

K1R SUCCESS! The "Chew"



Our annual anniversary celebration was held May 3 through May 9, 2026, and was a re-sounding success.

Before releasing the K1R qrz.com page to other users, I saw that we had over 1500 hits, wanting to know what we were all about.

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All I can say is a deep thanks to all of our Net Control Stations that pitched in to bring our annual celebration to the airwaves. And top all participants, we still have QSL cards available so check out my WA2AXZ page on QRZ and the 72chew.net sites for information. As we head into our 23rd year of operations I still need new faces to fill in the open positions in the roster. Contact me Loby-WA2AXZ wa2axz@arrl.net 347-583-3612 for more information as how you can help!



Without you, there is no Chew"

The "Chew"

SEVENTY-TWO



“Where
Choosy
People

Choose
to
CHEW!”

NEWSLETTER June 2026

DAYTON HAMVENTION-2026

Another year of hamvention fun is under our belts. 2026 proved to be a banner year for the folks at DARA as record numbers of hams, XYL's and friends met up to enjoy a beautiful opening day, Friday May 15, 2026. I got a sneak preview, the Wednesday before, watching the major vendors setting up inside the exhibit buildings.



Things came together quickly and on opening day, people started lining up early to get



a good spot, eagerly awaiting the signal to head inside the grounds.

As the gates opened there was the usual mad-rush into the exhibit area while most of us who knew better, and headed directly to the flea market area. The early bird catches the worm, though early entrants enjoyed their pick of the goodies before the crown glommed up everything.



There is one thing that can be said about hamvention and the flea market area, one may find everything, including the kitchen sink. This year there were no sinks to be seen but someone was selling water filters for under the sink use.



I personally picked up a handful of needed parts I use to keep my shack running. From cables to connectors and everything in-between could be found on the tables.



I even met a nice YL by the name of Millie-Amp, selling her owners wares. She didn't have much to say though she did bring in quite a few interested hams checking things out.

ARRL, as usual, had a big presence at the



hamvention, showing off the various entities within it's realm and celebrating the upcoming America 250 year anniversary.

Field Day was a big item of discussion at the tables with ARRL selling 2026 Field Day items.



As usual, the big ham manufacturers were present hawking their latest and greatest ham equipment. And yes, price was no object as new gear was practically unaffordable for regular operators. But they liked to look anyway!



With MFJ gone, smaller parts retailers filled in the void selling many of the small electronic parts and connectors that hams use everyday. HRO and DX engineering had their places in the exhibit buildings, offering small discounts for hamvention attendees.



A note from your Chief Cook & Bottle Washer...



Our monthly newsletter 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, Loby-WA2AXZ.

Goods and

Services:

**NEED QSLs OR
EYEBALL**

CARDS ???

KB3IFH QSL Cards

www.kb3ifh.homestead.com



Food...glorious food!



The hot items this year was the pork chop wagon and bourbon chicken trailer. People lined up around the pavilion to score one of these tasty treats. The Mexican bourbon chicken trailer filled the air with chicken, roasting over the coals. Mixed with the bourbon sauce and yes I was in heaven. Now after all this great food, one

needs their just desserts, Here too there was an Ice Cream trailer making fresh churned delights. They used an old fashioned John Deere hit & miss engine to run the works. People heard the sounds of this engine popping rhythmically as it spun the blades of the churn. No calories if ya just watch. I

took a video of this engine operating. If anyone wants to see it, e

mail me-Loby wa2axz@arrl.net

The hamvention organizers held hourly prize drawings, giving away everything from books to radios. We all placed our registration cards into the drum in the prize booth, each one hoping that we would win one of the top 10 prizes. Our own Randy-KB3IFH had his QSL Card booth across from the prize listings on the big screen TV. This brought in a lot of foot traffic of those hoping for prizes and with Randy's table right there, he enjoyed a brisk business.



Pick a seminar...

During the weekend there were dozens of seminars covering everything from basic ham knowledge to advanced satellite electronics. I sat through a presentation of a fellow showing how he made CW operating easy.



Our friend Neil-N3WMI was one of the volunteer examiners at the nearby church where, for two days, he grilled prospective hams and congratulated all who passed into the hobby, or upgraded their licenses.

Now, it wouldn't be a hamvention without a little rain, so I dodged the drops, got into my Ram truck and chatted with the gang on the Chew until the clouds parted.



On Sunday most vendors in the flea market area packed up and at 1pm, the remaining crowd loaded into the main hall for the prize drawings. Our friend Neil in the yellow plaid



shirt, along with his posse, waited watched and listened for their numbers to be called. Nope, not this year. With another hamven-



tion in the books and everyone leaving, I can say all had a great time. Now what are your plans for Hamvention 2027?





I always try to pick up a vintage microphone for my collection. This year it was a 1935 Shure crystal microphone with a solid cast iron base made by Bud Radio in Cleveland Ohio. And yes, this little thing is heavy!

When is 12 noon a suggestion?

I always said that we will be taking our annual group photos at 12 noon sharp by the flag poles. This year due to various events and forums, the gang trickled in for the photos. This is why I have several photos in an attempt to get the entire gang, and no, this wasn't our full complement either. Oh well, here are a few photos of the Friday and Saturday group with straggler photos alongside.



Top and middle: the group on Friday, May 15, 2026 Bottom: the group on Saturday, May 16, 2026



Chuck W9COD (center) and friends from the Corn Cob Net and the 68 Group set up shop selling radio equipment.

DAYTON –2027

Next year Dayton Hamvention will be held the weekend of May 21-22-23 2027 This year was a banner year for attendance and there is more and more interest in upcoming events. I made my KOA campground reservation for next year so, if ya want to avoid a crush for camping spots or hotel/motel rooms, I suggest seriously thinking about it and making the call... 73, *Loby WAZAX*



Inside Loby's RV at the KOA