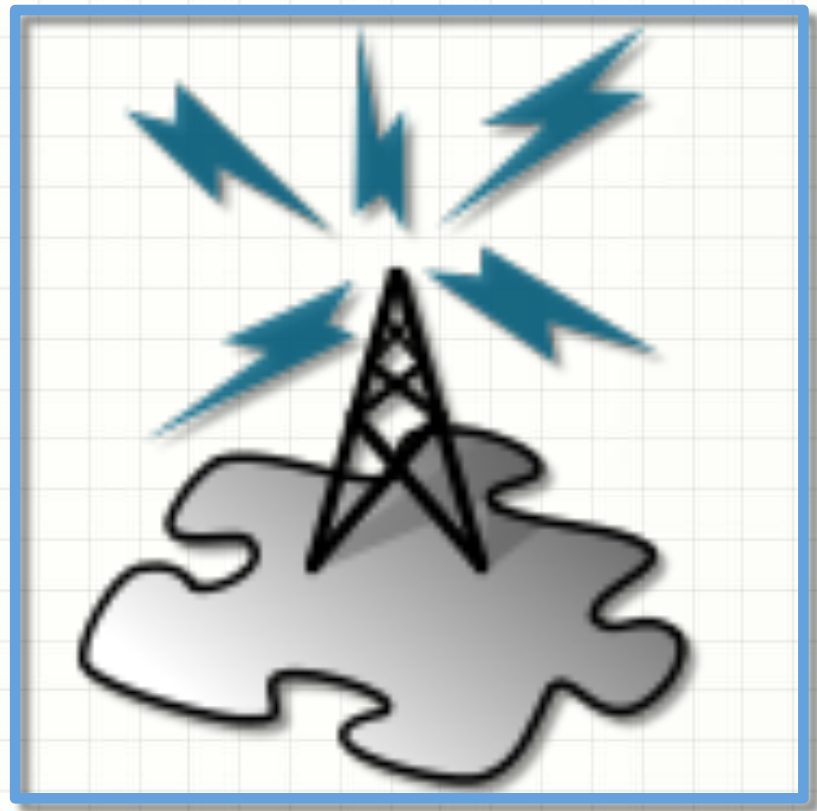


NASHUA AREA RADIO CLUB
TECH NIGHT
RESTRICTED ENVIRONMENTS
14 NOVEMBER 2017

Restricted Environments

Setting up a station with HOA or other impediments

- Home owner association restrictions hurt
- You don't need to give up
 - Use temporary antennas
 - Use hidden or low-profile antennas
 - Operate portable
 - Operate mobile
- Every station has limitations so work with what you've got



2002
IT BEGINS...



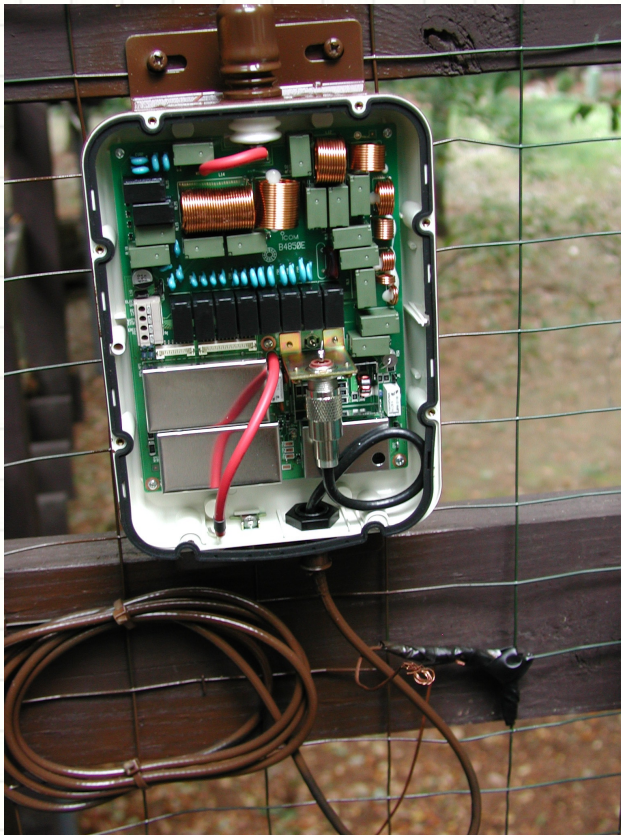
Village of Nagog Woods, Acton, Massachusetts

Icom 746Pro, Icom speaker, MFJ antenna analyzer

13 September 2002 ~ The ink is barely dry on the license AB1BL

First antenna ~ horizontal loop

Icom AH-4 antenna tuner



Painted to blend in (maybe?)



14 September 2002



Feed point (also painted ugly brown)

This arrangement did NOT work well. You need to be much more careful about the feed point of the antenna. But, I was just beginning...



Results

- 85 DXCC worked (76 confirmed)
- 44 States (38 confirmed)
- 24 of 40 CQ Zones (all confirmed)

This is for mid-September through the end of October 2002

Lessons learned

- Feed point matters
- My idea of invisible wasn't everybody's idea
- HOA staff can wreck your world in an afternoon
- Don't get discouraged

Except I did get discouraged

- End of March 2003... eBay'd:
- Icom 746Pro and AH-4 (ugly) tuner
- Level converter, speaker, low-pass filter
- Sound card radio interface
- Elecraft K1
- And some other random stuff



Back at it

New approach: Yaesu FT-897. Notice awards beginning to pile up.

By end of January 2004

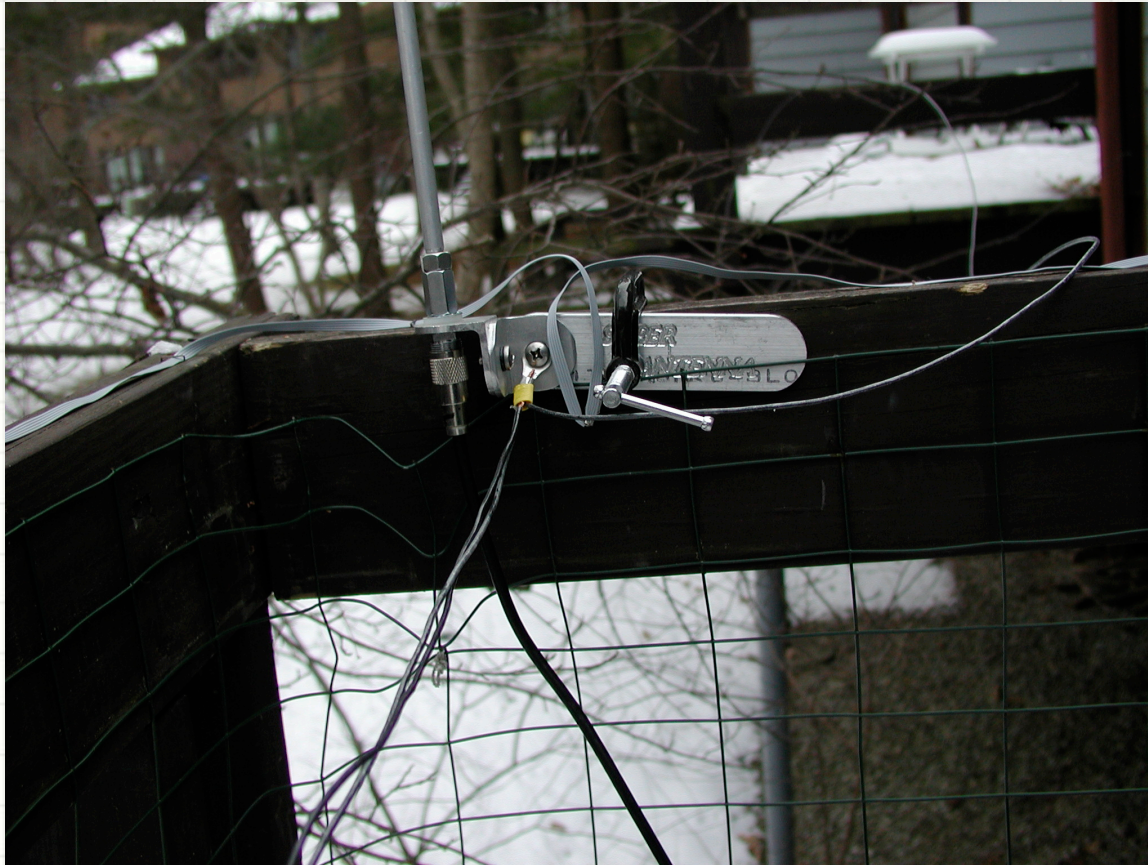
- DXCC (108)
- WAS
- 29 CQ Zones confirmed
- Antennas were still a problem, but I kept at it



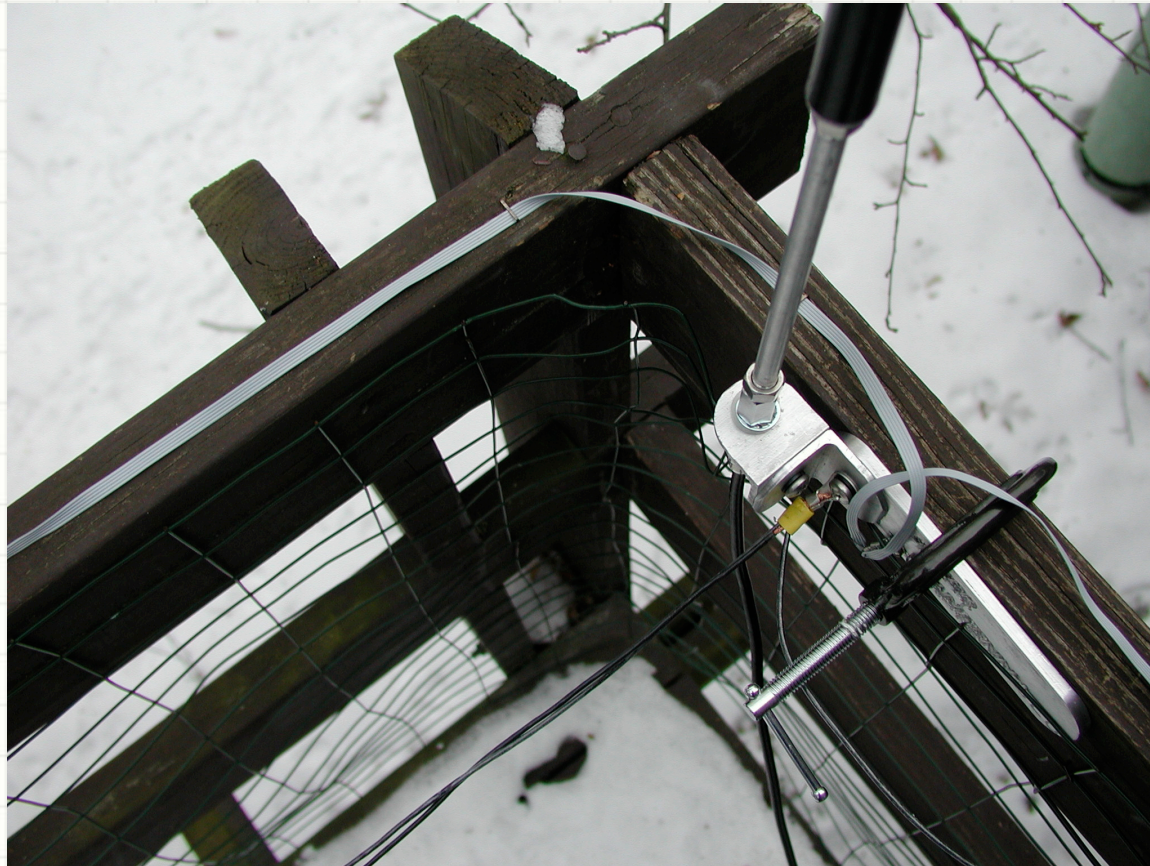
SuperAntenna MP-1

I began reading about antennas and trying to figure out what works and why.

27 January 2004



Maybe radials are important?



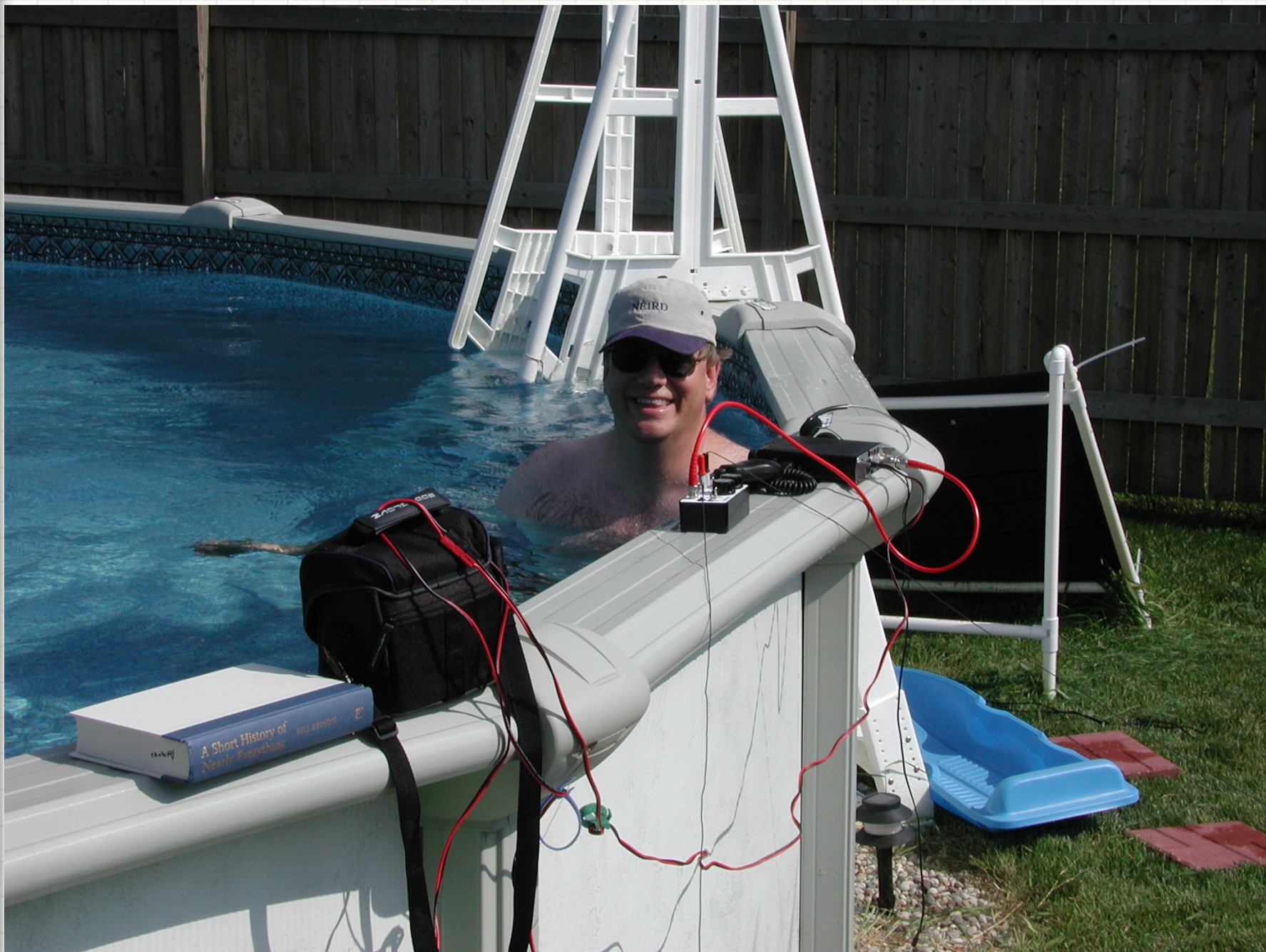
Still stealthy, though performance was mediocre



Buddipole

Summer 2004



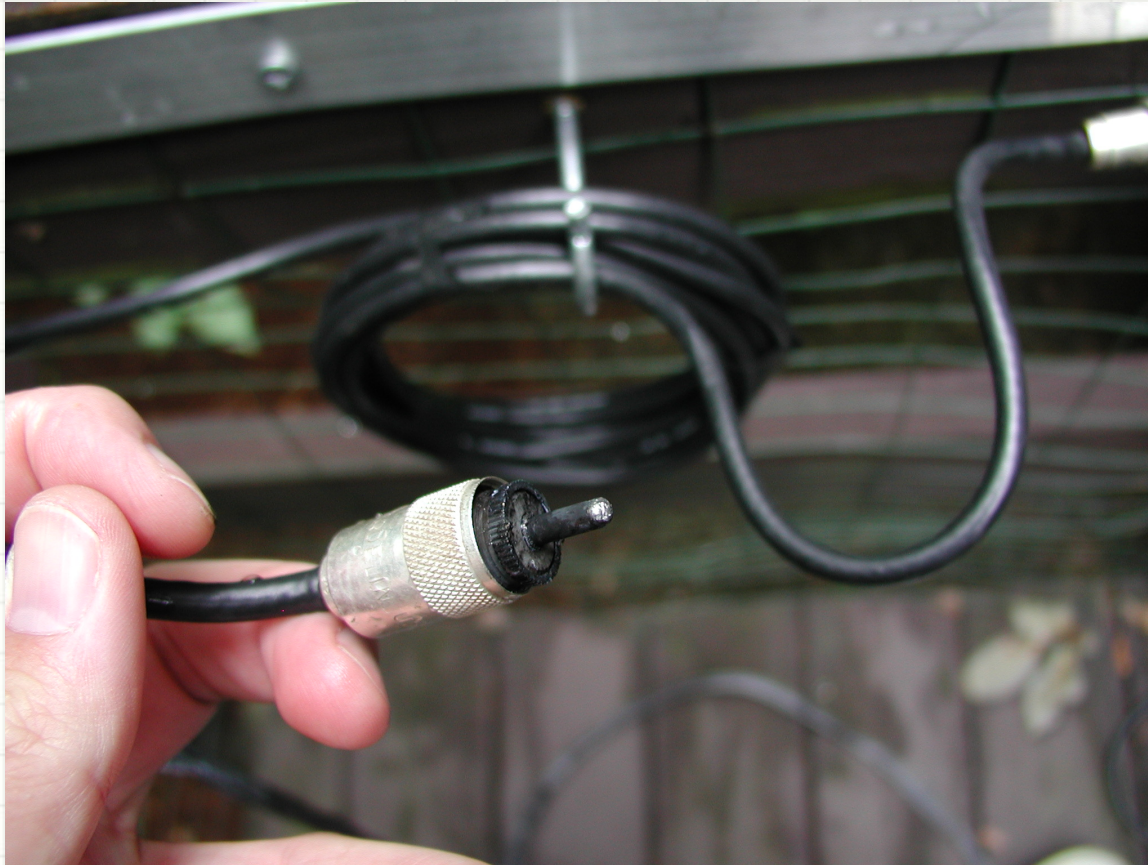


Mobile operation



- Dual band 2m/440
- Icom IC-706 IIimg
- AH-4 tuner
- 108" whip



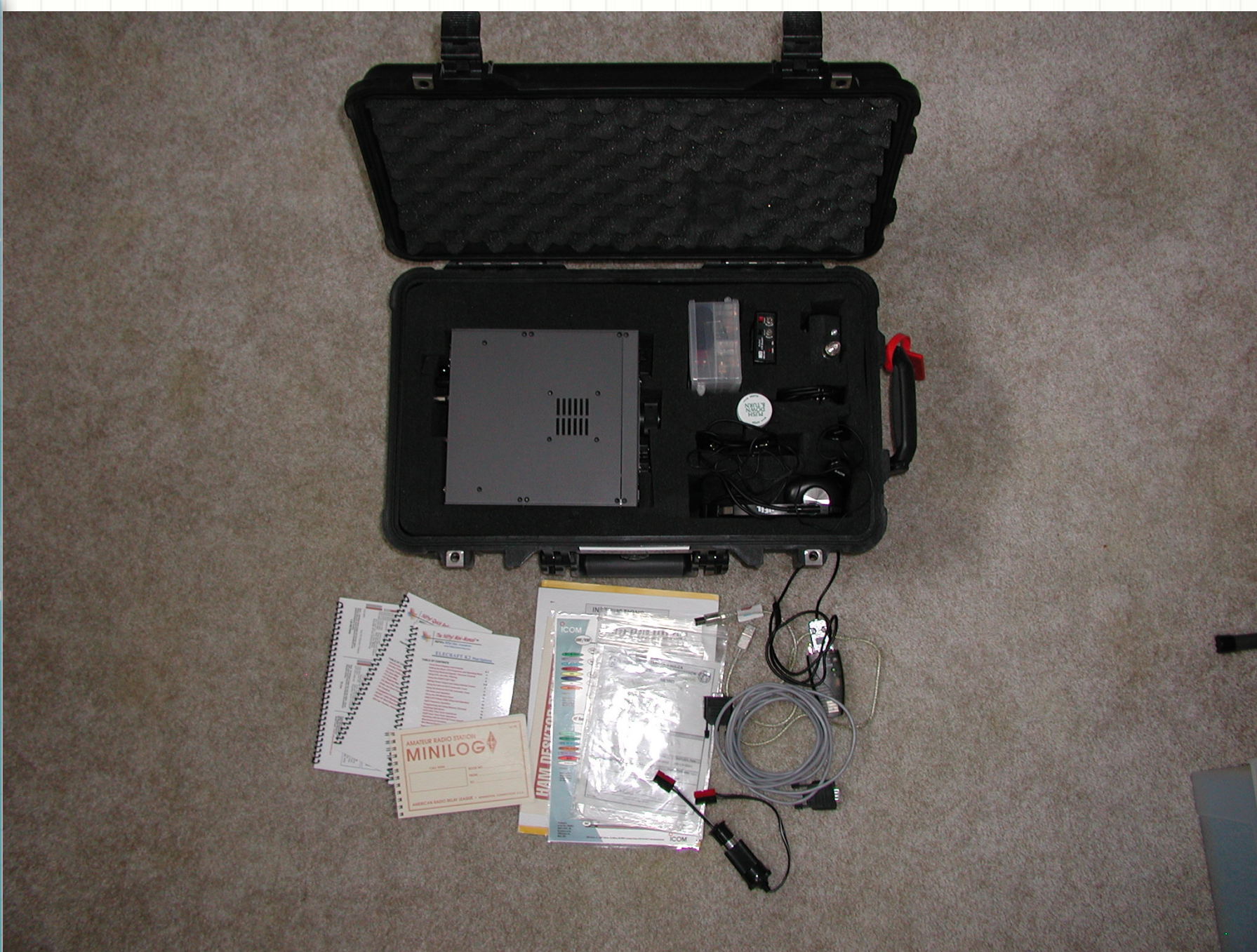


Expect the occasional setback

29 August 2004

End of 2004

- Using Random wires, Buddipole, and more
- DXCC count 128
- WAS
- 32 CQ Zones confirmed
- 2593 QSOs



Things don't always go right



San Francisco Golden Gate Park, 6 Feb 2005

Kona, Hawaii



15 February 2015

Buddipole and Elecraft K2





MFJ-1786 Magnetic Loop

2005

MFJ-1786

- Mounted horizontally on a pipe on the deck
- VERY sharp tuning
- Coverage from 15m-40m
- Cannot work split!
- Worked very well ~ I was impressed





G5RV

Stealth G5RV dipole

- Horizontal up about 60 feet
- Feed point hung by a tree, hidden
- Rolled coax to it when I wanted to operate
- Good antenna 80-10m (not WARC)
- Nobody could see it (I couldn't see it!)
- Nobody complained about the coax for those few hours on the weekends

End of condo statistics

- 5200 QSOs
- 492 Challenge slots (half there!)
- WAS
- 32 CQ Zones
- 86 IOTA islands confirmed (100 is award)
- All SSB
- About 1900 were QRP

Be creative

- If visibility is the problem, use temporary antennas
- Use permanent hidden antennas, but don't leave coax connected
- Consider magnetic loop antennas
- Operate portable
- Operate mobile
- Guest operate at someone else's station

Some specific suggestions

- In addition to
 - Magnetic loop
 - Hidden dipole
 - Random wire

Please consider the following ...

TW Antenna 5-Band Adventurer



- DX Engineering
- Five bands 10m-20m
- Remote control
- Very fast setup
- \$700
- Options:
 - Travel bag (\$80)
 - 40m add-on (\$250)

Buddipole



- www.buddipole.com
- Deluxe (\$400)
- Mini-Buddipole (\$225)
- Options:
 - Shockcord mast (\$75)
 - TRSB (\$85)
 - Low band coil (\$75)

MyAntennas EFHW 80-10



- myantennas.com
- No tuner
- 80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10
- 1kW
- \$140
- Worked surprisingly well
- Only need one rope

Super Antenna MP1



MP1DXR
SuperWhip Ruggedized
Portable Antenna
Universal Clamp Mount
GoBag Package



GB1 Go Bag

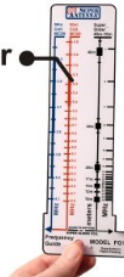
SW1 SuperWhip

UM2 Universal Mount

MP1B Antenna

MR4010 Radial Set

FG1 SWR Ruler



- Available on Amazon
- Carry bag
- $\frac{1}{4}$ vertical with radials
- 100w
- \$220

LNR Precision Par EndFedZ

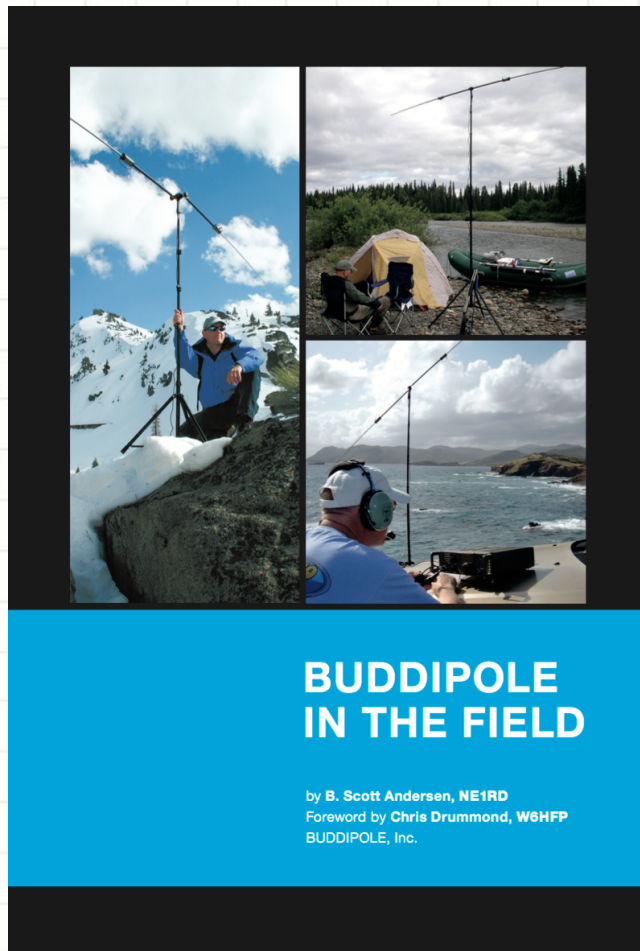


- www.lnrprecision.com
- www.universal-radio.com
- QRP or 100/200w limit
- QRP multiband
- Trail friendly
- Only need one rope

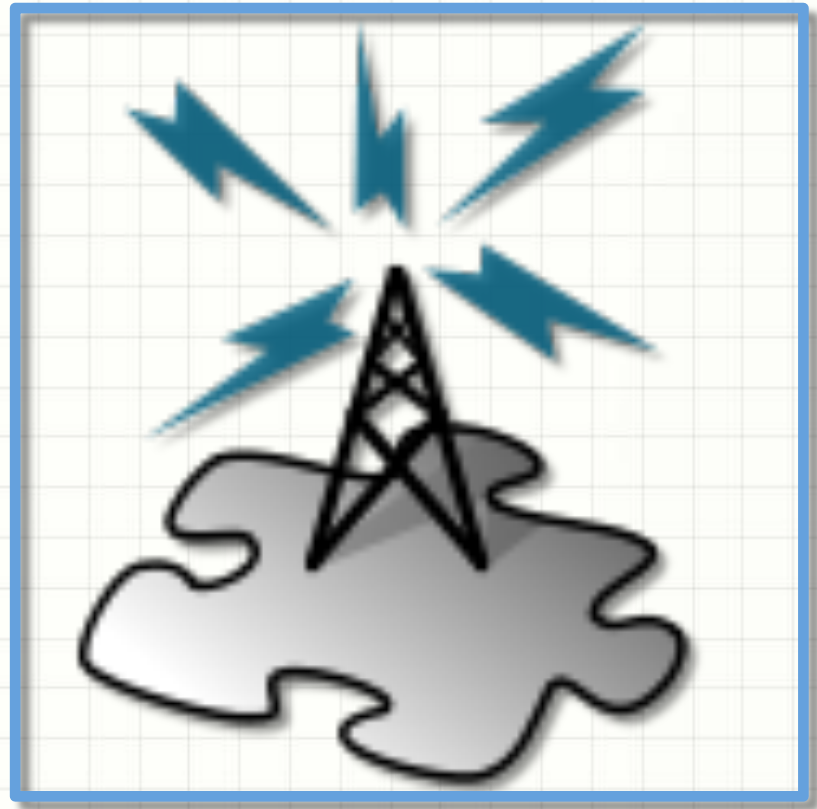
Thank You!



Drawing



- Paperback giveaway tonight
- Also available as a FREE PDF book at Buddipole.com in the documentation area



**ADDITIONAL
MATERIALS**