

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

October 2017

VOLUME 47

ISSUE 10

October Dinner Meeting at Fugui Grill

****Nominations for November Election****



Gordon, AI8Y, and Toby, WT8O demonstrate Anderson Powerpoles at the September meeting.

From The Prez

Dinner meeting and nominations

As headlined, we will head to the Fugui Grill Buffet for our October meeting. The Fugui has been popular, but at last month's meeting we decided to try a new place for our next dinner meeting in March of '18. We always have nominations for officers and Board members in October for our November elections. I say it

every year, and I'll say it again this year – if you want to throw your hat in the ring for any of the positions, don't be bashful. We always accept and encourage self-nominations. If you feel uncomfortable beating your own drum, ask one of your fellow members to nominate you. Or nominate any qualified member you would like to see run. My thinking should be obvious by now; the people that want to participate will always put in the most sincere effort.

Meeting programs

Our meeting programs are essential to the success of our club. I cannot rest comfortably until we have a block of interesting, informative programs scheduled that will draw more members to the monthly meetings. Bill, KD8QBB, has been single handedly carrying the torch as a one man committee to get programs lined up, and in my estimation doing a pretty darn good job. But he needs help, just someone to at least bounce ideas around. We need teamwork, synergy. Anyone that can spare a few minutes a month to help with this important endeavor, please contact Bill and team up with him.

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Trip to ARRL

The trip we took to the ARRL headquarters in Newington three years ago was the self-proclaimed highpoint of the ham career of many of the participants. Some members missed the trip and regretted not going. Some newer members were not in the club or hams at that time. Some that went want to go again. Being in the latter group, I think we ought to discuss the idea of going to Mecca, I mean Newington again. Let's do that at the at the October meeting. Hope to see you there.

73, Toby, WT8O

October Birthdays

BOB EVANS, K8AAB

10/4/41

TOBY KOLMAN, WT8O

10/4/48

DARREN TURK, K8DMT

10/20/71

JIM GLOR, N8GXR

10/22/49

BRIAN DEWITT, N8VTA

10/25/55

DAVE ATRY, WD8IOU

10/26/55

CARS September 12th 2017 Meeting Minutes

The CARS membership meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM on the 12th day of the month at the Busch Community room. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The August 8th 2017 Business meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the September *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance. Bob reminded all ARRL members to pay their dues through CARS. If you are not currently an ARRL member then please join through CARS. The club receives a portion of the money on new members and renewals. The ARRL watches our back in dealing with Amateur Radio related issues. A motion was made and a second received for the club to pay ARRL dues for a club member in a hardship situation.

A motion to increase club dues was listed in the September 2017 *Wobbly Oscillator*. It is an increase of 50 cents per month or \$6 dollars per year. The Club members in attendance at the Business meeting voted unanimously to increase the Club dues \$6 dollars per year.

Send any Amateur related pictures you have to Toby for use in the *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Toby inquired if anyone was interested in doing a presentation on a Delta Loop or End Fed antenna at a future business meeting.

The Cleveland Hamfest is September 24th at the Berea Fairgrounds.

Toby mentioned that repeater use is up a bit so please use it!

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Toby also asked to save the lower parking area next to the Community rooms for members who have difficulty walking.

Toby is the temporary editor of the *Wobbly Oscillator* and cannot do it for too much longer. If anyone is interested then contact Toby.

If you have any ideas or suggestions to improve the club then please send them to the Officers and Board members.

Arp, K8ARP, reported the "Public Service" season is over.

Metro, W8MET, reported that there were 7 NEW Technician and 2 NEW General Class Licenses obtained at the September 10th VE session. Two of the New Technicians also upgraded to General Class.

Toby thanked the refreshment committee, Ed, WB8ROK, Darren, K8DMT and Rich, NW8X.

There was no NEW business from the floor.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Mark, KC8ESG, who collected \$32 dollars.

Metro, W8MET, and Linda, N8LRS, will be working 40 meters in honor of the POW/MIA event on September 15th. Linda is the voice while Metro is the recorder. Look for her on 7.280 or 7.275 MHz. They will be K4MIA/Portable 8.

George, K8KR, asked if anyone worked the Ohio QSO party. It is the most popular State QSO party.

The October Business meeting will be at the Fuji Buffet in Midtown Shopping center. We will be looking for a different location for the March 2018 meeting.

There were 25 members in attendance this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Toby, WT8O, and Gordon, AI8Y, gave a presentation on Anderson Powerpoles.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

VE Session September 10, 2017 Metro, W8MET

Another successful VE session. We now have seven new Technicians and two new Generals. Thanks again to the VE team for being there, Gary Dewey, NI8Z; Roger Boehnlein, N8TCP; Larry Shimerka, N8OWS; David Rickon, NF8O; Tom Wayne, WB8N; Darren Turk, K8DMT and George Pindroh, K8KR.

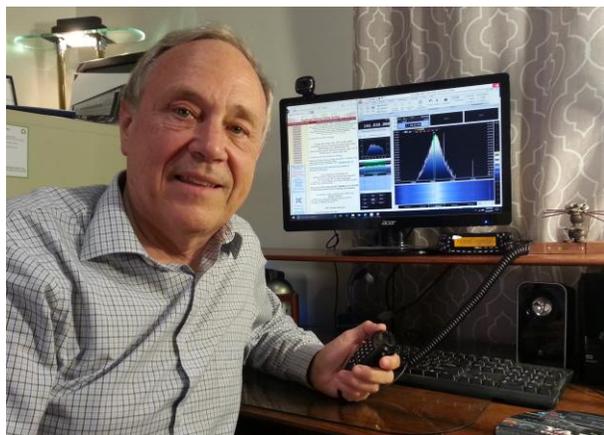
The following new hams passed their Technician exam:

Donald Wedding, KE8HTS
David Stokes, KE8HTT
Michael Rapnicki, KE8HTU
Bruce Lightle, KE8HTV
Gary Kovach, KE8HTX
Brian Kienzle, KE8HTY
Jerome Kuhn, KE8HTZ

These two hams passed their Technician and General exams:

Richard Falkowski, KE8HUA
Anthony Karam, KE8HTW

Congratulations and 73 to all. Ed.



Member Profile Ron Hollas, K8RJH

How did you become interested in ham radio?

My Amateur Radio interest started in my high school years through the Boy Scouts. Several scout councilors were hams and enjoyed teaching signaling skills in basic survival. As a result, I became interested in communication and learned Semaphore and Morse code. It was through preparing for the Signaling Merit Badge that I learned about Amateur Radio and the wireless methods used to communicate long distances.

What made you decide to take the test?

These "Scouting Hams" noted my interest. They even went out of their way in providing the time and resources for assistance in preparing for the code and theory for the Novice License examination. I started thinking about what antenna to erect and looking at starter radio sets that would be in my budget.

When did you get your license(s)?

Back in 1968, the testing process was more formal than it is today. When I took my novice

exam, I had to request time off from high school, and travel to the local FCC field office for the day for the 5 word per minute code and Novice written exam was scheduled. With little fanfare, the examiner said I passed both code and written with ease, but I had to wait for several weeks to receive and know my call sign. Finally, my license WN5ZEV, arrived from Washington. I was glad to fire up the rig and "get on the air"! I quickly progressed through my licenses going through General, Advanced, and Extra. As my working career moved through Amateur zones, I have changed my call signs a few times with the most recent change to K8RJH just last year.

What are your base station radios and antennas?

My first radio station consisted of a Heathkit HR-10 and Hallicrafters HT-40, which served me well through my Novice to General Class licenses. I was able to work most of the states and a lot of DX on just 5 crystals, on 80, 40 and 15 meters. I initially started with using a simple 15 meter inverted V about 30 feet in height, and graduated to a multiband dipole for 80 and 40 meters using the inverted V support. There were no baluns or ferrite chokes, but it was simple, effective and a lot of fun during my high school years.

Most of my General amateur on-air activity started with a Heathkit SB-101 that I built as a senior in high school, and progressed through various amateur radio vintages of Swan, Icom, and Kenwood through today. Out of all of these radios, I still have an affinity for the SB-101 because of the time I spent in learning the design while carefully building this kit.

Today, I now have an interest for building SDR radios, because they can be obtained and configured at low cost and demonstrate rather good performance.

Throughout the years, my HF setup has been limited by lot size, usually dipoles and verticals, Sometimes creative stealth attic

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placements and blended (painted) verticals will do the trick to keep the neighbors views from being too obtrusive. Having just moved to the Cleveland area this past year, I finally have some good real estate to become serious about good gain and directional setups. Several of the antenna designs I am pursuing with my new QTH include end-fed HF multiband and Inverted V setups. These will take strategic advantage of several tall trees I have on the property.

What is your “go to” base station HF radio?

As I am rebuilding the station the new QTH, serious consideration is being made to upgrade to a FLEX platform. This option would allow a stable and reliable multipurpose, multiband transceiver that I could use as a benchmark to check the performance of some ideas I have for introductory SDR transceiver systems. Otherwise, one of my Kenwood or Icom transceivers can be pressed into service for a quick QSO.

What is your mobile set up?

I am doing a lot of monitoring with a TYT TH-9800 quad band in the car also with a couple of Baofeng handhelds for high mobility access. Occasionally, I will fabricate a mobile antenna design for VHF / UHF and then do a drive test around the area to see how well it works. Adding a dedicated tablet PC with Chirp in the mobile, is a convenient way of programming these radio sets when on the go and traveling cross-country.

What are your favorite on air activities?

Since I have relocated to Cleveland, I have

been monitoring the HF bands and learning about the various local 2 meter nets in the Northeastern Ohio. This has been an incentive for improving my basic QTH antenna system for better coverage and reliability. I also follow contesting on the HF bands when time permits to sharpen my skills in all modes; CW, Data and Voice within our hobby. This year, I really enjoyed the CARS field day outing and look forward in assisting with the CW station activities next summer. Additionally, I have been a fan of satellite communications. My first OSCAR contact was back in the mid 1970's and I have been following developments in the satellite modes ever since. I have built numerous hand held and dedicated station trackers and really enjoy copying the 2 meter and 440 downlink activities with Oscar passes.

Why did you join CARS?

I found the best way to learn about the local amateur community is to support the local amateur club and become active. To me, this has the benefit in expanding interests with the members while improving and growing the amateur community.

I easily found CARS through searching for Northeastern Amateur Radio clubs on the internet and reviewing the ARRL Ohio Section web site for local associations. As I was impressed on my first meeting last summer after relocating, I submitted my membership application and then started assembling my current QTH.

CARS has also been a big help about learning about the Cleveland area and getting to know several of the club members making my Ohio transition much easier.

I look forward in supporting CARS through participations in the various scheduled community service events and any assistance I can provide in the future as an active member.

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What would you like to see CARS do to improve?

The CARS meetings and activities I have attended are all informative and friendly to newcomers. Keeping the program agenda scheduled with timely subjects to the group seems to be a proven strength of the club. As with most amateur radio organizations, growing the club roster with new active operators can be a challenge. I see CARS with many experienced operators that can offer advice, mentoring, with even a good existing VE structure for new individuals resulting in licensed, energetic amateur with a lifetime interest.

I can do my part in outreaching to individuals who have an interest in the hobby and directing them for introduction to our active club community.

Anything else you would like to say.

You may find me monitoring the repeaters, especially during the weekday commuting drive time. I look forward in meeting, learning about and having a QSO with you!

Upcoming Hamfests Metro, W8MET

Oct. 15, Conneaut American Legion Post 151, 272 Broad St., Talk in 147.39 (131.8 Hz)
www.facebook.com/pg/w8bhz/events/?ref=page_internal.

Oct. 29, Massillon Boy's and Girl's Club, 730 Duncan St. SW, Talk in 147.18 (110.9 Hz)
www.w8np.org

(Oct. 2017 QST, p.107)



Bob, K8RGI, at his operating position on South Bass Island living the dream during the Ohio State Parks on the Air Contest.

Tenth Annual Ohio State Parks on the Air Contest Bob, K8RGI

The 2017 Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) contest was Saturday, September 9th. This contest is always the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday. The goals of this contest are to promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system and camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators.

One of our members, Robert Robbins, K8RGI, activated the Oak Point State Park on South Bass Island. His station consisted of an Icom IC-7300 and a 143 foot end fed long wire using an Icom AH-4 antenna tuner. Using this arrangement he was able to tune all bands from 160 to 6 meters. The majority of contacts were made on 80 and 40 meters.

Robert was able to make 84 contacts including 25 out of the possible 74 different state parks. This was his first year in this contest but he is already making plans for next year. Next year he wants an antenna tuned for just 80 and 40 meters.



Mike, KD8OUE, and Scott, AC8NW, apply their expertise to the equipment at the CARS Parma repeater site.

Notes from the Technical Committee Mike, KD8OUE

The Technical Committee current members are:

Scott Smith, AC8NW (Chairman); Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE; Vince Bak, N8OVW; Mark Morro, WJ8WM; Mike Toth, KB8RKF; David Noeth, KD8ACO and Terry Pillat, KB8DTC.

If you have any technical issues you'd like assistance with, or would like to contribute to the work the Technical Committee provides, please contact one of the above listed members. We can't provide a helping hand, or information, if we aren't aware of your needs. So, please, don't be shy. ALL of us still have much to learn, so you're not alone with your struggles.

The committee is continuing work on installation of the new repeater at the Parma site, and we held a meeting this month at the Parma site. The committee members had the opportunity to become familiar with the equipment located at the site, and we discussed re-activating internet access at the site, as well as the issue of the new repeater hardware needing repairs. When the equipment is returned to Yaesu, it will be replaced with an updated version of the repeater, which will address known issues with the repeater system. This is the unexpected delay we have been experiencing which is now being addressed.

Exact date of the installation, will depend on how quickly Yaesu can provide us with the upgraded repeater. We will keep everyone informed of the progress of the installation, at our meetings and through this newsletter, as information becomes available

Keep spreading the word that we've reactivated the stand-alone 444.750 repeater in Shaker Hts., which provides alternate repeater coverage for downtown Cleveland, and areas east. It's there to use, so use it, and let others know it's available.

Slow CW on HF

Coming in January 2018 is your chance to learn CW. Details can be found at <http://cwslow.com>. Joel, K8SHB, will be taking you character by character starting at the beginner level each Thursday night using the ARRL *Learning the Radiotelegraph Code* booklet, which can be purchased on Amazon. This is the book I used to learn the Morse code back in 1968.
73, Metro, W8MET.

The Random Wire Tom, WB8N

Here we are, into fall already. Where did the summer go? As I write this on Wednesday, September 27th, it will probably be the last day this year that we will be enjoying temperatures in the 80"s, at least according to the weather forecasters on television.

So, with the weather getting cooler, we'll be spending more time indoors, which means we can spend more time at the old operating position in our radio shacks, right? I know that I'll be spending more time on the HF rig, making contacts with who knows who, who knows where.

I'm gonna have to check out the wiring for my quad antenna...I think my grass cutting guy may have severed the wire that controls the positioning of the antenna. I'll check out my other antennas as well, while I'm at it. Needless to say, I haven't been on HF much this summer.

How about you? Let's get some articles sent in to Toby for the *WO* newsletter on how you spent your time on the air this summer. It ain't that hard, just sit down at the computer and write what comes into your head. That's what I'm doing right now (as you can probably tell).

So get your shack in order for operating in the coming winter months, so you'll be ready for that next contest, DXing or however else you are gonna spend your time on the air.

Metro, W8MET, does a great job each month, informing us of activities we can take part of on the air. Keep up the good work Metro!

That's about it from me for this month gang. I've got to get busy getting MY shack in order, so I'll be ready to operate during the coming winter doldrums. 73

POW – MIA Metro, W8MET

Linda, N8LRS, and I, W8MET, helped out with the POW - MIA event from Sept. 13-17. We were the sister station of Mike from Florida, K4MIA, and we signed as K4MIA/8 from Ohio. This special event is put on the air every year to ensure that America remembers its responsibility to stand behind those who serve and have served our nation, and do everything possible to account for those who do not return. Linda, N8LRS, made 434 SSB QSOs and worked 45 states and 4 countries for this event, while I did the logging. We say thanks for being part of this event. Our local friends and members that contacted us were NI8Z, K8YSE, K8SAS, K8ARP, WT8O, AI8Y, WB8N, N8TCP, KD8BAL, N8DJX, and K8KR. See you in 2018.

Oldest ARRL Member

From White Rock, South Carolina, Cliff Kayhart, W4KKP, being 105 years old claims to be the "World's Oldest Operating Ham." He was first licensed in 1937. He started in the early 1920's when he built a crystal radio and heard hams on AM. (*QST*, Oct. 17, pp. 90.)

Digital Mode Anybody?

Gary, NI8Z, would like to start a Digital Net after the Wednesday night net. Everyone is invited. Just let Gary know during the net, after the net, via email, telephone, or smoke signals.

Again this month Metro, W8MET, star DXer and contester has taken time out to suggest to fellow CARS members and *WO* readers operating activities and events he believes would be FUN to partake in.

Metro's Picks

ON-THE-AIR

Oct 4, 1900Z-2300Z - 432 MHz Fall Sprint - CW Ph Dig svhfs.org

Oct 7, 0000Z-Oct 8, 2359Z - ARRL EME Contest - CW Ph Dig 50-1296
www.arrl.org/eme-contest

Oct 7, 1600Z-Oct 8, 2200Z - California QSO Party - CW Ph 1.8-28
www.cqp.org/Rules.html

Oct 7, 1700-2100Z - FISTS Fall Slow Speed Sprint - CW 3.5-28.00 fistsna.org

Oct 14, 1600Z-Oct 15, 2200Z - Pennsylvania QSO Party - CW Ph Dig 1.8-144.00
www.nittany-arc.net

Oct 14, 1600Z-Oct 15, 2359Z - Arizona QSO Party - CW Ph Dig 1.8-144.00
www.azqsoparty.org

Oct 16, 1300Z-Oct 20, 2359Z - ARRL School Club Roundup – CW Ph all bands
www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

Oct 21, 1400Z-Oct 22, 2200 - New York QSO Party CW Ph, Dig all bands
www.nyqp.org

Oct 22, 1700z-Oct 23, 0100z Illinois QSO Party - Ph 1.8-144.00
www.w9awe.org/ILQP.html

Participating is FUN, FUN, FUN...ENJOY!

Info from QST October 2017 Pg. 94...all times in GMT ZULU time

Metro's Picks

Special Events

Oct. 1-31, 0000Z-2359Z - Route 66 Military Vehicle Convoy On-The-Air – SSB CW PSK31, using APRS for this 2,448 mile-month-long-journey convoyontheair.org

Oct. 1-2, 0000Z-2359Z, KB7QPS - Anniversary of Sputnik Launch - 146.52, 14.275 and 14.250 airspacetechnology.webs.com

Oct. 1-31, 0001Z-2359Z, KL7RST - Alaska Purchase 150th Anniversary - 14.280 www.qrz.com/db/kl7rst

Oct. 2-8, 1300Z-2300Z, W9C - First Year Anniversary of the Historic Chicago Cubs 2016 World Series Victory – 14.280 14.050 7.280 7.050 n9tk@comcast.net or www.metrodxclub.com

Oct. 6, 1600Z-2000Z, W8L - Forty Mile Point Lighthouse 120th Anniversary - 14.270 7.270 3.970 www.qrz.com/db/w8l

Oct. 7-8, 1300Z-1800z, K8MIS - Great Lakes HamCon at the Michigan International Speedway - 21.300 14.266 7.185 3.850 k8mis@glhamcon.org or glhamcon.org

Oct. 11, 1600Z-2300Z, W8VY - 100 Year Celebration of Kalamazoo Chapter of the American Red Cross - 7.232 w8vy.org

Oct. 13-22, 0000Z-2359Z, W5I - Eisenhower Special Event - 14.250 14.070 7.200 7.070Mh www.graysoncountyarcs.com

Oct. 14, 1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW - Establishment of the United States Navy on October 13, 1775 - USS Midway (CV-41) 14.320 7.250 PSK31 14.070 D-STAR on REF001C

Oct. 21-22, 1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW - Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) on the USS Midway Museum Ship 14.320 7.250 PSK31 on 14.070 D-STAR on REF001C

Info from QST October 2017 Pg. 102...all times in GMT ZULU time

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CARS 2017 Officers & Committees

Audit

WJ8WM ** WT8O, KD8OUE

Audio/Video

AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison

WJ8WM **

Awards

W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic

W8GC** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, K8ARP

Club Photographer

N8OWS **

Field Day

WJ8WM ** K8ARP, AC8NW

Find a Club Station location

K8KR** Ni8Z

Flag Committee

KB8RKF ** KD8ACO, N8DJX

50/50

K8DMT

License classes

W8GC ** KD8ACO, K8SHB

Media Representative

KD8SCV

Membership

W8GC **

NET

WT8O **

Newsletter

WT8O ** 440-525-6109

wt8o@att.net

Program's at Meetings

KD8QBB **

Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services

K8ARP **

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM

WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic

WB8ROK ** pop, K8DMT ** coffee, NW8X ** eat's

Scholarship

W8GC ** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, N8OWS, WB8N

Sunshine (welfare)

Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical

AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, KD8RKF

VE Exams

Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail

W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2017 Officers

PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109

wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

SECRETARY

Larry Shimerka, N8OWS 216-647-2484

TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman

Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723

even year executive board 2 year term

N8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

odd year executive board 2 year term

KD8SCV, K8ARP, WB8ROK

License trustee K8ZFR

WT8O

License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,

W8GC



October 2, 2017

2017 CARS Christmas Party

Friday December 15, 2017 serving dinner at 6:30pm
at the Brew Garden's Party room, 18590 Bagley Rd, Middleburg Hts

Cost is only \$20.00 for adults, \$10.00 age 7 to 18, 6 or less free
Another great reason to join the Christmas celebration!



*"Family and friends are always
welcome at our Christmas Party"*



Brew Garden Dinner buffet Menu:

Entrees:

Chicken Marsala
Sliced slow roasted Sirloin with Au Jus (new vendor)
Fresh Cod with Lemon Beurre Blanc

Side dishes:

Oven Roasted Redskin Potatoes
Green Beans with Shallot Butter
House Salad
Bread

Soft drinks included, *Alcoholic beverages can be purchased.*

We will have several prizes, 50/50 drawing, the presentation of any 2017 CARS Awards plus Joel N8SHB will entertain us with a Bingo Game.

Reservations must be in no later than December 10, contact Bob, W8GC at 216-524-1750, e-mail w8gc@wowway.com. Please pay at the party.

PS: you will be responsible for the cost of a no show reservation.

For info on Brew Garden go to <http://www.brewgarden.com/index.html>