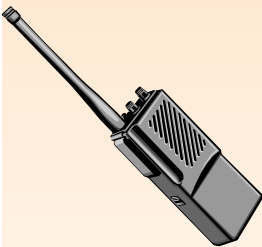


**Field Day,
June 27-28, 2020,
is still up in the air!**

As I write this column, most-all public Field Day gatherings have been placed on hold. The restrictions put in effect, in many states, prohibit the use of parks and other public facilities until the virus scare blows over. There may be a few lucky clubs that can find legally open locations to set up their stations though, no doubt, social distancing rules will still be in effect.



Even though we now live under a new set of health guidelines, there is nothing preventing hams from participating from their own QTH's.

ARRL keeps an updated Field Day page on their web site, arrl.org. Visit this site regularly, and keep in contact with your local radio clubs to gauge whether or not the group will be gathering for this special annual event.



72chew.net

The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!

NEWSLETTER June 2020

Just in case you forgot...

Jerry-KC2UT from Syracuse, NY sent in this beautiful Mothers Day photo of the snow-storm that hit the northeast on May 10, 2020. While everything should be colorful blooming flowers with green lawns and trees, old man winter had to come back and bite us, one more time.



A Grand 16th K1R Anniversary!

I have to say that this year we outdid ourselves with our annual anniversary celebrations. Seeing that most hams were "stuck" inside during the Corona Virus pandemic, we made lemonade out of lemons. From April 27 through May 3, 2020, we opened each net with a celebratory salute welcoming everyone into the fold of ragchewers.

I saw the numbers on my QRZ page tick way up as friends looked up the details to obtain their commemorative "Taz" anniversary QSL card. How gratifying. I am still busy



personalizing the cards and sending them out so, before the end of June, please send me your self-addressed-stamped-

envelope and a special QSL card will be whisked to your QTH. Bob Lobenstein (Loby-WA2AXZ) 1958 East 36 Street Brooklyn, NY 11234

Julie's "Croc-a-Gator"

Last year Julie, Daughter of Ray-KB3HQV,



went on a hunting trip in the Fort Meyers Florida swamp. She bagged this beautiful specimen, which is now back from the taxidermist, and gracing her home, surprising visitors as they enter.

Are You Well Grounded?



It is that time of year when we are greeted by warm summer days and, along with these days, storm filled evenings. I personally keep an eye on the website: lightningmaps.org to give me a heads up as to where storms are and their severity too.

Whenever I am away from the shack or see that a storm is approaching, I take steps to protect my equipment.

I get busy unplugging all rigs and power supplies from the power source. In addition, I have made a direct coax ground for all of my antennas. I have a series of ground rods where I use heavy braided flat copper cable to drain the current and also act as partial counterpoise connections. Using simple SO-239 connectors, I fastened four into the braid to make a place where I can screw in my antennas and ensure a decent and safe ground during storms.

One must note that nothing is a perfect protection scheme as lightning does what it wants when it strikes.

I chose to make it a little harder for it to come in and cause mayhem in my station.



You can't keep an old Ham Down...

by Loby-WA2AXZ

I will be on the road during the entire month of June, mostly visiting family in Wisconsin though, I made a special point to visit old friends on the way back home to Brooklyn.



After speaking with my good friend Joe, host of Dayton KOA, "Kampgrounds of America," he and I will be meeting up and spending a couple of days down there at campsite #79.

This year was devastating to the entire area, well, the entire country too, as everything was shuttered due to the Chinese Corona Virus. Joe has opened his KOA to hams for almost 20 years of which I had the honor of being there with Tom-KC8QGJ-(sk), and dozens of hams from the Chew and other sister groups, for most of those years. I am sure it will be bittersweet visiting the area knowing that we missed the 2020 Hamvention.

Please note that Dayton KOA is now taking reservations for the 2021 Hamvention weekend! May 21, 22 and 23, 2021. Telephone: 1-937-833-3888.

Even if you don't own an RV, there are a fine array of cabins available from the basic camping lodgings to the luxury cabins. Contact Joe at Dayton KOA and make arrangements for your 2021 stay.

73 all, and see ya on the radio!

Loby-WA2AXZ

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

Many Thanks!

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

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A Special Note of Thanks to...

Roger-AA8DF and Ken-W3XAF for their kind financial contributions to the Chew.

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