



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



June 2010 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 5 No. 6

~ 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

This was a terrific year for a trip to the Dayton Hamvention. The weather was beautiful and from the looks of a lot of people that were coming back in to the Hara Arena one of the flea market vendors could have made a fortune selling sunscreen.

I had the chance to wander through the flea market with Chuck, W8PT, and during our leisurely stroll he happened to spot a vendor with a used Yaesu FT-1000MP for sale. We stopped and gave it a good examination as Chuck explained that this was the type of rig that could make a nice addition to the club's shack. Full-featured, reasonably priced, all in all a lot of bang for your buck. With that we were on our way.

After about a lap and a half around the vendor area Chuck suddenly stopped. There, sitting in the back of a ham's SUV, was an absolutely pristine FT-1000MP MkV. It looked like it had just come of the dealer's shelf. Absolutely mint, it was outfitted with the Collins filters and had a late model serial number meaning that it had been produced toward the end of this classic rig's production run.



FT-1000 MP Mark V

Chuck's face lit up like it was Christmas morning and he had just found this radio under the tree. The ham selling it was a great guy who confessed to having purchased an FT-2000 for which he now wanted to buy a linear amp. The XYL said that something had to go (possibly meaning either him or the radio) so off he went to Dayton to sell his beloved rig. He had the power supply and various hardware that had come with the radio and he was firm on the price.

We tracked down Dave, WB2DFC, by cell phone and he was also in the flea market and soon made his way to our location. More haggling took place and then we were able to get Tom, WB8LCD, on the phone. With that we had a quorum for an impromptu board meeting and after some discussion all four of us voted for the purchase. For \$1,500 PCARS had a great radio.

It was at that point that we figured out that between Chuck, Dave and myself we were more than a bit short of the purchase price. So Dave and I left Chuck behind for security and we headed off to a bank to secure the cash. Within a half hour we were back, the deal was consummated and the rig has been put on the air at its new home: the PCARS club site.

Continued on Page 2

In This Issue of *The* RADIOGRAM

Antenna Day Report	7
Charlie the Tuner's HF High Lites	9
Club Member QSL Cards	21
Contest Calendar	21
EmComm	13
Field Day 2010	15
Ham License Plates Wanted	23
Hamfest Schedule	17
Happy Birthday	14
It's All About Antennas	16
KD8ETS - SK	4
Mark Your Calendars	14
Meetings, PCARS	24
Mr. Field Day Answers Your Hate Mail	18
Net (Thursday) Information & NCS Schedule	18

Ohio QSO Party	22
Patches & Stickers, PCARS	20
Pictures from the PCARS May Meeting	24
President, From the	1
Shack Shots - AE5WX	23
Some Pictures from Hamvention 2010	25
Some Words From Weaver	14
Swap-N-Shop	22
Tech Test Gets a Little More Technical	12
Thanks & 73	27
VE Test Sessions	20
Vice President, from the	3
WB8LCD for Ohio Section Manager	6
Yahoo Group	15



From the President - Continued from Page 1

There was more fun at Dayton for the PCARS crew. We had a great crowd for the club photo on Saturday morning and then most of us headed down to the DX Engineering booth to get another shot with the busy PCARS members who were manning the sales area.

In addition, Tom, WB8LCD, Dave, WB2DFC, Chuck, W8PT, and I spent a lot of time at the ARRL Clubs booth spreading the PCARS story. We met a lot of great hams from all over the country as well as from the U.K, and Australia. Plus we got to spend some quality time with Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, the ARRL Member and Volunteer Programs Assistant Manager. He has been a real friend to PCARS and is a great guy to work with. Tom and Chuck also volunteered in the League's Legislative Action booth as did Al and Jane Avnet, AB8AA and K8JAA, respectively.

This year I had the privilege of being one of the speakers at the MARS Forum on Saturday. The meeting was well attended with representatives of all three MARS services. It was great to have the chance to visit with other MARS members who I usually only have contact with on the air.



KC8PD at Hamvention 2010

I hope that you all have a chance to be at Dayton in 2011. Now, let's get ready for Field Day!

73,
Jim, KC8PD

From the Vice President

Greetings all people of radio !

Another Dayton Ham-vention come... and gone. At least 'til next year! What a blast... and great to see so many PCARS members there! I was bumping into PCARS-ians inside, outside, all over... and they were a-smilin'.

For PCARS, a new (to us) HF club site rig. A few serious eyeballs were taking in the tables outside... and guess what.... a great deal on a FT-1000MP. Our very own Chuck, W8PT, spotted what could have been the deal of the fest. I'm sure the rig will get a lot of use... and what a great radio... lots of filtering for all modes (CW is really the only mode - hi hi), 200 watts output, a built in antenna tuner and two, that's right, two independent receivers. This is a great addition to the PCARS Club Site! Thanks to Jim, KC8PD and Chuck, W8PT, for makin' this flea market scoop!

My Dayton trip started with setting up camp at the Tall Timbers



KOA Campground. A truly nice campground. Lots of showers, campsites, friendly ham campers and close to the Ham-vention. Bus transportation was available right at the camp ground office... but alas, I took my truck to the fest... in the event a very heavy item may be purchased and require immediate pick up. These two pictures



show my campsite.

I did make a very heavy (a few pounds) purchase.... a Begali HST paddle.. a thing of beauty I tell you!!! And... it comes with it's own polishing cloth. I have had it on the air and what a difference a precision paddle makes when sending CW. I will be bringing the Begali to Field Day... so brush up on ur CW and have a go at some QSOs. Oh, of-course here's a picture of the Begali, complete with polishing cloth.



On to another topic.... contesting. I have found a terrific web site listing upcoming contests. "<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>". Click on the link and explore all of the contesting info. The web site is the property of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. Bruce has done a great job of sorting out the contest info, you can even look for specific mode contests. For example, if you would like only contests where CW is an accepted mode, click on CW Contests, the same for QRP.. and so on. Bruce also sets up calendars for the next 8 days, a 12 month calendar, a perpetual calendar, state QSO parties, and much more. Please have a look at the WA7BNM Contest Calendar and plan for your next (CW) contest. I use it all the time!

And speaking of contests, the CQ WW WPX CW Contest is upon us. If you get the PCARS Newsletter before the holiday weekend, outstanding, consider yourself notified. You can find all of the contest details at "<http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>". I will also send out a broadcast email about the 2010 CQ World-Wide WPX CW Contest. This is great pre-Field Day exercise and I hope you can participate. And of course Field Day is right around the corner. I will see you there... can't wait!

72/73 for now...and see you at Field Day...

Dave, WB2DFC



KD8ETS, Clarence G. Hollow, SK

Clarence G. Hollow, 94, of Ravenna, passed away on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at Robinson Memorial Hospital. He was born on August 25, 1915 in Akron, a son of the late George and Margaret (Wren) Hollow. Clarence, having lived in Ravenna since 1976 was a member of the First Church of God and a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He retired from Colonial Machine in Kent, where he worked as a toolman. Clarence is survived by his wife of 9 years, Betty (Cartwright) Hollow of Ravenna.



Clarence attended a PCARS Technician class at Maplewood Career Center in 2006. When Clarence passed his Technician test, everyone was so proud of Clarence and the officers presented Clarence with a Life Membership in PCARS. Clarence was PCARS member #51.

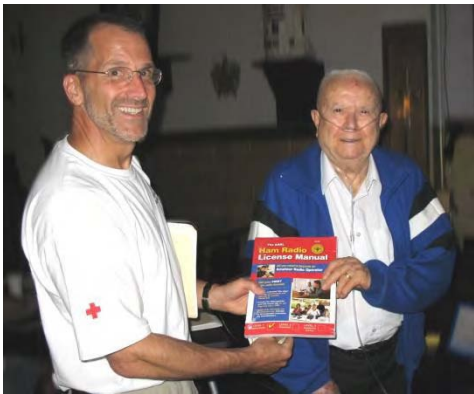
The following is a reprint of an article that was published in the January 2007 issue of the RADIOGRAM. This article, written by Jim, KC8PD, was highlighted in the Record Courier newspaper and a copy of it also showed up on a French Amateur Radio website.

=====

You're Never Too Old [from the January 2007 RADIOGRAM]

Remember the thrill and sense of accomplishment that you felt when the examiners announced that you had passed your first amateur radio license exam? You were probably excited about all that was to come with your new hobby and relieved that the test was behind you.

For many of us, that happened when we were adolescents or teens. The rest of us either came back to or discovered ham radio and were first licensed when we were adults. But very few of us heard "Congratulations, you passed" at the same point in life as Clarence Hollow - KD8ETS, did.



Jim, KC8PD gives an ARRL Technician License Manual to Clarence to begin reading prior to the Technician class starting

On Saturday, December 2, 2006, at age ninety-one, Clarence passed the test for his Technician license, and for Clarence, his wife Betty, and the VE team there were smiles all the way around.

The American Radio Relay League was born in 1914. Clarence arrived the following year on August 25th in Akron, Ohio. Two months later on October 20, 1915, the first successful trans-Atlantic voice transmission was sent from New Jersey to France. Both radio and Clarence were in their infancy at the same time.

After high school Clarence first found work as a welder and for most of his working career was involved in metal work of some sort, everything from punch press operator to plant manager. Most of his life he worked in Ohio, other than a few years in the early seventies when he lived in South Carolina. He returned to Ohio when his first wife, Evelyn, passed away. They were married for thirty-seven years. They had two children, Gary, who lives nearby in Ohio, and Joyce, who resides in Colorado. He was married to his second wife, Laura, for twenty-three years until she passed away. He lost both wives to cancer. Betty and Clarence were married seven years ago having met at church.

Clarence faced some major health issues of his own over the years including triple bypass surgery and the loss of half a lung to cancer. Despite that, he has always been very active. After he retired in 1981 he was a volunteer at the local hospital in the 1980's and 1990's amassing nearly four thousand hours of service. In addition, he volunteered at a local non-profit medical clinic for eight years.

His working career was interrupted by service in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946, where Clarence earned the rank of boatswain. Because he was color blind his service was restricted to stateside duty.

Surprisingly, radio in general, and amateur radio in particular, did not catch Clarence's interest until 2006. During the summer he happened to see an article in a local paper about an upcoming hamfest and decided to attend it. What he saw and heard piqued his curiosity about the hobby. He was disappointed when he received no replies to the phone messages that he left for the head of an area club.

Not one to be easily deterred, Clarence called the Federal Communication Commission for assistance. The FCC provided him with the phone number for the Newington offices of the ARRL. After speaking with Clarence, Norm Fusaro, W3IZ of the ARRL sent an e-mail to Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ secretary/treasurer of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) to see if he could help.

As luck would have it, PCARS was offering a Technician license course that was starting in September at the Maplewood Career Center in Ravenna, Ohio, Clarence's home town. Tom contacted Clarence with information about the class and arranged for his registration. Teaching the class as a team were Tom, KB8UUZ, Tom Sly, WB8LCD, Russ Anderson, KB8DPN and Jim Aylward, KC8PD.

Clarence was an attentive student, making it to all but one of the classes. Getting around is complicated a bit by the oxygen he has to carry with him. But he takes it all in stride and with good humor. So good, in fact, that one evening during class he suddenly announced that he had to leave. When asked if he was okay he said he was fine, "Just running out of gas." He found the technical materials, particularly Ohm's law, to be the most difficult.

The last night of class was set aside for the VE session. A special test was printed for Clarence in thirty-six point type to accommodate his visual limitations. He usually employs a magnifying glass but the large type enabled him to read the questions without using it.

It just wasn't Clarence's night and much to his disappointment he did not pass the test. Fortunately, he is not one to give up, and neither were his instructors. Another VE session was scheduled four weeks later. During that time Clarence continued to study and review the material with assistance from Betty and his son Gary, along with some tutoring by Carl Capps, N4TIE, and Jim, KC8PD.



PCARS December 2006 VE Test Session

Needless to say, we were all a bit anxious when Saturday, December 2nd rolled around, except maybe Clarence who seemed relaxed. He took his time, reviewing each question carefully. One other applicant was sitting for the Technician test and four were taking the Amateur Extra exam that day. Clarence turned in his exam and one by one the three VE's graded it. Only after we had all finished did we add up the correct answers. He had passed!

As you can see by the accompanying picture, these were probably four of the happiest VE's you would ever find as they stood next to Clarence who was proudly holding his Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination. He said that he felt "great" when he passed and Betty was very happy for him. So happy that it was her treat to take him out for a lobster dinner.



Clarence in the September 2006 Technician class with his wife Betty looking on.



Clarence Hollow, KD8ETS (center) happily displays his Technician CSCE with the PCARS VE team, left to right, Carl Capps, N4TIE, Russ Anderson, KB8DPN, Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ and Jim Aylward, KC8PD.



Clarence, KD8ETS and his
VX-170 radio.

Clarence had purchased an HT in anticipation of passing the test and Tom, KB8UUZ helped him program in all the local repeaters as well as the channels for area safety forces. Clarence also decided that it was time to get hooked up to the internet so that he could try out Echolink. On Thursday, December 14th (2006), all those who checked in on the PCARS Thursday night net had a chance to hear from Portage County's newest ham.

We all find personal satisfaction from the hobby of amateur radio in a variety of ways. Whether its DXing, contests, working QRP, going mobile or portable, tracking satellites, ragchewing, exploring microwaves, or building kits, just to name a few, there is something for everyone. But as instructors and VE's we can tell you that all of those have a hard time matching the thrill of handing that CSCE to a brand new ham and

saying "Congratulations."



WB8LCD for Ohio Section Manager

In August 2010, the Ohio Section of the ARRL will elect a new Section Manager. I have been nominated for and am actively running to be your next Ohio Section Manager. My name is **Tom Sly – WB8LCD**.

There are three things you should know before casting your vote for me:

Who am I?

What is my vision for the Ohio Section?

Why am I qualified for the position?

I'm a lifelong resident of Ohio and have been a ham for 43 of my 57 years. I'm married with three adult children; our first grandchild is due right about the time I'll be at the Dayton Hamvention. I graduated from the University of Akron with a degree in Finance. Since graduation I've been self-employed as an Independent Insurance Agent.

First licensed in 1967, I've always been an active ham. My current ham radio activities include QRP, contesting and DXing. I'm active in my local club and have been an instructor in the club's Technician and General upgrade classes as well as a member of the VE team.



Tom, WB8LCD

As Ohio Section Manager my goal will be to make the Ohio Section the premier section in the ARRL. I believe this can be accomplished by increasing the number of hams in our Section who are members of the ARRL and by making the Ohio Section stand out as the place where the most new hams are being licensed. I will promote ham radio in Ohio to the general public so they will know that Ham Radio is one of the greatest hobbies in the world! With positive community actions, the public in general will hold us in high regard. In the changing world of Emergency Communications there is much to be done to update and better organize the ham radio EmComm response – incorporating ARES®, RACES and MARS into a coordinated effort. I think that the Ohio Section should become a "best practices" leader in demonstrating how this can be accomplished.

I've had a successful business career since I started my insurance agency in 1975. I'm an Eagle Scout and on the board of a regional non-profit organization based in Portage County. I was a founding member and the first

president of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS): www.portcars.org . In just a few short years PCARS has gone from zero to over 150 active members. PCARS has been recognized for its accomplishments by League headquarters staff and others in the ham radio community. I've had the experience to prove that I can organize and accomplish what I set out to do.

More information is available on my website: www.wb8lcd.org and I invite you to email me directly at wb8lcd@arrl.net if you have any specific questions or concerns. Please let me know what *you* think are the important issues we'll face in the Ohio Section in the immediate future.

I hope you will agree, and elect me as your section manager this coming August. In the meantime, get on the air and enjoy the greatest hobby in the world!

73,
Tom, WB8LCD



Antenna Day Report



Weather: Really awful. High Wind Warnings were in effect. Temperatures were in 40's, occasional rain, steady winds at 10 mph, gusting to 15 mph. Heavier weather fronts were in the area, but they shifted to the north.

Attendance: 40 people signed in, which is a record. We also had a few guests who had heard of Antenna Day and

dropped in to check us out.



Food: 4 dozen donuts, 64 cups of coffee, and ten pizzas were consumed.



Cold drinks were available, but nobody seemed to want them. Thanks to Tom WB8LCD and Robin Fraedrich for dealing with the food.

The 25KW generator, pride and joy of James KD8VT and the distribution panels he built worked flawlessly. It seems that disgruntled picnic partiers in the other pavilion deliberately tried to destroy our power feed across the road. James may run the power cables over the

road, instead of across the road. Downside: several cars had to be moved to accommodate his preferred parking spots (he took up five parking spaces!). He will have to come way early on Field Day to make sure he gets the same place again.



All stations were set up with no problems noted. The Flex station used the cutest little homemade trailer supplied by Rick K8CAV. The CW station set up in its alternate site of the little pavilion.

The 6-meter station kept the tower low to the ground in anticipation of higher winds.

We conducted extensive testing to see which stations caused interference with other stations on different bands. Thanks to having antennas spread out, and in many cases, aligned in a north-south configuration, much of the





interference bedeviling us in previous years has been eliminated. There were, however, certain exceptions.

The GOTA station rig turned had problems with interference from other stations on all bands. We will secure a different rig for GOTA. We will also try a different antenna orientation at FD. None of this stopped Bob N8QE from making several European QSO's on 20 meters!

Meanwhile, at the 20-meter position, Deron N8XTH and Chuck W8PT (accidentally) simulated a rig failure. Interference testing on the 20-meter position could not be completed because the rig was apparently dead. We found out that we did not have a back-up rig. We will have several available at Field Day.



We learned that the selected 2-meter site frequency is susceptible to interference from the computers. Mike KD8FLZ conducted a frequency survey to locate clearer channels.

The technical team set tried out completely different equipment than last year. We used our own desktop PC's, and no laptop computers. Tech captain Steve K8SRR came up with several innovations:

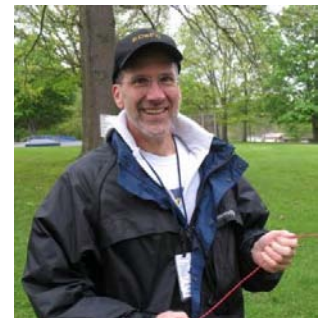
- Dual monitors for each station, so that the operator and the logger each had their own screen.
- A weatherproof enclosure for each station, containing a wireless router and high-gain directional antenna.
- The routers are powered by a tapping the internal power supply in each computer. Steve came up with a wiring harness using Anderson power poles and related connectors.



Five CW operators were on hand. Dave WB2DFC conducted training on the operation of his Elecraft K2, including how to program the internal memory keyer.

It's true that we set up our Field Day contest site, made some contacts, and discovered a handful of kinks. But that misses the point. We accomplished much more.

- We took an empty field and turned into a multi-station, multi-frequency, multi-mode world wide communications facility with a staff of 40.
- A complete computer networking system was established for the site.
- Food service was available constantly.
- We did not use one volt of electricity that we did not generate ourselves.
- We did not use any components that were not owned by PCARS or its members. In many cases, the equipment was designed built by club members.
- The entire operation used not one penny of government or other outside funding.
- And we made the entire site fully operational in under two hours.



That's amazing. It is embodiment of the phrase When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works. Chuck and I are just so proud to be part of the Field Day team. See you June 26th!

Bill, WB9LBI



Charlie the Tuner's HF High Lites

This year seems to be flying by. Dayton has come and gone, Field Day is a month away. And sometime before that, we will have the longest day of the year and then daylight starts to retreat.

So the best thing to do is work a lot of DX to keep your mind off of the fact that there is only seven months left in 2010.

Wes, K8NYM sent in his monthly DX report. Here is some of the DX Wes worked this past month. DX worked in May: Cyprus; Albania; Brunei; Azerbaijan; Tunisia expedition; Jordan; Isola Rossa, Sardinia expedition; Oman; Solomon Is.; Georgia; 4U1ITU, Inter. Radio Club, Geneva. I'm primarily just working DXpeditions or countries I need to add to my DXCC total. Good job Wes.

I received confirmation QSLs from Nukunonu Tokelau – ZK3YA and Santa Pola.

I want to thank those local Hams that send me reports of their success and also the following for the forecast reports: 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 - Reminder 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 callsign: 4M200AJ, YV200D, YW200A, YW200ER, YW200L and YW200T. More information is expected to be available at:

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

IOTA

9H, MALTA - G0SGB, will be active as 9H3/G0SGB/p from Malta (EU-023, MIA MM-001, WLOTA LH-1113) between June 12-25th. He will also be active from Gozo Island (EU-023, MIA MM-004, WLOTA LH-0046) as 9H4/G0SGB/p. (No specific dates were provided). His activity will focus on lighthouse activations from Malta. QSL via his home callsign, direct only.

9H3, MALTA. Markus, OH1MN, will be visiting the island of Malta (IOTA EU-023, MIA MM-001 and WLOTA LH-1113) between June 19th and July 3rd. Activity will be holiday style (when time and XYL allows), and he will be on air as 9H3MK. Operations will be on 80-6 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via OH1MN.

9H3, MALTA. A group of Italian operators will be active as 9H3Y between July 24-31st. No other details were provided, but it seems that they will be there for the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 24-25th). Operators mentioned are: Marcello /



W8PT at Hamvention 2010

IT9ABY, Peter / IT9WKU, Delly / IT9ZRU, Antonella / IW9HJT and possibly others. QSL via IT9ABY, preferred direct and Bureau accepted.

AS-005. Valery, RZ9DX, is active as RZ9DX/0/A from **Medvezh'i Islands (Bear Island, RR-06-27)** in the Kara Sea Coast West Group (in the Arctic Ocean Basin). Activity has been mainly 20 meters CW and SSB, but he intends to fix his antennas for the other HF bands. His length of stay on the island is unknown at this time. QSL via his home callsign.

C6, BAHAMAS. Operators Mark/NA6M (C6AMS), Renee/N5BW (C6AMR), Scott/K2CK (C6ASH), Alan/K5AB (C6AAB) and Carolyn/W5ETY (C6ATY) plan to have some fun in the sun and activate Eleuthera Island (NA-001) between July 9-25th.

CARIBBEAN TOUR. Operators Andrea/IK1PMR and Claudia/PA3LEO will be active from two islands between June 8-21st. Their schedule is as follows:

June 8-12th - Ste. Maarten; callsign PJ7/IK1PMR and PJ7/PA3LEO

June 12-21st - Anguilla; requested callsigns VP2EMR and VP2ECF

Activity will be holiday style with a focus on 30/17/12 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL via PA3LEO.

EU-078 - EA3NT, will be making another attempt to **Formigues Islands** (DIE E-058, FEA E-0467, WLOTA LH-2128, ARLHS SPA-139) along with EA1DR, EA2TA and F4BKV. Callsign will be EG3FI, and operations will take place between June 25-26th. The first ever DXpedition to Formigues took place last year but only lasted for a few hours. *ADDED NOTE:* All the members of this operation will also be involved in the upcoming Flannan Isles (EU-118) DXpedition between June 18-21st.

EU-084. Operators Aloys/PA3DAT and Femma/PA3DWK will be active as SM0/PA3DAT from possibly **Singo Island** between July 23-25th. They will be an entry in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 24-25th).

EU-103. Operators Bernard/EI4II and Olivier/ON4EI will be active as EJ4II from **Saltee Islands** between July 23-25th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW and SSB. They also plan to be in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 24-25th). QSL via EI4II. Details about the Saltee Islands can be found at: <http://users.telenet.be/on5kl/eu103.htm>

EU-127. Peter, DF6QC, will be active from **Helgoland Island** during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 24-25th) as a 12H/SSB/Low-Power entry. QSL via DF6QC.

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.

NA-044. Operators Curt/W3HQ and Cliff/KI4IW will be active from **Battle Island** as VO2/homecall during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 24-25th) as a 24H/CW and SSB/All-Bands entry. Afterwards, the operators will activate a local lighthouse (name and reference numbers not provided) running QRP on CW on 40/30/20 meters

SA-071. A team of Brazilian operators will activate **Moela Island** (WLOTA 1335) between July 2-4th. There will be 1 station for the WLOTA contest using the PS2G callsign and another 2 stations for DX using the PW2K callsign. QSL both callsigns via PY2WAS. The team of 12 operators are: Gerson/PY2AC, Rabelo/PY2AN, Ric/ PY2DEL, Tony/PY2DY, Ric/PY2EL, Ricardo/PY2OE, Walter/PY2IAY, Carlos/PY2VM, Fabio/PY2XM, Julio/PY2XV, Waldir/PY2WC and Alex/PY2WAS. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, PSK31 and RTTY.

SV - J48/SV8, GREECE (IOTA Op). Laci, HA0HW, will be active as J48HW and SV8/HA0HW from Thassos Island (IOTA: EU-174, GIOTA: NAS-037, MIA: MG-124, WLOTA: LH-4186, QRA: KN20HS) between May 27th and June 7th. He will operate mainly CW, with some SSB, RTTY and PSK31 as well, on the HF bands (mainly on 40/30/20/17 meters) and on 6 meters. He will enter the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 29-30th) as J48HW. His rigs are a FT-840 with a MOS-FET amplifier and an IC-706 (for 6m only). Antennas are a monoband Gps and dipoles on fishing poles. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the HA Bureau.

DX NEWS

6V7, SENEGAL. Four HAMS from Spain will be active as 6V7W between July 24-31st. The team will try to have three stations on the air at the same time. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. There will be a special emphasis on the 6 meters band (Grid Locator IK14LL). Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1824, 3527, 7027, 10117, 14027, 18077, 21027, 24897, 28027 and 50100

SSB - 1840, 3790, 7060, 14190, 18140, 21290, 24940, 28490 and 50110

RTTY - 3590, 7040, 10145, 14085, 18105, 21080, 24920 and 28080 kHz

QSL via EA5KA: Raul Blasco Villarroja, P.O Box 20, 12080 Castellon, Spain. They plan to have logs online during the operation.

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

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

9Q, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO – (Reminder) ON5NT (ex-9Q1NT), reports that Georges, VE2EK, will once again be active as 9Q1EK from Kinshasa very soon and will be the ONLY radio amateur station left in the DRC with a VALID LICENSE.

A9, BAHRAIN (Update). EI3IO, has received his license and is expected to be active as A92IO from Sar, Northern Region, Kingdom of Bahrain (AS-002). His activity will last until at least August 2011. His focus will be on 80-10 meters, but he does plan to be on 160 meters. QSL direct to: Dave Court, P.O. Box 31183, Budaiya, Bahrain. QSL can also go by the Bureau to EI3IO. For more details about QSLing, please see QRZ.com.

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN - OZ1MDX, active as HB0/OU4U between June 22-27th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and possibly PSK31. Direct QSL for HB0/OU4U via Tim, M0URX (United Radio QSL Bureau). For Bureau QSL by E-mail requests, visit: <http://www.m0urx.com/qsL-request-form.html>

T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI - JA1XGI/W8XGI, reports that he will be active once again from Western Kiribati as T30XG or T30/T32XG between June 3-9th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters, including 30/17/12m, using CW and the Digital modes. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the Bureau.

VP2, MONTSERRAT (NA-103). Graham, M0AEP, will once again activate VP2MDD between June 14th and July 12th. Activity will be mainly on 6 meters, but also on HF bands, including 60 meters. He will use a TS480HX into a Carolina Windom (80-10m [incl. 60m], 5 element Eagle 50 MHz yagi on 18' boom and a 50 MHz half-wave vertical. QSL via M0AEP, by the Bureau or direct.

XU7, CAMBODIA. Laurent, F8ATM, will be active as XU7ATM from a Hill Side View Guest house in Sihanoukville between August 10-17th. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB and RTTY. An online log search will be available at: <http://www.clublog.org/logsearch/XU7ATM> QSL via F8ATM, by the Bureau or direct. For direct QSL request, please include a SAE and sufficient postage (IRC or 2 USDs). All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW when he returns to France.

PIRATE ALERT. Jacky, 3B8CF, Secretary of Mauritius Amateur Radio Society (MARS), inform us that the stations 3B8BOA and/or 3B8/F4BOA are illegal. The real owner, F4BOA, confirms that he was never active from Mauritius.

Well that's it for this report. Make sure that you mark your calendars for those events that will be taking place in months to come. Until next time, Gud DX!!

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



Tech Test Gets a Little More Technical

Ever since the FCC dropped the code requirement and the Novice license exam, the Technician Class license has really been misnamed. Being the first license that most hams obtain, it really should have been called the Novice license. The question pool was arguably at the appropriate level for newcomers to amateur radio, being heavy on rules and operating practices, and perhaps a little light on technical topics.

That's about to change. On July 1, 2010, the question pool for the Tech test changes, and this version has noticeably more technical questions than the previous test. You could say that the Tech test is getting, errrr, a little more technical.

For example, the new question pool contains more questions about electronics components and their functions. In addition to that, examinees must also be able to identify the symbols for these components on a schematic diagram. This is a big change from the previous test, which had no diagrams at all. There are also more detailed questions about transistors and how they work.

There are also questions on how to make basic measurements with a multimeter how to troubleshoot basic problems that Technicians are likely to encounter. One question asks, "What two measurements are commonly made using a multimeter"? Answer: voltage and resistance. A follow up question asks, "What is the correct way to connect a voltmeter to a circuit"? Answer: in parallel with the circuit.



To make room for these questions, the committee dropped questions on operating practices and rules and regulations. In general, these are not big losses, but two questions that I was sorry to see go are the questions on the "basis and purpose" of amateur radio. I think these are very important for new amateurs to learn and keep in mind. (If you don't recall them, go to <http://www.arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio> and review them.)

By the time you read this--or shortly thereafter--the new version of my No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide should be available. You can download it free of charge from my website, www.kb6nu.com. Look for the link in the right-hand column. It's currently in the hands of more than two dozen reviewers, who are proofreading it right now.

While it may not be in the initial release, I plan to include a section that contains links to websites that cover topics included in the study guide. That way, students can find more information on a topic, if they choose to do so. If you have any favorite websites that discuss making measurements with voltmeters or how to read schematic diagrams, I'd love to hear from you.

Dan, KB6NU



EmComm

It has been a busy Spring for the Portage County RACES unit with an even busier summer coming up.

In order to take advantage of the tri-band antenna that PCARS has on the former ODOT tower at the club site, the club acquired a Yaesu FT-8900. That is a quad-band rig (10, 6 and 2 meters plus 70 cm) so at some time in the future PCARS may install a separate ten meter antenna for it.

One of the very useful features of the FT-8900 is its ability to operate as a cross-band repeater. This means that it can operate in full duplex mode, receiving on one band on either side of the radio while simultaneously transmitting on another band on the other side. We have been learning a lot about the utility of cross-band repeaters, especially after the last RACES exercise when one of the FT-8800's at Robinson Memorial Hospital was used as a cross-band repeater to test its ability to provide coverage throughout the facility.



FT-8900

PCARS has graciously made the club site available for EmComm activities. This provided the RACES unit an opportunity to test the capability and coverage of the cross-band repeater. An exercise to accomplish this was held on May 22nd and organized by Mike, KD8FLZ, and Mike, KB8TUY. They provided the participants with assignments to operate using mobile rigs or HT's to access the cross-band repeater, starting from points in the vicinity of the four corners of the county.

All of the participants were then to drive to different locations, typically places that are used as Red Cross shelters, to see how well they could the repeater from each shelter and points in between. Their routes ultimately aimed them toward Ravenna where a debriefing and RACES meeting were held at the club site after the drill. We learned that coverage was best to the north, south and west and weakest to the northeast, east, and east-southeast.



This was good practice for all participants plus a hand way to familiarize ourselves with the locations of the shelters. It also suggested some future exercises using cross-band repeat including for search and rescue operations as well as for a remote input for the 146.895 repeater.

While they were on the road the RACES members also used the N8EQJ repeater as a backup in order to contact KD8FLZ, the extremely busy Net Control Station. This also gave us a chance to map the county for any weak coverage from the 146.895 machine.

RACES will have a role in the August National Guard exercise at Camp Ravenna, the former Ravenna Arsenal. This major event will involve upwards of 2000 personnel on site, including local, state and federal staff along with the National Guard members. This will be the Guard's largest exercise of one of its Joint Task Forces that have been created to provide assistance to local authorities after large scale disasters. Watch for more details on this as plans unfold.

Also, watch for more information about MARS activities on Field Day. Plans are underway to hold an Ohio Army MARS exercise on Saturday, January 26th, immediately before the start of FD operations. This may be a good chance for you to see and hear how MARS stations operate, especially their use of digital modes.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH
Radio Officer, Portage County EMA/RACES
Emergency Operations Officer, Ohio Army MARS

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in June:

N8ZDR	Richard Wilson
WA8SJU	Howard Evans
W8CDL	Coletta Tomasik
KC8MXW	Aaron Beatty
WB8OVQ	Robert Warner
KD8EPF	Rena Martin-Wehner
AB8AA	Allan Avnet

WD8DAU	Dan Trout
K8HGX	Jack Alpern
KC8PIZ	Sam McCoy
KD8MLG	Randy Morrow
KD8LIR	Jennifer Sly
KD8IHQ	Chuck Kulig

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- June 14th - meeting - **Electrical Safety**
- **June 26-27 - FIELD DAY - Ravenna City Park**
- July 12th - meeting - **Repeaters 101** - Ed, N8EQJ



Some Words from Weaver

Field Day Cometh

Field Day 2010 is June 26 and 27. The 2009 results are on the ARRL web site just in case anyone wishes to see how they fared last year. As always, have fun, learn something toward improving emergency communications skills and be safe.

Monitoring our Frequencies pays off

"Prompt follow up work by IARU monitors helped resolve the intrusion on 7150 and 7190 by a Kuwait Broadcast station," according to The Official Observer Summary dated April, 2010. Chuck Skolaut, KØBOG, Field & Regulatory Correspondent of ARRL reported that thanks to the work of Region I monitors, Radio Kuwait has moved its broadcasts from the amateur bands.



Jim, K8JE

Even though IARU monitors are not part of the ARRL Official Observer program, the work ARRL OOs perform is often similar to the work these monitors performed. Thank your friendly, local OOs for the support they provide.

Is it a Broadcast or a QSO?

"In response to reports of broadcasting we receive at times, here is one point to keep in mind to help in determining if it is indeed considered broadcasting. Are the transmissions intended to be received by the general public or are they directed to other amateurs? If other amateurs are involved and they take part and ID, it's considered a QSO." From: The Official Observer Summary April, 2010 by Chuck Skolaut, KØBOG. Field & Regulatory Correspondent, ARRL.

Thanks for the Letters

Thanks to the members of the Great Lakes Division and other ARRL Divisions who stopped by the Legislative Action booth at the Hamvention(tm) to send letters to their US legislators. These letters encouraged legislators to support S. 2881 and H.R. 4089. These bills would help insure each FCC commissioner has a technically-sound advisor on staff. Thanks also to the 18 volunteers from our Division who worked at the booth.

Division Legislative Action Chairman John Meyers, NB4K reports 1257 letters were obtained and sent to John Chwat, the ARRL legislative representative in Washington, DC. He will have the letters delivered directly to the legislators. The total number of letters obtained at the Hamvention this year is greater than twice the number obtain in 2009. Well done.

QSO Parties are Scheduled

It's a little early to turn your rigs on and to bring your favorite snacks in for the Ohio and Kentucky QSO parties, but it isn't too early to mark them on your calendar. The Ohio party (OHQP) will be from 1600Z to 2400Z August 28. It is sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club.

The Kentucky party (KyQP) will be from 1400Z November 13 to 0200Z November 14. It is sponsored by the Western Kentucky DX Association.

Jim, K8JE

Director - ARRL Great Lakes Division



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/>.



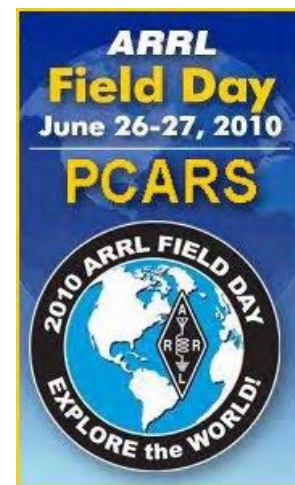
Field Day 2010

Hi Everyone... What, you thought I was going to leave you alone on Memorial Day weekend? Nope!

As we swing into June, now is the time for the station captains to line up their operators. We will make a general call for ops via email and at the next PCARS meeting.

We will be publishing a schedule for all operators and loggers. If previous years are any indication, this schedule won't be accurate for long. The station captains will keep the stations on the air with whoever is on hand!

Speaking of loggers, one of the problems that keeps popping up is the matter of inaccurate ARRL sections. If somebody tells you they are in Manitoba, you need to know that the correct



abbreviation is MB, not MN. Likewise, if your told that the station is in Maryland, and they go through the trouble of spelling out the abbreviation as MD...it's not. Yes, there are lids even in Field Day.

On our PCARS website, the Section Quiz is once again available for everyone to spiff up their logging skills, along with a complete list of the ARRL sections. I encourage everyone to use this study tool. It's amazing (and embarrassing) what you can forget in the course of a year.

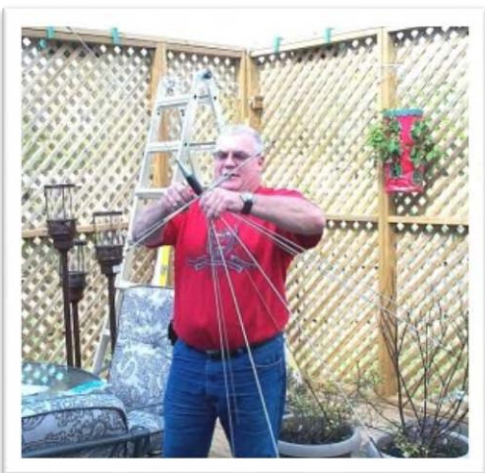
73,

Bill, WB9LBI
1/2 Field Day Chairman



It's All About the Antenna

So, here I am, a new ham in 2009...about a year after being licensed. (I think I will always be a new ham). I am trying to reach the repeater from my home in North Benton, OH. That's probably about 15 miles from the Rootstown input, as the crow flies. Some days, I can do it just fine and other days, its all static or silent. What am I using? Well, I am using a tri-band magnetic mount antenna on a cookie sheet with a Tri-band HT on the second floor of my home. And, sometimes, I would be carrying that antenna and cookie sheet around the upstairs to find a spot where I could hear the communications going on. That's my only radio except the one in the car. In order to be sure to be able to check into the nets I would have to get into my car, rain, snow, hot or cold, light or dark to drive a few hundred feet to a quarter mile from my house to be able to make contact. That was getting old real fast and I didn't like being reported to the police as a "suspicious person". So, I go to my PCARS friends to see what can be done to improve this. I find out "its all about the antenna". The most common suggestion is to get an outdoor antenna and put it as high in the air as I can.



KD8FLZ assembles the Discone

Well, I'm in no position to be putting a great big antenna up.... yet. So, I did some shopping around and found a discone antenna online. I found an extendable handle used for pool maintenance and put my antenna high up in the air. It would be about 20+ feet off the ground. Terrific!

Now, my next task. I needed to find some coax to run from the antenna to inside the house. I checked Radio Shack and some other places online. I just really didn't know what exactly what needed. You see, being a new ham, coax is coax to me, but I knew there was a difference in the types of coax. Not wanting to spend money on something that wasn't going to be the right stuff, I asked Jim Aylward, KC8PD and Mike DiCarro, KD8FLZ what I needed and where I could get it. Well, in unison, they told me to talk to Tom Sly, WB8LCD and he could help me.

I told Tom what I was trying to do and I measured out what I thought I would need in feet to go between this antenna and inside the house. Tom not only told me he had the right stuff, he offered to help me install it. In addition, I had other PCARS friends offer to help me, too. What a great bunch of guys!



KD8FLZ Obviously having a good time

Earlier this May, the weather and Tom Sly and Mike DiCarro and my schedules were all in sync. Jen Sly, KD8LIR also came along and got to meet my 2 dogs. We were able to install the coax from the antenna to



KD8JCY & KD8FLZ

inside of the house where I can now connect my HT for a sort of temporary base station. I can remove the external antenna and screw on the rubber ducky antenna for portable operations. From what I understand, the antenna did make all the difference. Now I have a lovely signal out (7 watts) and I have a very good signal in. I can sit at my desk upstairs and talk on the nets without having to leave the comfort of my home. And, if I want to, I can wear my pink fuzzy slippers while talking on the radio to all my friends. (Wow! What a mental picture!).

So, how do you thank your friends for all their hard work? Well, after all the work was done, I cooked us all a yummy steak dinner. I don't think anyone went away from my house hungry that night. I am so thankful for all the work that Tom and Mike did for me. And, I couldn't ask for a better group of friends than those I have in the PCARS club. Thanks to Tom, Mike and all of my PCARS friends.



KD8JCY happy the new antenna is installed

Tom didn't get into the pictures below because he was behind the camera. And, somehow Jen Sly didn't get into the pictures. But, she enjoyed playing with the dogs. Do you think we were having fun putting it all together? I don't see a frown anywhere! Do you?

Sandy, KD8JCY



Hamfests

06/06/2010 - Breezeshooters Hamfest and Computer Show - Butler Farm Showgrounds - 627 Evans City Rd. - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://www.breezeshooters.net> - Contact: Robert W Benna , N3LWP - c/o Breezeshooter ARC PO Box 101018 - Pittsburgh, PA 15237-8018 - Phone: 412-366-0488 - Email: n3lwp@verizon.net

07/17/2010 - Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - Lorain County Community College, Spitzer Conference Center - 1005 North Abbe Rd. - Elyria, OH 44035 - Website: <http://www.noars.net> - Contact: Darlene Ohman , KA8VTS - 4122 Bush Ave - Cleveland, OH 44109 - Phone: 216-398-8858 - Email: dohman@roadrunner.com

07/25/2010 - Portage Hamfair '10 - Portage County Fairgrounds - 4215 Fairgrounds Rd. - Randolph, OH 44265 - <http://Hamfair.com> - Contact: Joanne Solak , KJ30 - 9971 Diagonal Rd. - Mantua, OH 44255 - Phone: 330-274-8240 - Email: kj3o@arrl.net

08/08/2010 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Tailgate Fest - Emidio & Sons Party Center Parking Lot - 48 East Bath Rd. - Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate2010.html> - Contact: Frank Tompkins , W8EZT - 124 Chart Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223 - Email: tailfest2010@cfarc.org

08/15/2010 - Warren Amateur Radio Association - Trumbull County Fairgrounds - 899 Everett Hull Rd. - Cortland, OH 44410 - Website: <http://www.w8vtd.org> - Contact: Jackie Williams , KD8DNE - PO Box 809 Warren, OH 44483 - Phone: 440-636-2806 - Email: kd8dne@yahoo.com

09/12/2010 - Findlay Radio Club - Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky St. - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org> - Contact: Eric Wilkinson , K8ERW - PO Box 587 - Findlay, OH 45839 - Phone: 567-429-9077 - Email: hamfest@findlayradioclub.org

09/26/2010 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Rd. - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Contact: William Beckman , N8LXY - Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - PO Box 81252 - Cleveland, OH 44181-0252 - Phone: 800-CLE-FEST - Email: click "e-mail" on Web site

10/16/2010 - Ohio Section and ARES Conference - Educational Service Center of Central Ohio - 2080 Citygate Dr. - Columbus, OH 43219 - Website: <http://www.arrloho.org> - Contact: Scott Yonally , N8SY - 258 Valley Hi Dr. - Lexington, OH 44904 - Phone: 419-884-5105 - Email: n8sy@arrl.net

10/31/2010 - Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Massillon Boy's & Girl's Club - 730 Duncan St. SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.marcradio.org> - Contact: Terry Russ , N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Dr. NW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 - Email: truss@sssnet.com



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 !

June	
3	W8PT
10	N8RLG
17	KB8UUZ
24	WB8LCD - 1st week of Summer

August	
5	N8XTH
12	KB8UUZ
19	*** OPEN ***
26	W8PT

July	
1	N8QE
8	WB2DFC
15	KC8PD
22	*** OPEN ***
29	WB8LCD



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 "open" slots in the roster. Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

Tom WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator



Mr. Field Day Person Answers Your Hate Mail

Editors Note: Last month's column stirred up a hornet's nest of reader mail. In this Issue, renowned legend Mr. Field Day Person takes the critics head-on.

Dear Mr. Field Day Person: I hate computers. There's no place for those things at a CW stations. If those geeks show up within a hundred yards of my CW station with a computer, I'm going to shove it up their wireless router. -DR, Akron

You don't know how good you have it. When I first started in ham radio, I was too poor to afford a radio and had to make CW QSO's by banging rocks together. All our Field Day stations will be logging the contest via computers. Even if you've never logged before, we could sure use you, and it's a lot easier than banging rocks. If you can type, even with two fingers, please contact Chuck W8PT and he will plug you into the schedule.

You PCARS losers are going down. We beat you last year, we'll beat you again this year, and our CW operation will score 50 thousand points-and we only have two CW operators. HA! We're going to make you cry like little girls. And our generator is still bigger than your generator. Pathetic earthlings! –AB, Cuyahoga Falls

Nice little cut throat Field Day operation you've got there, Blackbeard. At PCARS, we welcome everyone to join us for Field Day, whether they are members or not, even if they aren't hams. We encourage people to get on the air. Or, just come and hang out for a while, maybe join us for a snack. As with all PCARS endeavors, the goal is to have the most fun. Something must be working, because last year we had more participants than any other station in Ohio.

Sirs: My kids are driving me nuts. And so is my wife. I'd like to come to Field Day, but I don't think she's going to let me out of the house. Not that I'm henpecked, or anything. –FS, Stow

Bring the kids to Field Day, and turn them over to GOTA captain Bob N8QE. He needs people under 18, which earn us extra points in the contest and get your harmonics interested in ham radio. And bring the XYL too, if you're up for it. Six meter captain Errol KC8RJR is bringing his luxury camper with a double bed. You can work out the details with Errol.

Hey Jerk: No satellite operations this year? WTF? You can get 100 points just for one satellite contact. Maybe you should read the rules sometime. –EP, Randolph

We've tried it for the past two years and found the satellites are so jammed on Field Day that we can't get a call sign in edgewise. Tell ya what, sport: bring your satellite gear and show us all how it's done.

Dear Elitist Snob: Why can't we just have hamburgers and beans like all the other Field Day clubs? You could have twice the amount of food for the same money. –JK, Uniontown

A quick look around any PCARS gathering reveals that the membership has already eaten far more hamburgers than is good for them. As for the beans—ever seen the campfire scene from Blazing Saddles? Let's not go there. Chef Robert has bigger, better things in mind for us this year. For example, he's promising that the Afghan Rice is made from real Afghans this time. That's a culinary adventure that you don't want to miss!



Dear Lid: I've had it up to here with your mismanagement! The Get On The Air station always winds up with the dead bands. How about we put GOTA on 20 meters, and see what Deron and his pals can accomplish on 10 meters. I bet you don't publish this. –RH, Tallmadge

Field Day is all about resolving issues in the field. To settle your conflict, we have arranged for you to have a mud-wrestling competition with 20-meter captain N8XTH. Best 3 out of 5 throws. Clothing is optional. Winner gets to run 20-meters on the station of his choice. The event will be recorded, and the proceeds from the sale of the videos will finance our Field Day Beverage Fund.

Dear Field Day Bore: I'm so sick of hearing about Field Day. Don't you guys have any other contests? RA, Ravenna

According to ARRL, Field Day isn't actually a contest. No really, that's what they say! Field Day supposedly is, um, an Operating Event. Riiight. Ohio Parks On The Air is contest, and so is Ohio QSO

Party, the Portage County 2 Meter Sprint. You might enjoy operating any of these from the PCARS club site later this year.

Attention, Mr. Clueless: Why don't we set up some place where we can have alcohol? It's outrageous that that we can't have a few brewskis for the contest. Don't you clowns at the top know anything about this club? –TS, c/o Ray's Place, Kent

I am compelled point out that alcoholic beverages are NOT PERMITTED in Ravenna City Park on Field Day, and anyone who brings in COOLERS OF DELICIOUS COLD BEER will be in violation of local ordinances. You should not count on PCARS' EXTRORDINARILY CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS with the Ravenna Police Department, Mayor Bica, and the local judiciary to keep you out of trouble. Take warning: Any liquor brought to the Field Day site will be promptly, um,...dealt with.

Are you one of the countless malcontents itching to have it out with Mr. Field Day Person? Do your worst- he is not afraid of you! Paste your complaint to a brick and throw it throw thru the editor's window at 9992 State Route 700, Mantua OH 44255.

Mr. Field Day Person
(a.k.a.Bill, WB9LBI)

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 VE Test Sessions

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

June 5 - August 7 - October 2 - December 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!!!!

Jim, KC8PD
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Club Member QSL Cards - Part 2

Editor's Note: Send me a scan or photo of your QSL card or give one to me at a meeting and you'll see it here with other PCARS member cards.

N6TL
Nevada Co. Grid CM96
Ten-Ten 71361
Sacramento County Grid CM96
California CQ Zone 3

73 from Randy Wilson
3741 Light Foot Ct.
Antelope, CA 95843 USA
Former KF6YJI

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

Date	UTC	Band	RST	2K
		10 M		SSB

Pse QSL Trx 73

Home QTH - Sacramento Co.: ANT: 10M Dipole - 15 Ft. RIG: HTX-10 - 25 W
Portable QTH - Nevada Co.: ANT: 10M Dipole - 25 Ft. RIG: HTX-10 - 25 W

KD8EPA

PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

RAVENNA #

Email: Dannyspeed@aol.com
DANIEL J. PORCAGE • 843 W. Riddle Avenue • Ravenna, OH 44266 U.S.A.

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

DATE	TIME	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

Pse QSL Trx

The QRM MAN - WAKEUP

PORTAGE COUNTY • EN91ld

STREETSBORO, OHIO USA
KD8LEB
Portage County Grid: EN91hg

Alan J. Zielinski, Sr.
10022 Lady Catherine St.
Streetsboro, OH 44241

Radio Confirming QSO PSE QSL TNX QSL

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	RST	MHz	MODE

Pse QSL Trx 73

www.chaparral.com

KD8LIR
Jennifer Sly
1480 Lake Martin Drive
Sugar Bush Knolls, Ohio 44240
Grid EN91he

To Station
Confirming our QSO on
Frequency
Mode
RST

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

DATE	TIME	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

Pse QSL Trx

K8CAV
Rick Kruis
6007 State Route 82
Hiram, Ohio 44234
Grid EN91jh Portage County

"If you ain't CAV ... you ain't!"

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

DATE	TIME	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

Pse QSL Trx

KB8SZI

Transmitting from: **Peggy Parkinson**
9992 State Route 700
Mantua, OH 44255 USA
Portage County Grid EN91 - CQ Zone 4

CONFIRMING QSO WITH:

Date	UTC	Band	RST	2K

Pse QSL Trx 73

Team ID #000 - 100 Watts
DX Engineering MDVA-140 Ft. Vertical
S Element Cushcraft A50-55 at 45 Ft.
C5ERV Dipole at 55 Ft.
Cushcraft Tens at 35 Ft.

PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

BUCKEYE BELLES

SKYWARN

EMERGENCY SERVICE

N80QQ
Bryan L. Buchwalter
1361 Forest Glen Drive
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
U.S.A.
Summit County Grid EN91cC
10-X #69423

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

STATION	DATE	TIME	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

Pse QSL Trx

TALLMADGE, OHIO USA
N8QE
Summit County

Bob Hajdak
515 Canterbury Way
Tallmadge, OH 44278
Grid: EN91gc

CONFIRMING QSO WITH

Day	Month	Year	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

Pse QSL Trx QSL

www.chaparral.com

NX8G

Mobile ☐ Portable ☐

Rev Simmons
2505 Upland Ave SW
Massillon, OH 44647

Location:

Radio Confirming QSO PSE QSL TNX QSL

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	RST	MHz	MODE

Pse QSL Trx

www.chaparral.com

Quite a few people sent in cards and they will be highlighted in the upcoming issues. It's nice to see the creativity and maybe your card will inspire someone else to get their card and send it in.

June Contest Calendar

June 2010	
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0600Z, Jun 5
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 12
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 12
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 12 to 0300Z, Jun 14
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 21
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 26 to 1200Z, Jun 27
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 26 to 1400Z, Jun 27
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, June 26 to 2100Z, June 27

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

Ohio QSO Party Coming Up in August

The **Ohio QSO Party** - this Ohio operating event will be held on **Saturday August 28, 2010** from local noon to local midnight. Every year during the Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) Ohioans light up the airwaves and make QSOs all over the world. In this event, Ohio stations are the "DX" and are sought after. Get on and call CQ, and experience the thrill of the world calling you!



Event Basics: Ohio stations send consecutive serial number + county. Suggested frequencies are: CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz; SSB 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz.

Full details and an operating guide can be found on <http://www.ohqp.org/>. We hope to hear you on the air!

73,
Kenny, K2KW

Swap-N-Shop

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). [exp 9/28/10]
Contact **Randy** - N6TL@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Coax Jumper Cables - made of Belden RG-213, 3 foot jumper \$10, 6 foot jumper \$15. As many as you need! Yes, they all have PL-259's on them! They are complete jumper cable assemblies! Can also supply any custom lengths you need! [Exp 6/25/10]

FOR SALE: 1.5" OD x 12 ft aluminum mast - 1/4" wall, \$75.00 [exp 6/25/10]

FOR SALE: 2" OD x 12 ft long aluminum mast - 1/4" wall, \$100.00 [exp 6/25/10]

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

FOR SALE: Mirage A-1015G, 6 Meter Amplifier - 10 watts in, 160 watts out - FM/CW/SSB - Original manual & box - Cost new \$389, works great - will sell for only \$275 [exp 6/25/10]

FOR SALE: MFJ-5124K - Auto tuner cable for Kenwood - Original box & manual. - \$20.00 [exp 6/25/10]

Contact **Tom** - KB8UUZ@portcars.org or call 330-527-7609

FOR SALE: TS-440-SAT Kenwood Transceiver, PS-50 Kenwood Power Supply, MC-60A Kenwood Desk Microphone, and SP-430 Kenwood External Speaker. Sold as package only. Excellent condition, Original owner, Non-smoker, Original Packaging and all manuals. Asking \$1000. [Exp 6/25/10]

Contact **Bob** - 330-633-5408 or e-mail N8QE@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: [exp 6/25/10] when they will be removed. This will help keep the listings current.



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 31 plates up on the wall now, (+ 1 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 renewal time comes around for

your Amateur Radio, 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!!**



31 Plates and Counting - We have room for YOUR Ham Radio plate

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

Shack Shots - AE5WX - Daryl from Little Rock, AR.



A shot of me at the main console, when I'm doing local 2 meter or 70 centimeter nets.

A shot of me at the laptop, with the headset mic, and Echolink. Because of the speed of Comcast High Speed Internet, and sound card issues... I have to use a headset mic, and the laptop with an aircard, to get a decent



Echolink connection.

From my ham radio and weather oriented computer bulletin board system (BBS)...that is currently dial-up only...but will soon add telnet access. The screen displayed to a user when accessing the special "door", allowing Technician Class amateur radio licensees or higher to access the Arkansas Packet Network, courtesy of my TNC. The feature should be online by June 1. This is the screen they will see if the TNC is not available. The door was part of a suite of freeware ham radio BBS door programs from PTB (Pass The Buck) Software, done by Dave Perry, W4KGU. That suite also included a QRZ Callsign Search Door, a Ham Radio Bulletins Door, a Part 97 Rules Search door, and a door to track



ones progress in the ARRL Worked All States Award.

The main equipment shot in the shack. From left to right:

A circular stack of 100 CD-R's, with a portable clock on top. The CD-R's are used to "burn" a database CD from QRZ, once a month...part of the yearly \$49.95 subscription. They used to make CD's twice a year, but that really was impractical...as the CD was "obsolete" after it was pressed. Now, with a subscription, one can download updates daily. The clock sounds an hourly chime when I'm to start nets.



To the right of that, is a wooden crafting of my current vanity callsign, AE5WX, done by a ham radio operator in Missouri (I forget who offhand). Below that, is the Astron RS-20M power supply, that powers the Yaesu FT-8800R 2 meter/70 centimeter rig that I use for local nets, etc.

To the right of these, are the 2 Lucite Replicas of bricks that I have in the Diamond Terrace at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. Done with my original callsign of N5VLZ, the one on the left is in memory of my late XYL, Janice...the one on the right is in memory of the late Mary "Bootsie" Gordon, KC5FAQ. Bootsie got me into square dancing in 1986...I got her into ham radio in 1994. Bootsie died of cancer in 1997...Janice died of a heart attack in 2007.

Below the bricks is my MFJ 1270C TNC, that will work with my Icom T7H Sport (not pictured), as a packet station setup, as noted above. Below the TNC is the Astron R5L power supply with a cigarette lighter adapter that will power the HT as a packet rig. I had to order a new Icom T7H Sport from AES...the item has been discontinued, and the one I have no longer works...the replacement should be here by Friday.

Below these, from left to right are the US Amateur Radio bands chart, a laminated copy of my FCC Amateur Extra Class license, my ARRL Life Member Badge (AE5WX), my ARRL/VEC Volunteer Examiner Badge (AE5WX), and an Official Bulletin Station badge (N5VLZ). I had to drop out of ARRL for a couple of years awhile back, due to finances...and had to relinquish the OBS appointment at that time. And, lastly, a picture of my current QSL card.



PCARS Meetings

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

The June 14th meeting will be at: **On Tap Grille**, 4396 Kent Road (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**

(January through November. December is the Christmas Party)



*Pictures
from
the
May
PCARS
Meeting*



PCARS May, 2010

Some Pictures from Hamvention 2010





PCARS Members at the ARRL area - Dayton Hamvention 2010

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!



"Parky", KB8UUZ

Thanks goes out to this months contributors:

**KC8PD, WB2DFC, WB8LCD, WB9LBI,
KB8UUZ, W8PT, KB6NU, K8JE, KD8JCY,
K2KW, AE5WX, the ARRL, and the World
Wide Web.**



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

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



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

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

Check the PCARS website 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

Awards	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Club Call Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Coordinators	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
Field Day 2010	WB9LBI W8PT	Bill Fraedrich Chuck Patellis
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	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
PIO	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Proxy Check In	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Secretary	KD8GGZ	Mary Jo Loveland
Web Master	K8SRR	Steve Randlett

The logo is circular with a gold border. Inside the circle, the words "AMATEUR RADIO" are written in a curve at the top, and "VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" is written in a curve at the bottom. In the center, the letters "ARRL" are prominently displayed above the letters "VEC". To the left of "ARRL" is a small diamond-shaped emblem containing the letters "A", "R", "R", and "L" stacked vertically.

**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



The **RADIOGRAM** is the official newsletter of the **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.** - copyright © 2010. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS). **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify it. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month - newsletter contact: KB8UUZ@portcars.org 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. ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™. **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 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

