



Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER Established 1951

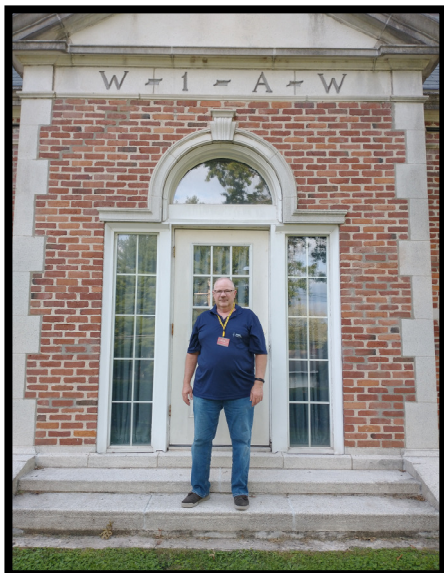
Spring Quarter 2023

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

Enjoy a Visit From Our ARRL Ohio Section Manager

JOIN OUR UPCOMING LUNCHEON ON
SATURDAY, 29 APRIL 2023 AT 11:30 AM
Firehouse Grill & Pub
2768 Stark Drive
Willoughby Hills, Ohio



This month's meeting features our ARRL Ohio Section Manager, **Tom Sly, WB8LCD**. Tom, who is also a QCWA Chapter 1 member, will talk about "some bits of amateur radio history."

All attendees will order off the menu, receive a free door prize ticket and be eligible to participate in our famous 50-50 raffle. Bring a non QCWA member if you wish.

This will be a hybrid meeting, so if you can't make it to Willoughby Hills, join us via Zoom. Look for a timely link in your email as we approach the meeting date. Or type into your browser: <https://johncarrolluniversity.zoom.us/j/95305139625>

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Coming to Hamvention? Help Us at the QCWA Table



Once again, Chapter 1 has offered to assist QCWA President **Ken Oelke, VE6AFO**, in staffing the QCWA table at the Dayton Hamvention. In the photo, we see **Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW**, helping out during a 3 hour time slot at last year's event.

In addition, we had **Fred Freer, K8IG**, **George Harizal, K8HLJ** and **Bob Winston, W2THU** sharing the duties throughout the three day affair.

We invite you to join us this year. It is a lot of fun to meet QCWA members from all over the world, while you process renewals and sign up new members! Contact W2THU [w2thu (at) arrl.net)].

Future Luncheon Dates

*July 8, 2023, October 14, 2023,
January 13, 2024, April 13, 2024*



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

Editor: Robert M. Winston, W2THU

Distribution: Fred Freer, K8IG

Roster changes: Notify Secretary Marc Barnett, KA8CPB < wireless.marc(at)gmail.com>

Meetings: Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at Firehouse Grill & Pub

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 © 2023** by Cleveland Chapter One QCWA. All rights reserved.

Chapter One Officers

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

Vice President: Fred Freer, K8IG; (440)446-8000, <k8ig(at)arrl.net>

Secretary: Marc Barnett, KA8CPB; (440) 476-8800, <wireless.marc(at)gmail.com>

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

Operational Group

Membership reporter: Open

Net controls: N8ZT, N8QE

QCWA Journal reporter: K8IG

License trustee: N8ZT

Awards chair: Open

Chief radio officer: K8QOT

Chapter musician: WB8ADF

Webmaster: K8ZGW

Sunshine reporter: Open

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



New Members and Friends:

Rick DeMattia, KD8WCK, of Shalersville Township (near Ravenna) is a friend of our chapter.

Thomas Porter, W8KYZ, Avon Lake, is a member of QCWA and our chapter.

Welcome Rick & Tom! (Net control will call you on 147.015 this Wednesday at 2000.)

Happenings:

Fred Freer, K8IG, reported that a 65 foot Norway Spruce tree came down in a recent windstorm. Unfortunately, it was supporting 4 double bazooka antennas. Fred figures that he could plant a new tree and reinstall those antennas on his 100th birthday!

Tom Porter, W8KYZ, sponsors a \$1,000 scholarship in honor of Michael Daugherty, W8LSE. A licensed ham residing in Ohio or West Virginia, who plans to attend an accredited 2 or 4 year college, university or technical school is eligible to apply. (Foundation@arrl.org)

Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, is featured in the DX Engineering website's *Customer Showcase*, displaying his installation of their RR8B Remote Antenna Switch and Control Console.

Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, started amateur radio clubs in the Communion of Saints and St. Aloysius elementary schools in addition to the Ohio School for the Blind and Deaf. The Communion of Saints club took 2nd place in the Feb 2023 School Club Roundup!

George Misic, KE8RN, has been regularly publishing articles in the *QST Classic Radio* column.

Bob Winston, W2THU, attended the 2023 Orlando Hamcation where he helped out at the QCWA table. He also attended the 2023 Stuart Hamfest in Martin County, Florida.

Treasurer's Report Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

The Chapter One treasury is in fine shape.

PLEASE READ THIS

I am asking you to please keep me informed of any changes to your Email address. Currently I have invalid address information for at least FIVE members/Friends. If you have let your ARRL membership EXPIRE, and used the @ARRL.NET address, it will NO LONGER WORK !! Your Email will not be forwarded – it will bounce. If you have not gotten an Email from me, or seen this newsletter appear in your in-box, you need to update us with your Email info. Send it to me at: jgarcaro @juno.com, or mail it to me at PO Box 324, Wickliffe, OH, and I will share it with our Secretary Mark KA8CPB.



Over ten former members have let their QCWA National membership expire, in the last 3-4 years. We currently have no local membership dues, but do require you to maintain National membership, if you qualify. That includes being licensed 25 or more years ago, as well as being currently licensed. You are considered a Friend **only if you were first licensed less than 25 years ago**. If you are not sure, let me know, and I can check the status for you.

I'm now having problems with Comcast. They have rejected our messages as spam.

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.

Chapter 1 Member, Bob Hajdak, N8QE, is Newest QCWA Director

I was first licensed as WN3FNT in Greenville, Pennsylvania in 1966 at the age of 15. I am an Extra Class License holder. I am the past Treasurer, past Trustee, 2012 President's Award Winner and current Antenna Special Interest Group Moderator for the Portage County Amateur Radio Service Club in Ravenna, Ohio.

I belong to the following Ham Radio Groups: QRP-ARCI #3014, 10-10 International #55415, SMIRK #6760, QCWA #33362, Flying Pigs QRP #1795, and EPC #3048 plus the ARRL, and I am a Volunteer Examiner. I also teach Technician and General Classes.



The above picture is me sitting at the 2018 Portage County Amateur Radio Service Club Field Day VHF Station operating and logging contacts.

I am an active contester, and enjoy operating all the different amateur radio modes. I have qualified for WAS and DXCC. I hold an Electrical Engineering Degree from Youngstown State University.

I retired after a 33 year career with General Electric Lighting Business Group, where I finished my career as Manager - Manufacturing Engineering & Product Quality HID. I am also retired from my second career at DX Engineering after 10 years in a Technical/Sales Support role. I am looking forward to serving "your" interests on the QCWA Board of Directors.

MEET AND HELP US AT DAYTON HAMVENTION!

Where QCWA will be:

This year's Hamvention will again be held at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. The three day event will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 19 to 21 May 2023. QCWA will have a table in Building 5 (The Hertz Building). We will occupy booth 5310 which is in the southwest corner of the structure.

Join the QCWA Eyeball QSO Party:

QCWA President, **Ken Oelke, VE6AFO**, has invited all members and friends to join him for an eyeball QSO party after the first day of Hamvention. The location is Nick's Restaurant, 1443 N. Detroit Street, Xenia, OH 45385. Ken says to meet your QCWA officers, directors and staff in the lounge at 1830 EDT on Friday, 19 May. Everybody is welcome!



Chapter One's Role:

Our chapter, one of the largest and most active of the organization, will assist VE6AFO and other staff at the booth. We will be signing up new members, helping existing members renew and answering questions about QCWA in general and especially about the QCWA scholarship program.

We already have a few volunteers from our chapter but we do need more! Most volunteers are working 3 hour shifts or more. So, if you are attending Hamvention, let us know that you'll be there (email: w2thu (at) arrl.net) and we will place you in a time slot that is mutually convenient to all. No preparation is required as you will receive on the job training. Besides helping out, you will have the opportunity to sit down in an exciting environment, and see what it's like from the other side of the table. It is fun to be a people watcher at Hamvention. Try it, you'll like it!

QCWA Annual Meeting and Forum:

QCWA bylaws and New York State law require that the organization hold an annual member's meeting. This will take place at Hamvention Forum Room 4 on Saturday, 20 May at 1340 EDT. Typically, our president, VE6AFO, reviews our organization's history and past year accomplishments and financials. In addition, he will answer questions and open the floor to all participants who wish to make comments or share their ideas for improving QCWA. If you've never attended our forums, then please take this opportunity to show up for this event.

RIDDLE: Why can't your nose be 12 inches long? (Answer on page 7.)

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

There's a lot going on relative to QCWA both in QCWA Chapter 1 and nationally. Here's the rundown:

Our Winter 2023 Luncheon-

The chapter winter meeting was a great success in a couple of ways. It was our first hybrid meeting, meaning that it was both in person and accessible via Zoom, thanks to our secretary, **Marc Barnett, KA8CPB**. In fact, I attended from Tampa, and I was able to watch the entire proceedings on my laptop, including an excellent program on amateur radio digital modes by QCWA member **Anthony Luscre, K8ZT**. Please check out Anthony's qrz page to check out his enormous ham radio activities including a list of presentations, slide shows and videos. Thanks to K8ZT for an excellent program.



K8ZT AT THE WINTER 2023 LUNCHEON

Chapter 1 mentioned in QST-

The Quarter Century Wireless Association was recognized by the ARRL in an article in the February 2023 issue of *QST*. The story, headlined "Quarter Century Wireless Association to Celebrate 75 Years," explained that our umbrella organization was founded in 1947, that it has 230 chapters and has accumulated 40,000 members over the years.

It then went on to say that "The Cleveland, Ohio, chapter was the first chapter chartered in 1951, and it now has more than 100 members."

How's that for recognition!

QCWA at Hamcation in Orlando-

Once again, QCWA attended the second largest amateur radio gathering in the U.S. I was fortunate to be part of the convention, where I assisted at the QCWA booth. Hamcation takes place at the Central Florida Fair Grounds, which is a little west of downtown Orlando.

Similar to our Dayton Hamvention, the Orlando event has most of the vendors that come to Xenia, plus the many forums and flea market "swaps" in a shorts and t-shirt environment. It's just a bit smaller but also lasts 3 days.

Helping out at the QCWA table was office manager, Roberta Cohen, WA2FRW, QCWA President, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, QCWA Vice-President, Tom Loughney, Jr., AJ4XM, Director, Jeff Beals, WA4AW and Chapter 1 President, Bob Winston, W2THU.



QCWA FORUM AT 2023 HAMCATION

Ohio's Distracted Driving Law-

Although not specifically related to QCWA, here in Ohio we now have a law intended to reduce accidents, injuries and death caused mainly by drivers who insist on texting or reading their mobile phones while driving. As I've mentioned here and in the ARRL *Ohio Section Journal*, there is an explicit exemption for FCC licensed amateur radio operators.

The bill is incorporated in Ohio Revised Code § 4511.204 (Driving while texting). The ham radio exemption is in Paragraph H, immediately following section f. I suggest you print out this law, highlight the exemption, and keep it in your glove compartment, just in case you get stopped while operating mobile.

See you at the luncheon on Saturday!

Chapter Member Jeffrey Meyer, K4DKW, Brings Amateur Radio to Elementary Schools



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHEAST OHIO CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, moved to the Painesville area a couple of years ago with an idea to introduce amateur radio to school children. He reached out to the area public schools but found no interest from the higher ups. So, Jeff brought his message to the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, where he received a positive response. K4DKW summarized his efforts below.

“As for Communion of Saints and St Aloysius, they are both progressing nicely. Communion of Saints ARC took second place in the Feb 2023 School Club Roundup and with a few more QSO'S would have finished first. The other club is going well but the head count is smaller and it's going to need more time to grow.

The Ohio School for the Blind and Deaf club is moving forward and I should be putting up the needed dipole and starting them up in the next 2 weeks.

Both schools are very pleased with my program and I'm planning to continue through the end of May at both schools. The Diocese has been very supportive, and to date has generated a podcast, a magazine article and posted a video of us doing the SCR contest, with much acclaim.

We also brought in Phil Sakal, one of the Channel 5 Meteorologists, to give Communion of Saints a mini SKYWARN program, for grades 4 to 8. The kids liked it and the club got some additional exposure by sponsoring it.

That's a lot for a first year for any club with most of the kids coming back next year.”

Jeff follows in the tradition of other Chapter 1 members and former members who have devoted enormous time and effort to introduce ham radio to the public and especially young people. Contact him (jeffreymeyer55 (at) gmail.com) if you wish to help.

The First Modern Receiver I played With; The National NC-270 in 1975 by George J. Mistic, KE8RN

In 1965, I started working on Saturdays at Bernie's Ham Shack at 2118 East 21st Street in Cleveland, Ohio. This was a great opportunity for a fairly new radio amateur. I was first licensed on November 22, 1963, the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. I had the opportunity to try out many different pieces of ham radio equipment.

The first receiver I used that had a product detector for SSB, Automatic Gain Control [AGC] on SSB, and very smooth tuning with a flywheel built into the tuning knob was the National NC-270, which was traded in on a new Galaxy V transceiver. The receiver had good selectivity for SSB, CW, and AM; the selectivity operated with conventional inductive and capacitive components at 230 KHz; a National development. National built many receivers using the 230 KHz last IF including the well



respected HRO-500 solid state receiver first released in 1964. Both the NC-270 and HRO-500 use only L-C components to get good selectivity at 230 KHz; no crystal lattice or mechanical filters were used. The NC-270 was finished in National's dramatic color they called "cosmic blue." It only weighed 28 pounds and was only 15.75 inches wide.

The NC-270 covered 80/75, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters; 160 meters was not included. The NC-270 included a built-in 100 KHz crystal calibrator; the calibrator works quite well on

80/75 to 10 meters; on 6 meters, the calibrator is difficult to use because it was difficult to tell if you had the right 100 KHz mark. The family of National receivers the size of the NC-270, including the NC-190, and NC-140 general coverage receivers, and the NC-155 ham band receiver all had a flip foot to tilt the receiver up when flipped down; when flipped up and out of the way, the receiver sat level.

At Bernie's, we sold the very fine Galaxy V 80/75 to 10 meter transceiver and the Galaxy III 80/75 to 20 meter SSB-CW transceiver. We also sold the sadly, largely forgotten, Transcom SBT-3 75, 40, and 20 meter solid state SSB transceiver plus Hammarlund receivers. I found the used National NC-270 receiver to outperform the Hammarlund HQ-110A amateur band receiver which did not have a product detector for SSB or CW. The HQ-170A may have outperformed the National NC-270, but they were very close to each other; the National dial mechanism worked so well. I personally preferred it.

Sadly, Bernie Bernon died at the young age of 54 in 1967. I worked with his widow, Eunice Bernon, K8ONA and bookkeeper to close out the store. I applied at Pioneer-Standard Electronics amateur radio and commercial sound department at 5403 Prospect Avenue and was hired there. They sold Drake, Collins, Hallicrafters, Swan, and National and picked up Ten-Tec and Signal One when they became available in 1968-1969.

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Answer to Riddle: Because it would be a foot.