

The eKilo-What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

June 2004

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 Joe Kent/KC5ILD on May 13, 2004, at 1808.

Introductions were made with 22 members, 1 associate member, and over 25 former members and visitors were in attendance.

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

Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ, Activities Manager, reminded us that Field Day is just around the corner. The location this year is at the end of Spillway Road in the open field by the spillway.

New Business

Due of the high cost of equipment insurance and the prolonged period of time to settle a claim, it was moved and seconded that the club become self-insured. After discussion, a vote in favor of our being self-insured was passed.

Good of the Order

Those interested in ordering ARRL Field Day 2004 T-Shirts and FD and GOTA pins were able to place their orders at the front desk.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1818 and the 80th anniversary party began.

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

From the ARRL WTX Section Manager

Submitted by Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ, Activities Manager

Paul,

I am not going to be able to attend the club's meeting tonight. We were working cattle his morning and I had a little round with a yearling in the working chute. He won round one and I quickly conceded the match. The steer knocked me down and then stomped his way over the top of me. No permanent damage other then to my pride, but I don't think this old man's body is up to a two hour ride to San Angelo tonight. It hurts to stand up, it hurts to sit down, and anything in between hurts even more. It is going to be a long night. I have spent a lifetime working with cattle and this is the first time one ever had me down on the ground. Think maybe my reaction time is not what it used to be.

I certainly appreciate you inviting Carla and I to the club birthday party and we were really looking forward to it. I sent out a mailing on my West Texas ARRL Mailing List giving the club some publicity. Hope it helps attendance. I know you received the mailing, but I have discovered that some of the ARRL members are not signed up for their West Texas Section Newsletter. I would appreciate it if you would encourage SAARC members who are also members of the ARRL to go to the ARRL Web page and sign up for the Division/Section Newsletters and bulletins. I appreciate Glenn placing a link on the SAARC web page to the monthly news, but members can only receive special bulletins and alerts via the email list. Thanks for all the help and sorry that Carla and I are going to miss the party. Please pass my congratulations on the club.

73,

John Dyer
AE5B



ARRL Field Day 2004
June 26-27



NIST Radio Station WWV

Submitted by Marcus Gilstrap/KK5YZ

National Institute of Standards and Technology radio station WWV (<http://www.boulder.nist.gov/timefreq/stations/wwv.html>) broadcasts time and frequency information 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to millions of listeners worldwide. WWV is located in Fort Collins, CO, about 100 kilometers north of Denver. The broadcast information includes time announcements, standard time intervals, standard frequencies, UT1 time corrections, a BCD time code, geophysical alerts, marine storm warnings, and Global Positioning System (GPS) status reports.

Broadcast Frequencies

WWV operates in the high frequency (HF) portion of the radio spectrum. The station radiates 10,000 W on 5, 10, and 15 MHz; and 2500 W on 2.5 and 20 MHz. Each frequency is broadcast from a separate transmitter. Although each frequency carries the same information, multiple frequencies are used because the quality of HF reception depends on many factors such as location, time of year, time of day, the frequency being used, and atmospheric and ionospheric propagation conditions. The variety of frequencies makes it likely that at least one frequency will be usable at all times.

Antennas

The WWV antennas are half-wave vertical antennas that radiate omnidirectional patterns. There are actually 5 antennas at the station site, one for each frequency. Each antenna is connected to a single transmitter using a rigid coaxial line, and the site is designed so that no two coaxial lines cross. Each antenna is mounted on a tower that is approximately one half-wavelength tall. The tallest tower, for 2.5 MHz, is about 60 meters tall. The shortest tower, for 20 MHz, is about 7.5 meters tall. The top half of each antenna is a quarter-wavelength radiating element. The bottom half of each antenna consists of 9 quarter-wavelength wires that connect to the center of the tower and slope downwards to the ground at a 45 degree angle. This sloping skirt functions as the lower half of the radiating system and also guys the antenna.

Modulation

The signals broadcast by WWV use double sideband amplitude modulation. The modulation level is 50 percent for the steady tones, 50 percent for the BCD time code, 100 percent for the second pulses and the minute and hour markers, and 75 percent for the voice announcements.

License Testing News

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner

ARRL  **VEC**

The next regular license testing session will be held on Sunday, July 18, at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and \$12 check or money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") for this test session is required not later than July 12.

Reminder: *The question pool for the General class examination will change on July 1, 2004.* Ensure you study the correct preparation material if you test after June 30, 2004.

License testing information and a link to download the form are available on the club's Web site <http://www.w5qx.org>.

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

Emergency Communications

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Tom Green County EC

Once ARRL Field Day 2004 is behind us, I plan to set up a schedule of training for those who have registered to participate in Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

For those who have an true interest in emergency communications, may I recommend the ARRL's online Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses. The ARRL offers three levels of ARECC and the cost of the course is reimbursed if you successfully complete the course. I just completed the Level I course this past weekend and it provided me with a number of topics which I will use in the local ARES training plan.

Also, if you are on HF and would like to participate in HF nets, the Texas Traffic Net meets daily at 1830 hours local on 3873 kHz. On Mondays, following the TX Traffic Net, the ARES Net meets at 1930 hours on 3873 and the West Texas Section Manager's Net meets on 3873 at 1930 hours on Tuesdays. Additionally, the Big Bend Emergency Net meets Sundays at 0830 hours on 3922 kHz. Everyone is invited to check in to any of these nets. More participation from Concho Valley amateurs would be most welcomed on all of these nets.

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



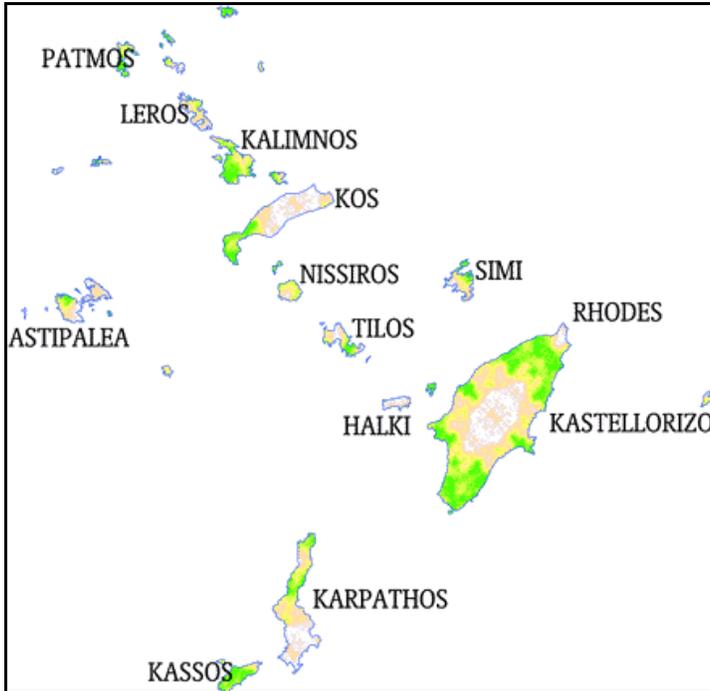
By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in June: J7, TU2, SV5, OJØ, V6, FO, VP5, SV9, KH2, FO/m, KP2, JW, HBØ, KHØ, and GJ.

Island of the Month

SV5-Dodecanese Islands. The Dodecanese islands were formed from the peaks of the mountains of the Aegeis, the dry land that joined Greece to Asia which sank into the Mediterranean sea four million years ago.

The Dodecanese islands have been inhabited since the prehistoric period and were first ruled by the Minoans and then the Achaeans. But their economic and intellectual development began with the arrival of the Dorians in 1100 B.C., reaching a peak of growth in the 8th century. The three large towns of Lindus, Cameirus and Ialysus were built on the island of Rhodes in the 6th century B.C. by the Dorians and constituted along with Kos, Cnidus and Halicarnassus in Asia Minor the Dorian Hexapolis. The economic and cultural growth of this area was cut off prematurely by the Persian tempest which then shook all Greece. After the defeat of the Persians, the Dodecanese became members of the Athenian Alliance in 408 B.C. and the three large towns of Rhodes united into one state. More particularly, Kos prospered in the 4th and the 3rd century B.C. because of the school of "medicine" founded there by Hippocrates. The Romans occupied the islands in 146 B.C. to be followed by the long Byzantine period until the time of the Crusades. In 1309 the Knights of the Order of Saint John became the rulers of Rhodes and then extended their sovereignty to the other islands as well. In 1522 the islands were occupied by the Turks and in 1912 the Italians. The islands of Dodecanese were united with Greece in 1948.



Agriculture is the chief occupation of the Dodecanese, the leading crops being olives, grapes, oranges, and other fruits and vegetables. Sponge fishing is locally important (especially in Kalymnos), but of major economic significance to the island is tourism, which flourishes during the summer months. Currently Rhodes and Kos are among the most popular and cosmopolitan islands in the Mediterranean. Kalymnos is the island of the sponge divers, while Halki, Nissiros, Kassos, Tilos and Pserimos have kept away from massive tourism, retaining their traditional character. Symi is a picturesque small island which is becoming popular, and mountainous Karpathos is dramatically beautiful, Agathonisi and Kassos are hilly and difficult to reach. Patmos is the island where Saint John the Divine wrote the prophetic Revelations.

Tourists have to make a special trip to the nearby islets of Fourni, Lipsi, and Agathonissi to find their own totally private beach. Leros is relatively quiet, while Astipalea has a magnificent geographical location and the architecture matches Cyclades. Last but not least Kastellorizo or Megisti is the destination at the "edge" of Greece. DXing is very active in the local amateur population, as well as with the visiting Northern European hams getting away to the warmth of the Mediterranean. The islands all hold something fantastic for the traveler. The tiny island of Tilos (or Tylos), although small, captures the imagination of anyone interested in paleontology, for here there once lived prehistoric dwarf elephants whose skeletons were found in one of its caves. Kos is the island that gave the world Hippocrates, the father of medicine. The third largest of the Dodecanese, it is long and narrow in shape, mostly flat with two low mountains, Dikaio (875 m.) and Simpatro, that run along its southern coast. Lots to see and do. In fact there is a DXpedition to Kalymnos Island of the Dodecanese running from late May in to June. Go to the web to read more at: <http://www.vacation-dodecanese.com/> and <http://www.helios.gr/dodecanese/>

QSL of the Month SV5TS

A 1980's local Greek ham.



CQ DX de WB5ZAM

DX is: Vacation and mini-DXpedition report. We arrived at the main airport in the south of St Lucia Sunday afternoon.



After about an hour's drive up the east coast to the hotel, I was able to hit the local 146.34/94 repeater and work my host and friend there, Tot-J69MV. He said he had a surprise for me when I got there. It was a G5RV Jr. hung in the trees behind the apartment we were to move into on Monday, and a TS-440SAT, power supply and ground system. What a shock. I had hoped to get in a dozen or so QSOs while there and find he has a radio set up and will pick me up Monday to go get the license from the Telecommunications office.

So Tuesday night I turn on the radio, tune it for 20M and hear not only the US, but the first station worked is 9K2MU in Kuwait City. Then within 20 minutes a YI from downtown Baghdad calls me and away we went. In all I worked 52 countries and 200 plus QSOs. And all that just working after dark or in the midst of the day when it was too hot to be in the beach chairs. We met just over 12 of the local hams ranging from Tot, a Police Supervisor, to Rosemond, a Senator, to Junior the Hydrologist to Earnest the bravest man on the island. I say that as he teaches driving on the narrow roads of St. Lucia. Junior

picked us up Tuesday and we went with him exploring the inner reaches of the island, seeing Cocoa Plantations, Banana Plantations, and parts of the islands most of the locals never see. The people are so



friendly and helpful, the island so green and varying from sea level to the 3000 foot high Mt. Gimie (we were up the backside of it collecting rain gauge data). So much to do and so much just loafing time. We (the significant spousal unit (or as I call her, She Who Must Be Obeyed) had a blast, and are planning a return next year. Around the Easter weekend is going to be the biggest convention of hams in the Caribbean, and it will be in St Lucia (The Eastern Caribbean Hamvention). And



as a challenge, no one that I could find had a key, so to work the 50 plus stations I did on CW, I had to use the PTT on the 440 to send with. Made for slower CW, but it was a challenge and fun to boot. And I



And I

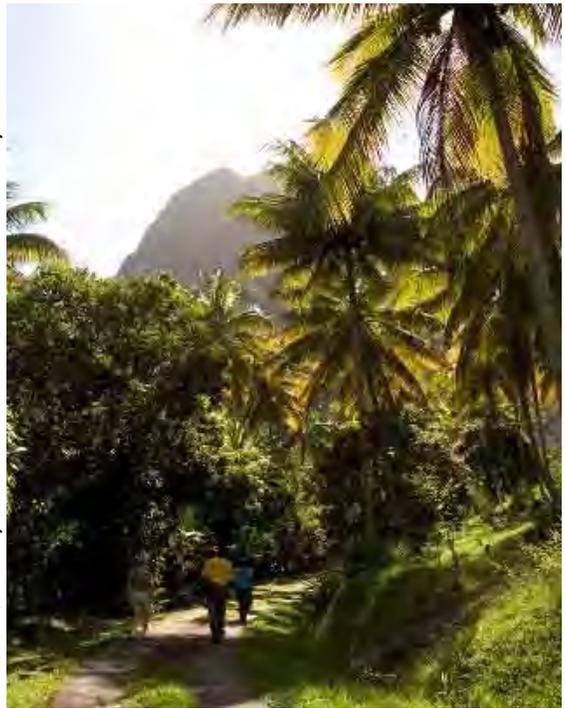


CQ DX de WB5ZAM

(Continued from page 4)



got to meet some really neat and energetic hams that are the backbone of the St Lucian society, and leaders in the islands growth into full independence. They have been independent from Britain for 25 years (this year) and are rapidly trying on their wings as a stable and growing nation. We had no lack of amenities (except our place didn't have a bar, so we had to go next door for a drink.) But the food was inex-



pensive locally, and even at the fancy restaurants (five adults eating full



16/ WB5ZAM
BILL RICHARDS
PORTABLE CHOC BAY, CASTRIES
ST. LUCIA, WINDWARD ISLANDS
WEST INDIES, IDEA NA 100



Situated in the eastern Caribbean, St. Lucia is the ultimate in vacation island. Thanks to the help of the super hams of 16-land we had a memorable vacation as well as a non-Depression. Our sincere thanks to 73R-10043 Y. Jumper-10043N. (Jumper-10043N and Jumper-10043N) without whose knowledge we would have had to pay for the beach, instead we were able to contact over 200 hams in 48 countries during the two weeks of June St. Lucia (26 May thru 26 May 2004).

This bay is near Fond Duac, is former Sugar Cane plantation and slave holding. The slaves though these two rocks is one similar to objects from their homes in Africa and it is said they eat from African food and not receiving from.

Hope to see you chasing DX, 73 de Bill.

73 de Bill
 16/ WB5ZAM
 CQ! Home Call

meals at a fancy, linen table covered restaurant cost \$150 US, total. See if you can do that at one of the better ones here or in DFW). The cost of living was similar to living in DFW area, but they do drive on the wrong side of the road (and scare the h... out of us West Texas drivers, used to wide roads). Gas was \$2.90 a gallon, but they have small Japanese cars, with 4 cylinder engines, so they get a long way on a gallon. I did try looking for SJT hams but did not hear any. I did work a Texas ham in San Antonio several times, and one in Dallas, but none out this way. Hope to see you chasing DX, 73 de Bill.

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

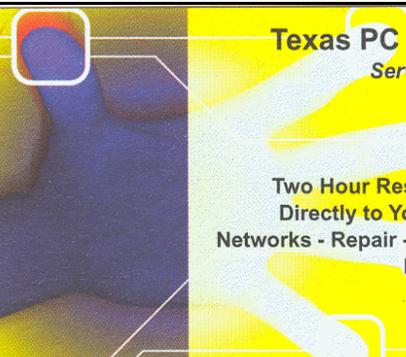
Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
May 10	KA5VTG	10	4 min
May 17	KA5VTG	10	6 min
May 24	AA5PK	10	6 min
May 31	KA5VTG	10	5 min

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
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

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

2004 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/KC5ILD
Vice President - David Behrend/KB5FNK
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - David Wolfe/KA5VTG
Activities Manager - Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ
Grounds Custodian - Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ

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, JUNE 13, 7:30 PM
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE