

# The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



AUGUST 2010

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## *FUN AT THE C.A.R.S. 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PICNIC*

### *DETAILS INSIDE*

#### **FROM THE PREZ**

The July picnic meeting at the alternate location went very well. The pavilion at the Harriet Keeler Picnic Area provided us with an excellent venue. We had very good attendance, even though some of the regulars were missing. If you missed the meeting, make it a point to attend the August meeting. Special thanks to Roger, N8TCP, and Gary, NI8Z, for their well done demonstration on Slow Scan TV.

Thanks also to Darren, K8DMT, for getting to the picnic area early to secure the non-reserveable location, and getting a nice fire started for those who were cooking out.

One topic discussed at the meeting was whether to have the Christmas party at the usual location and have the food catered, or to reserve a party room at a restaurant and order off the menu. A show of hands revealed the opinion was pretty evenly split with a very slight edge in favor of going to a restaurant. Several club members offered to check out the cost and availability of some local restaurants for comparison. It would be a fair assumption

that a restaurant would cost each member a few bucks more than a catered meal. By the time the meeting rolls around, we should have some ideas about available restaurants and approximate prices. With what information is available at that time, I would like the members present to vote on which direction to take; either a catered event at the Independence Civic Center, or a restaurant. So think about it and plan to make a decision at the August meeting. Hope to see you then and at the picnic.

73, Toby, WT8O

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### ***JULY MEETING MINUTES***

The C.A.R.S. July monthly meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Toby Kolman, WT8O on the 13<sup>th</sup> of the month. The meeting was held at the Metroparks Brecksville Reservation Harriet Keeler picnic area. Thirty seven members and two guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Matt, W8EBB made the motion to accept the June minutes as published in the July Wobbly Oscillator, and Ron, K8VJG seconded. There was one correction; some people didn't get mentioned about the Boy Scout demonstration. The secretary did not have all the names of whom all were there. If you want or would like to be made known that you helped please list everyone that was there. The members passed the motion after this was made known.

Bob, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was in good shape. Bob also mentioned the scholarship raffle saying that there are still tickets available. They can be paid for thru PayPal. 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, and to please do not kerchunk the repeater as it is inconsiderate and illegal.

Field Day this year was at Toby's 25 acre property in Grafton. Toby would like to thank Bill WU8A, Dwaine K8ME, Dave KD8V, Bill N8BBB, Tom WB8N, Diane KD8KJH, Dave KD8JRH, Metro W8MET, Bob W8GC, Matt W8EBB, Eddie KD8FTS, Mike KB8RKF Ken K8OAE, Bob W8BUC, Darren K8DMT, Steve K8SAS, Joe KD8BAL, George K8KR, Tina W8HBI, all station crews and operators and anyone else that helped in any shape or form.

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual C.A.R.S. family summer picnic will be on July 30 at the Kiwanis pavilion behind the Civic Center.

Vice President Gary, NI8Z said that he had four people to take VE test this month. Three passed and one didn't because he wasn't aware of the test change.

Scotty, WA8SLN, Sunshine Chairman couldn't make the meeting because of health reasons. Scotty

has cancer. Lets keep him in our prayers for a full recovery. Toby, WT8O is speaking for him at meetings. There were no Sunshine cards sent out this month.

Under scholarship, the lucky people receiving the C.A.R.S. scholarship are Steve Riley, N8IS who is attending Pace University, and Kevin Dressler, who will be attending Ohio State University.

Tom, WB8N, asked everyone to send articles and pictures for the WO. Tom also thanked Dave, K8DAV and Vince, N8OVW for all they do in keeping the repeater on the air.

Members voted on new members. They were Eric Jensen N8AUC, Bob Hinkle KK8ZZ, Jeff Ronay KF8HX and Phillip Pavarini Jr KD8OOQ. All five were voted into the club. Welcome all.

F Christmas Party: A possible change of venue and format was discussed. Everyone was asked to think in the coming months about if you would like the party to be in a restaurant or catered as we have been having it.

A Dinner meeting is being planned in the fall. Refreshments: coffee and drinks - Darren K8DMT, donuts - Ron K8VJG. Thanks for doing a great service.

The 50/50 drawing was Eddie, KD8FTS. Steve, N8IS made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Metro, W8MET seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

After the meeting, a great demonstration of slow scan t.v. was given by Roger, N8TCP and Gary, NI8Z. Thanks to them for a fine program. Roger went above and beyond the call in that he had to trade work schedules with a fellow worker in order to be at the meeting and do the demo.

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

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***REMEMBER TO CHECK INTO THE  
WEDNESDAY EVENING C.A.R.S. NET AT  
9:00 P.M.***

### ***OHIO QSO PARTY***

The Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) is just 4 weeks away, and the excitement is already building. Stations from across Ohio are making their plans to be on the air for one of the premier state QSO parties. Small stations from Ohio can make hundreds of QSOs during the short 12 hour event. Get on and call "CQ Ohio QSO Party" and run the pileups! We hope you will join us to make this the best event yet. Our goal is to get fixed operations on from every county this year. If you are planning on being on, please let everyone know by posting your county of operation on the "Planned Operations" website at:

<http://ohqp.org/plannedOpsEntry.html>

For those who don't know what the OhQP is all about, it's a fun time for Ohio stations to be on the air and be the hunted station, or "DX". People from around the world are seeking out Ohio stations in this event, which is a nice change from most operating events. The OhQP occurs on Saturday August 28, 2010 from local noon to local midnight. In the basic QSO exchange, Ohio stations send a consecutive serial number + county, and non-Ohioans (who can only work Ohio) send a consecutive serial number and state/province/DX. Suggested frequencies are: CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz; SSB 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz. Don't be shy - try calling CQ in addition to searching and pouncing. Remember, the world is tuning the bands looking for Ohio stations - your CQ's will be answered! Full details and an OhQP operating guide can be found on the official website at: [www.ohqp.org/](http://www.ohqp.org/) <<http://www.ohqp.org/>>.

This is a great event for a club activity or a training ground for new(er) hams. QSO rates are as high or higher than Field Day, and there's virtually no QRM in this event. Round

up the club and have some fun. If you are in the mood to enjoy the great Ohio countryside, try operating portable or mobile from a rare county. Remember, the ultimate goal is to just get on the air and have some fun!

73 and we hope to hear you on the air,

Kenny K2KW  
Ohio QSO Party PR Coordinator  
[kenny.k2kw@gmail.com](mailto:kenny.k2kw@gmail.com)

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### ***CQ MAGAZINE HALL OF FAME***

Submitted by Tina Check, W8HBI

CQ Magazine has announced it's 2010 Hall of Fame inductees. The 15 new members included the names of some well known in the hobby. Among these is the late George S. Wilson who led the ARRL portion of the effort to create the vanity callsign program. Also being honored this year is the late Gene Harlan, WB9MMM who was the editor and publisher of ATV quarterly and founder of Cyberham Magazine.

The 2010 inductees to the CQ DX Hall of Fame are writer and DXer Robert Locher, W9KNI, author of The Complete DXer, and Lynn Lamb, W4NL, who is a co-founder of the Southeastern DX and Contesting Organization. This group sponsors an annual convention featuring well known speakers on Dxing and contesting.

Last but by no means least are Dan Hill, AA5AU, and Larry Weaver, N6TW who have been inducted into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame.

The complete list of this year's inductees can be found on-line at [www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com).

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***Remember, it is ILLEGAL, besides being inconsiderate, to kerchunk the repeater.***

## THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### BACK IN THE PARK

Well, we finally had our first “meeting in the park” with the July meeting. A few members took advantage of the fire provided by Darren, K8DMT and cooked their evening meal prior to the meeting. I thought the new location proved to be even better than the Oak Grove Picnic Area. The demo on slow scan tv by Roger, N8TCP and Gary, NI8Z was interesting and instructive. Thanks to them. We will be meeting at the same location for the August meeting which is usually our last meeting in the park for the year. Come out early if you can and bring something to cook for your dinner. The fire is provided by C.A.R.S. with the help of Darren, K8DMT who gets there very early to secure the site for us and start the grill.



Some of the members watching Roger, N8TCP demonstrate slow scan television at the July C.A.R.S. meeting in the park.

*Photo by Gary Dewey, NI8Z*

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### BIRTHDAYS

Every month we list the birthdays of members having a birthday that particular month. We use the information provided on your application when you first joined C.A.R.S. If you didn't put your date of birth on your application, we don't have the information available and consequently, your

birthday will not appear in the list of birthdays for the particular month you were born. So, if you fail to find your name and birthday listed for the month you were hatched, don't wonder why. According to Stephen Jones, N8SRJ our club secretary, there currently approximately THIRTY members that we do not have a birth date for.

Also, it would be nice that if and when you change your e-mail address, callsign, mailing address, license class, etcetera, you let someone know. You can up-date that information by going to [changes@2cars.org](mailto:changes@2cars.org). Just a thought. You *could* put in your dob. too.

### ECHOLINK

As you may or may not be aware, our techs have been working on the repeater of late and still have some “tweaking” to do. As a result echolink which had been at W8GC's QTH, is not yet installed at the repeater site as is planned. As soon as all the work has been completed at the site and echolink is up and running you will be informed. Be patient, as the guys that do the work keeping our repeaters up and running do this on their own time and are not compensated for their expertise and efforts. The next time you hear Vince, N8OVW and Dave, K8DAV on the air, or see them at a meeting, be sure to thank them for their time and dedication. Let them know they are appreciated for what they do for C.A.R.S.

### ADIOS AMIGOS

I'm running short on space for this month, so I will get on outta here for now. I hope to see you all at the next meeting or at least on the air. By the time this issue of the W.O. is published, the picnic will be a thing of the past. There is an article with pictures on the picnic on page 5 of this issue. Don't forget the C.A.R.S. weekly net at 9:p.m. on Wednesday nights. If you have never checked into the net, give it a try. We always have a trivia question that is radio related in some way as well.

73 for now,  
de Tom, WB8N

***AUGUST BIRTHDAYS***

**WU8A William Sarver 8-9-44**

**KD8AJX Roy McClure 8-10-43**

**N8IS Steve Riley 8-11-66**

**KD8HWQ Sharon Nicastro 8-28**

**KD8FTS Eddie Stevens 8-14**

**WB8N Tom Wayne 8-17-40**

**KA8EEW Richard Engum 8-21-38**

**KC8LAU Gerald Purcell 8-24-61**

**KB3KQS April Oliver 8-29**

**Congratulations to all and many happy returns.**

Four \$10.00 Giant Eagle gift cards were won by Tina, W8HBI, Tom, WB8N, and guests Gary and Jamie Schade.

The picnic started to break up at about 8:00 p.m. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and no one went away hungry. Thanks to all who helped and that brought goodies. All was greatly appreciated.

Below are some pictures of the festivities.



**WB8N firing up the grill**

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***C.A.R.S. 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC***

Another C.A.R.S. Family Picnic is now history. The picnic was held in the Kiwanis Pavilion at the Independence community facility. Tom, WB8N, Steve, N8SRJ, and Metro, W8MET cooked up burgers, brats and Italian sausages and members brought various deserts. George, K8KR supplied his famous cole slaw.

About 40 members and guests attended the picnic. There were a couple of people that were not able to make it due to unforeseen circumstances.

The winners of the scholarship raffle were announced, with Bruce, N8DJX winning the top prize and two non-members winning 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes. Top ticket sellers were Bob, W8GC, Gary, NI8Z, Toby, WT8O, and Metro, W8MET in that order. Congratulations to the sellers and winners.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Bob, W8BUC who also brought some fried chicken for all to partake in.



**Some of the happy picnic goers.**

See you all again next year at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual C.A.R.S. Family Picnic.

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## ***KEN'S JUNK BOX***

By Ken Osicki, K8OAE

### **Numbers Stations, Revisited**

Looking for more information about Numbers Stations? There seems to be a lot going on out there and because it's often difficult to sort "fact" from "fiction" on the internet these sites often seem to be more akin to UFO-hunting rather than amateur radio. But, you might have some fun with the following.

Here you'll find much information on Number Stations with sound samples, videos, and newsletters:

<http://www.brogers.dsl.pipex.com/enigma2000/index.html>

For more information on Numbers Stations:

<http://www.southgatearc.org/enigma2000/index.htm>

You might also Google *enigma2000* to take a different direction on coded radio.

### **Just Slightly Different**

Now that we have the numbers out of the way, how about broadcasts using just letters? There's a bit of fun, here, too. "Letter Beacons" apparently have been used for many years, but as with anything a bit different, something simple often takes on aspects bordering on conspiracy. So it is with Letter Beacons. Most of these stations are associated with the Russian military.

As with Numbers Stations, it's not the fact that beacons consisting of single letters are routinely being broadcast but, rather, why? Although Letter Beacons were discovered in the 1960's and one such station was associated with Cuba in the late '70s, by the late '80s a directory of stations and associated frequencies was published showing locations in the USSR. Some of these stations transmitted symbols associated only with the Russian Cyrillic Morse code. These findings suggested that the transmissions were associated with channel markers designed to keep a particular frequency open for communications.

Subsequent monitoring of Letter Beacons revealed the normal strings of a single letter that

suddenly changed to call signs or other traffic such as weather reports, although some messages were apparently encrypted. Such markers are called Cluster Markers and are used for training, military nets and plotting of ship locations.

So, it appears that Letter Beacons are a proven fact of life. However, as you might suspect, there are some who always want to add a clandestine side to everything. No different here either, but you do have to be a true believer. There are suspicions (are you ready for this?) that Letter Beacons are really homing signals beaming out welcoming directions for our alien brethren from outer space. I think I'll leave the subject at this point, but if anyone knows any different, please call George Noory as quickly as possible.

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### ***PICTURES FOR SALE***

Copies of the group picture taken at the June meeting and appearing in the July issue of the W.O. are available for purchase from Linda, N8LRS who is making the copies at Walgreens.

The prices are as follows:

4 x 6 - \$0.32, 5 x 7 - f \$1.83 8 x 10 - \$3.76

These prices include sales tax.

You can place your order with Linda by e-mailing her at [angel49@sbcglobal.net](mailto:angel49@sbcglobal.net) or by telephone at 216-520-1320. She will also take orders at the August meeting.

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***AUGUST PICNIC MEETING IN THE PARK,  
TUESDAY the 10<sup>th</sup> AT THE HARRIET  
KEELER PICNIC PAVILION, JUST OFF RT  
82 in the BRECKSVILLE BRANCH OF THE  
METRO PARKS. COME EARLY AND COOK  
OUT! FIRE PROVIDED BY C.A.R.S.  
MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M. MAP ON  
THE WEB SITE.***

### ***A CLOSER LOOK***

This month we'll take a closer look at two of our members.

First we'll visit with Dwaine Modock, K8ME

*Where were you born?*

In Cleveland Ohio

*What is your favorite childhood memory?*

Fishing at Edgewater Park.

*If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be and why?*

There is no favorite age. I worked for everything I have.

*What is your favorite food?*

Bacon and Eggs.

*What is your favorite TV show?*

Seinfeld.

*What are your favorite movies?*

Espionage.

*What type of music do you enjoy the most?*

Country.

*What do you make it a habit to do every day?*

Drink coffee.

*What would be your ideal job, other than your current one or retired position?*

Be a chef.

*Who or what always makes you laugh?*

Good jokes.

*What one thing would people be surprised to know about you?*

??

*If you could pick one place in the world to visit, where would it be and why?*

I'd like to ham it up from Antarctica.

*If you could be an animal, which one would it be?*

A lion.

*IF won the lottery, what would be the first thing you would do with the money?*

Pay off all my bills.

Thanks Dwaine. As you can see, Dwaine is a man of few words.

Next we'll get to know Paul Maruna, KD8HWP a little better.

*Where were you born?*

Cleveland Ohio

*What is your favorite childhood memory?*

Playing at Brookside Park and the Cleveland Zoo.

*If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be and why?*

At 8 years old because that was when life was much simpler.

*What is your favorite food?*

Pork, sauerkraut, and dumplings.

*What is your favorite TV show?*

NCIS, Covert Affairs, and Castle.

*What are your favorite movies?*

James Bond movies.

*What type of music do you enjoy the most?*

Country Western

*What do you make it a habit to do every day?*

Get on my computers and radio.

*What would be your ideal job, other than your current one or retired position?*

Be a computer technician.

*Who or what always makes you laugh?*

My good friend, Paul Bidell, because of the way he explains the simpler things of our lives.

*What one thing would people be surprised to know about you?*

*continued on next page....*

That I am a web site developer and have several commercial web sites published.

*If you could pick one place in the world to visit, where would it be and why?*

Aruba, because it is so beautiful and peaceful.

*If you could be an animal, which one would it be?*

An elephant, because no one bothers you.

*If you won the lottery, what would be the first thing you would do with the money?*

I'd give some money to family (two sons) and to my church.

Thanks Paul

*The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles from the W.O. may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication provided that credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be e-mailed to [newsletter@2cars.org](mailto:newsletter@2cars.org) by the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication in the next month's issue.*

## CARS 2010 Officers & Committees

### Audit

NI8Z \*\* W8HBI, WT8O

### Audio Video

Steve N8IS \*\* K8DAV

### ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

NI8Z \*\*

### ARRL WAS & VUCC Checker

K8ME \*\*

### Awards

W8GC \*\* W8HBI, K8VJG, WT8O

### Christmas Party

W8GC \*\* WU8A, W8HBI, N8IS

### Field Day food 2010

W8GC \*\* N8BBB,

### License classes

W8GC \*\* WT8O \*\* NI8Z, WA8SLN, W8MET

### Development

W8GC \*\* All officers

### Diabetes events

WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Field Day

WT8O \*\* W8GC

### Interference & Jamming

K8DAV \*\* NI8Z, N8IS

### Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8MET \*\* W8GC, K8VJG

### Membership

W8GC \*\* W8HBI

### NET

WT8O \*\*

### Newsletter

WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Club Photographer

K8OAE \*\*

### Summer Picnic 2010

W8GC \*\* WB8N \*\* N8BBB

### Program director

NI8Z \*\*

### Property Custodian s

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

### QSL manager - NO8A, W8BM, WA8CMS & WA8CHS

WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments

KB8UGT, pop \*\* K8DMT, coffee \*\*  
K8VJG \*\* donuts

### 50/50

K8DMT

### Scholarship

WA8SLN \*\* NI8Z, WT8O, N8SRJ, K8VJG

### School Programs

KD8V \*\*

### Sunshine (welfare)

Gary Dewey, NI8Z  
216-642-8705

### Technical

W8GC \*\* N8OVW \*\* N8SRJ

### VE exams

NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV \*\* W8GC \*\*  
\*\* chairman or co-chairman



## 2010 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-572-1544  
president@2cars.org

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Gary Dewey, NI8Z 216-642-8705  
vice-president@2cars.org

### SECRETARY

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secretary@2cars.org

### TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750  
treasurer@2cars.org

### ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Tina Check W8HBI 216-520-2621

## Board Members & License Trustees

### Board Chairman

Tom Wayne, WB8N 440-232-4193, 216-253-0540 c

### even year executive board 2 year term

W8MET, WB8N, W8EBB

### odd year executive board 2 year term

K8VJG, K8ME, K8SAS

### K8ZFR trustee

WB8N

### NO8A, W8BM, WA8CHS, WA8CMS

trustee  
W8GC

