

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR



EDITORS' DESK



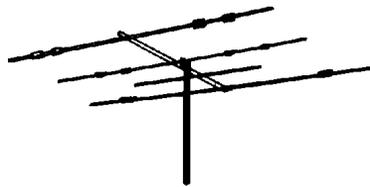
Russ Schneck, KC8IHS
Monica Schneck, KC8IYM

First of all, our thoughts and prayers are with Tom Wayne (WB8N) as he undergoes hip replacement surgery (see *From The Prez's Shack* on page 3) and hope to see him soon or at least talk with him on air. Second, a special thanks to those that continue to submit articles to make the W.O. enjoyable to read (we just put it together - we don't make this stuff up). Third, it's time to step up and BE COUNTED - the future of C.A.R.S. is at stake. We need you to run for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer plus Board positions. This is as much as we can do for our club right now - hopefully it will allow others to lead our club as well next year as it has been led.

— AR Russ, KC8IHS

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WHO'S BIG ANTENNA

Roy Hadden, KB8VJ

I was standing in my front yard talking with my neighbor, Brian Pennebaker, N8RPA. We were discussing the upcoming JOTA event when a young man around elementary school age approached us riding his bicycle. He stopped and asked, "What are all those antennas?" I looked up on the roof and back at the youngster and answered, "Those are amateur radio antennas." Then he pointed three doors down at Brian's house and shouted, "No, what are those really big antennas down there?" Brian stood up straight, puffed up his chest and answered proudly, "Those are MY amateur radio antennas!" The kid replied, "Well, they are messing up our TV." He got back on his bike and left before Brian could say anything more.



JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

**Sunday,
October 22
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Longwood Park
on Route 82 in
Macedonia**



JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Please plan to stop in and experience the hands-on demonstrations that include many facets of amateur radio. Any scout from any organization is welcome to attend.

Call Roy Hadden at 330-468-3020 or E-mail KB8VJF@arrl.net for more information.



EXECUTIVE BOARD

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PRESIDENT

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<<Vacant >>

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FIELD DAY

<<Vacant >>

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JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

<<Vacant >>

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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

Tom Wayne, WB8N

THE RANDOM WIRE

GETTING CLOSE TO THE WIRE

At the October meeting, on the 18th, members will have to come up with nominees for the positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, as well as two board positions that are up for re-election. I would have hoped that we would have had members come forward and announce their running for a particular position, but alas, it has not come to pass.

Think about it boys and girls ... the future of C.A.R.S is at stake. I would probably run for re-election as president, but I am having hip replacement surgery on the very day of the next meeting, I will not be there, and I am not sure I will be at the November meeting, or even able to make it to the C.A.R.S. Holiday party in December. After I have the one hip done, I am having the other one done as soon as possible. Therefore, I will kind of be out of commission for well into the spring of next year.

The present secretary and the current treasurer have both indicated that they will not accept nominations for re-election. The vice president is not sure at this point about his running or not.

This brings us to the need for active members to think about the future of the club. We have qualified members who could fill the positions well and do a good handling the duties required by the positions.

I intend to continue to make sure that the newsletter gets copied, folded, stapled, labeled, stamped, mutilated and mailed to those who do not get it via e-mail, if at all physically possible.

I don't know if I've done a good job as president of your club over the past three years or not ... I hope I did. I would have

liked to see the membership increase or at least hold its own during my presidency, but I think we have been losing members faster than we have been gaining new ones. Maybe I should have paid more attention to this matter, but that is why we have a membership chairman. I probably should have delegated more jobs to members or committees I guess, but maybe the new president will be able to do this better than I did. I would have liked to see C.A.R.S. take part in more public service events than we have in the past few years, but we were not asked by those holding the events. Maybe we can be more active in public service in the future. The technical committee will need help ... the hamfest committee will need help. We need a chairman to take care of the "bus to Dayton" this year or there won't be one. Any takers?

The bottom line is: get thinking about running for the officers and board positions, or at least thinking about who you feel will do a good job and make your nomination. Think about getting involved.

I will be happy and willing to assist the new president in taking care of the many and varied duties required by that position, as will the other present officers, I am quite sure. The transition does not have to be traumatic. I had to learn on the job, but this does not have to be the norm.

I will no longer be writing the "From the Prez's Shack" column for the W.O. after December, but will resume writing a monthly column called "The Random Wire" The new prez can write his or her own column ... or not. Prez's choice. I would hope he or she would continue the column however.

H.O.T.Y.

As you may or may not know, I was nominated by Vice President Gary Dewey NI8Z to be the Ham Of The Year for C.A.R.S. at the Cleveland Hamfest, which was held on Sunday, September 24. At the September C.A.R.S. meeting Gary presented me with his own award certificate as HOTY, as well as with a gift certificate to the Outback Steakhouse. These were greatly appreciated as they came directly from the club. The certificate will occupy a place of honor in my radio shack. I was further honored to accept the HOTY of C.A.R.S. certificate made up by the Cleveland Hamfest Committee, which was presented to me by Gary at the Hamfest. Thank you to all.

WADE PARK VETERANS HOSPITAL RADIO STATION

At the September meeting, we had a guest speaker in the person of Marcie Clark who is in charge of voluntary services at both hospitals. She informed us of the need to adequately man the station at Wade Park, or possibly losing the room we occupy there for the radio station. The majority of the radios and associated gear at the station belong to the Veterans Administration. Mrs. Clark feels that we should be able to man the station on a regular basis, from one to two days a week, or at least once or twice per month. I myself feel that this is unrealistic and will not be possible, as most of the membership works for a living, and their weekends are usually tied up with family responsibilities. Those of us who are retired have part-time jobs, and other responsibilities as well. To me the main function of the hospital radio station is for emergency purposes, in which case we would have no problem manning. Maintaining a regular schedule is next to impossible as far as I can see, but to this end, I am asking for members who think they might be able to get to the Wade Park Veterans Hospital once or twice a

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K8ZFR



FROM THE PREZ'S SHACK CONT

month to man the station for a few hours, during the daytime hours either on weekdays or on weekends. One of the drawbacks is that one has to be signed up as a "volunteer" and get a volunteer ID badge made up. Unfortunately, the badges are made up on weekdays during daytime hours.

It is my suggestion, that I contact Ms. Clark and inform her of the fact that although we are willing to provide her with a list of members who would be available in case of an emergency, that we cannot possibly man the station on a regular basis. I would also try to convince her that although desirable, an official ID badge is not practical, that all an operator reporting for emergency duty should be required to show is a photo ID along with a copy of their FCC license. I further intend to try to impress upon her that the main purpose of the station IS for emergency communications in a state of local, state, or nationwide emergency, and NOT for the use of the patients for their recreation or for public relations. I do not think she understands this at the present time. If the hospital were to decide to take over the small space we occupy for the radio station, there would be no more station, and this would be a loss to the hospital, not to C.A.R.S. If she feels that she can find another club to run the station in the manner she desires, more power to her. I don't think it can be done. These are my opinions, but I feel that they are realistic.

CLEVELAND HAMFEST

C.A.R.S. had a club table at the Cleveland Hamfest again this year. Some members had some gear they were trying to peddle at the table and a couple of items were sold, to the advantage of C.A.R.S. thanks to Ron, K8VJG. Thanks also to those who came to the hamfest to help man the club table, and special thanks to

those who came SPECIFICALLY to help man the table. You know who you are and your efforts were well noted and appreciated. To those who were scared away by the gloomy and wet weather or otherwise couldn't be bothered ... you know who you are too. To those that had a valid reason not to show up ... you are excused. Are we gonna have a club table next year? That's up to you.

The hamfest itself was hampered by the crummy weather. The flea market was a washout, due to the rain. Sort of like the C.A.R.S. hamfest this past Father's Day. There was some good stuff indoors however.

We did get to see some old friends and acquaintances who we had not seen in awhile, some not since the last Cleveland Hamfest, and some who we don't see often enough. Also had some interesting conversations with a couple of people who might be able to help the club indirectly. All in all, not a bad day, even considering the weather.

VROOOM!

At the same time the hamfest was going on, there was a motorcycle show going on just across the way from the hamfest. I wondered over there before I left the fairgrounds, and found they had had a custom motorcycle show, and an indoor flea market of sorts, selling everything from leather jackets, to leather bikinis, all sorts of used motorcycle parts, etc. They had a blues band named Electric Mud playing, and were supposed to have a tattoo contest which might have proved interesting, but I did not stick around for that. I noticed several of the bikers in the hamfest building, checking out the displays of computer equipment. I doubt if they had paid to get into the hamfest, but by that time it was almost over anyway.

K8ZFR

ASK YOURSELF WHY

I often wonder why so many of the members of this club (and other radio clubs for that matter) ever got an amateur radio license in the first place. The majority of the members of C.A.R.S. seldom, if ever even get on the air on the club repeater. The majority of THOSE members seldom, if ever attend a meeting. I can understand an amateur who works nothing but HF, and has nothing to do with VHF or UHF but I cannot fathom why they would belong to a club that is primarily a VHF/UHF club. Listen to the repeater during drive-time. There are a regular few who get on the repeater on the drive to and/or from work, along with some non-members as well. No problem. But where are the rest of the members? Why did you buy that radio? Why did you join C.A.R.S.? The biggest reason to belong to C.A.R.S., or any other repeater club, (and that is what C.A.R.S. is) is to support the repeater that you use. But if you don't use it? Beats the heck out of me. Get on the air folks. Use the repeater, whether from your back yard, in your car, whatever. If your significant other can't stand to hear the sound of people talking on the air, go into the bathroom, basement, outdoors, whatever. Check in on the net on Wednesday nights at seven P.M. local time. Use your privileges. If you don't, ask yourself why?

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

At the September meeting the attending membership voted to hold the holiday party at the same place as last year, the VFW Hall in Northfield Center, and to have it on Saturday, December 2. The food will be provided by a catering service with Monica James's assistance ... deserts to be provided by those who attend. It will be a BYOB party, with mixes provided by the club. We plan to have a disk jockey to for music. There will be prizes for all, and a good time is promised. Cost will be announced, but I

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FROM THE PREZ'S SHACK CONT

assure you it will be reasonable, as in the past years.

MEETING PROGRAMS

The schedule for the rest of 2000 is pretty much set. However, we need suggestions for programs at the meetings for next year. C'mon gang... rack your brains. Do you have a new piece of equipment you would like to share with the group? How about someone you know who you think would present an interesting talk. In the spring we try to have a representative from Skywarn, but that leaves the rest of the year open. It is not too early to be thinking about this or even scheduling a program.

SEE YA

That's it for now fellow C.A.R.S. members. As I said, I won't be at the October meeting, and don't know if I will be able to make it to the November meeting, but I will try. Catch you on the air until we meet again. Good luck to the next regime

73, de Tom, 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:

The Wobbly Oscillator
P.O. Box 31264
Independence, OH 44131-0264



MEETING MINUTES

Glen Shore, KG8MR

Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 20, 2000, at the Busch Community Room in Parma, Ohio as recorded by Glenn, **KG8MR**. Tom, **WB8N** called the September CARS meeting to order at 20:01 EST.

The members in attendance included Terry **KB8DTC**, Judy **KC8FHE**, Jim **KB8SQF**, Fred **NO2O**, Dino **WD8DBQ**, Bob **KC8MRC**, Lin **WD8SDP**, Bill **AA8WJ**, Ron **K8VJG**, Bob **W8GC**, Steve **KC8GCA**, Dave **KD8V**, Gordon **KC8IOU**, Roger **N8TCP**, Phyllis **KC8DVL**, Rich **N8FIL**, Monica **N8HTX**, Russ **KC8IHS**, Monica **KC8IYM**, Aaron **KC8INE**, Mike **KB8UGT**, Gary **NI8Z**, Tom **WB8N**, and Glenn **KG8MR**.

The list of guests, and visitors included: guest speaker Marcie Clark from the Veterans Health Administration, Pat Dressler, and Amy Schneck

CHANGES TO THE MINUTES

The minutes were accepted by Terry **KB8DTC** and Lin **WD8SDP**.

CHANGES TO THE TREASURER REPORT

The report was accepted as by Terry **KB8DTC** and Lin **WD8SDP**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE REPORT

Gary, **NI8Z** reported that the September session yielded two extra class and two technician class upgrades. The next session is planned for November 12.

MEMBERSHIP

Two new family members (not present) **KC8OMV**, Michael Dressler

and **KC8OJD**, Daniel Dressler were voted on and accepted into C.A.R.S.

TECHNICAL/REPEATER

N8FIL, Rich and Roy, **KB8VJF** re-set the clock on the computer compensating for the Y2K problem. Currently, there are no plans by the technical committee to purchase a newer controller with the funds the membership approved and allocated last month. The "zone" and "track is empty" issue is currently unresolved.

OLD BUSINESS

WADE PARK VA AMATEUR RADIO STATION K8ZFR

After the program presentation, a discussion was held by the membership to determine the course of action for the Wade Park VA amateur radio station. The pros and cons of continued support of the K8ZFR station were addressed by the membership present.

Tom, **WB8N** suggested he would call Marcie Clark to summarize the current views, which held, that operating the Wade Park station on a regular basis would be difficult for most active C.A.R.S. members. However, it was felt that an emergency list consisting of C.A.R.S could be maintained for the VA.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom, **WB8N** thanked Russ, **KC8IHS** and Monica, **KC8IYM** for getting the September W.O. issue out in a timely fashion.

Reminder: A.R.R.L. dues can be paid at the C.A.R.S. meetings. Paying this way, also benefits C.A.R.S. by \$2 for every membership processed.

Tom, **WB8N** announced he will not be present at next month's meeting, and will not be running for office. Nominations will be accepted for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and two board positions at the October C.A.R.S. meeting.

K8ZFR

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MEETING MINUTES CONT

CLEVELAND HAMFEST

The group was reminded that the Cleveland Hamfest was being held September 24 at Cuyahoga Fair Grounds in Berea. Volunteers are needed to support the C.A.R.S. table.

H.O.T.Y.

Tom, **WB8N** was presented with a handsome certificate (made by Gary, **NI8Z**) that proclaimed Tom as the C.A.R.S. **2000 Ham of the Year**. Tom also received a gift certificate in recognition of his outstanding contributions during the year.

ROY'S JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Roy, **KB8VJF** is going to conduct the scouts', J.O.T.A., in Macedonia, on Sunday, October 22. Roy is requesting the use of the C.A.R.S. trailer.

Contact: Roy, **KB8VJF** via kb8vjf@cars.org or at 330-468-3020 (Saturday through Monday). More info was promised for the October W.O.

Rescue Drill

The Great Lakes Search and Rescue drill is scheduled for Oct. 21.

No other info was available.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

It was decided, by vote, that the tentative date for the C.A.R.S. party would be Saturday, December 2. Monica **N8HTX**, is helping to organize the food for this year's event. A \$100 deposit from C.A.R.S. is required for the VFW hall, located in Northfield Center. BYOB and members are to bring deserts.

PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Marcie Clark, chief voluntary service and recreation, at the Veterans Health Administration, took time out of her active schedule to point out the need for continued amateur radio operations at the Wade Park and Brecksville VA Medical centers.

She stressed an increased commit-

ment for operating the Wade park station on a weekly basis. She also proposed creating an emergency ham sign up list. The list would give amateurs reporting to the VA in response to a disaster, access and clearance to operate the radios. She reminded us, that hospital space is in high demand. The current Wade Park radio room could be in peril if it continues to appear as unused.

To help encourage participation, **Marcie Clark** touted recent Wade Park VA improvements. A four-story, 800 car parking lot has been constructed to alleviate previous Wade park VA parking problems. They have also expanded the police and security, with 24 hour coverage. A shuttle is also available between both VA hospitals. Volunteer ID's and parking stickers are now valid for one year. She also talked about a special key for the radio room that could be held in security.

Marcie Clark recognized the contributions hams have made in situations, such as the Oklahoma City bombing. She also stressed the importance of preparedness for both city wide, local level and internal emergencies. She expressed a desire to have C.A.R.S. work in cooperation with the Chippewa Amateur Radio Club in these matters.

To understand the level of our willingness to serve, **Marcie Clark** requested that C.A.R.S. define our weekly commitment to the **K8ZFR**, Wade Park amateur radio station and to create a list of active volunteers who would be willing to respond when called upon.

Remember, if you cannot volunteer your time, the VA accepts clothing and paper back book donations also. **Marcie Clark** can be reached at the Brecksville

VA at 440-526-3030 x6792, weekdays.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 21:30 EST.



VE NEWS

Gary Dewey, NI8Z

C.A.R.S. VOLUNTEER EXAMINATIONS

The LAST Amateur Radio Volunteer examinations of the year will be held on November 12 (the second Sunday) at 9 a.m. at 6652 Brecksville Road, Independence at the Independence Town Hall.

The cost of taking the test will be \$6.65. Everyone taking a test for a new license or an upgrade must bring a valid picture I.D. The original and a copy of their license, any CSCEs are necessary.

Bring an ink pen to fill out the new 605 form plus 2 pencils with erasers for the written tests. Everyone fill out the new 605 form should have their social security number.

Contact **NI8Z**, Gary Dewey at 216-642-1399 or e-mail to gdevey@en.com for further information and special request.

MEMBERSHIP

David Morley, W8LXY

Membership Application Received:

Name: Gerald Purcell
Callsign: KC8LAU
Class: General
Address: 25030 Lakeshore Blvd.
Euclid, Ohio 44132
Phone: 216-261-4362
Email: gpurcell@raex.com

AND

Name: John Wagner
Callsign: N8ISS
Class:
Address: Youngstown
Phone:
Email:

K8ZFR



GEARVAKF BULLETIN

Tom Wayne

Reprinted with permission from the GEARVAKf (the f is silent) Bulletin (Greater Enon AmateuRadio VentionAnd Kitefly).

MASSIVE PROPAGATION SPILL OBSERVED

by N8ADK

In what could turn out to be a frightening development for terrestrial communication, the YAK Repeater Association reported a massive propagation spill emanating from the sun. First observed by the associations satellite, RACSO I (Radio Amateur Communication via Solar Orbit), the blowout was attributed to abnormally high sunspot counts, mechanical failures, and errors in human judgement. To quell the increasing levels of propagation, Texas amateur Redd A. Dare, K5\$\$\$\$, has been hired to see if the flow can be stopped before the radio spectrum explodes. In the meantime, the public is being advised to cover the roof of homes and places of business with aluminum foil to reflect the solar particles in the hope that the MUF can be reduced to safe levels. Shiny side up.



COMPUTER LICENSING TO BEGIN IN JANUARY

According to government sources, all computer owners and operators must obtain federal licenses for their computers before the deadline of January 31, 2001.

Licensing was mandated by a little-known provision of the Telecommunications Act of 2000. Fees are set at \$1 per megabyte of storage space, renewable annually.

FBI ARRESTS CAT FOR PORNOGRAPHY

In a sting operation concluded last week, FBI agents arrested Armando E. "Fluffy" Gato, a grey, male, shorthair, tabby housecat for downloading photos of young kittens from the Internet. Gato, a computer literate cat, was accused of "prowling" the Internet with an unlicensed computer. He was charged under federal "Kitty Porn" statutes.

VETERANS DAY

Some C.A.R.S. operators will be going to Arrowhead Elementary School in Copley, Ohio, again next month.

On Friday, November 10, they will set up radios and antennas and will help the students tune into HAMS all over the world. This event is being held in donation with Veterans Day because the outdoor classroom/pavilion where it is being held was built with funds from the Copley chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The classroom/pavilion located behind the school will be dedicated that day. The first special events day was held at Arrowhead School in May of this year.



If there are other C.A.R.S. operators interested in being part of this event, please call Dave Dressler (KD8V) at 330-666-8721 for more details.

K8ZFR

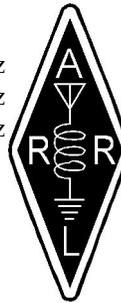
THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR



October, 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	http://www.cars.org	



NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 18, 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.



The Wobbly Oscillator
 P.O. Box 31264
 Independence, OH 44131-0264

