

PORTAGE
COUNTY
AMATEUR
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The

RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

\$6.24

~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. ~

June 2017 - Volume 12 Number 6

PCARS Field Day 2017



June 24-25

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From the President

Rick, K8CAV
PCARS President



Amateur Radio is a great avocation and provides most of us with hours of enjoyment in pursuing the many different facets inside of it. There are times when it seems there are just not enough hours to do all of the things we enjoy, to the point where we can sometimes lose a bit of perspective on the really important things in our lives, our family and friends. The time we spend with our family and friends is more important than anything else we can do, and means much to them. Sure, it's hard to put off the trip to Dayton this year, or maybe miss a contest or event, when we have the grandkids for the weekend, or spend time with a sick family member, or help out a good friend with his project. Amateur Radio isn't going away and there will always be another Dayton, another contest, but there may never be that one special moment with friends or family again so make sure we're keeping those really important things in our lives where they belong.

In only twenty-nine days, more or less depending on when you read this, PCARS takes to the wilds of Freedom Township for Field Day! Chuck, W8PT and his Field Day team have been hard at work to make this the best Field Day we've had yet. The final piece to make all of this happen is you. The main event, of course, is operating and logging those Q's but there are also a lot of things that need your help to get to that point. I really hope you'll all take a minute to contact Chuck, the station captains, or support team leaders to volunteer some time for PCARS Field Day.

As most of you know by now, Tom, WB8LCD has been asked to serve on the Ohio Section cabinet as the Affiliated Club Coordinator. This is an honor to have a member of our club serving on the cabinet and I know that Tom will do a tremendous job in his role. **Congratulations** are certainly the order of the day, but also our thanks to Tom for many hours, hard work, and dedication he has given to PCARS since the very beginning.

Now you may think after that last paragraph that Tom is bidding adieu to PCARS but nothing could be further from the truth. Tom will continue to be seen and heard at lots of PCARS functions but to make time for his new responsibilities he's had to pass the mantle on a few he's held with PCARS. I'd like to thank Terry, KB8AMZ for assuming the CQ/QRP Special Interest Group moderator position that Tom was doing. Terry is not new to the game as he's been the moderator for the Linux Special Interest Group. Between that and his love for CW, the CW/QRP SIG is in great hands. Tom is also passing the baton for the Net Manager position. Alas we haven't had anyone step forward yet so we need someone who wants to keep our weekly nets running smoothly to take that baton and run with it. The person who steps up will be continuing one of very first regular activities that PCARS started, and help insure a very enjoyable weekly hour or so with fellow Amateur Radio operators within and outside of PCARS. Please let Tom or myself know if you want to become the next Net Manager for PCARS.

From time to time, members who have been serving in positions with PCARS have to step down for one reason or another. There are also term limits on officers and trustees, which means we need new members periodically to run for those offices. Regardless of why a particular position becomes vacant, it's also important to the vibrancy of our club to have "new blood" in leadership to bring fresh perspectives and ideas. When a position becomes vacant or election time grows close, please think favorably about becoming part of PCARS leadership to help continue making our club one of the most enjoyable ones in Amateur Radio.

A thing said too often can end up seeming repetitive. Thanking all of you, our members is not one of them. Your participation in all we do, your choice of associating with our club and your fellow members is something that can't be thanked enough and everyone appreciates and values your membership in with our club. Keep sharing and be a big part of PCARS and **K8BF Big Fun!**



From the Vice President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



Building the Hobby

This month I have spent many hours introducing ham radio to organizations deeply involved with our next generation of potential hams. These organizations included Women in Engineering, IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers), Boy Scouts of America and members of the STEM Education Coalition.

The conversations were mostly the same.

1. They had no idea how much ham radio has grown as a learning experience or any of the sport aspects of the hobby.
2. They also had no idea how it could be used to educated young people.
3. What there is a sport to this hobby?

Some of topics they found very interesting:

1. WSPR balloon launches – They liked the long term aspect to the flights and the tracking tools that are in place.
2. The use of the RF dongles to track aircraft and download weather maps from satellites.
3. Use of amateur radio satellites. I made a few contacts and explained how students could learn about orbital mechanics, as well as, space communications.
4. Digital communications modes. Most had never heard of these techniques.
5. Use of PI and Arduinio controllers in ham radio projects.
6. Getting a student station on the air for about \$100 dollars. This was really appealing.

This has forced me to build a list of projects that I need to complete this summer for use this next academic year. I have set as a goal that none of the projects will cost more than \$100 and many of the modules and components will be usable across a number of projects. Lots of work to do and I am certain I will need advice and help in getting this work done.

Personal Projects

I finally completed the build of the JT65 station utilizing a Raspberry Pi. This was a learning experience of the first order. Getting all the software and hardware elements to work was not all that easy, but I now have a build and hardware list that works great. The next step is to collect enough components for our Pi build day. I am also getting this package to work with QRP-Labs WSPR transmitter so the entire project can be contained in a single package. It has been both fun and hard work.

My next generation magnetic loop is now fully working and in the attic. This one uses a series of high voltage reed relays to switch in fixed capacitors for tuning. This allows a more available variable capacitor to be used in the tuning system. It works for all bands from 30 meters to 10. Took a little time, but it was fun. At least it was finished before the attic reached 100 degrees.

Hamvention

Had a great time at Hamvention 2017. I traveled on the Pioneer Bus and as usual met some new friends and visited with some old friends. Some of my highlights:

1. Seeing the Wimo Loop Antenna. This is a cool antenna. Instead of using the typical variable capacitor to tune the antenna. The capacitor is built into the loop and the loop expands and contracts to change the capacitance. A picture of this is below. The capacitor is at the top and made up of plates connected to the left and right sides of the loop. It has good efficiency and comes with a great automatic controller. The booth had some users so feedback on the design was easy to get. There were some problems. In the rain sometimes the capacitor shorted. Also, it could not be used if snow had collected on the capacitor plates. Users said it performed great in good weather. At a cost of \$1500 it was a little above the budget of a lot of hams.
2. Met with Hans Summers (QRP-Labs). We discussed a range of topics including new designs for a multiband CW transceiver; the ongoing thread in his user group on the legal issues involved in balloon launches; and some new ideas in getting young people involved in the hobby.
3. Met a group of Russians making some great passive components including a relay controlled filter assembly the was rated at 2500 watts continuous duty, required no fan cooling and covered all the HF bands. It had a great design and was a beautiful piece of construction. If you are interested visit <http://eb104.ru>. They are also on ebay.
4. I always enjoy talking to the various groups at the ARRL booths. This year I especially enjoyed talking to the education group and the Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative. We all enjoyed talking about growing our hobby in both high schools and colleges. If you are interested in helping get our hobby into colleges visit <http://arrl.org/WeWantU>.



Looking forward to Field Day this year and hope many of you come out to enjoy this event. We always need help. Visit the portcars.org website to sign up for operating or logging.



Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- June 3rd - VE Test Session at the PCARS Club Site - 10 am - walk-ins welcome
- June 4th - IT Check for the FD MESH system - Also LOGGING practice for everyone - 10 am
- June 7th - VE Testing at club site - end of General Upgrade Class - 7 pm - walk-ins welcome
- June 10th - JT-65 Pi Build Day at the club site - 9 am to noon
- June 12th - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion 7pm - Mag Loop Antennas - Frank, W8EZZT
- **June 24-25th - Field Day 2017 - Freedom Township Park**
- June 24th - VE Testing at the Field Day site - 4 pm - walk-ins welcome
- July 11th - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion 7pm - NVIS Antennas - Cory, W3CDG
- July 15th - Balun build day at the club site - 9 am

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - Every Month at the Club Site in Ravenna - 7 pm



- | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---------------------|
| First Tuesday | - | Digital | - Moderator: K8CAV |
| Second Tuesday | - | QRP/CW | - Moderator: KB8AMZ |
| Third Tuesday | - | Antenna | - Moderator: WA8AR |
| Fourth Tuesday | - | DX & Contest | - Moderator: W8PT |
| Fifth Tuesday | - | Linux for Hams | - Moderator: KB8AMZ |
| Fourth Thursday | - | Net Night at the club site - 6:30 pm | |



Upcoming Event

ARRL Field Day

June 24-25, 2017

The most popular on-the-air
operating event in Amateur radio

K8BF Will be on
the air !



All Things FIELD DAY 2017

Field Day 2017 is at the end of this month - June 24-25. The station captains are still looking for operators and loggers to fill their schedules. I encourage you not to wait until the last minute to let them know when you want to operate or log. Send them an email today. Get on the various schedules for the bands you want to work.

As a reminder, here are the Station Captains:

40 m SSB Station - Ed, K8IV
20 m SSB Station - Erica, AE8YL
CW Station - George, K3GP
Flex Station - Rick, K8CAV
VHF Station - Mike, KB8TUY

Let one or more of the above Station Captains know that you want to help out. If you have a specific time or times you want to work, let them know. If you are flexible in your available time, let them know so that they can fit you in where they need you. We need you to make this a success. So step up and be counted.

We are also still needing donations for Field Day. Snacks such as potato chips, pretzels, cookies, water and soda are just some of the items. If you like making desserts, one or more will be greatly appreciated. Please let me know by email what you might be bringing to share. In addition, ice for the many coolers would be appreciated.

Don't forget that tickets will be needed for the Saturday evening meal for non-PCARS members. Price as in the past will be \$5.00. And everyone will need a \$1.00 ticket for the Sunday morning breakfast. Tom, WB8LCD will be selling these tickets at this month's meeting on Monday, June 12th.

We're hoping that this year's turnout will be a record. Be a part of your club's effort and come out and have some FUN!

Chuck, W8PT
Field Day Chairman



Field Day Logging Training and Practice Session

PCARS will be holding a logging training and practice session on Sunday, June 4th at noon at the club site. We'll go through all of the information you need to know about the N3FJP logging program we use during Field Day. After a discussion, we'll have some hands-on practice with simulated QSO's for you to actually log. I'm also looking for some volunteers to help simulate the QSO's. If you want to attend or can help out with the QSO sims I need to know no later than Thursday June 1st, contact me at k8cav@portcars.org.



73,
Rick K8CAV



Flex Station Operators and Loggers

I've had several volunteers to operate and/or log at the Flex Station for Field Day but I still have plenty of openings. I'm sending the current schedule to John, KD8MQ to post to the web site so check it out and if you see an open time slot for either operating or logging, let me know and I'll get you in it.

Flex will be operating primarily 40 meters and 20 meters digital and CW, 80 meters phone, digital, and CW, and will periodically check 15 meters and 10 meters for openings on phone, digital and CW. We're using the club's Kenwood TS-590S and will have a Winkeyer programmed with Field Day macros, along with a laptop running fldigi for digital with Field Day macros.

Let me know as soon as you can so I can get you in the time slot you'd like! We will be taking walk-in operators or loggers if there is no one scheduled to work when you show up. Hope to see you there!



Rick, K8CAV



CW Station Operators and Loggers

If you plan to operate, are just thinking about operating, or are simply interested in operating CW, let me know. If you have a preferred operating time, we will do our best to accommodate your schedule.

We particularly would like to hear from anyone who wants to commit to operating starting at the opening (2 PM local time Saturday) to get the K8BF CW effort off to a strong start right out of the gate.

The CW position will again be located in a comfortable enclosed utility trailer out of the sun, rain, sleet and snow... Drop me line at: K3GP@portcars.org



George, K3GP





Here's a map showing where PCARS will be for Field Day 2017.

It will be a bit easier this year for people coming from the South, East or West since the bridge over the turnpike has been re-done and is open.

We will be at the Freedom Township Park located on State Route 700 and the corner of Streeter Road. That is just about 2 miles north of Route 303. Hope to see you there!!!!!!!!!!



Thank You QST & ARRL

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



If you are a member of the ARRL (you are one, right?) You may have noticed that cover picture of our newsletter, **The RADIOGRAM**, sure looks familiar.

Well, you are correct. When I saw the June issue of **QST Magazine** - I thought right away of our Field Days and what the tables really look like after we've been on the air for a while.

So, I must extend my thanks to the ARRL for inspiring me to make our PCARS Field Day issue.

QST and The Radiogram



How many differences can you spot?

Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Donation



PCARS again sponsors the Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure program with a \$500 check donated to team leader Don Dubon – N6JRL at the Dayton Hamvention. This is probably one of the best ways that we can support bringing youth into our hobby, by giving them the opportunity to “Be” the DX that everyone wants to work! This years trip is August 3-8 and will take the team to Costa Rica – TI5. Check out the YDXA webpage to see up to date information on

Chuck W8PT presets Don N6JRL with the donation from PCARS the operation <http://www.qsl.net/n6jrl/>.

This year's trip has secured a reservation at the contest site of Byron Swainey TI5/WA8NJR in Rio Jesus, Alajuela Costa Rica. <http://www.costaricahamlet.com/> The team consists of 3 kids, 3 parents and 2 leaders. Let's be sure to give them lots of PCARS Q's while they're on the air! Thank you for supporting this outstanding program!

This year's youth winners that will go on the DXpedition this year are:

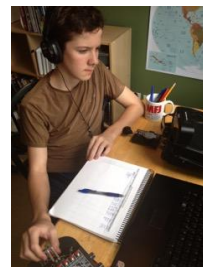
Chris, KD8YVJ



Austin, WA8CCS



Bryant, KG5HVO



----- Dave Kalter KB8OCP (SK) Memorial Youth DX Adventure



Dave Kalter KB8OCP is a long time friend of Don DuBon N6JRL and fellow contester and DX'er. Dave has been on the CQWW SSB contest team at TI5N since 2008. Dave is also a founder of the YDXA (Youth DX Adventure) an organization that sends young hams age 12-17 with a parent to Costa Rica during the summer to operate as DX. Dave is the past vice president of the Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) and an active member in DARA and Hamvention. Dave likes RTTY and PSK and CW we have seen him maintain a rate of 275 Q's per hour in the CQWW SSB contest. An inspiration to all hams of all ages. Dave became a silent key on November 18th 2013 at his home with his family at his side. Dave is survived by his brother Michael W8CI, former General Chairman of the Dayton Hamvention and past president of DARA Dave is also survived by his father Jack ,sister Patty and his beloved soul mate Lynn. (Picture at TI5N in Costa Rica Oct. 2012 working the CQWWSSB contest) Photo by N6JRL.

DX Engineering's Newest Catalog & the PCARS Squirrel



Front Cover



Back Cover

Can you spot the black squirrels?

Answer is on page 48

DX Engineering (a long time friend of PCARS) released their latest catalog. In the past the PCARS Black Squirrel has been located somewhere on the cover photograph. Well, the new catalog cover just did not lend itself to hiding the Black Squirrel. But, have no fear, the tradition lives on - just check out the back cover. Look close and you will find not one, but TWO Black Squirrels. Most people will never notice this, but we PCARS members will see it and smile. **Thank you DX Engineering**, for continuing this 'tradition'.



PCARS VE Test Sessions

Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

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

June 3rd - August 5th - October 7th - December 2nd
Plus: June 7th at 7 pm at the club site (end of General Upgrade class)
June 24th at 4 pm at the PCARS Field Day site
Walk ins always welcome



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: One copy of any current (*unexpired*) amateur radio operator 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.

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

W8SV	Howard
KD8DQT	Jeffrey
W8CDL	Coletta
WB8OVQ	Bob
KD8SIZ	John
AC8XO	Vince

KD8EPF	Rena
AB8AA	Allan
KB8VJO	Gary
KD8LIR	Jennifer
KD8WCK	Richard



JT-65 is FUN - Part 2

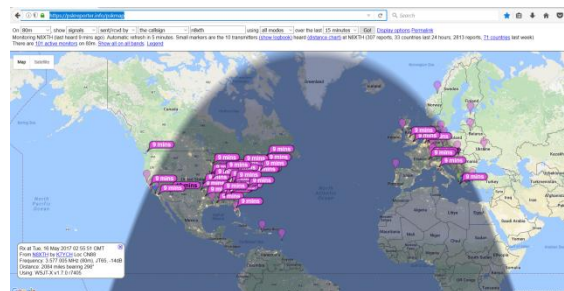
Deron, N8XTH



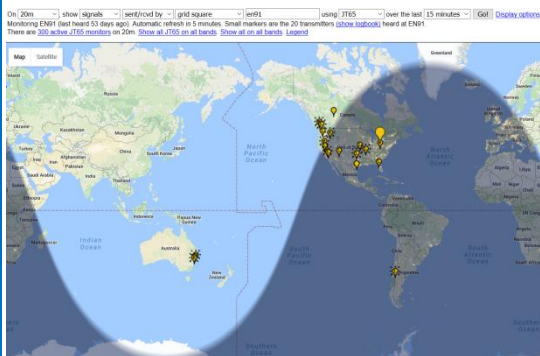
Last month's issue I wrote a basic intro into JT65 operations. This is a more detailed look into some fun and useful features with JT65 software. Like last month, I am using the software JT65-HF for my discussion because it's simple to use. All of these options can be used with any JT65 software out there.

JT65 a super effective mode for making DX contacts with low power and poor conditions but it's also a mode that has many different tools for hams, especially those chasing entities of any sort.

Much like WSPR, JT65 interfaces really well with <https://pskreporter.info/pskmap>. PSKreporter is a website that allows any JT65 (or other digital modes) software to share any signals received. For instance, after a QSO I had on 80 meters recently, here is a map showing every other station that also received my last transmission and how long ago they heard me.



I have found that after 2 transmission cycles you can get an accurate picture of what propagation is like at that very moment. There are usually enough worldwide receivers online reporting to PSKreporter that you can quickly see a fairly accurate worldwide picture.



Even if you are nowhere near a radio, a quick visit to PSKreporter and you can search stations that have sent or received signals from any Maidenhead Grid Square, nation, or other callsign. You can quickly trace the path

from band and grid square or from band and nation.



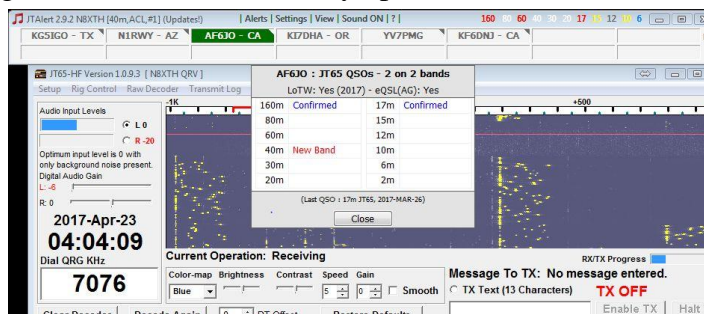
Another powerful tool available is JTAAlert. JTAAlert is a free software platform that works in conjunction with any JT program (JT65 or JT9). JTAAlert allows you to set up customized alerts for anything on the bands that you may be looking for. [fig4] DX entities, continents, states, grid squares, specific call signs, and more, can all be done. With the soundcard in my PC, I directed the audible alerts from JTAAlert to go through a different audio output than what the audio output that is fed into my rig. That way the audible alerts have no chance of making it out on the air

JTAAlert also serves as a dashboard of sorts telling you all kinds of information about the other stations on frequency including their state, nation, if you've worked them before, if they use LOTW or eQSL and other valuable info. You can also color code any entity or station you want.



Last month I mentioned that you can export an ADIF file to your logbook to document your activities. With JTAlert, you no longer have to manually do it. With a simple setup JTAlert will take your QSO's directly from the software to your logbook.

I use N3FJP's logging software suite [Shameless plug: Scott (N3FJP) has in my opinion the best suite of logging software for any purpose you could think of. I've used it for years and it has never failed me. For a very reasonable price you can buy his entire suite with lifetime upgrades for all logging programs he has, from a general log to specific contesting logs.] It also will help you know if you've worked a station before and on what bands and/or is the QSO confirmed, because it is constantly interfacing with your logbook.



The great thing about any JT65 program is that you can go back and look at past received stations so long as your software is up and running and your rig is connected. I occasionally leave my rig and PC on for a while even if I'm not going to be operating just to see what I receive. Over the winter sometimes I would go to bed and leave things tuned to 160 meters. Several nights in a row I saw the same station from Hawaii pop up at about 3-4am our time for a short while.

I set up JTAlert with an audible alarm when it saw Hawaii on 160. Via some creative engineering at my QTH, I set things up to where a speaker near me would sound an alarm loud enough to wake me up. Sure enough, the same night, around 4am the alarm woke me up, a quick walk to the shack and in 5 minutes I had a LOTW confirmed QSO with Hawaii in the logbook.

Later I set it up with the remaining states I needed for WAS on 40 meters. Within a week or two I had it. It's incredibly easy to set up. .

JTAlert and PSKreporter both have way more features than I have space for here, give them a try to find out everything else. They're great tools to use and can make ham radio more fun! Give them a shot!

While I'm no expert, feel free to contact me at N8XTH@portcars.org. Next month will be my last installment with a few more ways to operate digital modes on a shoestring budget and have fun with it.



Jim, KC8PD

**Radio Officer, Portage County
Communications Unit/RACES**

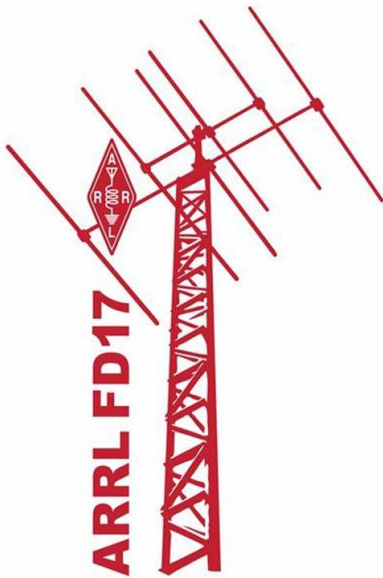


PCARS Field Day will be here before you know it and although we put a lot of emphasis on the fun aspects of FD (particularly including the food at the PCARS outing) the event has its serious side, too.

Field Day has its roots in emergency communications. It was a practical way to provide all hams with an organized event that would encourage them to literally get out in the field and operate from there, just as they might have to if a disaster struck. Could you put a portable station on the air and keep it running for twenty-four hours? That was the challenge.

There would need to be some planning and organizing to avoid haphazard setups. Just what equipment would you need? Would it be suitable for portable operations in an outdoor, and possibly inclement, setting? How could you quickly erect appropriate, though temporary, antennas? Could you provide adequate power to keep your station on the air? Would you be better off with a team putting the station on the air or by operating solo?

By adding a “contest” component the ARRL also focused on both the station’s effectiveness as well as the operator’s skills. It was one thing to set up a station in the field, but would it be able to be heard by other hams on the air? Plus, did you have the ability to operate under the pressure of a contest in unfamiliar surroundings and maybe even overnight?



Remember that even starting with the Technician license hams are trained to make sure that they have the capability to help during an emergency. New hams are taught that one of the best ways to ensure that they are prepared is to get their gear out at least once a year and put a portable station on the air. Sound a bit like Field Day?

No matter where you are on the weekend of June 24-25th take the opportunity to get on the air as a Field Day participant. If you can’t make it to a club Field Day, why not set up in some place like your backyard or garage? Check out that gear that you haven’t used in a while. Make sure that you remember how to operate it and that things haven’t been broken or misplaced and that your backup power supply is functional. It will be worth the effort.

If you have the chance to get out to a Field Day like PCARS holds, go for it! Have some ham radio fun with a bunch of your amateur radio best friends. You can develop and improve your EmComm skills while you are at it.

Plus the food is terrific!

Growing the Ranks -vs- Growing the Enjoyment

Dan, KB6NU



Because I teach amateur radio classes and publish a series of popular amateur radio license study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/), I often get kudos for "growing the ranks." In fact, Gordon West, WB6NOA, told me this just last week, when he stopped by the booth I was in at the Dayton Hamvention. I'm paraphrasing a little, but after telling me that he's heard good things about my study guides, he said something like, "You're doing good work in helping get more people into ham radio."



People say that as if this is - or should be - the ultimate goal of teaching a license class. While this may be one of the goals, if that's your primary goal, I think that you're barking up the wrong tree.

In a way, creating more hams is selfish. If there are more licensed amateur radio operators, they say, then amateur radio will have more political clout with the FCC and with Congress, making it easier to pass legislation like the Amateur Radio Parity Act. While this may certainly help the new ham down the line, its main thrust is to reduce restrictions on those who are currently hams.

My goal in teaching amateur radio classes isn't to create more hams. Instead, my goal is to help more people have fun with ham radio. The first step in helping people have fun with ham radio is, of course, helping them get their license. I do that by publishing my study guides and teaching ham classes.

The next step, and I'm only really getting started on this right now, is to help people learn what they need to know to become better ham radio operators. That's why I got a little excited when I saw the article, "Making a Good hobby Better Through Post-Licensing Enrichment" by Tim Busch, N0CKR in the latest issue of Radio Waves, the ARRL's email newsletter for amateur radio instructors.

In the article, Tim describes several activities that his club encourages, including a "new ham net" and the Field Day GOTA station, but he also details a program of "mini classes" that will teach specific skills related to ham radio. These include:

- * Programming Radios and Getting on the Air
- * Soldering 101
- * Multimeter 101
- * Build and Use a Roll-Up J-Pole Antenna
- * Build and Use a Satellite Antenna
- * Foxhunts
- * Operating Digital Modes: IRLP, AllStar, D-Star, EchoLink, etc.
- * Remote Operation
- * Software-Defined Radios
- * Transitioning from VHF/UHF to HF Operating
- * Chasing Awards
- * Learn CW
- * Contesting

Tim writes, "Each class is intended to be no more than two hours at a sitting, so they can be held before a monthly club meeting. The variety of subject matter allows many club members to get involved in leading a topic. Materials kits are prepared in advance, so students walk away with practical items they can use at home."

I think this is a great set of classes, and I plan to try some of these in the fall. A couple of other topics that occur to me are:

- * Power Supplies 101
- * Mobile Operation 101
- * ARRL 101
- * RFI/TVI 101

Helping new hams - and old hams - have more fun with amateur radio is a lot more satisfying to me than just "growing the ranks." It would be nice to say that we have a million licensed radio amateurs in the U.S., but I think it would be a lot more valuable to the hobby to say that a larger percentage of licensed hams were active and enjoying ham radio. I know that, for me, increasing the number of active, engaged hams would be more personally satisfying than simply creating a lot of new licensees.

When he's not working on helping new hams, Dan operates CW on the HF bands and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. If you have a good idea for a new ham "mini class," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.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: Amy, KD8SKL or e-mail her at: KD8SKL@portcars.org



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

Chuck, W8PT
a.k.a. "Charlie the Tuner"



Well I wish I had a more extensive DX listing in this column for June and July but as you will see, many of the items are for months farther out than this month. The reason is that much of the DX info that has come through did not have much happening in June or July. So I've had to go back on my promise to try and limit my listings to one to two months out. If you'll recall, the reason I do this is so that you don't have to try and remember that so and so will be in such and such country in say, December or March of 2018. What I like to report is what is going to be happening this month or at the most next month.

I'm trusting that next month we can return to normal and I can report on some DX happenings that will happen in July.

On another note, I hope that you have been monitoring 10 m because it has opened up a couple of times in May. If you watch any DX cluster and see a lot of activity on 6 meters, don't neglect 10 m. Give a call or two. You might be pleasantly surprised.

I continue to be indebted to the following DX news sources: the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn Packet cluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, W4DN, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, N0FCD, CO3JK, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, ES1CW, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, IZ5HQB, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, RSGB IOTA Web Site, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO, VHF-DX-Portal(MMMonVHF) and VU2DSI for the following DX information.

And as always, this report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know, so..... - **"Work First Worry Later"**.

3DA, SWAZILAND (EME Op). Operators Vincent/3DA0VV, Chris/PA2CHR, Lins/ PA3CMC, Andrew/ZS6AVH, John/ZS6JON and ZS6EME will be active as 3DA0MB from Swaziland Oct 3-18th. Activity on EME using the 2m, 70cm and 23cm bands. Modes will be JT65 and CW. QSL via PA3CMC.

3Y0Z BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION UPDATE. The following was added to the Web page <http://www.bouvetdx.org> on May 1st: We have added a propagation page to our website. It displays a series of videos showing propagation predictions during our anticipated stay on Bouvet Island - January-February of 2018. Find the page in our header menu and click on one of the videos to display time, frequency, and strength of signals anticipated at your QTH. The predictions are based on the average sunspot numbers predicted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for January of 2018.

D4, CAPE VERDE. Harald, DF2WO, will once again be active as D44TWO from Praia, Santiago Island (AF-005) until June 8th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. He states that he works mostly on the Digital modes (PSK31, JT65 and RTTY) and slow CW. Equipment is a FT-450D into a home-made HEX BEAM and a dipole for 40 meters. QSL via M0OXO (OQRS available). ADDED NOTE: Harald announced the following

DXpedition for 2017: Oct (TBA) - He returns to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, to be active as XT2AW. Nov 15-30th -- He returns to Kigali, Rwanda, to be active as 9X2AW

E39DI POSTPONED! Zorro, JH1AJT, reports [edited]: E39DI activity from Dahlak Island is postponed. Our E3 DXpedition Team will go to Dahlak Archipelago as planned, but the stay there will be shortened due to a strong suggestion by the Eritrean Government. Hence, very unfortunately, we may not have sufficient time to operate from there this time. Instead we will do research on how we can operate next time, most probably in the fall of this year, studying the terrain, facilities available, accessibility and so on. We also hope the condition will become better in the autumn. So your understanding will be highly appreciated.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Alex, F4GHS, will be active as E51GHS from two of the South Cook Islands during August. His schedule is as follows: Aug 7-16th -- from Aitutaki Island (OC-083). Aug 16-25th -- from Rarotonga Island (OC-013). Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands using a K3 into a home-made vertical (20m). QSL via his home callsign.

EU-123. Gordon, MM0GOR, will be active as MM1E from **Great Cumbrae Island** during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) as a Single-Op/All-Bands/SSB-Mode/DXpedition entry. QSL via MM1E or LoTW.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ, will once again be active as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island in the Minami Torishima (OC-073, JCG 10007) group between mid-May and mid-July. He is usually there to work on the island's weather station. Activity will be limited to his spare time. He will be mainly on 17 meters but will also on 20/15/12/10/6 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL via JA8CJY or by the Bureau via JG8NQJ.

PJ7, ST. MAARTEN (Update). Operators Dave/K9UK, Ken/KK9N, Tom/W9AEB, Dave/W9DR and John/W9KXQ will be active as PJ7/homecall from St. Maarten (NA-105) between June 14-20th or 28th. The group plans to have 3 stations on the air. Station 1: PJ7/W9DR will be on 6 meters with a Beacon on 50.115.7 MHz. Stations 2 and 3 (PJ7/W9KXQ, PJ7/KK9N, PJ7/K9UK and PJ7/W9AEB) will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via their home call sign.

T8 PALAU. Chusuke, JR1FKR, active as T88TJ from the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room) on Koror Island (OC-009), between June 28th and July 2nd. Activity will be on 40/20/17/15/10/6 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. DO NOT QSL via the T8 Bureau. For more details about the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room), see: <http://www.palau-radio.com/index.php?page=rr2014>

T8 PALAU. Operators Ichiro/JH7IPR (T88UW), Mike/JA6EGL (T88SM) and Kouko/JQ6FQI (T88WM) will be active from the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room) on Koror Island (OC-009), between October 11-17th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, JT65 and JT9. QSL T88UW via JH7IPR, direct, by the Bureau, eQSL, LoTW or ClubLog. QSL T88WM via JQ6FQI, by the Bureau or direct. QSL T88SM via his home call sign direct only. For more details about the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room)

TN, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO. Ken, LA7GIA, will be active as TN5E from Brazzaville between May 25th and June 4th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters (possibly 6m) using CW and SSB. His equipment is an Elecraft K3 with an Ameritron ALS 500 amp, into a 2 element rotatable beam for 20/15/10m (up 25-30 meters), wire dipoles on 80/40/30/17/12m (up 25-30 meters), 80m dipole fixed to EU, 40/30/17/15/12m dipole fixed to NA/VK, 5 element Cushcraft 50 MHz rotatable beam up 25 meter, Low-band receiving antennas, homebrew K9AY and BOG, and wire backup antennas on all frequencies (dipole/delta loop). QSL via M0OXO, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS. FREE LoTW June 5th!! OQRS will be activated, Bureau cards MUST be requested via OQRS!! For more details and updates, see: <http://la7gia.com/tn%20-%20congo/index.html>

TR, GABON. Roland, F8EN (ex-CN8EM, FO8BV, 3C3CR, TR50R) has once again returned to Gabon and is active as TR8CR until June 3rd. Activity will be CW only on 20 and 30 meters. QSL via F6AJA, and the log will be uploaded after his activity at: <http://lesnouvellesdx.fr/voirlogs.php>

VR20, HONG KONG (Special Event). Brett, VR2BG, Treasurer of the HRSA, just found out that the Hongkong Radio Sports Association's (HRSA) requests to allow VR2s to sign VR20 (VR-two-zero) from July 1st, 2017, to June 30th,

2018, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the HK Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, has been approved by their telecommunications authority. See the following URL for details:

https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/opb/sp/T-SP-OB.1116-2017-OAS-PDF-E.pdf

ZA, ALBANIA (Update). Operators Alfredo/IK7JWX, Leopoldo/I8LWL, Nicola/ I0SNY and YL Titti/IK8GQY will be active as ZA/IK7JWX from Sazan Island (EU-169) between June 10-20th. Activity will be on various HF bands and 6 meters. QSL via IK7JWX, direct, by the Bureau, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS.

That's it for this Newsletter. Get on the air and work some DX. Until next month, vry 73.

PCARS Thursday Net Control

Tom, WB8LCD
Net Control Coordinator

Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible! **Check out the new receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls - using a PL tone of 118.8.** The Rootstown receiver still uses the 110.9 PL tone.

Don't forget - **4th Thursday is NET NIGHT at the Club Site !!**



June	
1	N8QE
8	AC8NT
15	KB8UHN
22	KC8PD
29	KB8UUZ

July	
7	N8QE
14	KB8UUZ
21	KB8UHN
28	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!

For those of you making the trek to the Dayton Hamvention® - Check-In via Echo Link !

Ten-In-A-Row Award - KC8YYS

At the May PCARS meeting, Tom, WB8LCD the PCARS Net Manager presented the "10 In A Row" Check-in certificate to Jim, KC8YYS.

You too can get one of these "suitable for framing" certificates.

All you have to do is check in to the PCARS Thursday Night 2-Meter Net - Ten times in a row.

If you go 9 times and skip a week, you have to start all over again to get those 10 check-ins **in a row**. Once you get there, contact the Net Control Manager and the log sheets will be verified and you'll get the beautiful certificate to hang on the wall in your radio room.



Linux for Hams Special Interest Group

Terry, KB8AMZ

Hello all. August 29, 2017 will be the next SIG. I will address the topic for this SIG in either the July or August Radiogram.

Have a great Field Day and please volunteer to work some Special Events over the summer.

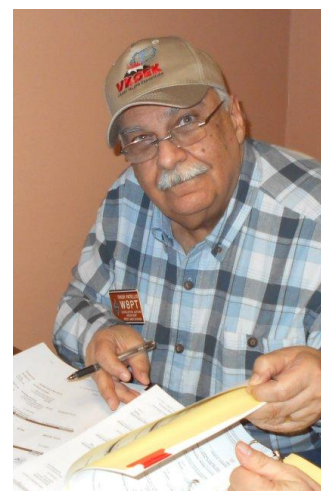


DX & Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

The June 27th DX Special Interest Group meeting will be used as a after action debriefing for our Field Day event. We will be discussing what went right (hopefully everything) and what might need tweaking in the future.

So if you took part in PCARS 2017 Field Day effort, especially if you were part of the Field Day Staff, please try to attend this meeting on Tuesday, June 27th at 7PM.



QRP and CW Special Interest Group

Tom, WB8LCD

After leading this group from the beginning of the PCARS SIGS, I think I was starting to get just a bit stale. When I accepted the Ohio ARRL Section Affiliated Club Coordinator position I decided that there were a couple of things I needed to let go of so someone else could have the fun and free up a little bit of my time. Thankfully, Terry, KB8AMZ has said that he would like to moderate the group.

Starting with the June meeting Terry will be in charge! The QRP / CW SIG meets the second Tuesday of each month, at the PCARS Club Site. Usually, that's the night right after the PCARS Monthly Meeting. Lately, there have been a few of us working at learning / re-learning / or just getting back up to speed with Morse code. Terry will continue working on that, and is very good with getting you going on CW. He's taught a few classes for PCARS, and many other clubs prior. Come on out and check it out!



QRP & CW Special Interest Group

Terry, KB8AMZ



My first SIG with this group as chair, 2nd Tuesday of June at the PCARS Clubhouse at 1900 EDT. Last month Tom Sly and I announced to those in attendance that I would assume this SIG as Tom is stepping down. He already has many "irons in the fire" with the club and with his new responsibility with the Ohio Section of ARRL as "The Affiliated Club Coordinator" he has to let something go.

I will continue with the direction Tom was headed for the past 4 months maybe until the end of the year. That is with learning to receive and send CW which will hopefully turn into some OTAT (On The Air Time), with an Elmer at your side. Don't forget to bring your CW Practice Oscillator.

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV



Hey, Field Day is right around the corner so what better topic for this month's Digital Special Interest Group get-together than digital operations!

Digital contacts during Field Day count for two, yes that's right two points each so we can make a lot of money making digital Q's.

This month we'll be covering the fldigi digital program for RTTY and PSK-31, the two most used digital modes during Field Day. We'll also be demonstrating the Field Day macros written to optimize digital contacts.

If you're having any problems or have any questions about digital operations in general we'll do our best to help you with them. The meeting is on Tuesday June 6th at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site. Hope to see you there!

PCARS is on YouTube

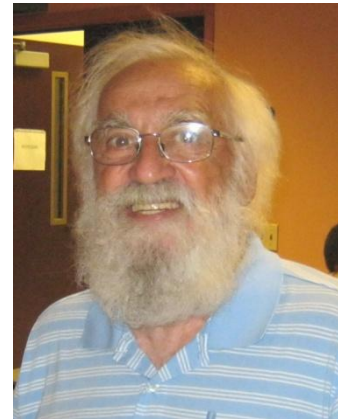
That's right - PCARS is now on YouTube. So, what does that mean? Hey, we have a new place to put all kinds of videos that are about PCARS for the world to see.

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



Paper Chase

Joe, W8KNO



As an old salt, June lets me and any other Navy veterans recall their service time. This is done through Museum Ship's Weekend, June 3rd and 4th.

The Generations Amateur Radio Club of Andover, Massachusetts will be activating the USS Nautilus (SSN-571) in Groton, Connecticut.

Listen for N1S either day from 9:00 am till 5:00 pm. You should be able to hear them on or near 3.934, 7.264, 14.264 or 21.324 MHz.



If you are lucky enough to work her and desire a QSL card, send a SASE to: GARC c/o Harrison Solt, N1FAM; 110 Vinegar Hill Road; Gales Ferry, CT 06335.

The Nautilus' keel was laid by President Harry Truman at Electric Boat Shipyard, Groton, CT on 14 June 1952. She was launched 1 January 1954 and commissioned 30 September 1954 as the first nuclear powered ship in the United States Navy. Nautilus was decommissioned on 3 March 1980 after a career spanning 25 years and almost half a million miles steamed.

I'll be listening for you.

ARRL Legislation

**The work continues
— HR 555**

**The Amateur Radio
Parity Act of 2017
has been reintroduced.**



XENIA DAILY GAZETTE

A Pulitzer Prize-Winning EST. 1868 Newspaper Serving Greene County

Issue 4, Volume 155

Breaking news at xeniagazette.com

Saturday, May 20, 2017 • \$1



Photos by Don Tate | Greene County News

Amateur radio enthusiasts from all over the world are in Greene County for 2017 Dayton Hamvention. Formerly held in Trotwood, the Greene County Fairgrounds is the host for the first time. Most attendees like the new location. Some spoke highly of the tractor ride from the depths of the parking area to the front gate.



Scott Halasz | Greene County News

Lisa Ferguson takes a break at the flea market to look through the Hamvention program. Relatively new to amateur radios, Ferguson doesn't have her own equipment and was hoping to at least purchase a "handy talkie."

New home impresses hams

By Scott Halasz
shalasz@civitasmedia.com

XENIA — Ham radio enthusiast Wendy Peitzer is no stranger to Dayton Hamvention, having attended amateur radio's biggest event many times at the Hara complex in Dayton.

Not knowing what to expect, she and her contingent arrived at the Greene County Fairgrounds — Hamvention's new home after being at Hara for 52 years — early May 19 to beat the opening-day crowd and check

out the new digs. She wasn't disappointed. "It's much better," she said. "I think the facilities here are nicer. I think it's better organized. I like the perks. They bring you up (from the parking lot) on a tractor pull." Peitzer, from Randolph, N.J., added that she didn't mind the extra walking due to the expansive nature of the fairgrounds, compared to the more compact Hara complex. "The other one, the parking lot with the flea



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Hams

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market ... it was massive," she said.

Vendors also approve of Hamvention's new digs. "Besides the barns, I like it better," said Danielle Young from Quicksilver Radio. "I just think it's cleaner. I like the way it's set up. You can go out to the open air. I like the parking better. The food looks nice."

She added that tongue-in-cheek that it was nice not having ceiling tiles falling. Hara's main arena,

"I just think it's cleaner. I like the way it's set up. You can go out to the open air. I like the parking better. The food looks nice."

— Danielle Young,
Quicksilver Radio

which was the location of many vendor stations, was infamous for having openings in the ceiling due to old tiles that would randomly fall.

If there was a downside to the new location, Detroit resident Doug Chauvin said it would be lack of familiarity with the fairgrounds.

"It's confusing," he said. "Because this is just the first time here,

everything's not where it was (at Hara)," he said. Otherwise, Chauvin said his experience was pretty much the same.

• During official opening ceremonies, General Chairman Ron Cramer thanked the county, City of Xenia and Xenia Township for its hospitality. He also presented plaques to the various entities commemorating the first Hamvention in the county.

• Saturday activities include the 30th Hamvention Youth Forum 9:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.; amateur radio license exams 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative 12:30-1:30 p.m.; and Kids Training for Ham Radio 2:45-3:15 p.m.

• Sunday features include Learning Discovery and Fun 9:15-10:15 a.m.; Robotics in the Classroom 10:30-11:30 a.m.; tower safety 10:30-11:30 a.m.; and award winners presentation 1 p.m.

Hamvention continues through Sunday, May 21. Contact Scott Halasz at 937-502-4507.

Weekend delays expected on US 35

Greene County News

the Greene County Fairgrounds. Message boards are on US Route 35 and local law enforcement officers will be controlling traffic signals.

For ongoing traffic, construction and weather-related information, check www.OHGO.com.

Story courtesy of Ohio Department of Transportation.

Over 30,000 people are expected to attend Hamvention, the largest

GREENE COUNTY — Various delays are expected on US Route 35 at North Valley and Trebein Roads Friday-Sunday, May 19-21 while Hamvention is being held at



Yes! I attended Hamvention this year. I can't tell you how many years in a row it's been, or even how many years in total, but it has been a lot. Up until this year, from my first Hamvention visit, it was always at HARA Arena in Dayton. For the life of me, I can't remember any time through all the years that there were improvements at HARA Arena over the previous years Hamvention. It was a property that was slowly self-destructing. Over the last few years it had gotten to the point where it was no longer a usable venue. I've got to imagine that DARA played it out as long as possible knowing that moving an event as large as Hamvention would have to be a monumental task! I presume it was.

So, this was the first year at the new venue, the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, OH. Still near enough to Dayton to be called the "Dayton Hamvention". I'm sure there are going to be some negative comments – no matter what – you can't please everyone. I've heard lots of negative comments about HARA over the last few years. Let me say one thing negative right off the bat: The Weather! DARA has no control over that, the fairgrounds have no control over that, and I certainly don't have any control over that. If everything had been dry and sunny over the whole weekend I think everyone would have enjoyed it a lot better. Lots of mud out in the flea market and the parking areas.

On Friday morning, Chuck, W8PT and I headed to a parking lot in a shopping center to ride the shuttle bus the last couple miles to the fairgrounds. Took us about 2 hours in a huge traffic jam. Aggravating. Once the school bus dropped us off, there was a group of golf carts and a tractor with a wagon to ferry across the parking area (remember the mud?) up to the Fairgrounds entrance. On Saturday and Sunday the bus ride, the traffic and the parking lot ferry's were all greatly improved. While Chuck and I were at the DX dinner in the Dayton Marriott, the folks from DARA, the Fairgrounds Board, the Greene County Sheriff's Department, and who know who all else, were all apparently making some good changes to make sure everything was going to be better by morning.

Inside the Fairgrounds, it was almost all a hard surface (read: no mud). All of the buildings with the inside exhibitors were in nice condition and clean. There were LOTS of food vendors, and most of it was actually pretty good! The buildings were all FILLED with exhibitors! Everyone you would have ever expected to see at Hamvention was there. DARA did a great job getting everyone out, in fact, the 4 buildings couldn't hold it all and a couple of huge tents were set up for the overflow. Nice to see that the vendors were all motivated enough to show up and keep the institution of HAMVENTION alive! Most of the stories I've heard so far say the vendors all did pretty good over the weekend. I also heard from several in the flea-market who had good sales on Friday and Saturday. It seemed the flea-market dried up on Sunday, even though the mud didn't.

Lots of us have Hamvention "traditions" that we repeat every year. Because everything was different, those traditions may not have come off as they always did in the past. I'm sure that gave many a negative vibe on the whole experience. But, give it a couple more shots and I'm sure we'll work it out to where it's just as much fun as it used to be, and perhaps many new traditions will be established. There are lots of other things to do in the area around Hamvention. I've been to the Air Force Museum a few times and that's always been interesting. There's Four Days In May put on by the QRPARCI. All the forums



and the dinners. Contest University. Favorite restaurants. Don't know if this will become a tradition or not, but, Saturday night, Chuck and I drove down to the outskirts of Cincinnati to have dinner at my favorite Ribs house, the Montgomery Rib King. **You can't tell me Chuck wasn't having fun!**

All of that said, I truly believe that DARA has saved Hamvention! Yeah, it's different. But I personally know how difficult it is when a new venue has to be found for a PCARS meeting. What DARA did is on a scale I can't even imagine. We all owe DARA a debt of gratitude for not rolling over and calling it the end of an era. I can't begin to count the man-hours that must go into pulling this off every year. They have actually saved one of the Biggest and Best traditions in Amateur Radio, and they've kept the show right in our own back yard. If you haven't been to Hamvention, make your plans now for 2018, 2019 and beyond. If you can support DARA by becoming a member, it's well worth it. If you can volunteer to help them I know they would appreciate it and put you right to work! At the very least, join me in saying "Thank You" to DARA for doing this for us every year.

Tom, WB8LCD

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Had a great time at Hamvention 2017. I traveled on the Pioneer Bus and as usual met some new friends and visited with some old friends. Some of my highlights:

1. Seeing the Wimo Loop Antenna. This is a cool antenna. Instead of using the typical variable capacitor to tune the antenna. The capacitor is built into the loop and the loop expands and contracts to change the capacitance. A picture of this is below. The capacitor is at the top and made up of plates connected to the left and right sides of the loop. It has good efficiency and comes with a great automatic controller. The booth had some users so feedback on the design was easy to get. There were some problems. In the rain sometimes the capacitor shorted. Also, it could not be used if snow had collected on the capacitor plates. Users said it performed great in good weather. At a cost of \$1500 it was a little above the budget of a lot of hams.
2. Met with Hans Summers (QRP-Labs). We discussed a range of topics including new designs for a multiband CW transceiver; the ongoing thread in his user group on the legal issues involved in balloon launches; and some new ideas in getting young people involved in the hobby.
3. Met a group of Russians making some great passive components including a relay controlled filter assembly the was rated at 2500 watts continuous duty, required no fan cooling and covered all the HF bands. It had a great design and was a beautiful piece of construction. If you are interested visit <http://eb104.ru> . They are also on ebay.
4. I always enjoy talking to the various groups at the ARRL booths. This year I especially enjoyed talking to the education group and the Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative. We all enjoyed talking about growing our hobby in both high schools and colleges. If you are interested in helping get our hobby into colleges visit <http://arrl.org/WeWantU> .



Jim, AC8NT

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I attended my first FDIM (Four Days In May) as well as the Hamvention. The FDIM talks were great and I took the vendor night opportunity to stock up on QRP Labs Ultimate3S WSPR board kits and a Cricket single board 80 meter transceiver. I also got to meet BITX designer Ashhar Farhan VU2ESE, QRP Labs Hans Summers G0PUL and QSO Today's host Eric Guth 4Z1UG.

At the Hamvention I acquired the usual handfuls of small parts and finally broke down and purchased a just released Siglent SDS1202X-E 200 MHZ oscilloscope with serial bus decoding.

My favorite forum was on was on high altitude ballooning and I learned the most at the HamSCI booth.

I came home happy, muddy, tired and with a much lighter wallet.



Robert, KD8CGH



Hamvention 2017: The Good, The Bad, and the Soggy



Finally the inevitable happened. With Hara Arena in disrepair and operating on life support for the last few years, DARA finally decided on a new home for the Hamvention. The Greene County Fairgrounds is oriented more toward live shows and farm exhibitions—not commercial expositions and sports as Hara was. Each has its own strengths, making it an apples-oranges comparison.

Fortunately for the Dayton community, they decided to keep the event close by in Xenia, OH. Xenia has a few B&Bs, hotels, and restaurants—but not nearly enough to handle the typical yearly crowd. Dayton still benefits by providing most of the lodging and dining for

those attending the Hamvention. In addition, the Crowne Plaza still hosts the traditional evening festivities, along with other events such as Contest University.

Facilities



If you're familiar with the Orlando Hamcation, it's held in a very similar venue, but Orlando only has two buildings for commercial displays. At the Xenia location, there is minimal paved area as compared to Hara-- much of the area is grass, including the main

parking areas. This makes parking and flea market areas vulnerable



to turning into mud pits. With rain showers during the entire weekend, it made for somewhat soggy conditions by Sunday. Weather will be more of a factor at the Xenia location.

The main buildings were relatively roomy, and the HVAC appeared to be functional in the heat. The physical plant is newer and in way better shape than Hara. Space available in the permanent buildings was somewhat less than at Hara, but large commercial tents were set up nearby to make additional space. There didn't seem to be any mention of comparisons between the space at the Hara flea market and the Fairgrounds, though I'd guess it was a bit less.

At Hara, the flea market opened at 8 am, giving early bird access to those who wanted to peruse it first. The layout allowed separate access to the flea market area. At the Fairgrounds, however, the flea market area was on the far side of the main entrance, and visitors had to be accessed through the vendor areas. This is probably the reason that everything opened here at 9 am. If there is a way to open the flea market earlier, it could help with more evenly distributing the crowd.

Food

You've gotta eat. In past years, your choices were limited to the Hara concessions located around the circle outside the arena—mostly mediocre. In addition, you'd find some organizations sponsoring food concessions both in the middle of the commercial display areas and in the flea markets which generally had better food. And of course there was the hidden gem in the Pub—a hot lunch at a reasonable price and cold beer at the bar. No matter where you chose to eat, lines were long during mealtimes.



The Hamvention offered 23 food and refreshment vendors in both the main areas and the flea market. These were typically food trailers, serving a variety of food from burgers to ****. Lines were tolerable, and all the food I sampled was good. For you beermeisters, the Beer

Garden provided some of your favorite brews and a group of picnic tables sheltered by a pavilion.

Necessities of Life

Restrooms were an issue at Hara, often poorly maintained. And of course there was the infamous flood in the flea market area a few years ago. At the Fairgrounds, you could easily find restroom facilities in the major buildings, all of which showed evidence of regular maintenance. Also, there were portajohns located between the buildings and in the flea market area.

Parking and Transportation

In past years, Hara had a reasonable amount of parking, enough to handle vendors, handicapped, campers, and those that operated in the flea market. Across the street were fields, an abandoned car dealership and other nearby areas. Some enterprising residents offered lawn parking. My go-to lot was the parking behind Salem Plaza, which offered busses operated by Dayton RTA. Shuttles were constantly available to Hara, and you could get an unlimited pass for the event for \$8.

Greene County Fairgrounds has claimed parking space of more than 6000 cars on site in the soccer field, and the Hamvention



committee added remote lots ranging from 11 miles out to ones in town. Remote lots had free bus transportation available, with frequent pickups. There was a big push to encourage attendees to use these lots, along with a suggestion from the ARRL to carpool. Once you were delivered to the fairgrounds, there were golf carts and tractor pulled transportation wagons ready to take you from the drop-off area to the entrance. Unfortunately, busses were subject to many of the same traffic problems as individuals.

Access

One of the shortcomings of the Fairground location was limited access from the outside. If you look at a map of the area, you'll see four-lane access on route 35 narrow down to two lanes, from both east and west. Hamvention traffic was discouraged from going directly through town. Roads approaching the venue are two-lane, and there are only two entrances available to those attending the Hamvention.



DARA had the foresight to set up a talk-in and directions service on their 146.940 repeater, along with general announcements on 145.525 simplex. As you might expect, they fielded a considerable amount of complaints about traffic conditions, especially on Friday morning. When listening to the talk-in frequency later in the day, the complaints lessened considerably. There were few complaints on Saturday, as some of the kinks seemed to be worked out.

The Hamvention organizers hired traffic engineers and advisors to help anticipate and mitigate problems that might arise. Roads and geography are unlikely to change, and for the immediate future it looks like they'll have to deal with the hand they are dealt. One solution might be increased reliance on remote lots and bus transportation to the fairgrounds.

Impressions

It seems like the Hamvention has been held at Hara Arena forever. There will be those holdouts who will have trouble accepting the move, and others will take a wait-and-see attitude. Any kind of move requires some changes and adjustments. What needs to happen is that the Hamvention makes the most of the new venue and tailor its activities to take best advantage of what the Fairgrounds has to offer.

It's obvious that the Hamvention committee put in a lot of work and effort--and they certainly realize that there will be some glitches to iron out over the next few years. It's not like Hara where they had plenty of practice and running the Hamvention was mostly second nature.

There are three areas that will require attention in the next few years--first and foremost is traffic control. Second is parking arrangements, including shuttles where needed. Finally, the flea market issues will need to be addressed, including space, coping with bad weather, and perhaps allowing early access as in previous years.



Mark, K8MSH





Greetings. I have been going to the Dayton Hamvention since 1956, and always had fun. We have to keep in mind, when the Hamvention moved to the Hara Arena there were all kinds of problems including mud in the parking spaces for our cars.

I thought, although Xenia had all kinds of rain and mud totally messing up the flea market, the show was pretty good for # 1. I hear they signed up for three years at that location and plan to put a heavy load of gravel into the flea market area.

Will be easier for the handicap scooters to travel. I had a spot this year and Thursday and Friday, went great for me.

I picked up a Yaesu FT-2000 D transceiver (200 Watt Transceiver all filters) from an estate sale to replace my Yaesu FT-1000 D rig 200 watt rig. Sales from the first two days in the flea market made it easy to buy.



Can't wait till next year.....

Chuck, K8BBE



Had a Great Time at Hamvention 2017.

The new venue was nicer than I thought it would be.

Put plenty of miles in walking all around to see everything.

Ran into several PCARS member while walking around.



Greg, KA8TOA

The Spurious Emission Band - Crowne Plaza Hotel - Hamvention May 22, 2017

One of the top songs that evening was “*Don’t Cry For Hara Arena*” - Lyrics and vocals by W1BXY

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OKd9pV5W7U>

You won’t believe me
You’ll think it strange
When I try to explain why we stayed
In that moldering hulk
When we wanted to run
To someplace normal

Where the toilets would flush
And the sewage won’t spew
As the building fell down ’round our ears
Tradition kept us coming through

We had to let it happen
We had to change
Couldn’t spend every May in that place
With the cobwebs and mice
And I heard it had bugs

So they chose Xenia
And here we are on the fairground that’s new,
And are you impressed here at all?
Or do you have the Hamvention blues?

Don’t cry for Hara Arena.
The truth is, we had to
leave it,
After those fine years,



Oh, such nostalgia
Enjoy your memories
They’re not as smelly

Holes in the ceilings, so when it rained
They rigged buckets to catch all the drips,
Though it seemed to us all
They were fooling no one

The place was crumbling,
Full of pollution
Like condemned property,
But for the good of the hobby we still
Kept on when we wanted to flee

Don’t cry for Hara Arena
The truth is, it was a S***HOLE
With crusty carpets
And moldy ceilings
It gave us asthma
We’ll keep our distance

Have I said too much?
There’s nothing more I can think of to say to you
But all you have to do
Is see the place to know
That every word is true...



Check out all the songs at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLb31YF_9KU&list=PLuluPYrDoXRPFv3LMG3PgJ9hMC-AJNlwT



MORE Photos from Hamvention 2017

A view from Behind the Counter

Being with a vendor for Hamvention is a bit different than being a regular attendee. DX Engineering arrived on Wednesday, just before noon to get started setting up the booth area for the first time at this new venue.



When I first walked into building one, I was impressed with the size and lack of animal smell. I've been to other fairgrounds and, well, they are used frequently for animal shows. Not a hint of it anywhere.



Wednesday and Thursday had the DX Engineering people busy with set up but all was done and we were ready for opening on Friday. The crowds seemed to be a bit less than in the past, but the flow of people was pretty steady.

A few thunderstorms came through over the weekend, but the building did not leak. Thankfully the air temp cooled off a bit since there is no AC in the building.

I did manage to walk around a bit and the other buildings were set up pretty good. The large tent that was also used for vendors seemed a bit dark. The food choices



were much better than in the past. I asked one of the food vendors how it was going and he said he had sold more food on one day than he did during the entire county fair. He was happy to be there. I also asked a local Sheriff about the crowds and he said everyone was just super, no problems, and in his years working the fairgrounds, he never saw so many people there before. I did not get over to the flea market area, but I did see plenty of people wearing muddy boots.

This was no Hara Arena - but I'm **glad** about that. No more moldy ceilings, no more exploding sewage systems, no more dirty restrooms, no more ham sandwiches or cold pizza for lunch. I could go on, but you know what it was like in the past.

So, the crowds were there. Considering it was a brand new venue, I was very impressed at everything that was done by DARA to make this Hamvention a success. DARA has already started on Hamvention 2018 and will be making some adjustments to make the new venue even more fun for us.



PCARS Members that were there for DX Engineering: K8IV, K8KSU, KB8UUZ, K3GP, N8QE, K3LR, W5OV, N8NB. Members W8BBQ and WA8TSI stayed back to man the DX Engineering store in Tallmadge.

Tom, KB8UUZ

I did some research and found the following rain amounts from Dayton International Airport.

Thur	May 18	0.10in
Fri	May 19	0.78in
Sat	May 20	0.61in
Sun	May 21	0.38in

Total for the weekend *** **1.87 in.** ***

I don't know if this is the record high amount for all the years of the hamfest, but it's got to be near the top



Jim, N8PWX

Contest Calendar

June 2017		
Contest Name	Click for more info	Date - Times
10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	Click	0000Z, Jun 3 to 2400Z, Jun 4
Alabama QSO Party	Click	1600Z, Jun 3 to 0400Z, Jun 4
ARRL June VHF Contest	Click	1800Z, Jun 10 to 0259Z, Jun 12
SMIRK Contest	Click	0000Z, Jun 17 to 2400Z, Jun 18
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Click	1500Z, Jun 17 to 1500Z, Jun 18
West Virginia QSO Party	Click	1600Z, Jun 17 to 0200Z, Jun 18
Feld Hell Sprint	Click	1800Z-1959Z, Jun 17
Kid's Day Contest	Click	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 18
ARRL Field Day	Click	1800Z, Jun 24 to 2100Z, Jun 25

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

Idaho QSO Party Certificates Arrived - We Won !



At the May PCARS Meeting, the Idaho QSO Party Certificates were passed out to the contest team members present. PCARS took **FIRST PLACE** in the Multi-Operator Station Category!!



Hamvention® at Hara

Andy, K5PO

DAYTON, OHIO — The Dayton Hamvention® has moved on to bigger and better things in the Greene County Expo Center, but some hams aren't ready to quit old Hara Arena just yet.

Hara Arena, which has hosted Hamvention® since seemingly the dawn of time, had grown ratty and fell into disrepair. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association finally made the bold but necessary move to a newer, better location, but some hams seem to be stuck in old habits.



"I showed up at 4:30 a.m. here at Hara just like I do every year," said ham operator Boyd Flauderson, 78, from the Hara parking lot. "You gotta get here early to get in line for the scooters," he shared.

"The Hara flea market is a little smaller than last year," noted Rodrick Aerent, 93, who had just arrived on a red-eye

flight from his home country of Scotland.

When informed that Hamvention® was no longer at Hara, the steadfast attendees seemed skeptical.

"I've already sold two of these Hammerlund amps this morning. I've never heard of the Greene County Expo Center. I'm staying right here at Hara," remarked an unshaken parking lot vendor. "Hamvention not at Hara... ha! Next you're going to tell me that the FCC is going to drop the Morse requirement—not going to happen, pal!"

"I'm not sure where the food vendors are this year," questioned entrepreneurial ham Larry Smalls. "But I've started selling Bud Light for \$10 a piece from the cooler in my mobile."



Dayton Police were called to Hara to address the apparent trespassers, but Dayton Officer Mike Lowry ended up chatting with a VE that had set up a pop-up test session. The officer decided to sit for his Technician's exam.

As of press time the event was going strong at Hara, seemingly without most hams noticing any change.

HamHijinks.com

From the Ohio Affiliated Club Coordinator

John, KD8MQ

Hi everyone, we've gotten to the end of my run. This column will be my last, and my tenure as your Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC). I'd like for you to welcome Tom Sly, WB8LCD as your new ACC effective June 1st. You'll read more from Tom in this issue.

When I took this job 2014, I knew it would not be forever; that the time would come when new things & new challenges would entice me. With some big stuff happening at church this year, that time is at hand. I feel that trying to do justice to those commitments while being ACC just isn't going to work.



So, let's have some fun this summer. In the next few months, we have ARRL Field Day, the Ohio QSO Party, and the Ohio State Parks On The Air contest coming up. All of these are an awesome chance for you, or your club to be sought after on the HF bands. Get out there and have some fun.

Other opportunities abound; I've been beating the drum for a while now about clubs doing Special Event Stations. But there are other options. Just pick a day, and do a "Park-Pedition" set up a portable station, invite friends with their gear, bring a grill, etc. Don't Plan; Just Do!

On that note; Ideas tend to get discussed, and planned to death in club meetings. Sometimes, you just need take that leap of faith, step out, and do things, letting the details fall into place on their own. One thing I've learned from my Awesome Wife, Lyn, is that sometimes you can spend too much time planning, and not enough time doing.

I've had a lot of fun being your ACC. I've spoken to a lot of you, by e-mail, phone, and in person. My almost three years in this job have been a real eye-opener, and I continue to be impressed by the caliber of clubs in the Ohio Section. This has been one wild ride that I would not trade for anything.

Thanks everyone, but especially to Scott, N8SY. He is the kind of Hard working Section Manager who makes my job a breeze!

And, as Porky Pig would say, "Ble, ble, ble, that's all folks!"



WB8LCD is the New ARRL ACC for Ohio

Tom, WB8LCD



From the Ohio Section News:

“On Saturday, we had a very special presentation at the Ohio Section Booth area at Hamvention. A passing of the badges, so to speak. John, KD8MQ passed to the torch (ACC badge) to Tom, WB8LCD. It was great seeing and being a part of this, as that it demonstrates just how well we all work together to make the Ohio Section the best in the country!!

Tom will be taking over officially as the Affiliated Club Coordinator on June 1st, but I can tell you all that John and Tom have already gotten together on several occasions to exchange information and ideas.

I presented John with a “Special Section Manager’s Award” for all his hard work and dedication to the Ohio Section. I also presented Tom with his Affiliated Club Coordinator Certificate as well.

It was a great time, and I do want to thank all of those who we held up for a short time while taking pictures and doing the presentations. ” Scott, N8SY - Ohio ARRL Section Manager



As I've mentioned earlier, OH Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY – has given me the opportunity to serve as the “Affiliated Club Coordinator” for the Ohio Section. I am thankful for that opportunity, and I'm also thankful to PCARS and all it's members for all I've learned about the dynamics of a successful club. Without the PCARS experience I'm sure I would have come up short. But having seen and experienced everything I have with PCARS over the past 10+ years, I've seen and learned a lot. I certainly don't claim perfection, but the PCARS experience has been a good one for me and I hope I can share some of what I've learned on a bigger scale.

I may need some help along the way – I'll probably turn to my PCARS friends for advice and maybe even a little participation when necessary. I'm sure I'll use PCARS as a positive example of many of the things I would want to focus on. Because of that I will continue to be an active and supportive member of the club. Besides, I've had too much fun with PCARS to ever think it was time to move on! I want to make sure that PCARS remains the shining example of a club that's doing it right.



In a small but solemn ceremony in the ARRL section of the Hamvention, I was given the ARRL's official ACC badge to wear along with a certificate proclaiming my appointment to the position. Hopefully, all the good relationships John, KD8MQ – has established will carry over for me. Scott also presented John with a certificate

thanking him for his service as ACC for the past few years. Well done John!



Great Lakes Division at HamCon 2017

The most exciting ham radio event to ever hit Michigan has been scheduled for October 7 & 8, 2017 at Michigan International Speedway (MIS) near Brooklyn, Michigan.

MIS is located in the vacation area of Southeastern Michigan known as the Irish Hills. The racetrack is the home of two NASCAR races each year (June & October) and other non-racing events and is near major highways and air transportation. The facility is comprised of 1400 acres in the rolling hills of SE Michigan. The entire event will be held in the infield of the 2 mile track with lots of asphalt surfaces in the pit area. We have 22,500 square feet of indoor area for commercial vendors and a huge paved

area for flea market space. All types of camping on site are available (tents to pop up campers to fifth wheels to full blown motor homes) with 24 hour security services. Medical personnel will be on site during the entire event for your safety. The facility will be open on Friday, Oct 6 for vendor load in and set up. Load out will be on Sunday, Oct 8) at the close of the event. All activity should be complete by 2100 Sunday evening.

Food services will be available and ticketing will be available electronically. There will be a complete complement of commercial vendors and many forums and workshops, including a ham in a day class taught by Dan, KB6NU. This class will be followed by a VE session which will be open to anyone interested in testing for a new license or an upgrade.

There are a great number of details that are still in the process of being developed. We are assembling our team to plan and operate the HamCon in conjunction with participating amateur radio clubs in roughly a 50 mile radius of the track. Our organization is the Great Lakes Amateur Radio Association, which will be a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. Our website is www.glhamcon.org and we are on Facebook as Great Lakes Ham Convention and our Twitter ID is GLHamCon. All of our social media is in the process of being developed and will be fleshed out as things develop. Scott Westerman, W9WSW is heading up our Social Media efforts.

As you might imagine, planning an event of this size is an enormous undertaking. There is lots of work to be done and we are working very hard to make this the very best Ham Radio event ever.



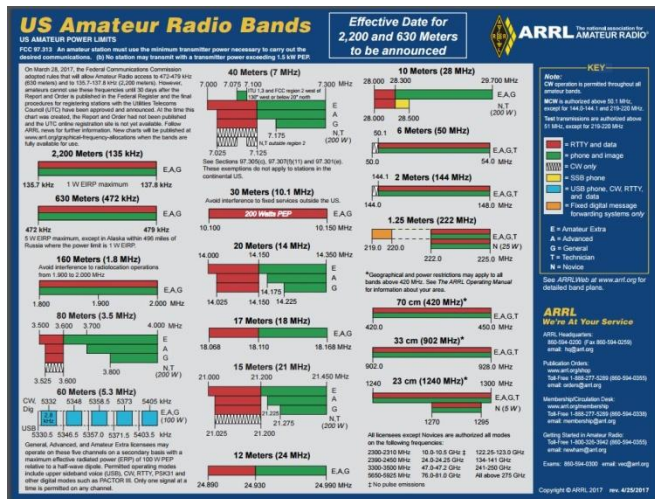
Hamfest Calendar

07/09 - 20/9 Radio Club Hamfest, Computer & Electronics Show - Location: Austintown Senior Center, 112 Westchester Drive, Austintown, OH - Website: <http://20over9.org> - Sponsor: 20/9 Radio Club, Inc. - Public Contact: Dotti ONeil-Meleski KC8SYF, 17520 Denver Drive Lake Milton, OH 44429 - Phone: 330-651-8420 - Email: hamfest@20over9.org

08/05 - 2017 Columbus, Ohio Hamfest and Ohio ARRL Section Conference - Location: Aladdin Shrine Center, 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City, OH 43123 - Website: <http://columbushamfest.com> - Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club, W8FEZ - Public Contact: John Lehman K8PJ, 7415 Hagerty Road Ashville, OH 43103 - Phone: 614-571-5179 - Email: voiceofaladdin@gmail.com

New Band Chart Available from ARRL

Information about the US Amateur Bands is available on the Frequency Allocations page as well as the frequency bands chart.



NOTE: The new 630-meter and 2200-meter bands are not yet available for Amateur Radio use. The effective date of the recent FCC Report & Order granting these allocations has not yet been determined, and until the start date has been set, it is not legal under an Amateur Radio license to transmit on either band. The FCC will publish a notice in The Federal Register “announcing such approval and the relevant effective date.” ARRL will announce the UTC notification procedures and the effective date to use these new bands as soon as these are known.

You can get a full color copy of the chart by going to this address:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Band%20Chart/Hambands4-web-color 4-25-17.pdf>

Morsum Magnificat Now Available for Download

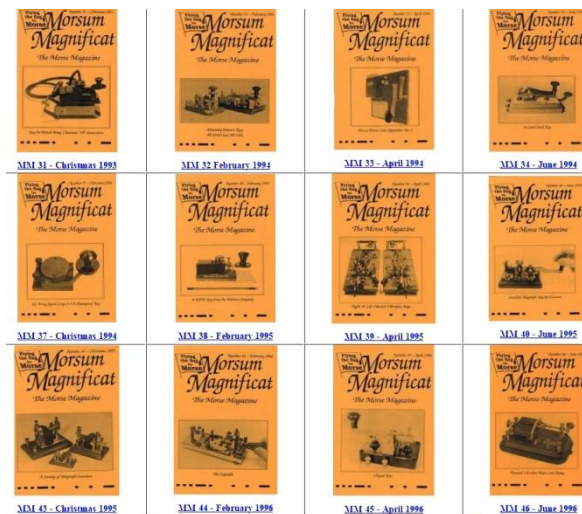
All copies of the English-language version of *Morsum Magnificat*, the Morse Magazine, are now available for free download from the website of Lynn Burlingame, N7CFO. This includes the 89 issues published from 1986 to 2004. Mike Feher, N4FS, was able to provide the missing editions, which Randy Cole, KN6W, scanned for viewing. The 89 issues of *Morsum Magnificat* contain more than 4,000 printed pages, covering all aspects of Morse telegraphy.

The newly available downloads also include “The Story of the Key: The Best of MM-1,” by Louise Ramsey Moreau W3WRE, which includes a list of American telegraph instrument makers from 1837 to 1900, compiled by Roger Reinke. In addition, there’s “Key WT 8 Amp Worldwide Survey: The Best of MM-2,” by Tony Smith G4FAI, an updated and revised version of the 54-page booklet that provides information about the famous military Morse key, of which more than 100 versions were manufactured in six countries.

Also available: The MM Q & Z Codebook, (English), compiled by Rinus Hellemons, PA0BFN, and Dick Kraayveld, PA3ALM, publishers of the original Dutch version of *Morsum Magnificat*. The codebook lists all Q & Z codes in their original applications, including a copy of the original single-page Q-code guide of 1912.

All copies of *Morsum Magnificat* or associated publications downloaded from the N7CFO website are for personal use only and may not be downloaded or distributed for any commercial purpose. - Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via Tony Smith, G4FAI, co-founder of the English edition of *Morsum Magnificat*

<http://www.n7cfo.com/tgph/Dwnlds/mm/mm.htm>



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Two 6 meter Squalo antennas with phasing harness - \$60.

Contact Tom, WB8LCD at WB8LCD@portcars.org [8/2/17]

FOR SALE: Antennas, Tower, and Radios plus other stuff

Cushcraft Model XM-520 20 Meter 5 El Beam, \$100 Kenwood TH-22AT 2 Mtr HT \$25
Kenwood SP-430 Speaker \$25 Nye Viking MBI-001 Tuner \$100 Hy-Gain 6 Meter beam \$100
KENT Iambic Paddle model TP-1B \$60 Code Key McElroy Streamkey Model 200 \$25
AEA model QT-1 Antenna tuner \$25 Radio Shack HTX-202 2 meter \$25
Astron Model RS-20M Power Supply \$50 Astron Model VS-35M Power Supply \$75
Pyramid PS-25 Power Supply model \$50 Swan SWR-1A SWR/ Pwr Meter \$10
Andrew F4PNMV2-HC N Male connector \$10ea Hy-Gain HG-52SS tower, Good Condition \$500
Cushcraft X-7 Tri band beam \$300 Hy-Gain Ham IV Rotor \$400

Will accept all reasonable offers. Misc tower parts, lots contact me if interested.

Contact: Al, AB8AA at 330-207-3296 or ab8aa@arrl.net [7/2/17]

FOR SALE: AMERITRON AL-82 LINEAR AMPLIFIER - \$1,550.00 With a pair of Eimac 3-500Z Tubes, puts out 1500 W with 100 W drive. Good Condition, wired for 240V, 160 through 10 meters including WARC bands. Weighs 80 pounds. Prefer local sale, can deliver up to 35 miles.

YAESU FT-1000MP TRANSCEIVER - 100 W - AC VERSION - \$1,000.00 Excellent condition, Loaded with the following filters: Roofing Filter, 8,215 IF: 500Hz, 2.0 KHz, 2.4 KHz, 6.0 KHz 455 IF: 250Hz, 2.0KHz, 2.4 KHz, 6.0 KHz Includes manual and hand microphone.



TEN-TEC CORSAIR TRANSCEIVER - 100 W WITH MATCHING POWER SUPPLY / SPEAKER COMBINATION \$350.00 Good Condition - superlative full break-in CW performance - good starter radio. Has optional narrow SSB and CW filters. Includes manual. Will not sell transceiver without power supply.



HAMMARLUND HQ-129 VINTAGE RECEIVER - \$125.00 Good Condition commensurate with it's age, fully functional. Completely re-capped, re-tubed and re-aligned 10 years ago.



MFJ 259-B ANTENNA ANALYZER WITH CARRYING CASE- \$150.00 Good condition, fully functional, with manual. Covers 0.5 to 170 MHz in 6 ranges.



Contact: George, K3GP at K3GP@portcars.org
or call 330-829-9504 weekdays or weekends [7/2/17]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS members only benefit. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [8/2/17] indicates the ad will run until August 2, 2017.

PCARS
Join Now
Discover the FUN



PCARS Ham 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 PCARS club station.

We have 59 PCARS member's ham 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. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of PCARS history.**



From the Ohio BMV:

General Information: Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Ohio and hold an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission may apply for these plates. The official call letters will be the license plate numbers.

Registrant Eligibility: Owner must submit a copy of the un-revoked and unexpired official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission. (FCC).

Title Requirements: Ohio Certificate of Title issued in the same name as the FCC license, either singly or jointly, or the name on the FCC license is the same name on the lease agreement.

Vehicle Information: These plates may be issued to passenger vehicles, non-commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, house vehicles and non-commercial trailers.

Type of Plates: Plates will be manufactured with the FCC license.

Issuance Information: Amateur Radio plates cannot be issued with system assigned, reserved, or personalized plate formats.

Renewal of plates can be done at your local Deputy Registrar or by mail using their renewal notice. **Amateur Radio License Holders must provide a copy of their current unexpired and unrevoked official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) at the time of any type renewal transaction.**

All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card unless customer requests otherwise. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate applications are available at all Deputy Registrar license agency locations. These plates cost an additional \$10.00 annually plus the normal registration fees. The fee is determined by Ohio Revised Code section 4503.14.

PCARS Yahoo Group

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/>

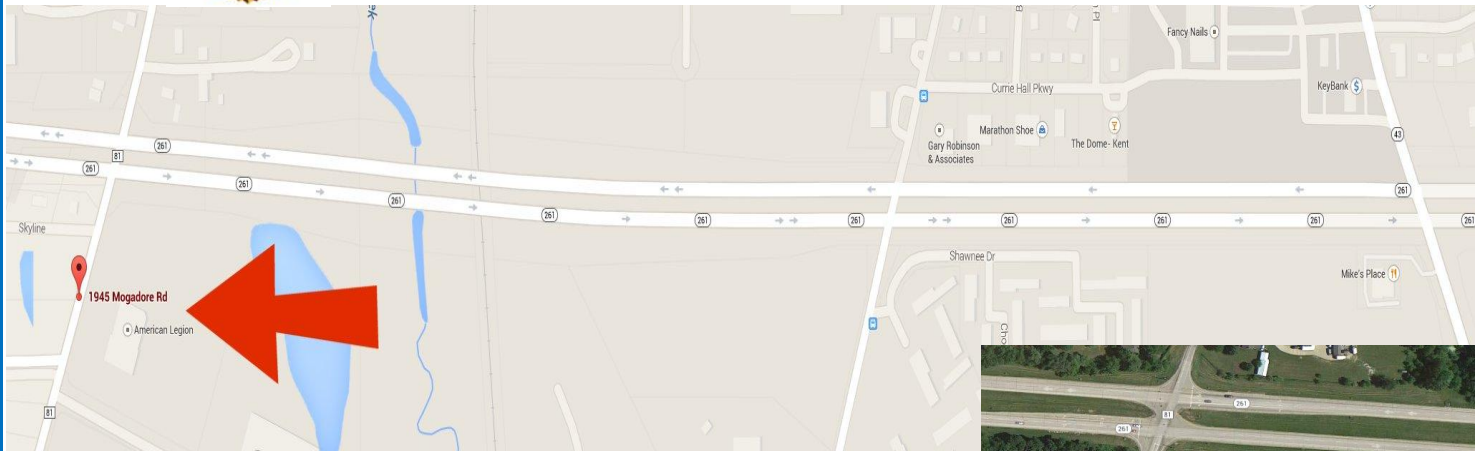


PCARS Meetings

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the **2nd Monday** of each month and start at 7:00 pm.



*The meetings are held at The American Legion, Post 496
1945 Mogadore Road - in Kent. (Just South of Route 261)*



The American Legion Post 496 is located on the southeast corner of State Route 261 and Mogadore Rd. The driveway is on the south side of the building and as you enter you will pass through a parking lot on the south side of the building. Please do not park in this lot but instead continue on to the parking lot on the east side of the building which is the near the rear entrance into the Post 'Canteen'. As you enter the post from this entrance you'll see a bar to the left and a dining area to the right. The meeting area we'll be in is on the right, to the rear of the dining area.



*The picture on the left shows
The American Legion Post 496
as viewed from Mogadore Road.
(looking East)*

The menu consists of your basic burger / dog / chicken sandwiches, wings, fries, onion rings, and salads. There is also an appetizer selection as well. Adult beverages are available and costs are in line with what you would expect at most bar-restaurant facilities.

If you are a member of the The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of The American Legion, bring your ID card as you get a substantial discount on adult beverage pricing.

Photos from the PCARS Meeting in May





PCARS

May 8, 2017

Important Dates This Month

Fri 2nd Jun, 2017 will be...Doughnut Day

Everyone loves donuts, there's something about that delicious deep fried treat that brings a smile to everyone's face. Donut day celebrates this wonderful treat, it's history and a special holiday brought into being to honor a special group that arose during World War I. One of the little-known facts about the Donut is exactly what that well-known shape is called, read on, and maybe you'll find out!



History of the Donut

The history of the donut isn't clearly known, but what is known is that their iconic look started making an appearance in the United States in the mid-1800's. Rumor has it a gentleman by the name of Hanson Gregory invented them, out of a distaste for the undercooked centers and greasiness of the existing shapes and options. The shape was said to be obtained by punching a hole in the center with a tin pepper box.

There are many varieties of donuts outside of that most commonly known, including twist donuts, fritters, and the hugely varied and popular filled donut. Filled donuts come in a huge variety, including the very popular Devil Dog, a chocolate covered delight filled with a rich cream. Glazed donuts filled with all sorts of delicious fruit, with raspberry being a runaway favorite throughout the world, and lemon filling being an equally popular.

History of Doughnut Day

Doughnut Day came to pass, in part, due to the efforts of a doctor in the military in the first World War who sought to brighten the day of the wounded soldiers he worked on. On his first day to the Military Base, he purchased 8 dozen doughnuts and gave one to each soldier he worked on. After giving one to Lieutenant General Samuel Geary, who received it with great mirth and appreciation for the doctors work, Samuel decided to start a fundraiser, letting the young doctor, Morgan Pett, to continue to provide doughnuts to his patients.

This fundraiser began working together with the Salvation Army who, after a fact-finding mission, determined that many needs of the soldiers could be met by creating social centers that would provide all sorts of amenities, including the doughnuts. The Salvation Army sent 250 volunteers to France to help put these huts together, which soon became a mainstay of military life. One record of a day in the huts recorded up to 300 donuts and 700 cups of coffee being served as part of their service. Due to the majority of the workers being female, the Salvation Army workers started to be known as "Doughnut Dollies."

These huts went a long way to improving the overall life of the soldiers during the war and has become a tradition that the Salvation Army continues to this day as a fundraiser for this wonderful organization. A great way to celebrate Donut Day is to volunteer to help this amazing organization on the day they've held for years in support of our armed forces. Just a few hours of your time or a donation towards their organization will ensure they continue to be able to do their good work the world round!

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Mon 5th Jun, 2017 will be... Sausage Roll Day

There's a treat that we poor colonists have rarely ever enjoyed, it's a delicious meat-filled pastry that is flaky, flavorful, and all around amazing. If you've never had these savory filled puff pastries it is far past time to add them to your menu, and Sausage Roll Day is the day to do it! Each year we celebrate this amazing little pastry and the country it came from, and this year so can you! Just delve right in and read up on where it came from, when it's used, and how America has been missing out on this best of all treats... until now!

History of Sausage Roll Day

First, we should probably just answer the question looming on your mind, "What's a sausage roll?!" Sausage rolls are much as we've described them, a pleasantly spiced mixture of sausage, preferably home-made, that is then carefully wrapped in an all-butter puff pastry (which is usually store-bought these days) and baked until delicious. That's it, a bundle of sausage in a wrap served up to hungry Brits (And now Yanks!) everywhere.



Sausage Rolls are to Britain what cold chicken is to the America's, the perfect picnic treat. Sports day? You'll be having a big plate of these brought out for generalized noshing. On the run and need a quick bite? Bet your lady packed you a sausage roll in your lunch box. Walking down the street and got a hunger? Bet you'll be tanking up on a sausage roll (or fish and chips...), these things are everywhere and a standard part of British fair.

Of course, apparently Americans didn't discover them until November of 2015, much to the astonishment of a great foggy island Nor-Norwest of Spain. It was an absolute storm of confusion and disbelief that day as our neighbors from across the pond realized that we poor fools had utterly failed to invent such a basic and miraculous thing as the savory, flaky, buttery, delicious sausage roll. Then again what should they think about a country that doesn't properly know what a biscuit is?

How to celebrate Sausage Roll Day

Well, the best and easiest way to celebrate Sausage roll day is by eating your fill of sausage rolls! If you don't have access to a place that sells proper sausage rolls, look up a recipe! If possible, look for one from a British recipe site to make sure what you're getting is an authentic sausage roll. Then share them with your friends and family, so that they too can know what it means to enjoy a sausage roll, hot or cold. Then start preparing for next sausage roll day!

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Wed 14th Jun, 2017 will be... Flag Day

It's time to rally round... Whether it's a huge Stars and Stripes flapping on the porch, or just a lapel pin, find a way to mark a unique day in a unique nation.

While the Fourth of July has become an all-round celebration of US life, Flag Day has kept more of a local character, with traditions rooted in the township or the county, the city or the state capital. And much more than for family festivals, it feels right to be celebrating it with your team, club or class. Every year, millions of people discover their inner Betsy Ross and make their own versions of Old Glory, in everything from stained glass to potato prints to rows of flowers. The men who adopted the first flag, way back in 1777, could hardly have imagined it. Three cheers for all things red, white and blue!



Thanks & 73



Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

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



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

K8CAV, AC8NT, W8PT, K3GP, KB8UUZ, WB8LCD, N8RLG, N8XTH, KC8PD, KB6NU, KB8AMZ, W8KNO, KD8CGH, K8MSH, K8BBE, KA8TOA, K3LR, N8PXW, K5PO, KD8MQ, N8SY, DX Engineering, The Xenia Daily Gazette, the ARRL, and the World-Wide Web.

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



***DID YOU FIND the BLACK SQUIRRELS on the **DX** ENGINEERING CATALOG?
(see page 12) **HERE THEY ARE:*****





Michigan International Speedway

Brooklyn, Michigan

***Breaking News: ARRL President, Rick Roderick,
K5UR to attend Great Lakes HamCon!***

Indoor Commercial Vendors	Forums
Huge Paved Flea Market	Workshops
Free Parking in Infield	Camping
Unique Location	Door Prizes
KB6NU's One-Day Tech Class	VE Testing
Food Concessions	Fox Hunt
Mobility Scooters Available	Two days of fun!

GLHamCon Online Apparel Store now open!!

<https://glhamcon.qbstores.com>

We will NOT run out of indoor space (adding however many event tents that it takes) and we have an unlimited paved area for Flea Market spaces. Of course, best spaces sell first!

www.glhamcon.org

Info@glhamcon.org

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

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

PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the Kent American Legion Post 496.
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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

PCARS uses the **K8IV** repeater: **146.895 MHz** PL 110.9 in Rootstown or 118.8 in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

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

Check PCARS out on the web: www.PORTCARS.ORG -or- www.K8BF.ORG

~ 2017 Officers ~		2017 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Rick Kruis - K8CAV Vice President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Treasurer - Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL 3 Year Trustee - Robert Gurney - N8RLG 2 Year Trustee - Jim Aylward - KC8PD 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD	ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
	K8BF QSL Manager	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
	Membership Chairman	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	Net Control Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
~ Meetings & Net ~ 2 nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Secretary	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers



**PCARS
Active
Volunteer
Examiner
Team
Members**

KC8PD	Jim Aylward
KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
W8PT	Chuck Patellis
K8IV	Ed Polack
K8QF	Russ Conklin
N8RLG	Robert Gurney
W8RID	Robert Davet
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
NR8W	Russ Williams
W8EZT	Frank Tompkins
N8OQQ	Bryan Buchwalter
AC8NT	Jim Wilson
K8MSH	Mark Haverstock
KA8TOA	Greg Ash
KB3GXB	Jennifer Andrews

THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliated
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

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. Third Place Winner in the Ohio Section 2015. Second Place Winner in the Ohio Section for 2016.) newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) – copyright © 2017. 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.** Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copy write - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KB8UUZ@portcars.org. 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 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 an **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **PCARS Newsletter, The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, active links, **NO** postage needed and the newsletter is delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! **The RADIOGRAM** is published every month and only sent 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. Yes I know the cover says there is a cost, don't worry you won't get sent a bill or be hounded by bill collectors. Since this now looks like a magazine, I thought - what the heck, let's put a price on it. Every month it's listed in a different currency just for fun. Send your newsletter inputs (in **.TXT** format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 20 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: kb8uuz@portcars.org

