

STARES Communications Trailer

The trailer project is one that has been on the burner for years. Like many ARES groups its high on the want list but difficult to produce. The fires of 2004 here in Shasta County made it clear how much of an asset our own command post/communications platform would be. We knew we had to generate funds so we incorporated the ARES group in October of 2005 and got the ball rolling. It wasn't until late spring of 06 that we got our IRS paperwork started for a 501c3 non profit status. Thing didn't proceed as expected and our IRS paperwork needed rework and was resubmitted. It wasn't until May of 2007 when we received an approval from the IRS. During that time changes were taking place for ARES in Shasta and Tehama Counties

In the wake of Katrina, disaster coordinators were exposed to the benefits amateur radio could make to its preparedness plans. Our Associate EC Seguin KJ6C was asked to join a local advisory council and our exposure to the health care community increased. With Carl's ability to work easily with this group and filling them in on how we could help, we now have nearly 20 amateur stations permanently installed around Shasta County. With STARES now a 501c3 non profit and positive support from the health care community we were awarded our own grant for the communications trailer.

Due to some changes in the grant process, we were required to spend our own money and then turn in receipts for a refund. Needless to say we were a little disappointed, at this point one of our members Dick Cloyd WO6P generously volunteered to purchase the trailer and turn in the receipt on behalf of STARES.

July 10, 2008 Carl KJ6C and Dick Cloyd WO6P go to Orland to purchase the 14' Carson Rebel Toy Hauler



Trailer parked and waiting for its transformation into a communications workspace. By the way there are many fires burning in Shasta, Trinity and Butte Counties, started by lightning strikes.

Dick Cloyd making plans.



STARES Leadership Left to Right Mac McCulley W6MAC Sacramento Valley ARES District 3 & 4 DEC Carl Seguin KJ6C Shasta-Tehama ARES Associate EC Dick Cloyd WO6P Sacramento Valley Section Emergency Coordinator Al Pena KQ6YW Shasta-Tehama ARES EC

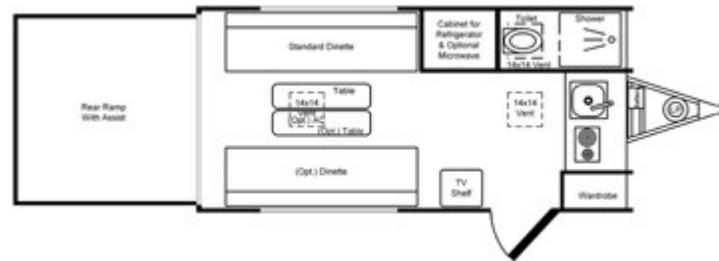


Carl Handing over the keys, now the fun begins!

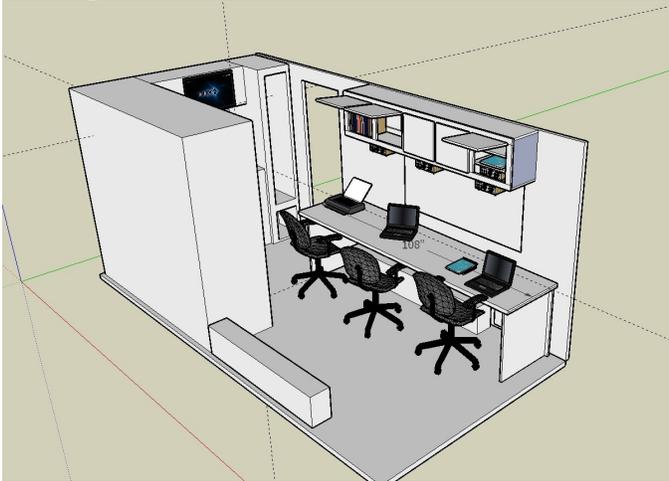


The trailer is a Carson Rebel Mini Toy Hauler. 7x14 enclosure with typical travel trailer accommodations.

Click picture for link to manufacture website



Our plans call for 3 operating positions, two amateur positions and one client or guest work space. The desktop will be ordered from a local countertop business. The cabinets will be custom built and installed by STARES membership.



Some of the original trailer graphics need to come off for the new STARES signs to be applied.



Signs on this side completed. Two more sides to go! Mac did a great job removing those stubborn vinyl stickers. Lots of hard work here! Signs made by Speed Pro Signs Plus of Redding and applied by STARES membership.



Ray Tooker W6TYB mounts his custom antenna rail on the trailer.



Stock Cabinets. The only prep here is to remove the blinds and valance from the right side of the trailer. To install the cabinets.



The extra storage cabinet was added to the plan, it's the same length as the radio cabinet but shorter in height at 14" and mounts over the trailer Bed/Dinette combo directly over the valance.



Dick installing the doors on the extra storage cabinet.



Getting the radio support and storage cabinet ready to mount over the desktop.



Sorting the cabinet doors. Notice the desk top, it's a full 108 inches long more than enough room for 3 operators
Countertop built and installed by Redding Counter Tops.



Radio cabinet installed.



Public Service & spare Amateur Radio



Amateur Radio





Ready to Roll--- September 14, 2008



First operational setup, Whiskeytown Relays
September 21 2008
Paul Peterson K6PTT and Carl Seguin KJ6C

