

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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FROM THE PREZ

We had another fine turnout for our July 10 meeting with 47 in attendance. Keep up the good work!

Our July program was an educational presentation by John, K8YSE. John gave a talk on using APRS and the various equipment and formats available.

Jean Offutt, who was in attendance to see her niece Kim, KD8FTU receive her scholarship, won \$32 in the 50/50 raffle, with \$33 going into the club treasury. Congratulations Jean!

Please go to www.2007gldc.com web site and nominate a Ham for 1, 2 or 3 awards - Amateur of Year, Technical Achievement & Geo S. Wilson W4OYI GLD Award - qualifications & voting available on line, you can also print a form and snail mail it.

The August meeting will be the last outside meeting this year in the Oak Grove pavilion, at the Cleveland Metro Parks, Brecksville reservation. We will be back to Busch Funeral Chapel September 11.

By the time you read this our 2nd annual CARS picnic will be history, we have 60 signed up to attend, it will be a good time, fine food, excellent prizes and the weather forecast "looks perfect". Any left over food will be served at our August 14 meeting.

I have been able to make arrangements for CARS members and a few friends to have a guided tour of the WKYC studio at 10:00am on August 18, 2007. We will meet our own Dave, K8DAV in the lobby. Dave is an engineer at WKYC and they have agreed to have Dave host our tour. The address is 1333 Lakeside Ave, parking in front of the building and on the street. This is a Saturday morning so traffic

will not be a problem. It has been several years since our last visit, with many new members, some who missed it the last time or others who want to see it again we felt this would be a nice addition to this year's CARS summer activities.

We do have a limit for the group so contact me ASAP so you do not miss this opportunity.

Scotty, WA8SLN presented our two Scholarship winners with their \$500.00 checks. On the next page is a picture of L to R, Kim Balach, KD8FTU, Scotty, and Michael Dressler, KC8OMV.

That's it for another WO. This month's thought: *Never express yourself more clearly than you are able to think.*

73 till next month
de, Bob W8GC

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Kim on the left, Michael on the right, receiving their scholarship checks from Scotty.

JULY MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. July 2007 member's meeting was called to order by president Bob Check, W8GC at 7:35 PM on the ninth of the month. The meeting was held at the Oak Grove Picnic Area of the Cleveland Metroparks, in Brecksville, Ohio. Introductions were given by thirty-nine members and eight guests.

Ron, K8VJG motioned to accept the minutes as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator*. There were no additions, corrections, or questions; and Bob, KC8MRC seconded, and the members passed the motion.

Tina, W8HBI gave the treasurer's report on the treasury balance. Two scholarships of five hundred dollars each, and three hundred dollars for next year's Field Day were recent expenses. There were no questions asked by the members present about the treasury.

Scotty, WA8SLN, presented the 2007 C.A.R.S. scholarship awards to Kim Balach, KD8FTU; and Michael Dressler, KC8OMV. During the presentation he complimented the winners on the impressiveness of their essays. Scotty added being hams, helped both recipients win.

President Check reminded everyone to get their

tickets as soon as possible for the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention, since there are a limited amount available. He reminded the committee there will be a meeting Saturday July, 21st.

A special election was necessary to replace vice president Bill, WA8GEO. Bill stepped down in order to focus on personal obligations. Ron, K8VJG nominated Scotty, WA8SLN as the new vice president. There were no other nominations. Terry, KB8DTC motioned to accept the nomination, and Steve, N8IS seconded. The members voted on, and passed the motion, electing Scotty as the new vice president. Gary, NI8Z, reported that the last VE session was very successful with ten of the eleven people testing passing their respective tests. Gary was especially grateful to Dave and Pat Dressler who brought three students to be tested. All three of the students passed the Technician exam. Gary paused to thank the VE team for doing a great job, and welcomed Scotty to the team. He noted that the next VE session would be in September. Dwaine, K8ME regretfully announced the Mather project has come to an end. The new management group could not come to an agreement on the antenna placement. The equipment has been removed and the license has been canceled.

The annual summer picnic plans were discussed by George, K8KR. The picnic will be held this year on Friday, July 27th, at the Independence Civic Center pavilion. There will be no charge for members or their families. He said it would be held from 6:00 PM until dark. George talked about the great food being planned, door prizes and games.

Bill, KC8YSV the ARRL liaison, reminded members to pay their ARRL dues through C.A.R.S. He outlined future meeting programs. August will feature Mike, KB8BMY speaking on GPS geo-caching; and in September, Mike will do a program on hand crank flashlights and radios. Dave, KD8V sunshine chairman, announced there were no cards sent out in the last month. He said the ham club at the Copley Middle School would be participating at the Soap Box Derby, in

continued .on next page....

Akron, providing communications.

Toby, WT8O reviewed the success of Field Day. He gave special thanks to Bill, N8BBB for his efforts providing participants and guests with great meals during the weekend. Toby added that this year's Field Day would be captured on a video which will soon be on the C.A.R.S. website. He said the nets were doing well, and Mike, KB8BMY would be starting as a net control station.

Tom, WB8N mentioned there was good input for the last *WO*. He appreciated the article sent in from Jim, N8GXR, from Buffalo, NY; and the pictures Scotty took at Field Day.

Dave, K8DAV said he put an announcement for Great Lakes Division Convention on the repeater. He also has purchased software to program the ham class lessons in VB.Net, which will make them compatible with older operating systems and pocket PCs. Dave is going to change the time out timer from three minutes to five minutes in net mode. Bob, W8GC asked the members to take a few minutes to go to the Great Lakes Division Convention website (www.2007gldc.com) and nominate deserving hams for any or all of the listed awards – Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, and the George S. Wilson, W4OYI, GLD Award. He also reminded members to sign up for the C.A.R.S. logo hats. The hats will also feature the individuals name and call, and will be a khaki hat with a navy blue bill; at a cost of fifteen dollars.

Jean Offutt, in attendance to see her niece Kim, KD8FTU receive her scholarship, won the 50/50 raffle, and received \$32, with \$33 going into the club treasury.

Gary, NI8Z motioned to close the meeting, and Bob, KC8MRC seconded. The members passed the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

Following the meeting, a presentation was given by John, K8YSE on APRS. His in depth discussion and visual demonstration was of great interest to the members.

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

EXCERPTS FROM WEAVER'S WORDS

By Great Lakes Division Director,
Jim Weaver, K8KE
Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

DIVISION CONVENTION

I have never seen a harder working bunch of convention or hamfest workers than we have for the 2007 Great Lakes Division Convention. The program they've assembled, coupled with the tremendous speakers, the banquet and even the DX card checking -- especially the card checkers -- are unprecedented. In this latter feature, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN and I will even check 160 M cards which ordinarily can be checked only at HQ.

Take a few minutes to check the many features, speakers and other quality assets the Cleveland sponsors have arranged for September 22. The web site is <http://www.2007gldc.com/>. What you will find is a lotta bang for your buck.

QUESTION: Who runs ARRL? Answer this question (to yourself) before you read further. I'll bet many of you said it is HQ or Dave Sumner, K1ZZ who runs the League. If you'd have bet money or a rig on this answer, you'd have lost. ARRL is run by the Board of Directors. It is the Board of Directors that develops all policy for ARRL. Our HQ staff implements policies the Board develops. The day-to-day operation of ARRL is managed by staff under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Dave reports to the Board of 15 Directors through the Board President, Joel Harrison, W5ZN.

The fact that many members believe that the tail (HQ) wags the dog (the Board) was particularly apparent from several comments I received relative to the last survey.

When you have a question about the operation of an established program (e.g. DXCC, Field Day, etc.) operates, contact HQ. When you have a question about ARRL policy (e.g. whether there should be DXCC, Field Day, etc.) or what I am *continued on next page....*

doing as Director, ask me.

One additional point is that your Section Manager also plays heavily in the picture. SMs report to HQ, not to the Director. They are responsible for managing many ARRL programs in the field -- their Section. If you have a question concerning, for example, how ARES or the OO Corps operates in your Section, contact the Section Manager.

FIELD DAY CAN BE DANGEROUS

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

W7EKM, Al Johnson, became a Silent Key on July 16th, due to a fall he took putting away Field Day equipment. Al was Washington State Ham of the Year, mentor and friend of all. He was an avid DXer and contester, having all countries worked Phone & CW, 5BDXCC, 5BWAZ, and close to 150 on 160 meters. A member of the British Columbia DX Club.

NEW DXCC ENTITIES ?

Curtsey of Bernie W3UR and "The Dailey DX"

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

Many people have asked about the disbanding of the Netherland Antilles (PJ), which was expected on July 1, 2007. The termination of the Netherlands Antilles is now planned for December 15, 2008, which is the Netherlands "Kingdom Day". An agreement was made on July 12th making Sint Maarten (PJ7) a country within the kingdom. Bonaire (PJ4), Sint Eustatius (PJ5) and Saba (PJ6) would become special municipalities of the Netherlands. Curacao (PJ2) is also expected to become a separate country within the Kingdom. As of this moment it looks as if December 15, 2008 the Kingdom of the Netherlands will be four countries (The Netherlands, including the three special municipalities of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba, Aruba, Curacao and Sint Maarten. There is a

strong possibility we could see two new DXCC counters (Curacao and Sint Maarten). We will have to wait and see exactly how this will pan out for DXCC as we get closer to the end of next year.

OHIO QSO PARTY

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

The 2007 running of the Ohio QSO Party will be Saturday, August 25. It goes from noon to midnight, EDT. Activity will be on the HF bands, 10 through 80 meters, CW and SSB.

Stations inside Ohio can work anyone, anywhere. Stations outside of Ohio (anywhere in the world, and yes, we do get entrants from Europe) can only work stations in Ohio -- so we Buckeyes are the hunted, not the hunters for a change!

There are numerous awards (certificates and plaques) available -- including a club competition. To date, these are the sponsored plaques, available to the top scorers in each category:

Ohio Single Operator High Power
Ohio Single Operator Low Power
Ohio Single Operator QRP
Ohio Single Operator Phone
Out of State Single Operator High Power
Out of State Single Operator Low Power
Out of State Single Operator QRP
Single Operator DX
Ohio Multi Operator
Ohio Mobile
Ohio Club
YL

The OQP Organizing Committee is hoping that Ohio hams are making plans to be active, whether from home, camp or mobile in the Ohio countryside. The OQP Committee's annual goal is to have all 88 counties on the air. There will be *continued on next page....*

plenty of activity for all 12 hours. Operate for a short time or the whole contest period -- whatever suits your time budget. Full details are on the official OQP web site, <http://www.oqp.us>. Past scores, a "Quick Start Guide" to the OQP, logging software information, paper forms and operating aids, and a regularly updated page showing planned activity, county by county, are all there for you.

For the latest OQP information, there is also an e-mail reflector. You can sign up for it on the OQP Web Site.

If you have any questions, they may be directed to af8a@arrl.net or jimk8mr@aol.com.

We hope you'll join in the fun of the 2007 Ohio QSO Party, Saturday August 25!

For the Ohio QSO Party Committee,
73 de Gary, AF8A

CARS HOLIDAY PARTY NEWS

By Tina Check, W8HBI

The CARS Holiday Party date has changed from Sat., Dec 8th to Sat. Dec 15th. CARS Calendars handed out have the wrong date in them -- please adjust the date !!

We hope you will keep us in mind when making your holiday plans. The party is always a lot of FUN!

PEDAL TO THE POINT

By T.J. Powell, N8UIR

NEOMRC needs volunteers for the MS "Pedal to the Point" BIKE RIDE on August 18th & 19th. This is a large event which has about 2000 cyclist riding from Berea to Sandusky on the 18th and back to Berea on the 19th. NEOMRC has been established based upon our reputation and service to the National MS Society at his event and others.

NEOMRC would most likely not even exist if it were not for the "Pedal to the Point". WE NEED YOUR HELP! For some reason, unknown to me,

our volunteer numbers are low for this year.

We still need more teams (2 EMTs / 1 Ham / 1 Vehicle per team) to properly cover this bike ride. We need to staff 9 ham radio operators at the start/finish/rest stops, etc. We would also like to place hams at major intersections and along the route to be the eyes and ears and alert the proper personal of any problems.

Each day will run from approx 06:00 until 17:00. Volunteers are needed for both days but if you can only provide 1 day or even part of day we can accommodate you! You do not need to be a member of NEOMRC to volunteer.

In the past we have had as many as 45 volunteers, right now we have about 1/2 that number!

If you'd like to come out and help, please contact me at 440-897-8122 or via e-mail to tpowell@neomrc.org.

You can also contact Jeff Garvas at jeff@cia.net and/or Doug Dever at ddever@neomrc.org.

Please volunteer and/or pass this information along to anyone who you think might be interested.
Thank you for your support.

JULY VOLUNTEER EXAMINER ACTIVITY

By Gary Dewey, NI8Z

The July Volunteer Examination candidates at the Independence Townhall earned 10 new licenses or upgrades. Among those coming to this test session were 3 students from the Copley-Fairlawn Middle School. Dave Dressler (KD8V) and his wife Pat (KD8DYI) came with the students and their parents to witness the testing process and success of these aspiring hams. Each of the students passed the Technician test element.

This is considered a culmination of the effort
continued on next page...

all those who established the CFMS radio station, KC8CMS, and bought many students into to learn about amateur radio. Two of the eleven attending the July VE activity were automatic upgrades to General by virtue of the rule changes.

The VE team consisting of Bob Check; W8GC, George Pindroh; K8KR, K8VJG, Ron Borkey; K8DAV, Dave Kushman; N8IS, Steve Riley; KC8YSV Bill Sarver; and WA8SLN, "Scotty" Shields; made the examination process run like a well oiled Swiss watch.

SCOTTY'S RAMBLINGS

Let me introduce myself as your new VP. My call is WA8SLN and I was first licensed in 1965 as WN8SLN. The main reason was that my elder brother had an Advanced ticket WB4AIQ and lived in Florida. The first year I struggled with the code and it encouraged me to get my General so we could use phone... Scotsmen always like to save money!!

Unfortunately the key was then put in the cupboard in favor of SSB, a move I now regret.

I soon became a frequent customer of Bernies Ham Shack, although my first receiver was an HA-350 from Lafayette Radio. Those were the days..... ½ microvolt sensitivity !!. My main interest has always been Rag Chewing. That is why I chose the heading to this column.

I have been retired for 10 years from my electronic instrument business (now run by my son Bruce). We have been operating in the area for 35 years.

When I joined CARS about two years ago, I thought I was through with studying but Bob, our President inspired me to push on and get my EXTRA, which I did, and then joined the VE Team ranks. So thanks Bob. Joining CARS is the best thing that I have done since reaching the ripe old age of 75. Let me say, you get out of any club what you put into it so... **PLEASE** join in as many club activities you can manage. There are lots of great

people and friends to enjoy the meetings and events with.

The WA8SLN shack now consists of an ICOM IC-746 pro, a Hustler 4BTV ground mounted vertical, a Mosley TA-33 jr with Ham II rotor roof mounted at 30ft, a home brew 750 w. amplifier (soon to be replaced Santa co-operating!!)

So that's my story.

73, de Scotty

MEMBER INTERVIEW

This month's interview is with Metro Sinko, W8MET.

How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?

In 1968, on my parents had an old phono/am/shortwave console and I heard dits and dahs in the am mode and asked my dad what was that sound....he told me ...Morse code. At that time, he took me to Bernie's ham shack and I picked up the ARRL radiotelegraph code book and studied and passed my Novice, then General, then Advanced class license.

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

I have been licensed since 1968 and am an extra class licensee.

What do you like about Amateur Radio?

Morse code...old and new radios....antennas...meeting new people via CW/SSB/FM/eyeball.

What are your favorite bands/modes to work ?
10-160 CW and SSB

What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?

I have a Yaesu MARK V....Drake TR7...Yaesu FT-100D.....DIPOLES.....R8 Cushcraft antennas.

Do you have any Awards or Certificates you want to mention? (Ham related or other)

W.A.S.....W.A.C.....DXCC.....Morse Code
continued on next page...

What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?

I Retired from the Ohio Bell Telephone company. I was a tester for install and maintenance circuits from point a-z with 2 wire and 4 wire and 6 wire circuits concerning all special circuits from ATM to Police and Fire to BMV to Airport from origination to termination from central office to D-MARC working with inside and outside technicians and other Telco's in Ohio or whatever state

Do you participate in any CARS projects or functions? If so which ones?

I check into the CARSNet on Wednesdays and attend meetings.

What other projects or functions would you like to see CARS get involved with?

Too bad we lost the Steamship W.G. Mather Museum... It would be nice to have another such point of interest for Public awareness

Additional comments:

I now support my XYL Linda, N8LRS by being her coach or the man behind the scenes to help her with everyday operations in her QSO's and QSL's and whatever arises.....73,W8MET METRO

Thanks to Metro for taking the time to introduce himself. Hope to hear you on the next net or see you all at the next meeting.

73, Scotty, WA8SLN, CARS V.P.

2nd ANNUAL CARS PICNIC

By Scotty Shields, WA8SLN

Friday 27 July 2007 was a great evening for the club annual picnic. The event was run by George, K8KR chairman and his team: WB8N, W8HBI and KB8UGT. The hamburgers, hotdogs, sausages with all the trimmings were just great with everyone once again commenting on the excellent coleslaw (secret recipe of George's !!) True to say everyone had their fill and the ladies provided a wonderful selection of deserts.

The Committee surprised all present with several nice door prizes of certificates to The Olive

Garden Restaurant to the lucky winners of the drawings. What a nice club CARS is to belong to. I think a good time was had by all and our



Several of the members chowing down

attendance record was almost excellent (54 out of 60). The thunderstorm that broke about 7.30 pm was hardly noticed, as everyone was having such a good time . Till next year, hard to improve but I bet they will try!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

KC8YSV William Sarver 8-9-44

N8IS Steve Riley 8-11-66

KB8BMY Mike Thomas 8-12-60

KD8FTS Eddie Stevens 8-14

WB8N Tom Wayne 8-17-40 (Old Fart !)

K8EEW Richard Engum 8-21-38

W8SEL Nash Walters 8-22-15

KC8LAU Gerald Purcell 8-24-61

KB3KQS April Walton 8-29

Many Happy Returns to you all !

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK INTO THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT C.A.R.S. NET AT 9:00 P.M. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID! YOU MIGHT EVEN GET THE CORRECT ANSWER TO THE TRIVIA QUESTION !

BREAKING NEWS

From your C.A.R.S. News Team: This just in....by our roving reporter, Bob, W8GC.

Late today, August 1, 2007, our 146.820 repeater was connected to Echolink using node: 343470. We will be setting levels and working on security issues over the next week.

We need to thank John K8YSE, Steve N8IS, Dave K8DAV, and I guess myself for getting the Echolink connection working. It is connected using a Kenwood TM-V71A to the Internet through my DS-3.

We did have 2 check-ins for the Wednesday evening C.A.R.S. net over Echolink; one in Paris, TN and Ed, KD8CLC after only being connected for about 3 hours. Stay tuned for updates.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

CONGRATULATIONS..

To C.A.R.S. for another successful family picnic on Friday evening, July 27th. Although we did have some rain, it did not dampen our spirit and I think I can safely say that EVERYONE that attended had a GREAT time. We had good food, good comradery, good attendance, and I for one am looking forward to next year's picnic. George, K8KR was in charge and provided great eats. He and I co-chef'd, but he was the main man. The rain came down fast and furious for a short time but we were under cover and I think I got the wettest because I had to make a walking dash to my vehicle to close the windows in the middle of the downpour. Great job again George, for putting on the second annual C.A.R.S. Family Picnic.

TOUR de CURE PLAQUE

I became the recipient of a nice plaque for C.A.R.S. for our participation in the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure, which was held in June. I will present this to the membership at the next meeting. This is the first time we have been

awarded a physical form of gratitude for our participation in their fund-raising events.

WEDNESDAY EVENING C.A.R.S. NET

I want to welcome Mike, KB8BMY as our newest addition to the Wednesday C.A.R.S. net roster of net-controllers. Mike did a fine job on his first outing as net control, and even pulled in two stations from our neighbor Canada, as well as being the first net-controller to check in two stations using Echo-Link! Great job Mike!

SPECIAL CHOW AT THE NEXT MEETING

The next C.A.R.S. meeting, Tuesday, August 14th, will be our last outing at the Oak Grove Picnic Area of the Brecksville branch of the Metro-parks. As a special treat, not only will we have a cook-fire up and going, we will have FREE FOOD, in the form of hot dogs and kielbasa, along with condiments, and there are also 16 fantastic hamburgers (low-fat) for the first members to get there early and take advantage of this great offer! So come one, come all...early arrivals will get the best pickin's. George, K8KR and I will be there doing the burning and flipping of the meat. There might even be some fantastic baked beans, but at this time I cannot make that promise. Hey, what do ya want for nuthin?

73 FER NW....

de Tom, WB8N

The ole W.O. comes to you as a monthly rag of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles, whether true or not, may be reprinted in any Ham rag, as long as credit is given to this rag and the author, if known. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to:

newsletter@2cars.org by the 24th of the month if you want to see your handiwork in print in the next month's issue. If you have read this missive, let me, WB8N, know at the next meeting or the next time we meet on the air. I'll have something special for you.