

# The Wobbly Oscillator

## Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society



NO8A Special Event Call K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75

APRIL 2008

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ISSUE IV

### PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

Now, according to the calendar, Spring has officially arrived. We in Ohio know from experience not to get too excited for another couple of weeks or so. I'm sure that just like the rest of nature, we want to get on with something new and exciting.

Now that we will be getting outside, the inspection, repair and/or installation of new antennas will be top of the list. We all know that without a good and well tuned antenna the best transmitter, receiver or transceiver will not produce their ultimate performance.

I hope that the club's new operating classes will be well attended ( for a Scotsman the price is right !!!). Experts in their own areas of expertise will be on hand to pass on their experience to those who wish to progress in the hobby - - without picking up any bad operating habits.

Dayton Hamvention 16-18 May is just down the road, but for those who can't make it, be sure to look up the local Hamfests which are chronicled usually one month ahead in the pages of QST. ( Dayton may be the largest but the local ones are every bit as much fun. ) Go find a treasure !

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Good Luck and 73 to all.

De Scotty, WA8SLN

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### APRIL C.A.R.S. MEETING

**The April meeting of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will be held on Tuesday, April 8 at the Busch Funeral Home Community Room, located at 7501 Ridge Rd, Parma, Ohio. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. A good time WILL be had by one and all! Hope to see you there!**

**Don't forget the C.A.R.S. Wednesday evening club net on the 146.82 repeater. Check in and see if you can answer the weekly trivia question. If you would like to be a net controller contact Toby, WT8O and let him know.**

## MEETING MINUTES

The C.A.R.S. March monthly meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Scotty Shields, WA8SLN on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Ohio. Thirty one members introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Mike, KB8UGT made a motion to accept the January 8<sup>th</sup> minutes as published in the March WO. Steve, K8SAS seconded. There were no additions or questions and the motion was passed.

Scotty, WA8SLN and Bob, W8GC asked for volunteers to call members that have not paid their dues yet. There were about twenty four delinquent members. A sign up sheet was passed around for about four or five volunteers to make phone calls to the members who have not yet renewed their membership.

Tina, W8HBI was appointed by President Scotty as "assistant treasurer".

Awards were handed out by Bob, W8GC; George, K8KR; and Toby, WT8O. The awards happened to go to one ham that could not make the Christmas party, Mike, KB8BMY. The awards were for Ham of the Year, Special Service and Net Controller. Congratulations Mike, on a good job.

Bob, W8GC gave a report on the license classes. The classes had a real good turnout, with five new technicians, three new generals, and six new extras. Bob then talked about the free operating class that C.A.R.S. is putting on. The class is all about hands on, learning the proper way of operating on the air and using equipment. It is a two night event on April 15 and the 17, for about two hours each night. Check the web site for the flyer.

Bob then gave the treasurers report. There are dues still coming in.

Toby, WT8O reminded everyone about the interview form on the web, under the *members* tab. He ask if everyone would fill it out that it was a great way to get to know everyone.

Toby then talked about field day that is just around the corner. He said that if anyone had

ideas about food or wanted to volunteer, you can email him at [Vicepresident@2cars.org](mailto:Vicepresident@2cars.org). He needs help for safety and radio traffic handling.

Toby then thanked all the net controllers and everyone that checks into the weekly net.

Gary, NI8Z reported that the March VE session had to be cancelled due to the weather. Gary then reported that the weekly C.A.R.S. net had 133 check-ins by 50 different people in the past two months. There are eight possible check-ins so far and four people have checked in on all nets.

Dave, KD8V said that the Copley middle school has ten to twelve kids that are coming to the club and studying for the tech. Six of them are close to taking the test. The school gave them laptops to use for studying and using to learn more about amateur radio. The high school now has a radio room. The club is looking for an HF antenna.

Sunshine: Scotty is going to mail cards to Ron, K8VJG as he is sick with bronchitis, and his wife is in the hospital. He is also mailing one to Steve, N8SRJ's mom Ida Jones who fell and has a compression fractured of the back and broke her right wrist.

Dave, K8DAV will keep changing the puzzle on the web, because it was well liked. It keeps everyone up on the formulas.

We voted on five new members; Paul Maruna KD8HWO, Dean Levigne KD8HWP, Sharon Nicastro KD8HWQ, Lynn Strube KD8HWR, who could not make the meeting and Mike Gamber KD8HWN who made the meeting. The vote passed with a unanimous vote.

Refreshments were provided by Mike KB8UGT-pop; Gary NI8Z-coffee; Ron K8VJG-donuts; and thanks Dwaine K8ME for picking them up from Ron.

Toby WT8O gave a interesting power point presentation of his trip to the ARRL headquarters and the W1AW station.

The 50/50 raffle had \$90 in it. \$45 went to the club and Scotty, WA8SLN won \$45.

Gary NI8Z made motion to adjourn and Matt, W8EBB seconded. The motion passed and the

meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

FYI, I was one of the members who passed the extra test on February 19 at the upgrade classes. As of March 15, 2008. I have a new callsign, which is N8SRJ.

Submitted by Stephen Jones N8SRJ; C.A.R.S. Secretary

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### FROM THE VEEP

In the spring, a ham's fancy turns to the love of antenna projects. When the weather warms up, those winter plans beg to take an actual physical shape. Climbing on roof tops is not only more comfortable, but a bit easier once the ice melts. If a tower is in your plans, digging for the base goes a lot quicker if the dirt isn't frozen. Tools work much better when controlled by hands in warmer weather, and small parts get dropped less. Yep, the time is here to get going on that long awaited new antenna set-up. But the really cool part is that by being a C.A.R.S. member you'll have plenty of support and help. To begin with, you can get started in the right direction with advice from one or more of the experienced members. They will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have. It's a good bet someone has tried what you may be planning, or used a particular antenna you may be considering purchasing. A little conversation could save precious time, hard earned cash, and agonizing frustration. Once you are ready to get the thing of beauty up, put out the word you need help, and you will be sure to have some of your fellow members give you a hand. It may cost you a pizza and a few pops, but it's still a bargain many times over. I recall one member telling me the reason he joined C.A.R.S. was because some of the guys helped him get his antenna up even though he wasn't a member. He was in another club at the time, but no one from that club seemed to have time to help him. I know our guys pitched in and got up a least a

half dozen antennas last year alone. To keep the whole thing fun, keep it safe. The ARRL Antenna Book and Handbook have sections on antenna project safety, so take the time to read them and save yourself or your friends some undesirable pain. Several hams die every year working on antennas. So as a TV cop used to say, "For God's sake, be careful."

73, de Toby, WT8O  
C.A.R.S. Vice President

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### GETTING TO KNOW.... STEVE JONES, N8SRJ

*Wobbly Oscillator* : How did you become interested in amateur radio... who or what helped you get your first license?

**N8SRJ: I got interested in ham radio mostly due to my uncle and two cousins in West Virginia. Whenever I went to visit them when I was little, they would take me downstairs and turn on the radios. I also have an uncle in Michigan that is a ham.**

*WO*: How long have you been licensed, and what class license do you currently have?

**N8SRJ: I got licensed in 1996 as a No Code Tech.** I went through the C.A.R.S. upgrade class in 2007 and became a General. This year I took a class again and now I am an Extra. I did have the call KC8DJV when I passed the Extra. I wanted a call that had my initials, now the call is N8SRJ.

*WO*: What do you like about amateur radio?

**N8SRJ: I like providing community service, and talking all over the world.**

*continued on next page....*

*WO: What are your favorite bands/modes to work?*

**N8SRJ: My favorite HF bands are 20 and 40 meters, SSB.**

*WO: What type of ham radio equipment do you own or use?*

**N8SRJ: I have two Yaesu HTs, and two Icom 706 Mark II Gs. One for mobile, and the other for a base.**

*WO: Do you have any awards or certificates you want to mention?*

**N8SRJ: No.**

*WO: What type of work do you do?*

**N8SRJ: I am a union carpenter by trade.**

*WO: Do you participate in any C.A.R.S. projects or functions?*

**N8SRJ: I am the current Secretary and I have done the Tour de Cure as well as Field Day last year.**

*WO: Any additional comments?*

**N8SRJ: I hope to be a good Extra class ham, and to be a member of the C.A.R.S. club for a long time to come.**

*WO: Thank you Steve, for taking the time to share your thoughts with our readers and fellow members.*

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### UPCOMING HAMFESTS

April 20th  
54th Annual Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show.

Sponsored by the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

Talk-In 147.27 Being held at:  
Emidio & Sons Party Center, 48 East Bath Rd., in Cuyahoga Falls, OH

May 16-18th

Dayton Hamvention

Hara Arena in Dayton Ohio for more details visit:

[www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) or call 937-276-6930

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### HAMVENTION 2008: ROAD CONSTRUCTION NEAR THE HARA ARENA

If you are planning to attend the 2008 Dayton Hamvention, you will need to give yourself a little more driving time than in years past. This due to several road and street construction projects that will be ongoing in the area.

The first problem is construction is at the north end of the downtown Dayton area on Interstate 75 from about Mile Marker 53 to 56. Rob Lunsford KB8UEY, who is the Hamvention's Talk-In Committee Chairman says that the Ohio Department of Transportation has started a multi-year multi-phase reconstruction of I-75 in which there are lane restrictions, bridge replacements, and various other adjacent projects.

The other traffic pinch involves one of the main surface streets used by attendees of Hamvention. Needmore Road it is almost a straight shot from exit58 on I-75 to Hara Arena. Unfortunately for Hamvention goes. a rebuild project is set to begin on this roadway and it will be down to one lane each way for no less than 100 working days. If you look at a calendar, that includes Hamvention *continued on next page....*

weekend. Lunsford says that these repairs are long overdue and there are work-arounds for those driving to both the Hara Arena and the event parking at the nearby Salem Mall. Log on to [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) to check your best route.

### **CEPT CHANGES**

The ARRL Web page is reporting "The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) has revised its table of equivalence between FCC amateur licenses and the CEPT license. Effective February 4, 2008, Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as amended) now grants full CEPT privileges only to those US citizens who hold an FCC-issued Amateur Extra or Advanced class license. This means that those US licensees who hold an FCC-issued General or Technician license are no longer eligible for full operating privileges in countries where CEPT-reciprocal operation had previously been permitted. US Novice class licensees have had no reciprocal operating privileges under the CEPT provisions. These changes are the result of a re-evaluation of US and CEPT license classes equivalence by the CEPT's Radio Regulatory Working Group at its meeting January 29-February 1, 2008 in Basel, Switzerland. The Working Group deals with numerous areas of concern including Amateur Radio, and is responsible for applications from countries to participate in T/R 61-01, as well as other Amateur Radio related issues. "Changes in the US license structures and examinations often have ancillary implications beyond the immediate impact upon the US licensees," said Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager. "While this CEPT change affects several classes of US licensees when they visit Europe and other CEPT signatory countries, it has no effect on their operating privileges at home."

### **HAM RADIO IN NEW MOUNTAIN DEW COMMERCIAL**

Ham radio is portrayed in a strange but fun way in a new commercial for the soft drink Diet Mountain Dew.

Actually the spot is a kind of battle of the sexes with the claim being that lightning hits men more often than it does women. In it, you see a bunch of Y-L's involved variety of activities that experts say should not be attempted in a thunder storm. This includes fencing and operating a ham radio station Field Day style as lightning flashes and thunder roars. You can see the commercial on-line on YouTube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MieEfkwiCB8>

### **GLORIOSO ISLANDS TO ACTIVATE IN MAY**

One of the most sought after D-X entities may soon be on the air. This with word that a French group that has been trying to get a permit to activate Glorioso Island for several months has finally received the necessary landing permit.

If all goes well, the five operators hope to bring Glorioso to the ham radio airwaves in early May. Dates being talked about are May 5th to the 9th, but at airtime nothing is cast in concrete.

Presently, Glorioso is ranked 4th in "DX Magazine's 2007 Most Wanted Countries World-Wide" in the mixed modes. Once there the team plans to have 3 or 4 stations on the air to help fill the need for QSO with this rather rare location.

### **IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO PAY YOUR DUES AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

**FROM THE GEARVACf (the f is silent)  
BULLETIN**

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**Bernoullis running low say pilots**

Gearvakf members and other hams who are airplane pilots should take note of a new secret study report by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that calls flying in congested airspace "dangerous." According to the study, too many airplanes are using the sky and sometimes they run into one another. A statement by Alfred Airfoil, president of the Aeroplane Owners and Drivers Association, says the FAA study didn't go far enough and identify the cause of the danger. Airfoil said: "The real reason it's dangerous to fly around big airports is that all those big planes are using up the Bernoulli supply making our little airplanes hard to handle." [According to Dr. Phugoid G. Dutchroll, Gearvakf's Director of Aviation, Bernoullis are as important to airplane wings as Hertzes are to ham radios— ED]. Mr. Airfoil suggested that the FAA face up to the problem of the Bernoulli shortage and establish Bernoulli use factors for all large airports. He called for "immediate Bernoulli rationing for all airplanes with wingspans over 40 feet." When contacted about Airfoil's statement, FAA spokesperson, Jamiee Leigh Gyro, said that "Mr. Airfoil is obviously one wing short." WB7TGQ

**Answers to Gearvakf technical quiz**

The answers to last year's unpublished technical quiz were released this week by the Gearvakf Technical Committee. They are: 1. (a); 2. (d); 3. (c); 4. (c); 5. no; 6. yes; 7. (d); 8. (a); 9. true; 10. false; 11. (e); 12. never; 13. (g); 14. always; 15. Ed Cotton; 16. kilocycles-per-second; 17. megatons; 18. rats; 19. torque; 20. Jake brake.

**THE RANDOM WIRE**

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

GEEZ!

It's Spring already, and as I sit here at the keyboard composing my thoughts, it is raining, with the prediction of MORE SNOW! When is it ever gonna end? And they say that there is such a thing as "global warming". What a bunch of hooley!

DAYTON

The worlds largest annual gathering of hams that they call the Dayton Hamvention (*registered trademark here*) will soon be upon us. To those of you that are planning on attending this largest of all hamfests, I envy you, as I will be unable to attend for the second year in a row due to circumstances beyond my control. I made many of the Hamventions, and always had a great time, even when I didn't make any purchases to speak of. I think it is just great to see so many like minded people gathered together at one place to enjoy the same thing, which of course is Amateur Radio. For those of you that have never been there, you HAVE to make the trip at least once in your ham lifetime. Just the parking lots alone are amazing, with license plates from all over the U.S. And of course most everyone has a cap with their callsign planted on their heads. It is like a living callbook! You see callsigns from all over the country, as well as from many foreign countries. Not to mention seeing first hand the newest in ham technology in the form of new gadgets, the newest of radios and antennas, and in most cases, you get to meet and talk with the head honchos of the various companies represented there. It is really too much for one to take in, in one day. You should spend at least two days there to be able to see all the displays inside the arena, and to take in the massive outdoor flea market. It really gets hectic if it rains, with almost everyone that would have been out in the flea market swelling the already large crowd in the arena! So if you are planning to make the trek this year, enjoy, and have a great time. I wish I could be there.  
*continued on next page....*

## FIELD DAY 2008

Yes, Field Day will be upon us soon as well. If you plan on participating this year, get in touch with the C.A.R.S. Field Day chairman, Toby, WT8O and let him know in what capacity you wish to be a part of. I'm pretty sure that the stations have been already set, but you can always be an operator of any of the stations that are going to be in use. Even if you do not wish to operate, come on out anyway and enjoy the unique Field Day atmosphere.

## TOUR de CURE

Also coming in June, will be the annual American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure, which will once again be a joint effort of the Cleveland and Akron chapters of the Diabetes Associations. I will be giving you more information on this event as the time grows nearer and plans are set up. But I will be asking for as many volunteers from C.A.R.S. as I can get to help in this very worthwhile public service event. It promises to be run quite a bit better this year than last, having learned from the mistakes of last year, which was the first joint operation. It will be pretty much along the same routes as last years event, but with a different base for us radio ops. I have already been contacted regarding the event and when I have concrete information I will let you all know. I am not sure of the date for this years Tour de Cure, but as soon as I find out, I will announce it to the membership.

## TTFN

That wraps it up for this month guys and gals. Hope to year you on the air and see you at the meeting.

73 for now,  
de Tom, WB8N

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 that credit is given to this newsletter and the author, if known. All submissions should be e-mailed in .doc, .wpd, or .txt format, to [newsletter@2cars.org](mailto:newsletter@2cars.org) before the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication in the next month's issue. By reading these words, you have committed yourself to attending as many C.A.R.S. meetings as you can, checking in on the weekly club net, and volunteering for one of the many committees or public service efforts of this organization.



***Sign up now for CARS  
“Hands On” Basic  
operating skills class!***  
***This basic operating class is geared to  
Technician and General Class Hams but  
all Licensed Amateurs are welcome***

**This Two day class will be held on  
Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday  
April 17<sup>th</sup> 2008**

Classes will be at the Independence Civic Center,  
6363 Selig Dr. in the **RED OAK** room at 7:00 pm  
class fees: **NO CHARGE**



To register follow the link on [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org)  
and complete the application or call Bob W8GC at 216-524-1750

**Day 1:** We will explain how to operate on the air, discuss different types of antennas, plus some hands on simulated and live contacts with rigs. explain band plans, discuss and suggest what type of equipment to buy, antennas, and more with **NI8Z instructor**  
General operating procedures: VHF: 6 meters: SSB, FM, CW, what are calling frequencies and DX window, propagation, correct use of "Q" signals, internet clusters, Beacons, grid squares, protocol on simplex/repeaters, logging & contest software  
**K8ME & W8GC instructing**

2 meters: show a short movie, demo how to use HTs, mobile and fixed stations including setting memory channels, simplex, repeaters, PLs etc, protocol on simplex/repeaters, nets, antennas and ECOM. **KC8YSV & N8IS instructing**

Echolink/IRLP: what is Echolink and IRLP, how to get going, what to expect, how do they differ plus using LOTW. **W8GC instructing**

HF for the Tech or General: band plans - Tech & General, QSL cards & bureaus, Field Day operating **K8KR instructing**

**Day 2:** How to conduct a basic QSO - Do's & don't's on the air, correct phonetics and other basic operating skills along with approximately 1 ½ hours of hands on operating time with HTs and 1 or 2 fixed stations. **All instructors involved**

**CARS will also have a two/three day advanced class in May**

## CARS 2008 Officers & Committees

### Audit

WT8O \*\* W8HBI, K8KR

### Audio Video

Steve N8IS \*\* K8DAV

### ARRL Liaison & Media Representative

WT8O \*\*

### Awards

K8VJG \*\* W8HBI

### Christmas Party 2008

W8HBI \*\* NI8Z \*\* N8IS,

### School Programs

KD8V \*\* WA8SLN, K8VJG

### License classes

W8GC \*\* WT8O \*\* K8EHP, WA8SLN, K8VJG, N8IS, NI8Z

### Development

W8GC \*\* All officers

### Diabetes events

WB8N \*\* All CARS members

### Field Day

WT8O \*\* All CARS members

### Good Operating Practices class

W8GC \*\* NI8Z, N8IS, K8KR, K8ME, K8YSE

### Interference & Jamming

K8DAV \*\* NI8Z, N8IS,

### Mentor/Elmer & Community Education

W8GC \*\* K8VJG,

### Membership

W8GC \*\* W8HBI

### NET

WT8O \*\*

### Newsletter

WB8N \*\* 440-232-4193

### Club Photographer

KB8BMY \*\*

### Program director

WT8O \*\*

### Property Custodian s

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

### QSL manager - NO8A, W8BM & WA8CMS

WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments

KB8UGT \*\* NI8Z \*\* K8VJG

### 50/50

N8KAY \*\* N8IS

### Scholarship

WA8SLN \*\* NI8Z, WT8O, N8SRJ, K8VJG

### Sunshine (welfare)

Scotty Shields WA8SLN 216-524-2358

### Technical

K8DAV\*\* W8GC \*\* N8OVW

### VE exams

NI8Z \*\* 216-642-8705

### Web Master/e-mail

K8DAV \*\* W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman



### 2008 Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Scotty Shields WA8SLN 216-524-2358  
[president@2cars.org](mailto:president@2cars.org)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-572-1544  
[vice-president@2cars.org](mailto:vice-president@2cars.org)

#### SECRETARY

Steve Jones N8SRJ 330-351-2181 c  
[secretary@2cars.org](mailto:secretary@2cars.org)

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Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750  
[treasurer@2cars.org](mailto:treasurer@2cars.org)

#### ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Tina Check W8HBI 216-520-2621

### Board Members & License Trustees

#### Board Chairman

K8DAV

#### even year executive board 2 year term

K8DAV  
K8VJG  
KB8UGT

#### odd year executive board 2 year term

K8KR  
NI8Z  
WB8N

#### K8ZFR trustee

K8DAV

#### NO8A, WA8CMS & W8BM trustee

W8GC

