

2016-09-10 Site visit By Ray, Ed, Steve, Rich, Bob and Bill

Ed went down earlier in the week and finished the repair on the generator so on Saturday it worked perfectly and we had power all day.

Bob and Denise, Ray's good friends who have moved to Texas were visiting and brought out their motor home, spending most of the day with us.

Denise made some fantastic Mule Skinner chili and we all had a late lunch after installing the multiband feed. This was very much appreciated!

First thing on arrival Steve manually controlled the dish and moved it into the service position with the feed mount just above the top of the 3 story scaffold.

If you have never seen the dish move this is something to behold in sight and sound with that much mass moving under manual control.

The multiband feed was prepped and tethered with a pulley on the disk strut to host it into position.

Ray and Steve donned climbing gear and climbed the scaffold and strapped onto the dish feed mount.

A round mounting plate was drilled to match the dish mount housing and hoisted up to the mount.

Bill, Rich and Bob hoisted the Multiband Feed of about 60 LBS with ropes to Ray and Steve on the scaffold who positioned it on the mount. It wouldn't line up so had to repeat this whole exercise several times, up and down to modify the mounting plate.

Finally with some finesse and a lot of force the mount lined up and reluctantly slid into the mounting plate and was secured with its U-bolts.

The dish was restowed to the vertical position and photos were taken.

The whole exercise took most of the day.

Meanwhile, Ed had made some more progress on the electrical wiring in the generator, pedestal and the comm. trailer.

Ed also started to get the LAN set up with a switch in the comm. trailer.

Bill brought in a couple of Netgear switches for the generator shack and the bunker and left them and a couple of Cat 5 couplers on the service table in the comm. trailer for the next trip.

Bill also built up a 1U 24 port RJ45 patch panel installed in the rack and ran two Cat 5 cables with terminated RJ45s out to the Cat 5 connection from the buried line next to the comm. trailer. These were not hooked up but will be on the next trip installing Cat 5 patch cables to the switch from the panel and a switch and couplers at the generator shack. The 600 ft run probably requires the switch at the generator to repeat and retime the Cat 5 signals for reliable signal integrity of the LAN. On the next trip we hope to have the LAN working end to end.

All in all, good progress was made on a great day with only a little wind to contend with. Here are the day's photos.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e3mwvfz7vda458b/AAAPtXvwmudSkEIk9JN9stuga?dl=0>