



~ 2015 Officers ~

- President - Rick Kruis - K8CAV
- Vice President - Tony Romito - WA8AR
- Treasurer - Bob Hajdak - N8QE
- 3 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT
- 2 Year Trustee - James Andrews - KD8VT
- 1 Year Trustee - Erica Pelz - AE8YL

~ 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

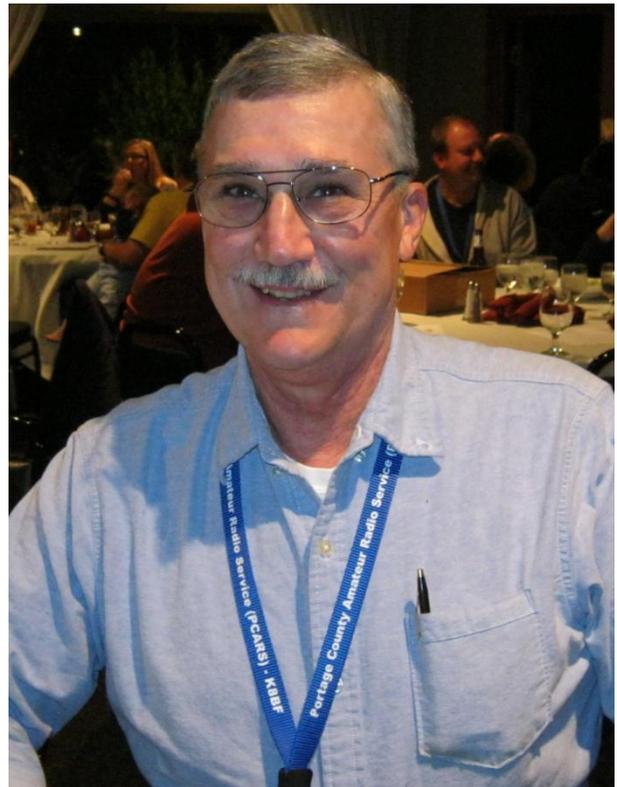


Special Services Club
March 22, 2010

From the President

I'd like to start out my first column by thanking all of you for the trust you have placed in me by electing me the president of PCARS. I'll be working as hard as I can to make sure that PCARS continues to thrive as a vibrant and active club that you'll all want to participate in. I'm always open to comments, suggestions, and critique and when you have something you would like to bring up with me, please don't hesitate for a moment. You can e-mail me at k8cav@portcars.org or when you see me in person, stop over and we'll talk. I plan to attend as many of the PCARS meetings, SIG's, net nights, and other events as possible so I'll be around often. Let me and the other officers and trustees know what you would like to see PCARS doing. Let us know when you think there is a problem or an issue. Let us know when you think we've pulled something off well.

So what would I like to see from our members? More than anything else I'd like to see you all participate in PCARS. Our monthly meetings are very short on business so that we don't bore members, and very long on presentations and fellowship so that you will enjoy coming. The business meetings are there to conduct the more mundane aspects of the club and are open to each and every member of the club. We have special interest group meetings every Tuesday for specific amateur radio interests. The club is starting to become more active in contest operating at the club site, and also sponsors several events such as Field Day, FYAO, and OSPOTA. Monthly activities such as construction projects and presentations along with a club picnic and cruise-in are enjoyable events to attend. In short, there's something for just about everyone to enjoy in PCARS, and you being a part of that is important.



An important contribution to amateur radio that PCARS makes is providing classes for both the Technician class and General class license exams. Growth in our avocation is critical not only to increase the numbers of people participating in amateur radio, but also because of the new points of view and experiences new members bring both to our hobby and to our associations with them.

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From the President (continued from Page 1)

When PCARS announces an upcoming class I would ask all of you get the flyers and information out to any person or organization that might be interested.

As with any organization, PCARS loses existing members from time to time for any number of reasons. I've asked Jim KC8PD to form and chair a membership committee whose specific mission will be to reach out to those people who were members at one time but have dropped out of active membership or participation in the club in the hopes that we can get some of them to become active members again. All of us as active members of PCARS can have a real impact on keeping folks from dropping out by simply doing our best to make everyone in the club feel they are welcome members and appreciate them being there. Mentoring, teaching, and helping others to reach new goals in amateur radio makes for loyal members and although PCARS has many formal activities and events to do this, your contribution as an individual member to help others is just as important.

There are a lot of folks who have put in untold hours of work to make PCARS one of the more enjoyable amateur radio clubs to belong to and I want to thank every one of them for their contributions. I'm asking that we all contribute our skills and our willingness to share so that PCARS can keep building on the foundation that was laid towards a club that we're all proud to proclaim being members of.

73,

Rick, K8CAV
PCARS President

From the Vice President

As the newly elected Vice President, I first want to thank to all those who expressed confidence in my ability to do this job by electing me to this position. I have been in and around Ham Radio since 1962 and can honestly say that PCARS is the most active; vibrant and just plain fun Amateur Radio Club that I have ever had contact with in all that time. PCARS felt like home to me since my first contact with the group at a VE session when I was upgrading my license. My commitment is to assist in the continuation of the traditions that have taken the club so far is just nine years, and with the assistance of the outgoing officers, push forward with this tradition of excellence and strive to make it just a bit better all the time. Let's all just get together to learn; take on new challenges and just plain continue to have fun together with Ham Radio.

For updates in January activities please continue to check the Club calendar and watch for QST emails with the latest and greatest updates. The January schedule is full of our usual activities and there almost certainly will be something special coming up..... Stay Tuned!

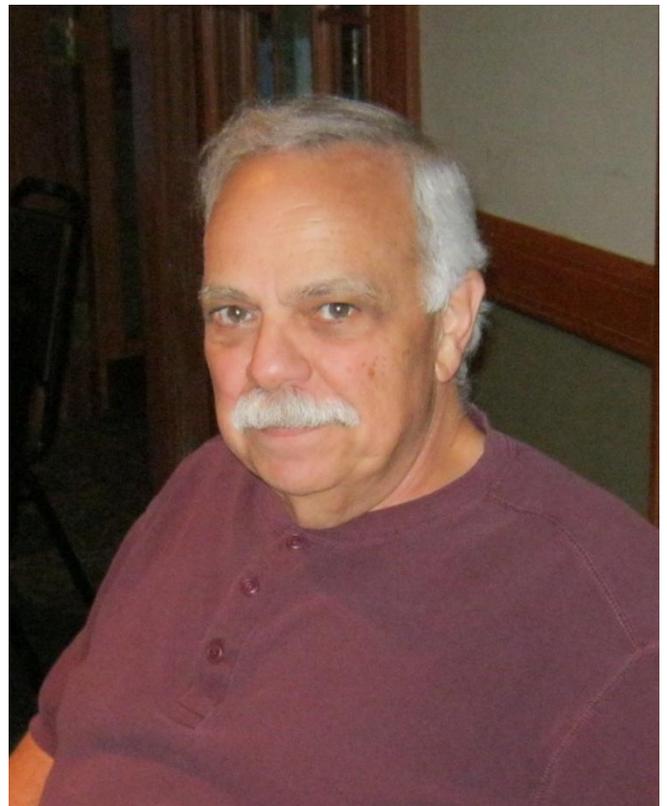
The next big PCARS event for everyone to get ready for is the great PCARS "Freeze Your Acorns Off" QRP Contest/Operating Special Event on February 14, 2015.

Getting started planning who you want to operate is a key to getting out there and making contacts. Really everyone should come out to check out this event. Even if you don't have a portable HF rig, try to team up with someone who does and have fun making a few QRP Q's. There is always a ton of food in the HEATED shelter house along with a ton of good company, so even if you don't operate, stop in for a while.

In 2015 we will be picking up where we left off with our Amateur Radio High Altitude Balloon Launch Program. We plan to get our first launch off in early Spring as soon as weather permits. Hams from all over will be able to operate through the balloon repeater (satellite style) as it rises to an altitude of 80,000 to 100,000 feet. If all goes well we will probably attempt one or two additional launches in 2015 giving PCARS members the opportunity to work on a balloon's design-build-launch team. We will also try to involve students from local schools in the program, adding to the PCARS Public Service efforts and exposing some interested students to Ham Radio.

Please remember that all your suggestions are invaluable in helping us develop new activities. So feel free to contact us and let us know what your interests are.

I hope that everyone has a healthy; prosperous and Fun PCARS New Year!



73,

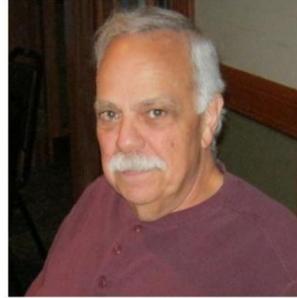
Tony, WA8AR
PCARS Vice President

Newly Elected PCARS Officers

During the November PCARS meeting, elections for officers were held and the following members were elected. They start their new term of office on January 1, 2015.



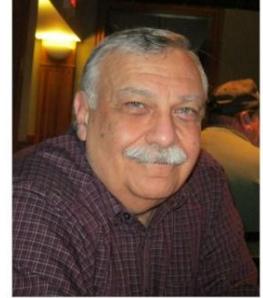
**President
Rick K8CAV**



**Vice President
Tony WA8AR**



**Treasurer
Bob N8QE**



**3 Year Trustee
Chuck W8PT**



**Erica AE8YL
moves to
1 Year Trustee**



**James KD8VT
moves to
2 Year Trustee**

Mark Your Calendars

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- **January 12th - PCARS meeting - 7 pm - at the Club Site**
- **January 13th - General Class starts at club site - see flier**
- **February 9th - PCARS meeting - 7 pm**
- **February 14th - Freeze Your Acorns Off - 10th Annual PCARS QRP Special Event - see flier**
- **March 9th - PCARS meeting - 7 pm**



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 - **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



~ *Special Notice* ~

January Club Meeting will be at the PCARS Club Site

The January PCARS meeting will be held at the PCARS Club Site at 705 Oakwood St., Ravenna, OH on January 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

The theme for this meeting will be “Bring Your Homebrew Project” night and we want you to bring anything you’ve built to include kits, antennas, from scratch projects, software you’ve written or others.

We’ll have pizza there. Soft drinks are available for a donation. The doors will open at 6:00 PM, hope to see you there!

Rick, K8CAV



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



QST Celebrates Its Centennial in 2015

Although the ARRL celebrated its centennial this year, 2015 is the centennial year for QST magazine.

First published in December 1915, QST is not only the official membership journal of the ARRL, it is also the most widely read Amateur Radio magazine in the world with a monthly circulation of more than 165,000.



QST kicks off its celebration with a photo contest announced in the January issue, as well as online. Winning photos will appear on several QST covers throughout 2015 and each winning photographer will receive \$250.

“We’re hoping to showcase a number of member photos on 2015 covers,” said QST Editor in Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY. “We’ve also planned a few ‘surprise covers’ that I think readers will enjoy.”

Each 2015 issue of QST will also contain articles and columns republished from vintage issues. “In the January issue we’ll be reprinting the special declaration from the January 1942 QST concerning the cessation of amateur operations at the start of the US entry into World War II,” Ford said. “The statement was originally printed on yellow stock to make sure readers wouldn’t miss it. We’ll be duplicating that background color in our version as well.”

Each vintage article will be reprinted exactly as it appeared in its original issue. “We chose articles based on either historical relevance or nostalgia value,” Ford said. “For instance, we’ll be reprinting one of the first QST articles to describe the use of transistors in Amateur Radio applications. For the April Fool theme, readers should beware the reappearance of the infamous Larson E. Rapp.”

Ford went on to say that observant readers would find other treats in 2015 QSTs. “As space permits, we will be reprinting some vintage Gil Gildersleeve cartoons. I’d advise readers to also be on the lookout for occasional appearances of the beloved ‘Stray’ kitties. Long time QST readers will know what I mean.”

Concerning the popular “75, 50 and 25 Years Ago” column, Ford commented, “I’ve received a few inquiries from members who wondered if we would be changing the name of the column to ‘100, 50 and 25 Years Ago.’ We will, but not right away. Because the first QST wasn’t published until December 1915, we’ll inaugurate the name change in the December 2015 issue.”

From the ARRL

PCARS is on YouTube

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

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFVsDD_gwCLtTw-FPuBcYtA



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having a birthday in **January**:

KD8DQT	Jeffrey	Moore	K8FS	Michael	Evans
K8MSH	Mark	Haverstock	KD8VCK	Steve	Beale
WA8OKR	Bill	Hunt	KD8SJA	Tom	Gregory
N8IL	Neil	Gerren	KB8SZI	Peggy	Parkinson
NR8W	Russ	Williams	KD8SJG	Tom	Donelan
KC8BTN	Ron	Corban	KD8YXH	Roberta	George
N8PXW	Jim	Korenz			

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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

February 7th, April 4th, June 6th, August 1st, October 3rd, December 5th

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 (**driver's 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 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.
 - Original and copy of a pre-March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 [General] exam) - you must be currently licensed to get this credit.
- Expired License? Original and copy of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass element 2 to re-instate your license.



Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison

Contest Calendar

January 2015	
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 3 to 2400Z, Jan 4
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 10 to 0600Z, Jan 11
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 17 to 0600Z, Jan 18
ARRL January VHF Contest	1900Z, Jan 17 to 0359Z, Jan 19
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 23 to 2159Z, Jan 25
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 24 to 1200Z, Jan 25

Google the Contest Name - Read the Rules & Have Fun. YES - There are MANY More Contests out there - Check the Internet

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! See the club Treasurer: Bob, N8QE or e-mail him at: N8QE@portcars.org



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



Bob Heil Receives Honorary Doctorate From University of Missouri

The University of Missouri-St. Louis granted an honorary Doctor of Music and Technology to Bob Heil during its December 20th commencement ceremony. Heil is recognized by the university for his contributions to the world of broadcast, live and studio sound, and innovations to the Amateur Radio industry. In addition to receiving the honor, Bob spoke at the commencement.

“Bob Heil's lifelong accomplishment and ongoing innovation speaks for itself,” said Marcel Bechtold, the manager of information technology at UMSL who nominated Heil for the honorary doctoral degree. “He continues to add to his many years of research in sound reinforcement and shares his wealth of knowledge in workshops, conference presentations, authored books, podcasts and at educational institutions worldwide. His passion for playing the theater organ and his interests in electronic technology gained in amateur radio at an early age were great foundations, allowing his creative juices to flow through the decades.”

“I am humbled and thrilled to receive this honor,” said Heil. “Throughout my life I have held the belief that human stories, whether told through conversation or song, help tell who we are as people. I've been blessed to be part of how those stories get conveyed to the world.”



Dr. Bob Heil, K9EID (right)

The University of Missouri System is a state university system providing centralized administration for four universities, a health care system, an extension program, five research and technology parks, and a publishing press. More than 75,000 students are currently enrolled at its four campuses. The health care system operates several hospitals and clinics in central Missouri, while the extension program provides distance learning and other educational initiatives statewide.

Sound Forums

<https://soundforums.net/content/>

Published on 12-11-2014 (Fairview Heights, IL)



About Heil Sound:

Established in 1966, Heil Sound Ltd. has developed many professional audio innovations over the years, and is currently a world leader in the design and manufacture of large diaphragm dynamic, professional grade microphones for live sound, broadcast, recording, and amateur radio markets. Heil Sound maintains corporate headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Fairview Heights, Illinois. For more information on the company, visit www.heilsound.com

EmComm

Though not exactly EmComm, here, courtesy of the Ohio State Fire Marshall's News, are some important seasonal safety tips:

Heating Safety

- Use kerosene heaters and space heaters according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Alternative heaters need their space. Keep anything combustible at least three feet away.
- Make sure your alternative heaters have 'tip switches.' These 'tip switches' are designed to automatically turn off the heater in the event they tip over.
- Do not use the kitchen oven range to heat your home. In addition to being a fire hazard, it can be a source of toxic fumes.
- Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot.
- Refuel heaters only outdoors.
- Make sure wood stoves are properly installed, and at least three feet away from combustible materials. Ensure they have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation.

Generator Safety

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines when using generators.
- Use a generator or other fuel-powered machines outside the home. CO fumes are odorless and can quickly over-whelm you indoors.
- Use the appropriate sized and type power cords to carry the electric load. Overloaded cords can overheat and cause fires.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpets where heat might build up or damage to a cord may go unnoticed.
- Never connect generators to another power source such as power lines. The reverse flow of electricity or 'backfeed' can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.



Electrical Safety

- If your home has sustained flood or water damage, and you can safely get to the main breaker or fuse box, turn off the power.
- Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged. This includes cable TV feeds.
- Look for and replace frayed or cracked extension and appliance cords, loose prongs, and plugs.
- Exposed outlets and wiring could present a fire and life safety hazard.
- Appliances that emit smoke or sparks should be repaired or replaced.
- Have a licensed electrician check your home for damage.

Cooking Safety

- Have a safety zone: keep children and pets three feet away from the stove and oven.
- Never hold a child or pet while cooking.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing or dangling sleeves while cooking.
- Keep potholders, oven mitts, towels and anything flammable away from your stovetop.
- Clean food and grease from burners and the stove top. It can catch on fire.
- If you must use a turkey fryer, keep it outside, away from buildings and other structures, such as garages, carports and decks. Never leave the turkey fryer unattended. The turkey should be thawed prior to frying. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

- Be careful when using candles. Keep the flame away from combustible objects and out of the reach of children.
- If the power goes out, make certain that all electrical appliances, such as stoves, electric space heaters and hair dryers, are in the OFF position.
- Some smoke alarms may be dependent on your home's electrical service and could be inoperative during a power out-age. Check to see if your smoke alarm uses a back-up battery and install a new battery at least once a year.
- Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home and inside and outside of sleeping areas.
- All smoke alarms should be tested monthly. All batteries should be replaced with new ones at least once a year.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home, keep it clear of snow, ice and debris for easy access by the fire department.

Stay safe!

73,

Jim, KC8PD/AAR5AI

Radio Officer, Portage County OHS/EM Communications Unit/RACES



New Element 3 (General Class) Question Pool Released

The Question Pool Committee of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has released the 2015-2019 Element 3 (General Class) question pool. The new question pool becomes effective for all Element 3 examinations administered on or after July 1, 2015, and it remains valid until June 30, 2019.

The question pool files are available in PDF, Microsoft Word (.doc), and ASCIItext formats. Section G7A requires the use of one illustration, a schematic identified as G7-1. This drawing file is published separately. — Thanks to Roland Anders, K3RA, NCVEC Question Pool Committee Chairman



From the ARRL



CW Class - Phase 2

With only 2 participants, the phase 2 portion of the CW class concluded December 18, 2014. Both participants completed phase 1 and have shown improvement during phase 2 by increasing their copy speed.

The goal of phase 2 was to improve copy speed from the first week of phase 2. A method was shown that will aid the participants to increase their copy speed, with practice.

If I hear of interest for another phase 1 CW Class, "Learn to copy CW the correct way", another class will start sometime in 2015.



Terry, KB8AMZ

Preparations Under Way for January DXpedition to Iran

Preparations continue on the part of the Rockall DX Group to make Iran — #33 on ClubLog's DXCC Most Wanted List - available through a DXpedition to Kish Island (IOTA AS-166). Look for EP6T starting on January 16th. While the emphasis will be on 160 meters, the DXpedition will operate on all bands, 160 through 10 meters. EP6T plans to remain active until January 26th. Organizers say the theme of the expedition will be "friendship and cultural tolerance."



"We hope to make a lot of people happy," team member Luc Kerkhofs, ON4IA said. "The setup will be about the same as [previous operations] 9U4U and TN2T, but we realize that it will be a much more difficult path." Kerkhofs, who has installed some impressive low-band receiving antennas at his Meeuwen, Belgium, location, said that if space is available, the team will erect some Beverages for short and long path to North America, with a pair of end-fire phased delta loop receiving antennas as backup.

A dedicated 160 meter station will be on the air starting at local sunrise and sunset for the first two nights, in order to work as many Europeans as possible and to check when signals peak to North America. The planned transmitting antenna is a 26-meter (85.3 feet) vertical with 50 quarter-wave radials. Kerkhofs said the operators will attempt to be fair in giving all continents a crack at working Iran on 160. After the first two nights, operators will start concentrating on North American stations, although they concede that paths to North America on Top Band will be dicey and of short duration.

Since word first spread of the planned DXpedition, many groups and individuals have offered support, including the Northern California DX Foundation. The organizers say that preparations are "progressing smoothly and according to plan." M0URX will be the QSL manager. The EP6T log will be uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW), once the DXpedition has concluded.

The group will use Elecraft K3 transceivers plus amplifiers. Although 160 and 30 meters are not allocated to Amateur Radio in Iran, the group has obtained permission to use them for the EP6T DXpedition. There will be no 6 meter operation, however, since that band is allocated to fixed, mobile and broadcasting services in Iran. Iran has 80 million citizens and only 13 radio amateurs. As a result of the group's more than 3-year effort to obtain permission to operate in Iran, 60 students have already passed their licensing exams and should be able to receive an EP call in the near future.

From the ARRL

Financial Woes Reported at Dayton Hamvention® Venue, Hara Arena

Hara Arena - for many years the home of Dayton Hamvention® - is facing some financial issues and has cut back on its full-time staff to save money, according to a WDTN-TV "2 News" account. The Dayton TV station reported on December 2 that the Trotwood complex now has a full-time staff of only 12 employees. Karen Wampler, Hara's Director of Marketing, told the TV station that it's difficult for Hara Arena to compete with other Miami Valley venues, such as the Nutter Center at Wright State University, but she hinted at a positive announcement next year.



"As taxpayers, we're competing against facilities that are subsidized by tax dollars, and because of that, we are struggling to compete," Wampler said. "The primary challenges are that we need renovation dollars, and the ownership model needs to be changed." The Wampler family has owned and operated Hara Arena since its humble origins in the 1950s, when Wampler Ballarena - then a dance hall, now an exhibit hall familiar to Hamvention visitors - was built in what had been a family-owned orchard. Hara Arena has since expanded to a 165,000 square foot, six-building complex.

Last year Hara Arena hosted 239 events, including Hamvention, generating an estimated \$34 million in community revenue. Wampler told 2 NEWS that the arena is working with a company called VenuWorks, which specializes in restoring event venues, and she anticipated some "very, very, good news in 2015." Hara Arena has hosted everyone from The Rolling Stones and Kid Rock to President George W. Bush over the years. It is home to the Dayton Demonz hockey team.

"There's a lot of history," Wampler said. **H**ara Arena was named by founding brothers **H**Arold and **R**Alph Wampler.

Last year, Dayton Hamvention, sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, attracted nearly 25,000 visitors.

From the ARRL

=====

More on the Hara Arena and Hamvention®

Every year about this time, the rumors start about Hamvention® and Hara Arena. This year the Dayton media contributed to the interest by carrying stories about Hara ownership issues. I won't go into any of those articles since they have minimal effect on Hamvention 2015. Here is what we know.

Hamvention® 2015 will come off at Hara Arena as usual starting May 15. The Hamvention® committee has been meeting monthly since September and plans are in place for making this year's event an enjoyable experience for our guests.

We have significantly updated our website. Any process that makes major changes can have errors creep in. If you spot an issue with the website in general, please send a message detailing the problem to webmaster@hamvention.org. If you have specific problems with orders, then send details to the appropriate committee, fleamarket@hamvention.org, exhibits@hamvention.org or tickets@hamvention.org.

Many questions about parking, renting scooters, etc. can be answered by visiting hamvention.org. If you are unable to locate what you need, please contact info@hamvention.org.

Addressing your specific questions to the right people will generally get you quicker results. If you want suggestions from past attendees on what to expect, where to stay, etc. or have general questions that others might also have, feel free to post those to the group. If you are looking for a ride or would welcome riders to share the fuel costs, post your request here. We want this group to serve as a meeting place for those interested in Hamvention. We don't want it to become cluttered with "Where are my tickets?" and similar requests.

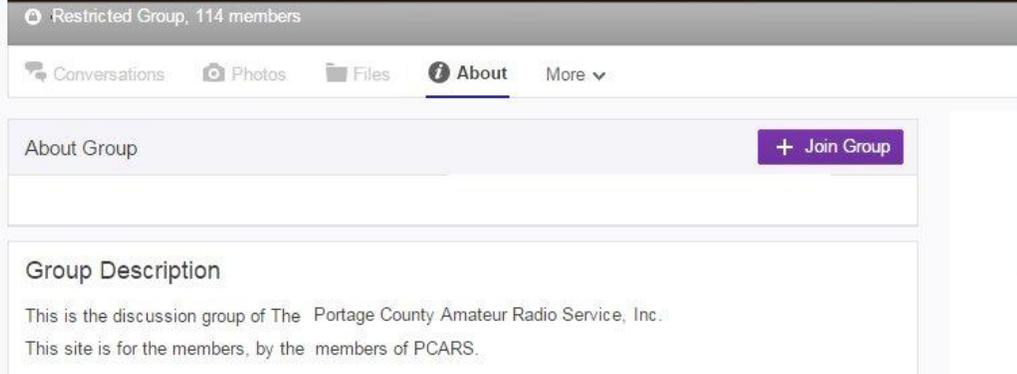
Thanks for your help. Hamvention® wouldn't exist without its vendors and its guests.

73,
Henry, W8HJR

PCARS Yahoo Group

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/>



CW Teacher 1.0 is Now Available!

Whether you want to learn Morse code from scratch, never having heard a dit in your life, or you just want to speed up your copy for CW contesting, CW Teacher will help!

I like CW, but I've never been particularly fast, so for most of my Amateur Radio life, I've gravitated towards SSB for contesting. More recently, I've come to realize that copying the short contest exchanges at 25 words per minute (WPM) and higher can actually be easier than a longer rag chew at 18 WPM. I've been spending more time with CW contests and I've really come to enjoy them!

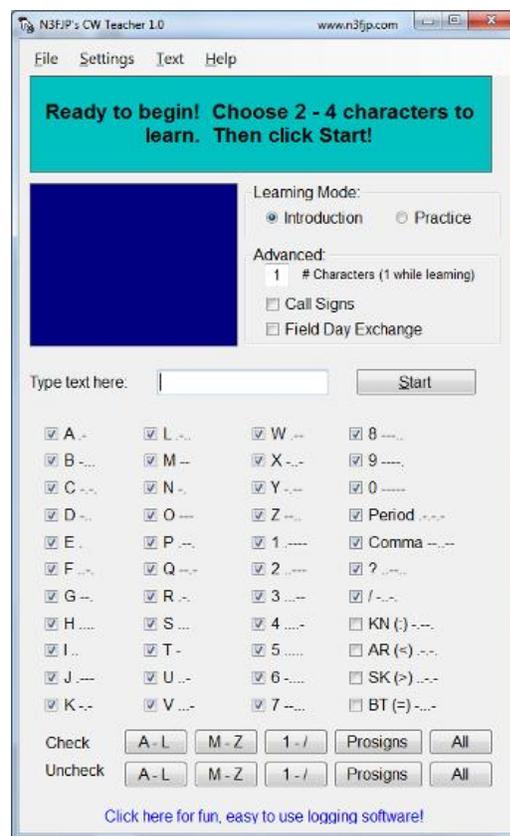
I had been thinking about creating a tool to help folks learn CW or increase their speed. Then, my son Brad, KB3MNE, mentioned an interest in learning CW. That was all the catalyst I needed to create this CW Teacher software!

This program will teach you Morse Code at your own pace. Set the sending rate at 18 WPM or higher so that you learn the characters at a functional speed, but don't worry, the software will send you each character, one at a time and wait for you to respond. There is zero rush. The entire emphasis of the software is teaching you to associate a sound with a letter. With just a bit of practice, that's really easy to do! Whether young or seasoned, this program should easily help most anyone learn CW!

Since copying CW with a keyboard is exactly what you will be doing when you are CW contesting, this software helps you become comfortable transferring what you hear to your keyboard directly as well.

The emphasis of this software is teaching Morse code from the absolute beginning, but I've also included options for more advanced practice, such as copying random call signs and Field Day style exchanges.

This program is completely free! Please enjoy it and share it with anyone you may know who would like to learn CW! You'll find it here: <http://www.n3fjp.com/cwteacher.html>



73,

Scott, N3FJP

Editor's Note: Scott, N3FJP is the ham who wrote the easy to use contest software we've used at PCARS over the years - that includes the software we use for logging at Field Day.

Freeze Your Acorns Off - 2015

Our annual FYAO will take place on February 14, 2015. Yes that is Valentines Day and what better way to treat your Valentine to something special than to bring her or him out on a cold February day and spend it trying to make QRP contacts in the snow. Well, that's presuming that we have snow on Feb. 14. And it's also presuming that your Valentine will not retaliate and have you committed. But if they have spent any time with you at all, they will know that you are a peculiar person who loves to talk to strangers on the radio.

In any case, come on out and have some Big Fun, Great Food, and Great fellowship with your HAM friends.

As in previous years, the operating format will be a "contest" for all who participate. This is also a Special Event and people making contact with you are eligible to obtain a certificate. You are welcome to set up a station and operate from the FYAO site, either inside the Fred Fuller Park shelter or out in the elements in your own shelter.

The winner will receive a certificate suitable for framing and his or her name and call will be added to the FYAO plaque displayed at the PCARS club site.

Keep in mind that this is a QRP event so leave your Alphas at home.

Snacks, chili, mac & cheese, donuts, etc, are very welcome. I trust that there will be a number of pots of great tasting chili that various members will bring as in the past.

This is our own in house event, as it were, so I encourage all PCARS members to come out and have some fun. Please remember that even if you don't plan to operate a station, you are certainly welcome to come out and simply fellowship with your friends and have a great time. I look forward to seeing you there.

Oh, and before I forget, we will be discussing FYAO at our DX/Contest meeting on the 27th of January. So if you have and ideas that we can incorporate in the future for this event, please attend. (*Changing the date for Freeze Your Acorns Off to July will not be considered.*)

73 and Good Luck in the contest,

Chuck, W8PT
FYAO Chairman



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!

Don't forget - 4th Thursday is NET NIGHT at the club site !!



January	
1	WB8LCD/P
8	KB8UUZ
15	N8QE
22	KD8FDK
29	WB8LCD

February	
5	N8WLE
12	KB8UHN
19	WB2DFC
26	K8CAV

March	
5	KC8PD
12	WA8AR
19	WB8LCD
26	KB8UUZ

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

Tom, WB8LCD

PCARS Thursday Night 2 Meter Net

The PCARS 2-meter Thursday night net is actually the oldest PCARS club activity in the club's history! Net number 1 was held on Thursday, January 5, 2006 - the week prior to the first ever PCARS membership meeting. The following stations were checked into the net, in order: KC8PD, N8WLE, N4TIE, KB8UUZ, WB9LBI, N8MC, KC8SXX, KC8RKB, W8KNO, KB8DPN, KC8ZWY, KB8VJL, KC8RJR, K8CMP, KC8ZNC, KC8JGJ, KD8CMM, and WB8LCD – Net Control Op, for a total of 18 check ins. January 2015 starts our 10th year of continuous net operation. If you know any of the hams listed here who are not weekly participants in the PCARS net, ask them to make a “Guest Appearance” as we begin our tenth year. That's Thursday, January 1, 2015. I plan to be your NCS (net control station) again via echolink from Florida.*** If I have a connection problem, Jim, KC8PD will be the local back-up to make sure the net happens.



I'm hoping that everyone will get into the habit of checking into the Thursday night nets. It will help you stay connected with all the activities that PCARS has and is a good way to get to know your fellow club members a little bit better. And we do expect you to have

some comments for the net! Let us know what you've been doing, what you need help with, where your ham radio interests have taken you. You can always look at the PCARS web site (www.portcars.org) to see who the current and upcoming Net control operators will be, and, if you would like to join that list, please send me an email to WB8LCD@portcars.org and I'll get you onto the list.

It seems like our numbers peaked out at 35-40 typical weekly check-ins, and then dropped back down between 20-30 weekly check-ins for the past several months. I'd sure like to see those numbers go back up again, but I need you to help me. First, please check into the net yourself. During the week let others know that everyone is welcome to check into our net and invite them to stop by. Finally, let some of those DX stations know that they are welcome to check in via Echolink using the K8SRR Echolink node. It's always a thrill when some DX shows up on the local net.

Thank you to all who have been weekly regular check-ins!

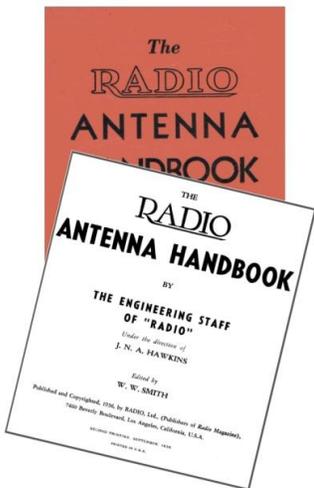
73 and Happy New Year,

Tom, WB8LCD

***Steve, K8SRR, has been diligently working to resolve some software issues at the club site. Currently it seems to be working with some patches Steve has applied and hopefully some permanent solutions will be coming soon. Thanks Steve!



Free Radio Antenna Book



A WONDERFUL wire antenna book available online - **FREE**. The book was published in 1936.

A fantastic discussion of amateur wire antennas. Much of what was done back then, is still done today!

<http://www.tubebooks.org/Books/ant1936.pdf>

73,

Rick, WA8TSI



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Package Deal! Perfect station for beginner or seasoned operator.

Icom 746Pro – late serial number – 0208xxx - comes with: HM-36 Hand mic. Mic adapter to use boom mic & foot switch (boom mic and foot switch not included). Fused DC power cords. Optional/extra plug-in cooling fan.

Icom PS-125 Power Supply

Ameritron AL-811H amplifier

Ameritron QSK-5: Transit/Receive Switch

Ameritron ARB-704: Amplifier-to-Transceiver Interface

MFJ-989D Tuner: Legal Limit, Roller Inductor (meters stopped working, needs diodes replaced. I have them, but never got around to replacing them).

This equipment has been packed in their boxes for the last 2.5 to 3 years. I bought all new Elecraft radios, tuner & amplifier and no longer had a use for them. **I have original boxes and manuals for the equipment.** I will sell **all** the above for \$2,800. This is a **Package Deal** - I will not sell it piece-by-piece, nor entertain any offers of trades.

Contact Jim, KE8G at: KE8G@cox.net [04/02/15]

FOR SALE: Cushcraft A4 Tri-band (10-15-20) Beam. Beam was taken out of service and stored in a garage. Specs indicate 8.9 dBd/2000 W PEP. Recently assembled and SWR-tested then bundled. Also includes much new hardware and new plastic caps for tubing and traps. \$100.00

Contact Bill, KW8KW by e-mail at KW8KW@sbcglobal.net [04/02/15]

FOR SALE: Moving and downsizing and have for sale: **Package Deal:**

Hy-gain TH7DX - <http://www.dxengineering.com/parts/hgn-th-7dx> , **Telex/Hy-Gain HG 52-SS** self-supporting crank-up tower [nested 21'] <http://www.hy-gain.com/support.php?productid=HG-52SS> and **Hy-Gain HDR-300** rotor and control with digital read-out <http://www.hy-gain.com/Product.php?productid=HDR-300A>

This package is offered for \$500 to an individual or organization that can provide the proper equipment and manpower to de-erect this system. I have final approval on the means & methods to prevent damage to life, limb and property.

Current QTH is Chagrin Falls. Moving to Hudson after the residence is sold in the spring.

Contact Paul, N8QZ by phone 216-577-4570 **or e-mail** N8QZ@portcars.org [02/02/15]

FOR SALE: Mosley CL-36-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna, \$500

FOR SALE: Mosley CL-33-M 10, 15, 20 MTR BEAM antenna, \$400

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-711A, 2 Mtr All Mode, \$450

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-811A, 440 Mhz All Mode, \$530

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-450SAT, HF All Mode, \$600

FOR SALE: Misc tower parts, contact me if interested.

Contact Al, AB8AA by phone: 330-207-3296 **or e-mail:** AB8AA@portcars.org [01/02/15]

WANTED: DIGITAL TV Converter Box (working). Want to play with SSTV, need a converter. Let me know what you have and how much. Inexpensive and working is good.....

Contact Bucky, N8OQQ by e-mail at: N8OQQ@portcars.org [01/02/15]

FOR SALE: Astron SS-30M 25 amp (30 surge) power supply with meters - \$99

Contact Tom, KB8UUZ by e-mail at: KB8UUZ@portcars.org [01/02/15]

FOR SALE: Andrew 2.4GHz (wi-fi) window antenna, new in box, QD-2327SM10-1, \$25
FOR SALE: LDG Z-11Pro II auto tuner, new in box, \$100
FOR SALE: Garmin StreetPilot 1350T GPS, used, in box, \$45
FOR SALE: Microham USB interface (current production model), with cable for Kenwood TS-480 series, \$75
FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio Plug&Play soundcard interface, in box \$75
FOR SALE: LTG AT-600 Pro auto tuner, slightly used, in box, \$225
FOR SALE: Kantronics KPC III-Plus TNC, used only for testing, in box, \$125
FOR SALE: MFJ Universal Microphone Adapter, MFJ-1251, \$10
FOR SALE: TenTec RF speech processor, model 715. \$150

Contact Rick, K8GI by e-mail at: K8GI@portcars.org [01/02/15]

FOR SALE: Swan 1500Z Amplifier - Power is set up for 220 VAC, can be changed over to 110 VAC very easy. Two 572B tubes. In good working condition. Non-smoking shack. Comes with manual - \$500.00

Contact Bob, W8JFQ at: 336-707-7148 or by e-mail at: davet101@roadrunner.com [01/02/15]



Dues are Due

Please, help keep PCARS going by paying your annual dues on-time. The sooner you get them paid, the easier our new Treasurer's job will be.

You can mail in your dues, bring them to a meeting, or better yet - pay On-Line using PayPal. Yes, we have that option right on the PCARS web site. You pay a slightly higher amount to cover the PayPal fee, but it's easy and fast. Check out the PCARS web site under the "Club Info" tab.



New! Pay your Dues With Paypal!

Here's something new. You can now pay your dues via Paypal. Just click the button below.

PCARS Dues Options

Full Membership (1yr)	\$20.88 USD
Full Membership (1yr)	\$20.88 USD
Senior Full Membership (1yr)	\$16.76 USD
Family Members (1yr)	\$10.59 USD

Buy Now



At the end of this newsletter is a dues form if you have any changes (new address, phone, call sign, etc.) Or, if you are a NEW member, please use the form so we have all your correct information on file.



Let's Talk

Wow.. this has really been a year of "change" for sure. The year started out with not only me taking over the reins and completing the term for Frank Piper, KI8GW as Section Manger, but we had a new Affiliated Clubs Coordinator, Sandy Mackey, N8YS and a new Official Observer Coordinator, John Perone, W8RXX stepping in as well.

January also saw some changes in the Ohio Section Journal with the introduction of a new, web based newsletter in addition to the text version one. This new web based newsletter is able to include pictures and graphics as well as hyperlinks to important items in the articles. It's a much improved newsletter that allows the reader to interact with it to make the articles much more interesting for the readers.

February the Section Manager (me) finally got to shed off the cane that I had to use after I broke my leg in a fall back at Thanksgiving. Now I finally had something to be thankful for since I didn't get any Thanksgiving dinner that day.



The month of March saw new promotional items being introduced by the Section Manager. It started with an idea from my wife telling me that we needed to add some promotional items to get people to visit the ARRL table at hamfests. It eventually spread out to have a "mug" on me which is a coffee mug filled with candy and a gift card.

The month of April Ohio got to cheer on one of its own, Jay Slough, K4ZLE as the winner of the April QST Cover Plaque award for his article "A 10 Meter Moxon Antenna." It also saw our Ohio PRB-1 Law standing its own ground and winning an appeal at the 6th Appellate District Court. The town of Swanton once again loses its case. There was also reflection in April, as that this was the 40th anniversary of the April 3rd / 4th tornado outbreak that destroyed the town of Xenia (1974). It is still remembered to this day as the largest outbreak of tornadoes in the history of this country.

The month of May started party time, as that the ARRL celebrated their 100th birthday this past year starting at the Dayton Hamvention. The party had all the hoopla that you could imagine, including birthday cake for everyone who attended the Hamvention that Sunday morning. The Ohio Section shown bright at the Hamvention once again this year by manning the one and only ARRL sponsored Section booth.

June for the Ohio Section was very busy with our Cabinet members traveling well over 2,000 miles to visit as many Field Day sites as all of us could get to in that 24 hour time frame. I know personally I checked in to more than 25 sites that weekend. We did experience a couple of small tornadoes this year, but luckily none of them did any real extensive damage to anyone or anyone's property. We were very lucky this year. No major weather events that caused any loss of life.

July started off with a bang with the 4th of July being celebrated, as well as a course change in our ARES program with a new Section Emergency Coordinator, Stan Broadway, N8BHL being appointed. With job and family responsibilities changing we said goodbye to our recently appointed Affiliated Clubs Coordinator - Sandy Mackey, N8YS and with that we were very lucky to quickly find a very qualified new volunteer to take over where she left off, John Myers, KD8MQ. And, if you have forgotten, July of course was the 100th birthday Convention in Hartford Connecticut that celebrated Amateur Radio in every way imaginable. Those that were lucky enough to be able to attend stated that it was the best birthday party that they ever attended. One of Ohio's own - Tom Sly, WB8LCD was a guest speaker as well. We also experienced a change in the guard at the

Division level in July as long time Director, Jim Weaver, K8JE retired. By succession Dale Williams, WA8EFK move up to Director and a newbie, Tom Delaney, W8WTD was then appointed to the Vice Directorship replacing Dale in that position. Happening at the national level at this time was U.S. House Bill - HR 4969. This is the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014." If the measure would pass it would require the FCC, within 120 days of the Bill's passage, to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply PRB-1 coverage to include homeowners' association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs). This Bill would give the Amateur equal rights afforded us by PRB-1, that is to say "Reasonable Accommodations" would have to be granted the Amateur to be able to use his/her Amateur Radio station.

In August the Ohio Section had its conference along with the always successful Columbus Hamfest where the top newsletters in Ohio were acknowledged in the ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest. We also celebrated the newest inductee of the Allan Severson Award when I presented it to Frank Piper, KI8GW. I also presented Jackie Piper, KC8ESO with the Section Manager's "Special Appreciation" award.

September came barreling in with a wager between the ARRL President and myself. The challenge was just for bragging rights only, but I really felt I had the advantage over Kay on this one. Wow.. Ohio State was blown out of the water by Kay's Virginia Tech Football team. So, with tongue in cheek I had to concede.. Virginia Tech was the better team that day.

October was met with and fantastic Simulated Emergency Test (SET) around the state. FUN was had by everyone that participated. The month also had its sadness too, as Rick Swain, KK8O our former OOC became a silent key. JOTA was also a huge success this year. There were a number of Scouts on the air because of the extra efforts from our Assistant Section Manager for Scouting - Scott Hixon, KC8ITN this year. The Village of Swanton once again is on the attack against our Ohio PRB-1 law. They now petitioned the Ohio Supreme Court to look at their case. Our Section Government Liaison, Nick Pittner, K8NAP feels that our law will stand, but we need to be ever diligent in making sure that it does stay put.

November came in like a lion with the "Gales of November" with massive amounts of snow in the north eastern side of our state and buried the western corner of New York (Buffalo). Ohio's ARES went on standby in case we were needed to assist with communications in this area. There was also another wager on a football game. This time it was with my counterpart up in Michigan. This time (like last year) I was successful when Ohio State dominated Michigan. This wager was for bragging rights only, but I am 2 for 2 on the OSU/Michigan games!!

December has now come in with Connie Hamilton, N8IO deciding to retire from the Assistant Section Manager's position and the appointment of Lyn Alfman, N8IMW to replace Connie in the South East Section. We've also found our ARES program being activated once again for a natural gas well leak in the south east section that has over 50 families evacuated. This situation was touchy enough that I even called the Section Manager in West Virginia to put their ARES program on standby, just in case. Luckily, everything is turning out to be good and we may be able to stand down all activities before Christmas.

The Section Cabinet has been very busy this year attending club meetings, public service events and hamfests all over the state. We have a very active ARES program and our Section Emergency Coordinator - Stan, N8BHL is growing and encouraging everyone to have "fun" while providing a very valuable "service" to the community our served agencies. Our Technical Coordinator - Jim Yoder, W8ERW has been busy working with a number of folks around the state with interference and technical problems that hams have. Our Official Observer Coordinator - John Perone, W8RXX has been working hard at enhancing the Amateur Auxiliary with a number of new OO's, including me, out there listening and encouraging proper operator techniques. He is also working with a number of you in helping document incidents where there is a lack of discipline with a very

small amount of you out there. Our Affiliated Clubs Coordinator - John Myers, KD8MQ has been extremely busy encouraging new clubs to "affiliate" with the ARRL and not stopping there we have also seen an increase in Special Services Clubs as well. We aren't where we want to be, but we are growing and that's what counts. Our Section Traffic Manager - David Maynard, WA3EZN has been very active on the various nets and recording and reporting the hours we spend passing important messages in and out of the state. Our Public Information Coordinator - John Ross, KD8IDJ has been busy with the newsletter contest and promoting Amateur Radio around the state. Our Section Government Liaison - Nick Pittner, K8NAP is busy with our on-going legal actions with our new antenna law as well as the newest Bill that is going to be introduced into the House of Representatives in Mid-January that will take over where HR-4969 left off. And then there are our Assistant Section Managers - Lyn Alfman, N8IMW; Kitty Hevener, W8TDA; Fritz Tender, WD8E; Bob Johnson, K3RC and Bob Winston, W2THU. They are strategically located around the state to assure everyone is represented. They are all hard working and ready to help you with your concerns. We also have 2 very special Assistant Section Managers that take care of our Education and Scouting - Anthony Luscre, K8ZT and Scott Hixon, KC8ITN. Both of them have been very active this year with their individual programs. We are starting to see the fruits of this with more activity starting in classrooms and in the scouting programs.

As you can see, we have a lot going on in the state of Ohio at any given time. Yes, we are the biggest Section of the 71 Sections, and I hope this little snapshot gives you some idea of just how much activity is really happening here. I'm very proud of our people and the programs that we have. I think you'll have to agree with me that Ohio is one very active state!!

Now, on a personal note. I want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year. Even though 2014 was a year for "change", we are very blessed to have a great core of folks who are willing and able to step up to the challenges and make things even better than before.

2015 has the promise of being a fantastic year for Amateur Radio and the Ohio Section. I will do my very best to make it the best year for the Ohio Section ever!



73,
Scott Yonally, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager

ARRL Legislation

HR 4969
HR 4969 — the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014"— has recently been introduced into the 113th Congress.
Support this effort: Contact your representative in Congress to ask for their support.

▶ <http://www.arrl.org/hr-4969>

Get Behind
HR 4969

YL 33: The First Female Ham Radio Operators, and their Awesome Legacy

Love, sealed with friendship.

Historically, literacy—in its many forms—has given the marginalized a way to speak and participate in a system that previously prevented them from doing so. And while the printing press revolutionized the way writing was exchanged and shared with the world, the invention of radio as entertainment, emergency, and communication technology had a similar effect on oral storytelling. From this, ham radio, also known as amateur radio, was born as a subset of commercial radio. The appeal of communicating independently to others across the globe struck a chord with many people in the early 20th century - including women looking for ways to participate in war efforts, and connect with other women around the world.



Although enthusiasm for ham radio as the medium of choice for hobbyists, veterans, and emergency responders hasn't waned much over the last fifty or so years, the hobby is making a strong resurgence as aspiring makers acknowledge radio's contribution to the movement. Many hams consider amateur radio to be the original maker skill, requiring knowledge of electricity, geography and communication. And it's one of many mediums that gave women the chance to have a global voice - and they took it.

Calm the ham

For those unfamiliar with the subculture of ham radio, the title “ham” was originally used as a negative name associated with amateur operators who, without proper training, would disrupt professionals. Eventually, though, the name lost its negative stigma and is now used interchangeably with “amateur.” Regardless of someone's amateur status, all operators must be licensed and complete a training program, through FCC regulations.

Female hams are called “YLS,” which is short for “Young Lady,” regardless of the operator's age. While that seems simultaneously antiquated, cute, and patronizing, keep in mind that the ham radio subset of men is referred to as “OMs,” or “Old Man.” The largest organization for YL ham operators in the world is the Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc. (YLRL), founded in 1939, which exists to encourage and assist YLS throughout the world to become licensed amateur radio operators.

Although amateur and commercial radio was heavily male-dominated, the response to the influx of women operators was—and still is—largely positive. In “The Feminine Wireless Amateur,” a 1916 article in *The Electrical Experimenter*, the writer says: JUST because a man, Signor Guglielmo Marconi by name, invented commercial wireless telegraphy does not mean for a moment that the fair sex cannot master its mysteries. [...]

Women seem to progress excellently in the engineering branches. Primarily this is so because her brain is quick of action, and moreover she usually will be found to have extremely well-balanced ideas as to proportions, so essential in designing. A wonderful imagination coupled to a number of other worthy faculties help to make a really fine combination, so that we find a steadily growing number of women architects, mechanical and electrical experts, radio operators, civil engineers, ad lib. What we need is more of them in the higher positions, where the square root and binomial theorem are everyday quantities.

That's quite a positive - and progressive - perspective on women in science and engineering - especially for 1919. A 1931 article in the *New York Times* also remarked on this trend, saying that.

The list of women obtaining licenses as amateur radio operators is increasing rapidly, the Department of Commerce said today, although there were only eight registered women commercial operators in the country. [...] There are eighty-six women amateurs, compared with about 18,000 men operators. This number has changed drastically since the 1930. And while there are now thousands of women worldwide with call signs, several notable women during the early 20th century set the stage for the new generations of girls finding a voice on the airwaves.

Gladys Kathleen Parkin

At just fifteen years old, Gladys Kathleen Parkin (1901-1990) received her professional ham radio license. Basically, this makes her a total badass, considering that she'd had her amateur radio license since age nine. She was featured on the cover of *The Electrical Experimenter*, and at the time was the "youngest successful female applicant for a radio license ever examined by the Government at that time," according to a 1916 article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Parkin began her hobby at age five with her brother, and was the first woman in California to pass the first-class radio license.

Parkin's call sign is 6S0, and she spent her life in the radio industry, developing a reputation for building her own equipment. Here she is, quoted in *The Electrical Experimenter*:

With reference to my ideas about the wireless profession as a vocation or worthwhile hobby for women, I think wireless telegraphy is a most fascinating study, and one which could very easily be taken up by girls, as it is a great deal more interesting than the telephone and telegraph work, in which so many girls are now employed. I am only fifteen. ... But the interest in wireless does not end in the knowledge of the code. You can gradually learn to make all your own instruments, as I have done with my ¼ kilowatt set. There is always more ahead of you, as wireless telegraphy is still in its infancy.



Allow Us to Present Miss Kathleen Parkin, Expert Radio Operator at Fifteen Years of Age. She has made her own apparatus.

Graynella Packer

At twenty-two, Graynella Packer of Florida became the youngest woman to become a wireless operator "on board an ocean-going steamship," reads a 1914 article in the *King Country Chronicle*. Her experiences at sea gave her many stories that she later recounted to her friends and family. Although she technically wasn't an amateur, her passion began as a hobby, and Packer had long been interested in the way electricity and communication worked on the open seas. She served on the steamship *Mohawk* from 1910 to 1911.

Olive Carroll

Canadian-born Olive J. Carroll had a passion for travel and exploration while growing up during the 1930s and 40s – and radio was her gateway to the world. Carroll’s interest in amateur radio began in high school, but she eventually turned it into her career and attended the Sprott Shaw School of Radio, where she earned her second class radio certificate in 1944. She was hired by the Canadian Department of Transport as an interceptor operator, and a few years later, when an opportunity opened on the Norwegian passenger freighter M/S Siranger, she accepted the position—having never before traveled farther than 500 miles from her home. Like Packer, Carroll was driven by a desire to explore the world by operating from the ocean.

In 1994, she authored a book about her experiences called Deep Sea ‘Sparks’: A Canadian Girl in the Norwegian Merchant Navy. The San Francisco Maritime Museum has recreated a ship’s radio room with the same equipment Carroll used during her time on the M/S Siranger.

Clara Reger

It’s impossible to talk about notable female hams without acknowledging the work of Clara Reger, who received her call sign in 1933 at age thirty-five. Reger had a long career as an operator, and managed disaster communications after WWII. Known for her exceptional Morse code skills, Reger spent much of her life teaching others how to become operators. She also received the Edison Award for teaching a fourteen-year-old boy without arms to send Morse code with his feet.

But Reger is also known for her signature salutation, which she created especially for women communicating with other women - the salutation ‘33,’ which meant love sealed with friendship. Reger knew that to hear another girl’s voice on the other end was rare and special. What a gift, to find kinship with women, through the radio, across the ocean, across the globe!

YL 33 is considered sacred by female hams, and there’s a poem dedicated to Reger’s accomplishments and passion for radio communications. You can read it in full on the Young Ladies Radio League’s website, (<http://www.ylrl.org/index.php/the-birth-of-33>) but here’s a passage:

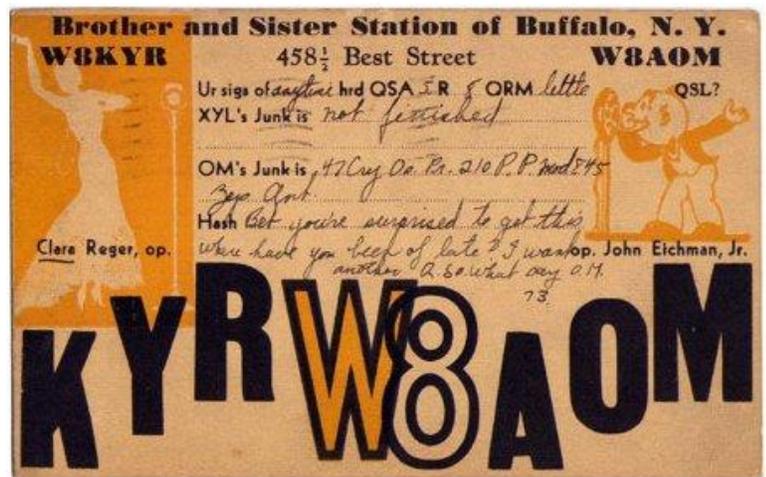
*There’s no real definition
But its meaning is known well.
It’s how a YL says good evening
To another friend YL.*



Although these are just a few of the many women who used radio as their medium of choice, their stories as operators are fascinating and inspiring. These women are united in their mutual passion for exploration, technology and adventure, and that still holds true today for many female ham operators. If you’re interested in becoming a ham radio operator, consider joining YLRL, the Sisterhood of Amateur Radio, or the ARRL.

Ashley Hennefer

Ashley Hennefer, M.A., is a writer and researcher based in Reno, Nevada. She’s the founder and editor of The New Artemis, and is passionate about technology, travel, and the humanities. From the Mary Sue web site: <http://www.themarysue.com/female-ham-radio-operators/>.

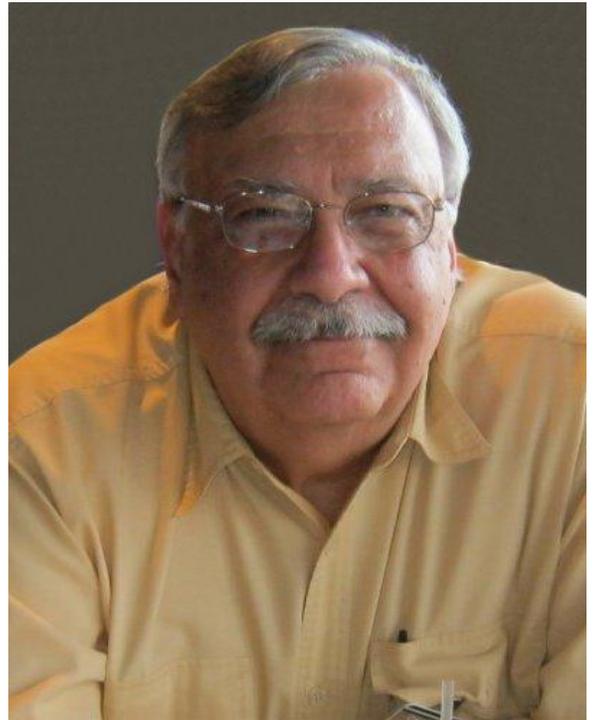


Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Greetings to all Radiogram readers on this icy morning. As I sit here sipping a cup of coffee and listening to 10 meters (just worked Mike, 5R8UI), it's hard to imagine that we are starting a new year. But here it is and I'm still waiting for cars that fly like the Jetsons that we were supposed to have by 1999. Maybe by 2099.

But the technology that we Amateur Radio Operators are constantly developing is pushing the envelope in communications, not to mention other scientific areas. I tip my hat to those who still carry on the tradition of experimentation. And a big thank you to those who make this technology available to the rest of us. Just received an early Christmas present to myself - a Heil Pro 7 headset. Very nice indeed.

If you have been on the air recently, you would notice that the bands have been very cooperative to those looking for DX. I've spent a majority of my time on 10 meters with great results. I'm hoping that it lasts for a while more before we see the end of Cycle 24. In the meantime, I am still trying my best to get a good number of you to get on the air and work some DX. Even if you work someone on 2 meter simplex in the next state, it's still DX. So dust off that key or mic and use some of the electricity that's not going to your Christmas tree lights and warm up the ether with a CQ. You never know who may come back.



A big THANK YOU to the following for the forecast reports for this month and beyond. Without them and their timely information, it would be much harder to know what's happening on the bands. So a BIG thank-you to 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. I also want to thank the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) for some reports.

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).

DX.....

3D2, FIJI. Udo, DL9HCU, is once again active as 3D2HC from Nadi, Viti Levu Island (OC-016, WLOTA 0055), next few weeks. He was heard this past week on 20 meters (14183 kHz at 0603z) on the ANZA DX Net. Usually runs QRP on 30-15m on CW. QSL via DL9HCU, by the Bureau or direct.

4S, SIR LANKA (Reminder). Peter, DC0KK, will once again be active as 4S7KKG from Moragalla, Sri Lanka (AS-003, WLOTA 0762), between now and April 10. Activity mainly on CW and the Digital modes. QSL via DC0KK, by the Bureau (preferred) or direct (see QRZ.com). LoTW on request. All QSLs for all QSOs will be sent via the QSL Bureau.

5Z, KENYA. Operators Bertrand/DF3FS (CW) and Oli/DL9OLI (SSB) active as 5Z4/homecall from Diani Beach between Feb 16 and Mar 8. Activity holiday style on 80-10m CW and SSB. They plan to use verticals on 80/40/30m and Hexbeams on 20-10m. QSL via their home call signs, direct or by the Bureau. For more details and update, see: <http://www.df3fs.de/5z-2015/index.html>

6W, SENEGAL. Francis, F6BLP, active as 6W7SK from Saly Portudal, 80 kms south of Dakar on the coast, between Jan 10 and Feb 5. Holiday style using the same station as last time (IC-7000 into G5RV antenna) operating mainly CW on 80-

10 meters. If possible, he also hopes to be active on 160m with an Inverted L with a 300 watts solid state amplifier. Look for his low band activity during his local sunrise and sunset. QSL via F6BLP, direct or by the Bureau. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. For more details, logs and pictures of his last operation, visit: <http://www.f6blp.org>

9Q, DEM. REP. OF CONGO. The "Radioamateur Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo" (ARAC) has invited the "Italian DXpedition Team" for a short stay in Kinshasa during March 2015. The purpose of the activity will be theoretical and practical training and refresher courses for the Amateurs of the DR of Congo. The callsign of the operation will be 9Q0HQ. Operators mentioned are Silvano/I2YSB, Vinicio/IK2CIO, Angelo/IK2CKR, Marcello/IK2DIA, Stefano/IK2HKT, Mac/JA3USA (one week only) and Alfeo/ I1HJTK. The HF pilot station will be Art, IK7JWY, and the 50 Mhz pilot station will be Sergio, IK0FTA. Software Management (log in real time) will be run by Giacomo, IH9GPI. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are:
CW - 1826, 3530, 7025, 10115, 14030, 18068, 21030, 24893 and 28030 kHz
SSB - 3780, 7103, 14270, 18155, 21310, 24975 and 28420 kHz
RTTY - 14087 kHz
6m - 50102/CW and 50123/SSB

ASIAN AND AFRICAN TOUR. Toshi, JA8BMK, to be active over the next month and into the new year. Activity will be mainly on the lower bands (160-80m) with better receive antennas and locations. Tentative schedule is as follows:

January 10-25th (2015) - **Antananarivo, Madagascar**; call sign **5R8DX**; operators Toshi/JA8BMK and Ken/JN1THL; focusing on the low bands.

February 5-25th - **Vientiane, Laos**; call sign; from a new QTH with lower noise and wider area and with RX antennas.

March 1-31st- **Nha Trang, Vietnam**; call sign **XV7BM**; with improved RX antennas.

QSL all call signs via JA8BMK.

CE0, JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLAND. Members of the Provins ARC (F6KOP), who were recently active from Tromelin, will activate Robinson Crusoe Island (SA-005, aka Juan Fernandez Archipelago) between February 24th and March 4th. Call sign has not been announced as this was being written, but a team of 22 operators from 7 different countries will be active on 160-6 meters. Team Leader is Alain/F5JTV and Co-leaders are Tony/F8ATS and Jean Luc/F1ULQ. QSLs will be direct, by the Bureau or by LoTW. Look for a Web site to be online soon. A FaceBook page is now available at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/JuanFernandez2015/747628888649765> More details will be forthcoming.

DX0, SPRATY ISLANDS. Members of the Mabuhay DX Group (made up of Filipino- American-Canadian and Filipino DXers/Contests) will activate Pag Asa Island (AS-051, Kalayaan Island Group) as DX0P in April. Operators mentioned are Ernesto/AD5MD, Jose/DU1BP, Bern/K6BF, Alex/K6BG, Leo/WA6LOS, Billy/ WE6DX, Joel/WJ1P, Chito/WW6CP, Rey/K6ZRH, Ven/DV3KWM and RJ/DU7RJA. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via WJ1P. Visit their FaceBook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/DX0P2015>

FJ, ST. BARTHELEMY. Gene, N9SW, will once again be active as FJ/N9SW from St. Barthelemy (NA-146) between January 17-25th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-6m (possibly 80m) mainly CW. QSL via his home call sign.

H4, SOLOMON ISLANDS. Bernhard, DL2GAC, active as H44MS on a DX vacation to Honiara, Guadalcanal (WLOTA 0086), Solomon Islands (OC-047), between February 1st and April 30th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters SSB only. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct.

JD1, OGASAWARA. Harry, JG7PSJ, will once again be active as JD1BMH from Chichijima Island (AS-031) between December 28th and January 10th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via the Bureau to JD1BMH or direct to JG7PSJ. Visit his Web page for more details at: <http://sapphire.es.tohoku.ac.jp/jd1bmh> Also, on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jd1bmh>

JW, SVALBARD. Rene, DL2JRM, will be active as JW/home call from the club station in Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen Island (EU-026, WLOTA 0125), between February 18-25th (2015). Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. He will also be an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (Feb 21-22nd). QSL via his home call sign.

JW, SVALBARD. Svein, LA9JKA (ex-JX9JKA), will once again be active as JW9JKA from Bear Island (EU-027) between (Approx.) December 6th and May 30th. Activity will be limited to his spare-time, and Svein will be focusing on

the bands from 160-6 meters. Equipment is limited, due to rules of work. Focus will be on 160m during the winter, and 6m in springtime. QSL only direct to his home address (see QRZ.com).

K1N, NAVASSA IS. The KP1-5 Project and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service have been working together on preparations for the joint 14 day visit to Navassa Island NWR. Although the actual dates may still vary, it now appears they will begin transport to the Island during the last week of January. This one is a big deal since there has not been any Amateur activity from Navassa for 20 years.

KH8, AMERICAN SAMOA. Nobu, JA0JHQ, active as AH0CO/KH8 from American Samoa between Jan 7-12th. Activity will be mainly on 30/17/15 meters using mainly SSB with some CW. QSL via JA0JHQ, direct or by the Bureau.

P2, PAPUA NEW GUINEA. Norbert, DH1NK, will once again be active as P29NK from Papua New Guinea between January 15th and June 15th (2015). Activity will be limited (due to work at the hospital) on 80-10 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via DH1NK by the Bureau.

S7, SEYCHELLES. Eric, OE4AAC, will be active as S79AC from Mahe (WLOTA 3286) and Praslin Islands (WLOTA 2862) in the Seychelles Island group (AF-024) between January 17th and February 10th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters on CW. QSL via OE4AAC, direct, by the Bureau or ClubLog's OQRS.

TI9, COCOS ISLAND. Operators Dom/3Z9DX, Jon/K7CO and Jorge/TI2HMJ will be active as TI9A from Cocos Island (NA-012) between February 16-23rd. It has been 6 years since the last TI9 operation, and it is ranked 26th on the most wanted list. Boat trip to the island will take place February 14th (2015), and it takes 30 hours from Costa Rica. Their Radio Permit is issued for 7 days only. That means they can operate for only about 6 days (24h/day operation). They are in possession of the second permit, which allows them to stay on the island overnight. The team will have 2 radios on the air operating on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via 3Z9DX, direct, by the Bureau, the OQRS on ClubLog or direct PayPal request (no need to send a paper card). QSL requests with insufficient postage will be returned to the sender via Bureau. They are looking for funds. A survey/vote for bands/modes needs is available at the following Web page, as well as more details and updates, see: <http://www.nielsen.net/ti9a>

TY, BENIN. Wynand, ZS6ARF, is now active as TY2CD until 2018. He is there as a South African diplomat in Cotonou and will be active on CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Wynand has been heard on 10 meters SSB. QSL via LoTW (preferred) or direct to ZS6ARF.

V5, NAMIBIA. Operators Werner/DC8QT, Georg/DD8ZX and Klaus/DJ9KM will once again be active as V5/homecalls from V52W's QTH in Omaruru between Feb 9-20 (2015). Activity on 160-6 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via their home call signs. They also plan to be active as V55V during CQ WPX RTTY Contest (February 14-15th). QSL V55V via DJ8VC, direct or by the Bureau.

V6, MICRONESIA. Madison, W5MJ, active as V63MJ from a new location, Kosrae Island (OC-059), between February 16-24th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters CW only using a K3 and KPA500 amp. QSL via his home call sign.

XR0Y, EASTER ISLAND (Update). A team of Japanese operators will be active as XR0YJ from Hare Kapone on Easter Island between January 10-16th. Operators mentioned are Tatsuo/JA3ARJ, Masumi/JA3AVO, Shozo/JA3HJI, Jusei/JA3IVU, Kunio/JH3LSS, YL Hiroko/JH3PBL and Shima/JI3DNN. Some of these operators are from the Lord Howe Island DXpedition last year. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters (possibly 160m) using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via the ClubLog's OQRS (preferred) or direct to JA3AVO: Masumi Nakade, 3-94 KOYA ITAMI HYOGO, JAPAN, Zip:664-0881. QSL via Bureau (Global-QSL). Logs will be uploaded to LoTW after activity. For more details and updates, watch the following: <http://www.nakade.jp/ce0y.htm> <http://ja3avo.blog81.fc2.com>

YJ, VANUATU. Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as YJ0XG from Port Villa in the middle of April. Activity is usually on 160-10 meters, looking for EU/NA on lower bands. Modes will be CW (mainly), SSB and the Digital. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. Usually an OQRS will be available on ClubLog. Look for more details to be forthcoming or watch his Blog at: <http://kcv-net.easymyweb.jp/member/dxvacation>

IOTA NEWS.....

AS-166. A multi-national team of operators from Belgium, The Netherlands and Greece will be active as **EP6T** (pending) from **Kish Island, Islamic Republic of Iran**, in January. This will be a "Rockall DX Group" DXpedition. Reportedly, it took nearly 3 years of negotiations and a reconnaissance trip by Patrick, ON4HIL, to Tehran, which finally resulted in obtaining a legal license to operate with a team of ten people for fourteen days. The group plans to have 4 (possibly 5) operating stations on the air around the clock for at least 10 days at the end of January. Specific dates will be announced at a later date. Activity will be on all HF bands, 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Some stations during the nighttime hours will be focusing on the low bands using separate receive antennas and quarter wave verticals near the beach.

EU-009. Col, MM0NDX, will be active as MM0NDX/P from the **Orkney Islands** between January 16-18th. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via IW7EGQ.

NA-178. (*POSTPONED*) An operation to the **Farallon Islands** was expected this past week, but due to 8 foot ocean swells, the NA-178 trip was unfortunately canceled. The call sign would have been K6F. The team will retry to operate during the week of January 5th.

SA-071. Paulo, PY2SEI, will be active as PS2AI from As **Ilhas** between January 23-25th. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via his home call sign. LAST MINUTE UPDATE: Operation has been postponed until June 2015.

V4, ST. KITTS. John, W5JON/V47JA, informs us that he will be active once again from his vacation home in Calypso Bay, St. Kitts (NA-104, WW Loc. FK87SG), located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, between January 20th and March 1st. Activity will be on 160-6 meters (incl. 60m) using SSB. Equipment is a Kenwood TS-590S and Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. Antennas include: a 80-10m Multi-band Dipole, 40-10m 31 ft. Verticals, 35 ft. 40/80m Top Loaded Vertical, and shortened 160m Dipole. Also, a 3 element Yagi for 6m. Also, XYL Cathy, W5HAM, will occasionally operate as V47HAM. ALL QSLs go to W5JON direct only or via LoTW. NO Bureau QSLs.

YC8, INDONESIA. Ron, YC8ROP, will be active from Sangihe Island (OC-210) during the ARRL International DX SSB Contest (March 7-8th) and the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 28-29th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (15m)/Low-Power entries. QSL via LoTW or direct to YC8OP.

There's some great DX coming up, including a few great DXpeditions. So as I mentioned above, get on the air and work some of it.

Until next month.... 73,

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



Looking for a new PCARS Secretary

Amy, KD8SKL who has served for several years as the PCARS Secretary is resigning effective December 31, 2014. However, she has agreed to stand in until a replacement is found. On behalf of all of the PCARS members I'd like to thank Amy for the great job she's done as the secretary.

The PCARS secretary position is an appointed position. I would like to have that position filled as soon as possible so there is no gap in coverage of minutes for the meeting, and other important duties that the Secretary performs.

If you're interested in being considered for this position, please drop me a note at K8CAV@portcars.org.

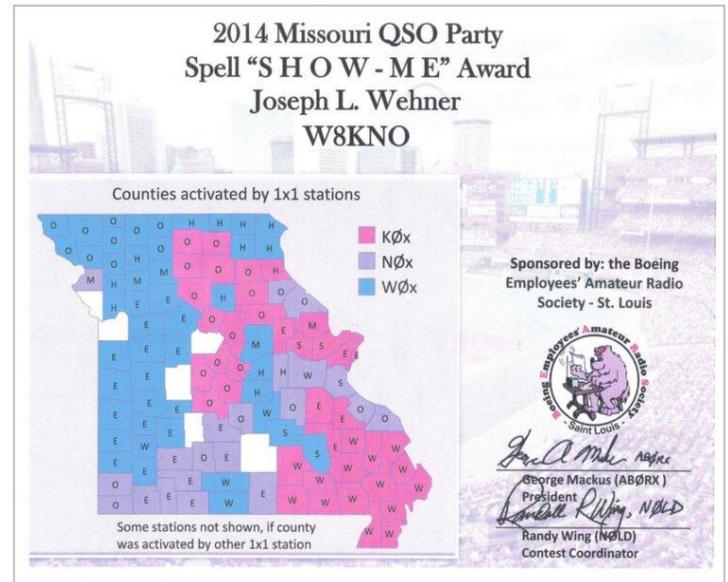
Thanks!
Rick, K8CAV

Paper Chase

On Christmas Eve, I received this certificate. It demonstrates a change in QSO parties. No longer do you just work counties or a specific location but also multiple 1x1 call signs that spell something particular to that state.

It started a couple of years ago with the Kansas QSO where you could spell either "KANSAS" OR "SUNFLOWER". Special awards have occurred in the Florida QSO Party for spelling "FLORIDA"; the Michigan QSO Party for spelling "MICHIGAN" or "MACKINAC" and in Missouri for spelling "SHOW-ME."

Maybe next year we will have the opportunity to spell "BUCKEYE" or "BRUTUS" in the Ohio QSO Party. Read the rules of any QSO Party to see if there is a special award.



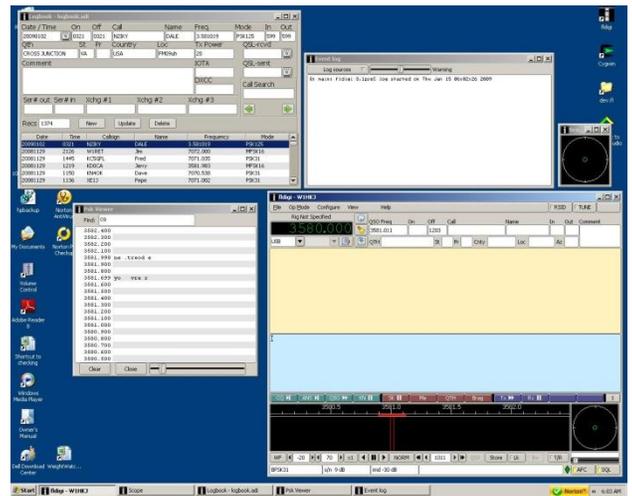
I'll be listening for you!
Joe, W8KNO

Digital Special Interest Group

The Digital Special Interest Group will meet on Tuesday January 6th at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. January's meeting will kick off with a presentation on the basics of digital sound card operations so if you're interested in learning how to operate on the air digitally, or just want to get reacquainted with the basics, mark your calendars and make plans to attend. We'll talk about hardware issues and one of the popular digital packages, Fldigi.

A regular part of the Digital SIG is to make time to help members individually with issues or problems they may be experiencing. Bring your computer, radio, questions, or all of the above and we'll do our best to get your issues addressed.

Also, don't forget that PCARS holds a digital net on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM on the K8IV repeater (146.895, 110.9 PL) to give you the chance to operate digitally and polish your skills.



73,
Rick, K8CAV

PCARS Christmas Dinner

Our annual Christmas Dinner was held on Monday, December 8th at the Overlook Restaurant at Twin Lakes. For those who attended, it was an enjoyable evening to share with family and friends.

Always a high lite for me was the presenting of the “President's Award” to those club members who have gone “above and beyond” in there service to PCARS and their fellow club members. You cannot earn this award if you are currently an officer of PCARS as we always expect a high level of service from them. This is for those who truly care about every other member of the club!

First off was a President's Award for Jim Wilson, AC8NT. In Jim's short tenure with the club, he single handed put on our first ever “Extra Class” class. It was a huge success and many of you benefited from it with the upgrade! Jim has been available to give a meeting presentation and has been instrumental with the group putting together the PCARS Balloon Launch.



Jim, AC8NT



Terry, KB8AMZ

Next was Terry Morris, KB8AMZ. Terry is always there for Field Day, working with the CW crew, and don't forget - those are double points! Even more importantly, Terry has been diligently trying to make more CW ops out of club members by teaching (and re-teaching) the Morse code to those who are interested, helping them to learn and increase their proficiency with it.

Finally was Zeb Smith, KD8WZS. Zeb came into Field Day working on the crew that kept our (ancient) computers up and running, along with the software and networking necessary for everything work together. He's done the same, keeping our computers in the Radio Room working and with up-to-date software for the testers in the club.



Zeb, KD8WZS

All three of these fellow PCARS members have done a great job, and each one is appreciated for their contributions to the club!

Gifts were distributed to everyone in attendance from the gift exchange, and everyone was asked not to open their gift until told to. After the gifts were all passed out, new PCARS President - Rick, K8CAV was given the opportunity to trade his gift for anyone else's in the room that he thought he might rather have. Rick declined that opportunity.

I don't think I'm letting the cat out of the bag here, but, we will not be returning to the Overlook Restaurant in January. As of January 1, 2015, they have a new manager whose goal it is to turn it into a “high class” steak and seafood place. We would be asked to guarantee their profitability with our group, without any input into either the menu or operation. So, stay tuned, there's always a solution, and we'll make sure it's one that works not only for the venue, but for PCARS and its members.

I cannot say it enough, so I will say it here, too. Thank You to all of you for making my years as an officer of PCARS some of the best fun I've ever experienced. I wish Rick and Tony, along with all the officers and members of PCARS an OUTSTANDING 2015 and beyond!

73,

Tom, WB8LCD

CQWW CW K3LR M/M HP - Record Breakers - AGAIN !

Call: K3LR Operator(s): K3LR K3UA G4TSH N2NC W2RQ KL9A N6MJ N3SD N6TV N6AN N3GJ VE3RA Station: K3LR

Class: M/M HP

QTH: West Middlesex, PA

Operating Time (hrs): 48

Summary:

Band QSOs Zones Countries

160:	400	23	84
80:	1549	35	121
40:	2845	40	151
20:	3410	39	166
15:	2684	39	161
10:	2103	40	164

Total: 12991 216 847

Total Score = 38,838,831



Congratulations to the W3LPL team with their outstanding score this weekend (Nov 29/30) in the 2014 CQ WorldWide CW contest. It was great to have the W3LPL team back in the saddle after they had to miss CQWW Phone this year. And big tip of the hat to the W2FU and WE3C teams. Way to go guys! This time there was fantastic USA MM competition. At least four teams broke 30 million points! All multi operator stations share some special team moments and we are thankful to spend 48 hours enjoying our radio hobby with close friends here in West Middlesex, PA at K3LR. Another close race at the top with emphasis on big time fun with the best of friends! Yes, this is VERY special!

Thanks to lots of hard work before, during and after the contest by my very good friend Dave, W9PA who is with us every step of the way. To keep over 20 K3LR computers running for our contesting efforts is a big job. Very TU to W9PA! Also thanks to Greg, W8WWV for all of his help with the hardware here at K3LR. New 15 meter Yagi's, switching designs and problem solving was all thanks to W8WWV. Hours of planning with hundreds of emails all paid off. Also huge thanks to Tim, W3YQ who is the K3LR "project master" developing new switching hardware and installing new RFO proof rotor grounding systems - used on 22 rotors here at K3LR.

HF Radio conditions were OUTSTANDING, which allowed FOR some big fun on the higher bands. We could not imagine how good this contest would be - and it was REALLY GOOD! Our best ever! KL9A, N6MJ and N3SD had a blast on 20 meters, with over 3400 QSOs. This is the third time that the 3K QSO barrier has been broken on 20 CW from K3LR. The super 40 meter team of N2NC and W2RQ kept 40 meters manned for almost the full 48 hours with lots of great rates and good DX. They opened with a 229 hour at the start and set a new K3LR high QSO total for the contest. K3UA and G4TSH worked 80 meters and enjoyed good conditions on the band - nice rates guys Love the new QSO high water mark for K3LR! N6TV and N6AN were the awesome 15 meter team with great rates and some long path DX. N3GJ and VE3RA found some interesting openings on 10 meters with great rates both mornings and they worked 40 zones - WOW - fabulous!

Tim, K3LR

All the stats & more pictures of the K3LR Contest Station can be seen at: <http://www.k3lr.com> . K3LR has been a long time friend of PCARS. Look in the Dec issue of The RADIOGRAM to see how they did in the CQ-WW SSB contest.

Hamfest Schedule

01/25/2015 - 25th Annual TUSCO ARC Hamfest - Location: 965 North Wooster Ave. - Strasburg, OH - Website: <http://www.tuscoarc.org> - Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Janice Green, KB8YDK - 32210 Norris Rd. - Tippecanoe, OH 44699 - Phone: 740-922-4454 - Email: k8wfn@tusco.net

02/01/2015 - NOARS Winter Hamfest & Computer Show - Location: VFW Post 1079 - 500 South Abbe Road - Elyria, OH 44035 - Website: <http://www.noars.net/> - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society - Contact: Darlene Ohman, KA8VTS - 161 Herrmann Drive Avon Lake, OH 44012 - Phone: 216-398-8858 - Email: winterhamfest@noars.net

02/15/2015 - Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest - Location: Richland County Fairgrounds - 750 North Home Road - Mansfield, OH 44901 - Website: <http://www.W8WE.org> - Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Danny Bailey, KB8STK - 70 Euclid Street Shiloh, OH 44878 - Phone: 419-896-2165 - Email: kb8stk1@hotmail.com

04/11/2015 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 61st Annual Hamfest - Location: Emidio & Sons Party Center - 48 East Bath Road - Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php> - Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Ted Sarah, W8TTS - 239 Bermont Avenue Munroe Falls, OH 44262 - Phone: 234-206-0270 - Email: hamfest2015@cfarc.org

MFJ Day at **DX** Engineering

Mark your calendars - **Saturday - January 10, 2015**
DX Engineering invites YOU to MFJ Day at **DX** Engineering !



MFJ will be at the **DX** Engineering store located inside of Summit Racing - 1200 Southeast Ave. - Tallmadge, Ohio with bargain prices on the entire MFJ/Cushcraft/Hy-Gain/Amertron/Mirage and Vectronics line of products. Plus, **DX** Engineering will have many items on sale as well.

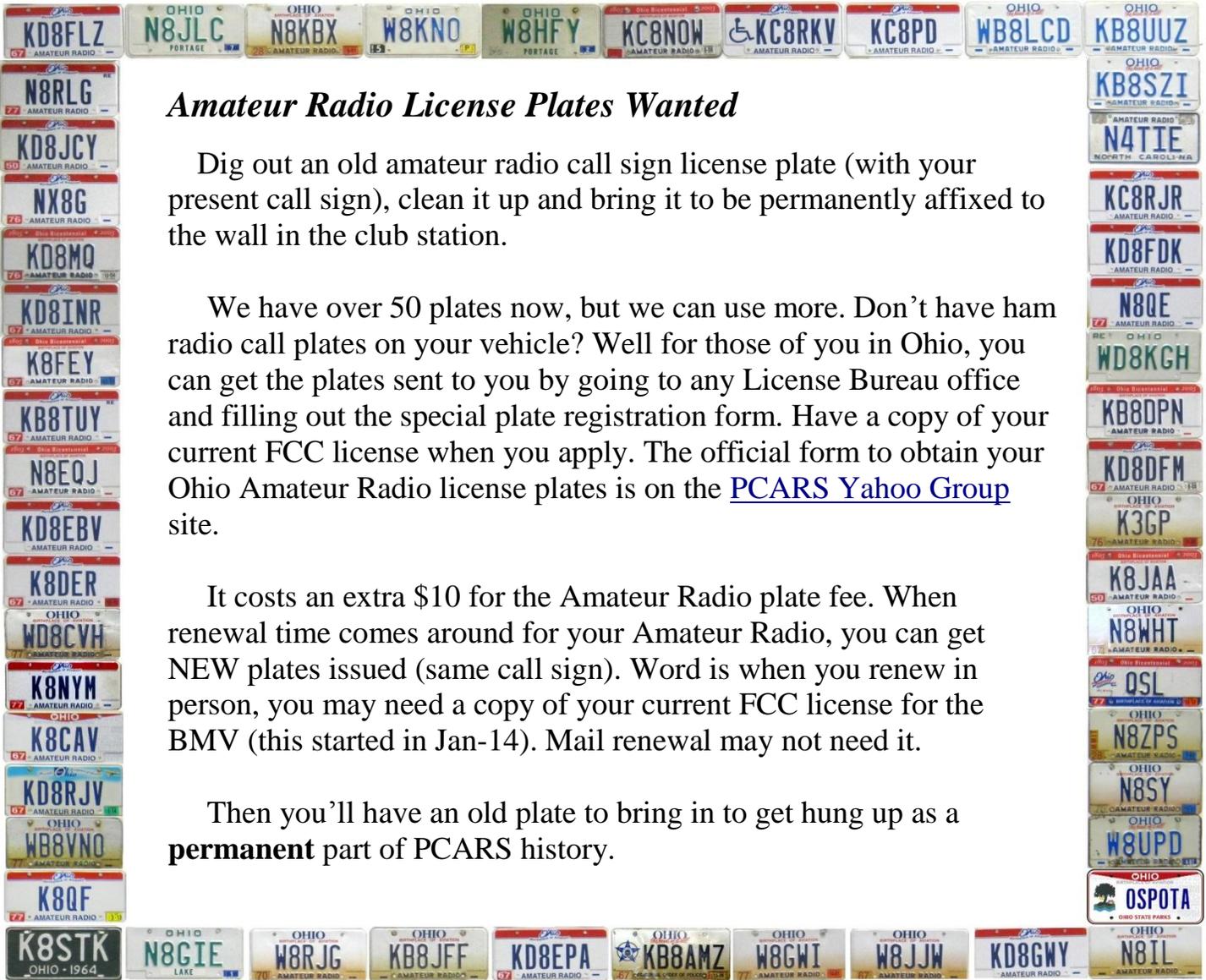
Hours will be 9 am until 2 pm. Prize drawings!!! Meet Martin Jue, K5FLU from MFJ and Tim Duffy, K3LR from **DX** Engineering.

The **DX** Engineering staff will be on hand to assist and answer any questions you may have about amateur radio products.



PCARS
Join Now
Discover the FUN





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 50 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 Yahoo Group](#) site.

It costs an extra \$10 for the Amateur Radio plate fee. When renewal time comes around for your Amateur Radio, you can get NEW plates issued (same call sign). Word is when you renew in person, you may need a copy of your current FCC license for the BMV (this started in Jan-14). Mail renewal may not need it.

Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent** part of PCARS history.

PCARS Meetings



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

The January Meeting will be held at the PCARS club site in Ravenna - doors open at 6:00 pm

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



Most Wanted SSB DX from North America

Top 100 Most Wanted - SSB - from North America					
Rank	Prefix	Entity Name	Rank	Prefix	Entity Name
1.	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)	51.	3B7	AGALEGA & ST BRANDON ISLANDS
2.	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF	52.	VU7	LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS
3.	FT5W	CROZET ISLAND	53.	9N	NEPAL
4.	FT/J	JUAN DE NOVA, EUROPA	54.	8Q	MALDIVES
5.	VK0H	HEARD ISLAND	55.	3W	VIET NAM
6.	VP8S	SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS	56.	3C0	ANNOBON
7.	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS	57.	XU	CAMBODIA
8.	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND	58.	XW	LAOS
9.	KP1	NAVASSA ISLAND	59.	ET	ETHIOPIA
10.	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND	60.	4W	TIMOR-LESTE
11.	EP	IRAN	61.	A5	BHUTAN
12.	VP8G	SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND	62.	3B8	MAURITIUS ISLAND
13.	FT5X	KERGUELEN ISLAND	63.	1S	SPRATLY ISLANDS
14.	EZ	TURKMENISTAN	64.	VP8O	SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS
15.	YA	AFGHANISTAN	65.	YV0	AVES ISLAND
16.	YK	SYRIA	66.	EX	KYRGYZSTAN
17.	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND	67.	VK9M	MELLISH REEF
18.	FK/C	CHESTERFIELD IS.	68.	VP8H	SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS
19.	FT/T	TROMELIN ISLAND	69.	T5	SOMALIA
20.	KH5K	KINGMAN REEF	70.	JD/O	OGASAWARA
21.	E3	ERITREA	71.	S7	SEYCHELLES ISLANDS
22.	R1F	FRANZ JOSEF LAND	72.	PY0S	SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS
23.	VK0M	MACQUARIE ISLAND	73.	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
24.	KH1	BAKER HOWLAND ISLANDS	74.	ZK3	TOKELAU ISLANDS
25.	3A	MONACO	75.	9M2	WEST MALAYSIA
26.	ZC4	UK BASES ON CYPRUS	76.	V6	MICRONESIA
27.	KH5	PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS	77.	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
28.	S2	BANGLADESH	78.	S0	WESTERN SAHARA
29.	JD/M	MINAMI TORISHIMA	79.	T8	PALAU
30.	VU4	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	80.	V8	BRUNEI
31.	E4	PALESTINE	81.	ZL7	CHATHAM ISLAND
32.	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS	82.	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM & ST PAUL ISLANDS
33.	3C	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	83.	5R	MADAGASCAR
34.	UJ	UZBEKISTAN	84.	ZB2	GIBRALTAR
35.	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS	85.	TL	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
36.	VK9X	CHRISTMAS ISLAND	86.	VK9L	LORD HOWE ISLAND
37.	VK9W	WILLIS ISLAND	87.	T31	CENTRAL KIRIBATI
38.	XX9	MACAO	88.	9X	RWANDA
39.	J2	DJIBOUTI	89.	ZL9	AUCKLAND & CAMPBELL ISLAND
40.	H40	TEMOTU PROVINCE	90.	YI	IRAQ
41.	4S	SRI LANKA	91.	3B9	RODRIGUEZ ISLAND
42.	5A	LIBYA	92.	P2	PAPUA NEW GUINEA
43.	4J	AZERBAIJAN	93.	9G	GHANA
44.	KH7K	KURE ISLAND	94.	C21	NAURU
45.	PY0T	TRINDADE & MARTIM VAZ ISLANDS	95.	FH	MAYOTTE
46.	AP	PAKISTAN	96.	TI9	COCOS ISLAND
47.	XZ	MYANMAR	97.	9Q	DEM. REP. OF THE CONGO
48.	ZD9	TRISTAN DA CUNHA & GOUGH ISLANDS	98.	5U	NIGER
49.	7Q	MALAWI	99.	9V	SINGAPORE
50.	VK9C	COCOS (KEELING) ISLAND	100.	YJ	VANUATU

How many do you have confirmed? Set your 2015 goal to get more of these rare DXCC entities !

Top 100 SSB list from Club Log

How many can you get in 2015?

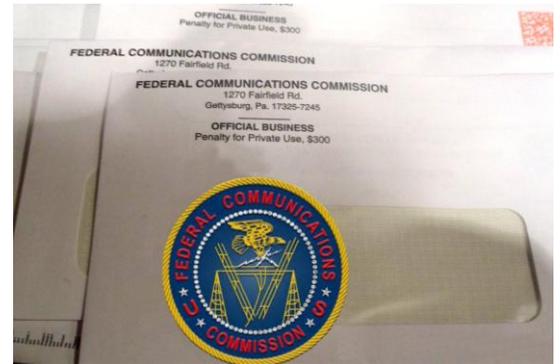
Is your Ham License Expired?

On one net, I asked "Without looking at your ham radio license, do you know its expiration date??" . 95% of the respondents said "NO". At a license exam session I did awhile back, one examinee, who thought he had a General Class license was SHOCKED to find out that it had actually been expired over 2 years, and as a result, it was WORTHLESS. He had to start completely over, exam wise.

Obviously, operating without a license can get a Notice Of Violation or worse from the FCC. For that matter, the same applies to ones Drivers License, etc.

I personally don't think it's that much to ask to know the expiration of one's licenses... ham radio, drivers licenses, or otherwise. Not knowing it could cause real problems.

Additionally - is your address correct on your license? If the FCC sends you a letter to the address listed on your license and it gets returned, they will cancel your license.

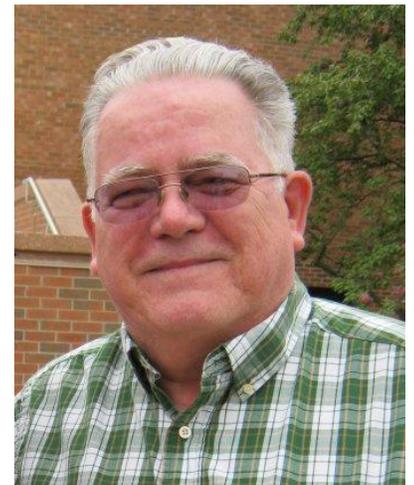


Daryl, WX1DER

Thanks & 73

All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS will again be known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities to report on in this newsletter all throughout the new year.

As PCARS enters the 10th year - I want to wish all of you a very, Happy and Joyous New Year and lots of good DX, too !



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

K8CAV, WA8AR, KB8UUZ, N8RLG, KC8PD, KB8AMZ, W8HJR, N3FJP, W8PT, WB8LCD, WA8TSI, NS8Y, W8KNO, K3LR, WX1DER, DX Engineering, Club Log, Ashley Hennefer, Sound Forums, the ARRL & the World-Wide Web.

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

Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

Pictures from the December PCARS Meeting



Amateur Radio GENERAL Class ~ Upgrade Class ~



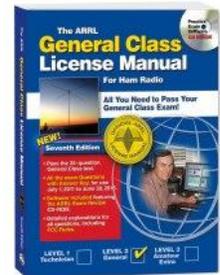
The **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)** is offering a General Class upgrade course

When: Tuesday Evenings 7:00 p.m.
Starting January 13, 2015
License testing will be held on the last day of class March 3rd

Where: At the PCARS Club Site located in the
Dietrich Building - 705 Oakwood Street - Ravenna.

Cost: \$25.00 registration fee for non-PCARS members
Your \$25 fee includes a One Year Membership in PCARS
There is **no** fee for current PCARS members

Text – ARRL “General Class License Manual”
Books may be purchased from PCARS for \$30.00



Information & Registration: Contact: **Tom Sly, WB8LCD**
by e-mail: WB8LCD@portcars.org
or phone: **330-554-4650**

Please register with Tom, WB8LCD by January 10th
You can pay the registration fee the first night of class

As a **General Class Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to Contact other ham radio operators in the area around the world on the HF Bands.
It will open up a whole new area of fun for you in Amateur Radio.



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

Tenth Annual

"Freeze Your Acorns Off"

(FYAO) QRP

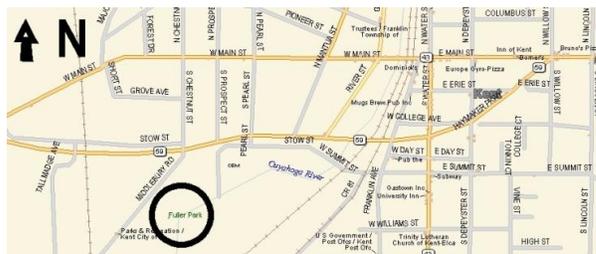
Special Event Station



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

*When: Saturday - Feb. 14, 2015
Set up: 9am*

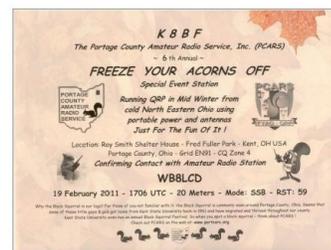
Operating Time: 10am - 4pm EST



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 K8SRR 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 snowy weather of North Eastern Ohio to set up QRP stations using portable power and antennas.

A beautiful color (suitable for framing) 8" x 10" certificate will be available if you contact K8BF and send your QSL with a large SASE to the club call trustee: Bob Hewett, K8FEY - 3670 Sea Ray Cove - Reminderville, OH 44202



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!



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





Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application [] New [] Renewal

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____
Birthday: Month: _____ Day: _____ (don't need year)

A \$5.00 initiation fee will be assessed in the first year of membership for all new members.

Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Jan 31st. Dues are as follows:

Example - Regular Member Pays on Jan 1st \$20 for entire year. If paid on June 1st, \$15 for entire year, etc.

Check One

Pro-Rated Dues Amount:

- Regular Full Membership
Pay January 1 through May 31= \$20.00 (full year)
Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$15.00 (last 7 months)
- Associate Membership
Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$10.00 (last 4 months)
Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$5.00 (last month)
- Regular Senior Full Membership (65+)
Pay January 1 through May 31= \$16.00 (full year)
Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$12.00 (last 7 months)
Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$8.00 (last 4 months)
- Associate Senior Membership (65+)
Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$4.00 (last month)
- Family* Member
Call Sign of Regular Member: _____
Pay January 1 through May 31= \$10.00 (full year)
Pay June 1 through August 31 = \$8.00 (last 7 months)
Pay September 1 through November 30 = \$5.00 (last 4 months)
Pay December 1 through December 31 = \$3.00 (last month)

(*Family = wife, husband, brother, sister, son, daughter, father, mother that is a licensed amateur radio operator and who's FCC license has the same address as the paid regular member's FCC license)
Checks can be made out to either "PCARS" - or - "Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc."

What are YOUR Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.**
c/o: Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL
115 Steels Corners Rd. W.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

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

Rev. 25 Dec 2012



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

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



PCARS meets the Second Monday of each month. Check the PCARS web site for the meeting location - we'll be changing the location until we find a good venue.

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 ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR**

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

2015 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
Club Site Manager/Liaison	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Contest Coordinators	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
EchoLink	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
Field Day Chairman 2015	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
K8BF Callsign Trustee	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
K8BF QSL Manager	K8FEY	Bob Hewett
Membership Chairman	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
Net Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
Newsletter	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
P.I.O.	WA8AR	Tony Romito
Secretary	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
Tech & Gen Class Manager		
V.E. Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers

	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	K8IV	Ed Polack
	K8QF	Russ Conklin
	WD8CVH	Ted Wands
	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	KD8FLZ	Mike DiCarro
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	NR8W	Russ Williams
	W8EZT	Frank Tompkins
	N8OQQ	Bryan Buchwalter
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	K8MSH	Mark Haverstock

PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members



The **RADIOGRAM** is the official Award Winning (ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter First Place Winner for 2012 AND 2013. Second Place in the Great Lakes Division for 2013. Second Place ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter for 2014) newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

– copyright © 2015. 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!**

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(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 now 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!

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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! **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, we can take you off the e-mail list.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)
Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ - Newsletter Editor

NLC

THE RADIOGRAM

