

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society



NO8A Special Event Call K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75

MAY 2006

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Issue V

FROM THE PREZ

Hi to all. Another month has gone by and May is here...the Dayton Hamvention®, antenna projects, and we are about at the bottom of this sunspot cycle. So be happy and lets get on with the activities for the Summer of 2006.

All enjoyed the slot car presentation by Brad KD8BBS at our April 11 meeting, some were still playing with cars at closing time!



Brads Dad Jack W8WEN, brother Jeff and Ed KD8CLC next to one of the displays

I have appointed a Committee to put together 3 classes (1 night each) on good (proper) Ham operating skills. We will put on an entry level class for new Hams covering repeaters and VHF operation along with basic skills, an intermediate level class for HF operation also covering RTTY, PSK, and CW, as well as phone skills. we will also offer an advanced operating class to cover contests, DX operating, and more. There seems to be a need for someplace offering classes for real on the air

operating skills and we hope to fill that need in the next 60 days.

Our first outdoor meeting at the Brecksville reservation on June 13, 2006 will feature a very special program, we have Mel Vye as our speaker. W8MV. Mel was on the February 2006 DXpedition to Peter I Island which was the most expensive DXpedition to date, with 70% of the total cost of this operation funded by the operators themselves. They made a total of 86,888 QSOs from this very rare location.

We are only 7 weeks from Field Day 2006, if you will be operating, bringing a station or you just want to stop by please let Tom WB8N know your plans ASAP.

That's it for another WO. This month's thoughts are about chatterboxes: *Blessed is the person who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving us wordy evidence of the fact.*

73, de Bob

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MARCH MEETING MINUTES

President Bob Check, W8GC, called the March 2006 C.A.R.S. meeting to order at 7:35 PM at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Twenty-two C.A.R.S. members and three guests participated as introductions were given around the room.

Tina, W8HBI, gave the treasurer's report. She also mentioned there were several members who still need to pay their dues for 2006, and that they have been contacted. Tina added the treasury has been earning respectable interest in the money market account. Terry, KB8DTC, motioned to accept the treasurer's report, and Gary, NI8Z, seconded. Steve, N8IS, motioned to accept the February meeting minutes as presented in the March Wobbly Oscillator and Bill, WA8GEO, seconded. The members voted on and passed the motion. Bill, KC8YSV, began the committee reports covering the school project, meeting programs, and ARRL activities. He was happy to say Scotty, WA8SLN, brought his experience and knowledge to the Copley Middle School, and is planning to bring electronic projects for the students to work on. Bill added that the school received two Yaesu VX-170 handheld transceivers from the ARRL as part of "The Big Project".

He also reported C.A.R.S. has been asked to do a ham radio demonstration by the Macedonia Boy Scouts. Bob, W8GC, and Steve, N8IS, volunteered to do one, since they are both Boy Scout merit badge counselors. Bill informed the group that Brad Bennet, KD8BBS, would do next month's meeting program, a history and demonstration on slot cars. Brad is the wrestling coach at the Copley Middle School. Bill also asked the members for any ideas they may have for future meeting programs. He concluded by reminding the group to pay their ARRL dues through C.A.R.S., which gives our club a portion of the dues.

Bob, W8GC, reported that the C.A.R.S. Board recommended a meeting time change to the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The meeting room at Busch will not be available at our usual third Wednesday evening time, since there will only be one community room in the future. Bob commented that we will try to find a new meeting venue in order to keep the C.A.R.S. thirty year tradition of the third

Wednesday alive. Bob, KC8MRC, said it may be possible to use his church in Bedford Heights on the desired evening. He will check this out and report back. Gary, NI8Z, motioned for the present, we move our meetings to the second Tuesday. Terry, KB8DTC, seconded the motion. The members present voted on and passed the motion.

W8GC also reported the Board had approved a family picnic in July. The date of Saturday, July 15th was chosen to coordinate with other summer club activities. The pavilion at the Independence Civic Center has been reserved. C.A.R.S. will provide food and refreshments. This will be a family orientated activity, so bring the XYLs, OMs, and kids.

Our sunshine committee chairman Dave, KD8V, will update next month. He has been out of town. After spending time in Atlanta, he traveled to Michigan to watch his grandson capture a state championship in wrestling.

Toby, WT8O, reported the net was doing fine, as checkins were still in the fifteen to twenty range. Steve, N8IS, suggested we rotate net control so all C.A.R.S. members get experience handling the net.

Our webmaster, Dave, K8DAV; said one interesting suggestion he received was to feature a member's station on the website. He offered to visit anyone's station who was interested, and take pictures for the feature. The comments that buzzed around the room favored this as a great idea.

Tom, WB8N, editor of the WO addressed the group and asked for contributions. Tom offered to do any editing, making it easy for anyone to write and send in an article. It is always appropriate to thank Tom for the great job he does on our award winning newsletter.

Gary, NI8Z, gave his report as VE chairman. He said the last VE session was quite successful, with five people passing or upgrading. He said the next VE session would be scheduled for the 2nd Sunday in May. Gary also informed the group that the new Technician test and question pool would be in effect for the July session.

Continued on next page.

Ron, K8VJG, has stepped up to handle the refreshments for the next couple of months, due to a scheduling conflict for Henry, KD8BAO. Thanks to both these guys for the fine job they do.

Steve, N8IS, won \$26 in the 50/50 raffle, with \$26 going to the club.

Ron, K8VJG, motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bill, WA8GEO, seconded, and the C.A.R.S. March meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O, C.A.R.S. secretary.

Membership is free and there are some achievement awards, links to a cluster that spots digital stations, a club newsletter and a weekly 20-meter net. You can learn about the Hellschreiber mode, join the club and get links to software at : www.feldhellclub.co.uk.

MONTHLY TRIVIA QUESTION

Submitted by Gary Dewey, NI8Z

The Bands Are Going to Hell

By Steve Gaiser, W0SDG

Here's your chance to operate one of the "new" digital modes that has a lot of history behind it.

For the past six or seven years I've enjoyed the leisurely pace of Hellschreiber, a digital mode that prints across your computer screen a bit like a fax, which is why it is sometimes dubbed the "fuzzy mode". Feld-Hell chugs along at 25 wpm, and some software allows you to print simple pictures like smiley faces and stars. Mostly you'll find US operators who like to rag chew, but I've had some European DX contacts as well.

A RICH HISTORY There is a rich history to this mode, which was originally patented in 1929 by Rudolf Hell and used extensively in portable field operations during WWII. It eventually was employed by some news services and remained in use as recently as 1980. Unlike teleprinters, Hellschreiber machines had only two moving parts and so were mobile and dependable. Today you don't need a Hellschreiber machine because of software by IZ8BLY, MultiPSK or the commercial MixW.

ANYBODY OUT THERE? Until recently, Hellschreiber enthusiasts were sometimes frustrated by the low level of activity in the mode. Then in March a Feld-Hell club was formed which has stimulated new interest in the old fuzzy mode.

What radio receiver manufacturer called themselves "The Ears of the World?"

Answers : (A) Echophone

(B) National

© Zenith

(D) Hallicrafters

Answer found elsewhere in this issue.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

W8JAK Jack Andrisin 5-1-42
KC8ZBN Marian Rubin 5-1
KB8QHC Robert Glover 5-6-48
KC8WBH John Chesna 5-6
KD8ACK Gary Milstein 5-9
WD8CHL Jim Barbour 5-9-58
WD8CWD J.W. Cox Jr. 5-11-41
KC8RYH Kayla Check 5-12-90
KA8MZS Michael Mraz 5-12-40
WB8UES Sam Jenkins 5-13-32
K8VJG Ron Borkey Sr 5-20-32

Congratulations to all!!!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SEARCHING HAMS

Members of the Collins Amateur Radio Club are active as W0CXX/MM operating in the Pacific Ocean near Western Kiribati. K0DAS, Rod, and NY0V, Tom, are assisting in the expedition to search for Amelia Earhart's aircraft. They were out helping the expedition in the spring of 2002. During that trip they were QRV for one day as T30CXX, however this year it doesn't look like that is in the plans. If they find anything you can bet this will make world wide news.

Expeditions Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

Jose Manuel Valdes Rodriguez, YV5LIX suffered a massive heart attack while on Aves Island with the YX0A team and passed away at 57 years of age. The operation continued under a new call - YX0LIX - as a tribute to his memory. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jose's family and friends.

MORE SK's

9K2AE, Sheikh Jaber III Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, passed away January 15th, at the age of 79. Sheikh Jaber, of the Al-Sabah dynasty which has ruled Kuwait since its establishing in the 1600s, was the third son of the late Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who served as Kuwait's Emir from 1921 to 1950.

G3ZQS, Geo Longden, passed away April 25th. Geo founded the FISTS group in 1987, to preserve International Morse Code. There are now thousands of FISTS members worldwide.

The above items of interest were culled from various Amateur Radio news sources. - Ed.

WANTED

Wanted: Used crossbow, in any condition as long as it works. Contact Mike K8EHP @ k8ehp@earthlink.net or call (216) 252 - 6640.

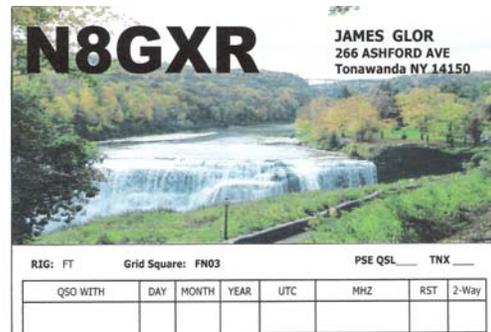
ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION

The correct answer is answer A. The EC1, EC3, EC4 Echophone Commercial of Chicago where the big ears in the '40s

QSL CARD OF THE MONTH

With this issue of the W.O. we are beginning a new feature...that of publishing member's QSL cards.

To start this feature out, we have the card of Jim (Buffalo Jim) Glor, N8GXR. Jim has been a long time member and has remained a member even though he now resides in the Buffalo New York area (hence his nickname). Jim makes it to several CARS meetings during the year and takes part in our Diabetes Assn. public service events as well, even though he is quite active with the club he belongs to in the Buffalo area.



N8GXR
JAMES GLOR
266 ASHFORD AVE
Tonawanda NY 14150

RIG: FT Grid Square: FN03 PSE QSL ___ TNX ___

QSO WITH	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHZ	RST	2-Way

AMATEURS WERE “PART OF THE SOLUTION”

From the ARRL Letter

Addressing the FCC independent panel reviewing Hurricane Katrina’s impact on communication networks, ARRL Alabama Section Mgr. Greg Sarratt, W4OZK praised amateur radio’s ability to get the job done. Speaking before the panel March 79 in Jackson, MS, Sarratt said amateur radio volunteers were tremendously effective in their ability to re-establish communication links from scratch.

“Amateur radio operators themselves were part of the solution, providing experienced communications operators to replace and supplement local public service communications personnel in the devastated area” Sarratt said. The volunteer radio amateurs and their equipment proved “very effective” in supporting emergency management, the Red Cross, the Southern Baptist Convention, The Salvation Army, and many other organizations, he told the panel.

For 37 days following Hurricane Katrina, Sarratt - working at an American Red Cross disaster relief staging area in Montgomery, AL - headed the volunteer effort to process amateur radio volunteers headed to the Gulf Coast to assist recovery operations. Sarratt told the FCC panel that his operation processed and deployed more than 200 ham radio volunteers from 35 states and Canada to devastated communities in Mississippi.

“In each town we set up an HF amateur radio station to communicate out of the area to Montgomery and the outside world” Sarratt explained. “We also set up a communications network connecting every Red Cross facility in town on a local short-range radio frequency.”

Sarratt told the FCC Panel that inter-operability is the most important thing amateur radio can bring to the table in emergency and disaster communications. “Amateurs demonstrated their adaptability by communicating successfully with a multitude of amateur, commercial, public service, EMA, Salvation Army, and Red Cross radio systems and personnel” he said.

“Radio amateurs bring a wealth of resources to the

public service and emergency communications table” Sarratt summed up. “The ARRL and amateur radio will continue to prepare, train, practice and test ourselves for the next event” he told the FCC panel. He suggested installing permanent amateur radio stations in federal, state and local emergency operations centers as well as at selected public service, Red Cross chapters, and other served agencies.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

IT’S ALMOST TIME!

Yep, it won’t be long now, and another Dayton Hamvention® will be upon us. May 19, 20, and 21 this year. I really enjoyed last years Hamvention® as the ARRL held their National Convention in conjunction with the Hamvention®. Although the ARRL is not having their convention this year, they are going to hold the ARRL EXPO which will feature ARRL exhibits, booths, and a bookstore, and you will be able to meet and chat with ARRL staff.

I have a feeling that Hamvention® attendance will be down this year due to the exorbitant fuel prices possibly keeping people away that would have otherwise been there, but I also feel that this is gonna be a good one! Try to make it for at least one day if you can.

As usual, the hams I go down to Dayton with and I will be leaving Thursday around noon, spending the duration, and coming back on Sunday afternoon. We relax with a swim in the motel pool after driving from Cleveland, go to the Spaghetti Factory in downtown Dayton for dinner, as is part of our annual ritual, and go back to the motel room and get a good night’s sleep so we can be up-and-at-em on Friday morning and get to the flea market as soon as it opens. I try to cover half of the flea market and about half of the inside stuff the first day, then finish up the flea market
Continued on next page....

and see the rest of the inside stuff the second day. You cannot possibly see everything in one day. That's a fact! If you want to visit any of the forums held each day, you need two days to see everything.

Then Sunday morning we cover some of the vendors and dealers we may want to pay a 2nd or 3rd visit. The main drawings are held early Sunday afternoon, and then it's back to Cleveland.

Friday and Saturday evenings some of us go to the Northern Ohio DX Assn. of Cleveland, hospitality room at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Dayton. There are a lot of people from other states and other countries coming and going and it is neat to meet and chat with them. There are other hospitality rooms to visit as well, sponsored by other clubs. Plus there are various banquets sponsored by various groups that you can go to as well.

I know I'll see some of you down there this year.

FIELD DAY

As President Check mentioned in his column, Field Day is fast approaching. I'm not sure how many stations we are going to have on the air this year, but if you want to bring a station and operate it, or if you just want to operate someone else's station, you are welcome. The more the merrier. We need someone to act as the Field Day Chef this year, or at least take over part of the cooking duties. The club buys the food, but we need someone to do the cooking. It ain't hard...we have real easy stuff to cook, such as hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, and of course scrambled eggs and the usual stuff that goes along with them on Sunday morning.

If you can help out in the cooking department, please let me know asap. Also, let me know if you are planning on bringing an HF station with you. We will be having a planning meeting soon, which will be announced to all those participating. Stay tuned.

PUBLIC SERVICE

We will be providing radio communications, both portable and mobile, for the Cleveland branch of the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure again this year. This event will take place on June 4th. There will be more information on this soon. Keep this date in mind and mark it on your calendars. We will need quite a few members to volunteer for this

one, as we need two or three people at the operations center, and several mobile stations along the route, plus members with vehicles that can act as a SAG wagon. I know we can count on those of you who have helped in the past, but we can always use a few more members. I know Buffalo Jim from New York will be down for this one! Right Jim?

PICNIC MEETINGS

Remember that our June, July, and August (September weather permitting?) meetings will be picnic meetings and will be held in the Oak Grove Picnic Area of the Metro Parks, at the Brecksville Reservation, as in the past few years. You can come out early and bring something to cook on the grill (CARS provides the fire) or just stop at Mickey D's on the way. The meetings start at the regular time of 7:30 p.m.

GTGOH (Gotta get outta here)

That does it for May gals and guys...hope to see you all at the May meeting. Remember...it is the SECOND TUESDAY, which is May 9. I'm usually listening on the 146.82 repeater as well. Give me a holler.

73 for now,

de Tom, WB8N

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 related publication, provided credit is given to the author and this newsletter. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to newsletter@2cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

CARS 2006 Officers & Committees

Audit7

Dave KD8V ** Bill KC8YSV, George K8KR

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

Bill Sarver KC8YSV **

Awards

Tom WB8N ** Ron K8VJG, Bill WA8GEO
George K8KR

Christmas Party 2006

Steve N8IS ** Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z
Tom WB8N, Henry KD8BAO, Jack W8JAK

Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V ** Steve N8IS ** Tina W8HBI,
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

Interference & Jamming

WB8N ** NI8Z, N8IS, W8GC

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

Toby WT8O ** Lin WD8SDP and All CARS
members

NET

Toby WT8O **

WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Program directors

Bill KC8YSV ** Jack W8JAK **

QSL manager - NO8A, W8WGM & WA8CMS

Tom WB8N **

Refreshments

Henry KD8BAO **

50/50

Mike KB8UGT **

Scholarship

Scotty WA8SLN ** Gary NI8Z, Henry KD8BAO
Ron K8VJG, Toby WT8O

Summer Picnic

K8KR ** N8IS, NI8Z, WB8N, W8HBI

Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721

Technical

Dave K8DAV** Bob W8GC ** Vince N8OVW,
Tom WB8N, Jim WD8CHL

VE exams

Gary NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV ** Bob W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

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even year executive board 2 year term

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Bill KC8YSV
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