

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



February 2010

VOLUME 39

ISSUE 2

C.A.R.S. LICENSE CLASSES TO START NEXT MONTH..... SIGN UP NOW! DETAILS INSIDE.

FROM THE PREZ

At the January meeting, the members almost unanimously decided to plan a dinner meeting similar to the one we had last February. The dinner meeting will be held March 9th. For those new to C.A.R.S., or those who were not involved last year, the basic format was that we met at a restaurant and had dinner before the business meeting. The purpose was to extend the time we spend together as a group increasing the camaraderie. For those who chose not to have dinner, the meeting was held at the restaurant and started at its normal time of 7:30 PM. We had a lot of fun doing it last year, and it was not surprising that almost every hand went up when we asked who would like to do it again. We need to settle on a location, though. If anyone has a suggestion of where to hold the dinner meeting in March, please contact me with your thoughts. We will select a place at the February meeting, but it would be good to have some proposals in place by then.

We also have decided to change our Field Day location to the city of Grafton. We will be using an undeveloped area, so it will be a true Field Day, similar to the original ones. One

thing we realized at last years Field Day amongst the QRN and QRM, CW really broke through . CW also yields twice as many points per QSO in the Field Day scoring system. There is something magic about “The Code”. The musical cadence of the dits and dahs make a sacred sound to hams, similar to the purr of a well-tuned engine to a mechanic or the reassuring four clicks of a single action Colt to a pistolero. Many of us needed to learn CW to get on the HF bands. Some kept using the code and worked the world with it. Some passed their respective tests and forgot about it.

continued on next page.....

Contents:

<i>From the Prez.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>Meeting Minutes.....</i>	<i>pg 2</i>
<i>My View.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>A Closer Look.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Member Profile.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Birthdays.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>The Random Wire.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>GEARVAKf Bulletin excerpts... </i>	<i>pg 6</i>

PAY YOUR DUES NOW !

We always say that's the beauty of our hobby, there are many facets to the jewel of amateur activities; a ham can choose his interests. But CW shines the brightest. It has since the beginning of long distance communication through wires across this great nation of ours, eventually on the radio waves between continents, and is still clicking away at this very moment. I encourage everyone who has pondered becoming proficient with the code to go for it. I am sad to admit, I am one of those who has let the code fall by the wayside. Recently something grabbed me, and I have been killing batteries on the practice oscillator that one of our senior members so graciously lent me. Maybe it's the influence of some of the CW experts in C.A.R.S., maybe it's the way it worked so well at last year's Field Day, or maybe it's like the purr of a Harley or the clicks of a Colt.

73, Toby, WT8O

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. January monthly meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Toby Kolman, WT8O on the 12th of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Oh. Twenty three members and two guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Ron, K8VJG motioned to accept the November minutes as published in the January Wobbly Oscillator, and Bill, WU8A seconded. There were no additions, or questions so the members passed the motion.

Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was about same as the last report. Bob also stated dues are due and that you can pay for them online thru PayPal. Members that have not paid by the end of March members will be removed from the membership roster. Bob also mentioned that we will be having only one scholarship raffle this year. Tickets will be available at the next

meeting.

Cars will be starting license classes in March. We will only be giving classes once this year. Toby, WT8O gave the Net report and thanked all the net controllers and everyone who checks into the net and encouraged anyone with a two meter radio to check in.

Toby announced that Field Day this year will be at his 25 acre property in Grafton. Toby passed out a sign up sheet for Field Day, which he will be passing around at every meeting until the event.

The summer picnic will be held on July 30 at the Kiwanis pavilion behind the Independence Civic Center. Everyone liked the dinner meeting last year so another one is in the making.

Toby reported that he was approached by the Boy Scouts for their national event which will be held at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea. on May 22nd. They want someone to set up an HF station to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the scouts. Eddie, KD8FTS and Gary, NI8Z volunteered and welcome any volunteer help. Vice President Gary, NI8Z said that Cars will be having programs every month courtesy of the ARRL. He asked all members to fill out the questionnaire on the member page of the C.A.R.S. web site. It is a sort of biography of your Amateur Radio history.

Gary then gave the VE report and said that they had two applicants, one of which took his EXTRA and passed and the other took his TECH and GENERAL and passed both of them. Congrats to them both. Scotty, WA8SLN, Sunshine Chairman, sent out five cards, one to Ron, K8VJG's wife Arlene was in the hospital, Metro, W8MET had to have knee surgery and developed some problems, Bob Winston, W2THU was having surgery, David, WD8IOU's wife Karen fell and broke her knee cap. We wish all them a speedy recovery .

Scotty then said that now is the time to talk to your eligible family members about the C.A.R.S. Scholarships. Recipients can be you or as far down the line in your family as your grand children.

continued on next page....

Dwaine, K8ME talked about the Dayton bus trip and passed out fliers for the bus trip. Tickets for the bus are \$40 apiece and do not include your ticket for the Hamvention. We need at least 35 people on the bus to break even.

Tom, WB8N asked everyone to send articles and pictures for the W.O. Deadline is the 26th of the month.

Members voted on two new members; Rich Williams, KD8MTG and Todd Kirkpatrick, K8TAK. Toby, WT8O motioned to accept them as members, Steve, N8SRJ seconded and they were voted in. Congrats guys.

Dave KD8V could not make the meeting but reported to Bob, W8GC that the Copley school club will get the antenna mounted on the High School when the weather breaks, The Middle School is doing fine. Dave also wants to thank everyone in C.A.R.S. club who helps.

Dave, K8DAV of the technical committee said that as soon as the weather breaks and he can get to the repeater site the Echo Link will be installed at its new location at the site.

Thanks to Darren, K8DMT for the coffee, Mike, KB8UGT for the soft drinks and Ron, K8JJG for the donuts. Thanks for doing a great service.

The 50/50 winner was Ed, WB8ROK who took home \$26.00.

Bill, WU8A made motion to close the meeting, Gary, NI8Z seconded and the meeting was closed at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Stephen Jones, N8SRJ
C.A.R.S. Secretary.

MY VIEW

By Dave Kushman, K8DAV

The new Technician license questions are out. Looking it over for the first time, I see an improvement that I haven't seen in a while. Small, but better.

There are actual schematic drawings! Wow, what an innovative way to get started in radio. I think there is a place for everything, ssb, cw, digital, Echolink, IRLP and whatever else but getting started in this hobby especially since one is taking a test to be licensed by the government

should still hold some meaning. It is what it is. Never mind what you think about the government.

I listen to a few bands but talk very little. Some of what I hear is interesting and others get so outlandish that I wonder how they ever got a license. Rag chewing is great and a big part of ham radio whether on cw, ssb or digital but to get started in this hobby one should really sit down and learn what it means. This is AMATEUR RADIO not AMATEUR CB or AMATEUR COMPUTER. The amateur radio TECHNICIAN license seems to infer the person holding it knows some basics about the inner workings of electronics as it applies to radio. I said some basics. Nobody is expecting a ham to be an engineer or an electrician. Should the technician be able to take apart his radio and put it back together? Absolutely not. Should the amateur know that putting up a beam antenna with "one half of an element missing, the one opposite the one with that short stick connected to the longer stick", does more than lower the wind resistance which was also part of the QSO. That one almost made me crawl under the desk. I did want to scream into the mike 'Gamma match' but instead I did turn the radio off. The guy he was talking to wasn't much better. I guess if the radio doesn't turn itself off, it must be working just fine. VSWR what? The last item was is what prompted me to write this. It just kept eating at me for the last few weeks.

Test:

What best describes a way to change an analog signal to digital.

- A. An AM to FM converter
- B. A Barnstead filter.
- C. An A to D converter
- D. A balanced mixer.

Amateur radio is also service oriented. The kind of service that provides communications when commercial systems go down. For those who have not experienced it, cell phone systems do shut down. Repeaters do go down. Somewhat less likely in this country but it does happen. Not everyone is cut out to deal with people during the course of a volunteer event. Fine, but you should *continued on next page....*

at least give it a try. You might be needed and you might like it.

If you don't understand something, ask! No one will criticize or shun you. I think in most cases they will give a straight forward answer or they will find the answer and get back to you. At least that's what most every ham I know personally would do.

So, besides memorizing the questions and answers to the test, go to the library or buy a book and learn what it means to have that ticket (license). Looking things up on the computer is nice, not always correct but certainly convenient.

If you answered anything else but C to the test question. You need to read a smidgen more.

Now, go make some QSO's. Yes I know that's a cw term.

A CLOSER LOOK

By Tina Check, W8HBI

This time we'll take a closer look at Jim (Buffalo Jim) Glor, N8GXR

Where were you born? **Buffalo, NY**

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Vacations at the family farm.

If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be and why? **60 I like being retired.**

What is your favorite food? **steak**

What are your favorite TV shows? **CSI shows, Fringe, NCIS, Heroes**

What are your favorite movies? **Star Trek, pretty much sci-fi movies**

What type of music do you enjoy the most? **60's thru present day.**

What one thing do you make it a habit to do every day? **laugh**

What would be your ideal job, other than your current one or retired **position? I always wanted to be in law enforcement.**

Who or what always makes you laugh? **comedy**

What one thing would people be surprised to know about you? **I'm going to get my motorcycle license.**

If you could pick one place in the world to visit, where would it be and why? **Alaska, My**

daughter was stationed there and told me how beautiful it was.

If you were an animal which one would it be? **Eagle**

If you won the lottery what is the first thing you would do with the **money? Let me count the ways!!**

Thanks Jim

MEMBER PROFILE

This month we will profile Gary Dewey, NI8Z.

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

When I was going to College in Toledo I met a student who was in the same situation as I. We both served in the military and we attending Engineering on the G. I. Bill. I came back to the states after asking for a deferment from the Agency to go to college. My Elmer is K8ARY. Still a very good friend now living in N.C. He talked me into getting my ham license. He was a general class at the time and wanted to go to Detroit to take the test and asked if I wanted to try. I did and the rest is history

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

My first license was for General in 1978 N8BVD. I upgraded in 1981 to Extra with the call I now have, NI8Z

What do you like about Amateur Radio?

The ability to talk to anyone in the world who is also an amateur radio operator. They many aspects of radio technology. I like the way computers have made some means of communication easier. And, mainly the way to meet others with similar interests.

What are your favorite bands/modes to work ?

My favorite band now is 30 meters. It's a cw/digital band. No SSB or AM I work a lot of PSK31 and CW on that band. I am a member of the 30MDG (30 meter digital group) with the # 1993, the year I retired.

continued on next page....

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

I own all the radios I've purchased. I started with Kenwood brand radios. I've transitioned to Icom. I have the IC706g, the Icom746 Pro, and the Icom 756 Pro 2 along with a PW1 amplifier.

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

I am a DXCC holder for CW and RTTY. Have been #1 in Ohio in the RTTY Roundup Contest.

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

As I mentioned I retired in 1993 from Centerior Energy as an Electrical Engineer working in Marketing Services.

I transferred here to Cleveland from Toledo in 1986. I've worked in Distribution Engineering, Substation Design and Industrial Customer Relations all as Engineering activities. Now I work parttime as a Ranger at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course.

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

Yes, all of them.

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

I've set some goals to strive for in 2010. Come to the meetings and you will hear all about them.

Thanks Gary.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- KB8UGT Michael Balach 2-2-55
- KD8FTV Diane Balach 2-7
- KD8V David Dressler 2-11-32
- WA8ZJV Ronald Boehnlein 2-11-46
- N8JNO Gary Solomon 2-15-54
- K8OAE Ken Osicki 2-23
- KG8MTG Mike Gamber 2-23
- W8HBI Tina Check 2-24-70
- N8SSL Paul Magyar 2-26-70

Many happy returns to you all !

Check into the weekly C.A.R.S. net on Wednesday nights at 9:00 P.M.

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PAID YOUR DUES TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND WILL HAVE NO C.A.R.S. PRIVILEGES. DON'T GET SHUT OUT !

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

That Time of Year

As I sit here trying to think of what to write for this month, it is clear that Old Man Winter is back with us. There's about 2 inches of that nasty white stuff on the ground and it is still coming down. Definitely no weather for playing with antennas! But spring is right around the corner, at least that's what I keep telling myself.

Hamfest Time

February does bring us to one of the better hamfests of the year, the Mid Winter Hamfest and Computer Show in Mansfield Ohio. It will be held on Sunday, February 14th. This one is one of my favorites, with lots of vendors, and lots of "flea market" tables. It is held at the Richland County Fairgrounds and is held in three buildings. This hamfest is sponsored by the Intercity Amateur Radio Club and they do a great job of putting the hamfest on. Besides the usual, There will be a Ohio Army MARS Forum, an ARRL forum, and the ARRL will have a table set up as well. There will also be a VE test session. There's coffee, soft drinks, and good food in the cafeteria too.

I always see a lot of hams from the Greater Cleveland area there and enjoy seeing friendly faces that I haven't seen or chatted with in a while.

Granted, it's a bit of a drive, but if you buddy up with a friend and share the gas cost, it's not bad at all. So I hope to see many of you down in Mansfield. I know you'll enjoy it.

Dues Reminder

As noted elsewhere in this issue of the Wobbly Oscillator, if you have not yet paid your dues for 2010, you are past due and are dangerously close to being removed from the C.A.R.S. membership roster and losing all club privileges. You can pay *continued on next page....*

your dues at the next meeting or go online to www.2cars.org and pay them via PayPal.

TAFN

That's All For Now Folks. Hope to see you all at the February meeting or catch you on the air, or both.

73, de Tom, WB8N

EXCERPTS FROM THE GEARVAKf BULLETIN

Reprinted with permission.

Submitted by Tom Wayne, WB8N

Congress to Pass Copyright Laws governing all Radio Frequencies

By K8DMZ

The Speaker of the House of Representatives has told House members that she intends to pass legislation that will require the copyrighting of American radio frequencies. In addition to tightening licensing requirements, she wants the Congress to force the FCC to register *all* privately owned RF transmitters and receivers in the USA. The RF spectrum is to be divided into millions of discrete bands, each of which will be no wider than 3 KHz. Users of radio frequencies will have to (1) pay fees to apply for an RF use license, (2) pay additional copyright license fees for each RF band used, and (3) pay equipment registration approval fees for *non-exclusive* use of each discrete 3 KHz RF band. All fee payments and approvals must be completed before signal receptions or transmissions are attempted. To prevent rules violations, all RF assignments will be voided upon passage of the proposed legislation, and all RF communications methods will cease. Existing transmitters and receivers will be confiscated and destroyed, including simple "cat's whisker & galena crystal" type radio and TV sets, van DeGraff generators, Tesla coils, radio controlled toys and of course, cell phones. Government officials will be exempt from all the new rules.

FCC Reassigns 11 Meter Band

N4GG News Service

The LRRR, QC Magazine, and noted Amateur

Radio pundits were caught completely off-guard last Week when the FCC, skipping in's NPRM and other procedures, announced without warning that it was reassigning the 11 meter band to the amateur service effectively immediately. "Look," said Suzie Conflictus, FCC spokes-babe, "the Citizens Band has been a total, unmitigated, dismal, ungodly mess since wee took it from the nerds in 1955 and gave it to the general public. Don't quote me on this," she continued, "but whoever thought this up were a bunch of mindless nincompoops and ought to have their heads cemented to a pair of headphones tuned to 28.185 MHZ with the volume turned all the way up for the next six months. Account ability baby, accountability! That's what the new improved FCC is all about."

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio 44131-0264. Articles appearing in this publication may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided that credit is given to this newsletter and to the author, if known. 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. All articles published in the Wobbly Oscillator become the property of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. If you are reading this, you have become obligated to attend as many of the C.A.R.S. meetings during the year as possible. You must also check into the weekly C.A.R.S. net on 146.820 at 9:00 p.m.

CARS 2010 Officers & Committees

Audit

NI8Z ** W8HBI,

Audio Video

Steve N8IS ** K8DAV

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

NI8Z **

ARRL WAS & VUCC Checker

K8ME **

Awards

W8GC ** W8HBI, K8VJG, WT8O

Christmas Party

W8GC ** WU8A, W8HBI, N8IS

Field Day food 2010

W8GC ** N8BBB,

License classes

W8GC ** WT8O ** NI8Z, WA8SLN, W8MET

Development

W8GC ** All officers

Diabetes events

WB8N ** All CARS members

Field Day

WT8O ** W8GC, K8SAS, W8MET

Interference & Jamming

K8DAV ** NI8Z, N8IS

Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8MET ** W8GC, K8VJG

Membership

W8GC ** W8HBI

NET

WT8O **

Newsletter

WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Club Photographer

WA8SLN **

Summer Picnic 2010

W8GC ** WB8N ** N8BBB

Program director

NI8Z **

Property Custodian s

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

QSL manager - NO8A, W8BM, WA8CMS & WA8CHS

WB8N **

Refreshments

KB8UGT, pop ** K8DMT, coffee **
K8VJG ** donuts

50/50

K8DMT

Scholarship

WA8SLN ** NI8Z, WT8O, N8SRJ, K8VJG

School Programs

KD8V ** W8GC

Sunshine (welfare)

Scotty Shields WA8SLN
216-524-2358

Technical

W8GC ** N8OVW ** N8SRJ

VE exams

NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV ** W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman



2010 Officers

PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-572-1544
president@2cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Gary Dewey, NI8Z 216-642-8705
vice-president@2cars.org

SECRETARY

Steve Jones N8SRJ 330-351-2181 c
secretary@2cars.org

TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750
treasurer@2cars.org

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Tina Check W8HBI 216-520-2621

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman

Tom Wayne, WB8N 440-232-4193, 216-253-0540 c

even year executive board 2 year term

W8MET, WB8N, W8EBB

odd year executive board 2 year term

K8VJG, K8ME, K8SAS

K8ZFR trustee

K8DAV

NO8A, W8BM, WA8CHS, WA8CMS

trustee
W8GC





Sign up now for CARS Spring Ham Radio classes, get your Technician, General or Extra class license!

**Thursday evenings starting March 4, 2010 *
and ending April 15, 2010**

*April 15, 2010 will be a special VE Test session for all license classes,
ARRL fee for this VE test is \$15.00*

**To register please follow the link at www.2cars.org and complete
the on-line application or call 216-524-1750 Bob, W8GC**

***Classes are held at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Dr. in the
PIN OAK room at 7:00 pm every Thursday***

**class fees: Technician \$25.00, General and Extra \$20.00 non
members or \$15.00 CARS members, fee includes all class materials**

*** Please arrive between 6:15 and 6:30 pm on Thursday March 4th only
for orientation and to receive your class materials.**





Go to
www.2cars.org
to reserve and
pay for your
tickets

2010 Dayton Hamvention Bus Trip

CARS is again sponsoring a Bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention, the 2010 bus trip will take place on Saturday May 15.

The Bus trip will cost \$40.00 dollars per person, we need a minimum of 35 people to break even, the bus will be stopping for breakfast on the way down, with a brief stop on the way home for quick bite. You are responsible for your food and Hamvention ticket costs.

The bus will be leaving at 3:30 am from the Kmart parking lot at the intersection of Engle Road and Bagley Road, in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, Engle Road is a 1/4 mile west of I-71, which is the first intersection you come to, Kmart is behind the BP Gas station. Vehicles will be safe, there will be security to watch cars.

Bus tickets must be purchased and paid for in advance. If we do not sell 35 bus tickets by May 8, 2010 the bus will be cancelled and your money returned.

If you have any questions please see Dwaine K8ME at a cars meeting, CALL 440-582-3462 or go to www.2cars.org and click on Dayton Bus trip to reserve a seat or pay by PayPal. Checks can be sent to: CARS, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264 attn. Dayton Bus committee

73, Dwaine, K8ME and the committee