

# The *eKilo* - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

July 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 1933 on June 12.

Introductions were made with 15 members and 2 visitors in attendance. Visitors were Lew Millegan/KD5NAG and Buddy Perry/KA7TLJ. Both became members after the meeting.

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

### Officers' Reports

Paul/N7SDQ, Activities Manager. Field Day will be at Twin Buttes Park, June 28-29, 2003. Friday evening, June 27, we will start to set up. The club will rent a trailer with beds from the base. Saturday morning, finish setting up. Bob/W7IKT and Carol/N5CBQ will have their motor home on site. Field Day activities will begin at 1300 CDT. Saturday evening there will be a pot luck diner and BBQ. Joe/KC5ILD, LaRae/KC5KXY, Ken/KD5NXV, and Elta KD5NXY are coordinating the dinner. Paul/N7SDQ will be able to furnish ice as needed. Sunday at 1300 CDT Field Day activities end. We will tear down and return equipment to the clubhouse.

John/KC5FMX reported the San Angelo Lake and Park Police were glad to have us use the facilities at the park. Paul/N7SDQ confirmed they are glad to have the park get some use. Glenn/AA5PK asked if we are going to be competitive. Paul/N7SDQ said, unless we get a bunch of operators, especially CW, it won't happen. It will be just for fun like last year.

David/KA5VTG, Emergency Coordinator. The National Weather Service has acquired a club station call sign—KD5WMD.

Joe/KC5ILD, Grounds Chairman. Joe has the generator operational. He mowed the grounds. With the rain we have had it looks as though it will need another mowing.

### Old Business

Paul/N7SDQ talked to the President of the Little League. He was apologetic about the problems we have had with some of the players parents and fans. He was concerned about the damage caused by the players to our property. However, he is the out-going president and has assured Paul he will pass this information on to the incoming president. The President told Paul when something is damaged to talk with persons in orange vests (ODs). Glenn/AA5PK suggested we keep a low profile due to the \$1 a year lease.

(Continued on page 2)

## Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 1)

We need to try to work with the group instead of the Airport Manager.

### New Business

The club was contacted by Ken Gunter/W5JZ who offered to donate equipment to the club. The equipment consists of: 6-element tri-band yagi, 60' of Rohn 25 tower, 40-80 meter trap dipole, Icom IC-745 HF transceiver, power supply, antenna tuner, and HF amplifier. Ken would like to see the gear go to a youth program at a school. The amplifier would be okay for club use. There may be a problem getting the tower and antenna down from the roof of the Cox Communications building.

David/KA5VTG entered the Running of the Bull competition in Eldorado, July 26/27. There are several other competitions. They have offered our club a free booth.

### Good of the Order

John/KC5FMX thanked Joe/KC5ILD for the care of the building.

Glenn/AA5PK was asked by Barbara Jennison to sell Jerry/N5OKQ's equipment ASAP. The tower has been spoken for.

The Split-the-Pot was worth \$16 to the club and the winner, Don/KD5NAI, donated his share to the club. Thank you, Don.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2013.

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

## License Testing News

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner

The next license testing session will be held at 1 PM on Sunday, **July 27**, at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of **NCVEC Form 605** and **\$12** check/money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") is required not later than July 21.



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

**Note:** A new Technician Class question pool became effective on July 1, 2003. Be sure to study the newest examination material if you decide to test for Technician.

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

## Beaufort Wind Scale

The Beaufort Scale was long in use as a system for estimating wind speeds. It was introduced in 1806 by Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort (1774-1857) of the British Navy to describe wind effects on a fully rigged man-of-war sailing vessel, and it was later extended to include descriptions of effects on land features as well. Today the accepted international practice is to report wind speed in knots (1 knot equals about 1.85 km, or 1.15 mi, per hour).

Beaufort Number, Description, Wind Speed, Effect (original chart converted from knots to mph)

0 - Calm, less than 1, smoke rises vertically

1 - Light Air, 1.2- 3.1, smoke drift shows wind direction, wind vanes don't move.

2 - Light Breeze, 3.7-7.5, wind felt on face, wind vanes move.

3 - Gentle Breeze, 8.1-12.4, leaves and small twigs in motion, hair disturbed, clothing flaps.

4 - Moderate Breeze, 12.5-18.6, dust and loose paper moved, small branches move.

5 - Fresh Breeze, 19.3-24.9, small trees with leaves begin to sway, wind force felt on body.

6 - Strong Breeze, 25.5-31.7, large branches move, umbrellas difficult to use, difficult to walk steady.

7 - Moderate Gale, 31.7-39.2, whole trees in motion, inconvenience felt when walking.

8 - Gale, 39.8-46, twigs broken off trees, difficult to walk.

9 - Strong Gale, 48.5-53.4, people blown over, slight structural damage including tiles/shingles being blown off houses.

10 - Whole Gale, 54.7-62.8, trees uprooted, considerable structural damage.

11 - Storm, 63.4-74.6, widespread damage.

12 - Hurricane, greater than 74.6, widespread devastation.

## CQ DX de WB5ZAM



*By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM*

**DXpeditions in July:** CU2—Azores, T3—Eastern Kiribati, FH—Mayotte, A2—Botswana, 5W—W. Samoa, 7P—Lesotho (two DXpeditions), FO—French Polynesia, FO—Austral Island, V3—Belize, SV5—Dodecanese, KH8—American Samoa, VP2M—Montserrat, CYØ—St. Paul Island, FP—Miquelon & St. Pierre, TGØ—Guatemala, and 3DA—Swaziland.

### Island of the Month

**Dominica—J7** They say old Christopher Columbus, if he were still alive and revisiting Dominica, would find little changed on the island. Slow to catch up to tourism and, with little in the way of industrial production, Dominica remains an example of laid back and not-in-a-hurry Caribbean island.



Situated at 15°27'N and 61°20'W, the island is just a bit larger than St. Lucia, at 754 km<sup>2</sup> (29 by 16 miles while St. Lucia is 24 by 14). With the same intense central island rainforests, and boasting 365 rivers, Dominica offers two airports to come in by or ports in at least two towns where tourist ships dock. But, unlike St. Lucia, there is a quite visible lack of beaches, hence the lack of large hotels on the beach and the large influx of tourists. Multiple sites tout the eco-tourism and diving qualities of Dominica's reefs, but the hotels are small. The largest one the Web sites exemplified was 45 rooms. No mention of golf courses, but the water is drinkable, the electricity is 240 VAC, and the markets offer variety in their available foodstuffs. Interesting to note was one comment on climbing the highest mountain (Mt. Diablatins)—the way you know you have reached the peak is the tower and ham radio repeater upon the summit.

Dominica was the last of the Caribbean Islands colonized by Europeans. This was due to the large and evasive population of Carib Indians that left no one alive to tell why the small groups of settlers kept disappearing. (There are still 3000 Carib Indians living on the island who are the last remnants of the pre-Columbian populace living in the Eastern Caribbean and they have a protected area of 3700 acres in the northeast of the island.) The French and English traded the island back and forth through battles or negotiations, but the island ended up as a British Colony in 1805.

In 1978, they gained independence and, after two years of a "tyrannical" local government, Mary Eugenia Charles was elected the first Prime Minister. She was also the first female Prime Minister in the whole of the Caribbean. She remained in office for 15 years and the island is slowly developing due to her progressive programs.

The economy is tied to bananas and remains at the will of the frequent hurricanes that visit the region. The influx of tourists is just beginning, but the "rugged coastline, lack of beaches, and the absence of an international airport" has kept the island from joining sister islands in sharing the tourism boom to the Caribbean. Industries other than bananas include soap, coconut oil, copra, furniture, cement blocks, tourism, and shoes.



In July 2002, the population was estimated at 70,000. One major tourist site is a lake of boiling mud (the second largest in the world) that offers hikers a view into the heart of a volcano. The boiling lake is probably only surpassed by underwater vents that even snorkelers can swim around where the water is over 80° F. Also there is an extensive National Park System to view, as well as rain forest treks. Being in the center of hurricane "alley," rainfall in the interior of the island can exceed 120 inches a year, hence their 365 rivers and also resulting flooding. Arable land is only about 4% of the total, with 16% in permanent crops and 80% in forests. The capital city, Roseau, has a population of 20,000. The currency is the Eastern Caribbean dollar (about \$27EC=\$1US). Hams are semi-active on the HF bands, but as evidenced by the repeater, very active on the VHF bands.

Pictures etc. come from these sites: [http://www.calibishielodges.com/eng/dominica\\_beaches02.asp](http://www.calibishielodges.com/eng/dominica_beaches02.asp), <http://victorian.fortunecity.com/louvre/88/dominica/description.htm>, <http://www.worldfactsnow.com/factbook/country/Dominica/>

### QSL OF THE MONTH HP1RIP

This is a neat card from Archibaldo Clealand of Panama. Saw several SJT hams at Ham-Com in Dallas. Lots of equipment there Friday and Saturday. The Dallas hams are one of the groups going to Lesotho in July 18-25 and they will be a full-time DXpedition, so look for them on all bands.

See you on the bands chasing DX. 73.



## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Jun 9	KA5VTG	25	12 min
Jun 16	KA5VTG	25	14 min
Jun 23	KA5VTG	24	12 min
Jun 30	KA5VTG	24	12 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	<b>6 Meter Crossband</b>	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5



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Get all the latest club news on the World  
Wide Web at [www.qls.net/saarc](http://www.qls.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, JUL 10, 7:30 P.M.  
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE