

Ford L. Cole W8FC  
2865 Lincoln St.  
Lorain, OH 44052  
(440) 288-9941

Earl Paazig N8KBR  
10660 Black Run Rd.  
Frazeyburg, OH 43822

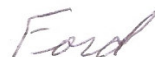
Dear Earl,

I was the original call sign holder of N8ARA. I am glad that your club picked up my old call because it fits the name of the club. I thought I would let you know the history of N8ARA and how it became available.

My wife Nadya and I were licensed together in July 1976. She was issued WN8AQH and I was issued WN8AQI. Of course, she had to inform me that she was licensed before I was. About a month later, we were notified that our call signs were changed to WD8AQH and WD8AQI. With our calls so close together, every now and then both of us would make the mistake of using the other's call for our own. So when I upgraded to General in 1980, I asked for a new call and was issued N8ARA. I always said that if I would ever give up N8ARA, it would have to be for a one-by-two call sign with my initials. In 1984 I upgraded to Extra, but no one-by-two with my initials was available in the Eighth area, so I kept N8ARA. In 1999 I was informed that the license holder of W8FC, in West Virginia, had become a silent key. So in 2001, after waiting the two years, I applied for and was granted W8FC. That is how N8ARA became available.

I was interested in how old my new call was, and a local ham traced it back to 1930. He informed me that the original holder of W8FC was the Senior Engineer for radio station KDKA in Pittsburgh, PA, which was the first commercial radio station in the U.S. All radio and TV stations East of the Mississippi, except for KDKA, start their call signs with a W and those West of the Mississippi start theirs with a K. By the way, my wife is now a General and still holds WD8AQH.

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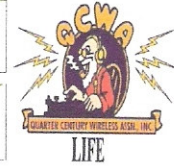
Ford L. Cole, W8FC

OHIO  
LORAIN COUNTY

# W8FC



CONFIRMING QSO WITH		DAY MONTH YEAR	
UTC	MHZ	RST	2-WAY



FORD L. COLE  
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U.S.A.

DXCC WAC WAS WAZ  PSE QSL  TNX QSL

OHIO  
LORAIN COUNTY

# N8ARA

CONFIRMING QSO WITH		DAY MONTH YEAR	
UTC	MHz	RST	2-WAY

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A W4MPY QSL

PSE QSL  TNX QSL