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May 2001

ODE TO A TUBE

Your anode glows red,
your cathode stays blue.
The greater your output,
the brighter your hue.

Old friends, you and I,
my trusty glass bottle;
you never once failed me
when I pushed you full-throttle.

You bagged rare ones in pileups,
-each new one a thrill-
and lowered each winter's
big heating oil bill.

With no filament delays
just instant, huge power;
I pity that aluminum,
on top of the tower!

You've such power out it
keeps blowing the meter;
(and last time I tuned you,
you burned up my feeder).

Your case was so hot
the paint's all in blisters.
God bless vacuum tubes-
just try this with transistors!

The bands are improving,
there's "DXcitement" in store;
so hang in there, Ol' Friend,
for just one cycle more!

from the HamRadio2000 reflector

2001 March of Dimes Walk America

On behalf of the March of Dimes I would like to thank the following individuals for volunteering at the 2001 Walk America on April 28th: Greg Romaniak (N8XOS), Lori Schultz (KC8MYE), Judy Crane (KC8FHE), Jim Crane (KB8SQF), Bob Fehlner (N8QHC), Judy Nejman (N8QMM), Jeff Garvas (N8YNR), Duncan St Ives (KC8KQO), Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) and Roy Hadden (KB8VJF). Over 3000 walkers participated in the 3 mile event and raised \$500,000 for the March of Dimes. Thank you again.

73 de TJ Powell (N8UIR)

MAY MEETING PROGRAM

How's your audio? Do you know how you sound on the air?

You have a chance to get an idea if you come to the C.A.R.S. next meeting

There will be a video presentation by Bob Heil. He is famous for the Heil Microphones and audio equipment. He started out with audio systems for Rock and Roll. But being an amateur radio enthusiast he has brought his expertise to our hobby.

You will not want to miss this. It isn't just about his equipment, it's about your equipment and what it should sound like.

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!)

IN THIS ISSUE

From The Prez's Shack	2
Dayton Bus	2
New Membership Application	2
Meeting Minutes	3
International News	3
Treasurer's Report	3
Upcoming Events	4
Executive Board	4
The Random Wire	5

FROM THE PREZ'S SHACK

The April meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m., we had introductions and proceeded with our program, after the program we continued with our regular business meeting. Remember our meeting time is now 7:30 p.m.

Gary Dewey, NI8Z scheduled John Predina, Sr. Operations Specialist with the Illuminating Company, who put on a nice program about RFI interference, how CEI traces it and what they do to fix the problems, John also gave us a direct phone number to call him directly to save 3-4 days in getting a report going.

Dave Morley, W8IXY refreshment & 50/50 chairman had a good supply of goodies, coffee & pop. Our 50/50 winner Steve Riley N8IS took home \$11 as his share.

Gary Dewey NI8Z reported Monica James called to say we have 15 inside tables sold for the Hamfest, no other report and no meeting has been called.

Tom WB8N reports things are coming together very well for our Field Day, we have a good site confirmed, Dave W8IXY has obtained a gift certificate for \$50 worth of food, we have at least four stations committed and hope to get a fifth station plus a Novice/Tech station. Anyone willing to help contact Tom WB8N or Dave W8IXY ASAP.

Time is very short if you want to ride the CARS bus to the Dayton Hamvention, contact Gordon KC8IOU 330-225-6917 to reserve a seat, we have about 30 paid and 5 more sending money as I am writing this. Remember reserve your seats ASAP, and the money is due with your reservation.

I am sorry to report that Phyllis KC8DVL has resigned as our Wednesday night net monitor because of an overloaded schedule, Phyllis is just too rushed to continue running the net. We all thank Phyllis for two years of dedicated service. Gordon KC8IOU will run the net May 2, and Tom WB8N will cover the May 9 net. At our next meeting May 16, we will make a decision on what to do, I am hoping to find three members to split the duties.

Anyone looking for a great propagation program go to www.qsl.net/w6elprop and download W6ELPROP for free. This is a killer program and very easy to use, it will give you very accurate sky-wave propagation between any two locations on earth from 3 and 30 MHz.

That's all till next month, remember; enhance your membership-Please attend CARS meetings!

73, Bob, W8GC

DAYTON BUS

GKC8IOU (Gordon Kolus)

As everyone knows by now the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society is running a bus trip To Dayton for the 50th Dayton Hamvention. The cost of the trip is \$30 per seat. We will be leaving the Brecksville Road Transit Co. located at 7885 Snowville Road. The bus will leave at 2:30 a.m. on May 19. We will stop for breakfast when we get down near Columbus, then its back on the bus and on to the Hamvention. If you have never gone down to Dayton before or if you have driven down your self you know what a long ride it can be. The bus is the only way to go, just sit back and relax while our driver does all of the driving. Please be at the bus station NO LATER than 2:15 a.m. We will leave Dayton for home sometime around 3 p.m. We will

be stopping for a bite to eat at a McDonald's or Wendy's then on to the bus yard. As in the past you will need to provide your own ticket into the Hamvention The cost of the \$30 is only for the bus trip. Send your check made out to C.A.R.S. and mail to C.A.R.S., PO BOX 31264, Independence, Ohio 44131

As of 4/28/2001 this is the list of people that have signed up for the trip, who has paid and who still needs to get their money in for the trip. After May 10, please do not send any more money to the P.O. Box just in case the money gets held up in the snail mail, bring it the morning of the bus trip. If you will be paying the day of call 330-225-6917 and let me know ASAP or your seat may be gone...

Name	No. Seats	Pay	Status
Jack Goldfarb W8WGO	1	paid	1
Tim & Dawn Gervan KC8NMT	2	—	—
Paul Valley KC8AMD	1	paid	2
Gordon Kolus KC8IOU	1	paid	3
Terry KB8DTC	1	paid	4
Roger Bohanlin N8TCP	2	—	—
Jim Kodysz	1	paid	5
Jeff Kodysz	1	paid	6
Henry Zbrzeski WB8JXQ	2	paid	8
Jojn Sepper N8KUS	1	paid	9
Ed Celestin KC8BOJ	2	paid	11
Bob Sull W8IMO	2	—	—
Robert Briggs W8MMC	1	paid	12
Paul Poling K8CKG	1	paid	13
Carl Cunert AB8CC	1	—	—
Philip Sherman WB8CTY	2	paid	15
Kevin Brandstetter K8VUS	1	paid	16
Ken Harhay W8KH	1	paid	17
Larry K8PK	1	—	—
Craig Kollai	1	paid	18
Steve & wife N8TUA	2	—	—
Al Loda WA8OZC	1	paid	19
Joe W8DOE	1	paid	20
Jim Crane KB8SQF	1	paid	21
Judy Crane KC8FHE	1	paid	22
John K8RWR	1	paid	23
Ron Geisler N8NGO	1	—	—
Tom Leu W8BWC	1	—	—
Michael Tomechko KB8YKE	1	paid	24
Bernhard Hinrichsen W2NTB	1	paid	25
Tom Kopcak N8ETP	2	—	—

Money is still coming in but as of now there is 3 (15 reserved but not paid yet!!!) seats left but its first paid first on the bus we have room for 42 riders total so lets fill it up.

73' Gordon Kolus KC8IOU

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

A new membership application was submitted for:

Name: James Janicki Callsign: WB3FMS
 License Class: General Email: yanitski@earthlink.net
 Interests: Ragchewing, DX'ing, CW, SSB, Hamfest,
 VHF/UHF, HF Contesting

MEETING MINUTES

Steve Riley, N8IS Secretary

April 18, 2001 MINUTES

The President Bob Check W8GC called the February 2001 C.A.R.S. meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. EST. We had 16 members and 1 guest in attendance.

MINUTES: Bob Check (W8GC) ask for a motion to accept the minutes as listed in the March, 2000 WO, Ron K8VJG moved they be accepted, second Gordon KC8IOU-passed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Steve N8IS announced three new membership applications received but no money from the applicants at this time.

FIELD DAY REPORT: Dave W8IXY: Date for field day is June 23-24. A list has been started for the field day site. Those interested in helping please sign up. This is a very nice spot with a pavilion, and indoor bathrooms to start.

HAMFEST REPORT: No Report

REPEATER: Roy KB8VJF changed the clocks on 443.25 and 146.82, also the club meeting time needs to be changed to 7:30 p.m.

SCHOOL EVENTS: Steve N8IS discussed School Events. We need volunteers that have Satellite Communication Equipment or experience who would like to help some eager novices in that area. Roy KB8VJF has said he could help with some training, Dave W8IXY can set up a laptop for tracking software.

DAYTON BUS TRIP REPORT: Gordon Kolus KC8IOU announced that the bus trip is May 19, 2001 and the meeting place is 7885 Snowville Road off Brecksville Road. Departure time is 2:30 a.m. EST. Cost is only \$30 there maybe a five percent fuel charge. The money is due with your reservation, the bus can carry up to 42 people and 25 seats have been paid for. Ten seats have no commitment and seven seats are still open. Call Gordon at 330-225-6917 ASAP.

SUNSHINE CHAIRMAN: Aaron KC8INE no cards sent this month. You can contact Aaron with any welfare news at 440-526-9705 or e-mail Aaron at mailto:sunshine@cars.org.

REFRESHMENT & 50/50: Dave W8IXY collected \$22 for the 50/50 drawing. Steve Riley N8IS collected \$11 as the winner.

WEB SITE NEWS: Greg (KG8O) No Report.

PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS: Gary NI8Z introduced John Predina from the Illuminating Co. His program topic was about RF noise problems from power lines and other appliances that cause problems and how to gain important information in the form of a log to better assist the power company in locating the problem.

NEW BUSINESS: Today is International Amateur Radio Day. Several Members have said they did not get the last W/O via e-mail but have been receiving it via e-mail, also some new and changed e-mail addresses have not been updated.

OLD BUSINESS: The Breckville antenna and tower law was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: Gordon KC8IOU moved to close the meeting, second Jim KB8SQF, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. EST.

TRAGEDY IN THE HAM RADIO FAMILY

It is with great sadness that the Islands on the Air (IOTA) Committee has to report the death of one of the team members that operated March 2001 from Mursala Island off the north west coast of Sumatra (OC-245). Following the operation all the members fell seriously ill with Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever and Malaria on their way back to the mainland and Indra Dewi Indri Astuti, the girl friend of Agus, YC6JKV, died. Agus, himself was unconscious but is now recovering in hospital. The other members are now out of hospital.

Indra Dewi was a much-valued and respected member of the Mursala team. Although a non-amateur, she contributed to its success, helping in many ways as cook and on general support duties. Our thoughts and condolences go out to her family and to Agus, and to the whole team on their tragic loss.

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY FOCUSES ON DISASTER COMMUNICATION

April 18, the world celebrated "World Amateur Radio Day" recognizing the value of our service as a national and international resource. The theme "Providing Disaster Communications". Amateur Radio in the 21st century focused in specific on the role that Radio Amateurs play in the provision of disaster communication.

News reports of the recent earthquakes in India, in El Salvador and other similar disastrous events happening elsewhere on this planet are grim reminders of the need for community and personal preparedness for the unexpected.

World Amateur Radio Day celebrates the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union in Paris on April 18, 1925. This year radio amateurs are celebrating by considering their preparedness and training for support to the authorities to handle and to exchange command-and-control and health-and-welfare messages at a time of need and emergency.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Judy Crane, KC8FHE

**This information is for
C.A.R.S. members only.**

PLEASE SEND DUES TO:
C.A.R.S.
P.O. Box 31264
Independence, OH 44131-0264

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 13 **VE Independence Townhall** 9 a.m. Contact N18Z 216-642-1399
 Wednesday, May 16 **C.A.R.S. Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Busch Funeral Home
 Program -video on Heil Sound Technology
 Saturday, May 19 **CARS Bus To Dayton** (Early Morning 2 a.m.) Call Gordon Kulus KC8IOU 330-225-6917
 May 18, 19, 20 **Dayton Hamvention**
 Sunday, May 20 **VE Elyria** Contact Chuck Hall 440-327-3832
 May 26-28 **WIST Soccer Tournament** Contact N8AUC 440-734-3146
 (Memorial Weekend) 20-30 Amateurs needed
 Sunday, June 3 **www.breezeshooters.net** Butler, PA, 412-812-8006
 Sunday, June 10 **Goodyear Hamfest** Contact Rick Kuster 330-688-3589
 Talk-in 146.985- or 146.52 simplex
 Sunday, June 17 **Cuyahoga Ars Hamfest** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nordinia High School
 Talk-in 146.82 Contact Rich James, N8FIL, 330-468-2035
 Wednesday, June 20 **CARS Picnic Meeting** 5 to 9p.m. Oak Grove Picnic Area, Brecksville Metropark
 June 23, 24 **Field Day** Edgerton Road, Broadview Hts
 Contact Tom Wayne WB8N 440-232-4193
 Sunday, June 24 **March of Dimes Motorcycle Ride** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Coordinator TJ Powell, N8UIR, 330-468-1984
 Sunday, July 8 **VE Independence Townhall** Contact N18Z 216-642-1399

EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Bob Check - W8GC
 President@cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Gary Dewey - N18Z
 216-642-1399 or VicePresident@cars.org

SECRETARY:

Steve Riley - N8IS
 216-328-9276 or Secretary@cars.org

TREASURER:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ODD YEAR EXPIRATION

Gordon Kulus - KC8IOU
 330-225-6917 or KC8IOU@cars.org
Terry Pillatt - KB8DTC
 330-273-1043 or KB8DTC@cars.org

EVEN YEAR EXPIRATION

Bill Koenig - AA8WJ
Ron Borkey - K8VJG
 440-237-6718

LICENSE TRUSTEE

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

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

STANDING COMMITTEES

** denotes chairman*

AMERICAN RED CROSS DISASTER LIAISON

Ev Chitester* - WA8EYF
 216-581-3657

CARS QSL MANAGER

Tom Wayne* - WB8N
 440-232-4193

COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

Rich James* - N8FIL
 330-468-2035

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & SCHOOL PROGRAM

Dave Dressler* - KD8V
 330-666-8721

Tom Wayne - WB8N
 440-232-4193

Paul Valley - KC8AMD
 440-237-8116

Steve Riley - KC8GCA
 216-328-9276

Ron Borkey - K8VJG
 440-237-6718

DAYTON BUS

Gordon Kulus* - KC8IOU
 330-225-6917

DIGIPEATER

Tom Wayne* - WB8N
 440-232-4193

FIELD DAY

Tom Wayne co* - WB8N
 440-232-4193

Dave Morley co* - W8IXY
 440-884-0650

Mike Thomas - KB8BMY
Aaron Clark - KC8INE
 440-526-9705

HAMFEST

Rich James* - N8FIL
 330-468-6021

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Roy Hadden* - KB8VJF
 330-468-3020

Paul Valley - KC8AMD
 440-237-8116

MEMBERSHIP

Steve Riley* - N8IS (ex KC8GCA)

NET

By Committee

PROGRAM DIRECTOR & ELMER PROGRAM

Gary Dewey* - N18Z
 216-642-1399

REFRESHMENTS & 50/50 AT MEETINGS

Dave Morley* - W8IXY
 440-884-0650

REVIEW CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Gary Dewey* - N18Z
 216-642-1399

Glen Shore - KG8MR
 330-425-9762

Ev Chitester - WA8EYF
 216-581-3657

Roger Boehnlein - N8TCP
 440-843-6723

SUNSHINE (WELFARE)

Aaron Clark - KC8INE
 440-526-9705

TECHNICAL/VA HOSPITAL

Rich James* - N8FIL
 330-468-6021

Roy Hadden - KB8VJF
 330-468-3020

VE EXAMS

Gary Dewey* - N18Z
 216-642-1399

WEB SITE/E-MAIL

Greg Kopp* - KG8O
 216-577-1388

WO/NEWSLETTER

Russ Schneck - KC8IHS
Monica Schneck - KC8IYM
 330-659-3889
 newsletter@cars.org

HELLO MON

Well, here I am, back from a great week in Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas. My wife and I spent Easter week at a resort in Nassau, and I got a chance to be a mini dx-pedition.

We had a room on the fourth floor of a six story building, with a balcony overlooking both the resort pool and the ocean. What a view! Plus, it was a direct shot north for radio waves to head to the North East Ohio area!

I took along a small portable 100 watt HF rig as well as a small power supply, a keyer, and a portable HF antenna with a built in antenna tuner. It was a very simple set-up. The antenna being just a fifty-four inch telescoping antenna set into a basic tuner. But it tuned up well on the bands I operated on, so I was happy.

I set everything up on the balcony off our room and with the weather cooperating, was able to just leave the station set up there the whole week. At night I would throw a towel over everything just to be on the safe side. I left instructions for the maid to just leave everything on the balcony as it was. They have a tendency to move things around.

CQ DX, CQ DX, CQ DX

My first day of operation was actually Easter Sunday. I began operating on ten meters, and my first contact was a New York station. I made several contacts in the U.S. and Europe that day, but kept things short because of the holiday.

I had informed several of the C.A.R.S. members which I thought might have an opportunity to operate during the hours I would be operating of the time I would be on the air and which frequencies I would be using. I had picked 28.495 MHz as my primary operating frequency, with a couple of alternatives in case that frequency was in use.

Then I began....CQ DX, CQ DX, CQ DX, this is Charlie Six Stroke Whiskey Bravo Eight November calling CQ from Nassau in the Bahamas...sitting on my balcony in eighty some degree weather, the sun shinning down on me in my swimming trunks, watching the people at the pool and the waves rushing up on the beach, with a nice cold gin and tonic on the table next to my log. Was this ham heaven or what? My wife was taking a nap prior to dinner, so I didn't have to worry about bothering her or vice-versa.

I made several stateside contacts, and several in Europe and I heard John Lane KB8IUH calling me. I answered him, but for some reason he could not hear me. Now, that was not a good omen. Suddenly I heard a familiar voice coming back to me. It was Carl Beduhn K8AV, who is a long time C.A.R.S. member. I had a short qso with him and then I heard, Ron Borkey K8VJG calling me. WOW! This was GREAT! I talked to Ron and he said he was going to give Gary Dewey NI8Z a call and tell him I was on the air, which he did, but alas, Gary was not at home. I then heard K8CRF calling me. Now that was a familiar call sign...the Cleveland Rain Forest station at the Cleveland Zoo! It was Sean Carey W8SCC operating the Rain Forest station. I made several more contacts that day, both from the U.S.A. and Europe, and called it quits around five thirty P.M. as I had to get ready to go eat dinner.

THE THIRD DAY

Tuesday afternoon I began calling cq again, and had some contacts from Europe, but only a few from stateside. Conditions were really bad. I later learned that there was some solar activity affecting band conditions and that propagation was poor on all the bands for DX operation. But I kept trying and was able to several contacts that day.

WEDNESDAY, SHOPPING

Wednesday was a cloudy cool day, and we took a trip to town to see the sights and do some souvenir shopping. That pretty much shot the whole day, and by the time we got back to the resort, it was time to get ready for dinner, so no HF operation that day. As I learned later, it was just as well because of the poor propagation.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Conditions were pretty much the same both Thursday and Friday, with only a few contacts from the lower states, and some from Europe. I did make a contact with a fellow named Ivor GIOAIJ, from Belfast, Ireland. This guy was a real character. I had heard him on the air talking to a couple of other stations and he was a real comedian! As it turns out, he will be at the Dayton Hamvention and we have plans to meet at the Northern Ohio DX Association Hospitality Room. That should be an interesting and fun meeting. Some of the countries I made contact with were Argentina, Poland, Italy, Ireland, Croatia, Spain, Portugal, Newfoundland (where they had a couple of stranded polar bears), Nova Scotia, France, Trinidad, Dominica, and Texas. Well, they think they are a separate country, don't they? The states I made contact with besides Ohio were New York, Minnesota, Kansas, Wyoming, Michigan, and Texas.

I know several of you tried to at least hear me, but to no avail. Gordon KC8IOU looked for me, and Roger N8TCP said he heard another station talking to me but he could not hear me. Oh well...better luck next time guys. And there WILL be a next time.

PACKING IT ALL IN

Friday evening I had to tear down the station and pack it all up in my carry-on bag...21 pounds worth...as we were leaving early Saturday morning for home. It was a fun experience and although conditions did not exactly cooperate with me, I enjoyed operating as a DX station for those few days.

I am looking forward to doing it again, perhaps from the Bahamas, or perhaps from another Caribbean island We enjoyed our stay in the Bahamas...it is clean, the people are friendly and the weather was warm and sunny. I understand we picked a good week to get away, as the weather here was cold and wet and miserable. We came back home to warm weather and sunny skies.

SEE YOU MON

That's about it for this month. Hope to see you at the May meeting, just before the big Dayton Hamvention weekend. Wednesday the meeting, Thursday we will be heading for Dayton, and Friday, the Hamvention opens bright and early at eight thirty! Hope to see many of you at Dayton as well.

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR



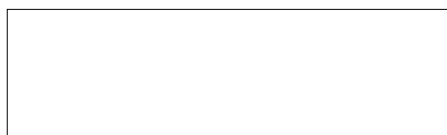
May 2001

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	



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS CARS NET
146.82 7:00 P.M.



**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?
 CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR
 ADDRESS LABEL.**

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

