

STATIC



February 2010

Relatively Easy Solar Power

Running your station HF and VHF/UHF radios on renewable solar energy

The point of this short article is to show that a station based on renewable solar power is within the reach of any radio amateur for the price of a mobile rig and, honestly, minimal effort. I've taken a 15 Watt amorphous silicon solar panel (shown above) and fitted it to the metal roof above the shack. It's used to trickle-charge a 12V deep-cycle battery. Diode-blocking protects the panel from reverse current as the battery reaches full charge. In direct sunlight, the panel produces 20V unloaded. However, it is able to provide charge even in overcast and rainy conditions. It was purchased from Silicon Solar for under \$120.



The deep-cycle 12V 33 amp-hours (AH) SLA absorbed glass matt (AGM) battery with the finished wire set is displayed above. Although it is capable of working in a range of temperatures, maximum efficiency is maintained by keeping the battery inside. AGM technology allows 99% of produced hydrogen and oxygen gases to recombine in the battery, while acid leaking is mitigated. It was purchased at a Battery-Plus mall outlet for under \$80.

(continued page 2)

LBARA MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	BOARD	REGULAR
FEBRUARY	NOTE: BOARD	2/18
MARCH	MEETINGS WILL NOW	3/18
APRIL	TAKE PLACE ONE	4/15
MAY	HOUR PRIOR TO THE	5/20
SEPT	REGULAR MEETING	9/16

(cont. from page 1)

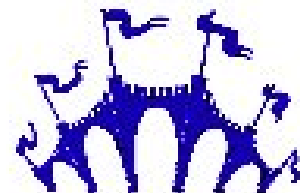
In typical use, the battery is charged-up by a mean 10% of its AH capacity per day. This allows just under 10 minutes of 100% transmit capacity at 100W on my Kenwood rig for total renewal. For emergency use (non-diurnal renewing) this can be extended to 60% of battery capacity (19.8 AH) or about 55 minutes of transmit without detrimental effect.



Thanks to Ken Beck, WI7B (see <http://wi7b.org/>)

Monday Night Net (7 PM)

System	Location	Freq	Offset	PL
MCARS	Bullhead City	145.27	-	131.8
	Kingman	146.76	-	131.8
	Kingman	448.25	-	131.8
	Lake Havasu	146.62	-	131.8
	Willow Beach	147.12	-	131.8
CRRRA	Lake Havasu City	146.96	-	162.2
	Lake Havasu City	224.24	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	146.64	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	449.95	-	141.3
BARN	Lake Havasu City	447.54	-	136.5
	Las Vegas, NV	449.95		136.5
	Onyx(Palm Springs)	449.34	-	136.5
	Orange County, CA	447.54	-	100





Honest Honey, using a crane is the cheapest and safest way to put up my new beam!

DON'T MISS THE NEXT CLUB MEETING

- **Dick Jernigan (W7DXJ) will make a presentation on the new antenna system for the ARES trailer.**
- **Jim Varner (AE6N) and Ed Gillespie (AB7EM) will bring us all up-to-date on the upcoming Special Event operation honoring the Lighthouse activities on Lake Havasu.**

MEN ARE JUST HAPPIER PEOPLE

NICKNAMES: If Laura, Kate and Sarah go out for lunch, they will call each other Laura, Kate and Sarah. If Mike, Dave and John go out, they will affectionately refer to each other as Fat Boy, Godzilla and Four-eyes.

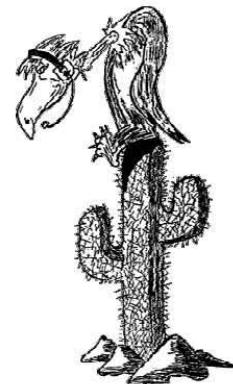
DRESSING UP: A woman will dress up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the trash, answer the phone, read a book, and get the mail. A man will dress up for weddings and funerals.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: A married man should forget his mistakes. There's no use in two people remembering the same thing!

Upcoming Activities and Hamfests

February 19-20	Yuma Hamfest and Emergency Preparedness Show
March 13	Springfest - Scottsdale ARC - Fort McDowell Casino
March 27	Desert Fest - Radio Society of Tucson - Tucson, AZ
May 1	Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest - Sierra Vista, AZ
May 29	Prescott Hamfest - Yavapai ARC - Prescott, AZ
July 16	ARCA/Williams Hamfest - Williams, AZ
Sept 17-19	ARRL SW Division Convention - San Diego, CA

6th Annual
Yuma Hamfest
& Emergency Preparedness
Show
Yuma, Arizona
Feb. 19 & 20, 2010



Yuma County Fairgrounds
 2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona

www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information
 and a Current Schedule of Activities and Seminars

Amateur Radio Equipment
Emergency Supplies
Batteries & Power Inverters

Disaster Preparedness Information
Solar Power
Emergency Bug Out Bags

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 4 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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Country Store (Equipment Consignment Sales)
Testing for New Hams **Seminars**
License Upgrades **Hospitality Area**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (-) PL 88.5 Hz

Contact for more Information:
 Richard Palaszynski (KC2LGR)
 kc2lgr@gmail.com

Presented by Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization (YARHO)



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio
 Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of
 our event.



The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio
 Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.

LONDON BRIDGE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

DUES INVOICE - (Please fill out the bottom part of page for new and/or changes in your information.)

Dues are payable January 1st and are delinquent February 1st of each year as follows:

(Circle One)

Active (Licensed): \$24.00/year

Family (Same Household): \$36.00/year

Associate (Non-Licensed): \$12.00/year

New member dues will be prorated for partial year membership (1/12 of dues for every month remaining in the year), and will be billed for the following year during the month of December.

Please make checks payable to: LBARA

Send this page and your check to: London Bridge Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 984

Lake Havasu City, AZ 86405-0984

Signature: _____ Date: _____

INFORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please Print - Use this portion for new and/or changes in your information.)

Name (Last): _____ (First) _____

Call: _____ Class: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Spouse Name: _____ Birthday: _____

Call: _____ Class: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Mailing Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____

ARRL Member (Circle One): Yes No

Would you be willing to furnish radio assistance in an emergency? (Circle One) Yes No

Would you be available for Club participation in community events, parades, etc.? (Circle One) Yes No

Comments and/or ideas (activities, guest speakers, programs, etc.) _____

**CARL, LYLE & JERRY'S
EXCELLENT ADVENTURE TO THE
DESERT RAT'S HAMFEST IN PALM SPRNGS**



Ah...there's gotta be something cool in here!



Carl...that part will never work, I tell you.



**Our job is done here and we're out of money
anyhow!**

This was really an adventure....just ask Carl and Lyle! Here we have two well-trained pilots and experienced RV'ers.....but they forgot to look at the gas meter before we all left Palm Springs for Lake Havasu. Yup, you guessed it. About a million miles from home and these two experienced pilots discover we are about to run out of gas. All turned out well though....but probably a good thing we weren't up at 5,000 feet!.....*your editor.*

FOR SALE/TRADE

Your ad here.....with pictures if you like....contact the Static editor.

Kenwood 940AT Excellent condition. Used only once since factory overall. Includes all the manuals. Price is \$700 firm. Alan, N7QLL, at (928)855.6609 .



Wilson MT-51 and Stepper IR Package deal for a crank up tower (with tilt-over). This is similar to a US Tower M550. Package includes a Stepper IR 3-element beam with the 30/40 kit and 6 meter element. Also included is the ICOM transceiver interface and approximately 120 ft of control cable. Make offer. See Dick, W7ZR at (928)208.7175.

LBARA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Jerry France	President
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Cliff Baril	Director (1YR)
Jim Varner	Sgt-at-Arms
Ed Gillespie	Web Master

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.lbara.net

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have anything you would like to see included in these issues, please let me know. I'm always looking for articles, news items, construction articles, or anything that might be of interest to our readers. You can contact me at 928.855.7941 or email at grf@uneedspeed.net or francej@ajsinsurance.com.

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ATTENTION READERS

Please note that this issue represents a “work-in-progress” and there are a number of changes to be made in subsequent issues. I would greatly appreciate your comments, both good and bad, as well as any suggestions for future issues. This issue also begins our first attempt to deliver the **STATIC** to your doorstep electronically. Please keep me abreast of any email address changes you may have and I promise to have this delivered promptly and accurately. Also, I still have a number of articles awaiting publication and will do so in the future. This is your newsletter, so keep the articles, letters, and pictures coming. I can be reached at home (855.7941), at work (855.3081) or via email at grf@uneedspeed.net .

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

EDITOR’S NOTE: List your items for sale here. Ham radio related only, please. Include a picture if you like (please use a jpg format). Email all to me at grf@uneedspeed.net) along with your name and phone number.

