

## Onward to our next decade !

On May 3rd and 4th we held our gala 10th anniversary special event. Hundreds of friends checked into the net and helped us celebrate our first 10 years of operation on the 40 meter band.



Upon my return from the Dayton Hamvention, I've been busy sending out our anniversary QSL's and commemorative tokens. I have plenty to give out so if you have not done so yet, send me, WA2AXZ, a regular business size SASE. (self addressed stamped envelope)

I'll print out a personalized message and you'll enjoy showing off our anniversary QSL on the wall of your shack.



# The "Chew"

## SEVENTY-TWO



"Where Choosy People

Choose to CHEW!"

**NEWSLETTER June 2014**

Robert W. Lobenstein—WA2AXZ Newsletter Editor

~ 2004 ~

### Founders of the 72 rag chew.

K1LRB - AA2XK  
WA2ISC - W2LEI - NI2W - N2COM  
AA2T - K3SEA and W2CSQ

Silent key founders:  
W2LKS and W3ICX



## On the road before the Hamvention...

Getting away from the old QTH and far away from the city is a frequent goal of mine. Not that I mind living here in the Big Apple, though I enjoy getting away and enjoying the sights and sounds of real America. I decided, a week before the Hamvention, that I'd visit my oldest daughter in Menomonee Falls Wisconsin. Keri and her husband, Michael bought a house a few weeks before and I was going to help them set up a few things. I did not see photos of the house but I had hoped to set up a temporary dipole and get on the chew if I could.

Once in Wisconsin, I saw that yes she had one large tree in the front but no other substantial trees on her property. That pretty



much took care of my dream of setting up a remote station. I wasn't going to set up a guyed military mast in the rear yard, scaring the neighbors either. I was able to check into the chew from my Jeep-mobile a few times overcoming iffy band conditions too.

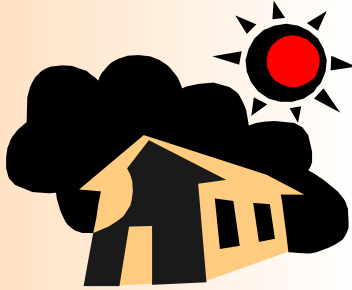
It was a great visit and I am proud of my daughters escape from the city. Secretly... I hope that little cherry tree in her back yard grows up soon!

72chew.net

## SOLAR STORM BRINGS

### HAVOC May 13,1921 *The New York Railroad Storm*

The prelude to this particular storm began with a major sunspot sighted on the limb of the sun vast enough to be seen with the naked eye through



smoked glass. The spot was 94,000 miles long and 21,000 miles wide and by May 14th was near the center of the sun in prime location to unleash an earth-directed flare. The 3-degree magnetic bearing change among the five worst events recorded ended all communications traffic from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi.

At 7:04 AM on May 15, the entire signal and switching system of the New York Central Railroad below 125th street was put out of operation, followed by a fire in the control tower at 57th Street and Park Avenue. No one had ever heard of such a thing having happened during the course of an auroral display. The cause of the outage was later ascribed to a 'ground current' that had invaded the electrical system. Railroad officials formally assigned blame for a fire that destroyed the Central New England Railroad station, to the aurora. Telegraph Operator Hatch said that he was actually driven away from his telegraph instrument by a flame that enveloped his switchboard and ignited the entire building at a loss of \$6,000. Over seas, in Sweden a telephone station was 'burned out', and the storm interfered with telephone, telegraph and cable traffic over most of Europe. Aurora were visible in the Eastern United States, with additional reports from Pasadena California where the aurora reached zenith. [Newspaper Archive]

<http://www.solarstorms.org/SRefStorms.html>



## DAYTON HAMVENTION 2014

Over the past 62 years of the Dayton Hamvention (Founded in 1952) it has been said that the weather was always unpredictable. 2014 proved this fact once again when mother nature tried everyone's patience. On Friday when the event opened at the Hara arena, the crowd was soaked to the bone as heavy rainstorms moved in from the west.

On Saturday, we were greeted by no less than three hail storms during the late morning and afternoon hours. High winds blew over tents and upturned umbrellas. Enterprising vendors found a unique way of holding down their tents. They tied heavy rigs to the legs of the tents to stabilize them in the wind. Now we know why they are referred to as "boat anchors"

Sunday, when a majority of the outside vendors had packed up and left, the sun actually made an appearance to dry up the numerous lakes that formed in the parking area. Nevertheless... rain or shine everyone had a great time!

The central theme of hamvention this year was the 100th anniversary of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Booths were set up displaying the history of the league and its mission for



the future of amateur radio. A limited edition of 20,000 commemorative 100th anniversary coins were minted and handed out to members visiting the ARRL area of the building.

In Audio Alley Bob Heil, (in the black shirt),



took time to explain the new microphones his company is making. Of course he posed for photographs and signed a few autographs too.



## DAYTON HAMVENTION continued...

Big crowds inside, because of the rain and hail, made it a bit tight to walk around but nothing



stopped attendees from looking-feeling and testing the new equipment on display. When



there was a break in the weather, the throngs moved outside to the vendors tables to buy anything from a screw to, yes, a kitchen sink!

I picked up, for my microphone collection, a vintage 1930's Turner U9S mike. These mikes were used for broadcasting FDR's fireside chats early in his administration.



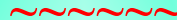
Just about any type of boat anchor was for sale though it was suggested by our friends on the Corn Cob Net, that if it was too clean, it was probably left out in the rain! (hihi)



Each year the major amateur radio manufacturers and stores pitch in hundreds of prizes. This year it was said that there were over \$80,000 worth of radio merchandise given to those lucky few, having their ticket numbers drawn. Hourly drawings during the weekend and the grand prize drawing at the close of the event on Sunday made for a bright ending of Hamvention. I'm



happy to say I'll be in Dayton next year and I have my camping reservations made for 2015!



### A note from your editor ...

Our monthly newsletter, "THE CHEW" contains information about the activities and participants in the 7.272 Ragchew Net. We rely on contributions of stories and pictures from the members to keep all of us up to date, impart information we can all use and, of course, to raise a smile and a chuckle or two.

If you find a new "Taz" photo that can be used for future certificates and QSLs, that too is greatly appreciated. In addition, if you have anything to sell, swap or trade or offer other goods and services, let me know and I'll publish it in the next issue of "THE CHEW".

Please, e-mail your stories, tech info and photos to Loby at [wa2axz@arrl.net](mailto:wa2axz@arrl.net) *Many Thanks!*

## Goods and Services:

### KB3IFH QSL Cards

#### Dayton - 2014

Randy-KB3IFH (left) and his dad, Randy Sr.-KB3INO (middle) assisted by Tom-KC8QGJ (right) in the North Hall booth #0190. Randy had a banner year selling fantastic QSL cards.



Visitors to the booth were impressed with the quality work shown in the sample cards and

stepped up to place their orders.



If you are in the market for new and impressive QSL's, contact Randy and

see how a new QSL card will look for you.

73 Randy KB3IFH

KB3IFH QSL Cards

[www.kb3ifh.homestead.com](http://www.kb3ifh.homestead.com)



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