Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

November 11, 2025.





VP5M TURKS & CAICOS

The improbable story of a winning Dxpedition and Contest Station

So where are the Turks & Caicos Islands?









Providenciales ("Provo") is the most populated with most businesses and the main airport.

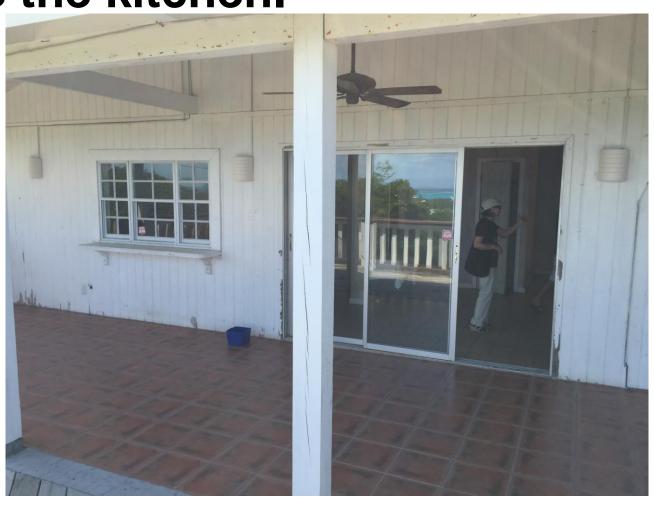




Turtle Cove area

House as we first saw it in 2015. Covered porch became the kitchen.





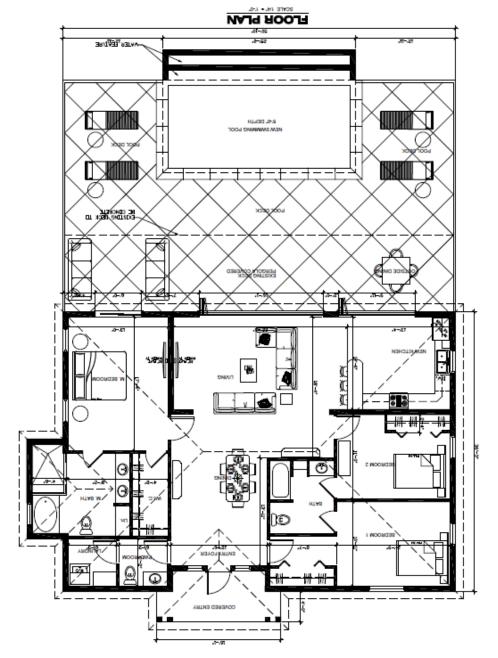
Views before renovation and building pool.





This is all we had seen...

A proposed plan.









This is beginning to look like a house.

- Rough in plumbing and electrical started.
- Note framing is treated lumber.

That is a kitchen?

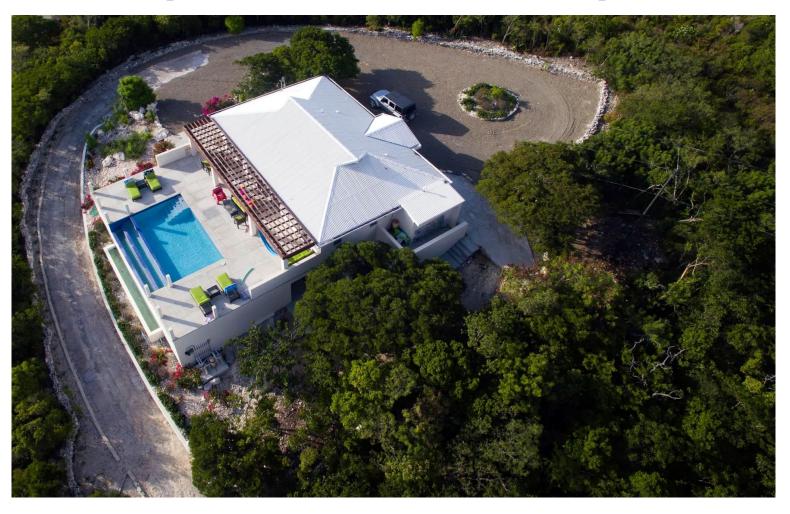


Yes! This is the kitchen and dining area when completed March 2016.



FINALLY!

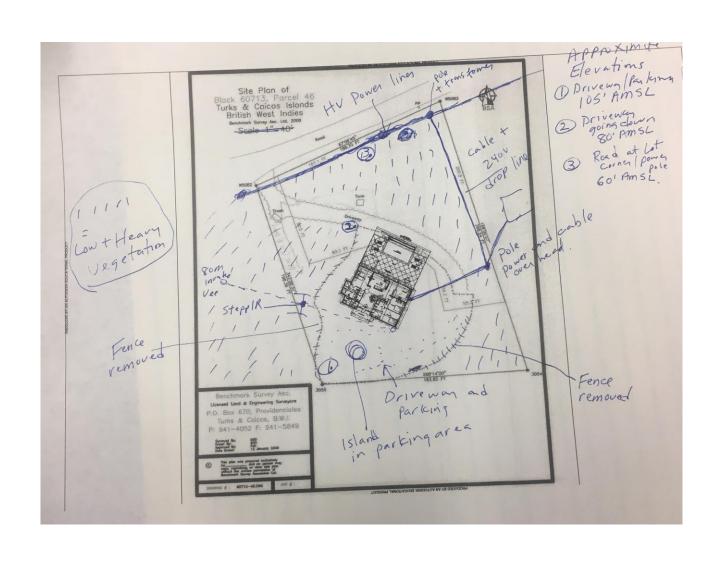
Completed and landscaped.



We repair an insurance auction Jeep and ship it to the island.



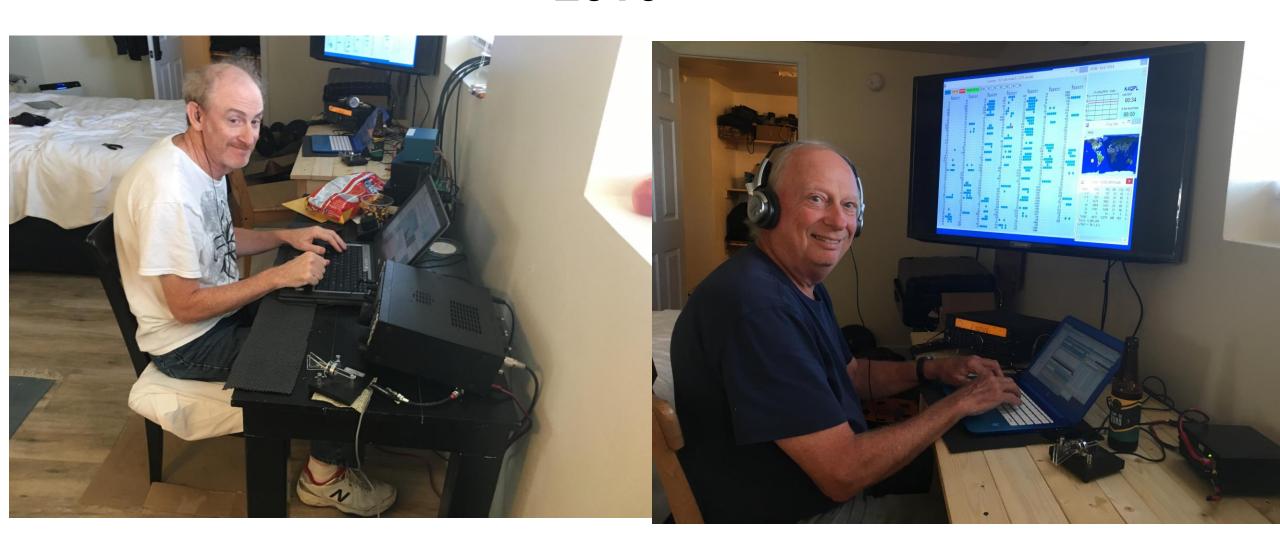
Let's start thinking about antennas...



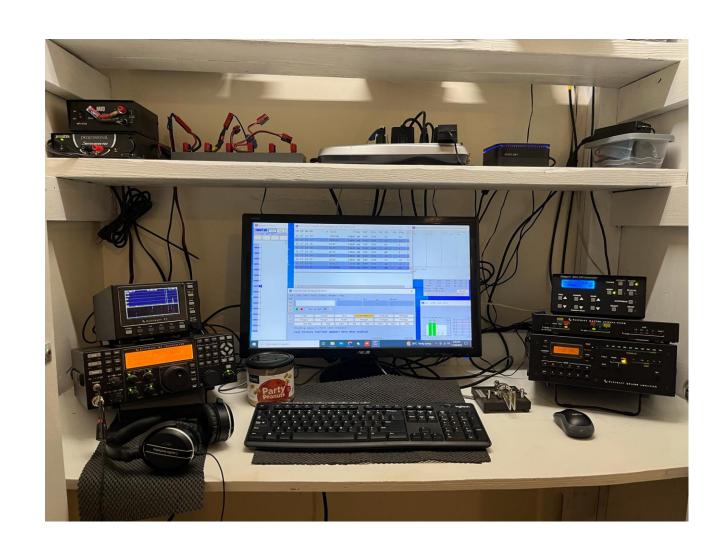
SteppIR up on /AB-577



AA4NC and K4QPL at VP5M for CQWW CW 2016



Permanent single-op guest station



2017 and along came Irma.....

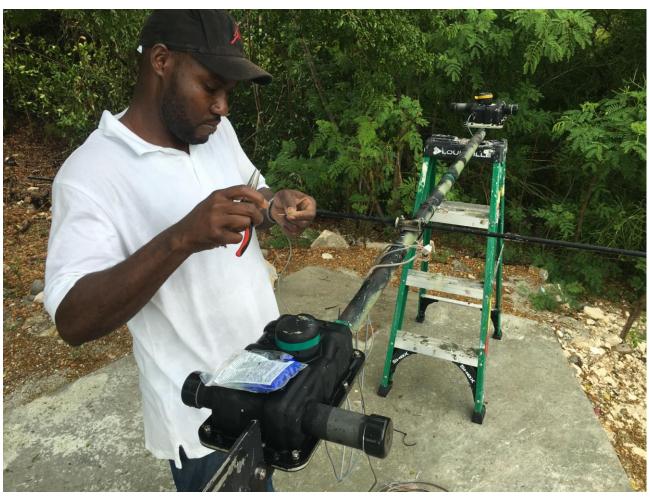






Repairing the SteppIR with a local friend.





Tropical evening after the storms....





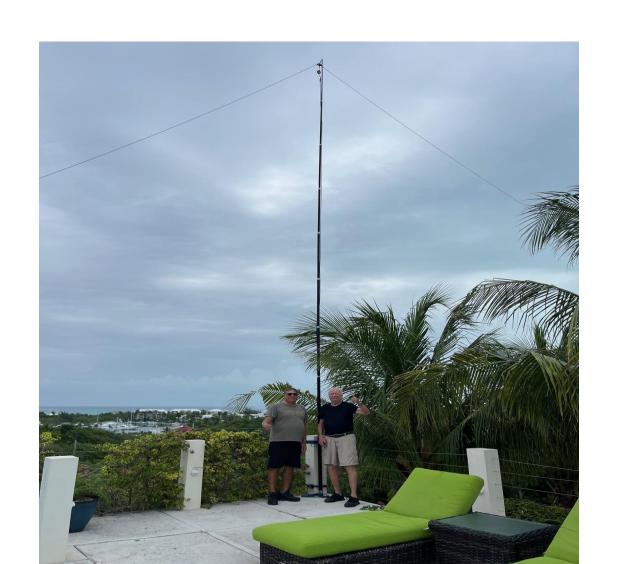


Local licenses are necessary.

WT3K preparing for a contest with an extra tribander.



NR40 and K4QPL finish the 80-40 trap V.



More temporary antennas.



North view from the tribander.



Alien spaceship approaching at night??



Control equipment





Interlock activated.

ACTION!

CQWPX

K4BAI

K2SX



ARRL DX SSB

KL2A

NN3W

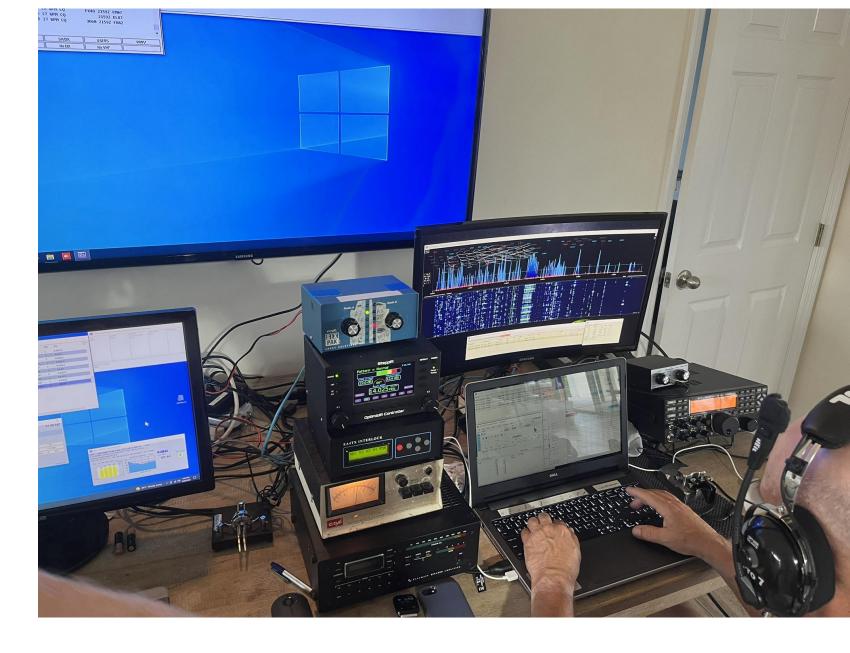
KU4V



KK4R

CHASING MULTS S&P

(SDR shows workable mults)

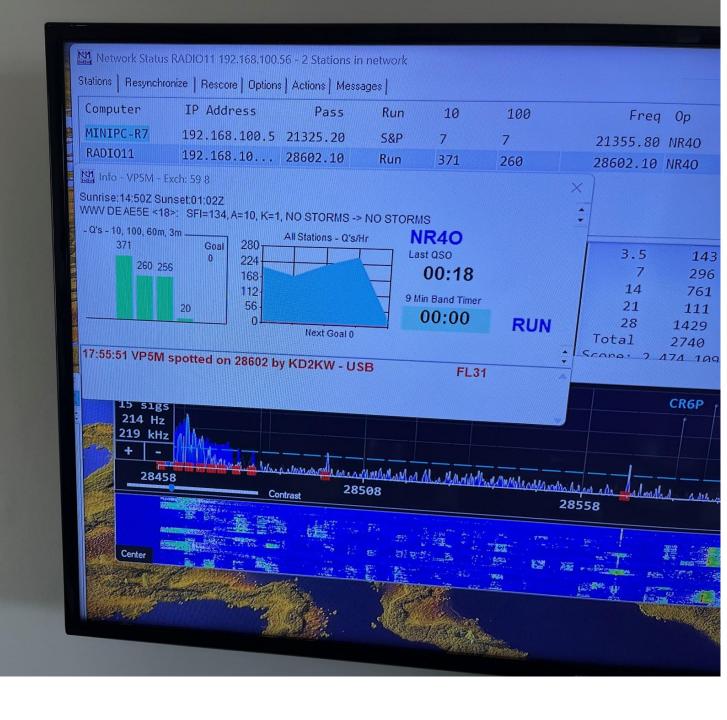


RATES: Rate/hour:

10 min: 371 (>6 QSOs per minute.)

Last hr: 256 (>4 QSOs per minute.)

Contest: 6651 48 hours: 139 (>2 QSOs/min.



Just one of our many wins.

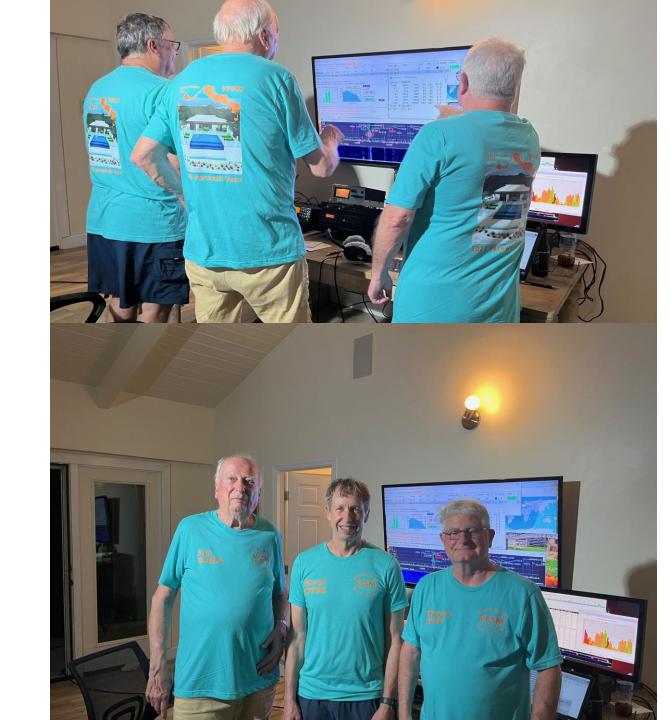
Some activity at the station

Does not show all visitors or ops working other bands and modes using VP5/(home call).

End of the 2025 VP5M Farewell Tour.

NR40, K4QPL, KU4V

K4QPL, WT3K, KU4V



NR40 and KU4V relaxing at the "Sharkbite"



Maybe it's all just been good luck!



Thanks and 73,

Jim, K4QPL

VP5M