



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



August 2009 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 4 No. 8

~ 2009 Officers ~

President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD
 Vice President - Dave Rarrick - WB2DFC
 Treasurer - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI
 3 Year Trustee - Ed Pollack - N8EQJ
 2 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT
 1 Year Trustee - Russ Anderson - KB8DPN

~ Meetings ~

2nd 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

As soon as you downloaded this copy of the newsletter you had to notice that it was a pretty good sized edition that is jam packed with photographs. So do me a favor and read this column before you start skipping over text and head for the photos.

There is a reason why there are so many pictures: a lot of PCARS members and guests come to and participate in a wide variety of PCARS activities. The photos give us a great way to remember the event and smile at our recollections of those good times.

And if you thought June and July were great, get ready for August and September.

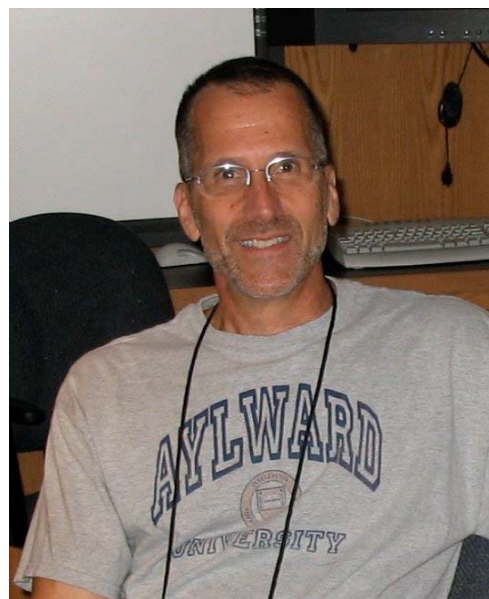
On Wednesday, August 5th, starting at 5:00 p.m. PCARS will be holding a Mobile Radio Cruise-In at the A&W Restaurant on East Main Street in Ravenna.

As near as we can tell this may be the first ham radio cruise-in and we hope it won't be the last. There will be a contest for the best mobile radio installation and the winner will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate to Amateur Electronic Supply.

Come on out and enjoy a chili dog or a hamburger, toss back some root beer and have a great evening of camaraderie with hams from around Northeast Ohio.

The following Saturday, August 8th, beginning at 10:00 a.m., PCARS will be holding a Mobile Radio Workshop at the club site at 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna. Stop by and get some advice and assistance with your mobile installation.

At noon, immediately following the workshop, the Fourth Annual Two Meter Simplex Sprint begins. The Sprint is a terrific contest that anyone can compete in, whether at home or on the road. But what truly adds to the fun factor is to get as many mobile participants as possible. Spend a few hours driving around the county and make a bunch of contacts. You can travel as a team with an operator and a logger. We need you out there! Dave, WB2DFC, and I will be operating from the club station to make sure that no matter where you are you should be able to work Ravenna. Details, rules and forms are at www.portcars.org.



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From the President (continued from Page 1)

Monday, August 10th is the next club meeting with Dave, WB2DFC, with help from others giving a presentation on geocaching, which is a booming hobby that has proven popular with ham radio operators.

The Ohio QSO party is on August 22nd this year, details at www.ohqp.org. Watch for an e-mail update on getting a PCARS club station on the air for the contest.

Also in August we will finish painting the exterior of the club site and the renovations team will be installing the lights and ceiling tiles in the radio room and, with luck, we may get the countertops in, too.

We can take a breather over Labor Day weekend and be rested up for the Ohio State Parks On The Air contest on September 12th. This is the Second Annual OSPOTA, bigger and better with some excellent prizes and awards. Find out all about it at <http://parks.portcars.org> and start making plans!

Get the word out that the Fall Technician Class will be starting on Tuesday, September 22nd in the Community Room at the Family & Community Services office building at 705 Oakwood in Ravenna. The cost is \$25.00 which also includes one year's dues as a PCARS member. What a deal! Anyone needing details can contact me at kc8pd@portcars.org.

Speaking of new hams... here is a late breaking development. PCARS will be receiving from an anonymous donor an Icom IC-V8 Sport two meter HT which the club can loan out to new hams for a few months. That way they can get on the air with an already programmed radio and develop their on-air skills as they shop for their own rig. This is a nice addition to the developing inventory of club gear that members will be able to use.

Now get to those pictures!

73,

Jim, KC8PD

From the Vice President

Hope all of you are enjoying the summer! It's been a crazy one for me... too much work, not enough play (radio play, that is) time.

I have managed to participate in a few contests, the CQWW VHF contest and The Summer Homebrew QRP/ARCI CW contest. Have a look at the photos, a new QRP radio.. and the new operating partner!

First, the new QRP radio is a very small 3 band CW transceiver. The HB-1A covers 40, 30, and 20 meters. It also covers a wider receive range, about 5 MHz to 16 MHz..... and CW, LSB, USB modes are switchable. The IF filter widths can be changed and it has an internal CW keyer, just add your paddle. Works great!



Second, my new operating partner, Abbegail, or Abbs, as we call her. She is a rescued Dalmation mix and is around 2 years old. As far as operating, she is still learning not to chew on the gear (hi hi). She is a welcome addition to the household. Now if she can go get a job, that would be a real bonus, maybe DX Engineering????

I had the chance to swing by the club sight Saturday and was very impressed with the activity. I would have been there, but alas, duty called in the middle of the night and I didn't want to fall asleep on a ladder. Seriously, if you haven't seen the latest facelift to the building.... check it out. Those that showed up and contributed "sweat equity" are really appreciated! Thank all of them when you see them.

As always I am looking for topics for our monthly meetings. I would really like to see members contribute more by sharing their areas of expertise or knowledge as it relates to radio, or a closely related topic. I am available to help you put together a club meeting presentation.

And... along the same line, ideas for monthly projects or activities are requested. Maybe you recently "homebrewed" some item that would be a simple, useful, and fun addition to the shack. Get in touch with me and we will see if we can get it out to the membership.



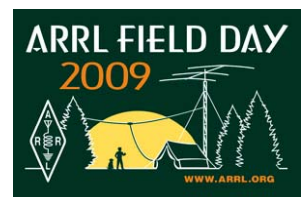
All for now, be careful out there.

CUL & 73,

Dave, WB2DFC

Field Day 09 - First Report

I'm pleased as punch to report that our Field Day score was 7,206 points this year, a big bump from our last outing and our best effort so far. Our numbers were up in all but two categories, but it wasn't for lack of trying. It's good to know that there are still places that we can bring the score up in the future.



How we stacked up against the rest of the 4A stations won't be known until the ARRL tabulates the numbers and announces the results, probably around November 1.

Ed and I were very pleased to see all of the new faces that came out and got involved in various ways. For some, it was their first radio contest. Thanks for getting behind the computer and the microphone, and we hope to work you in the 2-meter Sprint and the Parks On the Air contest soon!

Thanks to everyone who operated and logged, no matter what position you held or how long you were there. To those who stepped in when the previous guy was losing his voice, to you guys who showed up in the middle of the night, and for the people who simply agreed to pitch in whenever we needed them: Those 7,506 points belong to you.

Terry, KB8AMZ earned us 100 points, just for making his presentation on how to keep your portable mast secured properly. He was also my main CW operator, and kept us going at all sorts of odd hours. Parky, KB8UUZ put more points in our pocket with his public information display, and Inna-GOTA-Da-Vida Bob, N8QE patiently introduced the world of contesting to at least 10 people, earning us both QSO numbers and bonus points.



The Information Technology team of Steve, KD8SRR, Mike, KD8LLN, and Surprise Guest IT Geek Mike, KD8IUA provided us with 24-hour network support, which is unheard of in Field Day circles. Special appreciation goes to Jim, KC8RKV, who lead the IT team and arranged for the borrowed computers. Jim was instrumental in finding last minute replacement computers when some of the laptops were suddenly unavailable to us.

If you haven't personally thanked the Kitchen Brigade of Errol, KC8RJR, Tom, WB8LCD, Robert, KD8GWY, and midnight cook Robin Fraedrich, please make a point of doing so. Most Field Day teams get stew, a can of beans, or burgers if their lucky. PCARS had a feast. Roasted pig on a spit? Unbelievable!

We had several guest show up and comment that they were visiting because their own club didn't think there was much interest in mounting a Field Day effort. I think it's safe to say that all of them were impressed, and left with a different point of view. I hope we've provided them with some inspiration for getting their own stations on the air in the future.

And we are relieved that nobody was arrested, although we came awfully close.

We had several goals in mind going into the 2009 event, but the main goal was that everybody who showed up would have a very, very good time with amateur radio. That evaluation we leave to you.

Just one more thing: go and mark your calendar for June 26 - 27... Field Day 2010. See you there!

Bill, WB9LBI and Ed, N8EQJ

FIELD DAY SCORING SUMMARY

Band	CW	Digital	SSB
80	0	0	152
40	425	16	658
20	10	5	875
15	0	0	50

Band	CW	Digital	SSB
10	0	0	26
6	3	0	53
2	0	0	1
GOTA	0	0	75

Total Contacts	CW	DIGITAL	SSB
	438	21	1,890

Bonus Points Earned



<u>Points</u>	<u>Category</u>
400	100% Emergency power (Max. 20 transmitters)
100	Media Publicity
100	Set-up in Public Place
100	Information Booth
100	NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC
100	W1AW Field Day Message
100	Formal NTS messages handled (10 points each)
100	Natural power QSOs completed
100	Site Visit by invited elected official
100	Site Visit by invited served agency official
100	Educational Activity Bonus
100	Youth Element achieved
40	GOTA Bonus
50	Submitted using the b4h.net applet

1,590 TOTAL BONUS POINTS

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Our final score was 7,206

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2 Meter Contest

So have you always wondered where Nelson Township really is? Do you think that there is a “Rootswater” Township in southern Portage County? Are those rumors true, is Aurora really in Cuyahoga County?

Well now you have a chance to answer those questions and have a lot of ham radio fun.



The PCARS Fourth Annual Two Meter Simplex Sprint will be held from noon to six p.m. (1600-2200 UTC) on Saturday, August 8th. Details and forms will be posted soon on the PCARS web site.

Your mission as a mobile participant is to operate from as many of the thirty political subdivisions in the county as possible and to work other stations in as many of those same jurisdictions as possible. Likewise, fixed stations want to work mobile stations in as many locations as they can. The thirty political subdivisions are the multipliers so you maximize your contact points by working from and to all thirty.

The sprint is a lot of fun and a great way to discover the county and learn more about the ins and outs of simplex ops. The contest really succeeds when we got a good number of mobiles moving throughout the county and it is open to everyone, you don’t need to be a PCARS members to participate.

This year the event will be preceded by a mobile workshop at the PCARS club site. So plot a course, gas up your vehicle, tweak that high gain antenna and hit the road!

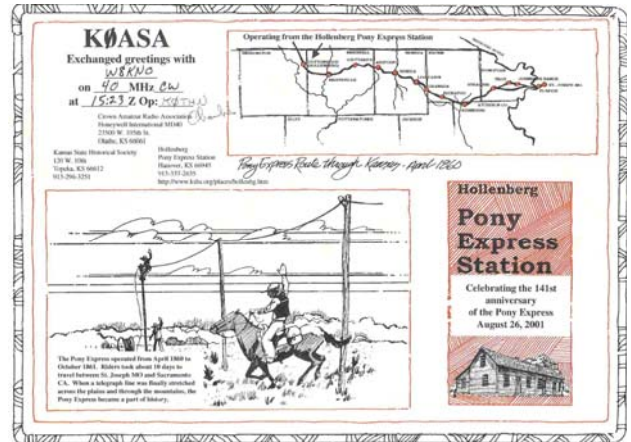
See the flier at the end of this newsletter

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Paper Chase

If you have read CQ Magazines' "Results of the 2008 CQ WW DX SSB Contest", you notice it reads "The 2008 CQ WW DX SSB Contest occurred with the solar flux about as low as it can get". If it had said "as low as it can go" you might have been in a limbo contest instead of a radio contest and continued, "Conditions were predicted to be a challenge." Therefore, I decided to continue this month with paper chasing within North America. Paper you have a chance to collect as was done last month with the Original Thirteen Colonies Award. I did contact nine of the thirteen and hope you did better than that. If you worked all but Connecticut your award will show you having worked them all as there was a problem with the Connecticut station and you should not be penalized.

So what is the award for this month? The Hollenberg Pony Express Station. The first event took place in 2000 and has been an annual event since. The Pony Express existed for the sole purpose of bridging a 2000 mile gap in the telegraph line in 1860. The Pony Express operated only from April 1860 to October 1861. Riders took about 10 days to travel between St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, CA. When a telegraph line was finally stretched across the plains and through the mountains, the Pony Express became a part of history.



You will the special event on 3.540, 7.040, 14.040 and for the non CW operator 14.240. I received special notice in the 2001 write up of the special when I made my contact. It read in part, "Requests for a Pony Express Special Event Station certificate are coming in from across the country. On the back of one of the QSL cards we received was a note that read 'this was only my second CW contact in 42 years. I practiced all week to get ready for when I would have to use it'. " If I could do it you can too. Their operators are good.

Certificates are available from the Crown Amateur Radio Association, 11551 West 17th Terrace, Olatha, Kansas 66062.
Hear you in the pile-up!

Joe, W8KNO



EmComm

For the past couple months I have been encouraging local hams to get out and participate in public service events. They are a great way to get practice for actual emcomm activities as well as to learn more about your equipment and how things operate in the field. Because if there is one truism for emcomm it is that something will always go wrong or not work as you had planned. And it is from those experiences that we learn some valuable lessons.

Case in point: Gay, WB8VNO, had organized the communications for the Headwaters Adventure, a run-bike-canoe/kayak event sponsored by the Portage County Park District. The event covered a fair amount of ground in Mantua and Hiram Townships. Communications were on the 146.895 MHz repeater. One of the service sites was at the Camp Hi Canoe Livery located on the banks of the Cuyahoga River with its entrance on Abbott Road.

Naturally the river is at the bottom of the valley between some of Hiram Township's hills. It is all but impossible to access the repeater with an HT from the riverfront. Our solution was to locate my vehicle about a mile away at the intersection of Abbott Road and St. Rt. 82 and use the cross-band repeat function of the Yaesu

FT-8800 installed in the car. That location is at a higher elevation and had a clear shot to the repeater input. In addition, an Arrow J-pole was mounted about twenty feet up on a mast next to the car.

Just to be sure things worked okay, Mike, KB8TUY, and Mike, KD8FLZ, and I went to the site a few days prior to the event, set everything up, and then tried the cross-band access from a couple different locations. It all worked fine, which was also important to KB8TUY because he was going to be marine mobile, paddling down river in a canoe behind the final participants.

The morning of the race all was in order and Sandy, KD8JCY, and I were at Camp Hi. Sandy was staged at the entrance to the livery to keep track of arriving cyclists and I was down at the canoe/kayak launch area. We communicated via a simplex frequency. The cross-band gave me an excellent connection to the repeater.

At least until it completely quit working.

As soon as I realized that the FT-8800 was off the air I called Sandy and then met up with her so that I could borrow her car. After a quick ride to my vehicle I discovered that the radio had powered down. Hmmmm...the Automatic Power Off was set for ninety minutes and we had been using the radio every ten to fifteen minutes. What's up?



I turned the radio back on and reset the APO for four hours, even though there was only about another hour or so that it was needed, and headed back to my assignment and things went okay from then on.

What I discovered was that the APO is not reset unless one of the radio's buttons is pressed, e.g., PTT, power level, whatever. The fact that the radio is transmitting means nothing to the APO. The radio's controls have to be physically manipulated in order to reset the timer.

Lesson learned? Set that APO for well beyond the maximum time that you expect to be away from it when it is being used remotely for cross-band repeat. Better to learn this during a public service event where it could be quickly remedied than during a real-time emcomm response where the consequences could be more serious.

So get out there and practice! You never know what you will learn.

Jim, KC8PD
**Radio Officer, Portage County EMA/RACES
EC, ARES® of Portage County**



Hamfests

8 Aug 2009 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC Tailgate Fest 2009 - Please join us for an old fashioned tailgate swap meet rain or shine. This outdoor event will be held in the parking lot of Emidio & Son's Party Center - 48 E. Bath Rd. - Cuyahoga Falls (the same location as our spring Hamfest) and starts at 8:00 am (vendor setup at 7:00 am). Admission is \$5 per vehicle, buying or selling, as many people as you can fit in your van or car (no buses). - <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate2009.html> , contact: tailgate@cfarc.org

16 Aug 2009 - Warren Amateur Radio Association - Trumbull County Fairgrounds - 899 Everett Hull Rd. - Cortland, OH - <http://www.w8vtd.org> - Talk-In: 146.970 - Contact: Chris Brister, KD8BHR - 5714 Ensign Rd. - West Farmington, OH 44491 Phone: 440-548-5616 - Email: kd8bhr1@yahoo.com

27 Sep 2009 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH - website is <http://www.hac.org> - Talk-In: 146.73 (PL 110.9) - Contact: William Beckman, N8LXY - Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - P.O. Box 81252 - Cleveland, OH 44181-0252 - Phone: 800-CLE-FEST

1 Nov 2009 - Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Massillon Boys and Girls Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH - <http://www.marcradio.org> - Talk-In: 147.18/.78 - Contact: Dan Anastis, N8DZM - 4770 12th Street SW - Canton, OH 44710 Phone: 330-478-6149 - Email: ddann@sbcglobal.net



4th Annual PCARS Picnic

WOW! Has PCARS ever been busy this summer! (I'm betting this is not the first article in the newsletter starting out this way) It's true, we've had a lot of fun activities, an interesting July meeting, work days at the club site, Dayton, Field Day, other assorted contests, and scanning the calendar ahead, there's a lot more on tap for PCARS Fun before this year is over. In the midst of all this ham radio activity it was a pleasant break to have the PCARS picnic and just have a chance to enjoy the fellowship of our ham friends and include the whole family.

With over 65 in attendance on July 18th, the "Black Squirrel Oasis" was certainly a good place for an eyeball QSO with your friends. There were 70+ hamburgers grilled, 24 hot dogs, and a whole lot of other side dishes, salads and desserts. Everything was very tasty and I hope no one went away hungry.

Saturday morning was just a bit iffy, weather wise, and as I mowed the lawn in the mist I couldn't help but wonder why I hadn't specified an alternate rain date. But, by mid afternoon, the clouds and the rain moved out, and it turned out to be a beautiful afternoon and evening, so everything came off OK. KD8LIR enjoyed showing off what is probably one of the largest stuffed Panda collections in the state!

As I've said before, my PCARS friends are my best friends in the whole world! It was truly my pleasure to have you all over. Mary and I would like to thank you for all the food you prepared and brought over, and a special thanks to Bob N8KBX for bringing all the tables! Next PCARS family get together: The PCARS Christmas Party, Monday December 14th - details will be announced later, but save the date, I want to see you there!

Tom, WB8LCD



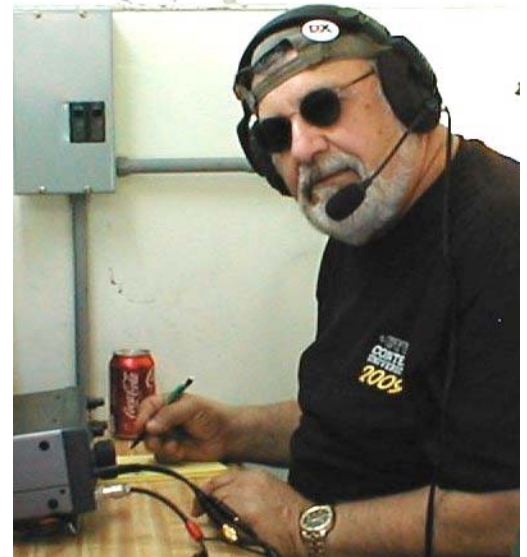


Charlie the Tuner's HF High Lites

I hope that all of you are having a good Summer and that you are getting a lot done on various HAM projects. I also hope that you have been taking advantage of the DX that has been showing up on the bands. Even though we have not had the sun spots that we had hoped for, there are still some very good openings, including 6 meters which has had some surprising DX.

Since this issue of the Newsletter is chock full of pictures and articles, I kept my column short and hope that you will still find it interesting, especially the Lighthouse contest that will be held August 1-9.

I don't want to forget the thank you's that need to go to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network (especially Tedd Mirgliotta – KB8NW for the following DX and IOTA information. I always repeat that since there is always the chance that this report can contain some erroneous information due to the simple nature of bad info or busted call signs, do yourself a favor and please adhere to the old adage of "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).



DX News

5B, CYPRUS - G4MKP, will be active as 5B/G4MKP from Tsada village near Pafos between August 14-25th. Activity will be mainly CW on 80-10 meters. QSL via M0URX.

7P, LESOTHO - Just a reminder that a group of operators will be active from here between July 29th to August 13th. They plan to have two stations active at all times with a third station to possibly be on for PSK and RTTY. Activity will be on all bands, but with a special effort on 160/80 meters. For more details, please visit the Texas DX Society's Web site at: <http://www.tdxs.net>

9J, ZAMBIA. YO4HEK, will be here for one year and will be active as 9J2YO. Activity will be on all bands using CW, SSB, and PSK31. Over the past week Gabriel has been very active on 40/30 meters between 1700-2030z. QSL via YO4ATW.

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA – (Reminder) EA4ATI, is working now in Malaysia. He has been issued the call sign 9M2TI and will be operating from Kuala Lumpur city. Using a vertical antenna with 400 watts, look for Dani to be active on 40/20/15/10 meters using CW and SSB. He also mentions that he will participate in the main international contests (like the CQ WPX) from a different location with a better station. Dani will stay in Malaysia for at least one year. QSL via his home callsign.

C3, ANDORRA - We reported that IK2CIO, would be active as C31/IK2CIO between August 6-12th. We have been informed by several sources that "the Andorran Radioamateurs Union (URA) reminds that the local administration has not implemented the CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01; therefore, any C3/homecall activity should be regarded as illegal." An up-to-date list of licensed amateurs can be found at: <http://www.ura.ad>

VK0B, ANTARCTICA - VK0BP, is currently working at Antarctic Davis Base Station (AN-016, Gridsquare MC81xk) until November 1st. His activity is limited due to his workload, but he is expected to be on all HF bands. However, due to local scientific experiments certain bands may be un- available at times. He seems to like 20 meters between 1500-1800z. Operations have been on SSB and PSK31, but he plans to operate on other modes later on during his stay at the Davis Station. QSL via VK2CA.

IOTA News

AF-003 - ZD8, ASCENSION ISLAND. N6TJ, will once again be active from here as ZD8Z between July 30th and August 7th. Activity will be on all bands CW/SSB. QSL via his new manager AI4U, direct or by the Bureau.

CE0Y, EASTER ISLAND (SA-001). Amateur Stations SQ8X and SV2KBS are planning to be active as CE0Y/home call from here between October 31st and November 15th. They are looking for one or two operators to join them on this operation. Plans are to have two stations on the air. They understand that Easter Island (SA-001) is not on most wanted lists, but there is a demand by some European stations to work CE0Y (this will be their main goal). More details will be forthcoming.

EU-005 - G0UIH, will be active as homecall/p from Piel Island (CU-005 for English Islands) between August 14-16th. This island is the "Jewel in the Crown" of the Islands of Furness. The Island has a history going back to the 11th Century. Expect activity on all HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the bureau.

EU-010 - M0GGK, will be active as MM0GGK/P from the Isle of Lewis between August 1-8th. He will use his K1 into a loop and a long wire, and expects to be on between 2100-0000z every night.

EU-032 - F4UKP, will be active as homecall/p from the Island of Re (DIFM AT-022, WLOTA L-1407) between August 15-22nd. Activity will be on all HF bands, CW and SSB, using a K2 and a 20m triple leg vertical. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

VR2009, HONG KONG (Special Event). Members of the Hong Kong Amateur Radio DX Association (HARDXA) will use the special event call sign VR2009EAG between July 1st and December 31st, to promote the Hong Kong 2009 East Asia Games. Operations will be primarily on the HF bands from 40-10 meters and VHF on 6 meters. The modes used will be primarily SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV. QSL Manager VR2XMT: Charlie Ho, PO Box 900, Fanling Post Office, Hong Kong. There will be no e-QSL or LoTW. To see QSL cards, go to: <http://www.qrz.com/vr2009eag>

Lighthouses

Just a reminder that the International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend (ILLW) is scheduled for August 1-9th. A new Yaesu FT-857D will be given as the prize in a RANDOM DRAWING of submitted logs. Pre-registration is required. The winner is NOT based on score. Everyone that submits a valid log has an equal opportunity of winning the Yaesu. Registration deadline is July 31st. For complete details, rules, and logging requirements, visit the ILLW Web site at: <http://illw.org>

GB2, ENGLAND (LH Op). Reminder: Members of the "Bittern DX'ers" will activate for the 8th time "Blakeney Mariner's Light" GB2BML for the ILLW 2008, on the weekend of August 15-16th. Reference numbers are: ENG-292 and WLOTA 1841). Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV, PSK31, and 2m FM/SSB. QSL via M0CNP, direct or by the Bureau. Visit the Bittern DX'ers Web page at: <http://www.bittern-dxers.org.uk>

That's it for August. Get on the air and enjoy this aspect of our great hobby. Hope to hear you working DX. But for now, 73 and gud DX to all.

Chuck, W8PT



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in August:

AB8UD	Mike McDivitt
W8RJG	Ron Good
KB8TUY	Mike Ryan
N6TL	Randy Wilson
K8GI	Rick Patterson

KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
KD8JCY	Sandra Getty
KD8ETS	Clarence Hollow
KD8DFM	Irene Anderson



PCARS Yahoo Site

Members are reminded that PCARS has a Yahoo Group 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.

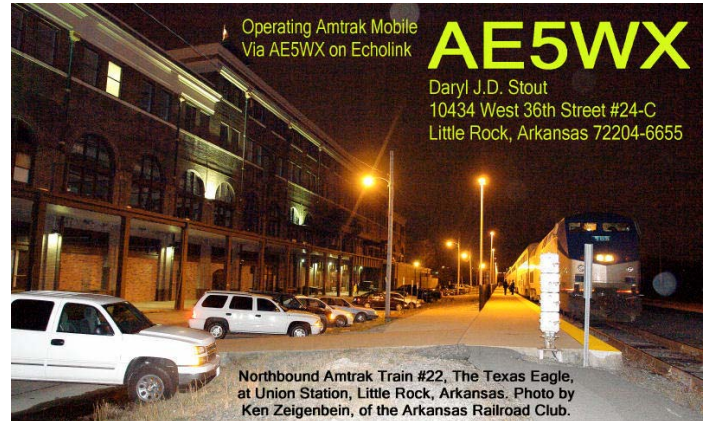


Amtrak Mobile on Echolink

The last time I was Amtrak Mobile, I operated CQ100. However, this time, I plan to operate Amtrak Mobile with Echolink. In this case, my callsign AE5WX will stand for "Amtrak Excursion Five-Land Whistle Xings (crossings)".

Unfortunately, the schedule will likely only allow operation in the urban areas of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, and the Austin, Texas during the trip to and from the 2009 ARRL Texas State Convention / Austin Summerfest. If the train is on time, look for me on the AE5WX node between 1:00 pm and 3:30 pm Eastern Time on Thursday, August 6th, and from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm on Sunday, August 9th. If the train is late, or if there are problems with the power adapter in the Sleeping Car compartment, all bets are off en-route concerning actual operations from the train.

I don't know if I'll be able to check into the PCARS Net on Thursday, August 6th, as the train is supposed to arrive in Austin at the start of the PCARS Net. Then, taking a cab from the train station to the hotel, and getting checked in, will take some time. But I'll try to get in before the net closes, if possible. I will also try to operate some while in Austin, from the hotel room. I did better with my aircard from the hotel during last years event than others did trying to use the hotels WiFi system!! The activities kick off Friday evening, August 7th and I'll be tied up much of the day Saturday, August 8th, helping with VE Testing.



I also will be doing another Amtrak Mobile trip with my Mom to and from San Diego, California, from Sept. 14-23, 2009. I'll have information on possible operation times in the next newsletter.

Daryl, AE5WX

Some Words From Weaver

Division Symposium Update

September 12 is approaching more rapidly than we may realize. This means you'll hear more about the Great Lakes Division Symposium that is on the 12th. Here is the current run down:

Highlights of the program include a presentation by former astronaut Tony England, W0ORE. Tying in with the presence of England will be a discussion by Charles Sufana, AJ9N on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Charlie is an ARISS.

The remainder of the program is still being developed; however, a few more program highlights are:

- QRP -- A remote audio/video presentation by G3RJV
- New Designs for Getting Started on VHF -- a remote audio/video presentation by KK7B
- QSLing -- 8th Area QSL Bureau Manager, K4ZLE
- A Successful Radio Merit Badge Class for Boy Scouts by KD8AVT
- Emergency Communications -- N8IJ
- Radio Clubs -- WB8LCD

There is no registration fee; however, attendees will be requested to sign up in advance so the Symposium team can obtain an estimate of the attendance.

Lunch will be available at a modest price or attendees may go to nearby restaurants. A chicken barbeque is planned for Saturday evening. The cost will be announced later.

Cost of Vanity Calls Increases

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM) on May 14 seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. The cost of a vanity call sign will go from \$12.30 to \$13.40 for 10 years.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs involved in the program. The fee is payable when applying for and when renewing a vanity call sign. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site.

Vanity call signs issued before 1996 are exempt from this fee. These "heritage" vanity call signs are not listed as vanity licensees in the FCC database.

Ohio QSO Party

The Ohio QSO Party (OQP) will be August 22. The emphasis in the Party is for out-of-state amateurs to contact Ohio amateurs. Ohio amateurs may contact other Ohio amateurs as well as out-of-state amateurs. Contacts may be made on 80 meters through 10 meters excluding the WARC bands. Entries are open to single operators as well as multiple operators.

The OQP being as 12 noon and ends at 12 midnight EDT. Entry categories include DX, US outside Ohio and inside Ohio, low-power, high-power and QRP, fixed and mobile, and single and multiple operations.

For further details on the rules as well as logging requirements, see www.ohqp.org. Winners in the 13 scoring categories in 2008 and prior Parties are also available at this site.

The OQP has been sponsored by the Mad River RC for several years.



When is it Inappropriate for Amateurs to Provide Communication?

ARRL is asked frequently if it is proper for amateurs to provide communication support to many, varied activities. Many questions appear to be related to ideas that have arisen following Hurricane Katrina and more recent emergency and disaster situations.

"Is it OK for my hospital to get its nurses licensed as hams so they can use ham radio in emergencies?" is just one example of these questions. Actually, this question appears to be relatively simple to answer. But, is it?

As a result of confusing situations and fine lines hams face these days, we on the ARRL Board instructed President Joel Harrison, W5ZN to appoint a special committee to study the issue. The committee is tasked with recommending examples of appropriate and inappropriate activities within 30 days. After being reviewed by the Board, guidelines to help each of us understand what according to FCC which activities are proper for us to support and which are improper, and why.

Manuals Online

I believe most active amateurs realize the value of the Internet whether they use it for sending and receiving e-mail, for submitting QSO records to Logbook of the world (LoTW), spotting DX, getting help from a friend . . . or finding a manual that's disappeared and is needed to repair a rig. During recent days, local club reflectors have listed two sites where manuals for rigs, rotators and other pieces of equipment can be found and downloaded at no cost. The web sites listed are <http://bama.sbc.edu/> and <http://www.radioamateur.eu/schemari.html>.

These seem to be active sites leading to many operating manuals and schematics. Being a cautious individual, there is one watch-out I will mention about sites such as this.

Most of these are not owned or operated by the manufacturers or sellers of the equipment related to the manuals they feature. This means that their posting online and offering them for downloading may likely to violate copyright law. Unlikely though it may be, downloading copyrighted material without first obtaining permission from the copyright owner could result in legal action against the person who violates this law.

The fact that no fee is charged to download a copyrighted item does not make downloading and using the item legal. As I mentioned above, this is just a watch-out.

AMTOR & ASCII out; PSK31 & MFSK16 in at W1AW

As a result of a survey of W1AW listeners, W1AW will change two different digital modes on August 17. W1AW will replace its AMTOR and ASCII transmissions with PSK31 and MFSK16, respectively. RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be the first digital mode used in the transmission schedule.

Frequencies used by W1AW for its digital transmissions remain unchanged. All regular 6 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time digital transmissions will begin with RTTY. PSK31 and MFSK16 will be sent as time allows.

Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will be sent using RTTY and PSK31.

The W1AW operating schedule -- complete with times and frequencies -- can be found at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>.

The A-1 Operator Club

As described on the ARRL web site, "Only the best operators can qualify for the A-1 Operator Club, amateurs who have met the highest operating standards." No one can apply for membership. One must be recommended independently by two amateurs who already belong to the Club. "Who knows? Fine-tune your operating skills, and one of these days you may be pleasantly surprised when the mailman delivers an A-1 Operator Club certificate."

The A-1 Op Club is open for voice, CW, RTTY and other modes. It is posted on the ARRL web site, it has been described in QST every now and then, but it isn't talked about by hams very much.

Information on the A-1 Operator Club, how new members are selected, who has received one nomination and is waiting for the second, and who is included among its 5386 members is available at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/#a1>.

In addition to receiving a nice certificate, A-1 Ops can also obtain a great looking pin!

Jim, K8JE
Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division

August Contest Calendar

August 2009	
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 1 to 2359Z, Aug 2
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 1 to 0600Z, Aug 2
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 1 to 1800Z, Aug 2
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 15 to 2400 local, Aug 16
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 15 to 0600Z, Aug 16
New Jersey QSO Party	2000Z, Aug 15 to 0200Z, Aug 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 17
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 22 to 0400Z, Aug 23

Yes - there are even more than what are listed here. Check the internet for contest activity from around the world. On your contest entry: Don't forget to put **"Portage County Amateur Radio Service"** as your club name!

PCARS Thursday Net Control

If **YOU** would like to be a net control operator, please let me know when you are available and I'll get you into the rotation - email: WB8LCD@portcars.org. Your help would be greatly appreciated and it's a lot of fun !

August	
08/06	WB8LCD
08/13	KC8PD
08/20	W8PT
08/27	KD8ICR

September	
09/03	N8XTH
09/10	KD8FLZ
09/17	KB8UUZ
09/24	KD8VT



October	
10/01	N8QE
10/08	KD8FLZ
10/15	KD8GWY
10/22	KD8ICR
10/29	W8PT

November	
11/05	KC8PD
11/12	WB8LCD
11/19	N8XTH
11/26	WB2DFC

December	
12/03	KD8GWY
12/10	KD8VT
12/17	N8QE
12/24	KB8UUZ
12/31	WB8LCD

The PCARS net is **Fun** - tell your friends to check in via RF or Echolink!

Tom WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

August 1 - October 3 - December 5

VE sessions for Technician, General & Amateur Extra start at 10:00 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 (if you have one), a copy of your CSCE (if you have one), a photo ID, and \$15.00 in cash or a check for \$15.00 made out to "ARRL-VEC". We look forward to seeing you there!!!!



Jim, KC8PD
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Ham License Plates Wanted

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 24 plates up on the wall now (plus a couple of plates waiting to be put up), 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 about \$20 the first time for the bureau fee, mailing fee, and Amateur Radio plate fee. When your Amateur Radio plates need to be re-newed, you can 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 Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS Yahoo Group site.



New Section Manager Appointed in Ohio

Frank Piper, KI8GW, of Pickerington, Ohio has been appointed Section Manager of the ARRL Ohio Section. He will serve the balance of the term of Joe Phillips, K8QOE; Phillips passed away on June 20th.

Piper has moved up the ranks in ARES leadership positions by first serving as Emergency Coordinator from 2002-2003 and then as District Emergency Coordinator from 2003-2006. He was promoted to Section Emergency Coordinator, serving in that position until 2008. Piper has also served as an Official Emergency Station in the ARRL Field Organization since 1997.

According to the Rules and Regulations of the Field Organization, when a vacancy in the office of Section Manager occurs between elections, the position is filled by appointment. Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, in consultation with Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, made the appointment effective July 7. His term of appointment continues through September 30, 2010.

The ARRL Letter

Swap-N-Shop

WANTED: HF Rig with general coverage - working - under \$300.

FOR SALE: Icom 2200H 2 meter mobile rig. Asking \$120.

Contact **Don** at KD8ICR@portcars.org or call 330-842-1067.

FOR SALE: ICOM 775 10-160 meters, 200 Watts includes HM-36 mic, Rack Mount Handles, two SP-20 Speakers w/Audio Filter - all for \$2500.00

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: GAP Titan DX multi-band vertical antenna. Put up in 2002 taken down in 2007, in good condition with original manual. \$399.99 New, will sell for \$199.00

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-50 HF radio with original box and manual. Has MARS/CAP transmit mod. \$300.00

Contact **Rick - K8CAV@portcars.org** or 330-274-2869 evenings

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-690S - HF + 6 Meters. Solid performer - No Mods. Comes with hand mic, power cord, instruction manual and original boxes - works great! \$649.00 *Only reason for selling this gear - making room for new radio!*

FOR SALE: Heil HM-10 Dual (HC4 & HC-5 elements) microphone. Original manual & case. Wired for Kenwood. \$95.00

FOR SALE: Kenwood SP-950 Speaker. Filters & dual inputs. Great shape, sounds terrific. With original box & manual. \$110.00

FOR SALE: MFJ-401D Electronic Keyer - Works great. \$44.00

FOR SALE: MFJ-434 Voice Keyer - Great for contesting! Original box & manual. - \$ 110.00

FOR SALE: MFJ-5124K - Autotuner cable for Kenwood - Original box & manual. - \$24.00

FOR SALE: Mirage A-1015G, 6 Meter Amplifier - 10 watts in, 160 watts out - Original manual & box - works great - \$275.00

FOR SALE: MFJ-906 - 6 Meter Tuner - Cross Needle - works great - \$64.00

Everything subject to haggling - make an offer!

Contact **Tom** at KB8UUZ@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Dual Band Trunk Lid Antenna, 2m/440 like new, \$25.

FOR SALE: Heathkit SB-630 combo: SWR meter, phone patch, and clock which can be set for GMT, \$50.

FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-101, crystal controlled, worked last time I used it, \$75.

FOR SALE: Tripp Lite Power Supply 3 amps, \$15.

Contact **Carl** - N4IT@portcars.org or call 330-221-8725

FOR SALE: Ameritron AL-811H Linear Amp, \$800.00

FOR SALE: Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.2Kfx Solid State Linear Amp, \$2,000.00

FOR SALE: MFJ 989D Legal Limit Versa Tuner V Antenna Tuner, \$300. 00

All three units used LESS THAN ONE HOUR. All in pristine, like new condition, with manuals and original boxes. Will deliver in NE Ohio.

Contact **Bob** - NT8K@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Kenwood TR-9000 2m All Mode, works well except the display is erratic until it warms up, \$125.00 or best offer.
FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-450S HF Transceiver, comes with hand mike, power cable, owner's manual, service manual and computer control cable. Radio is in good condition and it works well. \$425.00.
FOR SALE: MFJ-941E HF Antenna Tuner w/4:1 Balun, Meter & Antenna Switch, Like New, \$100.00.
FOR SALE: Heil PR-781 Microphone, \$130.00, In new condition and less than 3 months old.
FOR SALE: Heil CC-1-XLR-I Cable (for Icom 8-Pin), \$25.00, In new condition and less than 3 months old.
FOR SALE: Heil SB-2 Boom, \$45.00. In new condition and less than 3 months old.

Contact **Rex** - NX8G@portcars.org

WANTED: 2 Meter Vertical Base Antenna to be used for MARS. Must be able to tune outside ham band around 148.4

Contact: **George** N1EZZ@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Z-Pole Kits - same as the PCARS Nutrunner that was a club project in Feb 08 (Power Pole Breakout Box), with updated enhancements. These new kits are now called the "Z-Pole" and cost \$20 each.

Contact: **Russ** KB8DPN@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Heavy Duty Ball Mount & Whips: Want to work mobile?? I have come across a supply of "new - old stock" items from the now defunct Antenna Specialists, formerly of Solon, OH. You can get a heavy duty ball mount, with stainless spring and 96" stainless whip, all for just \$30.00. Let me know how many you want.

FOR SALE: New, Belden 9913, RG8U coaxial cable. In the AES catalog it costs \$99.99 for 100'. My price is \$75 for 100', and I won't charge any wretched taxes or shipping! If you want any, let me know and we'll work it out.

FOR SALE: New, Belden 8267 (RG-213) coaxial cable - 100 Feet for only \$85 - no shipping/no tax! Need another length? Let me know.

Contact **Tom** - WB8LCD@portcars.org

FOR SALE or TRADE: Kenwood AT-200 160-10 antenna tuner. Also measures SWR/FWD/REF power. 200W max. Very good condition. \$40 or trade for 500 ft spool of 14 ga stranded wire.

Contact **Gene**, W8NET@w8net.com

FOR SALE: Shakespeare 376-6B 10 meter vertical antenna \$50.

Contact **Bob** at: 330-633-5408 or e-mail N8QE@portcars.org

Tower Climbing Safety

Accidents can, and do happen. But there are ways to minimize your risk. For those of you that still climb towers - **PLEASE** use proper safety gear. Get rid of any old belts that have *ANY* signs of wear. *Always* use a safety line, plus the belt. If the belt breaks, the safety line will do exactly what it is suppose to do - Save **YOUR** Life. Over the past few months we have read about various tower related accidents and here is one close to home:

Jim Mullin - W8KKK SK

This past week on Monday afternoon, Jim was taking down a 100' self supporting tower and the associated antennas with it. He had been up the tower two times in the placing of his gin pole, and the removal of the antennas. These trips were around rest breaks and lunch.

It appears as if he was on his third trip up to re-position his gin pole to start taking apart and down the tower sections. His ground assistant had just finished taking some pictures of the tower and was putting his camera back in his car. As he turned away from the car he heard Jim hit the ground. He did not make any sound on his way down.

It looks like his safety belt parted at one of the seams, and "Just let go." As of Saturday, his tool pouch and what was left of his belt were still on the tower at about the 98' level.

There was a very nice Service for him On Saturday, the 11th of July at a small Church in Madison Ohio. Even though I had known Jim for 30 plus years, I learned some other "sides" of him. He was a very generous person even though his wallet was very sparse. He repaired a lot of computers and ham radios for "Next to nothing" for those he knew could not afford having their equipment repaired elsewhere. He also worked very hard at spreading the Gospel of his Lord, and was very good at it. Jim was 2 months shy of 70 years old. Rest In Peace, ol' friend! We'll all see you at the big ham fest "upstairs".

de Fritz, K8WLF, Concord Township, OH

PCARS Paint Party

On Saturday, July 25th, a team of PCARS volunteers got together at the club site to paint the exterior of the building. The building is owned by Family & Community Services which acquired it and the other buildings at the location which had been the Ohio Department of Transportation's district offices and garage. This building had housed the Test Lab and it is fair to say that it had been a while since fresh paint had been applied to these concrete blocks. F&CS provided all of the paint and materials with PCARS providing the labor as a donation.

First we had to wait about an hour for a rain storm to blow through and as soon as the sky cleared on went the paint. We had a great crew, including, Tom, WB8LCD, Rick, K8CAV, Bill, WB9LBI (plus family friend Al Craig, Jr.), the teams of Mary Jo, KD8GGZ, and Leon, N8GLK, Al, AB8AA, and Jane, K8JAA, along with Ed, N8EQJ, Tim, KD8ICP, Russ, KD8LDY, Sandy, KD8JCY, and Mike, KD8FLZ.

We took a break for pizza around one o'clock and as well as a run to Lowe's for more paint. We started with fifteen gallons for the walls and it was about gone before the pizza arrived. Lowe's only had five more gallons of the correct tint base so we grabbed it. In the end our timing was perfect: the paint ran out at the same time that the afternoon rain shower arrived.

With twenty gallons we finished three walls and about a third of the remaining wall which will get painted within a week or so. The trim has been painted around some of the windows and the remaining windows plus the doors and frames still need to be finished. The colors were picked to be consistent with the look of the other buildings on the campus and the reaction from the staff at F&CS to the building's new look has been terrific.

Thanks again to all who helped! PCARS can be proud of its contribution to the renovations of the building.

Jim, KC8PD



PCARS Patches & Stickers & Mugs



PCARS logo patches & stickers & mugs are now available!! Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket, show off that PCARS mug!! 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. Mugs are full color with the PCARS logo on both side and only cost \$5 each.



Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers, use the mug! If you would like to order by mail contact the club Treasurer: Bill at wb9lbi@portcars.org

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- August 5th - **Mobile Cruise-In** at the Ravenna A&W
- August 8th - **PCARS 2 Meter Contest**
- August 10th meeting - **Geocaching**
- August 22nd - **The Ohio QSO Party** - More to follow on this one
- September 12th - **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest!!
- September 14th meeting - **HF Pack**
- October 12th meeting - **Slowscan TV**
- December 14th - **PCARS Christmas Party/Meeting** - More to follow on this one



Shack Shots - WB2DFC

From left to right: Me (on a Sunday morning before shaving but after tea), QRP gear which is Elecraft K2, Yaesu FT-817, Heathkit HW-8 and an Astron power supply.

Then further to the right, a Yaesu FT-920 with Inrad Filters, an Icom IC 820H multi mode VHF/UHF, and of course, my

Collins KWM-2 with rejection tuning mod. The KWM-2 is connected to a Drake W-4 watt meter.

The hand mic with the KWM-2 is an original Collins, all metal dynamic mic. All of this is connected by antenna switches to an LDG AT-100 Pro Autotuner, then to either a Hustler 5-BTV vertical and a compact G5RV wire.

I can switch antennas between the QRO radios and the QRP radios. So it can be a QRP or a QRO weekend, or both. Not in the photo is my Yaesu FL-7000 HF amplifier, about 600 watts out when I need it.



Dave, WB2DFC

Editor's Note: Send in a photo (or two) of you in your shack or mobile set up along with a description of your gear and let other club members see you in "Shack Shots". And, don't hesitate to brag about your setup!

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 Second Monday of Every Month



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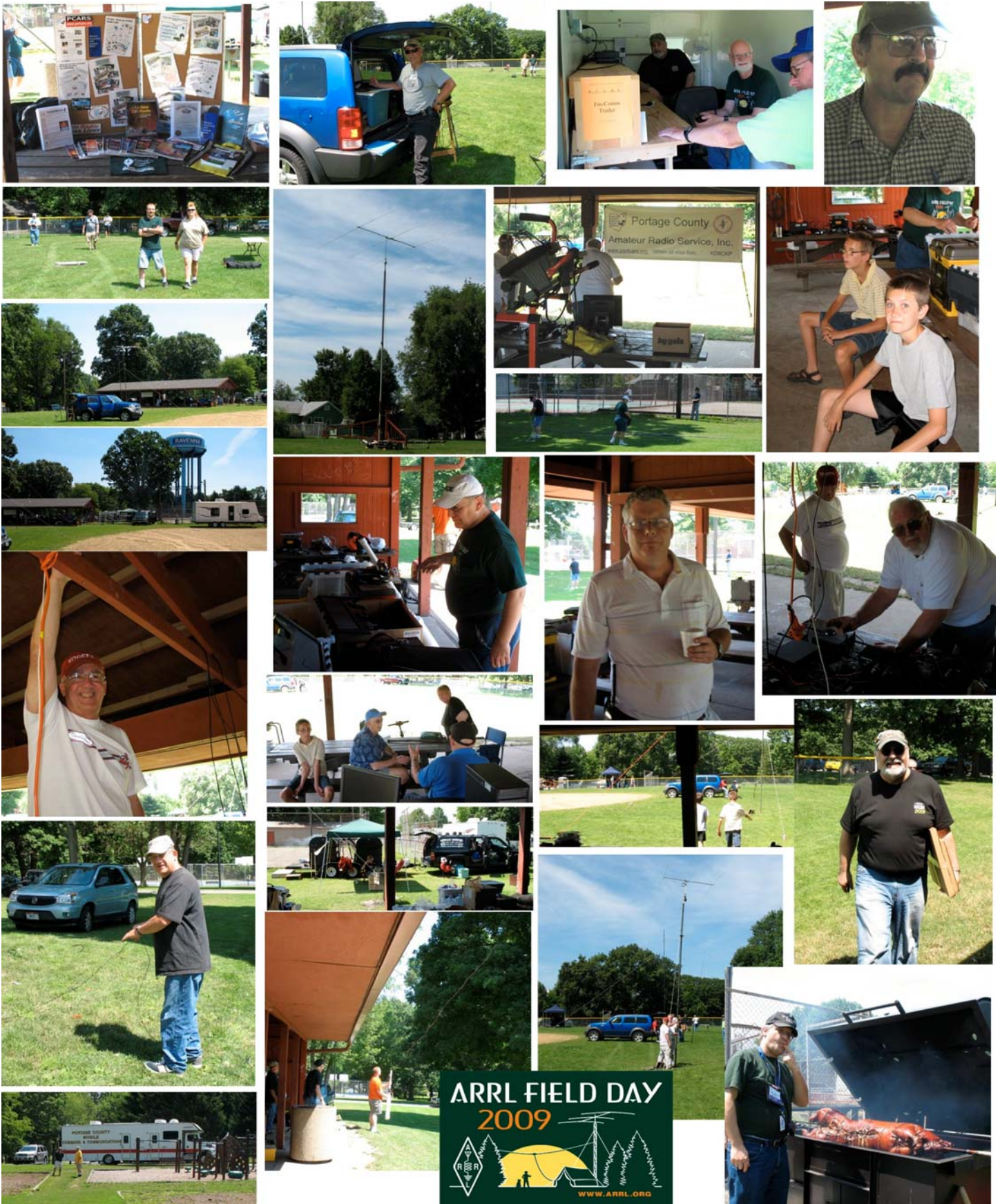
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Pictures from PCARS Field Day 2009













Shack Shot - KC8RKV and KC8ZZG in VE3 Land

KC8RKV, Jim Godfrey and his son Albert KC8ZZG traveled to their summer cottage on July 15th and will return on August 2nd. KC8RKV took his TenTec Argonaut 516, almost a QRP rig with twenty watts max output into an LDG AT-200Pro autotuner. Shack also includes an RCI 5054 6m rig 25 watts into a MFJ-906 tuner and a dipole. Local communications equipment is an Alinco 605TQ into a dual band MFJ-922 tuner and a Cushcraft dual band five element beam. The Alinco 605TQ is connected to a CS-800 full duplex interconnect, allowing land line phone calls to and from the pontoon boat (FT-7100M), the van (FT-8500) or the FT-51R handy-talkies.



The only repeater monitored and useable at the cottage and from pontoon boat is the VE3RPL repeater located in Parry Sound, Ontario approximately forty five miles directly south of the cottage. The VE3RPL repeater operates at 145.49 MHz – with PL of 118.8 and is IRLP node number 2480

KC8RKV/VE3 operates from Becoola Island on Memesagamesing Lake, nearest town is Loring, Ontario. Loring is ten miles south of the lake and approximately two hundred miles north of Toronto, Ontario. The grid square locator is FN06aa and Mr. Garmin says 46 degrees 00.656 minutes north and 79 degrees 59.274 minutes west with an elevation 720 feet above sea level.

KC8ZZG hung a Carolina Windom 40 in the trees and we were on the air. WB8LCD advised me the Carolina Windom 40 will also tune up on 80 meter but with very narrow bandwidth, very true. Therefore we could operate on 80 thru 10 meters. KC8ZZG prefers 2 meter simplex boat to car to cabin and an EchoLINK QSO on the N8BHU 442.025 repeater with his mother Linda, KD8FLU when the internet phone went out at the home QTH in Kent. My RCI 5054, 6 meter rig has been very quiet.

Contacts have been made on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17 and 10 meters which has open everyday. The best DX contacts were PSK31 QSOs with ZL3NB and ZL2NFN on 20 meters with only 7 watts of power.



July 23, 2009 was the best amateur radio day for me. Approximately 11am a 40 meter phone contact was made with W3TSR a Boy Scout camp in the Poconos. Three young scouts needed to make HF contacts to complete the requirements for their Amateur Radio Merit Badge. Then the fun really started about 7:40 pm when I tuned to 7175 kHz and heard WB2DFC calling and then contact was made with KB8UUZ. KB8UUZ was able to patch me through to the 2 meter net allowing me to check-in via HF/VHF. Contacts were also made with KC8PD, KD8EPA, K8SRR, and N4IT. Thank you for a lot of fun.

Jim, KC8RKV/VE3



Thanks & 73

This is the 8th issue of the PCARS official newsletter the '**RADIOGRAM**' for 2009. Boy, has PCARS been busy !! Can't say you didn't get enough pictures this time!!

I really appreciate your help in getting material for this newsletter. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! Thanks goes out to this months contributors:

KC8PD, WB2DFC, WB9LBI, N8EQJ, W8KNO, WB8LCD, W8PT, AE5WX, K8JE, K8WLF, KC8RKV, KC8ZZG, KB8UUZ, The ARRL Letter and the World Wide Web - With your continued help – we can make this a great newsletter.

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

Amateur Radio Cruise-In



So you think that you have one of the best amateur radio mobile installations to be found? Well here is your chance to show off that mobile rig and have the opportunity to compare it to dozens of others, HF, VHF, UHF, you name it.

On Wednesday, August 5th, starting at 5:00 p.m., the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring an Amateur Radio Cruise-In Night at the **A&W** Restaurant located at 769 East Main Street in Ravenna.



Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be stopping by to see who has bragging rights for taking home the prize for the best overall installation.



Have you wondered how well screwdriver antennas perform? Confused about how best to run your power cables from the battery to the passenger compartment? How have other hams dealt with all that noise generating equipment in newer cars? Can you work DX from your truck? Need a solution for mounting that remote control head?

Well come on by and get those questions answered while you enjoy a burger, some fries, and a mug of **A&W** root beer. Enjoy an evening of ham radio fellowship and fun and get to know other hams from throughout the area.



Talk-in will be on the N8EQJ repeater,
146.895 MHz, PL 110.9.



More information can be found at the PCARS web site, www.portcars.org, or contact Jim, KC8PD, at kc8pd@portcars.org or 330-297-7979.



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)



presents the

4th Annual

PCARS 2 Meter Simplex Contest



**Saturday - August 8, 2009
12:00 pm until 6:00 pm EDT**

See if you can Work All of Portage County, Ohio



This 2 Meter FM Simplex contest is sponsored by the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.(PCARS). The purpose of this contest is to encourage amateurs to learn the basics of contesting and simplex operations and expand the scope of their VHF operating techniques beyond that needed for repeater operation.

Contest is open to all - you don't have to be a member of PCARS, you don't even have to be inside Portage You can operate from home, mobile, or portable. Even if your passing through (or near) Portage County.

Heck, you don't even have be a 'contester' to have fun during this contest - just have some FUN!

Special Participation Certificate for all that send in a log! Hams belonging to clubs out side Portage County can also submit scores for themselves and your club scores, too!

See how many Cites, Villages, and Townships throughout Portage County
you can make contact with on 2 Meter FM Simplex.

In Portage County, there are:

5 Cities: Aurora, Kent, Ravenna, Streetsboro, Tallmadge,

7 Villages: Brady Lake, Garrettsville, Hiram, Mantua, Mogadore,
Sugar Bush Knolls, Windham

18 Townships: Atwater, Brimfield, Charlestown, Deerfield, Edinburg, Franklin,
Freedom, Hiram, Mantua, Nelson, Palmyra, Paris, Randolph, Ravenna,
Rootstown, Shalersville, Suffield, Windham



Complete Rules, Summary Sheets & Log Sheets

are available for download on the

PCARS web site:

www.portcars.org

We'll be listening for you!

Join us in the fun and see just how far your rig will go on simplex.

Best of all - let's have a FUN day on the radio!!

Need more information? E-mail 2Meters@portcars.org



The **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)**
announces the second annual



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 12, 2009, from 1600 UTC to 2400 UTC

There are **73** Ohio State Parks
Make a day of it and join us in the **FUN!**



Visit a beautiful Ohio State Park
and have some
Amateur Radio Fun at the same time!

Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?

Check out **all** the details at: <http://parks.portcars.org>

While you're at it, check out the PCARS web site at: www.portcars.org



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

Meetings: 2nd 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 the N8EQJ 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 2009

Awards	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Club Call Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO W8PT	Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis
Field Day 2009	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	KD8GGZ	Mary Jo Loveland
 VE Team	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	KB8DPN	Russ Anderson, Sr.
	N4IT	Carl Capps
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	N8EQJ	Ed Polack
	K8QF	Russ Conklin
	K8GI	Rick Patterson
	WB8VNO	Gay Wands
	WD8CVH	Ted Wands
Web Master	NX8G	Rex Simmons
	KD8GWY	Robert Gurney
	AB8AA	Allan Avnet
	K8JAA	Jane Avnet
	K8SRR	Steve Randlett

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ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: the Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys & gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961 and have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. So when you spot a black squirrel – **think PCARS!**

This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **PCARS Newsletter, the RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and 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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NLC

