



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



December 2010 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 5 No. 12

~ 2010 Officers ~

President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD
 Vice President - Dave Rarrick - WB2DFC
 Treasurer - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI
 3 Year Trustee - Robert Gurney - N8RLG
 2 Year Trustee - Ed Pollack - N8EQJ
 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT

~ Meetings & Nets ~

2nd Monday of
 each month. 7pm
 Thursday nights
 Nets at 8 pm
 on 146.895

PCARS Incorporated
 Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
 Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliated
 April 20, 2006



**Special Services
 Club**
 March 22, 2010

President's Column

It is the day after Thanksgiving and with the newsletter deadline rapidly approaching it was time to get the President's Column completed and sent off to Tom, KB8UUZ, so that he could finish editing the December edition of the Radiogram. As I started to type this I thought "there's something else to be thankful for," all of the effort that Tom puts into creating the best newsletter in the Ohio Section month after month.

But, then again, there are so many things that PCARS members do that can make us appreciative and thankful. They are amazingly generous with their time, helping with the renovations at the club site, helping make a success of the best attended Field Day in the state of Ohio, creating projects for club activities or making presentations at club meetings. You name it and someone will help with it. And they show their wonderful holiday spirit in supporting the Center of Hope.

We are fortunate to have such a diverse and active group of members and in 2011 we plan to find even more ways to keep them busy with amateur radio activities. Nearly forty people responded to the member survey with plenty of good suggestions and comments.

Plans are underway for regular activities at the club site, including contesting, classes, special interest group meetings such as DX and contesting as well as CW, QRP and MARS, and workshops on a variety of topics. Now that the club site is fully functional we want to maximize its use. Also in the works will be some type of local digital net to assist area hams in getting up to speed on using soundcard digital modes.

Thanks also to the members for adding Sandy, KD8JCY, to the PCARS board as our newest trustee. Sandy has been a very active participant in all PCARS events as well as being a RACES member and an AEC for ARES of Portage County. You can bet that she will have each of us upgrading our cell phones so she can share all of the amateur radio apps that she has found.

I would like to add my thanks to the members for allowing me to serve as President for another year. There is so much that has happened in the five years that PCARS has been in operation and it has been a pleasure to share in that ham radio fun with all of you as we have gotten to know each through the club. I appreciate your confidence in our efforts to make PCARS the best and most active amateur radio club that area hams could ask for.



Jim, KC8PD

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Visit the PCARS Website at: <http://www.portcars.org>



From the President - Continued from Page 1

I hope to see all of you at the PCARS Christmas party. In the meantime, best wishes to all of you and your families for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A special thanks go out to Dave, WB2DFC, for his service as PCARS Vice-President. The past two years flew by and Dave kept busy providing us with a great variety of meeting topics and programs. Unfortunately, they appreciate Dave's efforts even more at work and his job duties have continued to expand, including supervision of the City of Ravenna's new dispatch center that Dave was responsible for creating. There just was not enough time left in each day for him to continue as VP for another year. I know Dave really regretted it but we will find plenty of ways to still keep him busy with club operations.

Thanks also to the PCARS members for voting in Tom, WB8LCD, as Dave's replacement as Vice-President. Tom is already putting together the 2011 schedule and it promises to be an outstanding year with his leadership.

73,

Jim, KC8PD

From the Vice President



Hi All - Coming to you live from Daytona Beach.... a, would you believe, Ormond Beach..... aahhhh, would believe Cornelius, NC. Returning from vacation is always one of those "it happens to everyone" things. So we are headed home after 3.5767 days of fun in the sun to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends. I hope all of you get a chance to travel somewhere this holiday to visit your family and friends.



As this article will appear in the December 2010 PCARS Newsletter, it will be my last as Vice President. I want to say the experience was just outstanding! When I think back to the election when I first became VP I had no real idea what I was to come. I really want to thank all of the members who took the time to keep me going in the right direction. I especially want to thanks Jim, KC8PD, Tom, WB8LCD, the PCARS Board Members, and Parky, KB8UUZ for all of their valuable assistance.... and sometimes last minute rescues for PCARS deadlines, projects and activities.

I realize contributions from all of the members are the single most important fundamental building and sustaining ingredient an organization can have. As VP I want to thank each and every PCARS member for their past support during my time as VP. I have made many new friends and had a great time as VP!

.....But, you are not going to get a way from me that easy..... I do plan to continue participating in PCARS at a high level. Plans are being discussed to make the club site more available, projects and presentations, articles for the newsletter, I'll be there somewhere!

Thanks again to every one for making my VP experience terrific.

Best of 72/73, and have a safe and happy holiday season,
Dave, WB2DFC



Mark Your Calendars

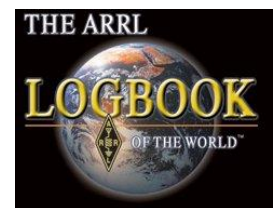
On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:



- December 13th - **PCARS Christmas Party**
- January 18th - **General Upgrade Class Starts** - at the club site, 7:00 pm
- **Coming in 2011:** Soundcard project - sometime early in 2011
- **Coming in 2011:** Logbook of the World (LoTW) Workshop
- **Freeze Your Acorns Off** - February 19, 2011 - See the flier in this newsletter

LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD (LoTW) WORKSHOP

Are you interested in using ARRL's Logbook of the World? Would you like assistance in getting started with LoTW? Would you be interested in convenient shortcuts and Hints for LOTW? In several months, PCARS will be holding a Saturday LOTW workshop at the clubhouse. Specific details will be communicated via email and in upcoming issues of The RADIOGRAM.



Congratulations to the 2011 PCARS Officers

At the November meeting elections were held and the following people were elected for 2011:

President - Jim Aylward, KC8PD
Vice President - Tom Sly, WB8LCD
Treasurer - Bill Fraedrich, WB9LBI
3 Year Trustee - Sandy Getty, KD8JCY

With the election of a new 3 Year Trustee, Robert Gurney, N8RLG becomes the new Two Year Trustee, and Ed Pollack, N8EQJ becomes the new One Year Trustee.

The new officers take the lead on January 1, 2011.

Congratulations to the new officers!



**President
Jim, KC8PD**



**Vice President
Tom, WB8LCD**



**Treasurer
Bill, WB9LBI**



**3 Year Trustee
Sandy, KC8JCY**



**2 Year Trustee
Robert, N8RLG**



**1 Year Trustee
Ed, N8EQJ**

Center of Hope Donation

It has become an annual tradition for PCARS and its members at the November meeting to collect donations for the Center of Hope in Ravenna and for the club to donate the proceeds from the 50/50 raffle. This year was a record setter.

There were enough food donations to fill the back of a car and between the members' cash donations and the 50/50 proceeds the total cash contribution to the Center of Hope was **\$1,900.00!** A few days after the meeting, Dave, WB2DFC, and Jim, KC8PD, delivered the donations to Sister Denise Stiles, the program manager at the Center. It could not have come at a better time as Thanksgiving food baskets were being assembled and distributed.



Jim, KC8PD

Sister Denise Stiles

Dave, WB2DFC

The Center of Hope is a program of Family & Community Services and the building has been used regularly by PCARS over the past five years. PCARS is grateful for the use of the facility and the annual food drive and donation is our chance to show our appreciation.

Thanks again to all of the PCARS members for their generosity which made this year's drive such a success!

73,

Jim, KC8PD

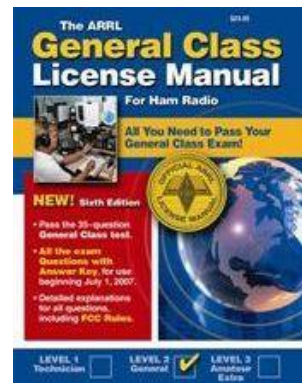
General Upgrade Class

PCARS will be offering its fourth annual General upgrade class beginning at 7:00 p.m. on January 18th at the club site located at 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna.

Just as in the past two years, this class is free to all PCARS members. For anyone who is not already a member of the club the cost is \$25, which also gets them a one-year membership in PCARS. What a great deal!

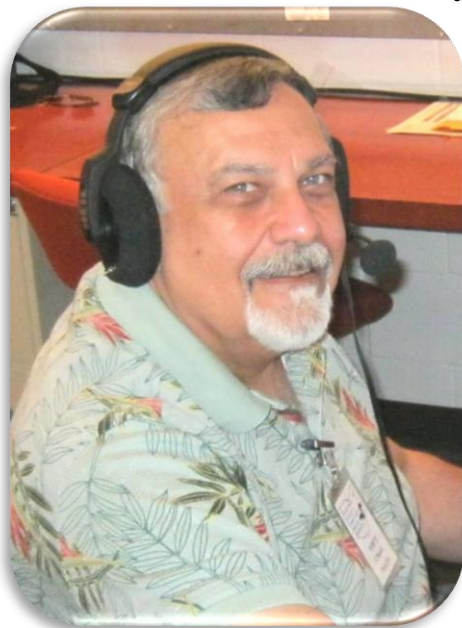
Even if you have already upgraded, you are more than welcome to sit in on the class and use it as a refresher course. If you have your Technician license and are thinking about upgrading remember that the question pool will be changing next July.

The ARRL General Class manual will be the text for the course and books will be available for purchase from the club for \$25 per copy.



Contact **Jim, KC8PD**, aylwardjim@aol.com, for more information or to sign up for the class.

Charlie the Tuner's HF High Lites



Chuck, W8PT

Well hello and a happy December from Charlie the Tuner! I hope that you have had your fill of turkey for awhile. Keep in mind that too much turkey puts you to sleep and you can't work DX if you are snoozing. Well, maybe you can dream about working DX, but it doesn't count for DXCC. I am very happy to be back on the air after having my station off the air for some months. The antenna is working and hopefully it will do so throughout the winter season until spring when I need to change the cable on the hazer. Its' always sumthin'. I will be working on getting back on 2 m also as well as getting the Yaesu VL-1000 amp hooked up.

But to show you that you really don't need a lot of power to work DX, just a lot of patience, let me tell you what I have worked with 100 watts: South Africa, Kermadec Island, The Gambia, Morocco, Faroe, Island, Tristan da Cunha, Lebanon, Kuwait, several ops from Japan, Cameroon, Vanuatu, Taiwan, Philippines and Saudi Arabia. Now, truthfully, some of these contacts took some time because of the pile up and only 100 w, but it can be done. And it can be done with less power – say QRP!! So get on the air and make some contacts.

With that in mind, let's see what is in store for the next few months and what is also in the "continuing operation" category (read Reminder).

As always I need to thank the following for the forecast reports for December and beyond: 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. Please remember that this report can

contain some erroneous information due to the simple nature of bad info or busted call signs, so do yourself a favor and please adhere to the old adage of "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

DX PAPER CHASE – Still Reminding: 4M200/YV200/YW200, VENEZUELA (Special Event). Look for several different stations to be active until December 31st, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Venezuela's Independence. Some of the stations that have been active are:

4M200AJ - Operator Manuel; Activity mainly on PSK on 40/30/20/15/10m; QSL via YV5AJ.

YV200D - Operator Paolo; Activity mainly on RTTY on 30m; QSL via YV1DIG.

YW200A - Operator Alfredo; Activity on PSK and SSB on 20/15m; QSL via YV5SSF.

YW200ER - Operator Elvis; Activity on SSB on 40/20/15m; QSL via YV8ER.

YW200L - Operator Frank; Activity on RTTY and PSK, on 30/15m; QSL via YV5LI.

YW200T - Operator Juan; Activity on SSB, RTTY and PSK, on 40/30/20/15m; QSL via YV5JBI.

A "Bicentenary of Venezuelan Independence Award" is available by working all the 6 special call sign: 4M200AJ, YV200D, YW200A, YW200ER, YW200L and YW200T. More information is expected to be available at:

<http://www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm>

3W, VIETNAM. Bruce, XW1B, from Vientiane, Laos, is planning an operation from Danang, Vietnam, around November 29th, using the call sign 3W3B. He states that he will be living in Danang most of the year and anticipates being very active on the bands. At the start of his activity, he will use a simple station/antenna but plans to improve things later. QSL only via E21EIC. NO eQSLs.

9Q5, DEM. REPUBLIC OF CONGO – Reminder: CX2CC, is now active as 9Q5OAR from the City of Goma, near the Rwanda border and is there working for the United Nations for one year. He hopes to be active on CW (slow), SSB and the Digital modes. He is using a TS430 transceiver into a Log Periodic or wire dipole. QSL via his home call sign CX2CC: Christian Cardarello, Avenida Italia 3319, CP11600 Montevideo, Uruguay, South America. QSLs will not be answered until his return in December 2011. Please, direct QSL send a SAE with 2 USDs or a new IRC.

BV100, TAIWAN. Reminder: Members of the Republic of China (Taiwan) Centenary

Foundation will be activating special event station BV100 between now and Dec 31st, 2011. Activity is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ROC (Taiwan). Operations will be on all bands and modes. Complete details on schedules and how to earn a BV100 award is available at: <http://www.bv100.tw/EN> QSL via BV2KI at: Bruce Yih, P.O.Box 84-609 Taipei, Taiwan 100

BX5, TAIWAN (AS-020) - BX5AA, from Changhua City, Taiwan (WLOTA 0022), will be active during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 30-31st) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. Jimmy states that BX5 is a rare prefix for Taiwan (CQ 24). QSL via BX5AA, direct (see QRZ.com). Visit his Web page at: <http://blog.yam.com/bx5aa>

CQ DX MARATHON - Reminder- K9EL, DX Marathon Administrator, reports on Oct 16th: "As recently announced by CQ Magazine, Competitors in the 2010 CQ DX Marathon will have a unique 'double-dip' opportunity in working the islands of the Netherlands Antilles for Marathon points. Those who worked any of the islands before 10/10/10, get credit for either the Windward or Leeward Islands, as appropriate. Hams who work them again on or after 10/10/10 will get additional credit for the new entities, providing a maximum of six country credits for working the islands in 2010. Version 2010.2 of the DX Marathon score sheet that incorporates the four new PJ countries is now available on the DX Marathon Web site at: <http://www.dxmarathon.com> Instructions to convert version to 2010.1 to the new 2010.2 are available on the Web site. However, participants can also send their existing score sheet to scores@dxmarathon.com and we will convert it and send it back to you."

IOTA News

KH9, WAKE ISLAND – (Reminder) WA2YUN, will once again be active as KH9/WA2YUN from Wake Island (OC-053, USI OI-012S, WLOTA LH-2293) for about one year while on work assignment. Activity will be limited to his spare time. QSL via K2PF.

SA-057, Timoteo Domingue Island - Members of the Uruguay DX Group and Centro Radioaficionados Montevideo will be active as CW3TD from Timoteo Domingue Island between December 2-6th. Activity will be on 160-2 meters with an emphasis on the Digital modes. They plan to have 15 operators and four stations on the air. QSL route TBA shortly.

Other DX News

J7, DOMINICA. Operators Dieter, HB9TPQ (J79DP), Kurt, HB9BZG (J79KZ) and Walter, HB9MFM (J79WTA) are now active and are on holiday from the Tamarind Tree Hotel near Salisbury on Dominica (NA-101) until Dec 11th. Activity will be on all HF bands using SSB and some RTTY. They have one station, using an IC-7000 with 100 watts into a dipole 50m above sea level. QSL via their home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

OE40, AUSTRIA (Special Event). Members of the ADXB-OE (Austrian DX Board) will be celebrating their 40th anniversary by activating their club station OE1XBC on the air between December 15-31st, using the special call sign OE40ADXB. Suggested frequencies are as follows:

- 80 meters - SSB 3630-3650 kHz and CW 3530-3540 kHz
- 40 meters - SSB 7125-7150 kHz and CW 7025-7030 kHz
- 30 meters - CW 10120 kHz and Digital 10140 kHz
- 20 meters - SSB 14225-14235 kHz, CW 14030-14040 kHz, PSK 14070 kHz and RTTY 14085 kHz
- 17 meters - SSB 18120-18130 kHz and CW 18080-18085 kHz
- 15 meters - SSB 21275-21285 kHz and CW 21030-21040 kHz (if propagation)
- 12 meters - SSB 24940-24950 kHz and CW 24900-24905 kHz (if propagation)
- 10 meters - SSB 28400-28450 kHz and CW 28030-28040 kHz (if propagation)

There will be a special QSL card. QSL info is via ADXB: Austrian DX Board, P.O.Box 1000, A-1081 Vienna, Austria.

PJ5, ST. EUSTATIUS (Update). Operators Janusz/SP6IXF and Wlodek/SP6EQZ are now active as PJ5/homecall from St.Eustatius (NA-145) until Dec 3rd. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their home call sign. For updates and an online log search, visit their Web page at: <http://pj5-2010.dxing.pl/index.html>

TP60, FRANCE. The "Council of Europe Radio Amateur Club" (CERAC - TP2CE) will once again be active as TP60CE, December 3-5th. This will be the last time they use TP60CE. Activity will be on all HF bands and modes, including the satellites. QSL via F5LGF. An online log search will be available at: <http://ewwa.free.fr>

VK9N, NORFOLK ISLAND (Reminder). After their operation from ZK2A (see ZK2 listed below), operators Andrea/IK1PMR, YL Claudia/PA3LEO, Al/LA9SN, Doug/N6TQS and possibly others will be active from here between December 5-19th. Plans of activity should/probably be the same as their operation from ZK2A. QSL via PA3LEO.

VK0M, MACQUARIE ISLAND - (Reminder) Reports indicate that Kevin, VK4KEV, is expected to be operating as VK0KEV from Macquarie Island (AN-005) sometime between the end of Oct and beginning of Dec 2010 for possibly up to 18 months. Activity will be mostly on 40 and 20 m SSB and the Digital modes. Presently, Kevin is operating as VK4KEV/VK7, in Hobart, Tasmania, while undergoing training for his upcoming long stay on Macquarie.

VP5, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. Just a reminder that Dave, W5CW, will once again be active as VP5/W5CW from the VP5JM Hamlet on the Island of Providenciales (NA-002, WLOTA 1476) between Nov 24th and Dec 14th. Activity will include entries in the following three contests using the call sign VP5CW: CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/ All-Band entry, ARRL 160m Contest (December 3-5th) and the ARRL 10m Contest (December 11-12th). QSL via his home callsign (QRZ.com address).

ZK2, NIUE (Reminder). Look for 5 operators to be active as ZK2A between November 20th and December 3rd. Operators mentioned are: Andrea, IK1PMR, YL Claudia, PA3LEO, Al, LA9SN, Doug, N6TQS, Alan, K6SRZ, and possibly Tom, SP5UAF. Activity will be focused on Europe, 160-40 meters, 30/17/12 m CW and RTTY using four Elecraft with solid state amps with RX antennas. This is a lightweight DXpedition. They will try to limit their extra baggage expenses. To achieve this (and for efficiency and reliability too) they will mainly use wire antennas. QSL via PA3LEO. A Web site is now available at: <http://www.pacificdxpedition.com/index.php?s=intro> ADDED NOTE: Operators of this operation will go on to operate from Norfolk Island; see VK9N listed above.

So there you have it for December. Since the next column will be for the January issue of our newsletter, let me wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. I hope that you all get something for the great hobby we all share and enjoy. And please, get on the air and work some DX. Get bit by the bug and HAVE BIG FUN! Until 2011, 73 es gud DX.

Chuck, W8PT
a.k.a. 'Charlie the Tuner'

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 Yahoo Group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCARS/>.



Hamfests

01/30/2011 - Tusco ARC Hamfest - Wallick Auction House - 965 North Wooster Avenue - Strasburg , OH 44680 - Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club - <http://www.tuscoarc.org> - Public Contact: Kyle Quillen , KD8HDJ - 518 Fair Avenue NW - New Philadelphia, OH 44663 - Phone: 330-204-0944 - Email: hamfest@tuscoarc.org

02/06/2011 - Winter Hamfest - Gargus Hall - 1965 N. Ridge Rd - Lorain, OH - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - <http://www.NOARS.net> - Public Contact: Thomas Porter, W8KYZ - 161 Herrmann Dr., Avon Lake, OH 44012 - Phone: 440-930-9115 - Email: tporter161@oh.rr.com



PCARS Christmas Party - 2010

Mark your calendars for Monday, December 13, the regular PCARS meeting night. Our traditional PCARS Christmas Party will once again be held at Paradise Lakes Golf & Banquet Center located at 1900 Randolph Rd. in Mogador.

We'll have a buffet dinner, a cash bar, DJ, and the gift exchange.

Our Christmas Party has always been a good time to meet with not only your fellow hams, but their spouses and children as well. It's a good opportunity to include the family and let them see first hand what a great group of people make up the PCARS membership!



The cost this year will be \$20 per person (\$10 for children 6-12 and under 6 will be free) and will include the dinner, dessert, coffee or soft drinks, tax, gratuity, entertainment and all the fun you care to have. We'll again have a gift exchange for everyone present. If you have not signed up (Dec. 1 was the deadline) - get in touch with Tom, WB8LCD right away!!!! WB8LCD@portcars.org Do it NOW!

December 1st is rolling up on us pretty quickly, so be sure to get your reservation form and payment sent to me ASAP. With the price being reduced by \$5 I hope more of you will give it your serious consideration as it's a very nice evening to spend with your PCARS friends and families.

Paradise Lake Golf and Banquet Center is a very nice place and the food has always been good!

Every year at the Banquet our Club President passes out the PCARS "President's" Award to some deserving member (our version of the Ham of the year award). It's a good time, and you will be truly missed if you're not there.

Tom, WB8LCD

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in December:

KA8SWC Bruce Costarella
KA8TOA Greg Ash
KB8AMZ Terry Morris
KB8UHN John Tomasik
KC8PD Jim Aylward
KC8PHY Phil McCoy
KC8RJR Errol Jordan
KC8RKV James Godfrey
KD8EPE John Hart
KD8EUP Nick Valentine

KD8FLV Larry Krempasky
KD8FLW Kathy Leasure
KD8GHA Jenna Ziccardi
KD8ICP Tim Gehri
KD8LLN Michael Polack
KDFPP Ryan Fraedrich
N8EQJ Ed Polack
N8XTH Deron Boring
WA8GCF Dave DeSimio

PCARS Thursday Net Control



| December | |
|----------|--------|
| 2 | WB8LCD |
| 9 | KC8PD |
| 16 | KD8FDK |
| 23 | KB8UUZ |
| 30 | N8XTH |

| January | |
|---------|--------|
| 6 | WB8LCD |
| 13 | N8RLG |
| 20 | KD8FLZ |
| 27 | KC8PD |

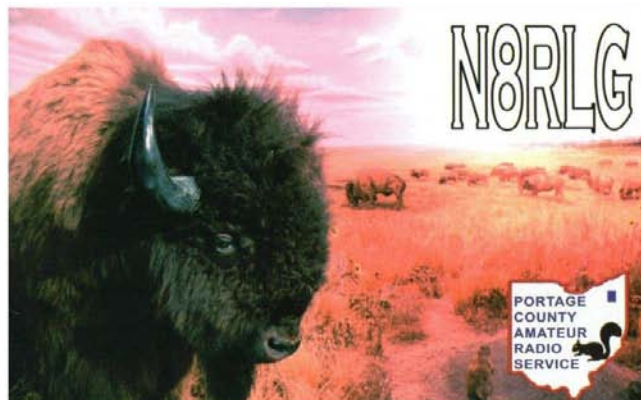


The PCARS net is **Fun** - tell your friends to check in via RF or Echolink! If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a shot, please contact me at: WB8LCD@portcars.org and take one of the slots in the roster. Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

Tom WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

QSL Cards from Members

Only one came in this month. It's from Robert, N8RLG



OHIO Grid Loc. EN90gx USA CQ Zone - 4
ITU Zone - 8 Summit County
N8RLG @portcars.org
Ex-KD8GWY

Confirming two-way QSO / SWL report

| Via | Date | | | Time UTC | Band MHz | Mode 2-way | Report RST |
|----------|------|-------|------|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| | Day | Month | Year | | | | |
| To Radio | | | | | | | |

Robert L Gurney, Jr
601 Woodhaven Dr
Uniontown, OH 44685-9613
USA

PSE QSL TNX

73!

Field Day 2010 Score

There are several ways to slice and dice a contest score. In the Field Day event, the best metrics are overall score, number of contacts, and number of participants. Here are the numbers; you be the judge.

Score (K8BF racked up 7,880 points)

| Category | 2010 Rank | 2009 Rank |
|--|------------------|---------------|
| 4A Category in Ohio Points: | #2 of 12 | #3 of 9 |
| 4A Category in Great Lakes Division Points | #2 out of 23 | #4 of 18 |
| 4A Category Overall Points | #12 out of 155 | #16 of 130 |
| All Stations in Ohio Points | #5 out of 136 | #7 of 126 |
| All Stations in Great Lakes Section Points | #10 out of 258 | #13 of 238 |
| All Stations in Field Day | #97 out of 2,617 | #124 of 2,612 |

QSO's (we made 2,669 contacts)

| Category | 2010 Rank | 2009 Rank |
|---|------------------|--------------|
| 4A Category in Ohio QSO's | #2 out of 12 | #2 of 9 |
| 4A Category in Great Lakes Division | #2 out of 23 | |
| 4A Category Overall QSO | #9 out of 155 | |
| All Stations in Ohio QSO's | #2 out of 136 | #4 of 126 |
| All Stations in Great Lakes Section QSO | #4 out of 258 | #7 of 238 |
| All Stations in Field Day | #97 out of 2,617 | #75 of 2,612 |

Participants (140 people signed in)

| Category | 2010 Rank | 2009 Rank |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 4A Category in Ohio | #1 out of 12 | #1 of 9 |
| 4A Category in Great Lakes Division | #1 out of 23 | |
| 4A Category Overall | #1 out of 155 | |
| All Stations in Ohio | #1 out of 136 | #1 of 126 |
| All Stations in Great Lakes Section | #1 out of 258 | #6 of 238 |
| All Stations in Field Day | #5 out of 2,617 | #59 of 2,612 |

In general, we were up in almost all categories, in a larger field of other stations in every category. Our strategies of keeping all positions operating around the clock, holding our frequencies, and increasing our CW numbers all worked toward our numbers. We made a plan, we carried it out, and it worked.

More people participate in Field Day than any other radio contest in the world. If you participated in PCARS field day, the numbers above point to an incontrovertible truth: **YOU personally** are one of the top contest operators in North America, possibly the world. Check the ARRL database if you have any doubts.

The contest organizers don't have a category for fun, but K8BF would rank #1 world wide. Chuck and I are just so proud of your efforts that words don't suffice. See you for Field Day 2011!



Bill, WB9LBI and Chuck, W8PT
Field Day Chairmen Emeritus

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

December 4. In 2011: February 5 - April 2 - June 4

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 FCC license, a copy of your FCC 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!!!!



(Editor's Note: During the November 16th VE session for the PCARS Fall Technician Class the Park family all became Technicians.)

Jim, KC8PD
PCARS VE Team Liaison

W8V Special Event Station

Thanks a million to all who made our special event station W8V a huge success on Monday Nov 15th. I really want to thank George, N1EZZ for being the voice of W8V while I did the logging. We had a total of 163 contacts during the day using only one transmitter running 70 watts from the VA Hospital in Brecksville Ohio. We operated on 7245 kHz the entire day but shut down about a half hour early (1600) because of QRM from a shortwave broadcast station in Europe.



Sam, W8KBF

Amateurs in Canada had been off the air for 6 years and 2 months starting Sept 5, 1939, two days after Canada declared war on Germany.

On Nov 15, 1945 both the United States and Canada were allowed to return to the air. As of that date US and Canadian amateurs were only allowed to operate on 10 meters 28-29.7 MHz, the old 5 meter 56-60 MHz band, the new 144-148 MHz 2 meter band and four unused microwave bands in the GHz range. The other bands including 20-40-80 meters were given back at different times during 1946 as the military released them. 160 meters was lost to the Coast Guard LORAN operations. The US did allow limited amateur use on the 112-116 MHz band used by Civil Defense, called the War Emergency Radio Service, on a shared basis starting Aug 21, 1945. That order was cancelled on Nov 15 and 112-116 MHz amateur use withdrawn.



PCARS Member George, N1EZZ at the controls

Those who made contact with W8V can receive a certificate for a SASE with US postage and your QSL if you have one. Send to Sam Hevener W8KBF - 3583 Everett Rd. - Richfield, OH 44286

73,
Sam, W8KBF

73,

SKYWARN Recognition Day Set for December 4th

The 12th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will take place Saturday, December 4, 2010. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office (http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/participating_offices.php), working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event.




The idea for the first SRD took shape in the summer of 1999. Meteorologist-in-Charge of the Goodland, Kansas NWS office Scott Mentzer, N0QE, tried to find a way to recognize the valuable contributions storm spotters make to the National Weather Service. “Since many of those storm spotters were also hams,” Floyd told the ARRL, “it seemed like a natural fit for the recognition to be centered on Amateur Radio.”

With the approval of NWS headquarters and a commitment to participate from many local NWS offices across the country, the first National Weather Service Special Event took place on November 27, 1999. “At the end of the event, almost 16,000 QSOs were logged, with contacts made to all 50 states and 63 countries,” Floyd recounted. “The Des Moines forecast office took the honor of making the most contacts of any office that first year with 761 QSOs, and went on to lead the pack until 2003 by logging between 1300-1500 contacts each year.”



This map shows the NWS offices that are participating in the 2010 SKYWARN Recognition Day.

Floyd said that feedback from that first event was “overwhelmingly positive” from both the NWS staff and the local ham clubs: “Many local club members who came to that first event had never visited an NWS office before. When they came for the special event, they learned the value of their reports and how they were used in conjunction with existing technology.” And so began an annual tradition. The following year, 85 of the 122 NWS offices -- almost 70 percent -- participated in the event, making nearly 24,000 QSOs.



In 2001, the name of the event was changed to SKYWARN Recognition Day, a name Floyd said better relayed what the day was all about: “Each year since the inception of SRD, the number of NWS offices participating with local ham clubs has increased; more than 100 offices sign up each year to take part. The most contacts made during any SRD occurred in 2006 when -- thanks to and local hams in the Grand Junction, Colorado area -- 1,640 QSOs were logged!”

Station call signs have also changed over the years. Floyd said that some NWS offices and clubs apply for a special event call sign, “such as W3B in Brownsville or N0Y in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Other call signs hint

at office location, including WX9GRB in Green Bay and WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center. Still others represent more of the big picture, as in KC0SKY in Pleasant Hill, Missouri.”

Floyd said that as SKYWARN Recognition Day has grown throughout the years, he has seen a greater use of digital communications in addition to CW, RTTY and packet radio: “Each year, more and more contacts are

being made using EchoLink, Winlink and the use of e-mail reflectors.” In keeping with the NWS setting, stations are asked to include a weather report of their location in their exchange.

[**Exchange:** Call sign, signal report, QTH, and a one or two word description of the weather occurring at your site ("sunny", "partly cloudy", "windy", etc.).]

In 2009, the Melbourne, Florida office (WX4MLB) reported the most QSOs -- 1373 QSOs -- than any other NWS office; the Des Moines, Iowa office (K0DMX), with 912 QSOs, placed second. Melbourne also contacted 77 NWS offices, the most reported. Lincoln, Illinois (WX9ILX) was close



Each participating NWS office can send out their own QSL card. This card is from the 2007 SKYWARN Recognition Day in Wichita, Kansas.

behind, with 72 QSOs to other NWS offices.

2010 SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held on December 4 from 0000 UTC-2400 UTC. Last year, contacts were made in all 50 states and more than 40 countries during the 24 hour event. Even if you make just one QSO to an NWS office, you are eligible to receive a certificate. Just submit a list of the station(s) you worked (along with a self-addressed stamped envelope) to SKYWARN Recognition Day, 920 Armory Rd, Goodland, KS 67735. Many NWS offices also send out special QSL cards for this event. If you haven't yet joined in the fun of SKYWARN Recognition Day, make 2010 your year to do so!

From the ARRL

PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches & stickers are now available!! Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!!

The patch is approximately 3". The embroidery on the white patch 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" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! If you would like to order by mail contact the club Treasurer: Bill, WB9LBI at: WB9LBI@portcars.org



PCARS Club Site Sports a New Look

Next time you're out at the PCARS Club Site (aka: Branch Office, Library, Radio Room or whatever you need to call it to get out of the house) be sure to check out the new PCARS Logo painted on the wall of the garage bay. Parky, KB8UUZ, spent a Saturday afternoon after the last antenna project painstakingly laying it out on the wall and then filling it in with the appropriate colors. A trip back later to put some finishing touches on it and we now look as good and professional as any of the other "high rent" tenants in the building. Parky said his prior experience as a sign painter when he was much younger is what convinced him to join the Navy, and now he remembers why. With Parky's careful guidance, his assistant, Tom, WB8LCD, was successfully able to paint the blue box in the upper right hand corner of the logo! So don't forget, get over to the Club Site, check it out, and be sure to tell Parky how good it looks!



Speaking of the PCARS Club Site, it's now pretty much to the point of being a very usable facility. It's a place that all PCARS members can be proud to call our home. It's been a process getting it to this point over the past few years and now that we've reached this point, it's our intention to make the Club Site a place that's open to and available to our members. In the coming year we'll have many more opportunities to utilize the space for a number of regular activities, and at other times just a space that's open to operate from, work on projects in or just come out and hang out with your PCARS friends. Watch for more details in the January Radiogram.

Tom, WB8LCD

December Contest Calendar

| December 2010 | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ARRL 160-Meter Contest | 2200Z, Dec 3 to 1600Z, Dec 5 |
| ARRL 10-Meter Contest | 0000Z, Dec 11 to 2400Z, Dec 12 |
| Feld Hell Sprint | 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 11 |
| CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run | 2100Z-2259Z, Dec 12 |
| RAC Winter Contest | 0000Z-2359Z, Dec 18 |
| Stew Perry Topband Challenge | 1500Z, Dec 18 to 1500Z, Dec 19 |
| ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW | 1800Z-2359Z, Dec 19 |
| Run for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0200Z-0400Z, Dec 20 |

Yes - there are more than what are listed here. Check the internet for contest activity from around the world.

Holiday Eating Tips

1. Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Holiday spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately.. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.
2. Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. It's rare.. You cannot find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an eggnog-alcoholic or something. It's a treat.. Enjoy it. Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!
3. If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.
4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.
5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Holiday party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello?
6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.
7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.
8. Same for pies. Apple, Pumpkin, Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have 3. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labor Day?
9. Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.
10. One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Re-read tips; start over, but hurry, January is just around the corner. Remember this motto to live by:



"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate and wine in one hand, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO HOO what a ride!"

Have a great holiday season!! Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas !!!

Dick, KB8JFF



Dipole Workshop

I don't have the exact figures for the PCARS Dipole Project, but several kits were sold and then constructed at the club site.



One of the nice aspects of a club site activity, or for any PCARS activity, is the turn out of members. Members add so much to an event like the Dipole Project because of vast and varying expertise levels. As I wandered around that day I heard many a member providing advice and telling about their antenna experiences. No doubt giving the less experienced members a little more confidence in their antenna building techniques.

Thank you to all that attended.



Dave, WB2DFC

Is Ham Radio Dying?

If you've been around ham radio for even a year or two, you've no doubt heard or participated in the debate as to whether or not ham radio is dying. The question is as perennial as the grass.

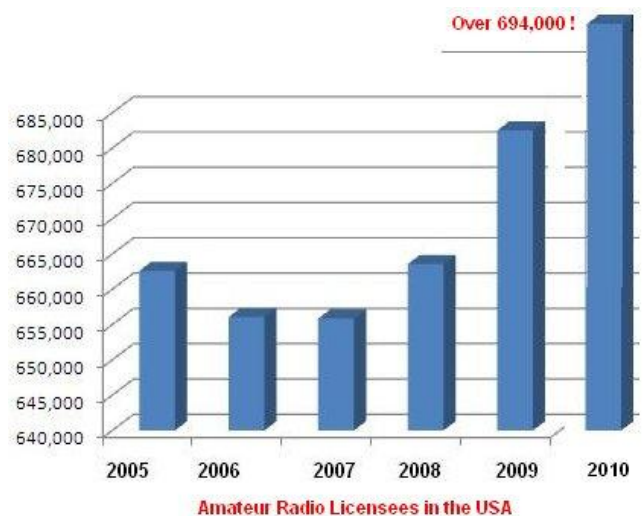
Recently, this was a topic of discussion on the ARRL PR mailing list. Allen, W1AGP, the ARRL's Media & PR Manager, generated a chart to show that ham radio is NOT dying.

This chart as drawn a good example of how you can lie with statistics. The y-axis started at 640,000, so the rate of increase in the number of licensees looked quite dramatic. Even so, the good news is that the number of licensees is quickly approaching 700,000, and should surpass that number shortly.

Upon seeing this chart, Jerry, N9TU, did a little statistical analysis of his own. Of the 83 licensees in his zip code, nine are deceased and one has expired. There are four Novices, 36 Techs, 18 Generals, 5 Advanced and ten Extras.

From this data, he deduces, "If this is an average sampling of deceased members, expired members and club licenses, there are roughly 90,000 fewer licensees than shown in the data nationwide. I have no clue of the error rate involved with my data. Your results may vary." My guess is that his zip code is probably pretty typical, and that his analysis is essentially correct.

There's also the question of activity. It's my guess that nearly half of all licensees are inactive, and that if we could figure out a way to activate those hams, then we'd really be able to say that our hobby is not dying. It's



something worth thinking about, but there's certainly no easy answer to this problem. As Yogi Berra is purported to have said, "If people don't want to come out to the ball park, there's nothing you can do to stop them."

Overall, though, I think the numbers are headed in the right direction. Ham radio is NOT dying. Let's all keep up the good work.

Dan, KB6NU

When not pondering whether the reports of ham radio's death have been greatly exaggerated or not, Dan operates CW on the HF bands, teaches ham radio classes, and blogs about ham radio at www.kb6nu.com. All comments welcome and appreciated. E-mail them to cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



DX Prefix Quiz - Do YOU Know What That Prefix Is?

Anyone who works DX knows certain common prefixes by heart. JA, LU, GM, UA0, F, ZS, VE, BZ, XE, and many others are immediately recognizable. However, in the allocation of international call signs, many countries have additional - let's call them secondary - prefixes; for example, in addition to W, the United States also uses all of the K and N and some of the A series of prefixes.

It is these secondary prefixes that we stumble on sometimes and I have missed some awfully good DX because I did not know where the place was.

Many of these prefixes are used only in contests, for special events, or by non-resident operators, though that is not a hard and fast rule.

In the column below on the left are 20 "secondary" prefixes that you can identify by the country name to the right. (Note: there are 26 country names to challenge you a bit more. And, by the way, I could easily flunk my own quiz.)

| | |
|-----|--|
| 3Z | |
| TM | |
| 2M | |
| DT | |
| 4B3 | |
| AM | |
| AT | |
| ZY | |
| L4 | |
| 7K1 | |
| 7S | |
| XM | |
| EO | |
| C4 | |
| H7 | |
| T4 | |
| J4 | |
| 4M3 | |
| ZM | |
| YM | |

Poland
Latvia
Turkey
Nicaragua
Spain
Columbia
Cyprus
France
Japan
Australia
Venezuela
South Africa
India

Mexico
Canada
Cuba
Greece
Brazil
China
United Kingdom
Ireland
Sweden
Argentina
Korea
Ukraine

19-20: You are an SWL

12-18: You are on the Honor Roll DXCC

8-11: You have DXCC

3-7: You are working on an upgrade

2-1: You do not have a license

0 : You're a (deleted)-poor guesser!



73 es DX,

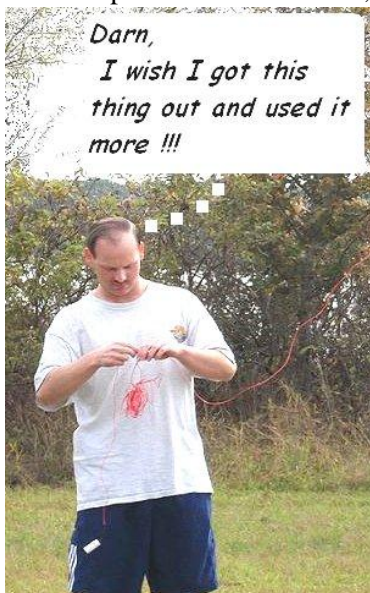
Dave, W8HFY



Notes from Little Rock

Here are a couple of "gag photos" from a recent mini Field Day event in central Arkansas called "Hammin' In The Park". Usually done twice a year, it's set up like Field Day...but no contests, scoring, etc. -- but just a friendly time of operating and fellowship.

One photo has Steve Tune, KC5FWE, getting an antenna deal together. His remark in the photo was met by a reply afterwards from Randy Geater, K5NDX (his XYL, Tonya, KE5SNS, was right beside him when he made this reply)... "Sorry to hear that about your sex drive, Steve". Everyone busted out in laughter!!



The second photo has yours truly under an umbrella (to keep from getting sunburned), at a portable table with the Black and Decker Electromate 400 Portable Power Supply powering the laptop computer and aircard, where I was on Echolink for a demo at the event. Unfortunately, the KC8RKV-R Echolink node had no one listening at the time I put out the call.

The young man in the photo is one of the sons of Jesse Bear, KF5EQB (I don't remember this ones name). My reply was something like W.C. Fields always said to kids...especially in relation to Charlie McCarthy...the "dummy" with ventriloquist Edgar Bergen.

Randy, K5NDX, "doctored" the photos, for a bit of levity (hi hi).

Mr. Daryl,
Some Ham Radio weather geek is
on 146.940 repeater warning other
peolpe about severe weather..try to
hear him.His call is AE5WX I think.
I like it under here with you.

Overall, temperatures were near 70 degrees, with a nice breeze, and mixed clouds and sunshine...a great day for operating. However, I only operated between 9am and 11am, then shut down to head for home...as I was involved in Arkansas Skywarn that afternoon and evening...then Sunday afternoon and evening...and again from late evening Monday to just after sunrise Tuesday.

We had a confirmed EF0 tornado less than 5 miles from the QTH (it was less than a mile from my brothers place), and the supercell that had the rotation morphed into a wind damage storm, producing a 63 mph gust at Little Rock National Airport. We were under a Tornado Warning at the time, and I got marble sized hail here. I also saw the inflow into the storm as it passed by.



As a side note, beforehand, we gathered at an area restaurant (Western Sizzlin') for their All You Can Eat Breakfast Buffet beforehand. I was cannibalistic...a ham eating ham (hi hi)... plus, 3 trips to the breakfast bar for scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, sausage patties, and 8 flaky, buttery, scratch biscuits. Needless to say, I got my moneys worth!! They have the breakfast deal on weekends only, but a regular all you can eat buffet otherwise.

Daryl, AE5WX



Shack Shot - KC8KYW

Christmas came a little early for me. I recently bought a new Heil ICM microphone for my Icom IC-718 to replace the original handheld microphone. Since then I've been getting great signal reports from others, especially my buddies on Navy-Marine Corps MARS nets.

I have an MFJ -9406 Six meter sideband QRP rig, an ADI AR-147 two meter FM transceiver and a SignaLink USB interface for digital modes on the computer.

Outside, a 3-element MFJ six meter beam, an A-99 ten meter vertical, a 20/40 meter wire dipole, 80 meter dipole and 17 meter wire dipole all strung in various ways across the backyard. The beam and 10 meter vertical are atop a 40 foot tower against the house.



73,

John, KC8KYW

Shack Shot - W8BGE

985 S. Arlington St., Akron, Ohio.

Radio _____ Signals _____ Worked here _____ Time _____ A.M. _____
Yours _____ Heard _____ Tone _____ QRM _____ QSS _____ P.M. _____
Audibility _____ Det. and 2 Step. Baldwin Type "C" Phones.
Receiver here _____ Watts _____ Volts on Plate.
Transmitter here _____ Amps _____ Circuit _____
Radiation _____
Antenna _____ 4 wire inverted "L", 60 Feet long, 47 Feet High.
Ground _____ Water Pipe, Heater, Roof, Counterpoise.
Remarks _____
CUL 73.
Pse. QSL QRK? LOUIS A. BERRY

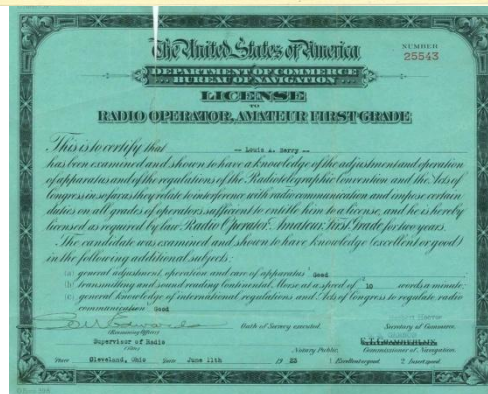
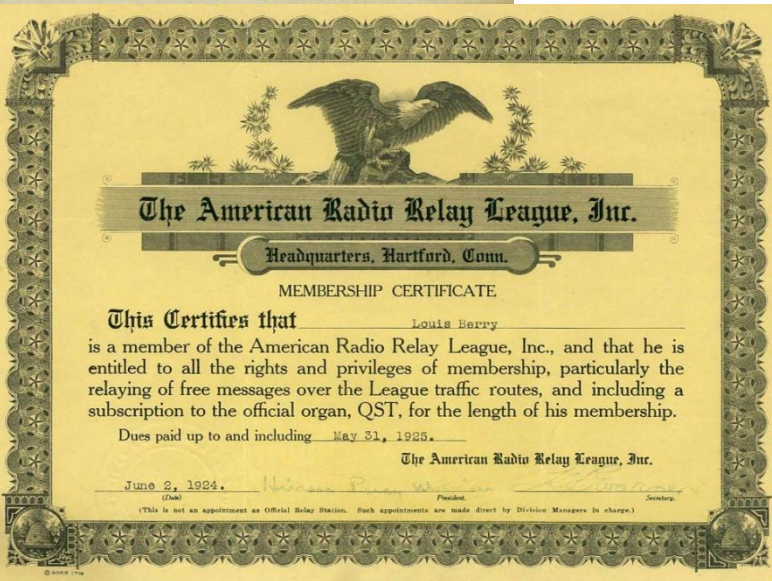
Thought you might be interested in my father's old paperwork, QSL, and shack.

In 1957-58 I was KN8JYE. I just got back into ham radio this



year and was able to get my father's old call with the added W, W8BGE.

I still have some parts of my fathers rig and the DX-40 we built together when I was a novice, plus a WRL VFO.



I am having a hard time with this new equipment, it's not like the good old stuff. PCARS is a great group, never have I seen such an active club.

73,

Berry, W8BGE

Editor's Note: It's hard to see, but his father's ARRL Membership certificate is signed by Hiram Percy Maxim!

GLECC Committee/Staff Meeting

Volunteers are welcome to attend the next Great Lakes Emergency Communications Conference (GLECC) committee/staff meeting at 7:00 PM, Monday, January 17, 2011 at the Gilmour Academy Lower School on Cedar Rd. in Gates Mills, Ohio.

This meeting is open to all who are interested in helping with the conference.

Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Talk-in will be on the 146.790 (-) PL 88.5 repeater in South Euclid.

Contact the GLECC Public Information Officer Paul Andrews N8NYI at pdandrews@windstream.net or Matt Welch, W8DEC at 440-336-0295 for more information.



Matt, W8DEC
ARES® District 10 DEC

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: The MFJ-976 Tuner. 1500 Watt full legal limit fully balanced antenna tuner. Very wide matching ranges (12-2000 Ohms) and continuous 1.8-30 MHz coverage including all WARC bands! It handles a full 1500 Watts SSB and CW. \$479 new, will sell for \$350.00. Used only a few times. Do not need with a 4 element SteppIR. . [03/30/11]

Contact: **Chuck** - W8PT@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Cushcraft 10-3 ten meter 3 element beam. I've dry fit it and it seems that the only piece missing is a 6" x 6" aluminum mast plate. \$299 new, I'd like to get \$100 plus shipping (should be around \$16.00 to ship). [12/28/10]

Contact **Randy** - N6TL@portcars.org

FOR SALE: 7" Screen GPS - Great for all you APRS people, or for those that have an Icom IC-7000 mobile (you can use the GPS to also display the IC-7000 screen through a video port!). Brand new, with everything including suction mount. \$150 [2/25/11]

FOR SALE: MFJ-5124K - Auto tuner cable for Kenwood - Original box & manual. - \$20.00 [2/25/11]

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

FOR SALE: Best Technologies "Ferrups" commercial grade UPS, model FE850VA/14C, 850VA continuous; includes battery cables with power poles for external deep-cycle battery(ies). \$75 each (I have two for sale). [01/01/11]

FOR SALE: Gator GR-4S rack case, 4 rack units (the ultimate "go kit"). \$110 [01/01/11]

FOR SALE: 6 ½ ' heavy duty rack cabinet with rails front and rear, two locking doors, good condition. \$125 [01/01/11]

FOR SALE: 6' medium duty cabinet with rails front and rear, two locking doors, very good condition. \$110 [01/01/11]

FOR SALE: Huber-Suhner EMP protector, model 3400.17.0024, 824-960 MHz, with two N-F connectors. \$5 each (I have two for sale) [01/01/11]

FOR SALE: Decibel Products DB8802BA-100 remote reading digital power meter (forward, reflected & swr) & alarm, 406-1000MHz. \$95 [01/01/11]

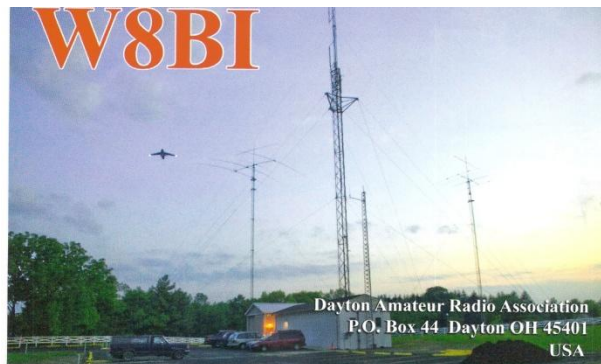
FOR SALE: Bird 43 watt meter, nice condition, with 4 slugs: 250A, 25-60 MHz, 250W : 50E, 400-1000 MHz, 50W : 500H, 2-30 MHz, 500W : 250C, 100-250 MHz, 250W. Watt meter and 4 slugs for only \$325 [01/01/11]

Contact **Rick**: K8GI@portcars.org

Editor's Note: Ads run for 3 months then are dropped from the listing *UNLESS* you send it in again. Each ad will have an expiration date that looks like: [03/30/11] when they will be removed. This will help keep the listings current.

Paper Chase

Earlier this year, Janet W8ICQ sent to K1BV for his DX AWARDS DIRECTORY information on the Ohio County Award. Also this week, I received three QSL cards from the Dayton Amateur Radio Association for contest QSOs from the past two years. For the last seven years the Dayton Amateur Radio Association has not been issuing the Ohio County Award. Let us hope that the new officers and their sending out QSL cards that they will honor requests for the Ohio County Award. Following is the information on the Award.



Ohio County Award

The basic award is issued for contacting 22 of the 88 counties, one of which must be Montgomery County. Endorsements for 44, 66 and all 88. All bands and modes OK, except no use of repeaters or digipeaters. Cards must be in your possession and available on request. Award is FREE, send 9" x 12" SASE with GCR list to: Ohio County Award, Dayton Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 44, Dayton, Ohio 45401-0044.

Joe, W8KNO

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 34 plates up on the wall now, 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 renewal time comes around for your Amateur Radio, you can get NEW plates issued (same call sign).



We have room for

[YOUR](#) Ham Radio plate

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.

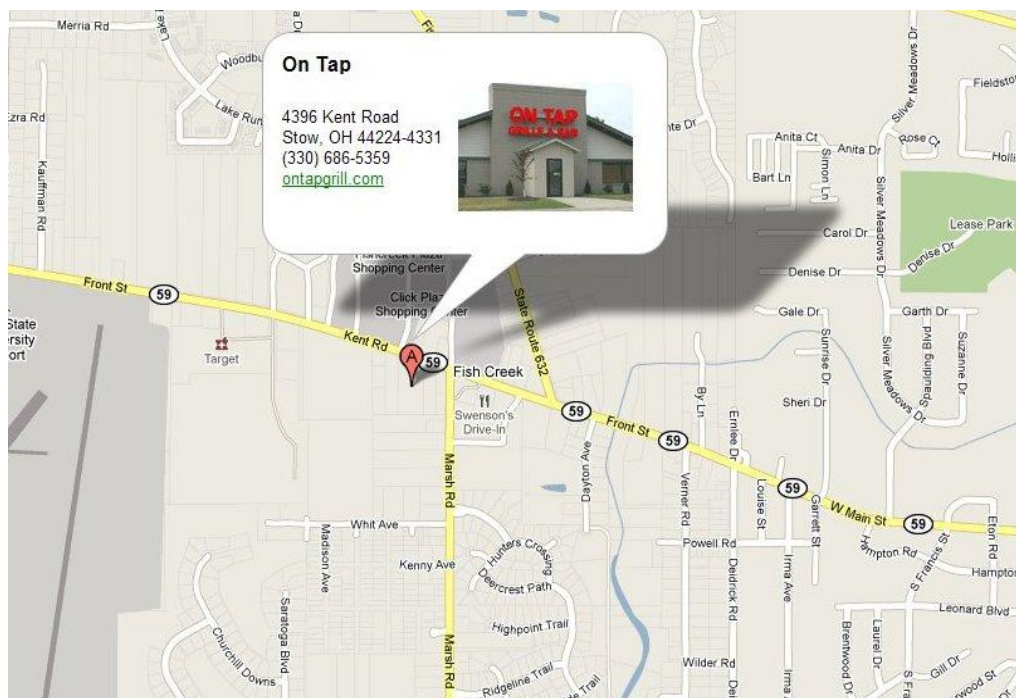
PCARS Meetings

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

The next meeting will be at: **On Tap Grille**, 4396 Kent Rd. (St Rt. 59), in Stow. It is about a mile west of the Kent city limits.

**PCARS meeting - 7:00 pm
Second Monday of Every
Month**

(Meetings are held January through November. December is the Christmas Party)



Thanks & 73

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 month's contributors:

KC8PD, WB2DFC, W8PT, WB8LCD, KB8UUZ, N8RLG, WB9LBI, W8KBF, KB8JFF, KB6NU, W8HFY, AE5WX, KC8KYW, W8BGE, W8DEC, W8KNO the ARRL, and the World Wide Web.



Here are the stats from the 2010 issues of The RADIOGRAM.

For those of you that do print it out, wow, that's a lot of ink and paper!

With your continued help – we can keep making this a great newsletter.

| Month | Pages | Words |
|---------------|------------|----------------|
| January | 27 | 13,981 |
| February | 29 | 13,985 |
| March | 38 | 18,587 |
| April | 34 | 18,246 |
| May | 34 | 15,372 |
| June | 28 | 12,222 |
| July | 35 | 17,466 |
| August | 33 | 10,218 |
| September | 24 | 9,321 |
| October | 29 | 11,771 |
| November | 28 | 12,574 |
| December | 29 | 11,094 |
| Totals | 368 | 164,837 |

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

Pictures from the November PCARS Meeting





Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application [] New [] Renewal

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____

Birthday: Month: _____ Day: _____ (don't need year)

A \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed in the first year of membership for all new members.

Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Jan 31st the following year.

Dues are as follows: Example - Regular Member Pays on Jan 1st \$20 for entire year. If paid on June 1st, \$15 for entire year, etc.

Check One

Pro-Rated Dues Amount:

☐

Regular Full Member

Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$20.00 (full year)

Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$15.00 (last 7 months)

☐

Associate Member

Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$10.00 (last 4 months)

Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$5.00 (last month)

☐

Regular Senior Full Member (65+)

Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$16.00 (full year)

Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$12.00 (last 7 months)

☐

Associate Senior Member (65+)

Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$8.00 (last 4 months)

Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$4.00 (last month)

☐

Family* Member

Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$10.00 (full year)

Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$8.00 (last 7 months)

Call Sign of Regular Member: _____

Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$5.00 (last 4 months)

Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$3.00 (last month)

(*Family = wife, husband, brother, sister, son, daughter, father, mother that is a licensed amateur radio operator who's FCC license has the same address as the paid regular member's FCC license)

Checks can be made out to either "PCARS" - or - "Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc."

What are **YOUR** Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Member #: _____

Mail to: Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.
c/o: Mary Jo Loveland KD8GGZ
4838 Campbellsport Road
Ravenna OH 44266-8895

Date Received:
New Renewal
Date Voted:
Database Updated

Initiation Fee \$ _____ Dues \$ _____
O Cash O Check Total Amount: \$ _____
Results:

Rev 2009 0501

WB8LCD
KC8PD
KB8UJZ
KB8VJL
W8KNO
KB8DPN
KB8SZI
KD8EPF
N8KBX
WB8VYW
W8PT
N6TL
KC8RJR
N4PKW
AB8UD
KB8TUY
WB8FEW
N4IT
WB9LBI
WB8VNO
KC8FQV
K8HGX
WB8OVQ
WD8BIW
N8FTP
W8RJG

KC8ZZG
AB8VX
AB8IE
KC8RKV
N8WLE
AK8U
KC8SYD
KD8DFM
N8PXW
WD8DAU
N8EQJ
W8VWVG
KD8EPG
KC8LJY
KD8EPA
KB8JFF
K8FEY
KD8EPE
WB2DFC
N8ZDR
KD8FLZ
KD8FDN
N8XTH
KD8FDK
K8QF
AB8YN

KD8FLW
KD8FLX
N8GLK
KD8FLV
KC8PHY
KC8PIZ
N8ATV
N8GIE
KC8KYW
KD8GHB
KD8GGZ
KB8AMZ
KD8FME
KB8PHJ
AE5WX
N8QE
K8CAV
K8SRR
KD8GGB
KD8FLU
K8GI
KD8HGI
N8JLC
NX8G
KD8CGF
KC8DBX

KD8GHA
N1EZZ
N8RLG
KD8ICP
KD8DFL
K8JE
NT8K
K8AAB
KD8INR
W8JJW
W8HFY
K3GP
W8NET
KD8JCY
KC8UNR
KDFPP
KD8JRJ
KD8JRE
KD8JRI
KD8IUA
NOJIW
KD8JRF
WA8CCU
W8SV
K8FS
KC8YYS

KD8VT
N8HUC
KB3OQV
KB3GXB
KD8KCY
KD8LDY
K8DER
AB8AA
K8JAA
G0BPS
KD8LIR
KB8UHN
W8CDL
KD8LEB
KD8MQ
N8OQQ
KA8BNS
Vee
AB8SX
KC8MXW
K8NYM
KJ4MPN
N8RKA
KD8BHX
W8ZL
KD8LLN

KD8MBH
KD8JRK
KD8MLF
KA8SWC
KD8MLH
KD8MLE
KD8MLG
KD8MLI
KE8G
KD8NLQ
KW8KW
N8ONI
KD8CGH
WA8GCF
A18P
KD8MWE
KD8EZJ
N8JAM
KA8TOA
K8MSF
WA8OKR
N8IL
KD8OBC
KD8OBA
KD8OAZ
KD8OBE

WD8RAY
W8RID
W8DAC
W8DEC
KD8OFH
KD8EUP
KC8RRG
K8STK
W8BGE
AF1K

From ALL of Us
To ALL of YOU
Happy Holidays!



Christmas 2010

Amateur Radio GENERAL Class Upgrade Class



The **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)** is offering a General Class Upgrade course

When: Tuesday Evenings 7:00 p.m.
Starting January 18, 2011
License testing will be held on the last day of class

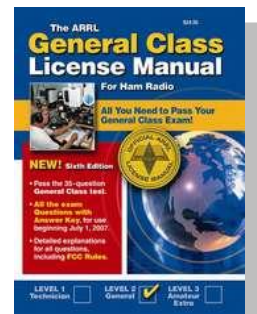
Where: At the PCARS Club Site in the Radio Room located in the Dietrich Building - 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna.

Cost: \$25.00 registration fee for non-PCARS members
Your \$25 fee includes a One Year Membership in PCARS
There is **no** fee for current PCARS members

Text – ARRL “General Class License Manual”
Books may be purchased from PCARS for \$25.00

Information
and Registration:

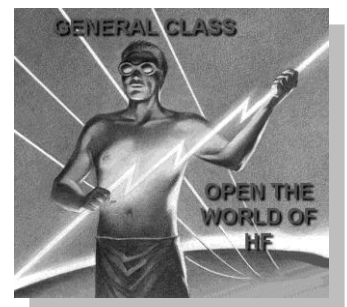
Contact: **Jim Aylward, KC8PD**
by e-mail: aylwardjim@aol.com
or phone: **330-297-7979**



Please register with KC8PD by January 10th
You can pay the registration fee the first night of class



As a **General Class Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to Contact other ham radio operators in the area and around the world on the HF Bands. It will open up a whole new area of fun for you in Amateur Radio.





PCARS - K8BF

Sixth Annual

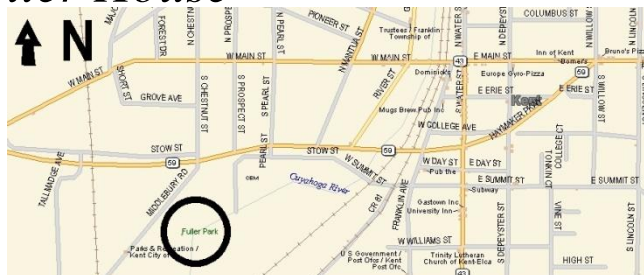
*"Freeze Your Acorns Off"
(FYAO) QRP mini-field day
Special Event Station*



*Where: Fred Fuller Park - 497 Middlebury Rd., Kent, Oh
at the Roy Smith Shelter House*

*When: Saturday - Feb. 19, 2011
Set up: 9am*

Operating Time: 10 am - 6 pm EST



We will be active on CW & SSB in the General areas of the 15, 20, 40 and 80 meter bands (Echolink on the KC8RKV echo link node) and anything else we can get working. Contact **K8BF** for a certificate or the other participating stations that will be using their own callsign/FYAO, or calling "CQ FYAO" (only stations at the Freeze Your Acorns Off event should use the /FYAO designator).

Yes, we'll be braving the cold snowy weather of North Eastern Ohio to set up QRP stations using portable power and antennas.



A beautiful color (suitable for framing) 8" x 10" certificate will be available if you contact K8BF or the other /FYAO stations and send your QSL with a large SASE to the club call trustee:

Al Atkins, KB8VJL - 12433 Chamberlain Rd. - Aurora, OH 44202

So, from the comfort of your warm radio shack - give us a contact while we're out freezing. We'll need all the contacts we can make to help keep us warm. Your support will be very much appreciated!



Check PCARS out on the web at: www.portcars.org





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

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

Check the PCARS website www.portcars.org for meeting location

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 2010

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ARRL Awards - VUCC | W8KNO | Joe Wehner |
| ARRL Awards - WAS | KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| Club Call Trustee | KB8VJL | Al Atkins, Sr. |
| Club Site | KC8PD | Jim Aylward |
| Contest Coordinators | W8KNO W8PT | Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis |
| Field Day 2011 | K8CAV | Rick Kruis |
| FYAO | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| Historian | KB8SZI | Peggy Parkinson |
| K8BF QSL Mgr. | KB8VJL | Al Atkins, Sr. |
| Net Coordinator | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| Newsletter | KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| OSPOTA 2010 | W8PT | Chuck Patellis |
| PIO | KC8PD | Jim Aylward |
| Proxy Check In | KB8VJL | Al Atkins, Sr. |
| Secretary | KD8GGZ | Mary Jo Loveland |
| Web Master | K8SRR | Steve Randlett |



PCARS
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 |
| KD8FLZ | Mike DiCarro |
| KE8G | Jim Blanca |
| W8RID | Bob Davet |



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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 yourself 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

