

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



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FROM THE PREZ

We had another great turnout for our April 8 meeting, 35 attended, keep up the good work!

I am pleased to welcome 5 new members to the CARS family; Maryann Fekete N8RPM, Paul Magyar N8SSL, Brian Harris Sr KC8WFI, Mike KB8BMJ and Tim KB8UND. Congratulations to all!

Remember the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention, please check www.2007GLDC.com for updates. *Plan to attend the ARRL Convention on September 22, 2007, PLEASE order your tickets early, tickets can now be ordered with a credit card or print a form to mail with your check at www.2007glc.com.*

We just had a DVD from the NCDXF which explained the many DXpeditions and other things they support for our program. Our June program will have Wayne K8FF give a talk and show his collection of several CW keys and paddles including his own designs. Wayne is on the staff of The Vibroplex Co. and has his own company called Finger Dimple. Check it out at www.fingerdimple.com.

Ron, K8VJG collected \$36 as his share of the 50/50 drawing. Good job Ron it's been a long dry spell! 3 other prizes were won.

2007 Field Day is fast approaching and co-chairmen Toby, WT8O and Bill, WA8GEO are working hard to organize additional operators and support people. Toby had a FD meeting May 23 at the site. Please contact Toby if you can help in ANY way at all cook, set up, tear down, greet visitors etc. Call Toby evenings at 440-572-1544 or e-mail at wt8o2@2cars.org. Tina did a nice job

selling 21 ARRL Field Day T shirts. They are in and some have been picked up, she will have the rest at the June meeting.

Our Ham radio demo for the Boy Scouts Saturday May 5th at the County Fairgrounds in Berea was a success, we had 14 members and 100s of Scouts. We had HF and 2 meter stations on the air, Satellite, videos running, a CW station and Fox hunting gear. Thanks again to all who



helped out.

Remember our June meeting will be at the Cleveland Metro Park, Brecksville reservation, in the Oak Grove pavilion. Check www.2cars.org for directions.

I hope most of you DXers worked BS7H the 1st week of May, I was lucky to work them on 20 meter CW & SSB. I had a problem with my antenna so I did not get a chance for 40, 30 & 17 meters - maybe next time.

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That's it for another WO. This month's thought: *To be absolutely certain about something, one must know everything or nothing about it.*

73 till next month
de, Bob W8GC

MAY MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. May monthly meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by club president Bob Check, W8GC on the 8th of the month. The meeting was held at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Thirty-three members and one guest introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

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

Tina, W8HBI gave the treasurer's report of the treasury balance.

Bill, WA8GEO C.A.R.S. vice president; spoke of the good time he had at the Boy Scouts "Scouting 360" amateur radio demonstration the previous weekend. He said contacts were made on 40 meters and on satellites. Bill talked with senior scouts and leaders, inviting them to club meetings.

Bob, W8GC up-dated the group on the status of the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention C.A.R.S. will be hosting in September. He said there will be a great line-up of seminars, vendor displays, and the attendance of ARRL president, Joel Harrison, W5ZN.

Gary, NI8Z reminded the group there would be a VE session coming up on Sunday, May 13th. He added there are already people signed up for testing.

As always, Bill, KC8YSV reminded the C.A.R.S. members to pay their ARRL dues through the club. He reminded everyone next month's meeting would be the first picnic meeting at the Oak Grove Picnic Area in the Brecksville Reservation. Next month's meeting program will feature Wayne Smith, K8FF displaying and discussing the CW keys he has designed and developed.

Dave, KD8V reported on the Copley Middle

School amateur radio club. He mentioned the group of fifteen to eighteen is younger than before, and they show a lot of energy. Dave added they have been sending out and receiving back, QSL cards from their Echolink contacts. He also was contacted by a sixth grade teacher in California who is going to set up a sked for his students to listen to the Copley kids give a talk on amateur radio. Dave concluded by saying he did not send out any sunshine cards in the last month.

Toby, WT8O reported the net was doing better than ever, with about twenty plus check-ins. He also said the response for Field Day was encouraging, although the club could still use more help. He said most of the stations were in place, and Bill, KC8UQV offered to do the food preparation. Also, Tina would be taking orders for Field Day tee shirts at the reduced cost of thirteen dollars.

Bob paused for a moment to show and pass around the thank you card received from the Mather for the C.A.R.S. donation made in the name of former member Lin Shaw, WD8SDP, SK.

The *Wobbly Oscillator* editor, Tom, WB8N said the latest edition had just been published, and was happy to thank those who sent in a good batch of contributions. He said to keep them coming in.. Tom also announced the club would be teaming up with the Summit County ARES group to provide communications for The Cleveland Diabetes Association's annual "Tour de Cure" bicycle fund raising event. This year it will be held on Sunday, June 10th, at Blossom Music Center. He stressed that we still need more volunteers, and those who are interested to please contact him.

Five new members were voted on in the customary ritual. The club members accepted and welcomed all the new applicants, Maryann Fekete, N8RPM; Paul Magyar, N8SSL; Brian Harris Sr., KC8WFI; Tim Frey, KB8UND; and Mike Thomas, KB8BMY.

Dwaine, K8ME reported on the Mather project. He said he has spoken with the director of the Science Center, who would like to have the radio
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room set in a nostalgic fashion. Dwaine regretted that he still has not gotten a firm commitment from the director to go ahead with the plan, despite numerous phone messages he has left.

Scotty, WA8SLN the scholarship committee chairman, reminded all those present to encourage anyone eligible to submit applications for the annual C.A.R.S. scholarship program. He reminded everyone that the deadline for application is May 31st. He said that so far he has not received any applications, and that in addition to the ones available on the C.A.R.S. website, he had hard copies with him for anyone interested.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Ron, K8VJG who received \$36, with \$36 going into the club treasury. Two additional prizes, a butane soldering iron, and a Yaesu hat were won by Dwaine, K8ME and Bob, KC8MRC respectively.

Joe, KD8BAL motioned to close the meeting, and Bill, KC8YSV seconded. The members passed the motion, and the May meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Following the meeting, a video presentation was shown revealing the funding process behind many DXpeditions by the Northern California DX Foundation.

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

CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY

All C.A.R.S. members are cordially invited to attend and participate in this year's Field Day, the weekend of June 23rd and 24th. Set-up will begin Saturday morning and operation will be from 2:00 PM, around the clock until 2:00 PM Sunday afternoon. The location will be at the Al Koran event center, 1000 E. Edgerton Rd., just east of Broadview Rd., in Broadview Heights.

We will be running eight stations, so there will be plenty of opportunity for folks to operate. We especially need help during the late evening / early

morning hours, so all you night owls who can help, please contact Toby, WT8O, at 440-572-1544 or wt8o@2cars.org. Experienced testers will be at your side to assist, so this a perfect time to get your feet wet. If you're not sure about operating, please come out and join in the fun and excitement of Field Day, just being there is supportive to the club effort.

So mark your calendars, and make your plans to come out and be part of the biggest event in ham radio – Field Day.

de Toby, WT8O

ARRL NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in ARRL has hit its highest level in recent years. At the end of April, 150,895 hams belonged to the League. This exceeds the membership of 148,329 at the conclusion of April 2006. This represents a 1.7% increase in membership over the year.

There are about 655,000 FCC licensees. Current amateur licenses have durations of 10 years. A review of statistics suggests only about one-half (less than 330,000) of all licensees are active or even alive. Based upon this statistical assumption, approximately 45% of active amateurs belong to ARRL.

METLIFE THRU ARRL

Most of us will receive literature from MetLife promoting insurance. This is how it works. First, be assured that you that ARRL is not selling your personal information to outside organizations.

What happens is that MetLife has signed a very secure privacy agreement with ARRL that permits them, and them only, to use the mailing information we provide. MetLife is prohibited

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from providing it to anyone else. If they violate this contractual agreement, MetLife will suffer serious legal penalties.

Why does ARRL allow these mailings to occur? The money we get from this mailing and from any policy action resulting from it goes to support your organization. This is money we don't need to get from you members.

It is totally up to you whether you buy insurance from MetLife. It also is totally up to you whether you receive any possible future promotions such as this from additional companies. If you choose, you may opt out by advising ARRL HQ that you do not wish to have your information released for secure promotional purposes of this type.

If you choose to purchase insurance from MetLife, you will be dealing with a solid, long-established company and you will help ARRL a little, in addition. The decision is entirely yours.

VP'S MEMBER INTERVIEW

This month's interview is with Mark A. Woodworth, WD8KHU

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

Ever since I was a child I have been interested in radio, mostly a SWL as a youth. There was a kid when I was in my early teens who was more into the technical side of things and he built a broadcast band AM bootleg station. We set that up and played records and such for the neighborhood for about a year. I had in the back of my mind that I would like to become a HAM, but for the longest time never got that elusive "round-tuit". Then upon moving to the Cleveland area in the early 70s I more seriously looked into getting my license.

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

Around 1975 or 76 I sent a letter to the ARRL asking about local classes. They sent me a reply which included the name of Jim Russel W8BU (silent key) I contacted him and he was at the time just beginning a class at the Lorain County Community College. I signed up and got my Novice through that program. It was sort of like a VE

session because they give the Novice tests (elements 1a & 2) at the end of the course. Shortly there after, I studied on my own and went to Buffalo, NY to take element three (3) to get my Tech level license. More recently (02-24-2007) I upgraded to General via the grandfather provision.

What do you like about Amateur Radio?

Talking on the radio. I have always thought that was neat. Now that I am a General I plan to save my pennies and eventually get on HF.

What are your favorite bands/modes to work?

Up until now I was limited to VHF (for the most part). I use to enjoy using my gear for practical applications such as road rallies with the Sports Car Club of America, fund raising fun runs and walks, American Red Cross activities and such.

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

Presently I just have a Yaesu 1802 and a VX 170 on 2 meters FM and a ICOM IC 502 6 meter SSB rig.

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

I am retired and looking for work. If this finds its way into the WO consider this an advertisement for employment. I use to work for Cuyahoga County initially as a child welfare worker and later as a supervisor in the welfare department.

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

I plan to.

What other projects or functions would you like to see CARS get involved with?

Some sort of exercise where you would use the system to do a combo treasure hunt, practice community service support mission, problem solving activity. It could be something where you would have to carry out a series of objectives using the radios to support the activity.

Additional comments:

I have already said enough, but I hope you run this through spell check.

My thanks to Mark for taking time to introduce yourself to our readers.

73, de Bill WA8GEO, V.P.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

W8NOX Keith Alexander 6-7-39
KC8OMV Michael Dressler 6-7
WD8KHU Mark Woodworth 6-15-43
K8ME Dwaine Modock 6-16-48
N8DJC Don Leyden Jr 6-19-49
KD8BAL Joseph Ulaszewski 6-21
N8LRS Linda Sinko 6-24
KD8AKA David Heuska 6-27
KC8LZO David Dressler 6-28
KD8CLC Ed Senkus 6-28-53

Congratulations to all and many happy returns!

FROM THE *GEARVACf* BULLETIN

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MARCONI BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The FCC has just issued blanket approval for spark transmission in commemoration of Marconi's birthday. All US amateurs are encouraged to build or resurrect spark transmitters--the bigger the better--and transmit all day long. "Rotary gaps in the 5-to-10 KW range should really 'ring in' Marconi's birthday with bang, or at least a big buzz," said FCC spokes person Ralph R. Spiffee, Jr. LRRR officials viewed the FCC's action with some skepticism. "I think it's just a ploy to get hams to replenish the ozone layer at their own expense," said Mickey McCoy, LRRR resident expert on radio. In a separate press conference, the FCC announced that Feb-ruary 29th would mark the beginning of an amnesty period, during which BPL systems would be exempt from Part 15 rules. When asked how long the amnesty would last, Spiffee replied: "Homeland Security. Can't talk about it." He continued,

"Besides, I really don't think anyone will notice anyway."

--N4GG

Antioxidants Discovered on 6 Meters

Sales of 6-meter capable radios are expected to soar following the discovery of health-beneficial antioxidants on that often neglected radio band, according to Gearvakf Chief Fruit and Vegetable Scientist, Dr. Urban Phileas Niblick. In a press conference in the newly renovated Gearvakf Press Center and Game Room, Dr. Niblick said that the breakthrough discovery occurred during a routine scan of all amateur radio bands for traces of hazardous mushroom vapor (MV). "Most people don't know about MV other than from its offensive manifestations in and around Gorbinski's Mushroothe world's leading producer of MV, and from consumers of mass quantities of Gorbinski's products." Dr. Niblick added, that "the long term benefits of MV have spurred an increase in the search for alternate sources. Mushroom vapor can be very unsta-ble in its raw form. During the scan, we had one of those *eureka* moments when the anomaly surfaced. The entire science team was jumping around madly like they were watching a football match," he exclaimed. Dr. Niblick said that spike in the MV readings on 6 meters prompted a closer analysis in the Gearvakf Labs where a trace of a very strong antioxidant, yet to be named, was discovered. "I have no doubt that there will be commercial applications, but I cannot speculate as to when affordable harvesting will begin." the scientist continued, "However, *continued on next page....*

I am sure the product will add years of life to its users." He expressed concern that a sudden rush of amateurs to the band will upset the delicate environment that caused the growth of the antioxidant. That could lead to government regulation. Dr. Niblick also speculated that the current small amounts of antioxidant leakage from the band may actually counteract the negative effects of RF radiation that worry many amateurs. TRAP (Traditionalist Radio Amateur Program) Headquarters was contacted for comment, and Chief Assistant Slide Rule Instructor Pick-erston Effy said, "Bah! Neber hab no problem wif no ray-dayshun, eben if I can read der log-log scale in der dark."
--W8FYO

Now Is The Time For All Good Hams To Come To The Aid Of Their Radio Service!

All amateurs are urgently requested to write letters to their US Representative. These letters are to ask them to cosponsor HR 462, the current bill in the US House of Representatives that would protect Amateur Radio from interference from unlicensed devices -- e.g. various Part 15 devices and BPL. The bill is in Committee and your letter will help move it to the floor of the House.

Mail your letter only to your US Representative. Do not mail it to either of your US Senators. The bill is only in the US House of Representatives and not in the US Senate. We are working to have a bill introduced in the Senate, later.

73, Jim

**Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
ARRL Great Lakes Division**

PS: Please contact me for Jim's complete article and a sample letter, Bob W8GC.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

BUSY MONTH

June is always a busy month for our organization. Besides the regular monthly meeting, we have the American Diabetes Association Annual Tour de Cure, which is a series of bicycle rides of varying lengths. We have provided communications for the Tour the past few years, in the Greater Cleveland area, but this year the Cleveland branch has joined with the Akron branch to do a joint Tour, in and around the Blossom Music Center area in Summit County. The Summit County ARES group is going to run the communications for the event and we were asked to provide volunteer operators to help out. So far, I have 12 members of C.A.R.S. who have said that they would be there. C'mon folks...we can use a bunch more, and I know there are members who are free on Sunday, the 10th of June. If you have never volunteered for such an event, now is the time to start. It ain't hard folks...all you need to do is show up with a radio, preferably a mobile rig, but a hand-held will work too...and use your communication skills and license that you worked so hard to get. This is a very worthy charity event folks. As I have said before, I doubt very much if there is a member of C.A.R.S. who, if they do not have diabetes themselves, doesn't know a friend or has a family member who is stricken with this nasty disease. So, if you have not already volunteered, please consider coming out for this one. Just give me an e-mail at wb8n@2cars.org or call me at 440-232-4193.

NEXT WE HAVE OUR PICNIC MEETING IN THE PARK. Don't forget that the June meeting starts our summer season of picnic meetings in the Brecksville reservation of the Metro Park System. For directions, go to the C.A.R.S. web site. We will have a cook-fire going early so come early and bring something to cook for yourself. We supply the fire, you supply your own food, condiments, etc. There will be *continued on next page....*

beverages later, for the meeting, but if you want something to drink with your meal, bring it with you.

THEN COMES FIELD DAY !

As previously mentioned in this issue, the annual ARRL Field Day event is the last full weekend of June. C'mon out and have a great time employing and enjoying the hobby that you have worked so hard to be a part of. I'm not going to belabor the issue, but there will be great comradery with your fellow ham/club members, great experiences operating, and great food! What more can you ask for? Bring the other half, bring the kids, bring your friends and neighbors. The more the merrier! This year we have new Field Day chairmen who have new ideas and who promise us a great Field Day.

THE DAYTON HAMVENTION

Well, the annual Dayton Hamvention has come and gone for another year. I was not able to make it this year, first time in a long time, but I was there in spirit. Hearing from the C.A.R.S. members that attended, I understand that they had a great time even though attendance was down a bit from last year. The flea market was full and busy, and the inside part was busy as well. There were great forums and all in all, a good time was had by all.

Maybe I can get down there next year. If you have NEVER been to the Hamvention, you owe it to yourself to go at least once. It is an experience that you have to actually be a part of to believe. No one can adequately describe it, not even photos and articles in the ham mags can do it justice. Just the opportunity to meet hams from all over the country and other countries, in person, is worth the effort. Seeing all the different call signs on hats from all over the globe is like an in-person call book! Then there are the opportunities to meet and talk with

world famous hams, owners of companies that manufacture ham radio equipment, editors of the various ham magazines...it boggles the mind. You just have to go there to comprehend the event. Make a promise to yourself that you will go there yourself. You owe it to yourself!

TTFN

Time for me to get outta here. See you at the next meeting. Don't forget to check in on the weekly Wednesday night C.A.R.S. net.

73, de Tom, WB8N

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles published in this newsletter may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio orientated publication, provided that credit is given to this newsletter, and to the author of the article, if known. All submissions for publication in this newsletter should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to newsletter@2cars.org, before the end of the month, for publication in the next month's issue.

By reading this, you have made a commitment to attend as many C.A.R.S. meetings as possible, to join in on the weekly Wednesday night C.A.R.S. nets, and to take part in activities and public service events that C.A.R.S. does. Is that too much to ask? I don't think so.

