



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

October 2017 - Volume 12 Number 10

Ohio State Parks On The Air 2017 from around Ohio



W8DGN
John Bryan
State Park
JOB

HamCon is Here

 **GREAT LAKES HAMCON**

MICHIGAN
INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY
OCTOBER 7-8, 2017
"It's gonna be great!"



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!

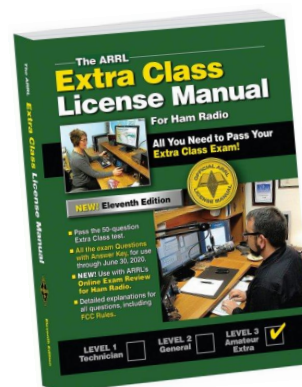


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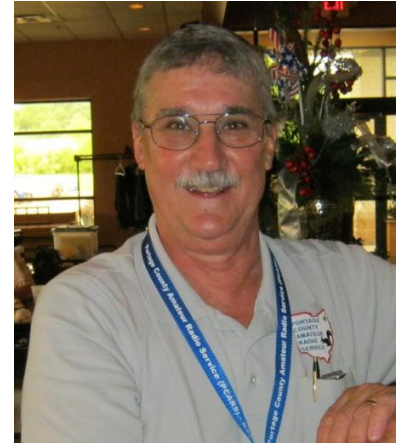
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From the President

Rick, K8CAV
PCARS President



It is with great sadness that PCARS learned of the passing away of one of its great friends, Dick Ward, KB8JFF. Dick was very active with PCARS and you could always count on seeing him at a club meeting, club contest or other event and he will be missed. Please keep Dick's family in your thoughts and prayers.

It's that time of year again when the leaves falling signify that it's time for us prepare our stations for winter. There's nothing worse than having to repair a failure in an antenna system when it's freezing and snowing. And if you haven't performed maintenance on your backup power system it can be mighty frustrating to find out you have little or no backup power available during a power outage. Take some time to go through every aspect of your station to make sure things don't fail at the worst possible moment. Remember that the slogan, "**When All Else Fails**" is only valid if we stay on top of maintaining our equipment.

The last several weeks have brought several hurricanes to residents in both the continental US and the Caribbean islands. In addition, a major earthquake struck in Mexico and caused a lot of destruction and loss of life. Amateur Radio has been heavily involved in providing communications assistance in many of the devastated areas. Most of us here in Ohio have been unaffected by the events themselves so I would ask that you consider making a donation to one of the relief organizations such as the Salvation Army or the American Red Cross who have strong presences in the affected areas and who could put your generosity to good use in helping the victims of these disasters.

By the time you read this PCARS will have finished up its maintenance day at our club site. We've already spent several Saturdays during the summer to add antennas and do some work on the ones we had up there but we didn't have quite enough time to do some of the outside cleaning that we normally do every spring and summer. There are a lot of weeds that grew up and trash that accumulated that got cleaned up and the outside will be looking good for our open house this month. Jim, AC8NT has been hard at work putting finishing touches on the radio room and laboratory. The inside of the club house will be spic and span and ready for a winter of radio fun! Although I don't know exactly who will have shown up to help with our cleanup day tomorrow, a huge **THANK-YOU** to everyone for showing up and helping out.

As most of you know we decided to defer the PCARS family picnic we normal hold in July so that we could plan in its place, an open house for club members and interested members of the public. We thought this would be a great opportunity to get some of our members who don't get to the club site to come out and see all of the different things we have to offer there. We also hope to generate some interest from the public in amateur radio, and possibly pick up some new members to the club. We'll have burgers and dogs and lots to eat and drink. Look for more information here in the newsletter.

It may seem a bit early to talk about this but the November PCARS meeting is only a month and a half away. This is our club's most important meeting for two reasons. First, the club holds elections for officers and the three-year trustee. These are the folks that provide the leadership for all of the things that PCARS does so it's important for you to not only show up to vote, but to consider running for the offices that are up for election. Second, the November meeting is our **annual fund-raising activity for the Center of Hope** and we'd like to continue to be able to help our neighbors in Portage County that are less fortunate than ourselves.

As always, I want to give my most sincere thanks to all of you who make PCARS the enjoyable organization it is, either by being part of the things we do or by volunteering your time and talents in leadership positions. PCARS is K8BF **BIG FUN** because of you.

From the Vice President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



Personal Note

Good news, I made it to another birthday this month. That's a good thing. However, this one was a little special. My oldest son messaged me late on my birthday that he had taken and passed (100% score) his Technician test and was planning to take his General test soon. He never hinted he was studying or even seriously interested in becoming a ham. When we talked, he said he wanted to get into this hobby that I was always talking about and try something new. It was a great present. He also pointed out he took the test at the Wilson Senior Center near his home in Jenkintown, PA. *I hope that was not a hint.*

Operations Work at the Club

This month, as in past months, has involved a lot of work at the club site. The Ohio QSO party showed problems with our bandpass filters, jumper coax cables and computer logging software. No small list of things to fix. Our filters were checked out by DX Engineering and two of them (15 and 80 meters) were replaced. All have been fully tested and found to work great. New jumper coax cables have been made and that should eliminate antenna issues. Our logging software has been tested and fixes have been put in place to make sure the California QSO party goes without issue. We also had a club cleanup day on September 30th to continue our work in keeping our club site in great shape. Our goal is to continuously improve our club site.

QST Email System

Speaking of things that needed work. I would like to thank Steve, K8SRR for his work in fixing our QST email system. His efforts go way above and beyond those of our average volunteer. Significant changes have been made that will allow our mail lists to be easier to maintain and more reliable. If you are not receiving QSTs or have changed your email address, please let Tom, WB8LCD or me know.

Training and Classes

We have started a new Technician Class with four students and we are planning a General class for early next year. Along with our normal class schedule we will be starting an Extra Class/General Radio Electronics class in January. This will be different from our normal format. In the past we have focused on our students learning the theory and passing the test. This class will include laboratories where students will put their knowledge to work by building test circuits and actual equipment. Labs will include learning about test instruments, designing amplifiers, using integrated circuits, building antenna systems and even a using microcontrollers in ham radio. It should be a lot of fun and a great learning experience. We will of course cover all the material required for the Extra class, but anyone interested in electronics can attend. This class will last about 11 weeks. Because this course uses kits, it is very important we get a good idea how many will be attending. We also need some lead time to make sure all the kits are ready. So, if you are interested please send me an email as soon as possible. More detailed information will be provided in October.

Tours and Visits

We had a great time touring TinyCircuits. Ken Burns, CEO hosted the visit. We saw quite a few of his products and how they were manufactured. For some, it was their first introduction to volume production of circuit boards. We also enjoyed lunch and conversation after the tour. We are working on more tours over the winter, so keep an eye on your QSTs and the club calendar.

Getting Ready for Winter

It's time to prepare for cold and snow. I know it has been hot, but we know winter is coming and while it is warm we need to prepare. Feed runs, antennas, rotors and ground systems should be checked for problems. As Rick, K8CAV noted on our net, we all know stuff will fail at the worst possible day when it is bitter cold and snow is up to our waist. A little work now can reduce the possibility of real problems in the winter.

We Need Your Help to Lead

November is fast approaching. That means election of officers. Please consider taking part in the leadership of our club. If an officer's post is not your cup of tea, consider helping with build day, tour or presentation development. Maybe you are interested in helping or leading a SIG. We have a great club, please considering stepping up to lead.

October Meeting

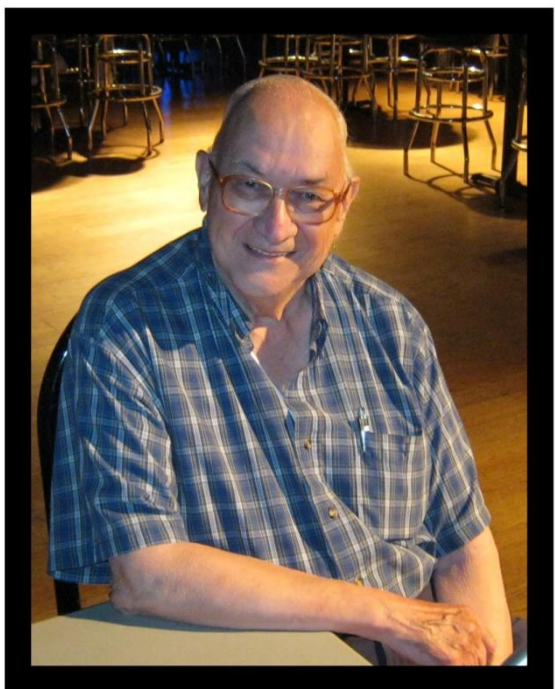
The presentation for the October meeting will be on loop antennas. Frank Tompkins, W8EZX and I will be discussing this interesting and different form of an antenna. Both of us have spent quite a lot of time building and testing these antennas. We think you will enjoy the topic and maybe be interested in building one. See you there.

Open House and Picnic

We hope all of you will visit the club site for our open house and picnic, Saturday October 14th. We want everyone to see the changes we have made to the club and enjoy each other's company and some good food. This will allow the members of your family to see where you hide out on all those SIG and Net nights.



Dick Ward, KB8JFF - SK

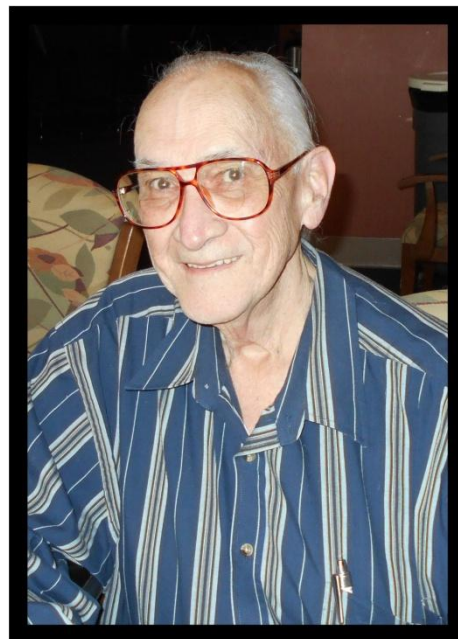


Long time PCARS member (#52 since 2007) Dick Ward, KB8JFF passed away on September 7, 2017.

Dick attended just about every PCARS function and was always there to talk with other members. We would hear him on the club net almost every Thursday evening. Always a smile, always glad to see everyone, Dick will be missed very much by many PCARS members.

*Richard C. Ward –
KB8JFF – SK - July 11,
1938 ~ September 7, 2017
(age 79)*

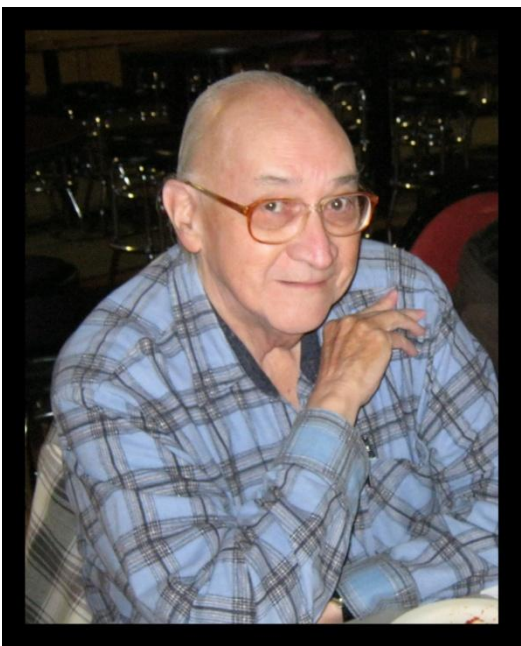
*Richard C. Ward 79, of
Ravenna, Ohio passed
away on September 7, 2017. The son of the late Herman H. and
Ethel Elizabeth (Stewart) Ward. He was born on July 11, 1938,
in Sebring, Ohio. Dick attended the Ravenna Assembly of God,
he was employed by the Valspar Paint Company and was a
member of the Odd Fellows
McKinley Lodge #923 in
Sebring.*



*Survivors include many nieces and nephews. Besides his
parents he was preceded in death by his wife Vee, 3 sisters
and 3 brothers.*

*A funeral service was held at Gednetz-Ruzek-Brown funeral
home in Sebring on Friday, September 15, 2017. Burial
took place at Grandview Cemetery in Sebring.*

Dick and Vee (also a PCARS member and also a SK) were fun to be with. They really enjoyed talking with all of the PCARS members. We will always remember both of them in our hearts forever.



Dick Ward, KB8JFF - SK

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- October 7-8th - California QSO Party - PCARS on the air from the club site
- October 7th - VE Test Session at the club site - 10 am - open for all, walk-ins welcome
- October 7th-8th - HamCon - Great Lakes Division Convention - in Michigan - see flier
- October 9th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion - Loop Antennas
- October 14th - PCARS Open House & Picnic - 11 am
- November 1st - VE Test Session at the club site at 7 pm - open for all, walk-ins welcome
- November 13th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion - ELECTIONS
- November 14th - PCARS 12th Birthday

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 |

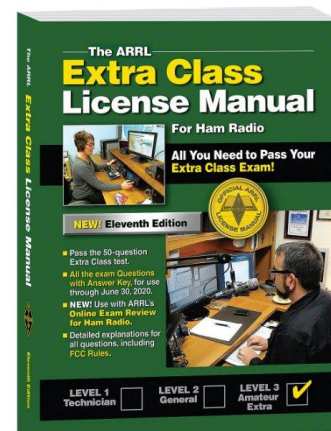


Extra Class/General Radio Electronics class - January

We will be starting an Extra Class/General Radio Electronics class in January. This will be different from our normal format. In the past we have focused on our students learning the theory and passing the test. This class will include laboratories where students will put their knowledge to work by building test circuits and actual equipment. Labs will include learning about test instruments, designing amplifiers, using integrated circuits, building antenna systems and even a using microcontrollers in ham radio.

It should be a lot of fun and a great learning experience. We will of course cover all the material required for the Extra Class, but anyone interested in electronics can attend.

This class will last about 11 weeks. **Because this course uses kits, it is very important we get a good idea how many will be attending.** We also need some lead time to make sure all the kits are ready.



So, if you are interested please send an email to AC8NT@portcars.org as soon as possible. More detailed information will be provided in October. Watch the club web site and your e-mail box (QST messages).



From the Ohio Section Manager

Scott, N8SY
Ohio ARRL Section Manager



Hey Gang, It was really great to see so many of you at the OH-KY-IN and Cleveland Hamfests over this past weekend. I just love it when a plan comes together and I get to talk and be with all of you for some really great fun!

Now, I know that a lot of you are just chomping at the bit to become involved with the past hurricanes and the relief efforts that are just now starting up. I do want to caution everyone that “We Do Not Self Deploy”.. There are some efforts happening right now to get personnel into some of the affected areas, and we are working behind the scenes to help out with obtaining some very experienced volunteers, but you have to have the time (usually around 3 weeks available) and training before anyone will even bother talking to you. One of the main things that you really need to be aware of is that going into these very devastated areas can have a deep and lasting psychological effect on you. Not everyone is cut out to serve in these areas. So, please keep all of this in mind if you are one of those looking for an opportunity to go. It’s not going to be a vacation in any stretch of the imagination. Fresh water, food and yes, even bathroom facilities are in very short supply, in some cases, they don’t exist!

For month’s I have been writing about having your 4 basic NIMS courses in, and be in our database. Many of you have done just that, and even registered with the Ohio Responds database too, but we still have a lot of you that aren’t there yet. You need to be, especially if you want to be “involved” at all in any of FEMA’s activities. Let’s take this opportunity to get things moving in getting your NIMS courses completed.

There’s starting to be a lot of buzz around the Section about the upcoming Great Lakes HamCon. Are you planning on being there? It’s being held on October 7th and 8th at the Michigan International Speedway. Our own Affiliated Clubs Coordinator will be one of the many forum speakers. There’s also going to be a Wouff Hong presentation at the end of the Awards Banquet that will be held on Saturday night. If you’ve never done it, you’ve gotta’ put this on your “Bucket List” to do. Here’s a link for more information: http://arrl-greatlakes.org/wh_form.html

The winner of the Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE Newsletter Award will be announced. Want to see the newsletters in contention? Here’s a link: <http://arrl-greatlakes.org/newsletter/index.html> Oh, by the way, the winners of the George S. Wilson III W4OYI Lifetime Achievement, Great Lakes Division Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, and Young Amateur of the Year will be just some of the awards announced there.

There’s going to be a lot to see and do there for sure. So, “be there, or be square” as the saying goes!! Want more information about the Great Lakes HamCon? Here’s a link: <http://glhamcon.org/>

C.Q. C.Q.. Hey, know someone that’s not getting these Newsletters? Please, forward a copy of this Newsletter over to them and have them “Opt-In” to start receiving them. Heck, just have them send me an email n8sy@n8sy.com and I’ll get them added to the Ohio Section Emailing list. I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, gets signed up to receive these Newsletters. You can always “Opt-Out” at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting.

Got questions, concerns or would just like to sit and chat awhile? Heck, I’ll even buy the coffee!! Give me a call at (419) 512-4445 or email me at: n8sy@n8sy.com

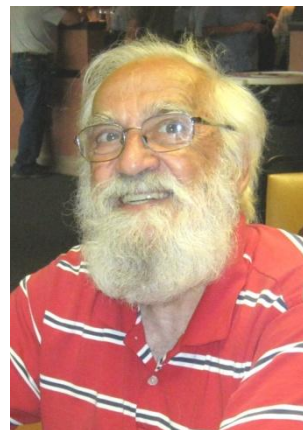
Hey.. What about those Cleveland Indians! They've clinched the American League Central Division title and now they are on their way to what all of us supporters hope will be the World Series Champions!

73, for now.. I will catch you on down the log for sure.

Paper Chase

Joe, W8KNO

At the outset of the Revolution, our infant republic was confronted by the mightiest sea power in the world, England. America did not have a single warship in existence. On 13 October 1775, the official birth of the United States Navy, Congress appointed Esek Hopkins as commander of the first American fleet.



American naval tradition was born aboard the ships of Captain John Paul Jones, the father of our Navy. His fame was due to his brilliant victories over the British in which he captured commercial vessels and men-of-war in the enemy's home waters. His victory of the "Ranger" over the "Drake", a British sloop-of-war, is an example of his boldness. His immortal words, "I have not begun to fight", (uttered when his ship the "Bon Homme Richard", a rotting hulk, faced the "Serapis") have inspired American naval men to fight on to victory in the face of adversity.



The U.S.S. Midway (CV-41) will commemorate the establishment of the Navy. The Midway is the Museum Ship moored in San Diego. The Midway, with callsign NI6IW, will be on the air October 14 from noon till 7 p.m. local time. Listen near 7.250 and 14.320, for PSK31 on 14.070 and D-STAR on REF001C.

To obtain a QSL, send a SASE to:

U.S.S. Midway (CV-41) - COMEDTRA - 910 N. Harbor Dr. - San Diego, CA 82101

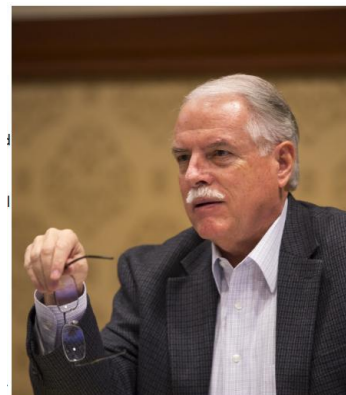
Anchors Away!

Editor's Note: That Sailor you see in the picture above is Joe, W8KNO when he was in the Naval Academy (Class of 1962).



ARRL Disaster Assistance

Rick Roderick, K5UR
ARRL President



Dear ARRL Member:

There are few times when I have needed to reach out directly to you for your help. This is one of those times.

The American Red Cross (ARC) has asked ARRL for assistance with relief efforts in Puerto Rico. In the nearly 75-year relationship between ARRL and ARC, this is the first time ARC has made a request for assistance on this scale. Hurricane Maria has devastated the island's communications infrastructure. Without electricity and telephone, and with most of the cell sites out of service, millions of people are cut off from communicating. Shelters are unable to reach local emergency services and people cannot check on the welfare of their loved ones. The situation is dire.

How can you help?

1) Volunteer. ARC needs up to 50 radio amateurs who can help record, enter, and submit disaster-survivor information into the ARC Safe and Well system. There are very specific requirements and qualifications needed for this deployment; for instance, familiarity with Winlink, an Amateur Radio license of General class or higher, and previous experience in disaster response. Deployment will be for up to 3 weeks (at ARC expense). If you would like to be considered for deployment, please complete the following online ARRL form, which asks for your qualifications and skills: Volunteer Deployment Form

2) Donate to Ham Aid. ARRL's Ham Aid program loans Amateur Radio equipment kits to established Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) groups and partner agencies during disaster response, in order to establish Amateur Radio communications support. Ham Aid is supported by donations from individuals and corporations – including many of our ham radio industry partners. ARRL has previously staged Ham Aid equipment in Texas, and in the last few weeks, we have supplied kits in Florida, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Our supply of Ham Aid kits has been rapidly depleted. Your donation to Ham Aid will help us now. Your contributions to Ham Aid are 100% tax deductible. To make a donation online, go to www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form and select "Ham Aid" from the ARRL donation form. To donate by mail, print a donation form, and mail it with your check payable to ARRL, noting "Ham Aid" on the memo line of your check; mail to ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 USA.



It has been four weeks since Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas. In little over a month, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have left paths of destruction and catastrophic flooding that will impact the lives of people throughout the southeast U.S. and Caribbean for years to come. Throughout these disasters, our trained ham radio volunteers, and especially those in coordinating roles, have helped us meet the requests of our partner agencies and organizations. To all ham radio operators who have been on alert, activated, deployed, or donated, **THANK YOU**. We are grateful for your service and for your generosity.

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.

October 7th - December 2nd

Plus - November 1st at 7PM at the club site - End of the Technician Class
Walk ins always welcome for any new license or upgrade



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.

N8XTH Wins 1st Place in Ohio - 160 Meter Contest

Deron, N8XTH loves to get on 160 meters and his fun paid off during the 2017 CQ WW 160 Meter DX Contest SSB Contest.

Deron ending up with 34,974 points which snagged him **# 1 in Ohio** ! He was also #9 in the USA and #12 in North America. All this on LOW power (100 watts).

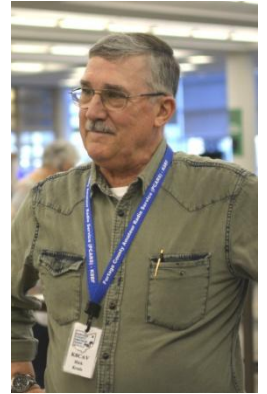
WAY TO GO DERON!

Now, we gotta get him to do a presentation at the club on 160 meters and share what the winning combination he is using on 160.



Portage County COMMS Unit in Action

Rick, K8CAV



On Saturday September 23rd, the Communications Unit of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management took place in a large scale LEPC functional



Rick, K8CAV holding a briefing

exercise on 750 acres of the former Standard LaFarge sand and gravel operation in Shalersville Township. The exercise revolved around a scenario starting with an EF3 tornado in the West Branch State Park causing damage, casualties, possible drowning and victims trapped in rough terrain. Additionally, a tanker spill not related to the weather incident occurred requiring a HazMat response.

To support this scenario, a number of teams were activated, each with its own incident command and area of responsibility. This included the HazMat Team, the USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) team, Water Rescue/Dive team, and Inland SAR K9 search team. Due to multiple incidents each with its own command, an Area Command was established to coordinate response efforts and provide support as needed by the response teams.

Members of the Communications Unit had two tasks. Those members who were also members of the Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) were assigned to the IMAT team leader. Remaining Communications Unit Members were assigned as radio operators at the Area Command Post, or assigned to each Incident Commander at various sites throughout the exercise.



Mike, KD8FLZ (left) attending a briefing

The exercise was challenging and required each communications unit member to use not only their skills at communicating by radio, but to employ the principles of the Incident Command System to insure the communications mission was accomplished.



Bob, N8KBX and Eddie, KD8SOP in the Command Post

Congratulations to Greg KA8TOA, Mike KD8FLZ, Bob KZ8RLD, Sandy KD8FLZ, Bob K8FEY, Bob N8KBX, Steve K8SRR, Eddie KD8SOP, Andrew AE8BWA, and Mike KB8TUY for a job very well done and for volunteering your time to the communications unit.

As you can see from the preceding paragraph, all of the members of this team are Amateur Radio operators. Ryan Shackelford, the Director of the EMA recognizes the importance of Amateur Radio operators and the skill set they bring and is strongly behind recruiting more Amateur Radio operators for service with the communications unit. If you are interested in becoming a member of the communications unit, please send an e-mail to k8cav.coms@gmail.com and I will send more information and an application.

PCARS Membership Renewals

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Secretary



It's that time of year that most of you start taking care of your PCARS membership dues for the coming year. I want to ask you: **Please!** Do not just toss cash at any of the officers with the comment "Here it is!" Now don't get me wrong, I love cash. But loose cash is hard to keep track of, especially when receiving a lot from many different people all at the same time.

If you intend to pay your dues, in person, at one of the upcoming meetings, please go to the website (www.portcars.org), download an application form and complete it to include with your dues payment (there is also a copy of this form at the end of the newsletter). It would help if you could either staple, paper clip, or better yet, put it in an envelope with your payment before handing it to us! This is necessary regardless of whether you pay your dues with either cash or a check. By the way, you can also pay your dues on the web site using PAYPAL.

We would especially like to ask you to complete your contact information on the application form: address, home phone number, cell phone number and email address. As many of you have replaced home phone numbers with cell phones, our contact information has become out dated. This is especially true with email addresses. Without correct, current information, you will not receive the monthly newsletter nor the QST email updates that are sent out frequently. If you want to "Opt Out" of receiving our emails just let me know and I will have you removed from the list, but then you will need to download the newsletter from the club site, and check the site regularly to keep up with the current events that are normally distributed via the QST mailings.

Most importantly, I hope that you will renew your membership in PCARS and make a point of being an active member of the club. It just wouldn't be the same without you!

Revised ARRL Frequency Chart Now Available

From the ARRL

An updated ARRL frequency chart is now available for printing and downloading. The chart has been updated to include our new bands at 2,200 and 630 meters.

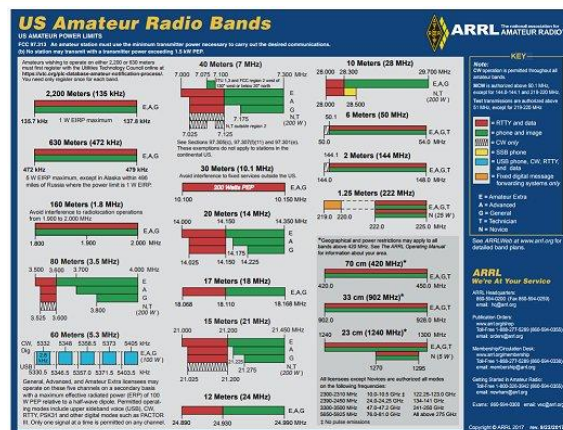
Download and print PDF documents using Adobe Reader.
The new chart is available in the following PDF formats:

8.5 X 11 grayscale - <https://tinyurl.com/ydfceokb>

8.5 X 11 black and white - <https://tinyurl.com/ybqwzdbx>

8.5 X 11 color - <https://tinyurl.com/yanrqyk4>

11 X 17 color - <https://tinyurl.com/y9rw2znw>

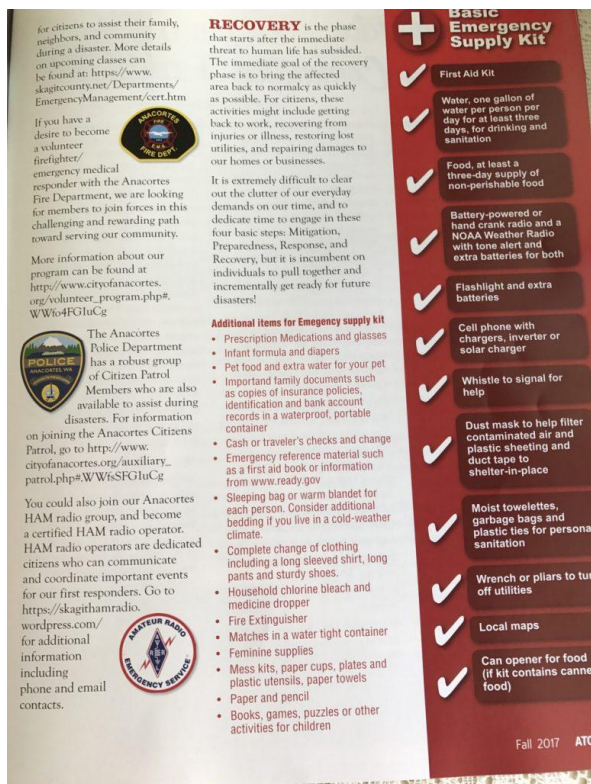


HAM? HAM Radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio?

Dan, KB6NU



On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:



As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

"The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a

best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

"Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

"Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs."

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

"To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns."

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

"You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this."

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

"I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?"

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

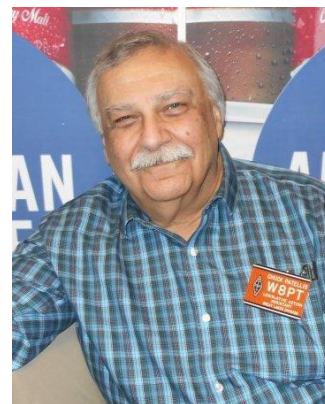
Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

DX/Contest SIG

Chuck, W8PT

On October 7th and 8th, K8BF will once again take part in the California QSO Party. It starts on that Saturday at 1600 UTC (12 Noon local time) and continues until 2200 UTC (6 PM local time) on Sunday.

We have participated in this contest for a number of years now, doing very well with good scores that have placed us very high in the out of state category.



California QSO Party



52nd Running Of The CQP!
1600 UTC October 7, 2017 to 2200 UTC October 8, 2017



We will have all the op positions going so there will be opportunity for anyone that wants to put their posterior in an op chair and help us to continue our excellent history in this

state QSO Party. The modes of operation are CW and phone only. They do not permit digital.

We will gather at 10 AM local time to once again review the rules and to make sure that all positions are up and running properly. So if you would like to try your hand at one of the more fun contests that we play in, come on out. You are more than welcome.

JOTA 2017 - Register Now

From the ARRL Letter

Scouting's Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet (JOTA/JOTI) event takes place over the October 20-22 weekend, and organizers are urging Scout stations planning to participate to register (<https://www.k2bsa.net/jota-station-registration/>) now. The world JOTA/JOTI team has activated its online sign-up system.

"Our number one message at this time is to register their station and get ready for JOTA," JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, told ARRL. "It's time for Scout groups to bring together their open action items -- ordering patches, printing handouts, gathering equipment, reminding staff members, verifying location, and getting the word out to the Scouts to be prepared for a fabulous experience talking with other Scouts across the country and hopefully around the world."

JOTA is the world's largest Scouting event, held annually over the third full weekend in October, and Scouts of any age can participate -- from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, male and female. During JOTA, Amateur Radio links Scouts with other Scouts and hams, locally and worldwide. Since the first JOTA in 1958, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event to exchange ideas and share experiences via ham radio. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in enduring friendships and connections.

According to the World Scout Bureau, the 2016 JOTA had nearly 1.3 million Scout participants from more than 30,000 locations, and reached 156 countries.

The World JOTA-JOTI team has published a Participant's Guide (<http://k2bsa.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=56ce1526bb2372707f5868e21&id=4c99b93d24&e=f04efd1977>) to help Scouts to get on the air and the internet for the largest Scouting event in the world. They've also published a brief history of the 60 years of Jamboree on the Air as well as the Top 10 Challenges and Activities in 2016 that might provide ideas for your event this year. An online scheduling tool (<http://n8fq.org/sked/index.php?board=jota>) is available too.

For participating via EchoLink, two conference nodes now have been designated for Scout contacts -- *JOTA-365* (node 480809) and *JAMBO* (node 832996). Visit the K2BSA Radio Scouting page (<https://www.k2bsa.net/scout-frequencies/>) for more information on frequencies, including D-STAR, DMR, and IRLP.



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Some of our fellow HAMS have really gone through the wringer in the recent weeks. Florida, Puerto Rico, and the rest of the Caribbean have seen a whole lot of devastation. My own family has a place on Cudjoe Key where Maria made landfall. It's right on the water and Jeanne and I had been planning to spend some time there and I would have had a rig with me. Of course, those plans are on hold but I'm glad to say that the home was not damaged even though other homes around it were severely damaged.

My father-in-law was very wise when he bought the home many years ago. It was not up on stilts as all the other homes on the key. It has a raised concrete and brick base and the house is also concrete as well as the roof. The house is perfectly round so that any storm surge would go around it. We have seen pictures of it since the hurricane and the only thing that seems to be missing is the old Buttonwood tree that my father-in-law used to sit under when he was cleaning the sponges he would collect from the nearby flats. My brother-in-law sent us pictures showing other homes in the neighborhood where the only thing left are the stilts or pillars that used to hold up the frame homes. Hopefully we will get down to the house in the near future and see what else needs repair.

I want to thank all the HAMS that have been diligently reporting from those damaged areas. They are a communications life line to the outside world even though they are not getting the thanks or the notice due them by the mainstream media.

I continue to thank 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 October 3-18th. Activity will be on EME using the 2m, 70cm and 23cm bands. Modes will be JT65 and CW. QSL via PA3CMC.

9N, NEPAL. Gerhard, OE3GEA, is now active as 9N7GE from Kathmandu. The length of his stay is not known. His activity has been on various HF bands (QRNs on 30/17m) using CW. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

E4, PALESTINE. Janusz, SP9FIH, active as E44WE from Bethlehem between October 18-29th. Activity will be on 30/15/12/10 meters using SSB, PSK63 and possibly RTTY. He will also be active in the CQWW DX

SSB Contest (October 28-29th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (15m)/Assisted/ Low-Power entry. QSL via his home call sign or ClubLog's OQRS. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.e4.dxpedititions.org>

EL2, LIBERIA Operators Jeremy/EI5GM, David/EI9FBB and Col/MM0NDX, in collaboration with two Liberian Radio Amateur Association operators Richmond/EL2BG and Dickson/EL2DT will be active as 5L3BI (pending) from Baiyah Island, Liberia, between November 1-4th (tentative). Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via M0OXO or OQRS. Their Web page is at: <https://af111new.com>

HC8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. An Argentinian group active as HC8LU from San Cristobal Island in the Galapagos Islands between Nov 29th and Dec 8th. Ops mentioned are Alejandro/LU8YD, Alejandro/LU9VEA, Mario/LU7VB and Patricio/LU3YK. Pilot stations are Sergio/LU7YS and Javier/ LU5FF. Activity will be on 160-10 musing mainly SSB & Digital modes (WSPR, JT65, FT8, PSK31). Also operations on the satellites (LEO, FM and SSB). QSL via IK2DUW. Visit their Blog page for updates, at: <https://hc8lu.blogspot.com.ar>

PY0F, FERNANDO DE NORONHA (Update). Leo, PP1CZ, active as PY0FW (not PY0F/PP1CZ as first announced) from Fernando de Noronha (SA-003, DIB OC-01, WLOTA 1208, WWFF PYFF-016) between Oct 22-27th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-10 meters with some tries on 6 meters (if he has propagation on this band) and using CW, RTTY and some SSB, possibly JT65 and FT8. QSL him direct or ClubLog's OQRS. NO Bureau or LoTW. Check out the pictures of his 2013/2014/2015 operations on QRZ.com.

S2, BANGLADESH (IOTA Op). Operators Derek/G3KHZ, Hans/SM6CVX, Axel/DL6KVA, Steve/G4EDG, Tuhin/S21ED and Anup/S21TV will activate two rare Bangladesh IOTA islands, St. Martins (AS-127) and Bhola (AS-140), starting around October 13th, and ending around October 27th. Activity will be on 40-15 meters using CW and SSB with vertical dipoles for each band. QSLs for AS-127 goes to SM6CVX, and for AS-140 to G3KHZ. QSL only via the Bureau or direct per information on QRZ.com. Additional information is on their Web site at: <http://s21iota.weebly.com>

SV5, DODECANESE. Oliver, DK7TX, will be active as SV5/DK7TX from four of the IOTA group EU-001 (Islands of Kos, Kalymnos, Nisyros and Telendos) between October 3-30th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-6 meters (mostly on 20/15/10m). QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or eQSL.

T6, AFGHANISTAN. Salvatore, IZ1BWB, is now active as T6/IZ1CCK from Herat, Afghanistan, until the month of December. He is there as a Brigade Alpine "Taurinense" in the Italian Army. Activity has been mainly on 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via IZ1BWB, direct or by the Bureau.

T32, EASTERN KIRIBATI. Ken, KH6QJ, will once again be active as T32AZ from Kiritimati Island (OC-024) between Oct 5-10th. Activity on 40/20/15 meters, but will focus on 40 meters using CW and SSB. He also plans to be in VK/ZL Oceania SSB Contest (October 7th). QSL via his home call, direct or by the Bureau.

YE2, INDONESIA. Members of the ORARI Semarang Contesting Team will be activating YE2C during the CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 25-26th) as a Multi-2 entry. Operators mentioned are Yana/YB1AR, Agus/YB1ALL, Martinus/ YB2LSR, Dani/YB2TJV, Agus/YB2TX, Imam/YB4IR, Anton/YB5QZ, Kei/YB0ARJ, Surata/YC1BJX, Han/YD1SDL/2 and Rivai/YE3AA. QSL via LoTW ONLY. For more info on the YE2C station, see: <http://ye2c.wordpress.com>

ZS60, SOUTH AFRICA (JOTA Op). Members of the Sandringham Scout Group (ZS6SSG) will be running a JOTA station as has been done over the last couple of years. This year, JOTA celebrates its 60th year of running. To commemorate this milestone, the SSG will be running a special event call- sign ZS60JOTA, over the weekend of October 20-22nd. Look out for this call sign and make a contact. Activity will be on 80/40/20 meters. QSL via ZS6RKE, direct or by the SARL Bureau.

That's it for this month. Get those rigs on the air and work some DX. As Red Green used to say, "*We're all in this together. I'm pullin for you.*" **Until next month, vry 73.**

CQ-WW-WPX # 1 in the 8th Call District

Neil, N8IL



I competed in the WPX SSB Low Power, Single Operator category again this year, and the final scores were finally announced. The conditions were pretty marginal, forcing me to spend the bulk of my time on 20M. I considered, but didn't fall into the temptation of submitting for a single band category. My station consists of a K3, and Inverted-L, and a three element Steppir at 1,130 feet ASL.

While there are rigs that sound a little better, the receiver performance of that radio in CROWDED band conditions still amazes me! I operated the contest for 24 hours in total, working the bands until I felt some fatigue, resting, and then jumping back in.

Band conditions, particularly on 20M, were more crowded than usual due to the fact that for the bulk of the contest, 10M and 15M were not open. 40M was somewhat open, but very crowded. 160M had a few stations on the air, and conditions on that band were far from stellar.



I was very surprised to see how well I placed. First in the eighth call area, second in the U.S., third in North America, and 17th in the world in a category with nearly 1,200 competitors. At the conclusion of the contest, I wasn't very enthusiastic when I submitted my logs, but now, I'm extremely glad that I did! Let the big guns duke it out, and dip your toe into the world of "low power" operations. I think you'll find it fun and rewarding!

Linux for Hams SIG

Terry, KB8AMZ



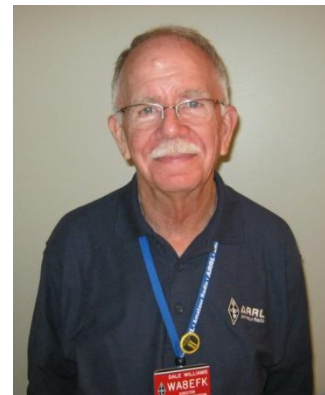
Linux for Hams SIG, Tuesday 31 OCT 2017 at 1900 hours EDT.

Our last SIG for this year! Through popular request I will be discussing logging application software, specifically, cqrllog. This will be our last special interest group for the year since none of the remaining months of 2017 have a 5th Tuesday. I will attempt to submit an article during our non-meeting months. Any of you may also submit an article to Parky concerning Linux applications used for ham radio. See you on the 31st of October.

Dale's Tales - The Great Lakes Division

Dale, WA8EFK

Director - ARRL Great Lakes Division



NEWS: Our ARRL Headquarters staff has been on top of activities to extend communications support to our fellow citizens in the hurricane-damaged areas of the Caribbean. You have read of the Red Cross asking for 50 ham radio volunteers to serve in Puerto Rico for three weeks, you have read of the multiple packages of Ham-Aid equipment prepared and shipped to assist in these devastated areas. Note especially Tom's Comments:

TOM'S COMMENTS: Comments from our Vice Director **Tom Delaney W8WTD**



When the first of many disasters hit a few weeks ago, I began thinking about disaster response and what I could say. Having spent many years on planning committees, I was reminded at the time of the saying that we are best prepared for the “last” disaster, meaning that we know what we did last time, and would be more than familiar with what it would take to stage the same response. The problem, of course, is that disasters don’t often repeat themselves, or they come with strange twists we haven’t seen before. From what I can tell, in the Texas and Florida disasters, a different kind of communication was taking place. Devastating as the hurricanes were, they didn’t affect communications infrastructure so much, and people were using “social media” in all sorts of new ways. So the hams had to adapt, and for many, the usual 2-meter FM communications as the only local communications was not the case. They responded, but didn’t seem to be as needed.

Up here in the Division, we’re not likely to see those kinds of disasters. While we need to be ready for anything, we need to learn from what else has gone on. Those of us who have been involved in disaster communications know what needs to be done, but it is all going to depend on what the needs are. And that’s going to change from situation to situation. We need our new technologies, because they’ll be helpful. Let’s remember that it’s not the internet that goes down, it’s local access to the internet. So if we have ways to work around that, we will still be able to communicate when others can’t.

But now there’s Puerto Rico. Back to nothing, and ham radio steps in. You have probably seen that over 50 hams from around the country volunteered through ARRL at the request of Red Cross to go in and basically set up some ham communications where there are none left. We wish them the best. Many of us would have liked to go, but for various personal reasons, could not volunteer. What’s there for us to do? Well, let’s keep the HF frequencies they need clear for them. And if you can spare a few bucks or more, donate to Ham Aid. You’ll find a link of the main ARRL web page.

On the one hand, disaster communications is simple. Provide help where needed. In practice, it is often a balance between need and available resources. What can we do to help? If it’s not just what we trained for, there may still be something else we’re good at that we can bring to help. There’s an SET coming up. Practice is essential. We may not be doing the same things in a real disaster, but if we’ve practiced, we know our gear works and we can figure out the needs of the moment.

What more can be said? Ham radio is doing what we do so very well. We can get on the air when other systems fail, because we know how to do it! Our Field Day and DX-peditioning experience pays off. Our ARES, NTS, QRP, DX and Work-it-through-the-doggone-QRM operating experience pays off. Our technical expertise and our hang-the-antenna in the wind, snow, rain or sleet, experience pays off.

This emergency is ongoing, and will remain so for months to come. People are hurting and they need our help. Please consider what you can do; in a big way or a small way, we need to step up to assisting. If you cannot help via ham radio, perhaps you can assist financially, or through a material donation. Speak with your community officials, Red Cross, Salvation Army or similar civic organization, but please lend a hand.

This is a proud moment for amateur radio, one not to be overlooked. These major disasters will cause many of us to renew our interests in emergency communications and renew our skills in that area. And, surely as I sit here, in three years, much of the current interest will have waned because we soon forget the details of what happened. You have seen it happen, I have seen it happen, we humans trend towards complacency. Yet we must change our thinking, we need to remember the lessons learned and prepare ourselves for the times we will be needed again. Let's all look ahead and practice with our ARES groups, train for disaster deployment, prepare for dealing with potential threats and stay at it. Look at our Simulated Emergency Test After-Action-Reviews (you do review, don't you?) and refine all of our methods and procedures. We need to reduce, actually, we need to eliminate our complacency and remember, each of could face a disaster as serious as those faced today by our friends in Puerto Rico, Dominica and the US Virgin Islands.

GREAT LAKES HAMCON: it just is a week away. Check out the details and schedules on the web page at WWW.GLHAMCON.ORG and plan to join us for this inaugural event. As a resident in the Great Lakes Division, this truly is your Convention and Hamfest. Last month's Dale's Tales highlighted all 16 of the forums and the other planned events. Join us on Oct 7 & 8 at the Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, MI!!

DXCC Entities in North America

Joe, W8KNO
ARRL Card Checker

Okay, here's a good one for you.

How many countries (DXCC Entities) are there in North America ?

AND - what are the names of those DXCC Entities ?????

Answer is on page 45

Have you worked them all yet?



PCARS Thursday Net Control

Greg, KA8TOA
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-in using the receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ 146.895 with a PL tone of 118.8.**

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

October	
5	KA8TOA
12	KB8UUZ
19	K8IV
26	KD8SKL

November	
2	KA8TOA
9	K8IV
16	KB8UHN
23	NO NET
30	KB8UUZ

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: KA8TOA@portcars.org

December	
7	AC8NT
14	NR8W
21	N8QE
28	KA8TOA

PCARS Wants to
hear from YOU



Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn - and have fun being Net Control !

The net control roster was posted on the PCARS web site a few weeks ago up to the end of the year. Please check it out and remember to e-mail me a copy of the log for the club records and certificates. If you have some issues and can't make it as net control see if you can trade with someone, I know Rick, K8CAV said he would be available if needed for fill ins

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KE8EFG	Paul
W8GWI	David
K8SWJ	Scott
KE8BWA	Andrew
WA8SAJ	Jeff
KC8RKD	James
N8ONI	Pat
KD8ZXD	Robert

KD8MLE	Jonathan
KD8MQ	John
K8JAA	Jane
K8DER	Donald
K8AAB	Bob
WA8AR	Tony
K8CAV	Rick



Spot The Station

Every once in a while, Tom, WB8LCD sends out a QST message showing a good time to “Spot The Station”. This refers to when the International Space Station (ISS) is going to make a pass that will be visible to you as it passes over our area here in Ohio.

The last message he sent out was:

Subject: SpotTheStation

Time: Tue Sep 26 8:36 PM, Visible: 4 min, Max

Height: 88°, Appears: 10° above SW, Disappears: 37° above NE

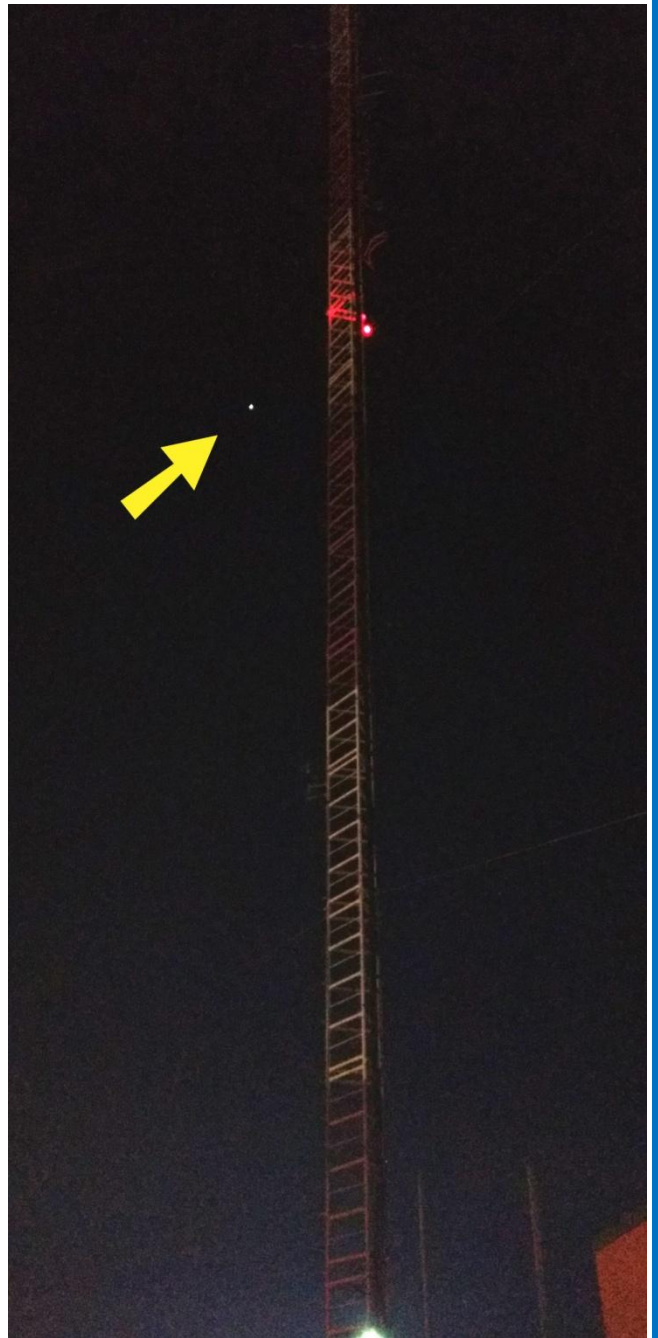
As luck would have it, the sky was clear that evening and Tom was at the club site. He stepped outside to view the ISS pass and snapped a few pictures.

It's a bit hard to see, but that shiny dot you see is the ISS as it made its way across Ohio about 250 miles overhead.

When it is early evening, that's the best time to see the



ISS. The sun reflects off of the spacecraft and really lights up the space station.

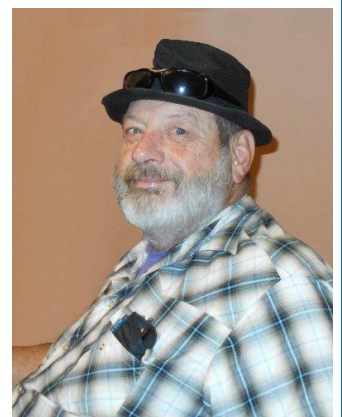


QRP & CW SIG

Terry, KB8AMZ

CW/QRP SIG, Tuesday 10 OCT 2017, 1900 hours EDT

I will be discussing an upcoming build of a QRP ATU. Our discussion will determine whether our build will be from a kit or a total homebrew. Our design will be for end fed and balanced wire antennas used while portable operating. I will have an Emtech ZM-2 ATU for display with several plans for a total homebrew build. I hope to see you at the special interest group meeting.



Terry, KB8AMZ

I received my first 2m gear, a Kenwood TH215 HT that I found for a great deal in the QST Classifieds "Ross' Deals" for \$215 early 1987. I still have that brick of a radio, in working condition, and I can program it without the use of cheat sheet (unlike newer radios built today).



I can't remember if Tony, N8KW) and Ed's, K8IV experimental repeater was in operation then or if it came a little later. It seems like it has been my primary repeater since I've been licensed. Over the years the repeater frequency has seen many experimental adaptations; HF linked using a Commodore 64 microprocessor, having regular scheduled QSO's with hams in Florida, Colorado, and the Bahamas, used as a backup repeater in its early days to being the primary repeater used by PCARS for its weekly Nets, and many special events activities throughout the County, an open phone autopatch (Ma Bell wasn't cheap).

Tony and Ed tried a repeater voting system (two to three inputs using different PL's) and I think their system was totally or mostly homebrew. Now this repeater is Ed's, K8IV. Neither Tony or Ed would accept donations for the use of their equipment, or help in maintaining the repeater. I am old school. If I used your club repeater frequency, I joined your club so at least my dues might help in the maintenance of your repeater. Tony and Ed's repeater was self owned and they provided most functions free to the Amateur community. I guess the repeater has basically been Ed's repeater for about 15 years.

Now to the main point of this article. I've recently installed a multi-band FM rig in my vehicle and for the past, more than 6 months, I **have heard little if any communications on the 146.895 MHz repeater** except on Thursday 2 meter Net night and the occasional Special Event that I participate in with the club.

Occasionally I put my call out and Tom, WB8LCD or Ed, K8IV comes back and we have a brief QSO. Nothing like the older days. There were times in the past where Ed would come on frequency and ask that we talk less on the repeater, especially on hot air temperature days, because the air temperature around the repeater transmitter finals were getting too warm. The repeater was very active from around 0530 to midnight with the peak times being when people were travelling to and from day shift work. There might be as many as 8 operators in a round robin talking on the repeater for a couple hours at a time. This was the best 2 meter repeater in Northeast Ohio for many years.

I think many 2 meter repeater owners used Tony and Ed's repeater model for their own. There are other good repeaters in Northeastern Ohio now, but the 146.895 MHz repeater will be my favorite as long as I am breathing.

I am thankful that Ed has kept this repeater operational and well maintained for many years. I wish more people utilized the repeater and more often.

Here is KB8AMZ listening on 146.895...



Antenna Work on the Hottest Week of Summer

Chuck, K8BBE

Everyone knows if an antenna goes up on the COLDEST day of the year, it will work GREAT. I tried that in reverse. At 94 Degrees, HOT and humid,

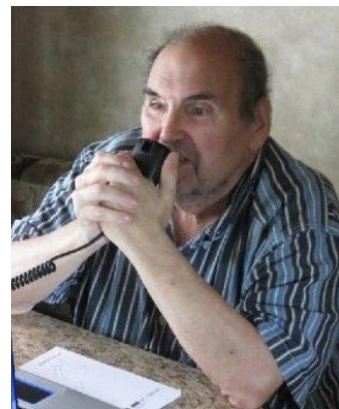
I finally got my new 160 meter Carolina Windom up and working fine. It took three days, first climbing my three story old house roof to install a balun then stretching and hanging 182 foot of copper wire North and 85 foot South.

I used one old tree around 120 foot away from the house to help on the long run. . With a good eye, shot my first rope over a branch about 50 feet up for my first hanger then a large pole at the end of the 182 foot run to complete the North side. The 82 foot South run worked perfectly to a tree about 90 feet away and clear of other branches. Coax run into the shack, now in air conditioning, to put the PL-259 on the piece of RG-8 coax and hooked it up to the transceiver.

Naturally, 40 meters was fading fast, but I got a 59 from Brazil and Washington State. On 160, I had Real DX from Akron Ohio, but was able to make a test between the Windom over the Inverted L to Portland Maine.

Both antennas are up about 50 feet, but the Windom got a 58 running 200 watts and the other a 56. The Windom is also quieter than the other antenna.

Think I will now wait till the bands open again.....



Contesting 101 and Some Encouragement

Tom, KB8UUZ

For those of you that have been contesting with any regularity - you can skip this. For those of you new to contesting, or just dabble a bit to make contacts - *Please* read on.

The **NUMBER ONE RULE** for any Contest - **READ THE RULES**
The Number Two Rule - **LISTEN-LISTEN-LISTEN**

There is nothing more frustrating for me, as a contester, when finding a station I need for a contact and have to wait for someone who did not read the rules or has no idea what is going on. Maybe that new station would be a new multiplier for me - *wow*. The band is fading fast and guess what - the station I want to contact is explaining what the contest is to another ham that he just made a contact with. That other person making the contact has no idea what contest is going on, what the contest exchange is, or anything else, he just wants to talk about the weather..... Meanwhile as I'm listening, waiting for that conversation to end so I can make that contact and get that multiplier then the signal fades away..... 5 minutes wasted for - *URGH* - a lost multiplier.....



If that ham would have **read the rules** or just **listened**, at least he would have had some idea of what was going on. Maybe that ham would have then got on the internet to find out what contest was in progress.

Rules change. Before jumping into a contest, read the latest rules. I don't really care what they did, or what the rules said last year or 5 years ago this is NOW, TODAY, **READ THE RULES**, *please*.

Again, nothing more frustrating than waiting for two hams talking about "they used have CW" or "I'm not sure when this contest started or when it ends" and I'm patiently waiting so I can jump in and make that contact.

Please - save the BS'ing for after the contest. There are others out there that want to make that contest contact with that station that you are tying up! Take a few minutes - read the most current rules for the contest. Then get on the air and have fun!

Some hams new to contesting say "*Well, I'll never get first place - why try?*" I tell people, you never know. Sure, I can't compete against 'Super Stations' or 'Big Guns' like the K3LR super contest station. But I will say as a 'Little Pistol', I've done pretty good in contests over the years. And, yes, I have taken First Place in Ohio, First Place in the Great Lakes Division and in other contests with only 100 watts, wire antennas and a ground mounted vertical.

There are two contests that I like to tell everyone about. Both were 10-10 contests a few years ago. In one of the contests, Ten meters was so dead - I thought my antenna was unplugged. But I kept calling CQ and kept listening around the band. The one station finally came in - it was Joe, W8KNO just about 4 miles from me. We made our contest exchange and moved on. Nothing else on the band. Dead. Zip. Nadda. So after the contest I did not send in my log. Joe did. Guess what, Joe took FIRST place in W8 land with that one contact! So - send on those logs.

The second 10 meter contest I remember well, the bands were really bad again, I only made 2 contacts. One was with Joe, W8KNO, the other with another ham somewhere west of Ohio. No more contacts, the band was just dead. Well this time I sent in my log. You guessed it - I took first place in W8 Land with only 2 contacts! Sometimes you just gotta stick it out - do the best you can - hope for good propagation - make contacts - and send in those logs.

Now, just to give you some hope. Ten meters is not always bad. In the 2014 ARRL DX Contest I ran on 10 meters SSB. My score was 136,710 points and that was good enough for First Place in the Ohio Section, first place in the W8 Call Area and First Place in the Great Lakes Division. All on 100 watts and a three element beam on the roof. So hang in there you can do it, too.

For those of us that enjoy the sport of contesting - we encourage everyone to be on the air - the more contacts, the happier everyone is. Contesting is a great way to see how good your gear is doing and you can get out to faraway places. Maybe you're working to get more Grids, Zones, DXCC countries, US States, Counties, or whatever. Contests are a great way to get some of those contacts in the log. **Try it - you'll like it.** But be aware, once you try it and make some real DX contacts - it can get addictive!!!



What "Band" Is It Anyway?

Rick, WA8TSI



Many hams equate frequencies and bands with colloquial usage. Therefore VHF is 2 meters, specifically 144 to 148 MHz, and HF is 160 through 6 meters, just like on our HF radios.

Oops. VHF refers to Very High Frequency, and is a chunk of radio spectrum from 30 to 300 MHz - all inclusive. That places 6 meters, 2 meters and the 220 MHz band all in VHF. Therefore, 6 meters is NOT an HF band.

OK, then 160 through 10! -Nope-. Technically, the bands within 300 kHz to 3 MHz are Medium Frequency, or MF bands. Since 1.8 to 2 MHz falls squarely within this range, 160 meters is an MF band - NOT HF.

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) radio bands are designations defined in the ITU Radio Regulations. Article 2, provision No. 2.1, states that *"the radio spectrum shall be subdivided into nine frequency bands, which shall be designated by progressive whole numbers in accordance with the following table."*

VLF: Very Low Frequency; 3 to 30 kHz, 10 to 100 km wavelength

LF: Low Frequency; 30 to 300 kHz, 1 to 10 km wavelength

MF: Medium Frequency; 300 to 3000 kHz, 100 to 1000 m wavelength

HF: High Frequency; 3 to 30 MHz, 10 to 100 m wavelength

VHF: Very High Frequency; 30 to 300 MHz, 1 to 10 m wavelength

UHF: Ultra High Frequency; 300 to 3000 MHz, 10 to 100 cm wavelength

SHF: Super High Frequency; 3 to 30 GHz, 1 to 10 cm wavelength

EHF: Extremely High Frequency; 30 to 300 GHz, 1 to 10 mm wavelength

THF: Tremendously High Frequency; 300 to 3000 GHz, 0.1 to 1 mm wavelength



There are the radio bands in a nutshell. So, where does 70cm fit in? UHF, of course! It's there, along with 33cm, 23cm and 2.4 GHz (12.5cm).

Simple, isn't it? So, memorize it for a test next Monday.

Digital SIG

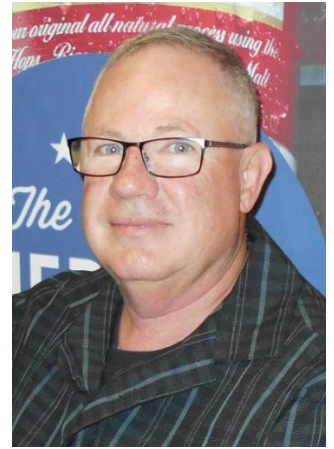
Rick, K8CAV



The Digital Special Interest Group will meet on Tuesday October 3rd at 7:00 PM at the club site in Ravenna. This month we'll be presenting some alternatives to commercial interfaces for bridging your computer to your radio. As always, we'll be available to help with any issues or questions you may have concerning digital communications.

Election of PCARS Officers

Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS Secretary
Past PCARS President
Past PCARS Vice President



Next month on November 13th the PCARS annual election of officers will be held. I have a personal bias as to the type of officers I think PCARS should have and I want to share that with you because PCARS is a FANTASTIC Amateur Radio Club, and I'm hoping it continues into the future that way. But, without a committed group of club officers I'm afraid that PCARS could start down a path that many organizations have experienced. Let me sum it up in the beginning for you with a couple of quotes:

YODA - "Do, or do not. There is no try"

Winston Churchill - "It's not always good enough to do your best, sometimes its necessary to do what is required"

Thomas Edison - "The reason most people do not recognize an opportunity when they meet it is because it usually goes around wearing overalls and looking like Hard Work"

Anyone can be the officer of a mediocre club. It's going to take someone special to be the leader of a FANTASTIC club. Fortunately PCARS has a lot of members who have lots of special talents and abilities. We need you to step up and take a turn at doing something for your club!

The office of President is the most important because the president oversees the entire workings of the club and makes sure that all aspects of the club and it's programs are given the attention they need. The President sets the tone of the club and along with the vice-president sets the program of the club for the year, communicating that program to the membership.

The office of the Vice-President is probably the one that involves the most "hands on" work that is obvious to everyone – that of obtaining the meeting speakers and planning the activities of the club throughout the year.

The Treasurer has the responsibility of accounting for all of the incomes and expenses of the club and keeping the books of the club in good order and continually up to date.

The Trustees are responsible for the physical assets of the club. This has changed drastically since the club was first created due to the fact that we now have a usable club site with extensive furnishings. We want to keep it up as a place that all club members can be proud of and want to come to for on air activities and other events that the club sponsors.
***Disclaimer: the above descriptions are not a complete listing of all responsibilities and duties, just a general overview.

I would personally say that any of the above positions will require Vision, People Skills, Time and a "get it done" Attitude. I would also say that I hope there are enough of you out there that truly see the value of a club like PCARS and will give your time and talents to it's continued success! We can't do it without you.

So, if you have any further questions on the elected positions in PCARS – send me an email or give me a call (wb8lcd@portcars.org or 330-554-4650).

Having a FANTASTIC club like PCARS is labor intensive. Even if you don't get elected, there are plenty of positions that need to be filled and things to be done. We (the club in total) appreciate everyone who has a part in making PCARS and it's programs a success! Please, take a part. At the very least, participate in the nets, come to the club meetings, come to the activities that the club has. It's always a better experience when more members participate. You can always learn something and you can always show your appreciation for the people who are volunteering to serve YOU!



The 10th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest is now part of history. The weather this year cooperated and no one got rained out or had to stop for thunderstorms like they did in 2016. Feedback has been good and it appears that everyone had a lot of fun.

There were over 80 logs submitted this year and the submitted scores are impressive. 58 Ohio State parks were activated and there were 33 clubs represented. Logs came in from 10 States and 2 Canadian provinces.

The OSPOTA contest committee will be going over the logs in early November and the full results will be published in the December issue of this newsletter.

Meanwhile, following this are some pictures and comments that I have received so far from this year's OSPOTA participants.

Team K8IV from Punderson - PUN

September 9, I volunteered for the Potato Stomp race in Mantua with the Comm.'s Unit and drove (relatively close to the speed limit) to Punderson State Park to participate in OSPOTA immediately afterward.

I had the pleasure of being part of Team K8IV. (See picture: Captain Ed Polack, Ray Larrick, Tom Sly, and Amy Leggiero.) We set up



three stations at Punderson State Park. 80M, 40M & 20M. The day was a little chilly. (Even the squirrels were wearing sweaters...)

We kicked off the contest right on time at 14:00 UTC and I was fortunate enough to work the 80m station on Ed Polack's awesome K3 radio. The contacts started out warm and just got hotter! I hit a majority of my contacts in other Ohio State parks right from the start. (The best part was talking to all the other PCARS members!) I know I can speak for the rest of Team K8IV in saying we all had a great time, and worked hard to compete for as many contacts as possible. We stayed on the air until the final second of the contest. Some of these guys have been contesting for years, but I am still a rookie. I can share that I felt a real sense of satisfaction that day. This was the first contest I ever worked from start to finish! I hope we have even more PCARS members activate parks next year!

73 - Amy, KD8SKL



My Weekend with OSPOTA 2017 - JEF

I tried posting one picture to the OSPOTA Facebook page, and it literally took over an hour to upload. So that gives you an idea of the cell coverage at JEF (Otherwise known as Jefferson Lake State Park).

I arrived on Friday afternoon, and hung the G5RV. Unfortunately, I hung it with one leg crossing a neighboring unused campsite. About 9 PM, I got a knock on my door. My new "neighbors" wanted that campsite, and requested that I remove the antenna wire.

With not much of anything else to do at the time, I re-hung the antenna, in the dark, being careful to stay on my side of the line. I got it tuned and operational around 0300Z. Not being satisfied yet, I was up at dawn, and shot a line about 20' higher in the same tree. It worked great for the contest.

I got on the air about 1330Z, got a frequency, and began handing out "Parks On The Air" contacts until 1400Z when I changed my CQ to "CQ OSPOTA".

I kept track of all my SSB logging using a "modified" version of N3FJP'S Ohio QSO Party software. I did have to switch logging programs to log the CW side of things. As you might guess, sorting out my logs afterwards was somewhat involved, but it was worth it.

I had barely enough cell coverage for texting, and for watching the spotting network. I had a ball working 40 & 80. Unfortunately, since self-spotting is not allowed, I never was able to get anything going on 20 Meters. My apologies for those who were too far away for 40 Meters.



Coming home on Sunday morning, I took a "shortcut" recommended by another camper, and got hopelessly lost in Jefferson County. It doesn't fill me with confidence when the GPS recommends a turn onto a dirt road that looks like it hasn't been maintained for years.

But, I made it home, and the final count for me was 109 QSOs with 39 State Parks. I'm already looking forward to OSPOTA 2018, when I may try something a bit closer to home.

John, KD8MQ



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Pictures from OSPOTA 2017



K8FH - Findley State Park- FIN



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



*KD8LBS
Buckeye Lake
State Park
BKL*



K8QE

Adams Lake State Park - ADA



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



K8TKA



***Lake Milton
State Park - LML***



W8KIW - Paint Creek State Park - PTC



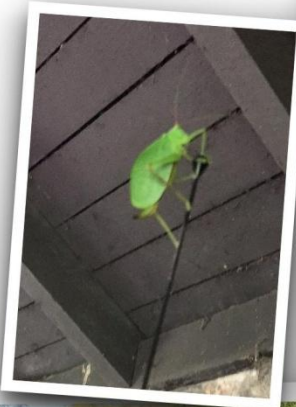
Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



W8DGN John Bryan State Park JOB



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



*WC8VOA
Caesar
Creek
State
Park
CAE*



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9th



Ohio State Parks On The Air



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.



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



Contest Calendar

OCTOBER 2017		
Contest Name	Click for more info	Times - Date
California QSO Party	Click Here	1600Z, Oct 7 to 2159Z, Oct 8
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	Click Here	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
Pennsylvania QSO Party	Click Here	1600Z, Oct 14 to 2200Z, Oct 15
Arizona QSO Party	Click Here	1600Z, Oct 14 to 2359Z, Oct 15
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	Click Here	0001Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 22
New York QSO Party	Click Here	1400Z, Oct 21 to 0200Z, Oct 22
Illinois QSO Party	Click Here	1700Z, Oct 22 to 0100Z, Oct 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Click Here	0000Z, Oct 28 to 2400Z, Oct 29

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

Two contests that are fun - The California QSO Party - See more in the newsletter about this one.

And, the PA QSO Party - Lots of action in this one as well - Keep your ears open for KD8MQ - he will be somewhere in PA for this one!



**THE
PENNSYLVANIA
QSO PARTY**

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

10/15/2017 - Conneaut ARC Hamfest - Location: Conneaut American Legion Post 151 - 272 Broad Street - Conneaut, OH 44030 - Website: http://www.facebook.com/pg/W8BHZ/events/?ref=page_internal - Contact: Mike Anderson, W3MJA - 1844 Dee Jay Avenue Erie, PA 16510 - Phone: 814-899-1068 - Email: w3mja@yahoo.com

10/29/2017 - Massillon ARC Hamfest - Location: Massillon Boy's & Girl's Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.w8np.org> - Talk-In: 147.18 (PL 110.9) - Public Contact: Terry Russ, N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 - Email: truss@sssnet.com

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Little Tarheel II, LT 32" whip, SDL Programmable Controller, HD 5 3/8 Trunk/ Hatchback mount. Wires for Antenna. \$355.00. **Ten Tec 1320**, 20 meter QRP kit. Kit is unassembled, complete. \$90.00 **Vibroplex Racer** on a wooden base, serial number 101215 . \$90.00

Contact Dave, WV8P at wv8p@roadrunner.com [01/2/18]

FOR SALE: Ten Tec Centurian Modle 422 Linear Amplifier wired for 220 VAC. 160-10 meters Clean full power output, Pair of 3-500Z amp is clean NON smokers house have factory box just don't need it any more downsizing new tube and all gone over by Tech that does work for DX Eng. Price \$1300.00.

Contact Richard, KA8OAT at 330-506-7068 [01/02/18]

FOR SALE: 30' Aluminum Free standing Tilt-Over Tower with Base Section. Ready to put up. Full specs can be found at http://www.universaltowers.com/pdf/standard_models/01-model-04-30.pdf \$300.00

Contact John, KD8MQ at 330-936-5021, or kd8mq@portcars.org [01/02/18]

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-991 (not the "A" model) 160m through 70 cm, with MARS modification. Includes mic, power cable with Anderson power pole connector, manual, and original box. \$900.00 I can meet at the club site to demonstrated if desired.

Contact Rick, K8CAV at K8CAV@portcars.org [12/2/17]

FOR SALE: AEA model QT-1, Antenna tuner \$15 - Andrew F4PNMV2-HC N Male connector \$5 ea - Bencher ST-1CW Paddle \$50 - Coax Switches (3) \$5 ea - Code Key J-37 key on a J-44 Base \$10 - Code Keys Straight (3) \$5 ea - Code Keys, MFJ and Misc. Equipment for sale - Cushcraft Model XM 520 20 meter 5 element beam \$50 - Dentron Jr. Monitor \$20 = Heathkit 75 Meter Single Bander \$40 - Heathkit AM-2 SWR/ Power Meter \$10 - Heathkit and Ten-Tec Equipment for sale - Heathkit DX-60 10 thru 80 Meters HF \$40 - Heathkit GR-88 152-174Mhz Receiver \$10 - Heathkit HFT-9A Antenna Tuner \$20 - Heathkit HG-10 VFO \$15 - Heathkit HM-11 SWR/ Power Meter \$10 - Heathkit HM-9 QRP Wattmeter \$15 - eathkit IM-10 VTVM \$10 - Heathkit SB-600 Speaker \$10 - Heathkit VTVM Model IM-11 (A) \$10 - HYGAIN 6 element 6 meter beam \$50 - Icom IC-AG1 430Mhz Preamp \$10 - KENT Single Paddle \$15 - Kenwood TH-22AT 2 Mtr HH \$15 - MFJ MFJ- 812 VHF SWR/ Power Meter \$5 - MFJ MFJ-204B Antenna Bridge \$20 - MFJ MFJ-464 CW Reader/ Keyer \$40 - MFJ MFJ-484 Grandmaster Memory Keyer \$20 - MFJ MFJ-492 Memory Keyer \$20 - MFJ MFJ-9040 40 Mtr CW transceiver \$30 - MFJ MFJ-906 6 Mtr Antenna Tuner \$40 - MFJ MFJ-945 Antenna Tuner \$20 - Nye Viking, MBI-001 Tuner, \$50 - Pyrmid Power Supply model PS-25 \$30 - Swan SWR-1A SWR/ Pwr Meter \$5 - Ten-Tec Antenna Tuner Model 247 \$25 - Ten-Tec Argosy II Model 525-D \$100 - Ten-Tec Kit 6 Mtr Transverter \$20 - Ten-Tec Kit Shortwave Receiver Model 1253 \$40 - Ten-Tec Power Supply 252G \$25

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

Contact: Al, AB8AA at 330-207-3296 or ab8aa@arrl.net [10/2/17]

FOR SALE: Ameritron AL-1200 rated at 1900 PEP. Back up amp, not used much. Will deliver within 40 miles (+/-) Will sell for \$1900, or if shipped \$2100. PayPal, US Money Order or Cash. Lower 48 only.

Contact: Jack, N8BI at 440-478-8475 or N8BI@portcars.org [10/2/17]



FOR SALE: Alpha 99 amplifier in excellent condition. New finals installed and bias adjusted by DXE's "amp man". Full power plus -- 45 watts in got 1500 watts out in test. Cooling fan for the transformer has been installed. Non-smoking environment, one-owner and not used seriously in a contest. \$2000 firm. The pulled finals are available in a separate deal (2) GU74B for \$250. They got 1500 watts out with 70 watts drive.

Contact: Dave, N8NB at n8nb@aol.com [10/2/17]



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/>

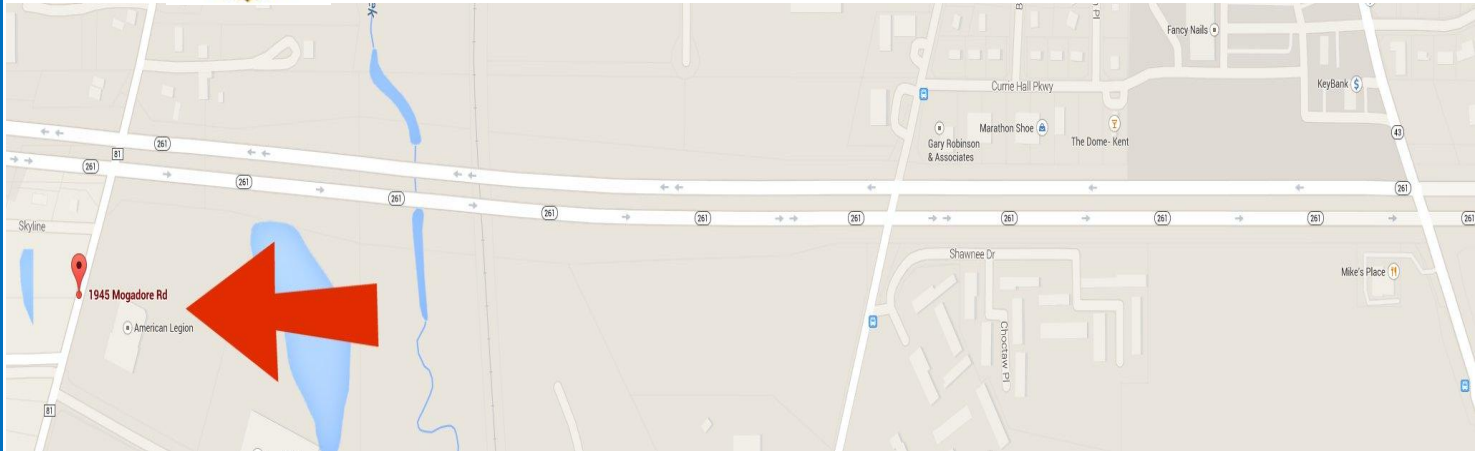


PCARS Meetings

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.



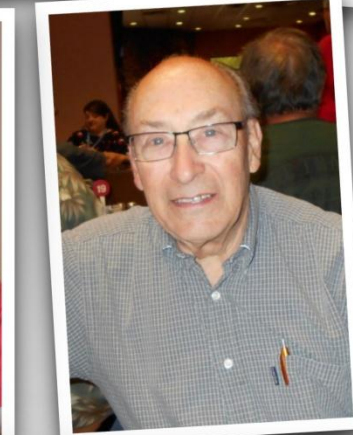
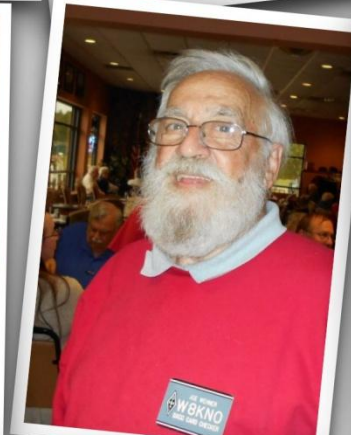
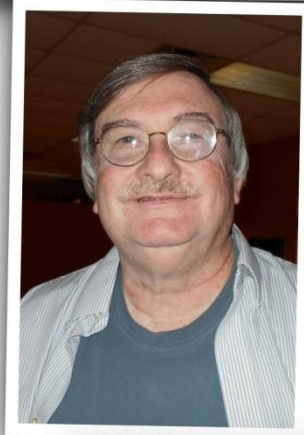
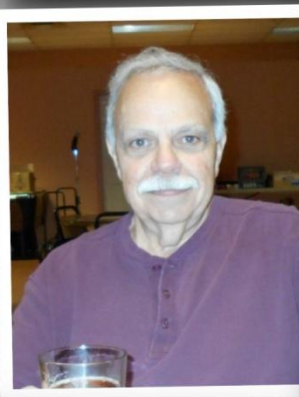
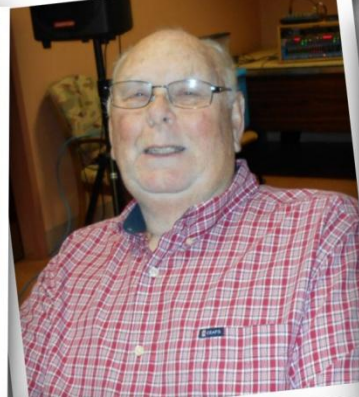
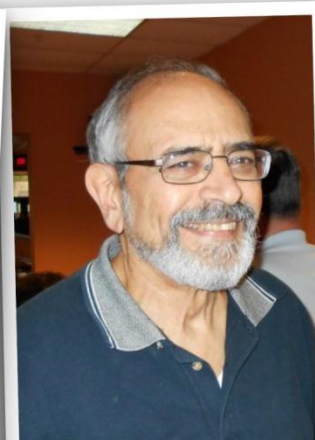
*The picture on the left shows
The American Legion Post 496
as viewed from Mogadore Road.
(looking East)*



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.

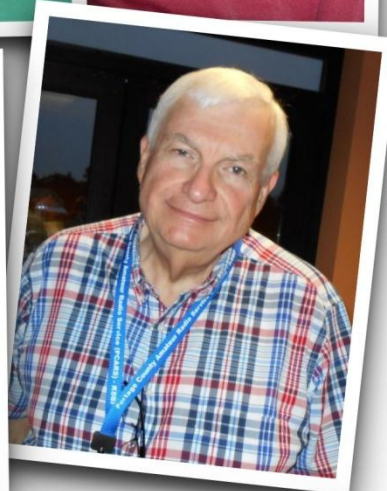
Photos from the PCARS Meeting in September





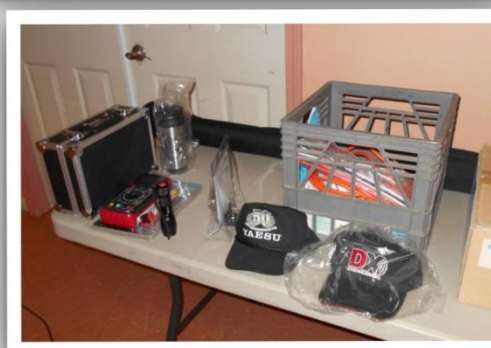
PCARS

11 Sept 2017



PCARS

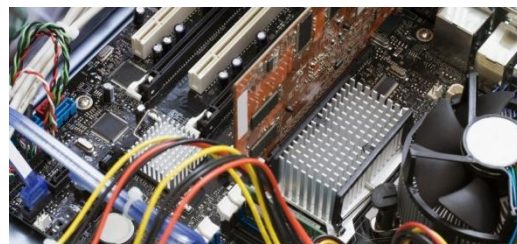
11 Sept 2017



Important Dates This Month

Tue 3rd Oct, 2017 will be... Techies Day

Have you been having an issue with your computer lately? Some strange sound coming from within the case? Is your laptop freezing? Have an important web presentation later but you can't seem to get your webcam working? Is your network running incredibly slow and you can't quite figure out why? Trying to print a document and your laptop just won't talk to the printer? If so, you probably need a techie. Techies are those wonderful people who know their way around the technology that is inseparable from our daily lives, and Techies Day celebrates them and everything they do to keep things moving every day.



History of Techies Day

Techies Day was originally developed for the purpose of helping high school students become educated about careers in technology. It was first established in 1998 by techies.com with the support of CNET Networks. The world ahead will see ever greater integrations of technology into our day to day lives, and with those innovations will come the need for the truly technologically savvy, those who know their way around this technology driven world and can help those who are perhaps less knowledgeable find their way.

So what, exactly, is a techie? A techie is an individual who is deeply interested in technology and seeing it move forward. When a new tech toy comes out, you can guarantee that it was a techie who designed it, and other techies who will be the first to own it. The bane and balm of a techie is obsolescence, the unavoidable process by which current technology becomes obsolete as new tech gets developed and integrated into our lives. In modern days, Information Technology experts are specifically referred to as Techies, and unsurprisingly so as they're the ones who keep our offices moving forward.

How to celebrate Techies Day

Celebrating Techies Day starts by honoring and celebrating those people who keep the world moving forward for us. Be sure to send a thank you card or email to the people who keep your printers running, your network flowing, oh yes, and the email you just sent able to get to its destination. If you are a techie, then Techies Day can best be celebrated by getting yourself a new wonderful gadget, we won't insult you by thinking you don't have something in your collection that you've been meaning to update. Techies Day is the day to do it! What better way to celebrate an auspicious day dedicated to techies than by making sure you're still on the bleeding edge?

=====

Wed 4th Oct, 2017 will be... Taco Day

Tacos are the Mexican equivalent of a sandwich. Instead of bread, a hard or soft tortilla is wrapped or folded around a spicy filling.

It is not known exactly when taco day originated, but tacos themselves have been around for a long time. They were first referenced by that name at the end of the 19th century, but the conquistador Cortez mentioned a meal prepared with tortillas as far back as 1520! Those would have been the soft wheat or corn tortillas. Hard taco shells are a much more recent innovation.



Taco day is usually celebrated with taco parties for friends. There are many possible combinations. Start with a base filling of beef, chicken, fish, seafood, beans, or vegetables, and then mix and match your toppings. Try your favourite combination of sour cream, guacamole, lettuce, chopped tomato, onion, salsa, and cheese for a tasty treat that's great for sharing.

=====

Mon 9th Oct, 2017 will be... Beer and Pizza Day

There's little that makes a day as glorious as finishing it off with that perfect combination of beer and pizza. The foamy head on top of a glass of amber colored joy seems to be tailor made to go with the rich and cheesy texture of that favorite of treats, pizza. It's little wonder that these two go together so well, the salty savory buttery crust of the pizza is reminiscent of that other favorite bar treat, the pretzel. Beer and Pizza Day reminds us to take a moment to indulge in this delightful combo, and remember the good things in life.



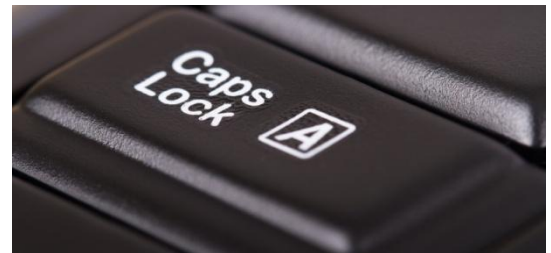
How to celebrate Beer and Pizza Day

Well folks, if we have to encourage you to head down to your favorite pizza parlor and get a slice and a frothy glass of beer, we're not sure you're the kind of person we want to know! Pizza is amazing and comes in a huge variety of flavors, and some places even have specialty beers they use to pair with pizza. Believe it or not, there's even a bottled version of this holiday, it's called Pizza Beer and it almost has to be as amazing as the label suggests! Share Beer and Pizza Day by tagging your social media posts with #beerandpizza or #pizzaandbeer, and head on over to beerandpizzaday.com to find local celebrations!

=====

Sun 22nd Oct, 2017 will be... Caps Lock Day

We've all seen it, that one moron who doesn't seem to know how to turn off the Caps Lock button, or worse, people who deliberately do it somehow feeling it gets their point across better. In one particular case, there was even a person who felt that Caps Lock made their RESUME look more professional. What in the world are we to do with people like this? How about we just campaign to remove the Caps Lock Button?



History of Caps Lock Day

Caps Lock Day first came to pass in the year 2000, when Derek Arnold of Iowa decided that he, like so many other internet users, had simply had enough of people using all caps to emphasize themselves on the web. So he created Caps Lock Day in the interest of poking fun at people who use this abomination of a typing style, and to finally bring some sanity to the net.

There are some protocols that make it appropriate to post in all Caps, such as when posting as part of a weather monitoring network. In this rare and perhaps singular case, all caps are how you indicate that something is in fact of importance, and with its collection of acronyms and shorthand makes sure its clear.

How to Celebrate Caps Lock Day

The best way to Celebrate Caps Lock Day is quite simple, don't use caps lock! Even better, remind your friends on social media, MMO's, and every other medium you can imagine about the horrid habit that is using Caps Lock in communications.

You can also start an ironic campaign of using CAPS LOCK all day to make a more blatant statement about how this makes other people look. Send your memes, poke your friends, let them all know that it's time to embrace proper grammar and stop looking like a complete half-wit.



DXCC Entities in North America

Here are the answers to the questions on page 21 about North American DXCC entities:

There are **39** DX CC Entities in North America. Here is the list. How many do you have confirmed?

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
Aruba
Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Bermuda
British Virgin Islands
Canada
Cayman Islands
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominica Republic

Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Greenland
Grenada
Guadeloupe
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Martinique
Mexico
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles

Nicaragua
Panama
Puerto Rico
Saint Barthelemy
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Martin
Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
Turks and Caicos Islands
US Virgin Islands
United States

If you need your QSL cards checked for ARRL Awards - feel free to contact me
Joe, W8KNO at W8KNO@portcars.org

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, KB8UUZ, N8SY, W8KNO, K5UR, N8RLG, WB8LCD, KB6NU, W8PT, N8IL, KB8AMZ, WA8EFK, W8WTD, KA8TOA, K8BBE, WA8TSI, KD8SKL, KD8MQ, K8FH, KD8LBS, K8GE, K8TKA, W8KIW, W8DGN, WC8VOA, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.

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





Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application [] New [] Renewal

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____

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

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

Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Jan 31st. **If you don't pay by 1/31 - you are no longer a member.**

Dues are as follows: Example - Renewals are \$20 for Regular/Associate members, \$16 Senior \$10 Family per year.

Check One

Pro-Rated Dues Amount for NEW members:

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

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

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

What are **YOUR** Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.
c/o: Tom Sly, WB8LCD
1480 Lake Martin Dr.
Kent, OH 44240

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

Rev. 26 Jan 2017



Michigan International Speedway

Brooklyn, Michigan

Breaking News: ARRL President, Rick Roderick,

K5UR to attend Great Lakes HamCon!

Indoor Commercial Vendors
Huge Paved Flea Market
Free Parking in Infield
Unique Location
KB6NU's One-Day Tech Class
Food Concessions
Mobility Scooters Available

Forums
Workshops
Camping
Door Prizes
VE Testing
Fox Hunt
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 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 - Erica Pelz - AE8YL 1 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD	ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman, 2018	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
	K8BF QSL Manager	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
	Membership Chairman	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Net Control Manager	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
~ Meetings & Net ~	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
2 nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	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**

N8RLG	Robert Gurney
KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
K8IV	Ed Polack
W8RID	Robert Davet
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
NR8W	Russ Williams
KD8RJV	Jim Corbett
W8EZE	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 Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The RADIOGRAM is the official **Award Winning** newsletter (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. First Place Winner in the Ohio Section for 2017) 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 copyright - 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 always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. 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 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: kb8uuz@portcars.org



NLC

