



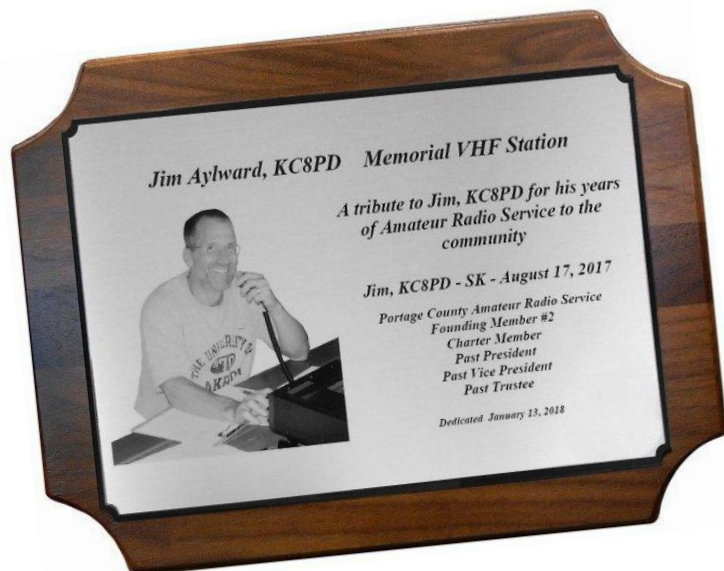
The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

May 2018 - Volume 13 Number 5

\$ 5.18 5.19 or 5.20



VHF Room and Tower Dedication

HAMVENTION[®] 2018 is Coming
Be There to Celebrate
PCARS being awarded the
Hamvention[®] Club of the Year Award

Dayton
Hamvention[®]



Amateur Radio...

Serving the Community

2018



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



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Mark Your Calendars

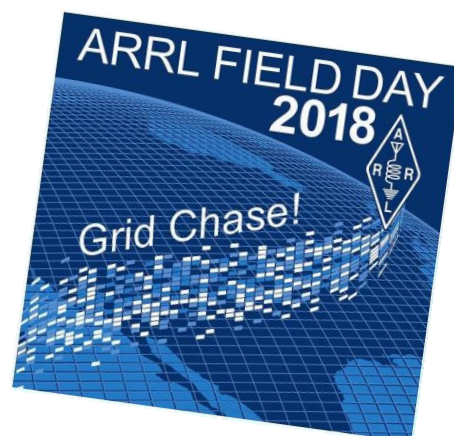
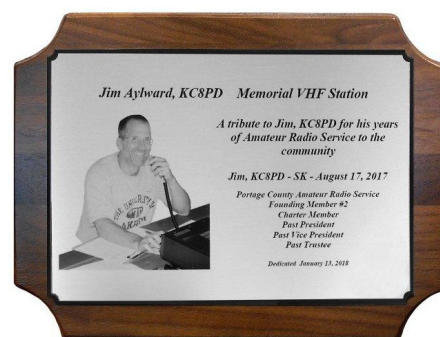
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Coming In June
REPORT FROM HAMVENTION - FIELD DAY

From the President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



Spring might be coming FINALLY. This, as every spring, means updating the antennas in the attic. I love playing with antennas, but I admit I don't particularly like playing in the attic. Dressing up in goggles, gloves, face mask and head lamp is more fun than anyone can imagine. Changes to the fan dipole, the addition of a 1.25 meter Yagi and the installation of a new loop all need to be done before it gets so hot up there you can melt steel. And thanks to the Open House sale, I have some stuff to get running. But with the weather improving I will put up with the hard work for a week or two to have more fun on the air.

The Open House and Dedication event was outstanding. The tribute to Jim KC8PD reminded us of what a great friend and club member he was. We had a great turnout, lots of great conversation and most bought something from the sale area. Many club wives uttered that now infamous line. "What did you buy and what is it good for?" Even ham wives that are hams ask that question. And Hamvention® is coming up! More stuff to threaten our wallet.

We had a great time at the Kent Mini Maker Faire. Met a lot of people and talked a lot about ham radio. It was also great to see all the other makers. Special thanks to Rick K8CAV and Doug WA8WVU for helping with setup and activities. We had a rig connected to a magnetic loop running FT8 and some interesting SDR applications for everyone to view. These events are a great place to introduce ham radio to a wide variety of people.



We started a new Tech Class. Thanks again to all the instructors. If anyone knows someone interested in getting their ticket, tell them there is still time to sign-up. Just have them show up at the class held on Wednesday nights from 7 to 9.

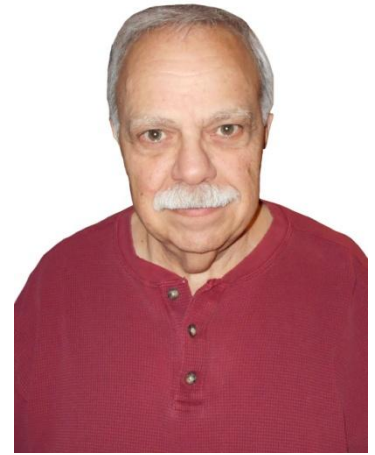
May brings a GOTA/Project day May 12th and of course Hamvention® 18-20. By now everyone should know PCARS has been awarded the "Club of the Year" and that makes this year's trip special. As we get details, we will let everyone know when and where the award will be presented. This is a club win and everyone should feel great about this award. Next month's newsletter will have more information on the presentation and I am sure it will have pictures.

Have a great month; enjoy Hamvention® and have fun on the air.



From the Vice President

Tony, WA8AR
PCARS Vice President



Antenna and Propagation Modeling for Ham Radio

I have been involved with computer modeling of open natural systems since the mid 1970s. The majority of this was done for the purpose of analyzing ground water and surface water flow and changing chemistries of those waters. I also was involved with analysis of foundations for large civil structures (bridges, dams, buildings). While these sound very different from electricity and radio, the fact is that ohms law looks essentially identical to the equations that describe flow of water through the earth. In fact early analog models used to analyze underground water flow were built using electric current flow through the earth, accurately predicting water movement in models. The bottom line is that "all things flow" and the models that we use to analyze these systems can be remarkably similar. The best news is that with modern computers and thoroughly tested standard models the average ham can use some pretty sophisticated tools to play with antenna design and simulate radio propagation. Like having a hammer to drive a spike. Of course if you don't know how to "operate" that hammer, driving that spike may not be as easy as it looks. Careful that you don't smash your thumb.

On the other side of things we mostly know the basics and can toss a wire up in a tree and see who comes back to you. Ham radio is a very interesting blend of electrical art and sophisticated engineering. Even radio propagation across thousands of miles, and sometimes far beyond, is somewhat predictable; sometimes very predictable; many times mysterious and frustrating. There are times I like to figure it out using the computer and see how close to reality I can get (FYI, we call that "ground truth"). Other times I just use intuition and have fun playing Radio.

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

- **May 12th - GOTA/Project Build Day at the club site in Ravenna 9am - noon**
- **May 13th - Mothers Day**
- **May 14th - PCARS Meeting at The American Legion in Kent - 7pm**
- **May 18-19-20 - HAMVENTION® 2018 - Greene County Fairgrounds/Expo Center, Xenia, OH**
- **May 28th - Memorial Day**

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



Hamvention® 2018 Forum Information

2018 Forums Schedule FRIDAY May 18, 2018

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5
9:15 AM	TAPR Scott Cowling WA2DFI 9:15-10:30	Remote Operating Mark Aaker K6UFO 9:15-10:15	ARRL Public Service Communications #1: Getting Started Mike Corey KI1U 9:15-10:30	SHARES HF EMCOMM Ross Merlin WA2WDT 9:15-10:15	Parks on the Air Thomas Martin W8TAM 9:15-10:30
9:30 AM					
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM					
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM	APRS Bob Bruninga WB4APR 10:45-11:45	Mars Paul English 10:30-11:30	Antennas for Emergencies Frank Beafore WS8B 10:40-11:40	Instructor's Forum Carole Perry WB2MGP 10:30-11:30	
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM					
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM	Homeland Security John Peterson 12:00-1:45	D-Star Robin Cutshaw AA4RC 11:45-1:00	ARRL Public Service Communications #2: Building Partnerships 11:50-1:05	Kit Building Joe Elsenberg K0NEB 11:45-12:45	Balloon Sat Bill Brown WB8ELK 11:45-1:15
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM	Antenna Forum Tim Duffy K3LR 2:00-5:00	National Weather Service Brandon Peloquin 1:15-2:30	Collins Radio David Knepper W3ST 1:15-2:15	Techniques of Best Operators Mitch Stern W1SJ 1:00-2:15	Using KiCad Barry Buelow WØIY 1:30-2:30
1:15 PM					
1:30 PM					
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM	Ham Radio and the Law B.Scholl K3LA J.Stratton N5AUS B.Famiglio K3RF 2:45-3:45	ARRL International Grid Chase 2018- Get in the Chase! 2:25-3:40	YLRL Anne Manna WB1ARU 2:30-3:30	New Product Showcase Media Event 2:45-3:45	
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00pm					
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM	System Fusion Mark Thompson WB9QZB 4:00-5:00	Software Defined Radio Stephan Hicks 3:50-5:00	Digital Mobile Radio John Burningham W2XAB 3:45-5:00		
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					
4:45 PM					
5:00 PM					

2018 Forums Schedule

SATURDAY May 19, 2018

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5
9:15 AM	Drake Equipment Mark Gilger WB0IQK 9:15-10:15	2018 Youth Forum Carole Perry WB2MGP 9:15-12:00	ARRL Public Service Track# 3: Panel Discussion 9:15-10:30	HamSCI Nathaniel A Frizzell PHD W2NAF 9:15-10:30	
9:30 AM					
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM					
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM	Ham Nation Bob Heil K9EID 10:25- 11:20		RTTY Contesting Ed Muns W0YK 10:45-11:45	Fast Scan ATV Art Towslee WA8RMC 10:45-11:45	Kenwood Equipment Jan Servaites N8CBX 10:30-11:30
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM					
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM	Heil Sound Workshop Bob Heil K9EID 11:20-12:10				
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM	TROPO DUCTING ON 2m Gordon West WB6NOA 12:20-1:10	Foxhunt/ARDF Dick Arnet WB4SUV 12:15-1:45	ARRL Member Forum Dale Williams WA8EFK 12:00-1:15	QCWA Ken Oelke VE6AFO 12:00-1:00	Saturn Bill Feist WB8BZH 11:45-1:00
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM					
1:30 PM	Contesting Doug Grant K1DG 1:20-3:05	AREDN Andre Hansen K6AH 2:00-3:15	ARRL Public Service Track #4: Stories from the 2017 Hurricanes 1:30- 2:30	VHF-UHF Tony Emanuele WA8RJF 1:15-2:30	Robotics In The Classroom Kerry Hicks 1:15-2:15
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00pm					
3:15 PM	DX Forum Jay Slough K4ZLE 3:15-5:00	Digital Modes Mel Whitten KOPFX 3:30-5:00	HamRadio Workbench Build Projects George Zafiropoulos KJ6VU 2:45- 3:45	AMSAT Joseph Spier K6WAO 2:45-3:45	
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					
4:45 PM					
5:00 PM					

2018 Forums Schedule

SUNDAY May 20, 2018

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
9:15 AM	West Mountain Radio Sholto Fisher K7TMG 9:15-10:15	Reaching The Public with Ham Radio Tommy Gober N5DUX 9:15-10:15	Receiving Antennas Eric Nichols KL7AJ 9:15- 10:15	Bicycle Mobile Mike Nickolaus NF0N 9:15-10:15
9:30 AM				
9:45 AM				
10:00 AM				
10:15 AM				
10:30 AM	Secure Energy for the Radio Amateur Bob Bruninga WB4APR 10:30- 11:30	The Portable Magnetic Loop Alexandre Grimberg PY1AHD 10:30-11:30	10:30-11:30	10:30-11:30
10:45 AM				
11:00 AM				
11:15 AM				
11:30 AM				

Dayton Hamvention®



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



Hamvention® 2018 - Be There!

Tom, KB8UUZ

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



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

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

Take a camera and take pictures of everything and everybody!

So, check it out - Friday the 18th, Saturday the 19th and Sunday the 20th in May - the **ONLY** place to be is at the Hamvention®.

This year Hamvention® is even more special for **PCARS.**

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is awarding The Hamvention® Club of the Year award to the Portage County Amateur Radio Service
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



The presentation will be made in front of the grandstands during the closing ceremonies on Sunday.

Be there - wear your PCARS shirts and let everyone know that **YOU** are a member of this great club **!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



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



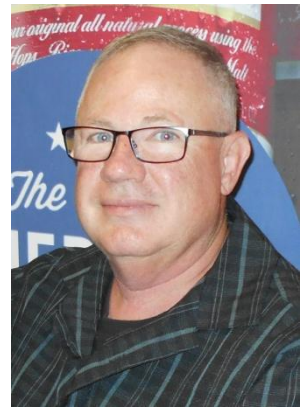
The Portage County Amateur Radio Service
(in Ohio)

**The Hamvention®
Club of the Year
for 2018**

Club Open House & Dedications KC8PD sk

Tom, WB8LCD

On Saturday, April 21, 2018, the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) held a dedication at their clubhouse, located in the Dietrich building at 705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna, to the memory of member #2 - James Aylward – KC8PD. Jim became a “silent key” on August 17, 2017. The dedication had originally been scheduled for January but had to be postponed due to a predicted Ohio snowstorm.

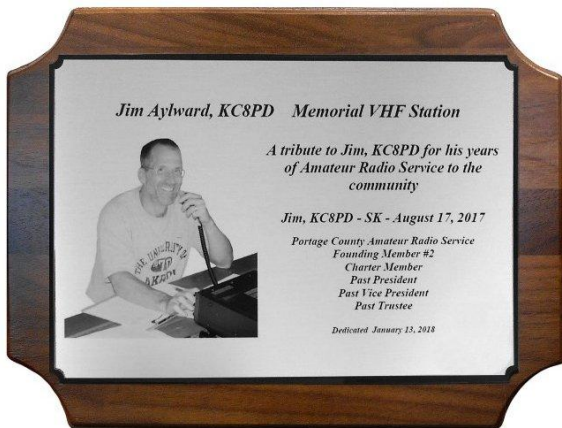


April 21 was scheduled as a Club Open House and Get on the Air (GOTA) day. On Friday, April 20th, club president Jim Wilson – AC8NT, along with his wife Linda, spent the better part of the day cleaning up the club site. It was time well spent as on Saturday morning everyone arrived to the club site looking as pristine as it ever has!



Jim was one of the founding members of PCARS in 2005. He was an ardent supporter of the club and always an active participant in club activities. He had served the club as President, Vice-President and Trustee. His passion in Amateur Radio was for community service through Emergency Communications (EmComm). He led the Communications Unit of the Portage County Emergency Management Agency and was a member of the EMA's Incident Management Assistance Team. He coordinated radio communications support for a variety of local events including the Cleveland Marathon. He volunteered with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service serving the Red Cross in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina.

As a lasting tribute to the memory of Jim, the club dedicated and named their VHF radio station “The Jim Aylward – KC8PD Memorial VHF Station”. The dedication was attended by many PCARS members and friends from the community.



Current club president, Jim Wilson- AC8NT said that the VHF station was where Jim liked to operate from and that everyone who knew him would remember him anytime they entered into the station. Founding club president Tom Sly – WB8LCD added that Jim was an important part in the formation of PCARS and setting it on the path to what it has become today. Immediate past president Rick Kruis –



K8CAV commented that Jim was a staunch supporter of the club and responsible for bringing many of our current members into the club and into the Amateur Radio hobby.



Just prior to the VHF station dedication, Mark Frisone, Executive Director of Family & Community Services (F&CS), dedicated the 200 foot radio tower located on the F&CS premises as the “James Aylward Memorial Tower”. The tower is used to support both community service and PCARS communications antennas. Jim – KC8PD also served on the board of Family & Community Services for many years. Mark described Jim as a friend and committed board member who was

dedicated to serving the community. A marker was placed on the side of the tower.

At the tower site, Dave Rarrick – WB2DFC – read a statement from Jim’s wife, Laura, who was not able to attend the dedication. In her statement she said that Amateur Radio and PCARS were a “passion” of Jim’s. Before he passed away Mark Frisone, Dave Rarrick and Rick Kruis had all come over to the house and presented the plaque to Jim. She said It was one of his proudest moments.

I wish that Jim could have been with us this year at Dayton as we are presented the award for “Club of the Year”. All of us, past and present, along with Jim, are in some way responsible for our club being chosen for this award. It is my hope that all of us, present and future, will continue the tradition of excellence that has earned us this honor.



Paper Chase - Royal Wedding

Joe, W8KNO



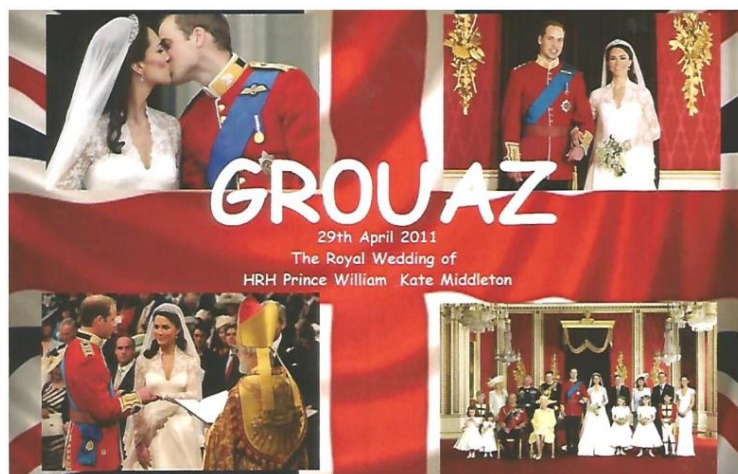
The ARRL recently published a notice that GR9RW will be the Royal Wedding Special Event Call Sign.

To celebrate the marriage of Great Britain's Prince Harry to American actress Meghan Markle, special event call sign GR9RW will be on the air May 19 – 23. It's believed that this will mark the first use of a GR9 call sign prefix in the UK.

The royal wedding (<https://www.royal.uk/royal-wedding-2018>) will take place on May 19 at St. George's Chapel in England's Windsor Castle. Members of the Cray Valley Radio Society (CVRS) will operate GR9RW from their club station in Eltham. GR9RW will primarily use SSB and CW, with the addition of FM on VHF and UHF.

Two HF stations and one VHF station will cover all bands from 80 meters to 70 centimeters. A commemorative QSL card is available upon request. If you are a collector of Prefixes this is your opportunity for a new one! The QSL, if it is anything like Prince William and Kate Middleton, will be worth the effort.

You will be able to obtain a QSL from:
Ol Cross - 28 Garden Avenue - Bexleyheath DA7 4LF - England



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

W8Ezt	Frank	Tompkins	K8KSU	Melanie	Hardman
WA8TSI	Rick	Tenan	K8NYM	Wes	Ferrell
K8BBE	Chuck	Girt	AC8RH	Gene	Bunner
WA8US	John	Brock			



Planning for Field Day 2018



Tony, WA8AR
Field Day Chairman



FIELD DAY DINNER AND BREAKFAST RESERVATIONS AND TICKETS

This Year, since dinner will be catered by Guido's (menu to be announced), EVERYONE wanting to have the Club provided Dinner and/or Breakfast will need to have a ticket. Dinner is free for all members, but again you must reserve your ticket not later than

Thursday, May 31. Guests are also welcome to dine with us for the price of \$5.00 each. A pancake and bacon breakfast will be served Sunday morning; the price for ALL will be \$1.00; Ticket Reservations ALSO Required. The May 31 reservation deadline applies to tickets for dinner and breakfast.

To reserve your tickets: you must send an email to Tom WB8LCD, tomsly29@gmail.com "re: FD Reservation", stating the number of tickets needed, which meals and number of guests for dinner.
EXAMPLE: WB8LCD Dinner + 1 guest and Breakfast 2 tickets

You may pick up and pay for your tickets at the May and June regular club meetings or on Field Day. However you must submit your reservation to Tom by email on or before Thursday May 31. This way we will have an accurate head count.

URGENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

We still need three Field Day Team leaders. Most critical at this time is the Food Service Director. We need someone to step up as soon as possible since putting on a successful dinner requires advance preparation. To simplify this task we have decided that this years menu should be a simple picnic style dinner: hamburgers; brats; side dishes, and desert. Also Robert, N8RLG, has volunteered to serve as mentor/consultant for an inexperienced volunteer to guide them through the process. This will greatly simplify the task. Also, Robert has volunteered to cook the pancake breakfast. The Food Service Director will only be responsible for putting on the Saturday dinner. The other two positions, Antenna Crew Chief and Transportation Crew Chief, are also very important but require less advance preparation, but we also need them ASAP.

Any member wishing to volunteer for any of these positions please contact me at: tromito99@gmail.com

Chairman	Tony WA8AR
Co-Chairman	Mike KB8TUY
Safety Officer	Karen N8HUC
Public Info. Officer	Tom WB8LCD
On-Site PIO & Media Table	Tom KB8UUZ
Antenna Crew Chief	open
Transport Crew Captain	open
IT Managers	Steve K8SRR
	Zeb KD8WZS

CW Station Captain	George K3GP
Flex Station Captain	Rick K8CAV
VHF Station Captain	Mike KB8TUY
20 Meter Station Captain	Erica AE8YL
40 Meter Station Captain	Ed K8IV
GOTA Station Captain	Jim AC8NT
Power Team Captain	James KD8VT
Food Service Dir.	open
Educational Program	Jim AC8NT

Food Service Director: Responsible for putting on the Saturday dinner. This is a key position as dinner is a big social element of Field Day for PCARS and of course we need to keep those operators fed so they have the fuel to make all those contacts!

Antenna Crew Chief: Responsible for assembling a team of volunteers to put up all of the station antennas for Field Day. This was a new position we added last year and it worked out very well with all antennas ready for operation by about 12:30, well before the FD start time of 2 pm. I have a document that this years crew chief can use as a guide.

Transportation Crew Chief: This is a new position this year. The crew chief will be responsible for assembling a small team to load the box truck that brings all the equipment to the FD site. Considering the distance to the FD site we just can't afford to leave any equipment behind. In the past we just put out a general call for volunteers to show up and help. We need to have a specific crew list that we can count on to be there. The crew chief also needs to coordinate closely with the station captains so there is a good manifest of items that must go on the truck.



Field Day CW Operators Wanted



George, K3GP
Field Day CW Captain

Only three months remain until we once again will be at the field day site. It is time for interested CW operators to make plans to pound the brass for K8BF.

Here is the first draft of our CW operating schedule:

PRELIMINARY 2018 PCARS CW STATION OPERATOR SCHEDULE

Day	Time	Operator	Logger
Saturday June 23	14:00 – 16:00	Could be YOU	
	16:00 – 18:00	Could be YOU	
	18:00 – 20:00	W5OV - Bob Naumann	W5OV - Bob Naumann
	20:00 – 22:00		
	22:00 – 00:00	K3GP - George Proudfoot	K3GP - George Proudfoot
Sunday June 24	00:00 – 02:00		
	02:00 – 04:00	K8AAV - Rod Ehrhart	K8AAV - Rod Ehrhart
	04:00 – 06:00		
	06:00 – 08:00	Could be YOU	
	08:00 – 10:00	Could be YOU	
	10:00 – 12:00	Could be YOU	
	12:00 – 14:00	Could be YOU	

At this time, the above schedule is completely flexible and subject to revision. Please let me know if you can fill one or more of the two hour slots at the CW position! You can contact me by email at: k3gp@neo.rr.com



Idaho QSO Party - K8BF #1 - It Pays to Send In Your Log !!!

Idaho QSO Party 2018 Recap from the Idaho QSO Party Chairman - Ed, AI7H

This is “lucky year 13” for the modern Idaho QSO Party. Our participation was the same as last year, but with a better QSO count. And just like last year, it was challenging to make the QSO’s due to our position in the 11-year sunspot cycle. (Totals: 33 US States, 3 Canadian Provinces, 12 Idaho Counties submitted logs.

No DX logs were received, and only a few Idaho stations reported working DX stations).

We again tracked the event-to-log receipt time and found that “almost everyone” submitted their logs within three days, and ALL logs were received within a three weeks! This is hugely appreciated.

As in previous years, we have some quirks in submissions (typically caused by the way computer-based logging programs calculate their scores). All logs are carefully “hand checked”, and we calculate scores by the method specified in the event rules. The principal “quirks” are as follows:

Some Idaho stations submitted each Idaho County they worked as a new entity or “multiplier”. Nope, Idaho is just another state, and we only get credit for Idaho once during the event.

The “claimed score” will differ from the “reported score” for all stations who operated mixed-mode, with SSB as one of the modes. This ties back to the score calculation methodology. Seems like modern math, but it’s not. Any station that has a question regarding his/her score is welcome to send a note to the log submission page and we’ll help you sort it out. And remember, it’s a Party, not a Contest. We are ever-so-pleased to receive EVERY log, whether you made one QSO or 10,000!



The Idaho QSO Party Sponsoring Club is changing this year. Future parties will be sponsored by the Treasure Valley Radio Association (TVRA), located in Payette, ID. A few of us from the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS) will stay on as “consultants” for IDQP 2019. Thanks to all who attended our party this year, we thoroughly enjoyed having you stop by! You’re invited to attend again next year, beginning 9 MAR 2019 at 1900Z. 73 and good hamming to you, from all of us at the Idaho QSO Party!

Ed AI7H

Low Power, Multi-Operator (1 Station Reporting)

Call	Loc	Total Score	Mults	QSO Count			QSO Score	Power	Operators/Mode
				PH	CW	DIGI			
K8BF	OH	9	3	3			3	Low	SSB. Ops- K8CAV,N8QE,WA8US

Ducie Island 2018 DXpedition Plans for this Fall



The Perseverance DX Group (PDXG) reports that its plans to activate the protected marine area of Ducie Island from October 20 to November 3, 2018 are starting to jell. The last Ducie Island DXpedition was VP6DX in 2008. Ducie is currently the 21st most-wanted DXCC entity, according to Club Log. The 2018 DXpedition would operate as VP6D. A team of 15 operators will be on the island for up to 14 days, departing from Mangareva,

French Polynesia, aboard the expedition ship Braveheart. Seven operating positions are planned for 160 through 10 meters, SSB, CW, and digital, including FT8. VP6D has added 6-meter Earth-Moon-Earth to the mix and hopes to make the first-ever 6-meter moonbounce contacts from Ducie Island.

"The logistics plan is coming together," the team announced on February 8. "Our equipment will be consolidated in Fremont, California, for testing, packaging, and shipment to the Braveheart in New Zealand." The team reported that the antennas planned include 2-element vertical dipole arrays on the high bands backed up by a couple of horizontal beams; 4-squares on 30 and 40 meters, and verticals on 80 and 160. Top Band receive antennas are still under development.

A grant from the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) as well as contributions from other DX organizations, are helping to fund the adventure.

It's believed that this would be the fourth DXpedition to Ducie Island. An uninhabited atoll, Ducie Island is a British Overseas Territory in the Pitcairn Islands in the South Pacific. Direct questions to Team Ducie. <https://www.vp6d.com/>



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.

June 2nd, June 23rd at Field Day, 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 K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Do Elmers Have an Elmer?

Terry, KB8AMZ



The source of some of my articles stems from conversations with club members and topics discussed. Some topics discussed come from new members and some from salty members. While at the club site the question came up to was about terms used in communications like where did 73 and 88 originate. Jim Wilson was standing close by and I asked if he knew, thinking I might stump him, he answered that he didn't know but he would research it and write an article for the Radiogram. Another topic was where did the term "Elmer" come from and why wasn't it "Harry" or "Fred" or "Louise"? No one present could answer the question. I said I would research it and submit an article for the Radiogram.

Where did the term "Elmer" originate?

First, the definition of an Elmer is, someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams. This definition first appeared in our A.R.R.L. publication QST in March 1971 article "How's DX". The author of this piece was Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (also using VA3ZBB). In Newkirk's article were a couple phrases describing the woes of a despondent person that had just failed the entry level amateur radio license test. "Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away I kind of lost interest.'"

Apparently other hams began using 'Elmer' around the world and the new tag stuck. The term "Elmer" is not very old but the concept is older. What name was used to describe those hams that helped other become hams were probably just common descriptors like friend, helper, tutor, coach, etc.



Raise your hand if you were aware that there is an award for "Elmer's". I can't raise my hand. I learned only from this research of the award. It is known as the Elmer Award, 'catchy isn't it?' and you can send or present someone with an Elmer Award certificate from the Amateur Radio Relay League. I AM NOT SOLICITING ANYONE FOR A CERTIFICATE! If you go to the ARRL Elmer Award page on the Internet you can read just above where you enter your Elmer's information and your information all about the certificate.

So, in closing, "Do Elmer's have an Elmer?" **Yes**, emphatically. We, the PCARS members, have a great club. Why? Because we all participate and help each other. Therefore in some cases we are Elmers helping Elmers.

Best 73. If you want to comment about this article then pull me aside the next time we are face-to-face and talk about it. My best feature about this hobby is that I am a gabber mouth.



Net Night at the Club Site - April

Tom, WB8LCD



April's "Net Night" was a good night to enjoy the company of other PCARS members and to celebrate our club being chosen as the 2018 Hamvention Club of the Year! Our attendance was up, and believe me, if you went home hungry, you must have been somewhere else. We had cake, ice cream, way too much pizza, cheese balls, pretzels, and of course, your choice of beverages.



A few of the guys from the Communications Unit participated in their net at 7:00 PM, from the club site. It was a digital net, so it was a good opportunity to witness how a net works in the digital format. The PCARS net followed, with Amy – KD8SKL – as net control. We appreciate everyone who checks into the regular PCARS Thursday night nets, and we invite you to stop out at Net Night at the Club Site on the 4th Thursday of every month. (Sorry, cake and pizza not always available)



Amy also had a "Net Night" word find puzzle for us. Russ NR8W, was the first contestant to correctly complete the puzzle. Congratulations Russ!



After the net, and another sitting of snacks, Tom – WB8LCD talked about why PCARS came into existence in the first place. Having BIG FUN with the amateur radio hobby has been, and always will be, the primary goal of the club. The other point he made was, that even from the very beginning, we realize that the success of PCARS, now and on into the future, is the responsibility of EVERY member of the club. Sure, the big things we do are what get the most attention, but, it's the little things that really make us stand out as an exceptional club – and that's where you come in.

Showing up is the least you can do – because you are missed when you stay home! Everyone wants to be a part of "something", and without you being there it's hard to present the image that something is going on. Want to take that up a notch – with no commitment? Be friendly! Make it your personal responsibility to welcome everyone, individually, to any PCARS event you are at. A smile, a kind word and maybe a handshake is all it takes to give someone a better feeling about attending a PCARS function. Multiply that by 5, 10, or even 20, and now the person on the receiving end, whether a long time member, or a first time visitor, has the feeling that he/she is welcome and among a group of friends! One last thing that anyone can do, with o commitment: Say Thank You. Especially to outside speakers who have come to give a presentation to the club, but also to the officers, and to each other.

I hope you are as proud of PCARS as I am to have received the honor of being chosen as the club of the year. I believe that after achieving an award like that, there is only one thing left to do – take it to the next level that no one has even considered yet! Thank you all for making PCARS the outstanding amateur radio club that it is. There's a lot more we can do. Let's do it all together and make PCARS better than ever!

Net Night at the Club Site - April - Photos



PCARS Trivia Word Find



T	S	A	L	B	O	H	K	O	W
G	R	P	O	P	B	L	A	C	K
S	E	A	T	W	A	4	2	1	B
E	P	W	Z	8	Y	2	0	9	U
E	E	N	U	F	L	7	0	0	T
D	A	T	U	F	W	3	5	0	T
T	T	N	8	C	A	R	P	S	6
W	E	L	B	G	R	A	M	E	8
O	R	I	K	E	D	F	I	V	E
C	A	F	X	P	L	A	N	T	S



1. The current President of PCARS' call sign is _____.
2. On April 21st, the PCARS tower was dedicated to founding member, Jim _____.
3. The PCARS newsletter is the Radio _____.
4. What year was the club established? _____.
5. Very important founding club member's call sign: -. -... -... ..- ..- ...
6. How many Thursday Night nets are in the month of May? _____
7. In addition to being an all around great guy, K8IV owns PCARS' _____.
8. The year PCARS became ARRL Affiliated was _____.
9. The color of the PCARS mammal mascot _____.
10. PCARS is the club that puts the _____ in Ham Radio.

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!!

PCARS QST's - Some Interesting Facts

As we develop the new PCARS QST Mail system, there are some facts that can be looked at concerning the emails sent out to all PCARS members. The new system is called Constant Contact. PCARS can send out QST notices to all members who have an up-to-date e-mail address on file with the Club Secretary (WB8LCD).

Constant Contact gives us statistics on the effectiveness of the emails we send out. We have been looking at these over the last few QST mail sends.

- We have never had more than 53% of the address list open the email. You would have expected much higher. Especially when people have been complaining that they don't get a PCARS QST.....
- When we attach a link (To newsletter or other file), less than 23% click the link.
- Using our current list, we have received zero bounces indicating an error in delivery. So that means those that are on the list are in fact getting the QST e-mails.



We didn't have these stats using the prior system, so we can't compare systems.



Battery Box

John, KD8MQ



Well, I have a couple projects in the works here in Alliance. My repair of the TA-33jr (HF Beam) was ready to test when winter decided to arrive, bringing with it snow and rain. I had been out shopping for plans for building an ark, when just as suddenly, spring arrived last week.

So, I'll write about the repairs to the TA33jr sometime in the next few months. But today, I had a more pressing project that had to be addressed in the workshop.

Last fall, I planned a POTA (Parks On The Air - <https://parksontheair.com/>) activation at Quail Hollow State Park in Hartville. In spite of my careful preparation, I found a major flaw in my Portable power system. My Rigrunner was in a horrible location. I had mounted it to the side cargo compartment wall in the back of the Jeep. When my mobile antenna is attached to the bumper hitch, it's inconvenient to open the rear hatch. This means that I'm fumbling in the dark to plug the radio into the Rigrunner. Yep, I plugged my HF rig in wrong. The Powerpole connector is a great invention, and absolutely cannot be plugged in backwards. It can, however, be plugged in wrong.



This might not have been an issue, except that I had already connected the mobile antenna to the HF rig. When I plugged the negative connector of the power cable into the positive output of the Rigrunner, it found a ground via the Mobile antenna system. This blew the under-hood 30A fuse protecting the circuit, and blew a surge protector inside the Battery isolator. Obviously, a better mounting location had to be found!



I considered purchasing a battery box, and modifying it to hold my portable batteries, the isolator, and the Rigrunner. But, in a flash of "inspiration", combined with old fashioned thriftiness, I opted instead to modify a milk crate to hold everything. The crate also had room enough to mount the V/UHF mobile rig.

The accompanying pictures show what I came up with. The hinged shelf holds the isolator, and Rigrunner. It swings open to expose storage for the batteries. My current portable power system consists of a pair of 17AH Sealed Lead Acid batteries. I'm hoping to upgrade to a newer (lighter) type of system this year.

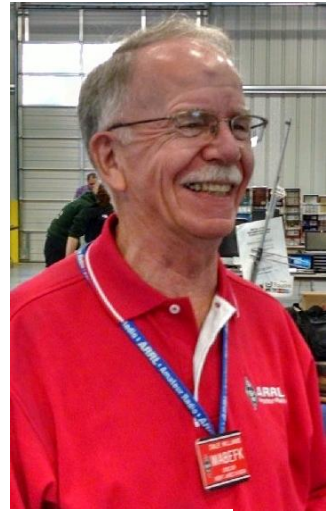
The battery box also has room for storing the 110V inverter. It will be moved to the outside of the box, and permanently wired into the system someday.

My next activation should have taken place by the time you read this. I'm definitely looking forward to being able to see what I'm plugging my rig into.

This was a low-tech, but workable solution to my problem. I'll be adding more features to the battery box as time goes on. The next project will be LED lighting for the box, and the entire cargo area. I'll be prowling Hamvention this year, looking for deals on LED strips. Stay tuned!

Dale's Tails - The QSL Bureau

Dale, WA8EFK
ARRL
Great Lakes Division Director



A word about our QSL Bureaus. Two Bureaus serve the Great Lakes division as we fall into two different call areas, 4-Land and 8-Land. Each bureau operates slightly differently, but each provided the same service, getting our foreign QLS delivered to us. NO, it is not totally automatic; you must provide the bureaus with postage and/or envelopes to get your cards delivered. Each group will let you know the method they prefer. Still it all works very well and we owe a debt of

gratitude to the many folks that work together to make this happen.

Basically, it typically works like this: the incoming cards are received at a central point for the respective call areas and are then sorted and bulk shipped to "Letter Managers". The Letter Manager completes the sorting process and stuffs the cards into individual envelopes we supply and mails them to us when enough cards have been accumulated.



Sounds simple but keep in mind that there is an individual letter manager for the first letter in the suffix of the recipient's call. Mine is the "E" manager for example. 10 call areas times 26 letters means as many as 260 people sorting across the USA and each Letter Manager may have a couple hundred envelopes on hand. They really do deserve some thanks, don't they?

To learn more about the QSL Bureau service in the Great Lakes Division check out the 8th Bureau, which has its own web page at: http://arrrl-greatlakes.org/8th_bureau.htm

Special Event Station - PCARS

To celebrate the Portage County Amateur Radio Service as being honored with the **Hamvention® 2018 Club of the Year** award, PCARS will have K8BF on the air for a special event on June 14th.

We'll be operational from 14 June 1400 UTC until 15 June 0200 UTC (14 June 10 am ET to 10 pm ET) from the club site in Ravenna.

For stations contacting K8BF, there will be a QSL card and Certificate available to commemorate this special event.

Information has been sent to ARRL and CQ Magazine and will be in the June issues. The listing is already posted on the ARRL web site.

More details will be out in the June issue of *The RADIOGRAM*. It's going to be **BIG FUN !!!!!!!!!**



Contest University 2018

Contest University

Tim, K3LR
CTU Chairman



Still Time to Sign Up for Dayton Contest University

Student registration remains open for the 2018 Contest University (CTU), Thursday, May 17, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Dayton, Ohio - the day before Hamvention® in Xenia.

The all-day session for contesting veterans and newcomers will touch on all aspects of Amateur Radio contesting.

Thu, May 17, 2018
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Dayton, Ohio USA

CTU scholarships (registration fee paid) are available through a grant from the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) for students age 25 and younger. Contact CTU for more information.

Registrants who have given (or will give) a Hamvention presentation or who have given a hamfest or group presentation on Amateur Radio since May 17, 2017, may qualify for a \$10 registration fee discount. Choose the "Registration with Club Talk Discount."

CTU sponsors including Icom America, DX Engineering, the Northern California DX Foundation, The Yasmie Foundation, the Radio Club of America, and CQ Magazine. The May 2018 session will mark the 12th consecutive year for CTU Dayton.

More information is on the CTU website. <https://www.contestuniversity.com/>

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



Ham Radio 2.0 at Hamvention®



Look for “Ham Radio 2.0 — Innovation and Discovery” at Hamvention®

The Yasmé Foundation (<http://www.yasme.org/>) will sponsor “Ham Radio 2.0 — Innovation and Discovery,” which Foundation President Ward Silver, N0AX, describes as “a deliberately low-structure affair, affectionately dubbed ‘2.0 Row’” that’s intended to be a gathering spot for innovative groups and organizations.

The IARU Region 1 group Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) will set up in this area, staffed by Florian Zwingl, OE3FTA, of Austria, and Koos Fick, ZR6KF, of South Africa. “We are hoping to spark an interest in YOTA here in Region 2,” suggested Silver. The annual Region 1 YOTA conference for 2018 will be held in South Africa this coming August.

Representatives of the HamSCI (Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation) group will be adjacent to the Yasmé Foundation’s booth. Along with the HamSCI Forum, researchers and participants in HamSCI will be making short presentations in the 2.0 Row area. A schedule will be posted on the HamSCI website. Results of the recent Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP) and some of the papers it generated will be on display as well.

Other organizations located in the Volta Building (Building 4) near the entrance to the Flea Market will include FIRST Robotics and Hamvention’s Youth Tech area, just across the walkway. NSIradio will be exhibiting software-defined radio equipment by Expert Electronics. The Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers (SARA) will be co-located with the NASA Radio JOVE exhibit. Stop by to learn about how a radio amateur and amateur astronomer, Scott Tilley, VA7TIL, of British Columbia, discovered that a long-dead satellite had returned to life.

Here is the planned schedule of topics and speakers:

Friday	Speaker(s)	Location
Open Research Institute	Michelle Thompson, W5NYV	HR2.0
Ray Tracing & the SEQP	Josh Vega, WB2JSV	HamSCI
SatNOGS Automated Stns	Pierros Papadeas, SV1QVE	HR2.0
Personal Space Weather Stn	Ward Silver, N0AX	HamSCI
NPOTA - First Steps	Laura Steinberger, WZ8C	HR2.0
The FT8 Advantage	Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA	HamSCI
AMSAT Fox & Golf Satellites	TBD	HR2.0
Internet Telegraph	Scott Cowling, WA2DFI	HR2.0

Saturday	Speaker(s)	Location
SOTA	Keith Schlottman, KR7RK	HR2.0
WSJT Modes	Ria Jairam, N2RJ/Dave Fisher, NX6D	HR2.0
ARDF with LIDAR data	Matt Robbins, AA9YH	HR2.0
SuperDARN Eclipse Results	Magda Moses, KM4EGE	HamSCI
ARHAB Balloon Data	Bill Brown, WB8ELK	HR2.0
DX Display and HARC Dbase	Bill Engelke, AB4EJ	HamSCI
K1NSS and Cool QSLs	Jeff Murray, K1NSS	HR2.0
Software Defined Radar	Bob McGwier, N4HY	HamSCI

The schedule and session times will be posted on the HamSCI website (<http://hamsci.org/>).

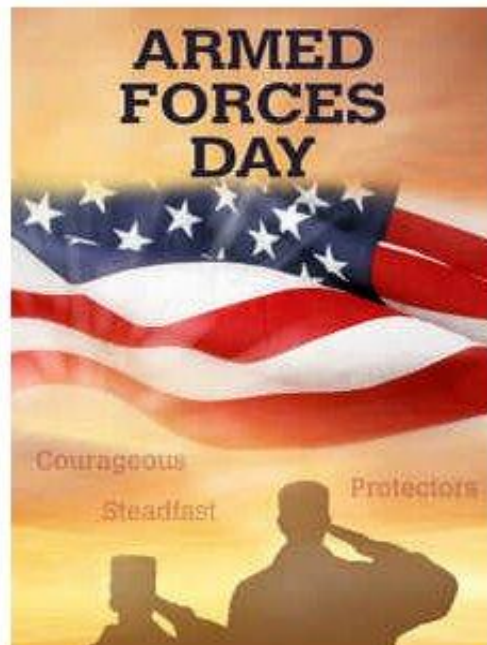
“I encourage Hamvention visitors to stop by and leave a QSL card,” Silver said. “We invite college clubs to hang their colors, makers and builders to demonstrate their latest projects, vendors and individuals to put on short demonstrations, and for everyone to make connections and friends. There will also be some short presentations interleaved with presentations by HamSCI researchers. We hope to see a lot of new faces at 2.0 Row!”

Armed Forces Crossband Day

From the ARRL

Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Communication Test Set for Saturday, May 12

The Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) will sponsor the traditional military/amateur radio communication tests to mark the 67th annual Armed Forces Day (AFD) on Saturday, May 12. Armed Forces Day is May 19, but the AFD Crossband Military-Amateur Radio event traditionally takes place 1 week earlier in order to avoid conflicting with Hamvention. Complete information, including military stations, modes, and frequencies, is available on the US Army MARS website.



The annual celebration is a unique opportunity to test two-way communication between radio amateurs and military stations (authorized under §97.111 of the Amateur Service rules). It features traditional military-to-amateur crossband SSB voice, CW, practice using legacy interoperability waveforms, and the opportunity for participating hams to utilize more modern military modes, such as MIL-STD Serial PSK and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). Military stations and Amateur Radio stations are authorized to communicate directly on certain 60-meter interoperability channels.

These tests give Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners (SWLs) a chance and a challenge to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly-controlled exercise scenario, and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station. QSL cards will be available for stations successfully contacting participating military stations.

Military stations will transmit (USB, unless otherwise noted on the schedule) on selected military frequencies and will announce the specific amateur frequencies they are monitoring. MARS stressed that frequencies used for the test will not impact any public or private communications and will not stray outside the confines of the exercise.



An Armed Forces Day test message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) Serial PSK waveform (M110) followed by MIL-STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY), as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. Technical information regarding these waveforms is available. The AFD test message will also be sent at 0300 UTC in CW.

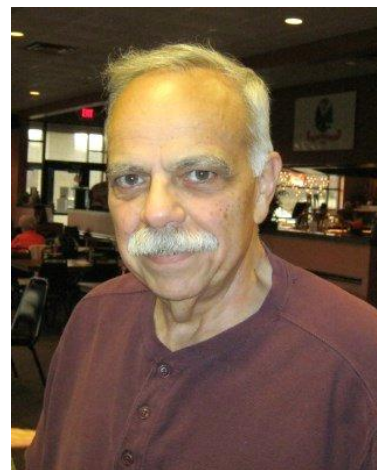
Those who want a QSL should complete the request form on the MARS website.



Antenna SIG

Tony, WA8AR

The Antenna SIG meets in the PCARS club site radio room on the third Tuesday of every month. The April meeting will be held on 5/15/18. **THIS MONTH** the meeting time is being changed to 7:30 PM in order to accommodate a Field Day Staff meeting to be held earlier. 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. Although we will generally have a designated monthly discussion topic please feel free to bring in any antenna related problem to the meeting and discuss it with the group.



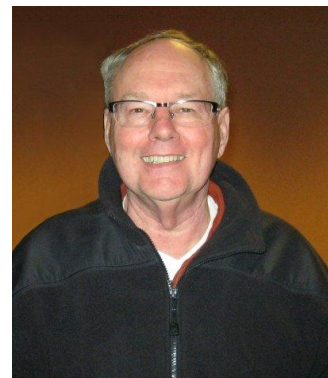
This month I will be demonstrating the ACE HF propagation modeling software. I have been using this software for several years, in part, to predict DX openings to various states and foreign DX targets, with a fair degree of success. This is just a model of a complex open natural system, so you should not expect predictions to be perfect, but as you will see it is useful. Come check it out. I am also just starting to use the 4NEC2 antenna modeling software to develop custom antenna data for input into the ACE HF propagation software.

Please note that the PCARS QST email system is functioning better (100% ??). Please watch for PCARS QST announcements regarding all Special Interest Groups. **BUT ALWAYS** check the PCARS web site for ASIG updates or last minute cancellations before going to the club site for a meeting.

73

Jim, AC8NT

During the Open House Terry, KB8AMZ asked if I knew where the term 73 originated. I told him I didn't know but I would find out. On the way home I remembered a friend of my father's that was once a telegraph repeater operator for



73
seven-three

the phone company talking about the Phillips Code. As most of you know I have a lot of mostly useless stuff running around in my head, but sometimes it becomes useful. I checked the Internet and verified what I remembered.

Phillips Codes were short hand codes similar to our use of Q codes. They were used by telegraphers to shorten messages. These were collected starting in 1859 and were later documented by the U.S. Navy. For instance, 92 meant "delivered", 22 meant "love and kisses" and 73 meant "my compliments". Later, for some reason I can't find 22 was changed to 88, the current "Love and Kisses".

If you would like to see a more comprehensive list of these codes I refer you to the following website:
<http://www.signalharbor.com/73.html>

I hope that answers the question and provides the rest of you with some ham trivia. Also in the past these codes were used by reporters in articles that would be sent by telegraph. Until the 1970's reporters still ended copy with 30, meaning "no more".
Sooooooooo 73 and 30

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 !!



May	
3	KB8TUY
10	KA8TOA
17	KE8BWA
24	KB8UHN
31	KB8UUZ

June	
7	WB8LCD
14	KE8BWA
21	KB8TUY
28	K8IV

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: KA8TOA@portcars.org

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

TEN CONSECUTIVE CHECK-INS IN A ROW - Yes, You too can get one of these **Beautiful, Suitable for Framing Certificates** for checking into the PCARS Thursday Night Nets. Look how happy that **JC, KC3JXQ - Eddy, KD8SOP** and **Deron, N8XTH** are about receiving their certificates
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Net Operators: Please 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.

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

Youth DX Adventure Donation

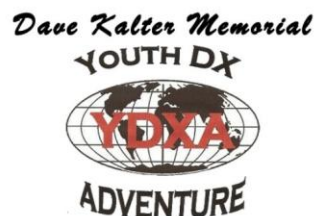


Jim AB9YK

Tom WB8LCD

Jim AC8NT

During the April PCARS meeting, Tom, WB8LCD presented a \$500.00 donation check to Jim Storms, AB8YK for the 2018 Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure (YDXA) program. The destination for the young operators this year will be in Curacao at the world famous contest station PJ2T.



Hmmmmmm - WASOO

Chuck, K8BBE

Many years ago, around 1964, I was working CW on 40 meters, using a single 6146 oscillator on 7173 KC, and an End Fed Zepp for the antenna. To work other bands, one MUST replace the coil to match the proper band, then adjust the capacitor for minimum power out. I also worked 80 meters, using an old modified Command transmitter on the novice band, along with the same antenna.

I was busy working stations on 40 CW, when a friend of mine called me on the telephone and said he just received his novice call and wanted me to be his first contact since he was nervous and to meet him on 80 meters. I told him that would be great, and proceeded to move my coax to my 80 meter transmitter, and tuned up.

HUMMMM It isn't tuning up properly but I apparently have RF going out.

While on the telephone, I told him to call me and I will reply. Hearing his signal, I replied: "RR OK Old Man. Thanks For Call. Your RST is 599. Name is Chuck. Location, Canton, Ohio BTU" Then turned it back to him.

This was all we sent, since he was so nervous in copying, so we chatted a bit on the telephone, and I went back to 40 meters.



Do you remember the loading of the 80 meter transmitter: HUMMMM It isn't tuning up properly but I apparently have some RF going out? Well, it did have RF out.

I received **TWO** Official Notice Letters from the FCC and **FIVE** Official OO reports for knocking down a military RTTY station on my harmonic. I forgot to change the coil on the End Fed Zepp tuner to 80 meters. They ALL must have had their ears on that RTTY station for that 45 second QSO I made.

Later, everyone was kidding me for trying to get the First **WASOO** award (Worked All States Official Observer award)



Maker Faires and Ham Radio

Jim, AC8NT



Last month (April 13th to be exact) PCARS again had a table at the Kent Mini Maker Faire. This was our third year at this event and each year we have met a lot of people and introduced them to ham radio. This year we are also planning to attend fairs at the Akron Public Library (our third year) and maybe the Cleveland Public Library.



Make magazine, the creator of Maker Faires, defines a Maker Faire as “Part science fair, part county fair, and part something entirely new, Maker Faire is an all-ages gathering of tech enthusiasts, crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, science clubs, authors, artists, students, and commercial exhibitors. All of these “makers” come to Maker Faire to show what they have made and to share what they have learned.” The XYL and I have seen a lot of different forms of making including building guitars from junk parts to a three story high hot wheels track.

Each year Maker Faires are held in many major cities all over the world. In the US we have large fairs in several large cities including New York, Detroit and San Francisco. These are major events often have attendance numbers over 100,000. The first of these events was held in April of 2006 at the San Mateo Fairgrounds in California. Along with these major events many hundreds of Mini Maker Faires are held at Universities, libraries and schools. These Mini Faires focus on local making activities.

Why is this important to Ham Radio? We need to remember that hams were some of the first makers. When I started in this hobby there were very few hams that had not built or modified at least some equipment including receivers, transmitters and most of all antennas. It has always been a very hands-on activity. We learned our skills from other hams, experimenting and reading books. We still “make”. At our club we have made antennas, full transceivers, computer projects, and even fixed toys. Maker Faires provide us with a great opportunity to show how hams are still makers and show people with very little



understanding of our hobby just how much fun you can we have learning, tinkering, inventing, building and using this equipment. That has been the goal of every setup we have made at one of these events.

There is another important reason for attending these events. A huge variety of people and ages visit these events to learn about new ways of making. We see all ages from youngsters to retired. We see people that would normally never visit one of our events and may have never heard of ham radio. We meet people of all skills and skill levels. This provides us the opportunity to create a broader base of membership covering a broader range of ages. Something we all know we need. At this year's Kent event I met an artist who loved to meet new people and we had a great conversation about all the people you can meet all over the world with ham radio. She was also one of the millions that thought you still needed to learn Morse to pass your test. When her classes finish this summer she would like to get her license, especially since no code test is required. These are people that just don't often show up at hamfests or our other events.

So as the Akron (September 29th) and Cleveland (November) events come closer, please consider helping us with our participation.



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Hello to all PCARS DXers:

Well, the WX has not changed from last month since the rain has continued most days of every week. Even now, as I write this, it's raining with more promised in the next day or so. I sure hope that Mother Nature throws the sunshine switch come May.

If you are like me, you have some outdoor projects that you have to get to and all this rain is really not helping. I've got antenna work to do not to mention yard work that needs to be done now that the rain has caused the grass to grow. I guess all will happen in good time, but not necessarily in the time I'd like it to happen.

It would be somewhat more tolerable if the bands were cooperating but they too, have decided to die back. Even 20m has been quieter than usual. There are quite a few DX possibilities coming up but we will have to hope that propagation will favor us.

So let's take a look at what will be happening DXwise in the coming 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, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, WB6Z, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, EI9FBB, ES1CW, F5NQL, F5UFX, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, G3SWH, GW0ANA, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, MW1CFN, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, RSGB, S50U, Sixitalia Weekly, and VA3RJ & ICPO for the following DX information.

And as always, this report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations 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.

3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND. Members of the ARRA [FR4KM] Association Réunionnais des Radio Amateurs Radio Club will be active as 3B9RUN from Rodrigues Is. (AF-017) between May 11-16th. Operators mentioned are Jacky/FR4NP, Bruno/FR4PF, Emile/FR4PM, Jean/FR5CB and Bernard/FR5FC. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB and FT8. Equipment will be 2x Icom 7000 and 1x Kenwood TS480 with a 500w amp into a Hexbeam and a DX88 vertical. QSL via EA7FTR, direct or ClubLog. See QRZ.com for updates.

5U, NIGER. Torbjon, SM7RME, is expected to be active as 5U7R from Niamey. The length of his stay is not known. Activity will be during his spare time on various HF bands. QSL via SM7EHU.

5V, TOGO. (Reminder) John, N9MDH, will be active as 5V1JE from Lomé until end of May 2018, more or less. Activity will be on 80-10 meters (he likes the 30m band) using SSB and the Digital modes. He will use an ICOM IC-7300 transceiver into a Gap Titan antenna. QSL via eQSL or LoTW.

6Y, JAMAICA. Armin, DK9PY, active as 6Y6N from St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, between May 23rd and June 6th. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands (160-10m) using CW only. He will be active from Josh's, 6Y5WJ, station, and will participate in the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op entry. QSL via his home call sign.

9H, MALTA. Thomas, SV2CLJ, active as 9H3SV from the QTH of Savas, 9H1AE, at Sliema, Malta (EU-023), May 24-31st. Activity will be holiday style on 80-2 m using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and FT8. QSL via his home callsign direct.

9K, KUWAIT. Abdallah, 9K2GS, will be active as 9K2K during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via EC5AC or LoTW.

A5, BHUTAN. YL operators Kay/WA0WOF/A52YLE and Mio/JR3MVF/A52YLM will be active as A52YL from Dochula Eco Retreat in Bhutan between April 29th and May 5th. They will be joined by OM operators Junichi/JH3AEF/A52AEF and Jusei/JA3IVU/A52IVU mainly to help and with limited operating. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Suggested frequencies are around: 3537, 3798, 7100, 10100, 14175, 18118, 21225, 24940, 28850 and 52.00 kHz. QSL A52YL and A52YLE only via WA0WOF or LoTW. QSL A52YLM via JR3MVF. QSL A52IVU via JA3IVU, by the Bureau or direct. QSL A52AEF via JH3AEF, by the Bureau or direct.

C8, MOZAMBIQUE (Reminder). Members of the Lion DX Team (OT8T) will be active as C8T from Mozambique between May 2-15th, 2018. Operators mentioned are Kurt/ON8KW (Team Leader), Roger/ON7TQ (Co-Leader), Bruno/CS7ABG (Co-Leader), Paulo/CU2CO, Emil/DL8JJ, Ron/ON1DX, Philippe/ON4ACP, Marc/ON4AMX, Erik/ON4CCV, Olivier/ON4EI, Hermann/ON4QX, Ivo/ON5CD, Cis/ON6LY and Franky/ON7RU. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY, and possibly other Digital modes (PSK, FT8). They have permission to do 60m and will also do 2m-EME. The setup will consist of 4 stations on the air for 24 hours and a fifth station for 2m EME + 60m and extra digimodes on all bands. QSL Manager has not been named, but it looks like they will be using ClubLog. Look for more details to be forthcoming. Visit their Web page at: <https://mozambique2018.wordpress.com>

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Operators Bruce/AD7MM (E51BAS), Marilyn/KI7DLK, Doug/W6HB (E51DLD) and Peter/WA6HXM will be active from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) between May 13-25th. Activity will be holiday style on 160-10 meters, and operating from E51AND and E51KC QTHs (also possibly from E51JD, E51BQ and E51CG QTHs). QSL via their home call signs direct (see QRZ.com).

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Bob, NC6Q, will be active as E51NCQ from Rarotonga Island (OC-013) between May 13-25th. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, with 100 watts and wire antennas. QSL via his home call sign.

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Walter, HB9XBG, will be active as FO/HB9XBG from Bora Bora Island (OC-067) between June 7-17th. Activity will be on 20 meters SSB. QSL via his home call sign.

FOC NEWS. Iain, M0PCB, FOC Activity Coordinator, informs: In May 2018 the First Class CW Operators Club, FOC, will be celebrating its 80th anniversary. Between May 1-31st, FOC members from around the world will be active on the bands with CW with special call signs, many of them containing the number '80' or an 'FOC' suffix. Points will be awarded for working these special calls. The challenge is being run as a leader board on ClubLog, and your ranking in the leader board determines the award level you achieve. To see the full rules, a list of active stations and how to claim the award, please see: <https://www.g4foc.org/foc80>

GB4, WALES (Special Event). Members of the Barry Amateur Radio Society will be active from "Her Majesties Royal Mint" at Llantrisant, South Wales, UK, signing GB4RME (Royal Mint Experience) between June 1st and 2nd. PLEASE NOTE: This event is for two days only. The Theme is "Covert Radio as used in WW2". At the same time the Royal Mint will be releasing a new British 10p coin showing that legendary "Special Agent 007". Activity will be on CW, SSB, DATA JT8, plus Satellite operations. QSL via GW0ANA, direct, by the Bureau, and LoTW. For added info, see: Mint Web -- [https://www.royalmint.com/the-royal-mint-experience-007 Coin](https://www.royalmint.com/the-royal-mint-experience-007-Coin) -- <https://www.royalmint.com/our-coins/great-british-coin-hunt/silver-proof/bond-silver-proof>

H4, SOLOMON ISLANDS (Update). Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as H44XG from Honiara, Solomon Islands, between June 21-27th. Activity will be limited due to business/holiday style on 40/30/20/15/10 meters using mainly CW, sometimes FT8. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog OQRS or LoTW. For more details and updates, see: <http://island.geocities.jp/h44xg>

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN (WWFF Op). Operators Marc/PD7YY, Marcel/PG8M and Lars/PH0NO [(members of the YNOMY DX Group) will be active as HB0/PG8M and HB0/PH0NO from several different WWFF nature reserves between May 12-13th. Activity will be on 80-2 meters using CW, SSB and possibly some Digital modes. QSL via PD7YY. For more details, see: <http://www.ynomy.nl/2018/03/ynomy-goes-hb0-wwff-expedition.html>

JD1, OGASAWARA. (Reminder) Makoto, JI5RPT, will once again be active as JD1BLY from Chichijima Island (AS-031) between May 2-4th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (NO 6m EME). QSL via his home call sign JI5RPT. His log search will be available on his Web site at: <http://www.ji5rpt.com/jd1> He will also use Twitter to inform his real-time activities at: <http://twitter.com/jd1bly>

JW, SVALBARD. Erik, LA2US, will once again be active as JW2US from Bear Island (IOTA EU-027) for the next 4 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.

KH6, HAWAII. Philip, N2HX, will be active as KH6/N2HX from Maui (BL10pw) between May 2nd and June 1st. Activity will be holiday style using mostly SSB and RTTY. QSL via N2HX.

OT70, BELGIUM (Special Event). Look for special event station OT70NOL to be active on various bands using CW and SSB between May 1-31st. Activity is to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the UBA. A special QSL will be available.

PJ2, CURACAO. Savvas, SV2AEL, will be active as PJ2/SV2AEL from Curacao Island (SA-099) between May 10-15th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, direct, LoTW, eQSL or QRZ.com LogBook.

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>

ZB, GIBRALTAR. Mike, DF8AN, will be active as ZB2/DF8AN between May 17-21st. Activity will be only on 6m, 4m, 2m and 70cm, using CW and SSB. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau.

IOTA NEWS.....

AS-047. Operators Tak/JR1LZK and Mitsu/JE1HXZ will be active as home call/6 from **Kita Daito Island** between April 27th and May 7th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL via their home call signs, direct,

by the Bureau, ClubLog and LoTW.

AS-073. Luca, IK2PFL, will once again be active as 9M2/IK2PFL from **Perhentian Kecil Island**. This time, during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th), as a Single-Op/Island-DXpedition entry. Activity outside of the contest will be holiday style on 30-10 meters (possibly 40m) with a focus on the 30/17/12 meters using mainly CW. QSL via IK2PFL, direct or by the Bureau. For more details and updates, see: <http://www.stellemare.eu/wordpress/amateur-radio>

AS-201. DX-World team members (Col/MM0NDX, Max/IK8LOV, Björn/ON9CFG) will undertake their inaugural DXpedition to **Buyukada Island**, Turkey, between May 7-11th. Operating as TC0AX, they will be active holiday style on 80-2 meters, focusing on being happy and enjoying themselves with a view to contacting as many readers and friends of DX-World Web site as possible. QSL via M0SDV or LoTW. Logs will be uploaded to ClubLog.

EU-120. Eddie, GM0KLS, will be active as G0LKS from **Holy Island** during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th) as a Single-Op/12-Hrs/ High-Power entry. QSL via his home call sign.

NA-071. (Update) Members of the V.R.I. Association will be active as 3F6IC from **Cebaco Island** between May 4-6th. Operators mentioned are Victor/HP1AVS, Henry/HP1CDW, Enrique/HP1ECA, Roberto/HP1MRA, Romel/HP8MAK and HP1JGG. Activity will be on 80-10 meters, including 60 meters (5.357 MHz between 2230-2359z on May 4th and 5th), and using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via HP1AVS.

Well that's all I have for the coming month plus a few months out. Warm up the air waves and work some DX. Until next month, vry 73.

QRP, CW & Linux SIGs

Terry, KB8AMZ



CW/QRP SIG

The next SIG is scheduled for May 8, 2018 at 1900 EDT. All Amateur Radio Operators are invited to attend.

I will be discussing a couple purchase and buy kits for our next build project. If time permits we will try some OTA using straight key or iambic key for CW contacts, or perhaps some fellowship about the hobby.

Linux for Hams SIG

Hello fellow hams that use the Linux Operating System. The next SIG will be May 29, 2018 at 1900 EDT. All Amateur Radio Operators are invited but especially those that use the Linux or Unix operating system.

The topic of presentation this meeting will be CLI vs. GUI or Xwindows for completing simple tasks or running applications.

Be sure to bring your Raspberry Pi PC's along with keyboard, mouse or touchpad, and monitor so you can follow and perform along with me. I will use my RPi connected to the large monitor for everyone's viewing.

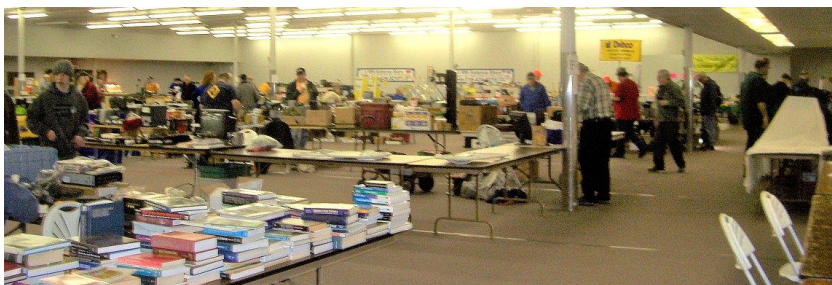


Hamfest Report - CFARC

Joe, W8KNO

April saw the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club annual Hamfest at the Emidio & Sons Party Center.

The event was larger than last year. The number of commercial vendors was up.



I even had the opportunity to check cards for new DXCC countries.



Plan to go next year, if it is anything like this year, it will be bigger and better!

Contest Calendars

May 2018	
Contest Name	Times - Date
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 5 to 0700Z, May 6
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 5 to 0400Z, May 6
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, May 5 to 2359Z, May 6
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 5 to 2400Z, May 6
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 26 to 2400Z, May 27

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
ARRL June VHF	1800Z, Jun 9 to 0300Z, Jun 11
NA QSO Party - RTTY	1800Z, Jul 21 to 0600Z, Jul 22
CQ WW VHF	1800Z, Jul 21 to 2100Z, Jul 22, 2018
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 25 to 0400Z, Aug 26
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 6 to 2159Z, Oct 7



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Package deal - If you're looking for a complete, no-tune 500-watt mobile (or home) station, this is it. All equipment is in excellent condition and worked the last time I put it on the air. If you want to use it as a home station, you'll need 2 additional separate power supplies (not included) to get on the air. I cannot sell separate pieces; all of the following must be sold as a package:

- ICOM 706mkIIg** (s/n: 1511093) with hand mic+ remote head connecting cord
- SG-500 amplifier**, fully transistorized, with SGC cooling fans attached (purchased in 2008; S/N 52963558)
- Tar Heel Model 40-A mobile antenna**, 1,000 watts capability, w/ 6-foot whip; works 40 through 10 m
- Ameritron AWM Mobile SWR/Wattmeter**
- Ameritron ARB 704 Interface Buffer**
- TuneMatic Model TM-1 Automatic Motorized Antenna Controller**

Total purchase price = \$1,790.00, payable in cash or bank check. Purchaser must pick up or pay shipping. The only reason I am selling is that I downsized my vehicle, and there is no room in my new one for all of the gear.

Contact Jack, K8HGX at: 330-995-0506 or email to: jack@alpernlaw.com [06/02/18]

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. It will be at the Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest if not sold by then.

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

FOR SALE: AMERITRON AL-82 LINEAR AMPLIFIER - \$1,500.00 With a pair of Eimac 3-500Z Tubes, puts out 1500 W with 100 W drive. Good Condition, wired for 240V, 160 through 10 meters including WARC bands. Weighs 80 pounds. Prefer local sale, can deliver up to 50 miles.



FOR SALE: YAESU FT-1000MP TRANSCEIVER - 100 W - AC VERSION - \$1,000.00 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.



FOR SALE: TEN-TEC CORSAIR TRANSCEIVER - 100 W WITH MATCHING POWER SUPPLY / SPEAKER COMBINATION \$250.00 Good Condition - superlative full break-in CW performance - good starter radio. Has optional narrow SSB and CW filters. Includes manual. Will not sell transceiver without power supply.



FOR SALE: HAMMARLUND HQ-129 VINTAGE RECEIVER - \$100.00 Good Condition commensurate with its age, fully functional. Completely re-capped, re-tubed and re-aligned 10 years ago.



FOR SALE: MFJ 259-B ANTENNA ANALYZER WITH CARRYING CASE- \$150.00 Good condition, fully functional, with manual. Covers 0.5 to 170 MHz in 6 ranges.



Contact George, K3GP at: 330-829-9504 after 6 PM Weekdays or Weekends [07/02/18]

WANTED: Junker D.B.G.M Telegraph Key Have a Junker D.B.G.M telegraph key laying around collecting dust? For the right price I would like to buy it.

Contact Terry, KB8AMZ at 330-221-0169 or by e-mail at:

hooked2u@neo.rr.com [07/02/18]



For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS members only benefit. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [06/02/18] indicates the ad will run until June 2, 2018.

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 65 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.

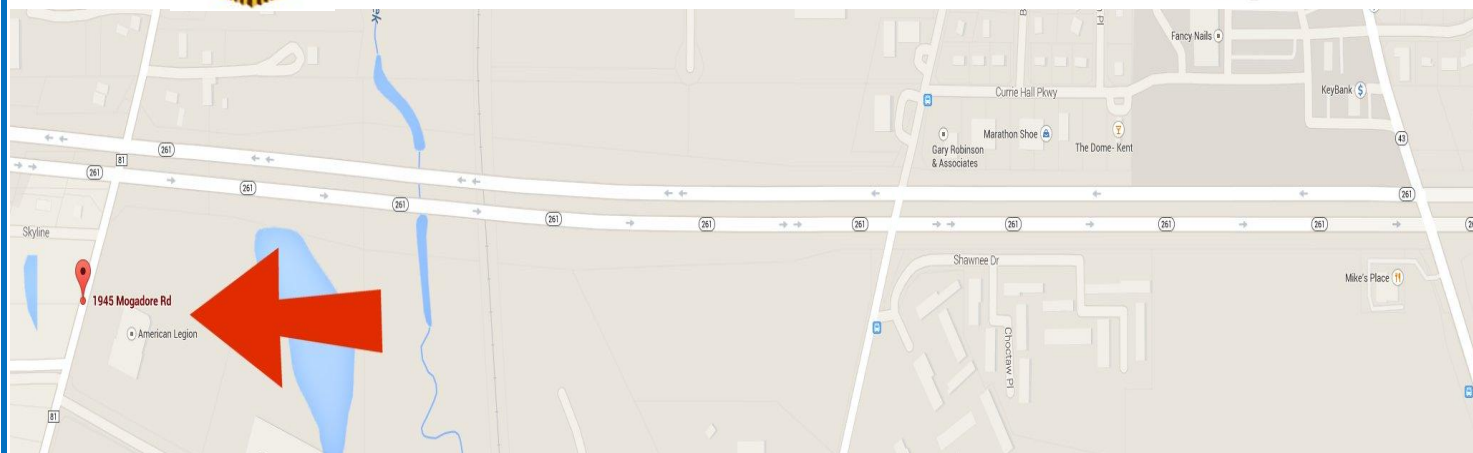


PCARS Meetings

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.

Photos from the PCARS Meeting in April





PCARS - April 9, 2018

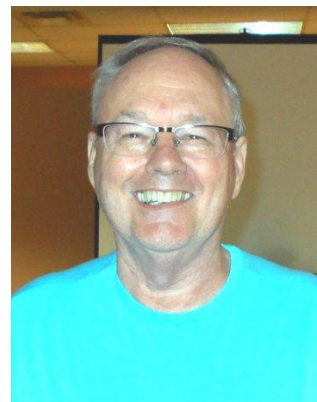


Idaho & Ohio QSO Party Certificates



A Short History of Ham Radio's Use of Space

Jim, AC8NT



I was talking to a couple of hams a few weeks ago about radio transmissions using objects in space. They thought it was great that ham radio operators have developed the technology necessary to not only use satellites, but also use EME. I said they had their history wrong. EME or moon bounce, has been possible since 1946 and we have only been able to use satellites since the 1960's. Moon bounce in 1946? Hams have used it since 1953. What was that all about? Now for a short history lesson.



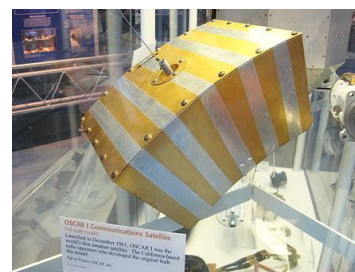
After the end of the World War II, the intelligence community in the US was very interested in listening to military radio traffic in the Soviet Union. One of the ideas that was floated around was to listen to stray signals originating from Russia that would bounce off the moon. This project was called project PAMOR (Passive Moon Relay). Because the total time to monitor a signal is limited to about 40 minutes per lunar pass, it did not work well at all. However, it did create the foundation for project DIANA.

Project DIANA was responsible for the development of a direct communication link between Hawaii and Washington DC using the moon as a relay point. The first communication using this system was made in January of 1946. This demonstration included the transmission of messages and even a picture. Only the Navy would have the crew of an aircraft carrier form into the words "Moon Bounce" on the deck for such a picture. Not bad for 3000 watts two huge fixed array towers and 40 minutes of play time.



Ham radio operators were not all far behind. In January of 1953, W3GKP to W4AO made the first amateur radio moon bounce echo. Just a "dot", but a great start. In 1960 the first two way QSO was made between W6AY and W1FZJ using 1296 MHZ. Since then, many hams including me have had the pleasure of these contacts.

It wasn't until December 1961 we had OSCAR 1 to play with. I know it only transmitted and all it transmitted was "HI" but I received that signal and it was a major event in my life. It was way too cool that it was designed to replace a weight used to balance the payload of Discoverer 36. Even though it only lasted 18 days, it was something we listened to over and over. Over 560 amateurs from 22 countries sent signal reports to the OSCAR project. OSCAR 3, the first ham satellite with a transponder, came along in March 1965, lasted only 18 days but over a hundred hams from 22 countries used it for QSOs. That was almost 5 years after the first ham moon QSO. And then 1983 gave us Dr. Owen K. Garriott, W5LFL on Space Shuttle flight STS-9. The first ham to communicate from space. Since then we have launched more satellites and almost every ISS mission has had at least one ham making and receiving calls from space.



Me, I am looking forward to talking to a ham on the moon or maybe Mars. I've had some serious fun making contacts with the far east using FT8 and JT65 and less than 5 watts. But it would be outstanding to make a 5-watt contact with someone on the moon. Don't you agree?

Important Dates in May

4th May, 2018 will be... Star Wars Day

May 4th has become commonly known as Star Wars Day. And who could be surprised? The words, “May the 4th” seem to beg the rest of the catchphrase be uttered. Regardless of whether you prefer Star Wars or Star Trek, or if are even a sci-fi aficionado at all, the influence of George Lucas’ Star Wars on pop culture is undeniable.



The History of Star Wars Day - Star Wars, an epic space opera written and directed by George Lucas, premiered in 1977 and became an almost instant cult classic. Even today, almost 40 years later, Star Wars remains one of the most financially successful films of all time. The franchise it began remains the most successful one of all time, earning over 2.5 billion dollars since the release of the first film. However, the money it’s earned over the years is hardly the most impressive aspect of Star Wars. As famous film critic Roger Ebert put it: “Like The Birth of a Nation and Citizen Kane, Star Wars was a technical watershed that influenced many of the movies that came after.”

Star Wars was a real game-changer, beginning a new era of special effect-packed motion pictures bursting with excitement, adventure and imagination that appealed enormously to younger audiences as well as older ones. Many of today’s most acclaimed film directors, such as Peter Jackson, Ridley Scott, Christopher Nolan and James Cameron, cite Star Wars as a great influence on their careers. Star Wars has also had enormous cultural impact on other areas besides filmmaking, including politics—the Reagan Administration’s Strategic Defense Program was mockingly nicknamed “Star Wars”. As recently as 2013, President Barack Obama used the phrase “Jedi miind meld” to describe what some people were expecting him to do on his opposition to make them accept his ideas.

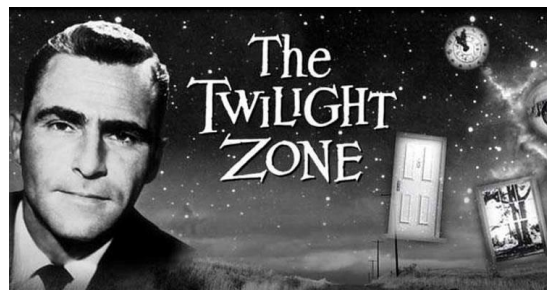
“May the Fourth be with you” was first used by Margaret Thatcher’s political party to congratulate her on her election on May 4th, 1979, and the saying quickly caught on. However, the first celebration of May 4th took place much later, at the Toronto Underground Cinema in 2001. This first official Star Wars Day’s festivities included a costume contest and a movie marathon. Fans’ favorite parodies of the franchise were also enjoyed, as were some of the most popular mash-ups and remixes. Since then, Star Wars Day has gained popularity and is celebrated by Star Wars Fans worldwide.

How to Celebrate Star Wars Day - The way you celebrate Star Wars day will depend on how well you know this cultural phenomenon. If you are a longtime fan of the franchise, you might want to get a group of friends together and attend one of the many Star Wars events organized in different parts of the world. Such events range from costume contests to museum exhibits to tours of space centers. And if you’re not feeling up to going out, there’s no reason why a Star Wars Day party organized by you at home should be any less fun. Movie marathons with friends, Star Wars trivia games and even Star Wars themed snacks (Death Star piñata, anyone?) will guarantee this day is full of fun as well as being very educational. “Vadering” another person has also become an extremely popular thing to do on this day, and the photos you take of this are sure to bring a smile to your face for years to come. Because Star Wars itself is such an enormous topic, the ways of celebrating the day dedicated to it are virtually endless. So choose one, have fun, and May the 4th be with you!

11th May, 2018 will be... Twilight Zone Day

“You are about to enter another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land of imagination. Next stop, the Twilight Zone!”

Beloved by children, teenagers and adults alike, the cult classic TV show The Twilight Zone has affected entire generations of people, prompting them to take a closer look at life and various phenomena and take nothing for granted, thanks to its unique combination of



science fiction, mystery, and thriller/horror themes. Not to mention how many of today's well-known actors got their start in it—Burt Reynolds, Leonard Nimoy and William Shatner, to name but a few. How then could this majorly influential show not have its own holiday?

The History of Twilight Zone Day - The Twilight Zone was created by acclaimed television producer Rod Sterling in 1959, with the first episode premiering on October 2nd. At the time of its release, it was vastly different from anything else on TV, and it struggled a bit to carve out a niche for itself at the very beginning. In fact, Sterling himself, though respected and adored by many, was famous for being one of Hollywood's most controversial characters and was often called the "angry young man" of Hollywood for his numerous clashes with television executives and sponsors over issues such as censorship, racism, and war. However, his show soon gained a large, devoted audience. Terry Turner of the Chicago Daily News gave it a rave review, saying, "...Twilight Zone is about the only show on the air that I actually look forward to seeing. It's the one series that I will let interfere with other plans". The Twilight Zone ran for five seasons on CBS from 1959 to 1964.

Twilight Zone Day is an annual holiday created to celebrate this thought-provoking television series, where everything was strange and surreal and nothing was ever quite as it seemed to be.

How to Celebrate Twilight Zone Day - There are a number of ways to celebrate Twilight Zone Day, and the one you choose may be connected to how well you know this TV series. Believe it or not, there are still people out there who have never seen it! You could watch some episodes from the classic series, perhaps "To Serve Man", "It's a Good Life", or "The Eye of the Beholder", episodes that are widely considered some of the very best in the entire series. If you don't know the series and would like to get a taste of what it was like in a nutshell, you could also watch the 1983 Twilight Zone Movie. If, on the other hand, you know The Twilight Zone very well, you could get together with some other Twilight Zone aficionados and play Twilight board or trivia games. Alternately, you could discuss who you think were the strangest Twilight Zone villains, and what the true reasons were for them being the way they were. And what would a good party be without some tasty drinks? Yes, there are Twilight Zone cocktails! Finally, you can try making Twilight Zone cocktails, by mixing Bacardi White, Dark and 151 Proof Rum, Triple Sec, pineapple and orange juices. Sounds pretty scumptious, right? And that's not its only benefit—if you have a few Twilight Zone Cocktails, you may well find yourself transported to a different dimension, too!

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13th May, 2018 will be... Top Gun Day

In 1986 the movie Top Gun came roared into theatres like an F-14 Tomcat. It got a missile lock on the box office and shot down just over \$356 million, making it the 11th highest grossing movie of Tom Cruise's career. The movie centers on Maverick, a hot shot pilot, who is sent to the US Navy's Fighter Weapons school.



The actual school was formed in 1969 by Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Thomas Himmman Moorer, at the recommendation of Captain Frank Ault. During Operation Rolling Thunder, the United States lost nearly 1,000 aircraft over North Vietnamese skies. The USAF and Navy both sought the causes, but came to two divergent conclusions. The Air Force believed that the fault was mechanical: that MiG pilots caught American pilots in a rear blind spot. The Navy decided that the failure was in training. The Air Force responded by developing new technology, while the Navy started the Top Gun school, paving the way for 110 minutes of heart pounding action, backed by a roaring theme song.

Top Gun Day celebrates the movie, but at its core is all about attitude. It teaches about the importance of teamwork...and shirtless volleyball. So how do you take the highway to the danger zone? Start by reliving the adventures of Goose, Maverick and the Iceman. Go to a karaoke bar and sing "She's Lost that Loving Feeling" and "Take My Breath Away." Why not try to play a little volleyball yourself. Shirtlessness is optional, of course. Download some Kenny Loggins and blast "Danger Zone" out of your car windows as loud as you can.

Host a Top Gun party. Invite people to dress up like the characters and play Top Gun trivia games before settling in to watch the movie. Grab a pair of dark aviator glasses and an old leather jacket. For an added challenge, try to find a pair of overalls to convert into a flight suit! You could even make it a double feature with some other jet-fighter movies of the era, like the lesser known Iron Eagle, which actually came out a few months BEFORE Top Gun.

There are many ways one could enjoy and relieve the excitement of the movie, but perhaps one of the more meaningful things you could do is to find a member of the armed forces, particularly service people in aviation, and thank them for keeping the skies safe. Ultimately, without someone up there, we might not have the movie, or the day, down here.

However you choose to celebrate, be sure to raise a glass for Goose, Maverick, Iceman and the rest of Top Gun class of 1986. Let the world know that you haven't *lost that loving feeling*, even after all this time.

17th May, 2018 will be... World Telecommunications Day

World Telecommunications Day celebrates the constant evolution of one of the most important factors of our lives: communication. The main goal of World Telecommunications Day (WTD) is to highlight the importance of communication and how information travels across the world. It also aims to increase awareness of how crucial communication is in our lives, and stimulate the development of technologies in the field.



The World Telecommunications Day is in tight connections with the International Telegraph Union (ITU), the committee formed in 1865 to support the emerging communication methods of the time. ITU was present throughout all the great breakthroughs in communication – the invention of the telephone in 1876, the launch of the first satellite in 1957 and, ultimately, the birth of the Internet in the 60s. Even though The International Telegraph Union has since changed its name to International Telecommunications Union, it still remains the most important entity in the field of communications, thus remaining in the spotlight at World Telecommunications Day.

18th May, 2018 will be... Pizza Party Day

'*Mmm, pizzaaaa!*' as Joey Tribbiani from 'Friends' might once have said, or was it Michelangelo from 'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles'? Anyway, there is clearly nothing more delicious than a large pizza with its doughy yet crisp base, and its choice variety of savory toppings, tenderly amalgamated with molten cheese, onion and pepper.



Here are some ideas on how you might mark Pizza Party Day: Have your own pizza party and invite all your friends to your house to make their own pizzas or at least choose their own toppings. Inexpensive and fun! - Visit a local pizza restaurant, ideally one where the chefs toss the pizza dough about in front of you, for an authentic Italian pizza-eating experience. - Spend the day meditating about great pizzas you have enjoyed in the past, maybe compiling an all-time top ten of your favorite toppings. *Bon appetito!*



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, WB8LCD, W8KNO, K3GP, N8RLG, KB8AMZ, KD8SKL, KD8MQ, WA8EFK, K3LR, KA8TOA, K8BBE, W8PT, ARRL and the World-Wide Web.

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



"The Dayton Hamvention® **Club of the Year** honors go to the Portage County (Ohio) Amateur Radio Service. This very busy club says it has over 40 hours of activities each month, including public service, student outreach, periodic "Build Days" for working on projects together and monthly "Get On The Air" days when the club station is open for members and guests to learn about HF and different modes of operation.

The honors will be presented at the 2018 Dayton Hamvention awards banquet in May."

The members of PCARS are proud to have been selected for this prestigious award. All of the members - past and present - have helped make our club what it is today.

Along with future members our club will be even better in years to come.



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

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The **RADIOGRAM** is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. Yes I know the cover says there is a cost, don't worry you won't get sent a bill or be hounded by bill collectors. Since this now looks like a magazine, I thought - what the heck, let's put a price on it. Every month it's listed in a different currency just for fun. Send your newsletter inputs (in **.TXT format**) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KB8UUZ@gmail.com



NLC

