

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

April 2009



The President's Message

de Joe Kent/W5JBK

Thank you to all who have made donations to the club. Some have been anonymous and we appreciate them all.

Field Day planning continues at the Officers meeting, May 7, 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Thanks to Bill Tarn/AE5AW for finding a new duplexer. Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ is checking it out. The duplexer was donated by John Jones and Alvaro Antonio Gonzalez. Many thanks.

Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ reports that the 146.940 repeater should be moved in the next two month as weather, end of the semester at ASU, and his schedule permit.

We are looking into some trailer possibilities and will report to the club later.

Thanks to Mike Dominy/KD5URW for the License class and Glenn Miller/AA5PK and his VECs for handling the exams.

73, see you on the airwaves, W5JBK

April Meeting Minutes

de Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

The regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President Joe Kent/W5JBK, on April 9, 2009 at 1933.

Introductions were made with 17 members and 2 visitors in attendance.

The March Minutes were approved as read and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

The program after the meeting will be on Solar Activity presented by Joe Lynch/KG5X.

Old Business

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC had received the date of April 23 for the Rebuilding Together. Those that have volunteered can get with Hughbert and receive your assignments.

Mike Dominy/KD5URW says they are making good progress on the trailer.

Joe Kent/W5JBK and Tom Austin/K4OTM will pull the trailers to the Field Day site. They could use other pick-ups for other errands.

Jane Austin/N4WES and LaRae Kent/KC5KXY will fix a brisket. Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ XYL will bring potato salad and deviled eggs. Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ will bring sweets. Charlie Royall/WB5T will bring cokes and water. Many others will bring other dishes. Gary Pittman/KE5TXL will bring ice for all our needs.

New Business

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC will go to Wal-Mart Supercenter North, H. E. B. & SAM'S Club to raise donations.

Bob Freeman/KD5PIX will go to Wal-Mart Supercenter on Sherwood way to raise donations.

Next meeting we will get the groups together that will be setting up antenna's, generators and other equipment.

Mike Dominy/KD5URW has a technician class starting May 12. Anyone that knows someone that would like to get information get with Mike.

Bob Edwards/W5ZTG is interested in starting a QST club. I would like to talk with him more on this next meeting.

Good of the Order

There were three drawings. The first was for a Watt Meter, I believe donated by Charlie Royall/WB5T and won by Don Hejl/N5SVK. A small vice with a mirror was won by Decota, daughter of Olin Malone/KE5YHK. The Split-the-Pot was worth \$15.50 to the winner Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC and the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2011. The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday May 14, 2009 at 1930 at the clubhouse.



Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

These are the frequencies to monitor for FLASH FLOODS and ROAD CLOSURES.

NWS - 162.550

EMS FD - 460.600, 155.340, 155.220, 154.190, 155.130, 155.1875, 154.130, 154.160, 154.280, 154.265, 154.295

REACT - 462.675, 462.600

CODE BLUE - 463.675

PD - 155.910, 154.860, 154.875

SO - 155.700, 156.090, 156.210, 155.940 154.115

DPS - 154.950, 155.370, 155.475

HOMEOWNER WRECKERS

155.160, 155.270

TAXI -157.650, 152.390

TX DOT-151.025, 153.025

SCHOOL BUSES – 461.050,

461.375, 464.425, 464.675

TRASHAWAY TRUCKS - 855.2875

PARKS TFS -159.270, 159.300,

159.330, 159.345

SALVATION ARMY - 35.940,

35.960

AMERICAN RED CROSS

47.420, 47.500, 47.520, 47.540

STANDARD TIMES - 173.225

SHUTTLE BUSES - 140.7875,

865.4625

Congratulations to David Behrend

David Behrend/KB5FNK, was named April 1, 2009 by the Standard-Times as one the three finalists for local recipient of the Jefferson Award, a national award given for volunteerism.

Staci Roseberry, Standard-Times marketing manager, said the awards recognize the "unsung heroes in the community that live normal lives."

Behrend, 44, is an emergency services dispatcher who has lived in San Angelo his whole life. His educational background consists of some college and accreditation necessary to become a telecommunications emergency dispatcher.

His civic involvement includes service as president for Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams, secretary for San Angelo Emergency Corps, secretary for the Pecan Creek Volunteer Fire Department, secretary for the Concho Valley Firefighters Association, vice president of Code Blue, a member of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club with previous stints as president and vice president, member of the East Angelo Lions Club, volunteer with the

Special Olympics during the Summer Games, service to his church, Trinity Lutheran, and district radio officer for Texas State Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service.

Although he was not selected as the final winner, we are nevertheless proud to have David as a member of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club. He serves the club as Net Control for the 2-m net that meets Monday nights at 8 pm on the 146.940 repeater.

Davis also received a Community Service Award from the San Angelo Police Department where he works as a dispatcher.

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
16 May 2009	Johnny Pittman Memorial Swapfest, Bastrop Cty ARC	Smithville, TX	http://bcarc-hams.org
12-13 Jun 2009	Ham-Com 2009, Plano Center	Plano, TX	http://www.hamcom.org/
7-8 Aug 2009	Texas State Convention (Austin Summerfest) Austin ARC & Texas VHF FM Society	Austin, TX	http://www.austinsummerfest.org

Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Emergency Coordinator

April ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
4/6	KD5URW	11	26 min	444.350
4/13	KD5URW	13	24 min	444.350
4/20	KD5URW	12	24 min	444.350
4/27	KD5URW	12	21min	444.350

ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 repeater (N5SVK) with other frequencies announced on Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm.

The Tom Green County ARES group had their monthly meeting on the 19th of Mar 09.

Work continues on replacing the HF Antenna at the EOC. An all band B&W antenna has been donated and will be tested and installed in the near future.

The VHF antenna blew over in a recent high wind event and has been reset and secured.

Other goals for upgrading or updating the EOC other antennas, radios and computers were set as future projects for the group.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting was set for the 16th of Apr 09 at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse.

Severe weather season is here to stay for a while, so stay alert and keep your "Go-Bags" and "Ready Kits" ready for anything that could come up during this time of possible severe fires within Tom Green County and any of the surrounding areas. You never know what may come up and we maybe called to assist with the EOC or any shelters if need, so Stay Ready.

Recent SAARC Programs

<i>May '08</i>	Field Trip to US Customs Office
<i>June '08</i>	Antenna Theory and Design, I Bill Tarn/AE5AW
<i>July '08</i>	Field Trip AE5AW's QTH Bill Tarn/AE5AW
<i>August '08</i>	Field Trip to Tom Green County EOC
<i>September '08</i>	Antenna Theory and Design, II Bill Tarn/AE5AW
<i>October '08</i>	SAARC Birthday Celebration
<i>November '08</i>	Trunk Tracking Jack Roberts/KB5TMY
<i>December '08</i>	Eat and Meet Meeting
<i>January '09</i>	Antenna theory And Design, III Bill Tarn/AE5AW
<i>February '09</i>	Amateur Satellite Communications Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
<i>March '09</i>	Digital Communications, PSK-31 Gary Chafin/W5ETJ , Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
<i>April '09</i>	Solar Activity and Ham Radio Joe Lynch/KG5X

FYI

Did you know that ARRL puts out a weekly newsletter about events and news of interest to Amateur Radio. It is free and available by email to ARRL members. Read the newsletter online at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>

You can find hamfests at

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

Do you need technical information about antenna, operating procedures or anything else ham related. Try the Technical Information pages at:

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/tismenu.html>

Not a member of ARRL? See Bob Freeman/KD5PIX for application. Renew through the club and the club receives a payment.

Other websites with lots of technical and how-to articles are listed below.

<http://ac6v.com/> - if you can't find it here it probably doesn't exist.

<http://www.dxzone.com/> another good encyclopedic website.

If you have other good websites to share send them to me at vparker6@suddenlink.net at we will add to the list.

CQ/DX de WB5ZAM



Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during May:5X: TT; S21; 5N; 8R; ZF; HB0; T7; 3D2; JD1; ZD8; YJ0; BY; V6; TK; 5H; ZK; YS. Think Field Day! CW rules! Let's get a real effort up and dominate the bands. Sunspots are coming!

Island of the Month: Isla Margarita YV: In 1498, Christopher Columbus discovered Margarita Island. The local natives, named Guaiqueries, received the conquering Spaniards with open arms unaware that they later would become slaves of their own wealth. Located in the Caribbean Sea between latitudes 10°52'N and 11°11'N and longitudes 63°48'W and 64°23'W, it belongs to the State of Nueva Esparta which also comprises the islands of Coche and Cubagua.

The island is formed by two peninsulas joined by an isthmus. It covers an area of 1,020 km². It splits into two sections linked by an 18-km (11-mi) spit of sand. It is 78 km long and its widest side measures roughly 20 km. The climate is very sunny and dry with temperatures from 24 to 37°C.

Most of the island's 420,000 residents live in the more developed eastern part, especially in the city of Porlamar and adjoining city of Pampatar.



Others are found in the much smaller city of La Asunción, the capital of the region or Juan Griego.

Direct flights from Caracas and other Venezuelan cities, as well as scheduled or charter flights from a number of North American and European cities, ferries from Puerto La Cruz, Cumana, and La Guaira also travel to the island. The Macanao peninsula to the west has a central mountain range in the east-west direction. The highest altitude is 760 m at Pico de Macanao.

Margarita Island had to be fortified against the increasing threat of pirate attacks, and several of these fortifications remain today. In 1561, the island was seized by Lope de Aguirre, a notoriously violent and rebellious conquistador who held the islanders in a grip of terror until he returned to the mainland in an attempt to take Panama from the Spanish crown. In 1814, the islanders fought successfully for independence from the Spanish, and Isla Margarita became the first free territory in Venezuela. That same year, Luisa Cáceres de Arismendi was detained for over three years in a dark dungeon where she was harassed and abused by the Spanish soldiers with the purpose of pressing her husband Juan Bautista Arismendi, who was by then battling a fierce campaign against the Royal Spanish forces. It was on Margarita Island that Simon Bolivar, later called the Libertador, was confirmed as Commander in Chief of the new republic, la gran Colombia. From there he started to free Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia from the Spanish Crown.

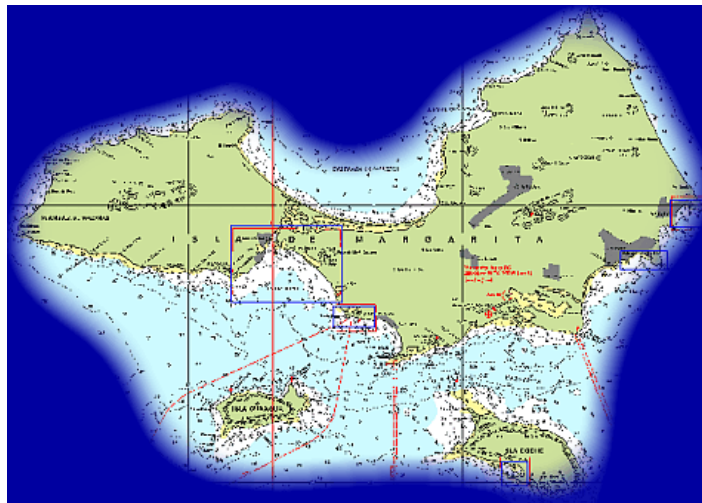


Tourism from the US is now nearly non-existent, and for the foreseeable future, President "for Life" Chavez says he will keep the country free of "gringo invaders". Ham radio is active, but mostly from towns not controlled by Chavez political groups. Most of the tourist crowd comes from European countries, not seen by Chavez as a threat to his policies. All inclusive are there, but mostly villas are available. There is a golf course (18 holes public course, par 70, and dry like San Angelo area courses), lots of beaches, and places to hike, or just relax. Much more information is available about the island and future potentials, especially information geared towards tourists, on a general web search for Isla Margarita. (Primary Source: Wikipedia; Frommer's Guides; and www.islamargarita.com/)

QSL OF THE MONTH-SE5T: Frobe has a nice QSL with a view of him and his QTH in Sweden.



See you on the bands chasing dx. 73 de WB5ZAM.



Selected Special Events and Contests

Check the special events page on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html> for weekly events.

Contests are located on <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

State QSO parties are listed at <http://qsoparty.eqth.net/#table1> sorted by date.

Get your free State QSO party certificate and stickers at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/ysqso/>

Field Day 2009



Field day will be here before we know it. Plans are already being made for a bigger and better field day. Detailed rules may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/fd.html>.

Hughbert/KC5NPC and Tom/K4OTM are making plans and need your help. If you can help in any capacity from publicity, setting up, operating, securing supplies, food, etc. contact Hughbert at tbum@aol.com or Tom at k4otm@mindspring.com.

We especially need new Hams to participate in Field Day. It is a great way to learn and get acquainted.

Dates for this years Field Day 2009 are June 27-28. Make plans now to be a part of this fun club event.

Repeater Upgrade—147.340 Repeater

There has been an update to a San Angelo area repeater. The 147.340+ Repeater (PL 88.5) has recently been rebuilt. This repeater is now capable of the following:

- A full-time link has been added to the West Texas Connection. The connection covers a very large area of West Texas primarily the Permian Basin region.

- An on-demand link to the Abilene 444.250 N5TEQ repeater and The BCARN (Big Country Amateur Radio Network) 443.100 Repeater system.

- NOAA weather radio alerting system. Alerts are regional, and will only be heard from the 34 repeater and not through any linked radio.

The primary intent of this upgrade is to give the Concho Valley a reliable link to the West. This will also allow our EOC the capability to contact the Midland EOC for Weather events and other exercises.

Some additional notes about this link are: Please be mindful that when using the link you are talking to many areas of the Permian Basin. It is also a good idea to use a short pause before speaking since you are keying up many repeaters and distant users may miss your first word if you have a quick mic.

Since the 34 is connected through the Sterling City

146.64 N5FTL repeater, the link from Sterling City to Big Spring may sometimes be down or not connected. Please contact me, KC5EZZ or Dow Ferguson N5FTL, to establish this link.

During weather events occurring in the Permian Basin, monitor the 147.34 repeater to hear the spotters and W5MAF operating. This is a very active system and a great net to monitor. The link can be set to a receive mode only, to allow conversations to continue on the 34 without a transmission to the west and of course it may also be turned off. If we need the 34 for regional spotting operations we will probably shut this link temporarily off.

To the users that intend to utilize this link, I ask that you contact me directly or email me for assistance. I will soon post the code sheet to N5NWS and can also supply further information about the link to those who are interested.

The 147.340 repeater has been in operation since 1991 and was formerly owned by Silent Key Jim Wilson /KF5EL.

The West Texas Connection has been active throughout West Texas since the mid eighties. There is more information / maps about the WTC here:

<http://www.westtexasconnection.net/>

from Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ
kc5ezz@texascom.com

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
4/7	KB5FNK	20	18 min
4/13	KB5FNK	26	27 min
4/20	KB5FNK	22	20 min
4/27	KB5FNK	27	20 min

This net meets every Monday night at 8 p.m. on the club's 146.34/.94 repeater. All amateurs licensed to operate on that frequency are invited to participate.

Concho Valley Open FM Repeaters

2 Meter		70 centimeter	
145.27-	San Angelo PL 88.5	441.750+	San Angelo PL 162.2
or PL 100.0 for local transmit		442.250+	San Angelo PL 162.2
146.72-	Eldorado PL 100.0	444.225+	Robert Lee PL 162.2
146.88-	San Angelo PL 88.5	444.350+	San Angelo PL 162.2 (Echo-Link Node)
146.94-	San Angelo PL 103.5	444.875+	Brady PL 162.2 Linked to 444.225+
147.06+	San Angelo PL 103.5		
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30	San Angelo PL 88.5
146.90-	Brady, TX PL 162.2		
146.62-	Brady PL 114.8 (Echo-Link Node)		



P.O. Box 4002
San Angelo, TX 76902-4002

Get all the latest club news on the World
Wide Web at www.w5qx.org

2009 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/W5JBK
Vice President - Don Hejl/N5SVK
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Activities Manager - Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC
Grounds Chairman - Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ
W5QX Trustee - Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ

SAARC Monthly Meetings: 2nd Thursday,
1930, Clubhouse, 5513 Stewart Lane

Annual Dues: \$20, Sr. & Jr. \$10

The Kilo-What: Edited by Buddy/KD5SBE at
949-7731 or email vparker6@suddenlink.net

Article submission deadline: Ten days prior
to monthly club meeting.



NEXT MEETING: 5/14/09
PROGRAM: APRS-KB5GLC
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE