



Cleveland Chapter One
NEWSLETTER
Established 1951

Fall Quarter 2014

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

<http://qcwa-cleveland-1.org>

**Fall luncheon is October 11th at
Mimi's Restaurant in Parma**

*We will continue to meet in Parma
because The Boneyard Restaurant
remains closed.*

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

The Saturday, October 11th meeting will feature our annual recognition of member's achievements and years of service to amateur radio and the community at large.

Unfortunately, that very special 80th anniversary award, which appeared on the front page of the summer newsletter, will have to be presented posthumously to long time member Robert Briggs, W8MMC, who passed away just a few weeks ago.

Join us starting at 11:30 a.m. for our quarterly luncheon. **We are meeting at Mimi's Restaurant, located at 7528 Broadview Road in Parma, Ohio. Exit I-77 at Pleasant Valley Westbound (Parma) and proceed about 2 miles to Broadview. Turn left and immediately turn right into the shopping plaza. Mimi's is located in the back (western edge) of the plaza.** Eat off the lunch menu for about \$10.00. Door prizes, 50-50 raffle, music, and fellowship awaits!

Please bring a friend! ■

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MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICE

It's that time of year again. Please maintain your support of our chapter by mailing your \$10.00 annual dues to Chapter 1 treasurer, Dave Foran, WB8APD.

Pay by check, made out to:
"QCWA Cleveland Chapter 1."

Mail to:
**Dave Foran, WB8APD
5439 Nan Linn Drive
Willoughby, OH 44094**

Note: No dues required if you are age 90 or older!

SILENT KEYS

Longtime member **Robert F. Briggs, W8MMC** passed away in September. Bob was only the 59th ham to earn the QCWA 80th Anniversary Award.

William "Jim" Wihebrink, Sr. KB8BLF, son of Chapter 1 member Bill Wihebrink N8IJG.



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

Editor: Robert M. Winston, W2THU

Past editors: George Mistic, KE8RN; "Dee" Logan, W1HEO; Bernie Hinrichsen, W2NTB (SK); Joe Zelle, W8FAZ (SK); Joe Tomazic, WT8P (SK).

Distribution: Robert M. Winston, W2THU

Roster changes:

Notify Secretary Al Moriarty, N8CX;
(216) 221-3682; <n8cx@mindspring.com>

Meetings: Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October. Mimi's Restaurant, 7528 Broadview Road, Parma, Ohio

Dues: \$10.00 per year.

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Chapter One Officers

President: Robert M. Winston, W2THU;
(216) 924-3314, <w2thu@arrl.net.>

Vice President / Secretary:

Al Moriarty, N8CX;
(216) 221-3682 <n8cx@mindspring.com>

Treasurer:

Dave Foran, WB8APD; 5439 Nan Linn Drive, Willoughby, OH 44094; (440) 942-0618 <wb8apd@hamnet.org>

Operational Group

Membership: KE9UL

Net controls: N8ZT, KC8UIQ

QCWA Journal reporter: WB8N

License trustee: W8WGO

Awards chairman: W8WGO

Chief radio officer: K8QOT

Chapter musicians: WA8OZC, WB8ADF

Sunshine reporter: Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP,
<reingraham@sbcglobal.net >

Web administrator: K8ZGW,
<dritchie@dr.com>



Please notify Secretary Al Moriarty of any changes in your address, e-mail etc. so your roster information can be kept current. Thanks.



Recent Activities:

John Papay, K8YSE, has been recognized as the first amateur radio operator ever to work every grid square in North America via amateur radio satellite.

This is quite an accomplishment. Congratulations John!

Gary Dewey, NI8Z, received a certificate confirming he worked the 13 Colonies. CARS had a special event station using wind power at the Cuyahoga County Fair this past August.

Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, restored his Hammarlund HQ-180 and wrote an article in Electric Radio about it and about the Lafayette Radio HE-10/KT200.

George Pindroh, K8KR, is enjoying his new FT DX 5000 MP with the SM-5000 monitor scope.

Dwaine Modock, K8ME, purchased the same rig at Dayton. NODXA had 948 CW Field Day QSOs and 1250 on SSB.

Other News:

Eric Jessen, N8AUC and **XYL Robin, KC8AWO** celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary on 6 August. Congratulations!

Mark Studer, KC8FQV, uses RF in a different way for medical use to monitor his sugar levels.



**MESSAGE FROM
OUR SECRETARY**

Hi All,

Well, here it is
October again. The
quarterly meeting is
just next Saturday,

October 11th at Mimi's.

I hope that many of you made it to the Cleveland Hamfest. If you did, I would really like to know what you thought of the Hamfest. Please email me at n8cx@mindspring.com. Your comments, good or bad, will be appreciated.

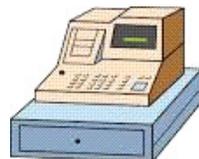
We picked up one new paid member at the Hamfest with another six or so who took applications. Welcome to Tim Hunter, KD8DXS. He is number 99 on our roster. There are still many who have not paid their 2014 or years before dues.

Okay, see you at the meeting.
Until then, vy best 73s to all.

Alan, N8CX, VP/Secretary

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Greetings!



To date, we have \$5,063.22 in the bank. I expect to see ALL at lunch next Saturday!!

Dave Foran, WB8APD

**QCWA CHAPTER 1
at the Cleveland Hamfest**

Your Cleveland chapter continued its annual presence at the local hamfest at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds last week. Our table was ideally located between the ARRL and LEARA tables. This gave us an opportunity to chat with the Great Lakes Division and Ohio Section top brass.

We had a very successful Hamfest as measured by the 45 hams who signed our sign-in sheet. This included 16 chapter members. We signed up 3 new members for sure, with another 5 or 6 who took applications to join.

Our set up included old newsletters which were all taken by passers-by, new member applications and the "Reasons to Join Chapter 1" information sheet.

Chapter 1 was represented by **WA8OZC**, **AI** (below) and **W2THU**, **Bob**.



Join the Friday Lunch Bunch

QCWA Chapter One members and other radio hams gather for lunch each Friday at 11:00 in Willoughby. The place? The Manhattan Deli, 34601 Ridge Road, (That's in the Pine Ridge Plaza next to Heinen's.) Join us!



Birthdays this Quarter

October

WB8QLW	Tom Sawyer	10/1
KA8VIT	Bill Chaikin	10/8
N8ZT	Craig Kollai	10/19
WA8SAJ	Jeff Covelli	10/22
W8QKO	Don Sealy	10/26
WD8IOU	Dave Autry	10/26
K8FH	Fred Helwig	10/28

November

W8FC	Ford Cole	11/1
N8QXE	John Parks	11/4
K8IIU	John Shott	11/13
WA8VSJ	Art Lewis	11/19
K3OTY	John Parsons	11/20
W3SVJ	Nate Firestone	11/22

December

NI8Z	Gary Dewey	12/7
WB8ZGH	Mike Goffos	12/27

Is your birthday missing or wrong?

We have no dates of birth for the following members who are urged to supply this information to our chapter secretary, N8CX.

K8YLY, KE8ZZ, N8JIW, WD8PFK, W8PJN, N4JMS, WB8ZEJ

Birthdays are announced each week during the chapter's Wednesday night net at 8:00 p.m. on 146.850 pl 110.9. Join us! (Corrections to Al Moriarty, N8CX—n8cx@mindspring.com)

HEARD ON OUR CHAPTER NET



Instead of trying to answer a trivia question, our nets feature discussion questions.

The August 13th net asked if you approve of the FCC call sign system where a new ham can get a vanity call that gives the appearance of an old-timer? **K8EHP, Mike**, said that new hams should keep their assigned call. **NI8Z, Gary** called it an abomination. Maybe a 1X3 call, but not an Extra call. **K8YLY, Ken**, suggested that no call change be allowed for the first 2 years. **WA8TPP, Dick**, agreed. Others, such as **KE9UL, Joe** have no problem with it.

“Have you worked any of the W1AW /100 stations as they move from state to state?” This question was answered on the August 20th net. **KE8ZZ, Ed** and **KB8QKC, Larry** reported a QSO with 4 such ARRL centennial stations. **WA8TJL, Gary**, **W8FDN, Dick** and **W8WNA, Kirk** had worked 3. **W2THU, Bob** reported 2. Others said they haven't been active on HF lately.

The question for the September 3rd net was to name the greatest threat to our hobby. Most agreed with **N8EQT, Ray** that a lack of young people, caused by the draw of the internet, is the problem. **N8ZT, Craig** said we need to keep up public service to show the value of our hobby.

Why not add your 2 cents worth by checking into our weekly chapter net every Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm on our own 146.85 repeater. All you need is a PL tone of 110.9 Hz.

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

I didn't want to talk about restaurants anymore, but here we go again. In my previous column I had said that we will return to the newly renovated Boneyard for the fall luncheon. However, the Boneyard is in a state of flux. My sources tell me that the owner doesn't know what he wants to do with that restaurant. Therefore, we will stick with Mimi's for the foreseeable future. Except for the lack of a liquor license, Mimi's has all the attributes of our Mayfield Heights venue. The summer luncheon went very well as, in lieu of a speaker, we had a lively discussion about QCWA, our chapter and amateur radio in general.

Do you recall my plea in the summer newsletter for members to step up and fill three important positions? These were vice-president, newsletter editor and QCWA Journal reporter. I am very pleased to announce that **WB8N, Tom Wayne**, not only agreed to assume the latter role, but he has already put Cleveland Chapter 1 back in the Journal. I'm sure that many of you have seen his chapter report in the July 2014 issue. Formerly, the Journal reporter's responsibility included only 4 reports per year, which pretty much coincided with our quarterly luncheons. Now that the national organization has gone to monthly Journals, it is not easy, and we don't expect that Tom will be able to convey local chapter news that often.

Thanks to Tom for accepting this important assignment.

He is a very good writer.

With that said, who out there will step up and accept the responsibilities of vice-president or newsletter editor?

I hadn't planned on going to the ARRL Centennial in Hartford this past July. After all, **Jeannie, KC8MNW**, had already bought me the special edition 2014 ARRL Centennial Handbook. I figured that the book, along with a few W1AW/100 QSOs would be the extent of my celebrating 100 years of the League. Then, I got a call from my buddy WA2YMR, Jerry, suggesting we take a ride up to Hartford from his QTH in Manhattan. So, I drove to New York and we continued on to the Connecticut Convention Center the next day. The convention was like a mini Dayton with vendors and flea market folks all inside that beautiful location. I was impressed with the many forums and varied topics. But most of all, I really enjoyed visiting W1AW, (see below) with all of its radio history and wonderful station. If you have an opportunity, do go to W1AW!

I look forward to seeing you at Mimi's this coming Saturday.

Best 73, Bob Winston W2THU



THE NATIONAL NC-270 RECEIVER

de George Mistic, KE8RN



The National NC-270 is one of my favorite receivers. It is the first receiver that I ever used that had a product detector for CW and SSB reception. I was working at Bernie's Ham Shack on East 21st Street in Cleveland, and we took one in as a trade-in on a Galaxy V SSB-CW 80-10 meter transceiver. The National NC-270 was finished in the dramatic color of National cosmic blue; it shared that color and the cabinet size with the NC-140 and NC-190 general coverage receivers and the NC-155 ham band receiver that was sort of a lower cost version of the NC-270. The NC-121 and NC-105 receivers shared the same color but were smaller and cheaper general coverage receivers. A bit later the exceptional HRO-500 general coverage synthesized solid state receiver shared the color as did the NCX-3 and NCX-5 SSB-CW transceivers. The NCL-2000 2KW linear amplifier, and a number of later SSB-CW transceivers based on the NCX-5 like the NCX-200 and others used the same color.

The NC-270 was a double conversion receiver with a 2215 KHz first IF and a 230 KHz second IF. It did not use any crystal or mechanical filters for selectivity; it used L-C circuitry to provide selectivity, but did not use a last IF of 80 KHz like the NC-300 and NC-303 earlier receivers did. It used 10 vacuum tubes as did the less expensive NC-155 receiver; the NC-270 came with a built-in 100 KHz crystal calibrator to accurately set the dial for accurate frequency readout. The NC-270 did not use a crystal controlled first frequency conversion like Collins pioneered in 1946. National did not use a crystal controlled first conversion on any of their receivers ever; the very good and highly advanced HRO-500 used a frequency synthesizer locked to a crystal reference to get equal frequency stability and dial accuracy. Only the very nice NCX-5 SSB-CW transceiver got a crystal controlled first conversion like Collins, Drake, Heathkit, and others did later after Collins introduced the idea in 1946.

The National NC-270 covered 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters; it was new enough [released in 1960] to not cover the 11 meter band which went from a ham band to the Citizen's Band in 1958. It did not have a separate band for WWV reception like my other radios like Collins and some Heathkits did; and when it was new, you could tune in CHU Canada, the Canadian Bureau of Standards, at 7335 KHz, above the 40 meter band. As was fairly common at the time, the 160 meter band was not covered at all, paving the way for Dennis Had, W8KXK, to form Dentron to build a transverter for 160 meters, their first product at Dentron Radio Corporation.

The receivers that shared the cabinet size and cosmic blue color, the NC-140, NC-155, NC-190, and NC-270 all shared being double conversion superheterodyne receivers with IF frequencies of 2215 and 230 KHz. The tube compliment in the receiver was very similar, with most of them being ten tube designs. (continued on next page)

NC-270 (continued from previous page)

All of them used the uncommon 6CW5 as the audio output amplifier. The weighted, reduction drive main tuning worked very well, with essentially no backlash and a very good, solid feel.

The NC-270 was in the National product lineup from 1960 to 1964. It overlapped briefly with the NC-303 which was an improved version of the popular NC-300 receiver. At the later end of its life, it overlapped with the very good HRO-500 solid state receiver and the NCX-3 and NCX-5 SSB-CW transceivers. National fought the good fight to stay in the ham radio equipment marketplace for a bit longer, and lasted as a builder of component parts including variable capacitors, knobs, RF coils, and hardware for a bit longer. They eventually lost the battle completely about 1981, **but really lost out making ham receivers and transceivers a good bit earlier, like about 1968.**

The NC-270 was a good performing receiver of the older design concepts, using none of the advances pioneered by Collins and widely copied. It was a much smaller and lighter receiver than the Hallicrafters SX-101 that we discussed last issue. National never built any receivers that would transceive with a transmitter built by National or anyone else; they lost out in the ham radio equipment marketplace in the mid to late 1960's when Collins, Drake, Heathkit and some of the Japanese companies like Yaesu and Kenwood gained the ability to transceive. National never went to a crystal controlled first conversion like the others mentioned did, learning the idea from Collins, who first brought it out in 1946 in the 75A.

I invite suggestions of radios you would like to see here; you can Email ideas to KE8RN@comcast.net or let Bob Winston know on the weekly QCWA Chapter One net. I am familiar with most USA and UK made equipment; I have never personally owned or used any Japanese equipment in my primary station.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**KD8IE Kevin Ritchey Cleveland Heights
KD8OXS Timothy Hunter Cleveland
K8ARP Arpad "Arp" Viiberg Cleveland**

Please join our net this Wednesday at 8PM when your membership will be announced on 146.85 Mhz, and our luncheon this Saturday at 11:30 AM at Mimi's.