



PORTAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



"Public Service Through Amateur Radio"

January/February 2001

Winter is Upon Us

Editor - KB8UUZ

P.A.R.C. OFFICERS

President

Larry Solak - WD8MPV

Vice President

Dave Cluggish - N8IIQ

Sec'y/Treasurer

Joanne Solak - KJ3O/8

Radio Officer

Tom Simmons - N8QXG

Trustees

- 1-Roger Steiner-KB8JHS
- 2-Steve Georges-N8XIB
- 3-Dave DeSimio-WA8GCF

P.A.R.C. Nets & Repeaters

ARES Net - Sunday - 8:30 pm
145.390 MHz

Simplex Net - Tuesday - 9 pm
145.680 MHz

10 Meter Net - Wed - 7:30 pm
28.375 MHz

Club Repeaters

145.390 MHz 442.875 MHz
Located in Ravenna, Ohio

The PARC newsletter is issued 6 times per year.

Contact Tom - KB8UUZ to submit your inputs for the newsletter.

email: kb8uuz@arrl.net or by mail to: 9992 State Route 700 Mantua, OH 44255

Winter is here - there is no doubt about it - Snow & Cold. Well, I guess it is Ohio in January.... Here we are in to the new millenium. Inside this issue are a number of interesting things to read about. Postage rate are up, and our USPS representative **Sharon - KB8JHR** supplied some good info on the new rates. Since QSLing is a big part of this hobby - you'll be sure to read about the new rates and, to help cut postage costs to foreign countries - there's the ARRL Outgoing QSL Buro. Yep - there's an article about that, too. I even harassed **Dave - N8IIQ** - our VP & ARES Coordinator to submit an article, and he sent one in! As always - **Joanne - KJ3O** came through with flying colors in her monthly chat, along with some good recipes from **Vivian - KB8CLH**. For this newsletter I managed to get a few more articles from members to help fill up the pages. Thanks also to: **Dave - W8GWI**, **Ed - K8WJH**, **Al - KB8VJL**, and even from a non-PARC member - **Joe WT8P** (Cleveland Heights). I had so much good stuff, that I had no room for the extra pictures I use to dress up the newsletter - but that's OK! Keep the stuff coming in - hey - it's YOUR newsletter. January has the ARRL VHF Contest - hope to hear you out there! Also our first Hamfest of the year: Dover on January 28th - If you go there, look up **Paul - AJ8I** and say hello - he regularly checks in on the Sunday evening PARC nets from Dover. February not only brings Valentines Day, but also the ARRL CW DX Contest, the CQ WW SSB 160m Contest, and another local hamfest in Cuyahoga Falls - all this before the February meeting on the 28th. For March: the ARRL SSB DX Contest, First Day of Spring!, and the CQ WW SSB WPX Contest. So you have some opportunities to get on the air and get some of those states you need for WAS and the countries you need for DXCC. With the new year set a goal with your hobby. Have fun! Maybe go for that license upgrade, try that new band, get into a contest - just for the fun of it! Another new item in the newsletter - the 'Member Spotlight' - I'll pick someone at random each newsletter and say a bit about them. So if you want to volunteer to be the person I talk about - let me know!! Otherwise, I have to write it up the way I see it, and I may miss an important fact, so help me out here. Don't forget to start making plans for the Dayton Hamvention in May - it's never too early to plan ahead for that one. See, even with the front page - no picture for this issue! There is just too much to talk about this time out! Thanks again for the help, and keep 'em coming! Let me know how your Christmas Ham present is working out, or what your plans are for the new millenium. Just remember - this is one heck of a fun hobby - enjoy it, use those bands and make some contacts! Until next time - Take care & 73. Tom - KB8UUZ

SECRETARY'S CORNER

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2001!! The Holiday Season around our QTH was sure "different" this time around with the unexpected arrival of our son, Lance Corporal Joseph Solak, home for Christmas earlier than we had planned. He had the chance for an earlier "leave" and took it surprising us and many friends with more time to be HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!

Needless to say, we all got caught up in the hustle and bustle of the Christmas Season. I can honestly say I did not get all my Christmas shopping done as planned. The last minute shopping, wrapping, getting the Christmas tree up and decorated, and the Christmas dinner plans, the many friends stopping over to visit etc., what a Holiday Season ! Our son Joseph is in the Marines and is stationed in Iceland at this time. Thought I'd add this little bit of information. That's why it was hectic here for a while. He has been in the Marines for about a year now. Christmas is always interesting with the children and grandchildren around and this year was no exception. It was a very special year.

We do hope your Holidays were just as exciting as ours was. Hope you received many exciting surprises this year. If you received anything pertaining to "Ham" Radio, do let us know about it at the Club Meeting coming up January 24th as you know, and if you don't know, we do meet every fourth Wednesday of each month at the Portage County Justice Center 8240 Infirmary Road, Shalersville. Meetings are held in the EOC (Emergency Operating Center) located in the Emergency Management Agency. The meeting time is 7:00 PM

If you have a club pager, you should know by now we will be changing paging companies this month. Letters have gone out to all members who have pagers through our Club explaining about our discontinuing the Arch Wireless pagers and switching to Ameritech pagers. Ameritech will be our paging company for at least the next four years. Those of you who have not returned the paperwork pertaining to the pagers are asked do so by the January meeting. Arch pagers will be exchanged for the new Ameritech at that time. If you are not going to continue your pager service through the club please return your Arch pager to me by the January meeting. All Arch pagers will be turned off effective January 25th. Again, I will have the new Ameritech pagers with me for those of you who wish to exchange your Arch pager for a new Ameritech pager. We are sure you will enjoy using the Ameritech pager much more than you did the Arch pager because the Ameritech pager is the most recent model of pager available with many more features which we think you will appreciate. If you cannot attend the January meeting, please phone me to make arrangements for the exchange of your pager.

Remember dues are due NOW! Please make your check out to the PARC in the amount of \$12.00 (single) and \$15.00 (family). Your support is most appreciated!

Those of you who missed the Christmas party for one reason or the other, missed another great time for club members. We had 61 members and families present and the buffet was delicious with a variety of good food. The gift exchange was fun as usual and a good time was had by all!

I would like to take this time to THANK all those who have "helped" support the club during the year 2000. We look forward to a very busy year again in this year 2001. So if you haven't volunteered for some committee as yet , please do so at the January meeting.

A very special "thank you" to Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ, for doing this Newsletter. I know from experience, being Newsletter Editor is not an easy "job" to say the least, so PLEASE help Tom out with the Newsletter by submitting YOUR article once in a while..

CHECK out the CLUB OFFICERS listed in this Newsletter, these are those dedicated Club members that will lead our Organization throughout the year 2001!

See you at the meeting January 24th . Until then - BEST 73.

Joanne - KJ30 Secretary – Treasurer

Editors Note: What Joanne should have said was: "Lance Corporal Joseph Solak - **United States Marine Corps**". Every former Marine I know takes great pride in letting everyone know they were members of the United States Marine Corps! They have earned the right to be proud of their corps. I have been told there are no ex-Marines, just former Marines. Let me pass on a heart felt and sincere "**HOO-RAH**" to Joe. I, along with all the PARC members, hope he had an enjoyable holiday season at home. *semper-fi Joe!*

HAM RADIO CLASSES

Do you know someone who would like to be a ham radio operator? Evening classes will begin this January for those interested in starting out in Ham Radio. Bring a friend, its always more fun working in groups. Time: 7:00 PM. Location is pending. Cost: free Books: about \$16.

Call Tom - WA8IAA at 330-626-3933

SEASONED WITH LOVE

QUICK AND EASY ASPARAGUS

1 large can (or 1 box frozen) asparagus
1 can cream of celery soup paprika

Cook asparagus as directed on container. Heat soup in saucepan. Place asparagus in serving dish; pour on soup. Sprinkle with paprika and serve.

FINGER PAINTS

2 tbs. Cornstarch
1 cup cold water

Mix to smooth consistency. Cook until clear and pudding thickness. Add poster paint or other coloring while warm.

MICROWAVE Modeling Clay

2 cup all purpose flour
1 cup salt
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
2 cup water
1 tblsp cooking oil
food coloring, if desired

Combine flour, salt, and cream of tartar in 2 qt mix'n pour (plastic bowl; gradually stir in water and oil until just about smooth. Microwave uncovered on high for 4 ½ to 5 minutes or until mixture is very thick, stirring every minute. Mixture will be lumpy. Cool enough to handle. Turn onto counter top and knead until smooth, about 2 minutes. Divide dough into sections and knead in food color, if desired. Store colors separately in zipper-topped bags. When stored airtight, this mass will stay soft for months. It gets dry while children work with it, spray occasionally with release agent such as PAM, and knead again. Use for modeling or with cookie cutters.

Vivian – KB8CLH

BE PREPARED FOR WHAT?

Many thanks to our club newsletter editor for allowing one of my articles to finally appear in this newsletter. I am fully aware that with all of the many fine contributions provided by all of our club members every other month (first time readers this is a semi monthly newsletter) the competition is fierce and my boring ARES articles have not been good enough to make it to print until now. Just kidding ... with a giant cattle prod set to maximum

voltage by our determined-to-squeeze-an-article-out-of-you-yet-for-the-newsletter-editor, he forced me to do this article for your reading pleasure. Jestng aside, I admit I have been a bit behind in keeping you up-to-date on what's happening with ARES and would like to thank KB8UUZ for reminding me of my duty as EC to keep you informed. If I haven't lost your interest as of yet read on, if so, skip to the comics.

Without a doubt the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is alive and well in Portage county. I know it may not seem so lately judging by the diminished number and/or size of our nets over the past year. But, I also realize that we all have many other interests and disaster preparedness with the passing of Y2K more than a year ago is not too high on anyone's list. I wonder how many of us have even looked at the generator we may have purchased back then. Bet some of us are still coming across forgotten can goods, candles and batteries that we tucked away for the long dark and cold electricity-less winter that never thankfully happened. I know I am. Looking back on it you could say we were quite silly about the whole thing. Mankind the world over spent billions of dollars to prepare for something terrible that didn't happen. Or maybe all of the effort paid off preventing a worldwide catastrophe.

As a Russian missile detected by satellite left its launch pad, during the first hours of the 2000 new year, a Russian soldier sitting in a NORAD bunker along side an American soldier, told his partner "not to worry ... just daily bombing of Chechneya (a city that was recently taken over by rebels)". It may have been this kind preparedness to sit soldiers side by side from potentially adversarial nations that prevented the release of unnecessary counter measures and an unpredictable loss of life.

The point I am trying to make is that we need to be prepared even if we don't have a reason. Silly or not unlike preparing for Y2K most disasters do not give us time to prepare and happen without warning. The last thing we need as amateur radio operators during an emergency is to deal with an outpouring of poorly trained radio operators and a shortage of dependable radio equipment. One of the best ways to make sure that this does not happen to us is to become a regular member of our weekly nets. Aside from learning about what's new with the club, the nets are an opportunity to sharpen operating skills and make sure that our radio equipment is in good working order. We will be looking at ways to increase net activity in the weeks and months to come. Hope to hear you there. Many thanks to our net controls and participating net members. Have a happy new millenium. 73

Dave - N8IIQ

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

4 Feb 2001 - Winterfest 2001 Northern Ohio ARS - Contact: John Schaaf, K8JWS - PO Box 432 - Elyria, OH 44036-0432 - Phone: 216-696-5709 - Email: noars@qsl.net

11 Feb 2001-InterCity ARC & MASER-<http://www.maser.org>-Contact:-Dean Wrasse, KB8MG-1094 Beal Road-Mansfield, OH 44905-1605-Phone: 419-522-9893-Email: deanwrasse@yahoo.com

25 Feb 2001 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC - Contact: - Carl Hervol, N8JLQ - 2292 Lake Center Street - Uniontown, OH 44685 - Phone: 330-497-7047 - Fax: 330-497-8489 - Email: carlh@pop.raex.com
Website: <http://www.cfarc.org>

18 Mar 2001-Toledo Mobile Radio Association-<http://www.tmrahamradio.org>-Contact:-Paul Hanslik, N8XDB-3241 Schneider Road-Toledo, OH 43614-2432-Phone: 419-385-5056

25 Mar 2001 - Lake County ARA - Contact: - Roxanne, N8BC - 7480 Fern Drive - Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060-3233 - Phone: 440-209-8953 (9 AM to 9 PM) or 440-257-0024 - Email: tbrown@ncweb.com
Website: <http://hamradio.org/lcara>

29 Apr 2001-Twenty Over Nine Radio Club-Contact:-Don Stoddard, N8LNE-55 South Whitney Avenue-Youngstown, OH 44509-Phone: 330-793-7072-Email:N8LNE1@juno.com

18-20 May 2001-Dayton Hamvention-Dayton ARA-<http://www.hamvention.org/> Contact:-Jim Graver, KB8PSO-Phone: 937-276-6930-Fax: 937-276-6934- Email: info@hamvention.org

10 Jun 2001-Goodyear ARC-Contact:-Rich Kuster, N8ZDQ-1341 Whippoorwill Trail-Stow, OH 44224-2327-Phone: 330-796-3951-Email: rich.kuster@goodyear.com

FROM THE ARRL WEB SITE

Just a reminder that U.S. postal rates changed on January 7th for both domestic and international letters. Here's how they might affect your QSL-ing. For cards sent within the U.S., first-class letter rates will go up 1 cent, to 34 cents, for letters up to 1 oz. Remember to put 34 cents return postage if you are sending a card direct and are including an SASE. There are bigger changes for letters sent from the U.S. to other countries. According to a spokeswoman at the U.S. Postal Service's Washington, D.C. headquarters, THERE WILL NO LONGER BE AN OVERSEAS AIRMAIL RATE FOR LETTERS WEIGHING LESS THAN HALF AN OUNCE. That means ALL letters will be charged the same rate if they weigh up to one full ounce. The new rate for letters weighing less than one ounce, sent anywhere outside the U.S., Canada and Mexico, is 80 cents. This is a 33 percent INCREASE if you were previously mailing QSLs that weighed less than half an ounce (the old rate was 60 cents), but a 20 percent DECREASE if you were previously mailing QSLs that weighed between half an

ounce and one full ounce (the old rate was one dollar). The new rate structure makes it pointless for U.S. hams to make sure their QSL card, envelope and return envelope together all weigh less than half an ounce, as many of us used to do, since the new limit is one ounce. However, it is still worthwhile to send light airmail envelopes as RETURN envelopes to DX stations, since most countries do NOT charge the same for letters weighing up to the equivalent of an ounce. For DX stations sending direct QSLs with SASEs to U.S.-based hams, a "green stamp" (\$1) will still cover return postage in most countries. In addition, it seems that DX stations no longer have to worry about sending light-weight air mail envelopes here for Americans to use for return mail; although they may still want to do it to cut down postal costs on their side. Airmail to Canada and Mexico from the U.S. will be 60 cents up to one ounce. International postcards from the U.S. will cost 50 cents to Canada and Mexico and 70 cents everywhere else. Postcards within the U.S. remain the same at 20 cents. IRC's (International Reply Coupons) are going up from \$1.05 to \$1.75. You can see all the info at the USPS web site located at:

<http://www.usps.gov/news/2001rate.htm>

Sharon - KB8JHR

Editors Note: In some countries it is against the law to have foreign currency, so check before sending a 'green stamp' so your amateur radio friend does not get in any un-needed trouble. - See the related article on the ARRL OUTGOING QSO BUREAU to help save postage costs.

2001 DUES ARE DUE NOW

Okay - Now that it is on your mind - send in your application for membership now! Every issue of the PARC newsletter has an application just waiting for you to use! Go For It! Don't wait - send it in now!

CORES

The FCC has proposed requiring everyone it does business with obtain and use an FCC Registration Number—or FRN. Many amateurs registered with the Universal Licensing System already have been assigned a 10-digit FRN by the Commission Registration System—or CORES. The FCC has not made its use mandatory, however. The FCC says requiring individuals and entities to obtain an FRN will help it track and manage the collection of fees. The FCC proposes requiring that FRNs be provided with any filings that require payment of a fee, such as vanity fee for amateurs. FCC Form 159 has been modified to accommodate this requirement, the FCC says. The FCC is proposing to reject filings requiring an FRN that do not

include the number. "These proposed rules would make the use of the FRN mandatory in certain circumstances so that anyone not yet assigned an FRN or who has not yet obtained one must obtain one," the FCC said in its Notice of Proposed Rule-making (MD Docket 00-205,) released December 1, 2000. CORES information is not made public.

From WT8P: I did some digging at the FCC site and I must admit that ULS/CORES can become confusing after reading their instructions for awhile so I thought I would put it down on paper as I interpret the instructions hoping that it may help some members who have not yet registered with CORES. The day is fast approaching when it will be mandatory so you might as well get it done now.

ULS REGISTRATION

To file a first time registration with the ULS, follow the steps below.

1. Go to web site www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls.
2. Click on "TIN/Call Sign" under the registration heading.
3. Click on "register now," then click "continue."
4. Click "an individual," then click "continue." The Register Information screen appears.
5. Enter your 9 digit TIN (Social Security Number) omitting the punctuation, under the licensee information. Enter your Name, Mailing Address Information, Telephone Number, in the appropriate boxes provided under Licensee Information.
6. Individuals need not complete the Contact Information Section, leave this blank.
7. Enter a password of at least 5 characters in new password. This password will be used with your TIN when accessing the ULS. Passwords are case sensitive.
8. Re-enter your password to verify password. This entry must be exactly the same as the password entered in new password.
9. Enter a word of your choice in Personal Identifier.
10. Verify that all registration information has been entered correctly.
11. Click the "submit" button. A screen will appear asking you to register your call sign(s) with the ULS.
12. Click on "enter call sign"(s) button. Type each of your call sign(s) in one of the fields provided. When finished, click on the "Submit" button. A confirmation screen will appear, indicating the TIN, Password, and Personal Identifier. This screen will also indicate the date and time of your registration.

RENEWAL OF YOUR LICENSE

To complete a renewal of your license the FCC Form 605 (main form and/or associated schedules) is required. The purpose of the filing will either be "Renewal Only" "RO" or "Renewal/Modification" "RM." Renewal Only will be selected to renew an existing license that has not expired and where no changes in the license are being requested. Renewal/Modification will be selected to renew an existing license and request changes to that license (i.e., address, telephone, e-mail,

etc.) For a manual filing the appropriate form can be obtained via web site: www.fcc.gov/formpage.html. Electronic filers would utilize web site: www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls.

1. Select under the heading file, click "ULS Filing."
2. Enter your TIN (taxpayer identification number) and password. If you do not have your password or have forgotten it please call Technical Support 202-414-1250 for assistance.
3. Click on Select New Filing, "FOR RENEWAL ONLY."
4. Purpose of Application, select Renewal Only "RO."
5. Renewal Only—Your Call Sign(s) should appear on this screen, click the box to enter a check mark for the Call sign(s) being updated.
6. Sign your application by typing your name in the appropriate boxes.
7. Click on "Renew" to file your application with the Commission.

RENEWAL/MODIFICATION: Follow Steps 1 through 3 as listed above.

4. Purpose of Application – select "Renewal / Modification." "RM".
5. A drop down box will appear for you to select the call sign(s) you wish to renew and modify.
6. The application screen will now appear with pre-filled information allowing you to make the requested changes by clicking and highlighting the areas you wish to change.
7. Sign your application by typing your name in the appropriate boxes and click "Next Page."
8. Click "Submit" to file your application with the Commission. If assistance is needed to complete the manual or electronic form (605) call ULS Auctions Hotline at 888-225-5322, select option #2 after the recording.

Information gathered and submitted by:

Joe - WT8P

P.A.R.C. MEETINGS

Don't Forget – The regular meetings of the Portage Amateur Radio Club are on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 7:00 pm. Place: Portage County Justice Center - 8240 Infirmary Road, Shalersville, Ohio.

10 Meter Contest

Hello PARC members and friends.....I took part in the contest in December and had a great time! The 10 meter band opened up very well and enabled me to make contact to the Marshall Islands to the West and Russia to the East. I also made a couple to contacts to some

needed US states for my WAS award that I am still working on for the 10 meter band. For this years contest, my only antenna still up is my half wave 10 meter dipole. With the band opened up as well as it was I had no problem with it; and with a height of only about 30 feet, I did make a contact to the World Famous ham station...KB8UUZ.....mine was only one out of a Zillion that he had made! The pace was a little faster this year and I heard many large numbers of contacts made by the DX stations. Those DX station hams do put forth a big effort in all of these contests! For those of you who think CW is "out".....the year 2000 had the most CW traffic I ever heard.....on all the bands!

AI - KB8VJL

HAMS IN OHIO

I've been keeping track of Ohio hams since May of 2000. Here is the breakdown of current FCC amateur licenses held by individuals in the State of Ohio as compared to almost a year ago.

08-May-2000

Novice	Tech	Tech- Plus	General	Advanced	Extra	Total
2120	8808	6810	4695	4358	3335	30126

09-Jan-2001

1964	9278	5133	6021	3675	4155	30226
(-156)	(+470)	(-1677)	(+1326)	(-683)	(+820)	(+100)

I'll still keep tabs on this and update in each newsletter. We'll see how many new Ohio hams come in to the hobby, and how many upgrade since the license restructuring.

Tom - KB8UUZ

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER

Please support YOUR club, help pay for the repeater and many other worth wile club activities. Sign up that new member today:

Portage Amateur Radio Club
 c/o: Joanne Solak - KJ30/8
 9971 Diagonal Rd.
 Mantua, OH 44255

CHEAP PHONES JAM RADIOS

By Alen J Mendonca Business Times Bureau. BANGALORE: Tech-savvy Bangaloreans have been purchasing cheap Chinese-made long-range cordless phones and using them just like cellular phones, as they have a range of five to eight kilometers. The result: VHF, HAM Radio and frequencies that hover between television and FM bands are being jammed. The usage has also hampered the smooth functioning of HAM satellites. HAM enthusiasts have warned the Wireless Planning Commission, part of the Department of

Telecommunication, that increased and unbridled usage could seriously hamper Air Traffic Control and prove tragic to air passengers. The long-range cordless phones have a huge market in such countries as Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam with poorly developed telecom facilities. Fishermen use them to communicate with traders onshore as the phones have a range of 30 kms. In Bangalore, the phones are easily available for around Rs 5000 at the numerous shops selling smuggled goods. All the user requires is a regular telephone connection. That available, he has to fix an antenna that looks like a trishul atop his house or establishment and he's networked. The cordless phone has a range of five to eight kilometers. Hams Pratap (VU2POP), Rajendra Kumar (VU2ZAP) and V Nataraj (VU2NTA) told this newspaper that the phones have been using the frequencies between 140 and 180 MHz that is also used by the police and fire force. "There are so many of these phones being used that the HAM repeater stations above the 24 storied Public Utility Building and the Nandi Hills in Bangalore are being frequently jammed," they said. Users to a large extent are unaware that usage is illegal as DoT rules only allow for cordless phones with a range of 100 meters. They are also not aware that their conversations can be heard by Hams across South India. The phones have also been affecting HAM satellites. It's all uncharted territory with the Customs, Police and even telephone department unable to take corrective steps. Playing ostrich could prove damaging in the long run. Credits CQ Magazine From India Times News

Submitted by Ed - K8WJH

**PARC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
 WB8FEW**

Listening to the PARC repeater? Then you know Bobby - WB8FEW. Bobby is retired and spends most of his time in his radio/electronics room. He is one of our more active members and has made a life out of electronics. Bobby spent most of his life doing R&D work and building all kinds of electronic equipment. While in Florida, Bobby was active in amateur radio and ARES in addition to this work in the electronics field. He helped design, build and maintain several repeaters in addition to doing repair work for area amateurs. Bobby's move to Ravenna has been a plus for our club. He's become an active member of the PARC while continuing his work in the electronics field. In addition to this he has been building two new QRP transmitters (they look fantastic!) I've had the pleasure of visiting Bobby in his basement shop/shack. Talk about test equipment - he has the gear - and he knows how to use all of it! On one side of the room is his electronic tinkering bench, the other side is all the ham gear and radios. He has a very nice stock of

(all neatly filed in proper order!) that would make Radio Shack envious. He always has some sort of nifty project going on that's real interesting. Bobby's electronic expertise has been a boon to the club since he was able to repair one of the club's ATV transmitters and he has helped several area amateurs by repairing their gear. It's really great to have someone who can work on today's electronic equipment in our area. If you have any electronic questions, or need some advice, or your in need of repair work - contact Bobby - he just may be able to help you out. Meanwhile - give WB8FEW a call on the repeater, and say hello!

Tom - KB8UUZ

Editors Note: Watch for future issues of the PARC newsletter - the next Member Spotlight just may be you!

ARRL's Outgoing QSL Service

Postage costs just keep rising, but you don't have to go broke before you're even halfway towards making DXCC. There's a better and cheaper way: "QSL VIA BURO" via the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service! One of the greatest bargains of League membership is being able to use the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service to conveniently send your DX QSL cards overseas to foreign QSL Bureaus. Your ticket for using this service is proof of ARRL Membership and just \$6.00 per pound. (Those not quite so DX active can send 10 cards [or fewer] and enclose \$1.00.) You can't even get a deal like that at your local warehouse supermarket! And the potential savings over the substantial cost of individual QSLing is equal to many times the price of your annual dues. Your cards are sorted promptly by the Outgoing Service staff, and are on their way overseas usually within a week of arrival at ARRL HQ. The Service handles approximately 2,000,000 cards each year! QSL cards are shipped to QSL bureaus throughout the world, which are typically maintained by the national Amateur Radio Society of each country. While no cards are sent to individuals or individual QSL managers, keep in mind that what you might lose in speed is more than made up in the convenience and savings of not having to address and mail QSL cards separately. (In the case of DXpeditions and/or active DX stations that use US QSL managers, a better approach is to QSL directly to the QSL manager. The various DX newsletters, the GOLIST QSL manager directory, and other publications, are good sources of up-to-date QSL manager information.)

How to Use the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service

Note: The ARRL QSL Service should not be used to exchange QSL cards within the 48 contiguous states.

1) Presort your DX QSLs alphabetically by parent call-sign prefix (AP, C6, CE, DL, ES, F, G, JA, LY, PY, YL, 5N, 9Y and so on). Some countries have a parent prefix and use additional prefixes, i.e., CE (parent prefix) = XQ, 3G... When sorting countries that have multiple prefixes, keep that country's prefixes grouped together in your alphabetical stack. Addresses are not required. Do not separate the country prefix by use of paper clips, rubber bands, paper slips or envelopes.
2) Enclose proof of current ARRL Membership. This can be in the form of a photocopy of the white address label from your current copy of QST. You can also write on a slip of paper the information from the label, and use that as proof of

Membership. A copy of your current Membership card is also acceptable.

3) Members (including foreign, QSL managers, or managers for DXpeditions) should enclose payment of \$6.00 per each pound of cards or portion thereof--approximately 150 cards weigh one pound. A package of ten (10) cards or fewer sent in a single shipment costs only \$1.00. Eleven (11) to twenty (20) is \$2.00. Twenty-one (21) to thirty (30) is \$3.00. Please pay by check (or money order) and write your callsign on the check. Send "green stamps" (cash) at your own risk. Do not send postage stamps or IRCs. (DXCC credit cannot be used towards the QSL Service fee.)

4) Include only the cards, address label and fee in the package. Wrap the package securely and address it to:

ARRL Outgoing QSL Service
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06111

5) Family members may also use the service by enclosing their QSLs with those of the primary member. Include the appropriate fee with each individual's cards and indicate "family membership" on the primary member's QST address label.

6) Blind members who do not receive QST need only include the appropriate fee along with a note indicating the cards are from a blind member.

7) ARRL affiliated-club stations may use the service when submitting club QSLs by indicating the club name. Club secretaries should check affiliation papers to ensure that affiliation is current. In addition to sending club station QSLs through this service, affiliated clubs may also pool their members' individual QSL cards to effect an even greater savings. Each club member using this service must also be a League member. Cards should be sorted en masse by prefix, and a proof of Membership enclosed for each ARRL member.

Recommended QSL-Card Dimensions

The efficient operation of the worldwide system of QSL Bureau requires that cards be easy to handle and sort. Cards of unusual dimensions, either much larger or much smaller than normal, slow the work of the bureaus, most of which is done by unpaid volunteers. A review of the cards received by the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service indicates that most fall in the following range: Height = 2-3/4 to 4-1/4 in. (70 to 110 mm), Width = 4-3/4 to 6-1/4 in. (120 to 160 mm). Cards in this range can be easily sorted, stacked and packaged. Cards outside this range create problems; in particular, the larger cards often cannot be handled without folding or otherwise damaging them. In the interest of efficient operation of the worldwide QSL Bureau system, it is recommended that cards entering the system be limited to the range of dimensions given. (Note: IARU Region 2 has suggested the following dimensions as optimum: height 3-1/2 inches [90 mm], width 5-1/2 inch [140 mm].)

Countries Not Served By The Outgoing QSL Service

The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service serves approximately 260 DXCC countries, as they are defined in the ARRL DXCC Countries List. This includes nearly every active country. As noted previously, cards are forwarded from the ARRL Outgoing Service to a counterpart bureau in each of these countries. In some cases, there is no incoming bureau in a particular country and cards therefore cannot be forwarded. However, QSL cards can be forwarded to a QSL manager, i.e.: 3C1MB via (EA7KF).

The ARRL Outgoing Service cannot forward cards to the following countries:

A5	Bhutan
A6	United Arab Emirates
D2	Angola
J5	Guinea-Bissau
KC6	Belau
KH0	Mariana Is.
KH1	Baker and Howland Is.
KH4	Midway I.
KH5	Palmyra and Jarvis Is.
KH7	Kure I.
KH8	American Samoa
KH9	Wake I.
KP1	Navassa I.
KP5	Desecheo I.
P5	North Korea
S7	Seychelles
T2	Tuvalu
T3	Kiribati
T5	Somalia
TJ	Cameroon
TL	Central African Republic
TN	Congo
TT	Chad
TY	Benin
V6 (KC6)	Micronesia
VP2M	Montserrat
XU	Kampuchea
XW	Laos
XX9	Macao
XZ (1Z)	Myanmar (Burma)
YA	Afghanistan
ZD9	Tristan da Cunha
3C0	Pagalu I.
3C	Equatorial Guinea
3W, XV	Vietnam
3X	Guinea
5A	Libya
5R	Madagascar
5T	Mauritania
5U	Niger
70,4W	Yemen
7Q	Malawi
8Q	Maldives
9N	Nepal
9Q	Dem. Rep. of Congo
9U	Burundi
9X	Rwanda

If you have any questions concerning this list, please email them to the Outgoing QSL Service at buro@arrl.org. Additional information: The ARRL no longer hold cards for countries with no Incoming Bureau. Only cards indicating a QSL manager for a station in these particular countries will be forwarded. When sending cards to foreign QSL Managers through the Outgoing Service, use the Manager's call in the sort, rather than the station's call. SWL cards can be forwarded through the QSL Service. The Outgoing QSL Service cannot forward stamps, IRCs or "green stamps" (cash) to the foreign QSL bureaus.

From the ARRL

Making & KEEPING Your New Year's Resolutions

It's difficult to avoid the overwhelming desire to make resolutions on New Year's Eve. After all, there's that sense of renewal, of rebirth, and the guilty awareness that you ate your own weight in candies and desserts during the holidays. It happens to all of us. The problem is that, even though each new year offers a fresh start, we struggle desperately, and generally fail, when it comes to staying true to our resolutions. I confess that I reign as the undisputed queen of broken resolutions. Lose weight. Exercise. And, of course, the invariably stress-inducing I Must Relax More. They all failed, and not because I wasn't sincere when I made them. I'd say it, I'd mean it, and then I'd do nothing! Oh sure, the resolutions stood firm for a few weeks, and their memory returned throughout the year, mostly to make me feel guilty and ineffectual. Based on this, my resolution for 2001 was to find out why I have such a hard time keeping my resolutions. But, alas, there's good news. After a considerable amount of reading and soul searching, I think I've found the answer to my dilemma. I've concluded that I don't, in fact most of us don't, have a clue how to make a reasonable resolution, which is why we are so unsuccessful at keeping the ones we make. We often set high, practically unattainable, goals for ourselves and wonder why we never manage to see them through to completion. Then, out of sheer frustration, we either stop setting goals (never a good choice), or make resolutions that are ridiculously easy to keep (like resolving to stop smoking if you have never smoked in the first place). An article entitled Keeping Resolutions!, released by the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, recommends the following guidelines for keeping your resolution:

1. Don't overload on resolutions. Make only one or two.
2. Set realistic goals.
3. View your resolution as a chance to try new things - resolve to start doing something, not to quit doing something.
4. Examine what stopped you from success in the past and work toward eliminating that block.
5. Be sure that you are personally motivated. Don't make your resolution based on what others are saying or doing. Make your goal something that you've been wanting to achieve.
6. In case you backslide, don't scrap the entire plan. Start anew the next day and chalk it up to being human.
7. Share your plans with another person for encouragement and support.
8. Reward yourself when you are successful.

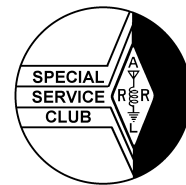
DAVE - W8GWI



Portage Amateur Radio Club

Membership Application

New Member [] Renewal Membership []



Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____ Packet Address: _____



ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No ARRL Membership Expires: _____

First Year Licensed: _____ Previous Call Signs: _____

Additional family members living at home who are -or- want to be, club members:

	Name	Call Sign	License Class	ARRL Member?
--	------	-----------	---------------	--------------

1				[] Yes [] No
---	--	--	--	----------------

2				[] Yes [] No
---	--	--	--	----------------

3				[] Yes [] No
---	--	--	--	----------------

List your interests in Amateur Radio:

Are you a member of Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)? [] Yes [] No

If not a member of ARES - would you like to join? [] Yes [] No



Please check the Bands and Modes you have the equipment to operate on:

Band	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	2	1.25	70cm
AM													
FM													
SSB													
CW													

Do you operate (circle): **RTTY** **ATV** **EME** **PSK31** Other (list): _____

Would you like to make any comments or suggestions concerning the PARC?: _____



Single Membership - \$12.00

Family Membership - \$15.00

Annual Dues are due January 1st

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Mail to: **Portage Amateur Radio Club**
c/o: Joanne Solak - KJ3O
9971 Diagonal Road
Mantua, OH 44255

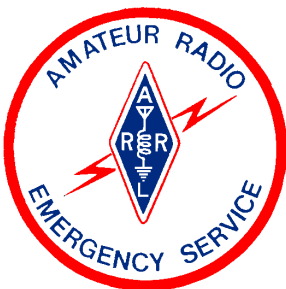
Any questions - call Joanne at: 330-274-8240

The Portage Amateur Radio Club meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM
at the PORTAGE COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER – 8240 Infirmiry Road, Shalersville, OH

Guests are always welcome!

For more information contact Joanne or Larry Solak at: 330-274-8240

P.A.R.C. Repeaters: 145.390 mHz 442.875 mHz Located in Ravenna, Ohio



HAMFAIR⁰ '01 - July 29, 2001

Never too early to mark your calendar!

P.A.R.C. Website: <http://www.parc.portage.oh.us/>

The PARC Newsletter is copyright ©2001. Articles are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily those of PARC. Material may be used by other amateur radio clubs without written permission as long as credit is given to the Portage Amateur Radio Club.
Newsletter contact: kb8uuz@arrl.net

Portage Amateur Radio Club
Joanne Solak – KJ3O/8 – Secretary
9971 Diagonal Road
Mantua, OH 44255



*Public Service
Through Amateur Radio*

This is the **Electronic E-Mail** version of the **P.A.R.C. Newsletter**.
The advantages to receiving the newsletter this way are: You get COLOR pictures, no postage needed, and it is delivered right to your e-mail box!
If you know of anyone else that would like to receive this newsletter, please have them send me an e-mail.

News letter editor: Tom - KB8UUZ
email: kb8uuz@arrl.net