



CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The Wobbly Oscillator



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2003

Volume XXXII

Issue XI

FROM THE PREZ

Thanks for the great turnout at our October meeting.

Toby KC8TID was back after passing his extra class exam and provided the night's refreshments.

Kayla KC8RYH collected \$54.00 for the 50/50 drawing this month. Pat Dressler was the winner and her share was \$27.00. Two tickets to the Shania Twain concert were donated by W8GC, and won by Jack W8JAK

Both JOTA on October 18th and the Copley school outing on October 23rd were a success. Please see www.cars.org for details. At JOTA we had over 50 scouts, leaders and parents attend. At the Arrowhead school in Copley we gave a hands on Ham radio demonstration to 332 students. All received a Certificate of Participation and stations worked were sent a QSL Certificate of Participation, details can be seen at www.cars.org. Below are pictures from JOTA and the Copley school, can you identify our members?

10 of the 12 students in our extra class passed the exam. The other 2 did not take the test congratulations to all.

We will be voting for our 2004 officers at the



JOTA October 18, 2003

November meeting so please try to attend. We also have 2 special guests Brenda Krukowski KB8IUP, our ARRL ACC (Affiliated Club Coordinator) and her husband will join us for a 2nd visit.

de, Bob W8GC



Arrowhead school October 23, 2003

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COME TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING. C U THERE!

MINUTES OF CARS MEETING of October 15, 2003

The meeting, which was held at the Busch Funeral Home Community Room in Parma, Ohio, was called to order at 7:30PM by President, Bob Check, W8GC.

Ev, WA8EYF made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2003 meeting as reported in the W. O. Seconded by Kayla, KC8RYH. A vote was taken and passed.

Mike, KB8UGT gave the treasurer's report. Bob, W8GC reported on the success of the Extra Class license class. Congratulations to the successful students.

Gordon W8GTK reported on the Wednesday night 2 meter net.

Website comments were given by Dave K8DAV. See events at www.cars.org. The technical report was given by Bob W8GC.

Bernie Vido KC8YJB was introduced by Bob W8GC for membership to CARS. Dave K8DAV made a motion to accept Bernie KC8YJB into the club and seconded by Bill WA8GEO. A vote was taken and passed.

Tom WB8N reported on the WO and on the Diabetes Walk-a thon. October 11, 2003 thanking all members who volunteered.

The Christmas Party will be on Friday December 19, 2003 starting at 7:00PM at the Independence Community Center as related to us by Gary NI8Z. Tickets are \$15.00 adults \$7.50 for 12 and under. Get your Tickets from Steve NI8S, Tina W8HBI, Tom WB8N and Gary NI8Z.

Steve N8IS reported on the JOTA Event to be held on Saturday October 18, 2003 and on the club jackets which will soon be available.

The Arrowhead School event to be held in Copley on Thursday October 23, 2003 was discussed by Dave KD8V, he also reported on the Restored Copley Railroad Station Museum.

A discussion was opened by Bob W8GC on the proposed changes to Article II Board of Directors Section 1 and 2 of the By Laws as read at the September 17, 2003 meeting. A vote was taken and passed.

At the November 19, 2003 meeting Brenda Krukowski KB8IUP, our ACC (Affiliated Club Coordinator) and her husband will join us.

Bob W8GC opened the nominations for Officers for 2004. 3 even year Board Members to be elected: George K8KR, Gary NI8Z and Steve N8IS were nominated. Treasurer: Gary NI8Z nominated Mike KB8UGT. Secretary: Gary nominated Tina W8HBI and Don KC8NIX nominated Ron K8VJG. Vice President: Steve N8IS nominated Toby KC8TID. President: Terry KB8DTC nominated Bob W8GC. All accepted the nominations, Gary NI8Z moved to close the nominations, seconded by Phil KA8EOW, passed.

Bob W8GC ask for a volunteer to be chairman for the Dayton Bus Trip in 2004. Terry KB8DTC stepped up for the job.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Pat Dressler. Her share was \$27.00.

Two tickets to the Shania Twain concert were donated by W8GC, and won by Jack W8JAK.

Bob KC8MRC made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Bill WA8GEO.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM by Bob W8GC.

Following the meeting a video on the Ten-Tec Factory in Sevierville, Tennessee featuring the Jupiter transceiver was shown. Respectfully submitted by Ron K8VJG, Secy.

VICE PRESIDENT'S INTERVIEW

Hope you are all getting ready for the cooler temperatures and have your Antenna work all done. This month my interview is with Bill Savage WA8GEO.

Steve: How did you become interested in Amateur Radio, what got you started ?

Bill: Actually, I became interested after my cousin, Greg WA8DLE invited me over to see
Continued next page....

his station. After that, I took action, taking the test and getting my ticket, tech plus class. Greg now lives in Deltona, Florida with the call WA4ELB. He's an Extra.

My first rig was an HE-35, 5 watts crystal controlled AM to a 4 element Finco 6 meter beam.

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

Bill: I've been licensed since 1962 and currently hold a General Class License.

Steve: What do you like about Ham Radio?

Bill: Meeting new people on the air and exchanging information about equipment. Building and testing antennas and sometimes just listening.

Steve: What are your favorite bands to work?

Bill: I like 2, 6, 10 and 20 meters.

Steve: Do you collect QSL Cards, If so, how many confirmed countries do you have?

Bill: I've sent out alot of QSL's and I've mostly gotten returns on local (continental US) contacts. Nothing international as yet, but as my antenna farm grows, so will the list of contacts.

Steve: What types of Awards or Recognition have you won or been awarded with ?

Bill: ARRL Public Service Award for tornado disaster operations.

Steve: What other hobby's do you have besides Ham Radio ?

Bill: Photography, Target Shooting, Aviation, Science Fiction.

Steve: What would your dream station consist of and where would it be?

Bill: A location higher than where I am now, a nice antenna farm, and of course 1 KW to 1.5 KW of power.

Steve: What type of work do you do? Or if retired, what did you do?

Bill: Presently I am retired, but I have worked in quality control as a QC supervisor for the antenna division of Tenna Corporation. Also in sales and was the service head for Sun TV's W 130th store.

I hope you all enjoyed getting to know Bill Savage WA8GEO better.... Very interesting

that he was quality control supervisor for the antenna division of Tenna Corporation. Maybe Bill knows some antenna secrets he might want to share with the rest of us. Steve, N8IS

A FEW WORDS FROM GORDON, W8GTK

I would just like to say thank you to Tom WB8N for taking over the weekly net duties while myself and Toby KC8TID were attending the Extra Class that the CARS group provided.

The class was a very well organized and very well thought out, the teaching staff was top notch! Our club president Bob W8GC, headed up the class along with K8DAV Dave who worked very hard on the CD that was used in the class along with weekly study guides.

Thanks to Gary N18Z, Ron K8VJG, Steve N8IS. Each one of the people mentioned took their turn teaching one of the classes.

Each week we would take a 30 question quiz from the material that we had studied during the week prior. It was an excellent way to see how the class was doing, and after grading the quiz we would have class room discussion. The CD that we used went along with the weekly studies and you could take practice tests as you saw fit. It was a great way to study for this very tough test.

The class had a very high success rate, 12 people started the class, one person had to drop the class due to work scheduling and one was not ready on test day. As for the 10 people, including myself, that took the test and passed. WAY TO GO!!!

Thanks once again to the fine teaching staff! If they hadn't taught the class I would not be an Extra and you would not be reading this article. I hope to hear you on the Bands, in the Extra portion that is.

73, de Gordon, W8GTK

BIRTHDAY'S

October

K8AAB Bob Evans 10-4-41
KB8VJQ Carol Shaw 10-27-34
N8GXR James Glor 10-22-49
KC8TID Toby Kolman 10-4-48
WA8EYF Ev Chitester 10-22-
K8DAV Dave Kushman 10-3-44

November

KB8QJA Pete Gerard 11-28-35
KC8LDI Ryan Dressler 11-26
KC8OUH Jeff Venecek 11-7-52
N8UIR Thomas J Powell 11-12-66
WA8ERA Lee Georgia 11-13-43
WB8ROK Edward Stevens 11-27-2

LIGHTHOUSE EVENTS

by Toby Kolman, WT8O (ex kc8tid)

The ARLHS LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS QSO PARTY - LCL - 2003 will run from December 20, 2003 (0001 UTC / 7:01 PM EST) to January 4, 2004 (2359 UTC / 6:59 PM EST). This is a great opportunity for anyone curious about the lighthouse contests to gain first hand experience.

These are fun events and all participants will appreciate your contact. What a fine way to try out that new piece of equipment you bought yourself for Christmas. Suggested SSB frequencies are 1970, 3970, 7270, 14.270, 21.370 28.370 (all +/- 20kHz).

All modes are used and the suggested frequencies can be found on the Amateur Radio Light House Society website www.arlhs.com or employ the link from the CARS website, just click on the ARLHS logo at the top right corner of the home page. Scoring and log entry details are also there as well.

By the way, submit your logs, the ARLHS publishes all entries in their newsletter, and it doesn't take that many points to get into the thick of things. So c'mon, join the party, and have some fun.

The best way to do lighthouse events is, of course, to set up a portable station at a lighthouse. Many participants operate from their cars in close proximity of a lighthouse. The advantage to be at a lighthouse is more stations will try to contact you to get more points. CARS has a great

opportunity to do lighthouse events from our station aboard the William G. Mather museum ship. The ship is close to two lighthouses and can use both to increase our points to contacts. We used the station in an August event and it worked quite well.

The holiday season is busy for all, but I would like to get down to the Mather at least once during the Christmas Lights QSO Party to operate. If anyone is interested please contact me at 440-572 1544 or wt8o@aol.com and I'm sure we can team up to coordinate our efforts and enjoy a unique radio experience. The lighthouse program for next year is really looking bright.

Our biggest problem last year was portable equipment to set up a station. This has changed. I now have an Icom 746 available for the events. Several antenna projects are also in the works. So we will be able to set up at least one station at any of the area lighthouses.

I still am a committee of one, so a volunteer to help would be greatly appreciated.

Once again, check out the ARLHS website, just a click away from your WO.

73 de Toby WT8O

SOLAR MESS

By Dave Kushman, K8DAV

If you are trying to work dx lately, you couldn't have not noticed the poor conditions. At 1929 UTC on Nov. 4, a flare measuring X17 on the GOES-12 X-ray sensor took place and lasted until 1956 UTC.

The GOES satellite sensor became saturated and there is the possibility that the flare exceeded X20. This then caused an extreme R5 radio blackout. What this means to us hams is, not only are we on the way down in this sunspot cycle, what there is of it, is getting clobbered by one highly active sun.

Fortunately these do not usually last very long and conditions return to their "highly average" to poor status.

Hopefully by the time you read this, the sun may have returned to normal activity. Wouldn't it be nice to get on 10 meters with 5 watts and work the world again. Probably not going to happen but we sure could use a break.

Soon there will be Solar Alert notifications on the home page.

73, Dave K8DAV

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

END OF THE YEAR SPECIAL

Hi Everyone. Once again we are near the end of another year. There's lots happening and lots of stuff has happened over the past year. We did Dayton, Field Day, two public service events for the American Diabetes Assn. we demonstrated Amateur Radio for the kids at the Arrowhead Elementary School in Copley, we did the Jamboree On The Air with the Scouts, there were several lighthouse operations during the year, CARS sponsored and held license classes, Gary and his VE team did the semi-monthly VE test sessions and we have election of officers at this month's meeting. Next month is the annual CARS Christmas Party. Whew! Quite a busy year, wouldn't you say? We also have had some very interesting guests speak at our meetings and had some very interesting programs put on by our guests and also our members. No one can say that CARS is not an active club! I for one am proud to be a member! Wonder what the next year will have in store for us???

ANTENNA WORK

I don't have any antenna work that needs to be attended to before the snow flies, and I know that there has been a lot of activity among our members of late, notably our President and Vice President, as well as others. Hope you have all your antenna work done for the season. I have to start thinking about getting my Christmas lights up on the house before it gets too cold out. I ought to string up lights on my tower and rig it so that every time I transmit they go on! Wow! What do you think that would look like every time I transmitted CW ?

LAST ISSUE FOR 2003

Before I forget, this is the last issue of the Wobbly Oscillator for the year. Gonna take a break for December. The next issue will be published early January.

MEMBERSHIP

I want to welcome the new members we have brought into CARS over the past year. Glad you joined us and hope you remain a member. There have been some members who have dropped out for one reason or another, and hopefully they will

come back to be with us some day. We have a great group of members. There are several members that do not come to meetings for one reason or another as well. I hope that they read this and make an effort to attend at least one meeting in the coming year. I know that some work when the meetings are held, or they live quite a distance from the meeting location. Some members join just to support the repeater and are not interested in the club activities. That's their prerogative. There are members that don't even use the repeater...which I cannot understand myself, but again, that's their prerogative. Members belong for their own reasons and I am just glad that they picked CARS to belong to.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

We should thank the chairmen of the various committees for the past year as well. There are too many to name here (because I cannot remember all of them) but they are listed on the Committee/Officers page at the end of the newsletter. Without them there are a lot of activities that CARS does or participates in that would not get done or participated in! These guys give of their own time to get things organized, finalized, done, and whatever it takes regarding their particular committee. There are other volunteers as well who head up special event stations, and other activities that are not covered under a particular committee. We need to give them praise here as well, as they have done a fine job! These people are the unsung heroes of the CARS organization that keep the club going. Thanks to one and all!

SEE YA NEXT YEAR

Well, that's gonna do it for this time folks. Hope to see ya'll in 2004. Guess I'll still be the newsletter editor, unless someone else wants to take over the job...any takers???? I hope to see a bunch of you at the Christmas party. It should be a great time, as it was last year. Hey Gary...what's on the agenda for the entertainment...I mean that is socially acceptable for women and children?

I hope everyone has a great holiday season!

73, de Tom, WB8N

CARS 2003 Committees

American Red Cross Disaster liaison
Everett WA8EYF ** 216-581-3657

ARRL Liaison & media representative
Don KC8NIX** Carol KC8TIE**216-524-4910

CBARC Liaison
Dwayne K8ME 440-582-3462

Community Education & School Program
Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721
Steve N8IS ** 216-328-0432 , Ron K8VJG

Dayton Bus
Terry KB8DTC ** 330-273-1043
Bob W8GC

Elmer
George K8KR ** 216-941-5304

Field Day
Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193
Aaron KC8INE , Bob W8GC, Steve N8IS Gary
NI8Z, all members

Ham License classes
Bob W8GC** Gary, NI8Z ** Tom WB8N,
Steve N8IS, Don KC8NIX, Ron K8VJG,
Bruce N8DJX, George K8KR, Dave K8DAV

Interference & Jamming
W8GC** NI8Z, N8IS, N8TCP, WB8N

JOTA
Steve, N8IS** KC8NIX**, KC8TIE, W8HBI,
N8KAY

Lighthouse events
Toby WT8O ** 440-572-1544, Bob W8GC
Steve N8IS

Museum Ship W. G. Mather, W8WGM
Bob W8GC ** Lin WD8SDP ** Steve N8IS, Gary
NI8Z, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP, Dennis AB8NI,
Mike KB8UGT
Bruce N8DJX, Toby KC8TID, Ron K8VJG

Membership
Ron K8VJG ** Bob W8GC

NET
Gordon W8GTK **

WO/Newsletter
Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193
W8HBI, W8GC

Program director
Gary NI8Z, ** 216-642-8705

QSL manager-NO8A & W8WGM
Tom WB8N ** 440-232-4193

Refreshments & 50/50
Toby WT8O ** 440-572-1544
50/50 Kayla N8KAY

Sunshine (welfare)
Dave KD8V ** 330-666-8721

Technical
Roy KB8VJF ** Bob W8GC **
Terry KB8DTC, Vince N8OVW
Dave K8DAV, Tom WB8N

VE exams
Gary NI8Z ** 216-642-8705

Web Master/e-mail
Dave K8DAV ** 440-243-3593
Bob W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

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CARS Christmas Party, Friday December 19, 2003 7:00p.m. at the Independence Civic Center, call Steve N8IS 216-328-0432 or see Tina W8HBI, Gary, NI8Z or Tom WB8N for tickets or reservations.

This years theme is "SNOWMAN".