



The **RADIOGRAM**

When All Else Fails ~ Amateur Radio Works

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

PCARS - the 2018 Hamvention® Club of The Year

September 2019 - Volume 14 Number 9



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



13th Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air



September 12th 2020



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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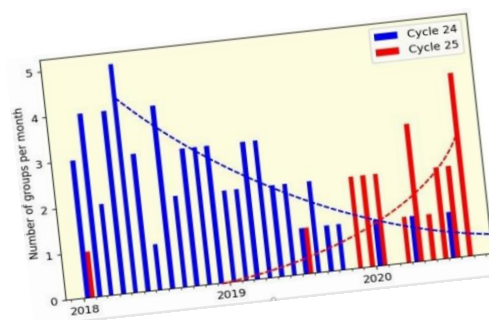
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From the Editor: You will see some humor based cartoons about the COVID-19. Yes, I agree that this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please



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From the President

Tom, WB8LCD

PCARS President



Congratulations! You have all successfully survived another month of this train wreck we call 2020! Let's see what the rest of the year has in store for us.....

An important election will soon be upon us. Per a recent PCARS QST:

- In the Great Lakes Division, incumbent Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, who has held the seat since 2014, will face off against Michael Kalter, W8CI, who is treasurer of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association.
- In the Great Lakes Division, members will choose from among three candidates to succeed incumbent Vice Director Thomas Delaney, W8WTD, who is not running for another term. They are current Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY; Jim Hessler, K8JH, who is vice president of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association, and Frank Piper, KI8GW, Yonally's predecessor as Ohio Section Manager.

If you are a member of the ARRL – Please Vote! Both of these positions are important to the ARRL, both are important to the Great Lakes Division, both are important to us in the Ohio Section, and both are important to the future of Amateur Radio. Not voting is not an option. The ARRL will mail you a ballot.

If you are not a member of the ARRL, I would like to ask you to join. Not because they are the perfect organization, and not because they make everybody happy all of the time. Because they are the **ONLY** organization that represents the interests of Amateur Radio to our government regulators and to industry – both of whom would love to have our frequency allocations! Use the ARRL membership application (on page 44) and if you send it to our treasurer, Paul, KE8EGF, then PCARS will make a commission on your ARRL application! Both new and renewal.

We've got some interesting meetings coming up. Monday September 14 – Gordon West, WB6NOA. Gordon is always an interesting speaker. Sometimes he can be a bit eccentric too! We'll just have to see..... Monday October 12 – Anthony Luscre, K8ZT. Anthony will be talking about techniques for working DXCC and WAS (could also be applied to county hunting, IOTA and other similar types of operating. Monday November 9 is our annual big meeting for the benefit of F&CS. Not sure exactly how that is going to look this year, but hey, we're PCARS – it's going to be spectacular! Stay tuned. Monday December 14 will be our annual Christmas party/dinner and I'm sure we'll have a lot to look back on for 2020. In the meantime, we've got OSPOTA coming up really quick – September 12, some other operating events and zip – 2020 is gone!

In the future, I see us getting back together again, but it will be different. I can see lots of events being a combination of “in person” and / or “virtually” and that actually gives us more options as to how we market out club to potential members. A local club will have the ability to draw on membership from a much larger area as programs will be available without the travel time necessary to participate.

Things have changed a lot over the first 8 months of 2020, and I'm sure that 2021 will continue to necessitate many changes to the ways we do things. Change can actually be a good thing. Usually with change comes opportunity. If you see an opportunity to take advantage of the changes we are experiencing for the benefit of PCARS, be sure to let us know. The last thing we want to have happen is for PCARS to become a bunch of old hams who just talk about the way it used to be and wonder how it all passed us by.

From the Vice President

Nick, AC8QG
PCARS Vice President



The 2020 Mobile Cruise-In was a big success in my opinion. In this COVID-19 world, it was nice to see a few people in-person, even if it was through masks and at a distance. It was great that we could get together outside and enjoy some excellent Northeast Ohio weather.

Another success was the BB-QSO Party. This was a much smaller gathering than in years past, but it was fun. It was nice to see the club site in full use once again. It was also a reminder that we're still a little ways away from normal. For those of you who made it out, it was great to see you. For everybody that couldn't come out, we missed you and look forward to the future when we can all hang out together once again!



This year, two of my kids got on the air for the Ohio QSO Party. They didn't spend a lot of time on air, and they didn't make a lot of Qs, but this contest was nonetheless special for them. Agnes KE8LWP and Ben AD8FQ both made their first CW QSOs. They've been working hard on their CW skills all summer, and seeing the look of excitement on their faces was priceless! Thank you to everyone who has encouraged them along the way!

This month our meeting speaker is Gordon West WB6NOA. "Gordo" is partially responsible for my involvement in amateur radio. At age 11 I read and studied his "No-Code Plus" prep book that my dad used to prepare for his license exam. Of course, it took me until I was 30 to actually get my own license. That was when my dad gave me that old book and I finally decided to go for it. I'm really excited for the opportunity to welcome Gordon via Zoom to a PCARS meeting! I hope you can join us virtually or in-person this month.

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!

Although we are resuming in-person activities, many regular events are canceled or will be conducted virtually. Even events that are scheduled to be in-person may be canceled or moved to virtual. Please read this newsletter, join our weekly on-air club net, and watch for QST emails so you can stay up to date.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



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Schedule of Events

On the calendar for upcoming meetings and activities are:

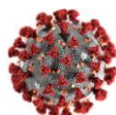


- September 8th - Board Meeting - starts at 7 pm
- September 12th - Ohio State Parks On The Air contest (OSPOTA)
- September 14th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Gordon West, WB6NOA
- September 24th - Net Night at the Club Site
- October 5th - Board Meeting - starts at 7 pm
- October 12th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Anthony Luscre K8ZT - Top Secret DXCC & WAS Techniques
- October 22nd - Net Night at the Club Site
- November 9th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Election of officers and Center of Hope fundraiser
- December 14th - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm - Christmas social

NOTE: All In-Person Activities & Meetings

Subject To Cancellation

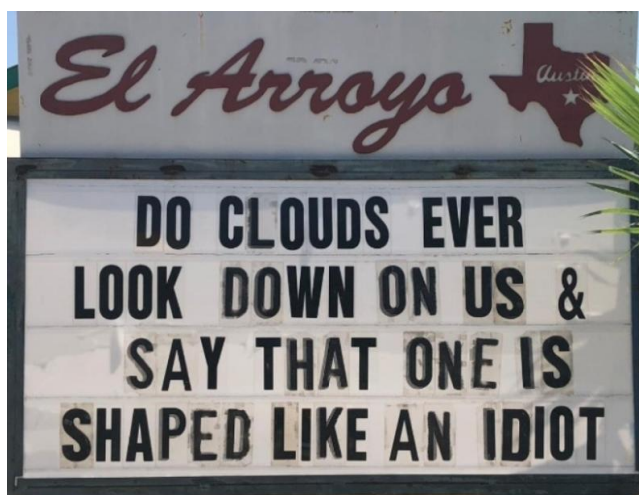
Check Web Site for Updates



- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 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 |



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



New ARRL CEO - David Minster, NA2AA



From the ARRL

Board of Directors Elects New ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA
08/27/2020

The ARRL Board of Directors has elected David Minster, NA2AA, of Wayne, New Jersey, as ARRL's new Chief Executive Officer, starting on September 28. Minster is currently Managing Partner at Talentrian Partners, a management consulting firm serving the consumer goods and luxury goods industries.



Minster began his career as a software engineer, moving into management at Unilever, as a Chief Information Officer of this globally recognized portfolio of brands that includes Elizabeth Arden Company, Chesebrough-Ponds Canada, Thomas J. Lipton Co., and others. From there, he moved to fine jewelry manufacturer and retailer David Yurman, where he served as COO and CIO. More recently, Minster served as CEO of jewelry brands Scott Kay and Judith Ripka.

"Building a culture of accomplishment and accountability is what I do best. My initial focus will be working with the Board on establishing strategic goals and concrete plans to navigate ARRL through the digital transformation required for the coming decades of its Second Century. This includes exciting and innovative ways to be engaged in amateur radio, while growing activity and membership."

Minster got his Novice license, WB2MAE, in 1977, when he was in his teens. He progressed from Advanced to Amateur Extra and, after a stint as NW2D, he settled on the vanity call sign NA2AA in the 1990s as a way to honor a mentor, N2AA, and the contest station that he used to frequent, K2GL, in Tuxedo Park, New York.

Minster's ham radio pursuits have ranged far and wide over the years. His background includes National Traffic System training and participation in public service events, as well as contesting from home, club stations, and contest stations in the Caribbean — particularly on Bonaire, where he is a member of PJ4G. Primarily a CW operator, Minster collects unique and vintage bugs and keys.

Minster earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from The Ohio State University and has a special interest in satellites, digital communications, remote operation, and ham radio computing and software. He has written keyer software for the commercial market, and contest logging, packet, and satellite telemetry software for personal use.

In addition to being an ARRL member, Minster is a member of AMSAT, the Frankford Radio Club, the Straight Key Century Club, CWops, and the North American QRP CW Club.

"I spend every day of my life, one way or another, engaged in amateur radio. It is more than just a hobby for me; it is my community. It is where I live; where I have built lifelong friendships, and friendships that span the globe. Amateur radio allows me to dream and to experiment. I can't wait to bring my energy and boundless enthusiasm in service to ARRL."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said, "We are excited to welcome David as our new CEO, and look forward to his progressive leadership. His experience in management and operations, plus his activities in amateur radio, will serve our organization and members well."

Minster will succeed Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, who was CEO in 2018, and who has been serving as ARRL's Interim CEO since January 2020. Shelley had been ARRL's Chief Financial Officer since January 1992.

The following was copied from his QRZ.Com page:

NA2AA  USA
DAVID A MINSTER

Important QSLing note: I'm not sure why there is any contention about uploading logs to LoTW so that others can enjoy chasing ARRL and CQ awards! There are well known DXpedition ops who REFUSE to QSL electronically. My logs get uploaded no more than a day or two after making the contact. Most the same day. *PLEASE consider using ARRL LoTW if not for yourself, for others like me who chase awards - electronically. And if you are a DX station and need help with LoTW, email me and I will be happy to help!*



Since first licensed in 1977 as [WB2MAE](#), I have always found amateur radio an effective 'diversion' from the pressures of life. The trip from Novice to Advanced took place over a 12 month period while at Ramapo High School (@ WA2UYB), finally upgrading to Extra in 1983 as a diversion from school work while attending The Ohio State University (@ W8LT).

I was next licensed as [NW2D](#). At that time, I was interested in contesting and computing, spending a good deal of time at N2AA (K2GL QTH at the top of Tuxedo Park, NY) working on antennas. A duping program was soon written and run during the 1987 CQWW. Raw scores had always been shared on 3830 after the contest. That year, the score was reported clean. Within a matter of 3 minutes after the close of the contest. Custom logging programs followed including CQWW, ARRL SS, and ARRL DX that were only shared with close friends KR2J (now W5OV) and WI2W. Another software success was the Jersey City Keyer. Written for beginners and teachers, DXers and seasoned testers, this PC based program did it all and so MFJ bought it!

When the vanity pool opened up, David decided to take a call that was reminiscent of the big contesting days: [NA2AA](#)

David's home station is fairly simple - given the bias against towers in his town! The station comprises of 2 Elecraft K3's linked by a [microHAM MK2R+](#) along with an OM Power 2000+ amplifier into an OCF dipole at 50' for 10-40m and a full sized 80m vertical made from a [60' Spiderbeam](#) aluminum push up mast with the incredible [DX Engineering tilt over base](#). For Satellite, a Yaesu FT847 into circularly polarized [Cushcraft A27010S](#) yagis with [SSB preamps](#) and a Yaesu G5500 rotor with an [LVB tracker](#) for automated tracking. For digital, the MK2R+ has great sound cards, and for the FT847 or when operating from Bonaire, David uses the RigExpert TI-5 which again has an excellent sound card. It has held up very well running RTTY pile-ups from PJ4 into Japan where the pile-up was over 20KHz wide! David's digital activities from home center around FT8.

David is also a bit of a CW fanatic. More than 90% of his contacts (not including the many thousands of phone contacts from PJ4) are all using CW. His favorite paddle is - far and away - the [Begali Pearl](#). He uses the 'camo' version with the K3's and a 'chrome' version with the FT847. Nothing comes close in feel or size - or beauty in engineering.

David loves listening to code and is a collector. He collects Vibroplex Bugs and Electric Specialty Mfg 'Cedar Rapid Bugs'. His favorite is his [Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original](#) bug with the [VariSpeed arm](#) accessory. David is always on the lookout for pre World War 2 Vibroplex bugs in exceptional condition, as well as some of their rare models or odd-ball color bases. And the Cedar Rapids bug is cool as it seems to be the only one ever offered in kit form! Again, he is always on the lookout for those bugs in excellent to new condition. His Cedar Rapids bug collection includes original boxes, a metal carrying case, and documentation.

David belongs to the following CW organizations: (come on people, KNOW CODE!)

CW Ops (Life Member) # 1198 (see cwops.org)

NAQCC (Life Member) # 6781 (see naqcc.info)

SKCC (Life member) #10947 (see skccgroup.com)

David is also a member of the ARRL, AMSAT, and the Frankford Radio Club. GO FRC! See you on the air!



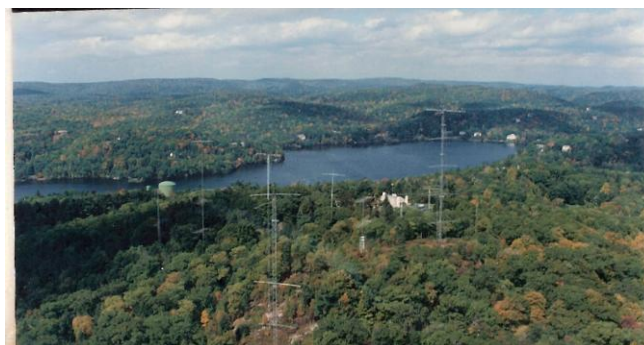
Using his FT1000MP as V26AA on 15 meters at V26B for CQWW DX SSB 2001.

Running 2m for ARRL 2001 June VHF Contest at K2BAR from the top of Nike Overlook Park in FN31ab.



Running a pile-up on 6m for ARRL 2003 January VHF Sweepstakes at W2DTA's new station in FN20wv. Tony is on 2m. (Sadly Tony is now a SK) He was a very hard worker, a ham radio fanatic, and a great friend.

This was the view of the antenna farm at K2GL in Tuxedo Park, NY circa 1985. The first super station David ever had the opportunity to operate from. Some interesting antennas? Look just to the lower left of the house. That is stacked 10 over 10 element yagis on 10 meters! A laser beam to Asia! Just beside the house was 5 over 5 element yagis on a Big Bertha rotatable tower. Just amazing antennas! And radios! And operators!





Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Hello OSPOTA fans and participants

The 2020 **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest (OSPOTA) is coming up really soon - on September 12th many of you will be making the trip to one of the beautiful Ohio State Parks to set up and get on the air - We will be listening for you!

This year with the COVID-19 situation We're asking that you take adequate precautions if you are near others. Our club has been enforcing the rule - Bring your own Headphones or Microphone and Headset. Being an outdoor (if you are in an Ohio State Park) makes it a bit easier to ensure all are safe and we get nothing but FUN.

There are also a number of participants not at Ohio State Parks that will also be counting on you to be there so they can make contact with you. Also you will run into regular POTA (Parks On The Air) participants - They will be asking for your POTA number as well as your OSPOTA designator.

STORIES - PICTURES - LOGS

Stories:

How about taking a few notes on your set up and operation, then send them in with your log so I can publish that in the PCARS newsletter?

Pictures:

TAKE PICTURES - it's always nice to look over pictures after an event to remember the fun had by all that attended. This also goes for those of you not at a State Park - a photo of you while at the station making contacts is great! Send those pictures in as well, please!

LOG & SUMMARY SHEET:

PLEASE - don't forget to send in your Log and Summary Sheet. All the info on what should be in the log is outlined in the rules, so I won't repeat it here. **Note:** - No paper paper logs - starting with 2020 we will only accept Cabrillo file log entries.

FUN FUN FUN

Most of all, get out there and **have fun with amateur radio**. Our hobby is fantastic and the fun of making contacts is just super.

When at an Ohio State Park, make sure you are polite and try to get the Park Rangers involved - have them make a contact or two, you never know how much that will go for good relations between amateur radio operators and Park Rangers.

And make sure when you leave, your area is cleaner than you found it. Park Rangers remember that type of thing for future visits by amateur radio ops.

Enjoy your trip and visit to an Ohio State Park - Be Safe - Keep 6 feet apart - Enjoy making contacts with Ohio State Parks - Enjoy this hobby of ours.

I will be listening for you and looking forward to getting your stories, photos and logs.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the **13th Annual “Ohio State Parks On the Air” (OSPOTA)** contest, from the hours of 10 am to 6 pm EST (1400 UTC to 2200 UTC).

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

Always the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.



For hams throughout the State of Ohio, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the 75 beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. Don't just make a day of it - spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets. Find out more about the Ohio State Parks at: <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/>

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

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

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

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

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



So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** in September. Have some fun with this contest! Learn more about PCARS at www.portcars.org.



73 for now,
OSPOTA Contest Committee

January 12, 2020



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Cooperation between the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

- *Is there a formal partnership between PCARS and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for the Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest?*

PCARS has no formal partnership with ODNR for this contest, nor does a Memorandum of Understanding exist between PCARS and ODNR. However, PCARS has been in communication with ODNR in the past, concerning OSPOTA since early 2008 when the contest was started. We have worked with ODNR to ensure that as many Ohio State Park staff as possible are aware this Amateur Radio contest exists.

Radio amateurs have operated from Ohio State Parks for decades, and the vast majority of these operations were positive experiences from the perspective of both ODNR and the amateurs.

- *Can I use trees at an Ohio State Park to hold up wire antennas?*

This will vary from site to site. Some sites specifically prohibit tying any ropes to trees. We strongly suggest doing research before activating an Ohio State Park and bringing a portable mast for your antenna, in case using trees is prohibited. Always check with the Park Rangers first before setting anything up.

- *Do I need a special use permit to operate my Amateur Radio station in a Ohio State Park?*

This will vary from State Park to State Park. A lot will depend on your operating style. If you plan on operating strictly from your vehicle with a mobile antenna on the roof, or with a small station in a campground, you may not need a special use permit. If you are planning a large operation with big antennas, or want to operate from an Ohio State Park that may be deemed as “sensitive,” the odds you will need a special use permit increase dramatically. Do not expect to roll in to an Ohio State Park with a tower trailer and a kilowatt HF station without prior approval. If you have any doubts, ask the Park Rangers in advance.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Best Practices as an OSPOTA Participant

- *Cooperate with ODNR staff at all times*

As an OSPOTA participant, it is absolutely critical that you communicate politely, honestly and openly and cooperate with all ODNR staff, rangers, and volunteers. We are *visitors* to the Ohio State Park, just like any other person or group, and we do not receive special consideration or priority because of our role as Amateur Radio operators. ODNR reserves the right to enforce their rules as they deem appropriate.

Despite PCARS' best effort, it is possible you will encounter an ODNR staff member who is not familiar with the OSPOTA contest. We have provided a one-page handout you can download on the OSPOTA web page or OSPOTA IO Group site to help explain to ODNR staff what OSPOTA is. Emphasize that this is a way the Amateur Radio community is helping ODNR to promote their Ohio State Park, and that amateurs worldwide are eagerly trying to make a radio contact with all Ohio State Parks.

Be friendly and engage with all Ohio State Park employees you encounter, not just the ones at the Ranger Station or visitor's office. Invite them to visit your site to show them what you are doing. Let one of the Rangers make a contact on your radio. This can go a long way in having the Rangers actually see and hear what you are doing.

- *Do not disrupt the enjoyment of non-amateur visitors*

Part of this contest is to help showcase Amateur Radio to the general public. However, not everybody will be interested in what we are doing at Ohio State Parks. It is not in the best interest of Amateur Radio to disrupt other visitors to the Ohio State Parks. Please avoid setting up in high-traffic areas (unless this has been arranged in advance) and be mindful of your noise. Consider other visitors when setting up your station. But, you can also encourage park visitors to visit your station so they can see and hear what you are doing which will promote amateur radio in a good setting.

- *"Leave nothing behind but footprints"*

This is an old saying among people who enjoy the outdoors. We are all stewards of Ohio State Parks. Do not build, erect, or install anything that damages the land or property of the unit or would have a negative impact on wildlife or visitors in that Ohio State Park. Pick up your trash. If you bring something in, take it out. Leave your operating site in the same condition you found it, or better.

- *Sensitive Areas*

Some of the Ohio State Parks may have what they are deemed "sensitive areas". This means that extra caution should be used when trying to activate that Ohio State Park area. It may be for prior reservations by a wedding (or other) party, security reasons, such as the monuments, or for more aesthetic reasons - work with the administration of the Ohio State Park in question to achieve activation with minimal disruption. It may be as easy as moving to a lesser used area in the Ohio State Park.

- *If Your Activation is Denied*

If you encounter an ODNR staff member who does not permit you to set up an Amateur Radio station, ask in a **friendly** way to speak with their supervisor. Be courteous and polite at all times. Ask if there are alternatives that would permit the activation to continue. It's possible the ultimate answer will be "no." Even then, be respectful. Let PCARS know (email: info@ospota.org) that you had difficulty, and we will see if something can be worked out for future operations. Just keep in mind: the more respectful an amateur is if denied activation, the easier our job will be to negotiate a positive outcome at a later date.

- *Camping in the Camp Ground area or in the Wilderness*

If you will be operating from a camp ground or remote wilderness location in an Ohio State Park it is expected that you are experienced in camping or wilderness camping and accept the risks associated with this activity. There are real dangers, even for experienced outdoor enthusiasts. Be honest in your self-appraisal.

Be sure to check the website of the Ohio State Park you will activate prior to your trip; ODNR frequently posts alerts about park conditions, road closures, maintenance, etc.

Waiver of Liability

- *Activators of Ohio State Parks acknowledge the following legal requirements:*

Participants in the OSPOTA contest do so at their own risk. All participants are on notice that some risk is involved with any portable Amateur Radio operation. Participants activating any Ohio State Park agree to take all safety precautions, including, but not limited to: avoiding power lines; following all rules and regulations of the Ohio State Park and instructions of Ohio State Park staff; choosing an operating site wisely; avoiding interactions with wildlife; not disturbing other guests of any Ohio State Parks; and by making an honest self-appraisal of their personal condition before undertaking portable Amateur Radio operation from an Ohio State Park.

PCARS and the ODNR assume no liability for any Amateur Radio operator or club participating in the Ohio State Parks On The Air contest and participants agree to assume all risk and liability for damage to personal property and injury to persons that may result from such operation, and to hold ODNR and PCARS harmless there from.

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



So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** in September. Have some fun with this contest! Learn more about PCARS at www.portcars.org.

73 for now,
OSPOTA Contest Committee



January 12, 2020

Ohio State Parks On The Air 2020

Get all the information - Rules, FAQ's Park listings, POTA Listing and More

OSPOTA Web Site at: www.OSPOTA.org

OSPOTA IO Group at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA>

We are also on Facebook !!



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Learn About Electronics - A Valuable Resource

Paul. NO8D

Paul, NO8D sent me this link and thought that the PCARS members may find some very good information.

Want to learn more about electronics? Want to brush up on what you already know? Remember that ‘what-cha-ma-call-it’ you were looking for? Well, you just may find what you are looking for here.

Check out this web site: <https://learnabout-electronics.org/index.php> This is a great site for really good information and you should bookmark it for future reference. It may be just the thing you are looking for.

Learnabout Electronics

- Home Page

HOME CIRCUITS & RESISTORS AC THEORY SEMICONDUCTORS AMPLIFIERS OSCILLATORS POWER SUPPLIES DIGITAL ELECTRONICS

LEARNING STEP by STEP

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196,918 Pageviews
Jul 29th - Aug 29th

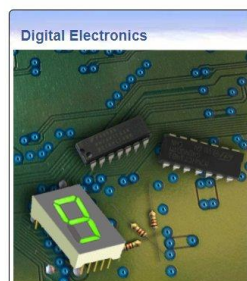
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The site for learning about electronics technology. Use the menus above, or select a topic from the preview boxes below - you are no more than three clicks away from some of the best regarded information on what you need to know.



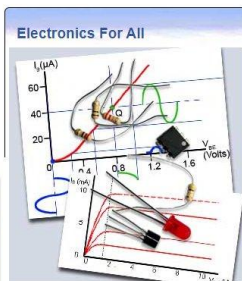
Visit our brand new section on [Transistor Faults](#) and learn why transistors fail and how you can test them using a multi-meter. Simple tests for Bipolar Junction Transistors (BJTs) and Field Effect Transistors (JFETs and MOSFETs).



Digital Electronics

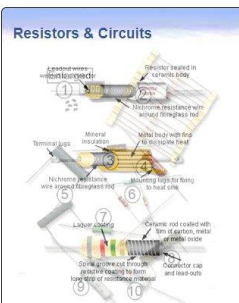
Learn about Digital Electronics with FIVE MODULES packed with information and circuits on digital technology! Start with binary arithmetic - Boolean Algebra, Karnaugh Maps, all the essentials you need to know. Step by Step instructions for simplifying Boolean expressions to make simplifying Boolean a breeze!

Logic Gates, logic families and digital circuits explained, from basic gates to complex circuitry that makes computers work. Multiplexers, adders, counters, shift registers and more. Download free Logisim software and over 60 interactive simulations of common digital circuits.



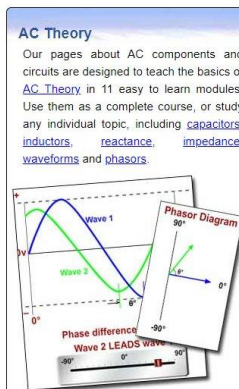
Electronics For All

Already one of the most popular on line electronics education sites, with around 300 pages and over 1700 illustrations and videos on a wide range of electronics topics, Learnabout Electronics has grown into a major international educational site, used by millions of independent learners, major educational publishers, armed forces training establishments as well as colleges and universities all over the world. Used for electronics classes. To find out more about the Learnabout Electronics site just click [here](#).



Resistors & Circuits

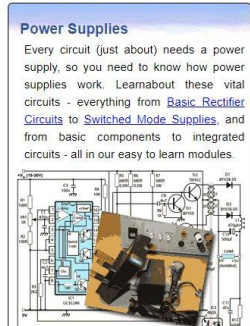
Learn the basics of electronics - Ohm's Law, simple circuits and resistor networks - both series and parallel explained step by step. All the essentials; voltage current, conductance and resistivity explained. How does temperature affect resistance? Its all here, together with component recognition for 4, 5 and 6 band coded resistors as well as SMT codes and simple fault finding. **Some of the most comprehensive resistor data on the web!**



AC Theory

Our pages about AC components and circuits are designed to teach the basics of AC Theory in 11 easy to learn modules. Use them as a complete course, or study any individual topic, including [capacitors](#), [inductors](#), [reactance](#), [impedance](#), [waveforms](#) and [phasors](#).

Every module is backed up with a paper version to download, print and keep. The online pages also use interactive videos, making our popular explanatory pages that are now among the most sought after of their type on the web.

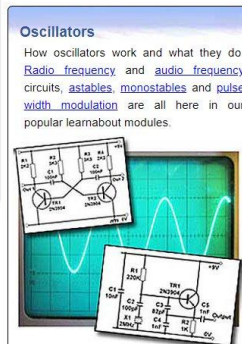


Power Supplies

Every circuit (just about) needs a power supply, so you need to know how power supplies work. Learnabout these vital circuits - everything from [Basic Rectifier Circuits](#) to [Switched Mode Supplies](#), and from basic components to integrated circuits - all in our easy to learn modules.

The power supply modules are also extensively linked to key pages with detailed information and basic terms you need to be familiar with. Use the power of learnabout-electronics' hundreds of pages of electronics information to guide you through the stuff you **need** to know, and important data sheets on power supply components are also just a click away to link you to manufacturers data.

Start learning real circuits now with Learnabout Electronics.



Oscillators

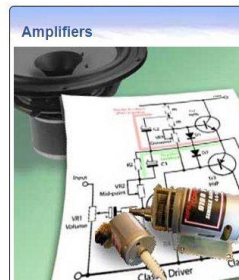
How oscillators work and what they do. [Radio frequency](#) and [audio frequency](#) circuits, [astables](#), [monostables](#) and [pulse width modulation](#) are all here in our popular learnabout modules.

Learn about oscillators step by step, or choose any module and learn just what you need to know. How to design and [build working circuits](#) for yourself. How to test oscillators, plus links to relevant electronics industry oscillator data!



Semiconductors

Learning about electronics? Then you need to know about components, including diodes, JFETs, MOSFETs, bipolar transistors, thyristors, triacs and diacs, opto-couplers and basic semiconductor theory. Find full and easy explanations of many common types. Check out our [animated videos](#) to make transistor operation clear. What's the difference between common emitter, common base and common collector connections? Find out the right way to test transistors in our [Fault Identification Section](#) and get help with those [maths problems](#) you need when starting out in electronics.



Amplifiers

Learn how to design and build a working transistor amplifier with the minimum of maths theory. Amplifier classes explained from A to D, together with multistage amplifiers, practical power amplifiers and op amp circuits. Get to grips with negative feedback, input impedance and bandwidth control. Everything from basic amplifier facts to complex professional designs is here on Learnabout Electronics.

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition- Going Fast

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

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

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



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

Contact Paul for all of the details



Portage County Amateur Radio Service



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



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



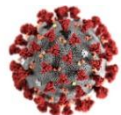
PCARS K8BF
The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



PCARS VE Test Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison

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



NOTE: All Dates Subject To Cancellation

Check Web Site for Updates

Amateur Extra Class question pool changed - 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



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

AC8NT Jim Wilson

N8NYL John Andrews

K8YLK Josh Heiks

KA8OAT Richard McPeak

K8BBT Andrew Six

KD8FME Jim Conlin

KD8JRE Micahel Harris

KD8PBL Richard Taylor

KD8VT James Andrews

KD8WBC Don Manning

KE8JUJ Nicholas Gichenko

KE8MWD Shane Kiley

N8KBX Bob Magree

NT8K Bob Whiddon

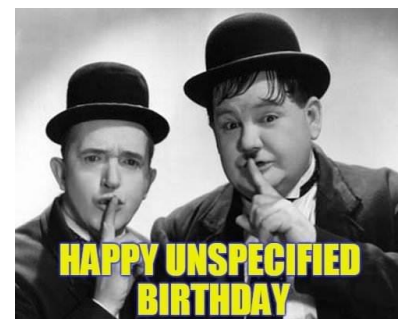
WA8AHC Ron Echelberry

W8DMP Donna Wheeler

W8FIM William Dunn

WB8VYW Mike Hutsler

WD8BIW Karen Warner



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



2020 CQ-WW Contest Rules Updated

John, K1AR
CQWW Contest Director



Effective with the 2020 contest, there have been some modifications to the CQ WW rules that have been developed and approved by the WW contest committee. In summary:

- **New Category Nomenclature.** The multi-operator category names have been changed to be more consistent with other contests. The CQ WW contest now uses Multi-Single, Multi-Two, and Multi-Multi as the standard for all logs and reporting. No other changes have been made to these categories.
- **Station Location.** Amplifiers are now included in the previously defined 500-meter diameter circle description of station locations.
- **Paper Logs.** Effective with the 2020 contest, paper logs will **no longer be accepted** for the CQ WW. Uploading logs via the Web is the only approved method for submitting a log. Logs can be uploaded at: www.cqww.com/logcheck.



A complete listing of the 2020 rules has been posted at www.cqww.com/rules.htm. Updated translations for a variety of languages are also available.

As always, if you have any questions, please submit them via our contact form at www.cqww.com/contact/ where you can expect to receive a response as soon as possible.

Best of luck as you prepare for the upcoming contest season in what will arguably be a strange year due to COVID-19! Best of luck and be safe!

PCARS IO Group

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

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

Two things every member should do.

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

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

Home Messages # Hashtags

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

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

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

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

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



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Candidates for 2020 ARRL Division Elections

From the ARRL



Candidates Set for 2020 ARRL Division Elections

The candidates for the 2020 ARRL Division Elections are now official. ARRL members will choose between two candidates for Director in the Dakota, Great Lakes, and Midwest Divisions in this year's election cycle, and from among three candidates for Vice Director in the Great Lakes Division. In the Atlantic and Delta Divisions, incumbents are unopposed for both Director and Vice Director. In the Dakota Division, the sitting Vice Director is running unopposed, while in the Midwest Division, the current Vice Director is the only candidate for Director.

Great Lakes Division Director: Incumbent Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK, who has held the seat since 2014, will face off against Michael Kalter, W8CI, who is treasurer of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association.

Great Lakes Division Vice Director: Members will choose from among three candidates to succeed incumbent Vice Director Thomas Delaney, W8WTD, who is not running for another term. They are:

Scott Yonally, N8SY, the current Ohio Section Manager

Jim Hessler, K8JH, who is vice president of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

Frank Piper, KI8GW, Yonally's predecessor as Ohio Section Manager.

Ballots will be mailed out to all ARRL members.

Shack Shot - Mike, N8WCP

Mike, N8WCP



My shack consists of a Yaesu FTDX-1200, Yaesu FT-2500M, SDR Play RSP1A, Samelex SEC-1235M, Signal Link, Swan ST-3 manual tuner, (2) MFJ-1982MP 80M-10M EndFed, MFJ-1838 40M-6M CobWeb, MFJ-1538 Quad Band Omni, and Koss SB-40 Headset.

I'm planning on adding a tower in the spring for a tri-bander, 40M rotatable dipole, and 6M Yagi.



Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE: Mosley Classic 33M 3-element Tri-Bander - Brand New, Sealed in original two boxes! Pick up only here in Willoughby, Ohio just northeast of Cleveland. Decided not to put it up and has been in storage - \$800.

Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ by phone at: 440-951-6406 [12/02/20]



For Sale: Yaesu FTM-400XDR Dual Band Fusion rig. New Nov 2018. Has both Bluetooth & Voice modules installed. Original box & mount - \$450.00

Contact: John, KD8MQ at: kd8mq1@gmail.com or phone 330-936-5021 [11/02/20]

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 [10/02/20]

For Sale: IC 7410 w/optional 3kHz filter. **2 4225 power supplies, 1 4245 power supply, MFJ-994B Intellituner, 1 Versa Tuner III, 2 Heil mics for Icom**, with booms & wiring, **1 IC-2100, 1 Mirage 5018 160 watt amp, SC-400 Power Meter, 2 Alpha Delta switches, 1 MFJ antenna analyzer**, every antenna, every run of wire, 2 antenna poles 30, and 35ft, every piece of ham related equipment goes, asking \$800 in cash. The 7410 is worth that! We are moving down south and I'm selling it all! Give me a call if you're interested.

Contact: Doug, KC8OHQ at: suhredouglas@gmail.com [10/02/20]

FOR SALE: Drake TR7 HF Transceiver with **Drake PF7** Power Supply (Not working – goes with TR7) \$630, **Drake RV7** Remote VFO \$100, **Drake MS7** Speaker \$ 75, **Astron RM-35** Power Supply goes with TR7 **ALL ABOVE FOR \$800 OBO** **Drake L7** HF Amp and **Drake P7** Amp - **Both for \$950 OBO** **Kenwood TS-140S** HF Transceiver, **Kenwood PS430** Power Supply, **SP-430 Speaker** - **All for \$250 OBO** All items were tested and working except for the PF7 power supply as noted. The prices are an average what was found on line.

Contact: Bob, WB8OVQ at: 220-802-9562 [10/02/20]

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 **YAESU FT-1802** This a 50 Watt 2 meter mobile that will TX 144-148 MHz & RX 136-174 MHz with power output settings of 50W, 25W, 10W, 5W with power cord, manual & new microphone. \$85.00 **YAESU VR-120** Hand Held Communications Receiver. This YAESU hand held communications receiver is a professional grade receiver that has 640 memory channels. It covers 100 KHz thru 1300 MHz in FM/WFM and AM modes. I purchased it for special project that never materialized. It is in excellent condition since it was only used a couple of times. It comes with antenna, manual and box. Also included are two new Duracell AA batteries.

Craftsman 3 ½ Digit DMM w/ 1000 Volt Fluke Lead Set. Also includes Craftsman non-contact Hall-effect voltage sensing probe, used and in good condition \$30.00 **DC Power Cords** 6 Pin ICOM \$20.00, 4 Pin Kenwood \$15.00, Heavy Duty 12 Lighter Plug to Anderson Power Pole 4' Long \$20.00 **High Voltage Rectifiers** blocks containing (2) 10,000 Volt 1 ampere CCS diodes, great for full wave power supplies or use two for a full wave bridge, \$15.00 each.

HARGER 2-Hole Long Barrel Lug for #2 Wire These are premium grade lugs are great for tower grounding projects \$4.00 each **ANDREW GKT-F4A Ground kit strip tool** for Andrew FSJ4-50B ½" Superflex coaxial cable \$45.00

VDE Lineman Pliers News with chrome plating and 1,000 Volt insulated grips \$30.00 **Universal Snap Ring Pliers** Set Used universal snap ring plier set in excellent condition \$10.00 **HUBBELL water resistant pin & sleeve**

receptacles designed for wet locations or outdoor use in rain. I use these same connectors on the generator and power distribution panels which are used for the PCARS Field Day set up in Portage County Ohio. These are excess from when I assembled my mobile generator and power distribution system. They are both NEW IN BOX. HBL4100R12W rated 125/250 Volts 1? @100 Amperes \$175.00 HBL460R12W rated 125/250 Volts 1? @60 Amperes \$150.00 **Contactors** /**Industrial Relays** that would be great for step start relays in an amplifier building project. The CL25A310TJ is a three

pole rated 32 Amperes @ 600 Volts and will accept #8 thru #14 wire. It has 120 Volt A.C. coil. The CV01A400T is a 4 pole rated 25 Amperes @ 600 Volts and will accept #10 thru #14 wire. It has 120 Volt A.C. coil. I have one auxiliary contact as shown in the photo. It will go to the first purchaser and will mount on either of these relays. \$40 each
STAINLESS STEEL 1/4" GUY WIRE, This is left over stainless steel aircraft cable that I used in a recent tower project. I have two coils, 130' for 85.00 & 150' for \$90.00, or both coils for \$140.00

Contact: Call or text James, KD8VT at (330)-206-4909 [10/02/20]

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

Contact: Mark, W8BBQ at: W8BBQ@AOL.COM or text to 330-770-5442 [12/02/20]

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. [12/02/20]

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-7610 - Brand New, *still in the box*. Decided to upgrade antennas instead of radio. Unopened 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", KB8UZZ - kb8uuz@gmail.com** [12/02/20]



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



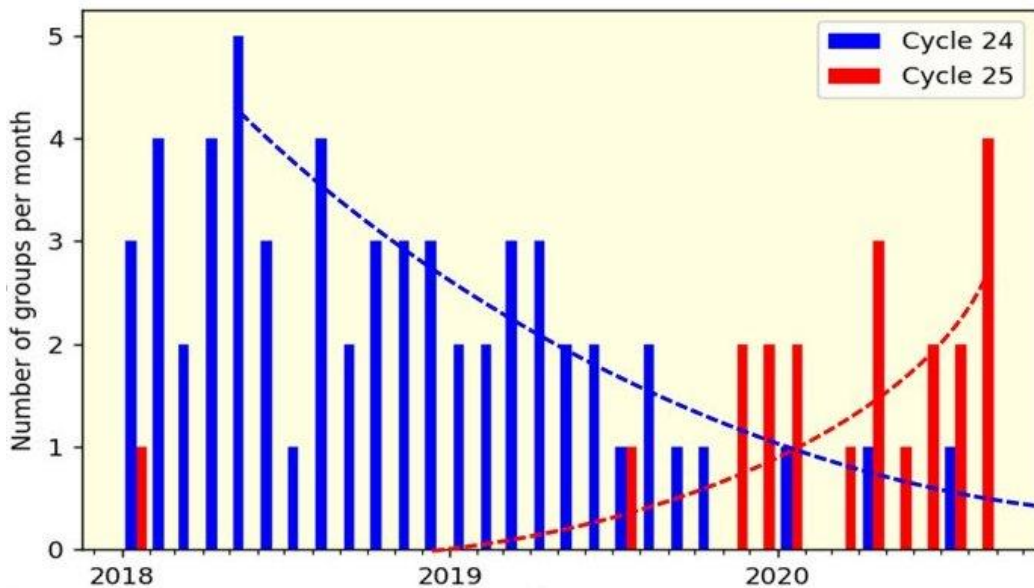
Solar Cycle Minimum Passed in December 2019

Posted on: 21 August 2020

In January 2020, the *13-month smoothed sunspot number* rose for the first time since the maximum of cycle 24 (April 2014). Most probably, this indicates that **the minimum between cycles 24 and 25 was passed in December 2019**.

However, for now, this latest smoothed value in January 2020 is the very first point indicating a rise of the activity. So, the date of the minimum still needs a full confirmation over the coming months. For now, preliminary smoothed values, limited to less than 13 months, hint at increasing values over coming months. If the rising trend indeed continues, this date will become fully definitive.

Another indication of the transition between the two cycles can be drawn from **counts of individual sunspot groups belonging to the old and new solar cycles**. While most sunspot groups belonged to the last solar cycle until September 2019, the dominance switched to groups of the new cycle in November 2019.



So, **this transition in terms of number of active regions falls in October 2019**. This is close to December 2019. The slight time difference comes from three reasons:

- The sunspot number also takes into account the total number of spots, and thus the size of the emerging active regions.
- The time of the minimum depends on the respective trends of the declining phase of the past cycle and of the rising phase of the new cycles, over the 12 months surrounding the minimum.
- The date of the minimum has a significant uncertainty range, as near the minimum, the activity hardly varies and is thus almost as low as the minimum level during a few months. The date of the minimum is thus always less sharply defined than the date of the maximum of the cycles, which are more sharply peaked.

Finally, since December 2019, solar cycle 25 produced a steady stream of small active regions, but the activity stagnated at a constant low level. However, **since July and even more in the course of August 2020, the activity seems to truly take off, with at least one sunspot group visible on almost all days**. Such a level of activity had not been reached since early 2019.

This late-breaking upward trend is now expected to accelerate over the coming months. So, be prepared for a more eruptive and interesting Sun!

SILSO images and data can be freely downloaded as public data. However, any public use, web based or paper publication of those data must include an explicit credit to the source: SILSO data/image, Royal Observatory of Belgium, Brussels



From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Scott, N8SY
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Wow, what a week this has been. The temperature was finally down below the boiling point and it was even somewhat comfortable for a few days.

Antenna Woes... I have borrowed an antenna analyzer from my mentor here in Mansfield and started working on getting my 4 BTV all tuned up and ready to go for those great QSO's coming up.

Right off the bat I ran into a snag that I hadn't anticipated for, a possible bad trap. It seems that the antenna just won't tune-up to any of the normal amateur frequencies. I've played with the length of the adjustable tubing points until I'm blue in the face. Making it longer / shorter - with little to no change. I've changed out the coax that's connected to the analyzer thinking it could be a bad piece of coax or just the wrong length and still no luck. I've also made sure that the analyzer will zero out with a dummy load on it and it does. I've checked it against my 80-meter dipole, and it is working just fine. In fact, it showed that the wire on the dipole had stretched some from when I originally installed it about a year ago. So, after trimming off some of the extra length it's working absolutely great now.

Doing some more research, and with help from the guys from the DARA Thursday Night Group and I even sought out the advice from the Great Lakes Director, Dale Williams too. They have once again come through and given me some great ideas to try. I really appreciated it and tried their ideas out.

One of them was to simply take all the connections apart and clean everything. So, with some good old-fashioned isopropyl alcohol in hand, along with some fine steel wool, I took everything apart and did a thorough cleaning of every joint. I put everything back together but unfortunately, this didn't help much. It did move the frequency at where the antenna wants to resonate a little bit, but not enough to get it within the amateur band.

The DARA guys also suggested that I should just take the antenna down to the first length of tubing and see where it is resonating at, since this first tube is the 10-meter part of the antenna. I did that and Voilà. It was resonating around 29.200MHz. Right where I wanted it to be.

I then added the 10-meter trap on, and everything went wacky again. Talking with our Great Lakes Director for a bit, he suggested that I take the trap apart and see if there's any damage or bad solder joints. So, with the DX Engineering guide (https://static.dxengineering.com/global/images/instructions/dxe-btv-inst-ins_jw.pdf) I had bought with the antenna, I started in taking the trap apart and examining the solder joints, counting the number of turns on the wire and examining the wire itself for burn marks and such. I didn't find anything wrong, but I did notice something in the book that I really hadn't noticed before. It said I could make some frequency adjustments simply by moving the tube that houses the trap up or down from its factory setting. I figured I had nothing to lose so I took the 10-meter trap and move it down about an inch or so just to see what would happen and magically was radiating around 28.1 MHz So, I moved it about another inch, and it all came in to around 28.900 MHz Wow...!! If this is all that it takes, I'm in like flint. So, I got to work re-assembling the antenna one piece at a time and checking it on the analyzer. By the time I got to the top I had move each trap downward about 2 inches. Now the antenna is working like a champ!

Funny how they state in the beginning of the manual (Editor's Note: Not said in the DX Engineering guide....) not to mess with the clamps on the traps or make any changes to the lengths, but that's what it took for me to get the antenna to radiate in the amateur band.

I do want to thank the folks at DX Engineering for designing a tilt-over base for this antenna. That alone saved me huge amounts of time by not having to disassemble and reassemble the mounting to test the antenna. You simply loosen 2 nuts and pick it up out of the resting slot and lay the entire assembly over onto a chair or sawhorse. I gotta' tell ya', I must have done this 60 times or more before I finally figured out and corrected the antenna. Talk about a time saver, wow... this is one accessory that I absolutely recommend you get if you purchase any of the BTV series antennas.

Now here's a lesson learned for you newer folks. If you have a problem, ask around and see if anyone else has had that same problem. Most generally you are not the only one that has had problems like you're experiencing. Don't be afraid to ask! You'd be surprised how many folks will freely share their help and expertise with you.

Whelp, my final go around before gong QRT... I'm still busy and having a blast doing Zoom meetings for all the clubs out there that are meeting "virtually." I'm really hoping that we can get back to those great "in-person" meetings soon.

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

(Editor's Note: Email DXEngineering@DXEngineering.com or call DX Engineering at 800-777-0703 for help with the BTV antennas or just about anything in ham radio.)



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



N8AMY on Ham Nation #465 - Club Spotlight PCARS

Recently our own Amy, N8AMY was on Ham Nation.

She talked about PCARS - Club Spotlight on the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) K8BF, mobile antennas with Gordo, Don Wilbanks interviews Amateur Radio Newsline's 2020 Young Ham of the Year Chris Brault KD8YVJ, Amateur Radio Newsline with Don, Solar Update with Dr. Tamitha Skov, how to solder connectors the right way with Bob and George, and more!

If you missed the show, you can see it on YouTube at:

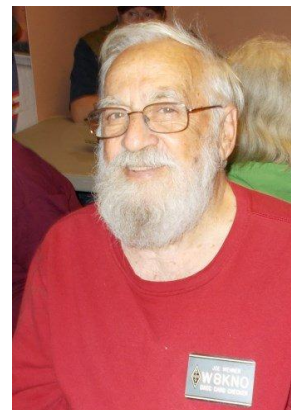
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vidC5t27gnA>



Paper Chase - Dog Island



Joe, W8KNO



Dog Island IOTA DXpedition NA-085 K4D

Sep 9-Sep 18, 0000Z-2359Z, K4D, Carrabelle, FL. K5TEN (Operator). 14.275 14.074 7.190

7.074. QSL. Bruce Brady K5TEN, 208 Mt Tabor Rd, Hot Springs National Park, AR 71913. Very rare IOTA island, rare grid square and a rare county. (NA-085), EL79, Franklin County. Rescheduled from June due to Covid19. k5ten@aol.com



Dog Island is located in the northwestern Florida Gulf coast just 3.5 mi (5.6 km) off-shore from Carrabelle in Franklin County, Florida.

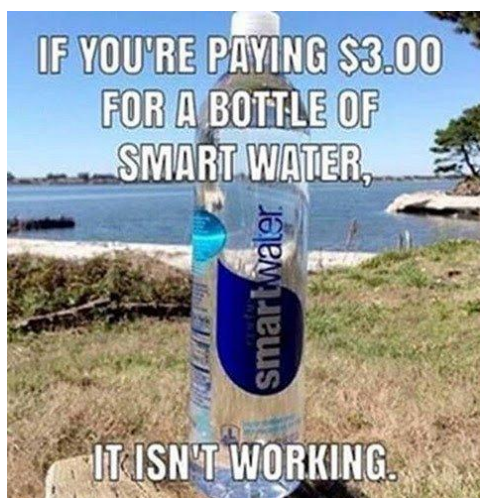


There is no public transportation to or businesses on Dog Island.

Dog Island is a privately owned small and remote barrier island accessible by water-taxi or boat. There are no public land or amenities on the island.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



People who wonder whether the glass is half empty or half full miss the point. The glass is refillable.

DXCC and the South China Sea Claims

From the ARRL

DXCC Entities in Play as US Rejects China's Significant South China Sea Claims

To radio amateurs, Scarborough Reef or the Spratly Islands are DX locations, occasionally activated to provide needy DXers with "a new one." The Spratlys are #53 on the Club Log DXCC Most-Wanted List, but Scarborough Reef -- a much more difficult piece of real estate to access -- is #4. These South China Sea Islands are once again in the news, as the US has begun putting heat on China by rejecting nearly all of its significant land claims in the region. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo this week said that the US now regards virtually all Chinese maritime claims outside of its internationally recognized waters to be illegitimate.

"The world will not allow Beijing to treat the South China Sea as its maritime empire," Pompeo said. "America stands with our Southeast Asian allies and partners in protecting their sovereign rights to offshore resources, consistent with their rights and obligations under international law. We stand with the international community in defense of freedom of the seas and respect for sovereignty and reject any push to impose 'might makes right' in the South China Sea or the wider region." A 2016 ruling from an international tribunal discounted China's claims with respect to Scarborough Reef -- also known as Scarborough Shoal -- and the Spratlys, but it did not rule on the matter of sovereignty. In addition to China's claim, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam, and the Philippines have asserted ownership of the Spratlys. Scarborough Reef is claimed by China, the Philippines, and Taiwan. The Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague ruled in favor of the Philippines in a dispute with China over Scarborough Reef. The tribunal said that although navigators and fishermen from China and other states have historically made use of South China Sea Islands, there was no evidence that China had historically exercised exclusive control over the waters or resources.



Bob Vallio, W6RGG, was one of the operators on the 2007 BS7H Scarborough Reef DXpedition.

The tribunal said China had violated the Philippines' sovereign rights and had caused "severe harm to the coral reef environment" by building artificial islands and an air strip.

In 2015, a Chinese naval vessel "harassed a Philippine Air Force patrol flight in the Spratlys," one news account reported, by firing an illumination round. The incident postponed a Philippine Navy flight that was to evacuate an ailing participant of the then-just-ended DX0P DXpedition. The Chinese Navy has also warned off private aircraft. DX0P was issued by the Philippines. Last week, China complained about the US conducting joint exercises with two US aircraft carrier groups in the region.

A May 2007 DXpedition to Scarborough Reef used the call sign BS7H, granted by China. DXpedition team members operated from wooden platforms mounted atop each of the reef's four rocks that were exposed during high tide. The ARRL Board of Directors voted in 1996 to add Scarborough Reef to the ARRL DXCC List.

New Smartphone App Can Identify Unknown Data Modes



An incredible number of digital-mode radio signals occupy the spectrum, and it's not always possible to identify the particular mode of operation. CW, PSK31, and FT8 are pretty easy, but how about CIS405, STANAG, or CHIP64? A new smartphone app can simplify things. [SignalID](#) can recognize about 20 signal modes (more may be on the way), in just 5 seconds of recording time. The app is open source and free.

Using it is simple. Once the frequency and bandwidth have been set, the user places the cell phone's microphone near the receiver's speaker, presses the large button, and waits for 5 seconds. The quieter the external environment is, the fewer errors.

"The algorithm is based on frequency, [so incorrect tuning] will result in an erroneous detection. The recording is limited to 5 seconds, for practical reasons. Mode recognition may require several attempts, the developer, Tortillum, said, and upgrades are already in the works. "The easiest way to try [it] is RTTY or STANAG," the developer added.

The very few comments so far from users suggest some further work may be needed, but they praised the concept. The developer invites additional [comments](#).

The application, which includes a complete list, could prove a valuable tool in determining the types of emissions that may stray into amateur radio bands. A [demonstration video](#) is available. -- Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via *Stephen Walters, G7VFX*

New Contest for Portable Stations to Debut

A new amateur radio contest for portable operators -- the Fox Mike Hotel Portable Operations Challenge ([POC](#)) -- will debut October 3 - 4. The event is aimed at leveling the competitive playing field between fixed stations and portable stations. [Scoring](#) for the POC, based upon a kilometers-per-watt metric, will be handicapped in favor of the portables. The contest is the brainchild of Frank Howell, K4FMH. Sponsors include *National Contest Journal* ([NCJ](#)) -- an ARRL publication -- but the POC will not be an official *NCJ* or ARRL contest.

"*NCJ's* role is to encourage hams who don't contest to give it a try," *NCJ* Editor Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, said. "It will encourage activity by operators who are limited by real estate and do not have a full-blown contest station. Events like this stimulate more interest in contesting, and this will have an international scope to give chances to snare some new DXCC entities."

The [contest rules](#) say scoring will be calculated using the distance between stations (Maidenhead grid squares) in kilometers divided by power output in watts. Fixed (QTH) stations will compete against portable (P) stations on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Allowable modes include phone, CW, and digital.

The exchange is call sign, station class (P or Q), consecutive serial number, and four-character grid square. Contact [Howell](#) for more information. Read [more](#).



Mike, N8WCP



The PCARS Flex Net is open to all hams and will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM. Each month we'll use a different band or mode. This net does not replace the weekly Thursday night 2 meter net so keep checking into that net!

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

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

During the August Flex Net, we had nine members check in which was held on 50.135 USB.

The September net is on Wednesday the 9th at 8:00PM and we'll be operating on 7.220 LSB. Gene W8NET will be net control.



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



Portage County Amateur Radio Service



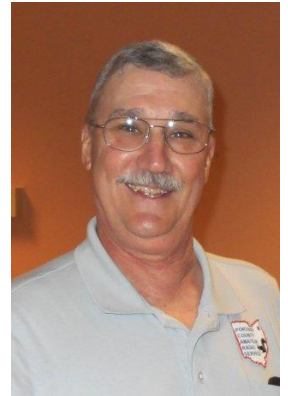
K8BF

2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year



One Happy Grandpa

Rick, K8CAV
One Happy Grandpa!



As a dad I was never one to push either of my kids into amateur radio, or any other interest I've had over the years. I certainly exposed them to it, and to the enjoyment and satisfaction it gave me, but if they weren't interested – and as it happens neither were – then that was just fine as well. I can't even say I was disappointed because both of them became adults who were satisfied in what they were doing and are productive members of society, not much more you can ask of your kids for sure!

Three years ago when my son was stationed at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, I was visiting and had brought an HT along with me. I was demonstrating it to my then 11 year old grandson and happened on a ham on a local repeater who offered to make an IRLP hook up to a ham in Australia. My grandson Uriah was thrilled to be talking to this ham in Australia and asked about becoming licensed when the QSO was finished. We talked about licensing and what was required, and when I returned home, I immediately sent him the Technician Class manual. I followed up a few times on the phone but he'd not made a lot of progress. I talked to my son and he said Uriah's interest had drifted to drones. I was a bit disappointed but totally understood.

My son has since retired from the Air Force and started a new career in Boston. Three weeks ago I got a surprise call from Uriah telling me he had read through the manual three times and was ready to take his technician class test! The first thing I told him was that the manual and questions were outdated and for him not to take the test right away. A quick trip to DX Engineering and the Post Office had the current manual in his hands within a few days.

Uriah spent the next week going through the new manual and questions, and taking on-line practice tests. The pandemic made finding a testing site a bit of a challenge but low and behold, there were a few VE's that were conducting the test on-line. It was a bit cumbersome as it required not just a computer connected to the testing web site, but also a video link to the VE via smart phone to monitor Uriah and his test location to insure all standards of testing were being met. Uriah passed, getting 32 of 35 questions correct, and received his call sign **KC1NQN**.

I was notified of this by text message and I quote, "**K8CAV DE KC1NQN got my license QSY phone?**" and having answered QSL he called me on the phone. So now Grandpa has a trip scheduled to Boston the first week of September to bring some goodies and to help set up an antenna, and maybe locate a local club for him to get involved with. Oh, and the General class manual too as he's anxious to get that notch in his belt.

I guess the point of this is to say that we can plant a lot of seeds with our family, friends, and associates concerning amateur radio. Not all will germinate to fruition but with patience and guidance, not forcefulness, some seeds will, and can bring new members to this great avocation. **Congratulations Uriah KC1NQN and enjoy!**



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



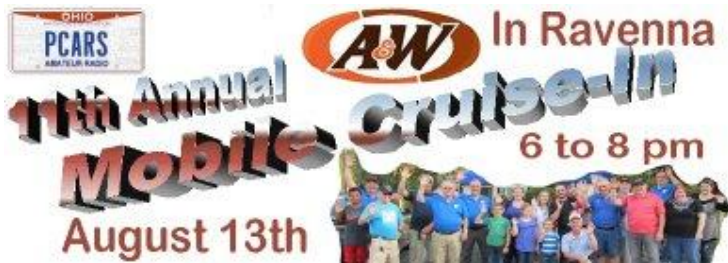
Cruise-In and BB-QSO Party 2020

Tom, WB8LCD



Thursday, August 13 was the PCARS annual Cruise In at the A&W in Ravenna. This was our first “In Person” event since the COVID shut down in March. Attendance was down, as expected, but we still had a respectable turn out! Not as many came out to show off their mobile installations as there were PCARS members who just wanted to

get out and socialize! And that’s OK. It was a beautiful evening and the root beer and Coney-dogs were a nice break from “quarantine” food. Being outside there was plenty of room for “social distancing” and all attendees were considerate of each other’s attitudes toward the existing conditions.



Gene, W8NET was the BIG winner for the evening. He was able to make a few Q’s from the parking lot and won the prize for most contacts as well as best DX. For that Gene was rewarded with two \$25 Amazon Gift Cards.



We had a surprise with Jason, KC8LIN - who decided to show up and make it a hamfest. He had a van load of radios, antenna’s and pieces/parts that were all FREE for the Taking. Lots of us went home with something. Thanks Jason!

Fast forward two weeks to Saturday August 22nd. Our annual OH BB-QSO Party picnic was held at the club site in Ravenna. Once again, another set of Rules changes made for no advantage to participate as a club,

but there were

more than a few Q’s made from the PCARS station by individuals using their own call signs. Again, social distancing protocols were followed, and the meal was served as safely as possible. Hamburgers, brats, chips. N8AMY did a great job on the grill.



Of the 20-25 attendees, most hung around for quite awhile even though there was no club “On-Air” operation. The club site was opened up around noon, lunch was served at 2:00 PM and I didn’t get home to close to 5:30 PM. It was another beautiful day and it was good to be able to spend time with other hams!



Photos from the 11th Annual PCARS Cruise-In



Photos from the PCARS BB-QSO Party



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 Virtual Club Site !!

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

September	
3	N8AMY
10	WB8LCD
17	KE8BWA
24	KA8TOA

October	
1	N8QE
8	WB8LCD
15	K8IV
22	N8AMY
29	KD8WCK

November	
5	
12	
19	
26	

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 !

Hi everyone Please be safe and enjoy playing Radio this month. I would like to thank everyone for running the nets and checking in. Hope everybody is enjoying the summer as best they can. The following are some stats for the 2nd quarter of nets. Thanks for your support and your help to make our nets worthwhile. I know the club officers appreciate it and so do I. As always, if there is an issue please let me know a few days ahead and I will take care of it. For now 73 and have fun.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



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



PCARS
www.portcars.org



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Contest Calendar

September Contest Calendar	
Contest Name	Times
Ohio State Parks On The Air	10 AM to 6 PM ET, Sep 12
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 12 to 2000Z, Sep 13
ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 19 to 2200Z, Sep 20
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 19 to 2400Z, Sep 20
New Jersey QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 19 to 0359Z, Sep 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27
Maine QSO Party	1200Z, Sep 26 to 1200Z, Sep 27

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

Contests that will be active at the PCARS Club Site in 2020	
<u>NOTE: All Contest Activities from Club Site</u>	
<u>Subject To Cancellation</u> <u>Check Web Site for Updates</u>	
Date	Contest
Oct 3-4	California QSO Party
Oct 10-12	Pennsylvania QSO Party
Oct 17-19	New York & Illinois QSO Parties

Grid & Prefix Award Program - Digital Awards



The Grid and Prefix Award Program (**GAPA**) has announced the establishment of a comprehensive Digital Awards Program. Awards are available for radio amateurs and shortwave listeners (SWLs) for confirmed grids and prefixes worked or heard using digital modes.



“This is not an award based on the station you are using, but rather the operating prowess of the operator,” explained Alan Sorum, WL7CG.

Contacts made under any call sign you may have used in the past are valid for confirmations; there is no start time, so all confirmed digital contacts are acceptable. The program accepts electronic confirmations. Certificate costs are minimal, typically far less than a dollar.

Visit the **GAPA** (<http://www.gapawards.com/>) website or contact **Alan Sorum, WL7CG**, for more information.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings to all DXers:

Our WX has been cooperating in as much as it has not rained often. That doesn't do much for the farmers but if you notice, the grass has not been growing to a foot high overnight either. This WX has also allowed for some outside work if you have any tower or antenna work to do (like yours truly). Just a note here. I am down to cable running on Tower 1 so it's getting real close. If it wasn't for Covid, I'd probably have a party when Tower 1 goes on the air. Maybe later.

For now, all I am thinking about is getting on 20m and calling "CQ DX". And that's what I am encouraging you to do. Some of you have perfectly fine operating stations that have not been on the air. Get on the air and work some DX. Even if it's (I can't believe I'm saying this) FT8! I'll take a pill later to quiet my stomach.

I've been off the air because of storm damage. But many of you have always had the ability to get on the air. We need to keep the airwaves occupied so that the Washington bureaucrats don't decide that we "hobbyists" don't need these frequencies and they can sell them to their cronies for a fortune.

So let's see what we can entice you with to get on the air.

As always thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N6PSE, W7GJ, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, M0URX, PA5Y, PY3DF, RN3RQ, RW6HS, Sixitalia Weekly, and VA3RJ & ICPO for the following DX information.

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

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

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

September...

9G, GHANA Matteo, IZ4YGS, active as 9G5GS from Sanzule, Sanzule, Ellebelle District, Western Region (WW Loc. IJ84SX), Ghana, in the jungle among palm trees and swamps, snakes and crocodiles, close to the ocean until Sept 15th. Activity will be limited to his spare time (usually on "almost every evening", between 2100-0000z) on 160-10 meters using mostly FT8 (F/H) and SSB, with a Yaesu FT-891 and 100 watts into a vertical antenna. On FT8 (Fox-Hound Mode) the suggested frequencies are: 3590, 7056, 10131, 14090, 18095, 21091, 24926 and 28091 kHz. On FT8 (Standard Mode) on the standard frequencies; PLEASE SEND REPORT FIRST, not the Loc. He will also be active through the QO-100 geostationary satellite, USB mode. He will update daily to ClubLog. QSL via LoTW, IZ4YGS direct or eQSL.

E6 & A3, NIUE AND TONGA (Reminder). Operators Stan/ LZ1GC and Ivan/LZ1PM will be active from Niue as E6AM between September 28th and October 17th. After their operations in Niue, look for Stan, LZ1GC, (by himself) to be active as A35GC from **Tongatapu Island** (OC-049), Tonga, between October 19th and November 2nd. Activity from both islands will be on 160-6 meters, including 60m and 30/17/12m bands, using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Logs will be uploaded to ClubLog during the activity and LoTW uploads to the sponsors one month later. A full log upload to LoTW will happen 6 months after their activity. QSL via LZ1GC, ClubLog's OQRS, direct it by the Bureau.

JW, SVALBARD. Erwann, LB1QI, will be active as JW/LB1QI from the JW5E club station in **Loneyarbyen, Spitsbergen Island, Svalbard (EU-026)**, between September 24-27th. Activity will be on 160-6 m using CW and SSB,

with a Yaesu FT857d and a JUMA PA1000 Amplifier. QSL via LB1QI, direct, by the Bureau, LoTW or ClubLog.

JX, JAN MAYEN (Update). A team of operators will be active as JX0X from **Kvalrosbukta**, Jan Mayen (EU-022), between September 15th and October 5th, 2021. Operators mentioned are Ken/LA7GIA, Mats/RM2D, Dima/RA9USU and Dominik/R4BE (DL5EBE). The team has been planning this operation for 14 months and finally received all permissions needed from the Military and the Norwegian authorities. Activity will be on all bands and modes, but the DXpedition will focus on the lower bands (160-30m) using CW and the Digital modes. They will also do the other bands like 60, 20 and possible 17m and SSB depending on the conditions. Their aim to work 50,000 QSOs. All QSLs are via ClubLog's OQRS. The team is looking for supporters and sponsors.

OY, FAROE ISLANDS. Operators Torsten/DL4APJ and Udo/DL2AQI active as OY/DL4APJ and OY/DL2AQI, respectively, from the **Faroe Islands** (EU-018) between Sept 15-23. Activity holiday style on 80-10m using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (RTTY, PSK, FT8). QSL via their home callsigns, by the DARC Bureau, direct, eQSL or LoTW.

SX1, GREECE (Special Event). Two members of the "Fifth Ocean Ham Aviator's Club" active as SX1AFM from **Piraeus Hellas** between Sept 1-30. Activity is to celebrate 70th anniversary since the establishment of the "Hellenic Air Force History Museum": Operators mentioned are Polydoros/SV1AHH and George/SV1GGF. Operations will be on 80-6 meters using all modes. QSL via eQSL, LoTW, direct and ClubLog. NO BUREAU. A special award is available.

VU, INDIA. Operator VU2TUO is QRV with special call AT2ARA until September 23 during the COVID-19 pandemic. QSL via operator's instructions.

ZG, GIBRALTAR. During the period of Sept 4-10 the Gibraltar Amateur Radio stations will celebrate "Gibraltar National Week". Gibraltar celebrates its historic 1967 self-determination referendum every year on September 10th. To commemorate this event, stations can use the prefix ZG. Robert, ZB2TT, will be active as ZG2TT during the week in the hours he is not working. Although, he will not have a special QSL card for this activity, he will overprint the QSO report labels with ZG2TT and the log will be uploaded to the M0URX OQRS after the September 10th, so that you can claim the QSL card. For the prefix hunters, he will also upload the log to LoTW. QSL via M0URX's OQRS is preferred.

October...

CB33, CHILE (Special Event). Members of the Radio Club Eternautas (CE3ETR) active as CB33M until Oct 13th. Activity to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the August 2010 landslide in a mine in the north part of Chile (Atacama Desert) where 33 miners were trapped for 3 months until their rescue. Operations will be on 80m-70cms using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (FT8/FT4, JS8, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV). QSL via PO BOX 12096, Santiago, Chile.

JD1, OGASAWARA. Makoto, JI5RPT, will once again be active as JD1BLY from Chichijima Island (AS-031) between October 3-6th. The schedule may change depending on the status of COVID-19. Activity will be on 630-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (NO 6m EME). He states that he will focus on the "630m band", 160m (SSB), the satellite (RS-44), FT8 on the HF bands. "630m Band" will be active mainly on JT9 mode. QSL via his home callsign JI5RPT. His log search will be available on his

P4, ARUBA. John, W2GD, will once again be active as P40W from Aruba (SA-036) between Oct 20-27 and Nov 19-25. Activity will include the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 24-25th) and the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 28-29th) as a Single-Op/ All-Band entries. Operations outside of the contest are usually on 160/80m and 30/17/12 meters as time permits and with an emphasis on CW. Watch 160m on the hour and 80m on the half hour. QSL via LoTW or direct to N2MM, Bureau cards are no longer accepted. Logs will be loaded on LoTW upon his return to the USA.

SA-052. Markus, DJ4EL, will activate two islands in the **Suriname SA-092 IOTA group** in October: **Houttuyn Island** - as PZ5GE; between October 11-25th; on 40-10m using SSB; WW Loc. GJ25kr. **Pagegaaien Island** - as PZ5G; between October 16-19th; on 80-10m using CW and SSB; WW Loc. GJ15kv QSL both operations via LoTW or his home callsign.

IOTA News...

EU-001. Claudio, HB9OAU, will once again be active as SV5/HB9OAU from **Karpathos Island**, Dodecanese, between September 12-25th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using SSB, RTTY and possibly FT8. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog, eQSL and LoTW.

EU-042. Operators Joerg "Joe"/DJ1JB, Markus/DJ4EL, Thorsten/DJ5TM and possibly others are planning to be active as homecall/p from **Pellworm Island** (as well as some other surrounding islands; in the same IOTA group) between August 27th and September 3rd. Activity be on 40-10 meters using SSB with verticals and quad antennas. QSL via LoTW or their home call signs. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

OKthere you have it for the next two months. As always, I didn't include everything that might be going on in the world of DX, but I think I listed a few things that should interest many of you. Get on the air.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Rental Car QSOs

Matthew, KN4GWY



Day out at San Gregorio California State Beach, 40 Miles South of San Francisco.

The weather conditions were not the best but I enjoyed a morning at the beach with the dog walkers and surfers.

I used my Yaesu FT-991 and ATAS 120 screwdriver on the roof of the rental car. I was able to listen to a weather net on 20m in Hawaii, but net control could not understand me.

I was able to make contact in Oregon. Still a good morning at the beach with my radio.

I also have 2m/70cm Mobile FTM-7250D that I take on trips with me that is very easy to install on the rental car and have been enjoying making contacts.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Island and Maritime (Kayak) Mobile

Sylvester, W8YIH



On the water at West Branch State Park



Here no one visited or bothered me.

Beautiful micro island with a micro beach and a dune with golden sand.

I have spent a night here during a full moon with no clouds.



It got really cold and damp past midnight, super AC at no cost, was glad I took extra clothing.

The size of the big predatory fish hunting and jumping and gulping smaller fish all night long made me surprised, the feeding catfish must have been at least 50lbs.

About 1 hour before sunrise very bright planet, Venus showed up low above horizon

When returning home early in the morning there was a thick fog on the lake tinted yellow-gold by the rising sun, made me feel and look like I was

kayaking in the smoke.



Unfortunately not visible on the pic, took it too late and cameras auto color balancing neutralized it.



DX & Contest Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT
DX & Contest SIG Coordinator



Hello PCARS DXers and Contesters:

We held the DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting by Zoom on Tuesday, Aug. 25th. There were 9 attendees. We discussed the recent Ohio QSO Party and I reported that I received five participation reports. The total of the six reporting was 337,534 submitted points. I know there are a few more members that participated but have not sent me their point totals.

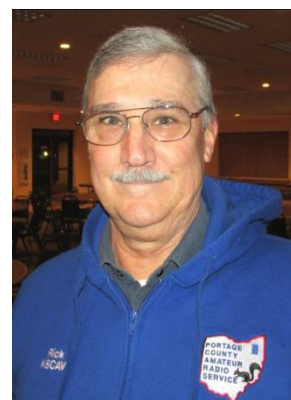
We next discussed the upcoming California QSO Party that will take place on Oct 3-4. Of course the discussion centered around how we will proceed given Covid 19. Some attendees said that they would operate from the club if we decided to do so. Others said that they would not. We could probably have 3 operators work from the club site while keeping socially distant and making sure that all surfaces were wiped down, and often touched areas were disinfected. We ended the discussion with the decision to think about this during the time we have leading up to a decision which would have to be made at the end of September.

I also reported on the NJ, WA, and NH QSO Parties, which all take place Sep 19-20. The NJ and WA events do not have any provision for club aggregate scoring, so those of you who would want to participate would simply do so using your own call signs. The NH event has yet to give me an answer.

We also briefly discussed the AZ and PA QSO Parties that take place a week after the CA QSO Party. I will be researching those two events to see if they allow club aggregate scoring. I will report my findings during the next DX/Contest SIG meeting in September. Til then get on the air.

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



Due to the pandemic, the Digital Special Interest Group has been meeting virtually, on the K8IV Kent repeater. The Digital SIG meetings have been relatively small in number, usually six or less people attending, so I think that we can give an in-person meeting a try, as long as all of us adhere to safety measures.

The September Digital SIG will meet on Tuesday September 1st at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Because it's an in-door meeting, proper wear of masks is required. Our room is large enough so that social distancing, six feet or more apart, can be accommodated and will be required. Frequent hand washing is encouraged and hand sanitizer is available. If everything works well we will continue to meet in-person, using all of the precautions to keep everyone healthy. There are some who may not feel comfortable meeting in person and I want to assure you that I have the utmost respect for you in making that decision. I am available by e-mail, telephone, and on-the-air to help with any questions or issues you may have involving digital communications, or to do on-the-air testing if you'd like.

Last month we had a discussion about the newly added VARA modem to the Winlink 2000 software. This month we'll do some on-the-air connecting using the VARA modem and the ARDOP modem to get a feel for how much faster the VARA modem is. As always we're available to help with anything you need when it comes to digital communications.

Virtual Ham Expo - Twice Yearly Event

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo to Become Twice-Yearly Event



The [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) over the August 8 - 9 weekend appears to



have been an unmitigated success, so much so that another virtual event will be held next March.

"It was far better than we expected," Virtual Ham Expo Dhair Eric Guth, 4Z1UG/WA6IGR, told ARRL. "We had over 26,000 registered and over 14,000 on the platform both days."

Guth said event sponsors and exhibitors that he's heard from so far "are thrilled with the turnout, engagement, and responses that they received." He said they're also enthusiastic about the second QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo, set for March 13 - 14, 2021. "Our plan is to offer this twice a year," Guth added.

The show, an ARRL-sanctioned event, was developed on the [vFairs](#) virtual conference platform, and cleverly re-created the atmosphere of a typical large hamfest, with several tracks of forum sessions on a wide array of topics. Those who had registered but did not log into the live event can see it all [on demand](#) until September 9.

"All of the services, except the chat, are running," Guth noted. "The doors are still open."

Dozens of video presentations are available to replay, including the keynote given by the Editor of ARRL's *National Contest Journal*, Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, "COVID-19: Amateur Radio's Impact on Problem Solving to Create a Global Response to the Pandemic." Presentations from other ARRL member-volunteers span technical and operating interests, including "Everything you need to know about Lithium Batteries" with Marcel Stieber, AI6MS, and an introduction to creating Arduino-based projects for home and ham radio, with Glen Popiel, KW5GP. Presentations highlighting young ham involvement and development include "Youth in Ham Radio," moderated by Carole Perry, WB2MGP, with six youth presenters.



Guth said a poll would be sent to determine what visitors enjoyed most. "However, my guess will be that the speakers were fantastic, along with the moderators for the live Q&A afterwards," he said. Exhibitors will also be polled for their post-show impressions.

Icom, a principal sponsor of the event, had team members from around the globe staff their exhibits. Icom America Senior Sales Manager Ray Novak, N9JA, said the event supported their new product launches including Icom's new IC-705 HF - 430 MHz all-mode 10-W transceiver, which just received FCC certification.

"We really enjoyed the virtual event," said Novak. "It is our goal to see this grow and to have hams from the various countries attend in anticipation of this becoming a multilingual event as we all are starving for ham radio events during this pandemic."

Kevin Zanjani, KI6DHQ, of Bioenno Power, also gave the virtual event high marks. The show, he said, "was quite exciting and a great platform to interact with customers and the entire ham radio community during these times." Bioenno Power, based in Southern California, is a provider of Lithium-Polymer (LiPo) batteries and solar-power devices. Zanjani said the chatroom was very effective to engage with customers. "Many also dropped by to say hello as well, so we found that nice."

Icom, a principal sponsor for the event, had team members from around the globe staff their exhibits -- including representatives from the US, Japan, and Europe. Icom America Senior Sales Manager Ray Novak, N9JA, said the event supported their new product launches, including Icom's new IC-705 HF - 430 MHz all-mode 10 W transceiver, which received FCC certifications a few days before the event opening. "We really enjoyed the virtual event," said Novak. "It is our goal to see this grow and to have hams from the various countries attend in anticipation of this becoming a multilingual event, as we are all starving for ham radio events during this pandemic."



Product Development Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, was among the ARRL representatives engaging with event attendees using text and video chat. He described the experience as having some similarities and some differences from an in-person convention.

"Our team answered questions about ARRL membership programs and services, amateur radio licensing, and even had some fun challenging visitors to our booth with ham radio trivia," he said. Physically located at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, Inderbitzen treated more than 500 visitors to live, online tours from inside Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW.

"It was fun to see a screen full of smiling faces, and to answer questions in real time. The experience had an on-air feel," Inderbitzen said. A short welcome [video](#) greeted visitors at the ARRL booth.

Guth said the organizers' challenge going forward is to reduce the workflow in putting the show together. "But all in all, it was a lot of work, I have a great team, the volunteer speakers and moderators were out of this world, and I am grateful to our sponsors and exhibitors for footing the bill," he added. Read [more](#).



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.

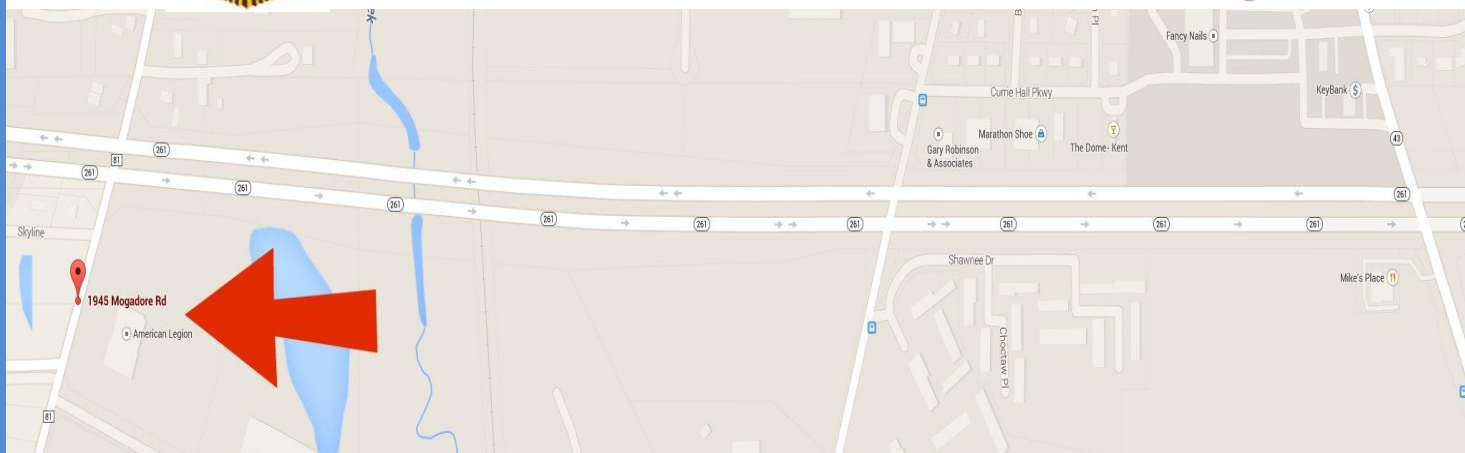


PCARS Meetings

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.

Photos from the August PCARS Meeting





ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®

Membership Application

Application for use by ARRL Affiliated Clubs

Contact Information

☐ I am a **brand new member** or my membership has been lapsed for 2 or more years. My club will keep \$15 of my dues.

☐ I am **renewing** (includes lapsed members of less than 2 years). My club will keep \$2.00 of my dues.

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Get an annual birthday coupon (US only)

My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (\$10 per member)

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Your Annual Membership Dues – Circle Your Choice/s.

	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	
US	\$49	\$95	\$140	Monthly QST via standard mail for US members
Youth	\$25			Must be 21 years old or younger AND the oldest licensed Radio Amateur in the household
Canada	\$62	\$120	\$177	Monthly QST via standard mail for Canadian members
International	\$76	\$147	\$217	Monthly QST via standard mail for International members
International/Canada – no print QST	\$49	\$95	\$140	Digital QST only
Family	\$10	\$20	\$30	Must reside with primary member and have corresponding membership dates; no extra copies of QST
Blind	\$10	\$20	\$30	No QST delivery; all other member benefits apply. Requires a one time signed and dated statement of Legal Blindness

Additional membership options available online at www.arrl.org/join. US Memberships include \$21 per year for subscription to QST. Dues are subject to change without notice and are non-refundable. Only one free book and one monthly issue of QST per family. Memberships may not be combined with any other promotion or special offer.

☐ I do not want my name and address made available for non-ARRL related mailings.

Payment Information

Please charge my ARRL dues less my club's commission. I have paid the commission directly to my club.

\$ _____ Total Charge to: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover ☐ Check Enclosed

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 13th annual

Ohio State Parks On The Air



13th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 12, 2020, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC
(10 am to 6 pm Eastern Time)

There are **75** Ohio State Parks
Make a day of it and join us in the **FUN!**

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



Rules? Entry Forms? Logs? Ohio State Park Information?

Check out **all** the details at: www.OSPOTA.org

Also, visit the OSPOTA IO Group at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA>
While you're at it, check out the PCARS web site at: www.portcars.org

Advice from an Old Hillbilly

- Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
- Keep skunks, bankers, and politicians at a distance.
- Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- A bumblebee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Forgive your enemies; it messes with their heads.
- If you don't take the time to do it right, you'll find the time to do it twice.
- Don't corner something that is meaner than you.
- Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just kill you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You cannot unsay a cruel word.
- Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- Don't be banging your shin on a stool that's not in the way.
- Borrowing trouble from the future doesn't deplete the supply.
- Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Silence is sometimes the best answer.
- Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.
- Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
- The biggest troublemaker you'll ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- Always drink upstream from the herd.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and most of that comes from bad judgment.
- Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
- If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
- Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
- Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.
- Most times, it just gets down to common sense.



Ohio State Parks On The Air contest - Sept. 12th



Thanks & 73



Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor

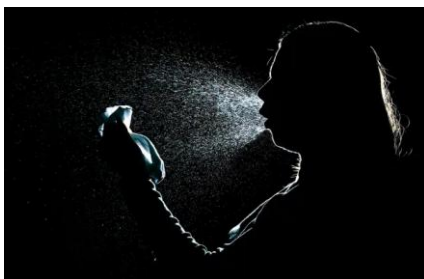


I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards that we do get. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip in and send your report in to keep this newsletter great for 2020 and beyond. You will see some humor based cartoons and articles about the COVID-19 - Yes, I agree this pandemic is VERY serious to all - but in tough times, you just have to have a bit of humor to get you through - I hope you agree. Hang in there, please.

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

WB8LCD, AC8QG, KB8UUZ, NO8D, KE8EGF, KIAR, N8WCP, N8SY, W8KNO, N8WCP, K8CAV, KA8TOA, WL7CG, W8PT, KN4GWY, W8YIH, 4Z1IG, KD8LIR, W8BBQ, WX4QZ, Ham Nation, Royal Observatory of Belgium - Brussels, CQ Magazine, The ARRL, and the world wide web. With *your* continued help – we can keep making this a *great* newsletter.

A **Special Thank You** goes out to PCARS club member **Jennifer, KD8LIR** for sending in photos from the last meeting, the BB-QSO Party and the Cruise-In. Keep taking photos and sending them in Jennifer!!!



The official flag of 2020!



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	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink & Web Guru	K8SRR	Steve Randlett
	Field Day Chairman, 2020	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Membership Chairman	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Net Control Manager	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
~ Meetings & Net ~		Public Information Officer	
2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Secretary	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
	Social Media	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmasters	KD8MQ	John Myers
		K8SRR	Steve Randlett

 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
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	AC8QG	Nick Wagner
	N8FUM	Dan Torchia
	W8GWI	Dave Seckel
	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero



THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The **RADIOGRAM** is the official newsletter of the **Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year** – copyright ©2020. The **RADIOGRAM** is an **Award Winning** newsletter: **ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017 & 2020.** Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KB8UUZ@gmail.com. The **RADIOGRAM** always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The **RADIOGRAM** comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel – think PCARS!**

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



Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)
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Ravenna, OH 44266 USA



NLC

