



# The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



August 2012 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 7 No. 8

~ 2012 Officers ~

President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD  
 Vice President - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI  
 Treasurer - George Proudfoot - K3GP  
 3 Year Trustee - Bob Hajdak - N8QE  
 2 Year Trustee - Sandra Getty - KD8JCY  
 1 Year Trustee - Robert Gurney - N8RLG

~ Meetings & Nets ~

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of  
 each month. 7pm  
 Thursday night  
 Nets at 8 pm  
 on 146.895

PCARS Incorporated  
 Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting  
 Nov. 14, 2005



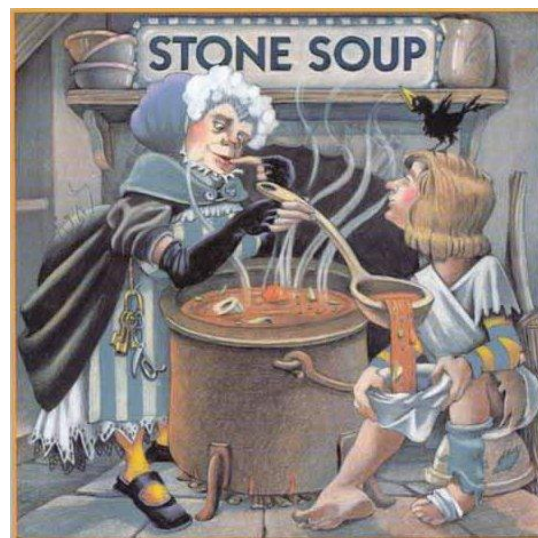
ARRL Affiliated  
 April 20, 2006



Special Services  
 Club  
 March 22, 2010

## From the President

Do you remember the story about Stone Soup? The Stone Soup story is a very old one. We do not know when the story was first told, but versions of the Stone Soup story were long told throughout Europe. It came to North America with European settlers. There is a version from the American Civil War. The story has since moved around the world, even to Northern Kenya. Stone Soup is a story about making something from nothing. A good-tasting soup, beginning with a stone and boiling water, becomes a fabulous soup with the addition of a little bit of this and that. At heart, the traditional story is a trickster tale. Typically, the person starting the soup is a beggar who is denied the food he requests from someone living in a house, or even in a mansion. In many versions, including in the American Civil War version, the beggar is a soldier looking for food. You can check out the following link for the full version of the story. <http://youtu.be/PgD1cwsjmLg>



PCARS is a lot like the stone soup. It started from nothing, everyone added a little bit of what they had, and look at what we've got today! While PCARS is an amazing success story if it ended right now, I don't think any one of us wants that to happen. To take PCARS to the next level is like starting the whole story over from the beginning – only this time instead of only have a few whose talents we could draw on, we've got a substantial membership base to work with. Everyone needs to step up and offer what they can to help the club grow. We don't want to burn out anyone who feels they have to do something because no one else will. If that happens, the whole club is the loser. As we move forward we've got a lot of programs and activities that need people to make them work. If everyone of us just helps out a little bit, it would be truly awesome what PCARS could achieve! interests.

First and foremost – just show up. PCARS is successful because of the large and diverse group of hams we have at our meetings and events. Each time you sit out, it makes it easier to sit out on the next one. Pretty soon your not having fun, attendance is down, and no one can explain what happened. In the end, you'll wish you had been a more active member, doing the things you enjoy with your family and friends. No one from their death bed ever said that they wish they could have seen one more re-run of Happy Days or Do You Think You Can Dance.

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



### *From the President - Continued from Page 1*

Be a net control operator. Not only is it fun, but it gives everyone in the club an opportunity to get to know you better, while at the same time you're learning their names and calls. It's a good place to start if you want to get involved with EmComm as running a net might be required of you and it's a less stressful way to get the hang of it.

Be a teacher at one of our Tech or General upgrade classes. Again, you get a chance to learn to know the members of the class and they get a chance to know who you are on a much more personal level than just saying hi to each other at a meeting. When you teach, you get the chance to go over the material and learn it better for yourself, as well. There are concepts in radio theory that I never really understood (even though I could answer the question) until I got involved with teaching the classes. It's made me a better ham, and it just might help you out too!

When PCARS puts on an event (FYAO, Club Picnic, OSPOTA, Cruise In, Christmas Party, SIG, Field Day, to name a few) it takes planning and execution to pull it off. I promise, you'll be an instant hit



with the Officer's when you volunteer to help with any of the PCARS programs.

Got some good ideas? Please, let me know. We're always looking for new and creative ways to have fun with our hobby and with our club.

I know everyone has a different level of commitment, availability, talent, whatever. I don't expect everyone to jump into every project with their hair on fire! But please, do what you can. All you can do, is all you can do. But all you can do is enough. Thank you to every one of you for being a member of PCARS and for the unique talents and skills that you bring to the club.!

73,  
**Tom, WB8LCD**



### ***From the Vice President***

As I write this, the Opening Ceremony of the Olympics is unfolding, portraying the entire history of Great Britain in a gigantic Broadway musical extravaganza. Sadly, this spectacle leaves out noted English inventor Marconi and his brilliant world-changing invention, the radio. Such a pity...



Amateur Radio is frequently a solitary pastime. I think that when you mention ham radio, most people imagine some old guy with headphones, alone the basement barking into a microphone. On the other hand, PCARS was founded on the idea that ham radio is more fun when several amateurs get together and combine efforts.

Case in point: PCARS Field Day. Is there any radio event anywhere that's a better time? Many people came together and put in an incredible amount of planning. And everyone involved came away happy, spotty band conditions notwithstanding.

We have two events coming up that most folks who participate, usually do it alone. The Cruise In on August 15th and the Ohio State Parks on the Air contest on September 8th, are typically a series of one-man shows. This time, I suggest that you do it a little differently: Grab a fellow ham (or two or three) and see what you can really accomplish when you put your heads together.

In fact, go out and invite someone that you don't know all that well (one of our many new hams, for instance) and invite them to participate in the event with you. We pride ourselves on being open and friendly to anyone with an interest in ham radio. That's another fine PCARS founding principle.

Oh, and just for the record: The Summer Olympics really only needs one event, and that's Women's Beach Volleyball. There, somebody had to say it.

***Bill, WB9LBI***





## 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/>.



## Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- August 15<sup>th</sup> - **Cruise-In** at the A&W in Ravenna
- August 13<sup>th</sup> - **PCARS Meeting** - Linux for the Ham Shack by Terry, KB8AMZ
- August 25<sup>th</sup> - **Ohio B-B-QSO Party** - Club Site (see flier)
- September 10<sup>th</sup> - **PCARS Meeting** - How Amateur Television Works, by Glenn, KA8CMD

### Special Interest Groups - Every Month at the Club Site - 7 pm

- First Tuesday - **Digital** Special Interest Group
- Second Tuesday - **QRP/CW** Special Interest Group
- Third Tuesday - **MARS** Special Interest Group and the  
- **Antenna** Special Interest Group
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** Special Interest Group
- Fifth Tuesday - **Linux for Hams** Special Interest Group



Fourth **Thursday** - **Net Night** at the club site - 6:30 pm



## August Contest Calendar

August 2012	
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 4 to 2359Z, Aug 5
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 4 to 0600Z, Aug 5
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 4 to 1800Z, Aug 5
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 11 to 2400Z, Aug 12
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 18 to 2400 local, Aug 19
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 18 to 0600Z, Aug 19
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 25 to 2200Z, Aug 26
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 25 to 0400Z, Aug 26

## PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

**August 4 ~ October 6 ~ December 1**

VE sessions for Technician, General & Amateur Extra start at 10:00 am at the PCARS Club Site – 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna. Walk-ins are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **ON EXAM DAY BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

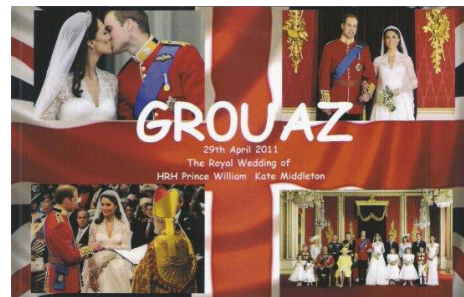
1. A legal photo ID (driver's license, passport).
2. When no photo ID is available, two forms of identification must be presented:
  - a. non-photo ID/driver's license (some states still have them)
  - b. birth certificate (must have the appropriate seal)
  - c. social security card
  - d. library card
  - e. utility bill, bank statement or other business correspondence that specifically names the person; or a postmarked envelope addressed to the person at his or her current mailing address as it appears on the Form 605.
3. Students may bring any of the above items and/or a school ID, minor's work permit, report card, or a legal guardian may present a photo ID.
4. Bring your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC issued Federal Registration Number (FRN). VEC's are required by the FCC to submit either your SSN or your FRN number with your license application form. If you prefer not to give your SSN at the exam session, then you may register your SSN with the FCC before exam day. Once you have a FCC issued FRN, you may no longer use your SSN on the application. For instructions on how to register your SSN with the FCC and receive a FRN, visit the FCC's FAQ page and the FCC's registration instructions page.
5. If applicable, bring the original and a photocopy of your current Amateur Radio license and any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) you may hold from previous exam sessions. The photocopy(s) will not be returned.
6. A calculator with the memory erased and formulas cleared is allowed. You may not bring any written notes or calculations into the exam session. Slide rules and logarithmic tables are acceptable, as long as they're free of notes and formulas. Cell phone must be silenced or turned off during the exam session and the phones' calculator function may not be used. In addition, iPhones, iPads, Androids, smartphones, Blackberry devices and all similar electronic devices with a calculator capability, may NOT be used.
7. Bring a check, a money order or cash to cover the exam session fee of \$15.00. If using a check or money order, the payee is "ARRL-VEC".



**Rex, NX8G**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison

## Paper Chase

Last year the biggest event coming out of England was the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. You might remember I wrote about it and like many of you I received many QSLs commemorating the event. The most beautiful of them I share with you. The call, GR0UAZ was good for only one day and was restricted to 100 Qs. I feel extremely fortunate!

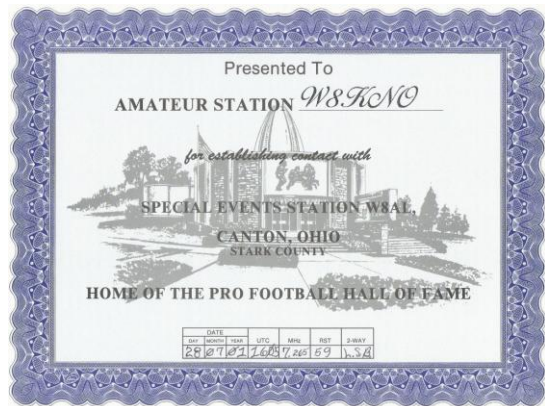


This year there is another special event going on in England, "The Olympics", and as with the wedding there will also be special event stations on the air. Though the number of stations is not known, two stations have received special call signs: **2O12L** in London and **2O12W** in Wales. The QSL route is via G4WNF for London and GW1FKY for Wales. Their operating frequencies are:

<b>160m</b> 1.833, 1.843 MHz	<b>80m</b> 3.523, 3.783 MHz	<b>40m</b> 7.023, 7.043, 7.083, 7.143 MHz
<b>30m</b> 10.103 MHz	<b>20m</b> 14.023, 14.073, 14.173, 14.273 MHz	<b>17m</b> 18.083, 18.103, 18.133 MHz
<b>15m</b> 21.023, 21.083, 21.283 MHz	<b>12m</b> 24.903, 24.923, 24.963 MHz	<b>10m</b> 28.023, 28.083, 28.483 MHz
<b>6m</b> 50.093, 50.133 MHz	<b>2m</b> 144.293 MHz (SSB)	<b>2m</b> 145.500 MHz, then QSY (FM)

Remember to claim the Brendan Trophies if you make a 2 meter contact!

If you are not into the DX Paper Chasing, there are two local events that should be fairly easy to make contact with. On the 4th and 5th of August, the Annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival will be on the air from 8am to 4pm using the call sign **W8AL**. Look for them near 7.265, 14.265, 21.365 and 28.365 Mhz. To acquire a certificate, send a QSL card and \$2 to Roger Gray W8VE, 3506 21st St NW, Canton OH 44708.



Another local special event is Twins Day from Twinsburg. **K8BLP** will be on the air from 11am till 6pm the 5th through the 8th. A QSL card can be obtained from Richard Feldman, K8HGY, Box 30, East Liverpool, OH 43920. If you are lucky enough to visit the festival, you are welcome to operate the special event station. The station is scheduled to operate on 7.210, 14.260, 18.130 and 21.250.

Hope to hear you in the pile-up,

**Joe, W8KNO**

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in August:

**N8WWG** Kenneth Wyckoff  
**KD8OKK** Rosemary Cibella  
 Vee Ward  
**WD8RAY** Ray Woods  
**KD8PTQ** Mark Ladd  
**W8RJG** Ron Good  
**KD8CGH** Robert Benedict

**KB8TUY** Mike Ryan  
**N6TL** Randy Wilson  
**K8GI** Rick Patterson  
**KB8VJL** Al Atkins, Sr.  
**KD8JCY** Sandra Getty  
**AC1TT** Jim Moon  
**NC8T** Paul Tait



## Heavenly Day, It's Gay

I really enjoyed the July PCARS meeting with Jim Kvochick, WB8AZP, as the speaker. I think his demonstration on the Arduino processor opens up all sorts of possibilities for projects, and congratulations to those of you who won the kits. Ted & I have known Jim for the 36 (gasp) years that I have been a ham. He is always knowledgeable and immensely entertaining as a speaker. When you talk to him again ask him about one of the first mobile phones in the Akron area. That was the subject of a show & tell for the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, and we all had to trudge out to his car to see it. We all speculated if the cost of a mobile phone would ever go below \$1000.



Ted & I attended the recent Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club meeting. One of the sections of the program was Frank W8EZX, who showed what he was doing with Arduino, after being inspired by WB8AZP. Frank pointed out how easy it is to work with it.

Ted's recent "home brew" project was a 6' lighthouse with a light that rotates at 3 rpm. It was built for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day parade, which honored the Coast Guard this year. Ted and Kenny Wyckoff, N8WGG, are both Coast Guard Veterans and built a float for the parade. The float will also made an appearance in the Stow 4th of July Parade.



That's Ted next to the lighthouse and Kenny standing beside the trailer wheel. There is a framed certificate from the parade committee hanging in the lobby of On Tap next to the bulletin board. Ted & Kenny are members of Buckeye Coasties, as is another PCARS member Bob Posar, KB8CWT.

### Public Service:

The Black Squirrel Adventure Race in Kent is Aug. 4, and I thank all who have signed up to work it. I hope there is enough water in the river to float the canoes and kayaks in it!

August 26 is Bellefaire. That is a run-bike event through 5 jurisdictions starting in Shaker Heights. This is always an enjoyable race and it benefits Bellefaire school. I am still looking for help on this one.

I know I have been conspicuously absent from the net recently. I have taken up two new activities recently... stamping & card making, which meets a couple times a month on Thursdays and also learning to play the autoharp with a group that plays bluegrass and New Orleans jazz, which often meets on Thursdays as well. I miss checking in, but I am having fun learning new things, too. That covers it for this month.

73,

Gay, WB8VNO



## 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 about 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:

George, K3GP at: [K3GP@portcars.org](mailto:K3GP@portcars.org)



**PCARS**  
**Join Now**  
Discover the FUN



## PCARS Thursday Net Control

Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible!



August	
2	KD8ICR
9	KD8JCY
16	N8QE
23	KB8UUZ
30	KC8PD

September	
6	WB2DFC
13	KB8UHN
20	N8RLG
27	K8IV

October	
4	KD8ICR
11	WB8LCD
18	open
25	KB8UUZ



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](mailto:WB8LCD@portcars.org). Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

Hope to hear you on the net,  
**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS Net Control Coordinator



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## Lost in Translation

Have you ever used one of the on-line translation services that takes a document written in a foreign language and converts it to English? If so, you may have found the results to be amusing or confusing, or both.

I was the lucky winner of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club's Field Day raffle and won a Wouxun HT. By the way, the pronunciation of the company name is something like "o-shing" and not "wox-on" as most of us call it.



Well, as I read the owners manual (yes, some of us actually do that) I couldn't help but chuckle at some of the phrasing. And it made me wonder whether the manual was written by someone for whom English was, to be polite, not their primary language, or, more likely, run through a translating program that produced these gems. All are exact quotes.

From the "Getting Started" page describing the LCD display: "There are various indicators displaying on the screen when powing on. Please refer the below table to learn what the indicators stand for accordingly." Kind of reminds me of the sign at the Amish farm: "Eggs from the barn fresh."



For the Menu Lock Function: "Sometimes if the menu is not need to be operated frequently, you can lock the menu via the programming software." Huh?

How about the squelch function? "Squelch level is about when the signal is strong enough to turn on the squelch function, and when it is weak enough to turn off the squelch function. When the squelch is on, there is voice from the loudspeaker for all of the signaling set by the transceiver."

I don't think that is exactly how squelch was explained in the ARRL's Technician Manual.

And the power save mode? "When the power save is ON, the receiver circuit will be off for the moment, and the re-activate to detect the signals for a while, in order to reduce the battery capacity consumption."

Should the radio not operate properly: "Before the receiver is regarded as being faulty, please double check according to the main problems as following chart. If the problems are still happening, please reset it to avoid some misfunctional operation, search for assistance from the experienced technician or contact your seller accordingly.

The manual wraps up with this: "Wouxun endeavors to achieve the accuracy and completeness of this manual, but it is still not perfect for any possible omissions or printing errors. All the above is subject to be updated without prior notice."

As Yoda from Star Wars may have put it: "The manual helpful it has been not."

*Jim, KC8PD*

## ***QST Email***

Just a quick note about the PCARS QST email program. This is a way that any email of interest to the whole club can be sent by using the address [qst@portcars.org](mailto:qst@portcars.org). If you send something to that address, it will be sent to a moderator, and the moderator will approve it if it meets the criteria of being of interest to the whole club and ham radio related. The moderator will reject it if it's a cute story about what your sisters kid said to the waiter at the restaurant last weekend.

Anyone can send a message to the QST address, but the moderator will determine whether it goes through or not. Don't take it personal if it doesn't. If you send out a QST, always include your email address in it so any response is sent directly to you. If you "reply" to a qst email, it goes back through the QST system, and if your response is not of interest to the whole club the moderator will reject it.

Always respond to the email address given in the text of any communication!



## ***Swap-N-Shop***

**FOR SALE: 6' steel cabinets** with 19" rails and 2 doors – deep type, \$50 (I have two) [09/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Telewave PS-4502** power splitter, 400-512MHz, new, Tescos #65228, \$65 [09/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Diamond D-130J** discone antenna, 25-1300MHz, never used outside, \$75 [09/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Decibel Products DB8802BA-100** remote metering power meter and alarm, 406-1000MHz, \$70 [09/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: 1-1/4" transmission line**, 250' or more, used in good condition, with two "N" connectors, \$250 [09/02/12]

Contact Rick - [K8GI@portcars.org](mailto:K8GI@portcars.org)  
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**FOR SALE: Icom ID-880H** 2m/70cm transceiver, D-Star ready. Includes transceiver, microphone, transceiver mounting bracket, manual, RT Systems USB-29 programming cable, RT Systems WCS880 programming/Cloning software, Icom D-Star data cable, and original box. \$450.00 [09/02/12]

Contact Rick - [K8CAV@portcars.org](mailto:K8CAV@portcars.org)  
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**FOR SALE: Used Leviton 430C12W** 125/250V 30A watertight pin & sleeve connector-excellent condition \$80 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers** with N-male & DIN-male connectors. Also includes an extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male cable \$30 ea. (10 Available) [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers** with N-male & DIN-male connectors. \$20 each. . (10 Available) [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Astron RS-70M** – 13.8 Volt Regulated Power Supply w/Voltmeter & Ammeter. Rated 57.0A Continuous Duty, 70A ICAS 50% Duty Cycle \$240 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Astron RS-50M** – 13.8 Volt Regulated Power Supply w/Voltmeter & Ammeter. Rated 37.0A Continuous Duty, 50A ICAS 50% Duty Cycle \$175 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: DeWalt 18 Volt Cordless 1/2" XRP Hammer Drill Kit** model DC988 w/2 batteries & charger in carrying case \$75 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: DeWalt 18 Volt Cordless 1/2" XRP Hammer Drill/Recip Saw Kit** model DW987 drill and model DW938 Recip Saw w/2 batteries & charger NO CASE \$100 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors** [8/2/2012]  
    GE CL01A400TJ Contactor 4 poles rated 25A @ 600V, 120V Coil \$25 (2 Available)  
    GE CL01D310TD Contactor 4 poles rated 25A @ 600V, 24V Coil \$30 (2 Available)  
    GE CL25A300T Contactor 4 poles rated 32A @ 600V, 120V Coil \$35 (2 Available)  
**FOR SALE: Bolt on Aux Contact Set** for any of the above contactors with 1-NO & 1-NC Set of contacts \$2 ea [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: 1/4" Plate Glass** for desk or table top, Great for radio bench. 42" x 68" cost over \$100 Asking \$80 [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Converter Concepts Power Supply** 90-250VAC Input. Output #1 +12VDC, @2.5A. Output #2 -12VDC, @ 1.5A. Output #3 +5VDC, @ 12A. \$20 (2 Available) [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders** DIN Rail Mount, Blown Fuse Indicator \$3 ea (25 Available) [8/2/2012]  
**FOR SALE: LINKSYS by Cisco EtherFast** @ 10/100 5 port work group switch \$10 [8/2/2012]

**FOR SALE: Station Ground Bars** military surplus MADE IN U.S.A. by COLE HERSEE of Boston, MA. \$8 ea. (Less than 40 out of the original 60 remaining) [8/2/2012]

**FOR SALE: Small supply of Helix connectors** for sale. Contact me with your needs. [8/2/2012]

Contact James - [KD8VT@portcars.org](mailto:KD8VT@portcars.org) or call 330-206-4909

**FOR SALE: 7" Screen GPS** - Great for all you APRS & EMCOMM 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!). USA Maps loaded, Touch Screen, Aux Input, Brand new, original box, manual with everything including suction mount. \$89.00 [10/02/12]

Contact Tom - [KB8UUZ@portcars.org](mailto:KB8UUZ@portcars.org)

*Editor's Note:* Ads for PCARS members 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: [10/02/12] This will help keep the listings current.

## Amateur Radio License Plates Wanted



We have room for **YOUR** Ham Radio license plate

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

Dig out an old amateur radio call sign license plate (with your present call sign), clean it up and bring it to be permanently affixed to the wall in the club station.

We have 42 plates now, but we can use more. Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form.

It costs about \$20 the first time for the bureau fee, mailing fee, and Amateur Radio plate fee. When

**ARRL License Manuals**  
Now including Practice Exam Software

Only **\$30.00** Available from PCARS

The ARRL **Ham Radio License Manual**  
All You Need to Become an Amateur Radio Operator

The ARRL **General Class License Manual**  
For Ham Radio  
All You Need to Pass Your General Class Exam

The ARRL **Extra Class License Manual**  
For Ham Radio  
All You Need to Pass Your Extra Class Exam

Contact George, [K3GP@portcars.org](mailto:K3GP@portcars.org)



## ***EmComm - In Memoriam***

On July 17th, John Mason, the Assistant Director of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (EMA), passed away. John died from an apparent heart ailment as he was driving home from work.

John, who was also a Captain with the Suffield Fire Department, serving as a Paramedic-Firefighter, had been with the EMA since 2004. The breadth and depth of his knowledge of emergency management as well as EMS and fire service operations was simply unmatched in this area.

He was the driving force behind the implementation of the Incident Command System by local first responders. He recognized that ICS concepts and practices, applied to incidents and events that were both large and small, were invaluable for coordinating the effort and enhancing responder safety. Thanks to John, the county now has its own Incident Management Assistance Team.

John's vision for the role that the EMA could fill as a resource for area public agencies and first responders will live on. It is reflected in his projects which included the layout and operation of the county's Emergency Operations Center, the fleet of vehicles and equipment that the EMA can deploy, and Station 30, the EMA's vehicle storage and maintenance facility on SR 59.

Quite simply, John Mason was an invaluable resource and the go-to guy for anyone with emergency management or ICS questions.

Not only a leader, John was a friend and mentor to many of us. He was a patient and persistent teacher who was never reluctant to take the time and expend the effort to improve our skills and knowledge.

John was there from day one when the RACES unit began operations back in 2007. He was a quiet observer for those first few years as he assessed what we were capable of doing. When he was confident that he could rely on us he expanded our opportunities within the EMA, encouraging us to take on tasks outside the realm of amateur radio.

He steered us into advanced ICS training and offered us the opportunity to be members of the Incident Management Assistance Team. He was there for us as RACES evolved into the EMA's Communications Unit which John took pride in as an example of how volunteers can be incorporated into an EMA's operations.

John's unflappable and calm demeanor were a steady influence no matter what was occurring around him. His deliberate and detailed approach as a first responder and incident manager could also be seen in the craftsmanship of his carpentry and construction skills.

John always expected everyone to perform to the best of their ability. He gave us the training and tools to achieve our mission's goals and objectives. He made it clear that the overall mission was more important than the individuals who staffed the team. John would expect all of us to continue on even though he is gone, and that is how we can honor his memory.

He will be missed by all of us. Godspeed, John.



***Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH***

**Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EMA Communications Unit/RACES  
EC, ARES® of Portage County  
Emergency Operations Officer, Ohio Army MARS**



## ***Some Words From Weaver***

### **Ohio QSO Party August 25**

From the Ohio QSO Party Web Site: "The Ohio QSO Party occurs on the fourth Saturday of August. The contest period extends from 1200 EDT [noon] to 2400 EDT [midnight] (1600Z Saturday until 0400Z Sunday). All stations may operate the full twelve hours. The 2012 contest is on August 25th."

"Bands & Modes: CW and SSB on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Stations may be worked once per mode on each band; i.e. K8MAD may be worked on both 40 CW and 40 SSB for point credit. Each station may be contacted 10 times (once per each of the 5 bands and once per mode on each band)."

Listen around: 80M CW: 3.545 - SSB: 3.825; 40M CW: 7.045 - SSB: 7.200; 20M CW: 14.045 - SSB: 14.250; 15M CW: 21.045 - SSB: 21.300; 10M CW: 28.045 - SSB: 28.450.

### **Ohio School Receives ARRL Grant**

Mogadore Local Schools, Mogadore, OH received a grant of about \$14,000 from the ARRL Education and Technology Program (ETP). The ARRL Executive Committee recently approved resource grants for 11 schools, including the Mogadore Local Schools. More than 590 schools across the country have received support from the ETP in the form of grants for equipment, curriculum and resources, as well as teacher in-service training through the Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. Applications for equipment and resource grants are accepted twice each year; application deadlines are May 1 and November 1.

"A central goal of the ETP is to develop a foundation of wireless technology literacy among America's teachers and students. It employs Amateur Radio to explore radio science and electronics and provide hands-on activities that engage students' minds and imaginations, opening doorways into math, science and technology curriculum topics, as well as other core curriculum areas such as geography and language arts," said the announcement of the grants.

"ETP grants for school radio stations are awarded to schools that provide a plan to use Amateur Radio as part of an enrichment program and/or as part of in classroom learning," the announcement continued.

### **Dear member or visitor,**

Amateur Radio continues to be at the brink of major problems -- problems brought to our door by others -- problems that the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) continues to fight and in large part to overcome -- thanks to the support of its members.

Although my message this time will be short, I hope it will be viewed very seriously by its readers; especially by readers who do not belong to the ARRL. I have said for quite some time that Amateur Radio exists thanks to the work of the ARRL. Notice that I did not say our low-range frequency bands; I said Amateur Radio. Note that I did not say DX'ing or Contesting or any number of other sub-categories of activity within Amateur Radio, I said Amateur Radio -- itself -- totally.

Often I overhear people on-the-air say they have no interest in supporting ARRL because ARRL does nothing for them. This generally is heard on UHF or VHF bands. The operator who has made the statement

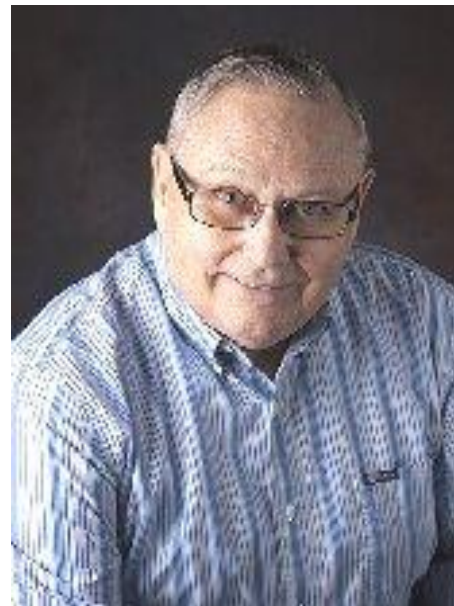
seems to have the wrong impression that because he or she uses frequencies and modes that provide local communications, ARRL's work has no effect on them. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Wherever we operate from Very Low Frequencies (VLF) through the Low Bands (HF) through Very High Frequencies (VHF) through our GHz bands, it is solely because of ARRL that we can enjoy operating there. Period.

Whether there is an attack on 440 MHz or 40 meters, it is ARRL that leads the defense. It was ARRL that led the fight to expand the 40M band internationally and is still leading the fight to complete the move of broadcast stations from it. It is the same ARRL that led the defense to kill the effort just last year to take part of our 440 band and divert it to other use. At the same time, it is ARRL that is leading the effort to expand the 60 M band to develop pre-emptive defense of our bands above 33 cm while at the same time continuing to work for a new band in the 500 kHz range.

ARRL not relevant to some amateurs? Life certainly can be extremely simple when one chooses not to be informed. The truth is that the only amateur operator for whom ARRL may be irrelevant is one who is no longer interested in Amateur Radio.

I wish you good operating, good DX, good contesting, good experimenting, good building, good whatever phase of Amateur Radio lights your interest in hamming is. Occasionally, as you enjoy your operating, give a passing thought and thanks to ARRL for making it all possible.



**Jim Weaver, K8JE**  
Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division

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## ***Disassembly Complete: Heathkit is No More***

The St. Joseph Township company that delighted hobbyists for decades and at one time employed up to 1,800 people locally is selling off what's left. The remnants of a once-proud company with a long history in the Twin Cities are now on the auction block.

Owner Don Desrochers confirmed this week that Heathkit is dead. Last known as Heathkit Educational Systems, the company that once employed hundreds of people has closed after defaulting on a lease at 2024 Hawthorne Ave. in St. Joseph Township. The work force at the end was a half-dozen.



In a phone interview from his home in Dallas, Desrochers said he has filed for bankruptcy and a bank now owns what's left of Heathkit. Several bank-seized items are being sold in online auctions. Lori Marciniak, Heathkit's last president and CEO, declined to comment on the company's demise. Desrochers said she and the remaining handful of workers did a good job to the end. "The situation was purely one of the economy," he said. "Heathkit (Educational Systems) was primarily dependent upon federal and state funding for schools. Spending in education continued to drop down, and it was economically unfeasible to continue operating."

The Heath Co. was founded in 1926 as an aircraft company but shifted its focus several times to remain



competitive. After World War II the company switched to the electronics industry and bought a large surplus of wartime electronic parts to build kits. The company once employed as many as 1,800 people in the Twin Cities. Heathkit was a division of the Heath Co., which eventually split to become Zenith Data Systems, which took most of the workers, and Heath/Zenith and Heathkit, which together kept a couple hundred workers, Desrochers said. Heath/Zenith was sold in 1999 to a corporation that moved it out of state. Heathkit stayed in the Twin Cities. Heathkit had left the kit business in 1992. By then its Heathkit Educational Systems division was focusing on selling educational systems, such as hardware and manuals for career and vocational training. In 2008 the company vacated a building at 455 Riverview Drive in Benton Harbor and moved into the 25,000-square-foot section of a 330,000-square foot building in St. Joseph Township owned by Southshore Companies.

In 2011 Heathkit announced it would get back in the kit business. The work force was down to 15-20 people.



“When we got back into the kit business, we were losing the education business faster than we were growing the kit business,” Desrochers said. “It was not sustainable.” Phil Maki, treasurer of Southshore Companies, said Heathkit abandoned

its lease around March, and Southshore got notice in May that Desrochers had declared bankruptcy and Heathkit would be closed.

“It’s a sad thing for the community,” Maki said. “A lot of us grew up using Heathkit products, and it’s sad they ended the way they did.”

### **Inspired Steve Jobs**

Heathkit is mentioned in Walter Isaacson’s biography of the late Steve Jobs, co-founder and chairman/CEO of Apple Inc. Jobs talks of visiting the garage of Larry Long, an engineer who lived down the street from Jobs’ family. He says Long turned him on to “Heathkits, assemble-it-yourself kits for making ham radios and other electronic gear.”

Jobs says the kits helped him realize there was no limit to the things a person could build and understand. “When I was a kid both my dad and the Heathkits made me believe I could do anything,” Jobs is quoted as saying.

Desrochers said he bought Heathkit in 2005 and had worked for the company prior to that, as president and CEO from 1995-2000. He said that during that time about 150-175 people worked there. In 2000 Desrochers moved to Texas to pursue another business opportunity. He bought Heathkit when it was offered for sale in 2005 but continued living in Texas. He said closing Heathkit was hard for him. “It was a tough decision, but you can’t operate and lose money. Hopefully the employees will find other employment. They were great, loyal employees for a long time,” Desrochers said.

John Oliphant of Benton Harbor said he started working for Heath/Zenith in 1984 and later worked for Heathkit, for a total of almost 28 years. “It was a great company, and I enjoyed all my time there. I got to work a lot of different angles in the business. It was a good place to work, and the people there in the end were really good to work with,” Oliphant said. “Unfortunately the business was not able to continue.” Oliphant, who was a project manager and technical writer for Heathkit, was laid off last December. He now works for Tri-County Computers in Watervliet. “I’m actually doing what I used to write training courses about, repairing and maintaining computer systems,” he said.

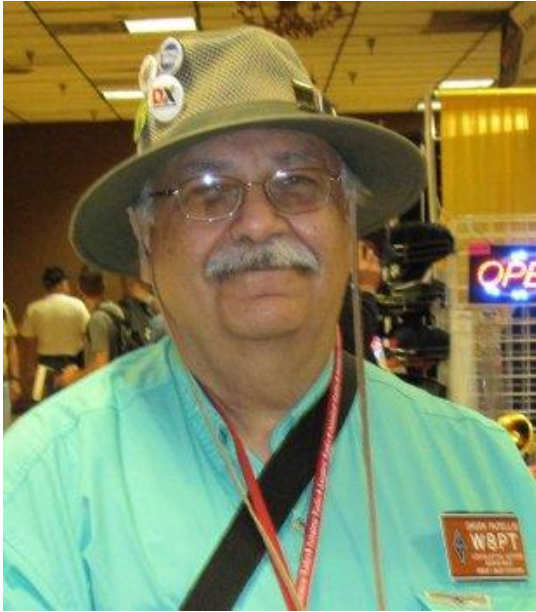
***Julie Swidwa***

**Staff Writer – The Herald Palladium  
St. Joseph - Benton Harbor, MI July 19, 2012**



## *Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites*

The hot WX we have been having is a perfect excuse to stay inside with a cold beverage near by and work some great DX.



This past month was very strange indeed. We had openings on 10 & 15 meters. We had Aurora openings on 6 meters as well as meteor scatter and E-skip. We had our Sun doing strange things with discharges that made the bands so quite you could hear a bug walking along the elements of your yagi. Well, not really, but they sure did deaden the bands, only to have them open up several days later.

For instance, I worked openings on 6 meters to the South, Southwest, West, Northeast and East. I worked openings on 10 meters into Europe and the Middle East and on 15 meters, the Middle East, Northern Africa, Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Of course, 20 meters did its own thing also.

August promises to be just as wild and there are some very, very interesting DXpeditions coming up before the end of the year. So let's take a look.

As always, want to thank the following for the forecast reports for this month and beyond: the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn Packet Cluster Network (especially Tedd Mirgliotta – KB8NW) for the following DX and IOTA information.

This report could contain “Pirate/SLIM” operations or busted call signs. Please do yourself a favor and adhere to the old adage of “Work First Worry Later” (WFWL).

**20, ENGLAND & WALES** (Special Event 2012 London Olympic & Paralympic Games). Look for the following special event callsigns to be activated to celebrate the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games:

**2012L** - Members of Cray Valley Radio Society (CVRS) will activate the London, England, station through the duration of the Games, and will be located at the historic Eltham Palace, southeast London. Activity will be on 160-2 meters using all modes. More information is available on the Web at: <http://www.2012L.com> QSL via G4WNF. Contact the Press Officer, John Warburton, G4IRN at: [press@2012l.com](mailto:press@2012l.com)

**2012W** - Members of Barry Amateur Radio Society (BARS) will activate the Welsh station from Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales, and will also be active on all bands (160m-23cms) and on all modes, including SSTV and satellite. More information is available on Web at: <http://www.2012W.com> Contact station manager Glyn Jones, GW0ANA, at: [glyndxis@talktalk.net](mailto:glyndxis@talktalk.net)

**5R, MADAGASCAR** (IOTA Op!). Moise, F4EZG, will once again be active as 5R8VE, but this time from Nosy Alanana (AF-090) in the Tamatave region between September 1-3rd. Activity will only be on 20 and 15 meters. QSL via F4EZG.

**9M, SPRATLY ISLANDS.** Operators John/9M6XRO and Steve/9M6DXX will be active as 9M4SLL from Pulau Layang Layang, Spratly Islands (AS-051) between August 7-13th. Activity will be on all bands from 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY, using two stations with linear amplifiers to vertical antennas on the edge of the ocean. Spratly Islands are ranked 29th in the current The DX Magazine ‘100 Most Needed Countries’ survey (world-wide, mixed modes), up from number 32 last year. The QSL Manager for 9M4SLL is Tim Beaumont, M0URX. QSL direct with SAE + 2 USDs or 1 new IRC, OQRS see <http://m0urx.com/oqrs> or via the RSGB bureau (all bureau cards MUST be marked

"via M0URX"). Logs will be uploaded to LoTW as soon as possible after the end of the operation (within a few days), but there will be NO online log during the DXpedition itself. If you are not certain of any QSO you are welcome to work them again for an 'insurance' contact.

**CR3/CT9, MADEIRA ISLANDS.** German operators from the RRDXA will be active once again as CR3L during the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) as a Multi-? entry. This team has won the 2009, 2010 and 2011 competition from their QTH in Santana (Northern part of the island). The crew is still looking for one or more good contest operators on this mode. The length of stay on Madeira is one week. Communication: English and German languages. If interested please contact Hans, DL1YFF at: [dl1yff@gmx.de](mailto:dl1yff@gmx.de) More information is available on Han's Web page at: <http://www.dl1yff.de> Also info on the Crew's Web site at: <http://www.CR3L.de> QSL via DJ6QT. Operators will probably be active as CT9/homecall before and after the contest.

**D2, ANGOLA.** Craig, MM0SSG, is now active as D2SG from Luanda and will be there until around October 31st. Activity will be limited because he is there on a work assignment on an off-shore oil platform. Operations will only take place when he is on land. Reported QSNs show activity has been on 10 meters CW. QSL via GM4FDM, direct or by the Bureau.

**D6, COMOROS** It was announced this past week that the D64K DXpedition to Ngazidja (Grande Comore), Comoros Islands (IOTA AF-007), which will be active between August 8-20th .

**EI80, IRELAND** (Special Event) Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS) members active as EI80IRTS throughout 2012. Activity is to celebrate the IRTS's 80th anniversary. QSL via EI4GXB or LoTW.

**AS-105.** Kim "Tai", DS2NMJ, will be active as DS2NMJ/2 from Yonghung Island between August 12-13th. Activity will only be on 15 and 12 meters SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau; if possible, you want to use direct.

**EU-038.** Ray, PE1GUR, will be active as PA6FUN from Ameland Island (WLOTA 1059, WW Loc. JO23VK) between July 30th and August 15th. Activity will be on 6 meters only (Watch Es, Ms and Tropo). QSL via PE1GUR, by the Bureau or direct.

**EU-079.** Operators Glenn/LA8XRA and Trond/LA9VDA will be active as LA6Q from Jønsholmen (Jonsholmen) Island between August 10-13th. Activity will be on the 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. If they have time, he will make side trips to Dimna Island (EU-079, WLOTA 2438) and Nerlandsøy Island (EU-079, WLOTA 2193). QSL via LA9VDA, direct or by the Bureau (E-mail requests for Bureau cards can be sent to: [la9vda \[at\] gmail dot com](mailto:la9vda[at]gmail.com)). Trond states, "Thanks to W5BXX Dave for sponsoring us."

**M0, ENGLAND.** Phil, G3SWH, will activate the special callsign M0RSE on CW only on all bands over the weekend of 18th and 19th August, 2012. All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW immediately after the weekend. There will also be an on-line log at [www.g3swh.org.uk/m0rse.html](http://www.g3swh.org.uk/m0rse.html). Special QSLs are available via G3SWH, either via the OQRS facility at [www.g3swh.org.uk/decision.html](http://www.g3swh.org.uk/decision.html) (bureau or direct) or direct with SAE and adequate return postage or even via the traditional bureau route.

**NH8, SWAINS ISLAND** (Press Release). The following press release was sent out on July 16th [edited]: "Swains press release # 2 -- Craig/K9CT and Joe/W8GEX are happy to report that preparations for the NH8S Swains Island DXpedition are on schedule. The 20 man international team should be on the island from September 4th, thru September 17th. Swains is # 31 most wanted worldwide. They will operate all bands with SSB, CW and RTTY. A big thank you goes to John/N7CQQ and Paul/W8AEF for their time in building and testing the SVDA's that will be used. Thanks also to Paul/W6XA and Tom/N4XP for testing the radios, amps and laptops. All of the equipment has been shipped to Arnie/N6HC in California for the upcoming departure via cargo ship later this week. The QSLing will be handled by Joe/AA4NN with help from his XYL Margaret. Plans are to upload logs daily by satellite phone from the island to Clublog.

**OD, LEBANON.** Luigi, IV3XNF, will be on a United Nations Interim Force (UNIFIL) mission in Lebanon between May and October. He will be staying on a military base but plans to be active during his free time and operate as a QRP station



using the callsign OD5/IV3XNF/QRP. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using a Yaesu FT-817ND into a Carolina Windom 80 antenna or an End-Fed Half-Wavelength Antenna (EFHWA - fishing pole). Preferred modes are CW and Digital. QSL via direct to his home callsign. For more update and info, see: <http://iv3xnf.jimdo.com>

**ON85, BELGIUM** (Special Event). Eric, ON4LN, President RCL, informs that the members of the Radio Club Leuven (RCL) will celebrate their 85th anniversary this year. They will be active using the special callsign ON85RCL from their RCL club shack and proudly. Activity begun on July 1st and will last until December 31st. Operations will be on all bands (6m if condx) and on various modes. For more info, see QRZ.com under ON85RCL or ON4CP.

**T6, AFGHANISTAN**. Stefan, DL4ST, will be active as T6SS from from Mazar-e-Sharif until end of September. Activity will be a on the HF bands, but so far it has been mainly on 20 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via his home callsign.

**V6, MICRONESIA**. Haru, JA1XGI will be active as V63XG from Yap Island (OC-012) between December 5-12th. Activity will probably be on 20-6 meters (especially 30/17/12m) using mainly CW, with some SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the Bureau. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW. Look for updates and details at: <http://ja1xgidxvacation.blogspot.com>

**V8, BRUNEI** (Ops Needed). Gabriele Villa, I2VGW, team leader of the next DXpedition to Brunei, announced that they are looking for some CW operators for the upcoming V84SMD DXpedition, November 11-23rd. If interested, please contact by E-mail to Gabriele at: [gabrielei2vgw@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielei2vgw@gmail.com)

**XP, GREENLAND**. Henning, OZ1BII/OU2I, will be active as XP2I from club station XP1AB in Kangerlussuaq between September 13-17th. Activity will be CW only. QSL via his home callsign.

**YB67, INDONESIA** (Special Event). Look for members of the YB Land DX Club (YBDXC) to activate special event station YB67RI between 0000z August 10th and 2400z August 17th. Activity is to celebrate the 67th anniversary of the independence of Indonesia. Activity will be on all bands and modes. QSL via YB2DX direct or LoTW only. NO YB Bureau cards.

**ZA, ALBANIA**. Tevfik, TA1HZ, will once again be active as ZA1TC from Durres between August 1-7th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using a Kenwood TS570D, FD-4 Multi-Band Windom antenna and 80m dipole. Operations also include an entry in the European HF Championship. During his spare time from the contest, he will may try to work some PSK31, especially on 30 meters. More details and QSL info are available on QRZ.com and the TCSWAT Web page.

OK – there you have it. There are even some DXpeditions looking for Ops if you are so inclined. Get on the air and work some DX. Until next month, gud DX and CU DN the Log.

73 and GUD DX!!

**Chuck, W8PT**  
Also known as "Charlie the Tuner"



## *One More Tower Climb before Surgery*



Here's a picture of Russ, KD8LDY climbing our tower just before his surgery (**both** knees to be replaced).

A bunch of Hams got together to help Al, AB8AA take down a tower. I couldn't make it - too hot for me! But I did offer moral support.

**Jane, K8JAA**

## ***Ohio ARRL State Convention Details***

### **FORUM SCHEDULES AND CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE COLUMBUS HAMFEST**



It's approaching fast! The 2012 ARRL Ohio State Convention, in conjunction with the 2012 Columbus Hamfest, will take place on Saturday, August 11, 2012 at the Aladdin Shrine Center, 3850 Stelzer Road in Columbus.

The plans are finalized, the stage is being set, and we are waiting to welcome Amateur Radio operators from around the state to what we hope is the beginning of a new tradition in the Ohio Section!

Before we list the forums and times, we need to complete one housekeeping item. The contact information for the Hamfest is incorrect in QST. The information is correct on the ARRL.ORG website. The public contact for the Columbus Hamfest is: James Morton , KB8KPJ - 1317 Blocker Drive Heath, OH 43056 - Phone: 740-527-2156 - Email: [kb8kpj@arrl.net](mailto:kb8kpj@arrl.net)

#### **Now, onto the forums that will be delivered at the Convention:**

- 8:30 am – 9:00 am: HISTORY OF TELEGRAPHY Presenter: Dr. Robert Lewis, N8GU
- Come hear of the history of our most basic form of Amateur Radio communication
- 9:00 am – 10:00 am: STATE LEGISLATION Presenter: Nicholas Pittner, K8NAP, ARRL Ohio State Government Liaison

Have you heard about Ohio's new PRB-1 Antenna Law? Come join us as ARRL Ohio State Government Liaison, Nicholas Pittner, K8NAP will help explain how the new law benefits Ohio Amateur Radio operators, and how Hams seeking to erect new antennas can use the new law to their benefit.

- 9:00am – 10:00am: RF INTERFERENCE FROM ELECTRIC POWER LINES Presenter: Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB

Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB, presents his Educational and Entertaining lectures based on 30 years of investigating Radio & TV Interference, Primarily from electric power lines. WITH SELF-HELP SUGGESTIONS FOR:

- a. Identifying the Interference Type / Source.
  - b. Locating said Interference using a portable receiver.
  - c. Working with the local Electric Utility, including Part 15 violations.
  - d. [ LAST STEP ] When to contact the F.C.C.
- 10:00am – 11:00am: ARRL FORUM Moderator, Frank Piper, KI8GW – ARRL Ohio Section Manager  
Speakers: Kay Craigie, N3KN – ARRL President. Jim Weaver – ARRL Director – Great Lakes Division

Come spend an hour with ARRL President Kay Cragie, K3KN, Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE and Ohio Section Manager Frank Piper, KI8GW as they discuss various topics

affecting Amateur Radio. At the end of the forum, the Awards will be presented for the Ohio Section Newsletter Award, and the Al Seversen Ohio Ham of the Year.

- 11:00am – NOON: OHIO SINGLE SIDEBAND NET SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING Moderator: Don Zickefoose, WB8SIQ – OSSBN Net Manager

- 11:00am – NOON: NBEMS / FLDIGI Speaker: Harry Bloomberg, W3YJ

Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) and the use of the latest digital program “Fldigi” will be discussed and explained in this forum.

- NOON – 1:00pm: FUNDAMENTALS OF WIRE ANTENNAS Speakers: Jay Adrick, K8CJY and Geoff Mednenhall, P.E., W8GNM

This presentation will cover the basic electromagnetic theory, radiation patterns, construction, and applications of wire antennas for amateur radio use.

- NOON 1:00 pm: TRAFFIC HANDLING AND THE NATIONAL TRAFIC SYSTEM Speaker: David Maynard, WA3EZN – ARRL Ohio Section Traffic Manager

This presentation will cover what equipment is needed to join in the fun of handling formal radiogram traffic. It will explain the National Traffic System (NTS), how it is structured, how it works and how to find a local or state traffic net. ARRL Radiogram basics will also be covered, and will also include information on the NTS digital system. Skills for operating in a directed net will also be covered in this forum.

- 1:00pm – 2:00pm: ROYAL ORDER OF THE WOUFF HONG INDUCTION CEREMONY

You are invited to join the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong! This mysterious and celebrated ritual will be held to wrap up the Convention. This ceremony is limited to the first Fifty (50) full ARRL members. Pre-registration is requested, but not mandatory. You may pre-register by sending your request for registration to [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com). Proof of full ARRL membership must be presented to attend. Don't have your ARRL card? Stop by the ARRL table at the Columbus Hamfest, and we can verify membership and sign you up that day!

For more information on the speakers, and to get even more information on the Convention and Hamfest, please visit the Ohio Section website at: <http://www.arrlohio.org>

***Frank Piper, KI8GW***  
ARRL Ohio Section, Section Manager



## ***Hamfest Calendar***

**08/11 - Columbus Ohio Hamfest** - Location: Aladdin Shrine Center - 3850 Stelzer Road - Columbus, OH 43085  
Website: <http://www.aladdinshrine.com/hamfest.htm> - Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin ARC (W8FEZ) - Talk-In: 146.97(-)  
(PL 123.0) - Public Contact: James Morton, KB8KPJ - 1317 Blocker Drive Heath, OH 43056 - Phone: 740-527-2156 -  
Email: [kb8kpj@arrl.net](mailto:kb8kpj@arrl.net)



**08/11 - ARRL Ohio State Convention** - Location: Aladdin Shrine Center - 3850 Stelzer Road - Columbus, OH 43085 - Website: <http://www.arrl-ohio.org> - Sponsor: ARRL Ohio Section - Talk-In: 146.97(-) (PL 123.0) - Public Contact: Scott Yonally , N8SY - 258 Valley Hi Drive Mansfield, OH 44904 - Phone: 419-884-5105 - Email: [n8sy@arrl.net](mailto:n8sy@arrl.net)

**08/12 - CFARC Tailgate Fest 2012** - Location: Robert Pinn Armory - 4630 Allen Road - Stow, OH 44224 - Website: <http://cfarc.org/tailgate2012.html> - Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.27+ (PL 110.9) - Public Contact: Frank Tompkins , W8EZT - 124 Chart Road Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223 - Phone: 330-928-4048 - Email: [tailfest2012@cfarc.org](mailto:tailfest2012@cfarc.org)

**8/19 - Warren ARA's Annual Hamfest** - Location: Trumbull County Fairgrounds - 899 Everett Hull Road - Cortland, OH 44410 - Website: <http://www.w8vtd.org> - Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association - Talk-In: 146.970 - Public Contact: Jacqueline Clay , KD8DNE - 14770 Hillcrest Avenue Middlefield, OH 44062 - Phone: 440-636-2806 - Email: [kd8dne@gmail.com](mailto:kd8dne@gmail.com)



## ***Public Service Events***

As a regular feature, here is a list of some of the upcoming events in our area along with the name of the contact person if you would like to volunteer:

- \* **Black Squirrel Triathlon** – August, August 4th, Gay, WB8VNO
- \* **Bellefaire Biathlon** – August 26th, Gay, WB8VNO
- \* **Mantua Potato Stomp** – September 8th, Jim, KC8PD
- \* **Balloon-a-Fair Chase, 10 Mile Run** – September 15th, Sandy, KD8JCY
- \* **Akron Roadrunner Marathon** – September 29th, Dennis, AI8P
- \* **Got Bike?**, Ravenna Parks and Recreation – October 7th, Jim, KC8PD or Mike, KD8FLZ

Please contact me if you need any more information. Your efforts are valued by the event organizers and you will find these volunteer opportunities to be personally rewarding. All of us who have responsibility for coordinating the amateur radio communications efforts really appreciate your assistance.

***Jim, KC8PD***



## ***Affiliated Club News***

This summer is just flying by and clubs all through the section are busy with a plethora of activities. You know I particularly enjoy events that include several clubs or events that draws clubs together. Hamfests are fun but there are many other things going on that bring us together both in a physical presence on the air. August is just loaded with events.

The premier event will be The ARRL Ohio State Convention during the Columbus Hamfest at the Aladdin Shrine Center. ARRL Kay Craigie will be the keynote speaker, K3KN. A great event for a club field trip.

PCARS is having a Cruise In at the Ravenna A&W August 15. Cars mix well with Ham Radio and this event put them both in the spotlight. Come show off your mobile rig setups. Get a caravan together from your club together and head toward Revenna for what looks a great evening of fellowship, and, as always with PCARS, FUN. See <http://www.portcars.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/AmateurRadioCruise-4Jul2012.pdf> for details.

Then September 8 join PCARS again on the air with Ohio State Parks on the Air - OSPOTA.  
<http://parks.portcars.org/ospota/index.php>

Mount Vernon ARC will be up to their necks in bicycles the August 11 weekend when Pelotonia converges on Kenyon College in Gambier. This 100 mile bike event will keep hams across central Ohio busy.

Lake County ARA will be supporting the Greater Cleveland Triathlon August 5. And check-in to the LCARA 10M Round Table on Wednesdays at 8:30pm on 28.450 MHz. Why not fire up your HF Rig on 10M and join the conversation? You don't need to be a LCARA member, just have at least a Tech ticket and some 10 meter gear. They are really looking forward to some participation from outside their local area.

The Greater Cincinnati ARA is gearing up for their Hamfest September 16. If you would like to volunteer they would appreciate your help. Contact Stan Cohen, W8QDQ, AT 513-531-1011, or email [hokie49@zoomtown.com](mailto:hokie49@zoomtown.com).

Talk about coming together. The Alliance Amateur Radio Club collected \$1000 with the help of an anonymous donor to help assist the son of Tony (KD8BBK), and Brenda Schillig, who was in a traffic accident in early May, in Tennessee. I'm proud of how they came together. It warms me even more knowing that this type of response is the rule, not the exception among clubs members everywhere. Oh and let me plug their Fox hunt July 25, another great opportunity for your club to get involved with another.

Western Reserve ARC is always up to something and they look like they have packed autumn coming up. But I want to reflect on their field day. They really involved as many people as possible working as 7A with a GOTA station. Their group is growing and active in preparedness. I judge they are doing a good job reaching out in their community.

The Buckeye Belles may have disbanded but they keep reaching out to each other. I would really like to see some younger YL's rekindle a new awakening for the groups. I appreciate all the YL's of this group. May they be forever young.

The OH-KY-IN ARS sponsors the Brunch Bunch which meets the second Saturday of every month at 1 PM; The location varies so check out their website <http://www.ohkyin.org/> Wouldn't it be cool to have a group from another club pay an impromptu visit. Or maybe join in at their next monthly meeting is Tuesday, August 7th. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome! WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!

One last word, I emailed an announcement early this month to every club contact I had, relating to a listenable ISS school contact. Frank sent one more recently about the State convention. Unfortunately many of emails bounced back. One quick look and it appears many of these emails were listed within the last 12 months. May I suggest that everyone check their listing at <http://www.arrl.org/clubs> to be sure that you contacts are not only up to date but accurately listed.



See you at the Convention if not before.

73,  
**E. Mike McCardel, KC8YLD**  
ARRL Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator

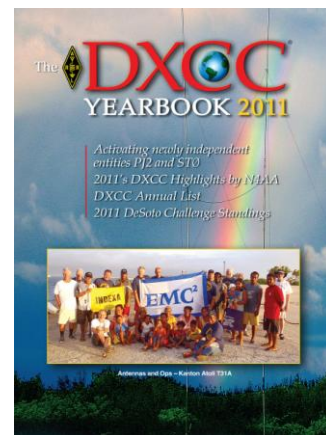


## DXCC Yearbook

The 2011 ARRL DXCC Yearbook is now available to all ARRL members as a supplement to the August issue of digital QST. A printed copy of the Yearbook is also available for purchase in the ARRL Online Store (<http://www.arrl.org/shop/The-DXCC-Yearbook-2011/>).

Contents include . . .

- The Year in Review by Carl Smith, N4AA
- PJ2/W5MPC, October 10-15, 2010 by Mike Corey, K1IU
- ST0R Story by Antonio Gonzalez, EA5RM/ST0R
- Clinton B. DeSoto Challenge standings
- 2011 DXCC Annual List



*From the ARRL*

## PCARS Meetings

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

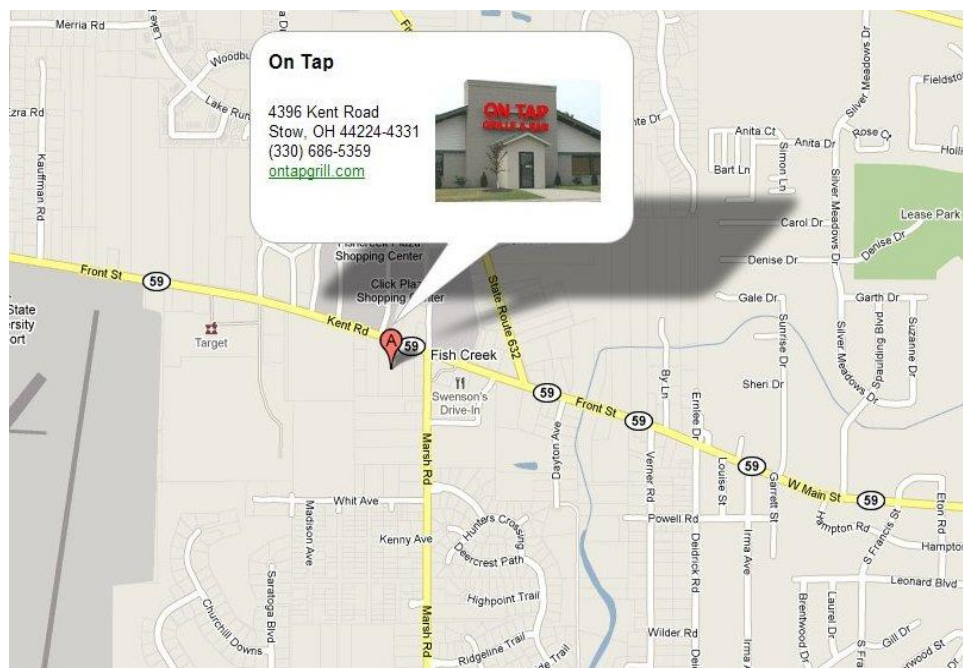
**On Tap Grille, - 4396 Kent Rd.**  
(State Route 59), in Stow.

The On Tap Grille is on the south side of Route 59, about a mile west of the Kent city limits.

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

Meetings are held at the On Tap Grille January through November.

The December meeting is the PCARS Christmas Party and is usually at another location.



## Thanks & 73

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

**WB8LCD, WB9LBI, NX8G, W8KNO, WB8VNO, KB8UUZ, KC8PD, K8JE, W8PT, KI8GW, KC8YLD, K8JAA, KB8AMZ, Julie Swidwa, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.**

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



**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor



## *Pictures from the July PCARS Meeting*





# *Pictures from the PCARS Annual Picnic - July 21st*





# Amateur Radio Cruise-In



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



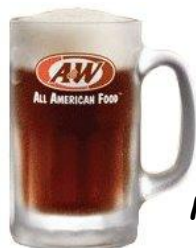
On Wednesday, August 15, 2012, starting at 5:00 p.m., the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring an Amateur Radio Cruise-In Night at the A&W Restaurant located at 769 East Main Street in Ravenna.



Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be cruising in to check out the wide variety of mobile radio setups and get some ideas for their own vehicles. Prizes will be awarded for the most unique and the ugliest installations and for the most number of states worked by an HF mobile rig from the A&W between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. (the station must be capable of "mobile operation" - not fixed portable).

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

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



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

More information can be found at the PCARS web site,

[www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org) or contact

Tom, WB8LCD, at [WB8LCD@portcars.org](mailto:WB8LCD@portcars.org) or 330-626-1901







You've heard of the **Ohio QSO Party**



We'll join us at the **PCARS** club site for the

# Ohio B-B-QSO Party

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 25th**, the date for this year's Ohio QSO Party. PCARS is going to put **K8BF**, the club site station, on the air and we are inviting all PCARS members to



come on out for some special

**Big Fun** that day.

Dave, WB2DFC and Jim, KC8PD will be hosting the first ever

**Bar-B-QSO Party!**

That's right, we'll be chasing two kinds of "Q's": on the air contacts and great food fresh off the grill.

Dave especially wants to encourage the CW ops to come out for this one.



Just beware of those fingers sticky with barbecue sauce.

Bring your own wet wipes!!!

*We don't want the radios or keys getting 'BBQso' sticky.*

**Set up starts at 11 AM Contest starts at Noon and ops will continue until 7 PM**

Food will be served around three and everyone is invited to bring snacks or side dishes.



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

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 K8IV Repeater: **146.895 MHz** PL 110.9 ~ Rootstown, Oh or PL 114.8 ~ Kent, Oh ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

**PCARS thanks K8IV for making the repeater available to area hams and for PCARS activities.**

### 2012 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - VUCC	<b>W8KNO</b>	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	<b>KB8UUZ</b>	Tom Parkinson
Club Callsign Trustee	<b>KB8VJL</b>	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	<b>KC8PD</b>	Jim Aylward
Contest	<b>W8KNO</b>	Joe Wehner
Coordinators	<b>W8PT</b>	Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	<b>K8SRR</b>	Steve Randlett
Field Day	<b>K8CAV</b>	Rick Kruis
F.Y.A.O.	<b>WB8LCD</b>	Tom Sly
Historian	<b>KB8SZI</b>	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF QSL Manager	<b>KB8VJL</b>	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Coordinator	<b>WB8LCD</b>	Tom Sly
Newsletter	<b>KB8UUZ</b>	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA	<b>W8PT</b>	Chuck Patellis
P.I.O.	<b>KC8PD</b>	Jim Aylward
Secretary	<b>KD8GGZ</b>	Mary Jo Loveland
VE Liaison	<b>NX8G</b>	Rex Simmons
Web Master	<b>KB8AMZ</b>	Terry Morris



**PCARS  
VE Team**

<b>KC8PD</b>	Jim Aylward
<b>KB8UUZ</b>	Tom Parkinson
<b>KB8DPN</b>	Russ Anderson
<b>N4IT</b>	Carl Capps
<b>WB8LCD</b>	Tom Sly
<b>N8XTH</b>	Deron Boring
<b>N8PXW</b>	Jim Korenz
<b>N8QE</b>	Bob Hajdak
<b>W8PT</b>	Chuck Patellis
<b>K8IV</b>	Ed Polack
<b>K8QF</b>	Russ Conklin
<b>WB8VNO</b>	Gay Wands
<b>WD8CVH</b>	Ted Wands
<b>NX8G</b>	Rex Simmons
<b>N8RLG</b>	Robert Gurney
<b>AB8AA</b>	Allan Avnet
<b>K8JAA</b>	Jane Avnet
<b>KD8FLZ</b>	Mike DiCarro
<b>KE8G</b>	Jim Blanca
<b>W8RID</b>	Bob Davet
<b>K8MSF</b>	Bud Green
<b>KD8LEB</b>	Al Zielinski
<b>WA8CCU</b>	Al Nagy
<b>KD8LDY</b>	Russ Williams
<b>KD8RJV</b>	Jim Corbett
<b>W8EZT</b>	Frank Thomas



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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](mailto: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

