

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



FEBRUARY 2009

VOLUME 38

ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY MEETING TO BE AT MAVIS WINKLE'S More in this issue.

FROM THE PREZ

At the January meeting the idea of a field trip to ARRL headquarters and W1AW in Newington, CT was presented to the members present. There was also a committee formed to investigate various travel options and accommodations. The response has been overwhelming. Many members have contacted me expressing their interest in participating in the adventure. Although we are in the early planning stages, it makes sense that we leave on a Sunday morning and spend the night in Newington. Since the League offices are only open weekdays, this approach would minimize missed workdays. Driving time to Hartford is listed at nine and a half hours. After the visit on Monday, it would be an option to return later that evening. The trip would take place after Field Day, in late summer or early fall. This would give us time to organize, plan vacation time, and save up for expenses. With so many people enthusiastic, it looks like we will definitely plan this trip; we just need to work out the details.

If you weren't at the meeting, and haven't heard of this idea, please contact me if you are in any way interested. Again, please realize, nothing about this trip has been determined at this time. We will have more discussion as to the

details at future meetings, and if you are unable to attend, get a hold of me with your input. There are many things to consider, and different requirements of people interested, so please bring your thoughts to the forefront, so we can make this happen so it will be enjoyable and accommodating for as many people as possible.

We also began signing up for Field Day at the meeting. The committee has met, and planning has begun. The site was reserved last year; we will be using the Al Koran facility in Broadview Heights. *continued on next page...*

Contents:

<i>From the Prez.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>Meeting Minutes.....</i>	<i>pg 2</i>
<i>Dues Reminder.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>February Birthdays.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>Member News.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Hams in Paradise.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Ham Weekend in Mts.....</i>	<i>pg 5</i>
<i>Wobbly Oscillator.....</i>	<i>pg 6</i>

Based on last year's successful improvement, we will pick up where we left off and plan in an evolutionary process. The one change we welcome is participation of new members and existing members who have yet to experience Field Day. A profound thought was brought up last year by a first time participant. He felt awkward, and somewhat unwelcome. This WILL NOT happen again. To make sure it doesn't, as chairman, I will have one or two new members on the team to help with public relations. Ideally, the member who brought this up to me could get involved. Field Day is a multi-faceted event. The primary purpose is a drill for emergency preparedness. We use the amateur radio bands to communicate, divorced from commercial power, from a location with no permanent transmitting equipment. We also display the benefits of ham radio to the public and invite them to attend. In this vein, we send press releases to the media to publicize the event. We have public officials and representatives of local safety forces attend. It is also a contest, points are awarded for contacts. The results are tabulated and published. Some of the participants are quite heavily involved in the competition. These competitors have prepared for months, spent their hard earned dollars on new equipment, and are usually awake giving it their all for the better part of two days. It can get pretty tough, and Murphy always shows up. Sometimes, in the heat of battle, the best of our personalities may not be showing. The casual observer is probably not aware of all this, and our PR people may need to explain. All in all, we will try our best to make this the best Field Day in C.A.R.S. history, and an enjoyable experience for all those who attend.

In closing, I want to remind everyone C.A.R.S. was here long before I was a ham, and will be here after I am pushing up daisies. This is YOUR club. I just want to help make it what you want. So please, bring you thoughts and ideas to meetings, events and nets; so they can be considered and put into action.

73, Toby, WT8O

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. January monthly meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President Toby Koleman, WT8O on the 13th of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Oh. Twenty two members and introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Gary NI8Z motion to accept the November 2008 minutes as published in the January Wobbly Oscillator, and Bill WU8A seconded. There were no additions, or questions and the members accepted the minutes as published.

Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was back on the rise. He then talked about the Technician, General, and Extra classes, and that the classes looked good. Bob also stated dues are due and that you can pay for them online thru PayPal.

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS gave the Vice president's report and he talked about after meeting idea's (presentations), or what ever you might have in mind. If you come up with an idea you can contact him at Vicepresident@2cars.org. Eddie then mentioned that he was the ARRL liaison and encouraged everyone that was not a member to become one, that it had a lot of benefits, that you can also do it online thru the club.

Toby gave the Net report and thanked all the net controllers and also thanked everyone who checks into the net and encouraged anyone with a two meter radio to check in. Toby also asked everyone that is not disabled to please leave the parking spaces closest to the building for them. Toby then mentioned the Scholarship fund raffle, there will be three cash prizes twice a year. Tickets are one for \$2 or three for \$5, all proceeds going to fund the Scholarships that C.A.R.S. awards each year. The Summer Picnic is on July 10th this year and the first raffle winners will be announced then. The next meeting will be at Mavis Winkle's in Independence.

Toby then passed out a sign up sheet for Field Day. He will be passing it around at every meeting.

continued on next page....

Toby then mentioned a possible field trip to W1AW sometime this year. Gary NI8Z, Bob W8GC, and Steve N8IS will check into the prices.

Scotty, WA8SLN, Sunshine Chairman, sent out two cards; one to Steve, N8IS and one to Shirley, WT8A who is in a nursing care facility.

Gary, NI8Z gave VE report and said there was a test session at the Old Town Hall in Independence on January 11th and on the odd months this year. He will be having a special test session for the classes that are going on now. That test session will be in February. On the January the 11th session there were seventeen people, including twelve kids from Hudson High School. Sixteen passed one of them then took the General to and passed it.

Gary then said that the Christmas party was exceptionally good and there was about fifty-five people in attendance.

Dave, K8DAV resigned as a board member and as the Board Chairman. Toby, WT8O nominated Metro, W8MET. Mike, KB8UGT seconded. Tina, W8HBI nominated George K8KR. Darren, K8DMT seconded. Gary, NI8Z motioned to close nominations. Matt, W8EBB seconded. Members passed the motion. The board position will be voted on at the February meeting.

Toby, WT8O mentioned for Dwaine, K8ME to check out the Dayton bus trip ad on the CARS web page.

Tom, WB8N asked everyone to send articles and pictures for the WO.

Refreshments were provided by Mike, KB8UGT-pop, Ron, K8VJG-donuts, Gary, NI8Z-coffee.

Ed WB8ROK won \$24.00 at the 50/50 drawing.

Steve, N8IS made motion to close the meeting. Matt, W8EBB seconded the motion and the meeting was closed at 8:45.

Submitted by C.A.R.S. Secretary Stephen Jones, N8SRJ

2009 DUES DUES DUES

Final reminder! If you have not paid your 2009 CARS dues please do so as soon as possible. You will be considered "not in good standing" if not paid on or before February 28, 2009.

Dues can be paid online by sending the funds via Paypal to: bob@2cls.com. You can mail a check to: CARS, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131 or pay in person at any CARS meeting. Dues are \$20.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is \$5.00. If you are 60 yrs old or over and 18 yrs old or less your dues are only \$12.00 per year. CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship. Please let Bob Check know if there is a situation we are unaware of.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

KD8V, David Dressler 2/11/32
W8ZJV, Ron Boehnlein 2/11/46
N8JNO, Gary Solomon 2/15/54
K8OAE, Ken Osicki 2/23
KG8MTG, Mike Gamber 2/23
W8HBI, Tina Check 2/24/70
N8SSL, Paul Magyar 2/26/70

Congratulations and many happy returns to all!

C.A.R.S. MEMBER PLACES IN CQ-WE 2008 CONTEST

Metro Sinko, W8MET placed 2nd in the CQ-WE 2008 QSO party and also placed highest for retirees. Congratulations Metro!

Hams in Paradise

Submitted by Tom Price, KP2E
U.S. Virgin Islands

St. John Rescue Names KP2G First-Ever “Volunteer of the Year”

Call him a “Renaissance Ham”. George Cline, KP2G, is good at just about everything -- engineering, electronics and communications -- does a lot of community service, and gets along with people. That only begins to describe the man who recently became St. John Rescue’s first-ever Volunteer of the Year. St. John Rescue (is an all-volunteer group of 33 members providing emergency rescue and medical support services to St. John’s emergency medical service, police, fire, National Park and local health clinic personnel, as well as other key community support. According to Rescue President Chris Jordan, AC6BH, “Rescue would not be the same today without George because of his genius in communications. He spends many hours” helping Rescue as well as “the National Park Service, Vitema (Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency), and EMS.” Jordan goes on to say that Cline “attends all the Homeland Security meetings and acts as a liaison between all these government agencies on behalf of Rescue.” Cline also oversees repair and maintenance of Rescue’s radio towers, repeaters, power sources and radios. He’s also involved with ARES and, on behalf of Rescue, spends hours standing by the radio, ready to handle dispatch duties during any incident. Cline is also instrumental in setting up communications for local community and sports events.

Congratulations to KP2G on receipt of this award.

KP2QL Leads YL Sailing Team to Victory

An all-women sailing crew of four, including two members of the St. John Amateur Radio Club, placed first in the 30-foot-and-under division in the recent Coral Bay Yacht Club Thanksgiving Regatta. Marie Naisby, KP2QL, captained ‘Thetis’, a 23-foot Ensign, with Phyllis Benton, NP2MZ, Wink Van Knowe and Alice Thigpen as crew. “Marie did a wonderful job; her experience really

showed,” said Benton, noting that Naisby “single-handed several times from St. John to Trinidad in her former boat, Water Music.” Many hams in the cruising circuit may remember Naisby under call signs N3HYQ and KE3QL.

Naisby originally got her amateur license in Maryland in preparation for long-distance sailing – for safety and social reasons. “The ham sailing community is close knit,” said Naisby. “I still have many of those friends today.” Regarding the race, Naisby said, “I knew Phyllis through the local amateur radio club and ended up teaching her and Alice” in a sailing course – only months before the race. “None of us had raced before,” said Benton, and the crew only got to practice together once as a team before the race. “Those things made the win all the more exciting.”

(Thanks to Tom for sharing some excerpts from the St. John Radio Club newsletter. Tom is a member of C.A.R..S. and spends his winters in the Virgin Islands sailing his boat and hamming it up. Ed.)

***DON’T FORGET TO CHECK INTO THE
C.A.R.S. WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLUB NET
AT 9:00 P.M.
TRY YOUR HAND AT THE WEEKLY
TRIVIA QUESTION.
SEE YOU THERE!***

**HAM WEEKEND AT ALLEGHENY
STATE PARK, NEW YORK**
By “Buffalo Jim” Glor, N8GXR

On January 9, 2009 four adventurous hams braved the adverse weather conditions and traveled to Allegany State Park in Cattaraugus County, to set up a ham station in a cabin. Yes, we thought a winter break was needed and regardless of weather conditions. The forecast called for about a foot of snow Friday night so we gave ourselves plenty of time to get there *continued on next page....*

first. Upon arrival, there was at least a foot on the ground already and time was of the essence.

First priority: unload and put what had to be refrigerated in the fridge. Next get whatever antennas needed, up and ready to go. The main antenna used was a homebrew G5RV strung between two trees. Two other verticals were up on poles for 2m voice and packet/APRS. Later an Outbacker antenna was placed outside. The HF rigs consisted of two ICOM 706's and one YAESU FT 857. The G5RV worked well. About 20-30 contacts were made. A fair amount of packet messages were sent and received too. One of Lancaster Amateur Radio Club's finest, KC2QZF, was able to cross band local hams to us on the club repeater when we contacted him on 75m. Some didn't realize they were cross banded on 75m. Needless to say they were surprised when informed.

Where we were was approximately 70-75 miles south of Buffalo, elevation 2900+ feet. With all the snow it sure helps if you have a four-wheel drive vehicle and a standard transmission. We were in the Summit campsite which is up an approximately 3 mile hill. Before we could pull into the campsite we had to pass it and travel a good three miles down hill to register at the administration bldg. By the way they do not salt the roads there. Travel isn't easy.

All four of us were very comfortable. The cabins are all electric and as warm as toast. Heaters are in every room. Bathroom and shower facilities are a short walk and all are kept very clean.

Included are pictures which tend to say more than words can. The adventurous hams were Luke N2GDU, German AB2RR, Chris KC2QBU and myself, N8GXR. It was well worth the experience and hopefully we will attempt this again next year. 73, Jim Glor, N8GXR

(Buffalo Jim is a long time C.A.R.S. member and helps out with out American Diabetes public service events. He is also President of the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club. Ed)



The cabin we stayed and operated in.



Setting up antennas.



The author & unidentified operator at the operating position.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N
SNOW SNOW GO AWAY!

While I am sitting at my computer putting together this month's issue of the newsletter, we are having perhaps the worst snow storm of the winter. I have at least 6 inches on the ground, and my @#%\$ snow blower is on the fritz. I am waiting for a part that was promised last week! I don't know about you, but I am getting a *little* tired of the white stuff. Well, there's always ham radio to keep busy when we have weather like this.

MAVIS WINKLE'S

As you are all probably aware of by now, the February C.A.R.S. meeting is going to be at Mavis Winkle's restaurant. There has been a room reserved for us and we can all enjoy a nice meal before the meeting. The room will be

ready for us at 6:00 p.m. for dinner. If you don't want to eat at the restaurant, you can just show up whenever you want. The meeting begins at the usual time, 7:30 p.m.

This is something different for C.A.R.S. and should be an enjoyable evening for all that attend. One or two other local radio clubs have dinner meetings every month and it seems to work out well them. This will not be a monthly thing, however if it works out well, who knows?

Mavis Winkle's is located on the ground floor of the Crown Center Bldg. and is just west of the Rt. 77 entrance and exit on Rockside Rd. in Independence, Ohio, on the north side of the street. You can't miss it.

I hope we have a good crowd for dinner as well as for the meeting. See you there!

UNTIL NEXT TIME

That'll about do it for this month folks. I want to say "hi" to Mike Lorens who listens to our nets and reads the W.O. Catch you on the net or at the next meeting.

73 for now, de Tom, WB8N

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles in the W.O. may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio Publication provided that credit is given to this newsletter and the author if known. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to: newsletter@2cars.org by the 26th of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

CARS 2009 Officers & Committees

Audit

WT8O ** W8HBI, KD8FTS

Audio Video

Steve N8IS ** K8DAV

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

KD8FTS **

Awards

K8VJG ** W8HBI, W8GC

Christmas Party & Field Day food 2009

W8GC **

School Programs

KD8V ** WA8SLN, K8VJG

License classes

W8GC ** WT8O ** WA8SLN, K8VJG, KD8ACO, NI8Z

Development

W8GC ** All officers

Diabetes events

WB8N ** All CARS members

Field Day

WT8O ** N8IS ** All CARS members

Good Operating classes

W8GC ** NI8Z, N8IS, K8KR, K8ME, K8YSE

Interference & Jamming

K8DAV ** NI8Z, N8IS

Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8GC ** K8VJG

Membership

W8GC ** W8HBI

NET

WT8O **

Newsletter

WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Club Photographer

WA8SLN **

Summer Picnic 7-10-2009

W8GC ** WB8N ** N8LRS

Program director

KD8FTS **

Property Custodian s

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

QSL manager - NO8A, W8BM & WA8CMS

WB8N **

Refreshments

KB8UGT ** NI8Z ** K8VJG **

50/50

W8HBI ** N8IS

Road trip to W1AW

NI8Z **, N8IS, W8GC

Scholarship

WA8SLN ** NI8Z, WT8O, N8SRJ, K8VJG

Sunshine (welfare)

Scotty Shields WA8SLN 216-524-2358

Technical

W8GC ** N8OVW **

VE exams

NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV ** W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2009 Officers

PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-572-1544

president@2cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS 440-888-9536

vice-president@2cars.org

SECRETARY

Steve Jones N8SRJ 330-351-2181 c

secretary@2cars.org

TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

treasurer@2cars.org

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Tina Check W8HBI 216-520-2621

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman

Gary Dewey, NI8Z

even year executive board 2 year term

W8MET

K8VJG

KB8UGT

odd year executive board 2 year term

NI8Z

K8ME

K8SAS

K8ZFR trustee

K8DAV

NO8A, WA8CMS &

W8BM trustee

W8GC

