

# The Wobbly Oscillator

## Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society



NO8A Special Event Call K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75

June 2004

Volume XXXIII

Issue VI

### From the Prez

Thanks to all who came out to the May meeting, sorry for my arriving late but our VE session for both General and CW class students lasted a little longer than expected.

Several regulars and officers were missing because of other commitments. Tina W8HBI, Steve N8IS, Kayla N8KAY, Gary NI8Z, Tom WB8N, Dave K8DAV plus a few others, we look forward to seeing you all next month.

Carol KC8TIE dropped off a good supply of refreshments but was not able to stay for the meeting. Ron K8VJG collected \$35.50 for the 50/50 drawing this month. Dennis AB8NI was the lucky winner and collected \$17.50 as his share.

We have another busy month with the Diabetes Cleveland "Tour de Cure" cycling event on Sunday June 13, 2004. Tom WB8N has all the details. He is looking for volunteers for this worthy event. June 26 & 27 is Field Day 2004! These are 2 great and fun events, come out and enjoy your ham radio license with CARS! Tom WB8N is also the Field Day chairman. Please contact Tom at 440-232-4193 or e-mail him at wb8n@cars.org. and let him know if you can join us for either or both events.

If anyone is having a problem getting to www.cars.org, www.2cars.org www.w8wgm.org please call 216-524-1750 or send me an e-mail. Dave is doing several updates to Web sites and we want to be sure you are not having any problems.

We had our second build session at my house for the "Fox Hunt" project May 29, 11 members attended some for the first time and several for the second time. Most are finished or well on the way to completing both the antenna and the

active attenuator.

Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY, Steve N8IS and myself drove to the Dayton Hamvention this year. I am not sure why but for me except to see 3 or 4 people. It seemed like a waste of time, most vendors said attendance was down for them and there was very little in the way of free things being passed out. I go back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dayton Hamvention, watched it grow, left the hobby for many years and came back to see it going down. My guess is the group running it will say attendance is up but not by what I saw and heard. This was the last time I will bother going to Dayton.

That's it for this month, please remember: *Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. It comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from today.*

de, Bob W8GC

### In this issue:

From the Prez . . . . .	pg 1
Meeting minutes . . . . .	pg 2
From the V.P. . . . .	Pg 3
Birth Days . . . . .	Pg 3
Ham Radio Project . . . . .	Pg 4
V.P. Interview . . . . .	Pg 4
Random Wire . . . . .	Pg 5
Officers & Committees . . . . .	Pg 7

Minutes of the CARS Meeting of May 19, 2004.

Vice President, Toby Koleman WT8O called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM held at the Busch Community Room in Parma, OH. President Bob Check W8GC was at the VE Session for the General and CW Classes and arrived a bit after the start of the meeting. Introductions were held around the room. Nineteen Members were in attendance.

Refreshments were provided by Carol KC8TIE

Terry KB8DTC reported on the Dayton Bus Trip. 24 riders made the bus trip this year. The bus returned to Brecksville at 8:00 p.m. Saturday evening. Following Terry's report, the membership had a lively discussion about the Dayton Hamvention in general.

President Bob W8GC arrived at the meeting from the VE Session at 7:50 p.m. He reported that 3 students passed the general test and no one passed CW.

A motion to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2004 meeting per the May W.O. was made and seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

Dave KD8V, the Sunshine Chairman, reported that no cards were sent out this month.

Gordon W8GTK reported that Wednesday night nets need more participation and he's looking for net controllers.

Toby WT8O reported that there will be two summer lighthouse events. The first will be the first weekend of August and the next the third weekend. Locations will be announced soon.

Bob W8GC reported that the WO needs more material and hopes some members would send in articles they find interesting or that they write themselves.

Bob also reported on the direction finding projects. The first group of nine member/builders attended the build session May 1st. The next build would be May 29<sup>th</sup> at Bob's house to finish a started project or for first time builders.

Bob reported that the North Royalton Middle School event was successful. There are many good pictures on the website at [www.cars.org](http://www.cars.org). 325 students and more than 20 teachers were involved.

Bob informed the group that the widow of a local SK donated her late husband's station equipment to CARS. Some of the equipment will be used at the station on the SS Wm. G. Mather, some will be used for Field Day and other club projects and the rest will be sold at auction with the proceeds going to the club treasury.

The treasurers report was made by Mike KB8UGT. A motion to made and seconded to accept the treasurers report. A vote was taken and passed.

President Check announced that the June meeting will be the first of our summer picnic meetings at Oak Grove Picnic Area. George K8KR and Aaron KC8INE will give a talk about investigating UFO sightings.

Ron K8VJG filled in for Kayla N8KAY running the 50/50 raffle which was won by Dennis AB8NI His share was \$17.50. Ron K8VJG solicited donations from vendors at the Hamvention and provided gifts like hats and maps for this and future 50/50 raffles.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Terry KB8DTC and seconded by Gordon W8GTK. A vote was taken and passed. W8GC adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O and typed by Tina Check W8HBI

---

**REMEMBER TO CHECK  
IN ON THE CARS  
WEEKLY CLUB NET ON  
146.820 AT 7:00 P.M.  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
NIGHT EXCEPT FOR  
MEETING NIGHTS.**

## FROM The V.P.

One of the best CARS traditions is about to unfold for '04, the summer outdoor picnic meetings. The June, July and August meetings will again be held in the pavilion at the Oak Grove Picnic Area in the Metroparks Brecksville Reservation. If you've been to any of these meetings, you know how much fun they are. If you've never come to one, do yourself a favor and join the fun. The early birds get there by about 5:30 and get a good fire going. A lot of us bring food to cook, some bring their meals pre-prepared. There is always a good crowd on hand long before the meeting begins.

A lot of times someone will set up a portable station in one of many modes to try out a new antenna, piece of equipment, or just because we're hams having fun. The 'eight two' repeater will also be busy with members on HTs from the picnic area and mobiles en route.

This month, George, K8KR, and Aaron, KC8INE, will be giving a talk on UFO's. The starry skies and dark surroundings will be a perfect backdrop. So make it a point to attend the first of our three picnic meetings Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. The CARS website has a map showing the location of the meeting site, if you've never been there.

Also on the schedule of outdoor events is Field Day, the biggest event of the year for amateur radio. As always Field Day is the last full weekend in June, this year being the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

CARS will compete this year with an ambitious Eight Alpha effort.

That is, we will have eight stations from our location. We plan on having CW, SSB, RTTY, and PSK stations. The site will be at the Al Koran Mosque picnic area, on Edgerton Rd., just East of Broadview Rd in Broadview Hts. There will be plenty of opportunity for members to operate at the various stations set up. This is an excellent chance to operate HF for those with technician licenses, or to get contesting experience. The station operators will welcome any help during the twenty-four hour grind. We also get points for visitors, so come up if you just want to

observe and bring family or friends.

Field Day is the ultimate practice exercise for operation under emergency conditions. It is the most active and exciting twenty-four hours in amateur radio each year, so by all means plan to attend this year's CARS Field Day.

Once again, this is a call for all members to join in the CARS Wednesday club net at seven P.M. Participation has been very light as of late.

Possibly it's because of the warm weather and longer days. The net committee has been kicking around several ideas to increase check-ins; one being to change the time to a later hour. If you have any ideas, please contact net chairman Gordon, W8GTK, at W8GTK@cars.org. We still would like a couple more net controllers. This is fun and great operating experience. Please make it a point to check in Wednesday nights. Hope to hear you then.

73,  
de, Toby WT8O

---

## MEMBERS HAVING A BIRTHDAY IN JUNE

KA8EOW Phillip Harding 6-25-46  
KB8VJO Gary Overfield 6-18-58  
KC8LZO David Dressler 6-28  
KC8OMV Michael Dressler 6-7  
N1OTN Jeremy Browner 6-10-75  
N8DJC Don Leyden Jr 6-19-49  
W8QXA Charles Matthes 6-14-27  
K8ME Dwaine Modock 6-16-48  
KC8WFI Brian Harris Sr. 6-2-40

Happy Birthday to all, and  
many happy returns!

## THE HAM RADIO PROMOTION PROJECT

On May 22, 2004 I represented the CARS club at first meeting of the planning committee for The Ham Radio Promotion Project. I was impressed by the effort and planning that went into the meeting.

The objective is to promote Amateur Radio to the public and encourage interested persons to become licensed operators through a cooperative effort of Cleveland area radio clubs and volunteers.

The main steps in the program are:

1. Promote Amateur Radio through a variety of approaches.
2. Prospecting for potential hams.
3. Qualifying those who appear to be candidates for licensing.
4. Training or assisting those with an interest in becoming licensed radio amateurs.

The "TARGET" audiences are students, computer hobbyists, fair attendees, mall shoppers, scout groups, youth groups, teachers, reporters, seniors and civic clubs.

The role of the radio clubs will be to follow through with prospects, have mentors and "ELMERS" available, offer licensing classes and help supply some of the funds needed for exhibits and displays.

An interesting statistic was brought up at the meeting; each year there are about 20,000 new hams licensed and about the same number becoming silent keys. At best, we are stagnant as far as growth and be sure the FCC is watching these numbers. If the ham population is not growing the FCC my very well cut back on our frequency allotments and slowly squeeze us out. I have heard much talk about what to do about attracting new hams and we now have a core group in place, ready to take action so please don't let it slip away. I will be acting as the liaison between CARS and the project and looking for anyone willing to volunteer their services to the group.

More to follow at the next membership meeting.

Dennis Brostek AB8NI

## JUNE INTERVIEW WITH THE V.P.

This months interview is with John Chesna KC8WBH

*V.P.: How did you become interested in Amateur Radio, what got you started?*

John: When I had my first car, back in high school, my friends and I all had Citizen Band radios. I even received the FCC license, just prior to the FCC removing the requirement for such. We talked about getting ham radios, since a few of us were into building electronic kits, and such. College came along, and we all gradually drifted in different directions. I thought about the idea again, after I relocated to South Carolina, and the impact of the first couple of long-distance phone bills (\$100's) were felt. But once again, the timing of getting the buddies back home to prepare for the tests just wasn't right. Then, more recently, two fellow members, Gordon W8GTK and Toby WT80, who are also fellow work associates, were talking about the fun they were having with the hobby, and how convenient the club's training location was to our Company's location. I thought to myself, after 30+ years of pondering this, let's just do it, and start with the first license.

*V.P.: How long have you been licensed and what class license do you currently have?*

John: I received my Technician Class license in March 2003, after the intense training provided by the CARS Training Group.

*V.P.: What do you like about Amateur Radio?*

*Continued on next page...*

John: I like the idea that you can get started with basic equipment, some that you can assemble yourself, and have the ability to talk with folks from around the world. I have an interest in astronomy, and the International Space Station, and one day hope to communicate with those in space. The hobby also has some interesting variations, such as the fox hunting, where you use your radios and specialized antennae to pin-point the source of a radio signal.

*V.P.: What are your favorite bands to work?*

John: Currently, I have only had transmissions of the 2 meter band.

*V.P.: Do you collect QSL Cards? If so, how many confirmed countries do you have?*

John: The collection of QSL cards is an activity I plan to pursue once my shack is set up.

*V.P.: What other hobbies do you have besides Ham Radio ?*

John: I like fishing, auto-repair, orienteering, and computers.

*V.P.: What would your dream station be? Where would it be?*

John: I'd like to take over one of the kids bedrooms, after they move out on their own, and set up the communications stations, coupled with a computer, complete with high-speed access. In one area, I'd have my electronics workbench, with all the accessories. And the walls would be decorated with world maps, radio charts, and my soon to be growing QSL card collection.

*V.P.: What type of work do you do? Or if retired, what did you do ?*

John: I am a chemical engineer by training, and have essentially been involved in new process and product developments my entire career. Currently, I'm supporting the business that supplies aerospace components to major aircraft engine manufacturers.

***V.P.: John, thank you for your time and letting our members know a little more about you.***

---

## **THE RANDOM WIRE**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### **HAMVENTION 2004**

I for one thought that this years Hamvention was a good one, in spite of the rain all day Saturday. I only got to see about half of the flea market on Friday, and spent all day Saturday inside the arena, but I had a great time! I don't know about the attendance, but it was announced Sunday afternoon when they were having the drawings for the main prizes and leftover door prizes, that attendance was actually up over last year.

Kenwood, Icom, and Yaesu all had their brand new HF rigs on display and they are things of beauty! Of course the price is right up there too! But we can dream, can't we?

I was a little disappointed that the GEARVAKf gang was not there this year in the flea market, but I later learned that there was a conflict in dates with the main people of that organization and their work schedule. They hope to be there next year. And yes, there will be a Hamvention in Dayton next year! It was announced by the Hamvention committee that it will again at the Hara Arena. Let's hope for better weather next year. But hey, what would the Hamvention be without a little bad weather. At least it wasn't snowing as it has in past years when the Hamvention was held earlier in the

*continued next page...*

year!

I already have the motel room reserved for next year, and am looking forward to Hamvention 2005.

#### DIABETES ASSN. TOUR de CURE

Mention has already been made in this issue about this worthy event. We need hams to volunteer! Bring your mobile rigs, hand-helds with a mag mount antenna, extra battery pack, and BE THERE! Get in touch with me either by e-mail at wb8n@ cars.org or call me at 440-232-4193. The date is Sunday, June 13. We need as many operators as we can get!

#### FIELD DAY

Time is drawing close on this great event too!

I will have more on Field Day at the next CARS meeting. We have operators committed with their stations and providing we don't have any injurious mishaps this year, it looks like we will have a great operation. Plan on coming out either Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, or make it both days if you can! You will be welcome to sit down and do some operating if you so desire, or just be an observer. Either way, come out and have some fun!

#### JUNE MEETING

Don't forget that the June meeting will be held in the Oak Grove picnic area of the Brecksville branch of the Metro Parks, off of Brecksville Rd., South of Rt. 82. Bring your food to cook out and plan on having a good time! A fire will be ready for cooking.

#### TTFN

That about does it for this month gang. I've run out of things to write about. I'll probably think of something else after I have put this newsletter to bed, as they say in the publishing game.

Hope to see a lot of you at the Diabetes Tour de Cure, and also at the June meeting. Don't forget to check in on the Wednesday evening CARS net as well!

73 for now...

de Tom, WB8N

THIS  
SPACE  
WAS  
RESERVED  
FOR  
MORE  
ARTICLES

## CARS 2004 Officers & Committees

### Audit

Toby WT8O \*\* Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z

### ARRL Liaison & media representative

Don KC8NIX \*\* Carol KC8TIE \*\* 216-524-4910

### CBARC Liaison

Dwaine K8ME 440-582-3462

### Christmas Party 2004

Gary NI8Z \*\* Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI  
Tom WB8N

### Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V \*\* 330-666-8721 Steve N8IS \*\*  
216-328-0432, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

### Dayton Bus

Terry KB8DTC \*\* 330-273-1043, Bob W8GC

### Diabetes events

Tom WB8N

### Elmer

George K8KR \*\* 216-941-5304

### Field Day

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193, Aaron KC8INE  
Bob W8GC, Steve N8IS, Gary NI8Z

### Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP \*\* 216-252-6640 N8IS, N8TCP

### Ham License classes

Bob W8GC\*\* Gary, NI8Z \*\* Tom WB8N, Steve  
N8IS, Don KC8NIX, Ron K8VJG, Bruce N8DJX,  
George K8KR, Dave K8DAV

### Interference & Jamming

W8GC\*\*, NI8Z, N8IS, N8TCP, WB8N

### Scouts

Steve N8IS, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

### Lighthouse events

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544, Bob W8GC  
Gordon W8GTK, Steve N8IS, Bruce N8DJX

### Membership

Tina W8HBI \*\* Bob W8GC\*\*

### Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

Bob W8GC \*\* Lin WD8SDP \*\* Steve N8IS  
Gary NI8Z, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP  
Mike KB8UGT, Bruce N8DJX  
Toby WT8O

### NET

Gordon W8GTK \*\*

### Newsletter Editor & K8ZFR Trustee

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Program director



Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544

### QSL manager-NO8A & K8ZFR

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Refreshments & 50/50

Carol KC8TIE \*\* 216-524-4910  
50/50 Kayla N8KAY

### Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V \*\* 330-666-8721

### Technical

Roy KB8VJF \*\* Bob W8GC \*\* Terry KB8DTC  
Vince N8OVW, Dave K8DAV, Tom WB8N  
Jack W8JAK, Jim WD8CHL, Steve N8IS

### VE exams

Gary NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV \*\* 440-243-3593, Bob W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## **2004 Officers**

### **PRESIDENT**

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750  
president@cars.org

### **VICE-PRESIDENT \*\*\*\***

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544  
vice-president@cars.org

### **SECRETARY \*\*\*\***

Tina W8HBI 216-328-0432  
secretary@cars.org



### **TREASURER:**

Mike KB8UGT 216-663-2717  
treasurer@cars.org

## **Board Members**

### **even year executive board 2 year term;**

George K8KR 216-941-5304  
Gary NI8Z 216-642-8705  
Steve N8IS 216-328-0432

### **odd year executive board 2 year term;**

Gordon W8GTK 330-225-6917  
Terry KB8DTC 330-273-1043  
Tom WB8N 440-232-4193

