

# The Wobbly Oscillator Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

NO8A Special Event Call

K8ZFR Cleveland Area Repeaters 146.82 - 443.825 - 444.75



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## ***C.A.R.S. MEMBERS HELP MAKE DIABETES WALK A SUCCESS!! DETAILS INSIDE THE RANDOM WIRE***

### ***FROM THE PREZ***

Summer sure went quick, and C.A.R.S. members participated in quite a few varied activities. Now that we are back to our indoor meetings, and autumn is here; there are more things to interest an active ham. The first weekend in October was the annual Diabetes Association Walk to Fight Diabetes. C.A.R.S. has continued to provide the communications for the event support as it has done for many years. . This is a good opportunity for amateurs to help with public service and hone their operating skills. The following week, the C.A.R.S. licensing classes will begin. This will be the second session the club has done this year. The past classes have brought many hams into the hobby, as well as upgraded many more. If you have any friends or relatives who show an interest in what we do, suggest the sign up for the class and become part of the fellowship of hams.

The fall is also a fine time to get involved with radio contesting. A couple of the most popular contests are coming up. The ARRL November Sweepstakes will take place right before Thanksgiving. This is one of the most popular contests and has a lot of activity. Not only is it a good way to enjoy a damp autumn weekend, but it is an easy way to achieve the Worked All States award. Soon after is the Ten Meter contest. Although ten meters is pretty slow

these days, the band can get pretty lively for the contest. There are many other contests that one can get involved with during the fall and winter. Good luck to all who participate.

Another event to prepare for is the C.A.R.S. Christmas party. Although the committee will do the work, members can make plans to attend and get their tickets in advance. This year's party promises to be extra special. With the appearance of Santa Claus, himself, it will be a great family activity, so bring the kids.  
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Another important part of the party will be the Scholarship Raffle. This good cause has been one of the great success stories of C.A.R.S. Our scholarships have helped many students with their college expenses over the years. The key to this will be the sale of tickets. Please help by selling some. The tickets are available through Bob Check, W8GC. He will be more than happy to supply you with tickets if you contact him. Bob also brings pack of tickets to the monthly meetings, so they can be picked up there as well.

Don't forget we always meet on the air Wednesdays at 9:00 PM for the club net.

73, Toby, WT8O

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### **SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

The C.A.R.S. September monthly meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President Toby Kolman, WT8O on the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month. The meeting was held at Bush Funeral Chapel Community Room in Parma, Oh. Twenty four members and one guest introduced themselves to begin the meeting.

Bob KC8MRC motioned to accept the August minutes as published in the September Wobbly Oscillator, and Dwaine K8ME seconded. There were no additions, or questions so the members passed the motion.

Toby WT8O mentioned that the Vice President and Secretary are both absent tonight.

Bob, W8GC then gave the treasury report and stated that the treasury was about same as last month, then mentioned it's time to start purchasing scholarship raffle tickets.

Gary, NI8Z gave his VE report and stated there is a testing session this Sunday, Sept. 11. Gary mentioned that one person is coming from Pennsylvania and another from Doylestown, Ohio to take their tests.

Scotty, WA8SLN, Sunshine Chairman sent no cards this month so the Sunshine report truly was good. Scotty said we were notified that Frank Habar, WD8INH had passed away about a year ago but that we had no idea until his wife contacted us, upset that he was still being sent the WO. No card was sent

since his wife seemed upset that we didn't know. A thank you card was received from Joe Phillips wife.

Toby, WT8O read a thank you card from Tina, W8HBI who won a CARS Scholarship this year.

Bob, W8GC talked about the Copley VE Session. Three students are new Tech's and one upgraded to General. Two students who were trying to upgrade to General and Extra did not pass their tests We hope they will be at the VE Session this Sunday to try again. Also the board plans to discuss options for Copley High School club at Sunday's Board Meeting.

Toby, WT8O talked about a recent trip to visit family in Phoenix Arizona. He said he went to the Phoenix Science Center and upon walking in saw a Tri Bander, Vertical and Wire Antennas on the building. When he found the Ham Radio Station he learned that they weren't allowed to have a station – so they had a computer set up and only used Echolink. He hopes they might check into our net sometime.

Tom, WB8N said he still needs more volunteers for the Diabetes Walk on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also plans to get the route ahead of time so things can be more organized prior to the day. If you want to volunteer please call Tom or send him a e-mail.

Toby, WT8O discussed a new field day location and said Ed Stevens, WB8ROK had some information to share. Ed visited the Metroparks near Rocky River and said it's high with no obstacles and could be booked ahead of time. But that there is no water, washrooms or shelter. Just a open field. He also went to a site across from the Lake Erie Science Center in Bay Village. We might be able to use the field across from the Planetarium. There is some discussion about getting a permit issued during the summer months since it's a public area that others can use, and also needing to firm up details to make sure we have access. Toby said he would like to take a ride out there himself to see the location and thanked Ed for all his

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efforts in trying to locate a new site for Field Day.

Toby reminded everyone that the fall License Classes will begin on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Bob, W8GC mentioned he will hold a short meeting about two weeks before for the instructors. So far nine or ten have signed up.

Bill, WU8A mentioned that the Christmas Party will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Independence Civic Center. Cost is \$16 for Adults and \$8.00 for kids. This year it's being catered by Damon's Grill. Entree choices are Beef Brisket w/Au Jus, Thai Salmon or Barbecue Boneless Chicken Breast. Side Dishes are Green Beans, Garlic Mashed Potatoes w/gravy and Macaroni & Cheese. It would be great if you could bring a dessert to share. Also a special guest (SANTA CLAUS) will be attending this year.

Ron, K8VJG mentioned that Glorioso Island should be coming up for Dx'ers who might be interested. Bob W8GC added that they might be up Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> or Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> if all goes well.

Bob, W8GC moved that the club donate the club's portion of the 50/50 to sponsor Angie Farmer - the stepdaughter of Tom, WB8N who is walking in her mothers honor at the Diabetes Event on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tina, W8HBI seconded. A vote was held and it passed unanimously.

Bill, WA8GEO mentioned if anyone has any information on a 30 feet telescopic mast he is interested. Toby, WT8O mentioned he might have something that will work.

Refreshments: coffee-Gary NI8Z, drinks-Mike KB8UGT, donuts-Ron K8JJG. Thanks for doing a great service.

Darren, K8DMT won the 50/50 drawing, with \$21.00 going to him.

Steve, N8IS made the motion to close the meeting, Ron, K8VJG seconded the motion and the meeting was closed at 8:20 P.M..

Submitted by Tina Check W8HBI (sitting in for Secretary)

## ***NEWS YOU CAN USE***

From Tina Check, W8HBI:  
Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> -- but I wanted to let you know about three important things.

#1 The second drawing for the CARS Scholarship Raffle will take place at our Christmas Party. Santa Claus will be pulling the winning tickets this time !! Please send me an e-mail if you would like me to mail you some tickets to sell. (Top sellers will also receive a gift card or free tickets like last time.) They are \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5 --- and Prizes are 1st place \$300 --- 2nd place \$200 and 3rd place \$100. Support a worthy cause and win some money to buy your Christmas gifts !! You can also send \$\$ through PayPal to [bob@2cls.com](mailto:bob@2cls.com) and we can mail you the purchased tickets.

As mentioned above, the CARS Christmas Party will be Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Independence Civic Center. Damon's is our cater this year -- and Santa Claus will entertain and be available for photos. So come have a great evening !! Tickets are \$16.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children 7 to 12 yrs old. We will have tickets available at the next CARS Meeting. Or you can purchase them online by sending money through PayPal to [bob@2cls.com](mailto:bob@2cls.com).

B & B Embroidery who makes all the CARS Merchandise (hats, shirts, & jackets) is offering a special. Anyone who places a order with us by Nov 30<sup>th</sup> will receive a FREE HAT with their order. (The hat can be a club hat or any of the hats featured on his webpage except for the 3M Reflective Hats.) see website at:

<http://www.hamthreads.com/listings.cfm?i=1&CFID=1124299&CFTOKEN=91112021>

You can view all CARS merchandise that is available at

<http://www.2cars.org/Miscellaneous.htm>.

Orders can be taken at a club meeting or by sending money and the information through PayPal to [bob@2cls.com](mailto:bob@2cls.com).

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***C.A.R.S. Net, every Wednesday at  
9:00 P.M. Be There on 146.820 !***

I Hope everyone enjoyed the nice weather -- and is gearing up for a beautiful FALL. If anyone has questions about any of the items above please reply to this e-mail or call me at 216-952-2520.

Tina, W8HBI  
Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

From Steve Hnatiak, N8SMH:

After October 31, 2009, GLA Systems — the manufacturer of the **Texas Bug Catcher** antennas — will cease taking orders for new antennas; according to their Web site, all orders received before that date will be filled. "Effective November 1, only orders for items that are in stock at the time will be accepted. Effective December 31, 2009, the toll free line, 1-800-588-2841, will be discontinued." No reason was given for the closure, but on GLA's Web site, owner Henry Allen, K5BUG, said "It has been a fun 30 years, but it is time to hang it up. I would like to thank everyone who has made this experience possible."

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### ***A CLOSER LOOK***

*This month we're going to get a closer look at two of our members - Ed.*

#### **A Closer Look at Ron Borkey, K8VJG**

*Where were you born?* Cleveland, Ohio

*What is your favorite childhood memory?* Going to see movies at the theater every Saturday afternoon. (Serial series type of movies)

*If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be and why?* 28. (You didn't tell us why Ron.)

*What is your favorite food?* Fish

*What are your favorite TV shows?* Bill O'Reilly, ABC News and the Fox News Network.

*What are your favorite movies?* Singing in The Rain, Tora Tora Tora, Gone With The Wind., The Eddie Duchin Story. (That's going back a bit Ron...anything a little more recent?)

*What type of music do you enjoy the most?* Big Band from the 1940's, Classical and tunes from the 1940 and 1950 era, &. Country and Western.

*What one thing do you make it a habit to do every*

*day?* Getting out of bed!!! Ugh.

*What would be your ideal job, other than your current one or retired position?* Retired. (???)  
*Who or what always makes you laugh?* Paying my taxes? Humorous jokes or conundrums. (Careful there Ron...this is a family newsletter.)

*What one thing would people be surprised to know about you?* My source of humor?

*If you could pick one place in the world to visit, where would it be and why?* Rome, Italy for the history and its beauty.

*If you could be an animal which one would it be?* A dog (I was going to say Giraffe so I wouldn't have to stick my neck out for anyone!)

*If you won the lottery would be the first thing you would do with the money?* Pay the IRS and the State of Ohio what they charge, not that I have a choice.

#### **A Closer Look at Roger Boehnlein, N8TCP**

*Where were you born?* Berea Hospital, which is now a nursing home.

*What is your favorite childhood memory?* My grandparents farm in Chardon.

*If you could be stuck at one age forever, what age would that be and why?* Any age, cause you're alive.

*What's your favorite food?* Chicken Paprikash.

*What are your favorite tv shows?* Heros & Dancing With the Stars.

*What are your favorite movies?* The Alien series.

*What type of music do you enjoy the most?* I enjoy all types.

*What one thing do you make it a habit to do every day?* Be nice to others.

*If you could pick one place in the world to visit where would it be and why?* Alaska, great views.

*If you could be an animal, which one would it be?* A cat.

*If you won the lottery, what would be the first thing you'd do with the money?* Donate to the Church.

## ***A TALE OF ROTATING ANTENNAS***

By Metro Sinko, W8MET

IN THE BEGINNING, W8GC BOUGHT A 4 ELEMENT STEPPIR. HE THEN SOLD IT TO N18Z.....N8IS BOUGHT A 3 ELEMENT STEPPIR AND SOLD IT TO K8VJG.....W8MET BOUGHT A 3 ELEMENT STEPPIR WITH 30/40 ADD-ON AND SOLD IT TO N8IS.....W8MET BOUGHT A STEPPIR DB18E AND TOGETHER WITH N8IS REMOVED AND INSTALLED.....ALL WERE HAPPY IN THIS SHORT STORY. THE END...QRT 73

*(Metro is a man of few words ...Ed)*

HERE are some pics of Metro's antenna party.



The "Dragon Fly" antenna with the tower on it's side in the background.



Metro, W8MET putting his antenna together in his garage.



Reach for the sky!...Steve, N8IS holding W8MET's antenna with Metro's & Linda's dog Trigger barking orders.

***OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS***

**K8DAV Dave Kushman 10-3-44**

**WT80 Toby Kolman 10-4-48**

**K8AAB Bob Evans 10-4-41**

**K8SAS Steve Spisak 10-12**

**K8DMT Darren Turk 10-20**

**N8GXR James Glor 10-22-49**

**WA8EYF Ev Chitester 10-22-31**

**WD8IOU David Autry Jr 10-26-55**

**KB8VJQ Carol Shaw 10-27-34**

**K8TJM Terry McCann 10-29-55**

*Happy Birthday to all and many happy returns.*

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***AN OLD FRIEND PASSES AWAY***

Submitted by Bob Check, W8GC

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, by the name of *Common Sense*. Common Sense lived a long life but died in the United States from heart failure at the beginning of the new millennium.

No one really knows how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense.

He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life simply isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you

earn), reliable parenting strategies (adults, not children, are in charge), and it's okay to come in second.

A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression and the Technological Revolution, Common Sense survived cultural and educational trends including whole language and new math.

But his health declined when he became infected with the "If- It -Only - Helps - One-Person - It - Is - Worth - It Virus".

In recent decades, his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of well-intentioned, but over-bearing regulations.

He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self seeking lawyers.

His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero-tolerance policies. Reports of the six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for using a swish of mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition.

It declined even further when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student, but could not inform the parents when a female student was pregnant and wanted a abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than victims, and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from the Boy Scouts to professional sports.

Finally, when a woman failed to recognize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot and was awarded a huge settlement, Common Sense gave up the ghost.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility, and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers: My Right and Ima Whiner.

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Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

—Author Unknown

I don't know who wrote this obituary, but sad to say it is all too true. Fortunately, the death of Common Sense in the general society does not kill him in the individual, and he remains alive and well in a few folks and communities across our nation. - Bob Check, W8GC

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### ***THE RANDOM WIRE***

By Tom Wayne, WB8N

#### **ANOTHER CLEVELAND HAMFEST**

Well, another Cleveland Hamfest is history. I was a bit worried about the weather when I got up Sunday morning, but as luck would have it, ole Mother Nature came through and it stopped raining and the weather remained nice the rest of the day!

I was looking for some wire connectors and was successful finding them with NI8Z's assistance. Gary found what he wanted as well, and Adam, N8MOX got some PL-259's that he needed. Not big purchases, but that's not the only reason we go to hamfests, is it?

I like to go just to see faces I haven't seen since the last hamfest. I did run into several hams that I had not seen in awhile and stopped to chat with them all.

From what I hear, those that had a table inside or out in the flea market had a good day a lot of, if not all, of the "stuff" that they lugged out there, so that's a good thing.

The size of the Cleveland Hamfest seems to get smaller each year. This year there was only one building with sellers in it, and there were not as many rows of sellers in the flea market either I don't think.

But the weather cooperated and I thought that the turnout was good, and hams were successful in finding that treasure that they just couldn't do without too!

#### **STEP OUT: WALK TO FIGHT DIABETES**

The 2009, Step Out to Fight Diabetes walk took place on Sat. Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> and was a huge success. The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society can be proud of it's efforts to help make the walk a success. A total of 15 amateurs turned out for this public service, which C.A.R.S. has been doing for the past several years.

The weather cooperated, although it was a bit on the cool side in the morning. There was a good turnout of walkers raising money for the American Diabetes Assn. and a lot of volunteers working to make the event go smoothly, which it did.

A new group this year was the Jeepskool group, which is a bunch of guys and gals with Jeeps who do off-roading with their Jeeps, and also run a school to teach others how to do it. They had about 8 units at the walk, and they were equipped with Citizens Band radios. C.A.R.S. had an Amateur Radio op in two of the Jeeps so that we could be in contact with them. The Jeeps acted as SAG (safety & gear) wagons, transporting volunteers, supplies, and tired walkers. Martens Ambulance Co. provided a bus type vehicle which had a wheel chair lift and we had an operator on it as well.

I don't know how much money in pledges was raised, or how many walkers there were but as soon as I find out I'll let everyone know.

Communications went well, with our operators using the 146.820 repeater. I had a bit of a problem, as even though I charged both of my batteries the night before, they both died on me during the event and I had to revert to sitting in my vehicle in the parking lot using my mobile rig to finish out the event. I guess the batteries are getting old and just don't hold a charge so well anymore.

As a sidebar, my step-daughter, Angie Farmer, who besides being a volunteer with the Diabetes Assn., had a team walking the route. On her own she raised over \$1700.00 in pledges and her team over all, raised over \$3000.00. Her team was called "Team Lisa" in honor of her mother, my wife, Lisa Wayne, *continued on next page...*

who is suffering from the results of diabetes.

I want to thank the following Amateur Radio operators that provided communications for the event, in the name of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. "Buffalo" Jim Glor, N8GXR, who besides being a C.A.R.S. member living in Buffalo NY, is the president of the Lancaster ARC in New York. Jim comes down for this event every year and also takes part in the Tour de Cure each year. He had a friend with him, Kay Broughton, KD8IUX as well. Jim had to get back to Buffalo right after the event because his club is holding a hamfest the next day, and he wanted to stop at AES on the way home as well. NI8Z, Gary Dewey, just back from a few days of golfing in New York. It was a good thing I gave him a wake-up call in the morning because he would not have made the event otherwise. Next, Ron Borkey, K8VJG who after doing this event with us every year, still needed directions to the amphitheater. We love ya Ron! Steve Spisak, K8SAS brought his wife Chris along...when are you going to get her to get a license Steve? Mike Cegelski, K8EHP was there, although this year Mike was without his wife Mary, KC8YLC, as she was with their newly born grandchild who checked into this world at around 2:00 a.m. Congratulations Mike & Mary! David Noeth, KD8ACO came out and was a big help holding fort by the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Mike Gamber, KG8MTG would have been with us if he could have, but Mike is recuperating from heart surgery. He is at home and doing well and will be with us next year, I'm sure. Gary Berkowitz, K8REF was on the Martens Ambulance unit. Gary came to chilly downtown Cleveland from sunny Medina Ohio where the surf is up and the Coronas are too. Mike Toth, KB8RKF was with us stationed along the route, keeping track of the walkers on E. 9<sup>th</sup> street. Glenn Fenzel, WB8CDA, a long time C.A.R.S. member, was with us for the first time this year. Glenn wants to become more active in ham radio than he has been in recent years. Mike Baloch, KB8UGT was with us as well. Mike has been a regular at this

event for as long as he's been a member of C.A.R.S. I believe. Bill Brown, N8BBB rode on one of the Jeeps and helped us keep in touch with the Jeep crew. Bill has been our cook at the last two Field Days. Ed Senkus, NC8ED was an unexpected surprise, coming out at the last minute. Ed didn't know until just before the event if he would be able to make it. Glad he did, as we had a cancellation in the person of our President, Toby Kolman, WT8O, whose mother is very ill and he needed to be with her. Family does come first in this hobby. Last but not least, I thank Tom Pechnik, a relatively new ham, who I hope to recruit as a C.A.R.S. member. Tom "bird-dogged" the gal in charge of the Diabetes Walk, from the Cleveland Chapter of the American Diabetes Association, Patti Clair. His job was to stick with her, monitor the communications traffic and get answers to Patti's questions and pass information on to her regarding happenings along the walk route

There were a few minor glitches along the route, which mostly had to do with volunteer manning which was to give directions to the walkers, and in supplying and manning the rest stops in a timely manner, but that was due to volunteers that had promised to be there, did not show up. They probably looked out the window and saw a few clouds and decided to stay in bed. Yeah, well...we know who they are and K8KR's pal Luca Brazzi just might be paying them a visit and that could be ugly! But, via the expert communications of our Amateurs, we took care of the problems.

A great job was done by all, and I know that the Diabetes Assn. greatly appreciates our efforts. I am going to count on all the hams that came out this year to be there again next year. I have a list of all of you. Even though we are called "amateurs", you all performed in a professional manner.

This year, I got a little more involved in the planning of the event in the respect of suggestions to the guy who helped plan the walk route and communications between units.  
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On Friday, the day before the walk, I met with Kevin Nolan, general manager of Martens & Sons Ambulance, Michael Kelley, a Diabetes Assn. volunteer that pretty much finalized the route and coordinated the volunteers that were to be manning the route, and John Walls, another official of Martens, at the Martens & Sons facility in Valley View. We took an Martens van, driven by Kevin, and drove over the walk route, checking where volunteers and radio operators should be placed. This was very helpful to me because I was able to make assignments of radio operators ahead of time instead of having to wait until we got to the amphitheater, getting maps and trying to figure out operator placements along the route at the last minute, which was sort of hectic in the past.

And, last but not least, C.A.R.S. had it's logo on a poster of logos of the various companies and organizations helping out with this event, as well as it's name mentioned more than once in the "Passport" program which was handed out to each walker as they signed in for the walk.

Once again, I want to wholeheartedly thank each of the Amateur volunteers that came out for this worthy event.

FROM WEAVERS WORDS NEWSLETTER

By Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, ARRL  
Great Lakes Division

There appeared to be a ghostly recipient in last month's listing of scholarships awarded to Division amateurs through the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). The scholarship was listed, but the name of the recipient somehow was lost in the rare ethers around my laptop.

Who was the mysterious winner? It was none other than Christina Check, W8HBI. Tina won a QCWA SK \$1000 scholarship. And yes, it was her daughter, Kayla, N8KAY who won the QCWA Myerson scholarship. And, yes again, this all made Bob Check, W8GC a proud father and grandfather.  
Congratulations Tina & Kayla

REMINDER

Don't forget that the October C.A.R.S. meeting is Tuesday, October 12, at 7:30 p.m. Lets try to make this meeting, as we will be making nominations for officers for coming year. If there is a member you know that hasn't made a meeting in awhile, give them a call and get them out to the meeting!

WEDNESDAY EVENING C.A.R.S. NET

It would be great if we had a few more check-ins on the weekly C.A.R.S. net guys and gals. We were averaging around 20 check-ns and sometimes more, but as of late we have been hitting the 15 check-ns mark, with some members who regularly check into the net, not doing so. I'm sure they had a good reason, or like me sometimes, fell asleep before the net started, but we could use more check-ins anyhow. Our total check-ns each week is less than 25% of our total membership in C.A.R.S. So c'mon, I know we can do better than that. Just tie a string around your finger as a reminder (although you may need a reminder as to what the string is for) or have your wonderful significant other remind you. It goes like this..."Honey, don't you have to check into the net tonight?" Yeah, I know, lots of luck on that deal. But seriously, it would really, really be great to bring our check-n total up to at least an average of 25 check-ins each week!

TTFN

With that, I'm outta here for another month. Catch you on the air or see you at the meeting. 73 for now,  
de Tom, WB8N

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