



# K1R Cards

Are still available. Spruce up your

shack with one of our collectable QSL cards. I also have some cards from past anniversary celebrations so, if you want a few, each one different, let me know. Send your SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to me at: Robert Lobenstein 1539 Golden Drive Hubertus, WI 53033-9790

## DAYTON-2022

Somehow, someway after a 2 year hiatus, the annual Hamvention took place with a record number of attendees. The first two days, Friday and Saturday were beautiful with blue skies abounding, culminating Saturday evening with a downpour. Our little band of hams from the 7.272 Rag chew, the 1721 roundtable and 3.730 group started festivities Thursday evening, May 19th with a great dinner at Rob's Restaurant.



# The "Chew"

## SEVENTY-TWO



"Where Choosy People

Choose to CHEW!"

### NEWSLETTER June 2022

I guess due to the uncertainty of gas prices, and inflated prices for hotel rooms and campgrounds, many decided to sit it out this year to see what would happen. Well, they missed out on a very enjoyable meal and great conversations across the table.



The first morning of the Hamvention, people started lining up early. By the time the gate was opened, thousands were in a long line which snaked around the parking area. As I entered the gate I joined in the mad dash to the flea market



area to snap up some great goodies, before the rest of the crowd filtered in.

There were some nice things that wound up in my tote bag, and I can truly state that I got almost 95% of what was on my list of parts and needed items. Hamvention serves as a great resource for parts needed to keep stations in repair and on the air.





*“if ya can’t find it in the flea market, ya didn’t need it.”* True, there were hundreds of boat anchors to see and reminisce over, along with dummies, accordions and a kitchen sink too.



Once the spring sun and 80-degree temps hit, we took a gander at what was inside.



Most of the major manufacturers of ham gear were represented. Many commented about the absence of Kenwood and Heil. Bob Heil retired and family members are now running the microphone business. Bob was there and did do a walk-through at the major booths featuring his products, shaking hands and taking photographs along the way.



Our own Randy-KB3IFH and his dad, Randy Sr.-KB3INO had their QSL card booth set up right next to the DARA prize booth so they enjoyed good sales and visits from certain “Ham-vention” celebrities.

Walking around the buildings revealed all sorts of new, and at times, expensive, ham gear. I met up with the crew from ARRL and chatted with the new president and other officials. On one of the tables was this fellow with a very friendly 6-month old female Dachshund pup. No, she wasn’t for sale. Lunch time was no problem as there were plenty of food vendors on the grounds.



After long walks all over the Hamvention, many were thankful to sit and rest on the bleacher seats.





Friday's group photo by the central flag poles.



Saturday's group photo by the central flag poles, showing a few new faces in the crowd.



### **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@arri.net](mailto:wa2axz@arri.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, Walt-KB3LGO.



### Goods and Services:

**NEED QSLs OR  
EYEBALL  
CARDS ???**



**KB3IFH QSL Cards**

[www.kb3ifh.homestead.com](http://www.kb3ifh.homestead.com)

**72chew.net**



## ***On a personal note...***

Hamvention 2022 went surprisingly well considering the triple whammy of sky high gas prices, inflated prices on hotels and campgrounds, and the ever-present coronavirus. Hams from all over did come out and it was heartwarming to see the participation of the crowds.

I was hoping to see quite a few from our Rag chew group, along with many others from our sister nets, but it wasn't to be. We had a decent turn out at our Thursday evening meet-and-greet dinner at Robs Restaurant though our numbers attending were 14 in total. A far cry from the dozens of good friends filling the back room over the previous years. Overall attendance at the KOA-Dayton



campground was as astoundingly low for the entire week and weekend. Where once we had every camping spot filled, the grounds looked like a ghost town. And our gathering at Campsite #79 by the campfire totaled only four people each evening. Here too, a far cry from the dozens in past years enjoying a story or two by the fire, well into the evening.



To cap things off, on Saturday afternoon, after Hamvention closed, I went to the KOA only to be met with one of the record downpours of the spring season. The small creek, barely 3 inches deep, overflowed its banks which flooded out campsites, destroying a car or two and washed

tents down the river. Water was so high



that the roads in the campground were under water trapping campers from entering or leaving the grounds.

To top all things, our KOA, in which many of us for the past almost twenty years, had changed ownership and everyone there remarked on the deteriorating conditions within the camp property. Not what we were expecting after being absent for two years.

## **DAYTON 2023?**

We all have a lot to discuss in the upcoming months about 2023 Hamvention.

On the last Sunday, May 22nd, our crew split up. Bill-KB1PKS and his XYL went north of Xenia to check out a nice campground while Bob-NW3M and I-WA2AXZ headed south to check out another KOA campground and other venues. I am sure that not only we but many others are looking for a better place to stay, to re-inaugurate the Friday evening barbeque and once again have friends by the dozens enjoying a round or two by the camp fire.

I truly need our members and friends to do a little research on what is available in the Dayton-Xenia area. If you know of other great campsites, hotels/motels, restaurants etc. please get in touch with me, Loby, and we'll have a nice chat about it. It is my goal to ensure our Rag chew and other affiliated groups get together and enjoy the fun and camaraderie that were the hallmark of our past Hamvention week celebrations. *Loby-WA2AXZ*

