



Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

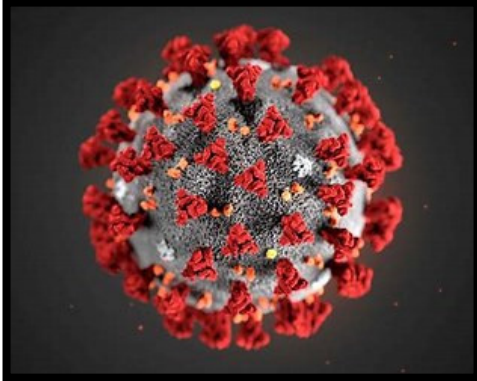
Spring Quarter 2020

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

SPRING LUNCHEON IS CANCELLED!

MODEL OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS



For the first time in recent memory Cleveland Chapter 1 has had to cancel its quarterly luncheon, not because the restaurant went out of business (it did!) but because of a microbe that is 125 nanometers in diameter. In case you forgot how the metric system works, that's 125 billionths of a meter or roughly how long your fingernail grows in one second.

Ohio was one of the initial states to order a lock down of all non essential businesses in order to curtail the spread of this deadly virus. Humans have no immunity and COVID-19 spreads remarkably well from one of us to another. That's why social distancing remains in place until an effective vaccine is developed and administered to the whole human race.

Our fate is similar to the invading Martians in *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells (1897). They, too, had no immunity to our diseases.

So, sadly, even if The Play Arcade & Kitchen had not gone out of business, we would still have ended up with no place to go.

In This Issue

2. People
3. Treasurer's Report
3. Winter Luncheon Review
4. Remembering N3AZD
5. President's Perspective
6. Clegg Challenges Gonset
7. Letter to Editor/Event Support Gp

QCWA AT HAMCATION 2020



QCWA President, VE6AFO, at Orlando Hamcation

There are many interesting forums at Hamcation and QCWA is one of them. **Ken Oelke, VE6AFO**, flew down from Calgary, Alberta to run the meeting.

Although this was not the mandated annual gathering, which is usually held at the Dayton Hamvention, President Oelke discussed the finances, membership, scholarships, active chapters and other topics of interest to QCWA members and guests.

Future Luncheon Dates

July 11, 2020, October 10, 2020

January 9, 2021, April 10, 2020



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

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Distribution: Fred Freer, K8IG
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Operational Group

Membership reporter: Open
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, N1BCF
Sunshine reporter: Betty Scholz, KC8FF, <gearcutter(at)aol.com>
Web administrator: K8ZGW, <dritch(at)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.



New Members and Friends:

Keith A. Grove, KA8EOD of Mayfield Heights, Ohio
John L. Boban, KB8YJY of Madison Township, Ohio

Welcome to Chapter 1. Please check into our Wednesday night net on our own 146.85 Mhz repeater, PL 110.9 at 2000.

Silent Keys:

Regrettably, we note the passing of the following Chapter 1 members and friends-

Cliff Bade, W8CJB, formally of Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

Larry Caskey, K8LPC, of Chardon Township, Ohio.

Dick Scott, W8FDN, of Richmond Heights, Ohio.

May they rest in peace.

Recent Activities:

Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, got to work on an old Swan 600T transmitter, corrected a design flaw, and it is working very well now. He also modified a Collins 32-S3A transmitter to full AM bandwidth resulting in much better audio reports. Jeff expects the May 2020 issue of *Electric Radio* to publish an article on the Heathkit DX-40 and HR-20 that he got up and running.

John Papay, K8YSE, wrote an article for the Northern Ohio DX Association newsletter, in memory of John Search, W3AZD, who managed the ARRL DX Century Award (see page 4.)

David Kazdan, AD8Y, reports that the Case Amateur Radio Club (W8EDU) is NSF funded to study the ionosphere. (see page 7)

Bob Winston, W2THU and **Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW** visited with chapter member **Art Lewis WA8VSJ** and Eileen Lewis WA8ZWW in Delray Beach, Florida

SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

By Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

. Members and Friends, I am pleased to report that the Treasury is in very good shape, and the balance is 5,179.13 dollars, after all the bills have been paid.



Most of this is in the checking account, plus a small amount of cash. The cash, generated from the 50/50 raffle, is kept on hand to make change for the raffle, and make our required small monthly bank deposit, which allows us to avoid a monthly bank charge.

I have been asked a few questions about Quarter Century Wireless Association membership lately, so I will attempt to answer them here:

Members are dues paying members of QCWA national, who have been licensed as a ham radio operator for 25 or more years, or who were first licensed 25 or more years ago. Currently we do not charge those members additional local dues for the Chapter.

Friends are associated with our local Chapter 1, but not members of QCWA national, because they have been licensed less than 25 years, are a spouse, or a non-ham. I like to think of you as "Members in waiting". Currently we charge a one time registration fee of 10 dollars, and there are no additional local Chapter 1 dues.

If you are not sure if you are a paid up member of national, let me know, and I can check their database for you.

The quarterly Chapter 1 newsletter, like this one, is sent to each Member and Friend via Email. If you would like it sent via USPS mail, then we do charge 10 dollars per year, to cover postage and printing. The only exception to this is Members who are 80 years of age, or older, who receive it via USPS at No Charge if they request it.

The weekly Chapter 1 Net is every Wednesday night at 8 PM, on the 146.85 repeater. The PL tone is 110.9 Hz. Our Net Control is usually Craig N8ZT,

who does a fine job. Last week had a large number of members check-in, and that's a good thing ! I will provide Craig with an up to date membership roster so he can properly recognize you. That's my fault, and I apologize.

Please send any USPS address changes or Email updates, changes, etc. to me. Please use your main Email address, that you check everyday or so. Some members, myself included, have had trouble with addresses that only do forwarding, like ARRL. The newsletter may be blocked because the file size is too large.

You can send any contact changes, updates, questions, etc to me at: Jim Arcaro WD8PFK, PO Box 324, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092. Or, you can also Email me at: jgarcaro (at) juno. com

WINTER LUNCHEON

Mike Morrell, K8KE



Chapter 1 was treated to a fine program by chapter member **Mike Morrell, K8KE** on the Linux computer operating system.

At the time, no one knew that this would be the last luncheon at *The Play Arcade & Kitchen*, which went out of business the following month.

Members reported that the service was especially poor, probably reflecting what the staff knew before the general public.

Thanks to K8KE for his presentation, which will also be remembered as the final engagement in our chapter annals at *The Play*.

REMEMBERING DON SEARCH

By John Papay, K8YSE

Chapter 1 Member

(Reprinted from NODXA Feb-Apr 2020)

The ARRL DX Century Club (DXCC) Award is the most prestigious and sought after Amateur Radio Award on the planet. Hams around the world travel to far away and dangerous places and spend tens and hundreds of thousands of dollars so they can make contacts with others seeking to claim credit towards the DXCC Award. Don Search, W3AZD, was responsible for managing that Award at the ARRL for about 15 years. The Integrity of the Award was always his main focus. Without integrity, the DXCC Award would be just another piece of paper.



DON SEARCH, N3AZD (SK)

Don knew everything about DXCC. He checked cards and approved dxpeditions with a critical eye. He could spot a phony QSL card a mile away. Before a dxpedition was approved for credit, he made sure they had permission to operate and had to be convinced that they were really where they said they were. Not much got by Don. And that's what integrity is all about! He set the bar for those that followed him as DXCC Managers. He is a DXCC Legend!

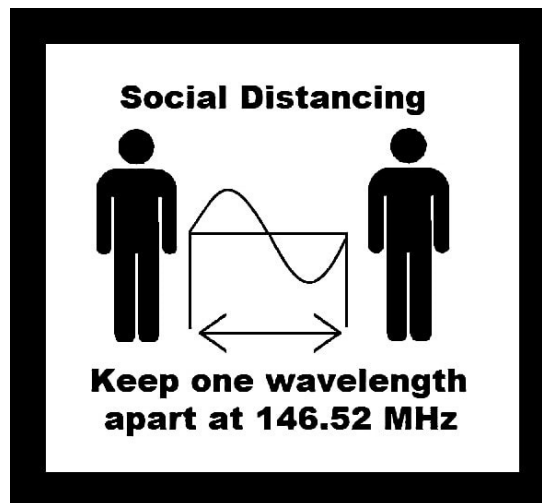
Back in 1990 I had over 1000 cards to be processed for DXCC. There were 500 cards for 5BDXCC plus more for bands and modes. Dwaine xWA8MEM/K8ME(SK) also had many cards to be checked and we were both reluctant to trust the mail to send them to the ARRL in Newington. So I called Don on the phone (he always made himself available to talk

about DX) and asked him if we could make a visit and have our cards checked. He hesitated but then agreed. So we drove from Cleveland to Newington through the night and arrived early one Friday morning. Don was there but forgot about our arrangement. It took a while for him to come to grips with this unforeseen visit but he eventually pulled out all the stops and agreed to drop what he was doing and process a few thousand cards. This was a daily activity for Don for many years. It was the pre-digital age and everything was manual. Somehow he kept up with it; he was amazing.

After Don retired he could be found at the Dayton Hamvention and was always willing to chat with fellow dx'ers. He moved down to Florida and was always at Orlando Hamcation as well. At home he frequented the local repeaters. Once in a while he could be heard on the HF Bands talking about DX. Don was a Legend in his own time. He shaped the DXCC program and helped make it what it is today. Don Search, W3AZD, May he rest in Peace.

NEW SUNSHINE REPORTER

Betty Scholz, KC8FF has accepted the position of Sunshine Reporter for Chapter 1. Betty is also the Sunshine Reporter for AARP. Many of you know Betty from our luncheons, which she always attends, the Geauga Amateur Radio Association and the Friday Lunch Bunch. Please forward your sunshine information to Betty at: [gearcutter\(at\)aol.com](mailto:gearcutter(at)aol.com).



President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

Pandemic and Amateur Radio -

As I write my thoughts, the world is turned upside down by the COVID-19 virus. We are told that there are many coronaviruses out there, but for some reason we humans have no immunity to the COVID-19 variety, which is easily transmitted throughout the world. I remember reading about the Bubonic Plague that wiped out 50 million people in Europe, Africa and Asia in the 14th century. But there was no hope of an antidote back then, as we wait, and surely expect that an effective vaccine will shortly appear and save us all.

I have noticed more activity on the amateur radio repeaters around town. Is this because we are mandated to stay at home? I think so, although HF activity sounds about the same.

I asked for comments regarding the anemic participation in our Chapter 1 net in my previous column. No written comments were forthcoming, but amazingly the past two nets have seen a three fold increase in check ins. Now this could also be the result of the virus, where people are looking for something new to do, like check into a net. I even checked into the LEARA net tonight which is something I have not done in maybe a year. Likewise, I checked into the LCARA 10 meter simplex net last week.

Weekly email reminders to all our members and friends are also helping out. Several of you have told me that you want to participate, but never remember to check in. Whatever the reason, we're glad to have you and we hope that you continue to do so. We welcome suggestions to improve the way we conduct the net. Send an email to me or **Craig, N8ZT** with your thoughts.

New luncheon venue -

We don't have one yet. I've received several suggestions via email shortly after *The Play Arcade & Kitchen* went out of business. My view is that we need a restaurant that is centrally located, which I believe is at an I-77 exit in Cuyahoga County. Others want to alternate eastside, westside the way LEARA does it.

Besides location, the venue needs to meet

a few other requirements. It must have a party room that is free and preferably with its own projector screen. We should be allowed to eat off the menu so that each guest pays his or her own tab. The food and service must be acceptable to our guests and reasonably priced. Any ideas? Contact any officer.

Visiting Chapter 1 Out of Town Members -

I guess it's no secret that I haven't been attending winter luncheons any more. **Jeannie, KC8MNW**, Kelby (not a ham but our standard



WA8VSJ & W2THU IN FLORIDA

poodle) and I have been escaping the cold and snow in south Florida. Finally remembering that Chapter 1 member **Art Lewis, WA8VSJ** is a resident of Delray Beach, we arranged to meet. Art and his lovely XYL **Eileen, WA8ZWW**, joined us at a very fine deli in Palm Beach County. Art told me that he used to attend our luncheons when they lived in Youngstown and that is why he has maintained an affiliation with our chapter. We reminisced for a while and I asked Art if he remembered me and he said yes. Unfortunately, my memory isn't as good. But the other day I was going through a stack of business cards that were given to me by hams over the past 40 years. You guessed it. There was Art's card, where he had written in his call letters above his name! I took a photo of it with my smart phone and texted it to WA8VSJ. Art responded, "Got a kick out of seeing the business card. **Regards to all in northeast Ohio.**"

STAY SAFE—STAY HEALTHY!

Clegg Challenges Gonset in VHF Amateur Radio Equipment

By George Mistic, KE8RN



Clegg started to expand their ham radio product line in 1962 with the popular Clegg 99er low power AM transmitter-receiver selling for \$249.95; the 99er was a small AM six meter station with a double conversion receiver covering 49.9 to 52.0 MHz. The transmitter was crystal controlled using 8.33 to 8.67 MHz FT-243 style crystals or an external VFO. The transmitter runs about 10 watts input power on AM and has no provisions to operate CW. The Clegg 99er does not have Push To Talk operation [PTT] for transmit from a push button on the microphone; a front panel lever switch operates the transmitter. The Clegg 99er has a built-in speaker and AC power supply; a power supply for mobile is not included. The Clegg 99er tube filaments can be powered directly by a 12.6 VDC automotive electrical system; if this is done, a 50 watt inverter with a 120 VAC output can power the 99er if the tube filaments are lit directly from the car battery supply. If the user does not want to light the tubes directly in his mobile installation, a 75 watt inverter can be used and the tubes lit from the internal power transformer as is done when in a fixed station using AC power.

Clegg made some high end six and two meter equipment first in 1962 for fixed station use with the Zeus transmitter and Interceptor receiver for six and two meter AM and CW operation. The Zeus ran about 185 watts input on AM and CW. It had a very stable built-in VFO. The Interceptor was a six meter receiver covering all of six meters in four segments of a bit over 1.0 MHz each; an internal two meter to six meter converter added two meter coverage. Clegg also made a low-band converter that included a speaker and gave coverage from 3.0 to 22.0 MHz and 27.0 to 31.0 MHz.

Long-time Cleveland residents may remember Vic Andreco, K8YYK, and his daily six meter Road Patrol on 50.40 MHz. Vic had a Clegg Zeus transmitter and Interceptor receiver on six meters; I don't recall ever hearing him on two meters. In his neighborhood, Vic won the WATV award [Worked All TeleVisions]. He had frequent run ins with his neighbors over TV interference while Vic ran the road patrol. He made the local newspapers and was mentioned on TV. Vic's brother Basil was a QCWA Chapter One member years ago.

Clegg followed the Zeus with two popular transceivers. In 1963 they introduced the Clegg Thor VI, the only six meter AM-CW radio I know of that qualifies as a transceiver by transmitting on the receive frequency. The Thor VI had one dial tuning from 49.9 to 52.0 MHz; it tuned the receiver, and if the VFO mode was selected, it tuned the transmitter, too. Clegg made an AC power supply and vacuum tube modulator and also a solid state DC power supply and modulator for mobile service. I own both and they both work well. The Thor used PTT transmit-receive switching and used RCA NuVistor tubes in the receiver front end. The Thor used a type 6883 tube in the final amplifier for 60 watts input power on AM and CW. The 6883 is a 6146 tube with a 12.6 volt filament aimed at mobile operation.

Continued on page 7

CLEGG CHALLENGES GONSET

Continued from page 6

Clegg, soon after the Thor VI, released the Clegg Venus, the first SSB-CW-AM transceiver. As delivered, it covered the first 500 KHz of six meters including the 50.00 to 50.10 MHz CW section of six meters plus up to 50.50 MHz. Initially, Clegg did not make an AC or DC power supply for the Venus, but the Venus used the same pin-out on the S-312-CCT power supply connector so the National NCXA and NCXD AC and DC power supplies could be used until Clegg brought out their own versions including the model 416 AC power supply. The Clegg Venus ran 85 watts PEP input power.

Clegg went on in 1965 to build the 22er AM radio tuning the whole two meter band with a crystal controlled transmitter on AM only running 20 watts input to a single 2E26 tube. Both 120 VAC and 13.8 VDC power supplies were built in as was a speaker and PTT transmit operation. In 1966, Clegg made a similar model of the 22er with the six meter 66er. The 66er also had a crystal controlled transmitter, PTT operation, and both AC and DC power supplies built-in plus a speaker. Clegg went on to make later models of the 22er; in 1970, the 22er gained FM capabilities which led to the several solid state versions of Clegg FM transmitter-receivers like the popular Clegg FM-27B.

Event Support Group

By Don Ritchie, K8ZGW

There is a “new” group in town, Event Support Group, a 501c(3) charitable organization. Mat, KC8NZJ, is the president. They focus on providing volunteer communications for charitable events like marathons and bicycle rides. They are also able to respond to requests from government agencies for help with events, drills, or actual emergencies where additional communications would be helpful.

During 2019, the Event Support Group deployed resources to 15 special events. These assistance requests came from charitable organizations, community sporting events, and government agencies. They supplied approximately 181 volunteers to these events who worked just under 3,000 hours!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

By David Kazdan, AD8Y, Chapter 1 Member and Professor

I recently received my ARRL 50 year pin, and this July will be that half century since I sat at the dining room table of Michel Roy (now K9GU) while he solemnly tapped out five minutes of 5 WPM Continental Code on his gorgeous homebrew electronic keyer, and then administered the written exam for my Novice license. WN8HKS was ready to roll. My parents had bought me a Drake 2-B receiver about a year earlier; I built an Ameco AC-1 transmitter from a kit and Michel gave me one crystal for 40 meters. The trees outside my bedroom window were just over 20 meters apart. I didn't know that I was running QRP, but I was, and filled about half a logbook over the next several years. I could not have guessed where amateur radio would travel, or where it would take me along by the key-gripping fingertips.



Bill Meara's account in *SolderSmoke: Global Adventures in Wireless Electronics* tells it well from the same era: “For a 13-year old kid, on the importance scale, W1AW and the ARRL seemed to be right up there with the Pentagon, the White House, and CBS News...The fact that you had to pass an exam seemed to highlight the power of radio...shortwave radio was serious business. Only the technically competent would be allowed to participate.” I was 11. It was a big deal.

Now, the Case Amateur Radio Club W8EDU is National Science Foundation funded to study the ionosphere. And I'm the faculty advisor! And we have to figure out what to do about Field Day! Who could have guessed. I appreciate all your help, everyone of the community of amateur radio.