

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

May 2019

Volume 49

Number 5



Hamvention Time

From The Prez

Last Call for the Hamvention Bus

The CARS bus to the Hamvention again this year has been a popular option for Xenia bound hams, but we still have room for more riders. If you're on the fence, or know anyone who is contemplating taking the luxury liner, there still is time to sign up. Please contact me at 440-525-6109 or wt8o@att.net and we'll reserve a spot. Conversations with those who are going this year always display excitement about the upcoming event. I always mention how lucky we are to be so close that we can go down and back in one day and still have enough time to see everything. One of our members recalled attending the Hamvention decades ago and traveled with a couple buddies from Texas who underscored how fortunate we are to be so close. Speaking with some folks that took the bus in previous years, but cannot make it this year, they regret not being able to go and are hoping they can next year. So consider answering this last call, and avoid any regrets for not making the Hamvention this year.

Field Day

The Field Day committee met recently at Calvin Park and is all revved up about this year's event. We had a great Field Day last year, and this year it should even be better. We will have stations operating Single Side Band, CW and Digital – so there is something for everyone. The ARRL Field Day is the biggest amateur radio operating event of the year; it is certainly an activity all hams enjoy participating in. Although we typically have a pretty decent turnout, we always wish more members were involved. Personally, I would like to see more family members and friends come out so we can show off our hobby in action. At the next two meetings we will have a sign-up sheet for those who will be participating in Field Day. We ask for operators and support people, please do yourself and the club a good turn by signing up. If you won't be at the meeting, please contact me if you will be participating. Let's team up to make this Field Day the best one ever.

[Continued next page]

New Net Controller

Tune into tonight's net to hear Ron, K8RJH, display his skills as a net controller for the first time on the CARS Wednesday evening net. Ron has previous experience as a net controller, so he is totally capable of running our net. It will be interesting to hear his approach. Ron has been pretty excited to start doing the nets, and I am too. Listen tonight, May 1st, and be a part of it all.

73, Toby, WT8O

Peep from the Veep Mark, WJ8WM

Last month I wrote about the excitement of the Hamvention. And it is! All the new equipment available. Then I started thinking. I might be alone in my thought but, I'm not a big fan of changing equipment. When I was younger, it was thrilling to upgrade to the newest and greatest. Now it seems like a hassle.

My cell phone was about five years old. I constantly received notifications from Verizon that I was eligible for a new phone. I dreaded the thought of having to reprogram a new phone after finally getting my phone just as I liked it. But alas it died at the end of January. Unable to be repaired, I had to get a new one. The new phone is "better" but it still is not programmed like the old phone after four months.

A few weeks ago, my Wouxun HT started to fail. The internal speaker does not work and now the display has gone blank. The radio transmits and receives fine but is difficult to operate without a display! The radio is 8 years old. I can't complain about the service life for the cost. My aggravation of course, is having to purchase and REPROGRAM a new radio. I never took advantage of all the features of this basic radio. I rarely even used the built-in flashlight.

I purchased a Yaesu FT2DR to replace it. I decided on this HT because it is System Fusion compatible with our new repeaters, has five times the features of my old radio, and Yaesu had a Spring promotion I couldn't pass up. Judging by my previous radio experience, it should take me about 40 years to figure out all the capabilities of this radio!

The take away here is, don't be like me. Embrace new products! Read the manuals, ask questions from your fellow hams, watch YouTube, and enjoy the technologies available with the current products. Xenia is full of fun stuff to play with.

And don't forget the tasty food at this venue!

73 -WJ8WM

May Net Shed

MAY	1	K8RJH
MAY	8	KD8ACO
MAY	15	WT8O
MAY	22	N8OWS
MAY	29	AC8NW

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

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
April 9th 2019 Business Meeting Minutes

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM on the 9th 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 March 13th 2019 Business meeting minutes were approved with corrections noted as they appeared in the April 2019 *Wobbly Oscillator*. Thanks to David, KD8ACO, for catching the corrections.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance. Bob also reminded the group to please pay your Club dues. 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 members.

Toby, WT8O, mentioned that there is still room on the Hamvention bus. The bus information is on the CARS website. Get your money to Toby if you are interested. Toby also mentioned that he appreciates all the articles, pictures and contributions for the *W.O.* If you have any projects, pictures or ideas that you think might be of interest to the club then submit them to Toby for use in the *W.O.* There is also a section in the *W.O.* for items that you may have for sale. Get the item list to Toby as well as a picture if possible.

Mark, WJ8WM, mentioned that the VFW has once again asked the club to assist in the staging of participants for the Seven Hills Memorial Day parade. We need about six volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering then contact Mark or Arp, K8ARP. The parade is Monday May 27th at 8:30 AM in the St. Columbkille Church parking lot, 6740 Broadview road. This will be the last year that the VFW will be sponsoring the parade.

Andy, KD8SCV, gave a summary of the Board of Directors meeting on March 4th, 2019.

Andy also accepted the nomination to continue as Chairman for 2019. The Board of Directors meeting minutes are posted in the April 2019 *W.O.*

Andy said he would be contacting the Greater Cleveland Boy Scout Council to determine what would be the best way to get in contact with a troop who might be interested in Amateur Radio.

Toby asked Bob, K8MD, to speak briefly on his association with the Boy Scouts in Medina County. Bob mentioned that a licensing class was developed for just the children, no adults. A few of the kids passed the Technician class exam and interest had grown and a second class was given. Bob suggested contacting a troop and setting up an event such as Jamboree on the Air.

Arp, K8ARP, gave a report on the upcoming Public Service events in Cuyahoga County. All Public Service events are listed on the Cuyahoga County ARES site at www.ccares.us. Access the calendar for details. The Cleveland Marathon is still seeking volunteers for May 18th and 19th.

There is a DMR "Digital Mobile Radio" seminar at the Independence Library on April 28th. The seminar begins at 2 PM.

Metro, W8MET stated that there will be a VE session on the last night of class on April 11th for the class participants. The next scheduled VE session is Sunday, May 12th, 2019.

[Continued next page]

Toby thanked Joel, K8SHB; David, KD8ACO; Mark, WJ8WM and Andy, KD8SCV, for their involvement with the latest training sessions. David was the organizer and did another great job.

Larry, N8OWS, had nothing to report.

The Tech committee reported that the repeaters were working well. A small problem was corrected with the 443.825 repeater. Scott, AC8NW, mentioned that a switch was found in an incorrect position.

Toby thanked the Refreshment Committee for all their work.

There was no OLD or NEW Business from the membership this evening.

The Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest is April 13th, 2019 at Emidio and Sons Party Center in Cuyahoga Falls.

There were 26 members and guests in attendance this evening.

Metro, W8MET, won the 50/50 raffle this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

The presentation this evening was a video on a DXpedition to the Scarborough Reef in the South China Sea.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

Welcome New Members

John Derner, KE8MAI

Kathy Hogan, KE8MAH

Steve Kosciak, KE8MAG

Jim Kovach, KE8MAF

Richard Lukich, KE8MAD

Connie Sheehan, KE8MAE

Shauna Welch, KE8MAC

Metro, W8MET – Tops in Ohio Toby, WT8O

CARS takes great pride in congratulating Metro, W8MET, for being awarded a Certificate of Merit by The National Contest Journal. He took top honors by having the Top Score in Ohio for the North American QSO Party in August 2018. Metro had 382 contacts with 78 multipliers amassing a score of 29,796 points running Single Side Band. The next time you see Metro, please extend your congratulations to him for this prestigious accomplishment. Way to go Old Man!

2019 CARS Licensing Classes David, KD8ACO

Once again this year, the CARS Licensing Classes were well attended and very successful. This year's licensing classes consisted of eight Technician, four General and four Extra Class registrants. One of our members took advantage of the fee-free opportunity to sit in on our Technician Class, even though they were already licensed, and three of our members attended this year's General Class free of charge.

Please give a warm welcome to our new Technicians if you hear them on the air or see them at a meeting. This year's Technician Class includes: Shauna, KE8MAC; Richard, KE8MAD; Connie, KE8MAE; Jim, KE8MAF; Steven, KE8MAG; Kathy, KE8MAH, and John, KE8MAI. Congratulations to those participants that upgraded to General: Erin, KD8SLV; Anthony, KE8IHP; Christopher, KE8JPQ; Tom, KE8LRJ, and Dave, N8JNX. Finally, a special shout-out is in order for Gene, KE8GUZ, who upgraded to an Extra Class license.

At the conclusion of the licensing classes, a special CARS VE session was held for our licensing class participants. The CARS VE team consisted of: Metro, W8MET; Larry, N8OWS; Gary, N18Z; George, K8KR; Darren, K8DMT; Joel, K8SHB, and Linda, N8LRS. Thank you all for a job well done.

I would also like to thank my fellow instructors Joel, K8SHB, (Extra Class) and Toby, WT8O, (General Class) for their time and participation in the CARS Licensing Classes. In addition, the special assistance provided by Andy, KD8SCV, and Mark, WJ8WM, was very much appreciated. The ongoing success of the CARS Licensing Classes is made possible by the contributions of all of these individuals.

Until next time, 73 de David, KD8ACO



One jolly group of hams who just finished their exams following the 2019 CARS licensing classes.

Notes from the Tech Committee Scott, AC8NW

This past couple of weeks, some real progress has been made in an effort to clean up the installation of our main repeater in Brecksville. While the repeater has generally worked since the moves from Parma to Brunswick, then to Brecksville; the system had a few failures. Most were related to cabling and connectors that were old, modified or soldered many times.

Most committee members have seen the system as it was, and know there was a lot of room for improvement; the appearance of the installed system looked bad. There were cables, wires, perf board circuits and terminal strips hanging out the front in an unsightly rats nest. After many years of changes and modifications, some of which were done by people before Vince started maintaining the repeater, the system was kind of a hodgepodge of temporary installs and fixes that had become hard to keep reliable.

Many thanks to David, KD8ACO, Bob, K8MD, and Vince, N8OVW, for their effort and time spent sorting out the mess and figuring out what was connected to what and why. They documented the connections as they were figured out, so they could come up with the hardware and get new cabling built.

Coming up this Wednesday, Vince will meet with a few City of Brecksville officials to finalize a few items. If they want to see our installation, it will look clean and professional.

Thanks to Eddie, KD8FTS, for checking on internet availability at the site. Hopefully we can get that going soon.

I have included a before and after picture of the system in the rack, and I think you'll agree it's a step up.

That's all for now, hope I have more to report soon.

73, Scott, AC8NW



Before and after the Cars Tech team applied their expertise to the component rack at the Brecksville main repeater site. It certainly is not necessary to identify which photo is which.



2-Meter Slot-Cube Antenna an Easy Build

Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

One of the great things about amateur radio is the opportunity to “build your own,” from the simple to the complex. Readers of *QST* magazine have likely seen the articles the magazine featured on easy-to-build 2-meter antennas (see the April 2018, December 2018, and January 2019 issues).

At recent CARS club meetings, Joe Ulazewski, KD8BAL, and I discovered our mutual interest in wanting to take on one of these projects. We settled on a 2-meter cube-slot antenna, which appears on page 35 of the January 2019 issue of *QST* magazine.

John Portune, W6NBC, designed and built this antenna plus wrote the article on its construction. Using readily available materials, it’s an easy build. We made our first contact with ours on April 24, 2019, and received a clear signal report from Greg Fleming, KB8AJR, located in Solon, Ohio.

But we’ve already captured some “lessons learned” (this first antenna’s SWR is a bit high, 1.8, on the CARS 146.82 MHz frequency), and will apply those lessons in constructing a second one. Stay tuned and we’ll walk through its construction in the June issue of the *WO*.



Success! Andy, KD8SCV, and Joe, KD8BAL, celebrate after making the first contact on their homebrew 2-meter slot-cube antenna.

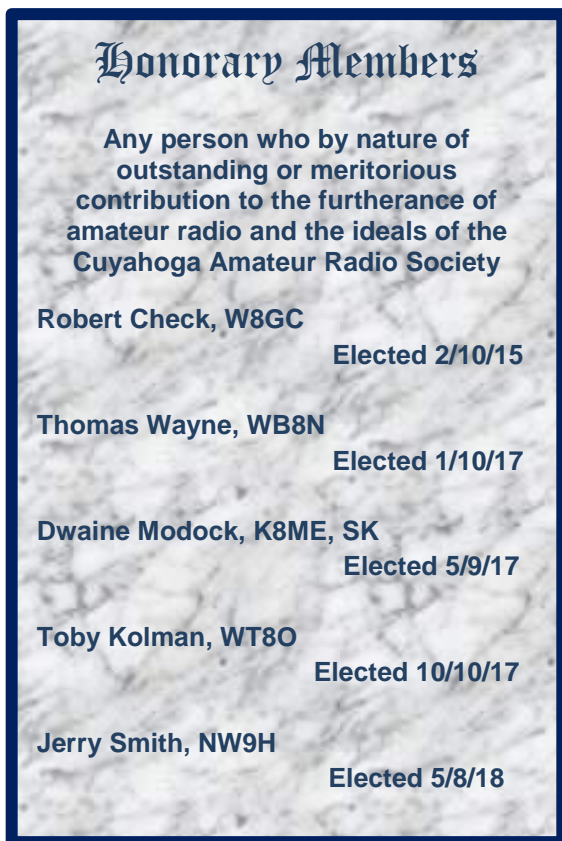
May Birthdays

John Chesna, KCSWBH	5/6
Mike Mraz, KASMZS	5/12/40
Bill Kemmett, KDSQBB	5/13/47
John Papay, KSYSE	5/15
Jerry Smith, NW9H	5/19/41
Ron Borkey Sr., KSVJG	5/20/32
Roy Baldner, KESKOL	5/27/54
Brian Schmiedlin, KESYKH	5/30/90

Congratulations to a One and Only
From Jim, W8ERW, and all of us in ARES

I thought you may like to know that one of our Ohio ARES members, Ron Hollas, K8RJH, has recently completed all of the available FEMA numbered online courses and has submitted those certificates to our database which I maintain for the Ohio Section. Ron has on file a total of 249 certificates of completion including all of the 244 numbered courses. He is the only one of our members to do so although several have well over 100 completed now. I suspect also that Ron is perhaps the single ARES member to do so nationally.

[Submitted by Arp, K8ARP, from the Ohio Section Journal April 29th Edition, pg. 19]



When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could
hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21,
I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.”

— Mark Twain

CARS
Repeaters

146.820 PL Tone 110.9

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

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.

Honda Portable Generators Recalled Due to Potential Fire Hazard

American Honda has announced that it's voluntarily recalling some 200,000 of its portable generators sold in the US due to a potential fire and burn hazard. The recall includes the EU2200i, EU2200i Companion, and EB2200i generators. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) says the affected portable generators can leak gasoline from the fuel valve. Users should stop operating the recalled generator and contact an authorized Honda dealer for a free repair. Honda is also contacting users directly. For more information, visit the CPSC website. A similar recall has been issued in Canada.

[Submitted by Bob, W8GC, from the CPSC website. Ed.]



The experienced and capable CARS VE team ready to rock before the licensing class VE session.

VE Session

CARS will hold a VE testing session Sunday, May 12th, 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 As always, walk-ins are welcome.

RadioSport

Contests

- May 4 1200 - May 5 1159 **ARI International DX Contest** 3.5-28 CW Ph Dig www.ari.it
Exchange: RS(T), 2-letter province or serial
- May 11 1200-May 12 1159 **CQ-M International DX Contest** 1.8-28 CW Ph cqm.srr.ru/en-rules
Exchange: RS(T), serial
- May 25 0000 - May 26 2359 **CQ WW WPX Contest, CW** 1.8-28 CW www.cqwp.com
Exchange: RST, serial

Special Events Stations

- May 5 - May 12, 0400-0400 **W9IMS** Indianapolis, IN **INDYCAR Grand Prix** 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840
Certificate & QSL www.w9ims.org
- May 18-May 19, 1430-1900 **W2GSB** Farmingdale, NY **American Airpower Museum Armed Forces Day** 14.280 14.051 7.260 7.050
Certificate & QSL www.gsbarc.org
- May 20- May 27, 0400-0400 **W9IMS** Indianapolis, IN **The Indianapolis 500** 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840
Certificate & QSL www.w9ims.org

State QSO Parties

- May 4 1500 - May 5 0300 **Indiana QSO Party** 1.8-28 CW Ph www.hdxcc.org/inqp
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC (State, Province)
- May 4 1300 - May 5 0700 **7th Call Area QSO Party** 1.8-28 CW Ph Dig ws7n.net/7QP
Exchange: RS(T), 5-letter state, county code or SPC
- May 4 1700 - May 5 2359 **Delaware QSO Party** 1.8-VHF CW Ph www.fsarc.org
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC
- May 4 2000 - May 5 2359 **New England QSO Party** 3.5-28 CW PH Dig www.negp.org
Exchange: RS(T), county+state or SPC
- May 11 1400 - May 12 0200 **Arkansas QSO Party** 3.5-28, 144 CW Ph Dig www.arkqp.com
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

Sampling from QST May 2019 Pg. 84, 94 and 95, see QST for many more events.
All times in GMT ZULU time

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 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
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



April 3, 2019

**Please reserve and pay for your
“2019 Hamvention” ride to Xenia, OH
Bus Trip ASAP.**

**Saturday May 18, 2019 CARS is
again sponsoring a Bus trip to the
“2019 Hamvention” 3rd time now at
the Green County Fairgrounds,
Xenia, OH.**



*Every amateur radio operator in the world
probably dreams about going to the
Hamvention (formerly Dayton Hamvention) at least once. Please join us in 2019, it
is an incredible event, 3rd year in this Venue and offers something for everyone.*

**The Bus trip will cost \$50.00 dollars per person, we will not stop for
breakfast on the way down, but there may be a fast food stop on the
way home. You are responsible for both your food and Hamvention
tickets. Go to <http://www.hamvention.org/tickets.php> to order your
tickets. **The Bus is wheel-chair accessible****

***Stop 1: The 56 passenger bus will leave promptly at 5:00 am from the Kmart
parking lot at the intersection of Engle and Bagley Roads, in Middleburg Heights,
Engle Road is 1/4 mile west of I-71, Kmart is behind the Gas station. Vehicles will
be safe, there is security.***

***Stop 2: The bus will also pickup riders at I-71 & Rt 303 at the SE corner of the
Kmart parking lot and will depart for Xenia at approximately 5:30 am.***

***When ordering tickets please tell us which stop you will be at,
plus we need your email info, name, call and phone number.***

Bus tickets must be purchased and paid for in advance.

***If you have any questions please see Toby WT8O at a CARS meeting or
call him at 440-525-6109. Checks must be made out to CARS and
mailed to: Toby Kolman, 5789 East Law Rd., Valley City, OH 44280
attn. Xenia bus or email: wt8o@att.net***

73, Toby, WT8O