

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



APRIL 2010

VOLUME 39

ISSUE 4

FREE RADIOS FOR ALL THAT ATTEND APRIL MEETING ! MORE INSIDE

FROM THE PREZ

I hope all the members had a good time at the dinner meeting in March. I was really looking forward to it myself. Unfortunately, I was called out of town on emergency business and was unable to attend. From all the reports from those who attended, it sounded like a good time. Some said they would like all the meetings to be dinner meetings, like some other clubs. Some said between the picnic meetings and the Christmas party, one dinner meeting was enough. Personally, I would like more dinner meetings. We need to find a place that can provide a separate room where we can have presentations, as well as good food at reasonable prices. We'll make it a topic at our next regular meeting.

Speaking of meeting programs, I again encourage members to suggest to Gary, NI8Z, our VP and program director, any topics you would like to see in a meeting program. A few people have mentioned some ideas in passing, but it usually ends up on the shoulders of one person. Please think of things you would like to see, and contact Gary or bring it up at a meeting. Think about it, because we will make it a topic at a meeting in the near future.

With spring officially here, a ham's fancy turns to antennas. I mention this every year, but it does bear repeating - fellow members are more than happy to help with any antenna project. It usually takes a few people to get the job done, and the guidance of those with extensive and varied experience is a blessing. If you are in a position where you are contemplating an antenna installation or upgrade, by all means bring it up at a meeting, on the Wednesday evening club net, or contact one of the other more experienced members to put together an antenna party. There is always help available from the club.

73, Toby, WT8O

Contents:

<i>From the Prez.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>Meeting Minutes.....</i>	<i>pg 1</i>
<i>New Amateur Band.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>April Meeting Program.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>Atomic Clock for PC.....</i>	<i>pg 3</i>
<i>Birthdays.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>ARRL news.....</i>	<i>pg 4</i>
<i>Member Interviews.....</i>	<i>pgs 5 & 6</i>
<i>The Random Wire.....</i>	<i>pg 7</i>

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. March monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Gary Dewey, NI8Z on the 9th of the month. The meeting was held at Harry's Steak House in Independence, Oh. Twenty nine members and four guests introduced themselves to begin the meeting. There might have been more because some didn't sign in.

Matt, W8EBB made a motion to accept the February minutes as published in the March Wobbly Oscillator, and Bruce, N8DJX seconded. There were no additions, or corrections and the motion was passed. .

Bob, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was about same as last month.. Bob also said that dues are due and that you can pay for them online thru PayPal. March Those members that have not paid their dues by the end of March will be removed from the C.A.R.S. membership roster. Bob also mentioned the scholarship raffle, saying that we will be having only one this year. Tickets are available from Bob.

C.A.R.S. license classes started in March. We have six Tech, one General, and two Extra Class students this year. Eddie, KD8FTS motioned to accept the treasury report and Ron, K8VJG seconded. The motion passed.

The summer picnic will be on July 30 at the Kiwanis pavilion behind the Independence Civic Center. The committee will be meeting soon.

Don't forget about the Dayton bus trip. There are about 12 people signed up so far. If you are thinking about going to the hamvention, this is the best way to go.

There was one award handed out to Metro, W8MET for Ham or the Year.

Vice President Gary, NI8Z said C.A.R.S.

will be having programs at the meetings every month, some of which he obtained from the ARRL. He asked all members to fill out the questionnaire under the member page of the C.A.R.S. web site, www.2cars.org. Gary reported that Scotty, WA8SLN, Sunshine Chairman, said that he had sent out no cards this month,.

Tom, WB8N asked everyone to send articles and pictures for the W.O.

Members voted on new members Anthony Muttillio, K8ALM, and George Muenster III, KD8NBZ. George, K8KR motioned to accept them as members, Gary, K8REF seconded and the members voted them in..

Doctor Dave, KD8V said the Copley school club has about twenty five kids in the club. About half the antenna is mounted at the High School the rest will be completed when the weather breaks. He also wants to thank everyone in the C.A.R.S. club who helps.

The technical committee said as soon as the weather broke and someone can get to the repeater site that the Echo Link will be installed at its new location.

Bruce, KC8RKS showed safety vests that Summit County ARES is using on all of their events, if you would like to purchase one let him know. .

Lucky Linda, N8LRS won the 50/50 drawing, with \$27.00 to her and \$27 to C.A.R.S.

Matt, W8EBB made the motion to close the meeting at 7:25 p.m. and Ron, K8VJG seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Stephen Jones, N8SRJ
C.A.R.S. Secretary.

APRIL MEETING

***Tuesday, April 13, 7:30 p.m. at the Busch
Funeral Home community Room.***

***“NEW” BAND FOR AMATEUR RADIO
Hams Get 11 meters back!***

By Vinnie Boombotz, Director of WTF Society

Back in the day, eleven meters was originally an amateur radio band. Then the FCC took the band away from hams and made it a “citizen’s band”, on which anyone could talk, that had a CB radio. You originally needed an FCC license for CB, but all you had to do was send for one and for a nominal fee you got a license. Later, the fee was dropped, and then the need to even have a citizen’s band license was done away with.

Well now, things are changing for the amateur radio operator. And just in time for the new sunspot cycle too! Eleven meters is presently being used mostly by truckers and frustrated housewives with nothing else to do, who like to talk dirty to the truckers under the disguise of their “handle” in the safety of their homes, and truck stop cuties looking for a little action with those same truckers.

Eleven meters is being given back to the amateur radio community on a shared basis with those using it now. This will occur officially on April 1st, 2010.

If eleven meters is anything like 10 meters was during the last sunspot cycle, it will be easy to make DX contacts with as little as 5 watts.

Most modern rigs have eleven meters capability, but do not despair if yours does not because at every hamfest there are many CB rigs being sold, new and used. You can pick one up for a song. These can easily be modified to put out more than the 5 watts that most CB’s are capable of normally. And just think, if you have an old CB rig or two laying around in your basement, you can dig it out and make use of it again!

And who knows...maybe the amateur radio community will gain more licensed hams from those frustrated truckers.

There will be only one stipulation when an amateur radio operator is using eleven meters: You must use the term “that’s a big 10-4 good buddy” when in QSO with another ham or a citizen’s band operator.

MEETING PROGRAM FOR APRIL

Submitted by Gary Dewy, NI8Z

If you think you know how radios are made - think again! Dave Kennett, W8KFJ, will be talking about how digital radios have changed all that, and will be demonstrating his Flex 3000. Dave promises a “free radio” for everyone, which sounds a bit suspicious. Never-the-less, he says that if you have a computer, you will be able to tune around the various HF ham bands, and "listen" to many hours of AM, SSB, CW, etc. You'll just have to come to the meeting to find out for yourself.

***ATOMIC TIME CLOCK SYNC FOR
YOUR PC***

By Steve Spisak, K8SAS

Ok, so the old pc is hanging in there doing all the work that it can handle. And if the pc is 4 or more years old, the CMOS battery that keeps the time might be losing some of its power to keep correct time. And with many of us just using one computer, it means that our logging programs are on that computer and applying the same “time stamp”.

n across a program written by a woman who writes for Windows Magazine. It is *continued on next page....*

called Time Sync. The program can be set up to go out every so often to get the correct time, or just when you boot up the pc. I have mine set at boot up so that it does the job and it shuts off taking up no resources during operation of other software.

Once again, the best part, it is a free program. It can be located at her site; <http://www.karenware.com/powertools/ptsync.asp>

She also has other programs of interest that might interest you. It's worth a look.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

KC8WBF Skip Cook 4-7-36

KC8FQV Mark Studer 4-14-64

KC8OJD Daniel Dressler 4-16

KC8WBG Dawnn Barbour 4-18

K8REF Gary Berkowitz 4-19

N8OVW Vince Bak 4-22-49

KC8WLY John Cobb Sr. 4-23-57

W8MET Metro Sinko 4-27

W8GC Bob Check 4-29-41

Congratulations to one and all and many happy returns!

ARRL ANNOUNCEMENT

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

Attention All Amateurs... Glitch Delays Launch of New ARRL Web Site (Mar 24, 2010) -- The ARRL's launch of a new Web site has been delayed following problems that

appeared as the huge computer programs were being transferred to their main Web server. Normally the Web site connects ham radio operators around the world, dynamically presenting the services that ARRL offers the ham radio community at

[2. www.arrrl.org](http://www.arrrl.org). When we tried to switch over to the new Web site today, we encountered unanticipated technical issues during the process of transferring to the new Web site. From what we know, it appears that some of the computer coding from Fathom has problems (Fathom is the Hartford-based firm that led ARRL through a multi-year strategic Web site planning process including focus groups, site architecture development, design, content generation and functionality). We have temporarily switched back to the old Web site until they are resolved. Obviously, we are trying to complete this transfer as quickly as possible and we will keep you informed of our progress.

ARRL OHIO SECTION NEWS

By Frank Piper, KI8GW, Ohio Section Manager

I am pleased to announce that Ohio Senate Bill 218 (Amateur radio antennae-codify federal restrictions on local zoning (aka "PRB-1" for Ohio)) had its fourth hearing on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, and was voted unanimously out of the State and Local Governments and Veterans Affairs Committee. Both Myself and State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, K8NAP were present, and worked with Committee members to ensure its vote and passage. The Bill is now on its way to the Senate Floor, and *continued on next page....*

is scheduled for a vote of the entire Senate on April 13th. Once it clears the Senate floor, it will then travel to the Ohio House of Representatives for their vote. Since both House Bill 212 and Senate Bill 218 have the same wording, it should pass through and hopefully go to the Governor for signature soon!

Now is the time to contact your local State Senators and Representatives and ask for their vote of support on this important piece of legislation for Amateur Radio in Ohio.

As always, as the Bill progresses its way through the hurdles of the Statehouse, I will keep you informed of its progress.

V.P.'s MEMBER INTERVIEW

This month's interview is with George Lopez, K8GIL

How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?

I've been riding motorcycles for years and through riding I've been active in many benefit rides with different groups like March of Dimes and MS Pedal To The Point. Most of the rides suffered from dependable communication between the lead bikes, the rear bikes and the support vehicles. Different forms of communications were employed like CB, FRS and GMRS. None did an adequate job, usually distance was the limiting factor. When I used to plan the March of Dimes rides I met Thomas Powell or TJ (N8UIR). He was a Ham and an EMT. He and his buddy did the medical support and coordinated communication with the Sheriff's Dept. which did the escort for the March of Dimes rides. When we first started doing the ride it was small, maybe 50 bikes but as the ride grew in popularity so did the

distance between the front and the back of the ride so communications would break down in the middle of the ride. TJ started suggesting that I get my ticket and put a rig on the bike. Well the March of Dimes decided to stop having the motorcycle rides and the idea of getting my ticket kind of fell to the wayside. Shortly after that I was asked to help out with the MS Pedal To the Point ride. In this case the motorcycles are used in a support role, riding with the bicyclist and helping them out and at times giving first aid or getting help. Most of the motorcycles that took part were Goldwings which are equipped with CB but they had no way to directly contact control or most of the SAG vehicles because they employ Ham radios and CB being what it is didn't have much distance. Arp and I used GMRS radios which gave us a lot more distance but no one else could hear us. Last year there was an incident where a grandma decided her time was more valuable than the lives of 2 bicyclists and she ran over them with her SUV severely injuring one of the cyclists. Even though the accident occurred within 500 yards from a rest stop there was a delay in getting help because of poor cell coverage and no ham was on scene. Plus next year we are riding out west and cell coverage was a concern of mine so I decided to go Ham.

How long have you been licensed and what class license do you currently have?

I earned my Tech ticket back in November 2009. I currently hold a technician class license..

What do you like about Amateur Radio?

You can get quite a bit of distance even on a hand held.

What are your favorite bands/modes to work ? *continued on next page..*

2 meters.

What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?

I have 3 dual band Yaesu mobile radios and a tri- band Yaesu hand held.

What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?

I'm a computer programmer by trade.

Do you participate in any CARS projects or functions? If so which ones?

Not yet.

What other projects or functions would you like to see CARS get involved?

MS Pedal To The Point can always use help.

Thanks George.

A CLOSER LOOK

Submitted by Tina Check, W8HBI

This month we take a closer look at Mike Gamber, KG8MTG

Where were you born?

Cleveland, Ohio.

What is your favorite memory?

Playing in my backyard on E. 124th St.

If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be, and why?

Age 20. I was having the time of my life in Heidelberg Germany, courtesy of the U.S. Army. The only responsibility I had was to myself and to my duty. I got to see most of Germany, and visited France, England, Austria and Italy. I cried when I left.

What's your favorite food?

Stuffed cabbage and Slovenian sausage.

What are your favorite TV shows?

Law and Order, 24, and Burn Notice.

What are your favorite movies?

The Longest Day

What type of music do you enjoy the most?

Modern Jazz and some classical.

What one thing do you make it a point to do every day?

Pray.

What would be your ideal job, other than your current one or retired position?

Conducting a big band.

Who or what always makes you laugh/

My grandchildren.

What one thing would people be surprised to know about you?

That I studied music with a composer/arranger for 10 years.

If you could pick one place in the world to visit where would that be and why?

Scotland, to visit my wife's family.

If you were an animal which one would you like to be?

A horse.

If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do with the money?

Get out of debt first, some to my kids, grand kids, church and charity.

Thanks Mike, for this insight to your life.

Check into the weekly C.A.R.S. nets on Wednesdays at 9:00 P.M. on 146.82

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

SPRING HAS SPRUNG...

The grass has riz, I wonder where the flowers is? That's an old saying my dear mother used to say. But Spring has finally arrived and it is time to start working on those antennas, feedlines, and any other outdoor ham stuff. I myself, have a 40 meter dipole to get up before too long. I also want to get my mobile HF rig installed in my vehicle before Dayton.

SPEAKING OF DAYTON

The Dayton Hamvention® is coming up soon, about a month and a half to go. Time to get your tickets either by mail or on the internet. You save 5 bucks over the price at the door. And if you don't want to drive down, or only have the time to spend one day there, take the C.A.R.S. sponsored bus trip. It is only \$40.00. If you plan on taking the bus, best get your reservation as soon as possible, as it will bill up fast towards the deadline of the 1st of May, and you don't want to get shut out.

MIDWAY ISLAND

Those of you that worked the Midway Island DXpedition should be receiving your QSL cards very soon, if you have not already received them. I got mine in the mail on Saturday, March 27th.

FREE RADIOS

As stated in the headline of this issue, all who attend the April C.A.R.S. meeting will receive a free radio. That is the promise of the guy that is putting on the presentation that night, Dave Kennett, W8KFJ. We'll see. In order to receive your free rig, you will have to stay for the entire presentation, which will be after the regular meeting. Dave is going to give us a demonstration of the Flex 3000 computer operated HF radio. That promises to be very interesting. Try to make it if at all possible, and bring a friend.

FIELD DAY

The annual Field Day will soon be upon us, occurring the last full weekend of June. This year there will be some changes, as it will be held at a different location from the past few years, and there will be some changes in operators as well, with the possibility of one our proficient cw operators not making it this year and the addition of one or two new operators. The Field Day chairman will be holding meetings prior to the event to finalize logistics and specifics. All members will be welcome to come out and operate and enjoy the comradery. The site will be open to the public to see what amateur radio is all about as well. I have not been to the new site as yet and am anxious to see what it is like and what kind of facilities will be available. One thing is certain...we won't be disrupted by someone having a graduation party or a steak roast, as we have been in the past at the Al Koran location. There are plenty of trees to string up antennas, and no interference from power lines or noise from the turnpike.

CUL

I've used up my allotted space so I'll just say 73 for now, and hope to see you on the air and/or at the next meeting.

de Tom, WB8N

The wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles from 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 e-mailed in .doc, .txt, or .wpd format to newsletter@2cars.org by the 26th of the month for publication in the next month's issue.



Go to
www.2cars.org
to reserve and
pay for your
tickets

2010 Dayton Hamvention Bus Trip

CARS is again sponsoring a Bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention, the 2010 bus trip will take place on Saturday May 15.

The Bus trip will cost \$40.00 dollars per person, we need a minimum of 35 people to break even, the bus will be stopping for breakfast on the way down, with a brief stop on the way home for quick bite. You are responsible for your food and Hamvention ticket costs.

The bus will be leaving at 3:30 am from the Kmart parking lot at the intersection of Engle Road and Bagley Road, in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, Engle Road is a 1/4 mile west of I-71, which is the first intersection you come to, Kmart is behind the BP Gas station. Vehicles will be safe, there will be security to watch cars.

Bus tickets must be purchased and paid for in advance. If we do not sell 35 bus tickets by May 8, 2010 the bus will be cancelled and your money returned.

If you have any questions please see Dwaine K8ME at a cars meeting, CALL 440-582-3462 or go to www.2cars.org and click on Dayton Bus trip to reserve a seat or pay by PayPal. Checks can be sent to: CARS, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264 attn. Dayton Bus committee

73, Dwaine, K8ME and the committee

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 31264
Independence, OH 44131-0264
www.2cars.org



2010 CARS Scholarship fund Raffle Tickets are now available

Help support the CARS Scholarship fund by getting your Raffle Tickets ASAP.

Donation is only \$3.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for 2 tickets! **

Anyone is welcome to purchase tickets, you can order your tickets on line using PayPal, no PayPal account needed just a credit card, go to www.2cars.org or contact the Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC 216-524-1750.

What can be more important than helping people get an education! CARS has awarded two \$500.00 Scholarships a year since 2006. This Raffle will only be held one time in 2010.

This **drawing** will be held at the **CARS 2010 Summer picnic on July 30, 2010.**

Winners do NOT need to attend to win. Winners will be notified plus be listed on the CARS web site and in our Newsletter the WO.



1st prize \$300.00

2nd prize \$200.00

3rd prize \$100.00

Maximum of 850 tickets will be sold

****All proceeds less actual expenses go
to the CARS Scholarship Fund.**