

## 2020 Sundowner Resource Trailer Committee Report

This committee was formed in April 2016 to outfit and maintain the club's 2004 Sundowner Trailer, a donation from member Will Johnson. The committee did not meet in 2020, mostly due to COVID-19 restrictions. Members include Neil Panton (chair), Mike Pittaro, David Trupiano, Craig Eddy, Irma & Bob Mitton, with interest in joining by Aaron Murphy – K2AAR.

The trailer remains at the Panton residence in San Gregorio, and was deployed twice during the year. The first was for Field Day 2020 June 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. The trailer was moved to the top of the Panton property and used as a resource for an outdoor visitor station. Three antennas from the trailer were used; a 20-40-80 dipole donated by Glen Haydon's estate, a Hustler 6BTV donated by Jack Eddy, and a Diamond CR-8900 for 2m and 6m. All other radios and equipment used were those of Neil Panton.

There were six visitors to the station, with two returning to learn more about digital operation. Power for the operating station came from a Honda generator, with commercial power for lights and other non-operational services. Solar power was provided by the trailer for ten solar contacts.

One of our newest (and youngest!) licensees, Allen KN6GMQ, made his first ham radio contact from this station. He and his family have since become club members. This station was also the base of Field Day Operations, with Neil Panton as Operations Chief for the weekend.

The trailer was moved to Half Moon Bay on August 20<sup>th</sup> as part of the evacuation of San Gregorio during the CZU lightning complex fire. It remained in Half Moon Bay until August 28<sup>th</sup> when it returned to the Panton residence. During this deployment the jack handle broke and a temporary fix was put in place. The jack has since been replaced by an electric jack.

### **Improvements completed in 2020:**

The trailer has valid DMV registration until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

An electric trailer jack was installed in December. It replaced the manual jack that failed.

The trailer received a donation of a Kenwood TM-D700A Dual Band 2m/70cm radio. This radio has a built-in TNC (Terminal Node Controller) that allows for Packet and other digital modes with the addition of a computer. It also supports APRS, Automatic Packet/Positioning Reporting System.

Two of the trailer radios now have cases – the FT-450 in a hard case and the FT-8900 in a soft case. The FT-897 and TM-D700A are still in need of a case.

### **Work planned for 2021:**

Installation of an APRS beacon for locating the trailer and checking its status

Upgrade circuit breaker for AC Inverter

Cases and storage for two club radios

Install donated WiFi hotspot

Install mounting arm for monitor

Asset tags for new equipment, and Asset check-in/check-out system

Preparation of training materials for the safe deployment and maintenance of the trailer

Documentation of the power system

Build an easily deployable and effective HF multiband dipole antenna (tests done 2019 Winter Field Day)

First aid kit, USB charger, possible roof ladder and more!

Respectfully submitted, Neil Panton – Committee Chair