	
WD9INF	Ken Rogner	2520 Centennial Road	Toledo	OH	43617	(419) 841-8781
WE8Z	Denny Boydston	2383 East Clearview	Adrian	MI	49221	(517) 265-8054
WI8L	John Miller	16831 Stephens	E Detroit	MI	48021	(313) 773-6943
WI8W	Tom Durfee	1111 Catherine #75	Big Rapids	MI	49307	
WR8W	Rick Pugh	510 Marie	Westland	MI	48185	(313) 595-8936
WS8T	Pat Tendam	10213 Columbus Grove Rd.	Bluffton	OH	45817	
WU2B	Joe Warden	4344 Campry Lane	Dublin	OH	43017	(614) 791-0161
WX8T	Rick Laflamme	2080 Sioux Dr.	Circleville	OH	43113	

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