

Who is that fine young man at the mike?



It is none other than one of our founders, Russ-K1LRB. This photo, taken in 1958, shows a young operator in the shack with a few of his state of the art boat anchors. (hihi)

Russ has been licensed for over 50 years and has been a staunch supporter of amateur radio and veterans' affairs.

His work, along with many others in the background, ensures the 72 Ragchew net stays on track and is as successful as it is. Many Thanks Russ.



The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where Choosy People

Choose to CHEW!"

NEWSLETTER February 2015

Our Annual Fund Rai\$er

Beginning January of each year, a call goes out to our members to help us keep our organization without organiza-tion afloat. Your small contribu-tion keeps the website on line as well as helping with the postage and background costs encountered during the year. Please send your contribution to your special events coordinator, WA2AXZ, today. A new PayPal link is up and running on our 72chew.net website for your convenience too.



A special thank you to:

Randy-KB3IFH and Paul-W4EMC
for their kind donations to the Chew.



Happy Valentine's Day
To the YLs and XYLs of the 72 Ragchew Net.

Dayton 2015

Winter snow is still howling at our doors so what better time to think spring and the joys of the Hamvention. May 15-17, 2015
Tickets are on sale directly from the website <http://hamvention.org/> or by mail using the form on the website. Certain get-togethers are still in the planning stages so our friends on the Chew as well as sister nets will be kept informed as to the days and dates of the gatherings. Mark your calendars and wait for the big melt!



72chew.net

There's something to life other than ham radio?

Each winter when the cold weather sets in I start thinking about trains. Not that I have a one track mind but after 40 years of working in the subway, I've grown to like trains, both big and small. I started with Lionel back in the early 50s and each Christmas, the old reliable oval of track circled the Christmas tree. I remember when we used to string lead (yes... LEAD) tinsel on the branches and the times it dropped on the live tracks. The strings would instantly melt in a sparking-sizzling ball of molten metal. As each year passed dad would make changes under the tree and when I was a little older, set up a nice layout in my basement. Too many years passed and after having two

daughters totally uninterested in trains, I turned to ham radio as my major interest.

Fast forward to the new millennium and two little grandsons came along. Hot Dog...two novice engineers! This old grandpa went back in the basement and dusted off the trains, built a large table, 12' by 8' and began the happy work of building my railroad.

I've been working on it for five years and one thing can be safely said about model railroads... work is never completed. Last year at Dayton, I bought a few LEDs to install in my 811 amp and various meters. I was so happy to see how great they looked, I hit Radio Shack and bought up a handful. In every building and train station, the old incandescent bulbs were switched to LEDs for a more realistic look and long life. Below is a shot of the layout in darkness, showing the various areas lit.

LEDs are not mysterious and you can easily figure out the resistance needed to run them. Looking at the package, you'll see the highest operating voltage and current. Mine run at 3.6V at 25mA. To find the resistance needed, decide what your operating voltage will be. I use 15VAC from the Lionel transformer. Take 3.6V from the 15 and get 11.4V. Divide the 11.4 by the milliamp load, in this case it is .025. The resulting number of 456 is the resistance in ohms needed to run this LED on a 15 volt circuit. Be sure to install a small 1A-50V diode in series with the resistor if you run it on alternating current to ensure good operation and a long life.

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. Please, e-mail your stories, tech info and photos to Loby at wa2axz@arrl.net Many Thanks!

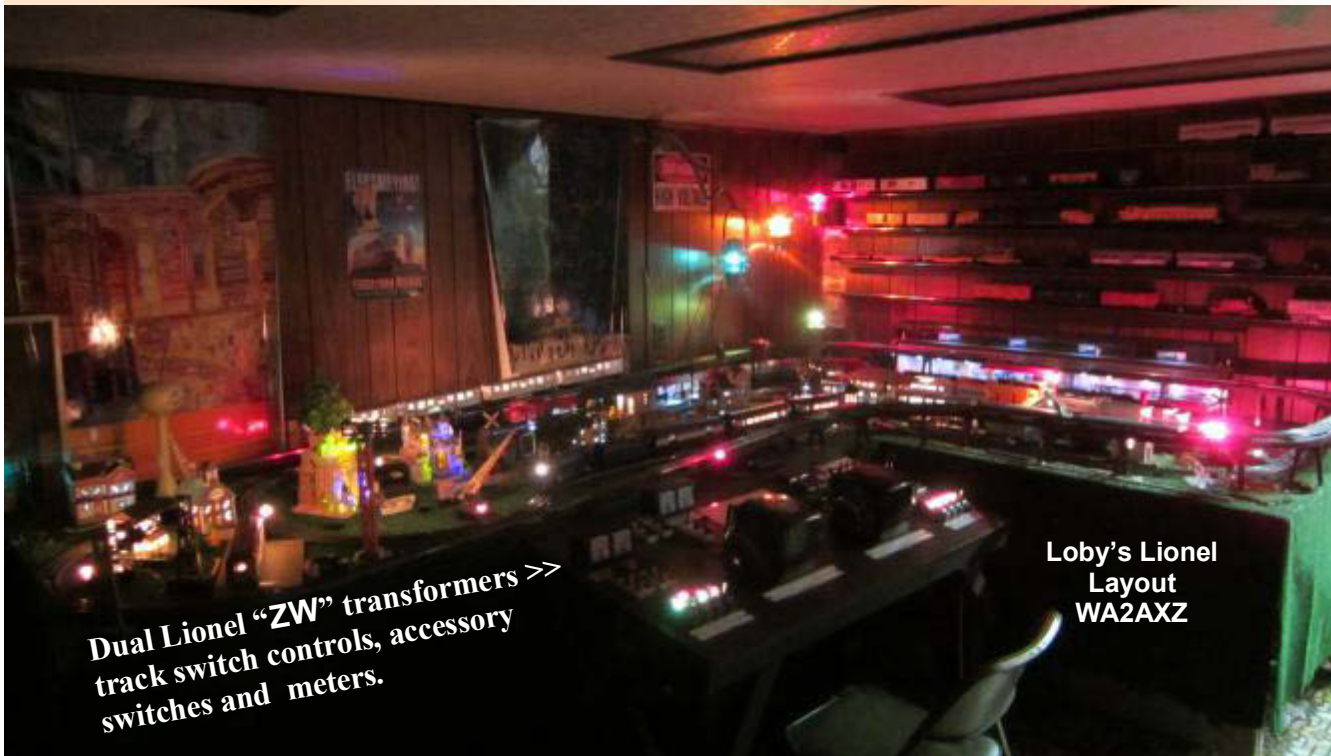
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