

## **THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR**

JULY 2017

VOLUME 47

ISSUE 7

### ***FIELD DAY - SUMMER PICNIC***

### ***HOT FUN IN THE SUMMERTIME***

#### **Summer Picnic**

The annual CARS summer picnic will be held Friday July 28<sup>th</sup>, at the pavilion behind the Independence Civic Center. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. This is free to all CARS members, their families and guests. There will be prizes besides the fine array of traditional picnic food. Please see the CARS website for further details. We really hope to see you there.

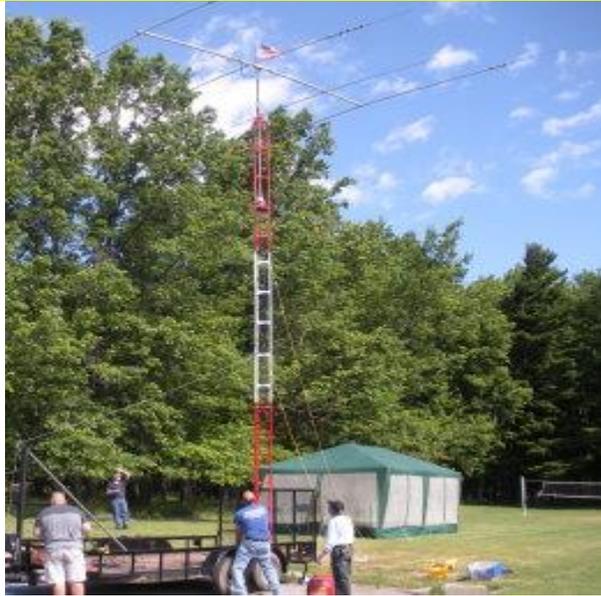
#### **July Picnic Meeting**

Last month we encouraged everyone who attended the first picnic meeting of 2017 at the Harriet Keeler picnic area and pavilion to participate in the pre-meeting cookout. We did pick up a couple of members who did so, but not nearly as many as we hoped for. So again, we'll push for others to join in the cookout. The fire will be hot and ready by 6:30. So grab a couple of hamburger patties or dogs or brats, buns, paper plates, a spatula and maybe even some potato salad and join in and break bread with fellow members. Hope to see you there.  
73, Toby, WT8O

#### **From The Prez**

#### **Field Day**

This year's Field Day was fantastic. It was a major improvement over last year. The CARS members that attended all seemed to enjoy themselves. Most of the veteran Field Day participants were there, and quite a few new folks joined the effort. The weather was just about perfect, except for a late afternoon rain storm Saturday afternoon. The cool thing was the group really acted like a team, interacting and helping each other. We also had more visitors than ever, and two of which I talked with will be attending the next CARS licensing class seeking their Technician ticket and joining the amateur radio fraternity. Even the bugs minded their manners. I want to thank all those club members who participated and visited the site. Pictures and a detailed article are down the page.



*The crew gets the triband beam up at Field Day.*

### **Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 p.m. on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the month at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The May meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the June *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Toby, WT8O, gave the report on the treasury balance.

Mark, WJ8WM, reminded us to join ARRL and renew dues through the club.

Let Bob, W8GC, know if you plan on attending the CARS picnic on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

A Field Day Operator survey was circulated at the meeting. Who plans on attending? The club plans on operating 5 Alpha at Field Day.

1 CW, 1 Digital and 3 Phone stations. Field Day setup is up to the Station Captains.

Calvin Park in Seven Hills is once again the 2017 Field Day site.

Toby would like to see as many club members at Field Day as possible.

Email your Field Day pictures to Toby. We hope to have a picture in QST magazine.

The next VE testing session is June 9<sup>th</sup>. It's at the Independence Old Town Hall at 9am.

Larry, N8OWS, stated that Stan Kwasny was the 2017 Scholarship Award winner.

The installation of the NEW Digital repeater in Parma will be the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Tom, WB8N, reported there will not be a Diabetes Walk this Year. The club does not have a Public Service calendar. See the Cuyahoga County ARES website for Public Service events.

Toby thanked the refreshment committee, Ed, WB8ROK, Darren, K8DMT and Rich, NW8X, for their continued dedication.

Terry, KB8DTC, did a presentation on knots for Field Day use.

Ester Hollas did a fundraising presentation for Avon Products. If you are interested in Fundraising, contact Ester.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Tom, WB8N, who collected \$35 dollars.

Flag Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

## NOTES FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Technical Committee current members are: Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE; Vince Bak, N8OVW; Mark Morro, WJ8WM; Scott Smith, AC8NW; Mike Toth, KB8RKF; David Noeth, KD8ACO; Terry Pillat, KB8DTC and Toby Kolman, WT8O. If you have any technical issues you'd like assistance with, or would like to contribute to the work the Technical Committee provides, please contact one of the above listed members.

As everyone is aware, the Technical Committee is currently working on the replacement of the 440 repeater at the Parma site. We will be installing one of the Yaesu repeaters, and setting it up to provide Digital Voice capabilities. Vince, N8OVW, has the new repeater, and is currently setting it up for installation.

The new Yaesu repeater uses C4FM / FDMA technology, which provides three digital modes and an analog mode (FM).

V / D-mode is voice and data communication in the same time frame. This mode allows voice data with GPS position data and the ID data to be sent in the same time frame. In addition, transmitting the voice data with strong error correction data, this mode contributes to the stabilization of the digital communication. This mode is the basic mode of the C4FM FDMA Digital HAM radio system.

Data FR mode uses the full data rate of capacity for the Transmission of data. This mode allows you to transfer large amounts of data, text messages, pictures and voice notes data at twice the speed as the V / D-mode.

Voice-FR mode uses the full data rate of capacity for voice data.

This mode allows a clear high quality voice signal

The committee is currently looking at installation of this new repeater to begin near the end of the 4th of July week, exact date to be determined. We will keep everyone informed of the progress of the installation, at our meetings and through this newsletter.

I want to, once again, remind everyone that we've reactivated the stand-alone 444.750 repeater in Shaker Hts., which provides alternate repeater coverage for downtown Cleveland, and areas East. It's there to use. Please continue to spread the word.

73, Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

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## VE Session July 9, 2017

Just a reminder, our next VE testing session is July 9, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Independence Town Hall located at 6652 Brecksville Road in Independence, Ohio.

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### Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

**Robert Check, W8GC**  
Elected 01/01/14

**Thomas Wayne, WB8N**  
Elected 1/10/17

## Field Day 2017 Toby, WT8O

Never perfect, but always fun, Field Day 2017 held true to form. Part of the fun is the perseverance in overcoming unforeseen problems. The set-up crew started showing up around eight in the morning. Naturally, Murphy got there a little earlier and patiently hung around smoking a crooked little cigar. The antennas went up pretty well, but a few needed some unexpected maneuvering and tweaking. Score one for the CARS team. The tents went up, the ground rods were pounded in, the equipment got wired up and the sounds of Single Side Band and CW broke the silence. All was smooth... Uh oh, the old reliable network computer started to fail. One of the generators got the hiccups. Murphy's face started to light up with a devilish grin. Arp and Ron teamed up to get the network functioning flawlessly with the confusser on life support. Toby made an adjustment, and the ailing generator hummed away for the next twenty-four hours. Meanwhile, Chef Bill had a superb lunch ready for the crew. Murphy threw down his seegar, packed his bags and hit the bricks. He didn't even stay for a little lunch.

There were some real high points this year. Dave, AC8TN, took on the challenge of setting up a CW station; it was his first attempt. With some equipment support from Bob, W8GC, along with technical and operating help from Metro, W8MET, and with other operators, his station put a good amount of QSOs on the log sheet.



*Bill, KD8QBB, (right) handles the mike, while Mike, KD8OUE, logs the contacts.*

Bob, K8RGI, after a long hiatus from Field Day, captained a digital station that scored more than twice the points of any digital station in CARS Field Day history. Andy, KD8SCV, our PR man extraordinaire, made a tremendous effort getting us recognized and even in print in the *Sun News*. Arp, K8ARP, our man for all seasons, not only did our networking, but passed all the required traffic and made our alternate energy contacts despite equipment damage. Mark, WJ8WM, set up a station, and got us all wired up and plumbed from the condemned building at the park. Bill, N8BBB, besides providing us with fantastically cooked food all weekend, made his first HF contact on 40 meters. One of the highest points of the event was the most appreciated help from Rich, NW8X, who offered to do anything that needed to be done. He did it with enthusiasm and a smile.

*(Continued next page)*

We also had our share of visitors. Ed, WB8ROK, brought Joyce, whose hubby was a ham and now a silent key, brought pictures and stories from way back when. I had some awesome conversation with Joyce, who is now in her nineties, and possesses wit and charm that puts her in a class by herself. I also enjoyed showing around Darrell who was visiting his mother who lives near Calvin Park and hopes to take up ham radio as a hobby next year when he retires. His exceptional knowledge of radio in general gave me quite an earful as we toured the site and he copied all our information about the club and our licensing classes. I'm looking forward to seeing him again. One gentleman gave me information about equipment for sale that appears in this issue. There were quite a few others who were interested as we demonstrated amateur radio. I even explained the whole Field Day concept to the neighbors, the customers at their estate sale and a couple of baseball moms Friday evening who were suspicious of what the heck I was doing with the air cannon with an attached fishing reel.

Low points? Only one I can think of. Not enough of our members attended the event, and of those that did, hardly any brought family and friends to show off our hobby at it's best. I plead guilty to that one myself. As they say these days, we have an opportunity for improvement. Let's all work on getting people out to the site next year.

Speaking of next year, those words were music to my ears as I heard them over and over from participants during the event and as we tore down. I heard "next

year" again in all the calls, texts and emails I received after Field Day. All the thoughts were positive about improving our Field Day effort. Lastly, I want to thank the six guys who helped to the bitter end. You are the true team players and I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart. The mental image of you standing by the tower trailer chokes me up and will stay with me for a long, long time.



*Master Chef Bill, N8BBB, happily preparing his famous vegetable beef soup for the all night crew.*

### **Amateur Radio Question Pools**

FYI, I know you want to know. The Technician Class (Element 2) pool is effective from July 1, 2014 until June 30, 2018. The General Class (Element 3) pool is effective from July 1, 2015 until June 30, 2019. The Extra Class (Element 4) pool is effective from July 1, 2016 until June 30, 2020. Now you know.

73, Metro, W8MET

**Member Profile**  
**Larry Shimerka, N8OWS**

***How did you become interested in Ham Radio?***

Bill, WA8GEO, was asking me to go to the meetings but I was doing other things at the time and was not interested. Morse code was still around and that also prevented me from participating. He explained that I could attain a Technician Class license and did not need the code. At that time (2002) I went to a CARS meeting with him.

***What made you decide to take the test?***

The CARS were giving a Technician class so I took it. The test was the last week of the class.

***When did you get your license(s)?***

I attained the Technician class license in March of 2003. I completed the Code, General and Amateur Extra by August of 2004, all with CARS. I guess you could say that I was a "CARS Brat."

***What are your base station radios and antennas?***

I use a Yaesu FT-7900 Dual band as my 2M/70CM radio with a Diamond F22A as the antenna. Its been in service since 2003. The HF radio is a Yaesu FT-857D. I use a dipole for the antenna with an MFJ Versa Tuner II Model 948.

***What is your "go to" base station HF radio?***

I would say the Yaesu FT-857D. When the bands are down I can listen to the ball game as well as the shortwave stations. It's awesome.

***What is your Mobile setup?***

My mobile is a Yaesu FT-7800 2M/70CM with a mag mount dual band antenna. I recently replaced the short Comet antenna with an antenna with much more gain. I use a separation kit with the controls in front and the radio behind the back seat. In the summer, I use a 12 volt lawn tractor battery during public service events so I can shut off the vehicle and still monitor.

***What are your favorite "On Air" activities?***

I guess its "Net Control" for the Clubs I am a member with. Those are always interesting. You never know what might develop. I recently did my first CARS net. A great experience to say the least.

***Why did you join CARS?***

CARS got me started in the hobby so a little loyalty doesn't hurt either. There is an awesome amount of experience in the club with no end of assistance if you need it. Bill, WA8GEO, was a member and nudged me a little so he did not have to drive to the meeting. I always wondered why the clubs had meetings at a Funeral home.

***What would you like to see CARS do to improve?***

That's a tough question so I'm glad it toward the end. It's hard to surpass a bus to Dayton, a super holiday dinner and a summer picnic, plus the meetings in the park over the summer. I missed the bus to ARRL but maybe the club will do it again. Keep it up CARS!

***Anything else you would like to say?***

Nope, I'm done. 73

### The Random Wire Tom Wayne, WB8N

Well, ARRL Field Day has come and gone...we again used Calvin Park for the CARS Field Day activities. I think I can speak for everyone that participated, that we all had great time and really enjoyed taking part in Field Day this year. Besides operators, we had a number of visitors as well, and I enjoyed chatting with them. Mike Lorens had his mom Lynn bring him out. Mike is severely handicapped but enjoys listening to us and our weekly nets on his scanner, which his mom says he is never without (unless SHE forgets) she says

So far it's been a great summer as far as Ham Radio goes! We had our first meeting in the park in June and will have our July and August meetings in the park as well, at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion in the Metro Park just off Rt. 82, east of Brecksville Rd. C'mon out early and cook out on the grill fire that CARS has going. See you out there either way. It's always great when we can enjoy the summer months outdoors.

I'm gonna make this short & sweet this month, as I don't have anything else to pass on this month. So, 73 to all...catch you on the air and I hope at our next meeting.

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### Portage ARC Hamfest

There will be a Hamfest on July 30<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Portage ARC at the Maplewood Career Center, 707 State Rt. 88. Talk-In frequency is 145.39. [hamfair.com](http://hamfair.com). See you there.



Terry, KB8DTC, prepared those attending the July meeting for Field Day demonstrating useful knots.

### Peep from the Veep Mark, WJ8WM

The Seven Hills Homedays is right around the corner. The dates are July 28 & 29. CARS again has been asked to assist with the parking for the two days. We will also be given a booth for a station. Anyone interested in volunteering for the event please get ahold of me by email at [mmoro001@yahoo.com](mailto:mmoro001@yahoo.com). We probably don't have time setup for a special event station, but we certainly can demonstrate our hobby to the masses!

## July Birthdays

Andy Andreasen, N6JUB	July 25, 1950
Bill Savage, WA8GEO	July 27, 1940
George Pindroh, K8KR	July 5, 1942

*\*If your birthday is not included, please notify the editor so the club database can be updated.*

## Special Events

Metro, W8MET

### 13 Colonies Special Event

From July 1-July 7 1300Z-0400Z  
KU2US from Conesus, NY will be on the air.  
Frequencies will be 21.400 14.240 7.240 3.80.  
This is your chance to celebrate our  
Independence and receive a certificate, and  
QSL's from individual states. Website is  
[dentron1@yahoo.com](mailto:dentron1@yahoo.com) or [www.13colonies.net](http://www.13colonies.net).  
This is another way to work a new state  
towards W.A.S., or just to say hello.

### 13 Colonies Special Event Bonus

WM3PEN from Philadelphia, PA will  
operate from July 1-July 7, 1300Z-0400Z on  
14.245 7.245 3.805. Their website is  
[13colonies.net/wm3.html](http://13colonies.net/wm3.html). Give them a call.

### National Boy Scout Jamboree

July 19-July 27, 0000-2300Z K2BSA  
Amateur Radio Association will be on the air.  
Frequency 18.140,14.290, and 7.190. Give  
the Boy Scouts a call. Web page is  
[www.k2bsa.net/jamboree](http://www.k2bsa.net/jamboree)

### Railroad Telegraphers

Railroad Museum from Bellevue, OH will  
be on the air from July 3-July 14, 0100Z-  
2300Z on 14.245 7.195 3.850 146.865. QSL  
via Rick Wolfe KD8KWV

### USS Midway

On July 8,1600-2300Z NI6IW from San  
Diego, CA the Museum Ship USS Midway will  
be operating on 14.320 7.250 PSK31 on  
14.070 D-STAR on REF001C. QSL via USS  
Midway CV-41 COMEDTRA, 910 N. Harbor  
Dr. San Diego, CA 92101

\$

### For Sale

#### Hallicrafters SX-110 Receiver

- 1 Owner
- Includes Hallicrafters speaker
- Complete manual included
- May need some tubes
- \$100 (OBO)
- Roger – 440-884-6016

#### Icom 746 Pro

- Excellent Condition
- Original owner
- \$750
- Toby – 440-525-6109

\$

### Seenager (Senior Teenager)

Old age is coming at a really bad  
time...When I was a child I thought “Nap Time”  
was a punishment. Now, as a grownup, it  
feels like a small vacation. The biggest lie I  
tell myself is...” I don't need to write that down;  
I'll remember it “ *(Unknown source)*

Again this month Metro, W8MET, star DXer and contester has taken time out to suggest to fellow CARS members and WO readers operating activities and events he believes would be FUN to partake in.

## Metro's Picks

July 1 0000-0400Z FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint C, 3.5-28  
[fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints](http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints)

July 2 1100-1700Z DARC 10-meter Digital Contest [www.darc.de](http://www.darc.de)

July 6 1700-2100Z NRAU 10 meter Activity Contest CW Ph Dig  
[nrau.net/activity-contests](http://nrau.net/activity-contests)

July 8 1200-July 9, 1200Z 1.8-28 IARU HF World Championship CW Ph  
[www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship](http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship)

July 15 1800-July 16, 0559Z 3.5-28 North American QSO Party RTTY Dig  
[www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

July 15 1800-July 16 2100Z 50, 144 CQ Worldwide VHF Contest CW Ph Dig  
[www.cqww-vhf.com](http://www.cqww-vhf.com)

July 29 1200-July 30, 1200Z 3.5-28 RSGB IOTA Contest CW [arsqrp.blogspot.com](http://arsqrp.blogspot.com)

All times in Zulu

Participating is FUN, FUN, FUN....ENJOY!!!

73

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The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio, 44131-0264. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, provided that credit is given this publication 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.

# 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CARS PICNIC

Friday July 28, 2017 will be the CARS annual picnic. We will again be in the **Kiwanis Pavilion**, see the picture below, it is **behind the Independence Civic Center**. We will serve hamburgers, hotdogs, brats, potato salad, Cole slaw plus all the trimmings. Anyone who can please bring a desert.

We will announce and present our 2017 Scholarship winner with a check. There will be a check-in on 146.82 with prizes starting at 5:00pm. There will be several door prizes for the winners of our drawings.

***The picnic is FREE to all CARS members, family & friends! All we ask is you tell us how many will be coming on or before Friday July 21. Arrive anytime after 5:30pm to eat about 6:00pm.***

**We need to know how many will be coming PLEASE Email your numbers to Bob, W8GC at: [bob@2cls.com](mailto:bob@2cls.com) or call 216-524-1750 ASAP!**



## CARS 2017 Officers & Committees

### Audit

WJ8WM \*\* WT8O, KD8OUE

### Audio/Video

KD8OUE \*\*

### ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

WJ8WM \*\*

### Awards

W8GC \*\* WT8O

### Christmas party & Summer Picnic

W8GC\*\* WJ8WM, KD8SCV, K8ARP

### Club Photographer

N8OWS \*\*

### Diabetes Walk

WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Field Day

WT8O\*\*, WJ8WM, K8ARP, AC8NW

### Find a Club Station location

K8KR\*\* Ni8Z

### Flag Committee

KB8RKF, KD8ACO, N8DJX

### 50/50

KD8OUE

### License classes

W8GC \*\* WT8O \*\* NI8Z, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, K8SHB

### Membership

W8GC \*\*

### NET

WT8O \*\*

### Newsletter

WT8O \*\* 440-525-6109

### Operating

WT8O \*\* K8ARP

### Program's at Meetings

KD8QBB \*\*

### Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

### Public Services

KD8FTS \*\*, K8ARP \*\*

### QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM

WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic

WB8ROK \*\* pop, K8DMT \*\* coffee, NW8X \*\* eat's

### Scholarship

W8GC \*\* WJ8WM, WT8O, N8OWS, WB8N

### Sunshine (welfare)

Andy Evridge, KD8SCV \*\* 440-886-0723

### Technical

KD8OUE \*\* WT8O, N8OVW, KD8FTS, WJ8WM  
AC8NW, KD8ACO, KD8RKF

### VE Exams

W8MET \*\* 216-520-1320

### Web Master/e-mail

W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## 2017 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109

[president@2cars.org](mailto:president@2cars.org)

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

### SECRETARY

Larry Shimerka, N8OWS 216-647-2484

### TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

## Board Members & License Trustees

### Board Chairman

Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723

### even year executive board 2 year term

N8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

### odd year executive board 2 year term

KD8SCV, K8ARP, WB8ROK

### License trustee K8ZFR

WT8O

### License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,  
W8GC



March 15, 2017