

## QCWA 2017 Election Candidates

### Officer Candidates:

Ken Oelke	VE6AFO	President **
Larry McCalvy	WA9JMO	Vice-President **
Jim Perry	KJ3P	Secretary
Charles Tropp	N2SO	Treasurer **

### Director Candidates:

Joe Ayala	K4JGA
Mike Walker	K9SSL
Pete Varounis	NL7XM **
Mark Wintersole	W5NZ **
Ken Simpson	W8EK **
Edward Martin	W8NLZ
Jeff Beals	WA4AW **
Carole Perry	WB2MGP **
Howard Cunningham	WD5DBC **

**\*\* Incumbent**

The following are all candidates' biographies and photographs.

## Ken Oelke – VE6AFO



I was born in Lacombe, Alberta, Canada and became a radio amateur in 1961 at age 15, and received call sign VE6AFO. I have been married to Linda-Lou, VE6LGO, for the past 49 years. I currently live in Calgary, Alberta.

I have held executive positions in CARA, ARLA, CRRL Director (1988-1993), RAC Director (1993-1999), President of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) from 1999 to 2001. In 2001 I was Head of Delegation for RAC at the IARU-R2 Conference held in Guatemala City. QCWA Director (2006 to 2008), Vice President (2010 to 2012) and President from 2012 to present. President of local QCWA Wild Rose Chapter 151 since 2002 to present.

I have also been involved with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as City of Calgary Emergency Coordinator (1980-1995) and CRRL/RAC Field Services Manager (1989-1994). In 1994 I chaired the RAC First National Convention, held in Calgary, AB and the QCWA International Convention in 2006, held in Calgary, AB.

My trade is Automotive Service Technician. My wife and I owned and operated an automotive service outlet for 20 years. I then spent 16 years as Ground Equipment Technician for Canadian Regional Airlines, and later the name changed to Jazz Air.

I am a Life Member of ARRL, RAC, QCWA, and a current member of CARA, SARA, CCC, and QCWA Chapter 151, 45, 70 and 73.

I enjoy rag chewing, operating Moon bounce (have been inactive since 1998), VHF weak signal, Fast Scan TV, experimenting and repairing radio equipment, especially mine when it goes "bust"! My radio equipment on HF is a TS 530SP into a Hygain TH3jr at 15 metres. On VHF/UHF I use a Yaesu FT 736R

with all modules installed. My antenna on 6 metres is a homebrew 3-element Yagi, on 2 metres is a homebrew 11 element Yagi and on 70 cm I use a 25 element K1FO Yagi.

I also do volunteer work at The Military Museums demonstrating Morse code for school tour groups, am an Industry Canada Accredited Examiner, and have been on the Calgary Stampede Parade Committee since 1988. On July 6, 2012 the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede celebrated their 100th anniversary! Yah Hoo!

## Larry McCalvy – WA9JMO



Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO was first licensed in 1963. Served on the QCWA Board as a Director from 2007 to 2012 and as Vice-President from 2012 to 2017. He holds a MS degree in Educational Phycology from Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is retired from the Trucking Industry and Military.

He was the Convention Chair on the three QCWA Cruise Conventions – 2001, 2005 and 2009; and was the cruise chair on the 2013 QCWA Cruise. He is currently the Publication Chair.

Larry's other interests and hobbies include community volunteerism and photography. He serves on various committees and panels around the state of Wisconsin dealing with senior issues and concerns. With similar roles in Southeastern Wisconsin Amateur Radio groups, he finds his time does not go as far as he would like.

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
Candidate for QCWA VP

## Jim Perry – KJ3P



Licensed as a Novice in 1958 (KN1IQZ), I soon discovered CW traffic nets on the low end of 80 meters. Most were way too fast for me, until I found the WMNN, the Western Mass Novice Net, on 3744 (the middle of the Novice band back then). Since Novices were exclusively crystal controlled (no VFOs allowed!), I had to spend paper route money to get a crystal for the net frequency. I soon became one of the regular NCS stations, pounding my J-38 straight key.

Like many hams, the hobby took a back seat during a busy career of broadcast engineering at TV and radio stations in Hartford, Boston, and Philadelphia. My last job before retirement was a ten-year stint with an international tower company, where I managed a portfolio of 50 broadcast towers from Montana to Wichita to Norfolk to Philly...lots of travel. I negotiated for several ham clubs to allow repeaters to be installed on towers in Des Moines, Philly and others.

Now retired, one of my main volunteer activities is recording for the visually handicapped, using a small voice-over booth I put together at home. I record for HandiHam as well as for Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. And of course, I'm enjoying ham radio once again, using SDR and digital modes, but still working on increasing my CW speed.

## Charles Tropp – N2SO



Charles R. Tropp (N2SO) was born in Lyon, France and came to the United States with his family in 1950. He grew up in Rock Island, IL and received his BA from University of Illinois in 1965. He received his JD from New York University School of Law in 1968 and was admitted to the New York State Bar later that year. He married his wife Carol in 1969 and they have three daughters and 7 grand-children.

After several years working for the New York City Corporation Counsel, in their excise tax division, Charles went into private law practice and opened his office on Staten Island. His practice specialty was consumer bankruptcy and creditors' rights.

Charles was first licensed as KA2AHA in 1978 and later upgraded to General Class in 1981 as N2CDV. After 1986 Charles went QRT until January of 2009 when he finally upgraded his license to Extra. Since then he has been back on the air enjoying DXing and Contesting using CW mostly on the HF bands. He is a member of QCWA Chapter 46 (Founder's Club), Chapter 181 (Hudson Valley Chapter) as well as CONEX (Council of Northeast Chapters of QCWA).

Since taking on the job of Treasurer in October of 2014, Charles has completely overhauled our accounting system adopting a web based non-profit accounting program which automates the creation of financial reports and budgets and allows direct importing of transactions from our accounts at Chase Bank and PayPal. He has also aided in the drafting of a new employment contract for our Office Manager and hired a payroll administration company to compute and pay our required withholding and employment taxes. Charles has prepared and filed IRS Information Return Form 990 for the past two years and has recently registered the QCWA with the New York State Charities Bureau in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements. He also created a new formula for the accurate calculation of yearly

scholarship donations which was adopted by vote of the Board of Directors in order to insure that our Scholarship Fund will remain viable in perpetuity and to assure compliance with Federal and State statutory requirements.



## Joe Ayala – K4JGA



My name is Jose G. “Joe” Ayala – K4JGA, a 55 year old, and member of QCWA membership # 33681 since October 17, 2006. I am an active member of QCWA Citrus Chapter 45 and currently holding the position of chapter secretary. I respectfully submit my letter of intent to run as a candidate to one of the National Director positions. I have been an amateur radio operator since summer of 1978 and was issued the call of WP4AQK back then. I am active in many aspects of ham radio including club leadership, ham radio instructor, Extra Class Accredited Volunteer Examiner, Official Observer, Official Relay Station, North Florida Section midday Traffic net, DXing, contesting, public service and CW Operator among other ham radio activities. I’ve contributed my experience and vision for the benefit of our hobby through many capacities including: past President, Secretary and past Director, among others. I am the recipient of numerous ham radio awards, among them ARRL A-1 Operator Club, and ARRL Mentor Program Elmer Award (3 years in a row). I am a former Professor of Theology with a Master degree in Divinity. My secular associations are Masonic Lodge South Seminole # 364 Past Master Casselberry-FL, Bahia Shrine Orlando-FL, DeMolay International and International Order of The Rainbow for Girls among others. My desires are, if my nomination is accepted and elected to be a National Director, to greatly improve membership communication within our Board of Directors, to remain closely engaged with projects, ideas and goals of our club. To assist and promote membership participation as well as increasing membership; to establish and promote a fellowship with new and older members, and to improve the extent and effectiveness of our services as a radio club, and most important to bridge the 20<sup>th</sup> Century analog technology members with the 21<sup>st</sup> century digital technology members! I can be reached via email at [K4JGA@aol.com](mailto:K4JGA@aol.com), or cell phone 407-255-5922.



## Mike Walker – K9SSL



### **K9SSL**

Michael R. 'Mike' Walker  
Lake County  
Fruitland Park, FL

QCWA # 34815  
Chapters 173, 62

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It was many, many years ago (57 to be exact) that I was almost 17 years old and couldn't wait to get my "Amateur Radio License". I had bought a Novice license study guide at a radio/tv store in downtown Gary, Indiana, and thought I was ready to take the code & theory tests.

Problem was, I didn't know any Ham operators to give me the test! But my dad knew a friend who knew a guy who knew a Ham operator! A few weeks passed and my dad told me the ham operator had the test packet, and told me a time & day had been arranged for me to go to his house and take the test.

So after a half hour bus ride & a six block walk, I arrived at his house in downtown Gary. All I remembered about the Ham was that his name was Herb, and he was laying on his back in a bed in his living room. He had me send and copy the 5wpm code & told me I passed that part. Then the envelope with the written test was opened and I took the test, which then had to be mailed to the FCC office (in Chicago I think).

I really don't remember anything more about the visit to Herb's house. But after about a six week wait the much awaited envelope arrived from the FCC with my first license with call sign KN9SSL.

After these many years I learned that "Herb" was the same Herb Brier W9EGQ that wrote a Monthly column for Popular Electronics magazine titled "Among the Novice Hams", as well as countless articles in CQ & QST.

Three months later, after a trip to the Chicago FCC office, I had my General class license K9SSL.

From 1971 thru 1974 I held the call LU2EHQ while living in Argentina, K9SSL/KP4 while living in Puerto Rico from '74 thru '78, and K9SSL/YV4 while living in Venezuela from '79 thru '81. My XYL & I then lived in Ohio from '81 thru 2006, and now in Lake County Florida until the present day.

I am on the Lake Amateur Radio Association (LARA) Club board of directors in Leesburg, Florida, active

in ARES, and currently am president of the QCWA Golden Triangle Chapter 173 in Leesburg. I am active on HF, VHF/UHF, and DStar, using an IC7600, IC7100, ID880H, and an IC706MKIIG mobile.

## Pete Varounis – NL7XM



Pete Varounis / NL7XM is licensed for 35 years and is a Life Member of QCWA, ARRL, and is loyally associated with Allentown-Bethlehem Chapter 17 in EPA.

A casual contester, Pete also chases DX on his favorite band, 6m.

He led a successful recruiting campaign in his local ARC that resulted in increasing Membership from 78 to 225 in eighteen months. As its Program Chairman, he secured over 80 different presentations by guest speakers over 10 years, resulting in average monthly Meeting attendance of 70.

Pete is also a Member of RCA, AWA, 10-10, OOTC, A1-Operators Club, Six Club International, SMIRK, and the UK Six Metre Group where he is the USA Country Manager, and has earned DXCC and WAS.

Known in some circles as, "Pete The Greek," he has a vast, 100+ year old collection of rare Callbooks in his personal library that he uses to conduct research as a Callsign Historian, and is often promoted on Bob Heil's "Ham Nation."

Pete's expertise with Callsigns earned him a place as a consultant to the producer of Tim Allen's ABC hit TV comedy, "Last Man Standing." Pete has the privilege of designing custom callsigns and assigning them to cast members when Amateur Radio is incorporated into the script, and ensuring QCWA materials and familiar logo get conspicuous exposure on national primetime television.

A retired law enforcement Superior Officer, Pete is a Champion Pistol Competitor, earning 18 Gold Medals at the NYS Police Olympics, and enjoyed displaying them to young suitors desiring to date his daughter. She has since married a young soldier he approved of, whose initials are, appropriately enough, "KW." And although she (sadly) never adopted his enthusiasm for Amateur Radio, her new initials are now, promisingly, "CW."

Today, Pete devotes his time giving attention to matters that involve promoting Amateur Radio positively, and has *personally* Sponsored 55 New QCWA Members in the last 4½ years. His service to the Board offers a presence to QCWA Chapters and Members in a geographical part of the U.S. that was underrepresented. <http://www.qcwa.org/n17xm-33775.htm>

## Mark Wintersole – W5NZ



My association with the world of electronics began in 1971 when my Grandfather got me interested in shortwave listening. My horizons were significantly broadened with licensure in the Amateur Radio Service in 1975 at the age of 15. Following part-time jobs in commercial 2-way radio, broadcasting, and with the local electric utility, I graduated from college with a BS in Electrical Engineering. I was then commissioned an officer in the US Air Force, where I served primarily in the airborne command & control, nuclear command & control, and communications/information arenas. Somewhere in between the many all-expense paid trips to the world's most “interesting” locales, I picked up a Master’s Degree in technology management. Following retirement from the military in 2004, I was finally able to put down roots and become more active in ham radio, serving as President/Founder/ Trustee of the Montgomery EMA Amateur Radio Club, President (2 terms) of QCWA Chapter 40, President of the Montgomery Amateur Radio Club Inc, and ARES Emergency Coordinator for Montgomery County. I presently serve on the Board of Directors of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, am Chairman of its Chapter and Member Relations Committee, act as a proofreader for the eJournal, and am Secretary of QCWA's Central Alabama Chapter.

In over 41 years of hamming, I’ve received the QCWA Meritorious Service Award, ARRL Public Service Commendation, the ARRL Certificate of Merit for search and rescue operations, as well as being recognized by the Governor of Alabama for Hurricane Katrina support. I presently hold an Amateur Extra class license and am a member of the ARRL, an ARRL Volunteer Examiner, ARRL Certified Instructor, member of ARES, and Net Controller (and past Net Manager) for the Central Alabama SkyWarn program. I’m also a member of the Straight Key Century Club, QRP ARCI, European PSK Club, Rag Chewer’s Club, Flying Pigs QRP Club, and 30m Digital Group, among many others. I love to pound brass and work the many digital modes available. I’m an avid contester, where you’ll usually find me competing in the QRP category.

## Ken Simpson – W8EK



Ken Simpson is a life member of QCWA and ARRL, and was first licensed as WN8ETX in 1962, and soon became WA8ETX. A couple years later he passed his extra class license and became W8EK. Ken is President of Ocala, Florida, Chapter 62 of QCWA, and a member of several other chapters. He has been President of the Friendship Amateur Radio Club in Ocala. He retired to Ocala about 18 years ago. While in Ohio, he served as ARRL Assistant Director, Assistant SCM, and other leadership positions. He holds several hundred ham operating awards, plus an award from the Ohio House of Representatives for his work on the Eye Emergency Network, where he served as a Net Control Station for many years. He presently serves as Net Control for QCWA Chapter 62.

Ken received his Bachelor's degree from Mount Union College in Alliance, OH, and his Master's from the University of Akron (Ohio). He is retired from teaching Electrical / Electronic Engineering Technology at Stark State College of Technology in Canton, Ohio.

Ken is presently on the Board of Directors. At the Reno board meeting in 2012, when it became obvious that the operating fund would soon be bankrupt, he volunteered to serve as Executive Administrator at no cost to QCWA. Within six months, QCWA was well "into the black", with over \$150,000 in the coffers two years later.

He was awarded the "President's Award", and has "flown the QCWA Banner" at many hamfests all over the country, from Anchorage, Alaska, to Fort Myers, Florida, and many points in between. Ken typically attends about 25 hamfests, 25 chapter meetings, and presents about a dozen forums each year.

One of the most important things that a person representing QCWA on a national level can do is to let the local chapters know that the people at national really care about them. The best way to do this is to talk with QCWA members, and prospective members, at hamfests, and at chapter meetings.

If you have questions or comments, you can contact him by e-mail or by phone.

## Edward Martin – W8NLZ



Edward Martin, W8NLZ, received his novice license in 1952 as WN8NLZ in Cleveland, Ohio. Even as a child, his interest in electronics and science was evident as he scrounged old radios from throw-aways and WWII surplus gear. As a high school senior, he was awarded the Rensselaer Science Award as the top science graduate. He is a graduate of the Univ. of Colorado with a degree in Math, Physics, and Geology.

When 26 yrs old, he founded Tidewater Technological, Inc. to exploit the newly developed microprocessor chip in applications of automatic test equipment. He continued to serve as Tidewater's president for 28 years. Thereafter, he joined the newly-formed Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility staff, serving in various engineering design and management functions for the next 14 years. He holds two patents in the fields of electronic control and electrical safety.

Upon retirement Ed renewed his interest in ham radio. He is an active ragchewer on both phone and slow CW. When weather permits, he may be found operating in the field, often from his tent. He enjoys designing and building much of his own equipment. He currently is in his second year as president of QCWA chapter 119 [and serves as a rotating Net Control on the HF and VHF nets]. Previously, as chapter secretary, he was an active contributor to the QCWA Journal, profiling the histories of its members.

His commitment to QCWA is based on a desire to help pass the knowledge, lore, and fascination of the hobby along to the next generation and to help QCWA regain the luster and prestige that membership once conferred.



## Jeff Beals – WA4AW



**Director  
Historian**

**WA4AW**

**Jeffrey 'Jeff' Beals - WA4AW**  
**PO Box 1584**  
**Loxahatchee, FL 33470**

**QCWA # 23808**  
**Chapters 111, 45, 69 & 196**

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Like so many of us, as a youngster, Jeff was fascinated with # 6 dry cells, bells, buzzers, lamps and crystal radios. Soon he graduated to Short Wave listening with a Knight Kit Span Master regen set that he built himself. The next step, at age 12, was to become a ham with a Novice "ticket" and the call WN2OUK in his home town of Long Beach, NY. He joined the local radio club and ARES/RACES unit. In 1965, Jeff was deployed, during the Northeast blackout, with his Gonset Communicator and halo antenna. He has been continuously licensed over 50 years with a primary interest in emergency communications.

Jeff joined QCWA at the earliest opportunity as a Life Member and joined the Palm Beach Chapter/ He serves as the Chapter Secretary-Treasurer since 1999. He also belongs to and supports the Edison, Everglades and Citrus Chapters. He was selected to serve on the 2012 QCWA Nominating Committee by President Roske. Jeff has "flown the QCWA flag" at many hamfests in Florida over the years.

Jeff serves QCWA as National Director and Historian since 2012. He is a member of the QCWA Chapter and Member Relations and Youth Activities Committees.

Jeff currently holds FCC Extra Class and First Class Radiotelephone (now called GROL) "tickets". For many years, he has been active with the ARRL Field Organization in the Southern Florida Section. He serves as the Section Manager and has held many other leadership positions including Section Emergency Coordinator, Affiliated Club Coordinator and Technical Coordinator. He also served as Vice Director and now is an Assistant Director for the ARRL Southeastern Division.

Jeff is a Life Member of QCWA, ARRL, OOTC, AWA and is a Fellow of the Radio Club of America. He has been a member, officer and board member for many radio clubs in Florida over the years. Jeff is a member of the ARRL A-1 Operator and Old Timer Clubs. He was elected as a Life Member of the West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Club in 1988.

Jeff was the Communications Supervisor in Southeast Florida for the Florida Forestry Service for 25 years. He resides with his XYL, Myra, K3PGH, in Royal Palm Beach, FL and has been retired since 2005. He is also a licensed insurance adjuster in the State of Florida and was an insurance broker in New York State.

Looking forward to continue serving "your" interests on the QCWA Board of Directors. I thank you in advance for your vote.

## Carole Perry – WB2MGP



Carole Perry worked as an executive secretary in an electronics manufacturing company, Rapidcircuit inc. for 16 years. In 1980, when the company relocated she returned to Intermediate School 72 in Staten Island, NY where she worked until her retirement in 2004, teaching “Introduction to Amateur Radio” to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders for 30 years. Carole wrote the curriculum for “Introduction to Amateur Radio” a very successful program which had 950 students a year coming through it.

Carole Perry is the recipient of the prestigious 1987 Dayton Ham of The Year Award, the 1987 ARRL Instructor of The Year Award, the 1991 Marconi Wireless Memorial Award, the 1993 QCWA President’s Award, the 1996 RCA Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award, and the 2009 RCA President’s Award, the 2012 RCA President’s Award, and the 2015 Vivian Carr Award. She is the recipient of the 2015 YASME Foundation award for “Making a Difference with Young People.” In 2016 she won the Legacy Award from the Sisterhood of Amateur Radio Society for her role as a pioneering woman in Amateur Radio.

Carole is an RCA Fellow, and in 2007 she was elected to the RCA Board of Directors; a position she still holds, and she created the Youth Activities Committee which she now chairs. She also created the RCA Young Achiever’s Award, given to students in grade 12 and below who have demonstrated excellence and creativity in wireless communications. Seventy seven youngsters have received this award along with a stipend, so far.

Under Carole’s leadership, the Youth Activities Committee goes into schools across the country to set up radio/technology programs. Equipment, cash grants, books, and supplies are donated to the chosen schools, museums, or youth groups. Carole also initiated the practice of bringing a talented Young Achiever to give a presentation at the annual RCA Technical Symposium.

Carole has moderated the Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum and Instructors’ Forum for 29 years. She is a Director of QCWA, (Quarter Century Wireless Association) and chairs their Youth Activities committee; she is a member of ARRL, (American Radio Relay League) DARA, (Dayton Amateur Radio Association) AWA, (Antique Wireless Association) and Brandeis Women. She is a columnist for CQ magazine.

## Howard Cunningham – WD5DBC



I was first licensed in 1976 as WD5DBC. I was licensed in Dallas Texas while working at the HeathKit store in Dallas, Texas. I still have some of the "One of the Hams at Heath" QSL cards.

I am an active member of the QCWA, Quarter Century Wireless Association, and the Vic Clark Chapter 91 of the QCWA. I have served on or currently a member of the Publications & Publicity Committee, Chapter & Member Relations Committee, and the Administration & Finance Committee.

My Amateur Radio Related Activities include:

- Virginia ARES District 2 Emergency Coordinator
- National Weather Service Skywarn spotter
- Skywarn Advisory Council member
- Skywarn Net Control Station
- Former Founding Vice Chairman of the Fairfax County Citizen Corp Council
- Member of the National Capital ARES Council
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia FM Association; [www.nvfma.org](http://www.nvfma.org)
- Member Amateur Radio Research and Development Corp.; [www.amrad.org](http://www.amrad.org)
- ARRL VEC Extra Class Volunteer Examiner
- W5YI VEC Extra Class Volunteer Examiner
- Laurel VEC Extra Class Volunteer Examiner

- Life Member ARRL; American Radio Relay League; [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)
- Member Vienna Wireless Association; [www.viennawireless.org](http://www.viennawireless.org)
- Member Northern Virginia FM Association; [www.nvfma.org](http://www.nvfma.org)
- Life Member of the QCWA
- Member QCWA Board of Directors
- Member QCWA Vic Clark Chapter 91
- Member 10-10 International
- HAM radio volunteer for the Marine Corps Marathon since 1997
- HAM Radio coordinator for the Marine Corps Marathon since 2001

I am active on 10-80 meters, 2 meters, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, and 1.2 GHz as well as packet radio and DStar. My current gear includes: IC701, IC706MKIIG, FT100, FT847, TMD700, VX5R, TM541, ID80AD, ID880, FTM400DR.