



Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

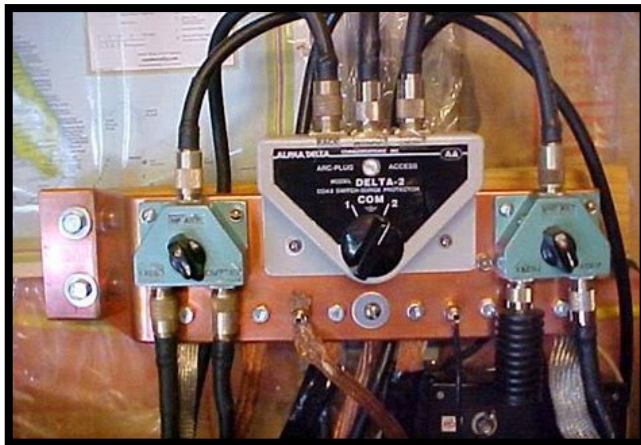
Fall Quarter 2021

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

ARE YOU GROUNDED?

FALL "LUNCHEON" IS SATURDAY
9 OCTOBER 2021 AT 11:30 A.M.



Typical Amateur Radio Grounding Method?

Chapter 1 member **Marc Barnett, KA8CPB**, returns to our quarterly luncheons with an interesting and important presentation on station grounding. Proper grounding is often overlooked in our ham shacks, where even a remote lighting strike could cause significant damage to your equipment.

Marc will discuss the different types of station grounds (electrical safety ground, earth ground, lightning dissipation ground, rf ground) and proper station bonding, among other fascinating topics.

In order to accommodate as many members as possible, this program will be Zoom only. **An email containing the Zoom link will be sent to you a day or so prior to the meeting.**

Bring your lunch and a friend to your favorite streaming device for a program that you will not want to miss.

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CLEVELAND HAMFEST



Bob Winston, W2THU, setting up our table and ready for business!

Chapter 1 continued its tradition of promoting QCWA at the 46th annual Cleveland Hamfest & Computer Show at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea.

Read about it in the *President's Perspective*.

Future Luncheon Dates

January 8, 2022, April 9, 2022
July 9, 2022, October 8, 2022



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

Editor: Robert M. Winston, W2THU
Distribution: Fred Freer, K8IG
Roster changes: Notify Secretary/Treasurer Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK <jgarcaro(at)juno.com>
Meetings: Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at: *To be determined*
Dues: \$10.00 per year if you want this Newsletter mailed to you via USPS. Dues are free if you are 80 or older or accept this Newsletter via email only. **Copyright © 2021** by Cleveland Chapter One QCWA. All rights reserved.

Chapter One Officers

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Operational Group

Membership reporter: Open
Net controls: N8ZT, KC8UIQ
QCWA Journal reporter: K8IG
License trustee: N8ZT
Awards chair: Open
Chief radio officer: K8QOT
Chapter musicians: WB8ADF
Webmaster: K8ZGW

Sunshine reporter: Betty Scholz, KC8FF,
 <gearcutter(at)aol.com>

■
 Please notify Secretary/Treasurer Jim Arcaro of any changes in your address, e-mail etc. so your roster information can be kept current. Thanks.

PEOPLE

New Members:

Douglas Dever, AB8M of Broadview Heights

Steve Gregory, W8SKG of Willoughby

Both Doug and Steve are members of QCWA and are now members of Chapter 1. Welcome to both.

New members and friends are welcomed on our Wednesday night net on the NORMA repeater, 147.015 (pl 110.9Hz) until our own 146.85 repeater is fixed.

Happenings:

Don Ritchie, K8ZGW, passed the Extra Class exam at the Cleveland Hamfest. Congratulations Don!

David Kazdan, AD8Y, reports that they are working with Karamu House (our nation's oldest producing African-American theatre) to re-establish its former ham station, K8BET.

Bob Hajdak, N8QE, lost an antenna recently in the big August storm. He is also a PCARS net control.

Craig Kollai, N8ZT was not available for his normal net control duties during our most recent Chapter 1 net on 29 September. Rumor has it that he was celebrating Disney World's 50th anniversary in Florida, which occurred just 2 days later. Hmmm?

Silent Keys:

With deep regret, we note the passing of the following friends and members of Chapter 1:

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK, became a silent key on 16 September at the age of 92. (See article on page 3.)

NOTE: WE NEED MORE ITEMS FOR THIS COLUMN. ANYTHING ABOUT HAM RADIO, FAMILY, HEALTH OR SILENT KEYS ARE OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS.

SEC'T/TREASURER REPORT

Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK.

Members and Friends, the Treasury for Chapter 1 stands at \$4,877.49 as of Sept 30, 2021, when this is being written. A few of the usual reminders, that we need to be notified if:

- You have a call letter change
- You have a new mailing address
- You have a new Email address, or service provider



For members of QCWA National, there are no Chapter dues. For you, the Email version of the newsletter is free. If you desire the newsletter to be mailed via the US Post Office, there is a fee of 10 dollars per year to cover postage and printing. Each of the quarterly issues costs us about 2.50 to print and mail in the USA.

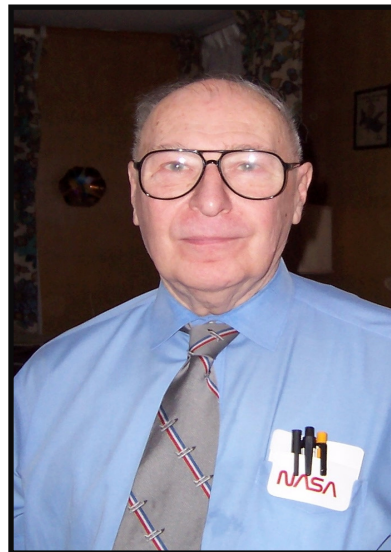
It was nice to see some old friends at the Cleveland Hamfest this last weekend in September. The flea market was chock full of both older and newer radio gear - of all shapes, sizes and weights. There were receivers, transmitters, microphones, dummy loads, scopes, antennas, wattmeters, cable, connectors and bunches of tubes. I remember a time when it was speculated that it would become the Cleveland Computerfest, but I can assure you that at least 90 percent of the equipment on display was radio related.

I myself am partial to the older analog radios. In most cases you can still find parts, schematics, manuals and even tubes at reasonable prices. The old radios have knobs and switches on them that I can operate. I did see an old Yaesu FT-101 there, similar to the two that I have, but it was in horrible shape. The radio looked like it had been in a damp basement somewhere, rusting away for the last 40 years. I just missed out on a free Yaesu wattmeter/dummy load combo. I saw it, but the fellow next to me picked it up first. The seller was giving it away because he said it didn't work. I would have given him 10 bucks for it, and tried to fix it. It would have looked great next to my 101's, even if it didn't work. I had not seen one in that style before.

So I now need to erect some type of antenna. My lot is long, but there are numerous cables around for phone, Cable TV, Internet and electricity. My first thought is to go with some kind of vertical, so I have

just begun to research what's available, and at what price. I had a simple 10 meter dipole at the previous location, but I think I want to at least cover 20 meters too. So we will have to see what's out there, or can be easily assembled and also taken down, as needed. Stay well. Jim WD8PFK

ED STEVENS, WB8ROK (SK)



QCWA member **Edward H. (Ed) Stevens, WB8ROK**, passed away on 16 September 2021 at the age of 92. Area hams knew that Ed came from a ham family where his wife Rickey (formerly K8JFL(SK)) and his son Eddie, KD8FTS are also licensed.

Eddie reports that his dad was an accomplished pilot and flew the Ford Tri-Motor for Island Airlines. Ed was also a member of CARS and LEARA. He enjoyed volunteering at the NASA Glenn Research Center and was a former member of the Cleveland Hamfest Committee.

WB8ROK, a Korean War veteran, participated in many amateur radio activities. Read a more complete biography on www.EdStevens.net.

May He Rest in Peace.

OUR SUMMER MEETING

We had a sparse turnout for Chapter 1's first in person meeting since the pandemic began. The idea for resuming luncheons was based on the high vaccination rate for our Chapter's age group and the safe outdoor setting in the beautiful Metroparks in Brecksville.

Attendees included **Don, K8ZGW and Cecelia, Metro, W8MET** and **Linda, N8LRS, Gary, NI8Z**, who we haven't seen in a while. Also **David, W8DDD** and **Sally, Jerry, WB8ADF**, our chapter musician, **Marv, W8AZO, George, K8KR, Jeannie, KC8MNW** and **Bob, W2THU, and Mark, KC8FQV**.



(For those who never attend our luncheons, we normally have 30-35 guests pre-Covid.)

Bob fired up the charcoal grill and cooked hamburgers and hot dogs. Most attendees brought their own food, with several stopping at the nearby sandwich shop. There was plenty of conversation, both ham related and not.

The highlight of the luncheon was the musical entertainment provided by

WB8ADF. Jerry played both his accordion and button box. His polkas drew other Metroparks visitors closer to our gathering and his rendition of *Sidewalks of New York* brought a smile to W2THU.

FRIDAY LUNCH BUNCH

Every Friday around 11 AM, a group of hams meet at the Manhattan Deli, located on Ridge Road, just west of SOM Center Road in Willoughby Hills. This is not a QCWA event. All hams, and even non hams, are welcome. The food is very good

ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU'RE A QCWA MEMBER ?

Sometimes, hams who qualify for QCWA membership (licensed now, licensed 25 years ago) pick up our chapter membership application, fill it out and submit it, believing they joined QCWA. **However, QCWA bylaws require that you join QCWA first in order to be eligible for membership in any chapter.** We have no dues. QCWA has a modest dues schedule.

Simply go to www.qcwa.org to join. Unless you're young enough or wealthy enough for life membership, the best deal is three years for \$55.00, which is a bargain and cheaper than most ham clubs.

Another way to know if you are a QCWA member? Do you receive the *QCWA Journal* in your email?

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

Cleveland Hamfest -

This past Sunday I attended the Cleveland Hamfest and set up a table to promote QCWA and our local Chapter 1. The table was adorned with past chapter Newsletters, membership applications for both QCWA and Chapter 1, framed Anniversary Award certificates for members who never picked them up and a sign in sheet.



View from behind the QCWA table inside the vendor area

Many amateurs who came by are active on our Wednesday night nets, so it was a pleasure to see them in person. About a dozen folks took membership applications and, as of this writing, two are now QCWA members, and of course, are now officially members of Chapter 1, too.

I was assisted by **George Pindroh, K8KR**, and others, allowing me to roam around the outdoor flea market for a short time. The weather was warm and partly sunny as I viewed each and every table, pickup tailgate, open trunk and even stuff on the ground. Chapter 1 member **Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, reported he was able to sell a lot of merchandise, but he still has plenty more to get rid of, probably at another hamfest.

With so many hamfests being cancelled due to Covid, we are lucky that the Hamfest Association of Cleveland (HAC) remained steadfast in putting on the show. (Thanks also to the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds for staying open this year.) After all, the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention was cancelled twice this year when both its hosts (DXEngineering in August and the Vette City Hamfest in October) were not able to go forward for fear of Covid related problems.

Distracted Driver Bill Update-

Three months ago I wrote about Ohio HB-283 in this Newsletter. If you recall, it is a bill intended to stop drivers from texting, but is worded so broadly that it could also stop you from operating mobile. As the Ohio ARRL State Government Liaison, I was asked to help carve out an exemption for amateur radio operators.

In response to the same article that I first wrote for the ARRL *Ohio Section Journal* asking if anyone knew the bill's sponsors, I was directed to Michael Kalter, W8CI, the Hamvention spokesman and DARA board member. Mike knew the right people and was able to sit down and explain ham radio to them. Through his efforts, there is an amendment that exempts FCC licensed amateur radio operators from the driving restrictions which are meant to stop texting and driving.

This amendment, as well as the entire bill, needs to be voted on and passed in the House. A companion bill in the Senate, also exempting amateur radio mobile operations, would then have to be passed before it reaches the governor for his signature. This all takes time. But, as I have said to various groups, Ohio is one of only three states that does not consider texting while driving a primary offense and that needs to change.

See you on Zoom!

HISTORIC AM EQUIPMENT FROM THE 1950s AND 1960s

By George J. Mistic, KE8RN

Introduction

Although the first single sideband [SSB] equipment appeared in the early 1950s, most amateur phone operation until the mid 1960s was done using the classic Amplitude Modulated [AM] equipment which was much simpler, easier to build, and less expensive. AM amateur radio transmitters started to disappear starting in the late 1950s and completely disappeared by the mid 1960s except for a few like the Heathkit DX-60B that was sold as a kit until 1976.

Specific manufacturers

Hallicrafters, Incorporated: Hallicrafters made their last large AM-CW transmitter in 1954 with the HT-20 costing \$449.50 and using a 4D32 tube in the final amplifier plate modulated by two 807 tubes. Their final AM-CW transmitter was the 1960 model HT-40 covering 80/75 to 6 meters and available in kit form or wired and tested. It used a 6DQ5A color TV horizontal sweep tube as the final using screen modulation for AM. It was intended to appeal to new Novice and Technician class amateur radio operators, as it covered 80, 40, 15, and 6 meters plus 20 and 10 meters for General and higher class amateurs. Their last transmitter was the 1966 HT-46 for SSB and CW with no AM operation.



Hallicrafters HT-40

Harvey-Wells Electronics: The famous Harvey-Wells product was the TBS-50 Bandmaster series starting in 1947; it covered 80/75 to 2 meters but oddly without 160 meters. It operated on CW and AM using an 807 tetrode as the final amplifier modulated by a pair of 6L6 tubes.

Hammarlund Manufacturing Company: Hammarlund made their last AM-CW transmitter in 1948 with the model Four-20 CW transmitter and Four-11 AM modulator. Their SSB-CW transmitters, the 1960 HX-500 and the 1961 HX-50 had AM capability included.

World Radio Laboratories / Globe Electronics: Leo Myerson, W0GFQ, was the man behind both WRL and Globe during their successful days. They made the famous Globe King, Scout, Chief, Champion, Trotter plus the HG-303; the Chief and HG-303 operated only on CW. All the others included AM with plate modulation. Globe disappeared from amateur radio a few years after being purchased by Textron and moved to Rockford, Illinois.

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Historic AM Transmitters

Continued from page 6

Lettine Radio Manufacturing Company: Starting about 1950, Lettine started making AM-CW transmitters; they sold the model 240 from 1951 to 1960; it covered 160 to 10 meters with plug-in coils and an 807 tube in the final amplifier modulated by two 6L6 tubes. The Lettine used only crystal control or an external VFO.



Lettine Model 240 AM-CW Transmitter

Collins Radio Company: Collins made their plate modulated transmitters until 1955 with the end of the 32V-3 120 watt AM and CW transmitter covering 80/75 to 10 meters and the very impressive KW-1 transmitter covering 160 to 10 meters and running 1.0 kilowatt on AM. The Collins KWS-1 family of transmitters provided AM operation, but all later Collins SSB equipment like the KWM-1 [the first SSB-CW transceiver], KWM-2 and S-Line only operated SSB and CW with no AM.



Collins 32V-3 AM-CW Transmitter

E. F. Johnson Company: Johnson made new AM transmitters using either plate modulation or screen grid modulation from 1949 until 1965 with the Viking Ranger II and Viking Valiant II both using plate modulation and the Viking Challenger with screen grid modulation. All covered 80/75 to 10 meters. The Valiant II and Ranger II included 160 meters and the Ranger II and Challenger included 6 meters.

Gonset Company: Best known for VHF equipment, Gonset first made an AM-CW transmitter aimed primarily at mobile service in 1952 with the Commander transmitter covering 160 to 6 meters with a new [in 1952] 6146 tetrode tube. The Commander required an external power supply, used only crystal control, and used plug-in coils to change bands.

In 1955, Gonset made a receiver and AM-CW transmitter with a built-in VFO covering 80/75 to 10 meters; they were the G-77 plate modulated transmitter and the G-66 or G-66B receiver with AM broadcast band and 160 meters. The matching units had chrome plated front panels and aluminum knobs.

For 1960, Gonset made the G-76, the only multiband AM-CW transmitter-receiver covering 80/75 to 6 meters with crystal or VFO operation on 80 to 10 meters and crystal control on transmit only on six meters. Both an AC power supply with speaker and a DC power supply were sold for the G-76 which used a 6DQ5 final amplifier tetrode plate modulated by two 6DQ6B tubes.



Gonset G-76 AM-CW Transmitter

This article will be concluded in our winter 2022 edition.