



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works
~ Official Newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. ~
PCARS - the 2018 Hamvention® Club of The Year

August 2018 - Volume 13 Number 8

⌂ 8.42



Field Day 2018 Final Results

**PCARS Special
Event Station
was FUN**



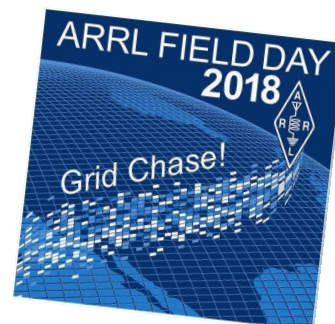
*Get Ready for
Ohio State Parks
On The Air*



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

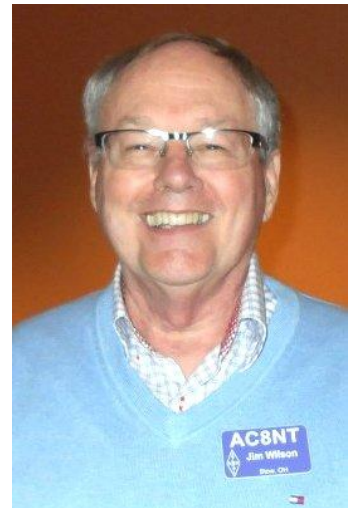


| Feature Articles | |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| From the PCARS President | 3 |
| From the PCARS Vice President | 3 |
| Field Day 2018 - Final Results | 6 |
| Field Day Pictures | 10 |
| Guide to Simple HF Dipoles | 19 |
| FT8 Adoption: The New Cool Thing | 20 |
| Youth DX Adventure - PJ2Y | 21 |
| Changes in store for Version 2.0 FT8 | 22 |
| Get On The Air | 23 |
| Kilo Eight Baudot Fun | 25 |
| Headwaters Adventure Race | 26 |
| Special Event Station - PCARS | 29 |
| RTTY Memories | 30 |
| Radio Shack Express Stores to Open | 31 |
| CQ World-Wide Contest Rules Updated | 38 |
| ARRL Contest Certificates Now On-Line | 38 |
| From the Ohio Section Manager | 39 |
| New in the Shack - Solid State Amplifier | 40 |
| Remaking Radio History | 42 |
| Count Down to OSPOTA 2018 | 45 |
| Mark Your Calendars | |
| Schedule of Events | 5 |
| VE Test Sessions | 24 |
| Hamfest Calendar | 27 |
| Net Info & NCS Schedule | 32 |
| Contest Calendars | 37 |
| Meetings, PCARS | 44 |
| Important Dates | 49 |
| ARRL Ohio Section Conference Flier | 53 |
| DX Engineering August Hot Deals | 54 |
| Mobile Cruise-In Flier | 55 |
| Ohio BB-QSO Party Flier | 56 |
| Ohio State Parks On The Air flier | 57 |
| Regular Departments | |
| PCARS Patches & Stickers | 4 |
| Happy Birthday | 5 |
| PCARS Yahoo Group | 26 |
| Paper Chase | 28 |
| SIG - Antennas | 32 |
| SIG - QRP, CW & Linux | 31 |
| SIG - DX & Contest | 33 |
| Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites | 34 |
| Swap-N-Shop | 41 |
| Member Ham License Plates Wanted | 43 |
| PCARS on YouTube | 43 |
| Pictures from the July PCARS Meeting | 47 |
| Finals | |
| Thanks & 73 | 52 |
| Fine Print | 59 |



From the President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



July has been a lot of fun. Three things made this month great.

First was taking part in the “Club of the Year” special event station. This was a lot of fun. We need to find reasons for more of these events. It’s nice to have other hams looking for us. **Second** was getting my shack in complete operation. All my antennas work including the two-meter beam. New rotors installed on the beam and the magnet loop also are up and running. **Third** and far from the last was working on student experiments that help them to learn about magnetism, electric fields, and electronics. I now have 12 experiments that are both fun and educational. I can’t wait to distribute them to schools.

But summer is far from over and there is lots more fun to be had. We have the Ohio Section Conference August 4th, the annual Cruise-In Thursday August 23rd and the Ohio BBQ QSO Party August 25th. Three great events. Thanks to Tom WB8LCD we are activating some interesting operating events at the club site. These will be covered in detail elsewhere in this newsletter. Suffice to say they are interesting and will be a lot of fun.

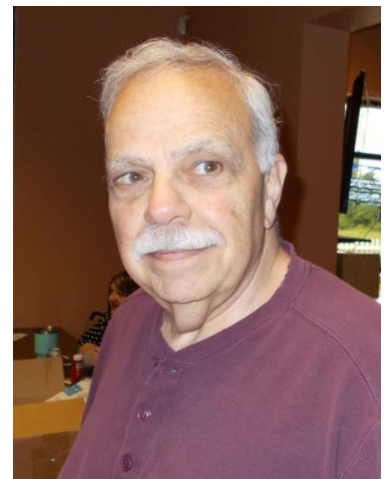
We will also be purchasing a large map for the club site to show which states and countries have been worked from the club. Purpose of these operating events and the map is to get more of our members to take advantage of our club site. We have this great asset and we need to use it more.

Last point, but no small point. The rain storms that hit our area last night (Thursday July 26th) left our club site **DRY**. This should be great news for all our members. I hope new repairs bring an end to our leak issues.

I hope all of you have a great August and get to enjoy being outside, working your radios and when you get a chance working radios at the club.

From the Vice President

Tony, WA8AR
PCARS Vice President



Exploring 630 Meters

The relatively new 630 meter (472 kHz to 479 kHz) in the medium frequency range, just below the AM Broadcast Band, is a different little piece of spectrum for the amateur radio operator. With power limited to 5 watts ERP (effective radiated power), the standard design full size antenna needing a city block, and little off the shelf ham equipment available, that tiny band looks all but impossible for the average ham to access. But to the hams that want to get out of the box, roll up their sleeves and clear off the workbench, it looks like red meat ready for the barbeque! I know that I have always been interested in the strange signals way down there in the MF band and below.

I have been looking at possibilities for using this new band since it was proposed. In general here is the state of the band today. First there are a number of ham stations using the band and activity has been increasing. Modes that I have heard there are WSPR, JT9, CW and other miscellaneous digital signals. The WSPR map has been showing some interesting propagation at night. So, how are these stations getting on the air?

First the antenna situation: I would say that no one is using a half wave dipole up in the air 500 feet or a 260 foot vertical with acres radials. They are using short antennas like a 160m or even an 80m dipole converted to a T antenna where the feed line is the radiator and the horizontal is used as a capacitance hat; 160m inverted L's, and long wire antennas, some short enough to fit on a city lot. Some of them are tuned with a variometer to tune out the capacitance of the short antenna. The variometer is a variable induction device placed in series with the antenna; I did not have one of those in my junk box. These physically short antennas are highly inefficient, with efficiencies sometime down in the single digits. But even with less than a watt getting radiated they are making DX contacts. I would say that some variation of one of these short antennas will work.

On the equipment side many of us have transceivers that will receive the 630m band, they are fairly common so most of us already own the receiving equipment. But the transmitting equipment is another story, there is very little commercially available and most of it is very low power. You can find plans to home brew your own transmitter and there are a couple kits out on the market. There are a few older transceivers that could be modified for operation on 630m but I have not found specifics on the required modifications so I do not know how extensive they might be.

I am going to give this a try. My plan is to buy a kit or find plans that will give me a transmitter which will produce between 10 and 50 watts. Then build a simple antenna and possibly a variometer or other antenna tuner. Put them together with one of my transceivers; get on the air and experiment. Anyone else interested in experimenting with communications on the 630 meter band?

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@yahoo.com



Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:



- August 4th - VE Testing at the club site in Ravenna - 10 am
- August 4th - Ohio Section Conference in Grove City (Columbus) - see flyer
- August 6th - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site in Ravenna - 7 pm
- August 11th - **DX** Engineering August Hot Days Sale - see flyer
- August 13th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
- August 23rd - Mobile Cruise-In at the Ravenna A& W - 6 pm
- August 25th - Ohio BB-QSO Party at the club site - noon
- Sept 4th - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site in Ravenna - 7 pm
- Sept 8th - **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest
- Sept 10th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
- Sept 15th - PCARS visit to the Super Contest Station K3LR
- Sept 22nd - Akron Mini-Maker Faire - noon to 4 pm
- Sept 29th - RePlay for Kids at the club site in Ravenna - 9 am - 1 pm

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



- | | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------------|
| First Tuesday | - | Digital - Moderator: K8CAV |
| Second Tuesday | - | QRP/CW - Moderator: KB8AMZ |
| Third Tuesday | - | Antenna - Moderator: WA8AR |
| Fourth Tuesday | - | DX & Contest - Moderator: W8PT |
| Fifth Tuesday | - | Linux for Hams - Moderator: KB8AMZ |
| Fourth Thursday | - | Net Night at the club site - 6:30 pm |



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| N8GPS | Ned | Brown |
| N8SKN | Robert | Rohde |
| K8VOX | Julie | Martin |
| WD8RAY | Ray | Woods |
| W8RJG | Ron | Good |

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| KB8TUY | Mike | Ryan |
| KB8VJL | Al | Atkins Sr. |
| KD8CGH | Robert | Benedict |
| KE8ELR | Andrew | Williams |
| WD8ICX | Gary | Marks |



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



Field Day 2018 - PCARS Final Results

This issue of **The RADIOGRAM** has the final results as submitted to the ARRL. Also included are number of Field Day related articles. You can see more Field Day 2017 articles in the July issue as well.

Photos - **WOW**, do we have a **TON** of photos from PCARS Field Day. The count is up over 300. Needless to say - you're not going to see all the pictures in the newsletter - there are many of them here, but there are more. We just don't have room for all of them. It would make the newsletter **way** too big to email. So, there are two other places you can go on the web and see the PCARS Field Day pictures.

First place is on the PCARS web site under the tab "**Field Day 2018**" - Thanks goes out to our web site guru, John, KD8MQ, he has posted them for all to see.

Go to: http://www.portcars.org/wp/?page_id=7388

Another place to see the PCARS Field Day pictures - along with pictures from other clubs around Ohio, is to visit the **Ohio Section** web site. Our ARRL Ohio Section Manager Scott, N8SY posted pictures that he received - and **YES**, I sent him all I have. **Thank you Scott!!**

Go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/FD-2017/index.php>



PCARS FIELD DAY 2018



Portage County Amateur Radio Service - Field Day 2018

Call Used: **K8BF**

ARRL/RAC Section: **OH**

Class: **4A**

Participants: **87**

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

Score Submitted: 9,216 + Bonus 1,710 = 10,926

Bonus Points:

| Description | Points |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 100% Emergency power | 400 |
| Media Publicity | 100 |
| Set up in a Public Place | 100 |
| Information Booth | 100 |
| NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC | 100 |
| W1AW Field Day Message | 100 |
| Formal NTS messages handled - No.=11 | 100 |
| Natural power QSOs completed | 100 |

| Description | Points |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Site Visit by invited elected official | 100 |
| Site Visit by invited served agency official | 100 |
| Educational activity | 100 |
| Youth Element Achieved | 60 |
| Submitted via the Web | 50 |
| Social Media | 100 |
| Safety Officer | 100 |
| Total Bonus Points | 1,710 |

Score Summary:

| | CW | Digital | Phone | Total | |
|--------------|------|---------|-------|-------|----------------------------|
| Total QSOs | 964 | 193 | 2,294 | 3,451 | |
| Total Points | 1928 | 386 | 2,294 | 4,608 | X2 = Claimed Score = 9,216 |

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

| | CW | | Digital | | Phone | | |
|--------------|------------|--------|------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| | QSOs | Pwr(W) | QSOs | Pwr(W) | QSOs | Pwr(W) | |
| 80m | 102 | 100 | 67 | 100 | 220 | 100 | |
| 40m | 779 | 100 | 11 | 100 | 1,488 | 100 | |
| 20m | 15 | 100 | 105 | 100 | 550 | 150 | |
| 15m | 64 | 100 | 2 | 100 | 0 | 100 | |
| 10m | 0 | 100 | 5 | 100 | 0 | 100 | |
| 6m | 4 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 36 | 100 | |
| GOTA | 0 | 100 | 3 | 100 | 0 | 100 | |
| Total | 964 | | 193 | | 2,294 | | 3,451 |

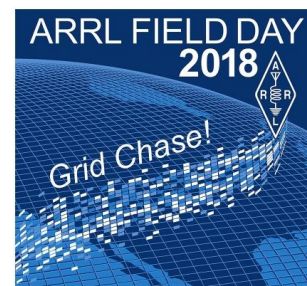
First Contact was logged at 1800 UTC on June 23rd by the **40 Meter Phone Station** to N8BEG in Michigan
Last Contact was logged at 1759 UTC on June 24th by the **40 Meter Phone Station** to AA3N in North Carolina

Station Totals:



| Station | QSO's |
|---------|-------|
| 40M | 1,488 |
| 20M | 550 |
| CW | 941 |

| Station | QSO's |
|---------|-------|
| Flex | 429 |
| VHF | 40 |
| GOTA | 3 |

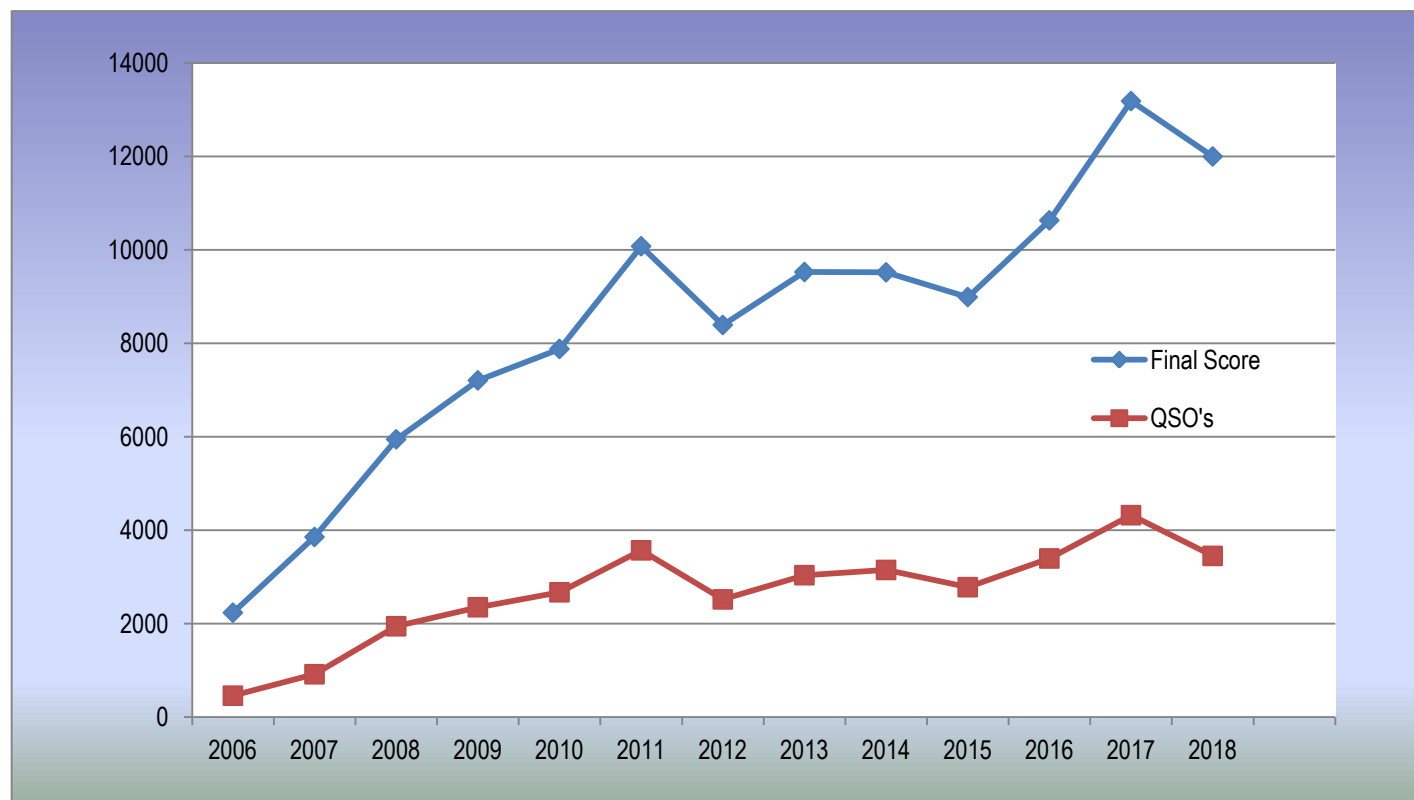


Past Field Day Comparisons

| PCARS | Final QSOs | Final Score |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| 2018 - K8BF | 3,448 | 10,926 |
| 2017 - K8BF | 4,320 | 13,186 |
| 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 |
| 13 Year Totals | 34,535 | 108,366 |



13 Year Average: QSOs = 2,657 Score = 8,336



PCARS Field Day Final Scores and QSOs - 2006 through 2018



Field Day 2018

Total Contacts by Loggers / Operators



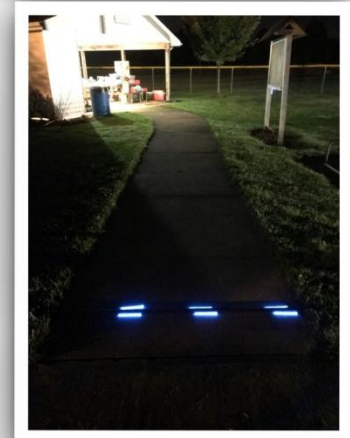
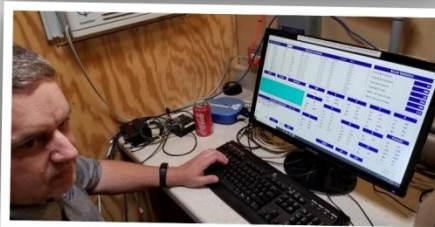
| # | Logger | QSOs |
|----|--------|------|
| 1 | N8XTH | 361 |
| 2 | ND8L | 356 |
| 3 | K8IV | 294 |
| 4 | KD8DFL | 279 |
| 5 | KD8SKL | 255 |
| 6 | N8QE | 252 |
| 7 | W5OV | 245 |
| 8 | WB9LBI | 210 |
| 9 | KB8UUZ | 193 |
| 10 | K3GP | 156 |
| 11 | W8PT | 148 |
| 12 | KS8U | 144 |
| 13 | KB8AMZ | 130 |
| 14 | K8KSU | 104 |
| 15 | W8KNO | 70 |
| 16 | K8CAV | 55 |
| 17 | K8SRR | 54 |
| 18 | KA8TOA | 39 |
| 19 | W8NET | 29 |
| 20 | KD8WZS | 28 |
| 21 | KE8WBA | 26 |
| 22 | WB8LCD | 24 |
| 23 | W8YIH | 23 |
| 24 | KD8SOP | 21 |
| 25 | KD8WCK | 16 |
| 26 | KB8TUY | 11 |
| 28 | N8GIE | 6 |
| 29 | W8AHC | 2 |

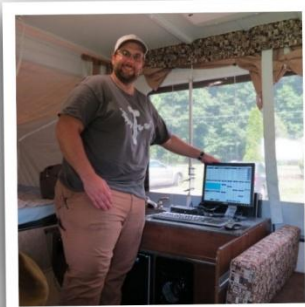
| # | Operator | OSOs |
|----|----------|------|
| 1 | K8IV | 564 |
| 2 | N8XTH | 359 |
| 3 | ND8L | 356 |
| 4 | K8KSU | 315 |
| 5 | N8QE | 252 |
| 6 | W5OV | 245 |
| 7 | WB9LBI | 210 |
| 8 | K3GP | 156 |
| 9 | KS8U | 144 |
| 10 | KB8AMZ | 130 |
| 11 | KD8DFL | 104 |
| 12 | KD8SKL | 104 |
| 13 | WB8LCD | 75 |
| 14 | W8KNO | 70 |
| 15 | W8PT | 60 |
| 16 | K8CAV | 56 |
| 17 | K8SRR | 52 |
| 18 | KD8WZS | 49 |
| 19 | KA8TOA | 35 |
| 20 | W8NET | 30 |
| 21 | KE8BWA | 26 |
| 22 | W8YIH | 23 |
| 23 | KD8WCK | 16 |
| 24 | KB8TUY | 11 |
| 25 | KB3GXB | 4 |
| 26 | W8AHC | 2 |



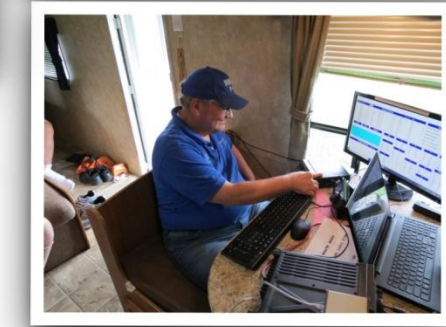
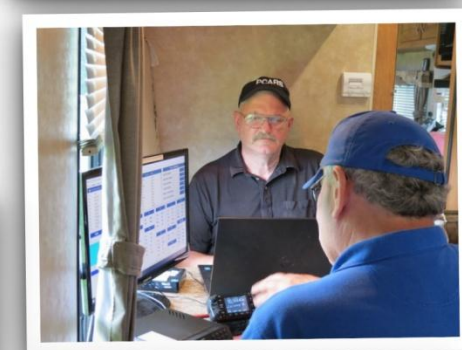


PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018





PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



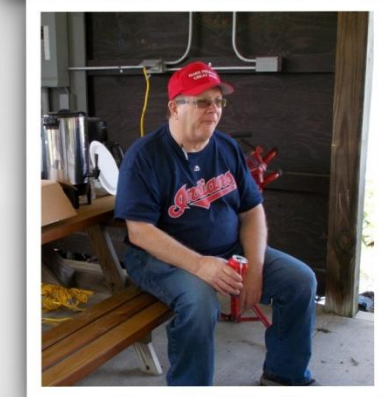
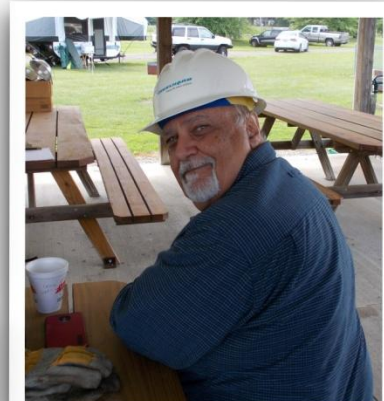
PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



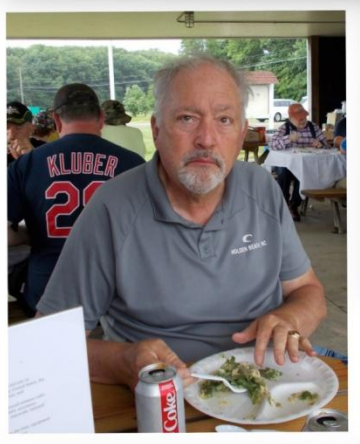
PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



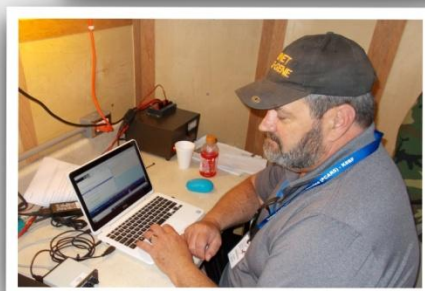
PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



PCARS - K8BF - Field Day 2018



Free copy of *A Field Guide to Simple HF Dipoles*

Dan, KB6NU



A link to *A Field Guide to Simple HF Dipoles* was posted to reddit recently, and I liked this document so much that I thought I would share it with you. It was originally written for the military, but is now available for free from the Defense Technical Information Center.

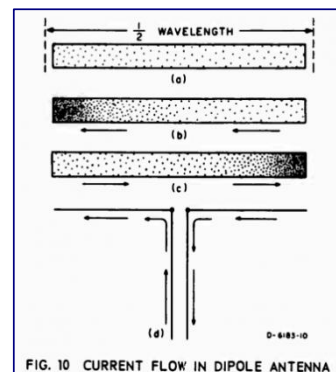
The preface to this document reads:

“Under project Agile, Stanford Research Institute has supplied several teams to assist operating personnel in improving the performance of field radio networks. In this work, it has been observed that U.S. military and civilian antenna manuals often contain misleading information regarding the operation of field antennas and tend to be overly complex. Consequently, this guide has been prepared to assist in training personnel concerned with the construction of simple HF antennas in the field.”

I must say that *A Field Guide to Simple HF Dipoles* does this very well. It not only explains how dipole antennas work, it also does a very good job of describing the basics of radio waves and propagation. And it does this without getting overly technical.

For example, below is Figure 10. It's used to describe current flow in a dipole antenna. The *Field Guide* reads:

“Electric current in a conductor consists of the flow of small particles called electrons. Figure 10(a) represents a dipole with electrons in it. When the transmitter is turned off, the electrons distribute themselves evenly throughout the dipole, as shown. All electrons repel each other and try to get as far from each other as possible; that is how they achieve the uniform distribution shown in Figure 10(a). When the transmitter is turned on, the electrons flow back and forth from end to end as shown in Figures 10(b) and 10(c). First the electrons flow to the left and crowded at one end as shown in Figure 10(b). Second, since the electrons repel each other, the push off to the right and get crowded together at the other end, as in Figure 10(c).”



It then uses this description to talk about voltage and current distribution along a dipole antenna:

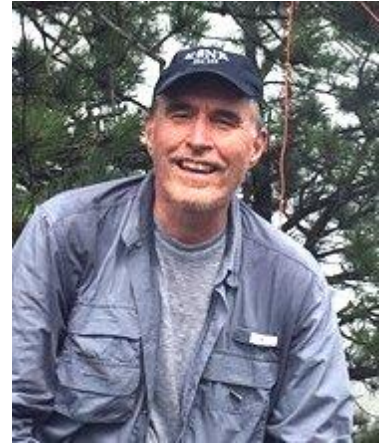
“The difference between voltage (volts) and current (amperes) in a dipole is also illustrated by Figs. 10(b) and 10(c). You can see that the maximum flow of current is going to be in the middle of the dipole. An observer at the center of the dipole would see the electrons rush past, first one way and then the other. The center is the maximum current point. Very little current flows near the end of the dipole; in fact, at the extreme ends there is no current at all for there is no place for it to go. However, at the ends of the dipole, there is a great change of voltage; when the electrons are densely packed, this represents negative voltages, and when there is a scarcity of electrons, it represents a positive voltage. Thus you can see that the voltage at each end swings alternately positive and negative. An end of the dipole is a maximum voltage point.”

A Field Guide to Simple HF Dipoles is packed with all kinds of goodies like this. Download it (<http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/684938.pdf>) right now.

When he's not building dipoles or teaching ham radio classes, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about your experiences with simple HF dipoles at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

FT8 Adoption: The New Cool Thing

Bob, K0NR



The new cool digital mode for amateur radio is FT8, made possible by Joe Taylor/K1JT and the WSJT software. At first, FT8 seemed like just the next digital mode to try but it is turning out to have a bigger impact than that. Jeff/KE9V recently posted about the popularity of FT8 here:



FT8 is so far out in front that other digital modes are a foregone conclusion. CW only remains relevant because of its popularity in contests. Even phone, the Holy Grail of wannabe HF operators everywhere, is a nearly forgotten mode compared to FT8.

This reminded me of some of the classic research on adoption of new innovations. What are the factors that cause a new thing to really take off versus languish on the shelf? How do these apply to the quick adoption of FT8?

Diffusion of Innovations

In Diffusion of Innovations, E. M. Rogers lists five factors will influence how quickly a new innovation gets adopted:

- **Relative Advantage:** The degree to which the innovation is superior to ideas it supersedes. If an innovation is clearly superior to the present way of doing things, people will be more likely to adopt it without too much concern about its usefulness. If it's not clearly better, people will tend to question whether it is worth the trouble of changing.
- **Compatibility:** The degree to which the innovation is consistent with existing values, past experiences, and the needs of the user. If an innovation is similar to existing practice and blends in well with user needs and expectations it is more likely to be adopted. If it requires change on the part of the user or represents an inconsistency with the user's past experience, it may be rejected.
- **Complexity:** The degree to which the innovation is relatively difficult to understand and use. The more complex something is, the more likely people will reject it because "it's just too much trouble." Understandable ideas will tend to be considered more carefully and are more likely to be adopted.
- **Trialability:** The degree to which an innovation may be tried on a limited basis (in other words, without committing to full-scale, total operational change.) The easier it is for an individual or organization to try something out without being fully committed, the more likely they will give a new innovation a try. If the innovation can only be tried with full-scale change and great expense, it will tend to get rejected.
- **Observability:** The degree to which the results from the use of an innovation are visible and easily communicated to users and other decision-makers. If the results of an innovation are difficult to measure or see, rejection is more likely. If the results are clearly visible, then the adopting individual or organization can more easily correlate the results to the innovation. Generally, a decision-maker wants to be sure that the intended results can be measured, otherwise how can the innovation be evaluated?

Adoption of FT8

It is very clear that FT8 has a strong relative advantage to other modes. Just listen to the many comments from hams like “the band conditions are really bad but I’m still making contacts.” One could argue that FT8 is not that compatible with existing operating habits (think CW or SSB) but the mega-trend of using “sound card modes” is a huge enabler. For some time now, hams have been using the PC platform as a digital signal processing engine, using the sound card to handle the analog-to-digital conversion (and back). Perhaps this traces back to PSK31 as one of the major forces that caused hams to connect their transceivers to their computer. In that sense, FT8 is very compatible with existing sound-card-enabled stations, making it strong on compatibility and trialability. Just load up the WSJT-X software and give it a try. Of course, observability is strong too...now I’m making QSOs when I wasn’t before.

There is a bit of a learning curve with FT8, which could be a barrier to adoption. You need to learn the software and fiddle around with the settings to make it work. But for many hams, this is not a barrier but a fun challenge to take on. Most of us like to try new things, as long as they aren’t too frustrating.

The final point I’ll make is that the popularity of FT8 reinforces my contention that Ham Radio Is Not For Talking. FT8 is all about making a radio contact and does not enable conversations. Sure, most hams like to talk (usually about radios) but when the bands are poor they like making radio contacts via FT8. Making QSOs is king.

Those are my thoughts. What do you think?



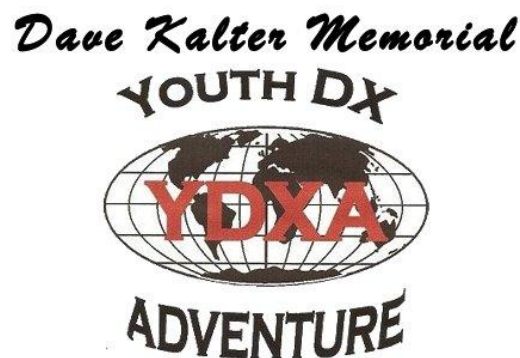
The post FT8 Adoption: The New Cool Thing appeared first on The KØNR Radio Site. Bob Witte, KØNR, is a regular contributor to AmateurRadio.com and writes from Colorado, USA. Contact him at bob@k0nr.com. <http://www.amateurradio.com/> <http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/>

Youth DX Adventure - PJ2Y

The participants in the 2018 Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure (YDXA) at **PJ2Y** in Curacao put **6,218** contacts into the log before having to shut down on July 23rd.

“There was a concentrated effort to have an FT8 station on the air as much as possible,” recounted Team Leader Jim Storms, AB8YK. “Also two additional radios were on the air almost constantly. One was on SSB and the other alternated between SSB and CCW. All CW QSOs were made by the youth.” Storms reported “a few challenges” during their stay. “During prime band-opening time on 2 days, we had power losses resulting in lost time. This amounted to about 8 hours,” he said. On days when the young radio amateurs were on the air, bands did not open until about 10 AM local, and the team typically operated until midnight, when most bands closed there. Storms said the young team members were “very compatible and worked extremely well together.”

A QSL card will be designed and printed soon. The entire log has been loaded to LoTW and to Club Log.
— *Thanks to Team Leader Jim Storms, AB8YK*



Changes in store for Version 2.0 for FT8



From the ARRL

WSJT-X co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has announced that major changes are coming to the FT8 and MSK144 digital protocols when WSJT-X version 2.0 arrives in a few months. Taylor said version 2.0 should be ready for prime time by January.

“Much of the necessary programming is finished,” Taylor said in a post to the Packrats reflector. “Many of the new features have been tested on the air, and we find them to work well.”

Taylor was quick to point out that the new capabilities are not yet publicly available, not even in beta form. He said that he, Steve Franke, K9AN, and Bill Somerville, G4WJS, have been developing “enhanced versions of the MSK144 and FT8 protocols that extend the message payload to 77 bits.”

“Don’t rush to download something,” he cautioned. “There is more testing and code optimization to do.” He said current plans call for a beta-testing period “probably starting in mid- to-late September,” with a full release “possible a couple of months later.”

Taylor ticked off a few possibilities WSJT-X version 2.0 will bring to the table:

- ARRL Field Day operation with standard Field Day exchanges.
- ARRL RTTY Roundup operation with standard contest exchanges.
- North American VHF contest operation with full support of grid exchanges and Rover (/R) call signs.
- European VHF contest operation with the exchange of six-digit grids, QSO serial numbers, and portable (/P) call signs.
- Better and more user-friendly support for compound and nonstandard call signs.
- A special “telemetry” message format for exchanging arbitrary information up to 71 bits.
- Support for the existing “FT8 DXpedition Mode,” with a more powerful DXpedition Mode possible too.

“All of these features work seamlessly and automatically,” Taylor said. “No ‘contest mode’ checkboxes are needed. In most situations, decoding sensitivity will be slightly better than at present for FT8; for MSK144 it will sometimes be about 0.5 dB worse. Occupied bandwidths will be the same as they are now, and false-decode rates will be significantly lower.”

Taylor said WSJT-X version 2.0 will be available in time for users to digest the new documentation and to practice it before actually getting on the air with it, but he offered one important caveat. “The new protocols cannot be backward compatible with the existing ones,” he said in his post. “We will probably provide some temporary ‘bilingual’ capability for FT8, but not for MSK144. It will be essential for users to upgrade to version 2.0 in order to use the new features and communicate with others who have made the upgrade.”

Taylor promised “plenty of advance notice” about the transition period and a must-upgrade-by date.



Get On The Air

Tom, WB8LCD

Ham Radio! Kinda silly to call it your hobby if you're not getting on the air. There are a lot of things that can keep us away from the shack, and not on the air. Some of those things are very important and deserve a high priority in our lives. Unfortunately, a lot of them are just "time wasters". Here's the thing, you might think you're just killing time, but actually, time is killing you. You can use your time to do things that are what you want your life to be about, or you can use your time to do those things that basically just suck your life away. Your choice.



Having "purpose" can make your activities more meaningful and move them up on your priorities list. Here are a couple ideas to give your time on the air "purpose" and give you a bit more motivation to actually get on the air.



First off is the **PCARS A to Z Award**. Here's the requirement: "Contact 26 Current PCARS members (current on the date of award submission) with the last letter in their suffix to complete the English alphabet – Letters A through Z. It Can Be Done! What's neat about this is there are 3 classes of the award: Bronze – Voice contacts made through 2 meter FM repeaters. Echolink contacts are OK. Silver – Voice contacts made on 2 meters FM or SSB – not through repeaters. Gold – Contacts made on 160/80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10/6 meters SSB/CW Digital (any combination, not through a repeater). Complete rules are listed on the PCARS website. This award has existed pretty much since the creation of PCARS, yet no one has claimed award #1 yet!

Coming up on the weekend after Labor Day is the **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest. That's a contest that will take you out for a pleasant afternoon of operating from a state park. You can find out about all the different categories for which awards are given on the OSPOTA website (www.ospota.org). You can also find out about the "**Worked all Ohio State Parks**" award. This might take a bit longer to earn (it's only had two winners so far!) but it's certainly doable and you can have a lot of fun doing it!

PCARS has an amazing HF station set up at the club site, and we would certainly like to see it get more use. Maybe you don't have an HF station at home. You can still get on the air and participate in all the awards and contests that make Ham Radio such a fun hobby! Basically any time there is something going on at the club site you can come out and operate! Take the time to learn how our radios work. We've got some that are easy to use, and some that are more complicated. We've got a pretty amazing antenna switching system complete with filters and all necessary attachments. You can operate SSB / CW or Digital. Please, have someone show you how everything works and then use the stations as you would your own! **I am announcing an award for working all states, using your home call, from the PCARS club site.** Everyone can participate in this if you have a General or Extra Class license. Techs can participate via CW, but, you might want to use this as an incentive to get that General ticket! Complete details will be added to the website shortly.

Every month there are special event stations, DXpeditions, contests and activities on all of the Amateur bands. We want you to participate in your hobby, which means getting on the air! **PCARS will help you make it happen.**

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 4th, October 6th, December 1st



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 number 2 to re-instate your license.

PCARS

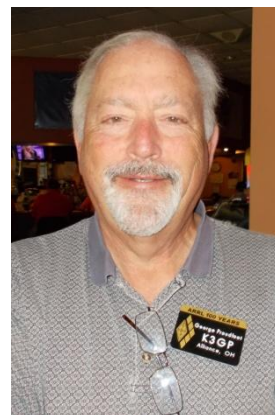
ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

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



Kilo Eight Baudot Fun

George, K3GP



K8BF (Kilo Eight Baudot Fun)

The PCARS club station was host to the North American QSO Party - RTTY on July 21st and 22nd.

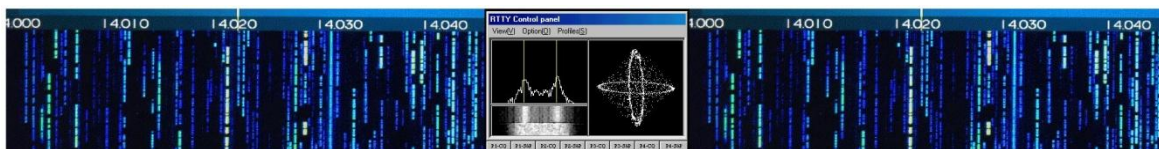
We participated in the MULTI-2 category for the full 12 hour period. Two operating positions were active, and a third non-operating position was available for tutorials and refresher training.

Band conditions were better than anticipated, with 15 meters open for a considerable period of time.

K8BF made **382 contacts** with 125 multipliers for a **claimed score of 47,750 points** - a remarkable improvement over our February NAQP RTTY effort of 18,732 points.

My thanks to all those involved in making this another BIG FUN event.

The participants included: AE8YL, K3GP, K8IV, KB8AMZ, KB8TUY, KD8RUQ, KS8U, N8QE, W5OV, W8AHC, W8PT and WA8US.



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/>

As most of you may know, the portcars e-mail forwarding system is working anymore. Too many internet providers are looking at our forwarding system as spam and deleting the e-mails we send out through that system. So, what to do?

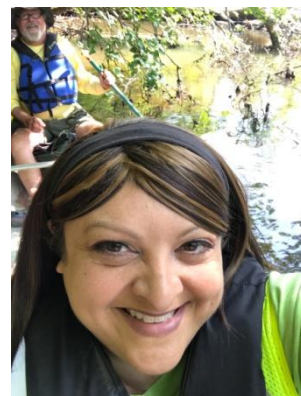
Two things every member should do.

1. Check the PCARS web site every day, maybe a couple of times a day to see new information that is posted.
2. Another thing to do is to join the PCARS Yahoo Group. That's a great place to post message when you are looking for information or have a question about something. Try it - you just may like it!!

Headwaters Adventure Race

Amy, KD8SKL

July 14, 2018 was the Portage Park District's Headwaters Adventure Race in Mantua. I had a great time with River Guide Mike Ryan, KB8TUY.



My Yaesu FT60 HT worked really well overall getting into the cross band repeaters. Many new trees have fallen into the river as well as a huge crop of what I was calling "sea lettuce". My oars were stirring the lettuce just to make it through several areas of the river.

We had a few harrowing minutes teetering on a fallen mossy tree a few inches below the water, and passed a few branches dangerously close to eye poking level... but we finished in record time, a few feet behind the last place tri-athletes.



Hamfest Calendar

08/04/2018 - 2018 Columbus Hamfest / Ohio Section Conference - Location: Aladdin Shrine Center - 1801 Gateway Circle - Grove City, OH 43123 - Website: <http://columbushamfest.com> - Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club (W8FEZ) - Contact: John Lehman, K8PJ- 7415 Hagerty Road Ashville, OH 43103 - Phone: 614-571-5179 - Email: voiceofaladdin@gmail.com

=====

08/12/2018 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 10th Annual Tailgate Hamfest - Location: Robert Pinn Armory - 4630 Allen Road - Stow, OH 44224 - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate.php> - Sponsor: The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Frank Tompkins, W8EZZ - PO Box 614 Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222 - Phone: 330-928-4048 - Email: tailgate2018@cfarc.org

=====

08/26/2018 - Skyview Radio Society 2018 Annual Hamfest - Location: Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse Grounds - 2335 Turkey Ridge Road - New Kensington, PA 15068 - Website: <http://www.skyviewradio.net> - Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society - Contact: John Cancro, NK3P - 3525 Milligantown Road - New Kensington, PA 15068 - Phone: 724-339-4945 - Email: jpc2@psu.edu

=====

09/09/2018 - Findlay Hamfest - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org> - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Contact: Adam Hemmerly, KE8FLJ - 628 Hull Avenue Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-423-3402 - Email: hamfest@findlayradioclub.org

=====

09/09/2018 - Butler County ARA Swapfest - Location: Unionville Fire Hall - 102 Mahood Road - Butler, PA 16001 - Website: <http://w3udx.org> - Sponsor: Butler County Amateur Radio Association - Contact: Joseph Sciulli, N3WH - 1020 Bonniebrook Road Butler, PA 16002 - Phone: 412-337-1687 - Email: n3whjoe@gmail.com

=====

09/23/2018 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland - Contact: Glenn Williams, AF8C - 4134 Stoney Ridge Road Avon, OH 44011 - Phone: 440-934-5566 - Email: <http://www.hac.org/contact.php>



Paper Chase

Joe, W8KNO



I had no idea what to write on, so I looked at the ARRL list of special events and one stuck out.

The 80th Anniversary of the Opening of the **Thousand Islands International Bridge System**.



The Thousand Islands Repeater Club of Alexandria Bay, New York, will operate KC2TI August 18th from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. For HF frequencies look for them around 7.250 MHz and 14.250MHz. They will also operating through their repeater at 146.700 PL151.4. A certificate is available from:

T.I. Repeater Club
26395 NYS Rt 180
Dexter, NY 13634

More information can be found at

www.tirepeaterclub.com.

Why did this special event stick out? I have seen the top and bottom of the bridge that goes from Alexandria Bay to Landsdowne, Ontario. The top was easy, drove across the bridge on my way to Quebec; but the underside is a story all in itself. After completing my plebe (freshman) year at the Naval Academy, I was assigned to the USS Charles H Roan. We were assigned to commemorate the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Of course, we sailed **under** the bridge and I saw the underside. The story does not end there. At one point we anchored in the river, put on our dress whites and stood at attention as the Queen's yacht sailed by. Both Queen Elizabeth and President Eisenhower were standing on the forecastle as they passed. After the pomp was over we sailed across Lake Ontario, passed through the Welland Canal into Lake Erie.

Our first port of call was Cleveland. Since I live here, you can surmise the rest.

I have the unique experience of sailing on a Naval War Ship on all five Great Lakes.



Special Event Station - PCARS

We celebrated the Portage County Amateur Radio Service as being honored with the **Hamvention® 2018 Club of the Year** award, by having K8BF on the air for as a special event station on July 7th



We were on the air from 7 July 1400 UTC until 8 July 0200 UTC (7 July 10 am ET to 7 July 10 pm ET) from the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

The club made **246** contact on 10/15/20/40 and 80 meters. Everyone had fun since we were calling CQ and WE were the ones people were looking for.

Two dozen doughnuts, a gallon of coffee and some pizza kept everyone going.

Requests are still coming in to get one of the certificates for making contact with K8BF. Thanks goes out to all that participated. We had plenty of Big Fun putting K8BF on the air for this special event.



RTTY Memories

Jim, AC8NT

As PCARS gets more involved in RTTY contests, I have been thinking back to my first introduction to teletype machines. When I was very little, both in size and age, I spent a lot of time in telephone offices. I had the chance to type (pound the keys) of



model 15 teletype machines. I loved the noise and all the mechanical stuff flying around. Yes, I played with them with the covers off so I could see everything. Later one of Dad's friends dropped off a pair of model 26 machines to the house in Rootstown. These begged to be hooked up. You may not know this tidbit, but a logic one was -80 volts and a zero was +80 volts. I know, because I learned what a real shock was while hooking these up. We strung together a couple of 45 volt batteries and some resistors and applied power. One in the basement and one, in of all places, the kitchen. Let the racket begin!!! Forget "What hath God wrought", we sent "HI my name is Jim". We had a ball that weekend.



As often happened my Dad left on Sunday night to work out of town. Before school on Monday, I brought the system to life with more messages. It continued after school. I must preface the next part of the story, by saying my mother new very little about tools. It was her belief that if people thought you could not use tools; you would not be asked to fix things. She was a very wise woman. As supper approached and the noise continued, my mother went to the basement. Shortly afterwards, the noise stopped. My mother with a smile on her face had created a network fault with a pair of side cutters. She then announced with pride she had figured out how to use a tool. Necessity is the mother of learning.

Later after college came the advent of the minicomputer. DEC, Varian and Data General machines started to be used to control complex manufacturing systems. Most of these had programs loaded using paper tape read by an ASR 33 teletype machine. I was working on the bleeding edge of this new movement. We had dozens of these machines all over General Tire and I was sent to school to learn how to repair these machines



and keep them running. I would like to say this was fun but it was a real pain in the well "you know". I enjoyed the programming and interfacing work, but was elated when the first video terminals became available. As the 33's were being phased out, a lot of them went to hams learning to use RTTY. I converted dozens from current loop interfaces to FSK interfaces. That was fun!! Characters sent using HF at a blinding 110 bits per second.



Now most hams are using PC/Mac/Linux software to make contacts using RTTY, but a few still have these great noise generators hidden in the corner of their shack.

RadioShack "Express Stores" to Open



According to a July 13 [article](#) in the *New York Post*, [RadioShack](#) is planning to open "express stores" within [HobbyTown USA](#) locations. The nearly century-old, twice-bankrupt retailer has signed a deal with HobbyTown USA to put a mini RadioShack outlet in some 50 HobbyTown USA stores across the country that would sell items that might appeal to radio amateurs and experimenters. Those locations will be identified with RadioShack signage. HobbyTown markets remote-controlled cars and boats as well as drones and other hobby-related merchandise.

RadioShack shuttered all of its company-owned retail outlets. Its last unsuccessful effort to bail itself out of debt involved a deal with cellular provider Sprint. HobbyTown USA has 140 retail outlets, and, according to the *Post* article, RadioShack eventually could carve out a presence -- on the order of 500 square feet -- in all of them. Stores in HobbyTown USA's headquarters town of Lincoln, Nebraska, as well as in Parker, Colorado, and Mooresville, North Carolina, will be among the first to host RadioShack express concessions.

"HobbyTown is purchasing the RadioShack merchandise and offering it to its hobbyist customers who need the tools, wires, and other accessories that RadioShack makes," the *Post* article said.

The article quoted Steve Moroneso, chief executive of General Wireless Operations Inc. -- an affiliate of hedge fund Standard General, which acquired RadioShack in 2015 -- as saying that RadioShack's strategy now is not to own brick-and-mortar stores. RadioShack came out of bankruptcy in January with 400 dealers, an online retail presence, and a distribution center. General Wireless acquired the 1,743 retail outlets that survived RadioShack's 2015 bankruptcy.

Moroneso also told the *Post* that there is "plenty of interest from dealers who want to open a full-line Radio Shack." Dating its founding to 1921, RadioShack once offered a broad array of name-brand Amateur Radio equipment — even beams and towers — along with home entertainment gear and discrete components, including transistors, resistors, and capacitors. Its iconic 1960s-era catalog ran to more than 300 pages. In later years, it sold a fairly popular 2-meter handheld transceiver for a time, as well as Citizens Band equipment, 10-meter single banders, and shortwave receivers. RadioShack's retail website remains open, marketing many of the same items once available in its retail outlets.

QRP, CW & Linux Special Interest Groups

Terry, KB8AMZ

The next CW/QRP Special Interest Group will be August 14th at the club site at 1900 hours.

The July SIG was a good turnout of members. Perhaps the August SIG meeting will be as fruitful.

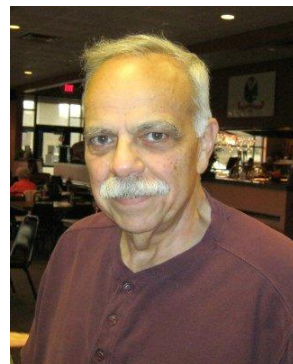
Everyone is welcome. See you on August 14th at the club site.



Antenna Special Interest Group

Tony, WA8AR

The Antenna SIG meets at 7 PM in the PCARS club site radio room on the third Tuesday of every month. The August meeting will be held on the 21st. All PCARS members and guests are welcome to attend. We will be discussing all antenna related topics including selection, design, construction, trouble shooting and safety for all Amateur Radio bands.



We should be back to our special discussion topic: Antenna Modeling. I should have a couple example antennas modeled ready for us to look at and discuss.

Please note that the PCARS QST email system is functioning very well again, so please watch for PCARS QST for last minute announcements prior to all Special Interest Groups.

And, always check the PCARS web site for Antenna Special Interest Group updates or last minute cancellations before going to the club site for a meeting.

PCARS Thursday Net Control

Greg, KA8TOA
Net Control Coordinator

Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible! **Check-in using the receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ 146.895 with a PL tone of 118.8.**



Don't forget - 4th Thursday is NET NIGHT at the Club Site !!

| August | |
|--------|--------|
| 2 | N8QE |
| 9 | WB8LCD |
| 16 | KA8TOA |
| 23 | KB8UUZ |
| 30 | K8CAV |

| September | |
|-----------|--------|
| 6 | KA8TOA |
| 13 | KB8UUZ |
| 20 | KB8UHN |
| 27 | WB8LCD |

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

I am trying to get some new net control operators, anyone interested please contact me.

If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a try, *please* contact me at: grgory999@roadrunner.com

Everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn - and have fun being Net Control !

Two more hams that have been awarded the 10-consecutive PCARS net check-in certificate:

Jim. KC8RKD and Ian, KE8IED
Congratulations!

Net Operators: Use the current versions of the Net Script and Log Sheet (with my e-mail address on it). You can find them on the PCARS web site in the Nets section. *Please* download them and use them. Also, remember to e-mail me a copy of the log for the club records and certificates.

If you have some issues and can't make it as net control see if you can trade with someone.

***D**X & Contest Special Interest Group*



Chuck, W8PT



We had an excellent turnout during our meeting on Tuesday evening, July 24th. We discussed our performance during the ARRL North American QSO Party RTTY mode contest held July 21st.

George, K3GP has a report on that elsewhere in this newsletter. But just to recap, our last RTTY effort garnered 18K+ points which was not bad for our first time in this contest that's held twice a year. This recent time we reported a raw score of over 47K points. A fantastic effort made possible by working all 12 hours of the contest and by having about a dozen ops filling the operating positions.

We discussed various ways to do even better next time. I want to thank all who showed up and especially, George, who headed up this effort. He is a very accomplished RTTY operator and one heck of a teacher. I encourage all who would like to try RTTY out, to come to the club site the next time we do a RTTY Contest. One of the things we will be doing in the near future is to have a practice session or two under George's tutelage to get more PCARS members used to working RTTY.

At our next DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting (Aug 21st), we will discuss the upcoming Ohio QSO Party. This event takes place on the fourth Saturday in August. That means that this year it will take place on August 25th. 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 will run through the rules for this year's contest. 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.

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 Masters Tom and Amy** will be putting their 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.

. Mark your calendars and set aside Saturday, August 25th, to take part in this year's Ohio B-B-QSO Party hosted by PCARS.

One other thing you might also want to do is mark your calendars for **Oct. 6-7**. 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. 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.

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Hello to all PCARS DXers:

It has been somewhat quiet on the bands except for the guys working DX using FT8, especially on 6 meters. Twenty meters only has stateside stations with only a few DX stations showing up. At least that has been the case from this QTH. If you have been hearing good DX let me know. I'd like to know what you have been hearing.

I'm also hoping that anyone who has an antenna work is being careful regarding the oppressive heat that we have been experiencing. If you have to be outside, make sure that you keep hydrated. We have been on hold with my antenna project because of the heat. Hopefully that will let up in the next week so that we can get the project, that I am now calling the Mother Of All Projects, completed. I'd really like to see how the Tenedyne 12 el log periodic compares with my 4 el SteppIR. Especially when it comes to hearing any DX that's out there.

Speaking of which, let's get right to the upcoming DX and see what will be happening in the next couple of months.

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, NJ1Q & W1AW, W2VU & CQ Communications, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, AK5Q, AA6RE, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, 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, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO and VE3VEE for the following DX information.

And as always, this report "could" contain "Pirate/S LIM" operation or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know, so..... - "Work First Worry Later".

PLEASE NOTE: The fact that donation requests from various DXpeditions are at times included in this column, does not mean that PCARS or this HAM approves or disapproves of donating to the DXpeditions listed. I am only providing information for you to make up your own minds as to whether or not to donate.

DXCC'S MOST WANTED (ClubLog). The "DXCC Most Wanted" entities list (for North America) has been updated on ClubLog as of July 28th. The list contain 340 entities and here are the top 10 entities:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. P5 DPRK (North Korea) | 6. FT/G Glorioso Island |
| 2. FT5/W Crozet Island | 7. CE0X San Felix Islands |
| 3. 3Y/B Bouvet Island | 8. SV/A Mount Athos |
| 4. BS7H Scarborough Reef | 9. ZS8 Prince Edward & Marion Islands |
| 5. BV9P Pratas Island | 10. VK0M Macquarie Island |

GET YOUR PARK ON! Dave, VA3RJ, National Coordinator for VEFF - Canada, is announcing "GET YOUR PARK ON!" A new North America WWFF Park Event. Three WWFF countries have joined together for "Get Your Park ON!", a North America WWFF parks event that coincides with Earth Science Week activities around the globe. Purpose: Get as many parks as possible in Canada, USA and Mexico on the air from Oct. 14-20th, 2018, and Hunters throughout the world calling to log as many QSOs as possible with those parks during the event. -- All Activators are expected to submit their logs to their assigned person (may vary by country) for upload to the WWFF system. -- Credit for all Hunters and Activators will accrue as normal WWFF QSOs. -- Special Awards will soon be announced for Get Your

Park ON! Join the Get Your Park ON! Facebook Group at: <http://getyourparkon.com/> to stay current with details and announcements about this exciting new event. Everybody Get Your Park ON! and get into the log.

OSPOTA CONTEST 2018. The 11th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) Contest will take place between 1400-2200z, on September 8th. Contact operators in the Ohio State Parks. For more details, rules and entry form, see: <http://www.opspota.org>

3DA0, KINGDOM OF ESWATINI (Press Release by K5GS)[edited]. 3DA0AO eSwatini by Pista, HA5AO -- Pista HA5AO will arrive eSwatini (Swaziland) on Sept 14th, late afternoon. He plans to operate during his free time between September 16-28th, from the Mountain Inn Resort at Mbabane. He received the 3DA0AO license and an LotW certificate. Pista will operate 80-10m using a Hustler 6 BTV vertical antenna with 17 and 12 meter add-ons, CW, RTTY and FT8. He is bringing an Elecraft K3 with the KPA 500 amplifier. Logsearch will be available on HA5AO.com. His plans include testing a new feature of the PDXG QSL Management Platform, the uploading of QSOs in real time. While in-country he will travel to rural areas visiting villages, schools and orphanages to deliver school supplies to orphaned children. He is interested in making a long term donation agreement to pay school fees for several orphaned children. Pista is paying all expenses from personal funds. However he would appreciate donations through his website. Any donations received will be used only for humanitarian purposes. You may see Pista's previous humanitarian projects at HA5AO.com

4S, SRI LANKA. Dariusz, SP9DLM, will be active as 4S7DMG from Kalkudah (WW Loc. NJ07SW), Sri Lanka (AS-003) between August 6-14th. Activity will be on 40/20/15/10 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

4W, TIMOR-LESTE. Gordon, K7TRB is QRV as 4W6VA from Dili, IOTA OC-148, until the middle of September 2018. Activity is currently on 20, 17 and 6 meters. QSL to home call.

8Q, MALDIVES. Christian, OE3DEC, active as 8Q7EC from Biyadhoo Island, South Male Atoll (AS-013), between September 14-23rd. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands. QSL via his home callsign by the Bureau.

8Q, MALDIVES. Gabor, HA3JB, will be active as 8Q7IP from Hulhumale Island (AS-013) between September 19-30th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. He will also be active in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th). QSL via HA3JB. For more details and updates, see: <http://ha3jb.com/index.html>

9L, SIERRA LEONE. Mark, KW4XJ is now QRV as 9L1YXJ from Freetown. He is generally active on 40 to 10 meters using FT8 and some CW. QSL to home call.

A3, TONGA. Roly, ZL1BQD, will be active as A35RR from Togatapu (OC-049) [primarily, but may spend two days on Vava'u (OC-063)] between August 8-17th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using mostly FT8 and JT65. He states, "If the pileups get too deep then I may use "DXpedition mode" for FT8 using the same band plan as the recent KH1 DXpedition. I will run SSB and CW if the conditions allow" PLEASE NOTE: Roly is primarily there for business so operating hours will be as and when he is able. He is there as a Radio Engineer helping the locals to repair a cyclone damaged Mission Radio Station close to Nuku'alofa. QSL via ZL1BQD.

A3, TONGA. Dr. Hardy, DL7JLL (ex-VP8JLL, ex-E51JLL) will be returning to the Pacific to activate several islands from the Kingdom of Tonga during the months of August and September. The callsign A35JLL will be assigned in August. Activity will be on 40/20/15/10 meters using a KX3 transceiver with 5-10 watts into Kelemen-Inverted-V antenna from various remote islands and reefs while kajaking in the Vava'u and Ha'apai regions. He will use up to 50 watts from various lodges and camps when sufficient energy can be supplied. His schedule is as follows: August 8-15th -- Nuku Alofa (OC-049). August 15-30th -- Vava'u (OC-064); Vaka'eitu Island, Taunga Island, Euakafa Island, Tapania Island, Ofu Island/Kenutu Island, Umuna Island and Mala Island. August 30st-September 14th -- Ha'apai (OC-069); Uoleva island, Tatafa Island/Uiha Island, Uanukuhahaki Island, Lifuka Island and Salote Pilolevu. September 14-19th -- Nuku Alofa (OC-123). QSL all QSOs via DL7JLL direct or by the Bureau.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Dave, G4BUO, active as E51BUO from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) between July 30th and Aug 6th. Activity is holiday style on CW only using 100 watts into wire antennas. QSL via his home callsign.

HL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA. (Reminder) Special event station HL50IARU is QRV until the end of October 2018 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of IARU Region III.

HS, THAILAND. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of IARU Region 3, members of the Radio Society of Thailand are QRV as HS50IARU until October 31. QSL via LoTW.

I18, ITALY (Special Event). Look for special event station I18MQP to be active between November 1-6th, to commemorate the first Mario Ambrosi, I2MQP, memorial days. Mario Ambrosi has held many positions in ARI for many years (lastly the President), a DXCC Checker for ARRL and for other important Awards. This special call sign will be operated by Oreste, IZ8EDJ, and he will also be the QSL Manager. All QSOs will be confirmed via the Bureau. Special TNX to Liliana, IK2OBS (the wife of I2MQP), for this opportunity.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Operator JG1RHN is QRV as JG1RHN/JD1 from Marcus Island, IOTA OC-073, until August 15. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via bureau.

JW, SVALBARD. Erik, LA2US, will once again be active as JW2US from Bear Island (IOTA EU-027) for the next 3 months. Activity will be limited to his spare time and he will operate on various HF Bands mostly CW at the lower band edges and IOTA frequencies. Also, on this trip he will be on BPSK, FT8 and RTTY. Equipment is a FT-450D, Signalink USB, Expert 1K-FA and a OCFD antenna. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, LoTW or eQSL.

JW, SVALBARD. Members of Amateur Radio Club SP3PET are QRV as JW100PUT from Petuniabukta, Spitsbergen, IOTA EU-026, until July 31 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Academic Ham Radio Club of the Poznan University of Technology. Activity on 80, 40 and 20 m, as well as 2 m and 70 cm using SSB and FM. QSL via SP3PET.

OM. SLOVAK REPUBLIC. Members of the radio club Horec are QRV with special event call OM75TESLA until the end of the year to commemorate Nikola Tesla's death 75 years ago. QSL via OM3KHT.

S590, SLOVENIA (Special Event). Special event station, S590RTVS, has been active since March 1st and will continue to be active until December 31st. Activity is a special promotional call sign celebrating 90/60 years of the public institution Radio and Television of Slovenia, and operated by the members of the Radio Club Cerklje (S50E) and their section Kricac Ljubljana (S59DRL). QSL via S50E. A special S590RTVS QSL will be confirmed for each contact via the QSL Bureau in early 2019. The LOG will also be uploaded to the ARRL's LoTW and CLUBLOG on a regular basis. For more information, updates and useful links please visit Radio Club Cerklje(S50E) Web site at: <http://www.s50e.si> Also, view QRZ.com for more details.

SV5, DODECANESE. Claudio, HB9OAU, will once again be active as SV5/HB9OAU from Votsalakia Beach Hotel, Amooopi, Karpathos Island (EU-001), between September 8-20th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog, eQSL and LoTW.

SV8, GREECE. Sigi, DL7DF, will be active as SV8/DL7DF from Zakynthos Island (EU-052) between October 1-15th. He will be on holiday with his XYL Sabine in Greece. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY as often as possible. His equipment will be a Elecraft K2, a power amplifier XV600, a multiband vertical and a laptop computer. QSL via DL7DF, direct or by the DARC Bureau. Log will be uploaded within 6 months after his operation.

TO6, MAYOTTE. Members of the Czech DXpedition team (CDXP) will be active as TO6OK from Mayotte (AF-027) between September 20th and October 6th. Operators mentioned are Petr/OK1BOA, Petr/OK1FCJ, Pavel/OK1GK, Ruda/OK2ZA, Ludek/OK2ZC, Karel/OK2ZI and David/OK6DJ. Activity on 160-10m using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Focus will be on low bands. QSL via OK6DJ, OQRS or LoTW. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.cdxp.cz>

TX5, AUSTRAL ISLANDS. Operators Bob/K4UEE, Robert/K5PI, Madison/W5MJ, Robert/W5RF and Bill/W5SJ will be active as TX5T from Raivavae Island (OC-114) between August 13-22nd. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 (DXpedition mode). Suggested frequencies are: CW - 1822.5, 3528, 7028, 10128, 14028, 18078, 21028, 24898 and 28028 SSB - 1848, 3788, 7088/7188, 14188/14288, 18138, 21288, 24938 and 28488 RTTY - 3588, 7088, 10138, 14088, 18100, 21088, 24920 and 28088 kHz 6m - 50108/CW QSL via M0URX. For more details and updates, see: <http://australs2018.com>

V4, ST. KITTS. Gary, G0FWX, will once again be active as V47FWX from Calypso Bay, St. Kitts (NA-104), between August 18-25th and between November 7-14th. He will be operating from the QTH of John, V47JA. Activity will be holiday style (in between sunbathing and the casino) on various HF bands. QSL via M0URX or the OQRS.

V8, BRUNEL. Members of the Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Association are QRV with special event station V850IARU until October 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of IARU Region 3. QSL via V85TL.

VK. AUSTRALIA. Special event station VI50IARU3 is QRV until August 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of IARU Region III.

VK9, NORFOLK ISLAND. Operators Takao/JO7GVC and Hirokazu/JK7LXU active as VK9/homecall from Norfolk Island (OC-005) between October 9-14th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters using CW, FT8 and PSK. They will use a FT-891 w/100w into a CrankIR vertical. QSL VK9/JO7GVC via JO7GVC and VK9/JK7LXU via JK7LXU.

VK9X, CHRISTMAS ISLAND. Operators Martin/A65DC, Paul/A65DR, Thomas/SM0CXU and YL Delia/VE7HDW will be active as VK9XT from Christmas Island (OC-002) between September 29th and October 6th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. FT8 might be used at times when no other operations are going on. QSL via N4GNR direct, LoTW, eQSL or QRZ.com's Log Book. Direct card via Club log's OQRS will be active for 6 months after the DXpedition. You may request your direct card there. QSL Fee on the OQRS will increase to 3 USDs for OQRS to cover envelope and PayPal costs. Free Bureau card via Club Log's OQRS will be open for six months after the DXpedition. For more details and updates, see: <http://vk9xt.qsodirector.com>

XU, CAMBODIA. Chapli, BG4HRM is QRV as XU7AKL from Phnom Penh. Activity is mostly on 80 to 10 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

ZA, ALBANIA. Walidi, SP7IDX, will be active as ZA/SP7IDX from Vlore (WW Loc. JN90rk) between August 5-12th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. Equipment will be a Flex 6300ATU, Maestro, Arlan Communications RG50SL, Hexbeam, HyEndFed 30/40m and portable Alpha EZ 2.0. QSL via the Bureau (PZK 03) or direct (w/2 IRCs or 2 USDs to cover his mail costs). QSLs without SAE and return postage are answered via the Bureau). NO eQSL. All contacts will also be uploaded on a regular basis to LoTW and Club Log.

The old adage of, "Hear it, Work it" applies here. We will have to hope that the propagation gods will shine on us for awhile so that we can work some DX. Warm up the air waves and work some DX if you can.

Until next month, vry 73.

Contest Calendars

| August 2018 | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Contest Name | Times - Date |
| 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB | 0001Z, Aug 4 to 2359Z, Aug 5 |
| Maryland-DC QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 11 to 2400Z, Aug 12 |
| North American QSO Party, SSB | 1800Z, Aug 18 to 0600Z, Aug 19 |
| Hawaii QSO Party | 0700Z, Aug 25 to 2200Z, Aug 26 |
| Ohio QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 25 to 0400Z, Aug 26 |

YES - There are MANY More Contests out there - Check the internet.

Keep the following dates open - K8BF will be contesting from the PCARS club site

Check the PCARS web site for up-to-date details from Chuck, W8PT.

| Contest Name | Times - Date |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ohio QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 25 to 0400Z, Aug 26 |
| California QSO Party | 1600Z, Oct 6 to 2159Z, Oct 7 |

CQ World-Wide Contest Rules Updated



CQ World Wide Contest rules have been updated. CQ has announced that, effective with the 2018 contest season, some modifications to the CQ World Wide Contest rules have been developed and approved by the contest committee. The "busted call/NIL" penalty is reduced from 3× to 2×. Email addresses for log submissions have been removed, and the committee now "strongly prefers" using web uploads to submit logs. Paper logs will still be accepted. The 10× penalty for "rubber clocking" with MS/M2 entries has been eliminated, although the committee "will continue to vigorously pursue time abuses."

Also, the observer program has been eliminated. "Given the absence of a reasonable pool of volunteers and supporting funding, the program has proven to be impractical," CQ said.

In addition, the top entry in the "Rookie" category will be awarded on a one-time-only basis. Previous Rookie winners are ineligible for plaques in this category.

Submit questions via the CQ WW "Contact Form" page.

Thanks to John Dorr, K1AR, CQ World Wide Contest Director

ARRL Contest Certificates Now On-Line



More ARRL Contest Award Certificates Now Available for Download

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that more contest award certificates are now available for download from the ARRL website in PDF and JPEG formats. Just enter the call sign used. ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said downloadable certificates now are available for these additional events: the 2017 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest, the 2017 November Sweepstakes, the 2017 ARRL 10 Meter Contest, the 2017 160 Meter Contest, the 2018 RTTY Roundup, and the 2018 January VHF Contest. Jahnke said 2018 ARRL International DX Contest certificates would become available in the very near future.

Already available are downloadable certificates for the 2017 IARU HF Championship, the 2017 ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest, and the 2017 ARRL September VHF Contest. Jahnke said the new online certificates will offer enhanced content over what has been previously available on ARRL certificates. New

recognitions have been added for Top 10 participants in a broader number of geographical (country, Division, Section) or categorical entries.

New event certificates will be announced as they are released. For those who never received a certificate or need to replace one, Jahnke said certificates for contests going back a decade or so are available for everything but the old UHF Contest and EME Contest.



From the Ohio Section Manager



Scott, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Hey Gang... Wow, I had a blast attending both the Germantown and Van Wert Hamfests this past weekend. I do have to tell ya', I'm exhausted, but it was really great to get out and see all of ya'!

Hey, how's that training going? Let's not forget that it is going to be a very important part of what we do from now on! I'm still working on my training needs, are you? Why do we need all this training? Because we can't ever be trained enough. None of us want you to have to go into a situation and not have the proper training for where you are, or what you will be asked to do. There is always something new to learn and new techniques being driven out of all these horrible incidents, but the biggest reason that I can think of right now is that we advertise ourselves as a "trained corps of operators" and as such we need to be diligent in not miss-advertising ourselves. Taking the time to get this valuable training is the right thing to do! These courses are not only useful for you in the field, but you'd be surprised how they can help you around the house as well.

Remember, most accidents happen within 25 miles of you home! And YES, my accident last year happened within that 25-mile radius. You need to be prepared! We want no one left behind, or not credited for the courses that you have taken.

Just go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/special/ICS%20Complete%20by%20County%20and%20Name.pdf> and make sure. Just so you know, it's listed by county. Now, don't forget that your ICS certificates aren't the only things we're looking for either. If you have Basic First Aid, CPR or AED training, it's also very valuable in the field as well. And, don't forget about the newest training out there, "**Stop the Bleed...**" This one is really good, and it's something that you can use no matter where you are. These courses are not only useful for you in the field, but you'd be surprised how they can help you around the house as well. Remember, most accidents happen within 25 miles of you home! You need to be prepared!

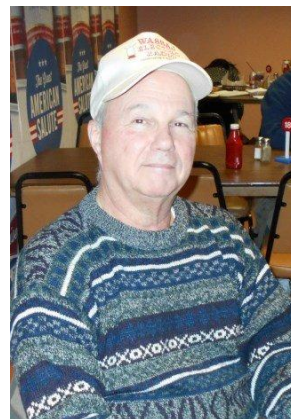
Here's the figures as Jim, W8ERW has given them to me... Members in the database – 966; Active members – 933; Members NIMS complete -720; Total courses logged - 6,719. These numbers just keep growing. And we want them to continue for sure!

We will be at the Columbus Hamfest / Ohio Section Conference. John, KD8IDJ has the winners of the Newsletter Contest already selected. He stated that it is getting really difficult to choose a winner since they are all so good. I have the plaque for the Alan Severson award to give to the latest recipient. Boy, this person ever gonna' be surprised! I hope to see all of you there.

Want to know who won? Ha.. Ha.. You're not going to get it out of me that easy.. Come to the Columbus Hamfest / Ohio Section Conference on August 4th and find out... I do want to mention at we also have Cory Sickles, WA3UVV lined up to give a great presentation called "System Fusion II Update" and that will be at 9am. The Ohio Section will be at 10am and don't forget that the semi-annual OSSBN meeting will be at 11am. There's lots to do and see, so make sure that you mark your calendars for August 4th to be at the Aladdin Shrine Center, 1801 Gateway Circle in Grove City! That's going to do it this time around... I'll catch you on down the log for sure, and stay dry my friends,

New in the Shack - Solid State Amplifier

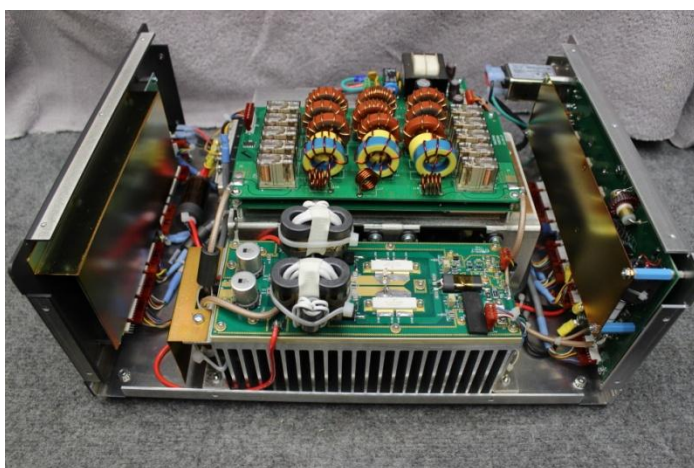
Jeff, WA8SAJ



I have one of the new PALSTAR LDMOS "solid-state" 1 KW + amplifiers and it works great.

Made at Palstar in Piqua, Ohio USA and only about 30 to 40 watts input gets you 1 KW output from 160 to 6-meters. Only a keying line to ground and it senses the frequency you are on, so no band switching needed with any radio. I comes with both 240 and 120VAC cords and no jumpers.

I thought it might be of interest to some.



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Gin Pole - 19 Feet Long - This is a commercial "Gin Pole" made by a Tower Manufacturer from the 70's & 80's. It is 19 foot total length and has a 5 foot aluminum sleeve in the middle for strength to make it this long and rugged! Works great with ROHN 25G, 45G, 55 G, plus all the towers this manufacturer made. The gin pole hangs on the rungs and the "top" hanger is adjustable up to 6 foot from the bottom hanger. More pictures available. \$800



FOR SALE: Bird 43 with 10 slugs - Bird 43 with SO-239 adapters and shorting slug. Includes 10 Bird slugs listed below, will not separate PRICE: \$500 for all, 2-30 MHz - 500 watt, 25-60 MHz - 100watt, 50-125 MHz - 50watt, 100-250 MHz - 25watt & 100watt, 200-500 MHz - 5watt & 100watt, 400-1000 MHz - 5watt & 50watt, 800 - 950MHz - 800-1watt.



Contact Jeff, WA8SAJ at: 440-951-6406 [09/02/18]

FOR SALE: MFJ-976 Tuner - excellent condition - very wide matching range: 12 to 2000 ohms and a freq.y range of 1.8 - 30 MHz, continuous. The power rating is 1500 watts PEP SSB and CW. Peak average forward power, reflected power, and SWR are displayed on the illuminated cross-needle meter.- New \$499.95, will sell for \$325

Contact Chuck, W8PT at: chuckw8pt@gmail.com [09/02/18]

FOR SALE: West Mountain Radio RigBlaster (M8). Excellent condition, original box/manual/CD/cables/etc. Works perfectly. \$15

25ft DXE 400MAX with PL-259. DX Engineering part #DXE-400MAXDX025. \$20

FOR SALE: Foot peddle switch - 1/4 phone plug, 5 foot cord, used but good condition. \$5

FOR SALE: Heathkit AM-2 SWR Bridge - Covers 160m-6m, 1kW or more. It is a simple meter and works well. I replaced the original variable 50k pot. Good condition. \$15

Contact Gene, W8NET at: w8net@me.com Or call/text: 330619-9194 [09/02/18]

FOR SALE: 13 ELE 2 Meter Yagi – it has a 15' boom, with a "T" reflector at the end. Speaking to the folks at Cushcraft, they were confident that this is an early version of the A13B2 They said the specs should be similar to the current version. (<http://www.cushcraftamateur.com/Product.php?productid=A13B2>). The only difference is that the new versions don't have the "T" reflector. Asking \$75.

Contact John, KD8MQ at: 330-936-5021 or email to: KD8MQ@gmail.com [07/02/18]

FOR SALE: AMERITRON AL-82 LINEAR AMPLIFIER - \$1,450 Here is your chance to own a full legal limit amplifier in good condition for less than half the cost of a new one. Wired for 240V AC. With genuine Eimac 3-500Z tubes and a Peter Dahl HV transformer, items you will not get in a new AL-82. Due to the weight of the amplifier, I prefer a local sale - will drive up to 50 miles to deliver.



FOR SALE: YAESU FT-1000MP TRANSCEIVER - 100 W - AC VERSION - \$950 Excellent condition, Loaded with the following filters: Has Optional Roofing Filter. 8,215 IF Optional Filters: 500Hz, 2.0 KHz, 2.4 KHz, 6.0 KHz 455 IF Optional Filters: 250Hz, 2.0KHz, 2.4 KHz, 6.0 KHz Includes manual and hand microphone.



Contact George, K3GP at: 330-829-9504 Evenings or Weekends [10/02/18]

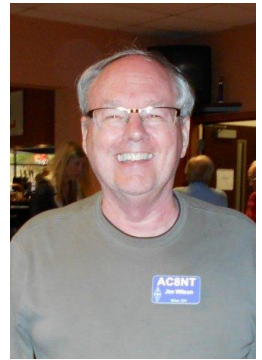
WANTED: I am looking for a Icom 706 MkIIG or and Icom 746 Pro

Contact Richard, KA8OAT at 330-506-7068 [10/02/18]

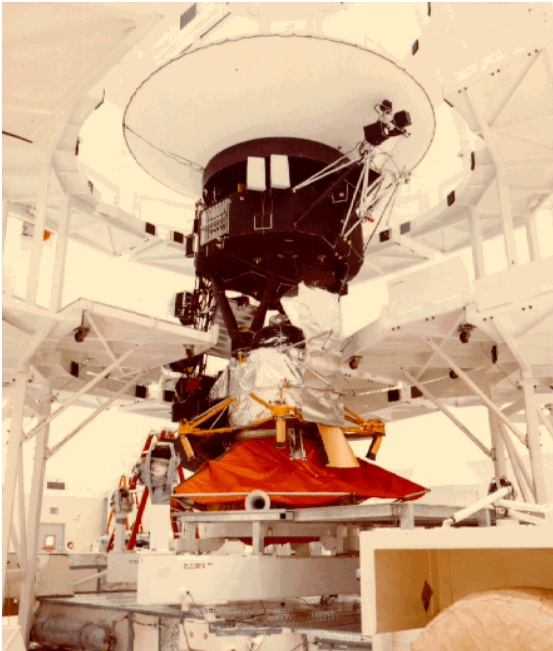


Remaking Radio History

Jim, AC8NT



I was part of a Voyager update webinar a few days ago. It has been such an important part of my life, I was sorry to see it is coming to an end. Sometime about October 2023 it will send out its last message and be shut down due to a lack of energy supplied by its two nuclear generators.



analyzed some of its data, and have wondered what it would have been like to travel with it.

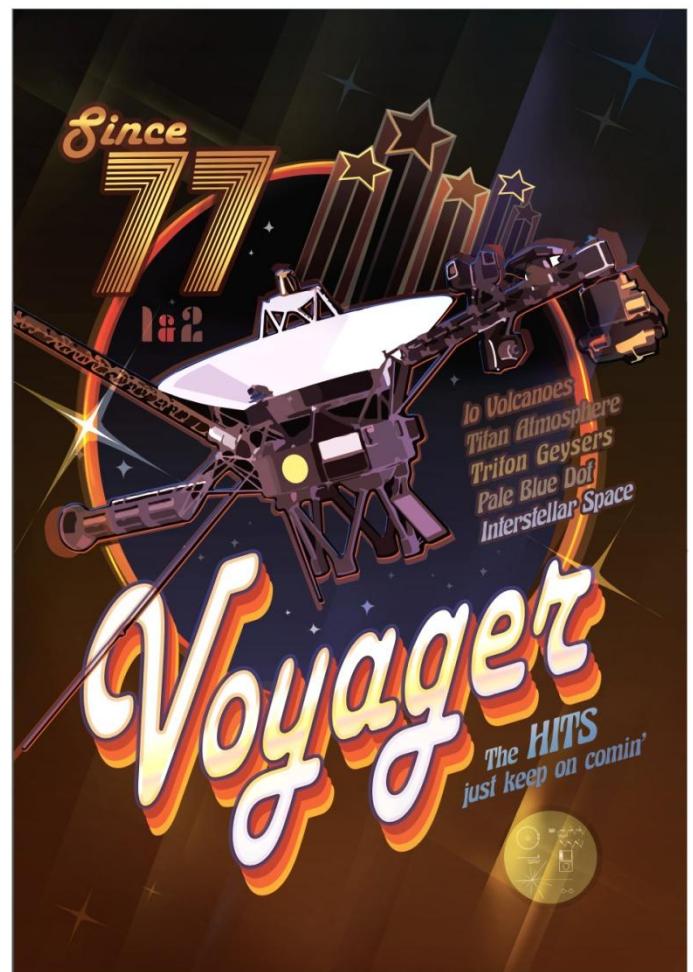
I know it is not yet 2023 and God willing I will be here to listen to its last message, but it deserves a mention.

Some statistics as of July 25, 2018:

- Launch Date - 05 September 1977
- 40 years in space and still sending messages every day
- It has traveled 13.3 billion miles (equals over 534.1 million orbits around the earth)
- 33,000 pictures of Jupiter alone
- Velocity (estimated) 38,027 mph

In September of last year that last message to be sent by Voyager was sent to Voyager. They were afraid that if they waited any longer, system failures might make it impossible to be received. Voyager might send its last message earlier if system issues warrant. The message required 19 hours to reach Voyager and was sent at 16 bits per second in a special code developed for Voyager. The message it will send is “**We offer friendship across the stars. You are not alone**”. It was selected from 30,000 submitted suggestions the best 10 being reduced to 1 by an internet vote.

For 40 years I have followed Voyager, seen its pictures and



PCARS Ham 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 PCARS club station.

We have 67 PCARS member's ham plates now, **but we can use more**. Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the [PCARS 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 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.

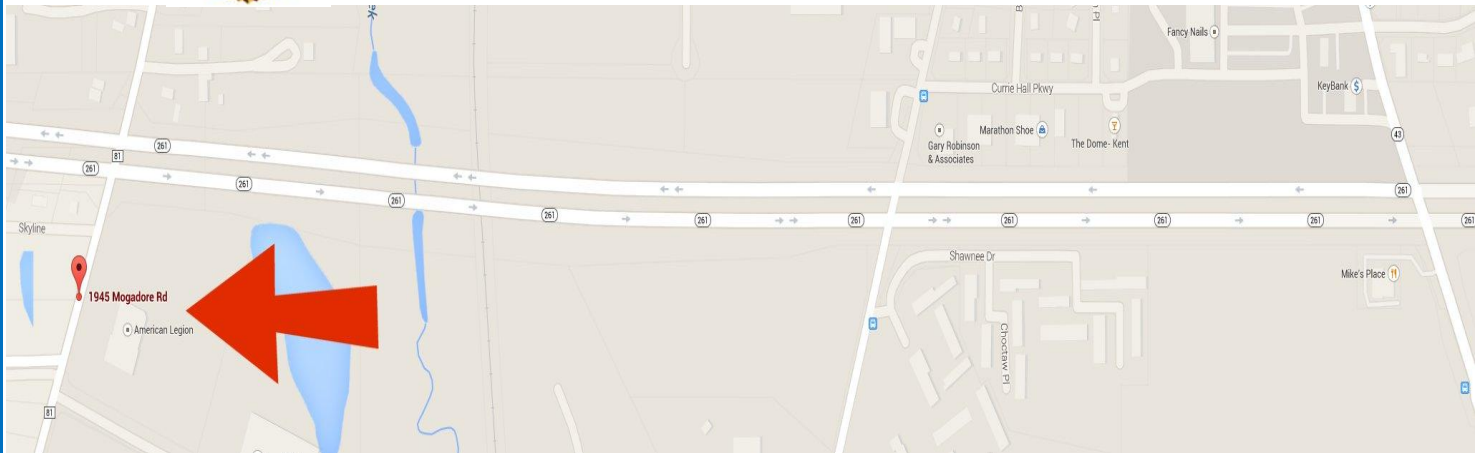


PCARS Meetings

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.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



11th ANNUAL - OSPOTA - September 8th

Hello OSPOTA fans. Seems like Summer is passing faster than usual and that means the 11th annual OSPOTA contest is coming up sooner than you think. Make your plans, test that antenna set up, get out there and have some fun during OSPOTA 2018 on September 8th from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm eastern time.

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. **However be aware that the local Rangers may still require registration as an "event"**. See the latest information on the OSPOTA web site (www.ospota.org) or on the OSPOTA Yahoo site - **THERE HAVE BEEN UPDATES** to the rules and other documents.

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 Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 11th annual

Ohio State Parks On The Air



11th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 8, 2018, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC
(10 am to 6 pm Eastern Time)

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

Feb 2018

Photos from the PCARS Meeting in July





PCARS - July 9, 2018

Important Days in August

3rd August, 2018 will be... International Beer Day

If you look around your city, one of the staples of any city is a good bar, a friendly pub or a busy club. So no matter if your in rural Ireland, busy Hong Kong, the back woods of Canada or even in the United Arab Emirates, there is always someplace to have a brewski. And this day is for those that do enjoy those drinks, and to appreciate those that make them – International Beer Day!



History of International Beer Day

Originally started in Santa Cruz, California, International Beer Day began to celebrate the craft of brewing, and to show appreciation for those involved in the making of beer. This quickly expanded to include bartenders and other beer technicians. Not only did it expand in scope, but in size as well, quickly gaining an international recognition and following within only a short years. In between 2007 when it was started in Santa Cruz, and currently where it is now celebrated in 207 cities, 50 countries and on 6 continents. Diverse and new experiences are the hallmark of International Beer Day, encouraged the sharing of techniques on how to make beer, along with how to enjoy it. Various foods and activities that go along with it, to celebrate this enjoyable day of brewing skill.

How to celebrate International Beer Day

The founders of the International Beer Day had three declared reasons for the day, and are as follows: Gather with friends and enjoy the taste of beer. Celebrate those responsible for brewing and serving beer. Unite the world under the banner of beer, by celebrating the beers of all nations together on a single day. However, many folks agree, just raise your glass, tankard, bottle or can and toast those that make the amazing brew possible. Whether it is at a bar, club, pub, or even just a cook-out, it is easy enough to find a place to get a brew or two. Most places that hold events do so by tapping new, or in some cases rare, beers, hosting a happy hour that lasts all day, trivia events, and many games with prizes involving beer gear. Enjoy yourself, responsibly, and share the wonders of beer with those around you. Maybe hoist up a different type of beer than your usual fare, to expand your horizons. Even if it is just something you have never tried before, give it that much at least. Sometime, somewhere, a brewer spent time to get that beer right, and to market it to the public. So hoist your tankard, tap the kegs, tip the staff and enjoy the refreshment of International Beer Day!

6th August, 2018 will be... Root Beer Float Day

Root Beer Float Day is celebrated on August 6th every year. 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!

16th August, 2018 will be... World Bratwurst Day

”There’s no dispute that can’t be solved over a beer, a brat, and an adversary with a weaker argument than you.”

– The Brattender

While it’s certain that we’ve all had our share of sausages in our day, particularly that low-born sheath of processed meat known as the frankfurter, not everyone has had the pleasure of enjoying a bratwurst. Bratwurst is typically made from pork, but can, in fact, be made from any meat, and World Bratwurst Day celebrates every variety you can conceive of.



History of World Bratwurst Day

Sausage is quite ancient, going back as far as 228AD according to archaeological evidence, but the noble Bratwurst has only been around since 1313. Every region has a different variety of bratwurst to call its own, with over 40 varieties coming from within the country of Germany. Throughout Germany Bratwurst are perceived as more of a snack food than a main dish, though they can often be found served in the latter capacity at pubs, usually with sauerkraut or potato salad and a dense rye bread or pretzel. New York City may have hot dog vendors, but Germany has Bratwurst carts!

The varieties that come from Franconia date back to the first bratwursts, and are usually heavily laden with marjoram as a seasoning. These bratwursts tend to be large and filled with coarsely ground meat which lends them an overall juicier texture and flavor. While those from the city of Corburg only use salt, pepper, nutmeg, and lemon zest. World Bratwurst Day celebrates all these and the hundreds of other varieties available, and encourages us to explore the culinary world of the Brat and see what our taste buds can find!

How to Celebrate World Bratwurst Day

Celebrating World Bratwurst Day is easy! Just head on out to your local supermarket and buy yourself a few bags of Brats and invite your friends over for a delicious dinner party! Looking for something a bit more adventurous? You can always look for the local bratwurst festivals that are held every year or you could get out and organize one! For those who are looking for a culinary experience, you can also create your own Bratwursts with whatever it is you think would go well in them! World Bratwurst Day asks us to share our love of Bratwursts and to try our hand at making our own. What will you create today?

23rd August, 2018 will be... Burger Day

”At the base level, a burger is a piece of meat and a bun with something on it. It’s simple but it seems to make a lot of people happy.” Danny Meyer

Burgers are indeed the source of true happiness, a fact supported by the rich cheesy topping, crisp flavorful onion, and splash of tomato that brings it all together with a pickle tang finish. Or maybe you’re a bolder sort, enjoying their burger topped with onion rings and barbecue sauce in a true Western style and a splash of blue cheese. Whatever the case, it’s hard to argue that the burger isn’t the perfect food, and Burger Day is here to celebrate it in all its glory.



28th August, 2018 will be... Cherry Turnover Day

"I'll obey them in the winter when the doctors say to me I must give up ham and spinach, and obedient I'll be. To relieve my indigestion in December they can try, but there's none of them can stop me when it's time for cherry pie."

~ Bob Dole



Cherry Pie is a wonderful treat, with the only problem being that it's difficult to transport and messy to boot. Wouldn't a serving size option be amazing? Cherry Turnover Day reminds us that such a thing has been invented, and celebrates its deliciousness!

History of Cherry Turnover Day

It's hard to say when the Turnover first came into existence, but we do know that the first recorded instance of them was in 1440 in response to an edict preventing bakers from making cakes, so they resorted to making pies of all kinds, and this, in turn, led to the creation of the turnover by incorporating a filo pastry like substance previously invented by the Romans. From there they've never gone out of style, and in fact now are incredibly popular in roadside diners and family restaurants. Cherry Turnover celebrates the best of these and encourages us all to indulge!

How to Celebrate Turnover Day

You can either go out and buy Cherry Turnovers for yourself and all your co-workers or try to make them for yourself!

31st August, 2018 will be... Trail Mix Day

Trail mix is a high energy snack comprised of dried fruits, nuts and energy snacks, designed to keep you alert and energised when walking, hiking, and partaking in similar endurance and intense activities. Trail Mix Day is all about creating good trail mix and testing it out on the road.





PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





Thanks & 73



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 is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great all throughout 2018 and beyond.

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

AC8NT, WA8AR, KB8UUZ, KB6NU, K0NR, AB8YK, WB8LCD, N8RLG, K3GP, KD8SKL, W8KNO, KB8AMZ, KA8TOA, W8PT, K3AR, N8SY, WA8SAJ, *DX Engineering, CQ Magazine, The ARRL and the World-Wide Web.*

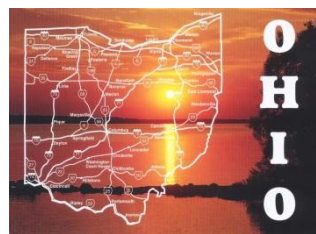
With *your* continued help – we can keep making this a *great* newsletter.

AS I GET OLDER I REALIZE:

- #1 - I talk to myself, because there are times I need expert advice.
- #2 - I consider "In Style" to be the clothes that still fit.
- #3 - I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off.
- #4 - My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance for idiots that needs work.
- #5 - The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
- #6 - I have days when my life is just a tent away from a circus.
- #7 - These days, "on time" is when I get there.
- #8 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid - but it sure does muffle the sound.
- #9 - Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?
- #10 - Lately, I've noticed people my age are so much older than me.
- #11 - "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering why I'm there.
- #12 - When I was a child, I thought nap time was punishment. Now it feels like a mini vacation.
- #13 - Some days I have no idea what I'm doing out of bed.
- #14 - I thought growing old would take longer
- #15 - Aging sure has slowed me down, but it hasn't shut me up.
- #16 - I still haven't learned to act my age.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD





28th Annual Columbus Hamfest & ARRL - Ohio Section Conference

Saturday - August 4th

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

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



Aladdin Shrine Center
1801 Gateway Circle
Grove City, OH 43123

APRS Marker - W8FEZ



Admission
\$5 at the gate
12 and under free

Indoor Table & Chairs
\$10 with paid
admission

Outdoor Space
\$10 with paid
admission

VE Testing 9:00

Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is encouraged to save time

w8zpf.cboh.org/exams/pre-reg

Forums

Forums covering a wide range of fun and interesting amateur radio topics, including the ARRL Forum, and the Ohio Single Side Band semi-annual meeting.

QSL Card Checker

Dave Vest K8DV will be there to check QSL cards (authorized for 160M)

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

DX Engineering - August Hot Deals

The generous people at **DX Engineering** are long time supporters of PCARS. This letter came in announcing the **August Hot Deals** day at the **DX Engineering** retail store in Tallmadge (located inside Summit Racing).

DX Engineering supports PCARS, so let's help support them as well.

Hope to see you at **DX Engineering** on August 11th.



Dear Club Leader,

DX Engineering's "August Hot Deals" sales event is back for 2018 and better than ever! We look forward to seeing you again in our well-equipped showroom. You're invited to get on the air from N8DXE and try out the latest transceivers and accessories using three HF beam antennas stacked atop our 80-foot Rohn tower, and our state-of-the-art antenna switching system.

You and your club members can visit, make some contacts, and attend two free mini-seminars:

8:30 am to 9:00 am, **Digital and Software Defined Technologies**, presented by Will Jourdain, AA4WJ, from ICOM America. Jourdain will be joining us until noon to answer all your pressing questions about ICOM rigs and related equipment.

9:00 am to 9:30 am, **Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) Antenna Communications**, presented by Tim Duffy, K3LR, Chief Operating Officer of DX Engineering.

In addition to the mini-seminars, on-air excitement, and technical advice, you can score 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.

August Hot Deals begins at 8:30 am on Saturday, August 11. Our DX Engineering staff will be on hand to answer questions until noon Saturday. The sale lasts through 9 pm on Sunday, August 12. The deals will only be good here at our 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 get on the air in our Retail Showroom to test drive what's hot in Ham Radio.

73,
Tim 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

Mobile Cruise-In 2018



So you think that you have one of the best amateur radio mobile installations to be found? Well here is your chance to show off that mobile rig and have the opportunity to compare it to dozens of others: HF, VHF, UHF, you name it.



Thursday, August 23, 2018, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring the **9th annual** Amateur Radio Mobile Cruise-In Night at the



Restaurant - 769 East Main St in Ravenna.

Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be cruising in to check out the wide variety of mobile radio setups and get some ideas for their own vehicles.

Prizes will be awarded for:

1st Neatest Installation

2nd Most Bands Covered

3rd Largest Number of Contacts (VHF simplex, HF) between 6-7pm from the cruise-in.

4th Most Modes Used for Contacts: 1 Point for Each Mode (Dig/CW/Phone)

Enjoy an evening of ham radio fellowship and fun and get to know other hams from throughout the area. We may run the PCARS Thursday net from the cruise-in.

Talk-in will be on the K8IV repeater, 146.895 MHz, PL 118.8 or PL 110.9

More information contact

Jim, AC8NT, at
AC8NT@portcars.org



You've heard of the **Ohio QSO Party**

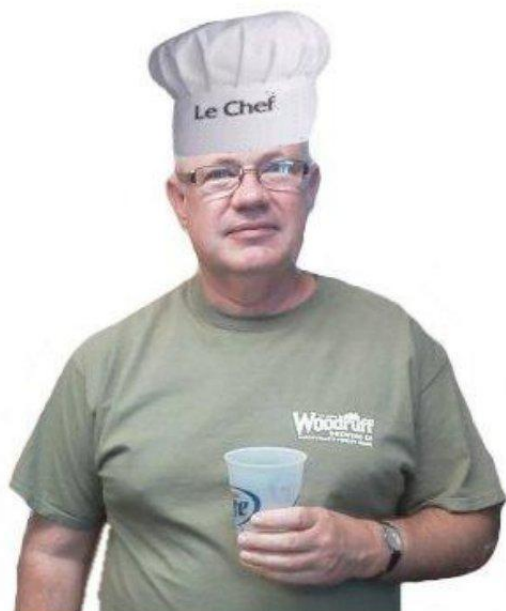


We'll join us at the **PCARS** club site for the

Ohio B-QSO Party

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 25th**, the date for this year's Ohio QSO Party. PCARS is going to put **K8BF**, the

club site station, on the air and we are inviting all PCARS members to come on out for some special **Big Fun** that day.



Tom, WB8LCD and Amy, KD8SKL will be hosting the second **Ohio-Burger-QSO Party!**

That's right, we'll be chasing two kinds of



"Q's": on the air contacts and great food fresh off the grill.



Set up starts at 11 AM Contest starts at Noon and ops will continue until midnight (12 hour contest)

Burgers will be served at 3:00 pm and everyone is invited to bring snacks or side dishes.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the **11th Annual “Ohio State Parks On the Air”** (OSPOTA) contest, from the hours of 10:00 am to 6:00 p.m. EST (1400 UTC to 2200 UTC).

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 11th 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



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 11th annual

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 8, 2018, from 1400 UTC to 2200 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

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

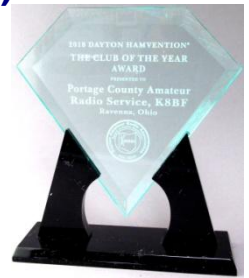


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**.
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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

PCARS uses the **K8IV** repeater: **146.895 MHz** PL 118.8 in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ EchoLink Node: K8SRR

Check PCARS out on the web: www.PORTCARS.ORG -or- www.K8BF.ORG



| ~ 2018 Officers ~ | | 2018 PCARS Appointments & Committees | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Vice President - Tony Romito - WA8AR Treasurer - Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL 3 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV 2 Year Trustee - Robert Gurney - N8RLG 1 Year Trustee - Erica Pelz - AE8YL Past President - Rick Kruis - K8CAV | ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC | W8KNO | Joe Wehner |
| | ARRL Awards - WAS | KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| | Club Site Manager/Liaison | K8CAV | Rick Kruis |
| | Contest Coordinator | W8PT | Chuck Patellis |
| | EchoLink | K8SRR | Steve Randlett |
| | Field Day Chairman, 2018 | WA8AR | Tony Romito |
| | FYAO Chairman | W8PT | Chuck Patellis |
| | Historian | KB8SZI | Peggy Parkinson |
| | K8BF Callsign Trustee | K8FEY | Bob Hewett |
| | K8BF QSL Manager | K8FEY | Bob Hewett |
| | Membership Chairman | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| | Net Control Manager | KA8TOA | Greg Ash |
| | Net Night - Club Manager | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| ~ Meetings & Net ~ 2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895 | Newsletter Editor | KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| | OSPOTA Chairman | KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| | Public Information Officer | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| | Secretary | WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| | Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager | AC8NT | Jim Wilson |
| | Volunteer Examiner Liaison | N8RLG | Robert Gurney |
| | Webmaster | KD8MQ | John Myers |



**PCARS
Active
Volunteer
Examiner
Team
Members**

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| N8RLG | Robert Gurney |
| KB8UUZ | Tom Parkinson |
| WB8LCD | Tom Sly |
| N8XTH | Deron Boring |
| N8PXW | Jim Korenz |
| N8QE | Bob Hajdak |
| K8IV | Ed Polack |
| W8RID | Robert Davet |
| WA8CCU | Al Nagy |
| NR8W | Russ Williams |
| W8EZT | Frank Tompkins |
| AC8NT | Jim Wilson |
| K8MSH | Mark Haverstock |
| KA8TOA | Greg Ash |
| KB3GXB | Jennifer Williams |



THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The **RADIOGRAM** is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - **Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year** - copyright © 2018. The **RADIOGRAM** is an **Award Winning** newsletter: **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. Second Place Winner in the Ohio Section for 2016. First Place Newsletter Winner in the Ohio Section for 2017 and First Place Newsletter Winner in the Great Lakes Division 2017.** Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KB8UUZ@gmail.com. The **RADIOGRAM** always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel - think PCARS!**

The **RADIOGRAM** is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. 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 (this month it's the Azerbaijan Manat) just for fun. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KB8UUZ@gmail.com



NLC



Portage County Amateur Radio Service
705 Oakwood St. - Box 12
Ravenna, OH 44266