



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

PCARS - the 2018 Hamvention® Club of The Year

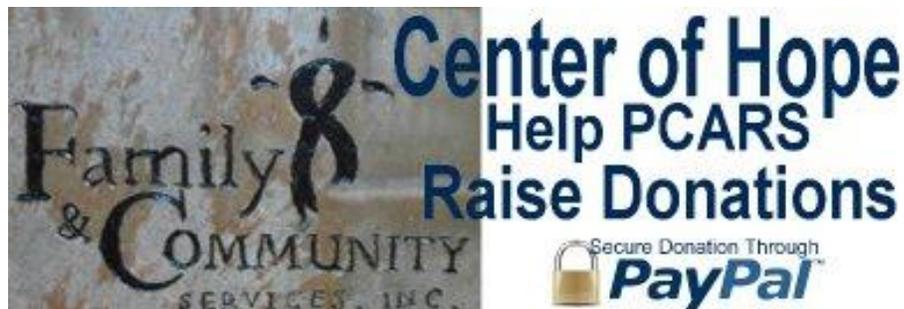
November 2021 - Volume 16 Number 11

Ohio State Parks On The Air 2021 - Final Results

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Center of Hope Donations and Raffle Night



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





Feature Articles	
From the PCARS President	3
From the PCARS Vice President	4
Center of Hope Donations	5
From the Great Lakes Division Director	6
From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director	7
From the Ohio Section Manager	8
Spring Forward - FALL BACK	9
Out and About - Portable Operations	12
Great Lakes Division Newsletter Award 2021	15
OSPOTA 2021 - FINAL RESULTS	17
OSPOTA 2021 - Photos & Soapbox Comments	22
OSPOTA Logging & Checking	31
Tips on Antenna Assembly & Installation	34
News from the ARRL	36
Microwaves Part 3 - Dish Teardown	42
Veterans Day - Special Events	48
FYAO 2021 - December 4th	50
DX Engineering is Hiring	50
Marconi Maritime Center & Museum	51
Falkland Islands - New Prefixes	52

Regular Departments	
PCARS Patches & Stickers	13
Happy Birthday	13
PCARS IO Group	14
Swap-N-Shop	16
PCARS Coffee Cup - Limited Edition	32
Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites	39
SIG - Portable Ops	44
SIG - Digital	44
SIG - DX & Contest	45
Paper Chase	46
Member Ham License Plates Wanted	53
PCARS on YouTube	53
Photos from the last PCARS Meeting	55

Finals	
Just For Fun	59
Thanks & 73	60
Fine Print	61

Mark Your Calendar	
Schedule of Events	4
VE Test Information & News	10
Hamfest Calendar	32
Net Info & NCS Schedule	33
Flex Net	33
Meetings, PCARS	54
FYAO 2021 Flier	58



Portage County Amateur Radio Service



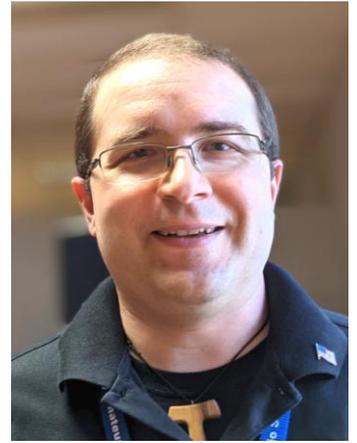
2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year



From the President



Nick, AC8QG
PCARS President



Jamboree-on-the-Air

This year, we in the Wagner household finally participated in Scout BSA's Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). For those who don't know, Jamboree-on-the-Air is held every year on the third weekend in October. It's the largest Scouting event in the world and Scouts of any age can participate.

We had a busy weekend already, but we managed to find a bit of time on Saturday and some more on Sunday to make several contacts. We also did a bit of listening and I know my kids enjoyed hearing from so many other Scouts from around the country.

Everyone they communicated with, whether Scout or not, was friendly and encouraging. Scouts shared what they liked about various activities such as camping, hiking, and merit badges. Some "non-scout-old-timers" talked about their younger days and how they were involved in Scouts or how their kids participated in years gone by.

It was a lot of fun for everyone and a splendid example of the excellence of the amateur radio community.

Technician Class

Our technician class finished in mid-October and we had exceptionally good results. Many thanks to Jim, AC8NT for coordinating everything and for teaching and to Rick, K8CAV and Bob, N8QE for their help teaching. Every person in the class successfully passed their license exam. Congratulations to all our new hams!

Center of Hope Fundraiser

November is finally here and once again we're raising money for the Center of Hope. PCARS has been extremely generous in past years, and I know that trend will continue. It's not going to be easy to surpass last year's number, but I'm counting on help from everyone. Please give what you can and ask others to pitch in, too. Center of Hope is a great organization that does a lot of good for our community. They put every dollar to good use, and especially as we approach the holiday season, every little bit helps.

You can donate right now by going to our website (www.portcars.org) and clicking on the donation button on the right-hand side. You can also purchase 50-50 tickets from our homepage, and this month all proceeds go directly to Center of Hope.

I appreciate your help and continued generosity!

Upcoming Elections

At our November meeting, we will once again conduct our annual election of officers. PCARS is only able to continue its great tradition through the selfless efforts of the members who step into leadership and volunteer roles.

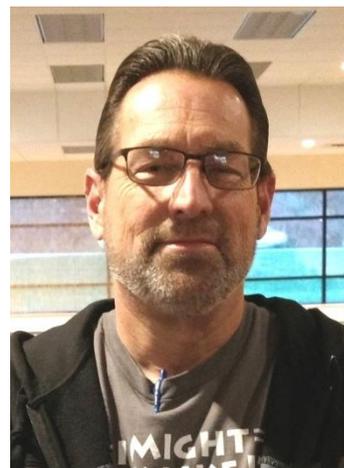
This year, like every year, we need your help. Please consider running for an elected position or volunteering for an appointed position for 2022. There's a lot of work to do, but there's a lot of fun to be had, too. If you have any questions about the various roles or how you can help, please email me at president@portcars.org.



From the Vice President



Mike N8WCP
PCARS Vice President



Fall is here, the leaves are dropping and so is the temperature but the DX is heating up! Whether your cup tea is working DX, FT8, CW, 2M, APRS, DMR, or any other mode, just get on the radio and enjoy our awesome hobby!

Based on feedback it appears those who could attend our October meeting found the presentation by Clint Bradford, K6LCS on satellites out of this world. Clint enjoyed the opportunity to speak at our meeting and will soon be enjoying his morning coffee from an official PCARS mug.

The 2021 speaker season is over but the work continues to find speakers for our 2022 meetings. This is your club, and the officers want to address your interests, so let us know what topics you'd like to hear about.

The November meeting is our Center of Hope fundraiser. Center of Hope plays a critical role in Portage County through their programs to assist disadvantaged residents. Any amount you can donate will be greatly appreciated by Center of Hope. You can donate at the meeting or comfortably from home via the club website.

While you're on the website, purchase some 50/50 tickets too! There will be some great prizes available at the November meeting.

Last thought, if you haven't attended a SIG in person or via Zoom, give it a try. There's always interesting and lively discussions about our hobby and a great way to learn a thing or two.

Schedule of Events



*We plan to add to the schedule as we bring back more in-person events.
Look for announcements in QST emails, on the website,
on our weekly net, and in future newsletters.*

*If you're not feeling well, please stay home and join us by Zoom if instead. We'll
continue to offer Zoom as an option wherever it makes sense to do so.*

November 1st - PCARS Board Meeting - Club Site & Zoom - 7 pm

**November 8th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion & Zoom
ELECTIONS**

CENTER of HOPE Super Raffle Fund Drive

December 4th - VE Testing at the club site - 10 am

December 4th - FYAO at the park in Kent - see flier

First Tuesday - **Digital** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV

Second Tuesday - **Portable Ops** - Moderator: John, WG8X

Third Tuesday - **Antenna** - Moderator: Tony, WA8AR

Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT

Fourth Thursday - Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 pm - Moderator: Tom, WB8LCD



Center of Hope Donations



November is coming soon and it is a very important month for PCARS, and it's a very important month for **you** to show up at our meeting November 8th!

Three items come to mind as to why:

- 1- It's the perfect time to pay your dues for the coming year!
- 2 - **It's our annual election of officers, and**
- 3 - **It's our annual 50/50 to benefit the Center of Hope in Ravenna.**

You know why you need to pay your dues, you know why our election of officers is so important to the continued success of PCARS! Our annual donation to the Center of Hope is important, not only to the Center of Hope, but to the Portage County Community at large, and specifically to PCARS.

In the early years of PCARS, before our own club site space existed, many PCARS functions and events were held at the old Center of Hope on W. Main St. in Ravenna. (The Center of Hope is one of the programs of F&CS). We even had a few of our clubs monthly meetings there. Early on we decided that in November, all of the clubs portion of the 50/50 raffle would be donated to the Center of Hope as a "thank you" for the assistance they had given PCARS for the use of the space, and later on for the generous opportunity to have space in the former ODOT facility. Our donation has grown from a few hundred dollars to **\$10,210.74 last year!** Probably one of the largest single donations that The Center of Hope receives over the course of a year.

We want to continue that upward trend as long as we can! We have an outstanding club facility that we can all be proud of, and that we should all be thankful for. There are 3 ways you can help us. First, come to the meeting and buy LOTS of 50/50 tickets - you can also buy them on-line at the PCARS web site! The half of the 50/50 that would normally go to PCARS is given to the Center of Hope donation. Second, make a personal donation to the Center of Hope. Dig deep on this, give what you can to help someone in your community have a better holiday season this year. Lastly, don't be afraid to ask your friends, neighbors, employers, employees, and anyone else you come in contact with to help you support this very worthwhile endeavor. They can say "yes" or they can say "no", but if you don't ask them, there's no way to get to "yes", and that doesn't help anyone!

Here are a few things you should know about the Center of Hope:

- The Amelia DiGirolamo Center of Hope is dedicated to enhancing the nutrition of low-income people in Portage County where local food pantries are not present. Hot meals are offered at no cost five days a week and are typically served to between 75-100 individuals each day. Groceries are available monthly through the Christian Cupboard. Opportunities for socialization, cooking classes and referral services are also offered.
- Out of every \$1.00 donated, 94 cents goes toward direct service to their clientele. That puts the Center of Hope at the very top of the scale for percentage of funds that actually reach their intended target! There are over 100,000 individuals who receive service through the Center of Hope each year.

We are the Portage County Amateur Radio Service. This is one more way that our community benefits from our organization.

Please bring all of your donations, including those you collect from others, to the meeting with you on Monday, November 8th.**

When making your donation, please make checks payable to 'The Center of Hope'. By doing this PCARS does not need to report your donations as income. You will receive a charitable donation receipt directly from the Center of Hope. (If you collect any donations from friends, relatives, etc., the same applies to them) All donations are aggregated to the PCARS donation, even though the individual donor is given credit for it.

**** If you are not able to make the PCARS meeting but you would still like to help us support the Center of Hope, please check the PCARS web site - you can donate on-line through PayPal**



From the Great Lakes Division Director



Dale, WA8EFK
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director



Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for November 2021

October has traditionally been the month in which the ARRL's Simulated Emergency Test (SET) takes place. This year was no exception as the three Sections that comprise the Great Lakes Division, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio, each held their SET events. It is permitted to hold a SET on a weekend convenient for the participants and that's exactly what we did. There is a scoring system in place that encourages community contacts and messaging, and strives to introduce new players into the process. This also allows Amateur Radio Emergency Service® ARES® groups a means to compare one year's efforts against others.

I hope your SET went well, I hope something broke and I hope everyone gained some knowledge about work-arounds and improvements that can pay off in a real emergency situation. Innovative ideas abound when something does not go as planned and it is a time to recognize those lessons learned to everyone's advantage. A "Hot Wash" or more properly, an After Action Review, is a mandatory finish for any exercise. This is the time to self-examine all phases and doing it immediately after the closing of the exercise insures that all of the details are clear in the minds of the participants. It is not the time to be critical of anyone, but only of the events that took place with carefully considered ideas of how to do better next time.

My thanks go out to all who helped. These can be huge and complex events and it takes a lot of thought to insure that there is a place for any ham that wants to play. I hope everyone had that opportunity. I often think about the contributions that some of our special parts of ham radio can offer in an emergency. We normally recognize the EMCOMM folks who are close to this every day, but traffic handlers are also key players. And who can you call on when HF communications are tough? The DXers and contesters, who have well designed stations and antenna systems and regularly copy those very weak stations. And they do it so effectively through intense QRM. Of course an active ARES® Emergency Coordinator, through the local ham clubs' contacts, knows the community's available resources and can call upon the added expertise when it is needed.

Emergency Communications has served as an entry point for many newcomers to amateur radio as it combines with the desire for community service. ARRL is in the process of searching for a new national Emergency Communications Director to guide ARES® and strengthen its future. This new Director will work with our served agencies at the national level, to build on existing relationships, renew Memoranda of Understanding and collaborate with the ARRL Field Organization to insure their needs are met. Currently, the Emergency Communications / Field Services Committee (ECFSC) is in the process of updating the ARES® Plan that was approved by the ARRL Board in January of 2019. The ECFSC was created by the ARRL Board to coordinate the ARES® as well as the other Field Services activities that report to our Section Managers.

This task of updating and adjusting a plan is not easy. For example, there is a need for common training levels to allow mutual aid when personnel are being over extended. Yet, there are portions of the country where training can be an issue because of extensive travel conditions - think Alaska where one must often fly to get to the next community. It is true that remote learning advancements resulting from the Covid-19 Pandemic have allowed some adjustments, but there remains the need for personal contact and familiarization for those individuals that must serve as a team. Other unique situations must be considered and evaluated, most relate to specific geography but some must accommodate variations in ethnicity and language. What a potpourri this country is.

A SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING SCHOLARSHIPS. The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program opens TODAY.

The ARRL Foundation scholarship application period for the academic year 2022-2023 opens on November 1st and

ends on December 31, 2021. The Foundation issued \$550,000 in scholarships for 2021-2022 and for the academic year 2022-2023 there has been a significant increase in the number of large dollar scholarships available thanks to a generous contribution from Amateur Radio Digital Communications, Inc. (ARDC).

For the academic year 2022-2023, 130 scholarships will be offered totaling \$900,000! There are twenty \$25,000 scholarships, four \$15,000, seventeen \$10,000 scholarships, nine \$5,000 scholarships as well as dozens of \$1,000 and \$500 scholarships. The descriptions of the scholarships available are on line. <http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-descriptions>

It is also very easy to apply as the scholarship application is on line. <http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-application>

Since only amateur radio operator students may apply, the chances of being selected for a scholarship are good. It would be a shame to miss this opportunity. Since 1973, the ARRL Foundation, with the generosity of many donors and the hard work of a long line of dedicated Foundation Directors, has had a positive impact on the lives of many young amateur radio operator students. Being awarded an ARRL Foundation scholarship could mean the difference in whether a student can pursue their education in 2022-2023 or not. Thank you. Dr David Woolweaver K5RAV, President, ARRL Foundation

From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Scott, N8SY
ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director

Scott's Notes for November 2021



Fall is definitely here. The leaves are turning colors, the squirrels and chipmunks are making nests in your attic and there is a cold bite to the morning air to cool your coffee down. Are you ready for what is coming next? I will remind you that Christmas is just 55 days away! I hope you are working on your Christmas lists.

November is Sweeps month, both CW (November 6-8) and Phone (November 20-22). I have always loved this contest, especially when I had the perfect call for it. My old call was KC8SS. That call sign got me into more pileups than I could count. I will be on both the CW and Phone contests so listen up for me.

Ok, let us get serious for a minute. Where is your ham shack located? Is it in the basement, garage, or outbuilding? Most generally ham shacks are not in the living room and as such, heating devices for your shack are usually some sort of a supplemental heater/furnace and that is why this next paragraph is so important to talk about now that the weather is getting colder. I want to talk to you about Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning.

First, let me describe what Carbon Monoxide (CO) is. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the poisonous gases emitted from carbon fueled heat sources (i.e... gas or fuel oil furnaces, wood burning fireplaces or stoves, kerosene, or propane heaters). I could go on, but you get the idea. Carbon Monoxide is colorless, odorless and it will kill you if you breathe very much of it in. How does this gas kill? It migrates into the blood stream and replaces the oxygen in your blood with the Carbon Monoxide. Once it invades your blood stream it will be with you for an exceptionally long time. In fact, most of your life! Just ask any firefighter about that. That is where a Carbon Monoxide "CO" detector comes into play. These little devices are inexpensive (usually around \$20) and can really save you and your family's lives. Buy one or more of them now (if you don't already have one) and use them!

Hey Affiliated Clubs, have you looked to make sure that someone has filed your annual report with ARRL? This is one of the most common mistakes that I hear about from club officials, they either did not know, or just thought someone else had taken care of this. Please, check your club's affiliation record annually. Oh, and those clubs that have been - or

are currently Special Service Clubs, make sure to check on your renewal date for that as well. Since the SSC is renewed on a 2-year basis, this is even more forgotten about. Both renewals are quick and easy to do online.

ARRLs YouTube channel, ARRLHQ, has launched a series of amateur radio Technician-class license courses. This series of videos features Dave Casler, KE0OG, QSTs “Ask Dave” columnist, who leads viewers through The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual. These videos supplement the manual and provide an overview of the sections you will be studying, along with a few videos on how things work.

Notable November dates – November 2nd is election Tuesday throughout the country. November 7th is the return of standard time. Yes, you shift an hour of time, but you gain that hour of sleep you lost in the spring. I have already mentioned the dates of Sweepstakes and of course Thursday, November 25th is Thanksgiving. That is going to do it from here this month. Stay safe and “Catch Me On The Air”!!!

From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Tom, WB8LCD
ARRL Ohio Section Manger



Ham Radio has taken a lot of “hits” over being an outdated, past it’s prime, hobby for no one but old men who want to spend too much time in the basement. I’m sorry, but I disagree. Why do you think we have this image? I almost hate to put it this way, but, Ham Radio has a communications problem! While we do fine amongst ourselves, we have not been able to communicate the “JOY” of Ham Radio outside of our own community.

In the February 2021 Ohio Section Journal, I said “I have three main areas that I will be working on and hope that you will join me in. **#1.** Making sure that the Hams in the OH Section not only have but take advantage of all the opportunities that this hobby gives them to have FUN! **#2.** Increase the number of licensed hams, increase the number of active hams, and increase the number of ARRL member hams in the OH Section. **#3.** Increase and improve the public image of Amateur Radio to the general population of OH. As we’re starting to close in on the end of 2021, (Yeah, winters coming...) I still think these three objectives make a lot of sense for all of us. This has been another tough year, and my crystal ball says there may be a few more on the way. Let’s continue to find, and create, new ways to have fun with our hobby! If we aren’t enjoying what we’re doing, every thing else is moot. We’re done. But as long as we’re having fun our hobby will continue, in one form or another. And, as long as we’re having FUN, then #2 on my list should be pretty easy to attain. But, we have to draw on the non-ham population to continue to grow and that brings us to #3. If we can’t find ways to communicate the JOY of being a Ham Radio Operator to the non-ham population, we’ll never be able to convert them to members of the Greatest Hobby in the World! That’s a loosing proposition for both us and them.

I’ve talked about how we greet both non-hams and new-hams to our fraternity, both “on-air” and off. If we aren’t going to be a welcoming group, and we’re determined to keep our reputation as a closed circle of grumpy old men, then all this other talk about reviving the excitement and the interest in Ham Radio is just academic. A lot of Hams get this already. But those who don’t can drag the whole thing down. Please, take a look at yourself and do some serious self-evaluation. Only you can change you, but any improvement you can make will be of benefit to all of us! That’s enough on this topic.

Now how do we communicate to the world what we’re all about? If they don’t know we exist, then they won’t come looking for us. We need to be pro-active in finding ways to inform them about Amateur Radio. While you may not be comfortable with public speaking, you probably know a few other hams that are. You probably belong to other organizations or groups who are looking for something interesting to share with their membership, put them together with the Hams you know who are good at public speaking! (You might even want to consider joining a local “Toastmasters” group. They’re all over, they’ll help you become a better speaker, and they’ll give you opportunities and put you in front of groups to share your story with.)

How about Church groups? Civic organizations like Rotary or the Optimists? Why not military organizations,

including your local VFW or American Legion? (There are lots of special event stations that honor their service) Hiking clubs? Preppers? 4-H? Robotics groups? You get the idea. Lots of groups are looking for interesting programs to share with their members. Let's get someone in front of them telling them our story. Changing the subject, but something to think about.... Ham Radio is sometimes considered (by the general public) as something archaic and therefore dead. That really does not characterize Amateur Radio correctly, but there are some of us who find it's history, and especially older radio sets as fascinating. Why is that a negative for us? I know people who like to hunt with a bow and arrow, or black powder guns. That's not the "state of the art" for their hobby! I know folks who like to find, restore and drive older vehicles, I even know folks who like to ride horses! If you know how to send and receive Morse code you should be revered as "really cool" with historical knowledge and skills – not just one of those old, ham radio curmudgeons. Why do we carry a different "public awareness" for the things we do? (Not just a rhetorical question!) One area where I don't think there is enough PR being done is in the areas of Public Service Communications and Emergency Communications. While the Public Service Comms are just about over with for this year, EmComm is something we are always aware of and hopefully prepared for. A tough winter is predicted, so we could be called on at any minute to provide needed communications. Is the public really aware of that? I think they should be. Even if never called on, we are obligated to be prepared. The Part 97 section defining the Amateur Radio Service may imply to some that we are not "professional" in what we do. That is a misnomer and needs to be dispelled from public perception. "Amateur" does not describe our ability or talent in what we do. In fact, by strict definition, it may make us more prepared to do the best job for our communities. Thank you to everyone involved for going beyond the basics and spending your own time, talent and treasure to become a better asset for your community. If you're not already an ARES® member, please consider it. If you are, please take advantage of the educational opportunities that are out there to help make you a better emergency communicator.

Spring Forward - FALL BACK

It is that time of year again - Sunday, November 7th at 2:00 am (local time) - Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour (*Fall Back*). We go from **Eastern Daylight Saving Time (EDT)** to **Eastern Standard Time (EST)**.



UTC (GMT or Zulu Time) does NOT change.

So, follow me on this..... At 2:00 am (0200) local on November 7th, it will be 0600 UTC or 4 hours behind UTC.

We turn our clocks back one hour and that makes it 1:00 am EST (0100) - our local time. It will **still be 0600 UTC**. We are now **5** hours behind UTC time.

You get to sleep in one more hour on Sunday morning.

But don't worry, they will take that hour back again in Spring when we turn our clock ahead one hour (*Spring Forward*).



PCARS VE Testing Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



GOOD NEWS – VE testing has resumed at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Due to the COVID 19 concerns, PCARS had shut down in-person VE testing to ensure the safety of our VE team members and the applicants that wanted to take a test for their new amateur radio license or to upgrade.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to seeing you at the PCARS club site in Ravenna so you can take your license test. Face masks are not State/County mandated at this time, but you are always welcome to wear one.

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.

2021 - December 4th
2022 - February 5th, April 2nd, June 4th, August 6th, October 1st, December 3rd

WALK-INS will be accepted.

- **You must have your FRN prior to taking an exam** - No SSNs will be used on the Form 605 anymore.
- **If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or someone that has been infected** - please, *do not* come to the club site. Use of masks is still encouraged.
- **No food or snacks allowed.**
- **\$15.00 Fee Payment will only be by check or exact change. We cannot make change**
- **If paying by check, make check out to: "ARRL-VEC" The VE Fee is \$15.00**
- **Ensure you have the following:**
 - **A picture ID** such as a valid Driver's License, State ID, School ID, or US Passport.
 - **If you are under 16 years of age, a parent or guardian must be able to vouch for you and you need a copy of your birth certificate (you do not have to give us a copy, we just have to see and verify).**
 - **FCC is requiring you have your e-mail address on the Form 605.**
 - **If you are taking a Technician test you must have your FRN number** (you can apply for an FRN on the FCC website). For hams having a license, your FRN is printed on your license.
 - **If you are upgrading to General or Extra - You MUST bring your original valid amateur radio license and a copy of your valid amateur radio license to turn in with your Form 605.**
 - **Bring your own pencils and pens.**
 - **Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.**
 - **NO cell Phones allowed**



Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Additional Information - What to Bring to the Testing Session

- 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.
- 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 a copy** of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass Element number 2 to re-instate your license.

ARE YOU GOING FOR YOUR TECHNICIAN LICENSE? READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

First-Time Exam Applicants MUST Obtain FCC Registration Number BEFORE Taking Exam

As of **May 20, 2021**, all amateur examination applicants are **required** to provide an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) **BEFORE** taking an amateur exam. This is necessary due to changes the FCC has made to its licensing system. Applicants will create an FCC username and account, respond to the verification email from FCC, and then register for the FRN. Register on the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES): <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/>

Social Security Numbers are *NO LONGER ACCEPTED* at Exam Sessions

Amateur candidates who already have an FCC license, whether for amateur radio or in another service, already have an FRN and can use the same number - it is printed on your current license. All prospective new FCC licensees, however, will be required to obtain an FRN *before* the examination and provide that number to the volunteer examiners on the Form 605 license application. An FCC instructional video (<https://www.fcc.gov/rofrn>) provides step-by-step instructions on how to obtain an FRN through the FCC's CORES system. The FRN is required for all new applicants to take an amateur exam and is used afterward by the applicant to download the license document from the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) (<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/universal-licensing-system>), upgrade the license, apply for a vanity call sign, and to submit administrative updates (such as address and email changes) and renewal applications.



Email Addresses REQUIRED

As of **June 29, 2021** all applications will be required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend. Licensees will be able to log in to the ULS using their FRN and password to download the latest version of their license at any time. The FCC no longer provides paper license documents.

New FCC Application Fees Information

08/16/2021

The schedule of FCC amateur radio application fees likely will not go into effect before **2022**. FCC staff confirmed during a recent virtual meeting with Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) that the agency is still working on the necessary changes to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) software and other processes and procedures that must be in place before it starts collecting fees from amateur applicants. Earlier this year, the FCC said it would not start collecting fees from amateur applicants before this summer. The new estimate is that the fees won't go into effect until early next year. Once it's effective, the \$35 application fee will apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. Administrative update applications, such as those to change a licensee's name, mailing, or email address, will be exempt from fees. ARRL VEC manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not face the burden of collecting the \$35 fee. "Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the exam session fee to the VE team as usual, but they'll pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC using the **FCC Pay Fees** system," she explained. When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days. Licensees also will be able to view, download, and print official license copies by logging into their FCC ULS account. The FCC no longer provides printed licenses. Licensees can log into the **ULS** with their 10-digit FRN (FCC Registration Number) and password at any time to view and manage their license and application, **print their license**, and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address.

FEE SCHEDULE INDIVIDUALS - \$35 FEE: New, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. - NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation. **AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS** - \$35 FEE: New, renewal, trustee change, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. - NO FEE: Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, or license cancellation.

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will **not** have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. **Once the FCC application fee does take effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the regular \$15 exam session fee to the VE team as usual, and pay the new \$35 application fee directly to the FCC via the [Fee Filer System](#) or [License Manager System](#).** The new CSCE form now has information about fee payment,



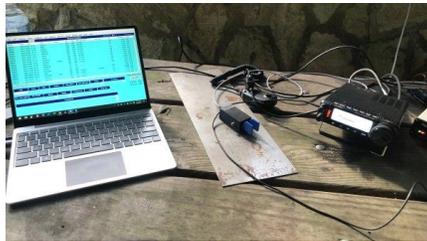
Out and About - Portable Operations

John, WG8X



Hi Everyone, It's been a busy month here on the portable ops scene. I've been doing a lot of park activations this month. Most of them here in NE Ohio; but a couple PA parks wound up in my activation log too.

October began the same as always. I had just wrapped up my part in the OSPOTA log checking, and sent the files back to Parky for a final look-see. After too many hours in front of the computer, I was ready for a vacation. For most of the last 35 years, I've enjoyed the PA QSO Party from somewhere in Pennsylvania. For the last several years, a group of us arrive in PA on Thursday afternoon, and get things ready for the weekend. Our cabin which serves as a getaway sits just south of the Clear Creek region of NE PA. It's just outside of the town of Sigel, PA. One of its best features is the near non-existent cell signal. Phone calls? Sure. Texts? You betcha. But, e-mail, Facebook, etc? Fughedaboutit!



So, on Friday, we rise early and hit the local eatery for breakfast. Once that's out of the way, my travel companions drop me off at Clear Creek State Park (K-1341). This year, I also managed to activate the State Forest across the road. This requires a little walking, but it was well worth it. A couple hundred feet into the forest on the



Beartown Rocks trail, I found I found a perfect trailside operating location. It was mostly CW, but somehow, 3 SSB stations managed to wind up in my log.

I was having some issues with my End-Fed Half Wave antenna. So, in order to make my minimum 10 contacts, I had to bump the power up to 50W on the rig. This wasn't necessarily a smart thing to do. But, since I only get to Jefferson County once a year, I took the chance. After the guys picked me up and took me back to the cabin, the issue was found & corrected. A wire had broken on the balun.



The rest of the PAQP weekend went well. The bands were excellent on Saturday, with almost all of the PA counties finding their way into my log by break time. I usually take things easy on Sunday morning until lunch time, when we break camp and head for home.



I did some more activating over the next couple weeks. My favorite for the month was a Sunday morning activation at Kyle Woods State Nature Preserve (K-9418) in canfield. It's not really a "Hike-in" activation. But, I did have to park at the road, and walk in about 600' to get to my operating location. I'm having a ton of fun operating QRP CW. Before leaving, I bumped the power up to about 50W for SSB, and made 65 more contacts from this rarely activated location.



Recently, a friend recommended a 3D printed paddle for activating. I purchased the CW Morse iambic paddle, and have enjoyed it immensely. The weight is measured in ounces, and the price was pretty slim as well. The next gear I'm waiting on is the QCX Mini that was reviewed in this month's issue of QST. I'm looking forward to doing more hiking activations over the coming winter; part of my





resolution to live a more active lifestyle.

Lastly, I've been looking for a while for a 2 X 1 call sign that I really like. Well, I found it. KD8MQ is now WG8X. I'm still getting tongue-tied on the air with it, but I'm improving. Thanks for reading this far. I hope that I've inspired you to head out and do some portable operations of your own. It's a lot of fun; you will not regret it. 73 all DE WG8X (Formerly KD8MQ).



PCARS Patches & Stickers



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: **Paul, KE8EGF** or e-mail him at: phyland@neo.rr.com



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having their birthday in **November**:

K8BF	PCARS
KE8ARB	Brandon
N8WLE	Nick
KE8NWR	Eva
KE8QEP	David
K8TTX	Tyson
AD8HV	"JC" Wilson
KD8BXY	Paul
W8RID	Robert
W8GPN	Timothy
KB8UUZ	"Parky"
N8ATV	Jerry

K3GP	George
K8FEY	Bob
	Denise
WD8PME	Robert
WA8CCU	Al
KB3OQV	Kristen
KD8ERY	Susan
KD8WZS	William
N8BI	Jack
N8SY	Scott
K3LR	Tim



PCARS IO Group

Members are reminded that PCARS has a IO Group site dedicated to PCARS. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list for important PCARS information.

Check out the PCARS IO Group at:
<https://groups.io/g/PCARS>

Two things every member should do.

1. Check the PCARS web site every day, maybe a couple of times a day, to see new info that's posted.
2. Join the PCARS IO Group. That's a great place to post message when you are looking for information or have a question about something. Try it - you just may like it!!

These messages came into the PCARS IO Group after the October meeting - I thought you may like to see them. Not on the IO Group yet? Sign Up !!!

The presentation on satellite ops at the last PCARS meeting sparked an interest I have had, but never acted on. I've been reading and watching YouTube articles on the subject. Now looking for a recommendation or two. First it looks like a couple Baofeng UV5-R and an Arrow antenna will get you on the air for FM birds. Is that little rig really competent? Second there are more linear birds than FM. Getting on them is more complex. Looks like a pair of FT-817 or 818 is needed. Duplex receive is a necessity. For the cost of a pair of these transceivers a new rig that does duplex is probably in sight. Which way to go? I'd like to minimize the radio cost, but don't want to buy something that I grow out of.

Tnx - John, WA8US

I have made contacts using two handhelds with no fancy antenna on FM birds. It takes some work, but it can be done. Program one handheld for receiving with a number of channels programmed for Doppler shift. The other can be programmed to transmit. I have also used the Arrow antenna with a duplexer and my ICOM 7000 and a rig control program to change from transmit to receive and correct for Doppler. That is a lot easier and can be used for both FM and linear birds. Try simple before getting complex is my rule. I watched a video of a ham in Australia making a contact with two handhelds. One was a Baofeng and the other a T70. No fancy antenna just pointing his rubber ducky in the right direction. Hope that helps.

Jim, AC8NT

Here's great DX Engineering YouTube series on Satellite communications by Sean Kutzko, KX9X:

How and Why to Get Started in Operating Amateur Radio Satellites

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vp7h4ikthDQ>

Tips on Operating FM Amateur Radio Satellites

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ReWESQCOOQ>

Tips on Operating Linear Amateur Radio Satellites (Part 1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awOzNpNgBeg>

Tips on Operating Linear Amateur Radio Satellites (Part 2)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwtmP1sDL9g>

Operating Amateur Radio Satellites from Your Home Station

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKZ_qCfGn5A

Tips on operating a Satellite while Roving

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1yWQ2-kGEO>

Operating FM Satellites with M2 Eggbeater Antennas and the Icom ID-5100 Transceiver

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYFrpVeOOQY>

FM Satellite Etiquette: Five Tips for Better Satellite Success from Sean Kutzko, KX9X

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-0slpHyPRM>

Tom, KB8UZZ



Groups Find or Create a Group <https://groups.io/g/PCARS> Help Log In

Home Messages Hashtags

PCARS K8BF
The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!

PCARS@groups.io

Group Description
This is the discussion group of The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. This site is for the members, by the members of PCARS.

Group Information
59 Members
1 Topic, Last Post: Feb 21
Started on Feb 21
Feed

Group Settings
All subscribers can post to the group.
Posts to this group require approval from the moderators.
Posts from new users require approval from the moderators.
Messages are set to reply to group.
Subscriptions to this group do not require approval from the moderators.
Archives are visible to anyone.
Wiki is visible to subscribers only.
Members can edit their posts.
Members can set their subscriptions to no email.

Join This Group or Log In If You Are Already A Member

Getting Started on Amateur Satellites with Sean Kutzko, KX9X



PCARS Newsletter - GL Division Award 2021



Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

- The following was in the Ohio Section Newsletter:

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER CONTEST WINNER RECEIVES AWARD



The Portage County Amateur Radio Society's newsletter took first place in the regional newsletter contest this year and the award was presented at their monthly meeting. Below is short video of the award presentation.

PCARS LINK...CLICK OPEN TO VIEW -  MAH00105.MP4
(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15Wkph2e--YEqWbok-mFcB9YtkMTapyAu/view>)

John Ross, KD8IDJ - ARRL Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator

- Here are 2 emails that came in that I wanted to share with you:

“Hi Parky,

I have been sending copies of your excellent publication to many friends for them to enjoy. I want to share with you that everyone is so impressed with the quality of your work and all the fine articles.

I am very appreciative whenever you publish one of my articles; and I wanted you to know that.

All the best, my friend,
Carole WB2MGP”

“Hi Tom. I received a link from Carole Perry to your newsletter and coverage of her Youth Forum at Huntsville Hamfest. Very impressive. As a fellow publisher I struggle to put 13-15 pages together each month and you managed 53 with good quality and layout. Also, that content is a reflection of a Club with forward thinking officers & directors setting goals and getting the word out proactively. Well done!

73,

Mark N4BCD

Huntsville Hamfest Chairman

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club - Director & Newsletter Publisher “

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**Photos from the October PCARS meeting
Dale, WA8EFK - ARRL Great Lakes Division Director
presenting the Division Newsletter Award to Tom “Parky”, KB8UUZ**



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Ten Tec 556, QRP Radio 5 Watts. 40,20,15,10 M modules. \$200.00 **Ten Tec 40-20 M** - 3 Watts, radio is in a security case. \$125.00 **Icom 703** QRP radio. radio has a 500 Hz filter. also the Icom 703 back pack. Works on all bands. \$450.00

Contact: Dave, WV8P email: wv8p@roadrunner.com [01/02/22]

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-817ND QRP HF through UHF all-mode transceiver. Original owner. Includes: **FT-817ND** Transceiver; **MH-31** Microphone; Power cable with Anderson Powerpole connector; **PA-48B** AC adapter; **FNB-85** NI-MH battery (installed); 8 cell battery box; Factory manual and spare printed manual; Carrying case; carry strap; original factory box; RT Systems **ADMS-4AU** programming software and **USB-62B** programming cable. \$400.00

Contact: Rick, K8CAV email: k8cav.coms@gmail.com [01/02/22]

WANTED: Icom IC-9100 or **IC-910** (and maybe an **IC-9700**). Must be clean looking and working. Want to use them for FT8 and maybe satellite work. Also looking for a **2 meter Amplifier** (40 to 50 watts in, and 160 watts or more out).

Contact: Richard, KA8OAT - phone 330-506-7068 [02/02/22]

FOR SALE: Rick Tenan WA8TSI - SK Estate Items for sale. Complete Drake "B-Line" station in museum quality condition: R4B Receiver, T4XB Transmitter with custom cover, MS-4 Speaker and Cabinet with custom cover, MN-2000 Tuner with custom cover, AC-4 Power Supply and connecting cables, Drake W4 wattmeter, Shure 444 Microphone, Items were serviced and brought up to top operating condition by Jeff Covelli. **\$1200 for the complete set. Separate items are not for sale.** Most manuals included. **Yaesu FT-990** HF Transceiver in excellent condition. MD-1 mic and manual included. \$750 **Kenwood TS-820** HF Transceiver in excellent condition with manual. VFO-820, SP-820 and MC-50 mic and connecting cables included. \$ 650 **Heathkit SB-1400** HF transceiver and SBA-1400 speaker/ps in mint condition. \$300 **Heathkit HX-30** 6 meter transmitter and HA-20 Amplifier in average condition. Includes Comair LM-6N2C 6 and 2 meter manual tuner in fair condition. \$450. **Heathkit HO-10** Monitor Scope in good condition. \$ 50. **Astron RS-50M** DC pwr supply in excellent condition. \$250. **Radio Shack 22-510** 25a switching power supply. \$75. **Allied-Radio Shack AX-190** HF ham band receiver in very good condition. \$150 **Siltronics (SWAN) FS-301** SWR meter with 1000w and 20w scales in good condition. \$50 **Radio Shack Pro-2044** Scanner. \$35 **Royce 2-100** Field Strength & SWR meter. \$15 **Midland 23-135B** Field Strength meter. \$10 **Lafayette Telsat SSB-75** SSB and AM transceiver. \$50 **Vibroplex 40135** Iambic key in "like-new" condition. \$75 **Radio Shack HTA20** 2 meter mobile transmit amp. \$60. **SGC SG-239** HF Smarttuner. \$125 **DSI-5500** 50hz-512mhz frequency counter. \$60 **MFJ-260C** dummy load. \$45 **MFJ-1702** 2 position coax switch. \$35 **MFJ-945D** Mobile tuner. \$90 **MFJ-945E** Mobile tuner. \$125 **MFJ-949E** Deluxe Versatuner II. \$125 **MFJ4225MV** 25A power supply. \$50 **"On the Air"** sign Large backlit. \$50 **RCI-5054** 6m SSB transceiver. \$190 **J-38 style straight key** mounted to heavy base. \$45 **CSH-A4S Beam** with optional A-744 driven element for 40 meters. It may need some adjustments. \$75. **Diamond X200** vertical for 2M and 70CM. \$100 **Ham IV rotator and controller.** \$450.

Contact: Dave Fairbanks, N8NB at 330-501-5031

Leave a message if I am not available. All proceeds go to Pam Tenan. [01/02/22]

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/were 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: [02/02/22] indicates the ad will run until February 2, 2022.



OSPOTA 2021 - Contest Results

Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Hello **OSPOTA** Fans and Participants

Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) 2021 is in the history books. On September 11th many of you made the trip to one of the beautiful Ohio State Parks to set up and get on the air. We were listening for you! Plus other hams from around the USA and world were also tuning in to catch the OSPOTA Park Stations that were on the air. This year the weather was perfect for everyone in the state. Even with the Covid-19 situation, we had 81 logs submitted for Ohio State Parks On The Air 2021 contest.

The all volunteer OSPOTA Contest Committee has gone over the submitted logs and summary sheets from all of the participants.

It looked as if the bands were cooperating and a LOT of contacts were made this year. Ohio State Park activations were up and from what I have seen so far, everyone really had a FUN day playing radio and enjoying the Ohio State Parks.

Some of the stations replied to my request for write ups and pictures showing the set ups and operation during OSPOTA 2021 and are in this report for all to see how much FUN everyone had.

Thanks goes out to the committee for working hard to get through all of the logs. You have to remember - the OSPOTA committee are all volunteers (**there are five PCARS members that do this - KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, KB8UHN and W8KNO**) and getting time set aside to spend HOURS going over logs them compiling the results, printing certificates, mailing to the top 3 in each category and the writing it all up for the newsletter is not an easy task that can be done quickly.

This was the second year for all logs to be submitted in Cabrillo format (no paper logs) and a special '**Hats-Off**' to John, WG8X for running all of the logs through a computer checking program (more than once). John had a lot of work to get them all to work properly. Seems some people still have no idea what a Cabrillo file is and we will put some information together to help make 2022 log submissions go smoother.

During November the first, second & third place certificates will be mailed out. So keep an eye on the mail box if you were one of the top three finishers in your category !

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Greetings to the 2021 OSPOTA (Ohio State Parks On The Air) Participants

From the Portage County Amateur Radio Club's OSPOTA Committee, we would like to extend our appreciation for your participation in the 14th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest. You are now part of OSPOTA history and our hope is that it will be a long and rewarding one.

The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind: **1.** Promoting public awareness of ham radio and Ohio's beautiful State Park system; **2.** Contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology; and **3.** Promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators. It has been with your participation that we believe those goals were achieved again this year.

To those of you who placed in the top three spots in each category, congratulations on your efforts. You deserve your awards for your operating skills. The turnout for OSPOTA was fantastic and we are counting on having everyone do even better in OSPOTA 2022.



So until September 10, 2022 - 73!
Tom - KB8UUZ, OSPOTA Chairman,
John - WG8X, **Joe - W8KNO**,
John - KB8UHN, **Chuck - W8PT**
 OSPOTA Committee Members



OSPOTA Web Site: <http://www.ospota.org>

OSPOTA is sponsored by the **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)**
 PCARS Web Site: <http://www.portcars.org>

OSPOTA 2021 General Information: Top score this year - **30,150**

58 Parks activated **22** Parks not activated **2** Parks activated did not submit log **81** Logs submitted
14 Out of state logs submitted **36** Clubs represented over **199** Hams took part this year

36 Clubs Represented

20/9 Radio Club, Inc.	Hamilton Amateur Radio Club	Portage County Amateur Radio Service	14
All Things Amateur Radio Association	Highland Amateur Radio Association	Portsmouth Radio Club	
Alliance Amateur Radio Club	Hocking Valley Amateur Radio Club	Potomac Valley Radio Club	2
Athens County Amateur Radio Association	Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club	Preble Amateur Radio Association	
Cambridge Amateur Radio Association	Lake County Amateur Radio Association	Richland County ARES Group	
Central Ohio Operators Klub Extra - Novice	Madison County Amateur Radio Club Ohio	Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association	
Clinton County Amateur Radio Association	Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association	Society of Midwest Contesters	
Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society	Medina 2 Meter Group	Steubenville Weirton Amateur Radio Club	
DeForest Amateur Radio Club	Medina County Amateur Radio Club	Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation	
Drake Amateur Radio Club	Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club	Warren Amateur Radio Association	2
Fayette Amateur Radio Association	North Coast Contesters	Washington Amateur Communications	
Fulton County Amateur Radio Club	Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club	West Chester Amateur Radio Association	





OSPOTA 2021 - Final Scores

Overall High Score

K8IV - 30,150

MML - Multi Op-Multi Radio-Low Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
K8IV	Punderson	30150
WB8CPG	Delaware	21195
WC8VOA	Caesar Creek	14097
K8HO	Rocky Fork	9477
KE8RV	Madison Lake	7648
N8BAP	Paint Creek	7260
K8UU	Caesar Creek	7160
W8VTD	Mosquito Lake	4838
K8BXQ	Harrison Lake	3150
W8QLY	Lake Milton	1860
N8BC	Headlands Beach	1012
NO8I	Sycamore	663
K8EEN	Mohican	374
K8GE	Adams Lake	330
N8QA	Shawnee	264
W8CWO	Jefferson Lake	98

MMH - Multi Op-Multi Radio-High Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
<i>No entries in this category</i>		

MSL - Multi Op-Single Radio-Low Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
N8EU	John Bryan	7372
N8XCC	Hueston Woods	6177
AD8FQ	Grand Lake St. Marys	2622
W8AJT	Hueston Woods	1305
KD8UPX	Maumee Bay	986
W8UKE	Strouds Run	G 825
W8ATR	A. W. Marion	594
W8WE	Marblehead Lighthouse	392
KE8FJX	Independence Dam	364
KD8OOB	Little Miami	156

MSH - Multi Op-Single-Radio-High Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
KC8AAV	Burr Oak	9296

SH - Single Op-High Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
N8T	Pymatuning	560

G = Golden Log = No Errors

SL - Single Op-Low Power - In a Park

Call	Park Name	Score
KY8U	East Fork	12464
KD8BBK	Barkcamp	12440
KE8PAQ	Lake Hope	4440
N8WCP	West Branch	3960
K8MD	Middle Bass Island	3750
KD8ODF	Salt Fork	3744
K8RR	West Branch	3729
K8FH	Findley	3280
K8RGI	Oak Point	3135
K8FAY	Deer Creek	2528
NF8O	Malabar Farm	1536
KQ4YC	Stonelick	1280
KE8OXZ	Tinkers Creek	1170
W8VP	Blue Rock	897
W9AMA	Cowan Lake	480
K8TKA	Beaver Creek	462
WA8RR	South Bass Island	330
K8ETA	Guilford Lake	240
KD8UJG	Portage Lakes	95
AB1A	Beaver Creek	Check Log
K8TSG	Delaware	Check Log
NA8Y	Alum Creek	Check Log

ROVER - In Parks

Call	Park Names	Score
K8RYU/R	Wolf Run, Muskingum River, Jesse Owens, Dillon, Buckeye Lake	2389
KD8MQ/R	Malabar Farm, Mohican, Mt. Gilead	2373
N8SUZ/R	Forked Run, Jackson Lake, Lake Alma	768
W8KIW/R	Pike Lake	312
AF1K/R	Portage Lakes, Wingfoot Lake	92

In Ohio - Not In Park

Call	Score
KB8UUZ G	2014
N8CJ	1554
KB8UHN G	1080
KC8OKJ	783
KF8O	725
W8GTS	644
N8QE	437
K8IYO	437
KA8TOA G	90
W8KNO G	12
KB8TUY G	1
K8ZT	Check Log

Outside Ohio

Call	State	Score
N3CU	PA	2296
N2BTD	NY	986
N3XLS	PA	825
KK4ADQ	VA	480
WB9HFK	IL	342
N3GTG	VA	256
N3KN G	VA	121
K4JSK G	NC	121
KN6IQB/8 G	MI	100
KD2REH	NY	81
K9RDU	NC	16
W7LG	PA	16
N8GU	FL	1
NU4N	KY	Check Log

1 November 2021





Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Park Listing showing Activated (Log Submitted) and Contacted in 2021

Ohio State Park	ID	Activated	Contacted
Adams Lake	ADA	X	X
Alum Creek	ALU	X	X
A. W. Marion	AWM	X	X
Barkcamp	BAR	X	X
Beaver Creek	BEA	X	X
Blue Rock	BLU	X	X
Buck Creek	BCK		
Buckeye Lake	BKL	X	X
Burr Oak	BUR	X	X
Caesar Creek	CAE	X	X
Catawba Island	CAT		
Cowan Lake	COW	X	X
Deer Creek	DEE	X	X
Delaware	DEL	X	X
Dillon	DIL	X	X
East Fork	EFK	X	X
East Harbor	EHB		X
Findley	FIN	X	X
Forked Run	FOR	X	X
Geneva	GEN		
Grand Lake St. Marys	GLM	X	X
Great Seal	GSL		
Guilford Lake	GLK	X	X
Harrison Lake	HLK	X	X
Headlands Beach	HEA	X	X
Hocking Hills	HOC		
Hueston Woods	HUE	X	X
Independence Dam	IDM	X	X
Indian Lake	ILK		
Jackson Lake	JAC	X	X
Jefferson Lake	JEF	X	X
John Bryan	JOB	X	X
Jesse Owens	JEO	X	X
Kelleys Island	KEL		
Kiser Lake	KLK		X
Lake Alma	LAL	X	X
Lake Hope	LHO	X	X
Lake Logan	LOG		

Ohio State Park	ID	Activated	Contacted
Lake Loramie	LOR		
Lake Milton	LML	X	X
Lake White	LWT		
Little Miami	LMI	X	X
Madison Lake	MLK	X	X
Malabar Farm	MAL	X	X
Marblehead Lighthouse	MHD	X	X
Mary Jane Thurston	MJT		
Maumee Bay	MBY	X	X
Middle Bass Island	MBI	X	X
Mohican	MOH	X	X
Mosquito Lake	MST	X	X
Mt. Gilead	MTG	X	X
Muskingum River	MUS	X	X
Nelson-Kennedy Ledges	NKL		
North Bass Island	NBI		
Oak Point	OPT	X	X
Paint Creek	PTC	X	X
Pike Lake	PLK	X	X
Portage Lakes	POR	X	X
Punderson	PUN	X	X
Pymatuning	PYM	X	X
Quail Hollow	QHL		
Rocky Fork	RFK	X	X
Salt Fork	SFK	X	X
Scioto Trail	STR		
Shawnee	SHA	X	X
South Bass Island	SBI	X	X
Stonelick	STO	X	X
Strouds Run	SRN	X	X
Sycamore	SYC	X	X
Tar Hollow	TAR		
Tinkers Creek	TCK	X	X
Van Buren	VAN		
West Branch	WBR	X	X
Wingfoot Lake	WLK	X	X
Wolf Run	WRN	X	X

Parks Activated (Log sent in) = 56

Parks Contacted = 58 (two parks did not send in a log EHB and KLK)

Thanks goes out to the 199 ham radio operators and loggers that submitted logs for the 14th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

AB1A	KA8STM	KD8QNY	KE8RV	N8QA	W8QLY
AB8YK	KA8TOA	KD8RLA	KE8SIA	N8QE	W8RAY
AC8QG	KA8WMF	KD8UEP	KE8SIG	N8QNM	W8SKJ
AC8RJ	KA8YTS	KD8UJG	KF8O	N8SUZ/R	W8TW
AC8WW	KB8BKE	KD8UPX	KG8FM	N8T	W8UKE
AD8AL	KB8ELG	KD8UZV	KI8N	N8TWM	W8VP
AD8FD	KB8OMG	KD8VLS	KK4ADQ	N8UVM	W8VTD
AD8FQ	KB8QPO	KD8VRX	KN6IQB/8	N8VAR	W8VUV
AF1K/R	KB8TUY	KD8VUY	KO4RDB	N8WCP	W8WE
K3GP	KB8UHG	KD8VWF	KQ4YC	N8XC	W8ZL
K4JSK	KB8UHN	KD8YLX	KY8U	N8XCC	W9AMA
K8BXQ	KB8UUZ	KD8ZKE	KZ3L	N8XWO	WA6WTF
K8EEN	KB8ZYE	KE4UHC	N2BTD	N8YWX	WA8RR
K8ETA	KC8AAV	KE8BBC	N3CU	NA8Y	WB8CPG
K8FAY	KC8EVS	KE8BHW	N3GTG	NF8O	WB8LCD
K8FH	KC8KSM	KE8BTT	N3KN	NO8F	WB8PHI
K8GE	KC8OKJ	KE8FJX	N3XLS	NO8I	WB8TCB
K8HO	KC8QDQ	KE8GAD	N8AMY	NU4N	WB8YHD
K8IV	KC8RJS	KE8HGE	N8ASH	W2TBQ	WB8ZGH
K8IYO	KC8YDS	KE8ICI	N8BAP	W7LG	WB8ZOI
K8MD	KD2REH	KE8ITJ	N8BC	W8AJT	WB9HFK
K8MSH	KD8AMY	KE8IUU	N8BEK	W8ATR	WC8VOA
K8RGI	KD8BBK	KE8KEK	N8CJ	W8CWO	WD8IIJ
K8RR	KD8DFL	KE8LWO	N8CUB	W8DLB	WD8RIF
K8RYU/R	KD8FRQ	KE8LWP	N8CWU	W8DWK	WD8SAB
K8SSK	KD8HOY	KE8NKV	N8EU	W8FHF	WE8N
K8TFG	KD8HSA	KE8NSW	N8GIE	W8GTS	WT8E
K8TKA	KD8KBU	KE8OEW	N8GU	W8KIW/R	WX8G
K8TSG	KD8KNC	KE8OKA	N8IMW	W8KNO	WZ8K
K8UU	KD8LYX	KE8OLG	N8JEN	W8LTR	
K8WEH	KD8MQ/R	KE8OXZ	N8MRB	W8ND	
K8ZT	KD8NZF	KE8PAQ	N8ORJ	W8NET	
K9RDU	KD8ODF	KE8QNT	N8OXQ	W8PAB	
KA8GPM	KD8OOB	KE8RJD	N8PPF	W8PEN	



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



AD8FQ - Grand Lake St. Marys State Park

This year we traveled out to the western side of Ohio to work Ohio State Parks On The Air from Grand Lake St. Marys State Park. It was a beautiful park, with almost perfect weather. Ohio in September is truly the best.

Our goal was to have fun and learn. With that as the standard, it was mission accomplished. Of course, making Qs is a lot more fun than not, but we did alright on that front, too. There were some dry times and some pileups; pretty much feast or famine most of the day. In both cases, it was good practice for the operators.

The whole family got in on the fun. Everybody helped with setup and teardown. Bernadette KE8LWO, Benedict AD8FQ, and Agnes KE8LWP (the youth hams of our family) all made contacts. Even seven-year-old Dominic was thrilled to listen in on a headset and help pick out call signs. I, myself (AKA "Dad" in this story), spent a lot of time logging.

All of us are now a bit more experienced. We have a lot of learnings to apply and a lot of new ideas to try out. We can't wait for OSPOTA 2022!



K8FAY - Deer Creek State Park



K8IV - Punderson State Park

This year the team members included Captain Ed K8IV, and operators; George K3GP, Ray KD8DFL, Tom WB8LCD, John N8GIE and Amy N8AMY.

The WX was perfect with a slight breeze and temp of 75 degrees. At 10am the guys were finalizing adjustments to the 80m antenna, so I jumped on 40m to start operating and kick off the contest. Team K8IV came out of the gate strong on 40m with a near instant pileup!

Most of the contacts were from NA with the occasional “park-to-park” call that made your heart beat faster! It was really fun to hear from guys who were working 5 watts on a remote summit in the NW US & guys in Southern Ohio in a park in Cambridge! We made QSL’s with parks located all over the US. A couple of special event stations worked us: K4MIA, National POW MIA Recognition Day & W6F, Route 66 on the Air.

My favorite contact was a 94 year old ham contacting us on 40m from a yacht 15 miles off the shore of NJ who invited me to come down and “party” after the contest ended.

In the afternoon the 20m station was overcome with EU contacts who were part of their own contest. During this time, it was difficult to hold a frequency and I was forced to move by an overpowering booming Bulgarian station. But I was determined to operate to the last minute and kept on moving.

We had a few obligatory drive-thru visitors asking us if we were “pumpkin chunking” with our Antenna Trailer. Also welcomed Team K8IV supporter, Wayne K8FF (my Dad), who came by to check on the operation. (K8FF then went home to his QTH to work all three of our stations!) Logging via N1MM software on NUC computers worked very well with few issues.

After the contest, we tore down the stations and had our annual celebratory dinner at Blazin’ Bills. We love the great BBQ, and the fact that they don’t mind us driving trucks & trailers across their grass!



K8RYU - Buckeye Lake State Park



K8TSG - Delaware State Park

Check out their video at: <https://youtu.be/A0oeEgiawAo>

KD8MQ/R - Malabar Farm, Mohican & Mt. Gilead State Parks

So, while I'm dragging my feet to get my OSPOTA entry submitted, I thought I'd pass along some pictures, and some words about my OSPOTA adventure.



This year, I thought I'd try to hit a few different parks during OSPOTA. So starting out at Mohican, I happened upon a spot that was already taken by another group of Hams. They were friendly enough, but not wanting to be in their way, I opted to find another spot to operate from. As luck would have it, I found a semi-deserted parking lot about a mile away, and it was still in the State Park.



I had a bear of a time getting the EFHW to play nicely on 75 Meters, but a quick cleaning of the selector switches, and variable caps on my outboard tuner got things humming

in short order.



After a short time, I drove over to the Horsemen's area at Malabar Farm only to find it was already taken. I had a nice conversation with Dave, NF8O, and then left to set up at a spot at the bottom of the hill.



Finished at Malabar Farm, I found a quick lunch, then headed back to my home camp at Mt. Gilead SP. This is where I made the bulk of my contacts. 75M which had died earlier in the afternoon came back to life in the last hour of the contest, allowing me to get 17 parks in the log. 40M, which had been awesome all weekend, did not disappoint. It was a great afternoon.

As per my custom, I started a roaring campfire in the last hour of OSPOTA, then cooked the thickest steak I could find once the contest was over. Once dinner was over, I got back on the air, and continued my POTA activation. I'm already looking forward to doing it again next year. 73 DE WG8X



KE8OXZ - Tinkers Creek State Park

I've only been licensed for a little over a year, but in that time I've found POTA and really enjoyed both hunting and activating. Most of my activations are more of the opportunistic type where I have a small window and a very small, usually QPR, station (that fits in a small backpack) and I just try to get as many contacts as I can in the short time I have available. This was somewhat of a new experience for me where I was planning on spending the better part of a day in the park so I brought my Icom IC-7300 from my shack out into the field for the first time with a 20AH battery and set up for the day. Had a great time and, as usual, got to talk to some really great people on the air. Of the 119 contacts I made, 39 of them were also in parks, and 11 of those were in Ohio State Parks. I'll definitely be back again next year. 73, Mike KE8OXZ



KE8PAQ - Lake Hope State Park



I got started about half an hour after I had planned. Who knew a 30-foot pole could be slightly difficult to put up by yourself. I was set up on a picnic table at the top of a hill overlooking the beach, which attracted the attention of a handful of people. One gentleman towards the end of the day came over and discussed his experiences with

shortwave, including the military.



My setup included an FT-450, connected to an MFJ manual tuner, which was then connected to a G5RV Junior, which was supported in the center by a 31-foot Jackite fiberglass pole. I was surprised that I managed to tune the G5RV on 80 meters, and even more so that most of my activity ended up on 80. I was also running on a 35aH battery and 25-watt solar panel and pushed 100 watts the entire time.

I've been operating exclusively portable so far, so OSPOTA has quickly become my favorite contest. Last year, it gave me my first opportunity to see HF in action at Paint Creek, and for better or worse has gotten me hooked. Thanks for the great time and looking forward to 2022!



KE8RV - Madison Lake State Park

The Madison County Amateur Radio Club operated at Madison Lake. Operators were N8CWY, NO8F and W8RAY. Helpers were N8BEK and AD8AL. The Rigs used were a Yaesu 857D and an ICOM 817.



We used the N3FJP Logging program and I networked the two laptops together using an old wireless router. The Park provided us with a nice shelter house and an abundance of trees which we were able to use to hang our homemade dipoles for 20.40, and 80 meters. Activity was pretty good on all bands, however all but one of the In state park contacts were made on 80 meters. Many POTA stations were contacted during the contest. All had a good time and hope we will be able to do it again next year. 73, Larry N8CWU



Ohio State Parks On The Air



KQ4YC - Stonelick State Park

Thanks to all the volunteers making this event happen. You guys ordered up the perfect weather! Well almost perfect... a little windy for paper logs. But the sunshine was spot on.



This November, I'll be licensed for 30 years, and this is the first contest log I've ever submitted. But there was about a 24 yr gap before I got back on the air in 2020.

I'm just getting started with portable operating. Got hooked at field day where I built an EFHW and setup in our neighborhood park. I used my sump pump battery. Lesson learned: An 80 lb battery is not the way to go. I also learned that I need to tell people on our Facebook page what I'm doing... the officer almost counted as a government official visiting my site.

I picked up a G90 at the Cincinnati Hamfest a few weeks ago. The goal is to take it on future Scout campouts. JOTA is coming up. OSPOTA was a great opportunity to learn more lessons, which I did. I'm glad it ended at 6pm, so I wasn't tempted for just-one-more-contact. I enjoyed taking a little time to rag chew now and again. Some time was spent letting folks know a 4 call is operating in an 8 call area park. Haha. I snuck in a few SKCC contacts for the Weekend Sprint.



Stonelick State Park was an easy choice. The area is great, the beach fun, and I enjoy the disc golf course and the people that play. There wasn't much activity at the beach area. Only a few people stopped by. One guy whose grandfather is a ham offered to climb a tree to help string up my antenna.

All in all, a fantastic afternoon. 73 ES CUL, James Nichols KQ4YC

KY8U - East Fork State Park



This year I activated East Fork State Park (EFK).

As always I had an absolute blast! The weather was picture perfect and I truly couldn't have asked for a better day.

This year I set up my military pole with a home brew 80 / 40 fan dipole antenna.



For my radio I ran my Icom 7300.

you all for the contacts! I look forward to this event every year and love talking with all of you. I am already looking forward to OSPOTA 2022!

Thanks again for putting on this event!

73 from Josh, KY8U



N8CJ - From in Ohio

What a beautiful weekend to be in a park. Wish I could have been there. I'm stuck at home for now recovering from recent knee surgery. Had a great time chasing parks I could find on 80m. Next year, God willing, I'll be in a park. 73 - Alan - N8CJ

N8SUZ/R - Forked Run, Jackson Lake & Lake Alma State Parks



I trip over my fat fingers pretty regularly, too. Was by myself so didn't take a lot of time for pictures. Was a long drive between my first two parks and didn't think about pix. Been trying to document my POTA activations. I did take two from Forked Run (FOR), attached. Thanks for adding the rover category. I was pretty disappointed a couple of years ago when my rover parks had to count individually. Decided to just operate with my club the last two years when I also had an evening Masonic meeting on the same day. They moved the meeting this year so gave me time to do rover.

I was really surprised about getting so many POTA hunters. I have activated several new parks the last few weeks so I figured they jumped on my parks once I hit the spotting networks. It has been almost ten months since KD8MQ activated and mine was just the sixth overall.

About the rat, we have a group of operators from SE Ohio that do mobile operating at outdoor events and park activations called the Southeast Ohio Radio Adventure Team (SEORAT). The rat is our symbol



and we try to get a picture of him somewhere at the station or with the location in the background. The Southeast Ohio Radio Adventure Team -

<https://wd8rif.com/seorat.htm>

N8T - Pymatuning State Park



Very enjoyable OSPOTA this year. I was at Pymatuning SP for the 3rd year, using special event call N8T. Perfect weather!

My station was a Yaesu FT-897d, an EMB solid state amplifier (throttled at 300W) and a homebrew End Fed Sloper - 141ft at 35ft. Incredible receive antenna. I could hear hundreds of stations on 40m and 20m. 80/75m was noisy and didn't load well - 2.6:1 SWR. Still, I could hear stations on 80m.



From 2:30-4:00pm, a null from a solar flare made conditions difficult. The last hour, I was on 20m, cherry-picking DX stations from a contest. Europe, especially Germany, was booming! Also got Slovenia, S53M at 59+10! Not too bad for a portable station!

All in all, an enjoyable time.



Ohio State Parks On The Air



N8WCP - West Branch State Park



I only took two pix. Didn't think I would participate Saturday, came down with a head cold and sore throat Friday.

Felt good enough to set up for a few hours then went home and slept the rest of the day.

Beautiful day at West Branch, just had to dodge a few frisbees from the frisbee golf course :) 73, Mike, N8WCP



NA8Y - Alum Creek State Park



Wow.. bad year for me. I couldn't find a clean spot on the bands where I was at.

So many confusing people that were actually doing POTA not OSPOTA too.

Even people at Ohio State Parks were doing it.



NO8I - Sycamore State Park

As a newly licensed Tech, I was looking to combine a new hobby (HAM radio) with an old hobby (being outdoors). But, I was nervous because I had no clue what I was doing. I had never attended a field day or even operated on any of the HF bands. The biggest problem was, as a tech, I could only participate in the contest using the 6 and 10 meter bands. So, I asked around for help. But, I could only find one General to help, and he wasn't even sure he'd be able to make it! I began planning as best I could to go it on my own. I borrowed a radio from a fellow club member and we sat down for a couple hours as he showed me how to use it. However, I struggled to make any contacts on the 10 meter band. As we got closer to the contest, the club decided to move the monthly meeting to the location I was planning. All of a sudden, I had a group of Generals and Extras helping with planning... generator power, antennas, tables, chairs, etc.



The morning of the contest, we began setting up 3 separate radios and got a couple computers ready for digital logging. Many club members stopped by to say hi and see how the contest was going. It was amazing to see all the support! Everyone had their own tip or advice to offer. One individual started out making contacts under the club call sign (NO8I). Then, others joined in on the other radios. Eventually, I jumped in! We scanning the dial for a little while. Then, camped out and started calling CQ.

We took a break for lunch to discuss how things were going and what us "newbies" had learned. When we were done, we packed everything up and made sure to "leave no trace" by cleaning up any trash we found. We left the park looking as if we were never there... even cleaner than we arrived! While we weren't in it to break any records, it was still fun to be outside, making contacts on the radio, and enjoying each others' company.

W8ATR - A.W. Marion State Park

FIRST TIME PARTICIPATING IN OSPOTA AS A NEW CLUB IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY! LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR!

W8KIW/R - Pike Lake State Park

Best laid plans failed my roving adventure.

After a successful Pike Lake run and arrival at Great Seal, the rig failed and I had to abort the remaining five parks on the planned route.

73, John, W8KIW



WB8CPG - Delaware State Park



Another great event.

Thanks to all of you out there. WB8CPG/Jim, KD8AMY/Amy and KD8LYX/Larry all had a great time at Delaware State Park and could not have had better weather.

Bands seemed to in pretty good shape all day and we scored pretty well and had a lot of fun doing it.



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Start Making Plans for the 15th annual

Ohio State Parks On The Air



September 10, 2022.

We'll be listening for you !!!!!



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



OSPOTA Logging & Checking

John, WG8X
(formerly KD8MQ)



Well, the log checking process is complete, and you likely have already read the results here in the Radiogram. Congratulations to all who participated, but especially to those who braved the beautiful weather during this year's OSPOTA.

I thought I'd share some thoughts on the log checking process, and give some insight into what goes on behind the scenes after you submit your log.

Beginning with last year's contest, we joined the growing list of contests which accept only Cabrillo files for entry. Cabrillo is a standard log format that lets us do a more accurate scoring of the logs, and is a lot more accurate than scoring paper logs.

The log-checking process begins when you send your log in to us at ospota.org. Parky, KB8UUZ does a review to find any errors, such as incorrect file type, missing information, etc. He may e-mail you at that point and give you an opportunity to correct the errors and re-submit your entry.

As the deadline for log submission approaches, he & I compare notes and reach out to as many of the in-park stations as possible who've not yet submitted their logs. If they are having trouble creating a Cabrillo, I do my best to help point them in the right direction.

Once the deadline for log submission is past, Parky forwards all received logs to me along with a tally sheet of scores, so that I can begin the cross-checking process. I start by going through each file to check for proper formatting. I also check for times recorded in Local rather than UTC time. I try to fix things like this if I can do it easily.

Then, the logs get run through the Cab Evaluator program which generates cross check sheets for each station. This is where most of the issues are found, such as incorrect band & times. We also find any busted calls at this step.

Then, I go through each log manually, checking the computers work, and re-scoring your log. I then add my results to the tally sheet, and send it back to Parky, who checks things again before preparing the final results that you see here in the Radiogram.

There are a few points I would like to touch on:

- 1) We don't require atomic clock accuracy on your times. If you can log within +/- 5 minutes of the actual time of contact, we will call it good. Beyond that, we have to penalize. So, check those clocks.
- 2) This year, I saw a lot of "bands out of range" errors. I think this usually happens when someone changes bands, and forgets to note it in their log, or software. For a lot of us, this could be solved by hooking up the rig interface on your logging program. I know that not all the rigs out there have a communications port, but a lot do.
- 3) I saw a lot of cases where a "V" would become a "U", and vice-versa. There were other instances too where I could tell that someone was transcribing a paper log after the contest. This is OK, if that's how you roll, but it's a place where errors will sneak in.

Some of you are still using paper logs, and that's OK. I'll be posting more to the OSPOTA@groups.io list in summer of 2022 to help make things easier for you. No, we won't ever go back to accepting paper logs, but we can give you tips that will make generating a Cabrillo file a bit easier.

I know that some of you had some challenges in creating a Cabrillo file this year. I'm available before & after the contest to assist with logging questions. I do however put my phone on Do Not Disturb on the day of OSPOTA so that I can enjoy the contest too.

The big take-away here is to test your logging setup in advance, and make sure that all is working the way you expect it to. This will help you immensely on the big day.

Again, congratulations to all who participated. I hope that you had fun. 73 DE WG8X (formerly KD8MQ).



PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Almost Gone

PCARS has obtained a limited number of special, custom made coffee cups that are available only to members.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE !!** The only catch is you have to claim it from the **Treasurer - Paul, KE8EGF.**

Paul has a list of current

members and will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.

There are a *very* **limited number of extra coffee cups** and they are for sale at \$5.00 each.

Contact Paul for all of the details: Treasurer@portcars.org



Hamfest Calendar

10/31/2021 - Massillon Hamfest - Location: Green, OH - Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Website: <http://w8np.or> Learn More <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/massillon-ohio-hamfest>



PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

Greg, KA8TOA
Net Control Coordinator



Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible! **Check-in using the receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ 146.895 with a PL tone of 118.8. We also use EchoLink node K8BF-L**

The net control dates will be posted on the Club website. An email will be sent out after the posting. As usual if there are issues please contact me via the roadrunner email address.

Thanks to all of you for helping out.

73 - Greg, KA8TOA - Net Control Coordinator

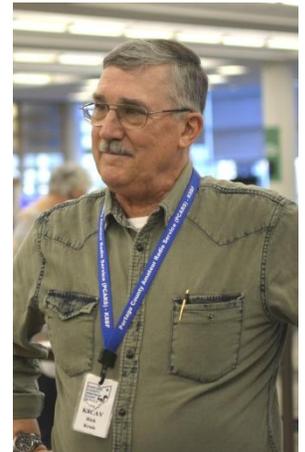
November	
4	N8WCP
11	KD8WCK
18	N8AMY
25	No Net

December	
2	N8QE
9	N8WCP
16	WB8LCD
23	KA8TOA
30	KE8BWA

The PCARS net is **BIG Fun** - tell your friends to check in via RF or EchoLink!

Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV
Flex Net Coordinator



PCARS held its monthly Flex net on Wednesday October 13th on 146.550 MHz, FM simplex. We had eight check-ins to the net and had a good time exchanging signal reports and information about our stations. It was great to get information about how well one can expect to communicate to other stations locally using simplex on 2 meters. With one exception all of the check-ins heard at my location were very readable. I was just a bit disappointed that none of our check-ins were Technician class licensees but fear not, expect to see another Flex net in the very near future on 10 meters, SSB which Techs are eligible to operate on.

One of the reasons for the Flex Net, besides having a great time, is to provide opportunity to exchange contacts with other PCARS members to become eligible for the PCARS A to Z award (see <https://www.portcars.org/wp/club-info/club-activities/pcars-a-z-award/>). Make sure you log all of your contacts and make up QSL cards. PCARS maintains a "Squirrel Buro" in a file box at the club site so it doesn't even cost you stamps!

Our next Flex net will be on Wednesday November 10th at 8:00 PM. We will be on 80 meters, 3.815.00 MHz +/- QRM, LSB. I hope you'll all put that on your calendars and participate in a K8BF BIG FUN event! Many thanks to Tom WB8LCD, Mike N8WCP, Gene W8NET, Greg KA8TOA, Brandon KE8ARB, Ron W8AHC, and Mike KB8TUY for checking in.



Tips on Antenna Assembly & Installation

Tom, KB8UUZ



Assembling/Installing a New Beam or Vertical Antenna

Here are just a few tips on what to do when assembling a new antenna. The suggestions hold true for both vertical and horizontal antennas.

This is a basic information and tips listed here were compiled while working with top antenna builders/installers (Tim Duffy, K3LR and Tim Jellison, W3YQ and others). This list is not the do-all, know-all list and other items can be and should added as needed.

First and foremost: SAFETY is always number one. Be sure to wear the proper safety gear. This includes Hard Hats, Gloves and Safety Glasses. **Make sure you are not near any power lines.** Stay **at least 10 feet** away from them.

Order your antenna ahead of time

- Do not wait until the week before you plan to install it.
- It may take time to get the antenna from the dealer. Supply shortages and delivery times have become longer due to multiple reasons.
- You do not want your antenna arriving the day before a scheduled installation – especially if other people are involved in helping the assembly or installation.

When the antenna arrives

- Do not just put it aside to begin assembly the day before installation. Open the box and inspect the antenna parts for any possible damage done during shipping.
- Also, check the parts list and ensure everything is present. This gives you time to contact your dealer in case parts are needed to get things ready for assembly.

Ensure you have the proper tools and supplies for the assembly of the antenna

- Maybe you need Metric wrenches and/or a Metric socket set?
- Have Jet-Lube SS-30 for both the mechanical parts and the elements on hand. You may want some rubber or nitrate gloves and rags. SS-30 will not wash out of clothes....
- Have a good supply of Scotch 88 tape.
- Have a roll of Temflex Tape for your coaxial cable connection.
- Get the proper tape measure (might need Metric).
- Get a few work stands or 'horses' to use for assembly. Trying to assemble an antenna on the ground is not very comfortable and can cause assembly problems.
- Do you have your coaxial cable and/or the proper coaxial connection device (if needed) for your antenna?
- Are there any additional clamps or hardware needed for a proper and safe installation?
- Use small boxes or tubs to put the loose hardware in so small parts will not get lost when assembly starts.
- When attaching elements and using a level, it helps ensure all the elements are in-line with each other.

Start the Assembly

- **READ** the manual that comes with the antenna. Then, **read it again.**
- Check the Dealer and/or Manufacture's website to make sure you have the latest revision manual.
- The manual may also point out what tools and additional items needed.
- Ensure you know the proper sequence to be followed when for proper assembly.

- Use a good electrical/RF conductive material between all elements and also use it for all the hardware to ensure the stainless steel hardware will not gall. Jet-Lube SS-30 is the suggested compound to use for this purpose. The use of Jet-Lube SS-30 is recommended by more than one Contest Super Station for all antenna construction.
- If assembly is going to be in the yard, lay down a large tarp under the work stands. This will make it easier to find nuts, bolts and washers that may be accidentally dropped during the assembly.
- For a Yagi antenna with a round boom – use U-Bolt clamps to hold the boom on to the work stands. You will drill holes in your work stands for the U-Clamps. This does a couple of things. It holds the boom steady. And, when attaching elements and using a level, it helps ensure all the elements are in-line with each other.
- Follow each step in the manual. Re-read each step a couple of times to ensure you understand and complete each step in the assembly properly.
- Double check element spacing and lengths. Triple checking is good, too.
- **Do not** use end caps on the Yagi elements. You want any moisture a path to drain out. Yes, insects and bugs can get in, but eventually they die and decompose. Any buildup of condensation will help flush that material out of the element. If you plug the ends with caps, or other objects, you are blocking the escape of water. Winter temperatures will freeze the built up liquid and split the element tubing open.
- Boom end caps must be modified with a hole at a low point to allow moisture build up to drain away.
- When attaching your coaxial cable, ensure the connector is tight. Waterproof the connector using Temflex with an overwrap of Scotch 88 tape.
- One of the top installers interviewed for this also recommends using Scotch 88 around the junction points of the elements to help prevent moisture wicking into the elements.
- If the antenna is outdoors, temporarily protect the other end of the coax cable from any moisture. Using an empty plastic water bottle over the coax connector and then wrapped with tape to hold it in place will help ensure this.

Once the assembly is complete

- Go back and ensure all bolts, screws, clamps, etc. are properly tightened.
- Let the antenna sit for a day or two. Go back and check every bolt, nut and clamp again to ensure they are tight.
- Verify SWR measurements by temporarily raising the antenna to help ensure that all is properly assembled. Be aware that at ground level, the SWR will be a bit higher as compared to the installation height SWR measurement.

Installation on your mast

- **SAFETY** is always number one. Be sure to wear the proper safety gear for the process being accomplished.
- **Make sure you are not near any power lines. Stay at least 10 feet** away from them.
- Follow all proper safety precautions to ensure no one is accidentally injured during installation.
- All people helping should be wearing hard hats in case something drops while on the tower or roof or wherever you are installing the antenna.
- Ensure you have an adequate number of helpers to ensure a safe installation.
- Again, double check what the manual recommends for mounting the antenna to your mast.
- When mounted, it is recommended the coaxial cable be positioned to allow water to drip off and not run toward your antenna connection point. This is called a ‘drip loop.’
- Additionally – use Scotch 88 tape to secure the coaxial cable to your mast (or tower leg) every three feet or so. Do not use cable-ties or Zip-ties, they can pinch the coaxial cable when tightened and eventually cause problems with your feed line.

Once installed – verify proper SWR measurements again.

Get on the air and have fun with your new antenna.

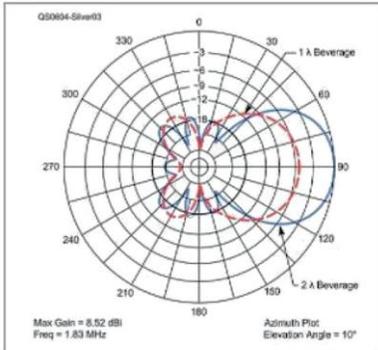
Routine maintenance should be done every year. Follow the recommendations of the antenna manufacturer. Also, inspect coax cables.





From the ARRL

November QST Article Celebrates Centenary of the Beverage Antenna



Patterns for a 1 (blue) and 2 (red) wavelength Beverage showing back and side rejection. [QST image]

The **November issue of QST** includes the article, “*The Beverage Antenna, 100 Years Later*” by Ward Silver, N0AX, and Frank Donovan, W3LPL. The famous receiving antenna, designed and patented in 1921 by Harold Beverage, W2BML, remains popular for the low bands as increasing sunspot activity in Solar Cycle 25 leads to weaker signals on 160 and 80 meters. The article explains the Beverage antenna’s noise-rejection abilities, as well as how to build a basic Beverage antenna system.

The November issue also includes a special contesting insert, “Contest Season 2021 – 2022,” which is full of resources and hints to help you have your best radiosport season yet.

WSJT-X version 2.5.1 released

The development team have announced the General Availability (GA) release of **WSJT-X version 2.5.1**.

This release mainly contains improvements and defect repairs related to Q65 and JT65 modes when used with non-standard and compound calls. Also included is a new feature for microwave aircraft scatter, and repairs for defects detected since the 2.5.0 GA release.

A full list of changes can be found in the Release Notes:
https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Release_Notes.txt

IMPORTANT: If you expect to use the JT65 or Q65 modes to make weak-signal QSOs that involve a nonstandard callsign, be sure to upgrade to WSJT-X 2.5.1!

Links to WSJT-X 2.5.1 installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available here:

<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt.html>

You can also download the packages from our SourceForge site: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/wsjt/files/> It may take a short time for the SourceForge site to be updated.

WSJT-X is licensed under the terms of Version 3 of the GNU General Public License (GPL). Development of this software is a cooperative project to which many amateur radio operators have contributed. If you use our code, please have the courtesy to let us know about it. If you find bugs or make improvements to the code, please report them to us in a timely fashion.

The authors and Copyright holders of WSJT-X request that derivative works should not publish programs based on features in WSJT-X before those features are made available in a General Availability (GA) release of WSJT-X. We will cease making public Release Candidate (RC) pre-releases for testing and user early access purposes if this request is ignored.



Bugs should be reported by following instructions found here in the User Guide:
https://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjsx-doc/wsjsx-main-2.5.1.html#_bug_reports

We hope you will enjoy using WSJT-X 2.5.1.

73 from **Joe, K1JT**; **Bill, G4WJS**; **Steve, K9AN**; and **Nico, IV3NWW**

Enjoy Two Weekends of Fun During the ARRL November Sweepstakes

The [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) (SS) weekends loom large on the amateur radio contest horizon. The CW weekend is November 6 - 8, while the phone weekend is November 20 - 22. Both events begin on Saturday at 2100 UTC and conclude on Monday at 0259 UTC.

The SS offers operating categories for every preference. The goal for many seasoned SS operators is to complete a "clean sweep" by contacting all 84 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) [Sections](#). Canada's Prince Edward Island province joined the list last year. Most SS operators try to run up the contact and multiplier counts and stay in the chair for the full 24 (out of 30) allowable hours.

The competition can be fierce, and the pileups can be huge. In 2020, ARRL received 1,445 logs for the CW event and 2,046 for the phone event.

Some Sections are harder to contact than others. Northern Territories (NT) is always a challenge, but there's a slim chance that snagging NT could be easier this year.

Gerry Hull, W1VE (also VE1RM), is hoping to operate as VY1AAA for both weekends, using "J" Allen's, VY1JA, Yukon Territory station remotely from the US. Now in his mid-70s, Allen essentially retired from ham radio a few years ago due to health issues, but he's bounced back this year with renewed enthusiasm and working to get a station and antennas ready for Hull to operate. At this point, he's sorting through a backyard scrap pile that includes tower sections he had up in the past. He wants to get 80 - 100 feet assembled and clamped to a sturdy utility pole. Hull says Allen is committed to the task.



The VY1JA tower boneyard. [Photo courtesy of J Allen, VY1JA]

"VY1JA is now in re-construction," Allen says on his [QRZ.com](#) profile. "There is only a small chance that it will be done and on the air for SS CW this year. If so, signals may be weaker than in the past, with only a 100 W Omni VII and wire antennas. Plans for building an amp failed, and antenna work has taken far longer than expected."

Hull said if Allen does manage to erect the antenna support tower, VY1AAA will have inverted V antennas for 20 and 40 meters, which Hull considers "the money bands from Yukon on CW."

"So, hoping for good weather and good health for J, and then we might have VY1AAA on for the masses for SS CW," he said. Hull said if the CW weekend is successful, he'll consider also operating in the phone event.

Other difficult Sections to contact include Delaware, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Pacific, and North Dakota. (Alaska, Hawaii and other US territories in the ARRL Pacific Section, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands count as W/VE stations, not as DX, for the SS.)

Contesters, especially the less experienced, often want to know how to handle duplicate contacts (dupes). It's almost a given that this will happen in SS. While some operators still set up a "hot key" to send "WKD B4" on CW when encountering a dupe, current best practice is to work the apparent dupe, log it, and move on. While dupes don't earn any points, they also don't mean you'll incur a NIL (not-in-log) penalty if the apparent dupe did not log the initial contact for one reason or another.

The SS exchange is patterned on traffic-handling terminology. For both the CW and phone events, stations exchange a sequential serial number (no leading zeros are required), an operating category (precedence), call sign, the last two digits of the year first licensed (check), and ARRL/RAC Section.

Most areas of the US change from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time at 2 AM local time on November 7, by moving clocks back 1 hour. UTC is not affected.

Logs are due within 7 days after the event is over. Certificates will be awarded in the top operator CW and Phone scores in each category in each ARRL/RAC Section and Division, and plaques will be awarded to the Overall and Division winners. Icom America is the principal awards sponsor.

An operating guide that relates some of the history and evolution of these North American contests is available under "Operating Guidelines" on the [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) page.

Submit your log, no matter how big or small!

All contest participants, whether they are serious contesters or just casual operators, should submit their log to the contest sponsor. Submitting logs assists the contest sponsor with the scoring of the contest, as QSOs are cross-checked against the logs of stations that are worked. Additionally, contest sponsors allocate resources to contests based upon the total number of logs submitted, assisting them in gauging how much activity there is in each event.

If you do make a few casual contacts in a contest, and do not submit a log, the stations you worked will not be penalized. For example, if you made a few contacts in the contest to "hand out points" to other contesters, your QSOs with them would be considered as "unique." Uniques are call signs that appear in only a few logs that were submitted by the stations that worked you.

Lastly, you might be surprised at how well you might do in a contest, even if your QSO count is low. For example, I submitted a contest log that contained only 5 QSOs, which ended up not only being a division winner, but also scored in the top ten in W/VE in the category that I entered! Keep those logs coming in! 73, Paul, N1SFE contest-update@arrl.org



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers:

Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites – November 2021

Fall is here and snow is now just a few weeks away according to the weather forecasters or as I call them, false prophets. They seem to get all the nasty WX right but when it comes to forecasting nice WX, they fall short. In any event, it's very cold outside right now and it doesn't appear that it will be warming up anytime soon. And the WX people predicted that we could have some flakes in about a week. So I think the chances of an Indian Summer, is slim to none.

Here at my Parkman QTH, I have been working a lot of CW. YES, CW!! I've found a lot of DX on and a few DXpeditions running CW on 20 and 40 meters. I am trying to relearn CW and am making a few mistakes along the way. But the ops have been gracious and have looked past my faux pas and have given me good signal reports. I am also sending out a lot of QSLs to confirm my contacts. Also, much to my pleasure, I've been able to make many of my CW Qs at about 45 watts since I am keeping the amp off and not turning up the rig to full 100 watts. I am still getting 599s for the most part.

I'm sure that there will be more DX in November so let's see what's in store.

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, N2OO, W2GD, W3UR & The Daily DX, WA4DAN, W5JON, N6GQ, WB6RSE, K8YSE, NE8Z, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F1DUZ, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, International DX Press, Sixitalia Weekly and VA3RJ & ICPO for the following DX information.

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

PLEASE NOTE: The fact that donation requests, from various DXpeditions, are at times included in this column does not mean that PCARS or this HAM approves or disapproves of donating to the DXpeditions listed. I am only providing information for you to make up your own minds as to whether or not to donate.

November...

3B8, MAURITIUS. Operators Olof/G0CKV, Kazu/JK3GAD, Denny/KX7M, Jamie/M0SDV and Oliver/W6NV will be active as 3B8M from Roches Noires during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as Multi-Multi entry. The team will be active "a few days before and after" the contest. QSL via M0OXO.

3B8, MAURITIUS. Denny, KX7M and Jamie, M0SDV, active as 3B8/KX7M from Mauritius between Nov 22nd and Dec 1st. He is there as part of the 3B8M team. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via F5CWU or the OQRS

3DA0LP, ESWATINI (Swaziland). Lionel, ZS6DPL, is once again active as 3DA0LP from Manzini between November 1-5th. Activity is limited due to work. He does operate on FT8. No other details are available.

5H, TANZANIA (Reminder). Maurizio, IK2GZU, will once again returned to "Mission Ilembula" to do some volunteer work at the Ikulu hospital and orphanage until November 20th. He plans to be active during his spare time as 5H3MB on various HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Maurizio will use his FT-891 and dipoles GP for 10 MHz. QSL via IK2GZU, direct, by the Bureau and ClubLog. Also, QSL via LoTW (after his return home) and eQSL. For more details, updates and an online log.

6W, SENEGAL, Dani, EA4ATI is QRV with his temporary call sign 6W1/EA4ATI and here for about three months. He is active on 80 to 10 meters using mainly SSB. QSL via EA4R.

7A, INDONESIA. A team of YB operators will be active as 7A2A from a contest station in Central Java during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via LoTW, direct, or via YB2DX.

8Q, MALDIVES. Remo, HB9SHD, will once again be active as 8Q7RM from Kandolhu Island (AS-013) between November 1-30th. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands (40-6m, possibly 80m) using mainly FT8, but if propagation allows, SSB and slow CW as well. Remo plans to be active every-day for several hours, however, he will go for diving and relaxing as well, QSL via HB9SHD, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog and LoTW.

9X, RWANDA. Members of the Holy Land DX Group (HDXG) will operate from Rwanda signing 9X4X between November 24th and December 1st. Operators mentioned are Mark/4Z4KX, Hilik/4X6YA, Ruben/4Z5FI, Ruslan/4Z5LA, Hanan/4Z1DZ and Jan/4X1VF. They will run 3 stations on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 (maybe SAT also). They will also participate in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th). QSL via Ruben, 4Z5FI. Special thanks to Harald, DF2WO, for his outstanding support.

C5, THE GAMBIA. Alan, G3XAQ, will be active as C56XA from Brusubi, The Gambia, between Nov 24th and Dec 2nd. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using only CW. His main activity will be during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m)/Low-Power entry. QSL via G3SWH's OQRS (preferred; via his Web site, direct or LoTW. No bureau cards. The log will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog once Alan returns home.

C5, THE GAMBIA (Reminder). By the time you read this, operators Jan-Francois/F4AHV (ex-6W7RV), Gérard/F5NVF, Abdel/M0NPT (7X2TT) and Luc/F5RAV should be active as C5C from Kololi (WW Loc. IK13PK), The Gambia, until November 19th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters (depending of local situation & the propagation) using CW, SSB, FT8/FT4 (NO F/H) and the QO-100 satellite if possible. Suggested frequencies were published in OPDX.1536. The team is also planning to be active in CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 30-31st). QSL via F5RAV direct.

C6, BAHAMAS (Update). Richard, NN2T (C6AHB), and team of operators will be active as C6AHB from Bimini DXpedition" (NA-048) until November 22nd. QSL via LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS.

CARIBBEAN TOUR (Update/Change/Back-On). John, W5JON/V47JA, informs OPDX that his St. Kitts operation is back-on because "St. Kitts has reduced the Covid Quarantine down to one day (YEA!)."

V47JA, ST. KITTS -- John, W5JON, will once again be active as V47JA from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, West Indies vacation home, located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, between November 10-24th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using SSB and FT8. Equipment is a Yaesu FT1000MP, FT450D and an Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. John states his antennas are a Mosley Mini32A 10/15/20m, 33' Vertical 10-40m, 35' Top Loaded 80m Vertical, 160m Vertical and 6m 5 element Yagi. ALL QSLs (PJ5/W5JON, PJ7JA and V47JA) go to W5JON direct or via LoTW. NO Bureau QSLs.

CN46, MOROCCO (Special Event). Special event callsign CN46MS to be active until Nov 10th, to celebrate the 46th anniversary of the "GREEN MARCH" inspired by the late HASSAN 2, King of Morocco bringing together 350,000 participants in a peaceful march to recover their Saharan provinces from the protectorate. QSL via CN8WW.

DQ850, GERMANY (Special Event Reminder). Members of the DARC local association Schwerin (V14) have activated the special callsign DQ850DOM to celebrate the 850th anniversary of the first consecration of the Schwerin Cathedral. Activity will last until November 30th, with operations on 160 meters and up including the QO-100 Satellite using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8 and other Digital modes. A free downloadable diplomas (Gold/Silver/Bronze) are available free of charge in PDF format. See QRZ.com for details. QSLs will be automatically sent via the Bureau after the activity – PLEASE do not send your own QSL! Logs will be uploaded to DCL and ClubLog.

HD8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS (Reminder/Update). Members of the Tifariti Gang/DX Friends will be active as HD8R from Galapagos Islands (SA-004) until November 7th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, including 60m, using CW, SSB, the Digital modes and low orbit satellites with at least 4 stations that include Spiderbeams, verticals, Inverted "Ls" and beverages. Minimum requirements are: Self Addressed Envelope (SAE) and 3 USDs for up to 15 QSOs or 3 QSL cards (20 grams letter), 4 USDs are needed for more than 15 QSOs or 3 QSL cards. An OQRS will also be available.

HP, PANAMA, Special event stations 3F200AT and 3F200NG are QRV until November 30 to celebrate Panama's Bicentennial anniversary of Independence. QSL via LoTW

J6, ST. LUCIA. Bill, K9HZ, will once again be active as J68HZ from a villa at Labrelotte Bay, Castries, St. Lucia (NA-108, WLOTA L-1336), until November 8th. Activity is usually on 160-2 meters using CW, SSB and FT8, including some contests. QSL J68HZ via LoTW, eQSL or direct to K9HZ (see QRZ.com). No Bureau QSLs.

MJ5, JERSEY. Three A's Contest Group (G0AAA) member Bob, GU4YOX, will be active as MJ5A during the CQWW

DX CW Contest (Nov 27-28th) as a SOSB (40m)/High-Power entry. This will be the first time that the MJ5A "Three A's Contest Group" callsign will be used in the CQWW DX CW Contest. QSL MJ5A via G3TXF, ClubLog or LoTW.

OQ60, BELGIUM (Special Event). Members of the UBA NOK will be active as OQ60ANT (WAP 338) from Turnhout, Belgium, between November 1st and December 31st. Activity is to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty Signature. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS; your QSL is not needed. They will send QSLs automatically via the Bureau.

P4, ARUBA. John, W2GD, is expected once again to be active as P40W from Aruba (SA-036) between November 22-30th. Activity will include the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entries. Operations outside of the contest are "usually" on 160/80m and 30/17/12 meters and the WARC bands as time permits with an emphasis on CW. Watch 160m on the hour and 80m on the half hour. QSL via LoTW or direct to N2MM, Bureau cards are no longer accepted. Logs will be loaded on LoTW upon his return to the USA.

PA35-PI35, THE NETHERLANDS (Special Event). To commemorate the 35th anniversary of the European DX Foundation (EUDXF), look for the following stations to be using the special prefix callsign P*35EUDXF during the month of November: **PA35EUDXF** -- Op Alex/PA1AW **PF35EUDXF** -- Ops Robert/PG7M & Bernard/PB7Z **PB35EUDXF** -- Op Bob/PB5X **PG35EUDXF** -- Op Dirk/PA1BD **PC35EUDXF** -- Op Tom/PA2TMS **PH35EUDXF** -- Op Wino/PA0ABM **PD35EUDXF** -- Op Derk/PD9DX **PI35EUDXF** -- CONTESTGROEP OUDE MAAS (PI4COM) **PE35EUDXF** -- Op Fred/PA3GDG QSL all callsigns via PA1AW (Clublog's OQRS preferred).

PJ4, BONAIRE. Jeff, KU8E, will be active as PJ4/KU8E from the 'PJ4G Radio House' on Bonaire (SA-006, WLOTA LH-1279) between November 24th and December 1st. He plans to be in CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) signing PJ4A as a Single-Op/Single-Band (TBD)/High-Power entry. QSL via K4BAI.

PJ6, SABA. Bart, PD1BAT, will be active as PJ6/PD1BAT from Windwardside, Saba until November 5th. Activity will be mainly on 40 and 20 meters using FT8, but may try SSB. QSL via PD1BAT by the Bureau.

PV60, BRAZIL (Special Event). Members of the "Sao Carlos Amateur Radio Club" will be active as PV60CRASC during the month of Nov to celebrate their club's 60th anniversary. QSL via PT2OP, by the Bureau, eQSL or LoTW.

TM60, FRANCE (Special Event). François, F8DVD, will activate the special event station TM60ANT between November 16-30th. Activity is to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Antarctic Treaty Signature (ATS). Operation will be made by from François QTH in Mâcon (JN26JH), France. Activity will be on various HF bands between 40-10 meters. The new reference for the WAP program is WAP-318. QSL via F8DVD, direct (SAE + 2 USDs) or by the Bureau. ADDED NOTE: France was one of the 12 countries who signed the ATS in Washington on December 1, 1959. The treaty officially entered into force on June 23, 1961.

TZ, MALI. Ulmar, DK1CE, will once again be active as TZ1CE from the QTH of Jeff, TZ4AM/K1MMB, in Bamako, Mali, between November 18th and December 8th (possibly longer). Activity will be on 160-10 meters (no 60m) using CW, SSB and FT8 (No F/H). QSL via DK1CE, by the DARC Bureau or direct. NO LoTW.

YB0, INDONESIA. Pri, YB0ECT, from Jakarta, will be active during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m)/ High-Power entry. QSL via W2FB only!

IOTA News...

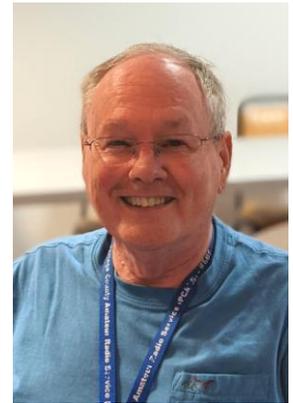
OC-247. Operators Arfan/YB8DKL, Hajar/YB8HZ, Mashud/YC8ES, Ikhvan/ YC8AQY, Basri/YC8BNZ, Andi/YD8CUI, Nurdin/YD8CXQ, Risman/YD8BVL, YD8ESH and YD8ERF will be active from **Sapuka Besar Island** between November 12-16th. It will take the team more than a day by ship to get to the island. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8.

Well there you have it for November. Do yourself a favor and get on the air. You may be surprised at what you hear on the so called "dead bands". Work some DX. Do so using a different mode than usual. HAVE FUN!! Until next month, 73!



Microwaves Part 3 - Microwave Dish Teardown

Jim, AC8NT



In this installment of our series, we are going to have some fun tearing apart a microwave antenna to see how it was designed and maybe discover some components we have not yet discussed. The teardown should show how the material in the first two articles can be applied in a real antenna. We will be looking at the SimpleWIFI WIFI Extender Antenna. It is a gridded dish antenna designed to work at 2.4 GHz. I am currently using two of these to build equipment for radio astronomy and satellite projects. Figures 1 shows pictures of the antenna.

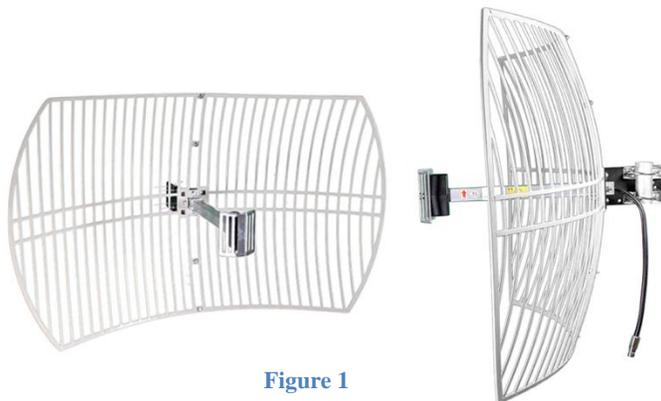


Figure 1

Initial measurements show the dish is 99 cm (D in our equations) across and 58.4 cm tall. The next parameter we need is the distance from the base of the dish to the antenna. We will be using this to compute our F/D ratio. I had an extra boom, so it was time to get out the Dremel tool and do some disassembly. Figure 2 shows the results of surgery on the feed point.

As you can see this is obviously a dipole. We measure the distance from the dipole to the base of

boom (F in our equations). It measures 30.5 cm. We can now compute the F/D ratio as .31. We can also measure the length of the dipole as 6.7 cm and its width 1 cm. Using equation 1 we can compute the aperture angle for this dish. Remember equation 1 computes the angle between the boom and the edge of the dish. For the full angle we will need to multiply by two.

$$\phi = 2 \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{4 \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)} \right] \quad \{\text{eq 1}\}$$

Using our F/D ratio of .31, our full aperture angle is 77.8 degrees.

The antenna head has an aluminum piece that appears to be a reflector element. I measured the aluminum reflector so it could be modeled.

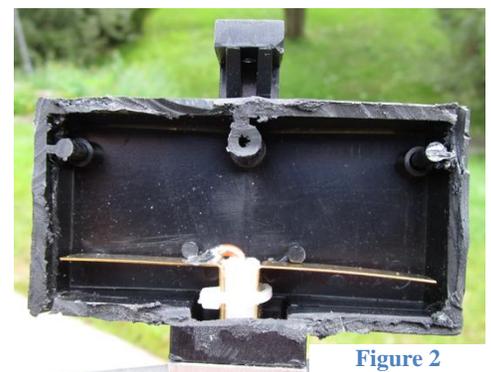


Figure 2

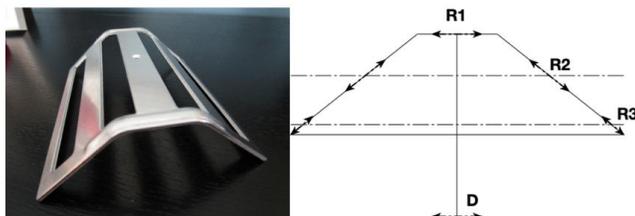


Figure 3 shows a picture of the reflector, sketch of antenna elements and model data table for the antenna system.

Figure 3

Antenna Element Data for Modeling				
Element	Element Width	Equiv. Wire Dia.	Offset Spacing	Vertical Spacing
R1	.012	.0076	0	0
R2	.012	.0076	.01	.022
R3	.006	.0038	.022	.038
DRV Dipole	.012	.0076	.045	0

All values are in meters

This antenna system is a variation on the corner reflector antenna shown in Figure 4. Use of this design for a feed point reduces significantly wasted energy and provides an excellent beam width to illuminate the dish.

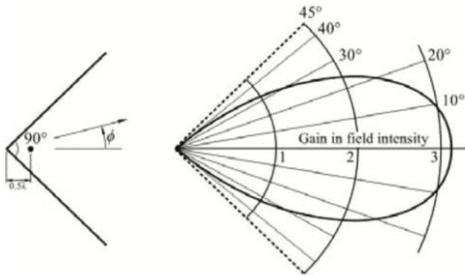


Figure 4

With the data in Figure 3 we can analyze the feed point antenna using modeling software. For this example, I have chosen YagiCAD. This was written by Paul McMahon VK3DIP and last updated in 2017. It is a very easy to use front end for the 4NEC2 analysis engine and has a specific input form for corner reflector antennas.

Figure 5 shows the YagiCAD input screen for a corner reflector.

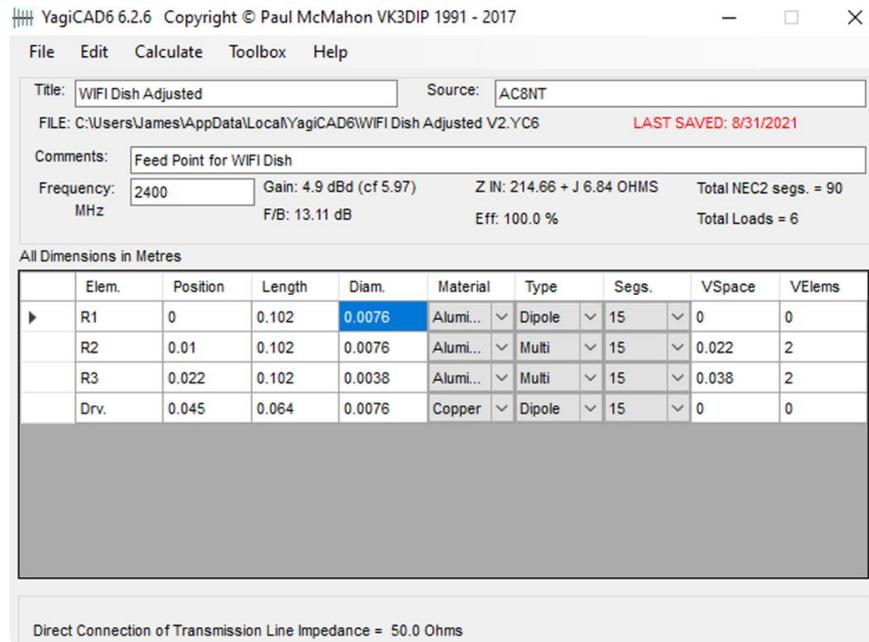


Figure 5

Figure 6 shows the pattern output for this design note the half power beam width for this antenna is 63 degrees. Also note the input impedance of 214 ohms. We will be discussing this later.

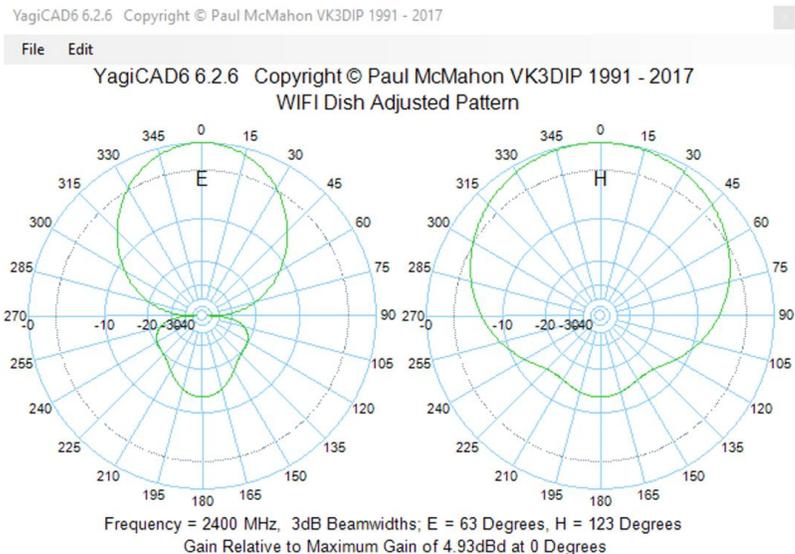


Figure 6

Our aperture angle is 77.8 degrees, and the pattern has a smaller angle. Although this will introduce efficiency, all of the aperture will see some of the signal. This presents the most complicated portion of the analysis of a dish antenna, efficiency, and why it is very difficult to have efficiencies over about 68%. Using equation 2 we will calculate our gain. Equation 3 shows the

calculation using 60% efficiency. 26 db is still a very good antenna gain.

$$G = 10 \log_{10} \epsilon \left(\frac{\pi D}{\lambda} \right)^2 \quad \{\text{eq 2}\}$$

$$G = 10 \log_{10} (.6) \left(\frac{\pi(.99)}{.125} \right)^2 \approx 26 \text{ db} \quad \{\text{eq 3}\}$$

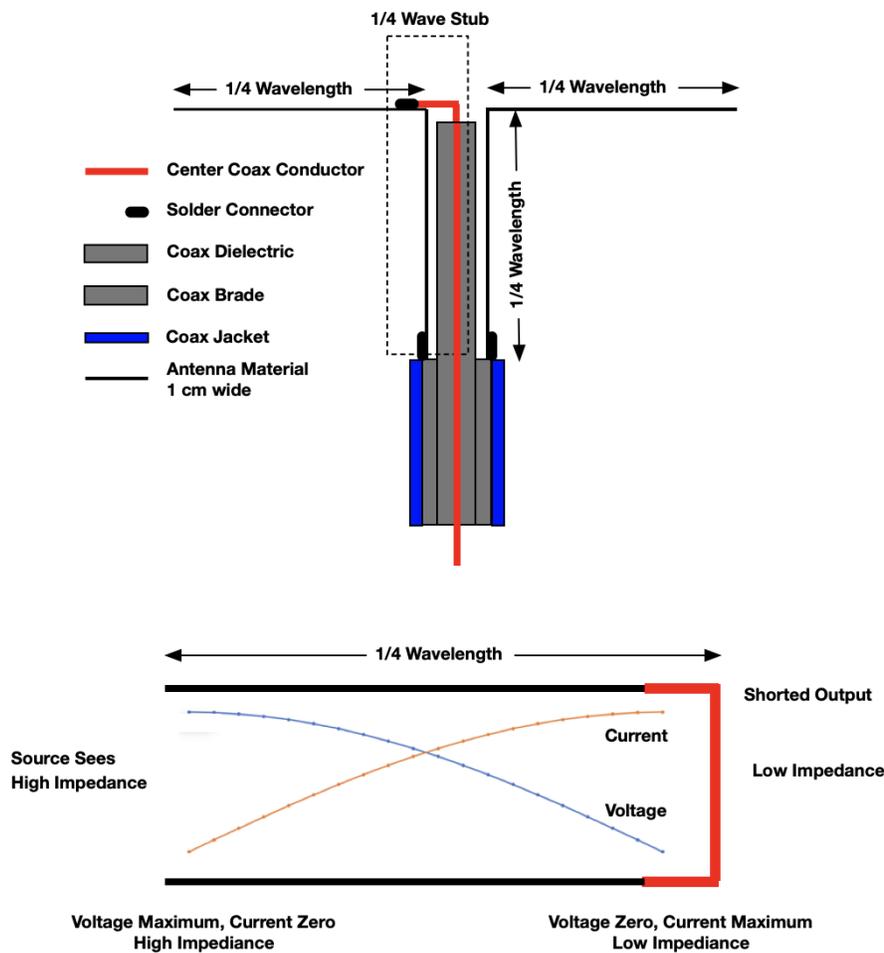


Figure 7

currents from flowing back down the coax. This balun isn't often found in HF because it is very difficult at HF to get all the elements constructed. However, at microwave frequencies, this balun is a very common solution.

Using the data collected from the teardown, I was able to modify the antenna for use at 1.4 and 1.5 GHz for use in radio astronomy projects. It was great learning experience and I had a lot of fun learning how this antenna works.

I hope this teardown has helped you see the application of the information in the first two articles and that it expanded your knowledge of microwaves.

Keep learning, keep building, and always have fun.



Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Hi everyone, This month, the portable operations SIG will be back at the club site. We had a great turnout at the Ravenna City park in October. But, this month, we'll be back at the club house.



We talked about doing a Saturday Field Trip over this winter. I'm looking at a site up in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. We'll be talking more about that this month, as



well as entertaining your show & Tell, and questions. We'll be meeting on November 9th, at 7PM at the club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna).

We'll also be running via Zoom. Here's the link:
Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86483499206?pwd=anA4dXl3ZXVYR0sza3NXZXVvR0xlQT09>

We hope to see you there. 73 DE WG8X (Formerly KD8MQ)

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



The next PCARS Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday November 2nd at 7:00 PM at the club site. This month we'll have a presentation on one of the most popular digital apps, fldigi. We'll start with the basics of installing and configuring fldigi and talk about how to locate various folders used in fldigi. We'll also discuss some of the advanced functions such as RxID and TxID, logging, rig control and others.

As always, we will make time to answer any questions you may have or help with problems or issues that pertain to digital communications by radio. I hope to see you there!

PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

First Saturdays 10:00 am
at the club site in Ravenna
February, April, June, August,
October, December

The logo for ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiners, featuring a circular design with the text "AMATEUR RADIO" at the top, "ARRL VEC" in the center, and "VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" at the bottom. A diamond-shaped symbol with "A", "R", "R", "L" and "R", "S", "P", "E", "C" is also present.

DX & Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT
DX & Contest SIG Coordinator



While my XYL and I were driving around Cape Cod and Plymouth, Massachusetts, seven PCARS members competed in this year's California QSO Party from our club station. I'd like to thank the following for filling the ops chairs: KE8LWP, Agnes; W8KNO, Joe; WA8LRW, Ken; KA8TOA, Greg; AD8FQ, Ben; AC8QG, Nick and N8QE, Bob.



These seven ops did a great job representing K8BF this year in one of our favorite contests.

Needless to say, it has been a strange two years so far. Last year, if some of you will recall, we had to work from our own QTHs since gathering at the club site was not possible due to Covid. We only had four ops take part but we finished 9th overall and 1st in Ohio in our category.



This year we did slightly better but we still don't have the final results from the contest committee in Calif. So our raw scores are as follows: **Total Contacts: 195 Points: 444 Mults: 44 Total Score: 19,536.**

Scores like that in the past have served us well and we were able to finish very high in the standings for Ohio. So, we will just have to wait to see how K8BF fared this year. Hopefully, the 2022 CAQSOP will be a return to regular club site operation with a full complement of PCARS contesters.

As you know, we have been working on getting a new antenna raised for the club. This project has been on-going now for a while due to various factors. The two main factors have been the weather which has not been cooperating for any of us. And also the fact that we have been depending on volunteers who have not been able to be fully involved due to their own obligations.



But the project has been moving forward. The antenna has been built to a point where any further work on it will have to be done outside of the club site due to the antenna's size. The old antenna and tower was taken down by a very organized group of members. The various pieces/parts of the new build are being worked on so that the new tower/antenna arrangement will be better than ever. And hopefully, once fully erected, we will not have to deal with that part of our equipment requirement for a very long time.

So I just wanted to give the membership an update on what's happening regarding our new antenna system. I know that this new addition will be much appreciated especially by those who operate from the club.



Paper Chase - Two to Get In Your Logbook

Joe, W8KNO



With the new Ohio License Plate being unveiled and with the error of the Wright Flyer flying backwards and North Carolina saying "Y'all leave Ohio alone. They wouldn't know. They weren't there" - **Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight** just seemed to be the perfect event you would remember for years to come.

The Young Eagles Flight Experience is on November 20, 2021. Kids 8-17 will receive a free flight with an



FAA certified pilot taking off from Centennial Airport in Englewood, Colorado. The Parker Radio Association using call WOR will be operating on site from about 10 am - 6pm our time on SSB on or near 7.222 and 14.222. A UHF/VHF station is also being planned. All contacts will be logged to LOTW. For a physical QSL card please send a

SASE to: Parker Radio Association - PO Box 3241 - Parker, CO 80134

A **Pearl Harbor Day memorial crossband operation** will be from the U.S.S. Iowa battleship, callsign **NEPM**. W6HB (aka E51DLD) says the authorization for this comes from the U.S. Navy Third Fleet spectrum manager. The operation is December 7th, from 1600-2400 UTC. You will find NEPM on 14781.5 kHz USB, listening on 14343 kHz USB.



QSL is available if you send a SASE via NI6BB or NE6PM. The Iowa is being made into the National Museum of the Surface Navy in the near future.



Veterans Day 2021 - Special Events

4 Things You Don't Know About Veterans Day

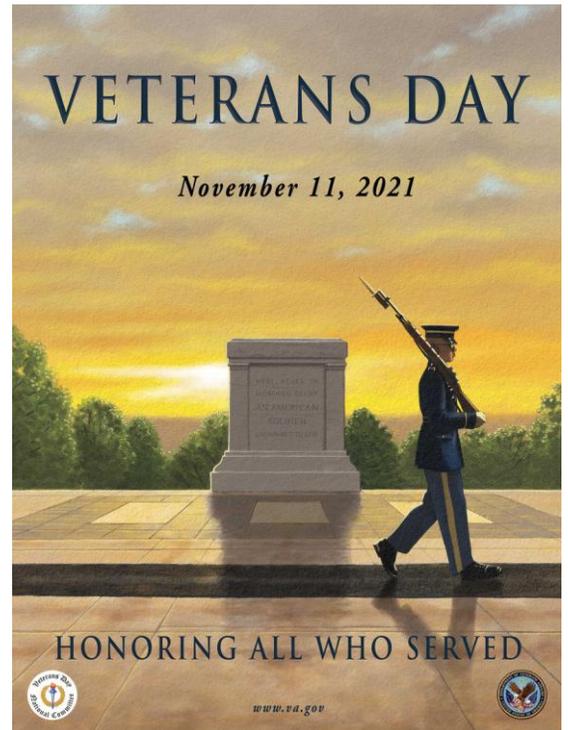
1. It's "Veterans Day" not "Veteran's Day" for a good reason. The lack of the apostrophe might seem like a semantic choice, but it has a definite and deliberate meaning. According to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Veterans Day is not a day that belongs to veterans, it is a day for honoring veterans directly in front of us right now.

2. Veterans Day used to be celebrated on the fourth Monday of October. In 1968, Congress passed the uniform Monday holiday bill, which stated that Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day would all be celebrated on Mondays. The reason for doing so was to create three-day weekends, which hopefully encouraged travel and other recreational activities that would help stimulate the economy. However, many states did not agree with the change, particularly for Veterans Day, which holds significant historic and patriotic significance. And so on September 20 1975, President Gerald Ford signed Public Law 9497, which returned the enemy observance of Veterans Day to November 11, beginning in 1978.

3. Armistice Day became Veterans Day in 1954. Although today we all know it as Veterans Day. November 11 was originally called "Armistice Day" in recognition of the armistice agreement that ended WWI on November 11, 1918. While WWI was called "the war to end all wars," it failed to do just that. By the early 1950s, millions of Americans had served in WWII in the Korean War. So, in an attempt to be more inclusive and honor this younger generation of veterans service, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day June 1, 1954.



4. A group once pushed to rename then-Armistice Day as "Mayflower Day." Following the outbreak of WWII and the revelation that WWI did not end all wars, the idea of commemorating Armistice Day began to fall out of favor with a small group of Americans led by Dr. Francis Carr Stifler of the American Bible Society. The group proposed that Armistice Day be officially replaced with Mayflower Day since the signing of the Mayflower Compact took place on November 11, 1620. They argued that this whole name would be far more appropriate, since the Mayflower Compact was the cornerstone upon which the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights stood. Of course, the group's ideas did not catch on, and Armistice Day eventually became the Veterans Day that we know today.



SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS Highlighting Veterans Day 2021

11/01/2021 | Veterans Day 2021 - Nov 1-Nov 15, 0000Z-0000Z, N5VET, Cleburne, TX. Club KC5NX. 14.255 14.045 7.240 7.235. QSL. Club KC5NX, 9200 Summit Ct. W, Cleburne, TX 76033. N5VET is again operating for 15 days during our Veterans Day Special Event.... QSL to KC5NX.. We will be on most all bands and using most modes... Always a great Event.. come join us. www.qrz.com/db/kc5nx , jay.n.violet@gmail.com or www.qrz.com/db/n5vet

11/05/2021 | Special Event 13th Annual Veteran Honor Guard Vigil at the Ottawa IL War Memorial
Nov 5-Nov 6, 2300Z-2200Z, W9TAL, Ottawa, IL. The American Legion Post 33 ARC Ottawa, IL. 7.200 3.900. QSL. Joe Tokarz TALARC Post 33, 901 LaSalle St., Ottawa, IL 61350-4223. For the 13th year, 96 military veterans, family and friends will stand guard for 15 minute segments during this period at the Ottawa IL War Memorial. QSL SASE. www.ottawaalpost33.com

11/06/2021 | Veterans Day Salute To The USO - Nov 6, 1400Z-2200Z, K5U, McKinney, TX. McKinney Amateur Radio Club. 14.322. QSL. Dave Marking, 6710 Virginia Pkwy Ste 215 PMB 52, McKinney, TX 75071.
<https://www.qrz.com/db/K5U>



11/11/2021 | Veterans Day from High Point State Park - Nov 11, 1230Z-2330Z, WS2E, Montague, NJ. WS2E. 7.055 7.240 14.055 14.320. Certificate & QSL. Michael Sorton, 408 Elderberry Ally, Milford, PA 18337. Will include POTA K-1619, and possible a 2fer. Summit activation in planning. Will have multiple stations on the air. Everyone welcome to come out and join in. A 8.5 x 11 photo certificate is planned as well as qsl card. watch QRZ.com for details land updates. ws2e@arrrl.net

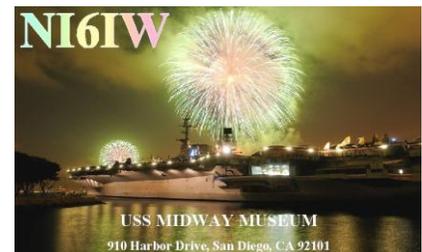
11/12/2021 | USS Cobia WWII Submarine Celebrating Veterans Day - Nov 12-13, 1400Z-2100Z, NB9QV, Manitowoc, WI. USS Cobia Amateur Radio Club. 7.240 +/- 14.240 +/- QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt W6BSF, 4932 S. 10th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220. QSL to W6BSF with SASE #10. www.qrz.com/db/NB9QV



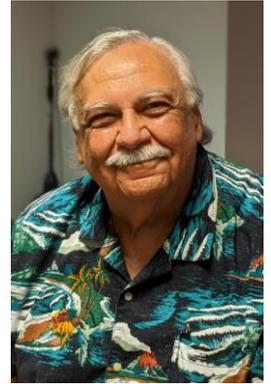
11/13/2021 | 102nd Anniversary of Armistice - Nov 13, 0800Z-1800Z, WW1USA, Kansas City, MO. National World War 1 Museum and Memorial. 7.030 7.250 1.4030 14.250. QSL. C/O Charles Van Way, N0CVW, National World War 1 Museum and Memorial, 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO 64108. Direct questions to: ww1usa@theworldwar.org <http://www.theworldwar.org/amateurradio>



11/13/2021 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: Celebrating Veterans Day and US Marine Corps Birthday - Nov 13, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 PSK and CW on various HF bands DSTAR on various reflectors. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 901 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. Please check spotting networks to find us on HF. Consult www.dstarusers.org to find our call sign NI6IW and Reporting Note to see what reflector we're using. Note: Typical QSL turn-around time is 4 to 6 weeks after receiving request with SASE. www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw



Chuck, W8PT
FYAO Chairman



You'll recall that we did not have our annual Freeze Your Acorns Off QRP event last February. We had to cancel it because of Covid. So a few of us got our heads together to discuss what we could or should do. This is one activity that PCARS has done every year since we started and we did not want to skip a year. It was decided that we would have the event in December with the 2022 event the following February.



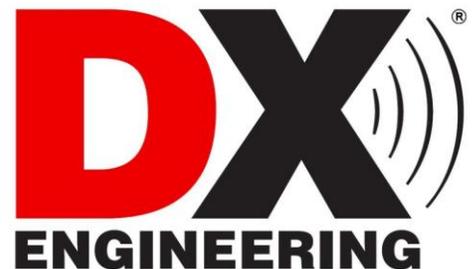
So, get your woolies on because on **December 4th, at Fred Fuller Park** in the Roy Smith Shelter house, we will be holding our 2021 Freeze Your Acorns Off QRP Event. Set up begins at 9AM with the event starting at 10AM and continuing until 3PM. See the flier in this issue of the newsletter.

And as in the past, there will be a contest within our contest with our **Best Recipe Cook Off** contest. So dust off your aprons and get the crock pots going. We want to see your best Chili, Mac & Cheese, Irish Stew, Sloppy Joe recipes PLUS MORE created for our enjoyment. Who knows, yours truly might even bring a dish to pass. As always, there will be coffee and donuts to begin the day.

I'm hoping to see a whole lot of PCARS members attend and have at least 6-8 members set up stations to see who will get their name engraved on the FYAO club site plaque.

Please plan on taking part in this fun event. AND - wear your fancy Hawaiian Shirt !!

DX Engineering is Hiring



DX Engineering - a long time supporter of PCARS - is hiring. Share your passion for Ham Radio and get paid for it.

DX Engineering is looking for active Hams for several areas: **Technical Sales Rep, Retail Technical Sales Rep** and many others. The most up to date list is available here: <https://summitracing.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/DXEngineering-External-Career-Site>

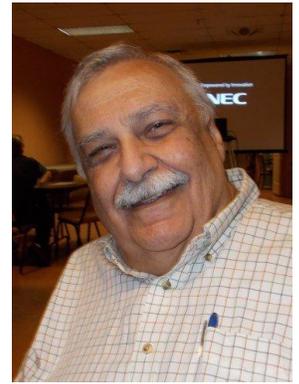
Multiple positions open. Flexible days and hours. Check back often to see new opportunities. DXE is a great place to be - working daily with other ham radio operators. Join the team.



Marconi Maritime Center & Museum



Chuck, W8PT



As mentioned elsewhere in the Radiogram, I was not in town to participate in this year's CAQSOP. My XYL, Jeanne, and I were vacationing in Massachusetts. And while there, we visited the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center & Museum.



The Museum is sited on the former Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, comprising a 10-building campus on 11 acres owned by the town of Chatham. All the buildings were constructed in 1914 and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for the station's long distinguished role in the history of wireless communication, particularly ship-to-shore.

The Center collaborated with the Town of Chatham to renovate two of the campus buildings, the former Operations Building and the Residence Building, for a museum and education center. The Center has preserved the historic integrity of the buildings and portions of the station's antenna field. Through exhibits and videos, its Marconi-RCA Wireless Museum traces the story of wireless communications from the formative days in Chatham with Marconi, through the late-20th century when operators at the station communicated with ships at sea around the world.



When you're there, you can step inside Guglielmo Marconi's original 1914 Trans-Atlantic Wireless Receiving Station. Its 11ft ceilings and large windows frame vintage radio receivers, transmitters, and teletype machines.

Under the Radio Corporation of America, Chatham Radio WCC was the world's greatest coastal station for over 50 years. In fact, a bank of transmitters and receivers taken from an ocean going vessel, were

totally refurbished and are in working order. In one of the photos, you can see me sitting at the key to this impressive setup.

Of course, the volunteers are all HAMS and are very knowledgeable in giving tours. They even have a station inside the museum – WA1WCC – which consists of Collins, Drake and other boat anchors that are still operational. All of their antennas being used are wire as they were back in Marconi's day.



If you ever get a chance to be traveling through this part of Mass, don't miss stopping at Chatham to visit the Museum.



Falkland Islands - New Prefixes



Alan, VK6CQ (VK0LD, VP8PJ), from Perth, provided the following information: Due to an administrative oversight in the new Falkland Islands Communications Ordinance implemented way back in 2017, new VP8 licenses for use in the former Falkland Islands Dependencies have not been available for some years now.

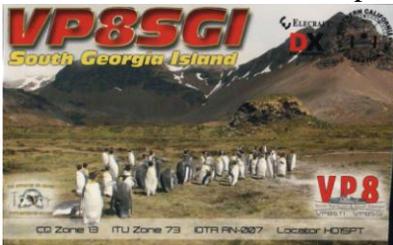
This has caused considerable difficulty to major DXpeditions and others wishing to operate from these remote regions, including the recent VP8PJ South Orkneys operation.

After several months of protracted negotiations with Ofcom (the UK equivalent to the FCC), the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator and the Governments of both South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands and British Antarctic Territory, there has been a major break-through and Ofcom has finally authorized the use of a new prefix for these former Dependencies as a solution to this oversight.

The new prefix is VP0 (Victor Papa Zero) and once legislation is enacted in the near future, it will be applied to the two British Overseas Territories of South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands and the British Antarctic Territory. The existing VP8 prefix will then apply exclusively to the Falkland Islands only. The new VP0 prefix will apply to the following DXCC entities:

1. British claimed sector of the Antarctic mainland, including the Antarctic Peninsula & nearby islands
2. South Orkney Islands
3. South Shetland Islands
4. South Georgia
5. South Sandwich Islands

It is proposed that the Falkland Islands Communications Regulator will administer these licenses on behalf of the governments of British Antarctic Territory and South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands. It is also proposed that licenses under the new prefix will only be assigned three-letter suffixes



(as opposed to the more usual method of first assigning callsigns with one or two-letter suffixes). For example, VP8yz would be re-assigned as VP0xyz, not the expected VP0yz. The reasons for this rather odd proposal remain unclear, given the very small number of stations active from these regions. In the meantime, all existing VP8 callsigns as previously assigned under the old Falkland Islands Communications Ordinance for use in the former Dependencies (such as VP8PJ) remain valid for use until the associated licenses are revalidated and assigned new VP0 callsigns.



For further details, see the draft policy available for download on the Government of South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands website at: <https://www.gov.gs/amateur-radio-licences-policy-consultation/>.

There is no information regarding the matter presently available on the British Antarctic Territory Government or Falkland Islands Communications Regulator websites.



PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted !!! PLEASE !!

Dig out that 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 73 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 IO 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.

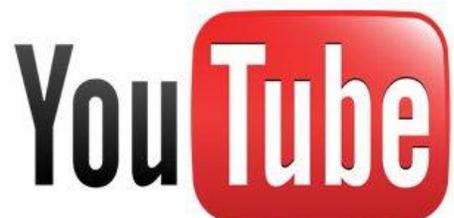
Issuance Information: Amateur Radio plates cannot be issued with system assigned, reserved, or personalized plate formats.

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 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.



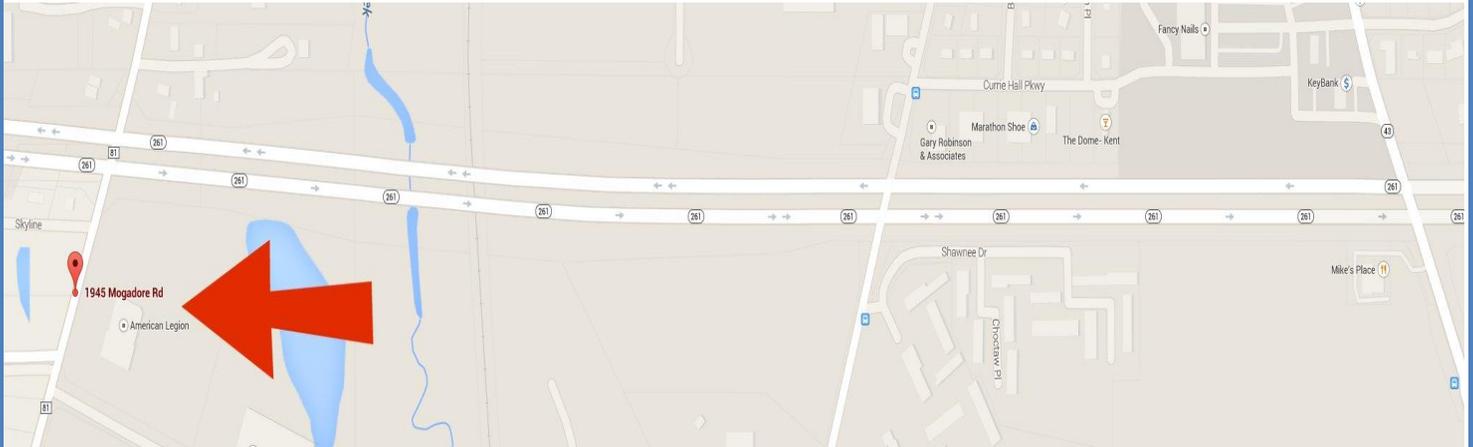
PCARS Meetings

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



CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ABOUT IN-PERSON MEETINGS

*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 October Meeting



PCARS
Oct 11, 2021



Oct 11, 2021



Portage County Amateur Radio Service



K8BF

2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application New Renewal

This form MUST be filled out for any membership transaction

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
(Name Example: You can enter Bob instead of Robert if you want too. Also if you have a nick name you want listed, enter that, too)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? Yes No ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____
Use 2099 if ARRL Life Member

(We need month for the Birthday List and we need year to keep on file for the senior member advantages)

Birthday: Month: _____ Year: _____

A \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed in the first year of membership for all new members.
Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Dec 31st. *If you don't pay by 12/31 - you are no longer a member and you will have to pay the \$5.00 fee again plus dues per the schedule below and you will be issued a new member number.*

Check One	Membership	Renewal & New Membership Rate **	New Membership Rate **
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Member ***	\$75-Founder \$175-Charter	\$250-Regular \$125-Senior
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Member	\$20.00 Jan-Dec	\$15.00 July-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Member	\$20.00 Jan-Dec	\$15.00 July-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Member (65+)	\$16.00 Jan-Dec	\$11.00 July-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Member *	\$10.00 Jan-Dec	\$5.00 July-Dec

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

**The rate plus a \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed for all new members.

*** Must have been a member in good standing for previous 5 consecutive years.

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

What are YOUR Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____
As a member in PCARS you agree to PCARS sending club related information to your e-mail address and allowing use of your photographs submitted or taken during PCARS events to be used for PCARS publications and ham radio related articles.

Mail to: Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.
705 Oakwood Street - Box 12
Ravenna, OH 44266

Date Received:	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renew
Initiation Fee: \$	+ Dues: \$	= Total \$ 00.00
Paid: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash -or- <input type="checkbox"/> Check Check #		
-or- <input type="checkbox"/> PayPal Transaction Number:		
Date Voted:	Results:	Member Number:
<input type="checkbox"/> Database Updated		

Rev. 9 September 2020

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

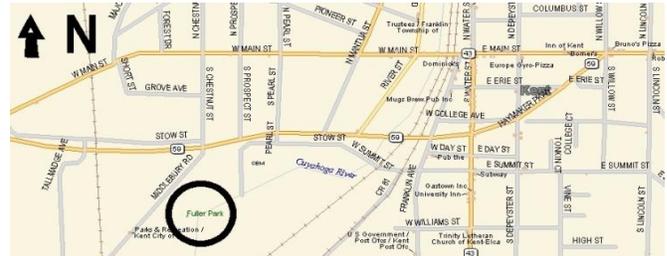
16th Annual

"Freeze Your Acorns Off" (FYAO) Special Event Station



Where: Fred Fuller Park - 497 Middlebury Rd., Kent, Oh
at the Roy Smith Shelter House

When: Saturday - Dec. 4, 2021
Set up: 9 am



Operating Time: 10 am - 3 pm EST

We will be active on CW & Phone in the General areas of the 6, 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meter bands (Repeater & Echolink on the K8BF-L echo link node for a certificate) and anything else we can get working. Club Call Sign **K8BF** for a certificate. Other participating stations will be using their own callsign/FYAO, or calling "CQ FYAO" (only stations at the Freeze Your Acorns Off event should use the /FYAO designator). Yes, we'll be braving the cold snowy weather of North Eastern Ohio to set up QRP stations using portable power and antennas.

A beautiful color (suitable for framing) 8" x 10" certificate is available if you contact K8BF on 2 meters FM or EchoLink and send your QSL with a large SASE to the club call trustee:

Amy Leggiero, N8AMY - 6229 Gladys St Unit B - Ravenna, OH 44266

So, from the comfort of your warm radio shack - give us a contact while we're out freezing. We'll need all the contacts we can make to help keep us warm. Your support will be very much appreciated!

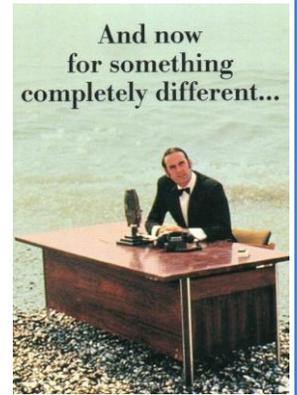


Check PCARS out on the web at: www.portcars.org
Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at chuckw8pt@gmail.com



Ageisms

(You may have seen these before as I had, but I got a few more laughs!)



- My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness. I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it."
- My bucket list: keep breathing.
- Camping: where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person.
- Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say, "Close enough."
- Being an adult is the dumbest thing I have ever done.
- I'm a multi-tasker. I can listen, ignore and forget all at the same time!
- Retirement to do list: Wake up. Nailed it!
- Went to an antique auction and people were bidding on me.
- People who wonder if the glass is half empty or half full, miss the point. The glass is refillable.
- I don't have grey hair; I have wisdom highlights.
- Sometimes it takes me all day to get nothing done.
- I don't trip, I do random gravity checks.
- My heart says chocolate and wine, but my jeans say, please, please, please eat a salad!
- Never laugh at your spouse's choices. You are one of them.
- One minute you're young and fun. The next, you're turning down the car stereo to see better.
- I'd grow my own food if only I could find bacon seeds.
- Losing weight doesn't seem to be working for me, so from now I'm going to concentrate on getting taller.
- My body is a temple; ancient and crumbling.
- Common sense is not a gift. It's a punishment because you have to deal with everyone else who doesn't have it.
- I came. I saw. I forgot what I was doing. Retraced my steps. Got lost on the way back. Now I have no idea what's going on. But, I remembered to send this to you.



Thanks & 73



Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards this year and in past years. 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. So chip-in and send your article in to keep this newsletter great for 2021 and beyond.

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

AC8QG, N8WCP, KB8UUZ, WA8EFK, N8SY, WB8LCD, WG8X, KD8IDJ, WB2MGP, N4BCD, WA8US, AC8NT, KE8EGF, KA8TOA, K8CAV, K3LR, W3YQ, K1JT, G4WJS, K9AN, IV3NWV, N1SFE, W8PT, W8KNO, KE8LWO, The ARRL, DX Engineering and the World-Wide Web

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



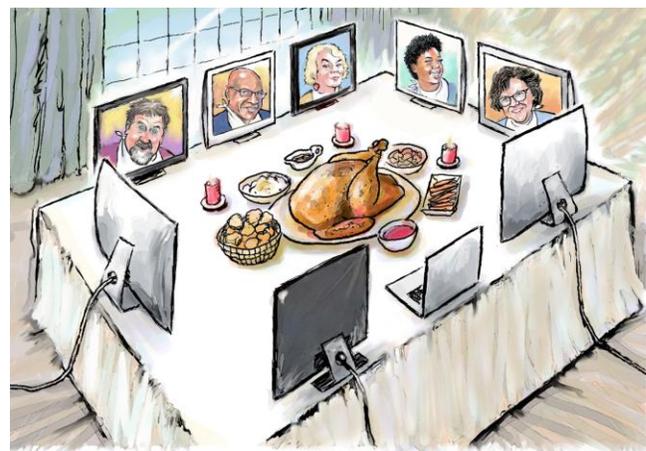
It's still here - and it looks like it will be for a while



If you have been following the news about the COVID-19 Delta variant, then you know that is gaining ground around the world and right here in Ohio as well as all over the USA. State and local governments significantly ramped up notifications to the public during the pandemic to spread awareness about COVID-19 and accompanying public health measures. The new Delta variant seems to be even more contagious. This is **not** over, we need more people



vaccinated to cut down on spreading this virus and its mutations - masks are the fall style now. **We will get through this - just hang in there.** Everyone wants to go back to the old 'normal'. But until it happens, *please*, be careful out there.



VIRTUAL THANKSGIVING

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

~ The Hamvention® 2018 "Club of the Year" ~

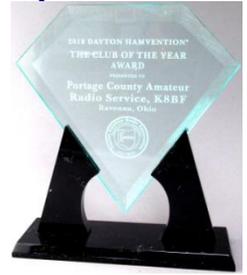


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**,
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

Meeting starts at 7:00 pm - All are welcome to attend ~ Stop in and say hello!

PCARS uses the **K8IV** repeater: **146.895 MHz PL 118.8** in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ EchoLink Node: **K8BF-L**

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



~ 2021 Officers ~	2021 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Vice President - Mike Szabo - N8WCP Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF 3 Year Trustee - Amy Leggiero - N8AMY 2 Year Trustee - John Myers - WG8X 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD	ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV Rick Krus
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Field Day Chairman, 2021	WA8AR Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8AMY Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8AMY Amy Leggiero
	Membership Chairman	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Net Control Manager	KA8TOA Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson	
~ Meetings & Net ~	PCARS Meeting Photographer	KE8LWO Bernadette Wagner
2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Secretary	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Social Media	N8AMY Amy Leggiero
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
	Webmasters	KD8MQ John Myers
		K8SRR Steve Randlett



PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members

KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
AC8QG	Nick Wagner
AC8NT	Jim Wilson
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
KA8TOA	Greg Ash
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
K8IV	Ed Polack
W8PT	Chuck Patellis
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8FUM	Dan Torchia
W8GWI	Dave Seckel
N8AMY	Amy Leggiero



THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

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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@gmail.com. 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!**

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. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KB8UUZ@gmail.com

By attending PCARS in-person activities, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending PCARS in-person activities, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and covenant not to sue and agree not to hold the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) or any of their directors, officers, contractors, vendors or volunteers liable for any illness or injury. While PCARS implements preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with Federal, State and Local guidelines, we cannot guarantee that attendees will not become infected with COVID-19 as a result of attendance.



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