Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club

Spring 2007

SDARC Newsletter

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Special points of interest:

- Spring Campout
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Spring Campout

April 27-29, 2007 was the annual SDARC campout down on the San Rafael desert near the Wedge overlook. The weather turned out to be perfect for the weekend. There was also a good turn out for this years event.

Activities ranged from just relaxing in the shade of the awnings to exploring the region either by car, atv, or foot.

This year the club also arranged to have Emery County's Emergency Operation Center trailer at the site to work on radio installation this weekend.

Also there was a testing session Saturday with a very good turn out with 4 upgrades and 4 new Hams.

The club also had a steak fry and potluck dinner Saturday. The May club meeting was also held during this time since most of the club officers were not going to be available on May 3rd.

Sunday came to soon and it was time to return to normal life to the dismay of many. See you next year.

Bryan Anderson

KD7HSG

Testing Sessions

There were two testing sessions since the last newsletter. One was held at the Emery County Sheriff Office March 3rd and the other session was held during this years spring campout.

At the March 3rd session many operators from the area tested for upgrades and one tested for their ticket. Those that upgraded are: Bryan Anderson (KD7HSG), Ellen Anderson (KC7KJI), Tom Bruno (KE7KTU), Mike Cinaglia (N7MJC), Tim Dart (KD7MPY), and J.J. Grant (KE7HJE) and the new Technician is Richard Safely

(continued on next page)

Testing Sessions (cont)

(KE7LKR).

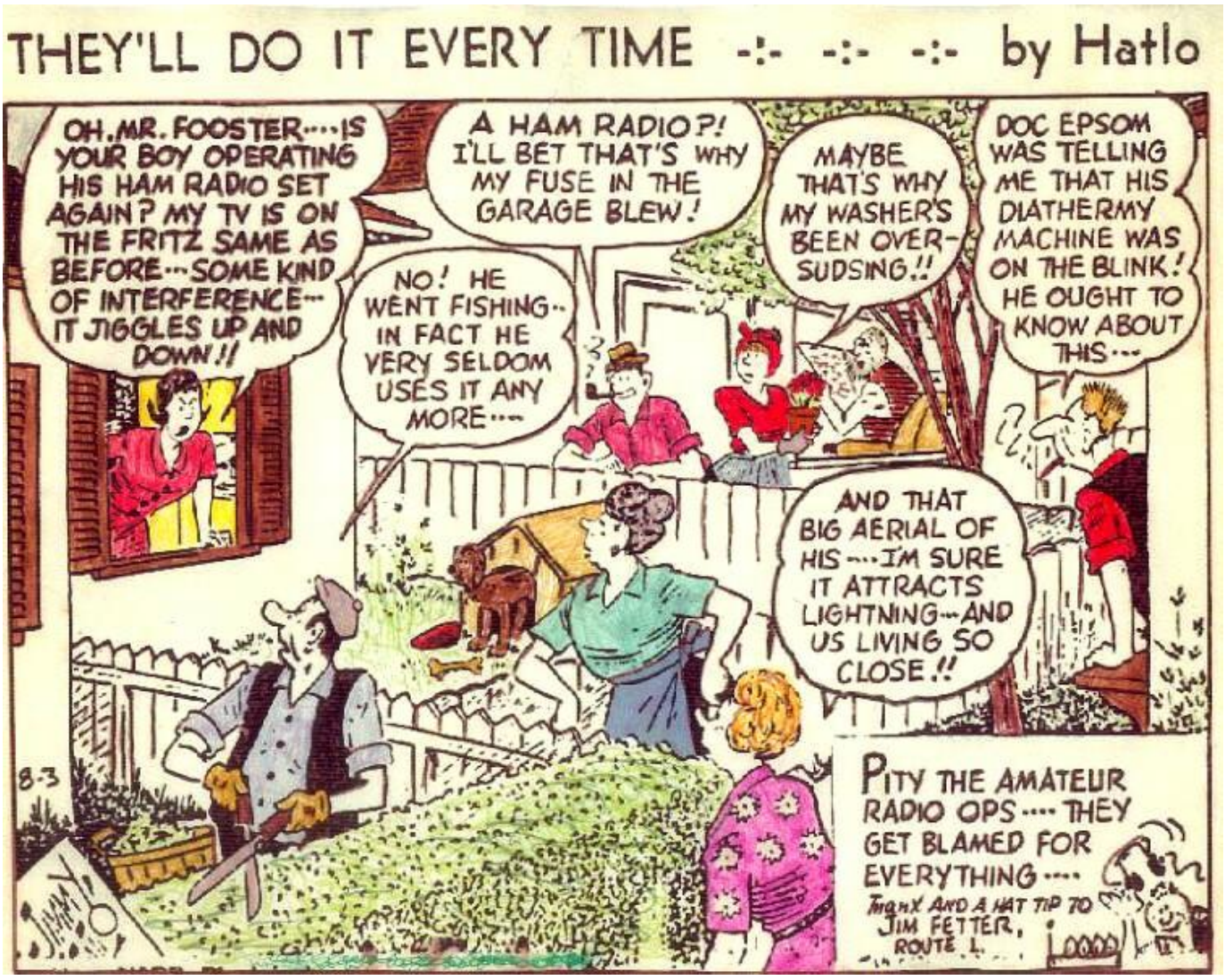
There were also more upgrades and new operators that tested at the second testing session on April 28th. The upgrades are: Bryan Anderson (KD7HSG), Dolores Lott (KC7AKE), Scott Lott (KB7YOT), and Ross Sacco (KB7UZX). The new Technicians from this session are: Ryan Cloward (KE7NBA), Ricky Cook (KE7NBB), Jeremiah Ison (KE7NBD), and Nathan Thomas (KE7NBC).

A special thanks to all of the VEs for without them theses testing sessions could not be held.

Congratulations to all who either upgraded or received their tickets and I hope to hear you on the air.

Bryan Anderson

KD7HSG



Mobile EOC

Work on Emery County's Mobile Emergency Operation Center is progressing very well. The main cabinetry and counter tops are installed along with the sliding side window.

Before the cabinetry went in flooring was installed to give a finish floor.

The walls have been painted and the white board was installed along the opposite side of the window.

During the spring campout three VHF/UHF radios were installed along with one of the antenna bars holding 4 VHF/UHF antennas. Also the power supply, battery charger, power distribution block, and batteries were installed at the same time.

Bryan (KD7HSG), Jim (KJ7S), and Jim (KA7YIV) install radios.

Alan (KA7LEG) installing antennas on the Mobile EOC trailer.

Other equipment is still in need of being installed including the two HF radios, HF antennas, and the finishing wood work.

If you would like to help to get the mobile EOC finished please listen in on the weekly net or contact the club for more information

ARRL News

SB QST @ ARL $ARLB012
ARLB012 FCC poised to lower vanity call sign fee

ZCZC AG12
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 12 ARLB012
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT April 23, 2007
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB012
ARLB012 FCC poised to lower vanity call sign fee

All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission.

The FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year. In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) released April 18, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current $20.80 to $11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC proposed to collect nearly $290.3 million in FY 2007 regulatory fees.

"These fees are mandated by Congress and are collected to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities," the FCC said. "Consistent with our established practice, we intend to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2007 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year." Comments on MD Docket 07-81 are due May 3. Reply comments are due May 11.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current vanity call sign program, from a low of $12 to a high of $50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign but upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) at, http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/, and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

NNNN

/EX

Upcoming Events

Here is a list of known upcoming events. If there is an event happening in the future that you would like people to know about please send them to me.

Bryan Anderson

KD7HSG

kd7hsg@arrl.net

2007 Friendship Cruise

Has been canceled due to lack of water.

ARRL June VHF QSO Party

From 1800Z June 9th, 2007 to 0300Z June 11th, 2007

ARRL Field Day

June 22—24, 2007

WIMU 2007 Hamfest

Jackson Hole, WY

August 3—5, 2007

Reminders

The SDARC holds a weekly club net on the club's linked repeater system every Tuesday night at 8:00 pm local time.

Club Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month alternating between Carbon and Emery Counties starting around 6:30 pm. Occasionally a meeting will get changed. For the latest information about the next meeting please check in on the Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club Net.

Also the Boarderline Amateur Radio Club links onto the club's system for their weekly club net. Their net has been moved to Wednesday nights at 9:00 pm.

Hope to hear you on the air and see you at the meetings.

73

Bryan Anderson

KD7HSG

SDARC
P.O. Box 1073
Castle Dale, UT 84513

If there is an article that you would like to contribute to the SDARC newsletter, or if you are looking for or selling that rare piece of equipment, please feel free to send them to me either by regular mail or email.

Thank you,

Bryan Anderson
KD7HSG
P.O. Box 547
Huntington, UT 84528

kd7hsg@arrl.net

We're on the Web!

http://www.ecso.com/sdarc.html

Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club

We are including this form to make it easier to pay club membership dues. Just fill out the form and return it to the supplied address.

Also we are updating our contact information. Please fill out the left side of the form with your current mailing address, phone numbers, and email address.

And finally please check the box on the form if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email.

Thank you,

Bryan Anderson

KD7HSG

Please use the following form to pay dues, to give a donation, and/or to update your contact information.

Please update your contact information below.

Address

City State Zip

Daytime Telephone

Evening Telephone

E-mail Address

Dues—$25.00 (per year, per member)	$
Donations (If any)	$
Total	$

Please make checks payable to below and send to:

Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1073

Castle Dale, UT 84513

☐ Check here to receive the newsletter by e-mail instead.

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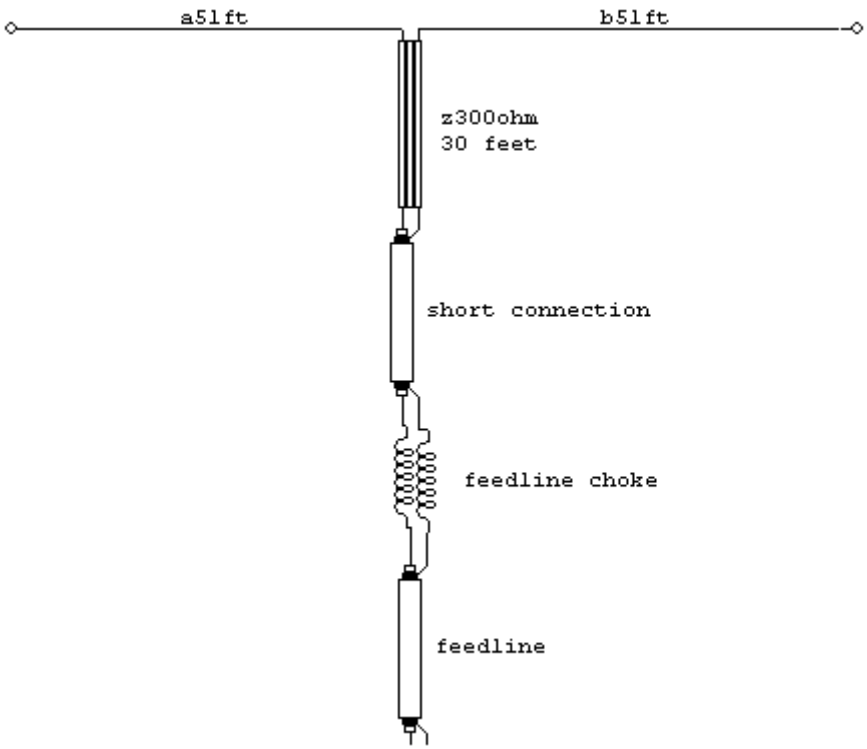
The G5RV antenna

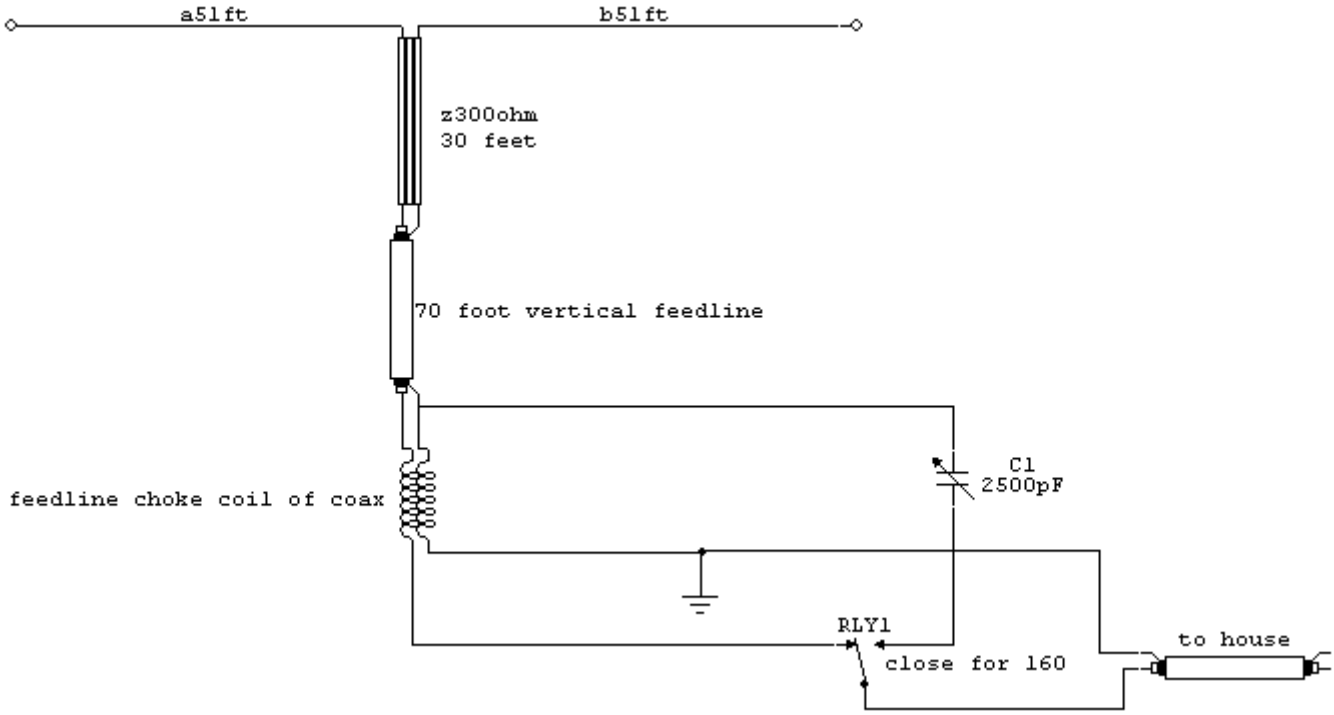
The G5RV antenna is probably one of the most maligned antennas in the world. I'm not quite sure how it got its reputation, but if there was ever a national association for the advancement or fair treatment of antennas the G5RV would be the poster child!

I installed my first G5RV antenna in the mid-90's. It was about 102 feet long. It was fed with 30-feet of 300-ohm transmitting type ladder line. I had a choke balun made of 20-30 feet of RG8X wound on a thin wall 4" PVC drain pipe. This choke was at the transition between the twinlead and coax. My antenna was installed about 80-100 feet above ground between two tall Pine trees.



To work 160, I built a small box that contained a small vacuum relay. With the relay engaged the antenna is worked against ground. This

made it a 100-foot tall "T" antenna that I worked against a radial system. My final system looked like this:



It isn't necessary to have 100 feet of height. Even heights as low as 30 feet will work, but C1 might have to be changed to an L network or some other simple antenna matching system.

The G5RV has a reasonable SWR on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 12 meters. It is not an acceptable performer on 30, 17, or 10 meters. ***SWR is actually better with 300-ohm transmitting line than with the 450 ohm line normally used.***

While the G5RV requires an antenna tuner, it is very efficient on at least 5 bands. This is true even when fed through fairly long runs of RG-213 feedline.

Feedline Losses

Assuming a 100-foot long LMR-400 feedline we have the following mid-band feedline losses when a G5RV is compared to the same

transmission line with a perfectly matched antenna:

Band	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
SWR ? : 1	2.71	4.1	**16.5**	1.85	**9.9**	5.5	2.6	**10.2**
Dipole Loss -dB	0.25	0.35	0.4	0.49	0.56	0.6	0.65	0.7
G5RV Loss -dB	0.37	0.92	**6.3**	0.6	**4.46**	2.1	1.0	**7.4**

Note: SWR is at the ***radio end*** of the 100 ft long 50 ohm feedline!

We can see on 80, 40, 20, and 12 meters the antenna above has very good efficiency. Efficiency be essentially just as good as a dipole. On 15 meters performance is still good. The antenna is ***poor*** on 30 and 10 meters.

Conclusions

Based on models and air testing the G5RV performs quite well as a 5-band antenna. Those bands include 80, 40, 20, 15, and 12 meters. The antenna will NOT work as well as a dipole on any other HF band.

By adding a relay and a ground system the G5RV can be made to work quite well as a "T" antenna on 160 meters.

People have an overwhelming prejudice against the G5RV. This prejudice even biases signal reports when they think a G5RV is being used. Like any antenna, the G5RV will work best when up in the clear. Run it through the bushes or like a clothesline and it might be a disappointing antenna, but then so would a dipole or Rhombic at the same crummy height.

W8JI