



The **RADIOGRAM**

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

PCARS - 2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

VOLUME 20 - NUMBER 04 - APRIL 2025



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



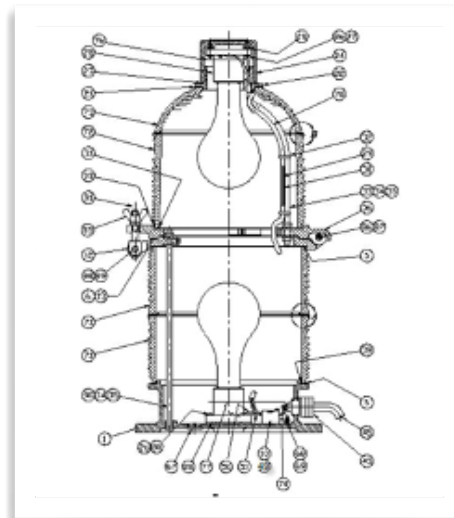
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The RADIOGRAM

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Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



Spring is here and I am anxious to get out a play radio. I have spent time checking out my portable antenna and making some tweaks to my portable rig. I am ready. Not that I minded spending some quality time with my son at FYAO in the cold. But at my age, warmer is better.

Club Work

To get ready for warmer times we needed to clean up some issues at the club site. This was work that we could complete in the warm comfort of the club.

- We fixed the door handle for the Lab door. It was sticking badly. Ordered and received free parts from Schlage for the repair.
- Replaced the Video Recorder used for security. Our old recorder would not work with current app software. The firmware was way out of date and the processor is no longer supported.
- Replaced our network digital switch. Old one had a dying fan and needed an upgrade.
- Finished the Tower Light project. See article in this newsletter.
- Finished the painting of the VHF room and installed new blinds.

Outreach

As part of our outreach program, we made a presentation at the Geauga County Public Library in Middlefield. It was a great turnout with a great age mix. The presentation was an explanation of what ham radio is and some of the things you can do to have fun. Lots of great questions and comments. As a matter of interest, I saw no mobile antennas on Amish buggies (Ha Ha). We have outside demonstrations planned at two libraries in April assuming the weather cooperates and planned fox hunts starting in May. As usual, if you are interested in helping, please let me know.

World Amateur Radio Day

We are planning to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 19th with a POTA event at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Gene W8NET is coordinating this event. This will be a lot of fun. Come help us celebrate by getting out in the park, making some contacts, and having fun with friends.

Builds

A lot of interest has been expressed for a tape measure Yagi build. I am working on building up 20 kits and a few attenuators. This build will be a little different. We will be inviting some scouts and scout leadership to the event. I hope to hold the event on April 12th. If you are interested, please let me know. I want to make sure we have enough kits for everyone.

April Speaker Topic: Ham Radio and Radio Astronomy

I have not given a talk at a PCARS meeting for quite a while. At the April meeting I will be making a presentation on how ham radio supports astronomy. I have given this talk at a few venues, and I think you will find it interesting. Hope to see you there.

Have fun; stay safe and get on the air.

Jim, AC8NT

In Memoriam: Hurricane Watch Network Remembers Its Founder

Bobby Graves, KB5HAV

It is with great sadness that I make the following announcement.

Gerald E. "Gerry" Murphy, Jerry as some knew him, passed away on February 25, 2025. He was a licensed Amateur Radio Operator with the callsign K8YUW. He is also the founder of the Hurricane Watch Net. There is a full write-up in our January 2025 edition of our monthly newsletter "The HWN Report".

Gerry, or Jerry as many knew him by, managed the Net from September 1965 until February 1988. He continued to serve HWN as Assistant Net Manager until he retired from in March 1991.

I first met Gerry, (he always addressed himself as Jerry to me and others) via email back in June of 2013, not long after I became net manager. Over the years, I learned a lot from him. During some of our discussions, I learned exactly how our organization came into being. For many years there were various stories of how HWN came into being. During the summer of 2015, I learned there was an article in the ARRL Storm Spotter Book that contained a story about HWN that was completely different. I told Jerry about this and suggested we take the time to set the record straight for everyone. Within a week, we composed and posted to our website and submitted to the ARRL the actual the creation of HWN, noting this was approved by the man himself, Jerry Murphy, K8YUW. So, the version in the ARRL Storm Spotter Book should now be correct.



From time to time, Jerry would log into our Chat Room during Net Activations to see how things were going. He once told me that he truly missed being on the air. He said a few years back, a tree in his neighbor's yard fell hitting his house and destroying his tower and beam. He never replaced it.

In 2016, Jerry sent me an old VHS tape of him preparing for Hurricane Hugo in 1998 as well as a couple of local news interviews of him. I converted that tape to digital and it is in the members section of our website. The title is called, "A man named Jerry". I plan to post this video to our YouTube channel very soon.

From time to time, during our Net Activations, Jerry would log into our Private Chat Room, this where we do a lot of coordinating behind the scenes, just to be a part of the action and cheer us on. In 2019, shortly after Hurricane Dorian, Jerry sent the members of HWN the following in an email. HWN Members:

Once again, as happens each and every year, I continue to be amazed, pleased, and gratified, that the minor inconvenience at the time which I experienced in Labor Day weekend of 1965, some 54 years ago, with Hurricane Betsy, would lead to such a marvelous and engaging enterprise as the Hurricane Watch Net!

Radio Amateurs at that time were fully engaged in satisfying PICON, which is defined on Google: PICON stands for public interest, convenience, and necessity. PICON is the standard that the FCC uses to set parameters for its control. It is a basis the FCC uses to decide how to monitor the radio stations, and what they broadcast. PICON was brought into action when the Communications Act of 1934 was passed. I am certain such thinking still guides what we do, in all of our ham radio comings and goings. It will be a very sad day if/when that no longer applies!

I often regret very much the nasty thunderstorm that took out my neighbor's big trees, and my entire antenna system. I was suddenly no longer "radio active." I was also, at that point in time, starting to have health challenges that continue even today. That is no surprise, given that I am 82 now. But I still enjoy some of my earlier activities, many of which through the blessings of the Internet, and now principally by carefully monitoring the activities of the modern Hurricane Watch Net. As I said earlier, I continue to be amazed, pleased, and gratified!

I thank each and every participant! This recent storm has been a marathon, and one for the ages. May God continue to bless you all, and give you the strength and guidance to overcome all difficulties, as you serve the Public Interest, Convenience or Necessity!

In post from the ARRL in their weekly email, "The ARRL Letter" posted March 6, 2025, they including the following.

ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, has known Murphy for decades.

"Murphy was a long-time resident of Lakewood, Ohio, and I've known him for almost as long as I've been a ham. He was always a talented guy with a strong military background that made you feel just like you had enlisted into the Marines," said Yonally. "But, in most cases he was just looking out for you and amateur radio. The Northeast Ohio SKYWARN® program was born directly to the work that he did, and as a testament to the devotion that he gave to it, still shows strongly in that the Northeastern Ohio SKYWARN program is still going on today."

Labor Weekend 2025 will mark the official 60th Anniversary of the HWN. Plans for various celebrations are in place and others in the planning stages. One such celebration will be a Special Event "HWN 60th Anniversary On-Air Celebration" scheduled for June 7th and 8th. Please watch our website, www.hwn.org, for more details. We will endeavor to make these celebrations even more meaningful.

Jerry, thank you for creating this great organization. Your vision, care, and compassion, without a doubt, have helped many before, during, and after these dangerous tropical cyclone events.

You can read his full obituary at
[http://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/37994045/gerald-e.-"gerry"-murphy](http://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/37994045/gerald-e.-)



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

AD8IR	Agnes
KC8FQV	Mark
KW8K	William
KE8EGG	Alice

KE8WZP	Mike
WB2DFC	Dave
KD8GHB	Joe

N8OQQ	Bryan
N8QE	Bob
K1ZZ	David



From Around The World...

First Earth-Venus Bounce with Dwingeloo Telescope:

<https://www.camras.nl/en/blog/2025/first-venus-bounce-with-the-dwingeloo-telescope/>

Very True: A Ham with One Voltmeter Always Knows the Battery Voltage:

<https://hamradiooutsidethebox.ca/2025/03/26/a-ham-with-one-voltmeter-always-knows-the-battery-voltage/>

Bandplan Generator - Allows a user to create a custom band plan chart and export it:

<https://bandplan.ham.guide/>

2025 Hamvention® Award Winners:

<https://hamvention.org/event-details/awards/>

Ground planes and automobiles - insights on mounting antennas on your vehicle:

<https://www.onallbands.com/ham-radio-tech-ground-planes-gains-and-automobiles-insights-on-mounting-mobile-antennas-on-your-vehicle/>

PCARS Member Writes Logging Software No One Asked For (Surprisingly NOT an April Fool's Gag):

<https://www.kc8jc.com/2025/02/22/kc8jcclogger-the-logging-software-no-one-asked-for/>

CW QSO Finder - A page that lists operators available for a CW QSO. Great for those of us who are learning and getting on the air.

<https://qsfinder.com/>





Hi everyone, well, we made it; springtime has arrived. With it comes all the fun stuff we've been waiting on, right? But, in the meantime, the snow blower is put away, and the lawn mower will be fired up soon. We have to get those things done before we can have some fun, right?

Out of four weekends in April, I plan to be activating POTA for three of them. One weekend will be spent in the Athens area, where I hope to do a return trip to Broken ARO, and Flint Run. For more information on Flint Run, check out my blog at <https://wg8x.net/2023/08/how-to-find-flint-run/>. You can bet that I'll be writing about that trip as soon as I get back.

My goal of getting the Kilo award at Wingfoot Lake SP (US-3516), and Wingfoot SWA (US-9518) is coming along. I just passed the halfway point at the state park, then it's on to the wildlife area.



On my most recent trip, I set up the link dipole that I discussed last month. It worked like a charm. I'm planning to make it my go to antenna for this year, as I'm thinking of doing more picnic table portable operations. Not that I have anything against operating from the truck, but I think that it's time to mix things up a bit. I've been thinking that this is my year to get out and start exploring the parks, rather than just their parking lots.

In March, I've done a few out-of-area activations. After the Elyria Hamfest, a stop at Camp Belden (US-9450), and Spencer Lake (US-9502) made for a very scenic ride on the way home. It was a beautiful sunny day, and folks were out enjoying the early taste of spring.

On the way to the Toledo Hamfest, I stopped at a rare WWFF-only site near Toledo. Kitty Todd State Nature Preserve, in Lucas County is owned & managed by [The Nature Conservancy](#). Unfortunately, this type of partnership keeps it from being added to the POTA program. The weather conditions at Kitty Todd were OK, with some wind and rain.

The bands weren't great, but the cast of regulars from Europe and the US managed to get into my log from this All Time New WWFF site. I have to admit that making contacts was a bit more difficult without the help from the POTA spotting network. I made about 11 contacts, and headed to my next stop at Campbell State Nature Preserve for a short activation before heading to my hotel for the evening.

I'm still messing with an unusual issue with the mobile station. It's keeping me from not only making contacts on FT8, but in extreme cases, I've needed to unplug the USB cable going to the rig altogether. With warmer weather coming up, there'll be lots of opportunity for you to get out and have fun in the parks. On April 19th, PCARS will be hosting a POTA Shindig at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. You can read more about it in this issue of the Radiogram, or at <https://www.portcars.org/wp/our-next-pota-gig-is-saturday-4-19-2025/>.



The weekend of April 19th & 20th will also be POTAs Spring Support Your Parks (SYP) Weekend. So, if you can't come out to Cuyahoga Valley, then maybe head out to another nearby park, or jump on the air from home, and do some hunting. SYP weekend are held 4 times each year (January, April, July, and October), and result in some pretty awesome on the air activity from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon.

The following weekend (April 26th) will be the Ohio NVIS Antenna Day. According to the website, "*this day presents an opportunity for enthusiasts to gather and evaluate their antenna configurations.*". This description hardly does it justice though, since I'm pretty sure a BBQ grill is an integral part of the equation for this event. You can read the most up to date information by going to <https://arri-ohio.org/nvis-day/>.

And that is it for this month. 73 everyone, and I'll see you next month. DE WG8X



Tower Light Project And A Fun Fact

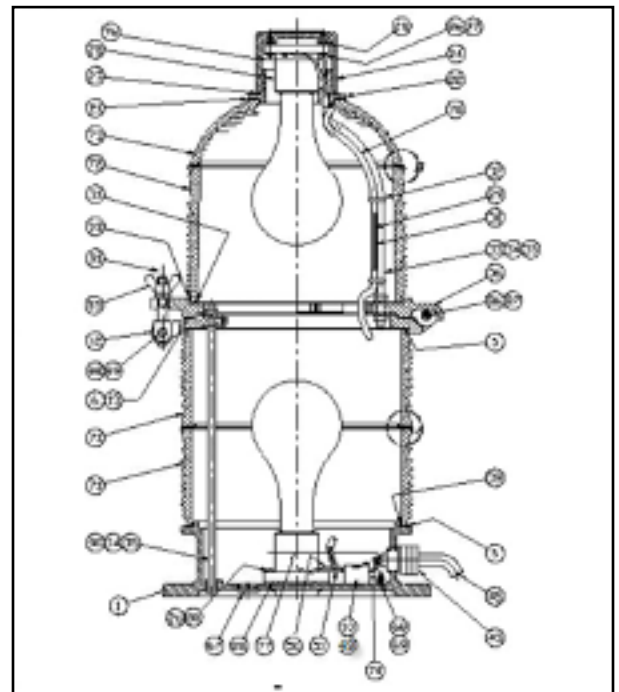
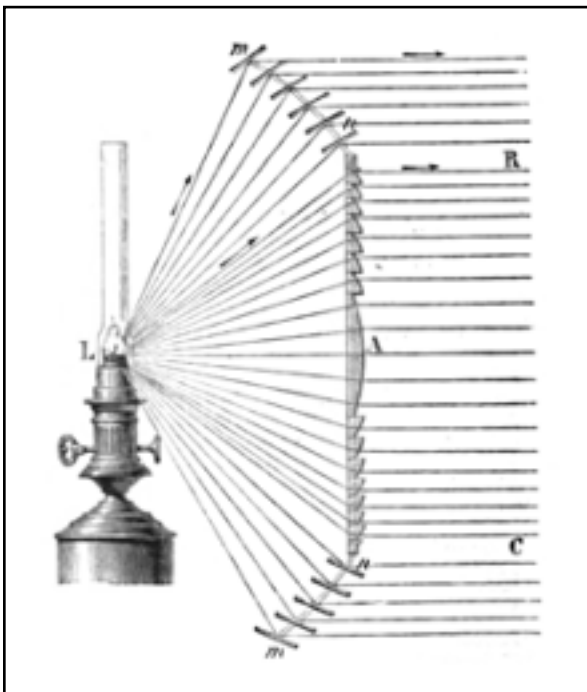
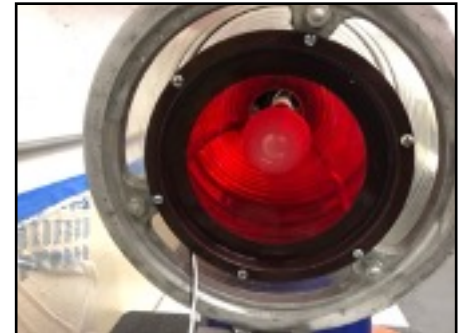
Jim, AC8NT

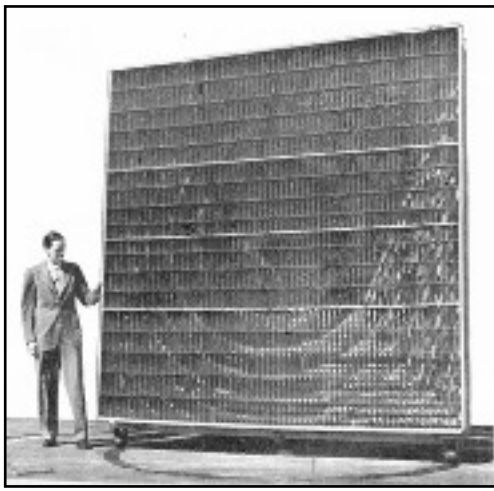


We now have a new club decoration. The beacon taken from the Jim Aylward antenna located at the club site has been converted to a decoration and placed in the VHF room. We saved the light from destruction during the removal of the tower in 2024. It took a lot of cleaning and rewiring to make it work, but the project is complete.

The tower and the light were installed in 1954 by ODOT and were used to support ODOT vehicles and emergency services for many local communities. The light was a Crouse Hinds FCB12 universal model designed to be used for aviation and marine navigation. Crouse Hinds produced this model from 1949 until 1981 when Crouse Hinds was sold to Cooper. The light had a clear outer lens and could be equipped with green, red and no filters to create the three most common colors for navigation. Ours was equipped with two red filters. Later models were made completely from red glass to make them easier to maintain. The light had two 600-700 watt 120 VAC incandescent bulbs. The two bulbs were wired independently. This allowed the current used by each bulb to be measured independently. If a bulb failed a current sensor would show no current flowing and send an alarm indicating, it needed to be replaced. The theory was only one bulb would fail at a time. I know hams like to take things apart to see how they work so I have included a diagram of the light. The diagram does not show the installed filters. A picture of the filter for the upper light is below.

The outer glass is cut to form a Fresnel lens. This lens is used to direct the light from the bulbs in the horizontal direction. The Fresnel lens uses refraction and reflection to make this possible. See the diagram for a better picture of the operation of the lens. An important feature of this lens is that it has a very short focal length and a very wide aperture. This makes a very compact lens possible. The lens of our light is in great condition. It does have a few chips probably the result of gun fire. It is the most common damage to navigation lighting according to the FCC.



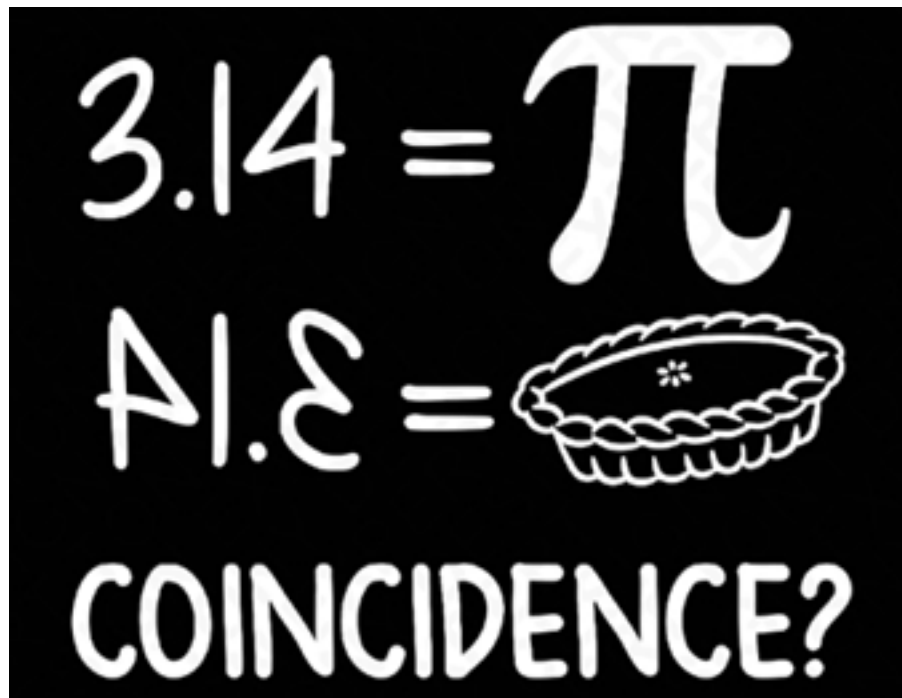


Fun Fact

We all know that light is just super high frequency electromagnetic waves like any radio wave. Did you know that Winston Kock of Bell Labs in 1946 experimented with an antenna based on the Fresnel lens? It was designed for 6 GHz and measured 10 by 10 feet. I have included a picture of that antenna. It worked but other antennas that were smaller worked equally well, so the design was abandoned. You can see the Fresnel pattern in the picture.

We are having a plaque made for the light to honor Jim Aylward. It will be installed soon. Next time you are at the club, take a look.

Jim, AC8NT



Reusing Old Gas Mask Bags

Surely I'm not the only person who enjoys thrifting at a good military surplus store, right? As I was at the Ohio Military Surplus Store in Deerfield, I saw several old Soviet GP-5 gas mask kits, complete with the mask and a (most likely) asbestos fill cartridge (Photo A) for \$20. I bought one to add to the ever growing surplus collection I have. After parading around the house for a bit, I noticed that I could put 2 HTs on the side pockets, which are normally used for anti eye fog and a decon kit.

After a little effort, I was able to fit my Radioddity GA-5WB and Wouxon UV7D perfectly with the antenna on (Photo B). You might have room if you use a bluetooth mic or have a slimmer HT. If someone was crafty, this would be a decent QRP bag. Although the GP-5 bag is thin and cheap feeling, there are several other kinds of gas mask bags you can find for less than \$15 with better quality and size. 73!

Sean, KE8RIQ



Field Day 20-Meter Station

We're making plans for Field Day 2025 which will be held June 28th & 29th. You don't need to be a seasoned contester to work field day, all licensed hams are welcome to participate in the fun!

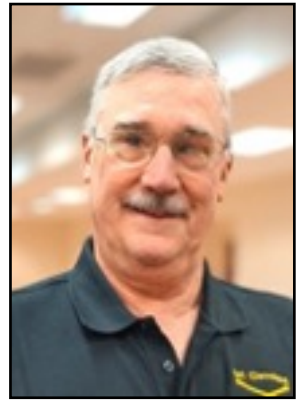
Our primary operations will be on 20M but we'll have the option to operate on 80M at night if needed. We have 12 - 2 hour slots to fill so if you're interested in being on the team, send an email to n8wcp.us@gmail.com.

Mike, N8WCP
20-Meter Station Captain



PCARS Field Day 2025 Flex Station

Rick, K8CAV
FD Flex Station Captain



The schedule for the Flex Station for Field Day is now complete, but a couple of operators double slotted. If you still want to operate at Flex let me know and I will see about working you in, please drop me a note to k8cav.coms@gmail.com.

PCARS 2-Meter Net Update

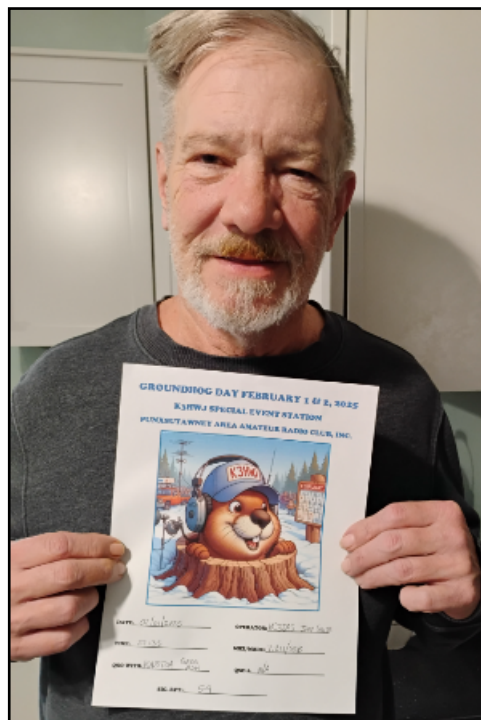
Greg, K8OA



Here are the stats for the 1st qtr of 2025 with a comparison to 2024:::

2024 13 weeks 261 check-ins for an average of 20 check-ins
2025 13 weeks 240 check-ins for an average of 16 check-ins.

Down a little but we hope to improve. The net roster has been updated on the web site and thanks to everyone for volunteering. E-mails were sent out and be kind to our new operators. I was fortunate to talk to the gopher in PA, see pic. We will be presenting a 10 consecutive certificate at the next general meeting.



YLRL Memorial Scholarships for 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Media Contact: Diane Ortiz - VicePresident@ylrl.net

February 13, 2025 — The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) has announced the Memorial Scholarship program for 2025.

The scholarship program is aimed at women Amateur Radio Operators studying radio, communications, electronics or Amateur Radio related arts and sciences.

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is an international non-profit organization of women Amateur Radio enthusiasts. It was founded in 1939 and is the longest running YL club in the world. The YLRL is sponsoring three memorial scholarships for 2025:

The Ethel Smith K4LMB Memorial Scholarship—\$2,500 award

The Mary Lou Brown NM7N Memorial Scholarship—\$2,500 award

The Martha “Marte” Wessel K0EPE Memorial Scholarship—\$1,500 award

The YLRL believes that education in the fields of radio, communications, electronics and Amateur Related arts and sciences will play an important role in shaping the world’s future. Through these Memorial Scholarships, YLRL hopes to encourage female students to learn more about Amateur Radio.

“YLRL is committed to investing in women in Amateur Radio, and we believe that every act of volunteerism through Amateur Radio — even a small one — helps turn the world into a better place,” said Vicki Zumwalt, President of YLRL. “We hope that our scholarships will not only encourage students to learn more about science, technology, engineering but also inspire them to take pride in being an Amateur Radio operator and to encourage others to do so as well.”

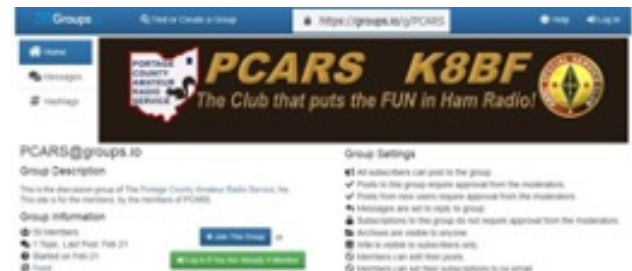
To qualify, students must be female, have an Amateur Radio License, meet the requirements listed on the YLRL.net website and apply using the online application. Applications are due by April 30, 2025. Winners will be announced in July 2025.

Application link: <https://YLRL.net/Scholarships>

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>



FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-2000 160 - 6 Meter Transceiver with FH-2 Remote Control Keypad and CT-119 Programming Cable \$800.00 for everything. Original boxes are available. Geocron GEO-4K-COMP2 new in the box \$175. ARRL 10 - 40 Meter End Fed Antenna Kit new in the box \$50. MFJ-931 Artificial Ground \$100. Will consider reasonable offers. Contact Bob Hajdak N8QE at (330) 807-5903 or rhajdak@aol.com.

[06/25]

FOR SALE: BRAND NEW custom built desktop PC for sale. Specs are as follows: Ryzen 5 5600G 3.9 GHz; 32 gb RAM; 1GB Ethernet LAN; 500gb m.2 SSD; DVI/HDMI video out; 500w power supply; Tempered glass case w/RGB RAM and fans; Linux Mint O/S. Can be upgraded to Windows 11. \$650.00 Contact Kyle: (307) 213-9837 [04/25]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS **members only benefit**. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [01/25] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2025.

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - LIMITED EDITION! - Get One Now!

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

Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE!!** The only catch is that you have to claim it from the **Treasurer**. There is a list of current members and the treasurer will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.



There are a **very limited number of extra coffee cups** for sale at \$5.00 each. **Contact the Treasurer for details: treasurer@portcars.org**

PCARS is on YouTube

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

<https://youtube.com/@portagecountyamateurradios1933?si=09-NxUpDOoqdgTzc>



POTA Special Interest Group

Hello POTA fans!

Gene, W8NET
POTA SIG Coordinator



Our next POTA SIG meeting will be on Tuesday April 8, 2025 at 7:00-8:00.

Last meeting, we discussed our next (spring) POTA shindig. We decided to go to Cuyahoga Valley NP on the weekend of World Amateur Radio Day. "WARD" is always on April 18. That falls on a Friday this year, so we will be at CVNP for "World Amateur Radio Day +1" on Saturday April 19 at 9:00am-3:00pm.

We will be Shady Knoll Picnic Area: https://maps.app.goo.gl/rTmmakeQUT5eSWyBA?g_st=com.google.maps.preview.copy

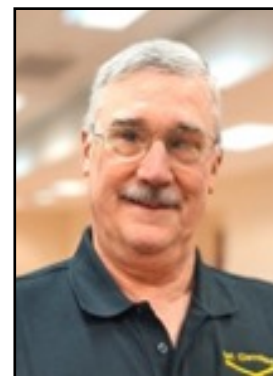
... and spill-over to Boston Run Trailhed (if needed): https://maps.app.goo.gl/MU1cJUexopRPqYZ9A?g_st=com.google.maps.preview.copy

Both are just west of Rt 8 at SR 303. This month's meeting, we will be fleshing out more details for outing.

Digital Special Interest Group

There is no Digital Special Interest Group meeting this month.

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



The next Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday May 6th. The topic for this meeting will be VarAC in broadcast mode and will be in preparation for the May PCARS Flex Net using VarAC Broadcast mode. Details will be announced in the May Radiogram, and by QST email.

HF WAS & DX Nets Special Interest Group

Greetings!

The next meeting of the HF WAS & DX Nets SIG will be Tuesday APRIL 1, 2025 at 7:00pm.

We will check in to the OMISS 40m net!

Gene, W8NET
HF WAS & DX Nets SIG Coordinator



Antenna Special Interest Group

Jim, AC8NT
Antenna SIG Coordinator



Our next Antenna SIG will be held on April 15th at 7PM. Our meeting will be held at PCARS World Headquarters. As usual we will work to answer any questions you have. If the weather cooperates, we may be setting up some antennas outside for testing. As usual bring your questions and one of your portable antennas to try.

If you can't make the trip to the club, you are welcome to attend via Zoom. The Zoom information is as follows:

Topic: SIG Zoom

Time: Feb 18, 2025, 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96686108444?pwd=hN5hDgTGWwdLBLXkLSeAfVOfSa4nGq.1>

Meeting ID: 966 8610 8444

Passcode: 915088

Hope to see you there.

5th Tuesday Could Be Anything Special Interest Group

Rick, KD8WCK
5th Tuesday SIG Coordinator



For our 5th Tuesday SIG on Tuesday April 29th 2025 we have again set up a toy repair session for Replay for Kids. We had a lot of fun when we did this back in July and I'm sure it will be a blast again as usual.

In addition to electrical and mechanical repair, this time we also have a project that requires sewing skills and a sewing machine - so if you are interested please bring your sewing machine and skillful hands! I know that at least 2 of our members mentioned interest in sewing repairs when I talked to them at a monthly meeting a while back. I believe I can provide a sewing machine too but not certain of its condition and tooling.

Replay for Kids is a non-profit organization that modifies toys so that they can be operated and enjoyed by kids with disabilities. Naturally, toys that get used by kids get busted. Replay retrieves the broken toys from their service agencies and then arranges to have volunteers like us put them back into working order so they can go out to the kids again.

The Replay for Kids team will set up at the club site 705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna, Tuesday at 4:00 or 4:30 or so, and we should be able to work from perhaps 4:30 til 9 p.m. or as late as people care to stay. Please feel free to come down as you are available; you don't need to be there at 4:30.

All tools and parts for the repairs are provided except a sewing machine is needed. You might bring a multimeter or continuity checker if you have one handy.

So, please save the date, Tuesday April 29, 2025, and join us at the club site for this fun work session. I will make QST updates confirming details as we get closer to the day.

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Greetings to all the PCARS DXers and Contesters:

We held our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 7PM at the PCARS World Famous HQ. We had 12 attending in person or by ZOOM. (A good group.)

We reviewed the contests coming up in April and of course our main focus was the Florida QSO Party that takes place April 26-27. Fortunately for the many of us who have a hard time staying seated at an operating position for some contests, this contest is split into two 10hr segments. Saturday, it runs from Noon until 10PM local time and then picks up again on Sunday, from Noon until 6 PM local time.

We will have all four operating positions active. The modes involved are CW and SSB. Sorry for you folks who want to work FT8 or some other digital mode. So the only digital mode allowed is the original..which is CW. I hope to see a few CW ops attending.

There is a contest within the main contest and that is their **2025 FQP Spelling Bee**. There will be 12 1x1 stations on the air that spell out the word.."Pirates". If all are worked, then a special certificate can be earned.

We also discussed the use of VOACAP as a means of determining what the propagation on various bands will look like. After viewing VOACAP on our big screen TV, it was decided that we would have a demo of VOACAP at a future meeting. We are also thinking of having a demo of ClubLog and the use of many of the website's various features that can be used. So watch for future announcements regarding these two special offerings.

I hope to see many PCARS members come out to help put K8BF on the air during the FLQSOP.

Until then, all I can say is 73 to all of you. Get on the air, please!!

Chuck, W8PT
DX & Contesting SIG
Coordinator



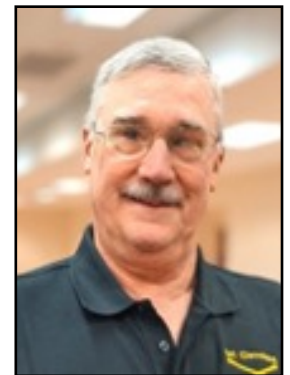
PCARS Flex Net

The next Flex Net will take place on Wednesday April 9th at 8:00 PM. This month's net will take place on 6 meters USB phone on 50.150 MHz, , +/- QRM. Technician class licensee holders have full privileges on 6 meters and I'd love to see more of our Technicians on this net.

The Flex Net is a great place to contact other PCARS members and QSL for the PCARS A to Z Award. Information about this award can be found on the PCARS web site under the "Awards" tab. The net is a lot of fun and gives valuable feedback on how well your station is operating. I hope to hear you then!

Please join us if you can!

Rick, K8CAV
Flex Net Coordinator



Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"



Greetings to all DXers:

Well, it looks as if Spring is finally going to make an appearance. The temperatures have been way up and way down...typical Springtime in NE Ohio. The bands seem to be reflecting the temps...up and down depending what you are looking for. Personally, I finally got a confirmation on an ATNO...my confirming QSL from JG8NQJ/JD1 from "Take" while he was on Minami Torishima. Also received a card from ST0HQ – "Magda" (ST2M) while in Sudan. These were two tough QSOs to confirm. For those of you still looking for various confirmations, persistence pays off. If you have to beg the ops with emails, do so. It pays to be a squeaky wheel!

April is lining up to be a busy month DX wise, so let's see what will be happening.

As always, big thanks to: The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, OPDX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.

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

Here's ClubLog's Top 10 Most wanted DXCC entities:

1. P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
3. CE0X SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4. BV9P PRATAS ISLAND
5. KH7K KURE ISLAND
6. KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND
7. 3Y/P PETER 1 ISLAND
8. FT5/X KERGUÉLEN ISLAND
9. YV0 AVES ISLAND
10. 3Y/B BOUVET ISLAND

April...

3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND. Operators David, OK6DJ, Palo, OK1CRM, and Ruda, OK2ZA, and Milan, OK7GU will be QRV as 3B9DJ until April 5. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via OQRS.

3X, GUINEA. Reminder - Jean-Philippe, F1TMY is QRV as 3X1A from Conakry until mid-2026. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL via ClubLog.

5Z, TANZANIA. Maurizio, IK2GZU will be QRV as 5H3MB until April 8. QSL to home call.

6W, SENEGAL.. Reminder - Willy, ON4AVT is QRV as 6W/ON4AVT from the town of Warang until April 10.

7P, LESOTHO. Reminder - Mark, KW4XJ and Arina, KO4PZT are QRV as 7P8AB and 7P8NB, respectively, until mid-2025. QSL via KW4XJ.

9V, SINGAPORE. Reminder - To commemorate the 60th anniversary of Singapore's independence, all members of the Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society may substitute the prefix S60 for their usual 9V1 prefix until August 9, 2025.

A9, BAHRAIN. Members of the Bahrain Radio Club are active with special call sign A9100IARU the **first five days of each month** to celebrate the IARU's 100th anniversary. QSL via EC6DX.

C2, NAURU. Reminder - Phill, FK1TS is QRV as C21TS and plans to extend his stay until September 2025. Activity is currently on 80, 40, and 30 meters using FT8. QSL via LoTW.

C5, THE GAMBIA. Reminder - Przemo, SP3PS is QRV as C5SP until mid-March. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

D4, CAPE VERDE. Special event call sign D450ICV is active until the end of the year to mark Cape Verde's independence day. QSL via IK2NCJ.

DA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. Members of DARC are QRV with special event station DA25WARD until April 27 to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day. QSL direct to DL2VFR.

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Olafur, TF1OL is QRV as FO/TF1OL from Tahiti. Activity is on the HF bands. He has been active on 17 meters using FT8 around 0830z. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

KH9, WAKE ISLAND. Reminder - Allen, KH7AL is QRV as KH7AL/KH9 while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time on 40 to 10 meters using primarily SSB and CW. His length of stay is still unknown. QSL direct to home call.

P2, PAPUA NEW GUINEA. Xu, BG5DON is QRV as P29XZ near Port Moresby while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time, mostly during the weekends, on 20, 17, 15, 10, and 6 meters using FT8 with low power. QSL to home call.

PA, NETHERLANDS. Special event station PA40MARAC is QRV until December 31 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Dutch Marine Radio Amateur Club. QSL via PA3CNI.

PJ2, CURACAO. Reminder - Thaire, W2APF will be QRV as PJ2/W2APF until April 8. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to home call.

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. Tom, AA9A will be QRV as PJ7AA from March 9 to April 5. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using CW, FT8, and FT4. QSL direct to home call.

TR, GABON. Roland, F8EN is QRV as TR8CR until at least April. Activity is on the HF bands using only CW. QSL via F6AJA.

TY, BENIN. Reminder - Gerard, F5NVF is QRV as TY5C from Godomey until April 2. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

YU, SERBIA. The Serbian radio club Novi Sad celebrates its centenary in 2025 with the call sign YU100BPQ. QSL via YU7BPQ.

ZS, SOUTH AFRICA. Special event stations ZS100SARL, ZS6SRL, and ZS9HQ are QRV during all of 2025 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the South African Relay League. QSL via LoTW.

Looking Ahead & Other Reminders...

D4, CAPE VERDE. A group of operators are QRV with special event call sign D450ICV until December 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of Cape Verde. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via LoTW.

E6, NIUE ISLAND. ZL1RS will be active as E6RS from Niue Island, IOTA OC - 040, in May 2025. He will focus on 6m activity if no propagation on 10m. QSL via ZL1RS, LOTW.

FP, MIQUELON IS. Eric, FP/KV1J will be again active from Miquelon Island, IOTA NA-032, 28 June - 14 July 2025. He will operate on 80 - 6m SSB, RTTY, CW, FT8 and FM Satellites. He will be active in Canada Day, Marconi Memorial and IARU Contests. QSL via home call, LOTW.

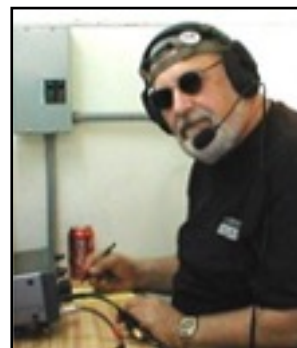
H4, SOLOMON ISLANDS. Bernhard, DL2GAC will be QRV as H44MS from Malaita, IOTA OC-047, until May 7. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

Disclaimer: As you know by now, these DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the control of those who are doing the planning. Be patient. I'm hoping that you use this info to hunt down your ATNO or simply to work some DX before your rigs become boat anchors or you become a boat anchor!

Come on.....get on the air and work some DX!! Wobble the ethers. 73 for now....*Chuck W8PT aka Charlie the Tuner*

Charlie the Tuner's February 2025 Contest Update

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"



Greetings to My Fellow PCARS Contesters and anyone else interested in Contesting:
K8BF Scheduled Contests for 2025

Freeze Your Acorns Off	Feb 15	Completed
Idaho and Wisconsin QSOPs	Mar 8-9	Completed
Florida QSOP	Apr 26-27	
7th Call Area QSOP	May 3-4	
Indiana QSOP	May 3-4	
Delaware QSOP	May 3-4	
New England QSOP	May 3-4	
Field Day	June 28-29	
NA QSOP RTTY	July 19-20	
Ohio QSOP & BBQ	Aug 23-24	
OSPOTA	Sep 6	
Washington Salmon Run	Sep 20-21	
California QSOP	Oct 4-5	

Other contests decided upon by the contest committee, might be run from Members' QTHs using the club call with our License Trustee's prior permission. Of course, they will also have to adhere to their specific station license requirements.

So for April we have the following: Many State QSO Parties scheduled for this month.

Louisiana QSOP	Apr 5-6
New Mexico QSOP	Apr 12-13
Georgia QSOP	Apr 12-13
Mich QSOP	Apr 19-20
Ontario QSOP	Apr 19-20
Quebec QSOP	Apr 20
Florida QSOP	Apr 26-27

Other contests include:	QRP ARCI Spring QSOP	Apr 12
	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 13

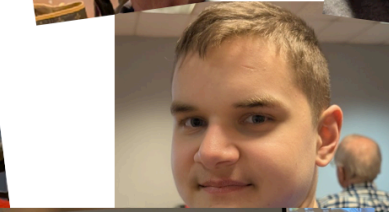
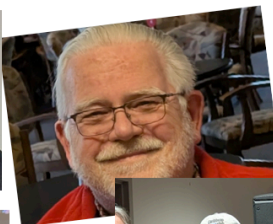
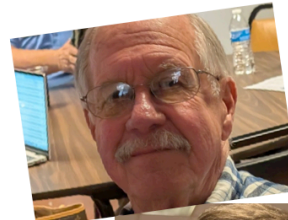
We have participated in the Florida QSOP for several years now and have done well. And I know there are members who participate from their own QTH's in the contest.

Come on out to the club site and help us put K8BF on the air. As always, we really could use a few CW ops.

So that's it for this month. 73 for now, Charlie the Contest Tuner.



PCARS March Meeting



Mark Your Calendar!

PCARS February 2025 Schedule of Events

April 5th	VE Test Session at the Club Site
April 7th	PCARS Board Meeting
April 14th	PCARS Monthly Meeting - 7 PM
April 19th	PCARS Celebration of World Amateur Radio Day
April 24th	Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

1st Tuesday Odd Months	Digital Special Interest Group - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
1st Tuesday Even Months	HF WAS & DX Nets Special Interest Group - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
2nd Tuesday	Portable Ops Special Interest Group - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
3rd Tuesday	Antenna Special Interest Group - Moderator: Jim, AC8NT
4th Tuesday	DX & Contest Special Interest Group - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
5th Tuesday	Could Be Anything Special Interest Group - Moderator: Rick, KD8WCK

Hamfest Calendar

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

04/27/2025 - Athens Hamfest - Location: Athens, OH - <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/athens-hamfest-12>



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 Red, Black, and Blue. Cost for a patch is \$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. Reach out to the club treasurer for details.



PCARS T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Jackets, Hats, etc. can be obtained from:
Villager Business Solutions - attn. Michelle Zivoder - michelle@villagerbusiness.com - 330-472-7304.

PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted!

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 over 80 PCARS member's ham plates now, **but we can use more**. Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS IO Group site. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of**



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.

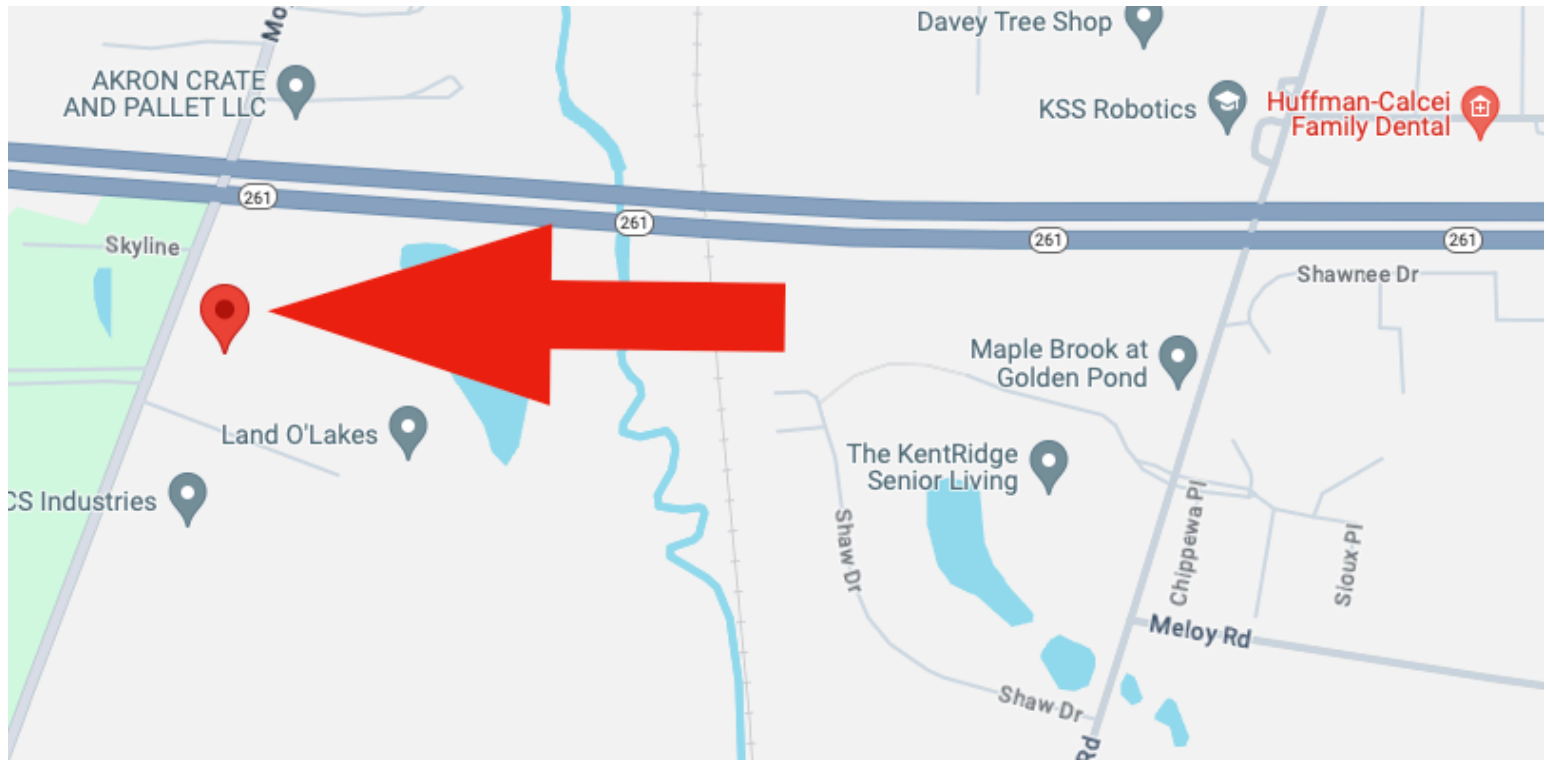
All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate applications are available at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

PCARS Meetings



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

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



The American Legion Post 496 is located on the southeast corner of State Route 261 and Mogadore Rd. The driveway is on the south side of the building and as you enter you will pass through a parking lot on the south side of the building. Please do not park in this lot but instead continue on to the parking lot on the east side of the building which is 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 menu consists of your basic burger / dog / chicken sandwiches, wings, fries, onion rings, and salads. There is also an appetizer selection as well. Adult beverages are available and costs are in line with what you would expect at most bar-restaurant facilities.

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

PCARS VE Testing Information & News



Future Dates:

- April 5th
- June 7th
- August 2nd
- October 4th
- December 6th

Check the website for the latest information

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to seeing you at the PCARS club site in Ravenna so you can take your license test or an upgrade to your existing license. Face masks are not State/County mandated at this time, but you are always welcome to wear one.

PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for **9:45 am** Registration, **10:00 am** Testing starts, on the first Saturday of every even numbered month at the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Quick Facts

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

Okay - Now **All** the Details:

- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or other communicable germs, or someone that has been infected - please, *do not* come to the club site. *Use of masks is optional.*
- No food or snacks allowed.
- Ensure you have the following:
 - A picture ID such as a valid Driver's License, State ID, School ID, or US Passport.
- If you are under 16 years of age, a parent or guardian must be able to vouch for you and you need a copy of your birth certificate (you do not have to give us a copy, we just have to see and verify).
- If you are upgrading to General or Extra - You **MUST** bring your original valid amateur radio license **and a copy** of your valid amateur radio license to turn in with your Form 605.
- Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.
- NO cell Phones allowed.

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

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

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

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

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate. The candidate will have **10 calendar days**, from the date of the application file number being issued, to pay. After the fee is paid, and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days.

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

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

Printing Your FCC License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

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

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

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

J.C., KC8JC
PCARS Newsletter Editor



I have a running gag with my younger brother. Since I drive a Jeep Wrangler I have total control over the weather. If I take the top off of it and leave it unattended, it WILL rain. And if I take the top off before Memorial Day, it WILL snow. I have reproduced these results in a laboratory setting. So when the weather gets sunny in March, I will start texting him things like, "Weather really is nice this week!" Inevitably I get, "Yes it is. Don't even think about it" in return. Maybe, as we move into April, we'll see the weather turn into what we want rather than what we usually get this time of year. All of us who are POTA devotees are anxiously awaiting those longer days and warmer temperatures. Here's hoping!

I want to thank all of our contributors to this month's issue. New faces and bylines make for a more interesting newsletter.

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

**AC8NT, K8CAV, K8ZT, KA8TOA, KB5HAV, KB8UUZ, KD8CGH, KE8RIQ,
N8WCP, W8NET, W8PT, WG8X, and the World Wide Web.**

Send all of your inputs to me at KC8JC@portcars.org in the form of plain text and full-size photos. We really want to hear what you're up to and what you've come across in the hobby that has your attention.

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



NOT YET! But soon...

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 PL 118.8 in Sugar Bush Knolls. - EchoLink Node: K8BF-L

Check PCARS out on the web: www.PORTCARS.org

2025 PCARS Officers

President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT
Vice President - Russ Williams - NR8W
Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF
1 Year Trustee - Mike Ryan - KB8TUY
2 Year Trustee - Gene Marsh - W8NET
3 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ
Past President - Mike Gonzalez - KP4VZ

2025 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards DXCC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
Club Site Management	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
Field Day Chairman	WA8AR	Tony Romito
FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
K8BF QSL Manager	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
Membership Chairman	-	-
Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
Newsletter Editor	KC8JC	J.C. Wilson
OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
PCARS Photographer	-	-
Public Information Officer	-	-
Secretary	-	-
Social Media	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
Tech, Gen, & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Webmaster	KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez
POTA Coordinator	KE8ARB	Brandon Mercer



Active
PCARS
Volunteer
Examiner
Team
Members

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

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

THE RADIOGRAM

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The RADIOGRAM is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KC8JC@portcars.org

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