

Cleveland Chapter One

NEWSLETTER

Established 1951

Fourth Quarter 2008

W8LYD 146.850 PL 110.9

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

What the surveys told us About how we're doing

Lots of opinions & ideas

Thanks to the 18 members who responded to our recent survey and provided thoughtful answers and ideas. The Chapter will make an effort to implement them wherever possible.

Most members enjoyed the fellowship of our meetings and the program topics. Music and raffles are enjoyed, but some feel that things need to be speeded up to make meetings shorter.

Some suggested program topics are: IRLP, choosing an HT, new gear demos, travel, digital modes, and solving antenna problems.

Activities mentioned: field trips to area broadcasting stations, participation in ARRL Field Day, informal meals, bus trips to Dayton etc., annual QSO parties, and visits to electronics firms.

The weekly net format was okay with a majority, with some suggesting that it be shortened, with specific topics or radio-related questions discussed periodically.

The newsletter format was generally okay, with some favorites being member profiles, radio experiences, chapter history and Q&As on ham topics. ■

Wednesdays are net nights.
Join us at 8:00 p.m.
146.850, PL 110.9

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**Help welcome fall during our
October 11th awards meeting**
Come and munch with a great bunch!

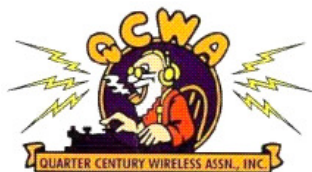
Our Fall meeting is Saturday, October 11th at Dimitri's in Parma, and we're saving a place for *you!* This is our annual awards meeting in which we recognize those who have actively helped the chapter and Amateur Radio.

Our recruiting campaign is well underway, and we hope to see a few new faces at the meeting. So please greet them with a warm welcome to the chapter. Sign up a new member and you may win the top prize of a \$100 gift certificate!

Dues doings: It's time to remind members that dues for the 2008-2009 year are due. So "do" give your check for \$10.00 to Treasurer W8SLZ. A true bargain!

The Saturday, October 11 luncheon meeting is at Dimitri's Restaurant, in the Midtown Shopping Center, 1830 Snow Road, Parma, starting at 11:30 a.m. Bring a friend, spouse, neighbor or pet rock. ■

Recruit a member & maybe a prize!



Cleveland Chapter One Newsletter

Publication: Printed quarterly and sent via first class mail to members.

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

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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 <jpoling@sbcglobal.net> 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

ARRL Letter reporter: W8WGO

QCWA Journal reporter: W1HEO

License trustee: W8WGO

Awards chairman: W8WGO

Chief radio officer: K8QOT

Chapter musician: WA8OZC

Sunshine reporter: K8SGM, (440) 842-1767,



Welcome to new member **Bob Hajdak, N8QE**, of Tallmadge and **Don Ritchie, K8ZGW**, Euclid. Also, a warm welcome back to **Louis Angelici, W3TRZ**; **Fred Helwig, K8FH**; **Herman Pekrul, W8UNI**; and **Robert Sull, W8IMO**.

Publicity: The June ARRL Kid's Day was celebrated at the Mentor Public Library, says **Vance, KA8YHZ**. A ham station was in an emergency trailer purchased with FEMA funds.

Airborne: A ten-meter QSO with a jet flying at 30,000 feet over Newfoundland was made by **Dick, WA8TPP**. A fun Field Day was had by **Craig, N8ZT**, whose home projects include new VHF and G5RV antennas.

Tidy boys: Spring cleaning was late, but done well by **Paul, K8CKG**, who says the shack looks great. A new shack is completed and antennas refurbished says **Herb, K8AZW**.

Swan song: A new Swan Astro 102BA and power supply still in its original 25-year-young box was bought by collector **George, KE8RN**. He and spouse **Barbara, KB3MPF**, plan on the 2009 QCWA cruise.

Storm clouds: Member **Richard Storm, SM5BVU**, who flies a Cessna 172, hopes to visit Cleveland next spring says **Kirk, W8WNA**. ■



Birthdays this Quarter

By Paul Poling, K8CKG

October

WB8QLW	Thomas A. Sawyer	10/01
W8VRJ	John J. Misic	10/08
N8ZT	Craig D. Kollai	10/19
WA8SAJ	Jeffrey J. Covelli	10/22
W8NUO	James A. Ditmyer	10/25
W8QKO	Donald L. Sealy	10/26
K8FH	Fred Helwig Jr	10/28

November

W8FC	Ford Cole	11/01
K8IUU	John S. Shott	11/13
K8NFF	Douglas D. Emerson	11/15
K3OTY	John B. Parsons	11/20
W3SVJ	Nate Firestone	11/22

December

W8DD	Donald J. Duman	12/07
W8MUA	Robert Martin	12/12

The Chapter wishes each of these members a very Happy Birthday. Weekly birthday announcements are heard on the Chapter One net Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Newsletter Option

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter online? Many Internet-connected members are used to downloading electronic versions of documents, so if you're comfortable with this approach, let us know. We post this newsletter on the Chapter Website, and can alert you when it's available. Drop an e-mail and let us know your preference. Send your request to President Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP, at <reingraham@sbsclobal.net>. ■

President's Perspective

By Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP

Dear members,

Well, it is time again for our annual awards meeting for 2008. Seems hardly possible that the year has slipped by so fast. Our October meeting is scheduled for the 11th at Dimitri's Restaurant as usual. Festivities start at 11:30 a.m. with the usual greetings. We will have our awards after our luncheon in place of our regular program.

There is one announcement I would like to make. We are going to extend our membership campaign 'till the end of the 2008 year. Hopefully we will be able to add more members this way.

I want to thank all who returned the survey included in the last newsletter. We received a number of responses with some good suggestions. We have reviewed these suggestions and are planning a meeting to see which can be implemented without a lot of work.

We are still open to receiving a survey from you if you haven't already returned yours. This is the way to input your thoughts or, in other words, put in your two cents worth. It's not too late.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

73.

Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP,
President

QCWA TechniQuiz
A brain-jogging exercise

Antennas are a key part of a ham station. Answer the following: (Check your answers below. No peeking!)

1. **A folded half-wave dipole has an input impedance of how many ohms?**
 A. 70 B. 50 C. 150 D. 300
2. **A half-wave wire antenna current is:**
 A. Low at the end of the wire
 B. High at the end of the wire
 C. Zero at the middle of the wire
 D. The same along the wire
3. **Which feedline is *not* 52 ohms?**
 A. RG8 B. RG17 C. RG6 D. RG8X
4. **Inventor of multi-element array is:**
 A. Windom B. Yagi C. McCoy D. Web

1-D 2-A 3-C 4-B

Weekly Net Report
By Jack Goldfarb, W8WGO

June 2008 Checkins			
4	22 members	0 listeners	22 total
11	20 members	0 listeners	20 total
18	20 members	0 listeners	20 total
25	22 members	1 listener	23 total
July 2008			
2	24 members	0 listeners	24 total
9	21 members	0 listeners	21 total
16	23 members	0 listeners	23 total
23	24 members	0 listeners	24 total
30	21 members	0 listeners	21 total
August 2008			
6	25 members	0 listeners	25 total
13	21 members	0 listeners	21 total
20	23 members	0 listeners	23 total
27	20 members	0 listeners	20 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. ■

Member Profile
SM5BVU: Our chapter's DX Member in Stockholm

Richard Storm, SM5BVU, and XYL Doris live near Stockholm, Sweden, and represent the chapter's international connection. Richard joined us in 1991 thanks to the invitation of Kirk, W8WNA.

Richard's early interest in ham radio developed from SWLing with a Hallicrafters SX99. He learned Morse and passed his amateur radio license in 1958. He upgraded a year later and began working SSB and CW. "Getting a QSO on SSB was exciting," he says.

Between 1960 and 1980 he built several transmitters and went mobile. In 1994 he made a packet QSO with the shuttle STS-59 after trying for four days. The QSL is proudly displayed on his wall.

Flying is another of his hobbies. He holds private pilot licenses in both the U.S. and Sweden. He flies Cessnas and Pipers, and enjoys piloting during his winter visits to Florida. He works APRS mode from his plane and car.

Richard reports that he and Doris visited China a few years ago when invited to a university in Beijing. He operated the BY1QH ham station while there and made his first satellite QSO.

An avid Internet user, SM5BVU is in regular contact with our chapter members Kirk, W8WNA, and Jack, W8WGO using Skype, EchoLink, and CQ100. Richard has visited Cleveland several times and met several chapter members. ■



News From Ham Radio's Wide World

Hurricane Ike delivered severe blows to the Texas and Louisiana coasts, causing major damage, flooding, power outages and evacuations. Amateur radio's ARES volunteers provided emergency communication to the Red Cross, FEMA and National Guard personnel.

IEEE milestone plaque recalls the first wireless radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden at Brant Rock, MA. The ceremony site was Marshfield, near where the original radio tower once stood.

Smithsonian station SK: NN3SI, which has operated from Washington's National Museum of American History for 32 years, has closed. Renovation of the museum left no space for the ham station.

QCWA officers elected: Bob Roske, NØUF, was elected president; directors include W3YMB, WBØOUM, WØOFY, W5PUT, WA6ITF, W8RSH, WA9JMO, and VE3ZC. Other officers reelected ran unopposed.

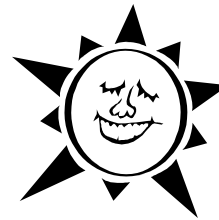
Broadcast museum: The Cleveland Baseball Heritage Museum in the Colonial Arcade building at 530 Euclid Avenue features a 1940-50 press box radio studio. A news room display includes a vintage teletype machine, typewriter and more. A 1930-era transmitter room has old test equipment, tubes, parts and a workbench. Additional memorabilia capture the sights and sounds of the past. ■

From the ARRL letter and other sources.

Sunspots: Where have they Gone? Will they return?

Experts ponder and wonder

The solar cycle has hit bottom. You may have heard. August was the first calendar month without a single sunspot since 1913. DXers, who love the long distance contacts made possible



by ample numbers of these fiery things, are sad these days.

Sunspots are eruptions of electrified gases associated with big magnetic fields. Because they are cooler than the sun's surface and darker, they are called sunspots. These spots form the ionosphere, which makes shortwave communication possible. (Isn't that cool? Or hot?)

Sunspots were first observed over 2000 years ago, but records weren't kept until 1611. Sunspot cycles are about 11 years long. Cycle 19 was a biggie, hitting a high sunspot number of 200 in 1959. We're now suffering from zero spots.

Experts say that the next cycle could either be a big one, or a small one. Some waffle and admit that they really don't know and can't forecast. Why not? Because the mechanisms that start a cycle and result in the number of spots remain a mystery.

Despite the current "spotless" period, a check of 20 meters will show plenty of DX. While there are few openings to Austral-Asia, there *are* lots of foreign stations being worked from Cleveland. So enjoy the present. As to the future, who knows? ■



Jest A Minute
Humor from our readers

PolitiQuote:

“We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.” *Will Rogers*

From Kirk Sanderson, W8WNA

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A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for the arrest of Hopalong Capacity. He escaped while clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber. His charge: robbing valuable joules. He is also charged with driving a DC motor over a Wheatstone bridge and

refusing to let a band-pass. If found, he may offer resistance. The Electromotive Force searched for him in a magnetic field, where had gone to earth. They had no success, and believed that he had returned ohm via a short circuit. He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

From Ron Ackerman, N8KBG

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A Viking explorer returned to town and found his name removed from the city rolls. He complained to an official, who said, “I must have taken Leif off my census.”

From Kevin Logan, SWL-W1

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First Class Mail