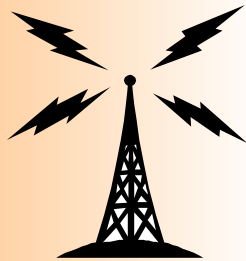


Happy Halloween !



Another summer has passed and the fall leaves are in their colorful glory. As the temperatures dip down, it is time to think about your antenna system, cabling, towers and guy supports. When you have some time, it is a great idea to go outside, check your systems and do whatever is necessary to ensure a trouble-free winter season of amateur radio.



View from Runway 2-4



2012 is a big year for Brooklyn's Gateway National Park-Floyd Bennett Naval Air Station. A major rehab of

the old Ryan control tower has just been completed giving visitors the overview of our rich aviation history. Howard Hughes, Wiley Post, Will Rogers and Amelia Earhart to name

The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!

NEWSLETTER *October 2012*



a few early pioneers, flew from and to this field many times over their careers. Meeting rooms have been re-opened to allow local hams to meet and plan activities. This tower also serves as the Field Day location for one of our repeater clubs. Visit <http://www.nps.gov/gate/historyculture/floyd-bennett-field.htm> for further interesting information covering sights and activities along the majestic Jamaica Bay. *Loby*

K1R Labor Day Event

On Labor Day we had our 8th annual "Taz" event. Hundreds of check-in's made our end-of-summer special go only too fast. A special thank you to our volunteer net control stations who worked their half-hour spots and helped celebrate in a way that only the 7272 Chew can do.

To those who made contact with two of our NCSs during the weekend, the "Taz" certificates are still being made. Send Loby-WA2AXZ your self-addressed stamped envelope (a large 9x12 if you do not want it folded) today.

~~~~~  
**WANTED...**

Volunteer

**Net Control Operators !**

The 7272 Ragchew is a seven-day-a-week-operation requiring dedicated individuals to volunteer their time as net controllers.

If you would like to stand up and take an open position or even fill in when the need arises, please contact John-W8LWX at: [scheduler@72chew.net](mailto:scheduler@72chew.net)



[www.72chew.net](http://www.72chew.net)



# Thousand Island Retreat



*Tom's famous kielbasa made its way to the serving table. I can safely say that no one left hungry.*

*To top off the day, a special anniversary cake was unveiled. This, along with several other cakes, pies and Tim Horton doughnuts, probably made scales groan a bit the next morning. A beautiful sunset capped a marvelous day of parting with dear friends.*



During the two weeks beginning on September 9th, 2012, hams from all over the United States and Canada began the 10th annual trek to Kring Point State Park, NY. Begun by Tom-KC8QGJ for his 160m 1721 group, it quickly expanded to include members of the Canadian 80m 3730 group and friends from our 7272 Ragchew too. In addition, many friends from the local 2m group, the Rooster Roster, joined in to make each get together a rousing success. This year marked the 10th anniversary of these parties along the scenic St. Lawrence Seaway.

The big barbeque began on Saturday the 15th and continued late into the evening with 68 fellow hams, their XYLs and children joining in the fun of the day.

*Food? WOW!* Everything from the standard hamburger and hot dog faire to ribs, homemade chili and



*If you would like additional photos, contact Loby-WA2AXZ*

## Passing:

*Neal Rentz—NIZRA, Frank Greici - WA2OGY and ARRL Editor and friend, Joel Kleinman-N1BKE The will be sorely missed.*



*Heartfelt Thanks: to Charlie WD4CLT and Dan-N9WFT for their recent generous donations to the 7272 Ragchew.*



## NCS Tip of the Month: Taking Ham Radio Too Seriously



*A friendly reminder to all NCS's and friends on the net: we are a Ragchew Net! Each NCS runs his hour as he deems fit. Check-ins will either speak at length or just a few words.*

*That is the fun of having our organization without organization. Each member has different approach to speaking on the radio which makes us unique. Please enjoy the group as we banter about different topics during the day.*

## Goods and Services:

**7272 Ragchew**  
**"T" Shirt!**



A great looking shirt with the emblem of our group along with *your* name and call in bold lettering. Wear our colors proudly, around the house or at local clubs and hamfests around the country! To order yours, check out the convenient link on our website, [72chew.net](http://72chew.net)

## Need QSLs or Eyeball



*Cards ???*

**KB3IFH QSL Cards**  
[www.kb3ifh.homestead.com](http://www.kb3ifh.homestead.com)

**[www.72chew.net](http://www.72chew.net)**



## **Dick Pettit, WA2ROC, Durham, NC**

This is a little bit of info about me and some of my hobbies.

I was born on Long Island and my family goes back in my hometown of Seaford for 4



generations. I got my Novice ham license in 1961, General in 1962 and Advanced in 1968 while I was in the Army. My specialty was Avionics Communications Repair, and I taught at the Southeast Signal School, Ft. Gordon, GA, for a year and a half. I then served 10 months and 29 days in the Southeast Asia War Games (aka Vietnam) and moved to Durham, NC when I returned home.

I have been married for 43 years to a lovely lady named Gerri, who is a secretary in our local middle school. We have 2 grown children and 2 grandchildren.

I am gainfully employed with Texas Instruments as a Design Lab Manager, specializing in power supply control IC design and development. I've been here for more than 22 years, and before that, I was a circuit designer with IBM here for 22 years.

WA2ROC is my original call even though I went through several iterations while living in Georgia with the Army. I got my original call back via the Vanity program. I am active on 75 AM, 40 AM and SSB and maybe a bit of 20 SSB, plus 2 meter FM in the mornings on the way to work.



As you can see in 2 of the photos, I like vintage radio equipment. "Studio A" consists of a Heathkit Apache, Mohawk and Marauder, plus a Collins KWM2-A and a Heath SB-300, all connected to an 80 meter loop via a 1500 watt tuner. "Studio B" is a Johnson Viking II and a National NC-300 connected to a 100 foot doublet with a differential tuner. Microphones are several EV 664's and other vintage makes and models.



But amateur radio is not my only hobby. I build and fly radio control model airplanes and have been enjoying it for more than 30 years. I have also written model airplane product reviews in several nationally published magazines, with more than 250 reviews to my credit. These days I am trying to slow down, but when another new product comes along, someone twists my arm and I just have to build and review it.

Here are a few photos of just a few planes that I have built recently. The one without covering is a 33% scale Fokker DR.1 triplane, with a 98" top wingspan and once completed will weigh in the neighborhood of 35 pounds. You can see that all the planes I build and fly are referred to as "giant scale" models. They are all over 80" wingspan, and some have been as large as 144" wing span, weighing more



than 40 pounds.

That's about it for now. If you hear me on the 72 chew on Saturday mornings, I'd love to talk R/C or ham radio or whatever comes to mind.



**Dick Pettit-WA2ROC**  
*Design Lab Manager-Texas Instruments, Cary  
1000 CentreGreen Way Suite 100 Cary, NC 27513*