

The Radio Hotel – All I want for Christmas.....

by Rick Hiller – W5RH

What do you want for Christmas? I want toys, but our toys are typically \$2500 and up. So, how about some low priced suggestions that will improve our understanding of the hobby? How about some antenna books? These are in the \$10 to \$50 range and are easily bought online. Suggest some antenna books to Santa, your spouse, or Mom and Dad. But, which ones? I thought you'd never ask. To our benefit, today's books come in multiple formats -- hardback, paperback, e-books and audible books. That said, I'll make a few suggestions.....

--**ARRL Antenna Handbook** – Any edition is good and certainly the one book to have. ARRL just released the 2019 24th edition, at about \$50 or the special 2019 Four volume separated edition is about \$70. Digital download version is included.

--**ARRL Antenna Compendiums – 1 thru 8** Very nice cookbook series of practical Ham antenna know how.

--**Cubical Quad Antennas and The Beam Antenna Handbook** – Bill Orr and Stuart Cowan

--**Reflections** (any edition 1 thru 4) – M. Walter Maxwell

--**The Care and Feeding of Transmission Lines** – Joel Hallas

--**ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners** – Joel Hallas

--**Low Band DX'ing** (edition 2 thru 4) – John Devoldere More of an antenna book than a DX book, but DXing on the Low Bands is pretty much about antennas used.

--**Building Baluns and Transformers** – Jerry Sevick

--**Grounding and Bonding** – Ward Silver

--**Propagation and Radio Science** – Eric Nichols

But, my favorite antenna book is – **Transmission Lines, Antennas and Wave Guides** – King, Mimno and Wing – 1945 Written for the US Army by some of the day's well known experts.

Of course, there are many other books, so don't limit your gift requests to just the above titles. Stretch out to **Antenna Physics** by Robert Zavrel, or the reference/text books by **Terman** or **Krause** or **Jasik**, but beware that, with these, the math starts on page 2.

Most books can be bought easily on-line, but certain out of date books are only available on the used market. E-Ham and other classified ad sites will occasionally have a book come up. Look often and respond quickly. My favorite online tool is Biblio www.biblio.com. It is a fantastic clearing house of many small book stores around the country and some overseas.

Merry Christmas, happy reading and Happy New Year.

Enjoy your hobby.....73...Rick – W5RH

Next Time in January 2020 – A reprint inspired by Pete, KD5QPX, SK