



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

March 2024 - Volume 19 Number 03



Freeze Your Acorns Off



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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Freeze Your Acorns Off



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Joe Carron- K8HTB - SK

Joe, K8HTB
PCARS Member 367



Joe was active on the air and could be seen at the club meetings. Always friendly and loved to talk about ham radio. The last project that was done at his QTH was a bit of tower work. PCARS members Mike-KB8TUY, Greg-KA8TOA, Tim-W8GPN, Bob-N8QE and Paul-KE8EGF pitched in to help Joe get it back on the air again.



From the Akron Beacon Journal

Joseph Hillman Carron, 80, died January 31, 2024. A native of Akron and always having lived within a 15-mile radius of where he was born, Joe experienced a full life, ultimately settling in 1989 as a resident of Twin Lakes. As an enthusiastic amateur radio operator (a "ham" since age 12, (K8HTB - "The Happy Teddy Bear"), he achieved the FCC's highest licensed level and had a penchant for all things mechanical and technical. Joe was also a member of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service. After marriage and two young boys at home, as well as a short stint with the railroad, he settled into a successful 16-year career as a first responder, serving as an Akron Police Officer. While in training, he was selected for a personality feature in the Akron Beacon Journal as one of the new officer cadets in the academy. It was with ease for him to qualify through the police academy weapons training since he was a state championship marksman while on the rifle team at Garfield High School. Also, while with the department, Joe testified as an expert witness for the successful felony prosecution of the first computerized racketeering/gambling case in the nation, (again featured in the Akron Beacon Journal), and was an essential member of a project team that implemented a computerized criminal search engine for the Akron Police Department that has been used for decades. During his tenure on the APD, Joe raced motorcycles as a hobby, attained multiple FAA pilot ratings, and founded Carron's Flying Service for charter, instruction, and airplane rides at the Kent State Airport. He was an immensely passionate and skilled aviator - never compromising safety in the thousands of hours



he logged. Finally leaving the department with his newly developed skill set in the 1980s, Joe became a self-made software and hardware engineer for a variety of companies, founded his own consulting firm, (CFS & Associates), and lastly, retired from a successful engineering tenure with The Timken Company in Canton. More than interests, hobbies, and vocations, Joe enjoyed his family and friends, and over the years with a faith in Christ, (John 3:16), regularly attended The Chapel in Akron as well as Faith Baptist Church in Streetsboro. He was loved and will be truly missed by us all. Preceded in death by his parents, James and Josephine Caughron; daughter, Teresa Caughron, and sister, Mary-Jo Bohnert. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Marie Carron; sons, James (Deborah), and Tod Carron; stepsons, Michael (Cathalynn), and Stephen (Dawn) Thompson; grandchildren, Sophia and Olivia Carron, Noah and Gena Thompson, Rose, Magdalene, James, and Sarah Carron; sisters, Carol and Marlene Caughron; brother-in-law, Henry Bohnert; nephew, Adam Bohnert, and niece, Katie (Jake) Neptune. Pastor Don Workman will conducted a service, 1 PM, on Monday, February 5, 2024, at Redmon Funeral Home 3633 Darrow Road, Stow 44224. Burial was at Silver Springs Cemetery in Stow.



From the President



Mike, KP4VZ
PCARS President



Events

The club's **19th Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off (FYAO)** contest is happening on March 2nd! It's a super fun event that tests our radio operating skills and, for some, winter survivalist skills. Although the weather forecast predicts temperatures in the mid 40s, we all know how unpredictable Ohio weather can be. It could change dramatically within a few hours. And don't worry, there's always plenty of food to go around!

In addition to the March FYAO event, we are also organizing 3-5 "ParkPeditions". Stay updated with all the latest information by visiting our webpage at <https://www.portcars.org/wp/club-info/club-activities/pota-field-trips/>.

The annual Field Day event, organized by PCARS, is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, June 22nd and 23rd. Tony, WA8AR, and his team have begun preparations for this year's Field Day, ensuring it will be just as successful as in previous years.

We are constantly looking forward to receiving your suggestions. If there is a particular amateur radio topic or project that you would like us to discuss at our monthly meeting, or if you are aware of someone who could provide valuable insights, please inform us.

Awards & Recognitions



On Feb 3 at our Clubhouse, Jim – AC8NT was recognized for his exceptional performance as the vice president for 2023 and his role as a mentor to PCARS members. Jim consistently makes time from his busy schedule to assist and guide both new and experienced members of our club. We express our gratitude to Jim for his unwavering dedication and commitment to PCARS. In recognition of his efforts, he was honored with the ARRL Mentor award.

During our February club gathering, we paused to recognize the exceptional commitment of Parky – KB8UUZ, who served as the editor of our club's newsletter, "The Radiogram," since its establishment in February 2006 until December 2023, when J.C. Wilson took over the position. Under Parky's leadership as editor, the newsletter achieved numerous recognitions from the ARRL at both Section and Division levels. For a closer look at the awards, check out <https://www.portcars.org/wp/pcars-awards-recognition/#tab-182843>



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From the Vice President



Ken, WA8LRW
PCARS Vice President



February Activity Report

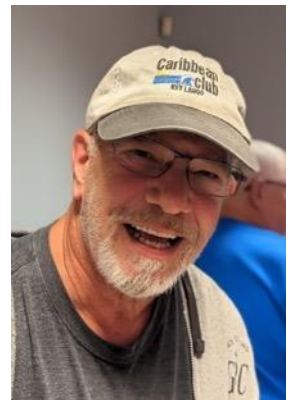
The February Speaker was Rick K8CAV on the subject of emergency communications for the upcoming eclipse. The Speakers for March and April will be the SIG moderators, talking about each of the SIGs.

Net night at the club site was lightly populated but we still had fun. I am hoping warmer weather and more daylight will bring more participation.

The bands have been great with many rare DX stations available on most bands and modes. Enjoy the good DX while it lasts.

From the Treasurer

Greg, KA8TOA
PCARS Treasurer



Club finances are in great shape. I would like to remind everyone about the RCA youth donations, please donate to this worthy cause for Carol Perry. If you are writing a check, please make it out to them and I will forward them to them with the clubs donation. If you are going to pay in cash at a meeting please let me know. We will be collecting at the general meetings in March and April. The donations are for the youth forum at Dayton Hamvention in May, it is a worthy cause.

Nets are doing well and i hope the echo link issues will be addressed soon. We picked up some new members for PCARS and they were voted on at the last meeting. The grant money from the ARRL has been spent and the last item purchased was a spectrum analyzer for club members use. A new radio was purchased for the club site and the old radio will be sold to cover some of the cost. Taxes have been filed for the state and the Feds. For now have fun, be safe and play radio, a lot of good DX out there.



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Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KB3GXB	Jennifer		KE8KCJ	Montie		N5VLZ	Daryl
K8QF	Russ		WB8LCD	Tom		KE8UBC	Blair
N8FUM	Dan		W8CYN	James		W8KNO	Joe



Schedule of Events



- March 2nd - Freeze Your Acorns Off at Fred Fuller Park – 10 am – 4 pm
- March 4th - PCARS Board Meeting at PCARS Club Site – 7 pm
- March 11th - PCARS meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm

Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

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

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

ARRL DX CW Contest

Gary, WB2RPW



Hello fellow PCARS member. One of the PCARS members remote from New Jersey here.

I operated the ARRL DX CW Contest on the weekend of February 17th & 18. I operated 26 out of a possible 48 hours so I had 26 hours 'In the chair'.

I had 623 Q's with 406 multipliers. My total score was 758,814 points I operated on all bands 10 through 160 meters. I think I would have had a better score if I hadn't spent 3 hours on 20-meters calling CQ I think it would have been more fruitful if I had spent those 3 hours on 15-meters. I am also learning the importance of working the multipliers as that seems to be what produces better results in terms of a higher score. In the end, I think I did well and enjoyed myself.

Gary/WB2RPW

Tech Tips – Tape Measure Yagi – Part 1

Jim, AC8NT



Over the past few years, a lot of ham radio operators, Scouts and STEM groups have built the famous (or infamous), Tape Measure Yagi for fox hunting and experimentation. I have help build over a hundred of these fun antennas. Significant improvement in the build process and the cost makes these builds more fun to complete. This article will cover some of the improvements in design, cost savings, and processes.

Design Improvements

On the right is a picture of the new model antenna. Here are some of the changes over the “old” design.



- Hose Clamp Issue
 - Old - The original design used hose clamps to hold the elements to the PVC boom. These were one of the most expensive elements of project cost. They were also a safety issue. The tails of these clamps were very sharp and often resulted in cuts and clothing tears.
 - New - The current method is to use machine screws to secure the middle of the reflector and director elements and the ends of the driven elements to the boom. Then cable ties are used to prevent the elements from rotating. Carefully trimming the cable ties after installation has eliminated all the sharp edges. Costs was significantly reduced using this method.
- Coax Cable Issue
 - Old - Most of the time RG-8X cables were used for feedlines in the original design. Male to male PL-259 cables were purchased and cut in half providing feed lines for two antennas. These cables were the largest cost item of the build. They also required adapters to connect to the handheld. RG-8X is relatively stiff and frequently caused damage to the handheld’s antenna connector when in use.
 - New – We now use premade RG-174 SMA to SMA 15’ cables purchased from amazon. These cables are great and were a bargain. The cables come with adapters allowing for mating the cable to male or female SMA antenna connectors. The cost of the cable is \$10 and results in feedlines for two antennas. This was a major cost savings. No expensive PL-259 or BNC adapters required (that were often lost), and less damage due to poor handling. The use of this cable also allowed it to be run down through the boom creating a more rugged and comfortable design.



Build Improvements

I have always created kits for these builds containing all the parts necessary for an antenna. Included were precut and drilled PVC parts, precut and drilled tape measurement elements with protective tips on the ends of the director and reflector elements, and cables that had been stripped and tinned. Builders needed to glue together the PVC components, attach the elements, bend the hairpin match element, and assemble the feed point. After the antenna was finished, we would test the SWR make any driven element cuts required and install protection on the ends of the driven elements. This processes often requires build times less than one hour. We have also made some improvements to the build process.

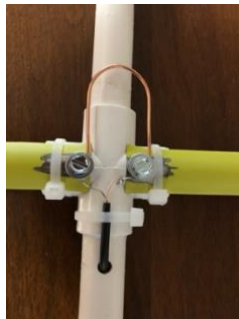
- We have created a spacing jig for the assembly of the PVC components. Builders rough assemble the boom, move to the spacing station, and adjust distances between fittings so the finished boom fits on the jig. Guarantees correct spacing and makes sure all the elements will be horizontal.
- While at the spacing station builders take a precut piece of 14-gauge solid copper wire and use the hairpin



bending part of the station to make the match. This station ensures the match will meet design requirements.



- Wire fishing lines are provided for pulling the feedline cable through the boom to the feed point.
- Shown below is the assembled feed point.



- We have a manned gluing station where we either use PVC glue or epoxy to glue the PVC elements. Using PVC glue just on the outside mating surfaces provides all the gluing necessary. We are not pumping water at pressure.
- Two methods of protecting the ends of the elements have been used. One is placing a piece of large heat shrink over the end of the element and shrinking it. The second and most cost effective is to use “Tool Dip”. This method provides protection at less cost but potentially more mess. Also, “Tool Dip” does not last long after opening. Personally, I like “Tool Dip” because it protects and doesn’t slide off with use.

So, what do these changes mean to a Yagi Build. First, the cost is reduced from \$25 for the old design to less than \$17 for the new design. Second, build times have been reduced by at least 30 minutes. I have a kit, shown below, containing the build jig, component length gauges and a sample of the finished product if you would like to use it for your build. I can also provide more information on the creation of the parts kits. Just let me know at AC8NT@j3solutions.com.



Next month I will cover enhancements that can be made to make the antenna a better direction-finding tool and how to setup for great fox hunt including radio setup and equipment preparation.

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.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service



K8BF



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE !!** The only catch is you have to claim it from the **Treasurer - Greg, KA8TOA.** Greg has a list of current members and will check off your

name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.



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

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

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.

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.

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!!

20-Meters Field Day

Field Day is just around the corner! If you're interested in operating the 20M station this year, email me at n8wpc.us@gmail.com. You don't need to be a seasoned contester to work field day and all licensed hams are welcome to participate!

We're going to change things up a bit this year. If 20M dies out at night, we'll have 80M and 160M available to keep those contacts rolling!

Mike, N8WCP
20-Meter Station Captain



Hamfest Calendar



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

=====
03/10/2024 - Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Hamfest - Location: Lorain County Community College - 1005 N. Abbe Rd. - Elyria, OH 44035 - Website: <http://winterhamfest@noars.net> - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - Talk-In: 146.70 (110.9) - Public Contact: Carl , W8KRF - 3821 West 152nd Street Cleveland, OH 44111 - Phone: 216-256-9624 - Email: w8krf@w8krf.net

=====
03/17/2024 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair - Location: Owens Community College - 30335 Oregon Road - Perrysburg, OH 43551 - Website: <http://www.w8hhf.org> - Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association - Talk-In: 147.27/87 103.5 - Public Contact: Brian Harrington , WD8MXR - 4463 Holly Hill Drive Toledo, OH 43614 - Phone: 419-385-5624 - Email: wd8mxr@gmail.com

=====
04/13/2024 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest - Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH - Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. - Details: <http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest>

=====
04/28/2024 - Athens Hamfest - Location: Athens, OH - Sponsor: Athens Country Amateur Radio Association - Website: <https://www.ac-ara.org/>

=====
05/05/2024 - Lucas County ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet - Location: Toledo, OH - Sponsor: Lucas County ARES - Website: <http://lucasares.org>

=====
05/11/2024 - 05/16/2024 - RV Radio Network - Location: Millersburg, OH - Type ARRL Hamfest - Sponsor: RV Radio Network - Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rv-radio-network-2>

=====
05/16/2024 - Four Days In May - Location: Holiday Inn - 2800 Presidential Drive - Fairborn, OH 45324 Website: <http://qrparci.org/fdim> - Sponsor: QRP Amateur Radio Club International - Public Contact: David Cripe , NM0S - 118 Hilltop Dr. NE Mount Vernon, IA 52314 - Phone: 319-651-5879 - Email: nm0s@nm0s.com

=====
05-17/18/19-2024 Dayton Hamvention 2024 - Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH - website: <https://hamvention.org/>

=====
08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest - Location: Trumbull County - Fairgrounds - 899 Everett Hull Rd. - Cortland, OH 44410 - website: <https://www.w8vtd.com/> - Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association - Talk-In: 146.970 - (100hz normally off) - Public Contact: Andrew Juchnowski , AB8MO - PO Box 809 Warren, OH 44482 - Phone: (234) 238-2312 - Email: hamfest@w8vtd.com





John, WG8X



Why I POTA

Well, I'm still managing to get out to the parks in Ohio, but on a more relaxed scale. Last weekend, it was Coshocton County, where I did some sightseeing along with some POTA activating. As it turned out, both POTA spots in the county had been added recently to the WWFF list. I know, most POTA folks haven't heard of WWFF. We won't go into the reasons why.

WWFF is an older program than POTA, but much less active. They added quite a few more references to their list last March. I'm currently playing catch-up, submitting logs to WWFF for these new locations. You can learn more about WWFF at <https://wwffkff.wordpress.com/>.

I was thinking the other night about all the road trips, and why I do it. Some of the allure I think comes from

Problem-solving: Figuring out how to make something work, using only what you are able source on the fly. One example was a trip to Pennsylvania years ago. We had forgotten to bring a Serial cable for between the rig & the computer. We couldn't find one, so I cut up a null modem cable that we did have and re-assembled it as a straight through serial cable. It still works to this day, but technology has moved on, and there's not much use for a 9-pin serial cable anymore.

Goalsetting: Can I make more contacts this trip than I did last trip? Can I do improve my CW skills? Can I activate using 5W output? 1W output? In the end, the only competition is against yourself.

Technical investigation: How well does that new Faraday cloth work? Can I design an antenna, or station setup that I've not tried before? How about FT8? Can I learn how to make that work for me?

Emergency preparedness: Each activation, each afternoon in front of the rig helps to build the skills that could be useful someday should we be called upon to assist in the aftermath of some emergency.

Relaxation: What can I say? This one speaks for itself. There's nothing more relaxing than hanging out at camp banging out contacts on CW.

And that's about it for this month. Make sure to head out there and enjoy the beautiful weather to come. Maybe I'll see you at FYAO? 73 DE WG8X



Minnesota and BC QSO Parties

Mike, KP4VZ



State QSO Party



PCARS, operating under the club callsign K8BF, took part in its first QSO Party contest of the year 2024. On Saturday, February 3rd, K8BF participated in two state QSO parties: Minnesota and British Columbia. We would like to express our gratitude to all the operators who joined us in the Minnesota and British Columbia QSO Parties. Your support played a crucial role in making this event a success. A big shoutout to Chuck (W8PT) for flawlessly coordinating the contest, handling logging software installation, and maintaining excellent communication with our committed station operators. This is just the start of an incredible year of ham radio contest participation by our Club PCARS. Thank you, Chuck!



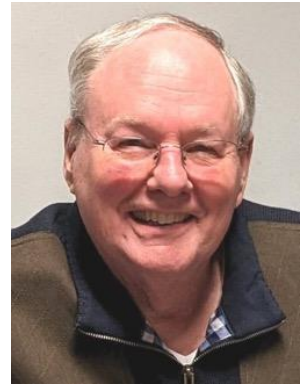
State	DATE & UTC		DATE & LOCAL	
Minnesota	Feb 3 / 1400	Feb 3 / 2400	Feb 3 / 0900	Feb 3 / 1900
British Columbia	Feb 3 / 1600	Feb 4 / 2400	Feb 3 / 1100	Feb 4 / 1900
Idaho	Mar 9 / 1900	Mar 10 / 1900	Mar 9 / 1400	Mar 10 / 1500
Wisconsin	Mar 10 / 1800	Mar 11 / 0100	Mar 10 / 1400	Mar 10 / 2100
Florida	Apr 27 / 1600	Apr 28 / 2159	Apr 27 / 1200	Apr 28 / 1759
7th Area	May 4 / 1300	May 5 / 0700	May 4 / 0900	May 5 / 0300
Field Day	Jun 22 / 1800	Jun 23 / 2059	Jun 22 / 1400	Jun 23 / 1659
North America RTTY	Jul 20 / 1800	Jul 21 / 0600	Jul 20 / 1400	Jul 21 / 0200
Ohio BBQSO	Aug 24 / 1600	Aug 25 / 0400	Aug 24 / 1200	Aug 25 / 0000
OSPOTA	Sep 14 / 1400	Sep 14 / 2200	Sep 14 / 1000	Sep 14 / 1800
TEXAS	Sep 21 / 1400	Sep 22 / 2000	Sep 21 / 1000	Sep 22 / 1600
California	Oct 5 / 1600	Oct 6 / 2159	Oct 5 / 1200	Oct 6 / 1759

2024 State QSO Party events

PCARS is excited to announce our participation in the upcoming 2024 State QSO Party events. We will be representing our club with the callsign K8BF. Proposed dates and contests (subject to change) are as follows: To access the most current information, please visit our contest webpage at <https://www.portcars.org/wp/state-qso-party/>.

Mt. Union Ham Radio Club

Jim, AC8NT



We had a couple of meetings with students interested in ham radio at Mt. Union. The first was an open house with representatives from the Alliance Club including Alliance Club President John, WG8X and PCARS talking about having fun with amateur radio. Much thanks go out to the Alliance club for the donation several copies of both the Tech and General ARRL manuals.



The second meeting of the club was held in the lab used for the equipment. Doug KE8OWD represented the Alliance Club at that meeting. On display were two versions of the famous Tape Measure Yagi with discussions on how they work and how they are constructed. Faculty advisor Dr. Glauco Fontgalland KE8YFK suggested the club take on the project of building one of the antennas as a great learning experience. Kits of parts and the jigs for construction will be donated for the build. They will learn a lot and hopefully have some fun at the same time.

Doug tried to make some contacts using his equipment, but no joy. He was having trouble with his tuner. In the next two weeks we will be working on having some positive on the air experiences using the club station's equipment. We will also be working with club members to help them get their licenses. Also want to mention that Glauco's son and club member also named Glauco recently passed his General and is waiting on his call.

Big thanks to the Alliance Club for their ongoing support.

Nets Of Note: The Pun-In-Life Net

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: We end this week's report by putting the spotlight on a new net as part of our occasional series "Nets of Note." Newline visits this week with a startup net for hams who take radio seriously enough to know there's also a time for laughter. As Ralph Squillace, KK6ITB, tells us, this is no joke - or....is it?

RALPH: The multi-mode digital network known as the QuadNet Array doesn't just unite fans of D-STAR, DMR and C4FM Fusion. Starting next month, a new mode will be added to the mix once a week: Pun Mode. Pun Mode is neither digital nor analogue, and it's not the exclusive practice of ham radio operators. Hams who have a reputation for groan-inducing wordplay now have a refuge in which to practice their craft.

The Pun in Life Net is starting up on the QuadNet array beginning on Saturday the 2nd of March at 4 p.m. Eastern Time, 1 p.m. Pacific Time. The net control and punster-in-chief is Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, a past participant in the World Championship Pun-Off held every May at the O. Henry Museum in Austin Texas.

Humor must conform to on-the-air standards of decency -- and because this is a digital mode, the only QRM you are likely to hear are the loud groans from everyone else.

Visit the website [openquad dot net \(openquad.net\)](http://openquad.net) to check it out before you check in. Daryl is hoping for a big enough crowd to make this a pun-in-a-million experience.

This is Ralph Squillace, KK6ITB. - (DARYL STOUT, N5VLZ)

On January 30, 2024, PCARS collaborated with RePlay for Kids to organize a toy fixit workshop. During this event, our club members worked on modifying toys to make them accessible for children with physical or developmental disabilities. By adding an external switch, these toys can now be operated easily. It was a great opportunity for our members to showcase their soldering skills while enjoying a fun and friendly atmosphere. Special thanks to Rick DeMattia, KD8WCK, for coordinating this fantastic event.



Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act

FROM ARRL:

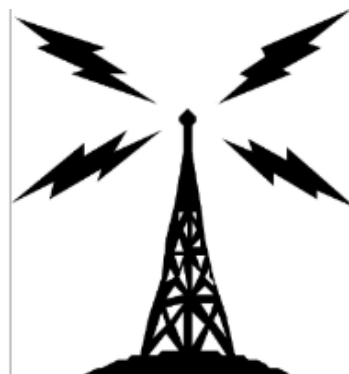
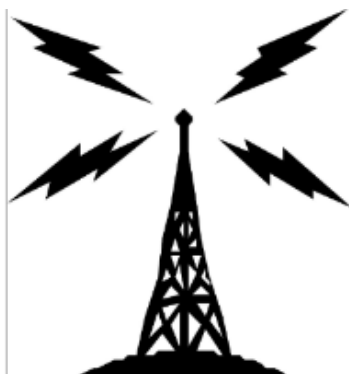
On January 30, 2024, US Senators Roger Wicker (MS) and Richard Blumenthal (CT) introduced S.3690, the Senate companion bill to H.R.4006, introduced last June. Both bills reflect the Congressional campaign efforts by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® to eliminate homeowner association land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator to install and operate amateur station antennas on residential properties they own.

Amateur Radio Operators repeatedly are relied upon to provide essential communications when disaster strikes, but their ability to do so is being impaired by the exponential growth of residential private land use restrictions that hinder their ability to establish stations in their homes with which to train and provide emergency communications when called upon.

In announcing the introduction of S.3690, Senator Wicker said: “Because communication during natural disasters is often hindered, we should be making every attempt to give folks more options. Reliable access can make the difference between life and death in an emergency. Our legislation removes roadblocks for amateur radio operators looking to help their friends, families, and neighbors.”

In a similar announcement, Senator Blumenthal stated: “Our measure will help clarify the rules so ham radio enthusiasts can successfully continue their communications. In the face of emergency or crisis, they help provide vital, life-saving information that allow listeners to properly and safely respond, but prohibitive home association rules and confusing approval processes for installing antennas have been an unnecessary impediment. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act resolves these bottlenecks and ensures that radio operators can function successfully.”

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Director John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, Chair of the ARRL’s Government Affairs Committee, both extended on behalf of ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Senator Wicker and Senator Blumenthal in their continuing efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.



2024 Hamcation Youth Forum And Awards

Hamvention Youth Forum

On February 10, 2024 Carole Perry WB2MGP moderated the Hamcation Youth Forum, showcasing three amazing young YL presenters. Brianna Wall KO4NLR spoke excitedly about “4-H Clubs and Ham Radio for Kids.” She is 13 years old and is the president of the Fauquier 4-H ARC in Catlett, Virginia.

Elise Campbell KE8TYU and her sister Katie Campbell KE8LQR spoke eloquently about their school amateur radio club K8LPS. Their topic was “How I got Introduced and Licensed in Ham Radio.” Elise is 11 years old and will be a presenter along with sister Katie at my Youth Forum at Hamvention in May. They are both terrific advocates for having a ham radio station in their school.

Hamvention Awards Banquet

The 2024 Hamcation’s Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award recipient is Lew Malchick N2RQ. This award is bestowed upon individuals who have made an outstanding contribution educating and advancing youth in Amateur Radio. It was first awarded at Hamcation 2019 to its namesake, Carole Perry WB2MGP, in honor of her work as an educator teaching students about Ham Radio.

Lew is extra class licensed and is the cofounder of the School Club Roundup. Lew is an advisor to W2CXN at Brooklyn Tech High School and he is also the trustee for the Stuyvesant High School radio club W2CLS. He has spent his lifetime educating children and adults about Amateur Radio.



Yaesu FT-991 (not the 991A) transceiver. Original owner, includes power cord with Anderson power poles, MH-31A8J microphone, manual, original factory box, and RT Systems ADMS-991-USB programming software and cable. WILL NOT SHIP CASH ONLY, will deliver within 150 miles of Hiram, Ohio. \$600.00

Contact Rick at k8cav.com@gmail.com 330-620-8826. [05/24]

FOR SALE FROM K8IG (non-smoking shack). All equipment working unless noted otherwise. Local pickup in Mayfield Village. Manuals for most equipment. Pictures available on email request. Offers invited.

Collins KWM-380 Serial #314 (\$2,900) (All factory updates and service by Jim Warner, Exline);

Collins 75S-3B Serial #16972 (serviced by WA8SAJ) (\$850);

Collins 312b-4 Serial # 314 (\$325);

Drake MN-2000 Serial 1758 (\$300);

DXE 17 meter add-on kit (new and unused) for the 4-6 Hustler BTV Model DXE-AOKC-17m (\$75);

DXE 12 meter add-on kit (new and unused) for the 4-6 Hustler BTV Model DXE-AOKB-12m (\$50);

Hallicrafters SX-28 (2 available) for parts (\$50) each.

LDG Autotuner LDG AT-1000 (\$350);

LDG AT-1000PROII (original Owner) with 1K meter (meter is rare and no longer manufactured) (\$550);

LDG AT-600PROII with 600 watt meter (meter is rare and no longer manufactured) (\$500);

MFJ-616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer (\$125);

Nye Viking Antenna Tuner MB-V-A 3KW, Serial # 10066 (\$450);

Palstar mobile wattmeter PM2000am Serial # 26015 (\$150) (good for base use as well);

Swan Cygnet 300 B Transceiver Serial # 18547 (\$400);

West Mountain Rig Blaster PRO (\$25);

YAESU YO-301 Monitor Scope with manual (\$250).

RCA vintage analog AC line voltage meter (\$45);

International Antenna Corporation (IAC) Double Bazookas (New) 10, 20, 30, 40 and 80 meter units in original packaging (\$75 each)

Tektronix 200C Mobil Scope Cart (\$75)

Contact Fred, K8IG at K8IG@arrl.net; call 440-446-8000 or text 440-668-2400. [05/24]

FOR SALE: YAESU FT-818ND. Never used. Complete with MH-31A8J hand microphone, battery(SBR-32 9.6V 1900 mAH Ni-MH), battery case (FBA-28)(REQUIRES 8 AA BATTERIES), rubber duck antenna for 50/144/450 MHz; DC cable (E-DC-6), shoulder strap, battery charger and operating manual. Comes in original box.

Also including the following: LDG – antenna tuner; Portable Zero Escort (side rails/tilt stand); Portable Zero Spide Net (Holds LDG tuner onto radio), SOTA Beam Power Pole adapter, SOTA Beam speech compressor, SOTA Beam SSB/CW filter and speaker. TOTAL RETAIL VALUE IS OVER \$1000.00. ASKING \$700 FOR EVERYTHING.

Email for Pictures: W8HFZ, TIM - timm52@ameritech.net [04/24]

WANTED: Yaesu FT-900 or FT-890AT. Any condition.

FOR SALE: Very good condition **Hustler 4BTV.** Includes mount, SO238, NEW spider assembly (will include the old one for spare). Also , includes the spider for changing it to a 5BTV - you supply the 75m or 80m resonator! \$100 firm. Will assist expert installation (have installed many!) within 30mi.

Contact Gene, W8NET at 330-619-9194 or w8net@me.com [03/24]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS *members only benefit*. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier.

The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [01/24] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2024.



Ohio Section Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST - **Sunday March 10, 2024**

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

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

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

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

Go to Introducing EchoLink for more information on getting started. If you’re an “Old Guy” (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X

Portable Ops SIG Coordinator

Next SIG meeting will be Tuesday March 12th at 7:00 PM



I’ll be honest; not much is on the agenda. But, there’s a lot coming up in the next few months.

We have our next ParkPediton to Punderson SP coming up on April 20th. A couple weeks before that will be the Georgia State Parks On The Air contest (<https://gaparks.org/>).

We’ll be talking more about our late afternoon (Almost) Summer Solstice activation scheduled for June 11th. So, bring out your show & Tell, and your questions.

We’ll be meeting at PCARS World Headquarters (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna). If you’d prefer, feel free to join us on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 921 5449 1950

Passcode: 878917

One tap mobile

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

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

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



Next SIG meeting will be Tuesday March 5th at 7:00 PM

The next Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday March 5th at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site. The meeting will also be held on Zoom at the link shown below. This will be an open forum meeting, anything relating to digital communications by radio is open for discussion. A reminder, the Digital Special Interest Group will only be meeting six times a year, on ODD numbered months.

As always, we'll be available to answer questions or provide help for any digital communications issue you may be having. I hope to see you there.

Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE
Antenna SIG Coordinator



Next Antenna SIG meeting will be on March 19th - 7 pm

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 992 7385 5876

Passcode: 047804

At the February Antenna SIG we reviewed the K6ARK 49:1 balun that Ken KD8OBA built, and then tested it in the PCARS Lab. Branden KE8ARB demonstrated his development of the POTA Balun that is a potential for a PCARS Club build later in the year for those who are interested. We also discussed the great band conditions currently for low power operation on the higher frequency bands with minimal antennas especially on 10 meters digital modes. We also welcomed newly licensed Joe KF8ADQ to the group.

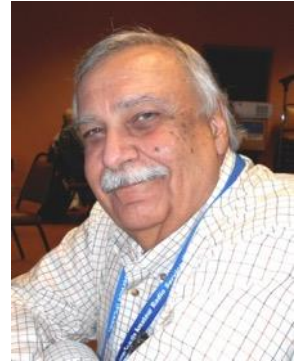
The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend.

We will be discussing all aspects of antenna design, construction, test equipment, and experimentation. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion and talk about their antenna related projects with the group.

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator



Attention PCARS DXers & Contesters

Our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting will be held on March 26, at 7PM at the PCARS World Famous HQ.

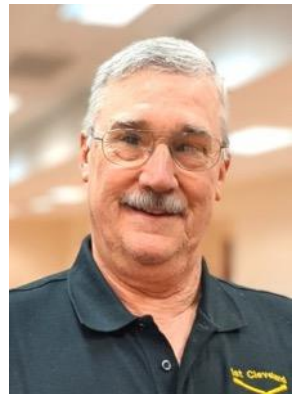
We will be reviewing how our Special Event, namely Freeze Your Acorns Off, turned out. We will also be looking at our performance in the Idaho and Wisconsin QSO Parties. We will also be looking forward to plan for the Florida QSO Party that takes place April 27-28.

For those who would like to try your hand at a slower paced contest, these state QSO parties are just the ticket. They are a lot of fun and they get your competitive juices going. We will give you whatever help you may need from beginner to experienced contest. I ask that you simply try a little contesting. It may surprise you and turn out to be something you enjoy, even if it's only a few times a year.

Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV

Flex Net Coordinator



Next Flex Net: March 13th at 8:00 PM

The next PCARS monthly Flex Net will be held on Wednesday March 13th at 8:00 PM. The net will be held on 10 meters, USB Phone. The frequency for this net will be 28.350 MHz, +/- QRM. Technician class licensee holders are authorized to operate in this portion of the band and is a great opportunity to get some HF net experience!

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!



Freeze Your Acorns Off

Saturday
March 2nd
Fred Fuller
Park in Kent



Set up 9 am
on-air until
3 pm

BE THERE

**Let's show Mother Nature we're tough....
Wear your Hawaiian shirt**

PCARS Members and Friends of PCARS:

As almost all of you know, at the beginning of the past 18 years, we have held a Special Event that we call, **Freeze Your Acorns Off**. Normally it is held the second weekend in February to assure that we have snow and cold temps. That hasn't always been the case but we do have fun.

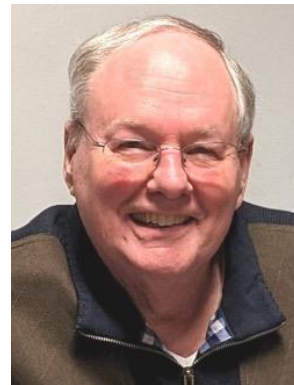
This year there was a conflict in the scheduling of the shelter house at Fred Fuller Park in Kent. So the event, our 19th Annual, will be held on March 2. We will try to get back on schedule for 2025.

We have had a lot of fun in the past with various members, either alone or with a team, participating by setting up stations in tents, travel trailers, their vehicles or even in the shelter itself. It has turned into a contest of sorts, but it has always been an event with the object of making QRP contacts with as many stations as possible. And the individual who chooses to use our club call, K8BF, makes it possible for whoever contacts them to get a QSL from the club to commemorate the contact.

Since we meet in the shelter house, we started to bring food so that we could have something to munch on. The food that was being brought got progressively more like dinner meals and that is when we decided to have a Best Recipe Contest in conjunction with the event. We have done that now for several years and I have to say that we have all benefited from the various great food offerings that have been brought. This year will not be different.

So if you are available on March 2, 2024, please attend PCARS Signature Special Event and consider setting up a station so you too can, **FREEZE YOUR ACORNS OFF**. One more thing – as an added piece of fun, many of wear a Hawaiian or Aloha shirt simply to thumb our noses at Ohio's Winter. If you have such a shirt, be sure to wear it.

PCARS ARRL Grant Status



Jim, AC8NT

In the Fall of 2022 PCARS applied for a grant to allow us to improve our club activities including builds and assist with an outreach program to introduce ham radio to the STEM community. The grant was approved for \$3130. The money was for the purchase of equipment for these improvements. In return, we needed complete activities in our outreach program. In 2023 we partnered with IEEE to introduce ham radio and IEEE to students and teacher. We attended science fairs, STEM events and provided help to teachers for including electronics and robotics in their programs. These programs have continued into 2024 with attendance at the Akron School System Science and STEM event and in the upcoming ACCESS STEM event. I would like to especially thank Rick K8CAV, JC KC8JC, Nick AC8QG, Bob KD8CGH and the members of the Akron/Canton Section of IEEE for their ongoing support of the outreach effort.

Significant improvements have been made in the club's test equipment. We have purchased with grant money and about \$300 in club funds:



- Rigol DS1202 200 MHz, 2 channel oscilloscope with full math functions.
- Rigol DS815-TG 9 KHz-1.5 GHz RF Spectrum Analyzer
- Koolertron 60 MHz Arbitrary Waveform Function Generator
- 10 Kaiweets True RMS Multimeters

To support our build activities, we have purchased 10 sets of basic build tools including:



- Basic hand tools
- Temperature controlled soldering iron
- Desoldering and tip cleaning tools
- Cases to hold each set of tools.
- Soldering and assembly mats

We have been using our own radios and equipment for demonstrations, but we lacked a flexible and portable antenna system. With grant money we purchased a Chameleon MPAS portable antenna. This is a very flexible system that includes a quick to setup vertical. It has worked great in the field.



We have also received donations of accessories including attenuators, cables, and training equipment from club members.

If you are interested in learning more about our new equipment visit our Google Drive and find a folder named PCARS Grant Equipment. In that folder you will find manuals on the new equipment and a document containing links to some basic training video. The following link will take you directly to this folder: <http://tinyurl.com/mr2sb98w>.

We will be holding classes in the use of the scope and spectrum analyzer soon. Watch for QSTs on these events.

These purchased have make a significant improvement in our club's capabilities.

I need to thank some people and organizations for help with our outreach efforts. IEEE has donated SWAG and presentation materials for our events. Without the contacts reached with the help of IEEE and ACESS (Akron Council of Engineering and Scientific Societies) we would not been able to reach nearly as many members of the public. I would like to especially thank Rick K8CAV, J.C. KC8JC, Nick AC8QG, Bob KD8CGH and the members of the Akron/Canton Section of IEEE for their ongoing support of the outreach effort. If you are interested in helping with our outreach program, please let me know by sending me an email to AC8NT@j3solutions.com.

Top 5 Pi Facts for Pi Day

1. The [symbol for Pi](#) has been in use for over 250 years. The symbol was introduced by William Jones, a Welsh mathematician, in 1706. The symbol was made popular by the mathematician Leonhard Euler.
2. Since the exact value of pi can never be calculated, we can never find the accurate area or circumference of a circle.
3. March 14 or 3/14 is celebrated as pi day because 3.14 are the first digits of pi. Math nerds around the world love celebrating this infinitely long, never-ending number.
4. The record for reciting the most number of decimal places of Pi was achieved by Rajveer Meena at VIT University, Vellore, India on 21 March 2015. He was able to recite 70,000 decimal places. To maintain the sanctity of the record, Rajveer wore a blindfold throughout the duration of his recall, which took an astonishing 10 hours! Can't believe it? Well, [here is the evidence](#).
5. Pi is actually a part of Egyptian mythology. People in Egypt believed that the pyramids of Giza were built on the principles of pi. The vertical height of the pyramids have the same relationship with the perimeter of their base as the relationship between a circle's radius and its circumference. The pyramids are phenomenal structures and are one of the seven wonders of the world.



Courtesy of Pi Day - <https://www.piday.org/pi-facts/>

The Organising Committee of the WRTC 2026 event, which will be held in the UK, would like to provide an update on what has been achieved so far and summarise how things are progressing.

The WRTC UK Organising Committee was formed in January 2023. The team got to work with building a proposal for the Sanctioning Committee. We worked with Doug K1DG and Chris DL1MGB to build a foundation for the project.

In July we were awarded the hosting rights and attended the Closing Ceremony of WRTC Italy where we celebrated the success of the Italian effort and then announced and presented the plans for 2026. We launched the website, which has been updated regularly since, and various social media platforms have gone live. We have at the time of writing 654 followers on our Facebook page and 245 subscribed to the WRTC-Discuss public email reflector.

We conducted significant research and published the qualifying rules in September and made refinements shortly after.

During all of this, behind the scenes, we visited numerous HQ venues here in England and have down-selected and decided on where it will be. We are excited that this venue will fulfil the requirements of on site accommodation, ceremonies, meetings and socialising. The venue will be revealed later in 2024 - stay tuned!

Fundraising has been pushed hard and we have started to interface with individuals, corporations and clubs around the world. We have welcomed ICOM and Mastrant to our list of commercial sponsors. Clubs that have stepped forward include Frankford Radio Club, YASME, NCDXF, INDEXA, North Coast Contesters, GMDX and CDXC. We are extremely grateful to these organisations - a BIG thank you again to those that have already stepped forward to support WRTC 2026. We still have a long way to go but are pleased to be on track. We still hope to bring more on board.

Financial aspects have been under good control and we have registered with Companies House as WRTC 2026 CIC, a Community Interest Company (non profit organisation).

We have secured a deal for the acquisition of hardware consisting of the antennas, masts, coax and rotators for the 2026 event. Due to the success of fundraising, we have funded this all already.

A list of volunteers has been initiated and we have many friends in the UK and all around the world that want to be part of this wonderful experience.

We have invested time to conduct interviews online and write magazine articles to interface with the world and ensure we regularly communicate updates and the latest news.

A fantastic team making up our Advisory Committee was established and we have held meetings with them to allow them to offer advice and ideas.

The first two qualifying events have taken place: The CQWW SSB and CW. The next one is this weekend, ARRL DX CW.

2024 will look to continue maturity of the above. The team have a programme of shows, talks and other events to attend and we are still looking to grow this list even further. Focus will be on IT and bringing the qualifying standings on the website (this is in development now and will be live soon). We will make a big push

with offering sponsorship opportunities. We will be working with the HQ venue to develop relationships and start planning the event programme details to make this a tremendous celebration for everyone. Site selection will start with initial assessments for their suitability.

We hope, whilst we're conscious we cannot completely satisfy the views and needs of everyone, that we portray the genuine dedication that we have to run this event.

Merchandise will become available. We already have the special WRTC twin paddle and single lever keys available. For every key sold, WRTC receive a contribution.

If you are able to help us by making a donation of any value, we REALLY NEED YOUR HELP! The total cost of running this WRTC will be in excess of £500,000. So far we have had individual donations from 84 radio amateurs - they're all shown proudly on our website under 'Individual Donations'. We have launched our special coin programme - anyone that makes a donation to us of at least £100 this year will receive a high quality Bronze WRTC coin. See the website to help this worthy project and to get yours!

I would like to thank everyone that has been part of WRTC UK 2026 so far in whatever capacity. We have a wonderful team and we're very excited about the future.

73,
Mark M0DXR
Chairman WRTC UK 2026

PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

Greg, KA8TOA
Net Control Coordinator



Net report: I have a few items of interest, please keep an eye out for emails regarding the schedule. I am still hoping to find two more operators to help us out. Anyone who thinks they have 10 consecutive check-ins please let the operator know and he will mark the log.

March	
7	KD8WCK
14	N8QE
21	KE8ARB
28	N8WCP



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



PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches (*iron on*) & stickers (stick on) are now available!!

Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is about 3". The embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black and Blue. Cost for a patch is only \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker.



Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! See the club Treasurer: **Greg, KA8TOA** or e-mail him at: Treasurer@portcars.org



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

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



From Around The World...

Links from Here, There, and Everywhere



Propagation: Real time MUF on these two interesting web tools:

- <https://hf.dxview.org/perspective/EN91jf>
- <https://prop.kc2g.com>

Six Meter DXers will be interested to know that K5ND, Jim Wilson, has just published "Magic Band Revealed, Everything You Need to Know for 6 Meter Amateur Radio DXing".

It's available free by download at:

<https://k5nd.net/magic-band-revealed-ebook-download/>

A Very Unusual Vertical Antenna for 20m can be found on the Ham Radio Outside the Box blog:

<https://hamradiooutsidethebox.ca/2024/02/14/a-most-unusual-vertical-antenna-for-20m/>

A Spectrum Analyzer Buyer's Guide from Hackaday:

<https://hackaday.com/2024/02/21/spectrum-analyzer-buyers-guide/>

An interesting video from the U.S. Army on how to learn Morse Code on YouTube:

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

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers

Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites for February 2024!

Greetings to all DXers:

Since I am writing this before March actually arrives, we don't know if it comes in like a lion or a lamb. But from what has been happening with the WX recently, it probably will come in like a drunken sailor. Temps in the 50s only to drop into the 20s the next day and then back into the 40s. Seems like the WX is living at Cedar Point, trying all the coasters.

What this really does is make it hard to figure out how to dress in order not to get a cold, or worse. But it does allow us to have a day or two to get some outside work completed. So for you who have dipoles to restring or repair and for those of you who have tower work to complete, have at it! You will want to have those antennas up and ready to wobble the ethers when the DX gets on the air.

Let's see what DX is on tap for the next month or two, or three.

Thanks to KC1XX, W3UR & The Daily DX, DL5ON & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, I1JQ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, DXNL for the following DX information.

I'm using the same disclaimer as last year. 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.

March...

4S7, SRI LANKA. Peter, DC0KK will be active again as 4S7KKG from Sri Lanka, IOTA AS - 003, until 30 March 2024. He will operate on 20 - 6m, CW, Digital modes. QSL via home call, LOTW, OQRS ClubLog.

5R, MADAGASCAR. Eric, F6ICX is QRV as 5R8IC until March 31. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW with low power. The last two weeks here will be spent being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL direct to home call.

6W, SENEGAL. Willy, ON4AVT will be QRV as 6W7/ON4AVT from Warang from February 3 to April 16. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to home call.

7P8, LESOTHO. 7P8EI Team will be active from Lesotho, 19 - 30 March 2024. They will operate on 160 - 10m, CW, SSB, Digital modes. QSL via M0OXO.

7Q, MALAWI. REMINDER - Don, K6ZO is QRV as 7Q6M from Embangweni and is here for six months while on work assignment in a hospital. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and EME. QSL via LoTW.

CN, MOROCCO. Yannick, F6FYD is QRV as CN2YD until March 15, 2024. He will also be active as CN2YD/p from Agadir Island, IOTA AF-065 during this time. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

DP1, ANTARCTICA. Felix, DL5XL will be QRV as DP1POL from German research station Neumayer III, IOTA AN-016, until early March. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly CW, with some SSB and digital modes. QSL direct to DL1ZBO.

FR, REUNION ISLAND. Thierry, FY4JI will be QRV as FR4AV from until March 11. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via EA5GL.

FW, WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS. Operators LZ1GC and LZ5QZ will be QRV as FW8CG and TX8GC, respectively, from Wallis Island, IOTA OC-054, from February 19 to March 9. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW.

H40, TEMOTU PROVINCE. H40WA Team will be active from Temotu Province, IOTA OC - 065, Solomon Islands, until 7 March 2024. Team - N7QT, N6PSE, VE7NY, OE1JUN/JH4RHF, DJ9RR, HA0NAR, W7XU, N6XG. They will operate on 160 - 10m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via M0URX, LOTW, OQRS.

HR5, HONDURAS. Gerard, F2JD will be again active as HR5/F2JD from Honduras, until 21 March 2024. He will operate on HF Bands plus 6m, CW, SSB, Digital modes. QSL via F6AJA.

HS, THAILAND. Members of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand are QRV as HS60RAST until March 10 to celebrate the society's 60th anniversary. QSL via HS6MYW.

J38, GRENADA. J38W Team will be active from Grenada Island, IOTA NA - 024, 4 - 16 March 2024. They will operate on 160 - 10m, CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, FT4. More information will be available later.

ON, BELGIUM. Members of the Radio Club de Luettich will be QRV with special event station OR100LGE during 2024 to celebrate the club's 100th anniversary. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via ON6YH.

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. KC9EE, Gary, and XYL will be back there AS PJ7EE until March 5, in the same villa as on previous trips, in the Oyster Pond area. Gary plans to be on the air vacation style, mostly CW and FT8 and possibly "some operating" in the weekend ARRL DX SSB. He says "I'm not really a phone contester." When on FT8 he will "again focus on JA, BY, DU, YB and other difficult path entities, on 10-20 meters."

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN IS. Tom, AA9A will be active again as PJ7AA from Sint Maarten, IOTA NA - 105, 2 - 30 March 2024. He will be active on 40 - 6m CW, FT8, FT4. QSL via home call direct, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

TX5, AUSTRAL IS. Haru, JA1XGI will be active as TX5XG from Austral Islands, IOTA OC - 050, 25 March - 3 April 2024. He will operate on 160 - 10m, CW, Digital modes. QSL via home call, LOTW.

TY, BENIN. TY5C Team will be active from Benin, 1 - 30 March 2024. Team - F5RAV, F5NVE, 7X2TT. They will be active on HF Bands, CW, SSB, FT8 and also via satellites. QSL via F5RAV direct.

V3, BELIZE. Uwe, DL8UD is QRV as V31KO until March 6. He will be active as V3O in the ARRL International DX CW and upcoming ARRL International DX SSB contests. QSL to home call.

V5, NAMIBIA. Frank, DL7ATA is QRV as V5/DL7ATA until March 23. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB in his evening hours. QSL to home call.

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

Z3, REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA. DJ0LZ, Al, says his next Z36T expedition is February 25-March 25, 2024, "active in his free time." He will confirm QSL requests when he is back home in Germany.

ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Martin, MW0BRO is QRV as ZC4GW during 2024. QSL to home call.

Look Ahead & Reminders...

DA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. Special event call signs DB100FK, DC100FK, DD100FK, DF100FK, DL100FK, DM100FK, DQ100FK, DR100FK, DM100MW, and DR100PE will be active until May 31, 2024 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Deutsche Funk-Kartell, a federation of clubs of radio enthusiasts during the early days of amateur radio in Germany. QSL via LoTW.

FH, MAYOTTE. Marek, FH4VVK is here until June 2024 and QRV on the HF bands and 6 meters using SSB and FT8. He may soon be active using RTTY. QSL to home call.

FP, MIQUELON IS. Eric, FP/KV1J will be again active from Miquelon Island, IOTA NA-032, starting 2 July 2024. He will operate on 80 - 6m SSB, RTTY, CW, FT8 and FM Satellites. He will operate also in some contests. QSL via home call, LOTW.

OE, AUSTRIA. Jorg, OE6VIE is QRV with special event station OE60RRDXA until June 30 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association RDXA. QSL via LoTW.

V5, NAMIBIA. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH from Omaruru until the end of April 2024. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, including 60 meters. QSL to home call.

VP2, MONTSERRAT IS. Tjaore. W2APF will be active as VP2MDX from Montserrat Island, IOTA NA - 103, until 11 April 2024. He will operate on 80 - 10m, CW, SSB. QSL via W2APF, LOTW.

Here's my usual disclaimer and close: Keep in mind that these DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the hands of those who are doing the planning. Keep the ethers wobbling and work some DX.

Get on the air and work some DX!!

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

Young Ham Lends a Hand Contest - 2024



Carole Perry, WB2MGP
Director RCA, Youth Activities



We want to reward a young ham who has volunteered to help an elderly person, a military person, his or her community somehow, or a young ham actively involved with recruiting other young people into ham radio. There's no red tape; it's just me and my RCA Youth Activities evaluating the application forms. You will smile to know that we have had high caliber and terrific young hams who get nominated every year.

I am accepting nominees for this contest to encourage volunteerism in our young hams. Forms may be submitted up until April 1, 2024. The winner is usually announced at the Hamvention® Youth Forum. A \$100 stipend is awarded to the winner.

This is sponsored by Radio Club of America. Please contact me with any questions. All forms should be submitted to: wb2mgp@gmail.com by **April 1, 2024**.

=====

Young Ham Lends a Hand Contest

Carole Perry WB2MGP wb2mgp@gmail.com

Please submit the following requests for information about your nominee for this year's contest.

Information about your nominee: Name and call sign - Age - Address - Home Number and Cell number

Please fill in YOUR name, relationship to the candidate and contact info.

Please describe reasons why this nominee is deserving of the award that looks for a young ham who gives back to the community by participating and helping in local events, assisting the elderly, assisting military personnel, or is instrumental in recruitment and/or training of more young hams.

=====

Youth Activities Program

The Youth Activities program is chaired by RCA Director Carole Perry WB2MGP and has Richard Somers, Ernie Blair, Stan Reubenstein, Gordon West and Charles Kirmuss as committee members.

A major event for the committee is to moderate and to sponsor the annual Dayton Youth Forum where RCA Young Achievers, age 18 and below, give presentations highlighting their technical abilities and enjoyment of radio.

The RCA Young Achiever is a youngster 18 and below who has demonstrated technical excellence and creativity in wireless communications. We are always interested in receiving nominations for these talented young people. Please contact Carole at wb2mgp@gmail.com to nominate someone as a Dayton Hamvention® presenter or as a student deserving the RCA Young Achiever award.

We are also always interested in supporting schools, scout groups, and museums that incorporate radio/technology in their programs. Support can be in the form of books, equipment, or curriculum. Please contact Carole at wb2mgp@gmail.com for further information.

The Youth Activities members travel across the country to speak at radio conventions, to moderate Youth Forums, and to vet large organizations enlisting our help in motivating and supporting young hams and in introducing wireless technology to school curriculum.

Tax deductible donations specifically to RCA Youth Activities can be made through the Richard G. Somers Youth Scholarship Fund. Please contact Carole at wb2mgp@gmail.com for further information.

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

Dig out that amateur radio call sign license plate (with your present call sign), clean it up and bring it to be permanently affixed to the wall in the PCARS club station.

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



From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PCARS 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.

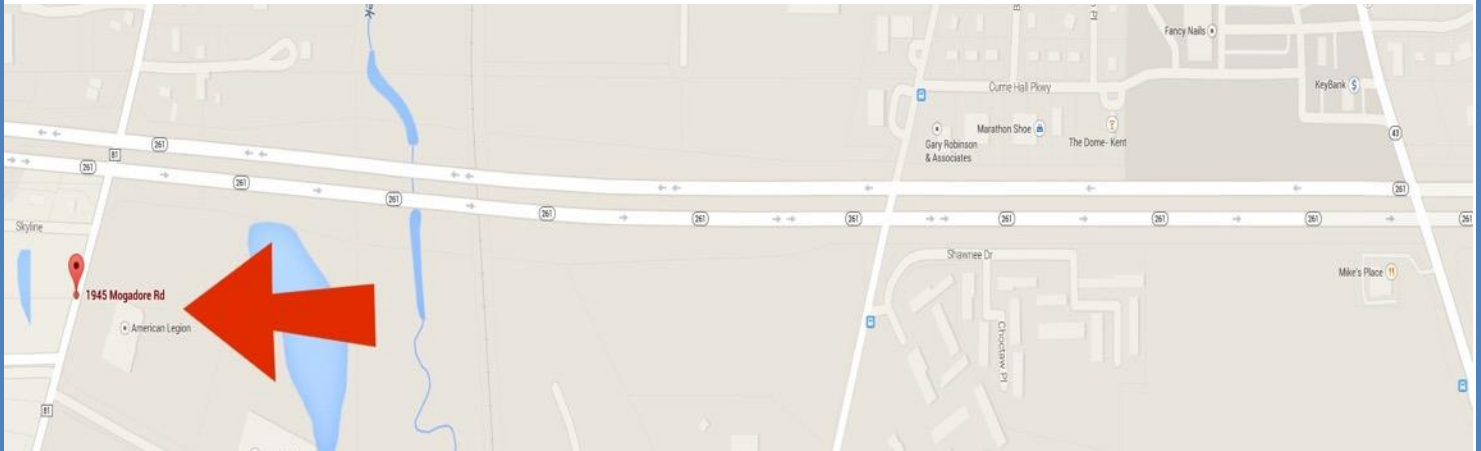


PCARS Meetings

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



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



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



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



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

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

PCARS VE Testing Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



Future Dates

April 6th, June 1st, August 3rd, October 5th, December 7th

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

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



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

QUICK FACTS

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

Okay - now all the Details:

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

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

Email Addresses REQUIRED - All applications are required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend. Licensees will be able to log in to the ULS using their FRN and password to download the

latest version of their license at any time. The FCC no longer provides paper license documents via regular mail.

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



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

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

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

PCARS
ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community
First Saturdays 10:00 am
at the club site in Ravenna
February, April, June, August,
October, December

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

Printing Your FCC License

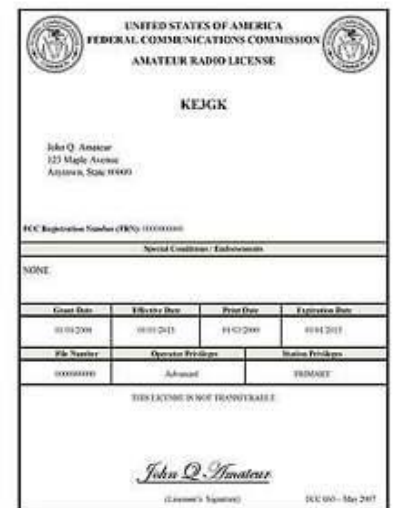
Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

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

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

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



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

19th Annual

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



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

*When: Saturday - March 2, 2024
Set up: 9 am*

Operating Time: 10 am - 3 pm ET



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

QRP stations using portable power and antennas.

Uniform of the day: Aloha or Hawaiian Shirts

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



QSL for Card and Certificate via QRZ.com address for K8BF



Check PCARS out on the web at: www.portcars.org



Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at chuckw8pt@gmail.com



Thanks & 73

J.C., KC8JC
PCARS Newsletter Editor



We're rolling into March and that means that being outside isn't so brutal as it has been. It looks like the Freeze Your Acorns Off event is going to be a little less than frozen, so I'm hoping to see many of you out there flexing your QRP operating skills.

As you start to get outside and start poking at your antenna (*safely, please!*) or getting ready to hook up the camper or RV or tent so you can stretch your legs and enjoy the great outdoors again, be sure that if you're on the air to take a few notes or pictures to share with the group and send it in!

Everyone loves hearing club members share their areas of interest and expertise. We have a wide range of experiences in this club – from old to new – and sharing it is what makes this hobby great.

Send your inputs my way at KC8JC@portcars.org and you will find yourself in the great company of our many and varied newsletter contributors.

I'd like to thank all those who sent inputs for this month's issue:

AC8NT, K8CAV, KA8TOA, KB8UUZ, KP4VZ, M0DXR, N5VLZ, N8QE, N8WCP, W8PT, WA8LRW, WB2MGP, WB2RPW, WG8X, The ARRL, and the World Wide Web.

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



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

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

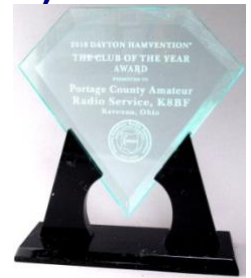


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**,
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.


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

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

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



~ 2024 Officers ~	2024 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Mike Gonzalez - KP4VZ Vice President - Ken Hall - WA8LRW Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 2 Year Trustee - Mike Ryan - KB8TUY 3 Year Trustee - Gene Marsh N8NET Past President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG	ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Field Day Chairman, 2024	WA8AR Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT Chuck Patellis
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8QE Bob Hajdak
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8QE Bob Hajdak
	Membership Chairman	
	Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA Greg Ash
	Newsletter Editor	KC8JC J.C. Wilson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
	POTA Coordinator	KE8ARB Brandon Mercer
	PCARS Photographer	
~ Meetings & Net ~	Public Information Officer	
2nd Monday of each month, 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Secretary	KE8EGF Paul Hyland
	Social Media	N8WCP Mike Szabo
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
	Webmaster	KP4VZ Mike Gonzalez

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

THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

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

Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to - icw@overtime.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 J.C. Wilson, KC8JC at icw@overtime.com

By attending PCARS in-person activities, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 (or any other communicable germs) 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 (or any other communicable germs) as a result of attendance.

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

