

# The Wobbly Oscillator



**Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society**

**February 2019    Volume 49    Number 2**



## *License Classes Start This Month*

### **From The Prez**

#### **February Meeting Program**

The February meeting program will be a discussion after we watch two short videos showing opposite views concerning Chinese handheld radios. These radios have flooded the market causing quite a stir. The point-counterpoint videos argue the legitimacy of these radios' ability to transmit outside the amateur frequency limits.

I've mentioned this subject to some members and they have strong opinions concerning these and other radios with no FCC approval. The FCC approval policy is also a concern. Apprehension exists regarding the decreasing lack of scrutiny about sales of amateur transmitting equipment to unlicensed individuals. The feedback I have received leads me believe we will have one heck of a discussion

If you wish to get a head start on the meeting program, here are the links to the YouTube videos we will watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YG8PU1eG6Cc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBMdo5TL8A>

You will certainly come across many others that will add to your knowledge and opinions.

#### **Dinner Meeting Location**

Last month we decided we would choose a restaurant for the March dinner meeting in February. Our default recently has been Simon's in Brecksville. It is a great place for our dinner meetings. The food is excellent and there is a large range of prices that should suit most budgets. On top of that, the room is quite accommodating and the service is outstanding.

*(Continued next page)*

The only problem with Simon's is the location may be inconvenient for some. Some members may wish to try somewhere new and different, or possibly go to the Fugi Grill that many liked and suited us well. In any event, we will select a place at the meeting. Suggestions for another eatery will be welcomed. Please remember we need a separate room that is large enough to accommodate us, the option to order off a menu and no additional room charge or mandatory gratuities.

Hope to see you all at the February meeting at Busch.

73, Toby, WT8O

### **Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Business Meeting Minutes**

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:31 PM on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the month at the Busch Community room. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The November 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 Business meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the January 2019 *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance. Bob also reminded the group to please pay your Club dues. The rates are posted on the Club Web site under the "Join CARS" button.

You may also renew your ARRL dues through CARS. See Bob for details. The club receives a portion on dues renewals as well as new memberships.

Toby reminded the meeting attendees to please keep your information current. Bob lost the crystal ball! If you have personal information changes, please let Toby or Bob know so updates can be made. Toby will contact members for their birthday information. Bob also uses this information for senior member dues.

Toby also reminded the group to sign the meeting sign-in sheet.

Toby stated that the presentation slots for January, February and March are filled but presentations are still needed for the remainder of the year.

Toby also asked the group if anyone was interested in handling the soft drink duties for the meeting. Ed, WB8ROK, is retiring from the position. Ron, K8RJH, was willing to help if someone else is interested as well. Toby said he would assist as well for the time being.

Toby also asked for *W.O.* contributions either articles and or pictures. If you also have items for sale, submit them to Toby so the items can be added to the *W.O.* There is a section in the *W.O.* for items to sell.

The March dinner meeting location will be discussed at the February meeting. The October meeting was at Simon's in Brecksville. If anyone has a different location idea then let Toby know.

George, K8KR, and Gary, NI8Z, are retiring as Net Control Operators. Toby is looking for two new Net Control Operators to join the current roster of five. Anyone interested in being a Net Controller, let Toby know.

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Mark, WJ8WM, and Larry, N8OWS, had nothing to report.

There were no new Public Service items to discuss. Bob, K8MD, mentioned that the next Cuyahoga County ARES meeting is this Sunday at the Independence Library on Selig Drive at 2:00 PM.

Toby thanked the Refreshment Committee for all their work. David, KD8ACO, added that the first CARS license class will be Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The location is Seven Hills City Hall. Classes run each Thursday at 6:30 PM. The classes will run through April 11<sup>th</sup> with the VE test session that evening. The Technician class question pool changed as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. CARS has the new question pool available for Technician class students. The General class question pool will expire as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



*Gordon, AI8Y, and Toby, WT8O, explain construction of a ladder line J-pole antenna.*

Metro, W8MET, stated that the next VE session is January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. He also reminded the group that DX Engineering was having their “Winter Sale Day” on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Scott, AC8NW, reported that Vince, N8OVW, did some work at the Brunswick and Brecksville repeater sites.

There were 30 members and guests in attendance this evening.

Gene, KE8GUZ, won the 50/50 raffle.

The program tonight was “A 2 meter antenna made from Ladder line” presented by Gordon, AI8Y.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

### **VE Session**

The CARS January VE session brought five new hams into the Amateur Radio Service. Nicholas Barbuto, James Layne, Gregory Lowell, Andrew Mitchell and David Stern passed their Technician exams becoming licensed amateurs. We welcome Nicholas, James, Gregory, Andrew and Robert into the ham radio hobby and CARS. Steve Dewey, N8BVD, upgraded to General. Brian Schmiedlin, KE8KYH, passed the Amateur Extra exam. Congratulations to all.

Special thanks to our outstanding VE team, capably led by Metro, W8MET, and consisting of Gary, NI8Z; Dave, NF8O; Larry, N8OWS; George, K8KR, and Darren, K8DMT.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or [metro351@sbcglobal.net](mailto:metro351@sbcglobal.net) As always, walk-ins are welcome.

**Dues Notice  
Bob, W8GC**

Your 2019 CARS dues are payable on or before January 31, 2018. If you have already paid THANK YOU.

Dues can be paid in 3 ways:

Online by sending the funds via PayPal to:

[w8gc@2cars.org](mailto:w8gc@2cars.org)

PLEASE USE PERSONAL OPTION.

You can also mail a check to:

CARS  
7395 Brecksville Rd.  
Independence, OH 44131

Pay in person at any CARS meeting.

Dues are \$26.00 per year for regular membership.  
Each additional family member is \$16.00. If you  
are 60 yrs. or older, your dues are only \$18.00 per year.

CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship.

Please let me know if you have a hardship or know a  
member who needs help.



**School Radio Club  
Toby, WT8O**

We need to focus on starting another school radio club. This endeavor epitomizes the expression “easy to say, hard to do.” The advantages will be worth the effort. Amateur radio needs young members to sustain and survive. Attracting young people in this day and age is quite a challenge. Kids now can whip out a device smaller than a deck of cards and call anywhere in the world. Social media keeps them in just about any communication loop they care to be part of. To them ham radio seems Stone Age.

When we worked with students at schools participating in events and they actually had a mike in their hands and communicated over the bands, you could see in them the excitement and interest we all feel. There’s just something different about radio as opposed to a phone. The kids seem to dig it. They gain pride when they learn their call sign is unique to them. That short little group of letters and a number is theirs and theirs alone, the only one like it in the world. That pride increases as they learn their signal can go worldwide independent of wires or infrastructure.

Our mission, should we choose to accept it, is to get some young people involved in ham radio through the establishment of a school radio club. There are plenty of school clubs around; it’s not an impossible dream.

## 2019 Scholarships Bob, W8GC

To all CARS members, it is time to plan to apply for your 2019 CARS scholarship award. We will be awarding up to two (2) \$750.00 scholarships again this year. These will be awarded to **any CARS member, son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter** who is graduating or has graduated high school, received a G.E.D. or successfully passed home schooled high school certification and is going on to a higher Education. A CARS check will be issued to the two winning recipients upon submission of a successful enrollment in any certified continuing vocational education program, college program or other appropriate accredited school.

We must receive a **completed Application on or before May 31, 2019**. Just go to the CARS home page and click on Member info in the left column, select *Scholarship application*.

**Remember the user name is "member" and password is "W8HBI"**, Print the application, complete and return it to 7395 Brecksville Rd, Independence, OH 44131 ASAP.

The committee will select the recipients from all received applications.

Again we will be awarding two \$750.00 Scholarships to deserving students.

***If you have any questions please call or email:***

Bob Check, W8GC  
7395 Brecksville Rd.  
Independence, OH 44131  
216-524-1750  
[Bob@2cls.com](mailto:Bob@2cls.com)



*George, K8KR, receives an award and accolades from the members for his long service as a CARS net controller.*

## Boy Scouts Toby, WT8O

We used to have involvement with the local Boy Scouts; for whatever reason that association petered out. It would definitely behoove CARS to get back in the game. We are the Amateur Radio Service; it is our responsibility to help out when and where we are able. Sharing our collective centuries of experience with the youth of America helps achieve that goal. The amateur radio population in general, and CARS specifically, is getting pretty long in the tooth-we desperately need an influx of youth. A side benefit would be the potential for new, younger club members. We could also invite the Scouts to Field Day where they could be part of our Youth Participation bonus activity.

The Boy Scouts have merit badges for Radio, Communications, Electronics and Emergency Preparedness that we could definitely help them with. Every October the Boy Scouts hold their annual Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA; when the Scouts set up stations for the weekend all over the world. They also have amateur stations set up at the World Jamboree in July. Having CARS assist local Scouts would be a win-win scenario.

Any club member who has any contact with an individual Boy Scout or a Boy Scout troop would give us a leg up getting involved. So if you do, please bring it to the attention of the club and we can get the show on the road.

**Diversity  
Toby, WT8O**

The annual review of the CARS membership list revealed a lack of cultural diversity in our membership. Is it our area, the hobby or us? Cuyahoga County sure has its share of different ethnic cultures. Maybe being based on the west side of the crooked river has something to do with it. Querying the ARRL on the demographics of the League turned up nothing; they don't ask applicants or survey members about ethnic backgrounds. In the almost twenty years I have been a member of CARS I can't recall one of my fellow members slamming someone because of their background. The answer to why we are not that diverse is in the wind.

It would be super cool if we as members of such a fine radio club would bring the subject of diversity to our collective attention and try to do something to improve it.

What can we as individuals do? That's the tough part. We are a radio club, and require members to be licensed amateurs; we can't just ask anyone to join. If we know amateurs whose membership would increase our diversity, we should invite them to a meeting or one of our activities. If we know someone who shows interest in the hobby we could encourage them to become licensed, possibly with the aid of our annual licensing classes. If we know someone about to take the Technician exam, suggest they attend the CARS VE session where a passing score would automatically make them a CARS member. The above suggestions especially apply to so-called minority members who may have more contacts among family and friends.

It would really be an accomplishment and a feather in our cap if next year, or the year after our membership roll showed a noticeable increase in members of different cultural backgrounds.

***February  
Net Sked***

FEB 6 KD8ACO  
FEB 13 WT8O  
FEB 20 AC8NW  
FEB 27 KD8OUE

Nets are run every Wednesday at  
9:00 PM on 146.820 (PI 110.9)

**February Birthdays**

**Mike Balach, KBSUGT 2/2/55**  
**Diane Balach, KDSFTV 2/7**  
**Gordon Kolus, AISY 2/9/54**  
**Gary Solomon, N8JNO 2/15/54**  
**Linas Vaitkus, KESKOJ 2/17/55**  
**Larry Shimerka, N8OWS 2/20/56**  
**David Noeth, KDSACO 2/22**  
**Doug Braun, KBSTGT 2/25/61**

# Radiosport

## Contests

Feb 2 0001-Feb 3 2359 **10-10 International Winter Contest, SSB** 28 Ph [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

Exchange: Name, member of "0," SPC

Feb 11 1300-Feb 15 2359 **ARRL School Club Roundup** All (No WARC) CW Ph

[www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup) Exchange: RS(T), Class(I/C/S), SPC

Feb 16 0000-Feb 17 2359 **ARRL International DX Contest CW** 1.8-28 CW [www.arrl.org/arrl-dx](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx)

Exchange: RST, SP or power

## Special Events Stations

Feb 13-Feb 17 0001-2359 **N4DAB** Daytona Beach, FL **2019 Daytona 500** 14.260 14.076 [www.n4dab.com](http://www.n4dab.com)

Feb 16-Feb 18 2300-2300 **W8QLY** Youngstown, OH **Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Assn. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniv.**

14.220 7.220 3.922 Certificate and QSL at [www.qrz.com/db/w8qly](http://www.qrz.com/db/w8qly) or [www.mvara.org](http://www.mvara.org)

## State QSO Parties

Feb 2 0000-Feb 3 2359 **Vermont QSO Party** 1.8-UHF CW Ph Dig [www.ranv.org/vtqso.html](http://www.ranv.org/vtqso.html)

Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC (State or Province)

Feb 2 1400-2359 **Minnesota QSO Party** 1.8-28 CW Ph Dig [www.w0aa.org](http://www.w0aa.org)

Exchange: Name, county or SPC

Feb 23 1500-Feb 24 0159 **South Carolina QSO Party** 1.8-50 CW Ph Dig [scqso.com/rules](http://scqso.com/rules)

Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

Feb 24 1500-Feb 25 0059 **North Carolina QSO Party** 3.5-144 CW Ph Dig [ncqsoparty.org/rules](http://ncqsoparty.org/rules)

Exchange: RST, SPC, name, member or power

Sampling from *QST* February 2019 Pg. 89 and 98, see *QST* for many more events.

All times in GMT ZULU time

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***Sign up now for  
CARS 2019 Winter  
Ham Radio classes,  
get your Technician,  
General or Extra class license!***

***Thursday evenings starting February 28, 2019  
and ending April 11, 2019 at 6:30 pm***

***April 11th will be a special VE Test session for all license classes,  
ARRL fee for this VE test is \$15.00***

***To register please follow the link at [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org) and complete  
the on-line application or call 216-932-8005 Dave, KD8ACO***

***Classes will be held at the Seven Hills City Hall, 7325 Summit View Dr  
Seven Hills, OH 44131 in room "C" at 6:30 pm every Thursday.  
The entrance is at the East end on the South side of building***

***class fees: Technician \$25.00, all who pass get a free CARS membership for  
2019, General and Extra \$20.00 non members or Extra is \$15.00 CARS  
members, General class ONLY is FREE to CARS members***

***All class materials are provided***



## CARS 2019 Officers & Committees

### Audit

WJ8WM \*\* WT8O, KD8OUE

### Audio/Video

AC8NW \*\*

### ARRL Liaison

WJ8WM \*\*

### Awards

W8GC \*\* WT8O

### Christmas party & Summer Picnic

KD8SCV \*\*, WJ8WM, K8ARP

### Club Photographer

N8OWS \*\*

### Field Day

WT8O \*\*, WJ8WM, K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, N8BBB food

### 50/50

WT8O

### License classes

KD8ACO \*\*, WT8O, K8SHB

### Media Representative

KD8SCV

### Membership

WT8O \*\* KE8IHP

### NET

WT8O \*\*

### Newsletter

WT8O \*\* 440-525-6109  
wt8o@att.net

### Programs at Meetings

KD8QBB \*\*

### Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

### Public Services

K8ARP \*\* KD8FTS

### QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM

WB8N \*\*

### Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic

KD8SCV \*\* pop, AI8Y \*\* coffee,  
NW8X \*\* Donuts

### Scholarship

W8GC \*\* WJ8WM, KD8SCV, N8OWS, WB8N

### Sunshine (welfare)

Andy, KD8SCV \*\* 440-886-0723

### Technical

AC8NW \*\* N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO,  
KD8RKF, K8MD, KB8DTC

### VE Exams

Metro, W8MET \*\* 216-520-1320

### Web Master/e-mail

W8GC \*\*

\*\* chairman or co-chairman

## 2019 Officers

### PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109  
wt8o@att.net

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

### SECRETARY

Larry Shimerka, N8OWS 216-647-2484

### TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

## Board Members & License Trustees

### Board Chairman

Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723

even year executive board 2 year term  
K8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

odd year executive board 2 year term  
KD8SCV, K8ARP, WB8ROK

### License trustee K8ZFR

WT8O

### License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,  
W8GC



December 15, 2018