

Donald Hoffman - W8FRY - 8ADU - 8UX -Resided in the Akron area and then moved to Youngstown pre 1930's. Following gleaned from QST Magazine and a very fine tribute and bit of QSL history from the very beginning. Don resided at 40 Romaine Ave. Youngstown, Oh. He was a retired Naval LCDR in the U.S.N. Reserve.

Formerly police radio op. WPDG at Youngstown Police Department.

Don held (8UX) in 1919 and for a short time 8ADU, he was a faithful contributor to QST Radio Amateur Magazine. This man got credit in QST

printed in 1919 for we amateurs having walls full of QSL cards. His idea developed into amateurs trading these beloved treasures. "Hoffman 8ADU 29 Aug 1919 gives a suggested form of a QSL card in that QST issue." Author note, some other valid claims in that issue.

Don was also an artist for QST and I'm sure at gratis. He was an accomplished artist. He also was author and publisher of "HamFlashes" a subscription got you the mailing and it was well respected in the Youngstown region. This was a newsy 8 to 10 page booklet mailed monthly. The amazing thing about "HamFlashes" was this little gem commenced in 1932 and ran its limit in 1956. Sadly, Don appeared in the July 1956 QST under Silent Keys.

Hoffman conducted amateur radio classes Tuesday Nights in the 40's for aspiring hams. He was a tireless worker in the amateur ranks. During the war, Don was officer in charge of a radio school.

Claire Sutton W8CMS advised me he knew Don and stated he played in a small band and one year at a hamfest they were playing "She'll be Coming Around the Mountain when She Can" Mr. Sutton loaned me a QSL to copy for my records and the contact was on Thanksgiving Day "November 1954" 10 Meters. A note on Don's QSL card stated "Originator of the QSL card fad" Your writer has a small collection of Don's "HamFlashes" and looking for more. W8SU 2005

