



# The **RADIOGRAM**

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

PCARS - 2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 02 - FEBRUARY 2026



**PCARS K8BF**

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



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# The **RADIO**GRAM

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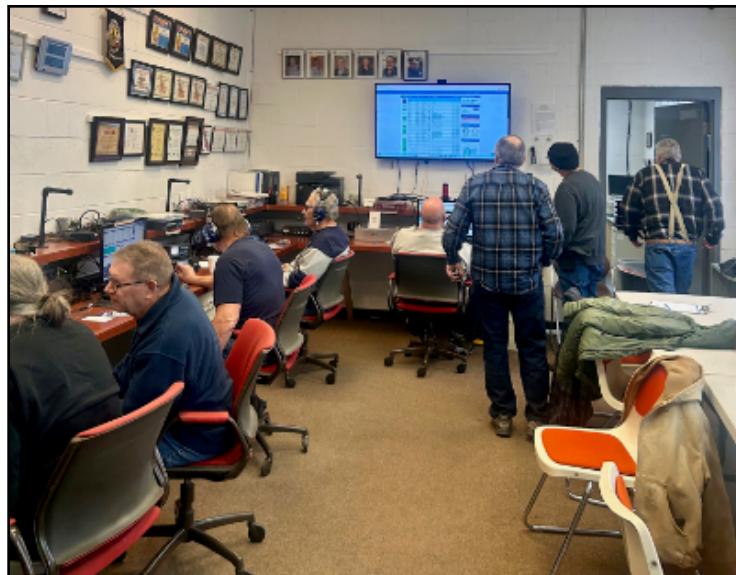
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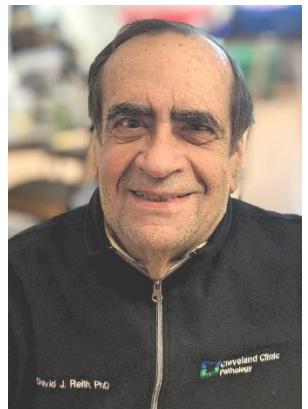


# Dave Reith, W8HFY - SK

**Dave, W8HFY**  
PCARS Member #104

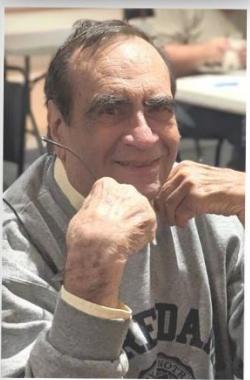
## From the Record Courier:

“ Dr. David Jerome Reith, 84, of Kent, passed away on Sunday, January 25, 2026 at UH Portage Medical Center. He was born in Kokomo, IN on February 7, 1941 to the late Joseph and Marion Reith. David was a Geography Professor at multiple universities and retired from Baldwin Wallace University. He was a member of University Parish Newman Center and the Streetsboro Chapter of the Knights of Columbus, where he was a 4th Degree Knight. He enjoyed Ham Radios and was a member of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service and the Quarter Century Wireless Association. David was an avid Notre Dame sports fan and will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.



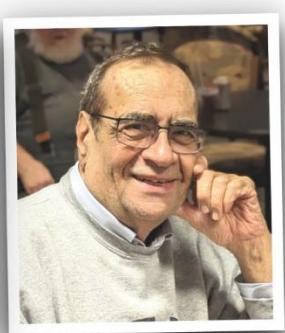
In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Joseph and Tommy Reith. David leaves his loving wife Mary Joan Reith, whom he married in 1963; son and daughter-in-law John and Sonya Reith; granddaughter Madison and niece Kimberlee (Tim) Miller. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and burial will take place at Albright Cemetery in Kokomo, Indiana. To Share a Memory, Send a Condolence, Light a Candle or Send Flowers, please visit the Tribute Wall at [www.bisslerandsons.com](http://www.bisslerandsons.com). “

## From QRZ.com:



“Greetings from David, W8HFY. I am a native Hoosier from Kokomo, Indiana, a place I still call home. My first license was WN8HFY, Hamilton's Finest Youngster, in Hamilton, Ohio, but am no longer in Hamilton, nor so fine, and certainly not a youngster anymore, and have held my current call since then. I am primarily a DX'er, with an Honor Roll. My DXCC total of 348 (336 good ones and 12 deletions does not rank very high on the ARRL list, but it has been done only with CW and SSB, usually with 95 watts. I am about 85 percent of a CW op. A lot of schools have kicked me out - Oklahoma, Miami (Ohio), Illinois, Michigan State, and Notre Dame, but Kent State and Ohio State did let me teach for them, anyway! I am an academic, specializing in Political Geography and India, where I studied, lived, and traveled on many occasions. October 31, 2025, marked my 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a ham. And thanks to Mary, my XYL, for reminding me. She knew what she was getting into when she married me and for putting up with all those dots and dashes. Thanks to her for staying with me 62 years, as of August 17, 2025.” (see QRZ.com for much more information from Dave)

Dave joined PCARS in June of 2008 and was a regular at the meetings and other PCARS activities. He enjoyed talking about his on-air adventures chasing DX and usually had his 3-ring binders full of QSL cards that everyone would look at. He really enjoyed talking anything ham radio with his fellow PCARS members. He will be missed by many of us.



## From The PCARS President

**Greg, KA8TOA**  
PCARS President



Hi everyone!

I would like to thank Bob N8QE and Gene W8NET for hosting the last 2 events at the club site, they did a great job.

We are still looking for a club Secretary. It would be nice if someone would stand up to serve and help the club out. I am grateful for everyone helping me out.

Tom and I are slowly working some things out. Some of the items we are working on are a trunk ham fest and more local press coverage for the club.

I want everybody to say some prayers for some of our club members and their family members who are not doing well.

We are working on some minor changes to help our club members to make life easier and to get some more participation in club activities. We have instituted a IT committee and a repeater committee.

Everyone please stay safe and warm, for now 73's.

Greg, KA8TOA



**PCARS K8BF**

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



## From The PCARS Vice President

**Tom, WB8LCD**

PCARS Vice President

Last Summer Mary and I took a long weekend away. Even on Mackinaw Island I wore my PCARS hat! I wear it almost everywhere. Almost always something that identifies me as a ham. Meeting hams in other locations is always fun. There's an implied "Kindred Spirit" when you meet another ham out there. And sometimes people just want to know "what it's all about" and every time that happens, it's another opportunity to share who are, what we do, and why you might want to be a part of it with us! Don't let those opportunities pass you by!



After my first month back as PCARS Vice President, I can make several observations. The people of PCARS, and especially the Officers and everyone else who participates, put a lot of time, effort and personal attention into everything that makes this an outstanding club! I don't think there is any one of us who is personally involved in everything we do, but pretty much everyone is involved in some of the stuff we do. Even if it's just being there, the PCARS experience would not be what it is if YOU weren't a part of it!

Another thing I've discovered is that compared to a lot of organizations, clubs or otherwise, there are a lot of "moving parts" that keep PCARS going. I appreciate everyone, past and present, who has done the things that need to be done. After being pretty much a "non-active" member for the past 5+ years, I can see that PCARS hasn't missed a beat. That's pretty cool. So, if you're a marginal member of PCARS, maybe a new ham, or maybe an old-timer who just got burned out, the door swings both ways! Come on back and be a part of one of the best Amateur Radio Clubs in the country and participate in the Greatest Hobby in the World! You won't be sorry you did.

As vice president of PCARS it's my responsibility to keep our club Programs and Activities moving along through the course of the year. It's a pretty big help that a lot of activities seem to have a life of their own and just keep rolling along. I'm certainly NOT going to try to fix what isn't broken! I want to make sure our club meeting presentations are above average, and something everyone can find informative and entertained by. I really need to hear from you on this - What are the topics you would like to see covered? Is there someone in particular you would like to hear from? Let me know what's on your mind.

Hamvention is coming of soon (already). May 15 – 17. I got my tickets already. Got my hotel room lined up. Even got one of the Special Dinner Banquets bought and paid for. The good hotels fill up quickly, so don't wait till the last minute. I cannot emphasize enough – This is the BIGGEST DEAL in HAM RADIO in the USA if not the world! And it's right in our own back yard. Please, don't miss it. Make your plans now, you can thank me later.....

73 to all,

Tom WB8LCD





Freeze Your Acorns off! A PCARS tradition. Conveniently scheduled for February 21, 2026 so as not to conflict with your Valentine's Day activities. I'm not saying I want you all to be dedicated QRP operators, but, this is a good time to go out and try something different. Being an "inner-club" contest, we're all competing with each other. Over the past 20 years I'd say we've gotten a lot better and we've tried a lot of different things. The experience has always been good!

In preparation, I would like everyone to listen to this presentation on QRP by one of the Greats in the QRP world, the Rev George Dobbs – G3RJV. [https://youtu.be/bzSjoZoj11s?si=uQ0AXLVG\\_xPDo2fE](https://youtu.be/bzSjoZoj11s?si=uQ0AXLVG_xPDo2fE) It's titled "QRP Why and How". It's about a 45 minute presentation, I hope you'll find it interesting. And, if you act now, send me an email asking for it and I'll send you a digital copy of the book "Minimalist QRP Book by IZ3AYQ" It's a good read with lots of circuits and schematics you'll find interesting!

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**The February 9, 2026 meeting will feature Ken Dorsey – KA8OAD – speaking on HF digital voice using RADE**

I received my Novice call in 1981 and progressively upgraded until I reached Extra class, keeping my original Novice call throughout the years. I am currently the Emergency Coordinator for Summit County ARES and also participate in the county's CERT program.

My presentation will consist of information on and a demonstration of the latest HF digital voice mode called RADE (pronounced "raid") V1 which is part of the FreeDV software package. As the name implies this digital voice software is free and open source and the RADE V1 component is quite impressive to hear and not hard to get working if you are already using other digital software such as FT-8, Winlink or FLdig.

**The March 9, 2026 meeting will feature Michael Martin – K3RFI speaking on the topic of Radio Frequency Interference locating and mitigating.**

Mike has years of experience through RFI Services of Lothian MD. RFI is any unwanted signal, which prevents reception of the best possible signal from the source (Radio, TV station...) you want to receive. RFI may prevent reception altogether, it may cause a temporary loss of the desired signal, or it may affect the quality of the sound or picture produced by your equipment. RFI to electronic equipment is a frustrating problem and many times an indication of a hazardous condition; fortunately, there is a solution.



## PCARS 20 for 20 Net Awards

Our Net participation activity is now complete. If you haven't received your certificate yet, it should be in your hands very soon. They've either been handed out in person, or they will be delivered by a representative of an organization affiliated with the government of the United States of America! And the winners are (listed below in no particular order):

### 10 in a Row Certificates:

Doug - WA8UWV  
Jan - KE8BFA  
Steve - KD9ZDY  
Rick - KD8WCK  
Ray - AK6NS

### 20 FOR 20 Certificates:

Dan - WD8DAU  
Mike - KB8TUY  
Mike - KP4VZ  
Joe - KF8ADQ  
Jenny - KD8LIR  
Russ - NR8W

### All 23 FOR 20 :

Tom - WB8LCD  
Bob - WB8OVQ  
Gary - WB2RPW  
Karen - WD8BIW  
Tim - W8HFZ  
Joe - W8KNO  
Tim - W8GPN  
Bob - N8QE  
Mike - N8WCP  
Greg - KA8TOA  
Ken - KD8OBA

That's it for this month. Remember – Spread the Magic of Radio!

73,  
Tom WB8LCD – PCARS VP



**PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE, INC**  
**PCARS**

**EST. 2005**

## Happy Birthday PCARS Members



AC8KJ	George
KC8LJY	Michael
N4IT	Carl

AG8GM	Ghislaine
AB8YK	James
KC8YY5	James

KD8DFL	Ray
W8HFY	David

## From Around The World...

Using VOCAP to predict HF propagation:

<https://dxlook.com/blog/posts/voacap-how-we-made-it-easy/>



I don't know if you use HamClock or not, but I do. Running it on your AllStar node is easy enough:

<https://etherham.com/easy-hamclock-on-your-asl-node/>

Spothole: aggregating DX Clusters, RBN, APRS-IS, POTA, SOTA, WWFF, WWBOTA, GMA, HEMA, Parks n Peaks, and NG3K. What more could you need from a spotting site?

<https://ianrenton.com/projects/spothole/>

New 60 Meter Frequencies available as of February 13:

<https://www.arrl.org/news/view/new-60-meter-frequencies-available-as-of-february-13>



Getting started with FreeDV:

<https://vu3dxr.in/getting-started-with-freedv-a-beginners-guide-to-digital-voice-on-amateur-radio/>

How accurate is a 125 year old resistance standard?:

<https://hackaday.com/2026/01/16/how-accurate-is-a-125-year-old-resistance-standard/>

From our friends at DXE - WARC - What is it good for?:

<https://www.onallbands.com/warc-what-is-it-good-for/>

## PCARS is on YouTube

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

<https://youtube.com/@portagecountyamateurradios1933?si=09-NxUpDOoqdqTzc>



## 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>



## PCARS Patches & Stickers

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

Put the patch on your had, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo! The patch is about 3". The embroidery on the white patch is Red, Black, and Blue. Cost for a patch is \$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. Reach out to the club treasurer for details.



PCARS T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Jackets, Hats, etc. can be obtained from:  
Villager Business Solutions - attn. Michelle Zivoder - [michelle@villagerbusiness.com](mailto:michelle@villagerbusiness.com) - 330-472-7304.

## Winter POTA Support Your Parks Weekend

**Gene, W8NET**  
POTA SIG Coordinator

Two years ago, it was 12F (wind chill -17F) and 6 inches of snow. Last year, it was 24F (wind chill 7F) and 2 inches of snow. Both years were a blast, but..... We decided to take a break from the cold, and use our comfy and warm club site at PCARS World Headquarters. AND, the forecast on Saturday was 30F, and falling through the day to 9F! It was correct.

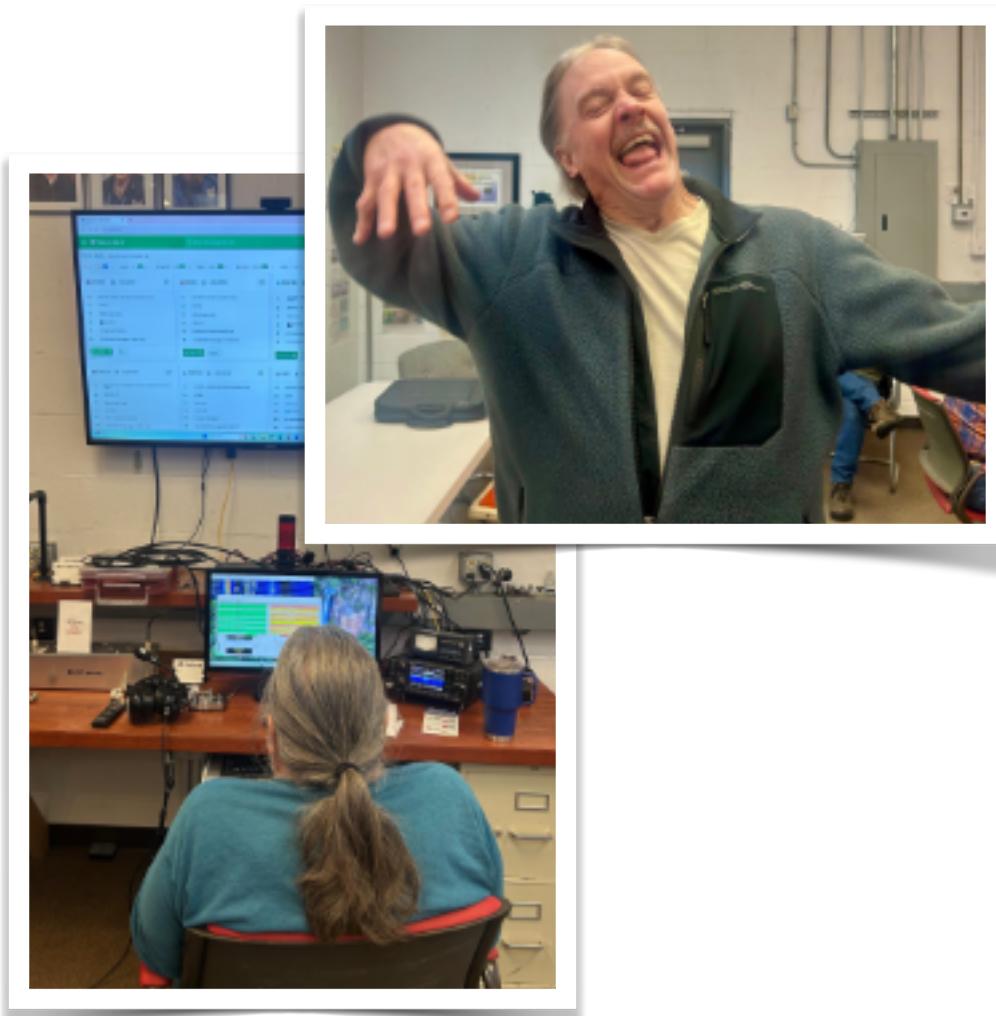


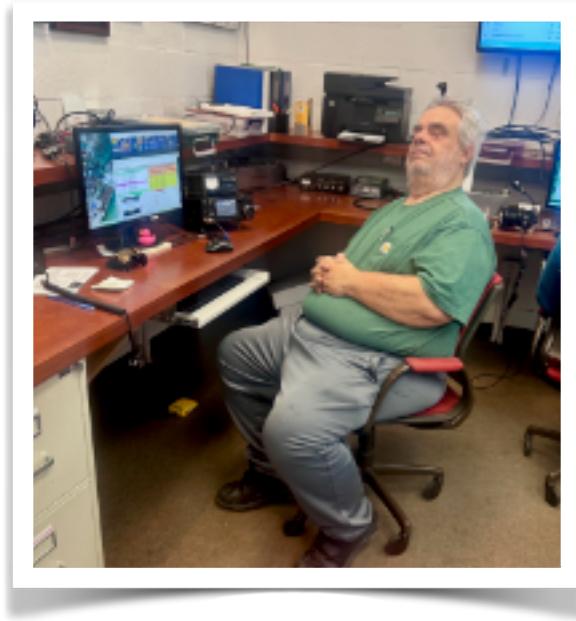
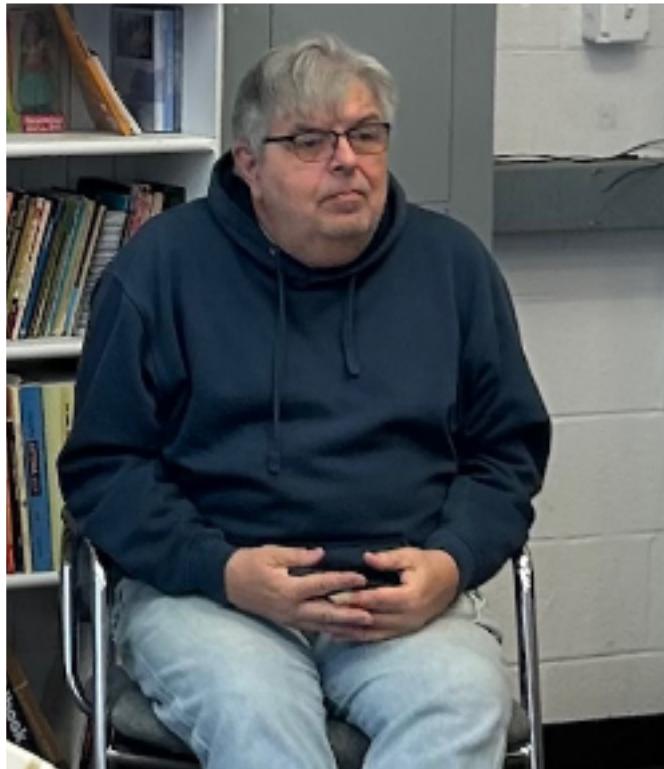
Nine ops were there, enjoying some radio fun. The bands were open – ALL OF THEM! Approximately 15% of our QSO's were POTA contacts. The others were a smattering DX from Europe (mainly), Canada, and Central America. Even 40m was open through early afternoon!

Most ops were using their own call signs, but a couple were using the PCARS club call, K8BF. I do not have a good total of QSO's (my total was 49, but I only operated for a couple hours).

Chili dogs were a hit, as were Bob's donuts. All in all, we had a great COMFY AND WARM time!

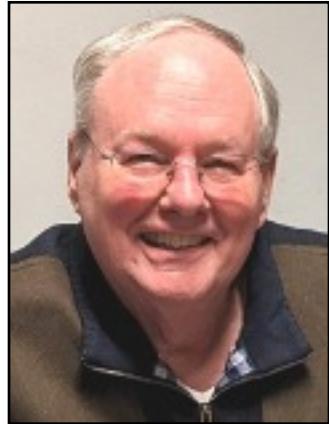
73 de W8NET, Gene





# Button, Button, Who Has The Battery I Need?

Jim, AC8NT



It happens in my house, and I will guess in many houses. Someone has a watch or other device stop working. You open it up and find it needs a button battery. With high probability, even with a large box of various cells, you will NOT have the correct cell. The next step is to go online and see if one of the many batteries you have is a substitute. Often not. What I want to accomplish in this article is to give you some general information on these cells that may allow you keep only the cells you need and make sure they still work when you need them.

## Battery Types

**Alkaline** - Cells with part numbers beginning with LR and AG are alkaline cells. The part number does not relate to the cell's size or power densities (power vs size). Alkaline cells are very cost-effective to manufacture and use. They provide good performance at room temperature but not at low temperatures. They are designed to be leak resistant. Their power densities are much less than lithium cells, so they are often used in applications where longevity is not a design constraint. They age quicker than other cell types so long-term storage is not recommended. They will significantly degrade after a couple of years and may leak after long term storage. Their voltage output, when new, is 1.5 volts.

**Lithium** – Their part numbers usually start with CR. The part number is directly related to the cell's size. One common part is CR2032. The first two digits are the cell's diameter in millimeters (20mm), and the last two digits are the cell's thickness in tenths of millimeters (3.2mm). If the part number has only three digits, the first digit is the cell's diameter. These batteries have impressive shelf life. They can be stored for years without performance loss. Unlike alkaline cells, they work over a broad range of temperatures. These attributes are why they are the most common power source for car key fobs. Their output is 3 volts when new. Common types are CR2032, CR2025 and CR925. These should be in your spare parts box.

**Silver Oxide** – Cells with part numbers beginning with SR and some pure number part numbers (SR416SW or 337) are silver oxide cells. There are many of these part numbers that vary greatly in size. The SR part numbers are somewhat indicative of their size. The first digit is the approximate diameter and the next two are the height in tenths of millimeters. They are the most common battery for watches and high precision electronic instruments. They have a very stable output voltage during their life cycle. We often say these batteries just die. Their voltage output (1.55 volts) is steady until death. Their power density is higher than alkaline giving them a longer life. They are manufactured using silver making them more expensive. They store well. When you get a new watch, it is a good idea to determine the part number used and buy a couple of spares. Don't buy the 50-count value pack. You will probably never have two watches using the same part number (Murphy's Law).

Zinc Air – These have part numbers beginning with ZA. The number can't be used to determine size or performance. The most common use for these cells is hearing aids. They can be recognized by the colored tab over the end of the battery. An example is the ZA675 that has a blue tab. These batteries are different from all other button cells. They need a supply of oxygen to produce voltage. No oxygen, no output. They store a relatively long time, if you don't remove the tab. Removing the tab starts the depletion process. Interesting story. Some students were launching a HAB. One of the students need small cells and his grandpa had a stash of hearing aid batteries. Everything worked well on the ground but when the balloon got to 30,000 feet the sensor stopped reporting. The sensor started reporting again after the balloon burst and it fell below 30,000. Low oxygen stopped the cell from producing the required voltage.

#### Suggestions:

- Don't store alkaline batteries in your car or anywhere where temperatures can get over 100F. High temps promote leakage.
- If you are building a project, your best bet for general power are the lithium CR part numbers.
- Use zinc air batteries for hearing aids. Don't store them in hot places. When they leak, they smell terrible.
- I have packages of 11 different silver oxide cells in my parts box. Wasted a lot of money on batteries that I have only used a couple of times. If you want spares, get one of the many assortment packages.
- From the information above you can see each type has a different voltage. Substituting different types can cause damage or they may just not work. Always replace with the same type of battery.



# Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



## PCARS - K8BF

*21st Annual*

### "Freeze Your Acorns Off" (FYAO) Special Event Station

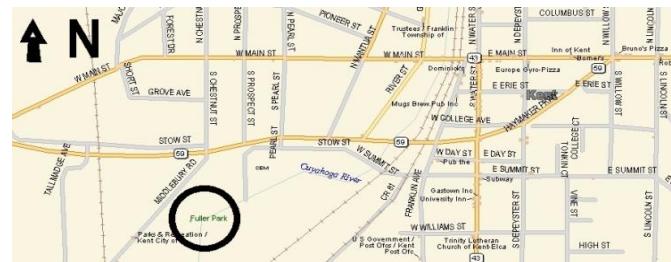


Where: *Fred Fuller Park - 497 Middlebury Rd., Kent, Oh  
at the Roy Smith Shelter House*

When: *Saturday - Feb. 21, 2026*

*Set up: 9 am*

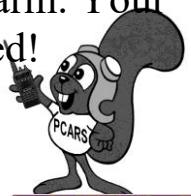
*Operating Time: 10 am - 3 pm EST*



We will be active on CW & Phone in the General areas of the 6, 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meter bands (Repeater & Echolink on the K8BF echo link node for a certificate) and anything else we can get working. Club Call Sign **K8BF** for a certificate. Other participating stations will be using their own callsign/FYAO, or calling "CQ FYAO" (only stations at the Freeze Your Acorns Off event should use the /FYAO designator). Yes, we'll be braving the cold weather of North Eastern Ohio to set up QRP stations using portable power and antennas.

Uniform of the day: Aloha or Hawaiian Shirts

So, from the comfort of your warm radio shack - give us a contact while we're out freezing. We'll need all the contacts we can make to help keep us warm. Your support will be very much appreciated!



QSL for Card and Certificate via [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com) address for K8BF



Check PCARS out on the web at: [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)  
Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at [chuckw8pt@gmail.com](mailto:chuckw8pt@gmail.com)



## Winter Field Day '26

**Gene, W8NET**  
POTA SIG Coordinator

Our first ever Winter Field Day was a success!



After a week of anticipating the most massive winter storm in decades, the forecast shifted until the storm hit very late Saturday – perfect for our plans to operate 11:00am-9:00pm.

Yes, it was very cold, but no snow and good roads. And, the club site was comfy and warm. Our early plans to operate, maybe late Saturday, maybe on Sunday, were canceled because the pending storm.

For the second week in a row, we had great HF conditions (last week was the Winter POTA event). After a couple hours of “meh” propagation, the band came alive. 15m was the “band leader”, but all bands 40m through 10m were active until sunset. We had 12 operators, and a few who visited our PCARS World Headquarters in Ravenna, OH. All told, our score was 633 (and it will be bigger when we calculate the multipliers). I believe next year we will have even more ops – of course, depending on the weather – and a better score.

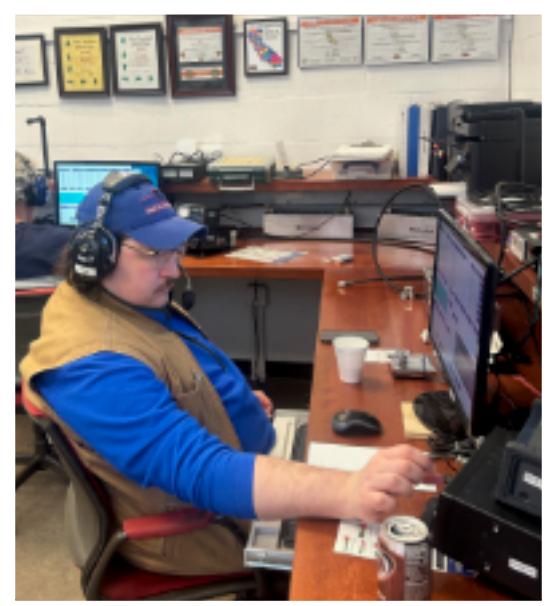
We had good food throughout the day: Chipotle chicken chowder, franks & beans, coleslaw, homemade brownies, donuts and more. On the last QST I sent, I said I would be making chicken & dumplings. And I did. However, I did an epic failure: I set my crockpot to “Low” at 9:30pm Friday. I thought it would perfect in the morning (as I have done before for that dish). But, I did not notice that the plug was only half inserted. In the morning, it was not on, and it spoiled. Thank goodness I had a backup plan for the Chipotle chicken corn chowder!

(imagine Gene cursing and throwing out the dumplings, then cleaning the crockpot, then making another dish. DOH!)

A fantastic first WFD! A big THANK YOU for Ken, Mike and Kyle for helping clean up after. And a special thanks for Ken, who set up the N3JFP logging and other software on the operating stations!

73 de W8NET, Gene





## Young Ham Lends a Hand Contest - 2026

### Carole Perry, WB2MGP

It's the time of year to send in your nominations for a worthy candidate for this contest that encourages one of the basic tenets of amateur radio; volunteerism. I am now accepting nominations to recognize a young licensed person, 19 years of age or younger who has gone above and beyond to help others.



Their works could be introducing other youth to radio, helping with an antenna installation, assisting with neighborhood projects, or helping with emergency communications. The winners will receive a \$100 stipend sponsored by RCA Youth Activities, QCWA, and others.

If you know a young ham who is deserving of such an award, send your nomination, along with your reasons for the nomination directly to Carole Perry by April 1st. [WB2MGP@gmail.com](mailto:WB2MGP@gmail.com)

Please submit the following requests for information about your nominee for this year's contest.

Information about your nominee:

Name and call sign

Age

Address

Home Number and Cell number

Please fill in YOUR name, relationship to the candidate and contact info.

Please describe reasons why this nominee is deserving of the award that looks for a young ham who gives back to the community by participating and helping in local events, assisting the elderly, assisting military personnel, or is instrumental in recruitment and/or training of more young hams.

## Antenna Special Interest Group

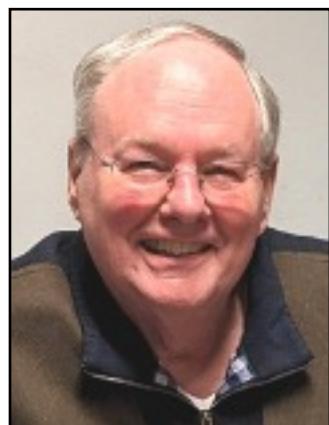
### Jim, AC8NT

Antenna SIG Coordinator

The next meeting of the Antenna SIG will be held on February 17 at PCARS World

I am resigning from leading this SIG. It has been a lot of fun, but other higher priorities will not give me the time to lead this great SIG. Ken WA8LRW has agreed to take over the SIG's leadership. I know he will do an outstanding job. Please welcome Ken and support him in this new role.

Jim, AC8NT



## POTA Special Interest Group

Hi POTA fans!

Our next POTA SIG meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @7:00PM at PCARS World Headquarters in scenic Ravenna, OH.

We will be discussing the Winter POTA event in January, and ideas for our next event, Spring POTA Event.

Watch for QSTs!

73 de W8NET, Gene

**Gene, W8NET**  
POTA SIG Coordinator



## PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - *LIMITED EDITION!* - Get One Now!

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

**Supply is limited.** If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE!!** The only catch is that you have to claim it from the **Treasurer**. There is a list of current members and the treasurer will check off your name when you get your **FREE** PCARS coffee cup.



There are a *very limited number of extra coffee cups* for sale at \$5.00 each. Contact the Treasurer for details: [treasurer@portcars.org](mailto:treasurer@portcars.org)

## Swap-N-Shop



**For Sale:** QYT KT-8900R 25W Tri-Band 2m/220/440 Mobile Radio w/programming cable New in box. \$80.00 Contact Kyle at [w7kfr@protonmail.com](mailto:w7kfr@protonmail.com) [03/26]

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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: [01/26] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2026.

# Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites for February 2026

**Chuck, W8PT**  
aka "Charlie the Tuner"

Greetings to all DXers:

I was writing this while we were experiencing the recent major snowstorm. This would be fine for Freeze Your Acorns Off. But it's a little TOO much. We have 6 inches so far and it's 1:30PM. I have already shoveled 5 inches from our walk and back deck. My freewheeling 14el Yagi has turned 180 degrees and is pointed northwest. My two large monobanders are frozen pointed to Europe. At least I can make EU contacts on 20 and 40m.



As it stands, I am going to have a lot of work to do come Spring. Repair of rotor on Tower 2 and possibly the same work on Tower 1. Hopefully, I will not have to replace any rotors. Way too much \$\$\$.

But I can still operate and to prove that, I have worked Desecheo Is. DXpedition twice. Once on 15 CW and once on 20 CW. So even with rotor problems, Cycle 25 is providing the means to work great DX. Incidentally, Desecheo Is. is ATNO for me. Hopefully, many of you have worked this station to get an ATNO for yourselves.

There are other DXpeditions out there trying to make contacts. So let's see what we can expect.

**As always, big Thank You to:** The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites; DL5ON; The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, 425 DX News.

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

Here's ClubLog's Top 10 Most wanted DXCC entities:

1. **P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA)**
2. **BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF**
3. **CE0X SAN FELIX ISLANDS**
4. **BV9P PRATAS ISLAND**
5. **KH7K KURE ISLAND**
6. **KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND**
7. **3Y/P PETER 1 ISLAND**
8. **FT5/X KERGUELEN ISLAND**
9. **YV0 AVES ISLAND**
10. **3Y/B BOUVENT ISLAND**

**February...**

**8R1, GUYANA.** A team consisting of IZØEGA, IZØEVI, IZØEWJ and IZ6DSQ announce they will be active from Guyana as 8R1WA during February 19-27, 2026. QRV on 160-6m; SSB & FT8. You can find out more details including equipment and QSL info on their website.

**9V, SINGAPORE.** Reminder - Eric, KH6WI, is QRV as 9V1EO for the next two years. Activity is on Satellite QO-100 using FT8 and FT4. QSL via LoTW.

**9X2, RWANDA.** Harold, DF2WO will again be active from Kigali, Rwanda as 9X2AW starting January 22, and lasting for 18 days. QRV holiday style on QO-100 and ham bands covering 160-10m; CW, FT4 & SSB. Further info on QRZ.com.

**CN, MOROCCO.** Yannick, F6FYD will be QRV as CN2YD from now to March 31, 2026. Activity will on 20 to 10 meters using primarily SSB. This includes a possible trip to Mogador Island, IOTA AF-065. QSL direct to home call.

**H44MS, SOLOMON IS. Reminder** - Bernhard, DL2GAC will be active as H44MS from Manakwai village, Malaita Island, IOTA OC - 047, Solomon Islands, during January - April 2026. He will be operating on 40 - 6m SSB and FT8. QSL via home call.

**OZ1, GREENLAND.** Bo, OX3LX and Mikkel, OX7AKT will be active from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland (NA-018) during February 10-17, 2026. QRV on 160-10m; CW, SSB & FT8.

**PJ2, CURACAO.** Andre, PD1DRE will be returning to Curacao. Look for him to again be QRV holiday-style as PJ2/PD1DRE until March 4, 2026.

**PJ2, CURACAO.** Thaire W2APF announces that he will be operating from Curacao as PJ2/W2APF until March 31, 2026. QRV on 80-10m; CW, SSB & FT8 using Elecraft K4D and KPA500. Antennas include a BuddiPole Hexbeam, DX Commander for 40 & 30m, and doublet for 80M QSL via H/c, LoTW.

**TL8, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. Reminder** - João CR7BNW reports that he will be operating from the Central African Republic as TL8BNW until June 2026. QRV on 40-20-15-10M using a dipole in SSB and FT8. Exact operational dates to be announced closer to start date. QSOs uploaded to LoTW and QRZ logbook.

**V7, MARSHALL ISLANDS. Reminder** - Randall, KX4QD is QRV as V73HW for the next two years. Activity is in his spare time on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

**V30/V31, BELIZE.** Uwe, DL8UD will again be active from Mayahill, Belize as V31KO during February & March 2026. QRV on 160-6m; SSB/CW/FT8. Participation in the ARRL CW contest (Feb 21-22), SO/AB/HP as V3O. QSL via EA5GL

**V31, BELIZE.** Walt, W0CP and Mary, K0ZV will again be active from Placencia, Belize as **V31DJ** and **V31DK** during February '26. QRV on HF bands, SSB & FT8. Participation in the ARRL DX CW contest (February 21-22). QSL via LoTW.

**VK0, ANTANCTICA.** Tom, VK2TBC is going to be based at Casey Station, Antarctica and plans to be operational as VK0TBC between February and December this year. He will be running with a Flex-8400 and DX Commander plus other wire antennas. QRV when time permits on SSB & FT8.

## Looking Ahead & Other Reminders...

**5W0, SAMOA.** Jacek, SP5EAQ informs DX-WORLD that he plans to activate Samoa for a period of three weeks starting on 22 March, operating SSB exclusively. Operations will cover all bands from 10 to 40 meters, with a possibility of limited activity on 80 meters. As with his previous operations, this will be a single-operator activation using my former callsign, 5W0AF.

**9G, ABOKWA IS. (GHANA)** Silvano I2YSB let's us know that the Italian DXpedition Team will be active from Abokwa Island (AF-084), Ghana, during March/April 2026. More details including callsign will be announced soon.

**FS, ST. MARTIN.** From June 10-24, 2026, John K9EL will be visiting Saint Martin on a family vacation and plans to be active as **FS/K9EL** during quiet times. Activity will focus on 6 meters when it is open and limited activity on other bands (40-10m). Operating times will be sporadic and often short. Daily Club Log and LoTW uploads are planned, possibly Club Log livestream. QSL via K9EL – Club Log OQRS preferred

**T88, PALAU.** Ken, JP1RIW (also BM2JCC) will be QRV from Palau Radio Club (Koror) as T88KH during March 26-30, 2026. Participation in the CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL via BM2JCC or Club Log OQRS.

**TX5, AUSTRAL IS.** Team consisting of PG5M, PA3EWP, DL2AMD, PA2KW, DK2AMM & DL2AWG will be active from Raivavae Island, Austral Islands as TX5EU during March 12-25, 2026.

**TX9, MARQUESAS IS.** A team of 6 operators, four from the Oklahoma DX Assn (OKDXA), one from New Mexico and one from France, K5WE, W5CCP, N5TEA, K4VBM, WD5COV, and F6BCW will be active as TX9W from the village of Atuona on the island of Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands beginning 19 April through 30 April, 2026. They plan to operate 6 stations on all bands 160 through 6 meters using the CW, FT8, FT4, SSB, and RTTY modes. An emphasis will be made on CW and SSB QSOs.

**V5, NAMIBIA.** Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH from Omaruru until March 24, 2026. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and some CW. He will be active as V55Y in various contests. QSL to home call.

**XX9, MACAO.** DX Friends have announced a new DXpedition planned for March 19-31, 2026. QRV on HF bands + 6m. Team of 14 operators. Full details will follow on their official website found [here](#) (site currently under construction).

**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** Members of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters are QRV with special call sign ZL100C until August 2026 in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the club's founding. QSL via bureau.

**Disclaimer:** As you know, these DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the control of those who are doing the planning. Be patient. I'm hoping that you use this info to hunt down your ATNO or simply to work some DX before your rigs become boat anchors or you become a boat anchor yourself!

**Come on! Let's start the new year off by working some great DX. Get on the air!! Get that ATNO confirmed. As I always say, "WOBBLE THE ETHERS!!" Blow the dust off those rigs and get on the air.**

**73 for now....Chuck W8PT aka Charlie the Tuner**

## **Linux and Raspberry Pi Special Interest Group**

**Gene, W8NET**

Greetings all!

Linux & Raspberry Pi SIG Coordinator

Our next Linux & Raspberry Pi SIG meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 @7:00PM at PCARS World Headquarters in Ravenna, OH.

I will have a thumb drive for Lubuntu Linux and Mint Linux. Bring your old laptop and we will bring it back to life!

ALSO, I still have an extra Raspberry Pi 3B that someone can take. First come, first served!

Cya in Ravenna!

73 de W8NET, Gene



## **PCARS Flex Net**

**Mike, N8WCP**

Flex Net Coordinator

January's Flex Net was held on 80M using RTTY. Six stations participated in the net; K3GP, KB8TUY, N8QE, W8NET, K8IV, and N8WCP.

February's Flex Net will be Wednesday the 11th at 8:00PM. This month we'll try a 2M FM simplex net on 146.550.

If you have a suggestion for the next Flex Net, please send an email to [n8wcp.us@gmail.com](mailto:n8wcp.us@gmail.com). Looking forward to hearing you on the net!

73  
N8WCP



# Charlie the Tuner's February 2026 Contest Update

**Chuck, W8PT**  
aka "Charlie the Tuner"

Greetings to My Fellow PCARS Contesters and anyone else interested in Contesting:



## K8BF Scheduled Contests for 2025

Minnesota and British Columbia QSOPs	Feb 7-8
Freeze Your Acorns Off	Feb 21
Idaho and Wisconsin QSOPs	Mar 14-15
Florida QSOP	Apr 25-26
7th Call Area QSOP	May 2-3
Indiana QSOP	May 2-3
Delaware QSOP	May 2-3
New England QSOP	May 2-3
ARRL International Digital Contest	June 6-7
Field Day	June 27-28
NA QSOP RTTY	July 18-19
Ohio QSOP & BBQ	Aug 22-23
OSPOTA	Sep 12
Washington Salmon Run	Sep 19-20
California QSOP	Oct 3-4

**In February we have the following for those interested in participating on their own\*:**

Vermont QSO Party	Feb. 7-8
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	Feb. 7-8
ARRL Inter DX Contest, CW	Feb. 21-22
S. and N. Carolina QSO Parties	Feb. 21-22
NA QSO Party, RTTY	Feb. 28 - Mar. 1

73 for now and hope to hear you on the bands in 2026. Charlie the Tuner.

*\*Other contests decided upon by the contest committee might be run from Members' QTHs using the club call with our License Trustee's prior permission. Of course, they will also have to adhere to their specific station license requirements.*

\*Contests that appear in BOLD are ones in which K8BF will participate.

**PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE, INC  
PCARS**

EST. 2005

## Mark Your Calendar!

### PCARS February 2026 Schedule of Events

February 2nd	PCARS Board Meeting
February 7th	VE Session
February 9th	PCARS Monthly Meeting
February 21st	Freeze Your Acorns Off 2026

### Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

1st Tuesday Odd Months	Digital Special Interest Group - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
1st Tuesday Even Months	Linux & Raspberry Pi Special Interest Group - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
2nd Tuesday	Portable Ops Special Interest Group - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
3rd Tuesday	Antenna Special Interest Group - Moderator: Ken, WA8LRW
4th Tuesday	DX & Contest Special Interest Group - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
5th Tuesday	Could Be Anything Special Interest Group - Moderator: Rick, KD8WCK

### Hamfest Calendar

03/15 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair  
Perrysburg, OH  
<https://w8hhf.org/>



04/11 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 70th Hamfest  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
<https://www.cfarc-hamfest.org/>

04/26 - Athens Hamfest  
Athens, OH  
<http://ac-ara.org/>

05/14-05/17 - Four Days In May  
Fairborn, OH  
<http://qrparci.org/fdim>

05/15-05/17 - Hamvention, 2026  
Xenia, OH  
<https://hamvention.org/>

## January Meeting Pictures



# PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted!

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 over 80 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.

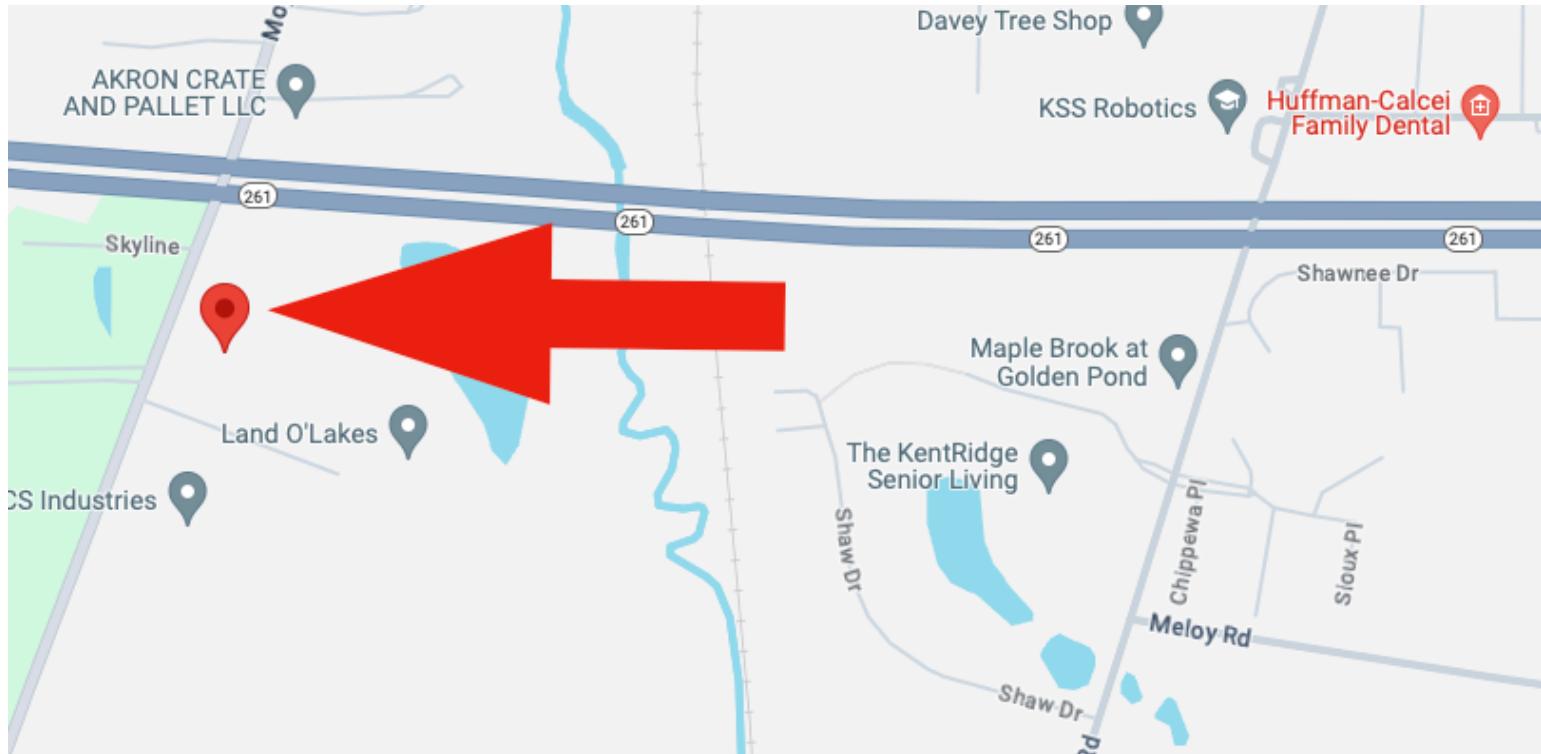
All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate applications are available at 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 Meetings



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

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

# PCARS VE Testing Information & News

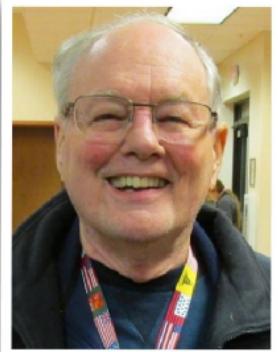


## Future Dates:

- February 7th
- April 5th
- June 7th
- August 2nd

Check the website for the [latest information](#)

**Jim, AC8NT**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison



On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to seeing you at the PCARS club site in Ravenna so you can take your license test or an upgrade to your existing license. As of December 6th PCARS will be using the new Exam Tools for testing. This new process will provide instant grading and tell examinees whether they passed or failed immediately after finishing the exam. Most will receive their calls and upgrade within three business days of passing the test. However, it does change what is needed for testing.

1. Examinees must send an email to [VEC@portcars.org](mailto:VEC@portcars.org) before the test date. You will then receive an email invitation to the exam session.
2. You must have a valid and working email address for this process. If you pass and the FCC requires a fee, you will receive an email with instructions for payment. This email will only be sent ONCE. It is important that you watch for it.
3. The invitation will provide information on filling out the electronic 605 form and will allow you to apply for an FRN as part of the completion of the 605. If you have an FRN, you will need it to complete the form.
4. You will show up at the club site at 9:45 am on the test date and start the process to take the test. You must have a valid photo ID and a copy of your current license if you are upgrading. See "All the Details" below for complete information.
5. The test is taken on one of the club computers. It is a easy and quick process. Remember there is no time limit for any of the tests. The system also allows you to change your answers if necessary while taking the test.
6. When finished, the system will grade the exam and let you know if you passed or failed. It will automatically transfer all the information necessary for your license directly to the ARRL VEC.
7. You will pay \$15 for the VE fee. Checks must be made out to "ARRL-VEC".
8. If you fail your exam the system will provide information on the questions you missed, so you can prepare for your next attempt.
9. When the FCC processes your exam you will receive and email with payment instructions for paying the \$35 FCC fee. This fee will not be charged for upgrades.
10. If you are 17 years old or younger the VE fee is \$5 per the ARRL reduced CE fee Youth Program. The ARRL will also reimburse you for the \$35 FCC fee.

PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for **9:45 am** Registration, **10:00 am** Testing starts, on the first Saturday of every even numbered month at the PCARS club site in Ravenna.

Any questions? Contact [VEC@portcars.org](mailto:VEC@portcars.org)

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Okay - Now **All** the Details:

- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or other communicable germs, or someone that has been infected - please, *do not* come to the club site. *Use of masks is optional.*
- No food or snacks allowed.
- 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).
- 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.
- Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.
- NO cell Phones allowed.

**Email Addresses REQUIRED -** All applications are 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 via regular mail.

**FCC - \$35 Amateur Application Fee -** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will **not apply to upgrade to an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees**. The new fees will apply only to applications for a **new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign**.

**VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at exam sessions.** New applicants will pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual.

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

**Youth Licensing Grant Program -** The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for **new amateur radio license candidates 17 years old or younger** for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program. The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates 17 years old or younger would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VE team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates 17 years old or younger, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at [www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program](http://www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program).

## Printing Your FCC License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial “reference copy” — from the ULS License Manager.

I've created a set of instructions on how you can request an “**official**” **printed copy of your license\*** [Click here to download the instructions](#)

**J.C., KC8JC**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor



I am very reluctant to say it, but the recent low temperatures have kept me safely inside the shack for most of my radio fun. I've done a little POTA from the inside of my Jeep just to take the edge off. That said, a cold and wet winter was predicted and here it is! I can only hope that we bounce up into the double digit temperatures in time for my favorite contest of the year: Freeze Your Acorns Off! It's always a blast to go out in the cold and then run inside for some amazing food and fellowship with the PCARS crew. I hope to see you there.

Thank you to all of those who sent inputs for this month's issue:

**AC8NT, KA8TOA, KB8UUZ, N8WCP,  
W8NET, W8PT, WA8LRW, WB2MGP, WB8LCD,  
and the World Wide Web.**

Send all of your inputs to me at [KC8JC@portcars.org](mailto:KC8JC@portcars.org) in the form of plain text and full-size photos. Share your latest tips, tricks, and insights into this hobby of hobbies with your fellow club members.

Remember: With **YOUR** continued help, **WE** can keep making this a **GREAT** newsletter!



*My paddle setup for the Jeep includes a very handy crab clamp and a heavy chunk of metal.  
Not pretty, but it works!*

# 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 PL 118.8 in Sugar Bush Knolls. - EchoLink Node: K8BF-L**

Check PCARS out on the web: [www.PORTCARS.org](http://www.PORTCARS.org)

### 2025 PCARS Officers

President - Greg Ash - KA8TOA  
Vice President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD  
Treasurer - Paul Highland - KE8EGF  
1 Year Trustee - Gene Marsh - W8NET  
2 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ  
3 Year Trustee - Bob Hajdak - N8QE  
Past President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT

PCARS Incorporated  
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting  
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation  
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club  
March 22, 2010

### 2025 PCARS Appointments & Committees

ARRL Awards DXCC	-	-
Club Site Management	K8CAV	Rick Kruis
Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
EchoLink	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
Field Day Chairman	WA8AR	Tony Romito
FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
K8BF QSL Manager	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
Membership Chairman	-	-
Net Control Coordinator	N8SKN	Bob Rohde
Newsletter Editor	KC8JC	J.C. Wilson
OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
PCARS Photographer	-	-
Public Information Officer	-	-
Secretary	-	-
Social Media	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
Tech, Gen, & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
Volunteer Examiner Liaison	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
Webmaster	WG8X	John Myers
POTA Coordinator	W8NET	Gene Marsh



Active  
PCARS  
Volunteer  
Examiner  
Team  
Members

KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
AC8NT	Jim Wilson
AC8QG	Nick Wagner
N8QE	Bob Hajdak
KA8TOA	Greg Ash
WA8CCU	Al Nagy
N8FUM	Dan Torchia
KC8JC	J.C. Wilson
W8EC	Mark Haas
K8IG	Fred Freer
W8HFZ	Tim McLeod
K8PJW	Phil Weiss
N8XTH	Deron Boring
K8IV	Ed Polack
N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez

THE  
**RADIOGRAM**

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Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KC8JC@portcars.org. The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually). 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. Legend has it that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961 and they migrated and thrived throughout our county. Look into the black squirrel legends and see what you find! When you spot a black squirrel - think PCARS!

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