



Cleveland Chapter One NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

Autumn Quarter 2022

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

AWARDS LUNCHEON!

JOIN OUR AUTUMN LUNCHEON ON
SATURDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2022 AT NOON
Simon's Restaurant
7770 Chippewa Rd., Brecksville



Chapter 1 resumes its long time tradition of presenting the QCWA Anniversary Awards to our members. The recent Covid pandemic had suspended our indoor restaurant meetings, depriving many of you from receiving your certificates, in person, in the company of your amateur radio colleagues.

Simon's Restaurant's *central location* satisfies a key requirement for our club meetings. It is only 1.7 miles from I-77, making it convenient to both east and west sides. Average drive times range from 23 to 40 minutes, using Rocky River, Strongsville, Medina, Akron, Cleveland, Twinsburg, Shaker Heights and Willoughby as test points,

We will eat in a private room!

**PLEASE RSVP TO BOB WINSTON,
w2thu(at) arrl.net or call on 216-924-3314
so the restaurant knows how many people
are coming!**

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CHAPTER 1 PRESENCE AT CLEVELAND HAMFEST



Chapter 1 Member Mark Studer, KC8FQV greets member Metro Sinko, W8MET, while working our Chapter 1 table at the Cleveland Hamfest

The threat of rain did not deter our chapter from setting up an informative indoor display at this year's Cleveland Hamfest.

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Future Luncheon Dates

January 14, 2023 April 8, 2023
July 8, 2023, October 14, 2023



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

Editor: Robert M. Winston, W2THU

Distribution: Fred Freer, K8IG

Roster changes: Notify Secretary Marc Barnett, KA8CPB <wirelessmike(at)gmail.com>

Meetings: Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October at: *Varies*

Dues: \$10.00 per year if you want this Newsletter mailed to you via USPS. Dues are free if you are 80 or older or accept this Newsletter via email only. **Copyright © 2022** by Cleveland Chapter One QCWA. All rights reserved.

Chapter One Officers

President: Robert M. Winston, W2THU; (216) 924-3314, <w2thu(at)arrl.net.>

Vice President: Fred Freer, K8IG; (440)446-8000, <k8ig(at)arrl.net>

Secretary: Marc Barnett, KA8CPB; (440) 476-8800, <wireless.marc(at)gmail.com>

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

Chief radio officer: K8QOT

Chapter musicians: WB8ADF

Webmaster: K8ZGW

Sunshine reporter: Open

Please notify Secretary Marc Barnett of any changes in your address, e-mail etc. so your roster information can be kept current. Thanks.



New Members:

Tom R. Sly, WB8LCD of Kent, Ohio
Welcome to our ARRL Ohio Section Manager!

(New members are called by net control at the beginning of our Wednesday night nets.)

Happenings:

Fred Freer, K8IG, is enjoying his recently acquired Mercury Antenna Tuner (ATU) to match his Mercury IIIs LDS solid state linear amplifier.

Charlie Whalen, WA8NJP, is looking for a gemologist. Please contact him on 440-951-6879.

Bob Hajdak, N8QE, scored 1st place in the ARRL DX Contest in the Ohio Section for both phone & CW as a low power (10W), 10 meter only participant. In addition, he set the Division record for the CW portion. Congratulations Bob!

Bob Robertson, KC8UIQ, our chapter alternate net control, was spotted driving his vehicle with Ohio license plate *QCWA NET*. Stay tuned for an article from Bob in a future Newsletter explaining his choice for this vanity plate.

Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, is now using a multi matrix HDMI switch with 4 inputs and 4 outputs to be able to hot switch all the monitors, along with the radios and computers in his shack, without having to plug and unplug HDMI cables. His 10m monoband beam helped Jeff work VK on 10 meter phone several times last week.

Chuck Dial, KB8LJ, had been off the air for 25 years, then got his Extra Class license in October 2021. Now he is active again and checking into our nets, thanks to Echolink. Welcome back Chuck!

TREASURER'S REPORT Jim Arcaro, WD8PFK

Our QCWA Chapter 1 balance stands at \$4,240.95 as I write this on Sept 23, 2022. Expenses for the past quarter included picnic supplies, postage and printing of the newsletter for those that have paid for that service.

As you may have read in the last newsletter, I am giving up my duties as Secretary, but will remain as treasurer. We welcome **Marc Barnett KA8CPB**, as our new Secretary. Marc's contact info is on the first inside page, along with the other officers. I will be bringing him in slowly, since there are so many facets to the job.



A few things to remember:

Members are those who are members of QCWA, our international organization. You pay your dues to them. We currently have no Chapter dues for members. If you have been a Ham for 25 years or more, or you were first licensed 25 years ago or more and are licensed today, you are required to become a member of QCWA to be a member of any chapter.

Friends of Chapter 1 are those Hams who have not yet celebrated 25 years of being a Ham, or first licensed.

Lost Members are those whose membership in QCWA has expired, due to non-payment of dues. QCWA will send you an Email reminder when you are getting close to the end of your term. You can check your status by logging onto the QCWA website, or by contacting Marc or myself. We can check for you. However, we do not collect QCWA dues. Those must be paid to QCWA directly.

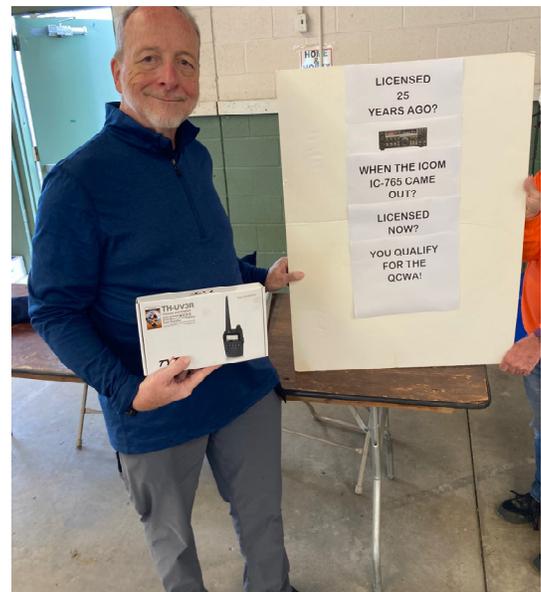
I also want to remind you, again, that almost all communication today, even with the FCC, is done by Email. Please make sure we have your correct Email. If you have more than one Email address, please make sure we have your main address, and not a forwarded address. We have had various troubles with people using the ARRL service, and that includes myself. For some strange reason, even after working with ARRL, Emails would not pass through my "Junk" filter – I could not send an Email to myself. Also remember, you will lose that service if you forget to pay your ARRL dues, or decide to no longer be an ARRL member. And lastly, please let us know if you have moved. new address, phone number, Email etc. If there is any change in your contact info, we need to know.

Thanks, Jim WD8PFK Treasurer.

CHAPTER 1 AT CLEVELAND HAMFEST

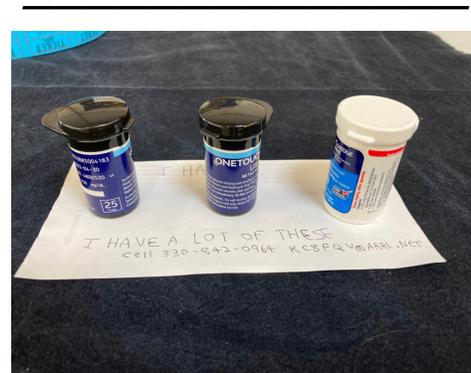
(Continued from page 1)

Our table display consisted of Chapter 1 Newsletters, QCWA new member applications, a handout entitled *Why Belong to QCWA*, framed Anniversary Awards, and a box marked "Raffle Tickets" for our first ever raffle. Bob Winston, W2THU, donated a brand new TYT TH-UV3R dual band FM Transceiver to be raffled off as a fundraiser. About 60 tickets were sold garnering \$59.00 for our club.



Perry Trunick, KB8AYQ, winner of the TYT Dual Band HT

Many thanks to our helpers at the table, including **Ed Zorn, KE8ZZ, Bob Hajdak, N8QE, George Pindroh, K8KR, Bob Winston, W2THU and Mark Studer, KC8FQV.**



**Free Empty Test Strip Bottles.
Contact KC8FQV on 330-842-0964**

FT-8: Try It...You'll Like it!

Part 2—by Fred Freer, K8IG
(Continued from Summer 2022 Newsletter)

From the enclosed picture, let me highlight several items. First, in the upper right-hand box, see the band activity where every station that the receiver and software can hear is reported. The green bars indicate that I had not previously worked the station. In

the upper right-hand box, and in this particular example, the yellow lines with black lettering indicate my transmissions prior to establishing contact with the other station. The red bars



indicate progress from initial contact with SV5AZP through the QSO ending with the RR 73 sent by SV5AZP in this real example.

The picture shown in the center left is of Bill, SV5AZP as (shown automatically by a secondary software application called JT-Alert—highly recommended and available free for download) and taken from his QRZ page. The box in the middle left is a logging box asking me to confirm the QSO and enter the QSO in my logging program (N3FJP's AC log which is the logging software that I use daily). In the bottom center, the waterfall and band activity can be seen. From the black boxes with yellow lettering, you'll see that I was transmitting on 14.074 (20 m) on June 30, 2022 at 22:28 hours.

Remember, FT-8 is a weak signal mode. As such, FT-8 is a wonderful amateur radio companion when band activity is scarce, when noise levels are high, when boredom sets in, when amateur operations are site-restricted or limited by an HOA (or XYL) and or other constraints that may limit or prevent exterior antenna use and limit transmitter power to QRP levels. With FT-8, it is not necessary to run QRO and 100 W is more than adequate. In fact, the satisfaction from working a weak signal station with a minimal antenna and QRP power on FT-8 can be very satisfying.

As an aside, there is another software application (available free for download) that can be beneficial not only for FT-8 operation but for all other amateur operations as well. It's called PSK Reporter (www.PSKReporter.info/pskmap.html). This valuable tool can be used anytime to see by band, and by mode, real-time propagation paths for your transmissions if you wish or for those of others.

In closing, because space is limited, this summary of FT-8 will have to suffice. However, I'd be delighted to "share my shack" with you and give you an opportunity to experience FT-8 firsthand. Just send me an email at K8IG(at) arrl.net.

President's Perspective

By Bob Winston, W2THU

Our Summer Luncheon:

Chapter 1 had a very successful picnic at the North Chagrin Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. We had a bit of a scare when our chosen picnic area, which was not reservable, was already occupied. Fortunately, **Fred Freer, K8IG**, who's QTH is just a few wavelength's away (well, on 160 meters), knew of another, even nicer picnic grounds which was available.

But then we needed to notify everybody else. **Jeannie, KC8MNW**, volunteered to stay at the advertised spot, so she could redirect our members to the new location. At the same time, I made periodic announcements on 146.52 MHz, just in case some folks were listening there. I also used my cell phone to call other members who had made reservations and I was successful in reaching everyone that we needed to contact.



George, K8KR and some of the other 22 attendees chowing down at North Chagrin Reservation

Our grill chefs, **Marc Barnett, KA8CPB** and **Fred Freer, K8IG** cooked the hamburgers and hot dogs, while all the attendees brought wonderful side dishes. Then **Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ**, demonstrated his solar powered generator using the 56V EGO batteries. While non hams are using EGO for their electric lawn care machines, our interest is in powering our radios, especially when the electric grid is down or while in a park for POTA or Field Day.

Thanks to our Chapter musician, **Jerry Dusa, WB8ADF**, who entertained us with his wonderful accordion music.



Jeff, WA8SAJ, Preparing Solar Generator Demonstration

Amateur Radio Email Addresses:

Chapter member **Steve Gregory, W8SKG**, is offering our members free email addresses with hamnet.org and qcwa.us domains. For example, my email address could be w2thu@hamnet.org or w2thu@qcwa.us. If you are interested, contact Steve via [sgregory \(at\) datavoice.net](mailto:sgregory@datavoice.net).

QCWA Nominations Are Open:

Have you ever wanted to serve an international organization either as an officer or on the Board of Directors? Well, if you are reading this, then you probably are a member of QCWA. If your membership has been longer than two years, then you are eligible to run for office.

QCWA holds elections every three years when the four officers (president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer) and the five directors' positions are open for nominations. Please read the bylaws, which are prominently displayed on the QCWA website, to learn the duties of these elected positions.

Yours truly is the Chair of the Nominating Committee, so let me know if you have any questions and/or wish to run for office. The deadline is 15 November 2022, with elections next year.

New Meeting Location:

We have over a dozen Anniversary Awards to give out at Simon's Restaurant. Please make your reservations early so the restaurant can properly prepare in terms of staffing and food. We will eat off the menu, which is similar to the Manhattan Deli, home of the Friday Lunch Bunch.

I look forward to seeing you there!

THINGS I DID WHILE AT DENTRON

By George J. Mistic, KE8RN

Introduction

I worked for Dentron Radio Company, then on Commerce Drive in Stow, Ohio [previously in Twinsburg, Ohio] from the fall of 1981 to the spring of 1983 as their only engineer. I designed and developed a number of new products and some significant upgrades to existing products. A number of products were created and prototyped but were not put into production for various reasons. Dennis J. Had, W8KXX, the founder of Dentron, [initially located in a suburb on the west side of Cleveland, Ohio] had sold the company to a new promoter. This individual was known to us at Dentron as Morris Messenger, who claimed to be W6PUT. Messenger had found an investor to buy the company ownership from Dennis Had, but he had not paid off the Small Business Administration [SBA] loan.

I was made chief engineer and promised a leased car paid for by Dentron; I got the leased car, a 1982 Oldsmobile Toronado, about eight months later; Morris, his wife, and the financial person also had leased vehicles. We had many parts purchased for the previously designed HF-200 80/75 to 10 meter SSB-CW transceiver and the HF-200D transceiver with digital readout; a goal was to use these parts in products that sold well for a profit.



Two SSB transceivers produced in the hundreds of units

Two products came out of this fairly quickly; a single band SSB-CW transceiver for 80/75, 40, and 20 meters [three versions; one per band] were built; perhaps a total of nearly one thousand units. Prototypes were made but not produced for 160, 15, 10, and 6 meters. Where those units ended up, I do not know, but they worked well. An SSB transceiver and

AC power supply were made for the Civil Air Patrol to replace the vacuum tube kit made by Heathkit, the HW-18-1 that operated around 4.500 MHz. Perhaps 300 units were produced and some were delivered, but not more than a few dozen, most with AC power supplies.

Two upgrades to linear amplifier products produced in hundreds of units

Two new versions of existing linear amplifiers were produced; probably one hundred to five hundred of each. A new version of the GLA-1000B 1200 watt Peak Envelope Power [PEP] input power were made with a tuned input to operate with solid state radios and with added 160 meter coverage to the existing 80/75 to 10 meter coverage plus new graphics, knobs by National Radio, meters, and front panels and two-tone gray paint to make the units more attractive.



The colors matched the colors used by Japan Radio Company NRD-515 receiver and NSD-515 SSB-CW transmitter which Morris Messenger planned to import. The popular model Clipperton L SSB-CW linear amplifier was upgraded to the Clipperton QRO [I liked my name for it] with a new tuned input, a PC board that fit over the four tube sockets for the 572-B triode tubes and numerous internal construction improvements that cut the manufacturing time to less than half of the earlier L version. New graphics, colors, and meters were used on the QRO; it was a very attractive appearing product in the two-tone gray colors with new graphics.

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Things I Did While at Dentron Radio (*continued from p. 6*)

Two antenna tuners to match amplifier products produced in hundreds

A Clipperton T 2 KW antenna tuner with a built-in 2000/200 watt RF wattmeter and 4:1 balun was made to match the black Clipperton L amplifier. It sold fairly well but was never upgraded to the new gray colors or graphics. A GLT-1000 1.2 KW antenna tuner including 160 meters with a 1000/100 watt RF wattmeter and a built-in 4:1 balun was designed and sold to match the black GLA-1000 and GLA-1000B amplifiers; it was never upgraded to match the gray colors, knobs, and graphics of the GLA-1000C. Also designed was the MLT-2500 2.5 KW antenna tuner covering 160 to 10 meters to match the black MLA-2500, ML-2500A, and MLA-2500B linear amplifiers; the tuner featured a roller inductor with digital position indicator, a 2500/500 watt RF wattmeter, built-in 4:1 balun, and five position push button antenna switch. About two or three dozen were built.



Amplifiers prototyped but never built in volume

Several amplifiers were prototyped but what became of them I have no idea. Three amplifiers using 3-500Z triode tubes were made; one with one tube called the Galion I, one with two 3-500Z tubes called the Galion II, and a third with three tubes and digital metering including a wattmeter named the Galion III were built as prototypes and shown at the Dayton Hamfest in 1982.

A new version of the MLA-2500 named the MLA-2500C was also built using two RCA type 8122 external anode tetrode tubes was made as was a 600 watt input two meter amplifier for SSB and FM in a cabinet the size of the GLA-1000 family using a single RCA type 8122 tube to replace the Dentron Clipperton V two meter amplifier.

Two transceivers conceived but not built for sale

A beginner's CW 20 watt transceiver covering 80, 40, 20, and 15 meters with digital frequency readout was almost completed as a prototype, but never finalized. It was to be called the "Station One" as an ideal product for new Novice class amateurs. It was Morris Messenger's pet project and could have been quite successful if brought to the market.

A solid state High Frequency transceiver for SSB-CW covering 160 to 10 meters including the WARC bands with digital frequency readout was finished by me about two years after Dentron was closed down for non-payment of the Small Business Administration loan. I still have this transceiver and it works very well.