



# CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

## The Wobbly Oscillator



MARCH 2004                      Volume XXXIII                      Issue II

### FROM THE PREZ

Thanks to all who attended our February meeting. Carol, KC8TIE could not make the meeting but dropped a good supply of refreshments off to Tina W8HBI & Steve N8IS to bring to the meeting. Kayla KC8RYH was sick so Steve N8IS collected \$46.00 for the 50/50 drawing this month, I won the 50/50 raffle, both the club and I picked up an extra \$23.00. The Technician class finished Wednesday February 18 and all passed the VE exam. We will have 4 new CARS members at the next meeting, KC8ZBM, KC8ZBN, KC8ZBO & KC8ZBP. The Extra class started February 25, 2004 with 8 prospective new Extra class Hams. We now have a code class scheduled along with another General class. If you are interested please go to [www.cars.org](http://www.cars.org) and complete the application or call me at 216-524-1750.

Anyone interested in "Fox Hunting" call or e-mail Mike K8EHP (216-252-6640) or myself (216-524-1750). We will be starting workshops to build antennas and attenuator's for the Fox Hunting season the kit cost will be \$15.00 complete for both (members only). 14 have already signed up. Come and join this fun area of Ham Radio. All you need is an HT and what we build at the workshops plus Mike's instruction to enjoy Fox Hunting.

Spring is almost here and we will be getting back to complete the W.G. Mather station. We now have the amplifier ready and only have some other minor work to complete so its time to think about getting an operating schedule in place. Please contact me at [president@cars.org](mailto:president@cars.org) or call me at 216-216-524-1750 if you are interested in being on the operating list for the Mather station. We will have the station going on regular days, plus special events.

Reservations for the Dayton bus are coming in at a good rate. If you want to go please get your reservation in by going to [www.cars.org](http://www.cars.org). Last year the bus filled up early, don't miss a good time on the 2004 bus to Dayton.

We will have a very interesting program on contesting and be voting on a few changes to the By-Laws and Constitution so please try to attend the March 17 meeting.

I will leave you with this old saying:

*A positive attitude may not solve all of your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.*

73, de Bob, W8GC

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|---|---|
| From the Prez.....  | 1 |
| Meeting Minutes.....  | 2 |
| Where's My Rig.....   | 2 |
| Important Notice, Birthdays, New Members, Dave's Experiment.....  | 3 |
| Evolution of Prefixes.....  | 4 |
| Random Wire.....  | 6 |
| Special Service Club Status.....  | 6 |
| Officers/Committees.....  | 7 |
| Ye who take the time to read the words in this box have committed yourselves to joining and taking part in at least one of the several CARS committees! |   |

## **MINUTES of the FEBRUARY MEETING**

President Bob Check, W8GC called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM held at the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, OH.

Introductions were made around the room.

A motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2004 meeting was made by Dave K8DAV and seconded by Ron K8VJG. A vote was taken and passed.

President Check announced that several members were out sick due to various ailments. Dave KD8V announced that he sent a card to WB8N's wife because she was hospitalized for almost a week and another card because WB8N's mother-in-law passed away.

Tina W8HBI announced that all Club information has been updated with the ARRL and that we have qualified as a Special Service Club for another 2 years.

It was announced that all four technician class students passed their license tests tonight. And that the Extra Class starts next week.

Gordon W8GTK reported that Wednesday night nets have been picking up and participation has been great.

It was announced that 12 reservations for the Dayton Bus have been received and 6 payments have come in. Cost is \$35.00 and the bus can hold up to 42 people.

Dave K8DAV reported that the website will soon be updated with a link on how to obtain a vanity call sign.

President Check informed us that 1 new application for membership has come in for Bill Sarver KC8YSV. Toby WT8O made a motion to accept the membership. Steve N8IS seconded. A vote was taken and passed, KC8YSV was voted in as new member.

Tom WB8N reported on the WO. Keep the articles coming in and support the club.

Toby WT8O, reported that 3 lighthouse events are scheduled this year. In April at the Mather for Spring Lights and two in August that will be held at near actual lighthouses.

Toby also reported on what the committee recommends for changes to the by-laws and constitution. All present members at the meeting received a copy of the proposed changes. Anyone

who would like a copy that wasn't at the meeting should contact the Secretary, Tina W8HBI at 216-328-0432

or by e-mail [W8HBI@CARS.ORG](mailto:W8HBI@CARS.ORG).

A motion was made by Toby to lay over any discussion and vote until the next meeting in March. The motion was seconded by Phil, KA8EOW. A vote was taken and passed.

The treasurers report was made by Mike KB8UGT and he advised that notices are going out to people who still owe for 2004 dues. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made by Steve N8IS and seconded by Gordon W8GTK. A vote was taken and passed.

Bob, W8GC reminded all in attendance that Jim Stahl K8MR will be attending our March 17th meeting to talk about operating in contests.

Tonight Mike K8EPH will be giving a presentation on direction finding tools and fox hunts.

Bob W8GC announced that Dennis AB8NI has contacted the Indian Hills Radio Club regarding a meeting they are holding to promote ham radio. Dennis will report back after the first meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bob W8GC. His share was \$23.00

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave K8DAV and seconded by Mike K8EHP. A vote was taken and passed. W8GC adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Tina Check, W8HBI

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## **WHERE OH WHERE IS MY RIG?**

Member Bob Ozog gave an early 60's Grundig short wave radio to someone in attendance at a meeting to be checked out and to find out what was the reason it was not working correctly and for possible repair.

Bob cannot recall who this person was and would like this person to come forward and either contact him at a meeting or e-mail him at: [robertozog@hotmail.com](mailto:robertozog@hotmail.com).

He would greatly appreciate it.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Starting with the April issue of the WO we will be using Adobe 6.0. It has been out for about 2 years now and most are changing to the newer format.

To update from Adobe reader 5.0 to 6.0, go to <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html> and download a free reader. You must remove your Adobe 5.0 reader before installing the new Adobe 6.0 reader.

The new Adobe reader 6.0 will read older PDF files but Adobe 5.0 will not support Adobe 6.0 PDF files.

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## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

K8EHP, Michael Cegelski 3-2-42  
KA8KPB, Blaine Coleman 3-18-46  
KB8DTC, Terry Pillatt 3-18-46  
KB8FIH, Richard Dombrowski 3-7-45  
KB8QHJ, Marc Rubin 3-25-66  
N8DJX, Bruce Bacik 3-31-42  
WA8LOB, Nick Markovic 3-22-36  
WD8OMK, Raymond Severyn 3-11-62  
WD8SDP, Lin Shaw 3-1-32  
WA8SSQ, Tony Hackenberg 3-20  
NO2O, Fred Partis 3-20  
KC8FVN, Don Peters III 3-22  
KC8EPX, Myra Severyn 3-8

Congratulations to one and all. Happy B-Day!

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**Don't Forget to Check Into the CARS  
Weekly Net, every Wednesday Evening at  
7:00 P.M. Local Time. Remember, this is  
your net, so check in...say hi, try to answer  
the Trivia Question of the Week! Use that  
Rig for something other than gathering dust!**

## NEW MEMBERS NOTICE

Robert Snyder KC8ZBM  
3424 Rhapsody Ln.  
Clinton, OH 44216

Stuart Kleiner KC9ZBO  
3270 Warrensville Ctr. Rd. #109  
Shaker Hts, OH 44122

Marian Rubin KC8ZBN  
8597 Ottawa Dr.  
Brecksville, OH 44141

Sharon Andrisin KC8ZBP  
7730 Fleger Dr.  
Parma, OH 44134

Darren Turk K8DMT  
7606 Snow Rd  
Parma, OH 44129

Stephen Jones KC8DJV  
2938 Fair Oaks Dr  
Norton, Ohio 44203

**Welcome aboard fellas and gals!**

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## EXPERIMENTS BY DAVE, K8DAV

I don't know if any members entered the ARRL Frequency Measurement Test last November but I did.

My equipment was nothing but the most "state of the art"; an Icom 725, a BC-221 and an old scope. Anybody can use GPS. I received my results today and I was off -93.3 Hz (-26.02 ppm) on 80 and -190.1Hz (-26.96 ppm) on 40. I guess age has either made my calibrated eyes slip or my fingers slipped during calibration. Next I might try our fox hunts and you better believe that I will be using similar "state of the art" equipment!

73, Dave

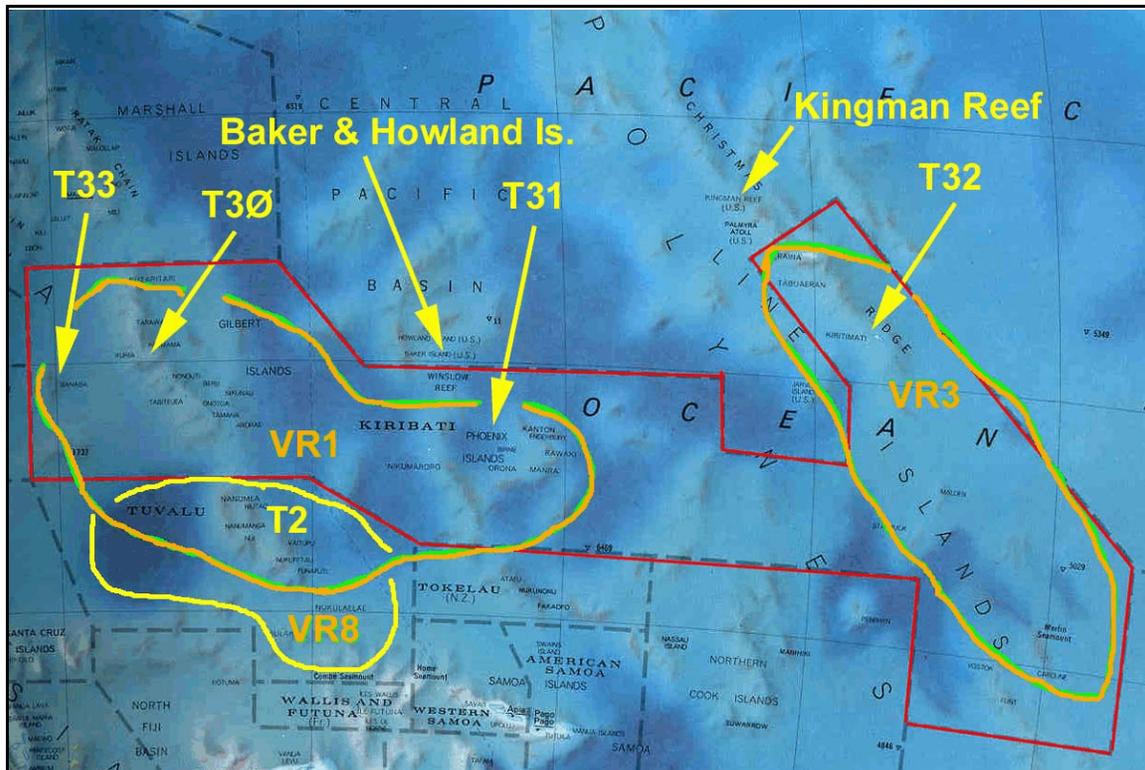
# The Evolution of Prefixes VR1 & VR3 to Prefixes VR8, T2, T3Ø, T31, T32, & T33

by Barry Johnson - W4WB

North Alabama DX Club <http://www.nadxc.org>

Recently, I was looking at some old QSL cards and noticed that one was from VR1G confirming a QSO back in 1962. The top of the QSL had printed "Gilbert & Ellice Is. Colony, Central Pacific" while the operator John Walker had "Ocean Island" printed beneath his name. As an aside, this was a SSB to DSB QSO, which was not uncommon during those transition years from AM to SSB. If you look in "The ARRL DXCC List" Prefix Cross References, you will observe that VR1 before 1980 is to be counted as T3. Okay, what is T3? There are now four T3s. After a call to Wayne Mills at the ARRL DXCC Office to attempt to understand how to apply T3 in general, I decided to look into the history of this Central Pacific region shown in the map below. While under British rule, this vast Central Pacific region was divided into two DXCC entities, viz., VR1 and VR3 as shown on the map.

While under British rule, this vast Central Pacific region was divided into two DXCC entities, viz., VR1 and VR3 as shown on the map.



The British discovered the Gilbert Islands in 1764 and they were made a protectorate in 1892. In 1915, these islands were elevated to a colony with the Ellice Islands. Later in 1975, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands were separated and each given internal self-government. The Gilbert Islands became the nation of Kiribati (pronounced "Ki-ri-bas"), or generically designated T3 at the time. The red lines indicate the boundaries of present day Kiribati. In 1976, Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands became the head of the new Kiribati Government, or T3Ø, and was then designated as West Kiribati in 1979.

The Ellice Islands were sighted in 1568 by Alvaro de Mendenña de Neira and became a British protectorate

in 1892. In 1915, they were annexed with the Gilbert Islands. When the Ellice Islands were separated from the Gilbert Islands, they became known as Tuvalu, and designated VR8 during the transition period 1976 till 1979. In 1979, Tuvalu became designated T2. The Phoenix Islands became a part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony in 1937 (however, see below for U.S. involvement). They are also called Rawaki and became T31 in 1979. Ocean Is. was also made a part of the Gilbert & Ellice I. Colony and has always been a part of Kiribati. Its original name, and current name, is Banaba Island. When it was discovered, it was noted that **Ocean Island is nothing but a vast pinnacle up-thrust out of the depths, built upon by reef-building coral polyps. Not a paradise to be sure and it is basically uninhabited now.** The British had found a rich source of guano to mine, which began to become exhausted in time. **In the nick of time for the phosphate trading company, it was discovered that the island had a huge amount of the purest phosphate of lime yet discovered by man in a natural state. In the late 1970's, this too became exhausted and the native residents of Banaba Is. purchased the** island of Rambi (also Rabi) in distant Fiji that was for a time administered from the Republic of Kiribati capital. This bit of digging into the history made me wonder why the island of Rambi, some 1600 miles from Banaba Island, wasn't a separate DXCC entity during this period with the potential prefix of T34. In any case, Rambi Is. is now again a part of Fiji and the Banabans enjoy their culture protected by the Fiji Government. When Kiribati gained self-rule, Banaba Is. became T3Ø since it was considered with the Gilbert Islands as East Kiribati. In the mid-1980s, Banaba became a new DXCC entity, T33, but that's another story.

The collection of Islands, Gilbert & Ellice I., Ocean Island, and the Phoenix Islands, was formerly designated with the prefix VR1 until Kiribati gained self-rule and Ellice Island was separated. The Line Islands cover a large area of the Pacific Ocean and includes Christmas Island (now Kiritimati), which is said to be the world's largest atoll in land area, this area had the prefix VR3. One of the islands is called Starbuck Island, but I'll bet you would have a hard time finding a good cup of coffee there. Once Kiribati was formed, it wanted to claim the Phoenix Islands and most of the Line Islands. Since before WWII, the British and the U.S. each laid claim to certain of the islands in each group, and exercised joint control by agreement. In order to achieve the Kiribati objective, the U.S. relinquished all claims to the sparsely inhabited Phoenix and Line Island groups in a 1979 treaty of friendship with Kiribati. The Phoenix Island Group then became Central Kiribati, or T31, and the Line Island Group became East Kiribati, or T32. Wayne recalled that there was a question in the past over the proper counting of Ellice Island (Tuvalu) in the three-month period between when they were legally separated from the Gilbert Islands in October 1975 and the actual hand-over of authority on 01 January 1976. Lloyd and Iris Colvin operated there as VR1Z at the end of 1975 and the beginning of 1976. Resolution was that it counted as VR1 until January 1, 1976, when it began being counted as T2. As far as how the VR1G QSL card I have counts, it clearly counts as T33.

For those of you needing T33, the T33C, Spring 2004 Banaba DXpedition team, has completed the loading of a shipping container containing almost 5 tons of materials, which is now on the way to Kiribati. Check out their web-site (<http://www.dx-pedition.de/banaba2004/pictures-index.html>) to learn more about the DXpedition, their equipment, and how to maximize your QSOs with them. They are offering an interesting QSL option as well.

For some years, Kiribati has attempted to, and continues attempting to, gain control over the Baker & Howland Isl. (annexed by the U.S. in 1935), Kingman Reef (annexed by the U.S. in 1922), Palmyra (annexed by the U.S. in 1898), and Jarvis Is. (annexed by the U.S. in 1936). There is some thought that the U.S. Government may consider turning one or more of these islands over to Kiribati in return for certain rights and concessions (whatever that means). If that happens, the islands turned over to Kiribati will become deleted entities in all likelihood.

*Editors note: The author of this article, Barry Johnson W4WB, is a friend of C.A.R.S. President, Bob Check.*

## THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom, WB8N

### HEAT-WAVE

As I sit here at the ole computer, writing my article for this month's issue of the W.O., it is nearly 80 degrees outdoors! Wow! Great weather for doing antenna or tower work! Too bad it won't last! We'll have to wait for some stability in the weather picture before we can really think about getting out there and doing some work.

### DAYTON

But, it is getting closer to that time! I hope all of you that are planning on going down to Dayton on the CARS sponsored bus have got your reservations in! Last year the bus trip was a virtual sellout, so if you have not already made your reservations for the bus, better "get on the stick" as the saying goes.

I have not received anything from the Dayton Hamvention Committee regarding tickets for this years event as yet...hopefully soon. I don't like to wait until the last minute or have to get them at the gate.

If you are planning on going down for a couple days or for the duration and have not already made your room reservations, now is the time to do that, because if you wait until you get down in the Dayton area, you will be in for a rude awakening, because the availability of rooms is usually gone by that time! So get your room reservations in as soon as possible too! I'd hate to hear about some poor ole CARS member having to sleep in their car for the duration!

### BUSY, BUSY, BUSY

I don't have a lot to report on this month folks. I have been kind of busy with non-amateur radio related stuff, so this month's article is going to be rather short.

I just want to remind everyone to get on the net, fire up your rigs and get on the air and use your privileges, whatever they may be.

Catch you on the air and/or at the next meeting.

73 for now, de Tom, WB8N

## SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB STATUS

### RENEWAL FOR CARS !

From Bob Check, W8GC,

Bob, we are pleased to report that the Cuyahoga ARS has been officially renewed as a Special Service Club. The next renewal for the club will be in two years. Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its continued efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and services to its community.

You are to be commended for your work with the club in helping it realize and maintain its potential. Because you have been so closely associated with the club during the development of its SSC commitment, we want to give you the opportunity of informing the club directly of its success. The club will continue to receive periodic mails of materials and information from Headquarters. Please be sure to keep your contact information up to date and current.

Congratulations, and thanks for your good work! If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

73

Linda Mullally, KB1HSV, ARRL

*Editors note: Way to go CARS, and kudos to Bob Check for his guidance of CARS over the past three years!*

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## CARS 2004 Officers & Committees

### Audit

Toby WT8O \*\* Tina W8HBI, Gary NI8Z

### ARRL Liaison & media representative

Don KC8NIX \*\* Carol KC8TIE \*\* 216-524-4910

### CBARC Liaison

Dwayne K8ME 440-582-3462

### Christmas Party 2004

Gary NI8Z \*\* Steve N8IS \*\* Tina W8HBI, Tom WB8N

### Community Education & School Programs

Dave KD8V \*\* 330-666-8721 Steve N8IS \*\* 216-328-0432, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

### Dayton Bus

Terry KB8DTC \*\* 330-273-1043, Bob W8GC

### Diabetes events

Tom WB8N

### Elmer

George K8KR \*\* 216-941-5304

### Field Day

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193, Aaron KC8INE  
Bob W8GC, Steve N8IS, Gary NI8Z

### Fox Hunts

Mike K8EHP \*\* 216-252-6640, Steve N8IS  
Roger N8TCP

### 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

### Scouts

Steve N8IS, Tina W8HBI, Kayla N8KAY

### Lighthouse events

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544, Bob W8GC  
Gordon W8GTK, Steve N8IS, Bruce N8DJX

### Membership

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

### Museum Ship W. G. Mather W8WGM

Bob W8GC \*\* Lin WD8SDP \*\* Steve N8IS, Gary NI8Z, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP, Mike KB8UGT, Bruce N8DJX, Toby WT8O

### NET

Gordon W8GTK \*\*

### WO/Newsletter

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Program director

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544

### QSL manager-NO8A & K8ZFR

Tom WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Refreshments & 50/50

Carol KC8TIE \*\* 216-524-4910  
50/50 Kayla N8KAY

### Sunshine (welfare)

Dave KD8V \*\* 330-666-8721

### Technical

Roy KB8VJF \*\* Bob W8GC \*\* Terry KB8DTC  
Vince N8OVW, Dave K8DAV, Tom WB8N  
Jack W8JAK, Jim WD8CHL

### VE exams

Gary NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

Dave K8DAV \*\* 440-243-3593, Bob W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## 2004 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750

president@cars.org

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

Toby WT8O \*\* 440-572-1544

vice-president@cars.org

### SECRETARY \*\*\*\*

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secretary@cars.org

### TREASURER:

Mike KB8UGT 216-663-2717

treasurer@cars.org

## Board Members

### even year executive board 2 year term;

George K8KR 216-941-5304

Gary NI8Z 216-642-8705

Steve N8IS 216-328-0432

### odd year executive board 2 year term;

Gordon W8GTK 330-225-6917

Terry KB8DTC 330-273-1043

Tom WB8N 440-232-4193

### K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N 440-232-4193

### NO8A trustee

Bob W8GC 216-524-1750

March 7, 2004