



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 2024 - Volume 19 Number 11

Jamboree On The Air with PCARS



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





Feature Articles	
From the PCARS President	3
From the PCARS Vice President	4
Thank You	5
From the Treasurer	6
Soldering 101 Group Build SOLD OUT	7
Confessions and Observations of a (Kit Building) Addict	9
On The Road with WG8X	10
Jamboree On The Air 2024	12
OSPOTA 2024 – Final Results	14
Thank You DX Engineering	36



Regular Departments	
Happy Birthday PCARS Members	6
PCARS IO Group	6
PCARS Coffee Cups	8
Swap-N-Shop	33
SIG – Portable Operations	34
SIG – Antenna	34
SIG – DX & Contesting	35
PCARS Patches & Stickers PCARS	37
PCARS on YouTube	37
Charlie the Tuner’s HF High-Lites	38
From Around The World	41
Member Ham License Plates Wanted	42
Print a copy of your Ham License	45



Mark Your Calendar	
Schedule of Events	8
Ohio Section Youth Net	8
Hamfest Calendar	33
PCARS Meetings	43
VE Test Information & News	44

Finals	
Thanks & 73	46
Fine Print	47



From the President



Mike, KP4VZ
PCARS President



PCARS Officers Elections. During the November General meeting, we will be voting for our PCARS leadership for 2025. I've had conversations with many of our members, and it looks like we will have several individuals interested in stepping up for leadership roles this year. I strongly encourage you to think about running for an elected position. Your involvement is crucial for PCARS! Nominations are currently open for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and the Three-Year Trustee.

You can nominate members using the online nomination form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeuztJPGEQg_JzILChGiWr0lmyK_PINV1KJedMVAXpLWoVQxQ/viewform?usp=sharing

Annual Fundraiser for the Center of Hope. Every year, we proudly continue our tradition of hosting a fundraising campaign for the Center of Hope. The PCARS community has consistently shown remarkable generosity, and I'm confident we'll maintain that wonderful spirit this year. Keep in mind that every contribution matters, regardless of the amount, so please invite your friends and family to participate too. You can support us in three ways.

- First, attend the meeting and purchase plenty of 50/50 tickets—these are also available online at the PCARS website! The portion of the 50/50 that would typically go to PCARS will instead be donated to the Center of Hope.
- Second, consider making a personal donation to the Center of Hope. Every little bit helps someone in your community enjoy a better holiday season this year. You can make a donation right now by visiting our website (www.portcars.org) and clicking on the donation button for the Center of Hope.
- Lastly, don't hesitate to reach out to your friends, neighbors, and colleagues to encourage them to support this meaningful cause. They might say "yes" or "no," but if you don't ask, you'll never know, and that doesn't help anyone!

You can also hand your cash donations directly to Greg, our treasurer. If you're donating by check, please make sure to write it out to 'The Center of Hope.'

Group Build. I would like to express my enthusiasm for our group builds! On November 9th, we will conduct our fourth (and last) group build session of the year. This session will feature a workshop on basic soldering, led by John Myers, WG8X.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the club. We eagerly anticipate seeing everyone at the General Meeting on November 11th at 7:00 PM.

Let us take a moment to recognize the blessings present in our lives. Wishing a joyful Thanksgiving to the wonderful PCARS family.

From the Vice President



Ken, WA8LRW
PCARS Vice President



October

- The monthly meeting featured a social gathering event, which many people enjoyed. Or at least they enjoyed the food.
- K8BF participated in the California QSO party on Saturday, October 5 with 255 QSO on CW and 123 on Phone. Everyone did a wonderful Job.
- The PCARS club Antenna Committee successfully erected the 40M Dipole, VHF, and EchoLink antennas on Saturday, October 12. The club especially wants to thank Rick's brother, John, for all his work on the Scissor Lift. Jack's brackets for the pushup pole and the light poles were perfect. I want to thank all the participants Greg KA8TOA, Rick K8CAV, Rick's Brother John, Gene W8NET, Mike N8WCP, and Jack N8BI.
- We were able to clean up the club site and remove many of the old tower and antenna parts that are no longer needed.
- Net Night at the Club Site was fun for all the participants.

November

- The monthly Meeting will feature the Center of Hope fundraiser and the election of new club officers. November 9 will be a Soldering class at the Club Site. PCARS's birthday is on November 14

December

- The monthly Meeting will be the Holiday Dinner



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Thank You

Thank you to June Germ, wife of former PCARS member and silent-key Dave Germ (WV8P), for the generous donations of Ham Radio equipment.

Some of the items such as the ICOM IC-705 and VHF/UHF antennas will be used by the club's youth/school outreach program.

Other items will be sold at the November PCARS, raffle for the Center of Hope charity.

Other items are available for sale to club members with the proceeds used for club activities and events.



Dave Germ, WV8P, SK

From the Treasurer

Greg, KA8TOA
PCARS Treasurer



Happy Holidays to everyone. The club funds are in great shape. I would love to see a great turn out for the meeting on Nov 11, we have a lot going on that night. Dues are due, contributions for the Center of Hope and a nice 50/50 drawing. Please come out and support the club for all these functions. Please don't be afraid to come, you will not be conscripted into being an officer. Please remember that the club will fall apart if we do not have officers and this is a great club. Some of the duties and other changes to the constitution and standing rules have been upgraded and will make things easier for everyone. So step up and help out.

My 3-year term is up and I will take a break, but I have learned a lot and I am very glad of the support and the help I have received. I will turn this over to Paul as he is running for treasurer. I will need a few volunteers on meeting night to help with tickets, handle dues and collect money for the Center of Hope. The nets have been assigned and I expect we will have more check ins due to the weather. I will be out of service during the first 2 weeks of Dec, so Happy Holidays and be safe.

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

WP4PLR	Ashley
KE8QEP	David
KD8BXY	Paul
W8GPN	Timothy
KB8UUZ	Tom
	Denise
KD8WZS	William
K3LR	Tim

KE8ARB	Brandon
K8TTX	Tyson
KD8ERY	Susan
KF8AEM	William
N8ATV	Jerry
WD8PME	Robert
N8BI	Jack
WA8EFK	Dale

N8WLE	Nick
KC8JC	J.C.
W8RID	Robert
N8BAY	Ralph
K3GP	George
WA8CCU	Al
N8SY	Scott
KB3OQV	Kristen

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>

Groups <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.

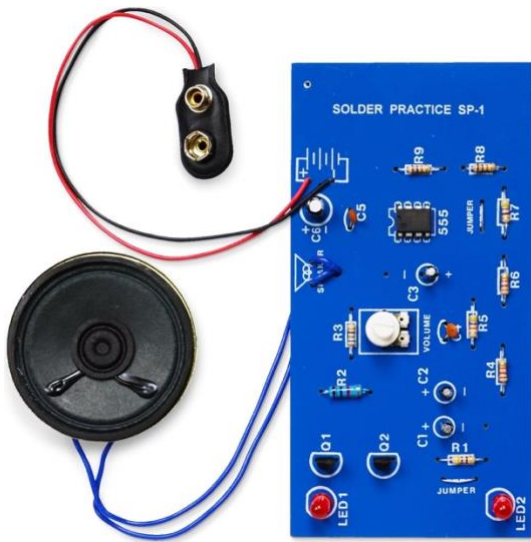
[Join This Group](#) or [Log in if You Are Already a Member](#)

Soldering 101 Group Build Sold Out!

John, WG8X



Hey fellow PCARS members! Our Solder 101 group build session for November 9th is SOLD OUT! Keep watching; if this goes well, I might through organizing another sometime in 2025.



For those who managed to get in, you won't be disappointed. You'll learn some basic soldering/desoldering techniques, while building an easy electronic project. The project is a two-tone European style siren that is guaranteed to annoy friends & family.

We aren't going to demonstrate hot air rework stations, or any of the other hi-tech styles of soldering. This class will (hopefully) whet your appetite for the basic soldering techniques that you are more likely to run into in your Ham Radio careers.

From cleaning & tinning the tip to practicing proper soldering (and desoldering) techniques, you will have a fun morning.

The build session is on Saturday, November 9th, 2024, from 9am -12 noon at the PCARS club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna).

Again, this build session is sold out. You can read more at https://www.portcars.org/wp/group-builds/#Basic_Soldering.

The next session I'm planning is a simple multi-band link dipole for low power operating. That will be sometime in the late winter/early spring.

For more information, reach out to John, WG8X (wg8x.radio@gmail.com)



Schedule of Events



- Nov 4th - PCARS Board Meeting at PCARS Club Site – 7 pm
- Nov 11th - PCARS Monthly Meeting – 7 pm
- Nov 14th - PCARS Birthday

Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

- First Tuesday Odd Months - **Digital Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
- First Tuesday Even Months - **HF WAS & DX Nets Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
- Second Tuesday - **Portable Ops Special Interest Group** - Moderator: John, WG8X
- Third Tuesday - **Antenna Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Bob, N8QE
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
- Fifth Tuesday - **Could Be Anything Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, KD8WCK

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

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition - Get One NOW

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



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 - Greg, KA8TOA.**

Greg 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** for sale at \$5.00 each. **Contact Greg for all of the details:**
Treasurer@portcars.org



Ohio Section Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (EchoLink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say "Hello"! Even if you're far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It's simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net!

Confessions and Observations of a (Kit Building) Addict

Fred, K8IG

Okay, I admit it. I am a recovering (kit builder) addict. I miss the hours spent reading the well-crafted instruction manuals, inventorying the copious parts, contemplating the assembly process, envisioning the finished project and, as a final step, delighting in a project's passage of "the smoke test." I valued the craftsmanship that was embedded in my newly created test equipment, audio equipment and ham radio gear. Those memorable days of kit building are largely long gone. Or so I thought.

One further admission. I am a QRO guy...not QRP. Guided by Part 97, I use the power necessary to achieve the QSO. At my 82 years, I am not rewarded by the challenge of struggling for that elusive QRP station somewhere in the ether. But then it happened. Wandering into the 4 State QRP Group (also called Four State) website (www.4sgrp.com), what should appear to my wondering eyes...an eye candy kit. David Cripe, NM0S, has designed a visually inviting and fully functional QRP tuner/coupler offered only in kit form. Alas, to satisfy my kit craving, I succumbed and bought the QRP tuner kit (\$45 + USPS shipping). The finished project is pictured here perhaps destined to become a shelf display. Recall I said that I don't do QRP!



A few comments about the kit and the tuner/coupler are in order. I really enjoyed and learned from the instructive and explanatory nature of the earlier kit manuals as from Heathkit and EICO to name two. Not so with the 4 Square kit. By way of explanation, the "assembly manual" is in download form from the website. That said, it should be easy for 4 Square to readily correct and update the manual as necessary. The "latest" manual is version 1.4 last revised in December, 2015! There are many reasons the manual should be revised. The manual relies on paragraphical assembly steps that refer to labeled pictures that lack definition and context. The instructions begin with the winding of the toroidal inductor but did not mention whether the toroid is viewed from above or below making the direction of the windings uncertain. The manual refers to lengths of wire to be prepared but doesn't specify the wire type, gauge or insulation and it was not included as shipped. The manual refers to the (contact) lugs on the inductor switch with the above mounted toroid winding and progressing counterclockwise but the switch lug identification in the manual is incorrect. I had to call David Cripe to verify that my assumptions were correct. That's the bad news. Once the

toroid is wound and installed, the installation of the discrete components is straightforward. The top, bottom and four sides are easily assembled to form the enclosure by soldering adjacent panel tabs together.

The good news is that unlike that green tuner pictured on their website, the finished product is a handsome black finished enclosure (3" X 3" X 2") replete with appropriate lettering (as shown). The BNC connectors are robust and firmly mounted. The unit is equipped with two LEDs (red and green). The green LED indicates output power (variable brilliance) and the red LED indicates reflected power (again, variable brilliance). Terminating into a long-wire or coax, at 2:1 VSWR, the lamps are of equal brilliance. Tuning is easy and intuitive and fun to dial up the green brilliance and down the red brilliance once the appropriate inductor step (12 steps) has been selected. The manual reports that the maximum power throughput has been tested at 10 watts: perfect for QRP! While the insertion loss is (when properly matched) reported as "low" the loss is not specified. The author utilized a Bird 43 wattmeter with a 5 watt slug to verify performance.

The look and feel of the tuner/coupler unit is both professional and fun to use. And it temporarily satisfied my kit craving.

On The Road with WG8X



John, WG8X



October has been a busy month. A couple friends are getting their antenna systems ready for the season and reached out for some help.

One has a Gap Titan, and a Hex-beam, but needed some help tying it all together. He ran only one feedline out from the house using direct burial, then set a building on top of it. In this case, we chose the MFJ-4712 Remote antenna switch. This allows him to switch antennas from the shack, using the feedline as the current carrier for antenna switching. He has only to install the grounding buss bar in the junction box on his tower and he'll be ready for winter.



The other friend wants to get back into HF CW, so he asked for some help in designing an antenna system to fit his lot. I showed him the Off-Center Fed (Windom) Dipole, and he was sold. I had never wound a 4:1 balun (or any balun) before, so this was a learning experience. Once finished, I used my Nano-VNA for testing, and it passed with flying colors.

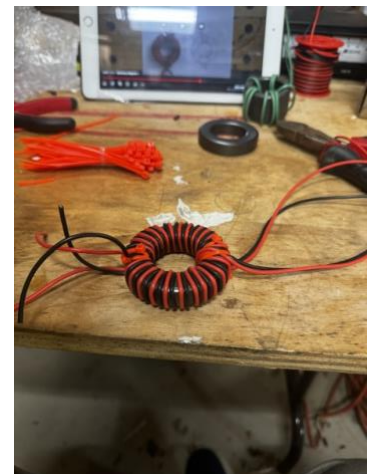
I'll talk more about the 4:1 balun further down the page. We ran the Dipole between his tower, and a convenient tree. The feedline will hang straight down to a 4 X 4 planted in the ground. At that point, we'll add a connection box, Coax Balun, and a ground rod. From that point, a run of LMR 400 to the ham shack will complete the system.

Earlier in the month, I took the 4:1 balun and a partial roll of #12 wire on my annual trip to Pennsylvania for the PAQP. I wanted to spend a day experimenting with the balun, and learning how it worked. My big goal was to build a Carolina Windom and see how it differs from the standard Windom antenna.

Try as I might, unfortunately, I couldn't get the Carolina Windom to function. So late in the afternoon, I swapped the wire out for a conventional Windom and called it a day. The Windom worked great the next couple of days in the PA QSO Party.

About the time that Hurricane Helena was wreaking havoc across the eastern US, I had a random thought about contesting. Everything we do, including contesting hones the skills that may be called upon someday in the case of an emergency when our skills might be needed. And all this time you thought you were just having fun, huh? Fooled you!

In the month since I last wrote for the Radiogram, I've spent some time cleaning up my workshop, so I can do some building this winter. Also, I'm still working on a POTA Kilo Award (1000 contacts) from some local parks. Neither is going as fast as I'd like.



The weekend of October 19th was occupied by three different things events this year.

1. JOTA (jamboree on the air) – Several Hams from Stark & Tuscarawas Counties were set up at Camp Tuscazoar.
2. POTA's support your Parks weekend was happening on the 19th & the 20th
3. Lastly, the New York QSO Party (NYQP). I made a few contacts in this one, but one of our new Hams locally started running, so I logged for him. He's come along very well since getting his license last fall.

I took a couple of days off near the end of October so I could get ready for winter, and did manage to squeeze in a short trip to Guilford lake (US-1955). It was a beautiful day for a drive, and the bands did not disappoint. Of course, my mobile antenna had a message for me. The message was "**hey dummy, you forgot to clean and service your mobile mount this month**". So, after some repairs at the park, my activation was off & running.

The last Sunday of the month was the Massillon hamfest at MAPS. Jerry, their Hamfest coordinator always manages to put on a good show for everybody. In my opinion, The Massillon fest is a great example of everything that a Hamfest should be.

That's it for me this month. This weekend, I go into build mode for the Aluminum J-Poles that I donate to the Center of Hope, and the Alliance ARC fundraisers each year. 73 DE John, WG8X



Jamboree On The Air 2024

J.C., KC8JC



I'm an Eagle Scout. I was very, very into the program as a kid and both of my children are involved in Scouting. Since I got my amateur radio license, I've tried to help out with Scouting's event called Jamboree On The Air.

The first year, it was an afterthought. I had my compromise home station, but I was able to get my daughter (a Cub Scout at the time) on the air using D-STAR. She talked with more than a dozen other Scouts at a camp in New Mexico that morning. It was great!

This year, my Dad Jim AC8NT volunteered to help a local Cub Scout Pack whose Cubmaster is a Tech to get on the air while at their campout which was the JOTA weekend. He did a meeting with the Cubs at the Club Site and talked with them at length about radio and what they would be able to do on the day of the event. He got very high marks from the Cubs about his presentation.

The week before JOTA, my dad was forced to take a bit of a timeout. He was not going to be able to take part in the festivities. I was already planning to be there and we had a Mike KP4VZ and Mike KB8TUY who were committed as well. We would have a station running phone, a digital station, and a fox hunt set up for the Scouts. I also tossed my Zumspot in the bag for good measure. When in doubt, Reflector 033A on D-STAR was going to be a home base for Scouts per the published JOTA plan. In my experience, getting the Scouts talking into a radio is the most important part of the day.



KP4VZ set up his IC-7300 using power from the cabin the cubs were using. He had a nice EFHW antenna on a mast that performed really well for him. He was going to run phone and get as many kids on the air as he could.

I set up on a picnic table at a bit of a distance. I put up my Chameleon whip with extension and got my IC-705 on the air with WSJT-X. Because I didn't know if I was going to be doing any phone, I brought along the Hardrock-50. I fired it up and was doing digital with an unthinkable 35 watts of pure RF fury!

We had the fox set up in a tree and Mike KB8TUY showed the Scouts how to run the tape measure Yagi antenna that AC8NT built for such activities. Everything worked. I don't think we had a hitch more serious than a battery that didn't seat itself right on the HT. It was uncanny.

A solid JOTA strategy occurred to our resourceful club president as he was calling CQ Jamboree for a bit. The Scout Camp, Camp Manatoc, is a part of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. It's inside the borders and is held to the same standards as the surrounding grounds. That makes it part of the park. That meant that we were activating US-0020 (something I do on a lot of weekends!). Well, KP4VZ scanned around until he found a POTA activator in Rhode Island and just gave the old "Park To Park." Well, that got us some attention. He gave his park and signal report and mentioned that he was at a Scout camp with a group of Cub Scouts. Would the ham mind chatting a bit?



He did not mind at all. Our operator in RI spoke to 12 Cub Scouts. A total gentleman. I wish I'd grabbed his call so I could send him a QSL card as thanks. The kids were pretty excited about that. We had that experience repeated with activators in other states as well. Makes me wonder if POTA shouldn't have a JOTA overlay event annually that gets extra points for Activators who work Scouts or for Hunters who work activations by Scouts. There's an idea in there somewhere.

We also had a very notable contact. The son of the Cubmaster and the son of his brother-in-law were able to talk to their uncle in Chicago who is also a ham. They got in touch over 40-meters, I think. It was great to see the kids perk up and really get into it.

They were especially excited because they knew it was possible but weren't sure that it would happen. Thanks to the ionosphere for making that work for us.

Just sitting there I pulled in 26 FT8 contacts while I showed the kids how computers can talk over RF almost like using Wi-Fi. They were pretty impressed and kept up better than I might have expected. Out of the corner of my eye I saw that I was really getting out using my massively overpowered station. Contacts happened on 30, 17, and 12. Not too shabby! Bands I don't usually work to boot.

I wish I'd done some CW, but I decided to stick to the computer as the kids were really into that.

AC8NT did stop by for a strictly enforced 15 minutes to see how we were doing. It was a great time. The weather was fantastic and the kids seemed to really enjoy it. It was nice to get out and make some contacts with the Scouts.



OSPOTA 2024 - Final Results



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman

The 17th annual **Ohio State Parks On The Air** (OSPOTA) 2024 contest is in the history books. The weather was perfect in most of the state, but some areas did have a bit of rain, and the teams and individuals that went out to the Ohio State Parks did a fantastic job. Activity on 40 and 80 was great and even 10 and 15 had some takers as well. 40 meters was definitely the most active band.



When I was on from home, I was busy spotting every one of the Ohio State Parks I heard to help increase the activity. Others were spotting as well. That's great since it does make other operators around the world realize that OSPOTA is on the air!!!

The OSPOTA contest committee did all the cross checking of logs and tallying via email to avoid having to sit in a room for 4-6 hours together. I must say all went pretty good and we got everything sorted out and in the following pages, you will see all the results.



I was the one that initially received the logs and did some pre-checks and gathered info on the State Park, State or Country the log was from. Copied info on the Club affiliation, operators, loggers, helpers, and raw scores. The once the logs were in, I sent them to John, WG8X to run them through the log checking process (more on that in his article). Once they were done and sent back to me, I then updated my tally sheet, and wrote up the soapbox comments and photos we received. I estimated the total time for the committee work was well over 90 hours.

One thing I did notice this year (more than in past years) that some participants that were in an Ohio State Park made contacts only to other Ohio State Parks. That's fine since Ohio State Parks are multipliers, but you missed out on a LOT of extra points by not making contacts to other stations as well. Think about that for next year. Your score would definitely increase by making more contacts. And, there seemed to be a number of Ohio State Parks activated, but no log was sent in. Next year, *please* send in those logs. We would all appreciate them, especially for cross checking the logs.



The OSPOTA committee sends out a big **THANK YOU** to all that participated in this year's OSPOTA and we look forward to hearing you on the air again next year to have even more FUN.

73 from the OSPOTA Contest Committee

KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, W8KNO and KB8UHN



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



OSPOTA 2024 - Log Checking Information



John, WG8X
OSPOTA Log Master



OSPOTA 2024 Log Checking

Log checking for this year is officially complete! A huge thank you to everyone who participated, and an extra thanks to those who submitted logs. Various logging programs were used this year.

Out of 85 logs submitted, 67 of you used a logging program of some sort. N3FJP was the winner this year with 37 of you using it. N1MM came in 2nd place with 16. Genlog was used again by 8 of you, and 6 of you used something else.

For **OSPOTA '25**, we'll update the data files for N1MM, and N3FJP so that they can handle the new **Great Council State Park (GCL)**. We'll also reach out to W3KM for guidance on updating GenLog. If your favorite logger isn't mentioned here, you may want to contact them to ensure they can handle all Ohio State Parks.



<**RANT**> Honestly, there's no good reason not to submit a log for OSPOTA. A lot of parks were activated, but we didn't receive logs from many of them. I know some folks say, "*I don't know how to make a Cabrillo file,*" but that's not a valid excuse anymore. With so many options out there, including simply sending me what you have and letting me handle it, there's really no reason not to submit. This year, only one person reached out for help. We received 85 logs, about the same as last year. The more logs we get, the more thorough I can be with the checking process. <**end of RANT**>

This year, I tracked four main types of errors:

1. **Busted calls (28.6%):** This happens when someone miscopies a call sign. For example, WG8X becomes W8GX, or K8BF/R becomes K8BF. This year, we enforced zero tolerance for rover call signs—rovers *must* sign with /R, and the stations that contact them *must* include that in the log. Like it or not, those are the rules.
2. **Busted exchanges (23.1%):** This error happens when someone miscopies part of the exchange. For example, PUN becomes PIN.
3. **Not in log (23.8%):** This one is particularly concerning. It seems like some operators aren't logging stations that aren't in a park. This is a big mistake! If you're operating from a park, those out-of-park stations are crucial - they multiply your final score by the number of state parks you worked. By not logging (or submitting) these contacts, you're literally leaving a large chunk of your score on the table.
4. **Time Delta errors (24.5%):** Sometimes, the contact is logged by both stations, but at different times. We allow a 10-minute window (+/- 5 minutes), but this year I was more lenient (+/- 10 minutes). That won't happen next year, so consider this a heads-up. Make sure your computer clock is synced before logging your first contact. If you're paper logging, be sure to note the current UTC time for each contact.

Finally, I have log-checking reports available if you'd like to see how your score was affected. Feel free to reach out (wg8x.radio@gmail.com) if you have any questions, and I'll be happy to help.



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air 2024 *Final Results*

17th OSPOTA 2024 General Information

(based on logs received):

Top score this year: **39,739**

62 Parks activated **13** Parks not activated **85** Logs submitted

10 Out of state logs submitted

45 Parks activated sent in a log

17 Parks activated did not submit log

50 Clubs represented

over **232** Hams took part this year



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air



50 Clubs Represented

Club Name	Station Call Sign(s)
Alliance Amateur Radio Club	KF8AHK
Amigos Radio Club (2)	AA8DL, KC8OH
Ashtabula County Amateur Radio Club	K8CY
Athens County Amateur Radio Association	W8UKE
Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club	W8DGN
Black Swamp Amateur Radio Club	K8BSR
Cambridge Amateur Radio Association	W8VP
Cambridge Area Makers Group	KY8C
Canton Amateur Radio Club	AC8RH
Central Ohio Operators Klub Extra Novice	N8CJ
Contest Group du Quebec (Canada)	VE2GT
Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association	NF8U
CRES Amateur Radio Club	KE8JVX
Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society	K8RGI
Dayton Amateur Radio Association	KF8I
Defiance County Amateur Radio Club	K8VON
DeForest Amateur Radio Club	K8GE
Diebold Amateur Radio Club	W8ATM
Drake Amateur Radio Club	K8UU
Fayette Amateur Radio Association	K8FAY
Fulton County Amateur Radio Club	K8BXQ
Hocking Valley Amateur Radio Club	K8LGN
Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club	NO8I
InterCity Amateur Radio Club	KE8ZRM
Lake County Amateur Radio Association	K8BL
Larkfield (New York)	KD2REH
Lucas County Amateur Radio Service	W8L
Mad River Radio Club	W8RU
Madison County Amateur Radio Club	KE8RV
Massillon Amateur Radio Club	W8NP
Medina County Amateur Radio Club	K8MD
Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club	K8EEN
North Coast Contesters (2)	K8RR, K8ZT
Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society	K8SCA
OH-KY-IN ARS	K8SCH
Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club	KE8FJX
Pedestrian Amateur Radio Club	K8PRC
Portage County Amateur Radio Service (7)	AC8RH, AD8IR, K8IV, KA8TOA, KB8UUZ, N8QE, WG8X
Portsmouth Radio Club	N8QA
Preble Amateur Radio Association	N8XC
Queen City Emergency Net	N2HTE
Sandusky Radio Experimental League	W8LBZ
Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association	AC8RH
Stillwater Amateur Radio Club	KD8DRY
Steubenville-Weirton Amateur Radio Club	W8CWO
Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation	KC8AAV
Swamp Fox Contest Group (South Carolina)	KA2G
Union County Amateur Radio Club	KD8UFE
Vinton County Amateur Radio Club	W8VCO
Warren Amateur Radio Association (2)	K8CPG, W8VTD



17th Ohio State Parks On The Air Contest - 2024 - Final Scores



Overall High Score

Team K8BSR in Harrison Lake State Park 39,739

MML : Multi Op - Multi Radio - Low Power - In an Ohio State Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	K8BSR	Harrison Lake / KC9AL, AB8RC, KD8OEY, KE8UKX, KD8TGB, KB3KLT, KB3CMT, KE8UTX, KE8QJV, KE8SZL	39,739
2	K8VON	Independence Dam / W8NI, WD8JVV, KD8JSP, W8UY, KD8UPA, WZ8Q	26,765
3	W8ATM	Quail Hollow / N8OH, N8XY, AD8NN, KF8BNI, W8VE, W8HRF, KE8OWD, KE8ARB	26,230
4	K8IV	Punderson / K3GP, N8AMY, K8IV, K8FF	23,684
5	N8BAP	Paint Creek / N8BAP, N8CUB, WD8LSN, KB8DOT, KE8YVO	15,744
6	K8UU	Caesar Creek / WE8N, KA8IIM, WZ8K, KD8VWF, KY8U	15,340
7	KE8RV	Madison Lake / N8CWU, W8RAY, N8UPC	12,716
8	W8VTD	Mosquito Lake / AG8GM, W8CJA, KC8JFP, KE8TNW, KA8WMF, N8HRZ	10,320
9	W8WRC	Beaver Creek / KE8YMU, KE8VOJ, KE8YJX, KE8VOB, N3YQM	9,216
10	K8BXQ	Harrison Lake / KD8KBU, KD8OEP, KB8ELG, KD8ZKE, KE8ITJ, KG8XG, W8AN, AA8YY	6,026
11	K8SCH	Little Miami / K8SCH, KD8OOB, N3VQW	3,799
12	K8EEN	Mohican / K18N, N8RLW, KE8ICI, N8PPF, W8PEN	2,880
13	NO8I	Sycamore / KE8ZQH, AB8YK, N8VAR	2,727
14	N8QA	Shawnee / KB8SRN, N8JEN, N8MRB, KD8WTG, KC8PRW, WX8G, W8MST	2,560
15	K8PRC	Portage Lakes / N3JJT, N8IVJ, KE8IDH, KD8ENV	2,516
16	K8CY	Geneva / N8YFF, N8NYI, KC8KEB, W8RNG, K3YP	2,025
17	W8LBZ	East Harbor / KM8YOR, KE8DZL, KA8VDW, KQ8E, KC8BOV, KB4DWR	1,695
18	W8L	Maumee Bay / WB8RG, W8MAL, KE8IJU, KE8IJV, W8VHS, N8LPQ, KC8UFV, KB8OTP, WD8PNZ	671
19	W8CWO	Jefferson Lake / N8GD, K6RBV, KE8ZJT, KE8VMG, KD8JBN, KF8AVX, KE8SCX, W8DWK, KE8NKV, WD8IJ, N8KRO	630
20	W8DGN	Hueston Woods / AC8ZU,	560
21	W8NP	Portage Lakes / KE8SDQ, W8DEA, KD8SMO, KC8LYG	238

MMH : Multi Op - Single Radio - High Power - In an Ohio State Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
- - - No Entries In This Category for 2024 - - -			

MSL : Multi Op - Single Radio - Low Power - In an Ohio State Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	N8XC	Hueston Woods / N8XC, N8XCC	14,500
2	KY8C	Salt Fork / KB3RDR, K8AL, N8RAF, KY8C	5,676
3	AD8IR	Wingfoot Lake / AD8IR, AD8FQ	5,320
4	KE8FJX	Independence Dam / N8OXQ, KB8UHG, KE8FME, N8LOV	3,526
5	K8GE	Adams Lake / KE8GAD, K8TFG, K8WEH, KE8KEK, KE8TTQ, KB8JTJ	2,838
6	K8LGN	Lake Logan / KD8PSB, AF8E	2,368
7	W8VP	Blue Rock / WD8SDH, W8FHF, KE8NI, N8IMW, KE8CIN, KE8ZKR	1,976
8	N8VSI	Little Miami / N8VSI, N8MIQ	1,590
9	KD8DRY	Harrison Lake / KD8DRY, KD8YPPY, KE8HFM	1,008
10	W8UKE	Strouds Run / KD8FRQ, N8XWO, KD8KNC, KC8JRV, WD8RIF	450
11	W8VCO	Lake Alma / W8MLP, KD8SM	380



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



MSH : Multi Op - Single - Radio - High Power - In an Ohio State Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	KC8AAV	Burr Oak / KC8AAV, KC8QDQ, N8UVM, WT8E, KE8SIQ, KD8KZG	11,359

/R : Rover - In Ohio State Parks

#	Call	Park Names - Park Score	Final Score
1	K8RYU/R	Great Seal - 403 Lake Logan - 924 Hocking Hills - 924 Tar Hollow - 544	2,795

SH : Single Op - High Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name	Final Score
1	N8OCJ	Madison Lake	1,456

SL : Single Op - Low Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name	Final Score
1	KD8BBK	Salt Fork	14,248
2	KF8AHK	Salt Fork	8,843
3	K8RGI	Oak Point	7,880
4	AC8RH	Barkcamp	7,128
5	K8MD	Findley	6,160
6	WA8RR	South Bass Island	3,712
7	K8RR	Lake White	3,267
8	K8FAY	Deer Creek	3,080
9	WB8UBR	Stonelick	2,576
10	KE8PAQ	Lake Logan	1,980
11	KC8RJS	Lake Milton	1,596
12	K8BL	Headlands Beach	1,479
13	N2HTE	Stonelick	1,026
14	KE8WBJ	Maumee Bay	897
16	W8WFD	Wolf Run	760
17	NF8U	Muskingum River	594
18	KD8UFE	A.W. Marion	280
19	K8ZT	Tinkers Creek	276
20	AF1K	Tinkers Creek	240
21	K8CSR	Wolf Run	210
22	KC8OH	Headlands Beach	Check Log
23	KC8ZKS	Buck Creek	Check Log



INOH : In Ohio - Not In Park

#	Call	Final Score
1	K8CPG	3,328
2	N8CJ	1,794
3	KB8UUZ	1,620
4	KQ4YC	1,575
5	AA8DL	1,287
6	N8QE	1,044
7	K8IYO	754
8	KE8JVX	750
9	W8EOT	621
10	K8SCA	500
11	KA8TOA	418
12	KF8I	288
13	KD8UZS	210
14	KE8ZRM	196
15	WG8X	25

OUT : Outside Ohio

#	Call	State/DX	Final Score
1	N3CU	PA	1,872
2	WB9HFK	IL	672
3	W9RWG	MI	475
4	VE2GT	Quebec	110
5	W8RU	MI	56
6	KA2G	SC	36
7	KD2REH	NY	25
8	KB8UEY	NH	16
9	N1ADX	MA	9
10	KA5VZG	TN	1



Ohio State Parks



On The Air





Ohio State Parks On The Air



Park Listing showing Activated and Contacted in 2024

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

Ohio State Park	ID	Activated	Contacted
Lake Loramie	LOR		
Lake Milton	LML	X	X
Lake White	LWT	X	X
Little Miami	LMI	X	X
Madison Lake	MLK	X	X
Malabar Farm	MAL		X
Marblehead Lighthouse	MHD		X
Mary Jane Thurston	MJT		
Maumee Bay	MBY	X	X
Middle Bass Island	MBI		
Mohican	MOH	X	X
Mosquito Lake	MST	X	X
Mt. Gilead	MTG		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
Portage Lakes	POR	X	X
Punderson	PUN	X	X
Pymatuning	PYM		X
Quail Hollow	QHL	X	X
Rocky Fork	RFK		X
Salt Fork	SFK	X	X
Scioto Trail	STR		X
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	X	X
Tinkers Creek	TCK	X	X
Van Buren	VAN		
West Branch	WBR		X
Wingfoot Lake	WLK	X	X
Wolf Run	WRN	X	X
		45	62

Parks Activated = 45 (Log sent in)

Parks Contacted = 62 (Some parks may not have sent in a log)



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks Activated and sent in a log during the OSPOTA Contests: 2008-2024

Page 1 of 2

Ohio State Park	ID	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Adams Lake	ADA					X	X	X		X	X		X		X		X	X
Alum Creek	ALU			X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
A. W. Marion	AWM	X	X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Barkcamp	BAR		X			X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Beaver Creek	BEA			X			X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X
Blue Rock	BLU	X		X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Buck Creek	BCK			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X
Buckeye Lake	BKL	X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X		X	X		
Burr Oak	BUR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Caesar Creek	CAE	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Catawba Island	CAT					X	X	X	X		X	X	X					
Cleveland Lakefront	CLE	X		X	X	X	N2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cowan Lake	COW	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Deer Creek	DEE		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Delaware	DEL	X		X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dillon	DIL						X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	
East Fork	EFK				X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
East Harbor	EHB			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X		X
Findley	FIN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Forked Run	FOR		X	X	X			X				X		X	X			
Geneva	GEN			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Grand Lake St. Marys	GLM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
Great Council	GCL	N5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N5
Great Seal	GSL		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X
Guilford Lake	GLK	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
Harrison Lake	HLK					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Headlands Beach	HEA			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hocking Hills	HOC	X		X	X	X						X	X			X	X	X
Hueston Woods	HUE		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Independence Dam	IDM				X	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X	X
Indian Lake	ILK	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
Jackson Lake	JAC	X						X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Jefferson Lake	JEF				X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Jessie Owens	JEO	N4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N4	X	X	X		X	
John Bryan	JOB	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
Kelleys Island	KEL	X				X	X		X				X					
Kiser Lake	KLK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake Alma	LAL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X
Lake Hope	LHO	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		
Lake Logan	LOG			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X



Ohio State Parks Activated and sent in a log during the OSPOTA Contests: 2008-2024

Page 2 of 2



Ohio State Park	ID	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Lake Loramie	LOR			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Lake Milton	LML	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake White	LWT		X	X	X	X	X	N3	-	-	N3		X					X
Little Miami	LMI			X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Madison Lake	MLK	X		X		X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X
Malabar Farm	MAL			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Marblehead Lighthouse	MHD					X	X	X			X		X		X			
Mary Jane Thurston	MJT	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X		
Maumee Bay	MBY			X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X
Middle Bass Island	MBI						X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	
Mohican	MOH			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X
Mosquito Lake	MST	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mt. Gilead	MTG	X			X		X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	
Muskingum River	MUS			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X
Nelson-Kennedy Ledges	NKL			X	X		X	X			X		X	X		X	X	
North Bass Island	NBI						X						X	X				
Oak Point	OPT							X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Paint Creek	PTC			X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Pike Lake	PLK			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Portage Lakes	POR	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Punderson	PUN	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pymatuning	PYM	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Quail Hollow	QHL	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X			X	X	X
Rocky Fork	RFK			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Salt Fork	SFK	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Scioto Trail	STR		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X	X	
Shawnee	SHA				X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X		X
South Bass Island	SBI	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Stonelick	STO	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Strouds Run	SRN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sycamore	SYC	X		X	X	X	X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X
Tar Hollow	TAR			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X
Tinkers Creek	TCK	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Van Buren	VAN				X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X		
West Branch	WBR	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Wingfoot Lake	WLK	N1	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X
Wolf Run	WRN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X
		36	20	57	50	60	63	64	55	50	58	35	64	47	58	60	51	45

N1-Wingfoot Lake became a State Park in 2009

N2-Cleveland Lakefront was dropped as a State Park in mid 2013

N3-Lake White State Park was closed by ODNR - leaking dam 2014 - reopened 2018

N4 - Jessie Owens State Park became a State Park in 2018 - Was available for OSPOTA in 2019

N5 - Great Council State Park became a State Park in 2024 - Will be available for OSPOTA in 2025

Not all activated parks sent a log in for scoring

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Activated Parks 2008-2024

1 November 2024



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Thanks goes out to the 232 stations, ham radio operators, loggers and helpers that submitted logs for the 2023 Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

AA8DL
AA8YY
AB8RC
AB8YK
AC8RH
AC8ZU
AD8FQ
AD8IR
AD8NN
AF1K
AF8E
AG8GM
K3GP
K3YP
K6RBV
K8AL
K8BL
K8BSR
K8CPG
K8CSR
K8CY
K8EEN
K8FAY
K8FF
K8IV
K8IYO
K8LGN
K8MD
K8PRC
K8RGI
K8RR
K8RYU/R
K8SCA
K8SCH
K8TFG
K8UU
K8VON
K8WEH
K8ZT

KA2G
KA5VZG
KA8IIM
KA8TOA
KA8VDW
KA8WMF
KB3CMT
KB3KLT
KB3RDR
KB4DWR
KB8DOT
KB8ELG
KB8JTJ
KB8OTP
KB8SRN
KB8UEY
KB8UHG
KB8UUZ
KC8AAV
KC8BOV
KC8JFP
KC8JRV
KC8KEB
KC8LYG
KC8OH
KC8PRW
KC8QDQ
KC8RJS
KC8UFV
KC8ZKS
KC9AL
KD2REH
KD8BBK
KD8DRY
KD8ENV
KD8FRQ
KD8JBN
KD8JSP
KD8KBU

KD8KNC
KD8KZG
KD8OEP
KD8OEY
KD8OOB
KD8PSB
KD8SM
KD8SMO
KD8TGB
KD8UFE
KD8UPA
KD8UZS
KD8VWF
KD8WTG
KD8YPY
KD8ZKE
KE8ARB
KE8CIN
KE8DZL
KE8FJX
KE8FME
KE8GAD
KE8HFM
KE8ICI
KE8IDH
KE8IJU
KE8IJV
KE8ITJ
KE8JVX
KE8KEK
KE8NI
KE8NKV
KE8OWD
KE8PAQ
KE8QJV
KE8RV
KE8SCX
KE8SDQ
KE8SIQ

KE8SZL
KE8TNW
KE8TTQ
KE8UKX
KE8UTX
KE8VMG
KE8VOB
KE8VOJ
KE8WBJ
KE8YJX
KE8YMU
KE8YVO
KE8ZJT
KE8ZKR
KE8ZQH
KE8ZRM
KF8AHK
KF8AVX
KF8BNI
KF8I
KG8XG
KI8N
KM8YOR
KQ4YC
KQ8E
KY8C
KY8U
N1ADX
N2HTE
N3CU
N3JJT
N3VQW
N3YQM
N8AMY
N8BAP
N8CJ
N8CUB
N8CWU
N8GD

N8HRZ
N8IMW
N8IVJ
N8JEN
N8KRO
N8LOV
N8LPQ
N8MIQ
N8MRB
N8NYI
N8OCJ
N8OH
N8OXQ
N8PPF
N8QA
N8QE
N8RAFR
N8RLW
N8UPC
N8UVM
N8VAR
N8VSI
N8XC
N8XCC
N8XWO
N8XY
N8YFF
NF8U
NO8I
VE2GT
W8AN
W8ATM
W8CJA
W8CWO
W8DEA
W8DGN
W8DWK
W8EOT
W8FHF

W8HRF
W8IJC
W8L
W8LBZ
W8MAL
W8MLP
W8MST
W8NI
W8PEN
W8RAY
W8RNG
W8RU
W8UKE
W8UY
W8VCO
W8VE
W8VHS
W8VP
W8VTD
W8WFD
W8WRC
W9RWG
WA8RR
WB8RG
WB9HFK
WD8IJJ
WD8JVV
WD8LSN
WD8PNZ
WD8RIF
WD8SDH
WE8N
WG8X
WT8E
WX8G
WZ8K
WZ8Q



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



OSPOTA 2024 Photos and Soapbox Comments

AD8IR - Wingfoot Lake State Park



Team AD8IR & AD8FQ



AF1K - Tinkers Creek State Park



What a beautiful day to operate outdoors in a contest such as OSPOTA!

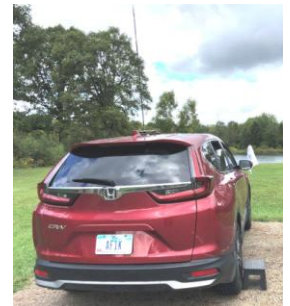
I didn't have a new antenna like I had promised myself after last year. But, the weather and everything else made up for it. Sadly though, without a new antenna, I could

hear many more OSPOTA parks than what could hear me. What a drag.

But, now I've got no more excuses to not make some changes. Had a couple other Ham visitors too which doubled the fun. Peter Amato (KC8RVD) showed up to run CW for a POTA activation. Then later a grand echelon hammer, which many of all know, Anthony Luscre (K8ZT)

appeared out of now where yelling "CQ OSPOTA CQ OSPOTA!" to get in some fun. Maybe conditions were not as good as they were last year. But, that would not have kept us from having fun. I sure did! I hope to do again in 2025 but with a better antenna set up. I'd like to give a great shout out THANK YOU to all the OSPOTA organizers and PCARS for the work they put in to make

this such a great continuing success! 73, de Rich AF1K



KC8RJS - Lake Milton State Park



gets to high school.

Thank goodness for trees and knowing my home state park spots to setup at with less than ideal weather. A young boy thought I was a podcaster who was out fishing with his dad. I explained how he wasn't too far off with his first impression. He found it interesting and told him about the hobby and how just the entry level license could help him in harder math and science when he



K8BXQ - Harrison Lake State Park

Team: KD8KBU, KD8OEP, KB8ELG, KD8ZKE, KE8ITJ, KG8XG, W8AN, AA8YY



The Fulton County Amateur Radio Club - K8BXQ activated Harrison Lake State Park (HLK).

We held a luncheon during our Ohio State Parks On The Air contest activity to celebrate the club's 70th anniversary.

73, Craig Szczublewski

K8IV - Punderson Lake State Park

The team was comprised of Captain Ed Polack K8IV, Ray Larrick KD8DFL, George Proudfoot K3GP, Tom Sly WB8LCD, Wayne Smith K8FF (my Dad) and Amy Leggiero N8AMY. We invited Katie

Campbell KE8LQR to join us but she was sick and unable to attend.

We set up four stations at Punderson State Park on 80M, 40M, 20M & 15M.

WX included a high of 57 degrees with continuous lake effect rain showers. We were all soaked the whole time even while wearing pancho's & hoodies. The WX was so bad, K8IV turned into a Steelers fan. (HA-HA). (The proof is in the pictures).

Radio conditions were not as good as in previous years. 80M was very sparse and 20M was not open past NA. Most of the parks were contacted on 40M. Many stations were at or below the noise level which made the contest challenging at times.

I can report that I made QSO's with more YL's than ever before. That was fun. Several parks in ON, and PA & IL were activating which was nice to hear. The 5-watt QRP parks are always a challenge.

I had fun working some PCARS Members during OSPOTA from other parks and home QTH's. I had QSO's with K3LR, K8RR (park near Cincinnati, OH), KB8UZZ, & N8QE.

Team K8IV congratulates all of the other OSPOTA teams that braved the WX and radio conditions to compete in this contest.

73, Amy N8AMY



K8RGI - Oak Point State Park

WA8RR - South Bass Island State Park

Richard Robbins, WA8RR, and I Robert Robbins, K8RGI, traveled to Put-In-Bay to activate two parks, South Bass Island and Oak Point State Parks. We have done this for several years.

We arrived Friday morning and after having lunch we started setting up. This year Richard set up his NIVIS, Near Vertical Incidence Sky Wave Antenna. The center support is only 15 feet high, but it has a large footprint since each



leg is 45 feet long. It is not resonant and therefore requires an antenna tuner.

I set up the mast for my flagpole inverted V antenna that I have used for many years. This antenna allows me to work 80 through 10 meters. I placed all the stakes for the ends of each leg of the inverted V and the upper and lower guy lines but did not put the antenna up. The ground at the South Bass Island state park is very rocky and doesn't go down more than several inches before hitting solid rock. So, it is always a

challenge to find good anchor points for the stakes. The other thing that was against us this year was the wind. The wind speed varied from 15 to 18 mph with occasional higher gusts.

It was chilly but we did not have any rain.

Saturday we were back at the site early and got all our equipment setup and I raised my inverted V antenna. Having the upper guy lines made the antenna a lot more stable than just the individual legs of the inverted V as guy lines. We both had filters on our transceivers so there was no cross interference. The contest started at 10am. We seemed to do very well until mid-afternoon when the bands seemed to dry up.



The contest ended at 6:00 pm and we had everything torn down and in our cars by 7:15 pm. Our preliminary results were OK but not as good as the last time we did this contest in 2022. Richard had made 126 contacts and worked 34 state parks. I had made 203 contacts and worked 37 state parks.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



K8RYU/Rover - Great Seal State Park, Hocking Hills State Park, Lake Logan State Park and Tar Hollow State Park

Sorry - No photos this year. Maybe next year for sure. Only story is getting sent down a road that was just fine only to have it turn into a creek bed. Was lucky to get out, considered abandoning truck and going on foot. No more GPS in SE Ohio...ever.

Comment: Wish more ops would list operations on the web page. I'd never have stopped at LOG, there were 3 other setups there and the time could have been better used at QHL or Pike Lake or Jackson Lake or..... Also too bad more stations don't stay on for the whole 8 hours. By the end there wasn't much to work park wise.

73, de K8RYU/R

KQ4YC - In Maineville, Ohio - Not in a Park

I had planned to activate Cowan Lake, but was out of town all week and figured I'd do the right thing and clean out the garage.

First thing was getting the ladder out of the way so I could start... hmmm.. I could hang an NVIS dipole from the ladder and work a couple OSPOTA stations while I clean. I had everything ready to go to the park anyway.

...SEVEN HOURS LATER...



Don't ask for a before and after photo of the garage. ha-ha. But I did get over three dozen parks in the log on a beautiful day.

Thanks to all the activators and especially the volunteers organizing the event!

73 - James, KQ4YC

NF8U - Muskingum River State Park

Operating from Lock 11, at Ellis Dam.



Lock is non functional and was the Northern most lock on the Muskingum River. The river was at one time navigable from Coshocton to Marietta.

73, Mike Casey, NF8U

W8ATM - Quail Hollow State Park

Team: N8OH, N8XY, AD8NN, KF8BNI, W8VE, W8HRF, KE8OWD, KE8ARB

We had a perfect fall-feeling day at Quail Hollow this year. We started the day by getting an Off-Center Fed Dipole up about 90 ft for one station, and a G5RV up about 75/45 ft for the other station using a drone and some spectacular trees.

A few members from area clubs came by to visit and work a few contacts.

The morning started off busy with the bands slowing down around lunchtime. Fun was had by all from opening bell to the last minute of operations.

73, Mike Malloy, N8XY



W8UKE - Strouds Run State Park

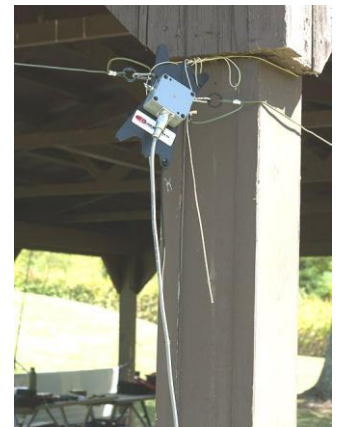
On Saturday, September 7, 2024, members of the Athens County Amateur Radio Association participated in the 17th annual PCARS "Ohio State Parks on the Air" (link), activating Strouds Run State Park at the Bulldog Shelter and operating under the club's callsign, W8UKE.



Participants: Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ - Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV + wife Sheila - Linsey Groeneveld, KC8KNA - John McCutcheon, N8XWO - Drew McDaniel, W8MHV - Eric McFadden, WD8RIF - Miles McFadden, KD8KNC - Vickie McFadden, KB8MAJ + grandson Archer - Len Tough, W8VQ

The station consisted of the club's Elecraft K3 transceiver; a power supply provided by

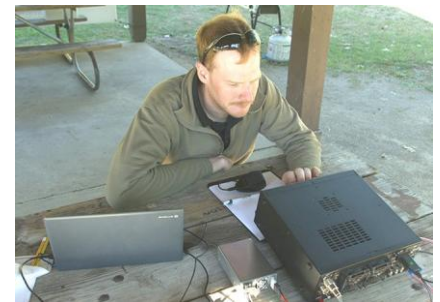
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV; the club's Chameleon EMCOMM III portable wire antenna; and a logging computer and a 2kW inverter-generator provided by Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.



Four members made QSOs. John McCutcheon made the most QSOs, with sixteen. Miles McFadden, KD8KNC, made eight QSOs. Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, made two QSOs, and Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, made one QSO.

Band conditions seemed rough this year. In fact, no activity

whatsoever was heard on the 80m band, and signals on the 40m band were generally weaker than expected and showed signs of fading. This may have been a result of elevated solar numbers leading to absorption of daytime signals on the lower frequencies.



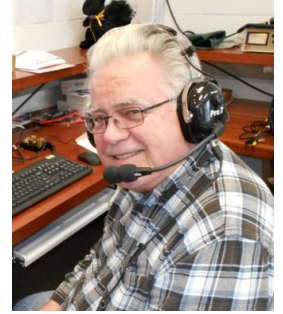
As has become customary, at 5 o'clock those already present were joined by other members and their guests for a potluck.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



18th OSPOTA - Sept. 6, 2025 - Make Plans Now !

Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Eighteenth Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air Amateur Radio Contest - 2025

Make sure to mark your calendar for the **2025 Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA)** contest – September 6, 2025. The contest is always held on the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday. Each year this event has grown and we anticipate another year of growth with even more participating Amateur Radio Operators.

The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind:

- To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's 76 beautiful state park system;
- To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology;
- To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators



Your participation has allowed these goals to be achieved. We agree it is a lot of fun to get out in a natural setting with your radio and see how well you can do at working operators in the beautiful Ohio State Parks.

This will be the 18th annual OSPOTA – Make plans now to be active in OSPOTA 2025.

Don't forget – Check out the OSPOTA website at www.OSPOTA.org and, we have an OSPOTA E-mail Group located at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA> . The [OSPOTA IO Group page](#) is used for messaging and sharing of information about OSPOTA for all the fans and participants in the OSPOTA contest.

OSPOTA has a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OSPOTA/>) and is used before, during and after the contest for updates and to share stories and photos.

As the 2025 contest draws near, we'll be posting on the OSPOTA IO Group page the anticipated 'who's going to be at what Ohio State Park' or 'Planned Park' list as we have in past years. Send your planned park activation information to PlannedParks@ospota.org . Please, include the call sign that will be used and the Ohio State Park you plan to be at. If your plans change, just let us know and we'll update the list. Remember, more than one person or group can be at an Ohio State Park – there are no reserved State Parks.

Note: Some Ohio State Parks are being managed by local park systems, but they are still listed and considered to be Ohio State Parks according to ODNR (Quail Hollow & Tinkers Creek for example).

So – pick a park and make your plans now for OSPOTA 2025 !!!!!

**Take care & 73 from the entire OSPOTA contest Committee:
KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, W8KNO, KB8UHN**

Questions? Email: INFO@ospota.org



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Start Making Plans for the 18th annual *Ohio State Parks On The Air*



September 6, 2025



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



That guy - WG8X - He never lets me make a contact.....



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Hamfest Calendar



Here are the current listings of local hamfests. Please note that all are **subject to change**. Stay current by checking the sponsoring club's web page before making your travel arrangements.

=====
11/09/2024 – Grant Amateur Radio Club Hamfest – Location: Georgetown, OH – [Learn More](#)
=====

12/07/2024 – Winter Hamfest – Location: Archibold, OH – Sponsor: FCARC
=====

01/19/2025 – Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation Hamfest – Location: Shade, OH – [Learn More](#)
=====

04/05/2025 – Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 69th Hamfest – Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH – [Learn More](#)
=====

07/20/2025 – Van Wert Hamfest – Location: Van Wert, OH – [Learn More](#)
=====

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE **WANTED** **FOR SALE** **WANTED** **FOR SALE**

FOR SALE: SteppIR 3 element yagi. Fully assembled but never in the air or on the air. I paid \$1,951.20. Sell for half price. My loss, your gain. Bob Winston, W2THU, 216-924-3314 [01/25]

WANTED: 1 x 20m hamstick and 1 x 40m hamstick; 1 x 40m Hustler RM-40 and 1 x 75m Hustler RM-75. w8net@me.com or 330-619-9194 (text or voice) [11/24]

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-2000 160 - 6 Meter Transceiver with FH-2 Remote Control Keypad and CT-119 Programming Cable \$900.00 for everything. Original boxes are available. **Contact Bob Hajdak N8QE** at (330) 807-5903 or rhajdak@aol.com. [11/24]

FOR SALE Time to clear out some project radios, 1960 Kaiser W 2035/ D AM/FM/SW table radio \$25, (2) Hallicrafter S-107 receivers \$25, Gonset G-50 6M AM Transceiver \$50. Interested parties can email n8wcp.us@gmail.com [11/24]

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: [01/24] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2024.



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



My final Portable Operations SIG will be on Tuesday, November 12th at 7pm.

As usual, we'll be working to solve the world's problems as they pertain to portable operating. Since the OSPOTA results will be released with this issue of the Radiogram, I bet that OSPOTA will be brought up at least in passing. No guarantees that we won't be sidetracked onto other subjects either.

Hope to see you at this month's SIG at 705 Oakwood St, Ravenna.

Oh yes, there will be no Portable operating SIG in December.

Here's our Zoom info:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92154491950?pwd=cmZNSIFhZVRmcVg3L3pnazdrK1ZuUT09>

Meeting ID: 921 5449 1950

Passcode: 878917

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,92154491950#,,,,*878917# US

+13126266799,,92154491950#,,,,*878917# US (Chicago)

Hope you can make it! 73, DE WG8X

Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE
Antenna SIG Coordinator



The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna SIG will be November 19, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna Special Interest Group will be held November 19, 2024 at 7:00 PM. We will be in-person at the PCARS club site and on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/99273855876?pwd=VWhuemc0T3JRdWVUd2NTZGJZWnBUQT09>

Meeting ID: 992 7385 5876

Passcode: 047804

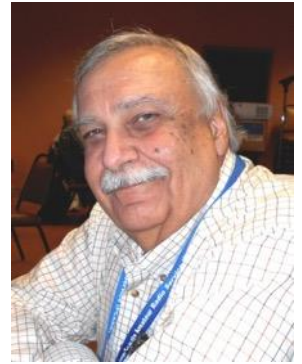
The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend. We will be discussing all aspects of antenna design, construction, test equipment, and experimentation. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion and talk about their antenna related projects or anything else Ham Radio with the group.

This will be the last Antenna SIG in 2024 because of the busy December Christmas Holidays.

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator



Attention PCARS DXers & Contesters

On Oct. 22, we held our final DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting for the year. There were 11 members present.

We reviewed the California QSO Party results with this year's numbers being better than any in the past. We ended up with 57,627 pts and 378 Qs. We're hoping that this is good enough for another plaque.

I operated in the Arizona QSO Party using the club call and working 31 Qs for 712 points. Again, we are not sure where that places us. But we should at least get another certificate for the club wall. We might work a few more contests in this manner, coordinating with other members, to work at designated times so that more of us can take part in this type of contesting.

We also set out the schedule of contests that we will participate in for 2025. Nothing will be happening until February when we hold our annual QRP event - Freeze Your Acorns Off. March will be the Idaho and Wisconsin QSO Parties. I will put K8BF on the air in April for the New Mexico and Georgia QSO Parties. And we will meet at the club later in April to operate in the Florida QSO Party as we have done now for many years. May will be the 7th Call Area QSO Party and of course June is Field Day. In July we will again be at the club site to participate in the NA QSO Party - RTTY mode event.

August is our annual participation in the Ohio QSO Party which also means PCARS Open House and BBQ. September is OSPOTA time and this year we are planning on having K8BF on the air as a bonus station. We will also participate in the Washington State Salmon Run late in the month. The California QSO Party takes place in October as does the Arizona and Pennsylvania QSO Parties.

So there you have the 2025 schedule. Of course, there is always room for changes - either additions or deletions, but this is where we stand at the present. The exact dates and local times will be posted on our website as well as timely qst email notifications.

I'm hoping that more members will take advantage of the many opportunities to operate from the club site since we have put great effort and expense in providing our membership with a well outfitted club station. So make plans now to come out and have some BIG FUN running K8BF in our planned events.

73

Chuck W8PT - PCARS Contest Coordinator

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: **Greg, KA8TOA** or e-mail him at:

Treasurer@portcars.org

PCARS T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Jackets, Hats, etc. can be obtained from:

Villager Business Solutions - attention Michelle Zivoder
8088 Main Street
Garrettsville, OH 44231
michelle@villagerbusiness.com 330-472-7304



PCARS is on YouTube

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



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 2024

Greetings to all DXers:

And hello from my HAM Shack. I hope you have been taking the opportunity to work the wide-open bands and even some 6m Aurora. 10 and 15 m have really been active with a lot of DX and many opportunities to work some of the DXpeditions that are taking place. And from the list that follows, there will be many more such opportunities that one can add to their DXCC list. I, myself, am looking forward to JD1 being on the air. Yup, I haven't worked Minami Torishima yet. I always seem to miss that one. So let's see what November and a few future months have in store.

Thanks to: The Daily DX, DL5ON & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, 425 DX News, TenX DX News, DXNL for the following DX information.

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

November...

3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND. Kazu, M0CFW is QRV as 3B9/M0CFW until November 27. Activity is on the HF bands. He will be active as 3B9KW in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB and CW contests. QSL via LoTW.

3D ROTUMA IS. Antoine, 3D2AG will be active as 3D2AG/P from Rotuma Island, IOTA OC - 060, during October - November 2024. He will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB. QSL requests via PayPal. His PayPal ads nyeur@gmail.com

3D ROTUMA IS. 3D2Y Team will be active from Rotuma Island, IOTA OC - 060, 15 November - 4 December 2024. Team - W6IZT, W8HC, K4NHW, KD9LSV, LY7J and others. They will operate on HF Bands, including activity in CQ WW DX CW Contest, 23 - 24 November 2024. They will use 3D2Y call not 3D2Z as announced earlier.

3DA, ESWATINI. 3DA0DL Team will be active from Eswatini, until 9 November 2024. Team - DK1BT, DL4WK, DL6SAK, DL7BO, DL7UFR. They will operate on HF Bands. QSL via DL7UFR.

5H, TANZANIA. Maurizio, IK2GZU is QRV as 5H3MB until November 11. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

5R8, MADAGASCAR. Reminder - Eric, F6ICX will again be active from **Saint Marie island, AF-090** as **5R8IC** until the end of December 2024. QRV on HF bands, mainly CW with some SSB. Last two weeks of activity he will dedicate to QO-100. QSL via LoTW, H/c.

5X1, UGANDA. G3XAQ and G3XTT will be active as 5X1XA and 5X1DF from [Kampala](#), Uganda, 13 - 27 November 2024. They will operate on HF Bands, including activity in CQ WW DX CW Contest. QSL for 5X1XA via G3SWH, OQRS, LOTW. QSL for 5X1DF via G3XTT.

8R, GUYANA. Aldir, PY1SAD is QRV as 8R1TM from Georgetown until November 24. Activity is on the HF bands, and 6 meters from Grid Square GJ06vs, using CW, SSB, various digital modes, and on various Satellites. QSL to home call.

AU, INDIA. AU2JCB is a special event call-sign to commemorate the birth date (30 NOV) & to pay homage & to tell about the great INDIAN scientist Acharya JAGADISH CHANDRA BOSE who is recognized as the "Father of Wireless Communication" by the scientific community of our world & IEEE.

VU2DSI will be operating with this call sign for the last 17 years since 2005 & operate AU2JCB from 25 NOV 2022 to 13 DEC 2022. The Details of operation ---- Period----25 NOV 2022 to 13 DEC 2022

Frequencies----- 10 M-- 28545, 28510, 28490. 21 M—21235, 21310, 21350. 20M—14210, 14250, 14310. 40 M---7040, 7150. 80 M --- 3710. IN FM MODE----- 6M -50800, 51500. 10 M---29700.

Preferably the operation will be on higher bands according to propagation conditions.

QSL--- Direct to VU2DSI

C5, GAMBIA, Reminder - Jean-Louis, F6ITS has just received his Gambian license and will be active as **C5GM** until December 2024. When not on his sail boat, he will QRV from Lamin Lodge (Grid: IK13qj). Jean-Louis says he has restarted CW after more than 10 years inactivity so is sorry for any mistakes and his slow speed. QSL info to follow.

C5, GAMBIA. C5T and C5I Team will be active from Gambia, 25 - 29 November 2024. Team - EA3NT, EI5GM, EI9FBB, MM0NDX, MM0OKG. They will operate on HF Bands, including 60 and 6m Bands. QSL via EA5GL, LOTW. They will use C5T call sign from mainland and C5I from Bijol Islands, IOTA AF - 060.

D4, CAPE VERDE. Claudio, HB9OAU will be QRV as D44OA from Sal Island, IOTA AF-086, until November 5. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via LoTW.

E6, NIUE. Jacek, SP5EAQ will be QRV as E6AQ until November 9. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. QSL via SP7DQR.

FW7, WALLIS & FUTUNA. Thanks to Al, K7AR for this DX info. W7YAQ, Bob and K7AR, Al will be active from the Lausikula Guest House on Wallis Island from November 16-29, 2024 with activity in the CQWW CW Contest. We will be active as FW7AA on 160-6 meters using two Elecraft K Line stations and amplifiers. We will use a DX Commander Classic, DX Commander Signature 12, and 160 M inverted L antennas. Our 6 meter activity will be casual, occasionally CQing and monitoring FT8 on 50.313 when not busy or out for dinner. On our return trip home we will stay in Fiji for 3 days and will be active from Club Fiji as 3D2NB from November 30 to December 2. QSL both callsigns via W7YAQ through OQRS, and LoTW.

HS, THAILAND. Special event station HS19IARU is QRV until November 10 to mark the 19th IARU Region 3 Conference being in Bangkok by the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand. QSL via LoTW.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. After completing his latest assignment, Take **JG8NQJ/JD1** will again be active from Minami Torishima starting mid-November and lasting for approx 3 months. QRV mainly on CW and some FT8 (spare time). QSL via JA8CJY, LoTW.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. JI5RPT will be active again as JD1BLY, from Chichi Jima Island, IOTA AS-031, Ogasawara Islands, 7 - 10 November 2024. He will be operate on 40 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via home call.

KH0, MARIANA IS. Tom KC0W is going to operate with call KH0V November 23-24th .

PJ4, BONAIRE IS. PJ4A Team will be active from Bonaire Island, IOTA SA - 006 in CQ WW DX CW Contest, 23 - 24 November 2024. Team - K4BAI, KU8E, N8VW, N4RR. They will operate in M/S Category. Before and after contest they will be active as PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E, PJ4/N8VW, PJ4/N4RR. QSL for PJ4A, PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E via K4BAI.

RI4, ARTIC TOUR. Reminder - Oleg, RD1A is onboard "Severny Polyus / North Pole" and will be active when time permits as RI42SP as the ship travels through various parts of the Arctic. Primarily QRV on CW & FT8 from October 5th for approx one year. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

TK, CORSICA. TK0C Team will be active from Corsica Island, IOTA EU - 014, until 24 November 2024. They will operate in Multi Single High Power Category. QSL via LOTW.

UR, UKRAINE. Reminder- Special event station EM100WJZ will be QRV now until December 31 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first amateur radio activity from the ancient city of Lwow, now known as Lviv. QSL via UR4WWE.

V5, NAMIBIA. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH from Omaruru until November 12. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, including 60 meters, using SSB, FT8, and possibly CW. He will be active as V55Y in various contests. QSL to home call.

VK0, DAVIS STATION ANTARCTICA. Dave, VK2DS is active as VK0DS from Davis Station, Antarctica, until November 2024. He will operate on HF Bands, plus 6m and EME 2m and 23cm. QSL via home call.

VP8, FALKLAND IS. Gerben, PG5M will be active as VP8G from Falkland Islands, IOTA SA - 002, 15 - 25 November 2024. He will operate on 40 - 6m, CW, FT8. QSL via M0OXO, OQRS. Planned freqs: Band CW FT8, 40 7010 7061, 30 10120 10143, 20 14010 14085, 17 18070 18090, 15 21010 21086, 12 24910 24916, 10 28010 28086, 6 50330.

VU, INDIA. San, VU2TT will be QRV in several contests with special call sign AT5T until November 28. QSL via LoTW.

VU, INDIA. Special event station AT78I is QRV until November 13 to celebrate 78 years of independence for India. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via VU2JOS.

XT2MD, BURKINA FASO. XT2MD Team will be active from Burkina Faso, 31 October - 11 November 2024. They will operate on HF Bands and EME. QSL via IK2VUC buro or direct.

XV, VIETNAM. Bruce, ex 3W3B will be active from Vietnam as XV9B. He will operate on HF Bands plus 6m Band, CW, Digital modes. QSL via E21EIC, LOTW.

YN, NICARAGUA. Mike, AJ9C will be active again as YN2CC from Nicaragua, 19 - 28 November 2024. He will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, Digital modes including RTTY, including activity in CQ WW DX CW Contest. In CQ WW DX CW Contest he will be in Single Operator All Band Low Power Category. QSL via home call direct, LOTW.

ZL, NEW ZEALAND. Special event station ZM100DX will be QRV until December 26 to celebrate the very first trans-world QSO between Z4AA and G2SZ. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using all modes. In addition, special event station ZL4AA will also be active for this event. QSL via operators' instructions.

Look Ahead & Reminders...

DU, PHILIPPINES. Christian, F4EBK is QRV as DU3/F4EBK from Luzon Island, IOTA OC-042, until January 2025. Activity is on 20, 15 and 10 meters typically around 0900 and then after 2100z. QSL via F4EUO.

I, ITALY. Special event station II4RCDN is QRV until December 31 to celebrate 60 years of the Northern Cross Radio Telescope, one of the largest radio telescopes in the world. QSL to IZ4FUE.

J75, DOMINICA. J75K Team will be active from [Dominica](#), IOTA NA - 101, 26 December 2024 - 4 January 2025. They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via IV3JVJ direct, LOTW.

KH0, MARIANA IS. Ken, JO1VRK plans to be active from Saipan, Mariana Islands as KH0/AJ6VJ during December 30, 2024 to January 3, 2025. QRV 40-20-17-15-12-10m. QSL via LoTW, eQSL – email for home address for paper QSL.

My usual disclaimer: These DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the control of those who are doing the planning. So don't get too upset if a planned DXpedition to some part of the world that you need, doesn't happen. But use this info to hunt down your ATNO or simply to work some DX before your rigs become boat anchors.

Get on the air and work some DX!! 73 for now....*Chuck W8PT aka Charlie the Tuner*

73 for now....Chuck W8PT aka Charlie the Tuner

From Around The World...

Links from Here, There, and Everywhere

The *Morse Runner Community Edition* project recently released version 1.85. The new release includes support for the ARRL November Sweepstakes, as well as other contest-specific improvements and bug fixes. *Morse Runner* is a fun tool that can help improve your CW contesting skills by simulating real contests with contest logging software like *NIMM Logger+* and *DXLog*.

For more information about the new release, visit <https://github.com/w7sst/MorseRunner/releases/tag/v1.85>.

Ham Radio in the Internet Age on Hackaday:

<https://hackaday.com/2024/10/25/ham-radio-in-the-internet-age/>



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 80 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.**

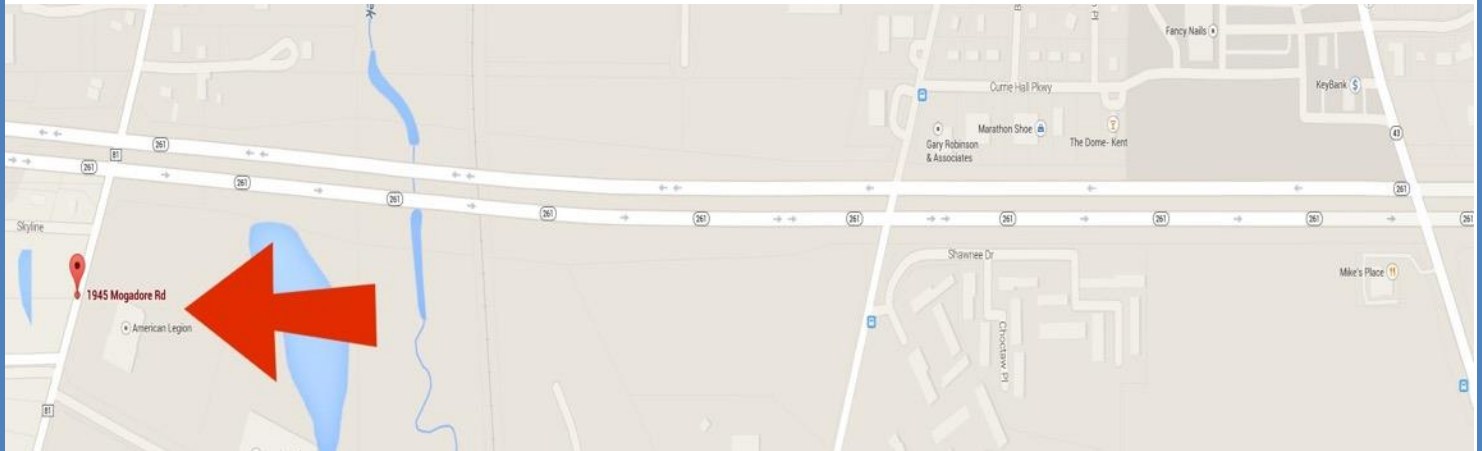
All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card unless customer requests otherwise. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate 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 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.



*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 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 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.

PCARS VE Testing Information & News



Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Future Dates December 7th

*** Check the website for the latest information ***

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 or an upgrade to your existing license. Face masks are not State/County mandated at this time, but you are always welcome to wear one.



PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for 9:45 am Registration, 10:00 am Testing starts, on the first Saturday of every even numbered month at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

QUICK FACTS

- **Yes**, PCARS VE test Sessions are held at the club site in Ravenna starting at 10 am - see schedule.
- **Walk-Ins are accepted.** Would appreciate an email to KB8UUZ@GMAIL.COM if you plan on attending.
- You **MUST** have an **FRN Number** (SSNs no longer accepted) **Taking Technician Test?** - You **MUST** apply for your FRN and get it prior to testing
- You **MUST** have a **valid e-mail address** for the FCC to be able to contact you.
- **Picture ID required**
- **Original and Copy of your valid FCC license** and originals of any applicable CSCE
- **VE fee is \$15** - Cash or Check payable to "ARRL-VEC"
- **FCC License Fee \$35** - payable **after** FCC sends you a link. **DOES NOT APPLY to upgrades**
- **17 years old or younger? VE Fee is \$5** per the ARRL reduced CE fee Youth Program
- **17 years old or younger? ARRL will reimburse you the \$35 FCC Fee**

Okay - now all the Details:

- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or other communicable germs, or someone that has been infected - please, *do not* come to the club site. *Use of masks is optional.*
- No food or snacks allowed.
- 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).
 - **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.**
 - Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.
 - **NO cell Phones allowed**

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

Email Addresses REQUIRED - All applications are 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 via regular mail.

FCC - \$35 Amateur Application Fee - The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will **not apply to upgrade to an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees**. The new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign.



VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. New applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate. The candidate will have **10 calendar days**, from the date of the application file number being issued, 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.

Youth Licensing Grant Program - The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for **new** amateur radio license candidates **17 years old or younger** for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program. The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates 17 years old or younger would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VE team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates 17 years old or younger, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required.

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

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.

Printing Your FCC License

Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager.

I’ve created a set of instructions on how you can request an “official” printed copy of your license* [Click here to download the instructions](#)



Thanks & 73

J.C., KC8JC
PCARS Newsletter Editor



OSPOTA! JOTA! All of the OTAs this month. It's a good indicator that everyone should be doing their best to get on the air at this time of year. The trees are dropping their leaves and keeping me busy, but I'm obviously getting out to the parks before the snow flies. Not that I stay inside when we get the ice and snow, but I hear it's a lot easier to copy my CW when I'm not sending with gloves on!

Knowing that we're getting to the end of the nicer seasons of NE Ohio, I'm sure that there is plenty of antenna work going on out there. Maybe you're looking at some kits like the one Fred showed us this month. If you are, you should take a minute and let your fellow PCARS members know about it.

Send your inputs on any ham radio topic to me at KC8JC@portcars.org and you will find yourself in the great company of our many prestigious *Award Winning Newsletter* contributors.

Thank you to all those who sent inputs for this month's issue:

**K8CAV, K8IG, K8ZT, KA8TOA, KB8UUZ, KD8WCK, KE8EGF, KP4VZ, N8QE,
W8PT, WA8LRW, WG8X and the World Wide Web.**

Remember: With *YOUR* continued help, *WE* can keep making this a *GREAT* newsletter!



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



~ 2024 Officers ~	2024 PCARS Appointments & Committees		
President - Mike Gonzalez - KP4VZ Vice President - Ken Hall - WA8LRW Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 2 Year Trustee Mike Ryan - KB8TUY 3 Year Trustee - Gene Marsh - W8NET Past President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG	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, 2024	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	Membership Chairman		
	Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Newsletter Editor	KC8JC	J.C. Wilson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	PCARS Photographer		
	Public Information Officer		
	~ Meetings & Net ~	Secretary	KE8EGF
2nd Monday of each month, 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Social Media	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmaster	KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez
	POTA Coordinator	KE8ARB	Brandon Mercer

 Active PCARS Volunteer Examiner Team Members	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	AC8QG	Nick Wagner
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	N8FUM	Dan Torchia
	KC8JC	James "J.C." Wilson
	W8EC	Mark Haas
	K8IG	Fred Freer
	W8HFZ	Tim McLeod
	K8PJW	Phil Weiss
N8XTH	Deron Boring	
K8IV	Ed Polack	
N8AMY	Amy Leggiero	
W8PT	Chuck Patellis	
KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez	

THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The RADIOGRAM copyright ©2024, is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year. The RADIOGRAM is an Award Winning newsletter: ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Fourth Place 2024 - Third Place 2015, 2022 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017, 2020 and 2021.

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 KC8JC@portcars.org. The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inp uts 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. Legend has it that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961 and they migrated and thrived throughout our county. Look into the black squirrel legends and see what you find! 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: KC8JC@portcars.org

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.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)
705 Oakwood Street - Box 12
Ravenna, OH 44266 USA



NLC

