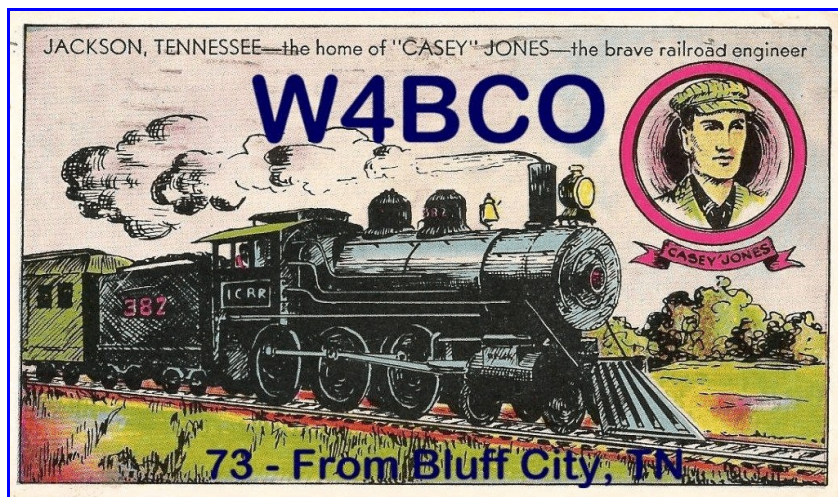


**Clarence F. Jones Sr \*1902-1965\* W4BCO** - To Marion and Effie C. Jones, Bluff City TN. Location 33 College Street. Clarence (Casey) became a garage keeper and mechanic. Casey Jones as our subject was known over the air, his children, Clarence Jr, Caroline and Bobby. In the 1920 census Casey was driving truck for the county. The earliest we can find our subject licensed is in the Fall Issue of 1946 Flying Horse Call Book, thanks to Bob Green W8JYZ [www.oldqslcards.com](http://www.oldqslcards.com).

Bluff City in eastern Tennessee has been known by several different names from the Civil War era; Choate's Ford, Union, Middletown, Zollicoffer and back to Union. There is one infamous speed trap.

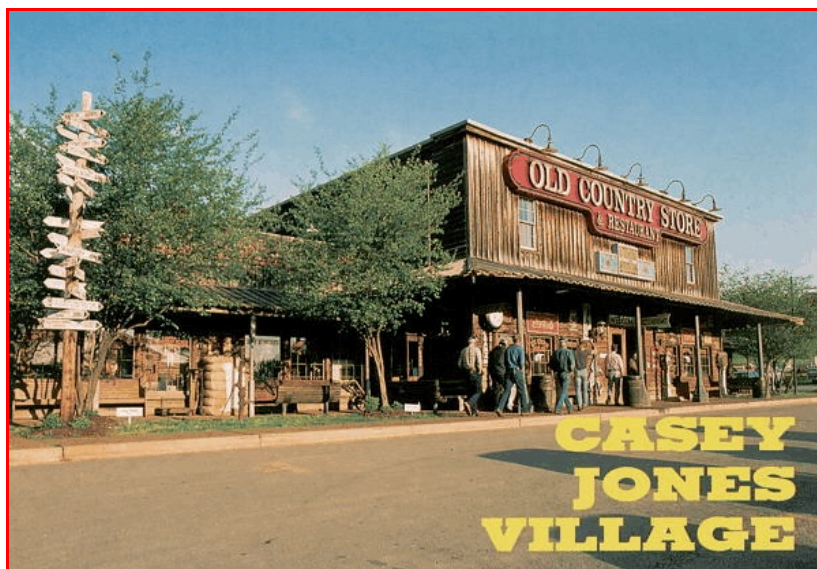


We've had problems determining if Clarence Franklin was in fact Sr or Junior and it appears Senior is the guilty party being W4BCO because Jr., never appeared on the FCC license listing. Plus as I recall the voice on 75 meters, down home dialect, some missing teeth and incessant mike noise.

His sons address may have been Chinquapin Grove Road, Bluff City TN. Jr served in the U.S. Army during WW2 and expired in 2005, Bluff City, he was 83.

W4BCO was known to run high power with a former broadcast transmitter. That thing was a bone crusher and got out far and wide in the period of the 75 meter heyday on A.M. Casey conversed about some of his station equipment being home brew. But some of those that knew him state they were very aware that Jones wouldn't build equipment. However his RCA unit, still it had to be modified for the bands.

Jones' death notice was in QST listed as W4BCO Jan 1966 Issue. He was buried 1 Sept 65 in Sunrise Cemetery Bluff City TN. The thing I recall the most in those early days of short wave listening hobby was the different types of operator, some would chat as regular, others were railroad types and would play tapes and recordings of steam engines on the rails at night. It would be common to hear a steam loco cresting a hill being played by the faithful. That lonesome wail never ever more to be heard on the bands.



Then there was Casey W4BCO with his incessant tick-tock wind up clock by the mike. From the memory of a 15 year old SWL, now age 71. We've tried to dig this one out but were unsuccessful many times until the 1940 Census was released. MF/ Jones