



# The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



December 2012 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 7 No. 12

~ 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

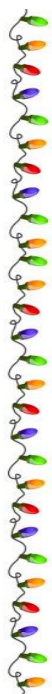
2012 will soon be just in our memories. Being elected President for 2012 (and again for 2013) is certainly an honor that I don't take lightly. At 200+ members, our own club site, large meetings (by amateur radio club standards, anyhow), regular activities such as Antenna Day, Field Day, Freeze Your Acorns Off, Ohio State Parks on the Air, the Amateur Radio Cruise In, weekly Special Interest Groups, licensing classes, VE Testing and many other one time activities and events, it's easy to see that PCARS is not a "one man" operation. While "President" is a lofty title, it does not mean "the guy who makes all the decisions" or "the guy who organizes everything we do" and not even "the guy who plans all the meetings". So, to all of you who have had a part in making PCARS what it is, I sincerely Thank You.



I, and the officers, truly want to know what your opinions are about how the PCARS club is doing. While I can't promise that all of your suggestions, comments, likes and dislikes will be immediately acted on, or even ever acted on, we do value your input. We are all easily available via email. You are always welcome to come express your opinion at the officer's meetings on the first Monday of every month, 7:30 PM at the club site. Every year there is a club member survey that solicits your input. That survey will be coming to you via email in the next couple of weeks. Please, take the time to complete it and return it. It's a valuable tool that helps us tailor the club activities and events to things that are of interest to you.

Congratulations to Parky, KB8UUZ, for his "clean sweep" in the November ARRL SSB Sweepstakes. Parky successfully made contact with all 83 ARRL and Canadian Sections in 11 of the 24 hours of operating time allotted to a single operator station. While I know some other PCARS members participated, I don't know if anyone else completed the "clean sweep". I was able to operate for about 16 hours of the contest and ended up with 81 of the 83 sections. Not a clean sweep, but still my best ever in the contest. I missed Quebec and Puerto Rico. Both Parky and I worked all 50 states in the contest period, which I think is pretty cool! Every weekend is a contest opportunity for you. If you've never done it, it's a lot of fun – give it a try.

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



## From the President *(continued from Page 1)*

Vice President Bill, WB9LBI, will be spearheading another attempt at a Morse code class beginning in January. This class will be done “on air” so that travel to the class location will not be necessary. On air training is actually a more realistic way of learning the Morse code as it gets you used to the types of conditions you might come up with in real on air QSO's. This will be done on 2 meters so everyone can participate. Send Bill an email ([WB9LBI@portcars.org](mailto:WB9LBI@portcars.org)) to let him know you're interested in participating. You might even want to download the G4FON Koch Method Morse Trainer software (*Editor's note: You can find the software on the PCARS Yahoo site in the files section*) and get a jump on learning some of the letters and numbers ahead of time. No, Bill will not be teaching the use of microphones, toasters or other household appliances to be used as sending apparatus.....

Traditionally, PCARS has not had a December meeting, instead having a “Christmas Banquet”. For the last couple years, the attendance has been decreasing. While the venue and the food have always been good, at \$20 per person it was just more than many wanted to spend to attend. This year, our price would have increased to \$25 per person. After discussion with the officers, it was decided to bring the Christmas Banquet to an end, and to replace it with a special “Christmas Meeting”. Therefore; our December Christmas Meeting will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of December (December 10<sup>th</sup>), 7:00 PM, at Stringz & Wingz in the Streetsboro Plaza. All PCARS members, their family members and guests are invited to attend. More details can be found elsewhere in this





newsletter, but I want to say here, please, join us for this special meeting.



So, with 2012 coming to an end, 2013 about to begin, I hope that your experience with the hobby of Amateur Radio has helped in the past year to give an escape from the rigors of your day to day life. I hope that you have the time, the resources and the motivation to make Amateur Radio a significant part of your coming year and that you will be an important part of our club. Most of all I wish for you and your family a joyous holiday season and a most successful new year!

73,

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
**PCARS President**



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

### **Our contributions to the Center of Hope**

Did you hear about the farmer who planted onions next to his potatoes? That story came to mind as I visited the Center of Hope to deliver PCARS contribution of money and food, a practice that has become an annual tradition for our club. Tom WB8LCD and I turned over \$2,000 in contributions from members like yourself, and included the proceeds from November's 50/50 drawing and contributions from companies where some of our members work.

Most of us have been in to the Center, at one point the monthly meeting place for PCARS at some point.



This time, I asked for the guided tour. The kitchen is a busy place. The Center of Hope has about 125 people who come in for a hot meal on a regular basis. Some of these folks gather up take-out meals, and bring them to shut-ins who simply don't have the mobility to get out their apartments. On the day that I was there, about 50 additional meals were being prepared for delivery at a "one-stop" where the staff packs up the food and delivers it to one location.

During this holiday season, the Center was gearing up for delivering Thanksgiving dinner supplies to people who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford it. In their new facility on Main Street, former home of the Job Services office, an assembly line was set up to create hundreds of boxes with a complete Turkey Day Feast In A Box, enough for an entire family.

Nutrition students from Kent State University come in to train the Center's clients on how to prepare healthy meals on a very tight budget. Trustees from the Portage County Jail come by to help in the kitchen, which will hopefully help prepare them for an eventual transition back to the working world. Much of the meals they make go back to the jail to share with the inmates there.

As you can see, your contributions are helping a significant number of people in multiple ways. What's more, you're also putting Amateur Radio in a good light. The Center of Hope also needs volunteers to help carry out their work. If you'd like to give a hand, they can certainly use your assistance. On behalf of the PCARS Board of Directors, I want to personally thank everyone who donated, making this holiday season much brighter for people who could really, really use some brightness in their lives. By the way, the farmer figured that the onions would make the potatoes eyes water, and he wouldn't have to worry about irrigation.

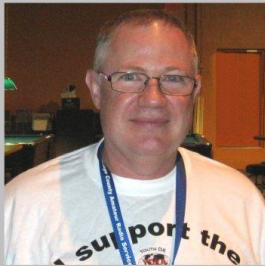
*Bill, WB9LBI*



## ***Congratulations to the 2013 PCARS Officers***

At the November meeting, the annual election of officers was held. The results are in:

### **PCARS 2013 Officers**



**President**  
Tom, WB8LCD



**Vice President**  
Bill, WB9LBI



**Treasurer**  
George, K3GP



**3 Year Trustee**  
Erica, AE8YL



**Bob, N8QE**  
Moves to  
2 Year Trustee



**Sandy, KD8JCY**  
Moves to  
1 Year Trustee



## ***Mark Your Calendars***

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- December 10<sup>th</sup> - **PCARS Christmas Party** - more info in this newsletter

### ***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***



## PCARS VE Test Sessions



PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for the first Saturday of every even numbered month.  
**December 1, 2012**

VE session dates for 2013 are: **February 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, October 5<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>**

VE sessions for Technician, General Class & 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.

**Robert, N8RLG**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison

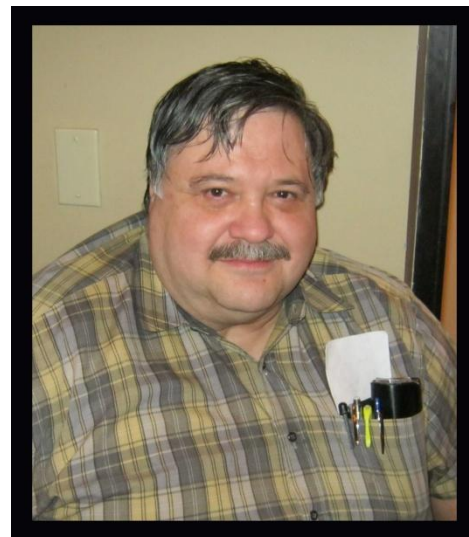
## John Doyle, KD8MLH - SK

John Doyle, KD8MLH became a Silent Key on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

John lived in Kent, OH. Member number 154 of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service since December 2009 after completing a PCARS Technician class. He upgraded to General Class in March 2011.

John was a veteran serving in the U.S. Navy as an electronic Fire Control Technician.

Following the Navy, John worked in electronics and returned to college to complete his B.S. in Electronics Engineering.



## Contest Calendar

| December 2012                |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TARA RTTY Melee              | 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 1             |
| SARL Digital Contest         | 1300Z-1600Z, Dec 2             |
| ARRL 10-Meter Contest        | 0000Z, Dec 8 to 2359Z, Dec 9   |
| Feld Hell Sprint             | 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 15            |
| OK DX RTTY Contest           | 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 15            |
| ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW      | 1800Z-2359Z, Dec 16            |
| Run for the Bacon QRP        | 0200Z-0400Z, Dec 17            |
| RAC Winter Contest           | 0000Z-2359Z, Dec 29            |
| Stew Perry Topband Challenge | 1500Z, Dec 29 to 1500Z, Dec 30 |





## PCARS Supports Center of Hope

Ever since its beginning, PCARS has had a special relationship with the Center of Hope in Ravenna. As one of the programs of Family and Community Services (F&CS), the Center of Hope was opened in 1989 with the mission to serve hot meals and to provide an emergency food pantry to those in need. They serve people in the communities of Ravenna City, Ravenna Township, Charlestown, Diamond, Edinburg, Palmyra and Rootstown.



Early on, PCARS used the Center of Hope as a place to hold special activities, classes, and even our meetings for a short period of time. It was suggested that we could show our appreciation for their hospitality by supporting their mission, especially at the beginning of the holiday season. As a result, we have asked for donations, as a club, for the Center of Hope, to be brought to our November meeting. In addition, the club has offered its share of the 50/50 from the November meeting as part of that donation. Joe Racco, KD8GHB was the big winner of the 50/50 this year, with \$327 going to Joe, and \$327 going to the Club for the benefit of the Center of Hope. DX Engineering provided two gift certificates for the raffle, and a nice Yaesu handheld was donated by some club members.

This year we collected a total contribution of **\$2507.00** along with quite a bit of canned food. A special thanks goes to John, KB8UHN, for collecting donations from his place of employment, Select Machine of Kent, to be added to the PCARS total. Thank you, also, to everyone who donated and/or purchased 50/50 tickets. The PCARS donation is very much appreciated by the Center of Hope.



**Bill, WB9LBI - Ann Marie Mann - Tom, WB8LCD**  
benefit to your fellow man, I would suggest that you contact Ann Marie at the Center of Hope and I'm sure they can put you to work!

This year, Bill, WB9LBI and I presented the donation to Ann Marie Mann at the Center of Hope at 7:30 AM on Friday November 16th. We spent some time with Ann Marie and learned that Center of Hope serves more than 125 hot meals daily. They also serve meals for the elderly, and while they don't have a meal delivery program, they do send meals "to go" for those who ask to take them to shut ins. The numbers of meals and food baskets increases drastically in the holiday season. At 7:30 AM there were already volunteers working in the center preparing the food for the day. Volunteers are always needed, if you would like to spend some quality time, doing something of

Once again, **"Thank You"** to everyone at PCARS for participating. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Tom, WB8LCD**

## SKYWARN Recognition Day Set for December 1



The 14th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/index.php> Special Event will take place Saturday, December 1, 2012. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS <http://www.weather.gov/>) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office ([http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/participating\\_offices.php](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/participating_offices.php)), working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24-hour event on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters, as well as 70 centimeters.

The idea for the first SRD took shape in the summer of 1999. Meteorologist-in-Charge of the Goodland, Kansas NWS office Scott Mentzer, N0QE, tried to find a way to recognize the valuable contributions storm spotters make to the National Weather Service. "Since many of those storm spotters were also hams," Floyd



told the ARRL, "it seemed like a natural fit for the recognition to be centered on Amateur Radio." With the approval of NWS headquarters and a commitment to participate from many local NWS offices across the country, the first National Weather Service Special Event took place on November 27, 1999.

Floyd said that feedback from that first event was "overwhelmingly positive" from both the NWS staff and the local ham clubs: "Many local club

members who came to that first event had never visited an NWS office before. When they came for the special event, they learned the value of their reports and how they were used in conjunction with existing technology." And so began an annual tradition. The following year, 85 of the 122 NWS offices -- almost 70 percent -- participated in the event, making nearly 24,000 QSOs.

In 2001, the name of the event was changed to SKYWARN Recognition Day, a name Floyd said better relayed what the day was all about: "Each year since the inception of SRD, the number of NWS offices participating with local ham clubs has increased; more than 100 offices sign up each year to take part." In keeping with the NWS setting, stations are asked to include a weather report of their location in their exchange (<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/opsprocedures.php>).

In 2011, the NWS office in Melbourne, Florida -- WX4MLB -- topped the QSO list with 1604 QSOs; the Lincoln, Illinois office (WX9ILX), with 980 QSOs, placed second. The Melbourne office also contacted the most NWS offices, at 81, with the Lincoln office placing second, with 70.

The 2012 SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held on December 1 from 0000 UTC-2400 UTC. In the past, NWS offices have contacted all 50 states and more than 40 countries during the 24 hour event. Even if you make just one QSO to an NWS office, you are eligible to receive a certificate. Submit a list of the station(s) you worked (along with a self-addressed stamped envelope) to SKYWARN Recognition Day, 920 Armory Rd, Goodland, KS 67735. Many NWS offices also send out special QSL cards for this event. If you haven't yet joined in the fun of SKYWARN Recognition Day, make 2012 your year to do so!

*From the ARRL*



## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in December:

|        |                       |        |                  |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|------------------|
| KC8PD  | Jim Aylward           | -      | Arlene Kurta     |
| KD8EPE | John Hart             | KA8TOA | Greg Ash         |
| KD8GHA | Jenna Ziccardi        | KB8UHN | John Tomasik     |
| KD8LLN | Michael Polack        | N8XTH  | Deron Boring     |
| KD8FLW | Kathy Leasure         | K8IV   | Ed Polack        |
| KD8ICP | Tim Gehri             | KC8RJR | Errol Jordan     |
| KDFPP  | Ryan Fraedrich        | WA8GCF | Dave DeSimio     |
| KD8QDZ | Christopher Schroeder | KD8SKL | Amy Leggiero     |
| KC8RKV | Jim Godfrey           | KA8SWC | Bruce Costarella |
| KB8AMZ | Terry Morris          |        |                  |



## PCARS Christmas Party

This year's Christmas Party will take a new direction. Because of dwindling attendance, and increasing prices, we have decided to have this year's Christmas Party more like our regular meetings. As a result, we will be meeting on Monday, December 10th, at Stringz & Wingz in the Streetsboro Plaza. Our "meeting" will start at 7:00PM as usual, but will not include the business portion we usually have. Everyone is free to show up whatever time they wish for dinner, and your dinner will be ordered off the menu, as normal. There will be no 50/50 raffle, so Joe, KD8GHB will not be selling tickets until the January 2013 meeting. Instead of the 50/50 there will be a gift exchange for all present who wish to participate.

### PCARS Gift Exchange

- Children – Please bring a gift for your own children (approx \$10) wrapped and with a name tag showing your child's first and last name.
- Hams – please bring a wrapped gift (approx \$10), pertinent to Ham Radio. Do not put a gift tag on the gift. Also, bring a gift tag with your first and last name, and callsign.
- Non-hams – please bring a wrapped gift (approx \$10), put a tag on it indicating whether it should go to a female, male, or either. Also, bring a gift tag with your first and last name on it.



When you come in, there will be an area marked for each type of gift, and a basket for each type of name tag. During the meeting, tags will be placed on gifts (at random), to be delivered by Santa later. Please do not put gifts for specific persons in the gift exchange – give those gifts on your own!

Before the gift exchange there will be a few words of "Ham Radio" encouragement, some PCARS news, and the presentation of the President's Award(s). Other than that, this is meant to be an evening of fellowship and an opportunity for our families to get to know each other. Please stay as long as you can and make sure you have a "contact" with every other family unit represented. Children, spouses, significant others and whatever else you have are not only welcome, but encouraged and expected to join us. I look forward to seeing you there!

*Tom, WB8LCD*



## Field Day 2012 Results



The results for 2012 ARRL Field Day are in and have been published in the December 2012 issue of QST magazine. Due to some very poor propagation during Field Day this year our score was significantly lower than it was last year. Total QSO's were down by a bit more than 1,000 although the bright spots are that both CW and digital increased the number of QSO's over last year. Our results mirrored the results nationally in that Total QSO's and phone QSO's were down over last year while both CW and digital were up over last year at the national level. Below is a table with data for K8BF for the years 2011 and 2012, plus national results for 2011 and 2012.

| Category         | 2011      | 2012      | Increase<br>Decrease | Percent<br>Change |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| K8BF Score       | 10,078    | 8,392     | -1,686               | -16.73%           |
| K8BF CW          | 678       | 767       | 89                   | 13.13%            |
| K8BF Digital     | 28        | 157       | 129                  | 460.71%           |
| K8BF Phone       | 2,862     | 1,593     | -1,269               | -44.34%           |
| Total QSO        | 3,568     | 2,517     | -1,051               | -29.46%           |
| K8BF QSO Points  | 4,274     | 3,441     | -833                 | -19.49%           |
| National CW      | 577,181   | 592,094   | 14,913               | 2.58%             |
| National Digital | 45,099    | 50,908    | 5,809                | 12.88%            |
| National Phone   | 812,083   | 757,256   | -54,827              | -6.75%            |
| National QSO     | 1,434,363 | 1,400,258 | -34,105              | -2.38%            |

**Class 4A 2012 Standings**  
**K8BF 15th of 158 4A entries nationally**  
**K8BF 3rd of 12 Ohio Section 4A entries**

So what's up for 2013? Well to start with I want to give a big THANKS to Chuck, W8PT who volunteered as the Assistant Field Day Chairman (aka Deputy Incident Commander) for PCARS Field Day 2013. We plan on having our first Field Day meeting in January or February of next year. The meeting date and time will be published and announced well in advance. Chuck and I want to encourage anyone that is interested to attend the meeting. We especially want to hear any thoughts you may have about Field Day. We are looking for volunteers to staff the various Station Captain positions and Support Team Leader positions so if you're interested please let us know! At the last Antenna SIG meeting, Tony, WA8AR and David, WA8KHP came up with some thoughts about how we might use VOACAP along with orienting our antennas to help maximize the QSO count based on band and time of day and that should give us a leg up to increase our score. A great example of the kind of input we're looking for from all of you for a great Field Day experience.

We will be using the Incident Command System (ICS) again for Field Day. The ICS is a great tool that makes planning and executing Field Day more successfully. If any of you are not familiar with the ICS and how it works and would like to learn more, please let me know and I'll be glad to spend some time explaining it. In addition, there are a number of useful, free on-line courses through FEMA that cover the ICS.

Last but definitely not least, we're looking forward to another Field Day where PCARS and K8BF can provide a very enjoyable weekend for all of you, no matter what your specific interest is in Field Day.

73,  
**Rick, K8CAV**  
Field Day Chairman

## 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 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!



| December - 2012 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| 6               | KB8UHN |
| 13              | NR8W   |
| 20              | KD8FDK |
| 27              | KD8DFL |

| January - 2013 |        |
|----------------|--------|
| 3              | WB8LCD |
| 10             | KD8JCY |
| 17             | KJ4MPN |
| 24             | KC8PD  |
| 31             | 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!

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

## 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/>.







## ***EmComm***

Commitment and professionalism. Those two words have been the hallmark of the Portage County Communications Unit since its inception.

Commitment to the mission of the CU as well as meeting and maintaining the expected level of training and participation in Comms Unit meetings, nets, drills and exercises. Professionalism in both how we perform our tasks and serve as representatives of the EMA.

We recognize that in too many communities amateur radio operators seem to think that simply by the fact that they have a ham radio license they are qualified to be emergency communications volunteers. They take a very casual approach and assume since amateur radio is virtually the only backup comms system out there that the public will have to turn to us and accept what we can offer when a disaster or crisis occurs.

Those folks need not sit by the phone waiting for the call. It won't happen. They are disorganized and ill-prepared and, maybe just as well, unknown to the agencies that they think will be calling for them.

Even more critically, the emergency response environment has seen major changes over the past decade. Public service communications systems are more versatile and robust, interoperability has become a true goal and not just a buzzword, and around the country responders have been adopting Incident Command System principles for their operations.

As a result, the need for and use of amateur radio systems and operators has been both minimized and marginalized. Today if you want to be part of the response team, your training, credentialing, and acceptance by the agencies you may assist have to be in place before the incident occurs. Plus, you need to be prepared to assist in any way possible, not just as somebody with a ham radio license.



The CU began as the RACES team, which was created at the request of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Over time it became clear that there was a need for our volunteers to perform a variety of tasks, most in support of some form of communications, as well as others where there was any gap that we could fill. We have become an integral part of the EMA and are valued by the agency.

That is why those concepts of commitment and professionalism are so important. The CU is not for everyone. But if you have a true interest in serving your community by providing a valuable service and are willing to make that commitment, it would be great to have you on board.

If you would like to learn more about the Communications Unit, please contact me.

73,

***Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH***

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



## Ohio Section Well Represented in 2012 Field Day Results

The ARRL released their 2012 Field Day results a few weeks ago, and I am proud to say that the Ohio Section was well represented! There are so many ways to group and sort the results that I will not try to list all the clubs. I do want to congratulate the Delaware ARA in their position of 16th place in the overall points category! They also placed 2nd overall in category 4A!

For further information, check out the results database at <http://www.arrl.org/results-database> Be sure to select "2012 Field Day".

My sincere thanks to all the clubs and groups who participated in Field Day this year!

73,

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



## Hamfest Calendar

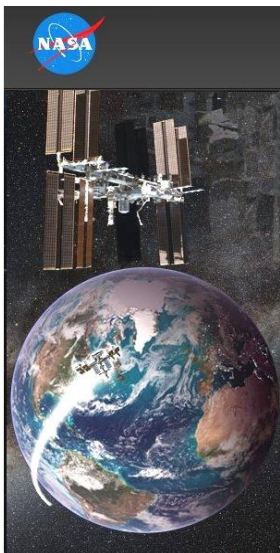
**01/27/2013 - Tusco ARC Hamfest** - Location: Wallick Auction House - 965 North Wooster Avenue - Strasburg, OH 44680 - Website: <http://www.tuscoarc.org> - Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Janice Green , KB8YDK - 32210 Norris Rd. - Tippecanoe, OH 44699 - Email: k8wfn@tusco.net

**02/03/2013 - NOARS Winter Hamfest** at NEW LOCATION! - Location: VFW Post 1079 - 500 South Abbe Rd. - Elyria, OH 44035 - Website: <http://www.NOARS.net> - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - Contact: Darlene Ohman , KA8VTS - 4122 Bush Ave. - Cleveland, OH 44109 - Email: dohman@roadrunner.com

**02/17/2013 - Mansfield Mid Winter Hamfest** - Location: Richland County Fairgrounds - 750 North Home Road - Mansfield, OH 44901 - Website: <http://www.w8we.org> - Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Danny Bailey , KB8STK - 70 Euclid St. - Shiloh, OH 44878 - Email: kb8stk1@hotmail.com



## Spot the Station



Did you know you can see the International Space Station from your house? As the third brightest object in the sky, after the sun and moon, the space station is easy to see if you know where and when to look for it.

**NASA's Spot the Station service sends you an email or text message a few hours before the space station passes over your house.** The space station looks like a fast-moving plane in the sky, though one with people living and working aboard it more than 200 miles above the ground. It is best viewed on clear nights. For more information on the International Space Station and its mission, visit the [space station mission pages](#).

**Spot the Station is available worldwide to anyone with an email account or SMS-enabled phone.** Several times a week, Mission Control at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX, determines sighting opportunities for 4,600 locations worldwide. If your specific city or town isn't listed, pick one that is fairly close to you. The space station is visible for a long distance around each of the listed locations.



This service will only notify you of “good” sighting opportunities - that is, sightings that are high enough in the sky (40 degrees or more) and last long enough to give you the best view of the orbiting laboratory. This will be anywhere from once or twice a week to once or twice a month, depending on the space station’s orbit. Don’t worry if there are big gaps in between sightings! A complete list of all possible space station sightings is available from [Johnson Space Center](http://spotthestation.nasa.gov/index.cfm). Go to: <http://spotthestation.nasa.gov/index.cfm>

*From NASA*



## Swap-N-Shop

**FOR SALE: Tigertronics Signalink USB** - Set up for a FT-920 (other radio cables available locally) + usb cable, \$55 [01/02/13]  
Contact Paul - [NC8T@hotmail.com](mailto:NC8T@hotmail.com)  
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**FOR SALE: Ten-Tec 715 RF speech processor**, like new with manual, \$165 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Byonics HT2P cable** (connects tracker to Icom portable radio), with powerpoles, \$10 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Diamond D-130J** discone antenna, 25-1300MHz, never used outside, \$70 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: 28VDC, 14 A**, Glenayre rack-mount switching power supply, \$80 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: 28VDC, 27A PowerOne** switching power supply, \$45 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio PG40 PowerGate** (back-up battery switch & charger), \$45 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio RigBlaster Data Jack Plug-n-Play**, in original box, \$80 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio NOMIC** radio to soundcard interface, RB/NO/USB/C, new, \$45 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Hamstick antenna, 20m**, \$15 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Hamstick antenna, 40m**, \$15 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: LDG Z-11 ProII tuner**, 125W capacity, 6-160M, new in box, \$135 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Telewave PS-4502** power splitter, 400-512MHz, new, Tessco #65228, \$65 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Diamond D-130J** discone antenna, 25-1300MHz, never used outside, \$75 [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Decibel Products DB8802BA-100** remote metering power meter and alarm, with factory seals, 406-1000MHz, \$70  
**FOR SALE: 1-1/4" transmission line**, 250' or more, used in good condition, with two “N” connectors, \$225 [12/02/12]

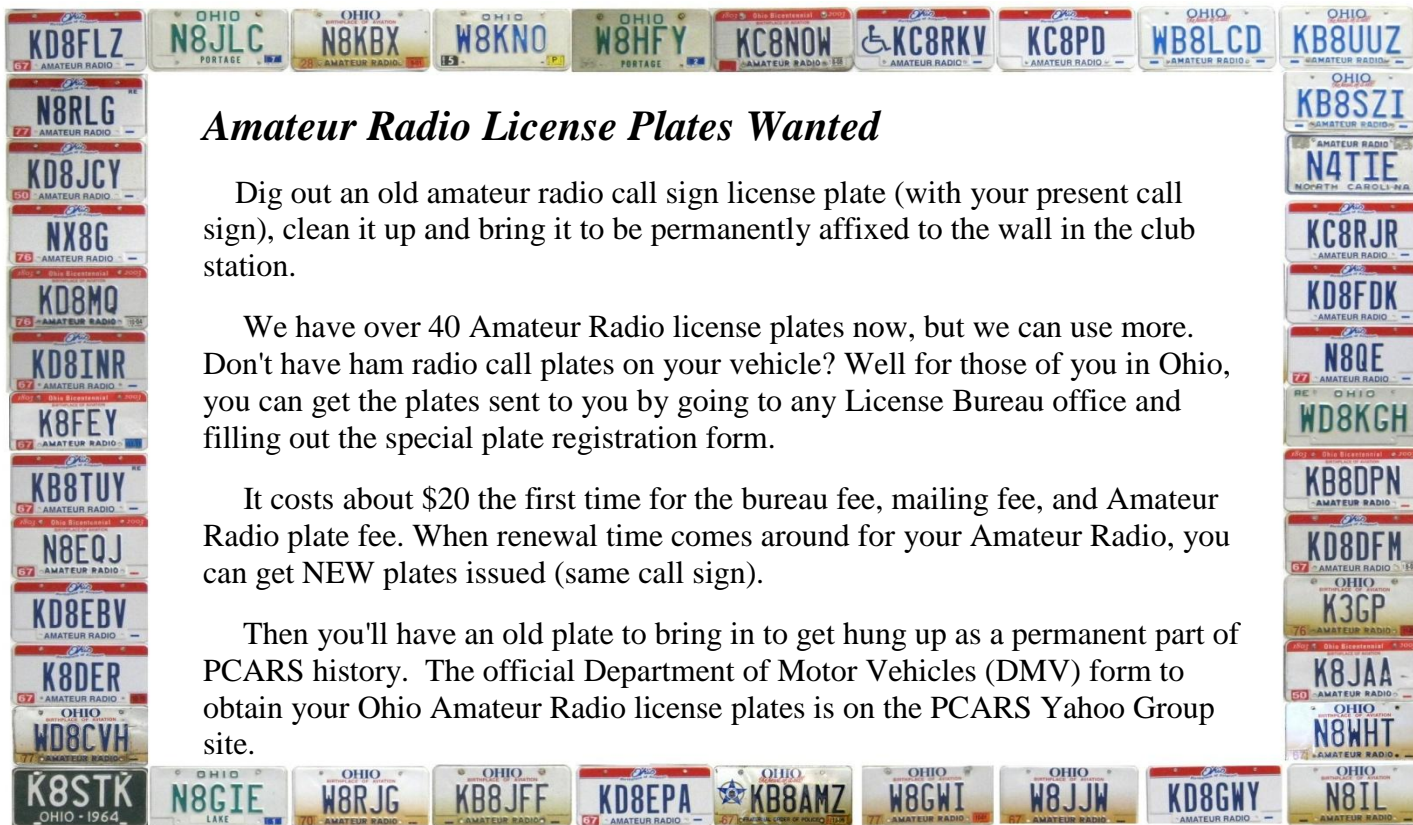
Contact Rick - [K8GI@portcars.org](mailto:K8GI@portcars.org)  
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**FOR SALE: Used Leviton 430C12W** 125/250 Volt 30 Ampere watertight pin and sleeve connector in excellent condition \$80.00  
**FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers** with N-male & DIN-male connectors. Also includes an extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male cable \$30.00 ea. (12 Available) [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers** with N-male & DIN-male connectors \$20.00 each. . (12 Available) [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors** [12/02/12]  
    **GE CL01A400TJ** Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$25.00 (2 Available) [12/02/12]  
    **GE CL01D310TD** Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600V, 24 Volt Coil \$30.00 (2 Available) [12/02/12]  
    **GE CL25A300T** Contactor 4 poles rated 32 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$35.00 (2 Available) [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: Bolt on Auxiliary Contact Set** for any of the above contactors with 1-N.O. & 1-N.C. Set of contacts \$2.00 each [12/02/12]  
**FOR SALE: 1/4" Plate Glass** for desk or table top, Great for radio bench measures 42" x 68" cost \$152.00 Asking \$80.00  
**FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders** DIN Rail Mount, Blown Fuse Indicator \$1.00 each (10 Available)  
**FOR SALE: LINKSYS by Cisco EtherFast® 10/100** 5 port work group switch \$10.00  
**FOR SALE: Station Ground Bars** military surplus MADE IN USA by COLE HERSEE of Boston, MA. \$8.00 ea. (Less than 30 out of the original 60 remaining)  
**FOR SALE: Heliac connectors.** Contact me with your needs.

Contact James - [KD8VT@portcars.org](mailto:KD8VT@portcars.org) or call 330-206-4909  
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**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: [12/02/12] This will help keep the listings current.





## Amateur Radio License Plates Wanted

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 over 40 Amateur Radio license 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 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 Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS Yahoo Group site.



## DX/Contesting SIG

The monthly special interest group met in November with AE8YL, K8CVZ, K8NYM, KB8TUY, KD8EPA, KD8FME, KD8SIZ, KD8VT, W8KNO and WA8KHP in attendance. In our "What Happened to You This Month" portion of the meeting; Dan, KD8EPA showed his WAS Certificate. This led to stories of what was the last state confirmed by each member present and how do you obtain all the states. Dan - Congratulations on your certificate.



After that, Erica, AE8YL, showed her Certificate for finishing First in the CQ-WW-SSB-ASSISTED-LP US 8th Call Area. Congratulations!

In addition to this; Wes, K8NYM, and Ed, K8CVZ, brought cards to be checked for DXCC. Wes brought his total of confirmed countries to 292 and in his stack of cards was a confirmation for Yemen on three bands, Yemen is number 5 on the Most Wanted List. Ed brought 25 cards to increase his total to 125, you're on your way. This led to a lot of discussion on forms, methods of submitting your information and how to keep track of what you have. We had DXCC Award Credit Slips for viewing. Also, discussed was how to QSL and what countries do not have a QSL Bureau.

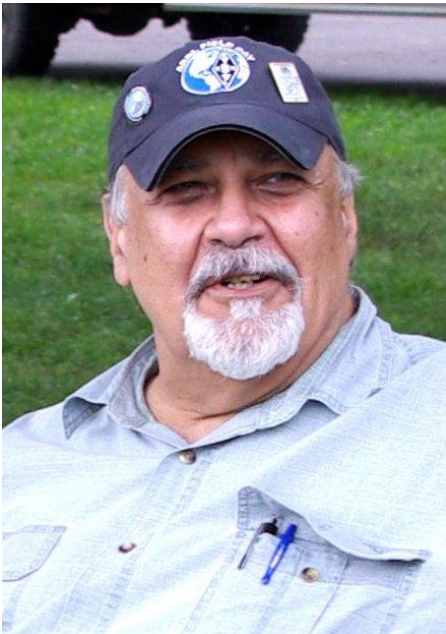
It was an enjoyable evening with people departing a little after 9:00 P.M. It was good to see the meeting last so long since there will not be a meeting this month, unless you would like to come and show off the new radio you got that day. HO! HO! HO! See you all in January.

*Joe, W8KNO*



## Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

Well, here it is – the last month of the year. I hope that all you DX hounds had a great Thanksgiving and that you didn't sleep through a lot of good DX because you had too much turkey.



Yours truly had a very good holiday with the family and then went and fell down a long flight of stairs and broke an ankle. So I will be in a cast until December 27 and a walking boot after that with rehab in the forecast. The good thing about this is that I will have a good excuse to sit in front of the radio and enjoy working DX. Of course the bad news is that at my age, you don't want to break any bones whatsoever. I will be missing the PCARS Christmas party and a planned trip to Orlando.

Well, that's what I get for trying to carry too much down an icy set of steps. But enough about this, and let's get on with what is planned for the upcoming month or two.

I 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).

**5R, MADAGASCAR.** Eric, F6ICX, is once again active as 5R8IC from Saint Marie Island (AF-090) until December 9th. Activity is holiday style operating CW, RTTY, and PSK63, and using a FT450 with 100 watts into various GPs or Inverted-Ls and a Hexbeam for 20-10 meters. There is no online log during his activity. QSL via his home callsign (QRZ.com). View pictures of his last trips at: <http://f6kbb.free.fr/5r8ic/5r8ic.htm>

**5X, UGANDA** (Back On!). Nick, G3RWF, is still active as 5X1NH from Uganda. He should be on 80-10 meters, possibly 160m, and he prefers CW but will also be on the Digital modes with some SSB. QSL via his home call sign.

**8Q, MALDIVES.** Claudio, HB9OAU, active from the Maldives as 8Q7AU, but from **Maayafushi Island** (AS-013), North Male Atoll, between Nov 26th and Dec 11th. Holiday style on 80-10 meters SSB only using a 7-band vertical. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. Look for updates and photos from his last trip at: [www.hb9oau.ch](http://www.hb9oau.ch)

**9V, SINGAPORE.** Koichi, JR1MLT, is currently active as 9V1KK from Singapore. He is there because of his job, and he informs us that he expects to be in Singapore for "five years or so (up to economy and market)". His station is very much limited due to the residential conditions. Koichi mentions that he currently lives on the 10th floor of a condo and his antenna is much restricted. Koichi just put up a long wire with the ATU for the HF bands (40-10m) with 100 watts. He operates mostly on SSB and CW. However, he travels extensively and his operating time is limited, but he will get on the air as much as possible. QSL via JH1ILX direct.

**CARIBBEAN TOUR.** David, K3LP, will activate the following Caribbean Islands during the later half of December. Specifics of his activities are not known at this time, but it will be holiday style. His tentative schedule is as follows:

- December 18-22nd - Callsign K3LP/KP4; San Juan, Puerto Rico
- December 23rd - Callsign K3LP/KP2; St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
- December 24th - Callsign K3LP/V4; Basseterre, St. Kitts
- December 25th - Callsign K3LP/J73; Roseau, Dominica
- December 26th - Callsign K3LP/J3; St. George's, Grenada
- December 28th - Callsign K3LP/KP2; Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands
- December 29-31st - Callsign K3LP/KP4; San Juan, Puerto Rico

Look for possible updates and more details at: <http://www.k3lp.com>

**AU2, INDIA** (Special Event). Look for special event station AU2JCB to be active between November 24th and December 10th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters SSB, SSTV, PSK and FM. Suggested frequencies are (depending on the propagation): 7035, 7150, 14220, 14250, 14350, 21235, 21350, 28490, 28545, 28590 and 51500 kHz. If higher bands are open, operations will be on those bands. The operator will be Surabhi, VU2DSI. QSL direct (with 2 IRCs) to VU2DSI.

**D3, ANGOLA.** Mike, UA1QV, is now active as D3AA from Vila de Catoca, about 30 km from Saurimo, the capital of the Province Lunda Sul, Angola, until he leaves on February 15th (2013) for another vacation. QSL via UA1QV.

## **IOTA NEWS.....**

**JD1, OGASAWARA.** Makoto, JI5RPT, will once again be active as JD1BLY from **Chichijima Island** (AS-031), Ogasawara, between December 10-13th. Activity on 40-10 meters, including the satellites, using CW, SSB and Digital modes. QSL via home call JI5RPT. His log search will be available on his Web site at: <http://www.ji5rpt.com/jd1>

**KH2/NH2, GUAM.** Dave, N2NL, will once again be active as NH2T from Guam (OC-026). He is expected to be here until the summer of 2013. Dave will be active (outside of contests) as KH2/N2NL and during all contests as NH2T. QSL via LoTW or via W2YC. For more information, including a station description, you can visit his Blog Page at: <http://www.n2nl.net>

**OC-151. Leo, YC9MLL**, who has been live on **Flores Island** for 8 years, he operates on SSB mostly, but will operate on CW if requested. He is usually on Saturdays and Sundays, but states that he is on vacation now and hams can arrange for IOTA QSO anytime via E-mail (see QRZ.com). Leo can operate on 40/20/15/10 meters using CW, SSB, PSK31, RTTY and SSTV. He has a homebrew radio with 50-100w into a dipole and delta loop antenna. QSL via his home callsign.

## **DX NEWS.....**

**ST, SUDAN.** "The Daily DX" reports that Mario, CT1FTR, moved to the Sudan and has recently obtained his ST2FT license. He's using a FT-857 set up for SSB and PSK31 on the HF bands. QSL via CT2GBU direct and eQSL. PLEASE NOTE: QSLs cannot go through the REP QSL Bureau as neither CT1FTR nor his QSL Manager are members of REP.

**T2, TUVALU.** Ops Rob/GM3YTS, Tom/GM4FDM, Gav/GM0GAV & Clive/GM3POI active as T2GM from Tuvalu between Mar 12-23rd (2013). Activity focused on Europe. QSL via GM4FDM. Hopefully, more details to come.

**T6, AFGHANISTAN.** Ilian, LZ1CNN (ex-YI9LZ), will be active as T6LG from Kandahar between Sept 2012 and Feb 2013. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL Manager is LZ1ZF. Postal address since September 1st, 2012, for LZ1ZF is: G. Vodenicharov, P.O. Box 25, 3600 Lom, BULGARIA. All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW.

**T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI.** Melody, T30MK, is a native living on Tarawa Atoll (OC-017) in Western Kiribati. He states on QRZ.com, "I will be pleased to contact colleagues from all over the world. Please, be patient when contacting me as T30 is a highly requested entity. I will try to offer all colleagues the chance to confirm a contact with Western Kiribati." So far, we have not seen any QSNs on the DXClusters, but we will keep you informed.

**Z8, SOUTH SUDAN** (Update). Jim, K7QI, reports on QRZ.com that he has received his callsign, as well as Diya, YI1DZ. Their callsigns are Z81A (Jim) and Z81D (Diya) and are good for one year. Jim is now living and working in Juba, while Diya is a UN WFP telecom worker there. The two operators will soon meet and pool their resources together to help bring Amateur radio to South Sudan. Jim states on QRZ.com that "most all of Juba has no electricity and the house I've rented is the same. My company is in the process of ordering 2 generators. I am scheduled to fly back home on 25th of September 2012, and will return to Juba around late October or early November. I still need to select HF equipment and VHF equipment, and will bring the equipment back with me once I've selected the equipment. I am a member of AMSAT back home, and am planning on becoming active on AMSAT from here. Once I am set up and operating, I plan on being highly active, and will be on just about everyday. So please be patient, and I will be on very soon." Meanwhile, Diya, Z81D, has a station already set up and ready to go. Jim states, "Thanks to his kindness, we both will be using his station until I can get my station set up." By the way, Diya was heard on the air for the first time on September 13th, around 1745z operating 17 meters SSB. The QSL Manager for Z81A is Frank Remington, K7GSE. Please send S.A.S.E. with 2 green stamps or 1 valid IRC to Frank. The QSL Manager for Diya, YI1DZ (Z81D), is Stefan, OM3JW. ADDED NOTE: Both operators are now active and have been on 20, 17 and 15 meters SSB.

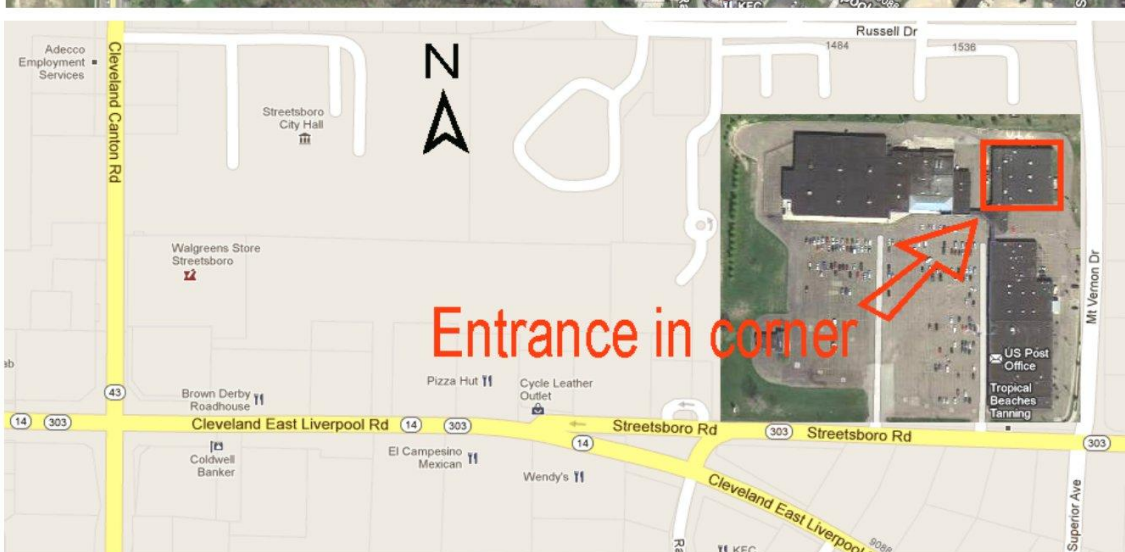
**ZL9, CAMPBELL ISLAND.** Just a reminder that members of the Hellenic Amateur Radio of Association of Australia (HARAOA) will be active as ZL9HR from Campbell Island (OC-037, WFF ZLFF-019) between November 28th and December 9th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using all modes. QSL via EB7DX direct, LoTW or use the OQRS for Bureau and direct requests. For more information and updates, visit their Web site at: <http://www.campbell2012.com>

Well, that's it for this month's DX Column. Let me know if your work any DX of interest to you –share it with others so that we can all enjoy the news. Til next year, 73 and GUD DX!!

**Chuck, W8PT**  
aka Charlie the Tuner

## PCARS Meetings

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month.



Meetings are at **:Stringz & Wingz**  
**1543 SR 303 Streetsboro, OH 44241**  
[www.stringzwingz.com](http://www.stringzwingz.com)



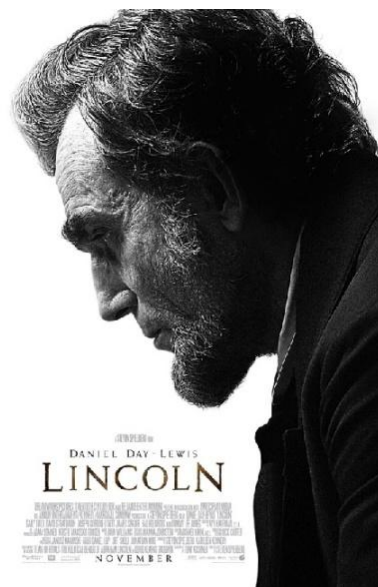
**PCARS meeting - 7:00 pm Second Monday of Every Month**



## ***Morse Code Plays Role in New Spielberg Movie***

Producer Steven Spielberg has used Amateur Radio or Morse code in three of his last four movies: Super 8 (2011), The Adventures of Tin Tin (2011) and Lincoln (2012). Members of the Morse Telegraph Club (MTC <http://www.morsetelegraphclub.org/>) -- an association of retired railroad and commercial telegraphers, historians, radio amateurs and others with an interest in the history and traditions of telegraphy and the telegraph industry -- played an integral part in the production of Lincoln.

According to International President of the Morse Telegraph Club James Wades, WB8SIW, several MTC members -- including Tom Perera, W1TP; Derek Cohn, WB0TUA; Kevin Saville, N7JKD, and Roger Reinke -- provided telegraph instruments to equip the 16 operating positions portrayed at the War Department set. Jim Wilson, K4BAV, and his son Matt had roles as extras. Wilson also worked with production staff and the actors to explain telegraph technology and the role of the telegrapher in the 1860s.



“Nine of the 16 telegraph positions depicted in the War Department were fully operational,” Wades said. “These instruments could be operated in any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and custom built terminal units for the process. When necessary, a hand key could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could be improvised.”

Wades, who was employed as a Technical Advisor for the production, worked with set designers over a period of months to develop the War Department telegraph scenes, coordinating the process of procuring the necessary instruments and serving as an historical consultant as the telegraph scenes were developed. He also worked the producers to develop historically appropriate message traffic that fit the sequence of the script; however, as the movie was edited, he explained that the final product evolved into a more generic facsimile of Morse traffic. “Those with a background in landline telegraphy will hear the occasional snippet of message traffic in the audio track of the movie,” he said. “We are very pleased that Mr. Spielberg and his staff took the time to treat the telegraph with dignity and respect. It is a pleasure to be associated with a high quality motion picture that can genuinely be classified as not just entertainment, but as a work of art.”

***From the ARRL***



## ***KB6NU Builds an End-fed, Half-wave Antenna***

I've always been interested in end-fed, half-wave antennas before, but until this recently, I'd never built one. One of the reasons for this is that most designs are for QRP antennas and not made to handle more than 5 – 10 W of power.

A couple of months ago, though, I ran across a design rated at 100 W [http://eatchi.org/proj\\_homebrew.html](http://eatchi.org/proj_homebrew.html). The design seemed relatively simple to build, requiring only a single toroid and a capacitor made with a short length of RG-174 coax. Well, it just so happens that I bought 100-ft. of RG-174 at Dayton this year, and I found the toroid cores online from the "Toroid King" for a very reasonable price, so I decided it was high time to build one.

All told, the parts cost about \$10, the biggest part of that being a 4-in. x 4-in. x 2-in. plastic junction box (Carlson E989NNJ-CAR) I got from Lowe's for \$6.41. Compare that with the \$60 that LNR wants for their end-fed antenna.



I put up the antenna about three weeks ago, on a beautiful fall Sunday, running 34 feet of wire up a trellis attached to a small deck in my backyard, then out to a tree near the back of my lot. With more than a little anticipation, I put the antenna analyzer on it, only to be somewhat disappointed with the readings. The SWR was 2.6:1 at 14.000 MHz, dropping to about 1.5:1 at 14.900 MHz.

Since the internal tuner on my IC-746PRO is supposed to be good to 3:1, I did use it and made a couple of contacts. A guy in MA even gave me a 599 signal report. So, while I was a little uncomfortable with an SWR so close to the limit of my tuner, it did seem to radiate pretty well.

I e-mailed the guy who published the design and asked why he thought the resonant frequency was so high, and he said that all I had to do was add a couple feet of wire to the antenna. I also did some more reading about end-feds and several websites suggested that adding a counterpoise might be a good idea, too.

A week later, I finally got back to playing with the antenna. I added 24-in. of wire to it, and it did indeed bring down the SWR of the antenna to below 2:1 in the CW portion of 20M. I'm happier with this. I made a couple of contacts that day, too, with both stations giving me good reports.

I still do plan to try a counterpoise. Not so much to improve the SWR, but to see if it makes the antenna a little more efficient.

Overall, this has been a fun project. I learned something about end-fed, half-wave antennas and saved a bunch of money by rolling my own. Isn't that what ham radio is all about?



*Dan, KB6NU*



## ***N0D - Special Event Station Celebrating The End of the World!***

That's right, the end is finally near. According to one of the three Mayan Calendars, the End of the world will occur on Dec 21, 2012. To celebrate this literally once in a lifetime event, Special Event Station N0D (Now Zero Days) will be activated on 10-80 meters and on several satellite passes for three days during and after(?) the end of the world. December 20; is a celebration of the end of the world. December 21, the day of destruction, we will be on the air as long as possible. December 22nd, that is a little iffy right now.



**PCARS Member  
David, W8HFY  
is ready**

Amateur radio stations around the crumbling globe are invited to contact N0D, who will be operating from a secret, undisclosed location. Our operating schedule may be a little erratic as destruction rains

down upon us and as long as our antennas hold out. Those who may be looking skyward for the end of the world, N0D will be operating on several satellite passes.

This will provide cosmic, maybe even intergalactic coverage for the end of the world as we know it. Our Doomsday Special Event has been picked up by the Amsat News Service and will be carried in a future bulletin.

You can celebrate Doomsday by contacting N0D directly on the air. Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on our website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number.

**QSL with SASE to KK5W. If Doomsday actually does happen, we regret that a QSL will not be possible so hold on to your SASE until the 22nd at least.**

Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on our website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number. Official Doomsday stations will receive the Doomsday Station Certificate.

It is not entirely clear exactly how it will happen. Will it be a cataclysmic shift in the earth's magnetic field, Global Warming on steroids, earthquakes, volcanoes floods, global thermonuclear war, meteor collision, the 10 plagues of Egypt UFO invasion who knows ? There are scientists, soothsayers and philosophers on both sides of the question. Either way it will be an event worth remembering.. .or maybe there will be no one left to remember it?

More information is available on the Official N0D website, [www.nowzerodays.com](http://www.nowzerodays.com). You can also e-mail the N0D team at [N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com](mailto:N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com) Check our website for the latest updates: [www.nowzerodays.com](http://www.nowzerodays.com)

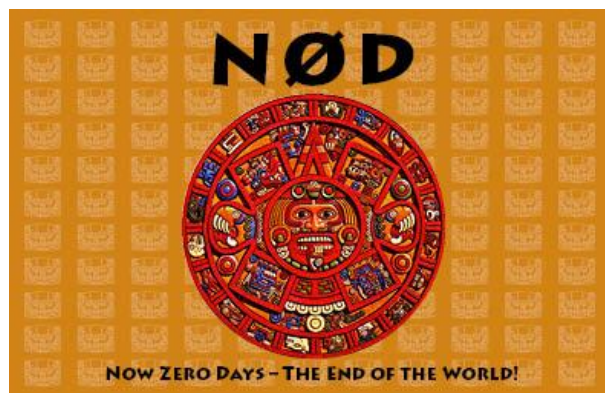
**Contact Us On Dec. 21, 2012 - It might be your last 73.**

**From the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, KK5W**

**Editor's Notes:**

Get registered with N0D and you'll receive an official Doomsday Radio Station Certificate!

Check out the NASA video on why they say the end is not coming at:  
<http://www.inquisitr.com/203235/nasa-debunks-2012-doomsday-claims-video/>



**N0D OFFICIAL  
DOOMSDAY RADIO STATION  
The End of the World!**

*Amateur Radio Station* **KB8UUZ**, having registered on the N0D website, [www.nowzerodays.com](http://www.nowzerodays.com), is hereby designated Official N0D Doomsday Radio Station Number **0223**; a member of the Doomsday Special Event Network for as long as we last!



A Special Event sponsored by  
A Ah Puch Kimi  
Mayan Lord of the Underworld  
And the  
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club







## *Postage Rates to Increase in January*

The US Postal Service has announced that as of January 27, 2013, the cost to mail first class letters, postcards and packages within the US will go up. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 46 cents, while the cost to mail a postcard will be 33 cents, an increase of 1 cent for each. This is the third increase for postcard



postage in less than two years; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents, and from 29 cents to 32 cents in January 2012.

**The USPS will also introduce a First Class Mail Global Forever Stamp in January. This new stamp will allow customers to mail 1-ounce letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10.** The cost to mail flat-rate Priority Mail packages and letters will also increase.

*From the ARRL*



## *10 Meter Contest: The Band Is Hot!*

Will it be possible to beat the 2011 running of the ARRL 10 Meter Contest (<http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>)? With more than 5300 logs received and worldwide openings last year, that may be a tall order. This past weekend during the CQ WW CW Contest, 10 meters was in great shape, despite a coronal mass ejection that hit on Friday evening. But according to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, one thing's for certain: There's going to be a ton of activity, as hams from all around the world look to work some DX on the band!

In the US, Novice and Technician class operators can get in on the fun, too. Both classes are permitted SSB operation between 28.3-28.5 MHz with 150 W. If you don't have an antenna for 10 meters, build one yourself! A dipole for 28.4 MHz is about 16.5 feet long -- build it and get it up in the air as high as you possibly can. "This is an easy construction project and you will work stations, especially with band conditions like this," Kutzko explained. "Quite simply, this is a weekend you don't want to miss!"

Single Operator entrants can use either CW only or SSB only -- or a mixture of both. They can choose between High Power, Low Power (150 W or less) or QRP (5 W or less). Want to share the fun with your friends? Invite them over and enter in the Multioperator category. Stations that operate as a Single Operator are not allowed to use any spotting network; if Single Operator stations wish to use spotting networks, they will be entered in the Multioperator, Single Transmitter category. Even though this is a 48-hour contest, all stations -- be they Single or Multi Operator -- can only work 36 of the 48 hours. This means that operators will have to plan the best strategy to be on the air at the right time to take advantage of the propagation.

In 2010, the ARRL added the 32 Mexican states as multipliers in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. "Activity from our friends in Mexico spiked in 2010 as a result of the inclusion of Mexican states, and there's every indication there will be even more activity from these stations in 2012, providing even more stations to work and increase your score," Kutzko said. For a list of the Mexican states and their abbreviations, as well as information on how "rare" each state is, download this free map, (<http://www.dxxe.org/concurso/xe-mults.pdf>) provided by Grupo DXXE.

All stations will send their signal report -- RS(T) -- as part of the contest exchange. In addition, stations in the US (including Alaska and Hawaii) and Canada will send their state or province as part of the exchange; stations in the District of Columbia stations will send DC. Mexican stations will also send their state. DX stations (including KH2, KP4 and such) will also send a sequential serial number starting with 001. Maritime mobile stations will also send their ITU Region (R1, R2 or R3).

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest runs from 0000 UTC Saturday, December 8 through 2359 UTC Sunday, December 9. Logs must be e-mailed (10meter@arrl.org) or postmarked no later than 2359 UTC Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL 10 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

*From the ARRL*



Stephen Galchutt, WGOAT -- and his goats -- of Monument, Colorado, headed up to Mt Herman for the 2011 ARRL 10 Meter Contest, running 5 W QRP and a 2-element Yagi. Unfortunately, Rooster the Goat ate Galchutt's log. See more at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5xJjThOlic>.



# Ohio State Parks On The Air



Greetings From OSPOTA 2012 (Ohio State Parks On The Air)

From the OSPOTA Committee, we would like to extend our appreciation for your participation in the fifth annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest. You are now part of 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.

To those of you who placed in the top five spots in each category, congratulations on your efforts. You deserve your awards for your operating skills. We are counting on everyone doing even better in 2013.

So until next year 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>

## General Facts:

59 parks activated

71 logs submitted

5 out of state logs submitted

30 Clubs represented by the 71 logs

Total Contacts - 5986

Top Score this year - 24000+

**Participating Club Names:** Mad River Radio Club, PCARS, Coshocton County ARA, Hamilton Co ARPSC, Jackson Co ARC, Milford ARC, Adams Co ARC, Fulton Co ARC, Defiance Co ARC, Highland ARA, Steubenville-Weirton ARC, Fayette ARA, Lake County ARA, Central Ohio Operators Klub, Warren ARA, Grant ARC, Scioto Valley ARC, Mahoning Valley ARA, Dayton ARA, West Park Radio Ops, Canton ARC, Ashtabula County ARES, Huron Co ARS, Highland ARC, Trumbull Co ARES, Reservoir ARA, R.L. Drake ARC Contest Group, Grant ARC, Goodyear ARC, West Chester ARA



# OSPOTA 2012



| Club or Multi-operator Low Power In a Park |                |       |
|--|----------------|-------|
| Call                                       | Park Name      | Score |
| <b>K8UU</b>                                | Hueston Woods  | 12384 |
| <b>WB8LCD</b>                              | Tinker's Creek | 6513  |
| <b>WA8PGE</b>                              | Great Seal     | 4636  |

| Single Operator Low Power in a Park |             |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Call                                | Park Name   | Score |
| <b>N8MWK</b>                        | Burr Oak    | 1890  |
| <b>KC8UNR</b>                       | Lake Milton | 400   |

| Club or Multi-Operator High Power In a Park |                   |        |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| Call  | Park Name         | Score  |
| <b>AB8DD</b>                                | Kiser Lake        | 24,910 |
| <b>WW8OH</b>                                | Buckeye Lake      | 19,843 |
| <b>K8CY</b>                                 | Geneva            | 12,015 |
| <b>W8MRC</b>                                | East Fork         | 10,962 |
| <b>W8ZPF</b>                                | Buckeye Lake      | 8,507  |
| W8TCA                                       | Mosquito          | 7,790  |
| W8VTD                                       | Mosquito          | 6,948  |
| KC8WIT                                      | Marble Head LH    | 6,560  |
| K8BXQ                                       | Harrison Lake     | 5,499  |
| K8FAY                                       | Deer Creek        | 4,212  |
| K8OH  | Rocky Fork        | 3,630  |
| WA8KIW                                      | Paint Creek       | 2,870  |
| W8STZ                                       | Shawnee           | 2,632  |
| WB8ZOL                                      | Indian Lake       | 2,070  |
| N8BC  | Headlands         | 2,046  |
| W8UKE                                       | Strouds Run       | 1,917  |
| K8QYL                                       | Grand Lk St Marys | 1,652  |
| K8VON                                       | Independance Dam  | 1,540  |
| K8SRR                                       | Guilford Lake     | 1,449  |
| W8CWO                                       | Jefferson         | 1,425  |
| KD8XL                                       | Lake Alma         | 1,320  |
| K8CAV                                       | West Branch       | 1,200  |
| K8YOJ                                       | Little Miami      | 494    |
| WD8MIU                                      | Quail Hollow      | 462    |
| KC8WIX                                      | Scioto Trail      | 286    |
| KC8WIX                                      | Adams Lake        | 266    |
| NZ8A  | Madison Lake      | 20     |
| NZ8A  | Buck Creek        | 16     |
| NZ8A  | Kiser Lake        | 16     |
| NZ8A  | John Bryan        | 16     |
| WA8UXP                                      | Rocky Fork        | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Paint Creek       | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Lake White        | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Scioto Trail      | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Great Seal        | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Lake Hope         | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | lake Logan        | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Hocking Hills     | 9      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Pike Lakes        | 8      |
| WA8UXP                                      | Burr Oak          | 6      |

| Single Operator High Power in a Park |                 |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Call                                 | Park Name       | Score     |
| <b>K8FH</b>                          | Findley         | 10128     |
| <b>NX8G</b>                          | Wolf Run        | 9045      |
| <b>N8NPT</b>                         | Paint Creek     | 4400      |
| <b>W8WZZ</b>                         | Tar Hollow      | 4032      |
| <b>NA8Y</b>                          | Punderson       | 3536      |
| AE8YL                                | Catawba Island  | 3232      |
| WC8Z                                 | John Bryan      | 2376      |
| WB8YHD                               | Lake Milton     | 1196      |
| NB8I                                 | Cleve.LakeFront | 1092      |
| KC8ZXU                               | Sycamore        | 874       |
| KT8BSA                               | Salt Fork       | 700       |
| AE5NL                                | Cowan Lake      | 598       |
| WV8P                                 | Wing Foot Lake  | 504       |
| AB8XX                                | Little Miami    | 450       |
| AB8XX                                | Caesar Creek    | 280       |
| AB8XX                                | Stone Lick      | 54        |
| K8AB                                 |                 | Check Log |

| Single or Multi-operator In Ohio Not In Park |           |
|--|-----------|
| Call   | Score     |
| <b>KD8MQ</b>                                 | 2730      |
| <b>W8EOT</b>                                 | 2560      |
| <b>K8NYM</b>                                 | 2301      |
| <b>W8GTS</b>                                 | 2280      |
| <b>W8TM</b>                                  | 1260      |
| NR8U   | 1120      |
| NF8U   | 874       |
| K8STK  | 525       |
| WT8E   | 400       |
| KC8YKQ                                       | 323       |
| KB8TUY                                       | 260       |
| N8QE   | 154       |
| W8PT   | 132       |
| W8KNO  | 100       |
| KD8QDZ                                       | Check Log |

| Single Operator Outside of Ohio |                |       |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Call                            | State          | Score |
| <b>KV9C</b>                     | Indiana        | 1230  |
| <b>N8YHA</b>                    | Wisconsin      | 483   |
| <b>KB1VUN</b>                   | New Hampshire  | 360   |
| <b>W8NNC</b>                    | Michigan       | 224   |
| <b>KB4QQJ</b>                   | North Carolina | 169   |

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
|  | = Framed Certificate |
|  | = Certificate        |



## *Santa Delay*

Word has it that Santa may be delayed this year from making his scheduled rounds. Seems he was out test flying, when an errant Air National Guard plane smacked into him mid-flight. As you can see from the pictures below, repairs were being made at the crash site to not only the sleigh, but to presents that were in the sleigh to test load capabilities. Later reports from the North Pole said Santa rounded up the crew of reindeer and made it home where permanent repairs are being accomplished. Everyone at the North Pole flight center is encouraged that Santa will be on-time. Stay tuned to your local news for further reports.



## *Thanks & 73*

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, N8RLG, KB8UUZ, W8KNO, W8PT, KC8PD, K8CAV, KI8GW, KB6NU, KK5W, NASA, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.**

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



**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor







|        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| WB8LCD | AB8IE  | KC8KYW | KC8UNR | N8RKA  | KD8ERY | KD8SIZ |
| KC8PD  | KC8RKV | KD8GHB | KDFPP  | KD8BHX | KD8QEI | KD8SJA |
| KB8UUZ | N8WLE  | KD8GGZ | KD8JRE | W8ZL   | NC8T   | KD8SJB |
| KB8VJL | AK8U   | KB8AMZ | KD8IUA | KD8LLN | KD8ONJ | KD8SJC |
| W8KNO  | KC8SYD | KD8FME | KD8JRF | KD8JRK | KD8PMH | W8CYN  |
| KB8DPN | N8PXW  | N8QE   | WA8CCU | KD8MLF | KD8PTQ | KD8SJF |
| KB8SZI | WD8DAU | K8CAV  | WA8SJU | KA8SWC | KD8DQT | KD8SJF |
| KD8EPF | K8IV   | K8SRR  | K8FS   | KD8MLE | ACITT  | KD8SJG |
| N8KBX  | KD8EPG | WA8AR  | KC8YYS | KW8KW  | KD8QEK | KD8SOP |
| WB8VYW | KC8LJY | KD8FLU | KD8VT  | N8ONI  | KD8QEJ | KA8CMD |
| W8PT   | KD8EPA | K8GI   | N8HUC  | KD8CGH | KD8GZ  | KD8MVC |
| N6TL   | KB8JFF | KD8HGI | KB3OQV | WA8GCF | KD8QDZ | AE8YL  |
| KC8RJR | K8FEY  | NX8G   | KB3GXB | AI8P   | KB8CWT | WA8KHP |
| N4PKW  | KD8EPE | KD8CGF | KD8KCY | KA8TOA | KD8RHX | KD8SSU |
| KB8TUY | WB2DFC | KC8DBX | NR8W   | K8MSF  | KD8RHV |        |
| WB8FEW | N8ZDR  | KD8GHA | K8DER  | WA8OKR | KD8RHW |        |
| N4IT   | KD8FLZ | N1EZZ  | AB8AA  | KD8OBC | N8WWG  |        |
| WB9LBI | KD8FDN | N8RLG  | K8JAA  | WD8RAY | KD8RJZ |        |
| WB8VNO | N8XTH  | KD8ICP | G0BPS  | W8RID  | KD8RJV |        |
| KC8RFT | KD8FDK | KD8DFL | KD8LIR | W8DAC  | W8EZT  |        |
| KC8FQV | K8QF   | K8JE   | KB8UHN | W8DEC  | KC8AWR |        |
| KC8NOW | AB8YN  | NT8K   | W8CDL  | K8STK  | N8XEP  |        |
| WB8OVQ | KD8FLW | K8AAB  | KD8MQ  | W8BGE  | KB8IHG |        |
| WD8BIW | KD8FLX | W8HFX  | N8OQQ  | AF1K   | KD8SKL |        |
| N8FTP  | N8GLK  | K3GP   | KA8BNS | KD8OKK | KD8QOM |        |
| W8RJG  | N8ATV  | W8NET  | K8NYM  | KD8PBL | KD8SDF |        |
| KC8ZZG | N8GIE  | KD8JCY | KJ4MPN | WD8CVH | KC8BTN |        |







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Nov. 12, 2012

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# Amateur Radio GENERAL Class Upgrade Class



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

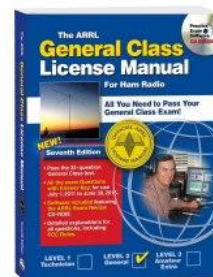
When: Tuesday Evenings 7:00 p.m.  
Starting January 8, 2013  
License testing will be held on the last day of class Feb 26th

Where: At the PCARS Club Site located in the  
Dietrich Building - 705 Oakwood Street - 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 \$30.00

Information & Registration: Contact: **Deron Boring, N8XTH**  
by e-mail: [N8XTH@portcars.org](mailto:N8XTH@portcars.org)  
or phone: **330-715-8552**



Please register with Deron, N8XTH by January 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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 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)

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:

|                          |                                    |   |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular Full Member                | Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$20.00 (full year)<br>Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$15.00 (last 7 months)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Associate Member                   | Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$10.00 (last 4 months)<br>Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$5.00 (last month) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular Senior Full Member (65+)   | Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$16.00 (full year)<br>Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$12.00 (last 7 months)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Associate Senior Member (65+)      | Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$8.00 (last 4 months)<br>Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$4.00 (last month)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family* Member                     | Pay January 1 through May 31 = \$10.00 (full year)<br>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)<br>Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$3.00 (last month)  |

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

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

What are **YOUR** Ham Radio interests:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date Received:  
New Renewal  
Date Voted:  
[ ] Database Updated

Initiation Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
[ ] Cash [ ] Check Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Results:

Rev 2009 0501





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

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

at: Stringz & Wingz - 1543 SR 303 - Streetsboro, OH 44241

[www.stringzwingz.com](http://www.stringzwingz.com)

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.

### 2012-2013 PCARS Appointments & Committees

|                                      |                             |                              |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ARRL Awards - DXCC<br>WAS, VUCC, WAC | <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<br>Coordinators              | <b>W8KNO</b><br><b>W8PT</b> | Joe Wehner<br>Chuck Patellis |
| EchoLink                             | <b>K8SRR</b>                | Steve Randlett               |
| Field Day 2013                       | <b>K8CAV</b>                | Rick Kruis                   |
| F.Y.A.O. 2013                        | <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 2013                          | <b>W8PT</b>                 | Chuck Patellis               |
| P.I.O.                               | <b>WA8AR</b>                | Tony Romito                  |
| Secretary                            | <b>KD8GGZ</b>               | Mary Jo Loveland             |
| VE Liaison                           | <b>N8RLG</b>                | Robert Gurney                |
| 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>KB8IHG</b> | Christopher Vince |
| <b>NR8W</b>   | Russ Williams     |
| <b>KD8RJV</b> | Jim Corbett       |
| <b>W8EZT</b>  | Frank Tompkins    |



The **RADIOGRAM** is the official award winning (ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest - First Place Winner - 2012) newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. - copyright © 2012. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS). Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify it. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month - newsletter contact: [KB8UUZ@portcars.org](mailto:KB8UUZ@portcars.org). ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: the Black Squirrel is now commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys & gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961 and have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. So when you spot a black squirrel - **think PCARS!**

This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the PCARS Newsletter, **The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and delivered right to YOUR e-mail box! If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail. **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)  
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