

# The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



SEPTEMBER 2007

VOLUME XXXV

ISSUE IX

## FROM THE PREZ

We had a another good turnout for our last summer meeting in the park, with 32 in attendance. Keep up the good work!

Mike, KB8BMY put on a very interesting program on GEO caching including a hunt for the "cach".

Our 50/50 winner was Phil, KD8FPQ and he picked up \$30.00, with \$30 going into the club treasury. Congratulations Phil!

We served hamburgers, hot dogs and kielbasa left over from our CARS picnic. We had 54 attend the picnic and a good time was had by all. \$25.00 winners of the Olive Garden gift certificates were: Jacob KD8CDC, Jim N8GXR, Carol Pla and Chris Spisak.



*The cooks, Tom WB8N and George K8KR*

*continued on next page...*



*Some of the members and friends*

### Contents:

<i>From the Prez.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>Meeting Minutes.....</i>	<i>pg 2</i>
<i>Trivia Question.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Member Birthdays.....</i>	<i>Pg 4</i>
<i>CW Not Dead .....</i>	<i>pg4</i>
<i>Scotty's Rambling.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>Diabetes Walk.....</i>	<i>pg 7</i>
<i>Random Wire.....</i>	<i>pg 7</i>

K3LR, Tim Duffy has graciously agreed to host a tour for some of the CARS & NODXA members of his Multi-Multi Contest Station in West Middlesex, PA on December 8, 2007. We will car pool and leave Cleveland about 9:00am. We are full but if you are interested in being placed on a waiting list please call or email me ASAP.

The new CARS hats look great! We will be ordering shirts in the next couple of weeks for anyone interested. Contact Tina W8HBI for prices etc.

Dave K8DAV hosted a tour of the WKYC-TV studios in downtown Cleveland on Saturday August 18. We had a great turnout with 23 making the tour, (one couple went to the wrong place) and 2 could not make it at the last minute. A good time was had by all at Cleveland's state of the art TV Station!



***K8DAV talking with Lake Erie behind him***

Remember September 17<sup>th</sup> is the last day to purchase advance tickets for the 2007 Great Lakes Division Convention. Don't be left out visit [www.2007glcdc.com](http://www.2007glcdc.com) to order yours.

That's it for another WO. This month's thought is about tact: ***The most difficult thing in the world is to know how to do a thing and to watch somebody else doing it wrong, without comment.***

73 till next month  
de, Bob W8GC

## AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. August 2007 member's meeting was called to order by president Bob Check, W8GC, at 7:31 PM on the fourteenth of the month. The meeting was held at the Oak Grove Picnic Area of the Cleveland Metroparks, in Brecksville, Ohio. Introductions were given by the thirty-one members present

Tina, W8HBI gave the treasurer's report on the treasury balance. There were no questions asked by the members present about the treasury.

Darren, K8DMT motioned to accept the July meeting minutes as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator*. There were no additions, corrections, or questions and Steve, N8IS seconded, and the members passed the motion. Bob reminded everyone to get their tickets as soon as possible for the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention, since there is a limited amount available. He thanked Gary, N18Z for donating a power supply to be used for the new Echolink rig now functional on the "82" repeater.

Scotty, WA8SLN, our new vice president, mentioned some very interesting short videos have been added to the C.A.R.S. website. He explained the downloading procedure to help anyone who was having trouble opening them.

George, K8KR gave a wrap-up on the successful C.A.R.S. summer picnic. He was happy with the excellent turnout of fifty-four people for a Friday night. After a brief discussion, the group voted to hold next year's picnic on a Friday.

Bill, KC8YSV, the C.A.R.S. ARRL liaison, reminded members to pay their ARRL dues through C.A.R.S. He announced the September meeting would feature a program on crank radios and flashlights by Mike, KB8BMV. Bill asked for members to suggest program ideas to cover the October and future meetings.

Dave, KD8V, sunshine chairman, sent out two get well cards. One was to Mary, KC8YLC's sister Betty, who is Mike, K8EHP's

*continued on next page....*

sister-in-law. The other was to Linda, N8LRS, who had a recent surgery.

Toby, WT8O reported that the weekly club nets were continuing to go strong, and complimented new net controller, Mike, KB8BMY, on his excellent job.

Tom, WB8N reminded members to keep sending in contributions to the *WO*. He showed the group the plaque awarded the club by the Diabetes Association for it's participation in the recent "Tour de Cure."

President Check announced that a trip to visit the super contest station of Tim Duffy, K3LR has been scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup>. He added the group going would be limited to twelve to fourteen people, so those interested should sign up with him as soon as possible. The Saturday trip will include a lunch stop at the Quaker State Lube Stop in Sharon, PA. Tim's is the most spectacular contest station in the area, as many have seen his antennas which are visible from the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Tina reminded everyone to mark their calendars accordingly, as the C.A.R.S. annual Christmas party date has been changed to Saturday December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The club membership has grown to almost 140 strong with those present voting in seven new members. Those included are John Papay, K8YSE; Joon Lee, KD8GQX; Jacob Kulas, KD8GQY; Joey Klein, KD8GQZ; Gary Berkowitz, KD8GRB; Paul Mihalak, KC8ZIX; and Anthony Bacevice, WA8FYW.

Many members were sporting the sharp, new C.A.R.S khaki and navy hats that recently had been delivered. The hats featured an embroidered logo, name and call sign. Steve, N8IS modeled the snazzy polo shirt that now can be ordered. The beige shirts are made of a very comfortable material, are available with an optional pocket. To match the hats, they will come with an embroidered C.A.R.S. logo, name and call. For those who didn't order one at the meeting, members can contact Tina to get theirs.

Following a short discussion, the members present voted to not renew the alternate club website address of [www.cuyahogaars.com](http://www.cuyahogaars.com).

Phil, KD8FPQ won \$30 in the 50/50 raffle, with an equal amount going to the club treasury.

Steve, KC8DJV motioned to close the meeting, and Terry, KB8DTC seconded. The members passed the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Following the meeting, a presentation was given by Mike, KB8BMY on geo caching. His interesting slide presentation was followed by a demonstration that many of the members participated in.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O, C.A.R.S. secretary.

---

### CALL FOR COMMUNICATORS

Hello all! The Greater Cleveland AIDS Task Force is having a bike ride on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 23rd to raise money. The bike ride will extended from downtown Cleveland, out to the east side, and then back. I'm looking for two things... 1) EMTs and hams to staff three medical response vehicles. (6 EMTs, 3 Hams). 2) Amateur Radio Operators to man various waypoints along the route. The event is expected to run from Sunday morning until early to mid afternoon. Please contact Doug Dever at 216.401.5888 or via e-mail to [ddever@neomrc.org](mailto:ddever@neomrc.org) if you are interested or available to help.

---

### AMERICAN SENSE OF HUMOR

SIGN IN A STORE WINDOW: WOULD RATHER DO BUSINESS WITH 1000 AL QAEDA TERRORISTS THAN WITH ONE SINGLE AMERICAN"

This sign was prominently displayed in the window of a business in Philadelphia.

You are probably outraged at the thought of such an inflammatory statement. One would think that anti-hate groups from all across the country would be marching on this business and  
*continued on next page...*

that the National Guard might have to be called to keep the angry crowds back. But, perhaps in these stressful times one might be tempted to let the proprietors simply make their statement. We are a society which holds Freedom of Speech as perhaps our greatest liberty. And after all, it is just a sign.

You may ask what kind of business would dare post such a sign?

Answer: A Funeral Home (Who said morticians had no sense of humor?)

You gotta love it!!!

Submitted by Dennis W Rabbitts, KD8APY

---

### **CW IS NOT DEAD IN OHIO AND NEVER WILL BE!**

Reprinted with permission from the ARRL  
Ohio Section Journal

Think CW is out? In Ohio, think again. The Buckeye State continues to have two Morse code only traffic nets and the Ohio Slow Net for those who wish to learn and/or sharpen their CW skills.

Net skeds are as follows:

Buckeye (early) 6:45p on 3.577

Buckeye (late) 10:00p on 3.577

Ohio Slow 6:10p on 3.3535

Net managers Joyce Judy, KD8HB and Henry Koenig WD8Q invite all hams who love to move traffic to join them.

Want to practice your CW? The Ohio Slow Net meets every day at 6:10 p Eastern, 365 days a year on 3708 khz. Speeds range from 10 to 12 wpm, but members will send at YOUR speed. New check-ins are ALWAYS welcome.

---

And, a reminder to check into the CARS WEEKLY CLUB NET at 9:00 p.m. local time every Wednesday night! Take a stab at the trivia question and say a few words to your fellow club members. The more, the merrier!

### **TRIVIA QUESTION**

Most of you SHOULD know the answer to this question, but for those who do not, here goes....

Which of the following amateurs is NOT an official of the Ohio Section of the ARRL?

- A. Gary Johnston, KI4LA
- B. Jim Weaver, K8JE
- C. Bob Winston, W2THU
- D. Joe Phillips, K8QOE
- E. None of the above.

Answer found somewhere in this issue.

---

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

WB8CDA Glenn Fenzel 9-1-43

KD8APY Dennis Rabbitts 9-11-49

KB8PMM Richard Braun 9-29-35

KP2VI Tom Price 9-26-39

Congratulations to all, and many happy returns!

---

Have you ever had anything you wrote published? Now is your big chance. You won't win any awards, or be paid, but you will be able to see yourself in print, in the pages of the great Wobbly Oscillator newsletter!. All you have to do is sit yourself down at your computer and write about what you like about ham radio, a rig you really like, something you built, something new that you think the other members might like to know about...anything having to do with ham radio! Don't worry about grammar (or granpa either...hi hi) We'll take care of that. Send it to [newsletter@2cars.org](mailto:newsletter@2cars.org) and it'll get in, one way or another!

## SCOTTY'S RAMBLING

Hello again. First an apology... I was so sure that I knew where I was going that I ended up with my wife and me waiting for the tour group at the gates of the wrong tv studio... **WJW** which I think is **CH 8** . So much for my built-in GPS system! (I should have paid better attention to Mike's talk last month! I am told we missed a fine outing.

Upwards and onwards for those of you interested in **Homebrewing**. I found an interesting source on the Internet at [WWW.soldersmoke.com](http://WWW.soldersmoke.com) The format is neat. There is a menu to chose the topic each subject being an MP.3 file .When downloaded it plays as two Hams (one in Alaska the other in London talking over whatever subject you have chosen.) Try it you'll like it.

We have two member interviews this month: Linda, N8LRS and Matthew, W8EBB. We are hoping to reinstate this monthly feature in the WO --- so maybe you will be hearing from me soon.

73, **Scotty WA8SLN**

### **Linda Rose Sinko N8LRS**

**How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?**

Well, my OM (W8MET) Metro Sinko was doing radio one evening, and I thought how interesting it is to be able to talk to other people in the United States and other countries. I decided I wanted to do this, so in 2006 I bought a Technician Book and studied. Metro helped me thru the rough spots which was a great help. Then in March 2006 I got my Technician License, and then I wanted to upgrade to further my skills and got my General book in January 2007 and studied very hard and passed my General test in February 2007. I'm very happy at this level of Amateur Radio.

**How long has you been licensed and what class**

**license do you currently have?**

**I've been licensed for 2 years and currently I have my General.**

**What do you like about Amateur Radio?**

**Being able to communicate with people that you only hear on the radio waves and receiving their QSL cards. Today, I enjoy viewing the cards and what level they have accomplished in their Amateur Radio life. Being with CARS and NODXA, meeting people and doing activities like FIELD DAY is a lot of fun.**

**What are your favorite bands/modes to work ?**

**I like 40, 75 and 160 SSB**

**What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?**

**The equipment we use consists of a Yaesu Mark V, a Drake TR7 and a Yaesu FT100D connected to various dipoles, a Cushcraft R-8 vertical and a Comet GP-15. This gives us coverage for 10-160 meters along with UHF and VHF .**

**Do you have any Awards or Certificates you want to mention? (Ham related or other)**

**I have recently received my (WAS) Worked All States Award (June 28, 2007). I also, completed my WAS on 40 Meters and should be receiving this endorsement shortly in the mail. I am currently trying for my WAS on 75 Meters, which will probably come in the winters months.**

**What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?**

**I worked for Ohio Bell, Ameritech, SBC as a Clerical Function and completed my parole in December 2003, with 30 years.**

**Do you participate in any CARS projects or functions? If so which ones?**

**I come to the CARS meeting in summer and winter. I have, as well as my OM (W8MET), worked Diabetes last year which was a good**

function to work.

**Additional comments:**

Sometimes after the regular monthly meetings, a nice local chit-chatting with all the members is welcomed. Also, it would be nice to get more women members. 73 and 88 to ALL.....Linda Rose Sinko

**Matthew Webb W8EBB**

**How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?**

I was always fascinated with listening to my scanner as a young kid. And from that I evolved into talking on 11 meter radios with other people in the neighborhood. But there came a point where I wanted to have conversations without being talked over by other people on the band. And hearing Ham radio communications take place via my scanner, I thought it would be a good hobby to get into. So in March of this year I looked up local Amateur Radio clubs and saw that CARS was giving Technician classes. And the rest is history.

**How long has you been licensed and what class license do you currently have?**

I have been licensed since March of this year. I am currently a General class and I am currently studying for the Extra.

**What do you like about Amateur Radio?**

Amateur Radio's most appealing aspect to me is that everyone is bound by a defined set of regulations and those regulations are monitored unlike 11 meters. It is great to have a ragchew or just check into a net and notice all of the correct operating procedures happening. It is very appealing to those coming from 11 meters.

**What are your favorite bands/modes to work ?**

I have taken an interest in SSB on 40/20 meters mobile. I would like to learn CW soon though.

**What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?**

I own a Yaesu 857-D mobile mounted in my Jeep. I use a Diamond NR73 Dual-Band antenna lip mounted to the hood for 2m/440 and a Yaesu ATAS-100 screwdriver antenna for HF work. I also own a Yaesu VX-6r HT for use around the yard.

**Do you have any Awards or Certificates you want to mention? (Ham related or other)**

Not yet.

**What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?**

I work for Trane Heating and Cooling in Solon. I am a Building Automation Support Technician who takes care of 24/7 monitoring of HVAC systems in many building in the Cleveland area.

**Do you participate in any CARS projects or functions? If so which ones?**

To date I have only participated in Field Day 2007. This was a very eye-opening experience for me. It gives a new operator like me a greater appreciation for HF operations.

**What other projects or functions would you like to see CARS get involved with?**

I think that CARS is doing a great job with the functions that they currently have. With the new EchoLink node being connected to the repeater, I am excited to make some Q's with people from across the country on VHF. Also, full time linking of the 440/2m machines would be nice as well.

**Additional comments:**

Congratulations to our new VP Scotty WA8SLN on his new post!

Many thanks to Linda and Matthew for taking time to complete the interviews

## DIABETES ASSOCIATION WALK

Once again it will soon be time for the Cleveland Chapter of the American Diabetes Association walk, which this year will be held on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Tower City Amphitheater. I am looking for volunteers to c'mon down with their hand-helds and/or mobile rigs and lend a hand in providing communications for this worthwhile cause. I am going to repeat myself in saying that if you do not have the terrible disease of diabetes yourself, then you must have a friend or relative that does, so you owe it to yourself or to them to help out in our little way to find a cure for this really nasty disease. I'll be looking for you to contact me via e-mail at [wb8n@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wb8n@sbcglobal.net) or [wb8n@2cars.net](mailto:wb8n@2cars.net), or via phone at 440-232-4193 if you can make it this time around. We get chow, goodies, and a free T-shirt to boot. What more can you ask for, for a few hours of your time and communication skills?

73, de Tom Wayne, WB8B

---

## ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION

I thought I'd fool you with a couple of the call signs being from out of the "8" area., but the answer is E. None of the above. ALL OF THEM are officials of the Ohio Section of the ARRL. And, they will All be at the Great Lakes Division Convention coming up this month on Saturday, Sept. 22. If you have not yet purchased your ticket, do so without delay. They are going fast, and you don't want to be shut out! There is a great lineup of speakers and forums, plus a great dinner. Check it out on the C.A.R.S web page at [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org).

This is going to be the Great Lakes Division Convention to beat them all! I doubt if there will be another as big as this one for a long time to come!

## THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### WHAT A SUMMER!

Yep, we had quite a summer, ham radio-wise! There was Dayton, which I had to miss this year, and of course Field Day. Field Day was a great success for C.A.R.S. in as much as we had some brand new operators doing their thing and really enjoying it. We had a new chef, who did a bang-up job of feeding us, we had great weather, there were no accidents or injuries that I know of, we had great comradery, and we had a great time! What more could you ask for?

Then came the second annual C.A.R.S. family picnic, hosted by George, K8KR. It was a fine affair with great food including hot dogs, hamburgers and kielbasa cooked to order by George and yours truly. It rained, (rained?...it poured!) but who cared? We were under cover and most of us stayed dry. I got a bit wet because I had to make a dash to my vehicle to close the windows.

We had three great meetings at the Oak Grove Picnic area of the Cleveland Metro Parks, the last of which included more free chow, left over from the picnic. Sorry to say, but we are back to the Bush Funeral Home community room for our meetings beginning this month.

COMING UP...

We have the American Diabetes Association walk again this year, which is on October 6<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday. I'm looking for volunteers for this one.

In December is our annual Christmas party, which is always a great time. Get your reservations in for that one early!

TIME FLIES

Where did the year go. Summer is over, kids are back in school, and pretty soon it'll be Halloween already!

OUTTA HERE

That'll do it for this month. Catch you on the air and/or at the next meeting.

73, de WB8N