

February 2015 *Volume 45* *Issue 2*

THE WOBBLY OSCILLATOR

LICENSE CLASSES TO BEGIN

FROM THE PREZ

Starting this month, Thursday the 26th to be exact, CARS will begin it's annual amateur radio licensing classes. There will be classes for Technician, General and Extra. The classes have been very successful in the past, and almost all the students that put an effort into their endeavor accomplish their objective and pass the FCC examination which is held on the last day of classes. The CARS VE team does it's usual outstanding job making the test convenient to all the students who participated in the classes. Many people have become amateur radio operators as a result of taking the CARS Technician class. I count myself as one of those people. The educational program sponsored and run by CARS has brought many people into the hobby. This is an opportunity for anyone in the club, or anyone reading this, to get the word out to any friend, relative, co-worker or acquaintance to become one of us and join the amateur radio service. I suggest any and all of us to seek out prospective candidates for the classes and help anyone who is interested to get started by enrolling in one of our classes. This is a time when we need to increase the members of our tribe; please be a part of the growth of ham radio by guiding someone into the CARS licensing classes beginning this month.

The monthly meetings have shown an increase in attendance over the past year. I believe a reason for that are the excellent, interesting and informative programs that we have been having at every meeting. I thank the

program committee for doing a bang-up job getting these presentations scheduled. I also mention that any member who would like to share something that he or she is interested in or knowledgeable about with the group to contact Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE, and put together a program for an upcoming meeting. At the February meeting Bill Savage, WA8GEO, will be doing a radio control demonstration. Bill is one of the most technically savvy members of our club with years of experience as a professional in the electronics industry and has put on several extremely informative programs in the past. The one he is going to do in February should be one of his best, please do your best to be there and see it. Hope to see you there.

73, Toby, WT8O

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JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The CARS membership meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, on the 13th of the month at 7:36 p.m. at the Busch Funeral Home Community Room. The meeting was late in getting started due to a Board Meeting prior to the regular membership meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was given after introductions. Approval of the November meeting minutes in were approved as appearing the January 2015 Wobbly Oscillator newsletter.

Bob Check, W8GC, gave the treasurers report stating that the club is still healthy financially. 2015 dues are due and Bob requested to please send the dues to his home address or electronically via PayPal, and not to the CARS PO Box. Bob also reported that the scholarship fund is very solvent.

Toby WT8O, announced that if the Parma schools are closed on a CARS meeting day, the Bush community rooms will also be closed. If this happens a notice of the closing will be sent to the membership.

Toby mentioned that the club is looking for a new Field Day site as he has sold the site where we had been having Field Day. Vice President Mark Moro, WJ8WM, and Toby are hot on the trail for a new site. New strategy will be looked at for Field day operations.

Ron Borkey, K8VJG, has given up the procuring of donuts for the meetings. Rich Williams, NW8X, will take over the duties. Gary Dewey, NI8Z is giving up the 50/50 & sunshine duties as well. Andy, KD8SCV, will do Sunshine duty and Mike, KD8OUE, will do the 50/50 Raffle.

Gary reported that CARS held a license testing session on the 11th of the month. session. Six VE's were on hand and one person was there for the General Class exam & passed. Gary reported that though he has stepped down from the position of Vice President, but will stay active in the club as a board member.

Eddie, KD8FTS, reported that there will be a Amateur Radio booth at the Outdoor Adventure Show at the IX Center. Eddy will be making up fliers to handout to the public. He also reported that

public service won't kick in until spring.

Toby mentioned we have a new membership applicant, David Andrzejewski, KD8TWG, who was not present. David was accepted as a new CARS member. Welcome aboard David.

Toby handed out the Net Control Awards to the CARS Net Controllers, which were awarded at the Christmas Party, and the "Ham of the Year" award to Mark Moro WJ8WM.

Toby also stated that any members needing help with antennas, new radios, or need advice on purchase of new equipment or explanation on new manual or wants to discuss things at the meeting, to let us know.

Toby, asked the members present to thank the refreshment committee: K8VJG, K8DMT, and WB8ROK.

The 50/50 raffle winner was Matt Webb, W8EBB, who walked away with \$30.00, with \$31.00 going to the CARS coffers. A second raffle of a MFJ coffee mug which was donated by Tom, WB8N, was held, and the winner was Larry Shimerka, KC8VZZ. A third raffle of Gordon West Tapes was held and the winner was Mark Moro, WJ8WM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. After the meeting Gary Dewey, NI8Z, gave a presentation on setting up a basic HF radio station, which was well received by the membership.

Submitted by Secretary Dwaine Modock, K8ME.

The February Membership Meeting will be held at the Busch Funeral Home in the North Community Room, 7501 Ridge Rd. Parma, Ohio on Tuesday, February 10th at 7:30 p.m.

FOR SALE

2 Wouxun KG-UVD1P handhelds for sale:
2mtr/440. Excellent condition.
Includes everything that came with them from
factory including the boxes.
Extra accessories included are the cigarette
lighter battery adapter and programming cable
with Commander software.
Asking \$125.00 for both.
Please contact K8SAS - Steve at:
k8sas@arrl.net

CARS has one Ameritron AL-80B power
amplifier with a new 3-500 tube. This is a one
owner amp in good condition. Contact Bob
W8GC if you are interested. Price \$900.00
216-524-1750 or email w8gc@wowway.com

CARS ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

The CARS audit committee met on Jan 4, 2015
to review the treasurers report for the 2014
fiscal year. Attending the meeting were W8TO,
Toby; NI8Z, Gary; K8SAS, Steve; W8GC, Bob
Treasurer; also in attendance was Mark,
WJ8WM, the newly elected Vice President.
Findings in the report: The scholarship funds
are solid for at least the next two years. Annual
income did not exceed expenditures primarily
for the one-time expense of the bus to the
ARRL which was paid from the treasury with no
offsetting income.

The summer CARS Family Picnic, and the
Christmas party meeting were both funded with
club treasury support.

A new ViewSonic computer projector was
purchased for presentations.

Field Day expense is always a CARS funded
activity.

CARS member dues covers just about 40%
of routine club expenses. Therefore it is
incumbent upon members to support the club in
other ways, which for the most part they have.

CARS needs future financial support from
individuals who donate equipment (e.g.. SKs)
for sale to members or internet sales.

Some expenses may have to be trimmed in
2015. On the cutting block may be Echolink

unless some meaningful way to fund it
becomes available.

The final result is that CARS is in solid
financial position for the year 2015 as
agreed unanimously by the audit committee.
The CARS treasurer has performed its
duties to the highest degree of responsibility
to the satisfaction of the audit committee.
Respectfully submitted, Gary Dewey, NI8Z,
Audit Chairman

CARS FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Michael Balach	KB8UGT	02-02-1955
Diane Balach	KD8FTV	02-07-////
Peter v Bradley	KA6SGT	02-02-1960
Doug Braun	KB8TGT	02-25-1961
Dave Dressler	KD8V	02-11-1932
Daniel Mcnutt	KD8MVC	02-28-1985
Ken Osicki	K8OAE	02-23-////
David Noeth	KD8ACO	02-22-////
Walter Semler	W8WAS	02-22-1944
Larry Shimerka	KC8VZZ	02-20-1956
Gary Solomon	N8JNO	02-15-1954

*Congratulations to one and all and many
happy returns!*

**REMEMBER TO CHECK INTO THE CARS
WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS. EVERY
WEDNESDAY AT 9:00 P.M. ON THE CARS
146.82 REPEATER. LOTS OF
INFORMATION, PLUS A TRIVIA
QUESTION TO TEST YOUR
KNOWLEDGE. HOPE TO HEAR YOU ON
THE NEXT NET!**

I SURVIVED ITALY

By George Pindroh, K8KR

Last November I went on an 11 day trip to Italy. with a group of people from my church. I also went because I hadn't been to Europe before and going there was on my "bucket list"

Little did I know this was going to be a tough trip for this kid! I was shocked to learn there was 52 miles of walking involved. We walked everywhere...up hills, down hills, and then up more hills again! That's the way it is in Italy...one walks everywhere! Buses take you to a central location in every city and you walk to and from that bus parking location. That is comparable to a bus parking in downtown Cleveland and from there you walked to and from The West Side Market or Severance Hall.

There were many many wonderful beautiful things to see in Italy. Many churches and art work to see. Our itinerary included visits to Venice, Florence, Assisi, Padua, Rome, the Vatican, the Coliseum, the Christian Catacombs, Naples, and a visit to an excavated Roman city called Pompeii.

Our first stop was Venice, a city on an island, with canals everywhere. It had rained all day and night prior to my visit. There was so much water everywhere that we had to wade in two feet of water up to our ankles for about a hundred feet just to get ashore. From the git go I was soaked and cold! What a wonderful way to first see The Mediterranean Sea! In Venice that day it continued raining all day long. There was so much water that special portable sidewalks were set up to walk on. I bought an umbrella which lasted only ten minutes. A very powerful wind broke the umbrella into shambles. I put the umbrella in a garbage can. I then purchased a poncho which helped. You can't sit down in Venice! I walked 9.2 miles that day in the cold rain!

We visited The Vatican on two different days. Remarkable place to visit! On the second day (Wednesday)we arrived early (7A.M.) to get one of the portable seats available in order to see Pope Francis. Again it was raining constantly. I bought another umbrella and sat in the rain for three hours. An Italian lady sitting in front of me on two occasions tilted her

umbrella, watering my pants. I complained saying "hey hey" and she only replied with "scuse-a" in Italian. Her husband was sitting next to her and I said nothing more as I certainly didn't want to get into any trouble in a foreign country. I did see Pope Francis...got to about 15 feet from him.

I also saw the Radio Vatican antennas there. I saw a few ham antennas in Italy. One antenna was a three element 10-15-20 meter delta loop. I wish I could've met that Italian ham but didn't have the opportunity. Our bus rode past the long building of The Sovereign Knights of Malta (which is a separate sovereign country...1A0). I had worked 1A0KM years ago.

The best Italian food I have ever eaten is right here in Cleveland. Pizza at Cleveland's Angeles, Antonio's or Athens is the best in the world! Pizza in Italy is horrible! Their pizza is like eating cardboard with tomato soup floating on it. Spaghetti in Italy isn't much better...very bland and tasteless. And food in Europe is very expensive and with skimpy portions.

Pompeii, is an excavated city which was covered with lava and ash when Mt, Vesuvius blew up in 79 AD. Thousands of people were killed instantly. I enjoyed going through all the excavated homes and stores of Pompeii. Pompeii was the highlight of my trip!

I was so happy to boarding the plane going back to the good ole United States. I have no desire to go anywhere in Europe again! We live in the best country on this planet and that's where I will spent all of my vacations in the future! God bless the United States of America!

I am glad I survived Italy!

Chow, and 73, George, K8KR

This month we are starting a new feature to the Wobbly Oscillator, called "SHOW US YOUR SHACK", which will show off a member's radio station. So take a couple of photos of your station and send them in along with a brief description of what we are looking at. Ed.

SHOW US YOUR SHACK

The shack of Gary Dewey, N18Z



The station is set up with 4 monitors. The radio on the left is an Icom756 pro2 with the PW1 remote head on the top right with 2 lighted meters. The radio on the right under the multilight is a Yaesu FT5000. Under that just beneath the lower shelf is a Flex 3000. There is a computer controlling the Icom behind the keyboard on the left. The small keyboard on the right works on both the Flex and the computer under the desk (in the dark area not visible). The right monitor have HRD and DM780 split . Under the right monitor with Dm780 is the Elecraft KPA500

CARS DUES REMINDER

If you haven't yet paid your 2015 dues for your CARS membership, you're late! You will have until the end of February before you will be removed from the CARS membership roster. Get them in asap by mailing a check to Bob Check at his home address of 7395 Brecksville Rd, Independence, OH 44131 or you can pay via PayPal or at the next meeting.

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles appearing in 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 emailed to newsletter@2cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

By reading this, you have committed yourself to attending as many CARS membership meetings as possible and to take part in as many CARS functions as possible, including checking in on the CARS weekly net on the 146.82 repeater on Wednesday evenings at 9:00 P.M. local time.

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

HOW TIME FLIES

It's February already, and time to start thinking about going to the Dayton Hamvention® once again. It's only 3 months away. There has been some talk of CARS sponsoring a bus this year. We'll see if there's enough interest to make this happen. I know a lot of people depended on the bus to Dayton in order to attend the Hamvention®. I normally drive down with a friend and attend all 3 days, but if taking a bus was the only way I could go, that's what I would do. I haven't ordered my ticket yet but I will be soon. As usual, I don't really *need* anything but I just enjoy the event itself. The huge flea market, seeing the new rigs, and dreaming of owning one or two of them. So if everything goes right and the creek don't rise, I'll be there gain this year for the duration.

THINGS THAT GET MY GOAT

As some of you know, one of my pet peeves is hams saying "73's" instead of 73. The term 73 in hamspeak means "best regards". You wouldn't say *best regardses*, now would you? But the biggest issue that gets my goat is people kerchunking the repeater all day long and into the evening, especially just before the CARS net takes place. If you want to see if your radio is working simply identify yourself when you key up the repeater by saying "this is (your callsign) testing or listening". Who knows, maybe someone will come back to you and you can strike up a conversation. By just keying up the repeater without identifying yourself, you are breaking the law. Yes, it is illegal to do that! There is a perhaps little known way to tell if someone is kerchunking. Besides the usual courtesy tone, if the repeater identifies and a courtesy tone follows, then someone has just kerchunked the repeater. If the repeater identifies and there is no courtesy tone following, then it is just the repeater identifying as it is scheduled to do. So we always know when someone has kerchunked the repeater, and again, **IT IS ILLEGAL TO DO SO WITHOUT IDENTIFYING YOURSELF!** There, I've got that off my chest.... for now. That's enough ranting for this month.

DX ENGINEERING

On Saturday, January 10th, four of us took a trip to Talmadge Ohio, home of DX Engineering, which was holding it's first MFJ Day. For those of you that have never been there, DX Engineering is inside the huge building that houses Summit Racing. It occupies a small kiosk near the back of the building and you can order via a computer right there, and pick up your order shortly afterwards. For this event they had great prices on returned items, open boxes, etc. They had some great deals on coax. It was well attended and I understand they are going to have events like this more often in the future. MFJ had the same kind of display of their products as they do at the Hamvention®. There were sales people to an take your order or to answer questions, and MFJ's owner Martin F. Jue, K5FLU was there himself greeting and talking to hams. DX Engineering's general manager, Tim Duffy, K3LR was also on hand, hosting the event. Tim came to one of our meetings last year and gave a nice talk. They had a drawing every half hour and NI8Z won a nice speaker. We spend a few hours there and left in time to make the QCWA quarterly luncheon.

QRT FOR NOW

It's time to wrap it up for this month. Hope to catch you on the net, (no kerchunking now) and at the next meeting. It has been mentioned to me how quiet the repeater is both during the day and evening. There are a few "regulars" that get on the repeater daily, but not many. Use your privileges, get on the air!

73, de Tom, WB8N

FROM THE GEARVAKf (the f is silent) BULLETIN

GOVERNMENT SETS WALKING RULES

In the wake of alarming reports of pedestrian deaths, the National Transportation Board (NTSB) has issued

Continued on next page...

safety regulations for all walkers, hikers, strollers, joggers, and runners. Effective June 1st., 2015, all persons using public facilities for personal foot transportation must be licensed by the federal government. Licensees must attend special pedestrian training courses before licenses will be issued. The new regulations require pedestrians to wear standard safety equipment including helmets, knee and elbow guards, chest protectors, high-visibility reflective clothing, and approved footwear appropriate for the type of activity. The rules will apply to all areas, whether urban, suburban, or rural. Separate, more restrictive rules will govern pedestrian activities within city, state, and national parks, as well as in privately owned public facilities. At present, the NTSB has no plans to apply the rules to privately owned dwellings and real estate. License application may be picked up at any U.S. Post Office and must be submitted with a \$25 registration fee. (KVM5149 & K8DMZ)

GEARVAKf INCOME TAX SOFTWARE

A most excellent and awesome new income tax software is about to be released from the GEARVAKf Micro Labs! At last, an income tax software that will be absolutely user friendly! Exceptional effort and research has been invested to produce a fault proof system that will produce a signable tax reporting product each and every time. And, IT COULDN'T BE MORE USER FRIENDLY! Simply enter your annual income on line one, add your desired refund on line two and que the GEARVAKf ultimate 1040 5-EZ-WIZ95 software. The system will then generate all the needed tax forms, plus supporting receipts, claims and vouchers to substantiate your requested refund. It's that simple. Due out in Beta version without fail, on April 16, this stunning new software will be the greatest thing since sliced bread. For advance orders, use the simple order blank 1040-YD. (KB8WFH & W8LCZ)

GROUP DEMANDS INTERNET BAN

A well known computer activist group, Internet Control Inc. (ICI), has demanded that the government immediately ban all internet access because it makes people want to kill themselves. According to the group's

spokesperson, J. Percival Birdwheel, ICI wants all internet access forbidden except for government law enforcement agencies. "After all," he said, "there's no need for the common citizen to have instant access to the world's information when they're incapable of understanding it." Mr. Birdwheel explained that "private use of the internet is dangerous and the only reason people use it is to kill or maim somebody." He said that most Americans don't need internet access because "all the information they need is already available from approved sources such as libraries and government agencies." (N8JR & K8DMZ)

VP PROPOSES WAITING PERIOD

The Vice President of the United States, who wants to put the internet in all schools, claims he is "not forcing innocent children into a life of suicide." Even though he was criticized for supporting young peoples access to the internet, he claimed that "they have a constitutional right to internet access at school just the same as they have a right to get condoms there." He proposed that the supposed problems of the internet access would be solved if Congress passes legislation requiring a 5 day waiting period before each access to an internet address can be completed. "It would mandate a cooling-off period so that known, potential internet criminals could be weeded out by the police" he said. (KVM5149)

TRAP CALLS FOR CODE SPEED

TRAP (Traditionalist Radio Amateur Program) has called on the Federal Radio Commission to raise the code speed for all licensees to 45 wpm. They said that if a ham is going to use Morse Code on the air that they should be able to send and copy at 45 wpm. The also called for an end to single-sideband transmissions on all frequencies and a return to AM voice only.

Remember, Ham Radio is the last line of communication before the coming apocalypse - Mike Baxter, KA0XTT



Sign up now for CARS Spring Ham Radio classes, get your Technician, General or Extra class license!

**Thursday evenings starting February 26, 2015 **
and ending April 9, 2015 at 7:00pm**

**** Please arrive between 6:15 and 6:30 pm on Thursday February 26th only
for orientation and to receive your class materials
*April 9th will be a special VE Test session for all license classes,
ARRL fee for this VE test is \$15.00***

**To register please follow the link at www.2cars.org and complete
the on-line application or call 216-524-1750 Bob, W8GC**

***Classes will be held at the Seven Hill City Hall, 7325 Summit View Dr
Seven Hills, OH 44131 in room "C" at 6:45 pm every Thursday.
The entrance is at the East end on the South side of building***

**class fees: Technician \$25.00 (all who pass get a free CARS membership for
2015), General and Extra \$20.00 non members or \$15.00 CARS members,
fee's include all class materials**