



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

PCARS - the 2018 Hamvention® Club of The Year

September 2018 - Volume 13 Number 9

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9th Annual PCARS Mobile Cruise-In was **BIG FUN**



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Get Ready for Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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Robert L. Gurney, Jr. - N8RLG - SK

Robert, N8RLG passed away unexpectedly on Friday, August 24th. Robert joined PCARS back in March of 2008 and is member number 95. He was the ARRL VE Liaison and a past club Trustee.



Always ready to strike up a conversation on just about any subject, especially ham radio. His humor was enjoyed by all. Robert's enthusiasm of cooking was evident in the wonderful meals he had prepared for PCARS Field Days and the



Sunday morning pancakes were especially enjoyed by all.



Robert really liked coming to the PCARS meetings and to the club site for all types of activities. He enjoyed getting on the air during contests that PCARS participated in. He shared the love of this hobby with all of us.



This is from his QRZ page:

"N8RLG, the operator formerly known as KD8GWY here. Since receiving my call in August 2007, I have managed to upgrade to Extra. I want to thank everyone who have provided words of encouragement and passed along sage wisdom along the way.



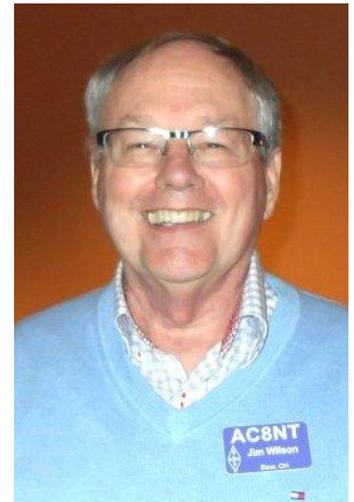
*I still want to thank my most favorite radio club in the whole wide world....**Portage County Amateur Radio Service**. This is probably the greatest gathering of hams that I have met. From day one, the guys and gals of PCARS make you feel welcome and really encourage you to have fun with this hobby. Visit us at www.portcars.org to see what we are all about. Thanks for taking the time to read this, 73 and I hope to see you down the log. Be Safe Out There."*

His easy going attitude, willingness to jump in and help, friendliness and humor will all be missed very much by many of us in PCARS.



From the President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



It is that time of year. The weather is warm and the sun is shining. Time to get ready for the cold and snow. Yes, my friends, it is antenna time. Every year I promise myself all my antennas will be working before October. And every year, something goes undone. Also every year I end up in the attic fixing something in the bitter cold. **BUT NOT THIS YEAR!!** I will be ready. I only have one UHF project to finish and it will be done by October 1. Are you ready? Think about it!

September is a big month. We have a great contest schedule including **OSPOTA**. This is a great time to find a park; sit and enjoy food and drink; and make some great contacts. An outstanding way to see summer off. We are also developing a **Ham Radio Boot Camp** to help other into participation in this great hobby. More on this elsewhere in the newsletter. We have the **Akron Maker Faire** Saturday September 22nd. If you are interested in helping, let me know it. It runs from noon to 4 PM at the main Akron Public Library in downtown Akron. Lots of people to meet and lots of new friends to make.

I was very sorry to hear about Robert Gurney's N8RLG passing. He was a great guy that contributed a lot to our club. Our sympathies go out to his family. He will be missed.



Gene W8NET

We welcome Gene Marsh, W8NET to the position of Secretary for PCARS. He will be under the tutelage Tom, WB8LCD for a while, but we know he will do a great job and we thank him for taking on this important job. **We also welcome Parky KB8UZZ to a position as 2 Year Trustee.** Parky always gives a lot and we welcome him to the post.

We will be planning a club clean-up day soon. We need to give the club site a little clean-up and make some simple repairs. Look for a QST on this subject soon.

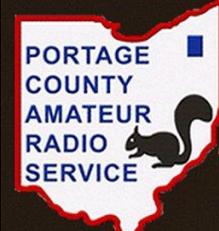
Speaking of QSTs. If you wish to send a QST you can still send it to qst@portcars.org. However, for now also copy me at ac8nt@portcars.org. I am the one that actually sends out the emails and copying me just makes sure I know they need to go out. Also remember we cannot send out attachments.

Well, that's all for now. Enjoy the nice weather while it lasts and enjoy this great hobby.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th





PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

From the Vice President

Tony, WA8AR
PCARS Vice President



Loss and Renewal

After the very recent tragic loss of one of our younger members, Robert N8RLG (age 49), this is a good time to refocus on the service element of our organizations mission. Robert was very active in community service with PCARS, the Boy Scouts and other activities. With PCARS Robert had led our Volunteer Examiner team, been a club Trustee and did several years as head of food service at Field Day among other activities. Robert supported a slice of what is necessary to advance our Amateur Radio Hobby and literally keep it going and growing.

With his loss it is important for PCARS members to look around our organization and ask themselves if they can step in and support some small, or even large, slice of our club activities, and by extension the activities of Amateur Radio as a whole. It is necessary that others are willing to step in and support some of the load as many in our group do every day of the year. With all that said, we also need to bear in mind that that Amateur Radio is a hobby and it needs to be a fun activity for all of our members and all the participants of our hobby. We have a great group of members with a very diverse set of skills and interests. I encourage all to participate in club activities and get involved to what ever degree you see fit. Jump in and volunteer for a job you might like to try, it is all fun and there are always others around to show you the ropes. This is how our Club and Hobby are renewed and continue to grow.

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



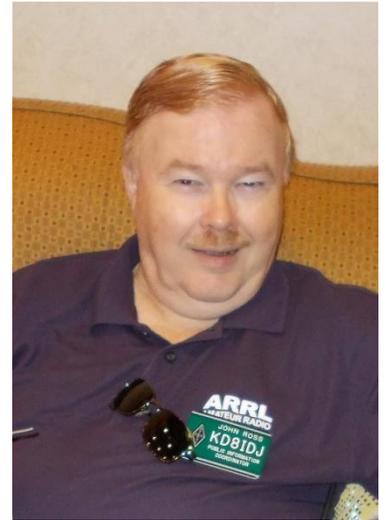
Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



Winners of the 26th Annual Newsletter Contest

John, KD8IDJ

**ARRL Ohio Section
Public Information Coordinator**



Winners of the 26th Annual Ohio Section Newsletter Contest Announced

It's days like today that I'm glad to be a journalist and proud to be Amateur Radio operator! Just over three hours of excitement, frustration, fascination and finally we have the winners of the 2018 Ohio Section Newsletter contest. Believe me, it was an experience to witness as accomplished journalists and public relations professionals began to look through our newsletters...and realize just how difficult you have made it to pick the best. Really, the more difficult the process, the better it is and it confirms what I see every day... quality, effectiveness and just great newsletters doing what they are supposed to be doing... communicating all there is to know about your clubs and Amateur Radio. It's why the Ohio Section is the best and why we have the best editors and writers hands down. Our judges have been with us for five years now and are in a unique position to watch how we've grown and improved. They were impressed and know why we take our hobby seriously and put forth great efforts to communicate both on the air, on line and in print. It's a trifecta of perfection. Congratulations to all of the clubs that entered and here are the 2018 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest winners.



First Place - The RADIOGRAM
Portage County Amateur Radio Service
Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ editor



Second Place-Tie (first time a printed newsletter and on-line newsletter have shared an award)

The Spirit of '76 & '88 ...Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association – Ken Kane, KG8DN editor

DELARA News ...Delaware Amateur Radio Association – Stan Broadway, N8BHL editor

Third Place Quarter Century Wireless Association ...Cleveland Chapter Newsletter – Bob Winston, W2THU editor

Fourth Place The Exchange ... SouthWest Ohio DX Association – Bill Salyers, AJ8B editor

Honorable Mention – Tie

CARA Communicator ... Cambridge Amateur Radio Association – Lyn Alfman, N8IMW editor

The Voice Coil ... Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association – Mark Haverstock, K8MSH editor

73, and congratulations to everyone .. You ALL are winners for sure!

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:



- Sept 4th - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site in Ravenna - 7 pm
- Sept 8th - **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest
- Sept 10th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
- Sept 15th - PCARS visit to the **Contest Super Station K3LR**
- Sept 19th - Technician Class Starts at the club site in Ravenna
- Sept 22nd - Akron **Mini-Maker Faire** - noon to 4 pm
- Sept 29th - **RePlay for Kids** at the club site in Ravenna - 9 am - 1 pm
- Oct 1st - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site in Ravenna - 7 pm
- Oct 6th - VE Test Session at Club Site - 10 am
- Oct 6th-7th - California QSO Party Contest at Club Site. Start at noon on Saturday
- Oct 8th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm



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



- First Wednesday - **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**



K3LR Contest Super Station Tour - September 15th

We have arranged a tour of the **K3LR Contest Super Station**. The tour will be on Saturday September 15. We will be carpooling from the club site leaving at **10:45 on the dot**. The tour will start at the K3LR station at noon. The station is 54 miles away.

Since our last tour in 2015, there have been a number of changes and new equipment installed at K3LR.

After the tour we will be having a brunch at the **Quaker Steak and Lube** in Sharon (everyone pays for their own).

This will definitely be "**Big Fun**". I am sending this out at this time so everyone can mark it on their calendars. Later I will be asking for a count of those planning to attend. - Jim, AC8NT



Recognize Awesomeness

Dan, KB6NU



About a month ago, I was browsing in a stationery store near my home, when I ran across a pad of printed forms called “AWESOME CITATION.” It had a paragraph that read: “You’ve been pretty awesome lately, completely outdoing yourself, and outshining everyone else. It hasn’t gone unnoticed. Nice work.”

AWESOME!

You've been an awesome amateur radio operator lately. Don't think it's gone unnoticed. Keep up the good work!

TO: _____

FROM: _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical savvy | <input type="checkbox"/> Elmer extraordinaire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great phone operator | <input type="checkbox"/> Exceedingly dependable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great CW operator | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepared for just about anything |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conspicuous kindness | <input type="checkbox"/> Blatant likeability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Always ready to help out | <input type="checkbox"/> Good with antennas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional generosity | <input type="checkbox"/> Sartorial splendor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient with newcomers | <input type="checkbox"/> Great digital operator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great hair | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational savvy |

OH YEAH, AND: _____

Below that was TO: and FROM: fields and a number of checkboxes for various traits, including “conspicuous kindness,” “professional accomplishment,” “popularity with children,” and “excessive good hair days.” At the bottom, was the sentence, “YOU’RE MAKING THE REST OF US LOOK BAD.”

I couldn’t tell if the intent was to be snarky or not, but I decided that I liked the idea. So, leaving off the “YOU’RE MAKING THE REST OF US LOOK BAD” sentence, and changing “Nice work” to “Keep up the good work!” I created a version to recognize the efforts of members of our Rotary Club. I added specific Rotary traits, such as “service above self” and “great singing voice.”

Now, I’ve come up with one for amateur radio operators. Print this out and give it to one of your club members who went above and beyond at Field Day, or one to your Elmer or someone else who has

helped you out recently. Then, be just as awesome yourself.

When he's not passing out Awesomeness Notes or teaching ham radio classes, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



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

Cruise-In 2018 Was GREAT !

For those that missed it, the annual PCARS Mobile Cruise-In at the Ravenna A&W was just **FANTASTIC**.

The weather cooperated this year and there was not a drop of rain anywhere around. As usual, the A&W Root Beer Floats were the number one item on the "Must Get" list.

We even had a 2 meter simplex 'contest' right there in the parking lot to see who could make the most contacts in the short time the 'contest' was going on. The winner of the contest was Bob, N8K BX - In fact, Bob also won **The Best Installation** award AND the mobile rig with the **most bands** that could be transmitted on. Bob walked away with **THREE DX Engineering** gift certificates.

Jim, AC8NT decided to give the last DX Engineering gift certificate to Nick, AC8QG since he brought the most people to the event (Nick, his wife and their five children). FUN was had by all.



Fox Hunting with CFARC

Rick, K8CAV



As a bit of background for my first experience at fox-hunting, I received a phone call on Sunday evening August 12th from Ryan Shackelford, Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Portage County. Ryan stated that there was continuous chatter on the Fire Dispatch channel for southeast Portage County from obvious non-authorized users of that channel. The interference was not allowing use of the dispatch channel and Ryan wanted to know what, if anything the Coms Unit could do about identifying the source of the interference. I've been licensed for forty-two years and have done many things in Amateur radio but locating unidentified transmitters, a.k.a. fox-hunting was not one of them. I decided right then I needed to learn about fox-hunting so that if something like this occurred in the future the Coms Unit would be trained and equipped to help.

Fortunately, PCARS had its monthly meeting the next day, and Tom, WB8LCD pointed me to Jim, N8PXW for help. Even more fortunate was the fact that the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC) was having a regularly scheduled fox-hunt that Wednesday and Jim invited me to do a ride-along to see what it was all about. Jim also e-mailed me a wealth of information about fox hunting prior to the event.

I arrived at the start location in Silver Lake about a half an hour before starting, which gave me a chance to look at the different equipment being used and to talk to the hunters about what they like. For this hunt, there were five hunters, some teams and some individuals. Frank, W8EZT and his partner Bruce, AK8B invited me to ride along and observe. Frank was using a doppler system and a very wide dynamic range signal strength meter for equipment.

The hunt started promptly at 7:00 PM with all of the hunters getting an initial bearing to the fox and then hitting the road. Frank and Bruce promptly headed south and got on the Route 8. After a couple of more bearings they decided they needed to start heading west and got off Route 8, at which time I became totally lost, not knowing the area very well. We zigged here and zagged there in response to bearings received when the fox transmitted, down into the river valley and then back out, and in general making my head spin though both Frank and Bruce knew right where they were. Thirty-two minutes later we wound up in a shopping mall and drove around until we were able to pin-point the location of the fox. Not knowing the name of the mall but knowing that it only took thirty-two minutes to get there, and knowing that Chapel Hill mall was pretty close to the start point, I just assumed it was Chapel Hill mall where the fox was located. You can imagine my surprise when Frank said nope this is Summit Mall which is all the way on the west side of Akron! This was a pretty amazing feat by the Frank and Bruce as it takes almost the same amount of time to drive straight to Summit mall from the start point without adding the complication of locating the fox!

All in all, it was an incredibly fun and educational experience! The folks from CFARC would love to have more folks from outside of their club participate, and it's a standing invitation to all PCARS members to come out and give it a try. If you've never fox-hunted before, they'd be glad to have you ride along to see what it's all about and how it's done. Their web site is <http://www.cfarc.org/foxxhunt.php>, and the address of the church is 2951 Kent Rd, Silver Lake, OH 44224. Many thanks to all of the CFARC fox hunters for a very gracious reception to their very fun event!



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



Falling In Love at a Hamfest

Amy, KD8SKL



A couple of months ago I went to a hamfest with my Dad, K8FF. We walked up and down the aisles looking for treasures and saying hello to friends. I ran into our Ohio Section Manager, Scott Yonnally, N8SY. I stopped at Greg Ash, KA8TOA's table where he was selling radio & computer equipment.



That was when I saw it.... the most **awesome** thing at the show.... it was a beautiful fully furnished ham trailer set up for remote radio operation & contesting.... with a 'For Sale' sign on it.

It was \$7,000.00. A bit more than I had in my wallet. I tried to convince my Dad that we needed this trailer. Ever the voice of reason- he quickly pointed out that we do not have the truck to tow it with, or the place to store it... **however I still loved it.**



So I had fun at the hamfest. Every time we passed down the aisle with the *beautiful* trailer I went inside and imagined it was mine.

Someday I hope to have the funds to own such a cool station!

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!!



Ham Radio Boot Camp

Jim, AC8NT



Most of us started in this hobby with the help of an Elmer. This person helped us learn Morse Code, study for the tests and help us get on the air. Some of us actually went to the Elmer's shack and learned first-hand and hands on how the equipment went together and how hams made contacts. We often watched our Elmers fix problems and make things work. When we finally got our tickets, we knew what was needed to get up and running and had often made a few contacts during our studies. Now things have changed.

Most "want to be" hams watch a few YouTube videos about ham radio, buy study guides and apps, take the test and for many that is where it ends. They get their license and without some basic information, don't know what to buy or build and if they do, they are not able to make a contact. Maybe they have equipment issues; maybe they lack the basics of equipment operation; or maybe they are just afraid to push the button.

Over the past year I have made a lot of friends in the ham radio community, often in foreign lands. I have learned that they have many of the same problems with new hams we do. Some have found solutions to improve the number of licensed hams that actually get on the air. We need to greatly improve our "Get on the Air" percentage of license holders.

For a number of years Britain and other countries have required future hams take practical assessment before they can take the written exam. The purpose of this practical assessment is to make sure the future ham has the information and training necessary to really take part in this hobby. My take on the Ham Radio Boot Camp is based on the Radio Society of Great Britain's practical assessment. It will require the applicant to be trained and demonstrate they can:

- Program a handheld 2-meter transceiver
- Make repeater and simplex VHF QSOs
- Make HF QSOs using SSB and a simple data mode
- Demonstrate how a dipole is constructed and tuned
- Connect together a transceiver, power supply, tuner, and antenna system
- Explain the controls on a typical HF transceiver
- Make a simple Morse Code contact (This does not require knowing code.)



We all know that such a program will not answer every question. We also know that there are lots of differences in equipment and antennas. But it does provide a starting point. We have everything we need at our club site to make this happen.

I have spent the last month modifying materials provided by the RSGB to meet our standards. I have talked to several British trainers to learn how this training is best given. I would now like to give it a try.

What I need is a little help working out the details and logistics of the first camp. I think if it is properly advertised we could get a great turnout, not just from people that would like to be hams, but also from the many that are licensed but not on the air. It is an opportunity for us to grow the hobby not just based on licenses but on ham participation.

Please let me know if you are interested in helping. Send me an email to ac8nt@j3solutions.com.

Storm Damage Assessment in Mahoning County

Rick, K8CAV

Portage County Coms Unit

PCARS Ham Radio Operators Assist With Storm Damage Assessment In Mahoning County

On August 10th a slow-moving storm system stalled over a portion of Mahoning County, causing extensive flooding in some of the villages and cities. Recognizing the extent of flooding, the Mahoning County EMA enlisted the help of ARES[®] and other volunteers to be trained in and then conduct damage assessment operations in the affected areas. Damage assessment involves short interviews of residents in the affected areas to gather information about how much and what type of damage occurred, and the type of insurance coverage a resident has. This information is vital because if uninsured damage exceeds a certain amount, the area and its residents become eligible for certain forms of state and federal assistance. By mid-week the pool of volunteers was becoming exhausted while certain areas had still not been assessed. On Thursday August 16th at 2:00 PM, Ryan Shackelford, the Portage County EMA Director received a phone call from the Mahoning County EMA Director requesting assistance to complete damage assessment operations. Ryan immediately contacted Rick, K8CAV of the Communications Unit to make calls to other members of the Communications Unit to volunteer to conduct damage assessment operations on Friday August 17th. By 3:00 PM on the 16th, Rick had enough volunteers to staff two teams, and a quick briefing was attended to outline objectives and operations.



Team members met at the Portage County EOC at 8:00 AM on the 17th, and immediately travelled to the Mahoning County EMA, arriving at 9:00 AM. Team members were briefed on the situation and mission, and given maps identifying the streets yet to be assessed. Because damage assessment training is a standard training objective for all Portage County Coms Unit members, there was no need to have a training session by the Mahoning County EMA, and the teams were immediately deployed to their respective assignment. DAT1 was headed by Director Ryan Shackelford and DAT2 was headed by Deputy Director Cody Brookover. Mahoning County ARES had opened a directed emergency net which Coms Unit members checked into and used for communications. Damage assessment operations concluded at 1:00 PM at which time both teams returned to the Mahoning County EMA for debriefing, and then traveled back to the Portage County EOC where all members were demobilized.

The overwhelming majority of residents contacted by team members were very happy that people were asking about their situations. While not a 'standard' part of damage assessment, just those few minutes talking to a resident can do much to help the morale of an affected community. The Mahoning County EMA Director sent Director Ryan Shackelford an e-mail after the event thanking him and the Coms Unit volunteers for their efforts and especially for their professionalism. Ryan passed that information on to Coms Unit members with his endorsement of their efforts. During the operation, team members used Amateur Radio through the Mahoning County ARES[®] repeater to communicate while Ryan and Cody used cell phones. Cody commented that it seemed to be a lot more efficient and fast to communicate using Amateur Radio as opposed to using cell phones and that in the future we should plan to use Amateur Radio as a regular part of deployments. The assistance provided to Mahoning certainly was not 'Amateur Radio' as a primary mission, but because of the willingness of Communications Unit members to train in areas other than Amateur Radio, it allowed us to help a community in need.

Thanks to the following people that volunteered for this mission, and job very well done: Paul KE8EGF, Sandy KD8JCY, Eddie KD8SOP, Greg KA8TOA, Bob KZ8RLD, Rick K8CAV, and Rick Owens from the Streetsboro Fire Department.

Just Another November?

Tom, WB8LCD



Have you ever had a chance to look at a radio spectrum allocation chart? I mean the BIG one that shows the entire radio spectrum. It's pretty amazing. Especially if you look for all of the Amateur Radio allocations that are made. I can only guess, but I would have to think that our allocation of radio spectrum is worth somewhere in the Billions (if not Trillions) of dollars! I do know that commercial/industrial/military interests would LOVE to kick us to the curb and take our allocations away from us. We can't let that happen.

In Amateur Radio's stated purpose are several things that we are to be about to justify our existence and the spectrum allocations we occupy. One of those things is Service to our community. That has typically meant communications support in times of emergency. Certainly a "natural" spot for us to be to serve our communities. To that end, I would encourage all of you to support EmComm functions whether it be via ARES®, The Portage County Communications Unit, The Salvation Army or any other organization that uses Amateur Radio as a means to complete their mission. In addition to purely emergency operations, we have ample opportunities to participate in our communities by providing communications support to all sorts of community based activities - bike races, marathons, car shows, the Iditarod, you name it! Ham Radio has been an important communications tool used by many organizations! (Remember a few years ago we even had a club meeting speaker who talked about how Ham Radio Operators were used at the Super Bowl to safeguard communications?)

There are lots of ways to use Amateur Radio to support our communities. But, there are also lots of other ways that we can serve our communities as a group of hams, even if we don't use amateur radio as the means of providing that service. I am extremely proud of my club, The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) for it's support of the Amelia DiGirolamo Center of Hope in Ravenna, OH.

"The Amelia DiGirolamo Center of Hope is dedicated to enhancing the nutrition of low-income people in Portage County where local food pantries are not present. Hot meals are offered at no cost five days a week and they typically serve 75-100 individuals per day. Opportunities for socialization, cooking classes and referral services are also offered." On an annual basis, more than 100,000 people are served each year. Most importantly, of every \$1.00 donated, 94 cents goes directly to those in need.

While not the usual example of Amateur Radio Public Service, this is certainly a cause worth supporting. Over the last 12 years, PCARS has raised over \$29,000 in donations for the Center of Hope.

2006 - \$300	2007 - \$350	2008 - \$750	2009 - \$850	2010 - \$1900	2011 - \$2500	2012 - \$2507
2013 - \$2507	2014 - \$3500	2015 - \$3851	2016 - \$4000	2017 - \$6445	2018 - \$???	

Last year's donation is going to be tough to beat, BUT, we have never yet had a year where we've gone backwards! I would really hate to see 2018 be that year. So, it's not too early to think about what your contribution might be. If we are to keep this going, and growing, we are going to have to dig deep, and, we are going to need to look beyond ourselves! Every PCARS member can solicit donations from family, friends, other community organizations, THE OTHER HAM RADIO CLUBS THEY BELONG TO, and the business's they do business with.

Every PCARS member also has the opportunity to attend the November meeting. (You don't really need to be a PCARS member – everyone is invited to attend.) Being our annual election of officers I think that you would want to be there to be a part of that decision. I also think that you are going to want to be there so you can take part in our annual 50/50 where the club portion goes to support the Center of Hope. We are going to have a lot more items than on a normal month, and many of those prizes will be better than usual! The more tickets you buy, the better your chances of winning a prize are, but more importantly, the more tickets you buy the bigger both sides of the 50/50 are! One lucky winner can go home with a pocket full of cash, and PCARS can boost its contribution by having pot to split. Help us out! Buy A LOT of tickets!

Just another hint: The Center of Hope is a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization. Ask your employer if they will match your contribution - many companies will support your efforts this way.

If you can't attend the November meeting and give us your donation in person - Please, send your donation check, payable to "The Center of Hope", to: PCARS - 705 Oakwood St. - Box 12 - Ravenna, OH 44266. Any donation made will be issued a tax receipt directly from the Center of Hope, yet it will still be included in the PCARS annual donation. It's a WIN / WIN!

PCARS VE Test Sessions

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.

October 6th, December 1st,
2019: February 2nd, April 6th, June 1st, August 3rd, October 5th

What to Bring to the Testing Session

- \$15 is the current test fee. We prefer the exact amount in cash or a check made out to: *ARRL-VEC*
- A government photo ID (**driver's license or state ID card preferred**).
- Your Social Security Number or FCC Federal Registration Number. We are required to submit either your Social Security Number (SSN) or your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) with your application. If you are upgrading, your FRN is on your current Amateur Radio license.
- A pen (black ink) and pencil (we can loan you either or both)
- **If you already have an Amateur Radio license: 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.

Parks All Over The Place

John, KD8MQ



My story begins back in 2014 when the ARRL centennial was going on. I enjoyed working the W1AW Centennial stations that year. So much so that when I had the chance to volunteer as one of the operators for W1AW/8 from Ohio, I jumped on it.

Then, when NPOTA was announced for the upcoming year, I couldn't wait. I loved driving out to a NPOTA location, to become rare DX, even if it was only for an hour or two. 2016 was one wild ride!

One thing I've always enjoyed is portable operating. Whether setting up in PA for the PAQP, or heading out to a Park for another OSPOTA, I get a charge out of it.

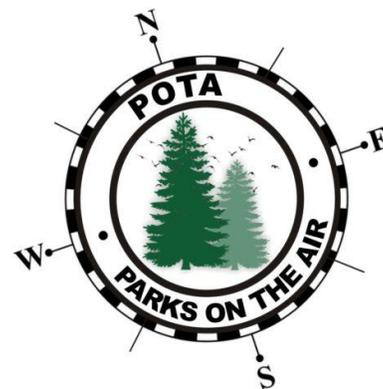


So, a couple years ago, I signed up with the WWFF program, and have done a few activations. Their tag line is "Make Nature Your Shack".

WWFF is made up of a lot of member organizations that come together under the umbrella of the WWFF. For instance, there's a US program (<http://wwff-kff.org/>), a Canadian program (<http://www.qsl.net/va3rj/veff.html>), and others, way too numerous to mention here. They sponsor several awards for both hunters & activators.

Last year, a new player appeared. Parks On The Air (<https://parksontheair.com/>), or "Pota" for short. They use many of the same park numbers as WWFF, and also have a very interesting array of awards for both hunters & activators.

Hunters? Activators? What's that about? Let me back up a bit, and explain this. *Hunters* are those folks who hunt us when we activate. *Activators* are those Hams who "Activate" parks. For instance, During OSPOTA, I will activate Mt. Gilead State Park. The OSPOTA designator for this park is MTG. WWFF has dubbed it KFF-1979, while POTA calls it K-1979. Some of the newer parks are a bit different. For instance, the newly opened Jesse Owens SP is KFF-4620 for WWFF & K-5641 for POTA. For that reason, I always try to check the park numbers against the list on each programs website. I personally enjoy both programs even though I don't get a chance to activate as much as I'd like.



After OSPOTA, I will submit my contest entry first. Then, I will submit my logs to POTA so that the other POTA folks who I've contacted can get credit for working the park. I will also forward my log to WWFF, just so that the WWFF folks can get their confirmations a few weeks quicker than they would otherwise. NOTE: If you participate in OSPOTA, and submit an electronic log, then they will be submitted to the WWFF program (Unless you tell us that you don't want them forwarded).

The cool thing about both programs are that you can hunt & activate year round; not just on the Saturday after Labor Day.

If you are thinking of getting involved in Park hunting & activating, be prepared for an addicting sub-Hobby of Ham Radio. I know that it has been for me.

I purposely did not give a lot of information about the how, where, & why of park chasing. If you are interested, please visit their websites (listed above), or even better, check both groups (WWFF-KFF & parks on the air) out on Facebook. There, you find lots of great information on both programs, and a place where folks smarter than me can answer any question that you may have.



World Wide Flora & Fauna

United States

Make Nature Your Shack!



How to Install the Tower in 4 Phases

Greg, KA8TOA

PHASE ONE:

Receive permission from your better half. (YL). Have some good amateur radio friends plan location and schedule other concrete work.



PHASE TWO:

Dig hole on the hottest days of summer, repair tower if needed. Find parts and pieces at local store.

PHASE THREE:

Run out of money. Erect tower and wait for income tax money to arrive next year to buy antennas and cable.

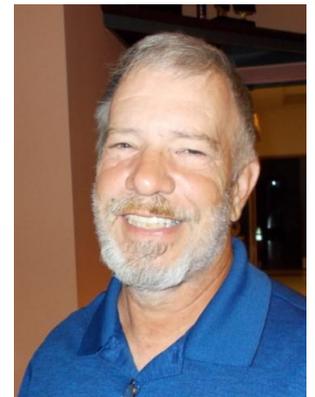


PHASE FOUR:

Thank your friends: Ed K8IV, Ron W8AHL, Rick K8CAV, Terry KB8AMZ, Patricia S.O.

In closing, the tower is a 30 foot free standing aluminum on a tilt base with a hazer elevator. What a neat idea. You can raise and lower it with a crank so you can install or work with antennas on the ground. The rotor sits on the elevator. This is a work in progress with no time table. Again, my thanks to those who helped and assisted with all aspects of "The Tower".

For those of us who need help, do not be afraid to ask for help and technical assistance. Our club members are willing to lend a hand and are very knowledgeable.



Hamfest Calendar

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

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

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

10/28/2018 - Massillon Hamfest - Location: Massillon Boys & Girls Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.w8np.org> - Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.18 (PL 110.9) - Contact: Terry Russ, N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 Email: truss@sssnet.com

Great Lakes HamCon 2.0 Cancelled

Great Lakes HamCon 2.0 scheduled to occur this October at Michigan International Speedway has been cancelled. Failure to come to a final agreement for the use of the speedway led to the difficult decision to cancel the event. With just two months remaining, the issues caused by the lack of agreement are insurmountable.

Refunds for event tickets purchased will be made. Purchases made via PayPal will be made through PayPal. Arrangements for refunds for cash purchases are being formulated and will be announced soon.



The support of our affiliated amateur radio clubs and their members was very much appreciated. We share your disappointment that this year's event cannot be held. Thank you for your understanding.

Warren ARA Trunkfest Report

Joe, W8KNO

The Warren Amateur Radio Association held their annual Tailgate/Trunk Fest at Mosquito Lake on the 19th from 7 am till noon. The number of exhibitors / sellers was 50% larger than last year.



Because I was there to check cards, I sat at the club table and became aware that the club had a business model different than most hamfests. Instead of charging for space it is free. Money is raised by a Prize raffle, a 50/50 drawing and a Chinese Auction.

I overheard vendors come up and inquire about the policy of free space and they seemed surprised. They were told they could make a donation to the club if they desired. For information, they did make a profit.

The affair is definitely worth the drive. I'll be there next year looking for you.

Special PCARS Project - Help Wanted

I need someone to take on a special PCARS project. I would like to have a PCARS net log searchable database created to keep our net logs in safe form for the future.

It will need to be searchable based on several parameters and it will have to have the complete PCARS net history loaded into it.

This could be done by an individual or a team of 2-4. Let me know if you want to be a part of this project!

Tom, WB8LCD - email me at: tomsly29@gmail.com



An advertisement for PCARS ARRL Volunteer Examiners. The background is black with a yellow and white polka-dot pattern. On the left, the word "PCARS" is written in large yellow letters. Below it, the text "ARRL Volunteer Examiners: serving the Amateur Radio community" is written in white. Further down, the text "First Saturdays 10:00 am at the club site in Ravenna February, April, June, August, October, December" is written in yellow. On the right, there is a circular logo for "AMATEUR RADIO ARRL VEC VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" with a yellow and black color scheme.

DX & Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT



The next DX/Contest SIG will be held on September 25th, which of course, is the 4th Tuesday of the month.

We will be reviewing the Arizona QSO Party that takes place in October, one week after the California QSO Party. The Arizona contest allows CW, SSB and Digital modes. So we will be discussing whether we want to have one of the operating positions dedicated to a digital mode. If you are planning to participate, especially if you would like to work digital during a contest, you might want to attend to make your thoughts known on this.

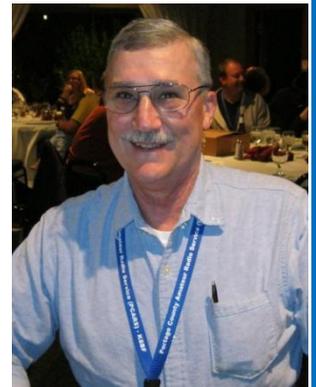
In regards to the California QSO Party, we will be presented with a brief Power Point presentation regarding the workings of this contest. Since we have been very successful in this contest in the past, I hope to see many at the meeting that will be participating in the event.

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV

Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the Digital Special Interest Group will be meeting on **WEDNESDAY September 5th** at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

I have had a couple of folks ask about help with their digital setup so we'll dedicate this meeting to helping to get computers and equipment up and running digitally. Bring whatever you can in the way of computers, interfaces, and radios. Hope to see you all there!



QRP, CW & Linux Special Interest Groups

Terry, KB8AMZ

Linux SIG - Hello to all the hams that use the Linux and want to use amateur radio applications that run on the Linux OS. The next SIG (special interest group) will meet October 29th.

The May SIG and July SIG were not very eventful; no one brought their Raspberry Pi, KB, PS, and monitor. I am hopeful that those of you that want participate will bring your equipment to the October 29th meeting so we can continue learning. If you haven't been to a SIG and would like to come then please come but bring with you your Raspberry Pi equipment.

CW-QRP SIG - For the past 2 months I have discussed with those that attended those SIG meetings about doing a Sprint away from the clubhouse. A Sprint consists of operating for a period of 1 to 6 hours. Each participant brings their own equipment to operate. September 11 is the next CW-QRP SIG and it will be at the



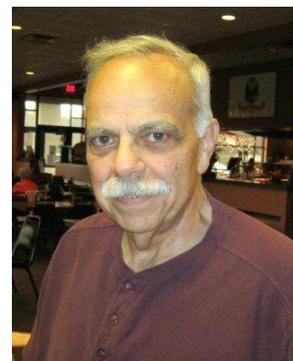
Fred Fuller Park in Kent adjacent to the driveway that leads to the Kent Water Treatment Plant (extreme South end of park off Middlebury Road). The goal of the Sprint will be to set up your operating location; work at least 5 CW contacts between 0700 EDT (0001 UTC 12 SEP 2018) and 2000 EDT (0100 UTC 12 SEP 2018); required exchange: obtain call sign, name, QTH (city/State), RST report, and rig, transmit power, and antenna information. Bonus points if you exchange how long your contact has been a ham, their weather (WX) report.

You should bring your power source, rig (mono-band QRP in Altoids Tin, MFJ QRP, Multiband QRP transceiver), whatever you use to communicate; key (straight key, bug, iambic key); antenna (buddipole, mobile HF mounted antenna, wire hung from a tree, any antenna that works for you portable), log book (required for each contact is Frequency contact worked, begin/end time UTC, QRP or QRO contact), log transfer sheet that you will submit to me prior to leaving. I will tally and verify contacts (USA only) and provide results at the October SIG. Optional equipment weather shelter; if there is inclement weather you may elect to erect your antenna and work from within your automobile.

You should arrive at Fred Fuller Park no later than 1830 EDT to have sufficient time to erect your antenna and ready your equipment for the start time of 1900 EDT. This Sprint Exercise is primarily for the CW-QRP SIG participants however, any license amateur radio operator may come to participate. POI (point of information): when Tom Sly chaired this group this same event was planned. Two participants and I showed for the event. I hope more will be available for this event, especially since about 7 of you said you would like to do this. The extreme South end of the park is not the only location for setting up your station. Any where within the park that is available and not hindering other park visitors is fine. You will only be occupying a certain space for about 2 hours. Hope to see you there. Best 73

Antenna Special Interest Group

Tony, WA8AR



The Antenna SIG meets at 7 PM in the PCARS club site radio room on the third Tuesday of every month. The September meeting will be held on the 18th. All PCARS members and guests are welcome to attend. We will be discussing all antenna related topics including selection, design, construction, trouble shooting and safety for all Amateur Radio bands.

We will return to our special discussion topic: **Antenna modeling**. I will have a couple example antennas modeled ready for us to look at and discuss as my laptop computer is repaired and working again.

Please note that the PCARS QST email system is functioning very well again, so please watch for PCARS QST for last minute announcements prior to all Special Interest Groups. And, always check the PCARS web site for Antenna Special Interest Group updates or last minute cancellations before going to the club site for a meeting.



PCARS Thursday Net Control

Greg, KA8TOA
Net Control Coordinator



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

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

September	
6	KA8TOA
13	KA8TOA
20	K8IV
27	WB8LCD

October	
4	N8QE
11	KA8TOA
18	K8IV
25	WB8LCD

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

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

If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a try, *please* contact me at: gregory999@roadrunner.com

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

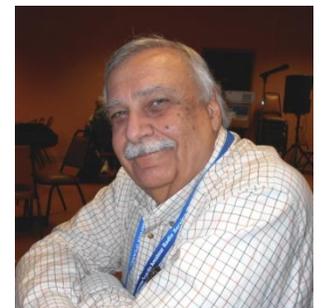
Two more hams that have been awarded the 10-consecutive PCARS net check-in certificate:

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

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

Ohio QSO Party Preliminary Results

Chuck, W8PT



On Saturday, August 25th from Noon to Midnight, K8BF participated in this year's Ohio QSO Party.

Unfortunately, the band conditions were not the greatest from our club site location. We would have periods of high activity only for the bands to go quiet for extended periods of time. Solar activity was beating us up.

Our efforts resulted in the following numbers:

Total Contacts: 331, QSO Pts: 399, Multipliers: 121, Score: 48,279

The above raw numbers are what were turned in on our log. There will be adjustments after the logs are reviewed by the contest committee.

I want to thank the 13 ops who sat in the chairs and either used their voices or their fingers to call CQ and to Search & Pounce to make contacts. In some cases, time was put in sitting in the chair and no one came back to our calls. It happens. But we should not despair. There's always another contest lurking in the shadows.

Ohio QSO Party

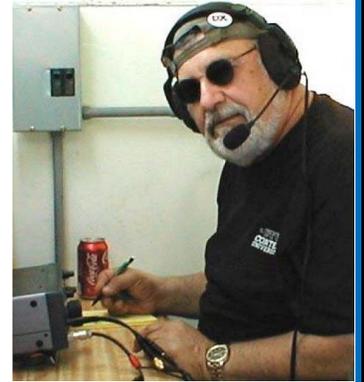
The Ohio QSO Party is sponsored by:
Mad River Radio Club
an ARRL affiliated Club.



Ohio BB-QSO Party - August 25, 2018

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Hello to all PCARS DXers:

I don't know about you but the bands have been really stingy at my QTH. There have been days when nothing west of the Mississippi was heard here. Example: This morning I heard W6FDR on 20m. Mel is normally strong. But he was only a 53 with a lot of noise. I turned my beam on him and pretty much the same thing. We had a QSO and I signed and he called CQ with no luck and a weak signal. 10 min later he was calling his buddy on Long Island and was stronger. By then I had turned my beam back to the east. In 5 more minutes I broke in on Mel simply to tell him he was 20/9 off the back of my beam. And they say 6 m is the magic band!

It's been like that for several weeks now. Nothing from Europe and then a bunch of stations will show up with strong signals for an hour or so and then all's quiet again. So if you want to work DX, you really need to have the rig on and be in the shack. Otherwise, you miss the short openings. I know that there are a few DXpeditions coming up but with band conditions the way they are you really need to be in the right place at the right time as the old saying goes.

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

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, NJ1Q & W1AW, W2VU & CQ Communications, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, AK5Q, AA6RE, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, ES1CW, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO and VE3VEE for the following DX information.

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

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

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

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

4U, UNITED NATIONS HQ. On August 22nd, Adrian, KO8SCA, was able to finish with the antenna installation (SteppIR BigIR) on top of the UN building, and became active from the UN building on 20 meters SSB for about 30 minutes. Operations testing were conducted from the 41st floor of the UN building. According to "The Daily DX", "In the future he (KO8SCA) hopes to be able to get the amplifier online and remote the station down to the third floor. This new location will make it easier for guest operators to activate the 4U1UN station." QSL Manager is HB9BOU.

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

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

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

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

CR3, MADEIRA. Members of the Slovak Contest Group and the OM8A Contest Team active as CR3DX from Porto Moniz, Madeira Island, during the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (Sept 29-30). The operators mentioned are Antonio/CT3EN, Jose-Antonio/CT3DZ, Jose-Antonio/CT3BD, Jose-Miguel/CT3IA, Jose-Duarte/CT3KY, Eusebio/CT3KU, Miguel/CT3FW, Rastislav/OM3BH, Jozef/OM3GI, Tibor/OM3RM and Peter/OM7LW. QSL via OM2VL, direct or by the OM QSL Bureau (Don't use CT Bureau).

EF9, CEUTA AND MELILLA. Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as EA9/W1XGI from Melilla between October 16-22nd. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands (probably 40-10m) using mainly CW and FT8. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. For more details and updates, see: <http://island.geocities.jp/ea9melilla>

FG, GUADELOUPE. Laci, HA0NAR, will be active as FG/HG0R from Guadeloupe (NA-102) until September 7th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign or ClubLog's OQRS.

FG, GUADELOUPE. Roger, SM7RYR, will be active as FG/SM7RYR from Deshaies, Guadeloupe (NA-102), between October 27th and November 11th. Activity will be holiday style mainly on 20 meters CW and possibly 17/12m (depending on conditions). Equipment is a KX2 with a KXPA100 into a GP on beach. QSL via LoTW.

FR5, REUNION ISLAND. Patrick, FR5FC, is now active from Saint Leu, Reunion Island (AF-016). Length of stay is unknown. Activity is mainly on 40-15 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via EA7FTR or LoTW.

GB250, ENGLAND (Special Event). Members of the Pontefract and District Amateur Radio Society (PDARS) are now active (as of August 23rd) GB250CC for 28 days (September 28th) to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's first voyage of discovery to the Pacific, spanning the years 1768-1771. Captain Cook sailed out of Plymouth on August 25th, 1768, on the ship called the "Endeavor". Other activations may be possible over the next 3 years to coincide with "key moments" of the voyage. For more details, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/gb250cc>. QSL via G0BPK direct, by the Bureau to GB250CC, LoTW or eQSL.

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

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN. Members of the NB-DX Team report that they will be "on the road again" as HB0/ON4ANN from Triesenberg between September 24-28th. Operators are Willy/ON2BDJ, Erik/ON4ANN, Erik/ON4CCV, Cedric/ON4CKM, Paul/ON5PDV, Rudi/ON6MI and Etienne. The operators may also do some WWFF activity as HB0/ON4CCV/P and HB0/ON4CKM/P. Activity will be on various HF bands (usually) with special attention on 160/80/40/30 meters using CW, SSB the Digital modes. Antennas: Spiderbeams, Verticals, Inverted-L for 160m and RX antennas. QSL via M0URX or OQRS. Watch QRZ.com for a link to their Facebook page and a link for pictures (during their expedition).

HS, THAILAND. Sandy, DL1QQ, will be active as HS0ZNW from Bangkok between November 17th and December 7th. Her Thai Intermediate Amateur Radio Operator License is valid from August 14th 2018 until August 13th 2023. QSL only via LoTW.

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

JW, SVALBARD. Erik, LA2US, will once again be active as JW2US from Bear Island (IOTA EU-027) for the next 2 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.

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

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

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

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

TT8, CHAD. Kenneth, LA7GIA, has announced his next DXpedition to take place from a hotel in N'Djamena between October 9-21st. His callsign will be TT8KO. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using mainly CW and possibly SSB. There is no Digital modes planned. Look for more details to be forthcoming. Also, watch his Web page at: <http://la7gia.com/Chad/index.html>

V4, ST. KITTS. John, W5JON, active as V47JA from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, West Indies vacation home, between Oct 10 and Nov 6. Activity on 160-6 m (incl. 60m) SSB and FT8. Equipment is a Yaesu FT1000MP, FT857D and an Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. John states his antennas are a 33', 40-10m Vertical, 35', 80m Top Loaded Vertical, a base loaded 160m Vertical and on 6m a 5 element Yagi. ALL QSLs go to W5JON direct or via LoTW. NO Bureau QSLs. Also, visiting and operating from John's QTH will be Clive, GM3POI, between October 23-30th, as V4/GM3POI, on CW, SSB and FT8. Clive will also be in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) signing as V47X, and as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL V47X via M0URX.

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

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

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

VP2E, ANGUILLA. Operators Rich/KE1B and YL Anna/W6NN active as VP2EAQ and VP2EAR, from Songbird Villa, Rendezvous Bay, between Nov 19-28. Activity "holiday-style" using a single station (an Elecraft K3S) with 100w and a Buddipole antenna system directly adjacent to the sea. Ops will be on all bands 40-10 m (including 30/17/12m), and all modes (CW /SSB/ RTTY/ FT8). Look for VP2EAQ active in CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 24-25). They expect Internet access, and plan to upload logs to ClubLog daily. You can check your QSO status and request a QSL card via the OnLine QSL Request System (OQRS). Direct QSLs are via their home callsign (see QRZ.com for details). Also, QSL via LoTW or eQSL. Bureau cards should be sent via KE1B.

VP2M, MONTSERRAT. Operator Lee/K7NM, Steve/WM7Z, Richard/NS7K and Glenn/ AC7ZN will be active as VP2MLB, VP2MSA, VP2MSK and VP2MZN, respectively, from Gingerbread Hill, St. Peters, Montserrat (NA-103), sometime late November and early December. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, PSK and FT8. They will also be in the ARRL 160m CW Contest (November 30th-December 2nd) signing as VP2MSK and as a Multi-Op entry. QSL VP2MSK via NS7K, ClubLog or LoTW. QSL VP2MLB via K7NM. QSL VP2MSA via WM7Z or LoTW. QSL VP2MZN via AC7ZN.

VP6D DUCIE ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS (Press Release #8, dated August 19th).

VP6D has reached another significant milestone. After a short delay the VP6D equipment is on its way to Braveheart in New

Zealand. The shipment was consolidated on to 5 pallets, with a total weight of 1,615 kg (3,553 pounds) and released to Cathay Pacific Cargo airlines by our customs broker in Hayward, California. It's been a busy several weeks to get all the equipment consolidated, integrated, tested and packed for shipment. The short delay allowed us to add a few late arriving items: SPE high power amplifiers, a spare set of band pass filters and a drone, we think you will agree the delay was justified. At Braveheart's warehouse the pallets will be unwrapped and inventoried. The shipping cases will not be opened unless visibly damaged. The next major milestone will be in October when team members begin their journey to meet the Braveheart at Mangareva, French Polynesia. It's been a long 16 months of detailed planning and coordination – the target is now in sight. In case you missed the latest Clublog update, VP6/D is shown as #19 Most Wanted. With donations at 78% of target we're looking forward to additional DXers joining the project's donor list on VP6D.com 73, Team Ducie 2018 Please direct questions to: info@vp6d.com

ZL7, CHATHAM ISLAND. Operators Shige/JH1GNU, Kaz/JH1HRJ and Tack/JE1SCJ will be active as ZL7X from Chatham Islands (OC-038) between October 16-22nd. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. The focus will be on the low bands CW and all bands FT8. Suggested frequencies are: CW - 1822.5, 3504, 7004, 10115, 14010, 18080, 21010, 24895 and 28010 SSB - 3785, 7080, 14210, 18140, 21305, 24970 and 28510. FT8 - 1840*, 3563, 7060, 10140, 14095, 18105, 21095, 24920 and 28095 kHz. FT8: DXpedition mode except 160m. QSL via JA0VSH (direct/by the Bureau), LoTW or eQSL.

I hope that I have given you something to get your interest up in working DX. I know that the bands are not what they have been in the past, but that doesn't mean that we simply give up. Keep your rigs on, keep your ears open and hope for the best.

Until next month, vry 73.

Contest Calendars

September Contest Calendar					
Start-Date	Finish-Date	Contest Name	Sponsor's Website		
1	1300	2	0400	Colorado QSO Party	ppraa.org/coqp
1	1500	2	0300	Alabama QSO Party	www.alabamاقsoparty.org
2	1800	3	0300	Tennessee QSO Party	tnqp.org/rules
8	1400	8	2200	Ohio State Parks on the Air	www.ospota.org
8	1800	10	0300	ARRL September VHF Contest	www.arrl.org/september-vhf
9	0000	9	0400	North American Sprint, CW	ncjweb.com
15	0000	16	2359	Collegiate QSO Party	www.gatorradio.org/collegiate.html
15	0600	16	2359	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
15	1400	16	0200	Iowa QSO Party	www.w0yl.com/IAQP
15	1600	15	2300	Wisconsin Parks on the Air	www.wipota.com
15	1600	16	2000	New Jersey QSO Party	www.k2td-bcrc.org/hjqp
15	1600	16	2200	New Hampshire QSO Party	www.w1wqm.org/hhqso
15	1600	16	2359	Washington State Salmon Run	www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun
16	0000	16	0400	North American Sprint, RTTY	ncjweb.com
22	1200	23	1200	Maine QSO Party	www.ws1sm.com
29	0000	30	2359	ARRL EME Contest	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
29	0000	30	2359	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	www.cqwwrtty.com
29	1400	30	2000	Texas QSO Party	www.txqp.net

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, our contest coordinator

Contest Name	Time(s) - Date(s)
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 6 to 2159Z, Oct 7
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 13 to 2359Z, Oct 14



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



DX Calendar for September

DXPEDITIONS & CONTEST SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2018 www.hamradioweb.org																																																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30																				
ALL ASIAN TEST SSB		EX0PL		FG/HG0R		A5A		WH0RU		R10B IOTA date NOT sure AS-054-121-104-68-87-004		T32AH UNTIL 1/10...		WAE SSB TEST		PJ7/K5SL		FY/DL5FAB SA-020		DU11ST/9 OC-174		7Q7ELA		T060K (FH)		9X0T..Y		CQWW RTTY																					
3B8/PA3HGT		TF/VE2DX		3W9JK/P AS-162 (3W9JK 22-27/9)		3DA0A0		VK9XT		5W0GC																																							
NEXT MONTHS OVERVIEW																																																	
October										November										December										January										February									
E6Y										VP6D																																							

From the Great Lakes Director



Dale, WA8EFK

ARRL Great Lakes Division Director

Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales"

Our sincere thanks go out to a group of unsung heroes, our corps of Official Observers/Amateur Auxiliary (OO) operators. These guys and gals spend countless hours in front of their equipment listening to all of us to insure we don't move too close to a band edge, don't wait too long between IDs or don't commit a host of other rules violations. They mail us a quick reminder, or often send a compliment about our good operating practices.



OFFICIAL OBSERVER ADVISORY NOTICE

Radio: _____, your call was heard calling _____ at _____ UTC.

Date: _____ 19 ____ Frequency _____ kHz. Mode ____ Your RST _____

The following is noted in the interest of maintaining Amateur Radio's reputation for good operating/technical practices: 1 FREQUENCY INSTABILITY 2 CHIRP 3 SPURIOUS 4 HARMONIC 5 HUM 6 KEY CLICKS 7 BROAD SIGNAL 8 DISTORTED AUDIO 9 OVER DEVIATION 10 OUT OF BAND 11 IMPROPER ID 12 LANGUAGE 13 CAUSING INTERFERENCE 14 CARRIER 20 OTHER

Remarks: _____

Please refer to FCC Regulation _____. Please take a few minutes to determine what equipment factors or operating practices might have contributed to this apparent departure from the rule or the good amateur practice standard. The intent of this notice is to alert you to the above noted operating condition. **NO REPLY IS NECESSARY.** The undersigned ARRL Official Observer has fulfilled this helping role by simply alerting you, and is not required to reply to any correspondence. Thank you for your attention and any cooperative efforts to enhance the high standards of the Amateur Radio Service which we all share with pride.

PSO-213(805) Signature _____ Call _____

For a considerable time our OOs have been frustrated, along with the rest of us, because the FCC was limited in its ability to take direct action on an OO report about a bad operator. Now, things are about to change. After months of discussion with the FCC, the OO/AA corps is to be replaced by a "Volunteer Monitor" (VM) program. The program differences are extensive, both in policies and procedures, necessitating a total revamping. A new training booklet is now being completed for the VMs.

The VMs will not be a part of the ARRL Field Organization as were the OOs. The VM program will be administered directly by ARRL Headquarters and report to HQ staff. Because of the extensive difference in mission of the new VM program, VMs will be called upon to perform different duties than OOs. Unlike the OO program where OOs are located in relatively random locations across the country, VMs will be selected in geographic regions where there services are most needed. It is expected that a force of about 250 VMs will be put in place. Further, VMs will be anonymous in their reporting processes and to accomplish that, all field notices will be mailed from ARRL HQ and HQ will maintain appropriate liaison with the Commission. Efforts to make the change to the new VM program are to begin immediately. Existing OOs are encouraged to apply for the available VM slots when the opportunities are opened.

Newington, CT – August 27, 2018 – The Board of Directors of ARRL, The national association for Amateur Radio, has elected Howard E. Michel, PhD, WB2ITX, of Dartmouth, MA, to be the association's new Chief Executive Officer, effective October 15.

Michel will succeed Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, who had been serving as ARRL's CEO since January of 2018 following the resignation of Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. Shelley had been ARRL's Chief Financial Officer since January of 1992.



The full ARRL announcement is on the ARRL web site: <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-arrl-chief-executive-officer-elected-by-board-of-directors>

Again, change comes to our Headquarters operation. While it is inevitable, sometimes we are uncomfortable with the unknowns that change brings. Particularly with new leadership, we are especially alert

to even the very minor differences in the various ways the "new guy" influences day-to-day operations.

So as we gear up to welcome Howard Michel in October, let's gear up for the expectations regarding the new ideas he will bring. Will we all agree with every decision? Of course not, and that should not be a consideration. Will we reach accord, will we achieve consensus, will we find common points? Yes, and that's the way it should be. Let's also

be supportive by continuing to bring out our own new ideas as we face the future of our hobby, especially as we introduce newcomers to ham radio and mentor them into being good operators. That's the important goal.

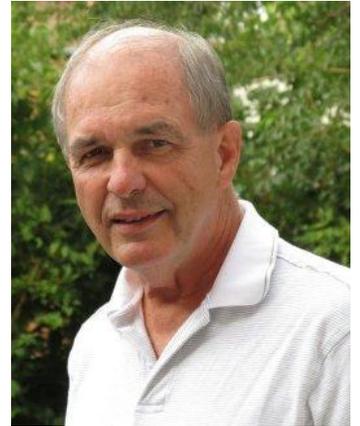
Editor's note: When this was first announced, I looked up WB2ITX on QRZ - he had about 470 look-ups. Since then many other have done the same. The reason I did that was to see how active he is. Well, that count tells me he has not been on the air very much for all the years as a ham. I was hoping we would get a 'radio active' person, someone who shares the passion for ham radio and actually uses it. We'll see how it goes.

From the Great Lakes Vice Director



Tom, W8WTD

ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Who is a ham? What does a ham do? I was thinking about that recently as I looked back on my summer. Not much operating. Well, wait, there was Field Day. And lots of repair, lots of planning. Wanting to make sure that all the systems will operate, both at my home station and for the clubs I work with.

Those of us who have been in ham radio for a while tend to remember certain hams we knew from the 1950s and 1960s, who had a reputation for staying in their basements (or wherever the shack was) and talking for hours around the world. And a few of us still do that. We have groups dedicated to helping each other find and work those rare call signs.

Then there are others who talk little but tinker a lot. Maybe it's more than tinkering, but whatever you call it, it's technical. Maybe it's just keeping equipment repaired, maybe it's restoring life to old equipment, or it could even be real scientific advancement.

And of course, these days, with fires and floods and storms all around us, a lot of people spend time preparing for, and actually operating during a disaster. Just this past week, with the hurricane threatening Hawaii, the ARRL home page talked about "Ham Aid" and the preparations to make sure equipment was available in case a large-scale relief effort was needed.

There's ham radio in each of those activities. We all tend to do what we like, and every now and again, something new will catch our interest. All of it is valuable to the future of ham radio.

So let's keep at it. Make sure your gear works. Get on and chat once in a while with friends. And in particular, reach out to new hams and help them with projects so they learn and improve. Looking forward to seeing and talking with many of you during the upcoming hamfests this late summer and fall.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



From the Ohio Section Manager



Hey Gang

New law adds \$100 fine for distracted driving

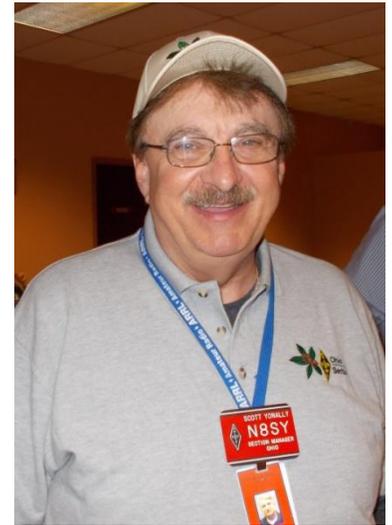
As reported in a story in the Cleveland Plain Dealer recently, Ohioans could face a fine of \$100 for Distracted Driving when the changes take place the first of October. Governor Kasich signed into law some new regulations on our current Distracted Driving Law that could get you fines of up to \$100.

Some of you have sent me emails about this article, and if these new changes will apply to Amateur Radio operators while driving. As it is written, it does not effect the use of a two-way radio. Bob Winston, W2THU, our State Government Liaison wrote about this in his article that appear in the June edition of the Ohio Section Journal <http://arrl-ohio.org/news/2018/OSJ-Jun-18.pdf>

Texting while driving has been a secondary offense in Ohio since 2012. But House Bill 95, which passed the legislature with bipartisan support, applies to distracted driving in all its forms. Similar laws are already on the books in Connecticut, Maine, Washington state, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, according to the American Automobile Association.

As it was reported in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, no one testified against the distracted- driving ban. But some questioned how enforceable the measure would be, and others argued the measure should go further and allow cops to pull over motorists just for distracted driving.

This new portion of the law will take effect in Ohio this October banning all forms of distracted driving. Want to read the law for your self? Here's a link to it.. http://arrl-ohio.org/SGL/hb95_05_EN.pdf



Scott, N8SY

ARRL Ohio Section Manger

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KA8OAT	Richard McPeak	KD8ZDZ	Steven Guldeman
W8IFM	William Dunn	N8KBX	Bob Magree
W5OV	Bob Naumann	W8AHC	Ronald Echelberry
WB8VYW	Mike Hutsler	KD8BBT	Andrew Six
KD8WBC	Don Manning	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
WD8BIW	Karen Warner	KD8UXG	Scott Gardner
KD8JRE	Michael Harris	KD8VT	James Andrews

Petition Drive to Save WWV / WWVH



Petition Drive to Save WWV/WWVH – Sept. 15 Deadline

WWV transmitter site in Colorado. The NIST budget request for fiscal 2019 eliminates funding for continued operation of WWV and its Hawaiian counterpart, WWVH. (US Government photo)

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has eliminated funding for the continued operation of time/frequency standard stations WWV and WWVH in its Fiscal Year 2019 budget.

Tens of thousands of radio amateurs and other users of the shortwave spectrum rely on these stations as sources of accurate time and precise frequency measurement, as well as a wealth of propagation data. (WWVB, on 60 kHz, which provides time data for so-called "atomic clocks," would continue to be funded.)

Two petitions have been started on the White House's "**We the People**" petition site calling for restoration of funding for these two essential radio stations. Each needs at least 100,000 electronic signatures by mid-September to generate a response from the White House. The petitions can be found at:

<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/maintain-funding-nist-stations-wwv-wwvh>

<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/proposed-shutdown-nists-wwv-and-wwvh-radio-stations>

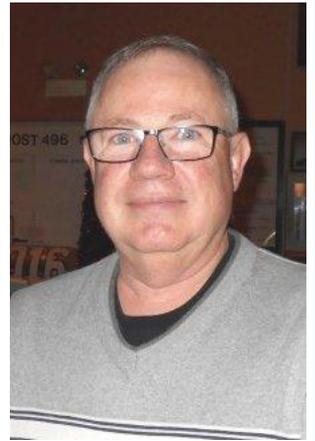
PCARS urges its members and friends – and anyone else who finds value in the continued operation of WWV and WWVH – to sign one or both petitions *and* to contact your representatives in Congress to explain the need for these stations to continue to operate. Congress has the last word on the federal budget and can modify department proposals as it sees fit.

[**Update:** The Case Western Reserve University Amateur Radio Club recommends calling the members of the House and Senate subcommittees directly responsible for NIST oversight and its budget, especially if you are a constituent of one of those members. For details, see <https://w8edu.wordpress.com/save-wwv/>]



Morse Code - A Bit of History

Tom, WB8LCD



Morse Code and Ham Radio – Important Factors In The History (and the culture) Of The World!

People who are Ham Radio Operators, people who know Morse code, are sometimes considered just a bit “weird” by most of the other inhabitants of this planet. Yet, we are daily putting our mark on society, history and culture – in some very interesting ways!



Samuel F.B. Morse was the son of a Calvinist preacher. Morse studied philosophy and mathematics at Yale University before turning his attention to the arts, eventually travelling to England in 1811 to study painting. He became a portrait painter. In fact, he was a very good portrait painter. So good, that in 1825 he was commissioned by the United States Government to come to Washington DC (his home town was in Connecticut) to paint a portrait of the French General Marquis de Lafayette.

While in Washington, Morse got word that his wife was sick. That word, sent by horse carried letter took several weeks to get there. By the time he could get home, his wife had died and had already been buried. Morse was devastated and spent most of the rest of his life trying to improve the state of long distance communications. Working with the newly discovered Electricity / Electro-Magnetic currents he sought to move information via wire.

Others were working on that same problem in a similar fashion. Most other systems required multiple wires while Morse’s system required only one wire. Morse received a patent for his system in 1838, but still did not have a viable system. In 1844 Congress appropriated money to Morse to continue his development of a system. On May 23, 1844, Morse, situated in the U.S. Capitol, tapped out a message to his longtime assistant Alfred Vail. Seconds later, Vail, sitting in a Baltimore, Maryland, railroad depot less than 50 miles away, received the brief message that would usher in a new world of communication—*What hath God wrought?*

At the end of WWII, Hideki Tojo, a ruthless Japanese General, not wanting to face war-crime hearings, shot himself in a suicide attempt. (Apparently he was too chicken to use the traditional Hari-Kari that most of his other officers had used for committing suicide.) American doctors saved his life!

Tojo wears false teeth, and while imprisoned at Sugamo Prison, needs a new set. American military dentists Dr. George Clark Foster and Dr. Jack Mallory were given the assignment. Clark later wrote, in 1988 “Needless to say, our sentiment toward the Japanese was not the most favorable so soon after WW II. I figured it was my duty to carry out the assignment. But that didn’t mean I couldn’t have fun with it.”



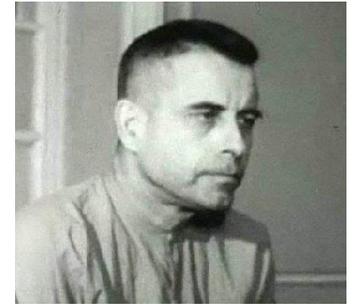
Tojo’s new teeth came with a message: Remember Pearl Harbor. This was drilled into the back side of the false teeth in a series of dots and dashes. Although the prank was meant to be kept secret, after word of the prank got out, the message had to be removed from the teeth. (Tojo was later hanged for war crimes).

Move forward to July 1965. Navy pilot Jeremiah Denton is shot down in his A6 Intruder over North Viet Nam. North Viet Nam was a signatory to the Third Geneva Convention in 1949, but the Communist



government in Hanoi claimed that the rules for humane treatment of prisoners did not apply in “undeclared wars of aggression.” Denton spent 8 years as a POW. Four of those years were spent in solitary confinement. He was tortured, beaten. And then in May of 1966 he was taped for a propaganda video. In the weeks prior to this session he was continually beaten to ensure his performance.

As he sat with a Japanese reporter he blinked continuously through the interview, pretending to be adjusting to the television camera lights. He was actually sending a message back home by repeatedly blinking the word TORTURE in morse code. When the reporter asked about the US involvement in the war, he replied: “I don’t know what is happening but whatever the position of my government is, I support it – fully. Whatever the position of my government is, I believe in it, yes sir. I’m a member of that government and it’s my job to support it and I will as long as I live.” Blinking his morse code message the entire time. He really did not expect to live much longer after that, but he was returned to the US in 1973.



Denton was promoted to Rear Admiral before he left the Navy. In 1976 he published a book titled “When Hell Was in Session” which was an account of his days as a POW. He served as US Senator from Alabama 1981 – 1987. Jerry Denton died March 28, 2014, 3 months shy of his 90th birthday. The following clip is from his 1966 interview; <https://youtu.be/rufnWLVQcKg>

Moving forward, in the movie “Enemy of the State” (1998) starring Will Smith, it’s the “Deep State” who are the bad guys (how prophetic). Smith’s character is being chased by the bad guys, using all the resources of the US government, including satellites. Several times in the movie, they call on the satellites (and do amazing things with them!) and when they do, they cut to an image of a satellite (actually a model made for the movie) and present it as if it is in space orbit. Now, if you wanted to have a High-Tech item presented, you had to give it a High Tech sound track! The following clip has a short bit of that, there are others in the movie. Notice that High Tech sound track is non-other than morse code! Listen carefully. I’m pretty sure you’ll be able to make out the letters CQ CQ CQ. I’m betting there was a ham involved! <https://youtu.be/TTzIOPzPiK0>



While I haven’t found this one yet, I’m told that Iron Butterfly, on their first album in 1968, had a theme track that at the end of it the keyboard player tapped out “I Love You” in morse. If you find that one, please send it to me! On Manfred Mann’s album Chance there is a cut called Stranded. You’ll find morse in that one too. The Clash did a song called “London Calling.” Check it out. I’m sure there are many more. How about sending all the ones you know of to me and we’ll make a “playlist”.

Back to the movies for my final example. Pee Wee’s Big Adventure. Another “high-tech” movie. The following clip shows the security that had to be passed to get Pee Wee’s bike out of the garage. And yes, rather fast, it includes morse code. <https://youtu.be/69ZqiwHYzmM>

Check it out! I can cite lots of other examples! In the Sylvester Stallone movie “Cliff Hanger” all of the Rocky Mountain Search and Rescue people are using Amateur Radio Equipment. And the guys in the field can use handi-talkies to communicate with the base stations using HF radios! Pretty amazing. You’ll find ham radio gear in most of the Die Hard movies too!

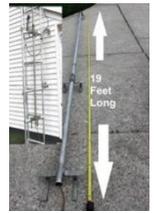
Keep you eyes and ears open. Our culture and society are molded by many different influences. Ham Radio and Morse Code are just two of them!

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: I have a used **80 meter Carolina Windham**, with 100' of RG8X attached to it. I'll take almost any offer, and will consider any trade.

Contact Tom, WB8LCD at tomdly29@gmail.com [12/02/18]

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

Contact John, KD8MQ at: 330-936-5021 or email to: KD8MQ1@gmail.com [07/02/18]



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 8th



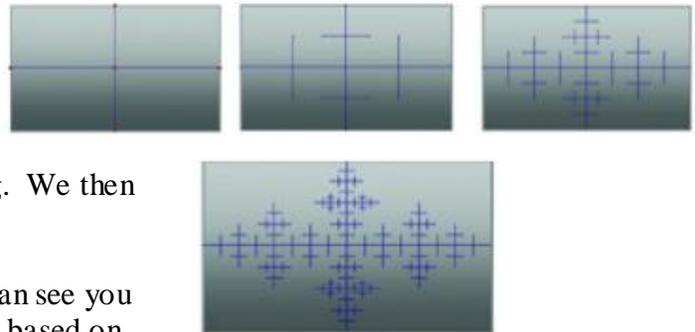


Jim, AC8NT

I have been asked many questions about fractal antennas. How are they made? Why are they used? Are they useful in ham radio? In this short piece, I will try to help you understand these antennas a little better.

First, what is a fractal?

A fractal is a curve or geometric figure, each part of which has the same statistical character as the whole. So much for the formal definition. Simply put a fractal is a geometric figure that can be continuously scaled. An example might help. We will start with two lines crossing. We then simply divide each line in half with a new line.

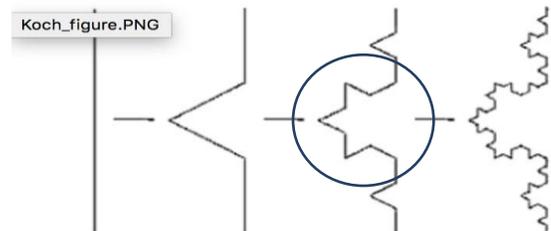


This is an example of a very simple fractal. As you can see you can keep dividing lines forever. There are actual antennas based on this very pattern.



Another simple pattern used in antennas is shown to the left. Just keep putting white triangles in the black ones as shown. Again this can be done forever. The black areas will be metal in the antenna.

Our third and last example shown at the right is the Koch fractal. This design will be the first we will discuss used in an antenna. Note the portion shown in the oval. We will need that shape soon.



A simple Google search on the internet will find lots of examples. You should now be able to see that fractals can be infinitely scaled. Also note as we create a fractal they do not get any bigger, they just get more complex. The number of edges and angle bends get larger, but the size does not. Edges and angles typically make for better antenna efficiency. The more the better when it comes to efficiency.

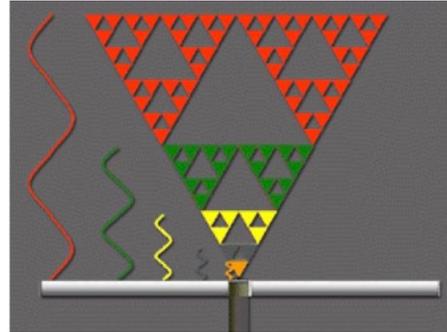
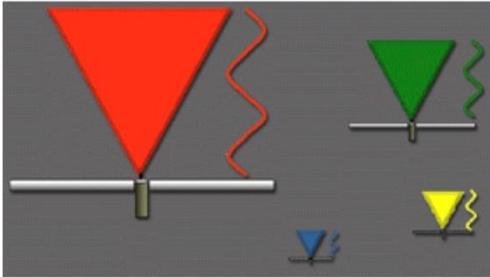
Now why do we use them in antennas?

Without getting into a lot of math. Here are some advantages of fractal antenna designs.

- They have much better bandwidth. As an example this is very useful in Wi-Fi components that need to cover 2 to 6 GHz signals. Fractals allow us to design one antenna that has very small size, very wide bandwidth and great antenna efficiency for this application.
- Very compact designs. Very useful for modules that are more useful because they have built-in antennas
- Frequency independence. This comes from having designs that have very high bandwidth.

- Very high antenna efficiency. The edges and angles improve efficiency without increasing the area required by the antenna.

Looking at the picture to the left. It shows four antennas designed for four frequencies. Each design is a typical half bowtie design.

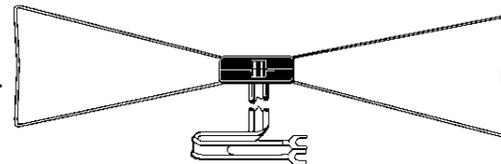


Now look at the picture to the right and see how we can combine them into one fractal design.

As you can see we can take the space required for the lowest frequency and end up with an antenna covering all four frequencies. If you imagine this type of design taken to a higher level of fractal, we could easily get many frequencies out of a single antenna.

Could I get this result using another technique? Assume you have a set of dipole antennas each with a 2% bandwidth designed so that the difference between the lowest frequency (largest dipole) and the highest frequency (shortest dipole) was your desired frequency coverage. Also assume you pick enough dipoles in the set such that the 2% bandwidth allows the set to completely cover the entire frequency range from the lowest to the highest desired frequency. It could easily be a lot of dipoles taking up a lot of space. Not a practical solution in most cases. However, if we use fractals we can get this same effect in the space required for the lowest frequency. NICE!

Here is another example that some of us will remember.

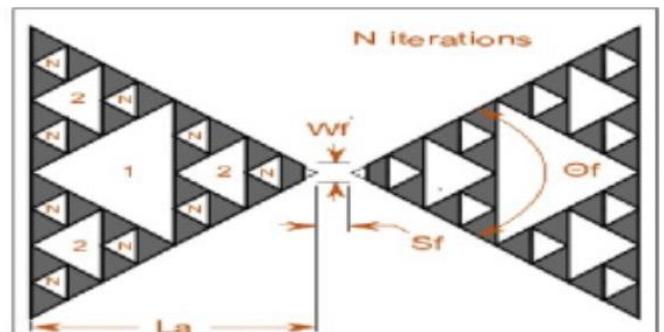


This was the uhf antenna we had on our TVs before digital. Few people realize why this design was picked. First its width is $1/6$ wavelength versus the $1/2$ wavelength of an equivalent dipole. Second its bandwidth is about 20% of the design frequency versus 8% for a standard dipole. Great improvement when you are picking up a lot of TV stations across a wide TV spectrum. Now assume you use two triangular fractal pieces.

This shows a Sierpinski fractal design. The gain of this antenna is about 6 dBi and the bandwidth is about 48%. This is a large improvement with no increase in the size of the antenna.

What can hams use them for?

These designs are very useful in the microwave regions and some antennas have been designed for VHF and UHF frequencies. I have found no useful designs for HF antennas. The math can give you problems if the frequencies are low making most of the design models only useful above 200 MHz. Still I am playing with these for use with long range mesh nodes and telemetry projects. As time goes on this technology will find other uses for hams including use in filters and tuned amplifiers. Maybe this would be a good topic for the Antenna SIG.



PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted !!!

Dig out an old amateur radio call sign license plate (with your present call sign), clean it up and bring it to be permanently affixed to the wall in the PCARS club station.

We have 67 PCARS member's ham plates now, **but we can use more**. Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the [PCARS Yahoo Group](#) site. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of PCARS history**.



From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PCARS is on YouTube

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

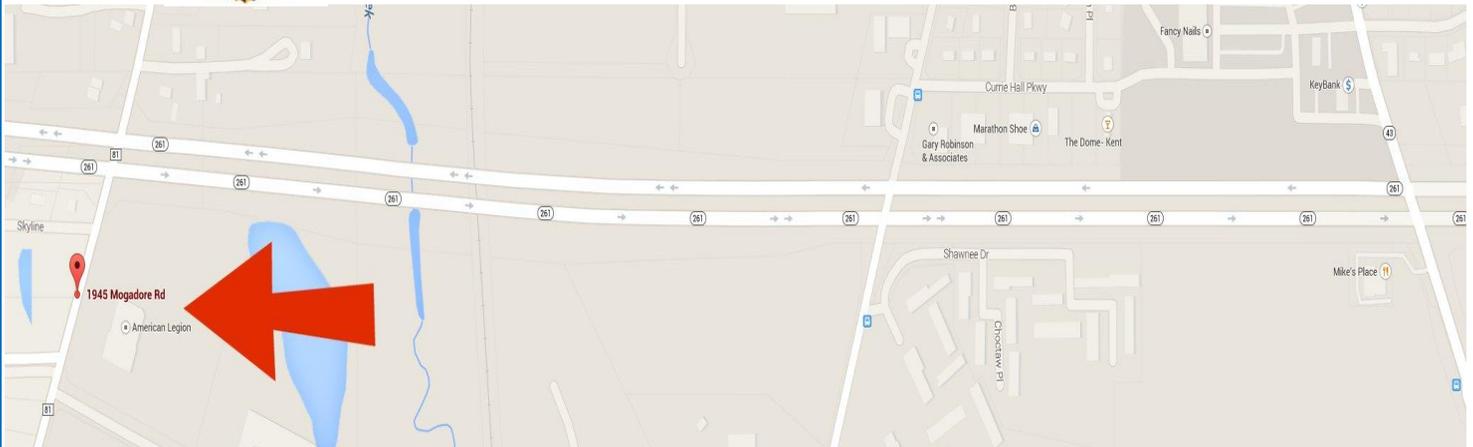


PCARS Meetings

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



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



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



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

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

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

Ohio State Parks On The Air



11th ANNUAL - OSPOTA - September 8th

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

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

Also, as in the past, some park officials seem to think that since you are participating in OSPOTA, you need some sort of permit - You do not need a permit. You are just a visitor to the park that happens to be a ham operator testing out emergency communications with other hams in other state parks - again, you are a visitor to the park. **However be aware that the local Rangers may still require registration as an "event"**. See the latest information on the OSPOTA web site (www.ospota.org) or on the OSPOTA Yahoo site - **THERE HAVE BEEN UPDATES** to the rules and other documents.

You have no special rights as to where you can set up and please don't make any demands to a Park Ranger. That's the easiest way to get tossed out of a State Park. Be polite, invite the Park Ranger(s) to see what you are doing and make sure you let him/her know that this is really like practicing emergency communications for public service. More and more governmental agencies such as Police, Public Health Departments, EMA, FEMA, Dept of Health & Human Services, Red Cross, etc. recognize how important amateur radio is for emergency communications.

"When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works".

Most of the time when you talk to the Park Rangers about this aspect - they think it's pretty cool and they leave you alone.

So - be polite - and most of all **HAVE FUN!** Take some pictures while you're out there, too.

Check the rules again (they are posted here and on the main OSPOTA web site - since late last year).

Pick a Park and go for it!



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

Ohio State Parks On The Air



11th annual **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest

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

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

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



Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?
Check out **all** the details at: www.OSPOTA.org

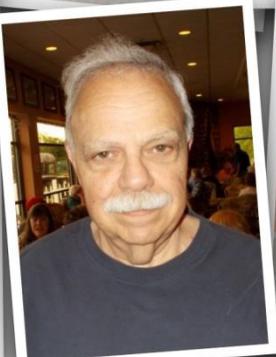
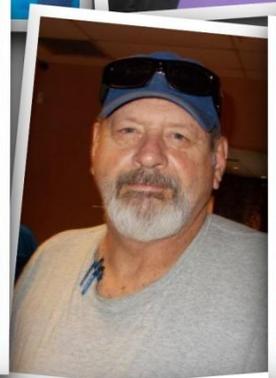
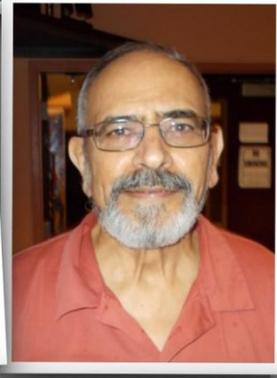
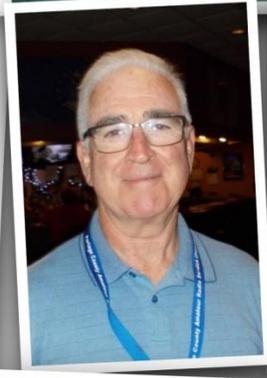
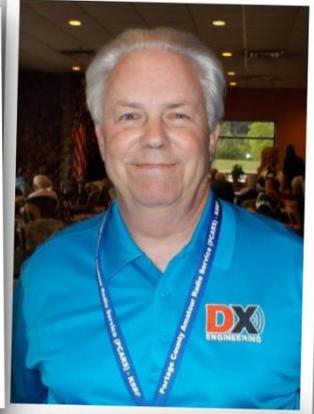
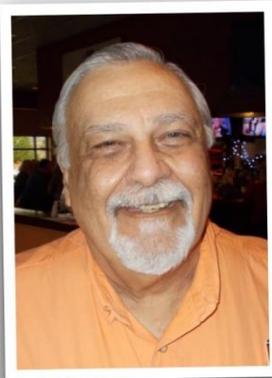
While you're at it, check out the PCARS web site at: www.portcars.org

Feb 2018

Photos from the PCARS Meeting in August



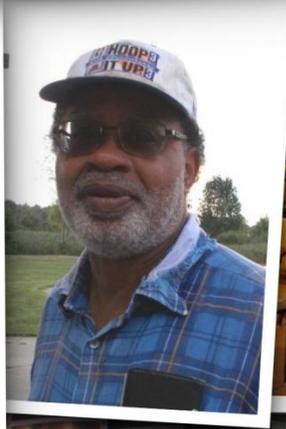
PCARS - AUGUST 13, 2018



PCARS - AUGUST 13, 2018



PCARS - AUGUST 13, 2018



PCARS

AUGUST 13, 2018



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Important Days in September

5th September, 2018 will be... Cheese Pizza Day

Although we are all fond of piling toppings onto our favourite pizzas, the humble cheese pizza is celebrated with Cheese Pizza Day. It is estimated that there are more than 70,000 pizzerias across the United States, demonstrating how pizza has been adopted into the national psyche.

Bizarrely, pizza – especially a basic cheese pizza – was regarded by its Italian inventors as a food for the lower classes who could not afford the luxury of meats. The ingredients are cheap, requiring just flour, yeast and water to make a basic dough, with toppings often being picked from local trees and made from local milk.

Whether you're a fan of a deep dish from Chicago, or prefer the more authentic Italian thin base pizza, now you have an excuse to indulge! If you really want to spoil yourself, head down to Pizza Luis XIII restaurant in Salerno, Italy, where the world's most expensive pizza has been created – costing \$12,0000!



7th September, 2018 will be... Beer Lover's Day

"Milk is for babies. When you grow up you have to drink beer." - Arnold Schwarzenegger

Beer is one of the world's most popular alcoholic drink. It has been around for centuries dating as far back as the Egyptians and Romans. Nowadays, Craft beer is a million dollar business and breweries are becoming the most popular hobby to take part in.



History of Beer Lover's Day

There are many different ways to brew beer, as the way we process beer has changed and evolved over time. However, this day dedicated to all the different kinds of beer and the celebration of beer lovers. As it is one of the oldest beverages humanity has ever produced, it dates back to the 5th millennium BC in Iran, as ancients were drinking beer upon its discovery. However, our modern society is crazy about beer due to its taste, the way it makes people feel, and the commemorative way in which beer is used. It's generally used for celebration or a get-together and it is everywhere.

Small facts about beer and beer lovers include the fact that a beer lover or enthusiast is called a cerevisaphile. Another interesting fact is that Germany serves beer ice cream in popsicle form. Its alcoholic content is less than that found in "classic" beer. Fact three includes how they used mugs with a whistle baked into the rim, the whistle being used to summon the barmaid. It has been suggested this practice gave birth to the phrase "wet your whistle." The only instance in which beer was prohibited on a legal level was the prohibition period of the 1920's. Lastly, centuries ago in England, pub visitors used a novel innovation that enabled them to get their beer served quickly. But beer has a long and detailed history, but no matter the history, many people do know the fact that beer is good.

How to celebrate Beer Lover's Day

One of the best ways to celebrate Beer Lover's Day is to have a beer or lager with your friends, no matter the occasion. Another way you can have a good time is by going on a beer tasting journey at a specialty brewery. You can also go bar hopping and drink beers at your local pubs to have a good time. If you don't feel like drinking beer, you can cook with it as well with many different kinds of food recipes.

11th September, 2018 will be... Patriot Day

Patriot Day falls on 11th September (also commonly known as ‘Nine-Eleven’) and is remembered globally as the anniversary of the catastrophic terrorist attacks on the USA of 11th September 2001.

Embedded in the memories of everyone who lived through it, this was the day four jet planes were hijacked and crashed into the New York World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, causing the deaths of 2,977 people. The fourth plane (United Airlines Flight 93) was directed at Washington DC, but its passengers bravely attempted to take back control and it crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.



The large majority of those lost after the attacks on the Twin Towers were working at or above the points of collision; thousands of people who had gone to work that morning like every other day, found themselves suddenly stranded at the top of a burning skyscraper. A number made the choice to jump from the flaming buildings rather than wait to be caught by the flames or for the building to collapse. No one could forget the terrifying and heartbreaking stories and images captured by the news footage of the day.

In the wake of the World Trade Center collisions, many brave men and women from the emergency services risked their lives to try to help rescue victims of the attacks, and of them 411 lost their own lives attempting to fight fires and rescue people.

Patriot Day is recognized by US law as the official day of remembrance for these tragic events, and has been observed every year since. Each year on this day, American flags are flown at half-staff to honor and commemorate those lives lost. The US President asks fellow Americans to observe a moment of silence at 8.46 am (Eastern Daylight Time), the time of the first plane collision into the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

While the events took place within the USA, the shock and grief experienced in response to the attacks was shared across the globe, and for this reason Patriot Day will be observed not only in America, but all over the world.

14th September, 2018 will be... Cream Filled Doughnut Day

”You can’t buy happiness, but you can buy donuts, and that’s kinda the same thing.”

We couldn’t agree more, especially if those donuts are filled with delicious crème. These delightful confections are popular in every venue, and a quick way to win the adoration of your workmates is by bringing in a couple dozen to lighten the mood. Creme Filled Donut Day celebrates these delicious treats and their most excellent of innovations, crème filling. What will you fill your donut with?



History of Creme-Filled Donut Day

The history of Creme-Filled Donut Day is, unsurprisingly, the history of the donut. The concept of a fried bread ring isn’t in any way new, but if you’re looking for the earliest version of what we call donuts you’ll find your way to New Amsterdam in the New World. Don’t know where that is? It’s a bit like Constantinople, which we now know as Istanbul. New Amsterdam, of course, is New York City! The Settlers from Denmark had a cake known rather unappetizingly as “oil cake”, or “olykoek”.

In 1803 a cookbook was published that contained donuts, and it didn’t take long for it to become the delicious treat we know today. Donuts have a reputation as a singularly American food, in spite of its Dutch origins. The ring shape that we all know and love came into being when Hanson Gregory, working on a lime-trading ship, punched a hole in the

traditionally dense donut (They were braided or simply a round small loaf at the time, leaving the center doughy and the exterior greasy) and fried it. The light flavor and fluffy texture of the cooked dough were exactly what he was looking for and afterward taught it to his mother.

Being a clever lass, Elizabeth Gregory made a delightfully savory donut with cinnamon, nutmeg, and lemon rind, and then filled the center with a mixture of hazelnuts or walnuts to replace the missing dough. While the person who decided that cr me would make a delightful filling isn't recorded, we do know that it all started here with Elizabeth Gregory and her idea of filling donuts.

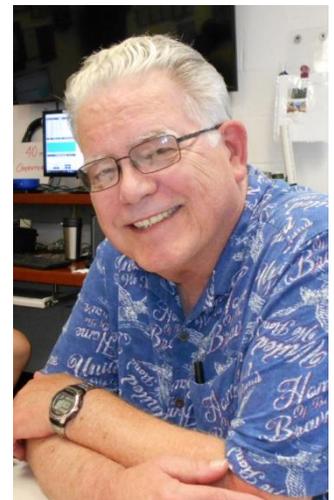
How to Celebrate Creme-Filled Donut Day

The easiest way to celebrate Creme-Filled Donut Day is by bringing in a big order of donuts to your work or school, everyone will be sure to appreciate them! If you're feeling really adventurous you can even try making your own donuts, it's not a feat for the faint of heart. Ok, actually it's pretty easy, it just requires making a donut mix and deep frying it. Once it's reached a nice golden brown you just take a pastry funnel and fill it with whatever your heart desires! We suggest banana cream!

Thanks & 73



Parkey, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

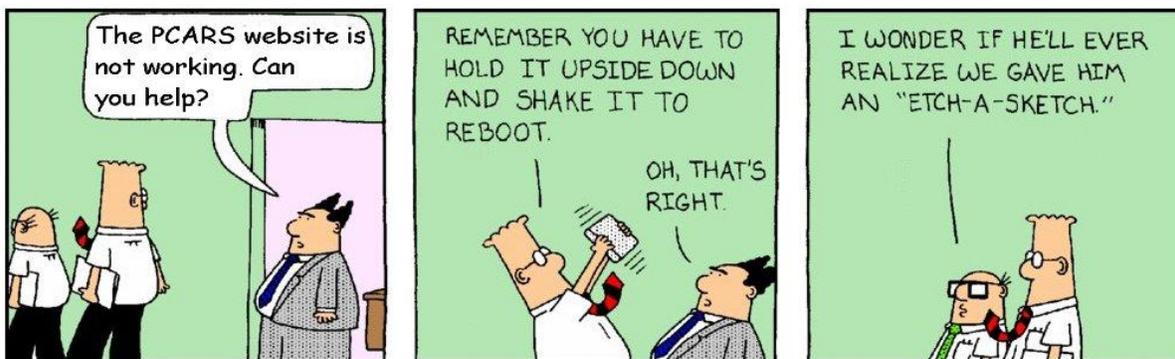


All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great all throughout 2018 and beyond.

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

AC8NT, WA8AR, KD8IDJ, KB8UUZ, KB6NU, K8CAV, KD8SKL, WB8LCD, KD8MQ, KA8TOA, W8KNO, W8PT, KB8AMZ, WA8EFK, W8WTD, N8SY, The ARRL, Ham Radio Web and the World-Wide Web.

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



~ Amateur Radio Instruction Class ~

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

is sponsoring an Amateur Radio **Technician** course

that will enable *You* to obtain

Your **FCC Technician** license as an

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR



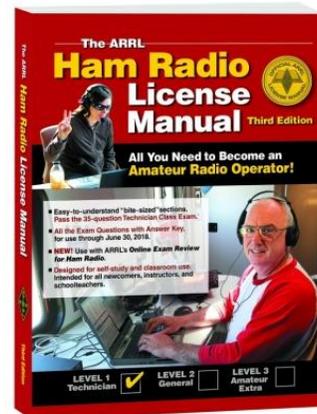
When: Wednesday evening 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
September 19, 2018 through November 7, 2018
8 weeks. Official Amateur Radio License testing
will be held at the end of the course (Nov 7th).

Where: At the **PCARS Club Site**
Radio Room located in the
Dietrich Building
705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna

Registration: First night of class

Cost: **\$25.00 Registration fee.**
(No Registration Fee for PCARS Members)
\$30 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual”
(text may be purchased first night of class)

Information: Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT
e-mail at: jawilson@j3solutions.com
phone at: **330-342-8149**



As a licensed **Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to

- **Contact other ham radio operators in the area and around the world**
- **Serve your community – ham radio operators are the critical communication link during disasters and emergencies**
- **Participate in a fascinating and rewarding hobby**

THERE WILL BE A FIVE STUDENT MINIMUM (or no class will be done)

Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT to make your reservation NOW

Jim Wilson - AC8NT, at jawilson@j3solutions.com or by phone at 330-342-8149

Ohio State Parks On The Air



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

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

Always the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.



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

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

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

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

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

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



So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** in September.

Have some fun with this contest!

Learn more about PCARS at www.portcars.org.

73 for now,
OSPOTA Contest Committee



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

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

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

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

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



Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?
Check out **all** the details at: www.OSPOTA.org

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

1 Dec 2015

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

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

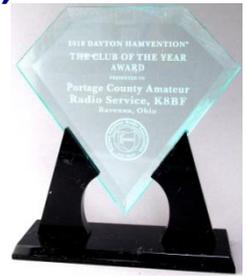


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**, 1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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

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

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



~ 2018 Officers ~		2018 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Vice President - Tony Romito - WA8AR Treasurer - Amy Leggiero - KD8SKL 3 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV 2 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ 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 ~	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
2nd Monday of each month, 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Secretary	W8NET	Gene Marsh
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmaster	KD8MQ	John Myers



PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members

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



THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The **RADIOGRAM** is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - **Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year** - copyright ©2018. The **RADIOGRAM** is an **Award Winning** newsletter: ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter First Place Winner for 2012 AND 2013. Second Place in the Great Lakes Division for 2013. Second Place ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter for 2014. Third Place Winner in the Ohio Section 2015. Second Place Winner in the Ohio Section for 2016. **First Place Newsletter Winner in the Ohio Section for 2017 & 2018 and First Place Newsletter Winner in the Great Lakes Division 2017.** Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KB8UUZ@gmail.com. The **RADIOGRAM** always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel - think PCARS!**

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



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