

# The Wobbly Oscillator

## Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



SEPTEMBER 2004

Volume XXXIV

Issue XI

### From the Prez

We had a good turn out for the August meeting, with 31 members and guests enjoying the meeting and program presented by Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division.

Tina W8HBI collected \$42.00 for the 50/50 drawing this month and David, WD8IOU won again! Well, its been a long time, but the last meeting David came to, he also won. Seems like a sign... come to meetings! Both David and CARS collected \$21.00 as their share.

I am very happy to welcome 2 new members to the CARS family: Ted Mirgliotta KB8NW and David Autry WD8IOU. Good to have you aboard guys!

It looks like we will not be able to participate in this years Amateur Radio Awareness Day on Sept. 18, 2004. I guess our many School, Lighthouse, License classes, Diabetes Association Tour-de-Cure and walk along with other events CARS sponsors through the year will be our contribution to Amateur Radio Awareness.

Plans for the Road trip to the Hammond Museum of Radio in Guelph, Ontario Canada. are looking good. If you want to go and you need a room, a ride or can provide a ride I need to know no later than September 15 (our next meeting).

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division gave a very good talk at our last meeting. He explained the ARRL grass roots lobbying efforts, the proposal before the FCC to regulate by bandwidth instead of mode, issues with ARRL headquarters staff and many other projects including LOTW. If you did not attend you missed a good meeting!

We are still going through our latest lot of donated equipment. It is all older equipment, the newest seems to be from the early 1990's with most going back to 1960's. We will keep some of the stuff and sell some, I will bring a report along with several items for sale, mostly QRP home-brew projects, old multi meters and misc. stuff to the our September meeting.

Dave KD8V announced their will be a Copley School event at Arrowhead Middle School on September 24th. Volunteers are needed. A breakfast will be provided by Dave KD8V and his wife before setting up for the event. If interested please contact Dave KD8V or Steve N8IS.

That's it for this month, remember: **Life is like a piano; what you get out of it depends on how you play it.**

de Bob W8GC

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication, provided credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format or plain ole e-mail, to [newsletter@cars.org](mailto:newsletter@cars.org). By the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue. The editor reserves the right to publish or not publish any submission/s.

**MINUTES OF the AUGUST MEETING  
Aug, 18, 2004**

President Bob Check, W8GC called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM held at the Brecksville Metro Parks Oak Grove picnic area. Introductions were held, with 26 members and 5 guests in attendance.

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2004 meeting was made by Bill, WA8GEO and seconded by Darren, K8DMT. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

The treasurers report was made by Mike KB8UGT. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made by Terry, KB8DTC and seconded by Steve, N8IS. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Dave KD8V told the members that their will be a Copley School event at Arrowhead Middle School on September 24th. Volunteers are needed. A breakfast will be provided by Dave KD8V and his wife before setting up for the event. If interested please contact Dave KD8V or Steve N8IS. Bob

W8GC added that the North Royalton Middle School has also invited us back for a school event there.

Bob, W8GC advised that the same Field Day site location for 2005 was reserved and paid for.

Dave, KD8V the Sunshine Chairman, told the members he sent a card to Dick Mondro W8FQT ARRL Great Lakes district Vice Director from ARRL on his father's passing. Cards were passed around at the meeting that will be sent to: Mary Cegelski KC8YLC on the passing of her aunt, and Robert, 3B9FR a DX operator who lives on Rodriguez Island who was hospitalized for about 6 weeks. Dave WD8IOU announced that Stan, K8VI is in Southwest Hospital recovering from a broken hip.

Gordon W8GTK reported that Wednesday night nets are doing great at their new time. Bob, W8GC advised that Jerry, KC8LAU may be contacting Gordon in the future about running the net when needed.

Bob also mentioned several regular members were not at the meeting. Dave, K8DAV had to get some people at the airport, Toby, WT8O was busy helping his daughter prepare for a drive to Bowling Green University the next day, Mike,

K8EHP and Mary, KC8YLC are attending an aunt's wake, Don, KC8NIX and Carol, KC8TIE are currently on vacation.

President Bob announced that we had two new members to vote on. Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW and David, Autry WD8IOU A motion to accept the new members was made by Gary NI8Z and seconded by Terry KB8DTC. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Tom WB8N mentioned that Bob, W8GC, his XYL Betty and himself went to the Diabetes Tour-de-Cure Awards dinner at California Salads restaurant. The club was presented with a certificate of appreciation for our help.

Tom also asked all to send your articles for the WO to: newsletter@cars.org.

Gordon, W8GTK announced that he and Toby, WT8O participated in the lighthouse event Aug 7th at the Lorain Lighthouse. About 45 contacts were made. Toby, WT8O, Bruce, N8DJX and Ron, K8VJG participated Aug 8<sup>th</sup>.

Bob, W8GC announced in the absence Mike, K8EHP that Mike held a Fox Hunt/instruction session last Sunday and the Fox was actually found :) An instructional period was spent before the hunt. We will ask Mike K8EHP to elaborate upon his return.

Gary, NI8Z reported the next VE Session will be September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Bob announced that he was picking up donated equipment from the estate of Jim Colman N8FCS tomorrow.

W8GC also advised that Terry, KB8DTC, Steve, N8IS and himself assisted Jerry Purcell, KC8LAU in replacing some coax and tuned two antennas for him. Jerry KC8LAU kindly made a donation to CARS for the assistance.

Bob announced that Marian Rubin KC8ZBN will give a talk after the September meeting about her trip to Honduras and how Ham radio fit in.

Bob advised that the trip to Hammond Museum of Radio in Guelph, Ontario Canada will be October 9.

Continued on next page...

Most want to stop in Niagra at a Casino, we will be stopping on the American side at Seneca Niagara Casino, 310 Fourth St. and spend a night then come home Sunday. Bob needs a final number on who wants to go. Please get in contact with Bob W8GC as soon as possible. The Museum will open for us on a Saturday and provide a lunch when we arrive and a guided tour of the Museum. You can check museum details at:  
[www.HammondMuseumOfRadio.org](http://www.HammondMuseumOfRadio.org).

Lin, WD8SDP requested copies of the manuals for the Kenwood and Stepp IR for down at the Mather. Along with some how to instructions for ham people who come to work the station at the SS Wm. G.Mather.

Tom, W8BN made a motion to have our September meeting at the Brecksville Metro Parks Oak Grove picnic area instead of moving it back to our indoor location at Busch Funeral Community room. The motion was seconded by Steve, N8IS and the motion passed.

The 50/50 raffle was won by David, WD8IOU. His share was \$21.00

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Terry, KB8DTC and seconded by Lin, WD8SDP. A vote was taken and the motion passed. W8GC adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

This evenings program was presented by Jim Weaver K8JE. President Check, W8GC presented Jim with a CARS Activity Shirt from CARS as a token of our appreciation for his coming to speak to us at our meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Tina Check, W8HBI

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### SEPTEMBER INTERVIEW WITH THE V. P.

This months interview is with Gary Schmid, KC2BUA.

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

Gary: Well Toby, I became interested

through short wave listening on my grandmothers old wood covered multi-band radio. My next door neighbor on one side was a juke box repair man, with a really good basic radio knowledge. He picked up on my interest and taught me, provided me with some books on basic electrical theory, etc. He also taught me how to solder and do basic repair. He provided me with an out of case all band radio and I put it to work with a long wire antenna. The antenna appearing in the yard got the attention of another neighbor on the opposite side, W8HXL, now a silent key; who queried me about the antenna. When he saw my genuine interest he formed a class in his garage and taught 3 of us the code and the novice test. I went on to license and the rest is history! W8HXL was my first Elmer. The other most influential Elmers were W8GC (W8HBI in those days) and K8WW.

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

Gary: I was licensed in November of 1962 as a novice (WN8GCR). Within a year I was a general. In spite of all the prodding by W8GC I remain a general, BUT I have the CARS course and am working at upgrading to extra soon. If nothing else, I can get rid of KC2BUA as a call!!

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

Gary: It is a hobby that I have been in and out of for now almost 35 years and it still holds my interest. Things are always changing and new horizons are always out there to be explored. I have remained licensed for all 35 years though not active all that time. Every time I come back to the hobby there is always something new and challenging to explore. The friends and acquaintances I have made throughout the world have enriched me throughout my life

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

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Gary: I like chasing DX on the low bands 20 & 40, CW being the mode of choice. I do stay active on the VHF bands here in the northeast via mobile on 2m and 440mhz, not anywhere near the activity that I hear when I am in Ohio though.

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

Gary: Well this is an area where I have always been lazy, at last count I was around 90 or so confirmed. It is an area that I have to devote more time to now that I am active again.

*V.P.: What types of Awards or Recognition have you won or been awarded with?*

Gary: I am a life member of ARRL. Most of my awards/accomplishments were when I was active in Navy/Marine Corps MARS, where I was received various forms of recognition for traffic handled and training given while I was a training officer with the ECOM office at the Naval Submarine Base in New London, CT. It was a very rewarding time for me providing a real feeling of accomplishment while using the hobby to help others. I had a real sense for the mission having been a nuclear submarine sailor for eight years myself.

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

Gary: I enjoy fishing, hunting and flying.

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

Gary: I would like a new generation transceiver driving a Henry 2k to a good multi-band beam up 90 feet or so on a piece of land higher than the surrounding terrain. This beats the drake TR7 and a folded dipole in my hole next to the river.

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

Gary: I am a corporate pilot flying a Gulfstream aircraft for General Dynamics Electric Boat. I have been in this position for 4 years. Prior to that I was in the airline side of the business for 20 + years flying 747, 727, DC9 aircraft all over the world. I enjoy this

new position. I miss the large aircraft but am thankful for the quality of life and stable future that corporate aviation provides.

*V.P.: Thanks Gary for taking the time to let our members know more about you.*

73 de Toby, WT8O

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## **IARU REGION IIX CHAMPIONSHIPS USA 2004 RADIO ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS REVISITED**

By Mike Cegelski K8EHP

Wednesday morning 16 June, 2004 saw the XYL and I boarding a plane to Santa Barbara California for the subject events. Try explaining to a heightened security check point agent what broken down antennas are doing in your check-in baggage let alone carry-ons full of HT's, attenuators, etc. Luckily one of the TSA agents was a ham and knew what we were talking about and where we were going. After arriving and registering on the first day, we ran the practice courses on two (2) and eighty (80) meters the second day (Thursday). Both the wife and I were competing independently and our equipment was functioning well. There were five (5) hidden transmitters per band, each transmits for one (1) full minute, shuts off and then the next one starts all in numeric sequence (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) for a total five (5) minute cycle. Friday morning the real fun started. After a bus ride we arrived at the two (2) meter competition site, Vasquez Rocks County Park, Agua Dulce, CA.. The site is extremely rocky, sandy and desert like, full of blind rock bluffs and full of trails NOT on the orienteering map. We started fairly early in the morning to try and beat the heat, a driving sun bringing the daytime heat close to 100 degrees. Talk about echoes and reflections, I did at one time wind up at the end of a box canyon- - NO FOX! I didn't do too bad but I didn't do too well either. The wife heard a rattlesnake just before she stepped on it. She chose to pass on  
*continued on next page...*

that fox. Can't say I blame her.

All I encountered was a lot of lizards. I returned over my time limit and the wife got back within her time limit but without finding any of those furry little critters (foxes).

Saturday morning saw us again board a bus for the eighty (80) meter site, Mt. Pinos, Los Padres National Forest of California. This site was at the top of a mountain with the altitude varying between 7500 and 8500 feet with tons of trees but lots of trails. Eighty (80) meters isn't as susceptible to reflections and bouncing of signals, but what challenge that didn't provide, the thin air handily replaced. You didn't run for too long before you just HAD to stop to grab some breath. I didn't do too well this day either due to stupidity. I misread my compass (of all the idiot problems) which caused me a lot of time wasted. THAT won't happen again! My XYL did notably better this day.

Next years' competition has yet to be announced. Everybody is watching the World ARDF Championships being held in Europe this year. As soon as this event is completed I'm sure the next year event in the U. S. will be announced, hopefully closer to the east coast. You can bet your bottom dollar the XYL and I will be registered and rarin' to go. This year I did discover the equipment we were using for weekend neighborhood club fox hunts fell somewhat short in this professional atmosphere. Be advised I am presently working on new gear which can only be described as "kick butt". As one of the top winners in this competition said to me this year, "You don't bring a knife to a gun fight." That line was spoken by Sean Connery playing Eliot Ness in the movie "The Untouchables".

By the way, my wife is now KC8YLC so she did accomplish that goal since last years competition! Rest assured next year at this time you'll be reading another report about the XYL and I and the results this time should be remarkably improved. COUNT ON IT!

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

KB8PMM Richard Braun 9-29-35  
KC8TIE Carol Dziubakowski 9-1-??  
WB8CDA Glenn Fenzel 9-1-43  
KC8RAN Joe Prokop 8-26-??

Congratulations folks, many happy returns!

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING LOCATION

Don't forget that the September CARS meeting will be in the Brecksville Reservation of the Metro Parks at the Oak Grove Picnic Area once again.

At the last meeting it was decided by vote to have the last meeting of summer in the park, since the weather will still be warm and everyone seems to enjoy meeting in the park.

So we'll look for you there. There will be an interesting speaker for the program following the meeting as well

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## TRIVIA QUESTION

This one should be an easy one.

What does the term "73" actually mean when signing off at the end of a qso?

1. See you later.
2. Have a nice day.
3. Best regards.
4. Toodle-oo

Answer can be found elsewhere in this issue.

## **THE RANDOM WIRE**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### **HOW TIME FLIES!**

Especially when you're having fun! Well, aren't we? We've had a pretty good summer, lots of activities to participate in with the club. Picnic meetings in the park, with an extra one thrown in for good measure!

I still have not got to the antenna work I was gonna do this summer...hope I get to it before the snow flies!

I took part in the museum ships qso party down at the S. S. Wm. G. Mather, but was sorry I could not take part in the Lighthouse events that Toby held out at the Lorain Lighthouse. I know those that did make it out there had FUN!

That's what this great hobby is all about you know, having fun...and making the public aware of our hobby and the benefits it offers to the general public, as well as assisting in worthy events such as the Diabetes public services we do, Pedal to the Point, and others. If you have not yet volunteered to participate in one of the CARS sponsored events or even an event sponsored by another radio club, you really should try to get involved and see what fun it really is, along with the good feeling you get from knowing that you did something worthwhile involving amateur radio.

### **CLEVELAND HAMFEST**

Yep, September means that the last big hamfest of the year in our area is coming. This year it will be Sunday, September 26, the last Sunday of the month. It usually is a pretty good one. I don't know if CARS is going to have a table there this year or not. Come to the Sept. meeting to find out.

### **ANSWER TO THE TRIVIA QUESTION**

This time I'm going to pull a fast one! If you didn't read this column, you didn't find the answer to the trivia question. And the answer is...Number 3...Best Regards. Now notice, I did not say Best Regardses because there is no such word, and that means that if you say 73's, you are using bad grammar. (No, not your grandmother!) Just a simple "73" will suffice. Supposedly the term actually came from the old Pony Express days, when telegraphers were telegraphing to each other. It is said to have made reference to the Winchester 73 rifle, which the express riders carried in their saddle scabbard to keep the Indians at bay. And

no, not the Cleveland Indians! I'm referring to the Indians who might take a scalp if they got hold of the express rider! Anyhow, that's my answer and I'm sticking to it!

### **MEETING PROGRAMS**

At the August meeting we had as our special guest and speaker, Jim Weaver, K8JE, who is the Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division. Jim spoke on several subjects, among them the BPL controversy which all amateurs are alarmed about, and well should be. If you were at the meeting I hope you took the opportunity to meet Jim and perhaps talk with him after the meeting.

This month we have another interesting speaker for our program. She is Marion Ruben, KC8ZBN, who just happens to be the xyl of one of our members Mark Ruben, KB8QHJ. Marion spent some time living and working in Honduras and used amateur radio in her work there. Should be very interesting.

In October, I believe we are having a talk by daughter of K8ZFR, who's callsign we use on our repeaters. More on that next month.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a meeting program, let one of the CARS officers know. We are always open to suggestions. Maybe you have a project you would like to show the membership. Maybe you know someone who would make an interesting speaker. It should be somewhat amateur radio related. We don't want someone speaking on the benefits of eating tofu, now do we?

### **WEEKLY CLUB NET**

Once again I am going to expound on the virtues of checking into the CARS weekly club net, which is held every Wednesday evening, except on club meeting nights. As you should by now be aware, the time has changed to 9:00 p.m. I know, it is right smack in the middle of television prime-time, so set your VCR. Tie a string around your finger, mark your calendar, put it in your daily planner, or whatever will make you remember to check into the net. It is FUN! There's that word again. I heard rumor there is soon going to be a swap & shop too!

Hey! I'm running out of space, so have to say 73 for now!

de Tom, WB8N

**The following Video's can be signed out to CARS members for your personal use at no charge, contact Tina W8HBI to use them.**

VP8GEO	South Georgia	2002	60 min long	VHS
VP8THU	South Sandwich	2002	45 min long	VHS
BQ9P	DXpedition	2003	50 min	DVD
The Science of Audio	by Bob Heil	K9EID	59 min long	DVD
PW0S	St. Peter / St. Paul	2001	30 min	VHS
DXpedition 4W	Timor Lorosae	2002	45 min	VHS
VK0IR	Heard Island	1997	50 min long	DVD
WRTC	Finland	2002	60 min long	DVD
A52A	Bhutan	2000	60 min long	VHS
3B9C & D68C	Expeditions	2001-2004	60 min. each	VHS

**The following old QST magazines may be purchased or loaned out to CARS members for up to 30 days at a time, contact Tina W8HBI.**

<b><u>YEAR 1949</u></b>	July	October	<b><u>YEAR 1966</u></b>
March (cover has damage)	September	December	April
	October		May
	December	<b><u>YEAR 1958</u></b>	September
<b><u>YEAR 1950</u></b>	<b><u>YEAR 1954</u></b>	January	November
October	January	February	
November	February	March	<b><u>YEAR 1967</u></b>
December	March	April	October
	April	May	November
<b><u>YEAR 1952</u></b>	May	June	
January	June	July	<b><u>YEAR 1968</u></b>
February	July	August	January
March	August	September	February
April	September	October	March
May	October	November	April
June	November	December	June
August			July
September	<b><u>YEAR 1956</u></b>	<b><u>YEAR 1959</u></b>	August
October (2 copies)	November	January	September
November	December	February	December
December		March	
	<b><u>YEAR 1957</u></b>	April	<b><u>YEAR 1969</u></b>
<b><u>YEAR 1953</u></b>	February	May	April
January	March		June
February	June	<b><u>YEAR 1965</u></b>	
March	July	March	
April	August	May	
May	September		
June			

## CARS 2004 Officers & Committees

### Audit

Toby WT8O \*\* Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z

### ARRL Liaison & media representative

Don KC8NIX \*\* Carol KC8TIE \*\*

### CBARC Liaison

Dwaine K8ME \*\*

### Christmas Party 2004

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

### Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V \*\* Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI,  
Kayla N8KAY

### Dayton Bus

Terry KB8DTC \*\* Bob W8GC

### Diabetes events

Tom WB8N \*\*

### Field Day

Tom WB8N \*\* Aaron KC8INE, Bob W8GC,  
Steve N8IS, Gary NI8Z

### Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP \*\* 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

### Mentor/Elmer

Ron Borkey K8VJG \*\* Bill Sarver KC8YSV \*\*  
Tom WB8N , Bob w8gc

### 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 \*\*

### WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Program director

Toby WT8O \*\*

### QSL manager-NO8A & K8ZFR

Tom WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments & 50/50

Carol KC8TIE \*\* 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 \*\* Bob W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## 2004 Officers

### PRESIDENT

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

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

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544  
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### SECRETARY \*\*\*\*

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### TREASURER:

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

## Board Members

### even year executive board 2 year term;

George K8KR  
Gary NI8Z  
Steve N8IS

### odd year executive board 2 year term;

Gordon W8GTK  
Terry KB8DTC  
Tom WB8N

### K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N

### NO8A trustee

Bob W8GC

