

The eKilo - What

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

June 2003

Jerry Jennison, N5OKQ, SK

From The ARRL Letter, May 16, 2003

Jerry Jennison, N5OKQ, of San Angelo, Texas, died May 2 following an extended illness. He was 64. An ARRL member and REACT International Life Member, Jennison also was active in the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) and served as SATERN coordinator for the Southern Territory of The Salvation Army. "This is a sad day for SATERN and for the many organizations that Jerry Jennison served in," said National SATERN Director Pat McPherson, WW9E. "Jerry was reflective of the 'Can Do' spirit of the amateur operator." Jennison also was a volunteer for the Red Cross and was a member of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club. A memorial service was held on May 7.

May 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 1930 on May 8.

Introductions were made with 14 members and 4 visitors in attendance. The visitors were JJ Russell/KC5ILE, Jim Fisher/KD6IWD, Jack Roberts/KB5TMY, and Ron Mecklenburg. Jack/KB5TMY became a member after the meeting.

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

Officers' Reports

David/KB5FNK, Vice President, reported on problems we have been having with the Little League people. David said we are to file our complaints with the Airport Manager. We will consider further action from that point. Paul/N7SDQ, Activities Manager, has not been able to contact those in charge of the baseball activities as yet. He will keep us updated.

Joe/KC5ILD, Grounds Chairman, replaced the lock on the back door of the clubhouse and will soon replace the lock on the door going into the garage. Joe will bring some large pipe to put on the corners of the driveway to the clubhouse and install a chain across the entrance with a combination lock. When this is accomplished all members will have the combination. Starting with the June meeting the generator in the garage will be started and run for a short period of time to ensure the generator will be in working order for all known events as well as any unknown or unscheduled events.

Old Business

The members would like to have Field Day activities held at the same location as the last two years. The Bait and Concession Stand at Twin Buttes.

New Business

Glenn/AA5PK moved that the club donate \$100 to Hospice of San Angelo in Jerry Jennison's name. The motion was seconded and carried. Glenn has been asked, when the time is appropriate, to try and get one of Jerry's amateur radio operator license plates so that we may display it at the club.

David/KB5FNK moved that we a plaque be made to honor Silent Keys. This would be for those who become Silent Keys while members of the club. The motion was seconded and carried.

David/N5RBW suggested that folks participating in Field Day consider the various modes of operation that may be available, including satellite communications.

Good of the Order

Split-the-Pot was worth \$12 to the club. The winner was Bob/KD5PIX.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2001. The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be June 12, 2003 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

License Testing News

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK
Volunteer Examiner

ARRL VEC

A license testing session was held at the clubhouse on June 1. Volunteer examiners were Rob/N5OIU, Don/AB5BG, John/KC5FMX, and Glenn/AA5PK.

Seven candidates were administered 13 examination elements with the following results: two new Technicians, one new General and one upgrade to General, and one new Amateur Extra upgrade.

The next SAARC-sponsored license testing session will be held on Sunday, July 27, at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and a check or money order made payable to "ARRL/VEC") is required not later than Monday, 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>. Information/forms can be obtained by contacting Rob/N5OIU at 942-7599 or Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775.

Reminder: A new Technician Class question pool will be used for Technician examinations beginning July 1, 2003.

Ham Radio Exempted from Texas Tower Legislation

From The ARRL Letter, May 30, 2003

Hams in Texas are breathing a sigh of relief after lawmakers exempted Amateur Radio licensees from Senate Bill 1261, also known as the LeClair-Jennings Act. The measure relates to proposed construction, marking and location of wireless communication towers. The Texas House of Representatives this week passed SB 1261—it earlier had gained Senate approval—and it now goes to Gov Rick Perry <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/> for his signature. The text of the legislation is available on the Texas Legislature Web site <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>.

FCC Seeks Assistance in Curbing Unlicensed 10 Meter Incursions

From The ARRL Letter, May 2, 2003

The FCC has requested the assistance of the ARRL Amateur Auxiliary/Official Observers <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html> in monitoring for illegal operation on 10 meters. The request came in an April 28 letter from FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, who says incursions on the band by apparently unlicensed operators continue to be a major enforcement headache. "This is the first phase of a renewed investigation effort and may be thought of as detect, collect data, and report," said ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. Skolaut forwarded the request to members of the Amateur Auxiliary May 1.

Hollingsworth said the FCC wants help with a stepped-up effort over the next six months—from May through October—to identify any unlicensed operation on 10 meters "whether from business entities—including trucking companies—truckers or other individuals operating domestically." Hollingsworth said the FCC does not need direction-finding, but would appreciate where possible "the names and cities of the operators, and license plate numbers and state if from a vehicle."

Skolaut said the FCC would like to concentrate on obtaining reports of this type of operation to help identify specific areas of the US where this problem is prevalent, although he concedes that not all illegal 10 meter operation originates in the US. "The FCC asks that OOs obtain as much information as possible and send their reports through normal channels to ARRL Headquarters," he said.

The decision to record the transmissions of suspected interlopers was left to the discretion of the individual OOs. The FCC request was made under a longstanding agreement between ARRL and the FCC regarding the use of Amateur Radio volunteers to assist in enforcement.



ARRL Field Day 2003 June 28-29

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



DXpeditions in June: According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of May 5-11, there were 220 countries active: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4U1I, 4X, 5A, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5T, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9U, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A6, A7, AP, BV, BY, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D4, DL, DU, E4, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FK, FM, FO, FO/m, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HC, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, J8, JA, JD/m, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH3, KH6, KH9, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PY, PZ, S2, S5, S9, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T7, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TK, TL, TR, TT, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V1, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9C, VK9L, VK9N, VP2E, VP2V, VP5, VP8/h, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XW, YA, YB, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD8, ZD9, ZF, ZK1/s, ZK2, ZL, ZP, and ZS. DXpeditions: 7O—Lesotho for July! Rare!, J7—Dominica, KH9—Wake, XW—Laos, 6V—Senegal, and 3V—Tunisia. Rather quiet month for DXpeditions. **Hamcom in Dallas is June 20-22. Field Day the following weekend.**

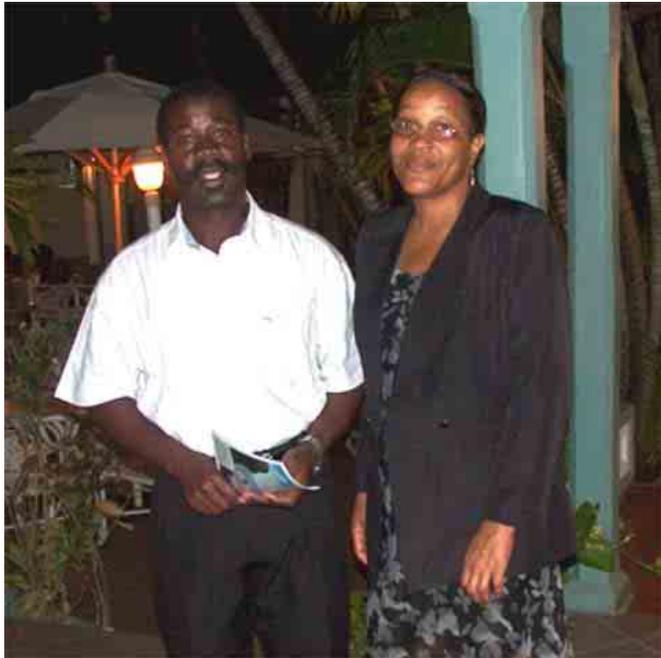
Island of the Month

J6-St. Lucia (revisit after personal research)

The XYL and I had the opportunity to visit one of the more exotic of the islands I have written about in the past—St. Lucia. The island is just what the brochures and Web sites say: beautiful. The French fought the British 14 times for control of the island, appropriately calling it the “Helena of the Caribbean.” Numerous magazine articles tell the story of life on the island and about the beauty, not only at the beach, but in the rain forests and mountains. The island is approximately 21 miles long and 14 miles wide, but very mountainous away from the sea. The roads creep up and down the side of 1500– 1800-foot high hills/valleys, with frequent switchbacks, and much honking of the horns to warn others you are coming around the blind corners. (Some magazines say to hire a 4-wheel drive and explore; we hired someone else to scare the life out of us on the narrow roads.)



The beaches are reported to be much better on the north end of the island and we found just that. The one botanical garden we went to was beyond belief in the colors of the flora. The island is not what one would call a third-world, backwards island, but a very progressive island, knocking at the door of progress. They have had their independence from England since 1979. The strikingly modern city of Castries in the north, contrasted with the sleepy fishing villages to the south. As we drove from the airport to our hotel just north of Castries we noted that they had a well established Home Depot—a True Value Store



(we’re still in the planning stages for one here in San Angelo). There were Domino’s Pizza (24 hour delivery) and a KFC along the way. In the central square, we had expected tourist shops with people trying to get the tourists to come in to buy, but like St Kitts, the shops provide services for the locals, and if you want to browse, you’re welcome to, but no pressure to come in and buy a “special thing, just for you.”

Since I had written about the island in 1997, I had wanted to visit and talk to locals and see for myself if it really was a paradise. (It really is!)

We were invited by J69MV, Tot Henry, to come to the central square in Castries on Monday evening to listen to the kick-off of the annual Jazz festival. He works for and plays as a member of the Royal St. Lucian Police Band. And what a band. They provided four hours of jazz, hard to



beat elsewhere. His hospitality and that of the residents truly amazed us. We did meet three of the other local hams after

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

the concert and hope to be hearing them more often on the air. One is looking to attend college at A&M. (Note: May is



jazz festival and July is carnival—and since the weather rarely changes, 70° to 80° year around, you can go anytime.) The sewer systems work there, and we found less flies there than at a picnic in a local park here, and sitting in the square, on an island we expected to be eaten alive by the mosquitoes, but not one attacked us. I noted in 1997 that there were four hospitals on the island, while the current phone directory shows six, with numerous clinics (Minor Emergency Clinics) all over the island. The local telephone company is competing with two others for wireless customers, and practically giving away air time and phones and we saw cell phones in the hands or on the belts of almost everyone. We noted trash trucks picking up waste, few stray animals, and almost everyone had something to do to keep busy. The water is so clean coming from the rain forests that they are able to bottle and sell it. It rivals waters sold in most stores in the US. The tap water is pure and drinkable, so there are little problems with waterborne diseases.

The Min-

istry of Social Rehabilitation teaches those without skills how to make things and sell them to the thriving tourist industry. We saw very few street beggars (none like the group we have here at the intersections). Street vendors primarily had food stuffs, candies, drinks, things a local populace would need in the day to day work. Banana production is handled through cooperatives which ship to and sell their bananas to England. They also produce coconut related products, from sunscreens, to baby oil, cooking oils and lubricants, all from locally grown coconuts. They had cocoa plants and sell a raw chocolate so sweet, it's hard to believe.

The surf was clear, no garbage washing up like on our beaches in south Texas, and water so clear you saw fish in shallow water that you don't see on other islands. The general impression was of a semi-laid back modern island, slowly evolving into a modern community. We were told the population still hovers around 180,000 with 80,000 in Castries. They have manufacturing in Castries, producing the coconut by-products, as well as materials from imported cotton. They do not have their own oil and import from either PEMEX or South America, but do their refining, using diesel for power generation, and also produce their own gasoline. Lots and lots of small cars there, all on the "wrong side of the



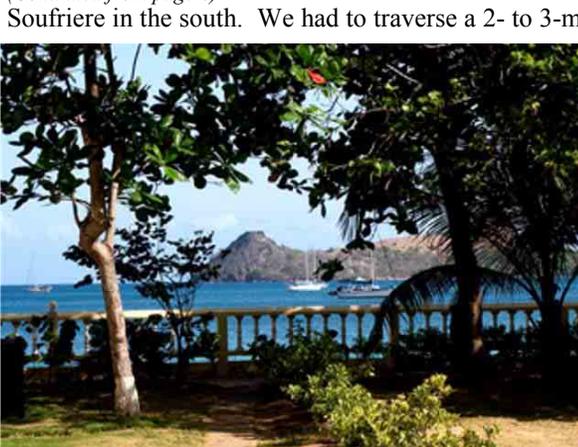
street," and we did hear the infrequent loud car stereo. But the island is a relatively safe place to live. They had a tale of one of their prisons on the south end, in the forest, infested with snakes. This tale dates back to slave times when the plantation owners told their slaves they had imported Fer-de-lance snakes with the intent of keeping them on the plantations and not running off. The possibility the tale is true in another tale told of the snakes and then importation of Mongoose to kill the snakes and then dogs to kill the mongoose who stole the chickens.

So much to see there, three days is not enough. The bananas were hanging on trees that had to be tied to an adjacent tree to keep from falling over with the heavy load of fruit. The coconut palms used to separate the mini-estates, the breadfruit trees, and their huge rain forest. Work started in earnest in 1996 to improve the roads, with the western road improved from the north shore to



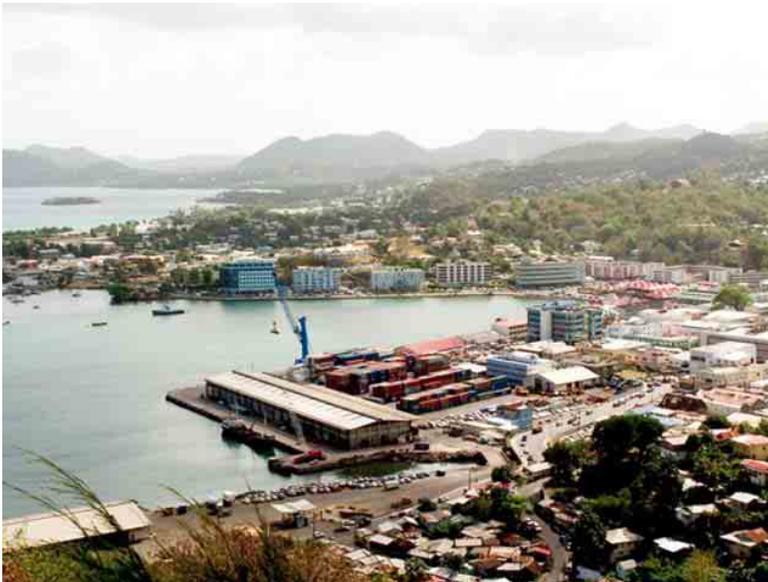
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Soufriere in the south. We had to traverse a 2- to 3-mile stretch where they had build a temporary road (essentially one lane with lay-bys to let traffic pass) along the cliffs while they worked on a section towards the airport, along the south coast (what a “cliff hanger”). But they are passable, and narrow, but with an average speed of 45, the 20 miles from Castries to Soufriere seemed like 60. There are two airports there now. The one in Castries is limited to the turbo-prop jets, while the new one at the south-east end can handle the large international jets.

The St Lucia Golf and Country Club course at Cap Estates, in the north end of the island, was too hard (not just dry due to it being the end of the dry season). Where we would see pasture to play back to the fairway, they had water gullies, or thickets so thorny only the goats went into them. Lots of water hazards. The course ate a dozen golf balls and begged for more. There is a Jack Nicklaus course going in on the south end, but information wasn't yet



available on it. Hotels are mostly on the north coast or in the south by either the Pitons (southwest coast), or near the international airport (southeast coast). The volcano there on the southwest end of the island is still active, although only with hot water and steam. You drive up into the volcano, and then take a guided tour up to see the bubbling salt water that is heated by the sub-surface magma. No magma flows, but lots of sulfur and other mineral given off. The water is the distilled boiled water, rich in minerals, and as it cools from boiling, and winds down the valley to the sea it finds its way through two waterfalls and two sets of mineral baths, built by the French in 1700s. The park there offers pools for you to soak in the mineral water. (We had expected to see in their gift shop, the usual worldwide and local beverages, but we found that our friends in Dallas have even made it to the leeward islands, finding Dr. Pepper, bottled in Dallas, for sale along with Coke, Pepsi, and numerous

stateside drinks. But their Caribbean grapefruit drink “Ting” is one not to miss.)

Soufriere is the city by the volcano and was the old colonial capital when the last British were in charge. The Pitons are the two mountains that jut from the sea at the end of the island and provide writers and photographers opportunities for exceptional works. The economy is tied to both the US dollar and the Eastern Caribbean dollar, with an exchange of about EC\$24 to the US\$. Prices were very comparable to San Angelo, nothing like we would expect in a tourist area. There are shopping malls, shopping markets, vendors markets, as well as markets for foodstuffs. Almost everyone is bilingual, speaking English and the patois French/Carib Indian/African mixed language.

Web sites: <http://www.caribislands.net/stlucia.htm>; <http://www.interknowledge.com/st-lucia/>; <http://www.turq.com/stlucia.html>.

OSL OF THE MONTH
J6/IN3ZNR

Fabrizio visited in 1998, and played radio from near Castries. J69B and J69MV are active, but their cards are a rarity. See you on the bands chasing DX



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
May 5	KA5VTG	15	8 min
May 12	KA5VTG	23	7 min
May 19	KA5VTG	20	8 min
May 26	KA5VTG	16	6 min
Jun 2	-----no net-----		

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

----- Classified -----

Wanted: I have a police officer ham friend in St. Lucia (J69MV) who collects law enforcement shoulder patches. If you have one you can spare, I'm trying to get a bunch together for him and will hand-carry them next year. Any agency (with law enforcement) badges are also collectible. Contact me at wm.richards2@verizon.net or after 1900 at (325) 657-0943. Bill/WB5ZAM.

For Sale: Astron RM-60 60-amp, rack-mounted power supply. Metered with variable voltage output, \$150. Decibel 100-watt dummy load, \$35. Contact by e-mail on the club roster call sign of KC5FMX.

For Sale: 11-element 2 meter yagi, \$50; 6 meter halo, \$40. Contact Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775 or aa5pk@cox.net.



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

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

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



NEXT MEETING:
THURSDAY, JUN 12, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE