



# Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

Summer Quarter 2018

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

## You're Invited to Our Summer Luncheon on Saturday July 14th

### *The FCC 600 MHz Incentive Auction and the TV Spectrum Crunch*



**Jim Baird, KB8ZA**, former Assistant Chief and Engineering Manager at WJW TV-8 will be our program presenter at the summer luncheon. His presentation will describe the effects of the sale of the 600 MHz band on the Northeast Ohio TV market. Jim will also explain how adjacent TV markets add to the changes and who is protected and who is not.

KB8ZA is currently the NFL's lead game day frequency coordinator and local SBE chapter frequency coordinator in Northeast Ohio. Previously he was a Senior Project Manager at Crispin Corporation, Senior Systems Design Engineer at SignaSys, Inc., Chief Engineer at WEWS TV-5 and he began his career at WUAB TV-43.

Join us starting at 11:30 A.M. at **The Play Arcade and Kitchen, 5900 Mayfield Road in Mayfield Heights**. We plan to meet in the

### In This Issue

2. People
3. Treasurer's Report
3. New Officers
4. Birthdays
4. Our Spring Luncheon
5. President's Perspective
6. Swan Transceivers

ground floor theater. The front 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@arri.net](mailto:w2thu@arri.net)** ■

## QCWA Annual Meeting at Dayton Hamvention

The QCWA annual meeting took place on 19 May at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. (Read more on page 5.)



### Future Luncheon Dates

*October 13, 2018  
April 13, 2019*

*January 12, 2018  
July 13, 2019*



## 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/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, W8FSF; (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:** TBD

**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:*

**Donna Wheeler, W8DMP** of Painesville

**Paul Wheeler, W8PJW** of Painesville

**Marc Barnett, KA8CPB** of Mayfield Hts

Welcome! Please check into our Wednesday night net on 146.85 MHz. at 8PM.

### *Sunshine:*

**Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP** has recovered nicely from his fall and is back home after a period of rehab.

**Don Thomas, K8DBT**, is recuperating from major cardiac surgery.

### *Recent Activities:*

**Ed Zorn, KE8ZZ and XYL Carol** renewed their 50th wedding vows at St. Mel's church on 23 June. Congratulations and many more years of a happy marriage!

**Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, while dealing with his folk's health issues, also has time for ham ready. He has acquired a Palstar HF 2KW auto tuner and a Palstar 1KW output LDMOS solid state amplifier!

**Bob Winston, W2THU**, just returned from a trip to Wisconsin, followed by a trip to Brooklyn, NY to visit his daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren. The 2,000 miles of driving included several VHF mobile QSOs.

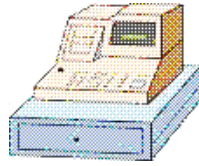
**Don Howard, N8JIW**, reported on the chapter net that he was going to set up a Field Day station in Shaker Lakes, operating his FT-857 from a battery, with a wire antenna.

**Craig Kollai, N8ZT**, vacationed to Key West in May but the bad weather interfered with his scuba diving plans.

Send your news of accomplishments, travel, family affairs, amateur radio projects, etc. to w2thu@arrl.net.

## SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

By **Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK**



The QCWA Chapter 1 treasury has 7,027 dollars - so we are in good shape. We are currently waiting for several checks to clear - related to postage, printing, mailing label conversion, and web services. Now that I have assumed the additional duties as Secretary, the mailing labels have been totally redone, with help from Office Depot in Willoughby. It should now show your correct dues status, with the year displayed being the year you are paid up through. Some of you have paid several years in advance, and we thank you. If you are past due, you will be getting a "reminder" Email from me shortly.

I want you to know that I have read all the comments you have sent with your dues checks.

Let me address a couple of them here:

1) Why don't we take credit cards ? I looked into this, and frankly, it isn't worth the hassle for the very few members that have asked about it. If you can't send a check, you can pay me in cash at the meeting, at the Cleveland Hamfest, or we can work something else out. I'm flexible.

2) Why don't we meet on the westside ? I am told that we did this some years ago, before I became a member. The issues with any meeting place are these: Is the place willing to have our group on a Saturday afternoon, once every 4 months ? Do they have the staff ? Do they have a separate room where we can eat lunch and have a program, without being interrupted ? Do they have enough parking spaces ? Will they allow us to order off the menu, or will the menu be restricted to a few items ? Will they charge us an additional " room rental " fee ?

The Play in Mayfield Hts. has been very accomodating, and the new room we meet in is one of the best I have been in. The food is good, and the prices reasonable. Parking is right out the side door. If you have not been to a QCWA meeting in a while, come and find out. I think you will like it. It's a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon four times a year, with your fellow

amateur radio operators and get "educated" with some of the fine programs that are presented. I look forward to seeing you all!



Jim, WD8PFK, Treasurer

## NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

Did you notice a change in the officers and operational group on page two? **Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK** has agreed to take over the secretarial duties after **Al Moriarty, N8CX** graciously agreed to step down. You all know Jim as our capable treasurer who found himself doing overlapping duties with the roster in order to keep track of the dues. (Maybe this is why many clubs have the dual role of secretary/treasurer.) A big thank you to Al for his years of service keeping the roster and mailing labels up to date.

**Fred Freer, W8FSF** is our new vice-president. Those of you who attended that snowy Winter luncheon a few months ago know Fred through his informative program on home inspections. I stopped by Fred's QTH a few months ago and learned that he is quite involved in another aspect of our hobby that he may agree to share with us in the future. In the meantime, if I cannot attend a luncheon, then the meeting will be run by Fred.

The chore of selecting and purchasing those wonderful doorprizes, previously assigned to the vice-president and taken over by the president, has now been assumed by **Sally Dawson, N1BCF**. Known for her wonderful hats, Sally is a very talented person. For example, she is a music teacher, plays several instruments, raises sled dogs, is a regular net control for the Trivia Net and is an active CW operator.

Finally, **Joe Nocifaro, KE9UL**, is now our Membership Reporter, rather than Membership Chair. Joe always checks into our Wednesday night net and has for years announced the new members. However, we now have a more streamlined system of processing new member

### Sunshine Reports

Hear weekly updates on the Wednesday net by WA8TPP

applications, relieving Joe of his former duties.





## *Birthdays this Quarter*

Happy Birthday to the following Chapter 1 members.

### 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
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 Mistic	9/12
N8EQT	Raymond Suing	9/16
K8LXH	Harry Winfield	9/21

*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! (Corrections to Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK; jgarcaro@juno.com)*

## *OUR SPRING LUNCHEON*



Once again, **Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, brightened our luncheon with a fascinating demonstration. This time the program was on LED lighting. Jeff brought in LED lightbulbs of all shapes and sizes that were designed to replace those old fashioned tungsten, halogen and even the more recent compact fluorescent lamps that were so recently popular.

Jeff explained that LEDs are designed as a direct replacement for those long fluorescent tubes that hang over your workbench or any desk or floor lamp bulb, plus many more styles.

He passed around LED bulb samples, all of which produce as much light as an incandescent but using a fraction of the power. For example, a 15W LED bulb creates as much light as a 100W, 1600 lumen filament type. Many thanks to WA8SAJ for his fine presentation.



A large percentage of our 35 members and guests stayed after the meeting to ask Jeff questions about his presentation.

## President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

Greetings from Perry Township.

### QCWA Annual Meeting and Forum:

Most of us increase our travels in the warmer months. A short drive to Xenia for Hamvention late in May brought your Chapter 1 president to the annual QCWA meeting and forum at the Greene County Fairgrounds. As in the past, our QCWA President, **Ken Oelke, VE6AFO**, presided and he summarized the results and attendance at all of the QCWA activities that I mentioned in my previous column.

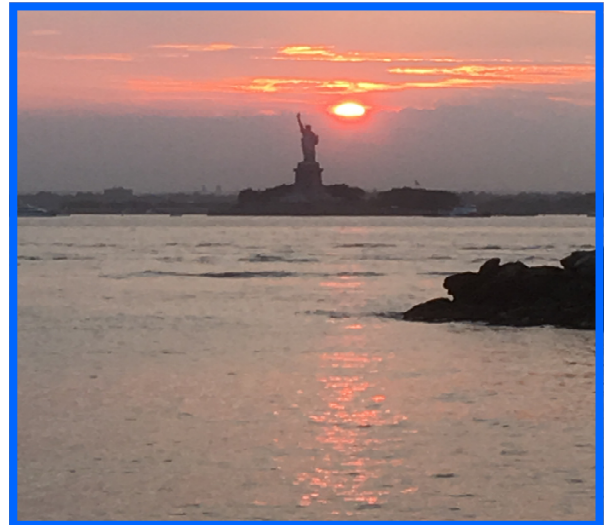
Also in attendance was newly appointed QCWA Director **Carole Perry, WB2MGP**, who is very well known in the general amateur radio community for introducing ham radio to young people. Carole is now a retired middle school teacher who taught ham radio classes for many years on Staten Island, NY. She was also a speaker at the meeting. She gave us some suggestions regarding recruitment of younger hams. For example, each chapter would do well to obtain the list of QCWA scholarship winners in order to invite them to our chapter meetings. (Most of these newly licensed students pass the Technician exam without too much difficulty, but never go on the air. *Ed.*) These young guests could be *Elmered* by one of our local members leading to true participation in our great hobby. Carole also suggested that we partner with our local schools, especially underperforming schools. She said that we would be surprised at the positive results. WB2MGP is always ready to assist hams who are ready to work with school children in keeping our hobby young and rejuvenated.

Some of you may recall that a few years ago Chapter 1 recognized three of our local members for doing just what Carole suggested. They adopted a local school system and introduced ham radio classes with good results, as did **Ken Kane, KG8DN** at Gilmore Academy. Please contact me if you want to follow up with some of WB2MGP's suggestions.

### New dues structure:

We discussed a new dues structure for Chapter 1

at the spring luncheon. Three ideas were addressed. Presently, our \$10.00 annual dues is waived for members who are 90 or older. **Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK** recommended that we lower that age to 85 or 80 because very few members are nonagenarians and we can afford to give free membership to our octogenarians. The second idea is to allow free membership to all members and friends who agree to accept this chapter newsletter via email only. The rationale is simple. The cost for printing and postage to mail your newsletter four times per year is approximately \$7.00 per member. If you accept Email only, then we are only losing \$3.00 per member, which we can afford. The third suggestion addresses the problem of Chapter 1



*I took this photo from a Brooklyn pier on July 4th 2018.*

friends who have failed to join QCWA, as required by their bylaws after satisfying the 25 year rule. So, we are willing to waive your local dues so that you can afford to join the national. Presently, QCWA offers a three year membership for \$55.00, which is \$18.33 per annum. Subtracting our \$10.00 dues results in a net cost to you to join the national for only \$8.33 per year.

Please let us know your thoughts on the above so we can have a consensus on how to proceed. Silence doesn't help.

Also, many of you have agreed to Email only newsletters but are still getting them via USPS. If that is the case, please email WD8PFK, who is now in charge of mailing labels. We appreciate your choice.

73, Bob W2THU

# The Start of Swan SSB/CW Transceivers

By George Mistic, KE8RN



(Swan 350 in the shack of W2THU)

## The beginning of Swan transceivers

The Swan SSB/CW transceivers started with their single band transceivers for 75, 40, and 20 meters about 1960 and soon followed by their three band model 240 covering 75, 40, and 20 meters in one unit. Swan's first five band transceiver was their model 400 which does not have a built-in VFO; Swan made a small VFO for mobile use and a large VFO for home station use. Their very popular five band radio was the model 350 which did have a built-in VFO and initially ran 400 watts Peak Envelope Power [PEP]. The 350 was followed by the model 500 and later by their model 700 plus the 750 and finally on to solid state models.

## The single band and three band Swans

Swan started out with their fairly low cost single band models for 75, 40, and 20 meters. When they were in Arizona in 1960, the only SSB/CW transceiver on the market was the very nice but very expensive Collins KWM-2 transceiver that covered 80/75, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters and running 175 watts PEP input power on SSB and 160 watts input on CW. The three models of single band Swans used a single type 6DQ5 tube in the final amplifier stage. Swan did not initially build power supplies for their transceivers; the single band radios also did not have receive Automatic Gain Control [AGC]. Most early buyers of Swan radios bought Heathkit AC or DC power supplies to operate the Swan radios. Swan had moved Oceanside, California from Benson, Arizona. They introduced their three band radio, called the model 240 soon after marketing the single band radios. The 240 also used a single type 6DQ5 tube in the final running 240 watts PEP, hence the model number for the radio. The three band radios used the sum of the VFO and IF to make 20 meters and the difference of the two to make 75 meters; the VFO frequency was changed to get a 40 meter signal by again subtracting the VFO from the IF. Both the single band and three band radios from Swan did not cover the CW portions of the bands covered; the Swan radios were aimed at SSB operation only. AM operation was also not specifically provided. The TCU or Terminal Control Unit to go with the Swan 240 added a crystal calibrator, VOX unit, and a remote VFO to allow splitting of transmit and receive frequencies as a help to working DX where the foreign station was outside of the USA phone band. The TCU also made the 240 operate in the CW parts of the three bands, giving the model 240 CW capability. The TCU was the same size as the 240 transceiver.

*(Please turn to page 7)*



## Swan SSB/CW Transceivers

*(Continued from page 6)*

### The five band tube Swans; the 400, 350, and 500

The five band Swan 400 as a next logical step for Swan about 1964; it was designed to be used both as a mobile rig and as a home base station by the use of the appropriate VFO for each use. The 420 VFO offered 12 bands each 200 KHz wide like the Collins KWM-2. The 406 VFO for mobile use covered only the phone portions of the bands covered; Swan assumed that most mobile operators would not use CW. The Swan 400 cost \$395.00 without the VFO; the 420 home VFO cost \$120.00 and the 406 mobile version cost \$75.00. Both VFOs had an RF gain control which controlled the RF gain on receive. The receive S-Meter read backwards on receive, but normally on transmit, where it measured final amplifier cathode current. Like most Swan products, the 400 was single conversion with an IF frequency of a bit more than 5 MHz. This helped keep the radio very free of birdies and spurious responses. The 400 happily came with a built-in 100 KHz crystal calibrator, but a VOX unit was a \$35.00 plug-in option. The Swan uses a pair of 6HF5 color TV horizontal sweep tubes; they were essentially a later version of the 6DQ5 tube that was used in the earlier Swans. The 400 not surprisingly ran 400 watts PEP input on SSB, delivering about 235 watts PEP output.

The very popular Swan 350 followed the 400 and was widely used; the 350 had a built-in VFO but lost the 100 KHz crystal calibrator which became an option like it was on many other radios. The 350 covered all of the 80/75, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands and could be used on SSB, CW, and AM. Like the 400, VOX operation was handled by a plug-in accessory. The 350 like the 400 ran 400 watts PEP input power on a pair of 6HF5 final amplifier tubes. Swan offered both 117 VAC and 12 VDC for home or mobile use. The 350 operated lower sideband on 80/75 and 40 meters and upper sideband on 20, 15, and 10 meters; it could be modified for selectable sideband, but without added work

and expense it did not offer sideband selection. The 350 was in direct competition with the Galaxy V 80/75 to 10 meter SSB-CW rig; both rigs initially cost \$420.00 in the mid 1960s. The Galaxy had a VFO that tuned a fixed range [in the Galaxy's case, 5.0 to 5.5 MHz] like the Collins KWM-2 that tuned 2.5 to 2.7 MHz while the Swan switched the VFO frequency when changing bands like the receivers from Hammarlund, Hallicrafters, and National plus RME.

The later deluxe Swan model 500 and the 260 and 270 Cygnets and the 700 and 750 all used the switched VFO oscillator as did the Swan separate receiver and transmitter pair, the 600R and 600T. The later Swan solid state rigs finally used a crystal oscillator to switch bands and used a VFO with a fixed range. During the 1960s and much of the 1970s, I felt the Galaxy radios at the same price point as the Swan, and the Drake for somewhat more and Collins for a LOT more were a technically superior design. The Swan radios worked quite well and were very popular and ran a good bit of RF power; many hams used them with good results. Herb Johnson, the driving force behind Swan went on to found Atlas Radio when the solid state era began; Atlas never made any vacuum tube radios.

It would be interesting to compile a list of what radios people in QCWA Chapter One were using in the 1960s. I would be interested to do this; please let me know at [KE8RN@comcast.net](mailto:KE8RN@comcast.net) and I will compile a list of what the members were using 50 years ago.

### 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!**