



~ 2014 Officers ~

President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD
Vice President - Jim Aylward - KC8PD
Treasurer - George Proudfoot - K3GP
3 Year Trustee - James Andrews - KD8VT
2 Year Trustee - Erica Pelz - AE8YL
1 Year Trustee - Bob Hajdak - N8QE

~ 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 month just finished, September, was National Preparedness Month. Did you do anything to make sure you will be adequately prepared? You might ask me: "Prepared for What?" - and that is a very good question. We've talked about this quite a bit in the past at the RACES / Communications Group meetings. There are lots of things that could happen, but the probability we face the biggest risk with is a winter storm. A severe winter storm could shut a lot of things down and disrupt services for more than just a few hours. Since the winter storm season is just around the corner, I would suggest you get prepared NOW! You don't want to be standing in line at Walmart with the rest of them the day the weatherman announces the big one is on the way.



So, here's a few things I want to suggest you do to "Be Prepared" (the official Boy Scout motto):

1. Check your generator, make sure it's working now, oil and fuel are available and properly stored.
2. All rechargeable batteries are checked and properly charged. New batteries are purchased and stored away for flashlights and other portable devices.
3. If you have a fireplace / woodstove – chimneys are checked and cleaned, a "backup" supply of wood is stored where it will be easily accessible and dry – we don't want you to have to burn your coffee tables just to stay warm!
4. Sump pumps are properly working. If necessary, have a spare already plumbed so it can be swapped in a matter of minutes. Make sure battery back up pumps are working properly and the battery is in good condition.
5. Food and water – enough to hold your family for a few days if you can't get out.
6. Extra stored water for flushing toilets and cleaning.

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From the President (continued from Page 1)

7. Vehicles, keep the gas tanks topped off, and have extra fuel – if you can store it properly. Keep extra oil and fluids (brake, power steering, anti-freeze) on hand (again – stored properly). Replace tires and batteries NOW if needed. Keep gloves, hats, blankets in the trunk should you have to leave your vehicle at an inopportune time.

These are just a few suggestions, and I'm sure you can add more. The main point is “do it now”. If you wait, it may be too late.

Also in the do it now category, get your antennas, feedlines, supports and other amateur radio gear all tuned up for the winter season. Have alternative plans to stay on the air if an antenna comes down. Have alternative plans to stay on the air if the power goes off. Who knows – you may be called upon to provide important communications on behalf of those affected by the storm. While I hope this is all just an exercise, and none of it needs to be used, it's better to have it and not need it rather than the other way around. Enough said on preparedness.

January 1st, 2015 begins the 10th year of PCARS. For those of you who have been around, drop me an email and let me know what you think some of the most significant events for these first 10 years of PCARS have been. If you've got photo's to go with it, please include them. We've had our ups and downs, but I want to know what has made an impression on you. I'd also like to know what you'd like to see from PCARS in the next 10 years. Has PCARS meant something special to you? Let me know about that. I'm sure there are some pretty good stories out there that I haven't heard about. **Let's make 2015, from January 1st thru December 31st, a PCARS Celebration of Amateur Radio Activity!**

Have you participated in any of our “Special Interest Groups”? These are smaller subsets of PCARS who meet monthly to explore some amateur radio activity specific to the group, and in more detail than just a casual review of the topic. The digital group has helped many PCARS members get their digital operations up and running. The antenna group has not only provided information for anyone working on an antenna system, but has also spearheaded the PCARS Balloon Launch, which should happen sometime this month. The DX/Contesting group has been working to bring more contesters to the club site and work at making PCARS a name known among the other “contest” clubs. The CW/QRP group has offered opportunities to learn the Morse code and participate in that area of the hobby. PCARS is a great club, and no matter what your interests are, we can provide an opportunity to get more specialized with our Tuesday evening SIG's (Special Interest Groups). Come on out on a Tuesday evening and check them out.

On a personal note: This has been a tough year, not only for me, but for my family. I've received so many words of encouragement, prayers and help in many ways. I count you all as my best friends anywhere. We may not always agree on everything, and we never will, but the support I've felt and received from my PCARS friends has helped me keep my balance through these tough times. *Thank you for being there.*

73,

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS President



From the Vice President

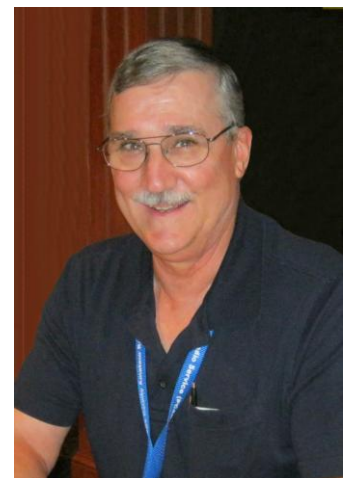
There have been a number of PCARS members who have made substantial contributions to the club and its operations. A few who come quickly to mind are Tom (Parky) Parkinson, KB8UUZ, who from day one has been the editor of The Radiogram, PCARS award-winning newsletter; Tom Sly, WB8LCD, as an officer of the club and his involvement in virtually all of the club's activities; and Ed Polack, K8IV, owner of the repeater that has always been used by the club, and as the long-time forty meter station captain at Field Day.

But there is one guy whose contributions, I think, are often overlooked because he accomplishes them in such a low key way that doesn't draw attention to him but, instead, keeps the focus on the activity. That guy is Rick Kruis, K8CAV, and his leadership and knowledge have been invaluable to the club as well as to area public service and emergency communications.

Rick's first contact with the club came when, as the U.S. Army MARS Region Five Director, he gave a presentation on MARS at a monthly club meeting. He liked what he saw in PCARS and immediately joined. He has been an active member ever since.

Rick's most visible role has been as the Field Day chair or co-chair for two years. Those were well organized (incorporating Incident Command concepts) and smooth running Field Day operations that gave everyone an opportunity to participate. Those were probably our two best Field Days to date.

But in so many other ways Rick was always lending a hand to the club's operations and activities. From his hands-on Weekend Workshops offering training on technical topics and the use of test equipment to his direction of the Digital Special Interest Group, Rick has been a teacher and mentor to many PCARS members who wanted to expand their ham radio skills and knowledge.

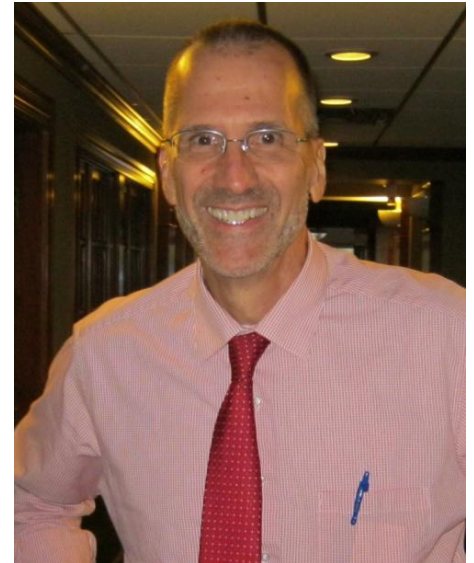


Rick K8CAV

Whenever help was needed on a PCARS activity we could count on Rick to lend a hand. The same has been true for the public service events, particularly for ARES of Portage County, that Rick has led or assisted with, including as Operations Chief for the Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon. In addition, Rick has been invaluable as a Deputy Radio Officer for the Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit.

Leadership is demonstrated in a lot of ways but sometimes the best way is to simply make yourself available to do whatever you can to assist with an activity or event and to help others with their tasks. That is what Rick has done so many times. When he has been the leader for events he has always managed them in an evenhanded and calm manner.

PCARS has truly benefited from Rick's contributions and leadership and I hope that he continues to be an active member in the future.



73,

Jim, KC8PD
PCARS Vice President

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- **October 4th** - 49th Running of **The California QSO Party** - 1600 UTC October 4, 2014 to 2200 UTC October 5, 2014 at the club site
- **October 4th** - **VE Testing** at the club site - 10 am - walk-ins always welcome
- **October 13th** - **PCARS meeting** - 7 pm - Jim - AC8NT - Makers Movement
- **November 10th** - **PCARS meeting - ELECTIONS** - 7 pm - Mike - KC8YLD - AMSAT & Satellites
- **November 14th** - **PCARS 9th Birthday**
- **February 14th** - **Freeze Your Acorns Off** - 10th annual FYAO - 2/14/2015

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 | - | 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



Every Wednesday until late October - Morse Code Class at the club site - 7:30 pm

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in **October**:

K8JAA	Jane	Avnet	KC8DBX	Angela	Ziccardi
K8AAB	Bob	Evans	KD8MLE	Jon	Fox
N8ONI	Pat	Karl	K8CAV	Rick	Kruis
KD8EPG	Ken	George	WA8AR	Tony	Romito
KD8IUA	Mike	Battershell	W8DMH	Dennis	Hunt
K8DER	Donald	Robinson	KD8MQ	John	Myers

PCARS VE Test Sessions

PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every even numbered month.

2014 - October 4th, December 6th
2015 - February 7th, April 4th, June 6th, August 1st, October 3rd, December 5th

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 (**driver's 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.
 - Original and copy of a pre-March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 [General] exam) - you must be currently licensed to get this credit.
- Expired License? Original and copy of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass element 2 to re-instate your license.



Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

PCARS Yahoo Site

Members are reminded that PCARS has a Yahoo Group dedicated to PCARS information. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list. Check out the PCARS Yahoo Group at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCARS/>

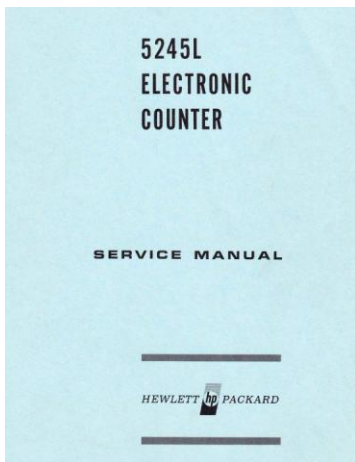


Contest Calendar

October 2014	
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 4 to 2159Z, Oct 5
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 11 to 2359Z, Oct 12
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 11 to 2200Z, Oct 12
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 12
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 18 to 2359Z, Oct 19
New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 18 to 0200Z, Oct 19
South Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 18 to 1800Z, Oct 19
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 19 to 0100Z, Oct 20
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 20 to 2359Z, Oct 24
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 25 to 2400Z, Oct 26

Google the Contest Name - Read the Rules & Have Fun. YES - There are MANY More Contests out there - Check the Internet

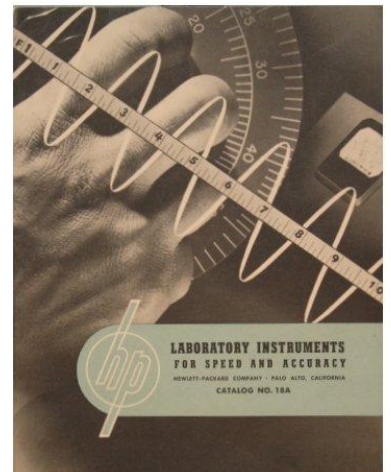
How Old is that Piece of HP Equipment?



I found this on the FMT nuts blog. You take the first two digits on the serial number, and add 1960, that gives you the year. The next two digits are the week. If you run into a dealer with a bunch of the same unit, at least you could pick out the most recent one.

To add even more, it's actually the date of the engineering revision.

Example: 2512A16273 1960 + 25 = 1985
 12 = 12th week of 1985 A = America
 16273 = the number of the series made



They kept the same sequence when they changed it from A to US and moved it to the front of the serial number.

73,
 Jim, N8PXW





EmComm

One of the best reasons to be involved in public service and emergency communications is that you have the opportunity in real-world circumstances to learn new radio communications techniques and technologies and to apply them in sometimes unforeseen circumstances. You learn from other hams who share their knowledge and experience and become a more skilled and versatile volunteer.

The Communications Unit has trained on the use of cross-band repeaters and has used them in at least one of our field exercises. ARES® of Portage County has employed cross-band repeaters for both the Headwaters Adventure Race and the Mantua Potato Stomp.

If you are not familiar with the concept, cross-band repeating is the use of certain dual-band radios to receive on one band, say UHF, while simultaneously transmitting on the other (VHF) band and vice versa.

For the Headwaters race we have placed a cross-band repeater in a field on the Derthick farm at the top of the hill on St. Rt. 82. The radio acted as a remote input to the K8IV repeater. That position overlooks the valley and enabled the sweep canoe on the river to access the K8IV repeater.

The Potato Stomp is run on the hilly terrain in Mantua Township and on the route there are some locations where it is virtually impossible even with a mobile radio to get a signal into the Rootstown input for the repeater. Mike, KD8FLZ, set up his mobile as a cross-band remote input on the high ground near the intersection of Pioneer Trail and Limeridge Road.

Dave, WB2DFC, was also a volunteer for the Potato Stomp and he also used his mobile radio as a remote repeater input. Using his HT on a UHF frequency, his mobile rig would transmit on the repeater input and listen on the repeater output so Dave could be on foot in the area of his assignment and still access the repeater. Dave identified some issues that we encountered with the setup we were using and had some suggestions for how to improve the communications plan.

His timing was perfect because Rick, K8CAV, was scheduled to provide training at the September Comms Unit meeting on cross-band repeating. Rick and Dave conferred and then collaborated on the training. Rick covered the basics and Dave, the described some alternative cross-band applications.

They included methods to improve communications between volunteers who are using their HTs on the UHF cross-band input to improve their ability to hear each other's transmissions. He also described alternative cross-band configurations to enable communications between different groups when terrain precludes simplex operations.

Dave also explained the use of multiple cross-band sites distributed geographically as inputs to a common repeater as well as the use of two UHF stations, for instance, to act as remote split site receive/transmit stations to extend the range of a VHF repeater. Last, he explained how to create what was essentially a "pop-up" split site VHF repeater using UHF inputs. Lots of cool stuff.

Anyway, the point is that active involvement in public service and emcomm activities is a great way to learn from your fellow hams and then put that knowledge to work. So come on out and get involved!

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAR5AI

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

Here an Elmer, There an Elmer...

I am very thankful that our club promotes the SIG, special interest group, and that not only seasoned HAM's attend but fairly new HAM's attend as well. The SIG's offer a great opportunity for the new HAM to ask questions from seasoned HAM's about what to use for a transceiver, antenna, tuner, etc.



If you are a new HAM please try to get to one of the SIG's for not only the topic of the SIG, but to ask questions you might have about what rig to purchase, building an antenna, or finding a solution to a problem you having. Most of the seasoned HAM's have been in the same position as you at one time and will probably be very helpful. Even if we don't consider ourselves as Elmer's, we are.

Terry, KB8AMZ



PCARS is on YouTube

That's right - PCARS is now on YouTube. So, what does that mean? Hey, we have a new place to put all kinds of videos that are about PCARS for the world to see.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFVsDD_gwCLtTw-FPuBcYtA



Hamfest Calendar

10/19/2014 - 2014 Conneaut ARC (W8BHZ) Hamfest - Location: American Legion Hall Cowle Post 151 - 272 Broad St. - Conneaut, OH 44030 - Website: <http://qsl.net/w8bhz/> - Public Contact: J Michael Pongrass , KD8OSJ - PO Box 693 - 698 Harbor St. Conneaut, OH 44030 - Ph: 814-440-6679 - Email: kd8osj@yahoo.com

11/02/2014 - Massillon ARC Hamfest - Location: Massillon Boy's & Girl's Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.w8np.org> - Public Contact: Terry Russ , N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 - Email: truss@sssnet.com



PCARS Patches & Stickers



New PCARS logo patches (iron on) & stickers (stick on) 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 only \$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! See the club Treasurer: George, K3GP or e-mail him at: K3GP@portcars.org



OSPOTA - 2014

The log deadline was September 20th. From there we wait at least 2 weeks for any snail mail that may be taking longer than usual. Once all logs are in, the OSPOTA committee will get together in mid October for a l-o-n-g day's work going through all of the logs and doing cross-checking of contacts.



I anticipate the results will be available at the November PCARS meeting and published in the December issue of *The RADIOGRAM*.

We're also going to discuss rule changes for OSPOTA 2015 to help bring this contest up to par with other HF contests throughout Ohio and beyond. Those details should be released in late December or January.

73,

Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman

PCARS
Join Now
Discover the FUN



North American SSB Sprint

On September 13th, a group of PCARS members took part, competing in our first Sprint contest. This one happened to be the North American SSB Sprint hosted by the National Contest Journal. The rules required us to send NCJ our list of potential operators prior to the event. The list consisted of W8PT, AC8PR, N8QE, NR8W, and KB8AMZ. Unfortunately, Bob, N8QE

could not make it so it was down to four ops.

We operated just under 4 hours (Sprints are very short contests) and made 26 contacts for a total of 468 points. The contest was held on only three bands - 80, 40, and 20, and we made most of our contacts on 20m.

As the name implies, a Sprint is just that - you call CQ, work a station and then you must "sprint" at least 5 kc to another frequency if you want to call CQ again. So it is like being forced to "search and pounce." Conditions weren't that great and we didn't find a lot of stations operating the Sprint. But we could tell from the exchanges that other stations were racking up a number of Qs. So it may have been propagation from our location or our use of a vertical that hindered us.

In any case, we got into the swing of things and had fun trying to keep up with the required operating parameters of the contest. We had several visitors to the club site during the contest, just to see what we were doing and how a Sprint was conducted. Visitors included Tim KD8ICP - Mike KB8TUY - Rich KD8FDK Joe - KD8GHB and Rob Schultz - a visitor all the way from Oregon. Others may have drifted in but did not sign the attendance sheet.

We are considering doing this again since Sprints are held throughout the year by various groups including the ARRL. And operating in one certainly requires you to stay sharp and to make each contact count. We certainly will keep PCARS members informed of our next Sprint event. And the kicker to this all was that we all had BIG FUN.

Five Nine, Ohio, 73,

Chuck, W8PT



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

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! Don't forget - 4th Thursday is NET NIGHT at the club site !!



October	
2	KD8FDK
9	N8WLE
16	KB8UUZ
23	KB8UHN
30	WB8LCD

November	
6	N8QE
13	WB2DFC
20	KC8PD
27	N8WLE

December	
4	KB8UHN
11	N8RLG
18	KD8FDK
25	Take-A-Break

January	
1	WB8LCD/P
8	KB8UUZ
15	N8QE
22	KD8FDK
29	WB8LCD



The PCARS net is **BIG 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!

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Mosley CL-36-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna, \$500

FOR SALE: Mosley CL-33-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna, \$400

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-711A, 2 Mtr All Mode, \$450

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-811A, 440 Mhz All Mode, \$530

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-450SAT, HF All Mode, \$600

FOR SALE: Misc tower parts, contact me if interested.

Contact Al, AB8AA by phone 330-207-3296 or e-mail AB8AA@portcars.org [01/02/15]

WANTED: DIGITAL TV Converter Box (working). Want to play with SSTV, need converter. Let me know what you have and how much. Inexpensive is good.....

Contact Bucky, N8OQQ by e-mail at: N8OQQ@portcars.org [01/02/15]

FOR SALE: MFJ-269 Antenna Analyzer - (269, not the 259) covers from 1.8-170 MHz & 415-470 MHz - comes with manual and with the MFJ-1312 Wall Adapter. Cost new \$335 will sell for \$219 (WHAT A DEAL!)

FOR SALE: Astron SS-30 M 25 amp (30 surge) power supply with meters - \$99

FOR SALE: LaCrosse Atomic Clocks (2) - can display UTC (not all atomic clocks will) - 2 clocks - \$25 for the pair, you can then set one for Eastern Time and one for UTC.

Contact Tom, KB8UUZ at KB8UUZ@portcars.org [10/02/14]

FOR SALE: Andrew 2.4GHz (wi-fi) window antenna, new in box, QD-2327SM10-1, \$25

FOR SALE: LDG Z-11Pro II auto tuner, new in box, \$100

FOR SALE: Garmin StreetPilot 1350T GPS, used, in box, \$45

FOR SALE: Microham USB interface (current production model), with cable for Kenwood TS-480 series, \$75

FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio Plug&Play soundcard interface, in box \$75

FOR SALE: LTG AT-600 Pro auto tuner, slightly used, in box, \$225

FOR SALE: Kantronics KPC III-Plus TNC, used only for testing, in box, \$125

FOR SALE: MFJ Universal Microphone Adapter, MFJ-1251, \$10

FOR SALE: TenTec RF speech processor, model 715. \$150

Contact Rick, K8GI by e-mail at: K8GI@portcars.org [10/02/14]

FOR SALE: Swan 1500Z Amplifier - Power is set up for 220 VAC, can be changed over to 110 VAC very easy. Two 572B tubes. In good working condition. Non-smoking shack. Comes with manual - \$500.00

Contact Bob, W8JFQ at 336-707-7148 or by e-mail at: davet101@roadrunner.com [10/02/14]



CQ CQ All D-Star Users

The October Digital Special Interest Group that meets on Tuesday October 7th at 7:00 PM at the club site will be talking D-Star. Our intent is to give an overview of what D-Star is and the basics of how to use D-Star for local, repeater, and linked operations.



We'll talk about what and how to enter call sign information into the different call fields on a D-Star radio and also some of the unique features of D-Star.

If you have D-Star radios bring them along and we'll help you get them up and running but don't forget to bring your radio manual along with it.

As always, we'll make time to answer questions or help set up your equipment and software for any of the various digital modes. Hope to see you there!



Rick, K8CAV



Balloon Launch Update

The PCARS high altitude balloon launch is being delayed due to government red tape. We should be announcing a new launch date next week, most likely early October. The FAA initially led us to believe that we would get clearance for one of our proposed dates in September.



However, the number of air shows and Air National Guard exercises made the process nearly impossible for the entire month of September. With nothing resolved by the FAA by end of business last Friday it became clear that we were not going to get the launch off this month.

In addition to the FAA, The State of Ohio informed us that they did not want us to use state rest stops or state parks; they were afraid we might dent a car. And, to make things just a little more difficult, Homeland Security put hydrogen gas on their bad list, so we need to prove that we are not going to do something bad with the hydrogen; that delayed us getting our working gas. All of this made trying to launch on September 14th nearly impossible. Just a side note: as compared to all of the other common flammable gasses and liquids, hydrogen is probably the least hazardous.

The good news is that October 18th looks open for FAA Approval and weather for a flight is usually as good or better than September. Hopefully we will know by the end of next week and go on from there. Stay tuned, as soon as we have final approval in writing from the FAA we will again put out a call for volunteers to assist with launch activities.!

Tony, WA8AR



Let's Talk

Hi Everyone,

Wow.. It looks like fall is fast approaching. I woke up this morning to a chilly 38 degrees! Yesterday was just about as bad. No frost yet, but it is definitely getting colder out. My maple trees are also starting to show signs of fall approaching with the leaves turning from a dark green to a soft golden color.

Football season is also here and with that is another obvious sign of fall. I had a wager (for bragging rights only) with our League President Kay Cragie when our Ohio State team played Virginia Tech recently. I do have to tell ya', Kay was a very gracious winner and didn't brag over our horrible loss to them. I'm very grateful for that. Now comes my counterpart in that northern state.. I'm sure he'll want to re-challenge me this year for sure. If you remember he lost last year. Anyway, I'm waiting to hear from Larry on what we will do for the Michigan / Ohio State game this year.

I know that I harp on this a lot, but please make sure that you've signed up to receive emails from the Section Manager and Great Lakes Director with the ARRL. It seems that some of you may not be receiving the special news releases that Dale or I have been doing lately. If you want to keep apprised of what's going on in the state or within the Division you need to be registered with the League to receive these special emails. You'll need to log onto your account with the League and mark the box that states "receive email from the Section Manager / Director" and that's all there is to it. You'll now get those special e-mailings.

Now, for those of you who may not want to go to all that bother, or you are not League members, you still have a chance to get these important emails. All you have to do is to “Opt-In” on the Ohio Section website.. Here’s the link: <http://arrl-ohio.org/forwarder/forwarding.html> You can also find this link on the bottom left corner of the main page of the Ohio Section website. I urge you all to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, knows that they can always “Opt-In” at any time. Oh, didn’t know that the Ohio Section had a website?? We do.. You can find it at: <http://arrloho.org> If you don’t have this website set as your home page, I urge you to do so. This website is one of the exceptions to the rules.. It changes all the time, it’s never stagnate and it’s forever changing. I would recommend that you check into the website at least 3 times per week.

U.S. House Bill - HR 4969 is still working its way around Congress. Have you written to your Congressman yet? Many have. Let’s keep this campaign going strong. If you haven’t written your letter yet, there’s a lot of good ideas on how to compose it on the Leagues website. Just follow the HR-4969 link on their front page. It will take you to all the latest information and letter suggestions.

October 4th is our statewide S.E.T. Are you going to participate? Please be ready, you may be called upon to help out in a crisis. Will you know what to do? That’s what S.E.T. is all about, being prepared. I’ve heard every excuse you can think of as to why someone feels that they don’t need to train any more. I feel it’s just that, an excuse. One lesson that I can definitely say I’ve had considerable experience with, is that disasters never follow a plan. That means you have to pull from your experience and you only get experience by participating and practicing.

Ohio's Speaker Bureau.. I know that this has been said a million times before, but it’s always worth repeating, don’t forget to invite one of the Ohio Section Cabinet members to your next club meeting. The entire Cabinet is Ohio’s Speaker’s Bureau. If you’d like any of us to come and be a speaker at your function for FREE, please feel free to give any of us a call, we’ll do our very best to be at your function.

I’ve been doing a lot of traveling to hamfests and club meetings lately. I want to thank all of you for your kind words and graciousness to not just provide a space for me, but in giving me a helping hand when needed, and being very pro-active in having things all ready to go and setup for me when I get to your hamfest or club meeting. It’s really great to know that you care that much. I really do appreciate it.

That’s going to do it this month from here.. I hope to see all of you at the various hamfests or meetings soon and who knows, maybe you’ll be one of the lucky ones to get a “mug” on me.

Have a question? Feel free to give me a call or write to me.. Oh.. by the way, I’ve come up with a new surprise for the mugs.. You may just find an extra surprise inside the cup!!

My email and phone number are always listed on the Ohio Section Website <http://arrloho.org> as well as on page 16 of QST..



73,
Scott Yonally, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager

K8CAV from Mt. Gilead State Park

Sunny and perfect temperatures to downpours and cool temperatures described weather conditions at parks throughout Ohio on OSPOTA Saturday, September 6th. Mt. Gilead State Park was in between with cloudy skies, cooler temperatures, and very light rain part of the day. The best part though was the space weather which blessed everyone with good NVIS propagation conditions.



After getting my trailer and antennas set up I was ready to go when OSPOTA kicked off at noon. I used a 140 ft. center-fed dipole with the center up 24 ft. and each end up 8 ft. that fed an antenna tuner in the trailer. My trusty TS-2000 provided the oomph I needed to operate the contest. I started out on 40 meters and was immediately able to hold and run a spot there, making one contact after another. Signals were very good and I wound up with a number of out of state stations as well as other state parks in Ohio and Indiana. Just a few minutes before 1:00 PM I had to close my station and shift operations to a 60 meter channel for a CU/RACES drill that was scheduled, more on that later. When the drill was over I went back to 40 meters and continued with the contest, switching into the hunt and pounce mode. After about an hour I was hearing only stations I had already contacted and having commitments back home in Hiram I decided to close down, pack up and hit the road. The end result was fifty-two contacts made and thirty-two parks contacted, not a great score for sure but most importantly I had a great time doing it.



So what's with this 60 meter stuff? The Portage County CU/RACES group decided to hold a short drill during the OSPOTA contest this year with the thought in mind that it would encourage CU/RACES members who were operating in the OSPOTA contest to participate in the drill, and on the other hand would encourage those participating in the drill to operate in the OSPOTA contest. The ability to operate in both SSB voice and digitally at the same time on the same channel yields more efficient net operations and channelized operations on 60 meters eliminates adjacent station interference that is common on all of the rest of the HF bands. It worked well and I was pleased to see most of the participants in this drill also operating in the OSPOTA contest.

The greatest thing about the OSPOTA contest is that it's one that doesn't require megawatts of power or huge antenna arrays or towers to be as competitive as anyone else participating, making it very attractive to both novice and veteran contesters. If you haven't had the pleasure of operating this contest, start making plans now for OSPOTA 2015, you'll be glad you did! Kudos and hats off to the OSPOTA team for putting together a truly enjoyable contest. And oh yeah, looking for the trophy next time, *just wait until next year!* (do I sound like a Cleveland Browns fan or what? hi hi)



73,
Rick, K8CAV

CW Class, Phase 1 Update

September 24th will be the 3rd week of phase one of the CW Class. I have 6 eager to learn CW HAM's at present. One HAM is a total newbie to CW and the other 5 learned CW the way I did... the wrong way.



I had one absentee this week and I sure the absence had to do with a sick family member. I picked up one HAM that wasn't present the first week. I am hearing responses like "I'm not doing that well" and "I'm not hearing all the characters", but from my vantage point the HAM's in the class are doing very well.

Next week, we begin a new challenge. Writing on paper what I send to them. Up to now its been a verbal response to what I send.

A tentative date for phase 2 is November 5th but that is not definite. Phase 2 will depend on the progress of the group in phase 1. I may not have a firm start date for phase 2 to be reported in the November 'The Radiogram' so I will have to use either the weekly Net to pass the information or if you want to be in phase 2 and you're not in phase 1 you could send me an email at: hooked2u@neo.rr.com

What is phase 2? Learning to copy CW faster. The key to copying faster CW, like learning CW in phase 1, is practice, but there are other methods one can use during that practice that will help. If you copy 5 wpm now, great! If you would like to copy faster then come to phase 2.

73 es CUL,
Terry, KB8AMZ

California QSO Party

K8BF will once again be on the air, taking part in the California QSO Party. The event begins 1600 UTC (Noon local) Oct. 4, 2013 and ends 2200 UTC (6 PM local) on Oct. 5, 2014.

In 2012 & 2013 PCARS entered as a Multi-Multi from Ohio and did very well. We will again enter as a Multi-Multi- Low Power (200 watts or less) for 2014. We will be setting up three operating positions and using the tribander plugged into our triplexer so that all of the positions will have the benefit of the yagi which will be pointed at the Golden State. Since this is not like the last event in which I had to send in a list of our ops prior to the contest, I'm hoping to see quite a few PCARS members during this time to get on the air and work this contest.

California QSO Party

49th Running Of The CQP!

1600 UTC October 4, 2014 to 2200 UTC October 5, 2014



I have learned that all of California's counties will be active so if you want to come out early and try to work a county you need with your own call, you are welcome. During the contest we will all be using the club call as we have done in the past.

We will meet at the club site on October 4th at 10 AM to review the rules, the proper contest exchange and assign the operator positions. This will be our third year in competition and we are hoping to finish first in the multi-multi category. So let's show some K8BF pride and come out to either help us work the contest or as least to cheer us on. See you then.

73,
Chuck, W8PT
PCARS Contest Coordinator

Paper Chase

October has a special event that has historical significance. It is the celebration of the birthday of the United States Navy.

The Chief of Naval Operations has stated that the Navy Birthday is one of the two Navy-wide dates to be celebrated annually. The Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on 13 October 1775 with the following resolution:



Joe-W8KNO in Boot Camp

"Resolved, That a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted, with all possible dispatch, for a cruise of three months, and that the commander be instructed to cruise eastward, for intercepting such transports as may be laden with warlike stores and other supplies for our enemies, and for such other purposes as the Congress shall direct.

That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare an estimate of the expense, and lay the same before the Congress, and to contract with proper persons to fit out the vessel.

Resolved, that another vessel be fitted out for the same purposes, and that the said committee report their opinion of a proper vessel, and also an estimate of the expense."

In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy's birthday. The Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents. Since 1972 each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service."

The special event (NI6IW) will be on the air from noon till 7:00 P.M. October 11th. The event will originate from the USS Midway (CV-41) located in San Diego. Look for her around: 14.320 7.250; PSK31 14.070; D-STAR REF1C.

A QSL card can be obtained from: USS Midway (CV-41) - Museum Radio Room - 910 N Harbor Dr. - San Diego, CA 92101



I'll be listening for you!

Joe, W8KNO

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

I'm still receiving DX cards and they have taken me from my last report of 238 confirmed to 247 confirmed. I have also learned a great lesson that I should have learned long ago. If you work a DX entity that you need, don't wait to send for the card. Especially if they offer OQRS and ClubLog. As I go back through my log, I am finding many DX contacts that I need for DXCC. In checking, I have found many that had the OQRS option listed to obtain a DX card. However, it only stays active so long and then it is no longer viable so then you have to take the chance of sending a card and SAE and \$\$ in hopes of getting your QSO confirmed.



So from here on in, yours truly will be sending for a DX confirmation that I need as soon as I work them. Procrastination is no longer an option for me.

In the next few months there will be opportunities to work some rare DXpeditions, so I hope that you get on the air and make the contacts.

In the meantime, let's take a look at what's coming up in the next few months.

I continue to thank the following for the forecast reports for this month and beyond. Without them and their timely information, it would be much harder to know what's happening on the bands. So a BIG thank-you to 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. I also want to thank the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) for some reports.

And 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).



2014 N7QT DXPEDITIONS (Update). Rob, N7QT, who was active as HK0/N7QT in April, has updated his coming activities for this year and next on QRZ.com which include the following locations: October 3-13th -- Austral Islands; call sign TX5D; holiday style DXpedition; primary focus on 80/40m using CW and SSB; see OPDX.1125

January 2015 -- Montserrat (VP2M); 80-10m using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct (SASE, IRC OR 2 USDs), LoTW, eQSL or by the Bureau.

40, MONTENEGRO. A very large international group of operators will be active as 4O3A during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th) as a Multi-Single entry. Operators mentioned are Ranko/4O3A, Richard/9A1TT, Ivo/9A3A, Kresimir/9A5K, Braco/E77DX, Arvo/ES2MC, Andy/ES2NA, Toivo/ES2RR, Toomas/ES5RY, Tonno/ES5TV,

Kristjan/ES7GM, Zoli/HA1AG, Denny/KX7M, Sinisa/YT1NT, Kele/YU1AO, Dusan/YU1EA, Zoran/YU1EW and Acim/YU1YV. QSL via LoTW. For more info about the 4O3A station, see: <http://www.4o3a.com>

4W, TIMOR-LESTE. Bob, 5B4AGN/G3ZEM, will be active as 4W/G3ZEM from a water's edge location on the north shores of Timor Leste between October 8-20th. Activity will be all bands, 160-10 meters using primarily CW. There will be a focus towards the LF if conditions are favorable. His equipment will be a K3 with a KPA500 into a HF9V for HF and an 18m Spider pole supported vertical on 160/80m. QSL via M0URX; OQRS preferred.

5T0, MAURITANIA (ITU Special Event). Jean, F3JL/5T0JL, will be using the special call sign 5T0ITU during the ITU events -- like the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, South Korea, between October 20th and November 7th, and the ITU Telecom World 2014 in Doha, Qatar, between December 7-10th. He may also use it during the ITU week in May 2015. The license is valid until October 2015.

6W, SENEGAL. Sigi, DL7DF, will be on holiday with his XYL Sabine in Senegal between November 1-13th. He will operate as DL7DF/6W on all bands from 160-10 meters using CW, SBB, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV as often as possible. The location is Somone at the coastline of Senegal near Dakar. He states, "But please do not forget. This time I'm on vacation with a little bit Ham Radio." QSL via DL7DF, direct or by the DARC Bureau. For more info and updates, see: <http://www.dl7df.com/6w/index.html>

7Q, MALAWI. Karl, DK2WV, will once again be active as 7Q7VW from the Radio Dinosaur FM - Karonga Museum in Malawi between Oct 1-21st. Activity will be on 160-6 m using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested SSB frequencies: 1827 (1817 JA only), 3507, 7007 and 50105 kHz (QRM permitting). QSL via DK2WV for direct (see QRZ.com).

8Q, MALDIVES. George, KQ8Z/GM0IIO, active as 8Q7OO from Kuredu Island, Maldives (AS-013), between Oct 29 and Nov 11. Activity on the HF bands. QSL direct (w/SAE 2 USDs) only to GM0IIO. (No eQSL, LoTW or Bureau).

9N, NEPAL. Joël, F3CJ, is planning a Mountain Manaslu trek in Nepal between Sept 23 and Nov 5. He will operate from the following areas: September 24th-Oct 6th -- Kathmandu; Radio activity Oct 7-23rd -- Ascension Manaslu (8164 meters); Mountain activity Oct 24th-Nov 4th -- Kathmandu; Radio activity. His call sign is pending, and he has requested 9N7CJ. QSL via F3CJ. For more details and updates, visit his blog at: <http://f3cjnepal.wordpress.com>

AFRICAN ISLANDS TOUR. Diego, F4HAU, will activate the following to African islands during the month of October. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters SSB using a FT857D with a HLA amp (300W) into verticals and VDA antennas. QSL both operations via home call signs. His tentative schedule is as follows:

October 9-24th - Reunion Island (AF-016); call sign FR/F4HAU

October 13-17th - Side trip to Rodrigues Island (AF-017); call sign 3B9/F4HAU

CN2, MOROCCO. Operators Juan/EA8RM, Jorge/EA9LZ, Ash/KF5EYY, Rich/W7ZR, Jim/W7EJ and possibly others will be active as CN2R during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th) as a Multi-Single entry. Operators will be testing the new stations starting October 7th. QSL via W7EJ.

D4, CAPE VERDE. Fran, EA7FTR, will be active as D44KS from Boa Vista between September 5th and October 10th. Activity will be limited to his spare time (job commitments) on 40-6 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL via EB7DX.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Bill, N7OU, will once again be operating as E51NOU from Rarotonga (OC-013), South Cook Islands, between October 13th and November 9th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters, CW only, in his spare time as work allows. QSL via N7OU.

FR, REUNION ISLAND. Stephane, F5UOW, will once again be active as FR/F5UOW from Reunion Island (AF-016) between October 29th and November 20th. Activity will be mostly on CW with some SSB and RTTY. He will also be joined by Alain, F8FUA. QSL via F5UOW, by the Bureau or direct. Please NO IRCs!

FS, ST. MARTIN. John, K9EL, active as FS/K9EL from St. Martin (NA-105, DIFO FS-001, WLOTA 0383, WW Loc. FK88) between Nov 20 & Dec 2. Activity on 160-6m. He will be running 500w into a 3 element yagi on 6m, dipoles for 10-30m and a vertical for 40-80-160m. John will operate on 60m if there is interest. This will be a holiday trip with only a

minimal effort for the CQWW DX CW Contest. Usually there are daily uploads to ClubLog and LoTW. QSL via his home call sign. John states, "This year I am planning a Twitter experiment and will tweet my operating frequency/mode at the beginning of my daily activity and also each time when I change bands, change modes, QRT for meals, beach, etc. Those interested in following my operating activities during my trip, can follow me at <https://twitter.com/FSK9EL>."

HS50, THAILAND. Look for HS50RAST to be active now until December 31st, 2014, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand (RAST). QSL via E21EIC and LoTW.

PJ6, SABA. Mike, G4IUF (ISWL Member), active as PJ6/G4IUF from Isle House, Windwardside, Saba Island (NA-145, WFF PAFF-027, WLOTA 2043) between September 29th and November 2nd. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home call sign, direct or E-mail for Bureau request (see QRZ.com).

T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI Reminder. A experienced German team is pleased to announce another DXpedition to the Pacific Ocean to Southern Tarawa Atoll, Western Kiribati. Their call sign will be T30D, and they will be active between October 2-15th. Operators mentioned are Uwe/DJ9HX, Rudolf/DK3CG, Sid/DM2AYO, Dietmar/DL2HWA, Georg/DL4SVA, Bert/DL2RNS, Heiko/DL1RTL, Juergen/DF7TT, Olaf/DL7JOM, Guenter/DL2AWG, Hans/DL6JGN and Rolf/DL7VEE. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY, with at least four simultaneous stations with 500 watts amps around the clock. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1814.5, 3526, 7026, 10119, 14026, 18086, 21026, 24906 and 28026 kHz

SSB - 1849, 3805, 7095, 7182, 14210, 18120, 21255, 24955 and 28455 kHz

RTTY - 3595, 7046, 10137, 14090, 18099, 21090, 24918 and 28090 kHz

6m - 50120/CW and 50120/SSB. QSL Manager is DL4SVA. QSL via OQRS (see Web page), direct, by the Bureau and logs will be uploaded to LoTW at a later date. A Web page will is now available at: <http://t30d.mydx.de>

T31, CENTRAL KIRIBATI (Update). It was announced a few weeks ago that members of the 2013 November XR0ZR Juan Fernandez Island DXpedition were planning an operation to Kanton Island sometime in Nov 2014. The call sign will be T31R. More information is forthcoming. A new Web page will be activated soon at: <http://t31r.dxfamily.com>

IOTA NEWS.....

AS-099. Members of the Balkan Contest Group active as TC0A from **Bozcaada Island** in Asiatic Turkey between Nov 23 and Dec 1. Activity will include the CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 29-30th) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via LoTW or direct to LZ1NK: NIKOLAY ENCHEV, P.O. Box 176, 4300 Karlovo, BULGARIA. Ops mentioned are Nick/LZ1NK, Christo/LZ3FN, Plamen/LZ1DCW, Llian/LZ1CNN, Nick/LZ3ND, Nasko/LZ3YY, Yasar/ TA3D, Mustafa/TA2TX, Miroslav/LZ1MBU and Krasi/LZ2UW. For more detail, past operations and updates, see: <http://tc3a.alle.bg>

AS-151. Operators Zhang/BA3AX, Wang/BA3CE and Lu/BD3AEO will be active as BA3AX/2, BA3CE/2 and BD3AEO/2 from **Juhua Island** between October 2-5th. Planned activity will be on 20-10 meters. QSL via BA3AX, by the Bureau or direct. QSL information can be found on QRZ.com.

NA-122. Member of the Hotel India DX Club will be active as HI2DX from **Saona Island** between November 19-23rd (tentative dates). Operators mentioned are Joe/HI3A (Team Leader), Tino/HI3CC (Co-Leader), Ez/HI3EPR, Edwin/HI3K, Jose/HI3LCG, Franky/HI3TT, Miguel/HI7MC, Rafael/HI8A, Sergio/HI8AR, Joe/HI8C, Alfredo/HI8CR, Elio/HI8EFS, Julio/HI8JQE, Juan/HI8JSG, Rafael/HI8KW, Rig/HI8RD, Daniel/K1TO, Dave/K3LP, Paul/K9PG, Ray/N9JA and Danny/W4UH. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They will have 10 stations on the air using dipoles, verticals and other various antennas. QSL Manager is Tim, M0URX, for direct requests and Bureau QSLs. A OQRS is available. For more details and updates, watch the following URL links: <http://www.facebook.com/hi2dx> <https://twitter.com/#HI2DX> <http://qrz.com/db/hi2dx>

RI1, ANTARCTICA. Operators Oleg/ZS1ANF, Slava/RD3MX, Alex/UA1PAW will be active as RI1ANR from Novo Runway Airbase (Blue Ice Runway) between November 2014 and March 2015. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via RK1PWA.

S7, SEYCHELLES. Kasimir, DL2SBY, will be active as S79KB from two islands in the Seychelles between Oct 4-18. He is scheduled to activate Mahe (Oct 4-9) and Praslin (Oct 9-18). Both islands are IOTA AF-024. Activity will be on 20-10 m including 17/12 m and possibly 30 m using CW, SSB and RTTY. His equipment will be a FT900AT with an ACOM 1010 amp (600w) into a triple-leg antenna for 20-10m. He will upload the log onto ClubLog. The QSL cards will be printed as soon as possible. QSL via DL2SBY, by the Bureau, direct and as well as through PayPal requests.

SA-055. Members of the Radio Club Argentino will activate the special prefix/callsign, AY4E, from the Argentine exclave **Martin Garcia Island** (ILLW AR 045, WW Loc. GF05VT) in Uruguayan waters (part of the La Plata in Buenos Aires Province) between October 16-19th. Operators mentioned are Juan/LU1EK, Walter/LU1XP, Eduardo/LU2HOD, Hector/LU3CM, Sergio/LU4CBC, Roberto/LU4QQ, Julio/LU5MT and Walter/LU8QBF. Activity will be on 160-40, 20-10 meters, as well as 6m/2m/70cm, and using CW, SSB, and the Digital modes (RTTY, Amtor and BPSK). QSL via LU4QQ direct or LU4AA by the Bureau. For more details and update, see the Web page (still under construction) at: <http://ay4e.com.ar/index.html>

SA-086. The Chilean DXpedition Team will be active as XR2T from Damas Island (WLOTA-0029, FG40fs) between October 8-12th. The main aim of the DXpedition will be to work the greatest possible number of unique call signs, thus also offering a possibility to Little Pistols and QRP stations. Activity will be on all bands, 40-10 meters using mainly SSB, CW and the Digital modes. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 3513, 7023, 10103, 14023, 18079, 21023, 24894 and 28023 kHz

SSB - 3790, 7082, 14185, 18140, 21285, 24955 and 28485 kHz

RTTY - 3580, 7035, 10142, 14080, 18099, 21080, 24912 and 28080 kHz

PSK/JT65 - TBA

Ops mentioned are: CW - Nicolas/XQ1KZ, Dercel/CE3KHZ, Danilo/XQ4CW SSSB/RTTY, Julio/CE3OP (Team Leader), Domingo/CE1DY, Juan/CE3RBJ, Marco/CE1TBN, Pablo/CE1UMY, Christian/CE3TAM QSL via their mgr CE3OP, direct or by the Bureau. For more details: <http://www.qrz.com/db/XR2T> <http://www.xr2t.cl/index.php>

TX5, CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS (And Other New Caledonia IOTAs). The "Les Nouvelles DX" is reporting that Michel "Mic" FK8IK, will be sailing with some non-radio amateur friends between November 1-30th. They plan to set sail on November 1st from Noumea, New Caledonia, and head towards the DXCC entity Chesterfield Islands (OC-176) first. Their voyage will take some 100 hours (about 4 days) and expect to arrive at Chesterfield on November 5th. Look for Mic to use the call sign TX5C which is a reissued call sign that was used during the last Clipperton DXpedition (March 2008) -- this will probably confuse some logging programs. They will depart from Chesterfield on November 10th, and sail next toward the New Caledonian's D'entrecasteaux Reefs (OC-058). This trip will take 80 hours to reach the reef on November 14th, and Mic will be active as TX5E until he departs on November 18th for Belep Islands (OC-079). This will be his last island, and Mic will operate as TX5B starting about November 21st for three days before heading back to Noumea on November 24th. The return trip is expected to take 4 days (November 28th). Between each leg of the trip, Mic will use the call sign FK8IK/MM. Operations from each island will be on 40-10 meters using 100 watts into a vertical antenna (homemade) and an antenna tuner. Modes will be CW and SSB. **ADDED NOTES AND REMINDERS.** Mic will be the sole operator, so please have a little patience. Also, the TX5C operation will only count for the Chesterfield Islands (FK/C), and the TX5B & TX5E will only count for New Caledonia for DXCC purposes.

V4, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS. Dave, WJ2O, and his XYL Chris will be on holiday from the Caribbean during the Thanksgiving holiday in Basseterre which is on the Island of St. Kitts (V4). They have rented a villa on the side of a mountain south of Basseterre where he plans to set up his radio and be active as V4/WJ2O. Activity will be between November 26th and December 2nd. Operations will include the CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 29-30) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Lower-Power entry. QSL via N2ZN. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.WJ2O.com>

V6, MICRONESIA. Operators Keizo "Kay"/JH3AZC, Takio/JH3QFL and Hiro/JR3GWZ active as V63AZ, V60O and V63GW, respectively, from the South Park Hotel on Pohnpei Island (OC-010) between Oct 10-14. Activity will be on 80-6 m using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT65 and 2m EME (call sign V60EME). QSL via their home call sign.

V47, St. Kitts – Jack, N8BI, reported to me that his friend John – W5JON & V47JA, will again be operating from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, W.I. vacation home, located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, from Sept. 29 until Nov. 12, 2014, and active on 6-160m (incl. 60m) SSB. Also operation in the, CQWW SSB (Oct. 25/26) Contest, SOAB, is planned. Radio: Kenwood TS-590S, and Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. Antennas: 31', 10-40m Vertical, and 35', 40/80m Top Loaded

Vertical; and newly added, shortened 160m Dipole. On 6m, 3el Yagi. Also XYL, Cathy (W5HAM) will occasionally operate as V47HAM. ALL QSL's DIRECT ONLY, to my home call: W5JON or LoTW

VK9L, LORD HOWE ISLAND (Press Release, Sept 17). Christian, DL1MGB, reports: "In less than 4 weeks VK9DLX will be QRV. All systems are still on go and the team can't wait any longer to start. Our cargo of over three tons was cleared by Australian customs and is now on the way to Port Macquarie. On Sept 25, the Island Trader will take it onboard on its regular round trip to Lord Howe Island. The main team will arrive on Oct 12 on Lord Howe Island. Some of our team members will arrive some days earlier. Robert (SP5XVY) will arrive on Oct 5, Joe (DF7TH) on Oct 9 and Gerd (DJ5IW) and Mathias (DJ2HD) the day after. So don't be surprised if you hear VK9DLX some days earlier than expected; and not on all bands simultaneously. The main focus of this advance operation will be RTTY. Feel free to visit the DXpedition website on <http://www.lordhowe2014.org> and subscribe to our newsletter to stay informed.

VK0M, MACQUARIE ISLAND. Rod, VK6MH/GM4AWB, will be active as VK0MH from Macquarie Island (AN-005) between early or starting Nov 2014 and Apr 2015. Look for more info to be forthcoming.

VQ9, CHAGOS ISLANDS (Update). Bob, N7XR, reports on his Web page that the VQ9XR operation from Diego Garcia (AF-006) has been delayed for 30 to 60 days. October 2014 looks possible. Activity will be focused on CW and RTTY (some SSB) during this trip. Operations will be on 160-10 meters using an IC7600 with an amp into a SteppIR-BigIR, Spiderbeam and dipoles for 80/160m. No 6 meters this trip (no antenna). QSL via NN1N, direct only (No Bureau or LoTW). Look for possible updates on: <http://www.wake-diego2014.org>

VR2, HONG KONG. Jeffrey, K0UU, will be active as VR2UU from Hong Kong (AS-006, WLOTA 1591) until the end of 2015. QSL via LoTW preferred. His direct mailing address is good through December 2015 at: Jeffrey Strandberg, 80 Robinson Rd, T1-20C, Hong Kong S.A.R.

VU4, ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS. Krish, W4VKU, will be leading a team of 10 operators to the Andaman Islands (AS-001) and Nicobar Islands (AS-033) in the month of Nov. The callsign for both activations will be VU4KV. Initially, a short duration of activity will be carried out from Campbell Bay in the Great Nicobar by few of the team members. This will be followed by a larger activation from Neil Island in the Andamans for at least 10 days. The exact dates will be published once the logistics are in place. Operators mentioned are Krish/W4VKU (VU2VKU), Prasad/VU2PTT, Pai/VU2PAI, Nandu/VU2NKS, Kumar/VU2BGS, Chetan/VU3DMP, Deepak/VU2CDP, Sangeeth/A45WH (VU2WH), Kiran/VU3KPL and Aravind/VU2ABS. The tentative plans are as follows: Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar Island - Operation between Nov 3-13, and is dependent on boat schedules published only a week ahead of departure. The team will be Krish/W4VKU (VU2VKU), Pai/VU2PAI, and Chetz/VU3DMP. Activity will be focused on limited bands for CW/SSB with QRO and gain antennas. They will have two stations on the air. Neil Island, Andaman -- This will be a bigger operation with 5 QRO stations and 10 operators possibly between November 15-30th. The five stations (4x HF, 1x 6m) will be made-up of Elecraft K3, Kenwood TS-590 and Kenwood TS-480, with 3x Elecraft KPA-500 and 2x Acom 1000 amps. Antennas: Phased Vertical arrays for 160/80/40/30m + separate RX antennas, Mix of directional antennas and verticals for 20-10m and a 5 element Yagi for 6m.

YJ0, VANUATU (Press Release). Members of "The Quake Contesters (ZL3X)" posted the following press release (#3) on their Web page on September 15th: "Everything is on schedule for our arrival in Vanuatu on October 3rd. We hope to have at least two of the stations working and at least one aerial up for that evening. The emphasis the next day will be installing the contest band antennas ready for the Oceania DX Contest SSB leg later on that day, though we do hope to make some Qs as well. Soon after the contest, we'll be adding the WARC band antennas and 6m set-up, and when time permits the 160mb antenna. We will be looking for openings to South America and Africa, the two continents most needing YJ for a new one, so if you're outside these areas, please QRX for the very short time it will take to work through callers. Regarding the Oceania SSB and CW legs, Clublog real-time uploads will be switched off during this time and uploaded soon after the contest ends. The YJ0X crew has worked together very well through the planning stages and we're all very excited to be undertaking this adventure!

ZD8, ASCENSION ISLAND (Update). Operators Olli/OH0XX, Jorma/OH2KI, Oliver/W6NV, will once again be active as ZD8R, ZD8X and ZD8W in October. Look for activity before, during and after the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th). The operators will be testing their antennas. During the contest, operators will be Single-Op/Single-Band (??m) entries. QSL via the operator's home call sign.

ZD9, TRISTAN DA CUNHA & GOUGH ISLANDS. Paul, ZS1S (ZD9ZS), and possibly another operator will be visiting Tristan da Cunha in September/October (the ZD9 callsigns will be announced in due course). Operators will be traveling to and from Cape Town on the South African Antarctic supply ship, the "SA Agulhas II". The ship is scheduled to depart on September 4th, arrive at Tristan da Cunha four to five days later depending on the weather and sea conditions. It will depart for Gough Island after a few days and return to Tristan da Cunha ready for the scheduled departure on October 4th. The duration of the return trip to Cape Town will again be four or five days. There may be an opportunity to operate as /MM. A six meter propagation beacon, ZD9SIX, will be installed during the time on the island. The complete details will be made known in the next two weeks.

Well, that's it for the next few months. **Get on the air and work some DX.**

So until next month - 73 and **GUD DX!!**

Chuck, W8PT
aka 'Charlie the Tuner'



Selling Your Gear on eBay

With the exception of a few venues, such as Dayton, Orlando, Huntsville, and select others, the traditional hamfest is slowly shrinking in size and attendance. Many people blame its demise on the variety and number of items offered for sale on the Internet – especially on eBay. eBay has established itself as a major sales location for ham radio related equipment, as well as non-ham items. There's no waiting for a hamfest – items are available 24/7, 365 days a year. Though most hams miss the social interaction, they don't miss getting up at 5



a.m., schlepping tables and gear, and setting up to sell in all kinds of weather for hours on end. The sheer number of eyes on items posted are enough to convince many sellers to skip hamfest sales and post their gear online from the privacy and comfort of their own home. You even have the opportunity to sell internationally, but I'm not recommending it—see the cautions listed later in the article.

Getting Started: The first requirement is to sign up for an eBay account. Go to the eBay site and register – the process is self-explanatory. At that time, you'll probably want to set up your financials (payment methods for fees and purchases, a way to receive payments etc.) Signing up for a PayPal account is probably the most convenient method of handling transactions.

Once registered, you'll have a seller name—one you chose, perhaps your ham callsign or something else. It's now time to dust off that old gear and begin to list your items. Click on the "Sell" heading on the eBay homepage to begin.

Listings always begin with one of the established categories. In the case of ham radio equipment, start with the consumer electronics category, radio communication, then further refine your category from that point. Title your item, keeping in mind what key search words potential buyers would use to find your item, such as model numbers, manufacturer, and product description.

Take lots of pictures. Twelve pictures are included free with your listing, so take advantage. Make sure your pictures are clear, not fuzzy. Use the camera's macro mode (closeup setting) as appropriate to show enough detail. If you can picture your gear in working order, so much the better—show the meter in transmit mode, or the display—anything that can assure the buyer it's in working condition.

Accurate and complete descriptions are important. Some listings I've seen tell you nothing; others give you the life history of the item and a wordy description full of useless adjectives. Buyers basically want to know if it works, if there's any damage or wear, and its age/hours of use where applicable. Represent the item for what it is. If it's basically a parts unit, say so. If a feature doesn't work, a knob is broken, or there's a big dent in the corner, be up front with your buyer. A buyer can return items based on "significantly not as described", even if you've specified "no returns" or "final sale."

If you have any specific information regarding shipping, payment methods, sales policies, etc., be sure to highlight them in your description. I personally sell only in the continental US, because shipping items internationally involves additional paperwork. Also, the further the item must go, the higher the probability of the item getting lost or damaged. Buyers tend to blame you along with the shipping service, even though you have no control after it leaves your hands. To keep my seller rating high and customers happy, I just don't get involved in selling outside the US.

Selling Method: Auction or fixed price? Will you take offers? These are all things you need to consider before completing your listing. Auctions generally produce higher selling prices, especially when the item is rare or in demand. But they also have an element of risk – if there aren't a lot of interested bidders, you may get less than you expect. If you would have listed it elsewhere with a "firm" price, then fixed price is the way to go.



There are variations on all these methods. For example, you can start an auction with a buy it now price. This leaves an option for someone who has been looking for an item and doesn't want to wait. Buy it now pricing should be the least amount you'd reasonably accept. Be aware that buy it now will disappear once bids start rolling in. You can also set a reserve—a minimum price you'll take – to assure you won't get any less than you want for the item by the end of the auction. There are extra fees for reserve auctions. Some bidders don't like reserve auctions—for whatever reason. Another alternative is to list at a fixed price, indicating you'll consider best offers. Set your fixed price somewhat higher than your bottom line price to allow some room for negotiation. You can have eBay automatically accept offers above a certain price with no intervention on your part. You can also consider each offer individually—you and the buyer can make a limited amount of counteroffers during the selling period. I tend to use this method more often than not. It can provide some of the same advantages as reserve auctions and lets me decide on available offers.

To price your item, get an idea of its market value by looking for it (or similar items) selling on eBay, QRZ, or any of the other sale and swap sites on the web. There are also some sites that track average prices for gear. <http://www.ac6v.com/swap.htm> is a good starting point.

Also remember that both eBay and PayPal charge fees for using their services. Keep this in mind when you price your items. eBay charges 8-15% of final sale price (depending on the item); PayPal transaction fee is \$0.30 + 2.9% for each transaction. eBay has been waiving listing fees recently for individual listings.



Camera Shot Sizes

Far Away



Too Close



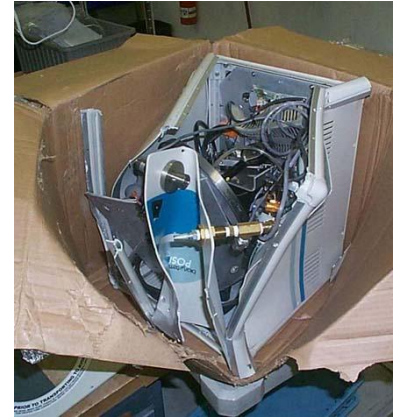


Other Details: You'll also need to make some additional decisions regarding shipping, returns, and who you will agree to sell to. Some sellers offer free shipping as an incentive, but usually build that into the selling price. I've found through my experience that buyers prefer lower selling prices and are more willing to pay shipping charges as a separate item. If you're selling a heavy item (amplifier, classic tube rig) you're better with a separate shipping charge that varies with the destination. Buyers tend to look upon this method as being more fair.

Returns are always an individual decision based on the item.

Whenever possible, I offer a 14-day return on items, and the buyer pays return shipping with a tracking

number. For working "boat anchors" many sellers offer a "non-DOA" policy that guarantees they'll arrive in working order, and specify other than that, they're sold as is. Then you're not stuck later with a return because the unit unexpectedly died of old age or by operator error. Parts units are always sold as-is. Make this very clear to your buyer. eBay will automatically let you pre-screen buyers based on certain criteria: low feedback scores, eBay violations, non-payment strikes, location, and others. It pays to set up this feature to avoid potential problems.

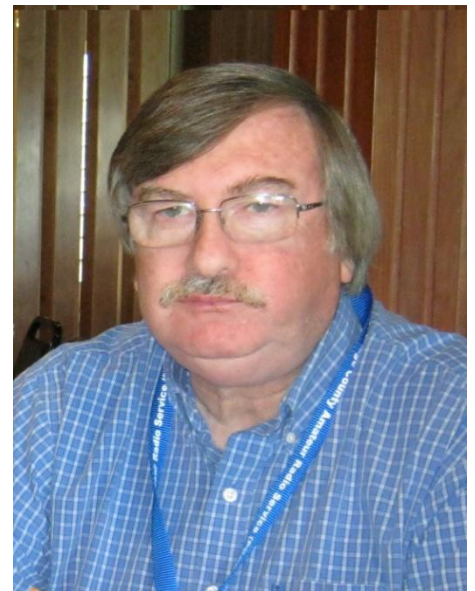


Sealing the Deal: PayPal is easy and painless when it comes to accepting electronic payments. They accept credit cards, bank transfers, and of course, money from their own account holders. This is especially good for big-ticket items. You get your money quickly and you can ship quickly, making everyone happy. Some have encountered customer service problems with PayPal, but fortunately, most do not.

I allow a 48 hour window after the auction to pay for the item, even if it's local pick up. I find people generally will not procrastinate about picking items up if they've already paid for them. It also avoids the last-minute bargaining scenario—a buyer agrees to a selling price then tries to re-negotiate he/she comes to pick up the item, figuring you don't want the hassle of relisting it.

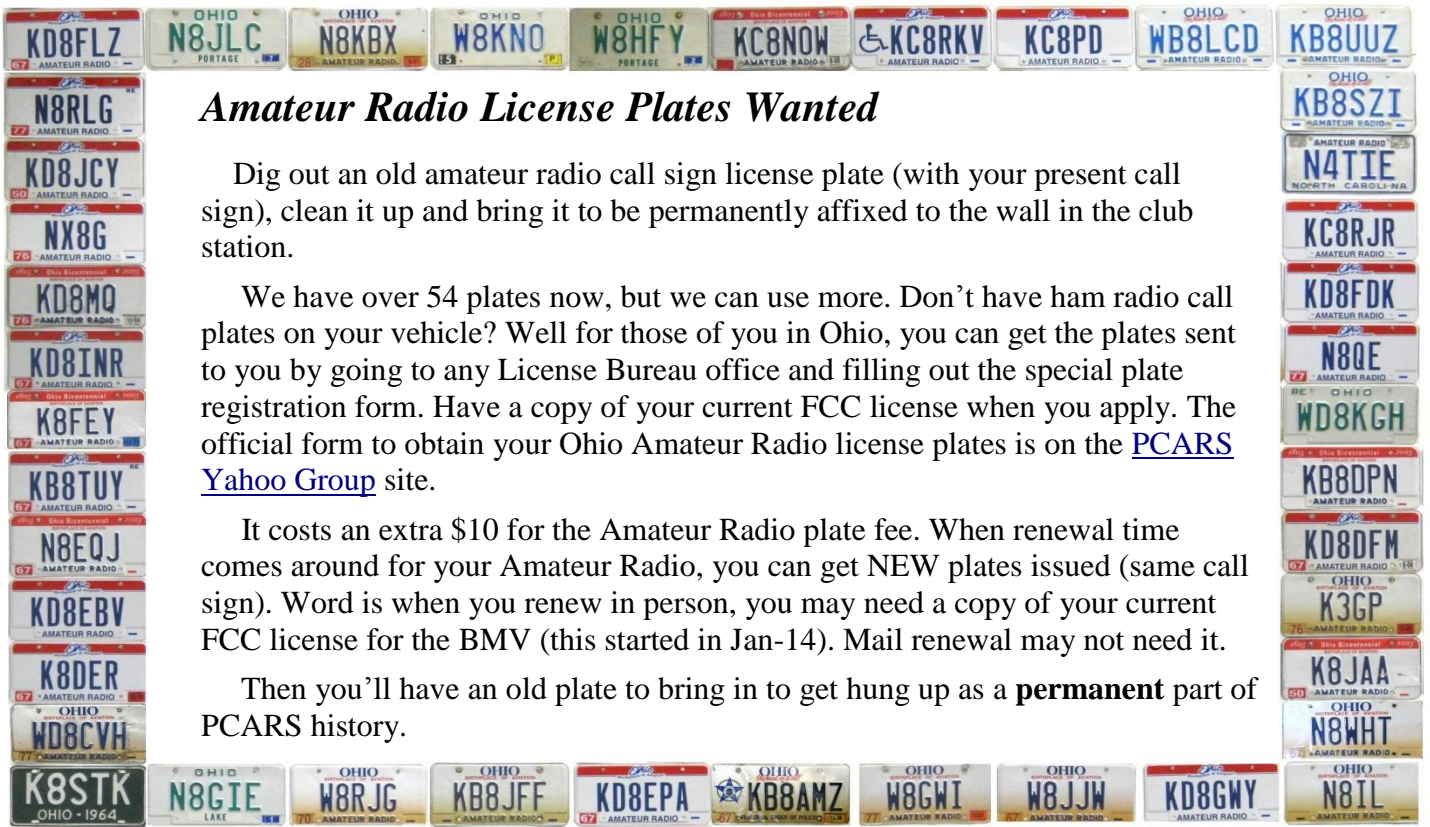
Shipping can be done online through PayPal using the major shipping services, and you can print the labels right from your computer. It saves a lot of time and effort, and most services actually discount shipping when you do it online. Your goal should be to have it in a box, properly packed and to the shipper within 2 business days. Always notify the recipient when you ship, and provide a tracking number so they can follow its progress.

This is a quick overview of the eBay selling process as it applies to ham radio and electronics sales. The next installment of the article will cover dealing with customers and some tips to make your eBay sales experience more successful.



Mark, K8MSH





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 54 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. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the [PCARS Yahoo Group](#) site.

It costs an extra \$10 for the Amateur Radio plate fee. When renewal time comes around for your Amateur Radio, you can get NEW plates issued (same call sign). Word is when you renew in person, you may need a copy of your current FCC license for the BMV (this started in Jan-14). Mail renewal may not need it.

Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent** part of PCARS history.

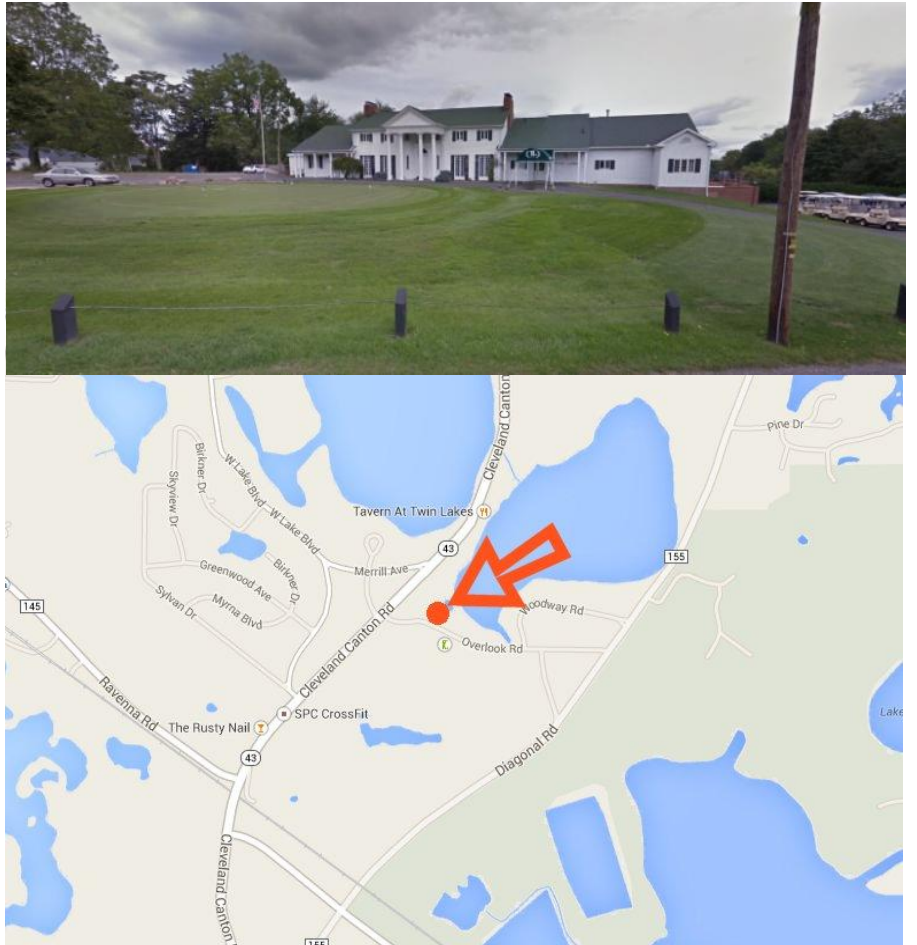
PCARS Meetings

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

PCARS meets at the **Overlook Restaurant in Twin Lakes** (formerly known as the *Twin Lakes Country Club*). Address is 1519 Overlook Road in Twin Lakes.

Meetings are in the club house (big white building) on the north side of Overlook Road.

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





Twitter: Another Tool in the Ham Radio Toolbox

It all starts innocently enough. You get a computer to do your logging, and before you know it, you're working digital modes. Then, you snake an Ethernet cable down to the shack or connect to your wireless router. Pretty soon, you can't do without having a browser window open to one of the DX clusters or ReverseBeacon.Net or QRZ.Com or all three simultaneously.

twitter

Well, now's there another Internet service that I can't do without down in the shack: Twitter! I get on Twitter all the time now when I'm in the shack, and I love it. It's truly enhanced my amateur radio experience.



One of the ways it's done this is by bringing me all kinds of interesting technical information. I not only follow @hackaday and @DIYEngineering, and @EDN.Com, but a bunch of hams who are doing fun things. I hate to list some, for fear of leaving some out, but I will give a shout out to @NT7S, @AA7EE, @mightyohm, @caulktel, @LA3ZA. There's even @HiramPMaxim (the P stands for "parody"). If you go to my blog at KB6NU.Com and search for "From my Twitter feed," you'll find links to some of the most interesting Tweets that have found their way to me.

I'm also following a couple of amateur radio retailers. Today, for example, @DXEngineering is offering \$55 off the RigExpert AA-54 Antenna Analyzer.

I also use it to get information about weather conditions and band conditions. For example, I follow @edvielmetti, who is KD8OQG. He's always tweeting about local severe weather. A Tweet from him gets me to turn on my 2m radio to monitor the local SkyWarn net.

As far as band conditions go, I throw out a Tweet, asking about band conditions, and in seconds, I'll get reports from my followers here in the U.S. and around the world. I try to do my part as well. When I fire up the rig, I'll Tweet out a report of how the bands seem to me.

While all of this is great, it's really all about the people. I currently have more 2,200 followers and I follow more than 900. I would never have met some of these hams if it wasn't for Twitter, and I have since worked several of them on the air after first meeting them on Twitter. Last May, we had a "Tweetup" at the Dayton Hamvention. There were at least 20 of us there. How cool is that?

Twitter isn't for everyone, but I'd encourage you to give it a try. I'm having a lot of fun on Twitter, and I think you will, too. If you do set up a Twitter account, please follow me, @kb6nu. If you mention that you read this column, I'll be sure to follow you back.

Dan, KB6NU



When not Tweeting about his latest amateur radio exploits, you'll find KB6NU working 30m CW or teaching ham radio classes. If Twitter isn't your thing, you can still follow him by reading his blog at www.kb6nu.com.



Sometime Things Are Lost in the Translation

I spotted this on eBay and got a good chuckle. This antenna is from China. I did not change any of the wording.

QSO HF 1.5-30MHz 100W full band shortwave antenna WIRE antennas Ham Radio

Description:

widely used in military , water and so on emergency communications using antenna concealment , easy to set up , no debugging , do not need tune -day , you can work the whole paragraph 1.5-30mhz ,0 -500 km without blind , the effective distance and inverted v antenna rather, in the range of 1000 kilometers effective communication . " Even for those who do not can not be set back v friend, because it can be set up in various forms , can be horizontal , inverted v, triangle , the frame line , stayed out of the window and so on. Outdoor set up, more convenient , readily detected at the roadside to 0.5 meters above the length of the antenna above the tree branches propped up on it , the location could not straighten the antenna , there is no problem , let go antenna Raowan type can be, one minute to get the antenna erection ! ! Is installed outdoors and special environment set up radio stations is a good helper ! ! !

Recently , concerns, and I like this antenna more people, but there is a need to make a grant to a friend now ! This antenna is very easy to set up , one person one minute can be set up is good, but the antenna is not required to debug , from 1.5 mhz - 30mhz standing waves are very ideal height from the ground is also not strictly required, more than 0.5 meters above the ground can be worked , outdoor gantry I also like to use it to do qso

1. Rated power : 100w, Operating frequency : 1.5-30mhz, transmit VSWR <2.0

2. the choice of brand GB black soft copper , hidden better

3 which batches of bigger and better selection of ring , so that argument is more ideal point oh ! Oh, can withstand high power 200W (production , 200W high power for a long time to go through the test) .



Item include

1. full band shortwave antenna × 1

SHIPPING

Items will be shipped via China Post air mail or HongKong post air mail, Delivery time frame is normally 10~25 business days, maybe take a bit longer for some countries.

We also provide Express delivery such as EMS/DHL/UPS/FEDEX and so on.

Thanks & 73

All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS will again be known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities to report on in this newsletter all throughout the year.

Thanks go out to the contributors for this month's newsletter:

WB8LCD, KC8PD, KB8UUZ, N8RLG, N8PXW, KB8AMZ, W8PT, K8CAV, WA8AR, N8SY, W8KNO, K8MSH, KB6NU, the ARRL & the World-Wide Web.



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

Tom “Parky”, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

A banner for ARRL Legislation. The top part is blue with the text 'ARRL Legislation' in white. Below that, on a red background, is 'HR 4969' in white. To the right, on a blue background with stars, is a circular logo with the text 'Get Behind HR 4969'. The main text on the red background reads: 'HR 4969 — the “Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014”— has recently been introduced into the 113th Congress. Support this effort: Contact your representative in Congress to ask for their support.' At the bottom, in yellow text, is a URL: '► http://www.arrl.org/hr-4969'. The banner is flanked by two black cables with connectors.

I liked them both - So here ya go:



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PCARS - September 8, 2014



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

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM



PCARS meets at the **Overlook Restaurant** in Twin Lakes (formerly known as the *Twin Lakes Country Club*). Address is: 1519 Overlook Road in Twin Lakes.
Meeting are in the club house (big white building) on the north side of Overlook Road.

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 ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

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

2014 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO W8PT	Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
Field Day Chairman 2015	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
F.Y.A.O. Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF Callsign Trustee	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
K8BF QSL Manager	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
Net Coordinator	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
P.I.O.	WA8AR	Tony Romito
Secretary	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
V.E. Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers

	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	K8IV	Ed Polack
	WD8CVH	Ted Wands
	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	KD8FLZ	Mike DiCarro
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	NR8W	Russ Williams
	W8EZT	Frank Tompkins
	N8OQQ	Bryan Buchwalter
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	K8MSH	Mark Haverstock

PCARS
Active
Volunteer
Examiner
Team
Members



The **RADIOGRAM** is the official *Award Winning* (ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter First Place Winner for 2012 AND 2013. Second Place in the Great Lakes Division for 2013. Second Place ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter for 2014) newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) – copyright © 2014. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of 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 what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that 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. 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. They 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! 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, we can take you off the e-mail list.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)
Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ - Newsletter Editor



THE RADIOGRAM