

# The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

August 2009

## July 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 July 9, 2009 at 1931.

Introductions were made with 20 members and 9 visitors in attendance.

The June Minutes were approved as printed in the Kilo-What and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

The program after the meeting was on APRS, presented by Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ.

## Business

Hector Guerrero presented the club with a SKYWARN Certificate. A picture was made.

Mike/KD5URW said the Technician class dates are August 1st and August 8th. General class dates are Sept. 12 and Sept. 19th. Any questions please get in touch with Mike.

Buddy Parker gave us a general breakdown of our field day scores.

We had 335 CW contacts. Bill Richards/WB5ZAM, Walt Smith/K1QS, John Oppenheimer/KN5L were CW operators. Sam Morgan/KA5OAI operated CW during the nighttime hours.

Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ, made several digital contacts. There were 233 SSB contacts.

Don Hejl/N5SVK had 59 contacts on 6 mtrs.

David Lewis/W5DLL and Mike Dominy/KD5URW worked the GOTA station.

Glenn Miller/AA5PK, using solar power and a hand held antenna made 17 Satellite contacts.

We made around 1850 points with 1000 bonus points. We

should be some better than last year.

Charlie Royall has paid for the port-a-potty this year. We thank you Charlie. That has brought relief to many of us.

## Donations to the Club

Charlie Royall/WB5T donated a Kenwood radio to us.

Bill Richards has also donated a Kenwood radio to the club. We have two dependable radios now. The Alinco we have is not in the best of shape. One day we will have to make some kind of decision on it. Don Hejl/N5SVK on the July 9th meeting donated a Kodak Digital camera to the club.

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC has bought that air conditioning unit out back and donated a newspaper article to the club. If I overlooked anyone, please let me know so I can make amends.

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC has information on a screwdriver antenna tuner. Give him a call if interested.

## Good of the Order

There were several drawings. Hope I have them all down. David Lewis/W5DLL won a large squash. David Behrend/KB5FNK won a circuit tester. One of the visitors won a set of drill bits.

Matt Healy/W5MAT won a can't miss you at night vest. Rudy Wallace/N5CNF also won one of those vests. Tom Austin/K4OTM won a meter. Matt Healy/W5MAT won the Split-the-Pot worth \$13.25 to the winner and to the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2009.

The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday August 13, 2009 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
7-8 Aug 2009	Texas State Convention (Austin Summerfest) Austin ARC & Texas VHF FM Society	Austin, TX	<a href="http://www.austinsummerfest.org">http://www.austinsummerfest.org</a>
22 Aug 2009	Cooke County Amateur Radio Club	Gainesville, TX	<a href="http://www.gainesvillehamfest.org">http://www.gainesvillehamfest.org</a>
12 Sep 2009	Swapmeet and Tailgate South Plains Amateur Radio Club	Lubbock, TX	<a href="http://www.w5lcc.net">http://www.w5lcc.net</a>



**Scanner Jack's Corner**

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

This is the AAR (Association of American Railroad) and PBX (Private Branch Exchange), aka telephone operator frequencies.

**Ch Freq**

- 2 159.810
- 3 159.930
- 4 160.050
- 5 160.185
- 6 160.200
- 7 160.215
- 8 160.230
- 9 160.245
- 10 160.260
- 11 160.275
- 12 160.290
- 13 160.305
- 14 160.320
- 15 160.335
- 16 160.350
- 17 160.365

- 18 160.380
- 19 160.395
- 20 160.410
- 21 160.425
- 22 160.440
- 23 160.455
- 24 160.470
- 25 160.485
- 26 160.500
- 27 160.515
- 28 160.530
- 29 160.545
- 30 160.560
- 31 160.575
- 32 160.590
- 33 160.605
- 34 160.620
- 35 160.635
- 36 160.650
- 37 160.665
- 38 160.680
- 39 160.695
- 40 160.710
- 41 160.725
- 42 160.740
- 43 160.755
- 44 160.770
- 45 160.785
- 46 160.800
- 47 160.815
- 48 160.830

- 49 160.845
- 50 160.860
- 51 160.875
- 52 160.890
- 53 160.905
- 54 160.920
- 55 160.935
- 56 160.950
- 57 160.965
- 58 160.980
- 59 160.995
- 60 161.010
- 61 161.025
- 62 161.040
- 63 161.055
- 64 161.070
- 65 161.085
- 66 161.100
- 67 161.115
- 68 161.130
- 69 161.145
- 70 161.160
- 71 161.175
- 72 161.190
- 73 161.205
- 74 161.220
- 75 161.235
- 76 161.250
- 77 161.265
- 78 161.280
- 79 161.295

- 80 161.310
- 81 161.325
- 82 161.340
- 83 161.355
- 84 161.370
- 85 161.385
- 86 161.400
- 87 161.415
- 88 161.430
- 89 161.445
- 90 161.460
- 91 161.475
- 92 161.490
- 93 161.505
- 94 161.520
- 95 161.535
- 96 161.550
- 97 161.565

**UHF Frequencies**

- 452.900
- 452.9125
- 452.925
- 452.9375
- 452.950
- 452.9625

Next month I will give you all of the digital frequencies in Tom Green County.

**Emergency Communications**

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW  
Emergency Coordinator

April ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
7/6	KD5URW	9	25 min	444.350
7/13	KD5URW	10	25 min	444.350
7/20	KD5URW	12	22 min	444.350
7/27	KD5URW	7	min	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 16th of Jul 2009.

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 August 20th 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>July '08</i>	Field Trip AE5AW's QTH <b>Bill Tarn/AE5AW</b>
<i>August '08</i>	Field Trip to Tom Green County EOC
<i>September '08</i>	Antenna Theory and Design, II <b>Bill Tarn/AE5AW</b>
<i>October '08</i>	SAARC Birthday Celebration
<i>November '08</i>	Trunk Tracking <b>Jack Roberts/KB5TMY</b>
<i>December '08</i>	Eat and Meet Meeting
<i>January '09</i>	Antenna theory And Design, III <b>Bill Tarn/AE5AW</b>
<i>February '09</i>	Amateur Satellite Communications <b>Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</b>
<i>March '09</i>	Digital Communications, PSK-31 <b>Gary Chafin/W5ETJ</b> , <b>Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</b>
<i>April '09</i>	Solar Activity and Ham Radio <b>Joe Lynch/KG5X</b>
<i>July '09</i>	APRS <b>Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ</b>
<i>August '09</i>	Batteries Plus

## Classified Ads

*For Sale:* Yaesu VX3R—brand new; unused! Taken out of box to take on vacation and didn't take it. 1.2w VHF, 1W-UHF. Neat small package. My loss your gain -- \$120  
Contact: Bill/WB5ZAM 6570943.

*Wanted:* A small HF tuner to be used in Mobile operation. Does anyone have one laying about? If you have a spare, please let me know.  
Contact: KC5NPC/Hughbert, 325 949-7478, 325 895-5166 or tbum@aol.com

## In Memoriam

At 1330 Monday, August 8, 2009 San Angelo time, Jean Coventry Richards, wife of Bill Richards/WA5ZAM passed on from the ravages of cancer. She had suffered for a month with pain from the cancer and although a tough Scot the cancer won in the end.

The family is having a Remembrance ceremony Friday at 1000 at Shaffer's Chapel in Grape Creek but her ashes will be distributed in "her bay -- Micoud Bay" in St. Lucia at a later date. If anyone would like to join Bill in the second ceremony in St Lucia please contact him direct, and he'll find accommodations for you there!

If you wish to do anything in memory of her please address it to the American Cancer Society, for help with breast and bladder cancer in women.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to bill and his family.

## The making of the 2009 SAARC Field Day CW effort



**Team CW (The Original Digital Mode)**  
L to right: John/KN5L, Bill/WB5ZAM, Walt/K1QS

### Part I: Bill/WB5ZAM

Retiring in early May, I felt that I finally had the time to volunteer to put forth the cw effort for the annual Field Day challenge. At times in the past the SAARC had fielded an aggressive team where the SSB and CW ops were plentiful and worked the full contest, getting enormous point totals and competing with the big city stations. But with the changes in the hobby, we had seen less and less contacts and fewer operators. This seemed the perfect time to jump in and get an effort going.

When I volunteered I made it clear that if we had no other operators, a one man station was not going to happen. Initially we had five operators but as Field Day approached, our volunteer crew slowly disappeared. Sam (KA5OAI) had volunteered for part of the night, and Tom (K4OTM) wanted to operate, but was a bit nervous about the contest format. Walt (K1QS) and John (KN5L) had been discussing single station operation for Field Day. And knowing that John was an avid QRP cw operator, and Walt had far surpassed me in countries worked on cw, I let them know the need for operators.

Both John and Walt had been in San Angelo (Goodfellow AFB) in the past, and had enjoyed membership in the SAARC then. Walt and I had been officers for the club in the 70's and both knew what fun a good cw crew made for the weekend.

I began working on John, knowing that he has thought about participating in past years, but usually ended up too busy to operate. This past winter Walt had lost all of his antennas during severe storms, and he was having radio troubles, and had sent his radio and amplifier for updating, repairs. The closer Field Day came, the more I was worried

about having more than 2 or 3 operators. So turning to my old friends I began "whining". Walt's wife knew that the three of us were old friends, and started working on him. John's wife also gave in and sent him. John was so excited he was packed three days early.

### Part II: Walt/K1QS

There it was, in my email, a thinly veiled request for help. Now, contrary to popular belief, I am no super hero – just "Quite Sexy". Well, I showed my wife the e-mail, and she immediately said, "You have just got to go help Bill." I thought that she just might be right. I hate it when she's right ... and, she ALWAYS is. I immediately communicated by telephone (my rig was/is still in the shop) with our other friend John KN5L. John agreed that we must go to assist Bill. It took some doing on line, but I was finally able to finagle air transport out of Portland (PWM) to San Angelo (SJT) with just two stops and two plane changes.

On departure day, wife drove me to PWM and dropped me off. I quickly got my boarding passes and headed through the TSA gate. As I suspected, they wanted to see what that "thing" was in my camera bag. I removed it and gently explained what the purpose of this instrument is. They accepted my explanation, and I was on my way to La Guardia (LGA).

There, I had to change terminals in order to change planes. This was a bit of a stressful change because at my walking speed it was going to be close. I finally caught the shuttle between terminals and headed through security. Yep, you guessed it, the TSA guys wanted to see what was in the bag. I showed it to them, and I explained what it is for. The supervisor looked at it with jaundiced eye, and he decided to exert his "supervisor's discretion." I can't carry it on the plane. I was escorted from the secure area and he witnessed my placing it in my carry on bag with his direction to check the bag. I suddenly realized that my CW paddle had just been classified as a deadly weapon. Wow! Was I ever impressed?

I don't know if all y'all realize that Congress mandated TSA to search for firearms and explosives. Nothing More! Meanwhile, I made my way to the line at the ticket counter. It was long, but at least three kindly folks allowed me to go ahead of them so I was quickly at the counter. Too late to check a bag for this flight, and too late to board the aircraft. D...d TSA! The young lady behind the counter succumbed to the "Quite Sexy" charm and got me on the very next flight and in a window seat no less. I went back through TSA screening, sailing through this time with just my camera bag. Of course, no one ever questioned the *Vertex 150* hand-talkie in the bag. Very few explosives are set off by CW paddles, with most being detonated by some kind of RF transmitting device. That's just a thought that I had. Supervisor's discretion, my butt!

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Arrived at DFW and enjoyed a three hour wait for my flight to SJT. It wasn't bad. I started a John Grisham novel, which I later finished on the horror road home. Flight to SJT delayed, so instead of arriving at 9:50, it was closer to 11 PM. But Bill was there, and, miracle of miracles so was my bag. It had been a long day, so we toddled off to Bill's and I was off to bed.

I won't go into a blow by blow of each day's happenings, but I'll summarize some of the highlights. John got in on Thursday afternoon, and in the ensuing days, we ate Great Mexican, Great Steaks, Great Brisket, and good Barbecue, plus consuming quantities of beer (Miller and Dos-Xs), sipping rum, and quantities of coffee and bottled water. Temperatures in the 102-103F range warmed these northern bones, and I felt like I belonged there. Whenever we might become a little worried about our prospective success, or lack thereof, John would always cheerfully remind us: "But we look good!"

### Part III John/KN5L

Having to only drive from Austin to San Angelo, my trip was much less eventful than Walt's travels. Of course, I had to make those difficult decisions about what should I take with me. After all, I drive a little, sporty car. I finally opted to take my Proset, LogiKey K-3, and my little Icom 703 (just in case). My biggest decision was whether to take the US 190 or the US 87 route. Being two miles shorter, I opted to take the US 190 route. The Thursday afternoon drive was very enjoyable with light traffic and beautiful Texas countryside scenes along the way. It was, indeed, a very enjoyable drive. Having been stationed at Goodfellow AFB for several years in the past, which is when I met Bill and Walt, driving into South East San Angelo brought back old memories. I arrived at Bill's QTH at 3:00 Thursday afternoon, and then the party began!

Field Day is my favorite ham radio event and this year's event will be one to remember. For starters, Walt had special "team CW" shirts made for us. No matter what, "We look good." The other SAARC members were fantastic hosts, station set-up occurred without a hitch, the bands were open, there were many stations calling CQ FD, and everything worked, even the operators. We are proud to be members of this club and look forward to future Field days.

Summary:

After much hard selling, I was able to get both Walt and John to come "home" for a weekend and get involved with the SAARC. Both have significant stressors in their lives just now as well as myself, so the three of us were able to talk over the fate of the world, and our stressors, enjoy local cuisine and put on a heck of an effort from a non-contest group.

Sam joined us as our night operator, and Tom sat in and got his feel for cw and copying, as well as contesting. We used a Yaesu FT857D with a 300Hz filter, and Idiom Press kit keyer, the V22 paddles, and MFJ tuner, and MFJ mini-lite power supply, to a G5RV at 40 feet. The antenna worked perfect on 20 and 40m, providing constant contacts the entire 24 hours of Field Day. The operating position (RV) was provided by Barbara Richards, and at 2300 I was very glad to see somewhere to crash for an hour (a queen sized bed). The cw station worked continuously and all reported good propagation to both coasts and beyond. We used the N3FJP Field Day logging program on a Dell mini laptop and logged 335 contacts.

Having a crew that will commit to the 24 hours really helped, and shows that even old guys using the "original Digital mode" could make some contacts.

And, as you can tell from the photo, we DID look good!

**73 from John KN5L, Bill WB5ZAM and Walt K1QS**



### CQ DX de WB5ZAM for Aug 2009

**Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during August—part 2:** Look for Paolo, IK2MLS on 3-8 August from Elba IA5; also on the air: FT5; V7; SV9; CT8; C21; A25; 5W; 5B; 3B7; OY; T6 (Afghanistan!); 5B; 4W; TK; 3DA; SU; OJ0; TF; 7P; ZD8; ZF; CT2; V31; OH0. Note that the last full weekend of July is usually the Islands on the Air sponsored by the British Radio Society (RSGB). Mark it for next year and try to work as many islands as you can, usually in all modes.

**Island of the Month-Elba – IA5/Italia:** This month we are wandering into the Mediterranean, and off the west coast of Italy. Very much in the heart of European and Central Asian history this island has intrigued conquerors and Kings for millenniums. Elba (Latin: *Ilva*) is an island in Tuscany, Italy, 20 kilometers (12 mi) from the coastal town of Piombino. It is third largest island in Italy after Sicily and Sardinia. Elba and the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago are part of the National Park of the Tuscan Archipelago. The French island of Corsica lies about 50 kilometers (30 mi) to the west. The island is divided into



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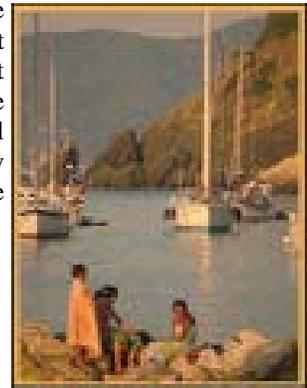
eight municipalities, of which Portoferraio is the main one, the others; Camponell'Elba, Capoliveri, Marciana, Marciana Marina, Porto Azzurro, Rio Marina, and Rio nell'Elba, are part of province of Livorno, for a total of about 30 thousand inhabitants, which increases considerably during the summer. The island of Elba is the largest remaining stretch of land from the ancient tract that connected the Italian peninsula to Corsica, after the other islands of the Tuscan Archipelago. The northern coasts are bathed by the Ligurian Sea, the eastern coast skirts the Piombino Channel, the southern coast embraces the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Corsica channel divides the western tip of the Island from neighboring Corsica. The terrain is quite varied, and divided into several parts depending on its conformation and geology in which it was formed. The



mountainous and more recent part of the Island can be found to the west, the center of which is dominated by Mount Capanne (1018 m asl), also called the "roof of the Tuscan Archipelago." The mountain is home to many animal species including the mouflon and wild boar that flourish despite the continuous influx of tourists who visit the mountain. The central part of the island is a mostly flat section with the width being reduced to just four kilometers. It is where the major centers can be found: Portoferraio, Campo nell'Elba. In the hilly area, dominated by Monte Calamita, are deposits of iron that made Elba famous. Rainfall is heaviest in the winter months (Oct-Jan) and temperatures are predominately Mediterranean, in that they do vary from as low as 8F in January, to 27F in the summer. Noted in ancient times as a prime source of iron, the island helped

shaped the world with shipments of the ore traversing the Mediterranean up into northern Europe and eventually to Asia and the New World. In more current history, in 1814 the island served as home to Napoleon I when the British sent him into exile (as a note, after 100 days exile he tried to regain power and then was sent into exile on St Helena). In WWII it was held by the Germans until liberated by the French.

Now it is a prime wine growing island as well as a renowned European tourist destination. The primary source of income for the island follows most and is heavily dependent on tourist traffic. Resorts are noted to be quite small, picturesque, and unspoiled. Nightlife is limited but there are numerous cafes where one can enjoy the Elba wines. Most outdoor sports are available for a busy or lazy holiday/vacation. Two golf courses, plus with the highlands cool weather hiking/biking even in the midst of summer is enjoyed by many. Hams of course enjoy the vacation spot as an easy to reach island, and also as one activated during the Islands on the Air contests.

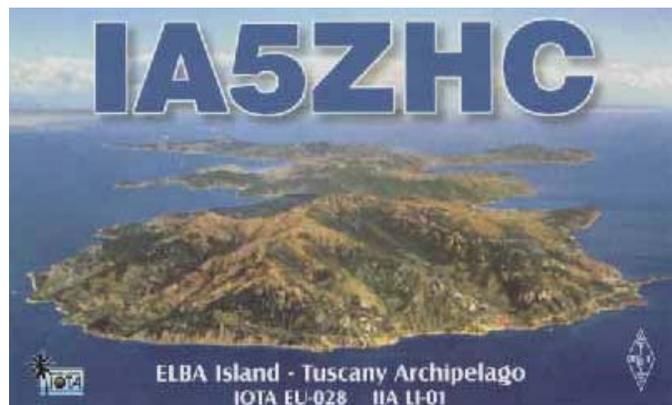


**Ref:** <http://www.rivieratoscana.com/en/ct/sport/sport.asp>;  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elba>;  
<http://www.international.icomos.org/publications/wash107.pdf>

**QSL OF THE MONTH- IA5ZHC** – Bob is quite active from Elba.

**See you on the bands chasing dx.**

**73 de WB5ZAM.**



## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
7/6	KB5FNK	25	22 min
7/16	KD5SBE	21	15 min
7/20	KB5FNK	21	21 min
7/27	KB5FNK		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](http://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](mailto:vparker6@suddenlink.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING: 8/13/09  
PROGRAM: BATTERIES PLUS  
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**