

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



AUGUST 2005

Volume XXXV

Issue VIII

From the Prez

Great group for our July outdoor meeting we welcomed 31 members and visitors.

Our July 50/50 raffle was won by Steve N8IS, congratulations Steve, CARS and Steve split the \$48.00.

I am very pleased to welcome 4 new members to the CARS family W8SEL Nash Walters, WA8SLN Lawson (Scotty) Shields, KB8NB John Spisak II KB8NB and KD8BWH Steve Spisak.



Chris AD6BZ during his power point presentation, Steve N8IS is watching.

Chris Martin AD6BZ gave a power point presentation on his 2 ½ years in Antarctica at the south pole, he explained his work with a radio telescope and talked about his time

spent operating KC4AAA. Chris is a professor at Oberlin Collage.

At our first 2 summer meeting this year we have had 2 great programs, our August meeting should be another good one. Our speaker is Mike K8EHP and he will talk about his trip last week to New Mexico for the National Direction Finding Championships, and before the meeting Eric KF8YK with the Geauga County EMA will have their new communication truck here from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

We now have a new antenna installed at the W.G. Mather and a rig and amplifier working. However the wind that damaged several planes and a helicopter at Burke Lakefront Airport also bent the antenna (R-6000). We will be getting it repaired or replaced next week (August 8-12). I hope we can operate at least one Lighthouse weekend this year.

Well I hope you all received the notice I sent that the FCC is dropping the code requirement for ALL classes of Amateur Radio licenses. This should take effect in the next 3 to 5 months. When you are ready to upgrade to General please contact us for the material or if we get 6 or more requests we will run a 6 week class at the Independence
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Civic center. Go to www.cars.org and select CARS MAIL ORDER COURSE or send me an e-mail or call 216-524-1750 about attending a class.

That's it for another WO, this months words: *Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines, Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Mark Twain*

See you at the August 17, 2005 CARS meeting in the park and come early to see the Comm Trailer.

de, Bob W8GC

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the CARS Meeting of July 20, 2005.

Bob W8GC called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM held at the Brecksville Metro Parks Oak Grove picnic area. Introductions were held with 27 Members and 6 Guests were in attendance.

A motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2005 meeting was made by Bill WA8GEO and seconded by Terry KB8DTC. A vote was taken and passed.

The treasurers report was made by Tina W8HBI.

Bob W8GC advised that the Copley students along with the teacher from Gilmour Academy and 3 of his students visited Channel 3 studios for a tour. Dave K8DAV was our tour guide. Betsy Kling

the weather person for Channel 3 is a graduate of Copley Schools and we hope she may visit the Radio Club in Copley one day. Currently we are working on fox hunt projects along with CW at our regular meetings.

Tina W8HBI reminded everyone to renew or sign up for ARRL through the Club. It's the same rate, but the club gets a kick back.

Dave KD8V the Sunshine Chairman told the members he sent cards to Ev WA8EYF and Marc KB8QHJ.

Gordon W8GTK reported that Wednesday night nets are running smooth. But would like to have one more net control operator.

Dave K8DAV asked that anyone wanting to post something on the internet site to please let him know. Any ideas are welcome.

Jim WD8CHL reported that he's ready to order crystals for the receiver and has a little wiring to do. But almost done. Estimated it would take a month to get the crystals in.

Bob W8GC announced that we have four new members to vote on. W8SEL Nash Walters, WA8SLN Lawson (Scotty) Shields, KB8NB John Spisak II KB8NB and KD8BWH Steve Spisak. A motion to accept the new members was made by Gary NI8Z and seconded by Steve N8IS. A vote was taken and passed.

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Tom WB8N reported that the Diabetes Association made \$82,000 with the Tour De Cure Bike Event and he thanked the 13 volunteers who attended from CARS.

Tom WB8N reported on the WO. Please take a few minutes and contribute an article large or small to your newsletter. Send articles to newsletter@cars.org.

Tom WB8N announced that Field Day was successful with no injuries! This year we had a total of 6,140 points (4,190 + 1,950 in bonus) Our phone contacts were 545, Digital 149 and CW 646. Tom WB8N also mentioned that Field Day pins were being passed out today.

Toby W8GC mentioned Gary NI8Z, Tom WB8N and Toby WT8O started to look up equipment and the antenna at the Mather. Had a few problems but heard that Bob W8GC, Tom WB8N, Gary NI8Z and Steve N8IS were going down tomorrow to try and finish up.

Tom WB8N informed the club that he received a request from the Brecksville - Broadview Hts Response Team requesting the use of the CARS repeater in a emergency. The board responded that they could have secondary use and to notify us before using it for any practice drills.

Toby WT8O announced that CARS would have a lighthouse event Aug 6-7 most likely being held at the Mather. If you have any questions or need directions contact Toby WT8O.

Gary NI8Z advised about the VE session from July 10th. Seven people took the test, three were students from Gilmour Academy. George K8KR reminded everyone the

Ohio QSO Party contest is August 27th and it works all HF bands (no warc bands). It's a Saturday noon until midnight, a 12 hour contest. This is the first time the club will enter a contest. You can even operate mobile. Turn logs into George K8KR as long as five people turn in logs the winner will receive a nice plaque from CARS.

Marc KB8QHJ informed the members that if they would like to use the Amateur Radio Club Station at Case Western Reserve to get in touch with him.

Bob W8GC announced that CARS will be having a practice drill on Sunday from 9:00 - 11:00. It is to help practice for emergency traffic handling on the 82 repeater. Anyone who has time to call in any fake reports during that time it would be greatly appreciated. Please remember to call them in as practice and not a real emergency.

Jack W8JAK announced that Eric Bartholemew KF8YK with the Geauga County EMA will have their new communication truck here before our August meeting from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. After the regular meeting Mike K8EHP will talk about his trip to New Mexico for the National Direction Finding Championships.

Bob W8GC thanked Henry KD8BAO for picking up duties as the refreshment chairman.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Steve N8IS. His share was \$24.00

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A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Roger N8TCP and seconded by Henry KD8BAO. A vote was taken and passed. W8GC adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by Tina Check W8HBI, Treasurer, Pro-Tem Secretary for this meeting in Ron Borkey's K8VJG absence

Ohio QSO Party

The Ohio QSO Party on Saturday, August 27th from 12PM Noon till 12AM Midnight, will be the very first contest in which our club, the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will participate. If a minimum of five logs are received a very beautiful plaque/trophy will be awarded to the winner. I am not sure as yet whether the winner will be awarded a plaque or a trophy. As this will be the very first contest in which our club will compete individually we still have a few things to nail down as yet!

Please, if you can get on for a few minutes or many hours please try to make contacts. It will be a lot of fun! There is a URL to go to with much information about the contest: <http://www.oqp.us>

Besides competing for a winning score among our CARS club members. All of the logs submitted to me will be sent as a CARS Club entry. Maybe our club might win a trophy from the Ohio QSO sponsors.

This contest is only for SSB or CW contacts. Only on these five HF bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meters. There will be NO contacts allowed on FM or the WARC Bands. You may work any station, anywhere. Stations outside of Ohio

(Including DX Stations) can only work stations in Ohio. We will be the stations hunted for by everyone!

You can work the same station once on each mode only per band. So if one wanted to make a sked and work the ham down the street for contest points, one could make 10 contacts with the same station. Two contacts, one SSB and one CW per band x five bands= 10 contacts.

QSO Points...2 points per each CW QSO
1 point per SSB QSO

Scoring: QSO Points x Ohio Counties for all stations outside of Ohio. QSO Points x states, provinces, Ohio Counties for stations in Ohio. Multipliers count only once per band.

Exchange: Give serial number of contact plus your Ohio County. Other stations outside of Ohio will give you a serial number of the contact along with their state or province. DX stations will give you their serial number and the exchange of the word "DX"

You may enter this contest as a Single Op station, Maritime Mobile or Mobile, or you can be a "Rover" and go from County to County during the twelve hour contest time.

Besides the plaque/trophy awarded to the highest score of our club an entrant may be eligible to win a trophy from the Ohio QSO Party people. They have a number of categories to win in from a QRP to a high powered entry. I myself will be probably trying to win as a low power entrant.

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Again, check out the information on the URL of the Ohio QSO Party:
<http://www.oqp.us>

It will be a lot of fun I guarantee! If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them as best I can if you call me at: 216-941-5304. 73, Good Luck!

George Pindroh, K8KR
CARS, Contest Chairman

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

KC8YSV William Sarver 8-9
N8IS Steve Riley 8-11-66
WB8N Tom Wayne 8-17-40
KA8EEW Richard Engum 8-21-38
KC8LAU Gerald Purcell 8-24
KB3KQS April Walton 8-29
W8SEL Nash Walters

**Congratulations to each and every
one of you!**

**Many happy returns, and may you
live to operate for many more years!**

NOTICE!

Please note our editor Tom WB8N is in the hospital having his right hip replaced. This was an emergency surgery when his hip "fell apart" Tuesday August 2, 2005.

Tom is doing well and expects to be home Saturday or Monday at the latest. Because of this he has been forced to

cancelled his August 14 Birthday party, Tom hopes to announce a new date at a later time.

We all wish Tom's a speedy recovery. This month I have put together a smaller WO as Tom's files and articles are not available.

All should be back to normal for the September WO.

de Bob W8GC

CFMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TRAVELS TO TV STUDIO

On July 19th the CFMS amateur radio club went to Channel 3 TV studio in down town Cleveland. Student operators that went were Sam Henige KD8BGL, Marcus Mrazek KD8BPG, Cydney Woodyard KD8BSU and Alexia Beauregard KD8BSV. Also attending, were club advisors Mr. Bob Check W8GC, Mr. Tom Wayne WB8N, Dr. Dave Dressler KD8V and Mr. Brad Bennett. Mr. Dave Kushman K8DAV, who is the station engineer, conducted our tour.

We saw the technicians operating the electronic background equipment and observed the TV monitors for the national NBC programs. We were able to observe local news and weather programs produced live in the studio. We met TV celebrities such as Del Donahue, Fred Griffth and meteorologist Betsy Kling, who is a CFMS and CHS graduate.

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The visit was very informative and entertaining. Come and join our club. There will be a fall sign up in the library Aug. 26th between 3:00 & 5:00 P.M. All grades welcome.

Dave KD8V

Propagation

The Earth-facing disc of the sun went through a tremendous change over the past couple of weeks, ranging from a sunspot number of zero on June 26 to a reading of 192 on July 4. Along with this, geomagnetic conditions were very stable, an ideal combination for HF operators. Average daily sunspot number for the previous reporting week was only 19, but it jumped to over 154 this week, a huge change. Average mid-latitude A index was lower by two points, with the planetary A index down by nearly five.

This is an example of how even toward the solar cycle minimum, there can still be tremendous variation in activity from day to day. Those graphs you've seen of sunspot cycles are generally smoothed out using a moving average. In other words, if you draw your graph of daily sunspot numbers with every dot or section of line representing an average of the readings from the 90 days before and the 90 days after that date, the squiggly line tends to smooth out. This sort of representation helps us to visualize trends, and pay less attention to the day-to-day variation.

The July 4 sunspot number of 192 was the highest reading since November 26, 2003. Having the number go from zero to

192 is quite a jump, especially when we observe the last time prior to November 2003 that the sunspot number was zero. This was clear back on the other side of sunspot cycle 23, in 1998 on January 7-9.

Yesterday, July 7, an explosion near sunspot 786 (currently aimed squarely toward Earth) hurled a coronal mass ejection, which is expected to cause a mild geomagnetic storm. Predicted planetary A index for July 8-11 is 25, 30, 25 and 15. Solar flux peaked on July 3 at 129.8 (highest solar flux reading since January 19, 2005) and for July 8-11 solar flux is predicted at 120, 120, 115 and 110. Flux values are remained above 100 until mid July.

Solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels with a chance for isolated major flares through about 10 August when Region 792 is due to rotate around the west limb. Activity levels are expected to be mostly very low to low through about 24 August. Thereafter, and through the end of the forecast period, levels are expected to increase to low to moderate

de K7RA

WA8CMS Logo

We have designed a logo based on the Erie Indian Tribe heritage from this area. The Copley Fairlawn Middle School Ham station will use it on their QSL cards, letterhead and web site www.wa8cms.com. See next page for the *basic logo*.

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WA8CMIS



Copley - Fairlawn Middle School Ham Radio Club

1531 S. Cleveland Massillon Rd., Copley, OH 44321



The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264.

Articles may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio publication provided credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format, to: newsletter@cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next

For Sale

Hi cars members this is Steve N8IS I just wanted to let you know I am selling a few of my ham radio items in hopes of getting an ICOM 756 pro III. All of these items you can see and test before you buy at my QTH, I am listing these items with Cars members first at a lower price than will be on e-bay or qth.com .

If you want an item let me know. Most items will be sold with a manual along with any accessories that came with it. I have a few things not listed you can call for info and make an offer.

Kenwood TS-2000 \$925 with hand mike, very good radio works all hf bands and modes 6m, 2m and 440 also has an autotuner and built in DSP. Very good base station radio and all in one coverage

Falcon 2m amp 10 watts in and 150 out, tested OK by Dave K8dav

Marige 440 amp also 10 watts in and 100 watts out? I will sell them as a set for \$250.00 or \$150 each.

KAM TNC (cream color) for \$125 or best offer, works great.

440 beam antenna 11 elem, \$75.00 OBO

440 Base Verticle antenna with ground plane \$50.00 OBO

Astron RS-70A power supply Description : 13.8VDC 70AMPS ICS HRO wants \$299.95 new, my price \$175.00 in very good condition, like new.

That's about it for now , thanks and hope to hear from you soon. 216-328-2141 h or cell 216-394-9499.

de Steve N8IS

DXpeditions

The enthusiasm of DXers is exemplified by the frequent DXpeditions mounted by Hams, in which operators venture forth to some corner of the globe that may be uninhabited, lacking Ham radio activity, or just an interesting place to go, for the primary purpose of providing the rest of us with radio contacts with that spot! Some are true expeditions in the classical sense, in which equipment, shelters, generators, and supplies must be carried in at great personal cost and risk."

Ham Radio Operators enjoy making contact with stations all over the world. For ham radio purposes there are 335 places in the world that have "entity status"; that is, they each count as separate countries.

Competition is strong among ham operators to make contact with all of them. Intrepid amateurs often make trips to Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, etc. and set up stations in hotels, cottages and private homes in those countries to provide contacts from there. It's fun!

Other countries are a bit more difficult to operate from -- many such countries are places where no one lives (it's difficult to make radio contact with a country without a population)!

From time to time, adventurous ham operators make expeditions (called DXpeditions) to one of those countries to provide radio contacts to the international ham radio community.

explanation from the Delta DX Association

CARS 2005 Officers & Committees

Audit

Toby WT8O ** Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

Bill Sarver KC8YSV **

Christmas Party 2005

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

Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V ** Steve N8IS ** Tina W8HBI,
Kayla N8KAY, Bill KC8YSV

Contests

George K8KR **

Development

Bob W8GC ** All officers

Diabetes events

Tom WB8N ** All CARS members

Field Day

Tom WB8N ** All CARS members

Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP ** N8IS, N8TCP

Ham License classes

Bob W8GC ** Gary, NI8Z ** Tom WB8N, Steve
N8IS, 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

Mentor/Elmer

Bill Sarver KC8YSV ** Ron Borkey K8VJG **
Tom WB8N, Bob W8GC

Membership

Tina W8HBI ** Bob W8GC **

Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

Bob W8GC ** Lin WD8SDP ** All CARS members

NET

Gordon AI8Y **

WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Program directors

Bill KC8YSV ** Jack W8JAK **

QSL manager - NO8A & W8WGM

Tom WB8N **

Refreshments

Henry KD8BAO **

50/50

Kayla N8KAY **

Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721

Technical

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

VE exams

Gary NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV ** Bob W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2005 Officers

PRESIDENT

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750
president@cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT ****

Toby WT8O 440-572-1544
vice-president@cars.org

SECRETARY ****

Ron K8VJG 440-237-6718
secretary@cars.org

TREASURER:

Tina W8HBI 216-328-0432
treasurer@cars.org



Board Members

even year executive board 2 year term;

George K8KR
Gary NI8Z
Dave K8DAV

odd year executive board 2 year term;

Gordon AI8Y
Terry KB8DTC
Tom WB8N

K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N

NO8A, WA8CMS & KD8AQD trustee

Bob W8GC

