

The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

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JANUARY 2006

Volume XXXVI

Issue I

FROM THE PREZ

Thanks to all who came out for our first meeting in 2006.

Ron, K8VJG started the year off with a bang by winning the 50/50 drawing. Congratulations Ron, it's been a long time.

We passed a new By-Law which will annually award 2 two \$500.00 scholarships to CARS members, children or grand children. I have appointed a Scholarship Committee consisting of Scotty WA8SLN chairman, Gary N18Z, Henry KD8BAO, Ron K8VJG and Toby WT8O. They will have application forms and guidelines established in the next 2 to 3 weeks. We will announce when and where applications will be available.

George, K8KR was elected to fill a vacated 1 year term on the board.

I was very honored to receive a Citizenship Award from the ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver K8JE. Steve N8IS presented the award as Jim could not attend our meeting. I was completely surprised. Steve N8IS, Tina W8HBI and my wife Betty didn't say a word. I will do my best to keep up the good work CARS is doing in so many areas.

We are having a show and tell session in place of a program at our February 15 meeting, bring something ham related if possible but just bring something you want to talk about with a 5 minute limit, pictures, awards, old gear anything you think is of some interest to others.

Steve N8IS reminded us it is not too soon to be thinking about Field Day, Diabetes Tour-de-Cure, the W.G. Mather station, and other upcoming events. Lets get a good start this year, contact a committee chairman and sign up ASAP for 2006!

Remember 2006 dues are due, please send your

checks to the Treasurer.

That's it for another WO. This month's thought: *To be absolutely certain about something, one must know everything or nothing about it.*

73, de Bob, W8GC



From the Prez.....	pg 1
Meeting Minutes.....	pg 2
Birthdays.....	pg 3
Trivia.....	pg 3
The Random Wire.....	pg 5
Officers & Committees.....	pg 6

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

President Bob Check, W8GC, called the January 2006 C.A.R.S. meeting to order at 7:33 PM in the Busch Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, OH. Nineteen C.A.R.S. members and two guests introduced themselves.

Bob, KC8MRC, motioned to accept the November meeting minutes and Terry, KB8DTC, seconded. The motion was passed.

Tina, W8HBI, gave the treasurer's report. She also sent out dues notices to members who have not their dues for 2006. Tina corrected the State of Ohio statutory report from LLC to Corporation.

Bill, KC8YSV, reported the Copley Middle School activity was doing well, bringing a new ham into the fold; Megan (call not issued yet), an eighth grader, passed her Technician test at a special VE session at the school. Bill, our ARRL liaison, reminded club members to renew their ARRL dues through the club to give C.A.R.S. a partial reimbursement. Bill asked for help with meeting program ideas. George, K8KR, suggested we do a ham radio "show and tell" session next month. The group agreed to put it on the schedule for February. Dave, KD8V (our new vice president), continued the school report with an explanation of the ARRL "Big Project", where the league provides funding for school activities. Dave has requested the \$500 grant to be used for handhelds for the students. He added the school project not only helped six students obtain their ham licenses, but the science teacher and wrestling coach are interested in getting their tickets as well. Dave accepted an invitation to lecture a science class on basic electricity, and despite his apprehension, everything went quite well. Bill closed out the school report committee report saying the club had a request from the Warrensville Heights Middle School to help with a ham radio club.

Sunshine chairman Dave, KD8V, sent out cards to Bob, W8GC, who is recovering from carpal tunnel surgery, and Lin, WD8SDP, who is experiencing respiratory problems.

Toby, WT8O, informed the group that net participation is excellent and improving, probably a result of the 9:00 PM starting time. Henry, KD8BAO, and Gary, NI8Z, volunteered to become net control stations.

Dave K8DAV, our technical chairman and

webmaster, did not attend due to illness. In his absence Steve, N8IS, told the group Dave has programmed a controller for a new, reasonably priced satellite rotator. Procurement details will be announced shortly.

Contest committee chairman George, K8KR, said there would not be any contests with club participation until spring.

Jane, K8JGR, and Ron, K8VJG, spent the afternoon giving a talk and demonstration on amateur radio to the Southwest Women's Christian Group. Both Jane and Ronnie gave glowing reports on the activity.

Gary, NI8Z, announced for the first time in C.A.R.S. history, there were no testees at the January VE session. Gary felt this happened because his illness prevented him from posting his usual announcements. Gary also reported on the C.A.R.S. Christmas party. He attributed the success to the good voices of the singers (backed up by Jack's, W8JAK, karaoke equipment), the "Trash Kat" drum concert by Kevin Reed, and the lively barbershop quartet. He gave credit where credit was due, saying "Tina did ninety percent of the work."

C.A.R.S. welcomed two new members by voting in Teri Schwab, KD8CDE, and Edward Senkus, KD8CLC. The election included the usual shenanigans, lightening up the ordeal for the new members.

Toby, WT8O, reported the audit committee had completed its yearly audit for 2005. He announced the club's financial records were complete and in good order.

The members present nominated candidates to fill the newly vacant board position. A ballot style election was held and the new board member is George, K8KR. Congratulations George.

A surprise award plaque was presented to Bob, W8GC, awarded by the ARRL Great Lakes Division for his many contributions to amateur radio. It was easy to see the big guy was touched, as we all were. This award was very well deserved.

Continued on next page...

The members present voted on and passed a resolution to the C.A.R.S. by-laws that would award two college scholarships each year.

Steve, N8IS, mentioned that it would be wise to start planning for Field Day soon.

George, K8KR, suggested that we have a family picnic during the summer. Bob, W8GC, had the idea added to the agenda for the next board meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was held with \$21 going to the club, and \$21 going to the lucky winner, Ron, K8VJG.

Mike, K8EHP, motioned to adjourn the meeting. Henry, KD8BAO, seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Kolman, WT8O,
C.A.R.S. secretary.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

KB8UGT Michael Balach 2-2-55

KD8V David Dressler 2-11-32

KD8BAO Henry Oswick 2-11-81

WA8ZJV Ronald Boehnlein 2-11-46

N8JNO Gary Solomon 2-15-54

W8HBI Tina Check 2-24-70

Congratulations to all of you and many happy returns!

GREAT LAKES DIVISION CITIZENSHIP AWARD

ARRL member Bob Check, W8GC, was honored recently by James Weaver K8JE the Great Lakes Division Director. Bob was presented a Citizenship Award in appreciation for his outstanding service to Amateur Radio and the ARRL by developing and successfully pursuing a program to interest young people in Amateur Radio in ARRL Great Lakes Division. The award was presented by Steve Riley, N8IS at the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society club meeting on January 18, 2006.



Bob, W8GC accepting award from Steve, N8IS

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What was know as a "sideswiper"?

- A. A crossed dual band antenna.
- B. A type of safety switch.
- C. An early type of telegraph key.
- D. Someone who steals QSO information.

Answer found elsewhere in this issue.

**CQ FILES COMMENTS ON ARRL
"REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH"
PROPOSAL TO FCC**

(Hicksville, NY - January 31, 2006) -- CQ Communications Inc., publishers of CQ Amateur Radio, Popular Communications and CQ VHF magazines has told the FCC it generally supports the ARRL's proposal to shift from rules organizing amateur radio subbands by operating mode to rules that would organize signals on the basis of bandwidth. However, in comments filed on the petition in late January, it offered alternatives for several areas "of concern" in the League's proposal. "The emergence of new digital modes is blurring the traditional distinctions between various modes," said CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, "and we agree with the League that bandwidth regulation will help promote technical innovation, now and in the future."

However, CQ disagreed with some of the specifics in the ARRL proposal and made alternative suggestions. "We were concerned that the League's proposal to set a maximum bandwidth limit of 3.5 kHz below 29 MHz - and then exempt AM phone from that limit - went against the whole premise of moving to bandwidth regulation," Moseson explained. "Instead, we proposed increasing the maximum bandwidth on the top 50 kHz of each traditional HF amateur band from 3.5 to 9.0 kHz, enough to accommodate AM and other modes that are wider than a current SSB signal, such as expanded SSB, which is currently legal and would be prohibited under the ARRL proposal. Primarily, though, it would retain the integrity of bandwidth-based regulation."

CQ also disagreed with the League's proposal to allow 3.5-kHz wide signals on 30 meters, contending that the band is too small, and suggested a maximum bandwidth of 500 Hz on the entire band. CQ was also concerned that the ARRL's proposal to permit semi-automatic digital stations throughout the HF bands would lead to unintentional interference due to the nature of HF propagation and the inability of such stations to easily change frequencies. It recommended requiring the implementation of a listen-before-transmit protocol as a condition of permitting widespread semi-automatic operation.

The CQ comments also called for giving band plans some "teeth" as part of any shift to bandwidth regulation. CQ proposed putting voluntary band plans on the same plane with voluntary repeater coordination -- neither is mandatory but if there are interference problems, then the station that is not complying with the band plan, like an uncoordinated repeater, has the primary responsibility to resolve the problem. "We fully agree with ARRL about the need to shift to bandwidth-based regulation," concluded Moseson, "but we feel it is vital to make the shift completely, without mode-based exemptions, and to make sure the new rules accommodate all existing analog modes."

Reprinted from the CQ Newsletter.

8th AREA QSL BUREAU NEWS

Approximately 110,905 QSL cards were received for redistribution through the central 8th area QSL bureau in 2005. This is down almost 20% compared to 138,236 handled in 2004. The bureau handled 154,054 cards in 2003.

From these numbers and trends, you can see that Logbook Of The World and decreasing sunspots are affecting QSL volumes. (Could it also be a decreasing population of active DXers? The bureau is physically located at the VOA Museum in West Chester, OH.

We appreciate the work of those members of the West Chester Amateur Radio Association who do the bulk sorting for us. More information on W8 Incoming Bureau operations, policies and procedures can be found at the web site: <http://home.fuse.net/jslough/w8buro.html>.

73,

Jay Slough, K4ZLE

W8 Incoming QSL Bureau manager

THE RANDOM WIRE

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

WX IN NORTH EAST OHIO

Boy oh boy, how about this weather we've been having! One day you can go out in shirt sleeves and the next day the temperature is hovering in the low 30's! As I sit at the keyboard writing this article, it is raining outside and the temperature is near 40 degrees. But the weather guy says it's gonna get nasty tonight and tomorrow with snow up to 6 inches and I'm planning on going to the NOARS hamfest in the morning in Lorain! Oh well, I'll make it I guess. Then the snow will probably melt in a couple of days and the temps will be in the 40's and 50's again. Sheese!

YOUR NEWS LETTER

C'mon gang...I need some help with the Wobbly Oscillator (YOUR newsletter). Submissions by members have dropped to a big ZERO except those by the good ole standbys I can always count on. I know each of you has at least ONE article in you for the newsletter. All I ask for is that it be amateur radio related in some way or other. Is that too much to ask? I think not! All you have to do is think of some aspect of Ham Radio that pleases or interests you...maybe a new piece of gear or perhaps an old relic that still works...and sit down at the computer keyboard and start writing about it, as if you were sending an e-mail to a fellow Ham. The grammar and punctuation do not have to be perfect. The editor (that's me) will fix it up if necessary and you will see your efforts on the printed page! So everyone make it a point to write one article for our newsletter. If everyone does this small task, I'll have articles for the newsletter for the next three or four years! How about it...do we have a deal? C'mon now, don't make me beg.

WEEKLY CARS NET

As Toby, WT8O has said, the participation on the weekly CARS net has improved of late and Toby is doing a great job of being in charge of the net. We have two additions to the net control list, with a first timer, Henry, KD8BAO, and Gary, NI8Z, who makes a return to the net control microphone. So be sure and tune in each Wednesday night at 9:00 local time and check in. Give answering the weekly trivia

question a shot. There's nothing worth watching on television on Wednesday nights anyway.

UPCOMING STUFF

It's still officially winter, Puxatawny Phil has seen his shadow, but time is fast approaching for several Ham Radio functions.

First we have the Dayton Hamvention coming up on May 19, 20, and 21. Time to be making reservations if you are going to spend a night or two there.

Then we will be providing communications to the Cleveland branch of the American Diabetes Society for their Tour de Cure on June 4th. You'll need to get your spare batteries charged for your handhelds for this one.

And of course we have Field Day which will be on June 24 and 25. We will be having stations on all the HF bands, both voice and cw, besides six meters and PSK31, and maybe RTTY. Plus satellite operations. Those who are planning on bringing stations need to make sure everything is in working order and have all their equipment ready to go. We should all do this anyway, in case we are called upon to provide communications in an emergency situation. We did very well in our class last year and I'm sure we can do as good or even better this year.

SEE YOU ON DOWN THE LOG

That about does it for this issue of your award winning newsletter. Remember, we have a deal...each of you is going to write an article for the newsletter and submit it for publication. Right? Right. I'd like to have a couple more pages to each issue and with your help we will achieve that goal.

I'll catch you on the air on the net or any other time. I'm listening most of the time. Give me a call. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting too. I had to miss the January meeting and that's rare for me.

73 for now,

de Tom, WB8N

**BREAKING NEWS...NEW CHILDREN'S
CASINO IN LAS VEGAS PROMOTES HAM
RADIO**

From the *Gearvakf News Service*

The long-expected Children's Fantasy Casino and Hotel has recently opened in Las Vegas. According to Children's Casino spokesperson, Ms Luisa Ayitchi Sushi, "the new casino will serve as a much needed training facility to introduce children to the Las Vegas gaming scene while they are still in elementary school". The casino's opening follows a repeal of a Clark County Nevada law which formerly prohibited children under 18 from playing any kind of wagering games. Although children are not yet allowed to take part in gaming at adult casinos, the Children's Casino will provide the kind of low-dollar-limit training they will need for the future, when it is expected that laws will be further changed to allow children to play games in all Las Vegas casinos. At the same time, the new casino has introduced a new attraction featuring Ham Radio. Ms Sushi said that Ham Radio offers an "opportunity to demonstrate the potential use of promoting wireless gaming, similar to that seen on the internet." Acknowledging that wagering is not now permitted on the Ham Radio bands, Ms Sushi explained that "we can expect that to change, as soon as we offer our proposal for new rules to the FCC. The casino industry is very optimistic that their proposal will be favorably acted upon by the FCC because of it's well-known record of relaxing or completely canceling many key federal rules governing Ham Radio over the past 20 years.

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GET YOUR 2006 DUES IN NOW!
REMEMBER, THERE'S A DISCOUNT
FOR SENIORS AND TEENS.

FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM

There will be "Show and Tell" for the entertainment at the meeting February 15, 2006. Please bring anything of interest to show everyone at the meeting...it could be your first QSL card, a picture of your cat, your first tooth from the ToothFairy... anything of interest! Your item(s) DO NOT have to be related to amateur radio! Please be able to speak about your item for at least 30 seconds or more! This will be a very interesting and entertaining night for sure!
73, de George, K8KR

Answer to Trivia Question

The correct answer is C. A sideswiper was an early type of telegraph key which used a dual blade with contacts on either side.

The Wobbly Oscillator is a monthly publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264 Independence, OH 44131-0264. Articles may be reprinted in any Amateur Radio related publication provided credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format to: newsletter@2cars.org by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue. By reading this notice, you have committed yourself to writing an article for publication in this newsletter.

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

Toby WT8O ** Lin WD8SDP and 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

George K8KR
Terry KB8DTC
Tom WB8N

K8ZFR trustee

Tom WB8N

NO8A, WA8CMS &

KD8AQD trustee
Bob W8GC

