



The

RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



September 2009 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 4 No. 9

~ 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

How often do you get a question or comment about being an “amateur” radio operator and then find yourself trying to explain what that means? The usual quick answer is that although we are licensed through the FCC we can neither receive any compensation for our radio communications nor use our license privileges for business purposes.

But there is still a bit of a sting left in that “amateur” label. Emergency communication volunteers often explain to the skeptical that they should treat us like they do volunteer firefighters. We are well trained radio communicators who assist during emergencies but do it for free rather than for pay.



In a recent column in the August 10th edition of Time magazine, Kurt Andersen did a nice job of reminding his readers of the value of amateurs. His primary message was that we should not blindly follow the advice or direction of the high price experts. Witness the recent financial meltdown and crisis. Instead, it may well be the amateurs, those who don't feel bound by the professionals' opinions, who are willing to test the limits and find new solutions. As Mr. Andersen put it: “This country, after all, was created by passionately engaged amateurs. The American spirit really is the amateur spirit. The great mass of European settlers were amateur explorers, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren who created the U.S. were amateur politicians. ‘I see democracy,’ the late historian Daniel Boorstin wrote, as ‘government by amateurs, as a way of confessing the limits of our knowledge.’”

“Back then, amateur was an entirely positive adjective. An amateur pursuit meant something that one pursued - a field of study, an artistic enterprise, a craft - not unseriously, but out of love rather than merely to earn a living.

“Amateurs do the things they want to do in the ways they want to do them. They don't worry too much about breaking rules and aren't paralyzed by a fear of imperfection or even failure. Active citizenship is all about tapping into one's amateur spirit.”

Well, we still want to stay within the bounds of Part 97, but otherwise, well said Mr. Andersen!

Radio is, after all, our avocation, our hobby. It is both a field of study as well as a craft, and no matter whether we are expanding its horizons or simply enjoying the fun that it can provide, we pursue it for the love of it not for personal gain.

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From the President (continued from Page 1)

I always tell the students in our Technician class that there was a time that all radio operators, Marconi included, were amateurs. Where would be but for them? And what of all of the amateur radio operators who have paved the way for other communication services and modes in the meantime? Think television, cell phones, satellites and digital communications.

So the next time someone says "Amateur, heh?" Say "You bet," and wear that label with pride.

Jim, KC8PD

From the Vice President

Hope all of you are enjoying the summer... getting your outside chores out of the way before the first SNOW flakes hit the ground. Nothing like a good snow storm to motivate outdoor amateur station work.

That being said, now is great time to check all of the antenna and feedline pieces parts hanging from your tower, trees, masts, etc. Are you planning on installing the PCARS Club G5RV, a new 2 meter vertical, a replacement rotator, etc..... well, procrastinate no more! Your preventative maintenance now will mean smooth operating later. Storms in our area are unpredictable, ice, wind, falling debris, so be ready to go when the elements are at their worst.



Jim, KC8PD, recently sent the PCARS Member survey to all club members. Thanks for taking time to reply. Antennas, digital modes, ham radio basics, AMSAT, are popular requests. I will be contacting members soon asking you to share your knowledge and experience with the membership. I am setting the 2010 topic schedule now, so please consider being a topic presenter at a club meeting.

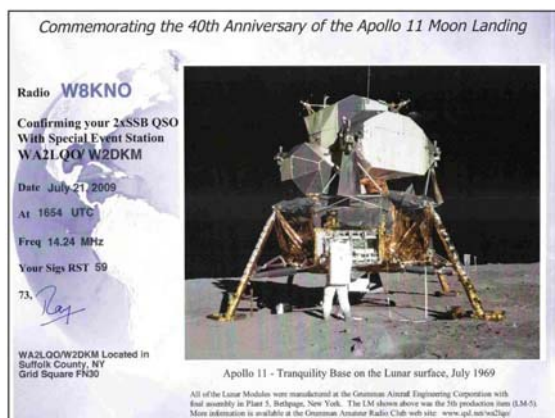
The Ohio QSO Party at the PCARS Club Site was a success! As the club site continues to develop, look for more event participation activities there. I would expect at some point, when stations are setup and on the air at the club site, it will be simply a matter of unlocking the door, warming up the gear, firing up the coffee pot, and playing radio. What a great benefit to the club and community, stations ready to go, with experienced operators and those willing to learn. Look for the OQP article elsewhere in this newsletter.

That's all for now. Look for the HF Pack presentation at the September club meeting and Slow Scan TV in October. presented by Rick, K8CAV.

Dave, WB2DFC

Paper Chase

It is Saturday morning and I have no idea what my topic will be for this article. I could do the same thing I have done, for I don't know how many years, and what is that? The Route 66 Special Event stations information. You can get all that information in QST under "Special Events" or on the ARRL web site.



When the mail came I received a certificate that gave me the idea which follows. Special events are very important to the people providing them and the people making the contacts. The certificate that arrived was from the Grumman Amateur Radio Club. It commemorated the Apollo 11 Moon Landing. Grumman was the manufacturer of the Lunar Lander's motors, no motor failed to fire and return the astronauts to the space shuttle.

I started thinking back to when space was the "Next Frontier".

On a Saturday evening in October 1957, I was at the Ramsey -vs- Hawthorne High Schools Alumni Football game. As the second half started with Ramsey (my High School) losing, time was called and the lights turned off. All fans were instructed to look skyward and we watched the passage of Sputnik. The space age was upon us. FYI Ramsey lost the game.

We all remember names such as Shepard and Glenn but the greatest of events occurred on July 20, 1969. Apollo 11's Lunar Lander set down at Tranquility Base on the moon. That night I watched, as did millions of others, man walking on the moon. Thirty-one years later, we entered another phase of space exploration with the manning of the Space Station. With the recent addition of the Japanese module, the Space Station is complete. What is next? Just remember, "Today's future is tomorrow's past."

There have been many special event stations celebrating each step along the way. The certificates shown here are just two of the many that amateur radio has been honored to participate in. Hear you in the pile-up!



Joe, W8KNO

Charlie the Tuner's HF High Lites

Whoa! September??!! Where has the year gone?! Yes, we still have a lot of mild weather left, but it is still a shock to think that fall will be upon us before this month is done. There are a lot of things happening in the DX world and we have got a High Lites column that is full of interesting places that will be activated for us to work.



We even have a PSK Contest to talk about for those of you who enjoy digital modes. So let's start with that contest and I'll give you as much info as I have on it.

First, I want to thank 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).

PSK Contest The European PSK Club (EPC) has the honor to invite the radio amateurs all over the world to participate in the "2009 CIS DX QPSK63 Contest" (September 19-20th). This year's contest is being handled completely by the EPC. They would like to invite you to take part in the contest, the rules and other information can be found on the Web site at: <http://www.cisdx.srars.org>. It is strictly a QPSK63 contest now, no other modes are allowed. The maximum output power is 100 watts. Georgia has been removed from the CIS Regions List. Moldova now has only 4 regions (MD01, MD02, MD03, and MD04). Kyrgyzstan has new additional territorial unit - Osh City (KG09). Please do not confuse this list with their EU Areas list, this is a completely different story. "All the very best and see you all in the Contest! 73!"... European PSK Club CIS DX QPSK63 Contest Committee www.cisdx.srars.org epc@scotham.net

DX News

3D2, FIJI - SP5EAQ and SP5DRH will be active as 3D2MJ and 3D2KJ, respectively, from Viti Levu (OC-016), starting October 1st for four weeks. Activity will be on all bands, but with an emphasis on the lower bands. They plan to use two stations with small amps and vertical antennas. QSL via their home call signs.

4W, TIMOR-LESTE - Currently, two operators are active from here. CT1GPQ, now active as 4W6AL, will be there until October 3rd. This is "NOT A DXpedition"! CT1GPQ is in Timor-Leste with a medical team and radio operations will take place only during his spare time. He was heard this past weekend on 20 meters CW at various times between 0800-1300z. QSL via Toze, CT1GFK. Online log is now available at: <http://algarvedx.com> Second operator is VK4FR, now active as 4W6FR, will be there until mid-October. He is also on a work assignment. Chris was heard this past weekend mainly on 30 and 20 meters using PSK31. QSL 4W6FR via VK4FW.

5B, CYPRUS - HA3JB, will be active as 5B/HG3IPA between September 25th and October 2nd. This is a new IPA activation and is valid for HA-IPARC Award (Hungarian International Police Association). Find IPARC Award info at: <http://www.ha3jb.com/award.html> Gab plans to be in the CQWW RTTY Contest (September 26-27th). Online log will be available on his Web page at: <http://www.ha3jb.com>

9H, MALTA - Members of the Dutch Society of Radio Amateurs (VRZA) will once again be active using their special call sign 9H9PA from Qawra between September 5-28th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via PB9ZR, by the Bureau or direct to: Ruben van der Zwet, Van Speykstraat 238, 2161 VT Lisse, The Netherlands. NO IRC coupons, they are not valid anymore in the Netherlands (2 USDs only).

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 – (Continued 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 call sign.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA - JJ2CJB/AC2AI will be active as 9M6/JJ2CJB from "Langkah Syabas Beach Resort" located near the city of Kota Kinabalu on the Island of Borneo (OC-088) for the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 24-25th). He plans to run 400 watts into a Force12 C4 beam. QSL via LoTW, e-QSL or the JA Bureau.

AH0, MARIANA ISLANDS - W1FPU (7L1FPU) and his nine-year son KH0UA (JF1UCV), N2QP (JQ1OCR), his wife KE7TWK, AH0BR and W1NDE will be active from the Mariana Islands between September 4-7th. Activity will include a Multi/Multi entry in the All Asian DX SSB Contest (September 5-6th) as AH0BT. QSL via 7L1FPU, by the Bureau and direct.

EA6, BALEARIC ISLANDS (EU-004). AA5UK, will be active as EA6/AA5UK from Ibiza (JM09tb), October 14-29th. Activity will be holiday style on 160-10 meters using mostly SSB and various Digital modes. Also, look for satellite activity on various birds. He will also be active during CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 24-25th). QSL via his home call sign, by the bureau, LoTW or eQSL.

FT/G, GLORIOSO ISLAND (Update). F5OGL, Glorioso 2009 team leader, announced on August 19th, that "the Glorioso 2009 team has in hand the flight tickets from Paris CdG to the St. Denis Reunion Island airport. The departure is scheduled on September 11th and the return on October 8th. The information about the French Forces Transall flight from Saint Denis to Grande Glorieuse will be published as soon as the FASZOI Hq will have confirmed them. (FASZOI = French Armed Forces for the South Indian Ocean Zone) The stay on Grand Glorieuse is considered having about three weeks length. All the gear has been picked up and is now ready packed on pallets to be sent to the Reunion island in the next few days. Thanks especially for that to the Provins ARC, F6KOP members Serge, F6AML and Frank, F4AJQ." For more details and updates, visit the FT5GA Web page at: <http://glorieuses2008.free.fr>

HL9, SOUTH KOREA (Update/Attention PFX Hunters!). KE7WRJ, will be here for over 2 months starting September 9th. He plans to be active as HL9QST, September 10th, but no later than 11th. This is a rare prefix only assigned to U.S. Service members assigned to Korea. His tentative schedule is to operate from 4 different locations in South Korea as follows: Sept 10-12th: Seoul, Sept 14-24th: Camp Casey, Sept 25th-October 18th: Camp Humphreys, Oct 19-29th: Camp Carroll, Oct 30th-Nov 13th: Seoul. Activity will be on 40-10 meters, depending on the propagation, using CW and SSB. Operations will be at least 8 hours a day during the week and longer over the weekends. Look for him to be in both the Extra and General portions of the bands. His equipment will consist of a 5000A by Flex Radio, a "3 element Yagi in a Bag" from Super Antennas. QSL via KE7WRJ, direct or LoTW.

LX, LUXEMBOURG - PA1TK, PA5WT and PA3GVI will be active as LX/homecall between September 4-7th. Look for Kees and Rob to focus on the HF bands between 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. While Theo operates in the IARU VHF Contest on 144 MHz (2m). QSL via their home call signs.

P29, PAPUA NEW GUINEA - VK2GR, will be active as P29CW from the Western Province between September and December. Activity will be only during his spare time because he is there working with "Australian Doctors International" (ADI - <<http://www.adi.org.au>>). Due to the limited availability of power, Allan may not be active on the many field trips during his stay. QSL direct to Tommy, VK2IR, with 3 USDs or new IRCs. PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT send QSLs to the Papua New Guinea address.

T31, CENTRAL KIRIBATI - N3BQR, will be on a research trip to Phoenix Island (OC-043) and expects to be active as T31AA between September 10-25th. Part of his research will involve Craig trying to land on at least six of the eight islands in the chain, although this is subject to local sea state conditions. Activity is expected on 20 meters SSB using vertical and/or dipole. QSL route to be announced later.

TI5, COSTA RICA - WW4LL and EW1AR/NP3D will be active as TI5/homecall between September 23-28th. Activity will be on all bands using RTTY, SSB, and perhaps some CW. QSL via LoTW, also direct per QRZ.com address.

XW, LAOS - XW1B, will be active during the CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 28-29th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via E21EIC.

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 unavailable 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

CE0Y, EASTER ISLAND (SA-001). Amateur Stations SQ8X and SV2KBS are planning to be active as CE0Y/homecall 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-008 - Isle of Islay - G3IZD, G0HIK and G7MRL will be active as GM3IZD, GM0HIK and GM7MRL, respectively, from the Isle of Islay (IOSA NH22, SCOTIA CS25, WLOTA L-1826) between September 12-18th. Activity will be on all HF bands,

propagation permitting. QSL direct only to each operator's home call sign.

EU-125 Romo Island - DK5NA, will be active as 5Q5NA from Romo Island (NS-001 for the Danish islands award), between September 6-25th. Activity will be on all bands, propagation permitting. QSL via his home call sign, bureau is preferred.

EU-172 Samsøe Island - DL2VFR, will be active as OZ0FR/p from the Vesborg Fyr Lighthouse (DEN-046) on Samsøe Island (DIA JY-008) between now and September 4th. Activity will be mostly CW on all HF bands. He was spotted this past weekend on 30 meters. QSL via DL2VFR, by the bureau or direct. DO NOT QSL via the OZ Bureau.

JD/O, OGASAWARA - JI5RPT (JD1BLY) and JO2JDJ (JD1BLP) will be active from Chichijima Island (IOTA AS-031) between September 19-22nd. Activity will be on 40-6 meters using the satellites, CW, SSB and Digi modes. QSL via their home call signs. Log search for JD1BLY will be available on the following Web site: <http://www.ji5rpt.com/jd1/>

OC-127 Rennell Island - Reports indicate that operators KM9D (H44MY) and KF4TUG (H44TO) are now lying anchor at Tesauma, Rennell Island. They might be active soon. QSL via OM2SA

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>

LAST BUT NOT LEAST:

ZK2 Niue – JM1CAX will be active as ZK2NX between September 19-25th. Activity should be on all bands, especially 30/17/12 meters, mostly CW, but some SSB. QSL via JM1CAX by the Bureau or direct.

That's it for September. There seems to be a lot of activity planned for this month, so don't miss any of it if at all possible. For now, 73 and gud DX to all.

Chuck, W8PT

Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday Celebration

The Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday celebration is back! This year, the ARRL is honoring the 140th anniversary of the birth of the League's first president and cofounder. Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was born September 2, 1869 and died February 17, 1936, in a Colorado hospital of complications stemming from a throat infection; his widow died just nine days later.

The operating event is open to all amateurs, and the goal is straightforward: Find the stations adding /140 to their call signs, and contact as many as possible during the event period, September 2-9. Who is eligible to sign /140? ARRL members who hold ARRL appointments, ARRL elected volunteers (such as ARRL Directors and Section Managers), ARRL Life Members, ARRL Headquarters staff and VEs, AECs, QSL bureau workers and awards managers (who are ARRL members). The complete list of eligible positions can be found on page 20 of the September 2009 issue of *QST*. If you work at least 25 /140 stations, an attractive certificate can be yours! The certificate can be endorsed in increments of 25 QSOs, up to 100.



Time Period: 0000 UTC September 2 until 2400 UTC September 9.

Exchange: All stations signing /140 send RS(T), their appointment and their name; others send RS(T) and their name.

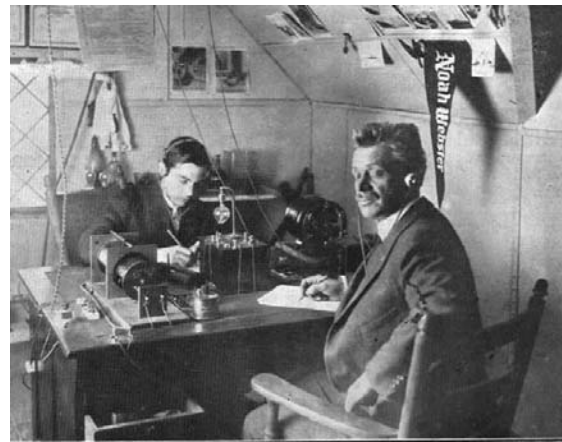
Eligibility: All amateur stations may participate. ARRL Life Members, and those persons holding ARRL appointments, elected positions or ARRL HQ staff, may add /140 to their call signs for the duration of the celebration. Volunteer Examiners, Assistant Emergency

Coordinators, QSL Bureau workers, Registered Instructors and Awards Managers who are ARRL members are also invited to participate.

Miscellaneous: /140 stations may be contacted on any band or mode for credit. You can work a station once per band and mode. Repeater contacts are valid for credit, but please be considerate of the users during a repeater's busy periods.

All /140 stations are encouraged to be as active as possible on local repeaters and nets. The certificate is available for making at least 25 contacts with /140 stations, with endorsement increments of 25, and a maximum endorsement of 100. To receive the award, send in a log extract with the date, time, band, call sign worked and exchange for each /140 contact. Include your name, call sign and address, and tell us how many /140 stations you worked. Mail everything to HPM/140 Celebration, c/o W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494. You can also send in your entry on a disk or CD in regular text format. All entries must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$5 (US) payable to ARRL. Please make sure your entry is postmarked by October 9, 2009.

HPM (right)--in 1915 and then in his mid 40s--and an unidentified operator at Maxim's 1ZM rotary spark gap station in Hartford, Connecticut. Maxim's personal setup also served as the first ARRL Headquarters station. "The receiving station outfit consists of a large loose coupler by means of which I can get very accurate tuning, an Audion Detector and variable condenser," he said. "The two sets of phones are usually connected in. The Transmitting sets consists of a 1 K. W. specially made transformer, glass plate condenser, oscillation transformer, ¼ H. P. General Electric Company motor running specially built quenched rotary spark-gap." [Courtesy John Dilks, K2TQN]



From the ARRL

Many local hams will be able to add the "/140" suffix to their calls during the HPM/140 so it sure not be hard for you to make the 25 contacts needed for the certificate. If you are one of the League members eligible to use the "/140" suffix during the event please make sure to do so! Let's see how many PCARS members can qualify for the event certificate.

Hamfests

12 Sep 2009 - Great Lakes Division Symposium - Findlay Center for Business and Technology - 1700 Fostoria Avenue - Findlay, OH - Findlay Radio Club - <http://www.w8ft.org> - Talk-In: 147.15/75 - Contact: Bill Kelsey, N8ET - 3521 Spring Lake Drive - Findlay, OH 45840-9073 - Phone: 419-423-4604 - Email: n8et@arrl.net

13 Sep 2009 - Findlay Radio Club - Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH - Talk-In: 147.15/75 - Contact: Bill Kelsey, N8ET - 3521 Spring Lake Drive - Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-423-4604 - Email: n8et@arrl.net - <http://www.findlayradioclub.org>

13 Sep 2009 - Butler County Amateur Radio Association - Unionville Fire Department Grounds - Butler, PA - Intersection of PA Rte 8 and Unionville Road - <http://w3udx.org> - Talk-In: 147.36/96 (PL 131.8) - Contact: Jim Love, W1JHL - 206 Reiber Road - Renfrew, PA 16053 - Phone: 724-482-2656 - Email: w1jhl@arrl.net

27 Sep 2009 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH - Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - <http://www.hac.org> - Talk-In: 146.73 (PL 110.9) - Contact: William Beckman, N8LXY - Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - PO 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 - Talk-In: 147.18/78 - Contact: Dan Anastis, N8DZM - 4770 12th Street SW - Canton, OH 44710 - Phone: 330-478-6149 - <http://www.marcradio.org> - Email: ddann@sbcglobal.net

EmComm

Locally we will have a busy Fall season for emcomm training and activity.

Rick, K8CAV/NNN0FKV, is the organizer for a Navy/Marine Corps MARS exercise scheduled for October 10th. The underlying scenario for the exercise is a pandemic flu outbreak that eventually compromises area communication systems that lack repairs as a result of service workers having fallen ill.



Navy/Marine Corps MARS will deploy two teams to the old Ravenna Arsenal site which is now owned and operated by the Ohio National Guard as a training facility. An Army MARS team will also deploy there as a backup. The MARS stations will provide medium and long haul communications for local agencies, primarily moving traffic via the Winlink system.

At the same time, there will be a simulated activation of Portage County RACES with teams of RACES members being deployed to service sites around the county. ARES of Portage County will also conduct a simultaneous drill, also serving local agencies and moving messages into the National Traffic System. Both the RACES and ARES activities will be premised on the flu pandemic.

Integral to this operation will be communications between all of these services: Army and Navy/Marine Corps MARS, RACES and ARES. The ability to move traffic from one system to the other will be tested.

This will be the first time that there has ever been a local exercise that will bring all of these units together. The event also coincides nicely with the ARRL's Simulated Emergency Test (SET) program. You can read more about the SET at the League's website, <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html>.



RACES and ARES are excellent programs for area hams to participate in to develop and apply the skills and radio privileges that they have been licensed to use. If you would like more information about either program contact me at aylwardjim@aol.com.



In addition to these local activities, Cuyahoga County ARES will be conducting a drill at Cleveland Hopkins Airport and nearby medical facilities. More information can be obtained from Jerry Steele, K8CMI, at gdsteele@yahoo.com.

Also, don't forget to check the Summit County ARES website, www.sumco-ares.org, for upcoming public service events that may need volunteers.

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



PCARS Works Public Service

This year of events I coordinate is over, though There are still opportunities for service at several more events.

We started with the biggest - the Cleveland Marathon on the same weekend as the Dayton Hamvention! We got the job done and managed to man the course adequately. Next was the Headwaters Adventure Triathlon in Mantua, which ended in torrential rain. Those who worked are listed on the Portage County Parks & Rec web site. The 1st annual Black Squirrel Adventure Race followed. We finished up with Bellefaire Biathlon.

Communications for all events went smoothly, with the usual problem of determining the last entrant on the course.

PCARS members who worked all or at least some of the events are: KC8PD, NT8K, KB8AMZ, KD8JCY, WD8BIW, KC8YYs, KB8TUY, N8KBX, KD8FLV

The Headwaters and Black Squirrel events utilized the N8EQJ repeater with excellent results, thanks to Ed for helping with codes and setup. KC8PD used a cross-band repeater for Headwaters that enabled HT's to access the repeater from Camp Hi, which is a low spot.

The Headwaters Adventure Triathlon is becoming a premier event with many perks for volunteers - ask Jim KC8PD how he liked the Oreo cookies! We were included in the door prize drawing and some of us won a T-shirt, cookies, or a hat, in addition to the volunteer T-shirt.

I think we all had fun - I know I did. Thank you to all who helped out. The event organizers all praised your contribution and appreciated your input and suggestion for improvement for next year. There are more events listed on the Summit County ARES web site.

Gay, WB8VNO



First 2 Meter Sprint

This was the first year I participated in the 2 Meter Sprint, and it was a blast! There were a few things I learned on my 2 Meter Sprint adventure.

1. Doing the 2 Meter Sprint by yourself is tough! You either need to have a logger or a driver to help out. I found that I missed a number of contacts because I couldn't easily pull off the road every 5 minutes as I heard others moving from zone to zone.
2. Turn on your APRS if you got it! DOH! My Kenwood D-710 has APRS capabilities and at the end of the contest I thought of turning it on. It would have been neat to go back and view the map of my driving route. Next year!
3. The club station can talk and hear all of Portage county. No matter what area I was in throughout Portage County, I could hear the booming voice of KD8CKP!
4. Duct tape is your friend. As I approached Mantua Corners my windshield wiper (which is only a month old) decided to break! No way I was going to lose valuable time trying to purchase a new one. Two minutes later I was on the road making contacts once again.
5. You can make contacts pretty far away on simplex! Up until the Sprint, I had never really had the opportunity to see how far my 50W could be heard without the help of a repeater. I've now got a pretty good idea on how far two mobiles can reach on simplex.
6. Drakesburg and Blackhorse don't count.
7. Reset the trip meter. It would have been nice to know how many miles I drove that day.
8. Al, KB8VJL is capable of inner-dimension quantum time travel and can be in two places at the same time.
9. The GPS is your friend. Some of the areas in Portage county I had never been. The GPS certainly made it nice when moving from place to place. Next year though, I think I'll do some pre-planning and map out a route.
10. Using Diamond's Gentleman's club as a stopping point to make contacts can prove hazardous. I didn't seem to get many more contacts in the log after stopping there, and it is difficult to explain to the XYL how glitter is utilized in ham radio...



All that being said, the Two Meter Sprint is a really fun event. If you've not participated in it, you should give it a try.

73,

Steve, K8SRR

Ohio QSO Party - 2009

This year we kept our plans flexible for a club station entry in the Ohio QSO Party. Since renovations are still underway in the radio room of the club site it was not going to be available. But we still wanted to operate from the club shack.

The solution was to set up two stations and use them as a demo and learning experience for PCARS members who may be new to contesting. This way we could keep the operation low-key: no pressure and all fun.

The club trailer was rolled out into the parking lot with a portable mast braced next to it as the center support for a 40/80 meter dipole. The station in the trailer was battery powered and kept to those two bands. Another station operated in the garage using a G5RV that was center supported by the pulley on the tower with activity pretty much limited to twenty meters. The ends of both antennas were held up by portable masts.

Both stations were on the air at noon and at least for an hour or so band conditions weren't too bad. After one o'clock or so they deteriorated badly. The noise went up and the signals went down. Ah well... that's radio.

Combined, the stations had over seventy-five contacts. Tim, KD8ICP, got his feet wet as a contester on the twenty meter station and the high point of his time on the air was working a special event station on a submarine in Oklahoma. Yes, you read that correctly.

Bill, WB9LBI, stopped by along with XYL Robin and the family beagle, as well as Noah (whose future call sign will be N0AH) the son of Al Craig who has been Bill's guest at a club meeting and who helped at the club site paint party. It took Bill about two minutes to sit down at the 40/80 station, switch to CW, and promptly make a contact using the mic button to send code. The guy is amazing.

Another high point came while Russ, KD8LDY, was logging for the 40/80 station. He looked up to see his XYL drive in followed by his brother Buzz and his wife who had driven here from Texas. Although they stay in touch regularly, this was the first they had seen each other in about four years. It made for a nice reunion. Check out the pictures, think there is a family resemblance?

Other visitors and participants included Bob, N8QE, Leon, N8GLK, Dan, KD8EPA, Mike, KB8TUY, and Mike, KC8UNR. Tear down started around four o'clock and everyone agreed that a good time had been had by all.



Dave, WB2DFC
Jim, KC8PD

Mobile Cruise-In

We are all familiar with cruise-in events at restaurants, drive-ins, or other venues, where participants bring their cars, trucks, motorcycles, whatever, to display and compete for awards. The owners of the vehicles take pride in their efforts to restore, modify or otherwise spruce them up and enjoy displaying them as much as the spectators enjoy seeing them.

Well you know what? So do ham radio operators who have put time, effort and more than a few dollars into their mobile radio installations. That was the spark for an idea here at PCARS to hold our first Mobile Radio Cruise-In.



Ted Roen, the owner/operator of the A&W Restaurant in Ravenna, Ohio, graciously agreed to allow PCARS to use the large spare parking lot adjacent to the restaurant. If you are not familiar with A&W it is a franchised root beer/drive-in restaurant operation. A flier was created by Tom, KB8UUZ, and it was sent along with a brief news article to the ham radio club newsletter editors in the surrounding counties. Fliers were also posted at the AES Cleveland store and at area hamfests and distributed by PCARS members.

The event was scheduled to run from five to nine in the evening. We arrived early to set up a canopy and tables for a radio to assist with "talk-ins" as well as posting fliers for the club and our Fall Technician course. The weather was perfect for an Ohio August evening. When the first participants showed up before five o'clock we knew things were looking good for this first-time event.

The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club was holding one of its biweekly Fox Hunts that night and Gay, WB8VNO, the sly fox, parked in the A&W lot where she was eventually found by all the hunters.

All together there were nearly fifty vehicles and almost seventy attendees from a half-dozen counties. Seventeen vehicles (including one motorcycle) were entered in the Best Installation contest. Tom, KB8UUZ did the judging and used a long list to check everyone's vehicles. Prizes were given for the top five, including an AES gift certificate for the winner, Matt, W8DEC, plus A&W mugs and PCARS coffee cups for the runners-up.

It was a great evening of ham radio camaraderie and fun, with positive feedback from everyone. Thanks again to Ted Roen and A&W! This was a load of fun and PCARS plans on making this an annual event.

Jim, KC8PD

Mobile Cruise-In Winners:

PCARS "Cruise-In" - August 5, 2009



1st - W8DEC

2nd - W8ZL

3rd - N8RLG

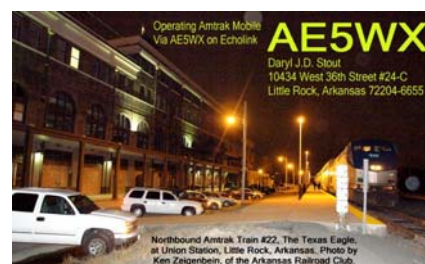
4th - N8ONI

5th - WB2DFC

Editor's Note: The ARRL Club Newsletter, dated August 15, 2009 which is edited by our friend at ARRL - Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, had Jim's information on the Cruise-In! So clubs all over the world know how much fun we had at the PCARS Cruise-In !!

Amtrak Echolink Mobile

Just like when I went to the Austin Summerfest and ARRL Texas State Convention in August, I will be Echolink Amtrak Mobile on selected days in September. Because I don't know aircard conditions or whether the train will be on schedule or not, all I can say is look for "Amtrak Mobile" under the AE5WX callsign, node 51800.



I'm scheduled to leave Little Rock on Monday, Sept. 14, and will be heading to San Diego with my Mom on a special trip. I'll arrive in San Diego on Wednesday, Sept. 16, and leave there on Sunday, Sept. 20...arriving back in Little Rock early on Wednesday, Sept. 23.

Location wise, operations will likely be in the "urban areas" ... such as Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, El Paso, and San Diego (I'll be changing trains in Los Angeles). I will operate with the laptop and aircard from the Sleeping Car compartment, and then from the hotel when I get to San Diego. There is a chance I'll be able to check into the PCARS Net on Thursday, Sept. 17, since San Diego is 3 hours behind Ohio, time wise...but, I'll have to see what the schedule is out there. I also may visit the HRO store while there.

Daryl, AE5WX

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in September:

KD8LEB	Alan Zielinski, Sr.
WB8VYW	Mike Hutsler
WD8BIW	Karen Warner
KD8FME	Jim Conlin
KD8HGI	Frank Sheline III
KD8JRE	Michael Harris

N8KBX	Bob Magree
N8RLG	Robert Gurney
NT8K	Bob Whiddon
KC8UNR	Mike Cibella
KD8VT	James Andrews
KC8KYW	John Kametz

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.



Skywarn Update

Weather this year hasn't been as bad as compared to some around the country but this is Ohio and the old adage "wait 5 minutes and it will change" still rings true.



Portage County Skywarn was activated twice in August as severe weather moved through the county. On August 10th we had a severe line of thunderstorms that popped up during the heat of the day which is pretty common this time of year. Ten spotters checked in observing and reporting conditions until the storms moved through and into Mahoning and Trumbull counties accounting for seventy minutes of net time.

August 20th was a little different. I observed on the NWS prognosis charts the night before that instability was going to make it a real interesting day and the NWS hit it on the head again issuing severe thunderstorm watch 721 for the area until 2200 EDT.

That day, severe thunderstorm warnings were issued for nearby Medina, Wayne and Summit counties as well as Portage. The NWS added a tornado warning for Portage County around 1845 EDT when Doppler radar indicated a tornado in the Mogadore area moving northeast. There was a subsequent report of a rotating wall cloud south of the Ravenna area.

We were fortunate that neither formed funnels as they retreated back into the clouds but county-wide, the net assembled 29 spotters which gave us excellent coverage to just about everywhere in the county which is critical to filling in the gaps between communities when monitoring storm progress. Net time for this session totaled seventy-five minutes and our efforts were not only reported by local TV stations but also on The Weather Channel the following morning!

Nice work by everyone and a special thanks to Dave, N8KBC, for providing NWS liaison info on the 440 link and also to Sandy, KD8JCY for acting as liaison to Mahoning County. I listen to other Skywarn nets in district 5 and each have their own particular way of doing things but Portage County can go head to head with the best of them and all the good comments I hear about net operation are a direct result of the spotters and their training that help make it that way!

Again I would like to ask all trained spotters to provide me with their Skywarn spotter numbers. I have about 18 already but I am sure more are out there. Your spotter number, when included with a report to the NWS provides them with the precise location where the report came from. It also helps me to advise stations in the path of the storm what to look out for and to take the proper precautions. You can send that information to me at wb8yys@arrl.net.

73, Keep your eyes on the skies and ear to the radio....

Gregg, WB8YYS
AEC, ARES of Portage County
Portage County Skywarn Coordinator

Fall Technician Class

It's that time again. The PCARS Technician License class will begin on Tuesday, September 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Family & Community Services office building at 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna, which is also the location of the PCARS club site. The rest of the class sessions will be held in the radio room at the club site.

By moving the class from Maplewood to the club's facility we are able to reduce the cost (it will be \$25.00 for the course) and hold the class at a location with an operating amateur radio station. This is terrific opportunity to familiarize the students with actual radio operations.

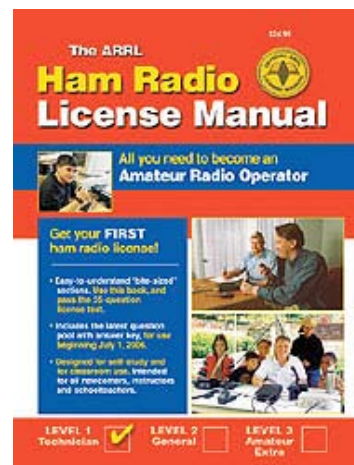
Another new feature is that every student in the class will also receive a one-year (2010) membership in PCARS! They can join us at club meetings and activities and immediately be involved in the hobby.

Please take the time to spread the word about the class and post or distribute the course flier. Registration will be held the first night of the class and the Technician Manuals will be available for \$25.00. Anyone with questions can contact me at KC8PD@portcars.org or 330-297-7979.

This is the ninth class that Tom, WB8LCD, Russ, KB8DPN, and I will be teaching. It's hard to believe that there have already been eight classes. But there are fifty or so hams out there that first got licensed after taking the course and seeing them and hearing them on the air makes for a regular and very satisfying reminder of why we do this.

As always, PCARS members are always welcome to participate in the class presentations or stop by to share their experience with the students and to offer them encouragement.

(See the flier on Page 29)



Jim, KC8PD

Amateur Extra Class Coming Up

There will be an Amateur Extra Class in the Youngstown area starting on February 24, 2010 with VE testing on April 21, 2010. This will be held at the EMA in Youngstown. For information contact Allan Avnet, AB8AA, phone 330-549-3051, cell 330-207-3296 or e-mail at AB8AA@portcars.org. I know this is early but anyone interested should get their book and start studying.

Allan, AB8AA

Website Counter - Going for DXCC

Have you checked out the new counter on the PCARS website? Toward the end of July I found this counter and thought it would be real nifty for a ham related website. I gave the info to our webmaster - Steve, K8SRR and he got it installed and running around July 28th or so. Anyway, it not only keeps track of how many visitors come to the PCARS web site - it also keeps track of which countries they came from!

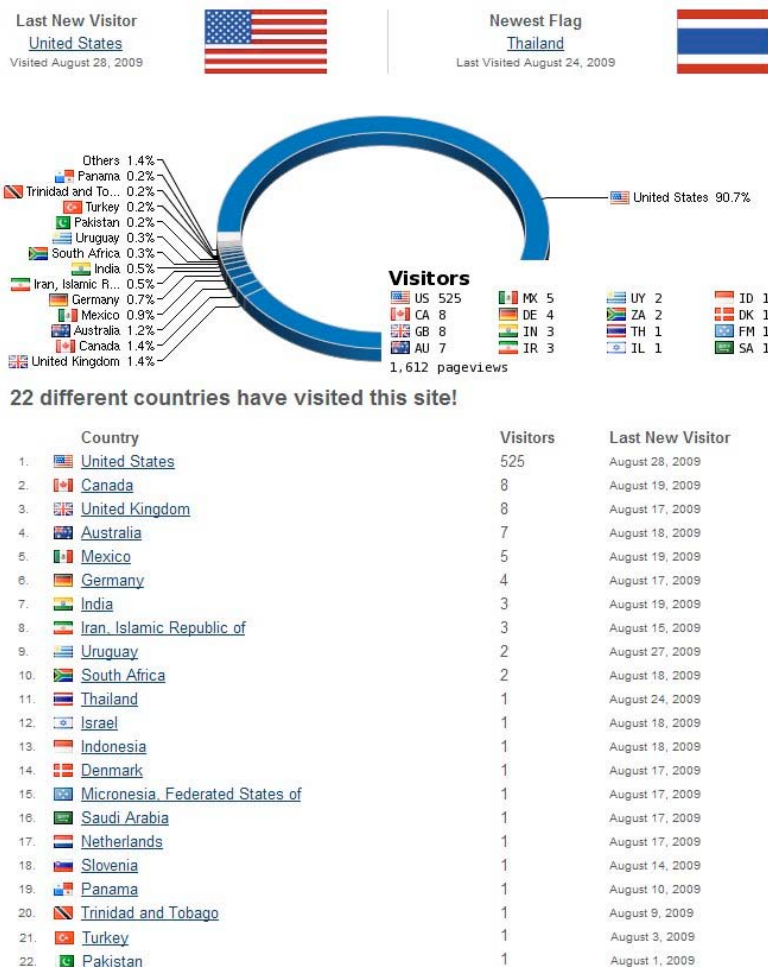
It also breaks it down and lets you know how many visitors from each country have visited our website.

So, as of August 29th we have had 1,612 page views from 22 countries.

Obviously the top country is the USA. I wonder how long before we reach 100 different countries?

That will be a website DXCC!!

Tom, KB8UUZ



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 !



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



October	
10/01	N8QE
10/08	KD8FLZ
10/15	N8RLG
10/22	KD8ICR
10/29	W8PT

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

December	
12/03	N8RLG
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

The Bears of Manchester and Other Field Day Creatures

The ARRL has listed all of the 2,627 stations that submitted Field Day logs this year. No scores have been announced yet, but just the names of the clubs and groups makes for entertaining reading. Here are some of my favorites:

Bears of Manchester	Jingle Jims
Bear Mountain QRP Group	Derangers
Bear Bait RC	Fly Spotter Swatters
BEARONS	Mike & Key ARC
Boars RC	Carbon ARC
Mayerthorpe Flying Tigers	Smith Chart ARS
Neurosa's Gopher Munchers	Discrete Components of 955
Parrottville Crackers	The 570-V Connection
LeFrog	Federation of Amateur Transmitters
Mulebarn Club	Operators of Portable Radio Equipment
Radio Farm	On the Rincon
Jack and Gary	Thin Air Radio Society
Those Two Guys	FARCE
The Gene And Dawn Field Day Couple	STOOKS
Three Manly Men	IOOK Family Affair
3 Amigos	MNARC/DCARA/DELCO DUG/MOBILE 6ERS
Three Guys & A Girl	RADOPS of El Jebel Shrine
Three Physicist and a Salesman	The Hapless Dinks
Hams 4 Hammurabi	Merrymeeting ARA
The Sakonnet 49'ers	The Alaskhams
Team Zone 2	Idaho Potato Contest Group
The Bedrock Few	Arizona Outlaws Contest Club
The Villagees	Oshkosh Wave Makers
Sultans of Sweat	Rocky Mountain Telegraphers
Rifles & Radios	Zuni Loop Mtn Expeditionary Force
Murphy's Law	The Underground Discharge FD Group
Murphy and Me	The Purveyors of Doom
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	Int'l Radio Consortium of the Mystical Town of Waugh
The Flood Street Irregulars	The Rained-Out Huachuca Mountaineers
USS Jurassic ARC & Star Trek Club	The Redneck Riviera Radio Sport Models
Seaside Tsunami ARS	Order of Boiled Owls of NY
Zombie Works	Greater Montgomery Beer Chowder & Propagation Society

And 39 entries listed under "Missing Data - Please Contact ARRL"

Bill, WB9LBI

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

September Contest Calendar

September 2009	
Ohio State Parks On The Air	1600Z-2400Z, Sep 12
ARRL September VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14
European PSK Club CIS DX-QPSK63	1200Z, Sep 19 to 1200Z Sept 20
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 19 to 2400 local, Sep 20
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 19 to 2400Z, Sep 20
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 21
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 26 to 2000Z, Sep 27
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 28

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!



Congrats to **W8KNO** for being # 1 in the PCARS entries in the 2009 ARRL International DX Contest:

2009 ARRL - International DX Contest - March 7/8, 2009

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Pwr	1-Band	160 QSO	160 Mult	80 QSO	80 Mult	40 QSO	40 Mult	20 QSO	20 Mult	15 QSO	15 Mult	10 QSO	10 Mult
1	W8KNO	75,762	213	122	B		2	2	5	5	58	40	116	56	32	19	0	0
2	KB8UUZ	74,865	221	115	B		1	1	24	23	17	13	156	63	23	15	0	0
3	NX8G	19,992	100	68	B		1	1	8	7	6	6	52	32	32	21	1	1
4	KB8VJL	4,902	43	38	B		0	0	2	2	8	7	22	19	10	9	1	1
5	K8QF	2,025	28	25	C		0	0	14	13	4	4	10	8	0	0	0	0
6	N8QE	192	9	8	A	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	8	0	0
7	KD8GWY	6	2	2	C	40	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Totals	177,744	616	378														

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

October 3 - December 5 - February 6, 2010 - April 3, 2010 - June 5, 2010 - august 7, 2010

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

Club Site Update

PCARS was fortunate to be able to obtain a “home” for our operations and activities at the former ODOT facility in Ravenna, now under the control of Family & Community Services. To make our space usable, we needed to wait for F&CS to get to the renovation of that building, and unfortunately, it has been one of the last for them to get done. The good news is that they have finally got to it and we now have heat and restrooms available to us!

Last month you saw that PCARS members had painted the exterior of the building. Jim, KC8PD has been diligent at getting the trim done and some of the other items that just make the job look more finished – and it looks good!



Mike, KD8FLZ, Mike, KB8TUY, Mike, KC8UNR (*editor's note - I guess you name has to be Mike to work on ceiling lights...*), Russ, KD8LDY and Tom, WB8LCD have been working on the renovation of the main club room. A suspended ceiling has been installed, along with lighting to make the space usable. The next step will be to get new carpet installed. Jim, KC8PD is working on that, so if you have any carpet connections please get that information to Jim. Once the floor is down, Tom, Russ and the 3 Mikes will move back in to build operating desks around the perimeter of the room.



Once the renovation is complete, we'll have a nice, multipurpose room for lots of activities. Looking to the future, we'll want to have HF equipment as well as VHF equipment so that we can operate from the club site without having to drag stuff from home. We'll be using the club station for operating events and contests. We'll be using the club room for other activities such as construction projects and special meetings that have been held at the Center of Hope or F&CS facilities in the past.

Although there's still much to be done, it's nice to know PCARS has it's own home!

Tom, WB8LCD

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.



Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- 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



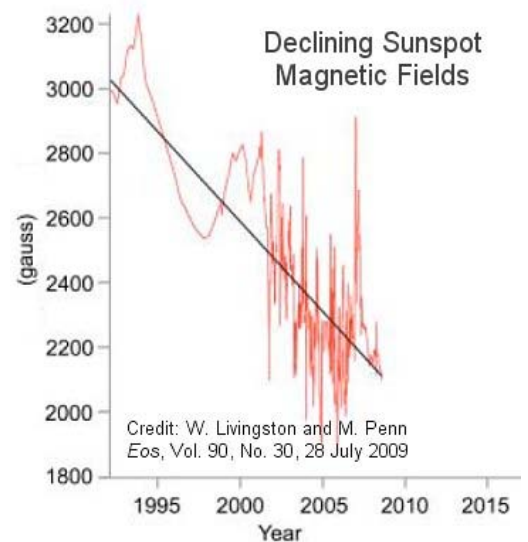
Are Sunspots Disappearing?

Sunspots are made of magnetism. The "firmament" of a sunspot is not matter but rather a strong magnetic field that appears dark because it blocks the upflow of heat from the sun's fiery depths. Without magnetism, there would be no sunspots.

That's what makes the following graph a little troubling:

According to Bill Livingston and Matt Penn of the National Solar Observatory in Tucson, Arizona, sunspot magnetic fields are waning. The two respected solar astronomers have been measuring solar magnetism since 1992. Their technique is based on Zeeman splitting of infrared spectral lines emitted by iron atoms in the vicinity of sunspots. Extrapolating their data into the future suggests that sunspots could completely disappear within decades. That would be a bummer for Spaceweather.com.

Don't count out sunspots just yet, however. While the data of Livingston and Penn are widely thought to be correct, far-reaching extrapolations may be premature. This type of measurement is relatively new, and the data reaches back less than 17 years. "Whether this is an omen of long-term sunspot decline, analogous to the Maunder Minimum, remains to be seen," they cautioned.



NASA
spaceweather.com

Fun with Public Service Events

It's 0430 in the morning. The alarm clock is annoying me. Opening my eyes a crack, I see it's still dark outside. I'm tired. Didn't I just go to bed at 2300? I put the snooze on. Just 10 minutes is all I need. I start to go back to sleep. With a sudden start, I opened my eyes with the realization of why I had set the clock so early Sunday morning! Today, I was to volunteer for communications for the Bellefaire JCB Biathlon in Cleveland.

I had to get up and shower. All the while, I think of the list of items I need to take with me. I had my "go" kit ready... well at least most of it. Let's see.... HT, spare battery pack, extra batteries, credentials. I switch the HT from the inside antenna to my rubber duck antenna. Yes, the radio has a full charge. Would it be hot, cold, rainy, sunny? What do I need to protect me from the elements? Sunscreen, bug spray, rain gear... It's cool today. Better dress in long pants and t-shirt with a light jacket available.

"Hurry up!" I tell myself. You have to be leaving by 0545 to be sure you have time to travel, check in and get in place before the race starts at 0800. I got to change out some of this stuff in the backpack because there isn't enough room for everything. I don't know if I will be near my car or will have to walk a ways away. Batteries, yes, lots of batteries! Here's the clipboard, legal pad and pencils. Better have some drinks and a snack ready in case I need it. Boy, this back pack is heavy!

OK. The car is loaded. Set the GPS to the coordinates of the school where other hams will be also meeting WB8VNO to check in. Problem is, it is now 0610. I'm later than I had planned to leave. Sure hope I will not have any delays in travel. Yes, I can still make it in time. Sunday traffic should be light.

I arrive at Bellefaire JCB to see the entire parking lot full. Holy smokes! Where is WB8VNO? I fire up my trusty FT-8800 and see if she is on the air and find out her location. Of course, flaggers had directed me to the

east most auxiliary parking area and she is in the west end. Well, I donned my back pack and my radio and hiked to the west parking area. Could I find her? No. Is she at a table? In her car? Embarrassed because I couldn't find her, I called to her to admit I couldn't find her. I wasn't far off. Just not far enough into the west parking lot to find her.

Getting my assignment and t-shirt, off I go to my assigned area. It was quite a nice area. I had a volunteer worker/flagger at my post and introduced myself to her. She was very nice. I had my ear piece in my ear, so I had to explain to her that when I laughed, I wasn't laughing at her or inappropriately. I was laughing at what was being said on the radio. The actual time spent at my post was not very long... maybe an hour and 15 minutes.



But, I REALLY had fun. I took a couple of pictures with my phone, so the pictures are not clear for things in motion. KC8PD was in the lead police vehicle with his very awesome mag mount antenna, power supply and all the gear he needed to communicate over a large area.



This picture is of some of the 400 entrants in the race.

This event involved quite a large group of paid workers and volunteers and several police departments as well as other safety forces. What a well put together event! Communications were terrific except in the farthest most area, where relay stations were able to convey messages as needed. I just love the cooperation, comradeship and good will of the amateur radio community. I am proud to be a part of it all. Many hours of preparation were used by the organizers, and I know, by the hams. Some of us prepared ourselves, but others prepared for us to be able to have a plan for communications. They thank US for helping THEM. I'd like to thank THEM for helping ME! You are helping me learn emergency communications, to be ready for an event (emergency or planned), to develop new friendships and go places that I may not have gone.

Have you ever thought YOU would like to have a little more fun with radio? Look into helping with public service events. It doesn't matter if you are a little rusty, a new ham or an experienced extra licensee. This is something FUN that you will find to do. You will feel good that you helped someone out and that will put a smile on your face.

Sandy, KD8JCY



Swap-N-Shop

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

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

Contact **Don** - 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. With hookup 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-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** - KB8UUZ@portcars.org or call 330-527-7609

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 330-221-9725

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 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** - 330-633-5408 or e-mail N8QE@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Square D QO230 30 Amp 240 Volt Breakers - 2 of them - \$10 each.

FOR SALE: Square D QOB220 20 Amp 240 Volt Bolt In Breakers - 3 of them - \$20 each

FOR SALE: Square D QOB260 60 Amp 240 Volt Bolt In Breaker - \$20

FOR SALE: Square D QOB2100 100 Amp 240 Volt Bolt In Breaker - \$40

FOR SALE: RFS Hardline - 533 Feet, 1-1/4" w/1 new N-female connector - \$1,000

FOR SALE: Generac G17500E Generator - 16 Gallon Fuel Tank - Rated 17,500 Watts 26250 Watt Surge, Provides continuous output of 72.9 Amps @ 240V/145.8 Amps @ 120 V and a motor starting surge of 109 Amps @ 240V/208 Amps @ 120V, includes a 60 Ampere Square D breaker & 50 feet of 6-3 SO cord. Total original cost was just a little over \$3000. Will sell for \$2,500.00
Contact: **James** - KD8VT@portcars.org

Word to the Wise

Penalty - The penalties assessed during log checking for a busted call, miss-copied exchange, or "not in the log" QSO are there to create an incentive for accurate copy. No, a penalty is NOT an accusation of cheating...it's just a "mistake fee" like the five yards assessed for an off sides infraction in football.

There is a lot of confusion about what the penalty consists of: First, the bad QSO is removed, as should be expected. Then, a number of QSO points equivalent to the number of penalty QSOs are subtracted from your total - actual additional QSOs are not removed from the log.

For example, should I bust an intercontinental QSO in CQ WW, that QSO will be deleted from my log and an additional nine points (three QSOs worth) will be subtracted from my total. This is sufficient penalty for me to slow down and get all the information right before logging the contact - and that's one of the reasons we have ham radio contests!



ARRL Contest Update Newsletter

ARRL Great Lakes Division Symposium Update

Preparations for the Great Lakes Division Symposium are moving along well. The slate of speakers is full -- in fact -- there is one more speaker than time slots available! The extra presentation is on a CD coming from the UK, so it can be used to fill a slot if a speaker has a last minute conflict. Otherwise it will be presented over the lunch hour and included on the CD or DVD that we hope will be available after the Symposium.

Symposium date:	Saturday, September 12th.
Location:	Findlay Center for Business and Technology, 1700 Fostoria Ave., Findlay, Ohio. This is a tremendous facility for our Symposium.
Lunch & Dinner:	Box lunch and chicken BBQ dinner may be purchased the morning of the Symposium. The BBQ dinner starts about 6 PM.
Housing, etc.:	See the Symposium web site www.w8ft.org
Division Awards:	Will be presented at a time to be announced.

The precise schedule is still being worked out. It will include the following sessions:

- ARRL Division Officers - Amateur Radio update and Q&A.
- Keynote Speaker Tony England, W0ORE will talk about his experience as a ham as a teenager and how it influenced his career.
- Charlie Sufana, AJ9N - will talk about the ARISS space program.
- Dave Pruett, K8CC -- Contesting 101 -- How to get started in contesting.
- Rick Campbell, KK7B - will do a remote presentation from Oregon about getting started in VHF experimenting.
- Steve Coy, K8UD and others - will talk about getting started on Satellites.
- Tom Sly, WB8LCD - will talk about keeping clubs active.
- Jim Hicks, WB4CTX - will talk about his success using Ham Radio in High School instruction.

- Dave Dryden, KD8AVT - will talk about his success getting Boy Scouts into Ham Radio through Radio Merit Badge classes.
- Richard Knowles, N8IJ - will discuss Emergency Communications.
- George Dobbs G3RJV - will talk about getting started on QRP. (This is the presentation on a CD)

The final session will be a Hints and Kinks hour. Bring your questions, answers, stories, projects, etc. This will be an audience participation session, and a lot of good ideas should come out of this session.

Registration starts at 8 AM, and the first presentation will begin at 9. The Symposium will end about 5 PM.

When you register you will be able to order a lunch (\$5 each) that will be brought to the Symposium in time for the lunch break at noon. You will also be able to buy tickets (\$10 each) to the Chicken Barbeque that will be held at the hamfest site that evening.

Admission to the Symposium is FREE. To help with planning -- please send an e-mail to n8et@arrl.net if you plan on attending so we can be sure we have enough room and seats for everyone that attends. If you don't get the e-mail sent -- don't let that keep you from attending

As details of the schedule are finalized they will be posted on the Symposium Web page which is accessible from the Findlay Radio Club page at www.w8ft.org (click on the "Hamfest and Symposium" link). The Symposium web page also includes links to local hotels, speaker info, a map to the site, and other relevant information.

We are working on making a DVD of the Symposium available after the Findlay Radio Club members recover from the Hamfest the next day! Be sure to encourage your friends -- especially the new hams and the younger hams - to attend! See you all in Findlay on September 12th for the Symposium and September 13th for the hamfest!

Bill, N8ET



Word Search - Radio Parts

F	G	B	X	R	E	T	T	I	M	S	N	A	R	T	M	G	V	D	AMPLIFIER ANTENNA BATTERY BLANKER CAPACITOR CONDUCTOR CONNECTORS DIODE FILTER FUSE GROUND INDUCTOR KEYER MEMORY MICROPHONE	MODEM NOISE BLANKER PADDLE POWER SUPPLY RECEIVER RESISTOR SPEAKER SWR METER TRANSMITTER TUNER VOX WIRES
R	B	M	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	R	R	W	Q	G	N	V	X	B		
E	A	U	G	F	B	X	M	J	K	E	I	H	V	C	V	Y	L	L		
N	N	V	H	K	N	F	G	C	S	Y	C	Z	G	O	A	L	P	C		
U	T	O	M	N	G	D	S	I	A	E	H	R	S	N	S	P	W	E		
T	E	X	H	J	U	R	S	K	L	K	O	E	D	N	F	P	T	A		
L	N	O	I	P	F	T	S	G	C	U	R	D	X	E	N	U	P	M		
P	N	M	H	D	O	R	E	I	N	I	K	L	F	C	Z	S	I	P		
L	A	O	C	R	C	R	W	D	W	S	G	D	H	T	K	R	N	L		
M	H	D	F	D	F	R	C	A	P	A	C	I	T	O	R	E	D	I		
S	H	C	D	S	U	E	V	I	S	J	M	K	Y	R	T	W	U	F		
P	K	X	Z	L	S	T	M	E	M	O	R	Y	G	S	K	O	C	I		
E	D	I	O	D	E	L	H	F	O	D	S	R	G	J	K	P	T	E		
A	F	J	V	S	E	I	W	Q	D	C	O	N	D	U	C	T	O	R		
K	J	R	Y	U	I	F	Y	R	E	T	T	A	B	V	D	E	R	W		
E	I	R	E	S	L	S	W	R	M	E	T	E	R	T	J	D	S	A		
R	L	U	T	R	E	K	N	A	L	B	E	S	I	O	N	J	D	S		

Sandy, KD8JCY



Parks on the Air Contest - Official Rules for 2009

1. The First Rule of OSPOTA is: We do not talk about OSPOTA.
2. The Second Rule of OSPOTA is: We do not talk about OSPOTA.
3. *OSPOTA* is the acronym for the *Ohio State Parks On the Air* contest is. This is verbally pronounced by making a sneezing noise.
4. Go ahead, try it. We'll wait for you.
5. Really, it's okay. Try it now. Say: "OSPOTA"
6. Gesundheit!
7. Ha! Everybody falls for that one at least once. N8WLE fell for it six times! What a maroon!
8. Oh yes, the contest. Right. September 12, 2009, 1600Z to 2400Z
9. No, we are *not* snoring. **Z** stands for **Universal Coordinated Time**, or **UTC**
10. Contest bands: All bands, except for 60m, 30m, 17m, and 12m. Simplex only, no repeaters. You know the drill.
11. It is not a mistake, UTC is correct abbreviation. Yes, the letters are indeed in the wrong order. We believe that the French are responsible for this inconsistency, but are refusing to own up to it.
12. Modes: All modes. Slow Scan TV is encouraged. Bonus points awarded if the Panel of Judges *really likes* your pictures.
13. That would be Noon to 8pm Eastern time. Still struggling with that UTC thing, eh?
14. Exchange: Callsign, state, and park code if you are operating from a park. Each park is assigned a three-letter code.
Sample Exchange:
W8XXX: W7YY, we are in Ohio, Muskingum, that's Mike Oscar Sierra.
W7YY: Gesundheit!
15. Stations may be worked *once* per mode and per band. You may work the same station on SSB and CW on the 80-meter band, for example.
16. It's still UTC. We are NOT going to change our minds about this. Can we continue on with the rules now, please?
17. Scoring:
One (1) point for each contact, any mode.
Each different Ohio state parks you contact is a multiplier.
Bonus points for *especially appealing* SSTV pictures. Why, you could get HUNDREDS of points for the *right kind* of picture.
18. Glad you asked. One judge is a leg man, one is a boob man, and the other is probably a closet homosexual.
19. Not that there's anything wrong with that.
20. Logs should show time, band, station worked, and their exchange. Each log should be accompanied by a cover sheet stating summarizing each band/mode combination and total score claimed. Included names/callsigns of all operators. SSTV contacts should be documented with prints of your *very favorite pictures*, printed on 8x10 glossy paper, in a plain brown envelope.
21. Short form log submission: Write your name, callsign, and total score claimed legibly on a \$50 bill and send it to the contest committee.

Good Luck in the contest!

Bill, WB9LBI

Editor's Note: Just in case - Yes this is a humorous article submitted by our one and only - Streetsboro Humorist. We all enjoy Bill's sense of humor and look forward to his newsletter inputs.

Some Words from Weaver



We Keep Growing and Growing +++

New amateur licenses seem to be overcoming the blip in licensing figures brought on by the onset of the 10-year license. There are about 14,000 more licensees now than a year ago.

Last year's increase brings the number of ham licensees in the US to over 674,000. This total is just under the all-time high for US licensees. If we add another 14,000 this year, we will have exceeded the all-time high for ham licensees.

Therefore, current facts do not support the contention being spread by many amateurs that ham radio is a dying avocation. We may not be in a teen-age growth spurt, but we are growing. Don't count Amateur radio out. For further details see <http://www.ah0a.org/AH0A.html>.

Valuable New Items from HQ

"Choosing a Ham Radio" is a new pamphlet designed especially to help younger hams select the best amateur equipment for them. The pamphlet is included as a bonus in the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual and is available to download at <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/choosingaradio/>.

"PR-101" is a new course in public relations. It is available as a CD-ROM and was developed by The ARRL Public Relations Committee.

"This course is designed to give hams a quick course in conducting public relations activities. It discloses the skills of experts in various aspects of public relations to provide volunteer Public Information Officers with the basic skills and expectations that a PIO needs to know. PR-101 covers everything from the basic news release to Web sites and video work.

"The course is conveniently set-up for you to complete it on your own schedule. Upon completion it guides you to the Web for the final exam. Participants who successfully complete the exam will be directed to a special area where they can create, print and save a certificate of completion.

"For more information on PIOs: www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/pio.html."

For information on PR-101:

<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=pr-101&SearchWords.x=5&SearchWords.y=6>.

Ohio Congressman Praises Hams

Think US Congressmen don't pay attention to things that go on around them? Think again. US Rep Michael Turner, OH Dist 3, gave about the best plug for Amateur Radio that we've seen in recent years -- and he isn't himself a ham.

His article is posted on his web site at <http://turner.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=142521>. One may consider copying and saving this article for use in showing local legislators that Amateur Radio is truly valuable.

Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Chair John Meyers, NB4K suggest that all Ohio US District 3 amateurs consider sending a thank you note to Mr. Turner. This can be done easily at <http://turner.house.gov/Contact/>. Before you send the thank you note, please copy it. After sending the note to Rep. Turner, please paste your note to him in a message and e-mail it to NB4K at nb4k@arrl.org.

I can't take credit for the article, of course, but I can say that Rep. Turner appeared to be sincerely supportive of Amateur Radio when I spoke with him of the needs and value of our service in a recent telephone town meeting. This may in large part be due to the number of letters he received urging him to support H.R.2160.

Survey: QST, QEX or NCJ?

Occasionally, someone comments they would like to receive a journal other than QST with their ARRL membership. Instead, they say, they would rather receive either QEX or NCJ -- both published by ARRL. Before I ask your opinion on this issue, let me provide important background for you to consider.

In reaching your decision, keep in mind that QEX is the Forum for Communications Experimenters magazine. It is published once every three months (four times a year). NCJ, the National Contest Journal, covers contesting and is published every other month (six times a year). As you know, QST is published every month (12 times a year). It is the ARRL journal that covers all aspects of Amateur Radio. Finally, QEX and NCJ contain relatively few pages in comparison with QST.

The question is: If you had your choice, which ARRL journal would you choose to receive as one of your ARRL membership benefits?

1. NCJ -- The National Contest Journal.
2. QEX -- The Forum for Communications Experimenters.
3. QST -- The ARRL membership journal.

To vote, please go to "survey/feedback" on the Great Lakes Division web site <http://greatlakes.arrl.org/>.

H.R.2160 Progress

Word from "reliable sources" is that two additional US Representatives from Kentucky and Ohio are signing on as co-sponsors of H.R.2160. This is the bill that provides the first step toward overcoming antenna-banning Codes, Covenants & Restrictions in property contracts.

Now is a perfect time to encourage or even to re-encourage your US Representative to support this bill. Please write to him/her.

Information on writing your representative to get the most out of your effort is at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/05/12/10818>. If you write, please also send a copy of your letter to Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Chair John Meyers, NB4K at nb4k@arrl.org.

While considering writing to encourage your US Representative to co-sponsor H.R.2160, why not drop current sponsors a note to thank them for support Amateur Radio and the bill. Co-sponsors from the Great Lakes Division are: Kentucky: Rep. Brett Guthrie, KY-2. Mich: Rep. Thaddeus G. McCotter, MI-11. Ohio: Rep. Mary Jo Kilroy, OH-15.

Jim, K8JE

Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division

Thanks & 73

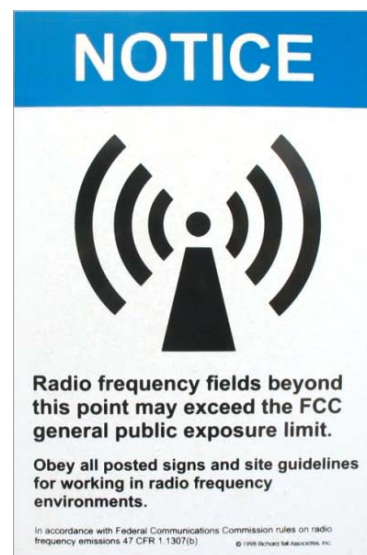
Last month I had a contest - How Many Pictures in the Newsletter? It was PACKED with PICTURES!! (I also gave hints during the PCARS net - see the coax just above this? That's a picture. See the Notice sign to the right - that's a picture, too.) No one got it right on. So, the top three guesses (and no one went over) were the winners.

The total number of pictures in the August newsletter was 332 !

The winners were: 1st Place: N8OQQ with 311, 2nd Place: N8GIE with 278, and 3rd Place: WB8LCD with 271. Honorable mention: WB9LBI with 244 and AB8AA with 247. Yep, only 5 people made a guess.

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, W8KNO, W8PT, WB8VNO, K8SRR, AE5WX, WB8YYS, AB8AA, WB8LCD, WB9LBI, N8ET, KD8JCY, K8JE, KB8UUZ, The ARRL, The ARRL Contest Update Newsletter, NASA, and the World Wide Web - With your continued help – we can make this a great newsletter.



Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

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



Pictures from the August Meeting



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

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

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

There are **74** 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

- Amateur Radio Instruction Class -

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

will be offering an Amateur Radio Technician course

that will enable *you* to obtain
your FCC Technician license as an

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR



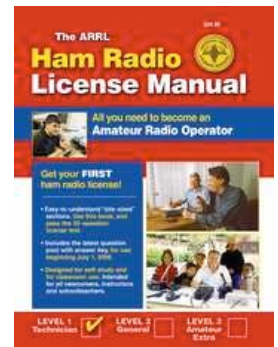
When: Tuesday evening 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Starting September 22, 2009 for eight weeks
Official Amateur Radio License testing will be held
at the end of the course

Where: Community Room
Family & Community Services
705 Oakwood Street
Ravenna, Ohio

Registration: First night of class

Cost: \$25.00 Registration fee - which also provides
the attendee a One Year Membership in PCARS !
\$24.95 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual”
(text may be purchased first night of class)

Information: Contact Jim Aylward, KC8PD:
by e-mail at: kc8pd@portcars.org
or phone at: 330-297-7979



As a licensed **Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to

- **Contact other ham radio operators in the area and around the world**
- **Serve your community – ham radio operators are the critical communication link during disasters and emergencies**
- **Participate in a fascinating and rewarding hobby**

For more information about PCARS, go to www.portcars.org , or contact
Jim Aylward - KC8PD, at KC8PD@portcars.org, or by phone at **330-297-7979**



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
Web Master	K8SRR	Steve Randlett



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
NX8G	Rex Simmons
N8RLG	Robert Gurney
AB8AA	Allan Avnet
K8JAA	Jane Avnet



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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

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)
Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ - Newsletter Editor
9992 State Route 700
Mantua, OH 44255



NLC

