



# 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

December 2020 - Volume 15 Number 12

## Annual Center of Hope Fund Drive

### SUPER Success



## K8BF Special Event Big Fun for Everyone



### PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





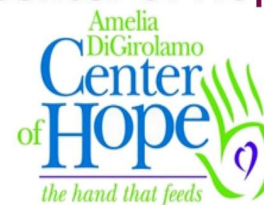
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## Center of Hope



**From the Editor:** You will see some humor based cartoons about the COVID-19. Yes, I agree that this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please. We'll all get through this together.

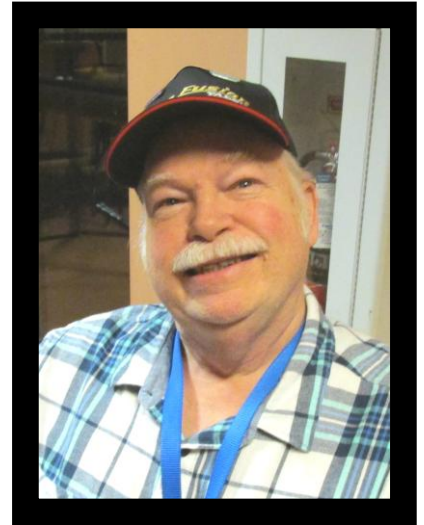




## ***Rick Tenan, WA8TSI - SK***

**Sad news** - Long time PCARS member Rick Tenan, WA8TSI passed away in a tragic car accident on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Rick was PCARS Member #306. When Rick wrote articles for the PCARS newsletter, he had me put in that he was also known as the 'Old Curmudgeon'. He did that because as he wrote about his activities in ham radio, he always embraced the older technology, he loved having long rag chewing QSOs rather than contesting or the newer digital modes. Most of the time when you saw Rick at any PCARS functions, his XYL Pam was at his side. They both enjoyed talking to all of the PCARS members. Rick always had plenty of stories about his adventures. He had a number of hobbies and would always be happy to share his knowledge with others. He will be missed by many of us that knew him.



The following is from the Record Courier newspaper:

### ***Kent man killed in Brimfield crash 2 November***

*A Kent man is dead after a crash at the intersection of Tallmadge and Sandy Lake roads in Brimfield on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon. According to the Ravenna Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Richard Tenan of Kent was killed when the 2008 Smart Car he was driving eastbound on Tallmadge Road was struck by a Kent juvenile driving a 2017 Hyundai Tucson southbound off Sandy Lake Road at about 2 p.m. Monday. The patrol said the Hyundai failed to stop at a stop sign and struck Tenan's Smart Car, partially ejecting Tenan. According to the report, both vehicles came to rest off the roadway on the southeast corner of the intersection. Tenan and his passenger, Pamella Tenan, both suffered serious injuries as a result of the crash. The Tenans were transported to Akron City Hospital by Rootstown EMS, where Richard Tenan was pronounced dead. Neither occupant of the Smart Car was wearing a seat belt, the patrol said. Richard Tenan died from his injuries a short time after arriving at the hospital. All three juvenile occupants of the Hyundai suffered possible minor injuries. All occupants were wearing seat belts. "It is so disheartening that despite reminders, warnings and educational efforts, we are once again announcing the tragic death of someone who failed to properly wear a safety belt" said Lt. Greene, post commander of the Ravenna Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.*



**Rick at FYAO 2020**

Pam was in the Akron City Hospital for a number of days and has been recently moved to Aultercare Brimfield. You can send her a get well card: Aultercare Brimfield, c/o Patient - Pam Tenan, 1463 Tallmadge Rd., Kent, OH 44240

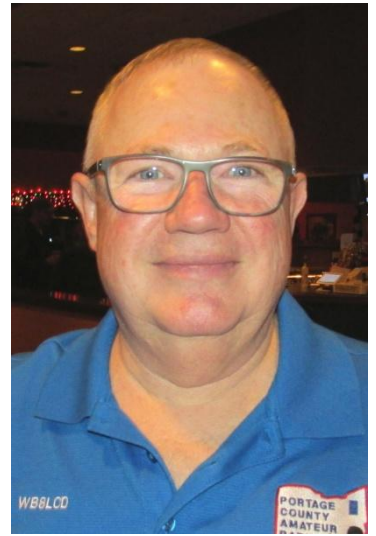
**Pam & Rick - Dec 2019**

***PLEASE*** - Take a look at Rick's QRZ.com page - you'll find more information about him, his amateur radio hobby as well as some information on his non-ham radio hobbies.



## From the President

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS President



I'm pretty happy about closing out 2020. Despite the circumstances that surround us, I'm pretty confident that 2021 is going to be a much better year - especially for PCARS! So, be sure to get your renewal taken care of before you start celebrating the new year.

I'm excited about the direction PCARS will be heading in 2021 and beyond. I can say that because of the slate of officers we have stepping up. Our new President - Nick, AC8QG - has already shown his commitment to PCARS and to Amateur Radio. Nick is willing to build on the many relationships PCARS has built with the Amateur Radio Community over the past 15 years, and he's also willing to reach out to establish new relationships and bring new topics to the members of PCARS to help everyone expand their knowledge and enjoyment of the hobby. Stepping up to Vice President is Mike, N8WCP. Mike is currently the PCARS Secretary. I believe that Mike is a pretty sharp guy, and like Nick, excited about the Hobby. The third newly elected officer is 3-Year Trustee - Amy, N8AMY. Amy has served PCARS in the past as both Secretary and Treasurer. She is the K8BF Callsign Trustee and the K8BF QSL Manager. She has been running the K8BF Facebook page and is a part of the K8BF VE Team. Like both Nick and Mike, Amy has a passion for the hobby, is active on air and is good at reaching out to hams outside of our local area that may support our club in many different ways. Add in Paul, KE8EGF as our Treasurer, Terry, KB8AMZ as 1 Year Trustee and John, KD8MQ as 2 Year Trustee, I'm confident that PCARS has the leadership, excitement and experience to propel us into another 15 years of exciting growth! Buckle up, it's going to be a lot of fun. By the way, we are probably going to be looking for a new club Secretary. If you're looking for a job that will put you right in the middle of everything PCARS, this is the job for you. Talk to Mike and he can fill you in as to what all is involved.

As you know, December is usually a Christmas dinner meeting. We have decided that that is probably not appropriate for this year. So, we will not be having an official PCARS meeting in December. But, I have decided that I need to have an "Un-Official" PCARS meeting! This will be a ZOOM only meeting held on the normal meeting night, **Monday December 14th at 7:00 PM**. The ZOOM link for this meeting is:

**Join The PCARS December Zoom Meeting - Monday December 14th at 7:00 PM**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88208029423?pwd=Uhd4dHZXcjVzSWxNSjRQbVpxb2RzQT09>

I need to bestow some President's Awards and since we have officially been a club for 15 years now, I want to talk just a bit about where we've come from through that 15 years, and present some possibilities for our next 15 years! I promise I won't be too long winded and I will keep it entertaining. I hope you'll attend.

**So, that's it for me! I want to wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas and New Years.**





## From the Vice President

**Nick, AC8QG**  
PCARS Vice President



First things first, I want to say thank you to everyone who made our record-setting donation to the Center of Hope possible. The generosity displayed by this club was inspiring! I am proud to be part of such a fine group of people.

Of course, November also saw the election of our officers. Unlike some other elections that took place this year, we didn't need any recounts or audits. Congratulations to our new and continuing officers! I look forward to working with you throughout 2021 as we strive for more "big fun" with the best ham radio club.

On a personal note, we took advantage of the nice weather and managed to fix up our HF antenna and get it a bit higher. The kids were pretty excited about the improved performance, so hopefully, that means some better contesting this coming year. Next up, probably in the spring, we have to figure out a second antenna so that we can expand our operating options. With four hams in the household (and hopefully more in the future), we do occasionally have some competition for airtime.

Although we are resuming in-person activities, many regular events are canceled or will be conducted virtually. Even events that are scheduled to be in-person may be canceled or moved to virtual. Please read this newsletter, join our weekly on-air club net, and watch for QST emails so you can stay up to date.

As we move through the holiday season and into the new year, I continue to be grateful for all that we have been able to do this year as a club. It hasn't been "normal" by any measure, but we found ways to adapt and adjust to everything thrown our way. 2021 will be another "weird" year, but I'm confident that we'll successfully navigate through the chaos. **To everyone who helped us, to everyone who participated in virtual, over-the-air, or in-person events, to all club members, and to all family and friends of PCARS, thank you! I hope all of you enjoy a blessed Christmas and a joyful new year!**



**PCARS**  
[www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)



A large banner for PCARS K8BF. On the left is the Portage County Amateur Radio Service logo. In the center, the text "PCARS K8BF" is written in large, bold, gold letters, with "The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!" below it. On the right is the ARRL Special Service Club logo, which is a circular emblem with a diamond in the center and the text "ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB".



## *Congratulations to the PCARS 2021 Officers*

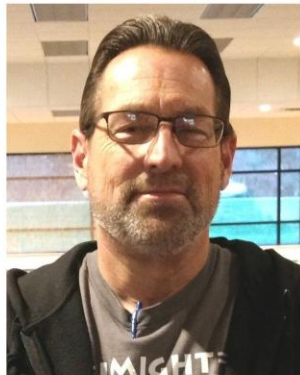
The annual election of officers for PCARS was held at the November PCARS in-person and Zoom meeting. All of the candidates ran un-opposed and will take over as our elected officials on January 1, 2021. Nick, AC8QG was elected President. Mike, N8WCP was elected as Vice President. Paul, KE8EGF was re-elected as Treasurer. Tom, WB8LCD is now the Immediate Past President. Amy, N8AMY was elected 3-Year Trustee. John, KD8MQ goes to 2-Year Trustee and Terry, KB8AMZ goes to 1 -Year Trustee. These officers are also the Board of Directors for PCARS.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

## **PCARS 2021 Officers & Board Members**



**President  
Nick AC8QG**



**Vice President  
Mike N8WCP**



**Treasurer  
Paul KE8EGF**



**Immediate  
Past President  
Tom WB8LCD**



**3 Year Trustee  
Amy N8AMY**



**2 Year Trustee  
John KD8MQ**



**1 Year Trustee  
Terry KB8AMZ**





# Schedule of Events



On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:



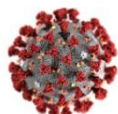
Although we are resuming in-person activities, many regular events are canceled or will be conducted virtually. Even events that are scheduled to be in-person may be canceled or moved to virtual. Please read this newsletter, join our weekly on-air club net, and watch for QST emails so you can stay up to date.

- December 5<sup>th</sup> - VE Test Session at the club site - 10 am - **Closed - (see VE column)**
- December 7<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site - 7 pm
- December 14<sup>th</sup> - **No PCARS Meeting (see President's column for special ZOOM meeting)**
- January 4<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site - 7 pm
- January 11<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Axel Fisser K8AXX, Lithium Batteries
- February 1<sup>st</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site - 7 pm
- February 8<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Robb Zarges K2MZ, Teaching CW to Kids

## NOTE: All In-Person Activities & Meetings

### Subject To Cancellation

### Check Web Site for Updates



- First Tuesday - **Digital** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
- Third Tuesday - **Antenna** - Moderator: Tony, WA8AR
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
- Fourth Thursday - Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 pm** - Moderator: Tom, WB8LCD

## PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Going Fast

PCARS has obtained a 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 - Paul, KE8EGF.**

Paul has a list of current members and will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.



### Portage County Amateur Radio Service



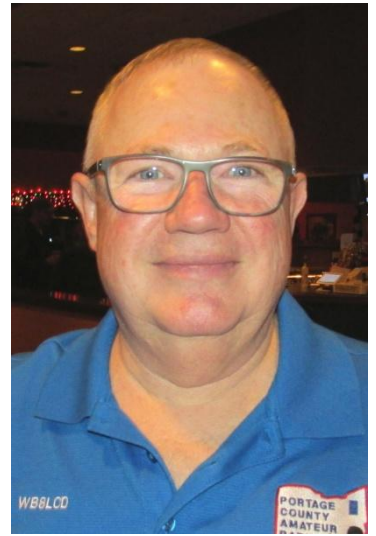
### 2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

There are a **limited number of extra coffee cups** and they are for sale at \$5.00 each **contact Paul for all of the details**



# Center of Hope Fund Drive - OUTSTANDING

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS President



I want to **Thank You All** for your support of PCARS in our annual fund raising for the Center of Hope.

What an OUTSTANDING job we all did! Every PCARS member should be proud to be affiliated with a club (PCARS) and an organization (**The Center of Hope**) who serves our community in this way. Especially in a year such as this. Mark Frisone - Executive Director of Family & Community Services - told us that the Center of Hope has served approximately 200% - 300% more meals this year



than they had last year. I can say with certainty that our contribution was greatly appreciated! Our contribution - **\$10,210.74** - was our largest ever. I'm only guessing here, but among local organizations, we are probably one of the largest (if not THE largest) contribution they received. I'm proud to say that over the past 15 years that PCARS has existed, our total contribution to support our community in this way is over **\$57,000**.

**Tom - WB8LCD, Mark Frisone, Nick - AC8QG**

classes for community members, providing speakers for other local organizations..... we certainly live up to the "Service" commitment that was put in our name from the very beginning. Well Done PCARS! Let this part of our legacy be something that defines us in the future as an intentional part of our mission.

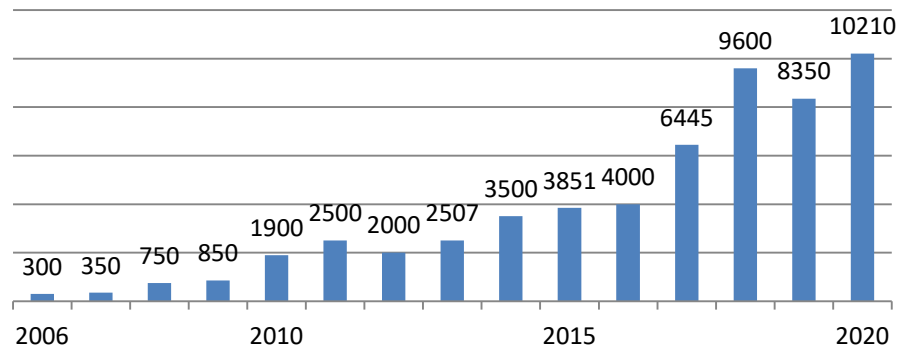
Add to that the community support we have provided through the years providing communications for a variety of "thons", our support of the Communications Unit at the EMA, licensing



**Center of Hope**



## PCARS Donations 2006-2020 to Center of Hope



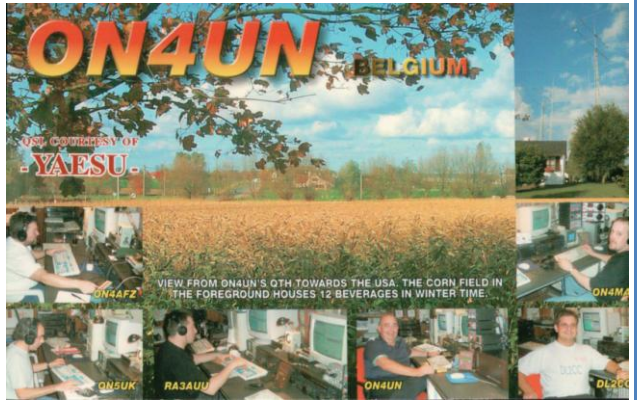


## John Devoldere, ON4UN - SK

### Very sad news received from the daughter of John, ON4UN

It is with sadness, but also gratitude and pride, I have to let you know my father John ON4UN, has become silent key.

John's health has steadily deteriorated throughout the year, but in the last few weeks he was home with us where he peacefully passed away November 9.



Ham Radio, and especially Low Band DXing, were my father's lifelong passion and always had a strong presence in our house.

Sometimes literally, when many of you paid us a visit or a group of DX'ers came over for a weekend of contesting. At other times in the background, when my dad was working on a project or experimenting with new equipment or antennas.

Though I don't have a call-sign, I very much feel part of the big radio family and always will. I am very proud of everything my father has accomplished together with you, and I am

grateful to the many of you who have given him so much joy over the years. We will miss him dearly, but we take comfort looking back on the beautiful life he lived as a member of the wonderful Ham Radio community.

If you would like to send us a message please mail to [ON4UN.SK@gmail.com](mailto:ON4UN.SK@gmail.com) – John's old e-mail account is not in use anymore.

In the meantime, you can pay him a visit at [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com) where he always kept his resume up to date.

Marleen Devoldere

*John probably sent out more QSL cards to hams contacting him in Belgium that I could imagine. It was exciting to make a contact with him. John was, of course, the author of [Low Band Dxing](#) a top notch reference book for anyone wanting to work the low bands.*



## Skywarn Recognition Day 2020 - December 5<sup>th</sup>



### **SKYWARN Recognition Day 2020 - Making Adjustments for COVID-19**

Each year, SKYWARN Recognition Day is the day where radio amateurs celebrate the long relationship between the amateur radio community and the National Weather Service SKYWARN™ program. The purpose of the event is to recognize amateur radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local National Weather Service office.

The event is co-sponsored by ARRL and the National Weather Service. Normally radio amateurs participate from home stations and from stations at National Weather Service (NWS) forecast offices, and the goal is to make contact with as many NWS forecast offices as possible during the event. However, this year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, participation from NWS forecast offices will be minimal at best. So, the focus will shift to contacting as many SKYWARN™ trained spotters as possible during the event.

New for this year, SKYWARN™ Recognition Day will be open to all SKYWARN Spotters. Additionally, a [SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Facebook page has been created](#) and will host a variety of live and recorded segments throughout the day. All SKYWARN™ Spotters who wish to participate may sign up for a SKYWARN™ Recognition Day number by completing the form found on the SKYWARN™ Recognition Day 2020 website. During the event, amateur radio operators are encouraged to exchange their name, location, SRD number, and current weather conditions with other participating stations. See the event website for the full operating guidelines. Additionally, all SKYWARN™ Spotters will be encouraged to participate by sending weather reports, images and attending various live stream events via social media.

**SKYWARN™ Recognition Day 2020 will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC December 5.** To learn more, [visit the SRD website](#).

## GLD Director & Vice Director Election Results



*From the ARRL*

### **ARRL Announces Director, Vice Director Election Results**

The results of four contested elections for Director and Vice Director in three ARRL Divisions were announced on November 20, after ballots were tallied at ARRL Headquarters.

In the **Great Lakes Division**, incumbent **Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK**, retained his seat in a challenge from Michael Kalter, W8CI. The vote was 1,840 to 1,398.

In a three-way contest for **Great Lakes Division Vice Director**, **Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY**, received **1,670 votes** to outpoll Jim Hessler, K8JH, with 975 votes, and Frank Piper, KI8GW, who received 611 votes. Incumbent Vice Director Tom Delaney, W8WTD, did not run for another term.

All newly elected officials take office at noon on January 1, 2021.





# Fifteenth Anniversary Special Event - K8BF



**Tom, KB8UUZ**

The PCARS 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary Special Event was held and the results are in.



This year since we are all staying away from the club site, a new idea was hatched and we still were able to have FUN and involve the club members in a Special Event on the air activity.

The special even ran from November 7<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. PCARS members were on the air using the club call sign K8BF and making contacts on all the bands and modes around the world.

## While on the air, 343 contacts were logged:

- **Contacts** were made into **34 states** and **16 countries** (Kenya, Cuba, Germany, Spain, France, England, Italy, USA, Puerto Rico, Lithuania, Netherlands, Brazil, Slovenia, European Russia, Belize and Canada).
- **Modes** logged were PSK, FT8, CW, FM and SSB.
- **Bands** that were logged were:  
160m (23 contacts), 80m (19 contacts),  
40m (197 contacts), 30m (4 contacts),  
20m (79 contacts), 17m (4 contacts),  
15m (3 contacts), 12m (1 contact),  
2m (8 contacts) and 70cm (5 contacts).

Special Event Station

# K8BF



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)  
Celebrating 15 years as an Amateur Radio Club

K8BF is honored to confirm contact with you during our 15 year Special Event  
PCARS Club Station is in Ravenna, OH USA - Portage County, Ohio - Grid EN91 - CQ Zone 4

Date	Call Sign	UTC	Band	Mode	Operator
<b>Sample</b>					

 PCARS was founded on November 14, 2005. Our club call sign is K8BF - also known as "Kilo Eight Big Fun". During these first 15 years over 400 amateur radio operators have become members of PCARS. More information on PCARS can be found on the club web site: [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)

The PCARS operators that participated in this special event were:

**Ben - AD8FQ, Greg - KA8TOA, Bob - KD8CGH, Bob - N8QE, Mike - N8WCP,  
Ron - W8AHC, Joe - W8KNO, Chuck - W8PT and Josh - K8YLK**

So far over a dozen certificates have been sent out to the hams sending in requests. Hopefully more will apply for the really nice certificate.



## Santa Net On The Air

For the 15th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at **7:15 PM (Central) starting Friday, November 27, 2020**. The Santa Net will run nightly at 7:15 PM Central through **Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020**.



Pete Thomson (KE5GGY), of The 3916 Nets, commented on The 3916 Santa Net. He said, "Christmastime and Santa Net are the best time of the year on 3916. We enjoy helping young people and their families have a shared Christmas experience that they'll always remember. And we get to introduce young people to the magic of amateur radio."

Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Thomson said that The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members. He said, "In our first year, we connected 10 kids to Santa on Ham Radio and it's grown steadily since. This year we should connect over 800 children with Santa Claus."

Prior to each night's Santa Net, pre-net check-ins can be made at [[www.cqsanta.com](http://www.cqsanta.com)] Third party rules and regulations apply.

The Santa Nets are presented annually by The 3916 Nets. The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters and The Freewheelers are all amateur radio nets that meet on 3.916 MHz nightly. For more information on The 3916 Nets, go to: <http://www.3916nets.com> For more information on The Santa Net, email KE5GGY at Gmail dot com



**COMING SOON**  
**to a Highway near YOU!**

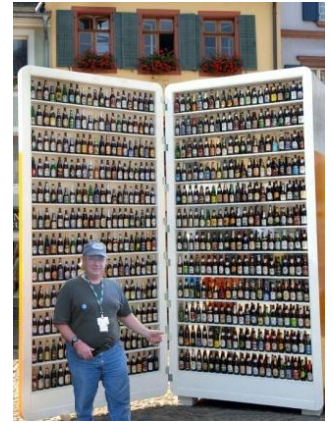




## Special Event Station W8A - December 5th

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
Brew Master

Join us on Saturday, **December 5th, 2020** for the special event celebrating the passage of the 21st Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America. We'll be on the air for 24 hours (0500z December 5 until 0500z December 6) from Kent, OHIO on, or around 7.240 MHz and 14.240 MHz.



Ohio was one of the last 3 states to ratify the 21st Amendment on December 5th, 1933. The others were Pennsylvania and Utah. Utah was the 36th state to ratify the Amendment, giving it the 3/4 majority of states approval necessary to become law. Ohio and Pennsylvania had ratified the amendment earlier in the day, Utah pushed to get it done at 3:32PM (local) to beat the state of Maine to be the state that secured the passage. It was the first time in the history of the US that an Amendment to the Constitution had been repealed, and it was not done by congress, it was done by "We the People". Once all of the last 3 states needed passed the 21st Amendment, the sale of Alcoholic Beverage in the US became legal again – immediately! The end of Prohibition was immediately turned into one Big Party! So grab a glass of your favorite beverage, give us a shout on the air and join the party. Please, be responsible in your revelry.



Celebrating the end of prohibition

73, and we hope to work you!

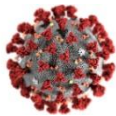
Please QSL for certificate to: Tom Sly - WB8LCD, 1480 Lake Martin Dr., Kent, OH 44240  
A 9×12 inch SASE would be appreciated, but all QSLs will be answered with a certificate.



# PCARS VE Test Information & News

**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison

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



**NOTE: All Dates Subject To Cancellation**

**Check Web Site for Updates**

Amateur Extra Class question pool changed - July 1, 2020



**The VE Test Session at the PCARS Club Site in Ravenna on Saturday - December 5, 2020 - is full - no more room - no walk ins. (Reservations only were required and this is for the participants of the on-line General class that PCARS recently had))**

- You **MUST** register in advance - **NO WALK-INS** will be accepted. Send an email to [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com) to register.
- You will be required to have, in advance, a Form 605 - properly filled in and signed. Once you register a form 605 will be sent to you via email. You can print it out and fill it in.
- **You must have your FRN prior to taking an exam** - no SSNs will be used on the Form 605 anymore.
- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or someone that has been infected - please, do not come to the club site.
- You will wear a mask covering your mouth and nose at all times.
- No food or snacks allowed.
- Only people that are testing will be allowed in the building.
- \$15.00 Fee Payment will only be by check or exact change. We cannot make change
- If paying by check, make check out to: "ARRL-VEC" Fee is \$15.00
- Ensure you have the following:
  - A picture ID such as a valid Driver's License, State ID, School ID, or US Passport.
  - If you are under 16 years of age, a parent or guardian must be able to vouch for you and you need a copy of your birth certificate (you do not have to give us a copy, we just have to see and verify).
  - If you are taking a Technician test you will need your FRN number (you can apply for an FRN on the FCC website). For hams having a license, your FRN is printed n your license.
  - If you are upgrading to General or Extra - You **MUST** bring your original valid amateur radio license and a copy of your valid amateur radio license to turn in with your Form 605.
  - Bring your own pencils and pens.



Any questions? Contact [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)

## Additional Information - What to Bring to the Testing Session

- If you've already passed a test: The original (and one copy) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element.

These documents may include:

- An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned.
- Original and copy of a pre-March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 [General] exam) - you **must** be currently licensed to get this credit.

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

Any Questions? Contact: [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)



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

## FRNs Required at Exam Sessions

The FCC has indicated VECs/VE teams will discontinue the practice of accepting social security numbers at exam sessions. Examinees should register in the FCC CORES registration system and receive an FRN **before exam day**.

The FCC also advised VE teams to make it clear to candidates that some information about them will be made publicly available on the FCC's website, including their name, mailing address, and felony conviction status.

*“Dorothy Stifflemire, the Associate Division Chief of the WTB Technologies Systems and Innovation Division told VECs that new license applicants should create an FCC user account and register their social security number in the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) before attending exam sessions. Registrants will be assigned a Federal Registration Number (FRN) which will be used in all license transactions with the FCC.”*



She explained that auto-registration in CORES for examinees using a social security number will be going away. In addition, since no mail is being sent because of the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants will not receive their auto-created password and FCC FRN and will not be able to access their personal license record in the FCC License Manager database or their FRN record in CORES. Going forward, she said, VECs should make sure all applicants are registered and have an FRN before exam day.

*“Additionally, FCC Mobility Division (MD) Deputy Chief Tom Derenge recommended that VECs make it clear to applicants that their address will be public information when the new license is issued. He suggested advising that an alternative address, such as a PO Box or work address, would be acceptable. Derenge pointed out that once an address is in the FCC database, it’s nearly impossible to be permanently removed.”*

Examinees can be directed to this information on our the ARRL website or directly to the FCC website.

FRN registration information (see item #4): <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>

FCC Privacy information: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc-licensee-privacy>

FCC CORES User Account and Registration: <https://apps.fcc.gov/core/userLogin.do>

The image is a promotional graphic for PCARS. On the left, the word "PCARS" is written in large, bold, yellow letters on a black background. Below it, the text "ARRL Volunteer Examiners: serving the Amateur Radio community" is written in white and yellow. Further down, it says "First Saturdays 10:00 am at the club site in Ravenna" and "February, April, June, August, October, December". On the right, there is a circular logo for "ARRL VEC VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" with a diamond-shaped symbol in the center containing the letters "A", "R", "R", "L" and a radio tower.

*Dates subject to change - check the PCARS web site for the latest information*

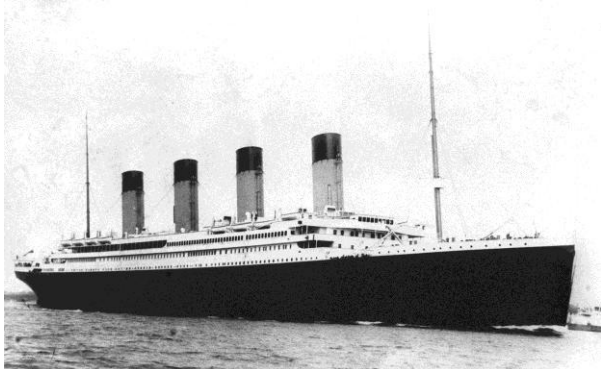
# Plans to Retrieve Titanic Radio - Debated



**BEN FINLEY**  
Associated Press

## U.S. government tries to block Titanic expedition as archeologists say human remains could exist

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — People have been diving to the Titanic's wreck for 35 years. No one has found human remains, according to the company that owns the salvage rights. But the company's plan to retrieve the ship's iconic radio equipment has sparked a debate: Could the world's most famous shipwreck still hold remains of passengers and crew who died a century ago? Lawyers for the U.S. government have raised that question in an ongoing court battle to block the planned expedition.



They cite archaeologists who say remains could still be there. And they say the company fails to consider the prospect in its dive plan. "Fifteen hundred people died in that wreck," said Paul Johnston, curator of maritime history at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. "You can't possibly tell me that some human remains aren't buried deep somewhere where there are no currents." The company, RMS Titanic Inc., wants to exhibit the ship's Marconi wireless telegraph machine. It broadcast the sinking ocean liner's

distress calls and helped save about 700 people in lifeboats. Retrieving the equipment would require an unmanned submersible to slip through a skylight or cut into a heavily corroded roof on the ship's deck. A suction dredge would remove loose silt, while manipulator arms could cut electrical cords.

RMS Titanic Inc. says human remains likely would've been noticed after roughly 200 dives. "It's not like taking a shovel to Gettysburg," said David Gallo, an oceanographer and company adviser. "And there's an unwritten rule that, should we see human remains, we turn off the cameras and decide what to do next." The dispute stems from a larger debate over how the Titanic's victims should be honored, and whether an expedition should be allowed to enter its hull. In May, a federal judge in Norfolk, Virginia, approved the expedition.

U.S. District Judge Rebecca Beach Smith wrote that recovering the radio "will contribute to the legacy left by the indelible loss of the Titanic, those who survived, and those who gave their lives." But the U.S. government filed a legal challenge in June, claiming the undertaking would violate federal law and a pact with Britain recognizing the wreck as a memorial site. U.S. attorneys argue the agreement regulates entry into the wreck to ensure its hull, artifacts and "any human remains" are undisturbed. The case is pending before the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond.

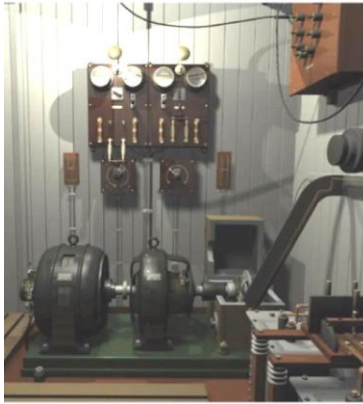
The Titanic was traveling from England to New York in 1912 when it struck an iceberg and sank in the North Atlantic. The wreck was discovered in 1985. Over the years, explorers have sent remotely operated vehicles into parts of the ship. During his 2001 expedition, film director James Cameron surveyed the area in a deckhouse that holds the telegraph equipment, according to court documents filed by the company. People on both sides of the human-remains debate claim the issue is being played down - or up - to support an argument. RMS Titanic Inc. President Bretton Hunchak told The Associated Press the government's position is based on emotion rather than science. "Issues like this are used simply to raise public support," Hunchak said. "It creates a visceral reaction for everybody." The firm is the court-recognized steward of Titanic artifacts, overseeing thousands of items including silverware, china and gold coins. "This company has always treated the wreck as both an archaeological site and





a grave site with reverence and respect,” Hunchak said. “And that doesn’t change whether in fact human remains could possibly exist.”

Gallo said remnants of those who died likely disappeared decades ago. Sea creatures would've eaten away flesh



because protein is scarce in the deep ocean, and bones dissolve at great ocean depths because of seawater's chemistry, Gallo said. The Titanic sits about 2.4 miles (3.8 kilometers) below the surface. Yet whale bones have been discovered at similar depths, as were human remains on a 2009 Air France plane that crashed into the Atlantic. “But generally that doesn’t happen,” said Gallo, who previously worked at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and has been involved in several Titanic expeditions.

Archaeologists who filed court statements supporting the government’s case said there must be human remains, and questioned the motives of those casting doubts. Johnston wrote to the court that remains could be “within the confines of the wreck or outside in the debris field” in areas lacking oxygen.

In an interview, Johnston said the company doesn’t want “anyone to be thinking about human remains. They want people to think, 'Oh cool. I have new artifacts to show the public.'”

David Conlin, chief of the National Park Service’s Submerged Resources Center, also filed a statement against the expedition. Conlin told AP “it would be scientifically astounding if there were not human remains still onboard that ship.” He said wrecks older than the Titanic have contained remnants of crew or passengers. Eight sailors' remains were discovered on the H.L. Hunley, a Confederate submarine that sank in 1864. And human bones were found at a first-century B.C. freighter wreck near the Greek island of Antikythera. “Very deep, cold, low-oxygen water is an incredible preservative,” Conlin said. “The human remains that we would expect to find are going to be in the interior spaces that are more difficult to access, where the preservation will be both tragic and spectacular.”



## PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches (*iron on*) & stickers (stick on) are now available!! Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is about 3". The embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black



and Blue. Cost for a patch is only \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! See the club Treasurer: **Paul, KE8EGF** or e-mail him at: [phyland@neo.rr.com](mailto:phyland@neo.rr.com)



## Swap-N-Shop

**For Sale: Yaesu FT-450** (This is not the D version). This has been my camping/POTA rig for the last 4 years. When not in use, I've kept it in a Pelican-style case. I'm selling it because I'm looking at something smaller. It comes with the hand mic, power cable, instruction manual, box. Asking \$425. **Yaesu FTM-400XDR** Dual Band Fusion rig. New Nov 2018. Has both Bluetooth & Voice modules installed. Original box & mount - \$450.00



**Contact: John, KD8MQ** at: [kd8mq1@gmail.com](mailto:kd8mq1@gmail.com) or phone 330-936-5021 [03/01/20]

**FOR SALE - Icom 703**, speaker and power cord, 250 Hz. filter. 300.00 **Heathkit SWR meter, HM 2140** 45.00  
**CNW419** 500w antenna tuner, 55.00 **Heathkit RF oscillator , G-5280.** 10.00 **Olson SWR & field strength meter.**  
10.00 **Heathkit code oscillator, HD1416A.** 12.00

**Contact: Dave, WV8P** by phone at: 440-799-3202 [02/02/21]

**FOR SALE - Items from Dave DeSimio WA8GCF (SK) estate.**

**Yaesu FC20** Auto Tuner \$125. **MFJ-941D** Versa Tuner \$75. **MFJ-993B** IntelliTuner \$130. **Yaesu FT470** Handheld, desk charger 2m/440 \$150. **Yaesu FT23R** Handheld, desk charger 2m \$75. **Yaesu FT73R** Handheld, desk charger 440 \$75. **Yaesu FT10R** Handheld, desk charger 2m/440 \$200. **Dentron MT-3000A** Antenna Tuner \$225. **Yaesu FT2000** HF and Yaesu Power Supply \$1,500. **Yaesu FT757GX** HF and power supply \$500. **Yaesu FT757AT** Auto Tuner \$200. **Astron VS-2M** Power Supply \$50. **MFJ-969** Versa Tuner \$250. **MFJ-993B** IntelliTuner \$250. **Kenwood TS-2000** HF \$1,500. **Metex MS-9150** Universal SystemFreq Counter \$300. **Yaesu FT-2700RH** \$100. **Azden PCS2000** \$75. **Pyramid PS-35** Power Supply \$50. **Yaesu FT8800.** **Yaesu FT-2800M** \$150. **AOI AR146** \$100. **Yaesu FT-7800** \$200. **Yaesu FT-7800** \$200. **Yaesu FT-2500M** \$125. **Yaesu FT-5100** \$150. **Yaesu FT-840** New in the box \$350. **Yaesu FT60** Handheld \$125. *All prices are 'Or Best Offer'*

**Contact: David E. DeSimio** at 330-592-1107 or [david@5thdoor.com](mailto:david@5thdoor.com) [01/02/21]

**FOR SALE: Mosley Classic 33M 3-element Tri-Bander** - Brand New, Sealed in original two boxes! Pick up only here in Willoughby, Ohio just northeast of Cleveland. Decided not to put it up and has been in storage - \$800.

**Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ** by phone at: 440-951-6406 [12/02/20]



**For Sale: Hi-Z SIX Direction Triangular Array Receive System** – Including THREE DX Engineering AL24 Vertical Elements. Most components are new/not used. Package consisting DXE p/n HIZ-3-LV2-50 6 Direction Array System and 3 (three) of part number DXE-AL24 Vertical element kits. Hi-Z Antennas Triangular Array Systems offer 6 selectable directions of improved, low-noise receive performance and 30 dB front-to-back directivity for the 160, 80 and 40 meter bands, with useful reception from below the AM broadcast band through 30 MHz. \$650

**Contact: Mark, W8BBQ** at: [W8BBQ@AOL.COM](mailto:W8BBQ@AOL.COM) or text to 330-770-5442 [12/02/20]

**For Sale: Yaesu FT-1000MP** AC Version(No power supply required), great contest or DXing radio - excellent condition with operator manual, has extra crystal filters and Inrad roofing filter installed. \$750.00 **Yaesu FTDX5000MP Limited** - 200 watt 160 thru 6 meter transceiver - AC powered, 300 Hz / 600 Hz / 3 KHz roofing filters, two independent receivers, operator manual, with custom equipment cover and Nifty Accessories reference guide. In like new condition, original boxes, \$2995.00 Can demo these transceivers at my station, local pickup preferred, will deliver up to 50 miles

**Contact: George, K3GP** at: 330-829-9504 evenings or weekends. [12/02/20]

**FOR SALE: ICOM IC-7610** - Brand New, *still in the box.* Decided to upgrade antennas instead of radio. Un-opened box \$2599. **RC-28 - Remote Encoder** for the IC-7610 to easily operate the second VFO - Brand new - \$200. **8 Switch Memory External Keypad for the IC-7610/7850/7851.** Instant access to the 8 stored outgoing messages. Made in Germany by DM2RM. Brand new - \$60. **Cushcraft Ten-3** Three element **10 meter beam.** Cost new \$299.95 - **Sell for \$150.00.** This beam helped me make 7,651 ten meter contacts on a tripod on my roof. Great shape & ready to use. Had the roof replaced and took down the antennas. Will be putting up tower and new HF & VHF antennas - if the ground ever dries out.... well, maybe in Spring or Summer 2021... **Contact: Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ** - [kb8uuz@gmail.com](mailto:kb8uuz@gmail.com) [12/02/20]



## Basement Treasures

John, KD8IDJ

### CLEARING OUT YOUR CHILDHOOD HOME...ham radio style

If you ever had a chance to clear out or clean up your childhood home...you might be surprised what you might find...especially if you were an electronic “geek” and a ham radio operator.

My parents’ basement is a treasure trove of old memories, memorabilia and...junk!! Lots of good junk though. In my Dad’s old workshop, I found old capacitors, big transformers, and instruction manuals. There was a manual for the Simpson analog voltmeter I used as a kid... model 240! I still have that meter and three other Simpson meters and now of all the proper operating procedures!!!

I also found old antenna parts, cable, soldering guns and a vintage Teletype machine! My collection is now up to five...as soon as I can sneak it the house! I actually found an old commercial FM antenna... the kind the old FM radio stations used. I think I can re-tune for six meters! Boxes of old telephones and two Western Electric switchboards round out my finds so far... and still more places to look.

I guess the point of all this is how lucky I was to be able to experiment, to be encouraged to enjoy my hobby while not blowing up or burning down the place! Amateur Radio has been along for the ride for the past 70 years or so and I’m glad it has. I have never met a ham who did not have a similar experience. Keep making the memories, keep keeping the junk and encourage new hams to dive in and immerse themselves in a great experience and hobby... Amateur Radio!



### THE LATEST ON COVID 19...FOR HAM RADIO



By the time you read this the news will have broken about a state-wide mask order to help stop the spread of COVID 19. In some counties...like Franklin...residents have been asked to stay at home for 28 days unless it’s critical.

We have been through this “hunker down” procedure before...and as ham radio operators it means another chance to pick up the microphone and start calling CQ.

We are fortunate enough to have the ability to communicate all over the world from our homes and we need to make good use of it. Not only will it keep us from getting bored...it will keep us safe.

## PCARS IO Group

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

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

### *Two things every member should do.*

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

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

Home Messages Hashtags

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

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

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

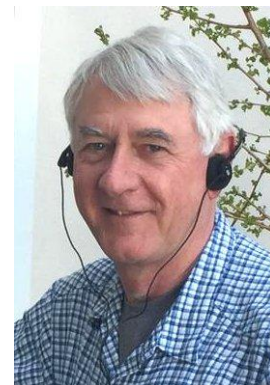
Group Settings  
All subscribers can post to the group.  
Posts to this group require approval from the moderators.  
Posts from new users require approval from the moderators.  
Messages are set to reply to group.  
Subscriptions to this group do not require approval from the moderators.  
Archives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

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

# W4F Special Event - December 18-24th



**Bill, W2WCM**  
Vienna Wireless Society



## Ever hear of Reginald Fessenden?

- Made the first wireless voice transmission, on Cobb Island, Maryland on December 23, 1900.
- Known as the father of Amplitude Modulation, and the first person to use a carbon microphone to modulate a carrier signal.
- On December 24, 1906, Fessenden made the first wireless musical broadcast, which was heard by ships off the coast of Massachusetts.
- Holder of more than 500 patents in illumination and early wireless technology, including the invention of the Fessenden Oscillator, which became the basis for SONAR.

**Mark your calendar to help celebrate 120 years of Fessenden's accomplishments as the Vienna Wireless Society hosts a Special Event Station, W4F from December 18-24, 2020.**

We at Vienna Wireless are hosting a special event, W4F, from 18-24 December. We are celebrating the 120th anniversary of the first voice transmission by wireless. It was done by Reginald Fessenden on Cobb Island, which is just south of us here on the Potomac River, on 23 December, 1900. He was quite an inventor and electronics expert. He made the first radio broadcast on Christmas Eve 1904, and was the inventor of the precursor to SONAR, as well as the first to use a carbon mike to transmit AM.

We are listed in the December issue of QST as a special event. I would like to get the word out as broadly as possible. We plan to have club members operate from their home stations on all bands, and all modes throughout the week.

## Reginald Aubrey Fessenden

From Brant Rock on Christmas Eve in 1906, Fessenden became the first person to broadcast musical and vocal programs over the air.

Reginald Aubrey Fessenden was born in 1866 in East Bolton, Canada. He worked for Thomas Edison from 1886 until 1890 developing flame-proof electrical insulation. He then married Helen May Trott and moved to the Westinghouse Laboratories in Newark, NJ. His first patent (1902) in the wireless field was for an electrolytic rectifier he called a "liquid barreter". It was made from a fine metal wire dipped in dilute acid. After working at Purdue University, the Western University of Pennsylvania, and the US Weather Bureau he obtained funding from two



**W4F** Vienna Wireless Society Celebrating 120 years in radio history  
Amateur Radio Club Since 1963

1900 - 2020

**MILESTONE IN RADIO HISTORY**  
HERE, ON COBB ISLAND, IN DECEMBER, 1900, REGINALD AUBREY FESSENDEN, ASSISTED BY FRANK W. VERT, WHILE EXPERIMENTING IN WIRELESS TELEPHONY, FOR THE FIRST TIME SENT AND RECEIVED INTELLIBLE SPEECH BY ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES BETWEEN TWO MASTS 50 FEET HIGH AND ONE MILE APART.  
W4F AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Reginald Fessenden

REGINALD FESSENDEN, BORN IN QUEBEC, CANADA IN 1866, MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO RADIO IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY. ON 23 DECEMBER 1900, HE MADE THE FIRST WIRELESS VOICE TRANSMISSION, ON COBB ISLAND, MARYLAND. HE DEVELOPED THE CONCEPT OF THE CONTINUOUS WAVE, AND WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO USE A CARBON MICROPHONE TO MODULATE A CARRIER, THUS BECOMING THE FATHER OF AMPLITUDE MODULATION. ON 24 DECEMBER 1906, FESSENDEN MADE THE FIRST RADIO BROADCAST, WHICH WAS HEARD BY SHIPS OFF THE COAST OF MASSACHUSETTS. THE HOLDER OF MORE THAN 500 PATENTS, HE ALSO DEVELOPED THE FESSENDEN OSCILLATOR, WHICH BECAME THE BASIS FOR SONAR.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY IN COMMEMORATING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST WIRELESS VOICE TRANSMISSION BY REGINALD FESSENDEN IN DECEMBER 1900. THE VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY IS AN ACTIVE, WELCOMING GROUP OF AMATEUR RADIO ENTHUSIASTS OF ALL AGES AND LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE. IN ADDITION TO PARTICIPATING IN ARL FIELD DAY AND HOSTING WINTERFEST!, A REGIONAL HAMFEST, WE HOLD A NUMBER OF WEEKLY NETS AND MEET TWICE EACH MONTH. MANY OF OUR EVENTS ARE HELD ONLINE. PLEASE SEE WWW.VIENNAWIRELESS.NET FOR MORE DETAILS.

**W4F**  
P.O. Box 418  
Vienna, VA 22183  
Viennawireless.net

CONFIRMING QSO WITH  via

DATE	UTC	MHZ	MODE	RST

Tnx 73



Pittsburgh investors and started NESCO (National Electric Signaling Company).

The BO station in Brant Rock, MA was established in 1905. A 420 Ft. high tubular antenna with an insulated base was setup and held in place with guy wires that used the same technology that Roebing developed for the Brooklyn Bridge. From Brant Rock on Christmas Eve in 1906 Fessenden became the first person to broadcast musical and vocal programs over the air. The broadcast was heard by US Navy and United Fruit Company wireless operators in ships along the east coast since the receivers were equipped with appropriate rectifiers. The Christmas program was picked up as far south as Norfolk, VA.



This photo of Fessenden was taken on November 12, 1931 at his house in Chestnut Hill, Ma just eight months before his death.



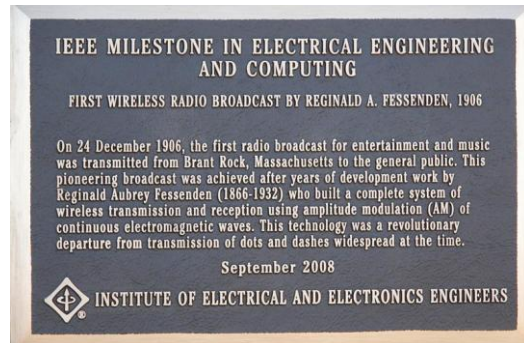
He invented and patented the heterodyne principle in 1902, a high-density car parking system, and a light weight air cooled engine. He later joined the Submarine Signal Company in Boston and invented the Fathometer.

The tower at Brant Rock.

Looking north to the Brant Rock station, taken from the beach east of Blue Fish Rock.



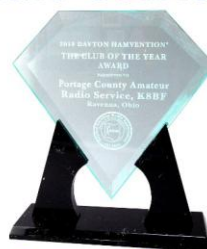
Dr. John S. Belrose (left), a noted wireless historian, and Robert Merriam (right), Director of the New England Wireless and Steam Museum, stand in front of what remains of the antenna base.



## Portage County Amateur Radio Service



# K8BF



## 2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

## From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



**Scott, N8SY**  
ARRL Ohio Section Manger



Hi Gang,

I want to start my article with a **“Thank You”** to all that voted in the Great Lakes Division elections!

I appreciate everyone’s trust and support in me as I take over the Vice Director’s position come January. I’ve been in contact with Dale, WA8EFK who was re-elected as the Director and we’ve already begun making plans for the future. I know that I have some very big shoes to fill for sure and I will do my very best to not let you down.

Wow has this past week been cold or what. What a change from the week just prior! Well, as they say, “Don’t like the weather? Just give it 5 minutes and it will change!” That’s Ohio for ya’.

Here in the big metropolis of Lexington we even had a dusting of snow this past week! Yes, I know that the folks in the snowbelt actually got some snow to report on. Lake Erie even had waves reported up to 30 feet! I’m glad I live inland for sure! I will say that the folks around the east side of the lake are a very hearty bunch for sure.

The National Weather Service in Cleveland even posted a plea for help with snow reports on their Facebook page. Sort of reminds me of last year (2019) when the Watch Desk at the State EOC asked us for help with snow and wind reports around the state, I believe Stan, N8BHL called it “Snowmagedden!” Anyway, any time that we can help one of our served agencies it’s a good thing for sure.

For those of you who might have noticed, there’s no Hamfest listings right now. That’s because there’s just no hamfests for the foreseeable future. And with the rise in numbers for COVID-19 lately I really don’t expect to see another hamfest for some time to come. Let’s all keep our fingers crossed that there will be a vaccine ready soon. I don’t want to miss another Dayton or NOARS Fest or ....

Whelp, that’s going to do it for this week my friends! I’m still looking forward to visiting with all of you live or via Zoom, WebEx or whatever.

I really can’t wait for that time when we can all get together in person once again. Those are the times I cherish the most!!! Stay safe! We will get through this and when we do, we’ll have so much to talk about. Most of all... have FUN and get on the airwaves!!

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

<b>KE8LWM</b>	<b>Holly Knox</b>
<b>KB8UHN</b>	<b>John Tomasik</b>
<b>K8IV</b>	<b>Ed Polack</b>
<b>KA8TOA</b>	<b>Greg Ash</b>

<b>KB8AMZ</b>	<b>Terry Morris</b>
<b>N8XTH</b>	<b>Deron Boring</b>
<b>KD8LLN</b>	<b>Michael Polack</b>
<b>N8AMY</b>	<b>Amy Leggiero</b>





## PCARS Membership Renewal Information



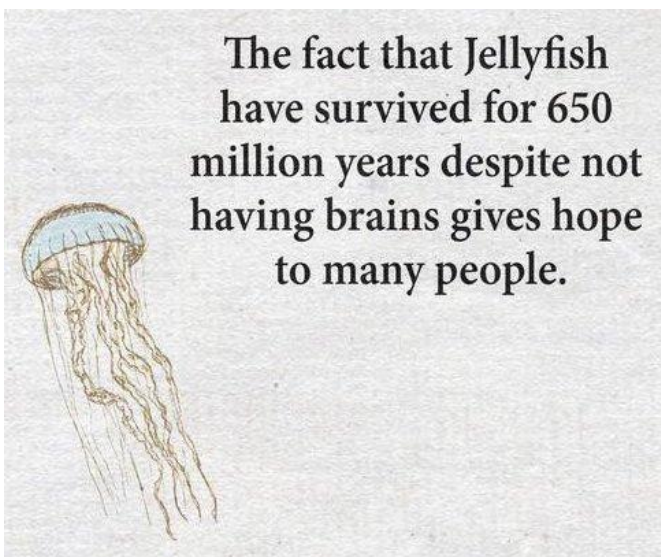
**Mike, N8WCP**  
PCARS Secretary

The following renewal applications have been processed as of 11/23/20. If you submitted an application or renewed online and don't see your call, please send an email to: [secretary@portcars.org](mailto:secretary@portcars.org) so we can look into it.

Many of the renewals we received did not include an application and we may have outdated information. I recommend every member login into the Members page at: [http://www.portcars.org/wp/members/roster/member\\_login.php](http://www.portcars.org/wp/members/roster/member_login.php) and verify we have the correct information. If we need to update your info, send an email to [secretary@portcars.org](mailto:secretary@portcars.org) with the update. Thank you for supporting PCARS!

Renewals Received as of 11/23:

AB8YK, AC8NT, AC8QG, AC8XO, AD8FQ, K3GP, K8AAB, K8DER, K8FEY, K8FS, K8HTB, K8IG, K8IV, K8JJM, K8MSH, K8QF, K8SWJ, K8YK, K8ZGW, KA8OAT, KA8TOA, KB8AMZ, KB8SZI, KB8UHN, KB8UUZ, KB8VJO, KB8ZWT, KC2WLT, KC3JXQ, KC8RKD, KC8TUE, KC8YYS, KD8BBT, KD8CGH, KD8DFL, KD8EPF, KD8ERY, KD8LIR, KD8LN, KD8MQ, KD8OBA, KD8SOP, KD8WBC, KD8WCK, KD8WZS, KE8BBI, KE8BFA, KE8HTL, KE8KBJ, KE8LWL, KE8LWM, KE8LWO, KE8LWP, KE8MJH, KE8MKY, KE8MKZ, KE8MXR, KE8NJA, KE8NNC, KE8NWR, KE8PQV, KN4GWY, KW8KW, N1CJW, N2KWW, N3BSN, N6TL, N8AMY, N8ATV, N8BI, N8FUM, N8GIE, N8GPS, N8KBX, N8KEV, N8PXW, N8QE, N8QZ, N8WCP, NO8D, NX8G, W3CDG, W8AHC, W8CDL, W8CYN, W8DMP, W8GWI, W8KNO, W8NET, W8PJW, W8RID, W8RJG, W8SV, WA8CCU, WA8SAJ, WA8US, WA8UWV, WA8YFL, WB2DFC, WB8OVQ, WD8BIW, WD8ICX, WD8PME, WT8J, WV8P, WX4QZ



The fact that Jellyfish have survived for 650 million years despite not having brains gives hope to many people.

"-Dad, you need to come home"  
"-Son I can't, I'm in the hospital"  
"-Mom is trying to sell your ham radios for the price you told her they cost."



## Antenna Work Continues

**Rick, K8CAV**



Early this summer I noticed that there were a number of tree branches that had intertwined with the 240 volt power line coming off the transformer to the house and as some of them were large limbs, I decided it would be a good idea to contract to have them trimmed back to the tree to avoid the power line being snapped by one of those branches coming down in a storm. What I failed to notice was that one large 12 inch limb was astride the support rope running down the tree for my dipole. As it happened I was also out of town the day the tree company came out to trim and yep you guessed it, they cut the limb AND my support rope, along with a messenger line to haul up the support rope, so it was time to redo the dipole.



Four years ago I tried a new design for the 260 ft. dipole whereby the physical support for the insulated antenna wire would be a 5/16" antenna rope, with a break-strength of 1700 pounds. I pre-stretched the rope, and then attached the antenna wire to the rope using wire ties every eight feet. My thought was if that the wind was so bad that it would snap a 1700 pound line I had worse problems to worry about than the antenna. It was a great idea but as it turned out I put too much pre-stretch in the antenna rope and I could not put enough force on the support ropes to keep the antenna wires from drooping about six to eight inches between the wire ties. After it was raised, over a fairly short period of time, the wind caused those drooping wires to wind around the antenna rope, making it a 260 foot inductor. It worked but would change impedance as the wire loops would wind or unwind in the wind.

I decided to design the new dipole using stranded copperweld wire but could only find it locally in 18 gauge with a break strength of about 224 pounds. I decided to give it a try using the 18 gauge copperweld, and after getting it built, I raised it and put enough tension on the support ropes to get it 40 feet in the air. As it happened, two days later we had some wind and sure enough, the wire broke. After lowering and splicing the wire I put it back up and reduced the tension on the support ropes. I had hoped it would hold long enough to find a source for larger gauge copperweld. It took some searching but I finally found a company that carried a much wider variety of copperweld wire than I could find locally. After researching the specifications for the different types they carried, I settled on 19 strand 12 gauge tinned copperweld. It has a break strength close to 1,000 pounds and with 19 strands comprising the wire, will hold up much better to the flex it will receive. All that and not a moment too soon, because on November 15th we had the big windstorm that again brought down the dipole. I placed the order, which arrived in two days, re-fabricated the dipole and got it back up in the air. 12 gauge wire is a heck of a lot harder to work with but I think this will hold up for a long time to come. The proof was in the pudding when I fired up the rig and antenna tuner and was able to operate effectively on 160m through 20m.



The company I found, Davis RF has a good selection of copperweld antenna wire, both stranded and solid. In addition, their technical support and customer service were outstanding, and I recommend them to anyone looking for antenna wire for projects.

Unfortunately with winter now upon us the tower antenna projects I had planned for this year will have to wait until next summer. The project will involve adding a 20m dipole at the top of the tower for 20m through 10m coverage, a six meter dipole, and a discone on the side of the tower to give general purpose receive coverage through 3 GHz.





## Field Day 2020 - Results

Field Day 2020 was indeed a bit different with COVID-19. The normal gathering of PCARS members was not possible and members were asked to participate from their home QTH, or portable with no others around.



PCARS had 22 members participate and submit their Field Day 2020 Scores putting down PCARS as their home club. The results have been published in QST magazine, and for those PCARS members **CONGRATULATIONS** on a “contest” well done!

Call	Contacts	Power 5= less than 5 2 - up to 150 1= above 150	# Participants	Total Score
KD8CGH	24	5	1	390
KB8UHN	188	1	1	526
WB9LBI	653	2	1	2962
K8IV	1003	2	1	2156
K8CAV	296	2	1	1622
N8WCP	507	2	1	1164
K3GP	258	2	1	1082
W8YIH	180	2	1	766
KE8BWA	147	2	1	634
N8QZ	200	2	1	550
W8KNO	62	2	1	398
N8GIE	154	2	1	358
N8QE	64	2	1	298
W8AHC	58	2	1	282
KB8TUY	103	2	1	256
WA8US	101	2	1	252
KA8TOA	71	2	1	192
K8YLK	67	2	1	184
K8SRR	38	2	2	152
KB8ZWT	50	2	1	150
AD8FQ	22	2	2	134
KE8MWD	12	2	1	74

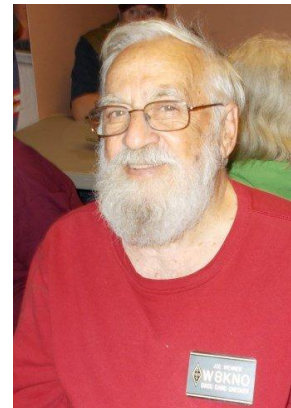
PCARS - 22 entries totaled : 14,582

<https://contests.arrl.org/ContestResults/2020/Field-Day-2020-FinalLineScores.pdf>  
<https://contests.arrl.org/ContestResults/2020/Field-Day-2020-FinalQSTResults.pdf>



## Paper Chase - Pearl Harbor Special Event

Joe, W8KNO



These words are probably known by all Americans, "Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy - the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." These words were spoken by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Congress and within an hour Congress passed a resolution declaring war on Japan!

Three stations have published notice they will celebrate Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. They are the National Electronics Museum in Baltimore, MD; the USS Kidd (DD-661) in Baton Rouge, LA; and the USS Midway (CV-41) in San Diego, CA. Individual operating times and frequencies can be found on page 82 of the December issue of QST or at the [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) website.

Usually there are more ships involved in remembering Pearl Harbor. The ships I find missing are the USS North Carolina (BB-55) in Wilmington, NC; the USS New Jersey (BB-62) in Camden, NJ and the USS Missouri (BB-63) in Honolulu, HI. The Missouri is within sight of the Arizona Memorial. So listen and you may be rewarded with additional stations.

If you are making a Bucket List, one of the items you might want to put on it is to visit the Arizona Memorial. I had that privilege to go aboard the memorial in July 1971 when I got out of the Service. The Memorial is constructed athwart ships where the bridge would have been located. All I can say "It is impressive". Impressive, yes but not as awe striking as the first time I saw the Arizona in November of 1956. The superstructure and turrets had been removed and looking down from the forecastle of the USS Toledo (CA-133) you could see the turret rings and the oil sheen that you always hear about.

God bless all those that have given their lives for our country and those that will.

### 12/04/2020 | Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration

**Dec 4-Dec 14, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum.** 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. W2W-Pearl Harbor, PO Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEEM) will operate W2W in commemoration of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day and the role of electronics in WWII. The Museum is closed, so Club members will work the Special Event from their home stations. Primary operation will be Dec 4-Dec 7 with additional operation possible during the Dec 8-Dec 14 period, as operator availability permits. Operation on 80M (3.541, 3.841) and digital modes possible during event. Frequencies +/- according to QRM. QSL and Certificate available via SASE; details at [www.w2w.us](http://www.w2w.us)





## Flex Net

**Mike, N8WCP**



The PCARS Flex Net is open to all hams and will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM. Each month we'll use a different band or mode. This net does not replace the weekly Thursday night 2 meter net so keep checking into that net!

The Flex Net will begin with a typical check-in process. Once check-ins are complete, each station will have the opportunity to work the other stations similar to a DX net. Since we're working simplex, it would be helpful to have alternate net control ops. If you're interested in being an alternate net control op, please email me at: [n8wcp.us@gmail.com](mailto:n8wcp.us@gmail.com).

November's Flex Net will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM EST on 50.4 MHz using AM.



DATE	TIME	BAND	FREQUENCY	MODE
12-09-20	8:00 P	6 M	50.400	AM

## A Treasure Trove of Articles



International Radio Club of America (IRCA)

### A True Treasure Trove: International Radio Club of America Free Reprints

Many thanks to SWLing Post contributor, Nick Hall-Patch, who writes:

Since 1964, the International Radio Club of America has been documenting medium wave DXing and DXers' efforts to improve their understanding of radio reception and to develop better listening techniques. During that time, over 900 articles have been written, that have furthered the art of DXing. Many of these continue to be relevant to the more general radio hobbyist, including articles about antennas, radio propagation, receivers and accessories, plus general technical information.

Previously, those articles were available only to club members, but they are now available to all. **Go to [www.ircaonline.org](http://www.ircaonline.org)** , and click on the "**Free IRCA Reprints**" button to download your own copies. Oh wow! What an amazing and deep treasure trove of articles!

Thanks to Tim, K3LR for forwarding this for the newsletter.



# PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

**Greg, KA8TOA**  
Net Control Coordinator



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

**Don't forget - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday is NET NIGHT at the club site - sometimes yes, sometimes no - watch for a QST in your email box for details**

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

December	
3	WB8LCD
10	K8IV
17	KD8WCK
24	Christmas Eve**
31	New Year's Eve*

January	
7	KA8TOA
14	N8AMY
21	KD8WCK
28	K8YLK

February	
4	
11	
18	
25	

\* and \*\* = **Holiday - No Net**

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

If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a try, please contact me at: [gregory999@roadrunner.com](mailto:gregory999@roadrunner.com) everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn - and have fun being the PCARS Thursday Night Net Control !

It is that time of year to celebrate the holidays, especially this year. It has been a very weird and chaotic one for the book of life. We have lost people and gained people for our hobby, so some good has come out of this craziness. This year has stirred up some revival in the hearts and souls of those who put the hobby on hold years ago. The staying home has increased the net check ins and activity on HF bands as well. So let us be thankful for all the good that has happened and all the effort our club officers have shown and done this year. My hat is off to them and may next year be better for everyone.

Now for a personal note of thanks to a bunch of fellows who have helped me this year; Ed AK8Z, Ed K8IV, Tom WB8LCD, Rick K8CAV, Mike KB8TUY, Ron W8AHC, Rich KD8WCK and of course Patricia. These people helped me with antennas and moving cables and the shack. It was greatly appreciated and what a great group of hams helping hams. Next month I will have pics and stuff for the news letter. Last but not least our volunteer net control operators, what a great job they have done this past year. Again my thanks to these club members for volunteering to help out and make this club a great club. I know our club officers are very proud of all of you. You guys and gals make my job easier and I thank you very much. Thank you Parky for all the great work you do on the newsletter and all the other things. So enjoy this time of year with friends and family, play radio and have fun. Remember the ones we have lost this year and the ones who are ill.



73 for now,  
Greg, KA8TOA NCC





## Universal Radio - Closing - Retirement



This note from the Universal Radio Website...  
<https://www.universal-radio.com/RetireNotice.html>

Dear Friends of Universal Radio,

Time waits for no one, and that includes Barbara and myself. We have decided to retire and our current location in Worthington will close on November 30, 2020. Even though the store is closing we will fulfill all existing customer orders and have a large amount of inventory to close-out. The Universal Radio website will be maintained for the foreseeable future to sell this remaining stock, publications and some select products. Unfortunately the lack of a store front showroom will preclude us from carrying some manufacturers' products.

I am very fortunate to have been in the radio business for over 50 years, 13 at Radio Shack and 37 at Universal Radio. We have met many wonderful people along the journey who have supported me personally as well as Universal Radio. It has been a privilege to have a continuous career in the fascinating field of radio since 1969.

Please accept our sincere "Thank You" for your support of Universal Radio for these many years, and for the months to come.

Our new address for correspondence and mail order is below. This is not a store front.  
Universal Radio Inc. - 752 N. State St. Unit 222 - Westerville, OH 43082 - Phone: 614 866-4267

Thank you & 73,

Fred Osterman N8EKU and Barbara Osterman KC8VWI

## Digital Special Interest Group

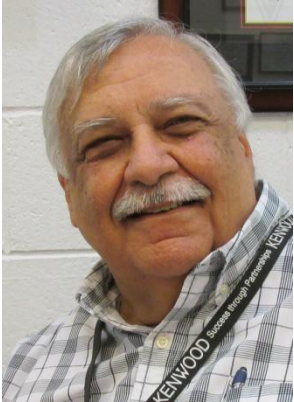
**Rick, K8CAV**  
Digital SIG Coordinator

The December Digital Special Interest Group meeting will be held on-the-air on Tuesday December 1st at 7:00 PM on the K8IV 146.895 repeater.

The meeting will be an open forum meeting and we'll discuss whatever digital communications topics you are interested in. Also, we can do on-the-air digital communications in almost any digital mode that fldigi covers. If there is interest we can also transition the net to HF and communicate digitally there. The last PCARS Flex net in November showed that 80 meters has good local coverage. As always we will make time to address any questions or problems you may be having regarding digital communications. I hope to hear you on this net!



# DX & Contest Special Interest Group



**Chuck, W8PT**  
DX & Contest SIG Coordinator

We held our DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting via Zoom, on Tuesday Nov. 24.

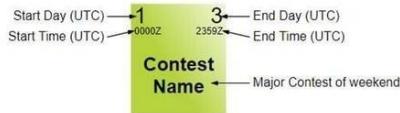
I apologize for those who may have missed the meeting because of my ignorance regarding the fact that I was the Host this time around and did not know how to let people into the meeting. I will make sure that I understand ALL my duties next time.

The main topic was our yearly event that takes place every February, namely Freeze Your Acorns Off. With Ohio starting to cancel some events in January and February, we wondered what we might do with FYAO. After a good discussion, we decided to postpone the event and push it into the second quarter of the year rather than cancelling it altogether. April was thought to be a good target since it can still have cold WX for those who want to brave the elements.

So we will keep watch regarding the decisions regarding Covid 19 and how safe it might be come April.

We also mentioned the various contests that PCARS members might be interested in during the year. It was suggested that I put something together for each Radiogram from now on, regarding contesting for upcoming months. That will give you testers something to put on your calendars.

## PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS



# 2021

- Multimode
- CW
- Digital
- off-the-air
- SSB
- VHF/UHF

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
2 1800Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	3 2400Z NA Sprint CW	7 0400Z ARRL DX SSB	6 0000Z SP Polish DX	7 2400Z 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	3 1500Z varies	4 1500Z varies	5 1200Z SEANET Contest	6 1200Z Marconi Memorial HF	3 1400Z NAQP CW	4 1800Z CWops CW Open	2 0600Z California QSO Party	3 2359Z ARRL SS CW	8 2100Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0600Z WPX RTTY	13 0000Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 2400Z JIDX CW	14 0000Z CQ-M DX	10 0700Z ARRL June VHF	11 1300Z IARU HF	8 1200Z WAE CW	9 1159Z WAE SSB	12 2359Z Oceania CW	11 0000Z WAE RTTY	10 0800Z ARRL 10	13 0000Z ARRL 10	14 2359Z ARRL 10
16 1800Z NAQP SSB	17 0600Z ARRL DX CW	20 0000Z Russian DX	21 2400Z CQMM DX	17 0900Z King of Spain	18 2359Z All Asian CW	15 1200Z CQ VHF	19 2400Z NAQP SSB	17 2100Z WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	21 1800Z Worked All Germany	18 0600Z ARRL SS SSB	19 varies RAC Winter	16 1500Z ARRL SS SSB	17 1459Z ARRL SS SSB
16 1800Z ARRL January VHF	18 0359Z CQ 160 SSB	26 2200Z WPX SSB	28 2200Z Florida QSO Party	27 0000Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	24 1600Z ARRL Field Day	20 1100Z RSGB IOTA	23 1700Z WW Digi	26 2400Z CQWW RTTY	25 0000Z CQWW CW	28 2400Z CQWW CW	24 1800Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS	27 0000Z CQWW CW	28 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS
29 2200Z CQ 160 CW	31 2159Z CQ 160 CW			29 0000Z WPX CW	30 2400Z WPX CW				30 0000Z CQWW SSB	31 2400Z CQWW SSB			



## Contest Calendar

December Contest Calendar	
Contest Name	Dates and Times
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 4 to 1600Z, Dec 6
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 18
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 19
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 20
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 26 to 1500Z, Dec 27

**YES** - There are **MANY** More Contests out there - **Check the internet**  
**WA7BNM - Contest Calendar:** <https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>  
**SM3CER Contest Service:** <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/>  
**ARRL Contest Calendar:** <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

Finally -- this is a hobby. It's supposed to be FUN!! Enjoy the contest, and I hope to work you on all the bands.

## Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers:

Well here we are at the end of 2020, and what a year it has been. Nothing could have predicted what this year has given us. So we are hoping that 2021 will be much better. But we do have December to look at yet and with the bands seemingly picking up, the chance of working some rare DX is a real possibility. Talking with some of my Ham friends, they are having fun with FT8, especially on the so called "dead bands" of 15 and 10 meters.

Frankly, 10 and 15 meters have been very active lately and with a 10 meter contest coming up this month, we are hoping that the activity level stays high. But even if it doesn't, I can attest to some real opportunities to work DX.

Let's take a look at what the next couple of months have to offer.

As always thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, W1CU, NG3K & ADXO, W3OA, W3UR & The Daily DX, W5AJ, WB6RSE, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, EA5RM, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, JH8KYU/1, ON4ZD/OS0S, RN3RQ, Sixitalia Weekly and VA3RJ & ICPO for the following DX information.

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

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

## December...

**4X7, ISRAEL** (Special Event). Members of the "Holy land DX Group" will operate from the heart of Tel Beersheba's site between December 25-26th, 2020, using the callsign 4X7T. Operators Ruben/4Z5FI, Mark/4Z4KX, Ros/ 4Z5LA, Yuli/4X6HP, Valdimir/4Z5IW, Alex/4Z4AK, Amir/4X6YA, Arthur/4X1MM and Jan/4X1VF will operate from the site which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site (<https://www.biblewalks.com/telbeersheba>). The team will start on Friday, December 25th at 0800 UTC, and end on Saturday, December 26th at 1300 UTC. They will have 3 running stations on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and FT-8. Reference numbers are: Holy Land Square - F23BS and WFF - 4XFF-035. QSL Manager is Ros, 4Z5LA.

**5X, UGANDA.** DX-World.net reports that John, 5X1JT, is a new operator from Nansana, Uganda. He's on assignment there for 2 years and is still trying to get up and running properly. It's likely he will use wire antennas. QSL Manager is currently to be arranged.

**7Q, MALAWI.** Don, K6ZO, is currently and once again active as 7Q6M (as time and power allows) from Embangweni Mission Hospital at the Loudon Station in Malawi as a Mission worker until mid-December. At the main station, activity will be on CW and SSB at various times, usually on 20, 40 and 80 meters (possibly 160m). At his residence, he has a modest station and wire antennas for FT-8. He plans to be in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 28-29th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL 7Q6M via K6ZO.

**8A10, INDONESIA** (Special Event). Members of the ORARI Darerah Jawa Timur Lokal Surabaya (YH3BL) will be active as 8A10N to celebrate Indonesia's "National Heros Day 2020" through December 10th. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. QSL via LoTW or eQSL.

**9G, GHANA.** Thomas, DL2RMC, is now active as 9G5FI from Accra, Ghana, possibly through the next year. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, FT8 and the QO-100 satellite. Operations on 160/80 meters may not be possible while using a vertical. QSL via DL1RTL, direct, by the Bureau, eQSL, ClubLog and soon LoTW. <http://www.dl2rmc.com>

**AU2, INDIA** (Special Event). For the 15th year, look for special event station AU2JCB, to be active between November 20th and December 15th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using SSB. Suggested frequencies are (depending on the propagation): 3710, 7040, 7150, 14210, 14250, 14310, 21235, 21310, 21350, 28490, 28510 and 28545 kHz. On FM Mode: 6m – 50800 and 51500; 10m 29700 kHz. If higher bands are open, operations will be on those bands. The operator will be Datta, VU2DSI. QSL direct (with 2 IRCs) to VU2DSI to: Datta Degaokar, Surabhi Mehherabad, Ahmednagar, MH 414006, INDIA. Operations are to celebrate the 161st anniversary of the birth (November 30th) of Sir Jagadeesh Chandra Bose, India's great scientist and inventor who they consider the "Father of Wireless Communication". For more details, see the following

**4U75, ITALY** (Special Event). Ivo, 9A3A, will be active with the special callsign 4U75B from United Nations Global Service Center [UNGSC] (4U1GSC), Brindisi, Italy, until December 31st, 2020. Activity is to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. QSL via 9A2AA, direct or by the Bureau.

**J8, ST. VINCENT.** By the time you read this, Mac, 8P5AB, will be active as J88/8P5AB until December 3rd. Activity will be on various HF bands using FT8 and VHF bands on the Digital modes. QSL via 8P5AB, direct or eQSL.

**OE, AUSTRIA.** Members of the VIC Amateur Radio Contest DX Club are QRV with call sign 4U2STAYHOME until December 31. QSL via UA3DX.

**OE65, AUSTRIA** (Special Event). Jo, OE6VIE, will be active as OE65VIE from Styria until December 31st. Activity is to celebrate 65th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty. QSL via DE1QSL, direct, the DARC Bureau or LoTW.

**OE65, AUSTRIA** (Special Event). Hannes, OE1SGU, active as OE65SGU from Vienna until Dec 31st. Activity is to celebrate 65th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty. QSL via LoTW or eQSL only - no paper cards please! ADDED NOTE: Hannes is active as OE1990SGU until Oct 31st, to celebrate his 30th anniversary being an amateur radio operator. QSL via OE1SGU, direct, by the Bureau, LoTW or eQSL. Read QRZ.com for more details.

**OR39, BELGIUM** (Special Event). Members of the Oostkust Radioclub [ONZ] (ON6HC) will be active as OR39CLM until November 13th. Activity is to commemorate the liberation of the city Knokke-Heist by Canadian forces on November 1st, 1944. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes.



**OZ100, DENMARK** (Special Event). Experimental Danish Radio Amateurs Association (EDR) will activate the special callsign OZ100MILL until December 23rd. Activity is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the unification of Southern Jutland with Denmark in 1920. Operations will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB and Digital modes. QSL via OZ1ACB OQRS. QSL cards can be requested via ClubLog's OQRS to be sent via the Bureau or direct. All logs will be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. Please send no QSL cards to them via the Bureau. A special OZ100MILL award is available. There are three categories of awards: Gold, Silver and Bronze. See QRZ.com for more details.

**SP, POLAND.** Members of the Ostrow Radio Amateur Radio Club are QRV as SN3ISS until Dec 21 is to celebrate the 20th anniversary of active amateur radio communication service on the International Space Station. QSL via SP3POW.

**T8, PALAU.** Gary, KE1AT, active as T88SS from Koror Island (OC-009). His length of stay is unknown. Activity will be on various HF bands. He was heard this past week on 80/30/17/15 meters FT8. QSL via his QSL Manager EA5GL.

**TZ, MALI,** Ulmar, DK1CE is QRV as TZ1CE and is here until December 8. QSL to home call.

**V7, MARSHALL ISLANDS.** Since July 2019, Randy, KX4QD, has been living on Kwajalein Island, (OC-028), Marshall Islands, and is active sometimes as V7/KX4QD or V73AX. He states his operating habits are usually on 40/20 meters FT8, using a dipole and a 100 watt limit. Randy mentions that he doesn't do too well from there on SSB. He works FT8 usually on Thursday evenings (starting around 0600z). QSL via KX4QD.

**VU, INDIA,** Datta, VU2DSI is QRV with special call sign AU2JCB until December 15 to celebrate the birthday of scientist and radio pioneer Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose. QSL direct to home call. In addition, look for special calls AT2JCB, AU3JCB, VU5JCB and AU8JCB to be active as well.

**YB, INDONESIA,** Members of the ORARI Darerah Jawa Timur Lokal Surabaya are QRV as 8A10N until December 10 to celebrate Indonesia's National Heroes Day 2020. Activity is on various HF bands and modes. QSL via LoTW.

## January...

**CQ750, PORTUGAL** (Special Event). Valdemar, CT7AQD, will be active with the special callsign CQ750RSI to celebrate the 750th anniversary of the birth of Queen Saint Isabel from Coimbra between January 1st, 2021, and December 31st, 2021. QSL via CT7AQD. For more details, see QRZ.com.

**T5, SOMALIA,** Ali, EP3CQ is QRV as 6O1OO until January 15, 2021 while working for the UN Department of Safety and Security in Mogadishu. Activity is in his spare time on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL direct.

## IOTA News...

**AN-015.** Member and operators of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition team (JARE) continue to be active as 8J1RL from Showa Research Station, Queen Maud Land, until January 2021. Operators mentioned are Take/JA1AGS and Hiro/JH7JCX. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW and the Digital modes. Most of the activity has been on 40/30/17 meters using mainly FT8 with some CW. QSL via JG2MLI or by the JARL Bureau.

**AS-023.** Kenji, JA4GXS, will once again be active as JA4GXS/6 from Amami Oshima Island between December 18-20th. Activity will be on 40-17 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct.

**SA-055.** Hernan, LU7EHR, will be active as LU7EHR/E from Martin Garcia Island (ARLHS ARG-045, ARLHS ARG-152, LUFF-0064, WW Loc. GF05) between December 5-8th. Activity will be on 80-2 meters using SSB (80/60/40m) and FT8. QSL via LU7EHR, LoTW or eQSL.

There are some interesting DX possibilities coming up in the next few months. Get on the air and see what you can work. And be sure to listen on 15 and 10 meters. You might be surprised. 73 for now.



## Ray Hollifield: Akron's Radio Sleuth

*"Suppose Mr. Jones, after a hard day in the office ... curls contentedly in his favorite chair to... hear via radio the baseball scores. Half the scores have been given, indicating a tight race in his favored league when fire bells, ambulance sirens, and Morse Code, all inspired by the imps of interference, screech from the speaker." -Akron Times Press, 1930s*

During the 1930s, radio was king, uniting the nation with exciting stories, characters, news broadcasts, and music. However, an exciting evening by the radio could easily be interrupted by interference, static, and poor reception.

Most of us know the frustration of a broken television signal or disconnecting Wi-Fi. When this happens, we typically call our service providers and they might send someone to our homes to investigate the problem. As it turns out, during the 1930s, radio-owning Ohioans did much the same thing we do now- they contacted their service provider and someone was sent to investigate.

In Akron, Ohio, that investigator was a man named Ray Hollifield. Hollifield worked for the Ohio Edison Company during the 1930s and he was considered one of the masters of his craft.

*"The life of Akron's radio interference sleuth may lack some of the thrills which punctuated the existence of Sherlock Holmes, but it misses none of the sheer thrill of the chase. Pipe-smoking Sherlock glued his glass to the trail of thieves and crooks; the local sleuth fastens mechanical ears to far more elusive and deceptive game. His quarry trickles into your radio antenna, or kicks about in the tubes, or plays hop-scotch on the coils..." -Akron Times Press, 1930s*

When a complaint came in, Hollifield would arrive in his truck, equipped with all of the materials he needed to do his work.

**A General Electric noise meter to help find interference (based on a design by Tobe Deutschman) - Special shock absorbers to protect the equipment in the car - An R.C.A. radio - An exterior speaker that as weather-proofed. - A 12 pound sledge hammer**

Often the issue was an error with the customer's equipment, so Hollifield might recommend a reputable radio shop. However, if there was an error in the Ohio Edison equipment, Hollifield could act. Hollifield would drive around the block in this truck, using his noise meter to pinpoint the exact location of the problem. After finding the pole that was creating static, he would begin by hitting it with his 12 pound hammer. Hollifield could test his success using the radio in his car. If the static continued, he would climb the pole and make the necessary fixes. Hollifield once appeared on a radio program in which he detailed how everyday families could identify and fight radio interference. In this interview, Hollifield pointed out that the culprits in many interference cases were electric appliances found in American homes during the 1930s (these appliances predated radio and were not built with interference in mind). For example, an electric hand iron could cause a "frying hiss if the heating element is defective, and a





coarse snapping and crackling sound if the cord plug or contact pins of the iron is burned or loose.”



Hollifield could listen to a faulty radio signal and know exactly what was causing the problem. In fact, in 1934 he won an interference finding contest in Cincinnati. Documents from Hollifield's career, such as the photo page below, can be found at the Ohio History Connection Archives & Library.

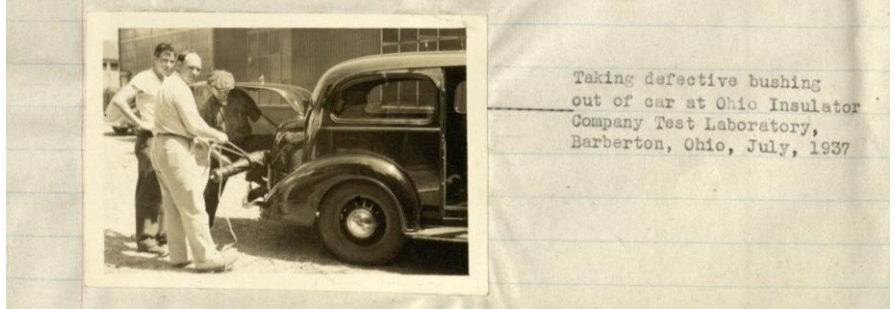
Ray Hollifield clearly had a passion for his job. As he once told the Akron Times Press: “There’s always something new popping up...and some of the problems I get are dandies. I don’t think it would a bit more fun tracking down crooks. Interference impulses, even without human intelligence, sometimes hole out and hide

like a ground hog, or better.”

Thanks to Ray Hollifield, Akronites never missed a moment of the Golden Age of Radio.

Thanks to Mike, N8WCP for spotting this article From the ‘Ohio History Connections’

<https://www.ohiohistory.org/learn/collections/history/history-blog/2017/november-2017/radio>



## Hamvention® 2021 Theme “The Gathering”



“The Gathering” will be the theme for the 2021 Dayton Hamvention®. Hamvention General Chair Rick Allnut, WS8G, said the theme reflects what has been missing from our lives most of this year.

“We have spent the last 6 months being bound to our houses and small groups,” he said. “We are very optimistic that when May arrives, we will be allowed to get together.”

Allnut, a medical doctor with a master’s degree in public health, said Hamvention management is closely following the coronavirus situation and believes it will improve enough by May that government restrictions on travel and large groups will be relaxed. The Hamvention team will continue to follow developments.

“We hope we will all be able to get together, talk about ham radio, and share the interaction we have missed,” Allnut said. “The Gathering” theme acknowledges the role that Hamvention plays in amateur radio.

Hamvention 2021 will be held May 21 – 23 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

**Michael Kalter, W8CI and Rick Allnut, WS8G talk about Hamvention 2021 on DX Engineering's Tuesdays with Tim and Jeff: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeqrRIWdXGw>**





### From the ARRL

#### ARRL Seeks Waiver of Proposed FCC Amateur Application Fees

ARRL has urged the FCC to waive its proposed \$50 amateur radio application fee. The Commission proposal was made last month in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MD 20-270. The proposal has already drawn more than 3,200 individual comments overwhelmingly opposed to the plan. The fees, directed by Congress and imposed on all FCC-regulated services, are to recover the FCC's costs of handling and processing applications.

"Amateur radio applications were not listed when the Congress adopted its 1985 fee schedule for applications, and therefore amateur license applications were excluded from the collection of fees," ARRL said on November 16 in its [formal comments](#) on the proposal. "Similarly, a decade later when regulatory fees were authorized, the Amateur Service was excluded, except for the costs associated with issuing vanity call signs." The new statutory provisions are similar. Amateur radio license applications are not addressed in the application fees section and explicitly excluded from regulatory fees," ARRL said, and there is "no evidence of any intent by Congress to change the exempt status of amateur applications and instead subject them to new fees."

ARRL argued that the FCC has explicit authority to waive the fees if it would be in the public interest, and should do so for the Amateur Radio Service. Unlike other FCC services, the Amateur Radio Service is all volunteer and largely self-governing, with examination preparation, administration, and grading handled by volunteers, who submit licensing paperwork to the FCC, ARRL pointed out.



"Increasingly, the required information is uploaded to the Commission's database, further freeing personnel from licensing paperwork as well as [from] day-to-day examination processes," ARRL said.

The Communications Act, ARRL noted, also permits the FCC to accept the volunteer services of individual radio amateurs and organizations in monitoring for rules violations. In 2019, ARRL and the FCC signed a memorandum of understanding to renew and enhance the ARRL's Volunteer Monitor program, relieving the Commission of significant time-consuming aspects of enforcement.

These volunteer services lessen the regulatory burden -- including the application burden -- on the Commission's resources and budget in ways that licensees in other services do not, ARRL said.

Amateur radio's role in providing emergency and disaster communication, education, and other volunteer services also justifies exempting radio amateurs from FCC application fees.

Additionally, amateur radio has also motivated many students to develop critical science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) skills. ARRL noted that the Amateur Radio Service contributes to the advancement of the radio art, advances skills in communication and technology, and expands the existing reservoir of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts -- all expressed bases and purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

"Accomplishing these purposes entails working with young people, many of whom may have difficulty paying the proposed application fees," ARRL said.

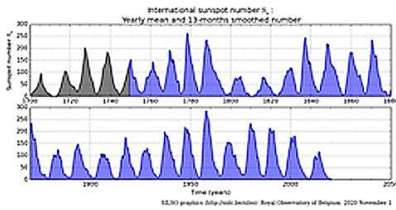


ARRL concluded that the FCC should exercise its authority to exempt amateur radio from application fees generally. If the FCC cannot see its way clear to waive fees altogether, it should waive them for applicants age 26 and younger. Read [more](#).

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## Academic Paper Predicts Sunspot Cycle 25 Could be Among the Strongest Ever

A [research paper](#), "Overlapping Magnetic Activity Cycles and the Sunspot Number: Forecasting Sunspot Cycle 25 Amplitude," by Scott W. McIntosh, Deputy Director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, et al., has concluded that Solar Cycle 25 could be among the strongest sunspot cycles ever observed, and will almost certainly be stronger than the just-ended Solar Cycle 24 (sunspot number of 116). The scientists say it will also most likely be stronger than Solar Cycle 23 (sunspot number of 180). As the abstract explains:



Sunspot cycle graph dating to 1700.  
[SILSO Graphic]

"The sun exhibits a well-observed modulation in the number of spots on its disk over a period of about 11 years. From the dawn of modern observational astronomy, sunspots have presented a challenge to understanding -- their quasi-periodic variation in number, first noted 175 years ago, stimulates community-wide interest to this day. A large number of techniques are able to explain the temporal landmarks, (geometric) shape, and amplitude of sunspot 'cycles;' however, forecasting these features accurately in advance remains elusive.

"Recent observationally motivated studies have illustrated a relationship between the sun's 22-year magnetic cycle and the production of the sunspot cycle landmarks and patterns, but not the amplitude of the sunspot cycle. Using (discrete) Hilbert transforms on more than 270 years of (monthly) sunspot numbers, we robustly identify the so-called 'termination' events that mark the end of the previous 11-year sunspot cycle, the enhancement/acceleration of the present cycle, and the end of 22-year magnetic activity cycles. Using these, we extract a relationship between the temporal spacing of terminators and the magnitude of sunspot cycles.

"Given this relationship and our prediction of a terminator event in 2020, we deduce that Sunspot Cycle 25 could have a magnitude that rivals the top few since records began. This outcome would be in stark contrast to the community consensus estimate of Sunspot Cycle 25 magnitude."

McIntosh's [recorded presentation](#) of the paper is available. Use passcode **z7qCn@3G**.

## From the CQ Magazine Blog



### End of the Line for Arecibo's Iconic 1000-Foot Dish Antenna

In light of two cable failures over the course of several months, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has accepted engineering recommendations to decommission and disassemble the iconic 305-meter (1000-foot) radio telescope that is the focal point of activity at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. The engineering reports indicated that it would not be safe for workers to try to make repairs on the antenna and that even stress-testing remaining cables could result in their catastrophic failure. Other facilities at Arecibo were not affected by the damage to the main dish and will remain in operation, according to a National Science Foundation news release.

Opened in 1963, the Arecibo radio telescope was originally dedicated to studying the ionosphere and was used to make many groundbreaking discoveries, including that of the first binary pulsar, which resulted in the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physics being awarded to Dr. Joe Taylor, K1JT, and Dr. Russell Hulse, ex-WB2LAV.

Angel Vazquez, WP3R, is Head of Telescope Operations at Arecibo. He wrote on the HamSCI reflector that “today was indeed a sad day for science. I’ve dedicated 43 years of my life to the AO. We live with memories and thanks to so many of you for being part of that history and living in those memories...”

The NSF news release did not give a specific timeline for the decommissioning and disassembly of the main antenna and appeared to leave the door open for building a new facility in the natural dish that accommodates the current telescope.



**Radio telescope instruments at Arecibo Observatory (University of Central Florida photo)**

“Critical work remains to be done in the area of atmospheric sciences, planetary sciences,

radio astronomy and radar astronomy,” said the president of the University of Central Florida (UCF), which manages the observatory for NSF, adding, “UCF stands ready to utilize its experience with the observatory to join other stakeholders in pursuing the kind of commitment and funding needed to continue and build on Arecibo’s contributions to science.”

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**CQ WPX Contests Add New “Multi-Transmitter Distributed” Category, Remove Single-Op Unassisted Categories**

(Sayville, NY – November 16, 2020) – A new “Multi-Transmitter Distributed” category is being added to the CQ World Wide WPX Contests to better accommodate operators who wish to compete as a team without all being in the same physical location.



According to CQ WPX Contest Directors Bud Trench, AA3B (SSB and CW), and Ed Muns, W0YK (RTTY), the new category will permit up to six separate stations in different locations (but all within the same DX entity and CQ zone) to operate as a single contest entry. This was inspired by innovations being made in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, but Trench and Muns say the new category will be permanent.

In addition, QSO alerting assistance will now be permitted in all single-operator categories except for the "Classic" categories. This means that there will no longer be separate listings or recognition for "Assisted" vs. "Unassisted" categories, and all Classic overlay entries must be unassisted. Finally, Classic overlay stations will now have a maximum operating time in each contest of 24 hours rather than the previous 36.

The rule changes take effect with the 2021 running of the WPX contests – RTTY on February 13-14, SSB on March 27-28 and CW on May 29-30. **NOTE:** These changes apply ONLY to the WPX contests and NOT to the CQ World Wide (CQWW) DX contests.

Complete details will be posted in the near future with the full rules on both the CQ website <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> and the WPX contest sites at <[www.cqwpw.com](http://www.cqwpw.com)> and <[www.cqwpwrtty.com](http://www.cqwpwrtty.com)>.

=====  
**P5 Remains Atop Clublog Most-Wanted List**

Clublog has released its new list of "most-wanted" DX entities and North Korea (P5) is once again at the top. The rest of the top-ten, in order, are all islands: Bouvet (3Y/B), Crozet





(FT5/W), Scarborough Reef (BS7H), San Felix (CE0X), Pratas (BV9P), Kure (KH7K), Johnston (KH3), Peter I (3Y/P) and Kerguelen (FT5/X). The complete list is on the Clublog website at <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>.

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### "Last Man Standing" Standing Down

The 2021 television season will be the final one for the long-running TV comedy, "Last Man Standing," in which star Tim Allen, KK6OTD, portrays outdoor store owner Mike Baxter, who is also a ham, KA0XTT (a fictional call).



The ham shack frequently seen in Baxter's office, as well as the one in his home basement, were operational, with licensed members of the cast and crew frequently putting them on the air when taping was not in progress. Ham radio occasionally played a role in the program's script as well.

Producer John Amodeo, AA6JA, told *Newsline* that 21 new episodes will air in this ninth and final season, after which the program will go into syndication.



# Merry Christmas

## Turkey Takes Toll on Ham

Gary, **WBORUR**  
Ham Hijinks



**SAUSALITO, NV** – A local ham radio operator has been cited for careless and imprudent radio operating by the Federal Office Responsible for Monitoring All Transmissions (FORMAT).

This photo of “Chick” Brown shows him asleep in his shack, while cradling a dual-band HT.



Robert “Chick” Brown dozed off during the 40 meter “Thanksgiving Day Net,” a traditional radio gathering since 1942, where hams “check-in” to offer thanks for the blessings of the past year.

As Junior Thompson offered thanks on the net for the blessing of his Kenwood TS-990 due to a large worker’s comp settlement check, Brown’s VOX opened up and he was heard snoring with 1500 watts P.E.P. delivered into a 7-element Yagi.

In a prepared release, the National Radio Retransmission Legion (NRRL) defended Brown’s indiscretion, saying it was directly related to the amount of turkey consumed immediately prior to the net and that the broadcast was purely unintentional. *(Reporter’s note: the chemical tryptophan-L, found in turkey, can induce sleep when ingested in large doses.)*

FORMAT says agents immediately received world-wide complaints about “the buzz-saw noise” emanating from North American shores.

NRRL spokesman Johnson Longfellow says the “...combination of turkey, dressing, cranberries, Watergate salad, and candied yams played the devil with Brown’s metabolism, placing him in a stupor seldom paralleled in the annals of modern medicine.”

For their part, the local ham radio club “Emergency Response Team” was called away from their Thanksgiving tables and placed into action to triangulate the origin of the signal and shut it down. Brown has 45 days to file an appeal with the Federal Office Responsible for Monitoring All Transmissions, but the sleepy ham says he’ll “...probably just pay the fine and move on, since Junior will spot me some left over worker’s comp money. And maybe I will try not to eat so much turkey next year.”





# 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 72 PCARS member's ham plates now, **but we can use more.** Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS IO Group site. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of PCARS history.**



## From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## PCARS is on YouTube

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



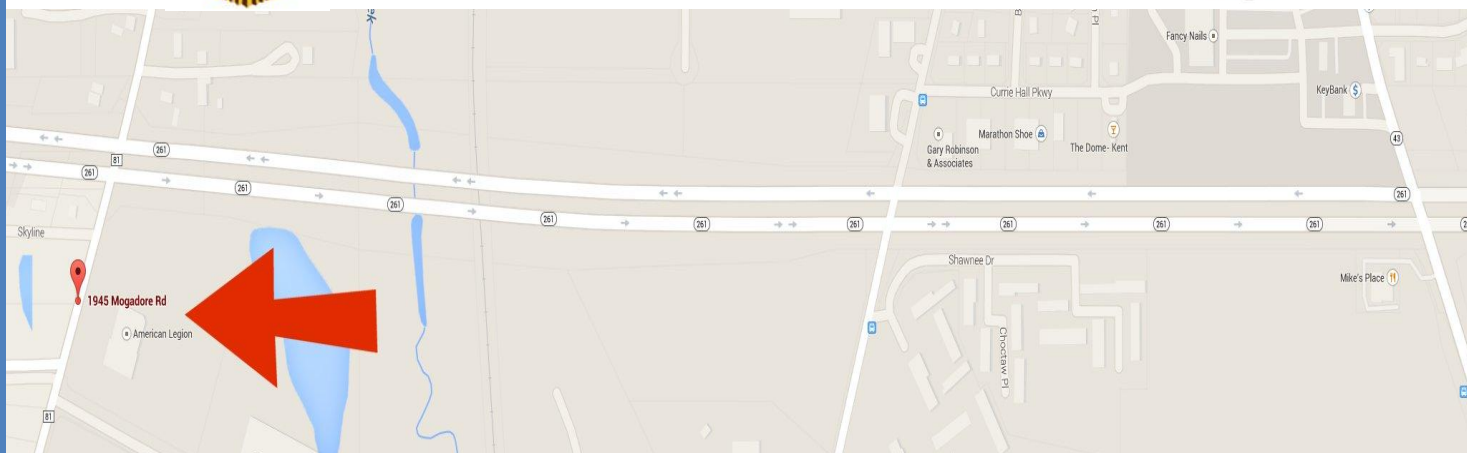


# PCARS Meetings

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



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



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

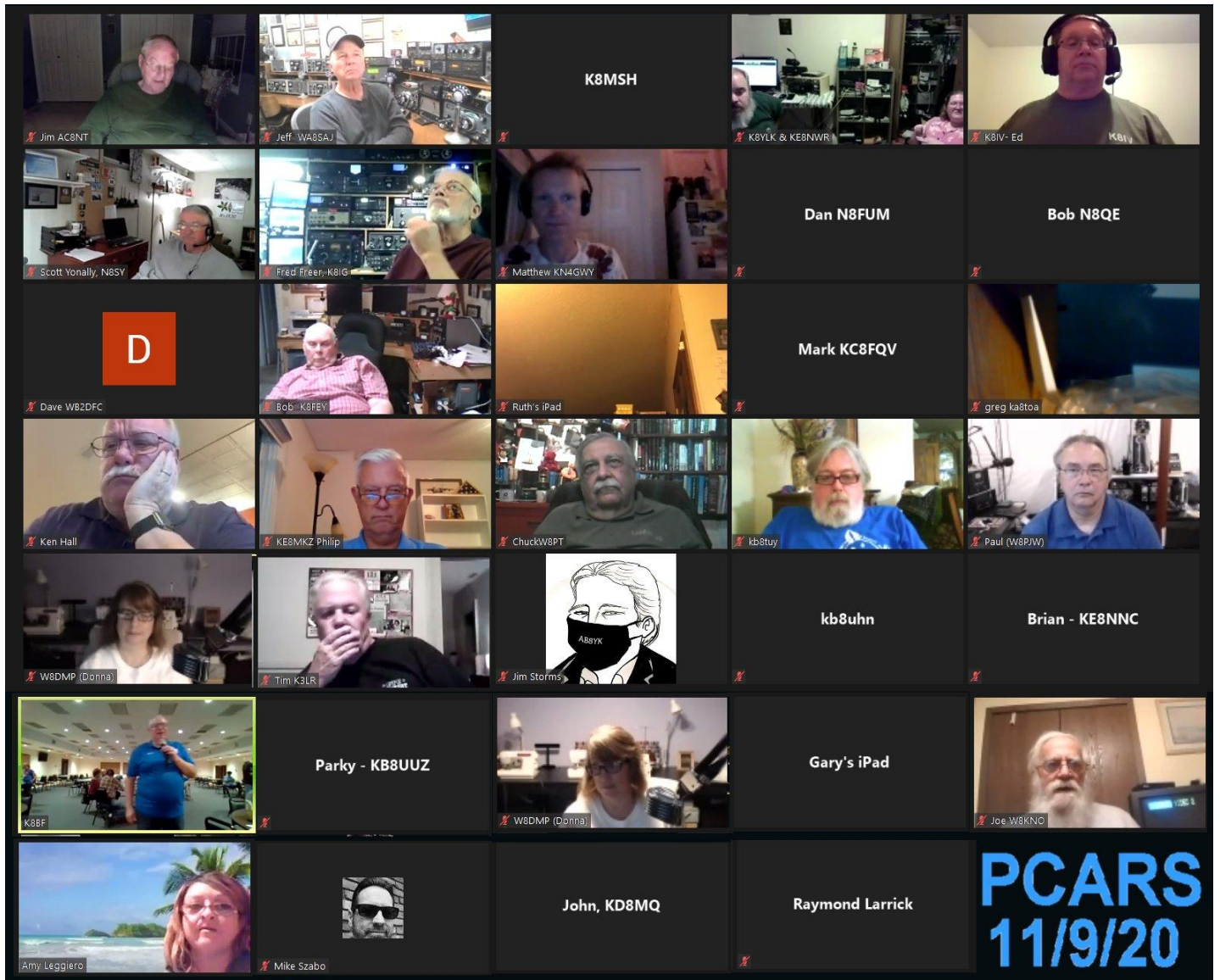


*The picture on the left shows  
The American Legion Post 496  
as viewed from Mogadore Road.  
(looking East)*

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

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

# Photos from the November PCARS Meeting







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

Membership Application [ ] New [ ] Renewal

This form **MUST** be filled out for **any** membership transaction

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? [ ] Yes [ ] No ARRL Membership Expires Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
Use 2099 if ARRL Life Member

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

Birthday: Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

\*\*The rate plus a \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed for all new members.  
\*\*\* Must have been a member in good standing for previous 5 consecutive years.

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

What are YOUR Ham Radio interests:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Rev. .9 September 2020





## Contact Information

I am a brand new member or my membership has been lapsed for 2 or more years. My club will keep \$15 of my dues.

I am renewing (includes lapsed members of less than 2 years). My club will keep \$2.00 of my dues.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Get an annual birthday coupon (US only)

My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (\$10 per member)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Annual Membership Dues – Circle Your Choice/s.

	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	
US	\$49	\$95	\$140	Monthly QST via standard mail for US members
Youth	\$25			Must be 21 years old or younger AND the oldest licensed Radio Amateur in the household
Canada	\$62	\$120	\$177	Monthly QST via standard mail for Canadian members
International	\$76	\$147	\$217	Monthly QST via standard mail for International members
International/Canada – no print QST	\$49	\$95	\$140	Digital QST only
Family	\$10	\$20	\$30	Must reside with primary member and have corresponding membership dates; no extra copies of QST
Blind	\$10	\$20	\$30	No QST delivery; all other member benefits apply. Requires a one time signed and dated statement of Legal Blindness

Additional membership options available online at [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join). US Memberships include \$21 per year for subscription to QST. Dues are subject to change without notice and are non-refundable. Only one free book and one monthly issue of QST per family. Memberships may not be combined with any other promotion or special offer.

I do not want my name and address made available for non-ARRL related mailings.

## Payment Information

Please charge my ARRL dues less my club's commission. I have paid the commission directly to my club.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Charge to:  Visa  MasterCard  Amex  Discover  Check Enclosed

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**DRILL PRESS** : A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**WIRE WHEEL** : Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Oh sh\*t'

**DROP SAW** : A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

**PLIERS** : Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**BELT SANDER** : An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**HACKSAW** : One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle... It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**WISE-GRIPS** : Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH** : Used almost entirely for lighting on fire various flammable objects in your shop. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race..

**TABLE SAW** : A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK** : Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**BAND SAW** : A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST** : A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER** : Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

**STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER** : A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

**PRY BAR** : A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**HOSE CUTTER** : A tool used to make hoses too short.

**HAMMER** : Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit.

**UTILITY KNIFE** : Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

**ADJUSTABLE WRENCH** : aka "Another hammer", aka "the Swedish Nut Lathe", aka "Crescent Wrench". Commonly used as a one size fits all wrench, usually results in rounding off nut heads before the use of pliers. Will randomly adjust size between bolts, resulting in busted knuckles, curse words, and multiple threats to any inanimate objects within the immediate vicinity.

**SON OF A B\*TCH TOOL** : Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'Son of a b\*tch' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.



# Thanks & 73



**Parky, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor



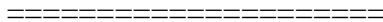
I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards that we do get. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great for 2021 and beyond. You will see some humor based cartoons and articles about the COVID-19 - Yes, I agree this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please.

**Please** - Be careful out there, wear a mask and practice social distancing. We will get through this if we all work together. **Have a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year.** I'm looking forward to seeing **ALL of you in person - sometime in 2021.**

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

**WB8LCD, AC8QG, KB8UUZ, KE8EGF, KD8IDJ, W2WCM, W8CI, N8SY, N8WCP, K8CAV, W8KNO, KA8TOA, N8EKU, KC8VWI, W8PT, K3LR, WB0RUR, NF8R, NO8D, The ARRL, SKYWARN, Marleen Devoldere, Ben Finley - AP, The Record Courier newspaper, Karen Robertson - Ohio History Connection, CQ Magazine Blog, Ham Hijinks, and the world wide web.**

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" ~

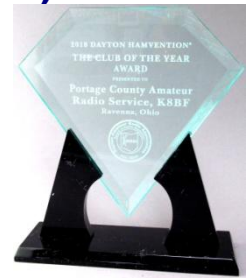


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**,  
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.


**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: **K8SRR**

Check PCARS out on the web: [www.PORTCARS.ORG](http://www.PORTCARS.ORG) -or- [www.K8BF.ORG](http://www.K8BF.ORG)



~ 2020 Officers ~	2020 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD Vice President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF 3 Year Trustee - John Myers - KD8MQ 2 Year Trustee - Terry Morris - KB8AMZ 1 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV Past President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT	ARRL Awards - DXCC	<b>W8KNO</b> Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	<b>K8CAV</b> Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	<b>W8PT</b> Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink & Web Guru	<b>K8SRR</b> Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman, 2020	<b>WA8AR</b> Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	<b>W8PT</b> Chuck Patellis
	Historian	<b>KB8SZI</b> Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	<b>N8AMY</b> Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	<b>N8AMY</b> Amy Leggiero
	Membership Chairman	<b>AC8NT</b> Jim Wilson
	Net Control Manager	<b>KA8TOA</b> Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	<b>WB8LCD</b> Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA Chairman	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson	
~ Meetings & Net ~	Public Information Officer	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. 7pm  Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Secretary	<b>N8WCP</b> Mike Szabo
	Social Media	<b>N8AMY</b> Amy Leggiero
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	<b>AC8NT</b> Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson
	Webmasters	<b>KD8MQ</b> John Myers <b>K8SRR</b> Steve Randlett



**PCARS  
Active  
Volunteer  
Examiner  
Team  
Members**

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



## THE RADIOGRAM

**PCARS Incorporated**  
Nov. 1, 2005

**First Meeting**  
Nov. 14, 2005



**ARRL Affiliation**  
April 20, 2006



**Special Service Club**  
March 22, 2010

The RADIOGRAM is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year – copyright ©2020. The RADIOGRAM is an **Award Winning** newsletter: **ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017 & 2020.** 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 may be covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com). The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel – think PCARS!**

The RADIOGRAM is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)

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



NLC



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