



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 2024 - Volume 19 Number 09



PCARS K8BF

The Club that puts the FUN in Ham Radio!





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From the President



Mike, KP4VZ
PCARS President



The Radiogram! Big shoutout to J.C. Wilson, KC8JC, our newsletter editor! [The Radiogram snagged Fourth Place in the Ohio Section!](#) This is J.C.'s first year in the role, and we really appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put into making this newsletter great every month. Thanks, J.C.!

Cruise-In. Every August, we host a truly special event in the Amateur Radio community: [PCARS Ham Radio Cruise-in.](#) This year marked the 15th edition of this fantastic gathering. Kenny, KD8OBA, took home the award



for the most bands covered, while Jim, W8MIJ, won for the neatest installation. It was a wonderful occasion where we had the chance to connect and get to know our club members better. A big thank you to everyone who joined us on the evening of August 8th to participate in this beloved PCARS tradition, the Cruise-in!



Group Build. We are pleased to announce the successful completion of our third [antenna group build for the year 2024.](#) This time, we assembled and tested the DX Engineering single band Low Power Dipole Antenna. John Myers, WG8X, spearheaded this project, providing excellent guidance. Participants had an excellent opportunity to enhance their soldering and assembly skills. We express our sincere appreciation to all who contributed their support and engagement in these group builds.

Ohio BBQSO Party. In Portage County, we know how to throw an amazing Ohio BBQSO Party! That's right,



we had a fantastic gathering! We enjoyed two types of "Q's": making air contacts and savoring delicious food straight from the grill. Chuck, W8PT, took charge of the QSO activities, while Bob, N8QE, and Mike, KB8TUY, worked their magic as our talented chefs for the event! The [PCARS BBQSO & Open House Party](#) was a blast. We were thrilled to have a guest, Steve, KD9ZDY, who embraced the challenge and successfully made some QSOs. He enjoyed it so much that he chose to become a member of the club just a few days afterward. It



was an amazing event, and if you missed it, you definitely missed something special!

Annual Fundraiser for the Center of Hope. As is our tradition each year, we are conducting a fundraising campaign for the Center of Hope. Members of PCARS have consistently shown remarkable generosity, and I am confident that we will continue this trend this year. Please keep in mind that every contribution, no matter



how small, makes a difference, so encourage everyone you know to participate as well. You can make a donation immediately by visiting our website (www.portcars.org) and selecting the Center of Hope donation button located on the right side.

Updates to our Club Constitution, By-Laws, and Standing Rules. We have shared all the details about the amendment process through club QSTs. If you are an active member, you should have received at least two QSTs regarding the proposed changes. We will send out a QST again a few days before the next general meeting in September. We have presented the changes in a clear and easy-to-understand format; deletions are shown in red with a strikethrough, and additions are highlighted in bold blue text.

Patriot Day. September 11, 2001, marked a pivotal moment in American history. As we reflect on the 23 years since that fateful day, we remember the profound impact it had on our nation. I encourage you to join me in observing Patriot Day on September 11, a time to honor the sanctity of life, cherish the memories of those we lost, celebrate our country's resilience, and recognize the enduring strength of the American spirit.

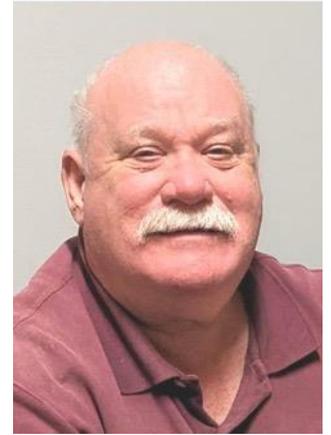


Thanks! We appreciate your continued support for the club. We look forward to seeing everyone at the General Meeting scheduled for September 11th at 7:00 PM.

From the Vice President



Ken, WA8LRW
PCARS Vice President



August

- The annual Amateur Radio Crusine-in was on Aug 8 at A&W in Ravenna.
- The monthly meeting featured a presentation on the Ravenna Arsenal by Shaun Robinson Camp Garfield Base Commander.
- An HF Dipole build and testing was at the Club Site on Aug 13.
- PCARS via K8BF participated in the Ohio QSO party at the club site on Aug 24 along with the PCARS BBQ and open house.

September

- Ohio State Parks on the Air Contest is planned for Sept 7
- The monthly Meeting will feature a talk on the Hurricane Net by Bobby Graves KB5HAV
- K8BF contest station will participate in the Washington State Salmon Run contest on September 21. Everyone is invited to participate.
- Net Night at the club site is Thursday, September 26. Hope to see you there.

October

- The monthly meeting will feature a social gathering event.
- K8BF will participate in the California QSO party on Saturday, October 5.
- An Overnight Parkpedition is planned for October 19

November

- The monthly Meeting will feature the Center of Hope fundraiser and election of new club officers.

December

- The monthly Meeting will be the Holiday Dinner



PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



From the Treasurer

Greg, KA8TOA
PCARS Treasurer



The club finances are in great shape and the volunteers are doing a great job running the nets. The nets are picking up as the weather starts changing. I hope everyone is enjoying this great summer and this last holiday. Be safe, have Fun and enjoy the family.

The board is busy with some changes in the constitution and standing rules to make everyone's life easier. I believe this is good for the overall health of this great club. I also believe everyone wants the club to be around and function for a long time to go. Over the years we have had great leadership and participation from members. We need to sustain this and get more younger people involved just not in radio stuff, but the operations of the club itself. I understand it takes a little time, but if everyone pitches in, we all benefit. We had a Silent key that his spouse donated his radio stuff to our club and the neat thing is he joined and liked our club and lived in North Olmstead on the west side of Cleveland. He is smiling on us from Radio Heaven. All of us make a difference and this proves it. So please help out when you can and know that it is not wasted and it is appreciated.

Happy Birthday PCARS Members

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

KE8ULB	Matt
W8DMP	Donna
KE8SMS	Kim
W8AHC	Ronald
KD8PBL	Richard
W8IFM	William
KD8JRE	Michael

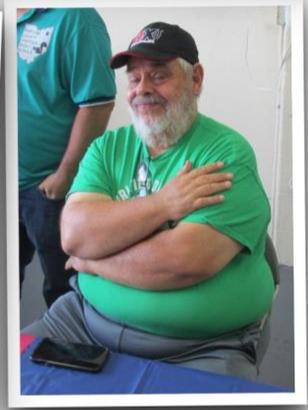
KE8JUJ	Nicholas
KD8VT	James
W8HFZ	Tim
N8KBX	Bob
KD8FME	Jim
K8NYL	John
KD8WBC	Don

KD8BBT	Andrew
WB2RPW	Gary
KA8OAT	Richard
AC8NT	Jim
NT8K	Bob
WD8BIW	Karen

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>



Ohio BBQSO Party



August Group Build



John, WG8X

At our Portable Operating SIG on August 13th, we organized a group build of 20 Meter Dipoles which was very well attended. Thanks to a generous donation from DX Engineering, we kept the cost down to the bare minimum for the wire, and some adaptors.

Everyone seemed to have a good time. Once the dipoles were built, we went to a test range that Ken, WA8LRW set up for us. Unfortunately, we ran out of daylight before all testing could be completed. We hope to finish at the Portable Ops SIG on September 10th.

The next group build I'm working on will be on basic soldering techniques. We're assessing some simple-to-build circuits that will give students some hands-on practice and give them something cool to take home. We're tentatively planning to organize something for November. Watch for more information in next month's Radiogram.

I understand that there are still a few dipoles to test out, so that may be our subject this month. Also, since this SIG happens just 4 days after OSPOTA, expect some discussion about who worked who, and what antenna worked well, and who got their antenna stuck in a tree.

We'll be meeting at the PCARS world headquarters, 705 Oakwood St, Ravenna, at 7pm.

You can learn more about OSPOTA at <https://ospota.org/>

Lastly, In the 3 years since I began leading the Portable Ops SIG, I've had a lot of fun. But, I'm finding myself spread pretty thin lately. This is mostly due to several commitments in the same week. So, with that in mind, the November Portable ops SIG will be my last. If you'd like to step in, please contact Mike, our club President. Thanks everyone for your support.

As promised, here's the Zoom info (Remember, it may not be in use, but just in case):

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92154491950?pwd=cmZNSIFhZVRmcVg3L3pnazdrK1ZuUT09>

Meeting ID: 921 5449 1950

Passcode: 878917

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,92154491950#,,,,*878917# US

+13126266799,,92154491950#,,,,*878917# US (Chicago)

Hope you can make it! 73, DE WG8X

PCARS - Dipole Group Build - August 2024



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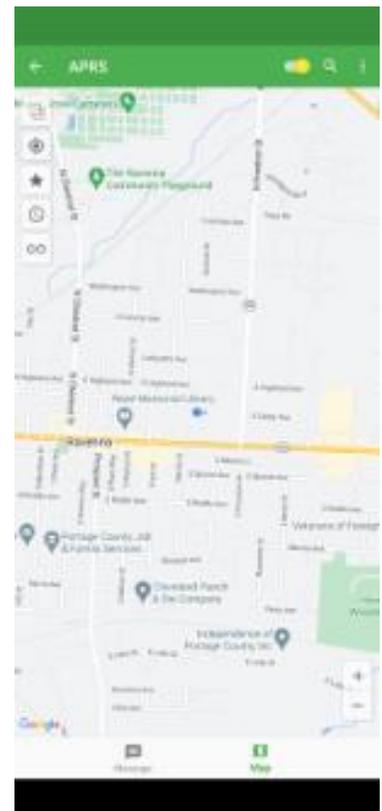
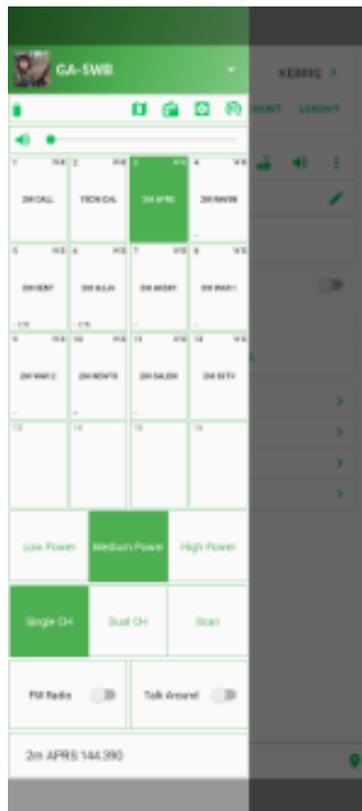
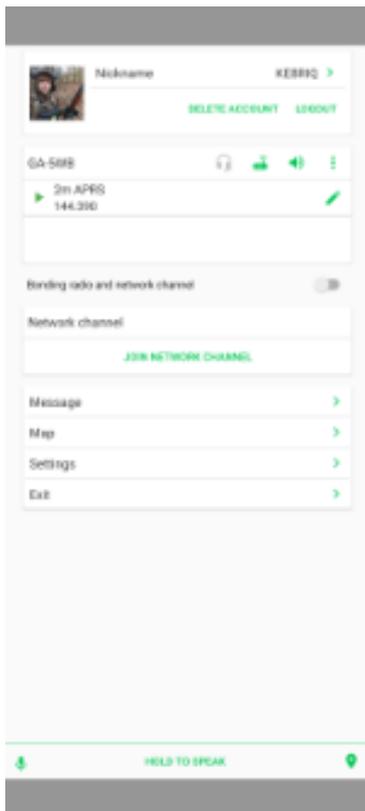


APRS on Vero VR N76

Sean, KE8RIQ

Newly released import radios with complementary software are not without quirks. The Vero VR N76 radio does provide APRS bundled up in a VHF/UHF HT with built in GPS package. During my two month of tinkering with the radio and learning the settings, here are some of my observations for the “HT” software (found on the Google Play Store) and how the radio performs.

After opening the app, we are welcomed by the menu [Image A] (if you are still using the “simple view”). By swiping left [Image B] we should select our programmed frequency 144.390 MHz. Then we will click on the arrow on the top of the menu, which will give us another menu. Clicking on the APRS “button” opens up to messages and map [Image C]. Now would be a good time to double check your Bluetooth is on, connected to the HT, and GPS is activated on your phone. Next we will slide the white slider on the top right corner to activate APRS.



Now the radio will begin transmitting packets if you entered your APRS settings correctly. Occasionally you might hear the iconic packet transmit on the HT speaker and through your phone’s speaker. You can turn the volume off on both the HT and phone and still be able to receive packets. The map will update incoming packets in real time and if we check the “message” menu [Image D], we can find those there too (under this menu you can also send SSTV, morse, and messages too by hitting the microphone button on the left hand corner).

The APRS function does work through the “Network Group” setting enabled and you can receive packets worldwide! I was able to talk to a few Chinese hams (just make sure you follow the band plan!) [Image E]. The issues I have found with this radio dealing with APRS is that the data shown on the HT app does not update in real time with [APRS.FI](#) or other websites for a short while. Another issue I found is that the N76 radio will connect to APRSDroid, however it does not actually send or receive packets properly. I also could not find a published “Network Group” other than the default 4 Chinese ones.

Thanks for reading and hope we see more packets!

Everyone On The Air

Anthony, K8ZT

A Mini POTA (Parks On The Air) Like Activity

Calling all Northeast Ohio Amateur Radio Operators. You are invited to join us on the air on September 11th from 4:30 to 7:30 PM local time (2030 to 2330 UTC). The activity is designed to include all hams, regardless of license class. The bands and modes (2 M, 70cm & 6 M FM and 6 M & 10M SSB) are chosen to cover radios that most Amateurs already have and operating privileges of all hams, including Technicians. You can choose to work one or all modes/band combinations.

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

Setting up can be as simple or complex as you like- Using your handheld, driving your vehicle with mobile radio/antennas, or setting up a portable station with gain antennas. You can also activate multiple park locations if you want to be a rover. Sponsored by the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC), the event uses the Summit County Metro

Parks as the setting. Still, you can also participate from your home station if you are within range. With 39 possible locations, including parks and trailheads, there are plenty of choices. If you are a dedicated POTA operator, some of the parks are also part of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Although sponsored by CFARC, the event is open to all Hams, regardless of club affiliation.

If you are in Summit County, pick out your nearby park or plan to operate from home and join us on the air. If you are from outside the county, take a short drive and enjoy autumn in one of the parks while you operate. Maybe even plan a hike before operations begin. There is also a random drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate for DX Engineering for all participants who make at least five contacts and submit an entry.

For full details on the event, visit-<http://tiny.cc/eota2024>. You will find lists of locations, abbreviations, maps, operating rules, score sheets and more.

We also suggest you warm up for this event by participating in two other local events like Ohio State Parks On The Air—*OSPOTA* (<https://ospota.org/>) on September 7th.

Celebrate 25 Years of Route 66 on the Air

Tom, KB8UUZ



Celebrate the 25th Year of Route 66 on the Air September 7-15

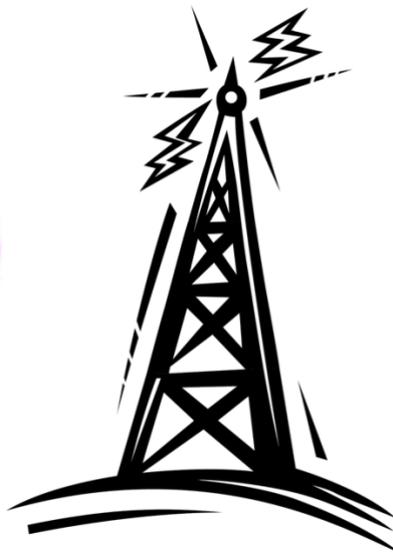
Now that 13 Colonies is over, many hams will shift gears to go full throttle for on an operating event that, in the words of songwriter Bobby Troup, will let you “get your kicks” on a bygone and beloved highway that still inspires worshippers of the open road.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, [Route 66 on the Air](#) is a nostalgic blast from the past for operators who will once again attempt to reach special stations along the historic highway, which covered 2,448 miles from Chicago to Santa Monica. Opened in 1926 and fully paved in 1938, the route was known for its offbeat roadside attractions, thrilling landscapes, and legions of drivers who traveled its skid-marked path in search of America—or perhaps the perfect cheeseburger and milkshake. Route 66 was removed from the U.S. Highway System in 1985.



Troup’s popular 1946 [rhythm and blues song](#), recorded by the likes of [Nat King Cole](#) and the Rolling Stones, mentions a travelog of stops along the route, including Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Flagstaff, Kingman, Barstow, and San Bernardino—all cities that will be represented by local clubs during the Route 66 on the Air event, which runs from September 7-15.

Find the complete list of 23 [special event stations](#) and [rules](#) at the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club (San Bernardino), W6JBT, website. Per the website, the event was started by the Northern Arizona DX Association and taken over a couple of years later by the Citrus Belt club.



Cruise-In 2024



OSPOTA 2024 - GET READY



Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Hello OSPOTA fans and participants!

The 2024 **Ohio State Parks On The Air** contest (OSPOTA) is coming up real soon - on September 7th 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 and even not on Ohio 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 they can be published in the PCARS newsletter?

PICTURES:

TAKE PICTURES - PLEASE - 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 and summary sheet. All the info on what should be in the log and summary sheet 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 from an Ohio State Park 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 operators.

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

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



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Count Down to Ohio State Parks On The Air - 2024

Ohio State Parks On The Air



The Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) announces the **17th Annual “Ohio State Parks On the Air”** (OSPOTA) contest, September 7, 2024 from the hours of 10 am to 6 pm EST (1400 UTC to 2200 UTC).

For hams throughout the State of Ohio, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. Don't just make a day of it - spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets. Find out more about the Ohio State Parks at: <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/>

In past years, hundreds of Amateur Radio Operators (hams) from around the country participated in the event. With the success of OSPOTA, we hope to have amateur radio operators at every Ohio State Park.

This contest places a premium on working stations located in the Ohio State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the design and deployment of Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) antennas. You can find numerous designs on the Internet and in various Amateur Radio antenna manuals. Along with your operating skills, it will be a chance to showcase your antenna building skills as well.

Individuals and multiple operators can operate Ohio State Park stations. Non-park stations in Ohio as well as stations outside of Ohio can also compete.

Contacts can be made on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. All contacts have the same point values.

Please read the Rules, FAQ's and get your forms for the contest that are posted on the OSPOTA website: www.ospota.org before the contest.



So get to an **Ohio State Park** and get **On The Air** on September 7th.

Have some fun with this contest!

Visit the Ohio State Parks On The Air website at: <https://ospota.org/>

Learn more about PCARS at www.portcars.org.



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

Tom, KB8UUZ OSPOTA Chairman OSPOTA

Ohio State Parks On The Air Contest - OSPOTA 2024

Sixteenth Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air – Amateur Radio Contest

Make sure to mark your calendar for the 2024 Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest – September 7, 2024. 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 17th annual OSPOTA – Make plans now to be active in OSPOTA 2024. Don’t forget – we have an OSPOTA IO 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. 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).

At this point, there are 75 Ohio State Parks open for 2024. ODNR reports the new Great Council Ohio State Park (76th Ohio State Park) located between Xenia and Yellow Springs should be opening in 2024. Per OSPOTA rules, it will not be considered as an active park for the OSPOTA contest until 2025.

So – pick a park and make your plans now for OSPOTA 2024 !!!!!

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

Check out this handy Ohio State Parks guide at:
<https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/parks/Ohio-State-Parks-Brochure.pdf>



Schedule of Events



- Sep 3rd - PCARS Board Meeting at PCARS Club Site – 7 pm
- Sep 7th - Ohio State Parks On The Air 10 am – 6 pm
- Sep 9th - PCARS Monthly Meeting – 7 pm
- Sep 26th - Net Night At The Club

Special Interest Groups at the Club Site

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

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

PCARS Custom Coffee Cups - Limited Edition - Get One NOW

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

Portage County Amateur Radio Service



K8BF



2018 Hamvention® Club of the Year

Supply is limited. If you are a current (PAID) member of PCARS you get one coffee cup for **FREE** !! The only catch is you have to claim it from the **Treasurer - Greg, KA8TOA.**

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

There are a *very* limited number of extra coffee cups for sale at \$5.00 each. **Contact Greg for all of the details: Treasurer@portcars.org**



On The Road with WG8X



John, WG8X



Here's another episode of *On The Road* (With apologies to Willy Nelson).

Since my last column, I've managed to do just a few activations here and there. I thought that the first couple would be simple garden variety activations. I was a bit mistaken at least on one.

Enter Jockey Hollow State Wildlife Area (US-9470). I've been trying to get back to this one for a few months. It was recently added to the WWFF Program and was still listed as an ATNO (All Time New One). A couple months back, I made the 60-minute drive from Alliance to activate this, only to discover that my mobile antenna ground was flakey. Not feeling like hiking into the woods to find a place for the EFHW, I slinked home with my tail between my legs. Fast forward to a few weeks back. The antenna ground was repaired, and I was ready to activate. Except that there was a S9 noise level on Rt 22 where I was planning to activate. Luckily, I was able to find a plan B site just a couple miles away, and it was RF quiet!

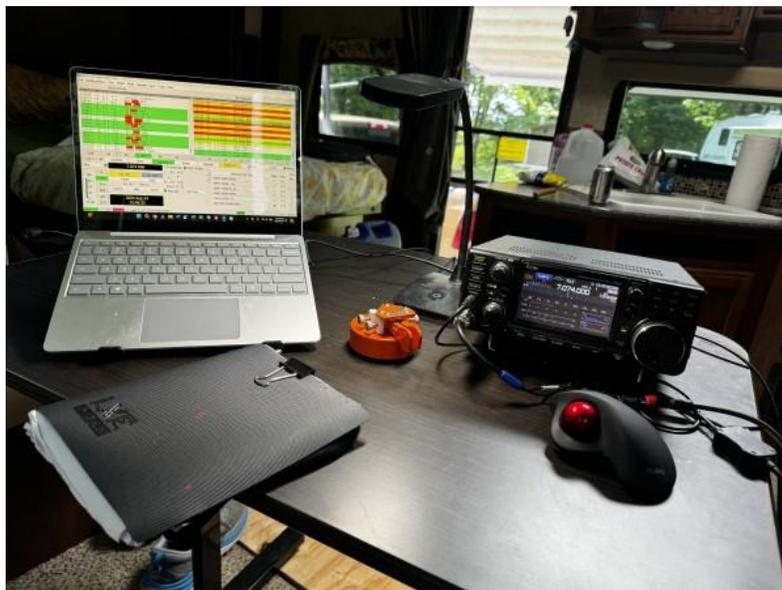
On the weekend of August 17th, a bunch of POTA folks gathered at Delaware State Park for the 2nd Annual POTA meetup & BBQ. It was very well attended, and we had a lot of fun.



The following weekend was OHQP weekend. If possible, I prefer to find an under-activated county for the weekend. This year's choice was Beaver Creek State Park, in Columbiana County. It is a Two-fer with the North Country National Scenic Trail. Thanks to some excellent band conditions, I came so close to my goal of 100K, but missed it by just 1100 points! ARRGH! There's always next year, right? At 98K, this was still a personal best for me.

For this year's OSPOTA, join me at West Branch State Park, where we'll operate as N8P. Look for me at the East Boat Ramp Shelter (off of Gilbert Rd). Everyone is welcome to come out and operate. OSPOTA runs from 10 AM - 6 PM on Saturday, September 7th (More info is elsewhere in the Radiogram).

There are also a couple Group builds coming up that I'm involved with. I hope we can schedule one in November. Stay tuned!
73 all DE WG8X



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.

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

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

=====
10/05/2024 – Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest – Location: Lima, OH – Sponsor: Northwest
Ohio Amateur Radio Club – Website: <http://www.nwoarc.com/>

=====
10/05/2024 – Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest – Location: Piketon, OH – Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur
Radio Club – Website: <http://www.nwoarc.com/>

=====
10/27/2024 – 2024 MARC Hamfest at Maps– Location: N. Canton, OH – Sponsor: Massilon Amateur Radio Club, Inc. –
Website: <https://www.w8np.net/>

Swap-N-Shop

FOR SALE **WANTED** **FOR SALE** **WANTED** **FOR SALE**

WANTED: 1 x 20m hamstick and 1 x 40m hamstick; 1 x 40m Hustler RM-40 and 1 x 75m Hustler RM-75. w8net@me.com or 330-619-9194 (text or voice)

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-2000 160 - 6 Meter Transceiver with FH-2 Remote Control Keypad and CT-119 Programming Cable \$900.00 for everything. Original boxes are available. **Contact Bob Hajdak N8QE** at (330) 807-5903 or rhajdak@aol.com. [11/24]

FOR SALE Time to clear out some project radios, 1960 Kaiser W 2035/ D AM/FM/SW table radio \$25, (2) Hallicrafter S-107 receivers \$25, Gonset G-50 6M AM Transceiver \$50. Interested parties can email n8wcp.us@gmail.com [11/24]

FOR SALE Tigertronics Signalink with cable SL-CAB6PM. This cable allows use with several different makes & models of radio. The jumper is installed for the FT-891 & FT-950. By changing the jumpers, this can be used with other radios
More information at <https://tigertronics.com/>. If interested, **contact John, WG8X** at 330-936-5021, or wg8x.radio@gmail.com. [09/24]

For Sale or Want Ad policy reminder: This is a PCARS **members only benefit**. Please don't ask to list items for a friend, relative or SK estate unless they are/were a member of PCARS. Requests come in from all over the USA (and beyond) to list items for sale or wanted items and we just cannot dedicate that much space to non-members. Listings are good for 3 months unless canceled or changed earlier. The date listed after the contact information tells you when the ad expires - example: [01/24] indicates the ad will run until the end of January 2024.

Ohio Section Youth Net

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

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

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

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

If you are a young ham, in the Ohio Section or elsewhere, please check in and say "Hello"! Even if you're far away from OHIO you can check in via Echo-Link. Echo-Link is a good tool to have, and it can be accessed from your laptop, tablet or cellphone. But there is a process to get validated to the Echo-link system. It's simple to do, but you need to get it done before the day of the net!

Portable Ops Special Interest Group

John, WG8X
Portable Ops SIG Coordinator



Next Portable Operating SIG Tuesday, September 11th at 7:00 PM

Last month's group build of 20 Meter Dipoles was very well attended. We may be testing some that we didn't get to last month.

Also, since this SIG happens just 4 days after OSPOTA, expect some discussion about who worked who, and what antenna worked well, and who got their antenna stuck in a tree.

We'll be meeting at the PCARS world headquarters, 705 Oakwood St, Ravenna, at 7pm.

You can learn more about OSPOTA at <https://ospota.org/>

In the 3 years since I began leading the Portable Ops SIG, I've had a lot of fun. But I'm finding myself spread pretty thin lately. This is mostly due to several commitments in the same week. So, with that in mind, the November Portable ops SIG will be my last. If you'd like to step in, please contact Mike, our club President. Thanks everyone for your support.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92154491950?pwd=cmZNSIFhZVRmcVg3L3pnazdrK1ZuUT09>

Meeting ID: 921 5449 1950

Passcode: 878917

One tap mobile

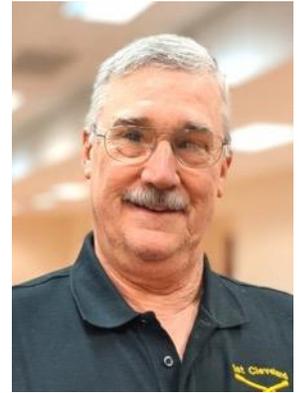
+13092053325,,92154491950#,,, *878917# US

+13126266799,,92154491950#,,, *878917# US (Chicago)

Hope you can make it! 73, DE WG8X

Digital Special Interest Group

Rick, K8CAV
Digital SIG Coordinator



The next Digital Special Interest Group meeting will take place on Tuesday September 3rd at 7:00 PM at the PCARS Club Site.

It will also take place on Zoom with link information below. We will be discussing various digital modes available in fldigi, and will be an open forum discussion as well.

As always, we'll be available to answer questions or provide help for any digital communications issue you may be having. I hope to see you there.

Join Zoom Meeting

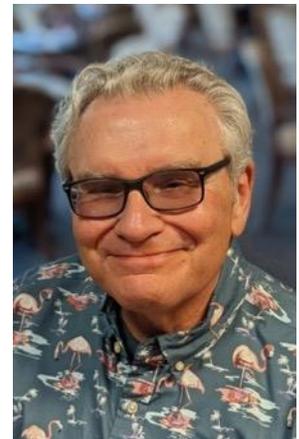
<https://zoom.us/j/96814463409?pwd=bW51VF12TllsZlNKajJ3NTRhaXVTUT09>

Meeting ID: 968 1446 3409

Passcode: 594134

Antenna Special Interest Group

Bob, N8QE
Antenna SIG Coordinator



The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna SIG will be September 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

The next meeting of the PCARS Antenna Special Interest Group will be held September 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM. We will be in-person at the PCARS club site and on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/99273855876?pwd=VWVuemc0T3JRdWVUd2NTZGJZWnBUQT09>

Meeting ID: 992 7385 5876

Passcode: 047804

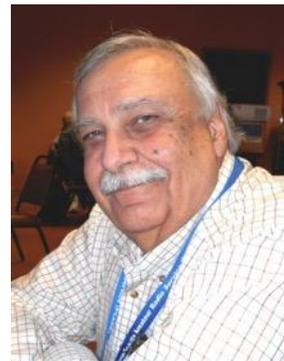
At the August Antenna SIG Meeting we discussed end fed antennas and which balun to use, 49:1 or 9:1. We also talked about NVIS antennas and which would be best for OSPOTA.

The Antenna SIG meetings are open to all PCARS members and guests. All ham radio operators or anyone interested in Amateur Radio are also welcome to attend. We will be discussing all aspects of antenna design, construction, test equipment, and experimentation. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion, and talk about their antenna related projects with the group.

I have decided to resign as Antenna SIG Moderator. PCARS will be looking for a new Antenna SIG Moderator starting in January, 2025. If interested please contact Mike KP4VZ.

Bob N8QE

DX & Contesting Special Interest Group



Chuck, W8PT
DX & Contesting SIG Coordinator

Attention PCARS DXers & Contesters

Hello from my Parkman radio shack. Let me begin by telling you about our efforts putting K8BF on the air in the Ohio QSO Party during our BBQ OpenHouse. We had a very good turnout for the contest even though the turnout for the BBQ OpenHouse was smaller than last year.

At the contest we had 15 sign-ins with 12 of those getting on the air. We even had one new contester who was not bashful in trying his hand for the first time. Bob, N8QE, took him under his wing and showed him what he had to do to make some contacts. He did make contacts and I am hoping that he had fun doing so and will come out again for our next K8BF contest opportunity.

Our efforts resulted in the following numbers being reported by Ken, WA8LRW, to the folks that run the OHQSOP.

812 Contacts
132 Multipliers
110,748 Pts.

So far, as reported to 3830 Scores, K8BF is in second place in the Multi, Multi Low Power category. But since not everyone reports their score to 3830, we may be lower still.

There were two other members that worked from their own QTHs that reported their scores also. They were Joe, W8KNO and Gary, WB2RPW. We'll see if they are included in our final totals.

In regards to our DX/Contesting Special Interest Group meeting, held on Tuesday, Aug 27, we had 7 members present. Our plans to operate in the Texas QSO Party in Sept, were short circuited when we found out that they do not provide for any non-Texas club entries. Everyone has to be a Sgl Op. So we decided to participate in the Washington State Salmon Run which takes place the weekend of Sep 21-22. You will get more information on this as we get closer to that event.

For now, 73 until next month.

Chuck W8PT
PCARS Contest Coordinator



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



Flex Net

Rick, K8CAV
Flex Net Coordinator



Next Flex Net: September 11th at 8:00 PM

This month's net will take place on 15 meters USB phone on 21.300 MHz.

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

PCARS Patches & Stickers



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

Put the patch on your hat, your shirt, your jacket and show off that PCARS logo!! The patch is about 3". The embroidery on the white patch is in Red, Black and Blue. Cost for a patch is only \$2.00 each and can be obtained at any PCARS meeting. There are 2 types of stickers available - a 4" x 6" oval and a 3" x 10" bumper sticker.



Stickers are \$1 each. Show your pride in PCARS - Wear a patch, use the stickers! See the club Treasurer: **Greg, KA8TOA** or e-mail him at: Treasurer@portcars.org

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

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



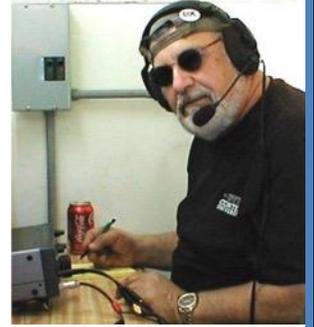
PCARS K8BF

The club that puts the FUN in ham radio



Charlie the Tuner's HF High-Lites

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



Greetings DXers

I recently took a look back at the first few years of our Radiogram newsletter. All I can say is. "BOY did I grow OLD FAST"!!! Well, fast here is a relative term. I had hair back then and it was black. Anyway, looking back, we were a bunch of newbies to this thing called an amateur radio club. We all had relatively fresh faces and you could see the look of excitement on our faces that this was a great adventure.

Knowing that we are nearing our 20th anniversary, has any of that excitement faded? I hope that those who will be around to celebrate PCARS 50th anniversary will still be excited. There are clubs out there that have celebrated 100 years so it's doable!

Right now, we are in the midst of a very fine solar cycle and the bands are offering some great opportunities to talk with other HAMS all over this globe of ours. And when I say talk, I mean carry on a ragchew to get someone in another part of the world to tell you what they are doing and what they enjoy about HAM radio. That's what got me started in Amateur Radio. The idea that I could talk with someone in another state or another country and get to have some "friends" in far off lands, that recognize my voice when they hear it. I have several HAM friends that I can tell right off who they are by their voice.

For those of you, where a 2 meter HT is the limit of what you want to do...go for it! Amateur radio has something for everyone. For those of us who like to see if we can get that weak SSB signal to respond to our call, ditto! I make a lot of fun of FT8 (I still think it's evil) but it has its place in HAM Radio. But for all of us, communication is the targeted end.

And what could be better than for those who enjoy DX, to snag that All Time New One (ATNO). Let's take a look at what is scheduled for this month and the near future.

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

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

The recently updated DXCC Most Wanted List for 2024

1. P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
3. CE0X SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4. BV9P PRATAS ISLAND
5. KH7K KURE ISLAND
6. KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND
7. 3Y/P PETER 1 ISLAND
8. FT5/X KERGUELEN ISLAND
9. YV0 AVES ISLAND
10. 3Y/B BOUVET ISLAND
11. ZS8 PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS
12. KH4 MIDWAY ISLAND
13. VK0M MACQUARIE ISLAND
14. PY0S SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS

- 15. KP5 DESECHEO ISLAND
- 16. VP0S SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
- 17. KH5 PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS
- 18. ZL9 NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS
- 19. FK/C CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS
- 20. VK0H HEARD ISLAND

September...

6O, SOMALIA. 6O3T Team will be active from Somalia, 9 - 30 September 2024. They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, Digital modes with focus on Low Bands and 6m Band. QSL direct, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

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

8P9, BARBADOS. Phillip, OE6MCX is currently active as 8P9MC from [Barbados](#), IOTA NA - 021. He is working on HF Bands. QSL via home call direct.

9G, GHANA. Adam, M6NXW announces that he will be active from Breman, Kumasi District, Ghana as **9G5AS** until September 4, 2024. QRV on 20-17-15-12-10m; SSB, FT8 & FT4. QSL via eQSL, HRD log and QRZ.COM only. No LoTW.

C5, GAMBIA, Reminder - Jean-Louis, F6ITS has just received his Gambian license and will be active as **C5GM** until December 2024. When not on his sail boat, he will QRV from Lamin Lodge (Grid: IK13qj). Jean-Louis says he has restarted CW after more than 10 years inactivity so is sorry for any mistakes and his slow speed. QSL info to follow.

CY9C, SAINT PAUL ISLAND. CY9C Team will be active again from Saint Paul Island, IOTA NA - 094, until 5 September 2024. They will operate on 160 - 6m CW, SSB, RTTY, EME, SAT, FT8. QSL via WA4DAN direct, OQRS, LOTW.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island, IOTA OC-073, and here for about three months while working at the weather station. Activity is in his limited spare time on the HF bands using CW and some FT8. QSL direct to JA8CJY.

OE, AUSTRIA. Special event station OE70VIE is active until September 30 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Vienna International Airport. QSL via OE6VIE.

TK, CORSICA. Frans, DJ0TP is QRV as TK/DJ0TP until September 4. QSL to home call.

TK, CORSICA. TK0C Team will be active from Corsica Island, IOTA EU - 014, in CQ WW DX CW Contest, 23 - 24 November 2024. They will operate in Multi Single High Power Category. QSL via LOTW.

TU, COTE d'IVOIRE. Yigitcan, TA2YGT is QRV as TU/TA2YGT until September 16. Activity is in his spare time on 20 meters, and on Satellite QO-100, using primarily FT8, and possibly SSB. QSL direct to home call.

UN, KAZAKHSTAN. Uwe DL8UD will be on from September 10th to 19th using call UN/DL8UD. RARE!

UR, UKRAINE. Reminder- Special event station EM100WJZ will be QRV now until December 31 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first amateur radio activity from the ancient city of Lwow, now known as Lviv. QSL via UR4WWE.

Look Ahead & Reminders...

3D ROTUMA IS. A DXpedition set for November 15th to December 4th with 6 ops will use callsign 3D2Z.

7Q, MALAWI. 7Q7MW Team will be active from Malawi, during end of the October 2024. They will operate on HF Bands, including activity in CQ WW DX SSB Contest, 26 - 27 October 2024.

C2, NAURU. Our team (T2C in 2023 and P29RO in 2022 and other activities in the years before COVID) has decided to announce its next DXpedition. We will return to the Pacific and travel to Nauru (C2) in October 2024. We are planning to operate with 5 stations, 24/7 from 160 to 6 m in CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY. C21MM Team will be active from Nauru Island, IOTA OC - 031, 11 - 27 October 2024.

DU, PHILIPPINES. Christian, F4EBK is QRV as DU3/F4EBK from Luzon Island, IOTA OC-042, until January 2025. Activity is on 20, 15 and 10 meters typically around 0900 and then after 2100z. QSL via F4EUO.

J75, DOMINICA. J75K Team will be active from [Dominica](#), IOTA NA - 101, 26 December 2024 - 4 January 2025. They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8. QSL via IV3JVJ direct, LOTW.

KH0, MARIANA IS. Tom KC0W is going to operate with call KH0V from November 23-24th .

KH0, MARIANA IS. Ken, JO1VRK plans to be active from Saipan, Mariana Islands as KH0/AJ6VJ during December 30, 2024 to January 3, 2025. QRV 40-20-17-15-12-10m. QSL via LoTW, eQSL – email for home address for paper QSL.

PJ4, BONAIRE IS. PJ4A Team will be active from Bonaire Island, IOTA SA - 006 in CQ WW DX CW Contest, 23 - 24 November 2024. Team - K4BAI, KU8E, N8VW, N4RR. They will operate in M/S Category. Before and after contest they will be active as PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E, PJ4/N8VW, PJ4/N4RR. QSL for PJ4A, PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E via K4BAI.

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

XT2MD, BURKINA FASO. XT2MD Team will be active from Burkina Faso, 31 October - 11 November 2024. They will operate on HF Bands and EME. QSL via IK2VUC buro or direct.

YN, NICARAGUA. Mike, AJ9C will be active again as YN2CC from Nicaragua, 19 - 28 November 2024. He will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, Digital modes including RTTY, including activity in CQ WW DX CW Contest. In CQ WW DX CW Contest he will be in Single Operator All Band Low Power Category. QSL via home call direct, LOTW.

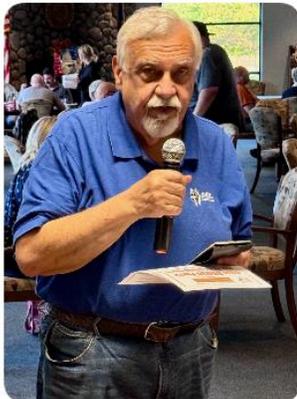
My usual disclaimer: These DX events can change due to various reasons that sometimes are out of the hands of those who are doing the planning. I hope that many of you will use this info to hunt down your ATNO or simply to work some DX while your hair turns grey.

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

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



August Meeting Photos



From Around The World...



Links from Here, There, and Everywhere

Yaesu, Icom & Kenwood Feature New Transceivers at Ham Fair Japan

<https://daily.hamweekly.com/2024/08/yaesu-icom-kenwood-new-radios-ham-fair/>

A Simple But Effective Receiving Loop Antenna

<https://hackaday.com/2024/08/25/a-simple-but-effective-receiving-loop-antenna/>

Sunspot Counts Hit 23 Year High

<https://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=03&month=08&year=2024>

Beyond The Beacon: The Unexpected Benefits of WSPR

<https://qrper.com/2024/07/beyond-the-beacon-conrad-discovers-the-unexpected-benefits-of-wspr/>

SolarHam: Everything You Need To Know About Solar Weather Conditions

<https://www.solarham.com/>

MUF Conditions On The Web – A beautiful map showing MUF

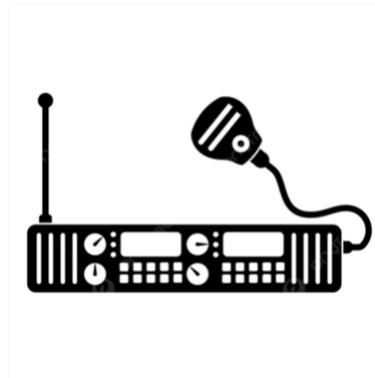
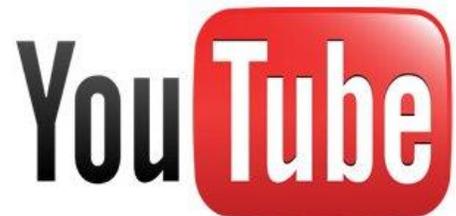
<https://prop.kc2g.com>

arcOS: A Linux Distribution based on Mint Linux that is filled with ham radio software

<https://arcos-linux.com/rtfm.html>

PCARS is on YouTube

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



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

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

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



From the Ohio BMV:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

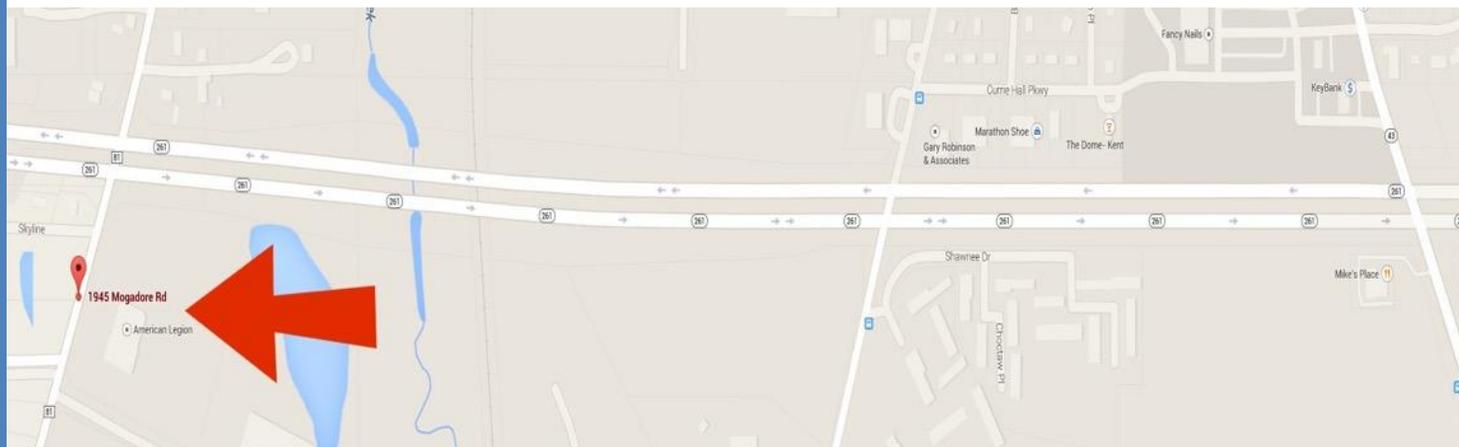
All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card unless customer requests otherwise. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured. Special license plate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

PCARS Meetings

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



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



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



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



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

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

PCARS VE Testing Information & News

Tom, KB8UUZ
PCARS VE Team Liaison



Future Dates
October 5th, December 7th

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

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



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

QUICK FACTS

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

Okay - now all the Details:

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

PCARS
ARRL Volunteer Examiners:
serving the Amateur Radio community
First Saturdays 10:00 am
at the club site in Ravenna
February, April, June, August,
October, December

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

Printing Your FCC License

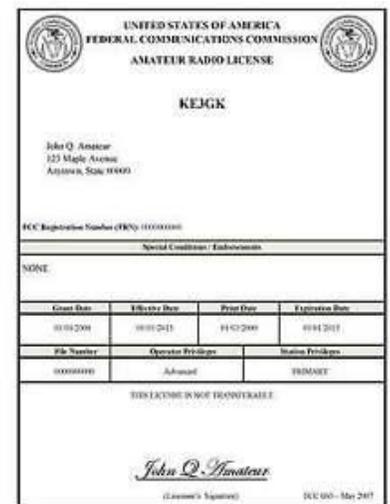
Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

Information provided by Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

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

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

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



Thanks & 73

J.C., KC8JC
PCARS Newsletter Editor



Looking back on August and all of the club activities does show that we are indeed a very active and busy group of hams. The Cruise-In and the BBQSO Party are great examples of our club coming together for fellowship. With the regular group builds, we're helping our members extend the capabilities of their stations and their hands-on skills. It's a great time for PCARS.

I am very pleased to take a little bit of digital ink to congratulate the club on Yet Another Newsletter Award! I'm quite proud to be mentioned on the certificate, but it's the content of our contributors and members that makes this newsletter what it is. **THANK YOU!**

Send your inputs on any ham radio topic to me at KC8JC@portcars.org and you will find yourself in the great company of our many prestigious *Award Winning Newsletter* contributors.

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

**K8CAV, K8ZT, KA8TOA, KB8UUZ, KE8RIQ, KP4VZ, N8QE, N8WCP, W8NET
W8PT, WA8LRW, WG8X and the World Wide Web.**

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



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

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



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

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

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

Check PCARS out on the web: www.PORTCARS.ORG



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

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

THE RADIOGRAM

PCARS Incorporated
Nov. 1, 2005

First Meeting
Nov. 14, 2005



ARRL Affiliation
April 20, 2006



Special Service Club
March 22, 2010

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

Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PCARS. Or, better yet, let me express it this way: "These are my opinions and only my opinions, unless you share them as well, which would make them our opinions, but I am not of the opinion that I can express your opinion as my opinion without your prior expression of said opinion, and then my re-utterance of that opinion would, in my opinion, be foolish unless I were expressing agreement to your opinion, and then it wouldn't be my opinion but your opinion to which I only agree." **GO AHEAD - STEAL THIS NEWSLETTER!** You have our permission to post, e-mail, copy, print, or reproduce this newsletter as many times as you like, but please do not modify what you use. If you use material in this newsletter, all we ask is that you give credit to PCARS along with the author of the article. Caution - some of the articles in this newsletter maybe covered by copyright - please do not copy and use the ones that have by-line information unless you obtain permission from the original author. If you're not sure, drop an e-mail to KC8JC@portcars.org. The RADIOGRAM always obtains written permission for reproducing copyright material. The RADIOGRAM comes out the first day of each month (usually), please have inp uts submitted by 8 pm ET on the last Friday of each month. ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service®) is a program of, and both logos are registered trademarks (used with permission) of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio™. **Why the Black Squirrel in our logo?** For those of you not familiar with it: The Black Squirrel is commonly seen around Portage County, Ohio. Legend has it that some of these little guys and gals got loose from Kent State University back in 1961 and they migrated and thrived throughout our county. Look into the black squirrel legends and see what you find! **When you spot a black squirrel - think PCARS!**

The RADIOGRAM is published every month and only sent to subscribers. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, we understand. We'll try not to take it personally. It's not you saying you don't like us, but maybe you just don't have the time to look at all this hard work we've done just for you. Hey, that's cool. But if your heart is truly set on making sure you no longer receive this newsletter, even though we promise to one day reveal the meaning of life in it and you're going to be really upset when you miss out on that, we can take you off the e-mail list. Send your newsletter inputs (in .TXT format) along with in-focus pictures (not small 50 kb photos) to the newsletter editor: KC8JC@portcars.org

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

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NLC

