

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

December 2007

Meeting Minutes

By Bob Freeman/KD5PIX, Secretary

The December meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was held at Logan's Roadhouse on Sherwood Way. Approximately 32 members and guests attended. At 1915 hours Bill Tarn/AE5AW introduced Luis Elguezabal, San Angelo's Airport Director. Luis explained that until the day before our meeting, the City thought they had located a place for the club to move into. They believed we would be able to move into the unused portion of the train station in downtown San Angelo. However, it seems the folks that currently occupy the train station have found another use for that portion of the building that was earmarked for our club. On the bright side, the city will continue to charge us \$1.00 a year and they will pay the difference to the FAA until a new home can be found. This served to ease my mind as I thought there might be a deadline imposed to locate a new home and vacate the airport property.

The West Texas Section Manager, John Dyer/AE5B and his XYL Carla Dyer/K5RLA attended our Eatin' Meetin' and asked Mr. Elguezabal some questions on behalf of the club. It was good to have ARRL representation during the discussion concerning our pending relocation. Now that John Dyer is again our Section Manager, we can expect to be provided with more frequent updates on happenings within the section. We are pleased that John and Carla were able to visit.

New Business

After a good meal we got down to the new business of the day; electing the Officers for calendar year 2008. The Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Activities Manager, Emergency Coordinator and Grounds Chairman were all unopposed and elected by acclamation. Jack Roberts/KB5TMY was selected to receive the coveted "Spreader" award and the trophy will be presented at our regular January meeting. Gary Chaffin/N5GRC was presented the Ham of the Year (HOTY) award for 2007.

The contest for President was between David Behrend/KB5FNK and Joe Kent/W5JBK. Joe was elected president for the year 2008. Results of the election are:

President	Joe Kent/W5JBK
Vice President	Gary Chaffin/N5GRC
Secretary/Treasurer	Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Grounds Chairman	Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ
Emergency Coordinator	Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Activities Manager	Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC

A special thanks is in order for the 2007 officers and others who helped ensure another successful year in keeping with our long tradition of public service and in the furthering of our hobby.

Good of the Order

The Split-the-Pot was worth \$19.00 each to the club and to the winner Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC.

David Lewis/KE5PQV donated 5 carwash tokens from the West Side Kiwanis. Mark Gregory/KE5KQG and Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC donated several knives and the Club had provided many items for door prizes. I believe all but 3 persons left with a prize.

Thanks to Joe Kent/W5JBK for performing master of ceremonies duties and for coordinating the drawing for and distribution of door prizes.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be January 10, 2008 at 1930 at the clubhouse.



Happy New Year!

SKYWARN Recognition Day 2007

By John Dyer/AE5B/Section Manager

The ARRL/NWS sponsored SKYWARN Recognition Day was a tremendous success in West Texas. ARES and ARRL club groups set up HF stations at the Midland, Amarillo, El Paso, and San Angelo NWS offices. For 24 hours in December, they visited with other NWS offices and hams across the USA. Midland and Odessa ARES teamed up and used the call W5MAF at their local NWS office. They worked a record number of stations, 65 of which were other NWS stations. The Panhandle ARC set up a pair of stations at the Amarillo NWS office. El Paso hams, using WX5ELP, participated in the SKYWARN Recognition Day at the NWS office in Santa Teresa, New Mexico. They used the call sign WX5ELP. Members of the San Angelo ARC had a successful operation from the NWS office at San Angelo. They operated on 20 meters using the call N5NWS. Equipment was a Kenwood TS-850 and a Cushcraft R5. N5NWS worked 62 stations, 11 of which were NWS stations. Participants were KB5APY (NWS Station Chief), W5JBK, KD5PIX, KB5TMY, KD5WXJ, N5GRC, KC5KXY. Louise Hall provided the delicious lunch which included pinto beans and Mexican cornbread. The N5NWS operators had high praise for Meteorologist in Charge Buddy McIntyre (KB5APY). Buddy made their SRD experience thoroughly enjoyable. Additional NWS pictures can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/sections/WTX.html>.



Since beginning this term as Section Manager on July 1, 2007, Carla and I have logged 16 days on the road and over 3,600 miles visiting ARRL members in West Texas. Winter travel across West Texas and the Texas Panhandle can be unpredictable. As a result, club visits for the next couple of months will be limited. The next big event is the Midland Hamfest and ARRL West Texas Section Convention next March. See you in Midland!

January Special Events

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, All US call areas. Straight Key Century Club, K2A. Celebrating 2 years and over 3500 members on CW. 14.050 10.120 7.055 3.550. QSL. Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ, 5408 Chillingham Pl, Frederick, MD 21703.

www.skccgroup.com

Jan 1-Mar 31, 0000Z-2359Z, Karlovo, Bulgaria. Balkan Contest Club, LZ130LO. 130th Anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria. various bands. QSL. Balkan Contest Club, LZ1KZA, PO Box 36, 4300 Karlovo, BULGARIA. *Special awards for multiple contacts. See URL for complete information.* www.qrz.com/lz130lo

Jan 5, 1600Z-2000Z, Clinton, IA. Clinton Iowa Amateur Radio Club, WØCS. Mississippi River Lock and Dam 13 Bald Eagle Watch. 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Clinton Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1501, Clinton, IA 52733-1501.

WØCS@arrl.net or www.qrz.com/w0cs

Jan 6, 1900Z-2300Z, Columbus, NC. Southern Paradise Amateur Radio Club, KJ4AWL. Kid's Day Special Event Station. HF and VHF. QSL. KJ4AWL, PO Box 125, Mill Spring, NC 28756. *See additional information on Web site. QSL card available.* www.serendipityrancher.com/sparc.htm

Jan 12, 1700Z-2359Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. Commemorating first aircraft landing on USN ship USS Pennsylvania Armored Cruiser #4 in 1911 and start of Operation Desert Storm 1991. 14.325 7.250 14.060 7.040. QSL. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101.

kc2gyv@yahoo.com

Jan 13, 1500Z-2200Z, Bethpage, NY. Ham Radio University, W2V. Ham Radio demo at Ham Radio University 2008.

14.260 7.260. QSL. Phil Lewis, N2MUN, 22 W Belle Terre Ave, Lindenhurst, NY 11757. www.HamRadioUniversity.org

Jan 19, 1300Z-2300Z, Brooksville, FL. Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club, W4B. 28th Annual Brooksville Raid, Florida's largest Civil War reenactment. 146.805 18.130 14.260. Certificate. SHARC-BP, PO Box 6083, Spring Hill, FL 34611.

www.kf4ixu.org

Jan 26-Jan 27, 1400Z-2000Z, Wilsona Gardens, CA. BioRem RAC Edwards AFB North Base, AL7LS. Release date for movie Hot Rods to Hell 27 Jan 1967. LSB 7.243 7.091 3.952 BBS 14.105. Certificate. Bruce Rossi, AL7LS, 2127 Sierra Stone Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89119. www.geocities.com/hrthspecialevent08/index.html

Jan 31-Feb 3, 1700Z-2200Z, Washington, PA. Washington Amateur Communications, W3C. Washington County Annual Sports Show. 14.250 7.260. QSL. Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI, 60 Carl Ave B-2, Eighty Four, PA 15330. n3zni@arrl.net

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



CQ DX de WB5ZAM January 2008

Note: I'm back. Couldn't stand to be out of the newsletter game! And of course I am still pondering just where in the world is as nice as home. So we are off to the Indian Ocean this month.

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during January: YI9; TR8; 3D2/r; 3Y0; 5H; GJ; EA8; HS0; PZ; HI; FO/m; KH0; J5; 5H; HC8; J5; 6W; JW; 8Q; XU; VP8; LU/so .

Island of the Month-3B8- Mauritius: Although known to Arab and Malay sailors as early as the 10th century, Mauritius was first explored by the Portuguese in 1505; it was subsequently held by the Dutch, French, and British before independence was attained in 1968. A stable democracy

with regular free elections and a positive human rights record, the country has attracted considerable foreign investment and has earned one of Africa's highest per capita incomes. Recent poor weather and declining sugar prices have slowed economic growth, leading to some protests over standards of living in the Creole community. Located in the Indian Ocean off to the east of Madagascar, at 20S17 and 57E33, they enjoy a tropical climate, with warm, dry weather May to November and hot, humid, and rainy in the months of November thru May. The highest point is Mount Piton (guess what that means in English?). From a tourist standpoint the island is surrounded by reefs (scuba/snorkeling, fishing, etc). The central plains are more arable lands and support some farming. The population in 2007 was estimated at 1.3 million, on approximately 2000 sq km of land.

Ethnicity on the island and nearby ones is Indo-Mauritian, Creole, Sino-Muslim, and Franco-Mauritian. And all major religions are represented. 80% of the population speaks Creole, while the official language of English is only spoken by less than 1%. Their government is a parliamentary democracy, with Port Louis as the capital. Although a long time English colony their legal system is based on the French system. According to the *World Factbook* "Since independence in 1968, Mauritius has developed

from a low-income, agriculturally based economy to a middle-income diversified economy with growing industrial, financial, and tourist sectors."

One would think that a country that has twice as many cell phones as regular phones that ham radio would be rampant, but such is not the case. Most propagation comes from visiting French hams. There is over 2000 km of roadways with 75km in expressways, no regular military force, but a strong National Police Force, a Special Mobile Force and a National Coast Guard.

One note of interest is that many of the displaced natives from the Chagos Archipelago (see British Overseas territories) live in Mauritius. They still claim as their home the entire chain of islands of the Chagos. This is to include the island where our Indian Ocean military base is. According to our friends at *Factbook*, the government is committed to regulating the banking industry and offshore financial industries, and has a relatively low level of corruption. Tourism is a big draw, with five 18 hole courses, and five 9 hole courses at various resorts on the island. Lots of Eco-tourism things to do inland as well as activities in the waters around the island. And there is a large university on Mauritius, see more at: <http://www.uom.ac.mu/>.

Things to see: http://www.mauritius.net/what_to_see/beaches.php; http://www.mauritius.net/what_to_see/nature.php

QSL OF THE MONTH-3Y0E- Bouvet- Okay DX'rs, here is a rare one. Petrus is to be on Bouvet for two months, as Chief Medical Officer. This is a very rare one, as the only folks allowed are research teams who go every 3-4 years. Sometimes with a ham operator, and sometimes without. Look on <http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs> for reports of when he operates. He is qrp and has no noise but lots of cold and wind, and he is a new ham. Please remember that Chuck Brady was the last operator on Bouvet. He used the call 3Y0C. Chuck was a well known member of the astronaut corps with the stateside call N4BQW. Chuck is now a silent key.

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



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Dec 2	KB5TMY	12	11 min
Dec 10	KB5TMY	11	10 min
Dec 17	KB5TMY	13	12 min
Dec 24	=====	Net Not Called	=====
Dec 31	KD5URW	4	5 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	444.350+	San Angelo PL 162.2
146.94-	San Angelo PL 103.5		
147.06+	San Angelo	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

Notes from the Editor

This publication marks my first experience at editing and publishing the Kilo-What and I hope any early mistakes or omissions will be forgiven. I would like to be able to include articles and information from all club members and encourage each of you to contribute. Comments, suggestions, constructive criticism, and the like are solicited and may be directed to me at (325) 949-0186 or email at n5grc@suddenlink.net.

Jack Roberts/KB5TMY will resume authoring "Scanner Jack's Corner" with the February 2008 issue. The subject will be "Winter Weather Frequencies".

Thanks to Bill Richards/WB5ZAM for cranking up his DX column for the December issue. We missed you Bill!

We hope to get license testing back on track early in 2008. I'll be contacting our local VEs to determine their availability so stay tuned.

Membership Renewal

Membership renewals are due in January 2008. Renewals are as follows:

- Regular memberships: \$20
- Each additional family member: \$5
- Seniors (age 65+) and Juniors (under age 19): \$10
- Renewal package deal: 5 years for \$80
- Associate members: \$25

Dues may be paid to the secretary at any club meeting or mailed to the club's post office box.



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

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

2007 SAARC Officers:

President – David Behrend/KB5FNK
Vice President - Kent Frazier/K5KNT
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - Jack Roberts/KB5TMY
Activities Manager - Chad Goodman/KD5SMK
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 Gary/N5GRC at 949-0186 or email n5grc@suddenlink.net

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



**NEXT MEETING:
THURSDAY, JAN 10, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**