

# The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society



NO8A Special Event Call      K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75

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Issue II

## FROM THE PREZ

Great turn out for our 1<sup>st</sup> show and tell meeting in 2006. Thanks to George K8KR for the suggestion. Almost everyone came with something to show and talk about.

After a long dry spell I was the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing.

The scholarship committee now has application forms available at [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org) or contact Scotty, WA8SLN chairman by phone, mail or e-mail for details.

If you are one of the 12 who still have not paid your 2006 dues please do so ASAP. If you are under 18 or over 60 years of age your dues are only \$12.00. If you have any special needs please contact the Treasurer. Dues not paid on or before March 31, 2006 will be put on the inactive list. (no longer an active member)

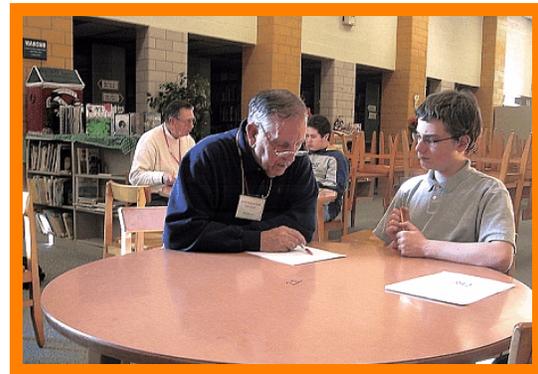
After almost 30 years of meeting at the Busch Community room they have informed us that we have to move our meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month or move as they are cutting back to only one meeting room for the public. Tom, WB8N is polling the membership as well as looking into moving the location of our meeting to continue the tradition of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. More to come on this. We will have the March meeting on Wednesday March 15 but it will be the last at Busch on a Wednesday.

I will be in the Dominican Republic for a week and have asked Tom to follow up on this as he has been the contact with Busch for several years.

It was nice to find time to return to the Copley school after almost 3 months. It was also great to have Scotty, WA8SLN join us for the first time. Scotty has decided to join the team working at the school on a regular basis.

That's it for another WO, this month's thoughts: *As I grow older, I pay less attention to what men say. I just watch what they do - Andrew Carnegie*

73, de Bob, W8GC



Dave kd8v and Scotty wa8sln working with 2 of the students

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## FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

President Bob Check, W8GC, called the February 2006 C.A.R.S. meeting to order at 7:33 PM at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Twenty-five C.A.R.S members and four guests participated as introductions were given around the room.

Henry, KD8BAO motioned to accept the January meeting minutes as presented in the February *Wobbly Oscillator* and Dave, K8DAV seconded. The members voted on and passed the motion.

The treasurer's report was given by Tina, W8HBI. She sent out notices to twenty-four members who have not paid their dues for 2006.

Bill, KC8YSV reminded the membership to renew their ARRL annual dues through C.A.R.S. enabling the club to receive a commission. He also mentioned that next month's meeting program would feature a demonstration of the azimuth-elevation antenna rotator by Dave, K8DAV that Dave programmed. Bill reminded the members to contact him with any ideas for future meeting programs.

Vice president Dave, KD8V updated all present on the ongoing success of the radio club at the Copley Middle School he donates a great deal of time to. He said four more students have become active. He talked about how the students were using Echo-Link. Not only were they having fun and making contacts, Dave said it was a great way to teach on air procedures. He concluded by saying another student has earned their Technician license.

Toby, WT8O gave the secretary's report, acknowledging a thank you note from Mike, K8EHP, responding to the sympathy card sent out by the club expressing condolences for the death of his brother-in-law, and one from the Christian Women's Club thanking Jane, K8JGR, and Ron, K8VJG, for their amateur radio presentation at the club luncheon. He also spoke about the club station at the Mather museum ship, mentioning the ship has been moved, resulting in easier access and more convenient parking. Toby also requested help to set up and operate the station. He said the first matter that needed to be resolved was the antenna, asking for suggestions from members on what type would work the best. Terry, KB8DTC, who actually sailed on the Mather; was the first to step up and offer

assistance. Toby also informed the group that the Wednesday evening club nets were going better than ever because of great participation from club members, as well as many non-members.

Sunshine was spread by Dave, KD8V, sending a card to Lin, WD8SDP; who is recovering from respiratory problems. Dave has recently spoken with Lin, who is feeling better and should be attending a meeting soon. He also sent cards out to Mike, K8EHP, who recently lost his brother-in-law; and to Ron, K8VJG and his nephew Vince, N8OVW, sympathizing the passing of Ron's sister who was also Vince's mother.

Our technical committee chairman, Dave, K8DAV reported that he had purchased the autopatch for the repeater, installed and pre-programmed it.

Tom, WB8N, addressed the group about the *Wobbly Oscillator*. He said he really needed more contributions from the membership. Tom reminded everyone that he would do all the work of editing the spelling and punctuation, so all people need to do is type out an article about anything ham related, and Tom would do the rest.

Gary, NI8Z, the C.A.R.S. Volunteer Examiner chairman, said the next VE session would be the second week in March; Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>. New business was brought up by Steve, N8IS saying there would be an antenna party soon. Bob, W8GC, was expecting delivery of a new SteppIR 40 meter giant soon, and Steve would be buying and installing Bob's present antenna, and Gary, NI8Z, would be getting Steve's current SteppIR. As most members know, all three live near the corner of Brecksville Rd. and Pleasant Valley Rd. There was a mention of Pizza for all who attend this antenna party.

The 50/50 raffle was held next, with \$25 going to the winner, and \$26 going to the club. The winner was Bob, W8GC who could put the money towards his new antenna. One of our guests, Clark, N8PZ won a Yeasu hat as second prize.

Steve, N8IS motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Mike, K8EHP seconded. A vote was taken *continued on next page....*

passing the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O, C.A.R.S. secretary.

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### TRIVIA QUESTION

This month's trivia question was submitted by Bob Ozog, K8MRC. The question is timely as we are going to be entering into Tornado season soon.

In the last 50 years of record keeping, how many F5 tornados have been recorded in the continental United States? (An F5 tornado has winds of 261 - 318 miles per hour)

A. 10    B. 5    C. 2    D. None

The answer can be found elsewhere in this issue.

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### BIRTHDAYS

WD8SDP Lin Shaw 3-1-32  
K8EHP Michael Cegelski 3-2-42  
KA8KPB Blaine Coleman 3-18-46  
KB8DTC Terry Pillatt 3-18-46  
WA8SSQ Tony Hackenberg 3-20-51  
NO2O Fred Partis 3-20  
KC8FUI Walter Holliday 3-22-58  
KC8FVN Don Peters III 3-22  
WA8LOB Nick Markovic 3-22-36  
KB8QHJ Marc Rubin 3-25-66  
KB8NW Tedd Mirgliotta 3-27-52  
N8DJX Bruce Bacik 3-31-42

Congratulations to one and all!

### HURRICANE KATRINA NEWS

The White House today released its review of the federal response to Hurricane Katrina, which, according to a statement, "identifies the systemic problems in Federal emergency preparedness and response revealed by Hurricane Katrina - and the best solutions to address them." The report included 17 lessons the Executive Branch learned after reviewing and analyzing the response to Katrina; made 125 specific recommendations to the President, and identified 11 critical actions to be completed before the first day of the 2006 hurricane season.

The report also included a section titled, "What Went Right" in the Katrina response, which singled out amateur radio operators for particular praise: "Other organizations worked tirelessly to assist emergency responders that, due to the storm, did not have the equipment and means to effectively carry out their duties. Amateur Radio Operators from both the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the American Radio Relay League, monitored distress calls and rerouted emergency requests for assistance throughout the U.S. until messages were received by emergency response personnel. A distress call made from a cell phone on a rooftop in New Orleans to Baton Rouge was relayed, via ham radio, from Louisiana to Oregon, then Utah, and finally back to emergency personnel in Louisiana, who rescued the 15 stranded victims. Ham radio operators voluntarily manned the amateur radio stations at sites such as the National Hurricane Center, Hurricane Watch Net, Waterway Net, Skywarn and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN)."

Finally, the report identified three immediate priorities:

- 1) Implementing a comprehensive National Preparedness System "to make certain that we have a fully national system that ensures unity of effort in preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters."
- 2) Creating a "Culture of Preparedness" that "emphasizes that the entire Nation - at all levels

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of government, the private sector, communities, and individual citizens - shares common goals and responsibilities for homeland security;" and  
3) Implement corrective actions "to ensure we do not repeat the problems encountered during Hurricane Katrina."

*Reprinted from the CQ Magazine e-mail newsletter.*

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## **FROM THE GEARVAKf BULLETIN**

"The *f* is silent"

Reprinted with permission

### **Listening Distracts Car and Truck Drivers – New Laws to follow.**

Seven more states are considering laws prohibiting cellphone use in vehicles to prevent traffic accidents. Citing statistics published by the People's Safety Council and the Center for Scientists Interested in Publicity, the legislatures of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Colorado, have introduced bills against all cellphone use in motor vehicles, including phones with hands-free capability, even by passengers. According to the CSIP, the act of listening and talking in a vehicle is as dangerous as driving with a blood alcohol level of .20. Most states now consider a blood alcohol level of .08 to be proof of driving under the influence. The U.S. Congress is considering legislation that would outlaw cellphones, radio receivers, and music players in all new cars and trucks. Also prohibited would be use of cbs and ham radios. The proposed legislation would even prevent law enforcement, public service and other emergency agencies from using radios. All communications would be restricted to text messaging using a keyboard and a monitor.

### **New Broadband Technology to Save Railroads**

In light of the controversy regarding BPL, a fantastic new approach to broadband well might be the salvation of our rail systems. The U.S. rail system has been losing revenue and relevance for years. Gearfakf Laboratories have begun research and baseline testing of a new technology to

incorporate the national network of tracks (both active and abandoned) into a grand spin-off resource, "Broadband Over Railroad Tracks." This new technology resource is undergoing testing for practicality on the small, private, hi-speed, steam, railway at the Gorbinski's Mushroom Farms. Early FCC approval has been received for extensive field testing, when prototyping is available in the summer of 2006, despite a complete lack of technical specification on emissions and protocols. Under the FCC guidelines, Union Pacific will be testing this new system on several lines extending over the Rocky Mountains and the Midwest Plains. Any individual within a few hundred miles of existing track, who typically are not able to get or afford high-prices broadband will be able to tap into the rail to receive high-speed access rivaling BPL and cable speeds. The BRT resource, unlike BPL, one rail will be used for transmitting a signal, while the other rail will be used for receiving Wi-Fi signals from subscribers. The wireless aspect of the resource is hoped to overcome its competitor, BPL. Various national railroads are promoting BRT as the savior of the industry and will still allow passenger and freight traffic to continue unimpeded. However, the FCC continues to allow the unregulated testing and eventual use of BPL. An individual at the ARRL who wished to remain anonymous declared "Railroad tracks are essentially the world's largest antenna if you pump RF through them. Tie BPL overhead lines into the problem of RD emitting railroad tracks as a ground plane, and the entire HF spectrum will be unusable throughout the U.S. I can't think of a more irresponsible use of the rail lines." BRT is expected to meet the same resistance by the ARRL as BPL, but also a similar fast-track approval by the FCC. The emerging threat of BRT is no doubt going to be as much if not more of a potential spectrum-wrecking technology as BPL. The FCC says it is taking the amateur radio community's concerns very seriously, however, the nations railroads do need saving and BRT  
*continued on next page....*

Could bring in the revenues to accomplish this momentous task. The FCC asks that any comments or concerns be sent to a special e-mail address: [shafthehams@fcc.gov](mailto:shafthehams@fcc.gov).

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### ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION

The correct answer to this month's trivia question was answer D: None.

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### THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

#### HAMFESTS I'VE KNOWN & LOVED

I made it to the Mansfield Hamfest again this year, along with several other CARS members I saw down there. That hamfest is always a good one and this one was one of the best I thought. The attendance was very good and there was a lot of good junk, ham related and non-ham related, available to be picked up. I met and spoke with Joe Phillips, K8QOE our ARRL rep down there, as well as Rick Swain, KK8O who is the Official Observer Coordinator for these parts.

I also attended the NOARS Winter Fest the week before Mansfield. It is a nice little hamfest and you get a pancake and sausage breakfast with the price of admission as well! This year it was not too well attended and there were a lot of empty vendor tables, due to the nasty weather that day.

There is still the Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest coming up on April second. I plan on making it to that one. It is a rather small one but usually has some good stuff.

#### MEETING PLACE

As President Check mentioned in his column, the Busch Funeral Home has asked us if we could change our meeting night to the second Tuesday of the month from the third Wednesday. I sent an email to the membership and only received eleven responses. Kind of p\*\*\* poor if you ask me. We will be bringing this matter up before the board at

the next board meeting, as well as the membership at the March meeting, which WILL be on the THIRD Wednesday, as usual. The reason for this is that Busch is eliminating one of the two community rooms and is having to shuffle everyone around to try to accommodate every group that meets there. We are also looking into another meeting place so that we can keep the third Wednesday of the month. Stay tuned...

#### THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

As you can see, the size of this issue is rather small. That is because I have had no input from the membership this month other than the President and Secretary. C'mon folks, I need some help here. I'm only the editor...I'm not supposed to write or put in every article that appears on these pages. If this keeps up, maybe we should go to a bi-monthly newsletter.

#### SHOW & TELL

We had some great participation at the February meeting at our first show & tell night. Some pretty interesting items were brought in by those attending. We'll have to do that again sometime. Thanks to George, K8KR for suggesting it.

#### ADIOS AMIGOS

That does it for this month. I'll see you at the March meeting and catch you on the air.  
73, de Tom, WB8N

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## CARS 2006 Officers & Committees

### Audit

Dave KD8V \*\* Bill KC8YSV, George K8KR

### ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

Bill Sarver KC8YSV \*\*

### Awards

Tom WB8N \*\* Ron K8VJG, Bill WA8GEO  
George K8KR

### Christmas Party 2006

Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z  
Tom WB8N, Henry KD8BAO, Jack W8JAK

### Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V \*\* Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI,  
Bill KC8YSV

### Contests

George K8KR \*\*

### Development

Bob W8GC \*\* All officers

### Diabetes events

Tom WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Field Day

Tom WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP \*\* N8IS

### Interference & Jamming

WB8N \*\* NI8Z, N8IS, W8GC

### Lighthouse events

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544

### Mentor/Elmer

Bill Sarver KC8YSV \*\* Ron Borkey K8VJG \*\*  
Tom WB8N, Bob W8GC

### Membership

Tina W8HBI \*\* Bob W8GC \*\*

### Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

Toby WT8O \*\* Lin WD8SDP and All CARS  
members

### NET

Toby WT8O \*\*

### WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Program directors

Bill KC8YSV \*\* Jack W8JAK \*\*

### QSL manager - NO8A, W8WGM & WA8CMS

Tom WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments

Henry KD8BAO \*\*

### 50/50

Mike KB8UGT \*\*

### Scouts

Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

### Scholarship

Scotty WA8SLN \*\* Gary NI8Z, Henry KD8BAO  
Ron K8VJG, Toby WT8O

### Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V \*\* 330-666-8721

### Technical

Dave K8DAV\*\* Bob W8GC \*\* Vince N8OVW,  
Tom WB8N, Jim WD8CHL

### VE exams

Gary NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV \*\* Bob W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## 2006 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750  
president@2cars.org

### VICE-PRESIDENT \*\*\*\*

Dave KD8V 330-666-8721  
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### SECRETARY \*\*\*\*

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secretary@2cars.org

### TREASURER:

Tina W8HBI 216-520-2621  
treasurer@2cars.org



## Board Members & License Trustees

### even year executive board 2 year term

Steve N8IS  
Bill KC8YSV  
Dave K8DAV

### odd year executive board 2 year term

George K8KR  
Terry KB8DTC  
Tom WB8N

### K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N

### NO8A, WA8CMS &

KD8AQD trustee  
Bob W8GC

