



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

January 2023 - Volume 18 Number 1

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Buon Anno HAPPY NEW YEAR
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PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





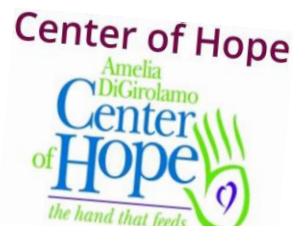
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Portage County Amateur Radio Service



K8BF

2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

Vivian DeSimio, KB8CLH - SK

PCARS former member #248 Vivian L. DeSimio, KB8CLH - SK



Vivian was a General Class operator and an active participant in many PCARS activities and enjoyed being with the members of our club.

Always a nice smile and ready to talk about all kinds of things. She contributed to the newsletter with some very good recipes.

She was always with her husband Dave, WA8GCF (SK 2019) at numerous PCARS events and even took part in some contesting from the club site.

Vivian will be missed by many PCARS members.

From the record Courier (November 30, 2022):

"Vivian L. DeSimio, 74 passed away Monday November 21, 2022 at UH Portage Medical Center in Ravenna, Ohio, after a long battle with Dementia.

She was born February 26, 1948 in Ravenna, Ohio to the late Edmund and Mary (Oelberg) Schimmoeller. Vivian was a homemaker and later worked for the Heart Group in Ravenna as an administrative assistant.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband David L. DeSimio on December 24, 2019 as well as several brothers and a sister. Survivors include her son David E. (Sandra) DeSimio and grandchildren Samantha, Jacob and Abigail.

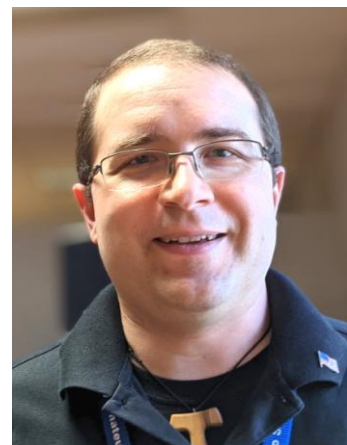
Private family graveside services were held at St. Mary Cemetery Ravenna, Ohio. Condolences and memories of Vivian may be shared with her family at www.sscfuneralhomes.com."



From the President



Nick, AC8QG
PCARS President



Welcome to 2023!

It's a great time to be involved in Amateur Radio!



December was a light month in terms of club activities, but we had a great Christmas dinner, and I had the privilege of awarding the President's Award to two very deserving club members. Congratulations to Paul, KE8EGF and Rick, KD8WCK! I am incredibly grateful for your contributions to PCARS!

In December, we also had the honor of presenting a check for **\$10,870.00** to the **Center of Hope**. This was a tough year for many in our community, and once again, PCARS stepped up to a new level. This was our largest donation ever! Thank you all for your generosity!



Now, I've said it before and I'll say it again: PCARS needs your help, and the best way to help is to show up and participate. Meetings, build days, SIGs, nets, and contests are all great ways to participate. For many of these, there's even a virtual option like Zoom or EchoLink. Your involvement is what makes

PCARS great.

The next several months will be full of **"Big Fun"**, so watch for QST emails, listen for updates during the weekly club net, and check our website www.portcars.org for all the latest information on events and activities.

73, and Happy New Year!



Past recipients of the PCARS President's Award	
2006	KC8RJR Errol Jordan
2007	KD8EPA Dan Porcase
2008	N8EQJ (K8IV) Ed Polack and WB9LBI Bill Fraedrich
2009	KB8TUY Mike Ryan, KD8LDY (NR8W) Russ Williams and KD8FLZ Mike DiCarro
2010	KD8VT James Andrews and K8SRR Steve Randlett
2011	K8CAV Rick Kruise
2012	K8FEY Bob Hewett and N8QE Bob Hajdak
2013	KB8UUZ Tom "Parky" Parkinson
2014	KB8AMZ Terry Morris, AC8NT Jim Wilson and KD8WZS Zeb Smith
2015	AC8QG Nick Wagner and KB3GXB Jennifer Andrews
2016	KB8JFF Dick Ward and K8MSH Mark Haverstock
2017	KD8ICP Tim Gehri, N8BI Jack Comer and WA8GCF Dave DeSimio
2018	WB8LCD Tom Sly
2019	KE8JUZ (AD8FQ) Ben Wagner
2020	KC8FQV Mark Studer, N8AMY Amy Leggiero and W8PT Chuck Patellis
2021	KB8TUY Mike Ryan
2022	KE8EGF Paul and KD8WCK Rick



From the Vice President



Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



I would like to thank Mike for his great job holding down the VP role. It takes a lot of time and effort to complete the job and he was great at it. And thanks to all of you for giving me another shot at the job. I am operating a little slowly now while recovering from a “minor” case of Covid but I’m getting better quickly. Now for what is important. What do we want to do in 2023?

First, I would like to thank all of you that took the time to provide your thoughts on build days.

I had over 40 replies. Some key points and surprises:

- Everyone wants more build-days. We expected this. I plan to provide a schedule of builds yet this month with a selection of times. Each build will require members to confirm attendance and the purchase of materials before the build. I also plan to have build-days with more than one project. As an example, a build-day for baluns and cables. This will increase attendance and give us more flexibility in scheduling.
- The most popular topics were baluns, antennas, cables, and (somewhat of a surprise) an introduction to using microcontrollers in ham radio projects. We all need antennas, and they are the most often built items for ham radio. We will have kits available for common baluns, dipole antennas and EFHW antennas. A couple of microcontroller projects are also under development that are very inexpensive and provide real tools for our hobby.
- Many said that we needed to look at options other than weekends. Weekends are often filled with family activities and family time takes precedence over ham radio (as it should). We have a spare Tuesday in some months. This could be used for builds along with having builds associated with SIGs, like a balun build at an Antenna SIG meeting.
- The idea of creating kits for the builds was often mentioned as a real plus. Kits make the builds go more smoothly and allow us to make sure everyone that attends get their project done.

Second, scheduling presentations for monthly club meetings.

I am working on the 2023 schedule. Currently being scheduled are presentations by AMSAT and SARA (Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers). We all know the great work done by AMSAT and SARA, which is made up of almost 100% ham radio operators, has some great work to discuss. I would also like to have at least one monthly presentation focused on projects completed by club members. To make this simpler, we could have three members talk for 10 minutes each about one of their projects. I will do the PowerPoint work and talking for 10 minutes is hardly ever a problem for any ham. Think about projects you would like to talk about and let me know if you are up for it.

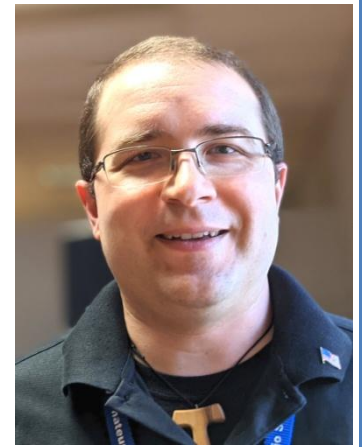
Thanks for your time and I am looking forward to making 2023 a great year for PCARS.



Center of Hope Fund Drive - OUTSTANDING

Nick, AC8QG
PCARS President

I want to **Thank You All** for your support of PCARS in our annual fund raiser for the **Center of Hope** (a part of the **Family & Community Services**) here in Ravenna.



What an **OUTSTANDING** effort in raising funds for the Center of Hope! Every PCARS member should be proud to be affiliated with a club (PCARS) and an organization who serves our community in this way. I can say with certainty that our annual contribution is greatly appreciated!

Our contribution for 2022 = **\$10,870.00** - was our **largest ever**. I'm only guessing here, but among local organizations, we are probably one of the largest (if not **THE** largest) contributions they received. I'm proud to say that since PCARS started, our total contribution to support our community in this way has been **\$78,454.00**

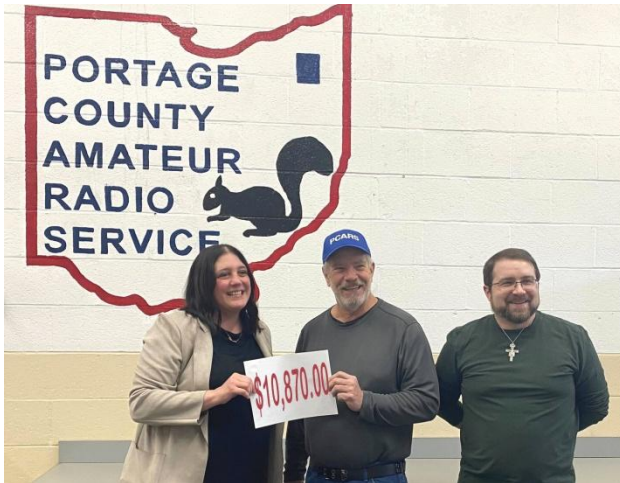


PHOTO: Anne Face, Associate Director at Family & Community Services accepts the PCARS donation from Greg, KA8TOA, Treasurer and Nick, AC8QG, President at the club site on December 1, 2022.

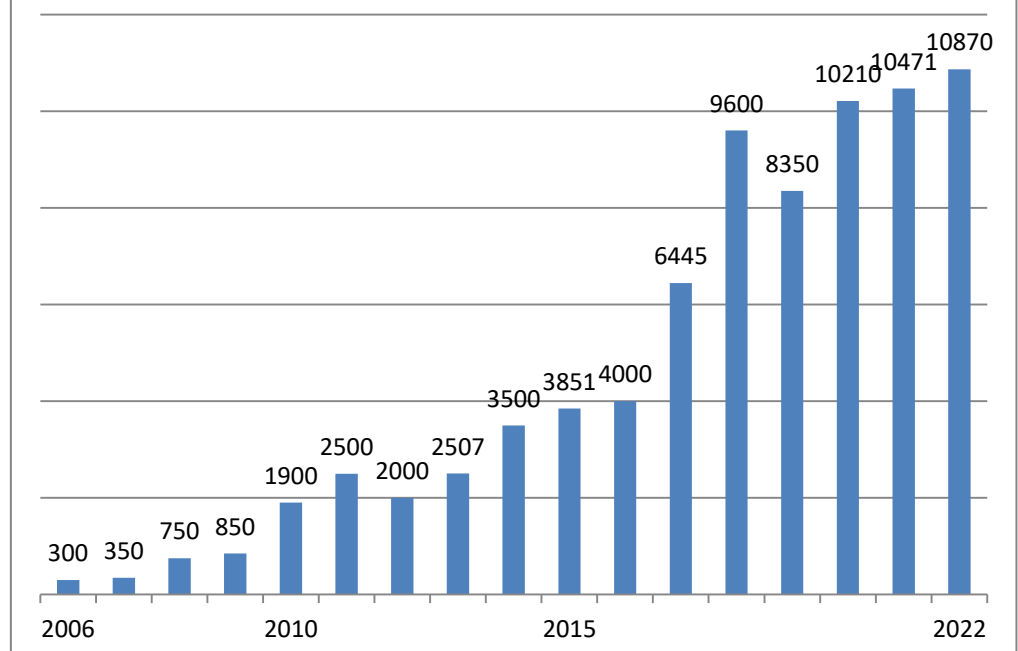
Well Done PCARS! Let this part of our legacy be something that defines us in the future as an intentional part of our mission to support our community.



Center of Hope



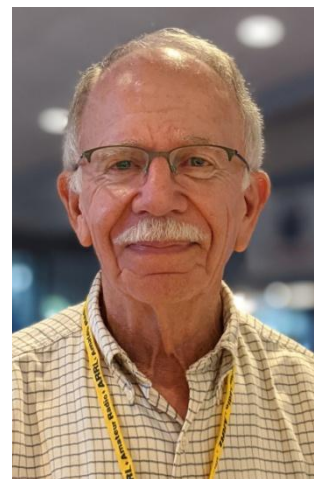
PCARS Donations 2006-2022 to Center of Hope



From the Great Lakes Division Director



Dale, WA8EFK
ARRL Great Lakes Division Director



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

I hope your New Year exceeds all your hopes and expectations.

Well, getting off to a new year isn't too bad. It's a time for me to clear the slate and build "The List" anew. Close anyway, I have a few items that dragged over, like paint the fence, which I failed to do last spring, and to rebuild a trellis, which got postponed by rain, or was it wind? The rest of the things on the 2022 list - which I lagged on - probably weren't too important anyway, so unless a certain someone spots them, I am good... at least until April.

ARRL's Year of the Volunteer kicks off now and the special operating event Volunteers on the AIR (VOTA) associated with it means a lot of us will be hitting the airwaves for this fun event. Check the VOTA web page at <https://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air> for the latest information. Everyone who holds an ARRL Volunteer position, including League membership, carries a point value in the VOTA event. A contact with the ARRL President gives you a whopping 300 points, for example. Your local District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) gives you 30 Points and your EC will offer 12. ARRL Volunteers will be sending their contacts to log to Logbook of the World (LoTW) which then handles the scoring automatically. Regular participants are not required to use LoTW, but are encouraged to do so. Updates will be posted regularly. There is also a VOTA Points Table accessible on the web page so you can see the points given by each appointment holder.

The ARRL Kentucky Section welcomes a new Section Manager on January first. Charles O'Neal KE4AIE of Glasgow, KY takes office at that time to lead the KY Section into the future. This is the right time for pulling together to support Charlie's efforts. He will need to both renew and make new appointments to fill vacancies. With 2023 being ARRL's Year of the Volunteer, I ask everyone to consider how they may step up to serve by filling a needed slot. Offer your services. Charlie has already been working with current appointees to update records and assure everyone to continue working with all appointees. Charlie can be reached at kysectionmanager@gmail.com Charlie plans a forum at the upcoming Cave City Hamfest on March 4, and ARRL Vice Director Scott, N8SY and I will both be there to extend our support to everyone.

In closing, Judy and I wish you all the very best this Holiday Season. May 2023 bring Peace, Health, Happiness, and Prosperity to us all.



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®

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From the Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Scott, N8SY
ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director



Scott's Notes for January 2023

Happy New Year to You and Yours!!!

Every year at this time we all go through that phase where we reflect back on the year past and think about all the things that we wanted to do but didn't. It's something that keeps us on track and gives us the ability to look forward to the new year with a positive attitude and willingness to improve and make things in your life better. Have you thought about this new year and what you're going to change? ARRL has set this new year as the "Year of the Volunteer." Have you thought about how you will "volunteer" this year? As we decide on our New Year's Resolutions, I want you to consider adding "volunteering" to that resolution as well. Even if you are already volunteering now, can you give just a little more? There are many different ways that you can volunteer. Have you ever thought about running for one of those positions that never seems to have a person available to fill it in your local club? I know many clubs that would just love to have that position filled by someone that could give of themselves just a little. How about volunteering to become a weather spotter, or a member of your local ARES team? Yes, these are commitments of time. The one and only item in life that none of us knows exactly just how much we have of it. But can you imagine what life would be like if none of us volunteered? I'd really hate to think of that alternative for sure. So, how's about it? Can you find a little bit of time to volunteer this year?

Shifting gears...

Things have gotten super busy for Dale and me right now getting things ready for the upcoming Board of Directors meeting in January. I never thought I would be so involved in so many Zoom meetings, but as the Board meeting is coming up in mid-January, finalizing all those plans and making sure that everything is precisely worded as we want, takes a lot of meetings. 2023 will be amazing for ARRL. There are so many projects that everyone on the Board has been working on over 2022 and now will be coming to the forefront. We ARE moving things in a positive direction and are focused heavily on making things better for YOU!

Shifting up through the gears...

Hey! I want to say that if your student hasn't applied for a college scholarship by now, they'd better get busy, they only have until this coming Wednesday, January 4th at 12 noon to get their application in. There is a link on the ARRL homepage in addition to the link on the scholarship page. More than 100 scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$25,000 will be awarded in 2023. This is FREE money for your kids to go to college on! How many kids do you know that couldn't use a helping hand with their college tuition? All applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators. Go to: <http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program>

OK, shifting down to come into the pit...

This month we start the month of January off with Straight Key Night - January 1st, and it also starts the Volunteers on the Air (VOTA) that will be going throughout the year. Then on January 7th it's Kids Day, along with the RTTY Roundup running on the 7th and 8th and following that is the January VHF Contest on the 21st - 23rd. This is just a few of the many contests that are scheduled for this month. Here's the link to see them all... <https://www.contestcalendar.com/>

Okay, that is going to do it from me this month. Stay safe and "Catch Me On The Air, at a meeting or hamfest!!!" But most of all... Have FUN - and get on the AIR!!!!



From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Tom, WB8LCD
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



Ohio Section Manager's Information

I'm going to keep this short. But I'm happy to say that 2022 is done, gone, fini. I couldn't be happier about it. Looking forward, Lord willing, **2023 is going to be AWESOME!** All you need to do is wake up Sunday Morning with a smile on your face and a good attitude – and it's off to the races. Quit with the negative thoughts. Don't just sit there, do something. There's a lot of talent, expertise and opportunity that's wasted by the uninspired. Don't let it happen to you.

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say "Hello"!

Even if you're far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It's simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net! Go to [Introducing EchoLink](#) for more information on getting started. If you're an "Old Guy" (a gender neutral term meaning not a youthful operator) and you have some kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or even some neighborhood kids who you would like to give a chance to talk to other kids about Ham Radio, this might be an excellent opportunity to give them that small nudge that could be the start of something positive they will carry with them through life!

If you're reading this newsletter, you are most probably an ARRL member. If not – *you should be!* I want to make sure that everyone gets the most advantage out of their membership, so as we move through 2023 I'll be high-lighting some of the benefits you have as a member. And don't forget – **VOTA** starts Sunday January 1, 2023! Get on the air!

ARRL MEMBERSHIP CAN HELP YOU GET ACTIVE AND ON-THE-AIR

Join today and receive a **FREE** copy of *Your First Amateur Radio HF Station*. A complete guide to getting started in HF communications with code HFW

Connect with ARRL for Exclusive Member Benefits



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 PCARS website,
announcements during 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.*

Jan 2nd - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site & Zoom - 7 pm

Jan 9th - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion & Zoom - 7 pm

Feb 4th - VE Testing at club site - starts at 10 am

Feb 6th - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site & Zoom - 7 pm

Feb 11th - Freeze Your Acorns Off day - see flier

Feb 13th - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion & Zoom - 7 pm

First Tuesday - Digital - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV

Second Tuesday - Portable Ops - Moderator: John, WG8X

Third Tuesday - Antenna - Moderator: Bob, N8QE

Fourth Tuesday - DX & Contest - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT

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

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



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

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



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



PCARS 2023 Officers Start Their Year

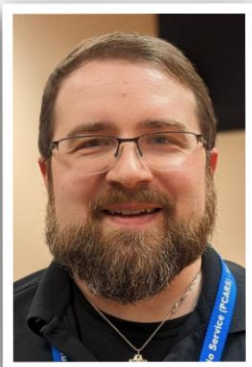
The annual election of officers for PCARS was held at the November 14th PCARS in-person and Zoom meeting. The winning candidates start their duties January 1st as our elected board members. Nick, AC8QG was re-elected President. Jim, AC8NT was elected as Vice President.

Greg, KA8TOA was re-elected as Treasurer, Tom, KB8UUZ goes to 1-Year Trustee, Chuck, W8PT goes to 2-Year Trustee and Mike KB8TUY was elected 3-Year Trustee.

Tom, WB8LCD is still the Immediate Past President.

CONGRATULATIONS

PCARS Officers 2023



President
Nick, AC8QG



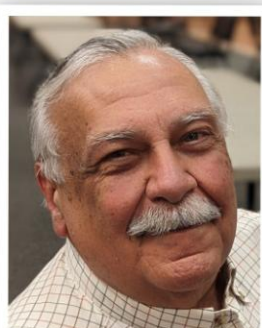
Vice President
Jim, AC8NT



Treasurer
Greg, KA8TOA



1 Year Trustee
Tom, KB8UUZ



2 Year Trustee
Chuck, W8PT



3 Year Trustee
Mike, KB8TUY



Immediate Past
President
Tom, WB8LCD

From All of Us To All of You Happy New Year 2023



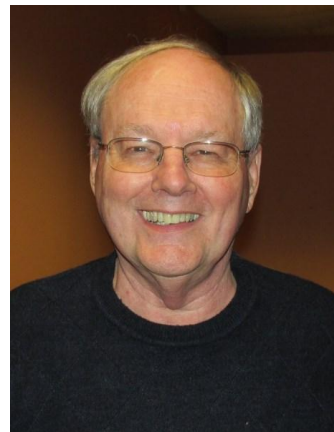
WB8LCD	GoBPS	KD8WBC	KE3MKY
KB8UUZ	KD8LIR	W8BBQ	KE3MKR
KB8VJL	KB8UHN	W8CWI	KE3MWD
W8KNO	W8CDL	KE8EGG	KE8NJA
KB8SZI	W8GX	KE8EGF	KC8TUE
KD8EPF	KS8NYM	AC8XO	K8DER
N8KBX	KD8MLE	AB8YK	KS8NYL
W8PT	KW8KW	WT8J	KE8JUL
N6TL	KD8CGH	NS8B	KS8ZGW
KB8TUY	KASTOA	W8UWV	KD8BXY
N4IT	KD8OBA	KE8HTL	KN4GWY
WB9LBI	W8RID	W8AHC	KE8NWR
KC8FQV	KD8PBL	WD8ICX	AG8CM
WB8OVQ	KD8ERY	KB8ZWT	K8JJM
WD8BIW	W8EYT	W8NET	W8PJW
W8RJG	NS8MY	KD8WHA	W8DMP
N8PXW	KD8SIZ	KC8JC	W8EC
K8IV	W8CYN	N8WCP	KE8NNC
KC8LJY	KD8SOP	NS8FUM	W8LRW
WB2DFC	KD8WZS	KD8JN	K8TTX
N8XTH	K8MSH	K8HTB	W8JJW
K8QF	K8SOAT	KSIG	KE8QEP
N8ATV	AC8NT	KE8KCJ	W8DMH
N8GIE	KB8VJO	AD8FQ	WD8DAU
KD8FME	KD8WCK	N08D	KE8ARB
WX4QZ	W8IFM	KE8KBJ	K5JMS
N8QE	KD8BBT	KC8YSU	W3MLS
K8CAV	AC8QG	W3JL	W8GPN
W8AR	N8BI	N3BSN	KE8REE
NX8G	N8QZ	WB2MGP	KE8REF
KD8DFL	N8SY	W8YFL	N8WLE
NT8K	KD8ZSH	W8CI	AE8ET
K8AAB	N8CPS	WD8KCH	WB2RPW
W8HFY	N6JRL	KC8QPC	K3EMB
K3GP	KC8RKD	KS1LK	KE8IMR
KD8JRE	KE8BFA	KE8LWL	KD8LDG
KD8IUA	K8KSU	KE8LWM	KE8TEJ
W8CCU	K3LR	KE8LWO	Brian Glascock
KC8YS	K1ZZ	AD8IR	W8EFK
KD8VT	W8SAJ	N2KWW	KE8SMS
N8HUC	N1CJW	K8PJW	KE8SXI
NR8W	Denise Renfro	KE8VS	KA8RXW

KESTFJ
 KE8QWF
 W8MMN
 K8FF
 ND8L
 KE8ULB
 KE8UKK
 N8NH
 W8HNP
 KE8FNS
 K8LY
 W8MET
 N8LRS
 W8HFZ
 W2THU
 N8SKN
 WD8PME
 KB3QOV
 KB3GXB
 Marie Carron
 KE8ELR
 AC8RH



PCARS Receives ARRL Grant

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS President



**The ARRL has approved a PCARS grant application to increase our community outreach.
The \$3,130.00 requested was fully funded by the ARRL**



Several months ago, the ARRL announced a grant program that had as two of its goals to increase public knowledge of amateur radio and increase the use of ham radio in STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) programs. As a club we have talked about getting more younger people interested in the hobby, not just youngsters but younger adults. We have taken part in scouting events and maker events to support this initiative. We have also talked about setting up a local libraries and schools to demonstrate the technology and relevance of ham radio. We have had a few roadblocks to increasing these activities:

1. To setup at an event and demonstrate ham radio we need transceivers, antennas and computers. We have many rigs available including the ICOM 7300s at the club site and our personal rigs. We have computers that are available equipped with all the software we need. Our biggest problem is setting up an effective antenna system. In the past we have used Super-Antennas and EndFeds. We have really needed a very quick to setup antenna system available to the club.
2. We all believe building something is educational and fun. If we intend to introduce the public to electronics and ham radio, learn to solder and other build events offer a terrific opportunity. Listening to a radio is one thing; listening to a radio you have built takes it up to the next level. We have not had the soldering tools, multimeters, and hand tools to allow us to hold build events for those not yet invested in our hobby. We have needed more tools for these events. We also need those components necessary for the builds.
3. Funny thing about electronics is it is very hard to see just how things work. A good portable scope and signal source along with demonstrations that we already have, will allow many more people to appreciate our hobby and "see" how it works.

To eliminate these roadblocks a grant application was submitted to the ARRL to provide the funds to operate more effectively at events and provide more hand-on activities. The grant was for \$3130 and was approved for that amount. We will need to report on how the money is spent and what we have done to increase our outreach. It is very important to understand this money is not to be used to cover our on-going expenses. It is to increase interest in our great hobby and sport.

A plan will be discussed at the January board meeting and detailed at the January membership meeting. This is a great opportunity for PCARS and our community. I strongly believe it will also be a lot of fun.



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



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

K8JJM Jeffrey	KE8TEJ Roger
K8MSH Mark	N1CJW Christopher
KB8SZI Peggy	N8GIE John
KB8ZWT Jeff	N8NB Dave
KD8SOP Eddie	N8PXW Jim
KE8BFA Janice	NR8W Russ
KE8KBJ Mara	NX8G Rex
KE8NNC Brian	



FYAO 2023 - 18th Annual Club Event



Chuck, W8PT
FYAO Chairman

ATTENTION PCARS Members:

On Saturday, February 11th, you will have an opportunity to show everyone your expertise in setting up a portable station in the frigid WX and operating QRP style.

Yup...it's Freeze Your Acorns Off 2023 edition. This is the 18th annual FYAO - the longest running (never missed a year) activity that PCARS has done. Be part of our club history and be there for FYAO 23 !!!!

As in previous years, the operating format will be a "contest" for all participants that set up a station and operate from the FYAO site. And as in years past, the host site is the shelter house at Fred Fuller Park in Kent. The winner will receive a certificate and his or her name and call sign will be added to the FYAO plaque displayed at the PCARS Club site.

We will also be having a contest within a contest..... the Best Recipe Cook-Off. So as many as you feel you are great cooks, whip up your best recipe of chili, mac & cheese, spicy meatballs, stew, peach cobbler, or whatever your heart desires and bring your dish to pass and have it judged by our "expert" panel of judges.

The contest begins at 1500 UTC (10 AM Local) and ends at 2000 UTC (3 PM Local). For those of you setting up a station, you are encouraged to come one hour earlier to pick your operating spot. Remember, this is a QRP Event so keep your foot warmers at home. (And you know I'm not talking about heavy socks.)

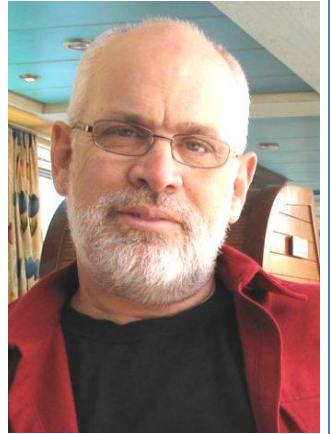
So come on out and set up a station, bring lots of food, invite your friends to see what this is all about, and just have a good time with your fellow HAMS. Most importantly, we're here to have BIG FUN so I hope to see a lot of you there.:

February 11, 2023 - see the flier in this newsletter



12 Days of QRZ Award

Fred, AA7BQ
QRZ.COM



NEW for 2022 is the QRZ Winter OPS Award, 12 Days of QRZ

Starting on December 1, 2022, the award will be for making winter contacts on at least 12 days this winter.

The eligibility period runs from December 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023.

Just log confirmed contacts during 12 of those days, and you will earn this handsome award for your shack:

This one's going to be very popular this season.

We can't wait for people to show them to us hanging in their shacks. www.QRZ.com



Ohio Simplex Contest - January 14th

Tom, WB8LCD
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



The Ohio Simplex Contest is sponsored yearly by the ARRL Ohio Section and Ohio ARES®.



A six hour contest to inspire amateurs around Ohio to operate all-mode simplex to simulate emergency communications.



The Ohio VHF+ Simplex contest occurs on the second Saturday of January. The contest period extends from 1000 AM EST to 1600 PM EST. All stations may operate the full six hours. The 2023 contest will be January 14.

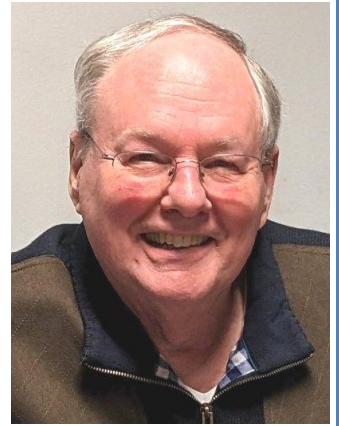
All entrants are required to log all QSOs and retain those logs for three months following the contest. The logs must include the time, band, mode, callsign, and exchanged county. QSOs with rovers and various bonus stations must be noted.

All entrants must report their score using the form at ohsimplex.org. No paper submissions will be accepted.

Complete rules and information can be found at: <https://ohsimplex.org/rules/>

Builds in the Planning for 2023

Jim, AC8NT
PCARS Vice President



We are planning build and learning events for 2023 and we need your help. Below is a list of event ideas that we have talked about for 2023. Take a look and let me know if you would find any of them interesting. Also, if you have any other ideas for builds or training session let me know. All options will be considered.

Cable build - The purpose of this build is to provide training in how to make cables. We will be making coax (RG-8X or LMR-400 type coax) or PowerPole cables. For a small fee, the club will provide connectors for one coax and/or one PowerPole cable.

2 Meter, 70 Cm J-Pole build - Fun build constructing an antenna to get you on VHF or UHF. A kit will be available for purchase. The J-Pole is a great antenna.

Balun Build - Building one of a number of Baluns or Ununs including 1:1 or 4:1 current Baluns and a 1:9 Unun for EndFeds. Kits will be available for purchase will contain all the parts necessary for the building of your selected option.

Dipole antenna build - Build a single band dipole antenna for any band you choose or even an offset fed dipole for multiple bands. Kits will be available containing the required parts and wire.


Mobile Rig Installation - This session will provide useful information on the installation of equipment in a vehicle and help with actual installation in your car. You provide the equipment and we provide the help.

Extra Class Electronics Course - We have had a lot of our club members enjoy this class. **Free** to club members.

Smith Chart Class - This is another class that has been held with success in the past. **Free** to club members.

Introduction to Microcontrollers - This course will provide a basic introduction to Arduino and Raspberry Pi computer projects with a focus on ham radio projects. **Free** to club members.

Please take a few minutes and help us plan events fitting your interests and that you will attend. You can contact me at: AC8NT@j3solutions.com



Volunteer
ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community

- Find license exam sessions
- Resources for VEs and examinees
- Become a VE!
- Join the PCARS VE Team



Special Event Station W8A - BOTA

Tom, WB8LCD



A few years ago, Chuck – W8PT and I started talking about an on the air ham radio program called “Breweries On The Air” (BOTA). We’ve put some work into it, however COVID kinda put us on hold. We decided that while on hold we still needed to do something as a way of testing the waters and/or beginning to build awareness. We’re still working on it, but progress is being made.

That something we decided to put out there turned out to be special event station W8A, and this was our 3rd year running the event. W8A celebrates the 21st Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America! Since the 21st Amendment became law on December 5th, 1933, we’ve scheduled the event to take place multiple days, including December 5th. This year’s event took place on December 3, 4, and 5 from Casa de WB8LCD. We ran one transmitter each day, on either 20 or 40 meters depending on the propagation.

Operators this year were Chuck, W8PT - Tom, WB8LCD - Bill, WB9LBI - Mike, KB8TUY - Greg, KA8TOA and Tyson, K8TTX. Prior years also included Amy, N8AMY and Dave, WB2DFC. Once again, we had a ball! **This year we made a total of 503 QSO’s.** We worked 45 of the 50 states and Canada, Mexico and Slovenia. We made 267 Q’s on 40 meters and 236 Q’s on 20 meters. We consider that an outstanding success.

The 21st Amendment repealed the 18th Amendment, which was Prohibition. Prohibition was effective on January 17, 1920 and remained in effect until the 21st Amendment was effective on December 5, 1933. That made this year’s W8A celebration the 89th anniversary of the end of Prohibition in the US. The 18th amendment was the only amendment to the Constitution that took rights away from American citizens!. The 21st amendment is the only amendment that repealed a prior amendment.

Most importantly, the 21st amendment was the only amendment not enacted by the Congress but was enacted by a “Convention of States”. (read: We The People) The last states needed to pass the 21st Amendment all ratified it on December 5, 1933. The last 3, in order were: Pennsylvania, Ohio and Utah. (Really? Utah??) The Amendment was effective immediately, at 5:32PM (local) The first team of Budweiser Clydesdales was sent to the White House to give President Roosevelt a ceremonial case of beer!

One of the things that I think made this special event station a success was that we were not operating “contest style” (WB2XX, ur 59 Ohio, QRZ?) We were making QSO’s as opposed to contacts, meaning we were having a conversation with each station who contacted us. And we had some very interesting QSO’s, as almost everyone had a story from their family history about the Prohibition era, or they just wanted to talk about their favorite beverage! We tried to make a personal “connection” with everyone who contacted us.

It was a fun experience that will be continued. As for “Breweries On The Air” – stay tuned. More information will be coming soon!



Field Day 2023

Tony, WA8AR

Field Day Chairman



A Brief Recap of Field Day and Goals for 2023

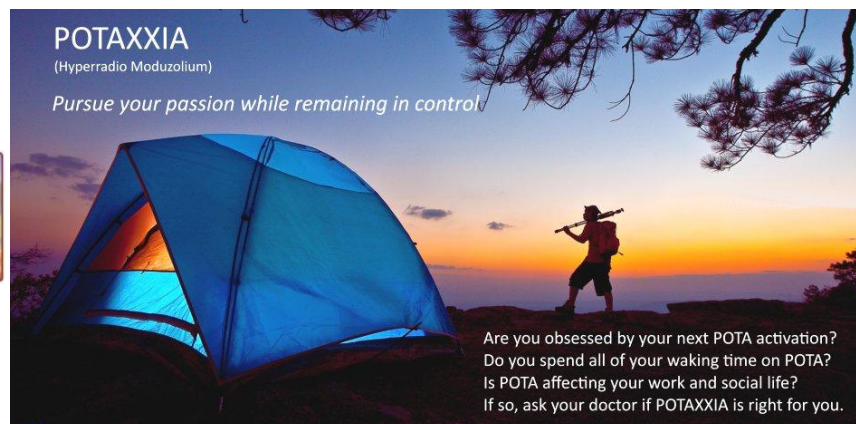
Our 2022 Field Day effort was successful. As most of you know by now, K8BF again placed 2nd in the nation in class 4A, 1st in Ohio and 1st in our Section. That result was achieved thanks to a large number of our fellow members volunteering to pitch in and help with all aspects of our Field Day planning, preparation and operations.

However, AGAIN, this year we are shooting **to better our score** and take PCARS to first place in the nation in our operating class! I believe that we have learned a lot from the past, so that we can fine tune our Field Day practices to enhance our score and bring home a National 1st place finish for PCARS. This effort will start this January with our first Field Day Staff meeting. Here are the initial goals I have set for this year. These goals will be refined with input from the Field Day staff.

2023 Draft List Of Goals

- Maintain the “**Big Fun**” experience for all who participate.
- Increase the number of members who participate in Field Day overall.
- Provide training for members who wish to operate on Field Day.
- Analyze our past performance to understand where can improve.
- Promote Field Day participation with our members (Communicate!)
- Enhance our score: **BE #1** in Class 4A across the board!
- Make Safety a priority in all aspects of Field Day.

I know that we have a great group of members who can come together and have a Fun, Safe, and Successful Field Day for PCARS.



On The Road with WG8X

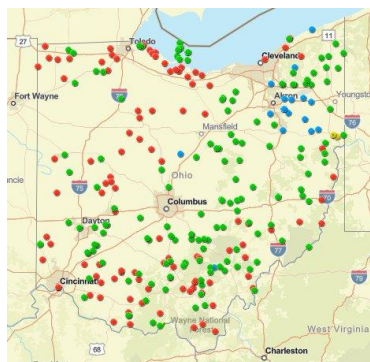


John, WG8X



Getting them All in Ohio

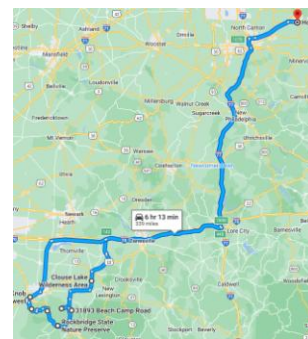
Back in July, when I finished my last big radio rove, I didn't envision jumping back into any "Epic Roves" (a friend coined that term to describe my latest trip). It was a great trip, and I got to meet Face to Face with some good friends. But, I was ready to relax a bit. It took a few months before deciding to pursue my next big goal.



Ohio has 75 State Parks (soon to be 76), but there are **271** "references" in Ohio. A reference can be a State Park, a State Nature Preserve, a National Historic Site, etc. Of those references, I've activated **169** of them. **My latest goal is to activate those remaining 102 references in Ohio.**

I've done a couple day trips around NE Ohio, picking up a park here, or there, but I've run out of new parks within easy driving distance. The answer was to plan a day trip to hit multiple parks.

Recently, I planned a 350 Mile road trip to the Logan/Lancaster area. On this trip, I was able to hit a State Wildlife area, and 6 State Nature Preserves. Using FT8 & CW, I made almost 120 contacts for the day. There was one stretch of in Fairfield County that was still snow covered, and required 4WD, and low gear, but most roads were open and dry.



While setting up at Rockbridge State Nature Preserve in Logan, John (AF8E) stopped by



to say Hi. John lives in the area, and sometimes we will meet at a local park to chat, and catch up. We talked for a bit, then he moved on to another park.

I finished my 10 contacts there, and headed on to Christmas Rocks State Nature Preserve, where I found Nathan, N8NI waiting for me. Nathan works all

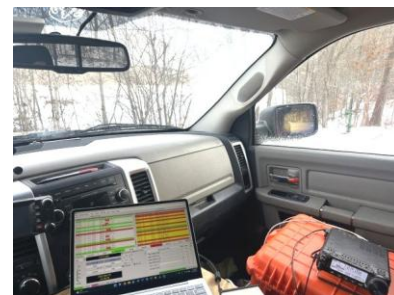


over the state, and has activated about the same number of parks as me. So, we get together whenever we can to trade activation stories. We'd been wanting to get a picture of our "almost" identical license plates side by side, and this was a great opportunity to do so.



My last activation of the day at Shallenberger State Nature Preserve in Lancaster. The light was starting to fade, so I headed east, arriving home around 8 PM.

My gear this time around was the usual FT-891, running the mobile antenna. Power was delivered by 2 LiFePo4 batteries. I drained the 12 AH battery just after lunchtime, and switched over to the 20AH, which got me through the rest of the afternoon. I brought spare antennas as well. There's nothing worse than having a failure with no backup when you're far from home.



I really enjoy exploring the back roads, and small towns around Ohio. For instance, in Guernsey County, I saw a sign pointing to "Old Washington". I looked it up when I got home, and found that this town originally went by two names; "Beymerstown", and "New Washington". In 1829, the town was incorporated as "Washington", but the postal service

asked that the name be changed due to confusion with the other “Washington”, in Fayette County. Interestingly, that one in Fayette County has since changed their name to the more recognizable “Washington Courthouse”.

And that is all I have for this month. Stay warm, and 73 DE WG8X

How to Get Started in POTA



John, WG8X



How to get started in POTA while barely trying

These days if you get on the air at all, you can hear dozens, sometimes hundreds of stations who are operating pileups and handing out these weird numbers; usually the numbers begin with K, or VE. This is Parks on the air. It has grown by leaps and bounds since its beginning.

It's a lot of fun, and you can join in very easily. The easiest way to get started is to just jump in and start contacting the stations you hear. Want to find more stations? Check out their spotting page at <https://pota.app/#/>. There's nothing more to do. You can have a lot of fun working the pileups.

Once you figure out whether it's for you or not, you may want to consider registering on the parks on the Air website at parksontheair.com. It's easy to do. Once you register, all the awards that you've earned so far, will be waiting for you. On that site, you can find tons of resources to help you get started. There's FAQ, and even YouTube videos.

If you want to take things to the next level, and become an activator, there's FAQs for that as well. In Ohio there are tons of locations where you can activate and get on the other side of the pile up. At the very least, you just need a radio, power source, antenna, and a log sheet. If you're planning to do more activating, you can always invest in better antennas, laptop or tablet for logging, maybe even a more portable radio.



Lots of activators run QRP from the parks very successfully. The sky is the limit. You don't need to take out a five element beam and a mobile tower to a park to have fun. I've had a ball running a 5W QRP rig and ham sticks. People run everything under the sun, including IC-7300s, FTD-10, etc.

Antennas are a subject in itself. I've run dipoles, verticals, End Feds, even Moxons on 6 Meters. I've also run Hamsticks, and ATAS antennas mounted to the truck.

If you have any questions, PCARS does do a Portable Operations SIG on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna). The next meeting will be January 10th at 7 PM. You can also attend via Zoom.

The address is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732195744?pwd=cldtZmxMcMfQqNdhQWtJN0s2NUNnUT09>



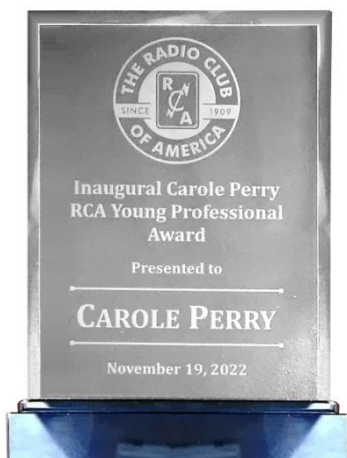
RCA Young Professional Award

Carole Perry, WB2MGP, is a longtime director of both QCWA and the Radio Club of America, two organizations through which she channels her long-standing efforts to bring more young people into amateur radio and more young women into careers in science, technology, engineering and math.



RCA recently established a Young Professional Award, which will be given annually to one of Carole's RCA Young Achievers who goes on to work in the wireless industry.

The first award, however, went to Carole, who was taken completely by surprise at the RCA Awards Banquet in November.



Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN who is a former RCA Young Achiever and now a freshman at Georgia Tech, CP, Divyam Mishra, KD0OOE who is a former RCA Young Achiever and a graduate in AI engineering from Georgia Tech and was Carole's choice as the Young Professional presenter at the RCA Technical Symposium this year.



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**

Contest University - 2023

Contest University

Tim, K3LR
Contest University Chairman



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Brian, N9ADG
From the ARRL



2022 SKYWARN Recognition Day in the History Books



SKYWARN

Saturday, December 3, 2022 was SKYWARN® Recognition Day (SRD), an event that recognizes SKYWARN volunteers for their contribution to public safety. SRD was observed by several National Weather Service (NWS) locations across the United States. Amateur radio volunteers set up temporary operations from forecasting offices and made contacts with other stations to demonstrate their readiness to operate in emergency conditions and to act as observers for the NWS. As of the last count, there were more than 4,700 SKYWARN spotters taking part in SRD.

Near Los Angeles, California, at the NWS office located in Oxnard, volunteers set up six stations on different frequencies and operated through the day under simulated emergency conditions. Several members of the general public visited the NWS office during the exercise.

ARRL Headquarters, participating as WX1AW, was activated by ARRL Emergency Management Assistant Ken Bailey, K1FUG. WX1AW was active on 40 - 10 meters using SSB and FT8, and monitored local VHF and UHF repeaters.

Radio amateurs participating as SKYWARN volunteers assist the NWS with real-time observations of adverse weather conditions that pose an imminent threat to life and property. Those alerts may include tornadoes, waterspouts, damaging hail, blizzard conditions, sleet, strong winds, heavy rain falls and flooding, dust storms, damage assessment, and other significant anomalies. NWS personnel can use information from ham radio operators to issue alerts or assess threat levels to areas that may be affected by abnormal conditions.

The 2022 NWS Spotter of the Year Award was given to Bryan Loper, WX5CSS, of Atlanta, Texas. The award noted that Loper is very active with the amateur radio network and weather community within the Ark-La-Tex region, and is always reliable in providing weather reports. Loper is also an ARRL member.

- *The ARRL Letter*; thanks to Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, Public Information Coordinator, ARRL Santa Barbara Section, for contributing to this story.

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Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives ([H.R.9670](#)) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

The exponential growth of communities subject to private land use restrictions that prohibit both the operation of Amateur Radio and the installation of amateur station antennas has significantly restricted the growth of the Amateur Radio Service. These restrictions are pervasive in private common interest residential communities such as single-family subdivisions, condominiums, cooperatives, gated communities, master-planned communities, planned unit developments, and communities governed by community associations. The

restrictions have particularly impacted the ability of Amateur Radio to fulfill its statutorily mandated duty of serving as a voluntary noncommercial emergency communications service.

Congress in 1996 directed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promulgate regulations (Public Law 104-104, title II, section 207, 110 Stat. 114; 47 U.S.C. 303 note) that have preempted all private land use restrictions applicable to exterior communications facilities that impair the ability of citizens to receive television broadcast signals, direct broadcast satellite services, or multichannel multipoint distribution services, or to transmit and receive wireless internet services. ARRL attempts to obtain similar relief for Amateur Radio were rejected by the FCC with a statement such relief would have to come from Congress.

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, noted that Congress, in 1994 by Joint Resolution, S.J.Res.90/H.J.Res.199, declared that regulations at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences as a public benefit. He continued by stating that "H.R.9670, the *Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act*, is intended to fulfill that mandate and preserve the ability of Amateur Radio Operators to continue to serve as a key component of American critical communications infrastructure."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Mr. Stratton both extended on behalf of the ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Rep. Johnson in his tireless efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators. For the full text of the bill, [click here](#) (PDF).

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Canadian sections Re-Aligned

Effective January 1, 2023, the Radio Amateurs of Canada has [redefined the list of Sections](http://va7eca.ca/radio-amateurs-of-canada-making-changes-effective-jan-1-2023) (<http://va7eca.ca/radio-amateurs-of-canada-making-changes-effective-jan-1-2023>). Here's a new [map of the Sections](http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/maps/sections_2.php) (http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/maps/sections_2.php).



[N3FJP](#) has announced that he is ready for the change with new versions of various logging programs affected by the RAC Section changes:

- *ARRL 160 Meter Contest Log 5.0.3*
- *ARRL Field Day Contest Log 6.6.5*
- *ARRL November Sweepstakes Contest Log 7.3.5*
- *Pennsylvania QSO Party Contest Log 4.8.4*
- *Winter Field Day Contest Log 2.8.5* (additional rule changes also incorporated)



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Self-Spotting in ARRL Contests

Simply put: self-spotting is no longer forbidden.

The evolution of this has been going on for several years. Self-spotting was first allowed in VHF and up contesting back in 2015 or so.

Enter Social Media:

For HF, the [Contest Advisory Committee \(CAC\)](#) opined, along with input from various regional constituents, that allowing entrants to use social media streaming would hopefully appeal to younger amateurs,

and younger potential amateurs, but the risks of self-spotting by showing the front of a radio, or mentioning one's frequency in the stream, etc. were identified as potential risks of rules violation.

In a controversial event a couple of years ago, a well-known remote station provider got a whole lot of publicity doing this, and while it's not the only driver for this, it was admittedly significant in the decision-making process. As policing the possible different platforms, methods, and the inevitable communication of what is construed to be self-spotting via live streaming, the CAC suggested that live streaming and self-spotting should be allowed for multi-op entries and for single op unlimited entries.

The ARRL HQ Awards Committee decided instead to remove all restrictions on self-spotting for all classes of entry.

Well, what about single op unassisted?

It has been nearly 35 years (think about that) since K1EA added the ability for unassisted single ops to spot their search-and-pounce contacts in CT for DOS. Since then, single ops have been permitted to spot their search-and-pounce contacts without being accused of receiving spots, and being assisted. Likewise, there's no logical reason to preclude them from self-spotting, since self-spotting is no longer forbidden. So, unassisted single ops can self-spot, if they want.

Also, it is inevitable that we will someday see SSB SDR skimmers and all of this will be moot. In the few recent contests where this (self-spotting) has been possible, all reports have been unremarkable about the impact of self-spotting.

Yes, this is a new perspective. Many of us are uncomfortable with this change.

Its time has come.

The burden of policing this is too great, and just not worth it.

Removing the restriction is a positive thing, further leveling the playing field by removing the advantage held by the very creative and sadly dishonest cheaters around the world, and I predict that CQWW will join ARRL's leadership in this area and stop forbidding self-spotting.

Lastly, and significantly part of this decision, is that SSB is the lone contesting mode without automatic spotting; that's not fair either, so this is the right thing to do. The complete lack of sensational results from recent contests proves the point.

**73, Robert E. Naumann W5OV
ARRL Director of Operations**



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Rep. Lesko Introduces Bill to Replace Symbol Rate Limit with Bandwidth Limit

Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 9664) on December 21, 2022, to require that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) replace the current HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

After being petitioned by ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® in 2013 (RM-11708) for the same relief, in 2016 the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT Docket No. 16-239) in which it agreed that the HF symbol rate limit was outmoded, served no purpose, and hampered experimentation. But the Commission questioned whether any bandwidth limit was needed in its place. Most amateurs, including the ARRL, objected to there being no signal bandwidth limit in the crowded HF bands given the possibility that

unreasonably wide bandwidth digital protocols could be developed, and since 2016 there has been no further FCC action.

In conjunction with introducing the legislation, Congresswoman Lesko stated that "With advances in our modern technology, increased amounts of data can be put on the spectrum, so there is less of a need for a regulatory limit on symbol rates. I am pleased to introduce this important piece of legislation to update the FCC's rules to support the critical role amateur radio operators play and better reflect the capabilities of our modern radio technology."



ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, hailed introduction of the bill. Roderick stated that "the FCC's delay in removing this outdated restriction has been incomprehensible, given that the biggest effect of the delay is to require totally inefficient spectrum use on the already-crowded amateur HF bands. I hope that the Commission will act to remove this harmful limitation without waiting for the bill to be passed."

ARRL Legislative Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, added that "the symbol rate limit hampers experimentation and development of more efficient HF data protocols by U.S. amateurs. For all practical purposes the field has been ceded to amateurs outside the U.S., where there is no comparable limit. Removing the restriction not only will allow U.S. amateurs to use the most efficient data protocol suitable for their purpose, but it also will promote and incentivize U.S. amateurs to experiment with and develop even more efficient protocols."

A copy of this press release is available from ARRL:

www.arrl.org/news/rep-lesko-introduces-bill-to-replace-symbol-rate-limit-with-bandwidth-limit

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On January 1, 2023, an international year-long amateur radio contest to honor Guglielmo Marconi will begin, and is appropriately titled, "Marconi was here!"

The main objective of the contest is to historically commemorate some of the most important and significant Italian cities where Marconi performed scientific experiments.

Marconi conducted experiments in radio engineering, long-distance communications, radio direction finding, and many others. Overall, the experiments were crucial to the technical and scientific advancement and progress of wireless communications.

Each month is dedicated to a specific Italian city connected to the story of Marconi and is paired to a different special call sign.

The "**MARCONI WAS HERE!**" award is an international amateur radio award organized by A.R.I. [Fidenza Radio Club](#) in collaboration with [A.R.I. Associazione Radioamatori Italiani](#) and the [Marconi Museum](#).



Further details about the special call signs, special certificates, and all of the rules are available on the official website www.arifidenza.it.

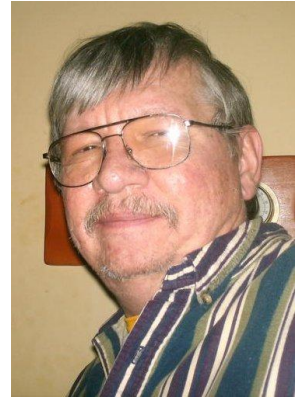


Skywarn Winter



Gregg, WB8YYS

AEC Summit County
Portage County Skywarn Coordinator



With the summer months behind us now, one would have to say as far as severe weather goes, we fared pretty well. The National Weather service can also use weather reports over the winter to help them assess how the winter weather is affecting the area.

Just some examples of the reports they would be looking for....

- Snow, blowing or drifting
- Snow amounts already on the ground or after an event
- Damage by wind
- Downed trees
- Road conditions, Clear, passable, impassable
- Any power outages

Reports can be made over the NWS Chat site if you have it or by the landline number that is on your Skywarn spotter card

A nice app for reporting your weather is available for free download on the app store. Just look for **mPing**, This app will give your location and a listing of precipitation that you merely have to select. Tap Send Report and off it goes. After the screen clears, you'll be able to see a map with not only your report but reports from others around the area.

Here's a website of particular interest that in my opinion really proved its' worth over the last week or so. Log onto <https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/wwd/wssi/wssi.php?id=CLE> which is the Winter Storm Severity Index. I watched this site starting on 12-20 thru 12-24 and it was about as accurate of the forthcoming storm as one could get. A good addition to your favorites list I think.

Lastly, I received a county map from the state showing all the townships in Portage County and I am in the process of listing ALL of the Skywarn spotters in the county. This is especially helpful during severe weather if the NWS has an area of interest and needs an observation. This was helpful a few years ago when a funnel cloud was spotted over Stow moving Northeast heading towards Hiram and into Trumbull County. I knew who was where and how to contact them.

What I need now is to update the map being that there are new spotters in the area. What I am asking is that anyone who is a spotter and has attended a Skywarn spotter class to send me your callsign and general location. Contact information would be helpful as well. Either an email or phone number. Your info is stored on a non-hackable device and never given out only by prior request. If you would please send to wb8yys@arrl.net

That's all I have for now...Everyone have a safe and Happy New Year.



K8KJR Winner of QST Cover Plaque Award

Amy N8AMY



Thank you PCARS Members for voting for Ohio ham - Josh Reichard, K8KJR's QST article below.

Josh won the QST Cover Plaque Award for his article featuring the STEM camp he facilitated in Youngstown, Ohio.

Josh continues to be dedicated to sharing his love for the hobby with students and plans to continue hosting STEM camps annually.

Congratulations

October 2022
QST Cover Plaque Award Winner

Joshua Reichard,
K8KJR

In his article, "Students Experience Amateur Radio in a Hands-On STEM Camp," Joshua explains how Mercer County Amateur Radio Club and DX Engineering teamed up to show Ohio students some ham radio basics via shortwave listening, constructing antennas, receiving satellite signals, and more.

QST Cover Plaque Awards are given to the author or authors of the most popular article in each issue. *You* choose the winners by casting your vote online at

www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll

Log in now and choose your favorite article in this issue!



Students Experience Amateur Radio in a Hands-On STEM Camp

The Mercer County Amateur Radio Club (MCARC) and DX Engineering teamed up to show Ohio students ham radio basics by constructing antennas, receiving satellite signals, and more.

Joshua Reichard, K8KJR

This past spring, students from Youngstown, Ohio, felt the joy of amateur radio in a STEM camp focused on satellite communications. The Mercer County Amateur Radio Club (MCARC) and DX Engineering partnered with Valley Christian Schools and Mainline Education Foundation to host the week-long camp, which introduced students to basic radio theory, shortwave listening, and satellite operating on the 2-meter and 70-centimeter bands. The 12 students who participated each received their own Tacsun PL-600 SSB shortwave receiver, a pre-programmed Baofeng UV-5R (with transmit disabled), Ward Silver's *Ham Radio for Dummies*, and a variety of other take-home resources, including a Yagi antenna they built themselves.

The city of Youngstown has been ranked with one of the highest childhood poverty rates in the US, and its public school district has been in academic and fiscal

distress for more than 15 years. Providing amateur radio education and equipment to disadvantaged students gave them opportunities they may not have otherwise received. The camp was designed as an enrichment education activity to address learning loss due to school shutdowns during the pandemic. It was



Olivia Reichard is featured on local television as she checks the features of her radio.



PCARS
www.portcars.org



Words from our Treasurer

Greg, KA8TOA
PCARS Treasurer



Hi Everyone

A reminder from the Treasurer of what some of your dues pays for. As we start a new year for PCARS and all of our families I would like to throw out some information of what the club dues pay for. We pay for a \$600.00 food bill for Field Day, we pay rent for the club site, we pay for the meal at the BBQ QSO picnic party. We contribute to two youth organizations and we pay rent for the FYAO Shelter. Yes, sometimes we ask for donations to offset some of these costs. But it is a minimal offset.

We also take care of maintenance for the club site and safety Equipment. Also, we support the SIG's when needed. Lastly we try to improve on the radios, operating equipment and antennas at the club site. All of us know items cost more and affect all of us including PCARS. I think the board of directors have done a good job on expenses for last year and at the same time improved our club site.

More safety stuff to come: CO2 detectors and such. Also some of our members have made donations to cover these costs and do not charge the club. I think this is a well run radio club with a lot of behind the scenes work that goes on, and genuine committed people supporting the club and the hobby. We are truly blessed.

At the last VE test session held at the PCARS club site some new VE's showed up to start helping out and what is amazing is that it was their first time to visit the club site and they have been members for awhile. My point is, participate, have fun and enjoy the comradery. All of us know that this hobby has many different interests and we don't expect all of you to show up for all the events that the club does. But don't be afraid to speak up, or ask questions on any subject or decisions that are made. Remember we work for you and are trying to keep this great club to stay around for the future hams. Our members live in a lot of surrounding counties and continue to support PCARS. The First thing to remember is your Family and the next is our hobbies.

Peace, Love and Joy to you and yours in this NEW YEAR

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!!

The screenshot shows the PCARS IO Group page on groups.io. The header includes the group name 'PCARS K8BF' and the tagline 'The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!'. Below this, there is a section for 'Group Information' which lists 59 members, 1 topic, and the last post from Feb 21. There are buttons to 'Join This Group' and 'Log In If You Are Already A Member'. To the right, there is a 'Group Settings' section with various options for group management, such as 'All subscribers can post to the group', 'Posts to this group require approval from the moderators', and 'Messages are set to reply to group'.

FOR SALE

WANTED

FOR SALE

WANTED

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Cushcraft A50-5S 5 Element, 6 Meter beam. This has been on my tower for about 5 years. I'm changing up the antenna system, and have no use for this beam. It is due to come down on November 26th. \$125.00.



Channel Master AR-303 Light Duty Rotator and controller combo. I bought it used, and took it to Field Day a couple times to turn my 6-Meter Moxon. It would be good for a small VHF beam, or TV antenna. This is a mast mount rotor. Comes with approximately 50' of 3-conductor control wire. \$150.00



AR-40 Light Duty Rotator and controller combo. Comes with the bottom mast mount bracket. Can handle up to 3.5 sq ft wind load when mounted inside of tower. Working, but I replaced it a few weeks ago while the tower was on the ground. The 5-conductor control wire is not included. \$150.00



Contact: John Myers, WG8X at john@wg8x.net, or 330-936-5021 [03/23]

FOR SALE: Palstar LA-1K solid-state amplifier with **Palstar HF-Auto** tuner \$4000, **Collins S-Line (R/E) 75S-3C** receiver 32S-3A transmitter 312B-4 speaker console / wattmeter, 516F-2 P.S. all restored with **(INRAD filters)**. \$3000, **Swan 600 Custom receiver & 600T transmitter (rare), digital readout** \$1000, **QRP A.M. Transceiver** for 75 / 80 meters Class-E modulation - \$100, **RIGOL DM3068** service bench DVM - \$400, **Palstar speakers SP-30B** (cherry) & (black) - \$75 each. All are in service everyday including manuals, service notes, tubes, microphones etc.

Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ - home phone at (440) 9516406 [02/23]

FREE to the First Caller: HP Remanufactured Cartridges: 901XL Black 901 Color.
Both are still in their original packaging.

Contact: Joe, W8KNO at 330-569-7718 [01/23]

FOR SALE: from K8IG (non-smoking shack). Ameco PT-3 preamplifier (\$90.00); Collins KWM-380 Serial #314 (\$3,200); Collins 75S-3b Serial #16972 (services by WA8SAJ) (\$950); Collins 312b-4 Serial # 314 (\$350); Cushman Service Monitor Serial # 526 (working) with 450-520 module (\$75 for both); Drake MN-2000 Serial 1758 (\$300); Hallicrafters SX-28 Serial # HA 22214 (\$450 working but with defects); Hallicrafters SR-46 (\$275); Johnson 122 VFO (\$125); Lab Volt AA792F 20 MHz scope with probe serial # 1060178 (\$25); LDG AT-1000 Autotuner (\$350); LDG AT-1000PROII (original Owner) with 1K meter (New unit replaced with Palstar AT2K due to K7DYY sensitivity) (\$550); MFJ - 616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer (\$125); Nye Viking Antenna Tuner MB-V-A 3KW, Serial # 10066 (\$450); Palstar PM2000am mobile wattmeter Serial # 26015 (\$150); Swan Cygnet 300 B Serial # 18547 Transceiver (\$450); West Mountain Rig Blaster Plus (\$25); West Mountain Rig Blaster PRO (\$25); Web cam and mike (new) (\$30/both); YAESU YO-301 Monitor Scope with manual (\$250). Hallicrafters SX-28 (2 available) for parts (\$50) each. Dozens of boat anchor test equipment pieces (B & K, Boonton, Davenport, General Radio, HP, Heathkit, Hickok, Measurements, Rutherford, Sencore, Tektronix) available for very low \$ to free.

All equipment working unless noted otherwise. Local pickup in Mayfield Village.

Manuals for most equipment. Pictures available on email request.

Contact Fred, K8IG at K8IG@arrl.net; call 440-446-8000 or text 440-668-2400 [01/23]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS **members only benefit**. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [03/23] indicates the ad will run until the end of March 2023.



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



Hamfest Calendar

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



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03/19/2023 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest & Computer Fair - Location: Owens Community College - 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH. **Website:** <http://www.tmrahamradio.org> **Public**
Contact: Brian Harrington , WD8MXR - 4463 Holly Hill Drive Toledo, OH 43614 - Phone: 419-385-56524 -
Email: wd8mxr@gmail.com

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05/19, 20, 21/2023 - Dayton Hamvention® - Location: Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center - 120 Fairgrounds Road - Xenia, OH 45385 - Website: <http://Hamvention.org> - Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association - Public Contact: Jim Gifford , KD8APT - PO Box 964 Dayton, OH 45401 - Phone: 937-276-6930 - Email: Media@hamvention.org

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07/08/2023 - Mansfield Trunkfest 2023 - Location: Richland Co. Fairgrounds - 740 N. Home Road - Mansfield, OH 44901 - Website: <http://iarc.club> - Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club - Public Contact: Danny Bailey , W8DLB - 104 East Thrush Ave. Apt. H Crestline, OH 44827 - Phone: 567-899-3881 - Email: w8dlb60@gmail.com

PCARS Thursday 2 Meter Nets

Greg, KA8TOA
Net Control Coordinator

Thank you all for helping with this! Anytime you are unable to take the net, please give me as much advance warning as possible! **Check-in using the receiver located in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ 146.895 with a PL tone of 118.8. We also use EchoLink node K8BF-L**

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

Thanks to all of you for helping out.

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

January	
5	N8WCP
12	KD8WCK
19	KE8BWA
26	N8QE

February	
2	KA8TOA
9	N8WCP
16	KD8WCK
23	N8QE



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

Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV

Flex Net Coordinator



Wednesday January 11th at 8:00 PM

The next PCARS Flex Net will take place on Wednesday January 11th at 8:00 PM. The net will operate on **6 meters FM phone on 52.540 MHz**.

The ARRL Ohio Section conducts an annual Ohio Simplex contest in January of each year. This year, the contest will take place on Saturday January 14th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Click on this link for more information:

<https://ohsimplex.org/rules/>. As contacts made on 6 meters are worth 10 points per contact versus 1 point per contact for all other VHF/UHF bands, this month's PCARS Flex Net will be a good place and time to check out your 6 meter station and antenna. Although this month's Flex Net will be using FM phone, don't forget there are other modes that can be used for this contest as well.

Contacts made from and to PCARS members are also eligible for the PCARS A to Z award. So get that 6 meter gear fired up and join us for a fun time on this month's Flex Net.

Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE

Digital SIG Coordinator



Tuesday January 17th at 7:00 PM

The meeting will be in-person at the club site and also available via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

Passcode: PCARS2022

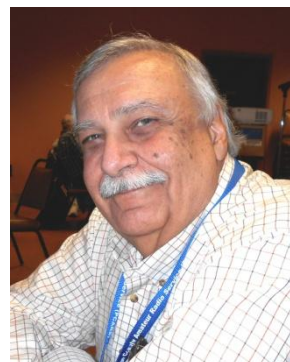
The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend.

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

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator



Tuesday January 24th at 7:00 PM

Our next Special Interest Group meeting will be held on January 24th at 7pm at the club site. A ZOOM meeting will be available for those who cannot attend in person.

We will be looking at the contest schedule for 2023 to see if there are any new contests we may want to enter as a club, in addition to the ones already discussed during our last meeting.

We may also look at some of the upcoming DXpeditions to see how we can help those of us who need those entities for DXCC, to get them worked.

We also want to discuss what programs we may want to hold during our upcoming meetings. So if you can attend, please do so. We need your input for the coming year.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=czgvLzRPcjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

Passcode: PCARS2022

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



Tuesday January 3rd at 7:00 PM

The next PCARS Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday January 3rd at 7:00 PM at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. This month we'll have a presentation on the basics of the e-mail by RF app, Winlink 2000.

As always we'll make time to answer questions or help with any problems you may be having regarding digital communications by radio.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=czgvLzRPcjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

Passcode: PCARS2022

Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Tuesday January 10th at 7:00 PM

Our first Portable Operation SIG of the New Year is coming up on January 10th.

We'll be picking a date for our next PCARS POTA Field Trip. Did you get any new gear for Christmas? Bring it along and show it off. As always, questions are always welcome!

As always, we're open for subjects for upcoming SIG sessions. Please let me know if you have an idea. So make sure to come out for the SIG this month either in person, or via Zoom.

We'll be meeting on January 10th, at 7pm in person at the club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna)

Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=czgvLzRPcjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2035 6586

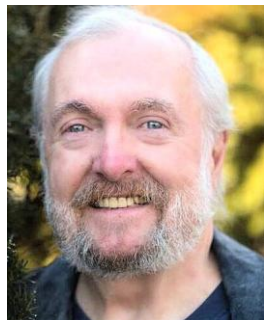
Passcode: PCARS2022

Ed Hare, W1RFI on Zoom - You're Invited

Tim, K3LR
Mercer County (PA) ARC



I am so pleased to announce that my good friend **Ed Hare, W1RFI** will be our speaker on **January 24 at 7:30 PM**. Ed will join us via Zoom and will be on the big screen at the church or via zoom for all. See <http://w3lif.org> for more information.



Very well known as the "Lab Dad" W1RFI, Ed was first licensed in 1963. After 16 years in the electronics industry, he came to ARRL HQ in 1986.

He has been with ARRL HQ for over 36 years. He started as ARRL's "Product Review" test engineer, moved on to becoming ARRL's "RFI guru" (notice his call!) and he now holds the position of Laboratory Supervisor.

Over the years he has written quite a number of RFI articles, ranging from articles for QST and the "ARRL Handbook" to articles that have appeared in professional trade journals. He is also one of the editors and authors of the ARRL "RFI Book" and the author of the ARRL's book on RF exposure, "RF Exposure and You".

He is very active in several RFI programs at ARRL, holding membership on the Society of Automotive Engineers EMC Committee, the IEEE C.63 Committee and IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 28, representing ARRL and the interests of Amateur Radio in developing standards for the immunity of consumer equipment and motor vehicles and standards for RF exposure.

General Upgrade - On Line Class

Anthony, K8ZT
CFARC



The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC) will again offer online classes to pass the FCC General Class Exam. The classes will be held via Zoom on six Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:00 PM.

The first class will start on Jan 15th. The classes are free and available to all interested hams with Tech licenses or studying to complete their Tech license by the end of the classes.

Class materials will be distributed via Google Classroom, and the suggested book is "General License Course Study Guide" (2019-2023 edition), available from HamRadioSchool.com and DX Engineering <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/hds-genbook2023>.

For more information and to register for the class, visit - https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vQLJTGVsRYYH2zYuK-fu6yC0taV7kGptfb39e0N4z_NJed_U9h3lQIW5kmlhE6YYoqkZonUY3j85ITx/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000&slide=id.g989dd95333_1_0.

Ohio Texting Bill and Amateur Radio

Bob, W2THU

Ohio Section State Government Liaison



ANATOMY OF THE NEW TEXTING BILL AND AMATEUR RADIO

At long last, HB-283 has passed the Ohio Legislature and is waiting for Governor DeWine's signature after morphing into SB-288. (The Governor said that he will sign this bill during an interview on Cleveland Channel 5 News the evening of 21 Dec 22).

You probable recall that we have been monitoring this legislation since it was introduced in May 2021. After its introduction, it was referred to the House Criminal Justice Committee where many proponents recommended its passing. Yet, it was never voted out of committee, and it appeared to be doomed, as were similar bills in prior sessions.

Characteristically, after the general election this past November, our Ohio legislators returned to Columbus for the so-called lame duck session. This is a very short session, between the elections and Christmas recess, where a lot gets done. Suddenly HB-283 was voted out of committee to the House floor where it passed the following day. It was sent to the Senate where it was inserted into SB-288, along with several other unrelated bills, resulting in a massive 1081-page tome that was passed in the Senate, returned to the House, where it also passed a few days ago and sent to Governor DeWine for his signature.

The thrust of the bill was to make texting while driving a primary offense. Up to now, you could not be stopped for texting while driving unless you committed another violation, such as going through a red light. The new bill allows law enforcement to cite you for texting while driving, resulting in a fine for the first offense, with increasing penalties for repeat offenders.

Of concern to Ohio hams, was the broad definition of what is now called an Electronic Wireless Communications Device (EWCD). I felt that our ham radios fit the definition of an EWCD and that just holding the microphone of your mobile rig could subject us to being ticketed while talking on our rigs.

The best way to avoid this contingency was to carve out an exception for our hobby. I requested your help in achieving this goal and was pleased to hear from several hams who knew their Ohio Senator or House Representative and were willing to speak to them about our concerns. On top of the list is **Michael Kalter, W8CI**, of Hamvention fame, who met with one of the bill's sponsors, State Rep. Brian Lampton. Mike explained that without an exemption for amateur radio, our ability to assist in emergencies, would be hampered. He also gave data, some received from our Section Manager, **Tom Sly, WB8LCD**, about how amateur radio affects community safety.

The result is the following language in the bill: *An "electronic wireless communication device" does not include a two-way radio transmitter or receiver used by a person who is licensed by the federal communications commission to participate in the amateur radio service.* (ORC 4511.204(H)(1)(f))

When the bill becomes law, you are protected by the above cited amateur radio exemption. I would recommend that you keep a copy of ORC 4511.204 handy, with the above italicized section highlighted, to show the peace officer if you do get stopped. But remember, when you go on the air from your mobile radio, pay attention to your driving, as we always do, and enjoy our great hobby!



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers

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

I hope you all had a great Christmas and that Santa brought you something for your HAM shack. I also hope that you had a very enjoyable New Year's celebration. The WX is turning to full Winter mode and the temps are frigid. Please be careful out there.

I have been on 20 m for the past few weeks and I have to say that 20 has been noisy and the DX pickings have been slim. Not sure what the sun is doing but it's certainly not favoring 20 meters. I hope that changes soon but it is winter and I know that many ops migrate to 80 and 160.

Tim Duffy announces that registration is now open for the 2023 Dayton Contest University ("CTU") to be held all day on Thursday May 18th at the Hope Hotel. <https://www.hopehotel.com/>. This is the day before Hamvention[®] opens in Xenia, Ohio. 2023 will be the 14th year for CTU Dayton.

I've attended Contest University a few times and I can attest to its importance to the contesting community. It gives those of us who have been contesting for awhile, much needed update info. And it gives those who are new to contesting, the information they need to participate in Sport Radio in an informed way. Do yourself a favor... if you have been thinking of attending, bite the bullet and register. You'll be glad you did.

Let's take a look at what has been announced for DX for the next month or two.

Thanks to NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, W4VQ, WB6RSE, W8HC, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, AJ9C, DL1SBF, DL5ON & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, OH2BH, Sixitalia Weekly, and VA3RJ & ICPO for the following DX information.

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

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

January...

6W, SENEGAL. Earl, WA3DX will sign WA3DX/6W, until January 20, mostly on 20 meter SSB and FT8, but also on 40 to 10, 2 meters and 70 cm FM, and APRS. He will also be QRV as 6W1/WA3DX, 6W6/WA3DX, and 6W9/WA3DX. QSL direct to home call or LoTW.

7X – ALGERIA. During the 20th edition of the world wide Antarctic Activity Week (AAW), February 19-26, 7X2GK, Kamel, will be using special callsign 7T22ANT.

HC, ECUADOR. John, N9EAJ, announced on QRZ.com that he will once again be active as HC1FIT (if renewal is possible) from Otavalo, Ecuador until January 18th. John states on QRZ.com [edited], "I plan on operating from (if able to receive license) same location as last time only with different antenna - hopefully better results." John will be active mostly on SSB with perhaps some slow CW on 40-10 meters, using a Kenwood TS-590SG transceiver. QSL via N9EAJ direct, ClubLog or LoTW.

JA, JAPAN. Special event station 8J1H90T is QRV January 1 until March 31 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the city of Hiratsuka. QSL via bureau.

PD23, THE NETHERLANDS (Special Event/Early Announcement). Look for the following special callsigns to celebrate the New Year holidays: PD23HNY Callsign will be active until the middle of January For SWL stations please send the log to: pa5dxray@gmail.com

TR8, GABON. Roland, F8EN ex CN8EM, FO8BV, 3C3CR, TR50R active again as TR8CR from Gabon, January 1 until 15 March. He will operate on 30 - 10m, CW. Recent DX Spots TR8CR. QSL via F6AJA.

VK9N, NORFOLK ISLAND. Marcelo, ZL1MTO, active as VK9MTO from Norfolk Island (OC-005) until January 5th. Activity will be holiday style (very limited) on 20/10 m using SSB and FT8/FT4, with an IC-718 into half-wave dipole. Marcelo states on QRZ.com, "I cannot provide a schedule because operation times may vary from day to day. This is not a DXpedition. I am just going to be on holiday and will be active whenever possible." QSL via ZL1MTO, direct or LoTW. Special paper QSL will be issued with 5 USDs via Paypal.

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

February...

C5, THE GAMBIA. Andre, ON7YK is QRV as C5YK from Bijilo until February 24th. Activity is in his spare time on 20 to 10 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL direct to home call.

JD1/O, OGASAWARA ISLANDS. A group of Japanese operators are heading to Komagari, Chichijima for a 2m, 70cm and 23cm EME operation during the second week of February. If you are into EME operations,

VP8, ANTARCTICA. Seba, SQ1SGB will be operating as VP8/SQ1SGB/p during his spare time, until February 1st. He is QRV on 40 and 20 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via EB7DX.

That's it for now. Please, do yourself and all us other HAMS and get on the air. Preserve our frequencies for Amateur Radio.

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

PCARS Patches & Stickers



PCARS logo patches (iron on) & stickers (stick on) are now available!! Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is about 3". The embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black and Blue. Cost for a patch is only \$2.00

each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker. Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers!

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



Volunteers On The Air - 2023

Volunteers On The Air

As announced in the January 2023 issue of *QST*, ARRL is holding the year-long operating event, Volunteers On The Air (VOTA), honoring all ARRL volunteers.

In similar fashion to the 2014 ARRL Centennial QSO Party and the 2018 International Grid Chase, this event will be exclusively driven by contacts uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW).

Highlights of the event include:

Earning points for contacting W1AW portable stations: There will be week-long activations of portable W1AW/# stations in all 50 states, and in several US possessions/territories, which will generate on-air activity to earn points. Each state will be activated twice. The schedule of when each state will be activated will be updated as changes and additions occur. See the Points Table at www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air for the full list of points.

Contacting ARRL volunteers or members on the air: ARRL Officers, Directors, Section Managers (and their appointees), staff, and even domestic and DX members, can be contacted for points.

Using LoTW (<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) as the contacts data source, the Volunteers On The Air event features W1AW activations from all 50 states (twice) and several territories during 2023. Weeks will begin on a Wednesday and end on a Tuesday. Some weeks will be shown as off weeks to avoid other major operating events.

Participants will work W1AW portable stations and ARRL volunteers to earn contact points. Participants do not need to upload to, or participate in, LoTW. Uploads to LoTW by W1AW portable stations and by the volunteers will feed the points scoring system.

A leaderboard will be activated after the event ramps up, and certificates will be available during and after the event concludes. Once the year is completed, an annual summary will be released. If you review the state activations list and notice your state is not yet indicating a host, and you have interest in activating your state, consider reaching out to your Division Director to express your club's interest.

For information and continued updates, visit the VOTA website at www.arrl.org/vota.



VOLUNTEERS
ON THE AIR 2023



Paul, NO8D spotted the following items that may interest you:

Comparing conducted emissions from LED lamps

EDN



This article was published about 18 months ago but I don't believe that it received the distribution that it deserved. <https://www.edn.com/comparing-conducted-emissions-from-led-lamps/>

The article points out that it is just as important that the Conducted Emissions of electrical items be minimized, as any Radiated Emissions. Radiated Emissions are those that can be picked up by our radios directly and can be emitted by any part of a device.

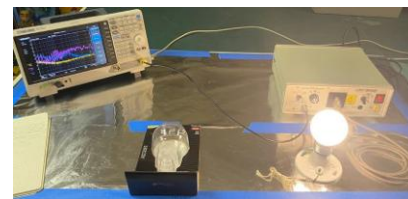
Conducted Emissions are as the name implies, carried by the wires into and out of any device.

Any Conducted Emissions from everything powered by the house AC are pushed back into the electrical wires of the house. Those electrical wires then become huge antennas and the Conducted Emissions become Radiated Emissions.

These are received by our antennas and raise the noise floor of our receivers preventing us from hearing as well as we would otherwise.

This article identifies several noisy bulbs and just one quiet one, but obviously there are many more examples out there that could be either noisy or not-so-noisy and it is impossible to tell what camp any particular bulb is in by looking at it or even reading the info on the box.

I would suggest that each of us should test one example of any LED replacement bulb that we are considering before installing them in our environment. Just putting the bulb into a fixture near your radio should give some useful info for comparison. If your antenna is far away then sliding the PL-259 out of the back of the radio while keeping just the pin inserted will give you an idea of the signals/noise in the vicinity of the radio. You may be surprised! Good Hunting !



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This is an interesting article on **Crystal Radios**. It also includes links to other old publications.

https://www.nutsvolts.com/magazine/article/remembering-the-crystal-radio?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=238269002&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--xZ-a8GuMDO7rd_yaUkYue9IzE99pBrughSjALf3M7Dif0_ft7MFt6ZLsBlw5IGne1sTpnMdHmjsoFAHn69xAttwYtQ&utm_content=238269002&utm_source=hs_email

NUTS AND VOLTS

EVERYTHING FOR ELECTRONICS



ARSB Local EchoLink Net Invitation

Rahat, S21DI



Please join Amateur Radio Society Bangladesh (ARSB) Local Echo UHF Net - **S21HQ-R ECHOLINK Backup (S21DI-L)** from Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Time: Every Friday
BST 10pm - 11pm
UTC 1600 - 1700
EST 1100 - 1200

All successful contacts made on ARSB Local ECHO UHF Net are verified with eQSL.

You all are cordially invited to join our net.

Amateur Radio Society Bangladesh (ARSB)

WEEKLY ECHO UHF NET
S21HQ-R ECHOLINK
Backup (S21DI-L) Dhaka, Bangladesh

you are cordially invited to join our net

S21DI
Net controller

Schedule
Every Friday
local time 10:00pm - 11:00pm
utc 16:00 - 17:00



PCARS
www.portcars.org



Christmas Gift Tradition Continues

Andy, K5PO
Ham Hijinks.com



HAM OP GETS CB RADIO CHRISTMAS GIFT AGAIN

WREXHAM, Wales – Wrexham area amateur radio operator Milt Arbunt received a thoughtful, but misguided Christmas gift from his family, creating what seems like a new tradition he wishes they would stop.



For the fourth year in a row, Arbunt received a CB radio for Christmas from a family member at the annual Christmas gathering. Milt Arbunt, 34, is a “Final Glazing Supervisor” at the Cadbury plant in Wrexham and has been an active amateur radio operator for the past twelve years. He does not use nor does he have any interest in Citizen’s Band radio.

“I just know Milt loves playing with his radios,” said Arbunt’s aunt Jean about the selection of the CB radio as a gift this year. “He’s always back there in his office turning knobs and playing with blinky lights. The one I got makes a farty noise! I thought he’d have so much fun playing with that with his CB buddies,” she said with a chuckle.

Arbunt says his aunt actually bought him the same radio three years ago. “Auntie Jean was actually the first one to start this CB buying thing for Christmas and I think she’s also been the one to keep suggesting others in the family do the same,” said Arbunt.

“Heck, even if I wanted to open up the CB’s transmit capability, I wouldn’t be able to use it on the ham bands as it has far too much spurious emissions... and I don’t mean the built-in fart noises.”

“I even made a wish list and distributed it to my family members this year, hoping I could avoid getting another dang CB. I have a Signalink digi interface on there and a Yaesu MD-200 mic for my FTDX-3000. I figured maybe they’d get the point. I guess not,” he said.

He has been able to return the radios and get his wife a gift with the money. “I’m getting her a clothes iron again this year!” said Arbunt. “I got her one the last two years and she seemed happy enough.”

HAM HIJINKS
HAM RADIO NEWS OF THE FUNNY VARIETY

NOISE PRODUCTION
BLANKERS



PCARS K8BF

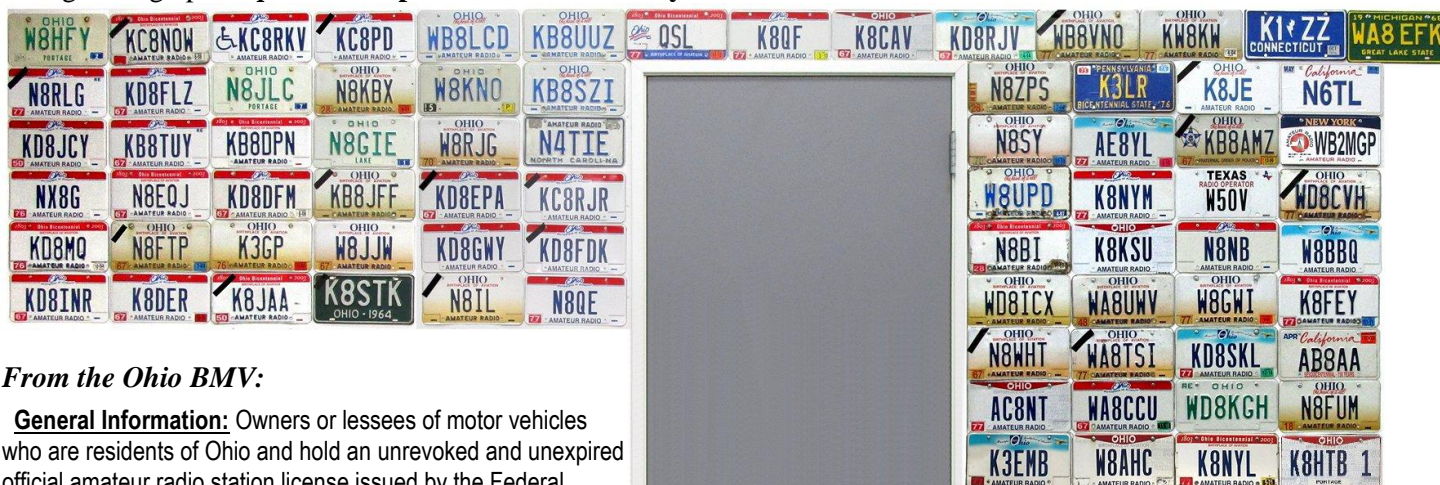
The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



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 76 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 place to put all kinds of videos that are about PCARS for the world to see.



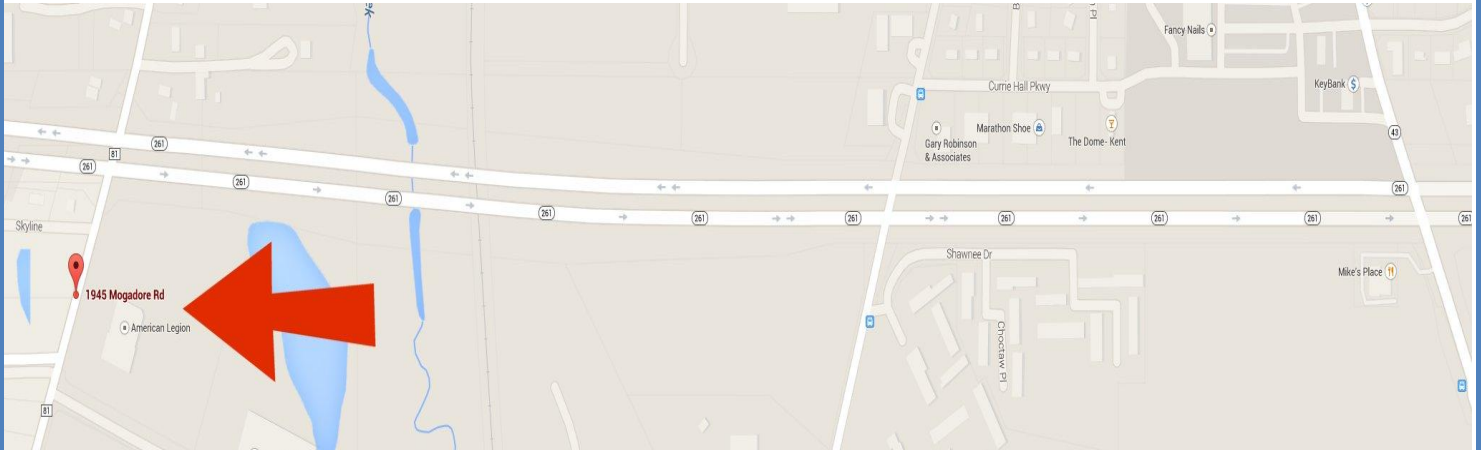
PCARS Meetings

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



CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ABOUT IN-PERSON MEETINGS

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



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



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

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

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

PCARS VE Testing Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



We will have a VE Test Session December 3rd at the club site starting at 10 am.

Masks are encouraged.

Future Dates: 2023

February 4th, April 1st, June 3rd, August 5th, October 7th, December 2nd

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

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

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

QUICK FACTS

- **Yes**, PCARS VE test Sessions are held at the club site in Ravenna starting at 10 am - see schedule.
- **Walk-Ins are accepted.** Would appreciate an email to KB8UUZ@GMAIL.COM if you plan on attending.
- You **MUST** have an **FRN Number** (SSNs no longer accepted)
- You **MUST** have a **valid e-mail address** for the FCC to be able to contact you.
- **Picture ID required**
- **Original and Copy of your valid FCC license** and originals of any applicable CSCE
- **Taking Technician Test?** - You **MUST** apply for your FRN and get it prior to testing.
- **VE fee is \$15** - Cash or Check payable to "ARRL-VEC"
- **Under 18 years old?** VE Fee is \$5 per the ARRL reduced CE fee Youth Program
- **FCC License Fee \$35** - payable after FCC send you a link. **DOES NOT APPLY** to upgrades.
- **Under 18?** ARRL will reimburse you the \$35 FCC Fee.

Okay - now all the Details:

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



Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

Candidates **younger than 18-years old will pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5** to the ARRL VEC VE team when taking an exam. Proper identification must be presented to and verified by the team, per the procedures for all exam candidates (what to bring to an exam session). The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18 regardless of the exam level taken.

Additional Information - What to Bring to the Testing Session

- If you've already passed a test: The original (**and one copy**) of any document that you will use to prove you've already passed a test element.

These documents may include:

- An unexpired Certificate of Successful Completion of Exam (CSCE) indicating the credit(s) earned.
- Original and copy of a pre-March 21, 1987 Technician license (this provides credit for the Element 3 [General] exam) - you **must** be currently licensed to get this credit.

Expired License? Original and a copy of your expired Amateur Radio License - you must take and pass Element number 2 to re-instate your license.

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

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

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

Email Addresses REQUIRED

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



New FCC \$35 Amateur Application Fee

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

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

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

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

Youth Licensing Grant Program

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

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INFORMATION ABOUT THE FCC APPLICATION FEE AND VEC FILED APPLICATIONS

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

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

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

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

CORES payment system background information and instructions: Information.

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

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

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

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

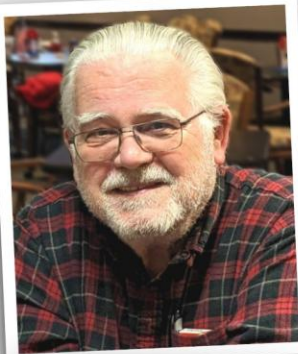
5. When in doubt, call the VEC! (ARRL) Even if you think you shouldn't bother us with your question, call us anyway.

Photos from the December PCARS Meeting



**PCARS
12 Dec 2022**





PCARS



12 Dec 2022



Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



PCARS - K8BF

18th Annual

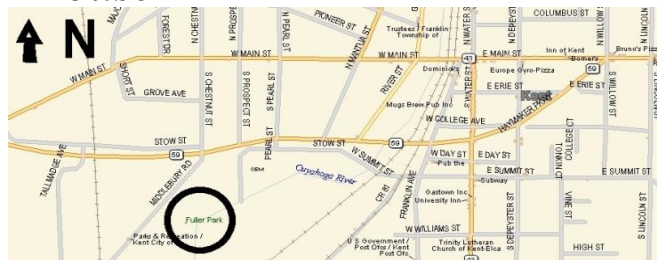
"Freeze Your Acorns Off"
(FYAO) Special Event Station



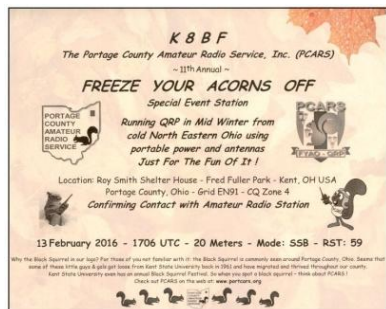
Where: *Fred Fuller Park - 497 Middlebury Rd., Kent, Oh*
at the Roy Smith Shelter House

When: *Saturday - Feb. 11, 2023*
Set up: 9 am

Operating Time: *10 am - 3 pm EST*



We will be active on CW, Digital & 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.



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 address for K8BF



Check PCARS out on the web at: www.portcars.org
Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at chuckw8pt@gmail.com



Just For Fun

ZEN SARCASM



1. Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me either. Just pretty much leave me alone.

2. The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and leaky tire.

3. It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal your neighbor's newspaper, that's the time to do it.

4. Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

5. Always remember that you're unique. Just like everyone else.

6. Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

7. If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

8. Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

9. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

10. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

11. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

12. If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

13. Some days you're the bug; some days you're the windshield.

14. Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.

15. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

16. A closed mouth gathers no foot.

17. Duct tape is like 'The Force'. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.

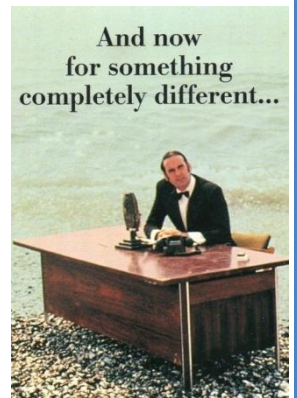
18. There are two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.

19. Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

20. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

21. Never miss a good chance to shut up.

22. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.





Parky, KB8UUZ
PCARS Newsletter Editor



I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards in past years. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure you know PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip-in and send your article in to keep this newsletter great during 2023 and beyond.

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

AC8QG, AC8NT, KB8UUZ, WA8EFK, N8SY, WB8LCD, KA8TOA, W8PT, AA7BQ, WA8AR, WG8X, WB2MGP, K3LR, N9ADG, W5OV, WB8YYS, N8AMY, K8CAV, N8QE, K8ZT, W2THU, NO8D, S21D1, K5PO, KE8LWO, Record Courier newspaper, The ARRL, and the World-Wide Web With your continued help – we can keep making this a *great* newsletter.

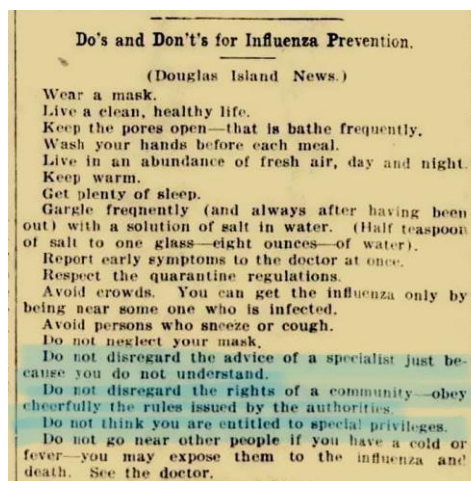
Will this ever end? Let's all hope so - until then, please be careful.

The US appears to be in the grip of a "triple-demic" - not only are flu and RSV circulating following a relatively quiet two years, but COVID hospitalizations and deaths are again on the rise. Not to mention nearly all of the US is experiencing [high levels of](#) coronavirus spread. So, yes, if it seems like everyone around you is getting sick, they are. Still, there's no denying that the US is in a totally different place than it was three years ago. We now have several effective vaccines and treatments that have spared millions from hospitalization, chronic illness, and death.



No one knows what it will take to finally bid this pandemic farewell, or what criteria politicians will create to formally end it, but one thing is clear: Thinking the pandemic is over makes you part of the problem. While many of us have gone back to life as usual, we still have to remain vigilant until we better understand what this virus is capable of over time. There's actually quite a lot of evidence at this point that shows masks and vaccines reduce the chances you catch COVID. There's [this study](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) - that's just for vaccines.

Then there's [this study](#) on face masks and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) and [this one](#) - it just doesn't make sense to say the evidence doesn't exist: whether or not you want to believe in it is a different story. A wise person once said - if you don't learn from history - you are doomed to repeat it.



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

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

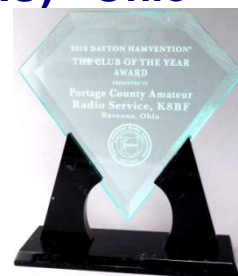


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**, 1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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

PCARS uses the **K8IV** repeater: **146.895 MHz PL 118.8** in Sugar Bush Knolls ~ EchoLink Node: **K8BF-L**

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



~ 2023 Officers ~		2023 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG Vice President - Jim Wilson - AC8NT Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA 1 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ 2 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 3 Year Trustee - Mike Ryan - KB8TUY Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD		ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO Joe Wehner
		Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV Rick Kruis
		Contest Coordinator	W8PT Chuck Patellis
		EchoLink	
		Field Day Chairman, 2022	WA8AR Tony Romito
		FYAO Chairman	W8PT Chuck Patellis
		Historian	KB8SZI Peggy Parkinson
		K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8AMY Amy Leggiero
		K8BF QSL Manager	N8AMY Amy Leggiero
		Membership Chairman	
		Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA Greg Ash
		Newsletter Editor	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
~ Meetings & Net ~ 2nd Monday of each month. 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895		OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
		PCARS Photographer	KE8LWO Bernadette Wagner
		Public Information Officer	
		Secretary	KE8EGF Paul Hyland
		Social Media	
		Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT Jim Wilson
		Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ Tom Parkinson
		Webmaster	WG8X John Myers



PCARS Volunteer Examiner Team Members

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

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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 KB8UUZ@gmail.com. The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inputs submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Seems that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961. They have migrated and thrived throughout our county. Kent State University even has an annual Black Squirrel Festival. So when you spot a black squirrel - think PCARS!

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

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

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