

# The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

August 2019 Volume 49 Number 8



## Summer Picnic Friday Aug. 2

**From The Prez**

### **Last Call for the Picnic**

The annual CARS Summer Picnic is tomorrow, Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The weatherman is calling for a perfect summer evening. Forget about cooking or battling restaurant crowds. Bring family, friends, or neighbors to the club's popular summer event. There will be fine food, games, prizes, surprises, a chance to play radio, and most importantly, an opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening with fellow hams and their families. We will also have an amateur station monitoring the 146.82 CARS repeater, and those who call in will receive an additional ticket for a prize drawing. If you are planning to attend, fine business; if not, consider changing your plans and make the scene at the CARS picnic. Hope to see you there.

### **FT8 Demo at August Meeting**

Our last picnic meeting in August will feature a live demonstration of the FT8 mode of HF operation. Scott, AC8NW, and Joe, NC8J, will set up a station at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion and attempt to make contacts using this popular digital mode. For those unfamiliar with FT8, the display the guys put on should certainly be enlightening. Hams that have used FT8 are highly encouraged to contribute to the discussion. In any event, the presentation will be enjoyable for all. Please try to attend the meeting to see this program.

### **Need New Picnic Christmas Party Committee Member**

Speaking of the picnic, our chairman of the Summer Picnic and Christmas Party Committee, Andy, KD8SCV, will be stepping down after this year. Andy has become involved with many other club responsibilities. He has become too spread out and needs to focus on tasks that require his expertise. Andy is the CARS Board of Directors Chairman. He is on the Field Day committee, and quite capably handles the media publicity. He is on the scholarship committee. He is our one man Sunshine Committee.

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All we need is for someone to become a part of the Christmas Party and Summer Picnic Committee. That person does not necessarily need to take over as chairman, just fill the vacancy on the committee. Andy has shown his professionalism by staying on for the rest of the year to do the Christmas Party. But we need someone to step up now. By doing so, that person could get involved slowly and not have major responsibilities or task requirements. It would be so nice to see someone volunteer for this opportunity soon, so we don't have to ask over and over and over. Anyone who is interested in helping out the club, please contact me or offer to at least discuss it at a club activity. Please help.

73, Toby, WT8O

### **Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society July 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 Business Meeting Minutes**

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the month in the Brecksville Reservation, Harriet Keeler Pavilion. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Business meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the July 2019 *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance. Bob stated that the CARS Scholarship Award would be presented to the winner at the picnic.

The presentation this evening was by Andy, KD8SCV, and Joe, KD8BAL, on their construction of a 2 meter cube antenna made from ½ inch copper pipe.

Toby, WT8O, stated that he appreciated all the contributions to the W.O. Toby also took a few minutes to mention some Field Day results. There were 490 CW contacts made with 540 Digital contacts as well as 925 SSB contacts. Arp, K8ARP, also made a satellite contact. Toby thanked all the Field Day participants for a great job with a special thanks to Bill, N8BBB, for the awesome food again this year.

The August CARS meeting, the last for the summer will be in the Brecksville Metroparks at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion.

Mark, WJ8WM, mentioned that the Seven Hills Home Days will be on July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The club was offered a booth if we so desire. Anyone interested in operating a station from the Home Days should contact Mark.

Larry, N8OWS, mentioned that Bill, WA8GEO, had surgery last week. A "Get Well" card was circulated for members in attendance to sign.



*Joe and Andy show off their Split Cube 2 Meter antenna.*

*[Continued next page]*

Arp and Eddie, KD8FTS, mentioned the upcoming Public Service events.

The Cleveland Triathlon is July 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Pan Ohio Hope Ride from July 25<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>.

The MS 150 on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

If you are interested in participating in these events then contact Arp or Eddie.

Metro, W8MET, stated that the next VE session will be on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The location is Elmwood Park in the old recreation building next to the pond. The session begins at 9:00 AM.

The Technical Committee had nothing new to report.

Toby thanked Rich, Ron and Gordon for all their work handling the meeting refreshments.

The CARS picnic is August 2<sup>nd</sup> and begins at 5:30 PM, located again this year in the Kiwanis pavilion behind the Independence Civic Center. Andy, KD8SCV, is taking picnic reservations via email or by phone. A volunteer is needed for the Summer Picnic and Christmas party committee. Andy will retire from this post at the end of the year. Contact Toby if you are interested.

There were 28 members and guests in attendance this evening.

Eddie, KD8FTS, won the 50/50 raffle this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

### **14<sup>th</sup> CARS Annual Summer Picnic Andy, KD8SCV**

The CARS annual summer picnic is almost upon us, in fact it's the day after the publication of this issue of the W.O.! Along with fellow picnic committee members Arp, K8ARP, and Mark, WJ8WM, we'll be ready to serve up great food and a relaxing evening. Our special thanks also to Toby, WT8O, emcee and 2-meter check-in, and Ron K8RJH, who is handling the beverages. See you there!

## **Welcome New Members**

**John Brunn, KE8MQM**

**James Chaffin, KE8MQL**

**Joseph Egert, KE8MQK**

**Joseph Erickson, KE8MQJ**

**Brian Gerhard, KE8MQI**

**Alex Howe, KE8MQH**

**Peep from the Veep**  
**Mark, WJ8WM**

Like many of you I have an interest in the weather. In fact, it was monitoring the Skywarn net that pushed me to finally get my license. I like listening to the weather spotters to get pinpoint severe weather details. I took the training so I could participate.

I have had a weather alert radio in my home literally forever. I leave the radio(s) on 24/7 because you never know when weather will roll in. The first radios did not have any discrimination. Whenever NOAA issued an alert for anywhere the radio would sound off. I was so grateful when S.A.M.E. technology came in. With Specific Area Messaging Encoding we can program our alerts for the counties we are interested in. Actually, we can even program the types of alerts we want to be notified about.

My radios are programmed for all the surrounding counties so I can see how the weather is moving. I think having the ability to be alerted to severe weather is extremely important for safety. I have supplied weather radios to friends and family for my own peace of mind.

I hope all of you reading this have a properly-programmed weather alert radio located in an area where it can be heard anywhere in the house, especially when you are sleeping and leave your radio on 24/7 with good batteries for backup.

## **August Birthdays**

<b>Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS</b>	<b>8/14</b>
<b>Ron Hollas, K8RJH</b>	<b>8/16/55</b>
<b>Steve Koscick, KE8MAG</b>	<b>8/16</b>
<b>Tom Wayne, WB8N</b>	<b>8/17</b>
<b>Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG</b>	<b>8/19</b>
<b>Erin Austin, KD8SLV</b>	<b>8/22/53</b>
<b>Gene Stepanik, KE8GUZ</b>	<b>8/22</b>
<b>Gerald Purcell, KC8LAU</b>	<b>8/24/61</b>
<b>Mark Hass, KE8MJH</b>	<b>8/65</b>

## ***August Net Shed***

<b>AUG</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>KD8OUE</b>
<b>AUG</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>AC8NW</b>
<b>AUG</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>K8RJH</b>
<b>AUG</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>KD8ACO</b>

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





### July VE Session

Another successful CARS VE session was held July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center in Independence. Six people passed their Technician exam becoming new hams and elected to join CARS. Please welcome John Brunn, KE8MQM; James Chaffin, KE8MQL; Joseph Egert, KE8MQK; Joseph Erickson, KE8MQJ; Brian Gerhard, KE8MQI, and Alex Howe, KE8MQH to the Amateur Radio Service and CARS. Michael Folz, KD8IXE, upgraded to General. Congratulations to all.

Many thanks to our VE team, led by Metro, W8MET: Roger, N8TCP; Gary, NI8Z; Larry, N8OWS; Joel, K8SHB, and George; K8KR. Thanks guys for all you do, you do CARS proud making the VE sessions so successful.

The next VE session will be held September 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisnieski Pkwy. in Independence. A map of the location is available on the CARS website home page at [www.2cars.org](http://www.2cars.org). For information or reservations contact Metro, W8MET at 216-520-1320. As always, walk-ins are welcome

*The CARS VE team in action. Left to right Gary, NI8Z; Metro, W8MET; Roger, N8TCP; Larry, N8OWS, and George, K8KR.*

*(Joel, K8SHB, was assisting examinees.)*



**Whoops!**  
**Toby, WT8O**

Some say, people learn from their mistakes. There is probably some truth to that nugget of wisdom; but if it rang true in my case, I would be a genius. Even hating to make mistakes, I've made my share several times over. But if I did learn anything from two recent radio operating blunders, I'll be one happy ham. Maybe I can pass my experiences along to others.

I always check my squelch adjustment before checking into nets. A few weeks back I was preoccupied writing the W.O. when the CARS Wednesday net started and did not check said adjustment. Looking back later, I remembered previously deviating from my normal squelch setting to pick up a repeater that had a poor signal. I heard nothing when the CARS net started. I waited, still nothing. I thought the NCS may have forgotten about the net that night. Still hearing nothing, I started the net myself. After sounding like an idiot and confusing everyone, I heard a station telling me the net was in progress and going just fine without my "help." Red faced, I found the problem, adjusted my squelch and checked in apologetically. The NCS was kind enough to cut me slack and consoled me saying something like "We all make mistakes." I was totally embarrassed and considered that the dumbest thing I had ever done on the air.

A few weeks later I almost topped that one with another stooge move. I was NCS that night, and after my beginning spiel could hardly hear stations checking in. I could hear something, but the signals were very weak and impossible to copy. Earlier in the day, I was experimenting with an HF antenna, and fiddled with every control on my radio. I tried readjusting everything with no improvement. I switched to another radio that took me several long minutes to hook up and finally got the net back on track. The problem was found the next day: a loose coax connection at my radio.

I hope I learned something for these mistakes.

## **Next CARS Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 13 - 7:30  
PM**

**Harriet Keeler Pavilion**

**Brecksville Reservation**

**Program: FT8 Demonstration**

### **CARS Repeaters**

146.820 PL Tone 110.9

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

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443.825 PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.82 Repeater

Brecksville

\*\*\*\*\*

444.75 Receive PL Tone 131.8

449.75 Transmit

Stand-alone Not Linked

Shaker Hts.

# Radiosport

## Contests

Aug. 3 1200 – Aug. 3 2359 **European HF Championship** 1.8-28 CW Ph [lea.hamradio.si/scc](http://lea.hamradio.si/scc)  
Exchange: RS(T), 2-digit first year licensed

## Special Events Stations

Aug. 17 1500 – 2100 **W8GNM/8** Port Clinton, OH **Port Clinton Lighthouse Festival**  
14.335 14.285 7.230 7.200 [portclintonlighthouse.org](http://portclintonlighthouse.org)

Aug. 17 - Aug. 18 1200-1800 **W2W** Bearsville, NY **Woodstock Concert 50th Anniversary**  
14.255 7.255 [www.grz.com/db/k2jvx](http://www.grz.com/db/k2jvx)

Aug. 17 – Aug. 18 0818-0818 **W2H** Audubon, NJ **International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend-ILLW**  
14.225 [www.k2aud.org](http://www.k2aud.org)

## State QSO Parties

Aug. 10 1400-Aug. 11 0400 **Maryland-DC QSO Party** 1.8-432 CW Ph Dig [www.w3vpr.org/mdcqsoparty](http://www.w3vpr.org/mdcqsoparty)  
Exchange: Entry class, county or SPC (State or Province)

Aug. 24 0400 – Aug. 26 0400 **Hawaii QSO Party** 1.8-28 CW Ph Dig [www.hawaiiqsoparty.org](http://www.hawaiiqsoparty.org)  
Exchange: RS(T), HI QTH or SPC

Aug. 24 1400 – Aug. 25 2000 **Kansas QSO Party** 3.5-50 CW PH Dig [ksgsoparty.org](http://ksgsoparty.org)  
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

Aug. 24 1600 – Aug. 25 0400 **Ohio QSO Party** 3.5-28 CW Ph [www.ohqp.org](http://www.ohqp.org)  
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

Sampling from QST August 2019 Pg. 84, 96, and 97, see QST for many more events.

All times in GMT ZULU time

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## 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, K8RJH, 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 \*\* KD8BAL

### 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  
Alternate Secretary: Ed Stevens, WB8ROK

### TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750  
Alternate Treasurer: Bob Robbins, K8RGI

## Board Members & License Trustees

### Board Chairman

Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723  
Alternate Chairman: Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

### 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



June 10, 2019