



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



January 2011 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 6 No. 1

~ 2011 Officers ~

President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD
 Vice President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD
 Treasurer - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI
 3 Year Trustee - Sandra Getty - KD8JCY
 2 Year Trustee - Robert Gurney - N8RLG
 1 Year Trustee - Ed Pollack - N8EQJ

~ 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

Lake effect snow slammed Portage County on December 13th and the 2010 Christmas Party became the first PCARS event to ever be canceled because of weather. Club members who live to the south of Portage County only saw a few inches of snow at home that day and might have wondered how bad things could be to the north. Let's just say that the roads ranged from terrible to awful and the only safe call was to cancel the party.

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Christmas Party on December 12th and, who knows, maybe the club picnic will have a Christmas-in-July theme.

Now that the PCARS club site is fully operational we want to get as much use out of it as possible. In case you missed the e-mail outlining the activities at the club shack that are planned for this year, here is what we have in mind:

1. Workshops will be scheduled on club site operations and the use of the radios in the shack. This will give everyone a chance to get familiar with the use and operation of the FT-1000 and IC-746 radios, antennas, etc.
2. Every other Thursday night starting, with January 6th, we will have a Net Nite at the club site. The shack will open around 6:30 and PCARS members are invited to stop in for an informal evening of ham radio fellowship.
3. On Tuesday evenings beginning January 4th we will be opening the club site for Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings. They will start at 7:00 p.m. and will include:
 - First Tuesday of the month - Jan. 4th - Digital Operations
 - Second Tuesday of the month - Jan. 11th - QRP/CW
 - Third Tuesday of the month - Jan. 18th - MARS
 - Fourth Tuesday of the month - Jan. 25th - DX/Contesting

These group meetings will continue in that same rotation each month. The meetings will be open to whoever wants to attend and each group can decide its own agenda. This is a great chance to get together with other hams who share similar interests. We are open to suggestions for other groups, too!

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Jim, KC8PD

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



From the President - Continued from Page 1

- Club Site Contest Operations - Chuck, W8PT, and Joe, W8KNO, continue as the club Contest Coordinators and Dave, WB2DFC, has offered to assist with the scheduling and operation of K8BF for contests. Watch for information about contest operations and if you have suggestions for which contests may be good ones for putting the club station on the air contact WB2DFC.

There are still some on-site renovations and improvements to be made and if you would like to volunteer to assist please let me know. A lot of work has gone in to making the club site both a fun and functional shack for PCARS members and we will have a great time putting it to use.

Happy New Year to all!

73,

Jim, KC8PD



From the Vice President

I'm Baaaack! Well, I never really got too far away. Anyhow, as the third ever Vice President of PCARS, I'm sure I'll have my work cut out for me. Jim, KC8PD, and most recently Dave, WB2DFC, have both done an outstanding job as VP and have left a legacy for that position that I hope I am able to fulfill.

PCARS is no wimpy Ham Radio club. We've got lots of stuff gong on – *and I want you to be a part of it.* Don't let me catch you standing around, pussyfooting on the edges of the Ham Radio hobby – jump in, get involved. Immerse yourself in everything that is Ham Radio! (C'mon brothers and sisters – give me an AMEN on that) PCARS is here to help you with that and we're going to crank it up a couple notches this year, too. We'll have lots of stuff going on for you to be involved in – be there – and bring a friend!



Tom, WB8LCD

Our January meeting will be another “Bring Your Rig” night. Every member is encouraged to bring a piece of equipment that they either think is the best thing ever, or has some special significance to them. Everyone will have the opportunity to share their story with the group. We've done this before and it's always an interesting night and a good time to get to know your fellow PCARS members just a little bit better.

Our January activity will be a power pole connector/cable “build-a-thon”. Start thinking about your power needs in the shack, in the car, for the HT, for your emergency batteries, whatever! Decide what cables you'll need and we'll supply the wire and power pole connectors (at club quantity cost). We'll have the crimpers and soldering stations set up to put your cables together. All you need to bring are any “application or radio specific” connectors you may need.

Hey, before I forget, January will see the start of another PCARS General Upgrade class. It's the perfect opportunity to learn what you need to upgrade your Tech ticket and gain those additional operating privileges. The club site will be open before, during and after class, so even if you're not taking the class, come on down and hang out with us – everyone is welcome!

I can't put it all here, so keep on the look out for all the other PCARS Big Fun we've got on tap for 2011.

Best 73 to all,
Tom, WB8LCD



KC8PHY - SK

Phil McCoy, KC8PHY, a member of PCARS (#71 - December 2007), passed away on Sunday, December 5, 2010, at Altercare in Brimfield.

Phil was a wonderful guy and it was always a treat when he was able to attend club meetings and events because he truly enjoyed the hobby and the camaraderie of his fellow hams.

Sam McCoy, KC8PIZ, Phil's son is also a PCARS member. Please keep Phil and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



Phil, KC8PHY - SK



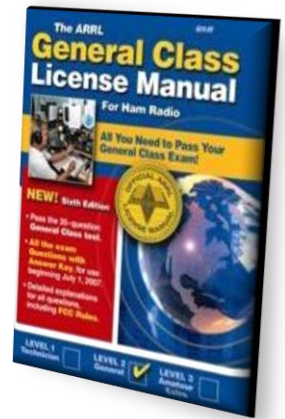
General Upgrade Class

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.

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:



- January 10th - PCARS Meeting - **Bring Your Rig Night**
- January 18th - **General Upgrade Class Starts** - at the club site, 7:00 pm
- January 22nd - **Power Pole Connectors** - Build Them! At the club site - 10 am until noon
- February 19th - **Freeze Your Acorns Off** - See the flier in this newsletter
- March 19th - **Logbook of the World (LoTW)** - Hands On Seminar at the club site - 10 am
- April 16th - **New & Improved USB Soundcard Interface** - At the club site
- May 14th - **Antenna Day** - Practice set up for Field Day 2011 at the Park in Ravenna
- June 25-26 - **ARRL Field Day ! Big Fun for PCARS !**

LoTW - Logbook Of The World - Workshop

Have you been wanting to use LoTW? We will be having a workshop at the club site on March 19th starting at 10 am. At this workshop we will demonstrate how to use LoTW along with hints and kinks that will simplify use of LoTW. Assistance will also be available for those needing help setting up an account.



If you have not completed a request to receive a postcard with an initial LoTW password, please do so NOW so that you will be able to fully participate in the workshop.

IMPORTANT: Be sure that the address on your Amateur license is current! This is the address that the ARRL will mail a postcard with the password needed to establish your account. If the address is not current, update your address with the FCC before continuing.

To receive the postcard with your initial password go to the following the following link:

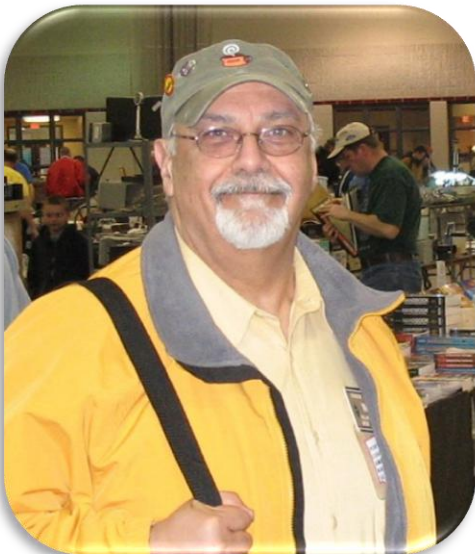
<http://www.arrl.org/instructions>

Complete steps 1 and 2. Once these steps are completed, the ARRL will mail postcard with the password necessary to establish an LoTW account. These steps are necessary to ensure that only the license holder can set up an account for a specific call sign. Further details of the workshop will be disseminated at upcoming club meetings, issues of The RADIOGRAM, and by email.

George, K3GP



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites



Chuck, W8PT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope that Santa was very nice to all of you and that you had a great Christmas. Santa was very nice to me this year and even gave me some time to get my amp hooked up. It's about 8:30 AM and I am listening to my N3FJP logging program audio reports on the various DX stations coming through. Got up early to work some gray line propagation but 20 meters has not been too cooperative this AM. However, I did work Benin yesterday (12/30) at 21:23 UTC. This is the first station that I have ever heard from this African nation. The old saying of being in the right place at the right time always works. The sunspot cycle has been moving steadily upward and the bands have been open more often than not. 15 meter and 10 meter openings are happening more often as well as 6 meter skip. So I hope that you are working some good DX.

The DX information that I have been able to gather is not as prolific as in past months. It may be that the holidays have kept those who normally report DX offerings, too busy to make their reports. But that's

snot to say that there are not some interesting things that will be happening in the coming months. So let's take a look!

I need to thank the following for the forecast reports for January 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 News

3W, VIETNAM. (Reminder) Bruce, XW1B, from Vientiane, Laos, is planning an operation from **Danang, Vietnam** 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.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA. David, VO1AU, will be active as 9M6/VO1AU between March 2-15th. His activity will include the Commonwealth [BERU] and the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 5-6th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via VO1MX. ADDED NOTE: David will be active in the southeast Asia area over the next 2 years. The QSL routes will be all the same, so look for activity from China (VO1AU/BY1TTY, VO1AU/BY1RX and VO1AU/ BY1DX), Japan (JG1RSL) and Hong Kong (VR2/VO1AU).

9Q, DEM. REPUBLIC OF CONGO. Barney, ZS6TQ (es-ZS4U), is now active as 9Q0HQ/6 until January 11th, 2011. Activity will be mainly on the weekends and some days during the week after 1800z. Operations will be on 40/20/ 15/10/6 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via K3IRV.

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.

AFRICAN TOUR (Western). Peter, HA3AUI, is once again heading to Western Africa in early 2011. Look for him to be active as 6W2SC from Senegal and J5UAP from Guinea-Bissau between February 1st and March 31st (tentative dates). Peter has used these call signs before. His stays in Cabrousse, Senegal (6W) will be very near to the border of Varela, Guinea-Bissau (J5), and he plans to make regular trips to J5-land for the beautiful beaches there (plans to also operate from there). Using his Elecraft K3 with 500w into a 5-Band Spiderbeam and verticals, Peter's activity will be on 160-10 meters, mainly on CW and the Digital modes, but he will use the other modes on request. QSL direct via HA3AUI.

FG, GUADELOUPE. Jean-Pierre, F6ITD, will be active as FG/F6ITD from Guadeloupe and two islands between March 9-16th (2011). Activity will be on SSB and the Digital modes. He plans to visit the following two islands in the IOTA NA-102 group: La Desirade Island (March 9-16th) and Basse Terre Island (March 16-31st). QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct.

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.

OC-244. Operators Christian/EA3NT and Bjorn/SM0MDG will be active as DU1/homecall from Tablas Island between January 17-21st. This activity is after their participation in the DX0DX DXpedition to the Spratly Islands. Activity will be on 40/20/17 meters using CW and SSB. QSL both call signs via EA3NT.

Other DX News

UP2011, KAZAKHSTAN (Special Event). Members of the Almaty Amateur Radio League (ARL) is organizing the activation of special event stations that include UN2011G and 8 stations with UP2011 prefix (see list below) during the 7th Asian Winter Games between January 30th and February 6th. The suffix of UP2011 stations will imply the abbreviation of the 8 winter types of sports to be featured during the Games in Almaty and Astana. Some 30 Asian countries are expected to compete in the Games which includes competitions in 11 different sports for 65 sets of medals. Look for the following stations to be active on all HF bands including 30/17/12m using CW, SSB and the Digital modes:

- UN2011G (Game) - ARL club station (regular callsign UN0GL)
- UP2011AS (alpine skiing) - regular callsign UN8GU, op. Andy
- UP2011BN (biathlon) - regular callsign UN7QCC, op. Victor
- UP2011CS (cross-country skiing) - regular callsign UN6GAE, op. Alexander
- UP2011FG (freestyle skiing) - regular callsign UN8GZ, op. Vitaliy
- UP2011HB (Russian hockey, bandy) - regular callsign UN6GT, op. Valeriy
- UP2011IH (ice hockey) - regular callsign UN2G, op. Evgeniy
- UP2011SJ (ski jumping) - regular callsign UN6QC, op. Arthur
- UP2011SO (ski orienteering) - regular callsign UN8GC, op. Michael

QSL via regular callsigns (direct or by the Bureau). A special award ("Medeo - 2011") is available for those who manage QSOs with these special stations.

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 October and beginning of December 2010 for possibly up to 18 months. Activity will be mostly on 40 and 20 meters using 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.

Well, that's what I have for you for January 2011. I hope to hear more of you on the air working some rare stations. Until next month, 73 es gud DX.

Chuck, W8PT
aka '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/>.



PCARS Christmas Party - 2010

Well, turns out this was the party that didn't happen. We waited as long as we could, hoping for a change in the weather, but, it just wasn't going to be. This is the *first* official PCARS event that has ever been canceled! As Monday December 13th moved on it became obvious that we couldn't ask you all to come out on a night like this. The best case would have been that it was a short party as everyone would have been doing the "dine and dash" to make sure they got home. At worst, it could have put someone in a dangerous position out on the snow covered roads. We just couldn't do that to you.

Julie from Paradise Lake Golf and Banquet Center was understanding, and I'm sure they didn't want their people out either. We forfeited our deposit, to help them recover some of their expense, and everyone received (or will) a refund. If you get a chance to see the folks from Paradise Lake be sure to tell them we were looking forward to being there, but appreciated that they didn't hold us to the event. They were very fair to work with.



View of the Paradise Lake Golf and Banquet Center on December 13th.

Jim, KC8PD, and I sent emails, text messages and made phone calls so that we knew that everyone who had planned to be there got the message that it was called off. It was a relief when we got back 100% confirmation that the message had been received.

Had we been able to be there, I would have told you that I've certainly appreciated the past five years of PCARS "Big Fun". Even though I've been a ham for 40+ years, I've never had more fun with my hobby than I am right now. I can only attribute it to the incredible group of people that I am associated with at PCARS. You are my best friends, and everyone of you is an important part of what PCARS is. My hope for the coming year is that everyone is blessed with prosperity, good health, and a whole ton of fun with PCARS and Ham Radio!

Tom, WB8LCD

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in January:

N8RKA	Arthur Barbetta, Jr.
WA8OKR	Bill Hunt
N8IL	Neil Gerren
KD8LDY	Russ Williams
N8PXW	Jim Korenz

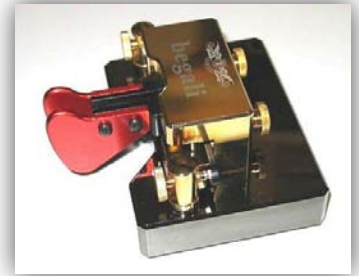
K8FS	Michael Evans
KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
NX8G	Rex Simmons
W8WWG	Charles Sharp
N8GIE	John Ziccardi

Slow Code Net

Brian, KB9BVN brings to us word of a new slow code traffic net in Indiana. ICN meets every evening on 3.535 MHz at 0000Z.

CW speeds max out at about 13 wpm, slower ops are always welcome. Come to ICN and learn how to pass traffic the NTS way, and practice your CW at the same time. Check ins are always welcomed if you have traffic or not. This net is not just limited to Indiana hams... if you can hear them, then feel free to QNI (check in).

See Section II of the ARRL Public Service Communication Manual for NTS operations. It's fun, it's easy, and great practice for your fist!



73 de
Bill, WB9LBI

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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



February 5 ~ April 2 ~ June 4

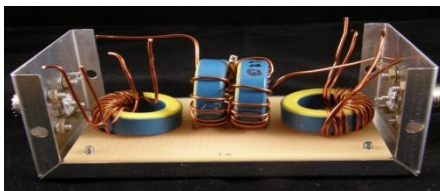
VE sessions for Technician, General & Amateur Extra start at 10:00 am at the **Center of Hope**: 1034 West Main St. in Ravenna. Walk-ins are always welcome.

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!!!!

Jim, KC8PD
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Band Pass Project - Part 1

Now that all the toroids have been built. It is time to build the boxes and the capacitors.

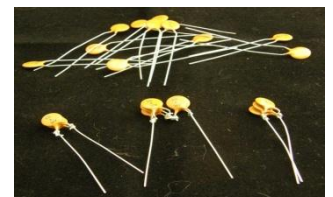


The 20 Meter Band Pass Filter has 4 toroidal cores. One has a single 18 turns, one has a single 17 turns and 2 have a 5-turn trifilar winding. That is one 5-turn winding and one 15- turn winding.

Here is the 20 Meter BPF with the 2 center toroidal cores mounted to board.

This is a set of capacitors that are assembled in Series and Parallel combinations to arrive at the value needed.

Here are the capacitor assembly's for the 20 Meter BPF. The loose capacitors show what it takes to make the assembled capacitors.



The center capacitor is the one that goes between the input and the left center toroidal core.

73,
Allan, AB8AA

EmComm

Those of a certain age will remember Emily Litella, a character played by Gilda Radner during the early years of Saturday Night Live. Emily was an elderly lady with a bit of a hearing problem who appeared during the Weekend Update segment to deliver an increasingly strident response to what she believed had been an editorial position taken by the station. This was during the era of the Fairness Doctrine that required broadcasters to present opposing viewpoints.

As Emily's rant reached its peak and it became more apparent that she had misunderstood the subject of the editorial, the news anchor, played by Chevy Chase, would lean over to her and say something like "No Emily, that's the death penalty, not the deaf penalty," or, "It's violence on television, not violins."



Emily Litella & Chevy Chase on Saturday Night Live - late 1970's

Having been corrected, Emily would meekly say "Never mind."

We had a bit of an Emily Litella moment here in the Ohio Section this past month when the Section leadership withdrew its "ARES[®] Volunteer Policy" that had been issued a few weeks earlier. The policy can best be summarized as one that attempted to provide "guidelines" on which county or counties' ARES[®] groups any one ham could participate in.

Originally the policy was justified on the basis of maintaining an accurate count of the number of ARES[®] volunteers in the Section. It was later claimed to be necessary to avoid confusion in the case of an actual emergency when ARES[®] members were being deployed.

The policy apparently created a fair amount of adverse reaction when it was disseminated to all of the EC's, other staff and volunteers. Credit to the Section leadership for saying "Never mind" and withdrawing it.

The whole episode brought to mind the old amateur radio axiom of "listen first, then transmit." It was not as though the issues mentioned in the e-mail that retracted the policy were unknown to the leadership before the policy was promulgated. But, like Emily Litella, they may have misunderstood the situation in the first place. There really was no problem that needed to be fixed.

Here in Portage County, volunteers for ARES[®] will be welcome no matter where they live or work. We recognize that ARES[®] participation was always a matter of self-selection. Individual hams who choose to be involved in ARES[®] should also have the opportunity to choose where they will participate, and that may even be in more than one county. But that is okay because we can expect that should some disaster occur volunteers will report to or be assigned to where they are most needed.

The important lesson from all this was that our communities benefit when we have maximum participation from hams in emergency communications. It is too late to decide to jump in after disaster has struck. We need you now so that you can participate in training and be ready for the unexpected.

Sign up today! 73,

Jim, KC8PD

Assistant Radio Officer, Portage County EMA/RACES
AEC, ARES[®] of Portage County
Emergency Operations Officer, Ohio Army MARS



Worked All States Award

Okay, 2011 has started. Time to make resolutions for the new year and follow through.

Here's one for you: Obtain the ARRL Worked All States award. For those of you not familiar with this ARRL award, the WAS (Worked All States) Award is available to all amateurs worldwide who submit proof with written confirmation of having contacted each of the 50 states of the United States of America. The WAS Awards program includes 10 different awards, many separately numbered. Two-way communications must be established on amateur bands with each state. Specialty awards and endorsements must be two-way (2X) on that band and/or mode. There is no minimum signal report required. Any or all bands may be used for general WAS. The District of Columbia may be counted for Maryland.

Contacts must be made from the same location, or from locations no two of which are more than 50 miles apart which is affirmed by signature of the applicant on the application. Contacts may be made over any period of years. Contacts must be confirmed in writing (no photocopies), preferably in the form of QSL cards, LoTW is also recognized. Confirmations must show your call and indicate that two-way communications was established. Contacts made with Alaska must be dated January 3, 1959 or later and with Hawaii dated August 21, 1959, or after.

You can get All CW, all Phone, all Digital, or mix and match. Go for broke and get the 5-Band Worked All States!

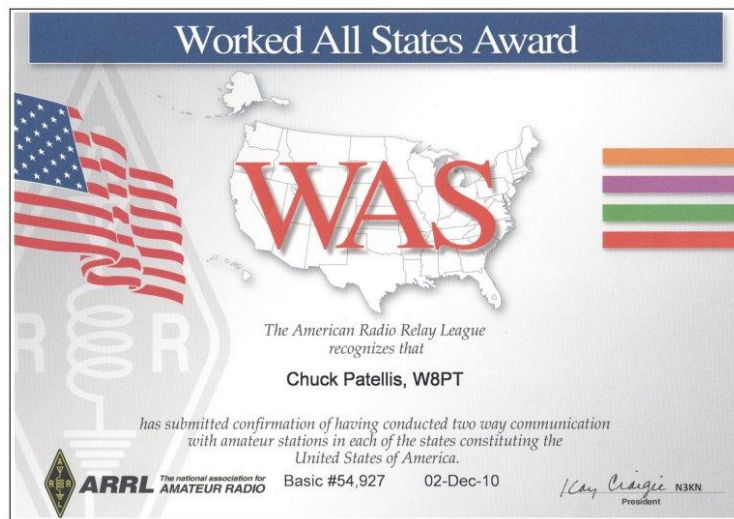
Complete rules can be found on the ARRL site at:
<http://www.arrl.org/was>

But wait, there's more!

You don't have to send your QSL cards to the ARRL to have them checked. We can do that for you right here at PCARS ! I have been appointed as an official Worked All States card checker. This is one of the benefits of PCARS being a Special Service Club in the ARRL. Also, Joe, W8KNO is the ARRL VUCC Card checker (but I'll let him tell you about that).

The first person that has taken advantage of this new PCARS service and get the Worked All States award was Chuck, W8PT. After all these years of being an active ham, he finally got the last of the cards he needed and obtained his Worked All States award which he proudly displays in his radio room for all to see.

So, get busy... Make those contacts... Get those QSL cards and get that Worked All States award this year!



ARRL Worked All States Award - Chuck, W8PT

73,
Tom, KB8UUZ
ARRL WAS Card Checker

Practice Makes Perfect

The following is in response to the training offered on the December 23rd ARES® of Portage County Net.

About 20 years ago, I needed a minor surgery. I got a referral to the best Doc in the area and had it set up for about 3 weeks in the future. Three days prior to the surgery, I called the office to confirm everything. The nurse told me “you're really going to like this, there's a whole new way of doing this surgery!” After hearing about the “new way” I asked the nurse how many surgeries the Doc had done and her response was “thousands”. I then asked her how many he had done the “new way”. She stuttered something about having to check the records and get back to me. The Doc called back later and enthusiastically told me that I would be his #3. I was putting my life in his hands. I had it done the old fashioned way – where he had the experience of thousands of prior operations.

Now lets say the “catastrophe” happens in our back yard. Instead of being the responder, you are the victim. Who do you want to show up? The guy who participates in the drills, who passes traffic on a regular basis, who has put up and taken down his portable station in all sorts of situations and knows what will work in this situation? I know you're not going to be looking for the guy, who, although he's an active ham, never drills, net participation consists of sitting in his comfy home station weekly and saying “this is X8XXX – no traffic”, and the last time he handled a radiogram (out of a total of 3) was back in 1987. You know who you want to show up when you're the victim. Who do you think the victim is hoping you are when you show up?

In days gone by, it might have been appreciated when you showed up and did what you could. But these are different times. Anyone that shows up is going to be expected to be a professional. It will be expected that you will know the protocol and will be proficient with it. You will be expected to have the proper identification *and* credentialing. You'll be expected to carry with you the equipment and things you will need to perform your service on a self-sufficient basis. Are you ready for all of this?

There's really only one way to make it happen. You have to put the time in prior to the time you're called on. You need to participate in the drills and training opportunities. You need to pass traffic in real time nets using all of the accepted protocols in use today (Radio-gram, ICS-213, for example). You need to attend the meetings held locally, in the district and at the state level to make sure you know what the ever changing needs and expectations are for EmComm operators.

Why not take this New Years opportunity to make some resolutions regarding Ham Radio, and your EmComm participation? Join ARES® and/or RACES. Participate in all they do! Take the ARRL EmComm courses when they become available. Take the free NIMS training offered on the internet. If you are already an experienced traffic handler, participate in the OH Single Sideband Net – you've got three chances every day, 365 days a year! Need to learn about traffic handling? Check yourself into the Tri-County Traffic Net – open to anyone with a ham license and designed to bring you up to speed. Attend the district ARRL meetings, functions and drills. Next fall, participate in the OH Section and ARES® Convention.

If you do all of that, not only will you be an *awesome* EmComm operator, you'll be a better all around ham. You'll be better connected in the ham radio community. You'll be a valuable asset to both your hobby and your community. Who knows, with all this additional activity, you might just drop that weight you've been making resolutions about for the past 10 years! I'm not a Star Wars fan by any means, but let me finish with the words of Jedi Master Yoda: “Do, or do not. There is no try”

Tom, WB8LCD

**Assistant Radio Officer, Portage County EMA/RACES
AEC, ARES® of Portage County**

Tri-County Traffic Net: <http://tricountytraffic.net/>

OH Single Sideband Net: <http://www.qsl.net/ossbn/>

NIMS Training: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSTrainingCourses.shtml>

PCARS Thursday Net Control



January	
6	WB8LCD
13	N8RLG
20	KD8FLZ
27	KC8PD

February	
3	KD8JCY
10	N8QE
17	N8EQJ
24	WB2DFC

March	
3	KD8FDK
10	WB8LCD
17	N8RLG
24	KC8PD
31	KB8UUZ

April	
7	N8XTH
14	KD8FLZ
21	KD8JCY
28	N8QE



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. Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

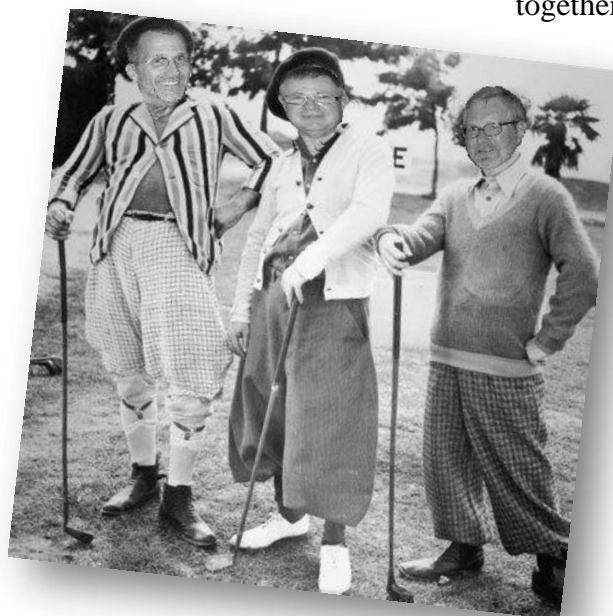
Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

Calling All Amateur Radio Golfers

This year we (PCARS) want to sponsor an Amateur Radio Golf Outing, for hams (and friends of hams) all over Ohio. A date has not been selected yet, but we're looking at sometime in either July or August. Our hope is that hams from all over the state will view this as an opportunity to get together for some fun and fellowship with other like minded hams/golfers. Rex, NX8G, has accepted the lead role in putting this together, but he'll need your help. If you would be willing to help put this event together, please contact Rex via email and let him know. He'll be back in town around April, but wants to get a jump start on this, so don't wait around, let him know! Our intention is to have the event at Raccoon Hills GC in Kent, all other details are yet to be worked out, so get in touch with Rex and let him know what you're willing to do!

Who knows? Maybe this is something that could catch on, and other clubs might be willing to sponsor it in the future, so the event could move around the state. There's lots of possibilities, but an event like this takes a lot of pre-planning and execution to pull off. Get in touch with Rex, and help make this the best ham/golf outing ever!

I'll be there, and I'm a pretty good golfer, too – except for that one hole where you have to get the ball into the Clown's mouth.....



73,

Tom, WB8LCD



OSPOTA At Quail Hollow – 2010

The weather forecast for September 11th called for rain so rather than set up a fully portable station I opted for what could best be called stationary mobile. Kind of an oxymoron, like “jumbo shrimp”, but it sure made life easy. Drive to Quail Hollow, find a place to park, string the long wire antenna through the portable masts, fire up the generator, power on the mobile IC-706 MkIIg, and, bingo, the station is on the air.

Well that was the plan but not all went smoothly. Things were busy in the morning because ARES® of Portage County was providing communications support for the Mantua Potato Stomp 15K race. After wrapping up in Mantua I made a quick stop at home in Ravenna to pick up the rest of my gear and then headed to Quail Hollow which is off Congress Lake Road near Hartville.

In my haste to get set up I broke the tip off one of the antenna masts and had to lash it back in place. Then when I fired up the Honda 2K generator I discovered that it created an unacceptably high level of noise on 75-80 meters and no matter where I placed it in relation to the vehicle I could not suppress the noise. So I opted to run off the AGM battery in my portable power system.

With that I was on the air right at 1200 hours. Experience has shown that the best way to operate for OSPOTA is to try to work as many other state parks (the multiplier) as possible on 75-80 meters and move back and forth between that band and forty meters to rack up contacts. And that is pretty much how things went this year.

Although not as smoothly as I might have liked. A number of stations advised me that there was a hum or other noise on my signal and it became apparent that RF was getting into the audio. Plus, it became apparent that the inverter that was supplying power for the laptop was also generating noise. The portable power system was in the back of my car and was too close to the AH-4 antenna tuner and RF was bleeding into the twelve volt system from there.

Around 1800 hours, John, KD8MQ, gave me a signal report and advised that it sounded as though the DC voltage to the rig was running low. With that, I swapped the DC input over to the vehicle power supply which fixed that problem as well as eliminating the RF hum. Finally!

The rain had begun to hit Quail Hollow by then. About the same time the bands got really quiet and I only worked about fifteen stations in the last two hours of air time. Then it was time to tear down in the rain and go home.

All in all it was a lot of fun. Some of the guys from the Goodyear ARC who were operating mobile stopped by though there wasn't much time to chat because forty meters was busy. Also had some folks who were visiting the park wander over to ask “Hey, what are you doing?” so I had the chance to give them a quick sales pitch for ham radio.

Here's looking forward to September 10, 2011, and OSPOTA #4!

Jim, KC8PD



KC8PD logging an OSPOTA contact



Development of the Morse Key

Since the first Morse telegraph systems were introduced, an enormous variety of Morse keys have been constructed. From Straight keys including the Camelback Morse key, to automatic Morse keyers such as the Vibroplex, their development has seen many new innovations, and enormous changes in style. Even today many people enjoy sending Morse Code using these Morse keys. While some may say that they are simply a switch, this is most certainly not the case. Morse keys have been the subject of over 300 patents in the USA alone, and they have undergone a considerable amount of development. The way in which keys have developed since the very first ones used by Morse himself is a fascinating story. Some styles of key are quite familiar, whilst others have quite unusual attributes and as a result many people find collecting keys a fascinating pastime.



A Camelback Key.

This one dates from between 1850 and 1860. It has no adjustment on the spring and therefore dates from before 1860. Note the "hump" in its back that gives it the name.

be taken into consideration as operators had long periods of operation. New keys were produced that made operation much easier. One of the first was known as the "camelback" - a name that resulted from the shape of the lever. Unlike the lever correspondent a spring was not considered necessary because the curved shape of the lever placed the centre of gravity towards the back of the lever away from the operator. In this way it naturally remained open or in the rest position. Whilst the first camelbacks did not have springs, two years later the first springs were added, and later in 1860, George Phelps, the chief engineer with Western Union made further improvements that made the keys much lighter and easier to use.



Post Office Key

European keys often tended to be heavier than their US counterparts. This British Post office key dates from around 1900 and was manufactured by Walters Electrical

The first Morse keys arrived at the very beginning of the Morse telegraph system in 1844. A few weeks before the demonstration of the first line between Washington and Baltimore in the USA, Vail used a system of opening and closing the circuit using a simple switch. Vail described the operation of the device saying that it worked "in much the same manner as a key closes a door". He built a very simple device with two contacts that needed to be pushed together to close the circuit. It was made using "springy" brass and was mounted on a wooden base. He called the device a "correspondents", the name that had been sued for earlier sending devices. This key was used for the first demonstration, but within six months he had developed a new type of key using a lever and a fulcrum, and this same format is used for manual keys today. For anyone wanting to see this "Lever Correspondents", it is on view in the Smithsonian Institute in the USA.

With the explosion in the growth of the Morse telegraph system, many keys were needed. The first ones were very crude, but quickly the idea of operator comfort needed to



A steel lever key.

This one was manufactured around 1920 but it follows the basic design introduced by James Bunnell in 1881

Keys continued to be used in ever-increasing numbers and their development progressed. The next major step forward occurred when James Bunnell introduced his "Triumph Key" in 1881. The basic design involved a steel lever with an integral trunnion or fulcrum. A hollow oval frame made the key very light and easy to use. These keys provided a number of advantages. Early keys suffered from the fact that the lever would come loose from the press fit trunnion. As a result of the improvements this style of key was produced in large quantities by a number of companies including Western Electric, Signal Electric and of course the Bunnell company itself.

Despite these improvements difficulties were still being experienced. Operators were working very long hours and suffering from wrist pains. These

were known as telegraphers cramp, or paralysis, and this arose from the large number of movements that needed to be made. To help overcome this Bunnell introduced a new form of key in 1888 known as the sideswiper. Instead of using an up and down action the sideswiper used a side to side action with contact being made when the key was moved to either side. A rest or off position was in the centre.

The sideswiper was a great improvement for telegraphers. The incidence of telegraphers cramp reduced significantly. The next step in the development of keys was the semi-automatic or "bug" key. The first major step in the automation of Morse generation appeared in 1902 when Charles Yetman received his patent for what he called a telegraphic transmitter. This consisted of a typewriter keyboard that converted the key depressions into Morse characters. The idea did not catch on because the unit was large and expensive.

A year later Horace Martin introduced a machine called an Autoplex. This was battery powered and had a vibrating arm to generate the dots. Production of these items was very slow and only continued until 1905. However in 1904 Martin introduced a mechanical bug in 1904 he called a Vibroplex. It used a vibrating arm to generate the dots. Martin filed the patent for his idea on 7th May 1904, but he was not the only person working along these lines. A man named



A modern version of the original Vibroplex

William Coffe filed a patent on 11th January 1904. This was very general in its wording encompassing many aspects of keyers, and as a result it was granted after that of Martin's. As a result many legal battles were fought. The Vibroplex was very successful and can still be bought today.

With the advancement of electronics, fully automatic keyers that generated dots and dashes were eventually produced. Some of the earliest designs date from the 1940s, one even appeared in the April 1940 edition of QST, the magazine of the American Radio Relay League. Now with the introduction of integrated circuit technology keys that can store strings of code can be made easily and cheaply. Computers can also be used to generate and even read Morse code.

This is only a short summary of the developments that occurred with Morse keys, and naturally many interesting facts and keys have had to be omitted because of space.

Ian Poole
Editor: Radio-Electronics.Com

Thanks goes to Ian Poole, Editor: Radio-Electronics.Com for allowing PCARS to re-print this article in our newsletter.
Radio-Electronics.Com: www.radio-electronics.com



OSPOTA 2010 & the Goodyear Gang

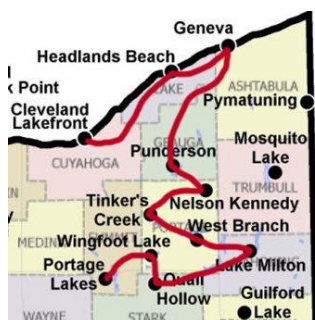
For 2010, I wanted to fully implement my original 2 Rover scheme. In 2009 I had planned to send 1 Rover to Southern Ohio, where there are numerous parks in close proximity, and keep a 2nd team in NE Ohio, visiting the parks that we had gotten in 2008, plus a few extra. However, I had a herniated disk in 2009 and didn't want to drive all day so far from home, and the other team was also not able to deploy South. But in 2010 I was determined to deploy my team in Southern Ohio and have the combined Club score set a new standard for Parks Activated.

We also decided that the antennas needed upgrading. Stopping and deploying masts at each Park was consuming precious time, and this is a short, 8-hour contest. So, this year the North team was Rich, and GARC member Dale, NX8J. They were in Rich's truck, and he had labored to re-install the screwdriver antenna and get it working. This would enable them to make contacts without stopping or setting up. Unfazed by our experience with Hamsticks in 2008, I bought an adapter for my 2M NMO mount on my truck and obtained 20M and 40M Hamsticks. These tuned up nicely, I had my reel antenna with drive-on mast as a backup and an Icom IC-7000 in my truck. GARC South, with the same personnel as 2009 (myself, Bill and Tom) was ready to rumble.



I started mapping the routes and realized that it was just BARELY possible to get 15 parks for South Team, if everything went right. So I quickly mapped up 8 parks for the North Team. This would come back to haunt me later, but since the North Team had only gotten 3 Parks the previous year, I didn't concentrate on them..

GARC South deployed Friday night and spent the night in Hillsboro. A brunch at Bob Evans and we were on the route, scouting the first couple of parks. In the first hour we had 4 parks in the log. We were exchanging counts by text message with the North Team, and they freaked out a little at our quick count. We tried a QSO on 40M SSB, but neither team could hear the other. The remaining parks were more widely spaced and we were pressed for time to make our assigned QSOs. We raced



down the winding, hilly Southern Ohio roads from park to park. It was September 11th, and there were a variety of 9/11 Special Event Stations on the air. We seemed to be a perfect 1 hop from New York, as we were having FB QSOs with these stations. We made it to Salt Fork, our 15th park, at 7:51 PM, with 9 minutes left in the contest. A final QSO from there and we were finally done, although it would be several hours before we had gotten a meal, driven back North, dropped Bill off, and reached



my QTH.

Meanwhile, the GARC North team had cruised through their assigned 8 Parks, including the most important Wingfoot Lake Park, and took the initiative to see how many they could get in the 8 hour contest. They managed 11 parks total, which is great, but if I had spent more time optimizing their route, we might have done even better - lesson learned! So, 15 Parks from GARC South, 11 Parks from GARC North, for a combined total of 26 Parks Activated. A lot of fun was had by everyone.

Dennis, AI8P



PCARS Club Activities

As you've probably already gathered from some of the other articles in this issue, PCARS wants to keep you busy with the Ham Radio hobby. There's a ton of stuff going on this year, and I know you're going to find more than a few things to do! In addition to some of the "special interest" activities we've got planned, our club has always had a "club activity" every month where we hope that most, if not all, of our members will turn out and participate.

- **January:** on Saturday, 1/22 from 10:00 AM until Noon we'll have a power pole construction project. Everyone needs some additional power cords for rigs, batteries, accessories, or whatever. You bring whatever special connectors you'll need, wire if you have it, and we'll make the power poles available at a very special price*, along with some red/black zip cord (price TBD). We'll have several sets of crimpers, soldering stations, solder, hand tools and maybe even some donuts. You can go home with the extra power cords you need to have everything running on the power pole standard! Hey, won't you need some extra cords for FYAO???

* bag of 10 pair 30 amp power poles for \$10.00

* bag of 6 pair 45 amp power poles for \$8.00



Looking ahead, more info to follow -

- **February:** Freeze Your Acorns Off 2/19
- **March:** Logbook of the World (LOTW) 3/19
- **April:** New & Improved USB Soundcard Interface 4/16
- **May:** Antenna Day 5/14
- **June:** BFFD - Big Fun Field Day! 6/25 – 6/26

Remember, the basic tenants of PCARS are: *Everyone* is welcome to participate with us, bring a friend! And, *everything* we do at PCARS is to have Big Fun! I hope you'll participate as often as you can.

Tom, WB8LCD



January Contest Calendar

January 2011	
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 5 to 2400Z, Feb 6
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 5 to 2359Z, Feb 6
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 5
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 5 to 0100Z, Feb 7
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 6
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 12 to 2400Z, Feb 13
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 13
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 14 to 2400Z, Feb 18
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 19 to 2400Z, Feb 20
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 25 to 2159Z, Feb 27
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 26 to 0600Z, Feb 27

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



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



Hamfest Calendar

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

02/06/2011 - Winter Hamfest - Location: Gargus Hall - 1965 North Ridge Rd. - Lorain, OH 44052 - Website: <http://www.noars.net> - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - Contact: Thomas Porter, W8KYZ - 161 Herrmann Dr. - Avon Lake, OH 44012 - Phone: 440-930-9115 - Email: tporter161@oh.rr.com

02/13/2011 - Mid-Winter Hamfest - Location: Richland County Fairgrounds - 750 Home Rd. North - Mansfield, OH 44901 - Website: <http://www.w8we.org> - Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Danny Bailey, KB8STK - 70 Euclid St. - Shiloh, OH 44878 - Phone: 419-896-3603 - Email: kb8stk1@hotmail.com

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. [03/31/11]

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). [03/31/11]

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 [2/28/11]

FOR SALE: MFJ-5124K - Auto tuner cable for Kenwood - Original box & manual. - \$20.00 [2/28/11]

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

FOR SALE: GAP Titan DX Vertical 80m through 10m - Good condition with manual \$150.00 [4/1/11]

FOR SALE: YAESU/VERTEX VX-150 2m FM hand held with MARS mod with: NC-72B wall charger, CD-16 drop-in rapid charger, MH-34 external speaker-mic, original manual, and ADMS-1F programming cable and programming software. \$60.00 [4/1/11]

FOR SALE: YAESU/VERTEX VX-170 2m FM hand held with MARS mod with: NC-88B wall charger, spare battery, adapter cable for external TNC/sound card, and original manual. \$60.00 [4/1/11]

FOR SALE: Hamstick Antennas - Two, 75 meter Hamstick style antennas, \$20.00 each. [4/1/11]

FOR SALE: Hamstick Antennas - Two, 40 meter Hamstick style antennas, \$20.00 each. [4/1/11]

Contact: **Rick**: K8CAV@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.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) – The RADIOGRAM – January 2011 – Page 19 of 27



Greetings From OSPOTA (Ohio State Parks On The Air)

From the OSPOTA Committee, we would like to extend our appreciation for your participation in the third annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest. You are now part of OSPOTA history and our hope is that it will be a long and rewarding one.

The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind: to promote public awareness of ham radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system; to contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology; and to promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio operators. It has been with your participation that we believe those goals were achieved.

From the many comments we received by letter and e-mail, we know that above all, it was a fun time for all who involved themselves in this event.

We are already starting to plan for OSPOTA 2011 and we are taking into account the suggestions that some of you have given us, in order to make OSPOTA 2011 an even better event for all concerned.

To those of you who placed in the top spots in each category, congratulations on your efforts. You deserve your awards for your operating skills, especially in light of the propagation on many of the bands. We are counting on everyone doing even better in 2011.

So until September 2011 and on behalf of the OSPOTA Committee, 73!



Chuck

Chuck Patellis – W8PT
OSPOTA Committee Chairperson



OSPOTA Web Site: <http://parks.portcars.org>

OSPOTA is sponsored by the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

PCARS Web Site: <http://www.portcars.org>

Ohio State Parks On The Air

2010

Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) Contest - September 11, 2010

- Winners -

Overall High Score Winner	
Call	Score
WW8OH	10,508

Overall High Score Winner
Framed Certificate sponsored by: W8PT

Club or Multi - From a State Park - High Power			
Place	Call	State Park	Score
1	WW8OH	Buckeye Lake	10,508
Winner of a DX Engineering Dipole Kit donated by: KC8PD, N8GLK and KD8GGZ			
2	AB8DD	Kiser Lake	6,560
3	K8QYL	Grand Lake St. Marys	4,826
4	W8VTD	Mosquito Lake	4,445
5	K8BLP	Guilford Lake	4,234

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: PCARS

Club or Multi - From a State Park - Low Power			
Place	Call	State Park	Score
1	K8UU	Hueston Woods	6,020
2	WB8LCD	Tinker's Creek	3,625
3	KD8MQ	Beaver Creek	1,800
4	W8ZPF	Buckeye Lake	1,426
5	W8UKE	Strouds Run	980

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: WB2DFC

Single Op From a State Park - High Power			
Place	Call	State Park	Score
1	KC8PD	Quail Hollow	5,510
Highest Single Op Score from an Ohio State Park KC8PD receives the prize donated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources: A two night stay in an ODNR cabin at any Ohio State Park that has cabins			
2	NX8G	Wolf Run	3,367
3	W8RGE	Findley	3,115
4	KD8BBK	Salt Fork	3,024
5	N8XSF	Mary Jane Thurston	2,108

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: PCARS

Single Op From a State Park - Low Power			
Place	Call	State Park	Score
1	K8FH	Findley	3,078
2	AB8XX	Caesar Creek/Little Miami	932
3	WA8KIW	Paint Creek	504
4	N8QE	Wingfoot Lake	108
5	KC8UNR	Lake Milton	3

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: N8QE

Single or Multi Op - Not in a State Park Inside Ohio			
Place	Call		Score
1	K8NYM	Kent, OH	1,320
2	W8EOT	Greenville, OH	1,116
3	N8GXQ	Fresno, OH	675
4	K8DV	Goshen, OH	616
5	W8GTS	Logan, OH	550

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: PCARS

Single or Multi Op - Outside Ohio			
Place	Call	State	Score
1	KJ4KVC	Tennessee	280
2	VE3/KC8RJR	Ontario, Canada	156
2	N8YHA	Wisconsin	156
4	W3GEG	West Virginia	144

First Place Framed Certificate Sponsor: PCARS

Most Parks Activated by a Club	
Club Name	Parks Activated
Goodyear ARC	26



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

website: www.portcars.org

OSPOTA website: <http://parks.portcars.org>

Updated 29 December 2010

Ohio State Parks On The Air

2010

Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) Contest - September 11, 2010 - Contest Results - Complete Listing of Participants -

Category List:

- A - Club or Multi - From an Ohio State Park - High Power
- B - Club or Multi - From an Ohio State Park - Low Power
- C - Single Op From an Ohio State Park - High Power
- D - Single Op From an Ohio State Park - Low Power
- E - Single or Multi Op - Not in a State Park - Inside Ohio
- F - Single or Multi Op - Outside Ohio

BOLD = Category Winner



Score	Call	Category
10,508	WW8OH	A
Overall High Score Winner		
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: W8PT		
6,560	AB8DD	A
6,020	K8UU	B
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: WB2DFC		
5,510	KC8PD	C
Single Op High Power in a State Park Winner		
Winner of the prize donated by the		
Ohio Department of Natural Resources:		
A two night stay in an ODNR cabin at any Ohio		
State Park that has cabins		
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: PCARS		
4,826	K8QYL	A
4,445	W8VTD	A
4,234	K8BLP	A
3,630	W8DYY	A
3,625	WB8LCD	B
3,432	W8MRC	A
3,367	NX8G	C
3,115	W8RGE	C
3,078	K8FH	D
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: PCARS		
3,024	KD8BBK	C
2,108	N8XSF	C
1,952	KD8JRH	C
1,914	WD8SDH	C
1,800	KD8MQ	B
1,485	K8FAY	C
1,426	W8ZPF	B
1,350	N8RMZ	C
1,334	K8HO	A
1,320	K8NYM	E
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: N8QE		
1,116	W8EOT	E
980	W8UKE	B
975	N8PJ	C
932	AB8XX	D
864	K8CAV	C
675	N8GXQ	E

Score	Call	Category
616	K8DV	E
550	W8GTS	E
504	WA8KIW	D
456	N8FXL	C
360	K8SRR	A
360	K8IZK	E
342	K8FEY	C
300	K8XB	A
280	KJ4KVC	F
Framed Certificate Sponsored by: PCARS		
240	W8KNO	E
156	VE3/KC8RJR	F
156	N8YHA	F
144	W8IDM	E
144	W3GEG	F
108	N8QE	D
81	N8OQQ	E
30	KB8VJL	E
25	KD8FDK	E
20	KB8FE	E
16	AFIK	C
15	WA8UXP	C
3	KC8UNR	D



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

website: www.portcars.org

OSPOTA website: <http://parks.portcars.org>

Updated 29 December 2010

The January 2011 meeting for the
Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)



January 10th meeting will be at the
On Tap Grille, 4396 Kent Rd. (St Rt. 59),
in Stow. It is about a mile west of the Kent city limits.



Meeting starts at 7:00 pm sharp - followed by this month's program:

"Bring Your Rig Night"



We anticipate seeing some unusual radios, popular radios, any radios!



This should be lots of fun to have a ham radio 'show and tell'.



***Bring a Friend!!
BRING a RADIO !!***

**Looking forward to seeing you at the PCARS meeting
MONDAY - January 10th - 7:00 PM**



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:
O Database Updated

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

Rev 2009 0501

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

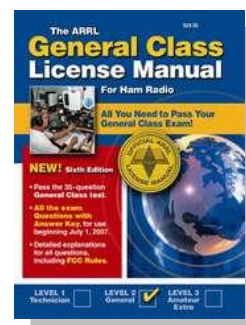
Where: At the PCARS Club Site in the Radio Room located in the Dietrich Building - 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna.

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:

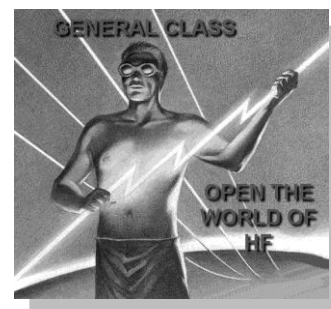
Contact: **Jim Aylward, KC8PD**
by e-mail: aylwardjim@aol.com
or phone: **330-297-7979**



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.



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

Sixth Annual

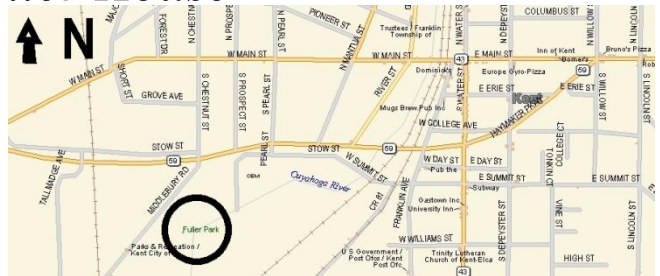
"Freeze Your Acorns Off"
(FYAO) QRP mini-field day
Special Event Station



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: 10am - 6pm 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. Club Call Sign **K8BF** for a certificate. Other participating stations 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 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
at the **On Tap Grille**, 4396 Kent Road (SR 59) in Stow

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 or PL 114.8 ~ Kent, Ohio)

PCARS thanks N8EQJ for making the repeater available to area hams and for PCARS activities.

PCARS Appointments & Committees 2011

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 2011	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
PIO	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Secretary	KD8GGZ	Mary Jo Loveland
Web Master	K8SRR	Steve Randlett

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
K8MSF	Bud Green



PCARS
VE Team



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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. **Are you interested in getting news emailed directly to you?** Send an email to news-subscribe@portcars.org to join our news emailing list. 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.

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



NLC

