VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

2014 YEARBOOK

ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

EIGHTY-NINTH ANNUAL BANQUET

Sunday, June 8, 2014
Don Pepe Restaurant, Newark, New Jersey
THE VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
EIGHTY-NINTH ANNUAL BANQUET
SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2014

PROGRAM

RECEPTION .................................................................1:00 P.M.

WELCOME ........................................................................ Richard T. Kenney
Master of Ceremonies and VWOA First Vice-President

LUNCHEON

AWARDS PRESENTATION .............................................. Alan M. Ehrlich, WA2GDQ
VWOA President

ADDRESS
 Saving the Marconi Belmar Wireless Station for Future Generations
 FRED CARL AND RAY CHASE

AWARD PRESENTATION
 Veteran Wireless Operator’s Association
 Lifetime Achievement Award
 FRANCIS T. CASSIDY
Greetings, everyone and welcome to our 89th Annual VWOA Awards Luncheon! Once again, the luncheon is being held at the Don Pepe Restaurant in Newark, New Jersey. We are grateful to our Treasurer, Mike Shaw, who was instrumental in arranging for two executives of the “InfoAge Museum” in Wall, New Jersey to talk to us about the important work their group is doing to keep alive the memory of the early pioneers of Radio and Wireless Communication and their developments from the early stages to the advanced levels of modern day communications.

Through the years at our Annual VWOA Awards Luncheons, we have had many very dedicated and special individuals receiving awards for their own accomplishments, as well as for their commemoration and preservation of the historical works of other early inventors, highlighting the impact of the communication techniques and technology each of them developed.

It is my hope that our Annual Luncheons will survive for many coming years, even after the operations of the Veteran Wireless Operators Association officially wind down and eventually formally come to a halt on the occasion of next year’s luncheon.

The Veteran Wireless Operators Association is a very special and unique fraternal group of communications professionals who are honored to be part of its membership and extremely proud of their accomplishments that truly changed the course of history and ushered in the digital world we live in today.

Our Radio Shack on board the Lightship Ambrose (L.S. 87) at the South Street Seaport Museum, with its vintage radio equipment, provides visitors a glimpse into the period of Morse wireless communication. It also celebrates the later radio beacon-timed transmissions of a lightship providing safety to ships entering port in the days before Radar or Loran or Global Positioning Satellite Navigation systems.

Once again, we thank Ethel Johnson for her donation of the ham radio gear which has been installed on the Lightship, and which provides an excellent working display of the radio equipment of a bygone era.

Best regards and 73 to everyone from my wife, Ann, and I. We look forward to seeing you all next year for our very special 90th Annual Award Luncheon!

ALAN M. EHRLICH, President
Veteran Wireless Operators Association
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New York City Transit Authority (Ret.)

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National Director, Navy League of the U.S.

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PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1925  GILSON WILLET S  1965-1966  LAWRENCE D. JAMESON
1925  W.S. FITZPATRICK  1967-1968  HATTON C. WILKES
1926  WILLIAM GILL  1969-1977  JACK POPPELE
1927-1929  J.F.J. MAHER  1978  BENJAMIN H. WOLFE
1930  J. B. DUFFY  1979-1981  GEORGE B. RILEY
1931-1934  FRED MULLER  1982-1983  JAMES C. HEPBURN
1935-1936  G.H. CLARK  1984-1985  PAUL ANSELMO

HONORARY PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1929-1937  HERBERT HOOVER, 31ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
1937-1938  SENATORE GUGLIELMO MARCONI
1939-1961  DR. LEE DEFOREST
1961-1971  DAVID SARNOFF, BRIGADIER GENERAL, U.S. ARMY
1972-1998  SENATOR BARRY M. GOLDWATER, MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. AIR FORCE
1999-2006  GERALD R. FORD, 38TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
WWW.VWOA.ORG  AMATEUR RADIO STATION W2AQ
PO Box 1003  Peck Slip  New York, NY 10072-1003
Frank served in the U.S. Navy at the end of World War II and again in the Korean War as an Aviation Electronic Technician Mate First Class. He graduated from Columbia University with a Bachelor of Arts degree, earned a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from City College of New York as well as a Masters in Electrical Engineering from Pratt Institute.

He began a career as an engineer with Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, advancing to Laboratory Development Manager and later, Assistant Chief Engineer. He joined ITT World Communications as Deputy Director, Technical, and progressed to Director of Capital Budgets and Facilities Planning. He was elected a Vice President of ITT World Communications, then President of United States Transmission Systems, Inc. and additionally named President of ITT Corporate Communications Systems, Inc. and President of ITT Domestic Transmission Systems, Inc. Following that, he was named Executive Vice President of United States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Upon leaving ITT in 1982, he formed his own telecommunications and computer systems consulting company called Microprocessor Business Decisions. He consulted in the USA regarding small business system design, data base management, microprocessor financial management, graphic displays, word processing and inter-active, multimedia computer systems via telecommunications links to large scale data banks. As President and founding team member of Nyros Telecom Services, Inc., he provided consultation services internationally to Russian and Kazakhstani companies in system and product development, leading edge technical knowledge (satellite, microwave, undersea repeater cables, land line and fiber optical systems) and executive management techniques to synergistic companies in Russia and Kazakhstan in areas of telecommunication opportunities involving engineering, operating, marketing, rates and tariffs, and administration and financial functions.

During his career, Frank held three United States patents and thirty-three foreign patents, including one for the Channel Combiner and Divider System for Automatic Alternate Voice Data (a system that uses the pauses in speech in a telephone conversation for transmission of data over the same channel), for which he received the ITT gold medallion and a cash prize under the ITT Invention Award Program. His awards include the DeForest Audion Gold Medal Award from the VWOA, the Merit Award from the DeForest Pioneer Association; the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association (AFCEA), Albert Myer Honor Award, the Henri Busignies Memorial Award from the Radio Club of America, Inc. and the David Kintzer Memorial plaque from the VWOA.

Mr. Cassidy is a Fellow in the Radio Club of America; a Senior Life Member of the IEEE; Member of the Board of Directors of the Founders Chapter, and Past President of the AFCEA New York Chapter; Secretary and Chairman of the Board of the VWOA; Past Vice Chairman of the Mill Basin Civic Association; and a Past President of the Long Island Beekeepers Club.
VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
HISTORIC PRESERVATIONS AWARD

INFOAGE SCIENCE/HISTORY LEARNING CENTER AND MUSEUM

FRED CARL
FOUNDED DIRECTOR AND CEO OF INFOAGE SCIENCE HISTORY LEARNING CENTER AND MUSEUM

RAY CHASE
TRUSTEE OF NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB (NJARC) AND CHAIRMAN RADIO TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM (RTM) AT INFOAGE.

Veteran Wireless Operators Association
Honors InfoAge Science/History Learning Center and Museum, Wall, New Jersey

For preserving the Marconi Belmar wireless station as a museum and learning center for the benefit of present and future generations. The museum chronicles the development of Wireless Communications spanning two World Wars, Cold War Technology, the Space Flight Program and Nuclear Weapons Research.

Presented at the 89th Annual Awards Luncheon June 8, 2014
VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

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Radio Officer (Ret.)

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WALTER H. PRANG
ARA Time School (Ret.)

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Radio Officer (Ret.)

JOHN W. REISER
Sr. Engineer, FCC, Washington (Ret.)

J. MICHAEL SHAW
Past President

THOMAS ST. JOHN-COLEMAN
Radio Supervisor, Coast Stations

ROSS W. STERLING, SR.
Army-Navy Operator

LARRY P. WAGGONER
BC Radio Tech Consultant

MILBERT A. WELLS
OTC Executive Secretary

We Remember Our Members
Whose Keys Have Fallen Silent

WENDELL R. BENSON, WW2G
COL. JOHN B. MCKINNEY
RAY N. MINICHIELLO P.E.
MANUEL BOTELHO
In Memoriam
THE WIRELESS OPERATORS MONUMENT
BATTERY PARK, NEW YORK CITY

Jack Phillips, S.S. Titanic
April 15, 1912 — Atlantic Coast

George C. Eccles, S.S. Ohio
August 26, 1909 — Pacific Coast

Stephen F. Szczepanek,
S.S. Pere Marquette
September 9, 1910 — Lake Michigan

Lawrence Prudhunt, S.S. Rose Crans
January 7, 1913 — Pacific Coast

Donald Campbell Perkins,
S.S. State of California
August 18, 1914 — Pacific Coast

Walter E. Reker, S.S. Admiral Sampson
August 25, 1914 — Puget Sound

Clifton J. Fleming, S.S. Francis H. Leggett
September 18, 1914 — Oregon Coast

Harry Fred Otto, S.S. Francis H. Leggett
September 18, 1914 — Oregon Coast

George Arundel Geare, Bark Manga Reva
November 1916 — Atlantic Ocean

Adolph J. Svenson, S.S. Hanalei
November 23, 1914 — Pacific Coast

James J. Curran, S.S. Moreno
June 12, 1917 — Off Azores

Russell A. Williams, S.S. Montano
July 31, 1917 — English Channel

Francis Joseph Doherty,
S.S. City of Athens
May 1, 1918 — Atlantic Coast

Boris Michael Dutko, S.S. Brindilla
December 1, 1919 — At Sea

Lawrence B. Robinson, S.S. Macona
January 17, 1920 — Swedish Coast

Emile H. Hulsemann, S.S. Cabahist
March 7, 1920 — Off Hatteras

John Frantsen, S.S. Grontoft
March 2, 1922 — North Atlantic

Ernest E. Dorsey, S.S. Swift Arrow
July 15, 1923 — Caribbean Sea

Fred Salim, S.S. Conejos
December 27, 1923 — Black Sea

Peter L. Bucuinka, S.S. Haleakala
September 8, 1926 — Atlantic Ocean

Lawrence M. Waring, Jr., S.S. Colopaxi
December 2, 1926 — Off Florida Coast

Charles F. Ruble, S.S. Elton
February 1927 — Pacific Ocean

J. Maurice Black, S.S. David C. Reid
October 18, 1928 — South Atlantic

Michael Joseph O’Loughlin,
S.S. Vestrin
November 12, 1926 — Off Virginia Coast

William R. Robertson, S.S. Nevada
September 26, 1932

Russell L. MacDonald, S.S. Mohawk
January 24, 1935 — Jersey Coast

Ernest Edwin Dailey, U.S.S. Macon
February 12, 1935 — California Coast

Charles J. Taylor, S.S. Blairgowrie
February 26, 1935 — North Atlantic

Frank M. Caldwell, Jr., S.S. Iowa
January 11, 1936 — Pacific Coast

Papas Theodorou, S.S. Kyllini
April 11, 1938 — Atlantic Coast

John V. O'Reilly, S.S. Fort Morgan
February 18, 1952 — Atlantic Coast

James G. Greer, S.S. Pendleton
February 18, 1952 — Atlantic Coast

Donald MacNeil, S.S. Tresilian
November 30, 1954 — North Atlantic

Swilhelm Siemers, Bark Pamir
September 21, 1957 — North Atlantic

Carl Johan Nielsen Dejlighjergen,
S.S. Hans Hedtoft
January 30, 1959 — North Atlantic

Raymond F. Brazner, S.S. Pine Ridge
December 21, 1960 — Atlantic Ocean

George E. Sloat,
S.S. Marine Sulphur Queen
February 4, 1963 — Florida Straits

John B. Hilliar, S.S. Ambassador
February 18, 1964 — North Atlantic

Joachim Geissler, MV Munchen
June 25, 1964 — North Atlantic

Carlos R. Griffith, S.S. Panosceanic Faith
October 9, 1967 — North Pacific

Albert E. Merrikin,
S.S. Texaco Oklahoma
March 27, 1971 — Atlantic Ocean

Bente Knudsen, Norse Variant
March 22, 1973 — Atlantic Coast

Kari Bergelien, Anita
March 22, 1973 — Atlantic Coast

Joseph Vyhnak, S.S. Poet
October 24, 1980 — Atlantic Ocean

David Staier, S.S. Mezada
March 8, 1981 — Atlantic Ocean

Paul Conaty, S.S. Elma Tres
November 26, 1981 — Atlantic Ocean

Albion F. Lane, S.S. Marine Electric
February 12, 1983 — Atlantic Ocean

Danilos Pajaragan, MV Balsa 24
February 25, 1987 — North Atlantic

Maung Maue Htue, Marska
December 31, 1993 — North Atlantic

Hepolito Elanga, S.S. Polydoros
November 22, 1994 — Atlantic Ocean

Serhiy B. Bukov, S.S. Salvador Allende
December 8, 1994 — Atlantic Ocean

Olexander V. Lango,
S.S. Salvador Allende
December 8, 1994 — Atlantic Ocean

Former Honorary President and radio pioneer,
Dr. Lee DeForest, SK, at the Wireless Operators Monument

THE VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
The Veteran Wireless Operators Association

73

Those Who Are Listed Below Sent “73 To The VWOA”
73 Being Wireless Code For “Best Wishes”
VWOA Sends Each And Every One Of Them “73” In Return

Jutta and John Alexander
In Memory of Paul Anselmo, AE2S
In Memory of Herman Arond, N2CCF
Mr. and Mrs. Olav. Aune
In Memory of Wendell Benson, WW2G
Francis T. Cassidy
Marilyn E. Cassidy
Mr. and Mrs. John Dziekan
Alan and Ann Ehrlich
In Memory of Diana Mackay Eigen
In Memory of James R. Fisk, W1HR
John Hamilton
Reba and John Hill, W5HX
Ethel Johnson
In Memory of Edgar Johnson, W2DGM
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Kenney
Jolanda Kintzer
In Memory of David Kintzer
Lorena Productions

Dr. Miles D. MacMahon
Cmdr. and Mrs. Joseph H. March
Bob Marzen, K3PWR
Mary Ann Marzen
Sonia Margolis
In Memory of Sam Margolis, W2ERU
In Memory of Ray N. Minchiello, P.E.
Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Mullin
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mullin, Jr.
Charles Nicolas, KB2TUP
In Memory of Edward F. Pleuler, Jr., W2EIQ
S. Paul George Raichur
Tom and Margaret St. John-Coleman
Jules Sackman, W2SCJ
Michael and Lillian Shaw
Heather Stivison
Rev. Douglas S. Stivison, NR1A
David Tessitore, K1DT
Donald Turney WB2EDR

Wendell R. Benson, SK

The Directors, Officers, and Members of the Veteran Wireless Operators Association mourn the passing of Wendell Benson. As a long-serving Director and Officer of the VWOA, Wendell endeared himself to everyone by his dedication to maintaining personal touch with our far-flung membership. Wendell’s notes, calls, and emails kept our fraternity together and went above and beyond his duties as Membership Chairman and Assistant Secretary. He was truly the face of the VWOA to prospective members.
We have lost a skilled sparks, a dedicated officer of the VWOA, and a very good friend.
The Veteran Wireless Operators Association wishes to thank those members and friends who have made a special contribution to the success of the 2014 Awards Luncheon:

**ETHEL JOHNSON**

**JOHN HAMILTON**

**S. PAUL GEORGE RAICHUR**
“S.O.S.”

From a painting by Frederick Roe (1864-1947), English illustrator and historical genre painter. Roe exhibited the picture at the Royal Academy in 1929 amidst that era’s “radio boom.” Today the picture is part of the permanent collection of the Grundy Art Gallery in Blackpool, England.