

DAYTON HAMVENTION

As you read this, vendors from all over the world are preparing to do the annual trek to the Ohio ham radio Mecca. Icom, Kenwood and hundreds of others will be showing their wares in the hope that many will fork over hard-earned \$\$\$, and bring home everything from a new and expensive electronic toy to a vintage boat anchor.

Our 7.272 members including friends and fellow hams from the 160 meter 1721 group are invited to attend a Thursday evening, May 14, get-together at:

Rob's Family Restaurant 705 Arlington Road, Brookville, Ohio. (near the Dayton KOA Campground).

This annual event, beginning at 6 pm, will bring together friends and families for a great meal and camaraderie. PLEASE... let Loby-WA2AXZ (wa2axz@arrl.net) know that you, family members and/or friends will be attending and a seat will be set aside especially for you. Bring your appetite as the food is good and plentiful! The open buffet usually costs



Loby's old "Johnson Viking 500"

The “Chew”

SEVENTY-TWO

“Where Choosy People Choose to CHEW!”

NEWSLETTER MAY 2015

around \$10 per person (*prices may have risen this year*) and seniors get a discount!

I have taken over the legendary KOA campsite #79 once owned by our friend and silent key, Chardon Tom-KC8QGJ. Each evening, all are invited to bring a chair and sit around the campfire. No doubt, after more than a dozen years going to Dayton, stories will abound.

During the Hamvention, we will be using a simplex frequency of 147.390 to make our contacts and gather the members for the annual photo in front of the Arena box office. Please send this around to the members and talk about it during the regular nets during the week. Many thanks for everything each and everyone does for our nets and fellow hams! Bob Lobenstein (Loby) wa2axz@arrl.net

72chew.net



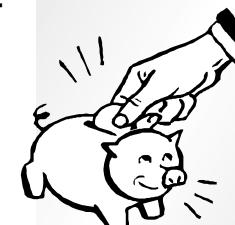
OUR 11th Anniversary May 2 and 3!

The hours are ticking away before our 11th Anniversary weekend special event. There is still time to volunteer for a prestigious NCS position. Contact Loby-WA2AXZ and obtain a fine position, with great working conditions, benefits and high pay! (hihi)

We will be issuing our special commemorative Steel Anniversary QSL card. Send a regular business-sized envelope to Loby-WA2AXZ Bob Lobenstein 1958 East 36 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234.

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Special thanks to Jack-K4VAX for his kind and generous donation to the net.

Remember that you can also help us defray operating costs by donating to the Chew directly on our 72chew.net website through PayPal or by mail to Loby-WA2AXZ. Heartfelt thanks!



## **Electronic and Electric Railroad History**

In my capacity as Traction-Power Historian for the NY Transit Museum, I get the opportunity of meeting with interesting people. One fellow in particular, John Sprague, is a prolific inventor himself and the grandson of an inventor, Frank J. Sprague, who worked with Edison and went on to be considered the “father of electric traction.” Any ham worth his salt knows of Sprague capacitors. Up until the Japanese-Chinese onslaught of cheap manufacturing, just about every electronic item -- amateur radio gear too -- made in the U.S. of A. used these devices.

Here is the long-awaited history on Sprague Electric and also the Frank J. Sprague bio written by Rowsome. I strongly recommend both. <http://amzn.com/150338781X> (Sprague Electric)

<http://amzn.com/1490955348> (Frank Sprague bio)

Go to either and click on “Look Inside” above the image to see the text in part. Sprague capacitors were used to trigger the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs and more than 25,000 went to the moon. Thousands of others were used on the Minuteman ICBMs!

Loby-WA2AXZ



## **Lights... Camera... Action!**

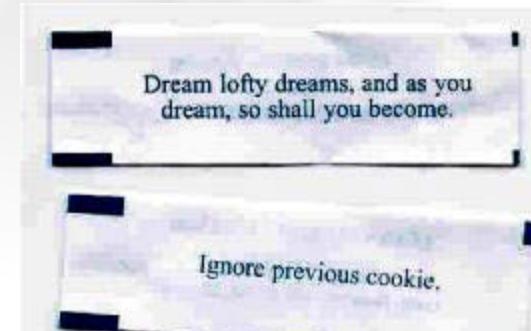
While tooling around the Internet, I came across this vintage film produced by the ARRL.

This instructional movie, “The World of Amateur Radio,” was made in the early 1960s to showcase various celebrity hams as well as regular hams doing what hams do best: communicate. This scratchy copy features Arthur Godfrey, Barry Goldwater, Dick Van Dyke and many others using FM, HF phone, CW and phone patch (*now that's a lost art*). If you are into boat anchors, this is a film for you. Grab a cup of coffee, type in this Internet address, put the picture in full screen, turn up the volume and enjoy! <https://youtu.be/5CVnzNNSSdU>



### **FUNNY STUFF:**

The other day I had a great Chinese takeout dinner of shrimp and garlic sauce. MMMMM In the bottom of the bag were two fortune cookies. Below are the fortunes I got. That's the luck of the Loby!



I got this in my e-mail and spent a good hour looking through the vintage auto brochures and advertisements.

It really brings back memories of my dad's 1950 Plymouth, 1956 Dodge wagon, 1961 Chevy Brookwood wagon and his last car, the 1967 Chrysler Newport.



Feel free to send this site around and foster some good (or bad, depending on your car) memories!

<http://www.lov2xlr8.no/broch1.html>

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### **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](mailto:wa2axz@arrl.net) *Many Thanks!*

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