



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



March 2012 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 7 No. 3

~ 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 ~

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

PCARS Incorporated
 Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
 Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliated
 April 20, 2006



**Special Services
 Club**
 March 22, 2010

From the President

As PCARS moves into its seventh year, I have to say that I am amazed at what we have become. As a few of us contemplated starting a club where the emphasis was on “having fun” I don't think anyone saw what was coming. Who knew that there was such a dormant interest in Amateur Radio that just needed the right incentive to bring it out?

I'm pretty sure that there is a whole lot more of that dormant interest that we could tap into. Look at what the computer hardware and software technophobes have done with digital communications. Where else but amateur radio would they ever get the chance to experiment on their own with those types of technologies? Look at the other types of organizations that have discovered that amateur radio can provide support for their interests and do it in a way that allows them to concentrate on their activities, still

knowing that their communications needs will be handled both professionally and efficiently. (I'm thinking of the public service area here, all the different kinds of races that people like to run, bike and swim.) More seriously, emergency communications has interested folks in ham radio as a means to an end if some tragic event should occur. The common denominator here is, that once people get interested in amateur radio as an adjunct to whatever they had in mind, we now have a captive audience to show how much fun it can be to work the world on 5 watts, talk to someone in all 50 states, or even every county in the country! DXpeditions are a blast, even if they're done locally. I won't exhaust this list, but we have a bunch of ways to have fun!



Tom, WB8LCD

So, the answer to the question of how do we engage others in the ham radio hobby is we show them how to have fun. It's pretty simple, but it's not necessarily easy. Having fun with a club the size of PCARS requires a lot of work on the part of your officers – both past and present. Nothing happens without a lot of planning and follow through. Everything we do has had a lot of preparation done before we even show up on the day of the event.

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



From the President - Continued from Page 1

We need and appreciate your help. Here are a few ideas that you can use to help keep PCARS the most fun you can have in Amateur Radio:

1. Don't get lazy – participate in the activities of the club. Everything we do may not be a home run or even something that you think you have an interest in, but who knows, if you show up you just might find some fun where you didn't even expect it.
2. Be a net control operator for the PCARS net. You'd be amazed how much fun it can be. You'll learn who the other club members are and where they're from. Most importantly, you'll get comfortable in the role of NCS and have a skill that is appreciated not only by net managers, but by the other participants of the net. It's always nice to have a variety of net control ops.
3. Tell us what we're doing right, or wrong, and let us know what you would like to be doing with the club. You'd be amazed at how much quicker things can get put on the agenda when you not only tell us what you'd like to be doing, but volunteer to make it happen!

4. Be a friend and a mentor to others. We all want to be a part of something where we feel like we belong and fit in. Don't let anyone leave a PCARS event not feeling that way about it. New hams are the lifeblood of our hobby, don't criticize them for what they don't know – help them learn what they need to know to be successful in the hobby.
5. Finally, don't hide your light under a bushel. Let everyone you come in contact with know that you are a ham, you're proud of it, and you're having fun. When someone shows an interest, let them know where they can go to find out more.

We haven't plateaued yet. I'll bet PCARS can double in size again. Keep it fun, and they will come!

73,

Tom, WB8LCD



From the Vice President

Don't Worry, I should be defrosted in time for Field Day.

I think a few of my body parts may have dropped off at our most recent Freeze Your Acorns Off extravaganza a few days ago. Although it started out as a sunny, relatively warm day, temperatures dropped and the wind picked up something fierce. I was helping out Scott, N3JJT, who set up his 40 meter CW operation at a picnic table totally exposed to the elements. Ever tried to operate a set of paddles while wearing heavy gloves?



Bill, WB9LBI

I don't recommend it. Still, I managed to make a couple of contacts, while trying to keep everything from blowing off the table, and simultaneously talk to visitors who wandered by. My keying was nothing short of awful, but fortunately, I was using Scott's callsign, so everybody will be blaming him. Note to Scott: if you get a QSL card addressed to EI5SH, that was probably where I was transmitting while shivering uncontrollably.

It was nice to see the young people like Kristen, KB3OQV and Jenna, KD8GHA out at FYAO, along with some even younger pre-hams, such as the little grandson that Al, KB8VJL was walking all over the park, and Noah, a.k.a "The Babblor". I think it's important show the kids what ham radio is about, so that they'll have enough interest to get their license later on. At PCARS, our events are all about fun, so definitely bring the youngsters to our events when you can, and explain to them what's going on. Remember, these are the people you'll

be making QSO's with someday when you're old and cantankerous.

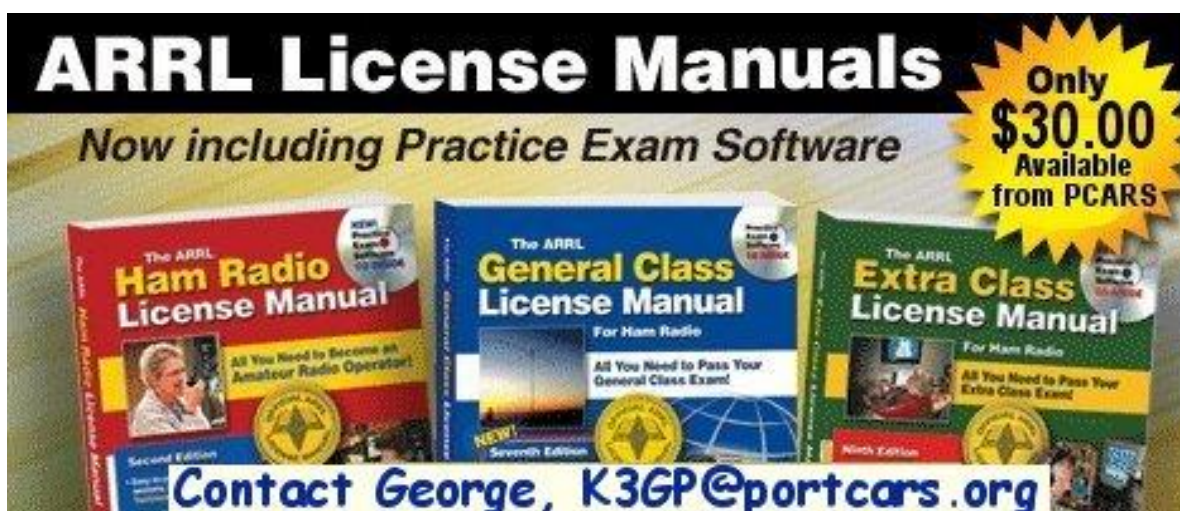
Now for a commercial: This month's PCARS meeting features March Movie Madness! Featuring ham-radio related cinematic treasures from yesterday and today! With a cast of thousands of Hertz! Not to mention that unlike normal movie theatres, you won't have to hock your linear amplifier just to pay for popcorn and soda! Plus Special Bonus: All the funny clips we could steal off of YouTube! What a Spectacle! Don't miss it! At the March PCARS Meeting!

Now back to our regularly scheduled column, already in progress. I want to congratulate Russ, KD8LDY who got motivated to take four(!) Emergency Management courses that are needed to be a member in good

standing of RACES and ARES®. He did this in one week! Next time you see Russ, be sure and bow down before him.

If you missed FYAO, don't worry. PCARS has two more events just like it this year, Field Day and Ohio Parks on the Air. Oh, and if you happen to be at Fuller Park and come across my missing body parts, please notify the authorities and keep your distance.

Bill, WB9LBI



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
Second Edition

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

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

Contact George, K3GP@portcars.org

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:



- March 6th - **VE session at club site** - 7 pm - last night for General Class - walk-ins welcome
- March 12th - **PCARS meeting** - Ham Radio Movies – The Best from YouTube
- March 13th - **Technician Class starts** at the club site - see the flier in this newsletter
- April 7th - **VE session at the Center of Hope** - 10 am - walk-ins welcome
- April 9th - **PCARS Meeting** - Transmission Lines - James, KD8VT
- May 14th - **PCARS Meeting** – Activities from clubs around Ohio - Affiliated Club Coordinator E. Mike McCardle, KC8LYD

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



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/>.



FYAO 2012

The 7th annual "Freeze Your Acorns Off" was held on Saturday, February 18th at the Fred Fulled Park in Kent. Wanna know who won the club contest?? You'll have to come to the March PCARS meeting to find out!

It certainly wasn't what you'd expect for a mid February Saturday in NE Ohio. No snow, partly sunny skys and temps into the low 40's. Turns out the only one there with a pair of frozen acorns was Kristen – KB3OQV. Stations on the air included KC8UNR (Team Klondike), WB2DFC, N3JTT, N8EQJ (Team DX Engineering with N8QE), K8BF (2-meters run by KB8TUY), K8CAV running digital and special "stealth" station KB8AMZ. We had the participation of well over 60 PCARS members and guests, including many ARES[®] EC's, AEC's and even the SEC. (There was an ARES[®] meeting in Ravenna that same morning.)



As PCARS members we have come to expect to eat pretty well at any PCARS function, and this was no exception. Lots of good food and snacks kept us munching most of the day. **THANK YOU** to everyone who shares so generously with your PCARS friends – it really is appreciated. (Note from the President: I always worry that there will be enough for whatever the event is. I'm never disappointed by what shows up – it's always as much as we need, and more. And it's never the cheap stuff, it's always a pretty good feast! Kudos to all of you!)

Operating QRP is not the easiest way to go. Without the "Brute Force" of 100+ watts, it takes more skill, as well as patience, to make contacts. Every year now the total contacts count at FYAO has increased. Congratulations to all of you who have accepted the challenge and are having fun with this segment of the hobby. And to *everyone* – I hope to see you at FYAO 2013!

Tom, WB8LCD



PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

April 7 ~ June 2 ~ August 4 ~ October 6 ~ December 1



VE sessions for Technician, General & Amateur Extra start at 10:00 am at the Center of Hope - 1034 West Main Street in Ravenna. Walk-ins are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Heavenly Day, It's Gay

Public service season is upon us. The following dates are firm:

Sun. 5/20/2012 Rite Aid Marathon Cleveland
Sun. 8/26/2012 Bellefaire JCB Biathlon Shaker Hts.

Headwaters Adventure Race and Fitness Walk in Mantua is usually around the 10th of July. The Black Squirrel Adventure Triathlon is normally held in the first week of Aug. No date yet on the schedule. I will report these dates as soon as I can get them.

The Rite Aid Marathon once again falls on the Sunday of Dayton Hamvention weekend. Your help is greatly needed and appreciated. Jim, KC8PD, will be presiding over it again this year, but Ted, WD8CVH, and I remain involved in recruiting help and will again put on a cookout/pre-race meeting the week before the race. You can sign up with me or Jim.

As always, your preferences will be taken into consideration for assignments.

New to the hobby? Inexperienced in public service? We will give you an appropriate position for your skill level. These events are fun to work and great training for emergency communications. ARES®/RACES membership is not needed for the events I promote. All are encouraged to join in the fun.

Daylight Savings time starts on Sunday March 11, 2012. And that means the start of our hidden transmitter hunts. The first hunt will be on Wednesday, March 21. We start at the Scout House behind The Church in Silver Lake on Route 59 (Kent Road). If you don't have, or can't borrow direction finding equipment, just show up at the start and get a ride with an experienced hunter and see what the excitement is about. We will finish up the evening at a restaurant for debriefing and airing complaints about where I hide.

We hunt on the first & third Wednesday of each month. The first few hunts will start at 1830 hours and later we will be starting at 1900 hours, when we have a little more daylight. Considering the current price of gas I will not be hiding too far from the start.



Gay, WB8VNO

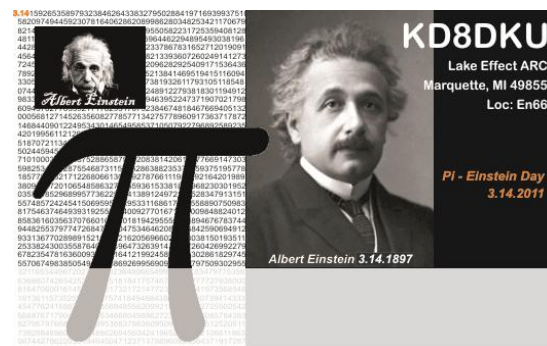
73 & 88,
Gay, WB8VNO

Paper Chase

March is the month of the Irish. The RSGB (Royal Society of Great Britain) two years ago posted an article that GB4SPB located in Antium and GB5SPD located in Londonderry as well as a few other stations would be on the air for Saint Patrick's Day. I could not locate any newer information, so keep an ear open.

If you read the "Surfing" article on the ARRL web site, you would know that MITx will be offering an on-line course called Circuits and Electronics. It takes more than simple math to complete the course. Therefore, the following special event station seems to supplement this course. The event is being hosted by the Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club of Marquette, Michigan. It is the **"2012 International Pi Day/ Einstein's Birthday."** It takes place on March 13th and 14th on frequencies that should be easy to work from Ohio.

Time	Day	Band/mode	Target Frequency
8 pm edt	Tuesday	20m PSK	14.070
11am edt	Wednesday	40m SSB	7.285
3 pm edt	Wednesday	17m SSB	18.155
5 pm edt	Wednesday	20m PSK	14.070
11:14 pm edt	Tuesday	80m CW	3.5314
3:14 am edt	Wednesday	80m CW	3.5314
3:14 pm or 11:14 am edt		40m CW	7.0314
3:14 pm edt		20m CW	14.0314



QSLs available via eQSL and LOTW. If you would like a Paper/Printed QSL card, send \$1 plus a SASE with contact information to: Lake Effect ARC/Pi - 36 Southfork St. - Marquette, MI 49855

Hope to hear you in the pile-up,

Joe, W8KNO

One Down, One to Go: The ARRL International DX Contest Gears Up for SSB

With the CW portion of the ARRL International DX Contest now a series of fading dits and dahs in the memories of participants, preparations for the SSB portion of the DX Contest -- the weekend of March 3-4 -- are already underway.

According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, for this contest, stations in the US and Canada work only DX stations, and DX stations only work the US and Canada; Alaska and Hawaii are considered DX for this contest. DX stations will be trying to make QSOs with all US states and Canadian provinces. The contest exchange is simple: US and Canadian stations send a signal report and their state or province, while DX stations send a signal report and the amount of power they are transmitting with.

"The CW portion had a lot of twists and turns," Kutzko recounted. "The solar flux index was down considerably from the great conditions we experienced in the last quarter of 2011. We were also dealt a blow with a solar storm on Saturday afternoon, generating some strange phenomena on the bands. Ten meters --

which earlier in the contest season was open to Europe and Asia for hours at a time -- barely showed up this past weekend. Despite all of this, hams worked tons of DX on 15 and even 10 meters.”

A banner for the 2012 ARRL DX Contest. It features a world map with glowing lines connecting different continents, symbolizing global communication. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The top line says "2012 ARRL DX Contest" in yellow on a black background. Below that, "48 Hours of FUN!" is written in white and red. The next line says "2012 ARRL DX Contest" in yellow. Then, "When: Phone—March 3-4" is in white, followed by "Begins 0000 UTC Saturday. Ends 2359 UTC Sunday." in yellow. At the bottom, it says "This is your opportunity to be the rare one." in white.

2012 ARRL DX Contest

48 Hours of FUN!

2012 ARRL DX Contest

When: Phone—March 3-4

Begins 0000 UTC Saturday. Ends 2359 UTC Sunday.

This is your opportunity to be the rare one.

Will these conditions improve? It's hard to say -- the SFI remains around 100, and just a week before the contest, the A and K indices are reasonably low. "Check The K7RA Solar Update each Friday on the ARRL website for the most current solar forecast," Kutzko advised. "But

one thing is for certain: The number of participants in the 2011-2012 contest season has exploded, and more activity means lots of DX.”

The ARRL International DX SSB Contest runs from 0000 UTC Saturday, March 3 to 2359 UTC Sunday, March 4. Complete rules and forms can be found online. Electronic logs should be submitted via e-mail; paper logs can be sent to ARRL DX SSB Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Paper logs must be postmarked no later than 0000 UTC Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Rules%20PDFs/2012/2012-ARRLDX-Rules-V3.pdf>

From the ARRL

Hamfest Schedule

03/18/2012 **TMRA Hamfest/Computer Fair** - Perrysburg, OH - Toledo Mobile Radio Association - Website: <http://www.tmrahamradio.org>

04/14/2012 **Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 58th Annual Hamfest** - Cuyahoga Falls, OH - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Website: www.cfarc.org/hamfest2012.html

05/18-19-20/2012 **Dayton Hamvention®** - Trotwood, OH - Dayton ARA - website: www.hamvention.org

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in March:

W8KNO	Joe Wehner
K8SRR	Steven Randlett
KD8NLQ	Richard Preisendorfer
WA4WGA	Ray Mahorney
KD8FLU	Linda Godfrey
KJ4MPN	Herschell Taylor, Jr.
AE5WX	Daryl Stout
KD8JRF	Rodney Stickle
KB3GXB	Jennifer Andrews

KC8RFT	Denzil Linton
K8QF	Russ Conklin
AB8YN	Ray Czech
KD8BHX	Lorraine Davison
NOJIW	Ralph Wagnitz
KD8FDK	Richard Taushanoff
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
KD8CGF	Arthur Dembinski

Malyj Vysotskij Island Added to DXCC Deleted Entities List

According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized by relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification.



The Treaty has entered into effect with a date of February 17, 2012.

Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI will be deleted from the DXCC list as of February 17, 2012, and added to the Deleted Entities List.

Administratively at HQ, we will not make the necessary changes to the DXCC system until after the final data processing for 2011 is complete -- this includes the tables shown in Logbook of The World.

DXCC members will see their current entity totals drop by one on their Mixed awards, and on the bands and modes where MVI credit is given. They will also see their DXCC Challenge totals drop commensurately.

MALYJ VYSOTSKIJ ISLAND
(RAVANSAARI)
IOTA EU-117



This uninhabited island with its unique history and traditions (see www.mvids.vbg.ru) was once again activated during May 22 - 30, 2002, this time as WRTC-2002 training field for three Eu Russian teams participating in the WPX CW Contest with call signs R1MVC, R1MVD and R1MVF.


On the side of this activity, team members OH2BR, OH5NE, OH9MM, RA1ACJ, RA3AUU, RV1AW, RW1AC, RW3QC, RW4WR, UA1AKC, UA1ARX and UA2FZ activated R1MVI on all bands 160 to 10m on CW/SSB/RTTY and first time ever on PSK31. 22,700 QSOs were made.

QSL via OH2BR (oh2br@kolumbus.fi)

W8KNO

Date	UTC	Band	RST	2X
28-May-2002	18:39	15m	59	SSB

Tnx QSL 73 fm R1MVI team!



UX5UO print

From the ARRL

PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches & stickers are now available!! Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is approximately 3". The embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black and

Blue. Cost for a patch is \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! If you would like to order by mail contact the club Treasurer: George, K3GP at:

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!



March	
1	N8WLE
8	N8RLG
15	KC8PD
22	WB8LCD
29	KB8UUZ

April	
5	WB2DFC
12	N8QE
19	KB8UHN
26	KB8UUZ

May	
3	KD8JCY
10	N8RLG
17	WB8LCD
24	KD8FDK
31	N8EQJ



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

Hope to hear you on the net,

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE : Ameritron ALS-600S solid state amplifier, **ARI-500 auto-band switch**, cables for Icom & strong shipping boxes, \$1075.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE : Decibel Products DB8802BA-100, 406-1000MHz power/SWR meter, with alarm terminals, N connectors, with factory seals, \$75.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE : Kantronics KPC3+ TNC, including power supply and 9 pin serial cable, \$60.00 [06/02/12]

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

FOR SALE: Leviton 430C12W 125/250 Volt 30 Ampere watertight pin and sleeve connector in excellent condition \$80.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Andrew Superflex FSJ4-50B 22 ft jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. Also includes an extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male connector \$30.00 each. (10 Available) [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Andrew Superflex FSJ4-50B 22 ft jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. \$20.00 ea. (10 Available) [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors:

GE CL01A400TJ Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600 V 120 Volt Coil \$25.00 (2 Available) [06/02/12]

GE CL01D310TD Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600V 24 Volt Coil \$30.00 (2 Available) [06/02/12]

GE CL25A300T Contactor 4 poles rated 32 A @ 600 V 120 Volt Coil \$35.00 (2 Available) [06/02/12]

Bolt on Auxiliary Contact Set for any of the above contactors with 1-N.O. & 1-N.C.Set of contacts \$2.00 ea. [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Motorola HPN1007B – 13.8 Volt Regulated Power Supply 5.0 Amperes Continuous Duty 10.0 Amperes Surge 20 Minutes Max. 20% Duty Cycle \$25.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Trip-Lite 1 RU Outlet Strip 20 Amperes w/12 outlets & 8' cord, new in box \$30.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Converter Concepts Power Supply 90-250 Volts A.C. Inpu. Output #1 +12 Volts D.C., @ 2.5 Amperes. Output #2 -12 Volts D.C., @ 1.5 Amperes. Output #3 +5 Volts D.C., @ 12.0 Amperes. \$20.00 (2 Available) [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders DIN Rail Mnt, Blown Fuse Indicator \$3.00 ea (25 Available) [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: LINKSYS EtherFast® (by Cisco) 10/100 - 5 port work group switch \$10.00 [06/02/12]

FOR SALE: Helix connectors for sale. Contact me with your needs. [06/02/12]

Contact **James** - KD8VT@portcars.org or call 330-206-4909

FOR SALE : GW Instek Function Gen, Model GFG-8219A with power cord, no probes \$75 Accepting reasonable offers. [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : 2ea BK precision DMM, Model 2831A with power cord, no probes \$20 Accepting reasonable offers. [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : GW Instek Lab DC Pwr Supply Dual 0-30 Volt@2A Model GPC-3020 \$75 Accepting reasonable offers. [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : BK Oscilloscope, Model 2120 20 MHz with power cord, no probes \$75 Accepting reasonable offers. [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : Micronta Power Supply 13.8 volt – 2.5 A \$10 Accepting reasonable offers. [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : YAESU FT950 Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$900.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : ICOM IC7000 Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$850.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : MFJ 989C Tuner Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$200.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : Radio Shack PRO 76 Scanner Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$25.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : Comet 2Mtr/440 Vertical Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$100.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : Uniden BC 350A Scanner Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$35.00 [05/02/12]
FOR SALE : Radio Shack PRO 2021 Scanner Equipment from a SK. About 4-5 years old \$20.00 [05/02/12]
 Contact: **Al** - phone: 330-549-3051 or e-mail AB8AA@portcars.org

FOR SALE : MFJ-929 Auto Tuner with original manual and factory packaging. Also included is a factory Icom interface cable (MFJ-5114I) and an additional homebrew Icom interface cable. The tuner is in excellent condition, has been used very little and has always been in a nonsmoking environment. \$175.00 [03/02/12]
 Contact: **Rex** - NX8G@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Icom SP-23 Speaker Brand New in the box! Matches all newer Icom rigs. Four filters, front panel headphone jack. Cost new \$220. Will sell for \$160 [06/2/12]
 Contact: **Ed** – N8EQJ@portcars.org

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!). Brand new, original box, manual with everything including suction mount. \$150 [04/02/12]
 Contact **Tom** - 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: [06/02/12] This will help keep the listings current.



Mobile Communications Concern

Seizing an opportunity, I recently attended Ohio State Senator Frank LaRose's 27th District listening day at the Stow Library last month. My hope was to enlighten him about some of the concerns amateur radio operators have about any "knee-jerk" legislative reaction to the texting-while-driving problem and an overly broad ban on mobile communications.

I went armed with a copy of the ARRL policy statement on mobile amateur radio operation, and left that with him for future reference. To my surprise, LaRose told me he was already familiar with amateur-related organizations such as Army MARS because of his former Special Forces military service and his team's cross-training in radio communication.

The senator also assured me that he believes in a careful, deliberate approach to drafting any ban or restrictions on mobile communication devices. On the subject of antenna towers, LaRose favors allowing local set-back requirements where safety is an issue, but not excessive or arbitrary height restrictions.



Senator Frank LaRose

John, KC8KYW

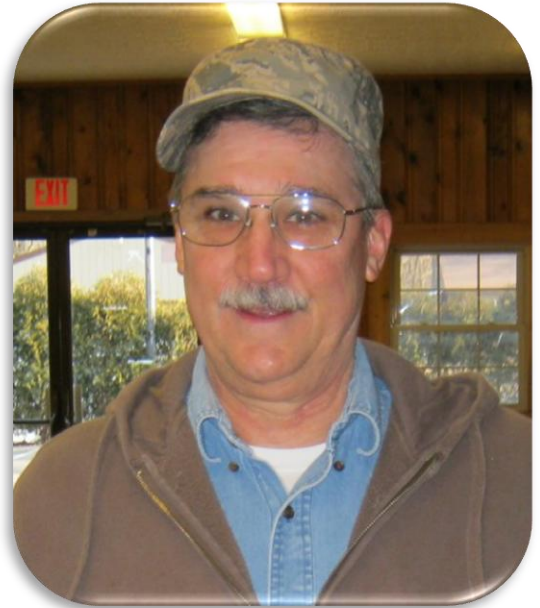
Field Day 2012

The first meeting for PCARS Field Day was held on Tuesday February 12 at the Club site and we're ready to rock for 2012! Twelve members showed up helped start the planning for Field Day. The following items were discussed:

- Changing from Class 4A to Class 5A. There were a couple of people that suggested we change from Class 4A to Class 5A to accommodate additional CW operators that the CW station could not handle last year. Aside from logistical and interference issues that would have to be met to do this, the major issue in not changing is the fact that PCARS has not met its potential in Class 4A. The high national and Ohio scores in Class 4A are significantly higher than the PCARS score. In 2011, the high national score was 6,590 points (65%) higher and the high Ohio score was 5,094 points (51%) higher than PCARS. For this reason we decided to stay in Class 4A.
- Because we have more CW operators that want to participate in Field Day than the CW station can accommodate we will use the FLEX station to operate CW as well as SSB on 10m, 15m, and 80m. CW operators need to coordinate with WB2DFC who is the CW Station Captain.
- Errol KC8RGR will not be able to provide his trailer and equipment this year for the VHF station because it will be in Canada so we decided to put the VHF Station in the front part of the Mobile Command post.
- Field Day will use the ICS for planning.
- Saturday May 12th at 10:00 AM was set for Antenna Day at the Ravenna City Park.

Staffing for Field Day is almost complete, with the folks below volunteering:

- Field Day Chairman - Rick, K8CAV
- Field Day Deputy Chairman - Tom, WB8LCD
- PIO Media - Jim, KC8PD
- PIO Information Table - Tom, KB8UUZ
- Safety - Mike, KD8FLZ
- 20m Station Captain - Chuck, W8PT
- 40m Station Captain - Ed, N8EQJ
- CW Station Captain - Dave, WB2DFC
- FLEX Station Captain - Jim, KC8PD
- VHF Station Captain - Bob, N8QE
- GOTA Station Captain - Chris, KD8QDZ
- Power Team Leader - James, KD8VT
- IT Team Leader - Steve, K8SRR
- Food Team Leader - John, KD8QEJ
- Finance Team leader - George, K3GP



Rick, K8CAV



With the sunspot numbers climbing we have the potential to make this the best field day ever for PCARS but

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We need operators, loggers, and help for the logistics teams. More important than anything, we need you to show up for a very enjoyable time so mark your calendars now! Field Day is June 23rd and 24th at the Ravenna City Park; bring yourself, family, and friends for a K8BF **BIG FUN** Field Day 2012!

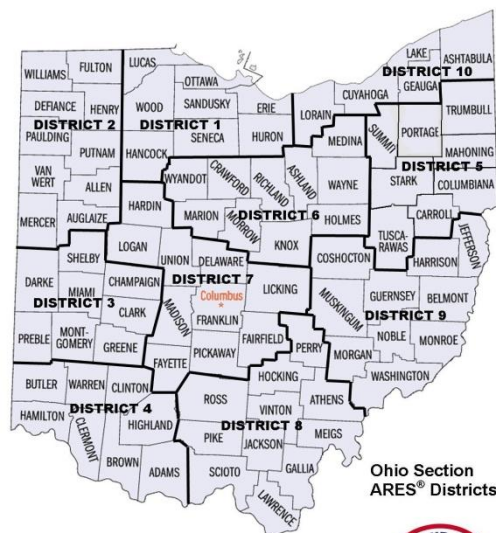
Rick, K8CAV
Field Day Chairman

EmComm

Well it appears that the, uhm, experiment is over and Portage County is being returned to ARES District 5 of the Ohio Section of the ARRL.

Long story short, Portage had traditionally been a part of District 5, which also includes Summit, Trumbull, Mahoning, Stark, Carroll, Columbiana and Tuscarawas counties. About a year and a half ago the decision was made at the Section level to move Portage to District 10, which is made up of the most northeastern tier of counties: Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga. District 10 was a relatively new creation itself, having been formed around four or five years ago.

The rationale for the change is best left for a discussion at some other time. In any event, the experience proved both enjoyable and worthwhile in that we had the chance to work with PCARS member Matt Welch, W8DEC, who served as the DEC for District 10 until his recent promotion to Section Emergency Coordinator. Matt certainly brought a lot of enthusiasm to the job and it translated into the variety of programs that he instituted in the district.



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Jim, KC8PD

The communities in District 10 will continue to be well served since Mike Voleski, KD8JUF, has been appointed by Matt to replace him as DEC. A number of us have had the chance to work with Mike and he is a very capable guy whose slogan is "Ham radio is a hobby, Emergency Communications is a passion!" So you know he is going to go all out as DEC.

Mike lives in Mentor and serves as the Security Supervisor and Safety Coordinator at a 150 bed hospital and runs the day-to-day Security & Safety operations for the facility. He served in the Army Reserves for fourteen years, retiring as a Major, and is an instructor for Incident Command System courses. Congratulations to Mike and we wish him the best in his new position.

The DEC position for District 5 remains vacant. Anyone wishing to apply should use the on-line application which can be found at <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/fsd-156.html>. Applicants are required to

have successfully completed the NIMS/ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses before applying. You may also contact Matt Welch, our SEC, at w8dec2@gmail.com for additional information.

A reminder that the 2012 Skywarn training, provided by the Cleveland office of the National Weather Service, is underway throughout Northeast Ohio. You can check the NWS training calendar at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cle/skywarn/training/spottran.html> to find the date, time and location of a session that will fit your schedule.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH

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



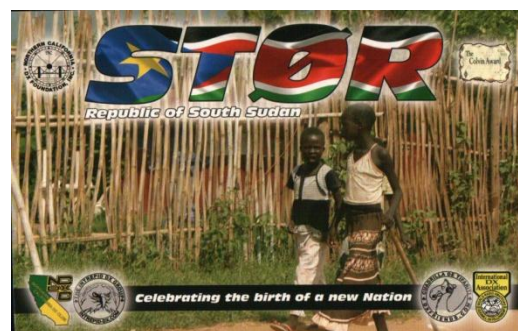
Republic of South Sudan Assigned Prefix

After a wait of more than seven months after being accepted as a member of the United Nations, the Republic of South Sudan received its prefix block from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU): Z8. On July 14, 2011 -- after South Sudan's admittance to the UN -- the new country became a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of the DXCC rules. The new prefix assigned is: Z8

You can find a complete ITU listing at:
http://www.itu.int/online/mms/glad/cga_callsign.sh?lang=en

Additionally, you can find the updated ARRL Entity listing at:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Awards/DXCC/2011e%20DXCC%20Current.pdf>



The callsign ST0R was used when Southern Sudan first came on the air

From the ARRL



60 Meters - New Guidelines Published

Thanks to the FCC Report and Order issued November 18, 2011, amateurs will enjoy a number of new privileges on the 60 meter band beginning March 5, including a boost in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, as well as the ability to use CW and certain digital modes.

Late last year, the ARRL HF Band Planning committee surveyed 60 meter operators to gather opinions about how to best use the new privileges. On the subject of creating a specific band plan, the survey results indicated little consensus beyond the fact that 5403.5 MHz should retain its status as a de facto "DX channel." On the other hand, survey respondents made a number of suggestions for general operating practices.

Based on the survey results and subsequent research, the committee declined to propose a specific band plan for 60 meters at this time. The committee instead created a "Recommended Practices" document that is now available for downloading from the ARRL Web.

[http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended Practices for 60 Meters%20-%20Version%206_4.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended_Practices_for_60_Meters%20-%20Version%206_4.pdf)

The 60 Meter pages on the ARRL Web will also be updated to reflect the changes brought about by the Report and Order.

The April issue of QST magazine will also include an article by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, which offers a detailed discussion of the new 60 meter privileges and recommended operating practices.

From the ARRL



March Contest Calendar

March 2012	
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2400Z, Mar 4
EA PSK31 Contest	1600Z, Mar 10 to 1600Z, Mar 11
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 10 to 1900Z, Mar 11
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 11
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 17
Oklahoma QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 17 to 0100Z, Mar 18 & 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 18
Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 18 & 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 19
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2400Z, Mar 25

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



Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time (United States) begins Sunday, March 11, 2012, 2:00 am, and ends Sunday, November 4, 2012, 2:00 am.

Except Arizona and Hawaii. Move your clocks ahead 1 hour in spring and back 1 hour in fall ("Spring forward, fall back").

As always, UTC time does not change. We change.

During Eastern Standard Time, our clocks are 5 hours behind UTC. 2 pm (1400 hours) here in Ohio is 1900 hours UTC

During Daylight Saving Time, our clocks are 4 hours behind UTC. 2 pm (1400 hours) here in Ohio is 1800 hours UTC.

=== Some interesting facts on Daylight Saving Time ===

Benjamin Franklin, while a minister to France, first suggested the idea in an essay titled "An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light." The essay was first published in the Journal de Paris in April 1784. But it wasn't for more than a century later that an Englishman, William Willett, suggested it again in 1907.

Willett was reportedly passing by homes where the shades were down, even though the sun was up. He wrote a pamphlet called "The Waste of Daylight" because of his observations.

Willett wanted to move the clock ahead by 80 minutes in four moves of 20 minutes each during the spring and summer months. In 1908, the British House of Commons rejected advancing the clock by one hour in the spring and back again in the autumn.

Willett's idea didn't die, and it culminated in the introduction of British Summer Time by an Act of Parliament in 1916. Clocks were put one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) during the summer months.

England recognized that the nation could save energy and changed their clocks during the first World War.

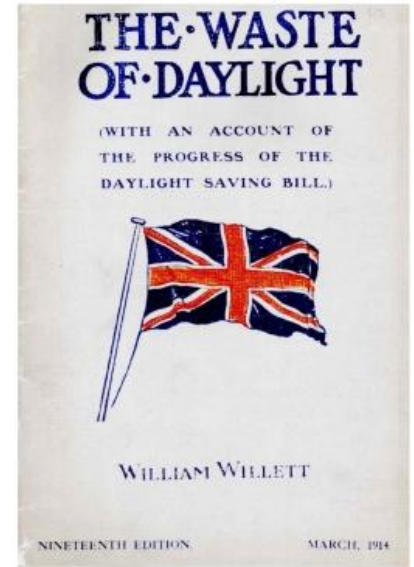
Modern DST was first proposed by the New Zealand entomologist George Vernon Hudson, whose shift-work job gave him leisure time to collect insects, and led him to value after-hours daylight. In 1895 he presented a paper to the Wellington Philosophical Society proposing a two-hour daylight-saving shift, and after considerable interest was expressed in Christchurch, New Zealand he followed up in an 1898 paper. Many publications incorrectly credit DST's proposal to the prominent English builder and outdoorsman William Willett, who independently conceived DST in 1905 during a pre-breakfast ride, when he observed with dismay how many Londoners slept through a large part of a summer's day. An avid golfer, he also disliked cutting short his round at dusk. His solution was to advance the clock during the summer months, a proposal he published two years later. The proposal was taken up by the Liberal Member of Parliament (MP) Robert Pearce, who introduced the first Daylight Saving Bill to the House of Commons on 12 February 1908.[32] A select committee was set up to examine the issue, but Pearce's bill did not become law, and several other bills failed in the following years. Willett lobbied for the proposal in the UK until his death in 1915.



G.V. Hudson invented modern DST, proposing it first in 1895.

Starting on 30 April 1916, Germany and its World War I allies were the first to use DST (German: Sommerzeit) as a way to conserve coal during wartime. Britain, most of its allies, and many European neutrals soon followed suit. Russia and a few other countries waited until the next year and the United States adopted it in 1918. Since then, the world has seen many enactments, adjustments, and repeals.

Daylight Saving Time - for the U.S. and its territories - is NOT observed in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and by most of Arizona (with the exception of the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona).



Indiana, which used to be split with a portion of the state observing DST and the other half not, is now whole. In the past, counties in the Eastern Time Zone portion of the state did not observe DST. They were on standard time year round. A state law was passed in 2005 that has the entire state of Indiana observing DST beginning in April 2006.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 was passed by Congress and then signed into law by President George W. Bush on August 8, 2005. Under the new law, Daylight Saving Time begins three weeks earlier than previously, on the second Sunday in March. DST is extended by one week to the first Sunday in November. The new start and stop period began in March 2007.

One question people always ask about Daylight Saving Time regards the time that restaurants and bars close. In many states, liquor cannot be served after 2 a.m. But at 2 a.m. in the fall, the time switches back one hour. So, why can't they serve for that additional hour in October?

The answer: the bars do not close at 2 a.m. but actually at 1:59 a.m. So, they are already closed when the time changes from Daylight Saving Time into Standard Time.

73,
Tom, KB8UUZ

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites



Chuck, W8PT

Goodbye February and hello March. As I am finishing this column, the WX report is calling for lake effect snow, high winds and just an awful two days. So stay in your HAM shacks and work some DX. March is one of those months where the WX is volatile - rain, snow, winds, sun. Even the weather folks can't always predict what is going to happen. So use this month to work some good and rare DX.

As I mentioned on the PCARS Net the other night, there is a great deal of interesting stations that are going to be on the air, not only this month but for the rest of Spring and into Summer. And as always, there is much more DX news than we can use, so I go through the reports and pick out those events that are rare, special or for some reason should be interesting to a majority of DXers. So let's get to it.

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).

And I do apologize for all the Reminders but it's the only way to keep some of the longer-range events on your radar.

3C0 & 3C6, ANNOBON ISLAND & EQUATORIAL GUINEA - Operators Elmo/EA5BYP and Javier/EA5KM active from Annobon Island (AF-039) and Bioko Island (AF-010, DXCC - Equatorial Guinea) using the call signs 3C0E and 3C6A, respectively. The official dates have been announced this past week. The whole DXpedition will take place between February 22nd and March 11th. Operations will take place from the following islands: 3C0E - Annobon Island (Pagalu); between February 28th and March 11th

QSL both callsigns via EA5BYP: Elmo Bernabé Coll, P.O.Box 3097, 03080 Alicante, Spain. They are looking for sponsors for this very expensive operation. For more details and updates, watch the Web page at: <http://www.gdgdxc.net/3c0e/index.php>

3D2, FIJI. (Reminder) Yoshida, JA1NLX, will be active as 3D2YA from Yageta Island, Yasawa IOTA Group (OC-156) between March 15-21st, 2012. Activity will be on 80-10 meters, mainly CW, possibly RTTY and SSB. QSL via his home call sign. He will QSL all QSOs via Bureau. The log will be uploaded to LoTW when he returns home. Direct QSL will be welcomed with SASE (1 IRC or 2 USDs).

3DA, SWAZILAND. (Reminder) Members of the "Fox Charlie DXpedition Team" will be active as 3DA0FC between April 4-11th, 2012. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. Suggested frequencies are:

SSB - 3780, 7063, 14185, 18136, 21290, 24930 and 28490 kHz

RTTY - 3590, 7040, 10149, 14084, 18104, 21084, 24924 and 28084 kHz

PSK - 7038, 14072, 18102, 21072, 24922 and 28122 kHz.

3W, VIETNAM. Jacek, SP5APW, is expected to visit Phu Quoc Is. (AS-128) March 7-12th. He has applied for the callsign 3W4JK. Activity holiday style on 40-10 m using SSB, PSK31 & RTTY, with possible operations on 6 m. He mentions that he will use a Elecraft K3 with microKEYER II & Buddipole antennas. For updates, watch Jacek's Blog page at: <http://as-128.blogspot.com>

5H, TANZANIA. Chas, NK8O/VE3ISD, has traveled to Mwanza on Lake Victoria for several years working there but has never operated any amateur radio from Tanzania. Look for him for the first time to operate as 5H9CP between June 11-22nd. Chas states, "I am primarily a CW operator. QRP and straight key operators, please be ready! After fighting through pile-ups with my QRP station at home, I understand the challenges. The rig on this trip will be an Elecraft KX3 and antenna arrays will depend on the trees, how high I can get the ropes to go, and whether a dipole, loop, or vertical will be the best for the site from which I choose to operate. Times and frequencies will be published [QRZ.com] before my departure for Tanzania, but they definitely will not be written in stone. Operating times will depend entirely on my responsibilities and schedule at the Nyakato Health Center." QSL via NK8O.

9H, MALTA. Zoltan, HA5PP, will be active as 9H3PP during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (possibly 15 or 10m) entry. Activity outside of the contest will be on 6 and 12 meters, and possibly 17 meters. Zoli informs OPDX that this will be a short operation (3-4 days), and he will leave the Thursday after the contest. QSL via HA5PP.

9J, ZAMBIA. (Reminder) Chris, ZS6RI (ex-ZD9IR, 5H9IR, EL8RI), will be active as 9J2RI from Zambia for a year or two. However, operations will be on a "6 week on/6 week off" due to his work schedule (6 weeks off he will return home to South Africa). Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via LoTW or direct to: Chris J de Beer, Box 333, Bethlehem, GA 30620 (w/SASE [USA] or SAE w/return postage for other countries). Bureau QSLs are OK, but very slow. LoTW will be uploaded at least once every 6 week rotation, and probably even weekly. Bureau cards will be sent annually.

9V, SINGAPORE. (Reminder) Martin, F8UKP, a F6KOP member, will be working in Singapore (AS-019) for the next three years and will be active as 9V1RM. Activity will be limited to his spare time only. Operations will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and PSK. Currently he is using a skyloop antenna using the maximum legal power in 9V-land (100 watts). He has the permission to set up a hexbeam antenna in the near future. QSL via LoTW or direct to the address on QRZ.com. There is a possibility to QSL by the Bureau in the future (Information will be given in due time).

A3, TONGA (Update). Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as A35XG from Tonga between April 2-9th, 2012. Activity will be on 20-6 meters (especially 30/17/12m) using mainly CW, with some SSB and the Digital modes. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 10115, 14015, 18080, 21015, 24895 and 28015 kHz

SSB - 14175, 18135, 21260, 24940 and 28450 kHz

DATA - 10140, 14088, 18102, 21088, 24920 and 28088 kHz

He is expected to use a IC 7000 into a 2 el beam and a fishing rod antenna system on HF. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the Bureau. QSOs uploaded to LoTW. Web page up for his A35XG operation at: <http://www.geocities.jp/a35xgtonga>

AH0, MARIANA ISLANDS. Masa, JI1DSO, will be active as AH0/AE6YW from the Saipan (OC-086) Rental Shack between February 29th and March 6th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters including the satellites. QSL via JA6GMC.

A2, BOTSWANA (DXpedition Update). Operators Frosty/K5LBU (A25CF), Keith/VE7MID, Don/VE7DS (A25DS) and another operator to be named later will be active from the Lotsane Safari Lodge between March 18-27th. The group plans to be active in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as A25HQ. They will have about 3 rigs and a log periodic plus wire antenna covering 160 meters and up. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

C5, GAMBIA. Alan, G3XAQ, active as C56XA from The Gambia between Feb 27th and Mar 15th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW. Also, look for Alan to participation in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (March 10-11th). QSL via G3SWH.

C6, BAHAMAS. Operators George, K4HIO/GM0HIO, will be active as C6AZZ between Mar 1-8th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, mainly CW with some SSB. His activity will also include the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL via K4HIO.

CE9, ANTARCTICA. (Reminder) Tomas, CE9VPM, will be active from Chilean Air Base Presidente Gabriel González Videla in the Antarctica beginning November 2011 through March 2012. Activity is expected to be on 20 meters and possibly other bands. QSL via PO Box 13630, Santiago, Chile.

CN, MOROCCO. Richard, F8FGU, will be active as CN2RN from High Atlas, Morocco (IM72ER), between April 3-30th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct.

CR3/CT9, MADEIRA ISLANDS. Operators Adam/DJ0IF and Mek/SP7VC will be active as CR3L from Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014) during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 3-4th) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via DJ6QT. Operators will be active as CT9/homecall before and after the contest. They are expected to be there between February 29th and March 7th. QSL via their home call signs. Checkout the CR3L station's Web page at: <http://www.cr3l.de>

CY9, ST. PAUL ISLAND (Press Release #1 [edited]): "St. Paul Island is called the Graveyard of the Gulf and that is where an international, seasoned team of DXers will be heading to later this year. Plans are well under way for a 10-man team to activate this now wanted DXCC entity which was last on air in 2005. When you consider most needed entities (perhaps out with the Top 10) are activated every five years or so, it is now time to mount a serious effort from CY9. Most operators will be unaware that in 2010, St. Paul Island became the highest mover on DX Magazines most wanted list; from #77 to #47. Today, according to that list and ClubLog, CY9 is needed more than entities such as Tokelau (ZK3) or PY0T (Trindade & Martim Vaz). The team consists of Mike/AB5EB, Oscar/EA1DR, George/EA2TA, Christian/EA3NT, Simon/IZ7ATN, Col/MM0NDX, Bjorn/SM0MDG, Vicky/SV2KBS, Steve/VA3FM and Kevin/VE3EN. From late July to early August, IOTA Contest included, the group will be active all bands, modes (160-2m) with special attention on 6 m and 160 m, if propagation allows. A Web site is currently under construction and will be ready in a few short weeks where much more info can be found. The QSL Manager for the expedition is M0URX."

D4, CAPE VERDE. Rick, N6KT, will be active as D44TRS from Cape Verde between March 17-29th. Details of activity were not provided, but he will be active as D4A during CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL via KU9C.

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

AF-018 Pantelleria Island. Operator Raffaele, IH9YMC, will be active from Pantelleria Island (IIA TP-001, MIA MI-124, WW Loc. JM56XT), African Italy, during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (??) entry. QSL via eQSL.

EU-017 Aeolian group. Staff members of "DxCoffee" will be active as ID9DXC from the Aeolian group activating some rare or semi-rare rocks and islands valid for the I.I.A. (Italian Island Award). The activity will be spread out starting from the end of 2011 throughout the entire year of 2012. It began November 18th, from the Island of Panarea, Italian Island Award ME-006, World Lighthouse on the Air WLOTA LH-2210 (if weather conditions permit). A special card will be printed for each reference the team activates. QSL via Antonello Scauso, IT9YVO, direct or by the Bureau.

EU-039 Chausey Island. Keith, G3TTC, will be active as F/G3TTC from Chausey Island (DIFM MA-004, DDFM 50, DPF 04, WLOTA 0424) between June 16-22nd. Activity will be holiday style probably on 80/40/20/15 meters SSB. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the RSGB Bureau.

EU-127 Helgoland Island. Operators Max/DJ4EL, Alex/IZ4AMS, Enrico/IK2FIL, Joerg/DJ1JB, Ben/DO1BEN and Enrique/XE2AA will be active as DD4T from Helgoland Island (GID/DID N-014, WLOTA 0518) between June 3-10th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using all modes. QSL via IZ4AMS, by the Bureau or direct.

EU-137 Ven Island. Lars, SM6CUK, will once again be active as SA6G/7 from Ven Island (WLOTA 0780) between July 25-30th. Activity will include an entry in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th). QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

NA-189 Isla Isabel. Look for a team of ten operators to be active as XF1AA from Isla Isabel between March 16-21th. Activity will be on CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via IT9EJW.

FG, GUADELOUPE. Jean-Pierre, F6ITD, will once again be active as FG/F6ITD from Guadeloupe and two islands between February 9th and March 13th. Activity will be on SSB and the Digital modes. He plans to visit the following two islands in the IOTA

NA-102 group: Basse Terre Island (February 9-20th) and La Desirade Island (February 20th-March 13th). QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct.

FR8, REUNION ISLAND – (Reminder): Frederic, ex-F5INL, will be active as FR8NE from Reunion Island (AF-016) until July 2012. Activity will be on 20/17/15/12/10 meters using mostly CW. QSL direct to Frederic Bossu, 2 Chemin des Grenadiers, 97490 Sainte Clotilde, Reunion Island or by the Bureau.

FR/TO2, REUNION ISLAND (Update). Stephane "Stef", F5UOW, will once again be active as FR/F5UOW from Reunion Island (AF-016) between March 24th and April 14th. During this period he will also use the callsign TO2R between March 26th and April 9th. Activity will be limited to his free time on 40-10 meters mostly on CW. QSL via F5UOW, direct or by the Bureau.

GRID ACTIVITY (Wet). (Reminder) Yuri, UT1FG, will once again be traveling across the Atlantic Ocean active from some "Wet grids" as UT1FG/MM between November 25th, through the end of May 2012. First trip will be from the Panama Canal to Huelva, Spain (EA7), and then to Brunsbittel, Germany (From there, he will inform us later). Yuri is reportedly a crew member on the ship, so activity will be during his free time. Operations are expected on all amateur radio bands, 160-2 meters, 70 cm, and also including the satellite. His activities will be mainly through the satellite, but also look for him on the HF bands. He will also be active on 6 meters, conditions permitting. QSL via his home callsign, direct (see QRZ.com), by the Bureau or to his QSL Manager UX0FY.

J2, DJIBOUTI. (Reminder) Freddy, F5IRO, who has been active as J28RO since July 2010, is expected to stay here until July 2012. His normal activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. His QSL Manager is F8DFP. QSL direct (w/SAE+ valid IRC - PLEASE NO MONEY AT ALL), or by the French REF-Union Bureau. The direct cards without the above mentioned will be answered by the Bureau.

J5, GUINEA BISSAU. (Reminder) The Verona Section of A.R.I. (Italian Radioamateurs Association) is organizing a group of its members: the Verona DX Team, a DXpedition, with humanitarian and ham-radio purposes, to Guinea-Bissau (J5). The callsign J52 is a "most wanted", especially on RTTY, CW & Digital modes and has never been activated in EME. The expedition will be on the air between March 24th and April 6th, 2012. The team will operate from Cumura. Operators mentioned are Lucio/I3LDP (Team Leader), Walter/I3VJW, Tony/IK3ESB, Silverio/IK3IUL, Libero/IK3RBE, Enzo/IK3VVD, Milena/IK3VZJ, Livio/I3BUR and Llarlo/I3STA. QSL Manager is I3LDP. For more info, J52 Web site at: <http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/en/index.htm>

JW, SVALBARD. Operators Magne/LA2XNA and Jon/LA8HGA will be active as JW2XNA and JW8HGA, respectively, from Spitsbergen Island (EU-026, WLOTA 0125) March 16-20th, 2012. Activity will be on 160-10 meters with an emphasis on the higher bands. Look for JW2XNA to be on SSB, PSK31 and PSK63, while JW8HGA will be on CW. QSL via their home call signs, direct or by the Bureau. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW.

KH2, GUAM. Hisashi, JF2SKV, will be active as NH0S/KH2 during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 3-4th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via JF2SKV.

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

KH0, MARIANA ISLANDS. Masashi, JL1FUQ, will be active as W2GJ/KH0 from Saipan (OC-086, USI NI002S, WLOTA 1333, WW Loc. QK25UF) between April 29th and May 3rd. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using all modes. There is a possibility of some 6 meters operations. QSL via his home call sign.

P3, CYPRUS. Jack, R2AA (ex-RW3QC), will be active as P3N during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via RW3RN.

PA100, THE NETHERLANDS. Fred, PA0FAW, activate special event station PA100NOM Mar 1-28th. Activity is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Open Air Museum in Arnhem. QSL via PA0FAW. (Direct, Bureau and eQSL.cc - No LoTW).

PJ2, CURACAO. Operators Jan-Willem/PA7JWC and YL Monique/PD7DB will be active as PJ2/homecall from Curacao (SA-099, WLOTA LH-0942) between April 2-9th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via LoTW or to their home callsigns. More details and updates are available at: <http://www.pa7jwc.nl>

PJ4, BONAIRE. Four stateside operators from Georgia will be going to the K2NG rental QTH on Bonaire (SA-006, WLOTA LH-1279) for CQWW WPX SSB Contest in March. They will travel down on March 20th and return on March 27th. The team should be active as PJ4/homecall between March 21-27th and in CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th), they will use the contest callsign PJ4Z as a Multi-2/High-Power entry. Operators are John/K4BAI, Fred/WW4LL, Brian/NA4BW and Eric/W4DXX. Their activity will be on CW, RTTY, and SSB, outside the contest using their PJ4/homecalls. They have ordered photo QSLs and all five callsigns

should be QSLed via K4BAI. Requests for bureau cards may be sent to <k4bai@att.net>. The PJ4Z logs will be uploaded to LoTW and probably some of the non-contest logs too.

S7, SEYCHELLES. Operators Tom/DL5NEN and XYL Claudia/DO5NEN will be active as S79NEN from Mahe (AF-024) and La Digue Islands (AF-024) between March 12-28th. They are calling this a "Honeymoon DXpedition". Look for activity to be in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL via DO5NEN.

T6, AFGHANISTAN. Jose, CT1FKN, is now active as T6JM from Kaul until June 13th. He tells OPDX that he has been there since January 14th and is a member of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) based inside a military compound where there are restrictions to what size antenna can be installed, so he will only use a small horizontal loop wire. Activity is expected to be mainly on 20 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via CT1FKN, direct or by the Bureau.

V5, NAMIBIA. Mathew, DJ2HD, will once again be active as V5/DJ2HD between March 17-27th. Activity will probably be on all bands 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY, but with a focus on 160/80/40m and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign (see QRZ.com). ADDED NOTE: Operators Winfried/DK9IP, Suad/ DK6XZ and Tobias/DH1TW will join Mathew and be active as V55V during the CQ WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL V55V via DJ8VC.

V7, MARSHALL ISLANDS (Update). Jim, K4FW, will once again be heading to Kwajalein Island (OC-028) in March because of his job with the Orbital Sciences Corporation. He works with the Pegasus launch vehicle. More specifically, as the Launch Panel Operator (LPO) and is part of the flight crew on the Orbital's L-1011. Jim informs OPDX that he will be using the Kwajalein club station (V73AX) on the southern most side of the island, and hopes to once again sign V73FW (application was sent in), if not then he will probably use V7/K4FW and not the club callsign. Activity will be after his work hours for the day on Kwajalein. He states, "I'm taking a Ten Tec Eagle out with me to use and plan to do SSB on any band that's open and use whatever V73AX has for antennas. I recently updated the information on QRZ.com for V73FW." QSL via K4FW, direct or by the Bureau.

VK0, MACQUARIE ISLAND. Trevor, VK0TH, continues to be very active on various bands (40/20/17/15/12/10m) using SSB, HELL, PSK31 and RTTY, during various times. He informs OPDX: "Working very hard down here to give operators the chance to get VK0/MM in their logs. We are working on a 6m antenna and are hopeful that we can make a few contacts with this too before it is time to go home next year (End of April 2012)." QSL via JE1LET (direct only).

XX9, MACAU. Nine members of the "A DX Group" (ADXG) will be active from Coloane Island (AS-075, WW Grid OL62SC) between May 17-23rd. Operators mentioned are Ruben/EA5BZ (Team leader), Jose/EA1ACP, Jose/EB5BBM, Pasqua/EA5CEE, Fernando/EA5FX, Biel/EA6DD, Francisco/EA7FTR, David/EB7DX and Adrian/F5VLY. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, including the 30/17/12 meter bands, using CW, SSB and RTTY, with at least 3 stations on the air at the same time on different bands and modes. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1823, 3523, 7023, 10103, 14023, 18073, 21023, 24893 and 28023 kHz

SSB - 1825, 3780, 7065/7160, 14145, 18145, 21295, 24945 and 28495 kHz

RTTY - 7035, 10140, 14080, 18100, 21080, 24921 and 28080 kHz

6M - 50103/CW and 50115/SSB kHz

A survey is available on their Web page for most wanted bands/modes. The group's callsign will not be announced until the beginning of their DXpedition. QSL via EB7DX, direct or by the Spanish Bureau. All QSOs will be confirmed via LoTW. For more details and updates, visit the ADXG Web page at: <http://www.adxg.org/xx9>

ZA, ALBANIA. Tevfik, TA1HZ, will once again be active as ZA1TC from Durres (thanks to Fatos/ZA1FD) between March 23-26th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using a Kenwood TS570D, FD-4 Multi-Band Windom antenna and 80 m dipole. Operations also include an entry in CQ WW WPX SSB Contest. During his spare time from the contest, he will try to work some PSK31, especially on 30 meters. More details and QSL info are available on QRZ.com and the TCSWAT Web page.

There is some great DX coming up and I encourage you to get on the air and work some of it. And let me know of your success.

73 and GUD DX!!

Chuck, W8PT
Also known as "Charlie the Tuner"



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

PCARS Meetings

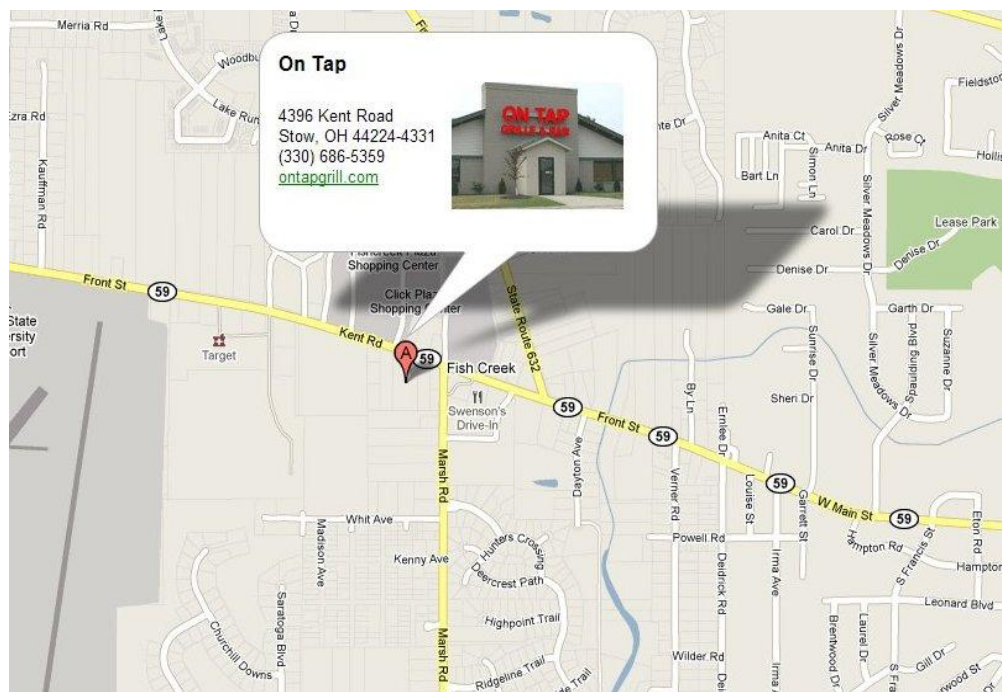
The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the second Monday of each month. Meetings are at the

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.



Member QSL Card - AE5WX

73 from Little Rock. I found a really good weather related picture and had to get a new QSL card made to show it off.

Here it is. Hope to hear you on the air from Tornado Alley!

73,
Daryl, AE5WX



March 1947 – Radio News

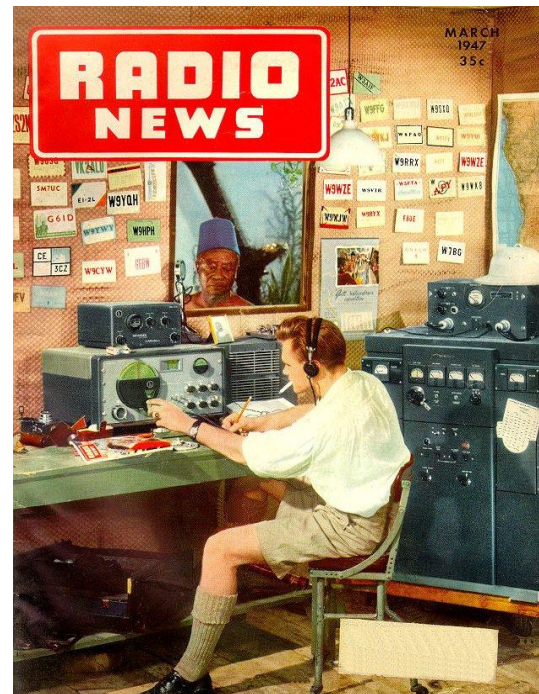
1947 The caption for this cover photo reads:

Part of the extensive array of communications equipment that will accompany the Gatti-Hallicrafters Expedition for use at the main base in South Africa.

The receiver in use is a Hallicrafters Model SX-42, which you can read about in our Communications gallery.

Nowadays, people complain about "product placement," which allows manufacturers to feature their products—everything from soda pop to luxury cars—in a movie.

If you think about it, this cover is really just a Hallicrafters ad, presented in the guise of news. Hallicrafters heavily promoted the Gatti expedition in various ads of the time. The same device was used a few years later to promote the Hallicrafters SX-88.



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, K3GP, N8RLG, WB8VNO, W8KNO, KC8KYW, K8CAV, KC8PD, KB8UUZ, W8PT, AE5WX The ARRL and the World Wide Web.

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



Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

Pictures from the February PCARS Meeting



Pictures from FYAO – 2012





Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.

Dayton Hamvention 2012

Saturday, May 19, 2012 5:30 AM



Are the gas pumps keeping you from the Hamvention? Is the thought of driving down to Dayton and then parking your car in some shopping center to be then bused to the Hamvention keeping you from going? Why not take our bus to the Dayton Hamvention where you can come and go to the flea market with your great purchases and leave them on the bus. The bus will be parked close to the flea market entrance.

You can save \$10* if you book before April 24th.

The cost of the **Bus & Entrance ticket** to the Hamvention:

\$65* before April 24, 2012

The cost of the **Bus Only** to the Hamvention:

\$50* after April 24, 2012

(You will need to get your own Hamvention Entrance Ticket at gate \$25, or order by phone & have held at Will Call--possibly getting Advanced \$20 price.)

We will take riders right up to departure that morning (if there are seats available) on a first come, first served basis.
Departure time is 5:30 AM SHARP, so please be on time so you don't miss the bus!

Parking will be in the back of the church.

There will be a stop for breakfast @ McDonald's and a dinner stop @ the Hometown Buffet (out of pocket expense).

Transportation is being provided by the Crossroads Transportation Company.

This bus is a smoke free bus, so there will be no smoking permitted.

To Order - Complete application & send with check/money order (*payable to "PARF"*) to:

Joy Spencer [KA8TDF](mailto:KA8TDF@arrl.net)

2101 Bigelow St

Akron, OH 44314

Or call 330-745-5115

E-mail: KA8TDF@arrl.net

Please supply a return e-mail for your receipt confirmation.

Location of Departure is:

Akron Baptist Temple

2324 Manchester Road

Akron, Ohio 44314

Located on Rt. 93 just north of Rt. 224

Repeaters 147.135 & 146.610

Please pass the word out to all of your ham friends & computer geeks.

The above pricing does not include any tips...a hat will be passed for driver's tip.

- Amateur Radio Instruction Class -

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

will be offering an Amateur Radio Technician course

that will enable *you* to obtain
your FCC **Technician** license as an

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR



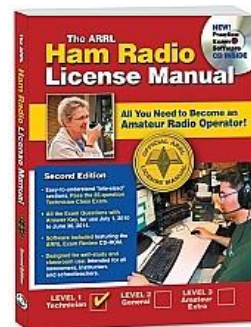
When: Tuesday evening 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Starting March 13, 2012 for eight weeks
Official Amateur Radio License testing will be held
at the end of the course

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

Registration: First night of class

Cost: \$25.00 Registration fee - which also provides
the attendee a One-Year Membership in PCARS
\$30 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual”
(text may be purchased first night of class)

Information: Contact Jim Aylward, KC8PD:
by e-mail at: KC8PD@portcars.org
or phone at: 330-297-7979



As a licensed **Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to

- **Contact other ham radio operators in the area and around the world**
- **Serve your community – ham radio operators are the critical communication link during disasters and emergencies**
- **Participate in a fascinating and rewarding hobby**

For more information about PCARS, go to www.portcars.org, or contact
Jim Aylward - KC8PD, at KC8PD@portcars.org, or by phone at **330-297-7979**



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

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM
at the **On Tap Grille**, 4396 Kent Road (SR 59) in Stow

All are welcome to attend ~ Drop in and say hello!



"When All Else Fails - Amateur Radio Works"

PCARS uses the N8EQJ Repeater: **146.895 MHz** PL 110.9 ~ Rootstown, Oh or PL 114.8 ~ Kent, Oh ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

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

PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - VUCC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Club Callsign Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Coordinators	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
Field Day	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
F.Y.A.O.	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF QSL Mgr.	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Coordinator	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
P.I.O.	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Secretary	KD8GGZ	Mary Jo Loveland
VE Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
Web Master	KD8MQ	John Myers



**PCARS
VE Team**

KC8PD	Jim Aylward
KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
KB8DPN	Russ Anderson
N4IT	Carl Capps
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
W8PT	Chuck Patellis
N8EQJ	Ed Polack
K8QF	Russ Conklin
WB8VNO	Gay Wands
WD8CVH	Ted Wands
NX8G	Rex Simmons
N8RLG	Robert Gurney
AB8AA	Allan Avnet
K8JAA	Jane Avnet
KD8FLZ	Mike DiCarro
KE8G	Jim Blanca
W8RID	Bob Davet
K8MSF	Bud Green
KD8LEB	Al Zielinski
WA8CCU	Al Nagy



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This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **PCARS Newsletter, The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail. **Are you interested in getting news emailed directly to you?** Send an email to news-subscribe@portcars.org to join our news emailing list. The **RADIOGRAM** is published every month and is sent only to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that.

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



NLC

