

# The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



JANUARY 2006

Volume XXXVI

Issue I

## From the Prez

We enjoyed another great Christmas party at the Independence Civic center on December 17, 2005. We had both paid entertainment along with members adding to the fun. Jack W8JAK "Mr. Karaoke", Tom WB8N our star Karaoke singer and Kevin Reed playing his "Trash Kat" drum, all helped make it a wonderful Christmas party.

We handed out 15 awards including a plaque to Henry KD8BAO as our "2005 Rookie of the Year". Engraved wooden pen & pencil sets and plaques were awarded for outstanding service to CARS during 2005.

A new category of plaque was awarded this year to the high point scores in the Ohio QSO Party and November SSB sweepstakes contests, Gary NI8Z & Toby WT8O were recipients.

While the 2005 Christmas party closed out a busy and very fruitful year for CARS, 2006 promises to be busier and better! I look forward to CARS continued growth, prosperity and our new found ability to do even more in the community and at Schools than before.

A special thanks to Tina W8HBI, Steve N8IS, and Gary NI8Z for the hard work and dedication in arranging our 2005 Christmas party.

Thanks to everyone who attended the party as well, you all made the party the fun time and success it was. Here's to another great Christmas party next year.



Several deserts were donated including this cake from Tina W8HBI & Steve N8IS.

Toby WR8O is already working on plans for the 2006 Ham season on the W.G. Mather Museum ship. New Scholarships, school events, etc. the list is long, please come to a meeting and join in your clubs activities.

2006 promises to be a banner year for CARS!

That's it for another WO this month's thought is about tolerance. *Deal with the thoughts of others, as gently as with your own. Old Chinese proverb.*

Please attend the January 18, 2006 meeting we will be voting on a new a new By-Law.

de, Bob W8GC

*Editor's note: There is no secretary's report this month as there was no business meeting in December.*

## ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

The C.A.R.S. audit committee met on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 and examined the club's financial records for the fiscal year 2005. The committee included the club treasurer Tina Check, W8HBI, president Bob Check, W8GC, vice president Toby Kolman, WT8O, and board member Gary Dewey, NI8Z. The committee found the accounting of income, expenditures, inventory, and the checking account to be accurate and complete.

The treasury showed a substantial increase. The major source of income to the club was the proceeds from the sale of the website domain. Other revenue generations were from dues, equipment sold, the 50/50 raffle, classes, commission on A.R.R.L. membership renewals, shirt sales, and refreshment donations. Expenses were incurred from Field Day, the Christmas party, the Copley School station, the A.R.R.L. Great Lakes Conference delegation, and award plaques, as well as the normal operating expenses which include insurance, the repeater, telephone service ( for repeater access ), printing, the website, postage, bank charges, and rent for the meeting room. The treasurer has, and will share the detailed accounting summary with any interested members; which shows all itemized income and expenses to the penny and the checking account activity.

The audit committee concludes that the treasury and accounting records are finically accurate and complete. As chairman of the committee, I would like to thank the help of the other members of the team for a job well done, with a special thanks to Tina, W8HBI, for all her hard work keeping the books and preparing a complete and understandable presentation, which made our job much easier.

73, de Toby, WT8O

## DIVISION MEMBERS NOTABLE IN DFING

Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) is a hot topic of interest in Amateur Radio for a small, but growing segment of hamming. An ARRL web story by Joe Moell, K0OV highlights a recent report on this ham sport and test of skill.

See the following website for more info:  
[www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/12/02/2nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/12/02/2nc=1)

Great Lakes Division amateurs Matthew Robbins, AA9YH (Cincinnati), Emily DeYoung, K4MLE and her father Brian, K4BRI (Alexandria, Kentucky), [Mike Cegeleski, K8EHP \(Cleveland\)](#) and Dick Arnett, WB4SUV (Erlanger, KY) are featured in this article through their involvement in the ARDF National Championships held near Albuquerque, NM earlier this year.

Interest in the US in ARDFing has grown tremendously during recent years. If you are beginning to tire of DXing or another favorite facet of Amateur Radio, you might want to consider trying your hand at this relatively inexpensive, developing aspect of ham radio life. One of the people listed in this item will be willing to help you get started.

You, too, could experience the thrill of the chase. ARDFers are also extremely useful when it comes to locating the source of QRM..

*The above is courtesy of WEAVER'S WORDS  
by Jim Weaver, K8JE the ARRL Great Lakes  
Division Director.*

*Congratulations Mike!*

*Ed.*

## NEW UNIFIED AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE

The new unified amateur radio test has been announced and released to the public. A few important changes have been made. The new test has been designed so that the same test can be given for all license classes. To qualify for the higher classes of license, all you have to do is score better on the test. This makes things much easier for VE's. Sample test below.

### Unified Amateur Radio License Exam

Please PRINT (that means no squiggly lines)

YOUR NAME (what they call

you \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS (Where you

live \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE (when

you were born \_\_\_\_\_ **Exam Instructions-**

**Read or Listen Carefully** Make a circle (one of these round "O" things) around the letter of the best answer. This is so we know what your answer is!

### Beginning of Exam

1. You TALK into a microphone with your  
A. Hands B. Feet C. Toes D. Mouth E. Armpits
2. When you talk into a microphone, you talk into  
A. the front B. the back C. the top  
D. the bottom E. the wire
3. Headphones are worn over the  
A. Knees B. Eyes C. Toes D. Ears E. Lips
4. What do you do with the AC LINE CORD coming out of a radio?  
A. Hold it in the air to pick up signals B. Pull on it to start the motor C. Talk into the plug to get "skip" D. Hook it to your antenna  
E. Insert the plug into a source of power
5. A TWO METER radio is:  
A. Twice as strong as a one-meter radio  
B. Two one-meter radios in series  
C. A CB with two meters on the front panel  
D. A good doorstop E. A monoband radio
6. A Ten-Foot Mast is how long?  
A. Three meters B. Ten pounds C. Two meters  
D. Tree-top tall E. Same length as a basketball hoop is high.
7. A Triband Antenna is made to work on how

many bands? A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4 E. 10

8. The MARCONI antenna is names after:

- A. Marconi B. Mantovani C. Macaroni  
D. Dean Martin E. martini

9. What colors of DIODES can you buy at a Radio Shack store? A. Red, blue and black  
B. Red, yellow and green C. Orange and brown  
D. I am color blind so this is a discriminatory question and I should automatically get a waiver on this question.

10. What color of SLURPEE can you buy at 7-11? A. Red, blue and black, B. Red, yellow and green C. Orange and brown. D. I am color blind so this is a discriminatory question and I should get another waiver of this question. I've got two questions right!

11. You have just installed your new mobile rig in your vehicle and you are still parked at the curb, you need to pull out into traffic and you are talking to another station. A. You put down the mic long enough to signal that you intend to pull away from the curb. B. You keep on talking and just pull out into traffic. C. you open your left rear door to signal that you want to pull out into traffic while calling CQ DX on the repeater. D. You install a light bulb at the top of your antenna so that it will flash when you are talking on the radio and people will then know to let you out.

### END OF EXAM

YOUR SIGNATURE (or mark) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE (today's month/day/year if known \_\_\_\_\_)

### SCORING

Get four correct and you get an EXTRA! Get two right and you get a GENERAL. Get one right and you get a TECHNICIAN. Get none right? Go back out in parking lot and study for another five minutes. When your are done, come back in and try again.

*Thanks to WB4JGG, K2LMO, WZ8D, WT8R  
Reprinted from the GEARVAKf Bulletin*

*Safety Hint: Don't eat or drink molten solder.*

## CUYAHOGA COUNTY ARES

The following is from Jon KB9FEM, Assistant EC with Cuyahoga County ARES, passed along by Mike DiTurno KC8OWL, the Cuyahoga County ARES Emergency Coordinator.

As the tragic story from the West Virginia coal mine makes its way through the press, I want to comment on a particular aspect of the rescue effort. I'm fully aware of the irony of commenting on this particular aspect of the effort without having all of the facts. However, regardless of exactly what caused this aspect to go awry, the underlying message bears reflection and discussion. Specifically, I am talking about the terrible miscommunication in which the families were told that 12 miners were alive, only to be told three hours later that only one was.

Details are sketchy at this point, but according to a comment by the CEO of International Coal Group, it seems that "What happened is that through stray cell phone conversations it appears this mis-communication from the rescue team underground to the command center was picked up by various people. Simply overheard conversation was relayed through cell phone communications without our ever having made a release."

The story quickly spread, and like most rumors, became more distorted and widely believed as it continued to be told. I feel that there are two crucial lessons to be remembered by emergency communicators such as ourselves.

1. During an emergency, the lack of information from official sources naturally gives rise to rumors and potentially panic. In fact, terrorism experts have always said that the biggest "force multipliers" of any terrorism incident is the FUD (Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt) factor. Although an incident might only impact three people in a 100 square foot area, the general public may panic and rumors will quickly spread, further compounding the panic factor. As emergency communicators, it is vital that we avoid contributing in any way to the spread of rumors or anything that does not come straight from an

official source of record. This is especially true when we are officially affiliated with an emergency response. To Joe Public, you standing on a street corner in a brightly colored vest with a radio in hand immediately makes you an "official source." As humans, we naturally want to help others and tell what we know, but during a crisis, the only proper thing to do is to refer questions to official sources and refuse to spread rumors and gossip.

2. We need to expect that our communications will be overheard by members of the public and the media. All communication needs to be 100% factual, non-speculative, and should leave no room for interpretation. If something isn't known, say so, especially if it's the answer to a critical (perhaps implied) question. Consider the difference between these two sentences: "They've been found" versus "They've been found, condition unknown at this time." In the former, it's very easy to add "alive" or "dead" at the end of the sentence, and next thing you know, rumors start flying. While longer, the latter discourages listener speculation. An ear piece or headset should be in your radio bag, and you should use it. If you are in a command center, there will be enough other commotion that keeping our communications quiet shows courtesy to others in the room. In public, a blaring speaker mic could be overheard by any passerby.

I learned my lesson several years ago at an "athon" event. Working an intersection, I was using a speaker mic and someone called in a downed female runner, aged 15 or 16. Three women in front of me turned around and one started hollering wondering if it was her daughter and demanding that I found out her name. Before I could even answer, another woman said "See I told you Sarah shouldn't have been running, she's had a bad knee for six months now." For three minutes I watched FUD turn into near panic right in front of me. It all ended when the girl in question went by and

*continued on next page....*

yelled "HI MOM!" Bottom line, if you're in close proximity to others, stick a bud in your ear. Our Operations Manual specifically discusses on air procedures, and there is a discussion on public relations with citizens and the media. The other coordinators and I encourage you to review these procedures. We owe it to the agencies we serve and the public to remain ever diligent in how we go about our crucial tasks during times of crisis.

Be careful!

Happy New Year and 73,

Jon - KB9FEM

Assistant Emergency Coordinator - Logistics

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### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

KC2BUA Gary Schmid 1-11-47  
K8JGR Jane Reed 1-11  
KC8YLC Mary Cegelski 1-22-52  
KC8DJV Stephen Jones 1-23-66  
KC8ZBO Stuart Kleiner 1-29  
K8AV Carl Beduhn 1-30-38

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AND  
MANY HAPPY RETURNS !

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### PUXSUTAWNEY PHIL A HAM ?

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

Members of the Punxsutawney Amateur Radio Club will be commemorating the 2006 Groundhog Day on January 28th from 1400 to 2100Z with special event station K3HWJ. Look for activity on 14.240, 7.240 or 7.125 MHz. A special certificate will be available from "Phil" - shadow or no shadow.

### MINE DISASTER SURVIVOR

By Bob Check, W8GC

The ARRL Web site and K7RAN reports the lone survivor of that mining accident in West Virginia is none other than KC8VKZ, Randal McCloy Jr. He was transferred to the Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. One of Randy's dreams is to become an electrician. Let's all hope he has a speedy recovery. I sent him a QSL (get well card) via the hospital address, which is Allegheny General Hospital, 320 East North Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

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### UP-COMING AREA HAMFESTS

February 5 - NOARS Winterfest  
Lorain, OH - [www.NOARS.net](http://www.NOARS.net)

February 12 - Mansfield Mid\*Winter  
Hamfest & Computer Show  
Richland County Fairgrounds  
[www.iarc.ws](http://www.iarc.ws)

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### TRIVIA QUESTION

What was the "SW 3" ?

- A. A short wave listener club of the 30's.
- B. A type of three element beam.
- C. A three tube receiver.
- D. A Triode.

The answer can be found elsewhere in this issue of the W.O. Good hunting.

## THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

### A NEW YEAR

Here we go once again, embarking upon a new year, 2006! Here's hoping it will be a great year for us all!

It is time to start thinking about new antennas, new radios, new equipment, the Dayton Hamvention, Field Day, plus the public service events that CARS takes part in each year.

This will be the year that a certain bozo gets his comeuppance as well! I hope he is looking over his shoulder.

### CARS CHRISTMAS PARTY

For those of you that did not make the annual CARS Christmas party for one reason or another this year, you missed a doozy! We all enjoyed the barbershop quartet that entertained us, plus we all had a great time doing karaoke as well, thanks to "Mr. Karaoke", Jack Andrisin, W8JAK, who lugged all his equipment and set it up for our enjoyment. I myself am looking forward to another great party this year! Hey! I know, let's have two parties this year! Just kidding folks.

### HF CONTESTS

Now that we have a contest chairman in our organization in the person of George Pindroh, K8KR, we should start thinking of working one or more of the contests coming up soon. We have the North American CW QSO Parth on January 14 and 15 for you CW lovers and on January 21 and 22 its the North American Single Side Band QSO Party. Then for those of you CW lovers that have 160 meters capability, its the CQ Magazine 160 Meter CW Contest. In February we have the CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest for the RTTY lovers and on February 12 is also the North American CW Sprint. February also brings us the ARRL CW DX Contest on February 18 and 19 and finally we have the CQ 160 Meters SSB Contest. Those are enough contests to last us for awhile, don't you think? I'm sure that George will be getting on the bandwagon and getting us psyched up to take part in these contests as he has been doing

in the past. We can't let NI8Z and WT8O rest on their laurels now, can we? I don't think so!

### TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER

Give up? The question was, What was the "SW 3"? And the answer is.....

A three tube receiver, manufactured by National Radio in the early 1930's.

### CONGRATULATIONS

At the Christmas party this year, we were entertained by Kevin Reed, son of member Jane Reed K8JGR, and grandson of K8ZFR, Joe Guzowski. Kevin, a drummer, has invented and is marketing a new drum constructed from a trash can, which he calls the Trash Kat. Kevin demonstrated the Trash Kat for us and had us all involved as well by accompanying him with rattles.

The Plain Dealer had a big article with photos about Kevin and his drum and a story about him in their Friday, December 30, 2005 edition. The article told about how Kevin has overcome a disability due to an accident, and how he has developed the Trash Kat. The article mentioned that Kevin's drum is being used by the Lionel Hampton School of Music at the University of Idaho in their marching band, choir, concert band, and orchestra. Also John Mahon, a percussionist with Elton John, uses the Trash Kat in his own studio.

Way to go Kevin. Congratulations and good luck in your endeavors! I'm sure that K8ZFR would be proud of you.

### TTFN

That does it for another fun filled issue of the award winning Wobbly Oscillator. I hope to see you all at the January meeting and I'm almost always listening on 146.82 MHz, the K8ZFR CARS repeater, so give me a shout. If I'm able to, I'll come back to you.

73 for now,  
de Tom, WB8N

## 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

Bob W8GC \*\* Lin WD8SDP \*\* 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  
vice-president@2cars.org

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

Toby WT8O 440-572-1544  
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

Gordon AI8Y  
Terry KB8DTC  
Tom WB8N

### K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N

### NO8A, WA8CMS &

KD8AQD trustee  
Bob W8GC

