



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

June 2024 - Volume 19 Number 06



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!



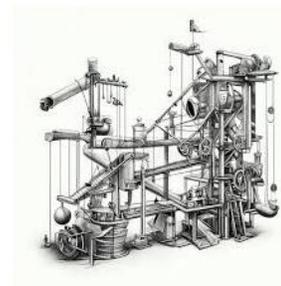


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From the President



Mike, KP4VZ
PCARS President



Summer has arrived, and PCARS has packed the calendar with exciting activities. Alongside Field Day in June, our club picnic is scheduled for July, followed by the Cruise-In and Ohio BBQSO Party in August.

HAMVENTION

I recently checked off a task from my bucket list by attending Hamvention in Xenia, OH. I spent a day there on Saturday and had an amazing time. There was a lot to see and many fellow hams to interact with. I was thrilled to share my experience with my family, and my daughter even agreed to join me next year. We had 31 members present for the traditional [Hamvention PCARS group photo](#).



FIELD DAY

We have finalized the preparations for [Field Day](#) in terms of our venue, and Tony along with his team captains are making excellent progress in organizing the remaining details. However, we require assistance with the setup and dismantling tasks on Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon. Support is crucial for the successful execution of these activities. Detailed instructions will be provided by Tony (WA8AR) in this newsletter and via QSTs. We would highly appreciate your assistance in any way possible.

The **Field Day Dinner** is set for Saturday, June 22, 2024 *starting between 5:45 and 6:00 pm*. Currently, we have received 45 reservations. If you have not yet completed your dinner reservations, please do so promptly using the [reservation form](#). The deadline for making dinner reservations is June 8th. For additional information visit our Field Day page at <https://www.portcars.org/wp/field-day/>.

As in previous years, a [PayPal donation link](#) has been included on our website for those who wish to contribute towards covering the expenses.

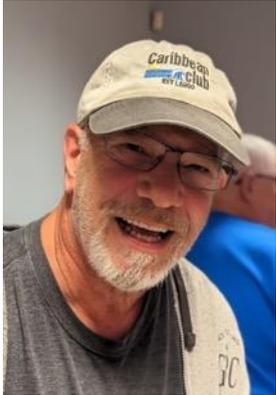
GROUP BUILDS

Don't forget that John Myers, WG8X, will be guiding the construction of a roll-up J-pole antenna on June 8. Secure your spot today! The deadline to reserve is June 3. For more details, check out the PCARS website at <https://www.portcars.org/wp/group-builds/>.

Make sure to check out the calendar, browse through our website, and stay tuned to the newsletter for a bunch of other thrilling events coming up!

From the Treasurer

Greg, KA8TOA
PCARS Treasurer



The status of the club's treasury is in good health. Hamvention was great as usual and plenty of club members there. We added a side trip to the VOA museum and well worth the trip. Attached are a couple of pics from there with Mike KB8TUY. I hope everyone had as good of time as we did.

The nets are doing well considering it is summertime and everyone is catching up on yard work and family time. Next month I should have stats for the newsletter. For now, see everyone at field day. I want to thank all those who help me out at the meetings with the ticket sales, 73's.



Hamvention 2024 Tradition

Tom, WB8LCD

Another year of Hamvention is in the books. I've always said that the Hams in the Ohio Section have the advantage of one of the Biggest & Best Ham Radio shows right in our own backyard. I haven't been to all of them, but I have been to a lot of them! We all have our "Hamvention Traditions" – could be who you travel with, where you stay, whether you spend most of your time wandering around the inside vendors, in various forums, or out wandering the flea-market. It doesn't really matter as long as you're having a good time.

There's a small group of us from PCARS that have our own Hamvention Tradition. I'd venture to say it's been going on for about 10 years now. A couple of the faces have changed over the years, but it's still a PCARS "Special Interest Group" I'm glad to be a part of. Saturday morning in the parking lot before the show starts you'll find us sharing a traditional Hamvention beverage. Special thanks to Dave – WB2DFC for providing this year's libations. See you guys next year!



Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

AD8FQ	Benedict
KD8JN	Randall
KE8TQR	Keith
AD8MO	Kevin
KD8SIZ	John
W8CDL	Coletta

KE8LWO	Bernadette
KC8YSU	Steven
AC8XO	Vince
KD8WCK	Richard
WB8OVQ	Bob
KB8VJO	Gary

KD8LIR	Jennifer
N8NH	Mark
K8PJW	Philip
KD8EPF	Rena
K8HGX	Jack
WD8DAU	Dan

Schedule of Events



- June 3rd - PCARS Board Meeting at PCARS Club Site – 7 pm
- June 10th - PCARS meeting at the Kent American Legion - 7 pm
- June 8th - Antenna Build – 9 am – 12 pm
- June 22nd – 23rd - 2024 Field Day

Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

- First Tuesday Odd Months - **Digital Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, K8CAV
- First Tuesday Even Months - **HF WAS & DX Nets Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Gene, W8NET
- Second Tuesday - **Portable Ops Special Interest Group** - Moderator: John, WG8X
- Third Tuesday - **Antenna Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Bob, N8QE
- Fourth Tuesday - **DX & Contest Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Chuck, W8PT
- Fifth Tuesday - **Could Be Anything Special Interest Group** - Moderator: Rick, KD8WCK

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

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition - Get One NOW

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



Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE** !! The only catch is 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 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. Try it - you just may like it!!



Tim Duffy K3LR Inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

Posted by [OnAllBands](#) on May 23, 2024 at 3:10 pm



OnAllBands is pleased to announce that Tim Duffy, K3LR, DX Engineering CEO, has been inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame in recognition of his lifetime of contributions to the amateur radio service and his fellow hams.

This latest accolade follows a long list of accomplishments for Tim since first becoming licensed more than 50 years ago, including his induction into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame in 2006; chairing Contest University for 15 years; moderating the Hamvention Antenna Forum for 40 years; hosting scores of contesters at his K3LR superstation; being awarded Hamvention Amateur of the Year in 2015 and the YASME Excellence Award in 2016; and his ongoing support of numerous youth operator activities and DXpeditions. You can read Tim's full bio [here](#).

"I am extremely honored to join the prestigious list of amateur radio operators who have earned this distinction. My most sincere thanks to everyone on the selection committee who helped to make this possible, my colleagues at [DX Engineering](#), and those in the ham radio community who continue to keep amateur radio vital and thriving—today and for generations to come.

It is my greatest privilege to share the bands with you. I look forward to continuing to give back to the hobby that has given me so much over my lifetime on the air."

Tim Duffy, K3LR

K3LR joins these 2024 CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame inductees:

Joachim Kraft, DL8HCZ/CT1HZE, of Hamburg, Germany, publisher of "DUBUS" magazine; and Richard A. Ross, K2MGA, president of CQ Publishing who passed away on April 27, 2024, at age 84.

Field Day 2024 20-Meters Operations

Mike, N8WCP
20-Meter Station Captain



Field Day is right around the corner and final preparations are being made for another epic weekend of fun! We have three slots open if you're interested in operating FD. For the night owls the Sunday 2:00A – 4:00A and 4:00A – 6:00A slots are available. If you'd like to close out FD the 12:00P – 2:00P slot is available, just drop me a note at n8wcp.us@gmail.com.

Field Day 2024 Flex Station Operations



Rick, K8CAV
Flex Station Captain

The Flex Station's time slots are now all filled, but as you can see there are a couple of members who are double slotted. If you're interested in operating or assisting in one of them, please let me know at k8cav.coms@gmail.com and I'll see if I can work you in. Below is the Flex Station schedule as of May 28th.

DAY	TIME	OPERATOR
SAT 22 JUN	1400-1600	AC8NT / KC8JC
SAT 22 JUN	1600-1800	N8QE
SAT 22 JUN	1800-2000	WA8LRW
SAT 22 JUN	2000-2200	WA8LRW
SAT 22 JUN	2200-0000	OPEN
SAT 23 JUN	0000-0200	KD8WCK / KE8KBJ
SAT 23 JUN	0200-0400	KD8WCK / KE8KBJ
SAT 23 JUN	0400-0600	KP4VZ
SAT 23 JUN	0600-0800	W8NET / KE8MXR
SAT 23 JUN	0800-1000	KE8BWA
SAT 23 JUN	1000-12000	N8QE
SAT 23 JUN	1200-1400	AD8IR / AD8FQ

Field Day 2024 CW Operations

CURRENT FIELD DAY CW POSITION SCHEDULE ADDITIONAL OPERATORS NEEDED

We need several more CW operators to complete the 24 hours of Field Day:

UTC	LOCAL	OPERATOR
1800-2100	1400-1700	K3GP
2100-2400	1700-2000	K8FF
0000-0300	2000-2300	N8NB
0300-0600	2300-0200	K8RR
0600-0900	0200-0500	
0900-1200	0500-0800	K3GP
1200-1600	0800-1200	WB9LBI
1600-0800	1200-1400	N8QE

Several more CW operators are needed to complete our 24 hours of Field Day.

CW operations are in an enclosed trailer, out of the sun and rain. Keep in mind that most CW speed during field day is moderate (15 to 25 WPM). Each CW contact is worth 2 points, providing a significant contribution to K8BF Standings (Second place in category 4A last year). Contact me at rttyfan@gmail.com to join the CW crew.

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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08/18/2024 - Warren Hamfest - Location: Trumbull County - Fairgrounds - 899 Everett Hull Rd. - Cortland, OH 44410 - website: <https://www.w8vtd.com/> - Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association - Talk-In: 146.970 - (100hz normally off) - Public Contact: Andrew Juchnowski , AB8MO - PO Box 809 Warren, OH 44482 - Phone: (234) 238-2312 - Email: hamfest@w8vtd.com

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09/08/2024 – Findlay Hamfest – Location: Findlay, OH – Type: ARRL Hamfest – Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club – Website: <https://w8ft.org>

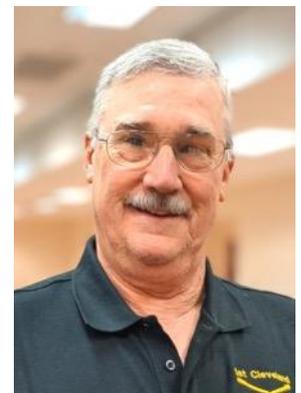
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09/22/2024 – Cleveland Hamfest – Location: Berea, OH – Type: ARRL Hamfest – Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland – Website: <https://www.hac.org>

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Headwaters Adventure Race

The Portage County Parks District holds an annual three-event race in portions of Mantua Village, Mantua Township, and Hiram Township called the Headwaters Adventure Race. This year it takes place on Saturday June 29th from 7:00 AM to approximately noon, and consists of a two-mile run, a ten-mile bicycle, and five-mile canoe race. The Coms Unit of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management along with other amateur radio volunteers provide communications support for the Race Director and her staff. I am still looking for three to four volunteers to help staff this event. If you can hep out. Please contact me at k8cav.coms@gmail.com.



Rick, K8CAV

2024 Hamvention Attendance Sets Record

Hamvention General Chairman, Jim Storms, is proud to announce the 2024 event had a **record setting official attendance of 35,877.**

We thank everyone that attended and hope you had a wonderful time. Friday morning's rain appeared to not put a damper on attendance. Saturday and Sunday weather was outstanding. There was a lot of activity all across the event. People attended from all around the world and others from close by. You are the ones why we work to provide this event. Hopefully, you found the hardware/software and forums you desired.

Again, I want to thank my hard-working Committee Chairs and their Assistant Chairs along with the approximately 700 volunteers. There are several functions that occur before and after the show. However, a large number work during the show for a minimum of six hours, and some individuals work much more than that. In some cases, they work so much that they do not have a chance to see much of the event. I am especially appreciative of those efforts.

We thank the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) for holding their National Convention in conjunction with Hamvention.

CQ WPX CW Contest

Gary, WB2RPW



I operated the CQ WPX CW contest on May 25th & 26th. I spent 26.5 hours "In the chair" out of a possible 36 hours operating time. I had 477 Q's and 316 multipliers. I operated on 15, 20, and 40 meter CW. Each Q had a serial number in sequence. At first I had trouble getting N1MM to put the serial numbers in sequence but after about 2 hours and help of my Elmer got N1MM to work properly I finished with a total score of 403,860.

I have been operating CQ WPX CW since 2022. I think that by using N1MM Logger I have been able to double my score in CQ WPX CW contest over the last two years.



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Ham Radio Operators on the Air for Nationwide Event

The Weekly Villager

From: <https://weeklyvillager.com/ham-radio-operators-on-the-air-for-nationwide-event/>

Ham radio operators from the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be participating in a national amateur radio exercise using our club callsign K8BF from 2 pm on Saturday until 2 pm on Sunday, June 22 – 23. The event is ARRL Field Day (www.arrl.org/FieldDay), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio in the United States.

You are invited to see first hand how the Ham from PCARS set up emergency communications stations and make contacts by radio all over the United States and Canada. Our operators will be using voice, Morse code and digital modes when on the air. PCARS will be set up at the Freedom Township Community Park located at the corner of Streeter Road and State Route 700 in Freedom Township. If you are interested, our Get On The Air station will assist you in making a radio contact as well.



Hams from across North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network. Our motto is "When All Else Fails – Amateur Radio works". We are an essential part of emergency communications when the need arises. Hams have the knowledge, equipment and ability to set up stations to allow essential communications between local, county, state and federal emergency operations when needed.

This year's event is also noteworthy given that a particularly active hurricane season is predicted. "Hams have a long history of serving our

communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers.” said Tony Romito, WA8AR (PCARS Field Day Chairman). “Ham radio functions completely independently of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.” Romito added.

Some hams from Portage and surrounding counties will also use the radio stations set up in their homes or taken to their backyards and other locations to operate individually or with their families. Many hams have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment.

During Field Day 2023, more than 30,000 hams participated from thousands of locations across North America. According to ARRL, there are more than 750,000 amateur radio licensees in the US, and an estimated 3 million worldwide.

Among the tenets of the Amateur Radio Service is developing and practicing skills in radio technology and radio communications, and even contributing to international goodwill. Hams range in age from as young as 9 to older than 100.

For more information about ARRL Field Day and ham radio, contact Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ@gmail.com or visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio and PCARS at www.portcars.org.

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE WANTED FOR SALE WANTED FOR SALE

FOR SALE FROM K8IG (non-smoking shack). All equipment working unless noted otherwise. Local pickup in Mayfield Village. Manuals for most equipment. Pictures available on email request. Offers invited.

Ameco PT-3 preamplifier (\$90.00); **Collins 312b-4** winged emblem station console Serial # 314 (\$350); **Drake MN-2000** Serial 1758 (\$300); **LDG 600 Watt Autotuner AT600PROII** with accompanying illuminated meter (rare- meter no longer manufactured) \$475; **LDG Autotuner LDG AT-1000** (\$350); **LDG AT-1000PROII** (original Owner) with accompanying illuminated 1K meter (rare – meters no longer manufactured) (\$550); **MFJ – 616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer** (\$125); **Nye Viking Antenna Tuner MB-V-A 3KW**, Serial # 10066 (\$450); **Palstar mobile wattmeter PM2000am** Serial # 26015 (\$150); **Swan Cygnet 300 B** Serial # 18547 Transceiver (\$400); **West Mountain Rig Blaster PRO** (\$25); **YAESU YO-301 Monitor Scope** (\$250); **Hallicrafters SX-28** (2 available) for parts (\$50) each. **(DXE) 12 meter add-on kit for 4-6 BTV** (never used – bought Hexbeam and never installed this kit) (\$60); **Heathkit SB-614 Station Monitor** Serial # 504 (\$200).

Contact Fred, K8IG at K8IG@arrl.net; call 440-446-8000 or text 440-668-2400. [06/24]

ICOM 703 for sale. Never used. Pristine condition. Asking \$495. KA8RXW, Lee. ldk42@protonmail.com [08/24]

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

The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [01/24] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2024.

Ohio Section Youth Net

When: The second Sunday of every month at 7:30 PM EST - **Sunday March 10, 2024**

Where: The K8IV repeater located in Kent, Ohio (EchoLink node K8BF-L) RF: 146.895 Mhz with PL 118.8

Who: Any licensed amateur radio operator who wishes to participate. Priority will be given to youth stations and those located in Ohio.

The purpose of this net is to encourage youth activity in amateur radio and to help new hams get more comfortable on the air.

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!

Field Day 2024

Tony, WA8AR
Field Day Chairman



I hope ever one is ready and looking forward to Field Day 2024 (June 22nd and June 23rd)! Last Year was a good time and was also successful. As most of you know, K8BF again 3RD 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, 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 we WILL fine tuning our Field Day practices to enhance our score and bring home a National 1st place finish for PCARS. To that end we still need operators and volunteers to assist with setup before FD and teardown afterwards

Operators Needed

The CW station: also needs operators for several time slots. This station requires highly skilled and experienced operators, if you fit that description the CW station needs you. For more information, please contact George K3GP. The CW Station is always crucial to our success every year.

The GOTA Station: *New rule changes by the ARRL* present an opportunity for all Technician or Novice licensees; newly licensed amateurs (since June 2023); other generally inactive licensees (inactive for 3 years or more), and ALSO, non-licensed persons may also participate (Get ON The Air) under the direct supervision of a licensed control operator (basically any interested person can show up, with no experience and make contacts as if they were licensed). Anyone interested should contact Jim at AC8NT@j3solutions.com.

Field Day From Home (NEW): This Year we are asking all PCARS members who will be working Field day from their home QTH to take an extra minute when submitting your FD Log and designate PCARS as your Club. The points you made will still be all yours BUT PCARS will also be credited with the points you earn. We know other clubs are taking advantage of this, and if everyone takes just a minute to add PCARS to your log submission it could make a big difference in our club score. I will provide the exact instructions in a QST (the ARRL Web site seems to be having problems as I write this and want to make sure I have the instructions 100% correct).

Volunteers Needed for Setup/Tear Down

As we have done in recent years I will need **at least 12 volunteers** to assist the Field Day team with Setup and Tear down of antennas and station equipment. If you have done this before, great, but you do not need any experience to volunteer. The Captain for each station will direct all work for their station. If you are a new Ham this is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience putting up a variety of antennas. Setup has normally been completed in about 2 to 3 hours (more or less). Teardown after Field Day has been done in less than 2 hours. If you cannot volunteer for both, no problem, just let me know which task(s) you are volunteering for (Tony WA8AR tromito99@gmail.com). The Club will supply coffee and water plus pizza for lunch(s).

Prior to Field Day, a detailed **Safety Plan** will be distributed to all volunteers. Each Volunteer must read and be familiar with the safety plan. Each Volunteer must sign, date, and return a copy of the plan to the Safety Officer. Distribution of the safety plan will be accomplished at least three weeks prior to FD.

The Field Day setup/teardown schedules:

SETUP Saturday June 22

8:30am Arrive on site (meet at the picnic shelter of the Freedom Township Park) PLEASE BE PROMPT
8:40am Assignment of work tasks
8:45am Begin Work
12:30pm Antennas up and ready for testing; power cables strung and energized [Pizza Lunch]
2.00pm Field Day Stations On-The-Air

TEARDOWN Sunday June 23

2:00pm Stations Off-The-Air Work begins immediately [Pizza Lunch served before 2:00]
3:30pm All antennas down and stowed for transport. Field Day over and done.

The only equipment the volunteers need to bring are gloves and safety glasses (REQUIRED). Steel toe shoes are always a good idea. Rain gear is essential (just in case). If shoes/boots are not waterproof an extra pair of dry shoes and socks are a good idea. The club will supply a dozen basic hardhats, but I encourage you to bring your own hardhat if you own one. **Hardhats must be worn** whenever you are working in an area where there is any equipment (antenna components) or any hardware above your head. Remember that even a medium size bolt falling from 25 or 30 feet can cause serious injuries (or worse).

To volunteer for the PCARS Field Day Setup/Teardown crew just send an email to me at tromito99@gmail.com , Specify if you are volunteering for Setup, Teardown or Both as soon as you can. I will confirm by email.

Come out and help make 2024 another successful PCARS Field Day! Email me with any questions.

Tony WA8AR, PCARS Field Day Chairman



Group Antenna Build

John, WG8X



Roll-Up J-Pole Group Build is coming up on June 8th

Are you interested in improving the range of your HT? Aren't we all? On June 8th, we're doing a group build of roll-Up J-pole antennas (Also called Slim-Jims). The plans refer to the antenna as a $\frac{1}{2}$ Wave antenna, even though the radiator is a $\frac{3}{4}$ wave. I'll leave the physics up to those smarter than I. I just know that the antenna works.

You can have your own by coming to the club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna) at 9am on June 8th, with \$15 in hand. If possible, bring a pair of wire-cutters, and needle nose pliers. I'll provide everything else you need to build an antenna that you can roll up and take hiking, or toss in your go kit, or whatever.

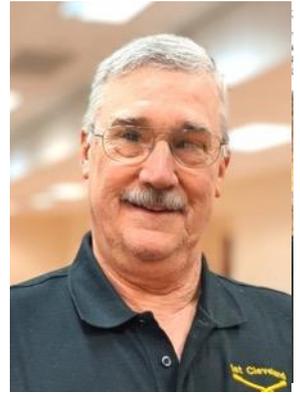


You can read all about this antenna by going to this issue of the UVARC Shack (Newsletter of the Utah Valley ARC) at <https://noji.com/hamradio/uvarc/shack/UVARC-Shack-1904.pdf>. The article is on pgs. 16/17.

You can reserve your kit online by going to <https://tinyurl.com/mr3svhmw>. I'm ordering extra kits, and we should be all set to accommodate at least 15 builds. Please reach out with any questions to wg8x.radio@gmail.com. 73 DE John, WG8X

Comms Unit – Windham Tornado

Rick, K8CAV



PCARS has long provided a cadre of amateur radio operators who are members of the Communications Unit of the Portage County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management. As its name implies, the Coms Unit provides communications support to the EMA and to other first responding agencies in Portage County. They use both public safety radio systems and amateur radio to accomplish that mission.

Coms Unit members are also cross-trained to provide damage assessment after a natural disaster such as a flood or tornado, has occurred. Damage assessment by Coms Unit members during the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster involves collecting data on the type and amount of damage to structures and property in the affected area. The EMA then generate reports from this data, and if certain thresholds are exceeded, apply for State and/or Federal aid for affected residents. The data is also used by the National Weather Service to ascertain the severity of a weather event.

In the past, this was done manually using paper forms which were submitted to the EMA. EMA personnel then collated the information and manually inputted dollar amounts of damage based on manual reviews of assessed values of each property. This process could take days to accomplish, which would delay potential assistance to affected residents.

Portage County now uses a software application called Orion to complete these tasks. The application can reside on a laptop, notepad, or cell phone, which are taken directly to the affected area. The Orion app uses the device's GPS to accurately locate the affected property's address. The app is also tied into the county's property tax database so accurate assessed values of each property are tied to the affected property. The app has a checklist for the user to fill out so that both the type and amount of damage can be inputted. The app also allows photos to be taken by the device and tied to that property's assessment. When the assessment is completed, it is saved and immediately uploaded to the Orion dashboard, or if there is no cell service than it can be synced to the Orion dashboard via WIFI when back at the command post. The Orion app then automatically collates all assessments and populates the information into numerous reports for submission to the NWS, and State and Federal government agencies.

The Orion app is a huge step forward in being able to provide information quickly and accurately about the extent of damage and approximate dollar amounts after a disaster has occurred. Like all other apps however, it is useless without trained personnel to understand and input data to the app. On April 17th Windham Township in Portage County was struck by an F1 tornado, which lasted from approximately 6:45 PM to 6:51 PM. It caused extensive damage to many residential structures in the affected area. At approximately 7:00 PM on the 17th, the Coms Unit was notified to deploy the Emergency Operations Center at 8:00 AM on April 18th for damage assessment. Three members of the Coms Unit were able to respond and they, along with several members of the Portage County Incident Management Assistance Team started damage assessment operations, commencing at 9:00 AM. Damage assessment was completed by approximately 1:00 PM at which time members were demobilized.

I want to thank and commend Ron Eckelberry W8AHC and Sandy Getty KD8JCY for both participating in this incident, and for the professional way they discharged their duties. Their service during this incident significantly contributed to the welfare of the residents of Windham Township.

Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Portable Operating SIG Heading To West Branch State Park for June Meeting

To celebrate the upcoming coming Summer Solstice, we'll be leaving the club site on June 11th for this month's portable ops sig meeting. Instead, we'll be heading for West Branch State Park, and setting up portable stations. I'm planning to be there around 5 pm, and will probably hang out till dark. West Branch State Park is number US-1999 in the POTA database, and we are going to just hang out and have some fun.

We'll be at the Mountain Bike Trailhead off of Cable Line Road. As you can see from the picture, there's parking, picnic tables, and lots of room for antennas. Here's a link to the Google map of the location:
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Hf5v818qQWSzh6TX9>

Bring whatever legal cold beverage you enjoy, and let's have some Big Fun! 73 DE John, WG8X

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



Next SIG meeting will be Tuesday July 2nd at 7:00 PM

There is no Digital Special Interest Group meeting scheduled for June. The next Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday July 2nd at 7:00 PM at the PCARS Club Site.

Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE
Antenna SIG Coordinator



Next Antenna SIG meeting will be on June 18th - 7 pm

We will be in-person at the PCARS club site, and on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/99273855876?pwd=VWhuemc0T3JRdWVUd2NTZGJZWnBUQT09>

Meeting ID: 992 7385 5876

Passcode: 047804

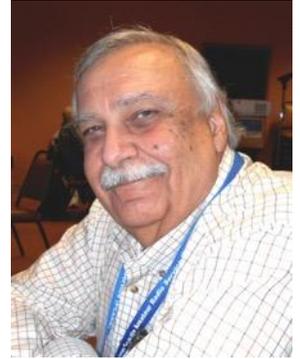
At the May meeting we talked about the DX Commander Antenna, simple end fed antennas to get a ham back on the air, and 6-meter simple antennas that work.

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 in the discussion and talk about their antenna-related projects with the group.

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group

Chuck, W8PT

DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator



Attention PCARS DXers & Contesters

On Tuesday, May 28th, we held our monthly DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting at the club site. We had seven members present.

We had mentioned that in June we would not be holding any K8BF contest from the club site since Field Day would be taking place this month. However, we did discuss the North American QSO Party, RTTY Mode, that takes place on the weekend of July 20-21.

After Field Day, we will be setting up the radios with the necessary logging software and all the other software needed to run RTTY from our club. We will be putting K8BF on the air in one of the larger contests of the year. So anyone that likes RTTY and wants to help K8BF operate this contest is more than welcome to join us.

And if you haven't had the opportunity to run RTTY, please come out. It's a lot of fun.

We also discussed the NA QSO Party, SSB Mode, taking place in August. What we'd like to do is invite all members to work this contest from their own QTH using their own calls and when submitting their logs, to list PCARS as their club affiliation. We certainly won't beat a club like Potomac Valley Radio Club with their hundreds of active members, but we certainly could put in a good showing.

You'll see more on this as we get nearer to the contest date. In the meantime, hopefully many members will come out and help K8BF during Field Day. See you there.



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV
Flex Net Coordinator



Next Flex Net: June 12th at 8:00 PM

The next Flex Net will take place on Wednesday June 12th at 8:00 PM. This month's net will take place on 2 meters Simplex FM phone on 147.495 MHz, Technician class licensee holders have full privileges on 2 meters and I would love to see more of our Technicians on this net.

The Flex Net is a great place to contact other PCARS members and QSL for the PCARS A to Z Award. Information about this award can be found on the PCARS web site under the "Awards" tab. The net is a lot of fun and gives valuable feedback on how well your station is operating. I hope to hear you then!

Please join us if you can!

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

PCARS T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Jackets, Hats, etc. can be obtained from:

Villager Business Solutions - attention Michelle Zivoder
8088 Main Street
Garrettsville, OH 44231
michelle@villagerbusiness.com 330-472-7304

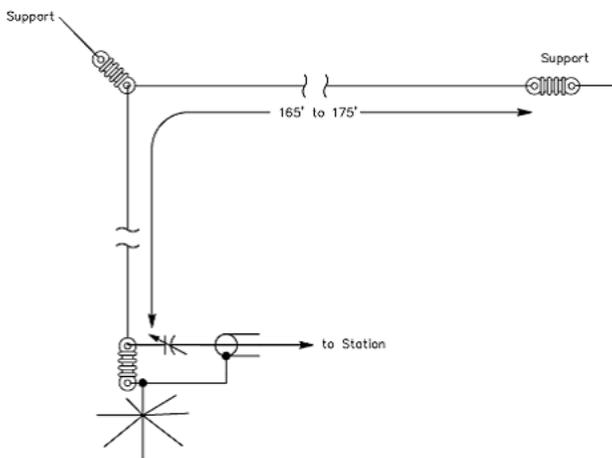


A Hybrid Inverted L Antenna for 160-meters

Gene, W8NET

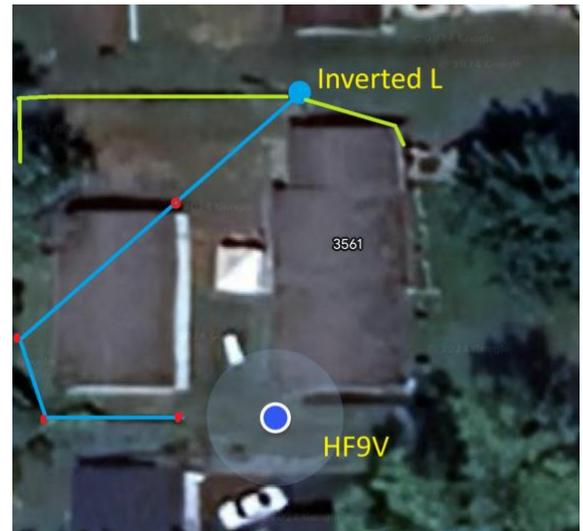
Last year, I wanted to build an antenna for 160m. I have a very small lot, so my options were limited.

I thought about using my Butternut HF9V, with a base-loaded coil/capacitor arrangement (like the DX Engineering TBR-160X or design it myself). I believe that could work very well, since I have a good radial field for the HF9V. However, the bandwidth of that arrangement would be VERY narrow (for example, if I tune it for 1.925MHz, my spread would be something like 1.920 to 1.930 – MAYBE!). And, I wanted to be on CW (approximately 1.825MHz). I *could* engineer some kind of multi-tap wandering lead coil arrangement, to adjust the resonant frequency. But, do I want to do that in January, in northeast Ohio? SCRATCH THAT IDEA!



So, I thought about an inverted L antenna. This is a generic, baseline design for any inverted L antenna:

Of course, that design would not work because of my lot dimensions. I used some ideas from others and from some websites to figure what would work. I did this:



The light blue dot is the feedpoint and my aluminum mast (26' to the horizontal wire). The blue line is the wire. The red dots are supports for the wire, in order from the mast: 31', 27', 15' and 12'. The green lines are counterpoise wires. 3 are on the top of my cyclone fence at 4', left (66', 33' and 16"), and 2 are next to my attached garage, also at 4". You can see the position of my HF9V, darker blue dot.



The feedpoint at my aluminum mast. The coil (20uH): 2" PVC form, 45 turns of 16ga antenna wire. The large (3") PVC is a spacer for less coupling to the mast. The matching unit is a Balun Designs 4:1 balun. I used a 3.5kV 220pF doorknob capacitor across the feed.

This is my aluminum mast. The pulley is at 27'. You can see my 2m/440 J-Pole antenna at the top (and it works GREAT!)



I tried many combinations of wire length, inductance, capacitance and placement of the coil. A “normal” inverted L uses 165’ to 175’ of wire. The longest I could do (without dropping it to the ground) was 137”. I tried that length first, then trimmed it back for the best results. Each time I trimmed the wire, I tried combinations of L/C/coil placement. It was an iterative process... and slow.

The end results are: 127’ of wire; coil at the base; coil of 2” PVC form, 45 turns of 16ga antenna wire resulting in 20uH; 220pF capacitance across the balun (doorknob).

When the antenna was done, it was mid-October. Propagation on the lower bands was nonexistent. However, I tested it with my VNC, then on-the-air, for SWR. My goal was the best match on 1.925MHz, and hope that 1.825MHz could match with my LDG-600ProII Autotuner. The results: 1.6:1 on 1.925MHz; 2.0:1 on 1.825MHz. Nice! Now, I have to see if it works ON THE AIR!

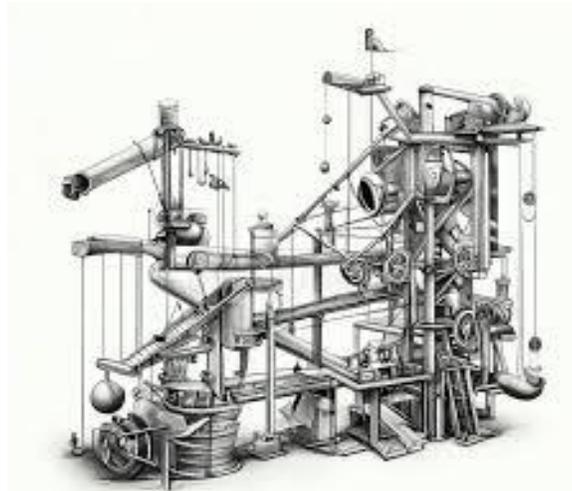
And, IT DID!!! This winter, I had ~50 QSOs CW and ~65 QSO’ SSB, just on the 3905 Century Club 160m nets! Got another ~30 QSOs CW and ~40 QSOs SSB on OMISS, ragchewing, etc. AS A BIG BONUS: my new antenna matches very well on 80m (3.500MHz to 3.600MHz) – perfect for CW/RTTY/PSK/FT8! My HF9V did not match well for the lower segments of 75m/80m (the HF9V is good for MAYBE 25-30kHz if bandwidth).

It does NOT match well on 30m, 40m, 17m, 15m, 10m and 6m. It DOES match on 12m (Huh?). On 20m, the SWR is ~2.7:1. Meh. I will always use my HF9V for 20m!

A couple of other consideration: 1) I believe the best placement for the coil would be just at the first horizontal piece of the wire (next to the mast). However, that would be design change for my pulley system. Maybe later. 2) This summer, I will play with the capacitance values. I have a few doorknobs that I can try. 3) See the pic of my lot. You can see my second garage. It has full aluminum siding. I know that has to affect the characteristics of the antenna. How much, and what effect? No clue. Too much math to figure THAT out (maybe, Jim could ask one of student math wizards to do it as a PhD dissertation!).

When the solar cycle is close to the peak, the higher frequencies tend to be better. The opposite happens to 75m/80m and 160m. However, even when the solar cycle is low, the higher bands (15m, 12m, 10m and 6m) open up sometimes. This also true for 160m and 75m/80m, when the solar cycle high, and opens up. I am very please with the results for my “Hybrid Inverted L cum Reverse-J Rube Goldberg Antenna”!

Go TOP BAND, RUBE!



2024 Hamvention Youth Forum

Carole Perry, WB2MGP, Moderator

The 35th Hamvention Youth Forum was simply terrific with 6 fabulous young presenters and 1 young guest speaker from Brazil. Cameron Frey KD9VGV age 11, is involved in so many facets of ham radio that his topic was “Working Outside the Shack.” He talked about the fun he has in POTA, working satellites, and then showed a video clip of his contacting an astronaut on the ISS. He demonstrated an impressive knowledge of working with antennas.



Brianna Wall KO4NLR age 13, spoke about her presidency with the Fauquier 4-H arc. Many young hams are now gravitating towards this interesting combination of interests and how it can be so useful in their communities.

Ian Alkema KI8AN age 13, spoke passionately about how through ham radio he became involved with bird watching, hiking, hunting, and POTA. His topic was “Perfect Opportunity To Adventure.” This was another great presentation.

Elise Campbell KE8TYU and Katie Campbell KE8LQR gave a terrific presentation about their school ham radio station K8LPS. Elise spoke about “How I Got Introduced to, and Licensed in, Ham Radio.” Both YL’S are very actively involved in many aspects of ham radio. The value of the arc in a school is just terrific to expose young students to the wonders of our hobby and service.

Anderson Ray K4RAY, age 19 is from Columbia, Kentucky and has been very involved with POTA and his volunteering efforts there have been appreciated . His presentation was “All the Fun of Youth on The Air.” Anderson’s presentation generated lots of follow up inquiries about POTA.

Julianna Daura de Almeida PU5JDA age 14 was our youth guest speaker from Brazil who spoke eloquently about “How to Motivate Teenagers to Join Ham Radio.” This was a fascinating and informative topic that was well received.



From Around The World...



Links from Here, There, and Everywhere

2024 Contest University Videos are available on YouTube here:
<https://www.youtube.com/live/JdlozWlGstM>

Amateur Radio Daily interviews from Hamvention:
<https://daily.hamweekly.com/tags/hamvention/>

AMSAT Argentina to launch transponder balloon:
<https://amsat-uk.org/2024/05/22/amsat-argentina-to-launch-transponder-balloon/>

2024 Hamvention Forum videos on YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM_NXI3v5F_z2HUGadVzbgOMgAvh22iDX

Official request for communications impact from May 2024 G5 storm:
<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/news/official-request-communications-impacts-may-2024-g5-storm>

Special Event to Honor Victims of 9-11

Special Event to Honor the Victims of 9-11 New York City, Shanksville Pa. and Washington D. C.

Sept. 8, 2024 00:01 GMT till Sept. 12, 2024 23:59 GMT

Many members of the ACG will activate K4A for the fourth year. This year it will be called "9-11 Remembering Our Heroes." We will operate all modes SSB FT8 CW and RTTY. We will try to be on all bands 160 through 10 meters. A new special QSL and certificate Honoring Our Heroes will be available and like previous years to those who contact K4A on 3 bands using any combination of bands/modes we will offer a full color glossy certificate it will be mailed in a full size Manila envelope all postage paid by the ACG even if you are DX. Put each QSO information on your QSL. We request a \$2.00 donation to help cover cost of certificate.

If you qualify for a certificate QSL to WA1FCN for QSL only. Send to Bob Sarnecki NF7D, only SASE needed. You can use as little or all of the info as you feel appropriate.

Contact info: WA1FCN Robert Beaudoin 970 Mountainview Rd. Cordova AI, 35550

On The Road with WG8X

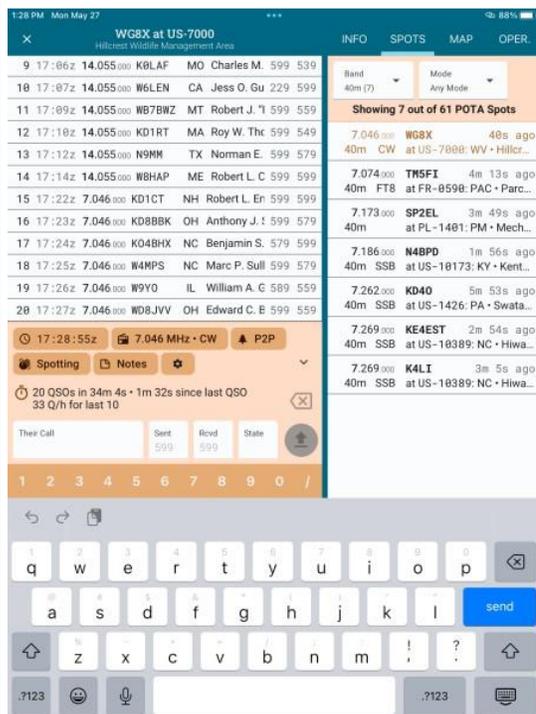


John, WG8X



Hi everyone, another month is in the bag, and I'll soon be thinking about what to write for my next column. The big stories this month seem to have been Hamvention, Solar storms, and of course LOTW! Hamvention was great as usual, with a little rain on Friday morning. That gave way to beautiful weather the rest of the weekend though.

A group of us reserved sites close together at Caesar Creek. We shared plenty of good food, and good conversation around the campsite. Too many visitors to mention, but there was Eric, KE8TUW, who is working hard to be the third operator to activate all of the 273 POTA references in Ohio. Eric stopped by one night as he was passing through. As of May 20th, he is at 164 references activated. Eric is a member of the Black Swamp Amateur Radio Club, in NW Ohio.



I didn't do a lot of operating this trip, mostly due to the rough band conditions. But I did make a few contacts using a new logging program I heard about from Kevin, W8NI. According to the website, it is available on both the Apple App Store, and the Google Play Store.

It's called "Ham2K Portable Logger"; PoLo for short. It is open source, and is a free download. I'm using it on my iPad, and a friend is using it on his phone. It's written by Sebastian, KI2D. According to his website, it supports POTA, SOTA, WFFF, Field Day, Winter Field Day, and many more. There's no cost whatsoever, except for a voluntary "Buy me a coffee" link on the website.

The thing I enjoy about this program is that it puts all the fields that I'm interested in right on the main screen. There's one other feature I discovered. Understandably, it generates a separate file for each activation/location. If you work someone who is in your log from a previous activation, PoLo will alert you to this.

Another feature is the ability to log multiple locations (Two-fers), or multiple operators by separating the data with a comma. Press enter, and PoLo logs everything automatically.

PoLo outputs a log file for POTA that is perfectly formatted for uploading. That's right, no field names to change! I have set up my N3FJP logger over the years to my own tastes, and importing PoLo to my main log does require a small amount of log massaging. But that is not PoLo's fault. I may someday make some changes to my N3FJP layout to streamline that process.

You can learn more about PoLo by going to the website at <https://polo.ham2k.com/>.

As I write this, LOTW is still down, but there is a glimmer of hope at the end of the tunnel. W1AW CW bulletins have returned, and the ARRL E-newsletters are arriving again. The latest update says that the LOTW data is stored in the cloud and is believed to be safe.

Over Memorial Day weekend, I was camping at Mt Gilead SP. What POTA activator should I run into, but fellow PCARS member, Rex, NX8G. It wasn't planned, but this chance meeting worked out great, since I needed 3 more bands to make up my 10 bands activated at that park. Thanks Rex for the rare DX!

On Memorial Day, I did a road trip to the northern panhandle of West Virginia. The target was Hillcrest Wildlife management Area in Hancock County. It's a new-to-me location, and had never been activated in the WWFF program. It was one of two activations that day. The other was Brush Creek SF in Jefferson Cty (OH). PoLo did very well on its field trip. I see it as a great addition to my mobile station. Bands that day weren't great, but not bad either. The scenery was beautiful.



Coming up this month is the opening of our 76th Ohio State Park, named "Great Council". The opening ceremony is coming up on June 7th. No news yet on when POTA, or WWFF numbers might be assigned. Stay tuned.

And finally, the grand-daddy of all portable operation activities is coming up this month. That's right; ARRL Field Day. You'll read more about this in this issue of the Radiogram, but it is coming up on the weekend of June 22/23. Have fun, but stay safe out there.

That's it for this month; see you on the bands. 73 DE WG8X



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers

Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites for June 2024!

Well, the WX finally decided that it is Summer, and the days have been pretty nice. I hope that those of you who went to Hamvention had a great time. And I hope you came back with some treasures for your shack or at least made contact with some other ops that you haven't seen for a while. We only had one day of rain, so the parking places were not as muddy as in the past. But they were still messy. With over 37000 in attendance, it will be counted as a great success. For those who took in some of the forums, the presentations were very good. And the dinners were well attended.

Tom Sly, WB8LCD and I attended the DX Banquet with a total of 410 people. Neither one of us won anything again this year. Well, maybe next year.

Speaking of DX Dinners, how about DX itself. Let's take a look at what will be coming up in June and slightly beyond.

Thanks to: G0TLE, The Daily DX, DL5ON & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, DXNL for the following DX information.

I'm using the same disclaimer as last year. This report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operation or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know, so... - "**Work First, Worry Later**".

June...

5H, TANZANIA. Chas, NK8O will be active again as 5H3DX from Tanzania, 18 - 30 June 2024. He will operate on 30 - 10m Bands, CW, PSK31, FT8 and possibly SSB. QSL via home call, LOTW, ClubLog.

5U, NIGER. Elvira, IV3FSG will be active as 5U5K from Niger, 8 - 20 June 2024. She will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8, RTTY. QSL via IK2DUW direct, LOTW.

7Q, MALAWI. REMINDER - Don, K6ZO is QRV as 7Q6M from Embangweni and is here for six months while on work assignment in a hospital. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and EME. QSL via LoTW.

C91, MOZAMBIQUE. Pedro, CT7AHV will again be active from Mozambique as **C91AHV** during June 1-15, 2024. QRV on 40-20-15-10m with two beam antennas on SSB & FT8. Pedro hopes to livestream on both Club Log and You Tube. QSL via EA5GL, LoTW.

FS, SAINT MARTIN IS. Hal, FS/W8HC will be active from Saint Martin Island, **IOTA NA - 105**, 25 June - 2 July 2024. He will operate on 40 - 6m, CW, FT8. QSL via LOTW.

FS, SAINT MARTIN IS. Gregg, W6IZT will be active again as FS/W6IZT from Saint Martin Island, **IOTA NA-105**, 25 June - 2 July 2024. He will operate on 40 - 6 m mostly CW. QSL via N7XG direct, buro, LOTW.

FS, SAINT MARTIN IS. John, FS/K9EL will be active again from Saint Martin Island, **IOTA NA - 105**, 5 - 19 June 2024. He will operate on 160 - 6m. QSL via home call, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

FT4, GLORIOSO IS. Marek, FH4VVK is active as FT4GL from Glorioso Islands, **IOTA AF - 011**, until 19 June 2024. He will operate on HF Bands. QSL via F4FTV, LOTW. DXCC Country - Glorioso Islands, FR/G. QTH Locator - LH38pk.

FY, FRENCH GUIANA. Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as TO60CSG each weekend in June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. QSL direct to home call.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQG will be active again as JG8NQG/JD1 from Marcus Island, **IOTA OC - 073**, Minami Torishima, starting 20 June 2024. He will operate on HF Bands CW, FT8, mainly on 18 and 21 Mhz. QSL via JA8CJY, LOTW.

K8K, AMERICAN SAMOA. Yuris, YL2GM will be active as K8K from American Samoa, **IOTA OC - 045**, 26 June - 9 July 2024. He will operate on 160 - 10m. QSL via YL2GN, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS. K8K call sign is not confirmed yet.

OE, AUSTRIA. Jorg, OE6VIE is QRV with special event station OE60RRDXA until June 30 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association RDXA. QSL via LoTW.

OX, GREENLAND. Bo, OX3LX will be active from Tasiilaq Island, **IOTA NA - 151**, 1 - 15 June 2024. He will operate on HF Bands. QSL via OZ0J.

T5, SOMALIA. Alex, IT9HRK is QRV as T5/IT9HRK from Mogadishu. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using all modes. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via operators' instructions.

T88, PALAU. T88PB will be active again from Koror Island, **IOTA OC - 009**, Palau, 15 - 17 June 2024. He will operate on HF Bands. QSL via JA0JHQ direct.

TR8, GABON. Roland, F8EN ex CN8EM, FO8BV, 3C3CR, TR50R will be active again as TR8CR from Gabon, until end of the June 2024. He will operate on 30 - 10m, CW. QSL via F6AJA.

V47, SAINT KITTS. W5JON will be active again as V47JA from Saint Kitts Island, **IOTA NA-104**, 28 May - 13 June 2024. He will operate on 160 - 6 m (Including 60m), SSB, FT8. QSL via home call direct, LOTW.

VK9, LORD HOWE ISLAND. Yuri, YL2GM will be active as VK9LA from Lord Howe Island, **IOTA OC - 004**, 14 - 24 June 2024. He will operate on 160 - 10m. QSL via YL2GN, ClubLog OQRS, LOTW.

VP5, TURKS & CAICOS. Adrian, AA5UK will be active as VP5/AA5UK from Providenciales Island, **IOTA NA - 002**, Turks and Caicos Islands, 23 June - 5 July 2024. He will operate on 40 - 6m SSB, Digital modes and also Satellites. QSL via AA5UK, LOTW.

VP6, PITCAIRN IS. Dave, WJ2O will be active as VP6DF from Pitcairn Island, **IOTA OC - 044**, until June 10, 2024. He will operate on HF Bands. QSL via home call.

Look Ahead & Reminders...

8Q7, MALDIVES (BIYADHOO IS.) OE3DEC will be active as 8Q7EC from Embudu Village, Maldivian Islands, **IOTA AS - 013**, July 1-13, 2024.

FP, MIQUELON IS. Eric, FP/KV1J will be again active from Miquelon Island, **IOTA NA-032**, starting 2 July 2024. He will operate on 80 - 6m SSB, RTTY, CW, FT8 and FM Satellites. He will operate also in some contests. QSL via home call, LOTW.

GN7, UNITED KINGDOM. GM7V Team will be active again from Benbecula Island, **IOTA EU - 010**, in RSGB IOTA Contest, 27 - 28 July 2024. Team - MM0CCC, MM0GPZ, GM0EGI, GM0LIR, GM4YXI, GM3WOJ. They will operate in Multi - Two High Power Category. QSL via N3SL.

OE, AUSTRIA. Special event station OE40LCR is QRV until July 31 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Austrian Albert Schweitzer Society. QSL via operators' instructions.

TO7, REUNION IS. Giovanni, IZ2DPX will be active as TO7PX from Reunion Island, **IOTA AF - 016**, 8 - 18 July 2024. He will operate on 40 - 6m, SSB, FT8. He will operate on 40 - 6m, SSB, FT8. QSL via IK2DUW, LOTW.

VK0, DAVIS STATION ANTARCTICA. Dave, VK2DS is active as VK0DS from Davis Station, Antarctica, until November 2024. He will operate on HF Bands, plus 6m and EME 2m and 23cm. QSL via home call.

XW, LAOS. Vincent, F4BKV is QRV as XW4KV until the middle of 2024. He is active only on 15 meters. QSL to home call.

YI, IRAQ. Antonio, IZ5WPZ is QRV as YI9WPZ until August. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via IK2DUW.

My usual disclaimer: These DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the hands of those who are doing the planning. Keep the ethers wobbling and work some DX. Uncover your rigs and put some power to them! If you happen to have boat anchors, light up those tubes.

Get on the air and work some DX!! 73 for now....*Chuck W8PT aka Charlie the Tuner*
Get on the air and work some DX!!

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



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



May Meeting



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



From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PCARS is on YouTube

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

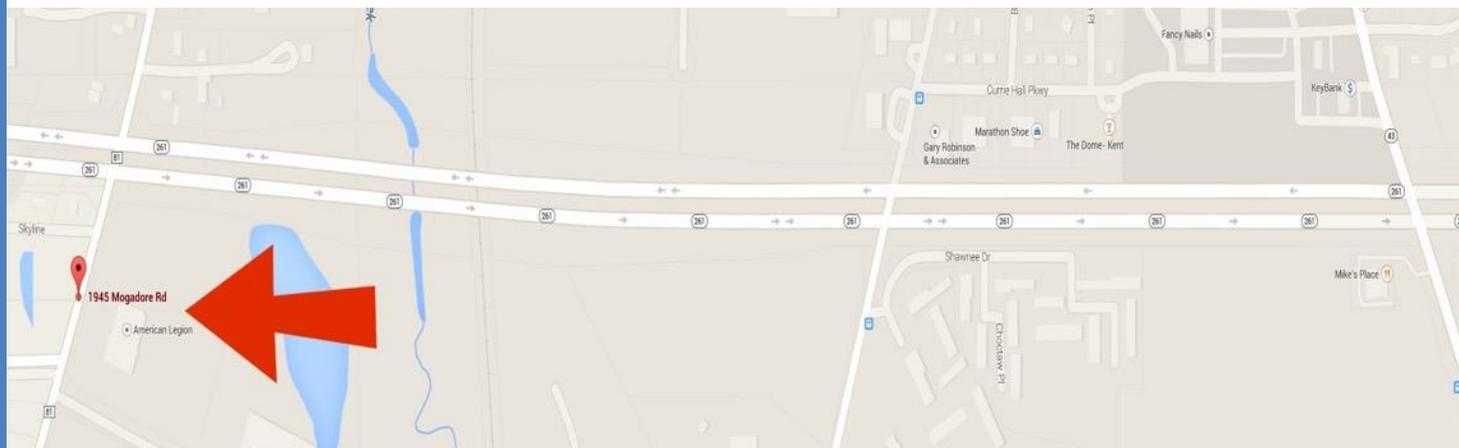


PCARS Meetings

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



*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 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 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



Future Dates

August 3rd, October 5th, December 7th

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

On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to seeing you at the PCARS club site in Ravenna so you can take your license test or an upgrade to your existing license. Face masks are not State/County mandated at this time, but you are always welcome to wear one.



PCARS VE sessions are scheduled for 9:45 am Registration, 10:00 am Testing starts, on the first Saturday of every even numbered month at the PCARS club site in Ravenna. Any questions? Contact KB8UUZ@gmail.com

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) **Taking Technician Test?** - You **MUST** apply for your FRN and get it prior to testing
- 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
- **VE fee is \$15** - Cash or Check payable to "ARRL-VEC"
- **FCC License Fee \$35** - payable **after** FCC sends you a link. **DOES NOT APPLY to upgrades**
- **17 years old or younger? VE Fee is \$5** per the ARRL reduced CE fee Youth Program
- **17 years old or younger? ARRL will reimburse you the \$35 FCC Fee**

Okay - now all the Details:

- If you are sick, have a cough, a high temperature or have been exposed to COVID-19 or other communicable germs, or someone that has been infected - please, *do not* come to the club site. *Use of masks is optional.*
- No food or snacks allowed.
- Ensure you have the following:
 - A picture ID such as a valid Driver's License, State ID, School ID, or US Passport.
 - If you are under 16 years of age, a parent or guardian must be able to vouch for you and you need a copy of your birth certificate (you do not have to give us a copy, we just have to see and verify).
 - **If you are upgrading to General or Extra - You MUST bring your original valid amateur radio license and a copy of your valid amateur radio license to turn in with your Form 605.**
 - Calculators are okay to use (if you need one) as long as the memories are cleared.
 - **NO cell Phones allowed**

First-Time Exam Applicants MUST Obtain FCC Registration Number BEFORE Taking Exam - All amateur examination applicants are **required** to provide an FCC Registration Number (FRN) to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) **BEFORE** taking an amateur exam. This is necessary due to changes the FCC has made to its licensing system. Applicants will create an FCC username and account, respond to the verification email from FCC, and then register for the FRN. Register on the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES): <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/>

Email Addresses REQUIRED - All applications are required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed. ARRL VEC suggests that those without access to email to use the email address of a family member or friend. Licensees will be able to log in to the ULS using their FRN and password to download the

latest version of their license at any time. The FCC no longer provides paper license documents via regular mail.

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



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

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

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

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

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

Printing Your FCC License

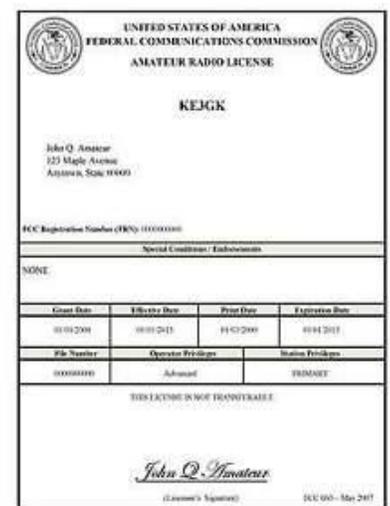
Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

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

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

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



Thanks & 73

J.C., KC8JC
PCARS Newsletter Editor



With summer here, I know that I'm finding ways to enjoy this great hobby in the great outdoors. More POTA activations (despite the antics of our local star) and even some antenna work at my place that you'll hear about in the next issue! I saw a good number of you at Hamvention as AC8NT, my daughter, and I wandered the exhibit halls. It was a great turnout and a lot of fun.

I'm looking for volunteers to tell their stories as a featured club member for our next issue. Don't be shy! Reach out and I'll help you put something together for the newsletter. It's wonderful to hear how people got involved and stay that way.

Send your inputs on any ham radio topic my way at KC8JC@portcars.org and you will find yourself in the great company of our many prestigious newsletter contributors.

I'd like to thank all those who sent inputs for this month's issue:

K3GP, K8CAV, KA8TOA, KB6NU, KB8UUZ, KP4VZ, N8QE, N8WCP, W8NET, W8PT, WA1FCN, WA8AR, WA8LRW, WB2MGP, WB2RPW, WG8X, The ARRL, The Weekly Villager, and the World Wide Web.

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



I get the feeling my daughter went to Hamvention for more than just the radios...

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



~ 2024 Officers ~	2024 PCARS Appointments & Committees		
President - Mike Gonzalez - KP4VZ Vice President - Ken Hall - WA8LRW Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA 1 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT 2 Year Trustee Mike Ryan - KB8TUY 3 Year Trustee - Gene Marsh - W8NET Past President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG	ARRL Awards - DXCC	W8KNO	Joe Wehner
	Club Site Manager/Liaison	K8CAV	Rick Krus
	Contest Coordinator	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	EchoLink	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Field Day Chairman, 2024	WA8AR	Tony Romito
	FYAO Chairman	W8PT	Chuck Patellis
	K8BF Callsign Trustee	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	K8BF QSL Manager	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	Membership Chairman		
	Net Control Coordinator	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	Newsletter Editor	KC8JC	J.C. Wilson
	OSPOTA Chairman	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	PCARS Photographer		
	Public Information Officer		
	~ Meetings & Net ~	Secretary	KE8EGF
2nd Monday of each month, 7pm Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895	Social Media	N8WCP	Mike Szabo
	Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	Volunteer Examiner Liaison	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	Webmaster	KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez
	POTA Coordinator	KE8ARB	Brandon Mercer

 Active PCARS Volunteer Examiner Team Members	KB8UUZ	Tom Parkinson
	AC8NT	Jim Wilson
	AC8QG	Nick Wagner
	N8QE	Bob Hajdak
	KA8TOA	Greg Ash
	WA8CCU	Al Nagy
	N8FUM	Dan Torchia
	KC8JC	James "J.C." Wilson
	W8EC	Mark Haas
	K8IG	Fred Freer
	W8HFZ	Tim McLeod
	K8PJW	Phil Weiss
	N8XTH	Deron Boring
	K8IV	Ed Polack
	N8AMY	Amy Leggiero
W8PT	Chuck Patellis	
KP4VZ	Mike Gonzalez	

THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

The RADIOGRAM copyright ©2024, is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year. The RADIOGRAM is an Award Winning newsletter: ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015, 2022 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017, 2020 and 2021.

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

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: KC8JC@portcars.org

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

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



NLC

