

# THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR



## EDITORS' DESK



Russ Schneck, KC8IHS  
Monica Schneck, KC8IYM

Well, it has been a roller coaster of a month (and then some). Please accept my apologies for not having this to Tom in time to mail out before the meeting. Hopefully, you will forgive me and not reduce my pay. Between band camp starting up (I'm the Band Parent President) and the Richfield Community Day (I'm one of the committee heads), a Japanese foreign exchange student and my sister and her kids visiting I'm ready for a padded cell. But, this is life and you enjoy the hectic with the relaxing. So, relax and enjoy the last few weeks of summer and see you around the dial.

Russ, KC8IHS



Man playing a horn  
or woman's silhouette?

AR

THIS IS JUST FOR FUN

## IN THIS ISSUE

Editors' Desk .....	.1
From The Prez's Shack .....	.1
Executive Board .....	.2
Committees .....	.2
From The Prez's Shack cont .....	.3
Treasurer's Report .....	.3
Meeting Minutes .....	.4
GEARVAKf Bulletin .....	.5
Meeting Minutes cont .....	.5



## FROM THE PREZ'S SHACK

Tom Wayne, WB8N

### THE RANDOM WIRE

### IT'S SUMMERTIME SUMMERTIME

Sum Sum Summertime, and the livin' is easy, as the song says. In fact Summertime is almost over. We have one more meeting in the park, the harmonics will be off to school, and for most of us, vacations will be over for another year.

It was a busy summer for most of us. We had the Dayton Hamvention in May, our own Father's Day Hamfest in June, and those of us who were interested in Field Day went off to other club's Field Day sites, or held their own Field Day, since C.A.R.S. did not sponsor one this year. Hopefully next year.

We have had some pretty good membership turnouts at the Brecksville branch of the Metro-Parks, but the more the merrier. Plan on making the August meeting...the last one in the park for this year!

### CLEVELAND HAMFEST

It is time to start thinking about the Cleveland Hamfest, held at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, in Berea. It is Sunday, September 24 this year. We need to decide if we are going to have a club table again this year ... they are free ... but we will need members to volunteer to man the table for an hour or so. We cannot expect one person to sit at the table and not be able to get around the hamfest. You can bring gear to sell if you want. Normally, part of the proceeds of personal gear sold goes to C.A.R.S.

Also we should be thinking of who to nominate and vote for as C.A.R.S. Ham of the Year. Whoever the lucky ham may be, they will receive a certificate at the Hamfest.

### STATE OF THE REPEATER

At the last meeting we discussed replacing the repeater controller for the 146.22/82 machine. It was suggested that we look into the CAT controllers, and there was one available for around \$300. This has been looked into, and it seems that the \$300 model is not quite up to the standards which we now enjoy with the RC850 controller. As of this writing, more research is being done, looking at the top-of-the-line controller by CAT and another controller by RCL sold by Link Communications. This is taking some time to make sure we get what we want and that will handle the various things we want the controller to be able to do, one of which is to be easily programmed, via the tele-

continued on page 3





**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Tom Wayne, WB8N  
440-232-4193  
President@cars.org

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Gary Dewey, NI8Z  
216-642-1399  
VicePresident@cars.org

**SECRETARY**

Glen Shore, KG8MR  
**330-425-9762**  
Secretary@cars.org

**TREASURER**

Judy Crane, KC8FHE  
216-524-1537  
Treasurer@cars.org

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ODD YEAR EXPIRATION**

Gordon Kolus, KC8IOU  
330-225-6917  
KC8IOU@cars.org

Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC  
330-273-1043  
KB8DTC@cars.org

**EVEN YEAR EXPIRATION**

Roy Hadden, KB8VJF  
330-468-3020  
KB8VJF@cars.org

Phyllis Collins, KC8DVL  
216-883-3718  
KC8DVL@cars.org

**LICENSE TRUSTEE**

Monica James, N8HTX  
330-468-2035  
Trustee@cars.org

Send E-mail to all C.A.R.S.  
officers at Officers@cars.org

**COMMITTEES**

**ARC DISASTER LIAISON**

Ev Chitester, WA8EYF  
216-581-3657  
WA8EYF@cars.org

**COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER**

Rich James, N8FIL  
330-468-2035  
N8FIL@cars.org

**DAYTON BUS TOUR**

<<Vacant >>

**DIGIPEATER**

Tom Wayne, WB8N  
440-232-4193  
WB8N@cars.org

**FIELD DAY**

<<Vacant >>

**HAMFEST**

Rich James, N8FIL  
330-468-2035  
Hamfest@cars.org

**JAMBOREE ON THE AIR**

<<Vacant >>

**MEMBERSHIP**

Dave Morley, W8IXY  
440-884-8850  
Membership@cars.org

**NET**

Phyllis Collins, KC8DVL  
216-883-3718  
KC8DVL@cars.org

**NEWSLETTER**

Russ Schneck, KC8IHS  
330-659-3889  
Newsletter@cars.org

**STATUTORY AGENT**

Rich James, N8FIL  
330-468-2035  
N8FIL@cars.org

**TECHNICAL / VA HOSPITAL**

Rich James, N8FIL  
330-468-2035  
Technical@cars.org

**VE EXAMS**

Gary Dewey, NI8Z  
216-642-1399  
NI8Z@cars.org

**WEB SITE / E-MAIL**

Greg, Kopp, KG8O  
216-577-1388  
KG8O@cars.org

*The Wobbly Oscillator* is a monthly publication of The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. Articles may be reprinted in any amateur radio-related publication provided that credit is given to the newsletter and the author.

Submissions received by the end of the month will be published in the following month's *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Send articles by E-mail to:  
**NEWSLETTER@CARS.ORG**

or by U.S. mail to:

**THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR  
3028 SOUTHERN ROAD  
RICHFIELD OH 44286**

*(Do not send dues to this address!)*

**K8ZFR**



## FROM THE PREZ'S SHACK CONT

phone. So fellow members, be patient. Something is being done at getting the repeater back up to par, and it is being done as quickly as possible. This will probably mean a membership vote to spend the money, at the August meeting, as a membership vote is needed in order to spend anything over \$600. The new controller, no matter which brand we buy, will run around \$800 to \$1,000 with the addition of a digital voice recorder, and software. We can afford it, and the expense will be well worth it, if purchasing a new controller is indeed what is needed. More to come. Be at the next meeting.

## STATE OF WADE PARK STATION

Your Vice President, Gary Dewey NI8Z, and your President, yours truly, paid a visit to the Wade Park Veterans Administration Hospital in Cleveland recently to see what the story was down there regarding the K8ZFR radio station. We met with the Volunteer Services person, Corey Moore, who was very cordial and sympathetic with our problem ... no key to the radio room. Mr. Moore searched through his keys and came up with one he thought might work. Viola! It opened the lock! Mr. Moore promised that he would get more keys made and see that a key was kept in the telephone room on the second floor, for use on weekends and holidays.

Gary and I opened up the station and got the VHF and HF rigs on the air. We checked in on the International Handicap net. and talked with the ops at the Brecksville VA Hospital radio room.

We NEED operators to get down to the station and operate. If you have any time to spare and want to operate an HF station, let one of the officers know and we will make arrangements to see that you can get into the station and operate.

We are asking the VA to buy us a new computer to replace the old Tandy com-

puter, and we need a two meter rig to operate the packet station. In time of emergency, packet would be a viable form of communication of pertinent information between hospitals, ops in the field, and the Red Cross.

## THE RAIN FOREST STATION

Operators are needed for the Rain Forest station at the Cleveland Zoo as well as the VA station. The station can be operated weekdays and weekends, and also on Wednesday Evenings. Again, let one of officers, or Ron Borkey K8VJG know and arrangements will be made to get you down to the station and let you operate the big rig!

I have been going down to the Rain Forest on Tuesdays (at least trying to ... I did miss one Tuesday this month...and had a rather interesting QSO this past Tuesday, July 25.

I was listening up and down the band on 17 meters, and came upon a YL operator having a QSO with a station in New York. I bided my time until they were finished and gave her a call. It turned out to be a young woman and her boyfriend, who were on a 38 foot aluminum hulled sailboat. They were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, exiting from the St. Lawrence Seaway, and heading for Nova Scotia. They were then going to Annapolis, and down the coast to the Caribbean, and visit the islands, after which they were planning to go through the Panama Canal and head for New Zealand. They had HF capabilities obviously, and also were on the Internet with their on-board computer. They had set sail out of Erie PA. I left a note for Ron who would be at the station on Thursday, and he made contact with her as well.

So, if you have HF privileges and don't have an HF rig at home, use either

the station at the Rain Forest or the VA Hospital. Open up the exciting world of amateur radio! Even if you don't have HF privileges, you can operate the stations as long as you are with an amateur who does. C'mon down!

## A REMINDER

As announced earlier and at the last meeting, it is time to start thinking of who you would like to see as officers of the club for the coming year. Nominations will be taken in October and elections will be in November. Perhaps you would like to take on this responsibility?

## TIL NEXT TIME

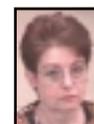
As I am sitting here at the computer composing this column, the sun is slowly sinking in the west, and a nice breeze is coming in through the window. It rained hard a little bit ago, but you would never know it now except for the puddles of water on my deck, which is where I am heading to enjoy a cold one as soon as I shut the computer off.

See ya on the air or at the meeting. Don't forget the weekly net on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. Offer to take over as net control and give Phyllis a break once in awhile.

73 for now, deTom WB8N

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Judy Crane, KC8FHE*



*MEMBERS ONLY - This article has been edited from the on-line version of the newsletter. C.A.R.S. members may receive the full version of the newsletter by sending a request to the editor.*

## PLEASE SEND DUES TO:

Judy Crane, KC8FHE  
C.A.R.S. Treasurer  
6531 Tanglewood Lane  
Seven Hills, OH 44131

# K8ZFR



## MEETING MINUTES

Glen Shore, KG8MR

### MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting held on July 19, 2000, at the Oak Grove Picnic Area in the Brecksville Reservation as recorded by Glenn KG8MR. Tom WB8N called the July CARS meeting to order at 20:03 EST. The members in attendance included Glenn KG8MR, Tom WB8N, Gary NI8Z, Judy KC8FHE, Phyllis KC8DVL, Fred NO2O, Bob W8GC, Steve KC8GCA, Terry KB8DTC, Bob KC8MRC, Bill AA8WJ, Ron KC8JFK, David W8IXY, Rich N8FIL, Monica N8HTX, Mike KB8BMY, Casey N8FCQ, Mike KB8UGT, Chuck N4OSD, Jack N8HVQ, Jeff KC8OUH, James N8GXR, Dave KD8V, and Aaron KC8INE.

The list of guests, and visitors included: Daniel Collins, Bob Bassett KE8UV, and Pat Dressler.

### CHANGES TO THE MINUTES

The minutes were accepted with no changes.

### CHANGES TO THE TREASURER REPORT

The report was accepted with no changes.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS: VE REPORT

Gary NI8Z reported a VE session was held on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Independence Town Hall and two members upgraded to General Class. Rich N8FIL and Monica N8HTX were given a round of applause for their new privileges. Gary took a survey of the members present to see how many were no-code techs were present. Six raised their hands. He then asked how many of the six were interested in code classes to take advantage of the current upgrade opportunities. Only one present raised his hand.

A short discussion was held about

why some no-code techs are reluctant to take advantage of the reduction in CW requirements. According to Gary, this is the current trend being seen by the ARRL. [If you're waiting for the code requirement to go away altogether for general, don't hold your breath!]

### MEMBERSHIP

Jeff Venecek, KC8OUH and Chuck Sommer, N4OSD were published in the WO and voted in as new members at this meeting. Welcome to the C.A.R.S. group - glad to have you aboard.

Two new membership applications were present to C.A.R.S. for consideration: KC8OMV Michael Dressler and KC8OJD Daniel Dressler

### MISCELLANEOUS

Members with email accounts should have received a copy of the C.A.R.S. *Repeater Users Manual & Rules*. Extra paper copies were brought to the meeting. Tom WB8N reported that C.A.R.S. got 100 copies printed up for members who need them. [another fine reason to attend the meetings]

### TECHNICAL/REPEATER

Rich N8FIL reported that he and Roy KB8VJF, had made it out to the 146.82 site to replace the battery on the controller. However, this work did not fix the current issues. The voter operation checked OK. Rich stated, he could reset the repeater to a default condition, but warned it could be off the air for the 8-10 hours during the reprogramming. Roy and Rich took pictures and did an inventory of equipment held at the site.

This discussion sparked a fury of recommendations from the membership to look at a new controller purchase. Recommendations for a low cost (under \$600)

entry level controller were heard. To expedite matters, a new team of technical volunteers consisting of six members was assembled. Their goal is now to put together a recommendation of a new repeater controller strategy with timeline for completion for the executive board to approve. A timeline of a week or two was stated for the proposal to be submitted.

Rich N8FIL also commented on the strong likelihood of adding a 220 MHz repeater to the Shaker Site. Currently, C.A.R.S. has a duplexer and transceiver that can be used in this station.

A short review of the 6M interference issue was held - concluding that there were no immediate improvements on the way. [more TVI revenge!]

### OLD BUSINESS

Wade Park VA Amateur Radio Station K8ZFR

A decision was made at the July 9, board meeting to revitalize interest in the K8ZFR station. Casey N8FCQ was appointed chairman of this effort at the July 9 board meeting. Casey has identified some obstacles that Gary NI8Z and Tom WB8N are attempting to overcome by meeting with volunteer service administrators before the next meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### LICENSE TRUSTEE

Monica James N8HTX was announced as the new C.A.R.S. license trustee as appointed by the executive board on July 9. She received a round of applause for accepting the position. [Monica has served as trustee in the past for the 443.825 repeater.]

#### PO BOX

It was announced that within the month, the official C.A.R.S. address is anticipated to become a PO BOX in Independence. At the July 9 board meeting it was decided to purchase PO BOX at the nominal cost of \$40 a year. Membership applications and correspondence

*continued on next page*

# K8ZFR



## GEARVAKF BULLETIN

Tom Wayne

*Reprinted with permission from the GEARVAKf (the f is silent) Bulletin (Greater Enon Amateur Radio Vention And Kitefly).*

### FCC MOVES AGAINST SLOW-TALKERS

by K8AEJ

The FCC has taken what they describe as an important new step to reduce QRM (man-made interference - ed) on amateur frequencies and set standards for voice speeds. The docket 560-2100 had been discussed earlier as NPRM 71-00 but will become an official part of the amateur regulations on June 30, 2000. Citing frequent complaints about "long boring conversations", on the ham bands, especially 75 meters, the commission moved to impose a new standard on voice operations, requiring all conversations to be at a speed "of at least 200

spoken words per minute." The commission, in its ruling, was especially critical of what they called "long winded, often endless conversations by old men talking about their prostate problems and other needs to get up and go to the bathroom several times during the night". Wireless Bureau Chief, Ralph Gonff, said he has personally heard "conversations about nothing that went for hours, and tied up frequencies that could be used by faster-talkers." The ARRL is expected to issue instructions to OO (Official Observer) stations, who are volunteer monitors for possible violations, to listen to suspect conversations and count the number of words per minute spoken. Those QSO's which fail to meet the minimum speed requirements, will be noted and the operators involved will receive NAV (notice of apparent violation) cards, encouraging them to follow the rules or risk receiving FCC citations. ARRL said they are also concerned about two meter operation where little is dis-

cussed except "full quieting". Their statement said that sort of thing is boring, and is usually spoken very slowly as well, far below the 200 words per minute minimum. The ARRL suggested conversations on how to help raise more money for League activities would be especially welcomed, and will be encouraged. Future issues of QST will contain special pull-out sections containing suggested topics for discussion to brighten up QSO's including: how the ARRL helped me to enjoy ham radio; why I owe everything to the League; how can we help the League with fund-raising activities; why e-mail is bad and destroying packet operation. Some hams in southern states have complained that the new regulations impose a burden on them because they naturally talk more slowly than those up north, and they are suggesting that frequencies be set aside for "rawling" and talking about "hunting and feeshing." The FCC says it may consider that in future rulemaking.

### MEETING MINUTES CONT

could ship to a single address, that would remain the same, regardless of who occupied the organizational appointments.

#### JOTA

CARS is looking to put together a scouts Jamboree on The Air operation this year. Aaron KC8INE and others are already looking into the planning.

#### FIELD DAY 2001

A possible site for FD 2001 was discussed by Rich N8FIL. The position for field day chairman is currently open for 2001. Tom WB8N had pictures of this years backyard field day.

Judy KC8FHE announced that she had received documentation on an internet service known as "Pay Pal." At the board meeting, Greg KG8O suggested the board investigate using Pay Pal as a means of being able to handle membership dues. Pay Pal acts as a go

between for charge card and check payments, without accessing heavy bank fees for the service. The board is still investigating this approach.

NI8Z announced the author of GEARVAKF Bulletin N8JR (Joel Rose) was putting together a tour of the new Brecksville 440 repeater on August 10 in the morning.

Tom WB8N announced an upcoming Great Lakes Search and Rescue event on Oct. 21. [More details will appear elsewhere in the WO.]

#### ELECTIONS

Tom, WB8N also reminded us that elections will be coming up shortly.

Nominations are held in September. Tom, WB8N announced he will not be running for re-election so we need to start thinking about a nomination for president.

#### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monica would like all of us to start planning early this year for our annual Christmas party event. Monica is asking for suggestions. We may already have a DJ volunteer who will work for food!

#### ADJOURNMENT

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 21:21 EST (Steve KC8GCA and Dave W8IXY)

#### PROGRAM PRESENTATION

No program was presented. [Though, N8FIL's story on how he lost his hair was entertaining.]

# K8ZFR

# THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

## August, 2000

### CLUB FREQUENCIES

70cm repeaters	443.825 MHz	Input 448.825 MHz PL 131.8 Hz
	444.750 MHz	Input 449.750 MHz PL 131.8 Hz
2m repeater	146.820 MHz	Input 146.220 MHz PL 110.9 Hz
2m simplex	146.475 MHz	
2m digipeater	145.070 MHz	Node CARS or K8ZFR
6m repeaters	53.010 MHz	Input 52.010 MHz PL 136.5 Hz
	53.830 MHz	Input 52.830 MHz PL 107.2 Hz
Internet	<a href="http://www.cars.org">http://www.cars.org</a>	



### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 20, 2000  
 Busch Community Room  
 7501 Ridge Road  
 (south of Pleasant Valley)  
 Parma, Ohio  
 Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m.



**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?  
 CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR AD-  
 DRESS LABEL.**



*(Do not send dues to this address!)*

The Wobbly Oscillator  
 3028 Southern Road  
 Richfield OH 44286

