



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

March 2020 - Volume 15 Number 3

FYAO Results are out



Gearing Up For Field Day



WWW.ARRL.ORG



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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From the President

Tom, WB8LCD

PCARS President



Having been a Past President of PCARS, my experience as President this time around is already a challenge from many standpoints. First off, the club has had a lot of members come and go in the past 5 years. That's to be expected. My difficulty now is that there are many new, active members that I don't really know all that well, yet. Our current membership is as large, and larger, than it's ever been. I want to know all of you and know what you think about this fantastic hobby: Amateur Radio! Give me some time and let me know what you think. Do the same with Nick, AC8QG – so we both get a good feel for what you want to see happening in your club.

The February meeting did not turn out the way it was planned, and I feel bad about that. Stuff happens, there were a lot of missed connections and we are making sure that those connections don't get missed again. We've got some meetings coming up with some regular presenters that have always had a good program, and we've got some new people in the lineup too. Nick and I are always open to your suggestions, so if there is an Amateur Radio topic you would like to see covered and you know someone who would be a good resource, let us know and we'll do our best to get them on the schedule. As always, 2020 will be a year of **"Big Fun"** for PCARS!

Looking at our budget, it becomes increasingly clear that spending money is easy to do with all the programs we try to provide and support. We need to consider some additional ways to increase our funding because we are currently spending more than we bring in via dues and our 50/50. I will say **"Thank You"** here as many of you have been very generous in supporting our programs and activities with other donations and gifts. We couldn't do it without you, and I hope your support will continue. But, looking to the future and wanting to be one of the clubs that makes a difference in our hobby, we need to find additional sources of funds. Traditionally, many clubs have supplemented their dues income with a local hamfest. Portage Ham Fair is a well established fest in Portage County, and I don't see PCARS entering that space. What ideas do you have? What could we do that would be new and unusual that would set us apart, be a service to the hobby, and at the same time be a source of income for PCARS? I'm open to your ideas.

There are lots of really neat things going on in Amateur Radio right now. This isn't just a "has been" hobby from the 50's and the 60's – this is a **FANTASTIC** hobby right now! There are lots of things that we can do as Amateurs right now that others only wish they could do. No matter what your other hobbies or interests are, Amateur Radio can enhance the experience you have. Everyone should want to be a Ham! The best thing we can each, individually do, is be a good example. Have fun with your hobby. Integrate it into your other hobbies. Be involved with your club and participate in the many activities we have going on. Tell your friends and acquaintances about Amateur Radio and about PCARS. Invite them to participate.

If you aren't having Big Fun – talk to me. It's time to get this party started! See you at the March meeting on Monday March 9th.



From the Vice President

Nick, AC8QG
PCARS Vice President



Freeze Your Acorns Off was another great success this year! I didn't get on the radio, but I instead functioned in a support role for my kids.



My original plan was to just come out for the great food, but my family (especially Ben, KE8JUZ) had other ideas. That plan quickly turned into actually getting a station on the air, and then it evolved into getting that station outside, but ultimately, I ended up with some happy kids, some good spicy chili, and a sore back.

Our general class is off and running once again, and I must say thank you to our volunteer instructors. It looks like we'll have a solid group of people level-up in a couple of weeks. I'm rooting pretty hard for one more general class operator in my own household, and she's looking forward to serious DXing.

Over the next several months there will be a lot of great opportunities to enjoy the “**Big Fun**” with PCARS. Stay tuned for upcoming projects, special interest groups, interesting presenters at the monthly meetings, weekly nets, contests, Net Night at the Club Site, and more! Keep reading this award-winning newsletter, and keep your eyes open for QST emails with all the details.

Upcoming Monthly Meetings

- **March:** Skype with HamSCI Founder Dr. Nathaniel A. Frissell W2NAF, Hamvention's 2019 “Amateur of the Year”
- **April:** Jim Storms AB8YK — Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure (YDXA)
- **May:** Geoff Howard W0CG / PJ2DX — PJ2T contest station in Curacao

As always, 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! Thank you to all the people that helped!

Get Your PCARS Gear Here!



Get your PCARS shirts & hats here. (<https://pcars.itemorder.com/sale>).

Don't delay; This program closes on March 18th.

If the link does not work - visit PORTCARS.ORG - this banner is on our web site

Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:



- March 2nd - Board Meeting at the club site - starts at 7 pm
- March 9th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
Skype with HamSCI Founder Dr. Nathaniel A. Frissell,
Hamvention® 2019 "Amateur of the Year"
- March 14 -16th - Idaho & Wisconsin QSO Party
- March 18th - VE Testing at club site - 7pm - Walk-Ins Welcome
- March 21st - Power Distribution Box Build - Club site - 9 am
- April 6th - Board Meeting at the club site - starts at 7 pm
- April 13th - PCARS Meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
Jim Storms AB8YK & Dave Kalter W8CI
Youth DX Adventure (YDXA)
- April 25-26th - Florida QSO Party



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Every Month at the Club Site in Ravenna - 7:00 pm

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

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

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Going Fast

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

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

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



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

See Paul for all of the details

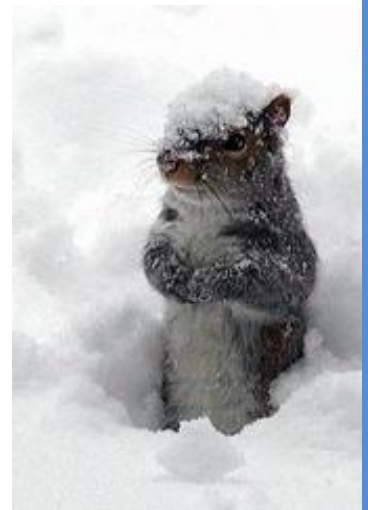


15th Annual FYAO - Results

We held our 15th Annual **Freeze Your Acorns Off** QRP event on February 8th. The weather started out cold and somewhat clear but it turned overcast during the early afternoon.



Thankfully, that didn't deter visitors and participants. We had at least 31 people sign the guest list, including those who set up 5 operating stations. Hawaiian shirts were in again this year. Let's see even more of them next year !



There was no way to tell how the bands were going to treat those who were operating but as you will see, the propagation was very good for at least one station. Here are the final results:

Operations Results:

- 1st Place - K8PRC (N3JJT, KD8BBK, KD8MQ, KD8ENV) Score: 5,161**
- 2nd Place - KE8JUZ Score: 322**
- 3rd Place - WA8TSI Score: 207**
- 4th Place - WD8DAU, KB8AMZ Score: 19**

We also have a contest within a contest with our Best Recipe Cook-Off, and the results this year are as follows:

- 1st Place - Amy, KD8SKL - Beef Stew**
- 2nd Place - Gene, W8NET - West Virginia Run for the Outhouse Spicy Chili**
- 3rd Place - Bernadette, KE8LWO - Nacho Cheese Dip**
- 4th Place - John, KD8MQ - Spicy Chili**
- 5th Place - Rick, WA8TSI - Pam's Potato Soup**

All in all, we had a really great time and are looking forward to the 16th FYAO in 2021. Plan on attending next year. You'll have fun and be well fed.



FYAO 2020

Feb 8th
Fun in the park



15th FYAO - February 8, 2020

FYAO 2020

Feb 8th

Fun in the park



15th FYAO - February 8, 2020

PCARS VE Test Sessions

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



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

Mar 18th at 7 pm, Apr 4th, Jun 6th, Aug 1st, Oct 3rd, Dec 5th

June 27th at the Field Day site - 4 pm

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

PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

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



Special VE Testing

at the PCARS Club Site
March 18th - 7 PM
at the end of the General Class
Walk-Ins Welcome !!





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Daryl, WX4QZ



I went to Arkansas' first hamfest of the year, in Hoxie, southwest of Walnut Ridge, last weekend, and I ***WON* the first 2 door prizes.**

1) A Tornado Alert Radio -- it alerts the user to tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and lightning, within 30 miles of your location, with colored lights, a strobe light, and a siren. It's separate from NOAA Weather Radio, and valued near \$100. I understand that they can be bought at The Home Depot, but one of the vendors, D&L Antennas, had them for sale...he gave me all the info on it. With tornado season approaching (in some areas, it has started early), this is a great device. It runs on AC power, with a 9 volt battery backup for 10 hours. Details are at <https://tornadoalert.com> -- you likely can get some info off there (or from what I wrote) for a story in the newsletter. Since a lot of these tornadoes develop with little or no warning, being weather aware means that ones life may depend on it...and it makes a great companion to NOAA Weather Radio.

2) An ARRL Publications \$50 Gift Certificate.

I'm going to be doing a forum at the Russellville Hamfest, "You're Licensed, Now What??" I've got to get handouts prepared for it.

I probably will go to the Fort Smith Hamfest, since the Arkansas Railroad Museum Show and Sale, that is usually on the same day, was cancelled.

I am taking Amtrak to 2 hamfests in Louisiana...the first is a circuitous trip to Slidell, and the other a combination train/bus trip to Longview, then Shreveport. Unfortunately, those may be the last 2 train trips that I can take, as the health and finances aren't allowing much other travel. I am going to try to operate Amtrak D-Star Mobile on the Slidell trip.

Sad News:

Even though she wasn't a member of PCARS, the woman known as "The Queen Of D-Star", and Net Control for the International D-Star Net, **Connie Ballantyne, KB0ZSG**, became a Silent Key last Friday, losing her battle with breast cancer.



I set up a page with a poem The Good Lord gave me in memory of her, along with 2 pictures of her (one from her QRZ page, and the other from a recent Hamvention with her and Danielle, KE8JNU (she's known as "The Princess Of D-Star" -- getting her Technician License just before the Hamvention, and 2 months after Hamvention, she was an Amateur Extra. The page is at <http://www.theweatherwonder.com/s464.htm> -- it also includes a pink ribbon (breast cancer), designed by Grady Evans, W4GLE, and a link to her obituary, online guest book, and funeral arrangements. Club members who worked D-Star will surely be saddened to hear this news.

There will be a story on Amateur Radio Newslane, and this week's HamNation about Connie. They are renaming the International D-Star Net to the KB0ZSG Connie Ballantyne International D-Star Net, and instead of being known as Reflector 1 Charlie, it will be known as **1 Connie**.



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



W8S DXpedition Delayed due to Coronavirus

Coronavirus Outbreak Postpones Swains Island W8S DXpedition

The [W8S DXpedition](#) to Swains Island in the Pacific, set to take place in mid-March, has been postponed until September as a result of travel restrictions imposed on individuals entering American Samoa, stemming from the recent coronavirus outbreak. The Department of Health allows non-residents to enter American Samoa only via Hawaii after a 14-day mandatory quarantine, and the DXpedition was unable to accommodate that requirement.

"Everything is prepared for our DXpedition, and we are eager to go, but unfortunately the coronavirus outbreak is out of our control," the DXpedition team said in announcing the delay. "Although this is a disappointment for everyone, the W8S DXpedition is not cancelled, just postponed for later this year." The DXpedition said it would alert the DX community as soon as it has new firm dates for the trip.



PowerPole Build Project - March 21st

The PowerPole Build Project will take place on Saturday, March 21st from 9:00 am till noon or 1:00 pm as necessary.

Right now I have confirmed that there will be 10 kits, and hopefully we will have 10 additional. The kits include a circuit board and all necessary parts, except fuses and cases. Each builder will decide how he wants to house his kit. These kits will be reserved on a first come basis – so if you want one, send me an email. The first 10 are guaranteed, the next 10 are “if available”. (We will let you know ASAP on the availability of the second 10 kits. If you are in the first 10 group and you don't show up to receive and pay for your kit by 9:30 am, you will go to the bottom of the list. These kits will cost \$25 each.

As an option, I also have 15 kits available of just a simple powerpole junction box. These kits will contain everything needed to complete, including the case. These kits will be available for \$20 each. I hope to have examples of each at the meeting on the 9th.

Reserve your kits by sending your reservation to me at: tomsly29@gmail.com Tom WB8LCD



Hamfest Calendar

03/01/2020 - WinterHamFest - Location: Elyria, OH - Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://noars.net>

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

04/11/2020 - 66th Annual Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest - Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH - Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest.php>

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

Daylight Saving Time Starts March 8th

SPRING FORWARD FALL BACK

Yep, Sunday March 8th **Daylight Saving Time** starts. At 0200 local, turn your clocks *ahead* 1 hour.

Remember UTC (Zulu, GMT) time does NOT change.

Examples:

March 7th - we are still on **EST** (Eastern Standard Time).
At 0800 EST (8 am for you non-military people) it is 1300 UTC (1 pm) - That is a five hour difference between Ravenna, OH and Greenwich, England.

March 8th - we are now on **DST** (Daylight Saving Time).
At 0800 EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) it is 1200 UTC (noon) - That is a four hour difference between Ravenna, OH and Greenwich, England.

McHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



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Contest Calendar

March Contest Calendar	
Contest Name	Times
North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 1 to 0059Z, Mar 2
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
Oklahoma QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 14 to 2100Z, Mar 15
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Mar 14 to 1500Z, Mar 15
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 14 to 1900Z, Mar 15
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
Louisiana QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 22
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2400Z, Mar 29

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

Contests that will be active at the PCARS Club Site in 2020	
Date	Contest
Mar 14-16	Idaho and Wisconsin QSO Parties
Apr 25-26	Florida QSO Party
May 2-3	New England QSO Party
Jun 13-15	ARRL June VHF Contest
Jul 18-19	North American QSO Party-RTTY
Aug 22-23	Ohio QSO Party & BB-QSO Party
Sept 19-20	Washington State Salmon Run
Oct 3-4	California QSO Party
Oct 10-12	Pennsylvania QSO Party
Oct 17-19	New York & Illinois QSO Parties

Mahoning Valley ARA - 2 Meter Contest

Scott, KE4UHC



The MVARA is excited to announce the Mahoning Valley 2 Meter Contest **Saturday March 21, 2020 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm.** We thought it would be fun to see if valley hams would enjoy shaking off the winter doldrums by getting on the air for a local contest. It will be an opportunity to talk to old friends and make new ones.

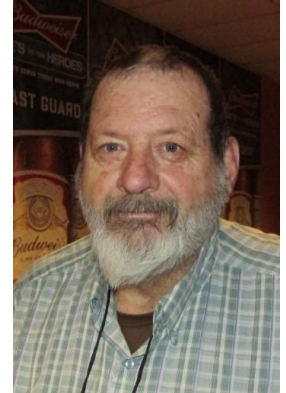
Old timers may remember participating in the Lou Malice Memorial Contest years ago. The MV 2 Meter Contest will be a similar 2 meter simplex contest. Stations will simply exchange grid squares as defined in the contest rules. The contest format will allow participants to evaluate their stations simplex capabilities. This information could be valuable in an emergency.

No 100 w base station? No problem. There will be a low power category of 5 w or less and a high-power category of greater than 5 w so everyone will have a level playing field. Awards will be given for the highest scoring Low Power Home, High Power Home, Low Power Rover & High-Power Rover stations at the June 11th MVARA meeting.

For contest rules and a list of rover stations and the grids they plan to activate go to www.mvara.org/Mv2mc.html

This year the contest will be dedicated to the memory of pioneer Valley ham Lou Malice WA8PKN whose dedication to amateur radio touched the lives of all of us. Even if you never had the pleasure of knowing Lou you are still part of his legacy. Chances are good that the hams who inspired and encouraged you to become part of amateur radio were, themselves, inspired, encouraged, and trained by Lou. We hope to hear you on the air!

Terry, KB8AMZ



A computer understands a language of zeros and ones known as binary language. In the early days of computing programmers needed to be the geeky of geeks to program using binary language. A programming language called the 'shell' was developed in 1971 using commands that were more understandable to humans and easier to use. The shell receives human readable commands, translates them into something called the 'kernel'. The kernel is software that speaks to the hardware.

Concept

The shell program is the means that users employ to type commands to the operating system kernel. The command line was the first means of communicating with the OS kernel. First was the teletype terminal connected to a paper printer that printed both visual input and output characters. Later the CRT, cathode ray tube, was developed for visual input and output. A specific set of standardized commands was developed in 1971 by Ken Thompson at Bell Laboratories known as 'tsh'. In 1975 the Programmers Workshop Shell, aka: PWB shell or Mashey Shell developed by John Mashey, was introduced. It was an improved shell compatible with Thompson's 'tsh'. In 1979 another attempt to improve the shell was made by Stephen Bourne at Bell Labs when he introduced the Bourne Shell, aka: 'sh'. It introduced the basic features considered common to all the Unix shells, later Linux shells inclusive, including were documents, command substitution, more generic variables and more extensive builtin control structures. The language, including the use of a reversed keyword to mark the end of a block, was influenced by ALGOL 68. Several other shells were developed such as 'ash' the Almquist Shell, 'csh' the 'C' Shell, 'ksh' or Korn Shell, 'tcsh' or the Tenex 'C' Shell, 'pdksh' or Public domain Korn shell, 'mksh' or MirBSD Korn shell, and the 'zsh'. Many shells to chose from to your liking or not. A new and improved Bourne Shell was released in 1989 known as 'bash' or Bourne-Again Shell and is still used by many Linux users today, 2020.

The Modern Linux OS User Interfaces

There is the GUI, graphical user interface and the Command Line. The GUI uses the typical point and click mouse-pointer system like MS Windows and Mac OSX. Linux aslo uses the non-GUI, no graphical interface, the preferred method of seasoned Linux users and administrators. The command line is the most efficient, fast, and organized way of sending commands to the kernel to perform functions the user wants. Bash uses CLI or command line instructions.

Commands

There are a plethora of things that can be done from the command line. Housekeeping commands used to look at files briefly or with all attributes. Commands to perform functions at a later time; once or repeatedly. Commands to count the number of words in a document file, without opening the file. Arithmetic functions can be performed from the command line. Files can be moved from one directory to another, or from one hard drive to another. Writing a script, like a program, using bash commands, can be done for use at a later time.

You can learn more about the shell, in particular the bash shell, by typing 'man bash' at the command line or from these books "LINUX Command-Line for Beginners: A Comprehensive Step-by-Step Starting Guide to Learn Linux from Scratch to Bash Scripting and Shell Programming" by Mach and Dylan, ISBN-13: 978-1673712551; "The Linux Command Line, 2nd Edition: A Complete Introduction 2nd Edition" by William Schotts, ISBN-13: 978-1593279523. I shall explore these commands with those that attend the Linux for Hams SIG the months that have a 5th Tuesday.

Swap-N-Shop

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 or text to 330-770-5442 [05/02/20]

For Sale: Palstar AT-2K Antenna Tuner. 6 months old. Like new. The AT2K matches dipoles, center fed doublets, Verticals, end-fed wire, delta loops, beams, Windoms, Inverted Vees, and many more antenna types. 6 position antenna selector switch. Peak/Peak Hold metering from the PM2000A has been incorporated into the AT2K. Forward power metering two ranges, 300 & 3,000 watts. SWR measurements displayed with illuminated cross-needle meter. **\$485.**

HA8KF Magnetic Keyer Paddle Iambic keyer with red paddles. Solid brass polished hub on a heavy steel base, variegated black powder coating. Pre-wired with a ¼ in. phone plug. New. \$200. **BaoFeng UV-5R Dual Band** 128 Channels dual-band display, Dual Freq, dual-standby, a/B band operation | High/low TX power, busy Channel lock-out. Tri-color background light, FM radio (65.0MHz-108.0MHz) large LCD display. Keypad Lock: channel step: 2.5/5/6.25/10/12.5/25Khz, voice Companding: 50 ctcss/ 104DCS coder & tone searching. Emergency alert: 25Khz/12.5Khz switchable. LED flashlight: high/low RF power switchable, New in unopened box, **\$25.** **Drake 2B receiver and 2BQ q multiplier.** Antique ham band receiver and speaker q multiplier. Works great for its age. Cabinets need repainted but ok. **\$235.**

Contact Dave, N8NB at 330-501-5031 [05/02/20]

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. [05/02/20]

For Sale: BridgeCom Systems BCH-270 DMR 2M/70CM HT, BGM-270-Cable, & BGM-BCH-270 Spare Battery and Belt Clip \$130.00. **MFJ-9340K 40M Cub QRP Kit** \$125.00. **DX Engineering DXE-SWP8 Memory Keypad** for Kenwood and Icom \$50.00. All items never used.

Contact: Bob, N8QE at: rhajdak@aol.com [03/02/20]

For Sale: MorPower 5-kW continuous, 6,250 kW surge, gasoline generator. 19 years old. I'm getting too old for pull start, Bought new electric start. Generator runs good; I had to use starting fluid to start it. \$225. **You pick up in Brimfield.**

Contact: Rick, WA8TSI at 330-634-0396 [05/02/20]



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 amplifier has ZERO HOURS since being upgraded as it was my back-up amplifier. \$5000.00 **ALPHA 77SX/DX factory Peter W. Dahl transformer** \$550.00 **YAESU FT-857D** radio is basically a new in box radio that was removed from the box to allow for the installation of the 2.3 KHz Collins SSB filter and the TCXO which allows for 0.5 ppm frequency accuracy. I also performed the MARS modification which allows for 1.8-30.0 MHz transmit. After the accessories were installed a MH-59A8J remote control microphone was connected to the radio to test operation and confirm the MARS modification was working as expected. The radio was programmed with the various frequencies I planned to use. Then the radio was returned to the original box. Since I had another FT-857 at the time I did not even touch the power cord. I will sell this radio along with the listed installed accessories and remote control microphone. Also included are the following; ATAS-120A auto tuning mobile antenna with a large 3 magnet MFJ mobile antenna mount, ADMS programming software & cable, Nifty Guide quick reference guide and custom printed spiral bound manual with plastic covers. About \$1500.00 invested selling for

\$1100.00 cash only, No Trades. **Kenwood 4 PIN fused DC Power Cord \$15 ICOM 6 PIN fused DC Power Cord NEW \$20.00**

Contact: James - KD8VT - Call or Text to (330)-206-4909 [03/02/20]

For Sale: Yaesu FT-890 Transceiver, Yaesu YD-148 mic and Pyramid Power Supply – I think I paid \$700 - make me an offer. **Complete station - Heath SB-1400 Transceiver, Heath SBA-1400-4 Power Supply, Sure 444D Mic, MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II** – I paid \$400 – make me an offer. **A whole lot of other stuff to whoever wants it.** Downsizing to move to an Assisted Living with no ham access, so I need to sell or giveaway the above items - **MAKE ME AN OFFER !**

Contact: Rod, N4PKW - rodandmary10@gmail.com [03/02/20]

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 [05/02/20]

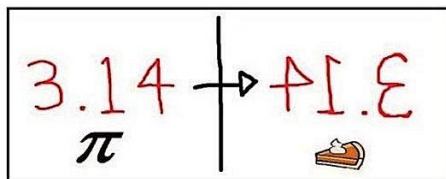
For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS *members only* benefit. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [05/02/20] indicates the ad will run until May 2, 2020.

Pi Day - March 14th

Pi Day is an annual celebration of the mathematical constant π (pi). Pi Day is observed on March 14 (3/14 in the month/day format) since 3, 1, and 4 are the first three significant digits of π . [2][3] In 2009, the United States House of Representatives supported the designation of Pi Day.

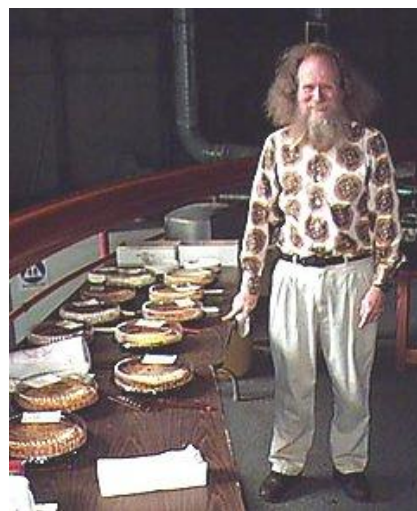
History: In 1988, the earliest known official or large-scale celebration of Pi Day was organized by Larry Shaw (**photo at right**) at the San Francisco Exploratorium, where Shaw worked as a physicist, with staff and public marching around one of its circular spaces, then consuming fruit pies. The Exploratorium continues to hold Pi Day celebrations.

On March 12, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a non-binding resolution (111 H. Res. 224), recognizing March 14, 2009 as National Pi Day. For Pi Day 2010, Google presented a Google Doodle



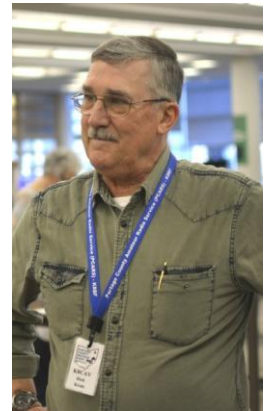
celebrating the holiday, with the word Google laid over images of circles and pi symbols and for the 30th anniversary in 2018, it was a Dominique Ansel pie with the circumference divided by its diameter.

The entire month of March 2014 (3/14) was observed by some as "Pi Month". In the year 2015, March 14 was celebrated as "Super Pi Day". It had special significance, as the date is written as 3/14/15 in month/day/year format. At 9:26:53, the date and time together represented the first 10 digits of π .



Public Service Volunteering

Rick, K8CAV
Portage County Coms Unit Commander



Public service events are broadly defined as events that have some common-good purpose such as a marathon that benefits or brings recognition to cancer research or other similar public-good topic. While these events occur throughout the year, they more commonly take place in the spring, summer, and fall. They typically involve a 'race' of one sort another on foot, bicycle, or other means, and on a course that can be local or regional in scope. They normally take place within a one day time frame though longer races can take place over several days.

In most of these events it is useful for the organizers and directors to know things that are going on during the event and where and when they are happening. It is especially important when they involve safety, health and welfare. Volunteers on the course with cell phones can fulfill these requirements in some cases but depend on good cell coverage in the area and also limit communications to two persons at any given time. Additionally, key persons such as the race director are forced to answer a cell phone call regardless of the priority of the call, which takes attention away from their supervisory responsibilities.

Amateur Radio can address these shortcomings in a number of ways. The use of fixed-base or cross-band repeaters extends reliable local area communications to numerous stations at the same time. Separate nets can be established for specific purposes such as medical, logistics, command, and so forth. Dedicated radio operators can be assigned to key persons to relieve that person of constantly having to monitor communications. Visual communications can be established using video MESH nodes. Wide area coverage can be provided with HF nets. And the list goes on.

Like virtually every other aspect of Amateur Radio, being an effective communicator for public service events requires some knowledge and training. Probably the best place to learn most of the skills you will need is to become involved with your local ARES®, or other amateur radio emergency communications group. If you are new to public service communications and are not comfortable going on an assignment by yourself, ask to be assigned with an experienced operator so that you can 'learn the trade'.

The key to being able to support public service events is **YOU**, the Amateur Radio volunteer. Your time, expertise, and equipment will help provide successful communications infrastructure for these events. Your local club newsletter and e-mail group along with other sources such as the Ohio Section newsletter are good places to check for upcoming public service events. Check them often and whenever you can, volunteer to participate.

Cleveland Marathon - Volunteers Needed



As always, we are looking for a lot of help for the Cleveland Marathon **May 16 and 17**. Yes, it's unfortunately on Hamvention weekend as usual and no, they aren't going to change the date of the marathon just because of that (yes people have suggested that. *Seriously*)

We normally need about 10 people to work the 5k on Saturday ending about noon and about 40 to work the actual Marathon on Sunday ending about 3p. If you are available to help, please sign up. If you need to leave early, that usually is not a problem so please don't be afraid to ask. [Please sign up here.](#)

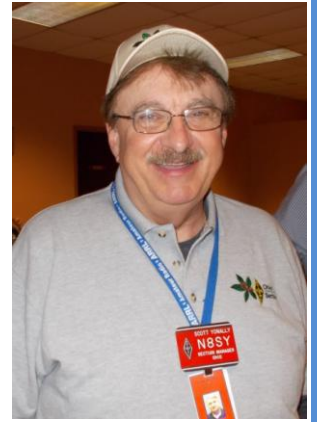
From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Hey Gang...

The clock is ticking fast to get your reservations for the Convention Banquet. If you are planning on going now is the time to get those reservations in to assure your seat at the banquet. Go to: <http://www.toledoglc.org/> for all the details on the banquet as well as the hamfest too!!

Scott, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Wouff Hong Ceremony at the Great Lakes Convention

A Wouff Hong Ceremony will be held just after the ARRL Banquet on Saturday, March 14th

If you are interested in being inducted into the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong we need you to pre-register. This will assure you that you will have a seat at the Conclave. >> [Click Here](#) << to get registered

This past week was absolutely crazy for me! I had a blast attending the Mansfield Mid*Winter Hamfest, then it was on to doing several webinars to help out those other Sections learning “Connect.” Then off to Columbus to meet with the Franklin County ARES group and do a “Connect” program. Then down to Cincinnati for the ARISS program, then over to Mt. Vernon for their Breakfast Club meeting and then back on the phone with several other webinars over this weekend and finally ending the week with a Potluck supper and meeting with the Central Ohio Repeater Club (CORC). What a busy week this was!!

I hope you all read the article from Bob Winston, W2THU our State Government Liaison about the new PROPOSED Texting Bill that was the main topic of discussion by our governor at several press conferences a week or so ago. Yes, Bob and I, as well as several folks at ARRL Headquarters, have been in discussion about this new proposed legislation, and I want to reiterate what Bob has stated in his article, this is not LAW yet, and we will be actively participating in the legislative process throughout the many months that this will take! I’ve received a huge amount of phone calls and emails from folks that are concerned. We too are concerned, but there is a process that we have to follow, and we will be proactively participating in that process. Yes, we have already asked Headquarters to get involved as well.

I will keep everyone informed on the processes through the weekly newsletters to come. At this time if you are interested in reading this very lengthy “Bill” **SB 285** >> [Click Here](#) <<

Now, for those folks that weren’t awake during government classes, This link explains the process that ALL legislation has to take before it becomes law. <https://www.ohiosenate.gov/about/how-a-bill-becomes-a-law>

Update on the furniture move... It seems as though Janie has finally started to leave the furniture where it is, at least for now. I think that’s because she has found something new to move, pictures! Yes, every day some pictures get moved from one wall to the other or just not hung at all. At least I won’t be tripping over them in the dark! Oh well. This process seems like it’s finally starting to come to an end as that we really don’t have that many pictures in the first place!

Moving down the log a bit... I know that this must sound like a broken record, but... “Have you joined or renewed your ARRL dues yet?” If not, why not. The ARRL is your only advocate to keep and expand your amateur radio frequencies. And this is not the only benefit to be a member of the ARRL. Where else will you get insurance as inexpensively as the ARRL provides for its membership? There’s also all of the ARRL awards that you are eligible for as well. Hey, membership to ARRL is less than \$1 per week. Less than a cup of coffee at McDonald’s!!!

Oh, I will also add, ARRL does have a **90-day FREE** trial offer, if you are still not sure if this is something that you would enjoy. What have you got to lose? It’s FREE. Oh, don’t forget that if your YL is a ham you’ll want to get her a membership as well.

Whelp, final go around before gong QRT... That’s going to do it for this week. Stay safe, enjoy the sunshine when we have it, and most of all... have FUN and get on the air!!

Ohio's Recently Proposed Ant-Texting Law



Bob, W2THU
ARRL Ohio Section State Government Liaison



Over the years our state and municipal legislators have proposed and passed laws aimed at preventing motorists from texting while driving. This is good because how can you pay attention to your driving if you're looking down at your mobile phone? Well, you can't. Whenever a new proposal comes up, Scott and I are deluged with comments from Ohio hams wanting to know if the new law will affect their mobile radio use. Typically, we are asked what is the League going to do about it?

When the current anti-texting bill was introduced, we reviewed it and found that it was narrowly written to cover texting only. Presently, texting is only a secondary offense in Ohio, meaning that you have to be stopped for something else before a peace officer can cite you for texting. I wrote in my SGL column in 2018 that "the so-called enhanced penalty is a \$100 fine in addition to the normal fine and court costs. It seems to me that anybody fool enough to text while driving is not going to be dissuaded by another \$100 out of their pocket."

A lot of folks must have seen it that way because last week Gov. DeWine announced on TV that he is supporting Ohio Senate bill **SB-285** that in no uncertain terms bans texting while driving with DUI type penalties. It also makes texting a primary offense. Unfortunately, it is so broadly written that in its present form, it makes it very difficult to operate our ham radios while driving.

SB-285 is a very long read (66 pages) that proposes to amend many sections of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to driving. The problem with the bill from our point of view is that the subject matter is referred to as "any wireless communication device." There are exceptions, but they do not allow the driver to touch the device with any part of their body. Therefore, doesn't this ban holding your microphone while operating your mobile rig, something we've been doing since at least the 1930s?

Curiously, if this is true, **SB-285** doesn't ban holding a microphone that is connected to a PA loudspeaker on top of your truck, because a public address system is clearly not a wireless communications device. This makes no sense.

Crafting legislation is a very difficult process, especially when it attempts to cover so much ground as this bill does. It raises a lot of questions, some of which will have to be resolved in the courts. However, our goal is to lobby the legislature to amend **SB-285** to allow Ohio amateurs to continue the public service it has always provided while operating mobile. In this way we can have an effective anti-texting bill that does not impinge on our great hobby.

Rest assured that your ARRL Ohio section will actively participate in the legislative process, through committee testimony and other means, to carve out an exemption for amateur radio. We support a bill meant to stop texting while driving, but we do not support a bill that outlaw's amateur radio mobile operations in the state of Ohio. If you think you can help, please contact me or Scott.



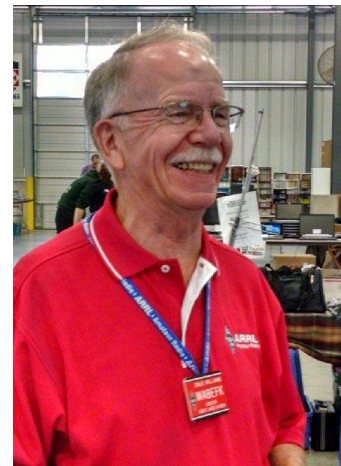
PCARS K8BF
The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



From the Great Lakes Division Director



Dale, WA8EFK
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director



Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales"

ARRL CEO. You may have seen the formal announcement that ARRL is seeking applicants for the position of Chief Executive Officer. A detailed summary of the position is listed at <http://www.arrl.org/employment-opportunities>. The web page also lists the requirements for the position and summarizes the essential job functions. Knowing the diverse nature of the radio amateurs in the Great Lakes Division, I really feel that we do have several well qualified individuals who can easily fit into the position. I urge everyone to look at the opportunity and if you feel you might be interested, take the next step and apply!


All applications must be sent to: ARRL Attn: Monique Levesque, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, Fax: 860-594-0298, mlevesque@arrl.org.

GREAT LAKES DIV. CONVENTION. The 2020 Great Lakes Division ARRL Convention will be held in conjunction with the Toledo Mobile Radio Association's annual hamfest in Perrysburg, OH on March 14 and 15. ARRL President Rick Roderick K5UR will be there to meet members and serve as the keynote. Another special attendee is Bob Heil K9EID of Heil Sound who will be a guest speaker. Check our web pages at: <http://www.toledoglc.org/> for the full details.


Advanced registration and ticket purchase are available now on-line. Be sure to register for the Convention Banquet. Forums and the ARRL Banquet are planned for Saturday, while the Hamfest is on the Sunday agenda.

Rick K5UR will present the latest information about key events happening in ham radio and our ARRL.

Here is a sample of the current planned forum schedule:



Time	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3
0800	Registration		
0830	Event Kickoff		
0900	ARRL Forum - Rick K5UR		
1000	TAPR	Raspberry PI	ARES Tabletop
1100	COMPACtenna	NBEMS	ARES Tabletop
1200	Lunch Break		
1300	Yaesu	Foxhunting	Soldering
1400	YLRL	FT8 & FT4	Clock Kit
1500	ARISS	Contesting	Clock Kit
1600	Bob Heil		
1700	Bob Heil		
1830	ARRL Banquet		
2030	Wouff Hong		



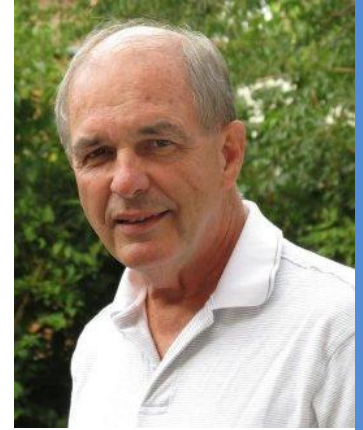
OUR GREAT LAKES DIVISION web page does carry news from some of the recent events in the Division, useful links and information as well as some neat photos supplied from around the Division. Check it out: <http://arrl-greatlakes.org/>

Be sure to check your ARRL Section's news pages for the latest local happenings, club and net information.

From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Tom, W8WTD
ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director



The event of the month for me was the ARISS event in mid-February, where we put some elementary school students in contact with the International Space Station via ham radio. This one took place in the Cincinnati area, so I was able to help in a number of ways. It takes a lot of time and effort to set up one of these contacts.

The students get so excited about it. For months, their teachers work with them on science projects designed to help them understand more about space, experiments, and other things related to the program. They are just thrilled when they hear the astronaut respond to their classmates' questions.

We try to make sure they understand *how* they are talking to the ISS. That this isn't just a phone call, but a ham radio contact. And they get it, in some limited way. At the end of the contact, I was asked to stand up and acknowledge the efforts of the hams, and there was good applause as I read off the names. I was told I could say a few things about ham radio, and one thing I said stood out for them. I told them that anyone can get a license, and that some kids as young as five or six have actually gotten their licenses. I wish you all could have seen the reaction. Many of them smiled and looked at each other as they realized that this was something they could do, too. Afterward, their teachers told us that some of them want to start a ham club. We hope they do, and we'll help however we can.

As I thought more about it, I wondered how we could generate some of that same enthusiasm for ham radio in young people. ARISS is a great program, but there is only one space station, and the crew is busy with lots of things. We're glad they take time for ham radio, but they can't talk to every school. What other things could we as hams do that would point out the "magic" of ham radio for students?

I've seen some of that same spirit in things like Jamboree on the Air, Kids' Day on the Radio, and of course, for those who participate, Field Day (the GOTA station is so important!) But getting them out to those events is the hard part. We haven't figured out if there is anything like an ARISS contact for the whole school, or even a classroom, that would generate the interest in ham radio as science and technology like ARISS does.

A lot of you throughout the Division are working with schools and students in various programs. Keep up the good work. If you have any suggestions for how to get teachers and students interested through some exciting program, I'd love to hear from you.

Great Lakes Division Profile:

The Great Lakes Division is represented by the Division Director, who is assisted by the Vice Director. The Division Director is the voting member of the ARRL Board for the Division. The Division Director also appoints various Assistant Directors within the Division who assist in various tasks.

Within the Great Lakes Division, there are 3 Sections. Each Section is managed by a Section Manager. The Sections are: **Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky.**

The Great Lakes Division currently represents **11,993 ARRL members**, and is comprised of **232 Affiliated Clubs**, with **92 of those clubs having the distinction of Special Service Club designation.**

Tuesday Noon UHF Net

Rick, KD8WCK



The Tuesday Noon UHF Net on the K8IV 444.575 repeater will have its last session at noon on Tuesday March 3, 2020. The net has been a lot of fun and I think we've had the desired result of getting the GRC (Gilmour Radio Club) active on RF at most of their weekly meetings.

The GRC will continue with a bi-weekly net (1st and 3rd Tuesdays) on the W8DES 146.94- (PL 110.9) Chardon repeater so I encourage you to check in with them and continue the on-the-air fun. Megan, WB8IXZ continues to coordinate the net with Ken, KG8DN, and students Charlie and Meghan (and others) serve as Net Control operators.

Special thanks to Ed, K8IV for encouraging the net and thanks to all those who were able to check in and have some fun on the radio! I got to meet some new hams on the air and we all had a great time. The net roster as of session 23 is listed here -- a big THANKS to all (and the last listed checked in on Christmas Eve!)

Call	Name	Log-ins
ND8GA	GRC/Ken Meghan Charlie et. al.	14
KE8HQB	Norm	11
KA8TOA	Greg	7
W8KFW	Karl	5
K8IV	Ed	2
KE8NKL	Josh	2
WA8UWV	Doug	2
KD8IUA	Mike	1
KG8DN	Ken	1
W8AHC	Ron	1

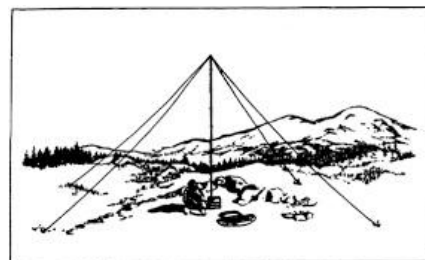
Call	Name	Log-ins
W8KNO	Joe	14
KE8KBJ	Mara	11
W8GWI	Dave	7
WB8IXZ	Megan	5
KC8RKD	Jim	2
N8XTH	Deron	2
K4DKW	Jeff	1
KD8SNM	Jim	1
N8BI	Jac	1
W8AKR	Dave	1

Call	Name	Log-ins
KZ8RLD	Bob	13
K8CAV	Rick	10
WD8KGH	Bill	6
KD8YME	John	3
KE8KZJ	Joe	2
WA8TSI	Rick	2
KB8AMZ	Terry	1
KE8BWA	Andrew	1
N8 KDB	Dave	1
W8SANTA	Nicholas	1

NVIS Day is Coming

Is your station ready to establish and maintain high-reliability communication with other stations around Ohio when repeaters, phone, and internet service are impaired?

When infrastructure just isn't there, HF radio using Near-Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation offers the ability to stay in contact on frequencies of 2–30 MHz for distances of about 30–400 miles. NVIS Day is the ARRL Ohio Section event to test your NVIS antenna designs and builds. Join us on Saturday, April 25th to show how well amateur radio can keep Ohio communicating! This is not a contest: it's an event for Ohio stations to operate with other Ohio stations and understand how well they hear and are heard.



THE DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 25 - Time: Start at 10 A.M., end at 4 P.M.

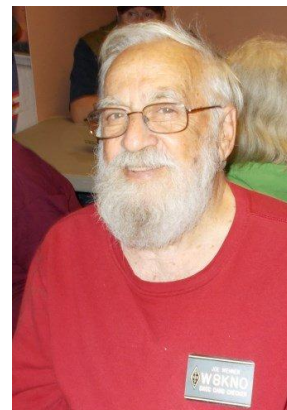
Power: Up to but no more than 100w - Exchange: six-digit grid, power, and true—measured—signal report

Schedule: This isn't a contest, so take your time! Try different designs! Have lunch!



Paper Chase - Alcatraz Island

Joe, W8KNO



You may not remember but last year I wrote about Treasure Island in San Francisco Harbor. This year the same group is sponsoring another special event about the history of San Francisco.

The special event is commemorating the anniversary of the closing of the Federal Penitentiary on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Harbor on March 21, 1963.



I'll be listening for you !

The event will be on the air from 7:00 p.m. Friday March 20th till 7:00 p.m. Tuesday March 31st our time. N6A is the call sign being used and should be found near 3.815, 7.265. 14.265 or 21.265.

To get a QSL, you must send your QSL Card and a SASE, no EQSL or LOTW accepted, to:

N6A - WILL PATTULLO
161 PRESIDENTIAL CIRCLE
HEALDSBURG, CA 95448 USA



PCARS
www.portcars.org



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

AE8YL	Erica	Pelz
K1LTZ	Raiden	Ehrenfried
K8QF	Russ	Conklin
K8SRR	Steve	Randlett
K8WAZ	Patrick	Sullivan
KB3GXB	Jennifer	Williams
KE8BBI	Doug	Daniels
KE8KCJ	Montie	Hardman

N8FUM	Dan	Torchia
N8KEV	Kevin	Settle
W8CYN	James	Shoemaker
W8KNO	Joe	Wehner
WB8HYO	Andrew	Bowell
WB8LCD	Tom	Sly
WX4QZ	Daryl	Stout



Happy Birthday

Smile and embrace your age.
And remember, you're a lot
younger in dog years!



PCARS
www.portcars.org



PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

Greg, KA8TOA

Net Control Coordinator

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

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

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.

March	
5	WB2DFC
12	KE8BWA
19	WB8LCD
26	K8YLK

April	
2	WB8LCD
9	KD8WCK
16	KB8TUY
23	KB8UHN
30	N8QE

May	
7	
14	
21	
28	



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

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

And - don't forget - when you check in to the PCARS net 10 consecutive weeks - you are eligible for a Certificate - suitable for framing. But you have to make it 10 week in a row. Miss one, and you start over again. When you get those 10 check ins, contact me so I can check the logs and get the certificate made up for you.

Hamvention® Tickets On Sale

Online orders for [Dayton Hamvention®](#) 2020 tickets, inside exhibit spaces, and flea market spots can now be placed online. Those who ordered online in 2019 should have their user IDs and passwords available when placing orders. Hamvention's all-volunteer staff will work as quickly as possible to respond to orders.

If you encounter difficulties, email the appropriate committee: [Tickets](#), [Inside Exhibits](#), or [Flea Market](#). Hamvention announced in December that it would be increasing the cost of admission and its booth fees. General admission is now \$26 in advance or \$31 at the gate for all 3 days. The cost of flea market spots has risen by \$5 per space, and inside exhibitors will pay \$30.

Hamvention 2020 takes place May 15 - 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Exhibition Center, 210 Fairground Road, Xenia, Ohio.

Editor's note: DX Engineering will be selling admission tickets for Hamvention® 2020.



Some Notes About Field Day 2020



Tony, WA8AR
Field Day Chairman



Field Day - Flex Station



Rick, K8CAV
Field Day Flex Station Captain



The operator schedule for the Flex Station is three-fourths full, which is great news! The sooner we have all of the slots filled the sooner we can concentrate on training and tactics to increase our contact total during Field Day 2020. I've attached the schedule below so if you see an open spot you want to operate in drop me a line at k8cav.coms@gmail.com. There are also a number of open slots for loggers, who are important to cutting down our QSO time so please consider volunteering for that as well.

As I mentioned last month in the Radiogram, we had 250 digital QSO's at Flex in 2019. That averaged out to just a bit more than four minutes per digital QSO. Based on our best year digitally three years ago, I believe we can set an attainable objective of 500 digital QSO's this year. To do that, we need to have a session with all of our digital operators to train on both the software and techniques to attain that goal. I also think some on-the-air training from our home QTH's would be beneficial. Additionally, making sure that operators and loggers are at the station a few minutes before their shift will help with a smooth, quick transition to minimize dead air time. I'm interested in any suggestions you might have to make our digital operation more successful.

DAY	TIME	MODE	OPERATOR	LOGGER
SAT 27 JUN	14:00 - 16:00	40M FT8 DIGITAL	Jim AC8NT / Rick K8CAV	
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		
SUN 28 JUN	00:00 - 02:00	80M PHONE	Deron N8XTH	Self-Logging
SUN 28 JUN	02:00 - 04:00	80M PHONE	Deron N8XTH	Self-Logging
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		

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 would be willing to log, PLEASE! Let me know what time slots you would be willing to be a logger. A good logger can keep a good operator going at full speed AND a good logger can make a mediocre operator a better operator!

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 in APRIL and/or MAY 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	LOGGER
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	

Field Day - CW Station



George, K3GP
Field 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

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.

Motorola Wins over Hytera in DMR Dispute



MOTOROLA

Illinois Jury Awards Motorola \$764.6M in Theft of Trade Secrets Case Against Hytera

(By Danny Ramey, Radioresource, submitted by Gregory Drezdson, WD9FTZ)

A jury for the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois found in favor of Motorola Solutions in its theft of trade secrets and copyright infringement lawsuit against Hytera Communications, awarding Motorola \$764.6 million in damages.

Of those damages, \$418.8 million is punitive damages and \$345.8 million is compensatory damages. \$764.6 million was the maximum amount that Motorola Solutions had asked for in damages.

Following the verdict, the company is seeking a global injunction that would prevent Hytera from trade secret misappropriation and copyright infringement, a Motorola spokesperson said. "Today's verdicts are a tremendous victory for Motorola Solutions and a clear repudiation of the illegal and anticompetitive tactics employed by Hytera over the last decade."

The company is seeking an initial temporary injunction, as well as a long-term permanent injunction. A hearing to discuss injunctions is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 21.

Motorola sued Hytera in the Illinois district court in 2017 for theft of trade secrets, alleging that several former Motorola employees had illegally downloaded proprietary Motorola documents and brought the documents with them when they went to work for Hytera, which then included Motorola trade secrets in its **Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)** products. Motorola also later added a claim of copyright infringement into the case.

The lawsuit win is the fourth legal win Motorola has scored against Hytera. In 2018, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) ruled that Hytera had infringed several Motorola patents and issued an exclusion order preventing the importation, distribution or sale of Hytera products found infringing the Motorola patents.

Two German courts have also ruled that Hytera infringed Motorola patents and implemented injunctions against those infringing products.

"We presented clear facts and evidence of Hytera's theft and infringement and are pleased the jury found in favor of our client, Motorola Solutions," said Mike De Vries, partner at Kirkland & Ellis, which represented Motorola in the case. "This positive outcome, in combination with the findings of other courts in jurisdictions around the world, further validates Motorola Solutions' global litigation against Hytera. Kirkland is committed to defending our clients' valuable intellectual property."

Skywarn Spotter Training Postponed



Due to another staffing shortage, the National Weather Service Cleveland Office will not be holding any in person Skywarn Spotter Training sessions during spring 2020. They are currently exploring the possibility of other training options.



Please stay tuned to their website for updates. https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN_schedule

Update from N3FJP

Scott, N3FJP



Editors, Note: For those of you that run contests and special events from the PCARS club site - also if you have ever logged at Field Day - then you have seen the contest software from N3FJP. It's easy to learn and use.



Hi All, we have exciting announcements detailing multiple new N3FJP Software features to kick off 2020 and the new decade ahead!

New Versions of All the Contest Software are Now Available!

Upgrades to all the contest software include:

- Filtering of DX spotted digital mode frequencies can be blocked or enabled independently from CW / SSB. Click More Filtering on the DX Spotting set up form to configure.
- Added Tab Sends Message (TSM) option for voice F keys (already existed for CW). Press Ctrl + Shift + G to enable.
- Use Shift (or Ctrl + Shift) + Up / Down, Left / Right arrows to tune your rig's frequency with rig interface enabled (explanation below).
- State QSO Party Programs - State / Province / Country (SPC) field will also accept the county.
- Added Yaesu - Newer 2 option on the rig interface form's rig list to support Yaesu 991, Yaesu 101 D and Yaesu 101 MP.
- User added DX Spotting telnet sites are saved and available for selection in the drop down list on the DX Spotting set up form.
- Added optional filtering for Advanced and Technician frequency privileges (in addition to the already existing General filtering).
- Any unworked call in the Super Check Partial (SCP) list that exactly matches what you've typed in the Call field is highlighted in green (with Super Check Partial enabled).
- Corrected form display anomalies on 4K monitors.
- Passive Mode Option for FTP Web Upload (Settings > Web Upload Status Settings).

By the way, most of these features are already available in Amateur Contact Log 6.6 as well, which I released in November, 2019. As always, upgrades are **free** to registered users! Just uninstall your previous version from Windows Control Panel, install the latest from the program's download link and you will be all set!

Please Submit Your Contest Logs!

Many folks have told me over the years that they love playing in contests, but for a variety of reasons never actually submit their logs to the contest sponsors. Submitting your logs to ARRL and CQ has never been easier and literally takes about two minutes. It's of great benefit to the contest sponsors to get a more accurate assessment of participation. Submitting your log helps me too, as some sponsors track usage of contest logging software. Besides, even if you place at the bottom, it is fun to see where you wind up and it might help you set a goal for next time. You may find out you are doing better than you think! And in response to the questions we always receive when we neglect to include the following in our e-mail announcements...

Package Upgrade Information...

If you have registered one or more individual programs and would like to upgrade to N3FJP's Software Package or N3FJP's Software Package and CD for full use of all our Amateur Radio software, we would be glad to apply the amount that you have registered so far as a credit towards that purchase. Please send us an e-mail directly and we'll let you know your balance. N3FJP's Software Package includes more than one hundred programs for contesting, net management,

general logging and other Amateur Radio related applications. In addition to full use of all these programs, registered package customers are also entitled to receive **free** passwords for any new software that is added to the package and **free** upgrades to existing programs. You'll find all the details on the Register Now page at www.n3fjp.com.

Donations are Gratefully Accepted!

And in response to the often asked question for which Kimberly and I are very grateful...

"I know your upgrades are free, but I also realize how much time and effort coding these enhancements and new programs take and that your pricing policy doesn't fully reflect that. Can I send you something to show my appreciation for your continued efforts?"

Yes, thanks so much, your continued support in any amount is very welcome and deeply appreciated! You can use this page: <http://www.n3fjp.com/donations.html> or send your contribution by mail, payable to **Affirmatech Inc.**, to:

G. Scott Davis - 118 Glenwood Road - Bel Air, MD 21014-5533

Thanks!

As always, thanks for your kind words, support, linking to our web site and spreading the word about our software.

Kimberly and I really appreciate it! <http://www.n3fjp.com> *Serving the Amateur Radio community with contesting and general logging software since 1997.*

Another Editor's Note: We have asked in the past, but so far N3FJP has not made a contest logging program for the contest we sponsor - The Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA). Hey - You can drop him an e-mail (snkdavis@aol.com) and ask for it. Maybe if enough of us do that, Scott will be encouraged to make the program available.

"Outlet Challenge"

'Outlet challenge' could cause fire or serious injury, fire investigators warn

A top fire official is warning parents and children about a new viral challenge. The so-called "outlet challenge" involves partially plugging a phone charger into an outlet and then touching a penny to the exposed prongs. Obviously, this is unsafe -- potentially causing a spark that could lead to a fire.

"It doesn't take much to be electrocuted, fatally electrocuted just by an outlet in a wall socket," Plymouth, Massachusetts, Fire Chief Ed Bradley said.

Bradley's department was called to a local high school Tuesday to investigate a scorched and burned wall outlet. Turns out, two students participating in the outlet challenge were to blame.

It's at least the second public investigation in Massachusetts into outlet challenge fires.

"The electricity propels the charger and the coin--now the coin is molten metal at this point--outwards. It could easily get you in the face or get you in the eye. It could cause blindness and it could cause your clothing to catch on fire," Bradley said. "The other issue can be that you do damage to some electrical wiring behind the wall and a fire could be undetected and burning in the walls, endangering everyone in the building."

Editor's Note: I hate to admit this, but I can remember when I was 3 or 4 years old, I thought if I put a Bobby Pin in the socket, I would see stars. Well, one day I did that and the outlet sparked (not stars). I burned my finger from the heated Bobby Pin and I heard my mom yell from downstairs "What are you doing?". I replied "Nothing". That was the last time I did that stunt.....



Win a Yaesu FT-450D - June 10th

John, KD8MQ

The **Alliance Amateur Radio Club's** 2020 fundraiser will be the raffle of a New Yaesu FT-450D. Money raised from the raffle will go towards our public service projects in the tri-county area.

Winner need not be present to win. The winning ticket will be drawn at our Pre-Field Day Picnic on June 10th, 2020.

Tickets can be purchased in person at any of the Alliance ARCs meetings, or events. We'll also have a table at the following hamfests this year:

- **Tusco (Jan 26th)**
- **Mansfield (Feb 16th)**
- **NOARS Winter Hamfest (March 1st)**
- **Cuyahoga Falls (April 11th)**
- **Dayton Hamvention® (May 15th – 17th)**



Tickets can also be purchased online at w8lky.org (Mailing & Paypal fees added to all online orders).



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.

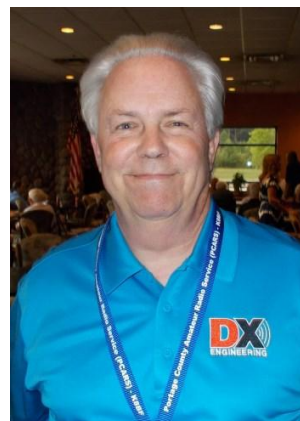
1. Check the PCARS web site every day, maybe a couple of times a day, to see new info that's posted.
2. Join the PCARS IO Group. That's a great place to post message when you are looking for information or have a question about something. Try it - you just may like it!!



Contest University 2020

Tim, K3LR

Contest University Chairman



I am proud to announce that student registration is now open for the **2020 Dayton ConTest University ("CTU")** to be held all day on Thursday May 14, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza in Dayton, Ohio.

Thu, May 14, 2020
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Dayton, Ohio USA

<http://contestuniversity.com> This

is the day before Hamvention opens in Xenia, Ohio.

Registration opened on December 16, 2019 and already 50 testers have signed up! Last year (2019) was a sell out with 350 attending).

Eight different countries have hosted CTUs over the past thirteen years. USA, Australia, Russia, Germany, Italy, England, Brazil and Finland. Over 8500 students have attended these CTUs with more than 100 CTU Professors sharing their contesting experiences. 2020 will be the 14th year in a row for CTU Dayton. To give you an idea of the quality of the CTU content and activities you can see videos and PDFs from past CTUs on the CTU web site.

The 2020 CTU Professor line up will be posted on the CTU website very soon. Thanks to our returning professors NC0B, W0YK, K3LR, W3LPL, N6TV, W3YQ, N0AX and K1DG. You will notice additional NEW professors for 2020 once the posting is complete and posted. CTU professor stalwart Frank, W3LPL is back for CTU 2020 after his sabbatical in 2019. Frank has taught many many sessions at CTU over the past 13 years. The 2020 CTU Dayton course outline will be posted soon. Check the CTU website for updates. Each presentation is carefully prepared with up to date information.

There are scholarships (registration fee paid) available for CTU through a grant from the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) for those students 25 years old and younger. Please use the "contact us" button on the CTU website to get more information. 2020 Student registration information is on the CTU web site <http://contestuniversity.com>

Important - as we did last year - if you want to sign up for CTU 2020 Dayton and you have given (or will give one by Hamvention 2020) a talk about Amateur Radio to any club, Hamfest or group since May 14, 2019 - you qualify for a \$10.00 registration fee discount.

Please choose the "Registration with Club talk discount" option to get the \$10.00 discount. Spreading the word about amateur radio is lots of fun and can save you money at CTU!

Contest University

Thanks to all of the CTU sponsors including Icom America, DX Engineering, the Northern California DX Foundation, YASME, the Radio Club of America and CQ Magazine for making CTU possible. Thanks to K8MNJ and K1SO for all of their help with CTU. Special thanks to Scott, KA9FOX from QTH.com for hosting and constructing the CTU headquarters web site.

Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings to all DXers:

The WX has been somewhat forgiving the past few weeks with enough decent days to get some work done outside. My own antenna/tower projects have been moving ahead with the main tower about half way completed. The 40 meter and the 20 meter antennas are on the mast with only the 2 meter Yagi and a vertical yet to go. Then antenna switch, coax and guys left after that. I'm hoping to be on the air this month if the WX gives us enough days to complete Tower 1. Summer will see Tower 2 work getting serious.

So I am looking forward to see what DX might be lurking on the bands. Maybe I can heat up enough of the either to reconnect with some of my friends in other countries. The question is, do you have friends in other countries? Are you getting on the air and making contacts with whatever DX is available with the current band conditions?

If you need to do any antenna work, then get the repairs or upgrades done. Visit the local "candy store" – you know the one I mean, and get whatever you need to complete the task and **GET ON THE AIR**. Let's see what we can entice you with over 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, K8GI, 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.

March...

3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND (Reminder/Update). David, F8AAN, active as 3B9AN from Rodrigues Is (AF-017) March 9-18th. Activity will be on 80/40/30/20/17 meters CW. QSL via his home call direct or ClubLog's OQRS.

5H, TANZANIA. Chas, NK8O/VE3ISD, will be active as 5H3DX from Zinga, Tanzania, until March 16th. Activity will be from the pediatric hospital at Zinga. Usual operations will be holiday style. Power output will be the legal limit for Tanzania at 100w and the primary antenna should be a Hexbeam configured for 40-6 meters, including the WARC bands. Operations will be primarily CW, with PSK31, FT8 and possibly SSB. He states that he will use a simple wire antenna and his KX3 with a KXPA100 amp. See QSL info on QRZ.com. Also, QSL via LoTW and eQSL. NO Bureau.

6W, SENEGAL (Update/Reminder). Willy, ON4AVT, will once again be active as 6W7/ON4AVT until and March 27th. His main activity will be on 60/40/20/10 meters using mostly FT8/FT4, with some CW and SSB, with a FT-891 with 100 watts into a HyEndFed antenna. QSL via the Bureau.

8Q, MALDIVES. Noel, F6BGC, active as 8Q7NC from Veligandu Is, Rashdoo Atoll, in the Maldives Islands (WW Loc. MJ64MH, IOTA AS-013) March 12-21st. Activity will be holiday style (Suitcase Expedition) on 80-10 m (depending on conditions) with 100w and a vertical, using all modes CW, SSB, and the Digital modes. QSL via F6BGC, direct or LotW.

9J2LA ZAMBIA DXPEDITION NEWS: Some good news have to be shared today. After an endless long process to get our Zambian license we are finally there. We are concentrating on our “boy scout trip” now. We will leave Oslo the 4th of March at 18:45 with a scheduled arrival at Lusaka airport the day after at 12:30 local time. The country has some issues with one of the main power electricity generators. According to our last conversation with the lodge owner, they suffer 4 hours of power cut each evening. For this reason, we are also in the process of purchasing a portable electricity generator as a backup. NOTES: The 9J2LA team is planning to be active from Zambia between March 5-15th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. The update suggested frequencies are: CW - 1826.5*, 3524, 7024, 10124, 14024, 18074, 21024, 24894 and 28024 SSB - 7082, 14185, 18140, 21295, 24955 and 28495 RTTY - 7045, 10142, 14082, 18096, 21082, 24912 and 28082 FT8 - 1844/1908**, 3590, 7060, 10140, 14086, 18104, 21095, 24918 and 28095 6m - 50104/CW and 50313/FT8 (*) 160m: 1826.5 kHz Isn dwn for JA, up for EU, NA and other continents. 9J2LA TEAM plans to use FT8 as the primary data mode. They will use FT8 DXpedition mode, operating as the Fox. If you hear them on the normal FT8 frequencies, they will not be using DXpedition mode and only work one station at the time. CW, SSB, and the Digital modes. QSL via F6BGC, direct or LotW.

EX0, KYRGYSTAN. Operators Yuri/R2DY, Pavel/R2DX and Eugeni RW3FB will be active as EX0QR from the south shore of Issyk Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan, between March 6-17th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Equipment will be 2x Kenwood TS-590, Ameritron ALS-500M and antennas are: SteppIr BigIr (vertical) + 80m, SteppIr 2 Element Yagi antenna (20-6m), 4 element Fix Yagi (30m) and vertical (160/80m). QSL via R2DX, direct, by the Bureau or ClubLog's OQRS.

PACIFIC TOUR. Operators Will/AA4NC and Ron/AA4VK will be active from 4 islands during 2020. Their schedule is: **Solomon Islands** - As H44NC and H44VK between March 1-3rd **Vanuatu** - As YJ0NC between March 3-6th. **Fiji** - As 3D2AA during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7-8th) as a Single-Op-Low-Power entry. Operator will be Will. Activity on most islands will be holiday style on various HF bands. No other details were provided. QSL via EA5GL.

BP0, TAIWAN. Members of the Amateur Radio Taipei (ART) will be active from Taoyuan as BP0P during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 28-29th) as a Multi-2 entry. Operators mentioned are: Tang/BM2AAV, Eddie/BV2DD, Evan/BV2KS and Jie/BV3UB. QSL via BP0P. QSL also OK via ART QSL Service.

CE0Y, EASTER ISLAND. Mike, VE7ACN, active as CE0Y/VE7ACN from Easter Is between March 19-30th (2020). Activity will be on 80-10 m (possibly 160m) using CW and SSB. QSL via VE7ACN, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

P4, ARUBA. John, KK9A, active as P40A from Aruba (SA-036) between March 1-8. Activity on 160-10 m using CW and SSB. Operations will include activity in the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7-8th). QSL via WD9DZV direct.

PY0F, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Stephano, PT2IC, member of Noronha Contest Group (NCG), active as PY0F from Fernando de Noronha Is (SA-003) during ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7-8) as a SO entry. QSL via PY7RP.

T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI (Update/Change). Alex, 5B4ALX, active as T30ET from Tarawa Atoll (OC-017) March 18 - April 7. Activity will be on 160-6 m using CW, SSB, FT8, and RTTY. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

T32, EASTERN KIRIBATI. Ken, KH6QJ, active as T32AZ from Crystal Lodge, Kiritimati Island [Christmas Island](OC-024) March 4-11. Activity on 80/40/20/15/10 m, but will focus on 80 m using mainly SSB, especially in the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7-8) as a Single-Op. QSL via his home call, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

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, until March 5th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters (incl. 60m) using SSB and 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.

V4, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS. Randy, K5ZD, active as V47T from the QTH of V47KP on St. Kitts (NA-104) during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7-8) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via W2RQ direct or LoTW. FT4 and RTTY. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

VP2M, MONTSEERRAT. Charles, K1XX, active as VP2MMF from Gingerbread Hill, Montserrat (NA-103), during the ARRL International DX SSB Contest (March 7-8th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via KU9C or LoTW,

VU4, ANDAMAN ISLANDS. A VU Team (8 operators) will be active as VU4R from Neil Island in the Andaman Islands group (AS-001) during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 28-29th) as a Multi-Op entry. Before and after the contest, the team, which will be there between March 20-31st, will focus on 160/80/40 meters on various modes. QSL via VU2RS, direct or LoTW. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

YJ, VANUATU. Operators Will/AA4NC and AA4VK will be active as YJ0NC from Port Vila, Efate Island (OC-035) during of March 2020. This is part of a South Pacific DXpedition which they will activate 8 country. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands, but will include the ARRL DX Phone Contest (March 7-8th). QSL via AA4NC. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

April...

J8, ST. VINCENT. Brian, GW4DVB, active as J88PI from Palm Island (aka Prune Island, WW Loc. FK92HO, IOTA NA-025), in the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Island group, between April 6-15th. Activity will be holiday style on 40/20/17/15/10/6 meters using CW, SSB, SSTV and FT8. He will use a Yaesu FT991A into a 10m vertical antenna, a M0CVO HW-40HP off center fed dipole and possibly new antennas. QSL via GW4DVB direct only (PayPal available) to: PO Box 20:20, Llanharan, Pontyclun, Wales - UK CF72 9ZA. ADDED NOTE: Palm Island is an exclusive, private-island resort. This idyllic tropical hideaway is situated near the southern tip of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, an idyllic archipelago of 32 tropical islands and cays known for its stunning natural beauty, clear, warm waters and turtles.

GERMAN NORTH POLE DXPEDITION. Operators Martina/DF3TS and Thomas/DC8TM will activate Svalbard as JW/homecalls to start their DXpedition between April 10-13th. They will then be active from a Russian "Severnnyi Polyus" the Scientific Polar Drifting Base (enclave by RFF) approx. 80kms from the North Pole on the Arctic Ocean where they will activate the WWFF area RFF-0176. Operators will use their special callsigns DP0LE (like POLE) and as RA/DC8TM/P and RA/DF3TS/P to represent the Russian flag of the camp between April 14-17th. Activity will be on 40/30/20/17 meters using SSB and FT8. Activity from the North Pole (90 Degrees North) - under DP0LE and DC8TM/P together with Martina DF3TS/P will take place sometime during this time (The exact schedule will depend very much on weather conditions) on 20 meters [14244kHz (+/-)]. !! Activity is limited to approx. 30 minutes!!

OX80/OZ80, GREENLAND AND DENMARK (Special Event). Many Greenlandic and Denmark radio amateur stations will be celebrating the 80th birthday of H.M. The Queen of Denmark in these two DXCC entities. Look for special event stations OX80HM and OZ80HM to be active on all bands until April 16th. QSL via OZ1ACB OQRS. A special royal award will be available. Watch for details on QRZ.com.

May...

4V, HAITI. Operators Paul/G4PVM, Col/MM0NDX and Jonathan/MM0OKG 4V5H Team will be active from Haiti (NA-096) between May 9-15th. Activity will be on 80-15 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. The group is also planning to activate one of Haiti's coastal Islands (NA-149). QSL via EB7DX or ClubLog's OQRS.

FJ, ST. BARTHELEMY. Operators Thierry/F6CUK and Gerard/F6EHJ will be active as FJ/F6CUK and FJ/F6EHJ, respectively, from the QTH of FJ5AB, between May 4-16. Activity on various HF bands using CW and SSB. The duo and FJ5AB are planning to operate from Tintamarre Island (NA-199), St. Martin, sometime, using a special callsign.

HI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Members of the La Loma Del Toro Contest Club will be active as HI3Y during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 30-31st) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. This operation is dedicated to the memory of their good friend and operator Edwin Nunez, HI3K/SK. Operators mentioned are Jamie/WP3A, Julio/HI3A, Lor/HI3Y, Tino/HI3CC, César/HI3CMM and Franky/HI3TT. QSL via LoTW.

IOTA NEWS...

AS-118. Members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society, lead by Essa, 9K2HQ, active as 9K2F from **Failaka Is** between March 11-15. Activity on 80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via 9K2RA or LoTW.

AS-207. (NEW) Members of the Russian Robinson Club (RRC) active as R207RRC from Kosa Dvukh Pilotov Island (RDA CK-05, WW Loc AP18gg, RRA RR-11-05) in the Chukchi Sea Coast Centre group for the first time ever between April 3-10th (estimated dates). Operators mentioned are Victor/UA3AKO, Yuri/UA0KBG and Alexander/ RA3AV. Activity will be on 40/30/20/15 meters using CW, SSB and possibly FT8 (F/H). QSL via UA3AKO, direct, by the Bureau or ClubLog's OQRS. For more details and updates, watch QRZ.com.

There you have it for the next three months. And there is quite a bit I didn't include because of space constraints. Get on the air!! Have some fun making new HAM friends. It's the greatest hobby in the world so why sit back and let the world pass you by. If you are still a Tech, study and upgrade 73 until next month.

CW/QRP & Linux Special Interest Groups

Terry, KB8AMZ

CW & QRP SIG

The 2nd Tuesday, March 10, 2020, will be the next SIG at 1900, 7 PM. As in the past I will have at least 2 rigs setup for Get-On-The-Air CW QRP contacts. If you have never been on the air, know Morse Code or don't have equipment at home, then come to the club site the 2nd Tuesday. Our club has iambic keys at each station. I will have a straight key if you want to borrow one.



Linux for Hams SIG

Our next SIG will meet the 5th Tuesday, March 31, 2020, and discuss the install script that Jason Oleham, KM4ACK has developed to make installation of amateur radio application programs easier once the 'Buster' version of Raspian Linux has been installed. It will be optional that you bring your Raspberry Pi SoC computer and peripherals. You should bring note pad and pen. See you at the SIG starting at 1900 hours, 7 PM, at the club site.

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV

The Digital Special Interest Group will be meeting on Tuesday March 3rd at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

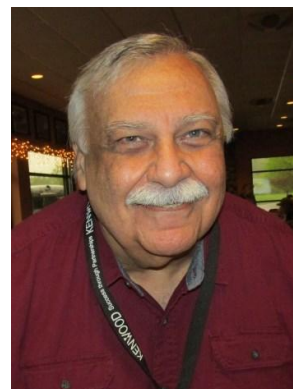
The topic for this month will be using **flmsg** with **fldigi** to generate messages. We'll demonstrate two of the more popular formats, an ARRL Radiogram and an ICS-213.

We'll review all of the various agency forms locations in flmsg, and cover features in flmsg along with file locations for the messages. You can bring the laptop you use for digital communications to make sure everything is set up properly. We can attempt to use acoustical coupling to test different messages. As always we'll make time to help with any questions you may have about digital communications.



DX and Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT



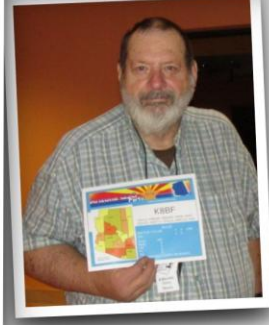
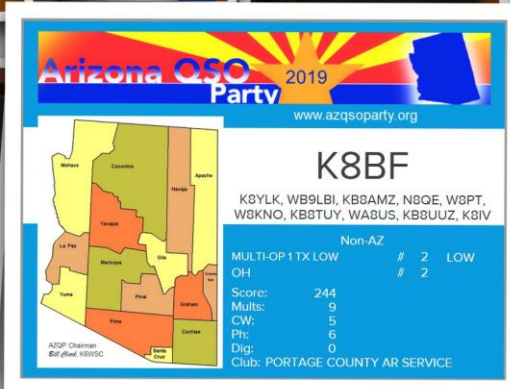
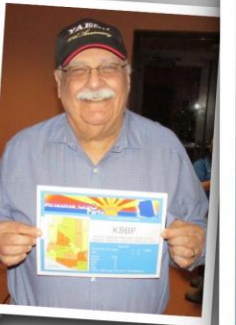
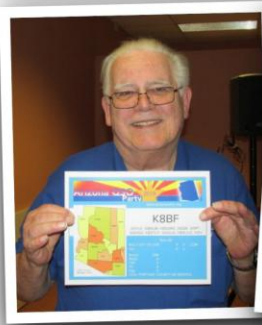
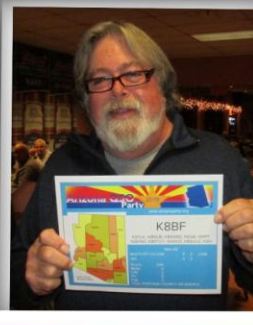
First, I'd like to thank the 16 members who attended the February meeting. As advertised, George, K3GP, presented a concise RTTY instruction to those present. There was a handout for all to follow and copies will be available during the contest.

While discussion was going on after the presentation, George diligently worked setting up two of our IC 7300 rigs with the necessary programs that are used the NA QSO Party RTTY Mode contest.

I also reminded those present that on Mar.14-15, we will be putting K8BF on the air during the Wisconsin QSO party as well as the Idaho QSO Party.







We also discussed the idea of participating during the CQ WW WPX SSB mode contest at the end of March. This contest would require PCARS members to work from their own QTH's, using their own call signs. When they submit their logs, they would list PCARS as their Club Affiliation. There will be more on this contest in the near future.

At the last meeting, participation certificates were handed out to the members present that were active in the last Arizona QSO party.



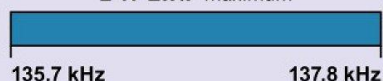
US Amateur Radio Bands

Operator license classes: **E** = Amateur Extra **A** = Advanced **G** = General **T** = Technician **N** = Novice
CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands. Except as noted, all frequencies are in megahertz (MHz).

 = RTTY, data, phone, image
  = USB phone, RTTY, data and CW
  = RTTY and data
  = phone and image
 = SSB phone
 = CW only

LF – Low Frequency band

2200 Meters (135 kHz) E,A,G 1 W EIRP maximum

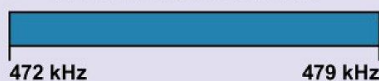


Amateurs wishing to operate on 2200 or 630 meters must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

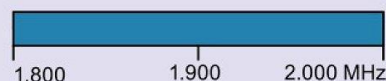
MF – Medium Frequency bands

630 Meters (472 kHz) E,A,G

5 W EIRP max, except in Alaska within 496 miles of Russia where the limit is 1 W EIRP

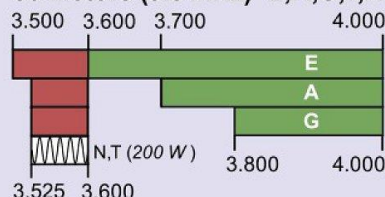


160 Meters (1.8 MHz) E,A,G

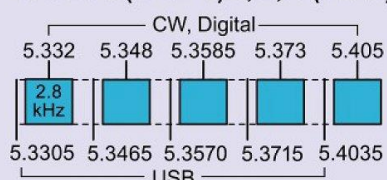


HF – High Frequency bands

80 Meters (3.5 MHz) E,A,G,T,N

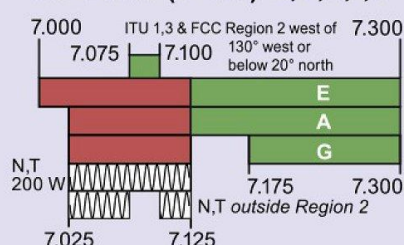


60 Meters (5.3 MHz) E, A, G (100 W)



Gen, Adv, and Extra licensees may operate on a secondary basis with a maximum ERP of 100 W maximum.

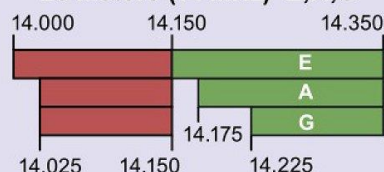
40 Meters (7 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



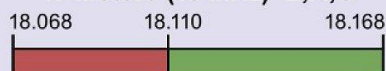
30 Meters (10.1 MHz) E,A,G



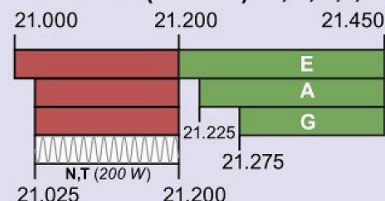
20 Meters (14 MHz) E,A,G



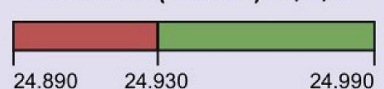
17 Meters (18 MHz) E,A,G



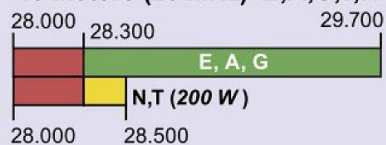
15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



12 Meters (24 MHz) E,A,G

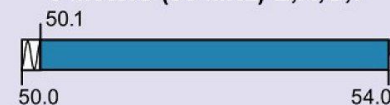


10 Meters (28 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



VHF – Very High Frequency bands

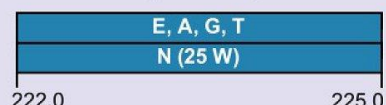
6 Meters (50 MHz) E,A,G,T



2 Meters (144 MHz) E,A,G,T

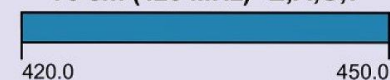


1.25 Meters (222 MHz) E,A,G,T,N

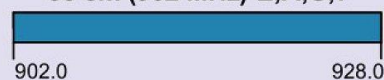


UHF – Ultra High Frequency bands

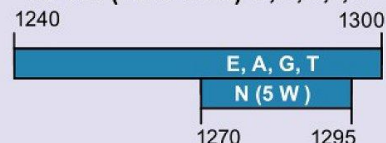
70 cm (420 MHz) E,A,G,T



33 cm (902 MHz) E,A,G,T



23 cm (1240 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



SHF&EHF – Super and Extremely High Frequency bands

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz	3300-3500 MHz	10.0-10.5 GHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	122.25-123.0 GHz	241-250 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	5650-5925 MHz	24.0-24.25 GHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	134-141 GHz	All above 275 GHz

See www.arrl.org/band-plan for detailed band plans.

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OTAbands rev. 11/8/2019

The Importance of Being an Elmer

Rick, WA8TSI
The Old Curmudgeon



You often hear lamentation about the lack of young folks entering our hobby. Why? It gets blamed on computers, video games, smart phones, Internet TV and all manner of diversions. Yet, when I was a kid there were other diversions as well. There are always other hobbies and interests that can pull youngsters away from ham radio.

When I was a kid we had TV, photography, astronomy, RC airplanes and cars, sports, hunting, fishing, camping and a bunch of other “stuff” we could do. So, why land on ham radio? The key was that “Elmer” fellow.

Dad had a CB license (a requirement in those days) so even at age 13 I could get on the radio. It was a neighborhood area in which we communicated. We covered a range of just a few blocks to about a mile. Someone (lost to antiquity) suggested that we should attend a Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club meeting. Well... we did. Dad absconded, but I liked the format, the programs and the group of fellows at the meetings. It was an easy bicycle ride to the meetings until I could drive.

There are some Elmer callsigns that deserve remembering. K8OYQ, Don; K8EIO, Jim; W8IGY, Virgil; W8EZX, Frank Sr.; WA8PHI, John; WA8SXL, Roger; W8PGD, Bruce and many others. Although some, like SXL, were fairly new hams, they were still friendly and helpful. They all made a young man, with an interest in what ham radio was about, feel right at home.

W8IGY and WA8SXL were rabid fox hunters. When I could get a ride, I started going with them on 6 meter transmitter hunts. It was a super summer activity that always concluded at a restaurant. Hamburgers and shakes! Yeah!

Virgil was adamant about the construction of his directional loop antenna. He maintained that it worked well because masking tape was used in its construction. Yes, masking tape. Roger was a nut for construction details and practices. Everything had to be shaped just right and all connections must be soldered with strong silver solder. The gamma capacitor also had to be a certain type. Whether these two guys had the right “secrets” of loop antenna construction, or not, was a good question. Both of them won hunts... and frequently.

Many of the hunters used home brew 6 meter Pack Sets. Pack Sets were a Cuyahoga Falls Club project. I’d love to have one today. (Nostalgia strikes!) They were single-channel crystal-controlled mobile AM transmitters with a tunable receiver. Front mounted FT-243 crystal holders provided TX frequency control. As I recall, a 2E26 final amplifier tube provided about 20 watts of power. The “club channel” was 53.520 MHz.

Military surplus carbon microphones were used to simplify the AM TX audio circuits. These transceivers were super-heterodyne vacuum tube rigs with a 12V vibrator power supply. A vibrating relay broke the DC current and the pulses were applied to a transformer primary. If you were near the rig you could hear its vibrator hum. The transformer secondaries and a series of rectifiers provided high voltage and bias voltage for the tubes. The tube filaments were all heated with 12V DC, directly. They were nice rigs that were all equipped with an S-meter.

It’s fun to reminisce about those days. The Elmer-ing I received as a lad drew me into the hobby. The outgoing nature of the adults and the wealth of information that they provided was habit forming.

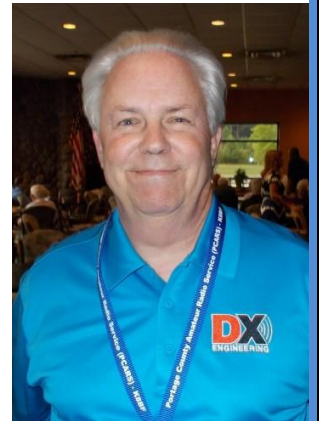
I’m very happy to see that PCARS is reaching out to kids. Ham radio will die if it’s left up to us old codgers. Today’s youth is the future of the hobby. Young minds, new ideas.

It’s important to try to involve our youngsters in Amateur Radio. Display your radio when you can (schools, parks, camping, SPOTA, etc.) Maybe get involved with Scouts Jamboree on the Air. Invite visitors to Field Day. Demonstrate radio on HF, VHF or UHF. Sometimes that’s all it will take to set the hook. Most of all, be friendly and answer questions.

It’s the importance of being Elmer.

K3LR Hosts Youth for CQ WW WPX CW

Tim, K3LR



International All Youth Contesting Team to Compete in CQ WPX CW

Seven youth from 5 countries and 3 continents will meet this **May** at superstation K3LR in West Middlesex, PA and compete for 48 hours in **CQ WPX CW** in hopes to contend for a top finish, inspire more youth radio sport events, and ultimately bring down the average age of today's tester. This group of teens and early 20 something year olds, known as **Team Exuberance CW**, are already accomplished testers with many individual victories.

Team Exuberance CW Operators:

David Samu VE7DZO
Marty Sullaway NN1C
Bruce Yang KN8U
Tomi Varro HA8RT
Philipp Springer DK6SP
Mathias Acevedo Von Frey CE2LR
Bryant Rascol KG5HVO

The **Team Exuberance CW** ops were handpicked for this contest and are all highly skilled and experienced CW operators, especially considering some of the team members are still in high school. Several of them were WRTC 2018 competitors. Tomi HA8RT, age 21 from Hungary, was the 2014 HST champion. Bruce KN8U, age 21 and a student at Georgia Tech, was the World Rookie champion for the CQ WPX CW 2019 contest.

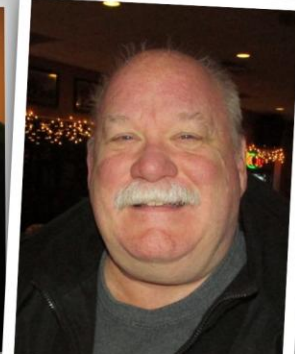
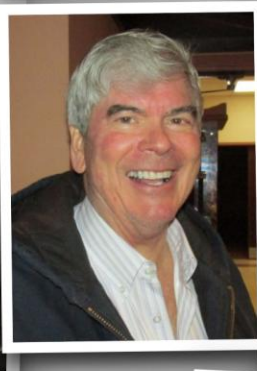
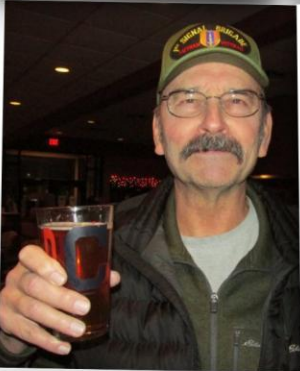
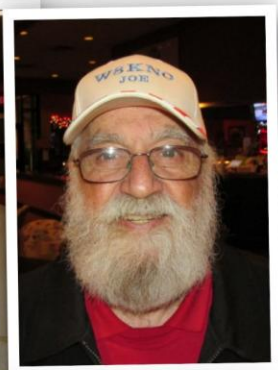
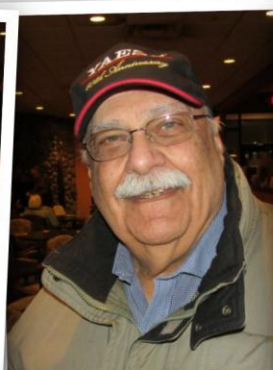
Last year, the first **Team Exuberance** competed at K3LR in CQ WPX SSB. This endeavor was the brainchild of Violetta Latham KK8AT and was totally youth driven and organized. The team managed to win the Multi-2 category for North America but more importantly bring attention to the small but growing and VERY exuberant sect of radio sport enthusiasts under the age of 25. The name **Team Exuberance** was gleaned from the saying "old age and treachery will always beat out youth and exuberance." By winning the Multi-2 category for North America with a score of 22 million points and 5700 QSOs, the team did indeed show that there is a next generation of testers and they are contenders. You can read the article about the operation here <http://www.k3lr.com/youth/QST-Aug-TeamE-Reprint.pdf>

While amateur radio is not a mainstream hobby for today's youth, finding skilled youth CW operators is even more rare. All members of TE CW can copy CW at 50+ wpm, yet they did not have to pass a CW test to earn an amateur radio license. They do it because it's fun and challenging! Those with even very modest low power stations can be competitive testers using CW.

Prior to the contest, the team will be fundraising and publicizing. Currently, there is a GoFundMe page set up to cover team travel expenses. Bryant KG5HVO says, "We hope TE CW will encourage other youth driven events and attract more youth into radio sport." Please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/team-exuberance-cw-2020> Any excess funds will be donated to the David Kalter Youth DX Adventure.

Photos from the February PCARS Meeting





PCARS



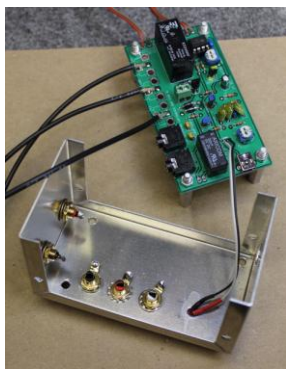
Feb. 10, 2020



Versa-TR Switch Kit

Jeff, WA8SAJ

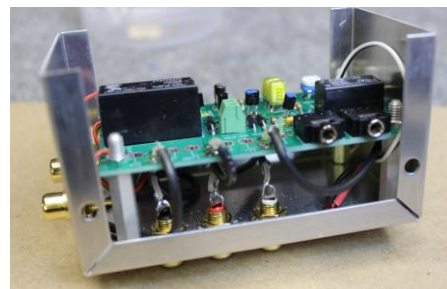
I just finished building a RAN Technology Versa-TR Switch Kit, (sold by Hayseed Hamfest <https://hayseedhamfest.com/>) for an SDR receiver to be used with a transmitter or transceiver.



This RF-actuated switch can be used with any transmitter and receiver - and it especially shines when used with Software Defined Radios!

I decided to put mine in a metal box with additional RCA connectors as seen in the pictures and not use all of theirs.

It will switch the antenna from transmit to receive and mute and older receiver (ground type), and mute the external audio from a computer to speakers for an SDR receiver. Can be R.F. keyed up to 100 watts safely or QRP R.F. keyed, plus an external P.T.T. input is provided to "hard" key the TR switch.



Have fun looking and it sure works great here, I bought 4 of them!



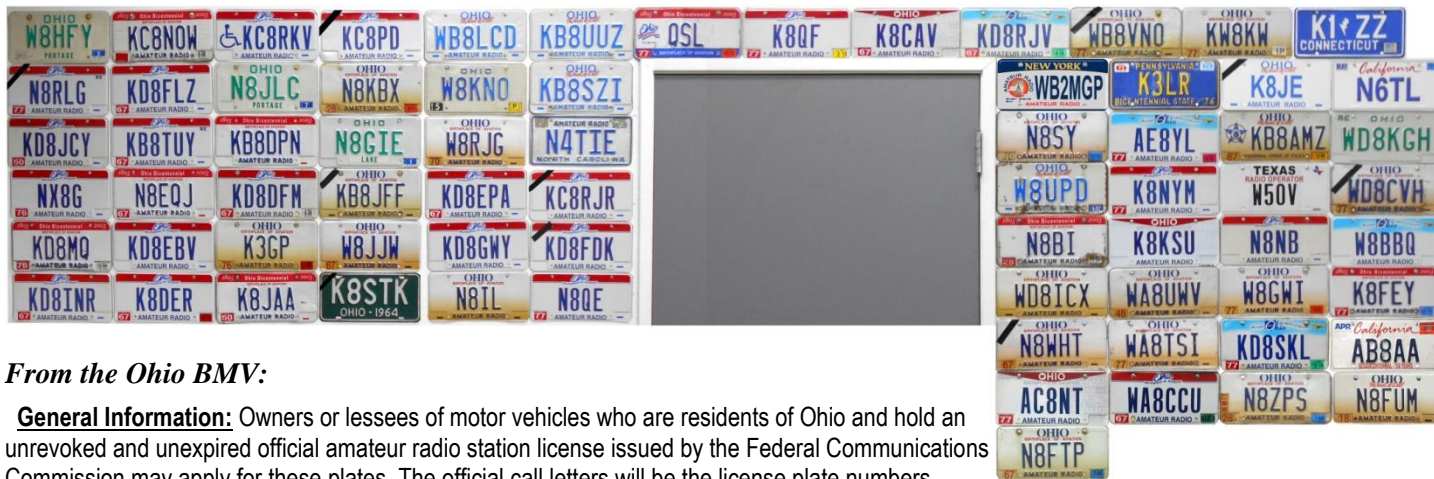
PCARS
www.portcars.org



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.

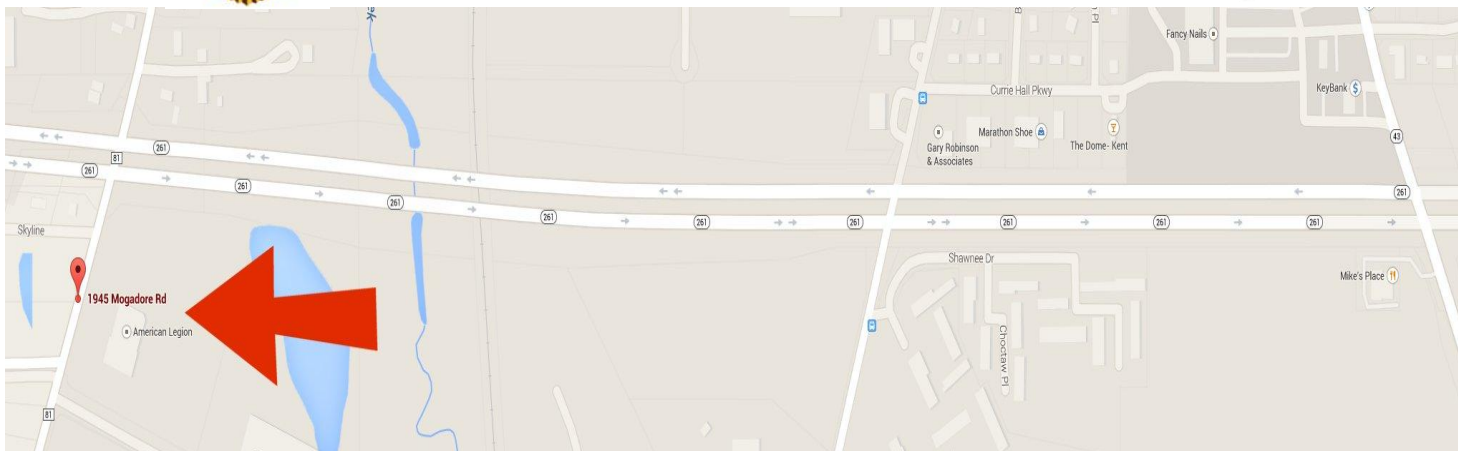


PCARS Meetings

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



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



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



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



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

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

A Few Quotes to Ponder

Dave, NF8R



Let's start with some classics of W.C. Fields.

- "I cook with wine, sometime I even add it to the food."
- "I like to keep a bottle of stimulant handy in case I see a snake, which I also keep handy."
- "A woman drove me to drink and I didn't even have the decency to thank her."
- "Reminds of my safari in Africa. Some fool lost the corkscrew and we had to survive on food and water for three days."
- "I drink therefore I am."
- "Drown in a vat of whisky. Death where is thy sting?"
- "Some weasel stole the cork out of my lunch."
- "I exercise strong self control. I never drink anything stronger than gin before breakfast."
- "I never drink water because of the disgusting things that fish do in it."

And there are plenty of other wits to amuse us.

- "When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading."—Henny Youngman
- "Without question the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you that the wheel was also a fine invention but the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza."—Dave Barry
- "I drink to make other people more interesting."—Hemingway
- "It only takes one drink to get me drunk—the trouble is, I can't remember if it's the thirteenth or the fourteenth."—George Burns
- "Alcohol may be man's worst enemy, but the bible says love your enemy."—Frank Sinatra
- "I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy."—Dorothy Parker
- "It is the wine that leads men on, the wild wine that sets the wisest man to sing at the top of his lungs, laugh like a fool—it drives a man to dancing—it even leads him to bleat out stories better never told."—Homer
- "An alcoholic is someone you don't like who drinks as much as you do."—Dylan Thomas



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



PCARS
www.portcars.org





Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.

Hamvention 2020

Saturday, May 16, 2020 - 5:30 AM



Don't miss this year's PARF Bus Trip to the world's largest topical conference and product exhibition. Save on gas, parking, and walking by riding with us! Leave the driving to us, and you can come and go to the flea market with your great purchases and leave them on the bus. This event takes place at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio.

(Due to dissolution of the club, this will be PARF's final Hamvention bus trip.)

You can save \$20* if you book before April 15th.

The cost of the **Bus & Entrance ticket** to the Hamvention:
\$85* before April 15, 2020

The cost of the **Bus Only** to the Hamvention:
\$65* after April 15, 2020

(You will be responsible for getting your own entry ticket -
see <https://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/#> for more information.)

The above pricing does not include driver's tip for which a hat will be passed.

P.A.R.F. reserves the right to cancel this trip should a minimum of 25 riders not be secured by April 15th. If that happens, a full refund will be made. Otherwise, cancellation by you at any time results in a \$5 deduction of refund for handling.

We will take riders right up to departure that morning (if there are seats available) on a first come, first served basis.

Departure time is 5:30 AM SHARP, so please be on time so you don't miss the bus!

There will be a stop for breakfast @ McDonald's & a dinner stop @ Golden Corral Buffet (both out of pocket expense).

To Order - Complete application & send with check/money order (*payable to "PARF"*) to:

Joy Spencer c/o PARF
2101 Bigelow St
Akron, OH 44314
Or call 330-745-5115
E-mail: KA8TDF@arrl.net

NEW THIS YEAR:

Transportation provider: D&L Charter

This bus is a smoke free bus, so there will be no smoking permitted.

Location of Departure - Walmart, 2887 S. Arlington Road, Akron OH 44312

(Park in spaces across from Applebee's.)

*Parking (as always) is **at your own risk**, but this location is commonly used by a variety of bus companies.*

Please pass the word out to all of your ham friends & computer geeks.

PARF Uses Repeater 147.135

Web Site: www.qsl.net/w8ctt

Great Lakes Division Convention and Hamfest 2020

Sponsored by Toledo Mobile Radio Association



March 14-15 - Toledo Hamfest, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

**Meet and talk with Rick Roderick, K5UR President of ARRL and
Bob Heil, K9EID from Heil Sound Company**

For more information go to: <http://www.toledoglc.org/>

Wouff Hong Ceremony



A Wouff Hong Ceremony will be held just after the ARRL Banquet on Saturday, March 14th. If you are interested in being inducted into the **Royal Order of the Wouff Hong** we need you to pre-register. This will assure you that you will have a seat at the Conclave. [>>> Click Here <<](#) to get registered

Thanks & 73



Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club with plenty of activities. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great for 2020 and beyond.

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

WB8LCD, AC8QG, KB8UUZ, KE8EGF, WX4QZ, KE4UHC, KB8AMZ, K8CAV, N8SY, W2THU, WA8EFK, W8WTD, KD8WCK, W8KNO, KA8TOA, K3GP, N3FJP, KD8MQ, K3LR, W8PT, WA8TSI, WA8SAJ, KA8OAD, NF8R, The ARRL, and the World-Wide Web.

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



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

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



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

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

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

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



~ 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 WAS, VUCC, WAC	W8KNO Joe Wehner
		Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV Rick Kruis
		Contest Coordinator	W8PT Chuck Patellis
		EchoLink & Web Guru	K8SRR Steve Randlett
		Field Day Chairman, 2020	WA8AR Tony Romito
		FYAO Chairman	W8PT Chuck Patellis
		Historian	KB8SZI Peggy Parkinson
		K8BF Callsign Trustee	KD8SKL Amy Leggiero
		K8BF QSL Manager	KD8SKL Amy Leggiero
		Membership Chairman	AC8NT Jim Wilson
		Net Control Manager	KA8TOA Greg Ash
		Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD Tom Sly
		Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
~ Meetings & Net ~		OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
2nd Monday of each month, 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895		Public Information Officer	
		Secretary	N8WCP Mike Szabo
		Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT Jim Wilson
		Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
		Webmasters	KD8MQ John Myers K8SRR Steve Randlett



PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members

KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
WB8LCD	Tom Sly
N8XTH	Deron Boring
N8PXW	Jim Korenz
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
K8IV	Ed Polack
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, 2011 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017.** Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KB8UUZ@gmail.com. The **RADIOGRAM** always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is common! seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel – think PCARS!**

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



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NLC

