

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 CINCO de MAYO TO ALL !

FROM THE PREZ

It's time to reflect on the response C.A.R.S. has made in reference to the member survey taken last year. Many members have evaluated their activity at meetings and realized they could make a positive improvement by actively approaching new faces and welcoming them. I've seen a difference. It's good to see new people feel welcome and comfortable right off the bat. Hats off to the members who do this. It's also good to hear experienced hams offering assistance to those new to certain types of operating, or invite the newbie over to see how the old timer's shack is set up. It's especially cool to see a newer ham who has jumped into a digital mode offer guidance to a guy who has only communicated with a key for decades. We all have something to give, and we all have something to learn.

I can definitely dismiss the "clique" thing. Yes, there is a core group of active members who do a lot of work. But they never discourage anyone from joining. Actually, they welcome the help. If anyone still wants to shout clique, try participating first.

And we do need help and more participation. The Vice President has asked for suggestions for meeting programs. So far, there have been none. Zero. I would think that every member has something he or she would like to see at a meeting. So please, contact Eddie, KD8FTS, with your ideas.

Also, no one has completed a member

interview on the website.

Let's also try to build up the weekly club net. We have a lot of members who check in weekly; but also have a lot of members who have the radio, but never check in. Many of us wonder why this is. So if you haven't checked in lately, dust off the old transmitter and ride the 14.820 wave in next Wednesday at 9:00.

73, Toby, WT8O

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APRIL MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. April monthly meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Toby Kolman, WT8O on the 14th of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Oh. Thirty six members and five guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Ron Borkey, K8VJG motion to accept the March minutes as published in the April Wobbly Oscillator, and Steve Riley, N8IS seconded. There were no additions, or questions so the motion passed.

Bob Check, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was about same. He then mentioned the scholarship raffle, and said he had mailed out tickets to 71 people that do not make all the meetings. Toby, WT8O gave the Net report and thanked all the net controllers and also thanked everyone who checks into the net and encouraged anyone with a two meter radio to check in. Toby then passed out a sign up sheet for Field Day. He will be passing it around at every meeting. Toby then mentioned the field trip to W1AW. Bob, W8GC made a motion for the date as the second week end in October; the 10th thru the 12th. Steve, N8IS seconded the motion and the members passed the vote. The ARRL is not open on weekends. We would like to leave on a Saturday. It is about a ten hour drive. We would tour the ARRL on Monday and come back home on Monday after the tour. Gary Dewey, NI8Z, Bob, W8GC, and Toby, WT8O will check into the hotel prices when the date is chosen. Toby had a lot of people interested in the trip. Car pooling seems to be the best way, and the most flexible.

Scotty Shields, WA8SLN, our Sunshine Chairman, sent out cards to Dawn Barbour, KC8WBG and Jim Barbour, WD8CHL for the passing of Jim's father, David Barbour, K8MBV, Mark Woodworth, WD8KHU, Paul Maruna KD8HWP for pre cancer surgery, and one to Linda Sinko N8LRS for knee surgery.

Gary, NI8Z gave his VE report and said 11 students from the classes passed and 7 people from the VE session on Sunday, the 8th passed

their tests.

Dwaine Modock, K8ME talked about the Dayton bus trip and said the trip is a go. Tickets for the bus are \$35 the cut off is May 2.

Tom Wayne, WB8N, asked everyone to send articles and pictures for the WO.

Members voted in new members Diane Luchin KD8KJH, and Ronnie Erikson, KD8JZF. Dave Dressler, KD8V said the Copley school club is very active even though it's a small group and he thanked everyone in the CARS club who helped.

Awards were handed out to Mike Cegelski, K8EHP, Matt Webb, W8EBB, and Steve Spisak, K8SAS.

The new seller of the 50 / 50 raffle tickets at each meeting will be Darren Turk, K8DMT.

CARS is looking to start licensing classes in the fall and have them in the spring too. If you are wanting to upgrade, or know someone who wants to be a ham or wants to upgrade, watch the web site for the dates. The fall classes will start in October. David Noeth, KD8ACO made the motion to have classes twice a year. Steve, N8IS seconded and the members passed the motion. Refreshments: coffee- Gary, NI8Z, drinks- Mike KB8UGT, donuts- Ron K8VJG. Thanks to all for doing a great service.

Bruce Brown, KC8RKS asked people to volunteer for the Diabetes Tour de Cure bike a- thon, to help with communications. Sign up at <http://www.sumco-ares.org> under public service.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Carl Beduhn, K8AV with \$38.00 going to him and \$38.00 to C.A.R.S.

Steve, N8IS made the motion to close the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ron, K8VJG seconded and the meeting was closed.

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

***CHECK IN TO THE WEDNESDAY C.A.R.S.
NET AT 9:00 P.M. ON 146.820 REPEATER.***

NEW GENERATOR PROJECT

By Toby Kolman, WT8O

I've heard tell that hams have a tendency to be frugal. I wouldn't consider myself frugal; I'm downright cheap, with a capital "C." So when I plan a project, the first step is scrounging up the material.

My latest brainstorm is a gasoline powered 12 volt DC generator. I will do this over the coming months and chronicle my progress in the *W.O.*

Any suggestions will be most appreciated.

The first ingredient would be a motor. I used to have several old Briggs engines out in the garage. They ran OK, I saved them from lawnmowers after the wheels fell off. In a moment of weakness, I succumbed to the desires of the XYL when she said "Throw out those stupid old motors, you'll never use them"; proving again the old wisdom, "Never say never." I figured any guy worth his salt with more backbone than me, would have at least one motor laying around that I could pry loose with the barter tool. Surprisingly, the first guy I talked to did not have one; nor the second, nor the third. Weird. I finally hit the jackpot when a guy said he was thinking of pitching an old Honda self propelled mower that had converted itself to the push only variety. We quickly settled on the price; free. I didn't try to talk him down any further, since he is an old friend.

The next component came easier. Out of the blue, a co-worker asked me if I had a Rochester two barrel carburetor. I told him I had several, and would be willing to trade for a nice 12 volt alternator. Long story short, as I searched for the carb I happened upon an alternator. Life is good.

All I needed was material to fabricate a frame. Cake time. I always figured people who threw out old bed frames were a little nutty. Good angle iron and good castors just don't belong in a hole with egg shells and coffee grounds. Up in the garage rafters I had two bedframes. With tools in hand, I am ready to build.

I can hardly wait for the next installment of Toby's "crafty tale". Ed

MAY BIRTHDAYS

KC8ZBN	Marian Rubin	5-1
W8JAK	Jack Andrisin	5-1-42
KB8QHC	Robert Glover	5-6-49
KC8WBH	John Chesna	5-6
WD8CHL	Jim Barbour	5-9-58
WD8CWD	J. W. Cox Jr	5-11-41
KA8MZS	Mike Mraz	5-12-40
N8KAY	Kayla Check	5-12-90
K8YSE	John Papay	5-15
K8VJG	Ron Borkey Sr	5-20-32
KC8POL	Bob Metz	5-30

Happy Birthday to all and many happy returns!

CW LIVES !

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

Reprinted from CQ Magazine

Hicksville, NY April 15, 2009) - For the first time, more than 10,000 logs have been submitted for the CQ World Wide DX Contest, according to Contest Director Bob Cox, K3EST. In addition, Cox reports that the number of CW logs have exceeded the number of phone logs for the first time in more than 20 years.

This is the first time that the CQWW - already the world's most popular amateur radio contest - has broken the 10,000 log mark. Of these, nearly 98% were submitted electronically.

It is also the first time since 1986 that more CW logs have been submitted than SSB logs. "This is a clear indication," says Cox, "not only of the health of contesting and of CW, but of ham radio as a whole." In addition, the logs contained the call-signs of more than 50,000 different amateur stations making at least one contest contact, indicating that many more stations participate in the CQWW Contest than submit logs.

**FROM THE GEARVAKf (the f is silent)
BULLETIN**

**NASCAR DRIVERS GET HAM RADIO
PRIVILEGES**

By Bill Norton, W8FYO

WillowStomp, NC...In a press conference held recently in the back room of Stumpy's Telecommunications Supply and Feed Store, Mr. Rupert J. Sebastiano III, Chief Executive Commander of LRRRA's Radio Equipment Sales and Planned Obsolescence Subcommittee, announced that starting with next year's Daytona 500, the FCC will give amateur radio privileges to all NASCAR drivers. This will coincide with the assignment of 146.52 as a shared frequency during every race. Call letters will consist of N (for NASCAR), followed by the car number. "We did a lot of lobbying to get this rule passed," said Sebastiano, "and we believe that filling .52 simplex with race chatter will revive ham radio's most famous 'road' frequency. For years race fans have listened to their favorite team's radio traffic, but have never been able to talk to the drivers. I mean, they drive around in circles for hours! That must be pretty boring. Now, they can chat with all their new good buddies, telling stories, swapping whiskey recipes, you know, just like those astronauts" An unnamed source in the Greek watch dog group, PITA, countered the announcement by saying it was simply a ploy to boost sales of amateur radio equipment, much of which would be sold to "unlicensed loudmouths wearing t-shirts bearing logos of chewing tobacco." The source pointed out that the LRRRA committee was instrumental in forcing the development of the big selling 2-meter iPod, and said, "Gosh, if those drivers get yakking too much on the radio, they might even get in a wreck."

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

DAYTON, JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Oh Boy, I can hardly wait. I have gone two years without making it down to Dayton for the

Hamvention® and I have really missed it. I would not be going this year either if it weren't for the C.A.R.S. sponsored bus. I have never taken a bus to Dayton before. The Hamvention® runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday and I used to leave about noon on Thursday, get settled in our motel room which would have been reserved the year before, have a nice meal and get to bed fairly early so we could hit the Hamvention® bright and early at 8:00 a.m. when the gate to the flea market and the doors to Hara Arena opened. Then I'd go inside the arena, deposit my ticket stub in the drum for the drawings, and begin on one side of the flea market. After a few hours of the flea market, I'd go inside the arena, get a bite to eat and see some of the exhibits and dealers inside. I'd finish up the flea market on Saturday and also the areas I did not get to inside. Sunday we'd take our time getting to the Hara arena. I'd take in a forum and wander around waiting for the final drawings which would be at 1:00 p.m. After finding out I hadn't won anything, we'd head back home.

This year it'll be a lot different, as I'll only have one day to see as much as I can indoors and out, but it beats not going at all. I'll miss going to the NODXA hospitality room at one of the hotels in downtown Dayton. Hams from all over the U.S. and also from different countries would wander in and it was great having a drink and chatting with them.

I'm looking forward to the bus ride down and back, talking with fellow hams from C.A.R.S. and others that are taking the bus down this year. That should be fun in itself. Also, it will be a lot less expensive since I don't have to spring for half the cost of a motel room and meals for the three nights, not to mention the cost of gas to get down there and back.

There are several C.A.R.S. members going on the bus this year that used to do the same thing I did, go down on Thursday and come back on Sunday. We are all getting older and have our various ailments and this is the best way for us to do Dayton now.

I want to thank Dwaine Modock, K8ME, who put the bus trip together. It took a lot of time

continued on next page...

and effort on his part, and even though it looked as if the bus trip might not be a reality, Dwaine persevered and made it happen.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you that signed up for the bus early May 16th, Saturday morning. For those of you going that have never been to the Dayton Hamvention® before, I know it will be an experience you will enjoy and never forget.

ORIGINS OF *GEARVAKf* (the *f* is silent)

As you no doubt have noticed, occasionally I will put an excerpt from the *GEARVAKf Bulletin* in the W.O. Have you ever wondered where that all began? Well, back when I first started going to Dayton, in 1987, I ran into a group of hams that had a table in the flea market. They had a flag flying on a pole that the *GEARVAKf* name and logo on it and they were handing out their newsletter, the *GEARVAKf Bulletin*. I picked up a copy and enjoyed the wry humor of the articles, which were written by members of *GEARVAKf*. One of those hams was the late Joel Rose, N8JR, who, for those that may not remember him, was a radio and television personality in Cleveland for many years. After Joel passed away the group stopped going to Dayton, but went to the Ft. Wayne Indiana hamfest, and continued printing and handing out copies of their newsletter. I contacted the editor of the newsletter and requested copies I was missing. I just received some newer issues from recent years, along with an explanation of the origins of *GEARVAKf*. Their slogan is "The Editor is Always Right". The editorial column states that "Gearvakf is a prestigious ham radio and kite-flying organization. Members are selected only at the whim of the Gearvakf Secret Committee on Trusteeship, totally without regard to merit. Memberships are rarely granted. We discriminate indiscriminately. All life memberships are good for one year and applications for membership are never accepted. The Gearvakf Bulletin is published by Gearvakf, which is not responsible for it's content, and is distributed only at care-fully selected hamfests. Subscriptions are not available."

An e-mail I got from Joe Vandal, K8DMZ, who is the editor and publisher of the newsletter

follows: Hi Tom, Glad the issues got there okay. Enjoy and "fill" to your heart's content! Someday, I hope to go through all the old *Gearvakf Bulletins* and put together a book of "The Best of Gearvakf," if I live long enough.

The *Bulletin* itself goes back to a little flyer Joel Rose, N8JR/SK, put together in 1972 called "Hamshack '72." I hope I can find a copy in my disorganized files. Shortly after that, I began doing the *Gearvakf Bulletin* on a manual portable typewriter, with his input. In the late 1970s we did our first distribution at the Hamvention and several other hamfests. There was a two-year interruption in the mid-1990s when I just got tired of it, but resumed to finish out that decade. After N8JR become a silent key, I continued the *Bulletin* but it was a shorter version with a little less zest than usual. It's a little better now, I think, but it still remains shorter. In 2004 I stopped going to the Hamvention. Instead, my wife (KA8AQH) and I started going to the less hectic Ft. Wayne Hamfest, held in November with lot of the original Gearvakf Gang from the area. Gearvakf as a "phantom entity" goes back to the late 1950s and 1960s, when Joel, ex-K8AEJ, Bob, ex-K8AAY, and I got together at my house nearly every year for the Hamvention. We named our gathering "The Greater Enon Amateur Radio Vention and Kitefly," or GEARVAKf (the 'f' is silent). You see, we also used to fly kites from my back yard, at night! Also, by the time they arrived, I had already taped the Gearvakf opening ceremonies for them. So, I guess the Gearvakf entity might be about 50 years old this year. (*Enon is where Joe lives. Ed.*)

So now, Tom, you know more than most people do about Gearvakf! (*And now you do too. Ed.*)

Cheers & VY 73, Joe/K8DMZ

TIME TO GO

I'm running out of allotted space folks so I'll just say I hope to catch you on the air or at the meeting.

73, de Tom
WB8N

WOBBLY OSCILLATOR EDITORIAL

By Tom Wayne, WB8N, Editor

I am writing this to beg you, the member for input for our newsletter, the Wobbly Oscillator. It is not easy to put this newsletter together every month and it makes it especially difficult when there is not much to put into it. A very few members are regular contributors each month, and I can count them on the fingers of one hand.

I am looking for articles from the membership. They don't have to be "well written"...that's what the editor's job is, to "fix it up" so to speak. Your articles don't have to be long either. The only requirement is that they should be about Amateur Radio in one way or another, however small.

Write about a new piece of ham gear you bought, how you like it, what you dislike, etc. Write about something ham radio related you made yourself such as an antenna, how well it works, how you made it. You can write about a trip you went on with your hand-held rig or mobile rig. Write about a hamfest you attended. (The Dayton Hamvention® comes to mind). You can even write about your experience operating some rare dx, or a operating contest you took part in. There are a multitude of ham related subjects you could share with our readership/members.

One of our members lives out of state and is the president of his local ham radio club. When he writes an article for their newsletter he forwards it to me for inclusion in the W.O.

So c'mon gang...it ain't that hard! Get an idea in your head, sit down at the computer and let the words flow. I'm looking forward to an onslaught of articles in the coming months. Don't let me down.

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided that credit is given to this newsletter and to the author, if known. All submissions for inclusion in this newsletter should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to newsletter@wcars.org by the 26th of the month for the next month's publication. By reading this notice, you have committed yourself to attending as many monthly meetings as you possible can and to take part in as many C.A.R.S. events as you can, including but not limited to the weekly club net, public service events, field day, etc. You have also committed yourself to write at least one article a year for this newsletter, and to come up with an idea for a program for the monthly meetings.

**C. A. R. S.
MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 12
BUSCH FUNERAL HOME
COMMUNITY ROOM
7:30 P.M.**

CARS 2009 Officers & Committees

Audit

WT8O ** W8HBI, KD8FTS

Audio Video

Steve N8IS ** K8DAV

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

KD8FTS **

ARRL WAS & VUCC Checker

K8ME **

Awards

K8VJG ** W8HBI, W8GC

Christmas Party

W8GC ** N8LRS

Field Day food 2009

W8GC ** N8BBB, N8LRS, K8VJG

License classes

W8GC ** WT8O ** WA8SLN, K8VJG, KD8ACO, NI8Z

Development

W8GC ** All officers

Diabetes events

WB8N ** All CARS members

Field Day

WT8O ** N8IS ** All CARS members

Good Operating classes

W8GC ** NI8Z, N8IS, K8KR, K8ME, K8YSE

Interference & Jamming

K8DAV ** NI8Z, N8IS

Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8GC ** K8VJG

Membership

W8GC ** W8HBI

NET

WT8O **

Newsletter

WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Club Photographer

WA8SLN **

Summer Picnic 7-10-2009

W8GC ** WB8N ** K8KR, N8LRS

Program director

KD8FTS **

Property Custodian s

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

QSL manager - NO8A, W8BM & WA8CMS

WB8N **

Refreshments

KB8UGT ** NI8Z ** K8VJG **

50/50

K8DMT

Road trip to W1AW

NI8Z ** W8GC, W8MET

Scholarship

WA8SLN ** NI8Z, WT8O, N8SRJ, K8VJG

School Programs

KD8V ** WA8SLN, K8VJG

Sunshine (welfare)

Scotty Shields WA8SLN
216-524-2358

Technical

W8GC ** N8OVW ** N8SRJ

VE exams

NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV ** W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2009 Officers

PRESIDENT

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president@2cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS 440-888-9536
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Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750
treasurer@2cars.org

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Tina Check W8HBI 216-520-2621

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman

Gary Dewey, NI8Z

even year executive board 2 year term

W8MET, K8VJG, KB8UGT

odd year executive

board 2 year term
NI8Z, K8ME, K8SAS

K8ZFR trustee

K8DAV

NO8A, W8BM &

WA8CMS trustee
W8GC

