

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

APRIL 2022 Volume 52 Number 4



Hams Who Serve
Emergency Service



Mike Dobeck

Special Guest at April Meeting

From The Prez

**Mike Dobeck, K8CKC, Secret Service Agent: Retired
To Speak at the April Meeting**

We are in for an extremely special evening at our April meeting when Mike Dobeck, K8CKC, will speak about his career with the United States Secret Service. Mike was a Special Agent for 34 years. He began his career in the Cleveland Field Office. He was transferred to the Atlanta Field Office where he investigated telecommunications fraud, and later to Secret Service Headquarters in Washington DC where he managed the Electronic Crimes Program. These are just the high points of Mike's service, and he will certainly go into greater detail at the meeting.

Mike worked with financial crimes, counterfeit currency investigations, and, of course, presidential protection. He wound up his career as Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Cleveland Field Office.

You don't want to miss this one!

Hamvention Bus

Now is the time to sign up for the Hamvention bus, we're all rarin' to get down to the Hamvention after a two-year hiatus in the international event. Bus reservations and payments can be made on the CARS website (www.2cars.org), just follow the link on the home page. Within hours after the registration information was posted, there were already reservations. So, there is no reason to dilly dally about signing up for the bus, since seating is limited.

The luxury motor coach will leave Bagley and I-71 at 5:00 AM on May 21st, make a quick stop at Route 303 and I-71 at 5:30, and then roll down to the Greene County Fairgrounds non-stop to arrive when the gates open. The bus will return in the early evening with the riders determining if a meal stop is in order. We must say "Thanks" to Scott, AC8NW, for using his connection with the bus company and getting us a feasible rate. All the other transit companies we have used in the past have raised their rates beyond affordability. We have kept our price to \$50.00.

If you have never been to a Hamvention, make this the year to go. We are so fortunate to have the premier international ham radio event so close that is a short bus ride away. Hams come from all over the world to attend the Hamvention spending great amounts of time and money to get there.

So "Hop on the bus Gus."

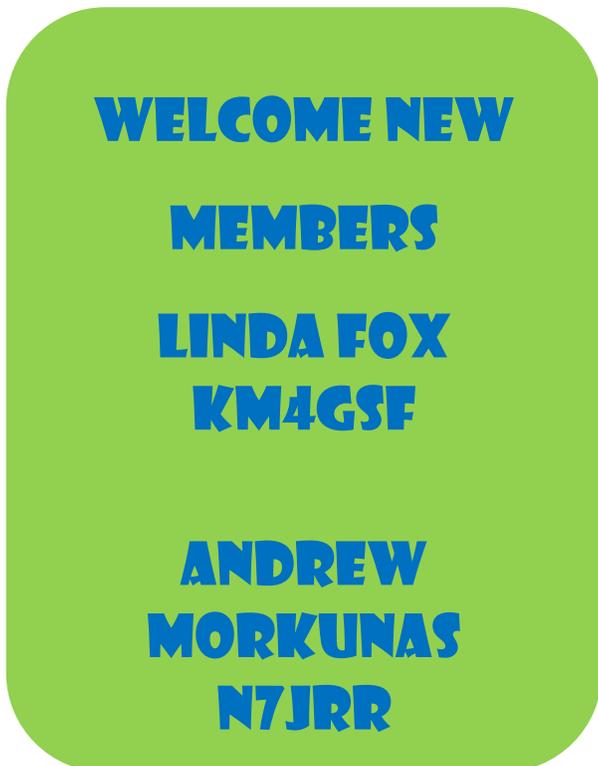
Memorial Day Parade

Once again CARS has been asked to provide communications and support for the Seven Hills Memorial Day Parade. We have been doing this for years and we always have had good participation from our members. Besides that, we always have a good time. We will be meeting at 9:00 AM at St. Columbkille church at 6740 Broadview Rd.

This year the parade director asked if CARS wanted to be in the parade as was mentioned last year. We could have a few members ride in a vehicle with a CARS banner or magnetic door signs. Preferably, we could use a convertible; a vintage Caddy or Deuce and a Quarter would be cool.

Anyone who is interested in helping out with the parade, please contact me.

73, Toby, WT80



**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS
LINDA FOX
KM4GSE
ANDREW
MORKUNAS
N7JRR**



April Birthdays

A. J. Kuches, KESOMG	4/2/08
Mark Studer, KCSFQV	4/14/64
Gary Berkowitz, KSREF	4/19
Vince Bak, NSOVW	4/22/49
Bob Wright, KESCEO	4/22/68
John Cobb, KCSWLY	4/28/57
Matt Perlman, KESOZU	4/25/76
Joe Berngartt, NCSJ	4/19/51
Metro Sinko, WSMET	4/2/52
Bob Check, WSGC	4/29/41

C.A.R.S. March 2022

Meeting Minutes

LOCATION---Due to increased COVID cases, the meeting was held via Zoom.

CALLED TO ORDER---The meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE---Those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTIONS---Those present introduced themselves.

FEBRUARY MINUTES---The February minutes were approved as published in the March *Wobbly Oscillator*.

TREASURER'S REPORT---Bob Check, W8GC, reported on the club's current financial situation. No issues or concerns were identified. 11 members have not paid their 2022 dues. This is good for this time of year - the best it's been in the past eight years. Bob will check with Arp, K8ARP, to see if putting the Facebook link on the CARS website generated any traffic. Toby, WT8O, followed up with members with unpaid dues starting on March 1st, and none have said they are not planning to pay their 2022 dues.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT---Toby Kolman, WT8O, reported that:

- Fund Raiser - based on a recent audit, the Club needs additional funding. Additional details can be found in the *WO*. Send ideas to Toby.
- Backup Secretary - please let Toby know if you are interested.
- Survey on Website under the member info section - one survey has been received in the past two years. The results will be published in the *WO*. The survey will remain on the website.
- Dayton Bus - There has been a good response for a bus this year. Toby requested that Mark, WJ8WM, call a board meeting during the week of 3/14 to finalize the decision on the bus so the Club can reserve a bus at a good rate.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT---Ron Hollas, K8RJH, reported

- Don't forget to check out the ARRL Weekly Audio News at <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>
- ARRL "On the Air Podcasts", a monthly technical report is currently on episode #25 on the use of YouTube in Amateur Radio. More info can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/on-the-air-podcast>.

-Check out the latest updates on our ARRL Ohio Section at <http://arrl-ohio.org/>.



Lots of good links of interest!

SECRETARY'S REPORT---Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, had nothing to report.

The online group above at the March Zoom meeting was all smiles about going back to an in-person meeting at Busch.

PUBLIC SERVICE---Arp, K8ARP, reported that according to the N8ESG website (<https://n8esg.org/>), the next event is the Cleveland Marathon in May.

VE UPDATE---Metro, W8MET, was not present. The next CARS VE Session will be on Sunday, May 8, 2022, at 9:15 AM at the Old Rec Center in Independence.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE---Joe, KD8BAL, reported that

- Today's program is Kelly Dobeck, KD8TWX, presenting about tornado genesis and storm chasing.
- April's program is tentatively scheduled for Mike Dobeck, K8CKC, to talk about the Secret Service.
- Please send ideas for programs to Joe.

TECH COMMITTEE---Ron, K8RJH, reported that he and Scott, AC8NW, are working on WiresX for the repeater. More information will come shortly. Toby reported that he talked to Vince, N8OVW, and the Club will probably move forward with the receive site in Parma.

REFRESHMENTS---Toby, WT8O, thanked Ron, K8RJH, for providing soft drinks, and Shawn, KE8RMV, for providing coffee for in person meetings.

OLD BUSINESS---Toby, WT8O, reported that:

- The Club is still looking for a new doughnut person.
- The Club needs a new Net Control Station. The Club recently lost two Net Control Stations and currently has four. Anyone interested should let Toby, WT8O, know. Anyone unsure is encouraged to try before committing.

NEW BUSINESS---No new business was brought up during the meeting.

NEXT MEETING---The next meeting of The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will be on April 12, 2022. The meeting is tentatively scheduled at the Busch Funeral Home on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio. A determination of in person and / or via Zoom will be made prior to the meeting.

50/50 DRAWING---There was no 50/50 drawing because the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT---The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

After the meeting, Kelly Dobeck, KD8TWX, presented about tornado genesis and storm chasing.

Submitted by Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, CARS Secretary

April Net Sked

APR 6 KD8ACO
APR 13 AC8NW
APR 20 WT8O
APR 27 K8RJH

**Nets are run every Wednesday at
9:00 PM on:**

146.820 (PL 110.9)

443.825(+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion
Linked to the 146.82 Repeater

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

ARCL Contests

Eddie, KD8TJS

Looking for unique challenges in amateur radio? Try participating in an ARCL contest. While the ARCL, or Amateur Radio Contesting League, has been around for many years, it has only recently gained wide spread acceptance in the amateur community. The ARCL was founded back in 1942 by J0KE in Atlantis, Georgia. The original purpose of the ARCL was to promote DX contesting during the war, when other, more prominent amateur radio organizations, turned their backs on contesting. One thing that has always set ARCL contests apart is the unusual way in which points are earned. During the war, points were awarded based on the countries contacted. Participants earned extra points for contacts made with countries on opposing sides of the war.

After the war, it was determined that participants enjoyed unusual challenges in contesting, so the ARCL came up with many unique contesting categories and point multipliers. Some of those early point multipliers became integrated into our standard Q-Codes. Most notable is QLF, which is sent as an inquiry asking if the sender is keying with their left foot. If the response comes back in the affirmative, two additional points are awarded for the contact. If both stations are keying with their left feet, then three additional points are awarded for the contact.

In general, when making a contact in an ARCL contest, stations must exchange not only their call signs and locations, but must also exchange the Q-Code, or Q-Codes, which signify the station's non-standard method of operation. Two points are awarded for every voice contact, and three points are awarded for every CW contact. Additional points are awarded for non-standard methods of operation, signified by Q-codes. Some of the available non-standard methods of operation are as follows:

QDL: Using a Dummy Load instead of an antenna

QAS: Contacts made while wearing an Ape Suit

QMB: Contacts made while Mobile

QLF: Keying with your Left Foot

While the ARCL has not yet put any official restrictions on the combination of Q-codes to earn extra points, they do ask that operators use good judgement. While it can certainly help the points add up, the ARCL discourages the combination of QMB (Mobile) with other non-standard methods of operation. Last year a disturbing number of QLF-QAS-QMB contacts were submitted.

That would be keying with your left foot, in an ape suit, while mobile.

ARCL contests are gaining popularity and several club members have started participating. If you are interested in participating in an ARCL contest, or would like more information, just ask a club member.

Next CARS Meeting

Tuesday, April 12 - 7:30 PM

Special Guest

Mike Dobeck, K8CKC

Retired U.S. Secret Service Agent

Busch Community Room

See Website for Details - www.2cars.org

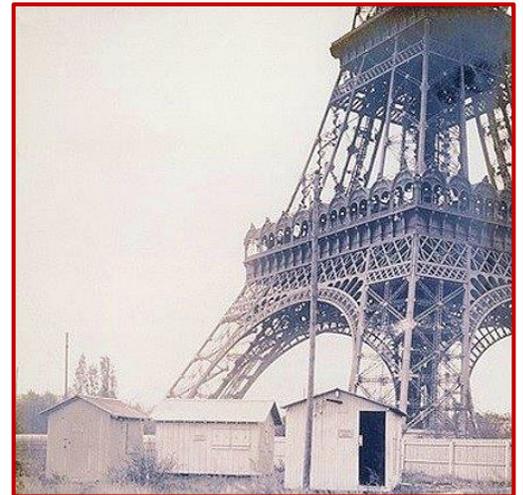
Pioneering Radio Amateurs who just Wanted Time Ron, K8RJH

The next time that you may catch yourself looking at a modern smartphone with all its embedded capabilities and features, just to learn the hour of the day, be assured that early pioneering radio experimenters in Europe had already created a solution for broadcasting accurate time to the public, over 100 years ago!

The amateur inventor credited for this system was Horace Hurm, who around 1914 manufactured and sold a small crystal detector receiver system that could easily fit in the palm of your hand. It was initially designed for receiving time code transmissions sent from the Eiffel Tower in Paris, which later included weather and stock market news.

What made this technology work at a low cost is the discovery of using a crystal element as a simple detector for receiving radio signals. Even though using crystal elements were invented at the beginning of the 1900s, it was a hidden discovery in Europe as a secret military innovation throughout WW1 to the general public. After the war, the crystal detector, oscillator, and later filter designs became widely known to the early radio pioneers by 1920. It benefited amateur radio pioneers with new components, making "high performance" radios affordable and much easier to construct.

Using crystal detector technology, Horace Hurm introduced the 'Ondophone' system in Paris that became very popular into the 1920's. An early printed announcement of this device is fascinating to read, even today.

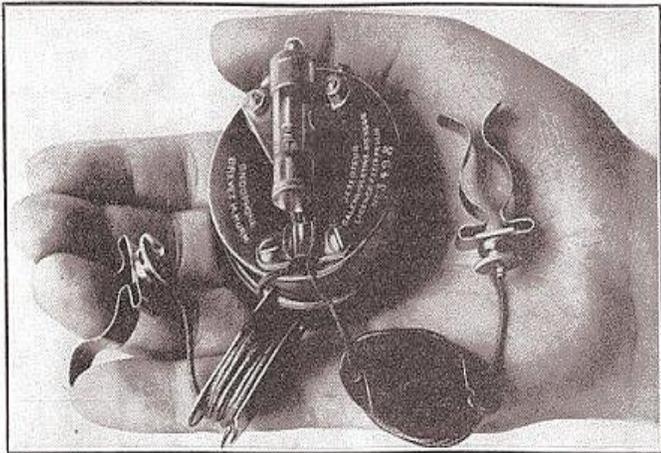


Early Radio "Shacks" of telegraphy receiving and transmitting equipment at the Eiffel Tower, circa 1910

"The large wireless stations, such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris, are now sending out time signals very regularly each day, and even weather signals, but up to the present the need of a more or less complicated receiver has prevented the general public taking advantage of these signals on as large a scale as is hoped for in the future. What remained to be done was to devise a small instrument like the Ondophone illustrated herewith (see photo), which can be carried even in the vest pocket and is entirely self-contained. No battery or extra apparatus is needed in order to hear the signals by the use of the combined crystal detector and telephone.

An open umbrella makes a good enough antenna when within 30 miles of Paris, and all that is done is to connect one of the metal clips through a flexible cord to the umbrella and connect the second clip to the ground. With a larger metal object, such as a bicycle or automobile, the signals can be heard as far as 120 miles from the Eiffel Tower, so that the tourist can stop anywhere out on the road in order to ascertain the exact time and set his watch. Other metal objects, such as a stove, wire fence or grating, bedstead and the like can be used, and for long distances, such as 300 miles, a good plan is to use a telephone circuit as an antenna, by connecting on to any existing telephone apparatus. Within the city of Paris, a double antenna wire of 80 feet mounted on the roof allows of hearing the German and English wireless stations, even though numberless zinc roofs are in the way."

Horace Hurm is reported to have made a fortune selling these wireless timepieces through the 1920's. It was only limited by the regional coverage of VLF transmissions and the sensitivity of the crystal receivers. This pioneering experience would be valuable decades later with the engineering of the NIST WWV coverage now used in North America. And the "Ondophone" may be the Great Grandfather of the modern-day smartphones, thanks to Pioneering Radio Amateur experimenters who just wanted time.



Compact Wireless Receiver.

In 1920, the Ondophone existed in two versions: one with an ordinary detector at 65 Fr (French Franc), and one with an interchangeable galena precision detector at 75 Fr. (Today's cost of the "galena" unit would be about \$15 USD adjusted for inflation)

NASA Report ***Bob, KC8MRC***

The Space Launch System (SLS) vehicle is now scheduled to roll out to launch pad 39B on March 17, 2022. Starting at 5:00 PM, it should take 6 to 12 hours to complete. It can be viewed online at the NASA website. Testing and related preparations should take about a month to complete.

On March 23, 1965, NASA launched Gemini 3, the first two-man spacecraft into earth orbit, with Virgil "Gus" Grissom and John Young. The flight lasted five hours. John also took a corned beef sandwich on the flight with him, which got NASA into some hot water.

CARS **Repeaters**

146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Analog Repeater

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

Allstar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.820 Repeater

Brecksville

444.75 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Analog Repeater

Not Linked to Other Repeaters

Shaker Hts.

VE Session

The CARS March VE session brought three new hams into the Amateur Radio Service. Joyce Cotman, KE8UHL; Elfonzia Nickerson, KE8UHM; and Frederick Remenyi, KE8UHN, passed their Technician exams becoming licensed amateurs. We welcome Joyce, Elfonzia, and Frederick to the ham radio hobby. Congratulations to all.

Special thanks to our outstanding VE team, capably led by Metro, W8MET, and consisting of Gary, NI8Z; Linda, N8LRS; Roger, N8TCP; and George, K8KR.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, May 8th, at **9:15 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

Scholarship Fund Donation *Bob, W8GC*

Johanna and Bruce Bacik, N8DJX, have donated \$500.00 in the name of Andy Riley, W8VKJ, to the CARS Scholarship fund to honor the Father of a one of Johanna's friends at Tri-C.

It is the generosity of people like Bruce and Johanna that allows the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society to thrive and be able to support our members and the general public.

This was a very thoughtful thing to do that helps the CARS Scholarship as well and honoring a friend.



Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club
Sixty-Sixth HAMFEST
ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTER SHOW
Saturday April 9, 2022, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Emidio and Sons Party Center
48 E. Bath Road at the corner of State Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Mobile check in on W8VPV 147.270+ or 444.850+ Repeater
ADMISSION: \$7 (12 and under free)
For information or table reservations contact: Bruce Ferry, AK8B
Phone: 330-790-1680 or email: hamfest2022@w8vpv.org
<http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest.php>

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC

Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N

Elected 1/10/17

Dwayne Modock, K8ME, SK

Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O

Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H

Elected 5/8/18

Ron Borkey, K8VJG, SK

Elected 5/14/19

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK, SK

Elected 8/10/21

Website Survey

Call Sign: **KE8OGM**

Name: **Steven Houser**

- 1) How did you become interested in Amateur Radio...who or what helped you get your first license?
I became interested from the aspect of being a survivalist step.
- 2) How long has you been licensed and what class license do you currently have?
2 years, March 24, 2020, I am a Technician.
- 3) What type of Ham radio equipment do you own or use?
Baofeng handheld only. I'd like a better set up, but unsure how or what to get.
- 4) What type of work do you do? If retired what was your occupation?
Physician, specifically Otolaryngology, more specifically sinus, allergy, sleep.
- 5) Additional comments:
I'd be up for buying an older rig, to get started.

Parma Radio Club Earth Day

Parma Radio Club will once again hold their annual Earth Day event on April 23rd in the Stearns cabin. Their equipment will be powered by energy from the sun. A large solar panel will be temporarily located outside the historic Stearns farmhouse. Scout troops and the general public are invited to visit to learn about amateur radio, also known as ham radio. Despite the popularity of cell phones, the internet and other high-tech methods of communication, amateur radio remains popular. No admission fees. All are welcome.



An unidentified CARS member going mobile.

**“Dream as if you’ll
live forever, live as
if you’ll die today.”**

James Dean

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The Wobbly Oscillator is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio, 44131-0264. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, provided that credit is given to this publication and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to: wt8o@att.net by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

CARS 2022 Officers & Committees

Audit

K8RJH ** WT80, WJ8WM

Audio/Video

AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison

K8RJH **

Awards

W8GC ** WT80

Christmas party & Summer Picnic

WJ8WM **, K8ARP, KD8FTU, KD8FTV

Field Day

K8RGI **, WT80, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, WT80, K8RJH, N8BBB food

50/50

KD8SCV

Hamvention Bus

KD8FTS **

License classes

KD8ACO **, WT80, K8SHB

Media Representative

KD8SCV

Membership

WT80 ** W8GC

NET

WT80 **

Newsletter

WT80 ** 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Programs at Meetings

KD8BAL ** KD8FTS, KE8OZU

Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services

KD8FTS **, K8ARP

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM

WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic

K8RJH ** pop, NW8X ** Donuts, KE8RMV *** Coffee

Scholarship

W8GC ** K8RGI, KE8OZU, WT80, K8RJH

Sunshine (welfare)

Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical

AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, K8RJH, KB8DTC

VE Exams

Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail

W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2022 Officers

PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT80 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Ron Hollas, K8RJH, 216-379-7440

SECRETARY

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, 216-337-1540

Alternate Secretary:

TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

Alternate Treasurer: Bob Robbins, K8RGI

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman:

Mark Moro WJ8WM 216-661-0342

even year executive board 2 year term

AC8NW, KB8DTC, WJ8WM

odd year executive board 2 year term

K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8FTS

License trustee

K8ZFR

WT80

License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,

W8GC

February 5, 2022