

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



March 2007

Volume XXXV

Issue III

FROM THE PREZ

We had a good turnout for our snow delayed February 20 meeting, thanks to all who attended.

I am pleased to welcome 3 new members to the CARS family; Jacob KD8CDC, Bob NT8K, and Mark WD8KHU, a former member. Congratulations to all three!

Plans are on track for the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. Please check www.2007GLDC.com for updates. **Plan to attend the convention on September 22, 2007, order your tickets early as we expect to sell out by June or July.**

A minor change in our Scholarship rules was voted on and passed at the February 20 meeting.

Steve, N8IS resigned from the board for family reasons and Terry KB8DTC was elected to fill the balance of Steve's even year term.

Please plan to attend our March 13 meeting. We will have a CPR demonstration presented by Gale Franko a RN with Parma Hospital. We will open at 7:30pm and have a short business meeting so the demonstration can start at 8:00pm. It is expected to last till 8:45 or 9:00 subject to questions. You never know when your help will be needed to save a life. Be prepared!

We had another fine program at our February meeting. Hal, W8PN gave an excellent talk on the history of Radio Astronomy thanks to Dwaine, K8ME for inviting Hal.

Remember 2007 dues are now PAST DUE!

we still have 16 members not paid. If you need help with your dues please contact me at 216-524-1750, your request will remain confidential.

FYI: ARRL Section and Division bulletins can be directed to your e-mail on a regular basis. To receive these ARRL bulletins please sign up at: www.arrl.org/members-only

The League also runs a web site news bureau where the editor makes daily entries of news and items of interest to hams. Visit www.arrl.org often to read the latest. Every Friday, the ARRL Letter is published with a compilation of the news in the past week. Visit www.arrl.org/arrlletter to subscribe.

That's it for another WO. This month's thought: *In the province of the mind, what one believes to be true either is true or becomes true.*

de, Bob W8GC

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FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. February monthly meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by club president Bob Check, W8GC on the 20th of the month. The meeting was held at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Twenty-six members and one guest introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Ron, K8VJG motioned to accept the January meeting minutes as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator*, and Terry, KB8DTC seconded. There were no additions or corrections noted, and the members passed the motion.

Tina, W8HBI gave the treasurer's report. She was glad to announce the interest on the club account paid for the scholarships.

Bob brought the group up to date on the progress the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention Committee has made in the two committee meetings held since the last club meeting. The speakers and sponsors are all lined up, and Yeasu has donated a FT 857D radio for the door prize raffle. He said volunteers were needed as support staff, and mentioned the Portage County Amateur Radio Service contacted him and offered to help. Later, Bob informed the group the Yeasu FT 1000 MP transceiver and the ALS-600 amplifier have been sold. He said the R6000 vertical antenna had not yet been sold.

Gary, NI8Z reported the next VE session would be very well attended; at least twelve people are already signed up wanting to upgrade. He asked all VEs to make sure they would be there.

Bill, KC8YSV asked all ARRL members to pay their dues through C.A.R.S. He said the program for the March meeting would be a demonstration on CPR, given by Gale Franko, a RN from Parma Hospital. Bill passed around sign up sheets for volunteers for the convention. He asked for members to help with the hospitality functions, manning the sponsor tables and monitoring the repeater. Bill also asked for two still photographers and two video photographers.

Toby, WT8O reported the C.A.R.S. Technician and General classes are doing well, there are eight Technician students and nine General students. He thanked the instructors who have been helping. He

said the Wednesday night club net was doing fine, as well, and he encouraged more members to check in, and acknowledged the reliability of the net controllers. He also said it was time to start planning for Field Day, and passed around a sign-up sheet to get an idea of the people who were interested.

Dave, KD8V sent a get well card to Al Moriarty, N8CX. Al is the secretary of NODXA, and recently had a lower leg amputation. Dave later reported on the Copley Middle School Radio Club. He was very happy to say there are now twenty students involved with the club. Dave took a moment to thank Scottie and Bill for their help with the students.

Tom, WB8N requested anyone who would be submitting an article for the *Wobbly Oscillator*, to please have it in by February 25th.

The C.A.R.S. webmaster and technical committee chairman, Dave K8DAV, asked members to send him a QSL card so he could post a copy on the website. He said he had all the necessary parts to complete the Shaker Hts. Receiver. The work needed to complete the Parma repeater site will have to wait until the access road is passable. Dave thanked the twenty-three members who responded to his on-line survey. He mentioned the comments about Tom's editing of the *Wobbly Oscillator* were extremely complimentary.

Three prospective members were introduced to the group, Jacob Wagner, KD8CDC, Bob Whiddon, NT8K. and Mark Woodworth, WD8KHU. Steve, N8IS motioned to accept all three as members; and Terry, KB8DTC, seconded. The C.A.R.S. ceremonious election resulted in the acceptance and welcoming of all three hams into the club.

Bob asked for volunteers to help with the amateur radio demonstration for the upcoming Boy Scout event, "Scouting 360", which will be held on Saturday May 5th, at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds.

It was announced that Linda, N8LRS had recently passed her General Exam. All present congratulated her with a hearty round of applause. *continued on next page....*

The members voted on the motion presented at the meeting on January 9th, 2007 to change the C.A.R.S. Bylaw: Article X, Section 1, Paragraph B. The change essentially removed the two year time limit after high school graduation (or equivalent) to apply for the annual scholarship awards. The unanimous vote of the club members passed the motion.

Steve, N8IS announced he would be unable to continue as a Board of Directors member; and nominated Terry, KB8DTC as his replacement. The members unanimously voted to accept the nomination.

The winner of the evening's 50/50 raffle was Marc, KB8QHJ. Marc kindly donated his portion back to the club, \$52 was added to the club treasury.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Dave, K8DAV, and seconded by Steve, N8IS. The members passed the motion and the February meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

After the meeting, Hal, W8PN, gave a very interesting presentation on radio astronomy.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O, C.A.R.S. secretary.

MARCH INTERVIEW WITH THE V.P.

This months interview is with Bob, NT8K .

Q: How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?

A: I was given a crystal set kit when I was about 12 years old. I was fascinated by short wave signals. A ham neighbor got me started by showing me his station. I borrowed an old signal corps tape machine to learn Morse code. I got my Tech license in 1956. It expired while I was serving in the Army during the Vietnam conflict.

Q: How long has you been licensed and what class license do you currently have?

A: I decided to re-acquire an amateur license in

December, 2006. I attended the CARS VE test session on January 14, 2007, passing elements 1 thru 4, and received my Extra class license January 23.

Q: What do you like about Amateur Radio?

A: I really enjoy meeting other hams on the air from around the country and around the world. Everyone is willing to pass on their advice and knowledge. I'm still pretty "new" to the hobby, and there's a lot to learn, which is a challenge as well as being fun.

Q: What are your favorite bands/modes to work ?

A: I'm somewhat limited by antennas and resources for now, but I do work some CW on 80 and 40 meters, and SSB on 80,40,17,15 and 10 meters. I check in on local 2 meter nets. I intend to be active in Skywarn. I'll probably work fairly low power, and have already worked Europe, South America and Marshall Islands on less than 100 watts. Lots of fun!

Q: What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?

A: Currently using an ICOM 746Pro transceiver into a simple dipole antenna for HF, and using a Diamond V2000 vertical for 6M and 2M. I Hope to install a Gap Titan vertical when weather permits. I'm fortunate to live on a hilltop.

Q: What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?

A: I retired from the Summit County Engineer's office in 2001. I now dabble in music as a performing songwriter and open mic host. From time to time I do live sound mixing.

Q: Do you participate in any CARS projects or functions? If so which ones?

A: I'm brand new to the club, but look forward to future participation as opportunities arise. Looking forward to the Great Lakes convention in September of this year.

My thanks to Bob Whiddon, NT8K for taking time to introduce himself to our readers. 73, de Bill WA8GEO, V.P.

BREAKING NEWS

SUNSPOT CYCLE HITS BOTTOM?

In February we had low sunspot numbers, appropriate for the bottom of the solar cycle. The average daily sunspot number for February was just 17.3. The only months with lower average daily sunspot numbers in the past year were October (14.7) and February 2006 (5.3).

This month just might be the bottom of the cycle. View the table at:

<http://sec.noaa.gov/ftpd/weekly/Predict.txt>

and you'll see that the predicted smoothed sunspot number for March 2007 is 11.3, and it rises after that through the end of the year.

HERO, SILENT KEY

The reflector of the Philippine Amateur Radio Association (PARA) reports that Philippine Airlines Captain Ed Reyes, DU1ERV, died on February 14. Ed was better known as the pilot of PAL Flight 434 which he piloted to a safe landing in December of 1994 despite the fact that a group connected to al-Quaeda had exploded a bomb on board.

HIGHER TECH

Submitted by Ron Borkey, K8VJG

After having dug to a depth of 1000 meters last year, Scottish scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 1000 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 1000 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Scots, in the weeks that followed, English scientists dug to a depth of 2000 meters, and shortly after UK newspapers reported: "English archaeologists have found traces of 2000-year-old copper wire and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a thousand years earlier than the Scots."

One week later, Texas newspapers reported the following: "After digging to a depth of 5000 meters in West Texas, scientists from Texas A&M University have found absolutely nothing. They have therefore concluded that 5000 years ago, Texans were already using wireless technology."

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

WD8SDP Lin Shaw 3-1-32
K8EHP Michael Cegelski 3-2-42
KA8KPB Blaine Coleman 3-18-46
KB8DTC Terry Pillatt 3-18-46
WA8SSQ Tony Hackenberg 3-20-51
NO2O Fred Partis 3-20
KC8FUI Walter Holliday 3-22-58
KC8FVN Don Peters III 3-22
WA8LOB Nick Markovic 3-22-36
KB8QHJ Marc Rubin 3-25-66
KB8NW Tedd Mirgliotta 3-27-52
N8DJX Bruce Bacik 3-31-42

Many happy returns to you all !

**REMEMBER TO
CHECK INTO
THE C.A.R.S.
WEEKLY
CLUB NET
EVERY WEDNESDAY
9:00 P.M.**

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

SNOW, SNOW, AND MORE SNOW

And we'll probably have more to some before Spring finally arrives! Who'd of ever thunk it? The February meeting had to be postponed due to SNOW! We were lucky to be able to re-schedule for the following week, thanks to the fine people at the Busch Funeral home. And a great meeting it was too, with a very interesting speaker.

As I sit here typing away at the keyboard, the sun is trying to peak out and my dog Jake has found a spot of sunlight on the stairs where he is basking in the warm rays. He doesn't like the cold and the snow either!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We have the Dayton Hamvention© coming up very soon and FIELD DAY close behind it. We have a pair of new Co-Chairmen for Field Day this year as well. I wish them the best and know that they will plan a great event for us to enjoy. I'm not sure if I am going to be able to make Dayton this year due to personal matters, but I'll be there in spirit if not in person.

Of course we will be having our June, July and August meetings in the park again, and I know that George, K8KR is already planning the second annual C.A.R.S. picnic for us to enjoy as we did this past year.

Then in September we will be co-hosting the ARRL Great Lakes Division convention, which promises to be fun and exciting.

So we have an exciting season ahead of us!

CARDS AND LETTERS

I am still looking for articles and items to publish in our newsletter folks. I am asking you all to send me your QSL card to put in the newsletter as well. We had a good response for a while but now, nada. Send items and articles and your QSL card to me via e-mail. If I can possibly put anything you send me in the newsletter, I will. You don't have to worry about proper grammar or punctuation. I'll fix it up if I feel it needs fixing. So c'mon guys and gals...get yourself published in an award winning newsletter!

TTFN

That'll do it for me for this month folks. Hope to see you at the next meeting and catch you on the air.

73 for now,

de Tom, WB8N

GEARVACF BULLETIN

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Tests of "Broadband Technology to Save Railroads" (BRT) Hits Snag.

The new initiative to transfer broadband over power lines (BPL) technology to broadband over railroad tracks (BRT) has hit unforeseen problems during early testing. Yesterday, the Gearvakf Scientific Studies Committee reported that its experiments with broadband transmissions over the Gorbinski & Ohio Rail System (G&ORS) caused an unusual number of derailments over the 12-month testing period. Although no specific cause has been pinpointed, Committee Chairman, Dr. Avruell U. Harnishe, thinks broadband activity is widening the gauge space between rails. -KB8WFH, W8FYO, W8LCZ, W8OG, KVM5149 WLW, 2E26, 6146B, et al.

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions must be emailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to: newsletter@2cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's publication. By reading this you have committed yourself to attend as many meetings as possible during the year and to check into the weekly net.

CARS 2007 Officers & Committees

Audit

WT8O ** KC8YSV, K8KR

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

KC8YSV **

Awards

K8VJG ** WA8GEO, W8HBI, WB8N

Christmas Party 2007

W8HBI ** N8IS, KB8QHJ, KC8ZBN

School Programs

KD8V ** WA8SLN, K8VJG

License classes

WT8O ** W8GC, K8DAV

Development

W8GC ** All officers

Diabetes events

WB8N ** All CARS members

Field Day

WT8O ** WA8GEO ** + All CARS members

Good Operating Practices class

W8GC **, WB8N, K8DAV, N8IS, K8KR, K8ME

2007 ARRL Great Lakes convention

W8GC **, W8HBI, KB8NW, N8DJX, WT8O, WA8GEO, KC8YSV, K8DAV, K8ME, WA8SLN, WB8N

Interference & Jamming

WB8N ** N18Z, N8IS, W8GC

Lighthouse events

WT8O ** 440-572-1544

Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

KC8YSV ** K8VJG ** WB8N, W8GC

Membership

W8HBI ** W8GC **

Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

K8ME **

NET

WT8O **

WO/Newsletter

WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Program directors

KC8YSV ** W8JAK **

QSL manager - NO8A, W8WGM, W8BM & WA8CMS

WB8N **

Refreshments

KB8UGT ** KB8DTC ** K8VJG **

50/50

N8KAY **

Scholarship

WA8SLN ** N18Z, KD8BAO, K8VJG, WT8O, WA8GEO

Summer Picnic

K8KR ** N8IS, W8HBI, W8MET, N8LRS

Sunshine (welfare)

KD8V ** 330-666-8721

Technical

K8DAV** W8GC ** N8OVW, WB8N

VE exams

N18Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV ** W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

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PRESIDENT

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Board Members & License Trustees

even year executive board 2 year term

KB8DTC

KC8YSV

K8DAV

odd year executive board 2 year term

K8KR

N18Z

WB8N

K8ZFR trustee

WB8N

NO8A, WA8CMS & W8BM trustee

W8GC

