

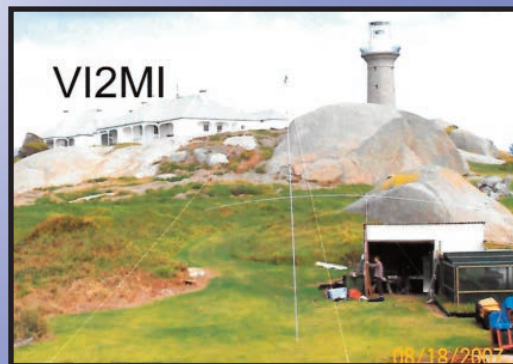


QCWA Journal

Quarter Century Wireless Association Inc., Founded in 1947

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Lighthouses and Lightships and Ham Radio...Oh My!



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QCWA International Nets

SSB - Sunday at 2000Z on 14347

CW - Wednesday at 8:00 PM local (Eastern Time)
on 7035

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This month's cover:

The annual International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW) is coming up the third weekend in August. Mark your calendars now for this great event and to learn more, check out [Page 5](#).



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<http://www.qcwa.org/membership-application-form-us.pdf>.

To view the Chapters on the Air, visit
<http://www.qcwa.org/chapters-on-the-air.php>.



July 2017

Greetings from the Great White North!

If you recall, last year I envisioned QCWA working more closely with our Amateur Radio youth. As mentioned in last month's report, during the Dayton Hamvention® QCWA Forum, the emphasis was on our youth and our Scholarship Program. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) again presented QCWA with a \$1,000 check toward the QCWA Scholarship Memorial Fund. This is the third year DARA has donated to the scholarship fund. Everyone should know that DARA puts youth front and center in everything they do.

Please do consider getting active in our QCWA Scholarship Program. QCWA members should realize that QCWA simply providing a scholarship award is just half the work. If the program is to be successful, we must find good scholars to award these scholarships to. Look around your local area. Are there deserving young Amateur Radio men or women working towards an education that could use some assistance? Or maybe someone you know is working part time and still going to university. All that is required to get started in assisting these young Amateur Radio operators is for you recognize and provide them with a recommendation letter. Be sure to do it for the upcoming year of scholarship requests. More information on the QCWA Scholarship program can be found at <http://www.qcwa.org/scholarship-program.htm>. After reading this information, you will find it is that simple! Check it out now!

I finally made it to the SEA-PAC Convention held in Seaside, Oregon. What a great time I had! The action was as expected, high energy, many forums and a great banquet! There was no rubber chicken on this menu; in fact, there was no chicken offered. Steak and salmon only, and it was one of the best I have seen from a catered affair. Kudos to caterer Pig 'N Pancake. As well, there were no lack of dealers or fleamarket items to choose from and all were indoors!

I wish to digress on the subject of our chapters being involved with recruiting new members for QCWA International, as well for their local chapter. While attending SEA-PAC this year, I soon realized that some chapters might be intimidated in collecting money at their booth from potential new members and renewals for QCWA International. I suggest all QCWA booth organizers read the following on setting up a booth at a Hamfest - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/hamfest-suggestions.htm>.

QCWA headquarters can mail a publicity package to all chapters who plan to have a booth at Hamfests, which includes brochures. An official QCWA receipt book can also be supplied to keep track of new members and renewals to help reconcile the money you receive. Use one copy to give the member, use the other to mail to QCWA headquarters, along with money collected, and keep the third copy in the receipt book for your records. You can continue to use the receipt book for future Hamfests, for there are many sheets in the book. Or you can print your own brochures.

- About QCWA - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/facts-brochure.pdf>
- Why Belong to QCWA - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/why-belong.pdf>
- QCWA Today - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/qcwa-today.pdf>
- QCWA Scholarship Program - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/scholarship-program.pdf>
- Membership Application Form - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/membership-application-form-us.pdf>
- Hamfest Sign-In Sheet - <http://www.qcwa.org/recruitment-hamfests/hamfest-sign-up-sheet.pdf>

What will take place in the month of July? Canada Day is on July 1st and July 4th is Independence Day. As well, I will be making my annual trek to the longest running Hamfest in North America, the Glacier Waterton International Hamfest, just outside of East Glacier Park, Montana July 14 to 16.

Until next month...

47 & 73,

Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, President, Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.
President@qcwa.org

Lighthouses, Lightships and Amateur Radio



Don, W7WLL, at the Cape Blanco Lighthouse.

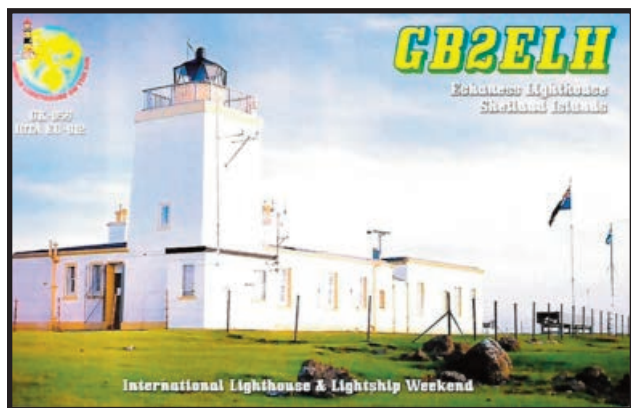
were controlled by the Northern Lighthouse Board in Edinburgh, who were not only responsible for the lighthouses of Scotland, but also around the Isle of Man. Approval was sought and obtained from the Northern Lighthouse Board to establish Amateur Radio stations adjacent to their property.

In February 1995, an invitation was sent to all Scottish Amateur Radio clubs and the Isle of Man Amateur Radio Club to join in the fun weekend to be called the Northern Lighthouse Activity Weekend. They were asked to establish and operate an Amateur Radio station at a lighthouse during the third weekend in August. The first-year event had 11 stations established at a variety of lighthouses, operating primarily on the HF bands. Over that weekend, each station made approximately 750 contacts with other Amateur Radio stations around the world.

The following year, the Scottish radio clubs were involved in a weekend activity with the theme of Scottish Firths (river estuaries), so two years had lapsed before the next Northern Lighthouse Weekend activity took place. During this period a Danish ham inquired, through a letter to the

Practical Wireless publication, if there were any lighthouse activities on amateur radio. Following discussions with the group, it was decided that Danish stations could and should join in the fun of the weekend lighthouse event. Soon after, Germany, South Africa and France asked to join in, and since the operations would now involve lightships, the name of the weekend was changed to The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW).

The third full weekend in August became the an-



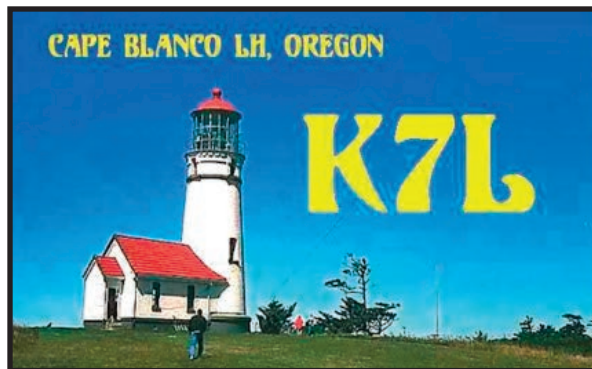
nual event for The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend, and has slowly grown in popularity. In 1999, there were 204 lighthouse/lightship Amateur Radio stations in operation from 36 countries.



In 2007, 380 Amateur Radio stations took part. In 2014, there were 544 Amateur Radio stations in 56 countries taking part that had registered on the ILLW web site. This is not the entire total number of participants, for

many did not register on the official ILLW web site.

Statistics and complete information on the ILLW event can be found at <http://illw.net> and visit <https://illw.net/index.php/entry-form.html> to register for this event. In addition, there is a sizable amount of other related lighthouse and lightship information, including a number of stories from recent participants.



- Continue to [Page 17](#) for more on the ILLW!

QSO With QCWA

QSO with QCWA Guidelines

All submissions to Quarter Century Wireless Association, including letters and articles, are eligible to be included in the QCWA eJournal, space permitting, at the discretion of the Editor.

Please limit letters to 200 words or less and submitted letters should include the submitter's name and call sign. Send your entries for QSO with QCWA to Journal@qcwa.org. We read every letter received, but we can only publish a few each month. We

reserve the right to edit your letter for length, clarity, style, punctuation, grammar, libel and taste. We regret that all submissions cannot be published. Also, the publishers of QCWA assume no responsibility for statements made by correspondents.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. was founded December 5, 1947, as a non-commercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare.

QCWA is NY non-profit corporation qualified as a tax exempt organization pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(3) (IRS) which allows donors to deduct their contributions for tax purposes.

Its affairs are governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every three years by the general membership.

In order to qualify for membership in QCWA, one must have demonstrable proof of having been first licensed as an Amateur Radio operator at least 25 years prior to application for membership and must be currently licensed. Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the Office Manager:

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Membership applications and/or renewals should be filed on line or mailed with your payment to the business office:

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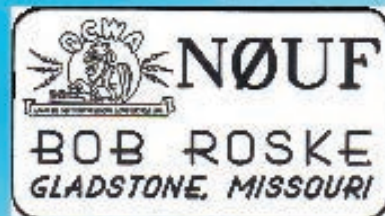
QCWA Vision Statement

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc., celebrates Amateur Radio operators achieving 25 years in Amateur Radio and develops resources to assist young Amateur Radio operators in furthering their education through the QCWA Scholarship Program.



Some Popular QCWA Supplies

Order information available at <http://qcwa.org/member-supplies.php>



(* Items shown are not to scale and may differ slightly from photos)



**Explore the Caribbean
with QCWA members and friends**

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Date	Port	Arrive	Depart
Oct 18	Fort Lauderdale	4:00pm	
Oct 19	At Sea		
Oct 20	At Sea		
Oct 21	Philipsburg (St. Maarten)	8:00am	4:00pm
Oct 22	Point-A-Pitre	8:00am	5:00pm
Oct 23	Barbados	8:00am	5:00pm
Oct 24	Daylight Passing Mount Pelee		
Oct 24	Fort-de-France	8:00am	5:00pm
Oct 25	Basseterre	8:00am	5:00pm
Oct 26	St. Thomas	8:00am	5:00pm
Oct 27	At Sea		
Oct 28	Half Moon Cay	8:00am	3:00pm
Oct 29	Fort Lauderdale	7:00am	

11-DAY SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN WAYFARER	
Oct 18, 2017 MS Koningsdam USD RATES*	
Interior Stateroom (L)	\$1,199
Ocean-View Stateroom (J)	\$1,459
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<i>See below for US dollar rate restrictions.</i>	

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CHAPTER reports



Chapter 5, Delaware Valley (PA)

QCWA Chapter 5 held its monthly meeting on May 27, 2017 at Otto's Brauhaus, Horsham, Pennsylvania. Eight members and friends of the Chapter were present. Bob Hecht, N3AAK, acting chairman/president, presented a slate of officers to be voted upon at the June monthly meeting. Any other member interested in serving as an officer is urged to contact.

Ken Marinoff, K3FKW, gave an excellent presentation on digital modes in amateur radio. Handouts with considerable information were provided to those in attendance and the on-the-air sounds of the various modes were provided by Ken through laptop recordings.

Questions were answered and Ken volunteered to assist any member wishing to become involved in digital modes.

Bob, N3AAK, presented an award to Sia Balis, one of the co-owners of the Brauhaus along with her husband Chris, in appreciation of her providing excellent private meeting facilities in the restaurant along with delicious food for our Chapter meetings.



Dave Heller K3TX received the "Traffic Handler of the Year" From Tom Mills AF4NC STM EPA Section



Sia Balis receiving award from Bob, N3AAK (left).

Chapter 5 net continues to convene at 0945 every Sunday at 3917 kHz. Doug, WA3DSP, continues to serve as net control. All are invited to check-in.

Bob, N3AAK, reported that Joe Cro, N3IBX, continues to recover from surgery and we are looking forward to Joe resuming Chapter involvement. We all wish Joe a complete recovery. - **Submitted by: Bob Seyfarth, N2LEC**

Chapter 8, Upper Midwest (MN)

Since last time we met, Herm, W0HJS; Jim, WB0KZB; and John, K0UBA, of Chapter 8 set up a booth (well,

ATTENTION! QCWA Chapter Report Guidelines: Please send the reports to: Journal@qcwa.org, to arrive **NO LATER** than the first of each month to appear in the following month. Reports received later than the deadline may **not** be published in the Journal! When taking photos, group together those receiving awards rather than individual photos. Those can always be posted on a Chapter webpage. Also, please send all photos as a JPEG file attached to the email. Please **DO NOT** put photos in the Word document **ONLY**. Doing so may result in your photos not being used. We do **NOT** guarantee that all photos submitted will be used! When a Chapter report is submitted, include the Chapter number in the title and then the subject line of your email and with any photos submitted. Reports should be **NO MORE** than 750 words and the maximum number of photos is 2. Don't forget to send us photo **CAPTIONS!** Preferred formats are: Word (.doc), rtf or plain text. Photos attached should be a minimum of 4 inches wide, 300 dpi color (preferred) or grayscale. Larger is fine, and .JPG, .GIF, or .TIF formats are best. For a list of all the QCWA Chapters, check out the [Chapter by Numbers](#) page on the website.



maybe more of a table) at the Midwinter Madness Hamfest on March 25th in Buffalo, Minnesota put on by the Maple Grove Radio

Club. While the numbers aren't available to me, the long running annual hamfest's crowd appeared to be about 20 percent larger than normal. That said, the traffic at our table was up every bit of 100 percent! We keep a copy of our sign in sheet and in 2016 there were 12 and this year there were 28 folks who took the time to sign in. Out of that, we added one new member and renewed two more.

In April, we setup our booth at the Brainerd Area Hamfest put on by the Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club (BAARC). This is also where our Chapter picked up an old, but working, Motorola 2 Meter Repeater. We have a frequency pair from the local repeater coordination group, so once we get a duplexer we'll have our own repeater! More on that later.

At our May 20th meeting, we re-elected our outstanding Vice President Herm, W0HJS, Secretary Dan, WD0GUP, and Member at Large John, K0UBA. They won by a landslide! (OK, they were all so well respected by the Chapter, they were unopposed and re-elected by acclamation.)

Because our speaker chose to go to Hamvention instead of our Chapter Meeting, I talked a little about supplying power to your mobile station. We talked about how big a wire you need to move 20 amps 20 feet without any drop or noise. Also discussed is where to get 4-gauge automotive wire and accessories. Some of the presentation also applies to the shack's low voltage power system.

Our next meeting is our Annual Operating Event. We will be returning to Valley Place Park in Crystal Minnesota on Saturday August 5th. If you're in town, drop by! We'll be there from about 11 to 5. This year we plan to do a few things differently. We hope to have the restrooms open and we want to get the antennas up the day before. If all goes well, we'll have Catsup as well!

Until Next Time...73 & 47 - **Submitted by: Jim, WB0KZB**



Chapter 14, San Diego (CA)

QCWA Chapter 14 of San Diego, California held its quarterly luncheon meeting on Sunday 7 May 2017 at the Denny's restaurant at 4280 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. in San Diego. The chapter members and guests enjoyed lunch together with lively conversation and fellowship.

Our program was a presentation provided by Kerry Banke, N6IZW, speaking on his design and support of systems for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). Kerry gratefully acknowledges the recent significant support provided by the



Kerry Banke showing the ARISS equipment and associated test equipment he has built.



Newsletter editor Steve Adams, K6PD, being presented with his 75 year certificate.

QCWA to the ARISS effort. In addition to the presentation, Steve Adams, K6PD, was presented with a QCWA certificate commemorating his 75 years as a radio amateur and a QCWA life membership certificate.

The next Chapter 14 meeting will be at 1100 on a Sunday in August 2017 (exact date will be announced by e-mail) at Denny's with a presentation by QCWA Chapter 14 VEEP Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ, on his recent experience outfitting his new mobile with DC to daylight ham radio capability.

For further information, please Chapter 14 President, Bill Calderwood, K1CT, by e-mail: k1ct@arrl.net. - **Submitted by: Bill Calderwood, K1CT, President**

Chapter 29, Finger Lakes (NY)

Twenty-six members and guests joined us for this month's get-together at the Denny's in North Syracuse on May 26th. After lots of time for conversation and the consumption of ample coffee and breakfast, Chapter President Frank, K2RSY, called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. A call for new visitors brought a response from Chad-Michael Rieth, the visiting grandson of Bob, KD2KKG. He expressed a new interest in working toward his first ham license after attending last night's LARC and today's QCWA meetings, and checking out Bob's shack. Also, joining us today was Lou Agresti, W2OPF, licensed for 77 years, and his wife Marge.

Frank then called for a moment of silence in memory of two Silent Keys, Harry Reed, K2GEN, and Bernard Bradt, KA2TOF. Tim, N2VZD, remembered K2GEN as one of his dad's former co-workers at GE, and as an avid builder who had a ham shack full of home-brew transmitters, receivers and accessories, and as the first big inspiration for Tim's ham career. Charlie, K2IWQ, also was friends with Harry back in the day, and remembered purchasing a BC-348 military surplus receiver from him long ago. Harry was 94, and had not been active on the air for a while, but had renewed his license in 2013.

Frank called for a quick treasurer's report, and that found \$790.85 on hand, and no outstanding bills. Next on the agenda was the presentation of both a 60 Year Award and a Century Club Certificate to Tom Sly, K2QCX, who had recently returned from wintering in Florida. Frank next posed the possibility of a guided tour of the Case Museum in Auburn, New York as a group activity for a future Saturday afternoon this summer. Theodore Case is acknowledged as the inventor of talking pictures (the optical sound track), and the museum contains exhibits of his inventions and research laboratories much as he left them. Dave Atkins, N2WZS, would act as the tour guide and answer any questions. Dave regularly conducts tours of the facility.

Next, a call for news from other area clubs brought info that RAGS would be holding their annual officer installation banquet at the Empire Buffet on Erie Boulevard East in Syracuse on Thursday June 8th at 6 PM, in lieu of their regular meeting. And LARC's next meeting on Thursday June 22 would feature a boot camp with Doug, N2JOM, discussing solar panels and battery charging, and a main program by Pete, K2VGN, about Electricity and the Body. This could be a real shocker!! Gary, WB2SER, gave a quick listing of upcoming hamfests with Rochester on June 3, The Breezeshooters in Prospect, Pennsylvania on June 4, Cortland on June 10, and RAGS on Sunday July 9 at the American Legion in Cicero, New York. Also, a reminder to join Curt, K2WOP, and the gang for the next quarterly Hammie Breakfast on June 17 at the Finally Ours Restaurant, starting at 8 AM. Good food, fast service, and lots of friendly ham conversation should be enjoyed by all. Location is the corner of Route 175 (West Seneca Turnpike) and Cedarvale Road between Onondaga Hill and Marcellus, New York. A great opportunity to meet up with the folks you hear and chat with on the air.

With today's absence of both Roger, WA2AEW, and Jerry, NK2C, folks were encouraged to save their spare pocket money for a future club meeting to purchase more RAGS Hamfest tickets. And don't forget the ARRL Field Day is

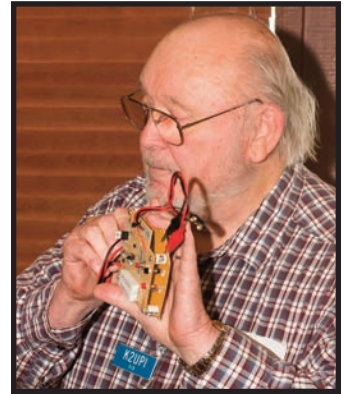


Frank, K2RSY, presenting Tom, K2QCX, with the Century Club and 60-year awards.

coming up on June 24th and 25th, and International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW) on August 19th and 20th.

Ken, K2UPI, was the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing, and he generously turned his winnings back to the club treasury. Then Ken spoke briefly about his latest home-brew project, an electrolytic capacitor reformer. This handy device provides leakage current limiting and monitoring, voltage monitoring, and a solid-state capacitor discharge circuit for the reclamation of new-old-stock and lightly used electrolytics. Great for the boat anchor repairman and home-brew builder. Gary, WB2SER, showed his General Radio Model 740 Capacitor Test Bridge from the post WWII era. Obtained decades ago from Central Electronics Salvage in Utica, it still works well and retains its 1 percent accuracy.

The meeting was then closed by Frank, and everyone scattered to the four winds. Consider joining us for next month's meeting on June 30th at 10:30ish, and every Tuesday on the QCWA net at 7 PM on the 53.05 MHz and 53.67 MHz linked 6 meter repeaters. Brian, K2VSN, is our net control. - **Submitted by: Gary Kimball, WB2SER, Secretary-Treasurer**



Ken, K2UPI, with his electrolytic capacitor reforming jig project.

Chapter 38, San Antonio (TX)

Greetings folks, this is Chapter 38 in San Antonio, the home of The Alamo and The Riverwalk. For the May program, we had a couple of speakers that would possibly entertain us with their words of wisdom. However, into every life a little rain must fall and sure enough, at the last minute, both possible speakers had different priorities.

Our Club President Ernie Reich, W5FQA, came up with a program about the start of radios in our vehicles. He made us aware of the problems that the early radios had with ignition noise among other interferences. He covered the material quite well and he made us realize how far we have come to get the benefits of how fortunate we are to have the present-day communications. Once again, we left the meeting happy that we had learned something new. - **Submitted by: Aniceto Cumpian, WB6BIE, Secretary**

Chapter 40, Central Alabama (AL)

Chapter 40 held its second quarterly meeting of 2017 on 4 May at the Peppertree Chappy's Deli (8141 Vaughn Road) in Montgomery. Many of our regular denizens were in attendance, including AF4JR, K1AZE, K8AJX, KU4PY, KR4JY, KR4YK and W5NZ.

Results of the 2017 QCWA QSO Party were briefed and all Chapter Members who helped get W2MM on the air for this august event were thanked. Chapter 40 meets quarterly. Check our website <http://www.qcwa.org/chapter040.htm> for exact time/location. Please stop by and join us if you're in the Montgomery area. We welcome all comers. - **Submitted by: Mark Wintersole, W5NZ**



Chapter 40 members relax after their 4 May feast. Pictured from left to right are: AF4JR, KR4JY, K1AZE, KR4YK, K8AJX and KU4PY.

Chapter 45, Citrus (FL)

Greetings from Orlando, Florida – Capital of the World-Famous Theme Parks! President Al LaPeter, W2AS, expressed his gratitude to the members in attendance for the May 11, 2017 meeting. We had a total of 11 in attendance, including guests and family members. Following our regular business meeting and lunch, we had an open forum for Q & A. Xenia Hamcation was discussed along with QCWA Election information.

All QCWA members living in or visiting the Central Florida area are welcome



Chapter 45's Roberta Cohen at the Xenia Hamcation.

to visit us. We meet the second Thursday of each month at Golden Corral 5535 S. Kirkman Road, Orlando, FL 32819 – (407) 447-1055 at 1 PM. Please contact our President Al LaPeter, W2AS, at W2AS@earthlink.com if you wish to join us. - **Submitted by: JG “Joe” Ayala, K4JGA, Secretary**

Chapter 53, Suncoast (FL)

On 01 May, we had 29 members, spouses and friends in attendance at our meeting/lunch at the Oriental Buffet in Sarasota. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a QCWA 75-Year pin to Bob Avrutik, N1RA, recognizing his years in Amateur Radio and his close support of our chapter.

Don Watson, K9DDO, offered a very interesting PowerPoint program about family heirlooms and the restoration of such heirlooms. Don's example was a Western Auto console radio from the mid-1930 era which had been in his family since that time. Don showed the procedures he took to restore both the radio and its beautiful cabinet to like-new appearance and operation.

Our lunch/meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Oriental Buffet, 4458 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota immediately following the opening of the buffet at 11 AM, through May. For the months of June through September, we have informal lunches on the same schedule at the Hibachi Grill Buffet in Venice, Florida; returning to Sarasota in October. Any QCWA members living in, or visiting, the Florida Suncoast area should contact our President, Don Watson, K9DDO, via k9ddo@comcast.net if they would like to join with us. - **Submitted by: Jack Sproat, W4JS, Secretary**



Chapter President Don Watson, K9DDO, presenting a QCWA 75-Year pin to Bob Avrutik, N1RA, in recognition of his many years in Amateur Radio.

Chapter 62, Suwannee (FL)

Chapter 62 is based out of Ocala, Florida, in the north central part of the state, just off I-75. Chapter 62 meets at 1 PM on the fourth Thursday of the even numbered months (February, April, etc.) at the China Lee Buffet, 3743 East Silver Springs Blvd, in the KMart Plaza in Ocala, Florida. Our next meeting will be August 24. If you are in the area, we invite you to join us. We also have a net on 3940 kHz at 9 AM Eastern Time every Saturday morning. Please join us! - **Submitted by: Ken Simpson, W8EK, President**

Chapter 70, National Capital Area of Canada (Ottawa, Ontario)

As is our Chapter 70 tradition, the May dinner meeting was our special Ladies and Spouses evening; it was well attended with 44 members and guests participating. Special door prizes were won by several lady members and guest XYLs. As usual, we met at KS on the Keys restaurant using their large screen TV that serves well for our presentations.

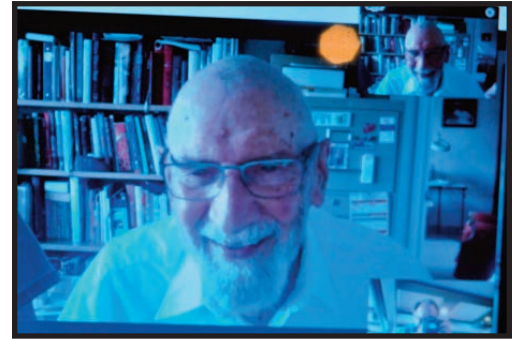


Richard Ferch, VE3KI, presents Doug Leach, VE3XK, (right) his QCWA Century Certificate.

Our speaker for the evening was QCWA Chapter 70 member John Gilbert, VE3CXL. John is a historian with particular interest in the lives and accomplishments of many of his friends and acquaintances in the field of radio communications and amateur radio. John is known for his passionate research for detail as demonstrated in all his past presentations at Chapter meetings; his presentation at our May meeting about the life and times of Chapter 70 member, Orval Ernest Brown (Ernie), VA3OEB, now 96 was no exception.

John's story about Ernie Brown told a tale of survival of a young radio operator serving in the Merchant Marine on two

ships that were sunk by torpedoes in the North Atlantic during WWII. Several of Ernie's shipmates were not so lucky to survive. That prompted Ernie to seek a safer career and he subsequently became employed by the Canadian Department of Transport (DOT) as a radio operator at the Ottawa monitoring station intercepting encrypted German U-boat wireless traffic and for this service, Ernie was the recipient of a Bletchley Park Commemorative Badge award. Ernie continued with his war time service being posted by the Department to a Radio Range station at Teslin, Yukon then important for navigation of P38 and other aircraft being ferried over the Bering Strait and into Russia as part of the US war time lend-lease program. The Museum in Teslin now has an exhibit of the Radio Range Station and Ernie provided the museum curator firsthand accounts of its war time operation. Ernie continued his career with the DOT with various instruction, advisory and project roles until his retirement in 1976.



Ernie Brown, VA3OEB, enjoying the tribute to him over a Skype connection with the folks at the Chapter 70 May meeting.

During John's presentation about Ernie Brown, a live Skype video conference call was established with Ernie and members of his family living in Toronto and southwestern Ontario. During the presentation, Ernie recounted aspects of his story over Skype to the Chapter 70 audience. Everybody was delighted.

The meeting concluded by Barrie Crampton, VE3BSB, taking the opportunity to thank John Gilbert, VE3CXL, for providing successful influence through John's personal "connections" in making possible the installation of a WSPR beacon transmitter on board the Canadian C3 expedition vessel, a 67 meter Canadian Flagged research icebreaker that set sail on June 1st on a 150 day voyage from Toronto on the Great Lakes up the east coast, through the Canadian Arctic's Northwest Passage, then around Alaska and down the west coast to Victoria, British Columbia; this to celebrate Canada's 150 year anniversary as a nation this year. Radio amateurs should be able to track the C3 expedition voyage WSPR beacon on the 40, 30 and 20 meter bands at <http://wspnet.org/> using the map tab and beacon call sign CG3EXP. Expedition information is at <https://canadac3.ca/en/homepage/>.

Another highlight of the Chapter 70 May meeting was the awarding of pins and certificates to eligible Chapter 70 members; these folks were: 25-year Pin, Linda Lou Oelke, VE6LGO*; 30-year Pin, Terry Ainsworth, VE3TLC; 35-year Pin, Don Salt, VE3PFS; 40-year Pin, Frank Stratton, VE3YY; 45-year Pin, Barry Allison, VE3NJK; 45-year Pin, Duncan Schuthe, VE3GXU*; 50-year Pin, Dave Parks, VE3AV; 55-year Pin, Richard Bandla, VE3CVG*; 65-year Pin, Ken Holt, VE3VC; 70-year Pin, Brice Wightman, VE3EDR; and Century Certificate, Doug Leach, VE3XK. Folks denoted by an asterisk were not able to attend. - **Submitted by: Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, Secretary**

Chapter 106. German (Germany)

Greetings from the "German Chapter" in its 40th year of existence, shortly after the 2017 meeting. We had 36 attending, active members, their spouses and friends from all over Germany, who had decided to follow DJ2XB's invitation to his hometown in the Eifel, a mountain range in western Germany and eastern Belgium.

After a first enjoyable welcome with drinks and talks on Thursday night, the Chairman, Gun Mader, DL3YA, invited the Chapter members to the official annual meeting on Friday, May 12. He had sadly to report to the assembly that five of our members (DJ5QK, #13366; DL1NP, #18169; DL1HN, #30420; DF2TU, #21712; and 9A2WJ #26657) had become Silent Keys since the last meeting in 2016. They will be sorely missed. The assembly stood for a minute of silence. On the other hand, Chapter 106 had the pleasure to welcome three new members (DD6NT, #37252; DL4HBF, #37245; and OE7HPJ, #37280).

The required elections of the Chapter officers gave the following results: Chairman, Gerald Hruby, DL8RBS; and Vice Chairman, Carsten "Doc" Schoof, DF1XC, were newly elected. Secretary Wolfgang Beer, DL4HBB, and Treas-



Chapter 106 members at their 2017 meeting.

urer Ralf Schiffner, DK8FA, were re-elected for another two-year period.

The year 2017 provided for a lot of members, who qualify for one of the nice QCWA awards for their continuous service. Nine of the different "Anniversary Awards" were handed out, together with five "Century Awards".

The usual sightseeing program during the four-day meeting, perfectly organized by Guenter, DJ2XB, and Ottfried, DF6KH, (thank you!) showed the members the cultural and natural particularities of this Eifel region. Even today, there is still some of the other place of historic importance to be found in the district of Aachen, the most important town in the area, with its medieval cathedral, the historic town hall or the old town as a whole.

Charles the Great (or Charlemagne), King of the Franks, was buried in the Aachen cathedral, after he had died in 814. During his reign, he united much of Europe during the early Middle Ages. He was the first recognized emperor in western Europe since the fall of the Western Roman Empire three centuries earlier.

Our destination on the second day out was 'Ordensburg Vogelsang', a former National Socialist estate placed at the former military training area in Eifel National Park in North Rhine-Westphalia. The striking and completely restored estate was used as an educational center for future leaders by the National Socialists between 1936 and 1939. It is one of the largest architectural relics of those days. In 2006 the complete area was opened to visitors, with an exhibition displayed, aiming to educate the young against fascism.

In the afternoon, our guides took us to Monschau, one of the pretty resort towns in the area. The small town is located in the hills of the North Eifel, within the "Hohes Venn – Eifel Nature Park" in the narrow valley of the Rur river. The historic town center has many preserved half-timbered houses, and the narrow streets have remained nearly unchanged for 300 years, making the town a tourist attraction nowadays. Historically, the main industry of the town was wealthy cloth-mills.

For the coming year, the chapter members are invited to visit the Leipzig area with more historic places in Germany through the ages. What about a trip to DL and join the Chapter meeting in May 2018? You are always welcome. - **Submitted by: Wolfgang Beer, DL4HBB, Secretary**

Chapter 119, Tidewater (VA)

The May meeting of Chapter 119 was held on May 19, 2017 at noon at our regular meeting place, Frankie's Place for Ribs, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Due to travel schedules and family issues, several of our members were out of town at the meeting time. Those in attendance included Vice-President Bill Mellema, N3WM; Secretary Vic Culver, W4VIC; Treasurer Barry Priddy, K5VIP. Members in attendance were: Joe Ostrowski, KI5FJ; Harley Huntemann, W7HJ; Talley George, W4TVG; Ed Gibbs, KW4GF; Jim Geisinger, K3QQN; Kevin Schafer, KS0CW; Curt Morris, K7KNM; and Ed Williams, KN4KL. Guests in attendance were Johanna Culver, KE4SBO; Joyce Mellema and Janice Priddy.

Vice-President Bill, N3WM, called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. Then a round of self-introductions refreshed everyone's memory of those in attendance. The first order of business was a surprise presentation of the QCWA Presidential Award to Secretary Vic, W4VIC, issued by National QCWA President Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, and sent to the Chapter for presentation. Bill, N3WM, surprised Vic with the well concealed secret of the presentation. Vic, W4VIC, is very much appreciative of this high honor.



Chapter 106 officers at their 2017 meeting.



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Thank you, President Oelke, and all the fine members of the QCWA organization.

Vice-President Bill provided information about the planned Chapter 119 outing to the Wakefield National Weather Station scheduled for June 20, 2017. There is much activity just now at the weather station as preparations for a hurricane season predicted to be more active than average continue. Tidewater Virginia consists of a seven-city major metropolitan area, vulnerable to hurricanes passing close to shore. A direct hit would result in major damage and flooding throughout the area. Amateur Radio operators need to be well prepared for any eventuality during hurricane season. The presentation at the weather station will insure that all in attendance are up to date on preparations they should make.

Joe Ostrowski, KI5FJ, reported that he has entered the ARRL Antenna Contest with an entry detailing his Half Square 30 Meter antenna modifications. Keep watch in QST for information about this contest and look for Joe's contribution. Good luck in the contest, Joe.

After a very satisfying lunch, Harley, W7HJ, conducted his program concerning the on-going efforts to locate the Amelia Earhart plane lost in the Indian Ocean as she attempted her around the world flight with navigator Fred Noonan. Recent techniques involved in underwater search activities recounted some of the technical aspects of the search. Video presentations are available at nauticos.com/ocean-discovery/amelia. Harley always does a good job with his presentations, and appreciation was extended to him for his program today.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next Journal Report will contain a blow-by-blow reaction to the highly successful and most enjoyable outing that took place May 2nd and 3rd. Withholding no excitement and/or information, the outing was a very great success and was very much enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be able to attend. Just a little teaser: The sound of unanticipated anti-aircraft gunnery was startling in the crisp morning air! <Grin> See you next month. - **Submitted by: Vic, W4VIC, Secretary**

Chapter 151, Wild Rose (Calgary, Alberta)

On April 20, 2017, QCWA Wild Rose Chapter 151 held its spring "brunch" meeting with 14 members, four guests and four friends in attendance. There were five QCWA certificates for 55 years presented. They were: Al Davidson, VE6DE; Larry Chapple, VE6KC; Rob Wilson, VE6CCL; Dale Olson, VE6QDO; and Dave Craig, VE6DKC. President Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, was presented with the QCWA Century Club Award. A very interesting program was presented by Josh Jensen, VA6ACK, and Dustin Frisch, VE6DJF, who explained some of the wireless and GPS devices produced by the Garmin factory in Cochrane, Alberta where they work.



The 55-year certificate was presented to Rob Wilson, VE6CCL, by President Ken Oelke, VE6AFO.

VA6ACK, and Dustin Frisch, VE6DJF, who explained some of the wireless and GPS devices produced by the Garmin factory in Cochrane, Alberta where they work.

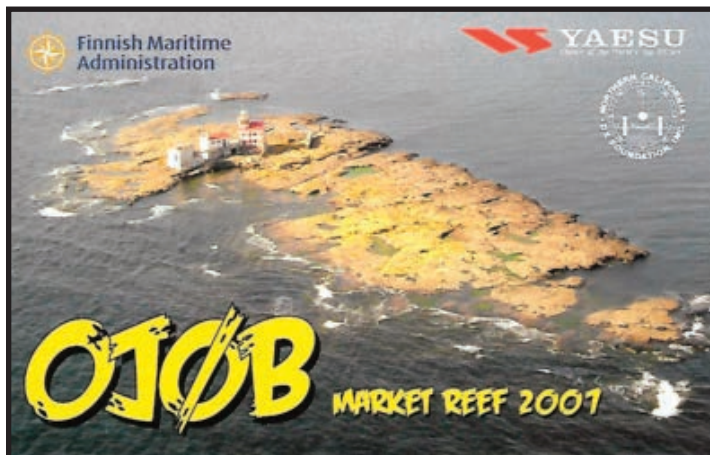
The Fall meeting date has been set for Sept 28, 2017. Thanks to acting secretary Valerie Hepburn, VE6EZ, for doing such a great job on the minutes. - **Submitted by: Al McNeil, VA7QQ, Secretary**

Left photo: QCWA Century Club Award was presented to Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, by V. President Bernie Feisst, VE6WIN.

Interested in writing an article or column for your QCWA eJournal? Send it to Journal@qcwa.org and you just may see your byline in an upcoming edition!

Lighthouses, Lightships and Amateur Radio, continued from Page 6...

The main reason the event has become so popular, and grown each year, is because it is a relaxing, fun weekend for Amateur Radio operators. It is NOT a contest and the guidelines, available at <https://illw.net/index.php/guidelines.html> are simple. The onus is on the ham operators to act within the spirit of the weekend, exposing Amateur Radio to the public and to encourage the worldwide preservation of our lighthouses and lightships. This is why it is important for an Amateur Radio station to be as close as possible, or even located in the lighthouse/lightship, (of course, with the controlling body's approval). In the United States, the United States Coast Guard, or more typical, a recognized local restoration and preservation group or a local governmental park or recreation service (state, county, etc) may have responsibility for the site. Some sites may be in areas where concern exists about local fish and wildlife, so it is possible that more than one group may need to be contacted for permission to operate within the premises or on the property.



A few years ago, the International Association of Lighthouse Keepers (IALK) decided to establish an annual open day for lighthouses around the world to encourage visitors to visit their lighthouses. They decided that there could be no better time to do this than during the annual ILLW event. This move has been highly successful, as the media in a number of countries have become involved. The IALK, along with local preservation groups and Amateur Radio clubs taking part in the event, also invite the

media.

The 2017 event again takes place on the third weekend of August. If you know someone not an active Amateur Radio operator, or someone just interested in lighthouses and lightships, they can easily become a Short Wave Listener (SWL). All the SWL needs is a radio receiver that will tune to the various Amateur Radio bands. The majority of the activity takes place between 14.150 and 14.350 MHz, but there are several other frequencies used on the 80 through 10 Meter bands. Any listener can successfully search for Amateur Radio and lighthouse activity on the Internet by using any of the DX spotting sites. DX

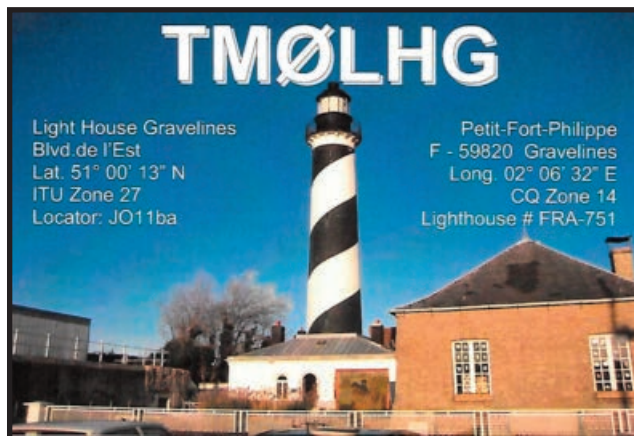


Summit, <http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/>, is one popular site, but there are several others.

Ayr Amateur Radio Group member Kevin Mulcahy, VK2CE, carries out the ongoing administration and week-to-week management of the ILLW web site. He would be delighted to hear from you on any aspect of the event. If you have any questions, or ideas and suggestions, contact him directly through the ILLW web site <https://illw.net/index.php/contact-us.html> or at his email address vk2ce@vk2ce.com.

The event founder, Ayr Amateur Radio Group, has usually participated in the weekend event and adopted the Scottish lighthouse at Turnberry in South Ayrshire as its event location. The lighthouse is adjacent to the grounds of the world renowned Turnberry Golf Course, and over the two days of the event, the station is visited by many golfers and general public who take an interest in what is going on. Now that the lighthouse property, Ayrshire Hotel and Golf Course, is owned by the Trump organization and has been remodeled with luxury rooms, it is uncertain if the Ayr Amateur Radio Group will be able to continue operating there.

Like any other hobby/service, hams worldwide continue to find the idea of lighthouse restoration and preservation appealing and their participation in the event grows each year. W7WLL has personally activated many Oregon lighthouses including Cape Arago, Cape Blanco, Umpqua River, Cleft of the Rock, Yaquina Head, Yaquina Bay, and Heceta Head. An Amateur Radio club in Astoria, Oregon has established a full time Amateur Radio station on the retired Lightship Columbia, and is very active in this event as W7BU.



In summary, the most rewarding aspect of operating Amateur Radio from lighthouses and lightships is the ability to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the general public. More often than not, the operating positions are in the same areas where visitors pass by. This interaction can be a valuable tool for local lighthouse organizations, since the Amateur Radio operations can assist in raising a dollar or two from visitors, funds needed to keep these famous mariner sentinels maintained and kept open to the public. If you have the opportunity and have access to a lighthouse (or even a lightship) check in at the ILLW web site to see if it has been already registered. If not, think about operating from the site over the full weekend, or even part of the weekend. This may even make a good venue for a club activity. - **Submitted by: Don Tucker, W7WLL, QCWA #33545, and Kevin Mulcahy, VK2CE**

Editor's Note:

As a follow-up to this article, we would love to see your photos and hear your experiences during the 2017 ILLW weekend. If you participate, whether on your own, as part of a local club or your QCWA chapter, please send your photos and recount of the event to Journal@qcwa.org for inclusion in our October eJournal.

STANDING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

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Chapter & Member Relations Committee

Chair Mark Wintersole W5NZ

Publications & Publicity Committee

Chair Larry McCalvy WA9JMO

Scholarship Committee

Chair Glen Reid K5FX

Youth Activities Committee

Chair Carole Perry WB2MGP

Young Ham Lends A Hand Contest Winner Chosen

This year's winner of the Young Ham Lends a Hand contest, sponsored by QCWA Youth Activities, chaired by Director Carole Perry, WB2MGP, is Ryan Cutshall, KD9DAB. The contest winner was announced at the Dayton Amateur Radio Association Hamvention® - 2017 30th Youth Forum. The recipient of this contest wins a \$100 stipend.

The contest seeks to honor a young Amateur Radio operator who has demonstrated one of the basic tenets of Amateur Radio, which is service. The young ham is chosen for giving back to the community, recruiting other young hams and participation in local events.

Cutshall is a former president of the Bloomington High School South Amateur Radio Club, serving for two years, and is now the secretary-treasurer of the Indiana University Amateur Radio Club. Cutshall is extremely active in recruiting new members to the club and goes into a local elementary school to give HF demonstrations to fourth grade students. He has assisted a blind ham with field day operations, and has assisted with the ARRL Youth Contesting Committee. Cutshall is the personification of the kind of young ham who will make us all proud with his "give back" and volunteering spirit. - **Submitted by: Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, QCWA #22655 President, Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.**

On the History of Wireless 600 BC - 1901 Continued

Over the next several months, as space permits, we will provide photos and information on the early history of wireless communication. The author of the information is Richard Formato, PhD, W3AZ, and is being distributed by permission granted from the Chatham Maritime Center. For more information on the center, view their website at <http://chatham-marconi.org/>.

Marconi Creates the Wireless Industry

Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1937)



*Son of **Giuseppe Marconi** and **Annie Jameson Marconi**

*Mother was daughter of **Andrew Jameson**, owner Jameson Irish Whiskey Distillery

*Annie and Giuseppe eloped because her family objected, but over time Annie regained good relations which was *important in Marconi's commercial success*

*Guglielmo was mostly **home schooled** (Annie was Protestant and uncomfortable with Italy's Catholic school system)

*Marconi was enthralled by stories about *Michael Faraday* and *Ben Franklin* (books in the family library)

*Age 13, constructed a **Lightning Detector** (1887)



Wireless lab aboard Yacht Elettra, 1923

*Tutored in **experimental physics** by Prof. Vincenzo Rosa

*Annie arranged visit to Professor Augusto Righi (University of Bologna) who appointed Guglielmo as **lab assistant** (age 17)

*Righi's article on Hertz's experiments cemented Marconi's interest in **wireless**

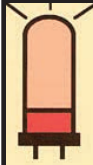
*Marconi made many improvements to Righi's spark apparatus and became an accomplished **experimentalist** (i.e., '**engineer**')

That's it for this month. Stay tuned for more!

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- Yearbooks: 1949, 1950, 1979 and any after 1997. We also need any Yearbook Supplements you may have.
- News and Bulletins from: 1952-1969. There may have been four a year but used the month on the cover Vs a season. I don't know how many exist for each year or what month they were published in. Please check the Members Only webpage to see what we already have.

Please forward copies to our Webmaster at: **NOUF Bob Roske, 993 Hassan St SE, Hutchinson, MN 55350**

Let me know if you want them returned or placed in the QCWA Historical Archive. - *tnx, 47 es 73, Bob Roske, NOUF*

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