

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

January 2017

VOLUME 47

ISSUE 1

VINCE BAK, N8OVW, HAM OF THE YEAR

From The Prez

At this year's Christmas party, I couldn't have been happier to present the prestigious "Ham of The Year" award to a very deserving Vince Bak, N8OVW. Vince, as most of you know, has been the main techie instrumental in our repeater upgrade. Vince has been able to get our repeaters in Shaker Heights and Brunswick on line and providing access and equipment to make the installations complete. Coordinating the new repeaters, the voter, and the controller at the main site required quite a bit of fine tuning that would have been impossible without Vince. He has also had to troubleshoot the system as glitches occurred. Vince has gone above and beyond the call of duty, keeping everything together; including a service call on Thanksgiving Day. So every Wednesday, when you check into the net, or use the C.A.R.S. repeater, think of Vince and give him a cosmic pat on the back.

At the January meeting, I will be asking for volunteers to join the Scholarship Committee. The scholarships the club awards each year have helped many people, young and mature, further their educational development and enhance their lives and futures. Please consider joining the group that makes it all happen by volunteering at the next meeting. See you then.

73, Toby, WT80



Vince, N8OVW accepting the "Ham of the Year" award.

Contents:

- From the Prez*Pg 1
- November Meeting Minutes*.....Pg 2
- December Birthdays*.....Pg 2
- Christmas Party Review*..... Pg 3
- A Peep from the Veep*..... Pg 3
- January Birthdays*.....Pg 4
- VE Report*..... Pg 4
- Thru the Glass Antenna Mount*.....Pg 4
- Dues Reminder*.....Pg 4
- Discussion Groups*.....Pg 5
- Rookie CW Success*.....Pg 6
- Tech Committee Report*.....Pg 6
- On the Air-Metro's Picks*.....Pg 7

**C.A.R.S.
November 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

The C.A.R.S. membership meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, on the 8th day of the month at the Busch Community Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made. The October meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the November *Wobbly Oscillator* newsletter.

Bob, W8GC, gave the treasurer's report and talked about the Christmas party on Friday, December 9th. He asked to let him know how many in your party are going to attend. You will pay at the door, if you don't attend and are on the list, you still have to pay. For more details refer to the C.A.R.S website. Bob also stated that club dues are now due. Toby, WT8O, mentioned the Busch meeting room has Wi-Fi, but Toby and Mark had trouble accessing the system. Mark, WJ8WM, stated that the Vanity call sign program has a problem with people asking for multiple call signs. One person didn't have a radio for six years. Mostly, old timers are doing this. Some changes will attempt to correct this problem in the future.

Dwaine, K8ME, acknowledged Linda Sinko, N8LRS for operating K4MIA, and she will be permantly added to the K4MIA QSL card.

Eddie, KD8FTS, mentioned there will be an Amateur Radio Booth at the Outdoor Adventure Show, January 13th through the 15th. The club is looking for volunteers to man the booth and hand out literature. You will only have to pay for parking. For further information, contact Eddie, KD8FTS.

Metro, W8MET, reported the VE session on November 13th was very successful.

Gary, NI8Z, said that Toby, Metro, Roger, and himself went to the Copley Middle School to honor Dr. Dave Dressler, KD8V, for his work in helping the students get involved with ham radio, and the members of C.A.R.S. for their participation.

The election for Officers and Board members took place. There were three openings for the odd two year term for Board members. The current officers were re-elected. The Board members elected were Andy, KC8SCV; Arp, K8ARP; and Ed, WB8ROK.

The meeting presentation by K8ARP on Facebook was cancelled because of election night, the program will take place at the January, 2017 meeting.

Gary Mentioned that Tom, WB8N, is retiring as the *WO* editor. Toby, WT8O, will be temporarily taking over the newsletter, until a replacement is made.

Toby, WT8O, stated the Training & Discussion Groups will start in 2017, and to contact Toby or Mike, KD8OUE, for a list of topics that will be discussed.

The Refreshment committee Rich, NW8X, Ed WB8ROK, and Darren K8DMT is still going strong.

The 50/50 Raffle was won by Joe, KD8BAL, recieving \$36.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm

Submitted by Secretary Dwaine Modock, K8ME.

December Birthdays

K8SHB	Joel Chaney	12-7-1964
KD8ENY	John Bruening	12-29-1963
KD8SCV	Andy Evridge	12-27-1952
KD8VIQ	Gary Limbert	12-8-/////
N8BBB	Bill Brown	12-8-////
NI8Z	Gary Dewey	12-7-1941

CARS 2016 Christmas Party

by Bob, W8GC, Chairman

A good time was had by all at the 2016 Christmas Party at the Brew Garden party room on Bagley Rd held on December 9, 2016.

We had 40 in attendance with one no show for an unknown reason. The food, service and party room were great, a nice room for a party.

Toby, WT8O presented Vince, N8OVM with a plaque for being CARS 2016 Ham of the Year! Toby also presented Bill KD8QBB with a certificate for the most check-ins to the CARS weekly net in 2016.

W8DEC and KD8TWG than presented a fine program of Ham Radio Jeopardy!

Toby, WT8O also handed out four \$20.00 gift cards to the winners who were selected by an impromptu and entertaining trivia contest.

I hope to see you all at the 2017 Christmas Party!

Thanks to Andy, KD8SCV, Arp, K8ARP and Mark, WJ8WM the Christmas Party committee for a job well done.



A Peep from the Veep

Radio Time

I haven't been very active on the radio lately. Mine's a poor (but common) excuse I've been busy. Maybe it's more of a time management problem or a need to adjust of priorities. I keep thinking if I was retired I would have time for my hobbies. But many of you are retired and tell me you're busier now more than ever. I think I titled this article incorrectly. It should be TIME for radio.

We all spent effort to earn our licenses and money to build our setups then let it sit there unused. We got into this fascinating and exciting hobby for FUN. No matter what facet of radio interests you DX, public service, contesting, digital, satellite, or whatever the bottom line is enjoyment.

My wakeup call came recently when I was invited to participate in a contest. I didn't because "I was busy" but the member who invited me did. He told me he also had other activities planned for the weekend. He said he had an hour to spare so he turned the radio on to see what was going on with the contest and spent the rest of the day on the air!

That's the kind of excitement this hobby generates. That is the passion we all need to find. My message for the New Year is to MAKE TIME to play radio. Move it to the top of your priority list. Jump on when you only have an hour. Come to the monthly meeting. Check into the Wednesday net. PLAN to spend the weekend at Field Day. Make a special event contact listed in QST magazine. Take the bus to Hamvention. Tell us what you would like to see from C.A.R.S.

Just enjoy yourself with this GREAT hobby we're all a part of!

73, Mark, WJ8WM

January Birthdays

K8AV	Carl Beduhn	1-30-1938
K8JGR	Jane Reed	1-11-////
K8PP	Fred Doob	1-15-/////
KB8RKF	Mike Toth	1-27-1950
KC8YLC	Mary Cegelski	1-22-1952
KD8YHW	Karl Batman	1-4-2005
N8SRJ	Steve Jones	1-23-1966
W8EBB	Matt Webb Jr.	1-14-1984
WA8GCR	Gary Schmid	1-11-1947

Dues Reminder

Your 2017 C.A.R.S. dues are now due and payable on or before January 31, 2017. If you have already paid, THANK YOU.

Dues can be paid in three ways:

Online, by sending the funds via PayPal to: w8gc@wowway.com

You can also mail a check to C.A.R.S.
7395 Brecksville Rd.
Independence, OH 44131

Or pay in person at any C.A.R.S. meeting.

Dues are \$20.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is \$10.00. If you are 60 years or older, your dues are only \$12.00 per year. C.A.R.S. will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship. Please let Bob, W8GC, know if you have a hardship or know a member who needs help.

FOR SALE

Steve, K8SAS, has an Icom 718 for sale. 160-10 meters, 100 watts. Modes include RTTY, FSK, SSB, AM and CW. Asking \$400. He considers this as an extra rig which he is willing to part with.

VE REPORT HAMS HELPING HAMS

by Metro, W8MET

The C.A.R.S. VE session held on November 13, 2016 produced four new Technicians and two new General's. Club members Bill Kemmett, KD8QBB, and brother Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE, both up-graded from General to EXTRA class. Congrat's to all for their success!!! The VE's present were George Pindroh, K8KR; Gary Dewey, NI8Z; Larry Shimerka, KC8VZZ; Darren Turk, K8DMT; Dave Rickon, NF8O; and Charles Hall, W8HF. This testing session was a success because of all the VE's that assisted.

Thru The Glass Mount 2M/440 Mobile Antenna

by Arp, K8ARP

I've never had a problem with mounting a 2m/440 mobile antenna to any of my vehicles ... until now.

In the past I've drilled holes in a couple of roofs, but mostly used lip mounts for the trunk/hatch and they all worked well. Unfortunately, on my Nissan Rouge, drilling a hole is not an option and the hatch is some kind of thick plastic and will not accept a lip mount. I could put a lip mount on the hood but I just don't like how that looks. So, what I've been doing is using a small magnet mount with an 18" Comet SBB2 and it works well. With this setup, I don't like the coax going through the door, over the luggage rack and

(Continued next page)

across the roof. And that's why I didn't even consider a luggage rack mount.

I figured that the best option for me would be a thru the glass mount on the small window behind the back door. I never heard good things about this type of mount and that's why I asked about them on the Club net ... thanks for the responses. Well, nobody said they didn't work at all so it was time to start Googling.

I found three thru the window mounts and neither one of them was a Comet or a Diamond which did surprise me. The first was a \$125 Larsen KG-2/70-CX-PL with an eham rating of 4.4. Not bad but a bit pricy. The second was a \$45 MFJ-1734 with an eham rating of 3.3 but good reviews on MFJ. The third was a \$30 Tram 1191 with an eham rating of 3.5 but an excellent rating on Amazon. The Tram and the MFJ look identical so I decided to order the Tram from Amazon. I figured if it didn't work, I'd send it back and spend the big bucks on the Larsen.

Two days later I received the Tram antenna ... love Amazon Prime. The package contained a 28" antenna attached to the exterior mounting pad, interior mount, counterpoise, coax, small plastic screwdriver, an alcohol swab and no instructions, but this is not rocket science. I had it all setup in less than fifteen minutes. I hooked it up to the antenna analyzer set at 146.000, turned the trimmer screw on the interior mount until the SWR read 1.0. Both ends of 2 meters was below 1.5 and 440 was below 2.0 and I'm getting very happy. Now comes the real test. Will the RF get through the glass and radiate the antenna with any kind of efficiency. I set the radio

on 5 watts, tuned up the 147.015 repeater in Newberry, about 25 miles away, and my signal report was full quieting and good sound. I also checked into the Medina 2 Meter Net and received good signal reports.

I am very pleased with the antenna. If it stays stuck to the glass for the next three years this might have been the best \$30 I ever spent on Ham Radio. But of course, your mileage may vary.

73, Arp K8ARP



Arp's communicating ride

Discussion Groups

Our first discussion group activity is now in the planning stages and should be conducted during the first quarter. Details will be unveiled at the January meeting, so plan to attend and get the straight scoop on what's happening for this one and plans for future topics. (ed)

NOTES FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The committee is currently in the process of upgrading the Arcom controller at the Parma site. We are purchasing a new controller, along with updating the required software. We expect the new hardware, and software to be delivered in the next few weeks. The purpose of this upgrade is to ensure that we can continue to utilize our system to it's full potential, and to be prepared for any future updates to the controller firmware.

I want to take this opportunity to, once again, remind everyone that the initial configuration of the three repeater system will be Analog only. There have been some continuing minor issues with this new system, (which Vince has been able to resolve quickly). In addition to monitoring, testing, and resolving issues with the system, we are continuing to research ways to implement the Analog/Digital configuration system wide. Again, this system is new or all of us, so please understand that the full implementation will take quite some time to complete.

Also, please remember 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, so pass that info along to any hams that may have a need in that area. I'd also like to remind everyone that the committee is also here to provide services to every member of C.A.R.S. that may need assistance with, any ham radio related technical issues.

So we would like to hear about any concerns you would like assistance with. We are particularly interested in helping new hams get on the air!

In order to accomplish THAT goal, the participation of more members is required.

Really folks, being on the Tech Committee is not a full time job. The amount of time spent on committee activities, is totally dependent on you. And you don't have to be an 'expert' in any area. We can use the help. So even if you just have a very basic understanding of 'technical' (i.e, Computers, Radios, Antenna, Repeaters, Electronic...etc.) you will be a valuable addition to the committee. So, PLEASE...anyone interested in participating on the technical committee, please speak with one of the above listed committee members.

73, Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

Rookie CW Success

by, Metro, W8MET

Joel Chaney, K8SHB, after studying Morse Code for the past few months, decided it was time to enter and work his first CW contest. Since he is a rookie and eligible, he entered the ARRL Rookie Roundup CW Contest on Sunday Dec 18, 2016. He made the contacts he wanted and it was a success. More contests to follow.

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur 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 to this publication and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to: newsletter@2cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

Metro's Picks

One of our most active and experienced members, Metro, W8MET, has been encouraging fellow C.A.R.S. members to get involved in contests and special events. He has brought the subject up at meetings and on the weekly club nets. He wants to see hams expand their capabilities, especially into the HF bands. He has taken the time to select events for the month for interested hams to pursue. The *Wobbly Oscillator* is happy to add a new feature this month printing Metro's picks of "On the Air" events.

I stand with Metro in suggesting one and all spend more time at the mike or key and get your signal out on the waves. I know Metro, and a lot of the other old timers, would be more than happy to help you advance your capabilities, even to the point of a house call to your shack to assist in any way necessary. Also, we will discuss this at the next meeting.

73, Toby, WT8O

ON-THE-AIR

by Metro, W8ME

Jan 1 0000 -2359 UTC Sunday Straight Key Night

Jan 7, 1800-2359 UTC Saturday Kids Day Phone

Jan 7, 1800-Jan 8,2359 UTC Sat/Sun ARRL RTTY Roundup

Jan 14,1800-Jan15,0559 Sat/Sun North American QSO Party CW

Jan 21,1800-Jan 22,0559 UTC Sat/Sun North American QSO Party SSB

Jan 21,1900-Jan 23,0359 UTC Sat/Sun/Mon ARRL VHF Contest CW/PH/DIG

Jan 27,2200-Jan 29,2200 UTC Fri/Sat/Sun CQ 160Meter Contest CW

Jan 28,0000-Jan 28,2359 UTC Fri/Sat Montana QSO Party CW/PH/DIG

Jan 28,1900-Jan 29,1900 UTC Sat/Sun Winter Field Day CW/PH/DIG

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

info provided from QST January 2017 Pg. 95...all times in GMT ZULU hour time

CARS 2017 Officers & Committees

Audit

WJ8WM ** WT8O, KD8OUE

Audio/Video

KD8OUE **

ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

WJ8WM **

ARRL WAS & VUCC card Checker

K8ME **

Awards

W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic

W8GC** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, K8ARP

Club Photographer

KC8VZZ **

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, K8ME

School Programs

Ni8Z **

Sunshine (welfare)

Andy Evridge, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical

KD8OUE ** WT8O, N8OVW, KD8FTS, WJ8WM
AC8NW

VE Exams

W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail

W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2017 Officers

PRESIDENT

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president@2cars.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

SECRETARY

Dwaine Modock K8ME 440-582-3462

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, WA8CMS,

WA8CHS

W8GC

January 1, 2017

