

STATIC



April 2010

ANTENNA ROPE AND KNOTS NOTES

By Dick Diddams, W7QHE

ROPE SELECTION

A high quality rope satisfies the following four requirements:

1. High breaking Strength: determined by the rope material, the rope diameter and threading,
2. High abrasion Strength: determined by the rope material,
3. Little Elasticity: determined by the rope material,
4. High Weather Resistance: determined by the rope material. Sun rays and rainwater may damage the rope over time.

The following rope materials comply, in order of preference:

1. Polyester (PL) Rope: Dacron®, Diolen®, Terylen®, Trevira®,
2. Polyamide (PA) Rope: Enkalon®, Nylon®, Perlon®,
3. Polypropylene (PP) Rope: UV-resistant only when black-colored.

As a general rule, any materials you will find in a sailing hardware shop will comply with “antenna-installation” requirements.

ATTACHING ANTENNA WIRE TO AN END-INSULATOR, LOAD OR BALUN: ROPE WITH STAINLESS STEEL CABLE CLAMPS

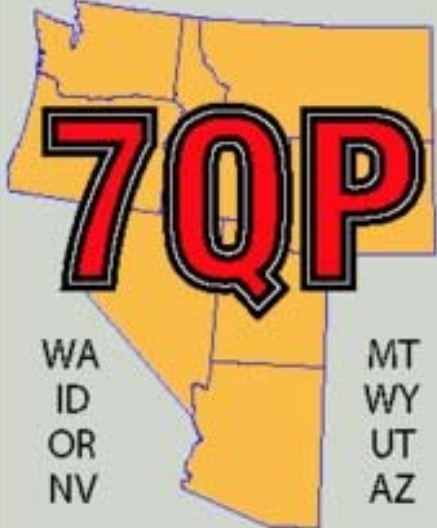
Never make knots in antenna wires, only in the ropes that connect the insulators to the supporting structures! The antenna wire is fixed with two 4mm stainless steel cable clamps to a small length of nylon rope that loops through the connection hole of the end-insulator.

A similar procedure is used to connect the antenna wires to (or as) the strain relief's of a balun or antenna feed point.

The benefit of attaching antenna wire in this manner is that the antenna wire remains straight. Hence, little additional mechanical strain is put to the antenna wire and secondly, contrary to knots, no additional inductance nor capacitance is introduced. The latter is especially relevant when the attachment point coincides with a high-current point along the antenna, as is the case with a balun or a load. (cont. page 3)

LBARA MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	BOARD	REGULAR
APRIL	NOTE: BOARD	4/15
MAY	MEETINGS WILL NOW	5/20
SEPT	TAKE PLACE ONE	9/16
OCT	HOUR PRIOR TO THE	10/21
NOV	REGULAR MEETING	11/18



**The 7th Call Area
QSO PARTY
May 1-2 2010**

YOU'RE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

IN THE 2010 7th CALL AREA QSO PARTY

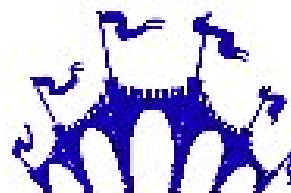
Here's your chance to participate in the 6th running of the 7th call area's QSO party. This year it will run from 1300 UTC, May 1 (that's Saturday, 6 a.m.) through 0700 UTC, May 2 (that's Saturday at midnight).

[This is a fun one....kind of like being DX....everyone in the world outside of the 7th Call area will want to work you. Increase you country count in one day! They also will want to work you because you're in Mohave County! It's possible to make WAS in one day!](#)

If you'd like some help in setting yourself up for this one, please see Jerry France, K7LY; Dick Zalewski, W7ZR; or Gary Fisher, K9WZB, for more details on operating frequencies, software to use, handy hints, etc.

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



(cont. from page 1)

For your information, **STAINLESS STEEL CABLE CLAMPS** can be acquired in a sailing hardware shop.

TYING ROPE TO AN END-INSULATOR: THE BOWLINE KNOT

This is a most useful knot employed to form a loop that will not slip. In order to tie a rope to an insulator, it is convenient to use a **BOWLINE KNOT**. The bowline knot is a knot that neither slips nor jams. For added security, add a (Flemish) Figure Of Eight knot as a stop knot to the loose rope end.



1. In "A" the rope is shown with a bight or cuckold's neck formed with the end over the standing part.
2. Pass "A" back through the bight, under, then over, then under, as shown in "B".
3. Then over and down through the bight, as shown in "C" and "D".
4. Draw taut, as in the first image above.

PREVENTING ROPES UNRAVELING: THE FIGURE OF EIGHT KNOT

The figure of eight knot (also known as Listing's knot) is used to prevent ropes from unraveling; it forms a large knob and is a very important knot for both as it helps to stop ropes from running out of their retaining devices.



1. Cross the end of the rope over the top of the remaining rope making a q shape.
2. Pinch the top of the loop and twist it away from the tail of your q.
3. Pull the end of the rope or the tail of the q up through the upper loop from behind.
4. Pull both ends of the rope to tighten forming a figure eight.

(continued page 6)

Upcoming Activities and Hamfests

May 1	Larry Warren Memorial Hamfest - Sierra Vista, AZ
May 29	Prescott Hamfest <u>CANCELLED</u> Prescott, AZ
July 16-18	ARCA/Williams Hamfest - Williams, AZ
Sept 17-19	ARRL SW Division Convention - San Diego, CA

SATURDAY MORNING'S BREAKFAST

You're all invited to join LBARA members for a great breakfast each and every Saturday morning at Rusty's Resturant located at the southwest corner of Lake Havasu Ave and Kiowa Blvd. Breakfast is served at 6 a.m. (or earlier if you want a good seat!) Most important, the food is great!!!!



A recent breakfast found Bernie Creamer, KB6PFH; Jack Fritchey, KJ6YAS; Lyle Ross, W6TPT; Jerry France, K7LY; Reiner Schick, KD5MBA; Dick Jernigan, W7DXJ; and Lyle Sibbald, K7YQ. (Note: your editor was forced to print this picture.....I think to prove to some XYL's that these hams do, in fact, attend a breakfast every Saturday!)

Are you looking to upgrade your license?

Give our VE Exam Team a call.

See Ed Gillespie, AB7EM at #453.7412



**ARRL ARIZONA STATE CONVENTION
& HAMFEST**



*Presented by the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona
and the City of Williams*



JULY 16 & 17, 2010

WILLIAMS RODEO GROUNDS, 800 RODEO ROAD, WILLIAMS, AZ
GATES OPEN AT 5 P.M. THURSDAY JULY 15 FOR SET-UP.
HAMFEST OPENS AT DAWN FRIDAY, JULY 16.

FREE ADMISSION!

JULY 18, 2010 - GRAND CANYON TRAIN TRIP

MAIN PRIZES

- Grand Prize - ICOM IC-718 HF
- Second Prize - ICOM 800 Dual-Band Mobile (D-Star Upgradable)
- Third Prize - ICOM U-82 HT (D-Star Upgradable)
- Fourth Prize - ICOM V-82 HT (D-Star Upgradable)
- Early Bird - Signal Link Interface

ALL SPACES - \$15 per Space
DRY CAMPING - \$15 per Space
or FREE with Selling Space

BEFORE JUNE 1, 2010

PRIZES

DOOR PRIZES EVERY HOUR
RAFFLE TICKETS

\$2.00 Each, 3 for \$5.00 or 60 for \$100.00

After June 1 & ON-SITE - \$20 per Space
Selling and/or Camping
(all prices are for entire weekend)

MEETINGS, SEMINARS, ACTIVITIES,
COMMERCIAL VENDORS, HUGE
SWAP, VE TESTS, BAR-B-QUE DIN-
NER, SUNDAY GRAND CANYON
TRAIN TRIP



FOR RESERVATION INFORMATION

Visit the ARCA Web Site

www.arca-az.org

On-Line Reservation Available on Web Site

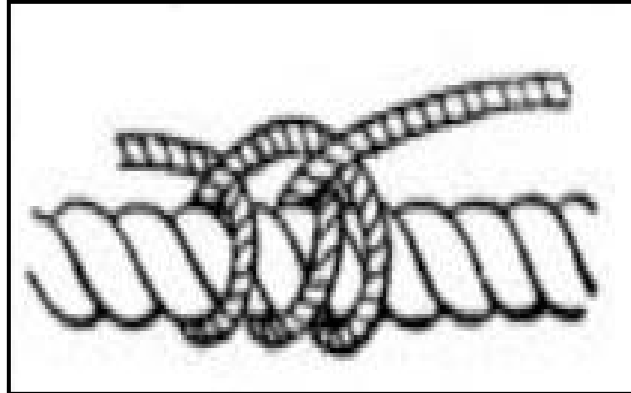
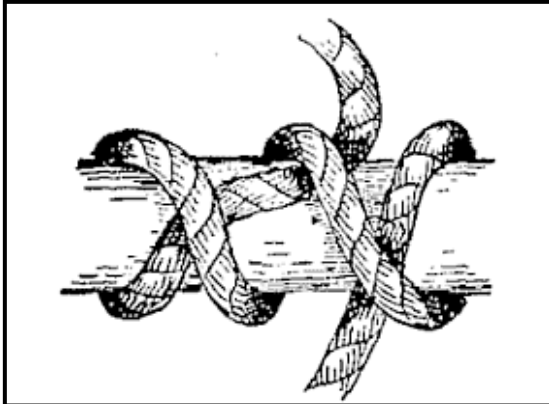
Or Call - 602-881-ARCA (2722)

Talk-In - 146.78 - (91.5 PI)

(continued from page 3)

TYING A GUYING ROPE TO AN ANCHOR POLE: THE ROLLING HITCH (MODIFIED CLOVE HITCH)

The balun was hung from a black PP rope with a slightly adapted **THE ROLLING HITCH KNOT** in combination with a **THE FIGURE OF EIGHT KNOT** at the loose end.



Two round turns are taken round a spar in which it is to be hauled and one half hitch on the other side of the hauling part. This is very useful, as it can be put on and off quickly.

**A Special Thanks to the Yavapai ARC And To The Editors
Of The Yavapai Signal And to Dick Diddams, W7QHE**

LBARA CLUB MEETING PROGRAM

**Dick Jernigan will present a video and direct discussion
on Fox Hunting....This is in anticipation of the Club's next Fox Hunt**

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.

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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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STATIC

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.

