



The

RADIOGRAM

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works



May 2013 ~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) ~ Vol. 8 No. 5

~ 2013 Officers ~

President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD
Vice President - Bill Fraedrich - WB9LBI
Treasurer - George Proudfoot - K3GP
3 Year Trustee - Erica Pelz - AE8YL
2 Year Trustee - Bob Hajdak - N8QE
1 Year Trustee - Sandra Getty - KD8JCY

~ Meetings & Net ~

2nd Monday of
each month. 7pm
Thursday night
Club Net at 8 pm
on 146.895

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliated
April 20, 2006



Special Services
Club
March 22, 2010

From the President

In the May issue of QST magazine, there is a letter to the Editor from NT4I in which he states: "I am personally disgusted with what I hear on the air and have made the decision to sell my equipment, stop operating and find a new hobby. In part, I blame the ARRL for supporting how simple and easy it is to obtain a license. While the ARRL may puff its chest that the numbers are at an all time high, I feel that the quality of the licensee is at an all time low!"

I say, with Mr. Cammarata gone, the quality of the average licensee has just risen. Looking up his call on QRZ.com I find he's had a lot of lookups (if that means anything) but no other information. There is a photo, which I presume is a self-portrait. Next I went to the ARRL website to see how many VE sessions he had participated in – 0. Goose egg. Nada. Zip. I did a google search on his call sign. Same thing, little or no information. It appears that Mr. Cammarata has not been an active participant in anything that would be for the betterment of Amateur Radio. What a surprise.

There's a bluegrass song that has the chorus "Everybody wants to go to Heaven, but nobody wants to die." Kinda like a lot of things in our world today, everybody wants the result, but very few are willing to put in the effort it takes to obtain that result. Perhaps if Mr. Cammarata would have been involved in teaching the local Tech class, he could have personally made a difference in the quality of new hams.

Lets use this as an opportunity for personal reflection. What would you like to see happening in and with Amateur Radio? With the ARRL? With PCARS? With yourself as a ham? Close your eyes, dream big. What would you wish for? Now figure out what it would take to make that happen. Are you willing to do what it takes? Some things might be pretty easy, while others might involve a whole lot more effort – on your part. Will it be worth it? Absolutely!

Amateur Radio is one of the greatest hobbies in the world. That's why we're entrusted with Billions of dollars of radio spectrum. We can do things that no other communications service can, and that makes us valuable to society. As in Part 97, we have a unique ability and opportunity to create international good will. We are an important part of the expanding capabilities of technology. Amateur Radio, and it's licensed operators is a valuable resource not just for the US, but for the world. Unlike most organizations, Amateur Radio is entirely "free form", meaning there is no central authority and we can do whatever we want or choose. Or not. Each individual has to determine for his or herself what their role will be in the advancement and enhancement of the hobby. My hope is that I'm hanging out with the leaders, not the NT4I's.....

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Visit the PCARS Website at: <http://www.portcars.org>



From the President (continued from Page 1)

How about the ARRL? Yeah, I know, you either love em or hate em. Put this in perspective. Right now there is a huge battle going on in an effort to curb your rights under the 2nd Amendment. (I'm not taking a side for this article, just go with me on this one) Amateur Radio is not listed in the Bill of Rights. How easy would it be for our hobby to be eliminated with just the stroke of a pen? The ARRL was founded in 1914. Around 1917-1919, Amateur Radio was regulated by the Department of the Navy, and they were going to regulate Amateur Radio out of existence.

Hiram Percy Maxim and the ARRL effectively lobbied and saw to it that Amateur Radio would continue. As of today, they are the only organization who represents us against all the commercial interests that would like our spectrum and would like to see us put out of business. They have done an admirable job through all these years. Love them or hate them, we need them if we are to continue to exist. Anything you can do to support the programs of the ARRL is directly supporting our hobby and will be worth the effort! Please support the ARRL. How about PCARS? We've had a good run these past 7-8 years. We've gone from a small collection of friends to a large group. The dynamics have changed. The program of the club has changed, and expanded as quickly and as largely as our membership! It takes a lot of effort to keep this moving and on track. Could you do more to support PCARS and it's activities? I sure hope so, and if you feel you can, let me know – I'll put you to work! PCARS has a lot of members with diverse backgrounds and interests. With a group this size it can be easy to split off into “cliques” and that's when people start to get left out. Please, don't let that happen at PCARS – small groups of friends are OK as long as they don't become too exclusive. Invite others to join you and share in the camaraderie. No one should ever feel like they are the “odd man out” at any PCARS activity.

Finally, what can you do for yourself (as an Amateur Radio Operator)? Every one of you has the ability to do great things in the hobby. If you want to be a better operator, then do it! Spend the time on the air and with other ops who know the things you need to learn. Want to become more technically savvy? Study – you've got the smarts, put them to the test. Get involved and spend the time on the areas of interest that entice you the most. We all have the same amount of time, we all have families, other interests and obligations. Get organized, don't waste time. Spend it on the things that are most important to you. Remember, all you can do is all you can do, but all you can do is enough!



Just having a birthday last month that has a zero on the end of it has made me rethink some of my own priorities and goals. I don't want to get old, look back and say "I wish I would of..." One of the best things I can think of about being a PCARS member is how many smart, talented and successful hams we have in the club. (Not to mention in the ARRL and the Ham Radio hobby in total) I'm probably going to be watching you, asking you questions and trying some of the things I see you doing. I'd much rather learn from your mistakes than my own.

Don't forget, if you make it to the Dayton Hamvention, on Saturday, May 18th I'd like to see as many PCARS members as possible at 11:00 AM in front of the ARRL booth for our annual PCARS photo of members present. Don't be late!

73,
Tom, WB8LCD
PCARS President

PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

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

The logo is circular with a yellow border. The text 'AMATEUR RADIO' is curved along the top inner edge, and 'VOLUNTEER EXAMINER' is curved along the bottom inner edge. In the center, 'ARRL' is written above 'VEC'. To the left of the center is a diamond-shaped symbol containing a radio tower and the letters 'A', 'R', 'R', 'L'.

From the Vice President

Answers to April Quiz

In the world famous April edition of The RADIOGRAM, President Tom, WB8LCD challenged you with his Ham Radio History Quiz. Check your answers and let me know how you did!

1. What year was PCARS established? 2005, 2006, 2007, or, 2008?

The PCARS founders brought our club to life from the nothingness of their own minds, exactly 89 years after the ARRL was founded. As you will see from Question 2, this makes the earliest possible year 2091. And no, we will not refund your dues.

2. What year was the ARRL established? 2012, 2013, 2014, or, 2015?

All of the above answers are equally true. However you answered, give yourself a point!

3. Who invented the transistor?

Shockley, Bardeen, and Brittain all developed the first transistor, made from paper clips and razor blades. It was an accident; they were drunk and attempting to fabricate a cigar cutter at a party.

4. How many valid counties are there in the US for County Hunters?

There are 3077 counties in the US, plus parishes, districts, and Independent cities, and boroughs, which serve the same purposes as counties. Thus we see that, in our own back yard, Streets Borough can be used for County Hunter awards. Good Luck!

5. How many counties are there in Ohio?

Trick question. Old maps show 88 counties, but in an effort to bolster state finances, Governor Kasich sold six counties to Indiana for use as landfill. To date, nobody has missed them.

6. Who held the callsign 1AW?

I swear I am not making this up. According to the HamCall.net website: "HamCall regrets to inform that 1AW (Haram Percy Maxim) has been reported as a silent key. Our condolences to family and friends."

7. What legislation was passed as a result of the sinking of the Titanic?

About 30 metric tons of regulations were enacted after the Titanic went down. See <http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/titanic-impact-on-maritime-law.html> for details, it's a fascinating read.

8. Who is credited with being the 1st to send a radio signal across the Atlantic?

It is a little known fact that Marconi enclosed a radio signal in a mason jar and put it aboard a tramp freighter bound for Glasgow. The year was 1898.

9. What is an "Eiser-Mathes Cup"?

An Eisner-Mathes cup combined a low-power radio transmitter in 160 meter range with an athletic supporter, in a quack scheme intended to accomplish purposes that cannot be described in a family publication like The RADIOGRAM. Do your research on the net, and be appalled. Warning: the pictures are not safe for work.

10. What was the first semi-automatic telegraph key?

As we learned in our March meeting, the Autoplex (now known as Vibroplex) was the first semi-automatic key. Prior to that time, telegraph keys had a manual clutch, operated by a pedal, which had to be disengaged between the dits and the dahs.

11. What company manufactured Amateur Radio equipment in the 1960's that had a distinctive White face?

Starting in 1968, each piece of TenTec equipment featured the distinctive white face of founder Al Kahn, shown here.



12. Out on the highway I hear the car behind me honking with a very distinctive DahDahditditdit, Ditditditdahdah. What is the other driver trying to tell me?

He is trying to communicate that he is experiencing an epileptic seizure while driving. Please call 911 immediately.

13. Where am I if I am using a callsign that starts with CT3, and what country is it?

You're in your basement, using a pirated call callsign. Better QRT, before the FCC comes crashing through your door.

14. Who is the Section Manager of the ARRL Ohio Section?

Despite his best efforts, it is not Tom WB8LCD. 'Nuff said.

15. What company made Amateur Radio equipment with distinctive Green cabinets?

Nobody can remember. Green radios went out with those tacky green kitchen appliances back in the 80's. The amateur radio community now agrees that radios work better with black cabinets. See your own shack for proof.



16. What is referred to as "The Magic Band"?

The Magic Band backed Captain Beefhart (a personal favorite of Tom Sly) for many years, and is scheduled to tour this year in England. You can listen to their "Dropout Boogie" online, but you probably won't enjoy it if you're sober.

17. How many different call signs may a US ham hold concurrently?

Depends how much they weigh, and the physical strength of the US ham in question. Seriously, there are 196 countries in the world, so you could potentially hold a license in each country. Go for it!

18. What well known ham held the callsign 9N1MM and where did he operate from?

Starting in 1951, Father Marshal Moran operated from Nepal as 9N1MM despite the fact that Nepal did not issue amateur licenses at the time. Once this fact became general knowledge, it led to the invalidation of many DXCC certificates, and outrage in the ham radio community at large. This famous picture shown here, which has since become an Internet meme, says it all.

19. How many Amperes is 500 mills?

Experiment time: You will need two 120-ohm resistors and one electrical outlet. Insert one end of a resistor in each side of the outlet. Now grasp the protruding ends of the resistors, one in each hand. According to Ohm's Law ($E=IR$, which every ham must know to be licensed) you are now part of a 500 mill series circuit. How many Amperes to you feel?

20. Name up to 10 Amateur Radio equipment manufacturers who no longer exist.

Al Kahn, Oscar Hammarlund, Ed Heath, Bill Halligan, Art Collins, Herb Johnson, Edgar Johnson, Creed Chorpeneing, F.H. Woodworth, and Dave Turner...all of these men have two things in common.

- They founded ham radio manufacturing empires
- They no longer exist. Why? Because they all tried the experiment in Question 19. Listen, it's a joke, okay? Do not, I repeat, do not, include yourself as part of a circuit with commercial power mains. Get a brain, morans.



Bill, WB9LBI

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meeting topics and activities are:

- May 11th - **Antenna Day** - Ravenna City Park - PCARS dry run for Field Day 2013
- May 13th - **PCARS Meeting** - Old Radio Restorations
- May 17-18-19 - **Dayton Hamvention®**
- May 18th - **Annual Hamvention® Photo Shoot** at the Dayton Hamvention® - 11 AM

Special Interest Groups - Every Month at the Club Site - 7 pm



- First Tuesday - **Digital** Special Interest Group
- Second Tuesday - **QRP/CW** Special Interest Group
- Third Tuesday - **MARS** Special Interest Group and the
- **Antenna** Special Interest Group
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** Special Interest Group
- Fifth Tuesday - **Linux for Hams** Special Interest Group

Fourth Thursday - Net Night at the club site - 6:30 pm



PCARS VE Test Sessions

PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every even numbered month.

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

What to Bring to the Testing Session

- \$15 is the current test fee. We prefer the exact amount in cash or a check made out to: ARRL-VEC
- A government photo id (drivers license or state ID card preferred).
- Your Social Security Number or FCC Federal Registration Number. We are required to submit either your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) with your application. If you are upgrading, your FRN is on your current Amateur Radio license.
- A pen (black ink) and pencil (we can loan you either or both)
- If you already have an Amateur Radio license: The original (and one copy) of any current (unexpired) amateur radio operator's license issued to you.
- If you've already passed a test: The original (and one copy) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element. These documents may include:
 - An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned indicating the credit(s) earned.
 - Pre March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 (General) exam).

Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

PCARS Yahoo Site

Members are reminded that PCARS has a Yahoo Group dedicated to PCARS information. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list. Check out the PCARS Yahoo Group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCARS/>.



Hamfest Calendar

5/17-19 - Dayton Hamvention® 2013 - Location: Hara Arena - 1001 Shiloh Springs Road - Dayton, OH 45415 - Website: <http://www.hamvention.org> - Sponsor: Dayton ARA

6/2 - Breezshooters Hamfest & Computer Show - Location: Butler Farm Showgrounds - 627 Evans City Road - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://www.breezshooters.org> - Sponsor: Breezshooters ARC - Type: ARRL Hamfest - Talk-In: 147.300+ - Contact: Robert Benna , N3LWP - 1010 Willow Dr - Pittsburgh, PA 15237 - Phone: 412-366-0488 - Email: n3lwp@verizon.net

9/8 - Findlay Hamfest - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky St - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://w8ft.org> - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.15/75 - Contact: Bill Kelsey , N8ET - 3521 Spring Lake Dr - Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-423-3402 - Email: hamfest@kangaus.com

9/22 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Rd - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc. - Talk-In: 146.73 (PL 110.9) - Contact: Glenn Williams , AF8C - 513 Kenilworth Rd - Bay Village, OH 44140 - Phone: 440-835-4897 - Email: af8c@arrl.net

Field Day – Flex Station

Why is it called the Flex Station? Well unlike the stations that are dedicated to a particular band (20 and 40 meters phone) or mode (the CW station), the Flex Station is there to take advantage of openings on other bands (especially 10, 15 and 80 meters) using phone, digital or CW. This allows the operators to use whatever band/mode they are comfortable with or that might be the most productive at the time.



This flexibility also allows for a wide variety of operators and loggers to participate. Whether you are new to Field Day or an experienced operator we can find a way to put you work in a setting that can be a lot of fun. You can try your hand at digital operations, work a busy band when 80 meters picks up overnight, or if you are a CW operator you have the chance to pick up some points on a band that the CW station is not using.

We always need loggers and operators and, if all goes well, they will be working out of the county's Mobile Command Post, where the air conditioning can be a real benefit on a hot June weekend! If you would like to sign up for the Flex Station, please send me a note at kc8pd@portcars.org and we will get you on the roster. Let me know if you have a preference for a shift or if you would like to work digital or CW.

73,
Jim, KC8PD
Flex Station Captain

Bus Trip to Hamvention® 2013



I'll say it again - The best deal at the Dayton Hamvention® is in Akron, Ohio! On Saturday, May 18th, the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship is again offering a day trip to the Dayton Hamvention®. Just \$65 gets you a trip down, and back, and your Hamvention® ticket as well! Bus leaves at 5:30 AM, from the Akron Baptist Temple, and will pull up to the Hara around 9:00 AM. After a fun-filled day at the Hamvention®, we stop at the Golden Corral in Columbus for dinner, then arrive back in Akron shortly after dark. For more information, and a sign-up form: <http://w8lky.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Dayton-Bus-Trip1.pdf>

73,

John, KD8MQ

Paper Chase

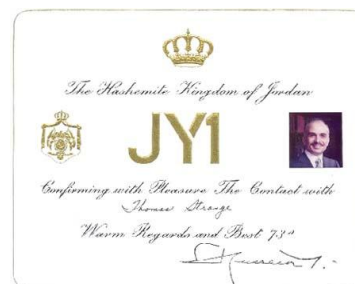
I am still retired but I received a QSL card in the last month that I thought you might find interesting. During the Virginia QSO Party, I had a contact with N3KN. If you do not recognize the call sign, it belongs to Kay Craigie. Do you recognize it now? She is the President of the ARRL.



It made me think, what other famous people might I have worked. I have a QSL card from K7UGA. I worked the special event station three years after Barry Goldwater died.

The most famous QSL card is one I had to find on the internet, JY1, King Hussein of

Jordan.



Remember QSL cards are an interesting part of our hobby; therefore, get on the air and you will be surprised!

Hear you in the pile ups,
Joe, W8KNO

Contest Calendar

May 2013	
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 4 to 2359Z, May 5
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 4 to 0700Z, May 5
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 4 to 0400Z, May 5
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 4 to 2400Z, May 5
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 11 to 1200Z, May 12
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 25 to 2400Z, May 26

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in May:

KD8SJF	David	Baird
W8EZT	Frank	Tompkins
W8BGE	Robert	Berry

K8NYM	Wesley	Ferrell
KC8ZZG	Al	Godfrey
WB8FEW	Bobby	Pruett

Dayton Hamvention® 2013

Okay - Here I go again on my yearly article about going to the Dayton Hamvention®. Yes, gas prices are still up, yes, it takes more than a few hours to get there, yes I know you're busy.... **BUT** Just think of it, hams from around the world can only *dream* about going to Dayton, and for us, it's practically in our back yard.

Even if you only go for one day - **GO!!!!** Even if you don't spend any money - **GO!!!!** Visit all the dealers, see what's new and what's coming out soon. Check out the great ARRL display area and meet some of the ARRL HQ personnel. There are plenty of *free* forums. Just to be there and walk around seeing all the ham gear and hams from around the world is worth the trip.

Who knows, you just may bump into a foreign ham that you made a DX contact with. The outdoor flea market is really something to see - jammed packed with just about everything you can imagine. This is one heck of a flea market. Chances are you will never see a larger one! Many bargains to be had, and don't hesitate to haggle the price a bit lower.

Take a camera and take pictures of everything and everybody!

So, check it out - Friday the 17th, Saturday the 18th and Sunday the 19th in May - the **ONLY** place to be is at the Dayton Hamvention®.



Parky, KB8UUZ



Save the Dates. Join Us in Making History.

ARRL The national association for
Amateur Radio®

CENTENNIAL

Advancing the Art and Science of Radio—Since 1914

**ARRL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN HARTFORD, CT
JULY 17 - 20, 2014 (Exhibits open July 18th and 19th), and will mark 100 years
of the ARRL's founding in Hartford. Be part of this historic occasion.**

PCARS Patches & Stickers



New 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! If you would like to order by mail contact the club Treasurer: George, K3GP at: K3GP@portcars.org



QRP Special Interest Group

At the Tuesday evening (April 9th) QRP SIG we watched a video on QRP presented by the Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV. It was a very good presentation that I thought you all might appreciate. George is a popular speaker on QRP topics, a prolific builder, and a frequent speaker and attendee at the FDIM in Dayton. I believe he will be at Dayton again this year along with Dick Pascoe, G0PBS. To view the video, follow this link: <http://www.batc.tv/>



Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV

In the upper left of the page select "Film Archive". There will be two drop down boxes in the upper left, pick "qrp" in each of them, then click the play button on the video screen to the right. To the right of the Play button is a button to make the screen expand to full screen. When you pick QRP from the two drop down boxes, you also need to hit the select button under it when you select it. The "escape" button brings it back. It's about 30-40 minutes long, but a very good talk that I hope you enjoy!

72,
Tom, WB8LCD

PCARS Thursday Net Control

Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible!

May	
2	KD8FDK
9	-open-
16	NR8W
23	WB8LCD
30	KB8UUZ

June	
6	N8QE
13	KC8PD
20	KB8UHN
27	KD8JCY

July	
4	WB8LCD
11	KD8FDK
18	KD8DFL
25	NR8W



The PCARS net is **Fun** - tell your friends to check in via RF or EchoLink! If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a try, please contact me at: WB8LCD@portcars.org. Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn!



Some Words from Weaver

+++ Dale's Tales - Division Convention Plans +++

Plans are coming together for the Great Lakes Division's Convention for 2013. The Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club will host this year's event in conjunction with their annual Columbus Hamfest in Columbus, OH on August 3. The location is convenient and the facilities are excellent.

We are pleased to announce that our Convention Keynote Speaker will be ARRL Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Dave will bring a wealth of information about what is happening in ham radio, both locally and on the international scene. There will be two "tracks" of forums to include some favored ham radio topics. Confirmed at this point are Carl Leutzelschwab, K9LA speaking on Propagation and Jay Adrick, K8CJY with a presentation on the Mason, OH Voice of America Site and its history. More presentations are in the works and will be announced as they are confirmed.

Please save the date, and plan to be there. As we get closer to the date, we'll be able to provide the details for the convention luncheon, plus travel and lodging information.

73,

Dale WA8EFK

ARRL Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

+++ Division Convention -- More +++

As announced above by Vice Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, the Great Lakes Division biannual convention for 2013 will be in Columbus, OH on August 3rd. The site is the Voice of Aladdin Shrine Center just off I-270 on the city's east side. It truly is a beautiful facility with a large hall where the hamfest will be held, and several, very comfortable meeting rooms that will house Convention sessions. The Ohio State ARRL Convention held at the facility last year drew rave reviews.

I am very pleased, too, that Dale agreed to be Convention Chairman. He is doing a tremendous job. As he stated, more information will be forthcoming soon. We hope you will plan to attend. We also hope you will begin to think of amateurs you believe to be deserving of the several Division awards that are available to be given. These include the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Amateur of the Year Award, the Young Amateur of the Year Award, the Technical Achievement Award and the DX Achievement Award. These awards and their recipients are identified at <http://arrrl-greatlakes.org/awards.htm>.

Although not an ARRL convention, there will be the usual, large presence of ARRL staff and elected officials at the Dayton Hamvention(R) again this year. Please plan to stop by the ARRL area, look over the several exhibits and say hello.

+++ Integrity of DXCC +++



Jim Weaver, K8JE

The DXCC program and the sub-programs it has spawned require participants to act with considerable integrity. When a participant claims credit for a QSO, this claim is double checked by having the operator with whom the claimed QSO was made confirm it was held. When an operator or group of operators claim to have travelled to a foreign "country" to operate a DXpedition, proof of operation from the claimed location is required by the ARRL DX Desk before contacts with the DXpedition are eligible for credit toward an award. So, too, when an operator holds a QSO with another station, the DXCC rules require the operator who claims credit for the contact to operate within the privileges granted by his license. This latter requirement is based to a large intent on the honesty of the operator, but also is checked by FCC monitoring stations and the ARRL's corps of Official Observers.

We know, however, that not all people observe the rules and laws that apply to them. When an intentional violation of DXCC rules is detected a variety of actions are possible. One of the more severe actions taken by ARRL is to withdraw any DXCC awards given to the errant amateur and to bar him/her from participation in the program for five years. After this period of time, the banned ham may appeal to be allowed to resume operating in the program. If the appeal is granted, the miscreant must start working for awards as though he previously had not had even one confirmed DX QSO. Prior years of determined operating and awards that recognize these are lost, forever. A number of amateurs have chosen to break the rules and have suffered these penalties.

The morale of the story is that it is much better to play by the rules than to risk being caught violating them and by this, to lose all rights to brag about accomplishments. Why would anyone choose to break the rules in Amateur Radio?

+++ ARRL Committee Seeks Comments on Draft Band Plans +++

(From the ARRL Letter) "Last year, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee prepared -- and the ARRL Board of Directors approved -- updated national band plans for the amateur bands between 902 MHz

and 3.5 GHz after receiving extensive and helpful input from the user community. Last year, after the ARRL Executive Committee extended the Committee's charter to include the 5 and 10 GHz bands, it solicited additional input concerning usage on those two bands. The Committee has prepared draft band plans for 5 centimeters (5.650-5.925 GHz) and 3 centimeters (10-10.500 GHz)."

For further information and to comment on the proposed band plan, go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-uhf-microwave-band-plan-committee-seeks-comments-on-draft-5-and-10-ghz-national-band-plans>.

+++ FCC Grants Temporary Waiver for TDMA Systems +++

(From the ARRL Letter) "Acting upon a request by the ARRL, the FCC issued an Order (WT Docket No, 12-283) on March 25, granting a temporary waiver to transmit communications on amateur service channels above 30 MHz using single time-slot Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) systems. The temporary waiver was granted pending the resolution of a related rulemaking proceeding (RM-11625).

"In granting the temporary waiver, the FCC agreed with the ARRL, noting that the digital systems that radio amateurs have recently implemented are 'compatible with existing amateur repeater channelization plans.'

The FCC also noted that allowing FXE and F7E as phone emissions and emission type FXD as a data emission 'is unlikely to result in inharmonious emission types being used in the same segments of the frequency bands. We also conclude that allowing amateur stations to transmit these emission types is consistent with the basis and purpose of the amateur service, specifically to continue to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.'"

To read FCC WT Docket No, 12-283, go to

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0325/DA-13-542A1.pdf.

Jim Weaver, K8JE
ARRL Director, Great Lakes Division

QSLing in 2013

On April 20th, Parky, KB8UUZ gave a presentation at the club site about QSLing in 2013. A pretty good crowd turned up to see what's new in the world of QSLing.

Information was presented about what information should be on a QSL card, the various methods of sending out QSL cards and changes that have happened that may affect how you QSL. One of the major changes this year is the USPS no longer sells IRCs. Parky discussed the incoming and outgoing bureaus that the ARRL

has and also the newer method of OQRS (On-line QSL Request System). There was even a short video about the DX Code of Conduct featuring Star Trek's Spock. Both the presentation and the video can be seen on the club website in the Links section.



EmComm Column

[Note – this article was first published in the April 18th ARES E-Letter]

AMINO Acids

Many of you may be familiar with amino acids. There are around five hundred of them and they are often called the building blocks of life because of the proteins that they form that are critical to growth and normal functioning of the human body.



Jim, KC8PD

What you may not know is that there is one type of recently identified amino acid that is exceptionally dangerous. So dangerous, in fact, that it is referred to as the AMINO acid, its name being an acronym for its component parts. What does it consist of? Simple:

ARES Members In Name Only. That's right, AMINO's.

You may have been in contact with them but didn't recognize them for what they were. Consider some of their characteristics: quick to join, but never present when you need them. They never volunteer for events and you'll never hear them on nets or see them at training. They seem almost invisible. But they can be easy to spot when they brandish that ARES ID card that they insisted be issued to them.

You probably never realized just how dangerous they can be. Consider yourself lucky because these AMINO acids can be both corrosive and toxic.

Corrosive because they dissolve even the strongest bonds that hold ARES teams together. They eat away at unit cohesion as active members question why the AMINO's are carried on the roster despite their lack of participation. Confidence in ARES leadership is weakened and it loses its ability to unify group members into a single, effective force.

And toxic because they can poison relationships, dilute respect for ARES both in the public eye and the amateur radio community, and with their venomous comments and conduct infect potential ARES recruits.

These AMINOS's are quick to display their ID cards and brag about their involvement in emergency communications. They thrive on boasting to agency representatives and public officials about how they are the representatives of the amateur radio community, often while garbed in hideous outfits displaying more logos, slogans and symbols than a NASCAR driver.

Since they have virtually no involvement in ARES activities, they often misstate the purpose, role and methods of operation of ARES, whether at the local, district or section level. Even worse, they tend to question and ridicule the judgment and skills of ARES leaders, despite being utterly clueless as to why or how operational decisions are being made or implemented. Their self-assurance tends to rise in inverse proportion to their actual knowledge.

Is there any good news? Yes! Just like many other acids, AMINO's can be neutralized. How? Each situation may be different but there are some common methods. The most important is that you have a well organized ARES unit that has written operational plans, holds regular meetings, training events, drills and nets, and provides its members with opportunities to be involved and feel respected and valued for the work they do. The hams in your community, agency reps and public officials, as well as the general public will recognize and respect your professionalism and discount the AMINO's unfounded remarks. Don't expect these acids to wash away quickly. It takes time and consistent effort to vanquish the last drops.

Sometimes it is also best to confront problems directly. Arrange a meeting with the vexatious AMINO and explain what your expectations are for them if they are to continue as ARES members and what the consequences will be if they fail to meet them. Then if they don't (and they usually won't) you can safely terminate their membership and have the ID card returned. Sad to say that for some of them their attacks on you might actually increase for a while but, other than for some-like minded hams, they will gradually lose their audience.

No matter what, AMINO acids can still cause damage to your team. Watch for it and as soon as you see it begin dealing with it. Whether with ARES members or public officials, reach out to them, identify their issues and immediately address them and deal with them professionally. Sometimes the most effective antacid is your credibility, which you gain and develop by making reasonable representations about what ARES can accomplish and then following through effectively.

AMINO acids are a fact of life for all of us in ARES leadership. By being aware of them and prepared for them and then dealing with them promptly, your ARES team will be better and stronger.

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAR5AI

**Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit/RACES
DEC, ARES® District Five**

Field Day 2013

PCARS Antenna Day is May 11th and it is less than 60 days left to PCARS Field Day! I hope your calendars are marked and that you're planning on attending! Antenna Day is the dress rehearsal for Field Day where we set up all of our equipment and antennas as closely as possible to how it will be for Field Day and test everything out. Station captains and support team leaders will need some help so come on out to help! Activities kick off at 10:00 AM and should be wrapped up by 2:00 PM, or sooner if all goes well.

Now to the main event, Field Day! With the Field Day team in place it's now up to YOU to volunteer to help out. Station Captains need operators and loggers! Their schedules are starting to fill so you need to contact them now to lock in your time to operate or log! They will do their best to accommodate walk-ons during Field Day but if you don't want to be disappointed contact them now to get on the schedule. Support Team Leaders need your help as well! The food team, power team, and IT team would be glad to have



you! A list of all the Station Captains and Support Team Leaders and their e-mail contacts is shown below and will also be on the club's web site under the Club Activities/Field Day tab at the top of the page. The web page will also have the operator/logger schedule posted after Antenna Day. So don't be late, contact them now with how and when you can volunteer!

PCARS will also be serving its traditional Saturday evening dinner during Field Day. Burgers, brats and all the fixings along with a huge helping of camaraderie will be there for all to enjoy so make plans to be there, even if you can't participate in other Field Day activities. You will need a ticket for dinner. Tickets for PCARS members are free, and for guests are five dollars each. Breakfast for the late shift folks at the site will also be served and tickets are one dollar each for members and guests alike. Amy, KD8SKL will be selling tickets at the club meetings. If you can't attend the meeting, contact her at kd8skl@portcars.org to make arrangements to get your tickets.

We also need club members to bring coolers with ice to help keep the food and drinks cool. Please contact Jim, KC8PD or Mike, KD8FLZ if you can help out.

PCARS 2013 Field Day Team

Rick, K8CAV	Field Day Chairman / IC	k8cav@portcars.org
Chuck, W8PT	Field Day Co-Chair / Deputy IC	w8pt@portcars.org
Tom, KB8UUZ	PIO Information Table	kb8uuz@portcars.org
Tony, WA8AR	PIO External	wa8ar@portcars.org
Mike, KD8FLZ	Safety	kd8flz@portcars.org
Erica, AE8YL	20m SSB Station Captain	ae8yl@portcars.org
Ed, K8IV	40m SSB Station Captain	k8iv@portcars.org
Dave, WB2DFC	CW Station Captain	wb2dfc@portcars.org
Jim, KC8PD	Flex Station Captain	kc8pd@portcars.org
Errol, KC8RJR	VHF Station Captain	kc8rjr@portcars.org
Tom, WB8LCD	GOTA Station Captain	wb8lcd@portcars.org
George, K3GP	Finance Team Leader	k3gp@portcars.org
Jim, KC8PD	Food Team Co-Leader	kc8pd@portcars.org
Mike, KD8FLZ	Food Team Co-Leader	kd8flz@portcars.org
James, KD8VT	Power Team Leader	jkandrews@hughes.net
Zeb, KD8WZS	IT Team Leader	zebulonsmith@gmail.com

PCARS Field Day! Don't be square, BE THERE!

73,
Rick, K8CAV
Field Day Chairman



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Telewave PS-4502 power splitter, 400-512MHz, new, Tessco #65228, \$55.00 [05/02/13]
FOR SALE: Decibel Products DB8802BA-100 remote metering power meter and alarm, 406-1000 MHz, \$70 [05/02/13]
FOR SALE: 1-1/4" transmission line, 250' or more, used in good condition, with two "N" connectors, \$250.00 [05/02/13]
FOR SALE: Bias-Tee (was used for tower-top amplifier), rack-mount type, with power supply, \$40.00 [05/02/13]
FOR SALE: Ten-Tec 715 RF speech processor, like new with manual and cables (increases average transmit power about 5-6dB), \$155 [05/02/13]

Contact Rick - K8GI@portcars.org

FOR SALE: LDG AT-1000 PRO Auto Tuner - Latest firmware chip - reason for selling: very low use. Max power that was used into this tuner is 500 watts. \$340.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Al - WA8CCU@portcars.org

FOR SALE: MFJ-564 - Chrome Iambic Keyer. Good condition, works great. \$30.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: MFJ-464 - CW Reader/Keyer. Good condition, works great. \$100.00 [05/02/13]

FOR SALE: MFJ-993B - Automatic Tuner. Good condition, works great. \$150.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Rich - KD8FDK@portcars.org

FOR SALE: MFJ-976 - 1500 Watt Legal Limit Tuner. Cost new \$499.95, used only a few times, then I got the SteppIR antenna so I don't need it. Sale price: \$275.00 [05/02/13]

Contact Chuck - W8PT@portcars.org

FOR SALE: 40' Heavy Duty Self-Supporting Tower – 37 inches wide at the base, 18 inches at the top \$250

FOR SALE: Used Rohn 25G - tapered top section w/rotor plate \$40

FOR SALE: 36 μ H Used Roller Inductor \$40,

FOR SALE: 60 μ H Used Silver Plated Roller Inductor \$60

FOR SALE: Used E.F. Johnson Caps for Antenna Tuner, Cap #1 is 500 pf, 3500 Volts, .080 air gap \$30.00;

Cap #2 is a two section cap rated 202 pf/section, 3500 Volts, .080 air gap \$30.00

FOR SALE: Coax Entry Panel & Station Ground Bar Combo – entry panel has four (4) UHF & three (3) N-female bulkhead connectors plus a stainless steel ground stud and a gland nut for rotator cable. Package also includes a Made in U.S.A. station ground bar, \$50.00 (Only one available)

FOR SALE: Andrew 22' Superflex FSJ4-50B jumpers with N-male & DIN-male connectors. (9 Remaining) \$20.00

Supplied w/extra N-male for building a custom length N-male to N-male cable \$30.00 ea. (6 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Andrew UHF Male Connectors for 1/2" LDF4-50A new, \$20 each. (2 Remaining)

FOR SALE: N-male to N-male barrel connectors \$5 each. (4 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Hubbell - HBL5366 20 Amp 125 Volt plugs \$6 (5 available)

FOR SALE: Hubbell – HBL2611 NEMA L5-30P Twist Lock 30 Amp 125 Volt plug \$10

FOR SALE: New In Box GE Contactors

GE CL01A400TJ Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$25 (2 Available)

GE CL01D310TD Contactor 4 poles rated 25 A @ 600V, 24 Volt Coil \$30 (2 Available)

GE CL25A300T Contactor 4 poles rated 32 A @ 600 V, 120 Volt Coil \$35 (2 Available)

FOR SALE: Bolt on Auxiliary Contact Set for any of the above contactors with 1-N.O. & 1-N.C. Set of contacts \$2 ea

FOR SALE: 1/4" Plate Glass for desk or table top, Great for radio bench measures 42" x 68" cost \$152 Asking \$50

FOR SALE: Ferraz-Shawmut ULTRASAFE® Fuse Holders DIN Rail Mnt, Blown Fuse Indicator \$1ea (8 Remaining)

FOR SALE: Station Ground Bars - military surplus MADE IN U.S.A. by COLE HERSEE of Boston, MA. \$8 ea.

(Only 19 out of the original 60 remaining)

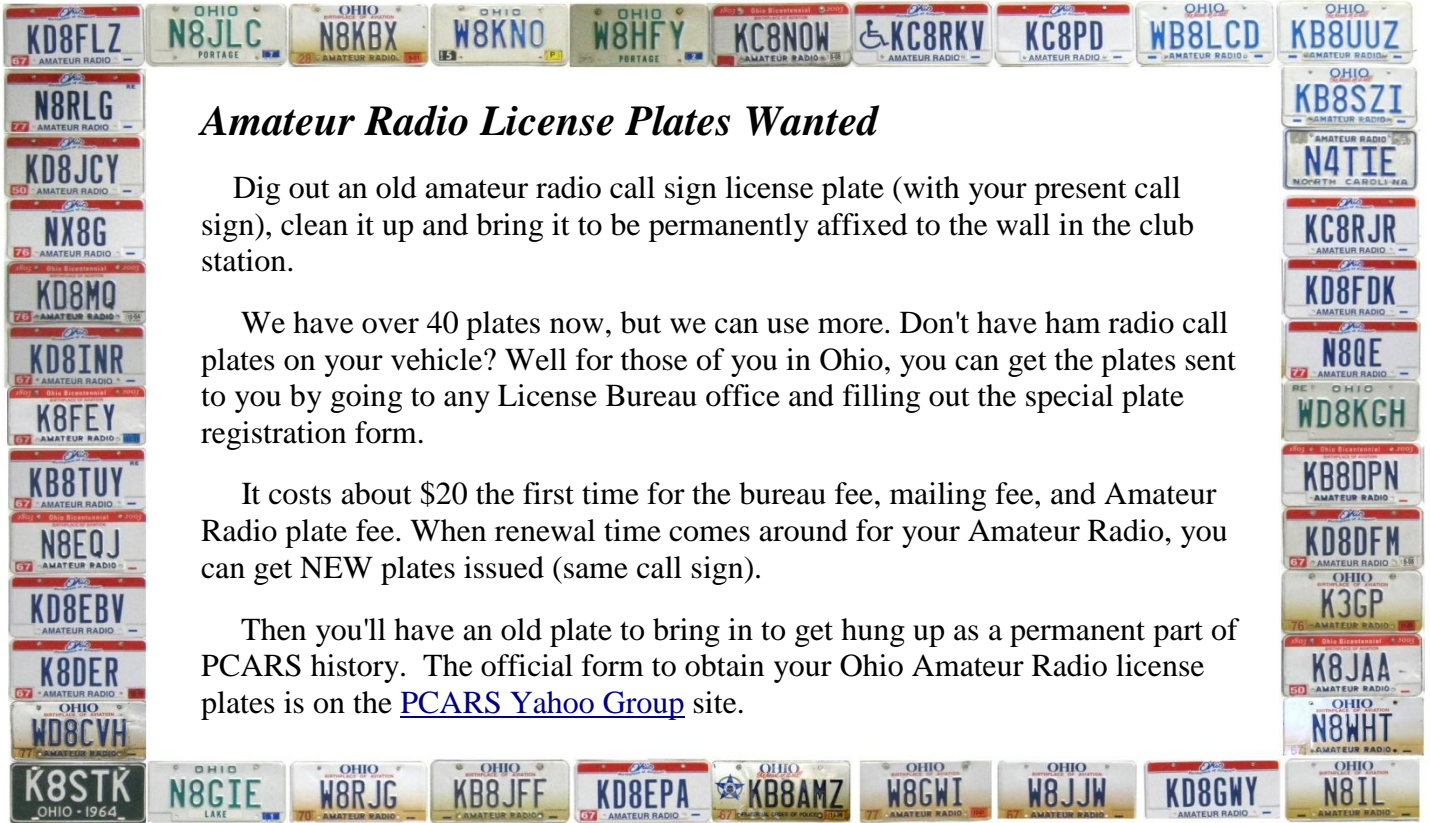
FOR SALE: Weller 8200 Soldering Gun – last of the good ones with the tip nuts, with carrying case, spare tips and tools, one (1) remaining, \$45

FOR SALE: I also have a small supply of **connectors** for 1/2" Superflex, 1/2" Helix and 7/8" Helix . Contact me with your needs. [06/02/13]

Contact James at KD8VT@portcars.org or call 330-206-4909

Editor's Note: Ads for PCARS members run for 3 months then are dropped from the listing UNLESS you send it in again. Each ad will have an expiration date that looks like: [05/02/13] This will help keep the listings current.





Amateur Radio License Plates Wanted

Dig out an old 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 club station.

We have over 40 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.

It costs about \$20 the first time for the bureau fee, mailing fee, and Amateur Radio plate fee. When renewal time comes around for your Amateur Radio, you can get NEW plates issued (same call sign).

Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a permanent part of PCARS history. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS Yahoo Group site.

PCARS Meetings

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the **2nd Monday** of each month.

Meetings are at:

Stringz & Wingz
1543 State Route 303
Streetsboro, OH 44241
www.stringzwingz.com



PCARS meeting - 7:00 pm
Second Monday of
Every Month



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites



It has been said that April showers bring May flowers. If that's the case, we should have a bumper crop this year. What is it with the WX, when the only time we get pleasant temps we also have rain?! Oh well, I am trusting that our PCARS outings of various kinds will be graced with fantastic WX.

In the meantime, get on the air in May and enjoy some of the DX that will be coming our way. I urge you to take advantage of the sun spot cycle and get some rare QSLs for your wall or album or wherever you keep your cards. Once the cycle is done it will be very difficult to work that rare DX.

As I mentioned last month, those who have an interest in DX please join us on the fourth Tuesday every month at the club site for our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group. Bring some of your interesting QSLs that you have received so we can all give you the kudos that you deserve. Also bring your questions and or problems regarding working DX and get some great information that will help you get that elusive DX entity you have been chasing.

I want to thank the following for the forecast reports for this month and beyond: the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn Packet Cluster Network (especially Tedd Mirgliotta – KB8NW) for the following DX and IOTA information.

As always, this report could contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or busted call signs. Please do yourself a favor and adhere to the old adage of "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

5B, CYPRUS. Tony, RT9T, will once again be active as 5B4ALB from Cyprus between May 15-28th. Bands and modes of activity were not provided. QSL via RT9T direct only.

5U, NIGER. Pierre, HB9AMO, active as 5U9AMO from Niger - April 20th and May 30th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-10 meters CW using a TS-50 and a low hanging long wire. QSL via M0URX. Log will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog. For more details, updates and a log search, visit Pierre's Web page at: <http://www.hb9amo.net>

D4, CAPE VERDE. Harald, DF2WO, will once again be active as D44TWO from Leeward Islands [aka Sotavento] (AF-005) between June 3-20th. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. He usually has a Kenwood TS-50 and is running 80 watts using CW and SSB on all bands, except on 160/80 meters. QSL via M0OXO.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Bruce, ZL1AAO, active as E51AAO from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) May 3-17th. Activity will be holiday style, on SSB only, 40-10 meters, using 100 watts to a dipole or 1/4 wave GP antennas. QSL via LoTW, eQSL and direct only; sorry no Bureau cards. He will upload the log when he returns home.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Tony, ZL2AGY, will once again be active as E51AGY from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) starting May 7th for about 24 days. He states, "This will be a CW only operation running my K3 barefoot, and may include some form of activity in the WPX CW Contest during the last weekend of May..... I hope to be reasonably active, but the food, the weather, the sea, the people, are all very pleasant in Raro, so I might have other things to occupy my time as well!" QSL via his home call sign, direct (preferred - see details on QRZ.com).

GB7, ENGLAND (Special Event). Bill Cross, G0ELZ, Chairman of the Marine Museum Society, Wallasey, UK, and David Oakden G3UFO, have announced that special event callsigns GB70BOA and GB70WA will be on the air between May 20-27th. The event will be hosted by the Marine Radio Museum Society (Wallasey) [resident callsign GB4FPR], at Fort Perch Rock New Brigfhton. Members of the Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club (WADARC), the Chester & District Amateur Radio Society (CADARS) and the Tall Trees Contest Group [G5D] (based in Cheshire) will activate GB70BOA from Fort Perch Rock at the Mersey entrance and GB70WA from the Leasowe Lighthouse. The activity is to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic. Approximately 2,800 merchant ships were lost during this battle and 30,000 Force personnel and 30,000 Kriegsmarine sailors also lost their lives. These numbers vary according to whose history of WW2 you read, and the above numbers are a rough average. Operations will take place on all band 80-10 meters, as well as VHF/UHF operations on 144 and 432 MHz on all modes. This event is especially important to Liverpool and other Merseyside hams because the battle was commanded from the Western Approaches command and is now a premiere WW II museum in Liverpool. Operators are hoping to make over 2800 contacts during this period. A special QSL card is being produced in commemoration. More details can be found on QRZ.com as well as: <http://www.clanlinereunion.co.uk/BA70-page10.html> GB70BOA & GB70WA are part of the official recognition of this event.

HI7, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Ronny, ON4ARV, will once again be active as HI7/OT4R from Punta-Cana, Dominican Republic (NA-096, WLOTA 2974, WW Loc. FK58TN), between May 10th and June 1st. Activity will be on 20/15/10 meters on SSB and PSK, between 2000-2200z every day. Suggested frequencies are: 14266, 21226 and 28450 kHz. QSL only via LoTW and eQSL. More info is available on his Web site at: <http://www.OT4R.net>

MJ, JERSEY. A Belgian team will be active as MJ/ON6NB from Jersey between May 24-30th. Operators mentioned are Philippe/ON4ACP, Erik/ON4ANN, Jose/ ON4CAU, Erik/ON4CCV, Walter/ON8CW, Cedric/ON4CKM and Rudi/ON6MI. The pilot station will be Frans/ON6QB. Activity will be on 160-2 meters using CW, SSB and PSK. An emphasis will be on the higher bands, conditions permitting. QSL via ON4ANN, direct or by the Bureau. There will be an online log search at: <https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/mj/on6nb> A Web page is available at: <http://users.telenet.be/on4ann/MJ/index.html>

OJ0, MARKET REEF. Operators Jean-Pierre/ON5JT, Michel/ON6QO, Koen/ON4CCP, Philippe/ON4LEM and Peter/ON8VP will be active as OJ0V from Market Reef (EU-053) between July 1-6th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW and SSB. On request of a lot of hams worldwide, they will also be active on the Digital modes (RTTY or PSK). QSL via ON4CCP.

T42, CUBA. Cuban operators will activate the special callsign T42T from Cuba (NA-015, WLOTA 0032) during the 47th A. Volta RTTY Contest (May 11-12th. Operators mentioned are Lazaro/CO2WL, Gustavo/CO2NO and Rene/ CO2RVA. QSL via HA3JB.

T6, AFGHANISTAN. Jesse, KB2OBQ will once again be active as T6JP from Panjwai in the Kandahar Province starting May 15th through August 2014. Activity will be on 160-10 meters (mostly 40/20/10m) using 100 watts, on CW and SSB. Logs will be uploaded daily (if possible) to LoTW, eQSL, QRZ.com. For more details, see QRZ.com (under T6JP).

TS8, TUNISIA (Update/Operators/QSL Routes). An Italian group, with the Association des Radio Amateurs Tunisiens (ARAT) and the Engineering University of Gabes, are planning a second IOTA DXpedition to Djerba Island (AF-083, WW. Loc. JM53KT, WFF 3VFF-007, WLOTA L-1394 and ARLHS TUN-022), as TS8TI between April 29th and May 6th. Activity will be on all HF bands, including the 30/17/12/6 meter bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31/63/125 modes. Operators mentioned are Ashraf/KF5EYY, 3V8SA (ARCS of Tunisian Scout), 3V8ST (ARC of Tunis), 3V8ESG (Department of Communications and Networking National Engineering School of Gabès), 3V8SF (Scout Radio Club of Sfax), Leopoldo/I8LWL, Fred/IK7JWX (Team Leader), Antonello/IK2DUW, Ampelio/IS0AGY, Rosy/IW2NLC (YL), Stefano/ IK6JRI, Vincenzo/IZ8LFI, Heathem/YI1UNH. QSL route is as follows:

1) For Italian stations via IK7JWX, direct or by the Bureau. 2) Outside Italy via IK2DUW, direct or by the Bureau.
3) Free internal QSL service available for all MDXC Members. The Mediterraneo DX Club (MDXC) is a sponsor of TS8TI. Logs will be available on LoTW, as well as: <http://www.mdxc.org/ts8ti/log-on-line> <http://www.ik2duw.it> <http://www.enzolog.org> The team is still in need of sponsors and individual contributions. Contact: ik7jwx2003@yahoo.it

UA0, ASIATIC RUSSIA. Vlado, UA0LCZ (ex-RI0NZ), will be active as UA0LCZ/0 from the rare Kamchatka (Land of Volcanos) between May 15-21st. Activity will be on 80-10 meters CW. QSL via his home call sign.

IOTA NEWS.....

IOTA DXPEDITION. John, YB5NOF, along with possibly 1 or 2 more operators, will activate three Indonesian IOTA groups during the months of May, June and July. His plans are tentative, but here is the schedule:

Banggai Island (OC-208) - During late April/early May; he will apply for the YE8B call sign.

Subi Besar Islands (OC-109) - Sometime in June; he will apply for the YE5S call sign.

Tambelan Islands (OC-122) - During July for the RSGB IOTA Contest; he will apply for the YE5T call sign.

EU-001. Operators Teo/SV1GRM, George/SV1RP, John/SV1GYG, John/SV1GE and Takis/SV2FWV will be active from **Kalolimnos Island** (GIOTA DKS-048, MIA MGD-011, WLOTA 0662) between May 10-20th. Activity will be on all HF bands and modes. QSL via SV1GRM. A personal note here. Kalolimnos is a small island off the shore of Kalymnos, which is a Greek island in the Dodecanese Island group. My interest here is that my family's history begins on Kalymnos. So I will be very interested in working this little DXpedition in May.

EU-030. Tom, DL7UZO, will be active as 5P9Z from **Bornholm Island** (DIA BO-001, WLOTA 2203) between May 25th and June 1st (2013). Activity will be focused on 160 meters and the Digital modes, as well as all bands on CW. QSL via DL7UZO, direct or by the DARC Bureau. A Web page is available at: <http://www.5p9z.com>

EU-125. Rico, DO6EBB, will once again be active as OZ/DO6EBB from **Fano Island** (DIA NS-002, WWFF OZFF-004) between June 22nd July 7th. Activity will be holiday style on 160-2 meters using SSB and some Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct or eQSL.

EU-174. Laci, HA0HW, will once again be active from **Thassos Island** (GIOTA NAS-037, MIA MG-124, WLOTA LH-4186, QRA KN20HS), but this time as SW8WW (ex-J48HW) between May 23rd and June 5th. He will operate mainly CW, with some SSB and RTTY, on the HF bands (usually on 40/30/20/17 meters) and on 6 meters. He will enter the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 25-26th) as a Single- Op/All-Band entry. His rigs are usually a FT-840 with a MOS-FET amplifier (300-400 watts) and an IC-706 (for 6m only). Antennas are a monoband Gps and dipoles on fishing poles. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the HA Bureau.

H44, SOLOMON ISLANDS - Operators Ralph, 5W0W/H44RK, Dom/SQ9KWW, Tom/WL7HP and Maggie/H44MK (the only local YL Ham from Sikiana) will be active as H44IOTA during their upcoming IOTA tour which will start during the first week of June. Preliminary dates have now been announced for each island, but may vary due to the nature of the tour. Here is their announced schedule:

June 1-4th - **New Georgia Island** (OC-149)

June 6-8th - **Russell Islands** (OC-168)

June 10-13th - **Florida Islands** (OC-158)

June 17-24th - **Stewart Island** (OC-285) **

July 1-7th - **Nendo Island** (OC-100)

July 9-12th - **Vanikolo/Utupua** (OC-163)

July 14-16th - **Reef Islands** (OC-065)

** Of special interest to IOTA chasers is Stewart Island (OC-285) having NEVER been activated.

Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. See OPDX.1104 for frequencies. All QSL requests are via QSL Manager Rex Turvin, NR6M. For updates, it is suggested to watch: <http://www.qrz.com/db/H40RK>

The group now has a Web, Twitter and FaceBook page at: <http://www.h44iota.com> <https://twitter.com/h44iota> <https://www.facebook.com/pages/H44-IOTA-DXpedition/136003426577924>

KH2/NH2, GUAM. Dave, N2NL, will once again be active as NH2T from Guam (OC-026). He is expected to be here until the summer of 2013. Dave will be active (outside of contests) as KH2/N2NL and during all contests as NH2T. QSL via LoTW or via W2YC. For more information, including a station description, you can visit his Blog Page at: <http://www.n2nl.net>

SA-027. Fabio, PP5BZ, will be active as PQ5M from **Sao Francisco do Sul Island** during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 27-28th) as Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via PP5BZ.

SA-060. Operators Renato/PY8WW, Ewerton/PY8AA, Fernando/PU8WZT, Ronaldo/PS8RV, Pedro/PR8ZX and Gabriel/PU8RGV will be active as PX8Z from **Cotijuba Island** (DIB PA-14, WLOTA 2855) between July 26-28th. Activity coincides with the RSGB IOTA Contest weekend. QSL via PY8WW.

Well, that's the story for this coming month and a few month's ahead. As I have been encouraging you HAMs, get on the air this month and have some fun working DX.

Well, that's it for May 2013. Til next month, 73 and GUD DX!!

Chuck, W8PT
aka "Charlie the Tuner"



Heavenly Day, It's Gay

Spring is sprung, the grass is riz..I wonder when the next hamfest is!!! Ah, the lure of finding an old radio at a great price. But beware. You must learn ...

FLEASPEAK - THE VERNACULAR OF HAMFEST FLEAMARKETS. **Fleaspeak and English Translation**

This is a really good CW rig.	<i>It doesn't work on SSB.</i>
This is a really good SSB rig.	<i>It doesn't work on CW.</i>
This is a really good rig.	<i>It doesn't work on CW or SSB.</i>
The transmitter is outstanding.	<i>It doesn't receive.</i>
The receiver is really hot.	<i>It doesn't transmit.</i>
This rig is really hot.	<i>It's stolen.</i>
I just retubed it.	<i>Got 'em from questionable used tube stock.</i>
I just aligned it.	<i>The slugs on the transformers are jammed</i>
The audio sounds great.	<i>The 120Hz buzz is faithfully reproduced.</i>
This rig has wide frequency coverage.	<i>It drifts up and down and out of band.</i>
Frequency stability is great.	<i>The VFO doesn't work - you'll have to use crystals</i>
QST gave this one a really great review.	<i>The language broke new ground for profanity.</i>
It might need a bit of tweaking.	<i>Marconi himself couldn't fix it, much less align it.</i>
It was used in government service.	<i>It was stored outdoors on a wooden pallet.</i>

The dial drive may need lubricating. *The gears are stripped and the setscrews frozen.*

I plugged it in to check that it lights up. *The light came from the two foot high flames.*

I'm selling it because I have two of them *I'm getting rid of my parts radio.*

It came from an estate sale. *If you have any problem take it up with the owner.*

I had it on the air just last night. *And you thought the woodpecker was gone.*

The only lightning damage was a fuse. *The only lightning damage I recognized was a fuse.*

I have the [...] somewhere. I'll send it to you. *you'll never see the [...].*

It works ok on 80 meters. *It had some parasitics but I got in and really screwed it up and now I want to unload it.*

The tubes used by this rig are worth the asking price. *The rig uses a rare 7360 beam deflection tube for a balanced modulator, but it's blown and you'll spend \$80 to get a new one.*

This is the rig of my dreams. I really wanted one of these as a kid, but now <snif> I've got to let it go. *As I've gotten older, I've learned what a hunka junk it is.*

The signal quality of this rig was easily recognizable in its day. *The high distortion and bad audio quickly identified this rig.*

This rig will bring back the feelings and atmosphere of vintage ham gear. *The bypass capacitors to the AC line put enough voltage on the chassis to give you a shock in the lips through the microphone, and it smokes so bad when you turn it on that you'll probably start coughing and wheezing.*

I'd keep this baby, but my wife is making me clean everything out. *I finally got around to giving this thing the proverbial heaveho.*

There are a couple of other people interested in it. *Someone sat on it to tie his shoelaces while walking past the table.*

You'd better buy it now, because I'm leaving soon. *The previous buyer and his brother, Guido, are heading back toward the table and they aren't smiling.*

73,
Gay, WB8VNO



The Hex Flipper

For the past year and a half I have been using a hex beam on a 30 foot tilt over aluminum tower. In the fall I disassemble the antenna, take it with me to Louisiana and install it there. In the spring I take it down again and bring it back to Ohio.



The hex beam is not very heavy, however it is unwieldy to maneuver into position and mount it on the mast pipe. The antenna is about 22 feet in diameter so the end of the mast pipe has to be at least 11 feet above the ground.



A commercial solution exists called the HexLock (<http://www.nn4zz.com/HexLock.html>) but it costs over \$300.00 and I wasn't sure I liked the way it depended on gravity to function. Therefore I decided to design and build my own solution. I present to you the "Hex Flipper", a hinged mechanism that allows me to assemble my hex beam on the tower at ground level, raise the assembly to where the end of the mast pipe is 11 feet above the ground, rotate the hex beam into final position, secure it in place and raise the tower to its final position. I erected my hex beam using the Hex Flipper on Wednesday, April 17 and it seemed to work pretty well. We'll see how lowering it works the first time I take it down.



Like the HexLock, my Hex Flipper is constructed of 6061 aluminum, employs stainless steel V-Bolts from our friends at DX Engineering and uses stainless steel fasteners. Unfortunately I was not able to locate stainless steel hinges so they are the only components that could possibly corrode. I have about \$115.00



and about 6 hours of my time invested in it. I have no desire to profit from this design and welcome anyone to copy it if they desire. I ordered all of the aluminum pieces from www.onlinemetals.com cut to the final dimensions and purchased the stainless steel hardware from Ziegler Bolt and Nut House in Canton. If you have any questions regarding the construction of my Hex Flipper, I'll gladly answer them. Just email me at NX8G@Portcars.org.



73,
Rex, NX8G

Thanks & 73

All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! Thanks go out to this month's contributors:

WB8LCD, WB9LBI, N8RLG, KC8PD, KD8MQ, W8KNO, KB8UUZ, K8JE, WA8EFK, K8CAV, WA8KHP, W8PT, WB8VNO, NX8G, the ARRL and the World-Wide Web

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



Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

ARRL License Manuals

Now including Practice Exam Software

Only \$30.00 Available from PCARS

The image shows three ARRL License Manuals: 'The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual' (Second Edition), 'The ARRL General Class License Manual' (Seventh Edition), and 'The ARRL Extra Class License Manual' (Ninth Edition). Each manual features a yellow starburst graphic with the text 'NEW! Practice Exam Software Included'.

Contact George, K3GP@portcars.org

PCARS

ARRL Field Day

June 22-23, 2013
Amateur Radio's most popular on-air operating event!

Ravenna City Park
Ravenna, Ohio

The illustration shows a ham operator wearing a headset and a red shirt, sitting at a desk with a radio and a sign that says 'K8BF'. A circular logo for 'ARRL Field Day 2013' is also visible.

Pictures from the April Meeting



PCARS
April 8, 2013



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

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

at: Stringz & Wingz - 1543 SR 303 - Streetsboro, OH 44241

www.stringzwingz.com

All are welcome to attend ~ Drop in and say hello!



"When All Else Fails - Amateur Radio Works"

PCARS uses the K8IV Repeater: 146.895 MHz PL 110.9 ~ Rootstown, Oh or PL 114.8 ~ Kent, Oh ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

PCARS thanks K8IV for making the repeater available to area hams and for PCARS activities.

2013 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Club Callsign Trustee	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Club Site	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO W8PT	Joe Wehner Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
Field Day 2013	K8CAV W8PT	Rick Kruis Chuck Patellis
F.Y.A.O. 2013	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF QSL Manager	KB8VJL	Al Atkins, Sr.
Net Coordinator	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA 2013	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
P.I.O.	WA8AR	Tony Romito
Secretary	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
VE Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers



PCARS
VE Team

KC8PD	Jim Aylward
KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
KB8DPN	Russ Anderson
N4IT	Carl Capps
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
W8PT	Chuck Patellis
K8IV	Ed Polack
K8QF	Russ Conklin
WB8VNO	Gay Wands
WD8CVH	Ted Wands
NX8G	Rex Simmons
N8RLG	Robert Gurney
AB8AA	Allan Avnet
K8JAA	Jane Avnet
KD8FLZ	Mike DiCarro
KE8G	Jim Blanca
W8RID	Bob Davet
K8MSF	Bud Green
KD8LEB	Al Zielinski
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
KB8IHG	Christopher Vince
NR8W	Russ Williams
KD8RJV	Jim Corbett
W8EZT	Frank Tompkins



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This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the PCARS Newsletter, **The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, **NO** postage needed, and delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail. **Are you interested in getting news emailed directly to you?** Send an email to news-subscribe@portcars.org to join our news emailing list. The **RADIOGRAM** is published every month and is sent only 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.

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NLC

