

The eKilo-What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

February 2010

January Minutes

President Joe Kent/W5JBK called the regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., to order, on January 14, 2010 at 1932. The new Club Officers were introduced and the gavel presented to Ralph Stout-KA5ULE, the new President who then presided for the rest of the meeting.

Introductions were made with 27 members and 2 visitors in attendance.

The November minutes were approved as printed in the KiloWhat and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Officer's Report

Vice President: Lisa Koca-K5LLK requested suggestions for programs and handed out sheets to be returned.

She also provided the club information about the ARRL membership contest, which can result in a nice prize for the club.

Mike Dominy-KD5URW, Emergency Coordinator made the following announcements:

A Technician license class is set for January 23 and 30. An exam for all classes is scheduled for January 30 at 1:30 p.m.

The ARES group will meet January 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Skywarn Training is scheduled for

March 6, 9a.m. - 1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Grounds Chairman Joe Kent-W5JBK reported that the antenna trailer is being worked on. He also reported on some sealing of holes in the clubhouse to reduce heat loss.

Activities Manager, Hughbert Robinson-KC5NPC reminded everyone of the Special Event station on Friday, February 5 to celebrate National Weatherman's Day. The event will run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the clubhouse. Chili, beans, cornbread and cake will be served. A certificate is available for QSO's. Gary Chafin-W5ETJ will coordinate to operators.

Old Business

The antenna trailer is still being worked on as reported by Mike.

The 146.94 repeater move is still on hold until KC5EZZ can work it in his crew's schedule.

New Business

Lisa Koca reported on the ARRL membership contest.

The site for Field Day in June was discussed. Joe Kent will check on the same site as last year. Other sites may need to be explored if that is not available.

Ralph Stout appointed Gary

Chafin-W5ETJ as Special Event Coordinator.

Ralph announced that club items including mugs, caps, nametags and polo shirts were available for sale. Some of these can be monogrammed with call signs and names.

The need for a trailer for the generator was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to buy a trailer for \$300. The motion carried.

Bill Murphy - WA6CMJ announced that a call sign (W5SJT) has been obtained for the county EOC.

Glenn Miller - AA5PK VEC coordinator announced that a new Question Pool for the Technician Exam will take effect in July.

The annual Spreader Award was made by Mike Dominy to Jack Roberts - KB5TMY.

It was announced that Tom Austin - K4OTM had heart surgery and came through with flying colors and will be in the hospital for 4-5 days.

The meeting was adjourned and a program presented by Jim Leavell - N5ZIIY on the Communications system planned for the local Council of Governments.

ARRL Membership Contest

Watch for details about the ARRL membership contest. Our club can win some great prizes by adding new ARRL members. If you are not a member consider joining and helping the club. Dues are \$39/year which includes a subscription the QST magazine.

Consider joining and renewing through the club this year. ARRL members have a special member's only area on the ARRL website at www.arrl.org.

License Exam Results

The results of the License exam given January 30 is as follows:

License Upgrades to General Class:

Bobbie N O Rear - W5III
David J Hawkins - KF5DUB

New Technician Class Licenses:

Neil R Brown - KF5EUS
Mark A Jurens - KF5EUT
Jerry R Lewis - KF5EUU
Ryan T Irwin - KF5EUV
Jacob D Lopez - KF5EUW

Congratulations!

We look forward to hearing you on the air.

Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

AEP frequencies

855.6375
856.3625
857.3625
859.3625
860.3625
858.3625
860.3125
856.3125
857.3125
860.3375

858.3125
859.3125
859.3375
858.3375
857.3375
856.3375
855.1625
855.8625

Concho River Dredging Operation

156.325

Air Med 1 Dispatch

155.220

Emergency Communicationsde Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Emergency Coordinator

NTS liaison is maintained with the: West Texas Section

Total number of ARES operations this month: 5

Total Man-hours: 110.0

November ARES Net Report

| Date | Net Ctrl | Check-ins | Time | Freq. |
|------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|
| 01/4 | KD5URW | 12 | 23 min | 444.350 |
| 1/11 | KD5URW | 11 | 19 min | 444.350 |
| 1/18 | KD5URW | 15 | 23 min | 444.350 |
| 1/25 | KA5ULE | 14 | 25 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

Total # of ARES members: 21

Change since last month: 1

The Tom Green County ARES group held their monthly meeting on the 15 Jan 10. We had a good meeting discussing this year's goals and projects for the group and some possible workdays at the city/county EOC. The radio room in the EOC has come a long way from where it was when we moved in. After much work on the antennas, the radios and the computer system, we believe that we have done a great job and now we can look at working at upgrading the room as part of the goals and projects for this year.

The group also discussed the December shelter range survey done by many of the group members that yielded some valuable information about the group's simplex capability to support the EOC during shelter operations at several of the cities shelters during times of emergencies. I wish to say a big thanks to all who attend the meetings and wish to invite anyone to attend our meetings or join the net to see what ARES is all about.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting is set for 18 Feb 2010 at 7:00 PM at the San Angelo ARC clubhouse.

Silent Key Scott Waddell - NS5P

Scott was an amateur radio operator for over 30 years and became quite proficient at Morse code as he communicated with friends in many countries. Retirement was a pleasure for him as he spent time in his "radio shack" communicating and building antennas. He spoiled his family with being able to repair or build most anything.

Living with ALS, he exhibited the same gentleness and humor as he had throughout his life.

Scott Allen Waddell was born to Elkin & Idell Waddell on December 27, 1941, grew up in Menard, Texas, and passed away on January 19, 2010 in San Angelo, Texas. He is survived by his wife, Judy; his two daughters, and son, Services for Scott were held Friday, Jan. 22, 2010.

From his QRZ page: Amateur Radio has been my main hobby since 1975. My novice call was WN5MUE, upgrading to general with WB5MUE, later to Advanced as KC5AH and finally Extra with my present call. Home brew antennas have been my main interest. DXing held my interest for 3 or 4 years but now I mostly ragchew. Favorite bands are 10, 15 and 17.

CQ DX de WB5ZAM

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during February: J7; H4; TX3; A6; EA8J6; J8; JD1; KC4; V3; 5X; PJ; 6W; J7; FG; PJ4; VP6; C6; T6; VK9; VI; JM1; J5; J3; T8; HS; YN; E5; VK9X; S2; V8; SV5; V3; VP2; C5; CE0Z; YI; 3W.

Island of the Month--Mull--G: The second largest island in the Inner Hebrides, off the west coast of Bonnie Scotland. It has an area of 338 sq. miles, and is the fourth largest island surrounding Great Britain. The census in 2001 was 2667, and due to the robust climate in

the summer, grows tremendously with tourists.

A little history from Wikipedia: "It is widely understood that Mull was inhabited shortly after the end of the last ice-age, from around 6000 BC. Menhirs, brochs and a stone circle with examples of burial cairns, cists, standing stones, stone circles, pottery and knife blades provide compelling evidence that inhabitants were there during the Bronze Age. Between the years of 600 BC to 400 AD Iron Age inhabitants were building protective forts, duns and crannogs.

The early Christian period began in the 6th Century, with 563AD being a pivotal point as it is believed that Christianity was returned to mainland Britain by St. Columba, when he arrived from Ireland to set up a monastery on the Island of Iona just off the south-west point of Mull. In the 14th century, Mull became part of the Lordship of the Isles. After the col-



lapse of the Lordship in 1493, the island was taken over by the clan MacLean and in 1681 by the clan Campbell. In 1588, one of the ships of the Spanish Armada, Florenica, was moored in Tobermory Bay and blown up there, reputedly with £300,000 of gold bullion on board.

In 1773, this island was also visited by Samuel Johnson and James Boswell during their famous Tour of the Western Islands. During the Highland Clearances in the 18th and 19th centuries, the population fell from 10,000 to less than 4000 (a terrible time in Scottish History, see Wikipedia for more).

Mull boasts such historic buildings as Duart Castle and Torosay Castle, both

open to the public from Easter to September. The mausoleum of Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of New South Wales from 1809 to 1822, may be found in the village of Gruline on the island (Macquarie had been born on the nearby island of Ulva).

Mull's climate is more moderate than mainland Scotland due to the effects of the Gulf Stream, bringing warm water all the way from the Gulf of Mexico.

In October there is a road rally of worldwide drivers that closes all the roads. Scuba diving is enhanced by several shipwrecks offshore, one a Spanish Galleon. Links to tourist spots and the island start at: <http://www.tobermory.co.uk/>.

Ham radio is allowed under reciprocity agreements with the Great Britain Telecommunication Agency (ie WB5ZAM/g).

Golf is to be had at the Tobermory Golf Club, and is said to be worth the walk around the course.

More info on Mull can be found at Google looking for "isle of mull Scotland" and at wikipedia.com.



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Recent SAARC Programs

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| March '09 | Digital Communications, PSK-31, Gary Chafin/W5ETJ, Ralph Stout/KASULE |
| April '09 | Solar Activity and Ham Radio, Joe Lynch/KG5X |
| July '09 | APRS, Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ |
| August '09 | Batteries Plus, Richard & Patrick Brown |
| September '09 | DPS, Trooper Shawn Baxter |
| October '09 | 85th SAARC Birthday Celebration |
| November '09 | Satellite Operations, Glenn Miller/AA5PK |
| December '09 | Eatin' Meeting |
| January '10 | CVCOG Interoperability Data and Radio Systems, Jim Koca/N5PIY |
| February '10 | Tour of the San Angelo PD Communications Facility |

February Program

Lisa Koca/K5LLK announced that the program for the February club meeting will be a tour of the San Angelo Police Department Communications Center. We need to be there at 8:30 pm. The Club meeting will be start promptly at 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse. We will then caravan to the PD center for the tour at 8:30 pm. region.

January Program Notes

The program for the January Club Meeting was given by Jim Koca - N5ZIY. Jim is the Homeland Security Director for the Concho Valley Council of Governments (CVCOG). He shared information about the new Interagency Interoperability Communications system being developed by the COG. This system will enable the all public service agencies to have voice interoperability throughout the 13 county area serviced by CVCOG. It will include GPS tracking as well.

The system will be a VHF trunked P-25 system. The initial build will include Tom Green, Coke, Irion, Reagan, and Sterling counties. The system will tie to DPS in Austin via the San Angelo DPS as well. In an emergency, all necessary agencies will be able to communicate, something not possible during the FLDS event in Eldorado. The system will be operated out of a Multiagency Coordination Center (MAC) at the CVCOG location on Loop-306. The MAC will also serve as a backup to the local city/county EOC if needed.

There are 24 COGs in the state and the plan is to eventually have all COGs interconnected with such a system.



Spreader Award 2009

The annual Spreader award was given to Jack Roberts - KB5TMY by last year's recipient, Mike Dominy - KD5URW.

**Life Member Plaque Given**

Glen Miller - AA5PK receives his Life Member Plaque from Outgoing President Joe Kent - W5JBK.

**Gavel Handoff**

Outgoing President Joe Kent - W5JBK hands off the gavel to incoming President Ralph Stout - KA5ULE.

**Congratulations to Glenn Miller - AA5PK**

From AMSAT.org on Straight Key Night on Oscar 2010 held January 1, 2010

Ray Soifer, W2RS has compiled the Best Fist votes from AMSAT's Straight Key Night on OSCAR 2010 and reported the results this week. Ray said, "We saw a great deal of activity throughout the world, with 'Best Fist' nominations coming in from four continents." The following "Best Fist" winners, 23 in all, each received at least one nomination from someone they worked:

AA5PK, JA6SZV, JH7UJI, JO2ASQ, JR0EFE, K0RJS, N3TE, N3TL, N4ZQ, N5AFV, N7EQF, N9AMW, NR7Q, V5AZ, PV8DX, PY2FFG, PY4ZBZ, WA5KBH, WA6ARA, WC7V, WD9EWK, 9A2EY, 9A5YY.

As some will remember, at one time we used to award a "grand prize" to the participant who got the most nominations. This was discontinued a few years ago, for fear of making the event too "competitive." However, we have to make an exception this year: **Glenn Miller, AA5PK, received a record six nominations.** Well done!

Many thanks to all who participated, and congratulations to all of our "Best Fist" winners.

See you next year!

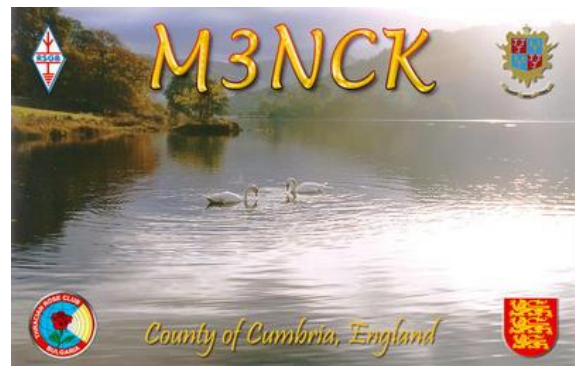
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DX of Month

QSL OF THE MONTH-M3NCK: Nick, in the Lakes District of England has quite a nice QSL, and should be workable with 100watt rigs here in San Angelo.

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> |
|-------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1/7 | KB5FNK | 25 | 14 min |
| 1/11 | KD5SBE | 29 | 20 min |
| 1/18 | KB5FNK | 25 | 17 min |
| 1/25 | KB5FNK | 23 | 17 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 PL 162.2 | | |
| 146.62- | Brady PL 114.8 (Echo Link Node) | | |



P. O. Box 4002
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Get all the latest club news on the Internet
at www.w5qx.org

2010 SAARC Officers:

President – 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
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 Parker/KD5SBE at 949-7731 or vparker6@suddenlink.net

Article submission deadline: Ten days prior to monthly meeting



NEXT MEETING: 02/18/10
PROGRAM: SAPD Comm Center
SAARC Clubhouse, 7:30 P.M.