



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

August 2016 - Volume 11 Number 8

¥ 5,784.87

In This Issue -

Field Day 2016



Photos - Stats and More !



OQP Coming Up



OSPOTA is Just a Month Away



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



In This Issue of *The* RADIOGRAM

Volume 11 August 2016 Number 8

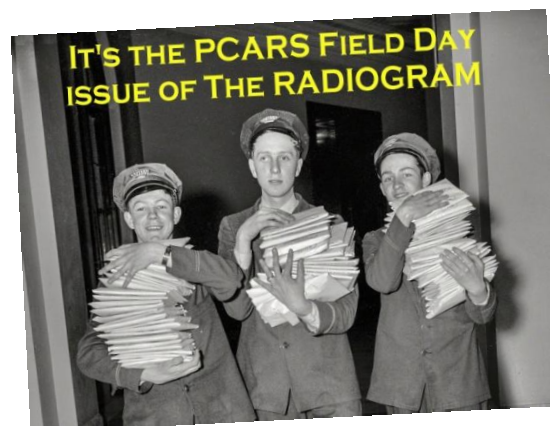


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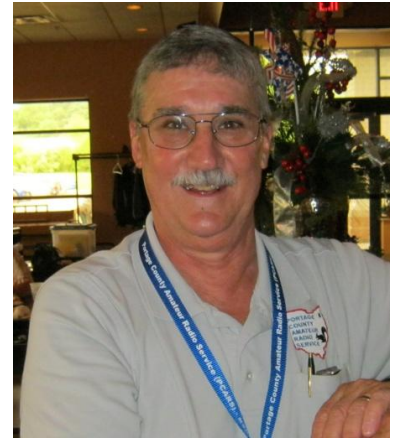
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From the President

Rick, K8CAV
PCARS President



PCARS is one of those rarer Amateur Radio clubs that is not only very diversified in areas and interests of Amateur Radio, but one that puts a lot of effort into doing the best job that we can to provide activities to accommodate those interests. The club has also put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to obtain and maintain a club site that is the envy of almost every other Amateur Radio club around. None of this happens by itself and we're fortunate to have some very dedicated folks that put in a lot of time and effort to make it all happen. Club officers, trustees, special interest group moderators, event chairpersons, and many more are the folks that make this happen. Not one of them begrudge for a second this time and effort because the reward for them is the club enjoying the fruit of their efforts.

I'd like to take a moment to thank some of those folks for recent events. To Chuck, W8PT and his Field Day crew for an outstanding Field Day, especially in light of the fact that it was held at a new venue this year. To Russ, NR8W and Bob, N8QE for cooking up a tasty storm for the annual PCARS picnic. To Jack, N8BI and his crew for their efforts in giving us a much more RF quiet Radio Room at the club site. To Jim, AC8NT and his wife for a herculean post Field Day cleanup at the club site. And these are but a few of the folks that, throughout the year, spend a lot of their time doing things both highly visible and deep in the background that keep PCARS vibrant.

To all of you who devote your efforts to PCARS, Thank You! For caring and contributing. A lot of PCARS members participate in many of these events but in looking at our roster numbers, not near as many as I would hope to see. If you haven't been active with PCARS for a while, make some time to join us in the things that we do. You'll have a great time doing it and I know you'll make the folks that work to make it so very happy as well.

We have some fun events coming up this month as well. The annual PCARS cruise-in will take place on Wednesday August 17th at the A&W root beer stand in Ravenna. Come on out and show off your mobile installation, have some good eats, and share good times with your fellow PCARS members.

On Saturday August 13th PCARS is having its first ever "Get On The Air" day. This event is aimed specifically at newly licensed or upgraded hams and will give you an opportunity to bring your radios to get help with them and make some contacts, or to use the club's HF stations to make your first HF contact.

The PCARS contesting stations will be up and running for the annual Ohio QSO Party and Tom, WB8LCD and Amy, KD8SKL are planning one heck of a great BBQ to accompany it.

OSPOTA is coming up early in September and will give you a chance to use your NVIS skills in one of Ohio's GREAT state parks.

And all of that in addition to our regular events like our monthly club meeting, special interest group meetings, VE Testing Session and others. There's lots to do and I'm really looking forward to seeing you get involved in the finest **K8BF BIG FUN** club around. See you all there!

From the Vice President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



The club has been very busy. Field Day was a great success. Lots of contacts and lots of fun. We also learned some lessons that can be used to improve next year's event. We had a great time at our Antenna Build Day. We spent some quality time learning how to build baluns and antennas. We proved that nothing is easy but learned something in the process. Pictures and comments will follow on that event. Future events include a **QRP Build Day** where we will be building a low power antenna tuner. We will be having a **Get-On-The-Air** day that will allow new hams to get help getting on the air. Help will include everything from getting hand helds programmed to Technicians get a chance to use the HF gear at the club site under the supervision of General and Extra club members. We want our new hams to move up the license ladder and enjoy more of the hobby.

Ham radio is becoming a hot topic in STEM education. This next school year I will be working with students in middle and high schools learning about electronics and computers. Application of those skills is where ham radio enters the picture. Raspberry Pi computers software defined radios, APRS and handhelds will be very important tools in this effort. The plan is to get students interested in their Technician and General licenses as part of the program. The hope is to get many younger hams into the hobby. To make this possible I will need help. As the program develops, I will be sending out more information including how our club can help with this work.

We are planning some interesting topics for our future monthly meetings. We are setting up a talk on 3D printing for our next monthly meeting and in September Scott Yonally, N8SY will be talking about the ARRL, its activities and benefits to hams. We are also working to have a future presentation from young people that attended Youth Expeditions.

Coming events include: Get-On-The-Air Day - Saturday August 13, Balloon Launch - Saturday September 17 and QRP Build - Tentatively August 20

If you are interested in any of these events, please let me know.

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

K8RFS	Robert	Snyder	K8GI	Rick	Patterson
KE8CLO	Kevin	Fodrey	KB8VJL	Al	Atkins
KD8YPN	Ned	Brown	KD8ZSH	Randall	Thorpe
WD8RAY	Ray	Woods	KD8JCY	Sandra	Getty
W8RJG	Ron	Good	KD8CGH	Robert	Benedict
KB8TUY	Mike	Ryan	KE8ELR	Andrew	Williams
N6TL	Randy	Wilson	W8JFQ	Robert	Davet

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- **August 6th - VE Testing at the PCARS Club Site - 10 AM - Walk-Ins Welcome**
- **August 8th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 3D Printing - Maker Gear**
- **August 13th - Get On The Air Day - PCARS Club Site - 9 am until ?**
- **August 17th - PCARS 7th Annual Amateur Radio Cruise-In, Ravenna A&W - details to follow**
- **August 20th - QRP Build Day - PCARS Club Site - details to follow**
- **August 27th - Ohio B-B-QSO Party/OQP Contest at the club site - 10 am to midnight**
- **September 10th - 9th Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest - see the flier**
- **September 12th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - The ARRL - Scott, N8SY**
- **September 17th - PCARS Balloon Launch - Freedom Community Park - details to follow**
- **October 1-2 - California QSO Party Contest at the Club Site - details to follow**

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - Every Month at the Club Site in Ravenna - 7 pm



First Tuesday	-	Digital - K8CAV
Second Tuesday	-	QRP/CW - WB8LCD
Third Tuesday	-	Antenna - WA8AR
Fourth Tuesday	-	DX & Contest - W8PT
Fifth Tuesday	-	Linux for Hams - KB8AMZ



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



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Yearlong Event

National Parks on the Air

Take part in this 2016 operating event, celebrating the US National Park Service Centennial.

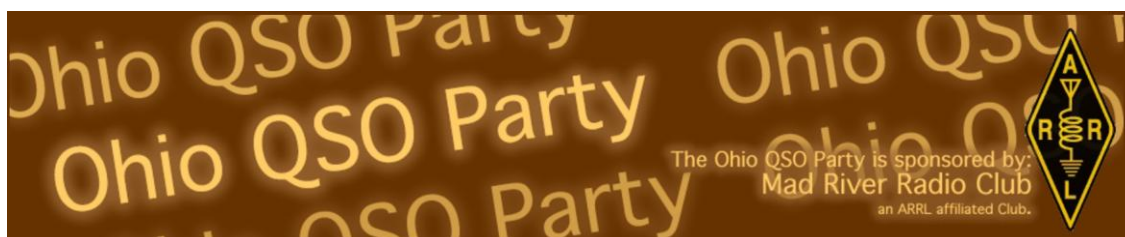
► **Get on the Air!**

National Parks ON THE AIR 2016

Contest Calendar

August 2016	
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 6 to 2359Z, Aug 7
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 6 to 0559Z, Aug 7
ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 6 to 1800Z, Aug 7
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 13 to 2400Z, Aug 14
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 20 to 0559Z, Aug 21
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 27 to 2200Z, Aug 28
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 27 to 0400Z, Aug 28

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



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



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:

Amy, KD8SKL or e-mail her at: KD8SKL@portcars.org



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



PCARS VE Test Sessions

Robert, N8RLG
PCARS VE Team Liaison



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

August 6th - October 1st - December 3rd

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: 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.





PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





Hiram Percy Maxim, Award Goes to Ohio Youth

During the ARRL Board of Directors meeting the prestigious Hiram Percy Maxim Award was voted on and awarded to a youth from Liberty Township in Southwestern Ohio. **Christopher Brault, KD8YVJ**. The following is from the Board of Directors meeting minutes:

- 24. On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Allen, it was VOTED (with applause) that**
WHEREAS Christopher Brault, KD8YVJ, has been licensed since June 2014; and
WHEREAS he has actively participated in a wide range of Amateur Radio related activities, including preparing and presenting public demonstrations on antenna building and bicycle mobile operations, and has served as a net control operator for local club nets; and
WHEREAS he is actively involved in developing an ARISS proposal in cooperation with iSPACE and the West Chester Amateur Radio Association / VOA Museum of Broadcasting (WC8VOA); and
WHEREAS he is active in the recruitment and training of new Amateurs by participating in such events as JOTA, and activities at the VOA Museum including serving as a volunteer guide;
THEREFORE the ARRL Board of Directors confers the 2015 Hiram Percy Maxim Award on Christopher Brault, KD8YVJ.

The following is an email from the ARRL Ohio Section Manager, Scott Yonally, N8SY:

It's a great honor as Section Manager to be able to nominate outstanding candidates for national awards to the ARRL Board of Directors. Several months back I had that privilege for one of the ARRL's biggest awards, the Hiram Percy Maxim Award.

The ARRL Board of Directors met in Connecticut just a couple of weeks ago and I am very pleased to inform all of you that Ohio's nomination was accepted!!! So, without further ado let me introduce you to the latest recipient of the Hiram Percy Maxim Award, Christopher Brault, KD8YVJ

Christopher is one dedicated young man who shows his passion for Amateur Radio by his participation and leadership in organizational affairs at the local and national level. His technical achievements, as well as his recruitment and training here in Ohio and around the country have been well demonstrated by his willingness to serve and show others that Amateur Radio is not only a service, but it's FUN too.



Here's a short explanation of what this award is all about:

The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is given annually to a licensed radio amateur under the age of 21. The nominee must be a current ARRL member. The nominee's accomplishments and contributions to both the community of Amateur Radio and the local community should be of the most exemplary nature. These activities include:

- Participation or leadership in organizational affairs at the local or national level (for example: local radio club,
- ARES, net control, participation in civic groups);
- Technical achievement (for example: built a radio, put up an antenna, etc);

- Operating record (for example: nets, disaster drills, contests, Sweepstakes, etc);
- Recruitment and training of new amateurs (for example: helped teach a license class, JOTA, etc);
- Public relations activities (for example: create a ham radio Web page).

The award consists of an engraved plaque and \$1,500.

Please join me in saying “***Congratulations*** “ to **Christopher, KD8YVJ** for becoming the latest recipient of this prestigious award!! **Be sure to check out his QRZ.com page.**

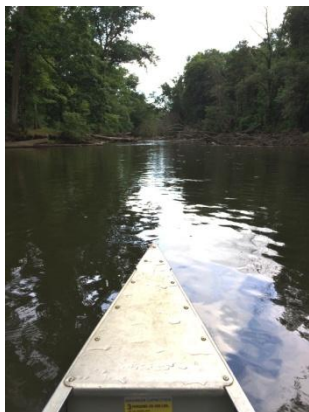
Headwaters Adventure Race

Amy, KD8SKL



July 16, 2016 was the Portage Park District’s Headwaters Adventure Race in Mantua. I had the opportunity to work a very exciting communications assignment as Canoe Sweep with Mike Ryan, KB8TUY. Mike’s calming voice and patience was greatly appreciated as he steered us through the wild waters of the Cuyahoga River.

Although our paddling was out of sync (see photo), we were surely over the canoe’s weight limit (which I will not publish here), and we bottomed out a few times, we kept the last place racer within our sights and followed him in.



Special thanks to the encouragement we received from President, Rick Kruis, K8CAV, for reminding us which way the front of the canoe was supposed to point (see photo).

And thanks goes to Mike DiCarro, FLZed for his action shot of us going under the bridge. If Mike KB8TUY ever decides he needs yet another hobby to add to the list, I would be happy to endorse him for “River Guide.”



Another comment on this activity from Rick, K8CAV:

This race consists of a 2 mile run, followed by a 10 mile bicycle race, finishing with a 5 mile canoe race on the Cuyahoga River. Proceeds were used to benefit the Park District, and members of PCARS were again on hand to provide communications assistance and real time course information to race officials. The weather was perfect for the event and fortunately there were no incidents that occurred requiring first responder presence.

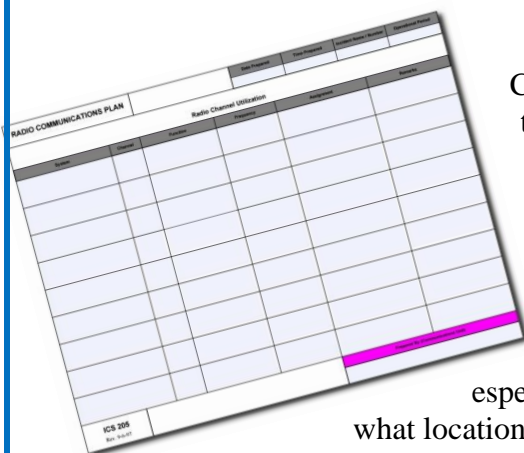
Our communications volunteers did a very professional job during the event and provided information that race officials deemed very useful. Thanks to Jim KC8PD, Mike KD8FLZ, Rick KD8WCK, Jim KC8YYS, Mike KB8TUY, Amy KD8SKL, Terry KB8AMZ, Bob N8KBX, Sandy KD8JCY, and Eddie KD8SOP for a great job and for generously giving their Saturday morning to support this event.

Jim, KC8PD/AAF5PD

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



“What’s our plan?” That’s the first question that a communications volunteer should be asking of the communications leader for an event. We can’t provide any type of coordinated and effective communications support for an incident or event unless we have a well thought out plan in place before it begins.



Many hams have learned about the ICS-205 Communications Plan form used in the Incident Command System. It lists the channels/frequencies to be used as well as their function and assignment. It is a document that is to be included in an Incident Action Plan. It is not, repeat not, a comms plan such as we would use for an amateur radio response.

That plan begins with, well, planning! And the first step of that is meeting with event representatives to review with them the type of event and the function and scope of any communication services, especially radio and IT, that we can assist with. How long will an event last, what locations need to have comms volunteers, what traffic (voice, digital, image, etc.) do they expect, and so on?

Planning must begin months in advance, especially for larger events. The planning team should have enough members to get a balanced and thorough assessment of the event and review all comms options based upon available resources. The plan should be reviewed with event staff to ensure that it meets their needs and does not have any gaps, as well as ensuring that they do not have unreasonable expectations for what will be done.

The plan should outline the bands/frequencies and modes to be used, expected traffic and instructions on how to handle it, net protocols, assignments, equipment needs and anything else that it takes to be sure that volunteers equipped to do their jobs and to not set them (and the operation) up for failure. If the operational net may need to interact with other comms operations, that information should be included, too.

Of course, the plan should also be distributed to the volunteers in advance of the operation so that questions and uncertainties can be resolved before operations begin.

Any plan is subject to change, even, if necessary, during an event if unanticipated problems or needs arise. That information will later be useful in developing an After Action Report that will evaluate both the plan and the operation.

A comms plan should never be “Let’s get a station on see what happens.” A plan is not something that is devised on the fly and tinkered with, sampling different modes and frequencies without any sense of how they actually further the mission. You may get away with that for a 5k walkathon with a handful of volunteers. But out there in the real world everyone, volunteers, event organizers and served agencies, participants, and the public, deserve better.

So remember, when you volunteer for an event, ask that question: “What’s our plan?”

Upcoming ARES® of Portage County public service events and the point of contact for the event:

- 10 Sept. **Mantua Potato Stomp**, Jim, KC8PD

PCARS Thursday Net Control

Tom, WB8LCD

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 !!**



August	
4	N8RLG
11	KB8UHN
18	K8IV
25	KD8SKL

September	
1	KB8UUZ
8	WB8LCD
15	K8CAV
22	NR8W
29	WB2DFC

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!

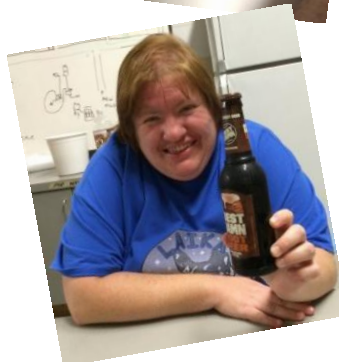
October	
6	N8QE
13	WA8AR
20	could be you
27	could be you



Root Beer Float Net Night

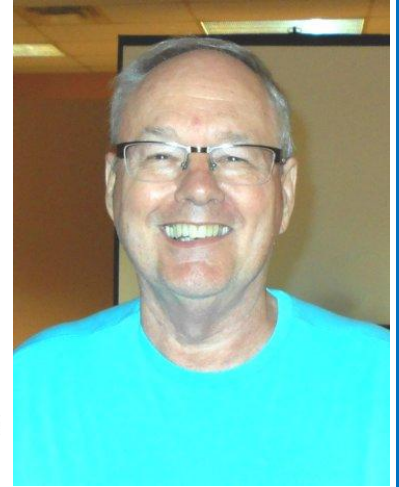
Amy, KD8SKL

7/28/16 was Root Beer Float night at the club site. Russ NR8W was net controller with a high of 37 check in's. WOW!!!!



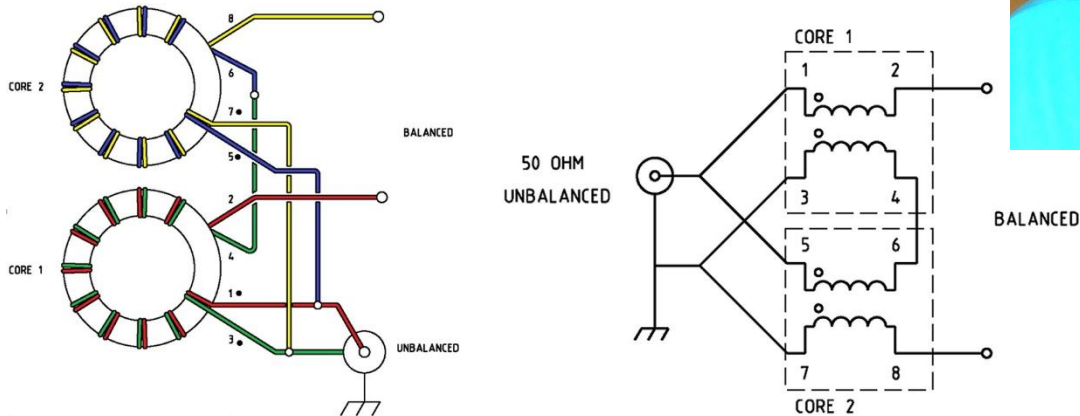
Tech Tip - 4:1 Current Balun

Jim, AC8NT



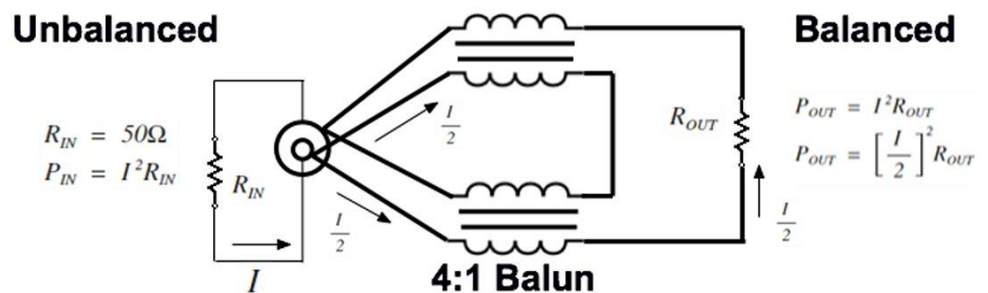
Want to make a 4:1 current balun? How does it work? Here are a few notes.

1. A typical design for a 4:1 current balun is one that is constructed using two toroids that are wound the same with bifilar windings diagrammed below:



2. These can be interesting to build and can save you some money if you build them yourself.
3. The key is to pick the right toroid material and size; use the same length of wire to wind the same number of turns on each toroid; and make sure that the turns are evenly spaced around the toroid. Simple requirements that require some practice to achieve.
4. But a common question is how is the 4:1 impedance change accomplished? Note the diagram below and math below.

5. The current is split between the two loops causing half the current to travel through the balanced load. Since in a perfect balun there are no losses, the power into the balanced load is the same as the power that comes from the unbalanced input. The math above shows how this results in 4:1 ratio.



$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{OUT} &= P_{IN} \\
 I^2 R_{IN} &= \left[\frac{I}{2} \right]^2 R_{OUT} \\
 I^2 R_{IN} &= \frac{I^2}{4} R_{OUT} \\
 R_{IN} &= \frac{R_{OUT}}{4} \\
 R_{OUT} &= 4R_{IN}
 \end{aligned}$$

6. If you are interested in learning more about or building baluns come to one of our antenna special interest group meetings.

Tech Tip - Hold That Toroid Winding

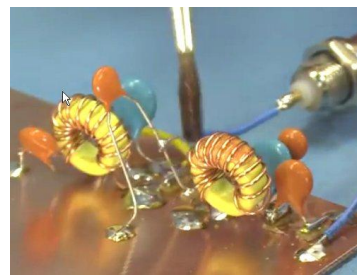
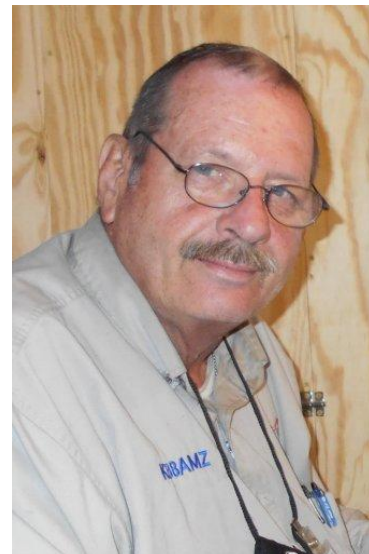
Terry, KB8AMZ

This is not my idea but I found it useful and want to pass the idea on, especially since it was brought up at the Antenna when discussing winding toroids.

In one of my Internet perusing I came across a couple articles and several YouTube how-to's to make this stuff. I've searched my computers documents files so I could bring this up at next month's Antenna SIG but I couldn't find any reference of it. So I had to "Google it". Writing this article for the Radiogram now gives me assurance that I have this information stored on at least one of my computers.



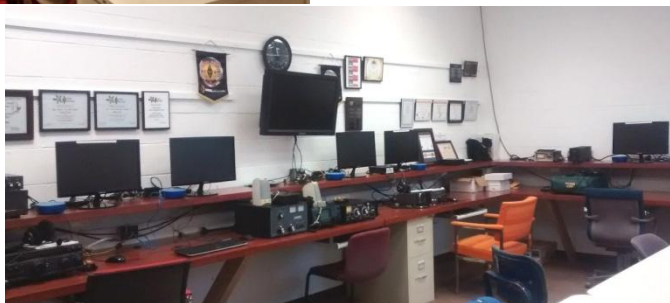
Any of that Styrofoam packing material can be used with the proper chemical to melt into dope, and you need not be concerned about throwing it into the trash to bury in a landfill. **WARNING:** the chemical used to melt the Styrofoam into Q-dope has toxic fumes so please use it in a well ventilated area.



Aaron Parks, on YouTube, gives a good explanation on the "what, why, and how" of making dope from recycled Styrofoam packing pellets rather than buying a commercially made product. See his explanation here: Homemade Q-Dope, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANn6hti35Zc>

Thank You

Thank You Jim, AC8NT and xyl Linda for such an outstanding job cleaning up at the PCARS Club Site. It is now everyone's responsibility to take pride in what we have and keep it that way. *Always leave it better than you found it.*



Field Day 2016

Chuck, W8PT Field Day Chairman

K8BF's 2016 Field Day had a slight tough time at the beginning but ended up a success. Most of you should have read about Field Day in last month's Radiogram. Parky included pictures of the event including a picture of our site taken from a drone. There are more in this month's issue.



The WX cooperated so we didn't have to hide out from storms and rain. But it was HOT!! Everyone took our caution regarding hydration seriously and I saw many water bottles being used throughout the event.

We ended up with 10,632 points, which is the best we have ever done for a Field Day contest. (And yes, I count this as a contest. Since when does a non-contest require logs to be turned in and points given.) A BIG THANK YOU to all who put their backsides in the op seats and logging chairs to make PCARS a success in this effort.

I am really grateful for those who joined together to make this year's event a success. The effort that many made went beyond expectations. The new venue proved to be a wonderful choice since we were not bothered with noise or interstation interference. Erica who captained the 20 meter station, revamped the antenna setup design and it proved successful. But I understand that she is looking into a more efficient way to do the set up for next year.

Ed at the 40 meter station, has his set up down to a science. It seems that he, with a small crew, could set up his position in his sleep. His station scored the most contacts once again.

Once the CW station was set up (I had to ask them to move their antenna after they had set it up) they were off and running. They made more CW contacts than we ever had in the past. It really helped in the point total.

The flex station turned out to be a real key component to our success. It was used as a second CW station for a long period of time. Jack, N8BI, supplied an extension ladder system to put a tri-band beam up for it's use. Jack spent many, many hours putting all the components together for this antenna and even supplied the antenna. Until this year, I'd never seen an extension ladder used in this way before, so this was a new one for me. Jack has told me that he has used this method in several situations over the years and it always works. Thank you Jack for the great extra effort, the time and money spent to make this a success.

The station that seemed to fly under the radar was our VHF station captained by Mike, KB8TUY. VHF has always been a part of our Field Day effort and this year was no difference. Errol, KC8RJR, graciously loaned his travel trailer to Mike for our use as the VHF station site. Since it had air conditioning, it was a popular spot in which to hang out.

I cannot forget to give a real BIG THANK YOU to our power crew, who once again, did a flawless job in supplying all the power that we needed for this event. Our IT group tried out a new system to keep our computers up and running and I thank them for their efforts. And I cannot leave out the food group. Thank you so much, Robert and all those who helped to feed the rest of us. The food selection was again, a homerun and I applaud your choices. I am hoping that Robert and his crew will consider doing this again for 2017.

I know I am forgetting to thank someone(s). Tom, WB8LCD, stepped up and not only was my vice chair for this year but doubled as the Safety Officer and did an excellent job. Parky - well what can I say, he once again used his creative talents to make our public information table a work of art, not to mention, a place where visitors could find out what PCARS is all about. He also monitored our logging, compiled the stats and sent in all the files and documents for our submission to the ARRL.

I know that this read like an Oscar awards speech, but I don't always get a chance to thank those who step up to the plate and give of their talents to make PCARS shine.

So with 2016 in the books, let's start looking toward 2017 and see if we can make some new records.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service - Field Day 2016

Call Used: **K8BF**

ARRL/RAC Section: **OH**

Class: **4A**

Participants: **72**

Power Source(s): **Generator, Battery, Solar** Power Multiplier: **2X**

Score Submitted: 8,982 + Bonus 1,650 = 10,632

Bonus Points:

Description	Points
100% Emergency power	400
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Formal NTS messages handled - No.=10	100

Description	Points
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by invited served agency official	100
Submitted via the Web	50
Educational activity	100
Safety Officer	100
Social Media	100
Total Bonus Points	1,650

Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
Total QSOs	1,077	21	2,295	
Total Points	2,154	42	2,295	4,491
				Claimed Score = 8,982

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
80m	234	100	-	-	173	100
40m	608	100	13	100	1,089	100
20m	196	100	8	100	996	100
15m	35	100	-	-	-	-
6m	4	100	-	-	37	100
Total	1,077		21		2,295	3,393

K8BF - Field Day 2016 Operators:

	Operator	Total QSO's
1	K8IV	535
2	K8AAV	402
3	K8MR	316
4	N8OQQ	305
5	K3GP	273
6	N8QE	220
7	N8GIE	209
8	W8PT	208
9	KA8TOA	197
10	WB9LBI	153
11	WB8LCD	140
12	WA4WGA	121

	Operator	Total QSO's
13	KB8AMZ	69
14	K8MSH	62
15	KD8QEJ	36
16	WA8AR	31
17	KD8SOP	20
18	AC8PR	19
19	AE8YL	19
20	KE8BWA	17
21	W8KNO	14
22	KB8TUY	12
23	K8BBE	9
24	KD8SKL	6

Station Totals:

Station	QSO's
40M	1,089
20M	996
CW	901

Station	QSO's
Flex	366
VHF	41

Portage County Amateur Radio Service Field Day 2016

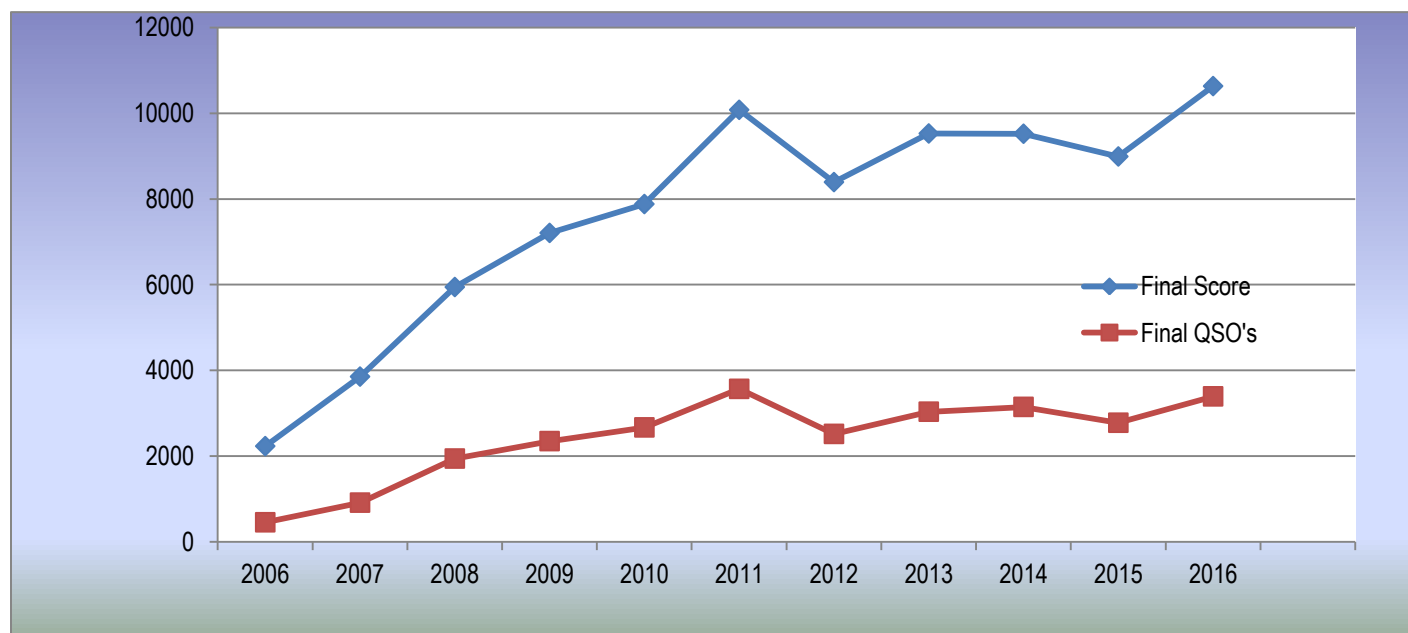
Past Field Day Comparisons



PCARS	Final QSOs	Final Score
2016 - K8BF	3,393	10,632
2015 - K8BF	2,778	8,990
2014 - K8BF	3,147	9,520
2013 - K8BF	3,035	9,526
2012 - K8BF	2,517	8,392
2011 - K8BF	3,568	10,078
2010 - K8BF	2,669	7,880
2009 - KD8CKP	2,349	7,206
2008 - KD8CKP	1,942	5,944
2007 - KD8CKP	914	3,854
2006 - KD8CKP	455	2232

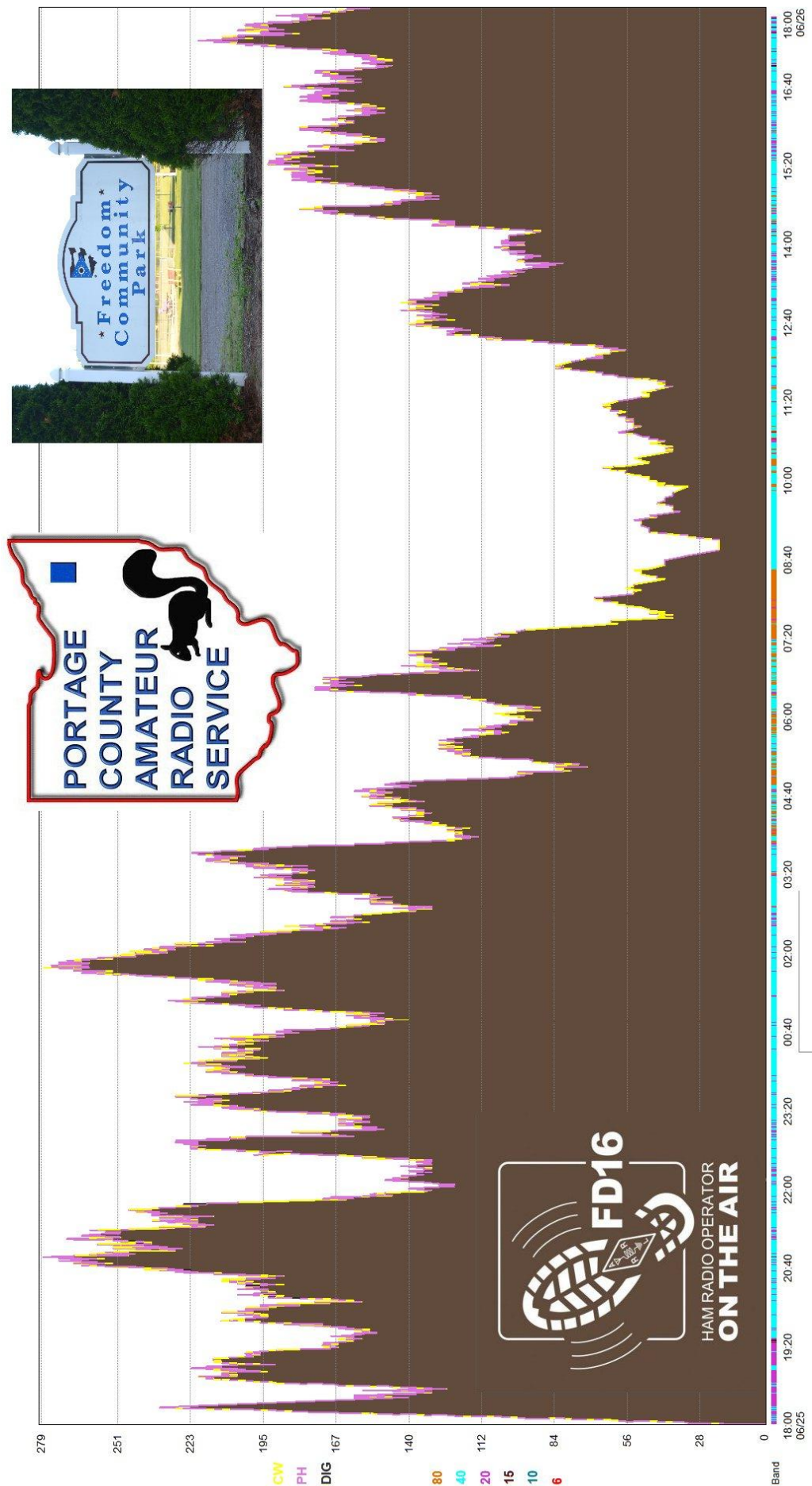


11 Year Average: QSOs = 2,434 Score = 7,660



PCARS Field Day Final Scores and QSOs - 2006 through 2016

This graph shows the activity of K8BF during Field Day 2016



From the Record Courier on June 21st and on June 26th

LOCAL & STATE

Record-Courier
TUESDAY
JUNE 21, 2016
PAGE A3



Amateur radio field day set in Freedom

Members of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. will be participating in the national Amateur Radio Field Day exercise from noon Saturday to 2 p.m. Sunday at Freedom Park, intersection of S.R. 700 and Streeter Road, in Freedom Township.

Since 1933, ham radio operators across North America have established temporary radio stations in public locations during Field Day to showcase the science, skill and capabilities of amateur radio.

For more than 100 years, amateur radio — sometimes called ham radio — has allowed people from all walks of life to experiment with electronics and communications techniques, as well as provide a free public service to their communities during a disaster, all without needing a cell phone or the internet.

For more information about Field Day, contact Rick Kruis — K8CAV — at 330-620-8826 or k8cav@portcars.org or visit www.portcars.org.

A8 SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016

Record-



AMANDA WOOLF/RECORD-COURIER

Amy Leggiero (KD8 SKL) logs for Bob Hajdek (N8QE) while he talks on the radio during the Portage County Amateur Radio Service's Field Day at Freedom Park in Freedom Township.

Field Day showcases amateur radio

Members of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. — better known as “ham radio” — are taking part in the national Amateur Radio Field Day exercise at Freedom Park, the intersection of S.R. 700 and Streeter Road in Freedom.

The event began at Saturday and will conclude at 2 p.m. today. The event is open to the public.

PCARS members have established a temporary radio station at the site to showcase the science,



Portage County Amateur Radio Service vice president Jim Wilson (AC8NT) and PCARS president Rick Kruis (K8CAV) work on their antenna during Field Day activities.

skill and capabilities of amateur radio.

Field Day demonstrates ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent communications net-

work.

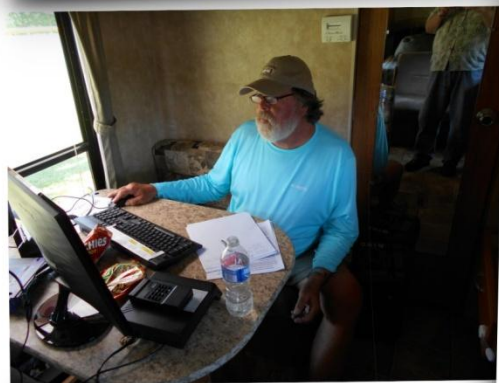
For more information about amateur radio in Portage County, contact PCARS president Rick Kruis (K8CAV) at 330-620-8826 or k8cav@portcars.org or visit www.portcars.org.



K8BF - PCARS Field Day - 2016













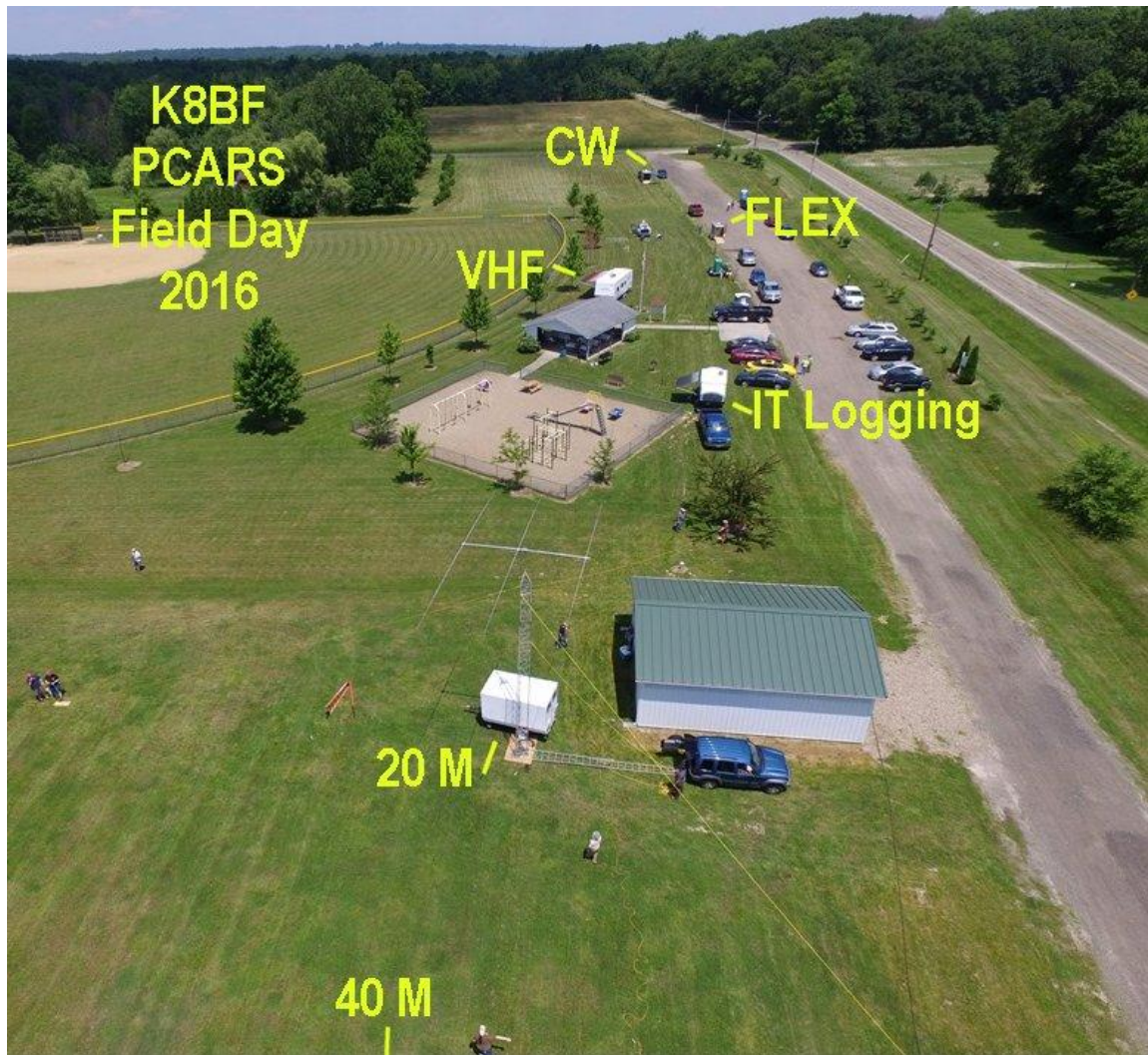








Editor's Note: Greg, W8WWV was the person you saw at Field Day flying the quad-copter. He shot some great video of PCARS setting up. I'm currently working on a new video that will highlight PCARS Field Day which includes Greg's video. Not sure when I'll get it done, but stay tuned.

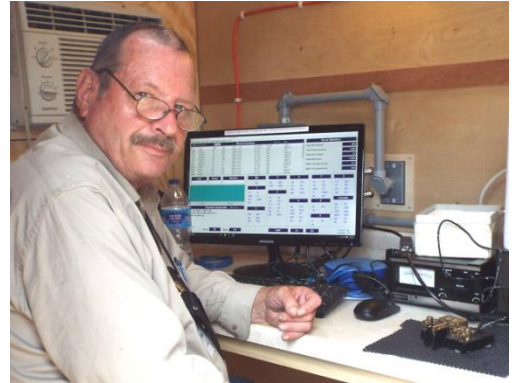


Thoughts from Field Day 2016

Terry, KB8AMZ

Some history first. I tested for Novice in at end of October 1985 and my FCC Novice Ticket arrived in USPS January 1986.

My first FD I worked with that other Portage Club. I've worked FD with a Amateur Radio Fellowship club (ARF), now defunct, 2 years with a couple friends, once with Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship (PARF), several years with Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC), and the majority with PCARS. In thirty years I've missed one Field Day, in 1999 my Son was graduating from Army boot camp at Fort Benning. I found the local club and made an appearance, so I didn't completely miss FD. Prior to this year, CFARC seemed to have the best set up of their stations. I had been pushing those that would listen that we need to spread our operation out because our stations were too close together. No where near the 1000 foot diameter permitted by ARRL FD Rules. Finally, it happened. I wasn't feeling well for PCARS Antenna Day but showed up to take pictures. The set up looked great, although I thought the shelter might be too small.



Field Day date has arrived. I only have 3 negatives, two will probably be solvable.

One, it was really hot. From the time of breaking out equipment to set up the 40 meter CW station to the last piece of equipment delivered to the clubhouse I sweat a lot. I went through 132 ounces of water and several 32 ounce mugs of coffee over the two day excursion. I/we have to take what Mother Nature dishes out.

Two, the FLEX station was set up for 'Search and Pounce' operation. It would have been great, for me, to have the computer capable of transmitting so I could try to work a 'RUN' from that station.



Three, I spent the night at the site, sleeping in an awkward position. I will have a solution for FD 2017. Now the positives. I think our set up was just within the 1000 foot diameter. Stations were spread far enough apart and antennas had enough separation that I noticed no interference from any station.

This is the first year that I helped set up (and tear down) the 40 meter CW station and didn't work a single contact. Jim Stahl was our first operator; not having anything to do I sat under an umbrella George, K3GP brought and had a great chat with him. Although I was at the shelter only for the pre-operating meeting and dinner and breakfast, and to replenish my coffee mug at 0530 the food was tremendously great. Bob, Chris and crew had plenty of good eats again.

Not only was there a lack of interference from other onsite stations but it seemed the QRN was down this year. I only tried working 15, 20, and 80 meters, with 20 meters being the best. 10 meters was dead. In years past I've only heard white noise and lightning crashes on 10, 15, and 20 meters.

So I am looking forward to our FD 2017 at this wonderful site.

Musings of a Reluctant Chef

Robert, N8RLG
Field Day Chef du Jour

Well here we are at the end of July, roasting our ***** off! Field Day is now a month gone and I am sure the hotwash has been done and the preliminary scores have been tabulated, but that is none of my business. Hi, hi!

As the title states these are the musings (more like ramblings) of a reluctant chef. As surprised as you all might be, I've never had formal training in the culinary arts. I have had however the opportunity to meet and enjoy the food of many cultures. You might say my flavor/taste palate is fairly well developed. I love the Googles and Internets; they are so helpful when I want to whip up something exotic.

For those who did not make it to Field Day this year, you missed quite the meal. For those of you who were there you hopefully enjoyed quite the meal!

The idea for this year's Texas Barbecue actually was decided on the spot at last year's Field Day during dinner. I had a total hip replacement last May and was no condition to try and put on a N8RLG feast. I would like to send out a big thank you to last year's food crew for bringing out the feed bag for PCARS.



This year's years Field Day feast consisted of a slow roasted; dry rub BBQ brisket, baked beans, South Texas coleslaw and corn on the cob; all served with white bread in true Texas tradition. I really tried to get the giant belt buckle and Texas flag; that didn't work out so I put on the bib overalls and straw hat to get into character!

Usually there is much agonizing and long drawn out conversations with myself as I come up with menu. However this year was a snap.

Serving meals to any group over twenty is quite the undertaking. There is a ton of logistical stuff that needs to be worked out before, during and after the meal. It is never a one-person operation. With that in mind, I would like to publicly acknowledge the following persons/companies for their assistance in making the Texas Barbeque a success.

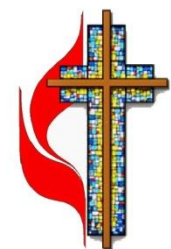


First a big ol' Texas howdy to Bruce Tayse of Tayse Meats at the Westside Market in Cleveland. Tayse meats provided PCARS with seventy-five pounds of whole brisket at a Texas sized discount. Tayse Meats has a wide selection of prime cuts, and is well worth a trip to the Westside Market.

Next I would like to thank Linda Burdette of Sirna & Sons Produce. While Linda doesn't make the final decision (well maybe she does as she's never said no) she has been incredibly instrumental in PCARS getting all the fresh produce we use for Field Day. Linda and I have a relationship outside of Amateur Radio and I consider her and Sirna & Sons as one of my most valuable resources. A tip of the ol' Stetson to Sirna & Sons. Thank you!



Nita Hardin, XYL of Pete Hardin, KD8GYI, one of the newest members of PCARS. Nita slaved over a hot oven to bring us the delicious baked beans. Whereas I have no formal training/experience as a cook, Nita has. She has got some awesome chops and her help was greatly appreciated! Her chicken and dumplings are to die for!



Carrie and Maggie Mitchell, my Pastor's wife and daughter. Miss Maggie was very helpful in making all of the coleslaw that was served. With gloved hands this little powerhouse mixed the trays of slaw. Honestly, I think the fact that she got "play" with food was the biggest motivator in her enthusiasm. Carrie came to the rescue with her vacuum sealer when the one I was using just plain sucked (pun intended)! I would also like to thank the trustees of my church, Chapel of the Cross UMC in Lawrence Township for allowing us the use of the kitchen and their four stoves to prepare the brisket. Pastor Bob was very gracious even when I called him at 12:30 AM on Field Day to come lock up after the cooking was done. Now he says that he's a night owl, but still...Thanks Pardner!



James, KD8VT – the bacon man! It's bacon what else needs to be said!

Speaking of breakfast, thanks Parky for making the choice of the breakfast meal easy. Buttermilk Pancakes – the story goes like this; several Field Day meals ago, I made buttermilk pancakes for breakfast. Parky rolls up on me and proceeds to tell me that he does not like pancakes and was initially disappointed that they were being served. However, after eating

the N8RLG disc of fluffy goodness he became a convert! Now BMP is the standard issue breakfast of Field Day. The secret you ask? Genuine maple syrup and real butter; none of this Mrs. Butterworth or Aunt Jemima business; that and lots of love!



To the runners who took meals to the stations, thank you so very much! KB3GXB, Jennifer; N8HUC, Karen and N8RLG/XYL Christine – I know the operators appreciated it!



Finally to my bride Christine, in the words of Pete Hardin... a Super Duper thanks to you, for putting up with me on Field Day, making sure I stayed hydrated and for making me get off my feet and taking a breather, thanks babe.

I am not sure if the club members appreciate the amount of work that goes into these Field Day feasts, but it is a lot of man hours with prep work, cooking, setup up, serving and clean up. As such, when I cook, I rarely get the opportunity to operate. Based on all the generous comments we received, I think the meal was a success. Your kind words of appreciation is what drives me when it comes to Field Day meal service.

I have not decided yet whether or not I will take up the mantle of Field Day Chef 2017 just yet. I really want to operate on Field Day so I'll think about it. In the meantime may the bands remain open; the pileups be many and fruitful and keep the smoke in the box!



5 ... 4 ... 3 ... 2 ... 1 : Readability Reports

Dan, KB6NU



I'm big on Twitter. It connects me to a lot of interesting amateur radio operators, and I find a lot of food for thought there. Yesterday, I saw the following Tweet:

Charlie – M0PZT @M0PZT Blog updated: RST and Speed Matters
<http://www.m0pzt.com/blog/rst-and-speed-matters/> #hamradio

Being a CW geek, of course I was interested. Charlie's point is that if you get a bad report, you probably should send more slowly. I certainly have no argument with that. What I do take a little bit of an issue with is that Charlie says, "A Readability 4 report should really make it known that information needs to be brief, but repeated – Certainly no ANT/RIG/WX waffle!"

According to most sources, Readability 4 means, "Readable with practically no difficulty." When I receive an R4 report, I might slow down a little, but it doesn't mean to me that I have to cut the contact short or repeat information over and over. I replied on Twitter that if the operator at the receiving station is having so much trouble copying, then the report should probably be 319 or even 219.

Of course, RST reports are open to interpretation. With that in mind, I thought I'd explain a little more fully how I decide what Readability report to give:

- **R5:** Perfectly readable. To me, this means that copying a signal is no work at all, and that it sounds like it's coming out of a code practice oscillator. I can put my feet up on the desk or putter around the shack while I'm ragchewing with the other operator.
- **R4:** Readable with practically no difficulty. "Practically no difficulty" is the key phrase here. There may be some QRN or QSB on this signal, and I have to pay some attention while copying. An R4 is still solid copy, though, and ragchewing is definitely possible.
- **R3:** Readable with considerable difficulty. A signal that rates an R3 needs my full attention. I have to work at copying the signal, and even then, might miss characters here and there. Even though I don't copy every single character, I'm able to fill in the gaps. An R3 signal might not be good enough for a ragchew, and repeating information is probably a good idea.
- **R2:** Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable. A signal that rates an R2 is usually so weak that it's below the noise level or drops below the noise level occasionally. At this level, the contact will definitely be brief and any important information, such as the callsign needs to be repeated.
- **R1:** Unreadable. Generally, I would never give out this report, as I would never attempt making contact if a signal was truly unreadable.



Although my explanations above reflect the fact that I'm primarily a CW operator, I think they also apply to phone or even digital contacts. For example, an R5 for a phone contact would mean that the signal sounds like it could be coming from just down the street or coming through the local repeater.

When he's not challenging himself with new things, Dan falls back on something he knows pretty well--operating CW. You'll find him mainly on the 80m, 40m, and 30m bands. Dan is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and you can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com

What I Did On My New England Vacation

John, KD8MQ



On our vacation this year, my wife & I planned a mini flea Market Tour of New England. On Sunday, managing to stay one step ahead of the rain, we visited the Elephant's Trunk Flea Market in New Milford, Connecticut. After enjoying browsing for a few hours, we then headed for that night's campground in Brimfield, Mass.

With a day to kill before the Brimfield Flea Markets were to begin, we opted to head back to Connecticut, for a visit to ARRL HQ. In the morning, most everyone was tied up in staff meetings, so we opted for the tour of HQ. It's just amazing to me how much goes on in such a modest size building. I would have liked to just browse for a while, but we had other places to go so we bid farewell, and left with a promise that we may return after lunch. I had promised to drop by and see Sean, KX9X, and Norm, W3IZ while we were there.

But, after lunch, we got sidetracked, and wound up at the Mark Twain house & Museum. It worked out pretty well, since it's an awesome place to wander. We even got to take part in an evacuation, when the fire alarm sounded. Definitely the visit to Mark Twain's home was a visit to remember.



About 2:30, I got a message from Norm, W3IZ to see if we were going to be able to make it back to HQ that day. We were only about 15 minutes away, so we wrapped it up at the museum, and headed back to Newington.

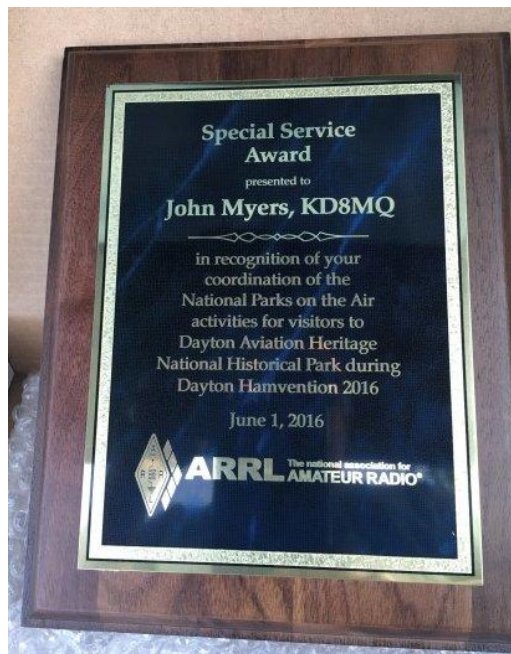
On Arrival, my wife opted to remain in the Jeep to peruse some of her newly acquired Twain paraphernalia, while I went in to HQ. Norm, W3IZ met me in the lobby, and ushered me back to his office where we were joined by Sean. I should have suspected that something was afoot, but it never occurred to me that there was a reason that they wanted me to look them up.

After chatting for a few minutes, Sean excused himself, and returned with a plaque for me. I'm not easily caught off guard, but they got me. I hadn't a clue what they had planned. My trip to ARRL HQ will always be a memorable one for me.

The next day, we visited the Brimfield Flea Market, and then headed for home. After spending night in Cooperstown, NY, we arrived back in Alliance the following day.

Before returning to work, I managed to do three more NPOTA activations; Cuyahoga Valley, First Ladies Library, and finally, Perry's monument.

It was a great vacation, but my trip to League HQ was definitely the high point of the week.



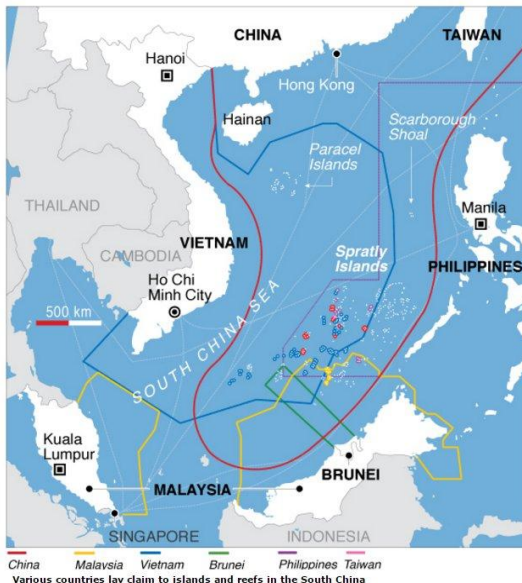
International Tribunal Rules Against China's Claim

International Tribunal Rules Against China's Claims Regarding South China Sea Reefs

A ruling from an international tribunal discounting China's claims with respect to Scarborough Reef and the Spratlys could complicate efforts to mount another DXpedition to the rare and remote South China Sea DXCC entities. The Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague ruled this week in favor of the Philippines in a dispute with China over Scarborough Reef — also known as Scarborough Shoal. A 2016 DXpedition has been reported to be in the works. The tribunal said that although navigators and fishermen from China and other states have historically made use of South China Sea islands, there was no evidence that China had historically exercised exclusive control over the waters or resources. According to the tribunal, China had violated the Philippines' sovereign rights and has caused "severe harm to the coral reef environment" by building artificial islands and an air strip. China, which



refused to take part in the arbitration, said it would not be bound by the tribunal's ruling. China claims almost all of the South China Sea, including reefs and islands also claimed by other countries, but the tribunal made clear that its ruling did not address issues of territorial sovereignty.



"This arbitration concerned the role of historic rights and the source of maritime entitlements in the South China Sea, the status of certain maritime features and the maritime entitlements they are capable of generating, and the lawfulness of certain actions by China that were alleged by the Philippines to violate the Convention," the Permanent Court of Arbitration explained in a lengthy news release on July 12. "In light of limitations on compulsory dispute settlement under the Convention [on the Law of the Sea], the Tribunal has emphasized that it does not rule on any question of sovereignty over land territory and does not delimit any boundary between the parties." Scarborough Reef is claimed by China, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

In recent years, China has been actively expanding the land area of the unpopulated reefs such as Scarborough and establishing a burgeoning military presence, which it has deployed to keep away any visitors on land or by sea. The tribunal said this activity, since the arbitration began, has unlawfully aggravated and extended the dispute.

In April 2015, a Chinese naval vessel "harassed a Philippine Air Force patrol flight in the Spratlys," according to one news account, by firing an illumination round. The incident postponed a Philippine Navy flight that was to evacuate an ailing participant of the just-ended DX0P Spratly Islands DXpedition. More recently, a private aircraft carrying a BBC reporter received radio warnings from the Chinese Navy to stay away from the South China Sea reefs and islands that China claims.



The Spratlys are claimed in whole or in part by China, the Philippines, Vietnam, and other countries. The Philippines National Telecommunications Commission issued the DX0P license.

During the May 2007, the BS7H DXpedition to Scarborough Reef — at the time the most-wanted DXCC entity — team members, under a license issued by the People's Republic of China, operated from wooden platforms mounted atop each of the reef's four rocks that are exposed during high tide.

The Philippines has stated that no amount of artificial reclamation can change the status of the islands' features for the purposes of the UN Convention.

FAA - New Rules Could Affect Ham Radio Antennas

From the ARRL

Future FAA Rules Could Affect Some Amateur Radio Antenna Support Structures

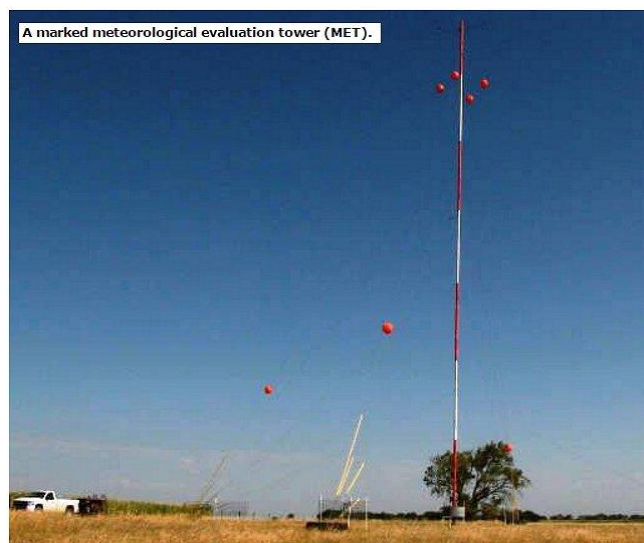


Yet-to-be-developed Federal Aviation Administration (FAA - <http://www.faa.gov/>) rules stemming from the recent passage in Congress of H.R. 636 (<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/636>), the FAA Reauthorization Act, could pose additional marking requirements for a small number of Amateur Radio towers. The bill instructs the FAA to enact rules similar to state-level statutes now in place that are aimed at improving aircraft safety in the vicinity of meteorological evaluation towers (METs) set up in rural areas. In the wake of fatal crop dusting aircraft collisions with METs, often erected on short notice, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommended in 2013 that states enact laws — sometimes called “crop duster” statutes — requiring marking and registration of METs. While some state crop duster laws exempt ham radio towers, the federal legislation does not. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said, however, that the list of exemptions in the federal legislation restricts application of the new rules to a very small subset of Amateur Radio towers.

“The FAA Reauthorization Act has very little application to Amateur Radio antennas. We will have a good opportunity to address the final FAA rules through the normal rulemaking process,” Imlay said. “We’ll be meeting soon with FAA officials to learn their intentions as well as to advance our own concerns to the agency. Uniform federal regulation is beneficial to hams, because it eliminates a patchwork of state statutes that can impose significant constraints on ham antennas in rural and agricultural areas.”

The FAA Reauthorization Act gives the FAA 1 year to issue regulations requiring the marking of towers covered by the new legislation. Marking of towers covered by the legislation will be in the form of painting and lighting in accordance with current FAA guidelines.

The law covers towers that are “self-standing or supported by guy wires and ground anchors;” are 10 feet or less in diameter at the above-ground base, excluding



concrete footings; are between 50 feet above ground level at the highest point and not more than 200 feet above ground level; have accessory facilities on which an antenna, sensor, camera, meteorological instrument, or other equipment is mounted, and are located outside the boundaries of an incorporated city or town or on land that is undeveloped or used for agricultural purposes.

Imlay said the law excludes towers erected adjacent to a house, barn, electric utility station, or other building, or within the curtilage (enclosed area occupied by a dwelling, grounds, and outbuildings) of a farmstead, among other exclusions. He said “undeveloped” land refers to a defined geographical area where the FAA determines that low-flying aircraft routinely operate, such as forested areas with predominant tree cover below 200 feet, and pasture and range land.

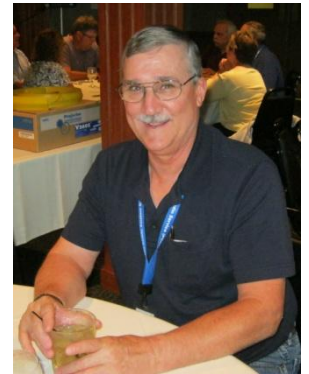
The FAA will develop a database containing the location and height of each covered tower, but Imlay noted that the database contents may only be disclosed for purposes involving aviation safety.

“We do not anticipate that a significant number of Amateur Radio antennas will be subject to these rules,” Imlay said, “but we need to monitor the FAA rulemaking process carefully to head off requirements that could put the cost of installing and maintaining affected structures out of any reasonable reach.”

Digital SIG

Rick, K8CAV

The monthly Digital Special Interest Group meeting will be held on Tuesday August 2nd at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. We’re hoping to have Steve K8SRR there to program and check the Ubiquiti nodes and virtual switches used for MESH networking. As always if you have any questions or problems involving digital communications please be sure to show up and we’ll do our best to help.



Linux for Hams Sig

Terry, KB8AMZ

The next meeting will be August 30, 2016, Tuesday, at 1900 EDT at the PCARS Clubhouse.

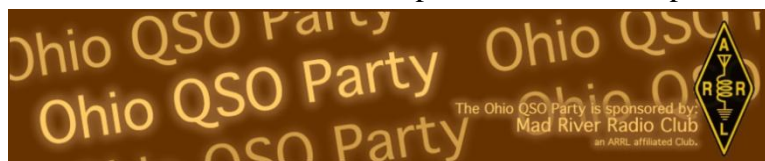
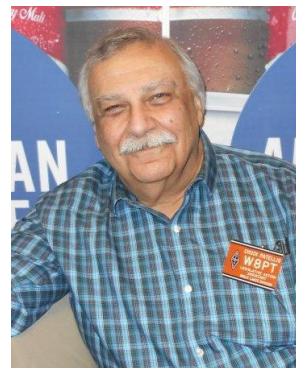
At our last SIG I installed Linux Mint 17.3 on an IBM low profile, one that was replaced by a miniPC. Upon installation I found that only 382 MB of RAM is accessible. Between now and the next SIG I will open the case and determine if the RAM can be upgraded to better utilize LM17.3. If no RAM upgrade is possible I will install a lighter version of Linux, notably one of the Puppy Linuxes.

At the next SIG I plan to set up the 2 PC's we've installed Linux on and download amateur radio Linux application software.

If you have any questions please contact either Mike, KB8TUY or Terry, KB8AMZ at our PCARS email address.



Chuck, W8PT



At our recent DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting, we discussed the upcoming Ohio QSO Party. This event takes place always on the fourth Saturday in August. That means that this year it will take place on August

27th. As you know, we have been participating in this event for a few years now from the K8BF club site.

The contest is 12 hours long - from Noon to Midnight and we will once again enter as a Multi-Multi. The modes are limited to CW and SSB and take place on 80,40,20,15 and 10 meters.

This event is a lot of fun because, for a change, Ohio stations are the ones being called from all over the US, Canada, and other parts of the world. And of course, Ohio stations are trying to make as many contacts as possible.

During the meeting we ran through the rules for this year's contest and we will certainly do so again. I'm hoping to get many PCARS members out to make some contacts since we want to make a good showing again. Even if you come out and only spend 10-15 min at the mic or key, come and help support your club's effort in this contest.

A suggestion was that everyone would have to "buy" their meal with at least 5 contacts. Well, we are not going to do that, but it is a thought. And speaking of a meal, YES, we will again have a BBQ associated with the QSO Party. We have billed it as the **Ohio B-B-QSO Party** and this year will be no different. I have it on good authority that Grill Master Tom Sly will be putting his magic touch on burgers and dogs or brats. PCARS will be supplying the meats and buns and condiments. If a few people could bring either a dessert or a side to pass to make it a complete BBQ, it would be great.

So there you have it. I will be making a specific request for operators and also to get a list of those that could bring some food to complement the burgers and brats. **Mark your calendars and set aside Saturday, August 27th, to take part in this year's Ohio B-B-QSO Party hosted by PCARS.**

Speaking about the Ohio QSO Party - PCARS has in the past sponsored a plaque for the Ohio QSO Party which is put on by the Mad River Radio Club. The 2015 First Place - Ohio Single OP - Low Power winner was K8MAD, the operator was Hal, W1NN. Here's a photo of Hal showing off his first place award.



One other thing you might want to do is mark your calendars for Oct. 1-2. That's when K8BF will once again participate as a Multi-Multi in the **California QSO Party**. As you are aware, we have done very nicely in this contest since we started entering it a few years ago. There will be more on this as the date gets closer, but it's not too late to get your ducks in a row so that you can take part in this fun event. We certainly want to keep up the standard that we have set. So stay tuned for more info.

Hamvention® Attendance Tops 25,000 Second Year in a Row

Given the level of enthusiasm at the 2016 running of Dayton Hamvention® in mid-May, attendance may have seemed up, but for all intents and purposes, it held steady at 25,364 visitors, event officials report. That figure was down only slightly from the 25,621 attendees reported for 2015, but above the 25,000 mark for the second year in a row. For those keeping track, in 2014 the official count was 24,873 visitors, and attendance in 2013 was 24,542.

Hamvention® attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669, before the 1996 change in date from April to May. While attendance has fluctuated over the years, Hamvention has grown to international proportions, attracting members of the worldwide Amateur Radio community each spring.

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has sponsored Hamvention® since 1952. Originally called the Southwestern Ohio Ham-vention, the inaugural event, held in March in downtown Dayton, attracted 600 attendees — twice as many as had been predicted. Today it is the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering.

DARA now is counting down the days to the next Hamvention on May 19-21, 2017. Hamvention's new General Chairman is Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, who succeeded Jim Tiderman, N8IDS. Tiderman reported an "overall good mood" and "a positive attitude" at this year's event and said the Hamvention staff received many upbeat comments.

Hamvention®'s post-show "Satisfaction Survey" is soliciting comments and observations from those who attended this year's big show. Three survey respondents will be selected to receive two tickets to the 2017 Hamvention. The ticket drawing will take place on August 22.



Previous Year's Hamvention® Reported Attendance Reports							
1991	33,500	1998	28,120	2005	20,411	2012	24,483
1992	33,000	1999	28,176	2006	20,324	2013	24,542
1993	33,669	2000	28,804	2007	19,318	2014	24,873
1994	35,000	2001	26,151	2008	17,250	2015	25,621
1995	33,000	2002	24,832	2009	18,877	2016	25,364
1996		2003	22,168	2010	19,750		
1997	28,000	2004	19,869	2011	22,312		

Dayton
Hamvention®
 Sponsored by Dayton Amateur Radio Association
 Since 1952

Ohio State Parks On The Air



OSPOTA - September 10th

Hello OSPOTA fans. Seems like Summer is passing faster than usual and that means the 9th annual OSPOTA is coming up sooner than you think. Make your plans, test that antenna set up, get out there and have some fun during OSPOTA 2015 on September 10th from noon to 8:00 pm local time.

We try to keep up on what's happening at the Ohio State Parks and as of July 25th, Latest word from ODNR is that Lake White Ohio State Park is still closed - they have construction going on with the earthen dam and the park -might- open again in 2017. Buckeye Lake Ohio State Park is open, but ODNR is doing work on the beach areas.

A note to remember - you are visiting an Ohio State Park. You are just a visitor, so please keep the area neat and clean and check the surrounding area to pick up any trash accidently dropped before you depart.

Also, as in the past, some park officials seem to think that since you are participating in OSPOTA, you need some sort of permit - You do not need a permit. You are just a visitor to the park that happens to be a ham operator testing out emergency communications with other hams in other state parks - again, you are a visitor to the park.

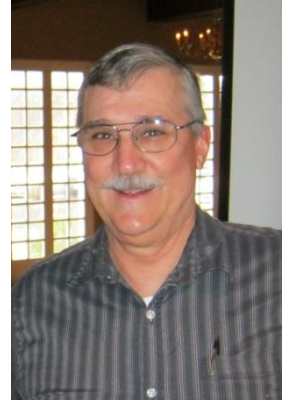


You have no special rights as to where you can set up and please don't make any demands to a Park Ranger. That's the easiest way to get tossed out of a State Park. Be polite, invite the Park Ranger(s) to see what you are doing and make sure you let him/her know that this is really like practicing emergency communications for public service. More and more governmental agencies such as Police, Public Health Departments, EMA, FEMA, Dept of Health & Human Services, Red Cross, etc. recognize how important amateur radio is for emergency communications. "***When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works***". Most of the time when you talk to the Park Rangers about this aspect - they think it's pretty cool and they leave you alone.

So - be polite - and most of all **HAVE FUN!** Take some pictures while you're out there, too. Check the rules again (they are posted here and on the main OSPOTA web site - since late last year). **Pick a Park and go for it!**

The Noise Is GONE !

Rick, K8CAV



Or at least the considerable amount that was present at the PCARS club site during contesting. When Portage Industries moved into the area of the building area next to us and started business operations on Saturdays, PCARS was finding it very difficult to operate during contests due to extremely high RF noise levels, especially on the bread and butter 20 meter band.

Last winter we started some testing to try and identify the source of the noise which turned out to be the new fluorescent fixtures installed by Portage Industries. Noise levels as high as 4 S Units (24 dB) above ambient noise were recorded in lights on -vs- lights off.

Jack, N8BI took the lead to identify the ballasts used and contact the manufacturer about the problem. The manufacture suggested a replacement and Jack procured four of them along with toroid cores for the input power leads of the ballasts. The issue of testing them had to wait for Field Day to be over as there was a lot of Portage Industries equipment that would have to be moved to get access to the lights. As it happened, Portage Industries ceased operations and move everything out of that half of the building leaving unfettered access to all of the light fixtures. We immediately installed the four ballasts and toroids in one bank of lights and found that indeed, there was no discernible difference in noise between lights off and lights on in that bank.



Jack Immediately ordered enough ballasts and toroids for the remaining fixtures and on Wednesday, July 27th we put together a work party to replace all ballasts in that side of the building. When the last ballast was replaced that evening we again conducted testing to find that indeed, the replacement ballasts cured the problem of light generated noise leaving a noise floor low enough to do contesting a lot more easily.

Thanks to Jack and to all of the volunteers for eliminating the RFI problem which now will make our use of the radio room a lot more fun and productive.



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Ohio Radio Amateur gets WAS Satellite

From the AMSAT News Service

Decades of Satellite Contacts Net Satellite WAS for Ohio Radio Amateur

It took Bob Liddy, K8BL, of Mentor, Ohio, nearly 4 decades to achieve Worked All States via satellite and earn WAS Satellite Award #341, although he wasn't really gunning for the award for all that time. His contacts spanned 38 years, and he submitted QSL cards to claim the award. His oldest satellite QSL card was from W7LSV in Oregon, for an Oscar 8 Mode A CW contact in 1978.

Liddy did not realize until he started going through his QSL cards to submit for awards at Dayton Hamvention® that he might have completed WAS on satellite. An AMSAT member since 1979, Liddy said he was "not in the hunt very seriously," but he determined that had, indeed, worked all 50 states and was only lacking a card from Vermont.

"Happily, it was Nick, KB1RVT, who I knew was always good for a confirmation, which he quickly returned, confirming our contact via SO-50 FM on January 4, 2016," he said.



AES Closing After Almost 60 Years

On July 1, 2016 Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) made the decision to close down their entire organization and terminate all retail operations at their Las Vegas, Cleveland, Orlando and Milwaukee locations.

Milwaukee: 800-558-0411 | Cleveland: 800-321-3594 | Las Vegas: 800-634-6227 | Orlando: 800-327-1917



Q HOME LOCATIONS SHOP OPEN CARTON LIST USED LIST CONTACT

Amateur Electronic Supply will close its doors for the final time on July 27th.

It's been an honor and privilege to serve the Ham Radio community for nearly 60 years.



Upon hearing the news, and with the concurrence of AES senior management, Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) sent senior management to each location to interview the staff with hopes of acquiring some of the Amateur Radio retail employee talent in each of the current AES locations.

Together with this interview process, HRO examined what it would take to perhaps acquire one or more of the AES store locations. At the time of these interviews, many opportunities were explored with current AES senior management.

HRO was successful in providing offers of employment to a number of soon to be former AES employees and that to some, we have offered positions that involve HRO sponsored and funded relocation.

After the closing of the Milwaukee AES location on July 28, 2016, Ham Radio Outlet will begin an extensive remodeling project to create the largest Amateur Radio retail showroom in North America. We will open our newest and largest Ham Radio Outlet in Milwaukee at the end of August 2016.

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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

The dog days of summer are approaching very fast. These are what are referred to as the "lazy, hazy days of Summer". Well, whether they have been hazy or lazy, they sure have been HOT! What better time than to spend these hot days in a cool shack and work some DX.

Of course, that is becoming a little problematic since the Sun has not been cooperative lately. So we DXers will have to become a little more creative and try to work those elusive DX entities with good operating techniques and not simply depend on great band conditions to do the bulk of the work for us.

Let's get on with this month's report. Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, W4DN, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, N0FCD, CO3JK, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, ES1CW, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, IZ5HQB, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, RSGB IOTA Web Site, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO, VHF-DX-Portal(MMMonVHF) and VU2DSI for the following DX information.

And, I have said it before and I will say it again, this report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - **"Work First Worry Later"**.

COWS OVER THE WORLD (Update). Tom, KC0W, and his all-CW "Cows Over the World" DXpeditions still continues and is now active as T2COW from Tuvalu until August 18th. Activity will be CW only on 160-6 meters using a K3 with a KPA500 amp (500 watts) into vertical antennas over salt water. He will be in all major CW contests. He updates his activities on his upcoming operations on QRZ.com. His tentative schedule is as follows:
Tuvalu (T2) : July 19th-August 18th Vanuatu (YJ) : August 20th-September 21st Western Kiribati (T30COW):
September 24th-October 24th Solomon Islands : October 25th-November 26th Returns to Samoa (5W0COW):
November 27th-??? Tokelau (ZK3) : ??? Temotu Province (H40) : (Depends on Tokelau) Bangladesh (S2) : Exact dates unknown. Nepal (9N) : Exact dates unknown. Bhutan (A5) : Exact dates unknown. QSL via KC0W direct only. A log search will be available on ClubLog. He does not use LoTW. See QRZ.com for more details and updates.

5N, NIGERIA. Martin, LW9DTR, will be active as 5N/LW9DTR from Ilobu town, south of Osogbo, in the Osun State, between August 7-8th. Activity will be on 20/15/10 meters using SSB and JT65. QSL via his home callsign direct.

6V, SENEGAL (IOTA Op). A team of Italian operators will be active as 6V1IS from Ngor and Gorée Islands (AF-045), Senegal, between November 6-16th. This is a Humanitarian DXpedition. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. Operators and Team members mentioned are Leopoldo/ I8LWL (Organizer), Alfredo/IK7JWX (Team leader/QSL Manager), Ampelia/ IS0AGY, Christian/IS0BWM, Loredana/IS0FFR, Patrick/IS0FQK, Simon/IZ7ATN, Vincenzo/IZ8FRH, Enzo/IZ8LFI and Michele/IW7EGQ. Log will be available on ClubLog. The operation does have a FaceBook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1707060236221730>

CT8, AZORES. Freddy, F5IRO, will be active as CT8/F5IRO from Sao Miguel Island (EU-003) between August 5-19th. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct.

CY9C ST. PAUL ISLAND DXPEDITION (Update, dated June 18th). Randy, N0TG, reports: The countdown is on; just 60 days 'til activation. Procurement of final materials and supplies is in process and being shipped to team member



K8LEE – Wayne. Wayne and Jay-K4ZLE will rent a cargo van for transport of most of the gear to our staging area in Canada departing their homes around 12 August. Phil, VA3QR, will be driving to the staging area with the generators and several other items. And, lastly Murray, WA4DAN, will also drive to Dingwall, Canada, with several yagi's. Other team members will be flying. The team is excited and looking forward to a very inclusive operation, i.e. satellite, 2 meter EME, RTTY, CW, SSB. We also have plans to include working Tech and General Class. We appreciate the visits to our website and those who have taken the "NEED SURVEY". We are gearing up to assure we meet the band and mode needs expressed, as well as, concentrating on successful contacts on the long and difficult propagation paths to various locations in Oceania, Japan, India, Asiatic Russia, western USA and VE, etc. Our thanks for the financial support; that helps greatly on the upfront cost of the DXpedition. Website: <http://www.CY9DXpedition.com>

D6, DOMOROS. Operators Pavel/OK1FPS, David/OK6DJ, Pavel/OK1GK, Ruda/OK2ZA and Petr/OK1BOA will be active as D66D from Comoro Islands (AF-007) between mid-September and begin-October (September 18-30th). Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Antenna/radio setup is 3x Elecraft K3, 2x PA, Antennas 2 x Spiderbeam including WARC, 1x vertical 40/30m, 1 vertical 160/80m + special RX antenna for low bands. QSL via OK6DJ, LoTW or eQSL. For more details and update, see: http://www.cdpx.cz/?page_id=512

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ, is once again active as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island in the Minami Torishima (OC-073, JCG 10007) group for the next couple of months. He is usually there to work on the island's weather station. Activity will be limited to his spare time. He will be mainly on 17 meters but also on 20/15/12/10/6 meters CW. QSL via JA8CJY or by the Bureau via JG8NQJ.

JD1, OGASAWARA. The Japan Amateur Radio Development Association (JARD) was established in 1991, and they are celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year. To commemorate the event, the following station will be on the air. Look for JD1YBV from Chichijima Island (AS-031) between August 23-28th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via the Bureau or SAE+2 USDs direct to JA1HQQ.

JW, SVALBARD (Reminder). Helge, LB5WB, will be active as JW/LB5WB from Spitsbergen (EU-026) between July 29th and August 1st. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

KH2, GUAM. After his V63AJ from Yap Island (OC-012) [see OPDX.1247], Mike, DF8AN will be active as KH2/DF8AN from Guam Island (OC-026) between November 16-20th. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, PSK and RTTY. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau. No eQSL or LoTW.

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. Phil, WA1ZAM, will once again be active as PJ7PL from the Royal Palms Beach Resort on Sint Maarten Island (NA-105, WLOTA 383, DIFO FS-001) between October 22nd and November 5th. Activity will be holiday style and mostly on 20-10 meters using SSB. He will also be active in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th). QSL via his home call sign.

TURKEY STILL ON THE AIR! Tevfik, TA1HZ, informs OPDX, "as of this time there is no curfew imposed on amateur radio in Turkey. The country is now under 'extraordinary circumstances law', but BTK (The Communications Authority) has not released any announcement about ham radio restrictions. Some local professional radio and TV stations have their licenses revoked, but there is no information about any restrictions for amateur radio. If I receive any info I will share it with you. Till then 73".

T32, EAST KIRIBATI. Ken, KH6QJ, will once again be active as T32AZ from Crystal Lodge, Kiritimati (Christmas Island) [OC-024], East Kiribati, between September 1-15th. Activity will be on 80/40/20/15/10 meters using SSB. Operations will include entries in the All Asian DX SSB Contest (September 3-4th) and the Worked All Europe (WAE)DX SSB Contest (September 10-11th). QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

T42, CUBA (Lighthouse Op). Members of the DX Group Cuba (GDXC), Havana Contest Group (HCG) and a eastern RC of Havana will activate T42R from the lighthouse castle of the Morro Havana (CU-002), Cuba (NA-015), during the 2016 International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (August 20-21st).

XX9, MACAO. Andrea "Andy", IK7YTT, will once again be active as XX9TYT from Coloane Island (AS-075) between August 29th and September 5th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB. Operations will include the All Asian DX SSB Contest (September 3-4th). Before the contest he will try to focus on 40 meters. Rig is a Ten Tec Omni VII using an Acom 1000 amp into Ultrabeam for 40-6m. QSL via IW7EGQ (for this operation). See QRZ.com for more details.

YB71, INDONESIA (Special Event). Look for YB71RI to be active to commemorate the 71st Independence Day of The Republic of Indonesia on August 17, 2016. Members of the Organisasi Amatir Radio Indonesia (ORARI) will activate this special event station on all bands and modes from every Indonesian Call Areas from 0 to 9. QSL via the Bureau.

YJ8, VANUATU. Rod, YJ8RN, will once again be active as YJ8RN/P from Loh Island (OC-110), Torres Islands, between July 25th and August 20th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB. QSL via NZ4DX.

ZL7, CHATHAM ISLAND (Update). Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as ZL7/W1XGI (not ZL7/JA1XGI as first announced) from Chatham Islands (OC-038) between November 24th and December 1st. Activity will probably be on 160-10 meters, including the 30/17/12m bands, using mainly CW with some RTTY, JT65 and PSK. Equipment is an IC-7300 into two different verticals. He also plans to be in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 26-27th). QSL via JA1XGI, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW. For more details and updates, watch: <http://island.geocities.jp/chathamholiday>

IOTA NEWS

AF-064. Look for ZS9V to be active from **Robben Island** during the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend [ILLW] (August 19-21st). There will be two stations on the air with 500w amps using a Inverted "V" and TH3 antennas. QSL via LoTW.

AS-062. Members of the Russian Robinson Club (RRC) will be active as RI0FS from **Shikotan Island, Kuril Islands**, between August 11-17th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Operators mentioned are Andrey/R6MG, Dmitry/ RA6ABC, Yuri/R7MR, Vladimir/UA0FAM and Andrew/UA3EDP. Look for more information to be forthcoming. Also, watch: <http://ri0fs.ru/en>

OC-233. Tony, VK3VTH, active as VK3VTH/7 from **King Island**, Bass Strait, Tasmania, between August 18-22nd. Activity will be on 40/20 meters using SSB only. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau or eQSL.

There you have it for the near future. Get on the air and work some DX and let me know how you did. Until next time - 73.

Antenna Build Day

Jim, AC8NT



We had a good group show up to start building some antennas and baluns.

Our first antenna build was the spiral dipole. This turned out to be quite a craft project involving a lot of hot glue. We will be

continuing this build with another Saturday session and using some better construction techniques.

We also had a members attempt to wind toroid baluns. We learned a lot about these techniques and will be improving our skills in the future.

We had a great time. Thanks to all the showed up for the build.



Paper Chase

Joe, W8KNO

I hope you made contact with the "Field of Dreams" special event station last month.

This month I am going to tell you about another special event station that is site specific. It is the "**Sideling Hill Tunnel**" special event station.



Sideling Tunnel - Late 1950's

A couple of years ago, my wife and I attended a "Where's George Gathering" in Breezewood and after the gathering; those that wanted to walked the tunnel.

The event is being sponsored by the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club. The event will occur from 10 am till 2 pm on Saturday August 13th. Look for them on or about 7.265 and 14.265 MHz.

For a QSL card, send a QSL card and SASE to:

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN PO Box 355 Harrisburg, PA 17032



Abandoned Sidling Tunnel Today

For more info on this tunnel - check out: <http://uncoveringpa.com/abandoned-pa-turnpike>

Hope to hear you in the pile-ups.

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





Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



More on EME

Lloyd, K8DIO

During the last PCARS meeting, the presentation was on EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) communications. For those of you that want to read more about this part of our hobby, here are some terrific links that will let you see what interesting activities are going on.

http://www.k4lrg.org/Projects/K4MSG_EME/

http://www.qsl.net/sterling/Activities/20151007_Paul_K4MSG_Small_Station_EME/EME%20Presentation_07-2015-h+.pdf

Also a good one from W5UN: <http://www.w5un.net/primer.htm>

And another from Tim, K7XC: <http://k7xc.tripod.com/id19.html>

These links will keep you busy for quite a while! If you have any questions about EME, feel free to contact me by e-mail at: k8dio@arrl.net



Hamfest Calendar

08/06/2016 - Columbus Hamfest - Location: Aladdin Shrine Center - 1801 Gateway Circle - Grove City, OH 43123 - Website: <http://www.columbushamfest.com> - Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club (W8FEZ) - Public Contact: Jim Leonard, WD8MRT - 37-B Noble Terrace Springfield, OH 45504 - Phone: 614-264-8566 - Email: wd8mrt@arrl.net

08/21/2016 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC's Eighth Annual Tailgate Hamfest - Location: Robert Pinn Armory - 4630 Allen Road - Stow, OH 44224 - Website: <http://cfarc.org/tailgate.php> - Public Contact: Frank Tompkins, W8Ezt - PO Box 614 Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222 - Phone: 330-928-4048 - Email: tailfest2016@cfarc.org

8/21/2016 - Warren ARA Tailgate / Swap Meet - Location: Mosquito Lake State Park (by the Marina) - 1439 State Route 305 - Cortland, OH 44410 - Website: <http://www.w8vtd.org> - Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association - Contact: Larry Oliver, KD8LYX - 4275 Nelson Mosier Road Leavittsburg, OH 44430 - Phone: 330-553-9579 - Email: kd8lyx@gmail.com

09/03/2016 - 67th Annular Uniontown ARC (W3PIE) Gabfest - Location: Uniontown Amateur Radio Club Grounds - 433 Old Pittsburgh Road - Uniontown, PA 15401 - Website: <http://www.w3pie.org> - Public Contact: Mike Kosco, KA3WOI - 12 Burlington Avenue Uniontown, PA 15401 - Phone: 724-437-3943 - Email: mikeko@verizon.net

09/11/2016 - Findlay Hamfest - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org> - Contact: Dave Hoxworth, AA8KJ - 1700 Stonehedge Drive Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-306-5013 - Email: hamfest@findlayradioclub.org

09/11/2016 - Butler County Amateur Radio Association BCARA SwapFest - Location: Unionville Fire Dept - 102 Mahood Rd - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://www.w3udx.org> - Contact: Rick Melton, N3VKM - 214 Criley Rd - Cabot, PA 16023 - Phone: 724 287-8134 - Email: n3vkm@arri.net

09/25/2016 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Contact: Glenn Williams, AF8C - 4134 Stoney Ridge Road Avon, OH 44011 - Phone: 800-CLE-FEST - Email: info-list@hac.org

10/16/2016 - Conneaut ARC Hamfest - Location: American Legion Post - 272 Broad Street - Conneaut, OH 44030 - Website: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1109527472432186/> - Public Contact: Michael Anderson, W3MJA - 1844 Dee Jay Avenue Erie, PA 16510 - Phone: 814-384-0443 - Email: w3mja@yahoo.com

10/23/2016 - Massillon ARC Hamfest - Location: Massillon Boy's and Girl's Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.w8np.org> - Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Terry Russ, N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 - Email: truss@sssnet.com

11/06/2016 - WACOM HAMFEST 2016 - Location: Washington County Fairgrounds - 2151 North Main Street - Washington, PA 15301 - Website: <http://www.wacomarc.org/hamfest.html> - Public Contact: Bud Plants, N3TIR - 236 Chambers Ridge Road West Alexander, PA 15376 - Phone: 724-350-6745 - Email: bud@n3tir.com

Good-Bye Hara Arena - Hamvention® to Relocate in 2017

From the ARRL

[Updated 2016-07-29@1807 UTC] Hamvention® has announced that Hara Arena, the home of Hamvention® since 1964, is closing, but Hamvention® will continue. Hamvention® 2016, the event's 65th running, was also the last held in the six-building Hara complex. Hamvention® 2017 will be held at a new, yet-to-be-disclosed location in the Dayton area.



the best."

"The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) regrets to inform our many vendors, visitors and stakeholders that, unfortunately, Hara has announced the closing of their facility," a news release from Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said today (July 29). "We have begun execution of our contingency plan to move Hamvention® 2017 to a new home. DARA and Hamvention® have enjoyed many successful years working together with Hara Arena and we wish the Wampler family

The news has struck the Amateur Radio community like a lightning bolt — albeit tempered only by DARA's assurances that Hamvention will not be going away as well.

"We are painfully aware of the loss this announcement will generate, which is why we have fought so long and hard to prevent it," Hara Arena Marketing Director Karen Wampler said in a news release.

According to Cramer, DARA and Hamvention have been working on a contingency plan in the event that the deteriorating Hara Arena ever should become unavailable. “We have spent many hours over the last few years evaluating possible locations and have found one in the area we believe will be a great new home!” The announcement said that DARA and Hamvention® expect to make a formal announcement soon “introducing our new partner.”

“We all believe this new venue will be a spectacular place to hold our beloved event,” Cramer said. “Please rest assured we will have the event on the same weekend and, since it will be in the region, the current accommodations and outside events already planned for Hamvention® 2017 should not be affected. We look forward to your continued support as we move to a new future with The Dayton Hamvention®.”

A hockey team’s cancellation of its upcoming season earlier this month had raised questions about the future availability of Hara Arena for Hamvention®. Hara Arena has been facing long-standing financial problems - including unpaid property taxes. Renovations promised for the 2016 Hamvention never materialized.

Hamvention attracted more than 25,000 visitors this spring and is worth millions of dollars to the Dayton area economy. The Wampler family has owned and operated Hara Arena since its humble origins in the 1950s, when Wampler Ballarena - then a dance hall and now an exhibit hall familiar to Hamvention® visitors - was built in what had been a family-owned orchard.

Children Tangled in Dipole - Pokestop

Nathan, K5KAC
hamhijinks.com



Children Tangled in Dipole After Special Event Station Becomes Pokéstop

VERMILION, OREGON – The Vermilion City Amateur Radio Club awoke early yesterday morning to the cries of local children tangled in their 80m dipole.

“From far away I could see the screens of their iPhones glowing as they called out for help in getting untangled. It was the loudest racket I’ve ever heard,” said Ash Allman, who lead the effort in freeing the kids.

The children were caught in the dipole after the S.S. Anne Park and Marina was named a Pokéstop in the popular mobile game Pokémon GO. A Pokéstop is an area, typically a landmark or park, where Pokémon Trainers can converge to get prizes and set lures to attract rare Pokémon characters. A player must physically visit these locations to collect the rewards.

“We were all set up to work into the night, but the band conditions went south so we decided to get some rest,” lamented Misty Brock, the event organizer. “It wasn’t until morning that we found about a dozen kids wrapped up in the legs of the dipole.”

At press time, the special event station had been forced to cease operation due to lack of participation, with one member finding a high-level Charmander character in his tent and the rest wandering the nearby tree line looking for a Clefairy.



photo credit: photopin

Let's Talk

Scott, N8SY
Ohio ARRL Section Manager



Summer is here for sure and this means that we have two, yes TWO major national conventions in our state at the exact same time. Add to that we have several major bicycle events and I'm sure there are also several county fairs, local parades and special events in all four corners of our state.

>> Update on the Ohio Homeland Security Credentialing System. I know that I've written about this numerous times over these past months, but until now there's really been no occasion to try this new credentialing system out. Like I said, until now. This week we had a request to credential our folks that are assigned to the Akron Chapter of the American Red Cross that will be there for the RNC. So, now we have an event where we need to credential some of our folks. And, as it has been with this new system, we seem to be the guinea pigs for it. There were a few snags with their system when we went to enter the data, but all in all, it did work and we now have a few of our folks CIMS credentialed for this specific event. By the way, the RNC and NAACP Conventions have been declared by the federal government as "National Special Security Events" or NSSE for short.

This means that our resources are really being tested for sure. This is what we've practice for. This is why we ALL have taken those dreaded/boring ICS courses. This is what WE are all about. I greatly appreciate and personally thank each and every one of you for your dedication, volunteerism, and willingness to learn and apply that knowledge freely to all of our citizens in this great state!

Now, switching bands to another subject..

Field Day. Yes, it's over for this year, but I know several clubs out there that are already planning on Field Day 2017! I got to visit 14 sites and drove 986 miles in that 24 hour period. I was exhausted and STUFFED by the end. I really thank all of you for your wonderful hospitality and fantastic food. We won't even discuss how much weight I put back on. Fear not, I fasted afterward. I had too, I was too full to even think about wanting to eat.

Field Day Pictures. If you haven't taken a look, I have a lot of pictures from many of the Field Day sites posted in a gallery. Hey, one of those pictures may be of you! You can find this gallery at: <http://arrl-ohio.org/fd/index.php>. This gallery also allows you to down load any picture to your computer as well.

Now, moving down the band to some other subjects..

Have you seen the NEWEST "Handbook Giveaway" drawing on the website yet? It's there! To enter the drawing all you need to do is fill in a couple of boxes on the form (your name and email). That's you need to do to be entered into a drawing to win a 2016 ARRL soft cover Handbook. There's nothing else required (Oh, You do need to be a resident of Ohio to win). The winner will be mailed the Handbook at my cost. This is being offered just to see how many folks are really checking in on the website. Got the idea? Best of luck to you!!

Are you getting those emails from me? If not, all you have to do is to "Opt-In" to receive them. Heck, just send me an email n8sy@n8sy.com and I'll get you added to the mailing list. There's a link to do this on the Ohio Section website, it's on the bottom left corner. For your convenience, here's a direct link to it: <http://arrl-ohio.org/forwarder/forwarding.html>. I urge all of you to make sure that everyone, regardless of whether they are a League member or not, get signed up for one of these options. You can always "Opt-Out" at any time if you feel this is not what you were expecting.

Let's shift bands once again..

Let's talk about the Ohio Section Website. You can find the Ohio Section Website at: <http://arrl-ohio.org>. If you don't have this website set as your home page, I urge you to do so. It changes a lot and it's so important for you to be kept up to date with the very latest information.



HEY, there's another NEW – one question – questionnaire on the Ohio Section Website! This question is really important for me to know. It will only take about 2 seconds for you to answer it, and you can see how your answer stacks up with others instantly. If you haven't done it yet, please do, I really want to hear from you.

Switching bands once again..

Are you a member of the ARRL?? If you aren't a League member, this is a great opportunity to become one. Want more information on how to join? Here's the link: <http://www.arrl.org/membership-levels>. There's even a 90 day FREE trial that you can apply for if you've never been a member. Got questions about being a member or what the League is all about? Send me an email: n8sy@n8sy.com. I'll be happy to call or write to you. We can even meet and have coffee if you'd like, and I'll buy!!



One last spin of the dial..

Now August 6th is when we will have the ARRL Ohio Section Conference in conjunction with the Columbus Hamfest. There are a number of great forums scheduled and I'm sure you'll want to attend them all. The ARRL Forum will also be when the 25th Annual Newsletter winners will be announced. And, it will also be when I announce the 22nd recipient of the Allan Severson Award. I'm sure all of you will want to be there when that is announced for sure!!

Lastly..

I'm always available for you, whether you're an ARRL member or not. If you have any questions, concerns or would just like to sit and chat awhile. Call (419) 512-4445 or drop me an e-mail at: n8sy@n8sy.com. That's going to do it for this month. I hope to see you all at your hamfest, club meetings or talk to you on the air!



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: MFJ-259B Antenna Analyzer with Case and rechargeable batteries. Good condition - \$160

Yaesu FT-1000MP - excellent condition with roofing filter and extra filters, manual - \$950

Classic Hammarlund HQ-129 shortwave receiver, electrolytics and tubes replaced 5 years ago, average to good condition, \$100

Ten Tec Corsair - complete with external power supply and speaker, optional CW filter and manual - great CW rig - \$400 OBO

Contact: George, K3GP at 330-829-9504 [09/02/16]

FOR SALE: Tri-Ex Model LM-354 Tower \$400 - **Cushcraft Model 520 20 Meter 5 El Beam** \$100 - **Hy-Gain Model T-2X Rotator** \$250 - **All the above together \$600**

Kachina 505DSP In great shape, original DSP radio, great for digital work \$400.

Kenwood SP-430 Speaker \$40

Gwinstek Function Generator \$25 **Gwinstek Digital Multimeter** \$25 **Albia Power Supply Dual Variable +15 & -15** \$25

EZ Oscilloscope 60MHz Dual Channel \$25 **Nye Viking, MBI-001 Tuner** \$100 **Sencore TF151**, Transistor tester \$25

Shure model PE515, Microphone \$25 **Shure model 444D**, Microphone \$25 **AEA model QT-1**, Antenna tuner \$25

HEIL HTH, Handie talkie headset for Kenwood HT's \$25

Misc tower parts, lots contact me if interested. Will accept reasonable offers.

Contact: Allan, AB8AA at AB8AA@portcars.org [10/02/16]

FOR SALE: Base Antennas & Mosley Classic 36 6-element Tri-Bander There are 3 Commercial Base Station antennas manufactured by **Antenna-Specialists Models: ASP-682 & ASP-680** factory tuned for the 2-meter band all 3 just came out of service with mounting clamps and N-connectors on the pigtails. Also there is a **Hustler Model: G6-270** dual-band base antenna, plus a **Diamond Model: X-50 ONA** dual-band base antenna, plus 2 tower standoffs, various coax cables, extra antenna clamps for mounting. This entire package and all for a price of \$700 for pickup only in N.E. Ohio (Cleveland area). NOTE: Will sell separate for each item, call for pricing.

Yaesu FT-60: \$100 **ICOM IC 91AD D-Star** \$100 **Bird VHF slugs** - \$50 each **Antenna Specialist 100 w mobile amp** - \$100

Lafayette HA-410 10- Meter AM transceiver w/AC cord, mobile hand mic., working. Plus two spare radios for parts - \$200.

Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ by phone at 440-951-6406 [09/02/16]



FOR SALE: Kenwood SP-820 Speaker - with filters \$80. **DenTron Jr Monitor 300 watt antenna tuner** - Tunes long wire, coax, twin lead antennas. \$75 **Dentron model 80-10 Long wire antenna tuner** - \$65.

Contact: Mark, W8BBQ by e-mail at: W8BBQ@portcars.org [08/02/16]

FOR SALE: Cushcraft 3- element Mono-band 10 meter Yagi: New \$ 289.95, will sell for \$ 125.00.

M2 - 6M5XHP, 6 Meter Yagi 5-element 18 ft boom: New \$ 419.95, will sell for \$ 125.00

Contact: Ed, K8IV by e-mail at K8IV@portcars.org [10/02/16]

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



Restructuring the CQWW Contest Committee

Doug KR2Q

(Editor's note: Congratulations to PCARS member Bob, W5OV)

As the new CQWW Contest Director, my first formal act is to suspend the position of Director. With concurrence from CQ management, I am implementing a new leadership structure. Specifically, I am creating a triumvirate. For those not familiar with the term, you can consider this to be three (3) "co-directors."

New to the committee as an appointed member of the triumvirate is Scott Robbins, W4PA. Returning to the committee and also an appointed member of the triumvirate is Bob Naumann, W5OV. We will all share the various tasks of "Director" and we all will provide backup or contingency coverage for each other for most, if not all, aspects of CQWW Committee leadership. We are all equals. I am really excited about the new leadership structure, and especially by the fact that together, we represent a broad range of ages. I am in my 60s, Bob is in his 50s and Scott is in his 40s. Please give a warm welcome to Scott, W4PA, and to Bob, W5OV.

Meet the new members of the CQWW triumvirate



CQ World Wide DX Contest

Robert Naumann, W5OV

First licensed as WN2OVE in 1973, and hooked by the contest bug on Field Day, 1973. Bob has participated in many domestic contests including CD Parties, Sweepstakes, and some DX contests until 1979 when I invited him to K2GL (N2AA) for the 1979 CQWW SSB contest. This began many years of multi-multi contesting from K2GL(N2AA), W2PV, W2YV, W1AW, NF2L, K5NA, N2RM, AA5NT, K5MR, NR5M, K8AZ et al, and most recently for several years at K3LR. He also has done VHF contests from WA2SNA and K3UA.

From the DX side, Bob has contested from V26B, V26O, V25A, V26DX, 4U1UN, PJ4G. He is a DXCC Honor Roll member.

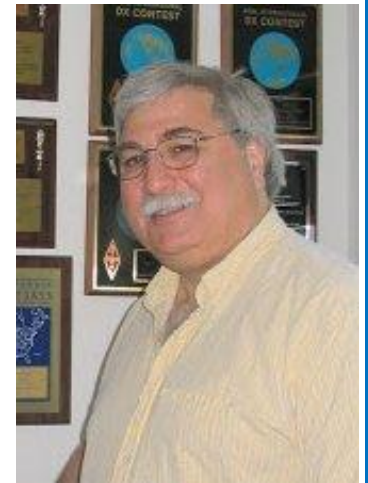
He was a WRTC 1996 (San Francisco) competitor with team mate K3MM. Bob is a returning member of the CQWWCC, where he has already served for 20 years.

Other callsigns he has held include WA2OVE, KR2J, N5NJ, V26O, V26RN, and now W5OV. Bob is member of the ARRL (Life Member), the Radio Club of America, QCWA, and several local clubs (**PCARS**, NCC, NTCC, DFWCG, FRC, YCCC).

Bob started his professional amateur radio career at Radio Shack and Heathkit in the late '70s. He then went on to IT infrastructure management / enterprise consulting, and relational database architecture for many years, after which he returned to amateur radio as a career. Bob was Operations Manager at Array Solutions for nine years, and is now Sales Manager at DX Engineering in Tallmadge, Ohio.

While at university, he was appointed as a representative on the Ethics Review Board reviewing cases of plagiarism on a regular basis [sounds like log checking to me! – KR2Q]

Bob's other hobbies include long-distance motorcycle riding (2009 BMW K1300GT), bass guitar, digital photography and freshwater fishing.



Scott Robbins, W4PA

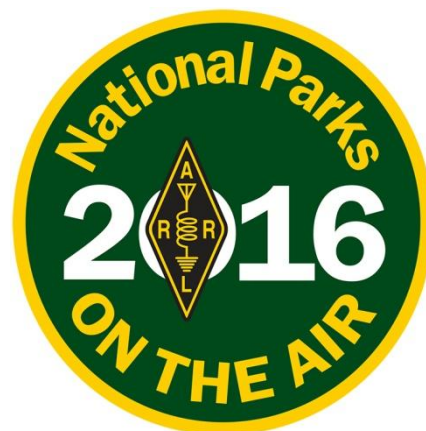
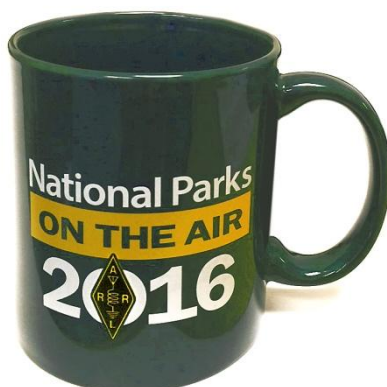
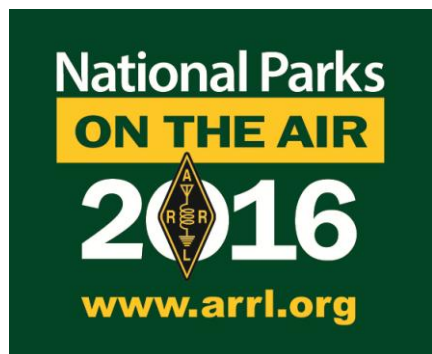
First licensed 1982 at age 12, Scott's first experience with contesting was making 600 QSOs in the 1982 CW SS contest. His first win was operating ARRL DX CW M/2 at W2REH in 1986. He started seriously doing single op contesting in the mid-1990s after many years of multi-ops. Scott won the ARRL DX CW SOABHP from the W/VE side in 2002, 2004 and 2007. You may remember him winning the ARRL DX CW SOABHP as 8P9PA in 2006 and in the CQWW CW SOABHP from NT1Y in 2003. He was a USA competitor at WRTC-2010 and a referee at WRTC-2014. He is now active in CQWW contests annually as PJ4Q, operating M/S or M/2, Field Day style from rental holiday QTHs.

Robbins has been employed in the business side of ham radio his entire adult life. Starting with Ham Radio Outlet in Atlanta in 1994-95, then hired by Ten-Tec in 1995, he took over the Product Manager position there for Amateur Radio in 1997. In 2009, he left Ten-Tec and bought the Vibroplex Company. He has since added the ownership of INRAD, Benchner, and W7FG Vintage Manuals along with distributing Spiderbeam, YouKits, and Easy-Rotor-Control products in the USA.



Scott lives in Knoxville, Tennessee, is married, and has a 16-year-old daughter from a previous marriage. He is an avid amateur musician and has been playing bass guitar in local rock bands for more than 30 years.

In closing this CQWW leadership restructuring announcement, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Randy, K5ZD for his excellent work as CQWW Contest Committee Director. He has really implemented and accomplished some amazingly great feats, not the least of which is getting the entire CQWW results for all years on line and in a searchable database (personally, I love this feature). It is not necessary to state that he leaves behind really big shoes to fill. Luckily, Randy is remaining as a member of the CQWW Contest Committee. For all you've done, a big Thank You Randy!





PCARS Members - 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 54 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. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of PCARS history**.

From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PCARS 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/>



DX Engineering - August Hot Deals

The generous people at **DX Engineering** are long time supporters of PCARS. This letter came in announcing a August Hot Deals day at the **DX Engineering** retail store in Tallmadge (located inside Summit Racing). They support PCARS, so let's help support them as well. Hope to see you at **DX Engineering** on August 13th.



Dear club leader,

I'm excited to announce that DX Engineering's "August Hot Deals" sales event is returning for 2016. Better yet, we're celebrating in our newly expanded Retail Showroom near Akron, Ohio. Thanks to this larger space, we're going to have more display area, more products on the shelves and more opportunities for you to get hands-on with the newest radio gear!

August Hot Deals begins at 9 am on Saturday, August 13. Our DX Engineering staff will be on-hand at our new showroom to answer questions until noon Saturday morning. The sale will last through 9 pm on Sunday, August 14.

This new retail space allows us to turn August Hot Deals into an in-house Hamfest. You can make some eyeball QSOs with area Hams, and score huge discounts on open box gear and inventory reduction items. Plus, you'll be able to purchase and pick up your in-stock order that same day.

We're also using this event to show and talk about the new products we teased you with in Dayton:

- NCC-2 Receive Antenna Variable Phasing System
- RPA-2 Modular Receive Preamplifier
- RTR-2 Modular Receive-Transmit Interface
- Plug-In Modules
- Automatic Band-Pass Filter
- Advanced Design Thrust Bearing
- The new DX Engineering TransWorld Antenna

The deals will only be good here at our newly expanded Retail Showroom, inside the Summit Racing Retail Super Store at 1200 Southeast Ave. in Tallmadge, Ohio.

Watch for more details at DXEngineering.com and on our Facebook page. In the meantime, add the date to your calendar of events, newsletter and website, and spread the word to your club members and friends. Even if you can't make it to this event, I encourage you to come in anytime and check out our expanded Retail Showroom.

I hope to meet you and your club members on August 13!

73,
Tim Duffy K3LR

Tim Duffy K3LR
Chief Operating Officer and General Manager

DX Engineering
1200 Southeast Ave.
Tallmadge, OH 44278 USA
330.572.3200
DXEngineering.com

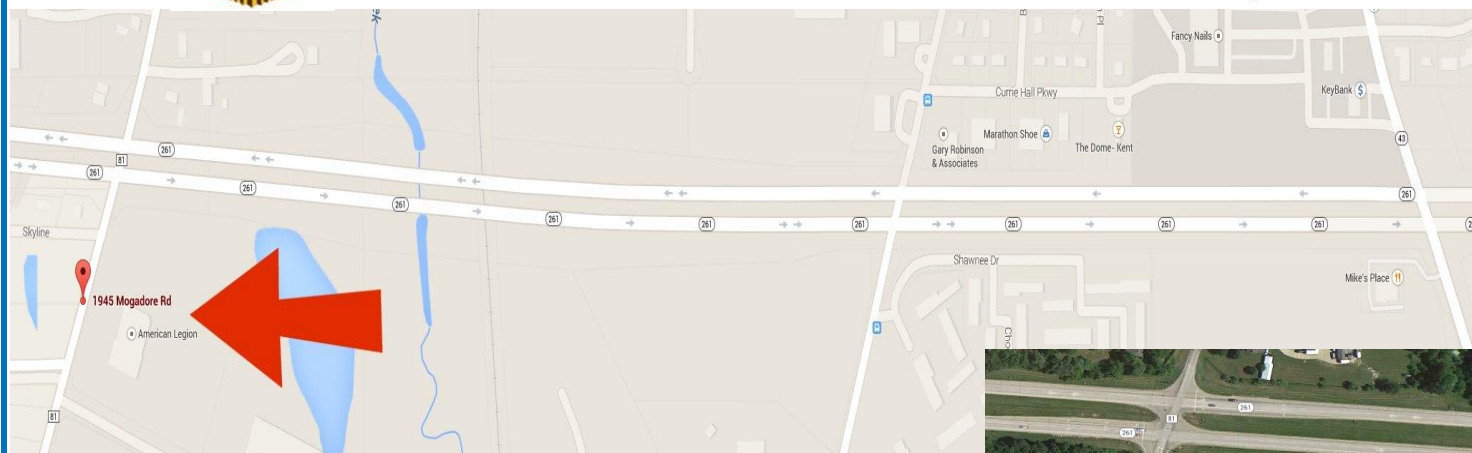
Phone: 330.572.3200 • Fax: 330.572.3279 • E-Mail: DXEngineering@DXEngineering.com • Web: DXEngineering.com

PCARS Meetings

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



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



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



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

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

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

Photos from the July PCARS Meeting



PCARS - 11 July 2016



PCARS - 11 July 2016

Important Dates in August

Here are some actual holidays that are a little off beat and fun.

August 7th - India Pale Ale Beer Day:

Get ready to raise a glass and celebrate India Pale Ale Beer Day. This annual occasion aims to increase appreciation of one of the world's most popular types of craft beer, using social media to spread the word. IPA beers date back to the late 18th century, when these ales were brewed for British sailors making long sea voyages to India. Most beers didn't keep well on board ship, but London brewer George Hodgson was one of the first to develop a pale ale with a high hop content, which kept its taste better. The special day isn't sponsored by a particular beer brand, but brings together breweries large and small, along with an assortment of beer buffs and bloggers. Hundreds of events are organized, including India pale ale tastings and festivals, so look out for a celebration at a bar near you. Cheers! <http://www.craftbeer.com/news/craftbeer-com-news/ipa-day-is-back-august-1-2013>



August 4th - National Psychic Day: (But you knew that already.....)

Did you know there is actually a day dedicated to all things psychic? In fact, this day actually kicks off National Psychic Week, designated as the first full week of August. So, how are you going to celebrate? National Psychic Day and National Psychic Week have been traced back to a 1965 publicity stunt dreamed up by Richard R. Falk. He was a Broadway Press agent who managed a number of well-known celebrity psychics. In order to drum up business, he created the so-called national holiday. Although it's uncertain whether or not the holiday improved business for Falk and his clients, it certainly is a whimsical reminder to pay homage to psychics and psychic abilities. <http://www.psychicsuniverse.com/news/psychic-abilities/national-psychic-day-august-4-2014>



August 5th - International Beer Day:

Whether you're a lager lover or a cask ale connoisseur, there's no excuse not to raise a glass to another yearly installment of Beer Day – the perfect opportunity for beer brewers, sellers and buyers to raise their frosty glasses in celebration of the oldest, and most popular alcoholic beverage on the planet! Bars, restaurants and pubs all over the world join in with the celebration, so it's easier than ever to show your appreciation for the people who brew beer, and those who make it available for us all to drink on that parched summer's afternoon. <http://www.internationalbeerday.com/>



August 5-7th - Twins Day:

The Twins Days Festival in **Twinsburg, Ohio** is the largest annual gathering of twins (& other multiples) in the world! 2015 marked a major milestone for the Twins Days Festival and its twin family...its 40th festival! Watch the official videos here and here to see some of the fun and activities that can be found at the Twins Days Festival. <http://www.twinsdays.org/>



August 6th - National Root Beer Float Day:

Between the luxurious vanilla ice-cream and the sumptuous root beer foam, how can any individual resist this delightful beverage? This amazingly refreshing summer treat has its own special day to celebrate its undeniable brilliance. Towards the end of the 19th century, a gentleman named Frank Wisner created the first root beer float. Strangely, this float was nicknamed the "black cow." If you are wondering how to make one of these superb drinks, then simply add a scoop of vanilla ice-cream to a cold glass of root beer. The taste of root beer float makes the taste buds tingle with utter excitement. To celebrate Root Beer Float Day why not create your own float? Make the float colorful and presentable so that other people can see you have really made an effort for this special occasion! <http://awrestaurants.com/rootbeerfloatday>



August 7th - Lighthouse Day:

If you're the captain of an ocean-faring ship and frequently navigate through heavy fog (or regularly pull the night shift), you'll already no doubt be a huge fan of Lighthouse Day. For our less nautical readers, this one's all about shining big, bright lights from peninsulas to help ships, boats and sailors find their way. Good ole' lighthouses, eh? http://www.lighthousefoundation.org/museum/natlighthouseday_info.htm



August 16th - Wave At The Surveillance Cameras Day

These days there are more and more people who think that the whole surveillance issue has gone a bit too far. It doesn't matter where we are or what we're doing, if we're outdoors, especially in a city, there is a very high probability that we're being recorded. Of course, surveillance cameras have helped to make countless cities safer by catching various crimes on video—from theft to vandalism to assault—thus allowing the police to apprehend the criminals committing them faster and easier. Still, many can't help but feel uncomfortable with the fact that almost all of their actions are being monitored, especially those who would not think of committing crimes. Some have even gone as far as to call surveillance cameras an Orwellian invasion of the privacy everyone should be entitled to.

The History of Wave At The Surveillance Cameras Day The first surveillance cameras were created by German engineer Walter Bruch and was installed by Siemens AG in Germany in 1942 to observe the launch of V-2 rockets. In the U.S. the first commercial closed-circuit television system, Vericon, became available in 1949. The earliest video surveillance systems required constant human monitoring because at the time there was no way to record and store information. Then, when VCR technology became available in the 1970s, it became possible to record and erase information, causing the use of video surveillance to become much more practical and thus much more common. Olean, New York was the first city in the United States to install video cameras along its main business street in an effort to fight crime in 1968. A few years later, in 1973, cameras also appeared in Times Square in New York City. In the 1980s video surveillance began to spread across the country, especially in public areas. Businesses that were especially prone to theft, such as banks and stores, also began to install surveillance cameras. In 1998, 3,000 CCTV systems were in use in New York City. Today, surveillance cameras are also used in traffic monitoring, transport safety, control of retail, as well as home and school security. The use of video surveillance in public places became more common after the September 11th Terrorist attacks so as to deter future terrorist attacks. In 2010, there were more than 10,000 CCTV systems and counting in Chicago. Greater London also has a large amount, with the number being estimated around 500,000, and the total number of cameras in the UK to be around 4,200,000. Wave At The Surveillance Cameras Day was created several years ago to help us all take a step back and having a bit of fun with issues that are usually gravely serious. How to Celebrate Wave At The Surveillance Cameras Day: As mentioned before, surveillance cameras have been criticized for depriving regular citizens of their privacy and allowing the authorities and governments too much control over citizens' lives. However, the good they have the potential to do for society as a whole is a strong argument in their favor. On Wave At The Surveillance Cameras Day, take a moment to have a little bit of fun with the cameras surrounding you and do what little kids do when they see a train: wave! With all of the problems the world is facing, it's nice to just let go and have a laugh every now and then, and the person who might be watching the recordings later on will likely find him or herself chuckling as well. The more people doing it, the cheerier the world will be, if just for a moment!



August 27th - Burger Day

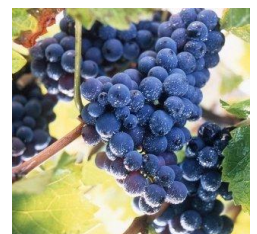
Do you fancy yourself as a burger connoisseur? Then Burger Day is your excuse to indulge and to try new flavors and experiences! Burger Day is run by a Mr Hyde, who sample, test and revel in the delights (and doubtless horrors) of burger vendors. Why not join them and try a new burger venue, flavor or style in your city?



August 30th - International Cabernet Sauvignon Day:

Cabernet Sauvignon comes in all shapes and sizes that help create a vast array of wines and wine styles. Depending on the terroir Cabernet Sauvignon is grown in, stylistically, the wine can range from elegant and refined, to light and uninteresting to powerful, rich, opulent and forward. International Cabernet Sauvignon Day is the perfect time to open a bottle and celebrate all things Cabernet. The August 30 celebration actually takes in all Cabernet based wine, so this could include Cabernet Franc as well. This means that all over the world, wine lovers are opening wines produced from Cabernet Sauvignon. Not that most of us need another reason to open a bottle of wine.

<http://www.thewinecellarinsider.com/2015/08/international-cabernet-sauvignon-day-august-30-open-bottle-celebrate/>





PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Thanks & 73



Tom “Parky”, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS will be known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities to report on in this newsletter all throughout 2016 and beyond.

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

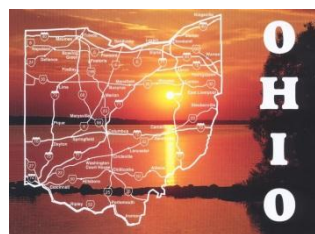
K8CAV, AC8NT, KB8UUZ, N8RLG, KD8SKL, KC8PD, WB8LCD, KB8AMZ, W8PT, W8WWV, K3GP, KD8ICP, KB6NU, KD8MQ, W8KNO, K8DIO, K5KAC, N8SY, KR2Q, Record Courier, AMSAT News Service, DX Engineering, the ARRL and the World Wide Web.

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

Please use the following as a guide when submitting something for the newsletter:

1. Send the written information as a **.TXT (text File)**. Not as a .DOC, .DOCX, .PDF, .RTF or some other format. I cannot use your DOC/DOCX file since you may have hidden formatting information in the text which will really mess up my .DOCX file when I'm making the newsletter. When you send me a DOC/DOCX file it causes me to do twice as much work to be able to use it - I have to convert to .TXT, save it, then I can open and use it without weird formatting. PDF files - not all can be converted to text, so I'm going to let you do that instead of me having to retype everything. Now, after saying that, there may be a certain format (bold, italics, etc.) you want - well, send me both files - the original with the formatting, and a text file for me to use. That way I will look at both files and know what you want done.
2. Images: send me **quality** images, please. Large file sizes are fine. I can crop and re-size as needed to make them work. Most phones reduce the file sizes too small (less than 1MB, sometimes as small as 25kb) and if I try to enlarge them, they get all pixelated and not usable. Please stick with .JPEG or .BMP file types. My photo shop program handles those just fine. Also, make sure the photos are in an attachment to your e-mail - **not** in the body of the e-mail. If you have problems sending attachment photos, then ZIP the photo files and send me a ZIP file with the photos. G-Mail does a pretty good job when it comes to attachments.
3. More on images: Please make sure they are **in focus**. Also, ensure they are not too dark or too light. Again, my photoshop program can do a fairly good job in adjusting things, but there are limits.
4. Copyrighted information: If you are just copying something that has been published, you must obtain permission from the original publisher/author to reprint. That permission statement usually includes a link and the required permission statement. We don't want to get into any copyright litigation.
5. Links are nice, but don't just send me a link and say 'hey, put this in the newsletter'. Write up something why you think it is so great.

Send your inputs to KB8UUZ@portcars.org. When you send something for the newsletter I will send you a reply saying I got it. If you don't get a reply, chances are your e-mail never made it to me. So, please try again.



Columbus Hamfest & ARRL - Ohio Section Conference

Saturday - August 6th

Sponsored by
The Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club - W8FEZ
& ARRL Ohio Section
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Talk-in on: 146.760 Repeater - PL 123.0
First come – First served
Doors open at 6am for vendor setup

>> NEW LOCATION!! <<

Aladdin Shrine Center
1801 Gateway Circle
Grove City, OH 43123

APRS Marker - W8FEZ



Admission
\$5 at the gate
12 and under free

Indoor Tables
Free with paid
admission

Outdoor Space
Free with paid
admission

>> Card Checking (including 160) will be available <<

VE Testing 9:00 - 11:00

Forums

9:00 – 10:00 ARES - Stan Broadway, N8BHL
10:00 - 11:00 National Parks On The Air - Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
11:00 – 12:00 OSSBN Semi-Annual meeting - Mike Hayward, KC8WH
12:00 – 1:00p ARRL / Conference Awards Presentation - Scott Yonally, N8SY

For Hamfest information visit: <http://columbushamfest.com>

Ohio State Parks On The Air



OSPOTA - September 10th

Hello OSPOTA fans. Seems like Summer is passing faster than usual and that means the 9th annual OSPOTA is coming up sooner than you think. Make your plans, test that antenna set up, get out there and have some fun during OSPOTA 2015 on September 10th from noon to 8:00 pm local time.

We try to keep up on what's happening at the Ohio State Parks and as of July 25th, Latest word from ODNR is that Lake White Ohio State Park is still closed - they have construction going on with the earthen dam and the park -might- open again in 2017. Buckeye Lake Ohio State Park is open, but ODNR is doing work on the beach areas.

A note to remember - you are visiting an Ohio State Park. You are just a visitor, so please keep the area neat and clean and check the surrounding area to pick up any trash accidentally dropped before you depart.

Also, as in the past, some park officials seem to think that since you are participating in OSPOTA, you need some sort of permit - You do not need a permit. You are just a visitor to the park that happens to be a ham operator testing out emergency communications with other hams in other state parks - again, you are a visitor to the park.



You have no special rights as to where you can set up and please don't make any demands to a Park Ranger. That's the easiest way to get tossed out of a State Park. Be polite, invite the Park Ranger(s) to see what you are doing and make sure you let him/her know that this is really like practicing emergency communications for public service. More and more governmental agencies such as Police, Public Health Departments, EMA, FEMA, Dept of Health & Human Services, Red Cross, etc. recognize how important amateur radio is for emergency communications. "***When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works***". Most of the time when you talk to the Park Rangers about this aspect - they think it's pretty cool and they leave you alone.

So - be polite - and most of all **HAVE FUN!** Take some pictures while you're out there, too. Check the rules again (they are posted here and on the main OSPOTA web site - since late last year). **Pick a Park and go for it!**

Ohio State Parks On The Air



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the **9th Annual “Ohio State Parks On the Air” (OSPOTA)** contest, from the hours of noon to eight p.m. EST (1600 UTC to 2400 UTC).

9th OSPOTA - September 10, 2016	10 th OSPOTA - September 9, 2017
11 th OSPOTA - September 8, 2018	12 th OSPOTA - September 7, 2019
13 th OSPOTA - September 12, 2020	14 th OSPOTA - September 11, 2021
15 th OSPOTA - September 10, 2022	16 th OSPOTA - September 9, 2023
17 th OSPOTA - September 7, 2024	18 th OSPOTA - September 6, 2025
19 th OSPOTA - September 11, 2026	20 th OSPOTA - September 11, 2027

Always the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.



For hams throughout the State of Ohio, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the 74 beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. Don't just make a day of it, spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets. Find out more about the Ohio State Parks at: <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/>

In past years, hundreds of Amateur Radio Operators (hams) from around the country participated in the event. With the success of OSPOTA, we hope to have amateur radio operators at every Ohio State Park.

This contest places a premium on working stations located in the Ohio State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the design and deployment of Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) antennas. You can find numerous designs on the Internet and in various Amateur Radio antenna manuals. Along with your operating skills, it will be a chance to showcase your antenna building skills as well.

Individuals and multiple operators can operate Ohio State Park stations. Non-park stations in Ohio as well as stations outside of Ohio can also compete.

Contacts can be made on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. All contacts have the same point values.

Make sure that you read the Rules, FAQ's and get your forms for the contest that are posted on the OSPOTA website: www.ospota.org before the contest.

So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** in September. Have some fun with this contest! Learn more about PCARS at www.portcars.org.



73 for now,
OSPOTA Contest Committee

1 Dec 2015



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 9th annual

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 10, 2016, from 1600 UTC to 2400 UTC

There are **74** Ohio State Parks
Make a day of it and join us in the **FUN!**

Visit a beautiful Ohio State Park
and have some
Amateur Radio Fun at the same time!



Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?

Check out **all** the details at: www.OSPOTA.org

While you're at it, check out the PCARS web site at: www.portcars.org

1 Dec 2015

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

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

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

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

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

~ 2016 Officers ~		2016 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Rick Kruis - K8CAV Vice President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Treasurer - Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL 3 Year Trustee - Jim Aylward - KC8PD 2 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 1 Year Trustee - James Andrews - KD8VT Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD	ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	ARRL Awards - WAS	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	KC8PD	Jim Aylward
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	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 Control Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
~ Meetings & Net ~ 2 nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Secretary	K8MSH	Mark Haverstock
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers

 <p>PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members</p>	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
	N8RLG	Robert Gurney
	W8RID	Robert Davet
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	NR8W	Russ Williams
	W8EZT	Frank Tompkins
	N8OQQ	Bryan Buchwalter
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	K8MSH	Mark Haverstock
	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	KB3GXB	Jennifer Andrews

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliated
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

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. Third Place Winner in the Ohio Section 2015) newsletter of the **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)** – copyright © 2016. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. So when you spot a black squirrel – **think PCARS!**

This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **PCARS Newsletter, The RADIOGRAM**. The advantages to receiving this way are: You get **COLOR** pictures, active links, **NO** postage needed and the newsletter is delivered right to **YOUR** e-mail box! **The RADIOGRAM** is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. Yes I know the cover says there is a cost, don't worry you won't get sent a bill or be hounded by bill collectors. Since this now looks like a magazine, I thought - what the heck, let's put a price on it. Every month it's listed in a different currency just for fun. Send your newsletter inputs (in **.TXT** format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 20 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: kb8uuz@portcars.org



NLC



"When All Else Fails - Amateur Radio Works"