

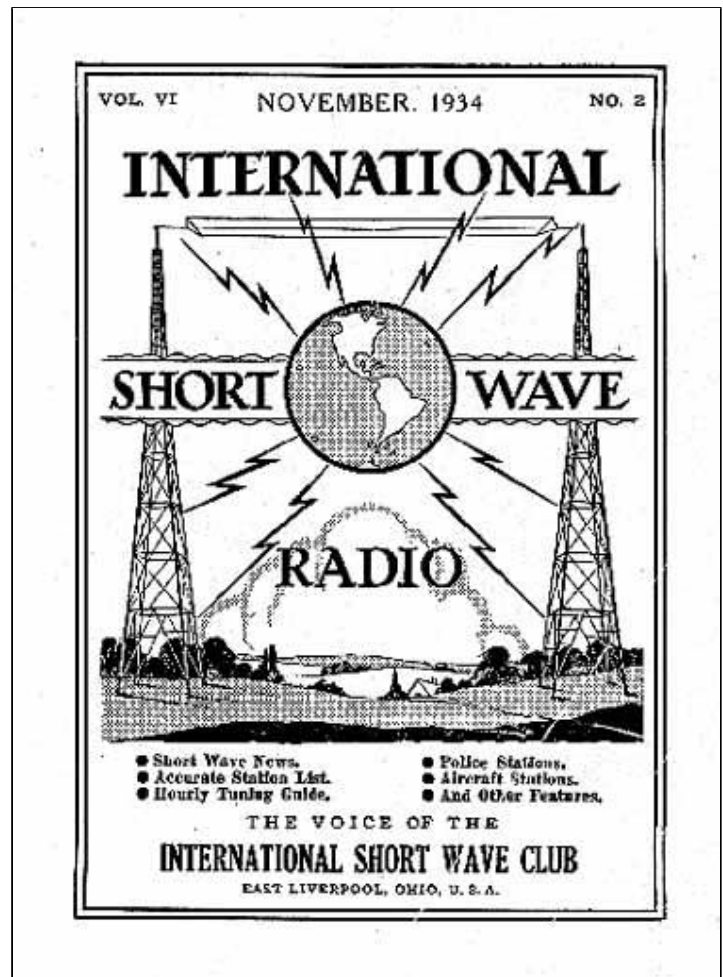
The Founding of the International Short Wave Club in Klondyke, Ohio

by George Zeller

The International Short Wave Club was the first all-shortwave broadcast DX club in history. It was organized October 4, 1929 in Klondyke, Ohio, although by 1933 it had moved to East Liverpool, Ohio. The ISWC was a pioneering effort that operated for more than three decades. NU, NASWA, and other shortwave broadcast DX organizations have built on the foundation begun by the International Short Wave Club almost 70 years ago.

For the last three or four years I have been searching for Klondyke, especially since most of us have forgotten about the ISWC altogether. There are two extremely tiny villages called Klondyke on some detailed Ohio maps. One is in Delaware County, about 20 miles north of Columbus in central Ohio. I previously worked with the Delaware County Historical Society, the Delaware County District Library, and the Ohio Wesleyan University Library to establish that this small stone quarry village was probably not the Klondyke where the ISWC was published. Another Klondyke existed at one time about ten miles north of Warren in Trumbull County of northeast Ohio, but this site bore no fruit either.

In early June, Jerry Berg found in an old ISWC bulletin that Klondyke is actually a neighborhood within the city of East Liverpool. This was the clue that I needed. We now have a significant amount of new information about the founding of the ISWC.



International Short Wave Radio bulletin cover

Here we see a typical page from the "On the Air" frequency list in the November 1934 issue of the *International Short Wave Radio* bulletin. This column was advertised as a *WRTH* or *Passport*-style list of stations actually on the air, so it was not necessarily a loggings column. The ISWC bragged that their list was a confirmed list of actual stations currently broadcasting, unlike similar lists in other inferior clubs that contained silent stations, plagiarized stations, etc. This bragging was very Klingenfuss-like.

Note that the ISWC did not use UTC in their bulletin. Eastern Standard Time was their normal default, although they changed to "War Time" in 1942 during World War II.

Club dues were \$1 during at least the first 13 years of the club, which included the Great Depression years. Local chapter meetings were held in a variety of cities; Cleveland had two chapters.

The ISWC sponsored regular International Short Wave Club radio programs, similar to DXing with Cumbre. The shows were carried on various shortwave stations in the USA, Canada, Colombia, and other countries.

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| 44 | TELL 'EM YOU ARE A MEMBER |
| "ON-THE-AIR" | |
| <p>Because of the world-wide membership of this organization and the speed in which this magazine is edited and published, this list is considered by most short wave fans, and manufacturers of short wave receivers, as the most complete, up-to-date and authentic in the world. No other publication has the world-wide circulation of this organization, and none are able to bring out such an accurate up-to-date list in such a short time.</p> <p>The time given is in Eastern Standard. Add five hours for G. M. T. Mark down the dial readings of the stations heard on the margin of the paper and it will guide you to the location of other stations on your dial.</p> <p>B—Stands for Broadcast stations. These stations broadcast programs, usually relaying some long wave station.</p> <p>T—Stands for Telephone Stations. These stations are used to relay telephone conversations across oceans and a carrier wave, or "whistle," may be heard for several hours without any voice being heard. Some stations use a "chopper" which distorts the voice and makes it impossible to understand.</p> <p>E—Stands for Experimental Stations. These stations are never on the air regularly. They are usually telegraph stations which are rented by some chain to relay a broadcast to some foreign country. You never can tell when you will hear them.</p> | |
| Meter | Meg. STATION TIME |
| B-13.92-21.54 | WKK, Pittsburgh, Pa. Relays KDKA, 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. daily. |
| T-14.01-21.41 | WKK, Lawrenceville, N. J. Phones LSN 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. |
| T-14.17-21.16 | LSL, Buenos Aires, Arg. 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. GAA and PSF. |
| T-14.23-21.08 | PSA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Phones WKK, WLK daytime. |
| T-14.27-21.03 | LSN, Buenos Aires, Arg. 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. WKK and WLK. |
| T-14.38-20.86 | EHY-EDM, Madrid, Spain. Phones South America, mornings. |
| T-14.72-20.38 | GAA, Rugby, England. Phones LSL and PPU near 8:00 A.M. |
| T-14.97-20.04 | OPL, Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. Phones ORG mornings. |
| T-14.99-20.02 | DHO, Nauen, Germany. Phones PPU and LSM mornings. |
| T-15.14-19.81 | WKN, Lawrenceville, N. J. Phones GAU, daytime. |
| T-15.24-19.69 | CEC, Santiago, Chile. Phones LSR, HJY near 11 A.M. and 4 P.M. |
| T-15.31-19.60 | LSF, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Testing 7 to 9 A.M. irregularly. |
| T-15.37-19.52 | IRW, Rome, Italy. Phones Argentina mornings. |
| T-15.39-19.50 | LSQ, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Heard testing near 2:00 P.M. |
| T-15.50-19.35 | FTM, St. Assise, France. 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. LSG. |
| T-15.57-19.27 | PPU, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Phones FTM, 10:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. |
| T-15.58-19.25 | DFA, Nauen, Germany. Phones 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. irregularly. |
| T-15.68-19.13 | LSM, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Phones EAQ, DHO, GAA mornings. |
| T-15.88-18.89 | ZSS, Kilpikuvai, S. Africa. Phones GAS, 6:30 to 7:10 to 10:45 A.M. |
| T-15.93-18.83 | PLE, Bandoeng, Java. Phones Holland 6 to 11 A.M. KWX irregularly. |
| T-16.06-18.68 | OCI, Lima, Peru. Testing with HJY near 2:00 P.M. |
| T-16.11-18.62 | GAU, Rugby, England. Phones New York mornings. |
| T-16.25-18.46 | HJY, Bogoto, Columbia. Phones CEC, LSR, 11 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. |
| T-16.30-18.40 | PCK, Kootwijk, Holland. Phones Java near 7:00 A.M. |
| T-16.35-18.35 | WLA, Lawrenceville, N. J. Phones England 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. |
| T-16.35-18.35 | FZS, Saigon, Indo-China. Phones Paris 5:00 A.M. irregularly. |
| T-16.38-18.31 | GAS, Rugby, England. Phones New York mornings. |
| T-16.39-18.30 | VVR, Maracay, Venezuela. Phones Germany 10:00 A.M. |
| T-16.44-18.25 | FTE, St. Assise, France. Phones LSM, PPU, mornings. |
| T-16.48-18.20 | GAW, Rugby, England. Phones New York mornings. |
| T-16.50-18.18 | CGA, Drummondville, Canada. Phones England daytime. |
| T-16.50-18.18 | PMC, Bandoeng, Java. Phones PCV, 3:10 to 9:20 A.M. |
| E-16.55-18.12 | LSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Irregular. |
| T-16.63-18.04 | GAA, Ruby, England. Phones Argentina, 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. |
| T-16.65-18.97 | GAQ, Ruby, England. Phones Cape Town near 8:00 A.M. |
| T-16.82-18.05 | PCV, Kootwijk, Holland. 6:00 to 9:00 A.M. Java. |

"On the Air" page from bulletin

I traveled to East Liverpool to do research on the ISWC during two weekends in June 1997. The East Liverpool Public Library was an excellent source of material, including annual city directories, old telephone books, maps, old newspapers on microfilm, and back editions of the yearbooks from East Liverpool High School. ISWC Editor and Publisher Arthur J. Green left several traces in the library.

East Liverpool is located on the Ohio River at the spot where Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia intersect. The population used to be about 25,000 when East Liverpool was a bustling pottery manufacturing center. But, the collapse of the potteries, nearby steel mills, and the regional coal mining industry have devastated East Liverpool. It now is a struggling small city with a population under 15,000. It's a seedy place because of the economic depression in the region, but it was a more substantial town during the late 1920's and the 1930's when the ISWC was founded.

The curator of the East Liverpool Ceramics Museum told me that Klondyke was a neighborhood of the city located about three miles east of downtown, almost to the Pennsylvania border. It got its name because of its great distance from the central city, hence being out in the "Klondyke."



George Zeller in Universal showroom

The founder of the International Short Wave Club was Arthur J. Green, who was also the publisher and editor of the club from 1929 until well after World War II. Green was a professional painter. He worked for several contracting firms in East Liverpool over the years, and was a member of the Painters Union. He was married to Pearl H. Green from about 1921 to 1945. On August 4, 1946 he married Edith G. Green, who remained his wife until Green's death on July 21, 1980. We don't know what happened to Pearl.

The ISWC was founded by three people in 1929: Arthur J. Green, J. R. McAllister of Struthers, Ohio (a suburb of Youngstown), and Charles E. Schroeder of shortwave radio station W3ATR in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. McAllister's sister died on June 11, 1931; she received a brief obituary in *International Short Wave Radio*. Schroeder served for over a decade as a member of the ISWC Advisory Board. As you see here on the masthead of the bulletin, an Advisory Committee helped in club management. Session, Kleimans, and Schroeder were on the Advisory Committee for many years, but others joined them at times, including Commonwealth Edison Superintendent Harold Wright of Chicago.

International Short Wave Radio bulletins were printed via a professional offset process. The sharp 5-1/4" x 7-1/4" monthly bulletins ranged between 32 and 56 pages. Photos were included, usually of members sitting in their shack with equipment and QSL's. Extensive professional advertising was sold to equipment manufacturers and dealers. Club supplies were available, such as the globe pictured here. We now know how the ISWC attained the professionally printed appearance of their bulletin.

Seventy years ago, East Liverpool had two newspapers. The afternoon paper, the *Review*, is still published today. The morning *Tribune* went out of business after publishing its last edition on January 7, 1928. When the ISWC was founded in 1929, the *Tribune* printing equipment was not in use, and therefore was available. Green published *International Short Wave Radio* on the old *Tribune* presses. This explains the high quality offset printing of the bulletins.

International Short Wave Radio is published monthly by the International Short Wave Club of East Liverpool, Ohio, U. S. A. Subscription rate \$1.00 per year anywhere. Post Office or Express Company money orders, checks, cash or United States postage stamps accepted. The rate of exchange on \$1.00 may be learned at all postoffices or banks. Single copies, 10c each.

Note:—Readers who may find it more convenient may send their subscriptions to Arthur Bear, 10 St. Mary's Place, Rotherhithe, London, S. E. 16, England.

Readers are asked to be careful not to mistake this organization for others which may have a similar name. This is the original International Short Wave Club and all mail should be addressed to International Short Wave Club, East Liverpool, Ohio.

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ARTHUR J. GREEN, Editor.

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Masthead from ISWR Bulletin

This Beautiful Globe for only \$3.25



Here is a rare bargain for the short wave fan. Imagine a 12-inch globe, printed in many colors and up-to-date in every detail, delivered to your door for only \$3.25, if you live in the U. S. A., or for \$3.50 if you live elsewhere.

Here is another pleased customer. He has purchased three for himself and friends. On June 29th, Dr. Gilbert S. Bovard, of Sierre Madre, California, wrote us saying:

"My doctor friend is exceedingly pleased with his globe and now his secretary asks me to get one for her. Hoping that another is available, I am enclosing a check for \$3.25."

Why not get a globe to mark the places where you have tuned-in stations, measure distances to these stations, follow the expeditions and add to the beauty of your radio set as well as add to your pleasure in tuning? Just send \$3.25 (for U.S.A. members), or \$3.50 (for foreign members) and this globe will be shipped. (We do not pay customs tax to foreign countries.)

Address your letters to the—
International Short Wave Club
East Liverpool, Ohio

After a very long search, Jerry Berg of Lexington, MA has furnished a picture of Arthur J. Green of East Liverpool, Ohio. This photo originally appeared on page 20 of the February 10, 1930 edition of "Radio Design."

Green's first residence in 1921 was at 2002 Harvey Avenue in East Liverpool, but by 1924 he had moved to 1714 Alpha Avenue in the Klondyke neighborhood of the city.



Arthur J. Green, short-wave listener extraordinary.

I went in search of 1714 Alpha Avenue, where Green lived when the International Short Wave Club was founded. It sits in the Klondyke section of East Liverpool, two blocks north of Ohio Route 39. I found houses at 1710, 1712, and 1715 Alpha Avenue, and I talked to the current ethnic Appalachian inhabitants. The area where 1714 Alpha would be is now a vacant lot. A friendly neighbor held his vicious dog in check while I took pictures of the surviving stone foundations that remain on the property. It is clear that a dwelling once occupied the spot, but it has been demolished. All that remains is considerable stone masonry work where the foundations of the house were.



1714 Alpha Avenue #1

International Short Wave Radio was edited and published from this spot for at least three years. This site is the birthplace of shortwave broadcast DX clubs. For the first time in the history, you see a picture here of this hallowed spot. It obviously is a place of great significance in our hobby, sort of like Lincoln's Birthplace or Kitty Hawk.

The neighbors at 1710, 1712, and 1715 Alpha Avenue were blissfully unaware that they were living on sacred ground. When I arrived, they were amused that a stranger was investigating their neighborhood in the context of "ham radio." The last set of strangers who had been on their street were FBI agents searching for the corpse in a murder case.

Since 1714 Alpha Avenue is a key historic place in DX history, we see a second view of the site here. Apparently this was the front porch foundation of Green's house. The pile of pottery dishes lying by the foundations has not been carbon dated, but it appears to be a recent addition to the site.



1714 Alpha Avenue #2

The Klondyke post office was located within the Klondyke Grocery at 401 Elizabeth Street. Postmaster William E. Hopkins also operated the grocery. The structure survives, and is pictured here. ISWC club bulletins were mailed at this site. Club correspondence was sent to Box 713 within the building. The historic structure stands about 100 yards from the banks of the Ohio River. Hills that are visible in the background of the photo are in Chester, West Virginia.



Klondyke Post Office

Sometime between 1931 and 1934, Arthur J. Green and Pearl Green moved to this house at 2025 Ohio Avenue in Klondyke (East Liverpool). The post office is about two blocks west of this site, so it was more convenient for club business than the somewhat more distant site on Alpha Avenue. *International Short Wave Radio* was edited from this structure for three or four years in the mid-1930's.



2025 Ohio Avenue

Pearl and Arthur J. Green moved again sometime before 1937 to this home at 923 Vine Street in East Liverpool. They lived here for the rest of Arthur's life. Vine Street is not in Klondyke. It instead is about nine blocks north of downtown East Liverpool. This house is about halfway up the steep hill that is formed by the north bank of the river in the Ohio Valley.



923 Vine Street

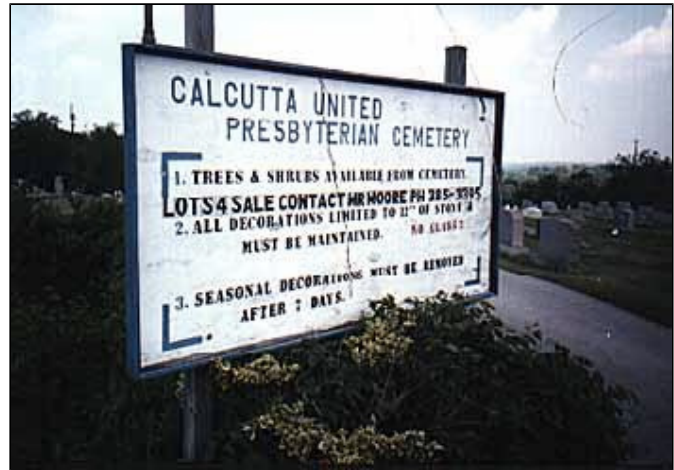
I was surprised to find this tombstone in East Liverpool Riverview Cemetery. It is a very large cemetery near the top of the Ohio Valley hill on the north side of East Liverpool. It contains some very impressive monuments, mostly to war veterans. The Arthur Green buried right inside the entrance to Riverview Cemetery was born in 1871 in England, and lived on Route 30 far enough outside the city limits so that his address was RFD #1. He died of shock on August 12, 1939 after fracturing both of his legs. Arthur Green #2 was a sagger maker in the pottery industry.

It seems obvious that Arthur J. Green used the "J" in his name to differentiate himself from the second Arthur Green who lived in East Liverpool.



Arthur Green Tombstone

Arthur J. Green died at home on July 21, 1980 after an illness of one year. He is buried outside the city of East Liverpool in Calcutta United Presbyterian Cemetery. I suppose that it is fitting that the founder of shortwave DX clubs should be buried in Calcutta. The small village of Calcutta is a suburb of East Liverpool. At one time it was an extremely small village, but it currently sits at the exit of the Ohio Route 11 freeway (running from Ashtabula through Youngstown to East Liverpool) and Ohio Route 170. This location has recently seen considerable suburban retail shopping plaza development because of its proximity to the freeway exit. Thus, a K-Mart and a Wendy's now occupy the vicinity of Green's grave. A Rax Roast Beef was under construction very near the cemetery when I visited it. The Calcutta cemetery is a moderately sized burial ground next to the Presbyterian Church.



Calcutta Cemetery Sign

This is the final resting place of Arthur J. Green, the founder of shortwave broadcast DX clubs. His second wife Edith is not buried with him, so it is possible that she is still living.

On the final page of our brief tour of the history of Arthur J. Green and the International Short Wave Club, we reprint Green's obituary from the *East Liverpool Review*.



Arthur J. Green Tombstone

Arthur J. Green Obituary

East Liverpool Review, July 22, 1980

Arthur Green

Arthur J. Green, 79, of 923 Vine Street, died Monday at 12:55 p.m. at home following an illness of a year.

A lifelong area resident, Mr. Green was born here Aug 4, 1900, a son of James Green and Hattie Welsh Green.

He was a member of the Painters Union, having worked for the former Hollis Logue and Cunningham Contractors here.

In 1928 he was instrumental in organizing the International Short Wave Radio Club, now headquartered in London, England.

Mr. Green published and edited the *International Short Wave Magazine*, using the old *East Liverpool Morning Tribune* presses.

Besides his wife, Mrs. Edith Woodyard Green, whom he married Aug. 14, 1946, survivors include two sons, Edward Green of East Liverpool and Robert Green of Leesburg, Fla., two daughters, Mrs. William (Pauline) McCarroll of Rookstown and Mrs. Allen (Violet) Cippolini of St. Petersburg, Fla., two brothers, Albert Green of Cleveland and Carl Green of East Liverpool, four sisters, Mrs. Lida Tingler of Wierton, Miss Minnie Green of Bellflower, Calif., Mrs. Ora Peterlin of Lisbon and Mrs. Frank (Bertha) Flowers of East Liverpool, 11 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be held Thursday at 10:30 a.m. from the Martin Funeral Home by the Rev. Wilbert Bischoff at the Beechwood Free Methodist Church. Burial will be in Calcutta United Presbyterian Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home Wednesday afternoon and night.