



Cleveland Chapter One **NEWSLETTER**

Established 1951

Spring Quarter 2014

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

Spring lunch is April 12th at the Boneyard Restaurant:

OLD CAR MEMORIES

Our Saturday, April 12th meeting will feature long time Chapter 1 member, George Mistic, KE8RN. George has been writing a regular column for this newsletter concerning classic ham radios. But, did you know that radios aren't the only old thing KE8RN enjoys collecting? Rumor has it that George has quite an assortment of classic automobiles, and he is anxious to share this hobby with us.



Join us starting at 11:30 a.m. for our quarterly luncheon. **We are meeting at the Boneyard, located at 5900 Mayfield Road in Mayfield Heights.**

Exit I-271 at Mayfield Road Westbound (Mayfield Heights) and proceed about 1 mile. The restaurant is on the south side of the street, approximately 300 yards west of the Lander Road traffic light. Take the elevator or stairs to the 2nd floor private party room. Order off the lunch menu for about \$10.00. Door prizes, 50-50 raffle, music, and fellowship awaits!

Please bring a friend! ■

In This Issue

2. People
3. Sec't & Treas Reports; KC9IQF
4. Birthdays; Heard on the Net
5. President's Perspective
6. Hallicrafters SX-101
7. Visit to Arecibo Radio Telescope

LAST CALL FOR 2014 CHAPTER DUES

Please remit your **\$10 dues** to our treasurer, **Dave Foran, WB8APD**, by mailing your check to
**5439 Nan Linn Drive,
Willoughby, Ohio 44094.**

We rely on your support to maintain our club activities. Unfortunately, we must delete you from our membership roster if you don't renew by the upcoming luncheon on April 12th.

If you are unsure if you are paid up for 2014, simply look at your mailing label. The last year you paid is indicated after your call letters. For example, if your label says W8AGZ-13, then your 2014 dues have not yet been paid. If your label says W8AGZ-x, then your membership expired and you really should not be getting this newsletter, but we are hoping that you will re-join. Finally, if your call is followed by L or 90, that means your membership is free because you are over 90 years of age!

We have almost 100 members in our chapter, and 23 have not yet renewed for this year. Most non-renewers simply forgot. You can bring your check to the luncheon if you wish.



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: Robert M. Winston, W2THU

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

Meetings: Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October. Boneyard Restaurant, 5900 Mayfield Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio

Dues: \$10.00 per year.

Copyright © 2014 by Cleveland Chapter One QCWA. All rights reserved.

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: Dave Foran, WB8APD; 5439 Nan Linn Drive, Willoughby, OH 44094; (440) 942-0618 <wb8apd@hamnet.org>

Operational Group

Membership: KE9UL

Net controls: N8ZT, KC8UIQ

QCWA Journal reporter: Open

License trustee: W8WGO

Awards chairman: W8WGO

Chief radio officer: K8QOT

Chapter musicians: WA8OZC, WB8ADF

Sunshine reporter: Dick Ingraham, WA8TTP, <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.



Welcome Back:

W8JH, Joseph Hoffman of Marblehead, Ohio has rejoined Chapter 1.

Recent Activities:

W8DDD, David Dennis headed to The Villages for the winter where he is active in QCWA Chapter 273

W8MET, Metro Sinko, has enjoyed exchanging QSOs with the W1AW Centennial Stations.

WB8N, Tom Wayne, reports that he, **N1Z, Gary Dewey** and **W8MET, Metro** worked with the students at Copley Middle School for the ARRL Student Club Roundup in February.

Sunshine:

W8WGO, Jack Goldfarb had successful cataract surgery on both eyes.

W8VRJ, John Mistic is recovering from spinal surgery.

K8IIU, Jack Shott is doing well after knee replacement.

Other News:

K8EHP, Mike Cegelski is proud of his granddaughter, Heather Morris for publishing her new book, *Niteo*.

Guest Speaker:

Chapter 1 wants to thank **KD8TWG, Dave Andrzejewski** for hosting Ham Radio Jeopardy at our Winter 2014 luncheon. Everybody took part and we really had a lot of fun in this unique program. Kudos to Dave!



**MESSAGE FROM
OUR SECRETARY**

Well, I guess it's safe to say "welcome to spring." After all, it's April, it's about time.

With the warmer weather at hand, it's time to start thinking about warm weather activities. Chapter 1 meetings in April and July. Field Day will be along June 28-29. Various club picnics and on-the-air activities. There is much to do so please participate in whatever activities you can.

Have FUN this spring and summer.

Al Moriarty, N8CX
VP/ Secretary

**MESSAGE FROM OUR
TREASURER**



Greetings from your treasurer!! We have \$5,010.82 in the bank. Dues are still rolling in. THANK YOU!!

I will see you all at the April meeting.

Dave Foran, WB8APD

OUR CHICAGO CHAPTER MEMBER

KATE SACCANY



KC9IQF, Kate Saccany, resplendent in her ham radio public service gear, when she volunteered at the Chicago Marathon this past October. Kate reported that she was on the air from 0500 to 1600 helping to keep the runners safe.

Kate has confirmed that she is coming to the April luncheon. We look forward to seeing her.

Join the Friday Lunch Bunch
QCWA Chapter One members and other radio hams gather for lunch each Friday at 11:00 in Willoughby. The place? The Manhattan Deli, 34601 Ridge Road, (That's in the Pine Ridge Plaza next to Heinen's.) Join us!



Birthdays this Quarter

April

W8JH	Joe Hoffman	4/8
W8GR	Ray Lotenero	4/9
N8QE	Robert Hajdak	4/12
KC8FQV	Mark Studer	4/14
W8MET	Metro Sinko	4/27
W8TAB	Thomas Bishop	4/29

May

W1HEO	Dee Logan	5/3
N5JED	Charles Joseph	5/3
WA8TPP	Dick Ingraham	5/6
KB8QKC	Larry Caskey	5/10
K8YLY	Ken Wolenski	5/15
AB8SB	Dave Parris	5/16
KC8UIQ	Bob Robertson	5/18
K8YSE	John Papay	5/29

June

K8OCK	John Esborn	6/1
N8UAZ	Tom Suhadolnik	6/3
KE9UL	Joe Nocifora	6/7
W8MMC	Bob Briggs	6/11
W8IMO	Bob Sull	6/14
W8LE	Byrness Haworth	6/15
K8ME	Dwaine Modock	6/16
W8BNT	Richard Petscher	6/20
W8FDN	Richard Scott	6/20
W13U	Henry Schultz	6/23

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 Al Moriarty, N8CX—n8cx@mindspring.com)

HEARD ON OUR CHAPTER NET



Instead of trying to answer a trivia question, our nets feature discussion questions.

The Jan. 15th net queried our participants' skill sets. Members with musical talent include Mike, K8EHP (guitar), Al, WA8OZC (our chapter accordionist), KE9UL, Joe (Steel & Spanish guitar), and our net control N8ZT, Craig (drums). Maybe we can form our own Chapter 1 band! K8ME, Dwayne video taped the first catherization in Cleveland, while Kirk, W8WNA enjoys genealogy. K8YLY, Ken is a machinist and auto mechanic.

On March 5th, being fed up with winter, we discussed becoming snowbirds. K8SGM, George said this is the first winter he entertained thoughts of not being here. WA8TPP, Dick agreed. WA8TJL, Gary, is thinking of moving to Northern Alabama when he retires. Not unexpectedly, everyone said they are not presently snowbirds, or they wouldn't be here in early March. N8ZT, Craig has thought about a permanent move to Florida.

Interestingly, on the Feb. 19th net, only 2 check-ins confirmed that they had worked any of the W1AW Centennial stations that are moving across the country this year.

Why not add your 2 cents worth by checking into our weekly chapter net every Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm on our own 146.85 repeater. All you need is a PL tone of 110.9 Hz.

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

The Arctic vortex has come and gone, hamfests have resumed and the CQ Worldwide WPX contest weekend ended a few days ago. Baseball is also back. Well, this must be spring, or at least northeast Ohio's version of the days and weeks following the vernal equinox. As you know, the vernal (denoting spring) equinox (literally "equal nights") occurs when the daylight and night hours are equal. It gets a bit more complicated than that if you factor in civil twilight, but that's another story.

Spring is my favorite season because it brings the renewal or renaissance that we see and smell all around us, caused by the budding of plants and flowers.

And with that comes a new cycle of hamfests, especially the Dayton Hamvention, public service events, club picnics, Field Day and so many more outdoor radio related activities.

Based on the discussion about antennas on last night's Chapter 1 net, almost everyone who checked in said that they had some damage to their antennas over the winter. Clearly, the first order of business in the ham radio community is to make antenna repairs after such a harsh season.

From time to time I think about where we are going with our local QCWA chapter. Should we be doing more? Not so long ago, Chapter 1 sponsored trips to other cities, such as Pittsburgh. We also

hosted the QCWA national convention way back when the city of Cleveland had far fewer hotels than it now has. With the completion of the new convention center downtown, the rebirth of the flats, and more and more big hotels, it makes sense to host the national again. This is an enormous task that requires many hours of planning and execution. Is anybody interested in participating in an exploratory committee to see if we should carry this out?

If you've been reading the monthly national QCWA Journal, then you know that Chapter 1 has not been reporting its events. We have been without a QCWA reporter for about two years and we would be thrilled to have someone step up to fill this role.

Send me an email (w2thu@arrl.net) if you would like to help with these projects.

Last month I finished with a photo from my newest QTH in Perry Township. Here's a photo I recently took from the top of the Empire State Building looking towards my first QTH. Best 73, Bob

View towards W2THU's first shack somewhere beyond the East River in Queens, New York.



The Hallicrafters SX-101; the heavyweight champion

The Hallicrafters SX-101 family of ham-band receivers were the heavyweight champion when heavy meant “high quality and stable.” The SX-101 weighs in at 70 pounds and was promoted in ads as being VERY heavy. Hallicrafters advertisements stated that the SX-101 was, “New heavyweight champion – “It employs the heaviest chassis in the industry.” It was sold in various forms from 1956 to 1963. It was the heaviest of all competitors like the Hammarlund HQ-170 at only 38 or 45 pounds, the Heathkit RX-1 Mohawk at 52 pounds, and the National NC-300 at 57 pounds and the much better NC-303 at 60 pounds.



Collins began the transition to smaller, lighter equipment starting way back in 1946 with the groundbreaking 75A, the first radio with a crystal controlled first conversion and a tunable first IF. These ideas are now universally used by everyone, but started with Collins. The 75A was still 57 pounds, as was the 75A-1; the 75A-2 by 1950 and the 75A-3 shrunk to 50 pounds. By 1956, the outstanding 75A-4 was down to 35 pounds, and a bit smaller, too. By 1959, the handsome and high performance 75S-1 weighed only 20 pounds. The Collins rigs went very much against the SX-101 approach to quality ham gear, and greatly outperformed the Hallicrafters SX-101, especially in terms of frequency stability. The Collins 75S-1 had 1 KHz dial readout on ALL bands, a mechanical filter for selectivity, and a Permeability Tuned Oscillator for stability plus it would transceive with the 32S-1 transmitter. The original S-Line was and still is a high performance station that is still modern, light and small. The Drake 1-A was the first receiver to bring Collins advanced technology to the average ham at an affordable price, but did not transceive with anything. Heathkit followed in 1963 and the Japanese makers caught on about the same time.

The Hallicrafters SX-88 is the general coverage equivalent of the ham band SX-101; it weighs about as much and is considered a very good receiver, although not as stable at higher frequencies as a receiver with a crystal controlled first conversion as many Collins receivers had like the 51J series and 51S-1. The well liked Hammarlund HQ-180 used the same tunable first conversion oscillator as did the National HRO family and the NC-183D and NC-400; the National HRO-500 broke new ground by using a crystal locked frequency synthesizer as the first conversion oscillator. The HRO-500 was also solid state when solid state was very new to non-military communications equipment. It was early enough to use germanium transistors rather than silicon and no FET's or integrated circuits as they were still in the future when it was designed.

Hallicrafters often used steel rather than aluminum to give radios more heft when weight meant quality; I used this idea when designing products at Dentron Radio Corporation that seemed too light. I made antenna tuners to match some popular Dentron amplifiers; I used steel cabinets to give the tuners added weight, as they were very light in aluminum.

The SX-101 used a 1650 KHz first IF and a 50 KHz second IF; selectivity was created by L-C circuits in the second IF at the low frequency of 50 KHz. Hallicrafters used this scheme often, starting with the S-76 in 1951 and used until the SX-122 made until 1968. Crystal lattice filters became common later with the newer designs that did not use a low frequency IF for selectivity. Hammarlund used 60 KHz as their low frequency IF in the HQ-170 and HQ-180 premium receivers; (Continued on following page.)

VISIT TO ARECIBO RADIO TELESCOPE



KC8MNW and Bob Kerr, Director of the Arecibo Radio Telescope.

In early February, **KC8MNW, Jeannie St. Marie** accepted an invitation from her daughter's father-in-law, Sam Kerr to visit the world's largest radio telescope near San Juan, Puerto Rico. Dr. Kerr is the director of the Arecibo Observatory, whose mission is to observe the universe by monitoring the weakest of signals emanating from the far corners of the cosmos.

Although there are tours and a video for the general public, Jeannie and W2THU were allowed to get a real good look at the technical side, including the 150KW UHF and 100KW HF transmitters.

They also had the pleasure of meeting the president of the Arecibo Observatory Amateur Radio Club, Angel Vazquez, WP3R.

Hallicrafters SX-101 (continued from preceding page)

National used 80 KHz for the NC-300 and the NC-303. Drake also used 50 KHz for the R-4 family through the R-4C. The crystal lattice filters worked well and simulated the performance of the Collins mechanical filters, especially for SSB. L-C filters could simulate but not equal the performance of the mechanical or crystal lattice filters.

The Hallicrafters SX-101 family matches the HT-32 SSB-CW transmitter family; they did not transceive with each other. The SX-101 was later replaced with the very good SX-115 which did have a crystal controlled first conversion. The SX-115 could have been made to transceive with a transmitter like the HT-32, but Hallicrafters missed the importance of a receiver and transmitter that would transceive. The SX-117/HT-44 and the SX-146/HT-46 pairs gained the ability to transceive which was copied from Collins and later Drake and Japanese companies like Yaesu and Kenwood. Hammarlund made some provisions for transceive operation on their later rigs like the HX-50 and HQ-215, but never completed the idea and never built anything that could transceive.

The inability to transceive cost Hammarlund and National a lot as Collins, Drake, and Heathkit took over the US ham market until the Japanese took over the market for good, using many ideas and concepts copied from Collins. Hallicrafters caught on to the transceiving idea and smaller and lighter with the SX-117/HT-44 and the SX-146/HT-46 receiver-transmitter ham stations in the 1960's. Sadly, it did not save them.

George J. Mistic KE8RN