



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



February 2013 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 8 No. 2

~ 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

You've probably noticed by now, both the December Christmas Party and the January PCARS meeting featured a new seating arrangement. I think this is working out better for us mostly because it gets everyone together. The booths just seemed to separate those who were sitting in them from the rest of the group. I know Bob, K8FEY, has been experimenting with and dialing in the sound system. It keeps getting better, but it still needs some fine tuning. I know he's planning to bring in extra speakers so that the sound to the rear can be reinforced. Bob says that PCARS members have been very helpful in schlepping the equipment both in and out of the meeting. Thank you to those of you who have taken it upon yourselves to help in that way. It's Greatly Appreciated! I'm still getting some comments that even though the sound is improving, it's still distracting to have other conversations going on while the program is in process. Please, if you are not going to pay attention, take your conversations out to the bar area so as not to distract from those who are trying to listen. Finally, service has improved from the wait staff. I know that there will always be something that goes wrong, if it doesn't get corrected, please tell me or Bill, WB9LBI - so we can advise management that they need to deal with it. Remember, stuff happens.



Tom, WB8LCD

Speaking of stuff happening, I sure hope you've got FYAO marked on your calendar for the 16th. I'm hoping I'll see all of you there. Someone has to out do Klondike Mike this year! We need some "little gun" to hit it out of the park. When you show up, please bring some good eats to share, and come hungry yourselves. Whether operating, or just socializing, FYAO is always a fun day. The QRP/CW SIG, scheduled for February 12th, will feature Dave, WB2DFC - with some antenna ideas for your FYAO QRP station.... check it out. All rules and forms necessary for FYAO are posted on the PCARS website www.portcars.org.

After our "Bring Your Homebrew Project" meeting topic last month, there was a lot of talk about the "Plumber's Special", collapsible J-Pole antenna. So much so, that it's now a PCARS project that will take place at the club site on Saturday, March 9, starting at 10 AM. A complete kit of parts will be provided, with some of the prep work already done. It will be a simple project that anyone will be capable of completing. Expert

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



From the President (continued from Page 1)

builders will be on hand to help. Total cost will be between \$25 - \$30 per antenna. Please let me know ahead of time if you will plan on building one of these kits so I can make sure I have enough for everyone who wants one. You will find this a very useful extra antenna to have on hand.

Speaking of using that antenna, you really should consider participating in the Portage County Communications Unit and / or ARES® of Portage County. Both are now offering training programs that will make you a better operator in EmComm situations, which is one of the stated purposes of the Amateur Radio Service. The other important thing here is that by participating in either program, you are helping to build familiarity with the general public, and with public service employees, with the Amateur Radio Service and all of the capabilities we have to offer. The more positive exposure we get, the easier it will be to keep our hobby growing, maintain our frequency allocations and, have our antennas and equipment not looked at as just ugly appendages, but more accurately as an added layer of security for our local community. Remember to smile a lot.

Come on out for the February meeting! (Hey, even if you aren't a PCARS member, but you're reading this, I want you to know you are welcome at a PCARS meeting or event.) George, K3GP will be presenting a program on Logbook of the World. In retrospect, this was actually a very forward thinking project by the ARRL, and its participation level by hams world-wide is proving that out. George is very knowledgeable and can help you understand everything that can be done with Logbook of the World. He can also help you

understand all the intricacies of the system that you need to get right. Believe me, paying close attention to this one could reduce your frustration level with the system dramatically.

Want to learn the morse code? Bill's got that covered elsewhere, but why would you want to? Well, when Dave, WA8KHP did his program on FLDigi, he showed us the VOACAP software. This program takes some basic information, such as date, time of day, frequency, operating mode, antenna, etc... and graphically displays what areas should be "open" for communications. If you put in all your parameters, and then compare the output for SSB vs. CW, you will notice that, all other things being equal, CW displays a much larger "open" area for communications. The point being, if you are a DX'r, Contester or even just a casual operator, more of the world will be open to you at any given time as a CW op as opposed to an SSB op. Something to consider.

I could talk about PCARS and Ham Radio in general all day, but I guess I'll stop here for now. Not only are you involved with one of the best and most interesting hobbies in the world, you're also involved with one of the most active and best amateur radio clubs on the planet! Have Fun!

73,
Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS President



From the Vice President

Three Personal Invitations

Starting on Tuesday, February 5, I'll be teaching Morse Code classes over the 146.895 repeater. I'd like to invite you to (pick one): a) learn CW for the first time, b) spiff up your rusty code skills that languishing lo these many years. Full details on the PCARS web site: www.portcars.org.



Bill, WB9LBI

The code classes are conducted three times a week, Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday at 9:00 pm. Coincidentally, the Tri-County Traffic Net convenes on the same nights at 9:30 pm. The net normally meets on 147.015, but as of this writing is utilizing the back-up repeater on 146.850. Better check both frequencies. PCARS members Steve, K8SRR and Nick, N8WLE are regular check-ins on this net. This is a great opportunity to meet some new people and get to know the art of Traffic Handling. At the very least, you can explain to the net how much you've been enjoying the CW net that start 30 minutes earlier.

What can you do with these newfound traffic handling and CW skills? Funny you should ask; I just happen to have a couple of ideas for you. If you are HF-capable, you could join in on the Maryland Slow Net, 7:30 pm daily on 3563 kHz. This is a low-speed CW net that has a training course to teach you how to pass written message traffic on CW. Every time you check in, you can request training, and receive three

messages from the training program that explain various aspects of net operations and traffic procedure. When you've copied all 158, you're ready to become an instructor and pass your knowledge on to the next generation of hams.

At that point, you'll be ready for the big time: the Buckeye Net. This twice daily operation (6:45 pm and 10:00 pm) takes all CW traffic in and out of Ohio. Together with the regional net that covers Ohio, Michigan and West Virginia, and the Area net that handle the entire eastern third of the continent, these nets are the backbone of organized amateur radio and have been for the past 100 years.

Some of the very best operators that you will ever meet are regulars on these nets. Some of them have had their tickets since before you or I were born. All of them would welcome the opportunity to pass on their skills to the next generation of hams. That, of course, would be you.

There you have my invitations. No need to RSVP, just come as you are and show up on time. Normally, I'd close by reminding you to get your excuses ready for next time we meet ("The dog ate my handheld! Honest! Cross my heart!") but, this time, I'd like to ask a favor: If you can't make it to the CW course, please tell somebody who might be interested. I would very much appreciate it. Thanks in advance, and 73.

Bill, WB9LBI

PCARS Yahoo Site

Members are reminded that PCARS has a Yahoo Group dedicated to PCARS information. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list. Check out the PCARS Yahoo Group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCARS/>.



Hamfest Calendar

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

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

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

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- February - **On-Air CW Training** - See article in this newsletter
- February 11th - **PCARS Meeting** - Logbook Of The World - George, K3GP
- February 16th - **FYAO - 8th Annual QRP Event** - see the flier for details
- February 19th - **Field Day Meeting** at club site - 7:30 pm.
- February 26th - **General class complete** - VE session at club site - 7:00 pm - open to all
- March 9th - **Portable J-Pole Project Day** at the club site - 10 AM
- March 11th - **PCARS Meeting** - Vibroplex Factory Tour
- April 8th - **PCARS Meeting** - Software Defined Radios

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



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



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

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

February 2nd, April 6th, June 1st, August 3rd, October 5th and December 7th



On February 26th the club's General Class Upgrade Course will be completed and there will be a VE session at the club site starting at 7:00 pm that is open to all (Tech, General or Extra).

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

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



BSA to Offer Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has approved an Amateur Radio Operator rating strip for Scouts and Scouters to wear on their uniforms. According to BSA



Communication Services Director Jim Wilson, K5ND, the strip recognizes the Scout or Scouter's availability as an Amateur Radio operator for communication services for events and activities, as well as emergencies. All registered youth members and adult leaders who also hold a valid FCC-issued Amateur Radio license of any class are eligible to wear the rating strip.

"Last year, the BSA Awards and Insignia Committee introduced the Morse Code Interpreter Strip upon the recommendation of the BSA's National Radio Scouting Committee," Wilson told the ARRL. "We are always looking for ways to promote Amateur Radio, both within Scouting and to the world. The National Radio Scouting Committee thought this new Amateur Radio rating strip was a wonderful way to do exactly that, as it readily identifies to everyone that the wearer is a licensed radio amateur, prepared to be useful and to help others."

Wilson, who heads up the National Radio Scouting Committee, said that the Amateur Radio Operator rating strip is similar to the Amateur Radio Operator badge offered as a proficiency badge by Scouts Australia, as well as the badge recently introduced by Scouting Netherlands. It follows in the footsteps of the Scout Radioman personal interest badge for Senior Scouts and Explorer Scouts that was offered by the Boy Scouts of America in the 1940s. The strip is worn on the right sleeve.

From the ARRL



No-Excuses Morse Code Training Course

Here's your chance to learn Morse Code from the comfort of your home on your 2-meter hand held radio. Starting in February, PCARS will conduct No Excuses Morse Code Training. We call it No Excuses because:

- All training is conducted on the air
- No books to pay for. Course materials can be downloaded
- No charge for the training course
- Sessions are conducted three times weekly.
- Lesson plans for the entire course are published in this article, so you can always go catch up the sessions you miss.
- Lecture portion of each session is short, usually about 5 minutes.
- You can race ahead in the course and impress/annoy (pick one) your friends.
- You can generate your own code practice, using free software.
- Sessions are 20 – 30 minutes each.

As with any Morse Code course, success lies with your willingness to practice 20 minutes daily. We've tried to make it as easy as possible. Come join in the fun!

Your Instructor: Bill Fraedrich, WB9LBI

- Instructor, Maryland Slow Net CW traffic training course
- Net Control, Tri-County Traffic Training Net
- Manager, Buckeye Late Net (Ohio state-wide CW traffic net)
- Manager, Eighth Region Net (Ohio-West Virginia-Michigan CW traffic net)



Goals

- Solid Copy 5 words per minute (WPM) in 20 hours of training.
- Conduct all training via 2m FM
- Training Plan published in advance so that students can move ahead, catch up missed sessions, or alternate instructors can step in.

Schedule: Tuesday, Friday, Sunday @ 9pm for 30 minutes Frequency: 146.895 repeater

Course Materials: See the PCARS Website (<http://www.portcars.org/wp/?p=2031#more-2031>) for details.

Bill, WB9LBI



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



Contest Calendar

February 2013	
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 2 to 2400Z, Feb 3
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 2 to 2359Z, Feb 3
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 2
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 2 to 0100Z, Feb 4
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 2 to 1759Z, Feb 3
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 3
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2400Z, Feb 10
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 9 to 2200Z, Feb 10
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 10
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 16 to 2400Z, Feb 17
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 22 to 2159Z, Feb 24
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 23 to 1800Z, Feb 24
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 23 to 0600Z, Feb 24

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in February:

N4IT	Carl Capps
K8JE	Jim Weaver
KC8LJY	Mike Bakes
W8HFY	David Reith
W8DEC	Matthew Welch
KD8KCY	James Gurney
KD8RHV	Kathleen Smeiles
KD8DFL	Ray Larrick

KC8YYS	James Albright
KD8MLF	Eileen Mohr
KD8ONJ	Daniel Harrison
KD8FLX	Bob Leasure
KB8DPN	Russ Anderson, Sr.
KD8FLZ	Mike DiCarro
KD8MVC	Daniel McNutt

DX and Contesting SIG

The special interest group meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Club House. In January, the meeting occurred on the 22nd. It did not seem like the fourth Tuesday but it was. Those attending were Erica, AE8YL, Mike, KB8TUY, Rich, KC8TZU, Dave, WA8GCF and Joe, W8KNO.

The items discussed were the b4h.net logging software and it was then viewed from the website, the triplexer and contests to participate in this year. It is presently anticipated to enter the Ohio QSO Party as well as the California QSO Party. The results of the 2012 California QSO Party are usually published during February or March of the year following the contest. Therefore, keep your eyes open to read how we did.

Remember, everyone is invited to the meeting.



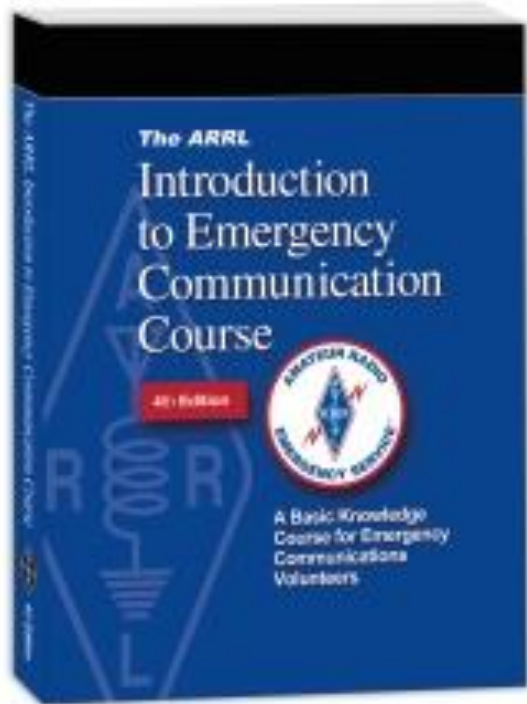
Joe, W8KNO

Introduction to Emergency Communications Class – 2013

The Communications Unit/RACES of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (EMA) is sponsoring a local, classroom based version of the ARRL's Introduction to Emergency Communications course. This was previously known as the Level I course and it has traditionally only been available on-line through the ARRL.

This local course will be taught by Jim Aylward, KC8PD, and Matt Welch, W8DEC, who are registered Field Instructors and Field Examiners for the ARRL. That means that this class will qualify you to take the written exam at the end of the course in order to obtain your ARRL certificate of completion.

The class will meet on four Saturdays in March, the 2nd and 9th, followed by the 23rd and 30th. There will be no class on March 16th, both to provide a break for the students and to enable class participants to attend the Ohio Section ARES® Leadership meeting. The class will be held at the Center of Hope, 1034 West Main Street, Ravenna, and will begin at 9:00 a.m. and run to 3:00 p.m., with a break for lunch, on each day. Attendance at the classes is mandatory. Excuses from a class session will only be granted for extraordinary reasons and anyone who misses more than one class will not be permitted to take the exam.



Anyone wishing to take the class must register prior to the class so that we can ensure that sufficient seating is available. The number of students may be limited. If you wish to attend you must pre-register by sending a note to KC8PD at aylwardjim@aol.com. Contact him if you have any questions about the class.

There is great deal of material to cover for this class and all students should purchase the course manual from the ARRL, <http://www.arrl.org/shop/The-ARRL-Introduction-to-Emergency-Communication-Course/>. The book is item #7303 and costs \$24.95.

There will be no charge for the class and you do not have to be an ARRL or ARES® member to participate. There is a \$15.00 fee, payable to the ARRL, to take the final exam.

This is a great opportunity to be able to obtain the certification without the expense of the tuition for the on-line course. However, everyone must be prepared to be involved and to participate in order to obtain the maximum benefit from the material.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH

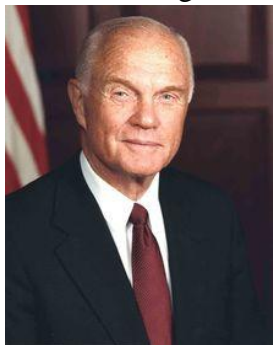
Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit/RACES

DEC, ARES® District Five

Emergency Operations Officer, Ohio Army MARS

Paper Chase

I hope you worked the Ohio Blizzard of '78 Special Event station from last month's article. As mentioned, The Cambridge Amateur Radio Association will be running a special event each month of 2013. This month commemorates John H. Glenn, Jr. Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth, aboard Friendship 7 on February 20, 1962, on the Mercury-Atlas 6 mission, circling the globe three times during a flight lasting 4 hours, 55 minutes, and 23 seconds. This made Glenn the third American in space and the fifth human being in space.



The Special Event will take place Feb 16 from 0800-1600 local time. Look for W8VP at 14.260 and 7.235 MHz. A QSL is available from the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. You can find more information at www.w8vp.org.

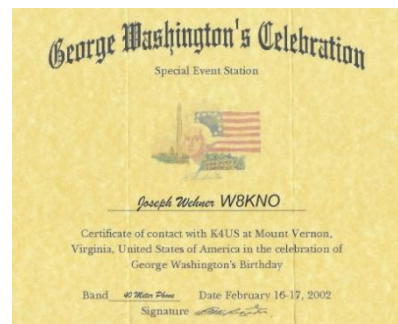
While you are looking for the John Glenn special event station, tune a little bit higher to 14.240 or 7.240 for SSB or 7.036 for CW on Feb 16 & 17 from 1100-1600. You should be able to be able to work K4US. It is a special event originating from Mount Vernon, VA. by the Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club. A certificate is available from the Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club, Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307. www.mvarc.org. If you do not want to wait for a certificate in the mail, email your QSL info to SpecialEvent@mvarc.com and they will email you the certificate as a PDF file.



Since you have two special events on same weekend, do not forget to listen for any Valentine Day special event station.

Spin that dial and we will hear you in the pile-ups,

Joe, W8KNO



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



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!

February	
7	KD8FDK
14	WB8LCD
21	N8RLG
28	WB2DFC

March	
7	N8QE
14	K8IV
21	NR8W
28	KB8UHN

April	
4	KB8UUZ
11	KD8JCY
18	KD8DFL
25	KJ4MPN

May	
2	KD8FDK
9	KC8PD
16	N8QE
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



Early Spring Technician Class

What: Amateur Radio Technician License Class - An Introduction to Amateur (HAM) Radio. All preparation needed to get your license and get on the air! We will cover all test questions and provide demonstrations. License testing will be held on the last day of class.

Who: Anybody who has an interest in learning about Amateur Radio. (Amateur Operators come from all walks of life – astronauts, missionaries, doctors, students, politicians, truck drivers and just plain folks. They are all linked by their interest in wireless communications technologies.)

When: Tuesday evenings, 7-9PM, Starting February 5, 2013 until March 26, 2013. (8-weeks)

Where: Grace Church of Rootstown - 4808 Tallmadge Road, Rootstown, Ohio

Cost: There is NO CHARGE for the class, however the study manual cost is \$30.

Text: Ham Radio License Manual Revised 2nd Edition / ISBN: 978-0-87259-097-7 - Softcover: 336 pages
Publisher: The American Radio Relay League, Inc.; Revised Second Edition/Second Printing (November 2010)

For more information: Contact **Russ Anderson (KB8DPN)** - russ@zzruss.com or call 330-296-3783

More Info on Amateur Radio: <http://WeDoThat-Radio.org>

Russ, KB8DPN



Field Day 2013 Meeting.

PCARS will hold its first Field Day planning meeting on Tuesday February 19th at 7:30 PM at the club site in Ravenna. This meeting is open to anyone interested in Field Day and I want to ask that all of you who are interested in Field Day to make plans to attend. Chuck, W8PT has volunteered to be the Assistant Field Day Chairman this year and one of the things both he and I would like to do at our first meeting is get volunteers to staff the positions necessary to make Field Day work.

As we have the past three years, we will be using the Incident Command System for planning and operating Field Day. The Command Staff has Liaison, PIO, and Safety officer positions to be filled. The General Staff has CW, 20m, 40m, Flex, GOTA/Youth, and VHF positions in Operations to be filled while Logistics in the General Staff needs Food Service, Power, and IT positions filled. If you are interested in filling any of these leadership positions, PLEASE plan to attend or if you can't make it to the meeting drop me an e-mail and let me know what you want to volunteer for.

In addition to filling leadership positions, we want to talk about how to most successfully complete the two objectives for the club's Field Day of providing an enjoyable and rewarding Field Day experience for all participants, and meeting the scoring objective for Field Day. Your thoughts and ideas are all important and I want to encourage you to bring and share them with us. Chuck and I look forward to see you all on the 19th!

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]

FOR SALE: Icom IC-706 Mk2G, with accessories, in metal "go" case; includes the optional 1.9 kHz SSB filter; \$700

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: Used **Leviton 430C12W** 125/250 Volt 30 Ampere watertight pin and sleeve connector in excellent condition \$80.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. Also includes an extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male cable \$30.00 ea. (12 Available) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. \$20.00 each. . (12 Available) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Andrew UHF Male Connectors for 1/2" LDF4-50A new, \$20.00 each. (12 Available) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: N-male to N-male barrel connectors \$5.00 each. (10 Available) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors [05/02/13]

GE CL01A400TJ Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$25.00 (2 Available)

GE CL01D310TD Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600V, 24 Volt Coil \$30.00 (2 Available)

GE CL25A300T Contactor 4 poles rated 32 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$35.00 (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 \$2.00 each [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: 1/4" Plate Glass for desk or table top, Great for radio bench. Size: 42" x 68" cost \$152 Asking \$50 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders DIN Rail Mount, Blown Fuse Indicator \$1.00 each (10 Available) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Station Ground Bars military surplus MADE IN U.S.A. by COLE HERSEE of Boston, MA. \$8.00 ea. (Less than 30 out of the original 60 remaining) [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: Weller 8200 Soldering Guns – last of the good ones with the tip nuts, with carrying case, spare tips and tools, two (2) available, \$45.00 each. One (1) new style \$30.00. [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: I also have a small supply of **connectors** for 1/2" Superflex, 1/2" Heliax and 7/8" Heliax . Contact me with your needs. [05/02/13]

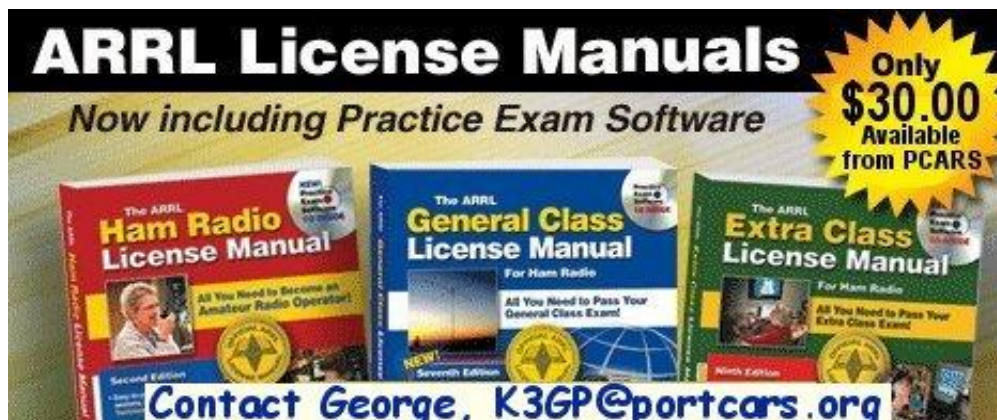
Contact James at KD8VT@portcars.org or call 330-206-4909

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: [03/02/13] This will help keep the listings current.



ARRL License Manuals

Now including Practice Exam Software

Only \$30.00 Available from PCARS

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

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

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

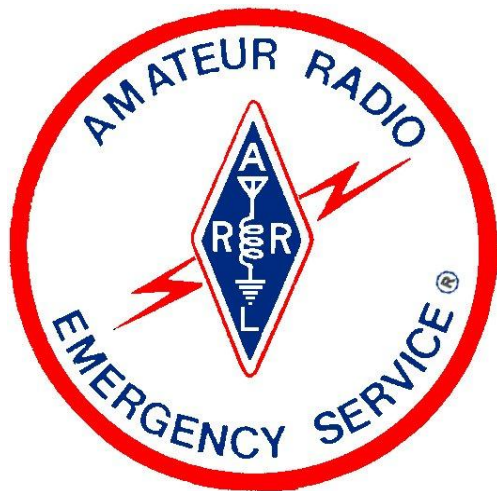
Contact George, K3GP@portcars.org

EmComm ARES®

The new year has become a time of transition for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) here in Portage County.

I am pleased to announce that Mike DiCarro, KD8FLZ, has been appointed as Emergency Coordinator for Portage County. You may already know Mike from his participation in PCARS activities or his regular presence at the club site where he keeps things orderly and operational.

In addition to serving as a Deputy Radio Officer for the Portage County EMA Communications Unit/RACES, Mike has been an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for ARES® of Portage County for the past few years. He has served as its Net Manager and the regular NCS for its biweekly training net. Mike has also been one of the most dependable volunteers for our local special event communications efforts, including serving as the communications team leader for a number of those events.



Mike has already held a meeting for ARES® of Portage County volunteers where at least a half-dozen new members signed up. He will be looking for additional new volunteers as well as regular participation by those who were already on the ARES® roster. Please show your support for Mike and local ARES® operations by participating in ARES® nets and activities. I know that we can count on Mike to be an excellent leader for the ARES® crew.

And believe me, I am counting on him! The vacancy in the EC position occurred as a result of my appointment as District Emergency Coordinator for ARES® District Five. That happened on January 2nd after SEC Matt, W8DEC, asked if I would be willing to replace Don Kemp, NN8B, from Columbiana County who needed to commit more time to the many tasks that he had taken on for his county's EMA. Don is a great guy and a terrific resource to both the EMA and his county's ARES® unit to which he is returning as an AEC.

District Five consists of Portage, Summit, Trumbull, Mahoning, Stark, Columbiana, Carroll, and Tuscarawas counties. At the time this is being written the EC position in Carroll County is vacant and in most of the other counties the EC's have been serving for a year or less. There is a lot happening with the reorganization of ARES in a couple of those counties and I plan on meeting with all of the EC's in February.

My general goals for the district will be to get an operations plan in place and then to develop ways for all of the counties to share information, resources and training. Watch for updates in future newsletters and in the meantime I encourage you to participate in ARES® activities.

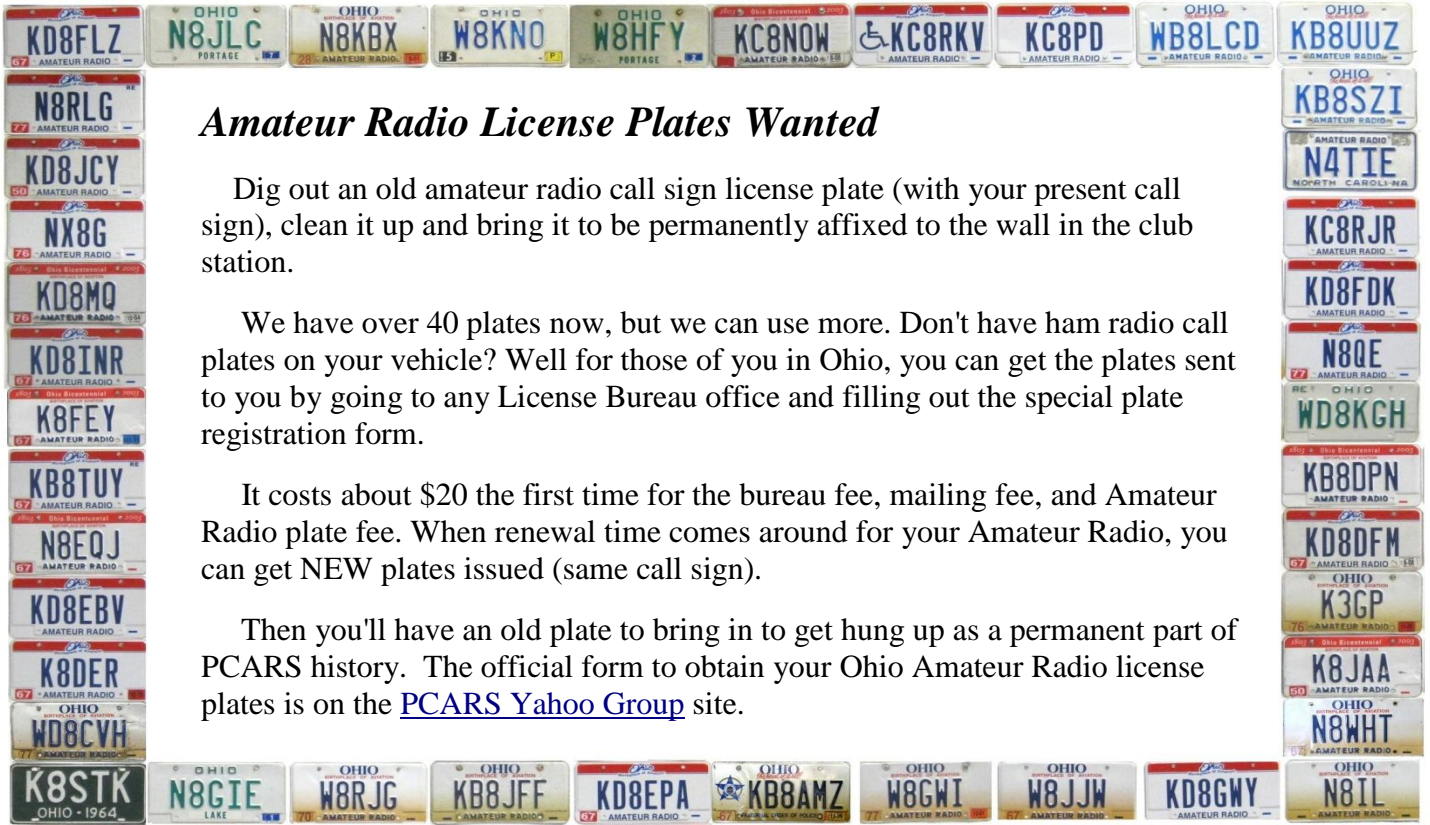
73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAM5EOH

Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit/RACES

DEC, ARES® District Five

Emergency Operations Officer, Ohio Army MARS



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



Increase in DXCC Applications, ARRL QSL Bureau Card Processing

With the coming of more sunspots comes more DX. And when more amateurs work DX, the ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department -- especially the DXCC Desk and the ARRL Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus -- goes into high gear.

"In 2012, we saw an increase in the number of cards received from ARRL members that were sent to foreign QSL bureaus, as well as the number of cards we sent out to the bureaus," said Membership and Volunteer Programs Administrative Manager Sharon Taratula. "In addition, the number of DXCC applications -- including those for initial awards and endorsements -- also increased."

In 2011, the DXCC Desk processed 11,173 applications for initial awards and endorsements; these comprised 1,305,376 QSOs. In 2012, the DXCC Desk processed 14,301 applications, comprising 1,491,661 QSOs. "This represents a 14 percent increase in the number of QSOs and a 28 percent increase in the number of applications," Taratula explained.

As the number of DXCC applications has increased, so has the number of QSL cards passing through the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau. "Through December 31, 2012, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau received 808,500 cards destined for foreign QSL bureaus from ARRL members in the US," Taratula said. "This represents an increase of 1 percent over the 2011 number of about 802,500 cards. In 2012, the ARRL shipped 731,440 cards -- or close to 5000 pounds of cards -- to foreign bureaus."

How the Bureaus Work

Each day, QSL cards are delivered to the Outgoing QSL Bureau where they are placed in dated bins. They are then sorted by country prefix and processed according to the date they were received in the Bureau. Each week, volunteers assist Outgoing QSL Bureau Associate Rose-Anne Lawrence, KB1DMW, in packing up the cards for the most active bureaus and preparing them for shipment.

Within the US, the ARRL Incoming QSL Service is made up of numerous call area bureaus, with one bureau serving each call area. These call area bureaus -- headed up by an Area Incoming Manager -- act as central clearing houses for QSL cards arriving from foreign countries. Volunteers at ARRL Headquarters sort all the incoming cards according to the number in a call sign and then send all the cards to the appropriate call area bureau. Volunteers within each bureau then sort the cards according to the first letter in a call sign's suffix. The cards are



Outgoing QSL Bureau Associate Rose-Anne Lawrence, KB1DMW, manages the Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus. Together with a slew of volunteers, Lawrence handled almost 1 million QSL cards in 2011.

[S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, photo]

then sent to those in the call area who participate in the Incoming QSL Service.

For example, cards destined for ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, would be delivered to the Area 3 Incoming Manager, because Craigie's call sign has a 3 in it. Her cards would then be sent to the person in that call area bureau responsible for sorting cards with a K, as the first letter in her suffix is a K. The cards are then delivered to Craigie. While amateurs must be an ARRL member to take advantage of the Outgoing QSL Bureau, membership is not required to receive cards from the Incoming QSL Service.

"There is a definite cycle here in the Bureau," Lawrence said. "We keep busy all year long, but it really gears up in the fall, right around Thanksgiving weekend. It tapers off a little in the spring after contest season. Hams really do love their QSL cards, and we get to see so many beautiful ones pass through the Bureau."

Lawrence receives help in the Bureau from volunteers, most notably Lisa Zeug, K1UQT, and Michael Zeug, W1YM, Area 1 letter sorters from Massachusetts who also help out in the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department. Richard Lawrence, KB1DMX, and David Kaplan, WA1OUI, help with all parts of the Bureau operation at Headquarters. John Meyer, K9QVB -- the Area 9 Incoming Manager -- comes all the way from Illinois each May every to spend a week at Headquarters slotting cards.

From the ARRL

New EC and DEC

New EC in Portage County!

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Mike DiCarro KD8FLZ, of Ravenna, OH, to the position of Emergency Coordinator for Portage County. Mike was first licensed in 2007 and upgraded to General Class in 2008. He's been in ARES® for over four years and been an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the past three years. He is the Deputy Radio Officer with the OHS/EMA Communications Unit in which RACES is a part of in Portage County. Mike is a member of the Portage County Incident Management Assistance Team and the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS). Please join me in welcoming Mike to his new appointment by sending him an email to dewado@aol.com.



New DEC in District 5!



It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Jim Aylward KC8PD, of Ravenna, OH, to the position of District Emergency Coordinator for District 5. Jim succeeds DEC Don Kemp NN8B. Don was my first DEC I ever appointed and I thank him for serving this past year. Jim has been the EC of Portage County since February 2009. He was first licensed in 2001 and upgraded to Extra Class in 2002. He is one of the founding members of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS). I thank Jim very much for accepting the DEC position. Jim's email is aylwardjim@aol.com. Please drop him an email congratulating him on his new appointment. For those who do not know, District 5 includes Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Stark, Mahoning, Columbiana, Tuscarawas, and Carroll Counties.

73,

Matt, W8DEC

Ohio ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator

Goodbye IRCs

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 23, 2012, the USPS™ published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (77 FR 64768) with changes to Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, International Mail Manual (IMM[supreg]).

“Comments: We received comments from 93 respondents on various aspects of the proposed changes. The comments and responses are included in the applicable subject matter sections below.

Three respondents supported the discontinuance of selling international reply coupons, stating the Postal Service should “streamline” their product offering of low volume items.

Ninety-one respondents opposed the discontinuance of international reply coupons. Of these, 63 respondents identified themselves as U.S. amateur radio operators who rely on international reply coupons to confirm radio contacts through the exchange of “QSL cards” and who stated that no other practical way exists for this kind of exchange. Some of the other comments from the group of 91 included the following statements: (1) “In many countries, it's either illegal to possess or mail foreign currency, or currency is routinely stolen from the mail;” (2) “In many countries the amateur radio operators do not have funds available to answer QSL requests as their income is much lower than we consider average in the United States;” (3) “There is no alternative mechanism to supply foreign correspondents with return postage;” and (4) “As a minimum, the USPS should continue to sell IRC's at the www.usps.com store or through a few dispersed Post Offices that would sell them by mail to people beyond reasonable driving distance.”

As prescribed in the Postal Regulatory Commission's (PRC) Order No. 1541, the PRC approved the Postal Service's proposal to discontinue outbound international reply coupons, while retaining inbound international reply coupon service. The PRC determined that the proposal to discontinue outbound international reply coupons was not inconsistent with the statute, and acknowledged that the small number of consumers, such as amateur radio operators, who purchase international outbound reply coupons, will no longer be able to do so, but they will still have options. For countries to which money orders may be sent, once the U.S. sender ascertains (or estimates) the cost of sending the QSL card from the foreign country to the U.S., the U.S. sender can obtain and send a money order in that amount. Finally, senders and recipients may find it more convenient and less costly to use an online payment service to transmit the cost of mailing a QSL card.”



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.**

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

It's February so that means 1 down and 11 to go. January proved to be a very cold month but we may have a little better WX this month. Tom – WB8LCD – mentioned that he thought we would have a true – Freeze Your Acorns Off – outing this month. Kudos to those who set up in the snow and cold to work QRP and see if they can come out on top of the pile.

Speaking of QRP, I worked a few QRP DX stations this past month on 10 meters. One was from the UK and the other from Italy. They were very glad to be heard on this side of the Atlantic. Even though they did not move the S meter much, they were 100% copy all the way.

As a matter of fact, if you have been on 10 and 15 meters in the morning, you could work long path to Japan and the south Pacific. In fact, my last 52 contacts have been on 10 and 15 meters and I was able to run 17 Japanese stations on 10 meters just two weeks ago.

I encourage you to get on 10 meters while it is still open this sunspot cycle because when the cycle is gone, 10 meters will be a very hard row to hoe – if you get my meaning.

Let's take a look at what we might expect in the next few months. I have left in a few items from last month's column and have included several new ones.

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).

5H, TANZANIA. Serge, F6AML, will be active as 5H1Z from Zanzibar (AF-032) between January 20th and February 28th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB. During his time there, he may be active from Mafia Island (AF-054), Pemba Island (AF-063) and an island in the AF-075 IOTA group. His equipment is a FT857D with a 400w amp into a HF6V with 8 radials. QSL via his home callsign, direct (see QRZ.com) or by the Bureau (he suggests Bureau E-mail request <qslDXped@yahoo.fr>).

5X, UGANDA (Update). Members of the F6KOP team are expected to be active as 5X8C between Feb 6-18th, from a location some 20 Km from Entebbe airport. The latest report states that the team is now complete with the last operators Jean-Louis/F5NHJ and David/EI9FBB. Unfortunately, Frank, F4AJQ, will not be able to operate from 5X and is now the team leader of the "Back Office" in France. Operators Seb/F5UFX and Alain/F6ENO are now team leaders of the DXpedition to 5X. Mode leaders are Bernard/F9IE (CW), Flo/F5CWU (SSB) and Jean-Paul/F8BJI (RTTY). The current DXpedition team is as follows:

CW Team #1: Seb/F5UFX, Dave/K4SV, Patrick/F2DX and Norbert/DJ7JC

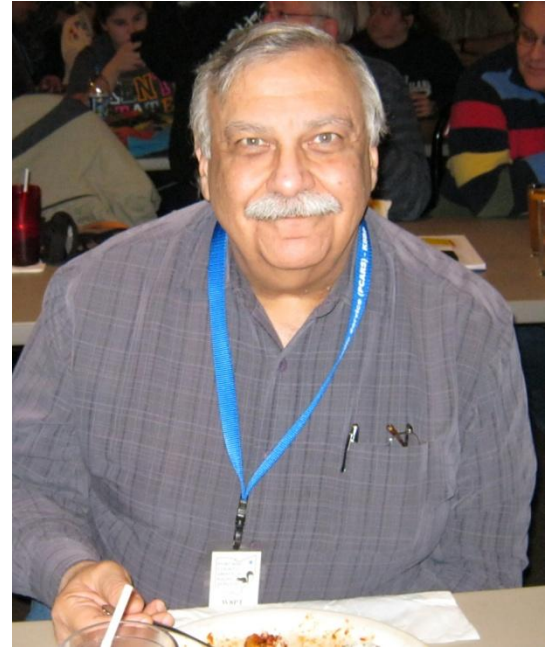
CW Team #2: Alain/F6ENO, Jean-Marc/F8IXZ, Stephane/F5UOW and Jean-Jacques/F5NKX

SSB Team #1: Gerard/F2JD, Gerard/F2VX, Eric/ON7RN and François/ON4LO

SSB Team #2: Michel/FM5CD, Lars/DF1LON, Uwe/DL8OBF and David/EI9FBB

RTTY Team: Jean-Paul/F8BJI, Hans/DL1YFF, Jean-Louis/F5NHJ and Michel/F5EOT

Mixed Mode Team: Flo/F5CWU, Valery/RG8K, Mike/UA9KGH/1 and Bernard/F9IE



9G, GHANA. 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."

9M4, SPRATLY ISLANDS. Operators John/9M6XRO, Steve/9M6DXX, James/9V1YC, Ben/DJ0YI/N6MUF, Don/G3BJ, Christian/EA3NT and Tony/KM0O will be active as 9M4SLL from Layang-Layang Island (AS-051) between March 10-18th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They will have several stations on the air with amplifiers into vertical antennas all within a few meters of the ocean. QSL Manager for this operation is Tim, M0URX (OQRS, direct, by the Bureau, LoTW). Logs will be uploaded to LoTW as quickly as possible after the DXpedition. More details will be forthcoming.

9U, BURUNDI (Update). An international team of operators from ON, PA and GM will be on the air from Bujumbura between February 14-23rd (2013). In total they will have 9 operators and four stations and airing the call sign 9U4U. Operators currently mentioned are Patrick/ON4HIL, Theo/ON4ATW, Marc/ON6CC, Luc/ON4IA, Ronald/PA3EWP, Marc/ON4AMX, Stefaan/ON4FG and Franky/ON7RU. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL Manager will be M0URX. A Web site is now online at: <http://www.9u4u.be> This DXpedition will also have a Twitter page. Also, this Expedition is organized by the "Belgian Rockall Team".

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

9Y, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (Cancelled). Jim, N6TJ, has cancelled his activity as 9Y4W from Scarborough, Tobago Island (SA-009, WLOTA 0412), for the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 16-17th). His host on Tobago has a broken tower and there is no time to fix it before the contest.

10th AAW IN FEBRUARY. Look for the 10th **Antarctic Activity Week (AAW)** to take place between February 18-24th (2013). This event is promoted by Worldwide Antarctic Program (WAP) <<http://www.waponline.it>> each year to improve the world-wide attention about the Antarctic Continent and its related matters, with the aim of staying close to the researchers and personnel who are spending their time away from home and families, studying the Antarctic life and its secrets in the so many remote scientific stations in this icy continent. The WAP is also thankful for what the Nations and Research Foundations are doing to protect this still uncontaminated corner of the planet and to share a message of peace among the world. The AAW is a unique event world-wide where Hams (in any corners of the world) sign up and help promote the special attention given to the Antarctica. This worldwide event is open to all radio amateurs wishing to join them using a special call sign, which help promote the Antarctica. All SES with a WAP reference number will qualify for WAP ASEA (Antarctic Special events Award). The WAP Ref. number for any special callsign requested/issued for this occurrence can be provided upon request by sending an E-mail to I1HYW (QRZ.com). The list of participants is still open and is available at: <http://www.waponline.it/Default.aspx?tabid=113>

AAW ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCED. HF0A (WAP-237) SES (Special Event Station) working AAW. Janusz, SP9YI, informs that he will work as HF0A between January 15th and February 28th (2013) and in particular during 10th AAW. QSL via SP9YI. Janusz already holds WAP-215 for HF36POL and WAP 216 for HF35APAS for past activities, and now he has WAP-237, for HF0A.

A3, TONGA (Update). Werner, DJ9KH, will be active from Tongatapu Island (OC-049) between February 13-23rd, and Vava'u Island (OC-064) between February 24th and March 2nd. His callsigns will be A31WH (OC-049) and A31WH/p (OC-064). He will pick up his license as soon as he arrives in Tonga. His equipment will be a K3 with 100 watts and wire-antennas (loops and verticals). Activity will be on the HF bands, depending on propagation. Suggested frequencies are:

- CW - 1826.5, 3505, 7020, 10105, 14024, 18080, 21024, 24894 and 28024 kHz

- SSB - 3799, 7070, 14190, 18145, 21290, 24950 and 28490 kHz
- RTTY - 10140, 14080, 18110, 21080, 24920 and 28080 kHz

DXCC NEWS. Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Mgr, is now accepting the following operation for DXCC credit: Z81Z – Republic of South Sudan; Current operation commencing January 8, 2013

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

EI13, IRELAND (Special Event). "The Gathering... an Irish party, on and off the airwaves." Throughout 2013, Irish families and clans will be coming together in thousands of events, both on the island and around the globe, to celebrate their history and heritage in a unique event called "The Gathering". Irish amateur radio stations, North and South, will be participating and all operators throughout the world, whether they have some Irish blood or not, are invited to join in the celebrations. The special event callsign EI13CLAN will be active throughout the year and there will be a variety of awards and other activities, details of which will be posted on the IRTS Web site at: <http://www.irts.ie/thegathering> QSL via Bureau or direct to the QSL Manager EI6AL at the following address: Silver Howe Sydenham Mews, Corrig Avenue Dunlaoghaire, Co Dublin IRELAND.

FG, GUADELOUPE. Jean-Pierre, F6ITD, will once again be active as FG/F6ITD from Guadeloupe and two islands between February 1st and March 25th (2013). Activity will be on SSB & Digital modes. He plans to visit the following two islands in the IOTA NA-102 group: Basse Terre Island (February 1-8th) and La Desirade Island (Feb 9th-Mar 25th). QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct. Logs will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW. For more details, see: <http://www.qrz.com/db/FGF6ITD>

FRENCH SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN TOUR. Gildas, TU5KG, is once again traveling through the South Indian Ocean on a fishing boat. As in past years, he will be sailing in both the Kerguelen and Crozet Island regions, and may activate the islands (if he goes ashore) using his new callsigns - FT5XT (Kerguelen) and FT5WQ (Crozet). When at sea, he will sign as callsign/mm. QSL via F4DXW, direct only. View his QSL card on QRZ.com.

IOTA NEWS

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 focused on 160 meters and the Digital modes, as well as all bands on CW. QSL via DL7UZO, direct or by the DARC Bureau. A Web page is available at: <http://www.5p9z.com>

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

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

OC-285. Ralph, H44RK (aka 5W0W), is going to activate Sikaiana Atoll. Dates have not been provided. Ralph is currently active from Apia, Samoa, until March 3rd. He is looking for 2-3 operators, but 1 operator must be CW POC. If interested, contact Ralph at <ralph.honiara@gmail.com> or NR6M at <turvin2009@yahoo.com>.

DX

J5, GUINEA BISSAU. Members of Verona DX Team will once again return to Cumura to help with the mission work and be active as J52HF between February 10th and March 2nd. In their spare time, they will be on air on the HF bands

and 50 MHz, SSB only. Operators mentioned are Livio/IZ3BUR, Libero/IK3RBE, Enzo/IK3VVD, Ilario/IZ3STA and Milena/IK3VZJ. QSL via 3LDP. More details should be forthcoming, but you can view details and pictures from their 2012 DXpedition at: <http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/en>

S7, SEYCHELLES. Operators of the Uruguay DX Group (Mario/CX4CR and Bert/CX3AN) plan a 2013 DXpedition to the Seychelles. However, Mario had developed some health problem and ended up with a triple by-pass. At the moment he is recovering 100% and again on the bands. Bert will go ahead with the plans, but alone for this year's DXpedition. Look for him to be active as S79AN from Pointe Larue on Mahe Island (AF-024) between February 4-11th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters, including 30/17/12 meters, using CW and SSB. He will try to operate as much as he can. QSL via CX3AN direct only (see QRZ.com). NO Bureau or eQSL.

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.

T2, TUVALU. Operators Rob/GM3YTS, Tom/GM4FDM, Gav/GM0GAV and Clive/GM3POI will be active as T2GM from Tuvalu between March 12-23rd (2013). Activity will be focused on Europe. QSL via GM4FDM. Hopefully, more details will be forthcoming.

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

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

TC16, TURKEY (Special Event). Members of the Turkish Radio Amateur Club (TRAC) from the Bursa Branch (the YM3KB team) are currently activating the special callsign TC16BURSA as of Jan 10th through Mar 10th. Activity will be on all the bands under the terms of propagation, using CW, SSB, PSK and ROS modes. Station info about actively working bands, frequencies and modes will be announced online on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/trac.bursasubesi> and their QRZ.com page <http://www.qrz.com/db/TC16BURSA>. QSL direct to POB 76, Gencosman, BURSA, 16105 Turkey.

V2, ANTIGUA. Tom, AA9A, will be active once again from Antigua between February 11-20th. However, he will be using a new call sign V24A instead of V25AA. Activity should be on 160-10 meters, also 60 meters if there is a demand for it, using CW, SSB and possibly RTTY. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct.

VO2, CANADA (ZONE 2). David, VE3AAQ, active as VO2AAA from the "Hams of Western Labrador" VO2WL club station in Labrador City, Labrador, in CQ Zone 2 between Mar 7-10th. Activity will include the RSGB Commonwealth Contest [BERU] (Mar 9-10th). QSL via VE3AAQ.

VP9, BERMUDA. Kurt, W6PH, will once again be active as VP9/W6PH for the 2013 ARRL DX CW Contest (February 16-17th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry, and the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 2-3rd) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL direct to his home call sign W6PH.

XV, VIETNAM. Members of the Lufthansa ARC active as XV2DLH from Mui Ne between Feb 15-26th (2013). Operators mentioned are Rudi/DK7PE, Juergen/DH6ICE, Juergen/DH0RAK, Bernhard/DK7TF and Zkrinko/DK8ZZ. QSL via DK8ZZ. More details will be forthcoming.

Z8, SOUTH SUDAN (Update). Jim, K7QI, reports on QRZ.com that he has received his callsign, as well as Diya, YI1DZ. Their callsigns are Z81A (Jim) and Z81D (Diya) and are good for one year. Jim is now living and working in

Juba, while Diya is a UN WFP telecom worker there. The two operators will soon meet and pool their resources together to help bring Amateur radio to South Sudan. Jim states on QRZ.com that "most all of Juba has no electricity and the house I've rented is the same. My company is in the process of ordering 2 generators. I am scheduled to fly back home on 25th of September 2012, and will return to Juba around late October or early November. I still need to select HF equipment and VHF equipment, and will bring the equipment back with me once I've selected the equipment. I am a member of AMSAT back home, and am planning on becoming active on AMSAT from here. Once I am set up and operating, I plan on being highly active, and will be on just about every day. So please be patient, and I will be on very soon." Meanwhile, Diya, Z81D, has a station already set up and ready to go. Jim states, "Thanks to his kindness, we both will be using his station until I can get my station set up." By the way, Diya was heard on the air for the first time on September 13th, around 1745z operating 17 meters SSB. The QSL Manager for Z81A is Frank Remington, K7GSE. Please send SASE with 2 green stamps or 1 valid IRC to Frank. The QSL Manager for Diya, Y1IDZ (Z81D), is Stefan, OM3JW. ADDED NOTE: Both operators are now active and have been on 20, 17 and 15 meters SSB.

Well, that's it for February 2013. Til next month, 73 and GUD DX!!

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"



How Do You Choose an Antenna Analyzer?

A reader recently e-mailed me:



"In the past you told me you started with the Autek RF-1, and later moved to the Palstar ZM-30. I am finally getting around to thinking about purchasing an antenna analyzer, but I am stumped by the choices. In order of increasing purchase price this is what I've turned up:

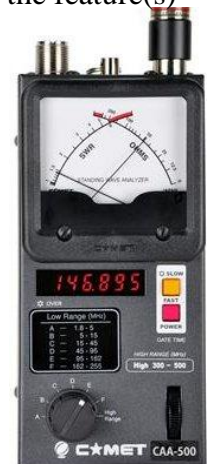
- Autek RF-1 - \$139.95
- Autek RF-5 - \$229.95
- Rig Expert AA-54 - \$340.00
- Palstar ZM-30 - \$399.99
- W4RT Electronics MiniVNA - \$399.99
- Rig Expert AA-230PRO - \$690.00
- Timewave Technology TZ-900S - \$899.99



"How does one decide? Where does one go to find out the differences? Other than asking a fellow ham, how does one find out which one is the best antenna analyzer without paying an arm and a leg (unless the feature(s) so purchased are deemed worth the cost)?
Thanks! 73"

When I replied, I noted that he had actually missed several other good choices:

- Autek VA1 - \$199.
- MFJ-259B - \$240.
- YouKits FG-01 - \$250.
- Comet CAA500 - \$450.



The Autek VA1 is actually the antenna analyzer that I first purchased. The MFJ-259B is arguably the most popular antenna analyzer on the market. MFJ has several other models with different feature sets. The YouKits FG-01 is a very cute, little analyzer with a small graphical display. It is made in China and sold in the U.S. by Ten-Tec.

So, how do you choose just one from this list? Well, I think the first thing that you have to ask yourself is how you're going to use the analyzer. If all you're going to do is to check the SWR of your HF dipoles, then buy the Autek RF-1. It's the least expensive unit, is reasonably accurate, and is small and lightweight, making it easy to use outside where your antennas are located.

If you want to do some more serious frequency analysis, then you should be looking at the W4RT miniVNA or, if you have more cash, the Timewave TZ-900s. These instruments can help you do a lot more in-depth analysis of your antenna system. The software for the miniVNA, for example, will easily plot the SWR of a multi-band vertical antenna from 3 – 33 MHz.

Some antenna analyzers do more than just SWR. For example, what sold me first on the Autek VA1 and then on the Palstar was that they also measured reactance. So, you can use the antenna analyzer as an LC meter as well. Palstar also says that you can use the ZM-3 as a low-level signal source. While I have used my Palstar to measure inductance and capacitance, I have yet to use it as a signal source.

Next, you need to consider what bands you'll be using it on. Many antenna analyzers only cover the HF bands. That's a bummer if you like operating 6m, or like to experiment with VHF/UHF antennas. A friend of mine bought the Palstar antenna analyzer after talking to the company at Dayton. At the time, they said that they were planning to come out with a model that covered 6m, as well as the HF bands.

Unfortunately, they never did come out with a 6m version, and he was sorely disappointed. He ended up buying a miniVNA instead. The miniVNA can be used up to 170 MHz right out of the box, and up to 1.5 GHz with an optional extender.

Asking your fellow hams about the antenna analyzers they have is actually a good way to figure out what's best for you. If you ask nicely, they might even let you borrow their analyzers or come over and show you how it works on your antennas.

Reading the reviews on eHam is also a good way to gather information before making a purchase like this. You certainly have to take the reviews there with a grain of salt, but if several reviewers mention a particularly good or particularly bad feature of a product, then it's certainly something worth taking a hard look at.

If you're new to the hobby, starting out small and working your way up might be a good strategy. You could buy one of the less expensive models and get used to how they work, then sell it and make the leap to a more sophisticated unit. The way things are going, you should be able to sell your first antenna analyzer for at least 80% of what you paid for it.

The March 2012 QST contains an in-depth review of four analyzers (available online to ARRL members), including the Comet CAA-500, MFJ-266, RigExpert AA-54, and the Youkits FG-01. Each analyzer reviewed had various plusses and minuses. Even if the unit you are considering was not reviewed, the article provides a guide to the kinds of questions you should be asking as you go through the selection process.

Dan, KB6NU

When he's not analyzing antennas, Dan, KB6NU blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, writes and publishes the "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, and just has fun with amateur radio. You can reach him by e-mail at cwgeek@kb6nu.com, @kb6nu on Twitter, or on 40m CW many evenings.



Kids Day at NX8G/5

While the neighbor, Terri was visiting with my wife, Sharon her daughter, Brenna showed some interest in my radio equipment. She looked into the shack while I was operating in a digital contest which didn't seem to spark her interest very much. A day or two later I was reading the December issue of QST and ran across an advertisement on page 89 for Kids Day to be held on January 6. I looked at my calendar and, wouldn't you know it, that's also the second day of the RTTY Roundup at KN5O's super station! After some thought, I decided I could pass on the second day of the contest and, through Sharon, I extended an invitation to Brenna and her older sister, Lauren to come over on the 6th and see what ham radio is all about.



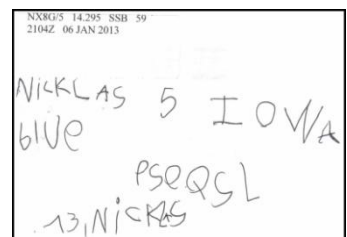
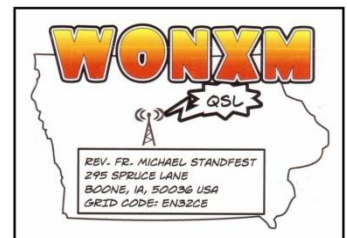
At least once prior to the 6th I asked Sharon to confirm that they planned on coming over and we were assured that they indeed were going to be here.

On the 6th Terri, Brenna and Christie, Brenna's friend arrived. Lauren had decided not to come. Terri and Sharon visited at the kitchen table while Brenna and Christie came into the shack. I showed them my equipment and asked them if they had any questions. The only question they had was "How much does that cost?" I then tuned in a station on 20 meters where a brother and sister from Iowa were calling CQ, made the initial contact and turned the microphone over to the girls. They were both pretty bashful and would only recite the Kids Day exchange: their name, age, location and favorite color. What they did next surprised me, they both excitedly ran out of the shack and into the kitchen to tell Brenna's mom about their experience. Then they came back into the shack for another go at it.



We did this for over 2 hours contacting 13 stations in 9 states. They were ready for more, but I was kind of wiped out. I also showed them a stack of QSL cards which they enjoyed looking at and then presented them with Kids Day Certificates which were available in PDF format on the ARRL web site.

Less than a week later an envelope arrived from one of the stations we contacted. It contained a QSL card for me and cards for each of the girls from 5 year old Nicklas in Iowa. I helped the girls fill out the return cards and sent them back within a few days.



Even though I have very little experience dealing with kids, I really enjoyed taking some time away from contesting in order to help these girls learn a little about ham radio. Some of my most enjoyable experiences in this hobby have been when I have been able to help someone learn something new. I intend to do more of it when I can.

73,
Rex, NX8G/5



Thanks & 73

All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! Thanks go out to this month's contributors:

**WB8LCD, WB9LBI, KB8UUZ, N8RLG, KC8PD, KD8MQ,
W8KNO, KB8DPN, K8CAV, W8DEC, W8PT, KB6NU,
NX8G/5 the ARRL and the World-Wide Web**

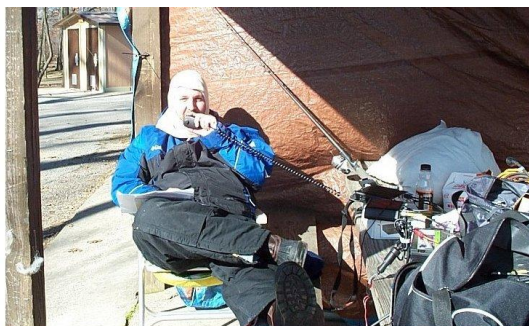
With your continued help – we can keep making this a great newsletter.



Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



Pictures of “Klondike Mike” in past FYAO activities



Will he win 2013 ??



"Klondike Mike" KC8UNR

Pictures from the January Meeting



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

Eighth Annual

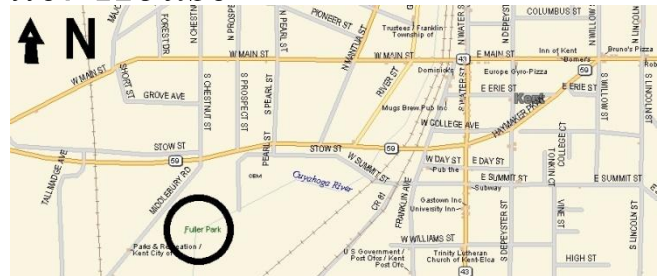
"Freeze Your Acorns Off"
(FYAO) QRP mini-field day
Special Event Station



Where: Fred Fuller Park - 497 Middlebury Rd., Kent, Oh
at the Roy Smith Shelter House

When: Saturday - Feb. 16, 2013
Set up: 9am

Operating Time: 10am - 4pm EST



We will be active on CW & SSB in the General areas of the 15, 20, 40 and 80 meter bands (Echolink on the K8SRR echo link node) and anything else we can get working. Club Call Sign **K8BF** for a certificate. Other participating stations will be using their own callsign/FYAO, or calling "CQ FYAO" (only stations at the Freeze Your Acorns Off event should use the /FYAO designator).

Yes, we'll be braving the cold snowy weather of North Eastern Ohio to set up QRP stations using portable power and antennas.

A beautiful color (suitable for framing) 8" x 10" certificate will be available if you contact K8BF and send your QSL with a large SASE to the club call trustee: Al Atkins, KB8VJL - 12433 Chamberlain Rd. - Aurora, OH 44202



So, from the comfort of your warm radio shack - give us a contact while we're out freezing. We'll need all the contacts we can make to help keep us warm. Your support will be very much appreciated!



Check PCARS out on the web at: www.portcars.org





Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application [] New [] Renewal

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No

ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____

Birthday: Month: _____ Day: _____ (don't need year)

A \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed in the first year of membership for all new members.

Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Jan 31st. Dues are as follows:

Example - Regular Member Pays on Jan 1st \$20 for entire year. If paid on June 1st, \$15 for entire year, etc.

Check One

Pro-Rated Dues Amount:

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

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

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

What are **YOUR** Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.
c/o: Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL
115 Steels Corners Rd. W.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Date Received:	<input type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renew
Initiation Fee: \$	+ Dues: \$ = Total \$
Paid: <input type="radio"/> Cash -or <input type="radio"/> Check	Check #
Date Voted:	Results: _____
<input type="radio"/> Database Updated	Member Number: _____

Rev. 25 Dec 2012



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



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

"When All Else Fails - Amateur Radio Works"

PCARS uses the K8IV Repeater: 146.895 MHz PL 110.9 ~ Rootstown, Oh or PL 114.8 ~ Kent, Oh ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR
PCARS thanks K8IV for making the repeater available to area hams and for PCARS activities.

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 W8PT	Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
Field Day 2013	K8CAV W8PT	Rick Kruis Chuck Patellis
F.Y.A.O. 2013	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF QSL Manager	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Coordinator	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA 2013	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
P.I.O.	WA8AR	Tony Romito
Secretary	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
VE Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney



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
NR8W	Russ Williams
KD8RJV	Jim Corbett
W8EZT	Frank Thomas



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

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



NLC

