

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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HAPPY 2009 !!! CHRISTMAS PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS More in this issue.

FROM THE PREZ

Well, we're going to try something different. One of the suggestions from the club survey was to have a dinner meeting. A show of hands at the November meeting displayed that an overwhelming majority was in favor. So our February 10th meeting will be held at Mavis Winkel's restaurant in the Crown Center Building in Independence at 5005 Rockside Rd., just west of I-77 on the north side of the street (Ph. 216-525-0770). The restaurant was chosen for several reasons. It was the runner-up of the Board's selection to cater the Christmas party and is a good location, convenient for most members, and the staff was quite accommodating to our requirements. On top of that, they have an excellent reputation for good food. As usual, the business meeting will begin at 7:30 PM, with the private reserved room opening for service to members at six. A full menu will be available and selections do not have to be made in advance. Please remember, the dinner is optional, if you are not interested in eating at the restaurant, feel welcome to come at 7:30 for the meeting.

The Christmas party was a huge success. The smiles told the story of how everyone enjoyed themselves. Hats off to Gary, NI8Z, the lead

man who got everything organized. He seems to out do himself every year. Jack, W8JAK, provided the background music and entertainment with his karaoke equipment. Just getting everything there and set up is a big job on a wintry night, but his skill making everything work so expertly was the real contribution. A big thanks goes out to Bob, W8GC, for designing and producing most of the classy looking awards many members received. The only disappointment was the absence of two of the award winners.

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NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Gary, K8REF, was one of the co-winners of the "Rookie of the Year" award. Gary has advanced to Amateur Extra class and was one of our most active and contributing members. He made as many meetings as his busy schedule would allow. Gary checks into most of the Wednesday club nets from "sunny" Medina. He also contributed greatly to Field Day and helped out with the Diabetes Association events. It would have been a real privilege to hand Gary his award in front of the members and spouses at the party. We also had a special award for a very special person, Jim, N8GXR. He's the guy we call "Buffalo Jim," because he travels from upstate New York to help us out with all our public service work. Jim also makes some of our regular meetings, and is an active contributor to the *Wobbly Oscillator*. He does all this while being very active in his home club in Buffalo, currently serving as the president. *(Pictures of the party appear further on in this issue-Ed)*

Lastly, but certainly not leastly, it's time to start planning for Field Day. The big event is less than six months away. There were several members who approached me at the party with ideas already brewing in their heads. Several have been calling me with their input as well. Although the committee will get together soon, and we will begin discussing various aspects of the event at meetings, please feel free to contact me anytime with any intentions you may have for Field Day. Be it setting up a station, helping with a bonus point project, operating, set-up, support, or attendance; please call me anytime. It will make planning easier, and I never tire from talking Field Day.

I hope to see you at the next meeting, or hear you on the Wednesday club net or anywhere on the waves.

73, Toby, WT8O

The C.A.R.S. November monthly meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President Toby Koleman, WT8O on the 11th of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Oh. Twenty nine members and two guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

There were no additions, or questions to the October minutes as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator* so the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC gave the treasure's report. He said that things have not changed much and that things were going ok. Bob said that we can start paying for next years dues and the Christmas party. The members can also pay by paypal if we want to.

Vice President Eddie Steven, KD8FTS encouraged people to fill out the questionnaire on the interview page on the members web site. Eddie also talked about ARES and to join him at the ARES next meeting.

Scotty, WA8SLN gave sunshine report, saying that he sent one card out to Dave, K8DAV to cheer him up.

VE: Gary, NI8Z reported on the recent exam held by C.A.R.S. and said that the VE fees are going up to \$15 next year.

WO: Tom, WB8N asked everyone to send articles and pictures by the 26th of the month for the WO.

Dave, KD8V thanked all the members who helped out down at Copley Middle School with the kids. They have gotten eight TECHS and three GENERALS their licenses to date.

Voting of Officers and Odd year Board members as elected by the members :

Officers:

President Toby WT8O	Board members
Vice Pres. Eddie KD8FTS	Steve K8SAS
Secretary Steve N8SRJ	Dwaine K8ME
Treasurer Bob W8GC	Gary NI8Z

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By-Law change: Approval of by-law change was motioned by Bill WA8EO, seconded by Mike KG8MTG. The members passed the motion.

Refreshments were provided by Mike, KB8UGT-pop. Ron, K8VJG/-Dwaine K8ME-donuts. Gary, NI8Z-made the coffee. Dwaine passed out a Dayton Hamvention bus trip flyer.

50/50 was won by Steve N8IS who won \$26.

At 8:45pm the meeting was adjured.

Submitted by Stephen Jones, N8SRJ, C.A.R.S. Secretary.

2008 C.A.R.S. TREASURY AUDIT

The audit committee met December 23, 2008 to examine the C.A.R.S. financial records for calendar and fiscal year 2008. A complete transaction log of all income and expense records was reviewed. The club checking account records were also checked and compared to the transaction log. The Treasurer's report also included a categorical expense record for 2005 through 2008. The Treasurer recommended, and the committee voted to not pay the newly imposed \$3.00 monthly fee the bank will charge to return checks. The bank will have an electronic record of all checks if a question arises. The committee concluded the financial records are complete and accurate. The treasury balance is also stable with an increase over the year 2007.

de Toby Kolman, WT8O, Audit Committee Chairman

A hearty 'Thank You goes out to all the members of the audit committee who perform this important and necessary task on their own time -Ed.

HAM HAPPENINGS

Submitted by Tina Check,

CTU 2009 DAYTON REGISTRATION

Turning to the Ham Radio social scene, word that Contest University 2009 registration is now open. The event is slated for Thursday, May 14th, 2009, a day before the opening of the Dayton Hamvention.

It will feature some of the best contest operators and station builders as teachers. They will present state of the art contesting in a way to increase your knowledge and fun. Again this year the event's primary sponsor will be ICOM America. Other supporters include CQ Magazine, DX Engineering, Comtek Systems, Super Bertha Antennas, and W9ZRX.

The daylong event is one that any ham into radio sporting won't want to miss. For Contest University 2009 registration please visit www.contestuniversity.com.

C.A.R.S. DUES ARE DUE

Last minute reminder: If you have not paid your 2009 dues they will be past due after January 31, 2009. Dues can be paid online by sending the funds via Paypal to :

bob@2cls.com. You can mail a check to: CARS, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131 or pay in person at any CARS meeting. Dues are \$20.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is \$5.00. If you are 60 yrs old or over and 18 yrs old or less your dues are only \$12.00 per year.

CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship. Please let me know if there is a situation we are unaware of.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on January 13, 2009.

Sincerely,

Bob Check, W8GC
CARS Treasurer

2008 C.A.R.S. VE REPORT

By Gary Dewey, NI8Z

Another year of testing for the amateur radio community as finished for the C.A.R.S. VE group.

The November test session was somewhat atypical, in that we had candidates come from Akron, Lore City, Uniontown, Wadsworth, and only one from Cleveland. This is indicating either the number of VE sessions are diminishing or our VE group has developed some notoriety for having one of the better testing facilities and VE crew in the area.

Recapping the year, the C.A.R.S. VE crew provided 8 test sessions. Sixty-nine individuals took at least one written test. Actually 86 written elements were graded. Fifty-three upgraded or received a new license, a 77% success rate.

The Volunteers who are responsible and donate their time and expertise are: Roger Boehnlein, N8TCP; Ron Borkey, K8VJG; Robert Check, W8GC; David Kushman, W8DAV; George Pindroh, K8KR; Steve Riley, N8IS; William Sarver, KC8YSV; Lawson (Scotty) Shields, WA8SLN; Metro Sinko, W8MET; Steve Jones, N8SRJ and Tom Wayne, WB8N.

The schedule for 2008 has been arranged with the INDEPENDENCE TOWN HALL again. There will be at least 6 normal scheduled VE sessions. These dates can be found below and on the C.A.R.S. Web page.

Jan 13, Mar 9, May 11, Jul 13, Sep 14, Nov 9

C.A.R.S. MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

NI8Z Gary Dewey 12-7-41

N8BBB Bill Brown 12-8

KC8LZP Charles Dressler 12-12

KD8FTT Colleen Stevens 12-12-71

N8DMK Russell Pratley Jr 12-22-60

WD8ISB Richard Dell 12-30-35

JANUARY

KC2BUA Gary Schmid 1-11-47

K8JGR Jane Reed 1-11

KD8DYI Pat Dressler 1-12-31

W8EBB Matt Webb 1-14-84

KD8WHR Lynn Strube 1-14-53

K8PP Fred Doob 1-15

KC8YLC Mary Cegelski 1-22-52

N8SRJ Stephen Jones 1-23-66

KB8RKF Mike Toth 1-27

N8QVC Mike Brady 1-28-57

K8AV Carl Beduhn 1-30-38

Congratulations to one and all and many happy returns.

Don't forget to tune into the C.A.R.S. weekly club net. The net gets under weigh at 9:00 p.m. every Wednesday night on the 146.820 repeater. There is normally a trivia question for the week as well as information pertaining to C.A.R.S. events, and other useful information for the Amateur Radio community of N.E. Ohio. Hope to see you on the net!

CHRISTMAS PARTY PICS



WB8N, NI8Z & K8KR accepting awards from WT8O



WT8O & W8HBI with her award.



KD8BBS, KD8DYI, & KD8V with their awards.



K8KR posing for the camera.



Our own elf, K8VJG & his award



WB8N, NI8Z, & N8TCP opening their gifts from Santa.

MORE CHRISTMAS PARTY PICS



N18Z with his bow on his head. If he's not an elf, then what is he???



Some of the gifts for the gift exchange.



A bunch of party goers enjoying themselves singing, with "Karoke Jack"



Another fine group of great singers enjoying themselves.



A fine spread of deserts, brought by members.



K8VJG, WA8SLN, N18Z, & WT8O with their awards.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

A HAMMY NEW YEAR TO ALL !

Here we go again...boy did 2008 go by fast. No one knows what to expect for the new year, what with the economy, a new regime in the White House, and the situation in the Middle East, but we can hope for the best. It's about all we can do. Let's get going on our fine hobby, getting on the air, whether it be on two meters or HF or both.

When the weather improves sufficiently, get your antennas up, repairs done, and try to improve your station, however small improvement it may be. If you have not yet got HF equipment in your shack or mobile, get one. You can purchase a great pre-owned rig for a fraction of the original cost.

If you are not a regular on the weekly C.A.R.S. net held on Wednesday nights at 9:00 p.m., get on it. It's a lot of fun, you meet new folks, as it is not all C.A.R.S. members that check in, and you might learn something from the information passed by net control or check-ins. Oh yeah, there is a weekly trivia question as well. (This means you Mike)

CHRISTMAS BASH A SUCCESS

If you attended the C.A.R.S. Christmas party this past December, you know what a great party it was, and what a great time we all had. The food was good, the Christmas spirit was in the air, we sang, we played games, and one couple, Brad, KD8BBS and his lovely wife even celebrated their wedding anniversary. We had a great turnout and most everyone brought a gift or two for the gift exchange. Jack, W8JAK once again lugged all his equipment to provide Karaoke for entertainment, and a very big thank you goes out to him. Another big thank you goes out to all on the party committee for their efforts in making this one of the finest C.A.R.S. events of the year.

For those of you that could not make the party because of a previous engagement, you are excused. But for those of you that missed the party because you could not be bothered or

spend the few bucks, the Grinch is gonna get ya. He knows who you are!

THINGS TO COME

We have a lot of events ahead of us in 2009, including local hamfests, the Dayton Hamvention, the Tour de Cure in June, and the Diabetes walk in the fall. June also brings Field Day, which Toby mentioned in his column. It is not for certain if there will be a C.A.R.S. family picnic again this year, but hopefully there will be.

UNTIL NEXT TIME

That'll about do it for this month guys and gals. Hope to see you all at the first meeting of the month on Tuesday, the 13th, or on the net on Wednesday night, or both.

Before I close, I want to say hello to our associate member, Mike Laurens in Walton Hills. Mike listens to our nets most every week and reads the W.O. as well.

73 for now,
de Tom, WB8N

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