



The Short Circuit

MAY 2019

since 1927

Volume 92, Issue 5

The May meeting of the United Radio Amateur Club will be held SATURDAY, May 4th with the First Saturday Breakfast, 8 am at the Think Café (302 W 5th Street) in San Pedro.

Program:

Stephanie Sampson
Director of Communications
LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP)



The program will cover current updates and upgrades going on at LAX.

Stephanie is the Director of Communications for the LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP), overseeing all aspects of external communications and community outreach for the \$5.5 billion project. In this role, she manages communication efforts for consultants and contractors for the various projects, and works closely with the LAX External Affairs Division to ensure stakeholders and community members receive updates on developments and impacts for the LAMP project.

Prior to joining LAX, Stephanie worked in sports communications. She graduated from Cal State Long Beach with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a Master's Degree in Sport Management.

Also in May ...

In addition, the **WHITE ELEPHANT SALE** will be held Friday, May 17th, in the Los Angeles Maritime Museum Break Room at 7 pm to benefit this year's Field Day...



Special Event Stations, May:

May 18th-19th 2019 William Becknell Heritage Days, Santa Fe Trail Founder The event home location is in Overland Park, Kansas at Strang Park. The Event celebrates the founding of the Santa Fe Trail which started in 1821 on September 1st leaving from New Franklin, Missouri and winding up in Santa Fe, NM. Returning in December to Missouri. He formed a second trip out West and leaving Franklin Missouri on May 20th 1822 they returned to SF, NM. From those two initial trips the founding of the Santa Fe Trail was formed. It continued until the early 1880's. We have all the information on our Club Website at [WB0SFT.org](http://wb0sft.org). We are looking for additional operators to help transmit "On-The-Trail" from any one of over 250 trail sites recognized as official trail sites during our two day events. Looking forward talking to you on the air. <http://wb0sft.org>

04/20/2019 | San Jacinto Day Special Eveny
Apr 20-Apr 21, 1500Z-2300Z, K5T, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 14.074 14.035 7.215. QSL. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, 167 CR 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. All contacts will be confirmed via LoTW. QSL

05/11/2019 | Russell Cave National Monument 58th Anniversary May 11, 1500Z-2100Z, K4R, Bridgeport, AL. Jackson County Amateur Radio Club – K4SCO. 14.258 14.058 7.258 7.058. QSL. Brad Arnold, K4NHA, 207 Bingham St., Scottsboro, AL 35768. For full information and frequency/mode schedules, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/K4R> or <https://jcar.us/russellcave>

05/11/2019 | USS Midway Museum Ship Special Event: Operation Frequent Wind

May 11, 1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250; PSK31 on 14.070. QSL. USS Midway (CV-41) COMEDTRA, 910 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101.

05/20/2019 | W7K Special Event – Redefinition of the Kelvin May 20, 0000Z-2359Z, W7K, American Fork, UT. K7FLK Fluke Lord Kelvin Amateur Radio Club. 3973.15 7273.15 14273.15; Echolink 762028. QSL. Frank Liebmann, 799 East Utah Valley Dr, American Fork, UT 84003. W7K celebrates the redefinition of the SI unit kelvin which will take place on May 20, 2019. This station will be operated from one of the most accurate temperature standards laboratories in the world in American Fork, Utah. Times of operation will be 00:00Z to 23:59Z. On 20 May 2019, the definition of the kelvin will be redefined. Historically, it has been defined as the triple-point of water being equal to 273.16 K. Starting May 20, the kelvin will be defined by assigning an exact numerical value to the Boltzmann constant. This redefinition will ensure a long-term stability and traceability of the unit for temperature by making it independent of any material substance. tinyurl.com/w7kelvin

05/22/2019 | MEMORIAL DAY 2019 May 22-May 28, 0000Z-0000Z, K1A, Cleburne, TX. CLUB KC5NX. 14.225 14.045 7.225 7.045. QSL. CLUB KC5NX, 9200 Summit Court West, Cleburne, TX 76033-82. Club KC5NX is back on the air to help remember those who have given their lives in the service of the of the Killed in Action. All QSLs, notes, letters answered. Special requests honored. An SASE would help us. Ours is a fine looking QSL! 73. club.kc5nx@gmail.com www.qrz.com/db/kc5nx

Coming Attraction:

• 06/01/2019 | Museum Ship Weekend

Jun 1-Jun 5, 0000Z-0000Z, W5T, Cleburne, TX. Club KC5NX. 14.260 14.045 7.202 7.045. QSL. Club KC5NX, 9200 Summit Court West, Cleburne, TX 76033. Club KC5NX will operate as W5T during Museum Ship Weekend June 2nd and 3rd in honor of the USS Cleburne Attack Transport, APA 73, used during World War 2. Picture QSLs will be available for your QSL, or note and an SASE. club.kc5nx@gmail.com or www.qrz.com/db/kc5nx

... <https://ke2yk.com/special-events/>

Getting loaded (antenna-wise, anyway)

... Dan Romanchik KB6NU

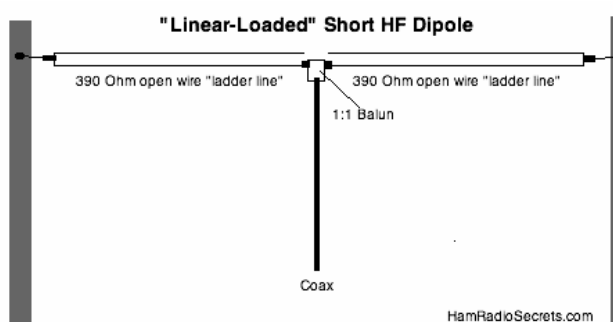
A couple of years ago, I home-brewed a "Cobra" antenna (<https://www.kb6nu.com/yes-another-new-antenna-the-cobra/>). It's a doublet antenna, meaning that it consists of two elements connected to a center insulator, where it connects to a feedline. The unique thing about the Cobra antenna is that each element consists of three parallel conductors connected in series.

My antenna uses a lightweight, three-conductor rotor cable that used to be available from Radio Shack. The feedline is 450 Ω ladder line that connects to an antenna tuner to give me multi-band operation.

Connecting the conductors in this way is supposed to provide "linear loading." Somehow, running the conductors in parallel is supposed to increase the antenna's effective length. My antenna is only 73-ft. long, but it easily tunes up on 80m.

The ARRL Antenna Book has a short section on linear loading. It says that linear loading is a "little understood" alternative to inductive loading that can be applied to almost any type of antenna. Furthermore, "...it introduces very little loss, does not degrade directivity patterns, and has low enough Q to allow reasonably good bandwidths."

As I mentioned, I've been using this antenna with good results for a little more than two years now. When I first put it up, someone mentioned the concept of linear loading to me, but not being an antenna guru, I didn't give it much thought. About a week ago, though, I ran across a link to the page Short Ham Antennas for HF (<https://www.hamradiosecrets.com/short-ham-antennas.html>).



[antennas.html](https://www.hamradiosecrets.com/short-ham-antennas.html)). That got me thinking about the topic again.

This page describes a way to build a linearly-loaded dipole antenna with a feedpoint impedance of approximately 35 Ω . This al-

lows you to feed it with coax instead of the ladder line that I use. The author uses 390 Ω ladder line for the elements. He says it's commonly available, but I don't think I've ever seen 390 Ω ladder line. You could probably use 450 Ω ladder line by adjusting the element lengths a little.

At that point, I started Googling. The next linear-loaded antenna design that I ran across is a design from M0PZT (<http://www.m0pzt.com/40m-linear-loaded-dipole/>). He built his elements from some sturdy wire and homebrewed spacers made from PVC pipe. He's used this design for the 40m elements of a fan dipole covering the 40m, 20m, 15m, and 12m bands. Only the 40m elements are linear-loaded.

I also found a design for a linear loaded vertical antenna for 40m and 80m (<https://www.qsl.net/pa3hbb/ll.htm>). This antenna is only 7.736m, or 25.4 ft. tall. Of course, it requires a good radial system to work well, but it will work a lot better for DX than a low doublet or dipole.

Finally, there's an eHam discussion on linear loading (<https://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php?topic=84418.0>). Unlike a lot of eHam discussions, this one is quite civil. It's worth reading if you're interested in the topic.

So, if you're thinking of getting loaded, errrrr, I mean loading your antennas, here's a method for you to consider. It works!

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and one of the hosts of the No Nonsense Amateur Radio Podcast (NoNonsenseAmateurRadio.Com).

~ May 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 URAC 2Meter Simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	3	4 URAC First Saturday Breakfast and meeting: 8 AM, Think Café, San Pedro
5 Cinco De Mayo 	6	7	8	9 URAC 2Meter Simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16 URAC 2Meter Simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	17 URAC White Elephant Sale and Auction: 7 pm, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, Break Room	18 Armed Forces Day 
19	20	21	22	23 URAC 2Meter Simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day 	28	29	30 URAC 2Meter Simplex Roundtable: 8 pm, 145.510 MHz	31	

2019 URAC Executive Board

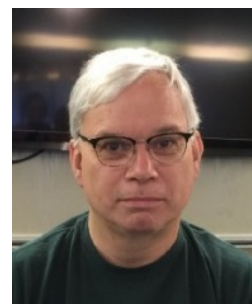
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***** IMPORTANT NOTES *****

K6AA Station We can still use more operators for our K6AA station. See Doug, W6HB, and or Scotty, K6ZNL, for training and checkout.

Check out the special events page on k6aa.org for the latest from arrl and e-ham net.

Additional Calendar Notes**Club Roundtable**

Held weekly on
Thursdays at 8pm
145.510 Simplex

Club Meeting

Held monthly on the 1st Saturday of
the month in conjunction with our ...

No Host Breakfast

Held monthly on the 1st Saturday of
the month at 8:00am. Location:
Think Café on 5th Street in San Pedro

“VE/CE Session for Amateur and Commercial Licenses

Monthly on 1st Saturday **by appointment**. Go to <http://k6aa.org/licensing-exams/>

If no one schedules an exam, there won't necessarily be an exam team or exam material available.



The Museum is at the Foot of 6th Street.

