



PCARS Newsletter

July 2010 Volume 70 Issue 1

<http://www.pcars.org>

Monthly Meeting 7:15pm

Monday – July 12, 2010

Meeting Location: Salvation Army Building
1080 Hickory Street, Melbourne, FL 32901
(Coffee and goodies at 7:00pm)

The July program will be a presentation by Jan K4QD and Don AF4Z on their recent mission trip to Haiti. Due to the earthquake this trip was more challenging than past trips. The two traveled to new locations and worked on some interesting projects this year. They promise an entertaining presentation.



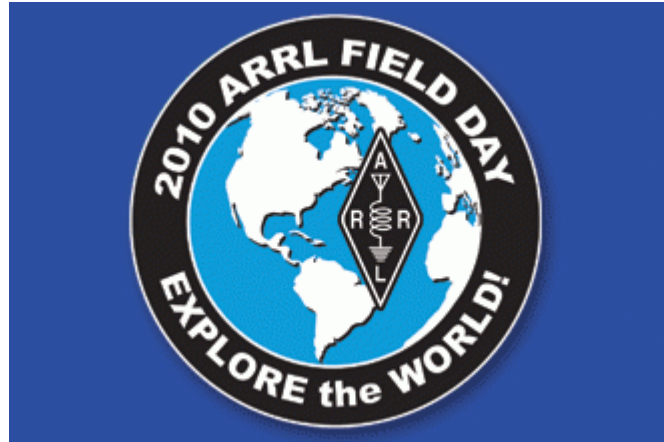
Upcoming PCARS Meetings

- **Board of Director Meetings** are held on the last Tuesday of each month: **July 27th**, August 31st, September 28th, October 26th, November 30th
- **General Membership Meetings** are held on the second Monday of each month: **July 12th**, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, November 8th

W4MLB Repeaters: 146.85/.25, 146.61/.01, 444.425/449.425 Out/In T 107.2 & Packet Node: 145.09

Mosquito net: The Titusville Amateur Radio Club operates the Mosquito net every Wednesday at 19.00 local times. The freq. is 28.333 USB. Check-ins are welcome.

ARRL Field Day June 2010 Results



I wanted to share some preliminary results of our Field Day effort. We had a very good turnout of operators and supporters with over 35 people in attendance. There were at least 15 operators. Nine other people made contacts on the GOTA station and six of them were under the age of 18. Here is a breakdown of our scoring.

We entered the 2F category and stayed in contact with the EOC via UHF link. That meant that we had two primary stations operating on the HF bands. In this class we also had a bonus VHF station and a GOTA (Get on the Air Station). Points made on these stations counted in our totals, but did not count as additional stations.

Primary Station Report:

We normally run one CW station and one Phone station. Before FD, Don and I networked the computers on these two stations together so that we could operate the same mode on both stations and not worry about duplicate contacts. This year we had several good CW operators so we started the contest with both stations on CW for the first several hours. Chris-WF3C and visitor Craig-K1QX had solid runs on 20M & 15M during the first few hours. Due to the lower bandwidth required for CW there seem to be many more CW stations on the air during FD, or maybe just more we can work. So the majority of the contacts on the main stations were on CW. CW contacts count as 2 points and voice count as 1 point, so CW has a scoring advantage. Several of our PCARS members took turns on the phone station during the evening and into the night, and then again starting about 6 AM through the end of FD at 2:00PM.

CW QSOs = 1,291 SSB QSOs = 412 Total QSO = 1703 Points = 2994

VHF Station Report:

Recently, 6 meters has been quite active, so we decided to focus on it with our VHF station. John-AB4ET made a 6M beam from ½ inch PVC and wire and mounted it at about 20 feet. We used his FT-897 for the station and an old laptop I had for logging. A few of our members who had not really been active in FD recently kept that station going as long as the band was open. This station was also used to pass our message traffic which was picked up from us by Jim-NN4AA. Several checks were made on 6M CW, but all the activity was really on SSB.

CW QSOs = 2 SSB QSOs = 121 Points = 123

GOTA Station:

The ARRL has placed an emphasis on getting newly licensed, un-licensed, and inactive hams on the air. There is also an emphasis on getting young people involved in amateur radio, so there were many bonus point opportunities available on the GOTA station. With a newly licensed grandson, I was interested in this area and offered to head it up and act as the primary coach. I also appreciate the help from Dick-NN4JJ and others who supported me as coaches in the GOTA station. We had nine people who made contacts at the station. Six of them were youth. Three of these Okie-AJ4UX and Aaron-KJ4UQS from Don's last class, and Bryon, an unlicensed but very interested young man, made most of the contacts. We used the club FT-847 on SSB and a TS-940 from Don on PSK-31. When band conditions were marginal the PSK worked well and also kept the interest of the young operators.

SSB QSOs = 216 PSK QSOs = 44 Points = 304 (Plus bonus points to be calculated)

We multiply all our QSO points by two because of our power category. So we have a total of 6842 points before bonus points.

Bonus Points:

There are many categories of bonus points. Many helped us get bonus points for media publicity, message handling, alternate power, and arranging visits. Arnie-W4EIP even stopped operating to copy the FD bulletin from ARRL in CW. I roughly counted up 800 points without the bonus points for the GOTA station and I estimate that we will have at least 200 bonus points from that. When I get the submission completed I will let everyone know how we did. I estimate we will have between 7700-8000 points. Based on looking at last years scores it would have put us at about the bottom of the top 100 stations out of 2300 entries and, I think, #2 in the 2F category.

-Jan K4QD

45th Annual Melbourne HAMFEST

&

2010 ARRL State Convention

Sponsored by the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS)

October 9 & 10 2010

Saturday: 9AM-5PM

Sunday: 9AM-2PM

Setup: Fri, Oct 8th at 6:00PM to 9:00PM, Sat, Oct. 9th 7:00AM to 9:00AM

- **GREAT Outside TAILGATE Area**
\$10.00 per designated parking space - first come, first served after 3:00PM Friday. Tailgate areas not designated as regular parking are \$2.00/linear foot; these areas will only be assigned by special request. Come early - open at 6:00AM on Saturday! Admission tickets required in tailgate area.
- **Location: Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, Florida 32901**
- **Plenty of Inside commercial booths and swap tables**
- **Consignment table will be available**
- **Amateur Radio Exams will be given on site**
- **ARRL Awards Checking – Available on Saturday**

- **Main Prizes and Hourly Door Prizes will be awarded**

Registration Information: Tickets purchased before Sept. 30 are \$6.00, and \$7.00 after Sept. 30, 2010. Tickets are required everywhere on auditorium property-inside and outside. Age 12 and under are free. Requests must include Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for advance tickets or pick-up at the door.

E-Mail your information requests to hamfest2010@pcars.org

Hamfest Co-Chairs: Jim Long KI4RBW or Kathy Quinn KI4RQY Phone: 321-956-2482

Mail: PCARS Melbourne Hamfest
P.O. Box 1004
Melbourne, FL 32902-1004

Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society Club Officers

President	Jim Hagan	NN4AA	Vice President	Hugh Davey	K4XBC
Secretary	Nancy Moore	KI4FKH	Treasurer	Don Winn	AF4Z
Custodian	Jan Heise	K4QD	Director	John Weatherly	AB4ET
Director	Dennis O'Quinn	K4CXX	Director	Dave Dobson	KG4KFF
Director	Bruce Jarrell	KI4TJY	Director	Dave Moore	WB4VAM
Hamfest Chair	Jim Long & Kathy Quinn		KI4RBW & KI4RQY		

SOUTH BREVARD EMERGENCY NET (SBEN)

- Every Monday at **7:00PM** on 146.850MHz
- 146.610MHz Alternate repeater frequency. If both fail use 146.580MHz simplex

SBEN is an emergency training net that meets on the PCARS 146.850 repeater on Monday nights at 7:00PM local time. The net is sponsored primarily by PCARS for all South Brevard amateurs, and everyone is encouraged to check into the net.

Net Control Operator Schedule

Date	NCS	Name
12-Jul-10	AB4ET	John
19-Jul-10	KI4TG	Tim

PCARS Membership Dues

Annual dues for 2010 regular membership are \$20. Persons in the same immediate family MAY also become a member if they so choose for an additional \$10.00. If you have changes you can get the form at the club website at www.pcars.org

Club address is: **PCARS, P.O. Box 1004, Melbourne, FL 32902-1004**

Newsletter Comments, corrections, articles for or about the newsletter, or just general information may be sent to the editor at dnnmoore@hotmail.com or delivered snail mail (Editor, PCARS Newsletter, P.O. Box 1004, Melbourne, FL 32902-1004). Members are urged to submit material for publication. *Articles of a technical nature are highly desirable.*

*Articles reprinted by permission of the ARES E-Letter & the American Radio Relay League