

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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Volume XXXIII

Issue IV

From the Prez

Thanks for a great turn out as 30 people came out on St. Patrick's Day! Missing were Gary, NI8Z who was teaching the extra class and several other regulars who called but could not make the meeting for various reasons.

Carol, KC8TIE provided a good supply of refreshments for the meeting. Thanks again Carol for a job well done.

Kayla, N8KAY collected \$69.00 for the 50/50 drawing this month, Steve N8IS won the 50/50 raffle, both the club and Steve picked up an extra \$34.50.

Thanks to Jim, K8MR for the excellent presentation at our March meeting. I received several favorable comments and it looks like maybe Jim has inspired a new contender or two. Remember Jim's words of wisdom: **JUST DO IT!** Please listen for Jim on HF and give him a report April 17 during the Michigan QSO party.

The next CW class starts Thursday April 8 with the next General class starting Wednesday April 14 both are 6 week classes. Time is short! go to www.cars.org and sign up now.

We now have 18 signed up for the "Fox Hunting" antenna/active attenuator building workshops, this will start in the next week or two so if you want to join in the fun, both building and Fox hunting, call or e-mail Mike K8EHP (216-252-6640) or myself (216-524-1750). The kit cost will be \$18.00 complete (CARS members) for both antenna/attenuator and \$28.00 non members. All you need is an HT and what we build at the workshops plus Mikes instruction to enjoy Fox Hunting, the key word is "enjoy" it is fun as well as a great learning experience.

Hamvention is only 6 weeks away! make your Cars Bus reservations NOW by going to www.cars.org. Last year the bus filled up so don't miss out on what many think may be the last time the Hamvention will be held in Dayton.

The Technical committee is making headway with updates on our repeaters. We should have a final report for the April meeting.

That's it for this month, I will leave you with this old saying:

Life is not the way it's supposed to be.

It's the way it is.

The way you cope with it is what makes the difference.

73

de, Bob W8GC

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MARCH MEETING MINUTES

President Bob Check, W8GC called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, OH. Introductions were held around the room.

A motion to accept the minutes of the February 18, 2004 meeting was made by Ron, K8VJG and seconded by Terry, KB8DTC. A vote was taken and passed.

Bob announced that several members were out for St. Patrick's Day and other events they had tonight. Dave, KD8V will be unable to attend but mentioned no cards were sent. Dwaine, K8ME announced that Stan, K8VI wife's passed away and ask if we could send a card.

The treasurers report was made by Mike, KB8UGT and he advised that only approximately 10 more owe for 2004 dues. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made by Steve, N8IS and seconded by Terry, KB8DTC. A vote was taken and passed.

Terry read a letter from Robert Briggs, W8MMC who thanked CARS for providing the Dayton Bus Trip again. He would be unable to attend without our sponsored bus. When paying for his bus ticket he also sent the club a donation. Terry also announced that 11 are paid for the bus trip and there are 5-6 more reservations pending payment.

President Check announced that the board approved the purchase of equipment insurance to cover our repeater and Mather equipment.

Gordon, W8GTK reported that Wednesday night nets have been picking up and participation has been great. If anyone is interested in volunteering for net control please let Gordon know.

Dave, K8DAV said many changes will be coming to the website as he upgrades it. A link for the Hamvention to order tickets will also be added tonight.

Bob announced that there was a technical committee meeting before tonight's meeting. The new 2 meter equipment has been installed and programming is now being worked on. We will be working on linking from WTAM receive for 82 to CH 55 and also a link from Shaker Hts. This should give us better receive coverage.

Mike, K8EHP informed everyone that the fox hunting equipment building should be beginning soon. If you are interested please contact Mike K8EHP or Bob W8GC to get put on the list.

Bob announced that there's a Extra class going on tonight. Gary N18Z is the instructor tonight. There was a VE Session on Sunday and all participants were successful.

Bob informed us that 6 new applications for membership have been received. Tonight we will be voting on: Darren Turk K8DMT (Tech), Stephen Jones KC8DJV (Tech), Robert Snyder KC8ZBM (Tech), Marian Rubin KC8ZBN (Tech), Stuart Kleiner KC9ZBO (Tech) and Sharon Andrisin KC8ZBP (Tech). A vote was taken and passed all were voted in as new members.

Tom, WB8N reported on the WO. Keep the articles coming in and support the club. Tom said he would like more material for the WO from "our members".

Toby, WT8O passed out changes to by-laws and constitution to any members not in attendance at the February Meeting. After briefly going over the changes, a motion was made by Ron, K8VJG and seconded by Terry, KB8DTC to accept the changes as presented by the committee. A vote as taken and passed.

Toby, WT8O reported that 3 lighthouse events are scheduled this year. First event is happening two weekends in April, (April 10 & 11 and 18 & 19) at the Mather. The others will be held at the Lorain or Vermillion Lighthouses Aug 7-8 and Aug 21-22. Toby also announced a new lighthouse committee member, Bruce N8DJX.

Bob announced that Jim Stahl, K8MR was in attendance tonight for a program about contesting after the regular meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Steve, N8IS. His share was \$34.50.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill, WA8GEO and seconded by Ev, WA8EYF. A vote was taken and passed. W8GC adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by Tina Check, W8HBI, Secretary

C.A.R.S. STATION AT THE WILLIAM G. MATHER

This is a call to all C.A.R.S. members to come down and operate from the club station aboard the William G. Mather museum ship. The well equipped station resides just under the wheelhouse in what was an officers quarters on the historic vessel. This year performance will be enhanced with more power, a brand new amplifier has been donated for the station.

The ship is moored in downtown Cleveland at the East 9th Street pier. There is plenty of near-by parking. The Mather station offers an excellent opportunity for technician class members to operate HF with the help of a qualified control operator. For those interested in using the station, please contact Toby WT8O or Bob W8GC so we can be sure you get some training with the equipment your first time down.

C.A.R.S. will use the Mather station for our participation in Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society's "Spring Lights" QSO Party. The contest runs April 9th through April 18th. The station will be operating on the weekends, with the probable exception of Easter Sunday. This would be a fine time for any members interested in this unique station or the lighthouse events to come down and operate or observe. If you have any questions, please contact Toby or Bob and we will be glad to answer them.

A lot of hard work by many people has gone into this project, but there doesn't seem to be as much interest from the club members as we would expect. It's really fun to board the ship, see its sights, and operate from the radio room. We are fortunate to have one of our club members, Lin WD8SDP, on the tour staff of the Mather. Lin has been quite helpful to us in this position. So put a trip to the Mather on your things to do list this summer; once you make your first contact, you'll add one more experience this great hobby has to offer.

73
Toby WT8O

MEMBER INTERVIEW

By Toby, WT8O

This month's interview is with Steve Riley, N8IS.

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

Steve: When I was about six or seven, I had an all band SW radio and I could pick air, fire, or police signals. Then I would take things apart; radios, to see how they worked, then try to put them back together again. Sometimes with no luck of it working again

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

Steve: I was originally licensed in February, 1997. Currently, I hold an Extra Class license. I managed to pass the 13 wpm code and attempted the 20 wpm several times just before all the changes took place with the licensing. I'm also a Volunteer Examiner and help out at the sessions every other month.

CARS: What do you like about Amateur Radio?

Steve: I like the fact that I can talk around the world with a very small set up compared to the networking and expensive systems in place to do it by phone. It's amazing that such a small signal can be heard around the world with no more power than it takes to use a light bulb.

CARS: What are your favorite bands to work?

Steve: HF bands are my favorite. Satellite frequencies in the VHF and HF category. When I work HF; my favorite modes are RTTY, voice and CW. (Still getting a grasp on the CW part !)

CARS: Do you collect QSL Cards, If so, how many confirmed countries do you have ?

Steve: Yes, I probably have over 100 different countries collected but not sent into the ARRL yet. I like the cards because of the different pictures, it's like seeing a glimpse of someone's world through their eyes.

CARS: What types of Awards or Recognition have you won or been awarded with?

Steve: While attending the ARRL Conference, I was awarded the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong certificate. I was also recognized by the Canadians for helping locate their interference problems.

Continued on next page....

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

Steve: Billiards, weapons training, restoration of cars, photography, bowling, building kits or creating things, motorcycles, and attempting to learn the guitar.

CARS: Thanks Steve, for taking time to let our members know a little bit more about you.

**NEW AFFILIATED CLUB
COORDINATOR**

By Tina Check, W8HBI

Mark Reising, WM8R of Mainville, OH (near Cincinnati) has been appointed Affiliated Clubs Coordinator for the Ohio Section effective March 15. He succeeds Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP who has attended CARS meetings a couple times in the past and spoken to the membership. She has been appointed Emergency Coordinator of Lucas County and has also been appointed on-site manager of the 2005 Great Lakes Division Convention. Our new coordinator is a hazardous materials instructor, which keeps him busy, especially due to increased terrorism response since September 11, 2001. He's been involved in ham radio since 1969 and upgraded to a Extra in 1993. Mark has been most active with Queen City Emergency Net currently serving as president and is also currently serving as first vice president of Greater Cincinnati ARA. He has a long list of ARES credits as well. One of Mark's passions has been youth scouting. In addition to public service activities, Mark also enjoys HF mobile operations. We expect to hear from Mark, WM8R in the near future and perhaps he will be visiting an upcoming CARS Meeting in his new capacity as Affiliated Club Coordinator. Congratulations Mark, and good luck in your newest endeavor.

**CARS MEMBERS APRIL
BIRTHDAYS**

KB8VJF Roy Hadden 4-3-64
KC8OJD Daniel Dressler 4-16
N8OVW Vince Bak 4-22-49
W8GC Bob Check 4-29-41
Happy Birthday to All!

MARCH OF DIMES WALK AMERICA

By T. J. Powell

The March of Dimes will be holding it's annual Walk America this spring. These events raise money for the March of Dimes. The March of Dimes is looking for Communications (Ham) and Medical Volunteers to staff the events. Additional information about the events follows:
WALKAMERICA Botanical Gardens (Wade Oval) May 1, 2004 (Saturday) (07:00 AM to 01:00 PM) 2000 Participants (estimated) 6-8 Medical Volunteers Required (First Responder Level and Higher) 6-8 Communications Volunteers Required Site Coordinator: T.J. Powell
WALKAMERICA Geauga Lake (Six Flags) Site May 2, 2004 (Sunday) (07:45 AM to 1:00 PM) 2000 Participants (estimated) 6-8 Communications Volunteers Required Site Coordinator: T.J. Powell.

If you are interested in volunteering please send an email to T.J. Powell at:

tjpowell@neopsv.org

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

John Cobb SR., KC8WLY
Tim Francisco, N8XX

FROM THE CQ NEWSROOM

CQ's "Washington Readout" editor, Fred Maia, W5YI, reports that the FCC has assigned rulemaking numbers to separate petitions for license restructuring and changes in code requirements filed by the ARRL and the National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC).

The ARRL petition has been designated RM-10867 - it calls for merging Technician into General and Advanced into Extra, eliminating the code requirement for General (but keeping it for Extra) and creating a new entry-level license with limited voice, digital and code privileges on various HF and VHF bands. It also calls for expanded HF phone bands with frequencies coming from the current Novice CW bands.

The NCVEC petition has been designated RM-10870 - it is similar to the ARRL petition but calls for the elimination of all code exams and would enlarge phone bands more than the ARRL would. In addition, the NCVEC petition would bar new entry-level hams from building their own equipment unless it came from a commercially-manufactured kit.

Two other petitions were released for comment at the same time - RM-10868 was filed by the Radio Amateur Foundation, and RM-10869 by Ronald Lowrance of Georgia. Both seek changes in amateur licensing requirements, particularly with relation to the code exam.

Comment deadline on all four petitions is April 24, with reply comments due 15 days later. All petitions are available online via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System website at http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/ecfs_alt.html.

TRIVIA QUESTION

Which 1960's sitcom father had a ham radio in his basement?

- A. Ward Cleaver in Leave it to Beaver
- B. Jim Anderson in Father Knows Best
- C. Mike Brady in The Brady Bunch
- D. Herman Munster in The Munsters

Answer elsewhere in this issue.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

SPRING HAS SPRUNG...

The grass has riz, I wonder where the flowers is? ...to quote an old saying my mother used to say. Well, I don't know about the flowers, but I do know that the great Hamvention is just around the corner. I am planning to go to Dayton for the duration again, as I do every year. Rumor has it that this may be the last Hamvention held at the Hara Arena in Dayton. The name of the city of Dayton was dropped from the name of the Hamvention last year, and things are on a year to year basis from what I understand.

It has been rumored that it might be held at the Columbus State Fair Grounds, but others say it won't be. If the Hamvention IS moved I wonder who would be putting it on...would it still be DARA, the Dayton Amateur Radio Assn.? Or would some other ham radio organization take it over? Or would it simply be the end for the largest hamfest in the world, the end of a tradition, the end of an era? Only time will tell, but I for one want to be at this one for sure because it just may be the last one!

If you have never been to the Hamvention, you don't know what you are missing! Imagine between 20,000 to 30,000 people walking around, (Attendance has been down of late) all with the same interest; ham radio, and most with a hat on their head with their call sign and name on the front. As you gaze at the call signs on the hats you notice that many are countries other than the U.S.A. They come from Canada, Australia, all over Europe, South America, Africa, Asia...wherever there are hams!

You see the latest equipment by the various makers of ham gear, you get to talk to their reps, ask them questions, and get free stuff too!

There are forums going on at various times for the 3 days, of various ham radio topics. The ARRL is there and you can meet and talk with the big wigs from that organization. In other words, everyone who is anyone in our hobby, is there or at least represented! If you are into DX'ing, you can

Continued on next page...

meet and talk to the “big guns” of the DX world.

After you have called it a day at the Hamvention, gone to your motel or wherever you are staying and freshened up a bit, there are opportunities to attend various club’s hospitality rooms, wherever they may be...usually at one of the big hotels in downtown Dayton.

If you are not up to spending the whole three days attending the Hamvention you can do one or two days.

Remember that CARS sponsors a bus trip which leaves early Saturday morning, arrives in time for the Hamvention to open at 8:00 a.m. and gets back home later Saturday evening. It is a great way to attend the Hamvention if you have limited time or means. You can learn the details on the CARS bus trip by going to the CARS website at

www.cars.org.

As I said earlier, I go down for the duration...we leave in a small convoy and get to our motels late Thursday afternoon...hit the indoor pool, take a shower and go out for dinner. Then it is early to bed so we are fresh and ready to go for the opening on Friday morning.

I hope to see a lot of the CARS membership there this year. Start saving up your money and make your reservations either at a Dayton area motel or on the CARS bus. Time is running short and before we know it Hamvention time will be upon us!

THE CARS REPEATERS

Our member technicians and programmers have been working diligently of late to get the 146.82 repeater moved to the Channel 55 site and things are moving along. Please forgive any disturbances in the repeater operations for the next several weeks, as this is a time consuming effort and the guys working on the system are doing it on their own time, whenever they can. Be patient and things will be better than ever when work is completed. You will be hearing a different courtesy tone, a different voice on the announcement (we should have a contest to see who can put a name with the voice) and at times some of the functions may not be available.

With that, I’ll say 73 for now and see ya’ll at the next meeting or on the air, or both! de Tom, WB8N

TRIVIA ANSWER

The correct answer to this month’s trivia question is D. Herman Munster of the Munsters. In the particular episode involving amateur radio, Herman used Grandpa as part of the antenna system!

Excerpt From The GEARVACf BULLETIN (The *f* is silent)

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SHABOP RETURNS TO FCC

Former FCC Commissioner, Annie M. Shabop, has returned to the FCC as chairperson of the regulatory body. GEARFAKf sources in Washington say that Ms. Shabop, who spearheaded an effort to get rid of the Amateur Radio Service several years ago, is planning to renew her anti-ham activities. Citing advances in new technology, Ms. Shabop is expected to shut down amateur radio altogether by withdrawing all amateur radio frequency allocations and offering them up for bids to commercial interests. She has previously made her position clear when she told the Congressional Subcommittee on Telecommunications that “the Amateur Radio Service has been made completely obsolete by cellular phones, fax machines and the Internet. There’s no reason to give valuable government frequencies to a bunch of good ol’ boys and male chauvinist nerds so they can use them for a personal telecommunications playground” According to Mr. Ralph R. Spiffee, an anonymous source within the FCC, the new FCC Chairperson intends to bypass the normal procedure of soliciting comments on the matter and will go directly to the rule making phase.

By W8FYO & K8DMZ, for the GEARVAKf Bulletin (the *f* is silent)

GEARVAKf stands for:

Greater Enon Amateur Radiovention and Kitefly. They always have a flea market spot at the Hamvention. Look for them this year!

CARS 2004 Officers & Committees

Audit

Toby WT8O ** Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z

ARRL Liaison & media representative

Don KC8NIX ** Carol KC8TIE ** 216-524-4910

CBARC Liaison

Dwaine K8ME 440-582-3462

Christmas Party 2004

Gary NI8Z ** Steve N8IS ** Tina W8HBI
Tom WB8N

Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721 Steve N8IS **
216-328-0432, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

Dayton Bus

Terry KB8DTC ** 330-273-1043, Bob W8GC

Diabetes events

Tom WB8N

Elmer

George K8KR ** 216-941-5304

Field Day

Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193, Aaron KC8INE
Bob W8GC, Steve N8IS, Gary NI8Z

Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP ** 216-252-6640 N8IS, N8TCP

Ham License classes

Bob W8GC** Gary, NI8Z ** Tom WB8N, Steve N8IS,
Don KC8NIX, Ron K8VJG, Bruce N8DJX, George
K8KR, Dave K8DAV

Interference & Jamming

W8GC**, NI8Z, N8IS, N8TCP, WB8N

Scouts

Steve N8IS, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

Lighthouse events

Toby WT8O ** 440-572-1544, Bob W8GC
Gordon W8GTK, Steve N8IS, Bruce N8DJX

Membership

Tina W8HBI ** Bob W8GC**

Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

Bob W8GC ** Lin WD8SDP ** Steve N8IS
Gary NI8Z, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP
Mike KB8UGT, Bruce N8DJX
Toby WT8O

NET

Gordon W8GTK **

WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193



Program director

Toby WT8O ** 440-572-1544

QSL manager-NO8A & K8ZFR

Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Refreshments & 50/50

Carol KC8TIE ** 216-524-4910
50/50 Kayla N8KAY

Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721

Technical

Roy KB8VJF ** Bob W8GC ** Terry KB8DTC
Vince N8OVW, Dave K8DAV, Tom WB8N
Jack W8JAK, Jim WD8CHL, Steve N8IS

VE exams

Gary NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV ** 440-243-3593, Bob W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

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even year executive board 2 year term;

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Gary NI8Z 216-642-8705
Steve N8IS 216-328-0432

odd year executive board 2 year term;

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Terry KB8DTC 330-273-1043
Tom WB8N 440-232-4193

K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N 440-232-4193

NO8A trustee

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750

