



# The RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



March 2007 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 2 No. 3

~ 2007 Officers ~

President: - Tom Sly - WB8LCD  
 Vice President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD  
 Sec/Treasurer - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ  
 3 Year Trustee - Russ Anderson - KB8DPN  
 2 Year Trustee - Al Atkins - KB8VJL  
 1 Year Trustee - Joe Wehner - W8KNO

~ Meetings ~

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of  
 every month. 7pm  
 at  
 Mike's Place  
 Routes 43 and  
 261 in Kent

~ Nets ~

Thursday nights  
 8 PM  
 on 146.895  
 PL Tones  
 110.9 Rootstown  
 114.8 Kent

PCARS  
 ARRL affiliated  
 April 20, 2006



## From the President

It's official: Morse code is no longer a "gate keeper" to the world of amateur radio! Although we all have our own opinions on whether it was the right thing to do, or not, it is now the reality we must live with. We've always said "everyone is welcome at PCARS" and that should not change.



Let's welcome all new hams into this great hobby!

One thing that will not change with this new rule, - some new hams will go on to become outstanding CW ops, and others will go off in different directions within the hobby. It comes down to this - those who learn CW now will do it because they want to, not just because they have to. While I'm sad to see that a long tradition has now changed, I'm looking forward to see some very interesting new people join the Ham Radio Fraternity. Let's give them a big welcome when they show up both on the air and at a PCARS meeting!



Hey! Is anybody out there???? I've been asking for photos of you and your ham shack (so has KB8UUZ). I've been asking for volunteers for net control. Here's the deal, we need you and we want you to participate! Help me out here, the pictures should be easy. If you've ever thought about being a net control op - give it a try! The commitment is for one time, beyond that, it's up to you. It's not too hard, it's good practice, and it's a casual net, so there's no-one going to beat you up for a minor goof up. Talk to me, I'll get you on the schedule and walk you through it.

Although not directly related to PCARS, I want to comment on one other item. Emergency communications.

Ham Radio has a long tradition of being there when disaster strikes. In Portage County we now have both ARES and RACES. I would encourage you to participate in both

All Amateur's should make sure they take the following FEMA classes: ICS-100, 200, 700 and 800.

They're free, and they're on-line!

<http://training.fema.gov/ELMWeb/ICS/crslist.asp>

Look over the list of courses, and sign up!

Recommended Courses for RACES participation:

- Level 1 AREC (EC-001)
- Level 2 AREC (EC-002)
- Level 3 AREC (EC-003)

Building a Better Radio Service

of these programs. The best place to start is with the basic training. You can now link to the NIMS courses off the PCARS website. You can also link directly to the ARRL EMCOMM course registration pages. As an added benefit to being a PCARS member, there is now a tuition reimbursement program for any PCARS member who takes and passes the ARRL EMCOMM Level I course. Since this won't last forever, now would be a great time to get it done. The reimbursement will be at the ARRL member rate.

At our February meeting we had a program on the National Traffic System (NTS). Maybe you don't envision yourself as going directly to the disaster site. This is another excellent way to participate in using Ham Radio to help those who have been affected by the disaster. There are several other areas where you can be of service (Salvation Army, Red Cross). Do something to help someone else and let's keep the image of Ham Radio and it's operators a positive one!



Winters almost over, hang in there! 73,

**Tom - WB8LCD**

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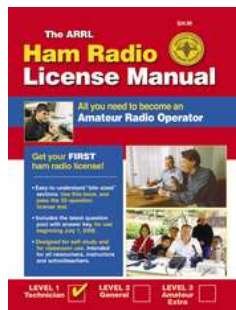
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## From the Vice President

By the time you read this, the February 23rd deadline for the FCC's changes to the licensing process will have come and gone. On February 27th the PCARS VE team will be conducting a test session on the last night of the Technician class at Maplewood. As I write this, we are anticipating a good turnout of current Technicians to take the General class test. Watch for a report on the VE session at the next club meeting.

Remember that we will also be taking walk-ins for this exam session so if you know anyone interested in taking the Technician test or upgrading mention this session to them.

The next Technician class will begin at Maplewood Career Center on March 20th. Information and registration are available through Maplewood by calling 330-296-2892, ext. 104. The cost for the class is \$20.00 and the text books will be available at a cost of \$25.00. Just like with the Winter session, the last night of class will also be a VE session so that the students will have a chance



to finish the course by earning a license. Once again, we will be taking walk-ins for this exam session.

Our VE team will continue to offer testing bi-monthly at the Center of Hope. The plan is to offer Element Two - Technician, Element Three - General, and Element Four - Extra tests at every session. Watch the Radiogram for the VE schedule, but the tests will always be at 1000 hours on the first Saturday of every other month starting in February.

In order to help us plan, if you or anyone you know may be interested in taking any of the tests please call me at home (330) 297-7979, or send me a note at kc8pd@portcars.org. We will also accommodate walk-ins at each of these sessions.

PCARS mission of ensuring that its members have plenty of opportunities for ham radio fun continued at this year's second annual **Freeze Your Acorns Off QRP** event. Hat's off to Tom, **WB8LCD**, for selecting the Roy Smith Shelter House as the new FYAO site. Let's hope that it is available every year!

The only time the acorns were at risk was during



antenna setup and tear down. Inside, things were warm and we had lots of food and beverages. There were plenty of tables and chairs and no problems setting up operating stations. It was an ideal opportunity for members and visitors to stop in at any time during the day. All in all it was a great time.

The next scheduled club activity will be the Homebrew Antenna Workshop at the Center of Hope on March 24th. More details will be provided at the March meeting and by e-mail. Tom, **WB8LCD**, has a terrific low cost vertical antenna design for this project and he demonstrated it at FYAO.

We have an upcoming road trip for a presentation on amateur radio participation in the post-Katrina recovery effort. It will be on Thursday, March 22nd at the Western Reserve Emergency Communication Service (WRECS) meeting at the Bentleyville Village Hall.

PCARS members are welcome to attend these meetings which provide a great chance to meet and get to know the members of other area clubs. If you need

anymore information just let me know.

The speakers at our next meeting will be our own Tom Parkinson, **KB8UZZ**, and Joe Wehner, **W8KNO**, with an Introduction to Contesting. This your chance to learn all that you need to know about contesting and how you can get involved in it. If you haven't tried contests you are missing out one of the truly interesting and fun ham radio activities.

Remember that Rick Kruis, **AAA5RD**, the Region 5 Director of the Military Affiliate Radio Service (MARS) will be giving a presentation on MARS and its evolving mission at our April 9th meeting. Rick resides in Hiram and is the past Ohio state director of MARS, recently having been promoted to the Region 5 Director position.

The more that I read about MARS the more interested I got. So much so that I recently applied to be a MARS operator and have been assigned the call of **AAR5AI/T**. The /T means that I am in training. MARS provides a substantial amount of self-study material and expects regular participation in its activities. They operate nets on 75 meters as well as on two meters on a Navy/Marine repeater in Cuyahoga County. The nets are very professional. I will have more reports on MARS as time goes by.



Program and activity suggestions are always welcome. Let me know what PCARS can do for you. This is your club and we want it to be responsive to your ham radio interests.

**Jim - KC8PD**

## Observing Band Edges

There is sure to be a lot of new HF activity since the new regulations took effect on February 23. Please remember that operators are required to keep their entire transmitted signal within the band limits. This means that if you are operating SSB mode your signal is typically 2.8 kHz wide so a rule of thumb is to stay 3 kHz from the edge of the band. For example if a Technician class operator

wants to operate SSB on the 10 meter band then the operator should not operate any lower than 28.303 MHz or any higher than 28.497 MHz in order to stay within the band limits.

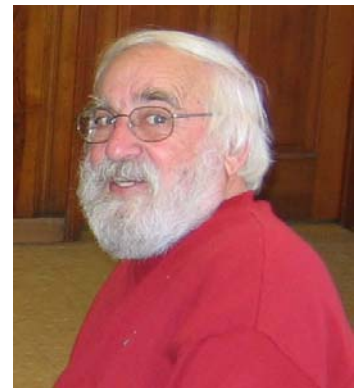
Band edges also need to be observed when operating CW, RTTY, Data and all modes permitted in the Amateur service.

Overdriving a SSB transmitter make your signal unreadable and it will cause splatter that can be outside of the band. It is not just good amateur practice to produce clean transmitted signals--it's also the law, part 97.303.

## From the ARRL Club News

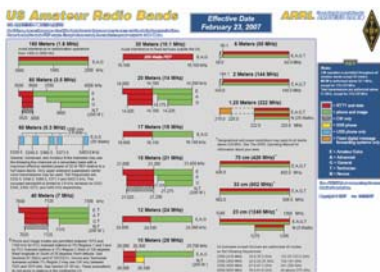
### Paper Chase

Here it is March already and we used to say it was the month of the IRS, now we say 'Let's drink the green stuff!' Yes, it is the month of Saint Patrick's Day and if you would like to add a little green to your collection; work GB4SPD. The special event station is operated by Harry, GI0THZ, and Ian, GI3DZE, and is usually active on the 16th and 17th of March. However, keep checking GB4SPD on "QRZ.com" as Saint Partick's Day nears as they may be on for a longer time due to work requirements. Everyone who makes a contact will receive a card through the RSGB Bureau.



March is also the month of two of the bigger contests, the ARRL International DX Phone Contest and the CQ WW WPX Phone Contest. In both of these contests it is easy to work all continents and obtain your WAC certificate and with a little effort you can even obtain a DXCC Award. Information on the ARRL contest can be found on the ARRL Website, "www.arrl.org", and on page 99 of the December 2006 copy of QST. The CQ contest information can be found at "www.cq-amateur-radio.com" and on page 32 & 33 of the January 2007 issue of CQ. If you do not subscribe to CQ and go to the store to buy a copy, make sure you get CQ the Amateur Radio magazine and not CQ the glamor magazine!

The scoring in each contest is different but is such that you can get a decent score without really working at it. In the ARRL Contest you get three points for each non-duplicate contact. The multipliers are the number of



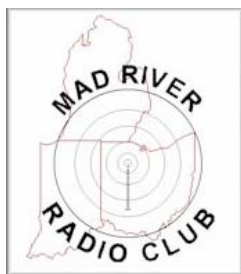
DXCC entities worked on each band. Therefore, if you would work one station of all six bands (160-10) you would have 108 points if you worked no one else. The exchange in this contest is the signal report and your power. In the CQ contest, the scoring is a little more elaborate. Contacts on different continents are worth 3 points on 14, 21 & 28 MHz and 6 points on 1.8, 3.5 and 7 MHz. If you work a station on your same continent you earn 1 and 2 points and in the same country 1 point. Your score is the number of QSO points times the number different prefixes counted only once no matter how many times you work that prefix. The exchange is the signal report and serial number starting with 001.

I like the WPX Contest because it seems to have more people having a good time. During 2003, when the bands were better, I was able to work 540 contacts with



300 different prefixes for 334,704 points. That was good enough for fourth place in eight land and I only ran 100 watts. Because you can earn multipliers in your own country, it is exciting even when the bands are down. In that way, it is very similar to Sweepstakes with the addition of 160 meters.

So how do you maximize your score and not have to spend all weekend on the radio? The following is taken from the Mad River Radio Club Sweepstakes Handbook, with their permission, and it applicable to all contests you care to participate in.



Here are ten ways:

1. Set aside specific times to work the contest; don't drift in and out of the shack making a few QSOs each time. If you clear specific time periods ahead of time with the family, it should not be difficult to find six or ten hours that can be devoted to the contest over the contest period.
2. One possible strategy to maximize a part time score is to focus on the high bands for a couple of hours in the late afternoon (to get western sections), the band a couple of hours on 80M/75M in the evening (for the close in sections), and finally a couple of hours on 40M during Sunday morning (when conditions and rate are typically good for a W8 station).
3. Enter the highest power category your station can muster. Your goal in a part-time effort should be to make as many points as possible and QRO typically means more points.
4. If possible, operate on Saturday when the activity is the highest. If you can, try to re-arrange family time so that you

can work the first few hours full blast and spend more time off with the family on Sunday.

5. An alternative to #3 above is to operate when the bands are less crowded, or when you might garner more attention as "fresh meat" on the band. Examples might be on 75M on SSB after 0400Z or on Sunday when lots of people are combing that band looking for new stations to work.

6. Concentrate on QSOs and let the majority of sections come to you at first, whether you're CQ ing or S&P ing. After the first few hours, check your section list and if necessary, adjust your operating patterns and band selection to maximize your opportunities to work the remaining section.

7. Use a real-time contest logging program. This turns the contest into a video game - each QSO that rolls the score counter over a little more is fun and an impetus to keep going.

8. Turn on your Packet Cluster (if permitted) and use it to locate needed sections to boost your score. Such operation will put you in the "unlimited" category. Since there are no power distinctions in the unlimited category, you might as well go ahead and turn on the amp (see note 2 above).

9. If you're missing some to the hard northwest sections (VY1, KL7, etc.) make time around 2100Z either day on the high bands with the antennas northwest. Try both CQ ing and S&P. Sometimes conditions make it hard for even good stations from these areas to be heard so don't ignore weak signals - you might be rewarded with a pileup-free opportunity for a new section.

10. If you haven't been on much during the contest, get on for the last few hours and be the new station on the band. It can be lots of fun being fresh meat...

After all your hard work, be sure to SEND IN THE LOG. If you would like to read the entire SS Manual go to: [www.madriverradioclub.org](http://www.madriverradioclub.org)

**Joe - W8KNO**

## **Charlie the Tuner's HF Hi-Lites**

March 2007 and Spring is just around the corner. That is if the corner you're looking at is near San Diego. Hi Hi. Spring is coming even though the snow and or cold WX is still with us. So we need to start planning our Spring and Summer projects. Don't panic guys but I'm thinking of another tower project that includes a 4 el 40 meter mono-bander on a 72 ft crank-up. Just something to do on the weekends.



Anyway, there has been some very interesting DX on. I worked Taiwan, Albania, and Norfolk Island (South Pacific) in the last three days. And the Norfolk Is. and Albanian contacts were on CW.

I hope that some of you got to work the ARRL International DX CW contest this past month. I screwed up enough courage to get on and Boy Did I Have Fun!! Fifty-two contacts isn't much to talk about, but when you have been off CW as long as I have, it does mean something. Frankly, I have been working CW more now since the contest and I have found a new addiction. There are some very, very interesting call signs to be found in the DX portion of the bands. So let's look at what we can expect to find if we hunt DX in March.

**BS7** - There will be 18 operators for the late April BS7H DXpedition to Scarborough Reef. The group is seeking financial contributions to help defray the very significant cost of this DXpedition. Full details on how to contribute can be found on the expedition web site (<http://www.bs7h.com>). QSL via KU9C.

**CT3** - DL3KWR and DL3KWF will be active again as CT3/DL3KWR and CT3/DL3KWF from Madeira (AF-014) on March 8-22. They plan to operate mostly CW and on the WARC bands. Hardy (DL3KWF) will try for the first time in RTTY. QSL via home calls.

**E5** - G3PJT will be active as E51PJT (requested call) from Raratonga (OC-013), South Cook Islands on March 3-17. He will operate mainly CW and for the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (March 10-11). You can QSL via home call, direct or bureau (e-mail requests for bureau cards can be sent to [g3pjt@btinternet.com](mailto:g3pjt@btinternet.com)).

**F** - F5NCU (CW) and F6EHJ (SSB) will be active on 10-80 meters as TM7BA from Batz Island (EU-105) from July 28 to August 4, IOTA Contest included. QSL via F5NCU, direct or via bureau.

**GJ** - Look for Pete, K8PT and Craig, K3PLV to be active again from Jersey (EU-013) on March 14-22. They will operate as MJ/K8PT and MJ/K3PLV on 160-6 meters CW, SSB and RTTY, with an emphasis on the lower bands. QSL via home calls. Skeds can be arranged at [k8pt@arrl.net](mailto:k8pt@arrl.net) before they leave. Their web page is at <http://users.adelphia.net/~crahill/>. I have worked these guys before, and they will QSL upon receiving a QSL and SASE.

**HC** - Rick, NE8Z reports he will be active again as HC1MD from Tumbaco, Ecuador between February 24 and March 14. He plans to operate CW and SSB on 80-10 meters with 500 watts and a Carolina Windom. QSL via K8LJG.

**JW** - Look for JW/IN3TCH (RTTY) and JW/IN3SAU (SSB) to operate from the JW5E club station on Longyearbyen (EU-026), Svalbard on March 8-11. They will concentrate on the low bands. QSL via IN3SAU.

**TZ** - ON4LN (TZ2T), ON5CD (TZ1T), ON4FG (TZ4T) and Bart/ON3VK, plus TZ6PVI (ON7ASL) will operate SSB, CW

and digital modes on 160-10 meters from Bamako, Mali on April 2-7. They plan to have at least two stations on the air. You can QSL via ON4LN (direct) or via home calls (bureau). Further information can be found at <http://mali2007.obox.be/>

**XU** - JA3PPH and JA3EGZ (from the Himeji Amateur Radio Club) and YL operator JA3DFM (from the JARL Kobe Club) will be active from Sihanoukville, Cambodia on March 16-19. They will operate CW and SSB as XU7PPH, XU7EGZ and XU7DFM on 160-10 meters (possibly on 6 meters as well). Direct cards for all should be sent to Himeji Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 6, Himeji, 670-8691 Japan. The QSL routes for bureau cards are XU7DFM via JA3DFM, XU7EGZ via JA3EGZ, XU7PPH via JA3EGZ. This one will be rare so if you're interested in DX, this is one you should look for.

Well, it's not a long list this month. However, there are a few real gems on it if you are willing to do some DX hunting. So 73 for now and gud DX to all of you.

**Chuck - K8CMP**

## ARRL Benefits

From time to time it is a good idea to review some simple benefits of your ARRL membership. If you are not signed up or participating in the following, you are missing certain advantages of the ARRL which other members enjoy.

The Section Manager and/or the Great Lakes Division Director issues messages with interesting and important information.

So I know you know about this but other members may not. Help make all members aware that Section and Division bulletins can be directed to their computer on a regular basis. Next time you are at a meeting or other ham gathering, remind members to visit [www.arrl.org/members-only](http://www.arrl.org/members-only) and sign up for bulletins.



As a member you can sign up for an E-mail forwarding service. With a forwarding service, you get a permanent [yourcall@arrl.net](mailto:yourcall@arrl.net) E-mail address which continues no matter how many times you change Internet service providers (ISP). See [www.arrl.org/arrlnet](http://www.arrl.org/arrlnet) to sign up. It will be the last time you change your E-mail address.

The Leagues runs a web site news bureau where the

editor makes daily entries of news and items of interest to hams. Visit <[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)> often to read the latest. Every Friday, the ARRL Letter is published with a compilation of the news in the past week. Visit <[www.arrl.org/arrlletter](http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter)> to subscribe.

A wide range of other ARRL membership benefits can be seen on page 14 of any recent issue of QST (the major membership benefit) or by visiting <[www.arrl.org/benefits](http://www.arrl.org/benefits)>.

If you have any questions about the Ohio Section write to me (contact information on page 16 of any current issue of QST) and/or visit the Ohio Section Web Site - <[www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)>. Do so often.

That's it. Thanks & 73

**Joe - K8QOE**  
**ARRL Ohio Section Manager**

## PCARS VE Test Sessions

PCARS VE sessions for 2007 are scheduled for the first Saturday of every other month starting in February.

VE sessions For Technician, CW, General and Amateur Extra will start at 10:00 am at the Center of Hope, located at 1034 West Main Street in Ravenna. Walk-ins are welcome.

Please bring your original license, a copy of your license, your original CSCE, a copy of your CSCE, a photo ID, and a check for \$14.00 made out to "ARRL-VEC". We look forward to seeing you there!!!!

**Rest of the 2007 Schedule**  
**Apr 7, Jun 2, Aug 4, Oct 6, Dec 1**



## Back Pack Radio Mini Dxpedition

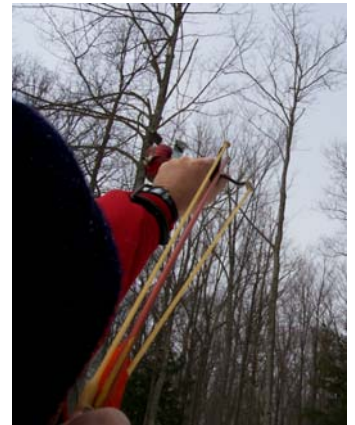
February 12th to the 16th turned out to be the week we had all hoped for. Lots of snow and great spots to hike to. The area is in central Pa and is located at Parker Dam State Park. This is a favorite destination for several of us from the Akron area.

All licensed ham radio operators, we loaded our respective trucks with food, firewood, and beverages. And, of course, several HF and VHF radios and associated equipment. Our trip had to include



several hikes to remote areas where we could setup and operate a portable HF station. Mother nature did not let us down, what a snow storm !

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, we hiked and set up the station. Several contacts were made even though the band conditions were poor. Most of the contacts started at 20 watts output reducing power to 5 watts after the contact was established. Texas, Colorado, New Hampshire, were just a few of the states worked. The most exciting contact was with a station in Portugal, with 5 watts !



The HF Pack station was an IC 706 with an LDG100 tuner. The station is packaged in a backpack manufactured by Communications Outfitters.



Powering the station is a 12AH lead Acid battery. Heavy, but worth the weight. The 706 would run at 60 watts with the 12 AH battery. The antenna attached to the pack was an Outbacker, Perth Plus. Most of the contacts, however, were made with a portable dipole hung from any close tree branch. The QSO with Portugal was made with a long wire and tuner.

Our next radio/hiking/adventure will include more antenna experimentation. I hope to take an antenna to test the NVIS design. I'm also hoping the NVIS style antenna will allow QSO's to closer locations, like Akron, Ravenna, etc.

We all had a great time and look forward to the next trip ! PS: Anyone interested in pedestrian/portable type operations is encouraged to check the HF Pack website. HF Pack is also available through yahoo Groups.

Best of 73's,  
**Dave - WB2DFC**

## Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics & activities are:

- o **March 12<sup>th</sup>** club meeting – **Introduction to Contesting**
  - o **March 24<sup>th</sup>** – **Homebrew Antenna Workshop**
  - o **April 7<sup>th</sup>** - VE Testing - 10am - Center of Hope, Ravenna
  - o **April 9<sup>th</sup>** club meeting – **Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS)**
  - o **May 14<sup>th</sup>** club meeting – **DXing**
  - o **May 26<sup>th</sup>** – Antenna setup day at Ravenna City Park
  - o **June 2<sup>nd</sup>** - VE Testing - 10am - Center of Hope, Ravenna
  - o **June 11<sup>th</sup>** club meeting – topic open
  - o **June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>** – **FIELD DAY!**
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## Guest Article on EmComm

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, the Portage County Commissioners adopted a resolution authorizing, James Manion, the interim Director of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (EMA), to sign off on a new Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) plan for the county. Mr. Manion signed the plan that same day.

With that, the Portage County EMA began a new era for the participation of amateur radio operators in emergency communications in our community.

We all have at least some knowledge about RACES from the materials that we studied for our ham radio licenses. RACES is the emergency communication service that had its beginnings during the 1950's as a part of civil defense operations. It is the only amateur radio emergency communication service created by FCC rules.

Although the mission of RACES and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) may sometimes overlap, there are critical distinctions between the two. ARES is the relatively informal and loosely structured emcomm service that is overseen by the ARRL and integrated into its Section operations.

ARES can provide a variety of public service communications such as for parades or marathons, as well as emergency communications for private entities such as the Salvation Army or other relief agencies during disasters. It can also move traffic in and out of disaster affected areas on behalf of individuals or service organizations. ARES operators can communicate with any other ham operator.

RACES, however, is a bit more limited in scope. It is the emcomm service specifically designed to provide

assistance to public safety entities such as the EMA, police and fire services. In addition, its mission extends to the Red Cross and hospitals such as Robinson Memorial. Communications may only be between RACES stations and on-air training times are limited to one hour per week. RACES can only be activated upon the order of the EMA director.

A well run RACES operation can provide outstanding education and training opportunities for amateur radio volunteers. You can practice and hone your operating skills and the experience can benefit you during regular ham operations or while volunteering for other services such as ARES.

It is my good fortune to have been involved in the drafting of the new RACES plan and to have been appointed as Radio Officer for Portage County. The Radio Officer has the primary responsibility for the management and operations of the RACES program and answers to the EMA director.

My goal is to see Portage County have the finest RACES operation that can be provided. Recruitment

has begun and participation is open to any amateur radio operator who wishes to participate, can pass a basic criminal background check, and is willing to participate in training and operations on a regular basis. You do not have to be a

Portage County resident to be involved. RACES is not a function of any group, club or other organization. It is a public operation as a part of the EMA.



I hope that all of you will take the time to consider how you can serve the Portage County community by becoming a RACES volunteer. Let's never forget that, first and foremost, emergency communications and public service have been among the primary reasons for the existence of the amateur radio service.

Events over the past few years have really driven home the point about how vital radio communications can be during disasters, whether large scale or local. Expectations have been raised about how the amateur radio community will respond and what services it can provide. Let us all be a part of this dynamic and vital process and show that amateur radio's "finest hour" has developed into an exceptional response by hams that

continues to evolve and improve.

Anyone who would like more information and/or a RACES application can contact me directly either by calling me at 330-297-7979 or sending me an e-mail at [kc8pd@aol.com](mailto:kc8pd@aol.com).

**Jim - KC8PD**

**Radio Officer**

**Portage County EMA/RACES**

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

Four PCARS member have a birthday in March:

W8KNO - Joe Wehner  
KC8RFT - Denzil Linton  
KD8EOZ - Joseph Stribny  
WB8LCD - Tom Sly

## Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: **Kenwood MC-60A** desk microphone; excellent condition. Will also include optional MJ-88 8 pin to modular adapter. I am asking \$120 for it, but am willing to negotiate. If anyone is interested feel free to drop me an email at [n8wle@portcars.org](mailto:n8wle@portcars.org). **Nick-N8WLE**

## March Contest Calendar

### March, 2007

ARRL Inter. DX, SSB	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2400Z, Mar 4
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0429Z, Mar 3 and 0430Z-0459Z, Mar 3 and 0500Z-0529Z, Mar 3 and 0530Z-0600Z, Mar 3
Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase	0230Z-0400Z, Mar 8
Idaho QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 10 to 0100Z, Mar 11 and 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 11
Oklahoma QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 10 to 0200Z, Mar 11 and 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 11
EA PSK31 Contest	1600Z, Mar 10 to 1600Z, Mar 11
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 11
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 17
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 19
Run for the Bacon QRP	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 19
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 22
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2359Z, Mar 25
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 26
QCWA Spring QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 31 to 1800Z, Apr 1



## FYAO Special Event Report

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) 2nd Annual "Freeze Your Acorns Off" (FYAO) QRP Special Event Station KD8CKP was held on Saturday - Feb 24, 2007. We were on the air from 10:00 am EST until 6:00 PM EST from the Roy Smith Shelter at the Fred Fuller Park in Kent, Ohio.

The turn out was FANTASTIC with over 40 people signing in. We were all surprised at how nice the shelter was and the only time we were cold is when the antennas were set up and later taken down. Plenty of hot chili & pizza, coffee & soda, plus snacks galore.

We had QRP stations on 40, 20, 17, 15 meters running SSB, CW and even PSL-31. Messages were sent out over WinLink.

Antennas included a dipole, buddy pole, and two Pack 12 Verticals (same antenna we'll be making on the March 2th Antenna Project Day).

Contacts were made from California to Belgium. Nick - N8WLE was VERY happy when he made is first ever DX contact into the Dominican Republic!

It was a great day for everyone and we all enjoyed each others company. We're looking forward to FYAO 2008 already!



## Words from Weaver

### CODE TESTING FOR LICENSING

Like it or not, testing for Morse code proficiency to obtain General and Extra Class licenses ends February 23. This is the date by which all amateurs interested in the future of Amateur Radio need to come together to welcome new licensees and upgrades. We all need to show interest in the "new" ones and mentor them to be good hams. To fail to do this could prove very troublesome to our great radio service.



### CHANGES AT HQ

Two additional changes in the old F&ES Department are underway. First, more attention is being given to developing educational materials. You who have seen the new Technician License manual and one or two additional new teaching aids have already seen how this new emphasis is working out. There is much more to come.

The second change is the addition of a new position as EmComm Director. The duties of the new director have been described in the National Emergency Response Planning Committee (NERPC) Report that was ratified by the Board in January. The EmComm Director is to develop the emergency communication skills possessed by ARES members and organizations throughout the country into the finest EmComm organization in the world for meeting the needs of large-area disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. We want to be the best and to be perceived as being the best -- no exception. Local ARES groups remain very capable of managing local situations.

### OHIO LAC APPOINTED

Brent Stover, WD8PNZ of Maumee, Ohio has been appointed Legislative Action Coordinator (LAC) for the State of Ohio. Brent follows Jim Ashman, W8ASH who retired from the position late last year because of personal reasons. Brent has been Legislative Action Assistant (LAA) serving the Ohio Ninth Congressional District. His first task is to develop the Ohio Teams of Legislative Action Assistants in each Congressional District in Ohio. If you are interested in learning more about this program and how you can protect the Amateur Radio Community by making as many as about three visits to a local office of your District US

Representative, please contact Brent at WD8PNZ@arrl.org.

### RED CROSS MODIFIES POSITION

In a letter to Red Cross officials throughout the country, Jack McGuire, Interim President and CEO and Kate Forbes, National Chair of Volunteers for the American National Red Cross have changed their former stand concerning background checks for all Red Cross volunteers.

The revised position is:

"- A new consent form will be developed that eliminates all references to credit checks and mode of living.

"- The Red Cross will not run future credit checks or mode of living checks on anyone who has signed the previous consent form. The Red Cross will consider that consent form null and void as to the credit check and mode of living authorizations, and promises not to conduct a credit check on individuals unless we obtain a second consent form from them authorizing those checks. Mode of living checks will not be conducted under any circumstances.

"- In an effort to establish and maintain consistency across the organization, Jane Gilbert, Senior Vice President, Service Area Support, will convene a working group to establish an ongoing credit check policy that will define which positions require a credit check in the future and how to evaluate credit checks for those positions."

I applaud the Red Cross for recognizing the demand to sign the previous, inclusive background check authorization was inappropriate. I previously notified the Cincinnati Red Cross Chapter I authorize a criminal background check on myself. As soon as the reformatted authorization form that limits the requested background checking to a criminal check becomes available, I will sign it.

As of the date this issue of Words is being released, there has been no public statement by the Red Cross concerning the change in background checking. Similarly, the promised reformatted background checking release form has not yet been issued.

**Jim - K8JE**

**Director - ARRL Great Lakes Division**

## Hamfest Calendar

**18 Mar 2007** - Hamfest and Computer Fair - Lucas County Recreation Center - 2901 Key St. - Maumee, OH - Toledo Mobile Radio Association - <http://www.tnrahmradio.org> - Talk-In: 147.27+ (no tone needed) - Contact: Brian Harrington, WD8MXR - 4463 Holly Hill Dr. - Toledo, OH 43614 - Phone: 419-385-5624 - Email: [bharrington@meduohio.edu](mailto:bharrington@meduohio.edu)

## PCARS Meetings - Mike's Place

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) meets on the second Monday of every month at Mike's Place - 1700 S. Water St. - Kent. Meetings start at 7 PM sharp and all are invited to attend. You can find out a whole lot more about Mike's Place on the web at: [www.mikesplacerestaurant.com](http://www.mikesplacerestaurant.com) You can look over their entire menu and see some interesting stuff on the web site. Check it out!



## Antenna Project Day

March 24<sup>th</sup>

We've been talking it up for some time now, but the day is finally upon us! On Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> we'll be meeting at the Center of Hope in Ravenna at 9:00 AM for the PCARS, portable, QRP antenna building project. We'll be building a slightly modified version of the PAC-12 antenna which can be seen at <http://www.njgrp.org/pac-12/>. I've built a couple of variations of this and it is a very nice portable antenna. You saw it in operation at FYAO.

Most of the "heavy lifting" has already been done on this project, so there is no reason you would not be able to go home with a working antenna. The cost for this will be \$25 to keep it within the realm of just about everybody. We will have the coil forms to make this operate on the 40/20/15 meter bands. Making coils for the other HF bands is a simple matter after you've seen how it's done. In operation, the coils are simply swapped out for the band you want to operate.

When completed, we'll have some antenna analyzers available to check them out, and probably a rig or two to get them on the air before you even leave! I've included a photo of the antenna in use at my QTH for the QRP/CI Fireside Sprint. (The ladder was for



additional support as it was a *very* windy day when I went out to put it up)

If you want to have one of these *limited edition* antenna kits, I need you to let me know on or before the March meeting (before would be appreciated). I want to make sure that everyone who wants an antenna gets one. If you don't care about having one of these antennas for your own, but still want to come on out and spend some time with us, we'll certainly appreciate the extra hands and hope you'll be there!

**Tom - WB8LCD**

## PCARS Thursday Net Information

### Net Schedule for March & April

March	
1	KB8DPN
8	K8CMP
15	KB8UUZ
22	KC8PD
29	WB8LCD

April	
5	K8CMP
12	KB8DPN
19	WB8LCD
26	KB8UUZ



Everyone is encouraged to check in all the time, and be a Net Control Operator once in a while. Like to give it a try? Contact Tom - WB8LCD the PCARS Net Coordinator for more information - Hey, you'll have *FUN*!

## Photos Wanted

One of my PCARS projects this year is to get photographs of all our members. So, dust off the camera, have someone take a snap shot or two of you - preferably: radio in hand, or in your radio shack, or in your mobile set up, or working on an antenna - you get the idea. Send those pictures to me! If you don't have a digital camera, send a regular photo to me & I'll scan it in. Looking forward to your photographs for the PCARS collection!

**Tom - KB8UUZ**

## Battery Backup for the Shack

One of the great things about ham radio is how hams are so willing to provide help to other hams or to share in their amateur radio good fortune.

Recently, Mike, KB8TUY, had the opportunity to purchase some twelve storage batteries that were being taken out of service from a commercial facility. The price was good at twenty bucks per battery, but Mike did not need all of them. He had contacted Bobby, WB8FEW, who volunteered to perform quality control

testing on the batteries to make sure that all were safe to use and could be expected to last.

Bobby is not one to take half-measures on such a task so he fabricated the necessary hardware to run the batteries through charging and discharging cycles to ensure that they were up to par. For all of those that passed the tests, Mike had very graciously agreed to sell them for the same twenty bucks that he had paid.

The batteries are industrial grade, sealed, twelve volt, 35 amp hour cells, each weighing about thirty pounds. They are fairly compact compared to an automobile battery.

For some time I had been wanting to have a backup power supply at home in addition to the AGM deep



cycle battery that I have for portable use. So when I heard about the batteries I decided to purchase some.

Obviously the batteries are of no use unless you keep them charged. At the suggestion of Tom, WB8LCD, and Errol, KC8RJR, I decided to look into West

Mountain Radio's PWRgate. The PWRgate is a device that takes power in from both your power supply and the batteries. If the line current goes down, the PWRgate automatically switches over to the batteries.

It comes in two variations: the simple switching device or the PG40s model which also includes a battery charger circuit. It takes the twelve volts from the power supply and maintains a charge on the batteries at 1, 4, 7 or 10 amps. Once charged, the circuit will maintain a float charge.

As you can see in the picture, the three batteries make a reasonably sized package that fits under my work table. They are cabled in parallel (Bobby even provided cables and washers – pennies that he had drilled) and the power supply sits on top of them separated by pieces of solid foam. The PWRgate sits atop the power supply with the output leads running up to a West Mountain RigRunner using Anderson PowerPole connectors.

The system works great. The current draw is low for the power supply when the rigs are turned off so there is minimal cost in leaving the supply on all of the time.

Bobby's recommendation for best battery life is to keep the batteries at about 13.6 to 13.7 volts at all times. With nearly 100 amp hours of storage, this system should keep the station on the air for some time in the event of a power failure.



Thanks again to Mike and Bobby for making this happen. If you want more information on the PWRgate go to [www.westmountainradio.com](http://www.westmountainradio.com).

**Jim - KC8PD**

## ***Eyeball to Eyeball - KC9ACX***

Even though he was born and raised in Youngstown, John Ramsey KC9ACX didn't make his contact in his home town until February 10th, while he was leaning out of his mother's back porch, trying to find a spot where he could get a good signal into the local repeater. He can't quite make the 148.895 repeater either, from his house in North Liberty, Indiana, not far from South Bend.

You may know KC9ACX from his Echolink check-



ins to the PCARS Thursday night nets. John's a big Echolink fan, and has worked 28 states and several countries on his computer. He finds that New England states are hardest to get a response from. "They just never seem to answer my calls," he said.

On the air, John is limited to two meters at the moment. His latest communication gambit is a program called CQ-100, which he describes as being very like Echolink, but not yet as crowded.

It was a convoluted route to 9-land. John was working at steel mill as apprentice tool and die maker In a Youngstown steel mill when it shut it down in 1980.

No jobs were to be had anywhere near Youngstown, so he got into truck and drove as far away as a tank of gas would take him. He was running on fumes when he pulled into convenience store in Elkhart, Indiana, with barely enough money for a newspaper. Finding a likely-looking want-ad in the paper, John invested 35 cents and called about a job. He told the company he had six months experience as an apprentice machinist. They asked him to come in for interview. "I told them I'd be happy to interview, but I had a problem: No gas." The company sent a truck out to collect him, and brought him into the factory for an interview. He was hired on the spot.

John hadn't been in Elkhart very long before the third shift at his company received a visit from the new plant manager. "The Hatchet", as he was called, discovered John's supervisor sorting pennies instead of working, and fired him on the spot. The Hatchet then promoted John to shift supervisor, although was 19 years old and never held a management position before. John has been in management ever since.

The best piece of advice he ever got, John says, was, ironically, from The Hatchet. "I pay you to make decisions", the Hatchet told him, "They may not be easy, and I don't expect all them to always be right, but you have to make them."

A short wave and scanner listener from boyhood, John was intrigued with a neighbor told him that you could actually talk on shortwave if you had a ham license. Fascinated, John bought a copy of CQ magazine from a local drugstore. Buried in the back of the magazine was an ad for the \$10 W5YI Technician course. A few days later John tore into the course, which included the entire question pool for the Tech exam. "I thought I would have answer every question, and I thought, I'll never be able to memorize this stuff in a million years." With no Elmer to advise him, John spent months memorizing the entire pool, then took an hour off of work to take the test a ham club down the street. Amazingly, it was the same club and the same testing room where I got my novice license in 1971: Red Cross ARC in South Bend. "They handed me the test," John recounts, "and I went brain dead. I couldn't remember anything. Nothing looked familiar. I turned in my test to the VE's and told them I had just locked up. They told me to go relax for a little while, then they gave me a another, different test. That one I passed, 100%"

Armed with his new Technician ticket and a Radio Shack hand-held John ventured on to his front porch for his first QSO. It was at that moment that he realized that nobody had ever told him what to say on the air.

"The technician course said I should just give my callsign, but that didn't sound right to me, so I pressed the transmit button and started calling CQ on the repeater." Nobody answered his calls.

This situation went on for a week. John would call CQ, but people would go on talking as though they hadn't heard him. "I was ready to throw the HT away and give up on ham radio in general and hams in particular. Then I happened to overhear on guy mentioning that the repeater had a PL tone of 131.8. I had never heard of PL tones before. Didn't know what they were."

Pouring over the HT manual, John discovered two things. The HT could transmit PL tones if you pushed the right sequence of buttons. The second revelation was less satisfying: "You had to be a rocket scientist to program that HTX-200. I think I got that PL set up right by accident." On his next CQ, 14 hams came back to John for his first QSO.

John's other hobby is golf. How good is he? "I get my money's worth in my swings, anyway" says he says with a grin.

John was inactive much of 2006, while he tended to his father's final days. "I just didn't feel like getting on the air, once he passed." John said. Late in 2006, he decided it was time to pick up the microphone again.

Relatives are all over our area, in Youngstown, Twinsburg, Aurora, and other places. He tries to make it back to Northeast Ohio three or four times a year. John's two sons are 25 and 23. He recently became a grandfather, and has a entire gallery of baby pictures on his cell phone. John is looking forward into getting her into ham radio at a tender age. "Maybe at age five or six," he promises.

**Bill - WB9LBI**

## ***PCARS Annual Dues are Over Due***

Time flies when your having fun! Annual dues (\$20) are over due as of January 31st. Please bring your 2007 dues to the next meeting, or snail mail it to KB8UUZ (check last page for address).

Checks can be made out to PCARS. If your call sign, name, address, phone, e-mail, etc has changed, please let me know so the records can be updated accordingly.



## ***Congratulations***

As a result of the PCARS VE Testing session on February 3rd - congratulations goes out to PCARS Members:

Ron - W8RJG for upgrading to General Class

Joe - KD8EOZ for upgrading to Tech w/HF - passed his 5 wpm code.

Also a special 'Way-To-Go' to Jim Sens - KC8DXX

**PCARS VE Team with Jim Sens**



**KB8UUZ - KB8DPN - Jim Sens - WB8LCD - N4TIE - KC8PD**  
from Brunswick: he walked in as a Technician, passed his 5 wpm code, passed the General Test, and also passed the Amateur Extra test!

***PCARS VE Team***

## ***Bitten by the Contest Bug***

***QRP Contest – “QRZ – Is anyone there?”***

Having gotten a taste for contesting, I decided to take Tom, WB8LCD's, suggestion that I take a shot at the QRP SSB contest on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Seemed like it would be a nice introduction to some QRP operating and maybe a dry run for Freeze Your Acorns Off.

I checked out the information about the contest on the web site for the QRP Amateur Radio Club International, <http://www.qrparci.org/>. Things looked interesting and

it turned out that you could collect 5000 bonus points if you worked purely portable off battery power. Now I had a plan: run the rig at the kitchen table with AGM battery and set up the Buddipole on the deck right outside the window.



On Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the PCARS VE team had a testing session at the Center of Hope. The weather was

not bad but still brisk in the morning. The temperature was supposed to be in single digits on Sunday, not my idea of fun. So I figured that on Saturday afternoon I could put up the antenna and have that out of the way.

As soon as we finished the testing and the repeater committee meeting I headed home with high expectations of getting the antenna up. Instead, I got high winds. Like thirty mile per hour winds. Like there was no way in the world that I could get the antenna up on the mast in those winds without causing serious damage.

Hhmmm...time for Plan B. Our living room has a vaulted ceiling that runs north-south. As you can see from the photo, the Buddipole fit perfectly. I was all smiles, however that was not a look shared by the XYL. Hers was more of a grimace. She said something like “This all better be out of here by tomorrow with no sign that it was ever here.” Yes, boss.



Well the antenna tuned up almost flat on twenty meters and on Sunday morning I got a 57 report from an 8 watt SSB QSO with a ham in Colorado. I was good to go with the radio, tuner, power meter and battery set up on the kitchen counter.

At least all was well until 1500 hours when the contest started and the bands were going downhill. Within five minutes of firing up the station I had made my first and last Q. That was with Mike, KB8TUY, in Ravenna Township via groundwave.

Even switching over to forty meters after about ninety minutes did not help. I had telephoned Tom, WB8LCD, who was only doing slightly better and we still could not manage to work each other.

A short time later I called it quits. Final score: one contact worth two points times my one state equals two point, plus my five thousand bonus points for a total of 5002 points. Somehow that sounds a lot better than it really was. Ah well, better luck next time.

***Jim - KC8PD***

## ARECC Level 1 - Special Rebate

Thanks to an anonymous donor, any PCARS member starting, and successfully completing the ARRL Level 1 course during 2007 will get the ARRL membership fee of \$45.00 reimbursed to them.

The donor feels this course is so important and encourages everyone to take advantage of this offer no matter what emcomm service they choose to participate in.

If you are not an ARRL member (this may encourage you to join), the course fee is \$75.00, for ARRL members, the fee is \$45.00 - the reimbursement is \$45.00. The course is taken over the internet and will take about 25 hours of work to complete.

Complete information on the course and the link to register can be found on the ARRL web site.



## 10 Commandments for Technicians

1. Beware the lightning that lurketh in the undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in a most un- technicianlike manner.
2. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thus tagged, that thy days in this Earthly vale of tears be long.
3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou toil are grounded and thusly tagged lest they lift thee unto radio heaven
4. Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engageth in intentional shocks, for they a surely non-believers and are not longeth for this world.
5. Take care that thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of a high voltage circuit, lest thou incinerate both thyself and thy meter.
6. Take care thou tampereth not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of thy supervisor and bringeth the fury of the safety inspector upon thy head and about thy shoulders.
7. Toil not thou on energized equipment, for if thou so doest, thy fellow workers will surely buy beers for thy widow and console her otherwise.
8. Service thou equipment not alone, for electrical cooking is a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thine own juices for hours upon a hot circuit before thy maker sees fit to end thy misery.
9. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances lest thou commenceth to glow in the dark liketh a lightning bug

and thy spouse hath no further use for thee except for thy wages.

10. Causeth thou to be tagged all modifications made by thee upon equipment lest thy successor teareth out his hair and goeth slowly mad in his attempt to decide what manner of creature madeth a nest in the wiring of such equipment.

*Originally from the now former ham radio BBS, The Ether Net BBS, - Bill Shryock, N5HQ, Sysop*

**Daryl - N5VLZ**

## Pictures from the February PCARS Meeting



## Thanks

Well, that's the 3rd issue of the PCARS newsletter the 'RADIOGRAM' for 2007. I appreciate your help in getting material for me, all the members look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending me those inputs! Thanks goes out to this months contributors: **WB8LCD, KC8PD, W8KNO, K8CMP, KB8UUZ, K8JE, N5VLZ, K8QOE, WB2DFC, WB9LBI, ARRL**, and the **World Wide Web**. With your continued help – we can make this a great newsletter.

**Tom - KB8UUZ**  
Newsletter Editor



## **Board of Commissioners**

Christopher Smeiles  
Chuck Keiper  
Maureen T. Frederick

### **Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management**



## **RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE (RACES)** **SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING**



The National Weather Service in conjunction with the Portage County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management will be having SKYWARN Spotter Training.

**WHEN:** The training will be on Monday - March 26, 2007 - Starting at 6:30 pm  
(please arrive around 6:00 pm for registration)

**WHERE:** Maplewood Career Center - 7075 State Route 88, Ravenna.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Emergency Management Officials, Amateur Radio Operators, Police & Fire Departments, Members of the Community with an interest in emergency preparedness.

### **Spotter Training 2007**



Being a storm spotter not only means dedication, but also training. Each spring the Cleveland office of the National Weather Service trains members of police & fire departments, emergency management officials and amateur radio operators on spotting techniques. Typically the training is coordinated by a local group (such as an emergency management agency), and a NWS meteorologist serves as the guest instructor. The



The goal of the training is not just to recognize tornadoes, but to have some understanding of storm structure, which in turn better prepares the spotter for the extreme and unusual circumstances.

SKYWARN Training is FREE and open to the public. Please attend this or any of the training sessions for 2007. You will be trained and enrolled in the program. You do not need to pre-register.

**Gary Garnet**

Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
National Weather Service

If you need additional information, please contact the Portage County **RACES** Radio Officer, Jim Aylward, KC8PD, at [KC8PD@aol.com](mailto:KC8PD@aol.com) or by phone at 330-297-7979.





**The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)**  
 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at Mike's Place – Routes 261 & 43 in Kent  
 All are welcome to attend – Drop in and say hello!



***“When All Else Fails – Amateur Radio Works”***

**PCARS Uses Repeater: 146.895 MHz (PL 110.9 – Rootstown, Ohio PL 114.8 – Kent, Ohio)**

**Repeater is graciously provided by N8KW for use by PCARS members**



**PCARS Appointments & Committees**

Awards	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Call Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Field Day	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
KD8CKP QSL Mgr.	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Controller	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
PIO	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Secretary	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Repeater	WB9LBI	Bill Fraedrich
VE Team	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	KB8DPN	Russ Anderson, Sr.
	N4TIE	Carl Capps
Web Master	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	KB8DPN	Russ Anderson, Sr.



**PCARS Mentors – Need some help or advice?**

**Contact by email at <callsign> @portcars.org**



		Code	Contact
1. Wire Antennas	14. Mobile (install)	17	Jim - KC8RKV
2. Beam Antennas	15. Computer Logging	5, 24	Bill - WB9LBI
3. APRS	16. QSLs	1, 4, 9, 12, 14, 16	Tom - KB8UUZ
4. Contesting	17. Echo Link	3, 6, 8, 12, 14, 17, 23, 25, 26, 20. - FT100 - VX5, 19. - TH-F6 - D700	Russ - KB8DPN
5. CW Operation	18. Help - Icom	1, 5, 10	Tom - WB8LCD
6. DF (Fox Hunt)	19. Help - Kenwood	2, 6, 14, 17, 23, 25	Jim - KC8PD
7. DXing	20. Help - Yaesu	4, 5, 9	Joe - W8KNO
8. Experiment/Ckts.	21. Help - Boat Anchors	2, 7, 9, 12, 20, 21	Chuck - K8CMP
9. HF Phone	22. Amplifiers		
10. QRP	23. EmComm		
11. Satellite	24. Traffic Handling		
12. VHF	25. FEMA / NIMS		
13. PSK-31	26. Computer Hardware		

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This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **PCARS Newsletter, the RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving the newsletter are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and it's delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail. The RADIOGRAM is published every month and is sent only to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that. To remove your self from the mail list – send an e-mail to me at: kb8uuz @ portcars.org

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**PCARS Web Site: [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)**



NLC