## Orlando Hamcation - 2022

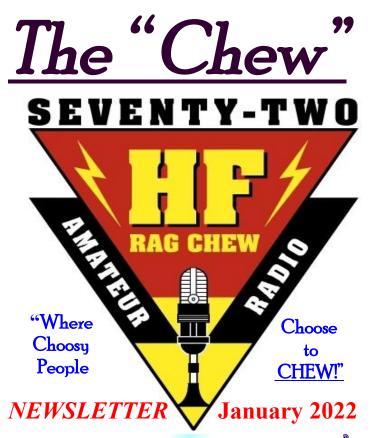
After a couple of disappointing years with cancellations and delays due to Covid, 2022 looks like it will be a banner year for us hams. The Dayton Hamvention, scheduled for May, is on track and now, in a few weeks, the Orlando Hamcation will take place.

Early-bird discount tickets are available, so if you plan to be there, buy your tickets through their web site: www.hamcation.com

My ticket came this past November and I will be there on Friday, February 11. If you are going, please let me, Loby, know: wa2axz@arrl.net or Ken at: w3xafguy@verizon.com. We'll try to get the gang together for a group photo and maybe grab lunch on the grounds.

I know everyone will have a great time with looking at, then buying, ham radio related goodies. It is very satisfying. (hihi)





# Ronald Maeder-KC2JGP Silent Key

On December 3, 2021, we lost another dear friend, Ron-KC2JGP. His XYL, Delores- KC2KYN-SK passed exactly 2 years

ago and they were inseparable. They moved to Texas a few years ago for health reasons, and lived out their lives enjoying the warmth of the sun and of course ham radio.

They were an integral part of various ham radio nets, (Rooster Roster and Seaway Net, to name two) in the New York North Country, and frequent check-in's on the Chew.

They previously lived along the mighty St. Lawrence Seaway, in the Thousand Islands. Ron and Delores were godsends in helping Tom-KC8QGJ-SK, and me, WA2AXZ, setting up our annual international ham radio gatherings at Kring Point State Park. They left us with fond memories and will truly be missed.



Speaking of other nets, Ray-KC2UOQ sent my little grandson Kilian and me a little 3-D puzzle of a rooster, in honor of the Rooster Roster. We put it together and it now sits by my keyboard when we do the net on Echo-

Link. Loby-WA2AXZ

#### 2022 a banner year for nets!

This year marks a special applyers ary year for a least



anniversary year for a few of our friendly nets.

The <u>"Rooster Roster"</u> covering the Thousand Island area on 2m and 440, along with EchoLink, celebrates its 30th anniversary. It meets each morning at 7:30 ET on the WA2NAN or AC2GE links.

The 160m "1721" group celebrates its 20th anniversary. It meets 7 days a week at 7:30pm ET on 1.871.

Our own <u>7.272 Ragchew Net</u> begins our 18th year of operations.

Congratulations to all!

#### A few Christmas photos...

Ernie-K2IEH and Mary Hirsch show off the call sign banner made by Mary. She makes these for sale and if you would like to buy one, e-mail her at:

mary hirsch@icloud.com if you would like one of these wall hangings in your shack.



By the way, my shack, below, was enhanced with a basketball-sized steel laser cut-out of a transmission tower and my call sign, WA2AXZ.



Grandpa Loby's third grandson, Kilian, in the bones shirt, went to visit Santa to give him his list of toys. He, along with cousin Sawyer,



had an enjoyable visit and I am happy to say that Santa survived the visit with his beard intact.

The weekend before Christmas, we piled into the car to ride around and

check out Christmas lights. The town of West Bend, Wi. (yes, where they made the appliances) had the town park decorated with thousands of Christmas lights. Driving through the lanes, everything was brilliantly

> lit and each area was dedicated to Christmas from the 1900s to today. There are many towns and

villages with Christmas displays and we will probably go again to another town sometime this week. Little Kilian and Daddy Michael-KD9FCB, checking out the sights and sounds

> What better Christmas scene than Santa's reindeers frol-

icking on the lawn of the historic Lott House in Brooklyn, next door to my previous QTH.

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

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