

Ealon Royal Lamphier - K8ABP - *1928-1985* Born to Vernon (county worker) and Edna Lamphier 31 May 1928 Chippewa Lake Village, Median County Ohio. Our subject Ealon was one of three kids, the youngest. He accomplished more in this life than many of us. It appears his home as a boy was Chippewa Lake-Lafayette Twp. Lamp was a U.S. Navy veteran.

Your author was first aware of Ealon at a popular ham radio convention in the early 1970s at Findlay, Ohio. Findlay is a modest city, but somewhat industrial town in western Ohio south of Toledo. Ealon was out in the warm September sun one weekend at the city park amateur radio festivities, pictured below. Lamp was a wheel chair quadriplegic painting amateur radio scenes there on canvas in oil. He was also offering for sale many of his paintings at the Findlay meet. He suffered from Polio and was making the best of his life. I didn't know at the time that he was living in the Akron/Stow area, Cleveland region.



Later on I found the picture posted here in a radio publication, keeping it all these years in my files. I'm glad there is still information on the internet about our subject left behind for posterity. Lamp's personal drive and ambition to support himself is an amazing story.

When Lamp lived over here in eastern Ohio at Seville (Akron area) he was residing in a home which allowed him plenty of comfort in a room for his ham radio equipment and painting avocation. He enjoyed amateur radio SSB and the Six Meter band as viewed from the photos I have. He also found a love and met Ruth Carolyn Swindell who was a widow and was married November of 1970.

Ealon pictured at Findlay, Ohio in the early 70s - His personally painted Christmas cards were widely published said his friend Carl Peterson CEO of Accelerated Schools, Denver.



K8ABP, Ealon R. Lamphier, Stow, Ohio, because of physical reasons, is relegated to a wheel chair. However, he has a great talent of being able to paint, holding the brush with his mouth. He is shown at the recent Findlay Ham Fest. He has just recently decided to sell some of his fine works.

At one point the Leohr family in Seville Oh were caretakers of Lamp at their facility. Lamp was a powerful artist for 30 years before his death.

We find Lamp suffered Polio at age 21 while he was in Colorado, which was in 1949. He would later receive a full fellowship art course scholarship from Accelerated Schools.

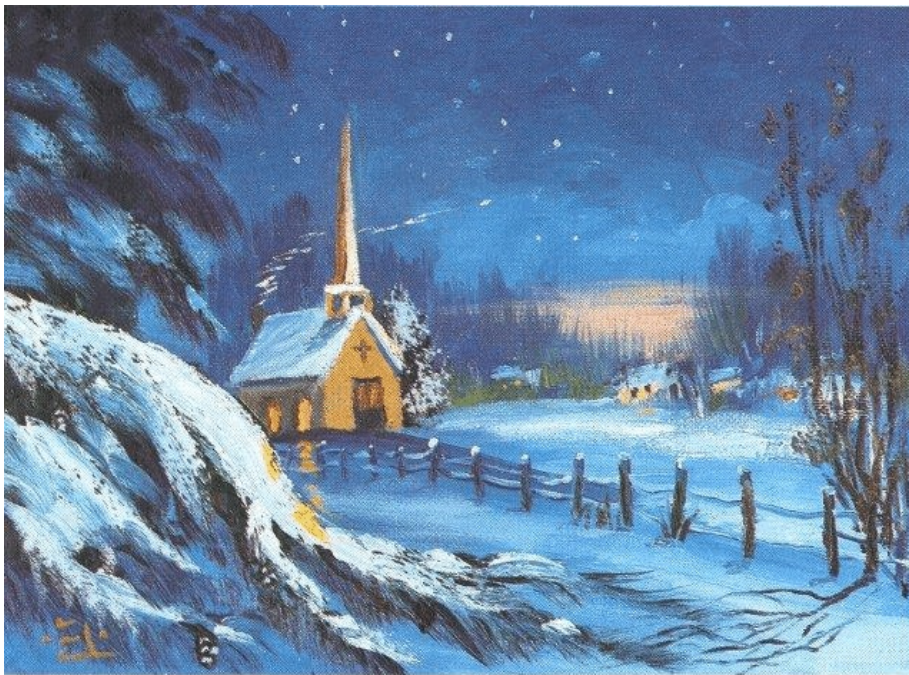
Pres. Carl Peterson of Accelerated Schools advised he knew Ealon well in Colorado. When Ealon contracted polio he was treated at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital, Aurora, Colo., around 1950. Continued on page two.

Carl Peterson didn't meet Ealon again until years later in Rittman, Ohio. Ealon's works were featured at the Medina County Fair in 1958 and he won a Second Place Ribbon!

Mr. Lamphier was a member of International Association of Handicapped Artists. Ealon's select group of about 70 men and women throughout the world whose work is professional enough to be saleable. They are now known as "The AMFPA" world wide.

Lamp had gone another step, at one time, his first one-man show of 24 paintings, hung at Parma's Center Gallery. Prize winning artist at Lodi, Franklin Bates, worked with Ealon for 5 years with his watercolors to oils. Mr. Ealon (Lamp) K8ABP made this statement in the Beacon Journal "I want my work to say something – to be more than pretty pictures. I want to do things that will make people think. That's on my agenda for tomorrow, for next week, forever. Lamp said."

Your author didn't have the opportunity to chat with Ealon on the mike or key but somehow doing this research makes me feel I knew him and one day will meet him face to face. Should you have a Lamphier oil or chalk painting, I would love to purchase one.



Lamp, it was later revealed had expired 24 Jun 1985 in Hinckley, Ohio - leaving his wife Ruth and her previous family.

To this very day I remember this talented guy painting with the brush held in his teeth, dutifully in the warm sun at the Findlay Hamfest nearly 40 years ago.

Many articles appeared nationwide in the press about our subject and I found one dated 25 Sept

1959 which read in part; "Paralyzed Artist Uses His Teeth" It typified the grit this man had. "Ex Navy man stricken with Polio, I want to be recognized as a painter, not as a cripple who paints, Lamphier said."

W8SU 2008 and added 2012

