

# *The eKilo-What*

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

December 2009

## **November Meeting Minutes**

de Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

Minutes will return next Month



*Merry Christmas*

## **December Eating Meeting**

The December Eating meeting will be held December 10 at the Twin Mountains Steakhouse on Mertzon highway. The meeting will start at 7 pm. Contact Hubert Robinson/KC5NPC for more information (949-7478).

There will be no meeting at the Clubhouse in December.

## **Officer Nominations**

The following members were nominated for Club Officers for the 2010 year:

**President:** Tom Austin/K4OTN, Ralph Stout/KA5ULE

**Vice President:** Lisa Koca/K5LLK

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

**Emergency Coordinator:** Mike Dominy/KD5URW

**Activities Manager:** Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC

**Grounds Chairman:** Joe Kent/W5JBK

Voting will take Place at the December Eating Meeting. The new Officers will assume their duties January 1,

**Scanner Jack's Corner**

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

**Road Conditions Number**

1-800-452-9292

**Monitor for Road Conditions,  
Road Closings, & Flash  
Flooding.****NWS** – 162.550**EMS, Hospital** - 155.340, 460.600**TGC Fire Dispatch** – 155.130**Red Cross** - 47.420, 47.500, 47.5**TX DOT** - 151.025, 156.060, 153.020,  
151.640**Road Stripers** – 151.490**Reese Albert** – 462.175, 152.87**TGC SO** - 156.090 DISP P-25**DPS** - 155.445 DISP P-25**TX LAW 2** – 155.370**REACT-** 462.675**CODE BLUE** – 463.675**ASU PD** – 154.370, 155.820, 154.385,  
155.835**TX Forest Service** – 159.270,  
159.285, 159.300, 159.330, 159.345**TAXI** - 157.650 CARS, 152.390 DISP**San Angelo ISD** - 461.050 BUSES  
461.375 MAINT**TRASH AWAY** – 855.2875**HOME MOTORS** – 152.270**CARR ORG** – 155.835, 153.755,  
155.925**GOOD YEAR** – 155.130**TGC FIRE DISP** – 462.300**EMS FIRE OPS** - 462.500**THIS IS THE SAN ANGELO LCN  
FOR THE EDAC Trunked Radio  
System (enter frequencies in  
this order starting with ch 1 not  
0).****1** 854.9625 **9** 855.4625**2** 855.2125 **10** 855.7125**3** 855.4875 **11** 859.9375**4** 855.7375 **12** 856.9375**5** 855.9875 **13** 858.4625**6** 856.2625 **14** 857.4625**7** 856.7125 **15** 859.4625**8** 856.9875 **16** 855.4625**Group ID**

273 PD DISP

353 PD CH 3

529 FD DISP

**TRAIN DISP** – 160.935, 160.440,  
161.550**Emergency Communications**de Mike Dominy/KD5URW  
Emergency Coordinator

November ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq.
11/02	KD5URW	17	20 min	444.350
11/09	KD5URW	13	19 min	444.350
11/16	KD5URW	15	15 min	444.350
11/23	KD5URW	15	20 min	444.350
11/30	KD5URW	13	22 min	147.300

**ARES Net**

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 pm CST(2030 hr) on the 444.350 repeater (N5SVK) with other frequencies announced on the ARES Alert system.

**Activities**

The Tom Green County ARES group had their monthly meeting on the 19 Nov 09. We had a good meeting discussing various topics and going over some of the goals and projects the group is looking at doing for the

rest of this year and into the New Year. The group set up a work date of the 23 of Nov 09 for working in the radio room at the city/county EOC. We are looking at doing a total makeover of the radio room and doing some upgrades to the computers and radios by the end of the year.

The final results of the SET for Oct 09 have been reviewed and the group did a good job on all that it set out to do during the SET. Good job to everyone of the group. The planning for next year's SET will start after the upcoming New Year.

The results for the Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) have been looked over and it looks like the San Angelo Radio Club has done a good job again this year. With several of the club members going down to Camp Sol Mayer and at the main radio club house, the overall results of the two day event were very good. The results of the JOTA for the 17-18<sup>th</sup> of Oct 09 show that there were a total of twenty-four scout and scout leaders who worked with the twelve San Angelo Radio Club members to make over 52 main radio contacts by phone and thru data with a 148 total contacts of both radio operators and scouts from around the country for this year's event. A Job Well Done by all.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting is set for 17 December 2009 at 7:00 PM at the San Angelo ARC club house. 73s, Stay Safe, Stay Warm and Happy Holiday DXing .

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## **Congratulations again to Sam Morgan/K5OAI**

Here is his report on the ARRL 160m Contest December 5-6.

Hi folks, I just got up after a bit of rest from the weekends activities. I sure could have used some relief at the key, hint hint. I spent about 17 hours on the air, but it was very rewarding.

Last year I won the WTX QRP with 45 Q's in 17 Sec and 1,448 points. (yea yea yea, the fact that there were only a total of 5 entries from WTX and I was the only QRP entry may have helped a tiny bit) \_sigh\_

This year, drum roll please. V ^ V ^ V. 104 Q's in 38 Sec and 8,246 points. That's over double the Q's & Sec's over last year. (I can tell already next year is going to be &&&&) :-)

I was running the same station as last year Elecraft K2 running 5w X (1.3% efficient antenna) = 65mw ERP into a 13 foot tall Hi-Q 5/160 screwdriver styled antenna on the apartment roof at 20 feet with 16 radials, ea 13 foot long.

The only difference was, this year I got serious and wanted to beat my last year's score, so I spent 17 hrs on the air, as opposed to a casual 10 hours last year.

Let's just hope no one else had the bright idea to enter WTX QRP and has real antennas to work with.

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## **Skywarn Appreciation Day Held**

The annual Skywarn Appreciation Day was held Saturday, December 5 from 8-4 at the San Angel Office of the National Weather Service on Knickerbocker Road. Skywarn operators an interested Hams from across the Concho Valley were hosted by the National Weather Service as a way to say thank-you for the service provided during severe weather. The San Angelo Amateur radio Club provided HF equipment and antenna so that contacts could be made with other Hams and weather stations around the US.

Special thanks go to Joe Kent/W5JBK, President, SAARC, Mike Dominy/KD5URW, SKYWARN Net Control Leader, San Angelo, the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club for providing the HF equipment and to Hector Guerrero/KC5BRB for the homemade chili. It was a good time of hanging out with other HAMs and just having a good time. More information and pictures will be posted in next month's newsletter.

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## **License Exam Results**

On Sunday November 22, 2009 the final License Exam session for the year was held at the SAARC Clubhouse. The following results were obtained:

Robert Brooks/KF5DFE - Amateur Extra

Patrick Brown/KF5EFT - Technician

Beatrice Ramsey/KF5EFU - Technician

George Broughton/KF5EFV - Technician

Congratulate these when you hear them on the air.

## Recent SAARC Programs

<b>January '09</b>	Antenna theory and Design III, <b>Bill Tarn/AE5AW</b>
<b>February '09</b>	Amateur Satellite Communications, <b>Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</b>
<b>March '09</b>	Digital Communications, PSK-31, <b>Gary Chafin/W5ETJ, Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</b>
<b>April '09</b>	Solar Activity and Ham Radio, <b>Joe Lynch/KG5X</b>
<b>July '09</b>	APRS, <b>Charlie Campbell?KC5EZZ</b>
<b>August '09</b>	Batteries Plus, <b>Richard &amp; Patrick Brown</b>
<b>September '09</b>	DPS, Trooper <b>Shawn Baxter</b>
<b>October '09</b>	85th SAARC Birthday Celebration
<b>November '09</b>	Satellite Operations, <b>Glenn Miller/AA5PK</b>
<b>December '09</b>	Eatin' Meeting

## November Program Notes

Glenn Miller/AA5PK gave a very enlightening program on communication by amateur radio satellites. He presented a PowerPoint presentation which included the history of amateur radio satellites and a detailed description of some of the currently operating satellites. Glenn also played some taped contacts including one with the International Space Station. Some software to track and predict the passage of satellites was presented. Glenn also shown photos of his satellite communication setup as well as showing a typical dual band antenna.

It was a very informative and interesting program. Thanks Glenn.



## CQ DX de WB5ZAM

**Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during December:** EL; D2; XV; TT; VP5; 5R; V3; VK9X; J6; V5; V3; HH; T8; VK9W; K2V; XU; T6; VP2V; VP9; E5; TO; HR; C5; T7; 9V; JD1.

**Island of the Month: Kermadec Islands-ZL8-:** Kerguelen is made up of four main islands and several islands groups and rocks. Raoul Island is the biggest at S29°16" and W177°55". Macauley, Curtis, and L'Estperance Rock are the biggest. The total area of the islands is 33.08 km<sup>2</sup>. The islands are uninhabited, except for the permanently manned Raoul Island Station, a government meteorological and radio station and hostel for Department of Conservation officers and volunteers that has been maintained since 1937 on the northern



terraces of Raoul Island, about 50 m in elevation above the cliffs of Fleetwood Bluff. Raoul Island Station represents the northernmost outpost of New Zealand. The climate of the islands is **subtropical**, with a mean monthly temperature of 22.4 °C in February and a mean monthly temperature of 16.0 °C in August. Rainfall is approximately 1,500 mm annually, with lower rainfall from October through January. The islands are recognized by ecologists as a distinct ecoregion, the Kermadec Islands subtropical moist forests. They are a tropical and subtropical moist broadleaf forests ecoregion, part of the Oceania ecozone. The forests are dominated by the red-flowering *Metrosideros kermadecensis*, related to the Pōhutukawa (*M. excelsa*) of New Zealand. The islands have no native land mammals, but were home to vast numbers of seabirds which nested among the forests.

Polynesian people settled the Kermadec Islands in around the fourteenth century (and perhaps previously in the tenth century), but when Europeans reached the area in 1788 they found no inhabitants. The islands were named for the French captain Jean-Michel Huon de Kermadec, who visited the islands as part of the d'Entrecasteaux expedition in the 1790s. European settlers, initially the Bell family, lived on the islands from the early nineteenth century until 1937, as did whalers. One of the Bell daughters, Elsie K. Morton, recounted the family's experience there in her memoir, *Crusoes of Sunday Island*. Since then, a government meteorological and radio station and hostel for Department of Conservation officers and volunteers have been maintained on Raoul Island. Introduced cats, rats, and goats devastated the forests and seabirds. Overgrazing by goats eliminated the forests of Macauley Island, leaving open grasslands, and altered the understory of Raoul Island. Predation by rats and cats reduced the seabird colonies on the main islands from millions of birds to tens of thousands. The New Zealand government has been working for the last few decades to restore the islands. New Zealand declared the islands a nature reserve in 1937 and the sea around them a marine reserve in 1990. Goats were removed from Macauley in 1970 and from Raoul in 1984, and the forests have begun to recover. The islands are still known for their bird life, and seabird colonies presently inhabit offshore islets, which are safe from introduced rats and cats. Efforts are currently underway to remove the rats and cats from the islands, as well as some of the invasive exotic plants. Visits to the islands are restricted by the Department of Conservation. The Department allows visits to Raoul by volunteers assisting in environmental restoration or monitoring projects, and other visitors engaged in nature study. Visits to the other islands are generally restricted to those engaged in scientific study of the islands. [But we can see from the QSLs that many DXpeditions have been allowed, as long as they caused minimal environmental damage.

**Source:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kermadec\\_Islands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kermadec_Islands)

**QSL OF THE MONTH:ZL8R-Kermadec:** Here are several of the ZL8R DXpedition qsls, as well as J68WI.



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



**J68WI**  
 Bill Richards  
 Qsl to WB5ZAM  
 From Villa Beach Cottages, Choc Bay  
 Castries, St. Lucia  
 29 Sept - 11 Oct 2009

Station	day/month/yr	UTC	Band	RS (I)	mode

Pse QSI [ ] Tnx QSL [ ]  
 Rig: Yaesu FT857D to 6SRV

## *Concho Valley Two Meter Net*

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
11/02	KB5FNK		min
11/09	KD5SBE	23	14 min
11/16	KB5FNK	27	22 min
11/23	KB5FNK		min
11/30	KB5FNK		

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 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 Internet  
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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday,  
1930, Clubhouse 5513 Stewart Lane

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

**The Kilo-What:** Edited by Buddy Parker/KD5SBE at 949-7731 or [vparker6@suddenlink.net](mailto:vparker6@suddenlink.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING: 12/10/09**  
**PROGRAM: EATIN' MEETIN'**  
**TWIN MTNS STEAKHOUSE, 7 PM**