



November 2007

**Officers:**

**President:**

Larry Solak, WD8MPV

**Vice President:**

Steve Georges, N8XIB

**Sec'y / Treas:**

Joanne Solak, KJ3O

**Radio Officer:**

Dave Kaltenborn, N8KBC

**Trustees:**

Gregg Gary, WB8YYS

Tom Simmons, N8QXG

Dave DeSimio, WA8GCF

**Repeaters:**

145.390 MHz.

442.875 MHz

**P.A.R.C. Nets**

Sunday, 8:30 PM 145.39 MHz.

Portage County ARES Net

Tuesday, 9:00 PM 145.68 MHz

Portage County ARES

simplex net

Well, it is that time of year again. The weather has gotten cold and the sun is not shining like it does in the summer. It is time to plan those in shack projects you have been putting off all summer. Some of these might include sprucing up your emergency gear, just in case we need to use it. As always we hope not.

Looking back at 2007 the PARC had a good year. Near the top of the list is the success of Hamfair 2007. It is good to see the downward trend reversed and we are looking forward to an even better Hamfair 2008. Plans are already underway and those involved are excited about the prospects for the coming year.

The Technical Committee replaced the transmitter antenna and did some repairs to the tower at the repeater transmit site. The 39 machine is back to full ERP. In addition there are plans to give the rest of the repeater a complete over haul. The voter is scheduled for a reset and we have ordered some new receivers and link gear. The finished product will have three receive sites to more effectively utilize the transmitter coverage. A special Thank You to all those who helped with the tower and antenna work. It is greatly appreciated.

Important also are the up coming Holidays. With Thanksgiving before the November Club meeting we have planned a full meeting since no one will have to run home to fix the bird. In addition, November is election of officers for the coming year. Joanne, KJ3O will also be looking for reservations for the Christmas Party. Be sure to get them in and join in the fun.

Looking toward 2008 we have some interesting ideas. We all hope to see many of you come out for Field Day and some of the other drills that will be going on. In addition as Spring looms in the distance we will again be preparing for Sky Warn operations. Keep in mind that unlike hurricanes where there is plenty of advanced notice (even if it is not heeded) tornadoes only announce their coming shortly before they hit. A sharp trained eye is the best defense.

Don't forget the Portage County Amateur Radio Emergency Service nets on 145.39 MHz. and 145.68 MHz. These are helpful training tools and also allow for the dissemination of information. In case any emergency please monitor these frequencies in case communications assistance is needed. As the Boy Scouts say Be Prepared!!

de WD8MPV

## **P.A.R.C. CHRISTMAS PARTY**

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR when we celebrate the HOLIDAYS with all of us together again in fellowship and pride in our club.

It is another PARC annual Club Christmas Party. The date is Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup>. The place is the V.F.W. Post 1055, 6000 New Milford Road in Ravenna. The time is 6PM until whenever. (Dinner starts at 7PM) The best time to arrive is about 6:30PM. This gives you time to place your exchange gift (Ladies exchange a \$5.00 gift and the guys exchange a "junk box" gift which in most instances isn't junk but something worth receiving) . If, however, you ladies would rather, you could exchange a "junk box" gift...your choice. Under the tree!

The Christmas Party will be catered by Guido's in Ravenna. The menu includes, Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Parsley Potatoes, Rigatoni, Green Beans, Garden Salad and Rolls. Coffee will be provided by the Post and beverages other than the coffee will be available. Each person (couple) is asked to bring a dessert. The price the price for The celebration is just \$15.00 per person. Payable at the November Club meeting November 28<sup>th</sup>.

Besides the Gift Exchange, we will have music for your dancing and listening pleasure.

We always have a great time at our Annual PARC Christmas Party and YOU being there to join us adds to the pleasant time shared by all!

Please get your reservation to me as soon as possible so I can order the food.

CU there!

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## **FCC RULES REVISED**

The FCC recently made sweeping revisions to the Part 97 rules as they pertain to amateur radio. Do you know them? Do you know that when you signed the form 605 ( or the former 610) form during your upgrade or license renewal you actually certified you have read and will comply with

portions of the Part 97 amateur radio rules. You can get a copy of these revised FCC Rules and Regulations for the Amateur Radio Service for less than \$6.00 plus S&H. from the ARRL . It not only contains the complete FCC Part 97 rules but "plain language" explanations of these rules and how you can comply with them. If you wish to order this new rulebook, you can do so by calling toll free at 1-888-277-5289 and request publication # 1173.

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## **HOLLINGSWORTH TO STAY AT FCC**

A while back I mentioned that Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel for the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, had decided to retire effective January 2008. Now he has announced he has decided NOT to retire! Riley states, "After spending the entire weekend thinking about the decision ( to retire ) , it became more and more clear to me that it just isn't the right decision for me right now. There are several issues on the table that I want to continue to work through with the amateur community".

So, Hollingsworth will stay PUT!

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## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

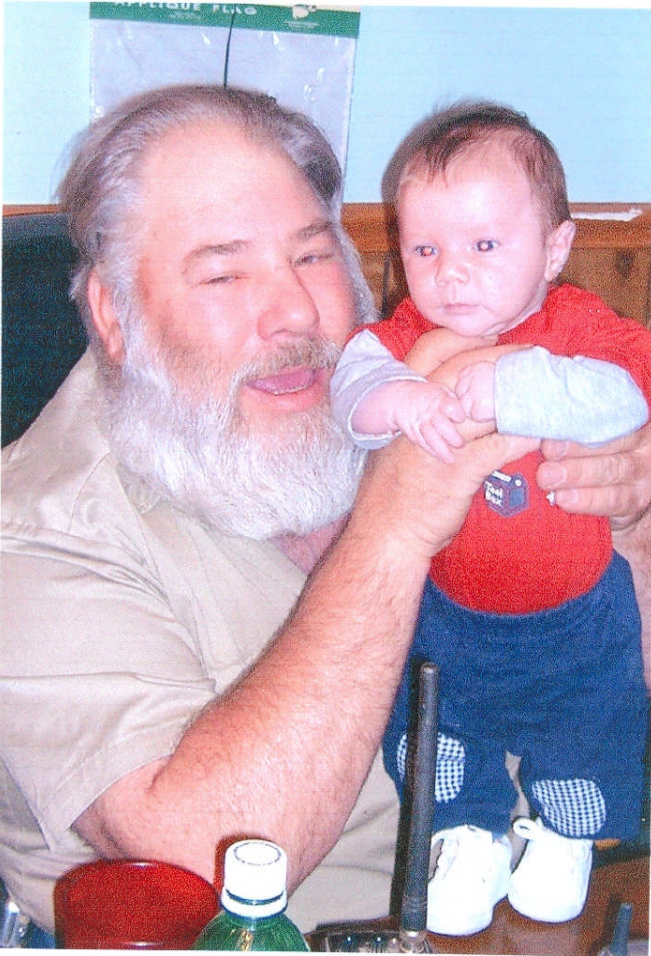
The Ohio Single Side Band Net will change frequency and time -- Beginning Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>., the third and evening daily session of the OSSBN will be at 8 pm, Eastern Time and on the OSSBN alternate frequency of 3.968 MHz.

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## **DUES ARE NOW DUE**

If you haven't paid your 2008 membership dues which are still \$12.00 single and \$15.00 family, you can pay them at the Christmas Party or at the first meeting of the year 2008. Make the check out to PARC in the proper amount and mail them to the Club Address on the back cover of this newsletter. "thanks"

## Proud Grandpa



Ted Kost, KC8SYD, with his newest family member Gabriel Cleveland Gilbert. Gabriel joined the family on 14 April 2007 at 2:22 PM. Our congratulation to Ted and the rest of his family.

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## Propagation Report

Tad "There's a Reason for Sun, Shiny Sky" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Another quiet week, but strangely, like the previous week there was just a single sunspot appearing for one day, and it was also on a Tuesday. Just like the previous week, the daily sunspot number was 11, and then it went back to zero when the spot disappeared. No spots are expected in the near future. Geomagnetic indices have been quiet, but may become unsettled in the near term. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet to unsettled conditions for November 16, quiet November 17, quiet to unsettled November 18, quiet November 19, quiet to

unsettled November 20, unsettled to active November 21 and unsettled November 22. The NOAA

Space Weather Prediction Center sees a planetary A index of 10 for November 16, 5 for November 17-19, 10 for November 20, 15 for November 21 and 10 for November 22. Sunspot numbers for November 8 through 14 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 11 and 0 with a mean of 1.6. The 10.7 cm flux was 69.7, 69.5, 69.8, 69, 69.7, 69.9 and 70.4 with a mean of 69.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 2, 3, 1, 2, 8 and 9 with a mean of 4 Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 2, 2, 1, 2, 7 and 9 with a mean of 3.7.

. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page

<<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>>. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page <<http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>>.

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### Getting FCC Forms via Mail

The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at 800-418-3676.

The ARRL/VEC also makes available most FCC forms for the amateur service. You can obtain these forms by writing to: ARRL, 225 Main Street  
Newington, CT 06111

An SASE is appreciated. Please be sure to indicate which form(s) you want.

### Getting FCC Forms Electronically

FCC forms are available from the FCC via the Internet as shown in the table below. They also are available by fax at 202-418-0177. Via fax, use the document number from the table below or request the document index.

### NCVEC Form 605

NCVEC Form 605 </arrlvec/ncvec605-3.pdf> is used by VECs (and can not be sent to the FCC). ARRL Members can submit license modifications and license renewals on NCVEC Form 605 to ARRL/VEC. For a complete list of filing instructions and filing fees go to the ARRL Member Instructions For License Renewals or Changes Page <memberlicenseinstructions.html>.

\* NCVEC 605 Instructions </arrlvec/605ins.html>

## He's Back

Gregg Gary, WB8YYS has been a personal friend for many years. Gregg was an assistant EC in Portage County taking an active part in both public service and emergency communications in addition to many other club activities. After a vacation and some changes in his life Gregg is back into amateur radio and the PARC. Always enthusiastic Gregg sent the following for this issue of the newsletter.

Welcome back Gregg.

de, WD8MPV

de, WB8YYS

First off, I'd like to extend my thanks to all the members new and old that have welcomed me back to the club after a rather lengthy hiatus and to the many members that have helped get my station back up on the air. In particular W A8PVS, Walt for the Mosley tri-bander and TR44 rotor. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated and to WD8MVP, KJ3O, W A8GCF AND KB8CLH who gave up a weekend to help dismantle a donated tower for installation at my new QTH. I can't thank you all enough.

Now to the business at hand. Our Field Day while a little light on sunspots, was successful in that the club proved its' ability to operate under the most diverse conditions possible. I've always said, It's not how many points we score but rather the 1 st contact achieves our goal of providing reliable communications in an emergency scenario.

I have a few new ideas for next year in addition to 2007 to have a separate 10,15 and 6 meters station provided the propagation co-operates. Perhaps a GOT A for invited visitors to operate on and see just how interesting our hobby can be.

Quite thankfully our weather hasn't be as bad as it could have been and the Portage County ARES hasn't had to be called into play. However it's comforting to know that if needed, we have some of the most experienced operators in our club that know what it takes to get the job done. I encourage everyone to take part in each of the club's nets whether it be the Sunday night 145.39 net or the Tuesday night 145.68 simplex net. I'm trying to

work up some really nice net participation certificates to go to any member that achieves 5 consecutive check-ins. If you're looking for some neat wallpaper, stay tuned.

I've included here and thanks to the 147.30.com website a pictorial about coax and attaching a PL-259. If you've ever wondered how far back to trim a piece of RG-8 and the proper way to attach the connector, here it is. The same website has an interesting article about the new Anderson power pole connectors that are sure to become the standard for connecting a mobile rig to any similar equipped power supply and the good news is that they're pretty cheap too. There's a real good construction project utilizing these connectors maybe we can get in the next newsletter. With the weather soon to change, it would make a nice afternoon project. I'll have some details for you later.

Here's a list of all the NOAA weather radio stations in the state of Ohio and their coverage areas courtesy of NOAA. Most will know the local stations and a new station has been established in New Philadelphia controlled by Pittsburgh to fill the void between Wheeling and Akron. Kind of a handy guide to use if you're traveling through the state and need to keep tabs on the weather.

I recently happened onto an MFJ-1270B TNC for packet and wonder if anyone would be interested in setting up a packet system that maybe we could integrate into the ARES. Something to think about It's a little early to be thinking about HamFair 2008 but time will pass quickly I'm sure. As the newly elected [????] HamFair chairman, I'd like you input what went right or wrong and what you'd like to see for next year. There aren't as many hamfests as there were in years past and I think we have the responsibility to provide the best show possible for our fellow hams which benefits not only our club but our hobby as well

That's about all I have for now, at least until I shut the computer down. Remember this newsletter is yours and your input is always welcome and needed. I look forward to the next meeting and seeing what's up with you. ...

73 and Tnx, Gregg, WB8YYS..

## Iraq Returns to the Air

\* Iraq Back on the Air Next Week: Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, President of the Iraqi Amateur Radio Society (IARS), announced November 13 that effective November 20, all Amateur Radio activity will be "back to normal" in Iraq. Sayah said, "All Amateur Radio operators in Iraq who carry a valid Iraqi license will be able to use their radios according to regulations of IARU Region 1 and the IARS." Amateur Radio activity in Iraq was suspended in March of this year, with the suspension affecting both Iraqi citizens as well as any foreigners -- including military personnel and contractors -- who have been on the air from Iraq. The request to halt all ham radio activity and the issuance of licenses in Iraq originated with a letter from the Iraqi Ministry of Defense to Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki as part of a new security plan, Sayah said.

## FCC ENFORCEMENT BUREAU ACTIONS

Late last month, Special Counsel in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau Riley Hollingsworth sent notification to Brandon M. Duke, KD0BSH (ex KCOUWS), notifying Duke that he has "submitted [his] license to the Commission to be held for one year, retroactive to July 1, 2007, during which time [Duke] will have no authority to operate radio transmitting equipment."

In January 2007, the FCC told Duke that they had information showing he had been operating on frequencies not allowed by his Technician class license; Duke admitted this was true. The FCC reminded him "that such operation is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 United States Code Section 301, and would subject you to fine and imprisonment. Additionally, we noted that you have ignored requests to cease operation on repeaters in your area. You were advised of the requirement to heed those requests in a Commission letter dated January 9, 2006."

Duke, in order to resolve the FCC's case against him, agreed to turn in his license, retroactive to July 1, 2007. Hollingsworth warned Duke that

"operation of Amateur Radio transmitting equipment during this period (until June 30, 2008) would result in enforcement action against your license, which may include revocation and monetary forfeiture (fine).

Fines normally range from \$7500 to \$10,000."

## WRC-07 Wraps Up In Geneva; Will Likely Meet Again In 2011

The final working session of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva drew to a close Thursday afternoon, November 15. The signing ceremony for the Final Acts will take place Friday. According to International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, the principal achievements and disappointments, as they relate to the Amateur Services, of the conference are:

### Achievements

\* Maintenance all existing amateur allocations, including the 7.200-7.300 MHz allocation in ITU Region 2 (the Americas) that had been somewhat at risk in connection with consideration of additional allocations for HF broadcasting (see below).

\* A new worldwide secondary allocation at 135.7-137.8 kHz with a maximum radiated power limit of 1 W e.i.r.p. (given the low efficiency of practical antennas for this frequency range, this limit is not as severe as it may sound).

\* Inclusion of an item, "to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services" on the provisional agenda for WRC-11 (set for 2011).

\* Avoidance of future agenda items that pose serious threats to key amateur allocations.

\* Some improvement in the so-called "country footnotes" that provide for different allocations by country in all or part of the 1.8, 3.5, 50 and 430 MHz amateur bands.

## Disappointments

\* No new allocation for the Amateur Service in the vicinity of 5 MHz, and no agenda item to consider such an allocation at a future conference.

\* No future agenda item to consider an amateur allocation at 50 MHz in ITU Region 1 (Europe, the former Soviet Union, Mongolia, Africa and parts of the Middle East).

The amateur issues were of course a minor part of the WRC-07 agenda, but the Amateur Service was involved in one of the most contentious agenda items dealing with allocations between 4 and 10 MHz. A series of European Common Proposals had proposed changes to allow for an increase of 350 kHz in HF broadcasting allocations, with a footnote for administrations to allow the Amateur Service to use 5.260-5.410 MHz on a secondary basis and with a radiated power limit of 250 W; however, HF broadcasting had no support from the other regional organizations and no compromise acceptable to all parties could be found. Ultimately the European administrations had to accept "no change" for broadcasting, effectively scuttling our chances for a 5 MHz allocation.

The IARU had hoped that if an allocation could not be achieved at WRC-07, an appropriate agenda item could be included for WRC-11. The 2007 conference, however, had little interest in taking up HF issues at the next conference, tentatively set for 2011, having little to show for a great deal of effort expended on HF in preparing for WRC-07. The only HF issues on the provisional WRC-11 agenda have to do with oceanographic radar applications and the implementation of new digital technologies for the maritime mobile service.

The International Telecommunication Union's planning for the next World Radiocommunication Conference begins on Monday in Geneva, with the convening of a two-day Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-11. Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will attend on behalf of the IARU.

## IN BRIEF:

\* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, be sure to check out the ARRL November Sweepstakes (SSB) on November 17-19.

The YO International PSK31 Contest is on November 16 and the Feld Hell Sprint is November 17.

The SARL Field Day Contest, LZ DX Contest, All Austrian 160 Meter Contest and the RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest (CW) are all scheduled for November 17-18;

The NA Collegiate ARC Championship (SSB) is November 17-19.

The EU PSK63 QSO Party is November 18,

The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is November 19

The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint is November 22.

Next weekend, the ARRL International EME Competition is November 24-25, as is the CQ Worldwide DX Contest (CW).

The SKCC Weekend Sprintathon is November 25

The ARCI Topband Sprint is November 29.

See the ARRL Contest Branch page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>>, the ARRL

Contester's Rate Sheet <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/>> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>> for more info.

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy  
and Prosperous New Year to  
ALL**

**The Portage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**  
meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM  
Maplewood Career Center - 7075 State Route 88 - Ravenna, Ohio

**Guests are always welcome**

**For more information contact: Joanne or Larry Solak at: 1-330-274-8240**

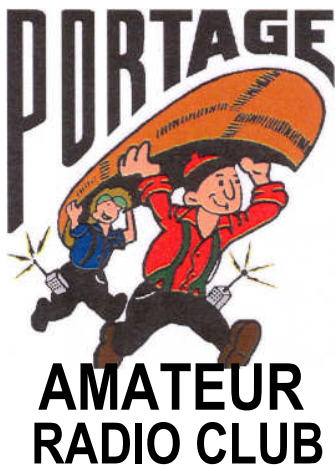
**PARC Repeaters: 145.390 MHZ 442.875 MHZ Located in Ravenna, Ohio**

**HAMF AIR ® '08 - July 27, 2008**

**P.A.R.C. Website: [www.portagearc.org](http://www.portagearc.org)**

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**"Public Service"**  
**Through Amateur Radio**