K1R New Year's Weekend Special !

Thirteen is an unlucky number for some, but 2017 marks our lucky thirteenth anniversary of the 7.272 Ragchew. To celebrate a new year we will be operating the K1R call on Saturday, December 31, 2016 then

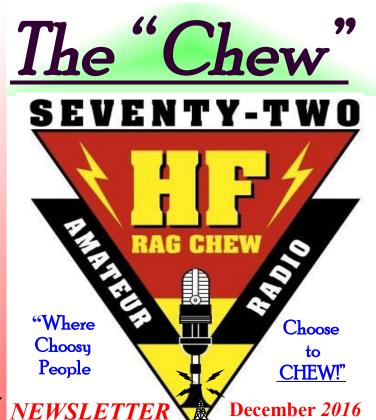
December 31, 2016 then ringing in the new year on Sunday, January 1, 2017. We will be staffing the positions with our regularly scheduled hourly Net Control Stations from 8am to 12 noon Eastern time.



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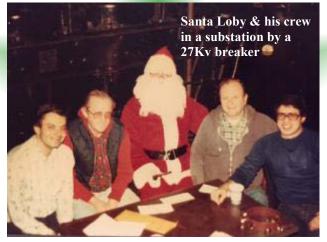
As always, a great certificate will be offered to all participants.

To all our friends and their Families: we wish you the Merriest of the Christmas season, the Happiest Hanukkah and a most wonderful New Pear-2017



Robert W. Lobenstein—WA2AXZ Newsletter Editor

Being the boss has its perks.



During my 40-year career in the NYC Transit Power Department, I held just about every position from helper, sweeping floors, to General Superintendent in charge of operating the world's largest transit power system. Back in the late '70s I was a foreman of a power repair crew. At the same time I also had my first daughter, Keri. Each Friday I had to go from substation to substation, where crews were working, and deliver paychecks. I dressed up as Santa and gave each crew a very pleasant surprise. I also brought goodies to thank them for everything they did.

Christmas morning, before my little 3year-old daughter awoke, I donned the Santa suit and sat on the couch. A rustling

was heard on the stairs, as a pensive little girl was astonished to see Santa in the room. Slowly she made her



way down and stood in the center of the living room looking at the presents under the tree and suspiciously looking at me. After a few moments she walked up to me and said, "You are not Santa, you are Daddy in a Santa suit... You look silly!"

The laughter that ensued was priceless as I gave her a big hug and then started distributing the presents. I can safely say that was one of the most memorable Christmases.

The photo is the actual photo taken of little Keri coming down those stairs.

Loby-WA2AXZ

72chew.net

HO HO HO?



Okay, so let's say you're the shift supervisor at a big Chinese factory that makes fake Christmas trees for the U. S. market. And let's say it's 5 pm and you just found out that the entire day's production had all the "trunks" oriented the wrong way.

What to do? Easy -- just label the boxes "Upside-Down Christmas Tree -More Room for Gifts Underneath!"

KJ4UYR-Janice spotted this one at the local Big Lots in 2006. As soon as she told me about it, we rushed back out to buy it. We've displayed it proudly in the living room each year since then, drawing lots of admiring comments from the neighbors and their holiday visitors.

We can only hope that the Chinese factory supervisor got a nice healthy bonus for his ingenuity! -- 73, John-W8LWX

Can you find a future Net Controller in this photo?

Terry-KC8OEX (Santa's left knee) is busy telling Santa his list of goodies he wants to find under his Christmas tree.



News from the 17-21 Group

Last night (November 19th, 2016) on the 160 meter 17-21 Roundtable once again the conversation turned to food.

the United **Kingdom** over the vears I took pictures of some dishes that I thought were extra yummy. Two that are tops on



my list are the classic English breakfast and the famous English fish and chips with mussy peas!

First photo (left): Classic English breakfast has two sunny-side-up eggs (no such thing as eggs over easy in the UK), English bacon (which looks just like American spiral ham slices with extra fat), sliced fried tomatoes, a fried sliced mushroom cap (missing in my picture), and most important, baked beans (that look and taste just like American pork and beans).

Second photo (below): Fish and chips with mussy peas has the tender and mild deep fried breaded cod fish, nice and chunky beefsteak French fries and, most important, mussy peas. Note in the picture that mussy peas are not American style peas that have been whipped up like mashed potatoes, but big thin-skinned light green peas (the size of 25 cent pieces - American quarters). The skin on these peas is so fragile that most break when cooked and spill out the contents - thus the mussy texture. It is important that mussy peas not be overcooked or they will get like cement... and loose their great taste.



Bon Appétit and Cheers, **Bill-KB1PKS**

A Christmas Ham By WA2AXZ



"Twas a night before Christmas and all through my shack
The tubes were a-glowing... I was making contacts
The antenna was tuned and rotated 'round
Facing the south, the noise level to drown

I sat in my old chair, earphones on my head

I stopped spinning the dial, now what's being said?

Two old codgers were at it... they were making a scene

Which rig was garbage and which was a dream.

Down the band I slid like snow on the fly

With nothing else heard, 40 meters I'd try

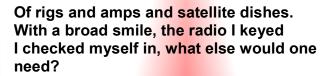
With the snap of a switch, align grid and plate

Setting the filters, hey! there are my mates!

The "72 Chewers" were talking en masse

Each taking turns, their greetings to pass

One by one listing their holiday wishes



Then all of a sudden, a sizzle and spark The lights blinked twice, and then all was dark.

A glow in the back of the rig's getting brighter My heart sinks to the floor, The transformer's on fire!

Pull out the plugs... smoke's filling my nose I turn on the spray from close garden hose. Open the windows, fling open the sash I toss out the rig to the ground with a crash

Stench from the smoke fills my poor head Then all of a sudden I wake up in my bed.

What could have caused such a terrible nightmare? Was it the beer, the nuts or the ham ill-prepared? To my delight the shack is intact and snow lightly falls

73s to my friends.



Merry Christmas to all!

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### Heartfelt thanks to:

Andy-KC3GHK and Donald-N9RFJ for their kind donations to the 7.272 Ragchew operating fund.



### Goods and Services:

### **KB3IFH QSL Cards**

If you are in the market for new and impressive QSL's and eyeball cards, contact Randy and see how a new set of cards will look for you.

KB3IFH OSL Cards

www.kb3ifh.

homestead.com

### **WANTED...**

YOUR STORIES, PHOTOGRAPHS, TECH TIPS, HAPPENINGS AND FUNNIES.

The 7.272 Ragchew Newsletter, "The Chew" is made possible by contributions of materials by our members. We rely on the 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.

Take a few moments to jot down interesting stories and send them to your editor. 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!

#### **Heard on the radio.**

"Money Talks...
Mine says goodbye!"