

Jed Margolin

From: "W9DX" <cougar70@earthlink.net>
To: <jm@jmargolin.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 28, 2008 8:05 AM
Subject: RE: K5RC Antenna Issue

Jed: Your message was received. Sorry for the late reply but we've been without phones, electricity, or internet here in Houston for about 2 weeks following Hurricane Ike. Going through hundreds of back-logged e-mails takes some time. Thanks for your comments, but I do not believe you have all the facts, and have gotten caught up with the neighborhood politics of your lady friend. I'm not going to start a useless polemic on the subject and play verbal ping-pong with you, but felt it was necessary to respond to some of your comments:

> From: Jed Margolin <jm@jmargolin.com>
> Sent: Sep 21, 2008 6:38 PM
> To: k5dx@tdxs.net
> Subject: K5RC Antenna Issue
>
> Greeting from the Virginia City Highlands, where we still believe in family values
> and democracy, and where the women are hotter than the wildfires.
>
> This is in response to your coverage of the K5RC antenna issue in your
> September 2008 BullSheet at <http://www.tdxs.net/bs2008/Sep08.pdf>
>
> First, the way I got copies of Tom's antenna documents was by using the link
> to them that he publicly gave out. They are at <http://vchnv.us/VCHtowers.html>.
> I suggest you publish this link so your readers can make up their own minds
> about them.
>
> Speaking about links, my analysis of Tom's antenna documents is at
> http://www.jmargolin.com/antennas/toms_antennas.html so your readers can
> decide for themselves if it is "poorly written" as you have stated.
>
> I am surprised that you did not publish the links in your article. After I
> wrote my analysis, Tom was the first person I sent the link to. It was a
> matter of courtesy.
>
> Second, why is Tom a "General" and I am only a "ringleader?" I want to be a
> General, too, except I am not the leader of the group opposed to Tom's proposed 195'
> tower. The leader is a very nice lady who owns property next to Tom's. When she
> asked me to sign the petition I said, "No, I'm sorry, I can't sign a petition to
> take away another man's toys."
>
> Then she showed me the picture of the concrete pad he had poured for a guy wire
> anchor on her property. With that, Tom had crossed more than a property line, so I
> signed the petition.

You might want to get the facts straight from your "nice lady" friend. I have been to Tom's place and have seen first hand what actually transpired. Tom received a totally inaccurate plat plan from the previous owner at close of escrow. That plat plan is still on file with your building department. If they had used it for their inspections, any trespasses would still be unknown. The inaccuracies of the eastern property line were not discovered until May 2008. The inaccuracies in the western property line owned by the "nice lady" were not discovered until June 2008. The "nice lady" admonished Tom for not having had a survey done, yet she did not have

her own property surveyed until June 2008. As we say in Texas, that dog don't hunt.
Do you really believe that Tom would intentionally put guy anchors a few feet onto a neighbor's property when he has ten acres of his own? As soon as the trespasses were identified they were immediately fixed, at great expense. The one anchor remaining on the "nice lady's" property is still there because I understand the building inspector stopped Tom from moving the tower to its new location.

The "nice lady" also appears to be one of the ring leaders of a few neighbors who believe that if the towers were not there, property values would rise and the "nice lady" would start selling real estate again. There is no evidence that this is true. Are Tom's towers also responsible for the mortgage meltdown in America? What about the declining real estate values all over the Reno/Virginia City area? What about all the neighborhoods with 400 ft cellphone towers? Those property values haven't declined because of the towers! I saw the buckboard and two horse graves across the street from Tom's driveway. Maybe these turn off prospective buyers? Ya think? If she was a "nice lady" why did she not agree to have Tom pay for an easement on a piece of her property that will never be seen from the home site that is carved out of the hill side?

> And about "General Taormina K5RC directing the troops in full battle mode." You
> mean his friends from Northern California who come out here to operate his station
> during contests?

It sounds like you have something against contestants and contesting. Tom also operates mobile, is a rag-chewer on CW, on the DXCC Honor Roll and is the County RACES officer. Because you dislike contesting is no reason for you to be condemning what Tom is building (one of the best contest and DX stations in the country). You are also probably unaware that Tom has mentored dozens of new operators and continues to do so.

According to the FCC and Nevada law I read in Tom's documents, neither you, the neighbors or the county have any legal right to determine the number of towers or their height. This is not a matter of opinion and negotiation. He specifically moved to the wild west you describe because the people who lived there then did their own thing in peace and did not harass their neighbors.

> I am sure that Tom has invited all of you in Texas to come out to operate his station
> during the next contest. When you come, I suggest you find some time to visit Virginia City.

I've been to Reno and Virginia City a number of times. More than 30 of us came out in 2006 and created a new category in Field Day by operating off BioDiesel. Most of us did visit and enjoy Virginia City and we'll be back.

> Virginia City was a boomtown that started when silver (and some gold) was discovered there in 1859. President Abe Lincoln needed the gold and silver to keep the Union solvent during the Civil War so in 1864 he made Nevada a state although it did not contain enough people to constitutionally become one.
> Samuel Clemens lived there for a time. It's where he started using the name Mark Twain. Today it is a small tourist town that attracts people because of its colorful history and because it is where the Cartwrights on the TV show Bonanza usually went when they had business to do.
> (Virginia City was about to become a ghost town when Bonanza went on the air.)
>
>If you visit Virginia City you will find that the people are friendly and polite.
>

>You might try some of that yourself sometime.
>
>Your article ends with the suggestion, "Keep Tom in your thoughts and prayers concerning this issue since it affects all of us regardless of locale."
>
>The real way that Tom's antenna issue affects all of you is that your defense of his actions makes you look bad.

Sorry Jed. Our comments were meant to empathize with a very old and dear friend who has contributed greatly to Ham Radio. From where we stand, a group of neighborhood busybodies are using the county agencies to harass Tom and have cost him thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend (if you read his documents carefully) what is legal and proper under Nevada law. The case affects all hams regardless of location where local officials can ignore the law and abuse the power of their office at the whim of political friends.

Frankly, I am stunned that another ham would undertake to sabotage the efforts of a fellow ham.

Steve, W9DX

> 73,
>
> Jed Margolin
> WA2VEW

Nuff said.