



## Officer Info

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## How I Got Into Amateur Radio

By Roger Gray, W8VE

In 1960, when I was 14 years old, my brother in law was a contractor and he purchased two Motorola CB radios for his business. They were crystal controlled and the crystals were on channel 16. This was before the CB became a miniature ham radio.

Also, I had a shortwave radio and I would listen to foreign broadcasts and hams talking to each other in different states. Anyway I told my dad I wanted to get a CB license so I could talk on the radio. My dad was the postmaster so he knew everyone in the small town of 1200.

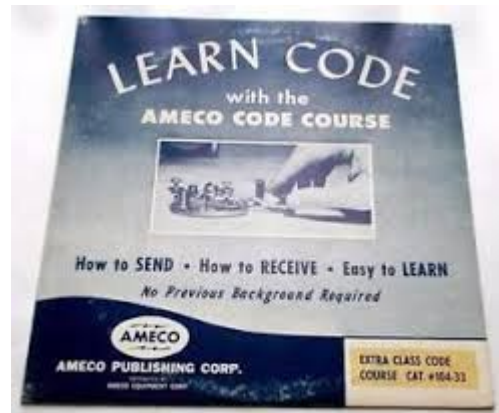


Fig. 1: Ameco Code Course

Gnadenhutten had 10 active hams in town. So dad told our dentist Doc Williamson, K8SMA about me wanting to get CB

license Doc told dad not to get involved in CB so dad said if I wanted to talk to people on radio I should get my ham license.

So I ordered a Ameco Morse code record and a novice license manual I, learned the code and passed the novice test given by Doc Williamson. My first novice station was a borrowed Ameco transmitter had a 6V6 oscillator running 8 watts and my first receiver was a Knight (Allied Radio) Spanmaster, It had two tubes and was a regenerative radio and had a wooden case. Needless to say, making contacts with that receiver was a challenge. I would get on 80-meters in the early evening before the bands fully because full, the radio had no selectivity. I had a single 80-meter crystal was cut for 3701 kHz.



Fig. 2: Ameco AC-1 Novice Transmitter



Fig. 3: Knight Spanmaster Receiver

Some hams gave me a hard time because they said I was out of the novice band! I mentioned it to Doc K8SMA he had a Collins 75S1 which had a crystal calibrator and confirmed that I was in the novice band. In short time as a novice I upgraded to a Heathkit DX 20 about 50 watts (still crystal controlled) and a Gonset G43 super heterodyne receiver which was a vast improvement to my 2 tube Spanmaster. My other challenge as a novice was giving my QTH (Gnadenhutten) at 5 wpm was also a challenge for the other novices who were copying me and

would ask me to repeat my QTH!! . That is dah-dah-dit dah-dit dit-dah dah-dit-dit dit dah-dit dit-dit-dit-dit dit-dit-dah dah dah dit dah-dit. All in all ham radio is a great hobby as a teenager and opened my eyes to technology and geography.



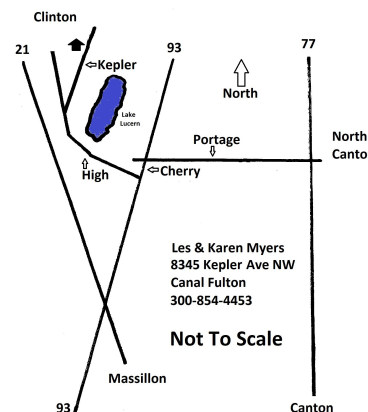
Fig. 4: Heathkit DX-20 Transmitter



Fig. 5: Gonset G-43 Receiver

## Upcoming Event

**Y**um yum it's free lunch at Karen and Les Myers. home. Mark you calendar for 10 November at Noon. The address is 8345 Kepler Avenue NW, Canal Fulton, Ohio. See adjacent map. Please RSVP at 330-714-7382. Mel Vye will make a presentation on his trip to the [Kingdom of Bhutan](#).



## Ragchew

**D**on't forget the monthly ragchew at Tim's Tavern at Noon on the last Wednesday of the month. The address is 3323 Parkway Street NW, Canton Ohio 44708. All are invited. For you information that is 31 October, 20 November, and 29 January for the next quarter. Please add these dates to your calendar.

## Some Local Hamfests

### **10/11/2018 | Microwave Update 2018 Convention**

Location: Fairborn, OH  
Sponsor: Midwest VHF/UHF Society  
Website: <http://www.microwaveupdate.org>



### **10/13/2018 | Northwest Ohio ARC Hamfest Convention**

Location: Lima, OH  
Sponsor: Northwest Ohio ARC  
Website: <http://www.nwoarc.com>

### **10/28/2018 | Massillon Hamfest**

Location: Massillon, OH  
Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.w8np.org>

### **11/03/2018 | GARC Hamfest**

Location: Georgetown, OH  
Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.garcoho.net>

### **12/01/2018 | FCARC Winterfest**

Location: Delta, OH  
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://kb8bxq.org/hamfest>

### Dues Are Due

The little piggy is back. Remember 2019 local dues of \$5 will be collected. National dues are paid directly to QCWA via [qcwa.org](http://qcwa.org). The rates for national dues are listed in the table below.



Membership Type	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	Life
Regular	\$25.00	\$40.00	\$55.00	\$500.00
Family	\$8.00	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$160.00

### Minutes

The meeting was proceeded by a ride on Mel Vye’s pontoon boat to 11 August 2018. The minutes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly meeting of QCWA #21 are as follows:

The meeting was called to order on 11 August 2018 at Martha and Mel Vye’s home on Portage Lakes. The attendance was 15 people. There were more people than would fit on the boat so some had to go by car to the restaurant. Les Myers, KK8K, report \$562.28 in Huntington account and \$25.00 in cash for at total of \$587.28

There was no old business or new business so the meeting was closed. Mel Vye made a presentation on “Panama and the Canal”.



If there are any additions or corrections, please contact the secretary at [N8PZL@arrl.net](mailto:N8PZL@arrl.net).

## Did You Know

Each month edition if the QCWA Journal is available in audio form (mp3) at <http://handiham.org/audio/QCWA/>?. The journal is read by Jim Perry, KJ3P. There is a link to these audio recordings on the banner for the [qcwa.org](http://qcwa.org) website. Many of the member are getting up there in years and may need some of the resources of Courage Kenny Handiham Program. If so, please see <http://handiham.org/wordpress1/> for details.

