

## Volunteer Monitoring Program



According to the March issue of QST, the new V.M.P. kicked off in January 2020. This program, headed by former FCC Chief Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, replaces the old

Official Observer program that was used for decades. OOs would monitor activities and enforce rules across the ham spectrum. The new program, instituted between ARRL and the FCC, has vetted and trained volunteer amateur radio operators to perform similar duties. As the FCC has closed several satellite offices around the country, the new VMPs will monitor, collect evidence of violations, and refer corrective action through ARRL and the FCC.

K1R is coming, Our Sixteenth 7.272 Anniversary

May 2020 is the busiest month for everyone in the 7.272 Ragchew Net. We kick off the month with our annual anniversary special event then head into the Dayton-Xenia activities.

# The "Chew"

## SEVENTY-TWO



NEWSLETTER March 2020

The April 2020 issue of The Chew will contain detailed information about our upcoming activities. Stay tuned!

### A Very Special QRZ Listing



In the middle of February, 2020, while doing my regularly scheduled net, I welcomed a Brooklyn neighbor of mine to the 7.272 Ragchew. Gabriel,

N1UFO and I had a great QSO. Then, he invited me to check out his QRZ page. WOW! I'll say nothing more although, I invite everyone to check out his call on QRZ.com and wave a hand when he is on frequency.

Loby-WA2AXZ



A Happy St. Patrick's day to all!

March Funnies....

"No, Greg went to a ham auction this afternoon to get rid of a couple of his old radios that were cluttering up the place.... Oh, I think I hear him pulling up now."



## Volunteers Wanted!

If you would like to be one of our Net Control Stations on a regular schedule or occasional fill-in, please contact our net scheduler, Ken-W3XAF

72chew.net

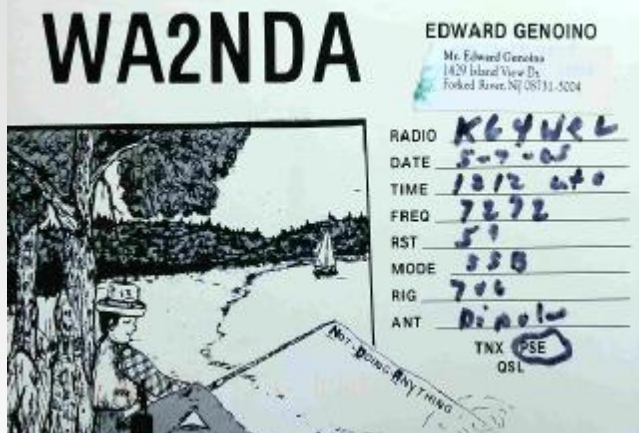


## SDR sites, a godsend!

When on our 7.272 Ragchew or the 160m 1721 nets, one can usually hear me extolling the virtues of these fantastic receiving stations. There is a new landing page to the master site, <http://sdr.hu/> where you have to register your call sign and a password. It is free to all hams. You must have Firefox or Google Chrome on your computer, as they do not work with Microsoft browsers. Once in, you can choose from any of the 600+ worldwide sites, then pick a frequency from below the AM broadcast band all the way through 30 MHz. During poor band conditions, give it a try and you will be pleasantly surprised that you can hear stations at S9+ where you couldn't hear them on the home rig.

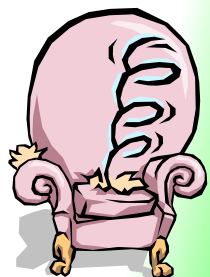


## Vintage "Chew" QSL from Ed-WA2NDA



Here is a blast from our past! A QSL dated 2005, at the formation of our group, between two of the original NCS's,

Ed-WA2NDA and Scott-KG4WEL. While no longer serving as NCS's, one can readily see that Ed is still, to this day, wielding his fishing pole, trying to catch the "big one." Scott has rejoined us and checks in to wave a hand too.



## Spring is Here!

It is time to get out of the old chair in the shack and check out the antenna farm. Old Man Winter has a way of taking his toll on guy wires, cables, connectors and antenna mounts. Head outside with a pair of binoculars or a video drone if you have one, and check out the tower, the insulators and all parts of the antenna system that keep you on the air. Remember that coax cable has a shelf life and if it is found to be brittle and failing, it is time to renew with a new and more reliable spool.

## HEARD on the RADIO

From Gary-W9VS

What kind of noise does a 747 make when it bounces?



BOEING-  
BOEING-  
BOEING!

Sorry about that :-)



## 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. Without you, there is no Chew!

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

Many Thanks!

You can help out by making a small contribution that keeps the website on line as well as contending with the postage and background costs encountered during the year. Please, send your contribution to your Special Events Coordinator, WA2AXZ, today.



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**Julie-KC2ZTG, our resident wildlife photographer, sends us a few last minute winter scenes from the north country. While we all await the spring thaw, the birds look like they are enjoying a winters snack at Julie's bird feeder.**

