



# The **RADIOGRAM**

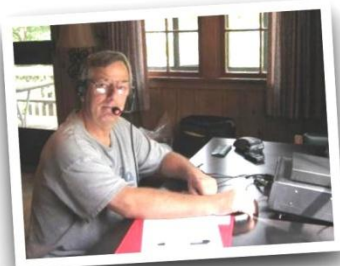
When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

September 2017 - Volume 12 Number 9

158,864.54  $\text{d}$

## Ohio State Parks On The Air Go For It !!!!!!! Sept 9<sup>th</sup>



## Newsletter Wins First Place in Ohio



**PCARS K8BF**

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



# In This Issue of *The RADIOGRAM*

Volume 12 *September 2017* Number 9



Feature Articles	
Jim Aylward, KC8PD - SK	3
From the PCARS President	5
From the PCARS Vice President	6
Newsletter Wins Ohio Section Award - 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	8
From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager	9
Eclipse Feedback	11
Eclipse Expedition	12
FT8 Mode is the Latest Bright Shiny Object	14
N3FJP's AC LOG - Version 6 Available	15
POTA and the WFFF	17
Antennas - Antennas - Antennas	18
Mobile Cruise-In 2017	19
Tech Tip - Follow Up from August	20
Hamfest Report - WARA Tailgate	21
Status Quo isn't Going to Cut It	22
Shack Shot - KD8MQ	23
Ohio QSO Party 2017	24
More on the Ohio QSO Party	24
Pictures from the OQP and BQSO Party	25
A Little More about the Ohio QSO Party	26
S.1534 - You Help is Needed - Now	28
Youth DX Adventure Wraps Up for 2017	31
Farewell to the old Net Control Coordinator	36
OSPOTA 2017 & POTA & a Special Event	37
Count Down to Ohio State Parks On The Air 2017	38
Mark Your Calendars	
VE Test Sessions	13
Schedule of Events	16
Net Info & NCS Schedule	35
Mantua Potato Stomp - Communications Help	37
Contest Calendar	41
Great Lakes Division at HamCon 2017	42
Hamfest Calendar	42
Meetings, PCARS	45
Important Dates this Month	49
Regular Departments	
Paper Chase	10
Happy Birthday	21
Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites	29
DX/Contest SIG	33
Linux SIG	34
QRP & CW SIG	34
Digital SIG	34
PCARS on YouTube	41
PCARS Patches & Stickers	41
Swap-N-Shop	43
Member Ham License Plates Wanted	44
PCARS Yahoo Group	44
Pictures from the Last PCARS Meeting	46
Finals	
Thanks & 73	52
Tech Class Flier	53
HamCon 2017 Flier	54





## *Jim Aylward, KC8PD - SK*

Jim Aylward, KC8PD passed away on August 17, 2017.

Jim was a Founding Member of PCARS and a true friend to many. Jim was first licensed in 2001 as KC8QPD and after upgrading to Amateur Extra in 2002 changed his call to KC8PD. His personal Air Force MARS call sign was AAF5PD.



Jim said it was his privilege to be one of the founding members of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) and a Past President, Vice President and Trustee of the club. A Life Member of the ARRL, Jim was involved in emergency communications, was named as the ARRL Great Lakes Division Amateur Radio Operator of the Year in 2009. He was a Field Examiner and Field Instructor for the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications course and had provided an Intro to EmComm class to hams in NE Ohio.



Jim's personal interests in ham radio was mobile and portable operations and he enjoyed using, and learning more about, the various digital modes. EmComm is important to him and he was able to serve as an ARES® volunteer in Ocean Springs, MS, post-Katrina.

He served as the Radio Officer and Communications Unit Leader of the Portage County EMA Communications Unit/RACES. Until the end of December, 2014, he was the DEC for District Five of the Ohio Section and also previously served as the ARES® Emergency Coordinator for Portage County until he was appointed as DEC and served as the Emergency Operations Officer for Ohio Army MARS for three years. He was member and driving force of the Portage County Incident Management Assistance Team and its training officer and as a volunteer serving as the Deputy Director of the Portage County EMA. Jim was 100% committed to amateur radio service to the community through emergency communications for Portage County and beyond.



Jim played an important role in the start up of PCARS and was instrumental in securing the facility we now use as our club site in Ravenna. Always ready to help, Jim was there.

## *Jim Aylward, KC8PD - SK*

Jim is going to be missed in the Portage County community, in PCARS, by his family and friends, and by me. This picture is how I will remember Jim – a big smile that always greeted me when I saw him.

Jim has left his mark on every aspect of PCARS, being there from the very beginning. I didn't always agree with Jim, and Jim didn't always agree with me, but that never interfered with our friendship. Jim was committed to the success of PCARS and could always be counted on to do whatever was necessary. It was truly a tragic ending to a life well spent. That life and all its contributions is what I will remember about Jim.



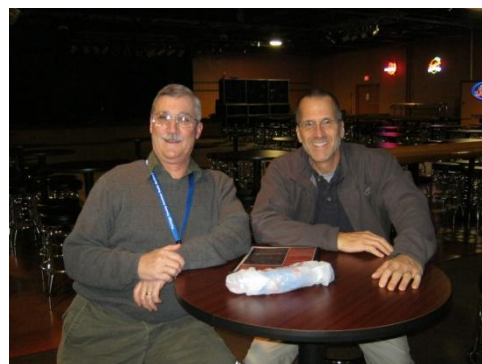
Tom, WB8LCD

It is with incredible sadness and heavy heart that we learned of Jim Aylward KC8PD passing away on Thursday August 17, 2017. **Jim's desire to be cremated has taken place and there will be Celebration of Life on Sunday October 1st from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Wood-Kortright-Borowski Funeral home at 703 E. Main St., Ravenna, Oh 44266.**

PCARS and its members owe much to Jim, who was instrumental in forming our club almost twelve years ago. He had a vision of what an amateur radio club should look like and worked tirelessly to make that vision come to pass. He recognized that it took work every day to make a good club better and cultivated members who were willing to share his vision and give of themselves for the club.

Jim was instrumental in reestablishing the participation of amateur radio in emergency communications in Portage County. ARES of Portage County had its rebirth under Jim, and he spent many hours designing and conducting training so that ARES members would be qualified to help in emergencies. He established a RACES group under the auspices of the Portage County Emergency Management Agency that ultimately became formally established as the Communications Unit of the EMA.

Jim had a knack for recognizing opportunity, and when the former ODOT District 4 complex was slated for demolition by the state, Jim quickly coordinated with Family and Community Services to obtain the complex for its use. Family and Community Services in turn provided space in the garage building to PCARS to establish its club site.



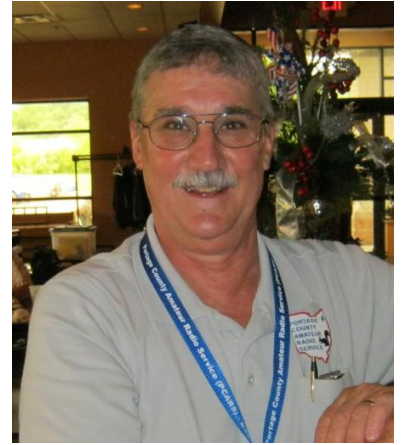
Most important to me, Jim was a mentor and a friend. Any time I needed help or advice, Jim was there to give it. He always encouraged me and those around him to look ahead and to challenge ourselves to advance in whatever pursuits we were involved in. He made us think about what we may not have thought about, or may have closed our minds to. Most of all, he was a great friend. It was a joy to be around Jim, to listen to him talk, for him to listen to what we had to say, and to share the joy of fellowship with him. While I am saddened by losing Jim, I take heart in what he gave to me, and to all of us.

Rick, K8CAV



## *From the President*

**Rick, K8CAV**  
PCARS President



If you haven't been to the PCARS club site lately, you're missing out on seeing the great things that have been done to keep PCARS active in so many facets of Amateur Radio. The PCARS lab is now complete and ready for any of you who want to use it for your radios or a favorite project. It was a long time coming but definitely worth the wait. Any time the club site is open for whatever reason, the lab can be opened up for your use. We plan on having a get to know the lab day in the near future to show what equipment we have and answer questions about it so stay tuned.

We recently spent two Saturday afternoons installing two new antennas, an 80-meter dipole and a 40-meter dipole, and also troubleshooting and repairing the issue with the HF beam antenna. Everything's up to snuff and raring to go for contesting and general operating. Jim, AC8NT will have more to say about that in his column.

That brings me to my next topic of operating at the PCARS club site. In addition to select contests that PCARS operates from our club site, the radio room is open on days that we are doing build projects or during net night at the club site. If you don't have an HF setup at home, take the opportunity to stop by when the radio room is open to get some on the air time. All four radio positions are set up to operate phone, CW or digital.

We are in the middle of replacing the ceiling tiles in the radio room that are damaged, and will soon be doing an outside maintenance day around the building to get grass cut, weeds whipped and trash picked up before the bad weather hits. We also want to do a good general cleanup inside of the clubhouse as well.

As you can see from all of the information above, there is a lot that has been done, and it could not have been finished without your help. I want to say thank you to everyone who has given their time at the club site to make this all happen. I'd especially like to thank Jim, AC8NT who has gone well above and beyond what his office of Vice President requires him to do. I can tell you with no doubt that our club site would not be what it is right now without Jim's tireless effort and I hope you'll all give Jim an *'atta boy'* when you see him.

Speaking of seeing things, PCARS is planning an open house in October of this year. We plan on this being a social event with food and drink so I hope you'll plan on attending, and bringing your family to enjoy a great time with fellow PCARS members, and to get a good look at everything that's been done to the club site.

PCARS' monthly newsletter, The Radiogram took First Place in the Ohio Section! Not only is this great news in Ohio, it means The Radiogram will be competing in the Great Lakes Division, so send lots of good ether vibes in the direction of the judges for a first place in the division. Parky, KB8UUZ puts his heart and soul into The Radiogram and regardless of where we place, it's a publication that is first-class and very widely read and respected both inside and outside of PCARS. Congratulations Parky, great job!

PCARS doesn't work unless you get involved. All of the things we do, teaching license classes, holding contests, Field Day, monthly meetings, special interest groups and more happen because you give your time to make them happen. All of that time is for naught if you don't participate in the events we hold so make sure you're involved in the things we do. You'll have a great time, and also make it worthwhile to those who make it happen. Thanks to everyone for making PCARS the great club that it is!

## *From the Vice President*

**Jim, AC8NT**  
PCARS Vice President



### **Digital Modes**

This month has been spent checking out and testing JT-65 and FT-8 software. FT-8 is growing by leaps and bounds. Although they are still cleaning up the process, it is being used by thousands of hams worldwide. With a QSO cycle of about a minute and its ability to communicate at high noise levels and poor propagation, it is going to add considerably to our contesting tools. These modes do have their learning curves and may require patients to learn, but it is well worth the effort.

At the club site we are setting up two rigs with the software and hardware to try these methods. We are also going to have several GOTA days focused on digital modes. This will provide all members with a chance to learn about and try these great modes. Check our calendar for event dates and let us know if you need any help getting started. It's neither a lot of money nor a lot of equipment to get involved.

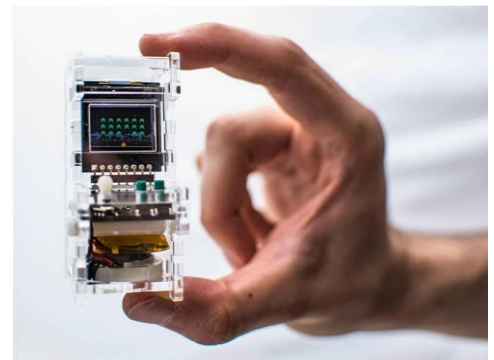
### **Club Site Work**

We have completed a wiring cleanup at the club. We have taken some of the knots out of our antenna and network wiring making it more reliable and less cluttered. We have also started removing and replacing some very nasty ceiling tiles in the operations room.

As part of our club work, we have added a new security system to our club site. The system consists of cameras located in the operations room, VHF room, social room and the lab. These cameras will continuously record activity and will notify some of us by email if entry is made in the "off" hours. The intention is NOT to spy on anyone, only to protect our equipment. Our neighbors had an incident that prompted us to consider the system. We have spent a lot of money and time in creating a great club site and we don't want to lose any of it.

### **Tiny Circuits**

We will be visiting Tiny Circuits Saturday September 16th. This is a company owned and managed by my friend Ken Burns. It was started with Kick Starter funding and had been growing a nice pace. They manufacture a line of very small circuit boards and devices utilizing Arduino technology. All of the boards are completely open source. Most of the boards are about the size of a quarter. He will be showing us his products and his manufacturing area. It will be a lot of fun. After the visit we will be going over to the Spaghetti Warehouse for lunch. The tour will start at 11:00. I will be sending out a QST with directions and parking instructions. Let me know if you are interested in going. I will need a count of the number of people to reserve tables for lunch. One of his products is a tiny arcade game shown below.





## Classes

September 16th is the first session of the next Technician Class. If you know of anyone interested in getting their license, this is a great way to prepare. They will be taught by some great hams with a lot of experience. See the flyer in this newsletter for more details. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Some have asked if I was planning an Extra Class course. This series requires 10 sessions and could start after the upcoming Tech class. Let me know if you are interested. I can assure you will learn a lot of material. Although it prepares you for the Extra test. I have had a lot of hams attend just to improve their knowledge of electronics as it relates to our hobby.

## Club Cleanup

We will need volunteers for a general club cleanup. We need to whack down some weeds outside and cleanup some of the areas in the club that have not been touched in some time. It won't be hard work, but I can't say you won't get dirty. This will be done in September in preparation for our open house on Saturday October 14th. We want to look our best for this event. The tentative schedule for this event is Saturday September 23. Look for a QST and come in and help. We actually have some fun at these club events and often some food to rebuild all the energy you use helping.

## Replay for Kids

Some of you might remember the day we spent repairing and modifying toys for special kids. It was a lot of fun and they were very appreciative of our work. They actually had helpers that already knew how to test and repair electrical and electronic toys. We are working on scheduling another event this fall. This is a very worthy cause that was also a lot of fun. There is nothing like fixing something that was put together never to be repaired or modified. We will be sending out information on this event as soon as it is finalized.

As you can see we have a lot planned for the next couple of months. I hope all of you will consider joining us for some of these events. Please check our calendar often and let us know if you are interested participating in any of these events.



## Newsletter Wins Ohio Section Award - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
Newsletter Editor

**WE WON !** On Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> I drove to the ARRL Ohio Section Conference in Grove City (Just South of Columbus). While there I sat in on the forum about clubs that was co-hosted by our own Tom, WB8LCD who is the Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC).



Following his presentation, the Section Manager - Scott, N8SY held his forum on what was happening around the Ohio Section. Part of that forum was to announce Newsletter Awards. Scott turned the meeting over to the Ohio Public Information Officer (PIC), John, KD8IDJ. John said the judging was really tough this year because all of the entrants had really gotten better and better. **First Place: "The RADIOGRAM", Portage County Amateur Radio Service !!!!!!!!!!!**

**Service !!!!!!!!!!! YAHOO !!!!!**

We did it! Thanks goes out to all of the people that help contribute articles for the newsletter. All that badgering I do all year long to get information for the newsletter pays off (hi hi). Now, we are entered in the Great Lakes Division Newsletter contest and results from that will be at HamCon in October.

While at the conference, both Tom and I wondered around the outdoor and indoor flea market looking for bargains. Weather was perfect - sunny, slight cooling breeze and around 75 degrees. Perfect weather for a Hamfest. Attendance was very good and both the outdoor and indoor spaces were all (but a few) taken up with hams making deal to sell their goods. All in all - a great day, indeed !





## *From the Ohio Section Manager*

**Scott, N8SY**  
Ohio ARRL Section Manager



### **Newsletter Contest Winners Announced**

If you missed the Columbus Hamfest / Ohio Section Conference this year, you really missed out on a great adventure for sure. John Ross, KD8IDJ announced the winners of the 25th Annual Ohio Section Newsletter Contest.

### **Here's John's comments:**

WOW! WOW! WOW! Just when I thought the newsletter judging could not get more intense... it did... and the judges were blown away with this year's entries. The most frequent statement I heard was "these are all good." Perhaps the most important revelation of the night was when the judges realized the printed newsletters had "upped their game" with graphics, readability and content that nips right at the heels of the on-line newsletters. That is a benchmark moment. Frankly, there was some concern over the past three years that when the on-line versions became more prevalent the normal printed newsletters would find it hard to keep up. Well, they did keep up and in a big way. Actually, what the judges saw is a true reflection of Amateur Radio... ever changing, pressing the envelope and growing in the process. It's a tribute the Ohio Section clubs and their newsletter editors... showing us the more they are challenged... the more they respond... all to the betterment of Amateur Radio.

### **With that - here are this year's winners:**

**First Place:**                **The Radiogram** - Portage County Amateur Radio Service

**Second Place tie:**       **The Spirit of '76 and '88** - Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association  
**Wave Bender** - the Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club

**Third Place:**             **The Mike & Key** - Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Association

**Honorable Mention tie:** **ATCO Newsletter** - Amateur Television In Central Ohio Group  
**CARA Communicator** - Cambridge Amateur Radio Association

It was very, very difficult to pick a winner...they were...are...all that good. It's a great problem to have and I believe it could only happen in Ohio! Finally, for a group of seasoned, professional and experienced journalists to respond so overwhelming positive to the newsletters speaks volumes to the hard work of every editor, every club and every member. It was a great night...a great time to be an Amateur Radio operator. Now there's a little more to this story that needs to said.

The first-place winner, The Radiogram, will go on to compete in the Great Lakes Division Newsletter Contest this October in Michigan. They will be competing with the very best that Michigan and Kentucky has to offer for the coveted Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE Newsletter Award! Let's all wish them luck!

## Allan Severson Award Recipient Announced

**Jim Yoder, W8ERW** was announced as the 2017 Allan Severson Award Recipient at the Columbus Hamfest / Ohio Section Conference this past weekend. Jim becomes the 23rd recipient of this prestigious award. The Allan Severson Memorial Award is bestowed on an amateur radio operator in the Ohio Section who has demonstrated a continuing dedication to the advancement of amateur radio and to the Ohio Section.

The award had been established in 1992 and was named "Ohio Ham of the Year" until 1999. That year it was renamed after Allan, of Lakewood, Ohio, who had become a silent key in 1997. The award winners are all hams who, like Allan Severson, have dedicated themselves to the advancement of the American Radio Relay League in Ohio. Although Allan had served the Section as Section Manager and went on to a distinguished career as Great Lakes Division Director on the ARRL National Board of Directors, the annual award announcement only mentions one sentence about him which is part of every memorial award certificate. That sentence quickly demonstrates the reason for the renaming of this award. "Allan's devotion to serve amateur radio inspired a whole generation of Ohio Section leadership."

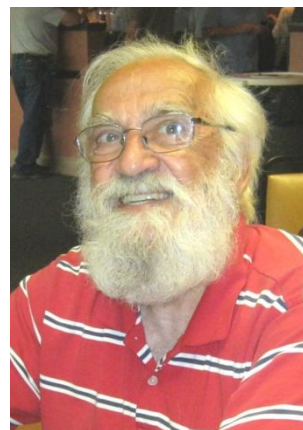
As very few of you know, Jim has been working in the background for many years now in various positions for the Ohio Section, but most recently as the Database Manager for our NIMS training. The Ohio Section is the only Section in the country right now that is not only tracking our ARES members for their NIMS courses completed, but can produce copies of the certificates submitted, if and when needed in an emergency. Jim's been doing a great deal of work making sure that everyone who has submitted even one certificate for a NIMS course completed is logged and recorded, and with over 5,100 courses logged and growing, it's truly a very big job with a huge responsibility.

I want to personally thank Jim for all of his hard work, planning and dedication to the Ohio Section.

Please help me give a big round of "Thanks" to Jim for everything that he has, and is doing to advance Amateur Radio and the Ohio Section.

## Paper Chase

**Joe, W8KNO**



I do not remember how many times I have written about the Route 66 Special Event for the September Newsletter but this year I will just remind you of the event and will feature another event.



That event is the 16th Anniversary of the Attack on the World Trade Center. The Wireless Association of New York City, WA2NYC, is sponsoring the event. They will be active from 8:00 pm Friday September 8th until 11:00 pm Tuesday September 12th. You will find them near 7.220,

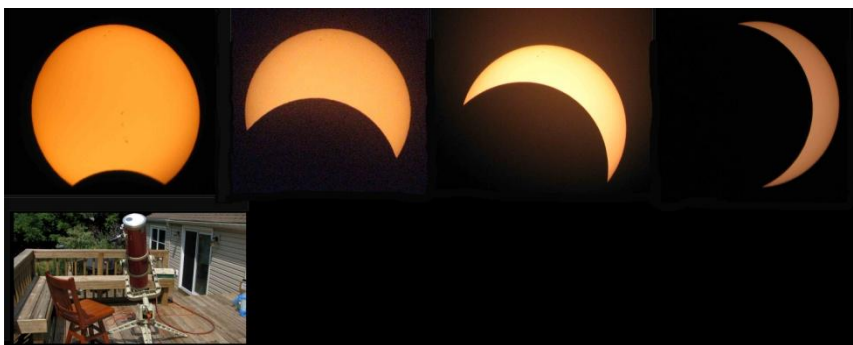
14.265, 21.350 and 28.450 MHz.

QSL to: Wireless Association of New York City  
233 Wolverine Street  
Staten Island, NY 10306

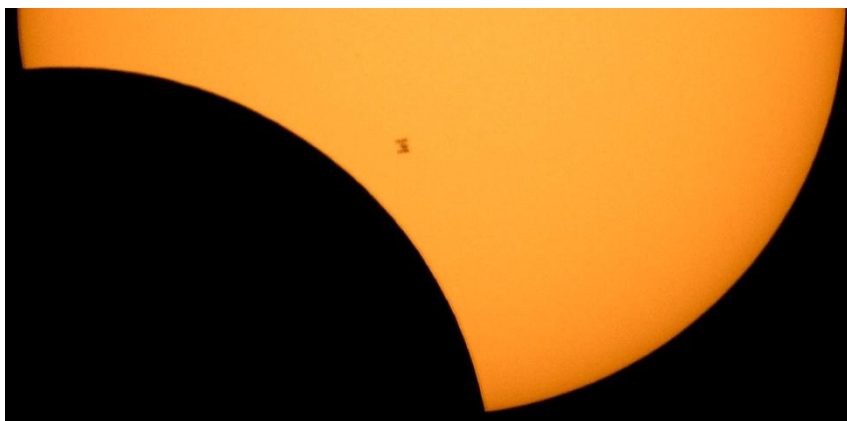


## Eclipse Feedback

**Doug, A8UWV** sent in this picture. He had a pretty nifty back yard set up for the eclipse.



**Rick, WA8TSI** spotted this one on the internet. Look close and you'll see the ISS passing in between the sun and the earth.



**Tom, KB8UUZ** reports that he did not have any fancy gear to view the eclipse. However, he and **Peggy, KB8SZI** watched it from the back yard using the special eclipse glasses. Note that the shadow through the trees during an eclipse, you can see small crescents on the ground. Mooch, one of our cats, enjoyed the pin hole box we also used during the eclipse.....



## Eclipse Expedition

**Bob, KD8CGH**



Being both an amateur radio enthusiast and an avid amateur astronomer, I was intrigued by the HamSCI plan for an eclipse citizen science experiment I saw at Xenia. The goal is to study the effects of the eclipse on the ionosphere by monitoring radio propagation. One part of that effort to collect data is holding an eclipse QSO party to encourage many contacts. Another part is using WSPR net to record spots and signal strength. I decided to add a WSPR transmitter to my plan for the eclipse.



Since I was already planning to capture images of the eclipse with a mount, telescope and camera, I needed a simple, autonomous system that I could launch and forget. I found that the SOTA WSPRlite transmitter was available from DXEngineering and in stock. I drove down to DX to pick up one of there \$73 dongles. The dongle couldn't be simpler. It has a USB port, an SMA antenna connector, one light and one push button. You use the USB port to program the WSPRlite with a supplied

simple interface program. After adding your call, location, band, power and duty cycle you're ready to go.



After attaching an antenna you plug in a 5v power source. I used a USB power battery pack I had lying around the house. After plugging in the power you have the only critical task, which is to push the button to

start transmission 2 seconds after an even minute. I installed an app on my phone to sync my phone accurately and used the phone's time to start the WSPR transmissions.

For an antenna, I used a Super Antenna YP-1 that I bought years ago mounted on my Subaru Outback roof rack. I didn't want it to be too obtrusive, so I set it up as a vertical with one elevated radial.

For the eclipse I drove down to Gatlinburg, TN with my friend Gary and stayed there before and after. The morning of the eclipse we drove further down to Madisonville, TN which is near the center line of totality. Madisonville hosted a huge eclipse party in Kefauver park. It was like a rock concert for nature lovers.





I ran the transmitter from 11:30 to 4:00 and generated 330 spots reported in the WSPR net database. In the mean time, I observed the eclipse and snapped images. During totality it got dark, the temperature dropped, the street lights came on and insects and peepers made their the night sounds. I saw the corona, Baily's beads and the Diamond ring. In spite of cranky equipment, I collected a few images throughout the afternoon.

After the eclipse, there was the mother of all traffic jams in all directions. Gary and I were forced to kick back and resort to our stock of cold beers to wait it out before leaving.

When not being used in an eclipse QSO party, the WSPRlite is marketed as an antenna evaluation device. Along with the device, you get a year's subscription to a web site that provides further analysis on your spots with tools for antenna evaluation.

## 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 7<sup>th</sup> - December 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Walk ins always welcome



### What to Bring to the Testing Session

- \$15 is the current test fee. We prefer the exact amount in cash or a check made out to: *ARRL-VEC*
- A government photo ID (**driver's license or state ID card preferred**).
- Your Social Security Number or FCC Federal Registration Number. We are required to submit either your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) with your application. If you are upgrading, your FRN is on your current Amateur Radio license.
- A pen (black ink) and pencil (we can loan you either or both)
- **If you already have an Amateur Radio license: One copy of any current (*unexpired*) amateur radio operator license issued to you.**
- If you've already passed a test: The original (**and one copy**) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element. These documents may include:
  - An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned indicating the credit(s) earned.
  - Original and copy of a pre-March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 [General] exam) - you must be currently licensed to get this credit.

Expired License? Original and copy of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass Element 2 to re-instate your license.



**Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>**



**Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>**



# FT8 Mode is the Latest Bright Shiny Object

*From the ARRL*

FT8 Mode is Latest Bright Shiny Object in Amateur Radio Digital World. It's still in beta testing, but FT8 - the latest digital bauble to capture the imagination of the Amateur Radio community -- has been luring away many of those already using the already-popular JT65 "weak-signal" mode. FT8 is included in a beta release of [WSJT-X](#), version 1.8.0-rc1. Among its biggest advantages is a shorter transmit-receive cycle, meaning quicker contacts. The [notes](#) for the "candidate" release say that FT8 offers "sensitivity down to -20 dB on the AWGN channel." Contacts are four times faster than with JT65 or JT9, and an entire FT8 contact can take place in about 1 minute.

The new mode is named after its developers, Steven Franke, K9AN, and Joe Taylor, K1JT. The numeral designates the mode's eight-frequency shift keying format. Tones are spaced at 6.25 Hz, and an FT8 signal occupies just 50 Hz. Unlike JT65 or JT9, transmit and receive cycles in FT8 each last about 15 seconds. Like JT65, FT8 requires accurate time synchronization. An auto-sequencing feature offers the option to respond automatically to the first decoded reply to your CQ.

"FT8 is an excellent mode for HF DXing and for situations like multi-hop E<sub>s</sub> on 6 meters, where deep QSB may make fast and reliable completion of QSOs desirable," Taylor's release notes assert.

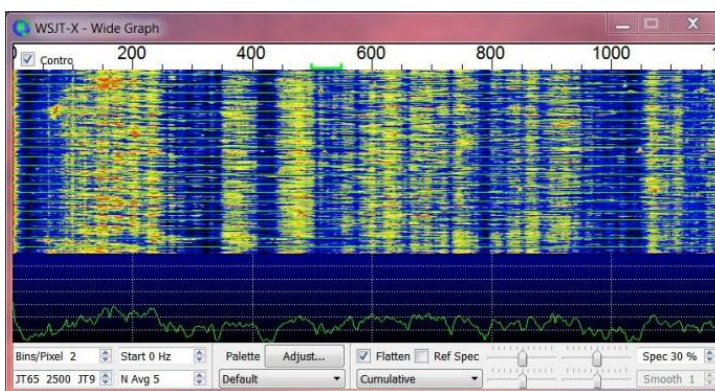
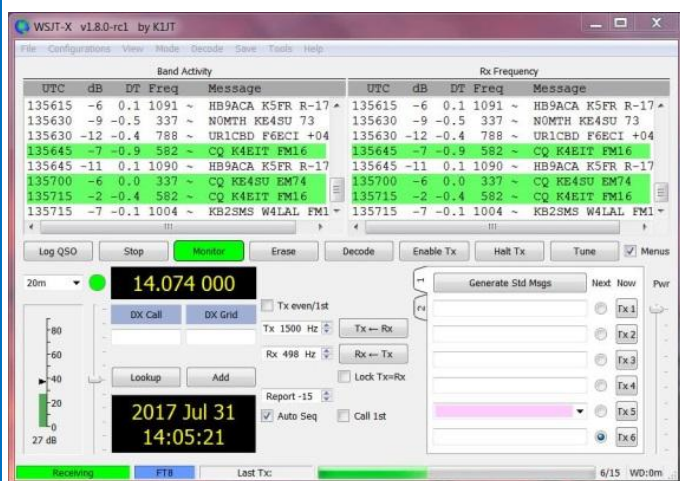
ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K1IU, has been using FT8 from the start and put W1AW on FT8 for the first time a few weeks ago on 6 meters.

"This mode is a game changer for 6 meters," Corey said. "Activity is intense, and contacts are possible using this mode when the band seems totally dead." Corey said it's easy to get on with FT8, call CQ, and "quickly fill the log," and he rated the auto-sequencing feature as "awesome."

"FT8 gives small and modest stations a real chance at participating in programs like DXCC, VUCC and WAS; and, to top it off, at a time when band conditions are far from optimal." Corey said.

The beta release came out just days before the July CQ VHF Contest and proved to be a boon to many operators who took advantage of FT8 on 6 meters. In a limited outing for the CQ VHF, Frank Donovan, W3LPL, made 22 FT8 contacts on 6 meters, some of which "may have been difficult to complete on CW," he said.

"We know that the advent of new mode FT8 means that new material is needed for the *User Guide*," Taylor told the Yahoo [Meteor Scatter and Weak Signal Group](#) this week. "We will be working on that in the near future." A new [Facebook group](#) has been established for FT8 experimenters. Read [more](#).

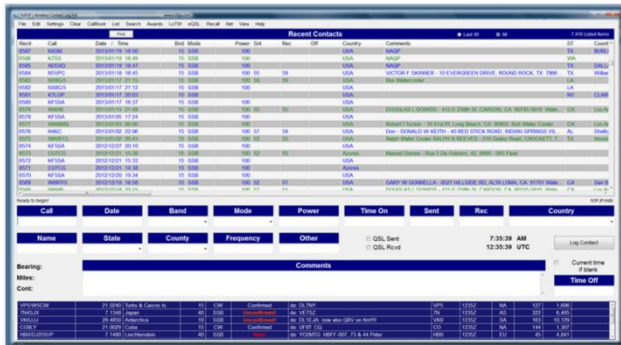


# N3FJP's AC Log - Version 6 Available

**Larry, W2LJ**

**QRP - When you care to send the very least!**

Although I use Log4OM as my logging program for my Amateur Radio logbook, I do own a registered copy of AC Log. As the Trustee of NJ2SP, I use it as the official logbook program for the South Plainfield Amateur Radio Club.



"Why?", you might ask. Because of the program's popularity, there are other AC Log users in the club so I keep a current N3FJP generated ADIF in the club's Dropbox file folder so that they all can have copies of the logbook, should they desire.

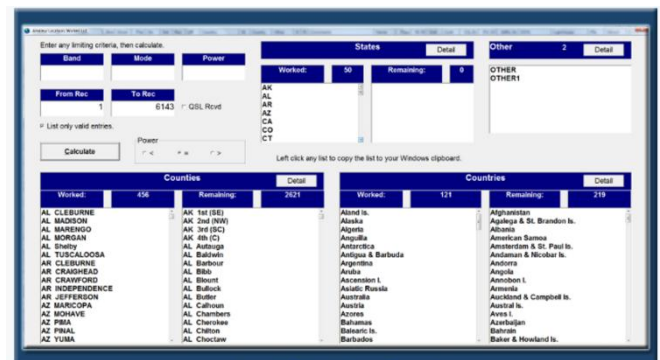
It was announced yesterday, that the newest version of AC log was made available for download. According to Scott, N3FJP, these are the details regarding the new version:

## Enhancements include:

- You can optionally display digital modes in the DX Spots list based on the frequency of the DX Spot (Click Settings > DX Spotting > Configure > More Filtering > Display Digital Modes to enable). You'll also need to download the latest BandPlan.txt file by clicking File > Download Country Files from AD1C.
- AC Log now uses ARRL's LoTW User's list to identify LoTW users (an L is placed in the DX Spots list). Click eLogs > LoTW Users > ID LoTW Users to enable the feature. If you already have enabled the feature in AC Log 5.9, AC Log 6.0 will detect that you don't have the new LoTW user list on start up and download it for you with a single click.
- The last LoTW upload date of the station contacted is optionally displayed when tabbing from the call field. (Click eLogs > LoTW > ID LoTW Users on Call Tab). If the station you are working has a recent upload date, that will give you a better sense if he is really active with LoTW or not.
- Added FT8 to the mode drop down lists.
- Ability to update mode drop down lists without requiring a new release.

So if you have a registered copy of AC Log, you can get the download for free by visiting his Website - <http://www.n3fjp.com/index.html>. Just go to the "About Us" tab on the header and choose "Recent News" from the drop down menu and it will take you to the newest release.

As I said above, personally, I'm a confirmed Log4OM user. It suits my needs so very well. I like it's looks, it's feel and they way it operates. It has all the features that I could hope for and I've become super comfortable with it. That being said, logging software is a very subjective matter. What works for me may very well not work for



*Accomplishment Screen Example*



you. In any regard, AC Log by N3FJP is an excellent program as well. I would highly recommend it if you're not satisfied with whatever you're currently using. It's highly intuitive and easy to use; and if you've never used a computerized logging program before, AC Log might just be what you're looking for.

-----  
**Editor's Note:** PCARS has been using N3FJP contest programs for years at the club site, plus we use N3FJP Field Day program. We have found these programs easy to use and are well received for our club use. For more information go to the N3FJP web site for AC Log at: <http://www.n3fjp.com/aclog.html>



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



## Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- **September 9<sup>th</sup> - Tenth Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) Contest**
- **September 11<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion**
- **September 13<sup>th</sup> - Technician Class starts - see flier in this newsletter**
- **September 16<sup>th</sup> - Trip to Tiny Circuits for a tour**
- **October 7-8<sup>th</sup> - California QSO Party - PCARS on the air from the club site**
- **October 9<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion**
- **October 14<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Open House**

**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**



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



## POTA and the WWFF

*John, KD8MQ*



Remember last year's **National Parks On The Air** event? We called it NPOTA for short, and it generated over 1 Million contacts from America's National Parks.



Since its end, on December 31st, many of us “NPOTA Junkies” have since gotten involved with the **Parks On The Air** (POTA) program. POTA operates under the umbrella of the WWFF (World Wide Flora & Fauna) program, and has some similarities to NPOTA. The major similarity is that geographic areas such as parks, monuments, nature preserves, etc. have been assigned a unique identifier. For instance, Portage Lakes State Park is **KFF-1984**.

Hams then can go out and “activate” these locations via the magic of Ham Radio. After making contacts, the activators share their log files with the volunteers at WWFF, who then upload them to the database, where awards are tracked.

In a normal day on the bands, you might work a Ham activating a park in Israel, the Azores, Japan, Canada, and of course, the US. As a “hunter”, all you have to do to receive credit for your “catches” is make sure you are signed up in the program at [wwff.co](http://wwff.co). Beyond that, the burden is 100% on the “Activator” to turn in their logs.

A number of awards are available and you can see some of them by going to <http://wwff.co/awards/global-awards/>. In addition, several countries have their own POTA programs and awards. These all are tied together under the WWFF program.

You'll find more information about POTA, as well as a map of entities at [wwff-kff.com](http://wwff-kff.com). You can learn more about the World Wide Flora & Fauna program at [wwff.co](http://wwff.co).



With the **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest coming up in just a couple weeks, I should point out that all Ohio State Parks are included in the POTA program. If you are planning to activate a state park, please share your log data with the POTA program. You don't have to register to share your data. Just send the .ADI file generated from your logging program to your Regional Manager (RM). For most of you reading this, your RM is Gene, AC8RH, who just happens to be a PCARS Member. A list of regional managers can be found on the POTA homepage at [wwff.co](http://wwff.co).

You can get a list of Ohio State Parks and both their OSPOTA, & POTA designators at [www.ospota.org/ospota/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/OSPOTA-KFF-rev08102017.pdf](http://www.ospota.org/ospota/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/OSPOTA-KFF-rev08102017.pdf).

So if you are looking for a fun time on September 8th, get on the air and work a bunch of Ohio State Parks On The Air. Who knows, you may just be well on your way to your first



## Antennas - Antennas - Antennas

*Jim, AC8NT*



Over the past several weeks the club site has seen a lot of work take place on our antenna system. With the help of several of our club members and a couple of XYLs we have expanded and improved our system of “sky hooks”.

Jack, N8BI built two fine dipoles for 40 and 80 meters along with a system to support the antennas. We added a mast to the side of our building and a clamp to one of the parking lot lights. The 80 meter runs across the roof of our building from the mast to a support ring attached to the main tower. The 40 meter runs across the lot from the same ring to the parking lot light post. We also needed to pull two new runs of coax from these antennas all the way into the operation room. These antenna have are both high enough to be very effective radiators. SWR measurements indicate these antennas can be used with any of our rigs without a tuner. The NVIS 80/40 is still up and available for use. It, however, needs a tuner for 80 meters.



The second job was getting our beam to function again. We have been using this antenna for over a year since the last work was completed. All of a sudden it stopped working and we needed find out why. We lowered the beam checked everything and found nothing. We then started to check all the coax. We found a loose connection that was the cause of the entire problem. It has been fixed and our beam is working great.



I would like to give a big shout out to Jack and all the club members that took the time to help with this great project.





## Mobile Cruise-In 2017 ..... RAIN

Well - on Thursday August 17<sup>th</sup> the PCARS annual Mobile Cruise-In was held at the A&W in Ravenna. It looked a bit cloudy, but it got even worse..... RAIN. It came down in buckets.



I did notice that Rick managed to actually make a contact or two while mobile just as it started raining. It didn't take long for people to start running for cover and leaving.



Someone said the rain came because Tom, WB8LCD was not there and he usually will forecast good weather ... So I guess we can blame WB8LCD.

Have no fear - we WILL try again next year (sounds like the Cleveland Browns fans....)

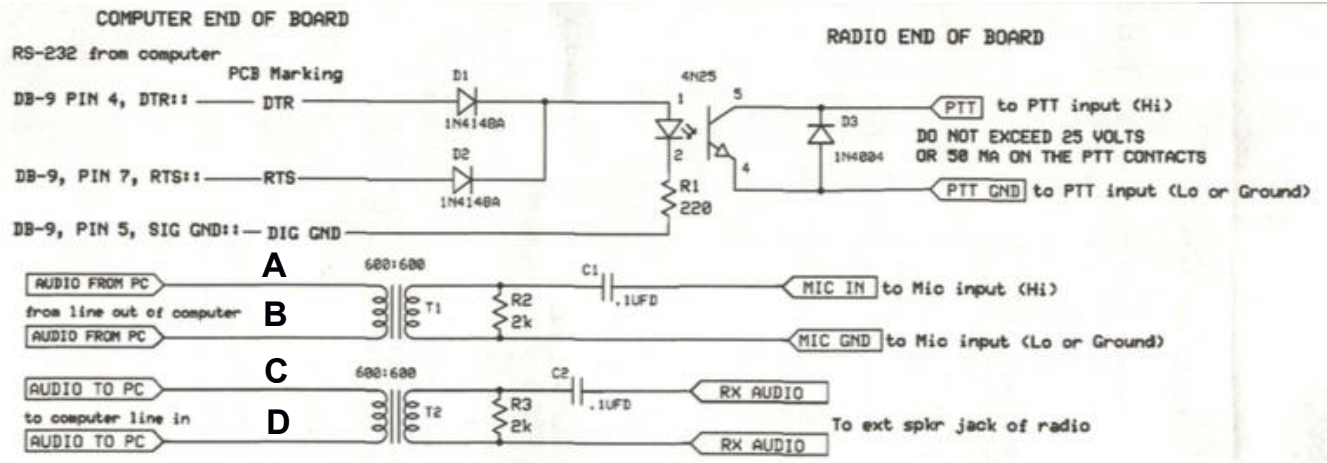


## Tech Tip - Follow Up from August

*Jim, AC8NT*

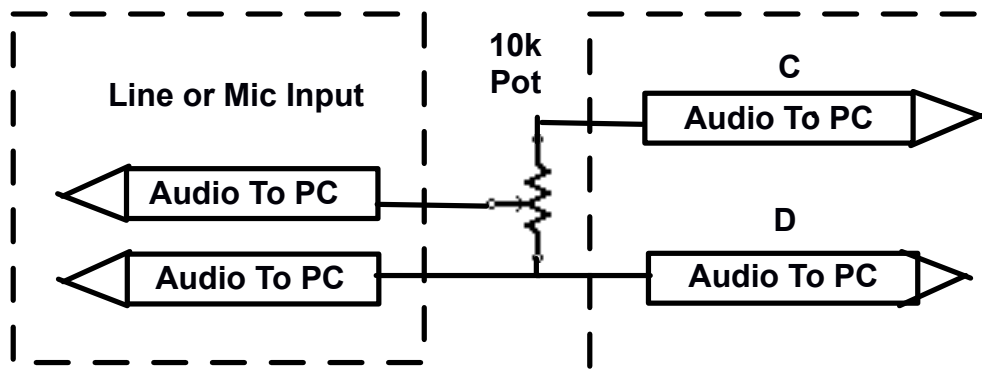


Last month we discussed an inexpensive way to connect your rig to a computer using the KP5INZ digital interface kit. We have had several hams request a simple way to control the level of the audio signals to and from the computer. What you see below is a simple way to insert pots into the signal path to control level. You can see the schematic diagram for the interface board and how to insert two 10k pots for level control. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at [AC8NT@portcars.org](mailto:AC8NT@portcars.org).



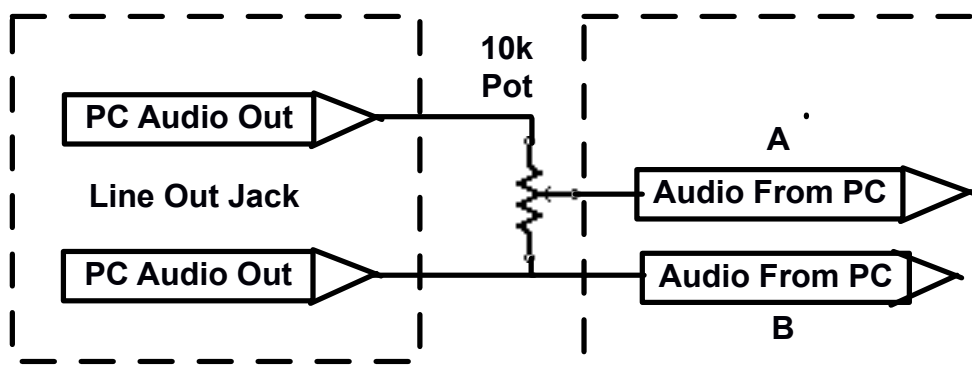
Cable from PC

Interface Board



Cable from PC

Interface Board





## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

<b>KD8WBC</b>	<b>Don</b>
<b>W5OV</b>	<b>Bob</b>
<b>KD8ZDZ</b>	<b>Steven</b>
<b>KD8BBT</b>	<b>Andrew</b>
<b>AC8NT</b>	<b>Jim</b>
<b>KA8OAT</b>	<b>Richard</b>
<b>KD8VT</b>	<b>James</b>

<b>KD8JRE</b>	<b>Michael</b>
<b>NT8K</b>	<b>Robert</b>
<b>N8RLG</b>	<b>Robert</b>
<b>KD8FME</b>	<b>Jim</b>
<b>N8KBX</b>	<b>Bob</b>
<b>WB8VYW</b>	<b>Michael</b>
<b>WD8BIW</b>	<b>Karen</b>

**PCARS**  
**Join Now**  
Discover the FUN



## Hamfest Report - WARA Tailgate

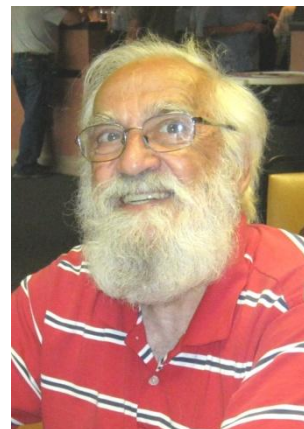
**Joe, W8KNO**



plenty of good food and perfect weather.

The Tail Gate Flea Market was exceptional in that most of the items were either operating or looked to be in very good to excellent condition. The only down side was that Mike, KE3JP, packed up his trailer early and left because he did not feel well. We heard that on Monday he had his appendix out. He is excused.

If you missed it, come next year. I'll be looking for you.



This years event occurred Sunday August 20th from 8 am till 1 pm at Mosquito Lake Park. This was the third year it has been held there and I must say it appeared bigger than last year. It had all the amenities of larger Hamfests: Grand Prize Drawing, 50/50 Prize, Mobile Check In Prize, Chinese Auction, Card Checking,





## *Status Quo isn't Going to Cut It*

*Dan, KB6NU*



### **ARRL finally realizes status quo isn't going to cut it**

An item in the July 2017 ARRL board meeting caught my attention. It notes that a committee of staff members was tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The August 3, 2017 issue of the ARRL Letter ran the following report:



“ARRL Chief Executive Officer Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, presented the report of six Headquarters staffers who had been tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and devising feasible solutions. Specifically, the committee addressed market research findings that have continued to reveal that only a small percentage of new hams join the League, and only about one-half of new hams actually get on the air.

“The committee began with the premise that ARRL must act in order to remain relevant going forward. It proposed instituting a Lifelong Learning Program to focus on developing a clear developmental path for all radio amateurs, from newcomers to established radio amateurs. The committee recommended the creation of new programs and services to increase the knowledge base of newcomers in order to get them active, as well as programs to keep experienced amateurs up to date with changing technology and practice.”

The board meeting minutes were a little more detailed:

“Mr. Roderick yielded the floor to CEO Gallagher who presented the report of a committee of staff members tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The members of the committee – Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF; Norm Fusaro, W3IZ; Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY; Debra Jahnke, K1DAJ; Steve Ford, WB8IMY; and Sean Kutzko, KX9X, joined the meeting at 9:20 AM, to present this report. Their findings show the importance to ARRL of getting newly licensed hams actively on the air and how that relates to continued growth of the organization. In order to achieve that goal, the committee proposed developing a lifelong learning department, which would address the needs of all amateurs with the focus being on developing a clear knowledge path for all amateurs. They proposed creating straightforward programs and services to enhance the knowledge base of new amateurs as well as to enhance their sense of community within the hobby.

“Another recommendation involved refocusing the priorities of the emergency preparedness department to address the current trends in public service.

“A third recommendation was to improve the value proposition of membership. The committee proposed doing a survey, which would include test material that is targeted to the interests of newer hams. The content would include a strong emphasis on serving communities, agencies, and partners; digital communications, and human interest. Projects would be simple. The survey would obtain information on new ham's interests and needs in the hobby. The survey would also try to determine the delivery system that might best meet the newcomer's desire for receiving this type information (print, digital, messaging, etc). The test material is proposed to be delivered to recipients in fall 2017.

“From the committee’s vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership. If we do not convey the need to change the paradigm, the ARRL’s relevancy will not move forward.”

The good thing here is that the ARRL finally realizes that there are some serious problems. I’ve written about these in the past. I’ve challenged the ARRL to set a membership goal of 25% of the licensed amateurs in the U.S (<http://www.kb6nu.com/arrl-membership-is-25-asking-too-much/>). I’ve also encouraged the ARRL to play a bigger part in emergency communications research (<http://www.kb6nu.com/go-big-go-early-go-fast-smart/>).

Unfortunately, it appears that the ARRL is approaching this issue in typical ARRL fashion. That is, working on these issues in their little cocoon in Newington and then issuing these statements as if they expect everyone to just fall in line. I quote, “From the committee’s vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership.” That approach is doomed to failure. Any “visioning” or strategic planning that doesn’t get the membership involved right from the start just isn’t going to work.

The ARRL HQ staff just doesn’t have the horsepower to pull this off properly. The staff is already pretty bare bones, and they still have to publish QST every month, keep Logbook of the World running, process thousands of license applications, etc., etc. The only way this is going to be a fruitful effort is if they get members—and lots of them—involved in this process.

If you agree with me, please let your director know. Contact your director and tell him that you want to be involved. The status quo of having the HQ staff not working with the membership “is no longer adequate.” That’s how we got here in the first place.

-----  
Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the “No Nonsense” amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. You can email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## Shack Shot - KD8MQ

*John, KD8MQ*

Here's a portable shack shot for you. All the way from Geneva State Park in Ashtabula County.

I've been working Parks on the Air and was also making contacts in the Ohio QSO party.





## Ohio QSO Party 2017

### Chuck, W8PT

If you did not attend the Ohio QSO BBQ Party, then all I can say is **you missed a great event**. We had approximately 25 sign in to the event that took place on Saturday, August 26. This was a 12 hour contest in which we have done nicely in the past couple of years.

We had scores of 63,000+ in 2015 and 61,000+ in 2016. We ended the day with approximately 69,828 points. The bands did not always cooperate during the 12 hour period but they sure got busy the last few hours of the contest. And I have to say that the new 40m and 80m dipoles really worked well for us.

We still need to conquer some noise issues as well as find out why two of our band pass filters were causing high SWR on a couple of our rigs.

Tom, WB8LCD and Amy, KD8SKL fixed a **phenomenal** meal for us, serving us **grilled (baked) potatoes and marinated strip steaks**. We also had macaroni and potato salad as well as coleslaw. It was one of the best steaks I've eaten. We even had a late evening snack of ..... you guessed it, steak and potatoes.

I want to thank Tom and Amy for the wonderful food. I want to thank Jim, AC8NT for all his work in making sure that all the op positions were on line and working. And I want to thank all those who came out to operate and help put K8BF on the air. Many of the 25 visitors ended up operating the contest. We also had a visitor from ICOM America, Will Jourdain, AA4WJ who ended up working the contest on our older IC 746.

So maybe next year those who missed this event will think twice about missing it again. We will certainly give you the official results when we receive them in a few months.

## More on the Ohio QSO Party 2017

Many of the members at the Ohio BBQSO Party asked Tom, WB8LCD about his secret marinade that was used for the fantastic steaks. The Radiogram does not usually publish recipes, however due to the overwhelming requests, Tom is revealing his secret marinade to the world:

### WB8LCD BBQSO Steak Marinade

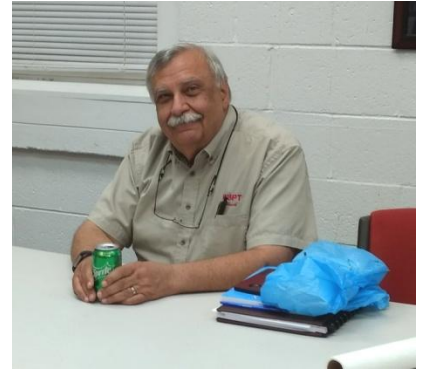
Will make enough for 4-5 steaks.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 Cup of Soy Sauce
- ¼ Cup of Red Wine Vinegar
- 2 tablespoons of Olive Oil
- 1 teaspoon of Garlic powder
- 2-3 Garlic Cloves, crushed.



Combine all ingredients, pour over steaks in a Zip Lock bag. Refrigerate for 2-4 hours, turning regularly to make sure all sides of the steaks are soaked. Grill to your preference (please don't overcook a good steak!) When almost done, remove from the grill, cover with tin-foil and let stand for approximately 10 minutes.





## *Pictures from the Ohio QSO Party 2017*



## **Ohio QSO Party - August 26, 2017**



## Pictures from the Ohio BBQSO Party 2017



When the food was being served - Amy, KD8SKL was the only one on the air

# Ohio BBQSO Party



## A Little More about the Ohio QSO Party

**Thanks** goes out to all of the operators that made contacts to get the score up as high as we did. We had a few hiccups with the software which delayed our start about 30 minutes, but thanks to Jim, AC8NT, the network finally started working properly. Later Jack, N8BI noticed that the filters we were using with the new dipoles seemed to be causing the SWR to be higher than expected and the receive signals to be a bit lower. He removed the filters and the SWR came right in as we expected. This also gave us the opportunity to make additional contacts since we could hear better.

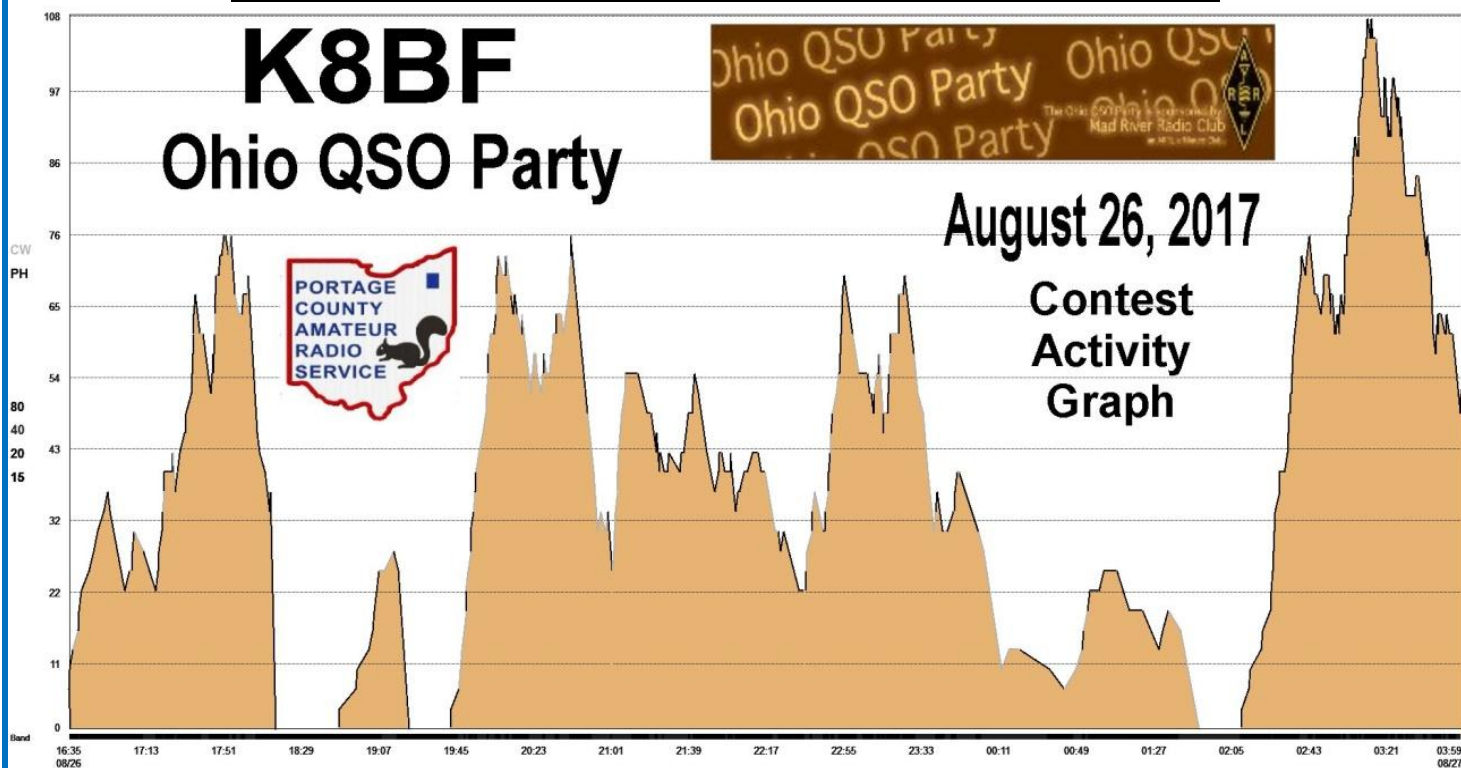
### Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Total	%
80	0	133	133	32
40	110	50	160	38
20	0	111	111	26
15	0	15	15	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>100</b>

Score Statistics	
Total Contacts	419
Total QSO Points	529
Total Multipliers	132
Total Score	69,828

### Operator Contacts:

Operator	Contacts	%	Operator	Contacts	%
KB8UUZ	81	19	N8QZ	18	4
N8BI	67	16	AA4WJ	16	4
W5OV	58	14	N8QE	12	3
KB8AMZ	52	12	K8KSU	2	1
KD8SKL	50	12	WA8CCU	2	1
K8CAV	35	8	K8IV	1	0
KA8TOA	24	6	W8PT	1	0





## *S.1534 - Your Help is Needed - NOW*

### **ARRL President Issues Call for Members to Reach Out to their Senators to Support S. 1534**

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, is calling on League members to urge their US Senators to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017, S. 1534. ARRL has opened a RallyCongress page to simplify the task.

<https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-us-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

"[W]e are at a crossroad in our efforts to obtain passage of The Amateur Radio Parity Act," Roderick said. He said the campaign to secure passage of the bill scored a major victory earlier this year when H.R. 555 passed unanimously in the US House of Representatives. Obtaining passage of the companion Senate bill, S. 1534, is the final legislative hurdle.

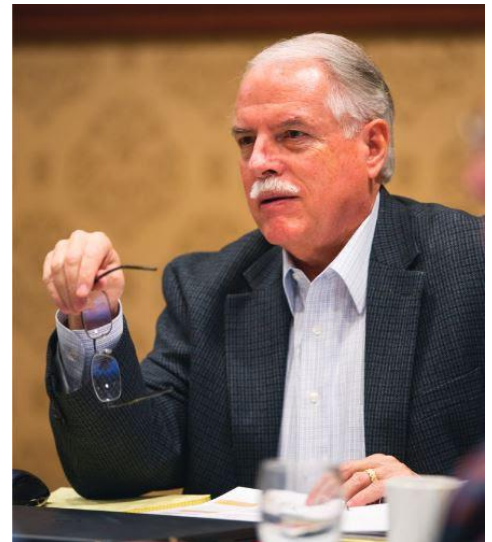
"Now is the time for all hams to get involved in the process!" Roderick said. "Many of you already live in deed-restricted communities, and that number grows daily."

He urged radio amateurs now restricted by a homeowners association from installing effective outdoor antennas to visit the RallyCongress site and e-mail their two US senators. He also encouraged those not currently affected by deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs) to support their fellow radio amateurs by doing the same.

### **ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR.**

"If you want to help create an opportunity -- not available before now -- for Amateurs who live in deed-restricted communities to install effective outdoor antennas on property that you own or lease, send these e-mails today!" Roderick said. "We need you to reach out to your senators today. Right away."

S. 1534 was introduced in the US Senate on July 12, marking another step forward for this landmark legislation. Senators Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) are the Senate sponsors. The measure will, for the first time, guarantee all radio amateurs living in deed-restricted communities governed by a homeowners association (HOA) or subject to any private land-use regulations, the right to erect and maintain effective outdoor antennas at their homes, while protecting the aesthetic concerns of HOAs.



<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>

## Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



I know I say this a lot but where the heck has the year gone??!! September already!! As I write this, it is a little chilly outside and that even reminds me of the cooler WX just around the corner. I mean, just think, as of Sept 1 there is only 116 days until Christmas!!! The only thing I have to say then is, get your Santa lists ready and pull out your woolys.

And if you have any extra time, work some DX. Get on the air! Warm up those ether wobblers and make some contacts. I'm sure that you didn't spend all that time studying the license manual just to let your rigs gather dust. And that antenna you put up is simply not a pigeon roost. So take some note from this column and mark your calendars so that you don't forget which DX op is going to be on the air and when.

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".

And speaking of Pirates:

**PIRATE ALERT.** Ernie, ZB2FK, reports that someone has been pirating ZB2A call sign which has been defunct for at least 40 years and is therefore not a valid Gibraltar call sign.

**PIRATE ALERT.** "DXNews.com" reports that JX2017A is a pirate station. Probably same guy that operated with the JX2016A call sign before.

**PIRATE ALERTS.** The Daily DX is reporting the following: "For more than a year now an Amateur Radio operator from Southern Europe has been pirating the following calls on CW. It started off with VU2TS, but only on CW. Then he was switching between VU2TS and 4U1ITU, when the club was using 4U1WRC, again CW only. Next he began using 5H3PM, CW only. The pirate has now recently switched over to 5H3MG again CW only. I have confirmed with Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) that both 5H3 calls are not currently registered calls. The signals are clearly coming from Southern Europe." For more details, also read: <http://www.arrl.org/news/view/pirates-on-the-air>

**Now on to the real stuff.**

**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.



**A2, BOTSWANA.** Look for a Russian team to be active from Kasane (the northern part of Botswana) between September 15-25th. Operators mentioned are Yuri/RM0F (A25BI), Pavel/R2AD (A25SP) and YL Elena/RC5A (A25BE). Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or via their home call signs, direct and by the Bureau. Call signs A25BI and A25BE will both use LoTW.

**CN, MOROCCO.** Operators Tev/TA1HZ and Golkem/TA7AZC will be active from here between September 6-13th. Call sign(s) have not been issued yet. Activity will be holiday style, and they will participate in the WAE DX SSB Contest (September 9-10th). QSL via LZ3HI (QSL Mgr) or LoTW.

**CR3/CT9, MADEIRA ISLANDS.** Operators Manfred/DF5EM, Franz/DF6QV, Juergen/ DG7JB, Jan/DJ8NK, Heye/DJ9RR, Dieter/DK4QT, Thomas/DL6TK and Kalle/DM3BJ will be active as CT9/homecall from Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014) between September 17-27th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to be an entry in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 23-24th) signing CR3W. QSL CR3W via DL5AXX, OQRS (see QRZ.com) or LoTW. QSL all others via their home call signs.

**E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS.** Doug, W6HB, will once again be active as E51DL from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) until September 8th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using SSB. Doug states, "I will be with XYL Ana this trip and will be playing more the tourist. Expect some operating vacation style from E51AND's and E51KC's QTH -- I expect visiting and possibly some operations from E51JD's and E51BQ." QSL via his home call sign. See QRZ.com for more details. No LoTW, no eQSL, no QRZ.com logs – hard cards ONLY folks.

**E6, NIUE.** Grant, VK5GR, will be active as E6AG from Niue (OC-040) between September 13-25th. Activity will be a one man holiday style Dxpedition with family (so operating will be at times limited) on 40-6 meters (possibly 80m). Operations will be mainly the Digital modes and some SSB. His activity will include the CQ WW RTTY Contest (September 23-24th). He plans to take a 500W station (K3+KPA500+KAT500) with a vertical folded monopole. QSL via M0OXO or OQRS. More details are available on QRZ.com.

**FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA.** Heinz, DF1YP, will once again be active as FO/DF1YP from Moorea Island (OC-046, ARLHS FRP 004, WLOTA 0465, WWFF FFF-178) between September 6th and October 1st. Activity will be holiday style on 20/17/15 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau (preferred).

**HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN.** Kasimir, DL2SBY, will once again be active as HB0/DL2SBY from Liechtenstein between September 9-15th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters including 17/12 meters and possibly 30 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. His equipment will be a TS480SAT with a 400 watts amp, antennas are a Triple Leg (20/17/15/12/10m), vertical (80-10m) and an Inverted Vee (30/40m). QSL HB0/DL2SBY via DL2SBY, direct or the OQRS (Bureau/direct) via ClubLog ONLY. Do not send your QSL via the Bureau! QSL-Requests for Bureau are only by CLUBLOG until the end of November 2017 possible. He will not be a member of the DARC anymore. Log will be uploaded to LoTW later.

**HD8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS.** The 7163 Group is pleased to announce the "Protect the Galapagos Islands Wildlife DXpedition" to Isabela Island (SA-004). They will be active as HD8M from Isabela Island between September 14-21st. Activity is planned for operations on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (Primarily FT8). Operators mentioned are Jim/WB2REM, YL Nancy/KG0YL, David/HC5DX, Ellis/N1MWJ and Mark/WY1G. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, direct to WB2REM (w/SASE) and via the Bureau through KG0YL. Upload will be made to LoTW and eQSL after the DXpedition. For more information, go to <http://www.hd8m.com> or look 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.** Claudio, HB9OAU, will once again be active as SV5/HB9OAU from Votsalakia Beach Hotel, Karpathos Island (EU-001), between September 9-22nd. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via his home call sign.

**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.

**T8, PALAU.** Katsumi, JA3KIO, will once again be active as T88XA from the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room) on Koror Islands (OC-009) between September 20-26th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and JT65. Look for some activity in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest. QSL via his home call signs, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

**YJ0, VANUATU.** Tony, KQ2I, will be active as YJ0AT from Efate Island (OC-035) until September 14th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters using CW with an Elecraft KX3 HF Transceiver and KXPA100 amp (100 watts) into a vertical antenna. QSL via NR6M. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog.

**V6, MICRONESIA.** Chusuke, JR1FKR, will be active as V63FKR from South Park Hotel, Pohnpei Island (OC-010), between September 27th and October 2nd. Activity will be holiday style on 40/20/17/15/10/6 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau (not the KH0 Bureau).

**XV, VIETNAM.** William "BJ", WA7WJR, will be active as XV9WJR from Vietnam between August 26th and September 17th. BJ states, "I travel to Viet Nam about 4 times each year, and recently obtained a 3 year license to operate in Bien Hoa, Saigon, Vung Tao, and Phu Quoc Island." Activity will be mainly on 40 and 20 meters using primarily CW. QSL via his home call sign direct.

-----

For those of you who want to get up close and personal, here's a great opportunity. Spending 11 years myself on 6 meters working E-skip, Aurora, backscatter, and the occasional meteor shower, I'd love to be in TX myself for this BBQ. Mmmmmm brisket and beams. I mean beans.

**SIX METER BBQ IN AUSTIN, TX - Sept 29-30.**  
Tim, K3LR, from DX Engineering reports,  
"Excellent line up of speakers and growing group of



**Sept 29-30, 2017**  
The Lonestar Court  
Austin, Texas USA

vendors. Hang out and network with Magic band contesters and DXers. Check out the fun - the official Web site: <http://sixmeterbbq.com> Come and support the 6 meter BBQ tradition started by W6JKV and K5AND! I hope to see you there!"

That's it for this Newsletter. Get 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.



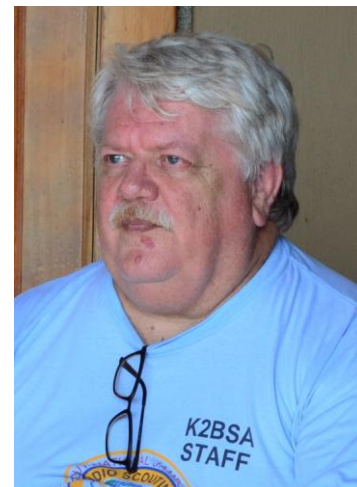


## Youth DX Adventure Wraps Up for 2017



**Jim Storms, AB8YK**  
*Co-founder and 2017 Team Leader YDXA*

### **Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure (YDXA) 2017 Costa Rica - After action report!**



The YDXA traveled to Costa Rica on Aug 3, 2017 with most of the team leaving at o-dark thirty (4:15 AM) for the Dayton Airport. By 11:30 AM Costa Rica time the entire team of three kids and 5 adults arrived in country. We were met by a local transportation company and enjoyed the 22km, 1½ hour drive to the home of Byron Swainey, TI5/WA8NJR. Yes it takes that long due to road and traffic conditions. Once lunch and room assignments were complete the equipment setup began. After ½ hour one radio was on the air. This was a brand new IC-7300 which was donated to the team by ICOM America. Thank you Ray Novack! It was paired with the teams 500 watt ALS-500M amplifier which helped a lot over previous non-amplifier efforts.

This team was fantastic! The kids really wanted to be on the radio. They worked closely together and switched on and off the main radio for SSB operations efficiently. This is the first trip where I never said the words, “We have an open radio so someone get on it!” They just kept working the pileups. Most of the SSB efforts were on 20M which was slow most days but the pileups were there. More about Monday later. Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO did a lot of CW on several bands at different times of the day. I was told by people after the event that his code was great, fast and efficient. Great job Bryant. And now the good news, bad news department. Bad news was I made zero contacts, good news is the kids kept the radios busy so I could not get on. That is what we want. During the whole operating time I was listening even when they did not think I was. At different off times I talked to them about what was good and what could be improved. As usual we saw some improvements over the days of operating. While each had their own style of operating they improved their pile up handling techniques. Now they know what the DXpeditions experience in a larger form.



use this one.” Boy was it easy after that.

The whole team worked to put it together. In fact Ron Doyle, N8VAR my co-leader, took several pictures of the kids putting stuff together and me sitting “supervising.” Of course I told them what was next and just let them do it. A great learning experience for them. After assembly we tested the VSWR. The manual said adjustments would



We have an agreement with PJ2T Curaçao for 2018 trip. Date and application coming soon. Watch website for details

***Chuck, W8PT***

But never fear, because we have another opportunity for you coming up in October. The California QSO Party will take place October 7 & 8. I will be reporting more about that in coming weeks. This is a contest where K8BF has really done well. So keep those dates open in order to join us.

And not to belabor the point, but the year is going by very fast. It won't be long before our favorite QRP event takes place. Yes, I'm talking about **Freeze Your Acorns Off**. I will also be talking about that event soon enough.



## *Linux for Hams SIG*

***Terry, KB8AMZ***

Linux users mark your calendar's. October 31, 2017 will be the last SIG for this year. The 3rd SIG was held August 31, 2017.

Bring your Raspberry Pi's for installing the Raspbian OS and applications if you need them. If time permits I will discuss an application used in our hobby on Linux.

For 2018 we begin January 30, 2018 for the first Linux for Hams SIG.

If you need assistance or have questions about this SIG contact either Mike, KB8TUY or myself using our call sign and the portcars.org mail system. - 73.



## *QRP & CW SIG*

***Terry, KB8AMZ***

Second Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 7 P.M., will be the next CW/QRP Special Interest Group meeting.

The theme will be finishing CW. I plan for on-the-air time for October. Like new phone operators first time on the air via key can be just as daunting. I will be by your side to assist with your first QSO or more.

Keep practicing and hope to see at the September CW/QRP SIG - 73.



## *Digital SIG*

***Rick, K8CAV***

The Digital Special Interest Group meeting will be held on Tuesday September 5th at 7:30 PM at the club site in Ravenna. Note that we moved the time back one-half hour because the PCARS board will be meeting on Tuesday also due to the Labor Day holiday. Last month Jim AC8NT gave a presentation on WSJT-X software and its various mode including FT-8. This month we'll be making some on the air contacts and giving you the opportunity to try it out, live. As always we'll be there to help with any questions or problems you may have with digital communications.



## 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 out the new receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls - using a PL tone of 118.8.** The Rootstown receiver still uses the 110.9 PL tone, but that receive site is real 'iffy'.

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

September	
7	WB8LCD
14	KA8TOA
21	N8RLG
28	KD8SKL

October	
5	KA8TOA
12	KB8UUZ
19	K8IV
26	KD8SKL

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](mailto:KA8TOA@portcars.org) Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!

Effective September 1, 2017, the new Net Manager for the Thursday night 2 meter nets will be Greg Ash, KA8TOA. Taking the position of ACC is something that I really wanted to do, but something else had to go to make room for it. I have been the Net Control Manager since the very first PCARS net. In that position, and as a frequent Net Control Station for the nets, I've had a unique opportunity to get to know many of you "on air" as well as in person. I want to thank you all for your participation in our nets.

I also want to encourage you all to continue your participation in the PCARS nets. And, if you haven't been a regular, now is a good time to do so! PCARS has a lot of activities and events going on all the time, the weekly net is one place where you can get up to the minute information of everything going on. EVERYONE, whether a PCARS member or not, is welcome to check into our nets. I will continue to check in on a weekly basis, and will take my turns as the Net Control Station (NCS).

So, having been there, I know how much Greg will appreciate your involvement in the nets. Let's get on the air and give him some big check-in counts to report on! When he asks, be willing to take your turn as NCS – something everyone should do. Don't wait for Greg to ask, drop him an email and volunteer. We have a good crew of NCS ops that are always there, but we need others to take a turn so we don't burn out all the regulars. Like everything else PCARS – the more of you who participate with us, the more fun it is for everyone. And that's what PCARS is all about – having fun with your Amateur Radio hobby!

Thanks again.

Tom, WB8LCD



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





## *Farewell to the old Net Control Coordinator*

Tom, WB8LCD is stepping down as PCARS Net Control Coordinator. No, Tom is not going anywhere. Since he has been appointed as the Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator, Tom needs to devote time to that activity. He's still VERY active with other things in PCARS. We will not let him leave - period.

Anyway - over the years as the newsletter editor, I've been doctoring up old photos and putting Tom's face in them. I'm actually surprised that only person that has said anything about those pictures to me is Tom. Here's a sample of them:



## Mantua Potato Stomp - Communications Help

**Rick, K8CAV**

The Mantua Potato Stomp race has again asked for communications help with their event on Saturday Morning September 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a 2 event race, 4 mile and 9 mile and the course runs on roads in Mantua Village, Mantua Township, and Hiram Township.

Communications volunteers would be located at turns on the course to provide information as directed or requested. Please let me know if you can help out with this event and contact me at [k8cav@portcars.org](mailto:k8cav@portcars.org). Thanks!



## OSPOTA 2017 & POTA & a Special Event

**John, KD8MQ**

Now that the Ohio QSO Party is over, we can turn our attention to one of my favorite contests of the year; OSPOTA!

I promised some info on logging software, and that will be coming in the next couple days, but first, I have a couple requests for everyone.

First, if you haven't made plans to share your OSPOTA log data with the "Parks On The Air" folks, I hope that you will consider it. There's no registration required unless you are participating in their awards program. All you need to do is send the ADIF file that your logging program already creates, to your Regional POTA/KFF Manager. For those of us in the 8th call area, that will be Gene, AC8RH ([ac8rh@outlook.com](mailto:ac8rh@outlook.com)). For all others, I invite you to go to the POTA page ([wwff-kff.com](http://wwff-kff.com)) to find your manager. This will help others to get credit from the POTA program for working your park.

Second, there will be operators all over the country looking for contacts with Ohio State Parks. So be sure to include 20 Meters in your plans for OSPOTA weekend.

I just received word from Ted, W8KVK that in addition to participating in the 2017 Ohio State Parks on the air contest, the Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation (SCARF) club station KC8AAV will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Burr Oak State Park (KFF-1939) 9-Sept-22 thru 10-Sept-16.

Special commemorative QSL and email Certificate available in addition to KFF-1939 credit. Details at <http://w8kvk.com/kc8aav>





# Ohio State Parks On The Air



## **TENTH ANNUAL - OSPOTA - September 9th**

Hello OSPOTA fans. Seems like Summer is passing faster than usual and that means the 10th annual OSPOTA contest is coming up sooner than you think. Make your plans, test that antenna set up, get out there and have some fun during OSPOTA 2017 on September 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm eastern time.

**In celebration of our TENTH year with the OSPOTA contest - special prizes will be awarded to amateurs activating Ohio State Parks for the contest this year.**

A note to remember - you are visiting an Ohio State Park. You are just a visitor, so please keep the area neat and clean and check the surrounding area to pick up any trash accidentally dropped before you depart.

Also, as in the past, some park officials seem to think that since you are participating in OSPOTA, you need some sort of permit - You do not need a permit. You are just a visitor to the park that happens to be a ham operator testing out emergency communications with other hams in other state parks - again, you are a visitor to the park. **However be aware that the local Rangers may still require registration as an "event"**. See the latest information on the OSPOTA web site ([www.ospota.org](http://www.ospota.org)) or on the OSPOTA Yahoo site - **THERE HAVE BEEN UPDATES** to the rules and other documents.



You have no special rights as to where you can set up and please don't make any demands to a Park Ranger. That's the easiest way to get tossed out of a State Park. Be polite, invite the Park Ranger(s) to see what you are doing and make sure you let him/her know that this is really like practicing emergency communications for public service. More and more governmental agencies such as Police, Public Health Departments, EMA, FEMA, Dept of Health & Human Services, Red Cross, etc. recognize how important amateur radio is for emergency communications.

***"When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works".***

Most of the time when you talk to the Park Rangers about this aspect - they think it's pretty cool and they leave you alone.

So - be polite - and most of all **HAVE FUN!** Take some pictures while you're out there, too. Check the rules again (they are posted here and on the main OSPOTA web site - since late last year).

**Pick a Park and go for it!**



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



# Ohio State Parks On The Air



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the **10<sup>th</sup> Annual “Ohio State Parks On the Air” (OSPOTA)** contest, from the hours of 10:00 am to 6:00 p.m. EST (1400 UTC to 2200 UTC).

## **10<sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 9, 2017**

11 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 8, 2018	12 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 7, 2019
13 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 12, 2020	14 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 11, 2021
15 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 10, 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 9, 2023
17 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 7, 2024	18 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 6, 2025
19 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 11, 2026	20 <sup>th</sup> OSPOTA - September 11, 2027

*Always the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.*



For hams throughout the State of Ohio, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the 74 beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. Don't just make a day of it, spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets. Find out more about the Ohio State Parks at:

<http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/>

In past years, hundreds of Amateur Radio Operators (hams) from around the country participated in the event. With the success of OSPOTA, we hope to have amateur radio operators at every Ohio State Park.

This contest places a premium on working stations located in the Ohio State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the design and deployment of Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) antennas. You can find numerous designs on the Internet and in various Amateur Radio antenna manuals. Along with your operating skills, it will be a chance to showcase your antenna building skills as well.

Individuals and multiple operators can operate Ohio State Park stations. Non-park stations in Ohio as well as stations outside of Ohio can also compete.

Contacts can be made on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. All contacts have the same point values.

Make sure that you read the Rules, FAQ's and get your forms for the contest that are posted on the OSPOTA website: [www.ospota.org](http://www.ospota.org) before the contest.

So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** in September. Have some fun with this contest! Learn more about PCARS at [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org).



73 for now,  
*OSPOTA Contest Committee*

Rev. 1 Dec 2016





The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 10<sup>th</sup> annual

# Ohio State Parks On The Air



## Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 9, 2017, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC

There are **74** Ohio State Parks  
Make a day of it and join us in the **FUN!**

Visit a beautiful Ohio State Park  
and have some  
Amateur Radio Fun at the same time!



**Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?**

Check out **all** the details at: [www.OSPOTA.org](http://www.OSPOTA.org)

While you're at it, check out the PCARS web site at: [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)

1 Dec 2015

## 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](mailto:KD8SKL@portcars.org)

## Contest Calendar

September 2017		
Contest Name	Click for more info	Times - Date
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	2300Z, Sep 4 to 0300Z, Sep 5
<b>Ohio State Parks On The Air</b>	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	<b>9am-6pm local, Sep 9</b>
WAE DX Contest, SSB	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	0000Z, Sep 9 to 2359Z, Sep 10
ARRL September VHF Contest	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	1800Z, Sep 9 to 0300Z, Sep 11
Washington State Salmon Run	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	1600Z, Sep 16 to 2400Z, Sep 17
North American Sprint, RTTY	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 17
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	0000Z, Sep 23 to 2400Z, Sep 24
Maine QSO Party	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	1200Z, Sep 23 to 1200Z, Sep 24
Texas QSO Party	<a href="#">-&gt;Click Here&lt;-</a>	1400Z, Sep 30 to 2000Z, Oct 1

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



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





## 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](http://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

**09/10/2017 - Findlay Hamfest** - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org> - Talk-In: 147.15+ - Public Contact: Chuck Hirschy, N9FIJ - 511 Hunters Creek Drive Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-423-3402 - Email: [hamfest@findlayradioclub.org](mailto:hamfest@findlayradioclub.org)

=====

**09/10/2017 - Butler County Amateur Radio Swapfest** - Location: Unionville Fire Department - 102 Mahood Road - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://w3udx.org> - Talk-In: 147.36/96 (PL 131.8) - Public Contact: Joseph Sciulli, N3WH - 1020 Bonniebrook Road Butler, PA 16002 - Phone: 412-337-1687 - (after 5 PM) - Email: [N3WHJOE@gmail.com](mailto:N3WHJOE@gmail.com)

=====

**09/24/2017 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show** - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Talk-In: 146.73 - Public Contact: Glenn Williams, AF8C - 4134 Stoney Ridge Road Avon, OH 44011 - Phone: 440-934-5566 - Email: [af8c@ARRL.net](mailto:af8c@ARRL.net)

=====

**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](mailto:truss@sssnet.com)

=====

## Swap-N-Shop

**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](mailto: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 - Heathkit 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:n8nb@aol.com) [10/2/17]

-----



**For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder:** This is a PCARS members only benefit. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [10/2/17] indicates the ad will run until October 2, 2017.





## 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/>

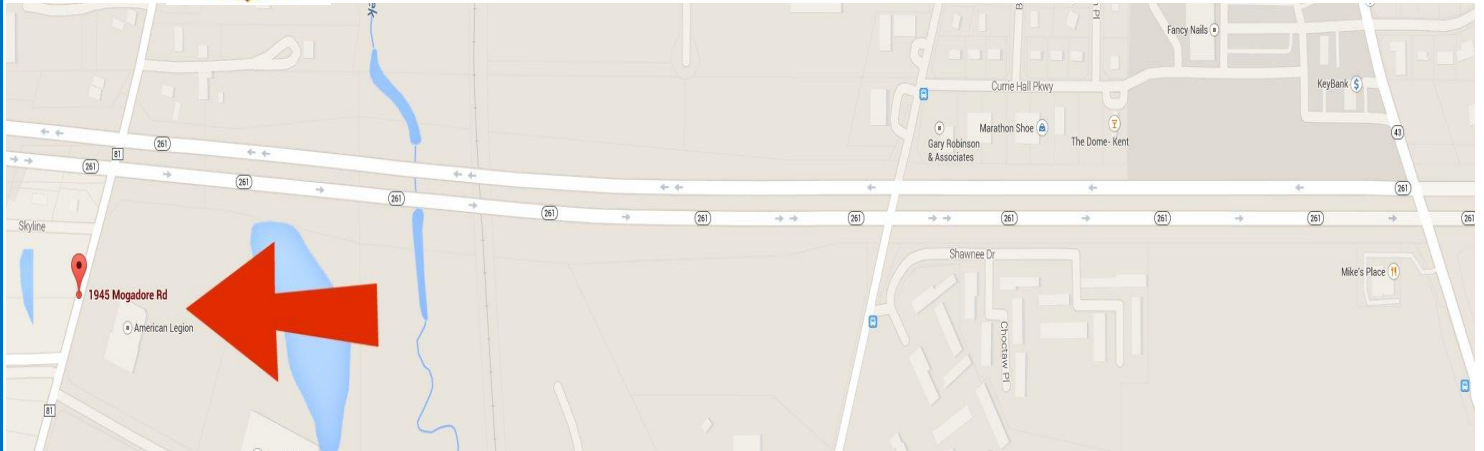


## PCARS Meetings

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the **2<sup>nd</sup> 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)*

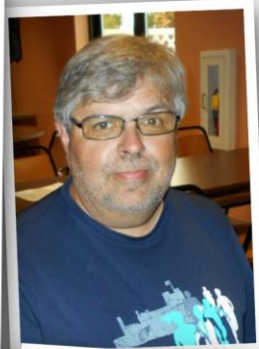
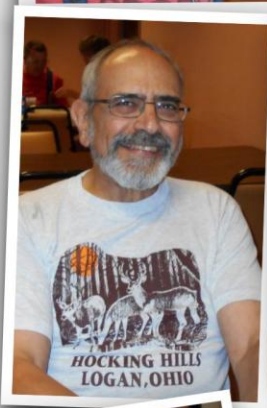
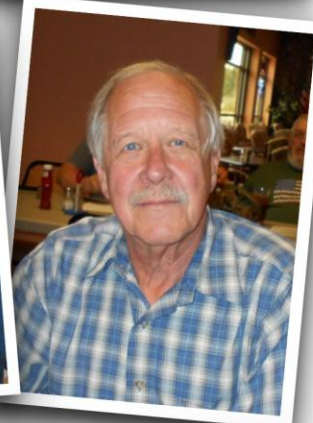


The menu consists of your basic burger / dog / chicken sandwiches, wings, fries, onion rings, and salads. There is also an appetizer selection as well. Adult beverages are available and costs are in line with what you would expect at most bar-restaurant facilities.

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 August*



# PCARS

## 14 August 2017

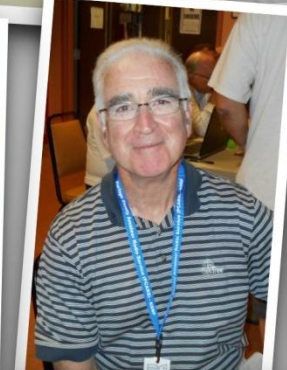
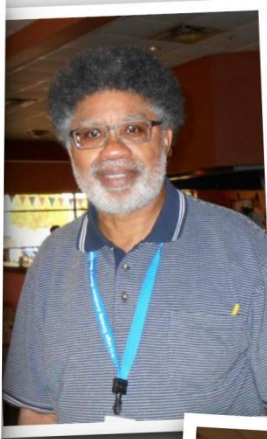




# 14 August 2017

# PCARS





PCARS



14  
August  
2017





## Important Dates This Month

Here are some actual holidays that are a little off beat and fun.

### **Tue 5th Sep, 2017 will be.. Cheese Pizza Day**

Although we are all fond of piling toppings onto our favorite pizzas, the humble cheese pizza is celebrated with Cheese Pizza Day. It is estimated that there are more than 70,000 pizzerias across the United States, demonstrating how pizza has been adopted into the national psyche.



Bizarrely, pizza – especially a basic cheese pizza – was regarded by its Italian inventors as a food for the lower classes who could not afford the luxury of meats. The ingredients are cheap, requiring just flour, yeast and water to make a basic dough, with toppings often being picked from local trees and made from local milk.

Whether you're a fan of a deep dish from Chicago, or prefer the more authentic Italian thin base pizza, now you have an excuse to indulge! If you really want to spoil yourself, head down to Pizza Luis XIII restaurant in Salerno, Italy, where the world's most expensive pizza has been created – costing \$12,0000!

=====

### **Thu 7th Sep, 2017 will be... Beer Lover's Day**

"Milk is for babies. When you grow up you have to drink beer." - Arnold Schwarzenegger

Beer is one of the world's most popular alcoholic drink. It has been around for centuries dating as far back as the Egyptians and Romans. Nowadays, Craft beer is a million dollar business and breweries are becoming the most popular hobby to take part in.



### **History of Beer Lover's Day**

There are many different ways to brew beer, as the way we process beer has changed and evolved over time. However, this day dedicated to all the different kinds of beer and the celebration of beer lovers. As it is one of the oldest beverages humanity has ever produced, it dates back to the 5th millennium BC in Iran, as ancients were drinking beer upon its discovery. However, our modern society is crazy about beer due to its taste, the way it makes people feel, and the commemorative way in which beer is used. It's generally used for celebration or a get-together and it is everywhere.

Small facts about beer and beer lovers include the fact that a beer lover or enthusiast is called a cerevisaphile. Another interesting fact is that Germany serves beer ice cream in popsicle form. Its alcoholic content is less than that found in "classic" beer. Fact three includes how they used mugs with a whistle baked into the rim, the whistle being used to summon the barmaid. It has been suggested this practice gave birth to the phrase "wet your whistle." The only instance in which beer was prohibited on a legal level was the prohibition period of the 1920's. Lastly, centuries ago in England, pub visitors used a novel innovation that enabled them to get their beer served quickly. But beer has a long and detailed history, but no matter the history, many people do know the fact that beer is good.

### **How to celebrate Beer Lover's Day**

One of the best ways to celebrate Beer Lover's Day is to have a beer or lager with your friends, no matter the occasion. Another way you can have a good time is by going on a beer tasting journey at a specialty brewery. You can also go bar hopping and drink beers at your local pubs to have a good time. If you don't feel like drinking beer, you can cook with it as well with many different kinds of food recipes.



=====

## Fri 8th Sep, 2017 will be... Star Trek Day

Founded: September 8th 1966 by Gene Roddenberry

"I haven't faced death. I've cheated death. I've tricked my way out of death and patted myself on the back for my ingenuity; I know nothing." ~ James T. Kirk, Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan

Long ago, in the depths of the cold war, America had a prophet arrive. He spoke not of religious texts and damnation, but instead provided us with a vision of the future so hope-filled, so compelling, that it has indelibly marked the imaginations of man-kind ever since. Star Trek Day celebrates that vision, and the man who created it, Gene Roddenberry.



### History of Star Trek Day

To today's audiences, the original Star Trek series can seem hackneyed, corny, and even incredibly racist when viewed through the modern lens. To view it in this way overlooks the incredible strides that were made during its production, and how unthinkable some of the elements found within were. Consider if you will, Lieutenant Pavel Andreievich Chekov, a officer of Russian descent serving on board an American starship. In the days of the 'Red Communist Threat' this concept was inconceivable, but Gene dreamed of a day where it would be possible.

Then there was Lieutenant Nyota Uhura, who stood out not only by being a female officer on the deck of a naval vessel (since all starships are considered part of the Navy) but by being of African-American descent. Both of these elements created an incredible story for her, her position as fourth in command of the USS Enterprise not undermined by her position as a glorified telephone operator.

Star Trek speaks of a hope-filled future where our nationality no longer matters, and yet each of our personal heritages is still something we can be proud of. We are all citizens of the same universe, and at the end of the day that's all that matters.

### How to Celebrate Star Trek Day

The best and easiest way to celebrate Star Trek Day is simply taking the time to marathon the original series. Take care on the first episode, it is easily rated as one of the most spooky and unnerving of all episodes, and Spock is to blame. They hadn't established that Vulcan's lacked emotion at that point, so there's a shocking surprise for those unfamiliar with the episode. Put together some themed snacks and pull your old uniforms out of the closet, no better way to get in the spirit of Star Trek Day!

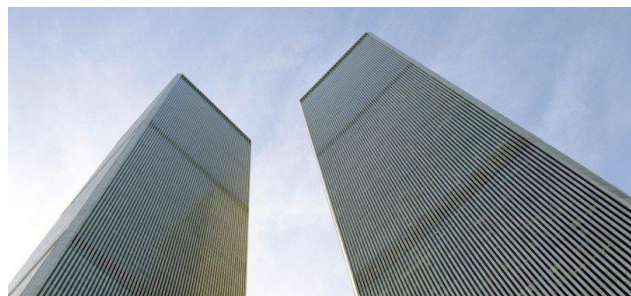
=====

## Mon 11th Sep, 2017 will be... Patriot Day

Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001

Founded: October 25, 2001 by U.S. House of Representatives

Patriot Day falls on 11th September (also commonly known as 'Nine-Eleven') and is remembered globally as the anniversary of the catastrophic terrorist attacks on the USA of 11th September 2001.



Embedded in the memories of everyone who lived through it, this was the day four jet planes were hijacked and crashed into the New York World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, causing the deaths of 2,977 people. The fourth plane (United Airlines Flight 93) was directed at Washington DC, but its passengers bravely attempted to take back control and it crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The large majority of those lost after the attacks on the Twin Towers were working at or above the points of collision; thousands of people who had gone to work that morning like every other day, found themselves suddenly stranded at the top of a burning skyscraper. A number made the choice to jump from the flaming buildings rather than wait to be caught by the flames or for the building to collapse. No one could forget the terrifying and heartbreaking stories and images captured by the news footage of the day.

In the wake of the World Trade Center collisions, many brave men and women from the emergency services risked their lives to try to help rescue victims of the attacks, and of them 411 lost their own lives attempting to fight fires and rescue people.

Patriot Day is recognized by US law as the official day of remembrance for these tragic events, and has been observed every year since. Each year on this day, American flags are flown at half-staff to honor and commemorate those lives lost. The US President asks fellow Americans to observe a moment of silence at 8:46 am (Eastern Daylight Time), the time of the first plane collision into the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

While the events took place within the USA, the shock and grief experienced in response to the attacks was shared across the globe, and for this reason Patriot Day will be observed not only in America, but all over the world.

---

### **Thu 14th Sep, 2017 will be... Cream Filled Doughnut Day**

“Let me tell you, I’m not sure if America runs on donuts, but I sure do! Nothin’ like a little simple sugar icing to get the blood pumping at 9:00 A.M.” ~ Chris Benz

They sit amongst the others, crowned kings among the more plebian cake doughnuts and simple glazed. Cream-filled Doughnuts are truly the treasure trove of doughnut kind, the one true doughnut, the hopes and dreams that all other doughnut-kind aspire to be. Cream-Filled Doughnut Day holds this truth to be self-evident, and celebrates these wonderful confections by encouraging everyone to consume them until they burst! (Just kidding, eat responsibly kids!)



### **History of Cream-Filled Doughnut Day**

Cream-Filled Doughnut Day was established to raise these incredible doughnuts to the place they deserve, a day dedicated to their delicious construction and the dreamlike consistency of their fillings. While it may seem overly simplistic to refer to simply ‘Cream-Filled Doughnuts’ as being supreme, that just means that an education is in order. Cream is not just a white substance sweetened and flavored like vanilla, that is but the foundation of the mounts of glory these doughnuts can achieve.

In the mood for something citrus? Something with a bit of zing? There are lemon-cream filled doughnuts that contain potent little flecks of lemon zest, enough to brighten up the sweetness of the doughnut and render them positively uplifting. Prefer the tart sweetness of raspberries? Raspberry cream exists as well, and those doughnuts filled with it are a delight for those who love this berry-laden fruit.

Cream-Filled Doughnut Day reminds you that there is ever so much more to a doughnut than a cakey-consistency and a sugary glaze. Sometimes the best part of a doughnut is what’s inside, just like with people. Perhaps we should all aspire to find the cream-filled doughnut in the people around us. Who knows what secrets they hold!

### **How to Celebrate Cream-Filled Doughnut Day**

Just take a quick trip down to your local bakery or Dunkin’ Donuts, and ask them to trot out their favorite cream-filled doughnuts for you to peruse! Lemon-cream and chocolate-cream, strawberry-cream and raspberry, these are just the beginning of the nearly limitless variety of cream-filled doughnuts you can find. We suggest starting simply, however, and enjoying the Boston Cream Donut, easily one of the most delicious varieties of Cream-Filled Doughnut around. Ask your friends to bring their favorite cream doughnuts to work and have everyone share in the bounty!



---

## Mon 18th Sep, 2017 will be... Cheeseburger Day

Cheeseburger day is celebrated annually on the 18th September. This celebration of one of the most iconic and delicious foods of the USA, has been taking place every year since the early part of the Roaring 20's era.

Cheeseburger day is marked in a number of different ways. One of the most common ways it's celebrated is by major and local fast-food chains offering free cheeseburgers to customers alongside other special offers. Usually the free offers have some sort of limit to prevent people from taking advantage of the generosity. This may be limiting the free cheeseburgers to one per customer, to only the first ten thousand visitors to the fast food store, or through making them available only for a one or two hour period on the day.

To mark the day, many burger makers will use their creativity and culinary skills to make new variations on the traditional cheeseburger. This usually involves using premium types of cheese, other meats and a variety of unusual garnishes.

---



---

## Thu 28th Sep, 2017 will be... Drink Beer Day

Raise a glass of your favorite ale or lager and celebrate Drink Beer Day! One of the oldest man-made beverages in history, beer has been produced since the Neolithic Era with some breweries dating back as far as 1040. It is little wonder why drinking beer has come to be such a popular and entertaining activity.

With hundreds of different new and traditional varieties available, Drink Beer Day gives all drinkers a wonderful opportunity to sample both local and internationally brewed ales and lagers.

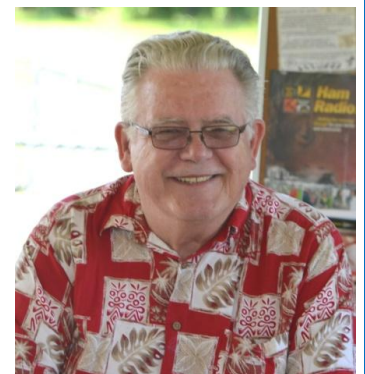
Held annually, this exciting holiday is recognized in many different countries across the globe and taking part could not be easier. Simply gather a few friends, nip down to your nearest off-license or supermarket and crack open a beer for a fun-packed day. Alternatively, celebrate by attending beer festivals or beer-tasting events held in your local area.



## 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:

**KB8UUZ, WB8LCD, K8CAV, AC8NT, N8SY, W8KNO, A8UWV, WA8TSI, KD8CGH, N8RLG, W2LJ, KD8MQ, KB6NU, W8PT, AB8YK, KB8AMZ, KA8TOA, YDXA, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web.**

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

# ~ Amateur Radio Instruction Class ~

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



is sponsoring an Amateur Radio **Technician** course  
that will enable *You* to obtain  
*Your* FCC **Technician** license as an  
**AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR**



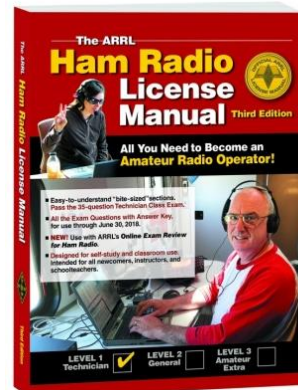
**When:** Wednesday evening 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
September 13, 2017 through November 1, 2017  
8 weeks. Official Amateur Radio License testing  
will be held at the end of the course (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>).

**Where:** At the **PCARS Club Site**  
Radio Room located at  
705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna

**Registration:** First night of class

**Cost:** **\$25.00 Registration fee.**  
(No Registration Fee for PCARS Members)  
**\$30 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual”**  
(text may be purchased first night of class)

**Information:** Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT  
e-mail at: [AC8NT@portcars.org](mailto:AC8NT@portcars.org)  
phone at: **330-342-8149**



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

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

For more information about PCARS, go to [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org) , or contact

**Jim Wilson - AC8NT**, at [AC8NT@portcars.org](mailto:AC8NT@portcars.org), or by phone at **330-342-8149**





## 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](http://www.glhamcon.org)

[Info@glhamcon.org](mailto:Info@glhamcon.org)

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

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

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


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

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

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

Check PCARS out on the web: [www.PORTCARS.ORG](http://www.PORTCARS.ORG) -or- [www.K8BF.ORG](http://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
~ Meetings & Net ~  2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. 7pm  Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Secretary	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers

 <p><b>PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members</b></p>	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](mailto: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](mailto:kb8uuz@portcars.org)

