



# 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

June 2020 - Volume 15 Number 6

## *Field Day 2020* **- - Breaking News - -**



## ***PCARS FLEX NET IS BACK*** ***GET ON-THE-AIR***



**PCARS K8BF**

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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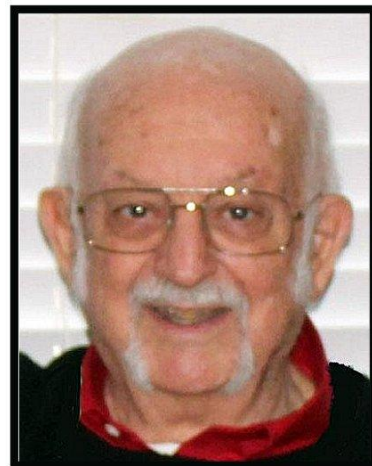


**From the Editor:** You will see some humor based cartoons and articles about the COVID-19. Yes, I agree that this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please.



## ***Robert Davet, W8JFQ - SK***

***Robert E. Davet, W8JFQ  
PCARS member # 260***



This is news that I did not want to have to give you.

My Dad, Robert E. Davet, W8JFQ, is now an SK. He passed away Saturday, 5/9/2020, shortly after lunch.



His health had been declining over the past several months and he just got tired of fighting it. He was a member of the Greensboro Amateur Society (GAS) even though he had moved back up here, that was his club in NC.

He worked for White Motor Heavy Duty Truck and Volvo Heavy Duty Truck. (Volvo bought out WM when they filed bankruptcy)

No services are being planned at this moment. He is being cremated. Until we can get back into our church, you are going to laugh and you can, we will just put dad on a shelf for now. (Firefighter/Paramedic dark humor has been raising its head pretty regularly the past several days)

I will let you know when we have any service plans set up. But at this point we have no idea when it will be down the road.

Thanks,  
Bob, W8RID

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MACEDONIA - Robert E. Davet, age 83, of Macedonia, formerly of Twinsburg and Greensboro, NC, passed away Saturday, May 9, 2020. Bob was the beloved husband for 60 years of Marianne (nee Davies); loving father of Robert (Gayle) Davet and Diana (Jody) Davet; cherished grandfather of Robert (Samantha) Davet and Lisa Davet. Bob proudly served his country in the Navy Reserves. He was also an active volunteer for the Twinsburg Fire Department for many years, was an avid Ham Radio Operator, W8JFQ and enjoyed camping throughout his life. A Memorial Service to celebrate Bob's life will be held at a later date at the First Congregational Church of Twinsburg. Interment will be at Crown Hill Cemetery, Twinsburg, OH. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the church ([www.fctwinsburg.org](http://www.fctwinsburg.org)) or to Twinsburg Firefighters Local 3630, P.O. Box 1143, Twinsburg, OH 44087. Arrangements by Johnson-Romito Funeral Home, Twinsburg, OH. ([www.johnsonromito.com](http://www.johnsonromito.com), TB, 5/20/20)





### Tom, WB8LCD PCARS President



June 2020! Can you believe it? Half-way through one of the most disappointing years I've ever had. Yet, in the midst of all the disappointments, there have been some bright spots. We've learned some new ways to stay in touch with each other. I think the past two month's ZOOM meetings have been fantastic – even though different. We've had some outstanding presentations and some guests who have been able to pop in despite the distance between us. It was, and continues to be, a learning experience for me. We've had some fantastic band openings – something to look forward to as we start climbing back towards a solar cycle peak. The best part? Every day we endure brings us one day closer to the day we get back to life as usual.

Probably the biggest decision that your PCARS board has had to make (so far) is what and how are we going to participate in Field Day. Lot's of creative idea's were floated around, and with the easing of the "lock-down" rules, it was decided that we are going to run a "normal" Field Day operation. We are planning for a 4A operation, but with some additional safety considerations.

Before I go any further, I want to emphasize that any PCARS member who does not feel comfortable participating is under no obligation. I want to make sure that everyone is free to participate, or not, based on what they believe is best for themselves and their families. I'm declaring this a "NO Judgement" field day. Do what you feel is right for you, either way. \*\*\*Between the time I wrote this and submitted it, there was a last minute change to Field Day rules. Further information will follow, but, we WILL still have the "Field Operation" as planned.

We will be operating under real "emergency" conditions, and as such we will be primarily concerned with doing everything possible to keep our participants safe. A complete set of guidelines will be out shortly. The probability is that we will be operating from Ron's – W8AHC – farm in Mantua. While there is a slight chance that Freedom Park may be open to us, we do not want to push the situation. We will still need crews to "set up" and "tear down". We will still need station operators. We will still need our IT Team and our Power Team. But, we ask that if you are not actively participating that you do not come out as you have in the past. This cannot be a "social event" as it was previously. There will be a sign in process and a sanitizing protocol at each station. PLEASE: if you are not feeling well, do not come out to the site! We will miss you, and wish you the best, but we don't want anyone to be put at risk.

Next up is our June meeting. Monday June 8, about as early in the month as it can possibly be! Again, via ZOOM. (If for some reason you've wanted to participate but have had problems getting into the program, send me an email [tomsly29@gmail.com](mailto:tomsly29@gmail.com) and I'll try to find someone to help you with the proper computer configuration.) I figured this would be a good opportunity to get to know some of your fellow PCARS members just a bit better. If you have a station, antenna installation, ham radio project that you would like to share, send me a few photos (JPEG please) and I'll build a PowerPoint presentation and give you a couple of minutes to explain what you've got going on. I've already lined up a few members who are sending me photos, and I can tell you – it will be an interesting evening! Don't miss it! I will also be announcing the winners of all 3 of the PCARS Corona Virus operating challenges. (hint: so far I don't have any submissions in the Worked All States All Modes Sprint) The American Legion is now open in the Canteen only. It's a start, and hopefully we'll be back there soon for our meetings. They have put a lot of work into cleaning, painting and overall just making things better, so if you want you can stop in for a "beverage" and check the place out. I'm sure they would appreciate seeing you there.

We'll be looking to open the club site to the membership again as soon as practical. Probably open with a couple of work-days first to make sure everything is neat, clean and operational. We also have a room that needs to be converted into a PCARS Office. SIGS and maybe a project build will be our first activities – I'll keep you posted as to when we start to move forward.

Sure, it's been a crummy few months. Hopefully we are through the worst of it. I certainly hope everyone has made it through without incident and I'm looking forward to resuming activities with my PCARS friends! Hang in there, blue sky's lie ahead of us.

## From the Vice President

**Nick, AC8QG**  
PCARS Vice President



Two of my kids, Bernadette, KE8LWO and Ben, AD8FQ (formerly KE8JUZ), were supposed to be presenters at the Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum this year. Unfortunately, that didn't happen and they were pretty disappointed, but Carole Perry, WB2MGP the host of the Youth Forum and Ray Novak, N9JA from Icom America gave them a big surprise and sent them a bunch of personalized swag. I'd like to give a big thank you to both of them for really brightening their day during a somewhat depressing lockdown!



During this stay-at-home time, I've been doing a lot of Skype, Zoom, Meet, and everything else under the sun, but the most fun I've had yet was joining our own Jeff, KB8ZWT and Tim, K3LR for a DX Engineering Facebook and YouTube live stream with two of my kids, Ben, AD8FQ and Agnes, KE8LWP. Honestly, I was probably more nervous than the kids, and I think they did very well. Thanks to Jeff and Tim for inviting us to join them to talk about our experience with ham radio. If you haven't seen it, you can check it out here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVF6A\\_gxeeo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVF6A_gxeeo)

Field Day is coming! PCARS is going to operate as a club for Field Day 2020. After all this time of isolation and quarantine, we're finally going to have an in-person PCARS event. It's going to be a bit different, but I'm getting excited. We'll have to be extra cautious, and we'll practice some basic social distancing, hand washing, sanitization, etc. There are new rules from the ARRL and adjustments may have to be made. I believe we'll have a lot of fun, even if there are some bonus frustrations added to the event this year!

As Vice President of PCARS, I'm excited and happy to see us start the transition back to in-person events. It will be great to see people at meetings, at SIGs, and at build days. I'm thrilled that we have so many members that can't get enough of the **"Big Fun"** of PCARS!

As Vice President of PCARS, I'm nervous, worried, and concerned about the transition back to in-person events. We have a lot of highly motivated, but also physically vulnerable members that may want to throw caution to the wind and take some unnecessary chances. That could have tragic consequences. I want everybody to stay safe and stay healthy.

Please make wise decisions based on your own circumstances. We're going to take extra precautions, but we cannot guarantee a totally risk-free environment. We all know the risks, and we all know ourselves best. If you're feeling anxious or nervous about attending an event, please feel free to skip it and stay home. We won't judge anyone for being concerned about their own safety or their family's safety. We'll miss you for now, but we'll be glad to see you when things finally clear up. In the meantime, join us on the Thursday night net and let everybody know how you're doing!

If you have any suggestions for a meeting topic, or if you are interested in giving a presentation, please let me know. We're always looking for new and interesting topics!



# Rule Changes for Field Day 2020

## Temporary Rule Waivers Announced for 2020 ARRL Field Day

05/28/2020



With one month to go before 2020 **ARRL Field Day**, June 27 and 28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

**1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.**

**Field Day rule 4.6** defines Class D stations as “Home stations,” including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

**2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).**

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from **any Class** to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club’s name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend. Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the **web applet**. The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for **submitting entries** after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The PCARS Board of Directors will discuss what the status is for PCARS participation in 2020 Field Day at the regularly scheduled board meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. **Since the ARRL has**

**changed some of the rules, this last minute change may impact what activities have been planned by PCARS.** Please watch the web site and your e-mail for upcoming QSTs from PCARS.



## Schedule of Events



On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

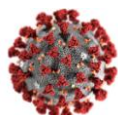


- June 1<sup>st</sup> - Board Meeting - starts at 7 pm - on-line with ZOOM
- June 8<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - on-line with ZOOM - Special presentation featuring several PCARS club members and their stations
- July 6<sup>th</sup> - Board Meeting - starts at 7 pm
- July 13<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Harry Bloomberg W3YJ, remote station operation
- August 3<sup>rd</sup> - Board Meeting - starts at 7 pm
- August 10<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Hal Turley W8HC, Pitcairn Is. DXpedition

**NOTE: All In-Person Activities & Meetings**

**Subject To Cancellation**

**Check Web Site for Updates**



- |                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| First Tuesday   | - | <b>Digital</b> - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV                              |
| Second Tuesday  | - | <b>QRP/CW</b> - Moderator: Terry, KB8AMZ                             |
| Third Tuesday   | - | <b>Antenna</b> - Moderator: Tony, WA8AR                              |
| Fourth Tuesday  | - | <b>DX &amp; Contest</b> - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT                     |
| Fifth Tuesday   | - | <b>Linux for Hams</b> - Moderator: Terry, KB8AMZ                     |
| Fourth Thursday | - | <b>Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 pm</b> - Moderator: Tom, WB8LCD |

## PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Going Fast

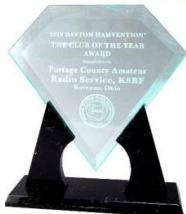
PCARS has obtained a number of special, custom made coffee cups that are available only to members.

**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 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.



## Portage County Amateur Radio Service



**K8BF**

**2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year**

There are a **limited number of extra coffee cups** and they are for sale at \$5.00 each

**Contact Paul for all of the details**

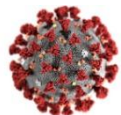




# PCARS VE Test Information & News

**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison

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



**NOTE: All Dates Subject To Cancellation**

**Check Web Site for Updates**

Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>

**Amateur Extra Class question pool changes - July 1, 2020**

## **What to Bring to the Testing Session**

- \$15 is still 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](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)



## **Extra Class Question Pool due to expire on June 30, 2020**

The FCC has tasked the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) organization with amateur radio question pool oversight and maintenance. Question pool amendments or changes are regulated by this organization. ARRL is working on an Extra Pool extension but the final decision must come from the NCVEC ([qpcinput@ncvec.org](mailto:qpcinput@ncvec.org)).

In January 2020, the NCVEC introduced a new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool which becomes effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024. Barring any unforeseen delays with printing and shipping, ARRL will have new editions of its Extra Class study materials (for exams given on, or after, July 1, 2020) by mid or late May, and available from ARRL and its publication resellers.



Any changes due to impact from the current health crisis will be posted to ARRL News and [www.arrl.org/COVID-19](http://www.arrl.org/COVID-19).

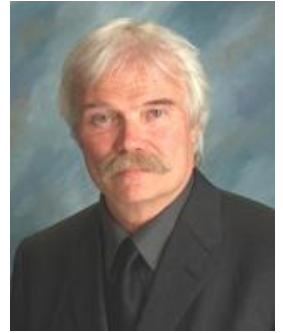


**PCARS K8BF**  
*The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!*



# Hamvention® 2020 - A Small Gathering

*Michael, W8CI*



Hello all!

Here is a picture from the Fairgrounds today (May 15<sup>th</sup>). A small gathering in remembrance! Next year! Weather today, breezy, sprinkles just a little bit, about 68°F.

73!





# Contest University 2020 - On-Line

**Contest University**

**Tim, K3LR**  
Contest University Chairman



## Contest University 2020

If you missed the FREE CTU - you can still take the opportunity to see it all (10 hours). It was recorded and is on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEEUpsWUtAA> Over 10,700 people have viewed this video so far !!

## Global COVID-19 Radio Event - June 6-7

Stations bearing call signs that promote the "**stay-at-home**" message and the value of social distancing and isolation have sprung up during the COVID-19 pandemic, with some 150,000 messages of support shared around the world. An [on-air gathering](#) over the June 6 - 7 weekend will offer a further opportunity for stay-at-home stations and radio amateurs to share greetings in a contest-like framework, looking toward the day that restrictions will ease, eventually making the stay-at-home injunction obsolete. The patron of the STAYHOME radio [campaign](#) is Finland's Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto, and the worldwide activity has the endorsement of International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, and the United Nations Amateur Radio Club.



"Amateur radio operators across the world are experiencing something we have never seen before, with the current COVID-19 pandemic," Ellam said. "In times like this, on-the-air activities can benefit our communities and ourselves. Events such as this are important to improve operating skills. It is also encouraging us to get on the air and keep active, as well as promoting social distancing." Ellam expressed thanks to the national regulators in more than three dozen countries that made special stay-at-home-suffix call signs available for amateur use.

Sponsoring the event and campaign are the Finnish Amateur Radio League (SRAL), in cooperation with Araucaria DX Group (ADXG) of Brazil, and Radio Arcala (OH8X) in Finland.

UN Amateur Radio Club President James Sarte, K2QI, has said that 4U1UN will be on the air to support of the global STAY HOME movement, as will sister stations 4U1GSC (operated as 4U9STAYHOME) and 4U1A (operated as 4U2STAYHOME).

Special event station W2I/STAYHOME, helmed by Ria Jairam, N2RJ, and Peter Dougherty, W2IRT, will also be on the air, operating CW, SSB, and FT8 simultaneously. (Jairam is ARRL Hudson Division Director.) The STAYHOME event gets under way at 1000 UTC on Saturday, June 6, concluding 24 hours later. Bands will include 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, with CW, SSB, and digital (FT4/FT8 only). Exchange is a signal report and operator age, except for FT4/FT8 reports. Awards and certificates in the various operating categories will be available. [Email](#) for more information.





## Another New Beta of WSJT-X is Available

A new beta ("release candidate"), *WSJT-X* version 2.2.0-rc2, is now available for downloading from the [WSJT-X website](#), along with a [list of new features](#). The *WSJT-X* development team has also published additional FT8 "overflow frequencies, as the *WSJT-X* 2.2.0-rc2 [Release Notes](#) explain. Increasing FT8 usage on 40, 30, and 20 meters means that the default 3 kHz subbands are often wall-to-wall with signals. Overcrowding encourages some to turn on their amplifiers, which only makes things worse. On a trial basis, and in response to numerous suggestions from around the world, we have added a second set of suggested dial frequencies for FT8 on three HF bands and also on 6 meters...7.071, 10.133, 14.071, and 50.310 MHz.



"These frequencies will appear in your dropdown band-selector list after you go to the 'Settings | Frequencies' tab, right-click on the frequency table, and select 'Reset.' Alternatively, you can add the new FT8 frequencies manually. When the conventional FT8 subband on 6, 20, 30, or 40 meters seems too full, please try moving your dial frequency down 3 kHz! [A]s currently implemented, *WSJT-X* will set your dial to the lowest frequency for the selected mode and band, when you switch bands." The latest "general availability" (GA) release is *WSJT-X* 2.1.2.

## ARRL Announcements

- The [2019 ARRL DXCC Yearbook](#) is now available for viewing and downloading.
- Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is maintaining a "[Compendium of online amateur radio club meetings](#)," which effectively makes any radio club meeting easy to "attend." It's suggested to secure an invitation from the club rather than just showing up.
- Citing public health concerns, DX Engineering has canceled its second annual DXE Hamfest, which was to be held on August 8 at its headquarters near Akron, Ohio. This year's event was planned in conjunction with ARRL's Ohio Section Convention. The logistics of safely managing an anticipated large crowd played a role in DX Engineering's decision.
- The MicroHAMS Digital Conference (MHDC) was held virtually this year, offering an opportunity to reach out to speakers who might otherwise been unable to attend. Typical attendance at the in-person conference is around 100 people. The virtual event attracted between 300 and 500 viewers actively watching the livestream. The 2,000 unique views during the conference indicated that some only attended a portion of the day or specific sessions. The 13th annual MHDC is [available](#) on the MicroHAMS website.
- According to a reader report in [The Daily DX](#), a signal on various 20-meter frequencies has been jamming "everything for about 10 kHz" with a strong signal. The signal is believed to be that of a Chinese over-the-horizon radar. The signal has been centered on 14.174, 14.193, 14.240, and 14.267, "moving around."
- David Cripe, NM0S, is the new president of the QRP-Amateur Radio Club International ([QRP-ARCI](#)). He succeeds Preston Douglas, WJ2V, who had served as the club's president for more than 3 years.



## Moonbounce Contact via FT8 - A First

[FT8](#) codeveloper Joe Taylor, K1JT, has reported what is possibly the first FT8 contact via moonbounce (Earth-Moon-Earth or EME) on May 21 between Paul Andrews, W2HRO, in New York, and Peter Gouweleeuw, PA2V, in the Netherlands. The contact was made possible using the currently available beta-release candidate of WSJT-X, version 2.2-rc1. "Why might you want to use FT8 instead of 'Old Reliable JT65' for EME QSOs?" Taylor asked in a subsequent Moon-Net [post](#). "FT8 is about 4 dB less sensitive than JT65, but with 15-second T/R [transmit/receive] sequences it's four times faster, and it doesn't use Deep Search," he said, answering his own question.



The FT8 protocol included in the beta version of WSJT-X has an optional user setting to work around the 2.5-second path delay. "For terrestrial use, the FT8 decoder searches over the range -2.5 to +2.4 seconds for clock offset DT between transmitting and receiving stations," Taylor explained. "DT" represents the difference between the transmission time and actual time. "When 'Decode after EME delay' is checked on the WSJT-X 'Settings' screen, the accessible DT range becomes -0.5 to +4.4 seconds. Just right for EME."

As Taylor explained in his post, FT8 uses 8-GFSK modulation with tones separated by 6.25 Hz. At the time of the contact, the expected Doppler spread on the W2HRO - PA2V EME path was 8 Hz, which would cause some additional loss in sensitivity. Despite the path losses, however, copy between W2HRO and PA2V was "solid in both directions," Taylor said.

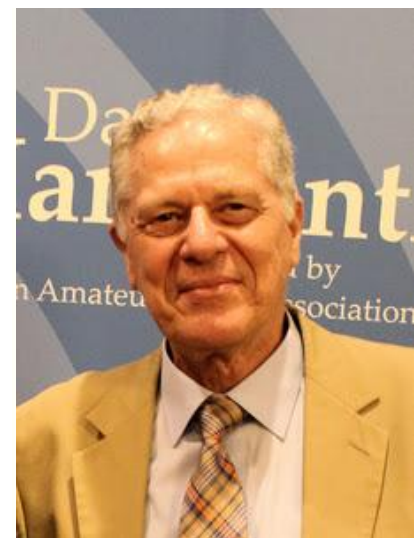
Taylor said that when he was active in EME contests on 144 MHz, he was always frustrated that, even with reasonably strong signals, the maximum JT65 contact rate is about 12 per hour. "With FT8, you can do 40 per hour, as long as workable stations are available," he said.

As for using FT8 for EME contacts on 1296 MHz, Taylor said it "might sometimes work, but Doppler spread will probably make standard FT8 a problem." Given sufficient interest, however, he said the WSJT-X development team could design an FT8B or FT8C with wider tone spacing. He encouraged the use of FT8 for moonbounce on 144, 432, and 1296 MHz and asked users to report their results to the development team.

"A 'slow FT8' mode is indeed a sensitivity winner on suitable propagation paths," he said in a later Moon-Net [post](#). "We are busy implementing such a mode, but with particular emphasis on its use on the LF and MF bands." Taylor said FT8 has the operational advantage of putting all users in one (or a few) narrow spectral slices on each band. "So, it's easy to find QSO partners without skeds or chat rooms," he said. "Everything is done over the air, with no 'side channels' needed."

Taylor also remarked in response to posts from those who, like him, "love CW."

"I agree it's a thrill to hear your own lunar echo, and to make CW EME QSOs," he said. "Sometimes I pine for the bygone world of commercial sailing ships, which happen to be very much a part of my family's history," Taylor concluded. "But I know that technologies evolve, and the world does not stand still."



**Joe Taylor, K1JT. [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]**



## Paper Chase - USS Nautilus

Joe, W8KNO

With the Corona Virus still active, many to most special event stations are not or will not be on the air. Because I try and present a station that will be on the air and possible to work, June poses a problem; however, I think this is probable not just possible.

When you think of June, you think of D-Day, June 6, 1944. I also think of June 6, 1962, the day I graduated from the Naval Academy. It is no wonder that what I have chosen is Naval related.

Over the "Museum Ships Weekend", June 6th and June 7th; Historic boat USS NAUTILUS SSN-571 will be on the air from Groton, Ct as N1S. It is reported they will be close to 28.400 14.280 7.250 3.870. VOACAP is predicting 40 m will be open all day with 20 m opening in the late afternoon. QSL direct with a SASE to:

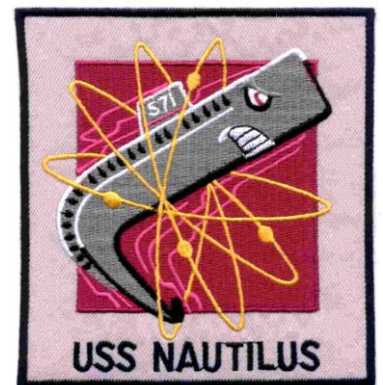
Generations Amateur Radio Club  
110 Vinegar Hill Road  
Gales Ferry, CT 06335



The USS Nautilus' Keel was laid by President Harry Truman at Electric Boat Shipyard, Groton Connecticut on 14 June 1952. She was launched 1 January 1954 and commissioned 30 September of that year as the first nuclear powered ship in the United States Navy. Nautilus was decommissioned on 3 March 1980 after a career spanning 25 years and almost half a million miles steamed.

During the period 22 July and 5 August 1958, Nautilus accomplished the first undersea voyage to the geographic North Pole. Nautilus dived at Point Barrow, Alaska and traveled nearly 1,000 miles under the Arctic ice cap to reach the top of the world. It then continued on to Iceland.

Hear you in the Pile-up.





## A Bit of Field Day History

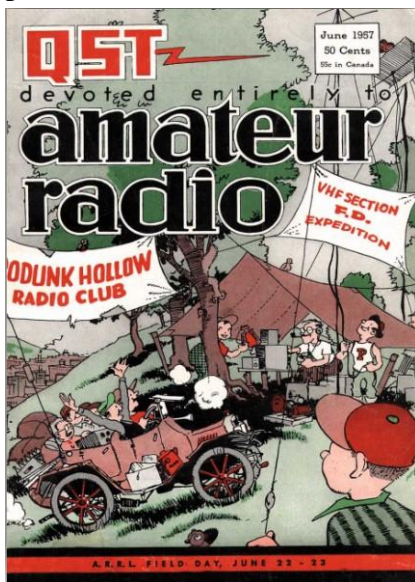
*John, KD8MQ*



Well, ARRL Field Day is coming up as usual on the 4th full weekend of the month; June 27/28 to be exact. This year's event may not be what you expect, but that's not necessarily a bad thing; just different.

According to the June, 1933 issue of QST Field Day was conceived as a means to "test 'portables' wherever they may be available". The winning Ohio entry in that first Field Day was W8GDM (Buckeye Short Wave Radio Assn) with 37 QSO points, 12 sections/Foreign countries, and a final score of 444.

Today, the act of running portable is as simple as deciding to do it. But, in 1933, according to the Field Day Announcement in QST, you began by notifying your radio supervisor. You not only needed a license for a portable station, but the Federal Radio Commission (FRC) had to be notified of any portable excursions.



Your challenges didn't end there, either. Today, you toss a couple of 12V batteries into your go kit, string up a simple antenna, and you are on the air. But, this was 1933. The transistor wouldn't be a thing until 1947. So, battery power back then consisted of an "A" battery for your vacuum tube filaments, and a "B" battery for the power (B+) to run the radio circuits. Not cheap to come by either, I bet. Maybe you could score a location that had commercial power, but that wasn't guaranteed. The challenges that a 1933 Ham had to overcome just to get on the air were huge, but getting on the air from a portable location was an even bigger challenge.

Logging has improved as well. There's no more wretched paper dupe sheets to contend with. Those of us who were contesting before the mid-1980s still remember what a pain in the neck those dupe sheets were. In

case you've never had the pleasure, here's how they worked.

Each callsign you were thinking about calling (or answering) had to be looked up on the dupe sheet to ensure you hadn't already worked them. If they weren't there, you were clear to call (or answer) the station. After working them, you could enter them into your log. But, don't forget to add them to your dupe sheet as well!

Today, not only do we have computer logging, but computerized contest submissions too. A few hours after Field Day ends, you can already have your entry submitted to the league, and posted to the 3830 website, where you can watch to see how you did against other stations who also use 3830. Back then, of course, there weren't any internet, computers, printers, etc. So, your log had to be checked; not only for accuracy, but readability as well. Once your entry was ready, then into the mail it went. Granted, the entry requirements in 1933 were pretty simple.





First of all, only those stations that were actually portable in the field were eligible to submit logs. Similar to today, ARRL sections, and DX countries count as multipliers. Each contact would count for one point; 2 points if it was with another portable station; 3 points for contacting a DX station. It's interesting to note also that you had only a week to submit your logs; not 30 days as they did later.

The ARRL Communication director F.E. Handy hoped that this "Field Day" would be successful enough to make it an annual affair. I think we can guess the rest of the story from here. Field Day flourished, and is still around 87 years later. If you'd like to read more about Field Day history, I highly recommend an article by K3RA in the December, 1999 issue of QST. It is titled "Field Day, A Mirror Of Amateur Radio History". If you are an ARRL member, you can find it in the QST archives on ARRL.org. If not, a quick Google search on the title should turn up something.

So, your local club is practicing social distancing? Maybe the site has changed, or the event has been cancelled? Don't let that stop you my friend! Get out, get on the air, and have some Radio fun! 73!



## Contest Calendar

June Contest Calendar	
Contest Name	Times
10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0001Z, Jun 6 to 2359Z, Jun 7
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 13 to 0300Z, Jun 15
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 20 to 1500Z, Jun 21
ARRL Kids Day	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 20
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 27 to 2100Z, Jun 28

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

Contests that will be active <b>at the PCARS Club Site</b> in 2020	
<b><u>NOTE: All Contest Activities from Club Site</u></b>	
<b><u>Subject To Cancellation</u></b> <b><u>Check Web Site for Updates</u></b>	
Date	Contest
<b>Jun 13-15</b>	<b>ARRL June VHF Contest <del>Cancelled</del></b>
<b>Jul 18-19</b>	<b>North American QSO Party-RTTY</b>
<b>Aug 22-23</b>	<b>Ohio QSO Party &amp; BB-QSO Party</b>
<b>Sept 19-20</b>	<b>Washington State Salmon Run</b>
<b>Oct 3-4</b>	<b>California QSO Party</b>
<b>Oct 10-12</b>	<b>Pennsylvania QSO Party</b>
<b>Oct 17-19</b>	<b>New York &amp; Illinois QSO Parties</b>

## Swap-N-Shop

**FOR SALE: Navigator Master Cable** for an Elecraft KX2 or KX3 for sale. \$40.00. Reason for selling: I no longer have the radio. **AlexMic speaker mic** for Elecraft KX2 or KX3 with case. Never used. Asking \$100.00.

**Contact: Call Rex, NX8G at (330)-936-2192 or email: [nx8g.01@gmail.com](mailto:nx8g.01@gmail.com)** [07/02/20]

**FOR SALE: Alpha 77DX** 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 amp has ZERO HOURS since being upgraded as it was my back-up amplifier. \$5000 **YAESU VX-3R** 144/440 MHz Dual Band HT, VHF TX 144-148 MHz @ 1.5 Watts, UHF TX 430-450 MHz @ 1 Watt. This radio also has a wide band receiver with an RX 0.5 MHz - 999.99 MHz. New battery purchased on 12/19. Includes antenna, wall charger, manual and box. \$170.00

**YAESU FT-1802** 50 Watt 2 m mobile that will TX 144-148 MHz & RX 136-174 MHz with 50W/25W/10W/5W with power cord, manual & new mic. \$85.00 **WOXUN KG-UVDP** dual band HT with TX/RX 136-174.995 MHz and 406.100-470-995 MHz and RX 76-108 MHz. Includes AC/DC charging stand with 120 Volt AC & 12 Volt DC cords & speaker mic. \$25.00 **Kenwood TS-480HX** Chassis only with top and bottom covers. \$40.00 **Craftsman 3 ½ Digit DMM** w/ 1000 Volt Fluke Lead Set. Includes Craftsman non-contact Hall-effect voltage sensing probe, used and in good condition \$30.00 **DC Power Cords** 6 Pin ICOM \$20.00, 4 Pin Kenwood \$15.00, Heavy Duty 12 Lighter Plug to Anderson Power Pole 4' Long \$20.00 **High Voltage Rectifiers** (2) 10,000 Volt 1 ampere CCS diodes, great for full wave power supplies or use two for a full wave bridge, \$15.00 each. **Ceramic Insulators for wire antennas.** Can be used as end insulators for dipole or inverted V antennas or as support insulators for loop antennas. \$2.00 **YAESU MH-31A8J Microphone**, New in box microphone for the following radios, FT-817, FT-857D, FT-897 FT-900, FT-450D and others, \$30.00 each **HARGER 2-Hole Long Barrel Lug for #2 Wire** These are premium grade lugs are great for tower grounding projects \$4.00 each **ANDREW CPT-L4ARC1 Cable prep tool** for Andrew ½" Helix coaxial cable. New in box \$125.00 **ANDREW GKT-F4A Ground kit strip tool** for Andrew FSJ4-50B ½" Superflex coaxial cable \$45.00 **VDE Lineman Pliers** New lineman's pliers with chrome plating and 1,000 Volt insulated grips \$30.00 **Universal Snap Ring Pliers** Set Used universal snap ring plier set in excellent condition \$10.00

**Contact: Call or text James, KD8VT at (330)-206-4909** [07/02/20]

**For Sale: Ameritron QSK-5 Pin diode T/R switch** 1.5 KW. Works perfectly, in original box with manual. Sold amplifier and now run barefoot so not needed. \$300 **BITX40 40 meter SSB transceiver kit** in unopened box. Bought two and managed to build one without damaging anything so selling backup. \$30 **uBitx V3 HF transceiver kit** in unopened box. Bought two and managed to build one without damaging anything so selling backup. \$60 **Softrock V6.2 with K3 IF crystal for panadapter.** I built this years ago with the plan of making a panadapter for my K3. FREE pickup

**Contact: Bob, KD8CGH at: [kd8cgh@arrl.net](mailto:kd8cgh@arrl.net)** [07/02/20]

**For Sale: Hi-Z SIX Direction Triangular Array Receive System** – Including THREE DX Engineering AL24 Vertical Elements. Most components are new/not used. Package consisting DXE p/n HIZ-3-LV2-50 6 Direction Array System and 3 (three) of part number DXE-AL24 Vertical element kits. Hi-Z Antennas Triangular Array Systems offer 6 selectable directions of improved, low-noise receive performance and 30 dB front-to-back directivity for the 160, 80 and 40 meter bands, with useful reception from below the AM broadcast band through 30 MHz. \$650

**Contact: Mark, W8BBQ at: [W8BBQ@AOL.COM](mailto:W8BBQ@AOL.COM)** or text to 330-770-5442 [08/02/20]

**For Sale: Yaesu FT-1000MP AC Version**(No power supply required), great contest or DXing radio - excellent condition with operator manual, has extra crystal filters and inrad roofing filter installed. \$750.00 **Yaesu FTDX5000MP Limited** - 200 watt 160 thru 6 meter transceiver - AC powered, 300 Hz / 600 Hz / 3 KHz roofing filters, two independent receivers, operator manual, with custom equipment cover and Nifty Accessories reference guide. In like new condition, original boxes, \$2995.00 Can demo these transceivers at my station, local pickup preferred, will deliver up to 50 miles

**Contact: George, K3GP at: 330-829-9504 evenings or weekends.** [08/02/20]

**FOR SALE: ICOM IC-7610** - Brand New, *still in the box*. Decided to upgrade antennas instead of radio. Un-opened box **\$2599.** **RC-28 - Remote Encoder** for the IC-7610 to easily operate the second VFO - Brand new - **\$200.** **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 - \$60. **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..... well, maybe in Spring or Summer..... **Contact: Tom "Parky", KB8UUZ** - [kb8uuz@gmail.com](mailto:kb8uuz@gmail.com) [08/02/20]

## 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](mailto:phyland@neo.rr.com)

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

W8CDL	Colettea
KB8VJO	Gary
KD8WCK	Richard
WB8OVQ	Bob
W8SV	Howard
KD8SIZ	John
KE8LAM	Doug
WB3HUS	Richard

KD8EPF	Rena
KD8ZTZ	Darlene
AC8XO	Vince
KC8YSU	Steve
KE8MKZ	Philip
KD8LIR	Jennifer
KE8LWO	Bernadette
AD8FQ	Benedict



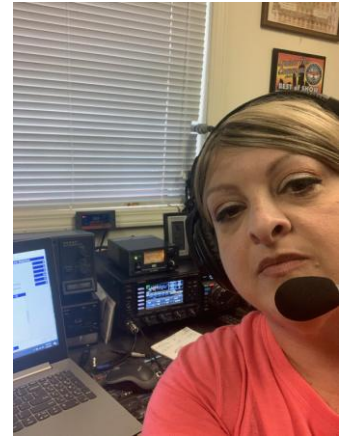
**PCARS K8BF**  
The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



## Contesting Under Quarantine

**Amy, N8AMY**

The last contest we operated at K8BF was 2020 Idaho QSO Party. In addition to beating our own 2019 score as K8BF, we came in 1<sup>st</sup> place for Low Power Multi-Operator Stations. This was the last chance our friends W8PT, N8QE, AC8QG, KE8LWP, KE8JUZ, KB8AMZ, KB8TUY, KA8TOA (and myself) were together contesting at the club site.



The following week, the world (and K8BF) were forced to shut down due to the COVID-19 quarantine that came fast and without much warning. Many of us (including myself) were sent home from work and have not received word of a return date as of this publishing. I say this to also say that I have had plenty of time to think about our club, radio as a hobby, and my own plans for the future.



I have really missed all of you, the in-person meetings and events that have passed during quarantine. I have attended many Zoom events, the highlights were the all-day CTU program and meeting of YL hams from around the world. There have been some fun contesting events that PCARS encouraged us to participate in from home QTH's.

I had a great time doing the CQ WPX SSB Contest March 28-29 with my Dad, Wayne Smith K8FF at his QTH. We submitted a log for Team K8BF, but the scores have not been finalized yet. We also operated the Hamvention QSO Party May 16<sup>th</sup>. I operated the first half and my Dad operated the second half. But we both had a great time and submitted our scores to 3830scores.com.

I have thought a lot about our club and I feel lucky for all of the amenities that we may take for granted. Not every club has such a great opportunity to have a place to contest, really nice equipment, and a super group of hams that are so ready to help each other. I miss this and being apart has really shown me what a great club we have built together. I hope you feel the same, and like me, are really looking forward to the return of "normal".

The pictures above show me with my new headset (Love it) which has helped me hear better while searching and pouncing. **See you soon!**



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





## CQ Contest Hall of Fame Inductees 2020



(Hicksville, NY – May 14, 2020) – CQ magazine today announced the induction of three new members to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, which honors those contesters who not only excel in personal performance but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways. CQ Contesting Editor David Siddall, K3ZJ, conducted a virtual induction ceremony at the conclusion of the daylong 2020 Contest University webinar.

The 2020 inductees to the **CQ Contest Hall of Fame** are:

**Geoffrey Howard, W0CG/PJ2DX**, purchased and restored the PJ9JT contest station in 2000 that had been owned by CQ Contest Hall of Famer John Thompson, W1BIH/PJ9JT. The location was named "Signal Point" and the PJ2T callsign pays homage to PJ9JT. Geoff established the Caribbean Contest Consortium to help manage and maintain the station, and has consistently made the station available to guest operators over the years, including serving as host station several times for young operators participating in the Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure program. He has also worked closely with VERONA, Curacao's national ham radio society. Geoff served for more than 25 years in the United States Air Force, retiring as a colonel; worked for RCA and the Federal Aviation Administration, and taught in the Graduate School of Management at Kent State University in Ohio.



**Geoff Howard, W0CG/PJ2DX**  
(Photo courtesy W0CG)

**Willard "Bill" Myers, K1GQ**, is a pioneer of computer-based systems for designing and switching antennas at contest stations, designed the Cushcraft "Skywalker" series of monoband Yagis, helped build the early PacketCluster network and served as mentor to several of today's most prominent contesters, including K1AR, K1DG, K1JX, and others. Bill was also a major behind-the-scenes force at the 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) competition in Massachusetts, and is currently providing support and refinement of the *SkookumLogger* contest logging program for Apple computers.



**Bill Myers, K1GQ**  
(Courtesy K1GQ)

**Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ (SK)**, was a major force in VHF contesting as well as an accomplished HF contester. He was a member of both ARRL's and CQ's contest committees at various times between 1972 and 2012, was *QST* magazine's VHF Editor for nearly a decade, and was CQ Contest magazine's VHF columnist as well. Gene took over the struggling CQ World Wide VHF Contest in 1999, reinvented it as a 6- and 2-meter only event and sparked its growth into a truly worldwide competition. He was also instrumental in organizing the mid-Atlantic VHF contesting group that became known as the K8GP Grid Pirates.

**Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, in 1998**  
(CQ file photo)



Registered participants in the virtual Contest University webinar were able to view the induction ceremony live. It was also "simulcast" on DX Engineering's YouTube link, where it is also stored for later viewing. The recording of the ceremony may be accessed at [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4V4B\\_mr1mYF5ycGQe\\_4Ytw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4V4B_mr1mYF5ycGQe_4Ytw).

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame was established in 1986 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to the art of radio contesting. This is the 37th annual induction and the first to be conducted online.



## CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame Inductees 2020



(Hicksville, NY – May 15, 2020)

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame has seven new members for 2020, CQ magazine announced today. This brings to 333 the total number of members inducted since the hall's establishment in 2001.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to amateur radio; *and* those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to amateur radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet.

The 2020 inductees (listed alphabetically) are:

- **Chet Atkins, W4CGP (SK)**, legendary musician known as "Mister Guitar," and music producer; ushered in "the Nashville sound" on RCA Records (Note: Chet's call has subsequently been re-issued)
- **Les Barclay, G3HTF (SK)**, propagation expert, leader of International Telecommunication Union propagation study groups and Chairman of the ITU's first Radiocommunication Assembly in 1993; top official in the UK's telecommunication regulatory agency
- **George Laurer, K4HZE (SK)**, developer of the UPC (universal product code) or "bar code" on merchandise, permitting items purchased at stores to be scanned on checkout rather than manually rung up
- **Yasuo "Zorro" Miyazawa, JH1AJT**, whose Foundation for Global Children helps fund educational and medical programs for children around the world; FGC also works with several countries to help them organize and train teams for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.
- **Champ Muangamphun, E21EIC**, a DXer and DXpeditioner who has been a sparkplug for growing interest in ham radio in Thailand and throughout Southeast Asia. Champ also accompanies JH1AJT on many of his humanitarian missions and operates DXpedition-style ham stations while Zorro works with government officials and non-governmental organizations on behalf of the Foundation for Global Children.
- **Sultan Qaboos bin Said, A41AA (SK)**, Sultan of Oman from 1970-2020; transformed impoverished country into a modern and prosperous state with influence throughout the Middle East
- **Tom Roscoe, K8CX**, a champion of amateur radio history who collects and makes available online his "Ham Gallery" of old QSL cards and other historic photos

## CQ DX Hall of Fame Inductees 2020



### 2020 CQ DX Hall of Fame virtual induction ceremony.

Clockwise from top left, "Ham Nation" co-host Val Hotzfeld, NV9L; CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO; inductees Tony Gonzalez, EA5RM, and Ned Stearns, AA7A. (Ham Nation podcast screen grab)



(Hicksville, NY – May 20, 2020) – CQ magazine today announced the induction of the two newest members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame, which honors those DXers who not only excel in personal performance but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways. CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO, made a virtual presentation on the Ham Nation podcast on May 20.

### The 2020 inductees to the CQ DX Hall of Fame are:

**Tony Gonzalez, EA5RM** – has been an active DXpeditioner for 20 years, often organizing and leading teams to operate from difficult and challenging locations. Tony and his teams have also helped establish or re-establish amateur radio activities in several countries, including Rwanda (where it had been banned for a decade due to civil war) and the newly-independent country of South Sudan. In addition, Tony has made 10 trips to Bolivia to establish and maintain HF communication links between medical facilities and remote villages in the Amazon rain forest, and has operated as CP1XRM during his free time. Tony's work in South America earned him the ARRL International Humanitarian Award in 2015.

**Edward "Ned" Stearns, AA7A** – is an accomplished DXer, DXpeditioner (he's been on 32 of them and led 8) and technical innovator. He introduced the use of switchable vertical dipole array antennas on island DXpeditions and designed "dual-band discone" antennas for use with the Northern California DX Foundation's worldwide beacon network. Ned also worked with 2019 DX Hall of Fame inductee Joe Taylor, K1JT, on developing the "Fox/Hound" mode for FT8 used by DXpeditions. Ned also maintains two remote stations in Arizona, has made presentations at many technical conferences and has served in a variety of leadership roles in the hobby. On the air, he is at the Top of the Honor Roll for DXCC Phone and Mixed, was the first recipient of 11-band DXCC and has worked over 160 countries via EME (Earth-Moon-Earth).

This year's induction ceremony was conducted online on Wednesday, May 20, on the Ham Nation podcast, by CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO, along with program co-host Val Hotzfeld, NV9L (whose husband, Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z, is also in the DX Hall of Fame). A recorded version has been posted on the Ham Nation website at (<<https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>>).

The CQ DX Hall of Fame was established in 1967 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and DXpeditioning. This is the 54th annual induction, and the first to be conducted online.

## Flex Net Is Back !

**Mike, N8WCP**



**PCARS Flex Net is back!** After a brief hiatus we're ready to resume our PCARS Flex Net. The net is open to all hams and will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM starting June 10th. Each month we'll use a different band or mode. This net does not replace the weekly Thursday night 2 meter net so keep checking into that net!

The Flex Net will begin with a typical check-in process. Once check-ins are complete, each station will have the opportunity to work the other stations similar to a DX net. Since we're working simplex, it would be helpful to have alternate net control ops. If you're interested in being an alternate control op, please email me at [n8wcp.us@gmail.com](mailto:n8wcp.us@gmail.com).

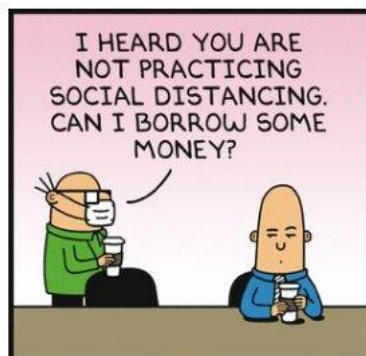
Below is the tentative net schedule which is subject to change. We'll use the K8IV 146.895 repeater as backup in case we need to move off the scheduled frequency so please monitor the repeater at net start time. Let's have some BIG FUN!



DATE	TIME	BAND	FREQUENCY	MODE
06-10-20	8:00 P	10 M	28.350	USB
07-08-20	8:00 P	20 M	14.325	USB
08-12-20	8:00 P	6 M	50.135	USB
09-09-20	8:00 P	40 M	7.220	LSB
10-14-20	8:00 P	2 M	146.400	FM
11-11-20	8:00 P	80 M	3.910	LSB
12-09-20	8:00 P	6 M	50.400	AM



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





## From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



**Scott, N8SY**  
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



I can't believe just how much rain has fallen lately. I know that around August we'll all be wanting rain, but why does it have to rain every day now. Can't we have it spread out a bit? I've been so looking forward to getting out more on the bike and hitting the trails, but the only thing that I can do right now is figure out how to get pontoons on the bike!

Speaking of rain, I really hate to think that it's looking more and more like our possibilities for saving some of the hamfests this summer is swirling the drain for sure.

### **The DX Engineering / Ohio State Convention is another hamfest that had to cancel due to COVID-19.**

Every day we are hearing more and more about keeping social distancing going until there's a vaccine. I see in our State Health Director's latest orders just issued this past week is still keeping large venues like parks, skating rinks and my favorite amusement park in the whole world (Cedar Point) shut down.

I know how disappointing this is to all of you, me too. But we do have to understand that they are thinking of our safety and the numbers do reflect that social distancing does make a difference.

I also want to remind folks that if your committee has been sanctioned as an approved ARRL Hamfest and you do decide to cancel or postpone it, please let me and Eric Casey at Headquarters know so that we can update our Hamfest listings.

Now, I've gotten a lot of calls about what to do about Field Day, and what's the League's decision on this. The short answer to this is that the League has decided not to change the rules. So, they stand as they have been for a number of years. I and all of the Ohio Section Cabinet have written a number of different articles about how to stay in compliance and still have fun during Field Day. Yes, the large celebrations with the usual Saturday night cookout with all of your friends and fellow hams will most likely be curtailed this year. I get it that it's as much of the tradition for Field Day as working those stations all night long, but we do need to remember to stay within the law. My Plan "B" this year is to stay at home and work Field Day from my gazebo. I have an alternate source of power (off the grid) and I will most likely just throw up a wire antenna between a couple of the trees in my backyard and go to town. I'm still keeping Plan "A" alive, which is going from site to site, but it's looking more and more like that just isn't an option this year. So, if I do go to Plan "B" I'll be on the air!! IF that is the case, let's see just how many of you will make contact with me.

**Field Day Pictures.....** Yes, I still want your Field Day pictures!!! Send me as many pictures of your Field Day event as you can. Let's make this the best year yet for posting those Field Day pictures on the website. I'll be sure to take some pictures of my setup and I definitely want to see yours too!! Just because we can't do what we've always done, doesn't mean that we still can't have fun doing this from our homes.

**Field Day Messages...** Yes, you get points for sending Field Day messages so please don't forget to send a Field Day message to each one of the Ohio Section Cabinet!! Send two or three or however many messages you

wish. The Ohio Single Side-Band Net (OSSBN) will be working extra hours to take those messages from you and deliver them, so don't be bashful about writing them. The guys at OSSBN can handle it.

Switching Bands... It seems like I'm busier now than when I traveled attending all sorts of meeting and get-togethers on Zoom, Go To Meeting and the like. It's been great fun being able to "sit in" on meetings, especially when I can sit in my overstuffed office chair and just relax in the comfort of my ham shack listening to all the great things going on around Ohio.

Whelp, my final go around before gong QRT... Stay safe my friends! I want to see all of you soon at a meeting or hamfest! We will get through this and when we do, we'll have so much to talk about. Most of all... have FUN and get on the airwaves!! 73, and stay safe my friends

## Section Newsletter Contest Update



**John Ross, KD8IDJ**  
ARRL Ohio Section Public Information Coordinator



### 2020 OHIO SECTION NEWSLETTER CONTEST UPDATE

This just in....the 2020 Ohio Section Newsletter Contest is still on....BUT...the annual awards ceremony will be virtual!!

This past Friday the decision was made to cancel the August 8<sup>th</sup> DX Engineering Hamfest in Tallmadge where we were going to announce the winners of the newsletter contest. It was a difficult decision...made due to COVID-19 and the necessary restrictions and regulations that would have had been put into place to protect our hams and their families.

So, Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally will announce the winners virtually with a special edition of his PostScript Newsletter.

Not cancelling the contest itself shows our appreciation for the hard work and efforts the editors and writers put into every newsletter to keep Amateur Radio alive and well in Ohio.



All of our five judges are with us this year and the plan right now is to use PLAN B...electronic judging via email. We MIGHT be able to meet in person and have another rip-roaring, hair pulling bickering judging session...all professional, of course, but being able to touch, feel and experience the newsletters and participate in a round table discussion is what we like to do best. Regardless of the process I promise you a great contest and the best possible outcome. Working from home these past several months I have been able to read every newsletter and, while I can't judge, vote or influence the outcome, this will be a tremendous contest. I really appreciate everything the editors, writers and photographers do to make their club's newsletters informative and professional.

I will miss seeing the winners in person and shaking their hands for a job well done... but there will be better times ahead.

Keep sending the newsletters and THANKS for everything you do to keep the communications channels...and frequencies...open and on the air!

### THE MASKED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR

I think we all have had a chance to see a variety of masks over the past several months ranging from star and stripes to moustaches and flower prints. Believe or not I saw a ham in car wearing a mask with 73 embroidered on the front! No chance to take a picture.

My wife made me a nice mask and using pure inspiration I added a my own signature touch:



The initial on air signal reports were that I sounded a little garbled but otherwise it worked out OK!!! Some funny looks from law enforcement, though.

I'm sure there is room for improvement but I actually prefer the iron vintage mask above. At least there is a place for a mag mount antenna!!!

## *State of the Hobby Survey - 2020*

*Dustin, N8RMA*

Dustin N8RMA reports it's time for the fourth annual survey into the State of Amateur Radio

The COVID-19 global pandemic has, for better or worse, certainly cause a large amount of change in the world today.



Whilst Dustin was originally hoping to release this survey mid-March, due to the pandemic response he was forced to change the date and survey. I trust many others have had to make similar adjustments, so I hope folks understand.

Last year saw a huge increase in participation and I hope to continue that trend in 2020.

2020 State of the Hobby Survey - <https://www.radiosoth.org/2020/05/2020-state-of-hobby-survey.html>





## DX Engineering is Hiring

**DX Engineering** is Hiring. They are looking for various position including Technical Sales Rep and manufacturing/warehouse help.

If you would like to help others enjoy Ham Radio and be part of the DX Engineering team, visit the DX Engineering web site.

For more details see:

<https://summitracing.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/DXEngineering-External-Career-Site>



### 5 Results

**DXE Technical Sales Rep - Part time**

DXE Distribution | R000863 |

**DXE Technical Sales Rep**

DXE Distribution | R000862 |

**Warehouse Utility 1**

Tallmadge OH 3800 Mogadore | R000664

**DXE Assembler 1**

Tallmadge OH 3800 Mogadore | R000663

**Warehouse Utility 1**

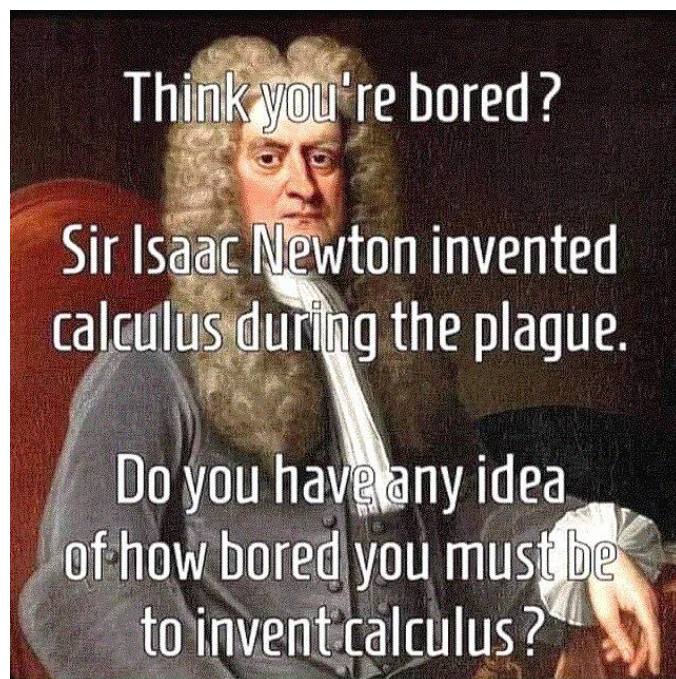
Tallmadge OH 3800 Mogadore | R000144



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



Just received my COVID-19  
rapid test kit from CHINA!  
soooooo relieved!!!!!! Thanks beijing!!!!



## 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 - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday is NET NIGHT at the Virtual Club Site !!**

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.

June	
4	K8YLK
11	K8CAV
18	KE8BWA
25	N8AMY

July	
2	N8QE
9	WB8LCD
16	KA8TOA
23	N8AMY
30	K8IV

August	
6	K8YLK
13	WB8LCD
20	K8CAV
27	WD8WCK



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](mailto: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 !

We have 3 new members for the TEN CLUB, no not ten meters. It is the **Ten Consecutive Check-In Club**. Here they are: Eva KE8NWR, Tom WB8LCD , and Mathew KN4GNY. Here are some that are close: Mark KC8FQV with 8, Joe W8KNO with 7, Bob K8FEY with 6, and many with 5 including, Amy K8AMY and Rick KD8WCK. You do not have to be a club member to get this award. **Congrats to all of you.**

The net operators are posted on the web site for June through August. As always if there is an issue please contact me and i will fix it. I appreciate the support and help in assisting me with this process, plus it is fun for everyone. Thanks for supporting the PCARS club and taking time to check in. My best to you and your families. **For now 73**



**PCARS**  
[www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)





## Field Day 2020

**Tony, WA8AR**  
Field Day Chairman

All I can tell you right now is that we are planning to do a real traditional Field Day, less the social aspects. It will instead focus on operating in more of a true simulated emergency communication environment. We will be keeping score and expect to score well in the contest part of Field Day.

Members should stay tuned for QST's beginning in early June as our revised plans begin to firm up. We can expect that some plans will not be solid until 7 to 10 days before FD. That is the best I can do right now.

**~~ SEE PAGE 7 for LATE BREAKING NEWS ~~**



## Field Day - Flex Station



**Rick, K8CAV**  
Field Day Flex Station Captain



As everyone knows by now, PCARS Field Day is going to look significantly different than it has in the past. Tom, WB8LCD has written about the changes elsewhere in this month's newsletter, and those will apply at the Flex Station. Because the Flex Station is housed inside of a small trailer with little air circulation it's especially important that everyone follow the guidelines such as wearing masks, wiping down surfaces, and others as indicated to keep everyone safe. Additionally, the only persons allowed inside of the Flex Station trailer will be the operator and the logger, when the logger is a member of the operator's family. Visitors and any other persons are not permitted in the trailer unless that person is assisting with a problem with the station itself.

Until recently the Flex Station had a full schedule for operators. Deron, N8XTH had to cancel his plans to operate this year due to planning for his very special upcoming event (and no it's not radio related hi). That leaves two slots, midnight to 4:00 AM open for anyone who would like to operate. 80 meters will be the band in use for Flex at that time and you can operate phone, digital, or CW. I've attached the latest schedule to this article. Let me know if you want to operate during that time and I'll get you on the schedule.

DAY	TIME	MODE	OPERATOR	LOGGER
SAT 27 JUN	14:00 - 16:00	40M FT8 DIGITAL	Jim AC8NT	
SAT 27 JUN	16:00 - 18:00	20M DIGITAL	Amy KD8SKL	Wayne K8FF
SAT 27 JUN	18:00 - 20:00	20M DIGITAL	Rick K8CAV	
SAT 27 JUN	20:00 - 23:00	80M CW	Terry KB8AMZ	
SAT 27 JUN	23:00 - 00:00	80M DIGITAL	Steve K8SRR	
SUN 28 JUN	00:00 - 02:00	80M PHONE		
SUN 28 JUN	02:00 - 04:00	80M PHONE		
SUN 28 JUN	04:00 - 06:00	80M DIGITAL	Rick KD8WCK	Mara KE8KBJ
SUN 28 JUN	06:00 - 08:00	80M DIGITAL	Andrew KE8BWA	
SUN 28 JUN	08:00 - 10:00	20M DIGITAL	Gene W8NET	John KE8MXR
SUN 28 JUN	10:00 - 12:00	40M DIGITAL	Mike N8WCP	
SUN 28 JUN	12:00 - 14:00	40M DIGITAL	Paul N8QZ	

**FLEX & CW to coordinate with 20M & 40M to insure that both are not on the same band at the same time.**



## Field Day - CW Station



**George, K3GP**  
Field Day CW Station Captain



We are still looking for Field Day CW Operators (June 27-28). Currently, we have 8 operators and the first draft of our operating schedule is based upon three hour shifts.

This schedule is simply a first draft - let me know if you prefer a different time and we will do our best to accommodate.

Additional CW operators are more than welcome, we will adjust the operator schedule and durations accordingly. Email me at [rttyfan@gmail.com](mailto:rttyfan@gmail.com)

DAY	TIME	OPERATOR
SAT 27 JUN	14:00 - 17:00	K3GP
SAT 27 JUN	17:00 - 20:00	N8NB
SAT 27 JUN	20:00 - 23:00	ND8L
SAT 27 JUN	23:00 - 02:00	K8RR
SAT 27 JUN	02:00 - 05:00	W8BBQ
SUN 28 JUN	05:00 - 08:00	KB8AMZ
SUN 28 JUN	08:00 - 11:00	K8IV
SUN 28 JUN	11:00 - 14:00	N8QE

CW will coordinate with FLEX to insure that both are not on the same band at the same time.

## Field Day - 40 Meter Station



**Ed, K8IV**  
Field Day 40 Meter Station Captain



As everyone knows by now, PCARS Field Day is going to look significantly different than it has in the past. Tom, WB8LCD has written about the changes elsewhere in this month's newsletter, and those will apply at the 40 meter Station.

DAY	TIME	POWER	OPERATOR
SAT 27 JUN	14:00 - 16:00	Solar	Ray ND8L
SAT 27 JUN	16:00 - 18:00	Solar	Ray KD8DFL
SAT 27 JUN	18:00 - 19:00	Generator	Ed K8IV
SAT 27 JUN	19:00 - 22:00	Generator	Melanie K8KSU
SAT 27 JUN	22:00 - 00:00	Generator	Ed K8IV
SUN 28 JUN	00:00 - 02:00	Generator	John N8GIE
SUN 28 JUN	02:00 - 04:00	Generator	Ray KD8DFL
SUN 28 JUN	04:00 - 06:00	Generator	Ed K8IV
SUN 28 JUN	06:00 - 08:00	Generator	Amy N8AMY
SUN 28 JUN	08:00 - 10:00	Generator	Tom WB8LCD
SUN 28 JUN	10:00 - 12:00	Generator	John N8GIE
SUN 28 JUN	12:00 - 14:00	Generator	Ray KD8DFL

FLEX & CW to coordinate with 20M & 40M to insure that both are not on the same band at the same time.

## Field Day - 20 Meter Station



**Tom, WB8LCD**  
Field Day 20 Meter Station Captain



If you would like to be on “Stand By” – let me know what times you would be at the Field Day site and willing to be on call.

If you can be at the FD Site before and after operations, we will certainly appreciate your help with the set up and take down of the individual stations as well as the clean up of the site in general.

There will be a training / operations session where we will discuss the operation of the radio (Elecraft K3S) as well as our Field Day strategy for the operation of the 20 meter station, and any “back up” scenarios we will want to be prepared for.

Watch for a QST on this.

DAY	TIME	OPERATOR
SAT 27 JUN	14:00 - 16:00	N8WCP
SAT 27 JUN	16:00 - 18:00	K8KSU
SAT 27 JUN	18:00 - 20:00	N8QE
SAT 27 JUN	20:00 - 22:00	KD8SKL
SAT 27 JUN	22:00 - 00:00	WB9LBI
SUN 28 JUN	00:00 - 02:00	WB8LCD
SUN 28 JUN	02:00 - 04:00	W8KNO
SUN 28 JUN	04:00 - 06:00	KA8TOA
SUN 28 JUN	06:00 - 08:00	KA8TOA
SUN 28 JUN	08:00 - 10:00	N8QE
SUN 28 JUN	10:00 - 12:00	KE8JUZ
SUN 28 JUN	12:00 - 14:00	N8WCP

## 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!!

Groups Find or Create a Group <https://groups.io/g/PCARS> Help Log In

Home Messages Hashtags

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

PCARS@groups.io

Group Description  
This is the discussion group of The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. This site is for the members, by the members of PCARS.

Group Information  
59 Members  
1 Topic, Last Post: Feb 21  
Started on Feb 21  
Feed

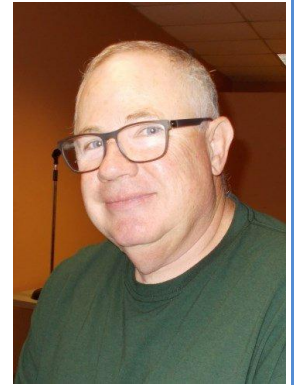
Join This Group or Log In If You Are Already A Member

Group Settings  
All subscribers can post to the group.  
Posts to this group require approval from the moderators.  
Posts from new users require approval from the moderators.  
Messages are set to reply to group.  
Subscriptions to this group do not require approval from the moderators.  
Archives are visible to anyone.  
Wiki is visible to subscribers only.  
Members can edit their posts.  
Members can set their subscriptions to no email.



## Supporting Amateur Radio

**Tom, WB8LCD**  
PCARS President



From its beginning, PCARS has been a club that has always been interested in, and involved in, perpetuating the Amateur Radio Hobby. We had our first Technician licensing class in the fall of 2006 (our first year of club activity) and have continued sponsoring license classes ever since. Our VE Team has been active since the beginning also, providing a testing session every other month, plus a session at Field Day, a session for every one of our licensing classes, and whenever we have been asked to help with or provide a session for any other group in the area. Due to the efforts of PCARS, there have been many new hams in Northeast Ohio over the years, and many existing hams have had the opportunity to upgrade to a higher license class.



Carole Perry WB2MGP  
Director Radio Club of America  
May 13, 2020

PCARS  
Tom Sly WB8LCD, Pres.

Dear Tom,

I want to personally thank you and the wonderful PCARS members for your generous contribution to my RCA Youth Activities program. I have invited Bernadette and Benedict Wagner to give their presentations at the 2021 Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum. We were all disappointed about what happened this year; but we will carry on and be even better next year.

So please convey my sincere gratitude for the support by your great membership of my RCA Youth Activities. Many talented youngsters will benefit from it.

With warm regards; be safe and be well.....

Carole Perry WB2MGP  
RCA Director and RCA Chairperson Youth Activities

Currently, 50% of PCARS members have an Extra class license, 28% hold a General class license, and 22% hold the Technician class license. This is a testament to PCARS efforts to not only make new hams, but to give them the opportunity to become engaged in the hobby and experience the "BIG FUN" that Amateur Radio has to offer. (As I've mentioned many times before, our numbers are the opposite of the national average where the majority of hams hold a Technician class license and the smallest percentage hold the Extra class license.)

As PCARS has progressed through the years and grown in our membership, we realized that while we are doing a good job with our club numbers, our obligation to the hobby goes beyond what we are capable of doing in our own backyard. We all realize that the continued existence of Amateur Radio depends greatly on bringing in younger generations to the hobby, and giving them the opportunity to become engaged in the activities of the hobby at an early age, so that they will not "drop out" as they are overwhelmed by all the activities and requirements of "growing up".

While we can't be everywhere and everything to everybody, when it comes to supporting youth activities in the hobby, PCARS has found two programs that we

are proud to participate in and sponsor: the Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure program (YDXA), and, the Radio Club of America (RCA) Youth Activities Program chaired by RCA director Carole Perry – WB2MGP. PCARS provides direct support to both of these organizations so that our influence and support can be felt beyond our own local area and membership. I want to personally invite and encourage you to support these programs both through your support of PCARS and by your direct contributions to each.

The following came in with the letter:

*Hi Tom,*

*Thanks again for inviting me to the Zoom meeting. Thanks as well for the generous donation from PCARS. Please share the attached, and definitely tell Jennifer that I loved seeing her and loved the colorful shirt she was wearing.*

*Warm regards,  
Carole WB2MGP*



## Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



### Greetings to all DXers:

June is upon us and it's suddenly hot and muggy. I'm not sure if any of you were able to take advantage of the recent band openings on 10 and 15 meters. And I know that there was a lot of discussion regarding openings from Ohio to Japan on 6 meters. It was not mentioned what the mode was but if a guess is allowed, let's say FT8. But if by some miracle it was SSB, then excuse me for a moment while I beat my head against my shack wall.

In any event, there seems to be rogue openings happening when you least expect it and if you are not at least monitoring the bands on a regular schedule, you can miss some fantastic DX. We are all guilty of uttering the "the bands are dead" mantra but it appears that they are only asleep and wake up periodically to reward those who happen to be on the air, and frustrate those who are watching the Bachelorette while knocking back a Coors lite.

So with those words in mind, let's see what the DX community is planning for the next few months.

As always thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, ARRL Web Page, NJ1Q & W1AW, AA3B, NG3K & ADXO, NY3B, W3UR & The Daily DX, K5GS, AA7A, K8BL, K8GL, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1HYW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, OH2BH, Pete Rayer & ISWL, RN3RQ, 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.

**Please keep in mind that there is a laundry list of countries that have postponed their mail service for the time being and will not accept mail form outside of their borders.**

### June....

**A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (U.A.E.).** Members of the Emirates Amateur Radio Society (EARS), will activate the following special event station to promote the World-Wide "Stay-at-Home" campaign:

A60SH/1 -- Operator Obaid, A61M; QSL via A61BK	A60SH/2 -- Operator Abdullah, A61Q; QSL via EA7FTR
A60SH/3 -- Operator Khalid, A61NN; QSL via A61NN	A60SH/4 -- Operator Khalid, A61BK; QSL via A61BK
A60SH/5 -- Operator Ali, A61DD; QSL via A92AA	A60SH/6 -- Operator Obaid, A61QQ; QSL via A61BK
A60SH/7 -- Operator Faisal, A61FJ; QSL via LZ1YE	A60SH/8 -- Operator Khalifa, A61K; QSL via A61BK
A60SH/9 -- Operator Ali, A61AY; QSL via A61AY	A60SH/10 -- Operator Fahed, A61FK; QSL via A61BK
A60SH/11 -- Operator Talal, A65MM; QSL DIRECT	A60SH/12 -- Operator Hassan, A61HA; QSL via A61BK

**E2, THAILAND (Attention AMSAT Members -- E2STAYHOME operating schedule).** Tanan, HS1JAN, posted the following info on May 24th: Thailand's regulator, the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC), has issued the special callsign, E2STAYHOME, to the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty the King (RAST) for use during the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus. This is a rare opportunity

for ham radio operators who are interested in satellite communications to legally communicate with Thai amateur radio stations by means of the Es'hail-2 or QO-100 geostationary satellite which licensed by the Thai regulator, the NBTC, in response to requests from RAST, and using the special callsign E2STAYHOME on the evenings of each working day in Thailand and on every weekend. The operating schedule is as follows: Monday to Friday, 1100 - 1500 UTC Saturday and Sunday, 0800 - 1500 UTC All days after 1600 UTC and up to 2200 UTC Thailand has an emergency curfew in place. please STAY HOME!! During these times, Thai hams will be operating using this callsign on all bands and in all modes, including all satellite modes under the supervision of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand (RAST) in an effort to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and they will be QRV from today until July 15, 2020. QSOs with E2STAYHOME can be confirmed via Tim W. Tadsri, HS6MYW, and QSL cards will be sent to all via the Bureau.

**I, ITALY** 4U9STAYHOME operates from the UN Global Service Center's Amateur Radio Club (4U1GSC) until June 15. QSL via 9A2AA (d/B).

**OE30, AUSTRIA** (Special Event). Hannes, OE1SGU, active with the special callsign OE30MAGICBAND from Vienna (WW Loc. JN88EG) until June 30. Activity is to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the allocation of the 6m band (50-52 MHz) to Austrian amateurs. Activity on 6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via LoTW and eQSL.

**TG, GUATEMALA**. Enrique, YS1RM, is now active as TG9/YS1RM from Guatemala City. Length of his stay is unknown at this time. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. No other details were provided. QSL via YS1RM, direct, LOTW or eQSL.

**RA, RUSSIA** Special event stations R115MS, RM35MS and UE35MS celebrate the 115th birthday of Mikhail Sholokhov, recipient of the 1965 Nobel Prize for Literature, until June 24. QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

**V4, ST. KITTS**. John, W5JON, will once again be active as V47JA from his Calypso Bay, St. Kitts, West Indies vacation home, located 200 feet from the Caribbean Sea, between June 11 and July 2. Activity on 160-6 meters (incl. 60m) using SSB and FT8, with emphasis on 6m and 160m - FT8. Equipment is a Yaesu FT1000MP, FT857D and an Elecraft KPA500 Amplifier. John states his antennas are a Mosley Mini32A 10/15/20m, 33' Vertical 10-40m, 35' Top Loaded 80m Vertical, 160m Vertical and 6m 5 element Yagi. ALL QSLs go to W5JON direct or via LoTW. NO Bureau QSLs.

**VE, CANADA** (Special Event). Jean, VE2JCW, will use the special callsign VE2SPEED throughout the month of June, to commemorate the Montreal Grand Prix even if it is canceled. QSL via VE2JCW info on QRZ.com.

**ZM, NEW ZEALAND (Special Event)**. The following was posted on March 31st, on the NZART (New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters) Web site [<https://www.nzart.org.nz/>], by Don, ZL2TLL, NZART ALO: Use of ZM callsigns during COVID-19 Lock-down -- At the suggestion of Paul, ZL4TT, we applied to Radio Spectrum Management for, and have been granted, approval to treat the COVID-19 lock down period as a "special event". This means that, for the duration of the lock down, New Zealand Amateurs may use the ZM prefix instead of the ZL prefix on their callsign. Please feel free to use these callsigns from today. We hope that the use of the ZM prefix will: \* help to relieve the boredom for amateurs stuck at home over the lock-down period; and \* increase the profile of New Zealand amateurs (and New Zealand in general) overseas. Stay safe in your bubble.

## IOTA NEWS...

**NA-070**. Members of the Russian Robinson Club team active as KL7RRC from **Kiska Island** between **June 10-15**. Operators mentioned are Vyacheslav/OK8AU, Yuri/N3QQ, Yuri/UA9OBA and possibly Tim/NL8F and Alexey/NW7M. Activity will be on 40/30/20/17/15/12/10/6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8(FH), with three stations. The frequencies will be published on their Web page at: <https://www.na-234.com> QSL via N7RO. All donors will receive QSL direct.

**NA-158**. Bryden, KC1KUG, active as KL7/KC1KUG from **Fire Island, Alaska**, in the Cook Inlet Group, between June 2-27. Activity on 40/20 meters, possibly 80/30/17m, using mostly SSB, some CW or FT8. QSL via KC1KUG.

**SA-079**. Members of the PARA DX Group are planning to activate for the **first time ever Ilha das Palmas** (new DIB for Brazil, RJ [to be defined]) in the Rio de Janeiro State Center Group as ZV1M between July 24-26th, during the next RSGB IOTA Contest (July 25-26th). Operators mentioned are Renato/PY8WW, Carlos/PY1CG and Marcelo/PY1MT. Ilha das Palmas is a small island, uninhabited and without any infrastructure, there is no electricity or drinking water. Landing is done on rocks and sea conditions are generally not good. The Grid Locator is GG86FW. Activity will be on 80/40/20/15/10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via PY1MT, direct or by the Bureau. For more

information, see: <https://paradxgroup.wordpress.com/2020/05/13/zv1m-sa-079-ilha-das-palmas>

Well, what can I say. The above is what I have for you this month and a few months out. I know that this pandemic has really given us a kick in the slats, but if nothing else, we HAMS are resilient and innovative. We have found ways to have virtual meetings. As a matter of fact, I have met some members of various clubs and organizations I belong to, for the very first time. At least they know what I look like and I know their faces now. This thing will end at some point. When, no one knows for sure. But until then, let's keep safe, follow the rules of safe distancing and GET ON THE AIR!!

**73 until next month.**

## **DX Engineering Cancels 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hamfest**



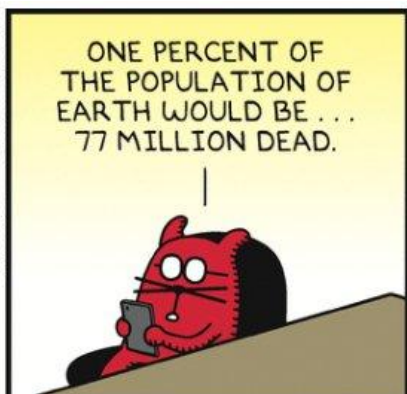
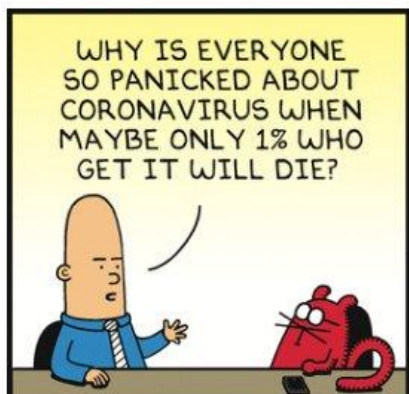
### **DX Engineering Cancels Second Annual August Hamfest**

Citing public health concerns, DX Engineering announced the cancellation of its second annual DXE Hamfest, which was scheduled to be held at its headquarters near Akron, Ohio, on August 8, 2020.

This year's event was planned in conjunction with the ARRL's Ohio Section Convention. The logistics of safely managing the anticipated large crowds - evidenced by last year's DXE Hamfest attendance - played a role in DX Engineering's decision.

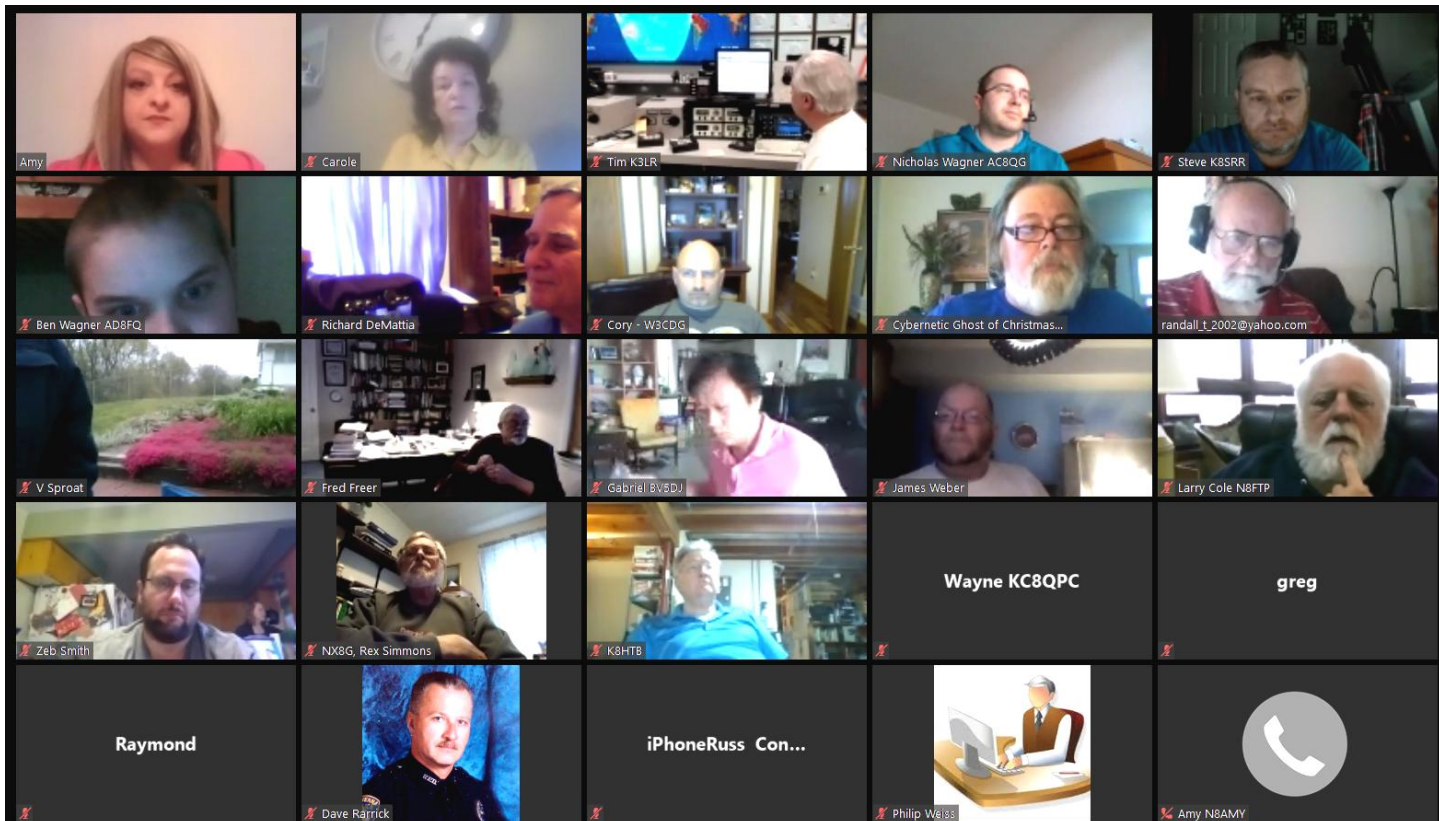
*"Calling off the event came after much discussion about the uncertainty of where Ohio would be in terms of the COVID-19 outbreak in three months," said Tim Duffy, K3LR, DX Engineering Chief Executive Officer. "Rather than having to cancel the event at the last minute and alter attendees' plans, we decided it was in everyone's best interest to act now. It was a difficult decision that we hope everyone will understand."*

DX Engineering looks forward to seeing everyone in August 2021. Check DX Engineering's Facebook page and On All Bands for details coming soon.

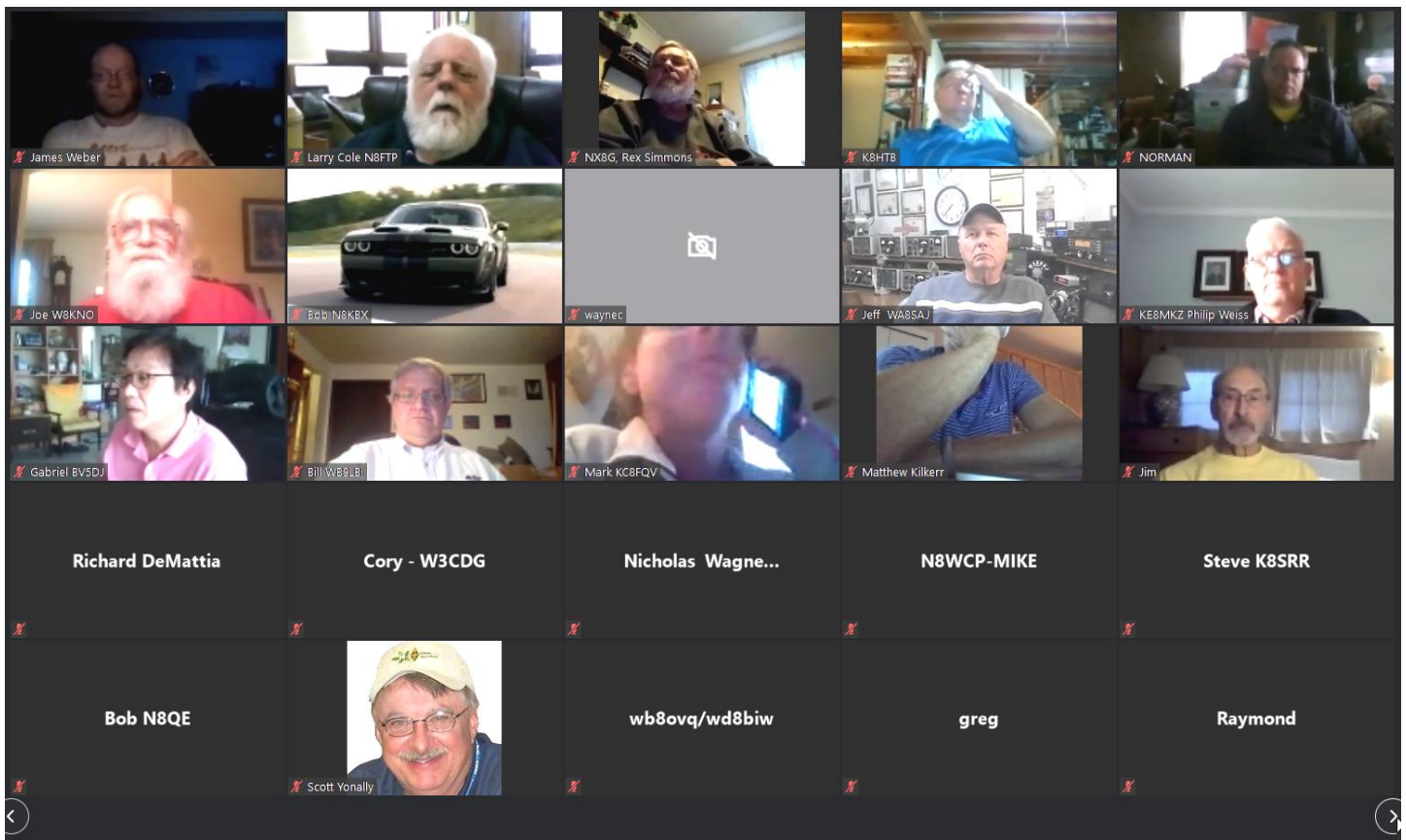
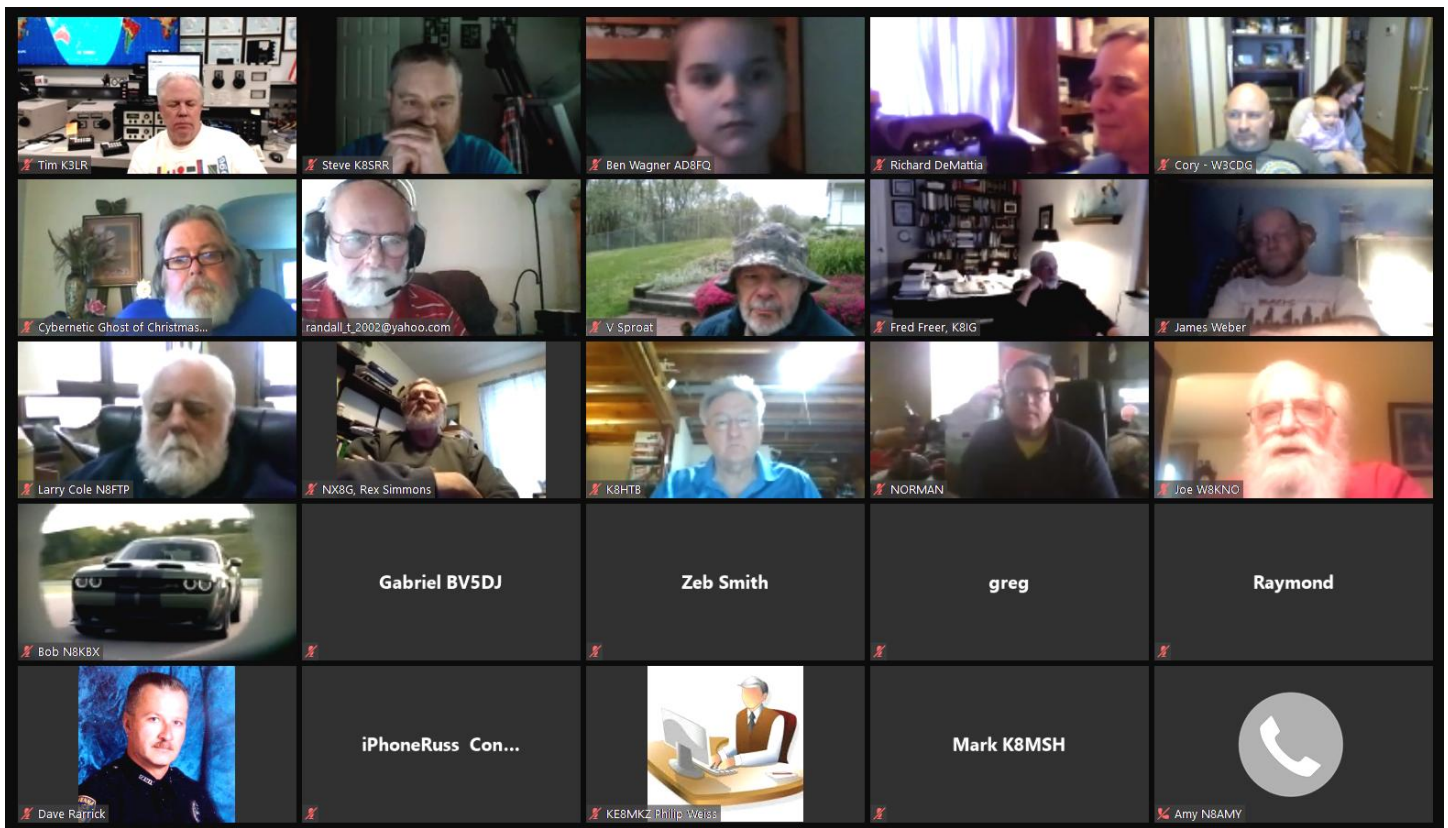




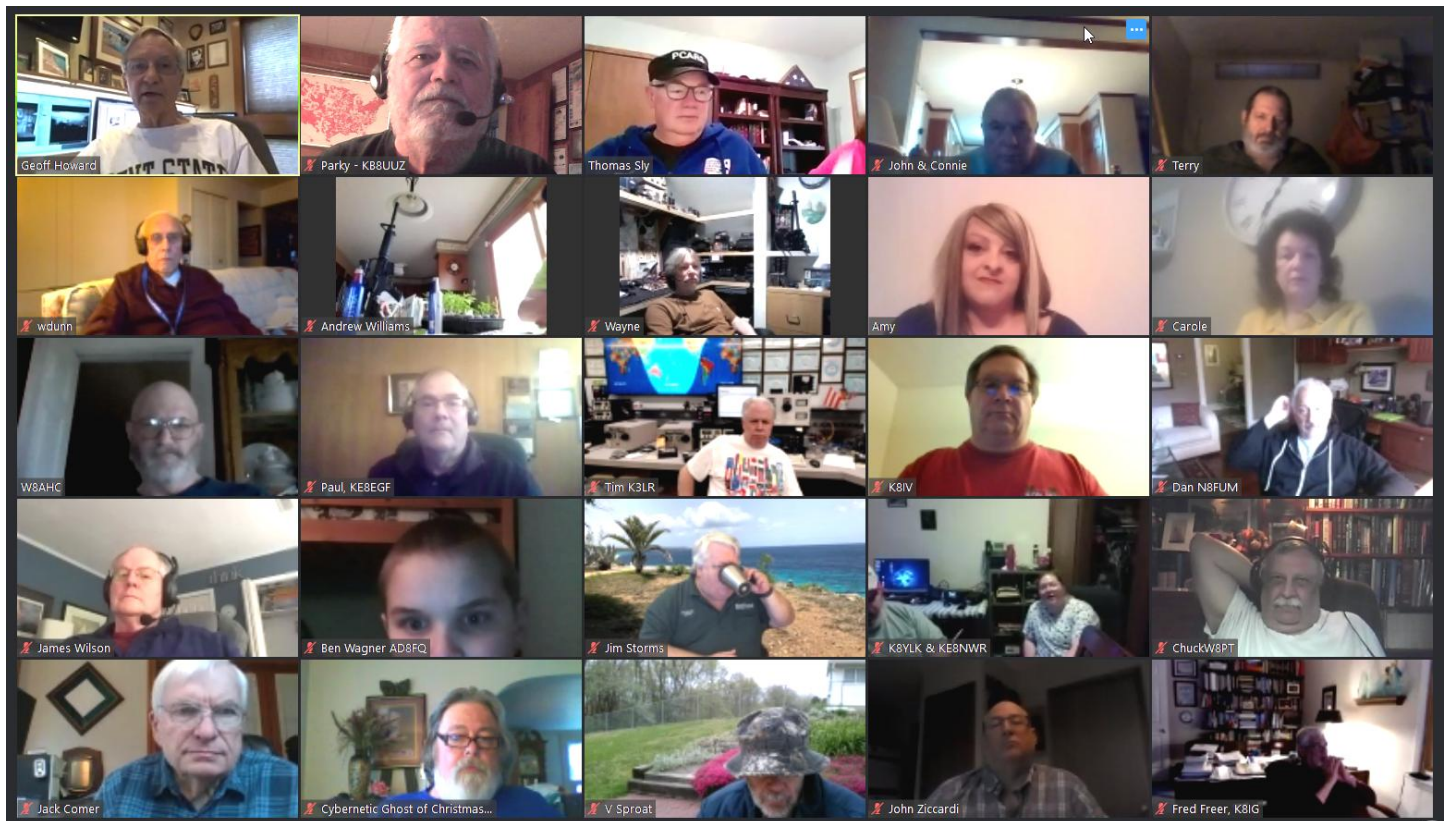
# Photos from the May PCARS Zoom Meeting













## CW/QRP & Linux Special Interest Groups

**Terry, KB8AMZ**



### CW & QRP SIG

It's doubtful that either SIG will meet this month. Regarding something to do at home pertaining to the QRP - CW SIG. How about trying QRQ? For the past 2 years the emphasis on CW for this SIG has been learning Morse Code then getting on the air to make a contact. There are many of us that know Morse Code already. Do you have the desire to copy Morse at a faster send speed? I know that I do. I became aware about 10 years ago that my copy speed during contesting was different than "rag chew" contact copy speed. There is a way to practice copying in "rag chew" mode at speeds up to 145 wpm. My goal is not to attain that high of copy speed. I will be happy with copy speed around 60+ wpm for "rag chew".

"qrq is an open source Morse telegraphy trainer which runs on several operating systems (Linux, Unix, OS X and Windows), similar to the classic DOS version of Rufz by DL4MM. It's not intended for learning telegraphy (check out LCWO or have a look at [radio.linux.org.au](http://radio.linux.org.au) for CW learning software), but to improve the ability to copy callsigns at high speeds, as needed for example for Contesting." [taken from: <http://fkurz.net/ham/qrq.html#0.3.2>]. qrq was written by Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK <[fabian@fkurz.net](mailto:fabian@fkurz.net)> Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK loves Morse Code, especially at high speeds. Fabian is responsible for the RBN. He developed the Reverse Beacon Network. Fabian also developed the "Learning CW Online" website; <http://www.lcwo.net>

Marc Vaillant, KB1000 contributed code to make it work under Mac OS X. Lukasz Komsta, SP8QED contributed code for the native Windows version. The Linux version will be discussed in the Linux for Hams SIG.

Next month I will discuss "word libraries of common used words in English" that can be downloaded and inserted into qrq for practice copy of words rather than individual characters.

### Linux for Hams SIG

It's doubtful our 2nd SIG of the year will meet so I offer this project for you to install on your Raspberry Pi. The QRQ fast Morse copy training program. Next month I will give a database of files that consist of the most common English words that QRQ will use to help with practice of copying words.

To install qrq, open a terminal. `cd Downloads` <change directory to Downloads> Next type `wget https://fkurz.net/ham/qrq/qrq-0.3.2.tar.gz` and press the Enter key. When the downloaded file is complete type `tar -zxvf qrq` <and press the TAB key to autoexpand the file to be unzipped> then press the Enter key. After that is uncompressed, type `clear` and press Enter. Then type `ls` and press Enter. You will see a folder, probably letters in blue. Type `cd` and the first few characters of the that folder name and press the TAB key to change into that directory. Now type `.configure --prefix=/usr/local --enable-static` and press Enter. That takes a couple of minutes to finish. Next type `make` and press Enter. This may take a while to complete, maybe about 30 minutes. When make has finished, type `sudo make install` and press Enter. When that command finishes type `sudo ldconfig` and press Enter. When that is complete you return to your home directory. The qrq program is installed. It is a command line program. To run it you need to open a terminal and type `qrq` then press Enter.

### How to use it

Using qrq is simple: qrq sends 50 random calls from a database. After each call, it waits for the user to enter what he heard and compares the entered callsign with the one sent. If the callsign is copied correctly, the speed is increased by 10cpm / 2wpm and full points are credited, if there were mistakes in the callsign entered, the speed decreases by 10cpm / 2wpm and (depending on how many letters were correct) only a fraction of the maximum points are credited.

A callsign can be heard again once by pressing F6, hitting F10 aborts the attempt. The previous callsign (before the current) can be re-heard by pressing F7.

The possible speed ranges from 20cpm (4wpm) to infinity, the initial speed can be set by the user (in ~/qrq/qrqrc or in the settings menu, F5).

Additionally, there are several training modes available. Arbitrary databases of callsigns or words can be loaded, it's possible to practice at a fixed speed, etc.

Next month I will give you a different database to practice the most used English word rather than call signs.

## Digital Special Interest Group

**Rick, K8CAV**

The Digital Special Interest Group is continuing with a virtual, on-the-air meeting again this month. We will meet on the K8IV 146.895 repeater on Tuesday June 2 and 7:00 PM. I'll open the net to ask for check-ins and when that is complete we'll start our meeting. This will be an open forum meeting and we'll cover any topics of interest to participants. This can include helping with problems or issues, operating on different modes, using other programs associated with fldigi such as flmsg, and any other digital topics of interest.



The net is not limited to FM on the repeater; we can also conduct digital operations on HF as well. During our last Digital SIG, Rick, KD8WCK wanted to try some Hell Schreiber on HF so we went to 40 meters and had some fun with it. I've already had one request to do some digital operation on 60 meters, and we can also do operations on other frequencies for those that would like to try. In order to accommodate different frequencies we'll move to the frequency of interest for a given participant, and when finished return to the repeater so we can pick up the next participant's interest. Feel free to move to the frequency being used even if you were not the participant that requested it so you can monitor and/or join.

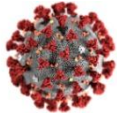
We've had a lot of fun with the virtual meeting so if you're a digital aficionada mark your calendar and check in! I hope to see you there!



Thursday April 23, 2020 Working At Home

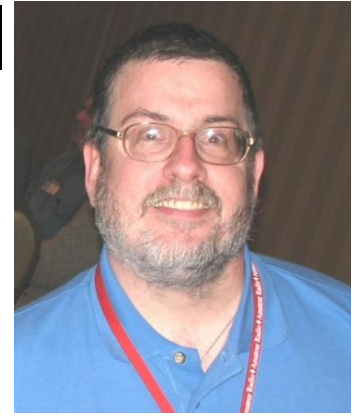


## Coronavirus Humor to Help Keep Sprits Up



**Daryl, WX4QZ**

*You just have to have **SOME** humor to keep you going !!*



- Until further notice the days of the week are now called thisday, thatday, otherday, someday, yesterday, today, and nextday!
- Can we uninstall 2020 and reinstall it again?... I think it has a virus ...
- Just asked a 6 year old if he understands why there is no school. He said yes because they are out of toilet paper.
- On the bright side, I am no longer calling this shelter-in-place. I am an artist-in-residence.
- After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason.
- Where is your next travel destination? - Las Kitchenas - Los Lounges - Santa Bedrooms  
- Porto Gardenas - Los Bed - Costa del Balconia - St Bathroom - La Rotonda de Sofa
- You're not stuck at home, you're safe at home. One word can change your attitude and one cough can change your life.
- Coronavirus has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We're told "no" if we get too close to strangers and we get really excited about car rides.
- If you thought toilet paper was crazy ... just wait until 300 million people all want a haircut appointment.
- 2020 is a unique Leap Year. It has 29 days in February, 300 days in March and 5 years in April.
- Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???
- You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers....
- Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture."
- Kinda' starting to understand why pets try to run out of the house when the door opens.
- My Mom always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by laying in the bed all day, but look at me now! I'm saving the world!
- I miss the days when we were terrified of Romaine lettuce. Ahh, the good times....
- I swear my fridge just said: "What the hell do you want now?"
- Whoever owes you money, go to their house now. They should be home.
- Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to prevent COVID-19, but to stop eating.
- If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't accidentally touch your face.
- This cleaning with alcohol is total b.s. NOTHING gets done after that first bottle.
- Homeschooling Day #3: they all graduated. Done.



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

**Dig out that 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.

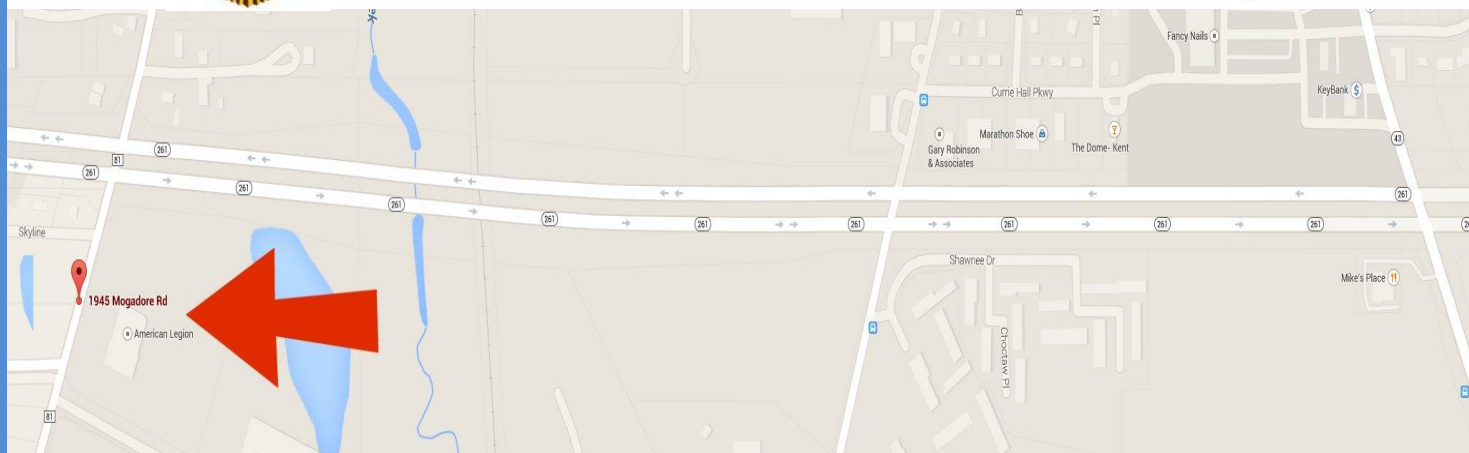


## ***PCARS In-Person Meetings - Suspended Until Further Notice***

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) meetings are held the **2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



## Thanks & 73



**Parky, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor



I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards that we do get. 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. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great for 2020 and beyond. You will see some humor based cartoons and articles about the COVID-19 - Yes, I agree this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please.

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

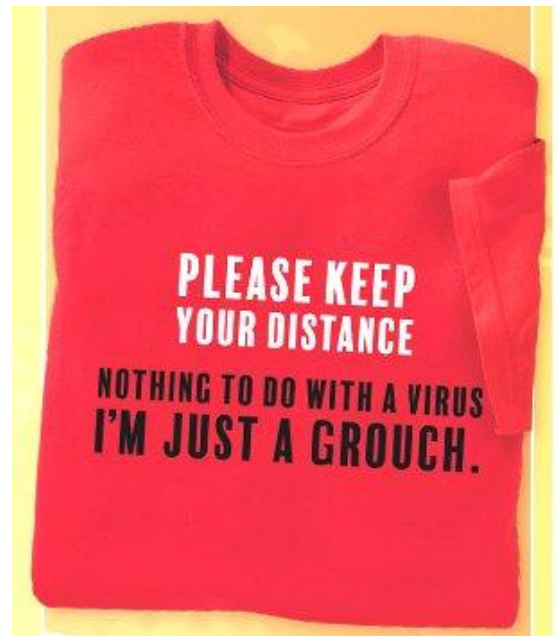
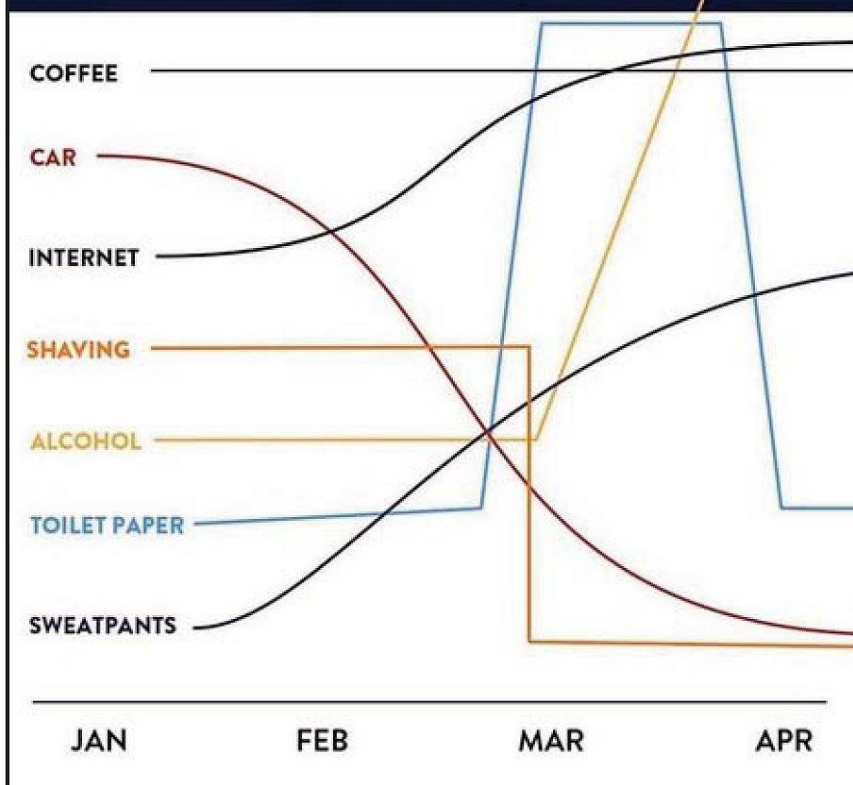
**W8RID, WB8LCD, AC8QG, KB8UUZ, KE8EGF, W8CI, K3LR, W8KNO, KD8MQ, N8AMY, N8WCP, N8SY, KD8IDJ, N8RMA, W8BBQ, NF8R, NO8D, KA8TOA, WA8AR, K8CAV, K3GP, K8IV, WB2MGP, W8PT, KB8AMZ, WX4QZ, CQ Magazine, DX Engineering, Dilbert (Scott Adams), The ARRL and the World-Wide Web.**  
With *your* continued help – we can keep making this a *great* newsletter.



**PCARS**  
[www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)



### RELATIVE IMPORTANCE IN 2020, SO FAR





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

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

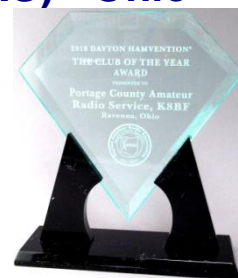


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**, 1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

**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](http://www.PORTCARS.ORG) -or- [www.K8BF.ORG](http://www.K8BF.ORG)



~ 2020 Officers ~		2020 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD Vice President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF 3 Year Trustee - John Myers - KD8MQ 2 Year Trustee - Terry Morris - KB8AMZ 1 Year Trustee - Ed Polack - K8IV Past President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT	ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink & Web Guru	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman, 2020	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Membership Chairman	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Net Control Manager	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer		
	Secretary	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
	Social Media	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmasters	KD8MQ	John Myers
		K8SRR	Steve Randlett

 <b>PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members</b>	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	K8IV	Ed Polack
	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 ©2020. 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 & 2020.** 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](mailto: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](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com)



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Ravenna, OH 44266 USA



NLC

