

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



JANUARY 2012

VOLUME 41

ISSUE 1

HAPPY 2012 EVERYONE !

FROM THE PREZ

Another year begins for C.A.R.S. But before flipping the page on the calendar, we need to acknowledge and thank the members who put together one of the best, if not the best, Christmas parties the club has ever had. The committee kept it simple, yet festive. The atmosphere was conducive for those members present and their families to engage in friendly conversation and make new acquaintances. Many guests kindly brought tempting deserts making for a fine after dinner array. The dinner itself was outstanding. There was not a soul in attendance that did not rave about the fine spread. Looks like we finally found a caterer that is just about perfect. So here's one last thanks to Mike, KG8MTG; Bob, W8GC; Steve, K8SAS; and Bill, WU8A; the crew that put it all together.

Sadly, the year also brought tragedy. Club members and family members passed on to a better life. The list is too painful to repeat for me now, but we are all aware of who they were. I only mention this to speak of the positive aspect of our club that is caring and supporting of those in their time of grief. A fellowship such as ours can be a comfort to the ones who suffered these great losses. Please keep them all in your thoughts, prayers and camaraderie at future club activities.

This past year saw the club engage in many activities and accomplishments. C.A.R.S. is an active club with a variety of events to keep its members busy. Besides our monthly regular meetings that include an interesting program, we have our licensing classes, school club, summer picnic, Field Day, Dayton bus trip to the

Hamvention, VE exams, communications for the annual Diabetes Walk and our popular weekly net. There are also frequent unofficial gatherings for antenna work and the like. It may be time for something new. If there is an activity you would like to see the club engage in, please bring it up at one of our upcoming meetings. I hope to see you there.

re

73, Toby, WT8O

Contents:

<i>From the Prez.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>November Minutes.....</i>	<i>pg 2</i>
<i>Ohio Section ARRL News.....</i>	<i>pg 2</i>
<i>More On Christmas Island.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>Annual VE Report.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>Ken's Junk Box.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Antennas for Sale.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>Centennial Celebration.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>Dues Reminder.....</i>	<i>pg 6</i>
<i>The Random Wire.....</i>	<i>pg 6</i>
<i>Christmas Party Pics.....</i>	<i>pg 8</i>

**DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND THE C.A.R.S.
JANUARY MEETING ON TUESDAY,
JANUARY 10th, AT 7:30 P.M.**

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. November meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O on the 8th of the month at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held at Busch Funeral Home community room, Parma, Ohio. 20 members and 3 guests were in attendance.

After introductions the October minutes were approved as published in the November Wobbly Oscillator by Toby, WT8O.

Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC gave the Treasurer's report and reminded all to please pay your 2012 dues and that there were Christmas party tickets available tonight, only 5 weeks until the party.

Vice President Gary Dewey, NI8Z is out of town so Metro, W8MET announced we will have a VE session next Sunday November 13.

Tom, WB8N reminded all to send WO articles and that there would be no Board meeting next Sunday.

Copley middle & high school activities: Dave, KD8V was not in attendance but Bill, WU8A reported some work was done on the antenna at the High School.

Toby, WT8O asked for additional nominations for 2012 officers and even year board members: Dwaine, K8ME for Secretary, Bill, KD8QAE requested his name be withdrawn for Secretary - additional nominations for board: Mike, KB8UGT and Dave, NF8O.

President Toby WT8O appointed W8MET, K8SAS and WA8GEO as a tally committee for the election.

Officers elected for 2012: PRESIDENT-Toby Kolman, WT8O, VICE-PRESIDENT Gary Dewey, NI8Z, SECRETARY Dwaine Modock, K8ME, TREASURER: Bob Check, W8GC

Three even year executive board members were elected for a 2 year term: Tom Wayne, WB8N, Matt Webb, W8EBB, and Dave Rickon, NF8O. George Pindroh, K8KR was elected to fill the 1 year term vacated by Dwaine Modock, K8ME.

Toby, WT8O read thank you notes from Scotty Shields WA8SLN's family and Deborah Boutilier. Toby also thanked the refreshment committee, Ron, K8VJG for Donuts, Ed, WD8ROK for POP and Darren K8DMT for making coffee.

Bob, W8GC with other signers had a first reading of a proposal to change the Constitution to allow any member in good standing to hold office as an officer or board member - removing the one year membership requirement rule, any felon is still not eligible to be an officer. This to be voted on at the January meeting.

With no other new or old business Toby WT8O declared the meeting closed at 8:16pm.

After the meeting the 50/50 drawing was held, with Bill, KD8QBB winning \$23.00. C.A.R.S. share of \$24.00 was added to the treasury. Bill then donated his \$23.00 to C.A.R.S.

Toby, WT8O showed a video of the Peter I DXpedition for this months program.

Submitted by Temporary Secretary Bob W8GC

OHIO SECTION ARRL NEWS

He has been active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service as long as the Section Manager has been alive, and for that Ron Moorefield, W8ILC of Kettering, Ohio has become the Eighteenth recipient of the Allan Severson, AB8P Memorial Award.

The award was presented to Ron during a meeting of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association in Kettering, Ohio on Friday, November 3rd. Ohio Section Manager Frank J. Piper, KI8GW, who made the presentation before a packed house, noted that the award was not only given to Ron for his resume of work, but how Ron carried out his tasks with integrity.

Moorefield was Emergency Coordinator for the Greene/Montgomery county areas from 1963 to 1985. In 1985, Ron was appointed District Emergency Coordinator for Ohio ARES® District 3, and held that same appointment until his announced retirement effective October 1st of this year. Ron still plans to be an effective ARES volunteer in his local group. Ron is also an active liaison in the Ohio VOAD program, and works with the Dayton Hamvention® team as well. The Allan Severson, AB8P, Memorial Award is *continued on next page....*

bestowed on an amateur radio operator in the Ohio Section who has demonstrated a continuing dedication to the advancement of amateur radio and to the Ohio Section.

The award had been established in 1992 and was named "Ohio Ham of the Year" until 1999. That year it was renamed after Allen, of Lakewood, Ohio, who had become a silent key in 1997. The award winners are all hams who, like Allan Severson, have dedicated themselves to the advancement of the American Radio Relay League in Ohio.

Although AB8P had served the Section as Section Manager and went on to a distinguished career as Great Lakes Division Director on the ARRL National Board of Directors, the annual award announcement only mentions one sentence about him which is part of every memorial award certificate. That sentence quickly demonstrates the reason for the renaming of this award. "Allan's devotion to serve amateur radio inspired a whole generation of Ohio Section leadership."

MORE ON CHRISTMAS ISLAND

By Steve Spisak, K8SAS

This is the information about Christmas Island that was part of the trivia question from December 14. As you know, anyone who checked in to the net that night guessed the correct answer which was my Christmas gift to all the check-ins as all the choices were correct..

The question was; "Which of the following answers has something to do with Christmas Island in the Pacific.

Well going back in time, Captain James Cook discovered the island on December 24, 1777 on his third voyage to the pacific, hence the name,.

The island was under British rule since the discovery and was given its name in 1779 and is now part of a chain of 33 islands that make up the Republic of Kiribati. It is one the top 100 list of DX entities that operators would like to add to their contacts. The last DXpedition was in 2011. There were a total of 38 radio amateurs from eleven countries operating around the clock from Septembet 28 to October 26, 2011.

They had a total of 213,169 contacts with 102,216 being cw! And to top it off, they made the first EME bounce on 6 meters! Quite a success as it took two years of planning.

I would like to thank the operators of the DXpedition for letting me use the information from their site, and I recommend looking up www.T32C.com for more information. The equipment alone is staggering!

73 and catch you on the net!

2011 ANNUAL VE REPORT

By Gary Dewey, NI8Z

Three different test locations were used. The regular every other month second Sunday sessions were in the Independence Town Hall, the class test session was at the Independence Civic Center and one test session was held at the Copley Middle School. Over 11 VEs assisted the grading, checking and processing activity.

The results: Our VE work gained 40 new or upgraded licensees. 21 new Technicians, 14 new General Class, 5 new Extra licensees. In the July session eleven (11) tested and passed, the largest group of the year. The classes that were held in March gained nine (9) licensees. Even though we offered a test in January no test takers came that month..

The C.A.R.S. VEs include W8GC, WB8N, N8TCP, K8VJG, K8KR, W8MET, W8DMT, K8DAV, N8SRJ, WU8A, W8EBB.

The 2012 schedule is Jan 8, Mar 11, May13, Jul 8, Sep 9, Nov 11. These are Sunday test times at the Independence Town Hall located 6652 Brecksville Rd, Independence, Ohio and we get underway at 9:00 a.m.

Anyone interested in taking a test for a new license or that wants to upgrade, or that knows someone that wants to take a test for a new license or wants to upgrade should get in touch with me at ni8z@2cars.org or 216-642-8705.

ANTENNAS FOR SALE

Cushcraft-X-9

Frequency Coverage – 40, 20, 15,10meters

Total Number of Elements -9

Total Elements per Band- 4

Boom Length -28 feet

Turning Radius – 21.7 feet

Wind Surface –9.9 ft

Wind Survival ---100 mph

Wind Load -----255 at 80mph

Total Weight ----85 lbs.

Excellent Shape

Price: \$750.00 or Best Offer

E-MAIL: k8me@sbcglobal.net

Cushcraft –A3WS/30

Frequency Coverage – 30,17 &12 meters

Forward Gain 8.0 db

2000 Watts PEP

Boom Length – 14 ft

Turning Radius – 14.4 ft

Weight – 22.5 lbs

Wind Surface – 4.1 ft

Feed point --- 50 ohms

Needs a new Boom and Element end caps

Two New 30 Meter Traps

Price: \$ 150.00 or Best offer

CONTACT: Dwaine Modock K8ME

E-MAIL: k8me@sbcglobal.net

KEN'S JUNK BOX

By Ken Osicki, K8OAE

Amundsen-Scott January 1912

By January 1, Amundsen had lost 3 of his remaining 16 dogs, feeding the deceased animals to the survivors who had left the Pole underfed and weakened. The food immediately increased the animals' spirits and energy. Amundsen gradually increased his men's daily pemmican ration, too, from 350 grams, to 400 grams, and then to 450 grams.

Traveling only at night in order to keep the sun to their backs and, thus, out of their eyes, Amundsen limited travel to only 15 miles a day. He and his men

would often spend up to 16 hours a day in their sleeping bags in order to regain lost strength and energy.

Nevertheless, Amundsen knew that he had to get back to Framheim as rapidly as possible. Getting to the Pole first was not a victory until the world knew about it. In some ways, the news was more important than the deed! Amundsen had no way of knowing that Scott was just 100 miles away, but that he had just emerged from the Beardmore Glacier still over 150 miles from the Pole.

Problems arose because the outgoing views of the terrain would not appear the same on the route home. In addition, the light patterns were changing because the sun would have new angles in the sky causing confusing shadows along their path. Whiteouts, fog, and blowing snow often pulled them off track and beyond their supply depots. The constant daylight was also an issue, and they even began to lose track of what day it was, Amundsen remarking that at least they knew what year it was.

It was more like a Sunday fun-day in the park for the men on the treacherous descent to the Barrier, Amundsen believing that if he could climb it he could also descend it. Once on the flat Barrier, he decided there was no longer any need to hold back the dogs and men. This was now their racecourse.

Amundsen timed his return to Framheim so as to catch its occupants asleep. On January 26th he casually walked in and announced, "Good morning, my dear Lindstrom. Have you any coffee for us?" To which, Lindstrom, once aroused, replied, "Get up boys, it's the first cuckoo of spring."

The Fram had arrived on January 9th, but had been driven out to sea by wind and ice. The ship returned to Framheim on the day after Amundsen's return and was immediately loaded and readied for the return to civilization. On January 30th, Amundsen closed the door to their hut for the last time and strolled down to the edge of the ice to help load the surviving dogs. The hut had been thoroughly cleaned and was neat as a *continued on next page....*

pin but, as is the way of Antarctica, as the Fram began to move away from the shoreline a heavy fog drifted in and obscured it. The men could not get a final look at their Antarctic home as they sailed away.

On Jan 4 Scott was still 150 miles from the pole. The second support party was sent back and faced an adventure of its own. Only thirty-five miles from Hut Point, Evans became ill and could not be moved. Crean walked the remaining distance nonstop in 18 hours, taking no tent and just a few biscuits. While Crean was gone, Evans almost died, but was rescued on Feb 19 and lived to become a war hero, admiral, parliament member and a life peer. Crean received the Albert Medal for his heroic effort and later shipped out to Antarctica again, this time with Shackleton in 1916, once more becoming an Antarctic hero in one of the greatest survival epics ever recorded.

Before sending the second support party back, Scott made a fateful decision to add a fifth man to the polar assault team. This decision created great difficulties due to reduced supplies and equipment. At this point, the men were suffering immensely, and were greatly fatigued and weakened.

On Jan 9 Scott passed Shackleton's farthest south, 112 miles from the pole, 3 years to the day after Shackleton had to turn back. Shackleton had later quipped to his wife about his failure: "Better a live donkey than a dead lion."

Scott's men were experiencing temperatures that were quite tolerable at about -5 to -15 deg F., but the men were now in poor health, suffering from vitamin deficiency, malnutrition, and starvation, with damage to their bodies and minds affecting their strength and judgment.

On Jan 16 Scott sees the first signs of Amundsen's success, one of the markers placed around the area to confirm that he had been first to the pole, and on Jan. 17 they arrive at the Pole. In his diary, Scott pens the now famous words, "Great God! This is an awful place..."

Amundsen had taken pains to collect as much data about the Pole as possible, but did not record its altitude. This was the one task that Scott could accomplish but, like the other failures of his expedition, he could not. The hypsometer brought along for this purpose had broken!

Though weakened, Scott's men took several readings to

confirm Amundsen's numbers and locations. Bowers and Scott decided that they were about three miles from the Pole. Looking in that direction they saw Amundsen's tent about two miles away. Approaching it and looking inside, they found Amundsen's note to Scott inviting him to use any articles left in the tent that he might need. There was also a letter to King Haakon VII that Amundsen asked Scott to forward. This was a precaution that Amundsen had taken in case he did not make it back to Framheim, but Scott misunderstood the intention. In his depressed state of mind he felt that he had been "degraded from explorer to postman."

Scott also left a note, then marched off to their calculated location of the Pole. There they had constructed a cairn to mark their visit. In an ironic twist, Scott thought he was going towards the Pole and was actually going away from it. "By their own observations, *they never quite got to the Pole at all.*"

Unlike Amundsen's return route, Scott's would be straightforward. The route had been pioneered, there were not dangerous glaciers and crevasse fields along the way, and the entrance to the Beardmore Glacier was wide and easily located. The polar winds were now behind him and he could rig a sledge sail to help move them along. For the next three weeks, they would almost match Amundsen's times, doing 14 miles a day. But, in order to accomplish this distance, they had to drag for 12 hours a day on minimal rations, working at an altitude of 10,000 feet. They had built their cairns too low and these supply depots were difficult to find. It did not occur to Scott to change to night travel in order to avoid the glare of the sun. As a consequence, they would often suffer from snowblindness. February would approach only with great difficulty. February would not be any kinder.

NEXT MONTH: What happened in February?

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
SOUTH POLE GETS READY FOR 100 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY OF HISTORIC RACE
continued on next page....

BETWEEN AMUNDSEN & SCOTT

Three tourists ski the last degree to the South Pole, a journey of 60 miles. Hundreds of visitors are expected at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of its namesakes, including the prime minister of Norway.



Photo by B.C. Alexander/ALE

One hundred years ago, perhaps the last great feat of terrestrial exploration took place in one of the world's most inhospitable locations, spawning a race between two very different men.

On one side was Norwegian Roald Amundsen, a veteran polar explorer who had honed his skills among the Inuit of the Arctic. In opposition was Capt. Robert Falcon Scott, the epitome of the stoic British military officer. Their goal: To be the first to stand at the geographic South Pole.

Now, 100 years later, adventurers, history buffs and avid travelers are expected to visit this once most inaccessible of sites on Antarctica's polar plateau to commemorate the achievement. Today, 90 South is home to the [Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station](#) an advanced research center that supports telescopes and observatories that investigate such weird phenomena as neutrinos and dark energy.

DUES REMINDER

Remember, your 2012 CARS dues are payable on or before January 31, 2012. Many have paid but for those who have not please get your due's in ASAP. Dues can be paid online by sending the funds via PayPal to w8gc@2cars.org. You can mail a check to: CARS, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131 or pay in person at any CARS meeting. Dues are \$20.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is \$5.00. If you are 60 yrs or older and 18 yrs old or less your dues are only \$12.00 per year. CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship. Please let me know if you have a hardship or know of another member who needs help.

73

Bob Check W8GC
Treasurer C.A.R.S.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

HAPPY NEW YEAR !

Wow, 2012 already! As Joe Walsh, WB6ACU of the Eagles and the James Gang said at a James Gang reunion concert I saw at the Beachland Ballroom a few years ago, "I never thought I'd live this long!" Anyhow, I hope everyone had a great Christmas and I hope we all have a great new year as well.

I missed the C.A.R.S. Christmas party this year due to a prior commitment but I understand that the food was great and that everyone had a really good time. I wish I could have been there, but my thoughts were with you all.

continued on next page....

I hope that the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society gets a bunch of new members and has a great new year, with interesting programs at our meetings and successful events. It's all up to you, as members, to insure that we do enjoy a great year as an Amateur Radio organization, with participation in our programs and events. Help to make 2012 a great new year for C.A.R.S.

2011 DIABETES ASSN. STEP OUT, Walk TO FIGHT DIABETES

The 2012 Diabetes Assn. walk on Saturday, October 1st was a great success, in part due to the participation of the volunteers from the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. This year's walk incurred cold, windy, and rainy weather, which kept walkers and volunteers away, but in spite of the weather, there were some 720 walkers, and a grand total of \$197,233 was raised. Gary Dewey, NI8Z and myself attended a appreciation party put on by the Cleveland branch of the American Diabetes Association on ----, where it was announced that over \$79,000 was raised. Thanks to an additional donation by Kaiser Permanente, on of the local corporate sponsors, the grand total was increased to the final total.

Next year's walk will be held on Saturday, October 6th, and again will be held Galleria on E. 9th St. in downtown Cleveland and I am expecting everyone that volunteered from the Amateur Radio Community will turn out again this year. I know I can count on you, and maybe a few more. I received a plaque from the Diabetes Assn. acknowledging C.A.R.S. participation, which I will have at the January C.A.R.S. meeting for everyone to see. Again, thank you to all amateurs that participated in the 2011 event.

HF BAND CONDITIONS

As many of you know, the sunspot cycle has finally started to perk up and conditions on the low bands are improving steadily. The conditions on 10 meters are really great and even an amateur with a technician class license can get on 10 meters and have a lot of fun. Check, check, check it out! We have just had a contest

on 10 meters for both cw and ssb, and it was a lot of fun. There's a lot of fun to be had in the coming months and years for you newbees and old timers both! So if you don't have HF capabilities, at least pick up an inexpensive used HF rig, or maybe just a cheapie 10 meter rig, string up a wire antenna or a cheap vertical antenna and get on the air! My first antenna, when I first became active on HF, was a 100 ft wire up about 35 feet, and it happened to be the peak of the last sun spot cycle. I worked all over the world with that antenna and 100 watts. It was great fun then and it's great fun once again.

CONGRATS

Congratulations to our new club secretary, Dwaine Modock, K8ME, and to our two new board members, Dave Rickon, NF8O who is a brand new board member, and George Pindroh, K8KR who is filling the slot left by Dwaine. George has been a board member previously. I know that they both will do a great job of representing the membership.

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY MEETING

Gary, NI8Z reports that a program on grounding will be presented immediately after the regular meeting. Be sure to catch that one. You might learn something you didn't know before. It should be interesting. *THANK YOU*

I wish to sincerely thank everyone from C.A.R.S. and others in the Amateur radio community that expressed their condolences to me on the passing of my wife Lisa. I really appreciate the cards and the personal expressions of condolences.

SEE YOU IN JANUARY

That'll about do it for this time guys and gals. Hope to see you at the next meeting and/or on the air.

73, de Tom, WB8N

2011 CHRISTMAS PARTY PICS



The Desert Table



Mike "Fingers" Gamber, KG8MTG tickling the Ivory's, with an elf singing along.

More Pics on next page.....



Vice President Gary, NI8Z accepting his mug award from President Toby, WT80



Toby making a presentation to Linda Sinko, N8LRS

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

Articles appearing in this newsletter may be reprinted in any Amateur radio related publication, provided that credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known.

All submissions for publication in this newsletter should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to newsletter@2cars.org by the 26th of the month for publication in the next months newsletter.

By reading this notice, you have committed yourself to attend as many monthly meetings of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society as you possibly can, to check in on as many weekly C.A.R.S. Wednesday evening nets on the 146.820 repeater as you can, to take part in as many C.A.R.S. functions and public service events, as you can, including the annual Field Day and the annual C.A.R.S. family picnic.



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

**Wednesday evenings starting February 22, 2012 *
and ending April 4, 2012**

*April 4, 2012 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 Wednesday***

**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 Wednesday February 22nd only
for orientation and to receive your class materials.**

