



Wapakoneta, Ohio an interesting Factoid; 8 early pioneer amateur licenses issued in 1914. Why, that unusual amount of amateurs in a relatively small county in radio infancy?

Wapak and Auglaize County Ohio became a corridor from Detroit to Cincinnati. It became a railroad shipping point. Enhanced agriculture from area farms. They bred and raised livestock. Factories making bricks, brooms, wood handles, wagon wheels, spokes, carriages, automotive parts, steel furniture, rubber pavement components, sheet steel toys butter churns and compressor parts. Goodyear Tire and rubber had a plant there. In 1880 the oil and natural gas drilling industry developed. Here is one of their Sons.

8IM - D. A. Nichols *1895-1960* A VIP in his own right. Son of a medical doctor, coming from a family of six. Dudley became a VIP in Hollywood, screenwriter, director, producer, lyricist and even an inventor. He had many nominees in the film industry for the Academy Awards and won several Oscars in Hollywood. At one point Dudley was President of the Screen Writers Guild in 1937.

Our subject was a radio operator aboard Great Lakes shipping. - He joined the U.S. Navy and had some nautical inventions. He earned the Lieutenant rank. After moving to California there was no stopping this man and his talents from Wapak. He expired out there in 1960. Who was another VIP from Wapak? **Astronaut Neil Armstrong!** Everyone loves that Armstrong Museum along the super highway IS 75. They have a thriving amateur radio club (K8QYL).

The 1914 original amateurs were - 8IM Nichols, Dudley; 8KW Kohler, Harry W; 8KO Combs, Frayne; 8KA Ankerman, Roy E; 8HW Wellington, Vernon D; 8LG Sibert, Richard E; 8QU Schunck, Robert E; and 8LC Ramge, Edwin H...transcribed from the 1914 Government Callbook. W8SU 2020

MF/8IM Nichols and company Wapakoneta - for K8CX Tributes.

