



# Cleveland Chapter One **NEWSLETTER** Established 1951

Second Quarter 2010

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

## **A police chief's look back is Our April 10th meeting topic**

*Views on the law and lawless*

**Former police chief** of Cleveland, Rocco Pollutro, KD8JKM, is the chapter's guest speaker at the Saturday April 10th lunch meeting. So plan on joining your fellow members in welcoming spring and saying



goodbye to this year's long, snowy winter.

Our speaker is also a fairly new radio amateur, KD8JKM, having joined our ranks following his retirement from the po-

lice force. He joined the Cleveland Police Department in 1965 and served a total of 33 years. His career included assignments as a detective, SWAT team member, and forensics among his various posts.

"I was interested in ham radio while a student at St. Joseph's High School in the '50s," he recalls. Becoming a licensed ham was part of his 'bucket list,' and he's currently studying to upgrade to General.

**Our meeting** begins at 11:30, with lunch orders taken at noon. The place? Dimitri's Restaurant in the Midtown Shopping Center, 1830 Snow Road, Parma.

Enjoy the fellowship, food and fun! ■

**Wednesdays are net nights.**  
Join us at 8:00 p.m.  
146.850, PL 110.9  
For news and information.

### **In This Large Print Issue**

2. People
3. Radio classics: the NC-200
3. Birthdays this quarter
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5. Ham radio news briefs
5. Chapter's net report

**Things are looking up;  
More new hams, sunspots too!**  
*Ham radio & DXing are alive and well.*

**2009 was a banner year** for amateur radio, which experienced the addition of 30,100 new licensees. The increase was about 7.5 percent higher than 2008, and brought the total U.S. ham population to 682,500.

Allen Pitts, W1AGP, of ARRL pointed out that, "Blending computers with wireless communication and good old fashioned ham know-how, today's new hams are very different from the past, but still exploring new technologies and ways to communicate in the best and worst of times. Amateur radio is changing as technologies change."

**Sunspots growing:** Recent increases in the sunspot and solar flux numbers have cheered hams worldwide, as the new cycle appears to have arrived at last. Sunspot numbers in the 70s/80s, plus flux in the 90s caused openings on 15 meters and on 10 meters as well. DXers have enjoyed long path openings and stronger signals.

If you'd like to check the daily sunspot activity, visit the Spaceweather website: <http://spaceweather.com/sunspotnumber.html>. ■



## Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

**Editor:** D.E. "Dee" Logan, W1HEO.  
<deverelogan@gmail.com> (440) 352-8292.

**Past editors:** Bernie Hinrichsen, W2NTB; Joe Zelle, W8FAZ (SK); Joe Tomazic, WT8P (SK).

**Distribution:** Jack Goldfarb, W8WGO.

**Roster changes:** Notify Secretary Paul Poling, K8CKG; 1281 French Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107-2467; (216) 228-3427; e-mail: <k8ckg@yahoo.com>

**Meetings:** Second Saturday of January, April, July, and October. Dimitri's Restaurant, Parma.

**Dues:** \$10.00 per year.

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### Chapter One Officers

**President:** Richard Ingraham, WA8TPP; (440) 946-4879; <reingraham@sbcglobal.net>

**Vice President:** Robert Winston, W2THU; (216) 771-3314, <W2THU@arrl.net.

**Secretary:** Paul Poling, K8CKG; (216) 228-3427 <k8ckg@yahoo.com>

Please send roster changes to the Secretary.

**Treasurer:** Raymond Wassum, W8SLZ; 205 Hamlet Hills Dr., Apt. 74, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-2817 (440) 247-4582, <raywas@sbcglobal.net>

### Operational Group

**Membership:** KE9UL

**Net controls:** N8ZT, KC8UIQ

**QCWA Journal reporter:** W1HEO

**License trustee:** W8WGO

**Awards chairman:** W8WGO

**Chief radio officer:** K8QOT

**Chapter musician:** WA8OZC

**Sunshine reporter:** K8SGM, (440) 842-1767, <gk-k8sgm@sbcglobal.net >

**Web administrator:**

K8ZGW, <dritchie@dr.com>

■

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



**New member:** Welcome to **Diane Henry, WD8IMQ**, of Strongsville, (XYL of Dana Henry, W8DH) who recently joined chapter one.

**Towering work:** Some consider freezing winter weather ideal for doing antenna work. **Ray Suing, N8EQT**, reports that during a recent zero-degree day, a professional climbed a Newberry tower to work on a repeater antenna. Go figure!

**Appointed:** Chapter One member **Ross Stillisano, KB8JTZ**, has been named Assistant District 10 Emergency Coordinator of the Amateur Radio Emergency Radio Service. He will focus on agencies that would likely benefit from amateur radio communication support.

**Sunshine note:** A recent series of radiation treatments has ended, providing a break for **Bernie Hinrichsen, W2NTB**. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers!

**New roster:** The annual updating of the chapter roster by Secretary **Paul Poling, K8CKG**, has been completed and mailed to members.

**Editor's e-mail** has been changed, so please send your news items to W1HEO at: [deverelogan@gmail.com](mailto:deverelogan@gmail.com). Keep those cards and letters coming folks. Thanks a bunch! ■

*What's new with you? Let us know, please.*



## *Birthdays this Quarter*

By Paul Poling, K8CKG

### July

W8PT	Charles M. Patellis	07/04
K8SGM	George J. Keltner Sr.	07/04
WA8VMN	William Hammond	07/08
K8YLY	Kenneth J. Wolenski	07/16
W8YEO	Marvin S. Goldfarb	07/17
WA8OZC	Alphonse H. Lada	07/25
W8JZZ	Albert S. Wilde	07/26
W2THU	Robert M. Winston	07/28
WB8ADF	Gevard F. Dusa	07/29
NW8X	Richard H. Williams	07/30

### August

N8CX	Alan R. Moriarty	08/05
W8WHO	Clifford P. Dice	08/08
K8ZGW	Donald A. Ritchie	08/10
KC9IQF	Cathy D. Saccany	08/12
W8GVE	Howard L. Reichle	08/14
WD8AQH	Nadya Cole	08/15
KE8GA	George R. Vilican	08/17
K8SLF	Clarence Saccany	08/22
AA8BV	Robert C. Mate Sr	08/22
W8RPT	Augustine Mirsalis	08/28
W8PIU	Onerio L. Sabetto	08/29
W8FSF	Fred S. Freer	08/30

### September

W8WNA	Kirk Sanderson	09/06
W8CJB	Clifford E. Bade	09/11
KB3MPF	Barbara Misic	09/12
N8EQT	Raymond B. Suing	09/16
K8LXH	Harry L. Winfield	09/21

*Birthdays are announced each week during the Chapter One Wednesday night net. 8:00 p.m. on 146.850.*

#### Join the Friday lunch bunch

QCWA members and others gather for lunch each Friday at the Firehouse Grill & Pub, one block west of route 91 and route 6, at 2768 Stark Drive in Willoughby Hills. Stark is the first street west of route 91. Seating at 11:00 with orders taken at 11:30. Join us!

## Watt's New at Dayton?

*Observations and scuttlebutt*

**The 2010 Hamvention** featured new radios from a number of firms. Some notes from Jeff, WA8SAJ, and other Chapter One observers:

Attendance at this year's Hamvention increased by an estimated 50% over last year due to an earlier promotional mailing.

Kenwood is introducing its TS-590 in the Fall. It's a copy of Elecraft's K3, which is offering a new 500-watt solid state amplifier.

ICOM is rolling out a new rig that updates its IC-746 and covers HF, VHF & UHF.

DX Engineering, which is increasing its line of ham radio products, showed a line of vertical antennas and is now a dealer for Hustler. ■

## Weekly Net Report

*By Jack Goldfarb, W8WGO*

### March 2010 Checkins

3	18 members	0 listeners	18 total
10	19 members	0 listeners	19 total
17	17 members	0 listeners	17 total
24	24 members	0 listeners	24 total
31	19 members	0 listeners	19 total

### April 2010

7	21 members	0 listeners	21 total
14	18 members	1 listener	19 total
21	19 members	0 listeners	19 total
28	18 members	0 listeners	18 total

### May 2010

5	20 members	0 listeners	20 total
12	17 members	0 listeners	17 total
19	20 members	0 listeners	20 total
26	20 members	0 listeners	20 total

**Ham radio construction**

**Anatomy of a project: W8DOE's homebrew linear amplifier**

*The latest in Joe's long history of building, renovating and repairing ham equipment*

**Joe Gustoskey was 14** when he built his first homebrew project in the 1930s: a one-tube regenerative receiver. Today, he's still homebrewing, with his latest project being a 400-watt amplifier (shown below).

He was first licensed in 1948, and found that his main interest was in constructing radio equipment. W8DOE is no appliance operator!

"I enjoy building and the satisfaction of putting radios on the air," he says. His neat shack con-



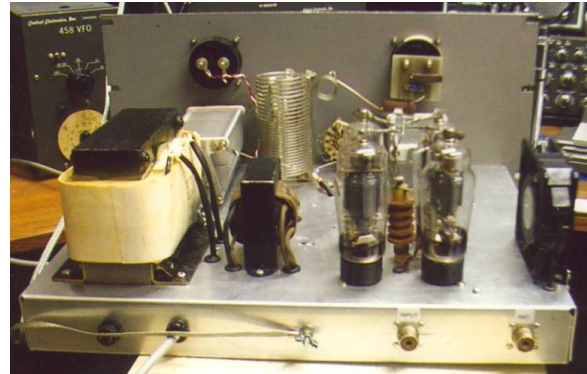
tains a variety of classic receivers and transmitters. Some of his reconditioning and rebuilding projects are shown in the shack photo below.

His just-completed amplifier is based on the WRL LA1 linear, with several improvements. "I disliked some its construction practices such as using receiving capacitors in the final tuning circuit. I preferred separate meters for plate voltage and current and used better components in my version of the amplifier," he points out.

**Using many parts** from his extensive inventory and "junkbox" collection, Joe's finished unit

looks very professional. The amp runs class B with four British EL38 finals on SSB and AM. The power supply provides 1000 volts at 300 mils for 400 watts on 10-80 meters. Only 15 watts of drive produces full output.

"I had an old LA1 chassis and used its coil for the pi network," he said. "The front panel has a crackle finish, and I used stick-on lettering, indicator lights for filament and plate voltages and a pushbutton switch for high voltage. I used a pair of one mil meters, adding a shunt and a voltage multiplier and new scales to show plate voltage and current."



**Firing it up:** Joe's amplifier passed the "smoke test" handily. "I checked it out on a dummy load with an oscilloscope and verified that it was linear and had no flat topping." His first QSO was on the 75-meter 'Boat Anchor' net.

"I received good reports," he says. ■

**The W8DOE radio shack**

From left: Homebrew amplifier, VFO, restored Central Electronics 20A, transmitter, Kenwood TS-930 & SWR meter, refurbished NC-303 receiver, and restored Hammarlund HQ-140X. Accessories include an oscilloscope, antenna switches, homebrew power supply for a two-meter Kenwood transceiver, homebrew wattmeter and rotor indicator.





## News From Ham Radio's Wide World

**Hams and Haiti:** Amateur radio has been involved in many aspects of the post earthquake rescue efforts. An example is ham volunteers operating WX4NHC who coordinated dozens of patient transfers to the U.S. Navy hospital ship, *USNS Comfort*. Typical was ham radio's use in arranging urgent transport for a 13-year old girl needing emergency surgery. One operator later reported that she was stable and doing well. "It makes it all worthwhile," he said.

**W1AW digital bulletins:** Starting March 15, the ARRL station began using alternate digital modes for its bulletins. While Baudot, PSK31 and MFSK16 make up the digital component, the new schedule is giving more exposure to PSK31 and MFSK16.

**Cybersecurity ham:** Howard Schmidt, W7HAS, was named the new White House Cybersecurity Coordinator by President Obama. One of the world's leading authorities on computer security, he will be a key member of the President's National Security Staff.

**ARES/Red Cross deal:** An agreement has been reached between the ARRL and the Red Cross allowing ARES volunteers to provide emergency communications without requiring that they become RC volunteers.

**DF Championships:** The 2010 Amateur Radio Direction Finding championships will be held in Cincinnati May 19-23. ■



## OPEN MIKE Commentary by W1HEO

**Your attention please!** Your chapter faces an important election. As you know, several current officers have served long and very faithfully but are not able to continue. If Chapter One is to have a future, it requires that we regularly change leadership. Fresh ideas are needed, and the only important qualification is a willingness to serve.

**We urge YOU** to please consider becoming a candidate. We ask that you contact either President Dick, WA8TPP (440) 946-4879, or Jack, W8WGO, ((216) 371-1981 and chat with them about becoming part of the operational group.

Steering our chapter into a solid future can only happen with activist members who know full well that passing the buck is no way to buy a sound future.

Think about it. ■

## Weekly Net Report By Jack Goldfarb, W8WGO

### December 2009 Checkins

2	19 members	1 listener	20 total
9	20 members	1 listener	21 total
16	23 members	0 listeners	23 total
23	17 members	0 listeners	17 total
30	16 members	0 listeners	16 total

### January 2010

6	24 members	1 listener	25 total
13	24 members	1 listener	25 total
20	21 members	0 listeners	21 total
27	20 members	0 listeners	20 total

### February

3	17 members	1 listener	18 total
10	21 members	1 listener	22 total
17	22 members	1 listener	23 total
24	17 members	0 listener	17 total

Note: When our normal repeater (146.850) is down, look for the Wednesday night 8:00 p.m. net on the 147.060 repeater with an offset of +600 and a PL of 110.9. ■