

“Blowin in the wind”

Scott-KG4WEL took this early morning photo of the ladder line, curved by the light Georgia breeze, leading to his doublet antenna. The arrows point to the two legs, almost invisible, as you look up into the sky.



Haunted Halloween Memories...



The “Chew”

SEVENTY-TWO



“Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!”

NEWSLETTER December 2020

Lights were low, and the distinct howling of a werewolf resounded off the palm trees. This is how my grandsons, Bobby and Riley spent a rather muted Halloween “Trick or Treat” evening. Thanks to the coronavirus, most revelers stayed at home but a few brave souls, practicing social distancing for safety, ventured out through Vero Beach Florida, to do their annual ghoulish deeds.

Several homes were fully decorated though the candy dished were placed outside, to allow the children their treats, while keeping away from friends and fiends.

Bobby in his black Ninja costume and little Riley under the long eared mask of whatever monster he portrayed, made the rounds with two very good friends.

Halloween is gone, Thanksgiving is a memory.

So “On to Christmas!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

to everyone on the 7.272
Ragchew Net.

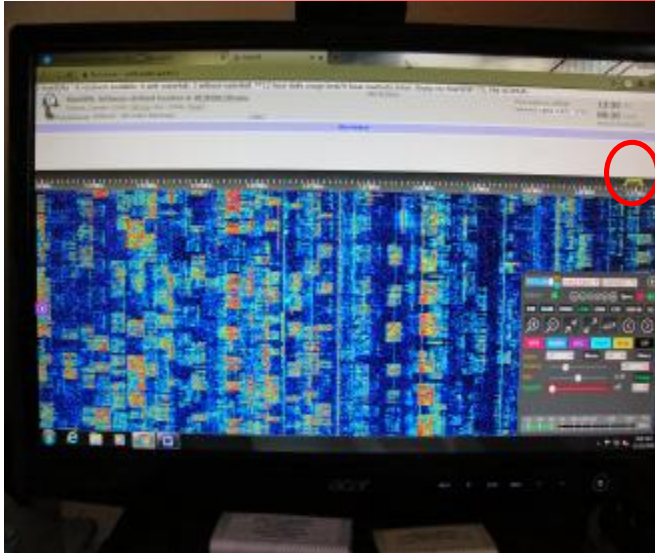
And to all, a much better
New Year-2021 of
prosperity, peace and most
importantly, health!



CQ Contest..

CQ Contest !

On November 22, 2020 the 40 meter band lit up as yet another ARRL-sanctioned contest hit the airwaves. While our net control stations valiantly sought to hold onto our home frequency, the band was strewn with frantic calls for anyone to answer their CQ calls. I opened our usual Canadian SDR site, VE3HOA,



and counted at least 45 stations, crammed between 7.115 and 7.300. I took the above snapshot of a very busy Sunday morning during the peak of the contest. By the way, if you zoom into the photo, we are that little sliver of frequency under that yellow marker, circled in red. 7.272, on the upper right side of the photo, is surrounded by contesters. Happily this weekend contest ended at 0300hrs UTC and the bands returned to what is referred to as "Normal Amateur Use."

Other Friendly Nets

NOTE** all times are Eastern:
 The 160 meter "1721" net is active 7 days a week starting at 7pm each evening at or near 1.871.
 Night Watch kicks off each evening at 5pm on 7.192.
 The Corn Cob Net starts at 6am.
 The Rooster Roster can be heard via Echo-link each morning starting at 7:30 am. Use the WA2NAN or AC2GE links.



Mike Meyers-VA3MPM

is always speaking about the antics of his little pup, Shadow. Mike works just about every mode on the ham spectrum and one day, while giving her a bath, he saw a funny photo and comment in the making. Well, here she is!



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 as an occasional fill-in, please contact our net scheduler, Ken-W3XAF

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One-Track Mind

It wouldn't be a Christmas holiday without model trains either running under the Christmas tree or on a basement layout. During one of my 7.272 nets, I had a great QSO with Dr. Gary L. Troxell-N3GLT

Gary spent hours building his layout with the new Lionel "snap-trak," This track can support the older legacy Lionel engines and cars but is, specifically made for the modern, digital remote control railroad operations. Once upon a time the operator had to sit at a control table with



the massive Lionel ZW transformers and



run the railroad. Nowadays all it takes is a few plug-and-play devices and a hand held remote to get rolling stock rolling.

Lionel makes a new series of accessories including log loaders, coal loaders and other interesting machines which the operator can, via remote, load his box cars, gondolas and flats, and drive away.

One thing I have found with trains, one is never finished building. There is always something new to add or a new elevated train line to install. It can be safely reported that for the man who works with trains, it's Christmas all year 'round! Many thanks Gary, and enjoy!