



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

April 2023 - Volume 18 Number 4



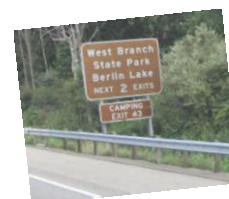
PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Feature Articles	
From the PCARS President	3
From the PCARS Vice President	4
From the ARRL GL Division Director	6
From the ARRL GL Division Vice Director	7
From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager	8
Tech Tips - Finding Stray RF in the Shack	10
On the Road with WG8X	11
STEM Outreach	12
Fun at FYAO 2023	13
Are You a POTA Activator?	13
Contest University	14
South West DX Dinner - Hamvention® 2023	15
Contest Dinner - Hamvention® 2023	16
Top Band Dinner - Hamvention® 2023	16
Field Day 2023 - 20 Meter Station	17
Field Day 2023 - Flex Station	18
Field Day 2023 - CW Station	19
From the ARRL	20
Neutral and Ground Wires	27
Alliance Radio Club Annual Raffle	31
Youth DX Adventure Accepting Applications	31
Net Night at the Club Site	34
From CQ Magazine	34
Ohio NVIS Day - April 22 nd	35
Sun Hat Has Built-In Radio	36
Just for Fun	45
Mark Your Calendar	
Schedule of Events	5
Hamfest Calendar	23
Flex Net	23
Net Info & NCS Schedule	28
Meetings, PCARS	38
VE Test Information & News	39
General Class Test Pool Changes July 1st	42
Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest - April 15 th	43
Portable Ops SIG - Wingfoot State Park April 16th	44
TUSCO Hamfest Flier - April 22 nd	45
Regular Departments	
Happy Birthday PCARS Members	9
PCARS IO Group	9
Coffee Cup - Limited Edition	9
Swap-N-Shop	22
SIG - DX & Contesting	24
SIG - Antennas	25
SIG - Digital	25
SIG - Portable Operations	26
SIG - Could Be Anything	26
Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites	29
PCARS Patches & Stickers PCARS	31
Photos from the last PCARS Meeting	32
Member Ham License Plates Wanted	37
PCARS on YouTube	37

Finals	
Thanks & 73	47
Still Need Some Help Here	47
Fine Print	48



Portage County Amateur Radio Service

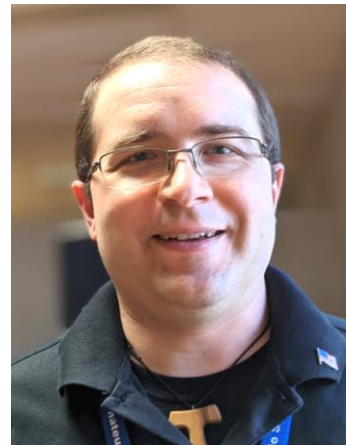


2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

From the President



Nick, AC8QG
PCARS President



Club Site Cleanup

Thank you to everyone who participated in the club site cleanup last month. We have a great site, and thanks to your help it stays that way. We'll continue these cleanup events every few months, but when you're there, remember to do the little things to keep it nice. I appreciate everyone's help maintaining our club site!

Balun Build Day

It was good to see another PCARS build day. This time, the first part was really an educational session. It turns out, I'm not the only ham who can use a bit of help figuring out how to properly and effectively use Baluns, UNUNS, chokes, etc. Many thanks to Jim, AC8NT for giving us a quick refresher course!

If anyone has a recommendation for a future build day project, please let Jim or me know. We always have fun at these events, and we always learn a lot.

Hamvention Youth Forum

Thank you to everyone who donated in support of the Hamvention Youth Forum. As the father of a few young hams, I'm always happy to see how readily PCARS members support youth in the hobby. The Hamvention Youth Forum is a great opportunity for young hams to come together in Dayton, and I know my own family has benefitted from Carole Perry, WB2MGP's efforts with this program.

Remember, the Youth Forum is open to everyone. If you're going to Hamvention, I highly encourage you to come out and see the young presenters this year. Just being there is a great sign of your support, and I think you'll be impressed. Don't miss it!

Field Day

Field Day 2023 is coming up fast and we need your help! We need operators and we need people to help with setup and teardown. There are a lot of time slots still available for operators. Check out the Field Day notes later on in this newsletter to learn more about what is needed.

Field Day is a big event for PCARS, and I'd love to see everyone participate. If you're not sure how you can help, please talk to Tony, WA8AR, any of our station captains, or any of the club officers.

Did you know?

The ARRL has an Elmer Award. They describe it as "a great opportunity to recognize the person who has helped you get started or has furthered your enjoyment of Amateur Radio." There are a lot of hams who function as Elmers. In many ways, these are the people who keep this hobby going.

You can find out more at the ARRL website: <https://www.arrl.org/elmer-award>

From the Vice President



Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



Monthly Meetings that have been scheduled and are in the planning:

- April - Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers will be discussing radio astronomy projects and techniques. Projects range from solar weather to measuring the Milky Way using a hydrogen line receiver. We will have a hydrogen line receiver and the software at the meeting for members to see.
- May - AMSAT's Clint Bradford, K8LCS will be discussing how hams can have more fun with current and future satellite projects.
- We are trying to schedule a speaker on the history of amateur radio. He works at the Smithsonian and has access to some actual equipment.
- Tom WB8LCD is working to get a presentation on the selection of your next piece of gear. Specs aren't everything.

Please, if you have any suggestions for speakers, please let me know. We want to have speakers you are interested in and want to hear.

Balun Build

We had a good time at this month's balun build. Lots of good questions and discussions. We have a few of the 50 ohm 1:1 current balun kits available if you are interested. We also have materials for a 9:1 unun if you work with Endfed antennas. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find an article on how to build a sensor for detecting RF in cables. It is a fun and easy project that provides a very useful tool.

New Computers

The club purchased three new computers for the operations room. With these new computers and the two that were already replaced, we will have much better support for our operations. We will be loading all the computers with the same software. All the software necessary to support digital modes, RTTY and CW will be loaded on each machine. Any station will be able to support any mode of operation. This will increase flexibility of operation. It is a lot of software to load, but it will be completed the first week in April.

On the home front, I am finishing my portable vertical antenna for working POTA. JC, KC8JC, has shown me just how quick this antenna can be setup at a park, and I want to work more parks. With this addition to my go-bag I should be able to setup and tear down in my goal of 10 minutes.

Get on the air. The bands are great. Help educate the public in our great hobby/sport. I don't forget to have some **"Big Fun"**.



Schedule of Events



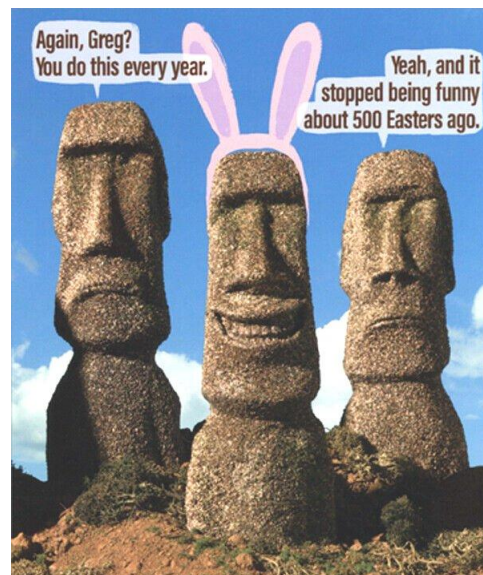
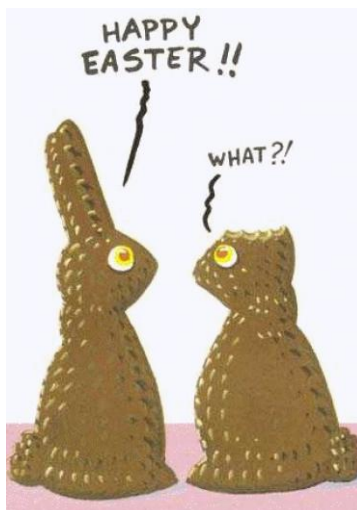
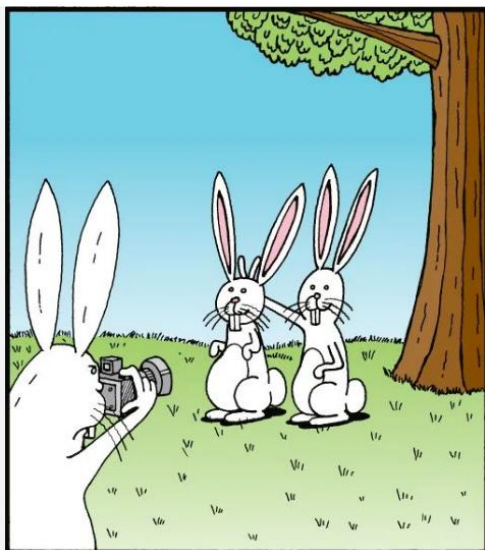
- April 1st - VE Testing at the club site - starts at 10 am
- April 3rd - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site & Zoom - 7 pm
- April 9th - Easter Sunday
- April 10th - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion & Zoom - 7 pm
- April 16th - K8BF POTA at Wingfoot State Park - 11 am to 3 pm - see flier
- April 22nd - Earth Day
- April 29-30th - FL QSO Party - K8BF On the Air at the club site



Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

- First Tuesday - **Digital Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
- Second Tuesday - **Portable Ops Special Interest Group** - Moderator: John, WG8X
- Third Tuesday - **Antenna Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Bob, N8QE
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
- Fifth Tuesday - **Could Be Anything Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, KD8WCK

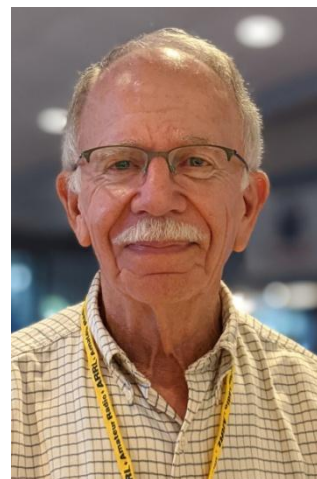
Fourth Thursday - Net Night at the Club Site - 6:30 pm - Moderator: Tom, WB8LCD



From the Great Lakes Division Director



Dale, WA8EFK
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director



**Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for
April 2023**

The sudden and tragic loss of Michigan Section Manager Les Butler W8MSP stunned us all and now our thoughts go out to Karen KB8AKC in this very trying time. Les was a familiar visitor at Michigan hamfests and meetings, both as Section Manager and as a very active QSL Card Checker. His enthusiasm, smile and eagerness to assist and promote amateur radio and ARRL will leave a huge void in our lives. Stepping in and offering to serve as Section Manager is Larry Camp WB8R who held the Michigan SM post only a few years ago. Larry has been officially appointed by ARRL Field Services Manager Mike Walters W8ZY to serve Les' unexpired term.

Upcoming ARISS Space Station contacts include a scheduled event in Grand Rapids, MI at the West Michigan Aviation Academy. These dates are always tentative as they are dependent upon activities taking place upon the International Space Station, but we have been advised that the planned date currently falls between April 17 and 22. A total of 9 of the submitted proposals during the recent proposal window have been accepted to move forward in the processes of planning to host a scheduled amateur radio contact with crew on the ISS and the West Michigan Aviation Academy was among those selected for this year's January to June time period. The primary goal of the ARISS program is to engage young people in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) activities and raise their awareness of space communications, radio communications, space exploration, and related areas of study and career possibilities.

As your ARRL Director, I have been privileged to attend four of these events and I must report that watching the faces of the students and the other attendees when the contact with the Station is established is truly over-the-top exciting and amazing. The room goes from dead silence and apprehension to hushed thrills and near bedlam when the ISS answers. "Hushed" because everyone is asked to be as quiet as possible during the contact. Ten to 14 students are selected to speak with the Astronaut and ask challenging questions about the ISS, space and the space program.

These ISS Contacts are made possible through outstanding efforts by local radio clubs. Cooperating clubs install antennas, tracking rotators, transceivers, back-up equipment and ties into auditorium PA equipment to make the contacts so effective.

ARRL Members take note, Headquarters will be conducting a membership survey the entire month of May to determine your input about how our membership can be bundled. Rising costs in every category of our operation (and life) affect how we continue to support our members. Interestingly, we have some options for how we can support membership with digital, vs printed publications as they are included as part of membership. Your direct input regarding some of these options is needed and valued in this survey, look for the survey to appear on the arrl.org web page in early May.



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®

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From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Scott, N8SY

ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director



First let me say that March 8th was a very sad day for all of us here in the Great Lakes Division with the loss of Les Butler, W8MSP the Michigan Section Manager. He was a friend to everyone that he met. His smile and great love for people and ham radio will always be in our hearts and minds. Rest in Peace my good friend.

Well, it's April 1st so, let the jokes begin!!! Mother Nature looks like she's the first in line with this strangely odd weather pattern that seems to keep repeating itself over and over this year. And of course, Spring has sprung for sure and so have a bunch of hamfests. I've had the privilege of attending quite a few of them lately and there's a full calendar of them looking ahead! It's great getting back out and being able to talk to everyone once again. I'm so looking forward to May and better weather. And, speaking of May, that really signals the beginning of lots of warmer weather coming and of course, the Dayton Hamvention. Have you gotten your tickets and rooms reserved for Hamvention yet? You know it's only 49 days away, so you'd better get on the stick quickly, as room reservations are going fast! Oh, if you haven't noticed this yet, the Hamvention is also going to be the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention this year as well!!! With our Division Convention comes the tradition of awarding some very special folks for their contributions over the years. Now, before anyone can receive these awards, we will need your nominations for them. Please, take a look at the details for all of these special awards and complete the nomination form to nominate a deserving person. Go to: http://arrl-greatlakes.org/awards_criteria.html for all the award details and nominations form.

Keeping with the Convention theme just a bit more... The Great Lakes Division will once again have a booth at Hamvention inside the ARRL area, just like last year. We are asking everyone to bring a QSL Card with them to post on the Division's Brag Board. We were overwhelmed last year with the amount of great QSL Cards that we got. This year we are making sure that you know well in advance so that we can have even more cards on display. And, we WILL have a much larger Brag Board to display all the great cards we get! Be sure to stop by... and don't forget to bring your QSL card with you to post!

Shifting gears... I want to congratulate my old friend, Larry Camp, WB8R for being willing to step back into the arena by once again taking on the role of Section Manager for the Michigan Section. Yes, Larry has agreed to complete Les' term that ends at the end of this year. Who knows, he may even be coerced into sticking around and run for a term or two of his own!

Shifting Gears again... World Amateur Radio Day is coming up on Tuesday, April 18th. Is your club doing any kind of special event or operating that day? If not, it's not too late to put something together and have a blast doing it. Remember, World Amateur Radio Day is to celebrate all the contributions that amateurs have made to their communities and citizens around the world.

Shifting gears... Have you found time to get on the air and work any of the stations for the Volunteers On The Air (VOTA) Contest? It's been a blast the few times that I've had a chance to get on and just working a few here and there.

Whelp, that's going to do it from here this month. Stay safe and "Catch Me On The Air"!!!



From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Tom, WB8LCD
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Ohio Section Manager's Information

The first 25% of this year is almost gone. What have you been doing to reach your Amateur Radio goals? Goals are important in all areas of our lives, most especially Ham Radio! If you don't have goals, and you aren't working towards them with a specific plan, then you are not in charge of your own Ham Radio destiny and/or enjoyment. Here's your assignment for this week:

- 1) Create your own "Ham Radio Bucket List". If you're at all serious about Ham Radio, your list will probably have somewhere between 25 – 100 items listed on it. I don't care how long you've been a ham, none of us have done it all!
- 2) Rank your list as to the most important things (the things you are most passionate about and won't be happy unless you get it done) on down to the things that hey, if it doesn't happen, I'll still be OK.
- 3) Take your top 10% and start writing an "action plan" to get those done. Even if it will take years to complete, write the plan NOW and start taking the first steps to completing it as soon as possible!

This is how you get things done. It's too easy to say, "I've got all this little stuff to do, I'll get that done and then work on the big stuff". That's a formula for failure. You'll spend your whole life doing little stuff that really doesn't matter, and you'll never get to the big, important stuff. The important thing is, it's up to you to do it. It's the difference between a life wasted on the trivial, or well spent on things that matter. Ham Radio matters.

Two of my favorite Ham Radio activities are coming up quick – Hamvention and Field Day. I'll take these in chronological order.

Hamvention – the biggest, and the best Ham Radio Show in the world! And, if you're here in the Ohio Section reading this, this is a "Must Do" this year, and every year. The best thing about it is it's right in your own backyard. People come from all over the world for this, and they do it every year! The best of everything ham radio has to offer is represented there. I guarantee you'll come back more excited about your hobby than you ever thought possible.

There are lots of forums to take advantage of, and I want to invite you to start your Hamvention experience at 9:15am on Friday morning in Forum Room 4. I'll be doing a presentation on "The Importance of Amateur Radio Clubs" and there will be a lot of good information on making your club one of the better clubs in the country! All taken from my experience with the outstanding clubs of the Ohio Section. I hope I'll see you there.

Field Day – one of the best Ham Radio weekends you'll ever experience. And I can't stress enough that it will be even better as we move up the sunspot cycle and get everything that cycle 25 has in store for us. Even though it's called Field DAY – it's a weekend of non-stop Amateur Radio activity where you can learn an awful lot about Radio, Contesting, your local club and its members, and about yourself and what your Amateur Radio interests really are. Be there.



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

PCARS members having their birthday in April:

AD8IR	Agnes
KE8LWL	Mark
W8YIH	Sylvester
KC8FQV	Mark
WB2DFC	Dave
N8QE	Bob

W8MET	Metro
N8LRS	Linda
W8JJW	John
KW8KW	William
K1ZZ	David
KE8EGG	Alice



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

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.

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

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition - Almost Gone

PCARS has obtained a limited 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 - Greg, KA8TOA**. Greg has a list of current members and will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.



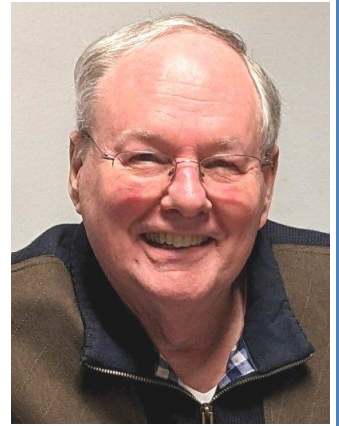
There are a **very limited number of extra coffee cups** for sale at \$5.00 each.

Contact Greg for all of the details: Treasurer@portcars.org



Tech Tips - Finding Stray RF in the Shack

Jim, AC8NT



This month's topic: The "Ouchmiter"

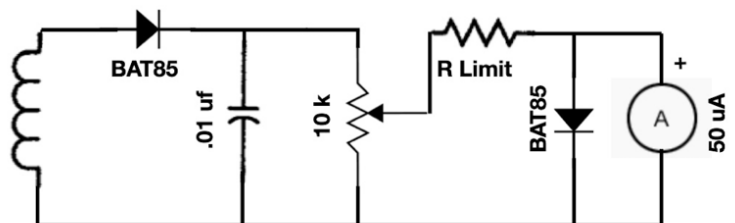
This month we completed a balun build at the club site. As part of the build, we had some great technical discussions about eliminating RF in the shack. How do you know if there is RF traveling in that USB cable or in the cable to your favorite key? When I made it home, I started to setup to do some DX and on the bench, I saw my RF sniffer. I call it my "Ouchmiter" (Please excuse my terrible German) because it can stop you from getting RF burns that are *very painful* and take a long time to heal. It finds stray RF traveling in cables or on the outside of coax cables (common mode currents). Before we get started with the project, I must mention that this device is NOT a device that can be calibrated. It only provides a relative measurement of the RF strength.



So how do you use it? You simply clip the cable to be tested into the ferrite at the top of the meter. If the meter pegs, it is telling you there is significant RF in the cable. Adjust the meter gain knob to get the meter to read without pegging. By installing ferrites on the cable, replacing the cable with a good, shielded cable, or fixing the bonding and grounding situation in your shack fix the problem. Using the meter, remeasure to see improvement. For those of you using an Endfed antenna, remember the outside of your coax may be your counterpoise and if it is, will be carrying a significant amount of RF on purpose.

How is it built? The circuit is very simple as you can see from the schematic. Most of the components can be found in your junk box or on Amazon. Let's look at the circuit. It is very simple.

The coil shown on the left is the sensor coil. It is made by passing about 10 turns of enameled wire (22 gauge will work nicely) through the sensing snap-on ferrite mounted on the top of the meter. The BAT85 is a Schottky diode used with the .01 uf capacitor to convert the RF into DC. The 10k pot is used to scale the DC value to a value within the meters range. The second BAT85 is used to protect the meter from damage. I used a 50 uA meter but a 100 uA will work just fine. The R Limit resistor can be used to further limit the current to the meter. I would install a 2k resistor to start and adjust for better full-scale readings. R Limit allows a better range of control by the pot. The pot can be just about any linear pot from 2.5k to 20k. Use one from your junk pile. The complete device can be mounted in a small plastic box.



This device was very valuable when testing different USB cables. After testing over a dozen, I found the TRIPP cables the best. They make a very high-quality shielded cable and have ferrites on both ends. One of the cables I tested came from Banggood and really pegged the meter. If you are having RF problems in your shack, this device may help you get rid of those nasty issues. If you have any questions or would like to see my "Ouchmiter" let me know.



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





John, WG8X



Still Going After Them All in Ohio

Well, my work situation has begun to stabilize, and I will be 2 weeks into a new job by the time this sees print. Things got kind of hectic about 6 months back, and it was tough to find much time for any road trips to activate new parks. I've been taking a few hours here and there to scratch that itch, but not many new ones have been added to my list.

March has been better though; I've been concentrating on Ohio's North coast in a series of three trips. The month began with a trip to Chardon, to activate the Hambden Orchard State Wildlife area (K-9468). After getting enough contacts there, I moved on to Mentor; the home of the James A. Garfield National Historic site. I did not take the tour, but the grounds are awesome. I hope to go back some day to explore.



The following weekend, since I was up in Elyria for the NOARS Winter Hamfest, a non-direct route home via Sandusky seemed in order. That detour resulted in several more references* getting wiped off my list. This really whetted my appetite for the North Coast.

The following Sunday was the Toledo Hamfest, so I hit the road on Saturday morning, and knocked 4 more off my list before grabbing a hotel room for the night.

Currently, I have X'ed 183 Ohio references off my list; only 88 left. I hope to activate them all before POTA opens the flood gates and allows more parks to be added to the system.

It should take two more trips to the Toledo area to finish up NW Ohio. You can follow along with my progress by bookmarking <https://wg8x.net/my-ohio-pota-map/>.

** A reference is any entity that is on the Parks On The Air® list. This could include State Parks, Wildlife areas, Nature preserves, and more. Keep in mind that local & county parks are not eligible to be added to the list. You can find the entire list at <https://pota.app>.*



Jim, AC8NT



We attended the ACESS (Akron Council of Engineering and Scientific Societies) STEM Expo on March 30th at Akron University. We cohosted with IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers). Jim Dowey, Chair of the Akron/Canton Section of IEEE helped me work the table. We had over 80 middle school students and 30 teachers see our presentation on “Tuning in Radio”.



Unfortunately, we were in the middle of the Akron University Student Union and could not setup an antenna. We did, using examples on laptops, show what can be accomplished using ham radio, radio astronomy, satellites. We also provided a list of teacher resources provided by IEEE, AMSAT, SARA and the ARRL.

Student interest was high. Teacher interest was even higher. The downside was we had 80 5th-7th graders in a relatively small area, and it was incredibly loud. We could have never operated in that environment. I am writing this at 5:30 AM and I have 4 emails from teachers requesting more information. I consider that a success.



A couple of interesting points. We are always faced with the fact the public doesn't know what ham radio is or why it is useful. What I found interesting was a lot of the students didn't know what “Radio” was. They were surprised to find out that radio was how the lights were turned on by their Amazon Echo and Google devices.

The second point is that they were a lot more interested in radio when we demonstrated listening to the stars and receiving slow scan images. They then realized that radio was the tool necessary to doing some of the “cool stuff”.

Third we found that most of the teachers had no idea of the tools available to help them teach about radio, astronomy, satellites and electronics. We provided them with a detailed list of resources including grant information, lesson plans, and demonstration resources. If this morning is any example, we developed some serious interest.



We need to attend more of these events. Events like this allow us to reach more people that need-to-know what radio and ham radio are about. It is concerning that if some politicians wanted to further limit our spectrum or eliminate ham radio all together, there would be little public resistance because the public simply had no idea of its use. We really need to increase public awareness.



Fun at FYAO 2023

John, WG8X

FYAO - Well, I sure missed the boat last month. Things were so busy at work, that I totally forgot to write up anything about my experience at FYAO.

So, February 11th was a beautiful sunny day; maybe a little bit cold. I ran solo this time, as life got in the way for the rest of the K8PRC team.



The temperature wasn't too bad, and the bands were in great shape. Still, I only managed about 24 contacts, half of them using FT8, which seemed to be the mode of choice this year.

The rig that day was the Xiegu G106. it worked well for the most part, but there were some issues with RF getting into the transmitted audio on 20 Meters. The lesson learned was to not have the 9:1 balun tied off to a support post only 2 feet from the rig. Lesson learned there. The G106 is an able rig for a casual activation, I still prefer my FT-891.

As usual, the food was great, and we had a great crowd of people who came out to sign the guest log. Thanks to Chuck for organizing this great event each year.



Are you a POTA Activator?

John, WG8X

Top 10 signs that you might be a POTA activator

With apologies to David Letterman, here are my top ten signs that you might be a POTA activator. Feel free to add more. If I get enough of them, I will submit them for a future issue.

1. When doing a road trip, you seldom take the direct route to or from anywhere.
2. You get excited over brown road signs; they sometimes indicate POTA opportunities!
3. Back seat? What's a back seat? Oh, you mean the storage area for POTA gear!
4. You know and refer to all local parks by their K-number, rather than their actual name.
5. You know the opening & closing times for most parks in a 100 mi radius.
6. No choice of destination is complete without checking to see which POTA parks might be nearby.
7. You can speak intelligently about what types of batteries and equipment are allowable on a domestic flight.
8. Speaking of vacation, when faced with clothes vs radio gear when packing, the radio gear usually wins. After all, how many pair of pants do you need?
9. You've owned & used a hitch mount flagpole mast for years but have never displayed a flag in it.
10. At any time, you can set up a Multi transmitter station using only the contents of your back seat POTA storage area.



Contest University - 2023

Contest University

Tim, K3LR
Contest University Chairman



Registration is now open for the 2023 Dayton Contest University (CTU) to be held all day on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the Hope Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. This is the day before Hamvention opens in Xenia, Ohio. CTU 2022 Dayton was amazing - we expect 2023 CTU to be even better!

Eight different countries have hosted CTUs over the past 14 years: USA, Australia, Russia, Germany, Italy, England, Brazil, and Finland. Over 8,500 students have attended these CTUs with more than 100 CTU professors sharing their contesting experiences.

2023 will be the 14th year for CTU Dayton. To give you an idea of the quality of the CTU content and activities, you can see videos and PDF presentations from past CTUs on their website.

The 2023 CTU Dayton course outline will be posted once all of the courses have been confirmed. Check the website for updates. Each presentation is carefully prepared with up-to-date information. The CTU professors are experienced testers and will share their knowledge.

There are scholarships (registration fee paid) available for CTU through a grant from the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) for students who are up to 25 years old. Please use the "contact us" button on the CTU website to get more information. Also, 2023 student registration information is on the CTU website.

As we did last year, if you want to sign up for the 2023 Dayton CTU and you have given a talk (or will give one by Hamvention 2023) about amateur radio to a ham radio club, Hamfest, or group by May 18, 2023, you qualify for a \$10 discount on your registration fee. Please choose the "Registration with club talk discount" option to get the discount. Spreading the word about amateur radio is lots of fun and can save you money at CTU!

Thanks to all of the CTU sponsors, including Icom America, DX Engineering, the Northern California DX Foundation, The YASME Foundation, the Radio Club of America, and CQ Magazine for making CTU possible.

Thanks to Teri Grizer, K8MNJ; Amy Leggiero, N8AMY and Jerry Haislip, K1SO for all of their help with CTU. Special thanks to Scott Neader, KA9FOX, from qth.com for hosting and constructing the CTU headquarters website.

See you in Dayton at CTU 2023 and Happy New Year.

The screenshot shows the Contest University website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: Home, 2023 Course Outline, 2023 Professor Bios, Files, Videos, and Contact Us. The main header features the 'Contest University' logo and the event details: 'Hope Hotel, Thurs, May 18, 2023, Wright Patterson AFB, OH USA'. The main text states: 'Contest University will be held on Thursday May 18, 2023, from 7:00am to 5:00pm, at the Hope Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. This is the day before the Dayton Hamvention officially opens. Don't miss this rare opportunity to gain knowledge that may take you years of practice, trial and error or lost time to learn otherwise. Get the edge to improve your scores and put your station in the winners circle today!'. Below this is a 'Register Now' button and the URL 'https://www.contestuniversity.com/registration/'. A footer note thanks KA9FOX and QTH.com for donating web design and hosting services. On the right side, there are sections for 'Premier Sponsors' (DX Engineering, ICOM) and 'Additional Sponsors' (YASME Foundation, Northern California DX Foundation, Radio Club of America, QTH.com, Dayton Hamvention).



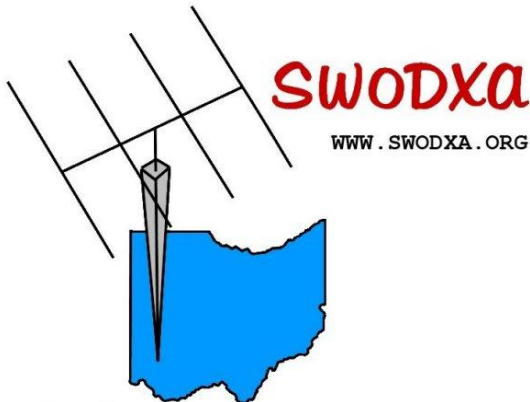
South West DX Dinner - Hamvention® 2023

Bill, AJ8B

South West Ohio DX Association



The (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2023 Dayton Hamvention. This, our 38th annual dinner, will be Friday, May 19th, 2023, at the University of Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.



We will have another fantastic array of great prizes at the Dinner and the Forum on Saturday!

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. Following the event, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages.

The Marriott is very accommodating to a group our size. The dining room is very large and located on the ground floor so there are no steps and there is ample free, on-site parking.

This dinner is always well attended by some of the most avid DXers in the world. Previous dinners had over 400 attendees! As in the past, there will be some major door prizes, and there is always great anticipation as to who will be named the "DXpedition of the Year" as well as who will be inducted in to the CQ DX Hall of Fame. The keynote speaker will be Adrian Ciuperca, KO8SCA.

Tickets can be purchased on the SWODXA Events website. More information can be found on the club website: <https://www.swodxa.org/> Program details and a list of the prizes will be on the website as they become available, and updates will be sent out regularly via Twitter. Follow us on Twitter - @SWODXA



Contest Dinner - Hamvention® 2023

Contest Dinner

29th Annual Dayton Contest Dinner is May 20, 2023

The North Coast Contesters will host the 29th Annual Dayton Contest Dinner at the Hope Hotel, located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, on Saturday night, May 20, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

Master of Ceremonies will be John Dorr, K1AR, and the 2023 Keynote Speaker is Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO. Rascoll, of Montgomery, Alabama, was the 2018 recipient of the Bill Pasternak Memorial Amateur Radio Newline Young Ham of the Year Award. He is also known as a competitive tester who is able to send CW over 60 WPM.

The 2023 CQ Contest Hall of Fame inductees will also be announced during the 2023 Dayton Contest Dinner.

Tickets are on sale now. <https://www.contestdinner.com/>



Top Band Dinner - Hamvention® 2023



Tim, K3LR
Top Band Dinner Chairman

Annual Dayton TopBand dinner

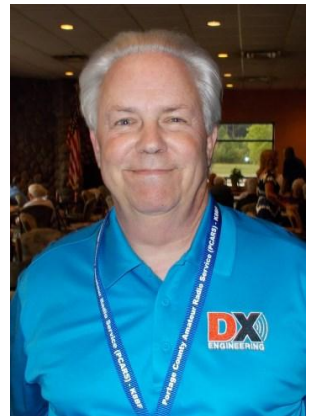
Continuing the great Dayton Top Band Dinner tradition that George, K8GG and George, W8UVZ started, I am proud to announce the Annual Dayton TopBand dinner. Dinner reservations are now available for 2023!

Friday evening May 19, 2023 at the Hope Hotel. Top Band Social hour is at 6:00 PM and Dinner starts at 7:00 PM. Come and have dinner with the guys you work on 160 meters and enjoy great TopBand discussions.

I am proud to announce that our featured speaker will be Jon, AA1K. He has worked 329 DX countries on 160! In addition to AA1K we will pass the mic so everyone can introduce themselves. We will also have the exciting TopBand DXCC count down.

The 2023 Dayton TopBand Dinner details are here: <http://topbanddinner.com> Scroll down to make your reservations. Thanks to Teri, K8MNJ for coordinating and organizing the TopBand Dinner.

If you enjoy having fun on the 160 meter band, the Annual Top Band Dinner is for you! Hope to see you at the 2023 Dayton TopBand Dinner



Field Day 2023 - 20 Meter Station



Mike, N8WCP
20 Meter Station Captain



Field Day is the most popular annual event for amateur radio operators. It's an opportunity to test our technical skills, emergency preparedness, and have fun!

We have six slots remaining so if you're up to the challenge, send me an email with your preferred time slot at n8wcp.us@gmail.com.

DAY	UTC	LOCAL TIME	OPERATOR
SAT 24 TH	1800 - 2000	2:00P - 4:00P	Bob, N8QE
SAT 24 TH	2000 - 2200	4:00P - 6:00P	Chuck, W8PT
SAT 24 TH	2200 - 0000	6:00P - 8:00P	Mike, N8WCP
SAT 24 TH	0000 - 0200	8:00P - 10:00P	Greg, KA8TOA
SAT 24 TH	0200 - 0400	10:00P - 12:00A	Ben, AD8FQ & Agnes, AD8IR
SUN 25 TH	0400 - 0600	12:00A - 2:00A	
SUN 25 TH	0600 - 0800	2:00A - 4:00A	
SUN 25 TH	0800 - 1000	4:00A - 6:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1000 - 1200	6:00A - 8:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1200 - 1400	8:00A - 10:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1400 - 1600	10:00A - 12:00P	Chuck, W8PT
SUN 25 TH	1600 - 1800	12:00P - 2:00P	



Field Day 2023 - Flex Station



Rick, K8CAV
Flex Station Captain



2023 PCARS Flex Station Objectives

The 2022 PCARS Field Day team scored 11,766 points, the second highest in Class 4A in the nation. The Huntsville ARC scored highest at 16,650 points. The 2023 PCARS Field Day team has set an objective of scoring 17,000 points for 2023. Taking into account the 2022 PCARS submission of bonus points of 1,690, and a power multiplier of x2 for 100 watts or less power, each of the four Field Day stations will have to score 1,914 points total, or 80 points per hour, to reach this objective.

Any mix of phone, digital, or cw contacts as shown below will get Flex to our objective of 1,914 points for 2023:

Phone contacts (1x mult.) 80 contacts/hour = 1.33 contacts/minute = .75 min (45 sec)/contact

Digital Contacts (2x mult.) 40 contacts/hour = 0.67 contacts/minute = 1.5 min (90 sec)/contact

CW contacts (2x mult.) 40 contacts/hour = 0.67 contacts/minute = 1.5 min (90 sec)/contact

For FT8 and FT4, assuming a minimum of 3 periods per successful QSO:

FT8 (30 second period) will take 1.5 minutes/90 seconds for a successful QSO

FT4 (15 second period) will take .75 minutes/45 seconds for a successful QSO

I am currently working on strategies and tactics to help us achieve this objective, and should be ready to present the plan to the Flex team before the end of April. More important than any other strategy or tactic to support our objective is having every one of periods during Field Day staffed by operators who are committed to doing the best job they can make contacts. As you can see from the Flex Station Schedule, we're already half way there but I need your help to fill the remaining periods. For those who don't regularly participate in Field Day or contests, we are going to be holding training sessions on the IC-7300 radio that will be used at Flex, FT4 and FT8 digital modes used during Field Day, and the N3FJP logging program. If you're interested in operating at the Flex Station, please send an email to me at k8cav.coms@gmail.com.

DAY	LOCAL TIME	Mode	OPERATOR(S)
SAT 24 TH	2:00P - 4:00P	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	Jim, AC8NT JC, KC8JC
SAT 24 TH	4:00P - 6:00P	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	Bob, N8QE
SAT 24 TH	6:00P - 8:00P	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	Ken, WA8LRW
SAT 24 TH	8:00P - 10:00P	80M PH, CW, or DIG	Ken, WA8LRW
SAT 24 TH	10:00P - 12:00A	80M PH, CW, or DIG	
SUN 25 TH	12:00A - 2:00A	80M PH, CW, or DIG	
SUN 25 TH	2:00A - 4:00A	80M PH, CW, or DIG	
SUN 25 TH	4:00A - 6:00A	80M PH, CW, or DIG	
SUN 25 TH	6:00A - 8:00A	80M PH, CW, or DIG	Gene, W8NET & John, KE8MXR
SUN 25 TH	8:00A - 10:00A	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	Andrew, KE8BWA
SUN 25 TH	10:00A - 12:00P	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	Bob, N8QE
n8qe	12:00P - 2:00P	10M, 15M PH, DIG or CW; 20M DIG *	

FLEX & CW to cooperate on 20M & 40M so both are not on the same band at the same time; CW has band priority on 20M & 40M; FLEX has band priority on 80M

* If 10M and/or 15M is open make QSO's using PH, CW, or DIG, otherwise use the 20M or 40M band DIG as indicated for that time slot.



Field Day 2023 - CW Station



George, K3GP
CW Station Captain



Again this year, we will be operating CW from the comfort of a dedicated, enclosed trailer - shielded from the sun and inclement weather.

We anticipate either a 3 or 4 hour shift per operator, depending on the number of volunteers.

Please let me know if you care to join us so that I can develop a preliminary schedule.
Mobile: 330-495-9123 or email: rttyfan@gmail.com

DAY	UTC	LOCAL TIME	OPERATOR
SAT 24 TH	1800 - 2000	2:00P - 4:00P	
SAT 24 TH	2000 - 2200	4:00P - 6:00P	
SAT 24 TH	2200 - 0000	6:00P - 8:00P	
SAT 24 TH	0000 - 0200	8:00P - 10:00P	
SAT 24 TH	0200 - 0400	10:00P - 12:00A	
SUN 25 TH	0400 - 0600	12:00A - 2:00A	
SUN 25 TH	0600 - 0800	2:00A - 4:00A	
SUN 25 TH	0800 - 1000	4:00A - 6:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1000 - 1200	6:00A - 8:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1200 - 1400	8:00A - 10:00A	
SUN 25 TH	1400 - 1600	10:00A - 12:00P	
SUN 25 TH	1600 - 1800	12:00P - 2:00P	



PCARS

ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

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





World Amateur Radio Day is April 18

In less than a month, 2023 World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) will be celebrated, literally, around the world!

WARD is held on April 18 every year and is celebrated by radio amateurs and their national associations which are organized as member-societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president.

The IARU [announced previously](#) that Human Security for All (HS4A) will be this year's World Amateur Radio Day theme. The day is being celebrated with a 2-week operating event occurring April 11 - 25. Special event stations will be operating from around the world, making two-way radio contacts to call attention to the HS4A campaign. The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security describes 'human security' as "a more powerful, lasting approach to the most difficult deficits in peace and development," such as poverty, war, and natural disasters.

ARRL encourages all radio amateurs to take to the airwaves for WARD, to enjoy our global friendship with other amateurs, and to show our skills and capabilities to the public.

More information about 2023 World Amateur Radio Day is available at www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day and www.iaru.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day.

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HamCation 2023 Attendance Update

Orlando HamCation announced the attendance number for this year's 76th annual event, which was held February 10 - 12 at the 87-acre lakefront Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Park.

This year's attendance was the third largest for HamCation, at 21,830.

HamCation organizers reported the weather was great during show hours and the rain held off each night until after closing.

A big thank you was issued to all the sponsors, volunteers, visitors, and vendors for their participation, dedication, and making HamCation a true five-star event.

Planning is already underway for next year's HamCation, which will be held February 9 - 11, 2024. Dates have already been set for the following three years:

HamCation 2025: February 7-9 HamCation 2026: February 13-15 HamCation 2027: February 12-14

For more information, visit the [HamCation](#) website

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Tornado Season and SKYWARN®

Tornado season is fast approaching, and amateur radio operators will again play a key role in helping the National Weather Service (NWS) issue accurate and timely warnings. In fact, March through May is considered the most active period for tornadoes to develop.

The NWS reports there have already been 255 preliminary filtered reported tornadoes and 213 confirmed tornadoes in the United States in 2023. Worldwide, nine tornado-related deaths have been confirmed, all of them in the United States.

January saw the third-highest number of tornado watches and confirmed tornadoes of any January on record in the United States. Additionally, the first two months of the year saw the fourth-highest number of confirmed tornadoes for the first 59 days of any year on record.

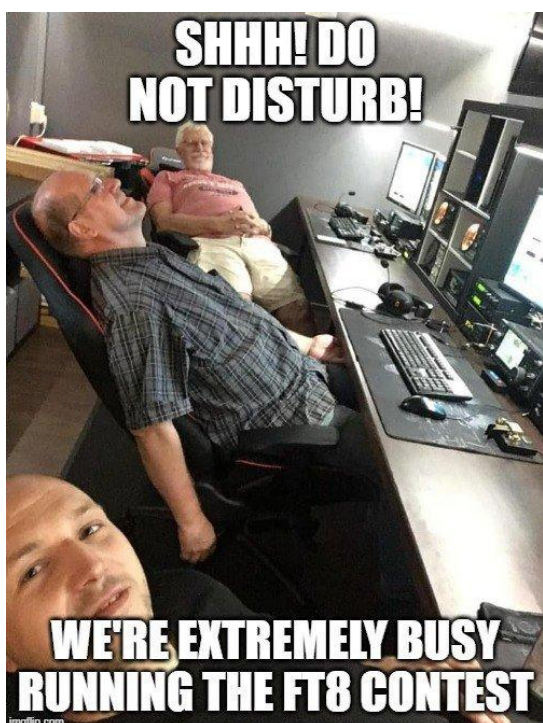
The SKYWARN® (weather.gov) Storm Spotter Program is available to anyone interested in helping the NWS track and report potentially dangerous weather. Anyone can become a SKYWARN weather spotter, and the information is available at the SKYWARN website. Most states have amateur radio networks that are activated during severe weather. Trained volunteers use their radios to report rapidly changing activity and share the information with local weather offices. A list of the states that have scheduled special weather awareness activities can be found at the [NWS Awareness and Preparedness Calendar \(weather.gov\)](https://weather.gov).

The NWS Forecast office in Norman, Oklahoma, uses amateur radio as one method of communicating with spotter groups and emergency management organizations. For decades, amateur radio operators have provided invaluable service in support of the SKYWARN storm spotter program by using their unique communications capabilities to share critical information between the NWS, the local emergency management officials, and storm spotter networks.

In 1999, the NWS, along with ARRL, founded SKYWARN Recognition Day to honor the voluntary contributions of thousands of amateur radio operators who play a critical role in keeping the public safe and informed about severe weather conditions. The day is celebrated on the first Saturday in December, and amateur radio spotters can earn awards for participating.

The 2022 NWS Spotter of the Year Award was given to Bryan Loper, WX5CSS, of Atlanta, Texas. The award noted that Loper is very active with the amateur radio network and weather community within the Arkansas/Louisiana/Texas region, and is always reliably providing weather reports. Loper is an ARRL member.

To learn more about amateur radio licensing and SKYWARN visit [ARRL.org](https://www.arrl.org).



FOR SALE: WEST MOUNTAIN RADIO PWRCrimp Crimp tool for 15, 30 and 45 amp powerpole connectors. Like new, in factory box, with instructions. \$20.00 **YAESU FT1000MP transceiver** Good Condition, has optional roofing filter and optional SSB and CW filters, operating manual \$550.00 **TEKTRONIX MODEL 453 OSCILLOSCOPE** - Larger older scope in marginal operating condition. **FREE!** Items can be picked up in Alliance -OR- I can deliver at a PCARS meeting

Contact: George K3GP at 330-495-9123 or email: rttyfan@gmail.com [06/23]

FOR SALE: Cushcraft A50-5S 5 Element, 6 Meter beam. This has been on my tower for about 5 years. I'm changing up the antenna system, and have no use for this beam. It is due to come down on November 26th. \$75.00. **Channel**



Master AR-303 Light Duty Rotator and controller combo. I bought it used, and took it to Field Day a couple times to turn my 6-Meter Moxon. It would be good for a small VHF beam, or TV antenna. This is a mast mount rotor. Comes with approximately 50'



of 3-conductor control wire. \$75.00 **Hy-Gain AR-40 Light Duty Rotator** and controller combo. Comes with the bottom mast mount bracket. Can handle up to 3.5 sq ft wind load when mounted inside of tower. Working, but I replaced it a few weeks ago while the tower was on the ground. The 5-conductor control wire is not included. \$100.00

Contact: John Myers, WG8X at john@wg8x.net, or 330-936-5021 [04/23]

Available FREE to anyone who owns a Kenwood TS-2000 Transceiver: Kenwood TS-2000, non-functioning. The X53-3910-00 Control Unit board is defective and unfortunately, no longer available. The transceiver was fully functional prior to the connector on the Control Unit board going bad, so all other boards and parts can be used as spares for your TS-2000. This transceiver is generously being made available by Bob, K8AAB. Bob would prefer that it be made available free, to any PCARS member who owns a TS-2000.

Contact Rick K8CAV at k8cav.coms@gmail.com [04/23]

FOR SALE: Palstar LA-1K solid-state amplifier - \$3000, **Palstar HF-Auto tuner** - \$1200 if sold together - \$4000. **Swan 600 Custom receiver & 600T transmitter (rare), digital readout** - \$1000, **QRP A.M. Transceiver** for 75 / 80 meters Class-E modulation - \$100, **RIGOL DM3068 service bench DVM** - \$400, **Bird 4362 (Ham-mate) wattmeter** 140-180 MHz - \$100, **Drake W-4 wattmeter** - \$100, **Drake WV-4 wattmeter (20 to 200 MHz)** - \$100 with WV-4 for spare parts, **Autek WM-1 dual reading wattmeter** (remote coupler) - \$150, **Autek RF-5 VHF/UHF antenna analyzer** - \$50, **Elecraft dual reading LED W-2 watt meters:** (various configurations with remote couplers for HF & VHF/UHF) - \$200 with one coupler, \$300 with 2 couplers, **Yaesu FT-2600 2-meter F.M.** - \$100. **Palstar SP-30B Black Speaker** - \$75 All above are working including manuals, service notes, tubes, microphones, accessories, etc.

Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ - home phone at (440) 951-6406 [05/23]

FOR SALE: From the estate of Neil Gerren, N8IL **Icom 2820 vhf/uhf mobile** Asking \$150 **Siglent SDS 1202Y-E O-Scope** Asking \$220 **Elecraft P3 Panadaptor** Asking \$550 **Elecraft K-Pod** Asking \$150 **Elecraft KPA 500 Amp** Asking \$1500 **LDG AT 1000Pro autotuner** Asking \$200 **MURCH UT-2000 Tuner** Asking \$50 (needs work) **KMoon FY6800 Signal generator** Asking \$100 **HP 34401A Digital Multi-meter** Asking \$200 **PS 30SWii 30 amp Power supply** Asking \$50 **Kenwood PS53 Power Supply** Asking \$80 **Telepost LP-100A Digital Vector RF Wattmeter with LP-100 RF Sensor** Asking \$300 **Telepost LP-700 Digital Station Monitor with LPC-501 directional coupler** Asking \$650 **Alpha 9500 (Beast) Amp** Asking \$3800

Contact: Tom, WB8LCD - at (330) 554-4650 or email at tomsly29@gmail.com [04/23]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS *members only benefit*. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier.

The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [05/23] indicates the ad will run until the end of May 2023.



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



Hamfest Calendar

Here are the current listings of local hamfests. Please note that all are **subject to change**. Stay current by checking the sponsoring club's web page before making your travel arrangements.



=====
04/15/2023 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 67th Hamfest - Location: Emidio & Sons Expo Center - 48 E. Bath Road - Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 - Website: <http://www.cfarc.org> - Contact: Bruce Ferry , AK8B - 2907 Lee Rd. Silver Lake, OH 44224 - Phone: 330-790-1680 - Email: hamfest2023@cfarc.org
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04/22/2023 - Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show - Location: Tuscarawas County Fair Grounds - 259 S. Tuscarawas Ave. - Dover, OH 44622 - Website: <http://www.w8zx.net> - Contact: Rick Dingman, KE8URA - 303 N. 5th St. Dennison, OH 44621 - Phone: 330-934-0575 - Email: stick553311@gmail.com
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05/19, 20, 21/2023 - Hamvention® - Location: Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center - 120 Fairgrounds Road - Xenia, OH 45385 - Website: <http://Hamvention.org> - Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association - Public Contact: Jim Gifford , KD8APT - PO Box 964 Dayton, OH 45401 - Phone: 937-276-6930 - Email: Media@hamvention.org
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07/08/2023 - Mansfield Trunkfest 2023 - Location: Richland Co. Fairgrounds - 740 N. Home Road - Mansfield, OH 44901 - Website: <http://iarc.club> - Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club - Public Contact: Danny Bailey , W8DLB - 104 East Thrush Ave. Apt. H Crestline, OH 44827 - Phone: 567-899-3881 - Email: w8dlb60@gmail.com
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08/20/2023 - Warren Amateur Radio Association Tailgate Swap Meet - Location: Mosquito Lake State Park - 1439 Wilson Sharpsville Rd (state route 305) - Cortland, OH 44410 - Website: <http://w8vtd.org> - Contact: Larry Oliver, KD8LYX - PO Box 809 Warren, OH 44482 - Phone: 330-553-9579 - Email: WARAW8VTD@gmail.com
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09/10/2023 - Findlay Hamfest - Location: Findlay, OH - Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 E. Sandusky St., Findlay, OH 45840 Phone 419-423-3402 - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Website: <http://findlayradioclub.org>
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09/24/2023 - Cleveland Hamfest Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 19201 E. Bagley Rd. - Berea, OH 44017 Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland - Public Contact: Doug Dever, AB8M - 8035 West Ridge Dr. Broadview Heights, OH 44147 - Phone: 216-401-5888 - Email: dougdever@gmail.com - Website: <http://www.hac.org>
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Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV
Flex Net Coordinator

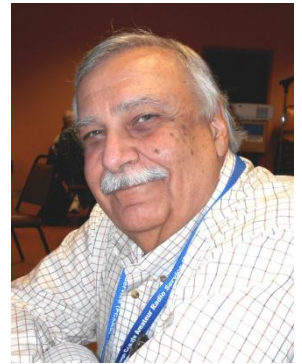
Next FLEX Net will be Wednesday April 12th at 8:00 PM

The next PCARS Flex Net will take place on Wednesday April 12th at 8:00 PM. The net will meet on **147.495 MHz** Simplex using phone. This is a great net for everyone, including Technician class licensees to make some contacts with your fellow PCARS members collect QSL cards for the PCARS A to Z Award. I hope you'll join us on the net!



DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT
DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator



2022 Ohio QSO Party Results

We have the results of the 2022 Ohio QSO Party that took place August 27-28, 2022. First I would like to thank the following members for taking the time to come out and make K8BF's participation in this contest a success.

Thank you to the following: N8QE, WA8LRW, AD8IR, W8MET, AD8FQ, WB9LBI, AC8QG, KA8TOA, KB8TUY, KB8UUZ. I would also like to recognize two of the above ops who really helped by spending their time during the contest, operating CW, which really added to our score with 133 QSOs and 59 multipliers submitted - Bill, WB8LBI and Metro, W8MET. The big mode was SSB having submitted totaled 507 with 98 multipliers with Bob, N8QE the SSB leader with 135 QSOs. Finally a shout out to Gary, WB2RPW, our New Jersey member who added 6586 pts, 89 Qs and 37 mults to our aggregate score. By working Jack's (N8BI) station remotely, he was able to add his score to our total, bringing it to a total point score of 121,858 pts.

If I have left anyone out of this list, please know that it is simply a sin of omission and not something on purpose. You may have worked the contest from home and did not let us know you did so. I would not have your call to add to the list.

I know that it seems a little complicated, but the QSO Party group has a weird way of scoring. They seem to limit the Ohio score to whoever is listed in the main log. They then add anyone else who lists PCARS as their club affiliation into the total for club entries.

So how did we do? Our official score was 617 Contacts; 154 mults for a total of 113,960 pts. That put us third in Ohio with K8T from Jefferson County in first place and NW8S from Lorain County in second place in the multi op category. As far as Club status in Ohio, we finished 12th.

This actually places us with the big boys, since K8T and NW8S finish 1 and 2 on a regular basis. Previous to this last contest, we finished 5th in 2021 and 8th in 2019. We did not operate in 2020 due to Covid.

As you can see, we still have a way to go to get to #1. To do so, we will have to have in excess of 400K pts. So our job is really cut out for us. In 2023 I'd like to see us crack 150K. With the ops we have, we certainly can do it. We will need more people on CW, but again, that is doable if we can get some of our other CW ops to participate. Start planning now.

Next SIG will be Tuesday April 25th at 7:00 PM

We will be holding our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting on April 25th at 7:00PM at the PCARS club site. The main topic will be our participation in the Florida QSO Party held on April 29-30. Plus we will have some training on working in these types of contests.

I hope to see many members attend. For those who can't make it, it will be on ZOOM. Until then...keep your rigs on and wobble the ether.

Can't be there in person? Then join us in the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=czg5LzRPcjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

Passcode: PCARS2022



Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE

Antenna SIG Coordinator

Next SIG will be Tuesday April 18th at 7:00 PM

The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna Special Interest Group will be held April 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM. We will be in-person at the PCARS club site and on Zoom.

At the March Meeting Brandon, KE8ARB demonstrated his new 6 meter folded dipole design which uses standard wire and plastic water line to form the loop, and David, KE8QEP showed us his new 70 CM preamp that he bought as a kit and assembled. He discussed how hard it is to solder surface mount components to a circuit board as he passed the preamp around the room.

The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend.

We will be discussing all aspects of antenna design, construction, test equipment, and experimentation. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion, and talk about their projects with the group.

Can't be there in person? Then join us in the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=cZgvLzRPcjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

Passcode: PCARS2022



Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV

Digital SIG Coordinator

Next SIG will be Tuesday April 4th at 7:00 PM

The next PCARS Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday April 4th at 7:00 PM at the club site. This month we will be doing demonstrations of the Slow Scan TV apps, MMSSTV for analog SSTV, EasyPal for digital SSTV, and KG-STV for digital SSTV. I will have two laptops set up to send and receive SSTV, using a CAT5 cable to substitute as the radio link. Although it may be a bit tricky, I should be able to show these apps via Zoom so those that can't make it should be able to still see what's going on.

As always, we will have time available to help with any questions or issues you may be having with digital communications. The meeting will also take place via Zoom at the link below. I hope to see you there.

Can't be there in person? Then join us in the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88355094567?pwd=ZzRvd1hmQWNhYlZEcGF0dVhuNlNiQT09>

Meeting ID: 883 5509 4567

Passcode: PCARS2022



Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X

Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Next SIG will be Tuesday April 11th at 7:00 PM

So, for the Portable Ops SIG this month, we'll be recycling a subject we've done before; the Portable ops Show & Tell. Bring, or be prepared to show your gear on Zoom. Be prepared for some questions, as interest in portable ops in the club, and Ham Radio in general is growing. So, what rig do you like for operating when you aren't in the shack? Let's see it. Antennas? I know we have some experimenting going on in the club, so let's have a look at what you are working on.

Let's not forget that the Spring Support Your Parks (SYP) weekend is coming up on April 15/16. The 15th is the Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest, but mark your calendars for the 16th. We've rented the Buckeye Shelter at Wingfoot Lake State Park (K-3516) for the 16th. We'll be doing another PCARS Get On The Air Field Trip that day, from 11-3.



We will be asking that folks run low power in order to minimize inter-station interference. So please, leave those amps at home (HI HI). There will be plenty of room to set up rigs & antennas. Bring your gear and have some fun. Please bring a covered dish, or some goodies to share. No one ever leaves hungry from a PCARS event, right? We'll have paper plates, plasticware, and paper towels. I'm planning to bring my cooler with ice, and some bottled water. In order to coordinate, please let me know what you are planning to bring. My e-mail address is john@wg8x.net.

Watch for some QSTs coming out soon.

So, bring your portable gear. Our Portable Ops SIG is on April 11th. We'll be meeting at 7 PM at the PCARS club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna). Bring your questions, show and tell, or just come to hang out.

We'll also be streaming via Zoom. Here's the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732195744?pwd=cldtZmxMcMfQOndhQWtJN0s2NUNnUT09>

Hope you can make it.

Could Be Anything Special Interest Group

Rick, KD8WCK

Could Be Anything SIG Coordinator



Next SIG will be Tuesday May 30th at 7:00 PM

We hope to have some interesting and different meeting topics in the future. Please feel free to join us on the 5th Tuesday of each month.

As May gets closer, more information will be published on the Could Be Anything SIG meeting Topic.

Neutral & Ground Wires

Scott, N8SY



Do you know the difference between the neutral and ground wire?

Here's a little-known fact that you should be aware of, but I bet you don't. The "white" wire in your home's electrical panel is not the same as the ground. Oh yes, it does connect to the grounding buss bar on your electrical panel, but it isn't ground. It has "potential" therefore it cannot be ground.

How can this wire have "potential" you ask? Simple, it's the return wire that completes the electrical circuit. With AC circuits this is 1/2 of the time (cycle) that it is energized, and if you aren't paying attention, it will definitely let you know it's energized.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) do monitor this potential between the white wire and the ground. When that potential gets to a pre-determined resistance it "breaks" the circuit so that you won't get shocked. This is why GFCI's are now required in areas of your home where there is water present (i.e... bathroom, kitchen, laundry). This potential can be transmitted through the chassis of the object that you're hanging on to. And, with the possibility of having water present it makes this potential even more lethal to you.

Do you know that electrical outlets, plugs and even the wire itself have the "neutral" side of the circuit identified? They do! Ever wonder about that fat spade on your electrical plug? It's not there to be an inconvenience, it's there as an identifier. It is telling you that it is the "neutral" side of the line. The same goes for the outlet. The longer slot is the neutral. And yes, even most electrical cords tell you. Ever look at that brown electrical cord coming from your lamp? One side of this cord has a "rib" on it. That rib identifies which wire is the neutral.

Why is all of this important? Well, here goes... Most devices are relatively safe when operated as designed (about a 50% duty cycle). Once in a while we all get in a hurry and push that envelope and use a device way beyond this, to a point where the device gets very hot, and things start to break down.

Remember, heat can break down the insulation on your device. The hotter it gets, the closer to a short circuit... (0 ohms) it becomes, and the more potential YOU become in getting shocked. Going way above a device's duty cycle will greatly enhance the chances of breaking down the insulation of the device. Remember what I said, most devices are designed with a 50% duty cycle. By taking a device above its rated duty cycle you've now just created a potentially dangerous situation for yourself. Things will definitely happen at this stage. The insulation that normally isolates you from the energy is now breaking down at a very fast rate. You now become the "Neutral" side of the line and that's when bad things will be coming your way. You will definitely have a very bad afternoon for sure.

Now if you've ever looked at an electrical panel, you'll find the white and green ground wires on the same buss bar. What you have to remember here is that the green ground wire is never at a point where it is carrying voltage or current. It's ground, and yes, it is going to the ground. Sometimes that's through a copper ground rod, or if you live in a city, it can mean your house ground is connected onto the main water pipe coming from the city. Yes, it's hooked to the same place as the white wire is in the electrical panel, but ground is going directly to ground and nowhere else. One antidote that I always remember is that "Mother Nature ALWAYS takes the path of least resistance." Since ground has 0 ohms of resistance, it can never carry current. Why you ask? It's Ohms Law! Voltage divided by Current times Resistance. If you have 0 ohms and you multiply it by any number for current, you still end up with 0. You can have voltage, but not for long. Remember 110 volts divided by a 0 resistance / current equals infinity... You essentially have a short circuit, and your electrical box will have a tantrum with that for sure.

However, the white wire as we have been saying has the possibility of being energized, at least 1/2 the time through the cycle, whereas the ground wire is never given that opportunity. In fact, the only time that the ground and white wire ever meet is in the electrical panel. The ground wire is carried as a separate wire in most cases. Ever look at a piece of Romex cable? The ground is situated between the white and black wires, but it is not encased with them. It is separate.

Sometimes it isn't even coated with an insulator. That's because it never has "potential" on it.

Now what does all of this have to do with Amateur Radio? Simple, a lot of us hams wire up our own shacks. It is very important that we do it not only to "code", but more importantly we do it for safety. Having the shack wired properly will prevent you from having one very terrible afternoon.

Oh, by the way... or as the kids today say (BTW), do you have a fire extinguisher in your shack? I'll bet that you never thought of that one did you!! If your shack is anything like mine, there's a lot going on with low voltage and higher voltage lines running here and there. Oh, low voltage doesn't worry you? My low voltage carries 1,000 amps potential... I have a bank of high current truck batteries connected in parallel in case we lose power for a while. I also have 110 volt and 220-volt lines in the shack as well. Imagine what would happen if anything went awry. I have 2 large fire extinguishers in my room, just in case. You might want to consider doing the same if you haven't already.

Now, please realize that just because you've read this article and you did it while staying at Motel 6, doesn't make you an electrician! This article should only raise your awareness as to what that "white" wire is for and how it greatly differs from the ground wire.



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. We also use EchoLink node K8BF-L**

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.

I am in desperate need for some net operators to run the Thursday night nets. It really is not that hard and it is fun, along with good training if you are ever needed for emergencies. I know we have been low on check-ins for the past couple of months. The commitment is only for once a month and this club is worth that. If anyone has ideas for the club, please do not hesitate to speak out at meetings or on nets or call or write. We appreciate the input. For now 73.



April	
6	KA8TOA
13	N8QE
20	N8WCP
27	WB8LCD

May	
4	KA8TOA
11	KE8BWA
18	K8CAV
25	N8WCP

June	
1	
8	
15	
22	
29	



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

Congratulations goes out to Tim, W8HFZ for getting his 10-Consecutive Net check in award !!



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers

Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites – April 2023

Here's hoping you all had a good March. With the storm that went through recently, we lost power for several days. I'm assuming that this was the case for many of you. It was really not nice and if you live in the country (rural) as I do, you have no power, no heat and no water. So we hunkered down for three and a half days and keep warm as best as we could. It would have been a perfect time for me to get my portable rig on the air, but frankly I was too cold and tired to do it.

But the power is back and the bands are still very active (minus the sun flares). So let's see what we have coming up.

Thanks to W1AW, W3UR & The Daily DX, DL5ON & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News 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.

Top 25 Most wanted DXCC entities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA) | 2. 3Y/B BOUVET ISLAND |
| 3. FT5/W CROZET ISLAND | 4. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF |
| 5. CE0X SAN FELIX ISLANDS | 6. BV9P PRATAS ISLAND |
| 7. KH7K KURE ISLAND | 8. KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND |
| 9. 3Y/P PETER 1 ISLAND | 10. FT/G GLORIOSO ISLAND |
| 11. FT5/X KERGUELEN ISLAND | 12. YV0 AVES ISLAND |
| 13. VK0M MACQUARIE ISLAND | 14. ZS8 PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS |
| 15. KH4 MIDWAY ISLAND | 16. PY0S SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS |
| 17. PY0T TRINDADE & MARTIM VAZ ISLANDS | 18. KP5 DESECHEO ISLAND |
| 19. VP8S SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS | 20. KH5 PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS |

April...

3A, Monaco. Look for 3A8AB to be active from Monaco on 1-30 April. QSL via LoTW. The special callsign commemorates the 100th anniversary of the first transatlantic amateur two-way contact between Leon Deloy, F8AB and Fred Schnell, 1MO (28 November 1923). Leon Deloy (1894- 1969) died in Monaco and bequeathed his fortune to a number of local charities and philanthropic foundations.

5X, Uganda. Pista, HA5AO active as 5X2I from Uganda, April 24 - May 10. He will operate on 40 - 10m, CW, SSB, FT8, using FT710 transceiver with KPA500 amplifier and DX Commander antenna. QSL via OQRS on HA5AO website.

8Q, Maldives. Meedhupparu Island, DL2SBY will be active again from Maldives, IOTA AS - 013, April - 27 - May 7, 2023. QSL via DL2SBY direct, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

DL, Germany. - Celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, DARC special event callsign DA23WARD will be active until April 18. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau; direct cards via DL2VFR.

E6, NIUE ISLAND. Janusz SP9FIH and Leszek SP6CIK plan to operate from Niue between March 26 and April 9. They have applied for the callsign E6CI but it is not confirmed so far.

E51, South Cook Islands. SP6CIK and SP9FIH will be active as E51CIK and E51WEG from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC - 013, April 13-28, 2023. They will operate on 40 - 10m, QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

FO/A, Austral Is. - Haru, JA1XGI will be active as TX5XG from Raivavae (OC-114), Austral Islands on April 12-19. He will operate CW, SSB, RTTY, "FT8 F/H or MSHV" and FT4 on 40-6 meters. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau and LoTW; otherwise QSL via Club Log's OQRS or direct to JA1XGI.

FW, WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS. (Reminder) Jean-Gabriel, F4CIX, is QRV as FW1JG and expects to be here until January 2024. He is active on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

H44, Solomon Islands. Michael, DL2GMI will be active as H44MI from Malaita Island, IOTA OC - 047, Solomon Islands, starting April 2. He will operate on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6m, SSB, FT8.

ON, Belgium. Celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, UBA special event station OT23WARD will be active from various locations on 1-30 April. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, LoTW, eQSL. A certificate will be available, the details will be published on QRZ.

OZ, Denmark. EDR special callsign 5P0WARD will be active on 11-25 April in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, LoTW and eQSL, or via OZ1ACB.

T30, West Kiribati. T30UN Team will be active from Tarawa Island, IOTA OC - 017, Kiribati starting the 1st week of April. Length of stay was not given. They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via ClubLog OQRS only.

V31, Belize. Art, NN7A, will be active as V31JZ/P from South Water Caye Island, IOTA NA-180, Belize, April 17-23, 2023. This will be a one-person operation using a 100 watt transceiver and wire antennas. Operation will be mostly CW on 160-10 m including WARC bands. QSL direct via NN7A (Art Phillips, P.O. Box 73, Eckert, CO 81418 USA), or via the ARRL bureau, ClubLog OQRS. Bureau cards sent to Belize cannot be answered (there is no active V3 bureau).

VP9, Bermuda. Paul, G4BKI will be active as VP9KF from Bermuda Islands, IOTA NA - 005, April 12-26 2023. He will operate on HF Bands CW only.

VU, India. Look for AU40NRO to be active from April 1 to June 30 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR). QSL via VU2NRO.

Z81, South Sudan. Diya, YI1DZ will be active as Z81D from Juba, South Sudan, until April 22, 2023. He will operate on HF Bands, SSB, FT8. QSL via OM3JW.

May...

H4, SOLOMON ISLANDS. Bernhard, DL2GAC will be QRV as H44MS from Honiara, IOTA OC-047, until May 8. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and some FT8. QSL to home call.

HK0, San Andres Is. HK0/PY8WW, HK0/PY7RP, HK0/PY7XC will be active from San Andres Island, IOTA NA - 033, May 2-20, 2023. They will operate on 80 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via home calls, ClubLog OQRS, LOTW.

HS, Thailand. Lars, SM6NT will be active again as HS0ZME from Hua Hin, until April 2. He will operate mainly CW on 40-10 meters. QSL via SM6NT. [TNX The Daily DX]

VK9W, WILLIS ISLAND. Sands, VU2WXW is QRV as VK9WX while working at the Meteorology Weather Station here until the end of April, 2023. Activity of late has been on 20 meters using SSB around 1300 to 1400z. QSL via operator's instructions

That's it for now. Remember POF – *Preserve Our Frequencies* – Get on the air and work some DX.

Until next month, W8PT (aka Charlie the Tuner) saying 73 for now....

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: **Greg, KA8TOA** or e-mail him at: Treasurer@portcars.org

Alliance Amateur Radio Club Annual Raffle

John, WG8X

**We've started up our 2023 HF Rig Raffle
Our 2023 prize will be a Yaesu FT-DX10**



This is the Alliance Amateur Radio Club's 4th year doing this donation raffle. A portion of the money raised goes back into our community in the form of donations to local service groups at Christmas time.

Since 2020, we've donated over \$3,500.00 to charities in the Alliance, Ohio area.

Tickets can be purchased via our website at https://www.w8lky.org/fundraisers/2023-hf_rig_raffle/, or in person at our monthly club meetings. We will also be set up at several Ohio/Western PA Hamfests in the next few months.

The prize will be drawn on July 12, 2023. The winner need not be present to win.

Youth DX Adventure - 2023 - PJ2Y

**The Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure announces
their 2023 trip to Curacao on July 13-18th**



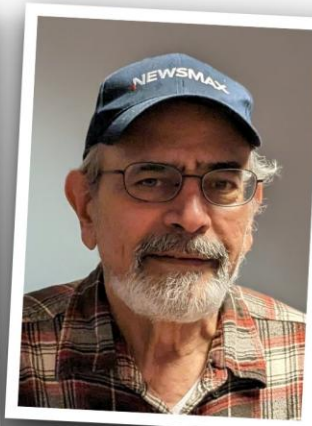
Applications now being accepted. The Caribbean Contest Consortium and Geoff Howard have once again agreed to let us use the PJ2T site for our 2023 trip. The support we give us is greatly appreciated. Especially thanks go to Uli, DL8OBQ for being our on-site representative. His travel and use of vacation to help the youth is noticed and allows us to make the trip. We will be once again applying for the call sign of PJ2Y. **Team applications for the 2023 trip are NOW being accepted**, click to download the PDF <https://www.qsl.net/n6jrl/TeamApplication.pdf>



Photos from the February PCARS Meeting



PCARS
March 13, 2023



PCARS

March 13

2023



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



Net Night at the Club Site



Tom, WB8LCD
Net Night Coordinator



March Net Night at the Club Site

The PCARS "Net Night at the Club Site" continues.

For March we had a pretty good group assembled (not all are pictured). We did check into the net, shared some dinner, hung out and even worked on some radio projects!

Net night at the club site is traditionally a time of fellowship and just having fun. Come on out when you can.

From CQ Magazine



Nominations Open for Young Ham of the Year

Do you know a young radio amateur, age 18 or younger, who is doing extraordinary things for his/her community or for amateur radio? If so, the Amateur Radio Newline Bill Pasternak Young Ham of the Year Award committee wants to hear from you. Nominations for the 2023 YHOTY award are being accepted through May 31. For more information and nominating forms, visit <arnewline.org> and click on the YHOTY tab. CQ is a corporate sponsor of the Young Ham of the Year award.



Radio and Electronics Merit Badges Score Big Gains

The *ARRL Letter* reports that the Boy Scouts' radio and electronics merit badges are gaining significantly in popularity. Quoting a study of merit badges in *Scouting* magazine, the report says Radio jumped from 98th-most popular merit badge in 2021 to #81 in 2022, a surge of 18 places and the biggest increase in popularity of any merit badge. The second-biggest jump was for the electronics badge, moving up 15 spots from 80th place to 65th.

Scouts work their way toward the top rank of Eagle Scout by earning at least 21 merit badges, along with other requirements.



Ohio NVIS Day - April 22nd

Bret, KD8SCL

ARRL Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator



It's coming! Ohio NVIS Day 2023 will be held Saturday April 22, from 10AM until 4PM ET

The purpose of NVIS day is to construct and try various antenna ideas, all working as NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave) antennas. These antennas are low to the ground and provide coverage generally within a 400 mile radius- extremely important for regional HF communications in an emergency.

Take a big step forward and build upon the concept to answer the question, "How would we actually use these antennas?"

For 2023, we have added a couple operating scenarios that will make your day more fun and be a learning event for actual disaster communications. We propose a commercial power blackout, with the need to communicate within your ARES® district and to 'The Sarge' at the Ohio EOC in Columbus. Here's the deal:

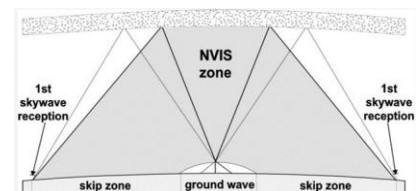
1. The event runs from 10 AM until 4 PM local time.
2. Stations will construct and test NVIS antennas.
3. Transmit power is limited to 100 watts.
4. Power for the station will be any form of "off-grid" supply: typically, generator, battery or solar or whatever form you might have in an emergency setup. (Optional, but preferred)
5. Stations may test antenna coverage as in the past by contacting as many different locations as possible. This year, we are adding collecting Grid Squares and S-Meter readings as part of the exchange .
 - a. Stations are to originate a message to their ARES District, local net, OHDEN, OSSBN and to W8SGT reporting their location and county, stating if you are "Participating or Not Participating".
 - b. This message may take any form: ARRL message form ICS 213 or radiogram must be used. If you're going to use the traffic system, ARRL message radiogram is recommended.
 - c. Each county is to send a message to the SARGE with a sitrep of their operation.
 - d. The message should contain the call sign, operating location (include county) and number of operators. Any other brief antenna information is optional but appreciated!
 - e. Contact with the District net may take place on VHF or HF (Repeaters OK).
 - f. WinLink may also be used as long as it sent via RF, local node (VHF, UHF) or an HF node to KD8SCL and or W8SGT.
 - g. For more information on node locations, visit WinLink.org.
6. Operating frequencies are proposed to be in the 80 and 40 meter bands. Voice is preferred for testing.
 - a. Optimum frequencies centered around but not limited to: 3.902 and 7.240
 - b. Digital messages may be passed to OHDEN Net as available.
 - c. Digital OHDEN frequency: 3584.5 (typical is Olivia 8/500)
 - d. OSSBN frequency: 3972.5, Net Times: 10:30, 16:15, 18:45

You can create your own log (Excel preferred) or Word format. Be sure to include a photo of your group or your antenna! Submit your results to contest@n8ara.org

Have fun! Take a lunch break! I hope to hear you!!

Editor's Note: Want more info on NVIS - Check out:

<https://www.onallbands.com/what-is-nvis/>



Sun Hat Has Built-In Radio

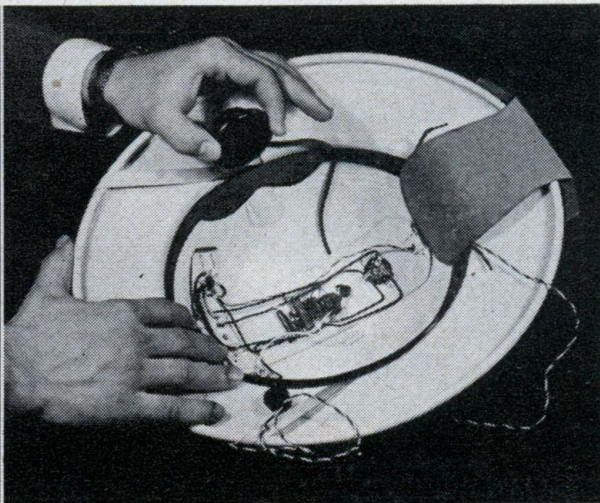
No, that's not Buck Rogers. It's just Victor T. Hoefflich and his Radio Hat®. The hat works, too—it keeps the sun off your head while you listen to radio programs. The Radio Hat contains a real radio receiver—two miniature tubes, the volume control,

and the antenna (which looks like an oil-can handle) stick out on top. The rest of the circuit is inside the hat's lining.

The hat weighs only 12 oz. The 7-oz. power supply—a flashlight cell and a B battery—is carried in the pocket. Mr. Hoefflich's company, American Merri-Lei Corp., Brooklyn, N.Y., makes the talking benny.



Inventor Hoefflich demonstrates his helmet-with-a-radio-inside (left). Tubes, antenna, and



volume control are on top. At right, he lifts the lining to show the remainder of the radio circuit.

HERE IT IS
THE AMAZING NEW
Man-from-Mars
RADIO HAT

COMPLETE 2-TUBE RADIO BUILT INTO A HAT

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Complete with Battery Pack

- Covers entire broadcast band within 20 mile radius • Set weighs 5 ozs., hat 7 ozs. • Conceals in lining 3/4" thick • Absolutely mobile...no extra aerial needed
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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

P.S. 10-49



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 77 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 on YouTube. So, what does that mean? Hey, we have a place to put all kinds of videos that are about PCARS for the world to see.



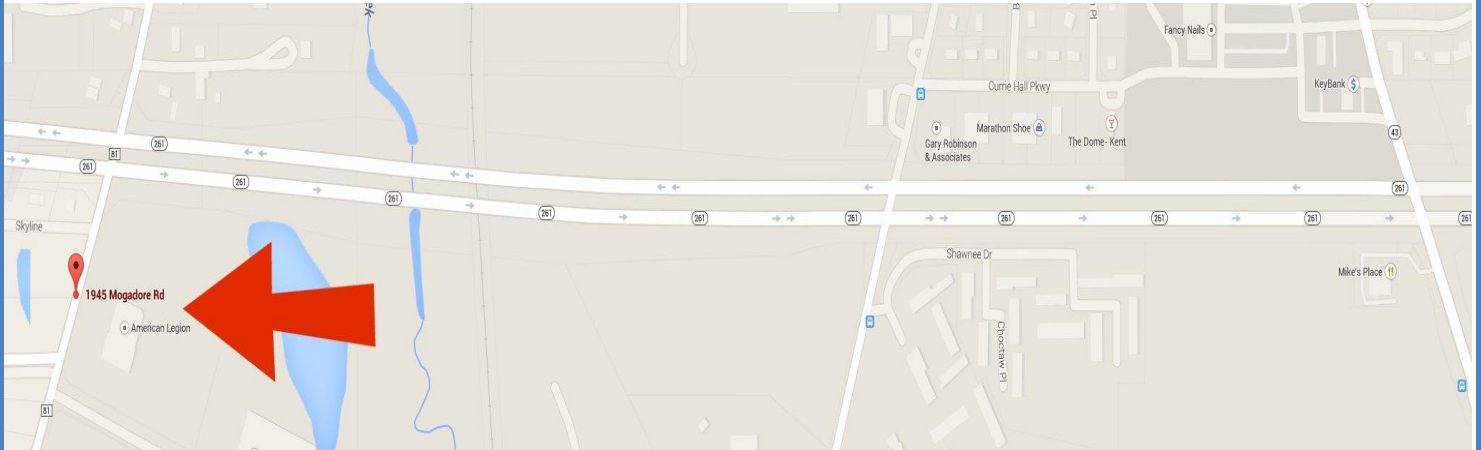
PCARS Meetings

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



CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ABOUT IN-PERSON MEETINGS

*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.

PCARS VE Testing Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



We will have a VE Test Session April 1st at the club site starting at 10 am.

Future Dates:

June 3rd, August 5th, October 7th, December 2nd

***** Check the website for the latest information *****

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com. On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to seeing you at the PCARS club site in Ravenna so you can take your license test. Face masks are not State/County mandated at this time, but you are always welcome to wear one.

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

QUICK FACTS

- **Yes**, PCARS VE test Sessions are held at the club site in Ravenna starting at 10 am - see schedule.
- **Walk-Ins are accepted.** Would appreciate an email to KB8UUZ@GMAIL.COM if you plan on attending.
- You **MUST** have an **FRN Number** (SSNs no longer accepted)
- You **MUST** have a **valid e-mail address** for the FCC to be able to contact you.
- **Picture ID required**
- **Original and Copy of your valid FCC license** and originals of any applicable CSCE
- **Taking Technician Test?** - You **MUST** apply for your FRN and get it prior to testing.
- **VE fee is \$15** - Cash or Check payable to "ARRL-VEC"
- **17 years old or younger?** VE Fee is \$5 per the ARRL reduced CE fee Youth Program
- **FCC License Fee \$35** - payable after FCC send you a link. **DOES NOT APPLY** to upgrades.
- **17 years old or younger?** ARRL will reimburse you the \$35 FCC Fee.

Okay - now all the Details:

- **You must have your FRN prior to taking an exam** - No SSNs will be used on the Form 605 anymore.
- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or someone that has been infected - please, *do not* come to the club site. *Use of masks is optional.*
- No food or snacks allowed.
- \$15.00 Fee Payment will only be by check or exact change. We cannot make change
- If paying by check, make check out to: "ARRL-VEC" The VE Fee is \$15.00 (see below)
- Ensure you have the following:
 - A picture ID such as a valid Driver's License, State ID, School ID, or US Passport.
 - If you are under 16 years of age, a parent or guardian must be able to vouch for you and you need a copy of your birth certificate (you do not have to give us a copy, we just have to see and verify).
 - **FCC is requiring you have your e-mail address on the Form 605.**
 - **If you are taking a Technician test you must have your FRN number** (you can apply for an FRN on the FCC website). For hams having a license, your FRN is printed on your license.
 - **If you are upgrading to General or Extra - You MUST bring your original valid amateur radio license and a copy of your valid amateur radio license to turn in with your Form 605.**
 - Bring your own pencils and pens.
 - Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.
 - NO cell Phones allowed



Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Additional Information - What to Bring to the Testing Session

- 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.

ARE YOU GOING FOR YOUR TECHNICIAN LICENSE? READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

First-Time Exam Applicants MUST Obtain FCC Registration Number BEFORE Taking Exam

As of **May 20, 2021**, all amateur examination applicants are **required** to provide an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) **BEFORE** taking an amateur exam. This is necessary due to changes the FCC has made to its licensing system. Applicants will create an FCC username and account, respond to the verification email from FCC, and then register for the FRN. Register on the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES): <https://apps.fcc.gov/core/>

Email Addresses REQUIRED

As of **June 29, 2021** all applications will be required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend. Licensees will be able to log in to the ULS using their FRN and password to download the latest version of their license at any time. The FCC no longer provides paper license documents.



New FCC \$35 Amateur Application Fee

March 23, 2022 - The FCC released a [Public Notice](#) stating that the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 application filings, would become **effective on April 19, 2022**. The Federal Communications Commission's authority to impose and collect fees is mandated by Congress. **April 4, 2022** - The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will **not apply** to most license modifications, including those to **upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees**. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign. As previously announced, the new fees took effect on April 19, 2022.

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. New applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual and pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate. The candidate will have **10 calendar days**, from the date of the application file number being issued, to pay. After the fee is paid, and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days.

Additionally, the FCC stated that applications processed and dismissed will not be entitled to a refund. This includes vanity requests where the applicant does not receive the requested call sign. However, returned applications that are missing information will not require an additional fee, if the missing information is given to the FCC within the proper amount of time.

Youth Licensing Grant Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates **younger than 18 years old** for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program. "We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The ARRL Board approved the Youth Licensing Grant Program at its July 2021 meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, expanding on the scope of the original motion proposed by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.

The Board believes the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary and proper mission of the ARRL and subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that would otherwise be lost from these groups. Initially the new program would serve up to 1,000 new license applicants under 18 years old. The program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.

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ARRL VEC Application Fees webpage: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee>

ARRL News Story: <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-amateur-radio-license-applications-fee-to-become-effective-april-19-2022>

FCC Registration: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) retired the [Legacy version](#) of its **CO**mmission **RE**gistration **S**ystem (**CORES**) on July 15, 2022. CORES is the FCC's public-facing database that enables and tracks certain types of FCC and FCC applicant actions, including amateur radio applications and licenses. Its implementation has enabled routine amateur applications and licenses to be issued overnight instead of over weeks, as was the case with earlier methods. The [updated version of CORES](#) is now available. (<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>)

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July 2022 - From: Maria Somma, AB1FM - VEC Manager - ARRL

INFORMATION ABOUT THE FCC APPLICATION FEE AND VEC FILED APPLICATIONS

The FCC application fee was implemented on April 19, 2022. Here's what we know so far...

1. MAKE SURE EXAMINEES UNDERSTAND THEY MUST PAY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

Examinees do NOT have to wait for the email from the FCC to pay the fee. As soon as an the application file number is issued by the FCC, they can pay by logging into the CORES Payer FRN System (easier to use but only temporarily available) or the CORES FRN Registration system (CORES - Login).

Application File Number search using an FRN: FCC Application File Number Search

CORES payment system background information and instructions: Information.

CORES step-by-step payment instructions: FCC Application Fee Instructions

2. The FCC help center stated there is a known issue with individuals paying the \$35 application fee via a smart phone or tablet. This is not a new issue and they haven't been able to help troubleshoot the issue at the support center. Encourage candidates to login and pay the FCC application fee from a computer.

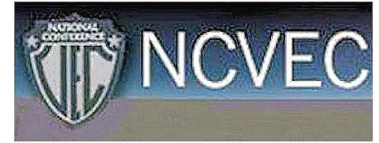
3. Examinees should NOT amend any applications that a VEC submits on their behalf, especially NEW license applications. Amending VEC filed applications will cause the application to be dismissed without action in the FCC system and potentially require the applicant to pay another \$35 fee. If there is a minor mistake on the application, either call us and we can correct and resubmit the application, or the individual can pay the fee, be issued the call sign, and then log back in and make corrections.

4. Individuals should review their application BEFORE paying the fee. If there is a major error on the application, such as the licensee's name or license class earned is incorrect, or the answer to the felony question is wrong, DO NOT PAY the fee. Call the VEC (ARRL) immediately.

5. When in doubt, call the VEC! (ARRL) Even if you think you shouldn't bother us with your question, call us anyway.



General Class Test Pool Changes July 1st



New General Question Pool Released for Ham Radio Licensing Effective July 1, 2023

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the [2023 - 2027 General Class FCC Element 3 Syllabus and Question Pool](#) to the public. The new General Question Pool is effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated.

The [pool](#) is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF. The single graphic required for the new General Question Pool is available within the documents, or separately as PDF and JPG file formats.

"The newly revised pool must be used for General-class license exams starting July 1, 2023," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who is a member of the NCVEC Question Pool Committee. "New test designs will be available to [ARRL Volunteer Examiners](#) on that date. The ARRL VEC will supply its officially appointed, field-stocked VE teams with new General exam booklet designs around mid-June."



General class examination candidates preparing for their exams using the 9th edition of [The General Class License Manual](#), and/or the 6th edition of [ARRL's General Q & A](#) are encouraged to test by, or before, June 30, 2023. New editions of ARRL licensing publications will be available in May, for exams taken on, or after, July 1, 2023.



My wife yelled from upstairs and asked, "Do you ever get a shooting pain across your body, like someone's got a voodoo doll of you and they're stabbing it?"

I replied "No..."

She responded: "How about now?"



Add to your calendar now



Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club **Sixty-Seventh HAMFEST**



Add to your calendar now



Electronics and Computer Show

Saturday, April 15, 2023, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Same Huge Location - All Inside on One Floor

Emidio and Sons Expo Center

48 E. Bath Road at the Corner of State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

ADMISSION: \$7

DXCC, VUCC, WAS and WAC QSL Card Checking will be available

No Cost Ham license exams starting at 9 AM. The last test starts at 11 AM. You will need to bring a photo ID. Pre-registration is required to guarantee a seat at:
<https://cfarc-edu.org/registration/>

Major Vendors (5 or more tables) Announced On Our Web Site.

Check in on the W8VPV repeater 147.270+ / 444.850+ (both PL 110.9)
for directions and a chance to win the Check-In prize.

Advance table sales: First two \$19 each (one chair each included), additional tables \$16 each. One admission ticket is required for each person over 12 years of age.
Discount available if paid within 10 days.

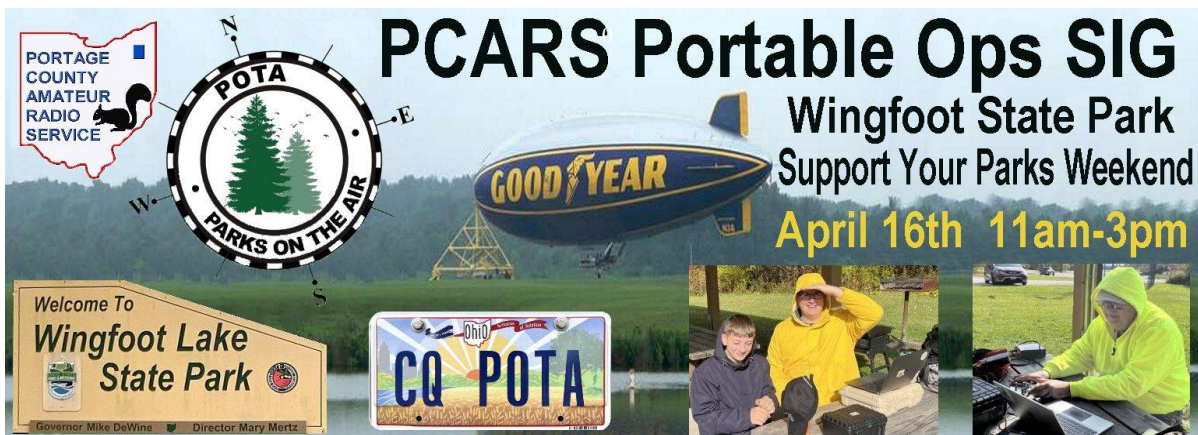
Tables may be available on the day of the Hamfest and are \$22 each.

More information is available at: <https://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest>

Or Contact:

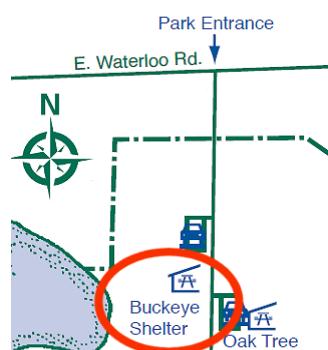
Hamfest 2023

Bruce Ferry, 2907 Lee Rd, Silver Lake, OH 44224
Phone: 330-790-1680 • Email: hamfest2023@cfarc.org



PCARS Portable Operations Special Interest Group Special POTA Support Your Parks Weekend Activation

WINGFOOT LAKE OHIO STATE PARK K-3516



Date: Sunday - April 16th
Time: 11 AM - 3 PM

In the **"Buckeye Shelter"**

Attendees are asked to bring covered dish, or snacks or anything good to share.



Brandon KE8ARB and John WG8X are the coordinators for this club event. For more info - contact:

John, WG8X - john@wg8x.net

There will be plenty of room to set up rigs, and antennas. Folks are encouraged to come and operate using the club call - K8BF, or their own callsign.



Wingfoot Lake State Park

993 Goodyear Park Blvd,
Suffield, OH 44260

TUSCO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S 2023 HAMFEST, COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS SHOW

Saturday April 22, 2023
Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds

259 S. Tuscarawas Ave, Dover, OH 44622 *Enter through Tusc. Ave. gate*

Talk/Check In: W8ZX on 146.730 PL: 71.9 (Disabled during Hamfest)

Main Door Prize: Yaesu FT-891 All Mode HF + 50MHz Transceiver

Includes RT Systems ADMS-891-USB Programming Kit



Admission: \$5.00 Donation at the door

Presale: One admission ticket @ \$5 + extra prize tickets as you wish @ \$4 for one, \$6 for two, or \$10 for three, or multiples thereof. Any request received after April 1, 2023 will be held for pick up at the door. Winners MUST be present for door prizes; main prize can be sent.

Tables: \$10.00 Plus Admission

Open: 6:00 am for set-up, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm for public
FREE close parking available



DEALERS WELCOME!

Door Prizes

****120 Volt power available (Please bring your own extension cords)****

A SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1, 2023 TO ENSURE THE RETURN OF A RESERVATION CONFIRMATION. RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE!

Check out our web page! www.w8zx.net

Find our group on Facebook!

For additional information and / or to reserve tables please contact:

Rick Dingman KE8URA 330-934-0575 or Cindy Gray KE8JNN 330-340-4946

Or Email: w8zx@n8bag.net

Mailing address for presale reservations: Rick Dingman KE8URA 303 N. 5th St. Dennison, OH 44621



EATING IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties ... was *elbows, hats and cell phones*.

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 in past years. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure you know PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip-in and send your article in to keep this newsletter great during 2023 and beyond.

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

AC8QG, AC8NT, KB8UUZ, WA8EFK, N8SY, WB8LCD, WG8X, K3LR, AJ8B, N8WCP, K8CAV, K3GP, W8PT, N8QE, KD8WCK, KA8TOA, KD8SCL, NO8D,

The ARRL, CQ Magazine and the World-Wide Web

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

Still need Some Help Here

How would you like the opportunity to be the next Editor of **The RADIOGRAM**? Let's face it folks, I'm not getting any younger and I would hate to kick the bucket and just leave PCARS hanging for a newsletter editor. I also want a bit more time to play radio.

So here is your chance (if you are not as old as I am) to jump in and have the fun of editing and publishing the monthly PCARS newsletter that all of our members and other hams around the world enjoy seeing monthly.

I've been doing the newsletter since PCARS started it in 2006 (seems like yesterday) - it is about time to let someone else take the reins and be the new Editor. It does take a bit of time every month, but it is fun doing it. You will be right in the thick of things in amateur radio news from all kinds of sources, from local PCARS to Portage County to Ohio to Great Lakes Division to ARRL and beyond.

Nothing special or complicated is used when making the newsletter. I just use Microsoft Word, a paint/picture editing program and a few other programs that are easy and free. Plus, I use the internet to gather up articles every month to bring interesting material to PCARS members.

So, if you are interested, I would be more than happy to show you how I do it and get you going. You too, can be an award winning club newsletter editor! Interested? Email me at KB8UUZ@gmail.com

**I thought
growing old
would take
longer.**



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: **K8BF-L**

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



~ 2023 Officers ~		2023 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Vice President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA 1 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ 2 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 3 Year Trustee - Mike Ryan - KB8TUY Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD		ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO Joe Wehner
		Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV Rick Kruis
		Contest Coordinator	W8PT Chuck Patellis
		EchoLink	AC8NT Jim Wilson
		Field Day Chairman, 2022	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	
		Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA Greg Ash
		Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
		OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
~ Meetings & Net ~		PCARS Photographer	KE8LWO Bernadette Wagner
2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895		Public Information Officer	
		Secretary	KE8EGF Paul Hyland
		Social Media	N8WCP Mike Szabo
		Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT Jim Wilson
		Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
		Webmaster	WG8X John Myers



**PCARS
Volunteer
Examiner
Team
Members**

KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
AC8NT	Jim Wilson
AC8QG	Nick Wagner
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
KA8TOA	Greg Ash
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
N8FUM	Dan Torchia
KC8JC	James "JC" Wilson
W8EC	Mark Haas
K8IG	Fred Freer
W8HFZ	Tim McLeod
N8XTH	Deron Boring
K8IV	Ed Polack
N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
W8PT	Chuck Patellis



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 copyright © 2023, is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year. The RADIOGRAM is an Award Winning newsletter: **ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015, 2022 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017, 2020 and 2021.**

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

By attending PCARS in-person activities, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending PCARS in-person activities, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and covenant not to sue and agree not to hold the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) or any of their directors, officers, contractors, vendors or volunteers liable for any illness or injury. While PCARS implements preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with Federal, State and Local guidelines, we cannot guarantee that attendees will not become infected with COVID-19 as a result of attendance.

Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS)
705 Oakwood Street - Box 12
Ravenna, OH 44266 USA



NLC

