



Happy July 4th, and the fight for freedom still continues!

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### Brisket and Ham Radio.

Greg-KB8RBB reported on his new barbecue-smoker. Missy, his XYL, prepared the meat the night before, using secret spices and rubs to infuse yummy flavor. Greg rolled out of bed at 3:30 am to start the fire. While outside he also set up his Icom 706 MKII and his Alpha Delta portable vertical antenna next to the deck. One

thing about smoking a good piece of meat is the long wait as it cooks. As the day progressed he checked into the



The wait begins...



It's almost done. Yum!



Greg is looking forward to more outings like this and I know he'll be having POTA! Not parks on the air but pork ribs on the air! Here's Greg in his shack in a post-brisket food coma.

73 Greg-KB8RBB

Chew, had a great QSO with new friends, and made several contacts while the meat was cooking. Missy came out and helped with the fire and by 12:30 pm, all was ready. It was hot and juicy, not bad for the first try!



# The "Chew"

## SEVENTY-TWO



"Where Choosy People

Choose to CHEW!"

NEWSLETTER July 2024



72chew.net

### How's this for a tuner...

Radio technology a century ago was new, and early hams and engineers tried various schemes to get a better broadcast signal out to the public. Philadelphia's KYW needed a tuner to match the impedance between antenna and transmitter, and reduce harmonics. A tuner was designed using formed copper plumber's pipe as coils, and large knife switches to change the taps on the coils to do the deed. This shot was in the January 1935 issue of QST.

Remember this photo when you flick a switch and turn a small knob to tune your station's equipment. "Throw the switch Igor!"

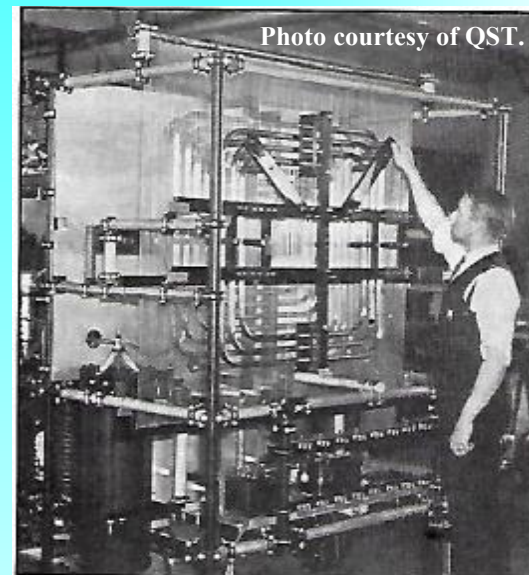


Photo courtesy of QST.

I stumbled onto a web site that seems to have a pile of old QSTs in free PDF files. I am able to change the date and month to see other issues. Call up this 1935 issue first and read about the marvelous new RCA-DeForest 802 tube, then try a different year/month. Take a look back in our radio history, and have fun with the site.

<https://www.worldradiohistory.com/Archive-DX/QST/30s/QST-1935-02.pdf>

## Gus's European Vacation

Back in April Gus-AA4GH and his XYL took a nice vacation across the pond. His goal was not only to enjoy the sights but retrace certain WW-II historic areas. One stop was Edinburgh, Scotland where they toured the royal castle. This is a view from the ramparts.



The military cemetery in Normandy, France, was another stop of the tour. This is where thousands of allied soldiers, killed in the D-Day landing, were interred. Crosses and Stars of David are the prominent feature of this massive memorial.



Here is the view of the seashore where they toured the D-Day landing site. The photo shows Utah Beach. Today it is a nice serene site, though in the distant shoreline, the beach is lined with Nazi steel blockades, placed in the water to tear up any landing craft trying to get to the beach. On June 6, 1944, Allied



forces were able to cross these barriers as demolition teams blew holes in the reinforced concrete and steel to allow tens of thousands of soldiers to safely land on the beach.

Gus and his XYL took a small bottle of the sand as a souvenir to show friends.

The entire European war theater was embroiled with death and suffering, and thanks to the sacrifices of great people, they were able to rid the world of the vicious tyrants.



Another stop was a tour of an LST. LST stands for *Landing Ship Tank*. In 1941, they were the largest ship designed to place tanks, troops and cargo onto a hos-



tile beach and then retract off the beach, using the Stern Anchor to pull away from the shore. 1,051 LSTs were built for WWII. Churchill called it "The Ship That Won the War."



As D-Day dawned, thousands of paratroopers came down behind enemy lines.

Sadly, many were shot to death by the Nazis in mid-air, while a few misjudged the landing area. Some got caught in trees and church steeples.



In Luxembourg, at the all-American cemetery, families still pay their respects to loved ones lost in the war. There are war cemeteries all over Europe where thousands of Allied soldiers are buried.

***A most chilling place to tour...***

Gus and his XYL crossed the border to Germany where they toured Munich. This was the area where Adolph Hitler began the Nazi party. In the 1930s there was tumult across the land, brought on by not only the world-wide depression, but the heavy reparations the German people had to pay for their war to end all wars. Hitler and others took advantage of this misery, and began his push for world domination.

Hitler dictated that Jews were the cause of the world's problems and worked on a "Final Solution." Construction of over 1,500 concentration camps commenced. Dachau was one of the first where tens of thousands of Jews, Catholics, Protestants, clergy of all denominations, gays and



other undesirables to the Reich, met their end in gas chambers and ovens.

*Gus will be sending us additional photos for a future newsletter.*



**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](mailto: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. [waltg399@gmail.com](mailto:waltg399@gmail.com)

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## From the desk of Walt-KB3LGO

My view of the  
72 Rag Chew...



It's not about you. It's not about Loby. It's not about me. It's not even about the 72 Rag Chew. It's about the hundreds or thousands of people out there that tune into 7272 to take part in some friendly conversation or even just to listen to what some friendly folks are chatting about.

As you know, we don't have memberships or numbers or dues. It's not a quick check-in or a signal report. What it is, is good, honest-to-goodness conversation. And that is very important since human beings are naturally very social creatures.



Having said that, I think about the many hams who do not get around so easily and maybe do not get out at all, especially in the winter. The conversation on the radio is their contact with society. Think about that... You are the world to them.

Also, there are quite a few hams who simply just listen in on the Chew. How would I know that? Because every once in a while, someone checks in and says that they just listen along but heard some interesting conversation and decided to chip in. When this happens, I feel great.

And then there are those days when the sun sends us a solar flare, or two, or three. And the band conditions deteriorate. Stick with your shift. Those conditions can perk up in a hurry.



And even if they do not, you sometimes find someone who hears your call and responds. I've had this result in some long, enjoyable QSOs, since there is practically no one else on the band.

I look at the time that I spend as NCS and as net scheduler as a way of helping to brighten the days of others across the continent. And it makes me feel good. It's a way of giving back. It's a way of paying it forward. In the end, all we have is each other. And all we can do is what we do... make each other's days just a little bit brighter.

*Thank you for reading,*

Walt, KB3LGO

72 Rag Chew NCS and Net Scheduler

## K1R 20th Anniversary cards are still available.



Send Loby-WA2AXZ a SASE, (self-addressed, stamped envelope,) with your full call and address, and one

of these highly collectable cards will be prepared just for you.

## Well Wishes to...

*Prayers of concern and recovery for a few good friends of the Chew.*

KB3INO- Randy Sr  
KB8MQR-Brent

N8MEC-Gene and his XYL Faye



## ARRL Field Day 2024

The Chew newsletters are prepared in advance so you may not see recent events covered, like ARRL Field Day.

If you or your radio club participated in Field Day activities, please send me your photos and stories. They will be featured in next month's issue.

73, *Loby*