



# 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*

August 2021 - Volume 16 Number 8

**K8BF**  
**4A**  
**OHIO**



**Headwaters  
Adventure Race  
a FUN Event**



**PCARS K8BF**

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





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## Ken Wyckoff, N8WWG - SK

**Ken Wyckoff, N8WWG - PCARS Member #214 (2011 - 2014) passed away May 19<sup>th</sup>. The obituary was in the Akron Beacon Journal on July 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Ken Wyckoff, USCG, crossed the bar, N8WWG "silent key", 74, passed away May 19, 2021, at the age of 74 with Cathy, his soulmate, by his side. He was born August 2, 1946, to the late Kenneth, Sr. and Leona



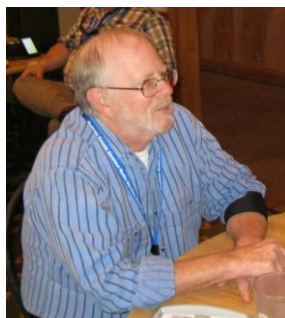
(Brown) Wyckoff. Ken was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Jeanette Smith, who praised him for his patience with Cathy. Ken graduated from Stow High School in 1965. He enlisted in the United States Coast Guard in 1965. He served on board the Coast Guard Cutter Owasco as a Quartermaster Third Class, where he assisted the underway officer of the deck on the bridge. He was extensively trained in all aspects of fixing the ship's position utilizing both electronic and celestial navigation. He was also trained in visual ship-to-ship communications in both semaphore and Morse code. Kenny was a true Coast Guardsman and a loyal attendee to the Coast Guard reunions arranged by Pete Marshall, and on the West Coast Reunions by the late Doak Walker, plus many other Coast Guard events in Ohio. He received the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He was honorably discharged. Ken was a member of the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC) and Portage County Amateur Radio Services (PCARS), Buckeye Coasties, Akron Ohio Coast Guard Veterans, Coast Guard Sea

Veterans of America, and NRA. Kenny was a Splicing Technician at Ohio Bell, Ameritech, and SBC for 33 years and 8 months (1969-2002). He was always pointing out the different manholes he and his co-workers worked in. Ken was a former reserve police officer at the Stow Police Department from March 1977 to April 1982. He was also a former special deputy lieutenant for the Portage County Sheriff's Office



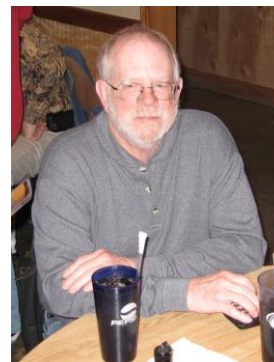
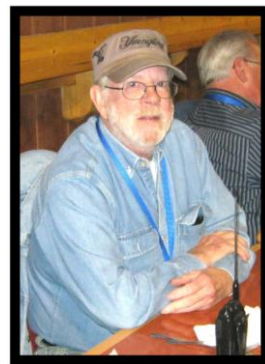
from December 1978 to 1981. Kenny was a member of Acker-Moore American Legion Post 175 and American Legion Riders Post 566. He loved traveling, fishing, and playing cards with his high school classmates at Bill Pickering's house. Kenny was a sports fanatic watching the Cleveland Indians, the Browns, and Ohio State. He was thrilled when he had a chance of a lifetime to go to Super Bowl XXX on tickets Cathy won through Lead Line, a program through Ohio Bell. He paid it back to Cathy when he won tickets from WQMX to take her to Texas to see George Strait, Reba McEntire, and Blake Shelton, which included a "meet and greet" with Blake Shelton. Ken enjoyed traveling whether it be by car or trike. He and Cathy took off on the trike to visit his godfather, Uncle George Wyckoff, in Rhode Island, and also on another trip when his Uncle George was visiting Kenny's cousin, Serena, in Florida. While in Florida, they visited his Aunt Stella Brown, cousins Joanne and George McConnell, and Marcia and Steve

Brown. They also rode the trike up to Mexico, NY, to visit with his Aunt Dora Drake and then to Sackets Harbor, New York to visit Uncle Cap and Aunt Dee Brown. He was welcomed into the homes of his Florida friends, Barb and Jack Snyder, Carol Spears, Rita and Jim Roberts, Ken Spoor, and Shirley and Andy Kacsanek. He was proud and honored to accompany Denise Kidd-Elbert and the Leathernecks



Nation MC, Ma Deuce Chapter to escort the ashes of a Vietnam POW, Fred Elbert, to Arlington National Cemetery. Close to 50 motorcycles were part of the escort. He leaves behind to mourn his loss, the love of his life for 38 years, Cathy. He was preceded in death by Pat Sutton Wyckoff, the mother of his two daughters, Deborah (Wally) Wyckoff Bartels and Kathryn Wyckoff. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Leslie (Dennis) Phillips, Dianne Bartels, Tomas Bartels, and great-grandchildren, Robert English and Jessica Phillips; sisters, Barbara Wyckoff Falcone, Jean Lewis, and Carol (Kent) Wyckoff Corcoran; sisters-in-law, Charlotte Sears Wilkes, Robin Sears Kuhns, and brother-in-law, Paul Smith, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. You can be assured Kenny's two cats, Gus BK and Boss Cat, are sitting on his lap. Keeping the memories alive of his friends and loved ones, please consider in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to

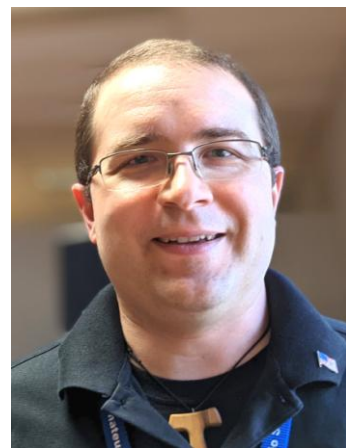
Awareness 22, Inc. ([awareness22.com](http://awareness22.com)), John Clevinger, or DAV - Disabled American Veterans ([secure.dav.org/site/Donation2](http://secure.dav.org/site/Donation2)), Thomas Dowler, or ALS Association ([donate.als.org](http://donate.als.org)), Rick Crispin and Aunt Jane Treon, or Future National Coast Guard Museum ([coastguardmuseum.org](http://coastguardmuseum.org)). A special thanks to the Akron VA Home Base Care, especially, Jackie Punka. Family and friends may call on Monday, August 2, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Redmon Funeral Home, 3633 Darrow Road, Stow. Service will start at 12 noon. At 1 PM, the procession will leave the funeral home to go to the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Seville. Inurnment for Kenny will be at 2:15 p.m. Kenny Wyckoff will be missed by everyone who knew him.



## From the President



**Nick, AC8QG**  
PCARS President



Another Field Day is in the books and it seems that we accomplished goal **#1: Big Fun**. We have a few issues to iron out for next year, but overall it was a success. It was excellent to be back out in the field this year. Thank you to everyone who helped organize, plan, set up, operate, and tear down. We couldn't do it without you!



I'd like to also give a big thank you to Rick, K8CAV for leading the VOM/DVM Workshop. It might seem like a basic piece of equipment, but that's all the more reason to make sure you know how to use it effectively. A couple of my kids participated and they came away excited about electronics. I'll take that win any day.

This month we have a couple of traditional club activities making their annual return, and I hope to see lots of members come out and participate. The first is the **Annual Cruise-In at the A&W** on August 12. Check out the information in this newsletter or go to the website ([www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)) to find out more.



Another PCARS tradition is the **Ohio BB-QSO Party** on August 28. We'll be at the club site eating food, hanging out with friends, and making some contacts in the Ohio QSO Party. I encourage you to come out and join us! It's another great opportunity to enjoy the "Big Fun".

We typically go on a couple of family camping trips in August, and this year we'll use those trips as a chance to test out some new "field" setups. Hopefully, by the time OSPOTA rolls around, we'll be ready to go. If nothing else, we'll figure out what works and what doesn't through the time-honored, highly scientific method of trial-and-error. It should be a lot of fun.

I hope you enjoy your August. Get outside and enjoy the warm weather, join us for some fun events, and always keep learning and having fun!





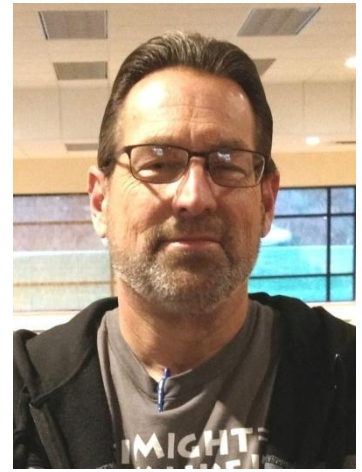
## From the Vice President



If you enjoy chasing special event stations, there were several opportunities in July. My favorite is the 13 Colonies celebrating our independence from Britain.



**Mike N8WCP**  
PCARS Vice President



I've tried for a clean sweep in the past with no success but this year I worked all 16 stations with a combination of bands and modes. But the fun continued by working POTA stations, NAQP RTTY contest, RSGB IOTA contest, and DX. **What a great hobby!**

Speaking of contests, the **Ohio QSO Party is August 28th which is the same day as our club Open House and BBQ.** Stop by, grab a burger and make some contacts from the club site. If you've never worked HF or a contest don't let that stop you, there will be seasoned hams there to help. Don't be shy, give it a try! Look for a QST from Chuck-W8PT about scheduling a time to work the contest.

**August 12th** is our annual **Amateur Radio Cruise-In** at the Ravenna A&W. Stop in for one of their famous root beer floats and check out mobile installations or have an eyeball QSO with fellow members. The event runs from 6:00P to 9:00P and you can check-in to the Thursday Night Net while you're there.

Our speaker for the August meeting will be Lloyd Berg-N9LB who will discuss **Lightning Protection for Amateur Radio Stations.** This should be an enlightening presentation.

If you have a suggestion for a speaker or topic for our September or October meetings, drop me an email. This is your club and your input is valued.

**Stay Radioactive!**

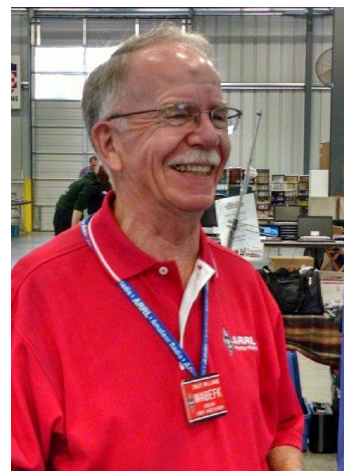


## From the Great Lakes Division Director



**Dale, WA8EFK**  
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director

Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for August, 2021



Our ARRL Board of Directors met in July. With the forthcoming retirement of Treasurer, Rick Niswander K7GM, who has managed the League's investment portfolio for the past nine years, the Investment Management Committee has been examining the options for the future management of these funds. The Board elected to create a permanent committee and proceed with a program to evaluate investment management firms to handle these funds, and the board will also start a search for a replacement Treasurer. It is expected to have these plans largely in place in early 2022.

As I had mentioned in last month's Dales Tales, the Board was also expected to consider a proposal for adding of a new Standing Committee, specifically to assist and grow our Field Organization. That motion was passed, creating the new "Emergency Management-Field Services Committee". The purpose is to focus on the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, The National Traffic System, Government Liaisons, Public Relations, Technical Advisors, and working with ARRL Affiliated Radio Clubs. This is clearly going to provide needed support for the ARRL Field Organization teams led by our Section managers.

The Programs and Services Committee, will now concentrate on the DXCC program, LoTW and contesting. We now have four Standing Committees; Administrations and Finance, Programs and Services, Emergency Management-Field Services Committee and the Executive Committee. There are several other committees that serve as sub-committees to these four.

The ARRL Board also made several awards, one of which honors a member of our Great Lakes Division: Moved by Director Williams, Second by Director Norris:

### The 2021 Phil McGann Silver Antenna Award

*WHEREAS*, Amateur radio has many facets which are of interest to the public in the areas of radiosport, emergency communications, and experimentation/do-it-yourself (DIY), and

*WHEREAS*, ARRL particularly appreciates a Public Information Officer who successfully promotes all aspects of amateur radio so officials as well as the public at large can better understand the many contributions amateur radio makes to education, public safety, and recreation, and

*WHEREAS*, John Levo, W8KIW, of Hillsboro, Ohio, exemplifies the skills and depth of understanding to convey to media outlets the fascinating world of amateur radio through his encouragement for media to cover stories about the exciting world of amateur radio and how you can "talk around the world" from any location; demonstrating how emergency communications during times of adversity can be set up quickly and effectively; demonstrating the importance of ARRL Field Day as an annual event to help operators enhance their skills in emergency operations; and teaching those newly interested, getting them licensed, and then mentoring them to become the next generation of amateurs, and

*WHEREAS*, John Levo, W8KIW, has demonstrated a body of work over time that captures the many avenues of opportunities of amateur radio as a hobby, an education tool, and a service for public safety,

*THEREFORE*, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee and the concurrence of the Programs and Services Committee, does hereby bestow the 2021 ARRL Philip J. McGann Memorial Silver Antenna Award to John Levo, W8KIW.

**CONGRATULATIONS JOHN!**



**GREAT LAKES CONVENTION UPDATE:** Mark the Date, October 2, 2021, at Knicely Center in Bowling Green, KY. We'll soon publish Special Editions of Dale's Tales with the forum schedules. David Minster NA2AA, ARRL CEO will be the guest speaker at our formal luncheon at 1:00 PM. We will also be presenting our Division Newsletter Awards and the ARRL's Phil McGann award. Following the luncheon, we will hold an initiation for the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, noting that our ARRL CEO David, NA2AA will at that time be among those initiated into the Order. **You do not want to miss this!**

## *From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director*



**Scott, N8SY**

ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Wow, have the hamfests really picked up! It seems that everyone is in the mood to get out to a swap and just see everyone else again. The Field Service Working Group that I'm on has been working hard at getting those items that the Section Managers have said is of concern to them fixed, improved or started. Regular meetings with the Section Managers are on the top of the list and have been happening on a regular basis now with more changes and improvements on the horizon.

Work on the **Great Lakes Division Convention** coming up on **October 2nd** is continuing. Will you be there? As that it is only a couple of months away, you'll want to make sure that this event gets on your calendars now. We want everyone in the Great Lakes Division to come out and have a blast with us.

For those newsletter editors in Kentucky and Michigan, we will be presenting the Joseph Phillips, K8QOE, Newsletter Award at the Convention, and if you want your newsletter to be in the running you need to get copies of your newsletter to your Section Manager now. The Ohio Section has its newsletter winners already selected and they will be announced at the Columbus Hamfest on August 7th.

The best newsletter from each of the 3 Sections (Michigan, Kentucky and Ohio) will be chosen by their respective Section Leaderships to compete for this very prestigious award.

That is going to do it from here this month. So, **"GOTA" and have FUN!!**



# **PCARS K8BF**

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





## From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



**Tom, WB8LCD**  
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Amateur Radio is a Fantastic hobby. Unfortunately, we exist only at the pleasure of the United States government! Without their consent, and frequency allocations, our hobby would only exist as 1) Pirate Radio 2) CB Radio or 3) SWL'ing. None of those alternatives are satisfactory to me. What makes our hobby so special is the Frequency Allocations we have available to us – again – only at the pleasure of our government. Get yourself a copy of a Radio Spectrum Frequency Allocation Chart. When you see where Amateur Radio fits into that chart, you'll notice that we have exclusive rights to some pretty prime chunks of Radio Spectrum. If you had to put a value on it, I'm guessing Billions (if not Trillions) of dollars worth. Between commercial, military and government interests, I'm sure our government could sell out our allocations for big money overnight. We have a vested interest in making sure that does not happen!

Amateur Radio is “codified” into public law. (you can find it here: Part 97 Text ([arrl.org](http://arrl.org)) ) If you go to the very first page, you'll notice that 97.1 are the “Basis and Purpose” of the Amateur Radio **SERVICE** (emphasis is mine).

### **§97.1 Basis and purpose.**

*The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:*

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.*
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.*
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.*
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.*

As we enjoy and participate in our hobby, we need to remember that these are the reasons our hobby exists. We provide a “service” to our society and fellow countrymen in each of the 5 areas listed. It's imperative that as we provide these services, that we create a public awareness that this is why we exist. Without that public awareness, the people who control our existence could terminate our existence without a second thought. There are two ways that we need to create that awareness: 1) by supporting the ARRL and 2) by our own PR efforts to make sure that there is a high level of public awareness as to who we are, what we do, and how it benefits every citizen.

The ARRL is the **ONLY** organization that represents our interest to both the US Government and other world governments to justify our existence. Because of ARRL lobbying efforts on our behalf, we have a voice that is heard, and ARRL is very good at that. That doesn't mean they win every battle, but they have won enough to keep us in existence since the last time government tried to shut us down (shortly after WW1, it was only because of the efforts of the ARRL that Amateur Radio was allowed to restart after being banned during



the war). Supporting the ARRL should be a high priority to every licensed ham in the US who wants to see our hobby to continue to exist.

I've also commented that we need to step up our game when it comes to public relations and public awareness. Government works quite often based on public consensus. Having a positive and widespread public awareness will certainly be of benefit to us anytime government looks to our frequency allocations as being a wasted opportunity. We have to keep the things we do at the forefront of our public image. We are the Amateur Radio **SERVICE** and it's up to us to keep the public aware of our efforts on their behalf. Highland ARA has done an OUTSTANDING job of keeping Amateur Radio in the public eye in their community. They "Get it" and they're doing something about it! But they can't do it all by themselves. Every other club in the OH Section needs to step up and get the word out in their communities too.

**Thank you. Thank you all for making this the best hobby in the world!**

## Schedule of Events



*We plan to add to the schedule as we bring back more in-person events.*

*Look for announcements in QST emails, on the website,  
on our weekly net, and in future newsletters.*

*If you're not feeling well, please stay home and join us by Zoom if instead. We'll  
continue to offer Zoom as an option wherever it makes sense to do so.*

August 2<sup>nd</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting - Club Site & Zoom - 7 pm  
August 7<sup>th</sup> - VE Testing at the club site in Ravenna - Starts at 10 am  
August 9<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion & Zoom  
August 12<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Cruise-In at the A&W in Ravenna - 6 to 8 pm- *see flier*  
August 28<sup>th</sup> - Club Open House & BBQso Party - Ohio QSO Party - *see flier*  
September 7<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting - Club Site & Zoom - 7 pm **(date change)**  
September 8<sup>th</sup> - Technician Class starts - *see flier*  
September 11<sup>th</sup> - Ohio State Parts On The Air (**OSPOTA**) Contest- *see flier*  
September 13<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - 7 pm at the Kent American Legion & Zoom  
December 4<sup>th</sup> - FYAO at the park in Kent - *more info to follow*

First Tuesday - **Digital** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV  
Second Tuesday - **Portable Ops** - Moderator: John, KD8MQ  
Third Tuesday - **Antenna** - Moderator: Tony, WA8AR  
Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT

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



**Portage County Amateur Radio Service**



**K8BF**

**2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year**

# PCARS VE Test Information & News

**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison



## PCARS VE Testing to Resume in August

**GOOD NEWS** – Starting on August 7th, PCARS will resume VE testing at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Due to the COVID 19 concerns, PCARS had shut down in-person VE testing to ensure the safety of our VE team members and the applicants that wanted to take a test for their new amateur radio license or to upgrade.

We have all been looking forward to getting back to some sort of ‘normal’ and it seems this is the proper time to start up the VE Testing again at PCARS. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me at [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com). On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to getting the VE testing going again and look forward to seeing you there – **August 7th -10 am** – at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. 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.

**WALK-INS will be accepted.**

- **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.
- No food or snacks allowed. Use of masks is still encouraged.
- \$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
- 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 will need 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](mailto: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/cores/>

### Social Security Numbers are **NO LONGER ACCEPTED** at Exam Sessions

Amateur candidates who already have an FCC license, whether for amateur radio or in another service, already have an FRN and can use the same number - it is printed on your current license. All prospective new FCC licensees, however, will be required to obtain an FRN *before* the examination and provide that number to the volunteer examiners on the Form 605 license application. An FCC instructional video (<https://www.fcc.gov/rofrn>) provides step-by-step instructions on how to obtain an FRN through the FCC's CORES system. The FRN is required for all new applicants to take an amateur exam and is used afterward by the applicant to download the license document from the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) (<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/universal-licensing-system>), upgrade the license, apply for a vanity call sign, and to submit administrative updates (such as address and email changes) and renewal applications.



### 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 Application Fees Information

The majority of the FCC's revised Part 97 rules (adopted in December 2020) establishing new application fees that were to become effective on April 19, **but the new amateur radio application fees were not effective on April 19**. The FCC announced on March 19 that the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 filings, would not become effective until the *"requisite notice has been provided to Congress, the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated, and the Commission publishes notice(s) in the Federal Register announcing the effective date of such rules."*

The \$35 fee, **when it becomes effective**, would apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications, as well as applications for a special temporary authority (STA) or a rule waiver. All fees will be per application. Administrative updates, such as a change of mailing, email address, or name, are exempt.

It is expected that such fees will not become effective sometime in mid to late 2021. The FCC has stated that amateurs will have advance warning of the actual effective date, because it will publish such date in the *Federal Register*.

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will **not** have to collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions. **Once the FCC application fee does take effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the regular \$15 exam session fee to the VE team as usual, and pay the new \$35 application fee directly to the FCC via the [Fee Filer System](#) or [License Manager System](#).** The new CSCE form now has information about fee payment,

## 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

The logo is circular with a yellow border. Inside, it says "AMATEUR RADIO" at the top, "ARRL VEC" in the center, and "VOLUNTEER EXAMINER" at the bottom. There is a small diamond-shaped icon to the left of the text.

# PCARS Field Day - 2021



**Tony, WA8AR**  
Field Day Chairman



First and foremost let me thank everyone who volunteered to support our PCARS Field Day effort; without your support we could not make this happen. Special thanks go out to all the Station Captains and Special Engineering Task Captains who all put together excellent stations and did a great job managing operations or put together bulletproof engineering support systems (IT and Power Generation). This year's Station Captains were: Ed K8IV [40 meters]; Mike N8WCP [20 meters]; Rick K8CAV [Flex Station]; George K3GP [CW Station]; Mike KB8TUY [VHF Station]; Jim AC8NT [GOTA Station/Training]. Engineering Support Captains: James KD8VT [Power Team] and Zeb KD8WZS [IT and Network]. Special Support Positions: Parky KB8UUZ [Public Information Table, Log Processing and ARRL Entry]; Nick AC8QG [Public Information Officer].

Let's not forget all those that worked as operators or loggers. Many worked multiple shifts to keep stations on the air making contacts, they did a great job. And finally thanks to all the members who came out to help with setup and tear down. They got everything up and ready to operate well before Field Day operations were to start, and teardown was accomplished without incident leaving the park in the condition we found it before Field Day.

COVID did impact turnout as some people had made other plans before the vaccination program made working together safe again, without the need for masks. From talking with many of our members, our group had a much higher percentage of vaccinations as compared to the general public, in my opinion that made our event very "COVID Safe".

Overall we made a lot of contacts, people who were there seemed to have a good time, and that is what it was all about. Now we have to wait to hear how other clubs did and see where we rank this year. It is a big event and tabulating scores will take the ARRL a while to complete....Stay Tuned!!

**Thanks and congratulations to all who participated in PCARS Field Day 2021.**





# PCARS Field Day 2021 - Submitted to ARRL

The final PCARS Field Day 2021 report was done and sent in to the ARRL. It was submitted by Parky on the ARRL's web ap for Field day and the additional required information was also included as an upload. Everything has been received and accepted. Now we have to wait until later this year (usually in December) to see how we did compared to the other 4A stations in Ohio and the USA. It was a GREAT Field Day and all went fine and it appeared all had FUN. Only 11 more months until Field Day 2022. Start planning NOW.

## Portage County Amateur Radio Service - Field Day 2021

Call Used: **K8BF**      GOTA Call: **KD8WZS**      ARRL/RAC Section: **OH**      Class: **4A**

Participants: **48**      Power Source(s): **Generator, Battery, Solar**      Power Multiplier: **2X**

**Score Submitted: 10,316 + Bonus 1,730 = 12,046**

### Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total	
Total QSOs	1,035	575	1,938	3,548	
Total Points	2,070	1,150	1,938	5,158	X2 = Claimed Score = 10,316 (not including bonus)

### Bonus Points:

Description	Points
100% Emergency power	400
Media Publicity	100
Set up in a Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Formal NTS messages handled - No.=11	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100

Description	Points
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by invited served agency official	100
Educational activity	100
Youth Element Achieved	80
Submitted via the Web	50
Social Media	100
Safety Officer	100
<b>Total Bonus Points</b>	<b>1,730</b>

### Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Digital		Phone		
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	
80m	180	100	131	100	22	100	
40m	809	100	85	100	1,476	100	
20m	3	100	257	100	424	100	
15m	43	100	7	100	-	-	
10m	-	-	7	100	-	-	
6m	-	-	88	100	6	100	
GOTA	-	-	-	-	10	100	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,035</b>		<b>575</b>		<b>1,938</b>		<b>3,548</b>

**First K8BF Contact** was logged at 1802 UTC on June 26<sup>th</sup> by the **40 Meter Phone Station** to K2AA in NJ.  
**3538<sup>th</sup> K8BF Contact** was logged at 1759 UTC on June 27<sup>th</sup> by the **20 Meter Phone Station** to N9GMT in WI.





### Contact Totals by Operator

#	Operator	Contacts
1	ND8L	558
2	WB9LBI	395
3	KD8DFL	265
4	K8IV	260
5	K8RR	216
6	N8BI	207
7	K8KSU	184
8	N8GIE	183
9	N8WCP	139
10	N8NB	137
11	W8NET	125
12	K3GP	103
13	N8QE	98
14	W8PT	88
15	W8AHC	87
16	K8CAV	70

#	Operator	Contacts
17	KE8BWA	70
18	WA8LRW	47
19	KD8WCK	45
20	KA8TOA	42
21	KE8LWP	39
22	AD8FQ	35
23	N8HUC	28
24	W8GPN	25
25	WA8AR	22
26	KC3JXQ	21
27	AC8NT	20
28	KB8TUY	9
29	KE8EGF	9
30	W8KNO	7
31	W8HAC	4

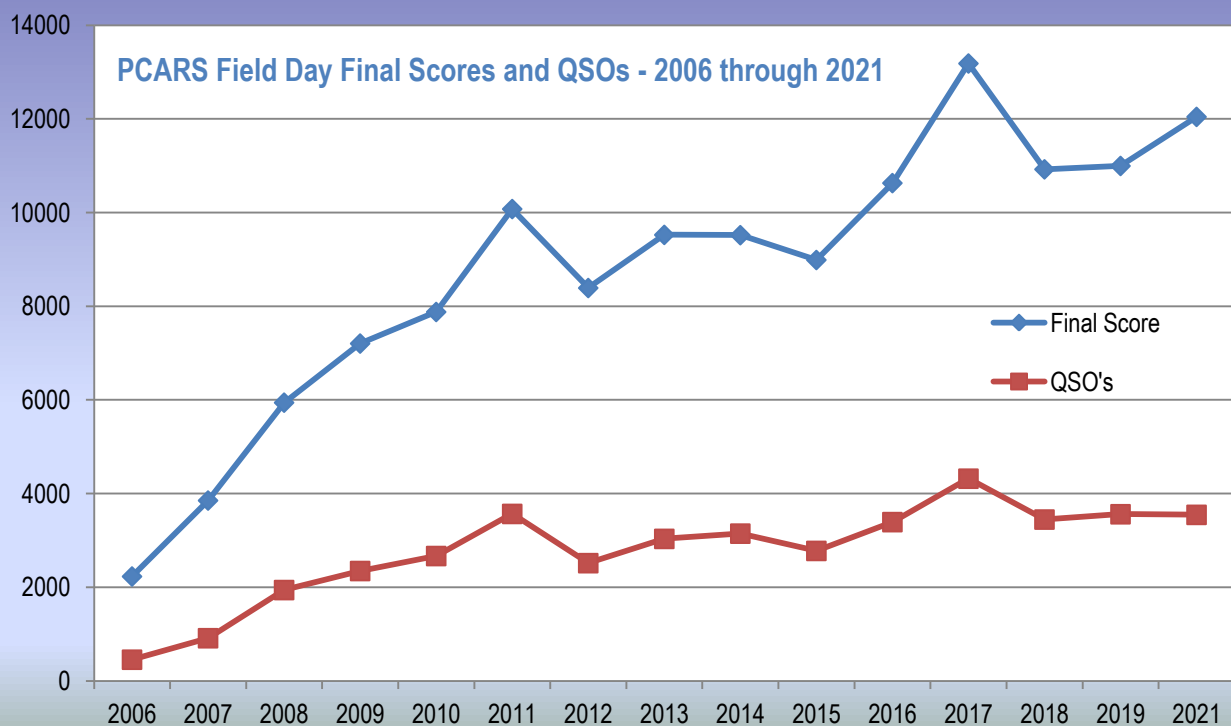




## Field Day - Past Field Day Comparisons

PCARS	Final QSOs	Final Score
2021 - K8BF	3,548	12,046
2019 - K8BF	3,561	10,998
2018 - K8BF	3,448	10,926
2017 - K8BF	4,320	13,186
2016 - K8BF	3,393	10,632
2015 - K8BF	2,778	8,990
2014 - K8BF	3,147	9,520
2013 - K8BF	3,035	9,526
2012 - K8BF	2,517	8,392
2011 - K8BF	3,568	10,078
2010 - K8BF	2,669	7,880
2009 - KD8CKP	2,349	7,206
2008 - KD8CKP	1,942	5,944
2007 - KD8CKP	914	3,854
2006 - KD8CKP	455	2232
15 Year Totals	41,644	131,410

(includes bonus points)



# Field Day 2021 - Flex Station



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



PCARS Field Day is now in the books and it was a very successful event! The club decided early this year that if pandemic conditions warranted, and the Governor lifted restrictions on in-person gatherings, that we would hold a real Field Day this year. Thankfully both conditions were met and PCARS established Field Day operations at the Freedom Township Park on June 26th and 27th, though with some limitations over what occurred in previous years.



The weather forecast this year was pretty dismal until the day before Field Day, with rain and thunderstorms forecast at a 60% probability for both days. Somewhere up above the weather gods decided to smile upon us and it was partly to mostly sunny both days though quite warm with temperatures in the upper 80's. Fortunately it was quite breezy most of the time which kept things bearable. Setup of the Flex Station and antennas went well, with a minor glitch on the 80 meter antenna that fortunately, did not affect its performance.

At the Flex Station this year we used lessons learned from operating home station Field Day in 2020 to streamline digital mode operation by integrating digital mode logging directly into the N3FJP network logging app. This resulted in several positives for digital mode operations. First, it eliminated the need for a logger, which sped up contacts. It also eliminated the need for two computers which significantly decluttered the station. The use of a GPS module coupled with a computer time control app kept the computer's clock accurate which is important for successful FT4 and FT8 contacts. Operators with experience using FT4 and FT8 prior to Field Day also made for many more contacts.

The bottom line is that we broke all records for digital contacts this year (see the graph below) with a total of 509 being logged on 80 meters, 40 meters, and 20 meters.

Flex also operated phone. In the past Deron N8XTH was a huge contributor to the phone contact numbers but he had previous commitments so we only dedicated one time slot this year to phone. We were able to log 22 phone contacts. Terry KB8AMZ contributed CW contacts for Flex in past years but could not attend this year. We did get a couple of CW QSO's courtesy of one of the club's youngest members, Ben AD8FQ, **using a straight key!**





All in all it was a good year for the PCARS Flex Station. All of the operators enjoyed operating at Flex and worked hard to keep the contact numbers high. As we have in every Field day prior, we learned lessons that we'll apply next year to do even better.



There are a lot of sincere **thank-yous** to make for a successful and enjoyable Flex Station this year. First, to everyone who came out to Field Day. Whether you were there to operate, help set up, or to just be there to encourage and provide camaraderie, your presence was awesome, especially after a year in which most of us had no-where near the contact with other people we were used to. I want to recognize and give special thanks to these members who volunteered to staff the Flex Station. Jim AC8NT, J.C. KC3JXQ, Bob N8QE, Kenwood WA8LRW, Gene W8NET, John KE8MXR, Tony WA8AR, Rick KD8WCK, Andrew KE8BWA, Ben AD8FQ, and Agnes KE8LWP.



## Field Day 2021 - GOTA, Youth Station



*Jim, AC8NT*  
Field Day GOTA Station Coach



With the effects of the pandemic easing, it was great to get outside and operate at Field Day 2021. However, visitors were few and far between. As with every Field Day, the GOTA station needed to make sure we didn't interfere with any of our other stations. That meant we were operating on 10 and 15 meters.



Conditions on Saturday were to put it mildly, poor. Even digital modes showed contacts only in South America. I was running my new ICOM 705 at a full 10 watts and could not get a contact all day. We had no visitors that qualified for GOTA points. On Sunday, Zeb KD8WZS and his son were able to make some SSB contacts on 10 meters. Not enough for credit, but none the less it was a lot of fun.

It is our hope that next year, more visitors will show up to learn and experience ham radio. It is a great hobby and we need more community to experience it's fun and value.





# Field Day 2021 - 20 Meter Station



*Mike, N8WCP*  
Field Day 20 Meter Station Captain



After working field day from home last year it was great to get into the field and work with fellow club members. The weather was warm but a nice breeze kept the operators cool. At the beginning the band was crowded and it was difficult to find a spot to call CQ. Band conditions were good but QRM made it challenging at times. Some ops ran a freq, others chose to search & pounce. Regardless of the method, contacts were made and everyone had an enjoyable time. I'm looking forward to seeing our final score soon.

Field Day is truly a team effort and I would be remiss if I didn't recognize everyone who helped make FD2021 a success for PCARS and the 20M station.

- **Tony, WA8AR** our Field Day Chairman who coordinated the activities and teams to ensure a smooth operation.
- **Rick, K8CAV** our liaison to our host Freedom Township who also took the time to show me the operation of the Icom IC-7300.
- **Ed, K8IV** who put many hours into updating the tower base and falling derrick to ensure the tower went up without a hitch. Ed provided the antenna and rotator as well as delivery and removal of the tower and antenna from the site.
- **Tom, WB8LCD** for providing the all important coax to get the antenna system connected.
- **James, KD8VT** and crew for providing us with reliable power for the gear.
- **Zeb, KD8WZS** and his son for setting up the mesh network, workstations, and logging software.
- **The antenna setup and teardown team;** Bob N8QE, Joe W8KNO, Greg KA8TOA, Nick AC8QG, David KE8QEP, Ben AD8FQ, and Bob KD8CGH.
- **Our operators** who worked diligently day and night to make the contacts; Greg KA8TOA, Chuck W8PT, Agnes KE8LWP, Ben AD8FQ, Paul KE8EGF, Joe W8KNO, Bob N8QE, and Tim W8GPN. Special thank you to Greg KA8TOA and Karen N8HUC who helped our "newbie" Tim W8GPN in his first but hopefully not last field day!



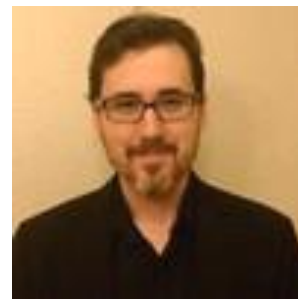
If you've never worked field day, I would encourage you to volunteer next year. **It's Big Fun!**



# Cuba Jamming 40 Meters

**Matthew Gault**

**MOTHERBOARD**  
TECH BY VICE



## FCC Investigating Whether Cuban Government is Jamming HAM Radio

The federal government is investigating mysterious signals coming from Havana that are jamming popular frequencies.

HAM radio operators in Florida have said that Cuba is jamming radio frequencies that prevent them from communicating with operators in the country since anti-government protests began last week. Now, the Federal Communications Commission says it has started an investigation into the issue.



The Cuban government has notoriously controlled communications on the island; until recently there was little internet connectivity in the country and during the protests the government has taken steps to shut down the internet. Cuban exiles living in Florida and other parts of the country often use HAM radio to talk to the mainland.

But the jamming has prevented that. On his YouTube channel, HAM radio operator and Cuban exile Alex Valladares demonstrated the 40-meter band that's preventing him from communicating with his friends on the island. "All these segments here are interference," he said, twisting the dial across the band and through the noise. "That has been nonstop since Sunday." See the KI6NAZ Ham Radio Crash Course (July 15th) video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtICIDDvnPw>

Also see:

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/g5g849/cuba-is-jamming-ham-radio-frequencies-operators-say>

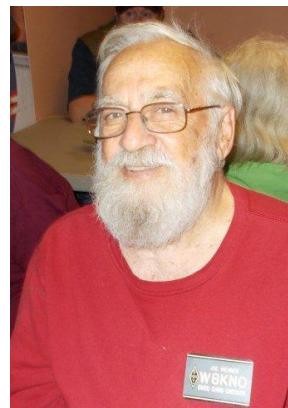
**MOTHERBOARD**  
TECH BY VICE

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/y3dxzg/fcc-investigating-whether-cuban-government-is-jamming-ham-radio>





*Joe, W8KNO*



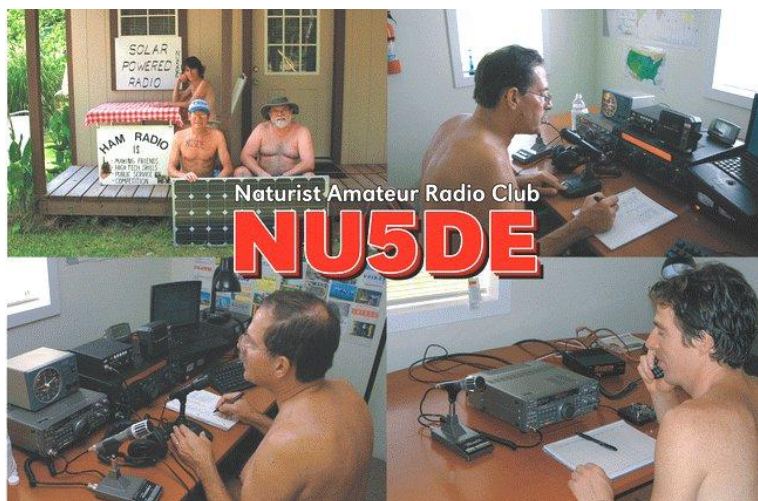
At the DX & Contesting Special Interest Group Tuesday evening, Bob, N8QE, brought his certificate for making a Clean Sweep during the 13 Colonies Special Event. The next morning I received a QSL card for working the John Glenn Special Event.

This month the paper I suggest chasing is not historically notable but a certificate or QSL card that will have conversation value.

The Naturist Amateur Radio Club of Mc Dade, Texas using call sign NU5DE will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the American Association for Nude Recreation National Convention. They will also be introducing their newly designed QSL Card. You will be able to find them at 7.260, 14.265 and 21.365 from August 9th through August 14th between the hours 2pm to 8pm local time.

Request your QSL Card or Certificate by writing to:

Naturist Amateur Radio Club  
166 Eely Rd, #G1  
McDade, TX 78650



A little history about the Naturist Amateur Radio Club. Ham Radio operations started during Nude Recreation Weekend in the early 90's. One of the first efforts happened from Hippie Hollow, a clothing optional county run park in Austin, TX. A long wire was run along the cliffs, just a short distance from the shoreline. The rig was run using a couple of heavy duty batteries, but contacts were few and far between, mainly due to the poor location. A vertical was also use at one point, but still limited contacts. The call sign used belonged to Bob, KF5KF. After little luck from Hippie Hollow, the decision was made to operate from Star Ranch Nudist Resort, about 40 miles from Austin in a little town called McDade. Bob operated from his house during the week and on the weekend he moved his equipment from home to Star Ranch. This caused a dramatic increase in the number of contacts. Bob changed his call sign to N5KF in the fall of 1996. This call was used in July, 1997 from Star Ranch. In the fall of 1997 the Naturist Amateur Radio Club obtained the vanity callsign of NU5DE.

More information about the club can be found at [www.nu5de.org](http://www.nu5de.org)





# VOM-DVM Work Shop

***Rick, K8CAV***



On Saturday July 24th, PCARS held at VOM/DVM workshop at the club site. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce participants to the principles of the VOM (volt-ohm-ammeter) and DVM (digital volt-ohm-ammeter), and how to use them.

The workshop started with a presentation that covered a number of different topics. Safety was the first, and most important topic presented and talked about how to make measurements while minimizing the possibility of shock, injury, or damage to the instrument or circuit being measured. Each instrument was described along with listing their capabilities. Advantages and disadvantages of each instrument were presented and more in-depth discussion about things such as resolution and accuracy were presented. The concept of instrument impedance was discussed, and how an instrument's impedance might affect presented measurements in circuits. Finally, the use of probes with instruments was talked about, and how such probes might expand the usefulness of the instruments.



When the presentation was complete, participants moved to a hands-on portion of the workshop. Six stations were established that required each participant to make and record measurements at that station. Each station had a test setup, along with the required instruments, calculators and scratch pads. At some stations, participants were asked to make some basic calculations using Ohm's Law, using the measurements they made along with other given information to come up with answers to questions posed for



that station. In all cases, participants needed to use the information they learned during the presentation to set their instrument to the correct mode and range to make the required measurements both safely and to obtain the required accuracy and resolution for that station's purpose.

**At Station 1**, participants were asked to make and record ten different DC voltages ranging from approximately nine volts to approximately ninety volts.

**Station 2** required participants to measure and record, using three different instruments, a DC supply voltage across two resistors forming a voltage divider network, and also the voltage across one of the two resistors in the network. Possible explanations were asked for if there were different readings between instruments.



**Station 3**, participants were asked to measure the current in a circuit using an instrument, then to remove the instrument and measure the voltage and resistance in the circuit and use Ohm's law to calculate the current, and explain any differences.

**Station 4** involved measuring the voltage produced by a solar cell into a given load to calculate the amount of power produced by the solar cell.



**Station 5** participants measured the value of three resistors and calculated the difference between the measured and nominal value of each resistor. They then calculated the percent of difference to determine if the resistors were in tolerance based on the color of the tolerance band on the resistor.

**Station 6** was comprised of four precision, calibrated resistances and one precision, calibrated voltage. Participants measured the resistances and voltage, calculate the error in percent, and then compared the error to the specifications for the instrument to determine if the instrument met published specifications.



By the end of the workshop, all of the participants finished with a greater knowledge of the VOM and DVM, and were more fully able to use them to make measurements involving voltage, current, and resistance. Those who participated were Nick AC8QG, Ben AD8FQ, Agnus KE8LWP, Rick KD8WCK, Bob N8QE, and Mike KB8TUY.



Mike, N8WCP sent this in as a filler for the newsletter. I looked real close at it and then knew why.....



Scene from *Insurance Salesman of the Opera*

I enlarged the cartoon - and guess what?





## PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches (*iron on*) & stickers (stick on) are now available!!

Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is about 3". The

embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black

and Blue. Cost for a patch is only \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There

are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS -

Wear a patch, use the stickers! See the club Treasurer: **Paul, KE8EGF** or e-mail him at: [phyland@neo.rr.com](mailto:phyland@neo.rr.com)



## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KE8ELR	Andrew Williams
WT8J	Julie Martin
KC8LSX	David Gatie
KE8MJH	Mark Haas
KD8OBA	Kenneth Miller
KC8TUE	Terry Mills
KB8TUY	Mike Ryan
K3EMB	Jeff Winters
KB8VJL	Al Atkins Sr.
N6TL	Randy Wilson

KE8NJA	James Green
KD8ZSH	Randall Thorpe
WD8ICX	Gary Marks
N8GPS	Ned Brown
K8IG	Fred Freer III
K8ZGW	Donald Ritchie
W8LSQ	Evan Liechty
W8RJG	Ron Good
KD8CGH	Robert Benedict
N3BSN	Laura Gibson



## 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!!



## Headwaters Adventure Race - Canoe Report

Amy, N8AMY

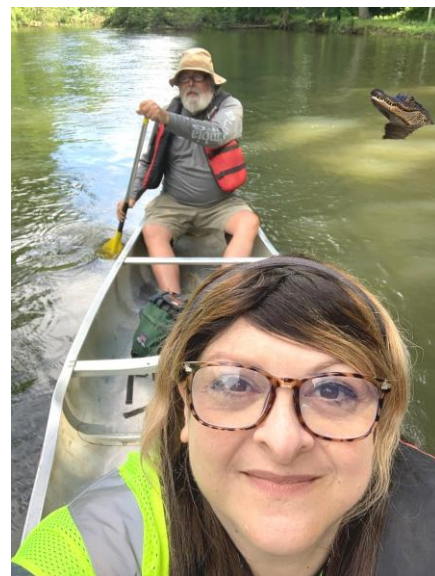


The annual Headwaters Adventure race in Mantua, OH was 7/10/21. Many PCARS members and Comm's unit members participated, and all the assigned positions were filled! Rick K8CAV did a great job leading the charge for the event! Nick N8WLE did an awesome job as NCS – as he always does- (and it was so nice to have him attend an event after not seeing him for a long time!)



Due to frequent rain storms the week before, the river was moderately high. Luckily the deep-water level allowed us to easily navigate the river. (And not risk bottoming out on sand bars along the way).

Mike Ryan, KB8TUY and I had our annual canoe assignment. KB8TUY is always prepared, the avid outdoor adventurer that he is, and packed all the essentials in his green backpack. (Also pictured, the sponge that is necessary to bail out leaky canoes - which I have yet to see used thankfully). You may notice the HT antenna sticking out, along with bottles of water, sunscreen, etc.



Before the race Mike held up sunscreen in each hand and said, "Well I got spf 70 and I got spf 30- that makes 100." While Mike was preparing his face for sunspot cycle 25, I was contacting NCS to keep them updated on the situation on the banks of the river.



Our assignment was to follow the last kayak into the water and call in when they reach the end of the race.

It became obvious early on that the people in the canoe in front of us were inexperienced. There were 4 people in the boat and all the oars were going in different directions. As they zig-zagged down the river, Mike said "Pull up next to them." My buddy offered some of his best river navigation advice!

Travel continued slowly and at one point the canoe in front of us did an oar-to-oar transfer of licorice from their friend in a kayak.



Although our trip was on the slow side, it was a beautiful day and we completed the 2021 Headwaters race successfully with no incidents!





## Annual Headwaters Adventure Race

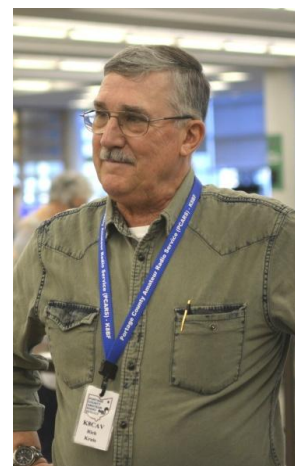
**Rick, K8CAV**

Portage County Coms Unit Commander

On Saturday July 10th Amateur Radio Communicators provided communications support for the Portage County Parks District's annual Headwaters Adventure Race. This event, held in Mantua and Hiram Townships raises funds for the Park District. It consists of a two-mile run, a ten mile cycling race, and a five mile canoe race on the Cuyahoga River.

Communications support was provided by establishing a communications net, run by the NCS at the Mantua Village park. Radio communicators were stationed at intersections throughout the course to report the passing of first and last race participants and other information as requested. A sweep vehicle followed the last cyclist on the course to track race progress, and two radio communicators were in a canoe to sweep canoeists on the river. The COML shadowed the race director to insure she had communications to course locations whenever needed, and to keep her informed of progress on the course.

Field Marshall Helmuth van Moltke posted that "No plan of operations survives the first moment of battle," and that is certainly true of many endeavors in and out of warfare. That the communications group was able to give life to Moltke's theorem and provide outstanding communications support for this event, as it was planned, was due to the dedication and professionalism of all of the radio communicators that volunteered for this event.



On behalf of Kristie Cato, the race director, I want to thank the following who volunteered their time and skills for this event. Nick N8WLE, Eddie KD8SOP, Mike KD8FLZ, Terry KC8TUE, Nick KE8JUI, Paul KE8EGF, Greg KA8TOA, Ron W8AHC, Tom WB8LCD, Mike KB8TUY, Amy N8AMY, Andrew KE8BWA, Rick KD8WCK, Bob N8KBX, and Jim KC8YYS.



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



## Swap-N-Shop

**FOR SALE: Yaesu FTdx-9000MP** Top of the line HF & 6m rig - Dual RX, Dual Meters, 400 Watts, , 3 roofing filters. Pristine condition, includes dual speaker/power supply, manual, original boxes - over \$10,600 new - sell for \$3,900 **Yaesu Quadra Amplifier VL-1000** - HF-6 - 1000 watts - works great - includes all cables, manual, original boxes - \$1,800 **Yaesu MD-200 Microphone** - perfect for the Yaesu HF radio - includes original box - \$150 **Heil GM-5 microphone** - Includes Yaesu adapter cable and Heil Desk Stand - \$95 Must sell - Downsizing my station - Low use on all the equipment, always kept clean, covered and neat.



**Contact: Jeff, K3EMB** email: [jwinters510@gmail.com](mailto:jwinters510@gmail.com) or call 216-233-6551 [09/02/21]

**FOR SALE: Rick Tenan WA8TSI - SK Estate Items for sale. Complete Drake "B-Line" station in museum quality condition:** R4B Receiver, T4XB Transmitter with custom cover, MS-4 Speaker and Cabinet with custom cover, MN-2000 Tuner with custom cover, AC-4 Power Supply and connecting cables, Drake W4 wattmeter, Shure 444 Microphone, Items were serviced and brought up to top operating condition by Jeff Covelli. **\$1200 for the complete set. Separate items are not for sale.** Most manuals included.

**Yaesu FT-990** HF Transceiver in excellent condition. MD-1 mic and manual included. \$750

**Kenwood TS-820** HF Transceiver in excellent condition with manual. VFO-820, SP-820 and MC-50 mic and connecting cables included. \$ 650 **Kenwood TS-140S** HF Transceiver in excellent condition with manual. PS-50 power supply and SW-200 meter are included. \$500

**Heathkit SB-1400** HF transceiver and SBA-1400 speaker/ps in mint condition. \$300 **Heathkit HX-30** 6 meter transmitter and HA-20 Amplifier in average condition. Includes Comair LM-6N2C 6 and 2 meter manual tuner in fair condition. \$450.

**Heathkit HO-10** Monitor Scope in good condition. \$ 50.

**Astron RS-50M** DC pwr supply in excellent condition. \$250. **Radio Shack 22-510** 25a switching power supply. \$75.

**Allied-Radio Shack AX-190** HF ham band receiver in very good condition. \$150 **Siltronics (SWAN) FS-301** SWR meter with 1000w and 20w scales in good condition. \$50 **Radio Shack Pro-2044** Scanner. \$35 **Royce 2-100** Field Strength & SWR meter. \$15

**Midland 23-135B** Field Strength meter. \$10 **Lafayette Telsat SSB-75** SSB and AM transceiver. \$50 **Vibroplex 40135** Iambic key in "like-new" condition. \$75 **Radio Shack HTA20** 2 meter mobile transmit amp. \$60.

**SGC SG-239** HF Smarttuner. \$125 **DSI-5500** 50hz-512mhz frequency counter. \$60

**MFJ-260C** dummy load. \$45 **MFJ-464** CW Keyer and reader in excellent condition. \$145 **MFJ-1702** 2 position coax switch. \$35 **MFJ-945D** Mobile tuner. \$90 **MFJ-945E** Mobile tuner. \$125 **MFJ-949E** Deluxe Versatuner II. \$125

**MFJ4225MV** 25A power supply. \$50 **"On the Air"** sign Large backlit. \$50 **RCI-5054** 6m SSB

transceiver. \$190 **J-38 style straight key** mounted to heavy base. \$45

**Contact: Dave Fairbanks, N8NB** at 330-501-5031 if you would like to purchase any of the following items. Leave a message if I am not available. All proceeds go to Pam Tenan. [10/02/21]

**WANTED: Transceiver capable of 6 meters SSB** - Looking for a radio that can operate on 6 meter SSB, ideally over 10 watts. I'm looking for something less than \$300, but could go higher depending on the radio.

**Contact: David, KE8QEP** email: [dwaugh@kent.edu](mailto:dwaugh@kent.edu) call or text: 330-603-8640 [08/02/21]

**FOR SALE: Icom SM6 Microphone** - 8 Pin round connection. Very clean IC-SM6 electret condenser desk microphone with windscreen. Lock switch works smoothly and positively. Used with any ICOM radio with the round 8-pin mic connector. Nice small footprint desk microphone. Asking \$75.00. **Cushcraft 6M Yagi A505S (?)**. *Don't know if it is actually a Cushcraft*, my dad was very handy at home brewing radio stuff. Five elements, 12 foot boom. Asking \$100. Selling these items for my father, W8JFQ (SK) was a member of PCARS. Paypal and Venmo accepted of course cash is always accepted. (prefer Venmo or cash, no fees). Can and will provide pictures if asked for.

**Contact: Bob, W8RID** email: [davet102@roadrunner.com](mailto:davet102@roadrunner.com) [08/02/21]

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:

[11/02/21] indicates the ad will run until November 2, 2021.



## Social Media Commentary

**Larry, W2LJ**



If you subscribe to Facebook, there is a wealth of Amateur Radio gold to be found. Some of the groups that I belong to include the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt (of course!), Magnetic Loop Antennas, I Love QRP, 4SQP, Begali Keys, Ham Radio 2.0, DIY Magnetic Loops and a plethora of others. I have gotten some really good ideas, tips - "hints and kinks" as it were, from these pages.

The good far outweighs the bad. But every now and then ..... !!!

One of my pet peeves is when someone feels the need to bring up a story where they, as a newbie, felt they were somehow slighted by a veteran of the hobby. I had my share of those experiences as a Novice and a new General back in the late 70s and early 80s. We all went through that. If I want to go down Memory Lane far enough, I can tell you the times I was made to feel about an inch tall on the local 2 Meter repeater. But I'd have to think really hard about the specifics, because for the most part, I've forgotten the particulars and moved on.

This probably has to do with my upbringing. Both my Mom and Dad's families were huge by today's standards. I was the youngest of all the grandchildren. For some reason, my uncles (on both sides) took delight in harmlessly teasing me, at times. It was not a constant thing and I remember great times and wonderful memories with them all, but there were times, as a very young kid, it was not so much fun. I was too young to realize it was just kidding, and I felt hurt. I remember complaining about it to my Mom once. She gave me invaluable advice. "When you can show them it won't bother you, it will stop." And, true to her words, her wisdom proved spot on.

Flash forward to now. Someone had posted on how he didn't have the most deluxe experience as a new Ham. He had gone to a club meeting (his first one, I guess) and someone asked him what class license he held. When he answered "Technician", the older club member responded "Well, we all have to start somewhere." He stated that at that point he was almost ready to leave the hobby.

Seriously? You're kidding right? I almost fell out of my chair when I read that.

Look, I can understand his reaction to a point. We all want to be accepted and we're all proud of our accomplishments. We want to be recognized and welcomed - heck, that's why we join clubs and organizations in the first place - for fellowship and camaraderie. But Amateur Radio, like all groups, is a microcosm of our society at large. You're going to have your gems and you're going to have your bad apples. You can't let the bad apples get to you. "Illegitimi non Carborundum" as the old saying goes.

But as an aside, the street goes both ways. Many times, when a newbie feels slighted, instead of sucking it up and moving on - they will retaliate using terms such as "Old Fart", "Geezer", "Curmudgeon" and the like. There's no need for that, from either side.

The point of this post is to remind everyone that Amateur Radio is a huge tent, and there's room for everyone. While there's a time and place for good natured teasing and kidding - maybe it's a good idea to refrain from that until you get to know the person better. Treating each other with respect and avoiding epithets is always a good idea. For Pete's sake, if you don't know how to react - at least be civil! But if you run into someone who desperately feels the need to be a real ....., remember my Mom's advice. It's timeless.

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**Editor's Note: Check out Larry's Blog for some really good QRP operating tips: <http://w2lj.blogspot.com/>**





## Ukraine Declares "Russian Woodpecker" Antenna Site a Cultural Monument

The government of Ukraine has declared the massive Duga-1 antenna array near Chernobyl - the source of the infamous "Russian Woodpecker" over-the-horizon radar signals in the 1970s and 80s - as a protected cultural monument. According to the Vice online newsletter, the designation is part of an effort by Ukraine to get the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and surrounding buildings all declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In addition, the Association of Chernobyl Tour Operators reported that vandals were removing pieces of the huge structure and that added protection was needed.



For those too young to remember, the "woodpecker" was a Soviet-era early warning radar system built to detect incoming nuclear missiles from the United States. Its tapping signals caused havoc on the HF ham bands as they swept through the shortwave spectrum. Chernobyl, of course, is the site of the world's worst nuclear power disaster in 1986 and the Duga-1 array is within the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. It is speculated by some that the Chernobyl power plant was built primarily to provide electricity to the Duga radar.

Editor's Note: Check out the July issue of The Radiogram - page 32 for an article on the Russian Woodpecker.

<https://portcars.org/files/newsletter/2021/PCARS-July-21.pdf>

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## FCC Finalizes Fine Against Drone Maker

The FCC has reaffirmed its previous decision to fine drone maker HobbyKing **\$2.8 million** for marketing non-compliant RF equipment and for failing to respond to FCC orders in the course of its investigation, which was instigated by the ARRL. According to the ARRL Letter, the League filed a complaint with the FCC in 2017 when its lab confirmed that the company's unmanned aircraft were not FCC-certified and operated on a variety of frequencies allocated to other services, including the 1300-MHz ham band, as well as GPS and air-traffic-control frequencies.



According to the Letter, HobbyKing first denied selling its transmitters to U.S. customers, then said it was never informed of the FCC's authorization requirements and that replying to the Commission's enforcement inquiries would violate its Fifth Amendment rights. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order issued on June 17, the FCC didn't buy any of it, denying the company's Petition for Reconsideration because it "fail(ed) to present new information warranting reconsideration."



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





## International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend

### Registrations Strong for 24th Annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

Set for August 21 - 22, the 24th annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW) will be back, despite the disruption of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Each year, typically on the third weekend of August, participants set up portable stations at or near lighthouses and lightships around the world. Last year, prospects for the event were looking dim, but "regular supporters wanted the event to be a beacon of hope," the event's sponsor said. More than 360 registrations from 43 countries backed up their belief. As of July 8, this year's registration tally (<https://illw.net/index.php/entrants-list-2021>) had already topped 200, with 25 participants signed up to activate lighthouses or lightships in the US. The ILLW typically attracts entries for some 500 lighthouses in more than 40 countries. The event has few rules and is not a typical contest-type event. The ILLW will begin at 0001 UTC on August 21 and continue through 2400 UTC on August 22.



Each station's operators decide how they will operate their station with respect to modes and bands. There are no power restrictions or entry classes and no scores.

"We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun while making contact with as many amateur radio stations as possible," ILLW said in the event announcement. "We request that stations take time to work other lighthouses or lightships, as well as the slow operators or newly licensed or QRP stations." Participants contact the relevant authorities to obtain permission to operate. It is within the guidelines of the event to move operations from a lighthouse to a museum for historic reasons. In any case, the lighthouse should be visible to, and visited by, the public wherever possible.

Visit the ILLW website for more detailed information - <https://illw.net/>.



join us at the PCARS club site **Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> 2021**

# ohio BBQSO Party club Picnic & Open House



Contest set up starts at 10 AM - Contest starts at Noon  
and ops will continue until midnight (12 hour contest)

## 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.

### Portage County Amateur Radio Service



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

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



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



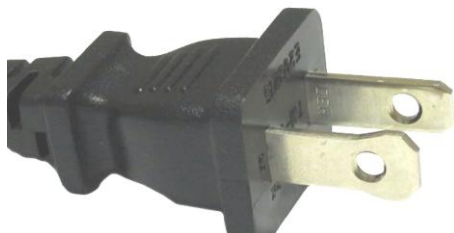
There are a **very limited number of extra coffee cups** and they are for sale at \$5.00 each.



**Contact Paul for all of the details: [Treasurer@portcars.org](mailto:Treasurer@portcars.org)**

## Did You Know?

### Two Holes At The End Of Electrical Prongs



You look at them all the time, but have you ever noticed the two holes at the end of every electrical prongs? There's a 99% chance if you unplug any appliance in your home the two flat prongs will have these holes. So why are they there?

There are 3 reasons for them:

1. Inside an outlet there are tiny bumps, these bumps make it so the holes on the prong can "grip" inside, staying in place firmly.
2. These holes allow someone to "lock" the device attached to the cord in case they don't want anyone using it. For example. Some construction sites will place a padlock through the hole when they aren't on the job to stop someone from using an appliance when no one is around.
3. Manufacturers save a small amount of money by having to use fewer raw materials to make these.



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





## From the ARRL Contest Update

**Brian, N9ADG**  
ARRL Contest Update



### WinKey

Steve, N2IC, notes: "For years, a number of contesters disdained WinKey paddle sending. I didn't understand that. My experience was that there was excellent paddle sending with *TRLog*, and that WinKey with *N1MM Logger+* was equally excellent. I couldn't detect any difference. But When I sat down to operate in the 2021 WPX CW @ ND7K, using WinKey with [DXLog.net](https://www.dxlog.net), I immediately understood. There was a noticeable delay between touching the paddle and sending CW. That made it impossible to send decent CW. I wanted to understand what *DXLog* was doing differently. The problem turned out to be the default value of WinKey PTT lead delay, 100 milliseconds, that [DXLog.net](https://www.dxlog.net) was using. That delay meant that when you touched the paddle, WinKey was activating its internal PTT, then waiting 100 ms before outputting CW. Changing this to 20 ms instantly solved the problem, making WinKey paddle sending a pleasure. I would also recommend changing the PTT tail delay to 0 msec. These settings are in Options->Configure Interfaces in *DXLog*. For new installations of [DXLog.net](https://www.dxlog.net), these parameters have been changed to 20 msec and 0 msec, respectively. However, **for existing installations, you will have to manually change these parameters.**"

### WORD TO THE WISE - Super Check Partial

Super Check Partial (SCP) describes a call sign database file, the [website it comes from](https://www.arrl.org), and the feature in many logging programs that uses the file. The file, originated by Jim, AD1C and Ken, K1EA, is a compilation of call signs that have appeared in recent contests, formatted in a way for easy computer searching. Popular logging programs that use this file will accept a few letters of a call sign in an entry window, and then show possible matches from the file. For example, with a recent SCP file, typing "1ABC" would show JQ1ABC, while typing "1DG" would show a list of call signs including K1DG, N1DG, OK1DG, W1DGL, JH1DGJ, OK1DGU, and JI1DGW. Searches are made of the letters as entered; some logging programs have a setting that will search for the letters entered in that order, with intervening letters. For example "1DG" would also match "K1DOG." The file is updated periodically, so it's good practice to update it before a contest. The file should be used as an aid for what is copied, and NOT used to guess at call signs.



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Newington, Connecticut 06111-1494 USA  
860-594-0200

[www.arrl.org](https://www.arrl.org)

## PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

**Greg, KA8TOA**  
Net Control Coordinator

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



August	
5	K8YLK
12	N8QE
18	N8AMY
26	KA8TOA

September	
2	WB8LCD
9	KD8WCK
16	N8AMY
23	KE8BWA
30	KA8TOA

October	
7	
14	
21	
28	

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

## PCARS Flex Net

**Rick, K8CAV**  
Flex Net Coordinator

After a bit of a hiatus the PCARS Flex Net is returning for an August appearance. The August Flex Net will take place on **Wednesday evening August 11th** at 8:00 PM.

Rick, K8CAV is hosting as NCS for this net and we'll be doing something just a bit different. The net will be held on 17 meters at 18.089 MHz USB, using the digital mode, Olivia 8-500 (8 tones, 500 Hz bandwidth). Set your dial frequency for 18.089 MHz, and your mode for USB digital. **Note - this band is only open to General, Advanced and Amateur Extras.**

Digital nets are just a bit different from phone nets in that we make use of Q signals to shorten the amount of typing that needs to be done for commonly used phrases. Those of you who are CW operators will recognize them and their use, in nets. While there are literally pages of Q signals listed in the ACP-125, (the military's communications "bible"), we only need to know a handful to effectively communicate digitally.

During the August Digital Special Interest group meeting, we'll talk about and demonstrate the use of the basic Q signals needed to operate on the Flex Net. We'll also cover some macros you can write to make digital net operations easier. If you have any questions regarding HF digital operations, be sure to attend this meeting.

This net should be a lot of fun and I hope you'll be able to participate. If you have any questions, drop me a note to [k8cav.coms@gmail.com](mailto:k8cav.coms@gmail.com) and I'll answer them to the best of my ability.





## Hamfest Calendar

**HAMFESTING:** This continues to challenge all of us as many clubs are making their best efforts to return their hamfests to the calendar. Several swaps were postponed or cancelled, but some clubs are adjusting their timetables and setting their hamfests up with different configurations and planning them for dates later in the season.



For the latest detail on regional hamfests, check the ARRL web page at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar> .

Please note that all are subject to change, so stay current by checking the sponsoring club's web page before making your travel arrangements.

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**08/07/2021 - 2021 Columbus Hamfest** - Location: Grove City, OH Sponsor: Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit  
Website: <http://columbushamfest.com> .

**08/15/2021 - WARA Tailgate Swap Meet** - Location: Warren, OH - Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association - Website: <http://w8vtd.com>

**09/12/2021 - Findlay Hamfest** - Location: Findlay, OH - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Website: <http://www.findlayradioclub.org/hamfest> - Learn More <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/findlay-hamfest-8>

**09/26/2021 - Cleveland Hamfest** - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Public Contact: Mathew Nickoson, KC8NZJ - PO BOX 201173 Shaker Heights, OH 44120 - Phone: 8002533378 (800-CLE-FEST) - Email: [kc8nzj@hac.org](mailto:kc8nzj@hac.org) Learn More <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/cleveland-hamfest-1>

**10/2/2021 - 10th Annual Vette City Hamfest, ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention**  
Location: Western Kentucky University Knicely Conference Center - 2355 Nashville Rd. - Bowling Green , KY 42101 - Website: <https://ky4bg.com> - Sponsor: Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club -  
Talk-In: 147.330 P.L. 107.2 - Contact: Frank Armstrong , KI4HEJ - 1622 Flanigan Ct. #4 Bowling Green, KY 42104 - Phone: 270-991-9768 - Email: [frankarmstrong@insightbb.com](mailto:frankarmstrong@insightbb.com)

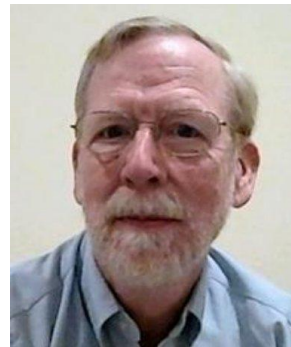
**10/31/2021 - Massillon Hamfest** - Location: Green, OH - Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club -  
Website: <http://w8np.or> Learn More <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/massillon-ohio-hamfest>

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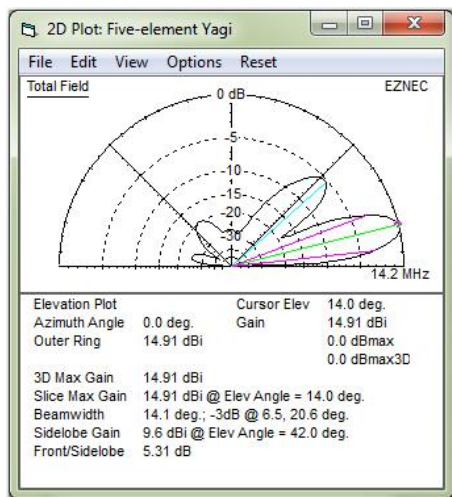
## EZNEC will be Free Starting in 2022

**Roy, W7EL**



On January 1, 2022 I will be retiring. I'll be nearly 76 and want to spend more time at other things. EZNEC is and always has been developed, sold, and supported only by me, so all development, sales, and support will end at that time. For several reasons

there is no practical way to sell or transfer ownership to someone else, so here's what will happen on that date:



EZNEC will be released to the public domain and become free of cost and can be freely copied and distributed. I do not plan to release the source code.

### There will be one or two EZNEC program types:

**EZNEC Pro.** This will have all the features of the current EZNEC Pro/2 (internal NEC-2 calculating engine) and will additionally be able to run external compiled NEC-4.2 and NEC-5 programs furnished by the user. Please keep in mind that NEC-4.2 and NEC-5 are copyrighted software that must be purchased elsewhere. At the time of this writing, the sole seller is Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) but they are in

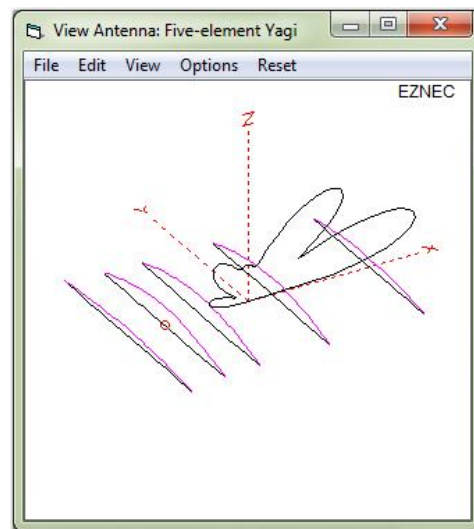
the process of transferring this responsibility to some other person or organization. Note that external NEC-4.2 and NEC-5 programs won't have the full capability of EZNEC Pro/4 with its internal enhanced NEC-4.2 calculating engine, and the LLNL-supplied NEC-4.2 may be very much slower.

**EZNEC+.** EZNEC Pro uses some advanced memory management methods to accommodate its upper limit of 45,000 segments, and this may cause trouble on some systems. So I might also make available EZNEC+ which has simpler memory handling. However, I'll investigate the possibility of making this unnecessary.

No programs will require a hardware key or other additional device.

EZNEC Pro/4 with its internal enhanced NEC-4.2 calculating engine will no longer be available for sale or free or as an upgrade from v. 5.0 or earlier. This is because sale of this program requires my verification that a user has purchased an NEC-4.2 license before sending EZNEC Pro/4. I will no longer be doing this. It will also not be available to replace a lost or damaged program, so users must be responsible for maintaining robust backups. The requirement for a hardware key to use EZNEC Pro programs (EZNEC Pro/2 and EZNEC Pro/4) will be removed very soon and announced on the main EZNEC web site main page and elsewhere.

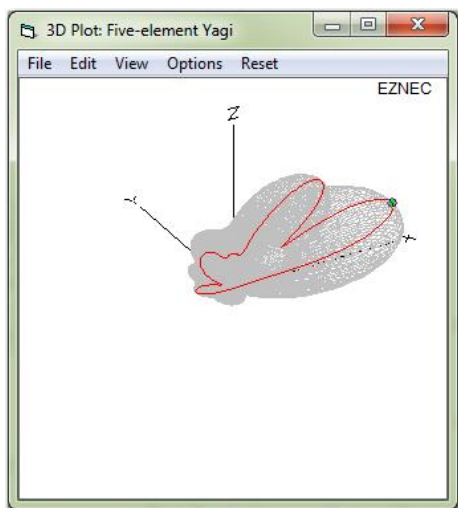
Until the retirement date, EZNEC sales and support will continue as before. After that date, no support will be available, and any email or other communications regarding EZNEC support will not be answered. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY REASON AFTER THE RETIREMENT DATE.**





Anyone using the public domain programs will do so at their own risk and with no possibility of support or recourse.

At the time of this writing, the compiled NEC-4.2 from LLNL has been found to contain at least one bug (which has been repaired in the current EZNEC Pro/4), and the recently released NEC-5 has a substantial number. There is currently no one at LLNL able to fix these and no one outside LLNL authorized to distribute updated versions, so anyone purchasing those programs and using them with the public domain EZNEC Pro program will encounter the bugs and may not have any way to get them fixed.



Very soon after starting my own business I discovered a number of things about human nature I hadn't previously realized. One is the following: If you were able to buy a brand new car for \$500 you'd be absolutely thrilled and feel that you had gotten a terrific bargain. But if you discovered that your neighbor had gotten the same car for \$300, those feelings would immediately switch to convictions that you'd gotten a lousy deal and been cheated. That's my greatest hesitation about releasing EZNEC to the public domain and making it available for free. Rather than expressions of delight from people who will be able to use this software

for free, I fear I'll hear (but sorry, I'll ignore) loud complaints from some people who previously thought that EZNEC was worth at least what they'd paid for it (and many have told me they feel it's worth much more) but like the lucky car purchaser now feel they've been robbed because they could have gotten it free if they'd just waited or if I'd made it free a little earlier. Ironically, those people would be happier if I passed it to someone else to continue selling it or simply made it unavailable altogether when I retire. In fact, the only reason for the six month delay until retirement is to give potential new customers fair warning of the choice they can have of buying it now or waiting and getting it free later.

I sold my first copy of MININEC-based ELNEC v. 1.0 in March 1990 and two more major versions followed. When personal computers became powerful enough to run NEC-2, I introduced EZNEC v. 1.0 in April 1995. Shortly after that I quit my "day job" as principal design engineer at Tektronix, and EZNEC became my primary way of making a living which it has been ever since. The first Windows version, 3.0, came in May 2000, and versions 4.0 - 6.0 have been introduced since. My customer database which goes back to the first ELNEC sale in 1990 has nearly 13,000 different names and companies. A sizeable fraction of these are current users.

You, my customers, have been wonderful. I've enjoyed interacting with you and learned a great deal by doing so. You've been courteous, thoughtful, patient, and honest beyond all expectations. You've enabled me to escape the Dilbert cartoon and have the dream job of being a one person home-based company for 26 years, with no bosses and no employees. It hasn't brought me more than a modest income, but getting rich has never been my goal -- along with occasional consulting it has provided an adequate income and a much, much, more pleasant and stress-free life than a career at a large corporation (or even most small companies). I hope that what I've been able to provide has been a fair exchange.

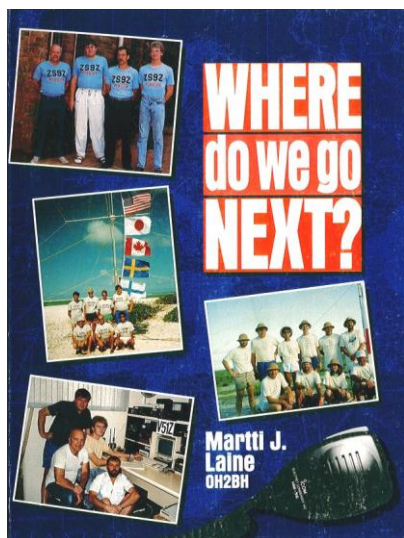
This announcement may be updated from time to time. Last update July 7, 2021. <https://www.eznec.com/>



## Where Do We Go Next?



**Ross, K6GFJ & John, K6MM**



Most serious DXers probably have at least one contact in their logbooks with famous DXer, Martti Laine, OH2BH. Many have even met him at conventions held around the world. But there are still others who haven't met Martti in person or have not had the opportunity to sit down and get to know Martti and learn about his dedication to Amateur Radio and discover what a real gentleman, mentor and diplomat he really is.

In 1991, Martti published his wonderful book for all DXers: "Where Do We Go Next?". Since then, more than 12,000 copies have been published and the book was eventually translated into four languages. Contained in the over 300 pages are many of Martti's secrets: *What it's like to be on a DXpedition from the planning stage through to its completion. What makes a good DXpedition. What's necessary to bring together operators with the right characteristics for a successful team. How to operate and handle the giant pile-ups.* Both beginning and seasoned DXers have benefited from the book as it re-lives many of the places Martti and his teams have visited. Readers learn about the teams' successes and also those challenging times when Mr. Murphy tried to derail a successful trip.

Martti also explains what it took to make each operation successful. Included are comments from those who were part of Martti's team and what they experienced – both as an operator and what they learned from Martti personally. The book is a story of Martti's lifelong journey throughout the world of DX and what he was thinking about at each location. It also shows Martti's deep compassion, commitment, integrity and impressive diplomatic efforts to make each operation a success. Over the years, Martti and his teams were responsible for activating 12 new DXCC entities.



Because of Martti's long and successful partnership with NCDXF - a partnership based on mutual trust and respect - we are pleased to recommend and release Martti's book, "Where Do We Go Next?" **free** for both new and seasoned DXers to enjoy.

It can be downloaded in PDF format from the NCDXF website <http://www.ncdxf.org/misc/OH2BH-WhereDoWeGoNext.pdf>.

Note: If you are not familiar with Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD, whom Martti frequently mentions in the book, you can read "Professor Cass's" wry comments in "The West Coast DX Bulletin." You will find all of the WCDXBs at <https://ncdxc.org/west-coast-dx-bulletin/>. Pay particular attention to the last page of each bulletin.



## Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



### Greetings DXers:

Say hello to August. We will be in the Dog Days of Summer very soon which traditionally are some of our hottest days. But going by what we have been experiencing lately, I'm not sure we want to see the Dog Days. The only thing I can say is that if you need to do any work outside, you either have to get up very early or stay up late. I've been trying to do some tower work and I can say that I get tired very quickly and need to retreat to the house for shade and a cool drink or two.

But the work is worth it since I know that soon I will be able to get on bands other than 20 and 40. So maybe Mother Nature will be kind to us HAMS and allow some cooler days to prevail so that those of us who have antenna work to do will be able to complete it without heatstroke.

The bands sure have been heating up. Those of you who can stay up late should have noticed that Australia and New Zealand stations have been showing up with very good signals on or after 11PM most evenings. So let's see what else we might look forward to in the month of August.

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, KE2M, N2OO, WO2N, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, K8LBT, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W8HC, N0AX, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO and VK2JI 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.

**FT8DMC ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITY WEEKS 2021.** To commemorate the 4th anniversary, eight special event stations will be on air during the "FT8DMC Activity Days" between August 2-15th. All stations will bear the FTDMC or FTDM suffix, referring to the second anniversary of the "FT8 Digital Mode Club". Special QSL-cards will confirm all QSOs and all logs will be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. An FTDMC Anniversary Award can be earned by working the FTDMC and FTDM stations and collecting points applicable for various award classes: Bronze: 10 QSOs with at least 6 different special 'FTDMC/FTDM' stations Silver: 15 QSOs with at least 8 different special 'FTDMC/FTDM' stations Gold: 20 QSOs with at least 10 different special 'FTDMC/FTDM' stations Platinum: 25 QSO's with 12 different special 'FTDMC/FTDM' stations For more details, see the FT8DMC Web page at: <https://www.ft8dmc.eu>

### August...

**6W, SENEGAL,** Dani, EA4ATI is QRV with his temporary call sign 6W1/EA4ATI and here for about three months. He is active on 80 to 10 meters using mainly SSB. QSL via EA4R.

**C6, BAHAMAS.** Operators Joe/W8GEX and his XYL Janet/W8CAA are now active as C6ADX and C6AYL from the Island of Exuma. Length of stay is not known. They are using an Icom IC-7300 with an Elecraft KPA500 amp into a 5 band TW fan dipole. Most activity is on FT8. QSL via direct with a SASE to their home call signs listed on QRZ.com (NO IRCs) or LoTW. Please NO Bureau cards.

**CU, AZORES.** Jim, W6PQL will be QRV as CT8/W6PQL from Pico Island, IOTA EU-175, from July 25 to September 4. Activity will be on 40 to 15 meters using SSB and FT8, and EME and FT8 tropo on 2 meters. QSL direct to home call.

**EM50, UKRAINE** (Special Event). Members of the Zaporizhia National University Club Station (UR4QWW; ex-UK5QBE/UB4QWW) will be active with the special callsign EM50QWW from Zaporizhia, Ukraine, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their club station. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL EM50QWW via the Bureau.

**FJ, ST. BARTHELEMY.** Phil, K2LIO, is expected to be active as K2LIO/FJ from Saint Barthelemy (NA-146) until Aug 5th. Phil says look for him on 40/20/15 m. Using a Xeigu G90 - 20 w into a MFJ end-fed wire. QSL via his home callsign.

**FS, SAINT MARTIN.** Hal, W8HC, will be vacationing and operating as FS/W8HC from Falaise des Oiseaux, St. Martin Island (NA-105), beginning July 29th until August 6th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters using CW and FT8 with a Elecraft K3S running 100 watts. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW.

HP, PANAMA, Special event stations 3F200AT and 3F200NG are QRV until November 30 to celebrate Panama's Bicentennial anniversary of Independence. QSL via LoTW

**J6, ST. LUCIA.** Bill, K9HZ, will once again be active as J68HZ from a villa at Labrelotte Bay, Castries, St. Lucia (NA-108, WLOTA L-1336), between August 21st and November 8th. Activity is usually on 160-2 meters using CW, SSB and FT8, including some contests. QSL J68HZ via LoTW, eQSL or direct to K9HZ (see QRZ.com). No Bureau QSLs.

**JD1, OGASAWARA.** Takashi "Tony", JH1FFW, active as JD1/JH1FFW from Ogasawara (AS-031) between August 21-25th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via JH1FFW, by the Bureau (JARL), LoTW and eQSL.

**N2, UNITED STATES** (LH Op). The Old Barney ARC operating N2OB from Barnegat Lighthouse (ARLHS USA-039) (ILLW US0123) (Old Barney) in Barnegat Light NJ (Long Beach Is IOTA NA-111) on Aug 21st for the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend (ILLW) between 1300- 2100 UTC. Using SSB & FT8 on 20 & 40m. QSL via N2OB.

**N7, UNITED STATES** (Special Event). Look for Special Event Station (SES) N7C to be active between August 10-14th. Activity is the 17th annual special event station's celebration of the "Navajo Code Talkers", normally from Window Rock, AZ. However, because of the continued closure of the Navajo Nation due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the SES will be on the air from the home stations of Ray-W7USA, Bob-K7BHM, John-W5PDW, and Herb-N7HG (who's father was a Code Talker). QSL to N7HG or N7C at the QRZ.com address.

**OJ0, MARKET REEF.** Pasi, OH3WS, will be active as OJ0WS from Market Reef (EU-053) between August 21-28th. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW. QSL via his home callsign.

**PY, BRAZIL,** Mor, PT7ZT is QRV with special call ZV32ZT until August 13 to celebrate the XXXII Olympics. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

**R20, EUROPEAN RUSSIA** (Special Event). Aliy, UA6YW, who worked as a radio engineer at Maykop radio and television broadcasting center in Maykop, will be active using the special callsign R20RTM to mark the 20th anniversary of the Russian Television Radio Network (RTRN). Activity will be on the air between August 1-31st. QSL via R7AA.

**TF, ICELAND.** Laurent, HB9HKE, will be active as TF/HB9HKE from Iceland between until August 7th. His main trip will be for Paramotoring ([https://cdn-bio.qrz.com/e/tf\\_hb9hke/Laurent\\_Flying\\_in\\_Iceland\\_2.jpg](https://cdn-bio.qrz.com/e/tf_hb9hke/Laurent_Flying_in_Iceland_2.jpg)), but operations will be on various HF bands using a LAB599 TX-500 w/10w, a DIY599 power amp (60W), and wire antenna for 20m. QSL via LoTW (preferred), but will also use QRZ.com and eQSL. ADDED NOTE: View Laurent's

YouTube video (about 14 minutes long) called Paramotor Adventure Iceland 2020 reportage "Iceland from above" at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TiMSEyWYeQ&t=14s> Also, visit his Web page at: <https://www.laurentegli.com>

**TG, GUATEMALA.** Steve, K4IM, is currently active as TG9AWS from just outside of Guatemala City until August 15th. Activity is on 40-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes with an Elecraft K3 w/KPA500 amp into End-fed 40m antenna and a R8 vertical. QSL via W3HNC, direct, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS.

**YN, NICARAGUA.** Rafael, NN3RP, is now active as YN2RP until August 15th. Activity could be from Granada, Somoto or San Juan del Sur. Operations will be on various HF bands (40/20/10m) and possibly some satellites using CW, SSB and FT8 with a FT-857D radio. QSL via NN3RP direct, eQSL or LoTW. No ClubLog.



**VP9, BERMUDA.** Henning, OZ2I, will be active as VP9EE from Bermuda (NA-005) between August 11-16th. Activity will be only CW. He will participate in the Work All European DX Contest (August 14-15th). QSL via OZ2I.

**W0-W9, UNITED STATES** (Special Event). Look for stations W0T through W9T to be active between Aug 1-8th. Activity to celebrate the Worlds Largest Teapot ([https://cdn-bio.qrz.com/t/w8t/teapot\\_front.jpg](https://cdn-bio.qrz.com/t/w8t/teapot_front.jpg)) located in Chester, WV. This special event coordinated with the Teapot Festival, on Sat, Aug 7th. The ops will activate the special event stations throughout the week, and the W8T station active at the Teapot Festival. This will be a coordinated event with ops from all call areas operating. Callsigns in operation will be W1T, W2T, W3T, W4T, W5T, W6T, W7T, W8T, W9T and W0T. Also operating will be WV8HAT as a bonus station. This will be an all mode all band event and operators will be posting activations on cluster sites, please also spot them when you hear them. There will be a certificate available for this event. They do ask for a donation of \$3 to help offset costs of the certificates and postage. Log sheets will be available on their web site. All contacts can qualify for the certificate. Contacting all 10 teapot stations qualifies as a full cup (clean sweep), or all 10 plus the bonus is a full pot. Send logs and certificate requests to: Justin Shaw, 813 Washington Street Suite 207, Newell, WV 26050. For more details, see the Hancock Auxcomm Team's Web page at: <https://www.wv8hat.org>

## September...

**9X, RWANDA.** Harald, DF2WO, will once again be active as 9X2AW from Kigali (with a new Grid KI48xe) between September 13-28th. He is currently preparing his 160m antenna and will build a Hexbeam with Bamboo Sticks for working on 20-10 meters and dipoles for 40/30 meters. Modes are mainly Digital modes (FT8, PSK31, JT65 and RTTY), with some CW and SSB. QSL via M0OXO or his OQRS. See QRZ.com for pictures.

**EU-041.** Paolo, I5WHC, will be active as IM0/I5WHC from Maddalena Island between August 20th and September 18th. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

## IOTA News...

**AS-066.** Operators Maxim/RU5D, Gennady/R3BY and Vitaly/R0MR will be active as R3RRC/0 (as well as their own homecall/0) from **Furugelm Island** (RR-16-05, R0L-78, RFF-032, RDA PK-35, WW Loc. PN52KL) between July 31st and August 4th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8/FT4. Their radio equipment consists of an ICOM-706 and YAESU FT-850. Antennas are a multi-band vertical and RR33 Spiderbeam. QSL via RZ3EC.

**EU-028.** Alberto, IU1KZX, will be active as IA5/IU1KZX/M from **Elba Island** (EU-028) between July 24th and August 6th. Activity will mobile. QSL via eQSL or by the Bureau.

**EU-097.** Ric, DL2VFR, will be active as OH2/DL2VFR from **Etela-Suomi** (UUSIMAA) Province IOTA Group between August 6-8th. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. QSL via his home callsign, LoTW, eQSL or ClubLog.

**EU-101.** Ric, DL2VFR, active as OH6/DL2VFR from **Bjorkon Island** in the Lansi-Suomi (VAASA) Province IOTA Group between Aug 4-5th. Activity on various HF bands & modes. QSL via home callsign, LoTW, eQSL or ClubLog.

**NA-151.** Bo, OZ1DJJ, will once again be active as OX3LX from **Tasiilaq Island** (WW Loc. HP15EO), Greenland, between July 28th and August 13th. Activity will be on 40-4 meters with a focus 50 and 70 MHz. When not active, he will run a WSPR beacon on 40-6 meters. He states this is NOT a DXpedition, and the best chance to work him will be around lunchtime and after dinner (his local time UTC-2), also during the weekend, possibly at night/morning. QSL via OZ0J direct (see QRZ.com). Logs get uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and sometimes eQSL. For more details and updates, watch QRZ.com or his Web page at: <http://geronne.dk/index.php/ox3lx/ox3lx-dxped>

That's it for now. There's a little bit of everything for us HAMS. DX, Contests, FT8 for those who like to push buttons, special event stations and even a Light House activation or two. Get on the air. Use the license that you studied so hard to get. And let me know how you're doing. 73 for now,

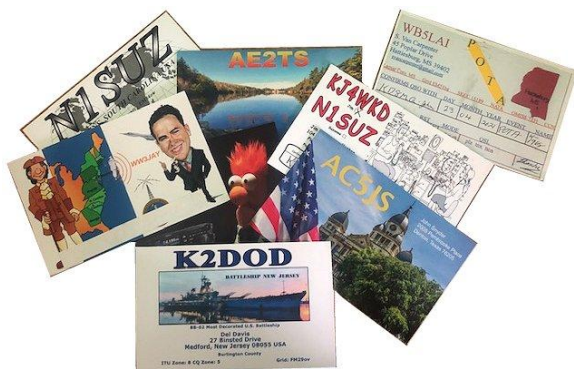


## Portable Ops Special Interest Group

**John, KD8MQ**  
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Hi everyone, here we are in the dog days; arguably the hottest days of summer. Due to the heat, this time of year can sometimes be a challenge for those of us who enjoy operating portable. As I'm writing this, the temperatures this week have been into the 90s, but tomorrow looks much cooler.



One of the cool side benefits about operating portable is the occasional QSL cards that arrive after each portable activation. Paper QSLs are not required for confirming a park activation, but I sure do enjoy receiving them. Some of the cards I receive are pretty imaginative.

At the July Portable Operations SIG we talked about antennas. One that we talked about was the trusty End Fed Half Wave (EFHW). Personally, I've found the EFHW to be a great Go-To antenna for park activations. It's so nice to be able to toss an antenna up into the tree, and be on the air in minutes with a decent signal. If you google it on the web, you'll find lots of information about this antenna.

Another one that we talked about was the loop antenna. We are looking forward to getting the SIG group out in the field after Labor Day, and compare some of these antennas. It would be interesting to see how they stack up against one another.

There's no portable operation SIG in August. Instead, Tom, WB8LCD will be holding an OSPOTA Zoom boot camp that night. This would be a great alternate activity.

So, I'll see you at the next SIG meeting on September 14th. That's the Tuesday after OSPOTA, so I bet I bet I know what the topic of conversation will be. Until next month, 73.

## Digital Special Interest Group

**Rick, K8CAV**  
Digital SIG Coordinator



The Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday August 6th at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

This month we'll be talking about the use of Q signals and pro-signs used in digital only nets, along with some convenient fldigi macros to use in digital nets. This will help with smoother operations on the next PCARS Flex net which will be held using the Olivia 8-500 mode.

As always we'll make time to answer any questions you may have or help with issues or problems in digital operations. I hope to see you there.



## ***DX & Contest Special Interest Group***

**Chuck, W8PT**  
DX & Contest SIG Coordinator



### **Attention PCARS DXers and Contesters:**

Greetings from my shack to your's. On Tuesday, Aug 27, we held our monthly DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting. I want to thank the group of HAMS who attended in person and also by ZOOM.

I made mention of the contests that some of us might be interested in for August.

**Aug 7-8** - 10-10 International Summer Contest, SSB Mode      **Aug 14-15** - Maryland - DC QSO Party  
**Aug 21-22** - North American QSO Party      **Aug 28-29** - Hawaii QSO Party      **Aug 28-29** - W/VE Islands QSO Party  
**Aug 28-29** - *Ohio QSO Party*

Of course, the Ohio QSO Party is the most interesting to us since that is when we also hold our BBQ/Open House. We plan to have all four operating positions going so I would like those who are planning to participate in the QSO Party, to let me know by emailing me at [chuckw8pt@gmail.com](mailto:chuckw8pt@gmail.com). And unless I get an overwhelming response, I will not be making a schedule of ops, but will try to get everyone that shows up to have some time in the op seats.

As far as the BBQ/Open House portion of this event, I can only say that PCARS will be supplying the Brats and Burgers along with the various buns, condiments and beverages. It is my understanding that any side dishes need to be supplied by the attendees. So for those who want potato salad and or baked beans, chips, etc, you will have to bring a dish to pass.

The contest starts at 1600 UTC and runs for 12 hours. That's Noon to Midnight local time for those who are UTC challenged.

Shifting gears here, we will be taking part in the **Texas QSO Party on Sep 11-12** and we will be using that contest as a training course for those who have never operated in a contest or who have done so on a limited basis. So if you would like to see what this is all about. Why not come out and take an op seat in a slow moving contest to get a feel of what it's like.

Still shifting gears, we are also looking at doing a Contesting 101 course for those who would like to get more acquainted with radio sport. There will be more on that at a later date. We may even do a DXing 101 presentation at one of our SIG meetings. So keep watching the Radiogram for announcements. That's it for now. 73

join us at the **PCARS** club site **Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> 2021**

# **ohio BBQSO Party**

## **club Picnic & Open House**



**Contest set up starts at 10 AM - Contest starts at Noon**  
**and ops will continue until midnight (12 hour contest)**

## Antenna Special Interest Group

**Tony, WA8AR**  
Antenna SIG Coordinator



### August 2021 Meeting of the Antenna Special Interest Group

The August meeting of the Antenna Special Interest Group will be held on August 20, 2021; 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Discussions tend to go on for an additional hour or more!). This meeting will be a combination “in-person at the Club Site” and online Zoom meeting. Zoom participation in the Antenna SIG has become a well attended regular feature of our meetings, opening participation to more members as well as guests (both local and long distance!) For the August Antenna Special Interest Group meeting COVID safety precautions will comply with current State of Ohio Health Orders which have been suspended (at this time). Beyond that the recommendations seem to indicate that fully vaccinated persons need not wear masks. Unvaccinated persons should wear masks indoors (in a group setting). If you feel sick please attend by zoom, NOT in-person.

Our discussion will use a round robin format that will ensure all “attending” a chance to speak and get input from the group. The topics of antenna selection, design, and construction will be our main topics for discussion. However, as we have done in the past, anything Ham Radio related will be open for discussion. As always our meetings are open to all club members and nonmembers will be welcomed as guests.



**COMING SOON to a State Park Near You**

**Ohio State Parks On The Air**





## QSO Today Virtual Hamfest

### Next QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo to Offer Nearly 100 Speakers, 18 Topic Tracks

The third [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) is a month away. The live event takes place over the August 14 - 15 weekend, and presentations will remain available on demand for 30 days. Sponsors predict that the event will be "a great experience" for those wanting to improve their knowledge of amateur radio as well as of cutting-edge ham radio technology and practical techniques. ARRL is a QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo partner.



"At the Expo, you can listen and engage with almost 100 internationally recognized ham radio luminaries on approximately 18 different topic areas -- there is something for everyone," the sponsors say. "Topics include antennas and transmission lines; build-a-thons; contesting/DX; controllers; digital voice mode; emergency communications; filters and tuned circuits; the future of amateur radio; ham history; HF digital modes; new licenses; power amplifiers; propagation; radio astronomy; software and services; space and satellites; test and measurement, and youth in amateur radio."

A [complete list of speakers](#) at the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is posted on the event's website. These are some examples:

- In the "**Antennas and Transmission Lines**" presentation, August Hansen, KB0YH, will focus on such topics as small transmitting loop design and *STLcalc*, an open-source design aid for STL and magnetic loop antennas that can respond to user's changing needs and design goals.
- Geoffrey Mendenhall, W8GNM, will address the topic, "**Compromise Beverage Antennas Hear Better Than You Think.**" The presentation focuses on overcoming non-ideal terrain and space limitations.
- "**Fun with HF QRP Pedestrian Mobile,**" with Peter Parker, VK3YE, will offer a look at two antennas for HF pedestrian mobile, and the results possible with such an operation.
- Ham radio author Don Keith, N4KC, will present "**Top 5 Get-On-The-Air-Quick Antennas,**" which offers recommendations for the simplest, most effective antennas to consider.
- Within the "**New License -- Now What**" track, the presentation "**HF Noise Mitigation**" will describe various noise sources and how to mitigate noise using a variety of techniques.
- Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, will discuss "**Technician Licensees, Life Beyond Local Repeaters.**" Participants will explore the world of activities, modes, and bands available outside of repeater operation.

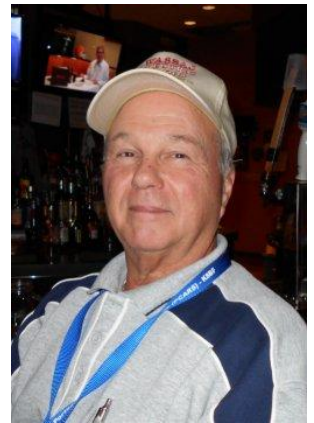
There's no limit on the number of topics and tracks that QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo visitors may view. Return any time within 30 days to (re)view any presentation, as well as to explore exhibitor offerings.

**"Early bird" tickets are \$10 (\$12.50 "at the door"). Access to only the exhibitor area is free.**



## Geochron Digital Clock

**Jeff, WA8SAJ**



I just received a GEOCHRON digital clock few months ago after asking about the atomic clock DX Engineering sells and thought, why not go all the way. So I had a 27 inch ACER monitor, but not a 4K resolution type and thought to purchase a 4 K monitor and found out how expensive they are (\$800) and not very large to really display the GEOCHRON clock in all it glory.

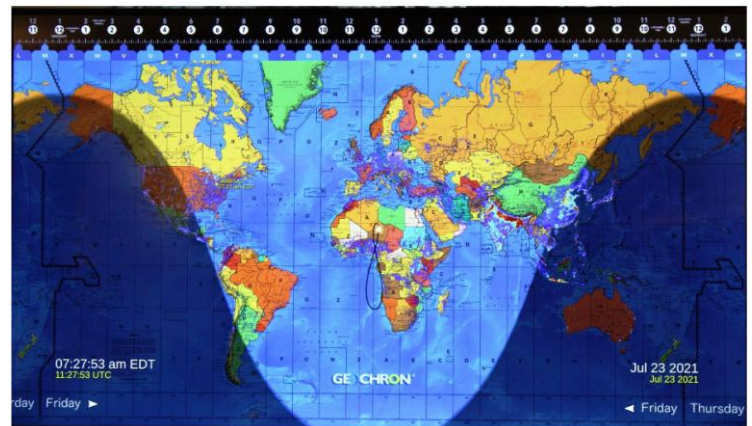


Earlier this year my wife and I purchased a new Vizio 50 inch 4 K TV and it looks great, so she said (wife approved), how about getting another 50 inch TV and use that and I said, certainly and at \$300 from BJ's I thought this would be great, plus it is a SMART TV and I use an "off the air" real TV antenna for all the local channels which adds to the shack.

As seen in the pictures, the GEOCHRON does look great and plenty of features that are updated for free for most applications. There are more "real time" apps coming since the owner of the company is now a new HAM!

One more thought talking about TV off the air. As of this writing two cities near us Pittsburgh & Detroit have the new TV standard ATSC-3 (Next Gen TV) up and running in parallel with their ATSC-1 digital standard which is much lower in resolution and not as good as this new one for many reason signal recovery etc. This new format will work along side the internet also.

There is so much to talk about on this subject that I have included some links to look at, as this will be the new TV standard for "off the air" broadcast in the next few years.



[ATSC 3.0: The Next Major Broadcast Standard Explained | Digital Trends](#)

[NEXTGEN TV - TV Tech](#)

[Deployments - ATSC : NextGen TV](#)





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

**Dig out that amateur radio call sign license plate (with your present call sign), clean it up and bring it to be permanently affixed to the wall in the PCARS club station.**

We have 72 PCARS member's ham plates now, **but we can use more**. Don't have ham radio call plates on your vehicle? Well for those of you in Ohio, you can get the plates sent to you by going to any License Bureau office and filling out the special plate registration form. Have a copy of your current FCC license when you apply. The official form to obtain your Ohio Amateur Radio license plates is on the PCARS IO Group site. Then you'll have an old plate to bring in to get hung up as a **permanent part of PCARS history**.



**From the Ohio BMV:**

**General Information:** Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Ohio and hold an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission may apply for these plates. The official call letters will be the license plate numbers.

**Registrant Eligibility:** Owner must submit a copy of the un-revoked and unexpired official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission. (FCC).

**Title Requirements:** Ohio Certificate of Title issued in the same name as the FCC license, either singly or jointly, or the name on the FCC license is the same name on the lease agreement.

**Vehicle Information:** These plates may be issued to passenger vehicles, non-commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, house vehicles and non-commercial trailers.

**Type of Plates:** Plates will be manufactured with the FCC license.

**Issuance Information:** Amateur Radio plates cannot be issued with system assigned, reserved, or personalized plate formats.

Renewal of plates can be done at your local Deputy Registrar or by mail using their renewal notice. **Amateur Radio License Holders must provide a copy of their current unexpired and unrevoked official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) at the time of any type renewal transaction.**

All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card unless customer requests otherwise. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate applications are available at all Deputy Registrar license agency locations. These plates cost an additional \$10.00 annually plus the normal registration fees. The fee is determined by Ohio Revised Code section 4503.14.

## PCARS is on YouTube

That's right - PCARS is now on YouTube. So, what does that mean? Hey, we have a new place to put all kinds of videos that are about PCARS for the world to see.



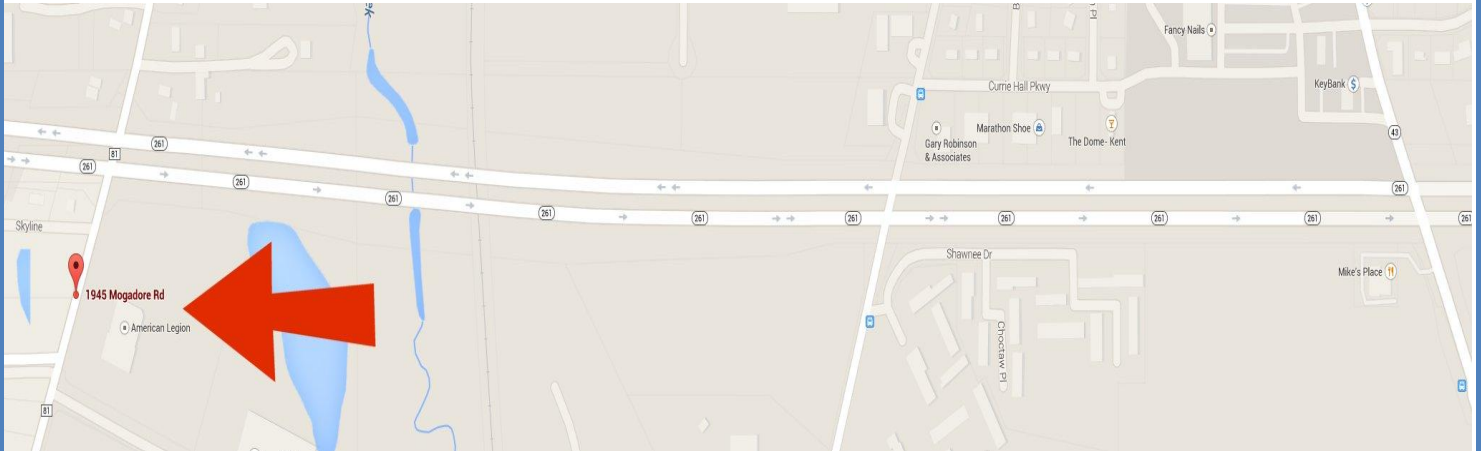
## PCARS Meetings

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



## Photos from the July Meeting











# 12th Annual Mobile Cruise-In 2021

So you think that you have one of the best amateur radio mobile installations to be found? Well here is your chance to show off that mobile rig and have the opportunity to compare it to dozens of others: HF, VHF, UHF, you name it.

**Thursday, August 12, 2021, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring the **12<sup>th</sup> annual**

**Amateur Radio Mobile Cruise-In Night at the**



**Restaurant - 769 East Main Street in Ravenna.**

Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be cruising in to check out the wide variety of mobile radio setups and get some ideas for their own vehicles.

**Prizes awarded for:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Neatest Installation**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Most Bands Covered**

Enjoy an evening of ham radio fellowship and fun and get to know other hams from throughout the area.



More information contact  
Nick, AC8QG, at  
[President@portcars.org](mailto:President@portcars.org)



# **2021 COLUMBUS HAMFEST**

## **ARRL SANCTIONED HAMFEST**

### **Saturday, August 7, 2021**

Sponsored by:

**The Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit – W8FEZ**

8:00am -1:00pm

Talk-In 146.760 – PL 123.0

(Doors open at 6:00am for vendor set-up)

Located at:

**Aladdin Shrine Center**

**1801 Gateway Circle**

**Grove City, Ohio 43123**

(Behind Tee Jayes restaurant, off of Stringtown Road at I-71)

### **FOOD TRAILER DOOR PRIZES**

For MORE Hamfest Information visit our Website

**[www.aladdinshrine.org/hamfest/](http://www.aladdinshrine.org/hamfest/)**

Admission

\$5.00 at the gate

12 and under FREE

Indoor Tables

\$10.00 per Table

Outdoor Space

\$10.00 per space

**NO ADVANCED TICKET, TABLE OR SPACE SALES**



## **Warren Amateur Radio Association Tailgate Swap Meet August 15, 2021**

**Where:** SCOPE Warren Center

375 N Park Ave

Warren, OH 44481

Check out W8VTD.com for updates.

**When:** August 15, 2021 7am to 12pm

**Cost:** Free to Enter. Free to Tailgate. Inside tables available \$5 each.

**Contact:** Larry Oliver (KD8LYX) & Amy Oliver (KD8AMY) @ 330-553-9579,

Or email: waraw8vtd@gmail.com

**Raffles:** 1<sup>st</sup> IC-718

2<sup>nd</sup> Antenna Analyzer

3<sup>rd</sup> \$50 Gift Card to DX Engineering

**Raffle Tickets are \$5** – Drawing will be at 11am

**Talk in/Mobile:** Check in 146.970 or 443.000





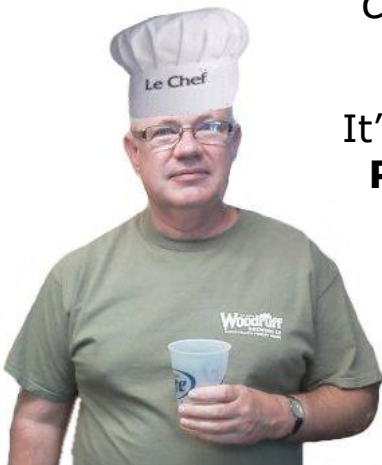
You've heard of the **Ohio QSO Party**



Well, join us at the **PCARS** club site for the

# Ohio BBQSO Party Club Picnic & Open House

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> 2021**, the date for this year's **Ohio QSO Party**. PCARS is going to put **K8BF** on the air and we are inviting all PCARS members to come on out for some special **Big Fun**.



It's a **BBQSO Party, Open House, PCARS Picnic** all rolled into one

Tom, WB8LCD and Mike, KB8TUY will be the chefs for the

**Ohio-BBQSO Party!**

That's right, we'll be chasing two kinds of "Q's":  
on the air contacts and  
great food fresh off the grill.



**Contest set up starts at 10 AM - Contest starts at Noon and ops will continue until midnight (12 hour contest)**

Burgers & Brats will be served at around 2:00 pm and **everyone is invited to bring snacks or side dishes.**

# ~ Amateur Radio Instruction Class ~

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

is sponsoring an Amateur Radio **Technician** course

that will enable *You* to obtain  
*Your* **FCC Technician** license as an

**AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR**



**When:**

Wednesday evening 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
September 8, 2021 through October 20, 2021  
7 weeks. Official Amateur Radio License testing  
will be held at the end of the course (Oct 20<sup>th</sup>).

**Where:**

At the **PCARS Club Site** radio room  
Radio Room located at:  
705 Oakwood St. in Ravenna  
Entrance by the Big Tower

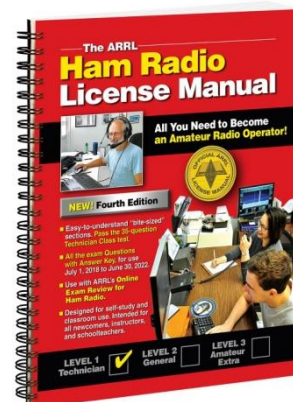
**Registration:** First night of class

**Cost:**

**\$25.00 Registration fee.**  
(No Registration Fee for PCARS Members)  
**\$30 Text – “Ham Radio License Manual”**  
(text may be purchased first night of class)

**Information:**

Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT  
e-mail at: [jawilson@j3solutions.com](mailto:jawilson@j3solutions.com)  
phone at: **330-342-8149**



As a licensed **Amateur Radio Operator** you will be able to

- **Contact other ham radio operators in the area and around the world**
- **Serve your community – ham radio operators are the critical communication link during disasters and emergencies**
- **Participate in a fascinating and rewarding hobby**

**THERE WILL BE A FIVE STUDENT MINIMUM (or no class will be done)**

**Contact Jim Wilson, AC8NT to make your reservation NOW**

**Jim Wilson - AC8NT, at [jawilson@j3solutions.com](mailto:jawilson@j3solutions.com) or by phone at 330-342-8149**



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the 14<sup>th</sup> annual

# Ohio State Parks On The Air



## 14<sup>th</sup> annual Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

Saturday, September 11, 2021, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC  
(10 am to 6 pm Eastern Time)

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

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



**Rules? Entry Forms? Log Sheets? Ohio State Park Information?**  
Check out **all** the details at: [www.OSPOTA.org](http://www.OSPOTA.org)

Also, visit the OSPOTA IO Group at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA>



# 2021 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention



**ARRL**  
The national association for  
**AMATEUR RADIO**  
**2021**  
**Great Lakes Division**  
**Convention**

**Vettecity Hamfest**

**Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club**



## A Premiere location for a Premiere Event

The Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club is pleased to announce the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Vette City Hamfest and 2021 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention presented this year at the WKU Knicely Conference Center in Bowling Green KY. Our ARRL sanctioned hamfest is a convention of amateur radio enthusiasts combining a trade show, flea market, and various other activities of interest to amateur radio operators. People interested in technology and Amateur Radio operators or "Hams" meet at our show to buy, sell, and trade radios, computers, electronic equipment and parts. You will find anything from vacuum tubes to the newest high tech gadgets offered by hams, technologists, and commercial vendors from around the country. In addition free door prizes will be awarded each hour plus major gift certificates.

### VENDORS



**SATURDAY**  
**October 2 2021**

**8:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**WKU Knicely Conference Center**

**2355 Nashville Rd**

**Bowling Green, KY 42101**

**23,000 Sq.Ft. Of Display Space**



**\$6 Admission**  
**12 & Under Free**  
**Single tables \$8.00**  
**Hourly Door Prizes**

**Check out our websites**  
**<http://www.ky4bg.com>**  
**[www.vettecityhamfest.org](http://www.vettecityhamfest.org)**  
**Additional Information**

**Contact:**

**Frank Armstrong**  
**KI4HEJ**

**Hamfest Chairman**

**Email:**

**[vettecityhamfest@gmail.com](mailto:vettecityhamfest@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 270-781-0349**



### A NEW VIEW ON AGING....

Very interesting!!!!

- The inventor of the treadmill died at the age of 54
- The inventor of gymnastics died at the age of 57
- The world bodybuilding champion died at the age of 41
- The best footballer in the world, Maradona, died at the age of 60

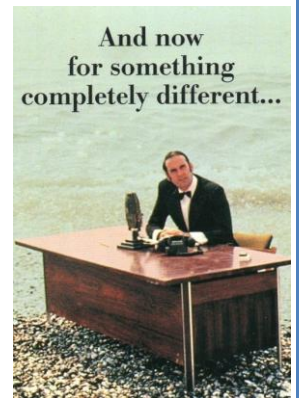
And then..

- KFC inventor dies at 94
- Inventor of Nutella brand died at the age of 88
- Cigarette maker Winston died at the age of 102
- The inventor of opium died at the age of 116 in an earthquake
- Hennessy cognac inventor dies at 98

How did doctors come to the conclusion that exercise prolongs life? The rabbit is always jumping, but it lives for only 2 years. The turtle that doesn't exercise at all, lives 400 years.

So,

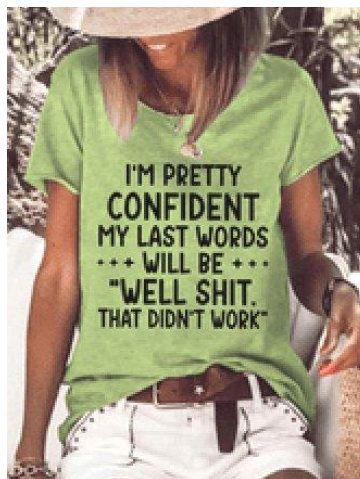
Have a drink - Light 'em up - Take a nap - If you wake up have bacon & eggs!!



The World Health Organization has announced that dogs cannot contract Covid-19. Dogs previously held in quarantine can now be released. To be clear, WHO let the dogs out.

WALKING BACK TO THE  
CAR BECAUSE  
YOU FORGOT  
YOUR MASK IS THE  
NEW KINDA PISSED OFF

Shoutout to everyone who can still  
remember their childhood phone  
number but can't remember the  
password they created yesterday.  
You are my people.



## 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 PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip-in and send your article in to keep this newsletter great for 2021 and beyond.

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

**AC8QG, N8WCP, WA8EFK, N8SY, WB8LCD, KB8UUZ, WA8AR, K8CAV, AC8NT, W8KNO, N8AMY, W2LJ, N9ADG, KA8TOA, W7EL, K6GFJ, K6MM, W8PT, KD8MQ, WA8SAJ, NF8R, NO8D, Matthew Gault, CQ Blog, The ARRL and the World-Wide Web**

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



### Health Advisory Coming Our Way.... Again?

If you have been following the news about the COVID-19 Delta variant, then you know that is gaining ground around the world and right here in the USA. State and local governments significantly ramped up notifications to the public during the pandemic to spread awareness about COVID-19 and accompanying public health measures. But after nearly a year and a half, communities and residents are beginning to experience alert fatigue. This is **not** over, we need more people vaccinated to cut down on spreading this virus and its mutations. **We will get through this - just hang in there.**

### Photos from 1918





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

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

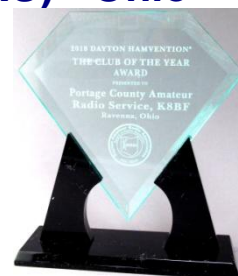


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**, 1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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



~ 2021 Officers ~		2021 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Vice President - Mike Szabo - N8WCP Treasurer - Paul Hyland - KE8EGF 3 Year Trustee - Amy Leggiero - N8AMY 2 Year Trustee - John Myers - KD8MQ 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 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, 2021	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	Historian	KB8SZI	Peggy Parkinson
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Membership Chairman	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Net Control Manager	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Net Night - Club Manager	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
~ Meetings & Net ~  2nd Monday of each month. 7pm  Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Public Information Officer		
	Secretary	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Social Media	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Manager	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmasters	KD8MQ	John Myers
		K8SRR	Steve Randlett

 <b>PCARS Active Volunteer Examiner Team Members</b>	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	WB8LCD	Tom Sly
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	N8PXW	Jim Korenz
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	K8IV	Ed Polack
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	AC8QG	Nick Wagner
	N8FUM	Dan Torchia
	W8GWI	Dave Seckel
	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero



## THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated  
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting  
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation  
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club  
March 22, 2010

The RADIOGRAM copyright ©2021, 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 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017 & 2020.** Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter may be covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com). The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. **So when you spot a black squirrel – think PCARS!**

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

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

