

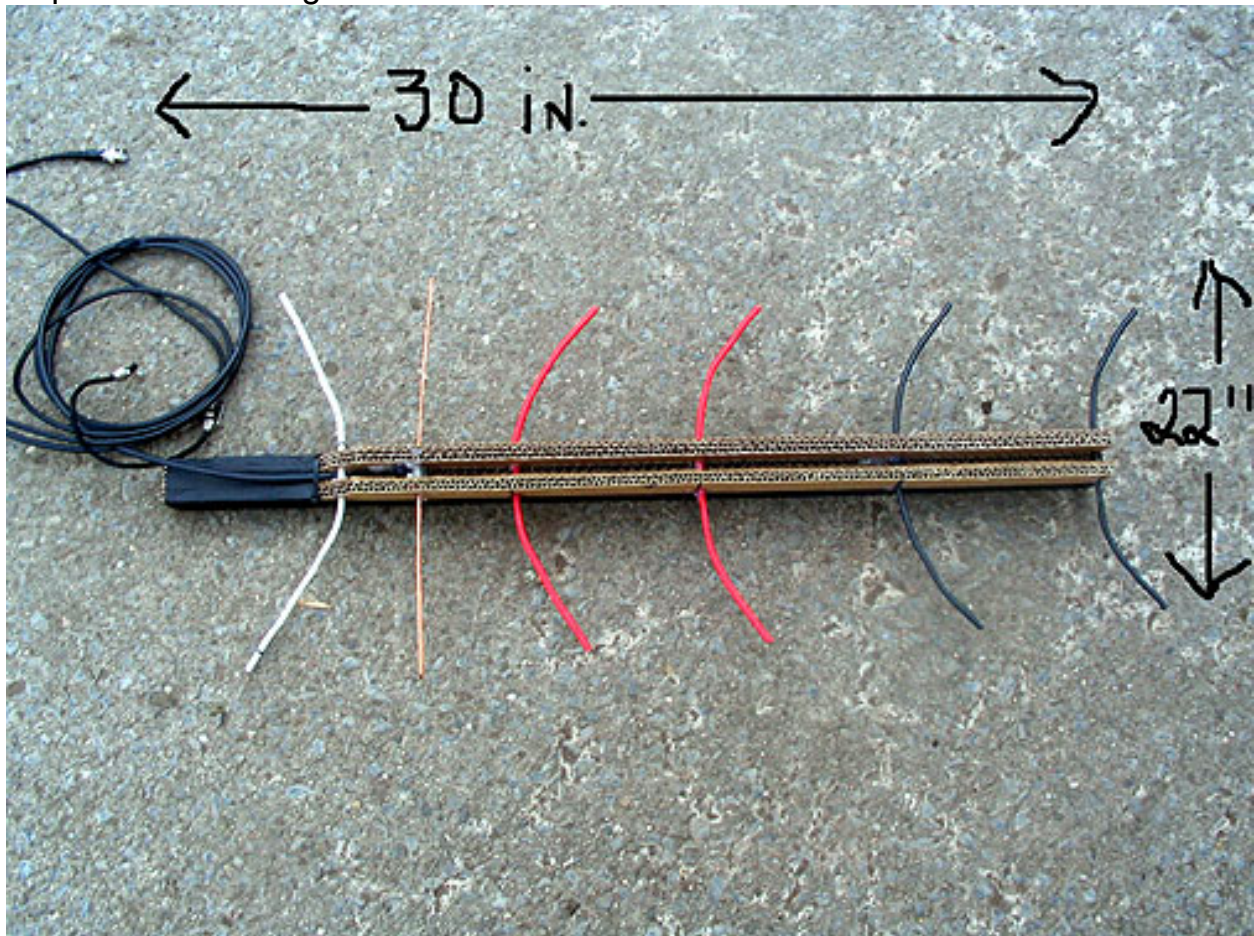
Subject: Satellite downlink homebrew antenna weekend project a success!!!

OUTSTANDING, Pete! Your antenna ... and even that "tape measure Yagi" can get folks into high-gain, directional antennas without spending much money at all! Can you send me a photo of your finished project?

PETE - YEP!!! It's amazing what one can accomplish with practically no \$\$\$
Yesterday when I first tried the antenna, I heard a ham from as far away as Ohio
- from my location in Montreal ... not bad!

This antenna required me to bend the director and reflectors about 45 degrees to get the antenna resonant. On the plus side, I think it looks cooler this way! When I have them at 90 degrees to the boom (like in the original design), at 435.300 the SWR was anywhere from 2.5:1 & 3.0:1. But in this configuration, I was getting SWR as low as 1.6:1 - not perfect, but it's a downlink antenna. At 444.000 Mhz, the SWR was very high. Will keep you posted on the developments.

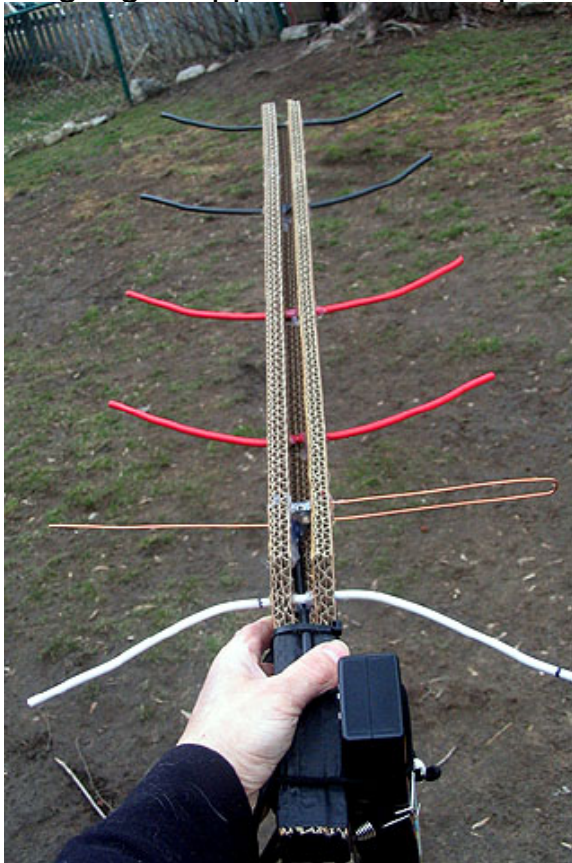
Top view - with rough dimensions



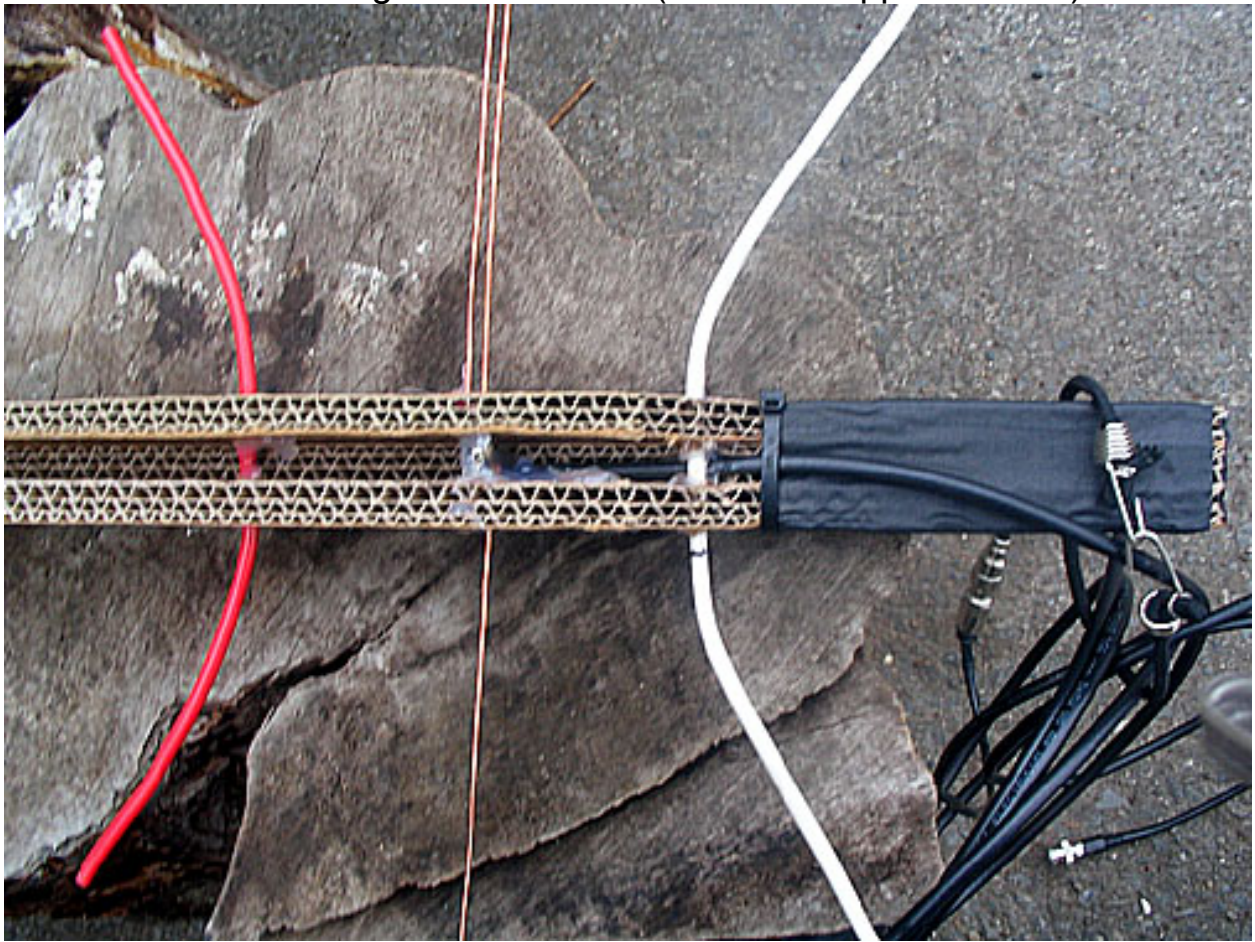
Side view - with detail of handle



Top-view, in hand, HT bungee-corded to handle...
12-gauge copper wire, duct tape, hot glue, & 1 tie-wrap.



A closer view of the handle and driven element. You can clearly see it's made out of 1/2" corrugated cardboard (discarded appliance box)



Antenna in hand ... weighs next to nothing...HT bungee-corded across handle for easy tuning.

I know, the coax is too long, I will need to shorten that!

So, not counting the price of the oven the box came in (grin), it's a really cheap & easy way to make a very high-gain antenna (thus the name of the article, I guess...)



I should be the poster-child for cheap & easy yagis!!! ;-)

73

Pete - VE2 XPL

;-)