



Cleveland Chapter One **NEWSLETTER** Established 1951

Summer Quarter 2017

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

Summer Luncheon is July 8th at *The Play Arcade and Kitchen* in Mayfield Heights

HOW TO CATCH A BOZO



This Saturday our quarterly meeting will feature a program on Fox Hunting presented by **Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS**. Fox Hunting is an amateur radio activity that can be enjoyed by hams and non hams alike. Learn about various Fox Hunting techniques as well as local opportunities to test your skills. Eddie points out that this skill is a great way to get people interested in our great hobby as well as a tool to track down QRM, including bozos.

Join us starting at 11:30 a.m. for our quarterly luncheon. **The Play Arcade and Kitchen is located at 5900 Mayfield Road in Mayfield Heights.** Eat off the lunch menu for about \$10.00. Door prizes, 50-50 raffle, music, and fellowship awaits! Please bring a friend! RSVP on the Wednesday night net or to w2thu@arrl.net ■

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Future Luncheon Dates

Some members aren't getting enough notice to plan for our meetings, so put these dates on your calendar now.

October 14, 2017

January 13, 2018

April 14, 2018

July 14, 2018



One of our chapter's favorite nanogenarians, **John Esborn, K8OCK**, recently celebrated his 97th birthday at the Friday Lunch Bunch (FLB) at the Manhattan Deli in Willoughby Hills.



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, W8FSF

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

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

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: Al Moriarty, N8CX

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

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

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.

PEOPLE

New Members or Friends of Chapter 1:

Paul Andrews, N8NYI of Ashtabula

Peter Harmon, W1BKZ of Burton

Sally Dawson, N1BCF of Burton

Be sure to check into our Wednesday night net at 8 PM on 146.85MHz, PL 110.9

All new members are announced on the net and then they are called by net control.

Sunshine:

John Esborn, K8OCK is receiving top notch care at the Cleveland VA Hospital after injuring his foot due to a fall at home.

Dave Foran, WB8APD is finally back at home after a series of hospitalizations and nursing home care following his stroke and many setbacks.

Recent Activities:

Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ wrote an article in *Electric Radio Magazine* about the Swan twins manufactured in the 1970s. Jeff also purchased 2 new Icom IC-7300s, one for the shop and one for the shack.

Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK was a member of the "Blues," over 50 ice hockey team, that won the championship in Cleveland Heights in April, 2017.

George Mistic, KE8RN published an article in the July 2017 issue of *QST* entitled *The Hammarlund HQ-170 and HQ-180*.

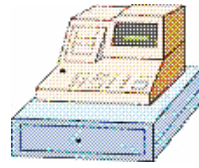
Joe Paluh, KB3LUE, has received his CW Ops certificate verifying completion of the Level 1 Morse Code course.

Silent Key:

Ralph Turner, W8HXC, 100, passed away shortly after receiving his 85th Anniversary Award.

TREASURER’S REPORT

by Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK



The treasury is in good shape. We have \$6,775.75 in the bank which means we can pay the bills and don’t get charged any service fees from the bank. Renewals continue to trickle in. If you have not yet paid for 2017, you can pay me at the meeting. Cash or check, ten dollars. Thank you to all who have paid.

SOME MORE GOOD STUFF FROM JIM

I live near the lake, so in the summer I monitor several of the US Coast Guard frequencies via my VHF ham radio. You can hear them talking to boats, giving out weather reports, boats talking to other boats, etc. The busiest channels are 16 (156.800MHz) and 22A (157.100MHz).

Sometimes you will hear them refer to 22B and 83B. Those are weather channels that are not in use in NE Ohio. Instead, you can monitor NOAA weather on 162.550 MHz on the east side, 162.500 MHz on the west side and 162.400 MHz south, near Akron. They all have good coverage. Listen to all three and pick the best signal in your area. If you are not in the immediate area, go to the NOAA website for frequencies used in counties near you.

If you have any other USCG channels that you monitor, let me know.

Jim, WD8PFK



Ted Alexander, W8IXY, our spring luncheon presenter

OUR SPRING LUNCHEON

If you weren’t there, here’s what you missed. Ted Alexander, W8IXY, took us along Cleveland area broadcast radio and TV memory lane. Ted shared his extensive knowledge of our local stations’ history including ownership, location, power and format. The follow up Q&A went on for quite a while as fellow members shared their memories and knowledge. Thank you Ted!



Some of the 23 members and guests settling in for W8IXY’s program at the spring 2017 luncheon.

Sunshine Reports

Hear weekly updates on the Wednesday net by WA8TPP



Birthdays this Quarter

Happy Birthday to the following Chapter 1 members. Many happy returns and many, many more birthdays as well.

July

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|------|
| W8PT | Charles Patellis | 7/4 |
| K8SGM | George Keltner, Sr. | 7/4 |
| N9AGC | Greg Smith | 7/7 |
| KO8C | Daniel Dillon | 7/11 |
| K8ARP | Arpad Vilberg | 7/12 |
| K8YLY | Kenneth Wolinski | 7/16 |
| N8AUC | Eric Jessen | 7/21 |
| AB4CT | Patricia Turpin | 7/23 |
| W8ANJ | Steven Molnar | 7/25 |
| WA8OZC | Alphonse Lada | 7/25 |
| WA8TJL | Gary Zimmet | 7/28 |
| W2THU | Robert M. Winston | 7/28 |
| WB8ADF | Jerry Dusa | 7/29 |

August

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|------|
| N8CX | Alan Moriarty | 8/5 |
| W8AR | Walter Robinson | 8/7 |
| W8WHO | Clifford Dice | 8/8 |
| KC8ZOE | Floyd Wimer | 8/10 |
| K8ZGW | Donald Ritchie | 8/10 |
| KC9IQF | Kate Saccany | 8/12 |
| W8GVE | Howard Reichle | 8/14 |
| WD8AQH | Nadya Cole | 8/15 |
| KE8GA | George Vilican | 8/17 |
| WB8N | Thomas Wayne | 8/17 |
| NV8L | Sam Wolfe | 8/20 |
| KD8IE | Kevin Ritchey | 8/24 |
| W1PDI | Tom Miller | 8/28 |
| K8SHJ | Carl Lewis | 8/28 |
| W8FSF | Fred Freer | 8/30 |

September

| | | |
|--------|----------------|------|
| W8WNA | Kirk Sanderson | 9/6 |
| KB3MPF | Barbara Misic | 9/12 |
| N8EQT | Raymond Suing | 9/16 |
| K8LXH | Harry Winfield | 9/21 |

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CHAPTER DUES?

Make your \$10.00 check payable to
 "QCWA Cleveland Chapter 1"
 and mail to our treasurer:

Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK
PO Box 324
Wickliffe, OH 44092 THANK YOU!

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR
 NATIONAL QCWA DUES AT
 WWW.QCWA.ORG**

CW Academy Certificate of Completion

Joe Paluh, KB3LUE

has successfully completed

Level 1

an 8-week/16-session training program
 in Morse Code sending and receiving

Bruce Blain
 Bruce Blain, K1BG
 CW Academy advisor



Jerry Weisskohl
 Jerry Weisskohl, AC4BT
 CW Academy manager

May 2017

Our Cleveland VA Hospital amateur radio station volunteer, **Joe Paluh, KB3LUE**, was determined to improve his CW skills. So, Joe took an 8 week course offered by the CW Academy, which is part of the CW Ops organization.

According to the CW Ops website, the club was launched in 2010 and grew from a handful of members to over 1,000 CW enthusiasts in 70 countries.

The group's goals are to increase worldwide CW activity via CW contests and classes. Hats off to Joe, who in this era of no CW ham radio licensing, wants to improve his Morse code proficiency.

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

By now you have probably read more than you need to know about the 2017 Hamvention at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. Here's my take.

Jeannie, KC8MNW and I followed DARA's advice and parked at a remote lot and transferred to a yellow school bus that shuttled us to the site. Unfortunately, the normally 15 minute ride took 1 hour and 45 minutes. Fortunately, we were in no hurry and even got transferred to a farm wagon pulled by a tractor across a field that took us near the entrance gate.

I really like the fairgrounds. Everything was clean and relatively new, there were many food wagons, each serving a different style food, the exhibit halls were close together and the forum buildings were very large and air conditioned!

For the first time in about 35 years of continual attendance I did not visit the flea market only because I failed to bring my mud boots. At HARA your feet rarely touched grass, much less dirt, so I was wearing my Dockers. Next year, even though DARA has plans to minimize the mud, I will bring proper footwear.

My impression is that the total square footage for vendors is about 70% of HARA. Yet, most of the companies that I recalled from earlier years were there. I never felt crowded, the way we were in the 1990s at HARA and I was surprised to learn that attendance was the second highest of all time. Kudos to DARA

for a successful job of transferring amateur radio's largest gathering to a new location! We plan on returning in 2018.



Joel Chaney, K8SHB, from Bratenahl, enjoying Hamvention 2017 in Xenia

As in past years, QCWA International maintained its presence at Hamvention with an active booth and a very well attended forum. President **Ken Olke, VE6AFO** reviewed our scholarship program, which has given away over half a million dollars in scholarships to 487 college bound amateurs. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association donated \$1,000.00 for the third year in a row.

And now a few thoughts about are own Chapter 1. We are well supported by a large membership and friends of our chapter for which we are very grateful. We would like to see more of you checking into our weekly net and joining us for our quarterly luncheons. If you have any concerns contact me(w2thu@arrl.net or 216-924-3314)

Jeannie and I look forward to seeing you at the summer luncheon!

Best 73, Bob Winston W2THU

USE OF THE “Q” SIGNAL ON RAILROADS

By Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK



As a ham radio operator, and steam rail enthusiast, I am often asked about the “Q” signal and how it originated. You know the one, where a locomotive passing a crossing blows two long whistle blasts, then a short blast, followed by another long blast: dah dah dit dah, or Q. I recently read an explanation in a railroad magazine about it, pertaining to the Queen of England being on board, and that the Q was for “Queen.”

Supposedly this convention started with steamboats and carried over to railroads. But in my research on this subject many years ago, this explanation, while quite clever, is probably not true for several reasons.

1. The original telegraph code was invented and implemented by Morse in 1844. I am sure the Queen traveled by boat prior to this date, since the steamboat was invented in 1783. The steam locomotive was invented in 1825 and the first use of a steam whistle on a locomotive was 1833. I also recently read that the Queen first traveled by train in 1842, all prior to the invention of the Morse code.

2. The telegraphers code was called American Morse, and the code for the letter Q was not dah dah dit dah, but actually the opposite: dit dit dah dit. American Morse is what was used by the US railroad telegraphers and was often referred to as “Railroad code.”

Many other letters in American Morse are different from what evolved into the current International Morse Code which was used on the radio many years later. I used to work with a fellow ham, the late John Cunningham, ex-W8JLL, who worked as a telegrapher for the Boston and Maine. He knew and used both codes over the years.

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Q-SIGNALS

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. He is the one who got my curiosity going about the “Q” code many years ago.

3. I read somewhere that the original railroad whistle code for a crossing was: dah dah dit. However, some engineman thought it would be better to hold the last note through the crossing and it became the common: dah dah dit dah as we here in the US know it.

4. There is an excellent article on Wikipedia about the American Morse Code, with additional interesting details about others who were involved. I wish I had it when I started on my quest for info back in the late 1970s. Back then it was go to the library and read books, lots of books, to do the research.

5. So the correct answer to the “Q” question appears to be, “The similarity between International Morse code Q and the whistle signal for a crossing is simply coincidence!”

I have found nothing to suggest Otherwise.

-Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK, Amateur Extra Class License and former crew member on GTW 4070 (1988-1990) and Père Marquette 1225 (1996-2010).



England’s Queen Victoria in her Royal Train Coach

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 and the camaraderie is even better. Come join us!

Ham Radio Services:
Equipment sold or purchased: If you want to dispose of old radio equipment that you no longer want, KE8RN offers to either purchase it or sell it for you on eBay. Excellent eBay reputation with 15 years experience. Call George Mistic on 412-486-8566 or email him at KE8RN@comcast.net.

FOR SALE

The following items are brand new. They have never been used or powered up. All in their original boxes.

Elecraft KX-1 kit with paddle. New \$369. Asking \$325.

Flex-1500 Software Defined Radio. New \$649. asking \$550.

Contact Bob Winston, W2THU:
w2thu@arrl.net or 216-924-3314.

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CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE TO ALL QCWA CHAPTER 1 MEMBERS.