



CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The Wobbly Oscillator



SEPTEMBER 2003

Volume XXXII

Issue IX

ARRL OFFICIALS VISIT CARS AUGUST MEETING

FROM THE PREZ

We were honored to have both Jim Weaver K8JE, ARRL Director, Great Lakes Division, and Joe Phillips K8QOE, ARRL Ohio Section Manager as our special guest speakers. Both had a great deal of important information regarding the ARRL and the future of Amateur radio. I am sorry if you missed the meeting it was a good one.



Jim K8JE, Joe K8QOE, Don KC8NIX & Toby KC8TID walking and snacking.

Kayla collected \$56.00 for the 50/50 drawing this month. The winner was Ev, WA8EYF, whose share was \$28.00. Other winners were for an ARRL RFI Handbook, Dave WD8IOU; a screwdriver set Phil KA8EOW; a wood bit set K8KR; and Yaesu hats by Mike KB8UGT, and Bill WA8GEO.

We are pleased to welcome Mark Butler KC8WLZ and Dawnn Barbour KC8WBG as the newest members of CARS.

Tom WB8N is home recuperating from hip surgery (on meeting day) but asked Gary, NI8Z, to hand out the Field Day pins for 2003. Most recipients were in attendance. The pins to recipients who were not there will be distributed at a later date.

The Extra Class license class is off to a great start with 10 enthusiastic students. See picture. I look forward to all 10 passing the Extra exam on October 8, 2003.



Students in CARS first Extra class

Steve N8IS, presented plaques to four members at the meeting. Tom WB8N received his early because of his surgery, but Steve had plaques for Gary NI8Z, Dave K8DAV, Gordon W8GTK and Toby KC8TID. The plaques and information about them can be seen on our web site.

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Friday, August 29, Ron K8VJG, Mike K8EHP, Steve N8IS and myself helped Gloria Kovach from Atlanta, GA the sister of SK N8DAQ by removing the old ham tower from the family home in Mayfield Hts. Both Gloria's father and brother were hams. Gloria kindly made a nice donation to CARS for our help. With Steve doing the climbing and Ron & Mikes help we completed the job in 3 1/2 hours. Pix at www.cars.org.

That's it for this month, hope to see you at our next meeting on September 17, 2003 back at the Bush community room in Parma.

de, Bob W8GC

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SPECIAL EVENT STATION

CARS will be having a special event station at Arrowhead Elementary school in Copley OH on Thursday Oct.22. We will be celebrating their Nature Zone, which has had national recognition. For more information and/or to volunteer, contact Dave Dressler, KD8V, via e-mail at dad@raex.com. This event promises to be a great time; setting up stations, and having the kids get a good close-up look at amateur radio and even letting them operate!

MINUTES of the CARS MEETING of AUGUST 20, 2003

The meeting, which was held at the Oak Grove Picnic Area in the Cleveland Metro Parks Brecksville reservation, was called to order at 7:33PM by President Bob Check, W8GC.

Ev, WA8EYF made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2003 meeting, seconded by Terry KB8DTC. A vote was taken and passed.

The treasurer Mike, KB8UGT, made his report. Gary NI8Z reported that Tom WB8N was operated on today to repair an artificial hip and is doing OK.

Mark Butler KC8WLZ and Dawnn Barbour KC8WBG were voted in as new members of CARS.

Extra Class school starts next week August 27, 2003 as reminded to us by Bob, W8GC. He also announced that Tina W8HBI, has already passed her Extra Class exam. Congratulations Tina!

Bob reported that Terry KB8DTC, purchased the old club generator at a cost of \$200.00

Saturday September 6, 2003 there will be Lighthouse activity.

Steve N8IS will represent CARS at the Great Lakes Convention to be held at the Findlay Inn and Convention Center in Findlay, Ohio on Saturday, September 06, 2003.

A request for net operators, for Wednesday nights, was made by Gordon, W8GTK.

Gary NI8Z, announced the Field Day pin recipients and distributed them out to those that were present..

A plaque was presented to Tom, WB8N on August 17, 2003 for the most dedicated Field Day Operator in 2003. Plaques were presented to Dave K8DAV, for his outstanding work on the Website and testing program software, Gordon W8GTK, for handling the CARS Dayton Bus Trips and the weekly 2 meter nets, Toby KC8TID, for his exemplary work on the CARS Lighthouse program, and last but not least to Gary NI8Z, for being CARS most dangerous Field Day operator.

Continued on next page...

To order your CARS club jackets see or contact Steve N8IS.

The winner of the 50/50 was Ev WA8EYF, whose share was \$28.00. Other drawings were held for an ARRL RFI Handbook, won by Dave WD8IOU; a screwdriver set won by Phil KA8EOW; a wood bit set by George K8KR; and Yaesu hats by Mike KB8UGT, and Bill WA8GEO.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary NI8Z and seconded by Jack W8JAK. A vote was taken and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM by Bob, W8GC.

Following the meeting our special guest speakers Jim Weaver K8JE, ARRL Director, Great Lakes Division, and Joe Phillips K8QOE, ARRL Ohio Section Manager who talked about the ARRL, BPL, and various aspects concerning Amateur Radio. A question and answer period followed.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary: Ron K8VJG.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Harold McDermott, W8GEG
6039 Champagne Shores
Medina, OH 44256

We will be voting on this applicant at the September meeting.

TRIVIA QUESTION

Who is considered to be the inventor of the "walkie-talkie"?

1. Stephen Gross
2. Steve Thompson
3. Al Gross
4. Thomas Cross

Answer to be found somewhere in this issue.
(Along with a lot of history about this man.)

***CHECK INTO THE CARS
WEDNESDAY EVENING NET AT
7:00 P.M.
VICE PRESIDENT'S INTERVIEW***

By V.P. Steve Riley, N8IS

Happy September to everyone! This interview is with Roy Hadden KB8VJF. I hope you all get to learn many new things about Roy like I did and that you enjoy this interview.

Steve: How did you become interested in Amateur Radio, what got you started?

Roy: I have always had in interest in electronics and CB radios. As a pre-teen I tinkered with the various Radio Shack kits and made simple repairs to things that broke around the house. My grandfather taught me a few things, too. I guess you could say that it all started with a 40W soldering iron! When I found CB I became the back seat navigation information center; construction ahead, broken down 4-wheeler, bears, etc. That changed to an as-needed basis due to the crude language.

Fifteen years later I moved to Macedonia. My new neighbor, Brian (N8RPA), explained the antennas on his house, QSL cards and all about the hobby. He let me listen to some QSOs and make several contacts with his call. I was quite mike-shy, but was hooked none the less. I bought the Look Who's Talking book from Radio Shack and studied during my lunch hour each day.

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

Roy: I took the test in the fall of 1994 and missed one question that was hidden on the back of the page. I received my Technician ticket on October 25, 1994. It's hard to believe that it's almost time to renew for another ten years! I added code privileges (Tech Plus) several years later and ultimately upgraded to General in March 2001.

Steve: What do you like about Amateur Radio?

Roy: I like the fact that there is something in it for everybody. There are the local aspects

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where you can join clubs and participate in public service events. There are DX aspects where you can sit in your basement or attic and talk to strangers around the world. You can pick it up and put it down as time allows. I like to set up gear in a field and work the world with the simplest of antennas and radios. I also like the innovations such as connecting radios to computers.

Steve: What are your favorite bands to work?

Roy: 2m SSB will always be my favorite since that's where I started, but there is not much activity there. Next is probably working the birds; 2m or 73cm up, 10m or 1.2GHz down.

Steve: Do you collect QSL cards? If so, how many confirmed countries do you have.

Roy: I used to send QSL cards and solicit a return, but became very disenchanted with few responses. I used to spend time ironing on a shiny film across my call sign. It looked good, but I sent out a few dozen and heard nothing back. I still try to send when I receive. My best card is my first contact with my own Technician ticket; with GM4JJJ in Scotland. Try that with your Tech ticket!

Steve: What types of awards of recognition have you won or been awarded with.

Roy: I have not collected any wallpaper.

Steve: What other hobby's do you have besides Ham Radio?

Roy: Personal computing, but that is becoming too much like work any more. I also like to play disc golf and travel the continent by motor home.

Steve: What would your dream station be/consist of and where would it be?

Roy: My dream station would have a radio and antenna for every mode on every band. It would be located in an orbit 15,000 to 60,000 kilometers above the earth.

Steve: What type of work do you do?

Roy: I have spent most of my career as a

professional computer nerd, working with mainframe and mid-range computers. I now manage a couple teams of professional computer nerds.

Steve: How will we ever get to visit Roy KB8VJF in a orbit 15,000 to 60,000 kilometers above the earth ? Until next month hope you all take care.

de Steve, N8IS

ARRL NEWS

by Don Dziubakowski, KC8NIX

ARRL Emergency Communications course registration opens Monday, September 1, 12:01 AM EDT (0401 UTC), for the on-line Level I Emergency Communications course (EC-001). Registration remains open through the September 6-7 weekend or until all available seats have been filled--whichever comes first. Class begins Tuesday, September 16. Thanks to our grant sponsors -- the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United Technologies Corporation -- the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, approximately 200 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. Senior amateurs are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future can sign up to be advised via e-mail in advance of registration opportunities. To take advantage, send an e-mail to prereg@arrl.org. On the subject line, indicate the course name or number (eg, EC-00#) and the month you want to start the course. In the message body, provide your name, call sign, and e-mail address

To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> and the C-CE Links found there.

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For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, <dmiller@arrl.org>; 860-594-0340.

BPL Advocates' Comments Lack Technical Substance, ARRL Reply Comments Say (Aug 21, 2003) -- The ARRL says Broadband over Power Line (BPL) proponents failed in their comments to the FCC to substantiate their claims that the technology will not cause widespread interference. In reply comments filed August 20--the FCC's deadline to receive comments in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104--the League said that if the FCC is going to rely on industry statements in making decisions on BPL deployment, the industry should back up its assertions with technical studies and hard data and make these public.

FIELD DAY 2003

By Phil Ricca K8MPL

Field Day has always been one of the highlights of amateur radio operation. Many experiences over the years are enough to write a small book on. Field Day 2003 was my first Field Day in years.

I arrived at the site at the crack of twelve midnight. What a neat site: tents all over glowed in the dark. The buzz of truck traffic was very evident - it provided a real life simulation of a real world emergency operation (where conditions are really less than ideal). Not bringing a flash light can be very bad for your health at night - guy wires and other items are all over, so I sort of stepped around with great caution. The roar of the several generators on site topped off the noise pollution.

Operating was really easy - logging software makes record keeping a breeze. It was neat to work Hawaii and Cuba at 2 in the am - that beam setup really helps. The set-up crew really worked hard to set this all up - one disconnected hip and a lead sinker to the head were injuries incurred during set-up. All in all it was a very enjoyable evening. The main reason for the week-end is an exercise in emergency communication. The

advent of mobile and highly efficient AC generators make it all possible. If you have not attended a field day recently plan to attend next year. A few people put a great effort to set up the field day location so make it all their worth while by attending and operating for a few hours.

2003 Race For The Cure

On Saturday, October 11th 2003 the Northeast Ohio Race For The Cure will take place at Voinovich Park, Northcoast Harbor, in Downtown Cleveland. Amateur radio volunteers are needed to ensure the safety of the participants and spectators, as well as help race officials maintain communication throughout the event. Registration for the event begins at 06:30AM with the 5k walk / run starting at 08:15AM. All events will be complete by noon.

This year, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Komen Race for the Cure®, the largest series of 5K runs/fitness walks in the world. In 20 years, the Komen Race for the Cure® has grown from one local Race with 800 participants in Dallas, Texas, to a series of more than 100 Races with 1.5 million people expected to participate in 2003. This year, roughly 186,000 women will be diagnosed and 43,300 women will die of the disease in the U.S. <www.thebreastcancersite.com>

To volunteer for this life-saving event please contact Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL by e-mail at kc8owl@yahoo.com or by phone at 216-898-1891.

IARU REGION II ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS
(USA 2003 Radio Orienteering
Championships) Revisited)
By Mike Cegelski K8EHP

Wednesday morning 30 July, 2003 saw the XYL and I head to the Cincinnati, Ohio area (Miami University in Oxford, Ohio) to participate in the subject contests. After arriving and registering on the first day, we ran the practice courses on two (2) and eighty (80) meters the second day. That's when I first realized I was in trouble. I failed to realize the significance of the word "orienteering" in the title of this event. Being as the first days events were practice my wife got to run with me. The actual events were strictly solo. ARDF was no problem. My equipment for both two (2) and eighty (80) meters functioned perfectly; hear signal, find compass direction of signal, walk that direction and find the hidden transmitter. There were five (5) hidden transmitters per band, each transmits for one (1) full minute, shuts off and then the next one starts all in numeric sequence (1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) for a total five (5) minute cycle. The practice sessions were held on the campus grounds of the University (lots of woods). That made finding the "foxes" relatively easy compared to the "real runs".



Friday morning the real fun started. After an hour fifteen minute bus ride we arrived at the two (2) meter site, Fort Ancient State Memorial (including Camp Swoneky and King's Domain). I was soon to find out what the word "orienteering" means. Our gear was impounded

and at five minutes before the start we were allowed to retrieve our gear and were given a map. My wife was allowed to accompany me to the start line and then was xported to the finish line, all for pix. I placed my map into plastic, sealed it and was ready. We were NOT allowed to turn our gear on until the actual start nor could we stop to take headings until we passed the hundred yard start chute. I acquired the signals from my "foxes" (I only needed to find a select three (3) because of my age category) and proceeded across country. NOW I found out what orienteering meant. Read the map properly and find what convoluted trail you need to take to get from point A to point B. NOT straight through. Not realizing this I sloughed as the crow flies. I won't bore you with details as being stuck waist high in brush, unable to go forward or falling on my face in a small river or eating bugs or getting spiders and webs in my hair, etc., etc., etc.. Bottom line is after the three (3) hour time limit (plus twenty (20) more minutes) expired, I broke out of the woods, collapsed on the grass and after catching my breath enough to start breathing again, used my radio to call for a pick-up. Never did find even one transmitter. Totally humiliated I got dropped off at the finish line. Later that evening at the motel I studied the map to see what I should've done and promised myself next day WOULD be better!



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Saturday morning saw us again board the same bus for a forty-five (45) minute trip to the eighty (80) meter site in Indiana. The exact same start routine was followed. Let me just say that an hour's worth of studying an orienteering map doesn't constitute mastering the subject. I still had lots of problems with the map but this time I finished only three (3) minutes over my maximum time and I DID find two (2) transmitters (unfortunately one (1) of those was not one that was on my score punch card, just passed by it on the way to another one). Was still totally exhausted and very dehydrated even after carrying water with me.

We originally were not going to attend the evening banquet and leave right after the last event. However, we made so many new friends and were genuinely interested in seeing the medal presentations that we bought our way in at the last minute being extremely glad that we did. The future? You bet. The XYL and I are going to take instructions in orienteering locally and participate in local events. All we'll have to do in Santa Barbara, California next year is add the ARDF aspect to this sport and voila'. ARDF Orienteering. By that time my wife will have her own gear and we'll be able to compete individually with the other small percentage of people who dig this. You don't even have to have a ham license to participate but my wife WILL be licensed by then!

AMERICA'S WALK FOR DIABETES

The American Diabetes Assn. Americas Walk for Diabetes this year will be held on the morning of Sat. October 4th. The location has changed to the Tower City Amphitheater, and there will be a totally new route for the event. We always support the Diabetes Assn. and will do so again this year. We will need about 10 volunteers, and as usual there will be coffee and rolls, a t-shirt, food after the event, and goodie bags for everyone volunteering. You will need your hand-held radio and /or a mobile rig in the car. More to come on this worthwhile event at the September meeting.

TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER

The correct answer to this month's trivia question is answer no. 3, Al Gross. Al Gross, W8PAL, was born in Canada and was raised in Cleveland Ohio. He later lived in University Heights Ohio until he retired and moved to Sun City Arizona, where he lived with his wife until he passed away at the age of 82 on Dec. 21, 2000.

Al became interested in electronics when but a youth, and actually became a licensed ham radio operator while a teenager. He designed and built his own radio equipment and created a small hand-held portable radio while in his teens, and because he walked around while using this radio, it became know as a walkie-talkie. He graduated from Case School of Applied Science, now Case Western Reserve University. He developed the battery operated walkie-talkie for the Office of Strategic Services in the late 1930's. He was instrumental in developing the pager, cell phone, and garage door opener as well as inventing the citizen's band radio. Al actually had as one of his instructors at one point, Albert Eienstein, who praised him on his work by telling him "Das is goot".

Al was a quiet man, almost an introvert, but when asked about his work he would talk non-stop. He was crazy about the Three Stooges and used to sit and laugh out loud while watching them on television.

And that's the rest of the story.

CARS WEB SITE

Be sure and check out the CARS web site at www.cars.org. The site is constantly being revised and new information and photos added, thanks to the expertise, professionalism and diligence of our web master, Dave Kushman, K8DAV. The site has lots of good information and links to other sites. It would be a good practice to check out the site at least once a week, not just once a month to read the monthly newsletter, as the site is constantly changing.

Thanks to Dave for doing such a great job!

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

How Time Flies

Ah, here it is...September already. The picnic meetings in the park are done for another year, it is time to get any antenna work done that needs done before the #0%@! (snow) flies, and we should all hold out hope that the nice weather lasts as long as possible!

I missed the August meeting due to having to get my hip fixed so that it wouldn't dislocate again. The doctor decided that twice within a week was a little much, and I had to agree because it was awful inconvenient, not to mention the pain!

I want to thank everyone for the get well soon card that everyone signed at the August meeting. I really appreciated it.

Things To Do

So, now that things are back to somewhat normal, I can begin to get involved in ham related stuff again. We have a few events coming up that are mentioned elsewhere in this issue: The American Diabetes Assn. America's Walk for Diabetes is Oct 4th, we have a special event station from Arrowhead Elementary School in Copley OH on Oct 22nd, and There is a lighthouse operation coming up on Saturday, Sept.

Recalling An Old Timer

If you haven't already, check out the trivia question this month. I had it on the net this past week, but since there were so few check-ins, I decided to put it in the W.O. When I first found the question on QRZ's site, I thought it was a pretty good question. Then I began to remember things about Al Gross that I had learned previously and decided to look him up on the net, and came up with a bunch of neat information about him. I wish I could have met him. Maybe some of you did meet him or knew him while he still lived in the area. If so, let me know and maybe we can get your experience in the newsletter.

Newsletter Items

I want to thank those who sent in contributions to this month's newsletter. We have been getting some really great articles from the membership. Let's keep them coming folks.

Skywarn Frequency Change

One of the check-in's on this past week's net mentioned that the Summit County Skywarn frequency has changed from the 146.64 MHz repeater to the 147.135 MHz repeater.

That's About It For Now

When I begin to write this article for the W.O. each month, I never know what I am going to write about until I sit down and start typing. Well...I am out of ideas for this month, so I will close. Hope to see you all at the September meeting at the Busch Funeral Home Community Room, and maybe on the Wednesday evening CARS net, and let's not forget (Heaven forbid) on the air!

73 to all,
de Tom, WB8N

AREA HAMFESTS

Cleveland Hamfest Assn....Sept. 28, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea.

Medina 2 Meters Assn....Oct. 5, Medina County Fairgrounds.

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Articles published in this newsletter may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known.

All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to:

newsletter@cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's publication.

CARS 2003 Committees

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ARRL Liaison & media representative
Don KC8NIX** Carol KC8TIE**216-524-4910

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Aaron KC8INE , Bob W8GC, Steve N8IS Gary
NI8Z, all members

Ham License classes
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Bruce N8DJX, George K8KR, Dave K8DAV

Interference & Jamming
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Lighthouse events
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Steve N8IS

Museum Ship W. G. Mather, W8WGM
Bob W8GC ** Lin WD8SDP ** Steve N8IS,
Gary NI8Z, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP, Dennis
AB8NI, Mike KB8UGT
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