

Howard S Pyle -7HP - W7ASL - W7OE - *1898-1972* Known as “YB” to his fellow radio ops. Born to James & Addie Pyle in Chicago. Howard’s technical interests started when he was a lad in 1908. Earned 7HP in 1914. Married in 1920 and serving a hitch in the U.S. Navy at Ketchikan, Alaska as a wireless operator. He would eventually become an assistant radio inspector and electronic engineer with the U.S. Govt. Writer, FCC Engineer, experimenter - Last home of record Mercer Island WA. In 1921 Howard was living in Bremerton WA and later out east at The Detroit FCC central office, already a veteran radio operator. Held W7ASL in 1931 at Seattle as a Ltjg U.S. Navy reserve. Author of books and publications in his name, especially license guides assisting those in the amateur ranks. A book in 1936 called “Practical amateur radio Transmitter Designs” His many affiliations, OOTC, AWA etc.

Howard believed in the statement “Power no substitute for skill” take the high road. Howard is considered the QRP Father of the ether. -



W7OE wrote a extensive article in Electronics Illustrated that showed how a novice can build an inexpensive pi-net tuner. A tapped coil, two ex bc set variable capacitors and to make it fancy, a pilot bulb wired to a single turn link around the coil. Cheap and dirty but it worked. The Pi circuit was far better than the T circuit tuner. In 1924 Howard wrote a huge article called “Shake Hands with the R.I.”

Those starting out will not easily forget Howard’s “ABC Guide to Novice,” a Howard Sams publication. He was a long

time manager of the Washington State Traffic Net. Check out his station, the old with the new, the BC342 receivers with the vaunted Davco DR-30 that was short lived in 1965-66, well before its time weighing only 7 lbs. (Elecraft, a full svc transceiver today weighs 3.3 lb.)

One of my many recent interests has been the Radio/TV trade schools and their in-house and courses by correspondence. Those places once dotted all over the fruited plain. A once very proud industry. Howard Pyle W7OE far ahead of us to that subject as he has had a long series of articles covering that subject closely in CQ magazine and Ham Radio magazine, November 1967. They were extensive articles and enjoyable reading.



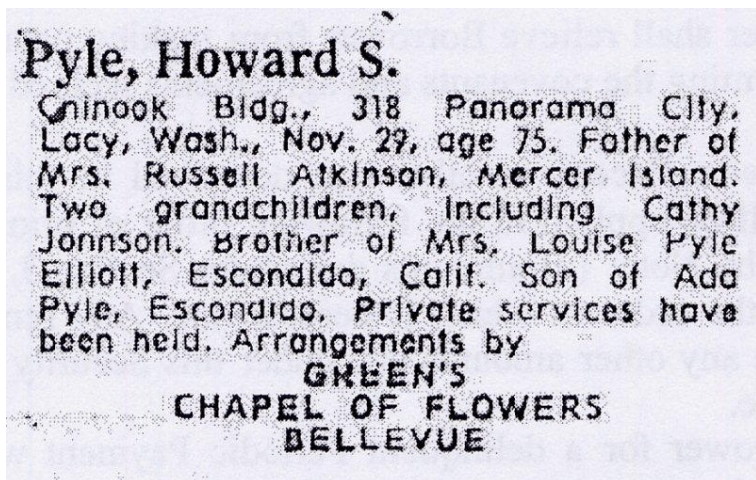
Do old timers remember W7OE Howard and the Pacific Amateur Radio Group? He was a quite famous QRP'er and writer back then now deceased for many years and he eventually formed PARG as a splinter group from the QRP ARCI.

Its focus to what we now know as true QRP (5 watt and under level) and Howard formed a group out on the west coast aimed at true QRP. It was one of the very earliest true QRP clubs in existence. Partially scripted from unibordsystem.org Continued page two.

Mr. Pyle (YB) has written about subjects that are near and dear to my heart. Here again in CQ Magazine August 1966 a Pyle article "Evolution of the Ham Shack." Howard goes in great detail the old remote ham radio shacks outside of our homes, with call signs affixed to the entry ways and the whole 9 yards. My style of an article. My fondest dream as a boy about the mysterious world of radio, having that back yard shack full of wonderful iron.

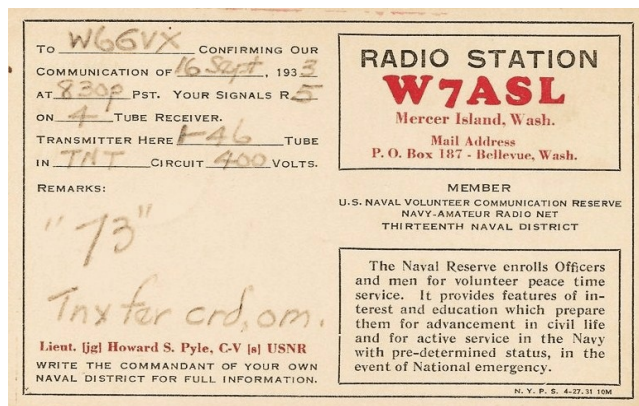
I've written to the current holder of W7OE, as of yet no response. I hope we will receive additional to file off the rough edges of this entry.

Howard was a senior member if the IEEE and past vice-director of the Northwestern Division of the American Radio relay League.



As appeared in the Seattle Times December First, 1972

Howard and I both have something in common, both stationed in Alaska (Ketchikan) before being accepted as a state into the U.S.A. Radio operations out of the Ketchikan SE Alaska area are quite poor due to a mountainous ridge to the east and to the southeast. Communications were good into Alaska and the Pacific regions but difficult to the mid west and east coast.



1920 Census Howard was age 22 had enlisted in the Navy and had married Susan. I've viewed comments and questions still in 2008 about W7OE on the internet and he is remembered to this day. His books and radio technical materials are available on the Internet. Added 2010 a tribute to Howard was given by Tad K7RA in his propagation column commemerating Howard's 112 birthday in 2010.

W8SU 2008 added 2011