

# *The eKilo - What*

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

December 2003

## *Meeting Minutes*

*By Bob Freeman/KD5PIX, Secretary*

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President John Marshall/KC5FMX at 1932 on November 13, 2002.

Introductions were made with 14 members and 2 visitors in attendance.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as printed in the November issue of *The Kilo-What* and the treasurer's report was approved as read.

### **Old Business**

Joe/KC5ILD, nomination committee, presented the slate of candidates for the elected offices of the SAARC for 2004 as follows:

President: Joe Kent/KC5ILD

Vice President: David Behrend/KB5FNK

Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

Activities Manager: Lew Millegan/KD5NAG

Emergency Coordinator: David Wolfe/KA5VTG

Grounds Chairman: Ronnie Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ

There were no nominations offered from the floor. Glenn/AA5PK moved to elect the slate of candidates by acclamation. The motion was seconded and passed by the members.

### **New Business**

Hector Guerrero/KC5BRB of the San Angelo National Weather Service office reminded us of SKYWARN Recognition Day, 6 PM December 5 through 6 PM December 6, 2003. We have been asked to set up a station at the NWS for the 24-hour event. Hector also advised that a SKYWARN training class will be held on February 14, 2004. David/KB5FNK has arranged for the class to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church at 3614 YMCA Drive beginning at 9 AM.

### **Good of the Order**

Split-the-Pot was worth \$8.50 to the winner, Gary Chaffin/N5GCR, and to the club. Gary donated his share to the club. Thank you, Gary.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2010.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be held at 1900 at the Ole Gin Steakhouse in Wall on December 11, 2003.

**Christmas Eatin' Meetin'**  
**7 PM, December 11**  
**Ole Gin Steakhouse**  
**in Wall**



### License Testing News

**ARRL**  **VEC**

*By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner*

A license testing session was held on November 15 in Brady. Three candidates were administered 4 examination elements with the following results: three new Technician class licensees.

The next regularly scheduled license testing session will be Sunday, December 7, at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration for this test session closed on December 1.

The first test session in 2004 will be held on January 25 at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration is required not later than January 19.

License testing information and a link to download the form are available on the club's Web site <http://www.qsl.net/saarc>.

Information/forms can be obtained by contacting Rob/N5OIU at 942-7599 or Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775.

### 145.27 Repeater News

*By Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ*

The 145.27 repeater returned to the air on November 23 following a brief absence. There was a reported telephone line issue with the San Angelo link. This has been repaired. Audio testing was performed and reports were excellent from around the state.

The .27 repeater has been modified to utilize two tones: Set your radio up with the standard 88.5 Hz PL tone to utilize the Southwest Lynx System (SWLS) statewide network. To avoid problems, don't use PL decode on the SWLS. I recommend labeling this memory **SJT SWLS** or **27 SWLS**.

Next, program your radio with another memory labeled say, **W5QX 27** or **27 LOCAL** with a PL tone of 100.0 Hz. You may wish to add the CTCSS (PL decode) feature to this memory (if your radio is capable). This will be for *local QSO traffic only*. It's OK to even talk over a statewide conversation on the link as the local QSO will mute the statewide receive audio and you will not broadcast across the state.

Just remember the convenience of PL decode does not mean you won't still interrupt a local using the system. So please monitor the system before transmitting.

I hope this is not too complicated and will be used by the club members to conduct a local QSO. The above procedure is only if you want to add 145.27 to your scan list for local QSOs. You *do not* have to use the PL tone 100.0 to use the repeater.

If you need more information you may email me or contact me at my QTH most evenings.

### This Just In

*From Alex Papoutsas/K5CMW through Bob Ward/WA5ROE*

Mike Long and the gang at Desert Sports have come up with a replacement for the evidently now defunct Chihuahuan Desert Challenge.

The new event is called Mas o Menos 100K Chihuahuan Desert Mountain Bike Event. It's going to take place February 19-21 with the start/finish at the Chili Appreciation Society International (CASI) site, 7 miles west of the Terlingua Ghost Town.

Only sketchy details right now on the Desert Sports Web site <http://www.desertsportstx.com/events.html>

### The Only Christmas Joke You Need

Three men died on Christmas Eve and were met by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates.

"In honor of this most holy season," Saint Peter said, "you must each possess something that symbolizes Christmas to get into heaven."

The first man fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. "It represents a candle," he said. "You may pass through the Pearly Gates," Saint Peter said.

The second man reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, "They're bells." Saint Peter said, "You may pass through the Pearly Gates."

The third man started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's panties. St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, "And just what do those symbolize?"

The man replied, "They're Carol's."

## CQ DX de WB5ZAM



*By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM*

**Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions: 3YØ/P, PETER I ISLAND DXpedition Postponed!** In a press release by Bob/K4UEE and Ralph/KØIR dated November 7, the following announcement was released: "The Peter I DXpedition team has decided to **postpone** their DXpedition to Peter I Island, Antarctica, until **January 2005**. A last-minute glitch developed in the transportation plan, even as the team was preparing to meet in Atlanta to train and to pack the sea container for shipment. Weather windows precluded a rescheduling for 2004. No one is more disappointed than we are, but the 2005 expedition will be bigger and better! Our team is intact, our permissions are not a problem, and the expedition equipment, including 6 Arctic shelters, flooring, antennas, masts, kitchen equipment, power cables and generators, coax, etc. are all in storage in Atlanta. We wish to thank all of our sponsors for their support; look for additional updates in the spring..." For the team, Bob, K4UEE and Ralph, KØIR.

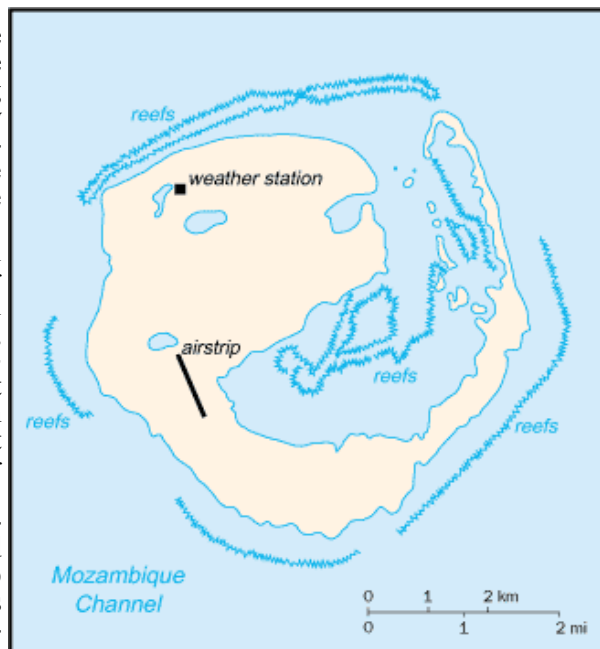
According to the AR-Cluster Network, for the week of November 21-28, there were 246 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3D2, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4U1, 4W, 4X, 5A, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9V, 9X, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C6, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, D6, DL, DU, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FH, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FP, FR, FR/e, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HBØ, HC, HC8, HH, HI, HK, HKØ/a, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J3, J5, J6, J7, J8, JA, JD/m, JD/o, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KHØ, KH2, KH5, KH6, KH8, KH9, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PZ, S2, S5, S9, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T2, T31, T32, T7, T8, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TN, TR, TT, TU, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V6, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9C, VK9L, VK9N, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, XW, XZ, YA, YB, YI, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD8, ZD9, ZF, ZK1/s, ZK2, ZL, ZP, and ZS.

### Island of the Month

**Europa - TO4 (FR/J):** Hot and hotter (daily temperature 120-130° F), very humid (rains every day), and little breeze and very tiring to be operating ham radio when suffering from dehydration, electrolyte imbalance, mosquito bites, fly bites, and general bug irritation. Average water consumption for the crew is 8-10 liters per day, their clothes are soaked with perspiration, and the pools of water under the mangroves produce huge droves of mosquitoes.

So goes the comments from the DXpedition currently on the island of Europa. They set up and got on the air 11/25/03 and were expected to be there for a week. A French possession since 1897, the island is almost flat, wooded, and claimed by both France and Madagascar. Lying halfway between Mozambique and Madagascar, at 22.20°S/40.22°E, the island is garrisoned by a small French troop, mostly of meteorologists and scientists. There are at least three lakes that catch fresh water, and it is (except for the Weather Station and the airstrip) wooded by Mangroves.

Without permanent inhabitants, little is known of the island's history. Administration is from Reunion Island, and all the laws of France are applied. With just a small group of scientists there, little in the way of tourist information is available. There is offshore anchorage, and one would expect that the island would be an excellent dive spot, the maps do show the island almost completely ringed with reefs, and a large central cove lined with reefs. With a high-ground point of 24 meters, the island provides little protection from the elements, and the mangroves catch



the humidity and make it even hotter.

And as the bands and operating show, the island has a good signal spread over the entire globe. Not much is available on the Internet, even at French sites, but we expect more information from the current DXpedition when they return to France. The current DXpedition is from France, and this weather is not something they are used to. Plus they are finding they have to pass numerous hours off the ham bands with the garrison sending official government traffic via radio (so the group has to be off the air to keep from interfering with the traffic).

### QSL OF THE MONTH

#### 5B4AGY

Ian in Cyprus uses his shack photo well for his QSL. See you on the bands chasing DX. 73.



## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Nov 10	KA5VTG	16	8 min
Nov 17	KA5VTG	16	7 min
Nov 24	KA5VTG	16	11 min
Dec 1	N/A	N/A	N/A 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
146.64-	Sterling City PL 88.5	442.250+	San Angelo PL 162.2
146.72-	Eldorado PL 100.0	444.225+	Robert Lee PL 162.2
146.88-	San Angelo	444.350+	San Angelo PL 162.2
146.94-	San Angelo PL 103.5 when needed		
147.06+	San Angelo	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

## - - Events Calendar - -

Dec 27- Work Concho Christmas Celebration on the river from 6 PM until midnight. Volunteers needed. Would like to have shifts of 2 or 3 hours each, but any time you can help will be appreciated. Please contact David/KB5FNK by phone or sign up at the Eatin' Meetin'.

Jan 15 - Appearance on KLST noon show for upcoming SKYWARN training.



Feb 14 - SKYWARN training (yes, we know it's Valentines Day, but the only way we could get the meeting room and avoid Rodeo the following 2 weekends and still before severe weather season). Need door prizes. More info to follow.



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

Get all the latest club news on the World  
Wide Web at [www.qsl.net/saarc](http://www.qsl.net/saarc)

### 2003 SAARC Officers:

President - John Marshall/KC5FMX  
Vice President - David Behrend/KB5FNK  
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX  
Emergency Coordinator - David Wolfe/KA5VTG  
Activities Manager - Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ  
Grounds Custodian - Joe Kent/KC5ILD

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

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

**The Kilo-What:** Edited by Glenn/AA5PK at  
949-4775 or email [aa5pk@qsl.net](mailto:aa5pk@qsl.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING:  
THURSDAY, DEC 11, 7 P.M.  
OLE GIN STEAKHOUSE IN WALL**