



# Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

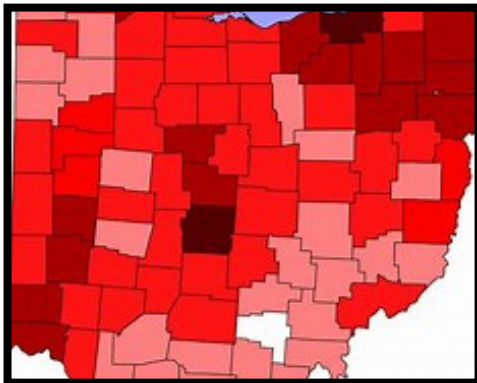
Summer Quarter 2020

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

## ANOTHER LUNCHEON IS CANCELLED!

### COVID 19 IN OHIO



Chapter 1 had a couple of informal surveys concerning the summer luncheon. The first consisted of an email to all our members and friends asking if you would feel comfortable attending our typical gathering, even though we have not yet selected a new venue to replace *The Play Arcade & Kitchen*. The majority said no, although **Fred Doob, K8PP** suggested a picnic luncheon. This made sense in that you could maintain social distancing and bring your own food, not worrying if you were going to be infected from a common source.

The second survey was conducted during our Chapter 1 nets. Admittedly, this was not a statistically good sample but the majority were not in favor of a picnic either.

So that leaves us without a summer luncheon meeting. We could meet on line, using Webex or Zoom, but this is not a luncheon, unless you want to watch other folks chewing. It lacks the personal touch, the intimate conversations with your tablemates and eating food you don't have to prepare yourself. However, it would allow us to offer a visual program. Many area clubs (LEARA, GARA, LCARA, etc.) are meeting this way, successfully conducting club business and making presentations.

What are your thoughts for our Fall luncheon? Contact any chapter officer.

**STAY HEALTHY-BE SAFE!**

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### QCWA NEWS



**QCWA Webmaster, Bob Roske, N0UF**

The Quarter Century Wireless Association has just announced that **Bob Roske, N0UF** has retired as the webmaster for our organization. Since 2002, N0UF has done a remarkable job in expanding and modernizing QCWA.com. Everything you need to know about QCWA can be found there from a list of active and lost members in your chapter to scholarships, organizational documents, awards, supplies, and so much more.

If you have the computer skills to manage a website, then do apply for this volunteer position.

### *Future Luncheon Dates*

*October 10, 2020, January 9, 2021,  
April 10, 2021, July 10, 2021*



## Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

**Editor:** .Robert M. Winston, W2THU  
**Distribution:** Fred Freer, K8IG  
**Roster changes:** Notify Secretary/Treasurer Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK <jgarcaro(at)juno.com>  
**Meetings:** Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at: *To be determined*  
**Dues:** \$10.00 per year if you want this Newsletter mailed to you via USPS. Dues is free if you are 80 or older or accept this Newsletter via email only.  
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### Chapter One Officers

**President:** Robert M. Winston, W2THU;  
 (216) 924-3314, <w2thu(at)arrl.net.>  
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**Secretary/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, KC8UIQ  
**QCWA Journal reporter:** K8IG  
**License trustee:** N8ZT  
**Awards chair:** 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, <dritchie(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:*

**David L. Semanik, K8WRS** of Parma is a member of QCWA and our chapter.

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-

**Diane Lada**, xyl of Al Lada, WA8OZC passed away this past February at the age of 85.  
*May she rest in peace.*

### *New Sunshine Reporter:*

**Betty Scholz, KC8FF**, has accepted the position of Sunshine Reporter, formerly held by Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP (SK). Please let Betty know of any members on the sick list so she can send them a get well card.

### *Happy Birthday:*

**Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW**, recently celebrated a milestone birthday. Adhering to the COVID-19 rules, all guests were supplied with masks, hand sanitizer and individually wrapped meals in the outdoor setting. Music supplied by **Ted Alexander, W8IXY** via 93.7 Mhz FM.

### *Happenings:*

**Gary Zimmet, WA8TJL**, & XYL Janet have decided to stay put in their RV Motorhome near a Louisiana bayou lake rather than coming to Ohio for the summer, due to possible COVID 19 restrictions on return travel.

**Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK**, is slowly and carefully resurrecting his Yaesu FT-101, hoping to finish by next year's Field Day.

## SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

By Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

QCWA members and friends, the bank balance is in fine shape, now standing at \$ 5,160.46.



Once again, I need to remind everyone that you need to inform me of any new Email address you may be using, or any that you may have discontinued, because most of you get this newsletter by Email. Sometimes this happens because you change cable providers, retire and move, or mergers of service providers. Either Email your changes to me at: [jgarcaro@juno.com](mailto:jgarcaro@juno.com), or write it down, and mail it to me at: QCWA c/o Jim Arcaro PO Box 324 Wickliffe, Ohio 44092. You can also use that Email address if you have any questions about membership, etc.

The weekly Chapter 1 Net on the 146.85 repeater is going well, and participation has gone up since I started sending out reminders via the Chapter's mailing list. I usually listen in, though that repeater is far from me, and often sounds noisy down here close to Lake Erie, no matter what radio or scanner I use to listen. I apologize for not being able to check in.

My spare time lately has been divided by cutting the grass, trimming the hedges, painting the outside trim of the house, and fixing up things I come across. In the past few years living here I have found and corrected: the old phone line being grounded improperly, the ground clamp for the gas range in the kitchen being loose, and a few other interesting electrical issues. The old ground clamps were of the strap type, so they were replaced with the "newer" type pipe clamps, and run to the nearby copper cold water line.

In the process of doing this, while Kathy was watering her flowers, I found that water line was sweating profusely. The water was very cold, it was a hot humid day, and the condensation was plentiful. So, I got out the tape measure, and measured widths and lengths. A trip to the Lowe's in Willoughby found me looking at, and buying, about 30 feet of that foam

insulation, that is slit down the sides. I then measured and cut the correct diameter pieces to go from the basement floor, up to the water meter, then from the water meter to the outside faucet. I wiped down the sections after she was done, and once all the pieces were cut and fitted into place I taped them all, every 2 feet or so, so they couldn't ever come loose and fall off. FYI, I found that a hacksaw blade worked better at cutting this foam than a razor knife.



Yaesu FT-101

Another project I am slowly working on is that of replacing all the old electrolytic capacitors in a very early version Yaesu FT-101. How do I know it's an early version? Well, there was an excellent article in the May 2020 issue of *QST*, with a chart of most of the models, serial numbers, and boards inside the rig. My boards are all of the 1000 series, so its an early version. The rig receives, but I haven't fired the transmitter up yet. The project after I get it working will be to put up a wire antenna.

73, Jim

### 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

## HUSTLER 5-BTV

BY V.P. FRED FREER, K8IG

(Originally written for our Spring 2020 Newsletter but first published in the LEARA Spirit of 76&88 April 2020 edition.)

We all well know that the Corona Virus of 2020 has certainly altered our lives, our finances, our health, our social postures, our work schedules and perhaps even our hobby time. Hopefully, our portfolios remain optimistically healthy, our personal health remains unaffected and that we are finding more time for amateur radio. I am and I'll share a recent story.

The story begins now three years ago at the Dayton Hamvention (the first in Xenia) when, among other goodies, I bought a New-Tronics Hustler 5-BTV.



K8IG's Hustler 5-BTV mounted in the side yard.

This antenna was intended to replace a Cushcraft R-7 that had ultimately succumbed to long-term ultraviolet damage and water entry to the balun box (that final kilowatt use must have created quite the light show...arc!). The R-7 was a bit gangly and really cried out for guying...which I never did. That's the back story.

Now to the 5-BTV. As most of you know, this is a 5 band (10, 15, 20, 40 and 80) meter trapped vertical that can be ground mounted or elevated. I chose ground mounting

on a five foot (3' in the ground and 2' above grade) 2" galvanized pipe (top capped). The antenna is mounted on the side of our home just in front of a conifer tree (not ideal) as revealed in the picture but was the only "approved" location. Parenthetically, mounting the antenna alongside of - or in close proximity - to our home would be less than ideal because that house elevation is aluminum sided. Supplementing the antenna is a DX Engineering radial plate at the base of the mounting pipe (mast) and a DX Engineering tilt-over mount that facilitates assembly and tuning. This location limits uniform radial distribution so I have about forty various length radials that are largely deployed in two polar directions (north and south). See the picture. And, after returning from the 2017 Hamvention, I quickly installed the mounting pipe, radials and feed line.

Following the instructions (or so I thought) I tuned the antenna using a tape measure, wrench and an MFJ-259 antenna analyzer. Of course, we know that real men and real "hams" don't really read the instructions. The message here is to read and fully understand the instructions. Let me explain. The traps used on this antenna are LC traps with the "L" portion supplied by wound coils (for 10, 15 and 20 meters). The 80 meter coil is an add-on coil installed at the antenna top. The "C" portion is accomplished with the surrounding (and protective) cans that are hose clamped at the trap base and that slip into PVC caps that insulate and seal against water entry, the upper portion of the trap. If one were to actually read the instructions the reader would be cautioned **in bold print** to not adjust the clamp at the trap base when tuning the antenna.

Unfettered by instructions, I proceeded to "tune" my antenna by adjusting any and all of the clamps to achieve the best VSWR readings that I could attain. By this time, you likely suspect that I really didn't achieve satisfactory VSWR values or antenna

*Please turn to page 7*

# President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

## COVID-19-

Who would have guessed that the COVID-19 pandemic would have lasted this long? That the Dayton Hamvention would be cancelled? That just about every hamfest, club meeting and even Field Day would be cancelled, not to mention college and professional sports, election primaries postponed, businesses closed, people laid off from work and more. Let's not forget all the people who have contracted this awful disease, and suffered and many who passed away and will succumb until a vaccine is perfected.

## QCWA Website -

The search to find a new webmaster reminded me that the website is chock full of useful and interesting information. All members can log in to learn more about the organization and do many things. For example, do you have your QCWA membership card? How about a membership certificate? You can print your own directly from the website.

Another feature for "members only" is to search the database of all QCWA members, either by country or the entire lot. You can also find most of the QCWA publications going back to 1953 such as Yearbooks, Bulletins, Newsletters and, of course, Journals.

You will also find the Board of Directors minutes starting from 1997, financial statements, annual member's meeting minutes, and member supplies. Most of these features were implemented by **Bob Roske, N0UF**, who has made the website extremely user friendly. Thank you, Bob. Check it out!

## Where Do You Want To Meet? -

We don't want the cover page of the Fall Chapter 1 Newsletter to say "meeting cancelled" again. Restaurants in Ohio are now open, but with restrictions relating to the size of your party. Obviously, our Chapter 1 luncheons exceed the present limitations. Further, we have only one viable location called *Mavis Winkle's Irish Pub* in Twinsburg. *Mavis* does satisfy the requirements that I enumerated in the Spring 2020 Newsletter **except** for location. Jeannie and I ate there with **Don Ritchie, K8ZGW** and his xyl, Cecelia. Don

suggested it and I really like their meeting room. But is it realistic to expect our west side members to travel to Summit County for our luncheon? I remember all those years that we traveled to Dimitri's in Parma from the eastern suburbs and, frankly, it was only four times a year so I didn't mind. What say ye, westsiders? Give us some feedback and your suggestions please.

## Front License Plates in Ohio -

I never lived in a state that did not require a front license plate until four days ago. To the chagrin of my police officer friends, I removed my front plate three days ago and I will probably mail it to the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) clubhouse for their collection.



The big dilemma is what should I put in that blank space now? I have narrowed it down to 3 choices: A poodle plate, an ARRL plate or a plate from one of my alma maters. So, if you are about to get run over by a car, and you see a white standard poodle coming at you, try to see if the rear plate says W2THU.



Kelby, the Standard Poodle

My best for an enjoyable summer in NE Ohio. Check into our net on Wednesday nights and join us at Lunch Bunch on Fridays.  
73, Bob W2THU

**STAY SAFE—STAY HEALTHY!**

## Hallicrafters SX-71

By George J. Mistic, KE8RN



Sold from 1949 to 1955, the SX-71 had a fairly long lifetime. About 1951, my father, John, W8VRJ bought an SX-71 to replace the Hallicrafters S-20R Sky Champion he had owned since right before World War II. The SX-71 had five bands, four covering 0.538 to 35.0 MHz as most general coverage receivers did, and a fifth band covering only 46.0 to 56.0 MHz using only the bandspread tuning capacitor to provide six meter coverage. The SX-71, unlike most Hallicrafters receivers that had been built up until this time, did not have two circular dials, but two slide rule dials, the left one general coverage and the right one amateur bandspread on the right. The SX-71 had amateur radio bandspread coverage for the 80/75, 40, 20, 15, 11, and 10 meter bands plus used the bandspread tuning capacitor to cover the six meter band using the same dial. The S-Meter was located between the two dials, and the bandswitch below the S-Meter, in line with the two tuning knobs height.

The receiver used thirteen tubes, five miniature types and eight octals; four of the octals were metal tubes. The metal octals were the three 455 KHz second Intermediate Frequency [IF] tubes, the audio voltage amplifier and BFO tube, and the AM-CW detector and automatic noise limiter; the glass octals were the audio output, rectifier, and voltage regulator tube. The miniatures were in the RF circuitry and the detector for the FM mode. The receiver employed dual conversion to get better image rejection with a first IF of 2.075 MHz followed by the 455 KHz IF. The SX-71 received AM, CW, SSB if you had patience and a steady hand, and Narrow Band Frequency Modulation [NBFM] as part of several manufacturers efforts to make NBFM a mode choice over AM; it failed despite NBFM being added to many rigs sold in the early 1950s by most companies but Collins Radio Company. Art Collins, W0CXX, went from CW in the 1930s to AM after World War II, to SSB starting in 1955.

I still have the SX-71 and the large R-46 speaker purchased with it. I made one minor repair to it inside of a 455 KHz IF transformer and it works well at 69 years old. I listened to W1AW to learn Morse code in the early 1960s, as it worked far better than my Heathkit AR-3 receiver which I had built. Shortly after getting my amateur radio license in 1963 [it arrived the day President John Kennedy was assassinated], I bought a used National HRO-7 receiver from the original owner. It is mechanically vastly superior to the Hallicrafters SX-71 in my opinion; tuning in SSB with the HRO-7 is vastly easier than the SX-71.

The SX-71 sold for \$179.50 in 1949, rising to \$249.95 in 1955 plus about \$20.00 to \$25.00 for the speaker. The National HRO-7 sold for \$311.36 including the AC power supply and external speaker. Neither receiver had an internal crystal controlled calibrator or even offered one as an option. The dial on the National is more accurate but harder to read than the Hallicrafters.

## HUSTLER 5-BTV

*Continued from page 4*

performance. Two years passed and here we are struggling with the Virus. So what was Fred to do?

First, I visited the New-Tronics website and secured the latest version of the instructions (which, to my dismay and private but now public embarrassment, remained unchanged). Now, using the Rig Expert AA-230 Zoom analyzer and my “new” instructions, I proceeded with emboldened vigor to tune the antenna but with disappointing results. What to do? Go directly to the source I reasoned. My call to New-Tronics was delightfully greeted by Candie who then directly connected me with their technician, Mike. Mike, it turns out, is both a very patient and valued resource who explained how to tune the traps and of course, the larger antenna. By the way, for those hams who actually read instructions, the New-Tronics website also has a page explaining the trap tuning procedure (which, when read with care is really helpful).

Cutting to the chase as they say, tuning the traps is really the key to antenna performance as you would imagine. Tuning the traps is not a, pardon the pun, a “ham-handed” effort. The LC trap relationship is very delicate and adjustment of the trap cans requires very small (almost infinitesimal) movements of the trap clamp and can. The process starts with the 10 meter trap, proceeding to the 15 meter trap and then the 20 meter trap. Proper tuning of each successive trap is critical to overall antenna performance. The 80 meter trap is really adjusted by cutting the top end whip to the desired frequency (I like 3885 for AM operation).

Having just completed finessing the antenna traps, I am absolutely delighted with the VSWR curves, I am hearing band activity that I suspect I could not have previously heard and this may well be my go to antenna for 15 meters. Of course, the “on the air” performance will be the final and best test of performance. However, the reports of this antennas performance will have to wait for another Newsletter or our next Chapter meeting. Meanwhile, anyone of you with a

Hustler 4-BTV, 5-BTV or 6-BTV who doesn't care to read the instructions and would like some “experienced” help in tuning your Hustler antenna, I stand at the ready to help. Stay safe and enjoy your family and amateur radio. Best 73, Fred Freer, K8IG.



Closeup of Hustler 5-BTV Mounting and Radial System

## Rock & Roll is Here to Stay!

You can listen to Chapter 1 member **Ted Alexander, W8IXY** on FM Broadcast station WQGR Gold 93.7 Mhz. Ted has dedicated his amazing record collection of classics from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s to this oldies station. If you have an FM radio in your car or at home that can decode the digital data subcarrier (RDS), then soon you will be able to see the name of the song, recording artist and other information about the music you are hearing.

If you can't hear this low power station from Madison, Ohio over the air, simply listen on line. Go to [www.gold937fm.com](http://www.gold937fm.com) and click the *on air* button. Or, if you have Alexa at your QTH, say “Alexa, ask Gold ninety three point seven to play live.”

Either way, Ted plays many songs that bring back memories for QCWA members who lived through those decades. Enjoy the music!