

# THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT NOVEMBER MEETING

### FROM THE PREZ

So far the reservations for the March trip to the ARRL have NOT been overwhelming. We need twenty people to make it happen, and so far we only have a little over half of the required amount. I will be the first to admit that I am a bit of a procrastinator, but I urge all those who plan on going to sign up so we can begin planning for lodging; don't forget the transportation is FREE, so there will be no outlay in cash for the ride. We have already contacted motels in the area, and they are willing to give us a substantial price break on the room rates. You can always pair up with a buddy and split the cost in half. We are planning to locate the motel and bus stops at locations affording a variety of restaurants spanning the range of prices.

As one who has visited the ARRL headquarters and the W1AW station, I must say it an awesome experience for any ham. The thrill of operating at the mother station is a thrill that will last a lifetime.

Some of you, I'm sure, have had contacts with W1AW in contests and really got a jolt. Imagine being on the other end and having stations pile up just to make the contact. Besides the station, the officers of the

League will give you an opportunity to meet and talk with all the people you see and read about in QSL magazine, and from my experience, they are some of the most hospitable and down to earth folks you will ever meet, they are glad you support the ARRL and show it.

*Continued on next page....*

*In this issue:*

- From the Prez.....pg 1*
- October Meeting Minutes.....pg 2*
- Dues Reminder.....pg 3*
- Christmas Party Reminder.....pg 3*
- CARS Apparel.....pg 3*
- School Club Roundup.....pg 3*
- Ken's Junk Box.....pg 4*
- Diabetes Walk.....pg 5*
- November Birthdays.....pg 5*
- The Random Wire.....pg 6*
- Fall Licensing Classes.....pg 7*
- School Antenna Party Pics.....pg 8*

Some of the C.A.R.S. members have been hams for decades and have not yet been to the League headquarters. Those guys are really excited about going. For Pete's sake, don't let this opportunity slip by and regret it for a lifetime.

Also don't forget about the C.A.R.S. Christmas party. This year we not only have the same great caterer we have had for the last couple of years who has provided us with outstanding cuisine and always has more than enough, but the club is subsidizing a large part of the expense and the cost is only \$8.00, and \$4.00 for those under 18. So celebrate the holiday on December 14th.

We also have an interesting program on direction finding lined up for the November meeting, hope to see you there.

73, Toby, WT8O

---

### **OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES**

The CARS membership meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, on the 8th of the month at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Busch Funeral Home community room in Parma, There were 27 members and 2 guests in attendance. There were 27 members and 2 guests in attendance.

After introductions the September minutes were approved as published in the October Wobbly Oscillator by Toby, WT8O.

Bob, W8GC gave the treasurer's report and reminded all to please consider purchasing gift cards, of which CARS gets a percentage to help fund club projects.

Bob also reminded the members to sign up for the 2013 CARS Christmas party which will be held on Saturday, December 14th at the Independence Civic Center. The price has been cut by 50% to \$8.00 for adults. Please check the CARS website for more details and to make your reservations.

The ARRL bus trip details are also on the CARS website. Toby, WT8O is handling the lodging and the stopping schedule for the road trip.

Program Committee Chairman Mike Kemmett, KB8OUE, and the program committee are

working diligently at having a program presentation at each regular meeting

VP Gary, NI8Z stated that there will be six VE sessions scheduled for 2014.

Gary also reported that CARS had two tables full of items to sell at the Cleveland Hamfest and that sales were great.

Gary reminded everyone that if any member needs help with anything such as antennas, radios, or just needs advice on a purchase of new equipment, to let him or any officer know, as there are a number of members available who are willing to help.

Tom, WB8N, is looking for volunteers to help with the American Diabetes Assn. "Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes" on Saturday, October 12th.

Toby, WT8O, said that there were two prospective members to be voted on. They were Rob Flemen, W2RMF, & Gary Limbert, KD8VIQ, and were unanimously voted in as new members of CARS by the membership. Congratulations to both. Nominations for 2014 officers were held.

Terry, KB8DTC, made a motion to keep the current club officers. The motion was seconded by Darren, K8DMT. The current officers accepted and the motion was passed. Mike, KD8OUE and Darren, K8DMT were nominated for the board along with outgoing board members, Tom WB8N, Matt W8EBB, and Dave, NF8O. Dave was not present at the meeting and later declined his nomination. Voting will take place at the November meeting.

Toby asked the club to thank the refreshment committee, K8VJG, WB8ROK, and K8DMT. They were given a round of applause.

With no further new or old business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The 50/50 raffle winner was new member Rob, W2RMF, who donated his winnings of \$23.00 back to the club.

*Continued on next page....*

Mark Morro, WJ8WM gave a great presentation on proper grounding which was well received by the membership. Submitted by Dwaine Modock, K8ME, CARS Secretary.



Mark giving his presentation

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY SIGN UP**

Now is the time to make your reservations for the CARS Christmas party. You can sign up on the CARS website or at the next meeting. For more information, check out the CARS website. Don't get shut out!

### **CARS APPAREL**

Bob Check, W8GC will be sending an order Wednesday, December 6th, for items that have been ordered. Anyone considering ordering a hat, shirt or any of the CARS items available please do so now. Just send Bob an email or call with your order. You can go to:

<http://www.2cars.org/Miscellaneous.htm> for pricing and to see what everything looks like. Great items at our cost and no shipping charge, let everyone know you're a member of CARS by wearing a hat, shirt or jacket with the CARS logo on it. Please send Bob your orders ASAP

### **DUES REMINDER**

Reminder, your 2014 CARS dues are payable on or before January 31, 2014. I am now accepting payment of your 2014 dues. If you have already paid, THANK YOU. Dues can be paid in 3 ways; Online by sending the funds via Pay Pal to [w8gc@2cars.org](mailto:w8gc@2cars.org), 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 or older 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 me know if you have a hardship or know a member who needs help.

Sincerely,  
Bob Check, W8GC  
Treasurer, CARS

### **REPORT ON THE SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

The week of October 21st was the second half of the 2013 ARRL School Club Roundup which is held in February and October each year. This time it was decided to put the Copley High School radio station WA8CHS on the air for this event. First though, we had to check out the station since it and the antennas had been moved to another part of the school building.

On the Friday before the event, NI8Z, W8MET, and myself, WB8N went to do just that. We found that the vhf/uhf J-pole antenna was just fine, but that the Cushcraft R8 vertical for HF was way out of whack!

So on Monday, after a call for help with the project, several CARS members descended on the school enmass, to take down the vertical, get it on the ground and  
*Continued on next page....*

check it out to see what the problem with it was. NI8Z, W8MET, KD8OUE, KB8DTC, N8SRJ, KC8RKS, and myself, plus school radio club advisor, Brad Bennett, W8WEN, worked on getting the antenna down and checking it out.

With the antenna laying across two saw horses, the elements were measured and re-measured, and the black match box opened up but we still could not get a good match over any of the HF bands. After several phone calls to Cushcraft, it was decided that the problem was probably with the matching network box. Cushcraft said they would send us a new one, since the antenna was only about a year old, and we would send the old match box back to them.

The antenna went back up on the roof and was re-installed on it's mount until the new box arrived. No operating was to be done that day.

The next day, NI8Z, N8SRJ, W8MET, and myself put NI8Z's portable HF antenna on the roof and ran a coax into the radio room. It worked pretty well and we were able to make a few contacts. We decided to try to rig a dipole antenna on the roof. Tom, the school maintenance man put up supports to attach the dipole to and N8SRJ strung it up. Tom was a big help to us by drilling a hole through the metal window frame for a ground wire, and pounding a ground rod into the ground for us. We fired up the Kenwood HF rig, and we began hearing stations we couldn't hear with the portable antenna.

Brad, W8WEN, began bringing students into the shack to get on the air and begin making contacts.

The station was on the air for a total of 12 hours, Tuesday through Friday. 81 contacts were made in 26 states, 2 Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico. The mothership station,

W1AW even called us! 16 school stations, 65 individuals, & one club station were contacted. 13 students took part in the event from the high school. The students had fun and after a few contacts, really got into it. We adults had a lot of fun as well.

When the replacement part for the R8 arrives, another antenna party will take place. This time the antenna won't have to be taken down to install it.

In February the Copley-Fairlawn Middle School station will be put on the air for the first phase of the 2014 ARRL School Club Roundup.

It has to mentioned that CARS EI Presidente Toby, WT8O was at the station on Friday. He operated and worked with the students, getting them on the air. The middle school radio club advisor, Dave, KD8V, was there for part of each day as well.

---

### ***KEN'S JUNK BOX***

By Ken Osicki, K8OUE

I know a lot of hams have looked at least once at AmateurLogic TV. This video show began after Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005 and has come a long way since. It can be found on the internet (just google AmateurLogic TV) and it is a lot of fun to watch. I found it when I was trying to find out more about raspberry pi, and was surprised to see the great variety of shows that have been produced. Then I got away from it for awhile.

I "rediscovered" AmateurLogic recently when I finally made the plunge and bought a Roku streaming video box which lets me control when I can watch my favorite TV shows. Roku not only lets me stream my NetFlix and Hulu Plus, but it provides links to Blockbuster and Amazon streaming video stores, as well. But underneath these pay per view apps is a plethora of apps that lead

to a great variety of streaming television programming, and among these is Amateur Logic TV.

Now there is no need to fire up the Dell virus-collector. I can sit down in front of my not-so-smart TV, switch the input to Roku, and select AmateurLogic on the screen. Bingo! I'm watching another episode about kit building, antennas, photography, electronics, and more. No matter how you access AmateurLogic TV, give it a try. You're sure to find something to interest you and educate yourself at the same time.

### **DIABETES WALK PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

This years American Diabetes Assn. "Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes" event went off without a hitch. The Amateur Radio volunteers met at the Galleria on E. 9th St. between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m., got registered, got their T-shirts, were given their assignments and got out on the route before the walkers left the Galleria.

We used the CARS 146.82 repeater and cross banded when needed. KD8FTS set up his mobile cross band repeater along the route, with his dad, WB8ROK manning it.

A total of 18 CARS members and 2 non-CARS members turned out for the event. But we can always use a few more. If you have never worked a public service event, this would be a good one to get your feet wet. We need more people to man the off road vehicles plus the Martins ambulance and people mover. The off roaders rely on hand held CB radios, and they just don't work well among the tall buildings in downtown Cleveland. Ham radio was the only way to communicate between the off roaders themselves, as well as the Martins vehicles. So keep it in mind for next year. Many thanks to KD8OUE, KD8QBB, NI8Z, WT8O, KD8FTS, WB8ROK, K8EHP, KC8YLC, K8SAS & Chris, N8GXR, who came down from the Buffalo New York area, as he does every year, KC8RKS, W8MET, KB8DTC, NF8O, KB8UGT, KB8RKF, KD8ACO, N8MTG, and AC8EH. We couldn't have done this without all of you.

I don't have the figures as to how many walkers there were or how much money was

raised, but as soon as I do I'll report it to you. Here are some pics from the event.



Part of the crew



WT8O, KD8FTS, & KB8UGT

---

### **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

David Yost W8GJ 11-06-1952  
Robert Ozog KC8MRC 11-06-1955  
Jeff Venecek KC8OUH 11-07-1952  
Jack Shott K8IIU 11-13-1937  
Robert Flemen W2RMF 11-24-1972  
Ed Stevens WB8ROK 11-27-1928

*Congratulations to all & many happy returns!*

---

**NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, NOV. 12th  
7:30 P.M.**

### **THE RANDOM WIRE**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### *WHERE HAS THE YEAR GONE?*

Holy Moley, Halloween has come & gone, Thanksgiving is right around the corner, and the CARS Christmas party is coming up on December 14th. We have our election of officers at the November CARS meeting & it's time to pay our membership dues as well.

The weather is still pretty decent so if you have any outdoor chores to do, like putting up new antennas, repairing old antennas, etc, now's the time to get busy with that before that nasty ole white stuff begins to fall. Ugh! I hate to even think about that!

### *ARRL ROAD TRIP*

As Toby mentioned in his "FROM THE PREZ" column, now's the time to sign up for the road trip to the Mecca of Amateur Radio, the ARRL Headquarters in Newington CT. Even if you are not sure you can make the trip, at least make your reservation. We need at least 20 riders to make this trip a go and only have about half that so far. Everyone stuck their hand up saying that they wanted to have this trip when it was brought up at a meeting, so where are you now? C'mon, get your act together, go to the CARS website and sign up. I'm really looking forward to this trip. I even have my dog sitter lady lined up to take care of Jake. All it's gonna cost you is your meals and your hotel. You can buddy up with another ham and split the hotel cost to keep your expenses down. If you are retired or can take a couple of vacation days off, there's no reason for not making this once in a lifetime trip.

### *HAM NATION*

For those of you that have not yet watched the Ham Nation webcast on the computer, you don't know what you're missing. The main characters on the show are Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound, Gordon (Gordo) West, WB6NOA, George Thomas, W5JDX, who also hosts his own webcast show, AmateurLogic TV which Ken, K8OUE, writes about in his "Ken's Junk Box" column in this issue of the W.O., and Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, who hosts the Amateur Radio Newslines portion of the show. They have a lot of interesting topics on the show, many of which are very instructional. George does a "smoke & soldier" segment on the show where he demonstrates how to construct various kits.

There are giveaways, humorous segments,

plus videos and photos of other ham's shacks, hamfests, and many other subjects of interest to hams. Hey! They even featured the CARS website on the show!

So check it out. It's live every Wednesday night at 9 p.m. eastern time, which unfortunately is the same time as the CARS weekly net. But you can do what I do, watch it on the Friday following the show on the internet. All you have to do is Google Ham Nation, click on the link, and there you are. That way you can stop it when you want and come back to it later. There's a timer at the bottom of the screen so you can fast forward to where you left off. You can also fast forward thru the few commercials that they have.

### *VOLUNTEER EXAMINER SESSION*

The last chance to upgrade your license class for this year will be the second Sunday of November, the 10th, at 9 a.m. at the Independence Olde Towne Hall. Give Gary, N18Z a call or an email to let him know you'll be there. CARS holds their board meetings immediately following the test session and all CARS members are welcome to sit in, although you cannot take part in the meeting.

### *GET ON THE AIR*

Utilize your hard earned licence privileges and get on the air, whether it be on 2 meters or HF. As license trustee of K8ZFR, I listen to the CARS 146.82 repeater whenever I'm home or in my vehicle and I hear very little activity on it. Only a few CARS members and occasionally a callsign that I don't recognize get on the repeater either day or night. Are you afraid to throw your call out there and see if someone will come back to you and have a QSO? What did you get your license for, just to have it?

If I'm in the vehicle and hear you, I'll be glad to come back to you, and the same when I'm at home, if I'm not busy and can't get to the radio right away. If you want to rag chew, give me a call.

I don't get on HF as often as I'd like to but whenever I have some spare time I'll fire up the rig and see what's out there. I check the *Continued on next page...*

DX cluster which is available on the CARS website under "Ham Links". I like to work the various contests too, not to rack up points, but to make a contact with a DX entity that I have not yet worked.

There are two good contests coming up this month...the ARRL CW Sweepstakes Nov. 2nd through the 4th, and the ARRL Phone Sweepstakes Nov. 16th through the 18th. Give one of them a try.

So as I said, get on the air, use your amateur privileges, and have some fun on the radio! At least check in on the CARS weekly net.

TTFN

That does it for this month. I've stood on my soap box long enough. Hope to hear you on the air or at the next meeting or both.  
73, de Tom, WB8N

### **2013 FALL LICENSING CLASSES**

By Gary Dewey, NI8Z

The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society amateur radio license classes have ended. Twelve individuals participated and took their test on Oct. 30th at the Seven Hills Administration building.

The instructors for the seven week training period were; David Noeth, KD8ACO, for the



The Fall 2013 graduating class with instructors.

Technician class, Toby Kolman, WT8O, doing the General class, and Metro Sinko, W8MET and Gary Dewey, NI8Z providing the Extra

class instruction.

VEs Bob Check W8GC, Tom Wayne WB8N, Metro Sinko, and Gary Dewey, NI8Z presided over the testing session, which ran very smoothly.

The classes helped create two new technicians, six upgrades to General, and one upgrade to Extra.

A special thanks to the Seven Hills administration for supporting and providing the facility to accomplish these classes and for the testing location.

Congratulations to the newly licensed and upgraded amateurs. Hope you hear you on the air. Training and getting the license are only the beginning.

*The Wobbly Oscillator is the official publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles appearing in this newsletter may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication provided that credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to [newsletter@2cars.org](mailto:newsletter@2cars.org) by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue. By reading this you have committed yourself to attending as many CARS regular meetings as possible and to participating in as many CARS functions as you can.*



Measuring the elements.



And measuring again...and again.



A couple of students getting ready to get on the air.

### **EXCERPTS FROM THE GEARVAKF (the f is silent) BULLETIN**

Reprinted with permission.

#### **BASEMENT FILTERS OFFERED**

By Harold Kennedy, N4GG

Given the recent unbridled enthusiasm for roofing filters, Sherm Bobwood Engineering has just announced a new line of complimentary basement filters to improve receiver selectivity. These easy-to-install filters follow a receiver's last audio stage and significantly improves selectivity with their steep skirts, calims Mr. Bobwood on his web page. When asked to provide data in support of the claims for his new product Mr. Bobwood declined, saying that even he wasn't smart enough to understand the operational principles; but he ws positive they couldn't work well with rigs with VHF first IF frequencies because nothing does. Independent testing at the Gearvakf destructive testing lab indicated the filters don't exist, but when they do they are made of divanadium pentoxide with not nearly free radicals (\$129.95 + S&H) simultaneously tunneling between two states (Georgia & New Mexico). The filters reportedly add a hollow sound to the processed audio, akin to the meow of Schrodinger's cat.

### **CARS HALLOWEEN PARTY CANCELLED**

The first annual CARS Halloween party was cancelled due to several reasons. One was lack of enthusiasm of the members other than the Halloween party committee, and another was the inability to find any apple cider that wasn't pasturized. The Halloween party committee wanted the hard stuff. Plus the committee was unable to find a suitable facility in which to hold the function. Oh well, perhaps next year.

# 2013 CARS Christmas Party

**Saturday December 14, 2013 serving dinner at 6:15pm  
Independence Civic Center in the White Oak Room**

**WOW! 50% Savings in 2013!**

**Cost is only \$8.00 for adults, \$4.00 age 7 to 18, 6 or less free  
Another great reason to join the Christmas celebration!**



***“Family and friends are always  
welcome at our Christmas Party”***



## **Amy G Catering Menu:**

### ***Entrees:***

**Chicken Marsala**

**Thin sliced Eye of Round (Roast Beef) with gravy**

**“Carving station” featuring Hickory Smoked Ham carved as you like it**

### ***Side dishes:***

**Corn, Green Beans, Oven Roasted Redskin Potato’s**

**Penne Pasta Primavera (vegetables in a white sauce)**

**Tossed salad with home-made Italian and French dressings,**

**fresh baked Italian bread with butter/margarine. Coffee, POP, water.**

***Anyone who can please bring a desert to share***

**We will have both a prize and a 50/50 drawing, plus  
the presentation of any 2013 CARS Awards**

**Reservations must be in no later than December 10, contact Bob, W8GC at  
216-524-1750, e-mail [w8gc@2cars.org](mailto:w8gc@2cars.org) or go to [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org) and follow  
the link to the 2013 Christmas party, please pay in advance via PayPal.**

**You must notify us in advance if you plan to pay at the party.**

## CARS 2013 Officers & Committees

### Audit

NI8Z \*\* WT8O, K8SAS

### Audio/Video

NI8Z \*\*

### ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

NI8Z \*\*

### ARRL WAS & VUCC card Checker

K8ME \*\*

### Awards

W8GC \*\* WT8O

### Christmas Party

W8GC \*\* WU8A, K8SAS

### Club Photographer

K8OAE \*\*

### Constitution/By-laws

WT8O\*\* All Officers/Board members  
WB8ROK, WA8ZJV, KD8BAL, KB8DTC, K8ARP

### Diabetes events

WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Field Day

W8EBB \*\* WT8O, NF8O, W8MET, N8BBB

### 50/50

W8GC

### Gift Card (Scrip) Sales

W8GC\*\* NF8O\*\*

### License classes

W8GC \*\* WT8O \*\* NI8Z, W8MET, KD8ACO

### Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8MET \*\*

### Membership

W8GC \*\*

### NET

WT8O \*\*

### Newsletter

WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Program director

KD8OUE \*\* NF8O, KD8QBB, KD8QUE, KD8FTS,  
WA8ZJV, WT8O

### Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

QSL manager - W8HBI, W8BM  
WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments at meetings & Picnic

WB8ROK \*\* pop, K8DMT \*\* coffee  
K8VJG \*\* donuts

### Scholarship

K8REF \*\* NI8Z, WT8O, K8ME, W8GC

### School Programs

KD8V \*\*

### Summer Picnic

W8GC \*\* WB8N \*\*

### Sunshine (welfare)

Gary Dewey, NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Technical

W8GC \*\* N8OVW \*\*

### VE Exams

NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

W8GC \*\* w8ebb

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

### 2013 Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-572-1544  
[president@2cars.org](mailto:president@2cars.org)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Gary Dewey, NI8Z 216-642-8705

#### SECRETARY

Dwayne Modock K8ME 440-582-3462

#### TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

### Board Members & License Trustees

#### Board Chairman

Tom Wayne, WB8N 440-232-4193,  
216-253-0540 c

even year executive board 2 year term

WB8N, W8EBB, NF8O

odd year executive board

2 year term

K8KR, K8SAS, K8REF

License trustee K8ZFR

WB8N

License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,  
WA8CMS, WA8CHS

W8GC

October 8, 2013

