



HAPPY NEW YEAR-2025!

May the New Year bring you and your families the most

blessed, happy, healthy, serene and prosperous times.



Start your year with a good belly laugh...

One of my friends alerted me to an interesting You Tube video that truly made me laugh until it hurt.

After working in powerhouses and substations for over 40 years, I actually knew a few "engineers" who followed what you are about to view. So sit back and watch the goings-on of this fellow who professes to be an electrical engineer.

ELECTRO-BOOM

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-e&q=electroboom+guy#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:a48b7cfb,vid:FFe0CCeTDd8,st:0>

Wear it proudly!

This new T shirt pretty much sums it up well.

Thanks to one of our Chew founders, Jerry-AA2T



The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



"Where Choosy People

Choose to CHEW!"

NEWSLETTER January 2025

The dog ate my what?



Back in November, Chad-KB1HPV switched on his old 3 tube Ameritron amplifier to hear a distinctive "pop." It seems that the center 811 tube went bad as it filled with smoke and blew the power supply fuses. Chad was waiting for something to happen so he could order a new set of hearty 572B tubes. The new tubes were a direct replacement of the old 811s, and since many fellow hams have done the change out, he knew that this was his next step.

The order went in and he was told to expect the box containing the new tubes in a few days. Chad remained on air barefoot, and thanks to his location and antenna set-up, he still had good presence on the air.

A few years ago he and his XYL moved from Massachusetts to Galax Virginia, and Chad loved walking the countryside, enjoying the sights and sounds of nature, something that was missing at his former QTH. During his many walks he made friends with neighbors pups, and on many days the pups went on the walk with Chad too.

On November 30, 2024, I, Loby-WA2AXZ, was speaking with Chad-KB1HPV on the 11-12 hour of the Chew. That morning Chad was waiting delivery of the new tubes, when he looked out his shack window to see his furry friends in



his yard playing with a cardboard box. The German Shepherd tore open the box and playfully tossed it in the air, then caught it again. The packing peanuts were scattered about the yard. What fun! Chad left to his feet and went outside to find his new 572B tubes all over the yard. Happily they all made a soft landing in pine needles and leaves. He scooped them up, along with the packing material, scolded the pups, then brought the tubes inside. They were wiped clean of the dirt and ultimately installed in the amp. Thankfully all survived and the old Ameritron is on air at full power, minus the dog slobber!



They're Alive, They're Alive!

No, it's not part of a monster movie but the compilation of hard work dedicated to the restoration of two historic boat anchor receivers.

The 1923 Freed Eisemann NR-5 and the 1924 NR-45.

Bill-KB1PKS states: "It's been awhile since my last video on the 100+ year old



Neutrodyne radios. I finally got around to making a new one, showing off the performance of both my Freed Eisemann NR-5 and the NR-45." Here is a link to the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGFABIRSOpU>

Bill still isn't finished, as he now plans for his 2025 project, to work on his 1925 Freed Eisemann NR-6 Neutrodyne. As Bill says: "more things to come?" 73, Bill-KB1PKS

Joel's Response to the December Coal Powered Car Chew article...

EVs and coal

There was a small piece in the December Chew that caught my eye, and I want to set the record straight. It stated that "Most all of America's electrical energy is produced in coal-fired power plants" so an EV is a coal-fueled vehicle. In 2023, according to the US Energy Information Administration, coal produced 16.2% of US electricity, which is less

than the percentage produced by renewable energy at 21.4%. Wind produced 10.2%, solar (only utility scale, does not include rooftop solar) 3.9%, and hydro 5.7%, with small contributions from other sources. For the record, in 2023 nuclear produced 18.6%, and natural gas 43.1%. The last year that coal produced more than 50% of US electricity was 2003. Numbers for 2024 indicate that coal has continued to decline, and will be around 15% of US electricity. An EV is also very parsimonious with its "fuel" and puts close to 90% of original energy to move the vehicle forward. A gasoline vehicle (internal combustion engine, ICE) loses about 80% of the potential energy in the gasoline put into the tank to heat, friction, engine cooling, and more. To put it differently, of the 9 million barrels of gasoline used daily in the US, only about 1.8 million barrels go to moving vehicles down the road. We can discuss the relative merits of different vehicle propulsion systems, but let's be sure that we use facts, and not just memes that we like. For the record, I have two EVs, a Chevy Bolt and a Rivian truck, and they work very well for me. I have rooftop solar panels that produce 75% of the energy used by my house and home charging of both EVs. **Joel, KM4NOU**



Volunteer NCS's Wanted

Recently we have had the good fortune of having an almost full roster of Net Control Operators. We are always on the lookout for great people to step up to the mic and help fill-in when openings occur. If you would like to help out, please contact our net scheduler.

KB3LGO-Walt

Congratulations on your 58th Wedding Anniversary!

December 23, 2024

Clarence-KB9JSL and his lovely XYL-Elena wave a hand to the gang as they prepare to head out for a sumptuous 58th anniversary dinner. All the best to both of you, and enjoy many more!



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An Adventure to the Galapagos Archipelago

Wally-KC2MNV and his lovely XYL, Anita, have returned from their vacation to the islands. The diversity of plants and animals, and their differentiation across various volcanic islands, helped Darwin develop his theory of evolution. This also makes for fascinating nature walks on some islands and great snorkeling. While snorkeling they saw many types of beautiful fish, a few sharks, rays, starfish, turtles, etc. Many types of bird were observed, including Darwin's famous finches and the Galapagos Penguin. The Galapagos islands sit about 600 miles



off the coast of Ecuador, in the Pacific Ocean. Formed millions of years ago by volcanic eruptions, these islands were isolated from the main land, to develop on their own. This isolation accounts for the many unusual, one-of-a-kind animals on their shores. Among critters they saw in the islands were the Giant Galapagos Turtle,

which live over 100 years old and can grow to about 4.5' and 600 pounds.



There are many species of lizards, such as this fellow, boasting a camouflage pattern to fool predators. This Marine Iguana was one of three types they observed, also seen were a black iguana and a yellow iguana.

Below is a replica of the original 1700s postal exchange on Isla Floreana. Passing sailors would leave letters for distribution by others passing by and pick up any thing they could deliver. Anita picked one up left the day before destined to a recipient in Brooklyn and delivered it about a week later. Visitors to any of



protected areas within the Galapagos National Park must be accompanied by a naturalist guide authorized by the Galapagos National Park Directorate.

Although the Galapagos has long been a compelling location for "dxpeditions,"

with so much to do and see, a case can be made for a completely immersive experience with a temporary time-out from RF.

Blue Footed Boobies rule the roost on the coast and sport an unusual pair of radiant blue webbed feet for swimming in the ocean.

The Prickly Pear Cactus grows in abundance, giving shade to all the critters that are camouflaged below its shadow. All-in-all Wally and Anita had a fantastic trip and would recommend it to anyone interested in nature. If anyone is curious or wants to know more, they booked this trip through the travel company...

"Overseas Adventure Travels"

