

Goodbye Summer 2022

The September QST shows an interesting cover from their 1922 issue. On it you find a red devil tangled up in antenna wires. His fists are in the air while bel-lowing "This has been a rotten summer!" It was reported that during the summer of 1922, band conditions were just plain rotten, but hams somehow got through. Fast forward to this past summer and it looks as though the poor conditions followed through for the 100th anniversary. We fared pretty well on our net, although there were many times when getting check-ins was almost impossible. A combination of high noise levels, then totally attenuated bands with an S-0 noise floor made things interesting. In addition, during the week starting on August 15, 2022, the sun became very active and sent powerful magnetic waves toward the earth. This resulted in certain frequencies becoming unusable while



those living in northern states were treated with a spectacular aurora light show.



We also experienced a few nets where we had to move from our 7.272 frequency as inconsiderate hams moved onto the frequency, interrupting our nets. We NCS's, being good listeners, know enough that we don't own the frequency. If we find someone has started a legitimate net or contest, on or near 7.272, we simply go up or down a few KC and run the regular net there. Summer is now in the rear-view mirror, so on to fall!



The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!"

NEWSLETTER September 2022

**Our K1R cards are
still available!**

Send your SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) To Bob Lobenstein-WA2AXZ
1539 Golden Drive
Hubertus, Wisconsin 53033-9790



Good Friends...

Good Food!

Each year Bill-KB1PKS and his XYL make the trek from the eastern seaboard, to middle America to visit his family and new grand-



daughter. Bill and Bob-W8JHA are frequent check ins on our nighttime 160m net, where Bill discovered that he travels through the town where Bob lives. Together they

made arrangements to meet up for a face-to-face QSO. The best spot, picked out was Freddie's restaurant, where the food is good and the ice cream is supposedly fantastic.



They met up on Friday August 12, 2022 and enjoyed a meal and wonderful QSO with no QRM-QRN at the table.

Meanwhile, from Alaska...

Greeting to the Group from Fairbanks Alaska! No Aurora sighting here last night. I had my fingers crossed but no luck. We visited the Trans Alaska Pipeline yesterday. Mrs. Diet Coke is in the background of the attached picture.



Back to you Loby WA2AXZ 'down in 9 land' from W8MDC/KL7 - Mike W8MDC (Mr. Diet Coke)

WB2JIC's Antenna Farm

Ed has been one of the originals in our chew organization, gracing our airwaves for almost two decades. His presence on air is bolstered by his constantly improving antenna farm.

One of our late ham friends, Tom-KC8QGJ, had a tongue-in-cheek saying: "Ham Sticks Don't Work!" That's why he had a dozen of them in his truck, ready for operation. Ed sends us this story of his latest experiments with Ham-Sticks.



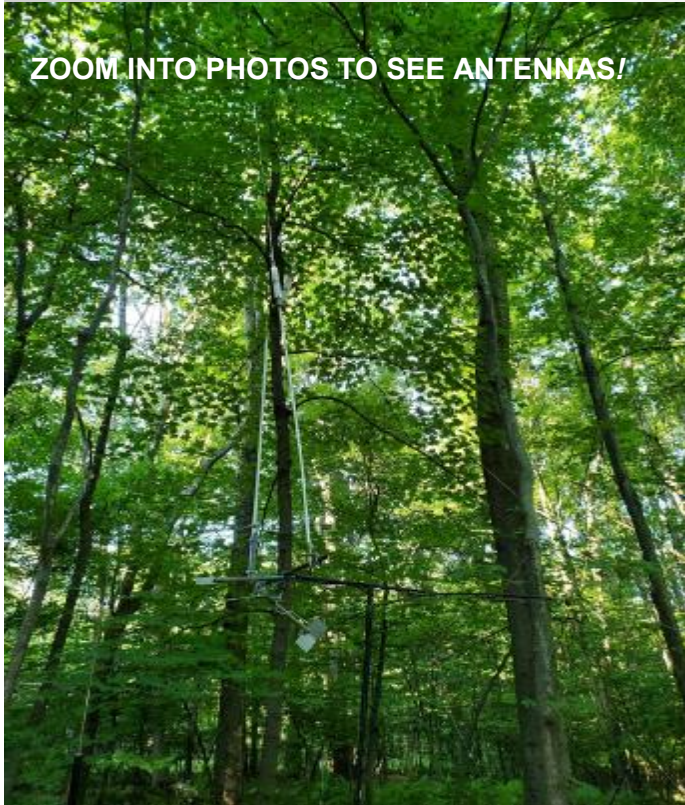
I've been doing some work on the "Hamstick Farm" on the side of the house. It actually started as a few single hamsticks and a tri-band Hustler mobile antenna for 40-20-10 meters. Then I ran across a Procomm 3D hub that allows one feed line to connect to three hamstick antennas. I built a 1/2 inch pipe frame to hold three hubs for antennas on 160/75/60, 40/20/17 and 15/12/10 meters. Over



time the frame has continued to expand. Now it holds the original three hubs. I separated the 160 meter Jetstream stick

from the hub and gave it a separate mount and feed line.

Today, the frame holds three hubs for 75/60/40, 30/20/17 and 15/12/10 meter hamsticks. The 160 meter jetstream stick, a 30 meter short hamstick, two 6 meter hamsticks, a 220 antenna, two 2 meter 5/8 wave antennas, a 40 meter hamstick dipole, a 20 Meter Isotron, a 10 meter Isotron, a JT-3 2/400 antenna and a Hustler



ZOOM INTO PHOTOS TO SEE ANTENNAS!

mobile antenna for 80/40/15/10. I plan to add more to the frame. I have Arrow J-Poles for 144/440 and 220 to add. I also have two 5/8 wave 2 meter sticks. I am also thinking about another hub for 75/40/20 to use with a few of my tri-band rigs like the Galaxy 300, Galaxy IIIs and EICO 753s. I don't know if Procomm still sells the hubs, but I brought an extra three or four. More to come, 73 Ed, WB2JIC

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, Walt-KB3LGO.

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