



# 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

September 2022 - Volume 17 Number 9



## *September is Ohio State Parks On The Air Month*

### *Ohio State Parks On The Air*



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





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## Portage County Amateur Radio Service

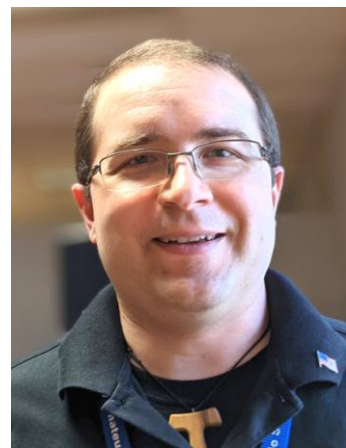




## From the President



**Nick, AC8QG**  
PCARS President



Boy, August flew by fast, didn't it? I hope everybody had a fun and productive summer!

Congratulations to Parky KB8UUZ on his 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the Ohio Section's annual newsletter contest! Every month, The Radiogram continues its tradition as one of the premier Amateur Radio publications. I know Parky appreciates all your contributions, so please continue to send in your news, stories, guides, and especially pictures!

It was great to see everybody who came out to the A&W in Ravenna for this year's **Mobile Cruise-In!** We had a great turnout, and there was lots of root beer! Congratulations to Gene, W8NET for the most Ham bands and Gary, WD8ICX for the neatest installation.

As I write this, last-minute preparations are underway for the PCARS Open House and BBQSO Party. I can't predict the future, but I'm sure we all had "Big Fun," as always! Many thanks to everyone who helped with prep, setup, cooking, and cleanup! And thank you to everyone who participated in the Ohio QSO Party from the club site this year. After all, the contest is our excuse for throwing a party!

September should be another great month for PCARS. We have a bunch of activities scheduled, so there are plenty of opportunities for more "**Big Fun.**"

There's our usual meeting on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, and the Special Interest Groups each Tuesday. Remember, you can participate in person or virtually through Zoom. These are great opportunities to learn and socialize, so I encourage you to join in the fun whenever you can.

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> is the Fifteenth Annual **Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) Contest**. The Wagner family is staying close to home this year at Wingfoot Lake Ohio State Park. I have a couple of kids eager to improve their score from last year. No matter what happens, we plan to learn and have fun.

The following Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, is the **Akron Mini Maker Faire** event. If you are interested in helping, please let Jim, AC8NT know. The event runs from noon to 4 PM at the main Akron Public Library in downtown Akron. It's always an excellent opportunity to see nifty projects and to make new friends.

The fourth Thursday of the month, September 25<sup>th</sup>, is the monthly Net Night at the Club Site. If you want a casual time hanging out with your fellow PCARS members — and occasional guests — this is the event for you. It's always a good time!

Well, I hope to see you at some of our upcoming events. Enjoy the nice weather while it lasts, and enjoy playing radio this month!

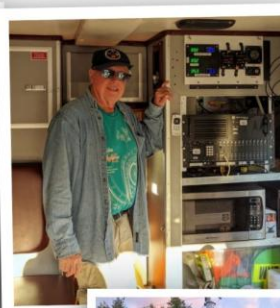






# Cruise-In 2022





August 18, 2022





## Schedule of Events



*We plan to add to the schedule as we bring back more in-person events.  
Look for announcements in QST emails, on the website,  
on our weekly net, and in future newsletters.*

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



September 7<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site & Zoom - 7 pm  
September 10<sup>th</sup> - 15th Annual Ohio State Parks In The Air contest - See Flier  
September 12<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion & Zoom - 7 pm  
September 17<sup>th</sup> - Akron Mini Maker Faire - Akron Library 11 am to 5 pm  
October 1<sup>st</sup> - VE Testing at the PCARS club site in Ravenna - 10 am  
October 1-2<sup>nd</sup> - California QSO Party - K8BF on the air at the club site  
October 3<sup>rd</sup> - PCARS Board Meeting at the club site & Zoom - 7 pm  
October 10<sup>th</sup> - PCARS Meeting - Kent American Legion & Zoom - 7 pm  
October 15<sup>th</sup> - Portable Ops Sig Outing at Punderson State Park - 9am-1pm  
Nov 5<sup>th</sup> - 17th Annual FYAO - See Flier

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



**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** and they are for sale at \$5.00 each.

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



## From the ARRL Ohio Section Manager



**Tom, WB8LCD**  
ARRL Ohio Section Manager



### Tom's Notes for September 2022

I'm thinking to myself, there's an awful lot of "Stuff" going on in the Amateur Radio hobby! When you think about all the club meetings, activities both on air and off, zoom meetings, public service events, nets, Hamfests, things to be built and tested, studying to be done to pass the next test, or just remain up-to-date – it's easy to get sucked in to where Amateur Radio becomes a defining aspect of your life! And there's nothing wrong with that!

Some people have declared that Ham Radio is Dead. Yet, how many days in a week are there some HAM activity you could participate in available to you? How about those days where you have to choose between two (or more) Ham Radio activities? What a fantastic dilemma for those of us who are really engaged with this "dead hobby" to be confronted with!

HAM RADIO has had a positive impact on and has been intimately involved with much (most) of the advancements that mankind has made in the last 100 years in the areas of Science and Technology. For much of that time, Hams were recognized as "*the cool kids*" because of the things we were involved with. While we are still involved in those things today, society has come to take the advancements that have been made in Science and Technology for granted, and we have lost our "*cool kid*" status.

I see Science and Technology continuing to move forward and do so at a faster pace than it has in even the past 100 years. To put that in perspective, look at where we were in the early 1900's to where we are today. Now compare the advances we made between 1922 and 1972 versus the advances we have made from 1972 to present. Pretty amazing. To keep that moving forward, society needs us. Ham Radio is a "gateway" to the future. It's one of the last few places where we can teach, learn and apply some pretty advanced technology outside of a school on industrial setting, and have **FUN** doing it! Be a cool kid – even if everyone else just thinks you're a nerd.

### FROM THE PIC / PIO and THE ACC

As you can see – there are no photos here! These are 3 section level positions which are now vacant, ***and I am actively looking for volunteers to fill them.*** These are important positions to the continued growth of the Ohio Section, making the Ohio Section and Amateur Radio in general a well-recognized entity among the citizens of Ohio, and finally, maintaining our image as one of the BEST Sections in the ARRL! If you would like to be considered for one of these positions, or, if you would like to "nominate" someone for one of these positions, please contact me directly - [WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG](mailto:WB8LCD@ARRL.ORG).



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



# Jamboree On The Air - October 14-16<sup>th</sup>



**Anthony, K8ZT**  
ARRL Ohio Section Youth Coordinator



## Jamboree On The Air 2022

The 64th Annual Jamboree On The Air will be held on October 14-16, 2022. Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually on the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your community. This jamboree requires no travel other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

To find registered JOTA stations in your area, visit <https://k2bsa.net/registered-jamboree-on-the-air-stations>. If you or your local club is planning a JOTA operation, you can register it at <https://k2bsa.net/jota-station-registration>.

For additional information on planning your JOTA operations, visit:

- JOTA- [www.scouting.org/jota](http://www.scouting.org/jota)
- JOTA- [www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota](http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota)
- JOTA- [www.jotajoti.info](http://www.jotajoti.info)
- JOTA- <https://k2bsa.net/jota>
- JOTA [suggested frequencies](#)
- JOTA [sample questions](#)

For additional information on Scouting and Amateur Radio, visit:

- Scouting & Amateur Radio- Ideas & Resources- [tiny.cc/ar-scout](http://tiny.cc/ar-scout)
- [Radio Merit Badge](#)
- [Girls Scouts Radio Patch](#)
- [Troop Program Feature: Radio](#)



See one of my previous articles on JOTA & Scouting in AR at [tiny.cc/ar-scout](http://tiny.cc/ar-scout).

A handout/scannable sheet of resources for JOTA attendees or any youth activity- [tiny.cc/hry](http://tiny.cc/hry)

**From the ARRL: JOTA-JOTI 2022 (Jamboree-on-the-Air-Jamboree-on-the-Internet), the world's largest amateur radio Scout event.**

The event connects millions of young people around the world for a full weekend of amateur radio and online activities that promote friendship and global citizenship. Using both the airwaves and the Internet, JOTA-JOTI enables young people and volunteers to participate in fun and engaging group activities focused on developing 21st century skills through Scouting. JOTA is one of World Scouting's longest-running global events, dating back to 1958. JOTA-JOTI aims to support young people of all ages to learn about communications technology, the values of global citizenship, and their role in creating a better world. To register and learn more about JOTA-JOTI, visit their website at [www.jotajoti.info](http://www.jotajoti.info).





# PCARS VE Testing Information & News

**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS VE Team Liaison



**We will have a VE Test Session October 1<sup>st</sup> at the club site starting at 10 am.**

Masks are encouraged.

**Future Dates: October 1<sup>st</sup>, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [KB8UUZ@gmail.com](mailto:KB8UUZ@gmail.com) On behalf of the VE team at PCARS, we all look forward to 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. **WALK-INS will be accepted.**

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## 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](mailto: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.**

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## 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](mailto: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](http://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**

It's been three months since 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!** Even if you think you shouldn't bother us with your question, call us anyway.



## MFJ's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October



### MFJ to Celebrate 50th Anniversary

MFJ Enterprises, an amateur radio electronics manufacturer and retailer, will celebrate 50 years in business this October. Martin Jue, K5FLU, founded the company in 1972 after building a CW filter kit that sold for less than \$10. Since 1990 the company has made five acquisitions, including Hy-Gain and Cushcraft antennas. MFJ Customer Services and Public Relations Manager Richard Stubbs says the company continues to grow with the popularity of amateur radio and currently manufactures over 2,000 products. "I've been with the company for 28 years and the numbers are good," said Stubbs. "Amateur radio continues to grow worldwide."

Quite a few of MFJ's employees have worked there for years, such as MFJ Product Representative Phyllis Randle, who will be retiring in September after 45 years with the company. She started working there when she was a teenager in 1977, and she is now the Product Representative for all MFJ dealers.



Jue graduated from Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, and he earned a master's degree in electrical engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech). He served as a professor of electrical engineering at Mississippi State University from 1972 until 1979, but abandoned his doctorate in 1977 because of MFJ's growth.

Currently, because of COVID-19 concerns, the company does not have any plans for a special event to celebrate the anniversary, although Stubbs said that may change in the months ahead.

**MFJ Enterprises Founder  
Martin Jue - K5FLU**



# Ohio State Parks On The Air







**John, WG8X**



According to my friends, I'm a POTA addict. I'll wear that badge with honor, though in reality, I am more of an OSPOTA addict. I've been busting it lately to finish the "**Activated All Ohio State Parks**" award sponsored by PCARS, and Tom, WB8LCD. The POTA parks are fun to activate also.

This year, my Wife and I decided to visit family in the Colorado Springs area, so how could I not take my POTA gear along? I wasn't sure how things worked when flying with Ham Radio equipment, but the folks on the POTA Facebook group, and Slack channel were a big help. I had never flown with Radio gear in the post 9-11 world, but after this trip, I definitely wouldn't be afraid to do it again.



My gear consisted of my battery, rig, antennas, and misc. cables. The battery, per TSA regulations, can be no more than 160AH for domestic flights. So, my 12AH would do fine. To be honest, neither TSA, nor the airline seemed to bat an eye about the unmarked battery in my carry-on.

The other major part of my gear was the FT-891. That went along with the antennas, and cables into my checked in bag. The antennas consisted of the trusty End Fed Half Wave, and the Wolf River Coil that I have been messing with. Everything was packed into my checked-in bag, and arrived unharmed.



While in Colorado, I managed to do a couple activations. The first activation was at Cheyenne Mountain SP (K-1214) which is south of Colorado Springs, and near the home of



NORAD (not to mention Stargate Command, if you are a fan of the Stargate franchise). I had a little trouble finding a good spot to activate from. The first spot I found worked well, but I had to vacate after about 10 minutes as a wedding was being held there in a few hours. A spot further down the mountain worked well as a plan B. On arrival, I ran into a fellow POTA addict; Ben, AB2SG who had come out to Cheyenne mountain after seeing the Facebook post about my upcoming activation. At this location, I managed a small number of contacts using the Wolf River Coil. Ben was good enough to offer me some tips for another activation location north of Colorado Springs.

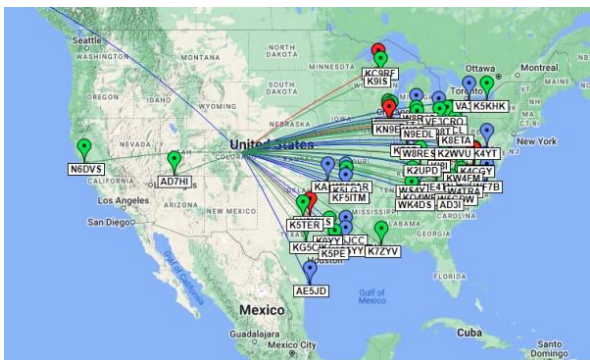


A couple days later, using the info he sent, I headed out to Pike National Forest (K-4404) for an early morning activation. This one went much better as I was able to deploy the EFHW from the top of a 30'



Ponderosa Pine at a trailhead near Monument, CO. Conditions were great on 20, which enabled me to run not only CW, but managed SSB, and FT-8.

40 Meters at both activations wasn't great. I can't be sure if this was due to propagation, or just lack of activity. Some have said that POTA is mostly an east of the Mississippi thing, but I don't really buy into that. But, 20 did turn out to be the workhorse band for both activations. The best DX was Japan on 20 FT8.



One thing this trip reminded me of was how good we have it here in Ohio. We are one of the US states without an entrance fee to our state parks. State Park parking passes in CO are \$9 a car per day.

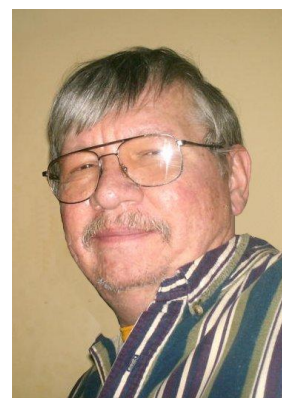


There was one other POTA location in the area, but I just didn't feel I had the time or the 4 wheel drive to attempt it. Rosemont Wildlife area (K-9666) is part of the water supply for the city of Colorado Springs, and is best accomplished via 4WD.

So, back home now, I'm getting ready to try out the goody that the UPS driver just delivered. More on that next month. In the meantime, just get outside, and get on the air! Don't forget OSPOTA!

## Akron Marathon Volunteers Needed

**Gregg, WB8YYS**  
Asst. EC - Summit County



Summit County ARES® is looking for volunteers for the Akron Marathon on **September 24th**. This is a 26 mile course through North, West and Southern neighborhoods in the Akron area. While not all the mileposts need stations at them, what is needed are operators for 2 Aid Shuttles, SAG vehicle, Aid stations, Watering stations, Med tent and pivotal locations at intersections along the route.

This is a premier event that helps us amateur radio operators showcase our skills and equipment. Several of the public service agencies are more than impressed with the way we are able to assist in ways that they cannot and this is why amateur radio has been a part of the Akron Marathon in this, its' 20<sup>th</sup> year.

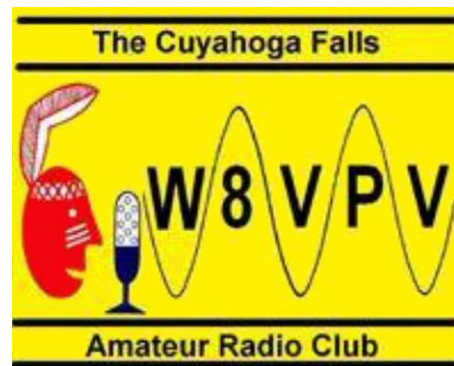
Sign up can be found on the Sumco ARES® website at [www.summitares.org](http://www.summitares.org) and click the sidebar under **Training/Events**.





# Summit County MPOTA

This is an invitation for your Amateur Radio club to join the **Cuyahoga Falls ARC** in our annual CFARC To The Field event. A few years ago, we developed a local activity similar to POTA (Parks On The Air) and the Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) activity. Our local activity is called [Summit County Metro Parks On The Air](#) and unlike POTA and OSPOTA is mainly a VHF/UHF activity as opposed to HF. The award runs year-round, but last year we decided to have a club activity night in the parks called CFARC To The Field in place of one of our regular meetings.



**4:30-7:30 PM (2030-2330 UTC), Wednesday, September 14**

10 M		6 M		2 M		0.75 M
FM	SSB	FM	SSB	FM		FM
29.600	28.320 to 28.340	52.525	50.125 to 50.135	146.460	146.535	446.0000
29.620		52.540		146.475	146.550	446.0125
29.640		52.550		146.490	146.565	446.0250
29.660		52.570		146.505	146.580	446.0375
29.680		52.590		146.520	146.595	446.0500

Here is a list of frequencies/modes used

This year we would like to invite other local clubs to take part in the activity. If you would please pass this information on to your club members, we would greatly appreciate it.

There are a few ways your members can get involved:

1. Many of your members are close enough to Summit County Parks that they could make contact with park activators from their home stations. So no travel or planning would be necessary (beyond putting the date on their calendar).
2. Individual members are welcome to travel to Summit County to activate a park entity.
3. Your club could plan to activate a park or parks as a group.

This is designed as a friendly competition and scores will be reported in our newsletter. There are no prizes for the highest scorers, but a \$50 DX Engineering gift certificate will be given via a random drawing of all entrants that submit a log with at least five contacts.

The date and time for this year's CTTF are **4:30-7:30 PM (2030-2330 UTC), Wednesday, September 14**. Here is the full information on the CTTF:

- Announcement Article & Rules- [tiny.cc/cttf-announce](https://tiny.cc/cttf-announce)
- Slideshow Presentation- [tiny.cc/cttf](https://tiny.cc/cttf)
- List of Entities - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hDFuop5Ywvjd2wXzloRPUytFx-nh8NTFL2XQstbXqb8/edit>
- Map: All Metro Park Locations - <https://www.summitmetroparks.org/MetroParks/media/pdfs/maps/Summit-County-MAP.pdf>
- We will be doing a live presentation at the Cuyahoga Falls ARC meeting Aug 10, 2022, at 7:30 PM, which will be available via [Zoom](#).

If your club is interested in a presentation on this for your meeting, please contact Anthony Luscre, K8ZT [k8zt@cfarc.org](mailto:k8zt@cfarc.org).



## Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KE8MWD	Shane Kiley
KE8ULB	Matt Shannon
K8YLK	Josh Heiks
KE8JUJ	Nicholas Gichenko
KD8BBT	Andrew Six
W8DMP	Donna Wheeler
KD8VT	James Andrews
WB2RPW	Gary Metzger
KE8SMS	Kim Cooper
KA8OAT	Richard McPeak
W8HNP	Gary Kovach

W8AHC	Ronald Echelberry
N8KBX	Bob Magree
AC8NT	James Wilson
KD8PBL	Richard Taylor
KD8FME	Jim Conlin
NT8K	Bob Whiddon
W8IFM	William Dunn
K8NYL	John Andrews
WD8BIW	Karen Warner
KD8JRE	Michael Harris
KD8WBC	Don Manning



## 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](mailto:Treasurer@portcars.org)





# OSPOTA 2022- GET READY



**Tom, KB8UUZ**  
OSPOTA Chairman



Hello OSPOTA fans and participants,

The 2022 **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest (OSPOTA) is coming up really soon - on September 10th many of you will be making the trip to one of the beautiful Ohio State Parks to set up and get on the air - We will be listening for you!

There are also a number of participants not at Ohio State Parks that will also be counting on you to be there so they can make contact with you.

## STORIES - PICTURES - LOGS

### Stories:

How about taking a few notes on your set up and operation, then send them in with your log so I can publish that in the PCARS (Portage County Amateur Radio Service) newsletter?

### Pictures:

**TAKE PICTURES** - it's always nice to look over pictures after an event to remember the fun had by all that attended. This also goes for those of you not at a State Park - a photo of you while at the station making contacts is great! Send those pictures in as well, please!

### LOGS:

**PLEASE** - don't forget to send in your log. All the info on what should be in the log is outlined in the rules, so I won't repeat it here. **Note - We only accept Cabrillo file entries.**



## FUN - FUN - FUN

Most of all, get out there and **have fun with amateur radio**. Our hobby is fantastic and the fun of making contacts is just super.

When at an Ohio State Park, make sure you are polite and try to get the Park Rangers involved - have them make a contact or two, you never know how much that will go for good relations between amateur radio operators and Park Rangers.

And make sure when you leave, your area is cleaner than you found it. Park Rangers remember that type of thing for future visits by amateur radio ops.

Enjoy your trip and visit to an Ohio State Park - Enjoy making contacts with Ohio State Parks - Enjoy this hobby of ours.

I will be listening for you and looking forward to getting your stories, photos and logs.



# *Ohio State Parks On The Air*



## *15th ANNUAL - OSPOTA - September 11th*

Hello OSPOTA fans. Seems like Summer is passing faster than usual and that means the 15th annual OSPOTA contest is coming up sooner than you think. Make your plans, test that antenna set up, get out there and have some fun during OSPOTA 2022 on September 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm eastern time.

A note to remember - you are visiting an Ohio State Park. You are just a visitor, so please keep the area neat and clean and check the surrounding area to pick up any trash accidentally dropped before you depart.

Also, as in the past, some park officials seem to think that since you are participating in OSPOTA, you need some sort of permit - You do not need a permit. You are just a visitor to the park that happens to be a ham operator testing out emergency communications with other hams in other state parks - again, you are a visitor to the park. **However be aware that the local Rangers may still require registration as an "event"**. See the latest information on the OSPOTA web site ([www.ospota.org](http://www.ospota.org)) or on the OSPOTA IO Group site - **THERE HAVE BEEN UPDATES** to the rules and other documents.

You have no special rights as to where you can set up and please don't make any demands to a Park Ranger. That's the easiest way to get tossed out of a State Park. Be polite, invite the Park Ranger(s) to see what you are doing and make sure you let him/her know that this is really like practicing emergency communications for public service. More and more governmental agencies such as Police, Public Health Departments, EMA, FEMA, Dept of Health & Human Services, Red Cross, etc. recognize how important amateur radio is for emergency communications.

*"When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Works".*

Most of the time when you talk to the Park Rangers about this aspect - they think it's pretty cool and they leave you alone.

So - be polite - and most of all **HAVE FUN!** Take some pictures while you're out there, too.

Check the rules again (they are posted here and on the main OSPOTA web site - [www.ospota.org](http://www.ospota.org) ).

**Pick a Park and go for it!**



*Ohio State Parks*



*On The Air*





# Ohio State Parks On The Air Contest - OSPOTA 2022

## Fifteenth Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air – Amateur Radio Contest

Make sure to mark your calendar for the 2022 Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest – September 10, 2022. The contest is always held on the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday. Each year this event has grown and we anticipate another year of growth with even more participating Amateur Radio Operators.

Let me remind you that the OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind:

- To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system;
- To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology;
- To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators

Your participation has allowed these goals to be achieved. We agree it is a lot of fun to get out in a natural setting with your radio and see how well you can do at working operators in the beautiful Ohio State Parks.

This will be the 15th annual OSPOTA – Make plans now to be active in OSPOTA 2022. Don't forget – we have an OSPOTA E-mail Group located at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA>

The [OSPOTA IO Group page](#) is used for messaging and sharing of information about OSPOTA for all the fans and participants in the OSPOTA contest. The [E-mail Group](#) is where the action is. Since we do allow spotting to encourage more contacts during OSPOTA, Facebook is being used before and during the contest for instant updates and to share stories and photos.

As the contest draws near, we'll be posting on the OSPOTA E-mail Group page the anticipated 'who's going to be at what Ohio State Park' or 'Planned Park' list as we have in past years. Send your planned park activation information to [PlannedParks@ospota.org](mailto:PlannedParks@ospota.org). Please, include the call sign that will be used and the Ohio State Park you plan to be at. If your plans change, just let us know and we'll update the list. Remember, more than one person or group can be at an Ohio State Park – there are no reserved State Parks.

**Notes:** Some Ohio State Parks are being managed by local park systems, but they are still listed and considered to be Ohio State Parks according to ODNR (Quail Hollow & Tinkers Creek).

So – pick a park and make your plans now for OSPOTA 2022 !!!!!

Take care & 73 from the entire OSPOTA contest Committee, KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, W8KNO, KB8UHN  
Tom, KB8UUZ OSPOTA Chairman OSPOTA

Questions? Check out the OSPOTA website at [www.OSPOTA.ORG](http://www.OSPOTA.ORG) Email: [INFO@ospota.org](mailto:INFO@ospota.org) When the OSPOTA contest is over, send Logs and Summary Sheets to: [Logs@ospota.org](mailto:Logs@ospota.org)

# Ohio State Parks On The Air



# Tips for Succeeding at OSPOTA



**John, WG8X**  
OSPOTA Committee Member  
OSPOTA Logging Guru



Last year, I started making notes of things I'd like to tell everyone before OSPOTA 2022. I called it "Tips for Succeeding at OSPOTA". Following is what I have so far:

**Plan Ahead** - If you are planning to camp for the weekend of OSPOTA, make your reservations early. Since COVID reared its ugly head in 2020, campgrounds fill up fast. Finding campsites gets a tad easier after Labor Day, but it's still good to know that you have your reservations in. Granted we are only a week away, but don't wait till the last minute.

**Test your logging software ahead of time** – the day before (or of) OSPOTA is NOT the time to be learning how to use your logging software. If you have questions, post it to the OSPOTA groups, or reach out to me directly, and I'll help if I can.

**Use 80 Meters** - Ohio State Parks On The air is a great contest as well as a cool excuse to get out and enjoy an Ohio State Park for a day (or an entire weekend). If you're participating from within an Ohio State Park, then you can expect most of your Park to Park contacts points to come from 80 Meters. Though Park to Park contacts within Ohio have been done on other bands, 80 will be your bread & Butter band for these types of contacts. Don't leave your 80 Meter antenna at home!

**Know when not to use 80 Meters** – While your multipliers will mostly come from 80 Meters, it's good to scan the other bands too, especially if you are operating from inside an Ohio State Park. Why is that? Because In-Park stations are allowed to work everyone! So get out on other bands too. 20 & 40 Meters, for instance can net you a lot of contacts, and these all count towards your final score.

**Don't be afraid to start calling CQ** - Once someone spots you, be prepared for some pileups. Make sure you know your POTA park number as well as your OSPOTA designator. At some point during the day, someone will ask you for both. You can find all this info at [ospota.org/Files/OSPOTA-WWF-POTA-Identifiers-2020.pdf](https://ospota.org/Files/OSPOTA-WWF-POTA-Identifiers-2020.pdf).

Of course, once you hand out all these contacts to the POTA hunters, the only way they'll get credit for the contact is if YOU submit your logs to POTA. We do not submit your logs to any other organizations. You can learn all about signing up to submit your logs to POTA at <https://docs.pota.app/>

If you are operating from a NOT-IN-Park station, then you are limited to working only Ohio State Park stations for credit. That's even more motivation to get out to an Ohio state Park for the contest, right?

**PLEASE Spot US!** – Per the OSPOTA rules, In-Park stations are not allowed to spot themselves. But, we can ask you to spot us. If you spot those In-Park stations you hear, they will appreciate it.

**Where to spot?** – You can spot stations at DX Summit (<http://dxsummit.fi/#/>). DX Watch is a good spotting network ( <https://dxwatch.com/> ) also POTA has an excellent spotting page (<https://pota.app/#/>) that is free to use, but you must be logged in to add a spot.



WWFF also has a spotting page (<https://www.cqgma.org/wwff/smartwwff/wwffspots.php?i=0>), but I'm not real familiar with it. For my money, I use the POTA page 100% of the time.

**Log Rovers properly!** - Starting last year, we allowed Rovers for OSPOTA. Since it was the first year for it, we went easy on everyone during scoring, and didn't penalize improperly logged contacts. This year however, will be different.

ROVERS **MUST** give their callsigns as Call/R (i.e. **K8BF/R**).

HUNTERS must log exactly what the rovers send.

**Failure to log that /R will be a busted call.**

**And another thing** – We saw a few instances last year where Canadian provinces were logged by their ARRL designators. **Canadian provinces are considered DX**, and must be logged as such. If we see a station logged as being in a Canadian province, we count it as a busted call.

*(Note from WG8X- I do log the provinces, because I like having that info in my master log. But, I correct it on the copy of the log that I send in to OSPOTA)*

**Keep a notepad handy** - If given, I write down POTA numbers for all Non Ohio State Park contacts. The modified N3FJP logging program that I use for OSPOTA doesn't give extra fields where a POTA number can be inserted.

After the contest, I manually enter all my Park to Park contacts into my log before merging it with my master log. It's a bit old-school, but it works for me.

**DO NOT USE WORD** - After the contest, you'll create your Cabrillo file, and will need to do some editing before submitting it to [logs@ospota.org](mailto:logs@ospota.org). Open it in a text editor, such as notepad, WordPad what have you, but **PLEASE DO NOT USE WORD**. Word can insert some weird formatting such as tabs that can wreak havoc with the log checking process, and create headaches for me.

**Lastly** – If you have questions about OSPOTA, please reach out to us in advance so we can help. We have a mailing list at groups.io (<https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA>), and we are also on Facebook.

Or, you can email us ([info@ospota.org](mailto:info@ospota.org)). If you have a logging question, you can contact me directly at [john@wg8x.net](mailto:john@wg8x.net).

**And that is it.** We want you to have a fun time with OSPOTA. This is our 15<sup>th</sup> year, so let's make it a great one.



## LOGGING

**What to use?** - Well, in short, use whatever logging software makes you happy. But, remember to log all the pertinent information for each contact (ie callsign, time, date, mode, and QTH). Don't forget to use the proper park abbreviations for Ohio State Parks. OSPOTA has been around since 2008, and we have our own three character abbreviations for Ohio State Parks. You can find these on our website at [ospota.org](http://ospota.org).

There's so many options to use for logging, but I kind of lean towards a modified version of the N3FJP OH QSO Party logger.

As long as you can create a proper Cabrillo file for submitting your entry, your choice is up to you.

### So, let's begin with N3FJP

I say this every year, but as always, please don't try this unless you are comfortable "lifting the hood" on your computer.

First, make sure that you have the most recent version of the N3FJP Ohio QSO Party program installed.

Use the Ohio In-State QSO Party Log Version 4.6.3 which is the latest Scott charges a very minimal \$8.99 for this software.

If you do not have the software installed, do so now. Enter your registration code that Scott will send you, and ensure that everything works. All set? Cool! Now let's lift the hood!

### Let's start with a few Caveats:

- You are modifying the N3FJP OHQP software to do something that it was not designed to do. If you keep this in mind, then this can be a valid option for OSPOTA. I've used it for the last several years, and it works like a charm for OSPOTA. It also logs the band & frequency from your rig. All that is required is a replacement of one file.
- Don't rely on this for scoring. This modification is for duping purposes only. You will do the scoring after the contest ends.
- PLEASE Make sure that your computer clock is correct, and that you are logging in UTC

Complete instructions can be found at [https://ospota.org/Files/N3FJP\\_logging\\_hack-2022.pdf](https://ospota.org/Files/N3FJP_logging_hack-2022.pdf)

After contest Cabrillo generation is a snap.

- Look on the File menu for "Write Cabrillo (Contest Submittal) File". Once you create your Cabrillo file, and save it to your computer, open it in a text editor, and correct as needed. For instance:  
CONTEST: MRCC-OHQP should be changed to CONTEST: OSPOTA
- CLAIMED SCORE This line can be deleted since we use the score from the summary sheet that you fill out and submit.
- Save Cabrillo using the convention "YourCallSignUsed.log", and you are good to go.

This is the Cabrillo that you will submit with your summary sheet





# Ohio State Parks On The Air



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



**But *PLEASE* Remember  
We are Guests**



**Pick up trash  
and  
clean your area**



**Leave the State Park nice  
for the  
Wildlife and Others**



Check out **all** the details about Ohio State Parks On The Air at:



[www.ospota.org](http://www.ospota.org)

While you're at it, check out the PCARS  
web site at: [www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)





**FOR SALE:** A very nice **Heathkit "Mohican" Model GC-1A** first all solid-state general coverage receiver with an external digital readout and Heathkit speaker. Also included is the original Heathkit manual. Frequency coverage is from 550 kHz to 32 MHz, including a separate band-spread scale for the Ham Bands. I installed a DX Engineering "buffer-amp" to provide the 455 kHz I.F. output to be used with a panadapter. There is a built in A.C. power supply for the -12 VDC for the receiver, plus there is a +12 VDC supply for the readout and buffer-amp. Price \$500 prefer pick-up only to show it all working.

**Contact: Jeff, WA8SAJ by home phone at (440) 9516406** [11/22]

**FREE to the First Caller:** 10.8V/440mAh Battery for a Toshiba Lap top computer. Replaces: PA3399U-1BAS, PA3399U-1BRS, PA3399U-2BRS

**Contact: Joe, W8KNO at 330-569-7718** [11/22]

**FOR SALE: ICOM IC-7300:** 100 Watt HF + 6 Meter transceiver, manual, hand microphone, Heil AD-1-IC headset adapter (adapter only), MB-118 Mobile Mounting Brackets (Brand New - never installed - radio has never been used mobile), EAntenna dust cover, Power cable fitted with Powerpole connectors. Pristine condition - with original factory box, Low hours. Local sale only (no shipping) \$900 **Yaesu FT1000MP HF Transceiver**, fully operational, with manual, microphone, optional roofing filter and other optional CW and SSB IF filters installed. Local sale only, (no shipping). \$600

**Contact - George, K3GP cell 330-495-9123 or email [rttyfan@gmail.com](mailto:rttyfan@gmail.com)** [10/22]

**FOR SALE: M2 KT36XA** 6 element ( on the ground ) BIG BOOM 10,15,20 Tri-Band \$1400.00 **Cushcraft 12, 17 meter dual-band beam antenna** \$125 Will look at HF rigs as part trade ICOM 7600, ICOM 9700, ICOM 7610, ICOM 7300, or other newer HF rigs - LETS TALK. Stop and look at them - items should be on the ground Tuesday July 26<sup>th</sup>. Moving is reason for selling. Going to miss the groups here in Ohio

**Contact Richard, KA8OAT at 330-506-7068** [10/22]

**FOR SALE: ICOM IC-208H** 50W Mobile FM transceiver 2m/440 dual band with Larsen trunk lip mount antenna, \$200. **ICOM IC-91A HT** 5W 2m/440 dual band, \$150. **YAESU VX-150 HT** 5W 2m with extra battery pack, \$80.

**Contact info on PCARS roster, Bob NT8K** [10/22]

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: [10/22] indicates the ad will run until the end of October 2022.





## 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.

=====

**09/10/2022 - Ashtabula County Hamfest** - Location: Pioneer Picnic - 1809 Middle Rd. - Pierpont, OH 44082 - Sponsor: Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula and Ashtabula County Amateur Radio Club - Contact: Nemo Sicking, KE8PVL - 3577 Bulah Rd. Jefferson, OH 44047 - Phone: 216-773-1500 - Email: [ke8ufs@gmail.com](mailto:ke8ufs@gmail.com)

=====

**09/11/2022 - Findlay Hamfest** - Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds - 1017 East Sandusky Street - Findlay, OH 45839 - Website: <https://www.findlayradioclub.org/> - Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.150 PL88.5 - Public Contact: David Dryden, KD8AVT - 1926 Windsor Pl Findlay, OH 45840 - Phone: 419-348-1569 - Email: [KD8AVT@findlayradioclub.org](mailto:KD8AVT@findlayradioclub.org)

=====

**09/25/2022 - Cleveland Hamfest** - Location: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds - 164 Eastland Road - Berea, OH 44017 - Website: <http://www.hac.org> - Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland - Talk-In: 145.410- PL 110.9 / 442.225+ PL 131.8 - Public Contact: Glenn Williams, AF8C - 4134 Stoney Ridge Rd. Avon, OH 44011 - Phone: 440-934-5566 - Email: [af8c@ARRL.net](mailto:af8c@ARRL.net)

=====

**10/30/2022 - Massillon Hamfest** - Location: Military Air Preservation Hangar (MAPS) - 2260 International Parkway - Green, OH 44232 - Website: <http://w8np.org> - Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Talk-In: 147.180 - 110.9 - Public Contact: Perry Ballinger, W8AU - 2468 Bellevue Ave SW Massillon, OH 44647 - Phone: 330-705-8449 - Email: [w8au@sssn.net](mailto:w8au@sssn.net)

## 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!!



## 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.*

**1st Quarter stats for 2022** - 339 total check ins.

13 weeks 26 average total, weekly check ins for January, February and March

**2nd Quarter stats for 2022** - 13 wks 306 total check ins,

24 average total, weekly check ins for April, May and June

We could use another net control volunteer always looking for some help. It is good training and not that hard, please let me know.

September	
1	K8YLK
8	KE8BWA
15	WB2DFC
22	N8QE
29	KA8TOA

October	
6	WB2DFC
13	N8WCP
20	KA8TOA
27	KE8BWA

November	
3	
10	
17	
24	

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

At the August meeting I was proud to award Bob, N8QE and Tim, W8GPN their 10 consecutive PCARS net certificates.



**PCARS**

**ARRL Volunteer Examiners:**  
serving the Amateur Radio community

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

The logo for the ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VEC) program, featuring a circular design with the text "AMATEUR RADIO", "ARRL VEC", and "VOLUNTEER EXAMINER".



## ***DX & Contesting Special Interest Group***

***Chuck, W8PT***

**DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator**



### **Greetings PCARS DXers & Contesters:**

Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> we held our monthly DX/Contest Special Interest Group meeting. We covered two topics.

The first was the upcoming Ohio QSO Party on August 27. I will report on it next month. But we reviewed the rules and made sure that we would have enough ops to man the four op positions so as to give K8BF a good showing. We also made sure that those not able to get to the club knew that they could operate from their own QTHs and donate their scores to PCARS.

The rest of the hour was a presentation on HOW to operate in a contest. Last month we had a great presentation on our hardware...namely the Icom IC-7300s. Rick, K8CAV did a great job.

My presentation was on the nuts and bolts of contesting. It wasn't an in-depth presentation but more of a summary of how to go about the business of contesting. It was geared more for the new contester or the occasional contester. And the emphasis was on how to do this with a normal station with limited antennas. It seemed to be well received.

## ***Antenna Special Interest Group***

***Bob, N8QE***

**Digital SIG Coordinator**



### **Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**

The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna Special Interest Group will be held September 20, 2022 at 7:00 PM. We will be in-person at the PCARS club site and on Zoom.

The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. We will be discussing all aspects of antenna design, construction, test equipment, and experimentation. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87220356586?pwd=czgvlzRlPCjVBT2hPSkVIZU1VaU84Zz09>

Meeting ID: **872 2035 6586**

Passcode: **PCARS2022**



## Portable Ops Special Interest Group

**John, WG8X**  
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Our Portable ops Sig this month occurs a few days after OSPOTA. So, guess what we'll be talking about!



We'll also be finalizing plans for our **"Field Trip" to Punderson State Park on October 15th**, so there's a lot to talk about.

October 15<sup>th</sup> is POTA's Fall Support Your Parks weekend, and you are invited. Save the date, and we'll have more information in the October issue of the Radiogram.

Also, bring your show & tell, and questions. I'm bringing my new toy; the Xiegu G106 with me.

I want to give a big shout out to Brandon, KE8ARB. Brandon covered for me in August so my wife & I could celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

So make sure to come out for the SIG this month either in person, or via Zoom.

We'll be meeting on September 13th, at 7PM in person at the club site (705 Oakwood St, Ravenna) or via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732195744?pwd=cldtZmxMcMfQqQndhQWtJN0s2NUNnUT09>

Meeting ID: **897 3219 5744**

Passcode: **PCARS2022**

## September QSO Parties

**Joe, W8KNO**



This month is the mother of QSO Parties, **nine in total!**

The weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> : Colorado and Tennessee

The weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> : Alabama

The weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> : Texas, Iowa, New Hampshire and Washington

The weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> : Maine

You should have a good time as there are ample stations on the air with maybe the exception of Maine. If you make a contact, the station will QSL if you send them a SASE.

I have 2,096 counties confirmed and you can too. There are 3,077 counties total if you are interested.

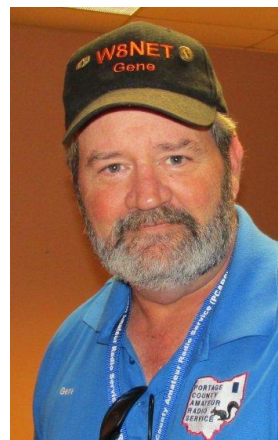




## 3905 Century Club Eyeball Visits PCARS



**Gene, W8NET**  
3905 Century Club Master #47



### Two Great Clubs, One Wouff Hong!

On Thursday, July 28, 2022, two great clubs got together at Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) “World Headquarters” (PCARS Ravenna, OH club site). This was not the monthly “ordinary” “Net Night At The Club”. The Portage County Amateur Radio Service hosted the 3905 Century Club – as a part of the Century Club’s annual “Eyeball”, in Brimfield, OH. About 25 members of the Century Club were treated with pizza, cold drinks and, above all, great friendship and camaraderie.

For PCARS, it was a great way to “brag” about the PCARS club site, to other very interested hams. The club site has 4 HF operating stations, a VHF room; a “social room” (Bay 2 in PCARS-speak) with TV, bar, refrigerator, etc; a “lab”, that NASA would be jealous of (maybe?); and another big room with tables, benches, racks, etc. Outside, many of the HF antennas are on the antenna tower 30 ft away from the HF room. But, not many in PCARS were familiar with the Century Club. Many new faces were there!

For the Century Club ([www.3905ccn.org](http://www.3905ccn.org)), it was a chance to visit the PCARS club site and meet new faces and enjoy our perfect Ohio weather. The 3905 Century Club was formed in 1977, and is the premiere HF Worked All States and DX award nets on the air. They operate on 160m, 75m/80m, 40m and 20m, using phone/SSB, CW, PSK and RTTY. They enjoyed meeting PCARS!

When a group meets each other for the first time, who really know if they will mesh well. As a member of both clubs, I THOUGHT it would work. IT DID! Everyone had an enjoyable time. Some of the highlights:

### HF Radio Room

The Century Club members were salivating when they saw the HF operating stations – THREE Icom IC-7300! (as a Yaesu guy, I was nonplussed, but I digress...). A couple were questioning why one Kenwood rig. It was explained that PCARS has a couple of blind ham members, and that the Kenwood has better features (they have the optional voice module installed) for the blind. Their reaction? “Wow!” On the tables in the HF Radio Room was a cache of miscellaneous radio and other electronic. PCARS members were pouring over everything. One of the Century Club members asked if it was a “mini-flea market”. We told them that it was the remnants of Terry Morris, KB8AMZ’s (SK) estate. Terry was a long-time, and very active, member of PCARS. Again, the Century Club member response was “Wow!”



### The Wagner Clan and PCARS Members



PCARS has many great people and fine hams. And, many are “ham families”. My son John, KE8MXR (16 yo) got his license at 13. I was proud of him (still am!). But, one family takes the cake: The Wagner Family. First, Nick Wagner, AC8QG, is the PCARS president. Before that, he was the vice president. His daughter, Bernadette, KE8LWO (16yo) (Technician), got her license at 13. His son, Ben, AD8FQ (14yo) (Extra), got his license at 11 and his Extra at 12. Ben is frustrated now, because he can’t break through ~18 wpm on CW... WITH A STRAIGHT KEY! Oh, to be young!

But, it gets better. His other daughter, Agnes, AD8IR (12yo) (Extra), got her license at 10! AND, both Agnes and Ben spoke at the 2022 Hamvention in Dayton (Xenia) at the Youth Forum! What a gene pool! The Wagner kids are home schooled (kudos, mom!), very polite, very brilliant, and very... VERY EVERYTHING!



Every member of the Century Club said the PCARS members were just outstanding and pleasure to chat with. One member in particular sat down with Bernadette, Ben and Agnes for many, many minutes. Karl Peterson, KC0MS, Century Club Master #50 from Des Moines, Iowa, talked about his “funny” QSL cards that he makes for himself. One of his club call signs (he has a few) is AD0RK. You must see his HILARIOUS card for it! And, he also makes beautiful “dragon” cards, not only funny ones. Three days later, Karl was still talking about the Wagner kids, especially Agnes. He was somewhat smitten with Agnes. (DON'T TELL NICK!)

### Century Club Members

Likewise, the PCARS members in attendance were very happy to meet and chat with the Century Club members. I heard many compliments from PCARS about how nice and friendly the CC members were. Nick, AC8QG, suggested to Dean Davis, KL7OR, Century Club president, that someone in the Century Club speak at one of the PCARS monthly meetings. I believe your intrepid reporter has been “volunteered” to do the task.



### Presenting the Wouff Hong



If you read the PCARS Radiogram for August 2022, you read about the Wouff Hong, its history, and the one which would be presented to PCARS. In short: the Wouff Hong is a “mystical and legendary” device from the mind of one Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, founder of the ARRL (see a brief synopsis here: <https://www.onallbands.com/what-is-a-the-wouff-hong/>). Wouff Hongs were given away at ARRL and other conventions and gatherings. Bill Dobson, N3WD, Century Club Master #43 from Baltimore, Maryland, was in possession of an exact such Wouff Hong. As the former president of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club (BARC), he was the caretaker of the device in question. When BARC closed its doors for their formal club site, he took care of it – until the PCARS visit.

Bill presented the 70+ year old, storied Wouff Hong to PCARS president Nick Wagner, AC8QG. The only stipulations were: this Wouff Hong will have the letter of the history, written by Bill, always with it, to preserve the ongoing history of THIS Wouff Hong; and, IF PCARS decides to close its doors, this Wouff Hong will be preserved and gifted to another deserving club. Nick agreed to the stipulations. And, with a handshake,



PCARS had a genuine, bona fide, real life Wouff Hong! Nick also said that PCARS will hang the Wouff Hong in the PCARS club site in a place of honor.



What a great couple of hours! I need to acknowledge a few folk who made it happen (and I am sorry if I miss someone). Bill Dobson, N3WD, CC; Nick Wagner, AC8QG, PCARS; the PCARS BoD; Dean Davis, KL7OR, CC; the 3905 CC BoD; Tom Sly, WB8LCD, PCARS/ARRL. Thank you all.

I am blessed to be a member of both the Portage County Amateur Radio Service and the 3905 Century Club. Both epitomize the best in amateur radio and people.





# Net Night at the Club site - July 28th





# BBQSO Party - Picnic - Open House

**NOTE: Results from the Ohio QSO Party contest will be in the October issue of The RADIOGRAM**





## National POW MIA Recognition Day

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed annually in September around a central theme to show commitment to full accountability to the families of captured service members and missing war heroes.

The term POW and MIA mean prisoner of war and military personnel who went missing in action.

Many service members suffered as prisoners during the several wars that have happened throughout the history of the U.S. National POW/MIA Recognition Day was initiated as the day to commemorate with the family of many of the tens of thousands of service members who never made it home.

The day was first observed in 1979 after Congress and the president passed a resolution to make it official following the demands of the families of 2,500 Vietnam War POW/MIAs who asked for accountability in finding their loved ones. It is also mostly associated with service members who were prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

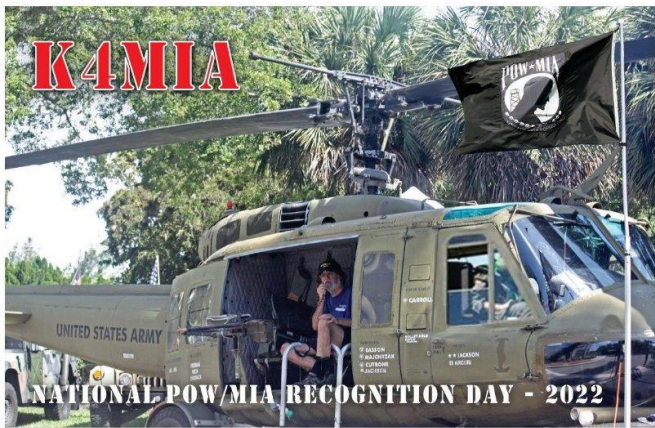
Regardless of where they are held in the country, National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as the memory of those who remain missing in service to the United States. Until 1979, there was no formal day set aside for these important men and women and the first observance of POW/MIA day included a remembrance ceremony at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Since then, the Pentagon is where the official observance happens, with other celebrations happening at military bases around the country and elsewhere.

The remains of almost 82,000 Americans are still missing, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency DPAA. The DPAA reports that the numbers of missing soldiers from conflicts are:

73,515 from World War II (an approximate number due to limited or conflicting data)

7,841 from the Korean War      1,626 from Vietnam      126 from the Cold War      6 from conflicts since 1991

**This will be the 14th year the special event station K4MIA has been activated.** The first year about 600 contacts were made a large percentage from veterans or families of veterans. The event has grown with operators all over the country. Last year over 5500 contacts were made. This year the Fair View ARC (NJ) will be joining us. **Primary operational days will be Sept 10 through Sept 18.** We will be operating SSB, CW, FT8. On Sept 16, K4MIA will be operating from a Vietnam UH1H Huey helicopter. There will be sister stations K4MIA/2 K4MIA/3 K4MIA/4 K4MIA/5 K4MIA/7 and K4MIA/8. Throughout the month, K4MIA will operate Satellites, EME, and other less used digital modes (PSK32, Hell Scribe, RTTY, SSTV). Besides operating from our home QTHs we will operate from a VA Hospital, an American Legion Post and various parks as part of POTA. We are trying to increase the awareness of our POWs and MIAs. Because of the volume of requests, you **MUST SEND SASE** to K4MIA for a returned QSL. Please take time to remember our POW's and MIA's as well as their families. I would like to include KIA's and all veterans (past and present) that have given so much for this country.



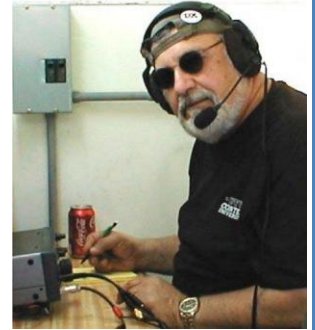
**On September 10 thru the 18th of 2022 We will honor and support our Veterans with a Special Event on the air as K4MIA/8. Linda, N8LRS and Metro, W8MET will be the sister-station from Ohio for our 7<sup>th</sup> year.** Thanks for being part of this event. Details can be found on the ARRL website under "ON-THE-AIR" under SPECIAL EVENT under the call-letters of K4MIA. Also, this Special Event will be in the September QST. Please take part in this Special Event for our Veterans. QSL is available with SASE. We will be operating on 40 meter's SSB.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA      73, Linda and Metro**



# Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



## Greetings DXers

### Charlie the Tuner's DX High-Lites – September 2022

We still have a lot of good WX left. If you have projects out of doors, get them done. Especially if it entails putting up new or more antennas. The bands are only going to get better in the next few years before Cycle 25 starts to wane. You really need to be ready. And it never hurts to have a good antenna system when the propagation is not so great. Let's see what happening in the next couple of months.

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, the AB5K's AR Cluster Networks, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, W4VQ, W6IBU, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W8HC, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, EP3CQ, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, 11JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO ad VK5GR 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.

## Reminders...

**DU, PHILIPPINES.** Reminder Mike, W6QT, will once again be active as DU3/W6QT from Subic Bay, Philippines, until September 15th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB and FT8 with wire arrays and other home-brew antennas with less than 100W. QSL via W6QT, direct, by the Bureau, eQSL, ClubLog and LoTW.

**JX, JAN MAYEN.** Reminder Rune, LA7QY and Helge, LB4MI are QRV as JX7QY and JX/LB4MI, respectively, until October while on work assignment. Activity is in their spare time on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

**PF01, THE NETHERLANDS** (Special Event Reminder). Frans, PC2F, will be active as PF01MAX during each racing weekend until November 20th, during the Formula 1 2022 season. A detailed schedules is available on QRZ.com. QSL via PC2F, direct, by the Bureau, eQSL or LoTW.

**VK90, AUSTRALIA** (Special Event Reminder). Look for special event station VK90ABC to be active throughout 2022 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). During 2022, amateurs from across Australia will be using this special event call- sign to make contacts with other amateur radio operators across Australia and around the world.. For more information visit (<http://www.vk90abc.net>). PLEASE NOTE their QSL policy. NO DIRECT QSL. NO BUREAU QSL. QSL only via LoTW and eQSL (Logs uploaded monthly).

## September...

**4M5, VENZAUELA** (Special Event). Members of the Radio Club Venezolano Casa Regional San Antonio de los Altos will be active with the special callsign 4M5MAG from San Antonio de los Altos Miranda between Sept 1st and Dec 31st, during the International Radio Marathon 2022. Activity will be on 160/80/40/20/15/10/6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW, ClubLog or eQSL.

**5K0, SAN ANDRES ISLAND.** Operators Pablo/LU7MT (5K0C), Daniel/LU9FHF (5J0DX), Jose Louis/LU1FM (5K0T) and Alejandro/LU8YD (5K0YD) will be active from San Andres Island (NA-033) between September 16-26th. Their activity will be on various HF bands, including 6m and the satellites, using CW, SSB and FT8/FT4. QSL 5K0C via eQSL, ClubLog or LoTW. QSL 5J0DX via LU9FHF, direct, (NO Bureau) eQSL or LoTW. QSL 5K0YD via IK2DUW, eQSL, ClubLog or LoTW. QSL 5K0T via LU1FM or ClubLog.



**A3, TONGA.** Masa, JA0RQV, will once again be active as A35JP from Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu Island (OC-049) until September 24th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. Equipment is an IC-7300 w/100W into a Vertical antenna. QSL via LoTW and ClubLog, or direct w/2 USDs or by the Bureau via his home callsign JA0RQV. He states, "If you need paper QSL, please be patient to receive it because I will be able to issue paper QSL after I return to Japan in October 2022. Please do not send SASE to my home address." He also mentions, "Sorry but I cannot activate any outer islands this time such as Niuatoputapu (OC-191), Niuafo'ou (OC-123), Vava'u (OC-064) and Ha'apai (OC-169) due to restriction of transportation of COVID19." For more details and updates, visit his QRZ.com

**DX0, SPRATLY ISLANDS.** Reminder - Gilbert "Gil", 4F2KWT, has been issued the callsign DX0NE on June 22nd from the "Republic of the Philippines National Telecommunications Commission." The special callsign will be used during an operation from Kalayaan Spratly Island sometime between August 1st and December 31st, 2022. Specific dates have not been announced yet, but activity will be for one month. Reports indicate that there will be a four-man team which includes Gil/4F2KWT, Ed/4F1OZ, Jong/DU3JA and Mike/ DU1XX (AE6DG). Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via 4F2KWT, ClubLog or LoTW.

**HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN.** Fred/DL5YM and his XYL Tina/DL5YL will once again be active as HB0/DL5YM and HB0/DL5YL, respectively, from Masescha (Chalet Wanni) between September 7-27th. Activity is usually limited because they will be hiking during the daytime hours. Operations will be on 160-6 meters using mostly CW, with some SSB and RTTY (NO FT8). Look at QRZ.com for times of operations. Watch for some activity in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 24-25th). QSL via their home callsigns, direct, by the DARC Bureau or ClubLog. NO eQSL or LoTW.

**JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA.** QSL Manager Sin, JA8CJY, reports that Take, JG8NQJ, will once again be active as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island, Minami Torishima (OC-073, JCG 10007), starting sometime around September 15th, and will be there for 3 months. He is usually there to work on the island's weather station. Activity will be limited to his spare time. Usually he will be mainly on 17 meters, but may try 40/30 meters and will also be on 20/15/12/10/6 meters using CW (possibly RTTY), with an Icom IC-706 and 50W. QSL via JA8CJY or by the Bureau via JG8NQJ.

**L95, ARGENTINA** (Special Event). Members of the Radio Club Rosario (LU4FM) will be active with special event callsign L95F from Rosario, Argentina, to commemorate 95th anniversary of their club (September 25<sup>th</sup>, 1927). Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via L95F direct, by the Bureau or eQSL.

**OQ100, BELGIUM** (Special Event). From September 1st till September 30th, 2022, the special event station OQ100MBS will be active from the Belgian city Mechelen in grid square JO21fa. It will be aired to commemorate the centenary of the royal carillon school in Mechelen.

**PJ2, CURACAO.** Frank, PH2M, will be active as PJ2/PH2M from Curacao between Sept 10-25th. Activity will be holiday style on 60-6m, including 30/17/12m, using mainly FT8. QSL via PH2M, via Bureau, direct, ClubLog or LoTW.

**PW2, BRAZIL** (Special Event). Members of the Liga de Amadores Brasileiros de Radio Emissao Santa Catarina (LABRE-SC) will use the special callsign PW2IND to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Brazil's independence between September 1-30th. QSL via PY2GTA or by the Bureau to PP5AA.

**SV5, DODECANESE.** Gerben, PG5M, will be active as SV5/PG5M from Dodecanese Islands (EU-001) between September 4-11th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters using CW only. QSL via ClubLog or LoTW.

**TM43, FRANCE** (Special Event). The special event station TM43CDXC will be used this year by the Clipperto DX Club (CDXC) between September 3-17th. Activity is for the 43rd CDXC member's annual convention meeting. QSL via F5CWU or ClubLog.

**V4, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.** "The Daily DX" reports that Bob, WX4G, will be returning to the V47JA rental station at Calypso Bay on St. Kitts (NA-104) again. He is going there to possibly buy land or house to move there. He will first go there in September 20-30th, for the CQWW DX RTTY Contest and again in November for the CQWW DX CW Contest. His last activity, Bob signed as V4/WX4G and V48A during the contests. QSL via WX4G, eQSL, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

**ZL7, CHATHAM ISLAND** (Update). Operators Jeff/K5WE and his son, Scott/ KD5GEY will be active as ZL7/K5WE from the settlement of Kaingaroa on the north coast of Chatham Island (OC-038, WW Loc. AE16ug) beginning

September 9-21st. Activity will be on all bands 160-10 meters using CW, FT8, FT4, SSB and RTTY modes. They have received permission to operate on 60 meters. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 7007, 10107, 14007, 18077, 21007, 24903 and 28007 kHz

SSB - They will just try to find a clear frequency....

FT8 - 1835, 3563, 5357, 7056, 10144, 14091, 18108, 21091, 24920, 28091 and 50313 kHz...

FT8 will be normal mode, not F/H.

FT4 - 7056, 10144, 14091, 18108, 21091, 24920 and 28091 kHz

RTTY - 7056, 10142, 14088, 18105, 21088, 24910 and 28088 kHz

## October...

**3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND.** It was mentioned that Kazu, M0CFW (JK3GAD), will be active from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) probably for the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th). No other details were mentioned.

**JD1, OGASAWARA ISLANDS.** Kou, JP1IHD, will be active using his newly acquired callsign JD1BQP from Chichijima, Ogasawara Islands (AS-031), between October 26th and November 3rd. Activity will be on various HF bands, and he will participate in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th). QSL via JP1IHD.

**LY770, LITHUANIA.** Kes, LY1CT, is now active as LY770CT from Klaipeda, the third largest Lithuanian city in terms of population and area located in Western Lithuania, until October 14th. Activity is to celebrate the 770th anniversary of the founding of the city of Klaipeda. Activity will be on 160m-70cm using CW, SSB, FM and the Digital modes. QSL via the Bureau, eQSL or LoTW.

**TM100, FRANCE (Special Event).** To commemorate 100 years of the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), the special callsign TM100BBC will be on the air between October 10-24th. Operators mentioned are André/F5AQX (EME), Serge/F5SN (DMR C4FM), Marie/F5UAY (SSB), Laurent/F8FSC (all modes) and Michel/F8GGZ (CW). QSL Manager is Michel, F8GGZ (Only via Bureau or direct, with a Self-Addressed Envelope).

**TY5, BENIN (Update/Change).** The Russian DXpedition Team (RUDXT) has announced that their next activation will be from Benin as TY0RU (not TY5RU) between October 14-27th. Their schedule is as follows:

October 11th -- Two Team Members Fly Out to Check QTH for Interference

October 13th -- Start of the expedition. The main part of the Team gathers in Moscow and flies to Benin

October 14-26th -- Installation of working positions, start of work on the air

October 27th -- QRT, folding positions, preparing for the team's relegation home

This is the same group who activated 7P8RU, 7Q7RU, A25RU and E44RU.

## IOTA...

**EU-018.** Operators Col/MM0NDX and Jonathan/MM0OKG will be active as OY/MM0NDX and OY/MM0OKG, respectively, from **Rituvik** (southeastern part of the Faroe islands) between September 1-5th. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes using vertical antennas next to the Atlantic Ocean. There is an opportunity for one or two operators to join them, if interested, contact them at: dxe59@gmail.com

**EU-041.** Giuseppe, IK5WWA, will be active as IM0M from **La Maddalena** between September 1-13th. Activity will be on various HF bands plus 6 meters (he will not have antennas for 160 and 30 meters). He states [edited], "On September 11th, I will participate in the I.I.A. Italian Island Award, while on September 6th (on VHF) and September 8th (on 6 meters). I will be active for the I.A.C. Italian Activity Contest." QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct.

The bands are continuing to be open. So get on the air. Use your license privileges. Keep the spectrum for us HAMS. 73 until next month. 73 until next month.

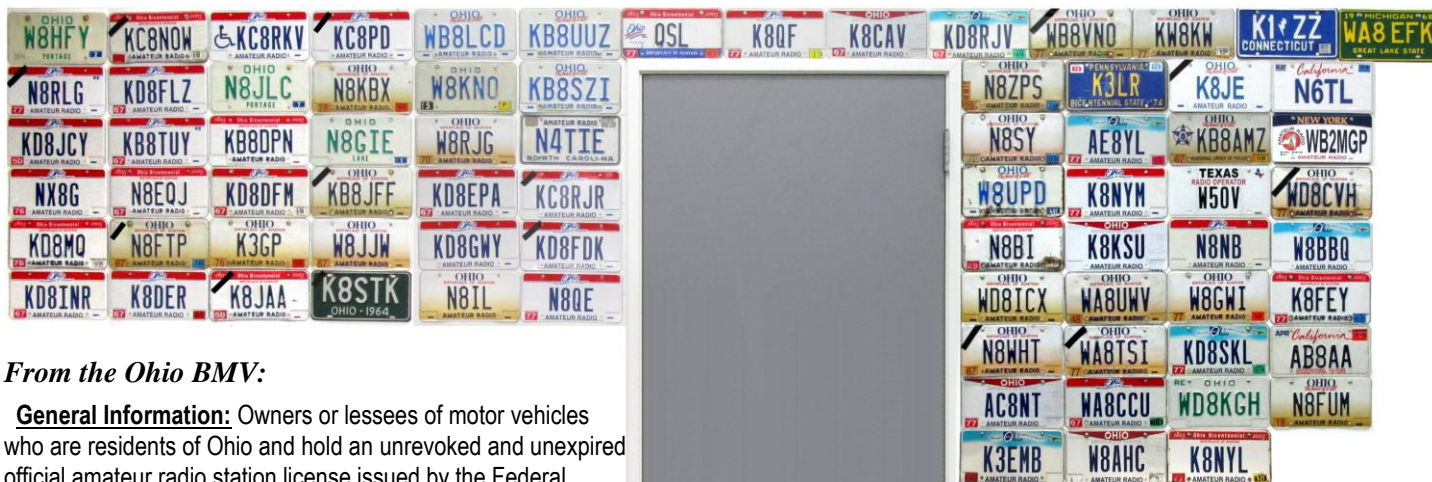




## PCARS Ham Radio License Plates Wanted !!! PLEASE !!

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



### From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## PCARS is on YouTube

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



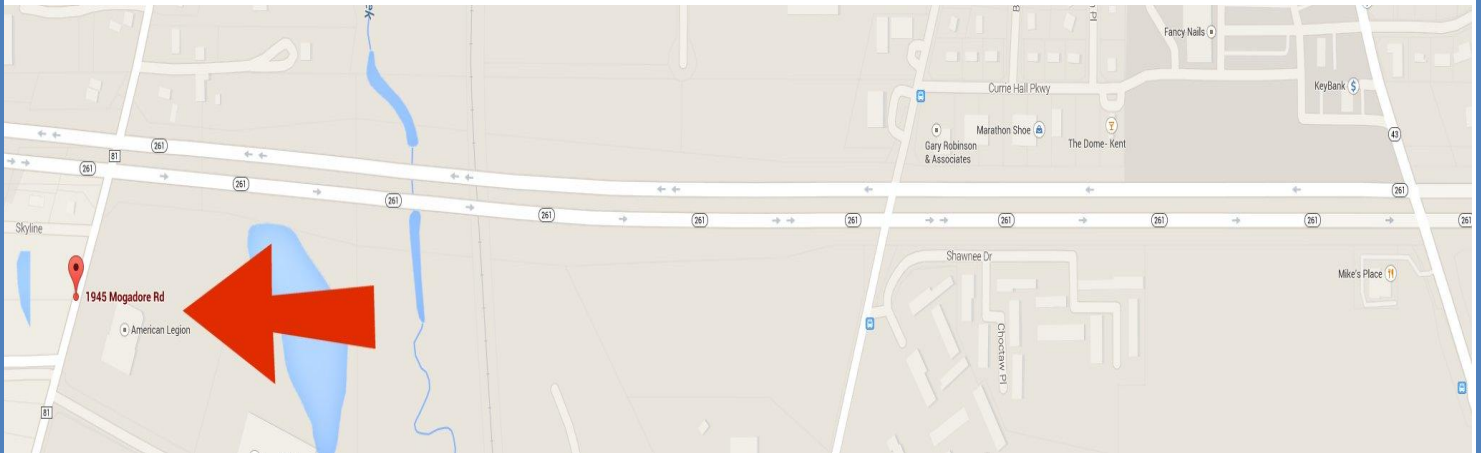
# PCARS Meetings

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



**CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ABOUT IN-PERSON MEETINGS**

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



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



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



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

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



## Photos from the August PCARS Meeting



**PCARS**  
**August 8, 2022**





# PCARS

August 8, 2022



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





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

# Ohio State Parks On The Air



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

Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 1400 UTC to 2200 UTC  
(10 am to 6 pm Eastern Time)

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

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



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

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

# Massillon ARC (MARC) Hamfest - October 30, 2022

Work continues on one of the truly unique Hamfests in the USA, the Massillon ARC (MARC) Hamfest will be taking place 10/30 at MAPS air museum. The MARC Hamfest is the only hamfest we are aware of that takes place in a hangar dedicated to the preservation of military aircraft. It has grown each year and is recognized in Ohio as a "must attend" event. This event allows you to enjoy a hamfest and tour a military aviation museum at the same time. This year there is a new addition to the museum- a C130H Hercules! Hamfest information may be obtained by visiting the club website at [W8NP.net](http://W8NP.net). Club Info: Gerry Sorensen [Email- Club@W8NP.net](mailto:Club@W8NP.net)

## MARC Hamfest at the MAPS Air Museum!!

Come join us for the greatest Hamfest ever! Where else can you go to a Hamfest and stroll among classic aircraft at the same time? Answer? NO WHERE! Our last hamfest was a spectacular event. Lots of vendors and tables full of all kinds of radio treasure. A clean, indoor space with food available, clean restrooms and airplanes galore.



2260 International Pkwy, North Canton, OH 44720  
Doors open at 8:00AM on Sunday October 30, 2022.  
Enter from Rt. 241 (Wales Road).  
Look for the P-51 Fighter Plane on a pylon

Admission is \$5.00 Tables \$15 Go to [W8NP.NET](http://W8NP.NET) for table availability



# Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc.



## PCARS - K8BF

17th Annual

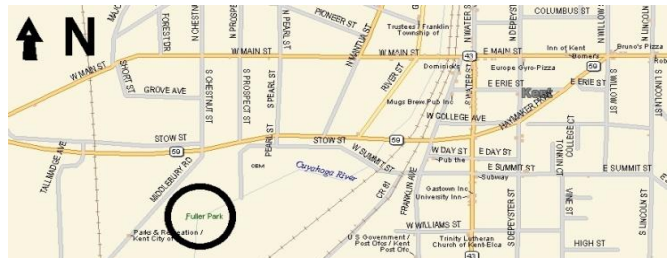
*"Freeze Your Acorns Off"*  
(FYAO) Special Event Station



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

**When:** Saturday - Nov. 5, 2022  
Set up: 9 am

**Operating Time:** 10 am - 3 pm EST



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



Why November? - well one word - COVID - and we decided last Feb. not to hold it. But we did not want to miss a year so we got November 5<sup>th</sup> as the date for 2022.

We'll try and do FYAO in February for 2023.

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](http://www.portcars.org)

Questions? Contact Chuck, W8PT at [chuckw8pt@gmail.com](mailto:chuckw8pt@gmail.com)



## Thanks & 73



**Parky, KB8UUZ**  
PCARS Newsletter Editor

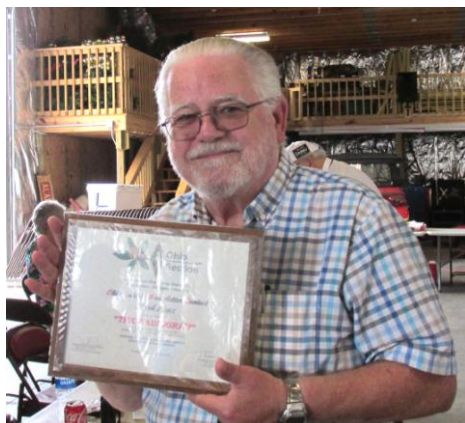


I really appreciate the help in gathering material to keep this newsletter number one. Without your help we would not have received the newsletter awards in past years. All of our members (and others) look forward to getting this newsletter every month, so keep sending those inputs! I'm sure you know PCARS is known as the **BIG FUN** amateur radio club. So chip-in and send your article in to keep this newsletter great for 2022 and beyond.

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

**AC8QG, WB8LCD, K8ZT, KB8UUZ, WG8X, WB8YYS, KA8TOA, W8PT, N8QE, W8KNO, W8NET, W8MET, The ARRL and the World-Wide Web** With *your* continued help – we can keep making this a *great* newsletter.

### The RADIOGRAM wins Third Place in the Ohio ARRL Section Newsletter Contest



The annual Ohio ARRL Section Newsletter Contest results were announced at the Columbus Hamfest on August 6<sup>th</sup> and the PCARS newsletter was awarded Third Place for 2022. To all PCARS members and others who contribute articles - **Thank You** and keep sending in material for the club newsletter. Together we can keep The RADIOGRAM a real winner.



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





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

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

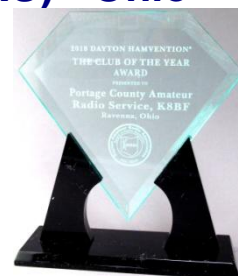


PCARS meets the second Monday of each month at the **Kent American Legion Post 496**.  
1945 Mogadore Rd. - just South of Rt. 261 - Enter the rear of the building for the meeting room.

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

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

Check PCARS out on the web: [www.PORTCARS.ORG](http://www.PORTCARS.ORG) -or- [www.K8BF.ORG](http://www.K8BF.ORG)



~ 2022 Officers ~		2022 PCARS Appointments & Committees	
<b>President - Nick Wagner - AC8QG</b> <b>Vice President - Mike Szabo - N8WCP</b> <b>Treasurer - Greg Ash - KA8TOA</b> <b>1 Year Trustee - John Myers - WG8X</b> <b>2 Year Trustee - Tom Parkinson - KB8UUZ</b> <b>3 Year Trustee - Chuck Patellis - W8PT</b> <b>Past President - Tom Sly - WB8LCD</b>		ARRL Awards - DXCC	<b>W8KNO</b> Joe Wehner
		Club Site Manager/Liaison	<b>K8CAV</b> Rick Kruis
		Contest Coordinator	<b>W8PT</b> Chuck Patellis
		EchoLink	
		Field Day Chairman, 2022	<b>WA8AR</b> Tony Romito
		FYAO Chairman	<b>W8PT</b> Chuck Patellis
		Historian	<b>KB8SZI</b> Peggy Parkinson
		K8BF Callsign Trustee	<b>N8AMY</b> Amy Leggiero
		K8BF QSL Manager	<b>N8AMY</b> Amy Leggiero
		Membership Chairman	<b>W8GPN</b> Tim Novak
		Net Control Coordinator	<b>KA8TOA</b> Greg Ash
		Newsletter Editor	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson
		OSPOTA Chairman	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson
		PCARS Meeting Photographer	<b>KE8LWO</b> Bernadette Wagner
~ Meetings & Net ~		Public Information Officer	
<b>2nd Monday of each month. 7pm</b> <b>Thursday night Club Net at 8 pm on 146.895</b>		Secretary	<b>KE8EGF</b> Paul Hyland
		Social Media	<b>N8WCP</b> Mike Szabo
		Tech, Gen & Extra Class Mgr.	
		Volunteer Examiner Liaison	<b>KB8UUZ</b> Tom Parkinson
		Webmaster	<b>WG8X</b> John Myers

 <b>PCARS Volunteer Examiner Team Members</b>	129	<b>KB8UUZ</b>	Tom Parkinson
	86	<b>W8EZE</b>	Frank Tompkins
	79	<b>WB8LCD</b>	Tom Sly
	79	<b>N8QE</b>	Bob Hajdak
	54	<b>K8MSH</b>	Mark Haverstock
	44	<b>AC8NT</b>	Jim Wilson
	36	<b>KA8TOA</b>	Greg Ash
	35	<b>W8PT</b>	Chuck Patellis
	26	<b>K8IV</b>	Ed Polack
	19	<b>WA8CCU</b>	Al Nagy
	15	<b>AC8QG</b>	Nick Wagner
	14	<b>N8XTH</b>	Deron Boring
	14	<b>N8FUM</b>	Dan Torchia
	12	<b>W8GWI</b>	Dave Seckel
	0	<b>N8AMY</b>	Amy Leggiero
	0	<b>KC8JC</b>	James "JC" Wilson



## 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 ©2022, is the official newsletter of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - Hamvention® 2018 Club Of The Year.

The RADIOGRAM is an Award Winning newsletter: **ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter - Third Place 2015, 2022 - Second Place 2014, 2016, 2020 - First Place 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021. ARRL Great Lakes Division Newsletter - Second Place 2013 - First Place in the 2017, 2020 and 2021.**

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

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

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

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



NLC

