

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

August 2017

VOLUME 47

ISSUE 8

ANNUAL PICNIC - A HUGE SUCCESS

From The Prez

Participation

There are three things CARS needs, and in my book needs NOW: participation, participation, and participation. VP Mark, WJ8WM, has commented to me often that we need more members to get involved and help out. We don't have a very high percentage of our members who attend meetings. Same thing with the nets, we average about twenty check-ins. Only a few people cook out at our summer picnic meetings, even though a fire is always prepared and ready for them. Mark tried to get a lighthouse event started, no interest-takers. At the last Board meeting, one of the members said "Nobody reads the WO." And fund raisers, that's the most disappointing thing of all. With the exception of a few people, we are seldom successful. We will discuss this in depth at upcoming meetings. In the meantime, please do some soul-searching and see if you can be more involved with the club.



CARS MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS AT THE PICNIC

Programs

I am thoroughly convinced interesting meeting programs are an essential ingredient to a great radio club. We need help with the programs. Bill, KD8QBB, has been single handedly been running the program committee. He needs someone, or some people to join him. He also needs ideas and people to do programs. Please consider helping Bill, and the club, by being part of his committee, volunteering to do a program or giving him an idea for a program. This too, will be brought up and discussed at the next meeting.

73, Toby, WT8O

July 11th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM on the 11th day of the month at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metro parks. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The June meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the June *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance.

Mark, WJ8WM, reminded us to join ARRL and renew through the club. Make your check out to "CARS" and not the ARRL. The club will get a portion of the fees. The Seven Hills Home Days is July 28th and 29th this year. Mark is looking for volunteers to assist in organizing the vendors on Friday and parking cars on Saturday.

Bob, W8GC, reminded the group that the CARS picnic was two weeks away and if you plan on attending let Bob know so a proper count could be taken for ordering food.

Toby made a quick Field Day report. There were 1,663 total contacts made. The Digital station tallied 389 contacts with the CW station posting 418 contacts. The SSB station rounded out the total with 856 contacts. Toby thanked everyone who participated with a special thanks to Bill Brown, N8BBB, for his cooking excellence.

Toby made a motion with a second by Mark to nominate Dwaine, K8ME, for a CARS Honorary membership. The motion PASSED.

Toby also asked if anyone would be interested in assisting Bill, KD8QBB, as far as setting up presentations at the monthly club meetings. Bill is the chairman, so if you have ideas for a presentation, it does not have to be Amateur radio related, give him a call.

Metro, W8MET, reported that the last VE session produced two NEW Technician and three NEW General class operators.

Arp, K8ARP, made a quick report on upcoming public service events. The Cleveland Triathlon on 7/23. The following are bicycling events, The Pan Ohio Hope Ride from Cincinnati to Cleveland from 7/27 - 7/30. The Buckeye Breakaway to Cedar Point and back from 8/5 - 8/6. A biking event fundraiser for the Beck Center in Lakewood on 8/19. If you are interested in helping out with these events, give Arp a call.

Scott, AC8NW, will be taking over for Mike, KD8OUE, as the Tech Committee Chairperson.

Toby asked for volunteers to handle cold drinks and the Audio/Visual equipment. Gordon, AI8Y, and Andy, KD8SCV, volunteered for these positions.

The club received a "Thank You" note from Scott Kwasny, the 2017 CARS scholarship recipient. The scholarship check will be presented to Scott's Grandfather Carl, K8AV, at the July CARS picnic. Carl just happens to be a CARS member as well.

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Arp reported that the club Facebook page has 34 likes.

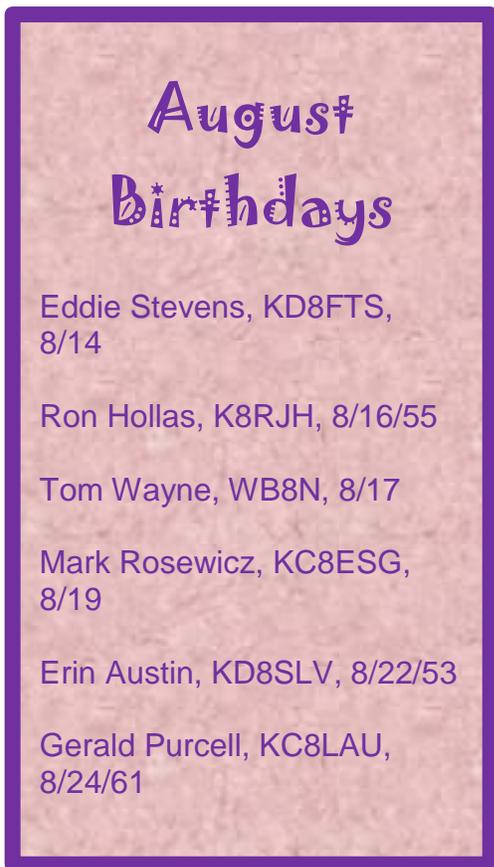
Tom, WB8N, reported there will not be a Diabetes Walk this Year.

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

The 50/50 raffle was won by Rich, NW8X, who collected \$43 dollars.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.



Club Dues Increase

Our club's annual dues are a bargain, but to preserve the club's financial health plus fund new activities that will keep the membership engaged as well as draw new members, we need to increase membership dues (they were raised in 2001). The Board of Directors is recommending an increase of \$6.00 (\$.50 a month) a year to the annual dues for all categories of paid membership as shown here:

Regular member, age 60 and younger:
\$26.00

Regular member older than 60:
\$18.00

Family member:
\$16.00

In accordance with the club's constitution, the membership must vote on this issue.

Andy, KD8SCV, CARS Board of Directors
Chairman

CW Net

Metro, W8MET

There is a strong possibility in 2018 that Joel, K8SHB, wants to put a slow CW net together for anyone interested in learning CW. This is a good way for beginner's to learn CW. Interested parties should contact Joel at k8shb@arrl.net for further details.



Member Profile

David E. Korow, AC8TN

How did you become interested in ham radio?

I was 14 years old in 1974 and my friend was playing with CB radio. I was fascinated with 2-way radio communication both mobile and base station. , I ended up buying his old 4 channel crystal controlled AM tube radio. I was hooked.

What made you decide to take the test?

In 1976 the FCC came down hard on illegal CB activity in Cleveland. I got swept up in that crack down, and my parents shut down my CB radio station. One of my CB buddies (handle: Elmer Fudd



) told my brother and me about a local high school offering HAM Radio

License classes, and "Elmer" said he was going and would take us if we were interested. So began my journey to get my Novice ticket and 5 WPM CW. I never thought of it before but "Elmer Fudd" was my first Elmer; what a perfect handle!

When did you get your license(s)?

I was licensed as WD8ASZ in 1976.

What are your base station radios and antennas?

1. FLEX 6500
2. Elecraft K2/100
3. Drake TR4C/RV4C
4. Acom 1000
5. ANT 1: K4KIO HEX Beam - 6 band @ 35 feet
6. ANT 2: GAP Voyager DX vertical (20M, 40M, 80M, 160M), 45 feet tall
7. ANT 3: Wellbrook Active Magnetic Loop Antenna ALA1530LNP @ 13 feet
8. 30m double bazooka @ 22 feet
- 9.

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

Flex 6500

What is your mobile set up?

1. Yaesu FT-2DR dual band digital HT
2. Diamond NR770HB 2m/70cm mobile antenna

What are your favorite on air activities?

Primary reason for operating... chasing DX and building LoTW confirmed contacts. I enjoy meeting new HAM and learning about their experiences.

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Why did you join CARS?

I sought out the CARs club at Seven Hills Home Days in 2014. With encouragement from Metro, W8MET, I decided to upgrade from General to Extra. I enrolled myself in the CARS Extra class at Seven Hills City Hall, and I passed the Extra Class exam on April 9, 2015. Thanks to CARs and their wonderful teachers, I have achieved a lifelong dream. I couldn't have done it without our club's teaching, encouragement and VE's.

What would you like to see CARS do to improve?

Buy equipment for a club HF radio station, and find a location to install it, to encourage our members to expand their Amateur Radio knowledge and public exposure to the hobby.

Anything else you would like to say?

From 1979 to 2013 I was off the air, without a station. While camping at West Branch State Park, Ravenna, Ohio in June 2012, my wife and I came upon a single operator Field Day Station in the camp ground. After speaking to him at length about the hobby, I decided I had to get back on the air. After a 34 year hiatus, I keyed up my new station in November of 2013. This is the best hobby in the world, and I am grateful everyday that I have the privilege to be an Amateur Radio Operator.

VE Session Metro, W8MET

A VE session was given on July 9, 2017. We had 5 candidates and all were successful. Kathie Buchwald, N8WUA, and Shawn Becker, KE8FIP, up-graded to General. We now have 3 new licensed amateurs, Joseph Scanlan, KE8HKL, and Peter Siska, KE8HKM, passed their Technician exams. Kenneth Vitt, KE8HKN, passed both his Technician and General. Congratulations to all for passing. Thanks to the VE team David Rickon, NF8O; Larry Shimerka, N8OWS; Roger Boehnlein, N8TCP; Gary Dewey, NI8Z; George Pindroh, K8KR and Joel Chaney

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

**Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
July 13th, 2017 B.O.D. Minutes**

The CARS Board of Directors was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 6:30 P.M. on the 13th day of the month at the Fuji Grill in Midtown Shopping Center.

Meeting Attendees were Bob, W8GC; Mark, WJ8WM; Toby, WT8O; Andy, KD8SCV; Larry, N8OWS; Ed, WB8ROK; Mike, KD8OUE; Arp, K8ARP; Joel, K8SHB; Terry, KB8DTC

The following items were discussed and action taken noted:

1. Re-establish the Internet connection for Echolink purposes. Can we get a connection from AT&T and how much would it cost. Is it worth doing being that it got limited use when it was available. The connection needs to be made at the Parma repeater site. Need to get specifics on this before we move on.

No action taken.

2. Club Membership has declined. Are we stagnant? What can we do to improve what the club does? We average 30 members at a meeting from a total of 98 members. What can we do to get younger people interested?

Action: A short multiple choice survey will be developed and given to each member so the club can determine what members like & dislike and what ideas they might have to make the club better.

3. Place the Board of Directors meeting minutes in the Wobbly Oscillator.

Action: Toby made the motion with a second by Terry to place the Board of Directors minutes in the Wobbly Oscillator. The motion PASSED.

4. Raise the club membership dues \$6 dollars per year. Dues have not changed since 2001. If the club reinstates the internet, this increase would help subsidize the internet cost. The membership has to vote on this item since it cannot be done at a Board of Directors meeting.

Action: Toby made a motion with a second by Terry to place the proposed dues increase in the next Wobbly Oscillator for viewing by the membership.

5. The network card in the Club Field Day laptop failed. A new laptop could also be used for repeater programming.

Action: Mike made a motion with a second by Bob to buy a new laptop. The motion PASSED. Arp will pick up the laptop and the club will reimburse him.

6. Joel announced that he will be starting a CW training net on HF beginning in January 2018. Further details as they become available.

Action: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

Notes From The Technical Committee

Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

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; 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. We can't provide a helping hand, or information, if we aren't aware of your needs. So, please, don't be shy. ALL of us still have much to learn, so you're not alone with your struggles.

Due to personal issues, I've recently stepped down as the chairman of the Tech Committee. Scott Smith, AC8NW, graciously stepped up, and has taken over the duties as chairman of the committee. THANK YOU SCOTT!!

The committee is continuing work on installation of the new repeater at the Parma site, but some technical, issues have caused unexpected delays. Exact date of the installation, has yet to be determined. We will keep everyone informed of the progress of the installation, at our meetings and through this newsletter as information becomes available.

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

Working Split or Cross Band Metro, W8MET

The Armed Forces Day Cross band Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test was set for Saturday, 13 May 2017, rather than on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, 20 May 2017. The new test schedule was done to avoid schedule conflicts with the annual Hamvention in Xenia, Ohio.

According to <http://www.southgatearc.org>, the test will present an interesting challenge to both military and amateur radio operators:

“The annual celebration is a unique opportunity to test two-way communication between radio amateurs and military stations (authorized under Part 97.111 of the Amateur Service rules). It features traditional military-to-amateur cross band SSB voice, CW, practice using legacy interoperability waveforms, and the opportunity for participating hams to utilize more modern military modes, such as MIL-STD Serial PSK and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). Military stations and Amateur Radio stations are authorized to communicate directly on certain 60-meter interoperability channels – 5,330.5, 5346.5, and 5,371.5 kHz.”

“These tests give Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners a chance and a challenge to demonstrate individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station. QSL cards will be available for stations successfully contacting participating military stations.”

This info was taken from the bigislandarrlnews.com/2017/04/30/armed-forces. So I worked the USAF MARS station AGA9TR on 20 meters SSB. Since he was working split or cross band I found him on his Transmit frequency of 14.411 MHz.
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Now since my amateur license only allows me to transmit from 14.000 to 14.350 MHz I listened to the MARS station announce that he was listening on 14.289 MHz. My Transceiver has 2 VFO's so I set 1 VFO which is his transmit frequency of 14.411 Mhz as my receive VFO. I now set my transmit VFO to 14.289 MHz which is his receive frequency. Other transceivers may have a clarifier transmit or receive for this split or cross band operation. We talked and exchanged information of equipment we are using and I received his QSL with a successful QSO from Travis AFB, California. This is open to everyone with an amateur license so next year give it a try.

Backyard Testing Metro, W8MET

I recently installed a 40 meter dipole at about 20 feet up in my trees in the backyard. I tested the antenna for the best resonance. My goodness, I have a dip at 6.600 Mhz. which indicates my antenna is too long in length. So, I shortened the antenna on each side about 20 inches to raise the frequency and now I am good at 7.150 MHz with a SWR of below 1.5:1. Each installation varies depending with your property. I called Gary NI8Z to see how well he could hear me on my new dipole since he is only one mile away. Running only 10 watts, Gary with his dipole said I was hitting his meter with a signal strength of +40db with my new dipole. I told Gary I will now send with my vertical to his dipole and he said my signal was a +30db over S9. I asked Gary if he could use his vertical for another test. So I sent with my vertical to his vertical and he said my signal was +50 db. Then I decided to send using my dipole to his vertical and he said my

signal was +40 db. Each time a mixture of antenna polarization was used the signal was always lower in strength to each other. What I concluded from this backyard testing is that horizontal to horizontal, dipole to dipole or vertical to vertical has better results to each other because of the same polarization of the antennas. Now you know. No animals were hurt during testing.

New Laptop

Arp, K8ARP

Our old Pentium M Field Day logging laptop gave us some problems on Field Day and has since completely given up the ghost. The CARS Board authorized the purchase of a replacement laptop at last week's Board Meeting. After a bit of research, I found a suitable, reasonably priced, Acer Aspire ES 15 laptop at Micro Center, on sale for \$270. It's all set up, ready to go, and will serve the Clubs needs well for Field Day logging and repeater maintenance.

WORKED ALL STATES AWARD

Metro, W8MET

Joel, K8SHB, heard Alaska on the air and finally worked his 50th state. He has successfully conducted two way communications with amateur radio stations in each of the states in the United States of America .He did this on SSB. He received confirmation from ARRL with a certificate of W.A.S. Congratulations, well done.

The Random Wire

Tom Wayne, WB8N

As I sit here at the computer, writing The Random Wire for the August edition of the WO, I am realizing that it is already the end of July... the kiddies will be going back to school already in August. That's too early in my book... whatever happened to their going back after Labor Day? I'm sure the teachers aren't too happy about starting back so early either.

I haven't been very active on the bands of late, other than 2 meters. I sold an antenna via qth.com to a ham in PA, sent it off to him via UPS. So that's a few extra bucks in my pocket.

Also, as I write this I realize that the CARS picnic will be/was Friday, the 28th... hope we all had enough to eat and had a great time! Man, where's the summer going?

Tonight, I'm going to see a show in Oakwood with an Eagles tribute band... should be good. There's a Bee Gees tribute band show coming up soon as well. Am looking forward to seeing that one too.

There's gonna be a Solar Eclipse QSO party on August 21st. Should be fun to operate in it. See the August issue of QST for the details. What? you don't get the QST magazine monthly? That means you don't belong to the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League). ALL hams should belong to that organization... it's the only organization that fights for our rights as amateur radio operators. So if you don't belong - JOIN!!!

That's it for this time guys and gals. I've had my say and am getting out of here for now. Hope to "see" you on the CARS net which is every Wednesday at 9:00 P.M., at the next meeting, or both. If you hear me throw my call out there when I'm mobile, come back to me and we can have little QSO.

73 for now,
de Tom, WB8N

Hamfests Metro, W8MET

Aug 20, 2017, Sunday in Cortland, Ohio from 9am-2pm at Mosquito Lake State Park ,1439 State Route 305.146.97 MHz. Free Tailgatefest. w8vid.org

Aug 27, 2017 Sunday in Stow, Ohio, 8am-1pm Cuyahoga Falls ARC. Robert Pinn Armory, 4630 Allen Road. Tailgate Hamfest. 147.27 Mhz. (110.9) \$5 per vehicle www.cfarc.org/tailgate.php

Ohio QSO Party Metro, W8MET

August 26, Saturday, for 12 hours starting at noon till midnight CW and SSB Ohio will be on the air as the sought after contacts for points. This is the time to be on the air since all the different states need and want your contact points. So if you can be on the air, give them a contact point from your earned privileges.

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

Special Event Stations

Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival: Aug 3 - Aug 6, 0000 Z - 0000 Z from Canton, Ohio. W8AL will be on SSB 21.320 14.285 7.200 and repeater 146.790 MHz (141.3). Certificate available from the Canton Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 8673 Canton, Ohio 44711 www.w8al.org

USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: NI6IW, Aug 12, 1600Z – 2300Z, USS Nautilus (SSN-571) passing under the North Pole on August 3, 1958. 14.320 7.250; PSK31 on 14.070; D-STAR on REF001C.QLS at USS Midway CV-41 COMEDTRA, 910 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101

Navajo Code Talkers: N7C, Aug 14 - Aug 16, 0000Z - 2359Z, 14.265 7.265, QSL. Herb Goodluck, N7HG, P.O.Box 06, Chinie, Arizona 86503 www.qrz.com/db/n7c

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend: Aug 19 – Aug 20, 0000Z - 0000Z, 14.240 7.240 QSL. GSBARC W2GSB, P.O.Box 1356, West Babylon, NY 11704 Fire Island Lighthouse. www.gsbarc.org

Say Hello to these Wonderful Events

All information from August 2017 QST pg. 102 -103

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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

AC8NW** WT8O, N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, KD8RKf

VE Exams

W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail

W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2017 Officers

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president@2cars.org

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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



July 12, 2017