



Dixie Amateur Radio Club

August 2010

Volume 34, Issue 8

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All 3 tests passed in one evening!

Congratulations to Ray Porter, AE7HX

Raymond Porter of La Verkin came into the July VE session with his wife Sharlene, all prepared to take their Technician class amateur radio examination. They both passed, and the examiners asked them if they wanted to take the General exam. Ray decided since there was no additional cost, that he might as well try. 20 minutes later, he was holding a CSCE for his General class. During the break when the examiners were grading his General exam, he spoke with a few members waiting for the meeting to start. He was encouraged to go on and take the Extra exam if he passed.

Ray took the exam. 30 minutes later, the hat trick had been scored. From no ticket to Amateur Extra in one night.

The Dixie Amateur Radio Club congratulates Ray on this wonderful achievement. Listen for Ray on the air, his new call is AE7HX. Sharlene's new call is KF7LMX. When you hear them, send your congratulations!



Left to right: VE Mike Hamner KK7H, VE Bob Palambo, K9ZWH, Ray Porter AE7HX, and VE Gary Zabriskie, N7ARE.

Who Are We?

The Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is a non-profit IRS 501(c)(3) association of federally licensed Amateur Radio operators (also known as "ham radio" operators) who primarily reside in southwestern Utah, mostly in the greater St. George City metropolitan area. We also have members who live in rural areas of Washington County and in areas outside of the county. The Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is a formally "Affiliated Club" with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) "The National Association for Amateur Radio".

Editor Note:

The August newsletter is an abbreviated summer edition. We have included the "Go Box" presentation made by Nick Nickle, W7CRN.

— Ed.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Washington County Community Preparedness Expo – September 11, 2010 at the Dixie Center.
- ◆ St. George Marathon Oct. 2, 2010 - volunteers needed! Contact Lynn Bateman via email at lbatement@skyviewmail.com for more information.
- ◆ Huntsman Senior Games October 4 - 19 - volunteers will be needed. Watch the website and newsletter for volunteer opportunities.



2010 Board Members

- President...C. R. "Nick" Nickle W7CRN
- Vice-President....Kory Talbot KE7MMH
- Secretary..... Kevin Merrill KE7TLW
- Treasurer.....Harold Wells KE7OZG
- Board Member.....Scott Taylor KE7YIQ
- Board Member..Bruce Bissell KE7LGD
- Board Member...Ken Forshee K4SHE

Past Presidents of DARC

- 2009.....Ken Forshee KE7DZI
- 2008.....Ric Wayman K7DLX
- 2007.....Hal Whiting K12U
- 2006.....Hal Whiting K12U
- 2005.....Gary Zabriskie N7ARE
- 2004.....Dan Farwell W8EQA
- 2003.....Dan Farwell W8EQA
- 2002.....Ron Sappington W17Z
- 2001.....Travis Lofthouse KD7FRN
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- 1986.....
- 1985.....

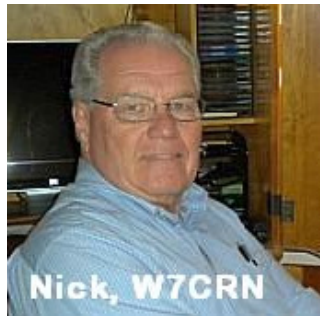
Can anyone help me complete this list?
Please contact Ric Wayman at
k7dlxham@gmail.com

SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

Send your ideas, bios, articles, cartoons, etc.
to Ric Wayman at k7dlxham@gmail.com.
ALL HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED!

Nick Nickle, W7CRN

President's Corner



Nick, W7CRN

The August Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, August 5th at 7:00 PM in room E of the Community Arts Building, 86 South Main Street in St George, all members are welcome to attend.

146.64 Repeater Status. The 146.64 repeater was damaged in the wind storm on July 2nd and has been out of service since. When the antenna mast collapsed the upper part of the antenna was on the ground causing a high SWR and the apparent failure of the final power amplifier. Since the repeater was out of service it was decided that we should take this opportunity to have the duplexer tuned – it was taken to Hamilton Communications in Cedar City and retuned. As the repeater system was being prepared to be returned to service the VXR-7000 was found to have some additional intermittent problems related to the control unit – at the recommendation of the Vertex Standard Tech Support the unit has been returned to the factory for necessary repairs. When the VXR-7000 is repaired and returned the 146.64 repeater system will be placed in service at a new location – Webb Hill. This location, south of town, will provide much better coverage in downtown St George, Bloomington, Bloomington Hills, Green Valley, and most all other areas in greater St George. This new site is provided to the Dixie Amateur Radio Club courtesy of Ray Carpenter and Sky-view Technologies, and should enhance our repeater coverage in the area.

The **August 18th club meeting** will be a Homebrew Faire – bring your home built projects – Go-boxes, antennas, projects in process, items for sale or trade, any items that may be of interest to members of the club. Tables will be available around the room to display your projects, etc. Come and see what our club members are building and what may be for sale or trade. The Club has a number of donated items that will be on display and available for sale, Kenwood TS-830 HF Transceiver, TS-130 HF Transceiver, TR-2600 2 Meter Handheld, AT-130 Antenna Tuner, SP230 Speaker, MC-50 Microphone – all equipment will be sold as is.

Coming events –

Washington County Community Preparedness Expo – September 11, 2010 at the Dixie Center.

34th St George Marathon – October 2, 2010 Sign up at the August meeting.

Huntsman's World Senior Games – October 4th to October 19th, 2010

Thanks & 73,
Nick Nickle – W7CRN

Cove Fort Days Special Event Station!

Cove Fort, a historical site located at the junction of I-15 and I-70 in central Utah, is again celebrating Cove Fort Days, August 6th and 7th. Activities include stage coach rides, blacksmith shop demonstrations, landline telegraph demo, a loom, period costumes, and a Special Event Station, callsign K7K, operating on approx. 14.325, 7.272, 3985, and/or 146.52 FM from approximately 9 AM to 7 PM on August 6 and 7. Either contact us on these frequencies (certificate available) or come on down and help operate (please bring a copy of your license!)

Contact Daryl Duffin, NU7X, nu7x@arrl.net for more information or when you could come operate.

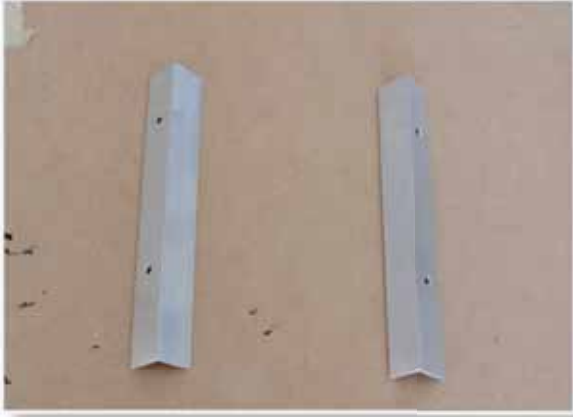
The following pages are the slides of the PowerPoint presentation recently made at our Club Meeting by Club President Nick Nickle, W7CRN. There have been several requests for copies so we have added it to this month's Newsletter. -Editor

CONSTRUCTION OF THE W7CRN GO-BOX

W7CRN GO-BOX



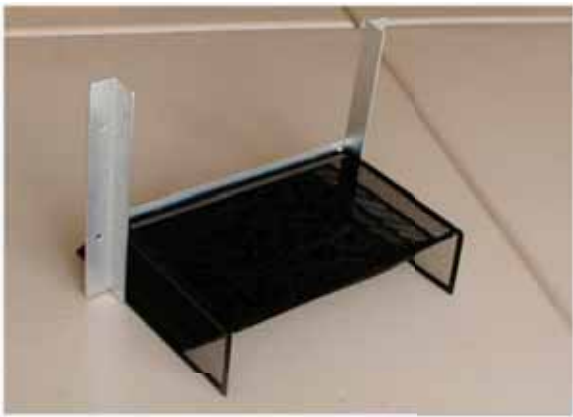
Side Mounting Rails



Side Rails Mounted to Rubbermaid File Holder



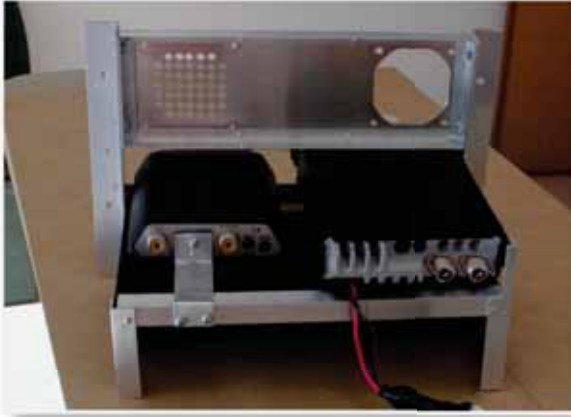
Rear View



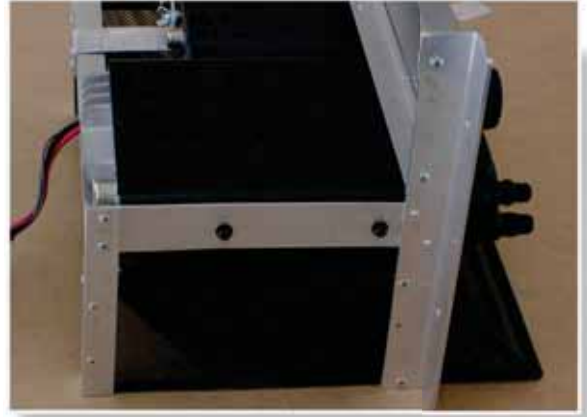
Fitting Equipment and Front Panel



Rear View and Antenna Tuner Mounting



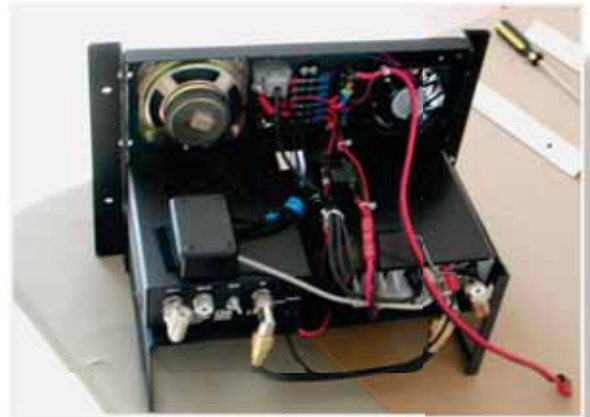
Mounting Detail of FT-857



Finished Assembly - Prototype



Rear View - Wired



12VDC Distribution



Internal View of Hardware and Connectors



Ready to Assemble Chassis into SPUD-7 Box



Go-Box Ready for Operation



Gota Go –

Disconnect Cables and Snap on Cover



Power Go-Box includes MFJ Battery Booster



Place Battery in Box



Add Power Supply Shelf



Complete Station Ready to Go in Minutes



For More Information on the construction of Ham Radio transceiver "Go Boxes" you can contact our Club President Nick Nickle, W7CRN via e-mail at: w7crn@crnick.com

The following are several other web links to pages devoted to the construction of Go Boxes:

<http://home.comcast.net/~buck0/combox.htm>

<http://w4ti.net/gokit.html>

<http://kblkix.net/blog/?cat=43>

<http://www.c-c-a-r-s.org/albums/thumbnails.php?album=4>

<http://www.powerportstore.com/Emergency%20Go-Box%20Portal.htm>

http://www.georgiabears.com/jump_kit_ideas.htm

<http://www.qsradio.com/go-kit.htm>

<http://kd7i.wordpress.com/2008/10/18/emergency-communications-to-go/>