



# Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

Spring Quarter 2019

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

## Secrets of Amateur Radio Retail at our Spring Luncheon on Saturday April 13th, 2019

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## The Rise & Fall of AES in Wickliffe



Our guest speakers will be **Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ** and **Matt Welch, W8DEC**. Jeff, who was there in the beginning, will tell us how and why Amateur Electronic Supply opened a Cleveland store.

Matt was an experienced counterman in sales at AES in Wickliffe when they closed their doors in July, 2016. He can provide the insider's view of what was going on behind the scenes that led to their demise.

We expect that both our speakers will share some interesting stories about dealing with our fellow amateurs in the trade, and the inner workings of ham radio retail.

Join us starting at 11:30 A.M. at **The Play Arcade and Kitchen, 5900 Mayfield Road in Mayfield Heights**. Whether we are up or down, the back door is closest. Eat off the lunch menu for about \$10.00. Door prizes, 50-50 raffle, music, and fellowship awaits!

**RSVP on the Wednesday night net or to [w2thu@arrrl.net](mailto:w2thu@arrrl.net) ■**

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## QCWA Forum at Hamcation



QCWA President **Ken Oelke, VE6AFO** began the seminar by presenting the QCWA Presidential Award to **Rich Wilson, WR4RW** in appreciation of Rich's work in engraving call letters onto members lapel pins. Ken gave out 4 other presidential awards which you can read about in the April 2019 *QCWA Journal*.

Ken reviewed our scholarship fund, participation in last year's QSO party and much more QCWA business.

### *Future Luncheon Dates*

*July 13, 2019, October 12, 2019*

*January 11, 2020, April 11, 2020*



## 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:** Fred Freer, K8IG

**Roster changes:** Notify Secretary/Treasurer Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK <jgarcaro@juno.com>

**Meetings:** Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at the *Play Arcade and Kitchen*

**Dues:** \$10.00 per year to Treasurer WD8PFK

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### Chapter One Officers

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

**Vice President:** Fred Freer, K8IG; (440)446-8000, <w8fsf@arrl.net>

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK; PO Box 324, Wickliffe, OH 44092; (216) 337-2793 <jgarcaro@juno.com>

### Operational Group

**Membership reporter:** KE9UL

**Net controls:** N8ZT, KC8UIQ

**QCWA Journal reporter:** K8IG

**License trustee:** N8ZT

**Awards chairman:** Open

**Door Prize chair:** N1BCF

**Chief radio officer:** K8QOT

**Chapter musicians:** WA8OZC, WB8ADF

**Sunshine reporter:** Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP, <reingraham@oh.rr.com >

**Web administrator:** K8ZGW, <dritchie@dr.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 or Friends of Chapter 1:*

**Greg J. Krashoc, K8ULT**, Painesville, OH  
**Linda Bowen, WB8QLT**, Chesterland, OH

Welcome! Please check into our Wednesday night net on 146.85 MHz. at 8PM. Newcomers are announced and called on the air.

### *Silent Keys:*

**John Esborne, K8OCK**, passed away at the age of 98 shortly after being honored for his WWII service (see Winter 2019 Newsletter).

**James Kirk Sanderson, W8WNA**, another WWII veteran also passed away at the age of 98, shortly before Christmas.

### *Other Deaths:*

**Albert S. Covelli**, father of Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, died on 29 January at the age of 90.

**Kathleen Forbes**, sister of Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW, died on 3 February at the age of 70.

**Janice Benes**, XYL of Fred Doob, K8PP, died on 24 December at the age of 67.

### *Recent Activities:*

**Fred Freer, K8IG**, formerly W8FSF, turned in his old call for CW purposes this past February.

**Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, got new test gear from a Solon outfit (Siglent) including spectrum analyzer, function sweep generator and bench multi voltage power supply. He also Published an article in *Electric Radio (DDS VFO for the Drake TR-7)* with a photo of Jeff's shack on the cover.

**George Mistic, KE3RN**, published an article in the April 2019 *QCWA Journal* on the National HRO-7 receiver.

## SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

By Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

QCWA Chapter 1 members and friends, the current balance, in the checking account is: 5,798 dollars, so the group is in fine shape. Let me remind you of a couple of things. 1) If you get the newsletter by Email now, there are no annual dues for this year. 2) If you wish a printed copy of the quarterly newsletter mailed to you, and you are under the age of 80, you need to send us a check for 10 dollars to QCWA Chapter 1, PO Box 324, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092.



A word about Email addresses: If you are successfully getting the quarterly newsletter via Email, great ! If you are not, you need to check a couple of things.

1) Make sure we have your correct and current Email address. When looking up some of your addresses, I sometimes see one address in our list, and a different address listed for you on QRZ.com. Make sure we have your correct current Email address. Sometimes you change providers, open up a new Email account, etc.

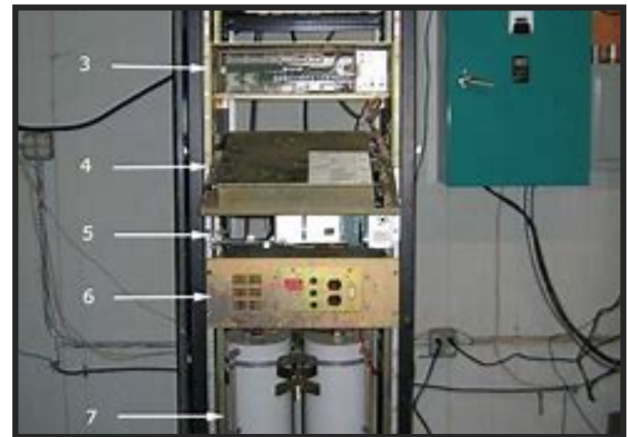
2) Make sure the Email isn't getting sent to your "junk mail" folder, or isn't somehow being blocked. This sometimes happens with forwarding services. It happened to me, through ARRL, last year. I noticed I wasn't getting messages. I sent myself a short, simple test message, and it did not go through. I worked with ARRL to try and see why this was happening. The only way I got it to work was to "disable" my junk mail filter in my Email program. For some reason it was not accepting the forwarded Emails. Not only that, but nothing was in my junk folder! For that reason I no longer use the ARRL Email address with my call sign. I checked my block list, but nothing associated with ARRL was in it. So I no longer use that address and avoid the problem. If you have tried to Email me in the past, and I have not responded, it may be because that I never got it. I apologize for any confusion. Any questions about your membership, status, etc., please Email me at: [jgarcaro@juno.com](mailto:jgarcaro@juno.com).

## STATUS OF THE CLUB REPEATER

The Chapter 1 repeater on 146.85 has not been functioning up to par lately. Because of that, our net control, **Craig Kollai, N8ZT**, has been running the net on the NORMA repeater on 147.015Mhz. Unfortunately, that repeater is also having problems.

Members report that the signal strength of both repeaters, as heard at their QTH has fallen way off. Or, some report that they can key up the repeater but no audio is getting through.

While the NORMA repeater has checked out OK, some suspect that the issue involves the



**Typical ham radio repeater, but not ours.**

antenna. We hope to have a solution in the next few weeks.

If you are trying to check into the Wednesday night net, and net control is not responding to you, please send an email to W2THU or N8ZT.

## FRIDAY LUNCH BUNCH

For a variety of reasons, attendance as this popular event has fallen way off. As you know, FLB is open to all hams and it is not a Chapter 1 event.

One reason for low attendance is, unfortunately, an aging population. Many attendees are now silent keys, while others have health issues that prevent them from going out to eat.

There are some new regulars. Won't you join us for a fun event.? See p. 7 for details.



## *Birthdays this Quarter*

Happy Birthday to the following Chapter 1 members ~

### April

W8JH	Joe Hoffman	4/8
W8GR	Raymond Lotenero	4/9
N8QE	Robert Hajdak	4/12
KC8FQV	Mark Studer	4/14
W8TAB	Thomas Bishop	4/22
W8MET	Metro Sinko	4/27
AD8Y	David Kazdan	4/27

### May

N5JED	Charles Joseph	5/3
W1HEO	Dee Logan	5/3
WA8TPP	Richard Ingraham	5/6
K8LPC	Larry Caskey	5/10
K8YSE	John Papay	5/15
AB8SB	David Parris	5/16
KC8UIQ	Bob Robertson	5/18
K8DBT	Donald Thomas	5/18
WA8YVF	George Ingmand	5/29

### June

KE9UL	Joe Nocifora	6/7
W8IMO	Robert Sull	6/14
W8LE	Byrness Haworth	6/15
W8FDN	Richard Scott	6/20
WI3U	Henry Schultz, Jr.	6/23

*Is your birthday missing or wrong?  
(Corrections to Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK,  
jgarcaro@juno.com)*

*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!*

## Fall Luncheon Awards



**Al Moriarty, N8CX, receiving the Special Recognition Award from Bob Winston, W2THU**

As promised in the Winter 2019 Newsletter, here is the list of those who were recognized at the October Awards Luncheon.

Al Moriarty, N8CX	Special Recognition
Joe Nocifora, KE9UL	Special Recognition
Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK	President's Trophy
George Harizal, K8HLJ	President's Trophy
Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ	President's Trophy
George Pindroh, K8KR	60th Anniversary

Not present to receive their awards:

Richard Williams, NW8X	55th Anniversary
Jerry Dusa, WB8ADF	50th Anniversary
Donald Duman, W8DD	50th Anniversary
Bob Hinkle, KK8ZZ	50th Anniversary

### **Special Award at the Winter 2019 Luncheon: Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP Chapter Meritorious Award**

Please note that if you are a member of QCWA and have been licensed 50 years or more, then you should have received the appropriate **Anniversary Award**. Further, if your age plus the years you have been a QCWA member equals 100 or more, then you should have received your **Century Club Certificate**. (Contact W2THU for more information.)

# President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

**Greetings**—Cleveland Chapter 1 has made two important changes that bring us in line with probably every organization that you belong to.

## Newsletter Distribution -

We are no longer mailing 100 newsletters via the USPS to our members and friends. Starting this month, Chapter 1 is emailing 80 per cent of these newsletters. This will result in 3 immediate benefits. First, you will get the newsletter as soon as I finish editing it. Second, you will not have to pay dues to our chapter (although you must continue to pay your QCWA dues). Third, we save approximately \$600.00 per year in printing and mailing costs and keep paper out of the landfill to boot.

There are other benefits, too. When you read the newsletter on your computer or tablet you see it in color, which looks a heck of a lot better than black and white. But even better than that, you can make the print as large as you like for ease of viewing.

Now if you insist on a paper copy, just print it out at home (in color please!) and leave it in the bathroom. Finally, if you don't like change, just continue to pay your chapter dues of \$10 per year and we'll mail it to you.

## Secure Access to Chapter One Website -

The Chapter 1 website has always been fully accessible to the whole world. No password was needed. Although this was OK for informational purposes, we also have a membership roster and past newsletters posted there. Some of you felt uneasy about that so we now have a partially protected website.

The past newsletters and the member (and friends) roster is now password protected. Your username and password will be emailed to you shortly. The balance of the website is open to all because it promotes QCWA and our chapter.

## Visit to Orlando & Hamcation -

**Jeannie, KC8MNW** and I spent some time in central Florida. While there, we visited some

chapter friends, including **David Dennis, W8DDD** and his XYL Sally. We met in Too-Jays, which is a delicatessen similar to the Chicago Deli in Solon. The food was great and the company was even better.

We also hooked up with our Chapter 1 Chief Radio Officer, **Jim Pracker, K8QOT** at a



**Matt Stevens, NJ4Y and Jim Pracker, K8QOT**

meeting of the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club where Jim and I exchanged ideas about radio clubs with their president pictured above.

Then I was off to Hamcation in Orlando a few days later. This was my third visit and I was not disappointed. After all, it's like going to Hamvention but in 80 degree weather! Although I had plenty of room in my new SUV to bring back lots of stuff, I am saving my money for Xenia.

## A Few More Thank You's -

In my previous column I failed to express my appreciation to **George Mistic, KE8RN**, for submitting so many articles about antique radios to this newsletter. Without George's steady input this would be a 6 page endeavor. For some of us, George's articles are the best part!

Also deserving praise is **Fred Freer, K8IG** for his terrific *Journal* reporting. This keeps Chapter 1 first in the chapter reports. Thanks to both of these contributors.

**Upcoming Luncheon**— We look forward to seeing you there!

# The Zenith Trans-Oceanic

## The 1960s Bring the Solid State Versions

By George Mistic, KE8RN



In the late 1950s and early 1960s, the popular Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios migrated from vacuum tubes to a solid-state design and gained the ability on some models to cover the FM broadcast band. The early solid state radios used plug-in transistors in sockets, since engineers were not sure that transistors were unlike tubes and would not need periodic replacement. For much of America, the Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios were their only gateway to shortwave listening. For most of its life, the Trans-Oceanic used point-to-point wiring and did not use printed circuit boards; not using printed circuit boards was a company-wide Zenith corporate philosophy at this time.

The radios in general covered from the AM broadcast band at 550-1600 KHz and two general coverage shortwave from 2-4 MHz and 4-9 MHz plus specific bandspread shortwave broadcast bands. Two model 3000-1 units that I own cover 150-400 KHz below the AM broadcast band, the AM broadcast band from 550-1600 KHz, 2.0-4.0 MHz, 4.0-9.0 MHz, the 31 meter band from 9.4-10.1 MHz, the 25 meter band from 11.4-12.3 MHz, the 19 meter band from 14.6-15.8 MHz, the 16 meter band from 17.2-18.4MHz and the FM broadcast band from 88-108 MHz.

Many of the solid-state Trans-Oceanic radios also covered the FM broadcast band; Zenith made models with and without FM coverage until the 7000 series. The 1000 family of radios did not cover the FM broadcast band; the 3000 series of radios included FM broadcast band coverage, as did the later 7000 series of Trans-Oceanics. In 1963, covering the FM broadcast band from 88-08 MHz with a solid-state radio was not as trivial as it is now, because transistors that performed well at frequencies as high as the FM broadcast band were special, rare, and quite a bit more expensive.

The 1960s Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios used all germanium transistors rather than the now almost universally used silicon transistors. Of course, no Field Effect Transistors [FETs] or Integrated Circuits [ICs] were used, as they were not in common use and were generally only found in state-of-the-art expensive and sophisticated military radio and other equipment. Zenith placed an internal label that showed each transistor's function and Zenith house part number.

The tube radios from just before WWII to about 1962 would operate from a set of batteries, one to light the tube's filaments and a separate [and fairly costly and large] battery to provide the high voltage DC to operate the vacuum tube circuitry or the radio could be operated off the home AC power line.

*(Please turn to page 7)*

*(Continued from page 6)*

## Zenith Trans-Oceanic

The solid-state radios started in 1958 and only operated from an inexpensive group of nine “D” cell flashlight batteries. Zenith later provided a jack for +12VDC input for an optional external power supply or a 12 volt automobile electrical system to power the radio in place of the internal batteries.

For signal reception on the AM broadcast band, the Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios used “Wavemagnet” antennas similar in concept to the AM broadcast loopstick antenna like was commonly used on other AM solid-state radios. For shortwave reception and the FM broadcast band, the Trans-Oceanic radios had a very clever extendable whip antenna built into the carrying handle. The user only had to push the right-hand support for the carrying handle to release the horizontal handle bar. Once released, the user could turn the bar upright, and extend the built-in telescoping whip antenna to provide an antenna for foreign broadcast reception or FM broadcast.

In the days of AM phone operation on the ham radio bands, the Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios could tune in and receive in useable form ham radio transmissions on the 75 and 40 meter bands. The Zenith Trans-Oceanic radios through the 3000 family and all the vacuum tube radios had no BFO, making reception of code [CW] or single sideband [SSB] ham transmissions essentially impossible. Many radio magazines of the time like Popular Electronics or Popular Science featured articles on how to build an external BFO for use with radios like the Trans-Oceanic that did not have one. Zenith marketed an optional accessory BFO for the 1000 and 3000 series of radios; the 7000 family of radios included a BFO as originally offered for sale.

The Zenith solid-state Trans-Oceanic radios were not inexpensive; around 1963-1965, a Trans-Oceanic would cost from about \$200.00 up to about \$400.00. This was a time when a new car could be had from multiple sources for under \$2000.00. RCA, Hallicrafters, and others built their own version of a radio similar in concept to the Zenith Trans-Oceanic.

Zenith was the king of this type of radio; the Trans-Oceanic was known and marketed as “The Royalty of Radios.” Eventually, the Japanese manufacturers like Sony and Panasonic started to offer multiband portable shortwave radios; in the late 1970s they added digital frequency readout display which made their products much friendlier to use.

An excellent book about the Zenith Trans-Oceanic family of portable radios was published by Schiffer Books for Collectors; it is titled The Zenith Trans-Oceanic, The Royalty of Radios. It was written by John Bryant and Harold Cones, PhD.

## Our Winter Luncheon

Members and guests participated in an old fashioned rag chew solving all the problems of the ham radio world. In addition, past president **Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP** received the unique



Meritorious Award, issued by QCWA for his years of service to our chapter. Congratulations Dick!

## 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