

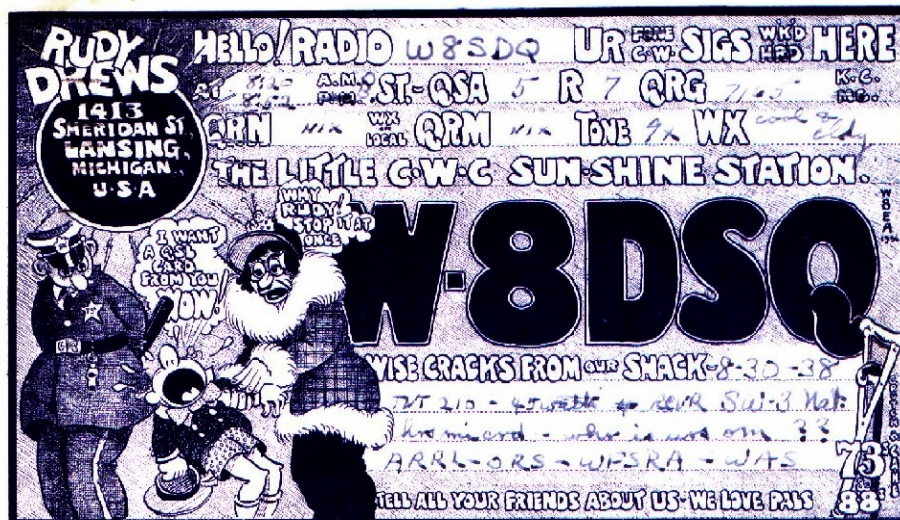
Dr. George W. Kirk, of Curtice, Ohio, 79 years old, dean of the "hams" organization of shut-ins.

Dr. Kirk says: "I practiced medicine until I got too old and crippled. So in 1922 I took up radio, and reading an article that a person who didn't understand wireless operating was missing three-quarters of the pleasure of his radio, I started to learn code, and finally got license, my station being given W8ARJ, and there you are. I believe I am the oldest man in the A.R.R.L."

Early on in Ham Radio I've been interested in the historic makeup and background of the wireless hobby. One organization I've found precious little information was the 1920s-30s handicapped group called "CWC" or simply "Chair Warmers Club" A cheerful group of shut-ins but unconfined!

Comprised of shut-ins all over the country. Somehow the memory of the organization has disappeared. CWC had daily CW scheds and was a registered traffic net.

Chair Warmers home ported out of Pontiac Michigan was a registered or affiliated organization with the ARRL - Some of the higher archy were - Max Colvin W9WV; Oldest Member Dr. George Kirk W8ARJ; W9FYM Charles Estes was the Historian; Thomas Foster the youngest member from Seattle; W8BRS Walt Colpus CWC Manager. F.R. Gibb W8IJ of Columbus Ohio served in many CWC capacities and was owner of Universal Radio there in Columbus.



Rudy Drews W8DSQ handicapped operator was involved in the CWC newsletter. See the crutches bottom right on his QSL. QSL Courtesy of www.w8jyz.com

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