



**HAPPY  
St. Patrick's  
Day!**



This month's "Taz" comes from Chad's-KB1HPV XYL, Nancy. She spent the cold winter months crocheting a few things for the house.

Earlier she made a "Greyson the clown" doll for the radio shack. Sort of looks a little like our Chad? **HIHI!**



**IT'S COMING-IT'S COMING!**



Our 21st **"FIRE"** anniversary, a week-long K1R special, kicks off Monday April 28 2025. Pass the word along about our monumental achievement on air.

# The "Chew"

**SEVENTY-TWO**



**NEWSLETTER March 2025**

## From the workshop of Ron-N8TAW

My antenna project started when reading the AARL Antenna book 25th addition, the "Halo" antenna. I always wanted to try building a loop antenna and after looking at my scrap materials, I found everything I needed. The antenna uses 3/8" hard aluminum tubing that I had to anneal (soften) with a blowtorch first before bending into a circle. I ordered a tube bender and watched online on how to slowly bend the aluminum tube into a perfect 3-foot diameter half circle. The mast and boom material is electrical PVC tubing, to avoid metallic interference.



It is tuned with a gamma match using tubing that I had to cut precisely and adjust using my Nano-VNA. It is tuned close to the 6 Meter calling frequency of 50.125 MHz and has fine SWR readings up to 51 MHz, making it very narrow banded but good for the USB phone portion of the 6-Meter Band. However, the dimensions in the 25th AARL Antenna book article were different from the QST article it referenced in the 1975 QST article, so the Antenna was tuning to 147 MHz, which was way out of band.

So, I had to re-cut the circular tubing to the 1975 article dimensions and now it tunes just fine! *(Always check the dimension numbers as noted in these articles.)*

This antenna was built in my metal shop that has seen many years of successful construction of antennas, and many other metal projects. Now I am just waiting for the *Magic Band* to come alive for some enjoyable DX.

There are also two 6 Meter USB Nets locally that I join and am getting good signal reports from this antenna!

Cheers, Ron-N8TAW



**by: K4EZY-Rocky**  
A few of the gang have been giving positive feedback about this repair facility: Jahnke Electronics. It seems that they only repair the Kenwood brand and do a good job of it. If anyone is considering a repair, give them a shout at: 920-819-6756. Their website is: <https://jahnkeelectronics.com/>.



I, Lobby, usually visit Florida this time of year, and make it a point to stop by the Orlando Hamcation grounds. This year I had other plans though. A good friend, Bruce-WB2ADF, was there doing his security



**This cell phone shot shows the inside flea market area before the crowds filtered in. Everyone had a great time!**

**Uncle Sam goes a long way in protecting our money supply from counterfeiters. From imbedded red and blue threads in the linen paper to micro-printing on Ben Franklins collar, this is being done to prevent copying and printing bogus bills. As a numismatist, I look into our bills and coins**



and each day to find yet another interesting item to talk about. There are quite a few Masonic symbols on certain bills that are glossed over, adding to the security features.

**the dollar bill would be the least of our government's worries, yet it has an interesting feature that can't be readily copied. On the upper right side in the frame around the large "1" is embedded a tiny owl, peering out from his perch. This Masonic symbol for wisdom has been there for some time, though on my own scan above it is not clear. Take a good magnifying lens and look at a new dollar bill to see the little critter, watching you as you look at it. *Loby-WA2AXZ***

**"Hey Bill, I hear propagation is picking up on 40 meters."  
"OK George, let's go inside and check it out."**



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 Lobby at [wa2axz@arrl.net](mailto:wa2axz@arrl.net)  
*Many Thanks!*

***Page #3 pretty much says it all!***



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# NEED QSLs OR EYEBALL CARDS ???



## KB3IFH QSL Cards

**www.kb3ifh.homestead.com**

72chew.net

# Yes... YOU!

**Our 7.272 Ragchew Group has been on air for 21 years. We have survived through feast and famine, bringing everyone on the band a pleasant place to park their carcasses for an hour or three. We have opened our arms to everyone, enjoying every point of view, every opinion and of course everyone's radio challenges during the decades.**

**While Walt-KB3LGO and I have worked tirelessly behind the scenes, we are in a bit of a quandary.**



**We know there are many of you out there that would love to help us out, and truly we say, we appreciate each and every one that steps up to the plate to keep our nets fully viable. If you have volunteered in the past and have stepped away, or are a new member wanting a great experience as NCS, the door is wide open to everyone.**

**Come and join us, and help fill those open NCS positions, as well as helping out during emergency openings as needed.**

***Only you can help keep the Chew on air!***

***Contact Walt-KB3LGO today!***