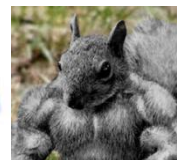




The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



April 2013 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 8 No. 4

~ 2013 Officers ~

President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD
 Vice President - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI
 Treasurer - George Proudfoot - K3GP
 3 Year Trustee - Erica Pelz - AE8YL
 2 Year Trustee - Bob Hajdak - N8QE
 1 Year Trustee - Sandra Getty - KD8JCY

~ Meetings & Net ~

2nd Monday of
 each month. 7pm
 Thursday night
 Club Net 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

Winter is just about over. That means things are going to be getting pretty busy for PCARS – so get in, hold on, and lets Go!

Did you work a bunch of good Q's this winter? Got em all confirmed? If not, you'll need to come out on Saturday April 20 for the KB8UUZ QSL'ing workshop (details elsewhere). For all of you that have finished the WB9LBI “no excuses code course” get on the air right away and use that knowledge to start making some CW Q's. There's no better way to build your speed and have some fun than getting on the air – there's nothing like a real QSO to get that skill set mastered. Then you'll need the QSL workshop to get those Q's confirmed. The upcoming April meeting promises to be interesting and educational, the topic being Software Defined Radio (SDR). All this is just to get you warmed up – Dayton in May, Field Day in June will be coming up fast!

From the very beginning of PCARS, I've always believed that we are a top notch club. As we grow and get some time in behind us, it's like a lot of things, good habits give way to taking the “easy way” instead of doing the things that need to be done. The officers of PCARS work hard to keep the program and activities at the highest level possible, but we are not the club – you are! Here's what you need to keep doing to prevent PCARS from becoming an “also ran”:

- Come to the meetings. PCARS has meetings with a bigger attendance than probably any other club in NE Ohio. There's a certain level of excitement that comes from that – especially for new members. It can't happen if you're not there. Besides, lots of your friends are looking for you to be there – don't disappoint them. Even if you are not interested in the evening's topic, you'll still learn something and enjoy the social interaction.
- Check into our Thursday evening club net. The more you get involved, the more others get to know you, remember your call sign and where you live. Let us know what you've been doing and what parts of the hobby have been the most fun for you. Someone else might just get a clue as to having some fun they were missing out on, or you might hear something from someone else that will turn the light bulb on for you!



Tom, WB8LCD

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



From the President (continued from Page 1)

- Monitor the K8IV repeater. When you hear someone toss their call out – give them a shout. Hey we're a radio club. When people pass through the area it always impresses them to hear activity on the local repeater, and it's even better if they can make a couple Q's while passing through.
- Write an article for the newsletter. When The Radiogram won the award for the best newsletter in the Ohio Section, one of the comments from the judges was it was really neat to see so much original material from club members, and not just a rehash of everything from the national magazines or the ARRL. You don't have to be a literary genius, just write about some project of activity that you've been having fun with. A couple pictures will really set it off nicely.

I promise you, if you keep doing the above, PCARS will never become an “also ran” club!

I was first licensed in 1967 with the Novice call WN8AAB. That means I'm in my 45th year as a ham. This is one of the most fascinating hobby's anyone could possibly be involved with. There are lots of "hobbies within the hobby" and you can get off into one area and become so totally immersed in it that you don't even notice all the other activities and avenues to pursue in Ham Radio. Through the years you hit one part of the hobby and then maybe move to another interest and get caught up in that for awhile before turning to something else again. I've met some really interesting people, both on air and in person – people I'd have never had the opportunity to meet if it were not for our common hobby. Some of you have also become very good friends. I've been places and done things that non-hams couldn't even think of – all in the name of having fun! And that's really what this is all about. I got interested in the hobby because it looked like it would be fun. Well, 45 years into it, and I'm still having fun! What a great hobby!

Ok, this is the April issue of the Radiogram, and I've been pretty serious so far. But, the April issue is always an issue that leaves the serious side and gets off into the goofy fun side of the hobby. Have Fun!

73,

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS President



What's Up with Your Antenna?

If that's a question you find yourself asking, then have I got a deal for you! David, WA8KHP, has invested in an AIM UHF antenna analyzer, and is willing to come to your location, and give your antenna a thorough analysis. While he offers this as a FREE service to fellow PCARS members, he does accept 807's as compensation. If working before noon, I would like to suggest a nice oatmeal stout.....

The AIM UHF analyzer, when hooked up to a laptop, is a laboratory grade instrument. It will cover a frequency range of 5 kHz to 1 GHz. I'm pretty sure most of your antennas fall into that range. If you know the exact length of your transmission line, he can measure it's velocity factor to compare with the new specs of your cable. Operating as a Time Domain Reflectometer (TDR) he can detect faults in the transmission line. Measurements can be taken on the transmission line, and then using the computer programs take the effects of the transmission line out of the measurements and show the true impedance at the antenna feed point. He is able to measure 20 user selected frequencies for SWR in real time. All of this prints out from the PC giving you a graphic explanation of what's up with your antenna!



Since becoming a member of PCARS last year, David has been a real asset to the club. He brought his analyzer to the J-Pole build and I can tell you it's an interesting piece of equipment, well worth the cost of what he's asking to bring it out and help you maximize the effectiveness of your antenna system.

Interested? David can be reached by e-mail at: WA8KHP@portcars.org

Tom, WB8LCD



From the Vice President

Highlights of the April Newsletter

I usually take this space to talk about things going in PCARS or the Ham Radio World in general. But this issue of the Radiogram is so special, that I point out some of the great articles you'll find in these pages.

- James KD8VT unveils his master plan to create a race of Extra Class hams through a scientific breeding program. Using the animal husbandry experience gained on his buffalo ranch, James believes he can eventually produce babies that actually hold an extra ticket at birth. The photos alone are shocking!
- Speaking of KD8VT, his article in last month's Radiogram, entitled "How To Build a Beer Powered Electrical Generator" has come under fire from a number of corners. In this issue, PCARS President Tom WB8LCD slams the generator as "inefficient, pointless, stupid, and waste of good beer." And then...he gets personal. Don't miss it!
- Ed K8IV has another fun project in the works, involving a military surplus M1A1 tank which he has somehow obtained. "Who wants to hang a wire antenna with a bow or a slingshot," Ed explains, "When you launch a 120mm shell all the way across town? This will be a big hit at Field Day, I am telling you!" The article includes links to online videos of his invention.
- Jim KC8PD has personally taken the time to review all of the QST emails that he's sent out in the past year, and picked out 50 of his personal favorites. You'll find them reprinted in their entirety on pages 22 – 47. Jim's included a handy index (pages 48-49), so you can cross reference them by topic and date. Communications Unit members should include this material in their RACES Manual.
- In a very personal story, Klondike Mike KC8UNR shares the heartbreak of not winning the Freeze Your Acorns Off contest for about the 10th consecutive year, and his decision to enter a monastery in Trinidad.
- At last month's club meeting, Dave WA8KHP very generously offered to bring his antenna analyzer out to any member who wanted to know where his signals were really going. To illustrate just how useful this sort of study can be, Dave has demonstrates what kind of results you can get when you apply 100 watts of RF to various common animals such as cats, dogs, and woodchucks. No transmitters were harmed in writing this article, Dave assures us.
- Finally, I want to thank everyone who participated in the No-Excuses CW Training course that I conducted for five weeks, and concluded mid-March with great success. I received so much positive feedback from the course, that I am starting a newer, bigger initiative: round-the-clock code practice on the 146.895 repeater. I'm sure the repeater owners won't mind. Please see my article "At Last – Putting the Rootstown Repeater to Good Use" for complete details.



With great articles like these, it's no wonder that the Radiogram is the first ever club newsletter that is up for the Pulitzer Prize. Happy reading!

Bill, WB9LBI



Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- April 6th - **VE Testing** - at the club site - 10:00 am
- April 8th - **PCARS Meeting** - Software Defined Radios
- April 20th - **QSLing in 2013** - At the club site - 10:00 am
- May 11th - **Antenna Day** - Ravenna City Park - PCARS dry run for Field Day 2013
- May 13th - **PCARS Meeting** - Old Radio Restorations
- May 18th - **Annual Hamvention® Photo Shoot** at the Dayton Hamvention®

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 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every even numbered month.

April 6th, June 1st, August 3rd, October 5th and December 7th

What to Bring to the Testing Session

- \$15 is the current test fee. We prefer the exact amount in cash or a check made out to: ARRL-VEC
- A government photo id (drivers license or state ID card preferred).
- Your Social Security Number or FCC Federal Registration Number. We are required to submit either your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) with your application. If you are upgrading, your FRN is on your current Amateur Radio license.
- A pen (black ink) and pencil (we can loan you either or both)
- If you already have an Amateur Radio license: The original (and one copy) of any current (unexpired) amateur radio operator's license issued to you.

If you've already passed a test: The original (and one copy) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element. These documents may include:

- An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned indicating the credit(s) earned.
- Pre March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 (General) exam).

Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

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/>.



Skywarn Training

The 2013 National Weather Service Skywarn training will be held starting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3rd, in the cafeteria of the Maplewood Career Center which is located at 7075 St. Rt. 88 in Ravenna.



This year's training is sponsored by the Communications Unit of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Following the NWS presentation there will be an update provided Mike DiCarro, KD8FLZ, Emergency Coordinator for ARES® of Portage County, on ARES® Skywarn and severe weather nets.

The NWS Skywarn training is open to the general public but is especially recommended for members of the safety forces and amateur radio operators. The amateur radio community has a long history of working with and providing assistance to the NWS. The ARRL has a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Weather Service to further that commitment.

If you are unable to attend this presentation, you may check the calendar at the web site for the Cleveland NWS office, <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cle/skywarn/training/spottran.html>, for other training sessions in Northeast Ohio.

Jim, KC8PD

Portage County OHS/EM, Communications Unit Leader

Hamfest Calendar

4/13 - CFARC 59th Annual Hamfest - Location: Emidio & Sons Party Center - 48 East Bath Rd - Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2013.html> - Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.27+ - Contact: Ted Sarah, W8TTS - 239 Bermont Ave - Munroe Falls, OH 44262 - Phone: 330-688-2013 - Email: w8tts@w8tts.com

5/17-19 - Dayton Hamvention® 2013 - Location: Hara Arena - 1001 Shiloh Springs Road - Dayton, OH 45415 - Website: <http://www.hamvention.org> - Sponsor: Dayton ARA

6/2 - Breezshooters Hamfest & Computer Show - Location: Butler Farm Showgrounds - 627 Evans City Road - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://www.breezshooters.org> - Sponsor: Breezshooters ARC - Type: ARRL Hamfest - Talk-In: 147.300+ - Contact: Robert Benna, N3LWP - 1010 Willow Dr - Pittsburgh, PA 15237 - Phone: 412-366-0488 - Email: n3lwp@verizon.net

9/8 - Findlay Hamfest - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky St - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://w8ft.org> - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.15/75 - Contact: Bill Kelsey, N8ET - 3521 Spring Lake Dr - Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-423-3402 - Email: hamfest@kangaus.com

9/22 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Rd - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - Talk-In: 146.73 (PL 110.9) - Contact: Glenn Williams, AF8C - 513 Kenilworth Rd - Bay Village, OH 44140 - Phone: 440-835-4897 - Email: af8c@arrl.net

FYAO 2013 Official Results

The drum roll please..... And the winners of the **2013 Freeze Your Acorns Off** contest were:

FIRST PLACE - The team of Ed, K8IV and co/operator Bob, N8QE (no, not N8EQJ....) came in with 6,758 points. They had 73 total Q's.

SECOND PLACE was John, KB8UHN with a total score of 6514 points. John had 71 total Q's.

THIRD PLACE was John, KD8MQ with a total score of 3506 points. John had 34 total Q's.

Other logs submitted with scores were: Mike - KC8UNR - 794, Tony - WA8AR - 415, Scott - N3JJT - 312 and Terry - KB8AMZ - 250.



WB8LCD presents the Annual FYAO Trophy Plaque to Bob, N8QE

So, these results have been checked and double checked to insure their accuracy! My apologies for the initial error in reporting at the last club meeting. Let's try it all again on Saturday, February 15, 2014.

73,

Tom WB8LCD

Bus Trip to Hamvention® 2013



I'll say it again - The best deal at the Dayton Hamvention® is in Akron, Ohio! On Saturday, May 18th, the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship is again offering a day trip to the Dayton Hamvention®. Just \$65 gets you a trip down, and back, and your Hamvention® ticket as well! Bus leaves at 5:30 AM, from the Akron Baptist Temple, and will pull up to the Hara around 9:00 AM. After a fun-filled day at the Hamvention®, we stop at the Golden Corral in Columbus for dinner, then arrive back in Akron shortly after dark. For more information, and a sign-up form: <http://w8lky.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Dayton-Bus-Trip1.pdf>

73,

John, KD8MQ

Congrats to the PCARS CQP Contest Team

Congratulations to Team K8BF for their outstanding efforts in the California QSO Party 2012. The team came in **#2 in the USA** in the Multi-Multi Category and **#1 in Ohio** !!

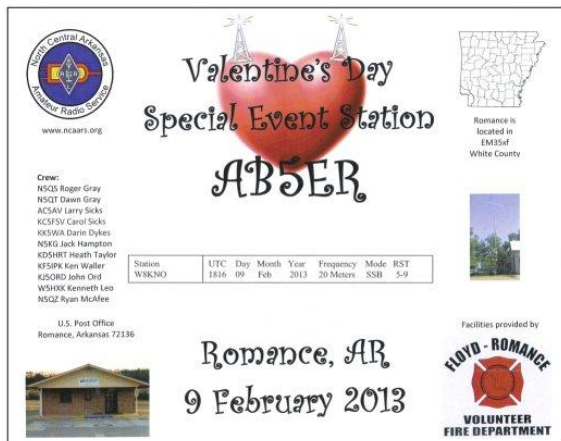
The team members were: **W8PT, W8KNO, AE8YL, N8QE, K8NYM, KB8TUY, KB8AMZ** and **W6VM**.

The team is already looking forward to next year.



Paper Chase

I am sorry to say that this is my last "PAPER CHASE" article. After nearly twelve years of writing this, my pile of certificates is tall and it may be a years worth still on my desk. I feel overwhelmed and need a break. I have loved doing this and here is this year's Valentine Certificate to show I care.



If I have been lucky to excite anyone to become as avid as I have been in collecting paper and you would like to write this article, please contact Tom our news letter editor and volunteer.

The trivia question for next month would have been, "What is the name of Hopalong Cassidy's horse?"

Joe, W8KNO

Contest Calendar

April 2013	
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 13 to 2359Z, Apr 14
TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 20
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 20 to 0400Z, Apr 21
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 20 to 1800Z, Apr 21
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, Apr 27 to 2359Z, Apr 28
SP DX RTTY Contest	1200Z, Apr 27 to 1200Z, Apr 28
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 27 to 2159Z, Apr 28

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in April:

AI8P	Dennis	Conklin
KD8RJV	James	Corbett
KD8GHB	Joe	Rocco
N8OQQ	Bryan	Buchwalter
N8QE	Bob	Hajdak
WB2DFC	Dave	Rarrick
KC8FQV	Mark	Studer
N1EZZ	George	Riedel

KW8KW	Bill	O'Neil
KD8PMH	Robert	Wilson
WA8KHP	David	Bibby
KA8BNS	Elizabeth	Milford
KK4MRR	Lauren	Cavalcanti
N8GLK	Leon	Loveland
KD8SJF	Paul	Sakalas

Ferretting Out Noise Sources

About three months ago, I put up a 20m antenna—an end-fed, half-wave antenna (<http://www.kb6nu.com/kb6nu-finally-builds-an-end-fed-half-wave-antenna/>). Right off the bat, I was flummoxed by the high noise level. It was nearly S9, obliterating all but the strongest signals.

The strange thing about this noise was that I was only experiencing it on 20 m, and only using this antenna. If I switched to my 40 m dipole, the noise dropped back to the S1 - S2 noise level that I usually experience here. (Yes, I know. I'm really lucky to have such a low noise level here.)

It didn't really make any sense to me that this antenna would be so susceptible to noise while my other antennas weren't, but I just couldn't come up with any other explanation. I was not experiencing any noise on any of the other bands, after all. Sometimes 40 m is so quiet here that I check to make sure that the antenna is connected to the radio.

As luck would have it, I stumbled upon the noise source a couple of days ago. I had taken the laptop I normally use in the shack somewhere one day last week, and when I returned it to the shack that evening, I switched the rig over to 20 m before connecting the power supply back to the laptop. No noise! When I plugged the power supply into the laptop, the noise jumped up to S9 again. The problem noise source was found!

I posted about my experience to my blog and to the HamRadioHelpGroup (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HamRadioHelpGroup/>). Mark, K5LXP, one of the gurus on HRHG, advised me to throw the main circuit breaker in order to determine if it was something inside the house generating the noise. Bob, K0NR, commented on my blog post, "I have found that flipping off circuit breakers in my house is a good first step to try and find a noise source. Usually ticks off the family, but what the heck :-)" Either of these methods will help you determine if a noise source is inside or outside of your house.



I'm still thinking that the way my antenna is positioned may have something to do with its picking up the noise generated by the power supply. I plan to play around with the positioning of the antenna once the snow melts and see if that makes any difference. Until then, I can work 20 m with the power supply disconnected and run the laptop off the battery.

So, the next question you might ask is how does the antenna work? It seems to be putting out a very good signal. One evening last week, I worked several DX stations, including 6W/HA0NAR in Senegal. It's not a beam, but I'm pretty happy with it.

Dan, KB6NU

When he's not worrying about his signal-to-noise ratio, Dan, KB6NU publishes the "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides. The latest in this series is the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide. For more information, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



IS K6INI THE WORLD'S CHAMPION DX OPERATOR?

Judge for yourself! Read his letter and count the DX he has worked—with only 65 watts and a \$16.95 Gotham V-80 Vertical Antenna.

2405 Bowditch, Berkeley 4, California
January 31, 1959

GOTHAM
1805 Purdy Avenue
Miami Beach 39, Florida

Gentlemen:

I just thought I would drop you a line and let you know how pleased I am with your V-80 vertical antenna. I have been using it for almost two years now, and am positively amazed at its performance with my QRP 65 watts input! Let me show you what I mean:

I have worked over 100 countries and have received very fine reports from many DX stations, including 599 reports from every continent except Europe (589)! I have also worked enough stations for my WAC, WAS, WAJAD and ADXC awards, and I am in the process of working for several other awards. And all this with your GOTHAM V-80 vertical antenna!

Frankly, I fail to see how anyone could ask for better performance with such low power, limited space and a limited budget. In my opinion, the V-80 beats them all in its class.

I am enclosing a list of DX countries I have worked to give you an idea of what I have been talking about.

Wishing you the best for 1959, I am

Sincerely yours,
Thomas G. Gabbert, K6INI (Ex-TI2TG)

List of 105 countries/stations worked with 65 watts and a V-80 vertical

BV1US	KG4AI	VK3YL
CE3DZ	KG6FAE	VK9XK
ZL5AA	KH6IJ	VK9AT
CO2WD	KL7BUZ	VK0CJ
CN2BK	KM6AX	VP2KFA
CN8FB	KP4ACF	VP2AY
CR9AH	KP6AL	VP2DW
CT1CB	KR6BF	VP2MX
CX2FD	KS4AZ	VP2LU
DL1FF	KV4AA	VP2SW
DU7SV	KW6CA	VP5CP
EA1FD	KX6AF	VP5BH
EI4N	KZ5CS	VP6TR
F8VQ	LA3SG	VP7NM
F8ZZ	LU2DFC	LU1ZS
FG7XE	LZ1KSP	VP9BK
FK8AL	OA4AU	VR2DA
FM7WT	OE9EJ	VR3B
FO8AD	OH2TM	VS1HC
G3DOG	OK1FF	VS2DW
GC8DO	ON4AY	VS6LN
GI3WUI	KG1AX	XE1PJ
GM3GJB	OZ2KK	XW8AI
GW3LJN	PA0FAB	YN1JW
HA5KBP	PJ5AA	YU3FS
HC4IM	PJ2ME	YV5HL
HC8LUX	PY2EW	ZC5AL
HE9LAC	PY0NE	ZE1JV
HP1LO	SM5AQB	ZK1BS
I1MV	SP6BY	KH6MG/ZK1
JA1ANG	TI2LA	ZK2AD
JZ0HA	UA1AU	ZL1ABZ
W1AW	UA0KKB	ZL3JA
KB6BJ	UQ2AB	ZM6AS
KC4AF	VE8OJ	ZS1OU



FACTS ON THE GOTHAM V-80 VERTICAL

- If K6INI can do it, so can you.
- Absolutely no guying needed.
- Radials not required.
- Only a few square inches of space needed.
- Four metal mounting straps furnished.
- Special B & W loading coil furnished.
- Every vertical is complete, ready for use.
- Mount it at any convenient height.
- No relays, traps, or gadgets used.
- Accepted design—in use for many years.
- Many thousands in use the world over.
- Simple assembly, quick installation.
- Withstands 75 mph wind-storms.
- Non-corrosive aluminum used exclusively.
- Omnidirectional radiation.
- Multi-band, V80 works 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6.
- Ideal for novices, but will handle a Kw.
- Will work with any receiver and xmitter.
- Overall height 23 feet.
- An effective modern antenna, with amazing performance. Your best bet for a lifetime antenna at an economical price.

73,
GOTHAM

AN APPEAL TO INTELLIGENCE

A product that is consistently advertised in *QST* month after month, year after year, has to be good. Over 10,000 GOTHAM antennas have been purchased by *QST* readers. Even the "price-is-no-object" customers choose GOTHAM antennas on the basis of performance and value. Select your needs from this list of 50 antennas:

Airmail Order Today — We Ship Tomorrow

GOTHAM Dept. QST

1805 PURDY AVE., MIAMI BEACH, FLA.

Enclosed find check or money-order for:

TWO BANDER BEAMS

A full half-wave element is used on each band. No coils, traps, baluns, or stubs are used. No calculations or machining required. Everything comes ready for easy assembly and use. *Proven Gotham Value!*

6-10 TWO BANDER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$29.95
10-15 TWO BANDER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	34.95
10-20 TWO BANDER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	36.95
15-20 TWO BANDER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	38.95

TRIBANDER

Do not confuse these full-size Tribander beams with so-called midgets. The Tribander has individually fed (52 or 72 ohm coax) elements and is not frequency sensitive, nor does it have baluns, coils, traps, or other devices intended to take the place of aluminum tubing. The way to work multi-band and get gain is to use a Gotham Tribander Beam.

<input type="checkbox"/> 6-10-15	\$39.95	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-15-20	\$49.95
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2 METER BEAMS

Gotham makes only two different two meter beams, a six-element job and a twelve-element job. They are both Yagi beams, with all the elements in line on a twelve foot boom.

<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 6-Element	9.95	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-El	16.95
---	------	--------------------------------	-------

6 METER BEAMS

New records are being made every day with Gotham six-meter beams. Give your rig a chance to show what it can do, with a Gotham six-meter beam.

<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 3-El Gamma match	12.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	14.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 3-El Gamma match	21.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	24.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 4-El Gamma match	16.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	19.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 4-El Gamma match	25.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	28.95

10 METER BEAMS

Ten meter addicts claim that ten meters can't be beaten for all-around performance. Plenty of DX and skip contacts when the band is open, and 30-50 miles consistent ground wave when the band is shut down. Thousands of Gotham ten meter beams have been perking for years, working wonders for their owners, and attesting to the superior design and value of a Gotham beam.

<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 2-El Gamma match	11.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	14.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 2-El Gamma match	18.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	21.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 3-El Gamma match	16.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	18.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 3-El Gamma match	22.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	25.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 4-El Gamma match	21.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	24.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 4-El Gamma match	27.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	30.95

New! Ruggedized Hi-Gain 6, 10, 15 METER BEAMS

Each has a TWIN boom, extra heavy beam mount castings, extra hardware and everything needed. Guaranteed high gain, simple installation and all-weather resistant. For 52, 72 or 300 ohm transmission line. Specify which transmission line you will use.

<input type="checkbox"/> Beam #R6 (6 Meters, 4-El)...	\$38.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Beam #R10 (10 Meters, 4-El)...	40.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Beam #R15 (15 Meters, 3-El)...	49.95



15 METER BEAMS

Fifteen meters is the "sleeper" band. Don't be surprised if you put out a quick, quiet CQ and get a contact half-way around the world. Working the world with low power is a common occurrence on fifteen meters when you have a Gotham beam.

15 METER BEAMS

<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 2-El Gamma match	19.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	22.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 2-El Gamma match	29.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	32.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 3-El Gamma match	26.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	29.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 3-El Gamma match	36.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	39.95

20 METER BEAMS

A beam is a necessity on twenty meters, to battle the QRM and to give your signal the added punch it needs to over-ride the high power boys. Hundreds and hundreds of twenty meter beams, working year after year, prove that there is no better value than a Gotham twenty meter beam.

<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 2-El Gamma match	21.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	24.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 2-El Gamma match	31.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	34.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Std. 3-El Gamma match	34.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	37.95
<input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe 3-El Gamma match	46.95	<input type="checkbox"/> T match	49.95

(Note: Gamma-match beams use 52 or 72 ohm coax. T-match beams use 300 ohm line.)

ALL-BAND VERTICAL ANTENNAS

<input type="checkbox"/> V40 vertical for 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 meters	\$14.95
<input type="checkbox"/> V80 vertical for 80, 75, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 meters.	\$16.95
<input type="checkbox"/> V160 vertical for 160, 80, 75, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 meters.....	\$18.95

Gotham Antenna Company
1805 Purdy Ave.
Miami Beach 39
Fla.

J. E. Bloomcus
209 N. 83rd Ave. NW
Enumclaw, Wash.

Dear Sir:

While I was in Enumclaw I purchased a Gotham V-80 antenna and took it back to Tibet with me. On my way back I stopped off at Tokolau (ZM7) and was on the air for two days and worked many other stations all over the world with 25 watts. I was very surprised at the strength of one station whom I worked. This was W7PHO, who I later found out was using a Gotham vertical. I received very loud reports from all over the world from here.

I went to Tibet and used the V-80 on all bands and got excellent reports from W stations. I have never called a CQ yet and not had quite a large number of stations calling me. This was true at ZM7C as well as AC4AZ. Here in Tibet I heard W7PHO again on 20 meters using his V-80. He is running 100 watts and was the loudest signal on the band.

I am very pleased with all of my results and certainly hope that you can encourage your patrons to use it even more by reproducing this letter as an excellent recommendation.

Sincerely,

J. E. Bloomcus
EX ZM7C - AC4AZ

HOW TO ORDER. Send check or money order directly to Gotham. Immediate shipment by Railway Express, charges collect. Foreign orders accepted.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Valuable catalog of 50 different antennas, with specifications and characteristics. Gives bands and frequencies covered, element information, size of elements, boom lengths, power and decibel gain figures, weight, feed line used, polarization, and other valuable information. Send card today!

Name.....

Address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

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.

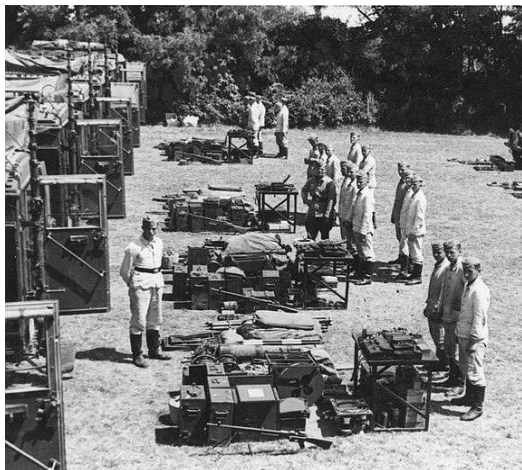
There are 2 types of stickers

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



Gearing Up for Field Day 2013

Field Day 2013 is rapidly approaching. Prior to Field Day we will have an Antenna Day - a dry run to test out the gear and antennas to make sure there are no surprises when we set again for Field Day.

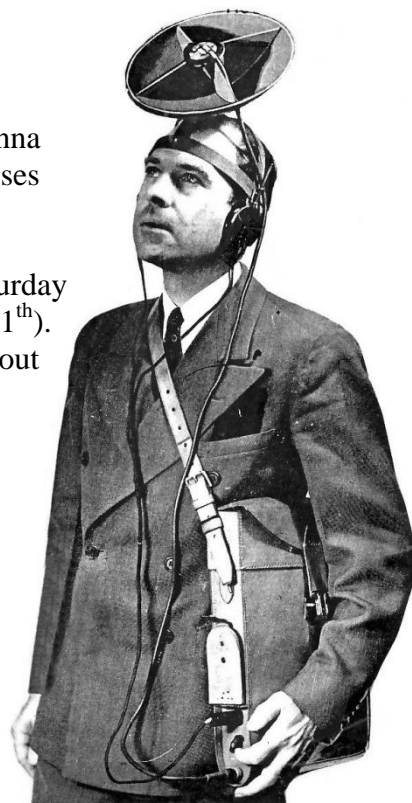


Station Captain Inspection

The dry run practice will be on the Saturday before the Dayton Hamvention (May 11th). That gives everyone a chance to come out to the Ravenna City Park and see what Field Day will be like.

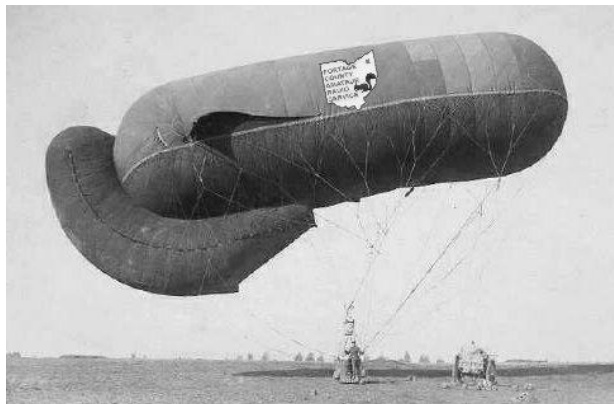
Of course, when the real Field Day rolls around - PCARS will be ready to get on the air and have BIG FUN.

We all hope you can join us for both Antenna Day and Field Day 2013.



This year, with the aid of new technology, we hope to make some contacts through one of the amateur radio satellites.

Ed, K8IV has been experimenting with a new method to get a long wire in the air. We're not sure if it will work out.



KB8AMZ and FYAO

The phrase: "If you snooze, you loose" applies...

Last month I failed to submit my article concerning my FYAO 2013 experience, so here it is now. Comparing the weather conditions in 2012 with the weather in 2013 - it was similar - absent the high wind. Cold is cold no matter wind or not.

The back pain I often experience was missing this year so erecting my antenna was less cumbersome than in 2012, plus I had a longer operating period of time this year than in 2012. I used a store bought 10m-80m trap inverted V dipole. Once setup outside I setup my FT-817, ATU, iambic key, and battery. Power on the rig and no display. I re-checked my battery connection and still no power. Now I had the battery on charge the previous day and the charger readout showed a full charge. I forget to bring a VOM so I went with plan B.



I powered through the vehicle cigarette adaptor and was able to work my station. About every 2 hours I started the engine to recharge the vehicle battery. As far as operation goes I heard stations on 10m through 80m including the WARC frequencies, but there was a QRO CW contest (like last year) so making contacts at 2 watts output was difficult. Still what few contacts I made were enjoyable enough for me to want to try this again next. Normally CW operation is great but I was working a QRP function while QRO function was in operation so making contacts was difficult. I doubt if the SSB stations had the same difficulty as I was having. It was very challenging.

While pondering the antenna I was going to use, I ran across a great antenna Elmer on YouTube - Paul D. (Dave) Tadlock, KG0ZZ, a.k.a. ZeroZedZed has some very instructive videos on homebrew antennas. I especially like his series of building inverted V dipoles which begins with his version of feed point and ends with the construction of a 40/80/160 meter coiled inverted V that requires no ATU. The four videos on his YouTube page cover about 4 hours of video. If you like building your own rather than using store bought, I am sure that you will enjoy Dave's YouTube videos.

73 all es 72 (for my QRP buddies)
Terry, KB8AMZ

A horizontal banner with a black background. On the left, the text "PCARS" is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below it, in smaller white text, is "ARRL Volunteer Examiners: serving the Amateur Radio community". Further down, in yellow text, is "First Saturdays 10:00 am at the club site in Ravenna". At the bottom, in white text, are the months "February, April, June, August, October, December". On the right side of the banner is a circular logo with a yellow border. Inside the circle, the words "AMATEUR RADIO" are at the top and "VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" are at the bottom, both in yellow. In the center, the letters "ARRL" are in large yellow font, with "VEC" in smaller yellow font below it. A small diamond-shaped logo with the letters "A", "R", "R", "L" is to the left of the "ARRL" text.

Some Words from Weaver

Michigan QSO Party is April 20

My friend Hank, N8XX, pointed out that the 2013 Michigan QSO Party is April 20 from noon to midnight EDT (1600Z April 20 to 0400Z April 21). Rules and other info at <http://www.miqp.org> Even though I seldom have the opportunity to participate fully in state QSO parties, I like to get in as much operating time as I can. They are very enjoyable. I recommend them to anyone willing to test the water. State parties are laid back enough so that they can be fun even for non-contesters.

My 2-cents worth.

Lets say you have an idea about how ARRL should be run or what it should be doing. Maybe you think there is a new project it should take on . . . Or that one of its ongoing projects is being managed poorly -- or that your Uncle Dudley who currently herds sheep in Montana could do a better job of running Headquarters than anyone currently on staff.

What do you do about your idea? Drop it? Contact CEO Dave Sumner, K1ZZ? Complain to the FCC? Talk to your family minister?



Jim Weaver, K8JE

I suspect that many of you simply drop the idea. This is too bad. Even though many ideas may be impractical for one reason or another to implement, they often contain a wrinkle that when added to the best of one or more additional ideas makes a very good idea that should be adopted.

I suspect that many of you opt to take your idea "to the top" and telephone or e-mail Dave Sumner. This is natural considering that Dave is about as approachable and as interested in the well-being of ARRL and Amateur Radio as a person can be. But . . . I suggest this is seldom the best thing to do. As approachable and as interested and as personable as Dave is, he has a lot on his plate, already. I believe that most questions and suggestions he receives can and should be handled by other staff members or even by people out in the field.

As I see them, Dave's critical tasks involve managing HQ and our interfaces with US and International government agencies. As a result, peppering him with questions or suggestions that can be handled more appropriately by others keeps him away from duties that only he can manage for us.

OK, so who should you contact with what?

If you have questions or comments on the operations of your Section (state in our case), try working through the Section staff, first. Questions or comments about ARES(TM) should go first to the Section Emergency Coordinator or maybe the Section Manager. Public Relations? To the Section Public Information Coordinator or SM. In brief, contact the assistant Section Manager of an administrative area first and the Section Manager second when you know who the assistant is.

If your question relates to ARRL policy (which is established by the Board of Directors), contact the Director - Vice Director if the Director is not readily available.

If your question is about an operation at ARRL HQ, contact the correct manager. This would be the Chief Operating Officer in most instances although it could be the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Development Officer. The CDO handles the fund-raising events for the League. Questions about VE licenses go to the VEC.

If, as one may expect, you do not readily know who to talk with, telephone HQ and tell the operator what you want to talk about and ask to be connected to the correct person. You can also go to the ARRL web site and file a written request that will be forwarded to the right person.

Don't get me wrong, Dave Sumner is available to talk with most anyone about most anything ham radio. He certainly is much more available than CEOs of most corporations. The fact of the matter is that hardly ever is his time used best in talking with someone who has a complaint about such topics as the length of time it takes to receive an item ordered from the ARRL "store," or that Logbook of the World is not working right, or that a Section officer is not doing the right thing, or . . . These discussions can be handled effectively by other people ranging from the HQ staff through those of us elected from the Field or our appointees.

What do you think?

Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division

Forever Global Stamp Available

Good news for sending to foreign countries for QSL cards:

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service introduced the Global Forever First-Class Mail International stamp. Priced at \$1.10 each and offered in a pane of 20, the Global stamp offers a single price for any First-Class Mail International 1-ounce letter to any country in the world. The Global stamp also may be used to mail a 2-ounce letter to Canada.



Customers may purchase the stamps at www.usps.com/stamps, by phone at 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724) and at Post Offices nationwide.

The stamp showcases the beauty of planet Earth with an artistic rendering — a composite of images created from satellite and 3D computer technology data. In this image, the Atlantic Ocean is flanked by North and South America, Africa and parts of Europe. Art director William J. Gicker selected this depiction of Earth by Italian artist Leonello Calvetti. Greg Breeding designed the stamp.

U.S. Postal Service

DXpedition to Bouvet Island

After a lot of negotiation we are pleased to announce a multinational team of twelve is to undertake a DXpedition to Bouvet Island from 25 March 2013 to 5 April 2013 using the call sign 3Y0IOF.

We will be operating 24/7 with five stations covering all bands 160m-10m.

We understand that DXpeditions are all about you*— *the DX operator – therefore we are pleased to announce some exciting new innovations.

We appreciate many of you feel you should not have to make any effort to work us. Accordingly, we are offering you the chance to call us on the telephone when you are ready for a QSO. That's right, we will give you a phone number and when you are ready you can ring us and we will immediately cease to work the pile up and call you on a frequency of your choice. Not only that, we will also ensure an email is sent to you directly after the QSO to confirm you are in the log. Furthermore, we are organizing a team of experts who, if you wish, will fly in and set up your rig on the required frequency, connect the antenna for you and make sure the heating or ventilation is on so it is nice and warm or cool in your shack as the case requires. Don't worry about propagation. We will make sure there is some between us as we understand that is our responsibility and it's our fault if there isn't.

If that is not for you then don't worry we are just as happy to work you in a pile up. We realize that we will need to operate in accordance with your operating habits so therefore we will understand if you call over the top of another station we are trying to work, or when we are specifically calling a part of the world you do not reside in, or if you are simply calling aimlessly or while we are transmitting, or even if you call when you cannot hear us. We will do our best to work you despite all this and yes we know it's our fault if you do not make it into the log.

We wish to acknowledge the value Frequency Cops bring to a DXpedition so to recognize this we are going to specifically publicize some times when we will arrange for some operators to deliberately call us on our frequency instead of split. Frequency Cops can even register their availability with us to help us ensure these periods get maximum uptake by the Frequency Cop community. During these periods the Frequency Cops will be able to say or send "up up!" to their hearts content. (Note: we will make sure we tell the pile up to listen up and not down as the recent PT0S DXpedition has taught us that Frequency Cops don't know how to send "down" in CW).

We also don't want the "tuner uppers" to feel left out and like them we feel dummy loads are completely overrated. So when we are ready to transmit on a band we will give them the opportunity to tune up on our frequency before we start working the pile up. Each period will start with us sending our call sign and "QDL" ("Quick Dummy Loaders") so they will know when to commence tuning up on us. We will allow for at least five minutes for this as we know how important it is for the tuner uppers to make sure their finals are good and ready. We acknowledge if they go bang it's our fault. Depending on demand we will every now and then send "QDL" while working a pile up so any tuner uppers late to the party can tune up on us as well.

Unfortunately we will not have cluster access while we are on Bouvet but we know this will not stop you posting announcements and comments on the cluster about our DXpedition. Some suggestions for you to try include saying what band you want us to QSY to or mode to operate on, the quality of our ops and the usual "loud", "can't hear them here", "thanks for 7th band" or "yee hah" comments. Likewise as we noted above we understand it's our fault if you cannot work us and therefore we accept in that case you will post on the cluster calling us the worst DXpedition ever. We can't wait to be of service to you.

The 3Y0IOF Team

Copied from the web site: <http://dx-world.net/2012/3y0iof-bouvet-well-not-really-but-read-on/> These folks have a sense of humor.



EmComm

Training. For some reason this continues to be a hot button topic for a lot of amateur radio operators who want to participate in special event and emergency communications but resist participating in training.

They seem to fall into two general groups. The first seems to think that since they have their amateur radio licenses they already pretty much know what they need to know about emcomm and special event communications. The second group, often a subset of the first group, takes the position that, hey, nobody can require them to do anything that they don't want to do.

This is truly unfortunate because all of us can expand our skills and knowledge, whether for work, hobby or life in general, by expending a modest amount of energy through some type of continuing education.

It is especially true for amateur radio volunteers who find themselves assisting with communications that support emergency responses and public service events. Today, those whom we assist have higher expectations for our competency and professionalism in the field.

In the public sector, most of the agencies that we interact with operate using Incident Command System concepts that we need to be familiar with. For the private sector, which includes the many marathons, bike-a-thons, parades, etc., the sponsors want to be sure that communications volunteers can perform competently and safely and not create any potential liabilities for them.

For those of us who organize communications teams, we want to be sure that all of our volunteers at least share the same core skills and that those who serve in the most demanding positions have the training that qualifies them for the job.

Virtually all of the training that ham radio volunteers can benefit from is available for free. All it takes is your willingness to commit the time and effort to complete it.

ARES® of Portage County has offered a Basic Skills Course for public service events as well as an advanced skills course for communications leaders. The EMA's Communications Unit has just concluded its second annual offering of the ARRL's Introduction to Emergency Communications Course.

You may already be familiar with some of the basic FEMA courses such as IS-100 Introduction to ICS, IS-200 ICS for Single Resources, IS-700 National Incident Management System, and IS-800 National Response Framework. These are the core classes required by many organizations both in the public and private sectors.

They are available online from the Emergency Management Institute which can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/>. But check their course catalog for the many other courses that they offer that are informative as well as relevant to the communication service we provide.

Also, training does not begin and end with online or classroom courses. There is regular training available locally on the ARES® of Portage County biweekly training net at 1900 hours on alternating Thursdays. Take the time to check in to the net and see what EC Mike, KD8FLZ, and AEC for training, Sandy, KD8JCY, have to offer. You are also invited to monitor the Communications Unit nets on the other Thursdays to learn more about the CU operates.

Watch for those emails recruiting volunteers for this year's events! We need your help.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAR5AI

**Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit/RACES
DEC, ARES® District Five**



Dark Sucker Conspiracy

For years the electrical utility companies have led the public to believe they were in business to supply electricity to the consumer, a service for which they charge a substantial rate. The recent accidental acquisition of secret records from a well known power company has led to a massive research campaign which positively explodes several myths and exposes the massive hoax which has been perpetrated upon the public by the power companies.

The most common hoax promoted the false concept that light bulbs emitted light; in actuality, these 'light' bulbs actually absorb DARK which is then transported back to the power generation stations via wire networks. A more descriptive name has now been coined; the new scientific name for the device is DARKSUCKER. This newsletter introduces a brief synopsis of the darksucker theory, which proves the existence of dark and establishes the fact that dark has great mass, and further, that dark particle (the anti-photon) is the fastest known particle in the universe. Apparently, even the celebrated Dr. Albert Einstein did not suspect the truth.. that just as COLD is the absence of HEAT, LIGHT is actually the ABSENCE of DARK... scientists have now proven that light does not really exist!

The basis of the darksucker theory is that electric light bulbs suck dark. Take for example, the darksuckers in the room where you are right now. There is much less dark right next to the darksuckers than there is elsewhere, demonstrating their limited range. The larger the darksucker, the greater its capacity to suck dark. Darksuckers in a parking lot or on a football field have a much greater capacity than the ones in used in the home, for example.

It may come as a surprise to learn that darksuckers also operate on a celestial scale; witness the Sun. Our Sun makes use of dense dark, sucking it in from all the planets and intervening dark space. Naturally, the Sun is better able to suck dark from the planets which are situated closer to it, thus explaining why those planets appear brighter than do those which are far distant from the Sun.

Occasionally, the Sun actually oversucks; under those conditions, dark spots appear on the surface of the Sun. Scientists have long studied these 'sunspots' and are only recently beginning to realize that the dark spots represent leaks of high pressure dark because the Sun has oversucked dark to such an extent that some dark actually leaks back into space. This leakage of high pressure dark frequently causes problems with radio communications here on Earth due to collisions between the dark particles as they stream out into space at high velocity via the black 'holes' in the surface of the Sun.

As with all man-made devices, darksuckers have a finite lifetime caused by the fact that they are not 100% efficient at transmitting collected dark back to the power company via the wires from your home, causing dark to build up slowly within the device. Once they are full of accumulated dark, they can no longer suck. This condition can be observed by looking for the black spot on a full darksucker when it has reached maximum capacity of untransmitted dark... you have surely noticed that dark completely surrounds a full darksucker because it no longer has the capacity to suck any dark at all.

A candle is a primitive darksucker. A new candle has a white wick. You will notice that after the first use the wick turns black, representing all the dark which has been sucked into it. If you hold a pencil next to the wick of an operating candle, the tip will turn black because it got in the way of the dark flowing into the candle. It is of no use to plug a candle into an electrical outlet; it can only collect dark.. it has no transmission capabilities. Unfortunately, these primitive darksuckers have a very limited range and are hazardous to operate because of the intense heat produced.

There are also portable darksuckers called flashlights. The bulbs in these devices collect dark which is passed to a dark storage unit called a battery. When the dark storage unit is full, it must be either emptied (a process called 'recharging') or replaced before the portable darksucker can continue to operate. If you break open a battery, you will find dense black dark inside, evidence that it is actually a compact dark storage unit.

The darksuckers on your automobile are high capacity units with great range, thus they require much larger dark storage units mounted under the hood of the vehicle. Since there is far more dark available in the winter season, automobile dark storage units reach capacity more frequently than they do in the summer, requiring 'recharging', or in severe cases, total replacement.

Dark has great mass. When dark is drawn into a darksucker, friction caused by the speed and mass of the dark particles (called anti-photons) actually generates substantial heat, thus it is unwise to touch an operating dark sucker. Candles represent a special problem, as the dark must travel into a solid wick instead of through clear glass. This generates a great amount of heat, making it very dangerous to touch an operating candle.

Because dark has such great mass, it is very heavy. If you swim just below the surface of a lake, you see a lot of 'light' (absence of dark, to be more precise). As you go deeper and deeper beneath the surface, you will notice that it gets darker and darker. When you reach a depth of approximately fifty feet, you are in total darkness. This is because the heavier dark sinks to the bottom of the lake, making it appear 'lighter' near the surface.

The power companies have learned to use the dark which has settled to the bottom of lakes and rivers by pushing it through turbines, which generates the electricity used to pump the dark toward the ocean where it may be safely stored for their devious purposes. Prior to the development of turbines, it was much more difficult to get the dark from the rivers and lakes to the ocean. The Indians recognized this problem, and developed means to assist the flow of dark on its long journey to the ocean. When on a river in a canoe travelling in the same direction as the flow of dark, they paddled slowly, so as not to impede the flow of dark; but when they traveled against the flow of dark, they paddled vigorously to help propel the dark along its way.

by **Dave, G8UYZ**, Submitted by **Bruce, KX8U**

Sent in to PCARS by **Gay, WB8VNO**



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!

April		May	
4	KB8UUZ	2	KD8FDK
11	KD8JCY	9	KC8PD
18	KD8DFL	16	N8QE
25	KJ4MPN	23	WB8LCD
		30	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 try, please contact me at: WB8LCD@portcars.org. Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator



Top 10 Reasons to Get On the PCARS Net

10. Find out if you have enough power to beat KB3OOV into the number #1 check-in slot
9. Avoid brain cell loss from watching too much TV
8. Sorry honey, you'll have to do the dishes yourself tonight - it's "Net Night" (Oh yeah - can you bring me a beer when you're done?)
7. Last minute updates for what's happening in PCARS
6. Keep your "consecutive run" going for net check-ins. KC8PD holds a record that will not be easily beat
5. Say "hello" to Jenny
4. Get the KC8FQV hamfest update
3. Find out from Parky if the newsletter deadline is this week
2. Let everyone know what you're up to these days - especially if we haven't heard from you in awhile!
1. Make sure Net Control Station doesn't feel neglected and lonely.....

Hope to hear you Thursday night, 8:00 PM - 146.895 Mhz PL 110.9 (Rootstown) or 114.8 (Kent)

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Net Control Coordinator

Getting Ready for Field Day



Jim, KC8PD and Rick, K8CAV ponder on how to get all that stuff back into the truck where it came from.

Stark County VHF QSO Party

The Stark County VHF QSO Party sponsored by: The Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be held on April 6th, 2013 from 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Mode: 2 Meter FM Simplex.

This is the Alliance ARC's fourth running of this event. Our previous years have resulted in a lot of 2 Meter activity, and a lot of fun.

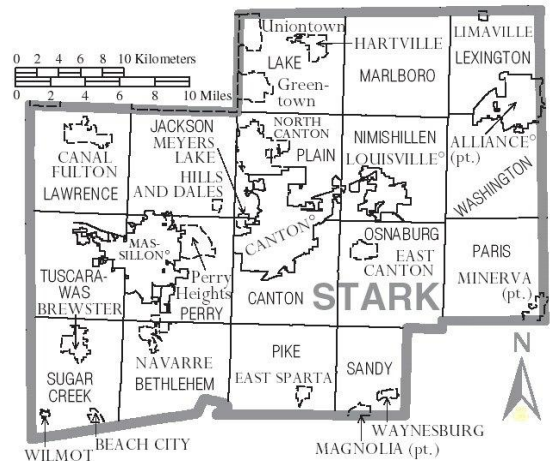
- The purpose of this contest is to:
- Provide an opportunity for local Amateurs to enhance their station and operating skills.
- Simulate emergency conditions (with NO repeaters).
- To enhance utilization of the 2 meter band and simplex operation
- To have fun.

We've tried to keep the rules as simple as possible, without sacrificing clarity. If you see anything that leaves you scratching your head, please let me know. You can email me at 2mcontest@w8lky.org, or call me at 330-936-5021. A

Let's do our best to stay safe out there. I'm talking especially to the mobile operators. Obey the rules, of the road, and let's make this a good day for everyone. Thanks again for your interest. We look forward to working you in the 2013 Stark County VHF QSO Party.

73,

John, KD8MQ



Heavenly Day, It's Gay

FOX HUNTS

We have held our first event of the season and our next hunt is Wed., April 3rd, starting at 6:30, PM. On Wednesday, April 17 the hunts will start at 7:00 PM. If you have never tried this activity you are welcome to show up at our starting location, The Church in Silver Lake on Rt. 59 (Kent Rd.) and ride with someone. We are informal, have fun, and have an after-the-hunt "debriefing" at a restaurant.

PUBLIC SERVICE 2013

We are headed into the public service season for 2013. There are many other events in the area to give us opportunities to serve others while enjoying our hobby, but this is my schedule:

Sunday, May 19	Rite Aid Marathon
Saturday, July 13	Headwaters Adventure Triathlon, Mantua
Saturday, August 3	(tentative) Black Squirrel Adventure Triathlon, Kent
Sunday, August 25	Bellefaire JCB Biathlon

Gay, WB8VNO

PCARS J-Pole Project

While I can't remember his name just now, a famous US Military leader once said "I love it when a plan comes together". That pretty well describes the PCARS J-Pole project. As I started to procure the parts, exactly as listed in the article, I noticed that in the past 8-10 year, many things have changed. In addition to the price of copper being way up, all the copper products have been redesigned to contain as little copper as possible, in some cases, changing dimensions. As I started dry-fitting the pieces, many things did not go as expected. I'll just have to get it all figured out before the build day..... well, you know what they say about excuses, so I won't make any here, but I will say that it wasn't quite "all" figured out. Build day came, and for a couple things, I was running on faith.

That faith was apparently misplaced. Copper wall mounts had been shortened to the point where they would not circle around the pipe with enough left on both ends to attach to. Thanks to Rick, K8CAV and Mike, KB8TUY, some re-engineering was done on the fly and a workable solution determined. Sandy, KD8JCY was the first one to finish her antenna. Dave, WA8KHP was there with his new AIM Antenna Analyzer (that could be a whole other article in itself). The antenna checked out and was tuned to about a 1.2~1.3 SWR at 146.8(95) – not too bad! One by one as the antennas were finished they were tested and tuned. Some had to be re-worked just a little to shorten the wire leads between the coax connector and the antenna elements, but, by the end of the day, everyone who built an antenna left with a working model. About a dozen were made in total.

After the last antenna was made we celebrated with a batch of fresh pop-corn from the KB8TUY popcorn popper machine and some cold beverage!



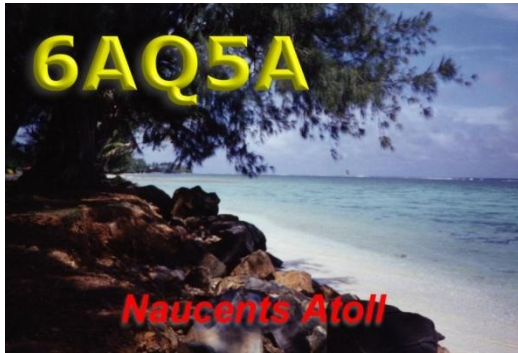
73,

**Tom,
WB8LCD**

**J-Pole Project Day
March 9, 2013**

DXpedition All Set for a New DXCC Entity

One of the newest DX Entities, the Republic of the Micro Pohnie Islands will be hosting a special DXpedition. The call sign 6AQ5A has been assigned by the Telecom Agency of Micro Phonie.



This small island chain is located in the South Pacific in the area of the Caroline Islands. Situated between the Yap and Hall islands, Micro Pohnie is made up of one large main land, with ten smaller islands that help protect the eastern side of the

main land from foul weather. Only two of the smaller islands (Uphar Sidbnd, and Lowher Sidbnd) are inhabited, leaving the other eight for camping by tourists. The DXpedition will take place on the 3rd island in the chain called the Naucents Atoll. On the north west side of the main land the Sonofa Beach area is world famous for the white sand beaches and gentle south Pacific breezes that make visiting there a memory that will last a life time.

Tourists can visit the islands year round and the majority of visitors arrive via the FSK International Airport. Ferry service is available to reach all the islands and runs mainly between Dypole Cove and Port Tune.



When there, make sure you check out the Double Sidband Lakes area, where the fresh water is cold and invigorating.

Amateur Radio is welcome and licensing can be arranged through the Telecom Agency of Micro Phonie offices located in the main kiosk of the FSK International Airport.

The currency is the Quesl which is about equal to 50 cents US. Most major airlines have routine flights in and out of Micro Pohnie. The DXpedition is

set to go starting on April 1st and running for only 52 weeks. QSL direct with a US\$10 bill and self addressed envelope. Express mail can be used, but you'll have to send an extra US\$20. Operations will be on all the regular bands: 160, 80, Reggie, 40, 20, 15, 10 and maybe even the Big Band if the clarinets, drums, and brass instruments survive the trip to the island. The operation will be using the CW, AM, FM, Interference and Phone modes.

SPLEEEET

If you chase DX and try and make contacts to DXpeditions, then you KNOW what SPLEEEET means. The Frequency Cops are out and about and jumping on the operators that are not following the directions given by the DXpedition. I would say all of the major DXpeditions work Split. That means they are listening on a frequency DIFFERENT than the one they are transmitting. That way their signal can be heard by all without the pile up signals overcoming everything. You may also hear the Frequency Cops yelling UP UP UP or in some cases DOWN DOWN DOWN. Same thing - the desired station is working split.

Sometimes it gets overwhelming and arguments break out between operators and Frequency Cops - at just about that time, I just turn off the radio. Sometimes they can be a real pain. Are they official, or sanctioned by the FCC or some other group - Nope. It amazes me they can yell and complain - but guess what - you never hear them ID....



Did you know - there is one group of Frequency Cops that has a website? Yep - you can find it at: <http://www.k6sgh.com/splitpolice/index.html>. Check it out it may give you a laugh or two. Heck, you can get a hat or t-shirt saying you're a Frequency Cop. But I really would not wear it to a hamfest - it would really rub some DX'ers the wrong way and you might get into a heated verbal conflict. They also have some recordings made while on the air. Hopefully you won't find your call on their list.

Nope, this is NOT an April Fool article.

Northern Ohio QRP Club

A new QRP Club is forming (**Northern Ohio QRP Club**). Presently we have about 10 hams interested, from Milan (2), Norwalk (1), Huron (1), New London (1), Wellington (1), and a few guys from over by Cleveland (Westpark, Parma etc.).

We are planning on our first ever meeting Saturday March 30th probably over in the Huron Area at a pizza joint. At that meeting, we'll all meet each other, and do some basic brainstorming, like (1) Elect officers, (2) discuss requesting a club call sign (3) do some basic planning on some outdoor QRP Operating events to do over the warm months.... and (4), whatever anyone suggests!!...

This could be a real fun club. Heck, the other clubs are getting real big (Michigan QRP Club, NJ QRP Club etc., WHY NOT ONE HERE IN OHIO!! If you are interested, please e-mail me at K8IDW@yahoo.com.

I was the founder of the Virginia QRP Society (W4VQS), about 10 years ago back when I lived in Virginia. You don't have to be too involved if you don't want, just join, and come out once in a while to our operating events at locations like Sandusky, Findley State Park in Lorain County, and other place. Our website is: <http://www.qsl.net/ohioqrp/>

73,

Doug, K8IDW

Avoid scams and fraud by dealing locally! Beware any deal involving Western Union, Moneygram, wire transfer, cashier check, money order, shipping, escrow, or any promise of transaction protection/certification/guarantee. [More info](#)

please [flag](#) with care:

[miscategorized](#)

[prohibited](#)

[spam/overpost](#)

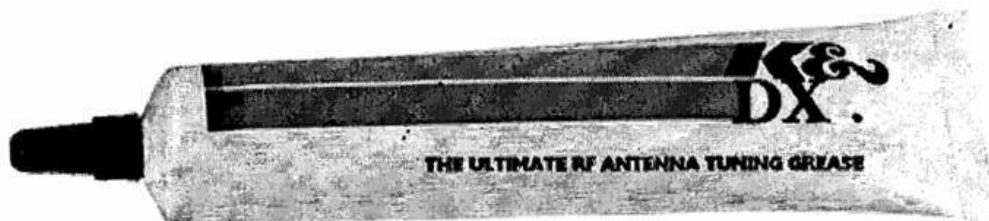
[best of craigslist](#)

One tube of rare cb antenna grease - \$250 (rochester)

Date: 2010-05-27, 3:37AM EDT

Reply to: sale-kebcm-1761777850@craigslist.org [\[Errors when replying to ads?\]](#)

For sale one tube of rare cb antenna grease. This stuff came out in the 60's. It was developed by the Department of Defense for the armed services. It was mainly used in the field on hand held units, tripling their range. It is a closely guarded secret by technicians & HAM's. When the FCC found out some amateur radio supply outlets had purchased a sizable quantity of the RF grease through US Army & Navy surplus auctions, the FCC outlawed the sale of it in the US. What the RF grease does is make your signal slide out your antenna faster and with less friction. Because of this you get less RF friction (hysteresis). The results are: lower SWR readings & increased power handling, the faster moving RF signal builds up a tremendous RF inertia, resulting a higher DB gain on your signal, (like a slingshot effect throwing a faster & larger signal) (typically 3.8-4.7 db gain) and 4x the power handling capacity. Modulation & SSB benefit a whopping 6 db gain. over an untreated isotropic dipole antenna lasts for about 6 mounths then, just wipe off any old grease and put some new on. This is probably the best kept secret in amateur radio! The guys at the shoot-out's wont tell you about this amazing secret! Triple the RF output of a 200 watt box to 600 ERP, etc... (effective radiated power) This RF grease also causes a very cool side efect if you feed over 100 watts into a treated antenna you will see a cool purpleish-pink halo glowing around your antenna on key up at night, pulsating with your modulation ! (not to cool for the military, this is why they stopped using it!) For now all I have is one 16oz. tube. \$250.00 FIRM



Field Day Update

There are only about 80 days and some change before PCARS Field Day 2013 kicks off! Almost all of the team leaders are in place and now it's time for YOU to step up and tell the station captains or support team leaders when and where you want to participate.

At our last meeting on March 20th, we finalized our objectives for Field Day and talked about some strategies and tactics to meet those objectives.

Objective One is to have a Field Day event that everyone can enjoy no matter how you are participating. Besides the operational events at the stations we want to make this a good time for those that want to visit and socialize and to help that along we're planning dinner on Saturday evening, and breakfast will also be served for those on the 'graveyard' shift Sunday morning. To help the Food team plan, anyone wanting dinner or breakfast will need to get tickets in advance, detail to be announced.

Objective Two is to be as competitive as we can and make as many contacts as possible. We have some great station captains on board but a good part of being able to do this hinges on members volunteering to operate and/or log at the stations. We have a few ideas on how we may be better able to make contacts by using propagation prediction and antenna steering that may help. Also, the Flex station will be geared up to run Phone, Digital, and CW. For those of you who may wish to operate more casually on Field Day the GOTA station is the perfect place. Also, if you have a son, daughter, or other young person under the age of 18, bring them out and let them operate at the GOTA station as a youth operator. Besides them having a great time we get points for that.

Objective Three is to operate in a way that supports what we might expect to see if we were operating in an emergency communications environment. This year we're going to try having each station operate from independent emergency power (batteries, generators, etc.) for a two hour period during Field Day to acclimate folks to some of the challenges of not having a central portable power source.

The bottom line is this: We have a great team in place with a good plan for this year's Field Day, but now it's up to you make your plans for Field day and let the right person know how you want to participate! Starting after Antenna Day in May, the club web site will have a schedule for each station showing who has volunteered as an operator or logger and when they will operate/log along with open positions. So don't wait until your favorite time slot is taken at your favorite station, get in touch now to reserve your spot. Station Captains will do everything they can to accommodate "walk-ons" that haven't asked to be scheduled but if you haven't scheduled you may have to wait a bit to operate. And please don't forget that our support team leaders need help too! A list of station captains and support team leaders is on the web site at www.portcars.org, click on the 'Club Activities' tab at the top of the page then on the 'Field Day' tab.

Important Dates:

Antenna Day, the 'dress rehearsal' for Field Day, May 11th 10:00 AM Ravenna City Park

Field Day June 22nd – 23rd, setup starts at 10:00 AM, operations start at 2:00 PM, Field Day ends 2:00 PM on the 23rd, Ravenna City Park



73,

Rick, K8CAV
Field Day Chairman

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Telewave PS-4502 power splitter, 400-512MHz, new, Tessco #65228, \$55.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Decibel Products DB8802BA-100 remote metering power meter and alarm, 406-1000 MHz, \$70 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: 1-1/4" transmission line, 250' or more, used in good condition, with two "N" connectors, \$250.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Bias-Tee (was used for tower-top amplifier), rack-mount type, with power supply, \$40.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Ten-Tec 715 RF speech processor, like new with manual and cables (increases average transmit power about 5-6dB) , \$155 [05/02/13]

Contact Rick - K8GI@portcars.org

FOR SALE: Tigertronics Signalink USB - Set up for a Yaesu FT-920 (other radio cables available locally). Also comes with the usb cable, \$55 [05/02/13]

Contact Paul - NC8T@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: LDG AT-1000 PRO Auto Tuner - Latest firmware chip - reason for selling: very low use. Max power that was used into this tuner is 500 watts. \$340.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Al - WA8CCU@portcars.org

FOR SALE: MFJ-564 - Chrome Iambic Keyer. Good condition, works great. \$30.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: MFJ-464 - CW Reader/Keyer. Good condition, works great. \$100.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: MFJ-993B - Automatic Tuner. Good condition, works great. \$150.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Rich - KD8FDK@portcars.org

FOR SALE: MFJ-976 - 1500 Watt Legal Limit Tuner. Cost new \$499.95, used only a few times, then I got the SteppIR antenna so I don't need it. Sale price: \$275.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Chuck - W8PT@portcars.org

FOR SALE: 40' Heavy Duty Self-Supporting Tower – 37 inches wide at the base, 18 inches at the top \$250

FOR SALE: Used Rohn 25G - tapered top section w/rotor plate \$40

FOR SALE: 36 µH Used Roller Inductor \$40,

FOR SALE: 60 µH Used Silver Plated Roller Inductor \$60

FOR SALE: Used E.F. Johnson Caps for Antenna Tuner, Cap #1 is 500 pf, 3500 Volts, .080 air gap \$30.00;

Cap #2 is a two section cap rated 202 pf/section, 3500 Volts, .080 air gap \$30.00

FOR SALE: Coax Entry Panel & Station Ground Bar Combo – entry panel has four (4) UHF & three (3) N-female bulkhead connectors plus a stainless steel ground stud and a gland nut for rotator cable. Package also includes a Made in U.S.A. station ground bar, \$50.00 (Only one available)

FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. (9 Remaining) \$20.00 Supplied w/extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male cable \$30.00 ea. (6 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Andrew UHF Male Connectors for 1/2" LDF4-50A new, \$20 each. (2 Remaining)

FOR SALE: N-male to N-male barrel connectors \$5 each. (4 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Hubbell - HBL5366 20 Amp 125 Volt plugs \$6 (5 available)

FOR SALE: Hubbell – HBL2611 NEMA L5-30P Twist Lock 30 Amp 125 Volt plug \$10

FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors

GE CL01A400TJ Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$25 (2 Available)

GE CL01D310TD Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600V, 24 Volt Coil \$30 (2 Available)

GE CL25A300T Contactor 4 poles rated 32 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$35 (2 Available)

FOR SALE: Bolt on Auxiliary Contact Set for any of the above contactors with 1-N.O. & 1-N.C. Set of contacts \$2 ea

FOR SALE: 1/4" Plate Glass for desk or table top, Great for radio bench measures 42" x 68" cost \$152 Asking \$50

FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders DIN Rail Mnt, Blown Fuse Indicator \$1ea (8 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Station Ground Bars - military surplus MADE IN U.S.A. by COLE HERSEE of Boston, MA. \$8 ea. (Only 19 out of the original 60 remaining)

FOR SALE: Weller 8200 Soldering Gun – last of the good ones with the tip nuts, with carrying case, spare tips and tools, one (1) remaining, \$45

FOR SALE: I also have a small supply of **connectors** for 1/2" Superflex, 1/2" Helix and 7/8" Helix . Contact me with your needs. [06/02/13]

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

Available for loan a crimper capable of crimping lugs for #8 AWG thru #1/0 AWG

To help with those projects like grounding towers and ham shacks which require large conductors. This tool will be loaned out for up to three (3) days at a time. The use of this tool is free but a cash deposit will be required to ensure the tool finds its way home. I also have a quantity of heavy duty lugs for stranded #6 AWG ground wire.

Contact James, KD8VT: phone: 330-206-4909.

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: [05/02/13] This will help keep the listings current.



DX/Contesting Special Interest Group

This month we get to report for the last two meetings. The February meeting was attended by; Chuck, W8PT, Wes, K8NYM, Dan, KD8EPA, John, KD8SIZ, Mike, KB8TUY and myself, W8KNO. Items discussed were: Participating in the Ohio QSO Party and the results of the California QSO Party. Last year, a group of the club members participated in the Ohio QSO Party and finished first in Portage County. Coordination will have to be arranged so we do not compete nor duplicate efforts. The California QSO Party results were published the day after our meeting and if you were not at the club meeting; K8BF finished 2nd in the USA and 1st on Ohio in the Multi-Multi Low Power Class. BZ - Well Done!

The March meeting was attended by: Erica, AE8YL, Terry, KB8AMZ, Wes, K8NYM, Dan, KD8EPA, Dave, WA8GCF, Vivian, KB8CLH, Mike, KB8TUY, Dave, WA8KHP, Chuck, W8PT and myself, W8KNO. The radios were tuned in hopes to make contact with Tom,

WB8LCD, from Curacao as PJ2/WB8LCD, but we failed. Also discussed was the California QSO Party (CQP) and the need to make more CW contacts. The winner of the CQP was from Texas as was the High Power winner. We are claiming we lost because of the pipe line between Texas and California. Dave, WA8KHP, brought up the fact that we are not doing enough in the digital contesting realm. It was decided with Dave leading the way to enter in a RTTY Sprint which only lasts four hours, from the club site the end of the month. We will get the information disseminated closer to the middle of April. All club members are welcome to come and observe and ask questions. See you there.

Joe, W8KNO



Fun at Net Night

Tom, WB8LCD wanted to add an extra bit of fun at the club site during one of the Net Nights. He came up with this quiz that the members present took. So, if you missed that night at the club site, here is the quiz just for you (answers will be in the May issue of the RADIOGRAM)

Net Night Amateur Radio Quiz

1. What year was PCARS established? 2005____, 2006____,2007____, or, 2008____?
2. What year was the ARRL established? 2012____, 2013____, 2014____, or, 2015____?
3. Who invented the transistor?
William Shockley____ John Bardeen ____
Walter Brittain ____ All the above ____
4. How many valid counties are there in the US for County Hunters?
1273____ 2484 ____ 3077 ____ 4689 ____
All of the above ____
5. How many counties are there in Ohio?
27 ____ 43 ____ 88 ____ 112 ____
6. Who held the callsign 1AW? _____
7. What legislation was passed as a result of the sinking of the Titanic?
8. Who is credited with being the 1st to send a radio signal across the Atlantic? (Bonus point: What year?)
9. What is an "Eiser – Mathes Cup"?
10. What was the first semi-automatic telegraph key?
11. What company manufactured Amateur Radio equipment in the 1960's that had a distinctive White face?
12. Out on the highway I hear the car behind me honking with a very distinctive DahDahditditdit,
Ditditditdahdah. What is the other driver trying to tell me?
13. Where am I if I am using a callsign that starts with CT3, and what country is it?
14. Who is the Section Manager of the ARRL Ohio Section?
15. What company made Amateur Radio equipment with distinctive Green cabinets?
16. What is referred to as "The Magic Band"?
17. How many different callsigns may a US ham hold concurrently?
18. What well known ham held the callsign 9N1MM and where did he operate from?
19. How many Amperes is 500 mills?
20. Name up to 10 Amateur Radio equipment manufacturers who no longer exist (1 point each):

Metric System

Despite never having adopted the metric system for day-to-day use, Americans are familiar with the basic units, like grams, kilograms, meters and such. But when it comes to lesser known units we're clueless. To help the educational process along a bit ...

- * 2,000 pounds of Chinese soup = Won ton
- * Half of a large intestine = 1 semicolon
- * 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz
- * Basic unit of laryngitis = 1 hoarsepower
- * 453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake
- * 2 million bicycles = 2 megacycles
- * 2000 mockingbirds = 2 kilomockingbirds
- * 52 cards = 1 decacards
- * 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche
- * 8 nickels = 2 paradigms
- * 2 wharves = 1 paradox
- * 100 rations = 1 C-ration
- * 10 rations = 1 decoration
- * 1 million-million microphones = 1 megaphone
- * 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Serling
- * 1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope
- * Shortest distance between two jokes = 1 straightline
- * Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond
- * 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital = 1 IV League



A Metric Clock

Metric prefix humor: exa-ray exa-rated peta-cat tera-dactyl giga-low tera-bull pico-nose deci-mate tera-piece-of-paper peta-greed tara-rism pico-peach deca-cards atto-mobile micro-phone nano-pudding milli-mouse milli-cent pico-card peta-gogue peta-ful pico-nick ba-nano pico-low centi-mental exa-lint atto-miser milli-tent pico-boo atto-whack tera-pin kilo-bug deca-ration centi-fold tera-torialism



Save the Dates. Join Us in Making History.

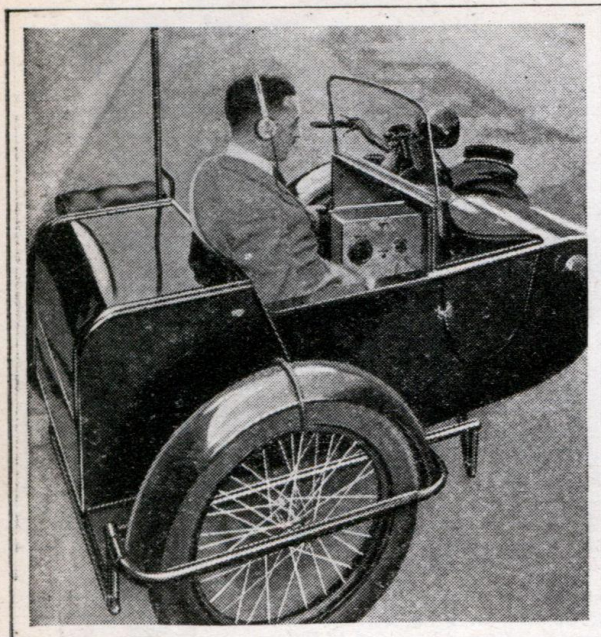
ARRL The national association for
Amateur Radio®

CENTENNIAL

Advancing the Art and Science of Radio—Since 1914

**ARRL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN HARTFORD, CT
JULY 17 - 20, 2014 (Exhibits open July 18th and 19th), and will mark 100 years
of the ARRL's founding in Hartford. Be part of this historic occasion.**

Motorcycle Radio Transmitters Aid Police in War on Crime



Radio transmitters installed in motorcycle sidecars, as shown above, are used by British police to call reserves quickly.

DURING running gun battles with bandits, British motorcycle police can send radio calls for reserves through short wave transmitting sets.

The sending outfit is the latest police radio equipment for the quick suppression of crime. It is an addition to the usual receiving set tuned to the frequency of a central police transmitting station.

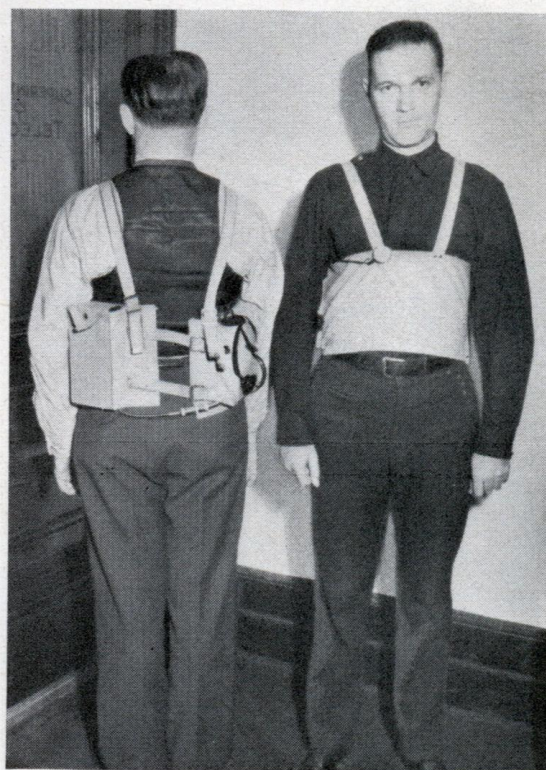
The motorcycle policeman travels with a radio operator who operates the sending and receiving sets fitted in a sidecar. When an alarm is received the motorcycle policeman rushes to the scene. If he finds that he is outnumbered and unable to handle the situation, his operator can transmit an alarm that can be picked up by other radio-equipped motorcycles in the vicinity.

Portable Two-Way Radio Weighs Five Pounds

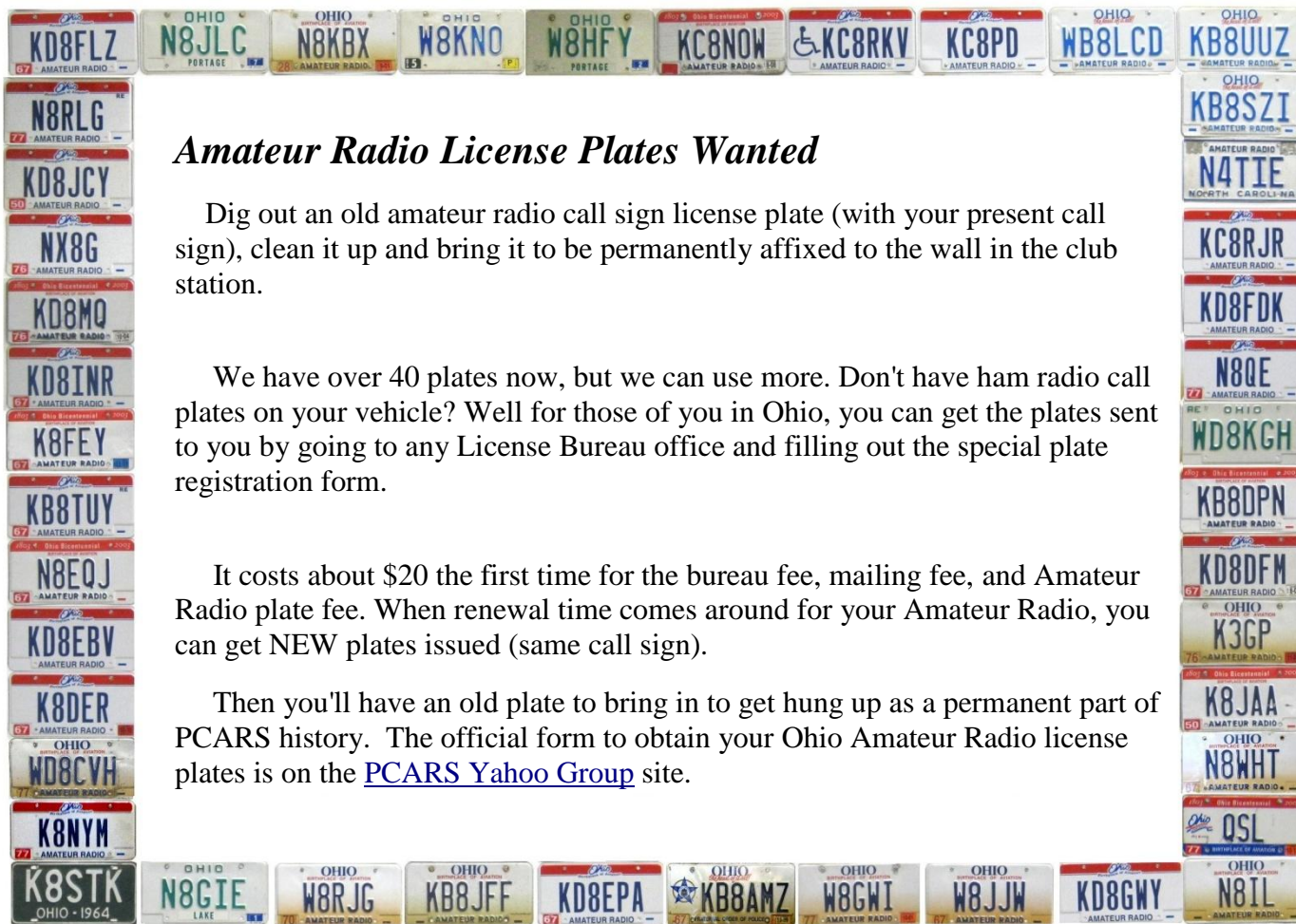
SUSPENDED from the shoulders and strapped around the waist, a compact radio transmitting and receiving set, battery-operated and weighing only five pounds, is now being tried out by New York City police officials. A microphone is attached to the vest.



An Unknown Ravenna Police Officer provides Assistance to a Ravenna resident.



Front and rear views of portable two-way radio. It can be worn underneath a coat



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 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 form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the [PCARS Yahoo Group](#) site.

PCARS Meetings

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

Meetings are at:

Stringz & Wingz

1543 State Route 303

Streetsboro, OH 44241

www.stringzwingz.com



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



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

Greetings from the snow belt. As I write this, the sun is finally shining and it looks as if Spring has finally made an appearance. But as you all know this can be but a tease and that snow is still possible. I am looking forward to the warmer WX so that I can do some antenna work. I am sure that there are many that would like to get out and get some work done outside.

But if you can't get out, then stay in and work some DX. There are several opportunities coming up in April, as well as the months following that will allow many of us to work some far, far away places. So mark some of the following events on your calendar and let me know how successful you are in snagging them.

As I mentioned last month, those who have an interest in DX please join us on the fourth Tuesday every month at the club site for our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group. Bring some of your interesting QSLs that you have received so we can all ooo and ahhh over them. Also bring your questions and or problems regarding working DX and get some great information that will help you get that elusive DX entity you have been chasing.

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.

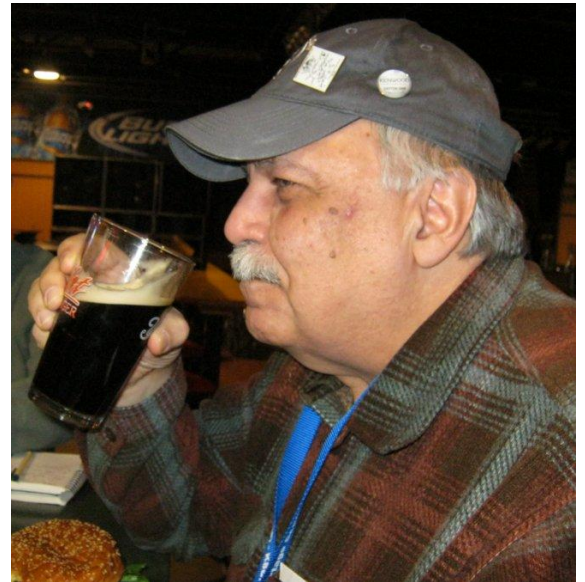
As always, this report could contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or busted call signs. Please do yourself a favor and adhere to the old adage of "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

3V, TUNISIA (Update). An Italian group, along with the Association des Radio Amateurs Tunisiens (ARAT) and the Engineering University of Gabes, are planning a second IOTA DXpedition to Djerba Island (AF-083, WFF 3VFF-007, WLOTA L-1394 and ARLHS TUN-022), between April 29th and May 6th. The Association des Radio Amateurs Tunisiens (ARAT) is expected to receive the call sign TS8TI on March 15th. Current operators/club participants mentioned are 3V8SA (ARCS of Tunisian Scout), 3V8ST (ARC of Tunis), 3V8ESG (Department of Communications and Networking National Engineering School of Gabès), 3V8SF (Scout Radio Club of Sfax), Leopoldo/I8LWL, Fred/IK7JWX (Team Leader), Antonello/IK2DUW (QSL Manager), Titti/IK8GQY (YL), Ferruccio/IK8TEM, Ampelio/IS0AGY, Rosy/IW2NLC (YL), Ashraf/KF5EYY and Stefano/IK6JRI. Activity will be on all HF bands, including the 30/17/12 meter bands and the CW, SSB, RTTY, AMTOR and PSK31 modes. They are looking for operators, sponsors and individual contributions, contact Fred, IK7JWX, at <ik7jwx2003@yahoo.it>.

9G, GHANA. Reminder - Marcel, AI6MS, reports [edited]: "I will be operating portable from January-May 2013 in Ghana, West Africa, as 9G5MS with my Yaesu FT-857D. Anyone is welcome to make a contact, though priority will be given to schools, universities, and prescheduled contacts. I am volunteering with a non-profit called 'Medicine on the Move' and will be using amateur radio in the classroom for the students from the 'AvTech Academy' in Kpong, Ghana. QSL cards are tentatively planned and can be expected in the 2nd half of 2013 if requested. I hope to be operating during the ARRL School Club Roundup as well."

A3, TONGA - Jacek, SP5EAQ, will be active as A3EAQ from Tongatapu Island (OC-049) until April 16th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters SSB only. QSL via SP5EAQ, direct or by the Bureau. For more details and updates, watch: <http://sp5drh.com/a3eq>

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Bruce, ZL1AAO, active as E51AAO from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) between May 3-17th. Activity will be holiday style, and he will be operational on SSB only, 40-10 meters, using 100 watts to a dipole or 1/4 wave GP antennas. QSL via LoTW, eQSL and direct only; sorry no Bureau cards. He will upload the log when he returns home.



E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Tony, ZL2AGY, active as E51AGY from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) starting May 7th for about 24 days. He states, "This will be a CW only op running my K3 barefoot, and may include some form of activity in the WPX CW Contest during the last weekend of May..... I hope to be reasonably active, but the food, the weather, the sea, the people, are all very pleasant in Raro, so I might have other things to occupy my time as well!" QSL via his home call sign, direct (details on QRZ.com).

FOC EVENT (And Award). To commemorate their 75th anniversary in May, the FOC (First Class CW Operators' Club) is holding a month-long on-air event featuring more than 20 special "FOC" suffix calls. These will include GB75FOC, a special anniversary call sign for their club station. (GP4FOC will be used when operating from Guernsey, GS4FOC from Scotland and GT4FOC from Isle of Man). There will be many other FOC call signs from the USA and VE and from more exotic locations such as VQ9, HZ1 and 5T. Stations will gain points for contacting any FOC member and a beautiful certificate will be presented to stations who reach certain point levels. Complete details are available on the FOC Web page at: <http://www.g4foc.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1537887>

IOTA NEWS.....

IOTA DXPEDITION. John, YB5NOF, along with possibly 1 or 2 more operators, will activate three Indonesian IOTA groups during the months of May, June and July. His plans are tentative, but here is the schedule:

Banggai Island (OC-208) - During late April/early May; he will apply for the YE8B callsign.

Subi Besar Islands (OC-109) - Sometime in June; he will apply for the YE5S callsign.

Tambelan Islands (OC-122) - During July for the RSGB IOTA Contest; apply for the YE5T callsign.

EU-001. Operators Teo/SV1GRM, George/SV1RP, John/SV1GYG, John/SV1GE and Takis/SV2FWV will be active from **Kalolimnos Is.** (GIOTA DKS-048, MIA MGD-011, WLOTA 0662) May 10-20th. Activity on all HF bands & modes. QSL via SV1GRM. A personal note here. Kalolimnos is a small island off the shore of Kalymnos, a Greek island in the Dodecanese Island group. **My interest here is that my family's history begins on Kalymnos. So I'll be very interested in working this little DXpedition in May.**

EU-028. Members of the Valle Brembana DX and Contest (VBDXC) Team will be active as IA5A from **Giglio** between April 29th and May 4th. Operators mentioned are Ezio/IK2AHB, Diego/IW2MZX, Alessandro/ IW5ELA, Andrea/IZ2AJE and Fabio/IZ2GMT. QSL via IK2AHB, direct or by the Bureau.

EU-030. Tom, DL7UZO, will be active as 5P9Z from **Bornholm Island** (DIA BO-001, WLOTA 2203) between May 25th and June 1st (2013). Activity will be on 160 m Digital modes, as well as all bands on CW. QSL via DL7UZO, direct or DARC Bureau. A Web page is available at: <http://www.5p9z.com>

EU-038. Dirk, DL5DCL, active as PA/DL5DCL from **Ameland Island** (WLOTA 1059) for 5 days starting April 1st. Activity will be holiday style on several HF bands, CW only. He will have an online log search and OQRS available during and after his operation. He will have a new high quality QSL card available. QSL via DL5DCL, by the Bureau, direct or via OQRS. Visit his Web site at: <http://www.dl5dcl.de>

EU-125. Rico, DO6EBB, will once again be active as OZ/DO6EBB from Fano Island (DIA NS-002, WWFF OZFF-004) between June 22nd July 7th. Activity will be holiday style on 160-2 meters using SSB and some Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct or eQSL.

GB0, ENGLAND (CASHOTA Monument Ops). Look for John, M0JFE, of the Fleetwood Radio Enthusiast Group, (along with the help of others) to activate some CASHOTA monuments during the month of April. He has obtained the special call sign GB0FRG. His tentative schedule is as follows:

April 2nd - The Mount Pavilion & Tour of the Clock Workings; Reference numbers: LR SD333481, WAB SD34 and QRA IO83LW

April 9th - I.O.M Ferry Berth (Location where the Anchors of the Titanic were transferred from Train to Ship to be shipped to Belfast); Reference numbers: LR SD340483, WAB SD34 and QRA IO83LW

April 16th - War memorial in Memorial Park Fleetwood; Reference numbers: LR SD328474, WAB SD34 and QRA IO83LW

April 23rd - Activation Jubilee Towers Quernmore just outside of Lancaster; Reference numbers: LR SD542573, WAB SD55 and QRA IO84PA

Activity will be on 80-10 meters and 2m & 70cm; propagation dependant. Stations that work ALL 4 activations and E-mail in their log to <gb0frg@hotmail.com> will be E-mailed a special certificate from their club. The club's Web site is <http://www.fleetwoodradiogroup.moonfruit.com/#>

H44, SOLOMON ISLANDS - Operators Ralph, 5W0W/H44RK, Dom/SQ9KWW, Tom/WL7HP and Maggie/H44MK (the only local YL Ham from Sikiana) will be active as H44IOTA during their upcoming IOTA tour which will start during the first week of June. Preliminary dates have now been announced for each island, but may vary due to the nature of the tour. Here is their announced schedule:

June 1-4th - New Georgia Island (OC-149)

June 6-8th - Russell Islands (OC-168)

June 10-13th - Florida Islands (OC-158)

June 17-24th - Stewart Island (OC-285) **

July 1-7th - Nendo Island (OC-100)

July 9-12th - Vanikolo/Utupua (OC-163)

July 14-16th - Reef Islands (OC-065)

** Of special interest to IOTA chasers is **Stewart Island** (OC-285) having NEVER been activated.

Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. See OPDX.1104 for frequencies. All QSL requests are via QSL Mgr Rex Turvin, NR6M. For updates, watch: <http://www.qrz.com/db/H40RK> The group now has a Web, Twitter and FaceBook page at: <http://www.h44iota.com> <https://twitter.com/h44iota> <https://www.facebook.com/pages/H44-IOTA-DXpedition/136003426577924>

IOTA TOUR (Philippines). Dindo, DV1UD, finally received permission (after trying for several months) to land on and activate three of the 'most wanted' Islands in the DU area. Dindo will visit **Bongao Island** (OC-174), **Tawi-Tawi Island** (OC-174) and **Taganak Island** (OC-225). This is to complete some survey and research as part of his work requirements. His tentative schedule is for the first week of April. Hopefully this will allow him to stay on each island for 2-3 days. He'll grab this opportunity to activate these rare IOTA's between his work commitments. His equipment will be an Icom IC-7000, AH-4 Tuner and 100w into a Loop Antenna. Tentative departure from Manila is April 2nd, and he expects to be in Bongao, Tawi Tawi, by April 4th or 5th, via Zamboanga City. His callsign will be DX8DX, and activity will be on CW and SSB. QSL via M0OXO OQRS. For more details, visit his Blog page at: <http://www.m0oxo.com/dx8dx.html>

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>

NA-171. (Update) Operators Ismael/XE1AY, Benjamin/XE1AU, Armando/XE1CIC and Enrique/XE2AA will be active as XF2E from **Venados Island** between April 21-26th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters. QSL via IT9EJW. Visit their Web page at: <http://www.it9ejw.it/xf2e>

DX

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN. A group of Dutch radio amateurs operating from Liechtenstein between April 13-20th, as HB0/homecall. Activity on 160-10 m using CW, SSB and PSK31. During this week, a couple of SOTAs will be activated as well. Operators mentioned are Mans/PA2HGJ, Hugo/PA2HW, Robert/PA2RDK, Frank/PA3CNO, Paul/PA3DFR, Henny/PA3HK, Gert/PE0MGB and Piet/PE1FLO. QSL via PE1FLO.

J6, ST. LUCIA. Rob, N7QT, will be heading back to Saint Lucia on a suitcase mini-DXpedition as J6/N7QT between April 5-16th. He will be using the new CrankIR portable antenna system from SteppIR <www.steppir.com>. Operator Frans, J69DS, will join him. Their operational base will be a magnificent villa located in Babonneau, which overlooks the city of Gros Isle and Cap Estate. Their goal is to demonstrate "ultralite" DXpeditions from magnificent "vista" locations. The operation's equipment will include a field portable radio (battery only) and using backpack/lightweight antennas. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY or PSK, as well as operating field portable (battery only) either from the St. Lucia beaches or scenic mountain tops. During field portable operations, they will sign their call signs

/P. QSL J6/N7QT via LoTW, eQSL, by the Bureau, or direct to his home callsign (SASE required!). J69DS will only accept direct QSLs with a SASE. NO Bureau QSLs!

MJ, JERSEY. A Belgian team will be active as MJ/ON6NB from Jersey between May 24-30th. Operators mentioned are Philippe/ON4ACP, Erik/ON4ANN, Jose/ ON4CAU, Erik/ON4CCV, Walter/ON8CW, Cedric/ON4CKM and Rudi/ON6MI. The pilot station will be Frans/ON6QB. Activity on 160-2 m using CW, SSB and PSK. An emphasis will be on the higher bands, conditions permitting. QSL via ON4ANN, direct or by the Bureau. There will be an online log search at: <https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/mj/on6nb> A Web page is available at: <http://users.telenet.be/on4ann/MJ/index.html>

PA150, NETHERLANDS (Special Event). Fred, PA0FAW, will be active as PA150BA between April 1-28th. Activity is to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Bronbeek, a former Royal palace in Arnhem that is now a museum and a home for elderly soldiers and disabled KNIL (The Royal Netherlands East Indies Army) soldiers. The inhabitants took their collections of 'souvenirs' with them. This turned into a museum about the Dutch East Indies. Operations will be mainly CW, with some Digital and SSB. This operation will have a World Flora Fauna (WFF) reference number of WFF-PA-005. Fred is a member of the ISWL and Euro PSK club. QSL via PA0FAW, by the Bureau, eQSL and direct, but no LoTW. SWL reports are welcome direct, no need for return postage.

PJ4, BONAIRE. Operators Janusz/SP9FIH and Kazik/SP6AXW will be active as PJ4/homecall from Bonaire (SA-006, WLOTA LH-1279) between April 8-20th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are: SSB - 1880, 3780, 7180, 14180, 18140, 21280, 24980, 28480 and 50120 kHz RTTY - 1835, 3580, 7035, 10140, 14080, 18100, 21080, 24920 and 28080 kHz

SOUTHEAST ASIAN TOUR. The "425 DX News" reports that Alan, G0RCI, will be in **Singapore (9V)** and hopefully **Malaysia (9M2)** between April 1-12th. He plans to operate as 9V1/G0RCI and 9M2/G0RCI "as much as the XYL allows". QSL via his home call sign direct.

ST, SUDAN. "The Daily DX" reports that Mario, CT1FTR, has moved to the Sudan and has recently obtained his ST2FT license. He is using a FT-857 that is 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.

V6, MICRONESIA. Operators Takio/JH3QFL and Keizo/JH3AZC will be active as V6H and V6S, respectively, from the South Park Hotel in Pohnpei between April 29th and May 5th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and JT65. QSL via their home call sign.

Get on the air this month and have some fun working DX. Til next month, 73 and GUD DX!!

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"

Links to YouTube Videos for Fun

K9CT Contest Station Tower Erection

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUWI38ocVTM>

W0RIC TOWER MOVIE2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=haWbNcx2qp0>

Amateur Radio Op Buys a New Ham Radio, Wife Not Pleased

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&NR=1&v=O7kirdtdI1c>



73,
Dave, W8HFY

HAZARD FRAUGHT TOOLS

Low-Quality Tools at Ridiculous Prices

HOW DO WE DO IT?

How does Hazard Fraught Tools sell low-quality merchandise to such a willing public? By convincing men that even though they don't need any of this stuff, owning it will make them feel more "manly." Seriously guys, how often are you going to use that reciprocating hydraulic miter clamp? Besides, why waste extra money on quality tools that you could someday hand down to your son or grandson? They won't care and neither will you, since you'll be dead. Save that money and buy something you can **really** use, like a large plastic jar — the kind you buy at Costco that's filled with stale pretzels — full of bungee cords (Aisle 6-A). Remember, it's always good to have seven dozen spare bungee cords around!

USELESS COUPON!



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WITH ANY PURCHASE

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3-1/2"
SUPER BRIGHT
9 LED ALUMINUM
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Compare To Those Expensive
\$8.99 Models They're Now Selling
At The Dollar Store For A Dollar.

ITEM 020564
OUR REG. PRICE \$6.99

No rainchecks. Limited to stock on hand. And we're already out. In fact, we specifically direct our store managers to not order these when we're running this coupon. Offer good only on item shown, not on three other identical models we carry with different stock numbers. We trust you're reading this fine print only after you've come into the store.

USELESS COUPON!

48-PIECE SCREWDRIVER SET

- Standard flathead
- Standard Phillips head
- Plus 46 others you'll never use but will have to sort through in your toolbox to get to the one that you need



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\$24⁹⁹
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SELF-TUMBLING PATIO UMBRELLA

"Roaming" patio and beach umbrellas are specially weighted to take off in the slightest breeze. Fun way to meet your neighbors as you retrieve it — or, at the shore, to become the next viral video sensation as dozens of beachgoers videotape you chasing an elusive parasol endlessly down the sand like a jackass

ITEM 190571
\$24⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$9.99



WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER

USELESS COUPON!

80-PIECE ROTARY NOSE-PICKING KIT

ITEM 808080
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REG. PRICE \$29.99



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8 Functions:

- Untranking concrete hex finials
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- Anomorgling deck shims
- Preneumanizing subdivots
- Torquening slotted camshanks
- Synchrofusing synthetic toggle bearings
- Electromuting compressed velonoid laminate
- Removing ear wax

*Submersible dual-angle inverted caliper attachment required. (Sold separately.)

21,000 MEGLINATIONS PER MINUTE

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Has
Ever Paid
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Anywhere!™**

ON SALE FOR FOUR YEARS STRAIGHT AND WE'VE STILL GOT A WAREHOUSE FULL OF 'EM!

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when presented in an environment reminiscent of a yard sale!*



OVERWHELMING 148-PIECE TOOL KIT

- All tools guaranteed to be subpar even by our standards
- Miniature, near-useless versions of real tools that no one would buy separately
- Perfect gift for daughter's first apartment despite the fact that she doesn't know how to change a light bulb and hangs pictures by hammering screws into drywall with the heel of her shoe
- 4-drawer chest makes useful makeup caddy once tools are tossed away



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16-TON HYDRAULIC NAIL UNBENDER

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Protect eyes and maintain inflated sense of self-importance when using power tools

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COUPON!**



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- In 2", 3", 4" widths
- Laser pointer accurately guides user towards surface to be painted
- Warning: Remove cats from room when painting

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MORON LAMP

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REG. PRICE \$1.99

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Choose from Big Bird,
Ernie, Cookie Monster

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Add tiny, useless key-knife to
keychain and completely forget
about it until TSA agents discover
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- Assemble in an afternoon
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- Barely big enough to turn around in
- Cheap plastic sheeting punctures with pine needles, heavy rain

ITEM GR710519

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Also ideal for most walrus carcasses

ITEM WH6480

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6" MOHEL KNIFE

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ITEM 117114

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- AC/DC voltage tester
- Meat thermometer
- Gaydar
- Searchable Bible
- Paternity tester
- Corn-on-the-cob holder

ITEM KC091710

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HEAVY-DUTY PNEUMATIC SLIDE WHISTLE

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\$69⁹⁹
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18-VOLT CORDLESS HAMMER

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- Higher numbered area in "danger" red

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REG. PRICE \$2.99

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16" MANUAL CHAINSAW

ITEM TX51974

\$79⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$49.99

USELESS
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REG. PRICE \$9.99

USELESS
COUPON!



50-FT GARDEN HOSE/ EXTENSION CORD COMBO

Do not get cord wet.

ITEM 50WZZZ

\$29⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$13.99

Some More Good YouTube Links

How NOT to Raise a Tower - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&v=VVldW9FBH4&NR=1>

How NOT to put up an antenna at Field Day - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqmQ1CMrqkY>

Rap Video - Edison - vs - Tesla - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJ1Mz7kGVf0>



Disclaimer

Yes folks, it's April. And with that month, I try to throw in a bunch of material that has a bit of humor to celebrate April Fool Day. If you found something offensive - I am sorry, really. If you found something that made you laugh - That's Great ! I must say, finding the material for the April issue is getting harder and harder each year, even with the internet. So when you run across something that you think would be good of the next April issue, please send it to me. I'll throw it in my April Folder.

Now, just to be clear about a disclaimer:

This newsletter is meant for educational purposes only. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead is purely coincidental. Void where prohibited. Some assembly required. List each check separately by bank number. Batteries not included. Contents may settle during shipment. Use only as directed. No other warranty expressed or implied. Do not use while operating a motor vehicle or heavy equipment. Postage will be paid by addressee. Subject to approval. This is not an offer to sell securities. Apply only to affected area. May be too intense for some viewers. Do not stamp. Use other side for additional listings. For recreational use only. Do not disturb. All models over 18 years of age. If condition persists, consult your physician. No user-serviceable parts inside. Freshest if eaten before date on carton. Subject to change without notice. Times approximate. Simulated picture. No postage necessary if mailed in the United States. Breaking seal constitutes acceptance of agreement. For off-road use only. As seen on TV. One size fits all. Many suitcases look alike. Contains a substantial amount of non-tobacco ingredients. Colors may, in time, fade. We have sent the forms which seem to be right for you. Slippery when wet. For office use only. Not affiliated with the American Red Cross. Drop in any mailbox. Edited for television. Keep cool; process promptly. Post office will not deliver without postage. List was current at time of printing. Return to sender, no forwarding order on file, unable to forward. Not responsible for direct, indirect, incidental or consequential damages resulting from any defect, error or failure to perform. At participating locations only. Not the Beatles. Penalty for private use. See label for sequence. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Do not write below this line. Falling rock. Lost ticket pays maximum rate. Your cancelled check is your receipt. Add toner. Place stamp here. Avoid contact with skin. Sanitized for your protection. Be sure each item is properly endorsed. Sign here without admitting guilt. Slightly higher west of the Mississippi. Employees and their families are not eligible. Beware of dog. Contestants have been briefed on some questions before the show. Limited time offer, call now to insure prompt delivery. You must be present to win. No passes accepted for this engagement. No purchase necessary. Processed at location stamped in code at top of carton. Shading within a garment may occur. Use only in well-ventilated area. Keep away from fire or flame. Replace with same type. Approved for veterans. Booths for two or more. Check here if tax deductible. Some equipment shown is optional. Price does not include taxes. No Canadian coins. Not recommended for children. Prerecorded for this time zone. Reproduction strictly prohibited. No solicitors. No alcohol, dogs, or horses. No anchovies unless otherwise specified. Restaurant package, not for resale. List at least two alternate dates. First pull up, then pull down. Call toll free before digging. Driver does not carry cash. Some of the trademarks mentioned in this product appear for identification purposes only. Record additional transactions on back of previous stub. Decision of judges is final. This supersedes all previous notices.

Thanks & 73

Okay - Another April Fool issue in the books. If it wasn't real obvious, look at the Table of Contents on Page 2. The April Fool items are italicized. I hope you had as much fun reading this issue of the RADIOGRAM as I did.

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, KC8PD, KD8MQ, W8KNO, KB6NU, KB8UUZ, KB8AMZ, K8JE, WB8VNO, K6SGH, K8IDW, K8CAV, W8PT, W8HFY, DX WORLD NET, USPS, The ARRL and the World-Wide Web



Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

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Just a Few More Pictures I Had

Just for the fun of it - Didn't have anything written up, but thought they were fun:



Pictures from the March Meeting





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

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM
at: **Stringz & Wingz - 1543 SR 303 - Streetsboro, OH 44241**

www.stringzwingz.com



We're all getting old.

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

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

2013 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Club Callsign Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
EchoLink	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
Field Day 2013	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
F.Y.A.O. 2013	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
Historian	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
K8BF QSL Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Net Coordinator	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
Newsletter	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
OSPOTA 2013	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
P.I.O.	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Secretary	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
VE Liaison	WA8AR	Tony Romito
Webmaster	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	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
K8IV	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
KB8IHG	Christopher Vince
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KD8RJV	Jim Corbett
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