

The eKilo-What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

June 2007

By Bob Freeman/KD5PIX,
Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order by President David Behrend/KB5FNK on May 10, 2007 at 1937.

Introductions were made with 17 members, 1 associate member and 4 visitors in attendance.

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

Old Business

This will be the last *The Kilo-What* Glenn Miller/AA5PK will prepare for the San Angelo ARC. He has done a fantastic job for a lot of years. We wish him all the best. Chad Goodman/KD5SMK will give *The Kilo-What* a try.

Bill Doepp/N5IOU has made reservations at Logan's Roadhouse for the December Eatin' Meetin'.

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC gave certificates to all who participated in the Rebuilding Together on April 28, 2007.

Everyone seems to be in favor of having Field Day at the spillway this year. We will try to obtain as much as possible for Field Day without spending Club's money.

There being a vacancy for the remainder of the year for Emergency Coordinator, Jack Roberts/KB5TMY volunteered for the position. It was moved, seconded, and carried for Jack to be EC.

New Business

Joe Kent/KC5ILD brought to the club's attention that a ladies' group that gets together every month to play Bunko would like to use our clubhouse on May 18. They would donate to our club the equivalent of \$10 per hour for the use of the clubhouse. It was moved, seconded, and carried in favor of the Bunko Babes.

The city of San Angelo will present Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ a certificate to recognize the NOAA Environmental Hero Award presented to him in Washington DC in April. The certificate will be presented Mayor J.W. Lown at the City Council Meeting on May 15 at the Convention Center.

Jack Roberts/KB5TMY wanted to have a practice emergency exercise and have it critiqued. Bill Tarn/AE5AW thought that would lead to friction among members. Subject was tabled.

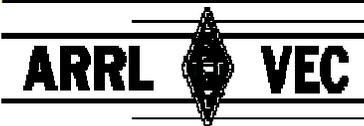
Good of the Order

Split-the-Pot was worth \$10 for the winner, David Behrend/KB5FNK, and for the Club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2027.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held June 14 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

License Testing News



Glenn Miller/AA5PK, VE Team Liaison

A license test session was held on March 4 at the clubhouse. Administering Volunteer Examiners were Glenn/AA5PK, Chuck/N5JED and Charlie/WB5T.

Five candidates were administered seven examination elements with the following results: three new Generals and two new Amateur Extras.

The next test session is scheduled for Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 1300 at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (NCVEC Form 605 and \$14 check/money order payable to "ARRL/VEC" mailed to the club PO box) is required not later than July 9.

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

Information/forms can be obtained by contacting Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775 or aa5pk@hotmail.com.

New Repeater in Big Lake

By Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ

A new repeater is on the air in Reagan County. Mark Lomax/N5SOR and Bill Taylor/KD4LXC have installed a new repeater in Big Lake. The machine is on 442.300+ and PL 162.2. This repeater is part of the West Texas Connection and is linked to Midland. Coverage is expected to be very good throughout Reagan county and into Upton and Irion counties as well.

Currently I only know of one amateur in the Big Lake area—Danny Turnbow/KD5JWJ. Let's hope this additional coverage will inspire more folks in Reagan County to become interested in amateur radio. The Big Lake area also is covered by the West Texas Connection Radio in Sterling City 146.640- PL 88.5. The 442.300 will also be accessible through the 444.225 repeater by a remote base link.

Many thanks to Mark and Bill for giving us this additional area of coverage.

Comments by Riley Hollingsworth at Dayton Hamvention

Excerpts from remarks by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel, Spectrum Enforcement Division, Enforcement Bureau, FCC

The blatant rule violators - I think you can see that we are taking care of them, or most of them—on a gradual basis. Current violations are about what we would expect from a service your size. But what concerns me most is this: You still need to "lighten up." I said that last year but you need to take it to heart more. All of you can learn from each other. And you need to work together more and show a little more respect for your diverse interests and for the service as a whole. It isn't about you. It isn't about enforcement. It's about Amateur radio. Every time you get on the air, you need to decide what's most important to you—the best interests of Amateur radio as a whole, or your own pride or ego or "rights." I realize I may be preaching to the choir here, but on the air you need to be more cooperative and less argumentative—and I need you to take this message with you when you go home. In a nutshell, I have good news and bad news. The good news: nothing is wrong with Amateur radio. It is a good service that is showing its value to the public on a daily basis. Bad news is that there is an element of Amateur radio that too often reflects present society generally. Whatever the phenomenon behind Road Rage-whatever that is—that's what I am talking about. All of you need to work together and depend upon the FCC less to solve your operating problems. We live in a rude, discourteous, profane, hotheaded society that loves its rights, prefers not to hear about its responsibilities, and that spills over in to the ham bands. You are the only service that has thousands of frequencies and hundreds useable at any given time of day or year—it was designed that way to give you alternatives, to have fail-safe back up plans and to experiment and lead technology. Even the public safety services don't have thousands of frequencies.

Now some frequencies are like bad neighborhoods. They are being cleaned up, but it will take more time and it's just not something that happens overnight. We will get there.

We can enforce our rules but we can't enforce kindness and courtesy or common sense. And a very wise person once told me, "You just can't regulate stupid." If we could, we'd be working for the United Nations instead of the FCC. To the Nets: Just because you have been on the same frequency for 75 years, that doesn't mean you own it. All frequencies are shared. If you vary your frequency, or even if you don't have a net one night, the radio world isn't going to end. To repeater owners: Just because you are coordinated doesn't mean you own the frequency. Coordination is a recommendation, not a frequency assignment. It's your call sign on the repeater and it's your station and your responsibility, just as if you had left the door open to your station at home. If there is abuse, lock the door. Don't ask us to be babysitters or hall monitors of your repeater—that's what control operators are for. Nobody asked you to start a repeater. If you shut it down tomorrow, what would happen? People would use OTHER repeaters! To the contesters: be more courteous. You are responsible for the frequency you are operating on and realize that's true even when you operate split. All frequencies are shared. To those who don't like contesters: lighten UP!! Contests are short lived. Use the WARC bands. Wash the car. Cut the grass. Learn from the contesters—and this applies to you traffic net folks, too—learn from the contesters; they pass information a lot faster and more efficiently than you do. Contesters are some of the best radio operators on planet Earth. If the contesters operated at the same pace as some of the emergency traffic nets, the contest would be over after the first few dozen signal strengths were exchanged! To the wide-banders: If you want to be a Broadcaster, apply for a broadcast license. Using extraordinarily wide bandwidth on crowded frequencies at peak operating time is rude and selfish and inconsiderate. To the QRPers: Thank you, thank you, thank you for your vitality, inspiration, enthusiasm and for being BUILDERS again! I wish I could take your enthusiasm and spread it over all segments of Amateur radio. When I watch you folks, I see the excitement and magic of my first contact. To those who don't like QRPers: Lighten UP. ANYONE can use a linear amplifier as a crutch. To the rag chew nets: 4 or 5 people meeting on the same frequency every night for 50 years using 1200 watts to talk a few hundred miles when 100 watts would do just fine is not a net—it's an informal roundtable. It ain't going to hurt you either to vary your frequency or skip a night. And the so-called "net" on 75 that bills itself as an "Oasis of Amateur Radio"—give us all a break. You are an ordinary roundtable, and no net is an "Oasis of Amateur Radio." To those of you who don't like DXpeditions: Lighten UP! If a group of people want to spend a lot of money to go to a rock or sandbar in the

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CQ DX de WB5ZAM



By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in June: According to the AR-Cluster Network, for the week of May 18-25, there were 215 countries active. DXpeditions: 3B6—Agalega, 5D—Morocco, J7—Dominica, TO—Martinique, V2—Antigua, and VP5—Turks and Caicos.

Island of the Month

Kerguelen-FT8X. The Kerguelen Islands or the Kerguelen Archipelago (French: commonly Îles Kerguelen or Archipel de Kerguelen but officially Archipel des Kerguelen or Archipel Kerguelen), also known as Desolation Island, are a group of islands in the southern Indian Ocean. It is a territory of France. The islands are one of five districts in the French Southern and Antarctic Lands and were discovered by Yves-Joseph de Kerguelen-Trémarec in February 1772. Lying at 49°20' S/69°20' E, the islands form one of the "gateways" to the Antarctic and the rich fishing areas. The archipelago was exploited for its seal population until their destruction, including fur seals in the 18th century and elephant seals in the 19th century. A number of expeditions have briefly visited the islands, including that of James Cook in 1776. During Christmas 1940, the German auxiliary cruiser Atlantis was at Kerguelen Island. During their stay they did maintenance and replenished their water supplies. The crew suffered its first fatality when a sailor fell while painting the funnel. He was buried in what is sometimes referred to as "the most southerly German soldier's grave." Kerguelen has been used by a small number of science teams since 1949, with a population of fifty to one hundred always present. There is also a satellite tracking station. The main island is home to a well-established feral cat population descended from ships' cats. They survive on sea birds and non-indigenous rabbits introduced to the islands. The islands are also known for the indigenous, edible Kerguelen cabbage. The main base, the "capital" of the district, is located at the eastern end of the Golfe du Morbihan on Grande Terre at 49°21'S/70°13'E and is known as Port-aux-Français. Facilities include a bar, gym, hospital, library, and the main activity on Kerguelen Islands is scientific research, mostly earth science and biology. Since 1992, the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES) operates a satellite tracking station located 4 km away from Port-aux-Français. Agriculture is limited to raising some 3500 sheep for local consumption. Île Kerguelen, covering an area of 1,318 mi² (3,414 km²), has a highly irregular coastline with a number of large peninsulas linked to the island by low, narrow isthmuses. These large features are further sub-divided by fjords into smaller peninsulas. Remarkably, despite its total area, no point on the main island is more than 12 miles (20 km) from the sea. Inland, the main features are the numerous valleys and ridges with the highest point, the glaciated Mount Ross, reaching a height of 6,068 ft. (1,850 m). Mount Ross is the youngest volcanic edifice recognized in the Kerguelen Archipelago. The Kerguelen Islands lie in the Northern part of the Kerguelen-Gaussberg ridge, having been built up by a series of thick lava flows over millions of years. Cook Glacier covers nearly one third of the island, and the abundant rainfall combined with glacial melt water keeps numerous streams and lakes full of water. Peat marshes, lignite, and guano deposits are found on the island. Kerguelen's weather is harsh with rain, sleet or snow falling more than 300 days a year; it is not unusual to get snow at sea level in the middle of the summer. Winds blow continuously from the west, as the islands lie in the path of the "Furious Fifties." Averaging 68 mph. (110 kph) year-round, sustained winds of 93 mph (150 kph) are commonplace, and gusts of up to 124 mph (200 kph) have been recorded. Appropriately enough, the lone chapel on the island is called Notre Dame des Vents. As Kerguelen lies on the Antarctic Convergence where upwelling cold water from the Antarctic mixes with the warmer waters of the Indian Ocean, birdlife and marine mammals are abundant. The state of the sea reflects the high wind speeds with wave heights of 40-50 ft. (12-15m) being common. The sea around Kerguelen is, however, ice free



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Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerguelen_Islands/History; <http://www.discoverfrance.net/colonies/kerguelen.html>.

QSL OF THE MONTH

HZ1KB—Khaled. Nice card from Saudi Arabia. See you on the bands chasing DX. 73 de Bill.



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
May 7	KB5FNK	23	15 min
May 14	KB5TMY	13	5 min
May 21	KA5VTG	12	12 min
May 28	KB5TMY	10	22 min
Jun 4	KB5TMY	15	20 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	444.350+	San Angelo PL 162.2
146.94-	San Angelo PL 103.5		
147.06+	San Angelo	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

Hollingsworth cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

ocean, live in a tent and swat flies and scorpions for a week and talk over Ham radio 24 hours a day, SO WHAT: LET 'EM DO IT! DXpeditions, too, are short lived, and such operation must be important to SOMEONE. And to those of you who have been continual problems and we just haven't gotten to you yet: you now have a problem yourselves. Your renewals are coming up. YOU have the burden of proof in showing that you should have a license and YOU have to come to Washington to make your case and we are going to have a LOT of questions for you. And finally, to all of you who will no doubt moan about the code being eliminated, I say this: IF it was such an earthshaking issue, why did less than 1% of you even file comments during the decision making process? WHY is it important NOW, but it wasn't important THEN? HOW can it be a "filter" when the worst enforcement problems we have all passed a 13 or 20 WPM code test?

Thank you again for all the incredible support you give our enforcement program. The self-regulating aspect of your service never ceases to amaze me! I can't imagine a BETTER group of licensees to work with. I have always had interesting jobs with the Commission and I am one of the few people on earth who like their job. I have always liked working at FCC, but you folks are the BEST and I am so thankful that I have gotten to work FOR you and WITH you and I sincerely thank you for that opportunity, and I sincerely admire you and respect you for all your passion and dedication.



P.O. Box 4002
San Angelo, TX 76902-4002

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

2007 SAARC Officers:

President - David Behrend/KB5FNK
Vice President - Kent Frazier/K5KNT
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - Jack Roberts/KB5TMY
Activities Manager - Chad Goodman/KD5SMK
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 14, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**