



The

RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



March 2013 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 8 No. 3

~ 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

The new year has come and gone. Valentine's day, and more importantly – Freeze Your Acorns Off day are now behind us. March is when we start getting itchy for summertime Ham Radio activities. PCARS has a lot of activities to offer, and I hope you'll come out and be a part of them with us – this is going to be a great year! Why not invite your friends to be a part of it? Somewhere in this issue, you'll see the notice for our Spring Tech class which will begin on March 19th. Let them know about it, and all the fun they can have as a ham. Out of all the non-ham friends and acquaintances we each have, if each one of us could entice just one of them into joining us, it would have a huge impact on our hobby, and our club.



Tom, WB8LCD

We talk about “public service” all the time in ham radio. We talk about it as being one of our reasons for existence. Public service is not necessarily synonymous with EmComm. Public service could be sharing your knowledge and expertise in ham radio with a third grade class, a boy or girl scout troop, a men's club or a church group. While we are a “communications” hobby, it seems our weak link is communicating about our hobby to those who are not involved. Why not try to put yourself out there – get in front of people who are not hams, and let them know what a wonderful hobby this really is. And don't take any scrap about this being “amateur” radio.....one of my favorite sayings is “Professionals built the Titanic, but an Amateur built the Ark”.

Dayton is just around the corner. (For those who don't know “Dayton” means The Dayton Hamvention®) If you haven't made your plans yet, you better get on it! Dayton is one of my Ham

Radio Hi-Lites every year. I've made some friends from all over the world in ham radio – Dayton is one of the places you just might get the chance to see someone you've talked to face to face. Or you might meet someone to QSO with later. Dayton is where the new stuff is, it's where the old stuff is and where everything else in between is. It's one, two, three or more days where you can be saturated with all things ham radio. I've been to Dayton somewhere between 20 and 30 times so far, and I've never said to myself that I wished I would have spent my weekend any other way. It's a ham radio experience that no other event can compete with. I hope I get the chance to see you there.

(continued on Page 2)

Bus Trip to Hamvention®	6
Charlie the Tuner - HF High Lites	17
Contest Calendar	7
CW and Field Day 2013	6
CW/QRP Special Interest Group	16
DX/Contesting Special Interest Group	8
EmComm	9
Field Day 2013 Meeting	12
FYAO from KD8FDK	25
FYAO from KD8MQ	25
FYAO from N8QE	26
FYAO from WB8LCD	26
Ham License Plates Wanted	15
Hamfest Calendar	5
Happy Birthday	8
HELP	14
Mansfield Hamfest Reports	24
Mark Your Calendars	4

Meetings, PCARS	15
Net (Thursday) Info & NCS Schedule	10
Paper Chase	7
Patches & Stickers, PCARS	8
Pictures from FYAO -2013	28
Pictures from the February Meeting	27
President, From the	1
Skywarn Training	5
Swap-N-Shop	13
Technician Class Flier	29
Thanks & 73	26
Top 10 Reasons to Get - PCARS Net	10
VE Test Sessions	4
Vice President, From the	3
Why Do We Have SIGs	11
Yahoo Group	5
Youth & Education Outreach Program	21

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



From the President (continued from Page 1)

Shortly after Dayton comes Field Day. This is, again, another one of those annual events that can only be experienced by being there. No, coming out for the dinner, saying HI to a couple people and then moving on is not "being there". You need to get there early and help with the set up. You need to get on the air, and log for someone else as they run the Q's. Be a part of preparing and serving a meal. Stay up all night (or maybe get an hour or two of sleep in your car, the mobile command center or Errol's camper) and then go where you're needed to get some more Q's at 4:30 am.

Sunday afternoon seems like it's never going to end. There's an excitement to seeing the last Q get logged on the computer system, looking at all the states worked, seeing that total raw score. Then everything has to be taken down, packed up and moved out. Someone has to be the last one to leave. Be that person, after being one of the first one's there, and you will have a true appreciation for what Field Day really is! It's a blast. (Note to my readers: I know we all have different levels of devotion to the hobby, and different levels of responsibility with family and others. I've been fortunate to be able to experience Field Day in this way. That does not invalidate your experience at Field Day for what your circumstances allow. Enjoy it to whatever extent you are able.)

There's not a weekend go by that there is not something "special" happening in the ham radio hobby. Even for someone as immersed in it as I am, I can't do it all. But Ham Radio has been a life long interest and great

source of enjoyment for me. While I'm totally infatuated with the technical side of the hobby (no – infatuated does not mean I understand it, I'm just in awe of it – and those that do understand), it's really the people that I've met and QSO'd with through the years that make this such an awesome hobby. The spirit of Edison and Tesla live on in today's hams. And for most, if it were not for ham radio, they would have darn few opportunities to tinker and invent and create the things that they do. These are fascinating people to talk to and get to know. Ham Radio – what a great hobby!

73,
Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS President

From the Vice President

This year's FYAO was cold enough to freeze the acorns off of... well, you get the idea. This year we had two CW stations operating in Fred Fuller Park, and I took it into my head to go and help them out. Crazy Scott, N3JJT had learned his lesson from last year when he was out in the open. He set up in a tent. Maybe I'm being overly generous here. This "tent" was 4 ft by 4 ft and was barely big enough to fit a small table, a chair, and a space heater. It was a struggle to get inside, but once I sat down I promptly broke the chair. The space heater pretty much cooked my right side, while the left side was completely raw. If it had been a restaurant, you would have sent me back to the kitchen.



I managed to bag a few east coast stations in my hour or so of air time. The most interesting operation was K4USA, a special event station in Mt. Vernon VA, home of George Washington. Did you hear the one about George Washington's wooden receiver? He didn't think it was all that funny either. Scott was very nice about the broken chair. He agreed to settle out of court.

Crazy Terry, KB8AMZ also had a tight operating position in the passenger seat of his car. He hadn't been getting much action on 10 meters, so I dialed down to 15 and fell in with the DX contest that was in full swing. It was tough going up against the big signals, but I found that latching on to somebody calling CQ and not getting much business, was effective given the 2 watt output. I managed to bag some European stations, which was very gratifying. More proof that when the band is in, it's in, and when it's not, it's time to head back to the shelter for more delicious chili and other goodies.

If you haven't tried the Buffalo chili courtesy of Crazy James, KD8VT and family, you're missing out on a real treat, presuming that you enjoy spicy foods of thermonuclear dimensions. My XYL, however, most definitely not like the chili, and she didn't even come out to the event. She complained all evening long because of... well, you get the idea.



Bill, WB9LBI

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- March 9th - **Portable J-Pole Project Day** - at the club site - 10:00 am
- March 11th - **PCARS Meeting** - Vibroplex Factory Tour
- 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

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



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

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@arri.net



CW and Field Day 2013

Greetings from the cold and snowy side of the upcoming 2013 ARRL/PCARS Field Day !!

In about four months we (PCARS) will be deep into the 2013 ARRL Field Day event. So.... I am getting the word out early come one, come all to the CW station.... all levels of skill welcomed ! Operators and loggers needed. A special invitation is extended to the newly minted or re-minted CW students of Bill's (WB9LBI) Morse code class!

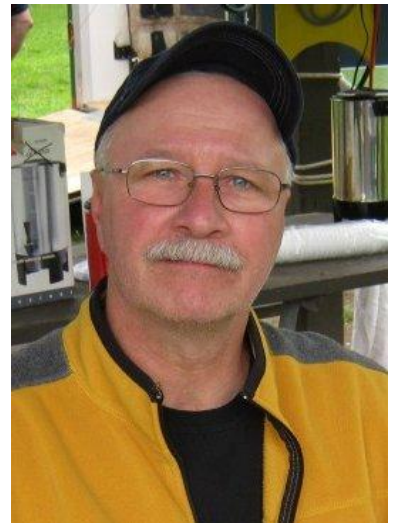
To participate on a scheduled basis, send me an email with your preferred day(s) and time(s) of operation. This year the operator/logger schedule will be posted on the PCARS website. Rick, K8CAV, will send out info soon. Once the website has the schedule posted, make your selection(s) and send me an email. The website schedule will be updated on a regular basis.

More technical information about the station, antenna, what you should bring, etc. will follow in the next several weeks.

I am looking forward to a great time with all of you "Fists" !

73, CUL dit dit.

Dave, WB2DFC



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

PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

First Saturdays 10:00 am
at the club site in Ravenna

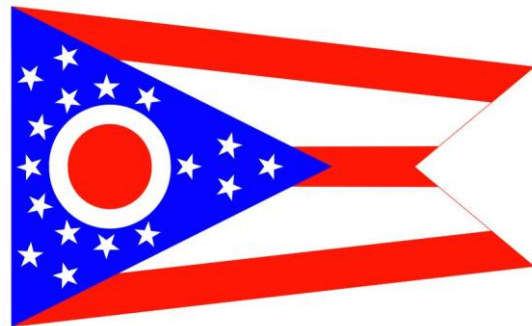
February, April, June, August,
October, December





Paper Chase

The Cambridge Amateur Radio Association has provided a list of the twelve Special Event Stations that they are sponsoring this year. Each month you should be able to find them near either 14.260 MHz or 7.235 MHz. The following is the list of the Special Events for the rest of this year:

- March 2 - Ohio Statehood
- April 6 - Cambridge Glass Company
- May 4 - William Boyd aka Hopalong Cassidy
- June 13 - W8VP VHF Contest Record holder 25 Years
- July 13 - Morgan's Raid 150th Anniversary
- August 10 - Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival
- September 14 - Peter's Creek "S" Bridge 185 Years
- October 12 - First Bridge in Northwest Territory
- November 9 - 203 years Guernsey County Ohio
- December 7 - Cambridge ARA 100 Years Old



A QSL card can be obtained from the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association - PO Box 1804 - Cambridge, OH 43725 and if you work all twelve of the special events, you can get your certificate from the same address.

		GB4 SPD Saint Patrick's Day SPECIAL EVENT STATION			
WAB J18 ANTRIM CQ ZONE 14 ITU ZONE 27		Operators GI0 THZ HARRY GI3 DZE IAN NORTHERN IRELAND		VIA RSGB	
To Radio Station <u>W8KNO</u>					
Confirming our QSO					
DAY	MONTH	YEAR	GMT	MHz	MODE RST
17	3	04	1926	14	J3E 5/9

A trivia fact about this month's special event: Ohio has the only burgee state flag.

The other special day this month is St Patrick's Day. Though I could not find any posted special event celebrating it keep an ear for one. Usually, GB4SPD is around some where. Last month the surprise Valentine Special Event came from Romance, Arkansas.

Remember to get on the air and have fun. Hope to hear you in the pile-ups.

Joe, W8KNO

Contest Calendar

March 2013	
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 2 to 2400Z, Mar 3
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 3
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 9 to 1600Z, Mar 10
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 9 to 1900Z, Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 10
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 10 to 0100Z, Mar 11
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 16
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z, Mar 31

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in March:

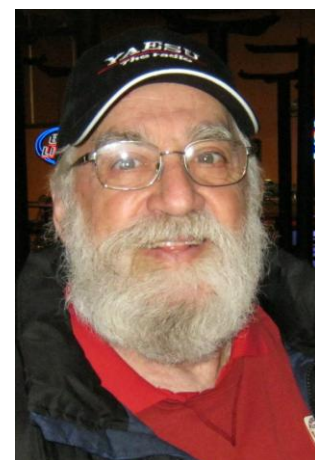
W8KNO	Joe Wehner
K8SRR	Steve Randlett
KC8AWR	Bill Pinnicks
KD8NLQ	Richard Preisendorfer
AE8YL	Erica Pelz
KD8FLU	Linda Godfrey
KJ4MPN	Herschell Taylor, Jr.
W8CYN	Jim Shoemaker
KD8JRF	Rod Stickle

KB3GXB	Jennifer Andrews
KC8RFT	Denzil Linton
K8QF	Russ Conklin
AB8YN	Ray Czech
KD8BHX	Lorraine Davison
KD8FDK	Rich Taushanoff
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
KD8CGF	Art Dembinski
KD8QEK	Danny Beck

DX and Contesting SIG

The Special Interest Group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Club House. This month I have nothing to report since the meeting is scheduled for after the due date for newsletter articles. Therefore, you will have to wait till next month to read what happened or you can come and join us.

Read W8PT's article about all the DX out there. In addition, there are the Idaho, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Virginia and Wisconsin QSO Parties to better your contesting skills for the BIG ONES. In March they are the ARRL DX Phone Contest, the North American RTTY Sprint, the Russian DX Contest and the CQ WPX Phone Contest.



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



EmComm

A recent event provided a stark demonstration that we can never be quite sure when a disaster may strike no matter how closely the experts are monitoring the situation.

On February 15th, the whole world was waiting for the all clear as a 150 foot wide asteroid was to pass within about 17,000 miles of the planet. A few hours before the anticipated flyby, a ten ton meteor blasted into the atmosphere over Russia. The blast from the explosion of the meteor caused tens of millions of rubles damage. No one, not even the astronomers, had a clue that it was coming.



The lesson for us is that we should never be too complacent. For instance, just because a weather forecast doesn't indicate that our region is at risk when the storms are coming, don't assume that we get a free pass. Being prepared means just that. You should be prepared all of the time, especially if you are a ham who may be assisting with emergency communications!

As an update to last month's column, we recently held a meeting of the ARES® Emergency Coordinators for District Five. All except one of the current EC's were able to attend.

We met at Polinori's Restaurant in Alliance which gave us the opportunity to get to know each other better over dinner before we settled in for a discussion of current and future district issues. It was great to see how active and engaged all of the EC's are in their own communities.

Ongoing goals will be to provide an open exchange of information among the EC's so that they keep each other informed about ongoing activities in each county, particularly current training opportunities and special events for which they need additional volunteers.

Those counties that do not currently have operational plans in place are drafting them. In the meantime, a district-wide operations plan will be developed to provide both a mechanism and procedures for the counties to assist each other during times of need.

As always, watch for announcements of upcoming public service events in Portage County and around the area (hey, the Cleveland Marathon will be here before you know it, once again on Dayton weekend, Sunday, May 19th) and volunteers, new and experienced, are always needed.

One other update to add. Due to the additional duties as District Five DEC, I have decided to resign my position as the Emergency Operations Officer for Ohio Army MARS. A replacement has not yet been named. I really appreciated the opportunity to serve in that position and I learned a great deal from it.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAR5AI

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

PCARS Thursday Net Control

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

March	
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!



Top 10 Reasons to Get On the PCARS Net

10. Find out if you have enough power to beat KB3OQV 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

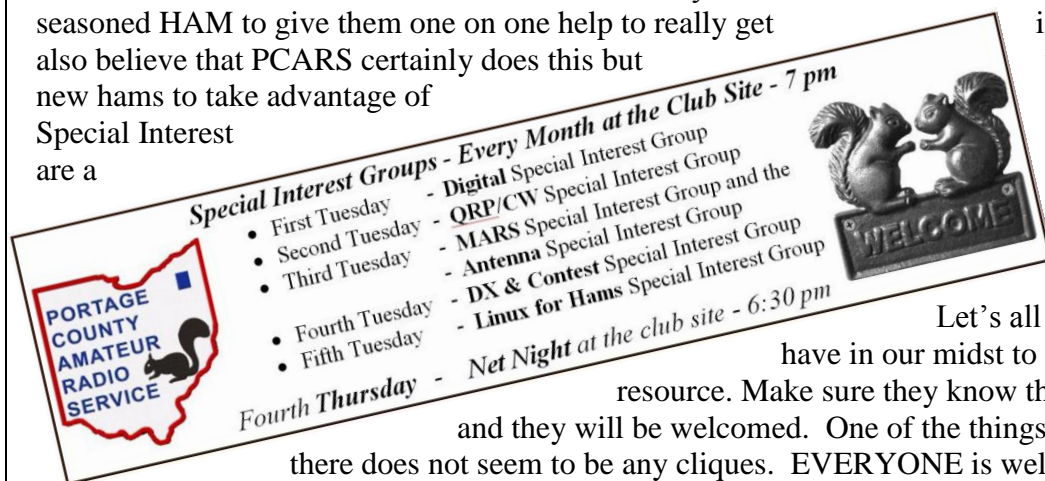


Why Do We Have “SIGs”

I'd like to have you read the words of Dave Craig, VE6DKC, Treasurer, Chapter # 151, of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. I totally agree with what Dave had to say and since he said it so well, why should I try to improve on it.

“Amateur Radio sure has changed since I was first licensed in 1963! Compact rigs prevail; no more ‘boat anchors’! Software defined radios are becoming more and more common. The Internet has become an all-encompassing tool to some, and master to others. Paradoxically, while areas of interest for Hams have expanded greatly, licensing requirements have been ‘watered down’ to the point where it has become much easier for folks to obtain their license. While many clubs provide ‘basic Ham radio’ courses (without the need for CW which I found extremely challenging back in ‘63!) the scope of our hobby has become so expanded that simply obtaining one’s license can at times leave the ‘Newbie’ so confused as to discourage him or her from pursuing the hobby in a way that satisfies their initial reason(s) for wanting to become a Ham! VHF/UHF operation? ARES? DXing on HF? Contesting? Digital? Experimenting? ... and lots more related areas, which are available to all of us. But, which direction to take? Enter the ‘Elephant’ in the room! No, not that elephant, but the helpful, experienced Ham who is willing to take the ‘new guy / gal’ under his/her wings so to speak, in order to cultivate the new Ham’s interest in the many aspects of Ham radio. I know of very successful Ham radio clubs who do a great job of sponsoring and running evening courses for those interested in obtaining their ‘basic’ (and also ‘advanced’) Ham radio license, but whose members do not do such a good job of providing follow up ‘hands on’ practical assistance to the individual once the person is licensed!”

I believe that Dave hit it on the head when he says that “Newbies” need to be encouraged to look for a seasoned HAM to give them one on one help to really get also believe that PCARS certainly does this but new hams to take advantage of Special Interest are a



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

PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

WELCOME

involved in our great hobby. I we need to do more to encourage what our club has to offer. The Groups that meet each Tuesday great place to get a more in-depth instruction on the various modes of operation that Amateur Radio offers us.

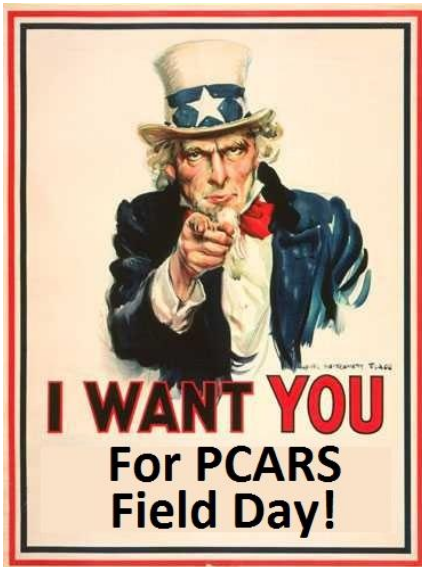
Let's all encourage the new hams we have in our midst to take advantage of this great resource. Make sure they know that there are no stupid questions and they will be welcomed. One of the things that I like about PCARS is that there does not seem to be any cliques. EVERYONE is welcome in whatever interest group excites their fancy.

So the next time you meet a new member and especially if it is a new ham, find out what got their interest in HAM radio in the beginning and then point them in the right direction to get good, on-going instruction.

Well, that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

73,
Chuck, W8PT

Field Day 2013 Meeting



The first meeting for PCARS Field Day 2013 was held on Tuesday evening February 19th and we're off to a running start! Our Field Day team has two objectives for PCARS Field day. The first is to conduct a Field Day event that everyone can enjoy whether you are operating, helping out, or visiting. Second is to be as competitive as we can in Class 4A and generate as many contacts and points as we can. We really want to recapture second place in the Ohio Section in Class 4A! For those that are interested, the ARRL has made the 2013 Field Day package available on its web site.

Antenna Day, which is the dress rehearsal for Field Day will be held at the Ravenna City Park on Saturday May 11th and Field Day is Saturday and Sunday June 22-23 also at the Ravenna City Park so make sure you mark your calendars! The Field Day Team will be meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the PCARS Club Site in Ravenna from now through Field Day.

The Field Day Team is already partially staffed and the folks who have volunteered are listed below:

IC/Chairman:	Rick K8CAV
DIC/Deputy Chairman	Chuck K8PT
Safety Officer:	Mike KD8FLZ
PIO Publicity:	Tony WA8AR
PIO Info Table:	Tom KB8UUZ

CW Station CPT:	Dave WB2DFC
40m Station CPT:	Ed K8IV
Flex Station CPT:	Jim KC8PD
VHF Station CPT:	Errol KC8RJR
Power Tm LDR:	James KD8VT

As you can see from the above list we still have several very important positions to fill, and the sooner they are filled the sooner we can get off to a solid start. **WE WANT YOU** to step up to the plate and volunteer for these positions:

20m Station CPT
IT (network) Tm LDR

Food Service Tm LDR
GOTA/Youth Station Control Operator

Please let me know as soon as possible what position you want to volunteer for so we can get you on the team!

Besides all of the operating, logging, and other activities, PCARS is planning a Saturday evening dinner for all of you ham radio socialites, significant others, and friends that want to join us for a great time. There will be burgers, brauts, and all the trimmings so make plans to be there for a great time! We will also have a Sunday breakfast to keep all of those overnight Ops, loggers, and helper bees fed and happy.

For all of you who don't want to be a station captain or team leader, we **STILL WANT YOU** to participate in Field Day as an operator, logger, team helper, or set up and tear down assistant. We're planning on publishing rosters on the club's web site for each of the stations with filled and available time slots for operators and loggers, and volunteer lists for the support teams. So make plans to be at the biggest and most fun event PCARS holds and have **K8BF - BIG FUN!**



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" Heliax and 7/8" Heliax . Contact me with your needs. [06/02/13]

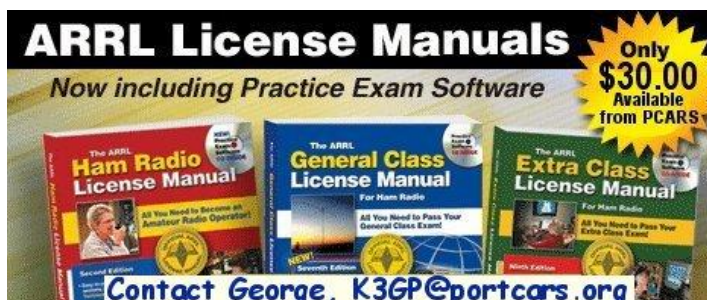
Contact James at KD8VT@portcars.org or call 330-206-4909

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.



ARRL License Manuals
Now including Practice Exam Software
Only \$30.00 Available from PCARS

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

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

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

Contact George, K3GP@portcars.org

PCARS
Join Now
Discover the FUN

PCARS
AMATEUR RADIO

PCARS
www.portcars.org

K8BF
AMATEUR RADIO

PORTAGE COUNTY
AMATEUR
RADIO
SERVICE

HELP

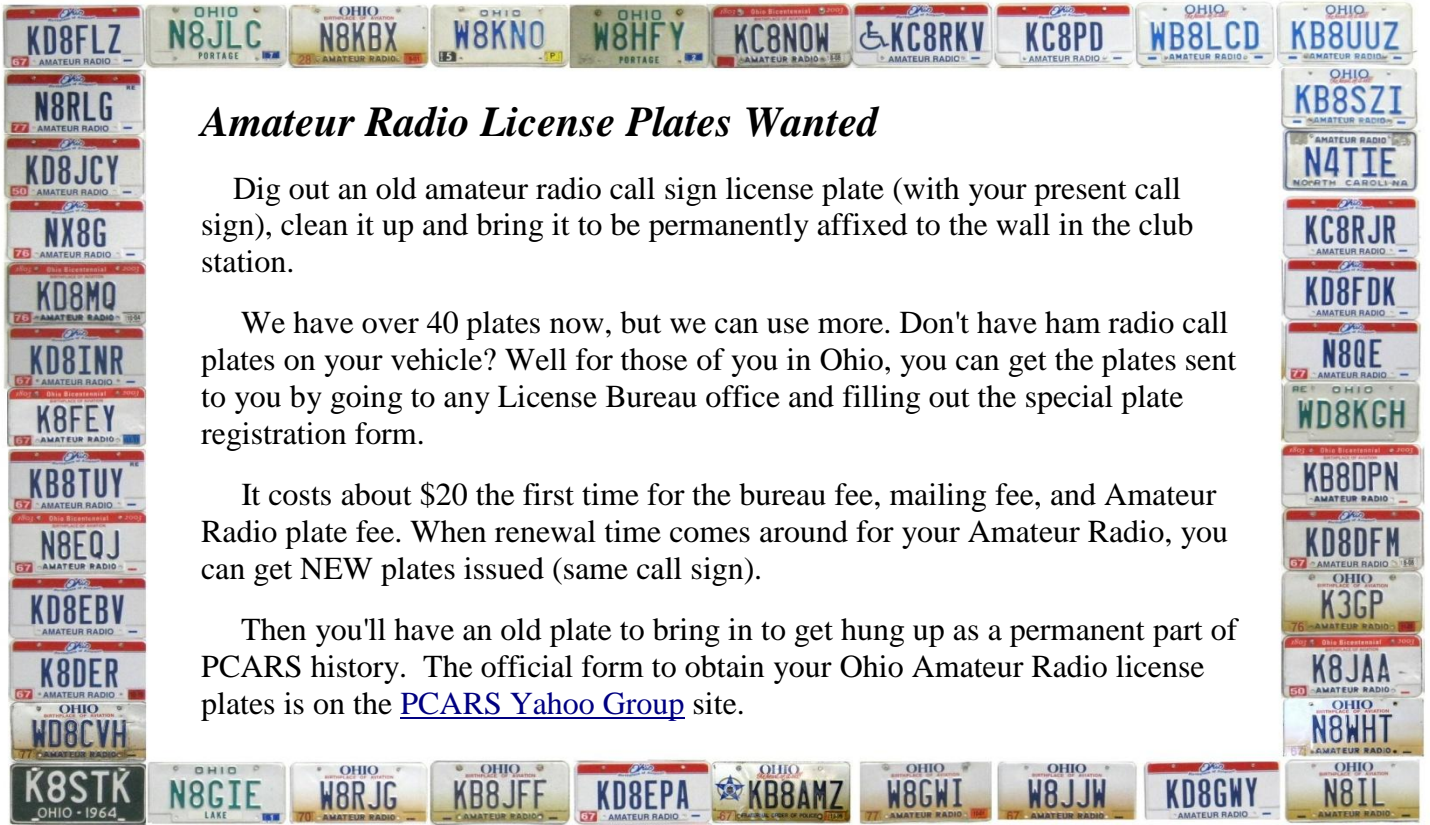
Look at the calendar - next month is APRIL. And, you know what that means? The APRIL FOOL issue of The RADIOGRAM will be put out. That annual 'let's have a bit of FUN issue'. I've been saving things all year for the April issue - but I'd appreciate **YOUR** help in getting even more April Fool stuff for the newsletter.

So help me out here and come up with a good one for the April issue. (no copyrighted cartoons allowed - seems like we can never get permission to run those....).

Have no fear, there will also be real articles in the newsletter as well. So if you have a Shack Shot, or a scan of your QSL card - send it in. Obetter yet, how about that article you have been thinking about writing - now is the time to do it.

I'm looking forward to your inputs.

73,
Tom, KB8UUZ



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



CW/QRP Special Interest Group

Tuesday ! Tuesday ! Tuesday ! or is Sunday.. Sunday.. Sunday..... anyway, one of those loud obnoxious TV commercials for the racetrack.

But we are talking about Tuesday.... Tuesday, February 12th, 2013 at the CW/QRP SIG to be exact.

I was asked by Tom, WB8LCD, to present some "easy up" style antennas to the group. Tom thought it would be a great idea being just a few days before FYAO... and it was (a great idea, that is). The conversation always seems to begin on topic but moves in other directions and tonight was no exception. From antennas to QRP radios and a bunch of fun stuff in between.

I began by showing several wire and vertical antennas. I was able to demo many "homebrew" antennas made from inexpensive wire and insulators from common items from one of many junk boxes. Wire antennas were either long wire or fed with twin lead (300 ohm) I even brought out the homebrew open wire feed line antenna.... yes the open wire feed line was homebrewed.... (see PCARS Newsletter - August 2008 "Lo Buk Antenna" article, page 10).

I had other "metal" antennas such as the Miracle Antenna, an MFJ Walkabout type, and a multi band compact Outbacker antenna. We also discussed antenna tuners, an Emtech and the Elecraft T1 tuner were available for show and tell , both definitely capable performers in the "easy up" arena.

During the presentation the Miracle Antenna was attached to the back of my Yaesu FT817 to demonstrate the need for the "the other half" of the antenna. A significant increase in receive performance was heard when a good counterpoise was used as a ground connection to the FT817. I think one of the attendees had a renewed interest in the Miracle Antenna after the demo.

So to close the night I said, "not much is better than a dipole cut for the frequency of operation" and "if there ain't no propagation, there ain't no QSO". Thank you all for your attendance and participation..... see you on the QRP bands soon.



73,
Dave, WB2DFC



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

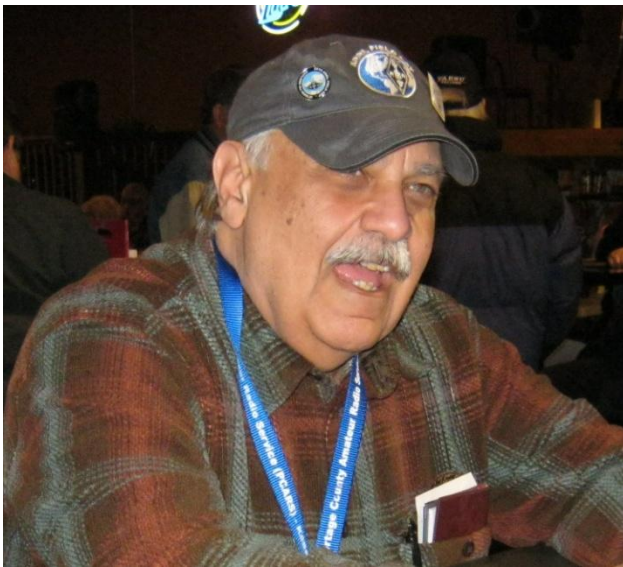
**ARRL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN HARTFORD, CT
JULY 17 - 20, 2014 (Exhibits open July 18th and 19th), and will mark 100 years
of the ARRL's founding in Hartford. Be part of this historic occasion.**

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

Helloooooo March! And Hello to all you DXers out there. Last month was filled with many opportunities to work some great DX. I am writing this at 7:50 in the AM and I just turned my rig on and set the DX cluster. There are already 4 stations posted: Spain, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, and the Solomon Is. And V44KAO just popped up from St. Kitts.

I know that many of you have to work and are not able to be at your rigs in the AM or during the day and I apologize if I seem to be rubbing it in. But there are weekends and holidays that you can be on the air and working DX.

I've been asked how 10 meters is and I keep saying that 10 and 15 are really hopping. Out of my last 96 contacts, only one has been on 20 meters which normally has been my favorite band. The rest have been on 10 and 15. But I have to tell you that 10 meters has really changed my outlook as to where I would want to operate given any type of opening at all.



I continue to encourage you to get on 10 meters while it is still open. And please let me know what you find on 10 and also on 15.

And let me remind you that 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.

Also for those of you into emergency deployment, there is a brand new contest designed around rapid deployment. **NEW CONTEST (RaDAR 2013)**. You will find some information further down in this column.

Ok, let's take a look at what we might expect in the next few months. As I have been doing, I have left in a few items from last month's column and have included several new ones. And for you who like to work DX and get IOTA points also, boy are there a lot of things happening in the next few months.

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 (Correction/Operator 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 Is (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 callsign 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>](mailto:ik7jwx2003@yahoo.it).

4JT, AZERBAIJAN (Special Prefix). The Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan has announced that up to March 5th, the Azerbaijanian HAMs are permitted to add the special addition of the letter "T", which means "Tragedy", to their callsigns. For example: 4J7DL would change to 4JT7DL, or 4K3M to 4KT3M, etc.... The activity is to remember the 21st anniversary of one of the most horrific events of the 1990s, the "Khojaly Massacre", the biggest war crime in the area of the former USSR. QSL via operator's home callsign. ADDED NOTE: On behalf of a group of Azerbaijani-Americans and their friends throughout the nation and the world, on the eve of the 21st anniversary of this tragedy, they hereby call upon you to help them commemorating Khojaly Massacre and its victims with a Presidential proclamation and submit a petition to the White House.

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. QSLcards 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.

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.

9X, RWANDA. Nick, G3RWF (5X1NH), plans to go to Rwanda between March 4-12th. He has requested the callsign 9X0NH, and the license should be valid for 2013 because he could return later in the year. Activity will be from Kigali and will be mainly CW. QSL via G3RWF.

A3, TONGA (Update/Callsign Change). Werner, DJ9KH, is now active from Tongatapu Island (OC-049) until February 23rd, and then on Vava'u Island (OC-064) between February 24th and March 2nd. His callsigns will be A35WH on both islands. He reported on February 14th: "Sorry to say, that we had to leave our mast-material in Auckland. Air New Zealand wanted us to pay a hell lot of money for 2kg fiberglass, incredible. Now we took a palm- tree instead, not that high, but good enough for a vertical-dipole for 20/17/15m. Tried to work CW this morning GMT. Some more will follow." 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

QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the DARC Bureau. He plans to update on [<http://www.tonga2013.de>](http://www.tonga2013.de) every day and give information about planned activities, modes and frequencies. He doesn't use an online-log, LoTW and e-QSL.

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 and the 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 (February

9th-March 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>

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; he will apply for the YE5T callsign.

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

EU-010. Graham, MM0GHM, will be active as MM0GHM/m from the **Isle of Barra** (IOSA OH11, SCOTIA HI02, WLOTA 3126), Outer Hebrides, between March 24-29th. Activity will be on the HF bands, depending on propagation. QSL via his home callsign, direct or RSGB 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 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>

EU-038. Dirk, DL5DCL, will once again be 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>

KH2/NH2, GUAM. Dave, N2NL, will be active as NH2T from Guam (OC-026) 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>

OC-161. Imam, YB4IR, will be active as YB4IR/6 from **Nias Island** between March 8-13th. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via his home callsign. Visit his Blog page at: <http://yb4ir.blogspot.com>

OC-245. Operators Uco/YB6AR, Adhi/YB3MM, Budi/YF1AR and Evendi/YC6EI will be active from **Rondo Island** (ARLHS IDO-369) - Mar 9-17th. Callsign not yet been announced. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via IZ8CCW, direct or by the Bureau. For more info and updates, visit: <http://www.mdxc.org/oc-245>

SV8, GREECE (IOTA/Contest Op). Rich, M5RIC, will be active as SV8/M5RIC from Zakynthos Island (EU-052) between July 23-30th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB and RTTY. Rich will also be in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 27-28th) as a Single-Op/High-Power/DXpedition entry. QSL via M5RIC.

DX

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 callsigns /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!

J7, DOMINICA. Rick, KK4GV, will be active as J79GV from Calibishie on the northeast side of the island of Dominica (NA-101) between March 8-17th. He states, "The island is fairly un-commercialized and is mostly rainforest and volcanic mountains. It has the tallest mountain peaks in the Caribbean and is called the 'Nature Island of the Caribbean'." His activity will be holiday style and SSB only. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. He will upload log to LoTW when he gets home. KH8, AMERICAN SAMOA (Cancelled). Operators Bill/N6MW and Jim/N6TQ, who were expected to be active as KH8/N6MW from a hotel in Tutuila between March 19-28th, have postponed this indefinitely.

MJ, JERSEY. A Belgian team active as MJ/ON6NB from Jersey 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 will be on 160-2 meters CW, SSB and PSK. An emphasis will be on the higher bands. 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>

NEW CONTEST (RaDAR 2013). The RaDAR-America contest is an event aimed at promoting the use of Rapidly Deployable Amateur Radio stations throughout North and South America. This contest is for all licensed radio amateurs. A choice is made prior to the contest to participate in one of the defined categories. The points system is so structured as to encourage portable operation, especially moveable stations. The event takes place the first Saturday of April and first Saturday of November starting at 14:00 UTC and ending at 18:00 UTC (4 hours). Complete rules can be found at: <http://radar-america.blogspot.com>

OH0, ALAND ISLAND. Kim, OH6KZP, will be active as OH0X during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 2-3rd) as a Single-Op entry. QSL via LoTW or to OH2TA.

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

ST, SUDAN. "The Daily DX" reports that Mario, CT1FTR, has moved to the Sudan and recently obtained his ST2FT license. Using a FT-857 that is set up for SSB & 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.

TC16, TURKEY (Special Event). Members of the Turkish Radio Amateur Club (TRAC) from the Bursa Branch (the YM3KB team) are activating the special callsign TC16BURSA as of January 10th through March 10th. Activity will be on all the bands under the terms of propagation, using CW, SSB, PSK and ROS modes. Station information 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.

TX5, CLIPPERTON ISLAND (Update). The following update was posted on February 12th, on the TX5K Clipperton Island DXpedition Web page [edited]: "All the California equipment has been assembled and is on the truck. It will be transported to San Diego on Wednesday, Thursday, February 13th. The boat (Shogun, San Diego) will be loaded on Thursday-Friday, February 14-15th. The first half of the team will board on Monday, February 18th, and the boat will sail for Cabo San Lucas, to pick up the rest of the team. We expect to arrive at Clipperton Island on February 26th. It will take

at least one day to land and get the camp set up, so QRV should not be expected before February 28th. Please watch this site, the BLOG, and various news outlets for the anticipated start of operations. We look forward to having a rewarding DXpedition, and seeing you at the conferences later this year. We will be hosting a Courtesy Suite after the DX Dinner at Dayton and a similar party at Friedrichshafen, so plan to come see us! Good luck to all who want a contact with TX5K! Be sure to watch it in real time with DXA <<http://www.dxa2.org/>> and write to the BLOG <<http://www.ky6r.com/>>."

VO2, CANADA (ZONE 2). David, VE3AAQ, will be active as VO2AAA from the "Hams of Western Labrador" VO2WL club station in Labrador City, Labrador, in CQ Zone 2 between March 7-10th (2013). Activity will also include the RSGB Commonwealth Contest [BERU] (March 9-10th). QSL via VE3AAQ.

VP2M, MONTSEERRAT. Ops John/KB8RJ & XYL Crissie/WD8KUR active as VP2MRS and VP2MUR, respectively, from Gingerbread Hill in St. Peter's on Montserrat Is between Feb 20th and Mar 14th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-10 meters, including the WARC bands, using mostly SSB and some PSK. QSL both callsigns via KB8RJ.

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

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

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"



Youth and Educational Outreach Program

As announced at the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest – Looking to fill leadership positions.

During the ARRL forum held at the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest on Sunday, February 17, 2013. Ohio Section Manager Frank J. Piper, KI8GW announced the formation of a new program in the Ohio Section, "Youth and Educational Outreach". The goal of this program is to assist Schools, Youth Organizations, and Amateur Radio Clubs in educating our youth about Amateur Radio.

There are many programs and grants the ARRL offers to teachers and schools, which may go unnoticed simply because they are just not aware of how the science and technology of Amateur Radio can be brought into the classroom. There are many Boy/Girl Scout events which demonstrate Amateur Radio, and then the kids simply go back to their home councils, and never have the chance to research the hobby further. And, many Amateur Radio Clubs wish to develop younger members, but simply do not know where to gather resources to start a prosperous Elmer program. That is where this new program will come in.

The Educational Outreach program will be headed up by E. Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, who will vacate his Affiliated Club Coordinator position to assume an Assistant Section Manager (ASM), Youth and Educational Outreach appointment, heading up a team of three other Assistant Section Managers, each with a responsibility for various aspects for this program. Those new ASM positions will be:

ASM – Radio Scouting

ASM – Youth Outreach

ASM – Educational Outreach

We are looking for applicants to fill these three roles. Applications should submit their qualifications to the Section Manager no later than 11:59pm local time, Thursday, February 28, 2013. After applications are submitted, selected candidates will be interviewed by E. Mike McCardel and the Section Manager. Appointments will be announced no later than March 20, 2013.

The following are job descriptions and requirements for each ASM position:

Assistant Section Manager – Scouting

The ASM for Radio Scouting should be an active "Radio Scouter" in the Ohio Section and preferably be acquainted with the Radio Scouting activities and opportunities in both the Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs covered by the Section. As such, the ASM is preferably a registered member of either the BSA or GSUSA, or, both.

The ASM for Radio Scouting shall establish contact with all BSA and GSUSA councils in the Section in order to promote Radio Scouting activities, especially Jamboree on the Air (October) and Thinking Day on the Air (February), as well as other operating events and opportunities throughout the year, including Council-run camps. The ASM should promote the formation of Scout Council related committees or sub-committees on Radio Scouting in which local and area Clubs become an integral part of the Council's Radio Scouting planning and activities.

The ASM for Radio Scouting shall identify as many communication resources as possible for the dissemination and promotion of Radio Scouting in the Section, including such outlets as Club newsletters, Club programs, Hamfest programs, Internet discussion groups, Nets, Scouting newsletters, local news media, etc.

The ASM for Radio Scouting shall provide regular performance measurements and reports to the Section Manager and Assistant State Manager for Education and Youth Outreach and, shall participate in discussions on how to improve Radio Scouting in the Section.

The ASM for Radio Scouting must be an ARRL Full Member, holding at least a Technician class license.

The ASM for Radio Scouting shall consult, advise and cooperate with the ASM: Youth Outreach, and the ASM: Educational Outreach under the Direction of the ASM of Youth and Educational Outreach and the Section Manager.

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

Assistant Section Manager – Youth Outreach

The ASM for Youth Outreach should have experience working with youth and within a youth support organization and be acquainted with Amateur Radio activities and opportunities that would be a benefit for youth organizations with whom we partnership.

The ASM for Youth Outreach shall establish contact and rapport with a variety of youth organization including, but not limited to, Big Brothers/Sisters, YMCA, YWCA, Church Groups, 4H and community youth organizations and outreaches.

The ASM for Youth Outreach should look for opportunities with these groups to promote Amateur Radio as an educational, self-confidence building, service and family oriented activity.

The ASM for Youth Outreach should identify activities among youth groups that are compatible with the Amateur Radio service and be prepared to demonstrate to youth group leadership and administration how Amateur Radio would be a beneficial activity within their programs.

The ASM for Youth Outreach shall identify as many communication resources as possible for the dissemination and promotion of Amateur Radio among the Section's youth groups, including such outlets as Club newsletters, Club programs, Hamfest programs, Internet discussion groups, Nets, Local news media, etc.

The ASM for Youth Outreach shall provide regular performance measurements and reports to the Section Manager and Assistant Section Manager for Education and Youth Outreach, and shall participate in discussions on how to improve Youth Outreach in the Section.

The ASM for Youth Outreach must be an ARRL Full Member, holding at least a Technician class license.

The ASM for Youth Outreach shall consult, advise and cooperate with the ASM: Radio Scouting, and the ASM: Educational Outreach under the Direction of the ASM of Youth and Educational Outreach and the Section Manager.

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

Assistant Section Manager – Educational Outreach

ASM for Educational Outreach should be an active educator or have past experience as a teacher and be acquainted with how amateur Radio activities and opportunities would be a benefit for schools at achieving their STEM and Core curricular goals.

ASM for Educational Outreach shall establish contact and rapport with public, private and home schools as well as museums, libraries and other entities that promote and support an educational mission.

The ASM for Educational Outreach should serve as a liaison among schools, radio clubs and operators for the purpose of identifying and educating these entities how they can best work together to promote meeting the educational goals of STEM and Core curricular activities through Amateur Radio.

The ASM for Educational Outreach shall identify as many communication resources as possible for the dissemination and promotion of the educational mission of Amateur Radio throughout the Section, including such outlets as Club newsletters, Club programs, Hamfest programs, internet discussion groups, Nets, Scouting newsletters, Local news media, etc.

The ASM for Educational Outreach shall provide regular performance measurements and reports to the Section Manager and Assistant Section Manager for youth and Educational Outreach, and shall participate in discussions on how to improve Educational Outreach in the Section.

The ASM for Educational Outreach must be an ARRL Full Member, holding at least a Technician class license.

The ASM for Educational Outreach shall consult, advise and cooperate with the ASM: Radio Scouting, and the ASM: Youth Outreach under the Direction of the ASM of Youth and Educational Outreach and the Section Manager.

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

We look forward to hearing from all potential applicants for these positions. This is an exciting project that the Ohio Section is undertaking. We need passionate and talented people to make this project a success.

73,

Frank J. Piper, KI8GW
Ohio ARRL Section Manager



Mansfield Hamfest Reports

We went to Mansfield today. Due to a traffic accident, Route 30 was closed just East of Dalton. We were detoured off of 30 at rte 241. We got back on at the rte 172 ramp, only to be turned around, and sent back the way we came. We got the "scenic" tour of the Wayne County countryside, for sure, but we arrived OK. 45 minutes late, but OK!

John, KD8MQ

The drive over to Mansfield was an adventure with the snow squalls. However the great MARS Forum and the heavy flea-market traffic more than made up for the icy drive.

Lots of used equipment was being sold and I managed to sell more stuff than ever before. I also saw many friends that I only get to see a couple of times a year.

On the way back we stopped to eat at "CASA DEL RIO" in Wadsworth. If you like Mexican food this is one of the best in the area. The prices are reasonable and the portions are generous making this place a good deal all around.

James, KD8VT



FYAO Comments from KD8FDK

FYAO was just as good this year as it has been in the past. Plenty of food especially chili. I tried them all and although each one was a little different they all were very good. I could not choose a "best".

Rich, KD8FDK

FYAO Comments from KD8MQ

This was my first year participating in FYAO. To be honest, I wasn't sure what to expect, but I operate portable for OSPOTA, and the PA QSO Party. So, I figured it would be like one of those, only colder. I work in the cold, so that part would be a snap; or so I thought!

I'm a list-maker, so the first order of business was to make a take-list of items to bring. Of course, no list is perfect; how could I forget my propane heater?

So, I showed up bright & early on Saturday, following K8IV's "Gypsy wagon" portable into the park. After stopping by the shelter house to drop off the food that my wife had sent along, I searched for an operating position.



What luck! I was able to find an unoccupied shelter that had power. No generator needed. But, thanks to Errol, KC8RJR for the loan of his Honda.

So, out comes the potato gun. It worked flawlessly, but not so for the bicycle pump that charges the system. The cold had rendered it non-functional. Not having any oil along, I resorted to pouring a cup of water into the pump to prime it. After a few pumps, it began working; I was in business. The first shot went long, but the second sailed over the limb, and back to earth just 20 feet from me. So, up goes the trusty G5RV, and we were on the air.

I spent most of the morning, and some of the afternoon on 15 Meters, working DX. Around 1, or 2 PM, I switched to 40 Meters. The final tally was just over 30 Qs; not bad for a first try.

If nothing else, I acquired a new respect for QRP operation. I made plenty of DX contacts with my measly 10 watt signal. I didn't get the contacts on the first call, but I did get them.

Also, I learned that working in the cold is not the same as operating in the cold. Brrr! Next year, I am bringing my heater!

Thanks to the organizers of FYAO, and to everyone who helped out by bringing food, or by just stopping by to sign my visitors sheet! I can't wait till next year.

John, KD8MQ

FYAO Comments from N8QE

What a good time was had at the PCARS FYAO event this year. Operating with Ed, K8IV in his special heated portable shack was a ball. Plenty of Good Food, QRP phone contacts, and **Big Fun** was had. Can't wait to find out how well we did, and I'm looking forward to next year.....



Bob, N8QE

FYAO Comments from WB8LCD



Jax

Much to the delight of his parents and grandmother, my grandson, Jax, has been running around this week telling everyone that “**Grandpa froze his acorns off**”. That's the only explanation I have for coming home with The Crud I've been fighting ever since.

Other than the aforementioned Crud, FYAO was once again a really neat event! There were over 50 PCARS members and friends that participated, there were more stations on the air than ever, and there were definitely more contacts made than any year in the past. I had predicted a cold, snowy day, but that came on Sunday – FYAO was a beautiful day, just a bit chilly.

Stations set up and operating were: K8IV, KB8UHN, K8BF (echolink), KD8MQ, KC8UNR, N3JJT, KB8AMZ, WA8AR, KD8SIZ and KD8WZS. The stations were all the way from simple to elaborate, battery power, solar power and generator power, with stations worked both in the US and abroad – including several countries in Europe! A total of 238 QSO's were reported. The Food was outstanding. If you were there, you had a good time.

I've already reserved the park for next year. Be sure to get Saturday, February 15, 2014 filled in on your calendar.

72,
Tom, WB8LCD

Thanks & 73

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

**WB8LCD, WB9LBI, N8RLG, KC8PD, WB2DFC, KD8MQ,
W8KNO, W8PT, KB8UUZ, K8CAV, KI8GW, KD8VT,
KD8FDK, N8QE the ARRL and the World-Wide Web**

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



Tom “Parky”, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

Pictures from the February Meeting



*P
i
c
t
u
r
e
s

f
r
o
m

F
r
e
e
z
e

Y
o
u
r

A
c
c
o
r
n
s

O
f
f*



- Amateur Radio Instruction Class -

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

will be offering an Amateur Radio **Technician** course

that will enable *you* to obtain

your FCC **Technician** license as an

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR



When:

Tuesday evening 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

March 19, 2013 through May 7, 2013

Official Amateur Radio License testing will be held at the end of the course

Where:

At the **PCARS Club Site**

Radio Room located in the Dietrich Building

705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna.

Registration: First night of class

Cost:

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

Information:

Contact Tom Sly, WB8LCD

e-mail at: **WB8LCD@portcars.org**

phone at: **330-554-4650**



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

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

For more information about PCARS, go to **www.portcars.org** , or contact

Tom Sly - WB8LCD, at **WB8LCD@portcars.org**, or by phone at **330-554-4650**



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
Webmaster	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
NR8W	Russ Williams
KD8RJV	Jim Corbett
W8EZT	Frank Tompkins



The **RADIOGRAM** is the official award winning (ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter First Place Winner - 2012) newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. – copyright © 2013. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS). Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify it. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month - newsletter contact: KB8UUZ@portcars.org. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: the Black Squirrel is now commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961, have migrated, and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. So when you spot a black squirrel – **think PCARS!**

This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the PCARS Newsletter, **The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail. **Are you interested in getting news emailed directly to you?** Send an email to news-subscribe@portcars.org 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

