



Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

Winter Quarter 2021

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

CAN YOU POWER YOUR HOUSE FROM STORAGE BATTERIES?

JOIN OUR VIRTUAL LUNCHEON ON ZOOM
TO FIND OUT
SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY AT 12:30 PM



Chapter 1 member, **Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, has put together a terrific program describing his battery powered generator. Most of us picture those small emergency generators with an attached gasoline tank as its energy source. Whole house generators, that cost around \$15,000 to \$20,000 are designed to seamlessly keep the power flowing in case of storm related commercial power loss.

Jeff has designed a relatively low cost system that uses a non carbon energy source to keep certain appliances and devices running when the power goes out at his QTH.

Our webmaster, **Don Ritchie, K8ZGW** will host. **He will email you the Meeting ID & Passcode.**

STAY HEALTHY-BE SAFE!

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QCWA News

The QCWA Board has voted to issue Anniversary Award certificates to those members who have been licensed less than 50 years. These awards now recognize your participation in our great hobby for 30, 35, 40 and 45 years.

Under the old rules, you had to wait 25 years to join QCWA, then another 25 years to receive your first Anniversary Award. That additional time period has been significantly reduced to only 5 years.

This change recognizes that many members would not be eligible for these snazzy certificates until very late in life, if at all.

ARE YOU A QCWA MEMBER?

Although there is no Chapter 1 dues, you **MUST** be a member of QCWA to be a chapter member. Chapter "friends" are only those hams who were first licensed less than 25 years ago. Join/Renew at QCWA.org.

Future Luncheon Dates

*April 10, 2021, July 10, 2021,
October 9, 2021, January 8, 2022*



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

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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.

PEOPLE

New Members and Friends:

None this quarter.

New members and friends are welcomed on our Wednesday night net on the NORMA repeater, 147.015 (pl 110.9Hz) until our own 146.85 repeater is fixed.

Silent Keys:

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

Donald Duman, W8DD, Fairlawn, OH police chief and former Cleveland police officer passed away on 6 September 2020 at the age of 66.

George Keltner, Sr., K8SGM, of Parma, OH died on 26 Dec 2020 at the age of 91. George was an Ohio Bell retiree, lifelong member of Telephone Pioneers and many area amateur radio clubs.

Happenings:

Mark Studer, KC8FQV, received the 2020 President's Award from PCARS for his tireless efforts supporting their activities on all the area nets. He was described as their "billboard." Congratulations Mark!

Chuck Patellis, W8PT, also received the PCARS 2020 President's Award in appreciation of leading their Contest/DX special interest group. Congratulations Chuck!

Al Lada, WA8OZC, reports that he is doing well, recovering at home from his fall. He exercises in a local swimming pool to strengthen his legs and is looking forward to resuming his accordion playing.

Jerry Dusa, WB8ADF, has been enjoying operating from area parks, where he can string up a better antenna than at his apartment QTH.

SEC'T/TREASURER REPORT

Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

Members, friends and families, I hope you are all well ! Happy 2021 !! The past year has been the strangest of my lifetime, that's for sure.

Financially, the club is healthy, with balance of \$5,074.46 .



Once again, I must remind you to notify the club, and the FCC, of any Email changes. This is important for two reasons: 1) the club sends most of you the newsletter via Email, and 2) the FCC now requires an Email address to conduct business. Very little, if any, FCC correspondence will be conducted via USPS. If you have signed up for a new Email account, dropped an old service provider, moved, etc. please let us know. You can Email me at: jgarcaro@juno.com

The club also sends weekly QCWA Net notices out via Email. The net is every Wednesday night at 8 PM, and is now conducted on the 147.015 repeater, using the 110.9 TPL to "get in". Additionally, the club conducts its quarterly meetings now via Zoom. Instructions for the Zoom meetings are sent out a few days before, via Email. If you do not have an Email account, I would suggest you have a trusted relative or friend help you set one up. Email accounts are free from both Gmail and Hotmail, as far as I know. You will need a computer to participate in the Zoom meetings. Last quarter we had around 20 participate, which is nearly the same number we have had at the "face to face" lunch meetings.

I don't know if you got anything Ham Radio related for Christmas, but I bought myself a gift. It's a small Yaesu FT-65R handheld. The radio is dual band VHF/UHF, and has

many features, including receive out of band, so I can listen to the US Coast Guard, Weather stations, and Railroads (my other hobby).

I also found out that it will receive the FM broadcast band quite well. So if I want to listen to the football game, I just enter the frequency of the nearest FM affiliate, and there it is. I did have to figure out how to change some things in the programming, but it is easily done from the full front keypad, once you read the manual and figure it out.



Yaesu FT-65

Total cost, for the radio, antenna, charger, L-ion battery and shipping was just over 100 dollars. The radio is built in Japan, and should not suffer the problems of cheaper "No Name" radios built offshore.

See you at the next Zoom meeting,
Jim WD8PFK

MORE MASONRY AND AMATEUR RADIO

**by
Don Howard, Esq., N8JIW**

I am a practicing attorney. I participate in amateur radio because among other things, it's fun, there is good fellowship, and it is a world away from clients, law, pleadings, juries, and courtrooms. I waited 25 years to join the Cleveland Chapter #1 of QCWA for the same reasons. I thoroughly enjoy the nets Wednesdays at 20:00 on 147.015 and reading the QCWA newsletter.

I decided to write an article because other members may get the



same pleasure from reading these contributions that I have.

I was an Eagle Scout in 1964 in the 11th grade and earned a communications merit badge, among many other badges, along the way. Learning Morse Code (cw) was part of that particular badge requirement. I did nothing in radio for 20 years but in 1984 I bought a Yaesu FT 102 for shortwave listening. By 1988 I earned my extra class license and also became a VE.

I still operate code (cw) on the FT 102 and am a member of LEARA and ARRL.

I read the Fall quarter 2020 article by QCWA member , Don Ritchie , K8ZGW and was intrigued. It is great to know that there are other Masons in amateur radio. We amateurs are a diverse group with many different interests, avocations, and professions.

I will share, briefly, some experiences in the masonic order, as a radio amateur, and as a trial lawyer. There will be more to follow, if subscribers to the newsletter don't revolt.

Like Don Ritchie, K8ZGW, I am both a Mason and a Shriner. The Shiners are a branch of the Masonic order. I am the Potentate, local leader, of the Cleveland Temple of Shriners in a different jurisdiction from K8ZGM, and have never met him, even though I enjoyed his article. Since 1950, our Temple has conducted, in earnest, an annual fundraiser for the burn units of both the Rainbow Baby and Children's Hospital and the Cleveland Metro Hospital.

Members of the Shriners are called Nobles and we have more than 50 Nobles in the Cleveland area, and a total of 250 in the entire Jurisdiction of 9 Temples in 9 major cities throughout the country. We also meet yearly. I have elmered several Masons and Shrine members over the years, in and out of Ohio, and have enjoyed helping them get their amateur radio license. The fall quarter article mentioned that "SK" stood for silent key, and it also meant Sir Knight in the Masonic Order.

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

Happy New Year! Good riddance to 2020, which will go down as the year of the pandemic. Now we are looking forward to being vaccinated against Covid-19 and a return to normalcy.

I was thinking that if you have to live in a world of social distancing, amateur radio is the best hobby to endure that task. We talk to people around the world from the safety of our own homes. Have you been on the air more than usual because the pandemic is keeping you from participating in other activities? I know that I have been working a lot more HF lately and, of course, enjoying it.

Just the same, I miss our quarterly luncheons, Lunch Bunch at the Manhattan Deli and all of the hamfests that have been cancelled, especially the Dayton Hamvention in Xenia, which they say is still on for 2021. Let's hope so.

The one activity that kept Chapter 1 active most of last year was our Wednesday night net. From winter luncheon in January of 2020 to our first virtual meeting in October, the only two way communication among our members and friends was on 2 meters. And the net is doing very well. We are having interesting discussions beyond just checking in and answering trivia questions.

If you have any topics for the net, whether they be trivia or general discussion questions, then please email to me (w2thu@arrl.net) for consideration. I understand that some hams are just not "net people" and it does take a few sessions to get accustomed to participating, but you may like it. Give it a try!

In my previous column (Fall 2020), I said that I have been Chapter 1 president

for 10 years and that it was time for me to retire. (That was an error because it's been 12 years!) I got one response and no takers. If you like to preside over meetings, write quarterly columns, think of trivia and discussion questions, haul stuff to luncheon venues and try to coax people to do things, then this job is for you.



250 feet of underground cable light them up!

Another casualty of the pandemic was the cancellation of our awards luncheon. None of the prestigious presidential plaques were given out last year nor were the anniversary awards. You can still print out the latter certificates directly from the QCWA website. They look great when framed. If you need assistance just let me know. I can email your certificate or print it out and send via the post.

Speaking of anniversary awards, QCWA has voted to offer these certificates to hams who have been licensed less than 50 years. I agree with this new policy because many of you did not become licensed until later in life. I expect that we will be giving out a lot more awards at our 2021 fall meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at our virtual winter meeting on Zoom. Please join us!

73, Bob W2THU

STAY SAFE—STAY HEALTHY!

THE HEATHKIT SB-LINE WENT FROM 1963-1983

(PART ONE)

By George J. Mistic, KE8RN



Heathkit SB-200 Linear Amplifier

The SB-Line starts when Heathkit engineers see an add for the Collins 75S-1

The Heathkit SB-Line planning and work started in 1958 right after the TX-1 Apache AM-CW transmitter and RX-1 Mohawk receiver established the two green colors for all Heathkit amateur radio products. In November of 1958 Collins ran a full page advertisement in QST magazine introducing the 75S-1 receiver and announcing the Collins S-Line full amateur radio station that featured a receiver and transmitter for SSB and CW that could transceive together with the receiver controlling the frequency of both the receiver and transmitter, or the frequency of each item could be self-controlled.

Al Robertson, Joe Shafer, and Roger Mace, engineers at Heathkit felt Heathkit could make a lot of money and be very successful by making amateur radios that looked like Collins and largely duplicated their function so hams thought they were buying radios that had Collins performance for much less money. The SB-Line starting in early 1964 with the SB-300 receiver was the result of their quest to clone the Collins S-Line in kit form at Heathkit and sell a huge amount of SB-Line equipment. Heathkit released the SB-400 transmitter in early 1964 about six months after the SB-300 receiver.

The Heathkit LMO

The SB-300 and SB-400 used the same VFO called the Linear Master Oscillator or LMO by Heathkit. The LMO was supplied in the kits fully assembled, sealed, with a stern warning not to open or tamper with the LMO. Tube-type LMOs were used except on the SB-303 and SB-313 solid state receivers, the SB-102 five band transceiver, and the SB-104 solid state transceiver.

The SB-200 duplicated the function of the Collins 30L-1 for \$200.00

After the first receiver [the SB-300] and transmitter [the SB-400], the next item in the SB-Line was the knock-off of the Collins 30L-1 linear amplifier, the SB-200 using a pair of 572B/T160L triode tubes. The SB-200 cost only \$200.00 in kit form and ran 1200 watts Peak Envelope Power [PEP] on SSB and 1000 watts on CW. Heathkit kept the SB-200 linear amplifier available from 1964 to 1978 when it became the SB-201 to comply with Federal Communications Commission [FCC] regulations requiring that linear amplifiers exclude the 10 meter band in a largely futile effort to keep them from being used on the 11 meter Citizen's Band (CB),

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Heathkit SB Line

Continued from previous page

The SB-201 stayed available from 1978 to 1983 but the selling price went to \$449.95, a very significant increase. The SB-200 and SB-201 both came with a tuned cathode input which made them compatible with solid state transceivers and transmitters and a built-in SWR meter to check antenna operation. The SB-200 and SB-201 use a cabinet the same size as the SB-300 and SB-400 but without the opening lid for safety reasons.

Big time success with the SB-100 low band transceiver

Just in time for Christmas of 1965, about six months after the six meter SB-110, Heathkit introduced the 80/75, 40, 20, 15, and all of 10 meters model SB-100 SSB-CW transceiver. The kit price of the transceiver was only \$360.00; it required only a microphone or key, an antenna, a speaker, and a power supply to operate. Heathkit had already released both a fixed station power supply [the HP-23] and a mobile power supply [the HP-13] kits to go with their single-band transceivers; the power supplies could be used with the SB-110 and SB-100 SSB-CW transceivers.

1966 brings upgrades and accessories

In 1966, Heathkit started two initiatives with their already successful SB-Line, upgrading the major items in the SB-Line and adding a series of accessory products to go with the major SB-Line transmitter, receiver, and transceivers. They first upgraded the SB-300 receiver to the SB-301. The SB-301 had a number of improvements when compared to the SB-300; an RTTY position was added to the MODE switch to allow 850 Hz RTTY shift to be received with the SSB filter and 170 Hz shift to be received using the optional 400 Hz wide CW filter, WWV reception was added by adding a 15.0 to 15.5 MHz band to the band switch, and the six and two meter converters could be selected from a switch on the front panel concentric with the RF Gain control in the lower right corner. Heathkit also moved the FUNCTION and AF GAIN controls higher on the front panel so they will appear matched to the control locations of the PLATE tuning and MIC-CW LEVEL control on the SB-400 and SB-401 transmitters.

Read Part Two in the Spring 2021 Newsletter!

More Masonry

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I am a Sir Knight. In my jurisdiction we have several Masons, Knights Templars, "SKs" and Shriners around the country that are now shortwave listeners or that are studying in their local communities for their amateur licenses.

Before beginning my career as a lawyer, I was an engineer for many years with a major computer company, having graduated from Case Western Reserve's Engineering School. While at Case, as a student in the late 60s, I never had time to participate in the Case Radio Club! Hopefully the radio gods will forgive me! I now support their activities and talk on 40 meters with the professor who is the faculty advisor to the Case Radio Club. CWRU and the radio club recently (March of 2019) hosted the second annual, 2 day, national HAM/SCI (ham/scientist) conference. It was a big success. The third annual, March of 2020, was also a success. It was virtual in format (ZOOM) and over 200 attended. Weather in outer space and how to capture both weather data, as well as propagation data continued to be the most popular topics.

I met my mentor at the computer company I worked for, and he still lives in Northeast Ohio. He helped me get my license in the mid 80's. Lots of Ham and radio knuckleheads/stories in a computer company. I earned a law degree, Juris Doctor, in 1977, and transitioned from corporate engineering management to corporate law, general counsel, and finally now, to private trial practice. One of the fun things I did in the 1990s was Volunteer Counsel (VC) or volunteer attorneys for ARRL. We, VCs, resolved TV/rf interference and antenna (tower) disputes, between neighbors, in our local communities, both in an out of Court. The VC program was administered by the ARRL; the ARRL assigned the dispute to a VC for eventual resolution. Lots of stories.

More to come on computer/radio and legal experiences.