



The

# RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



April 2008 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 3 No. 4

~ 2008 Officers ~

President: - Tom Sly - WB8LCD  
Vice President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD  
Sec/Treasurer - Tom Parkinson - KB8UJZ  
3 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - K8CMP  
2 Year Trustee - Russ Anderson - KB8DPN  
1 Year Trustee - Al Atkins - KB8VJL

~ Meetings ~

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of  
every month.  
7 pm at  
Sideliners  
Brimfield Plaza  
Brimfield, Ohio

~ Nets ~

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

PCARS Established

Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL affiliated  
April 20, 2006

## From the President

Is it Spring yet? I want to get out there, to the hamfests, to the field events, work on the antennas, cook on the grill. Why I'd even be happy mowing the yard! (April fool's edition, right??) Hey, did I mention Dayton? New ham or old timer, you got to get to Dayton! I've made a mini-vacation of it for the past few years, but even if you can only make it a day trip (usually on Saturday), you've got to get there.



If not this year, start planning for next year, I promise, you won't be disappointed!

The "Nut Runner" project was an absolute success. Be sure to give Russ, KB8DPN, an "atta boy" for putting the project together. It's quite a task getting a project like this kitted up for a group project. We're also always on the look out for other project and/or activity ideas you might like to see the club sponsor. So, if you have a good idea, please write it down across the back of a twenty dollar bill and send it to me at my address as listed on QRZ. By the way, if it's a QRP project, you can write it on a fiver.

This past weekend was the CQ WW WPX contest. Remember, we want to have a good showing as a club entry. If you worked the contest either all weekend, or for any part of the weekend, be sure to get your log submitted, and be sure to let Joe, W8KNO, know what your score was and that you have a log in.

It's not really been a good winter for the black squirrel in NE Ohio. While lots of us have kept the feeders full of seed for them, the roads have been pretty slick and quite a few have been found in the road. While it's tragic for the squirrels, every cloud has a silver lining! We're going to have a GREAT Club Picnic this year! More details to follow...



Now, I have to take this opportunity to comment on what one club member told me at the "Nut Runner" building event about my monthly column in the RADIOGRAM. Seems that since this club member prints it out every month and staples it together, my photo is on the front page of each one! While I fail to see the problem with that, apparently this club member is tired of looking at my mug on the front page of each issue! So, here's a couple of suggestions for the first page if you have the same problem: bird cage liner, on the garage floor where the oil drips, getting the fire lit, origami material, roll up to make a kazoo, or, just put the first page on the bottom! Geez, do I have to think of everything???

As you look further into this issue of the Radiogram, we hope you enjoy the articles and while some of them are written in the spirit of "April Fools", I'm sure you'll find something serious in here, too! Good luck finding it! Hope you have a good month on the air, and I'll look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

73

Tom, WB8LCD

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## From the Vice President

Kudos to Russ, KB8DPN, for all of his efforts in designing the NutRunner Powerpole kit and thanks to both Russ and Tom, WB8LCD, for the hours that they put into assembling all of the kit parts. They had a lot of work to do cutting and notching the boards and packaging the individual kits.

The NutRunner and the soundcard Interface kits made quite a one-two punch for construction projects.

We had sold fifteen interfaces so our original plan was for twenty NutRunner kits. Then we decided to take a chance and increase it to thirty-five. In less than two weeks all of the kits had been sold.

In other words, it was a huge success. Around thirty PCARS members attended on Saturday, March 22nd, for the NutRunner kit construction event. It was great to have the visitors who stopped by either to lend a hand or just to enjoy the event. By 10:00 everyone was elbow deep in sorting out the pieces/parts and deciding what to do first. Russ provided comprehensive instructions that walked us through the entire process and suggested options for the first few steps so that we wouldn't have bottlenecks at the crimping or gluing stations.

You can see from the photos in the newsletter that the Center of Hope was a busy place with activity at all of the tables in the room. Crimping, snipping, soldering...a little bit of swearing...and then some re-soldering. Bit by bit all of the kits went together and everyone had a great time. As popular as this kit was it will likely be repeated in the future.

The General Class upgrade course continues with a few small modifications to the schedule. It became apparent that we were going to need a bit more time so we added two extra weeks to our schedule. That will leave enough time for a review night before the VE session.



And the Spring edition of the Technician Course is underway with five students in the class. This is the sixth time that we have offered the class in the past two years and we have had a total of forty-four students. It has been a privilege (and a lot of fun) to help them learn the material and then after they pass the exam hand them their Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination and welcome them to the hobby.

Many of them have become active PCARS members and a number of them have already upgraded to General. One of PCARS' primary goals will always be to help non-hams enter the hobby and then to provide a supportive environment where they can learn more about ham radio and have as much fun in the hobby as possible.

One of the best places for that is at the monthly

PCARS meetings. The March meeting theme was "Bring Your Rig Night," and over twenty PCARS members brought some radios or other ham radio gear that had special meaning to them. Their stories were instructive, touching and funny.

One thing we learned was that E-Bay has certainly proved to be invaluable for hams tracking down that one radio that they wished they had never sold or given away.

Make sure that you join us at the April meeting at Sideliners. Our very special guest is Jim Weaver, K8JE, the ARRL Great Lakes Division Director. We really appreciate that Jim takes the time to head out into the field and stay in touch with the ARRL affiliated clubs in his three state division. He has been a true friend to PCARS and we have appreciated how he has followed the club's growth and progress. He will have a lot of good information for us about developments in the hobby and matters of interest within the ARRL.

Remember that we have a VE session coming up on Saturday, April 5th at 10:00 a.m. at the Center of Hope, located at 1034 West Main Street in Ravenna. There will also be a VE session on the last night of the General Class upgrade course at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30th, also at the Center of Hope. And if someone wants to take an exam in May, we will also have a VE session on the last evening of the Technician Class course at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6th, at Maplewood.

**Jim, KC8PD**

## ***Paper Chase***

As I dig out from under the snow, here is an award that will make you think warm: THE ARUBA AWARD

At present the only award available through Aruba ARC is the Aruba Award:



Work at least seven (7) different P4 stations of which at least 5 must be P43's; any band any mode. The other two stations may be special prefixes (e.g. P40,

P49, /P4 etc.) Each call sign counts only once, regardless of band or mode. SWL's are welcome to submit as well.

The following special callsigns belong to residents,

and thus count as a P43's: P41A, P41E, P40B, P40HQ, and P41HQ.

Send a list of these 7 different call signs plus \$5 (or 8 IRC's) to:

AARC - Award  
P. O. Box 2273  
San Nicolas, Aruba

Keep warm,

**Joe, W8KNO**

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

It's Spring!!! But the way the snow has fallen in March, you couldn't prove Spring was here yet. As many of you know, our April issue of the Radiogram is a Special Issue and I thought that I would do something different for this month's DX column.

I get several interesting questions regarding DX and topics involving DX and contesting and I thought that I would list a few here instead of the normal listing of DX.

So let's start:

**Q1. I call "CQ" for hours looking for DX, but no one will respond. What can I do to get some DX hams to QSO with me?**

A1. Oh - did I mention I don't take questions from dimwits? Next question?

**Q2. When planning a DXpedition, what are some of the critical elements that have to be considered?**

A2. Good question. When planning a DXpedition you need to divide the hams into two operating types and naturally there needs to be someone to coordinate them: possibly a part-time volunteer planner and an evaluator; maybe an expeditor or two and a coordination team. A quality assurance group is an absolute must.

There also must be a procurement division to oversee the critical outsourcing of the delicate liaison coordination advisory consulting group, along with an augmented full service corporate jet executive travel and entertainment bureau. We'll need an expanded personnel department to locate a highly placed unnamed source for leak management and spin doctoring. An extensive search will be necessary to acquire a clueless CEO of the DXpedition to front for us and a hyper-energetic sales staff before our initial public offering.....errrrr,, what was that question again?

**Q3. I want to be a good DXer and tester. I own twelve VHF/UHF and eight HF transceivers. I sometimes feel, however, like they own me. What is the ideal number of rigs for a DXer like me?**



A3. Somewhere between one and all of them. Keep in mind however, our suppliers can probably import them faster than you can buy them.

If you check the latest ARRL Handbook, 143 Edition, you will find that the maximum number of belt-clip transceivers, obviously depends on your belt size. The formula is:  $N_t = B/4$ . Where  $N_t$  is the number of transceivers and B is your belt length in inches. If you have too many transceivers for your current belt size, simply take all of your meals at Eat-N-Park in Streetsboro like I do. I am proud to say that I can handle 12 transceivers.



You can of course use an auxiliary trouser support system (suspenders) while you are “building” the permanent support system.

The ideal number of transceivers at your QTH is the maximum tolerated by your spouse. You can help yourself with this issue by conditioning him or her to accept the fact that the purchase price of ANY transceiver is only \$39.95, if you act right now. But wait, there’s more. If you act in the next 10 minutes, they will throw in a 20 meter yagi at no additional cost. All you pay is \$39.95 plus shipping and handling at \$2,345.00.

For your vehicle, the exact number of transceivers depends upon the space available for your rooftop/trunk lid antenna farm. A full-size van is the ideal vehicle for maximizing this capability. Remember to install all remote-head transceivers otherwise any passengers will have to sit in the back seat. If you want a practical demonstration of this, just check out KC8PD’s vehicle.

Which brings us to the next question.

**Q4. I’m going to putting up a huge antenna system and I might need some help with the zoning. Do you know of any good attorneys in the area that might be able to help in this matter?**



A4. The phrase “good attorney” is a huge contradiction in terms. Next?

**Q5. I am going to the Dayton Hamfest this year and it’s always hard to tell the Techs from the Extras. Do you have a solution?**

A5. Funny you should ask. I’m thinking of color-coded apparel. I feel that colors should be assigned in bands such as our resistor code does. My method would be very noticeable at hamfests.

Cap indicates your class of license held, since it is the most obvious piece of apparel, standing or sitting:  
Red: Extra; Orange: Advanced; Yellow: General; Green: Tech Plus; Blue: Tech; Violet: Novice; White: Reciprocal Alien.

Shirt/blouse color indicates where your last test was taken: Brown: VE; Red: FCC. Pants/Skirt color indicates your code speed: Red: >20wpm; Black: 13 wpm; Brown: 5 wpm; No pants: No code.

**Q6. I hold a Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree in Education. Yet, I found the Technician Operator Class exam to be one of the hardest things that I have ever had to do. Now I want to do some HF DXing and so I have to move up to General. How am I ever going to do that?**

A6 Just memorize some of the key answers to the key questions and you should have no trouble. Here, let me help you.

1. What is the correct spelling of the word “amateur?”
  - a. amature
  - b. amateur
  - c. amateur
  - d. amuater

Draw a line under choice C. It looks something like an “O” with a gap on the right side. Remember that amateur has a “mate” in the middle.

2. What is the mathematical expression for Ohm’s Law?
  - a.  $A+B=C$
  - b.  $E=I \text{ times } R$
  - c. X marks the spot
  - d.  $O=H/M$

Don’t waste your time memorizing such drivel. When in doubt, choose B. Stick with the important issue: Write a 100 word essay about E’s feelings about its totally unfair binding relationship with I and R.

3. How much electrical power is dissipated in a 10 ohm resister carrying 1 ampere of current?
  - a. 1 watt
  - b. 100 watts
  - c. none
  - d. 10 watts

Have your personal trainer crunch the numbers while you write an environmental impact statement about the

effect of the resistor's dissipated power upon global warming.

(Hint: The answer is 10 watts. That's choice D – the last one on the list, the one following C, the first one from the bottom up. Oh, I give up.)

Well, there you have it. I hope that this month's column helped you out in your quest for that elusive DX. I want to thank John Johnston, W3BE, whose QCWA Journal article helped greatly in formulating the above column. Until next month, 73 and Gud DX TU.

**Chuck, K8CMP**

## 2007 Ohio QSO Party Results: PCARS takes 3rd Place - Multi-Op !!

CALL	CW QSOs	CW MULTS	PH QSOS	PH MULTS	TOTAL QSOs	TOTAL MULTS
W8VND	199	64	117	58	316	122
K8DV	183	54	158	62	341	116
<b>KD8CKP</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>108</b>
N8B	59	35	54	38	113	73
W8HH	0	0	22	20	22	20

CALL	SCORE	COUNTY	CLUB
W8VND	62830	HAMI	Queen City Emergency Net
K8DV	60784	CLER	Forty Over Club
<b>KD8CKP</b>	<b>46116</b>	<b>PORT</b>	<b>Portage County Amateur Radio Service</b>
N8B	12556	HAMI	Queen City Emergency Net
W8HH	440	WASH	Marietta Amateur Radio Club

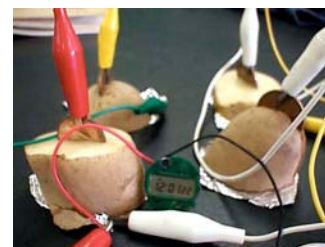
The long awaited results for the 2007 Ohio QSO Party (Aug 2007) have been published. KD8CKP came in 3rd place in the Multi-Op category. That's a fantastic showing for the first time PCARS club testers!! Considering the modest set up we had and the poor band conditions, I'd say the efforts of everyone that participated paid off! But now, wait for 2008 - let's see if we can do even better!

**Tom - KB8UUZ**

## Atomic Potato Clock Goes Green

Every ham shack needs a good clock. And every good ham wants to help heal the planet, too. This April PCARS project accomplishes both at the same time: a perfectly accurate atomic clock, powered entirely by vegetables!

Project designer Joe W8KNO has built a prototype, using a potato as the power source. As shown in this photo, the potato generates 1.5 volts, which is enough to power the sub-miniature atomic clock module, which contains several grains of Cesium-133 as the frequency standard that drives the clock circuitry. This is the same technology behind the atomic clocks at WWV. Accuracy is better than 1 part per trillion.



Joe considers this a green project, because the power source is entirely bio-degradable. No additional fossil fuels will have to be burned to provide electricity to run this device. Other foods such as apples or lemons can be substituted, which allows hams to take advantage of whatever is on sale at the grocery store this week. Another benefit of the Atomic Potato Clock Kit is its low cost. "The clocks are naval surplus, scrapped out from special equipment that the SEALS used for black

## Danger - 10,000 Ohms

Reward offered - A reward of 500 micro farads is offered for information leading to the arrest of this desperate criminal, Hop-A-Long Capacity.

This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the Gauss chamber. He was charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer.

Capacity is also charged with driving a DC motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The Electromotive Force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit.

He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

**Bill, WB9LBI**

As seen in the CFARC Newsletter

## April Contest Calendar

April, 2008	
Missouri QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 5 - 0500Z, Apr 6 & 1800Z-2400Z, Apr 6
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 12 - 0359Z, Apr 13 & 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 13
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 19 - 0400Z, Apr 20
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 19 - 0500Z, Apr 20 & 1200Z-1800Z, Apr 20
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 26 - 0159Z, Apr 27 & 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 27

ops,” explained Joe. “The Navy didn’t want them because of the cancer hazard posed by the Cesium, so I, um...*obtained* them for nothing. And of course, potatoes are practically free.” Joe is working at some sort of lead shielding for the project enclosure.

**Bill, WB9LBI**

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## **EmComm**

Spring has arrived so it is the time of year when hams around the country start thinking about the increased chances for severe weather events. In the South and along the East Coast the primary concern is the risk of a hurricane. Across the Southern and Central states and into the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states we watch cautiously for severe thunderstorms that may bring damaging winds or even tornadoes.

After all, tornadoes are the most likely damaging weather event that we might expect in Ohio, right? It may surprise you, but the answer is no. They certainly are dramatic and frightening events (Ohio will never forget the Xenia tornado) that make for awesome videos but they are not the greatest threat for weather related death and damage here in Ohio. That honor goes to floods.

Yep, when the National Weather Service issues those flood watches and warnings take heed.

Floods don’t only occur as a result of summer storms. Just within the past month Ohio has suffered from flooding as late winter snow accumulations were melted by heavy rains. With the ground still frozen and unable to absorb all of that water, it has to go somewhere. Water finds its own level and is always flowing to the lowest grade that it can find. Suddenly, those gentle streams can become rushing waters and overflow their banks. Floodwaters can quickly cover roads and highways, or even more dangerously wash away the ground that supports those roads.

How many times have you seen someone drive through floodwaters that cover a road or, even worse, try to wade through them? What they fail to appreciate is that as little as twelve to eighteen inches of flowing water can pack an enormous force that can knock them off their feet or float a vehicle and carry it away.

Many people live in floodplains and aren’t even aware of it. There is a reason that they are called “one hundred year” floodplains. It may truly be that rare of an event. But when it does occur there can be widespread unanticipated damage. Hundreds, if not thousands, of people may find themselves displaced and staying in temporary shelters until the waters have receded and they can return to their homes to start assessing the damage.

Emcomm services may be necessary to assist shelter operations and other relief efforts, particularly if local commercial communication services are disrupted or damaged by the flooding.

So don’t take those flood watches and warnings for granted. Assess the area around your home so that you have a better idea of potential flood risks. Always have an evacuation plan in place for you and your family. Make sure that everyone knows the site that you have identified as the place where you can meet up outside of the affected area.

**Jim, KC8PD**

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## **RACES**

Your local emcomm service, the Portage County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) continues to make progress. The radio room at the Portage County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is being renovated and upgraded. A backup work station for the county’s new computer operated dispatch center has been installed in the EOC radio room and RACES members will be trained in its use as well as the operations of the county’s Mobile Command Center.

More importantly, the amateur radio equipment upgrades may be installed within the next sixty to ninety days. Funding has been approved for an Icom 706 MKIIG, two Yaseu FT-8800 dual band units, as well as an antenna tuner, a Kantronics KPC-3+, and even an SCS PTC-II USB modem for Pactor III Winlink operations.

The EMA is committed to integrating amateur radio into its communications plan. We are lucky to have a county EMA that appreciates the value of amateur radio emergency communication services and is willing to invest in it.

Membership in RACES is open to anyone who has an interest in emcomm and is willing to participate in our regular training. RACES meets monthly and also has bi-weekly training nets at 7:00 p.m. local time on Thursdays (just before the PCARS net) on the 146.895 repeater. You are invited to listen in on the nets to learn more about what RACES has been doing. This is a closed net, so please don’t attempt to check in unless you are a RACES member.

If you would like more information about RACES contact me at 330-297-7979 or send me a note at [kc8pd@aol.com](mailto:kc8pd@aol.com).

**Jim, KC8PD**

**Radio Officer**

**Portage County RACES**

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## ***WIAW to Celebrate World Amateur Radio Day as NU1AW***

Each year on the anniversary of its founding, April 18, the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) marks [World Amateur Radio Day](#). On this, the 78th anniversary of its inaugural meeting in Paris, the IARU dedicates World Amateur Radio Day to the radio amateurs, educators and administrators who use Amateur Radio to support technology education in the classroom.

While the actual date of World Amateur Radio Day is not until next month, ARRL staffers will be activating



### **The International Amateur Radio Union**

Since 1925, the Federation of National Amateur Radio Societies  
Representing the Interests of Two-Way Amateur Radio Communication

[WIAW](#) in the [CQ WPX SSB Contest](#) this weekend (March 29-30) using the IARU club call sign NU1AW. By celebrating the event, staffers hope to provide an opportunity for hams worldwide to put NU1AW in their logs, chase the [WPX award](#) and learn about HF propagation as the world turns through day and night not once, but twice! Springtime propagation near the equinox is enhanced on the HF bands, even during the Solar Cycle minimum, so it's worth taking a listen even if the HF bands have been quiet lately.

This year's theme for World Amateur Radio Day is "Amateur Radio: A Foundation of Technical Knowledge." What better way to express the theme than by engaging in one of the largest international radiosporting events. ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, said, "If you haven't tried HF contesting or the WPX contest, the general format is to exchange a signal report (a simple '59' will do nicely) and a serial number (the number of the contact in the contest for you). The contest Web site spells out the way to compute your score, but the fun of this contest is to contact as many different prefixes as possible. For example, NU1AW counts as the NU1 prefix and KX9X counts as KX9. If you're new to HF, your prefix might be one sought after by those calling CQ! The WPX contest also features a 'Rookie' category for new radiosport folk, so be sure to send in your log as described by the rules - it's easy!"

World Amateur Radio Day is also an opportunity for publicizing Amateur Radio to the interested public that may not be familiar with ham radio activities. Radiosport is an excellent way to introduce our service to teachers and students, as well. Competitive activities are an important focus for students to take the opportunity to ask questions about how signals get "from

here to there" while watching hams make rapid-fire contacts around the world or even making a contact or two themselves, Kutzko said.

"NU1AW is not expected to be seriously competitive in the event," Kutzko explained, "but will make every attempt to be on the air as propagation warrants, so we hope to hear you marking the day and making World Amateur Radio Day a part of your springtime ham radio operation."

***From the ARRL***

## ***Field Day '08 Planning Underway***

### ***Monthly Field Day Harangue***

Thanks to everyone who has signed up for Field Day, June 24-25. If you're already involved in Field Day, this article is not for you; go and read something else now. Joe W8KNO has a fascinating project coming up, described elsewhere in this month's Radiogram. Why not email him your thoughts on it? He would enjoy reading your comments.



Still reading? Okay. It has come to my attention that certain PCARS members have not yet committed to Field Day. You are skating on very thin ice, my friend. Bad things happen to people who miss Field Day.

- A PCARS member whom we will call "Ham A" did not participate in the 2007 Field Day. He suffered a cardiac episode in the middle of a VE test.
- At a different club in 2005, "Ham B" thought his daughter's wedding was more important than helping out his club for Field Day. That couple is divorced now, and Ham B is still paying off the wedding bills.
- "Ham C", another slacker, saw the reflector element of his brand new antenna fall off in a recent storm.

A clear pattern emerges from these incidents. Personally, I believe in your right to do whatever you want on Field Day. However, my co-chairman Ed N8EQJ feels very strongly about your lack of participation, but is too shy to make his feelings known. I thought I would pass along his convictions on his behalf. Contact either Ed or me to sign up for Field Day.

### ***Bonus Antenna Day Harangue***

Antenna Day will be May 10 at Ravenna City Park, our Field Day site. We will be setting all of our Field Day equipment and giving the whole site a test drive. You are invited to participate, or just hang around and

watch. So far, we can find no correlation between skipping Antenna Day and unfortunate events like those described above. But we are watching....



Using Bows to get Dipoles in Trees

**Bill, WB9LBI**

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## 2008 Public Service Events

Sunday May 18, Cleveland Marathon

Saturday June 7, Nordonia Hills Duathlon

Sunday July 27, Bicentennial Duathlon at Portage  
Metroparks

Sunday August 24, Bellefaire JCB Biathlon

The Cleveland Marathon falls again on Dayton weekend, so ham help for this event is at a premium. If you are not going to Dayton, or will be home by Sunday morning, please consider working this event. The medical hams, who have worked this event for years have pulled out this year, and we will be providing SAG operators. YOUR help is needed! We also need more people to ride in lead vehicles. T-shirts, parking passes where needed, and VIP passes will be provided.

Nordonia Hills Duathlon is a quick event; which will be done by 11:00 am. T-shirts & food provided.

Bicentennial Duathlon new this year for the Portage County Bicentennial. T-shirts provided.

Bellefaire JCB Biathlon A fun event that goes through 5 jurisdictions along Shaker Blvd. Again, good T-shirts and food.

For those of you who are new to public service a Biathlon is a run & bike event; a Duathlon is a run, bike, run event. Also, there are places for you to work even if you have not worked an event before. If you need to leave early your schedule can be accommodated.

If you can help please call: Gay Wands at 330 474-1573

**Gay, WB8VNO**

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## Eyeball-To-Eyeball - WB8LCD

This month's E2E is with Tom Sly, our illustrious President of PCARS, who resides on a quiet street in Sugar Bush Knolls, with his wife, Mary. Tom grew up in Fairview Park and attended high school in Aurora and spent two years majoring in Electrical Engineering at the University of Tennessee. He came back to Ohio and

ended up at the University of Akron majoring in Business Finance.

The pastor of the church Tom was attending was bivocational, being a pastor and having a small insurance agency at the same time. When the pastor wanted to divest himself of the agency, Tom showed an interest and took it over.



Tom is now a partner in the thriving insurance agency named, Hutsler & Sly.

Tom and Mary have three children. Their oldest daughter, Jennifer is 31 and lives in her own apartment, which Tom just completed after months of work. She is employed at Portage Industries. Patty, 29, works for Progressive Insurance. Tom mentioned that they have better benefits than his agency. Tom and Mary's son, Sean, who is 25, is a Doctor of Pharmacy and is a resident at Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center at Knoxville, TN. I know that Tom and Mary are proud of all their children and the work they do.

While growing up in Fairview Park, Tom got interested in Amateur radio due to the fact that he had two neighbors who were HAMS. Stan Hillman, W8FZS (SK), lived in the house located on the next street from Tom's. Their back yards joined. K8AET (SK) lived across the street from Tom. Stan's son, Steve, and Tom were friends and Steve's mom taught both boys Morse code at Steve's kitchen table.

When Tom wanted to build a crystal radio set, he went over to one of the Ham's house to ask what would be needed. Tom said that the Ham's basement was like walking into an electronics store. Tom came home with a fully operational crystal radio, complete with earphones. He never looked back. He was thoroughly hooked on Amateur Radio.

Tom was first licensed in about 1967 as WN8AAB and later became WA8AAB. Unfortunately, Tom let this neat call lapse. When he went back to get his Technician, he was issued WB8LCD and upgraded to General Class in August of 1982. He has since upgraded to Extra.

Tom's interests in Amateur Radio are, of course, QRP operations, home-brewing – especially antennas, and PCARS. Tom says that, "Really, all of it is a thrill." Tom really enjoys Amateur Radio in all its varied aspects and you certainly can tell that when you talk with him.

There is another aspect of home-brewing that Tom



enjoys. That is his desire to brew the best beer that he can! And when it comes to beers of various kinds, Tom is well versed, being self-taught. All kidding aside, Tom does have a keen interest in Home Brewing of beer and can give anyone who is interested a very good education in the subject.

Tom's shack consists of a Kenwood TS-690 SAT, a Yaesu FT 817 for his QRP work, and an ICOM IC 2720 for mobile work. His antennas consist of a Carolina Windom 40, a 5/8 wave 2 meter ground plane, and a 6 meter Squalo.

I am sure that Tom would want all of us to know that Amateur Radio is a life long hobby that is loads of fun. He is spreading the "gospel" of HAM radio to all who will listen. Thanks Tom for all of your hard work for PCARS and for making our club, along with the other officers, the success that it has been.

**Chuck, K8CMP**

## Ham License Plates Wanted

One of the suggestions we came up with was to have a wall of ham license plates in the club station. So, dig out an old amateur radio call sign license plate (with your present call sign), clean it up and bring it in to be permanently affixed to the wall in the club station. We have a few already up there, but we can use more!



Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. It costs you about \$19 the first time for the bureau fee, mailing fee, and Amateur Radio plate fee. In about 2 weeks or so, the plates come in the mail. When your Amateur Radio plates need to be re-newed, you can (for about a \$7 fee) get NEW plates issued (same call sign). Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a permanent part of PCARS history!!

The official form for obtaining your Amateur Radio license plates here in Ohio is on the PCARS Yahoo site.

**Tom, KB8UJZ**



## PCARS VE Test Sessions

PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for the first Saturday of every other even numbered month.

### 2008 Schedule

**April 5, June 7, August 2, Oct. 4,  
Dec. 6**



VE sessions for Technician, General & Amateur Extra start at 10 am at the Center of Hope: 1034 West Main St. in Ravenna. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Please bring your original license, a copy of your license, your FRN number if you are already licensed or registered with the FCC (or your SSN number if you're not registered), 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!!!!

**Jim, KC8PD**

**PCARS VE Coordinator**

## Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics & activities are:

- April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Jim Weaver, K8JE**, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director
- April 26<sup>th</sup> – **Jim, KC8RKV**, Echolink Workshop
- May 10<sup>th</sup> – **Antenna Day** – dry run for Field Day
- May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Ed Miller, K8EHA**, NFL Game Day Coordinator for the Cleveland Browns Stadium
- June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Jon Barber, EMA Director with the EMA Mobile Command Center, Jim, KC8PD, RACES update**
- June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> – **Field Day!!!**
- July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Tim Duffy, The K3LR Contest Station**
- July activity – **TBS- PCARS Picnic**
- August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting – **PCARS Club Station Update and Discussion**
- August activity – **TBS- Two Meter Sprint**
- September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Bill, WB9LBI, CW Tips and Techniques, Equipment and Software**
- September 12<sup>th</sup> – date tentative – **Black Squirrel Festival**
- October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting – **Tom, WB8LCD, Personal Preparedness, Home QTH Safety**
- October 25<sup>th</sup> – **Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) station**
- November 10<sup>th</sup> – **Jim, KC8PD, NVIS Antennas**
- November 10<sup>th</sup> – **PCARS Elections**
- November 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Two Meter Antenna Kits**
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Party**
- January – **TBS – QRP Kit project**

## *RFI and Some Other Stuff*

I had a rather unusual RFI problem with my radio in my car. On the way to work each morning I listen to 1020 kHz am... America's classic AM radio station KDKA out of Pittsburgh. KDKA is pure old time AM radio DX around these parts as in the morning, the station drifts in and out as I head for work. The problem with the radio in the "Redd Scrap" seemed to only take place when I am driving under the High Voltage Power Lines on Interstate 422 between Bainbridge and Solon. I would hear all kinds of different noises and squeals from the radio and KDKA is drowned out completely by this unknown RFI. I reach over to change the station to WHK and the RFI changes also. Once I get away from the power lines the Radio settles down and I can listen to KDKA again.

The following morning I am listening to the station again and again under the power lines and just moving to reach over to change the station the RFI is changing at



the same time! The Redd Scrap is 10 years old and I have almost 200K miles on it... so maybe the metal to metal joints are now rust to rust bonds?

I bought the ARRL RFI book last fall in preparation to taking their on line course on

RFI but haven't gotten around to sign up and haven't had the spare time. So, I am looking in the book trying to find out possible causes of my problem. Every morning and only when I am under the power lines do I have this problem. Time goes on and I find that I don't have this problem on the return home each day! Now this is starting to become a hair puller!!! I know the power line is a factor in the morning... but why not in the late afternoon? Are they turning the power off in the afternoon? Heck no.... the demand for power is greater as folks start returning home from work!

One morning as I was driving along I raised my cup(mug) of tea for a sip and the RFI occurred again! Another morning I reached up to A-just my eye glasses and KDKA was taken over by RFI again....all only when I was under the power lines!!!

Another morning I reached with my left hand to adjust the lever for the left outside door mirror and again the radio was over powered by RFI!!! This was becoming a pain!!! And none of this took place on the way home from work in the afternoon!! I had thought

about giving the radio a tap or three and maybe even the dash board above it to see if something was loose. But..... maybe a air bag or two wouldn't like me beating around the dash board? 6:15 am is too early in the morning to get a steaming mug of Hot English Breakfast tea moved very rapidly in ones face by an X-plodding air bag device! I am out of ideas now about the RFI that only occurs in the morning hours!!!! I should have started in that ARRL RFI course!

After about a month trying to figure out what may be the cause...I remember..... Hey.... This just started about one month ago! Sure there is the normal power line noise.. it has always been there... but this strange; the morning time only RFI interference problem has only been happening for about one month! Maybe I am on to something??? I started to think I should just give it up and live with it? One morning (most)... I got up late and only had enough time to throw on my clothes and boots and run to the door to take off for work. I was in a rush that morning... the radio was still set on 1020 kHz. KDKA was still coming in "ok" as I drove under the power lines... and hey... no RFI problem like the other mornings!!!

I was in a rush so I didn't think too much more about it anymore! I returned home that afternoon and had to take a shower as soon as I got into the house because I didn't take the time to put on any deodorant as I was afraid I would be late for work and had to run for the door to race off that morning. I took my shower and reached for the new deodorant my wife bought me awhile back. I had my reading glasses on as I picked up the stick of deodorant. I am looking at the new deodorant and turned it side ways to read all the writing on the case. It's called a crystal stick.... no Aluminum, no Chlorohydrate, fragrance free...100% natural mineral! And safe for the environment too! I am looking at this thing I have been rubbing under my arms for the past month and I noticed that it looks like a large crystal! And I start to think...it looks like a giant Quartz crystal! It does!!!!!! Now things are starting to fall into place!!!

The RFI to the station I listen to only happens in the morning right after I apply this crystal stick to my arm pits! AND guess what??? By the end of the day.... all this crystal deodorant stuff washes away from sweating at work all day!!!! And when I am under the power lines in the morning there are lots of crystal particles in my underarms that are being resonated by the strong electrical fields which in turn are causing all the RFI!!!!

So, all along for the past month I have been rubbing this giant Quartz crystal from Thailand under my arms and that was the cause of all the RFI to my radio in the Redd Scrap!! I requested a new type of Deodorant... and was told that one was to last one year... so what gives???

The only reply I could think of at the time was, "how do I know it really works if it doesn't wear down for over a year... I can't smell anything anyway.... and besides.... I could rub a stone under my arms also.. and it would last a year too!" So, this is the story of my RFI problem that had me in a tizzy.

**Al - KB8VJL**

## Echolink Workshop

Mark your calendars: Jim, KC8RKV's Echolink Workshop will be held from 10:00 a.m. until noon on Saturday, April 26th, in the Community Room at the Family & Community Services building on Oakwood Street in Ravenna.



This is going to be an excellent hands-on program with live demonstrations for installing and setting up

Echolink on your own computer along with Jim's advice on dealing with port settings, firewalls, ISP issues, etc.

Echolink is a VOIP tool that has extended the communication range for hams from around the world, but not everyone has breezed through the installation and setup. Jim will get you past those hurdles and you can get registered with Echolink and start having some ham radio fun via the internet.

**Jim, KC8PD**

## PCARS Patches & Stickers

PCARS logo patches & stickers are now available!! Put the patch on your hat,



your shirt, your jacket!!



The patch is approximately 3". The embroidery is in Red, Black and Blue. Cost for a patch is \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting.

There are 2 types of stickers available.



A 4"x6" oval and a 3" x 10 " bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! If you would like to order by mail contact: [kb8uuz@portcars.org](mailto:kb8uuz@portcars.org)

## What Is It?

The warning label reads: Always wear ANSI approved safety goggles when using this product. Before using this product, the user should read the operating instructions to understand everything about this product. Normal everyday use of this product is likely to expose the user to dust and microscopic particles containing lead and other chemicals known in the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm. Always wear the appropriate clothing and safety equipment when operating this product. Wash hand thoroughly after the use and handling of this product.

**Rena, KD8EPF**

[The answer: Gun Metal colored 9 LED Flashlight]

## Electronics Surplus

For those of you looking for a great place to find old surplus (junk?) to use for that next radio project, you may want to check out Electronics Surplus.



Their address is: 8755 Munson Rd. #6, Mentor Ohio 44060, Phone is (440) 205 8388. Web site [electronicsurplus.com](http://electronicsurplus.com) The #6 entrance is the door to go in. They don't have a sign in front of building, so you have to watch for the address when going there..

73s

**Jerry, N8ATV**

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

Six PCARS members are having a birthday this month!

KD8GHB	Joe	Rocco
N8QE	Bob	Hajdak
WB2DFC	Dave	Rarrick
KC8FQV	Mark	Studer
N1EZZ	George	Riedel
N8GLK	Leon	Loveland



## Swap-N-Shop

**FOR SALE: Uniden HR 2510 President 10 Meter 25 Watt SSB Transceiver** Good working condition with manual. \$150.00.  
**Gordon West WB6NOA Extra Class Software & Book Education Study Package** \$25.00. **Contact: Bob - [N8QE@portcars.org](mailto:N8QE@portcars.org)**



**FOR SALE: ICOM 775** 10-160 meters, 200 Watts includes HM-36 mic, Rack Mount Handles, two SP-20 Speakers with Audio Filter - all for \$2500.00 - Contact **Ted - KC8SYD** at home 330-947-3530 or cell 330-760-2726.

**FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-920** - 10-160 + 6 meters - 100 Watts, includes hand mic. \$800.00 - Contact **Ted - KC8SYD** at home 330-947-3530 or cell 330-760-2726.

**FOR SALE - YAESU FT-90R** - Micro Mobile - 2m/440 Dual Band - Detachable Front Panel - Asking: \$250 OBO - Contact **Mike - KC8LJY** at 330-673-1035

**FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-101** 2 meter crystal controlled.

**FOR SALE: Heathkit SB-630** Combo SWR meter and phone patch. Both of these are collector type items. Prices negotiable.

**WANTED:** Would like to buy a good used 2-meter HT - cheap - I dropped mine and broke it.

**HELP:** If anyone knows how to work on a ICOM T7H Sport HT, would like to hear from them. Contact: Carl - [N4TIE@portcars.org](mailto:N4TIE@portcars.org)

**FOR SALE: Tripp Lite Power Supply - PR40** \$100 - **Mirage B-1016 2 Meter Amp** - 10w in, 160w out \$175.00 - **Mirage B-5018G 2 Meter Amp** - 20-60w in, 160w out \$200.00 - **Mirage B-2530G 2 Meter Amp** 10w in, 300w out \$475.00 - Three HR2510 10m AM/FM/SSB/CW \$150.00 each - Contact **Ted - KC8SYD** at home 330-947-3530 or cell 330-760-2726.

**WANTED: Cheap 2 meter radio** to use for packet. Does not need to be pretty! Just dependable and did I say cheap?? Let me know what you've got that you want to get rid of. Contact **Tom - WB8LCD@portcars.org**

**FOR SALE: TS440SAT** Kenwood Transceiver, **PS50** Kenwood Power Supply, **MC60A** Kenwood Desk Microphone, **SP430** Kenwood External Speaker. Sold as package only. Mint condition, Original owner, Non-smoker, Original Packaging and all manuals. Asking \$1000. Contact me by e-mail if interested: **Bob - N8QE@portcars.org**

## NutRunner-1

WOW - What a GREAT day for the members of PCARS.

The NutRunner Anderson Power Pole project that was held on March 22nd was FANTASTIC!!! If you missed this club



project, you missed one heck of a lot of FUN! Russ, KB8DPN and Tom, WB8LCD have been working overtime putting the kits together for a few months. The hard work and efforts paid off big time. PCARS members went home with a really important addition to their amateur radio gear. The following people signed in: WB8LCD, KB8DPN, KC8PD, KD8FLW, KD8ICP, KC8KYW, N8ATV, KD8FPP, WB9LBI, KB8UUZ, KC8RJR, AB8VX, KD8FDK, N8QE, N8XTH, N8GIE, N8KBX, AB8YN, KD8EPA, K8QF, KD8ELX, KB8TUY, K8CMP, KD8FLZ, N8EQJ, KD8GWY, KD8FLX, KB8VJL.

All of the kits sold out prior to the build date. We also had visitors drop in to help out or to just share in the fun

of the day. Even though the snow came down the night before, the house was packed with PCARS members eager to get their kits built and tested.

Again - a big *Hats Off & Thank You* to Russ and Tom for getting this project together for the PCARS members.

Each of our club projects have been better and better, my only concern is - Boy, what is PCARS going to do next? I'm sure the next project will be fun as well! The proven popularity of the PCARS projects means they will sell out real fast, so as soon as it's announced (what ever it is) get signed up right away!







## Corrections

The March issue of the *Radiogram* contained certain factual and editorial errors. In accordance with our policy of fairness and accuracy, we hereby set the record straight.

- WB9LBI's name is Bill, not Tom as was mistakenly printed. Local scouting officials can find no evidence that WB9LBI was ever an Eagle Scout, and further advise that there is no merit badge for beer drinking.
- No actual acorns were harmed in the Freeze Your Acorns Off Event.
- The biography on Joe KD8EOZ should have placed him as a student at Hudson High School, not a graduate of Indiana Diesel Tech.
- A technical article gave the speed of light as 186,000 miles per second, except in certain portions Geauga county. This is not true; the speed of light is 186,000 mps in all cases.
- Chuck K8CMP was never an Electronic Warfare Countermeasures Officer for the Salvation Army, officials of that church now claim. The same article should have made clear that Rick K8CAV served as a cavalry officer for the United States Army, not the Wehrmacht
- In a story concerning Morse Code, Clarence KD8ETS was erroneously credited with being President McKinley's personal telegrapher. In fact, he was personal telegrapher to General Grant.
- Ed N8EQJ was speaking in jest when he was quoted as saying that the goal of Antenna Day would be to "head down to Diamond Lodge Gentlemen's Club and load up them brass poles as a 20-meter phased array." The brass poles in question are, in fact, resonant only on 10 meters. Antenna Day will actually be May 10 at Ravenna City Park.
- The NutRunner power distribution box, a kit offered by PCARS as its March project, was designed solely by Russ KB8DPN. None of the circuitry was "liberated from a secret ARRL mind control laboratory," as was stated in the Vice Presidents column. The American Radio Relay League denies the existence of such a facility.

- The report that Errol KC8RJR was measured having a 452 ohm impedance at 7.250 MHz, omitted his reactance. The story should have stated 452 ohms + j14. PCARS members are cautioned against loading up Errol at other frequencies, which should only be performed by professionals.
- The PCARS General Class License Class will no longer include a session on "Making Whoopee" as this has been dropped as a license requirement as of February 2007.
- A story incorrectly identified Tom WB8LCD as "Assistant Mayor" of Sugar Bush Knolls, an office which Tom has never held. Moreover, the Assistant Mayor position is appointed by the actual mayor of Sugar Bush Knolls, not a "sacred trust handed down from the Archangel Gabriel" as was implied. Research of the Ohio Revised Code proves that the Assistant Mayor is not authorized to shoot first and ask questions later. In reality, Tom holds the position of Kommissar.
- Correcting a story about public service, it is not the responsibility of Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) operators to help Santa deliver Christmas presents. This is a function of ARES.
- Dorothy Stratten was Miss August 1979, not Gay WB8VNO.

The *Radiogram* regrets these errors.

**Bill, WB9LBI**

## ***PCARS - IOTA to PCARS - IOTA***

Two PCARS members met for the first time when they worked each other from two IOTA islands. Rick, N8OIL and Carl, N4TIE had their first QSO when they exchanged signal reports, Carl from IOTA NA-112 (southern outer banks of NC) and Rick from NA-56 (Lanier Island in GA). It was a new IOTA for both of them.

Carl received Rick's QSL card March 26th and Rick will get his at the next PCARS meeting because Carl didn't take any QSL cards with him. Disclaimer: Rick emailed Carl and Carl called Rick on phone to set up sked for contact.

**Carl, N4TIE**

## ***Hamfest Calendar***

**20 Apr 2008 - CFARC** - 54th Annual Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Emidio & Sons Party Center - 48 East Bath Rd. - Cuyahoga Falls, OH - [www.cfarc.org/hamfest2008.htm](http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2008.htm) - Talk-In: 147.27 - Contact: Ted Sarah, W8TTS - 239 Bermont Ave. - Munroe Falls, OH 44262 - Phone: 330-688-2013 - Email: [hamfest2008@cfarc.org](mailto:hamfest2008@cfarc.org)

**16-18 May 2008 - Dayton Hamvention** - Hara Arena - Dayton, OH - Dayton Amateur Radio Association - Contact: PO Box 964 - Dayton, OH 45401 - Phone: 937-276-6930  
<http://www.hamvention.org>

## ***PCARS Yahoo Site***

Members are reminded that PCARS has a Yahoo Site dedicated to PCARS information. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list. Check out the PCARS web site at <http://www.portcars.org> and follow the link to sign up.



## ***Ham Opportunity***

Do you have an Amateur Radio License and excellent verbal and written communication skills? Are you able to correctly explain difficult technical concepts to your friends? Do you enjoy helping others solve problems? Are you detail oriented? Do you feel satisfaction with a job well done?



DX Engineering has a phone Sales Rep opening for a person who will be responsible for answering customer communications, and recommending DX Engineering products to improve the performance of their ham stations. This person will handle both email and telephone correspondence. Would you like to convert your avocation to your vocation? Call or write DX Engineering today. This position is located at the corporate offices in Tallmadge, Ohio. Relocation reimbursement is not available. Contract/work from home cannot be considered. Please send resumes to: [thesketh@dxengineering.com](mailto:thesketh@dxengineering.com) or mail to: Tim Hesketh - PO Box 1491 - Akron, OH 44309. Fax: 330-572-3270.

**Alex - K8EUR**

## ***Read Between the Lines***

Many of us buy and sell various pieces of amateur radio gear, so we should be familiar with certain catch phrases.

Here is a list of phrases and what they really mean. So, the next time you're looking at the for sale ads on the internet, or where ever, you'll be better informed.



Description	Meaning
Almost new	Only 5 years old
Band Switch Intermittent	So is everything else
Case has some scuff marks	Major scratches all over
Collector's item	Price is over-inflated
Comes with spare parts	You're going to need them
Dismantled for restoration	I can't put it back together
Excellent condition	Buyer beware
Genuine reason for sale	I've got to dump it
Good connections/case	Bad electronics
Good electronics	Bad connections/case
Good radio for beginner	Only basics work, nothing else
Great for QRP	It only operates on low power
Great on CW	SSB does not work
Great on SSB	CW does not work
Guaranteed not DOA	Won't blow the fuse the 1st time turned on, but will the 2nd time
Had fun with it during Field Day	Rain soaked
Hardly used	Can't figure out how to operate it
House forces sale	Neighbors complaining
Ideal for enthusiast	Total rebuild needed
In need of total restoration	In pieces, lots & lots of pieces
Includes spare fuses	You will need them, darned thing blows fuses when on 80 meters
Knob missing	One of a kind, can't find any replacements
Lack of time forces sale	Spent more time trying to get it to work than it's worth
Looks good	Sounds terrible
Mainly operated QRP	Power won't go above 5 watts
Marriage forces sale	Wife found out how much money was spent
MARS/CAP modified	Really transmits way, way, way out of band
OBO (or best offer)	I don't expect the asking price
Offers	I haven't the nerve to put a price on the rig
One owner	No one else would buy it.
Owned by careful operator	The others were maniacs and didn't know what high SWR means
PTT sometimes sticks	Spilled Pepsi all over it
Slight attention needed	Needs major repairs
Slight crack in case	After dropping it a few times by accident, it finally cracked
Slight hum	Sounds like a swarm of bees
Slight lightning damage	Total write off
Sounds good	Looks terrible
Stored two years	Stopped working and I never looked inside
SWR needle sometimes sticks	Kept forgetting to change power level and slammed the needles
Tunes up perfectly	Only into a dummy load at minimum power
Used as mobile rig	Pretty much all shook up and things rattle
Will bargain	I'll get mad, you won't buy the radio, and I'll hit you
Will consider trade	Anything to get out from under this dog
Worked Great last time I used it	Sure, ten years ago

**Tom, KB8UUZ**

## PCARS Thursday Net Control

### Net Control Schedule

April	
3	K8CMP - Chuck
10	K8QF - Russ
17	KB8DPN - Russ
24	KB8UUZ - Tom

May	
1	WB8LCD - Tom
8	KC8PD - Jim
15	K8QF - Russ
22	KD8ELX - Rex
29	KB8DPN - Russ

June	
5	WB8LCD - Tom
12	KC8PD - Jim
19	KB8UUZ - Tom
26	N8XTH - Deron

July	
3	K8CMP - Chuck
10	KB8DPN - Russ
17	WB8LCD - Tom
24	KB8UUZ - Tom
31	K8QF - Russ

So far 2008 is off to a big start for the net! In January we had a total of 138 check-ins, February had 108 check-ins and for March we had a total of 131 check-ins. The last two nets in March each had 35 check-ins!



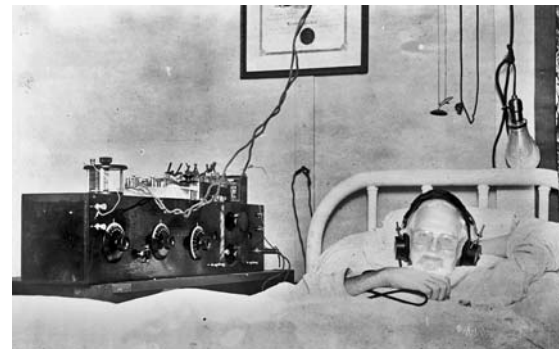
WOW! Our nets are typically lasting between 50 minutes to an hour and 10 minutes, so, even if you think you might have missed it, tune in, you just might find us still in session. Remember, if you have 10 check-ins in a row,

email me [wb8lcd@portcars.org](mailto:wb8lcd@portcars.org) and give me the dates, I'll confirm them and send you a PCARS net certificate. It's been awhile since I gave one away, c'mon, get those to check-ins and get it in to me!

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

### Learn CW While You Sleep

Errol, KC8RJR is determined to learn CW and is currently trying the subliminal method of listening while you sleep. A full report will be given by Errol at the next meeting.



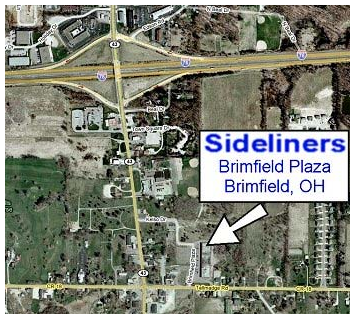


## PCARS Meetings

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the second Monday of each month at:



located in the **Brimfield Plaza** - just South of Interstate 76 off Route 43 in **Brimfield, OH**.



PCARS meeting - 7:00 pm

## Pictures from the March Meeting



## Interesting Pictures



**Fox Hunt??**



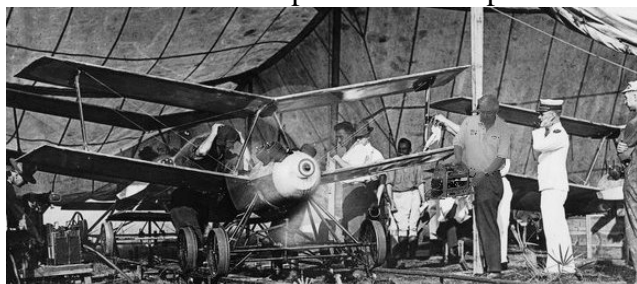
**KC8PD Listening**



**WB8LCD's Pet**

**KB8UUZ Mobile**

**KD8EPA Starts up an old RC airplane**



## Disclaimer

Yep, it's that time of year again. **APRIL FOOL!!** Some of the pictures and articles were written with tongue-in-cheek styles for your April Fool's enjoyment. Please enjoy the fun in this once a year endeavor. Special thanks goes out to those people sending in the items for our reading pleasure. Remember it's all in FUN!  
Tom, KB8UUZ, Newsletter Editor





# The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at Sideliners  
in the Brimfield Plaza, Brimfield, OH - Off Route 43 Just South of Interstate 76  
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 N8EQJ for use by PCARS members



### PCARS Appointments & Committees

Awards	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Club Call Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site Coordinator	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO K8CMP	Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis
Field Day 2008	WB9LBI N8EQJ	Bill Fraedrich Ed Polack
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
KD8CKP QSL Mgr.	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Coordinator	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
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	K8CMP	Chuck Patellis
	N8EQJ	Ed Polack
Web Master	K8QF	Russ Conklin
	N8OIL	Rick Patterson
	KB8DPN	Russ Anderson, Sr.

PCARS Mentors – Need some help or advice? Contact by email at <callsign> @portcars.org

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



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