



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

October 2019 - Volume 14 Number 10

Center of Hope Donations



***With YOUR Help
We Can Reach a BIG Goal
for 2019***



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!

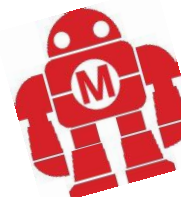


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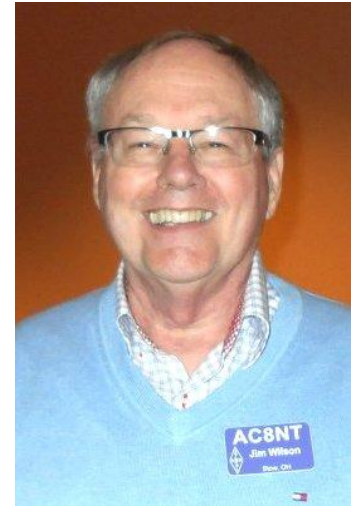
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From the President

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



Lots to talk about this month:

JOTA



We are still planning to assist scouts at Camp Manatoc with the Jamboree-On-The-Air event on Saturday October 19th. We will be assisting in preparing for the event also. This is a great opportunity for our club to interest young people in ham radio. If you are interested please contact me as soon as possible. We already have a couple of volunteers and I would like a few more.

Antique Radio Museum Tour

The tour of Cid Vance's K8JLY antique radio museum was a lot of fun. Turnout was, however, very poor but we had a great time. The collection is just outstanding especially when you know almost all of the equipment works. You could spend hours just looking at his collection which includes not just ham radio equipment but also antique flashlights, home radios, little steam engines and even motorcycles. Ben, KE8JUZ, as well as the rest of us, had a great time learning about early radio. If 40 meters had been open Cid would have let us get some contacts. Unfortunately 40 was not active during our visit. It is just awesome to look at all the stuff. I recommend a visit if you get the chance.



Club Site Operations Updates

We have completed the installation of the new 40 meter dipole at the club site. Thanks go out to Jack, N8BI for making the new antenna and to Ed, K8IV for supplying materials. Also I would like to thank all of you that came out Saturday September 21st to help with the install. This was not easy. Three of our antennas, the 80, 40 and 80/40 dipoles, are all attached to a common support ring hanging from the big tower. To fix one, they all need to come down. We needed to do a little tuning so they we up and down a few times till we got it right. Thanks again to all those that made this project possible. We all hope that we don't need to repair any future wind damage to our antennas. We also rearranged how our coax cables running from our dipoles to the building to keep them out of the trees and away from the building doors.

The club has purchased three new headsets. These are Heil Pro-7 headsets designed for ICOM radios. These should make operation of our 7300's much easier. The three existing headsets that were in use at the ICOM stations will be part of our November Center of Hope 50/50. These are great headsets, but just weren't designed for ICOM equipment. **So get ready to buy those tickets and possibly win one of these at our November meeting.**



We have started to standardize our stations in Operations. This will involve creating a common setup stored on a flash card in each ICOM station for common modes of operations. This means setup for RTTY, SSB, CW or Digital will be easily accomplished from these stored setups. We will also be standardizing all the

computers at the club so they all contain the same software including logging programs and digital mode support. This is being done to make our equipment easier to use for all our members. This will require a few weeks and help from a number of our members to make sure the software and ICOM setups are correct and tested. More to come on this topic in the future. Watch for QSTs for help completing this very important project.

Bay 3 Update

Well most of the physical work is now done. The wall painting is complete, new shelves have been installed, the garage door has been painted, floor painting is in progress and the room layout has been changes to give us more room for events. This project should be completed by early October. This will make build days easier and provide space for more participants. If you see a QST requesting help, we could use your support.

Election of Officers

Our club runs on the support of our members. That obviously includes our leadership team. This year we will have a few positions on the board that will need to be filled. Please support our club by running for office. You have the right to run for any open position. All you need is to be a member, be nominated for office and be at the November meeting to accept nomination and be voted on. It is a little work, but the rewards are great. Please think about running.

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:



- October 5 & 6th - California QSO Party at the club site - starts at noon
- October 5th - VE Testing at the club site - starts at 10 am
- October 7th - Board Meeting at the club site - starts at 7 pm
- October 12th - Mini Maker Faire in Akron - noon to 4 pm
- October 12 & 13th - Arizona QSO Party at the club site
- October 14th - PCARS Meeting at The American Legion, Kent - 7pm
- October 18 & 19th - Scouts Jamboree On The Air
- November 4th - Board Meeting at the club site - starts at 7 pm
- November 11th - PCARS Meeting at The American Legion, Kent - Elections and the BIG Raffle and raising money for The Center of Hope - Starts at 7pm
- December 9th - PCARS Christmas Social Meeting at The American Legion, Kent



Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - Every Month at the Club Site in Ravenna - 7:00 pm

- First Tuesday - **Digital** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
- Second Tuesday - **QRP/CW** - Moderator: Terry, KB8AMZ
- Third Tuesday - **Antenna** - Moderator: Tony, WA8AR
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
- Fifth Tuesday - **Linux for Hams** - Moderator: Terry, KB8AMZ

Fourth Thursday - Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 pm - Moderator: Tom, WB8LCD



From the Vice President

Nick, AC8QG
PCARS Vice President



This past month or so has been pretty awesome for me. I feel like I packed more into September than ever before! Sure, it's been crazy, but it's been fun. And really, that's why I'm into ham radio: for the fun!

Labor Day weekend, my family and a few stowaways made it out to the ARRL headquarters. I brought a tough crowd with me that included eight kids and my mother. I had my doubts, but we were treated to hours of fun! The kids stole the show and kept a few ARRL employees busy the whole time. As some of you know, kids ask questions you wouldn't expect, and this was no exception. The people at HQ stayed on their toes and went with the flow, answering questions and even conducting experiments with the kids!



At the end of the day, we put six kids on the air at W1AW.

Even some supposedly shy and reserved children made multiple contacts. This was a great example of the wonderful amateur community in the US. Everybody that spoke with the children over the radio was patient and kind, extremely encouraging, and very engaging! "That was awesome!" and "How do I get my license?" were often repeated after the event.



The next weekend, I participated in OSPOTA for the first time. That was a fun challenge for my kids and me! They say that if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Well, we failed to plan much, and pretty much winged it, but we did plan to have fun no matter what. I'd call it a success. We accomplished that primary goal and learned some things in the process. Next year, look out! We're going to really bring it in 2020!



none of it felt like junk.

organized and really beautiful. I think a few of the "older" guys experienced some flashbacks looking at equipment similar to the gear they started with years ago.

The antique radio museum tour was incredible! Cid Vance, K8JLY treated us to a great "blast from the past!" That place has a lot of old stuff, but Everything was





Big thank you to Ryan Shackelford for a great presentation at our September club meeting! Emergency communications is a big part of amateur radio for many people, and Ryan really helped quantify the impact that hams can have in our community. Of course, the “behind the scenes” insight into what happens during emergencies was fascinating, too!

Please, please, please help us raise money for the **Center of Hope**! This is a great way to help out a good organization in the community! I know that PCARS members have always been extremely generous with their donations. I’m not going to ask for anything extraordinary, but please give what you can and ask others to join in the effort. We have a donate button on the website now, so you can simply encourage friends, co-workers, bosses, clients, or whoever to go to our website and make a donation right there. *Again, every little bit helps!*



Mini Maker Faire in Akron - October 12th




The annual Mini Maker Faire will be held on October 12th at the Akron Library from Noon until 4 pm. Help manning the booth is welcome. Contact either Jim, AC8NT or Nick, AC8QG if you can assist in this event.

If you visit the Mini Maker Faire web site (<https://akron.makerfaire.com/>) you can find out more information **AND** see that PCARS is spotlighted as one of the participants !!



Featured Makers

 <p>PCARS Ham radio club with over 200 members.</p>	 <p>Alli Makes 11 year old maker</p>	 <p>One Byte at a Time Coding and drone programming</p>	 <p>Dungeon Studios Homemade games</p>
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PCARS
Ham radio club with over 200 members.



Bay 3 Clean & Paint & Refurbish

Tom, WB8LCD

You never what you might run into at the PCARS club site!



in it. I remember when we first got in there that Mike, KD8FLZ and Jim, KC8PD (SK) spent some time in there putting a topcoat of cement over the horribly pitted concrete floor, trying to smooth it out just a bit. It made a big improvement.

As the official *PCARS Funmeister*, I got the call that the floor needed to be painted – a project that I’m working on a little bit at a time. My first section to be painted was along the far side wall,



down to and across the front by the garage door. Once that was finished, Jim could reinstall some shelving, move all the stuff back over there, clearing the center so I could get that painted too. As I got to the spot in front of the garage door, the paint picked up the call KD8FLZ which was scratched into the concrete. I thought Jim had worked on that with him, but I didn’t notice his call anywhere in the concrete.

I didn’t think about it until a few days later when I went back to put the second coat of paint down. Maybe it was because the first coat had dried, maybe it was the lighting, but there it was, scratched into the concrete on the other side of the room – KC8PD. I was there by myself; it was a moment to remember my friend Jim.



Just under family, maybe even a notch above work, PCARS has been the most important and consuming area of my life. I’ve gained many good friends and people that I care about very much. Thank you to all of you who have been there as a part of that experience!



Update on OSPOTA 2019

Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) 2019 is in the history books. This year the weather was perfect for everyone in the state.

The logs have been submitted and later this month the all volunteer OSPOTA Contest Committee will be getting together to go over the submitted logs and summary sheets from the participants.

This year (as of 28 Sept - and I'm still waiting for snail mail entries) there were 64 Ohio State Parks activated, 86 logs submitted with 238 hams taking part and 36 clubs represented !!! **WOW**

It looked as if the bands were cooperating and a LOT of contacts were made this year. Ohio State Park activations were up and from what I have seen so far, everyone really had a FUN day playing radio and enjoying the Ohio State Parks.

Many of the stations replied to my request for write ups and pictures showing the set ups and operation during OSPOTA 2019 and those will also be in the November PCARS newsletter for all to see how much FUN everyone had.

Hopefully (!) - all will be done and the final results will be published in the November issue of The RADIOGRAM.

So hang in there, the committee is working hard to get through all of the logs. You have to remember - the OSPOTA committee are all volunteers (there are five of us that do this) and getting a day set aside to spend HOURS going over logs then compiling the results, printing certificates, mailing to the top 3 in each category and the writing it all up for the newsletter is not an easy task that can be done quickly.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 7 th



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having their birthday in **October**:

KD8EPG	Ken	George
KD8IUA	Michael	Battershell
K8DER	Donald	Robinson
K8HYM	Mark	Schmidt
W8GWI	David	Seckel
KC8RKD	James	Weber
WA8SAJ	Jeff	Covelli
K8SWJ	Scott	Jones
K8CAV	Rick	Kruis
WA8AR	Tony	Romito
KE8BWA	Andrew	Roland

KE8EGF	Paul	Hyland
KD8WHA	Aaron	Long III
W8NET	Gene	Marsh
W8KFW	Karl	Weitzman
KD8MLE	Jonathan	Fox
KE8VS	Vern	Sproat
KD8MQ	John	Myers
WA2MNA	Dan	Guernsey
K8AAB	Bob	Evans
KD8ZXD	Robert	Sheppard

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Going Fast

PCARS has obtained a number of special, custom made coffee cups that are available only to members.

Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE** !! The only catch is you have to claim it in person from the **Treasurer - Paul, KE8EGF**.

Paul has a list of current members and will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.

There are a limited number of extra coffee cups and they are for sale at \$5.00 each - **Again, see Paul for all of the details.**



Portage County Amateur Radio Service



K8BF



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year



PCARS VE Test Sessions

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



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

October 5th, December 7th

2020: Feb 1st, Apr 4th, Jun 6th, Aug 1st, Oct 3rd, Dec 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 your 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.
- 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 a copy** of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass Element number 2 to re-instate your license.

Any Questions? Contact: KB8UUZ@gmail.com

PCARS Patches & Stickers



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: **Paul, KE8EGF** or e-mail him at: phyland@neo.rr.com

2019 Center of Hope Donation

Tom, WB8LCD



Yes! PCARS will once again be presenting a donation to the Center of Hope right after our November meeting this year. No matter what it turns out to be, I know that the folks from both the Center of Hope and Family & Community Services will appreciate what we do for them. I also know that those in the community who receive the meals and food that is provided for will also appreciate our donation. No matter how it turns out – everybody WINS!

Our name, Portage County Amateur Radio *Service*, and our Mission Statement both stress that one of our goals is to be of service to our community. While this club activity does not involve Amateur Radio directly, it does show that our club has a bigger vision as to what our service can be. And it certainly can't be bad for our club to be seen by our community as an organization willing to help in ways that are not as obvious, but still of great benefit to the community in which we live.

Center of Hope



We have a pretty good story to share and no-one can accuse us of being just a bunch of crusty old guys who stay in the basement! PCARS presented a donation to the Center of Hope in our very first year of existence – 2006. That year's donation was small, about \$300. But, we have given a donation every year since then, the total of which now stands at just over \$39,000! Last year's donation alone was \$9600.

That's a pretty sizable amount for a group like PCARS! For 2019, I have to ask, are we willing to take it over the top again? I think we should. I think we should adopt \$10,000 as our donation goal for 2019. (Somewhere in my head is a voice that's saying that with just a little more work we could take our total over \$50,000! Either way, should we meet our goal, we'll have something to brag about...)

Here's how we can reach that goal:

I want to ask every member of PCARS to dig as deep as you can to support this. No one's keeping individual score, it's not a competition between us, but please, do what you can. It doesn't matter whether you give your donation directly, or if you use it to buy 50/50 tickets. Everything counts. I learned a long time ago that "all you can do is all you can do, but all you can do is enough." Obviously, to reach our goal, we are going to have to extend our reach. Maybe brag about PCARS to some of your non-ham friends, tell them about all the great things we do! Who wouldn't want to be a part of that? Here's a way that regular folks can be a part of something BIG even if they've never even heard of Ham Radio before. And, after hearing about PCARS, participating with us in doing good for our community, they just might be interested in learning more about our hobby!

Are you a member of any other Amateur Radio clubs, or other civic clubs or organizations? Why not ask them to participate with us? Invite them to our November meeting! How about the people you do business with? Where do you buy your cars, where do you bank? Who's your dentist, doctor, insurance agent, broker, realtor, car mechanic, where do you get your hair done – you get the idea. If not cash, maybe they would be more willing to donate something nice to the 50/50. That's OK too.

There is a PAYPAL button live on the PCARS website for donations. That will make it easy for someone to find and make their donation directly. I've been working on some donation letters that I will send out in a QST next week so that you can use them either as email or print them out and hand them or mail them to people you know. In addition, donations can be made by check payable directly to the Center of Hope. It can either be given to someone who will bring it to the club for processing, or, mailed directly to PCARS for inclusion with our donation. Cash is certainly acceptable, but we would prefer it not be put in the mail. By the way, both the Center of Hope and PCARS are charitable organizations, and donations are 100% deductible (we are not offering tax advice and ask you to check with your accountant or tax preparer if you have any questions as to how the deduction would benefit you).



The Center of Hope provides a very important function in our community. I am proud that PCARS has supported them through the years and hope that we can continue to be a significant part of their mission to our community. I hope you will all join in to make this our biggest year ever!

Let's make this REAL easy - Just click on the box below and it will take you to the PCARS web site (www.portcars.org) and you can enter your Center of Hope donation.



And, you can enter a donation more than one time.



There is No Plural for 73 and some info on FT8

Dan, KB6NU



I write a monthly column that I send for free to amateur radio club newsletter editors. As a result, I get a lot of club newsletters every month. I copied the Gil illustration below from the [Elmira Radio Club](#) (Elmira, ON) newsletter. I thought you'd like to see it.

I don't know exactly when this cartoon was first published, but apparently hams have been misusing "73" since before I got into the game!

By the way, I'm guessing that BCL is short for "broadcast listener," and a BC457 is a [military transmitter of WW II vintage](#). Transmitters like this were readily available after the war at surplus shops and helped many hams get on the air when we were allowed to start transmitting again. According to RigPix, a BC457 cost \$5.95 in 1948

FT8 Really is Reshaping Amateur Radio

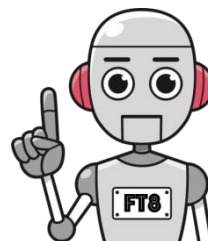
FT8 really is reshaping amateur radio. Even if all DXpeditions swore not to use FT8 bots (but you know they will), hams are moving to FT8 and related modes in huge numbers. Here are a couple of related items that I ran across yesterday.

The Summer 2019 edition of the Northern California DX Foundation newsletter included the following:

Why use FT8 mode in DXpeditions?

FT8 is rapidly becoming the digital mode of choice for DXpeditions and here are some reasons why:

- Important for little pistol stations, especially in antenna-challenged HOA or high-noise neighborhoods.
- No other mode has the capability of working five different calls in parallel in the same sub-band with queuing.
- Very high rates possible compared to RTTY, which equals more ATNOs in the log.
- Easier to reach certain parts of the world under poor propagation conditions and weak solar cycles.
- Excellent mode for challenging bands like 6M and 160M.
- Still get credit for a digital QSO toward awards, etc.
- May attract new operators or revitalize older ones.
- Excellent mode for hearing- or speech-impaired hams.
- DQRM not a problem.
- Less stressful for DXpedition operators.
- Has tremendous remote operation possibilities.

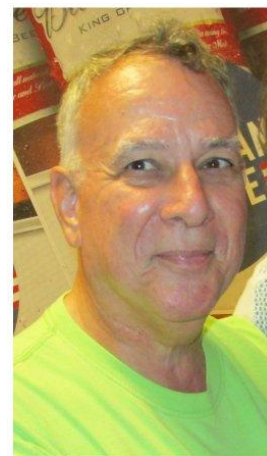


When he's not teaching ham radio classes, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



Tuesday UHF Net at Noon

Rick, KD8WCK



Taking advantage of the new K8IV UHF repeater on 444.575 +5 MHz (no tone), we've kicked off a net at noon on Tuesdays. Rick, KD8WCK is net control at the moment, and as of our second Tuesday I'd say we are doing pretty decent - each of the first two sessions went a half hour or so.

The Tuesday Sep 17th session was particularly great in that we had 3 check-ins from the Gilmour Radio Club, of Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills OH. Ken, KG8DN is the faculty advisor of the club, which meets Tuesdays from 12:10 to 12:30 or so. That schedule is the reason we are holding this net, hoping to provide a little live RF experience for the students and perhaps engage their interest in our hobby. But the net goes on with or without the club participation, since they may have other obligations on some Tuesdays.

So join us if you are on the road or in the shack at noon Tuesdays for a little chit-chat and sharing announcements and swap-n-shop info related to amateur radio. Many thanks to Ed, K8IV for encouraging this net and allowing the use of the new repeater. Hope to hear you on the net!

Contest Calendar

October Contest Calendar	
Contest Name	Times
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 1
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 5 to 2159Z, Oct 6
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2200Z, Oct 13
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2359Z, Oct 13
New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 19 to 0200Z, Oct 20
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 20 to 0100Z, Oct 21
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 25
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27

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

Contests that will be active at the PCARS Club Site in 2019	
Date	Contest
Oct 5-6	California QSO Party
Oct 12-13	Arizona QSO Party



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award

Tom, WB8LCD



I want to make you all aware of the Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award –

given by the Orlando HamCation organizers in 2019. The award was given to Carole Perry, WB2MGP as the first recipient and namesake for the award. The award, to be given annually in Perry's name, recognizes outstanding dedication in educating youth about amateur radio and giving them opportunities to advance their skills and participation in the hobby.



Carole has moderated the Hamvention® Youth Forum for 31 years. She sits on the Radio Club of America (RCA) Scholarship Committee and she chairs the RCA Youth Activities Committee, which she established in 2007. Carole has had a long and successful career as a Middle School teacher at Intermediate School 72 in Staten Island, New York where she created a curriculum called “*Introduction to Amateur Radio*” which was successfully used with her students for over 24 years!

Nominations for this year's award are now open. You can find out more information at <https://www.hamcation.com/award>. Nominations can be made online, but, don't let it pass you by – nominations will close on November 1, 2019.

Personally, I would like to see a deserving Ham from the Ohio ARRL Section earn this award! Email me at tomsly29@gmail.com and I'll send you my thoughts.

From the ARRL: In Brief...



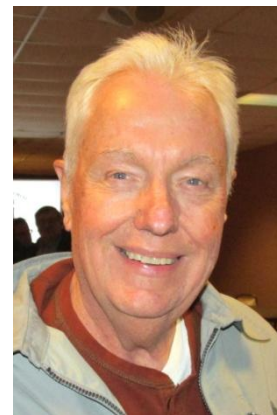
Orlando HamCation is accepting nominations for its Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award through November 1. This award goes to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution educating and advancing youth in Amateur Radio. The inaugural award in 2018 went to its namesake, Carole Perry, WB2MGP, in recognition of her work in teaching students about ham radio. [Submit](#) nominations via email or on the [Orlando HamCation](#) website. Nominations also may be mailed to Orlando HamCation, PO Box 574962, Orlando, FL 32857.

Downloadable [nomination forms](#) are available. For more information, [contact](#) the Awards Committee. The 74th Orlando HamCation will take place February 7 - 9, 2020.



Raising a 42 foot Hex Beam at KD8SNM

Dave, N8NB



I won a Radiowavz 40-10m hex beam in a free raffle conducted at DX Engineering in 2018. I already had a Steppir beam at my QTH so I made the hex beam available to

my friend, Jim Fetherolf, KD8SNM, at a very reasonable price. Jim was thrilled to get the antenna and said its size would not be a problem for his large lot.



After about a year for assembly and tower installation, a team of members from PCARS and MVARA set about installing the antenna on September 15th.

MVARA president, Jim Stiffler, WB8UJS, did the hard work of climbing the tower and installing it in the Yaesu rotor.



He was happy to hear all the thoughtful comments from the “peanut gallery” of on lookers which included WB8HYO, W8IZC, N8NB, WQ8H, KE8HQB, NW8C, KC8MNV and KE8BYO.

The antenna was up by about noon and everyone enjoyed KD8SNM’s chili and his wife Dar’s (KD8ZTZ) wonderful desserts.



Jim is looking forward to working new DX entities with the hex beam that replaces his beloved Gap Vertical. He actually contacted France, F5MUX, while the hex beam was on the ground.



Tom, KB8UUZ



When searching for articles I ran across this one. After reading it is really made me think about how lucky we are that we don't have to live through the danger of a Hurricane. Sure, we get tornados and bad weather, but nothing like a Hurricane.

Anyway, looking at this I thought - there are a lot of tips that we can use to help us survive a tornado, foul weather snow storms and more right here in North East Ohio. So, when you read this, take advantage and learn a few things from someone that has suffered through the worst weather possible.

How to Survive a Cat 5 - What Irma Taught Me

I'm from the US Virgin Islands. Irma hit us with gusts of 230 and destroyed everything. 13 days later, Maria came through as a cat 5. I was without power or water for 121 days.

Here are some tips to make you more comfortable for these storms:

- Make block ice now. Take Tupperware, fill with water. Freeze it, remove when frozen and repeat. This ice can last for over a week and will turn your fridge and freezer into a cooler so you don't lose a ton of food.
- Battery powered fan. This is arguably the most important item you'll need because trying to sleep in the heat / humidity / still air is impossible. I could have sold a \$8 fan from amazon for \$100 easy. Cheap AA battery ones work fine, but I got a high capacity ryobi battery and a ryobi fan and it made a world of difference.
- Cash is king. Withdraw beforehand.
- Chips and salsa are the best food. No refrigeration, won't spoil, and you can nibble on it anytime- even if you don't have an appetite. Out of all the food we had this was always gone immediately.
- Fix a flat! Grab a few cans. Tons of nails and debris afterwards, flat tires are almost a certainty. Even better- tire plugs and a tire inflator.
- Headlamps are infinitely better than flashlights. You can cook / function and have both hands free.
- Aluminum foil, rubbing alcohol, tarps and Home Depot buckets can be used for almost anything. For example, rubbing alcohol can be put on a paper towel and used to wash, can sterilize cuts, clean countertops, start a fire, etc.
- Buy plastic plates, forks, knives, cups, etc. Doing dishes without running water is a pain.
- Just because you have a generator doesn't mean it works. Test it now.
- Gas cans- for generator and avoiding long lines. Not sure if Florida runs out of gas or not. 4 5-gallon cans worked well for me.
- Generators: You have two options- get a big one which will power more stuff, and guzzle gas, or get an inverter generator. The inverters are more expensive per kW capacity, but use almost no gas. I could run a window AC unit and fan on my (LPT wont let me post links- google Wen 56200i) for a solid 8 hours on 1.2 gallons of gas. You cant do laundry etc, but they're silent, lightweight, and great for electronics. You'll also need a surge protector and long extension cord. NEVER EVER run one indoors- this often kills more people than the storm itself.
- Bug spray



- Bug a salt gun. They're on amazon, and shoot salt to kill flies. Flies will be everywhere, and they cost me a lot of sleep. Every morning I'd wake up because flies were landing on me non stop. Kill them. It's also fun when you're drunk 😊
- A knife, twine, duct tape, gloves and paracord will come in handy literally every day.
- Get pepper spray / tear gas ASAP. A ranged- non-lethal weapon is of absolute importance. If you only have non-ranged, you put yourself at a significant disadvantage- i.e. crackhead aggressively approaching you, may or may not have a weapon (dealt with several of them). If you only have lethal, you may end up killing someone when it could have been easily avoided.
- Propane camping stoves are cheap and will allow you to easily cook. If not, build a 3 wall stove out of rocks and cook using downed branches and a grill grate. Or dig a hole and start a fire.
- Spam is AMAZING! Black pepper spam, thinly sliced and fried. Serve with black beans and rice, OR take a potato, cut into fries. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and black pepper. You're welcome. Oh- potato's are cheap, last forever at room temp, and you can do anything with them.
- Fill your damn prescriptions beforehand. Snag antibiotics if you can, z-packs are great, as is cipro. You will get sick.
- Fill your bathtub with water beforehand. Can scoop with home depot bucket to flush toilets, clean, etc. Also, adding bleach to your toilet will keep it somewhat sanitary if you can only flush once a day.
- Take pics and videos of your property and possessions the day before. Will help with insurance, FEMA, etc.
- Broom and dustpan- lots of debris but surprisingly good at removing water.
- If water is coming through the walls or windows consider killing the power. Our place caught on fire during Irma due to water in the walls. This happened to a lot of people during Maria as well.
- Keep electronics off the ground. If it floods and your power is on, and you're standing in the water, you'll have bad day.
- If you have an electric stove, make sure you have some sort of grill and that it has fuel. Charcoal is good and you don't necessarily need a grill for it.
- Keep off the road unless you absolutely must. In addition to wasting gas, awful traffic and road hazards, you're preventing emergency vehicles / recovery workers from doing their job.
- Consider rigging a simple alarm. Pull string alarms are great. I moved into my cottage 2 months after the storms because my house was uninhabitable. I was alone, and rigging one on my gate helped me sleep a lot better.
- Do laundry and dishes beforehand, clean your house.
- Chili, goulash, lasagna, etc are great to make and freeze for later so you don't have to cook.
- Chainsaws are king! Don't forget replacement blades. Without them, you may be trapped at your house for days.



If shit really hits the fan:

- NEVER lend out something you cannot replace. I lent out all of my battery powered fans once I got my generator. When the genny went down, I was miserable, and asked several of my coworkers/friends for just one of my fans back. It took a week before ONE of the people forked one of the fans over.
- Do not isolate yourself. Aside from safety issues, you will desperately need to be around people, whether you realize it or not. Isolation after a traumatic experience will make it significantly worse.
- Your brain won't work for a few days, super brain fog. Everyone will have PTSD, even if you were not frightened at all during the storm itself. Performing the most simple task will overload you. Imagine trying to have a conversation while loud music, a loud TV, a siren, flashing lights are surrounding you- in the middle of an earthquake. With everything around you destroyed, there's simply too much stimuli for you to process anything. Every day I'd be in the

middle of a conversation with someone at the bar (meetup spot), and either myself or the person I was talking to would walk away mid sentence without saying anything. This wasn't deliberate, your brain is just full of squirrels.

- Don't tell people what you have. If you mention having food and power people get resentful.
- Don't let too many people join you, if you do, they won't want to leave and will tell others, it snowballs super fast.
- Be home over an hour before dark.
- Time will stop and no one will know what day it is. It was day 1, day 2, etc for the first 3 weeks.
- You may disagree with this, but having a good weapon can be more important than having bottled water. If shit really hits the fan, everything else can become a distant second in the blink of an eye. Personally, I'm pro gun control, but I'll never be without a powerful semiautomatic rifle or pistol again. Edit: for those asking how I can be pro gun control and recommend this- I think it should be harder to buy an assault rifle than it is to rent a moped. I also believe that violence is almost never the answer- but when it is the answer, it's the only answer.
- Board games books etc are great.
- Ice will be worth its weight in gold.
- The first night you'll be ecstatic you made it through, with random bits of crying. It gets a little harder every day.
- Be aware of your surroundings and of people.
- Tempers will be high Day 2-6, same with rumors. Fog of war is very real in a close community with no cell service.
- Keeping morale high is the most important thing.
- Keep a journal. Years later or for the next storm it will be priceless.
- You'll be numb and in a daze for quite some time.



The Author cleaning dishes

My story https://reddit.com/r/preppers/comments/7vs7so/being_hit_by_the_eye_of_hurricane_irma_in_the_us/

Posted by [u/Donexodus](#)

https://www.reddit.com/r/preppers/comments/cyjo70/how_to_survive_a_cat5_and_the_aftermath_what_irma/



It's Auction Time!

2019 ARRL On-Line Auction

IMPORTANT DATES:
Preview & Pre-registration Begins: October 14 through 16
Bidding Opens: October 17, 2019 at 1400 UTC (10 AM EDT)
Auction Ends: October 24, 2019 - 10:00 PM

www.arrl.org/auction

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ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS ■ AND SO MUCH MORE!**

ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO **October 17 - October 24, 2019**

First Year of Issue - Ham Radio License Plates

MIKE LUDKIEWICZ - WIDGJ - SK

After completing an article about Amateur Radio Call sign auto license plates for the January 1995 issue of the American Radio Relay League's official journal, QST, I felt it would be appropriate to put together a collection of first year of issue ham plates from all the 50 states. My intentions were to also document this information for posterity. This unique collection had been attempted by plate collectors in the past, but to my knowledge it has never been successfully completed. Not something for the Guinness Book, but I feel it is an important part of Amateur Radio history.

There were some problems associated with collecting first year of issue ham plates. Many states issued their first ham plates in small numbers, maybe due to the lack of communications and many states had a relatively small number of Amateur Radio operators licensed at the time. Not every ham chose to pay the extra fee for a special call sign plate and numerous states had strict restrictions on the use of their specially issued ham plates intended for emergency communications during the "Cold War" period. Some states required mobile radio installations while using the special ham plates. Several first year of issue ham plates are 45 years old and this makes the original owners over 65 years old. Most of them are now Silent Keys (deceased) and their old plates were often thrown out after their death. Besides, who saves their expired auto license plates?

I have to thank the many thoughtful hams who helped me with this unusual collection. Without their help it would not have been possible. A few plates were received from family members of Silent Keys, donating the plates to my collection in the deceased ham's memory. I can sympathize with some who did not care to part with their first ham plate as being a ham myself I think I might feel the same way. I do not begrudge anyone for not caring to give up their first ham plate for my collection. I offered to pay a "reasonable price" to anyone who had a sentimental attachment to their vintage ham plate, but less than 5% wanted more than the shipping cost, that generally ran less than \$2. Many wanted nothing in exchange and were delighted to add their plates to this prestigious collection, but I always reimbursed them for any expenses. Two hams asked \$1000 for their ham plates and this gave me a very strong message.

One Old Timer in his nineties misunderstood my request and sent me his original 1951 FCC Amateur Radio license. He hoped it would fit my needs. I returned the ham ticket to him with my thanks for his interest in helping me along with a thorough explanation of what I was trying to collect. Two other Old Timers, also in their nineties, donated their first ham plates to my collection saying their plates would have a "better home" in my collection, rather than being discarded later. One ham sent me his first year plate along with 27 other plates representing the 27 following years he had ham plates issued on a yearly basis.

One first year of issue ham plate was sent to me by the widow of a Silent Key asking the plate be added to my collection in his memory. The only problem was the plate had been repainted in silver with his call sign in black paint. He had displayed his expired ham plate on a second vehicle and did not want to be stopped by the authorities for using an expired plate on his automobile. I tried a little lacquer thinner on the back of the plate and found it removed his paint without effecting the original paint underneath (most likely an enamel paint). Under his workmanship I found an excellent condition first year plate for my collection. Unfortunately I did not have the foresight to photograph his repaint job that protected the plate for many years.

Almost every plate in my collection has a very personal story connected with it. One plate came from a judge who asked me to excuse the poor paint job on his plate that was produced at the state's prison. I responded that he was the person responsible for the painter by incarcerating him in the prison that made the plate, and the painter could not be too smart for committing a crime to be placed there.

Another plate came from the XYL (eX Young Lady = wife) of a ham who was terminally ill. She wrote she did not normally read her husband's mail but found my letter "intriguing" She had recalled seeing the plate I had described among her husband's "radio junk" just the previous week in the garage. She sent me one of his first year issue plates for my collection and said the matching plate of the pair she would have buried with her husband upon his death. I don't consider myself to be an emotional person but this letter brought me close to tears as I regarded her husband as a "brother ham". He has recently passed away.

Most of the information about first year of issue ham plates was gained at the American Radio Relay League's library in Newington, CT. I searched QSTmagazines from 1937 thru 1973. I found information obtained from some hams not always reliable since time has a way of clouding memories. A few hams were extremely helpful by sending me copies of legislation authorizing plates in their state. In some cases I believe the passing of laws allowing the issuing of ham plates was not always directly followed by the immediate action of the motor vehicle authority in providing the plates. A good example is in Oklahoma where the ham call letter plate bill was signed into law in mid 1953 and the first ham plates were not made available until 1958.

I had heard stories of a ham plate being issued in Oklahoma during 1938. I did find there were a few confirmations of 1938 Oklahoma ham plates that were black on yellow (the same color scheme as the 1935 passenger plates) but the state/date was at the bottom of the plate and the state abbreviated to OKLA . My investigation was not able to confirm this as an "official" issue so I have to assume it was a booster type plate.



The first plates with ham call signs on them were issued in Michigan for 1939. The Great Lakes Amateur Radio Telephone Association of Detroit under the leadership of James Strang, W8NFR, proposed the special plates for hams . They petitioned the Secretary of State, Leon D. Case, to allow the request be granted under legislation that allowed a maximum of 3 letters and 3 numbers. It was more correctly a personalized or vanity type and 400 to 500 of these plates were issued to hams (ref. March 1939 QST). After the first year the officials felt the system not administratively workable and Michigan discontinued issuing them the following year. Michigan did not start issuing official ham plates until 1954. The next plate issued with a ham call sign on it was a 1950 Florida plate that is generally considered to be the first "true" ham plate. This was made possible through the efforts of Florida's State Senator Lloyd F. Boyle, W4IMJ (ref. January 1950 QST), and Eddie Collins, W4MS, a good friend of mine. I was not aware of Eddie's achievement until after his death. Mississippi followed Florida by issuing ham plates in November of 1950 that expired in October of 1951.

I consider the "key" plate in this collection to be the 1951 Nevada ham plate since there were only 182 hams licensed in Nevada during 1951 and only 30 of them are now listed in the 1997 Radio Amateur Call Book as still living in Nevada. Of the remaining 152 hams they are either Silent Keys (deceased), moved years ago to another FCC District and had to change their call signs, upgraded their class of license and requested a new call sign, or have given up Amateur Radio in

past years. None of the current Nevada hams were able to help me with a 1951 Nevada ham plate. The only 1951 Nevada ham plates that were known in existence belonged to California plate collector (Rick Schofield, ALPCA #471) and to a Nevada ham who is the original owner. I located a California ham who had left Nevada in 1952. He eventually gave up Amateur Radio for 10 years and let his Amateur Radio license expire. After his retirement, he retook the FCC Amateur Radio exam and got back into ham radio with an entirely new call sign from California. Thanks to modern technology, I was able to locate him through a computer program that lists all the licensed Amateur Radio operators in the United States (QRZ!CD-ROM) . He felt his ham plate was better off in my collection rather than hanging on his garage wall where it had been for the past 44 years.

The last plate I was able to locate to complete this unique collection of ham plates was the 1950 Mississippi. There were 535 hams licensed in Mississippi at the end of 1950 and I was able to find 210 of them still licensed in Mississippi or in other states. Many acknowledged having had a 1950 Mississippi ham plate, but only one ham still had his original plate. Could it be that the 1950 Mississippi ham plate is the rarest in this unusual collection? I was very fortunate that WSPUI decided to donate his Mississippi ham plate so I could complete the collection.

I believe this collection of first year of issue ham plates from the 50 states and the District of Columbia may never be duplicated. The scarcity of some plates in this collection will further be enhanced with time as the original owners who held on to them for personal reasons are passing on, and their old expired plates are thrown out.

Amateur Radio call signs are very distinctive identifications. There are 715,462 Amateur Radio licensees in the United States listed in the 1997 Radio Amateur Call Book. There are 160 hams named John Smith and 149 named Robert Jones that are listed, but a ham's call sign is very unique as it is the only one like it in the entire world. There can never be 2 call signs that are identical.

Several states issued special ham plates as "add on" plates to be used with the vehicle's normal registration plate and they were generally displayed on the front of the vehicle with the regular plate displayed on the rear. These "unofficial" ham plates were issued as a compromise to the Amateur Radio operators who were trying to have their state issue ham plates. Both Arkansas in 1951 and Nebraska in 1952 issued undersized ham plates. Iowa in 1954 and North Carolina in 1955 issued full sized plates with the ham's call sign on them. After hurricane Hazel in 1954 North Carolina hams involved with emergency communications wanted a special ham plate as identification to access disaster areas not open to the general public. In 1955 they were issued undated silver plates with black letters similar to the police and other state vehicles. The hams were required to attach these plates over and covering the regular passenger plate. These special ham plates were replaced in 1956 with official ham plates similar in color scheme to the regular passenger plates. In light of this, it's possible that the police did not like the idea of civilians using police type plates. Arkansas issued their official ham plates in 1954, Nebraska in 1956, followed by Iowa in 1960.

Two states, Massachusetts in 1965, and New Jersey in 1968, used windshield stickers to validate their plates. The Massachusetts plate bore an embossed 64 date while the New Jersey plate was undated on a 1959 base. The 1964 District of Columbia plate was and still is a vanity type. It was the only first year ham plate to use a sticker to validate the plate. It was also the largest validation sticker in the United States and measured 3/4 inch by 11 inches. Metal year tabs were used by 7 states: California for 1954, Connecticut for 1956, Delaware for 1953 (with a 1954 expiration), Hawaii for 1955, New York for 1963, Oregon for 1954, and Rhode Island for 1958. Seven states displayed the expiration date of the plates: Delaware had a 6-30-54 expiration, Maryland had 3-31-57, Mississippi had OCT 51, Missouri had JAN 53, Pennsylvania had 3-31-57, Wisconsin had JAN 53, and the District of Columbia had 3-31-65 on the large sticker.

Four states did not have their plates embossed. They included the 1952 Alaska, the 1951 Tennessee, the 1956 South Carolina's call sign only, while the 1953 Delaware used the same porcelain base introduced in 1942. Three states showed the outline of the state. They were the 1954 Kansas, the 1951 Tennessee, and the 1956 Pennsylvania, which had the state's outline embossed on the plate.

The 1957 Connecticut plate was the first ham plate to utilize a special ham related symbol, the spark, to individualize their ham plate. Many early wireless operators were nicknamed "Sparks". The following four states used non ham related symbols. The 1952 Alaska used their Territory's flag, the 1953 New Mexico used the Zia Sun , the 1953 South Dakota used a graphic of Mt. . Rushmore, and the 1960 Wyoming used the bucking bronco and rider. The 1958 Montana had an embossed PRISON MADE to indicate it's manufacturer.

Six states used radio slogans on their first year ham plate. The 1951 Arkansas used AMATEUR RADIO, the 1957 Idaho used RADIO AMATEUR, the 1956 Illinois used AMATEUR RADIO, the 1973 Kentucky used AM. RADIO, the 1951 Tennessee used RADIO, and the 1954 Texas used AMATEUR RADIO OPR.

Both Alaska and Hawaii were Territories when they issued their first ham plates. Alaska's first ham plate issued as a state was in 1960 and Hawaii's was an undated plate issued in 1961 that used a windshield sticker for validation. In 1973 Kentucky was the last of the 50 states to issue Amateur Radio call sign plates.



Hamvention® Signs 5-Year Contract with Xenia Expo Center

From the ARRL

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has signed a 5-year agreement to keep Dayton Hamvention® at the Greene County Expo Center. The agreement was announced on September 9 by Hamvention General Chairman Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT.



“It has been a wonderful experience working with the Expo Center team in the development of this agreement,” Gerbs said. “With the 5-year agreement signed, the Expo Center and Hamvention can move forward with additional enhancements to the facilities.”

Dayton Amateur Radio Association President Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said the DARA Board, in approving the contract, noted that the relationship with the Expo Center and Greene County, the City of Xenia, and Xenia Township “has proven especially rewarding.”

Cramer said, “They all have worked hard to make Hamvention a success over the last 3 years. We look forward to a great relationship over the next 5 years and beyond.”

Hamvention's 2019 attendance was 32,472 - the highest recorded since the move to the Exposition Center in Xenia in 2017, which was coordinated by Cramer, the Hamvention General Chairman in 2017 and 2018.

The largest Amateur Radio show in the US, Dayton Hamvention is held the third full weekend in May. The dates for 2020 are May 15 – 17.

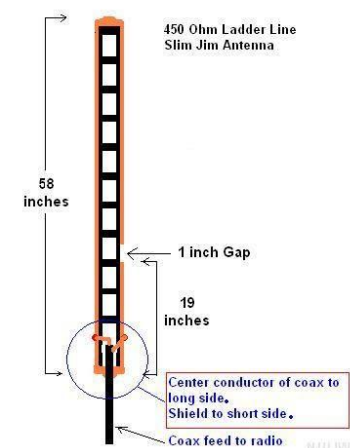


Fishing Pole Dual-Band Slim Jim Antenna

Gene, W8NET



I was proud about my stepson John (13), KE8MXR, and his friend Shane (14), KE8MWD, getting their amateur radio licenses. They were ready WAY before their tickets. Both had Baofeng 2 band HT's. Both had used FRS frequencies in and around the neighborhood. Both had repeater frequencies set (CHIRP is a wonderful thing!). They were almost set. But.....

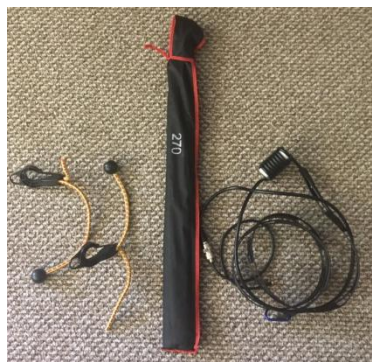


The boys could hear big noise and scratchy signal many times. I told them "It's not your radios. It's your antennas!" They asked me advice for better HT antennas. They said it had to be portable, easy to setup and take down. And, Shane's mom said "no permanent" antennas.

I thought a dual band 2m/440 slim jim would do the trick (with something extra). The basic slim jim (diagram) show how to make it. You can see many online sellers using the same design (like the N9TAX antenna for ~\$40). I had ladder line, coax, connectors, etc. Could be easy to do.

Enter the cheap, telescoping fishing pole! Collapsed, it's ~20'. Telescoped, it's 8 FOOT!!! The slim jim is approximately 60", so I thought that could work. For two antenna, I needed 2 each, small carabiners, one 10" tent stake, one 20" x 1/2" PVC pipe (stand), 4" x 3/4" PVC pipe (RF choke), electrical tape, solder, liquid tape and 2 each bungee cords. Shane got the bags!

You can see the simplicity of project, and the ease of use. I tested the



antenna with a analyzer, but only for 2m. VSWR on 146.000 MHz was 1.2:1. NOT TOO BAD! And the real life use was awesome. Now, the boys have NO problem with repeaters for 25 miles or more!

All told, it was ~\$25 investment for BOTH! It was a fun project, and the boys learned about antennas, coax, RF chokes, etc. and – most importantly – thinking outside the box!



California QSO Party
At the
PCARS Club Site  **Oct. 5th**
Starts at Noon

Arizona QSO
at **Party**
PCARS 
October 12th
1 pm to 1 am

Swap-N-Shop

For Sale: Heil HM-10 XD Microphone. \$139 new - will sell for \$110. Taken out of box, but never used

Contact: Deron, N8XTH - 330-715-8552 or email deronmb@gmail.com [12/02/19]

For Sale: Yaesu FT-890 Transceiver, Yaesu YD-148 mic and Pyramid Power Supply – I think I paid \$700 - make me an offer

For Sale: Complete station = Heath SB-1400 Transceiver, Heath SBA-1400-4 Power Supply, Sure 444D Mic, MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II – I paid \$400 – make me an offer **FREE: MFJ-1769 no radial Vertical on a tripod** on my garage roof – it's yours free if you'll take it down. **MFJ Rotatable Dipole** – I'll help you take it down. **MFJ-1778 GR5V** – I'll help you take it down. **Icom ICT2H** 2m handy talker – free to a good home. **RCI-5054 Mobile 6m** – free to a good home. **A whole lot of other stuff to whoever wants it.** Downsizing to move to an Assisted Living with no ham access, so I need to sell or giveaway the above items.

Contact: Rod, N4PKW - rodandmary10@gmail.com [12/02/19]

For Sale: Hustler 4-BTV with the SO-239 adapter. I can help install it for you in Portage County and the surrounding area. \$75.

WANTED: Hustler resonators. Any band, any condition. Also, working hamsticks except 75m and 40m.

Contact: Gene, W8NET - 330-619-9194 or w8net@me.com [12/02/19]

For Sale: Collins Antenna / Radio Switch. By Advanced Optics which looks like the Collins S-Line gear. switching for 5 antennas and 5 radios, 1200 Watts from DC to 500 MHz. The cabinet is the same size as a 312B-4, 312B-5 & 516F-2 - \$550 **Drake B-line (Restored)** Drake R-4B receiver, T-4XB transmitter, AC-4 power supply, MS-4 speaker (1972 very late model), EV-638 dynamic microphone, RED LED digital readout, plus 9 extra range crystals for all WARC bands, including 10 & 160 meters, cooling fan on T-4XB, plus improved A.M. transmit! Restored, aligned using sweep method, full power output & great audio. Many new parts, (filter capacitors, knobs, blue filters, etc) too much to list here. AC-4 re-built. \$1200 **GIN POLE 19-Foot Long** - A commercial "Gin Pole" from the 70's & 80's. 19 ft length, has 5 ft aircraft aluminum sleeve in the middle for strength. Works great with ROHN 25G/45G/55G. Hangs on the rungs and the "top" hanger is adjustable up to 6 foot from the bottom hanger. Can handle very heavy tower sections and antennas. No longer needed, since I cannot climb any more. \$500 Pick up only

Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ - 440-951-6406 [10/02/19]

FOR SALE: IC-735, AT-150 and PS-55. Comes with the HM-12 microphone and power cable. Original Manual and all other associated paperwork included. Asking \$550. Selling as a package. **FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-726R.** With 144, 440 and 50 MHz modules installed. Also installed the Communications Specialist TE-32. Made it easier to switch PL tones. Comes with the YM-48 microphone and power cable. Original Manual and all other associated paperwork included. Asking \$350. Selling as a package.

Contact: Bob Davet, W8RID, davet102@gmail.com 330-425-7313 [10/02/19]

FOR SALE: ICOM 703 QRP rig with built in HF tuner. Radio has the 250 Hz and 500 Hz filters, microphone, power cable and separation kit. Also a Samlex power supply. \$600

Contact: Dave, WV8P - wv8p@roadrunner.com [10/02/19]

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-7610 - Brand New, *still in the box*. Decided to upgrade antennas instead of radio. Un-opened box \$2650. **RC-28 - Remote Encoder** for the IC-7610 to easily operate the second VFO - Brand new - \$225. **8 Switch Memory External Keypad for the IC-7610/7850/7851.** Instant access to the 8 stored outgoing messages. Made in Germany by DM2RM. Brand new - \$65. **Cushcraft Ten-3** Three element **10 meter beam.** Cost new \$299.95 - **Sell for \$150.00.** This beam helped me make 7,651 ten meter contacts on a tripod on my roof. Great shape & ready to use. Had the roof replaced and took down the antennas. Will be putting up tower and Opti-Beam antennas - if the ground ever dries out.....

Contact: Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ - kb8uuz@gmail.com [10/02/19]

FOR SALE: BIRD SLUGS - 5000H (5000 W 2-30 MHz) \$125 **5A** (5 W 25-60 MHz) \$50 **10A** (10 W 25-60 MHz) \$50 **Alpha 77DX Amplifier** with all of the Dick Byrd upgrades. These upgrades include the following; higher voltage plate transformer providing 4300 Volts idle, 7500 Volt rectifiers, 5000 Volt 35 µf filter capacitor, wide spaced loading capacitors like are used in the 77SX, all new step start components, large 10x38mm fuse holders, all new electrolytic capacitors on timer & QSK boards as well as LED lighting for the meters. This amplifier has ZERO HOURS since being upgraded as it was my back-up amplifier. \$4350 with factory Peter W. Dahl transformer or \$5000 with higher voltage after factory transformer. Either transformer is capable of supporting the addition of a second tube. The after factory transformer allows for reduced drive for a given level of output. **Baofeng UV-3R micro HTs**, 4 HTs with 4 chargers, these cover 2m/70cm and receive FM broadcast as well. \$50.00

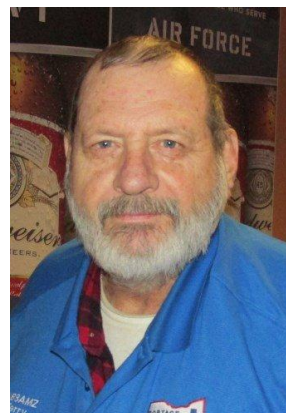
Contact: James. KD8VT - 330-206-4909 [10/02/19]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS *members only benefit*. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [12/02/19] indicates the ad will run until Dec 2, 2019.



Down and Up - 40 Meter Antenna Replaced

Terry, KB8AMZ



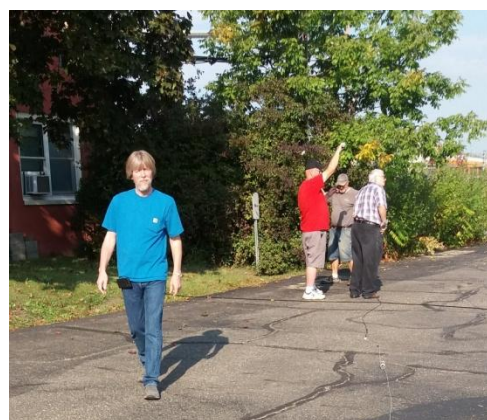
The majority of the club membership is not aware that one of our antennas was damaged by a storm last month. It was temporarily replaced for a contest the weekend following the storm by Ed Pollack's field day tower. Thanks again Ed, K8IV.

Jim, AC8NT and Jack ,N8BI put out a request for volunteers to with the antenna repair. Surprisingly more help was there than was needed, but better to have more than not enough.

Repair plus kibitzing took about two and one-half hours. There are four antennas interwoven together at the ends with ropes and one needed repair. We brought down the antennas, swapped out the

damaged 40 meter dipole antenna with a new antenna, and stopped hoisting when one of the crew yelled, "Hey. Check the SWR!"

We lowered the antenna, checked the SWR and determined it was too high. Jack had the antenna erected at his QTH for a week, testing it with a good SWR before lowering it to bring to the clubhouse. The SWR was checked at the antenna feedpoint. We began raising the antenna and brought it back down two more times before we were satisfied that SWR was the best we could tune and then raised it for the third and final time.



Hamfest Calendar

11/03/2019 - Massillon ARC Hamfest - Location: Massillon Boy's & Girls Club - 730 Duncan Street SW - Massillon, OH 44646 - Website: <http://www.w8np.org> - Contact: Terry Russ, N8ATZ - 3420 Briardale Drive NW Massillon, OH 44646 - Phone: 330-837-3091 - Email: truss@sssnet.com

03/14, 15/2020 - Toledo Hamfest, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention - Location: Owens Community College - 30335 Oregon Road - Perrysburg, OH 43551 - Website: <http://www.tmrhamradio.org> - Contact: Rob Hall, KV8P - 8751 Oak Valley Road Holland, OH 43528 - Phone: 419-345-5759 - Email: kv8p@kv8p.com

08/08/2020 - DX Engineering Hamfest, ARRL Ohio Section Convention - Location: Summit Racing - 1200 Southeast Ave. - Tallmadge, OH - More details to follow !!



From the Ohio Section Manager



Scott, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Hey Gang...

Wow... Has this ever been a great week! The weather has been fantastic. I was on the road quite a bit this week with meetings and hamfests. I got to meet with everyone at the Western Reserve ARC and we had a blast discussing some of the statistics about Amateur Radio, the ARRL and the Ohio Section. I also sat in on our SYC's talk about CW at the Silvercreek ARA club meeting and got to meet with my home club and the Mount Vernon Club for breakfast this past week as well as I was in attendance at the OH-KY-IN Hamfest and the Cleveland Hamfest as well. Wow, I was literally from one end of the state to the other!!

It's time to start thinking of getting the leaves out of the gutters as well as getting things buttoned up and ready to put away for winter. Yes, I hate to say it, summer is now (September 23rd) officially over and fall is here.

With that comes apples and my favorite... apple donuts! Nobody makes better apple donuts than the little apple orchard just up the road from me. I could live there... What's really scary is that there's now just 94 days left before Christmas!!! Where'd the year go?

I didn't get to work much on my antenna project this week, but I did get a baseline established on the antenna without radials, except the ground rod. Yes folks, the ground rod is a radial, along with the coax if you don't put an RF choke in the line. I did find that the antenna will work without radials, again, other than the ground rod. I got around 41 ohms on the line which will allow me to operate, but the SWR is higher than I'd like it to be. I know that putting out the radials will help bring the antenna up in resistance some, but just how much and just what improvements in signal it will bring is the next step. I will be getting to that project this next week for sure. I'll give you all the details of what I discover about radials on a vertical next week.

Switching bands... I think I took care of that squatter in my yard I told all of you about. I got some chipmunk/squirrel poison from my local hardware store and I haven't seen any activity in the yard since. It took 3 bags of the stuff to satisfy the little bugger's appetite, so hopefully that will take care of the digging I was seeing around my deck and shed.

Switching bands one last time... I did get a couple of responses about my idea of creating a "Swap & Shop" section on the Ohio Section website. They have all been very positive for sure. I would like to hear from more of you though.. So, here's the question for you. Is this something that we can do to help serve YOU? Send your thoughts to n8sy@n8sy.com

One last round before going QRT... Is your club doing any special activities that you'd like the Section to know about? Do you have a story that you'd like to tell about something that you or your club has or is doing? Let me know about it and let's get it in the next edition!

Now, I want everyone to breakout your 2020 calendars because I have 2 dates that I want you to mark on those calendars for events that are coming.

First, is the Toledo Hamfest and ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. This is going to be a 2-day affair starting on Saturday, March 14th with a full day of forums & Maker Projects with a fantastic banquet and awards presentations as well. On Sunday, March 15th you can enjoy a super Hamfest sponsored by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) all located on the Owens Community College Campus.

The next date to mark down is August 8th... This will be the DX Engineering Hamfest and ARRL Ohio Section Convention. John, KD8IDJ will be announcing the 28th Annual ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest winners and I will be announcing the newest inductee of the Allan Severson, AB8P Award. There will be numerous forums and great deals on all kinds of equipment and parts. If you thought they had a good hamfest this year, you ain't seen nothin' yet!!

Get those calendars out and mark these dates now. We want to see everyone at these 2 fantastic events next year!!

Whelp... That's going to do it for this time around. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine while we have it, and most of all... have FUN!!

PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

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 !!

Please enjoy the nations birthday weekend. The net control dates will be posted on the Club website. An email will be sent out after the posting. As usual if there are issues please contact me via the roadrunner email address. Thanks to all of you for helping out.

October	
3	N8QE
19	K8CAV
17	WB8LCD
24	KA8TOA
31	K8IV

November	
7	
14	
21	
28	

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

If you have not been a Net Control Operator for PCARS and would like to give it a try, please contact me at: grgory999@roadrunner.com everyone who is a club member is welcome to have a turn - and have fun being the PCARS Thursday Night Net Control !



Fox Hunting

Jim, AC8NT



I had some big fun Wednesday September 4th when I took part in one of CFARC's twice a month fox hunts. The fox was Dave Filing, K8DPF and he was hiding on Embassy Parkway in Montrose. There were three teams on the hunt. Frank Tompkins W8Ezt was partnered with Bruce Ferry, AK8B; Ed Polack, K8IV was partnered with Art Barbetta, N8RKA and I was copilot for Jim Korenz, N8PXW. We started from Silver Lake. All teams were equipped with the same equipment including hand held Yagi antennas and doppler tracking equipment.



I learned a lot from this event. The first thing I learned is that all the technology still needs a lot of interpretation to help find the fox. We started by using our Yagi antennas to get a general direction to the fox. Of the three teams, only Frank's actually heard the fox from Silver Lake. He used a simple hand held and a tape measure Yagi. Once the general direction was determined we were off on the hunt. Our general direction was West so we started off heading toward Akron so we could head west toward our objective. With 76 closed we took off down Perkins. At this point the doppler was of little help. It needs a signal to work and we had none. This brings up a great point. You need a GPS to help you effectively wander around searching. We kept

heading west until we picked up a signal. Then doppler and the GPS became useful. By the time we got a signal on the doppler we had seen most of west Akron and it was starting to get dark. The doppler led us to the area near the intersection of Market and 77. After a couple of turn arounds we finally found Dave in a parking lot. Frank and Bruce had beat us by about a minute and a half. Ed and Art did not find the fox. They were guided in by radioed instructions. After the hunt we all met for dinner and had some great conversation.



I should note it is helpful to have some intelligence on your fox. If you know they like steak, look near a steak house. If they like shrimp, look near a seafood place. Intelligence on the fox is definitely an asset.

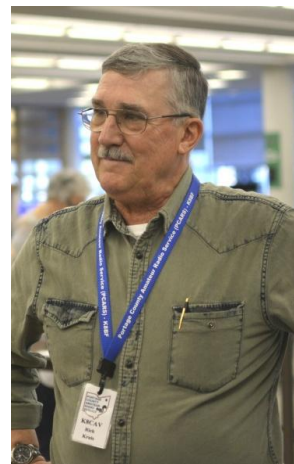
We had a great time and I would recommend more of you give it a try. CFARC has stopped running hunts until Spring. Lack of daylight is the problem. I plan to finish my doppler project and be ready for next year's hunts. I am told that using drones to locate the fox is a violation of the rules, but who knows. The hunts are run on the odd Wednesdays of each month in Spring and Summer. If you are interested, contact Frank for more information.



Mantua Potato Stomp

Rick, K8CAV

Portage County Coms Unit Commander



The Mantua Potato Stomp Race celebrated its 40th year this fall on Saturday September 7th, and the Coms Unit of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management provided communications support. This event consists of a four mile and nine mile foot race on roads in Mantua Village, Mantua Township, and Hiram Township. Radio Operators provide communications support to the Race Director and her staff during this event by staffing intersections on the course, and provide a Radio Operator in the Sweep vehicle.



Communications were conducted on the K8IV UHF repeater that is



located on the 300 ft. commercial radio tower east of Mantua Village that is owned by Dave Dorson, K8PKN. In addition to very wide area coverage due to the site elevation and tower height, this repeater also provides excellent local area coverage and has simplified providing communications support in the area. The generosity of Dave, K8PKN in providing the site and Ed, K8IV in configuring and providing the UHF repeater is very much appreciated by amateur radio groups that provide Public Service communications support.

This year we were unable to provide enough Radio Operators to staff every intersection on the course so the COML coordinated ahead of time with the Race Director to prioritize assignments for the race. After signing in on Saturday morning, Radio Operators deployed to their assigned locations and conducted radio checks with the NCS. Operations commenced at 8:00 AM and continued until the last runner crossed the finish line at around 11:30 AM. Radio Operators provided first and last runner information as they passed their locations, and other information as requested by the Race Director, through the NCS. There were no incidents of note that took place and weather was conducive to no heat or other injuries. Of special note was that the net, through the efforts and abilities of the NCS and all Radio Operators, was very well disciplined and conducted in a very professional manner.

I would like to recognize and sincerely thank the following who volunteered their time and expertise to support this event:, Ron W8AHC, Ian KE8IED, Mike KD8FLZ, Paul KE8EGF, Terry KB8AMZ, Sandy KD8JCY, Greg KA8TOA and Mike KB8TUY.



PCARS Flex Net - October 9th

Deron, N8XTH



Flex Net in OCTOBER will be **Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 8:00 pm ET.**

This month's net will be on 15 meters SSB. We will announce the frequency via a QST e-mail to go out prior to the net. Also, we will have someone on the 146.895 repeater to help anyone find the net.

After the net, we ask that you please send a QSL card to each and every person you contact. You can use the **Squirrel Buro QSL box** that is located at the club site and at club meetings to exchange cards. Please remember to use *UTC time/date on all of your QSL's*.

If you would be interested in being a Net Control station for the Flex Net please e-mail Deron, N8XTH at deronmb@gmail.com

Below is the net schedule, (*subject to change*):

9-Oct-2019	15m	13-Nov-2019	10m
		11-Dec-2019	20m

There will be two parts to the net. The first is a quick check in (This net is **not** designed to take the place of the weekly Thursday night nets on 146.895). The second part will be devoted to the PCARS A-to-Z Award where you will be given the chance to work different PCARS members in order to earn the award. (Information on the award is in the April 2019 PCARS newsletter.)

If you are a PCARS member participating in the A-to-Z net, the only requirement is that you provide a QSL card to each and every member that requests a QSL card from you. The new PCARS "**Squirrel Buro**" will hopefully help to defray the cost of exchanging cards by providing members a free way to exchange QSL cards at their convenience.

More than anything, this net is hopefully going to get more people on the air more consistently, help other members earn their first HF or SSB wallpaper, and help to put more **FUN** into amateur radio!

PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio
community

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



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

Chuck, W8PT

a.k.a. "Charlie the Tuner"



Greetings to all DXers:

Fall is certainly in the air. The lightening bugs that filled my back yard in July and August are gone now and many of the flowers that my XYL planted are history. The Amish are picking their corn fields and making hay stacks where fields once stood with 10 ft high corn stalks. It always makes me sad to know that sooner than most of us care to think about it, we will be fighting snow drifts and icy conditions on the roads. It will keep many of us indoors.

And that is a great time to get our rigs turned on to see what the bands are offering. Yes, I know what some of you are thinking. There is nothing on the bands because we have no sunspots and the bands mostly go to sleep in the winter months. But there is something always brewing in the ether. So let's see what folks are planning for the next couple of months and what we might have a chance to work.

As always, thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, K4ZW, WB6RSE, N7NG, K8GG, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, CX3ZAN, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, Sixitalia Weekly, and VA3RJ & ICPO 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.

4L, GEORGIA. Ilya, R3XA, will be active as 4L9M from Gudauri during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (80m) entry. QSL via R3XA, ClubLog or LoTW.

5B, CYPRUS. Kasimir, DL2SBY, will be active as 5B/SL2SBY from Ayia Napa between October 3-13rd. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via DL2SBY, direct or the OQRS (Bureau/direct) via ClubLog ONLY. Do not send your QSL via the Bureau! His log will be uploaded to LoTW later.

5H, TANZANIA. Operators Alex/K2BB, Pavel/UU0JR and possibly others will be active as 5H3EME and 5H3UA, respectively, from Zanzibar Island (AF-032), approx. November 15-30th. Activity will be on various HF and VHF bands using CW, SSB, the Digital modes and EME. EME will be on 6m, 2m and possibly 70cm. Also, look for them to be in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 23-24th). Look for more details to be forthcoming as well as a Web page.

5I, TANZANIA (IOTA Op). Silvano, I2YSB, informs that the Italian DXpedition Team (IDT) will be activating Zanzibar Island (AF-032) in Tanzania between February 4-18th, 2020. The IDT will be using two callsigns: 5I5TT for CW, SSB and RTTY; 5I4ZZ for FT8 and FT4. The Team will be comprised of 10 operators. Activity will be on 160-10 meters with 5 stations on the air. Suggested frequencies are: CW - 1826, 3530, 7025, 10115, 14030, 18068, 21030, 24890 and 28030 kHz SSB - 3775, 7090, 14240, 18130, 21310, 24950 and 28470 kHz RTTY - 14084 kHz FT4 - 3575, 7047.5, 10140, 14080, 18104, 21140, 24919 and 28180 kHz FT8 - 1845, 3585, 7056, 10131, 14084, 18095, 21091, 24911 and 28091 kHz

5K0, SAN ANDREA ISLAND. Operators Rob/HK3CW, Petr/OK1BOA, Petr/OK1FCJ, Palo/OK1CRM, Pavel/OK1GK, Ruda/OK2ZA, Ludek/OK2ZC, Karel/OK2ZI and David/ OK6DJ will be active as 5K0K from San Andres Island (NA-033) around/between Oct 15-30th. Activity on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Focus will be on the low bands. Radios: Elecraft K3 and Kenwood TS480 (both multiple units). PA: Expert 1.3k-FA, JUMA's and RF Power. Antennas: 3x Spiderbeam (10/15/20m including WARC), VDA antennas, 30m 4SQ, 40m 4SQ, 80m vertical + radials, 1/4 vertical + radials 160m vertical + capacitive hat. RX: Beverages + DHDL. QSL via OK6DJ, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

7A, INDONESIA. A team of YB operators will be active as 7A2A from a contest station in Central Java during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 26-27th) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via LoTW. No other details were provided.

7Q, MALAWI (Update). Operators Bill/KC4D (7Q7WW), Don/K6ZO (7Q6M) and Junior/7Q7JN are active from Embangweni Mission Hospital at the Loudon Station in Malawi as time and power allows. Bill states that he will operate as 7Q7WW during his free time with his friends 7Q6M (Don/ K6ZO) and 7Q7JN (Junior). At the main station, they are on CW and SSB, usually on 20, 40 and 80 meters. At their residence, they ave a modest station and wire antennas for FT-8. For 7Q7WW QSLs, please send cards direct to the KC4D address. If you're in the U.S., include a SASE; outside of the U.S., please also include 1 USD to help with postage. Bill states, "Unfortunately, I'm not currently set up for e-QSLs, but expect to get these on LoTW eventually." QSL 7Q6M via K6ZO and 7Q7JN via address on QRZ.com.

9G, GHANA. A group of Slovenian ops will be active as 9G5W from Kokrobite between November 16-27th. Operators mentioned are Tine/S50A, Leo/S50R, Marko/S51DS, Tone/S51TC, Sergej/S51ZJ, Peter/S54W and Renato/ S57UN. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to be in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 23-24th). Their equip- ment contains 3x Kenwood TS-590SG with various verticals for 160/80/40/30m, and two SpiderBeams for 20-10m. QSL via S59ZZ or ClubLog's OQRS. Log will be uploaded to LoTW (usually 6 months later).

9X, RWANDA. Harald, DF2WO, will be active as 9X2AW from Kigali between Nov 4-16th. He is currently preparing his 160m antenna and will build a Hexbeam with Bamboo Sticks for working on 20/17/15/12/10 meters using mainly Digital modes (FT8, PSK31, JT65 and RTTY), CW and SSB. QSL via M0OXO or his OQRS. See QRZ.com for pictures.

C5, THE GAMBIA. Don, G3XTT, active as C56DF from The Gambia, but this time in CQWW DX CW Contest (Nov 23-24th). Look for operation before and maybe after the contest. Activity will be on various bands, probably all CW like last time using low power (IC-7300 and wires) from a rooftop apartment. He will, of course, upload logs to LoTW and ClubLog, but possibly only after his return to the UK. QSL direct to Don's home callsign or via ClubLog's OQRS.

CQ9, MADERIA. Operators Silvia/EA1AP, Alberto/EA1SA and Tony/CT1HTU (F8ATS) will be active as CQ9A from San Jorge, Madeira Island, between October 18-26th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters (special attention on 60m) using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or EA1AP.

CY0C SABLE ISLAND DXPEDITION (Update). Operators Dan/WA4DAN, Jay/K4ZLE, Will/AA4NC, Lee/WW2DX, Pat/N2IEN, Lou/N2TU, Bill/K5DHY and possibly more "To Be Determined" (TBD) will be active as CY0C from Sable Island (NA-063) between October 5-12th, 2020. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, EME and the Satellites. QSL via WA4DAN or ClubLog.

D4, CAPE VERDE (Update/Satellite Op). Harald, DF2WO, will once again be active as D44TWO from Praia, Santiago Island (AF-005), between September 29th and October 13th. Activity will be holiday style on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. He states that he works mostly on the Digital modes (FT8, PSK31, JT65 and RTTY) and slow CW. It was reported this past week that "he has been working hard in the last few months getting his Satellite station working and is now confident he will use it from Cabo Verde. He will be using an Icom 7300, 2 Transverters with 3 watts output on ES-Hail using the QO-100 Geostationary Satellite." He will also have a FT-450D into a homemade HEX BEAM and a dipole for 40 meters. QSL via M0OXO (OQRS available).

FH, MAYOTTE ISLANDS. Willi, DJ7RJ, will once again be active as FH/DJ7RJ from Mayotte between October 15th and November 3rd. Activity will be on 160-10 meters with a focus on the lower bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. NO LoTW or ClubLog.

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Thomas, F4HPX, will be active as FK/F4HPX from Noumea, New Caledonia (OC-032), sometime during the first half of November. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands using a FT-891 and KX2 into a simple wire antenna plus an Alpha EZ Military stick. He also plans to be active for a few days from Pins Island. QSL via F4HPX, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog, LoTW or eQSL.

FK, NEW CALEDONIA, Jan, F6EYB will be QRV as FK8CJ from Noumea until the end of 2019. Activity will be primarily on 30, 20 and 17 meters. QSL to home call.

HB0, LIECHTESTEIN. Kasimir, DL2SBY, active as HB0/DL2SBY from Masescha between December 21-28th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via DL2SBY, direct or the OQRS (Bureau/direct) via ClubLog ONLY. Do not send your QSL via the Bureau! His log will be uploaded to LoTW later.

HC5, ECUADOR. Joshua, W9HT, will be active as HC5JLT from Ecuador between December 15-21st. Activity will be on various HF bands and 6m, using CW, SSB, and the Digital modes. QSL via his home callsign.

MD, ISLE OF MAN. Members of the NB DX Team active as MD/OP2D from Isle of Man (EU-116) between Sept 21-27th. Ops mentioned are Erik/ON4ANN (Team Leader), Erik/ON4CCV, Cedric/ON4CKM, Rudi/ON6MI, Andre/ON4DTO, Patrick/ON4DCU, Willy/ON2BDJ, Luc/N4AAQ, Yvo/ON5CD and Walter/ON8CW. Activity on 80-10 meters. QSL via M0URX direct (2 USDs and a SAE. No IRCs) or via his OQRS. Bureau cards via OQRS ONLY.

OJ0, MARKET REEF. Pasi, OH3WS, will once again be active as OJ0W (as well as OJ0/OH3WS and OJ0/OG3A) from Market Reef (EU-053) between October 5-12th. Activity will be on 80-30 meters using CW and SSB. QSL all three callsigns via his home callsign.

OX, GREENLAND. Operators Thomas/OZ1AA, Bo/OZ1DJJ, Dave/OZ5DM, Mikkel/OZ7AKT, Alex/OZ7AM and possibly others will be active as OX7A from Kangerlussuaq during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (Oct 26-27th). Operation class TBD. QSL via OZ1ACB, ClubLog or LoTW. There will be activity on all bands and modes (including FT8) prior to and after the contest, but with operators using their own personal callsigns (OX3LX, OX3LG, OX5DM, OX7AKT and OX7AM). There will be an emphasis on the low bands and 60/30/17/12 meters. Most operators will be in Greenland between October 22nd and November 1st.

T6, AFGHANISTAN, Robert, S53R will be QRV as T6AA from Kabul from September to the Summer of 2021 while on work assignment. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. He will be active as T6A during major contests. QSL to home call.

T8, PALAU. Noboru, JH1OLB, will once again be active as T88DT from the VIP Guest Hotel (Free Radio Room) on Koror Island (OC-009) between November 21-27th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters (depending on condition) using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31, SSTV and JT65A. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW. No eQSL.

TI7, COSTA RICA. Operators John/W2ID, Kam/N3KS, Nathan/N4YDU and Chris/KL9A will be active as TI7W from Guanacaste, Costa Rica, during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 26-27th) as a Multi-Single entry. Also, look for Chris, KL9A, to be active as TI7W during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 23-24th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL all TI7W via W4FS. Outside of the contests, look for operators to sign TI5/homecall on all bands. QSL via operator's instructions.

TM41, FRANCE (Special Event). Look for special event station TM41CDXC to be active between September 13-27th. Activity is to celebrate the 41st Clipperton DX Convention (September 27-29th) at Mejanne-le Clap (Gard). QSL via F5CWU or the OQRS.

TR, GABON. Roland, F8EN (ex-CN8EM, FO8BV, 3C3CR), active as TR8CR from Gabon during the months of Oct and Nov. Activity will be on 40-17 meters (possibly on 80m) using CW only. QSL via F6AJA, by the Bureau or direct.

V4, ST. KITTS. Gary, G0FWX, will once again be active as V47FWX from John's, V47JA, QTH on St. Kitts Island (NA-104) between November 6-13th. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands. QSL via M0URX, or his OQRS.

V6, MICRONESIA. Sho, JA7HMZ, will once again be active as V63DX from Pohnpei Island (OC-010) between November 22-27th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, all modes and including the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 23-24th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry signing V6A. He will be looking for European stations on 160m before and after the contest. QSL via his home callsign direct or LoTW. No Bureau QSLs.

VP2V, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS. Operators Jeff/K5WE and Bill/N5AQ will be active as VP2VEM and VP2V/N5AQ, respectively, from Tortola, British Virgin Islands, beginning October 4th through October 13th. They will operate on all bands 160-10 meters, mostly CW with some RTTY, FT8, FT4, and SSB. Their equipment will include K3 radios with 400 watt amps. Antennas will include a Hexbeam, a Crank-IR vertical, and dipoles. Depending upon a reliable internet connection, logs will be uploaded to ClubLog daily. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW upon returning home. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, or QSL VP2VEM to K5WE and VP2V/N5AQ to N5AQ

XP, GREENLAND. Henning, OZ2I/OZ1BII, will once again be active as XP2I from Kanger-lussuaq between November 20-25th. Activity will be CW only on all HF bands. He will participate during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 23-24th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. For activity outside of the contest, he will sign OX/OZ2I. QSL via OZ2I, LoTW, eQS or ClubLog's OQRS.

XW, LAOS (Update). Per DX-World.net, Simon, G6JFY/HS0ZIB/XZ2A, has announced that he has received his new callsign XW0LP (Suffix "LP" stands for Luang Prabang, the town in north Laos where he now live). License is good for one year as of October 1st, and is initially valid only for 20 meter band operations. Simon states, "On 20 meters, I will be active every day, mostly using FT8. My rig sits right next to my work desk, so I can keep an eye on the band and answer calls as they are received. I WON'T use Fox + Hounds mode on FT8, just simple, single mode. I operate my FT8 software manually so that I can select which call to reply to." QSL via ClubLog. NO BUREAU cards.

Z8, SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as Z81D from Juba and is here until mid October. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via OM3JW.

ZK3A TOKELAU ISLANDS DXPEDITION NEWS (Press Release, date July 9th). [edited] Planning is on schedule for the ZK3A DXpedition to Tokelau Island IOTA OC-048. The DXpedition will run from October 1-11th, 2019. Tokelau Island ranks #40 most wanted in the world, and #26 most wanted in Europe according to ClubLog. We are excited to have an advanced set-up team who will build a 160M four square from an existing 40M high tower.

IOTA NEWS...

AS-015. Rich, PA0RRS, will once again be active as 9M2MRS from **Penang Island, West Malaysia**, between December 2nd (2019) and February 28th (2020). Activity will probably be on 40-10meters using CW, RTTY, PSK, FT8, FT4 and possibly SSB (he will have a microphone in the luggage, but normally no SSB [possible on request]). Rich will have a Yaesu FT450D with 100 watt into a G5RV dipole with bents on the balcony of the house and a MFJ automatic intellituner for all bands. QSL via his home callsign, ClubLog's OQRS, LoTW or eQSL.

AS-122. Operators Tae-su/DS3EXX and Lee/DS3FGN active as homecall/2 from **Daecheong-do Island** between Oct 3-9th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. Suggested frequencies are: CW - 1821/1825, 3522, 7022, 10115, 14022, 18080, 21022, 24901 and 28022 kHz SSB - 3790, 7090, 14192, 18122, 21250, 24940 and 28450 kHz FT8 - 1810, 3540, 7070, 10122, 14080, 18095, 21090, 24910 and 28090 kHz. Frequencies can change due to QRM or local noise. Split operations will always be used. They will listen on CW starting 1 up and SSB up 5. FT8 will be on the F/H mode. QSL via LoTW or direct to their home callsign.

OC-059. Haru, JA1XGI, will once again be active as V6K from **Kosrae Island** between December 2-9th. Activity will be on 160/80/40/30/20 meters using mainly CW with some RTTY and FT8. Focus will be on EU/NA/SA/Middle East of Asia. He will also be in the ARRL 160m CW Contest (December 6-8th). Suggested frequencies are: CW - 1815/1822.5, 3525, 7025, 10115 and 14040 kHz RTTY - 7035, 10140 and 14080 kHz FT8(N) - 1840*, 3573, 7074, 10136 and 14074 kHz FT8(F/H) - 7051, 10131 and 14085 kHz. His equipment will be an Icom IC7300 with a DXV600L(Tiny PA) into two vertical antennas. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW (available after 3 month).

I'm still continuing with carry over from last month's DX listings, along with new opportunities in the next several months to work DX. Until next month, **73 and Gud DX!!**

CW/QRP & Linux Special Interest Groups

Terry, KB8AMZ

CW & QRP SIG

Hello, October 8th is the next QRP-CW SIG. The goal at these meetings has been a successful first contact on the air. Speed of sending and copying is not a goal but rather making the first contact. You may copy less than 5 wpm and think there is no one on the air that you can contact. You are wrong if you think that. All that is required to join us is the knowledge of the Morse Code and a straight key. If you can copy the Morse Code you can find someone on the air to chat with. Making your first contact is enjoyable and if you need help there are Elmers to help you. We begin the SIG at 7 PM and shortly after get on the air. Hope to see you there.

Linux for Hams SIG

The next meeting of the group will be Tuesday, October 29th at 7 PM. Please bring your Raspberry Pi and peripherals. More stuff to learn using the command line and installing Amateur Radio software. We discovered at the last SIG that WiFi was too slow for downloading so I will have some software on a flash drive and instructions for downloading from your home Internet connection.

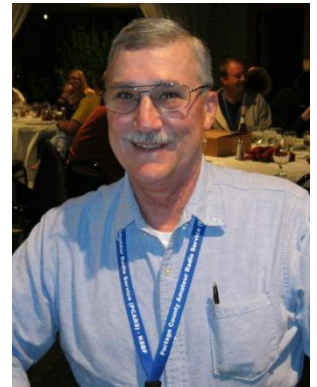


Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV

The PCARS Digital Special Interest Group will be meeting on Tuesday October 1st at 7:00 PM at the club site in Ravenna.

We'll be available to help with any questions or problems you may be having with digital communications. Feel free to bring your computer, interface, or radio as appropriate and we'll do our best to help. Also, the club station will be available to do some digital operations. Hope to see you there.



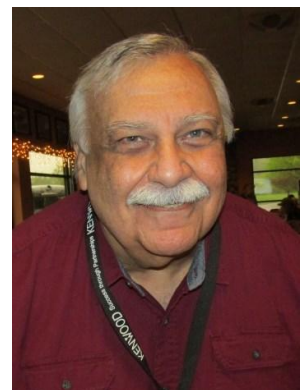
DX and Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

Greetings to all PCARS members and especially those who help put K8BF on the air. Our DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting will be held on October 22.

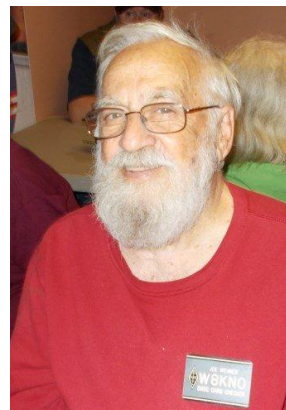
We will be reviewing our performance in the California QSO Party and the Arizona QSO Party, both held earlier this month. We will also be going over the 2020 Contest schedule to set in place contests in which the PCARS Black Squirrel Contest Group will be participating.

If you have any ideas or preferences or a favorite contest that we have not played in up to this point, why not come out and make your wishes known. Come on out to the club site the 4th Tuesday of October at 7PM and gather with your fellow members. We'd love to have a good group show up. Til then, 73



Paper Chase - Yorktown, Virginia 1781

Joe, W8KNO



Yorktown, Virginia

October 19, 1781

YORKTOWN IS WON!

Cornwallis' Sword is Delivered to American Forces

"The World Turned Upside Down"

On 27 July 1781, British General Charles Cornwallis formally surrendered 8,000 British soldiers and seamen to a French and American force at Yorktown, Virginia, bringing the American Revolution to a close.

To commemorate the 238th anniversary of this event, the Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club will activate a special event station, K4RC, on October 19th from 10 A.M. till 4 P.M. our local time. The published operating frequencies are 7.265 and 14.265.

To obtain a QSL card send a SASE to:
QSL Manager
PO Box 1470
Williamsburg, VA 23187.



Hear you in the pile-up!



PCARS IO Group

Members are reminded that PCARS has a IO Group site dedicated to PCARS. It's a great site to sign up for and get on the mailing list for important PCARS information.

Check out the PCARS IO Group at: <https://groups.io/g/PCARS>

Two things every member should do.

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



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

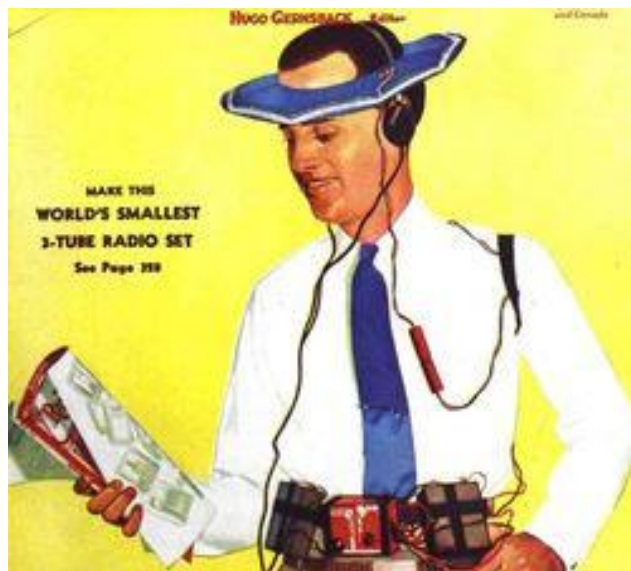


A Radio on Your Belt - 1930's Style

From the ARRL Web Site

Since the advent of wireless technology, efforts have aimed at condensing the size of the necessary equipment to permit ease of transport, mobile installation, and radios that could be hand carried, slipped into a pocket or -- in this case -- carried on the belt. Hugo Gernsback's [Radio-Craft for December 1936](#) included the article, "How to Make the World's Smallest 3-Tube Radio Set" by Arthur Miller (likely not the playwright). It details how a clever radio crafter could construct a set worn on a belt around the waist and -- in this case -- with the antenna worn on the head in the manner of an old-time banker's eyeshade. The individual wearing such equipment today likely would not only have to endure considerable pointing and laughing but would raise the alert level at any airport TSA checkpoint.

Vacuum tubes of the day were not too sensitive, required separate voltage sources for filament and plate, and were pretty hard on batteries. The filaments for the three tubes came from "a liquid unspillable storage cell" (i.e., rechargeable) to supply the necessary 2 V. The article says this battery should last from 7 to 10 hours and came "with an oiled silk bag and fits in the hip pocket." This was the sort of futuristic innovation that Gernsback typically featured in his publications, and the entire December 1936 issue of *Radio-Craft* is worth perusing.



"When using this 'Belt-Radio' the wearer is quite unmindful that the latest news or dance music is coming from an ultra-midget receiver which is actually being worn on the belt!" the article exults. "And it takes only a minute to put the whole equipment on -- and less to take it off!"



According to Miller's article, building the three-tube set was easy. "The loop aerial is wound on a cardboard disc 13 ins. in dia," it explains. "Litz wire is used and 22 turns are interlaced around the 9 ribs." No mention of gauging hat size.

The article concedes just to "one disadvantage" in having to wear the antenna on one's head. "The 4-ft. cable connecting it with the receiver acts as a capacity and restricts the tuning range of the set," it explains.

The set tuned the AM broadcast band, and with the antenna on the head, directionality was less of an issue. While it might look silly to us now, project ideas such as this helped advance the radio art toward the technology we use and enjoy today.



HF7V From Old HF9V Parts

Gene, W8NET

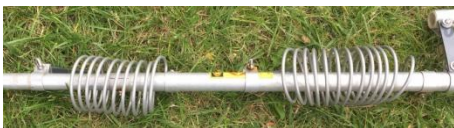
The “Frankentenna”, or “How to Make an ‘HF7V’” from an Old HF9V”

In August 2018, PCARS was trying to cleanup “junk” in Bay 3 of the club site. One item was KC8PD, Jim Aylward’s (SK) old Butternut HF9V vertical antenna. The HF9V is an



awesome, quality multiband vertical antenna. I had one many years ago and performed well. I had a Hustler 5BTV installed with a radial field, so I would use that buried post and radials for the HF9V.

The HF9V was in pieces. I collected the parts and spread them out on my driveway. First, I had to inspect all of the components. They were dirty, some had oxidation, and some were damaged. Worse, some were missing.



Many hardware items had to be replaced with stainless steel. Some of the old parts were galvanized or plain steel – rusted badly. One screw/bolt had to be cut with a grinder. The good thing was the aluminum coils and aluminum mast pieces

were in good shape except for some surface oxidation.



The missing pieces were all on the top... there was NO top! Rick, K8CAV, tried to find the missing pieces, but no joy. The missing mast pieces were simple. DX Engineering has many aluminum tube diameters and length. No problem! However, the standoffs and brackets for the 15m and 6m sections were missing. Hmmmm...

As my OCF dipole is exceptional on 15m and good on 6m, I decided to forego the two extra bands, making it a “HF7V”! The design of the HF9V makes it easy to forego 15m and 6m. Every other band is mutually coupled or dependent on others for tuning.

The HF9V (or, my “HF7V”) has a unique feature on 20m. As the Butternut HF9V manual describes, “On 20 meters the entire radiator operates as a 3/8-wavelength vertical with much higher radiation resistance and VSWR bandwidth than conventional or trapped antennas having a physical height of 1/4-wavelength or less. Because the 20 meter radiation resistance will be several times greater than that of conventional vertical antennas, an electrical 1/4-wavelength section of 75 ohm coax is used as a geometric mean transformer to match the approximate 100 ohms of feedpoint impedance on that band to a 50 ohm main transmission line of any convenient length.” I had Jim’s original 75 ohm piece, but it was weathered, and the coax connection was dirty and tarnished. I had to wait if it would work when assembled.

The Tasks:

- Take down my Hustler 5BTV
- Disconnected my radials
- Installed a DX Engineering Radial Plate
- Ripped out 24 (out of 32) old/damaged radials
- Disassembled and cleaned EVERY PIECE of Jim – KC8PD’s HF9V
- Sanded/filed/Scotch Pad’ed every surface which would be in contact with another piece
- Installed 16 new radials (4 x 66’, 4 x 33’, 4 x 17’, 4 x 9’). 24 radials now.
- Replaced 2 x 67pf high voltage caps w/75pf (same rating) (eBay)
- Replaced 1 x 200pf/10KVDC high voltage doorknob cap with a 200pf/35KVDC doorknob cap (eBay)
- Replaced the missing 4 x 48” aluminum tubes and 1 x 24” aluminum tube with 3 x 60” aluminum tubes and 1 x 36” aluminum tube (telescoping) (I needed 3” more than the original) from DX Engineering
- Replaced the 17m strip/horizontal member with 28” x 0.5” x 0.062” aluminum flat bar from Lowe’s



- Replaced the 12m strip/horizontal member with 14.5" x 0.5" x 0.062" aluminum flat bar from Lowe's
- Assembled the NEW aluminum tubes (top half)
- Reassembled the bottom half (the original HF9V parts)
- ALL metal connections were cleaned/sanded/filed and treated with NoAlOx
- Assembled the two halves
- Check the 12ft 75ohm coax for continuity and seal
- READY TO TEST

After the first pass of basic tuning, I had to adjust 17m and 30m. 80M, 40m, 12m, 10m were close. But, 20m had a problem. The VSWR was 4.3:1. I checked everything again, and the VSWR was 1.6:1. I thought the problem was solved. I proceeded to "fine tune" my HF7V. Everything was going well. Two days later, I had the same issue on 20m. GRRRRR!



Everything pointed to the 75 ohm coax. But, was it the connector? The connection to the connector? The shielding? After two days of intermittent operation, I finally decided to replace the 75 ohm coax with a new one from DX Engineering. PROBLEM SOLVED! After one more adjustment for fine tuning, it is less than 1.4:1 VSWR on all bands, 1.2:1 on 20m, 1.1:1 on 17m and 1.1:1 for 10kHz on 80m (75m).

Now, my "HF7V Frankentenna" is my go-to antenna, especially for 80m and DX on 40m and 20m. Not bad for an investment of ~\$125, some elbow grease and thinking outside the box. I think Jim would be pleased! We miss you, Jim!




FALL ARRIVES MONDAY

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

NOT AVAILABLE IN ARKANSAS, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS, MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, SOUTH CAROLINA, NORTH CAROLINA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, VIRGINIA, INDIANA, AND OHIO. RESIDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENJOY FALL WEATHER UNTIL A MASSIVE HIGH PRESSURE BREAKS DOWN LATER IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER. UNTIL THAT HAPPENS, DAILY RECORD HIGHS WILL BE CHALLENGED LATE SEPTEMBER INTO OCTOBER AND EVERYONE WILL BE COMPLAINING ABOUT IT. PLEASE DON'T TEXT, TWEET, OR MESSAGE YOUR LOCAL WEATHERMAN. HE OR SHE CAN'T DO A DANG THING ABOUT IT.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service






K8BF

2018 Hamvention Club of the Year



Center of Hope

Help PCARS Raise Donations

Secure Donation Through 



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





ARRL Thanks Official Observers as Volunteer Monitor Program is Set to Debut

As the September 30 date for the closing of the Official Observer (OO) program nears, ARRL has expressed deep appreciation to the hundreds of volunteers who gave their time as Official Observers to help preserve the integrity of the Amateur Radio bands.

The Official Observer program has served the Amateur Radio community and assisted the FCC Enforcement Bureau for more than 85 years. The OO program is giving way to the new Volunteer Monitor (VM) program, established as part of a formal partnership between ARRL and the FCC. ARRL and the FCC signed a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* earlier this year that establishes the Volunteer Monitor program as a successor to the Official Observers. The first Volunteer Monitors should be in place and ready to begin their duties this fall.

"Thank you for your dedication and service," ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said. "It was the good work of the OOs over many years that laid the foundation for the FCC to recommend this new agreement for enforcement." The FCC proposed the program following the closures of several FCC regional offices and a reduction in field staff.

Last February, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, was named to oversee the development and implementation phases of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Under the new VM program, volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the airwaves and gather evidence that could be used to correct misconduct as well as to recognize exemplary on-air operation. ARRL will refer instances of flagrant violation to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines, and the FCC will give priority to enforcement cases developed by the VM program.

Official Observers were invited to apply to become Volunteer Monitors, and many did. The requirements for being a Volunteer Monitor include:

- Ability to utilize state-of-the-art receiving equipment and to access no-cost remote receive sites; strong writing and communication skills
 - An understanding of the importance of thorough documentation
 - Basic word processing and data entry skills
 - The ability to send such information, including recordings, to ARRL electronically.
- Applicants must also be ARRL members, have no history of FCC enforcement action, hold a Technician-class or higher license, and been licensed for at least 3 years.

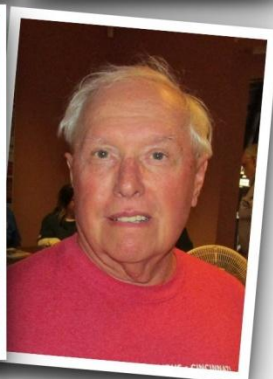
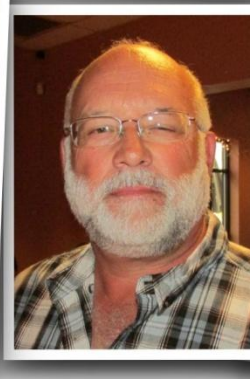
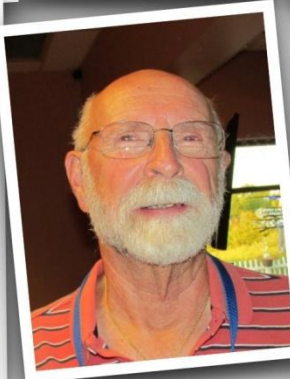
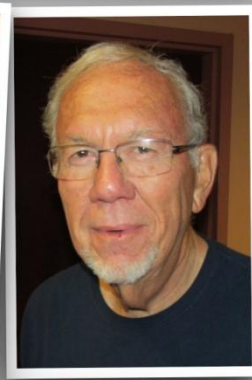
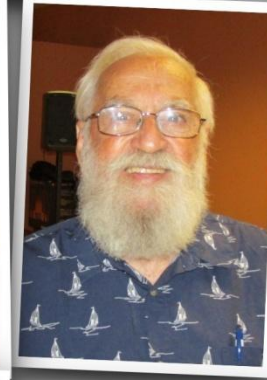
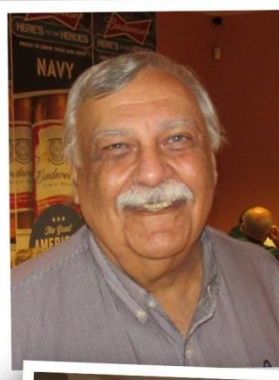
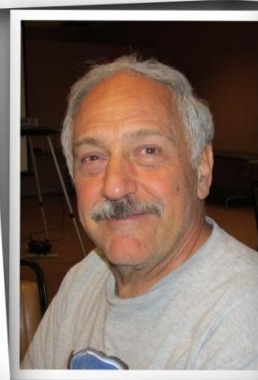
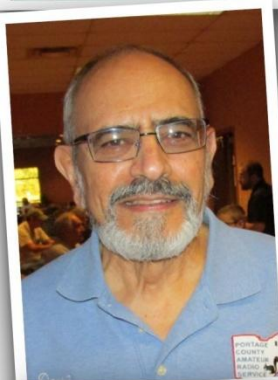
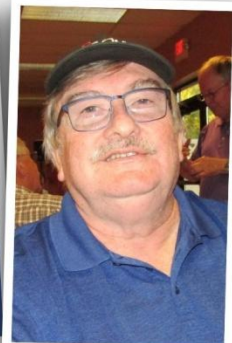
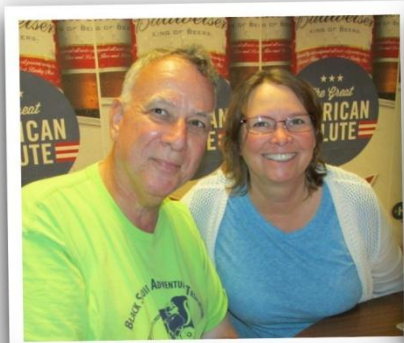


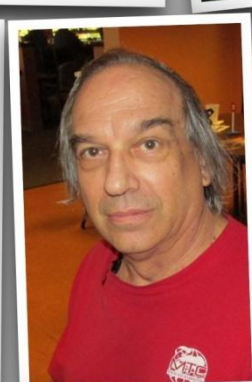
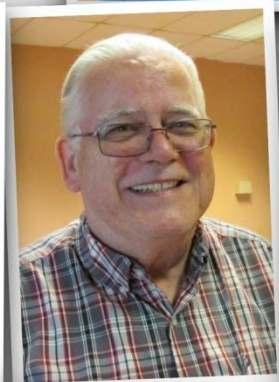
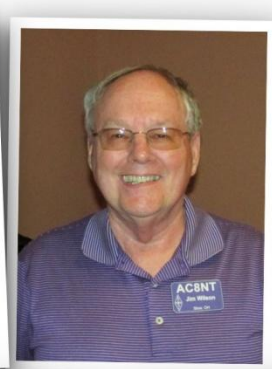
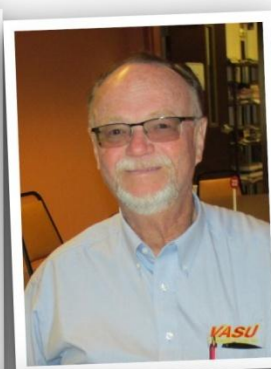
Applicants underwent a training and certification program administered by ARRL and were vetted by ARRL through at least one oral interview and a preliminary evaluation by ARRL staff. Volunteer Monitors will serve 3-year terms at the pleasure of ARRL.

The objectives of the Volunteer Monitoring Program include improving and promoting knowledge and compliance of FCC Amateur Radio Service rules, extending and preserving the tradition of self-regulation and self-administration of the Amateur Radio Service by volunteers, and enabling the FCC Enforcement Bureau "to more efficiently and effectively utilize its resources in enforcing the Communications Act and Commission rules," according to the *MOU*.

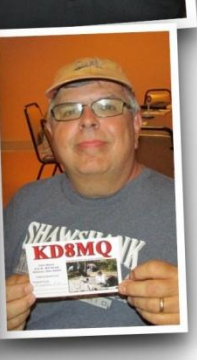
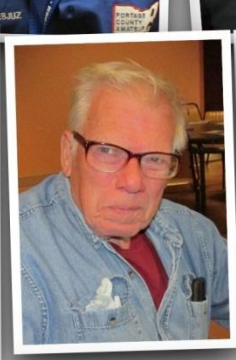
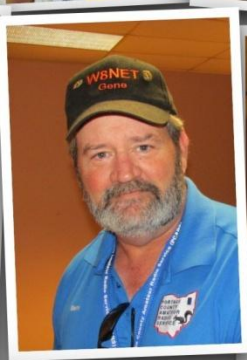
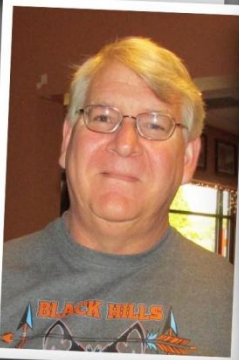
Photos from the September PCARS Meeting

Sept 9, 2019





**PCARS
Sept 9, 2019**





PCARS
www.portcars.org



PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted !!! PLEASE !!

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 72 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 IO 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.

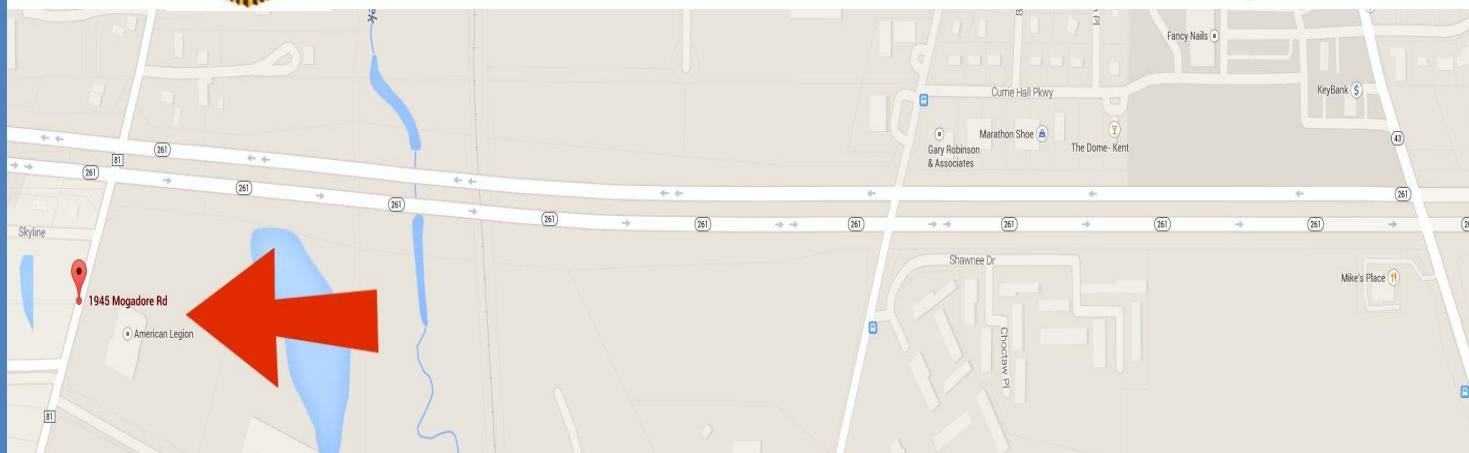


PCARS Meetings

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)*



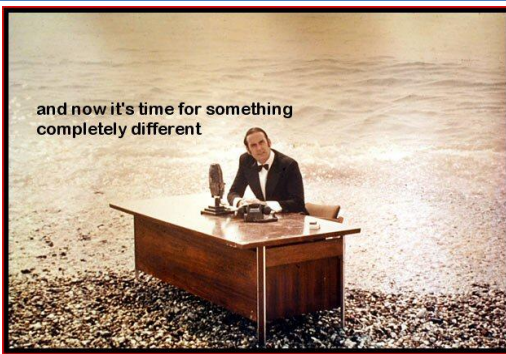
The American Legion Post 496 is located on the southeast corner of State Route 261 and Mogadore Rd. The driveway is on the south side of the building and as you enter you will pass through a parking lot on the south side of the building. Please do not park in this lot but instead continue on to the parking 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.



86-YEAR OLD LADY'S LETTER TO BANK

Shown below, is an actual letter that was sent to a bank by an 86 year old woman. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the New York Times.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my check with which I endeavored to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his presenting the check and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honor it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my entire pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years.

You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account \$30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally answer your telephone calls and letters, --- when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan repayments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank, by check, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offense under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contact which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Notary Public, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, at MY convenience, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modeled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

IMMEDIATELY AFTER DIALING, PRESS THE STAR (*) BUTTON FOR ENGLISH

- #1. To make an appointment to see me
- #2. To query a missing payment.
- #3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- #4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping
- #5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- #6.. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home
- #7. To leave a message on my computer, a password to access my computer is required. Password will be communicated to you at a later date to that Authorized Contact mentioned earlier.
- #8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 7.
- #9. To make a general complaint or inquiry. The contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service.
- #10. This is a second reminder to press* for English.

While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call. Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement. May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous New Year?

Your Humble Client

PS--And remember: Don't make old people mad. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to piss us off.



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS)

Membership Application [] New [] Renewal

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No ARRL Membership Expires Month: _____ Year: _____

Birthday: Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____

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

Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31. Dues are due no later than Jan 31st. **If you don't pay by 1/31 - you are no longer a member and you will have to pay the \$5.00 fee again plus dues per the schedule below.**

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

Check One

Pro-Rated Dues Amount:

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

(*Family = wife, husband, brother, sister, son, daughter, father, mother that is a licensed amateur radio operator and who's FCC license has the same address as the paid regular member's FCC license). Life Membership is available - Contact the club Secretary

Checks can be made out to either "PCARS" - or - "Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc."

What are **YOUR** Ham Radio interests:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.
c/o: Gene Marsh, W8NET
3561 Keswick Drive
Kent, OH 44240

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

Rev. 28 Sept 2018

Thanks & 73



Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

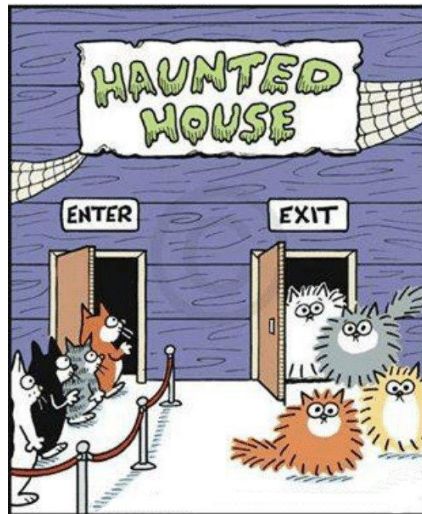
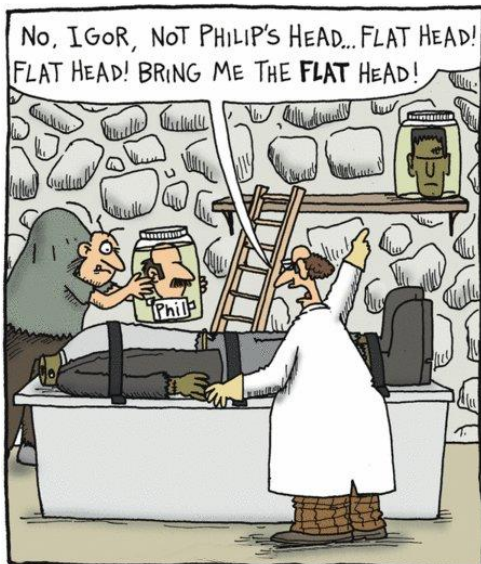


All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great for the rest of 2019 and beyond.

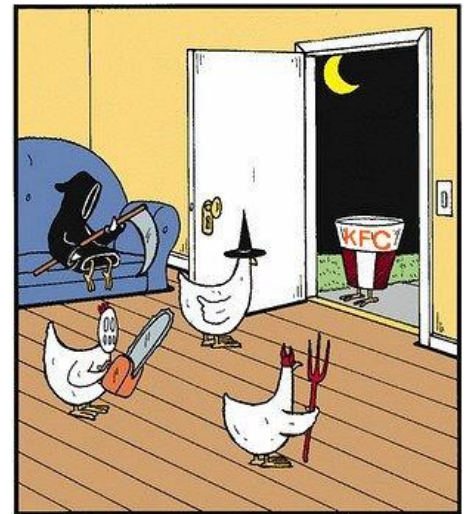
Thanks go out to the contributors for this month's newsletter:

AC8NT, AC8QG, KB8UUZ, WB8LCD, KB6NU, KD8WCK, N8NB, WIDGJ (sk), W8NET, KB8AMZ, N8SY, KA8TOA, K8CAV, N8XTH, W8PT, W8KNO, WX4QZ, NO8D, NF8R, The ARRL, and the World-Wide Web.

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



Sunday Morning Comics The Wildcat Sanctuary Are you a "scaredy cat" at Halloween Haunted Houses?



Upon Bernie's arrival, the scariest-costume competition was about to get a whole lot stiffer.



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

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

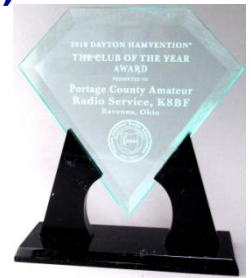


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**, 1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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



~ 2019 Officers ~		2019 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Vice President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF 3 Year Trustee - Terry Morris - KB8AMZ 2 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV 1 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ Past President - Rick Kruis - K8CAV	ARRL Awards - DXCC WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink & Web Guru	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman, 2019	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	KD8SKL	Amy Leggiero
	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
Webmasters		KD8MQ	John Myers
		K8SRR	Steve Randlett



**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
W8EZT	Frank Tompkins
AC8NT	Jim Wilson
K8MSH	Mark Haverstock
KA8TOA	Greg Ash
W8PT	Chuck Patellis
AC8QG	Nick Wagner
N8FUM	Dan Torchia
W8GWI	Dave Seckel



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 ©2019. The **RADIOGRAM** is an **Award Winning** newsletter: **ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015 - Second Place 2014, 2016 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 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. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KB8UUZ@gmail.com



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NLC

