

# *The eKilo - What*

June 2013



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have again managed to complete another successful Field Day. SAARC decided to change its emphasis for 2013 in that we sought more and better public exposure than we have had in the past. Our operating location in the open area in front of Sam's Club had a lot higher population of "passersby" than our previous venues. Unfortunately, we were not able to attract much attention from the news media due to competition with the boat races. I believe that we fall considerably short of the mark in making the public aware of our actual and potential contribution to

our community. We need suggestions and recommendations as to how we might better do this.

We had up to 5 stations that operated for at least some of the Field Day event period: one on HF Phone operated by Bob Heiser and assisted by several club members, Glen Miller worked any satellites that were available, and a digital station operated by Gary Chaffin, Tom Austin, Ralph Stout and Matt Healey. Bob Autry did some work on CW under one of the canopies and the GOTA station was operated by Mike Dominy, Les Roblin and Carlos Flores. The GOTA station was a good area of public interest. Jack Roberts managed to get the necessary field day messages passed as well as providing the essential site security for the event. Several of the young people who were guided to the GOTA operating position were quite interested. One young fellow in particular (Noah Stroud) made several contacts and remained at the GOTA station for well over an hour. I believe that we have an enthusiastic new ham in the making with Noah.

We need to get some more "young blood" in the club to help with those tasks that some of our senior members are no longer interested in or are able to do, such as operating all through the night, erecting and climbing towers. My experience has been that there are plenty of interested young people who simply don't know how to get started. I would like to hear from members who would be interested in participating in a focused effort to reach out to the student bodies of our local schools. The thrill of amateur radio is still very much with us. We just need to make sure that those who are interested know how to get started.

As in the past we had contributions from several area businesses (a letter will be sent to each of them). Many of our members contributed to the event's success with contributions of their time, effort, gasoline, food and drink. Please accept this letter as my personal expression of appreciation for all that you have done.

Gary Chaffin, Ralph Stout, Pete Norris and I, made an appearance at the "first annual" Big Spring hamfest/tailgate event on Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>. The crowd was small but then it was a beginning. Billy Roberts W5NPR drove up from Alpine so they did have ARRL representation. We did have a pleasant visit with the Big Spring hams. They have a beautiful club house. Just shows what you can do when the club facility is owned rather than rented. I guess that our next local events will probably be a new license class which will begin in early September and the SAARC anniversary party on the morning of October 12 at the club house. I hope that W5UFO will continue his tradition of serving his wonderful homemade ice cream, made onsite.

73 es CU at the meeting in two weeks,

Tom K4OTM

## SAARC June 13th, 2013 Minutes

Called to order by Tom Austin, K4OTM at 7:30 pm

Motion was made by Gary Chaffin, W5ETJ and seconded by Bob Heiser W7IKT to accept the minutes of May's meeting as presented in the Kilo-What; the motion carried.

There was no financial report presented.

Charlie Campbell, KC5EZZ reviewed an error with the naming of the Trustee for W5QX call sign.

Motion was made by Gary Pittman, KE5TXL and seconded by David Behrend, KB5FNK to complete and submit the appropriate paperwork to name Charlie Campbell as Trustee of W5QX; the motion carried. Under the same motion, the club will recommend that Hector Guerrero be named as Trustee of N5NWS and that Teresa L. Covey be named Trustee of W5SJT.

Old Business: The club discussed and finalized plans for the 2013 Field Day to be held on the grounds of Sam's Club on June 22nd and 23rd. Trailers will be moved at 5pm, June 21st from the club house to the site location. During the discussion, the site location, station location and entrance to the venue were reviewed. In addition, publicity for the event, notification of local dignitaries, donations and setting a date for the next Tech Class were discussed.

New Business: Charlie Campbell, KC5EZZ went over a plethora of radio topics which included: an update on the rehabbing the 145.270 repeater; the potential for linking the 146.940 to the 145.270 repeater possibly through an automated controller; updates on the 6 meter repeater and the Sunday night net on 50.135 on SSB at 9pm and the potential for linking that repeater to the 442.250. In addition, Charlie gave a brief introduction to D-Star. He said there are several local hams that have secured D-Star radios and are currently using them. He is working on getting a repeater installed for the D-Star system which will greatly enhance the capabilities of the system to include internet access for the radios. Once everything is in place, the ham club from Abilene (which is currently on D-Star) will come to a meeting and brief the club on D-Star.

Split the Pot was won by Dave Augustine, KE5PNQ. He donated winnings back to the club which will increase the radio account by \$29.00.

Motion was made by Matt Healy, W5MAT and seconded by Gary Chaffin, W5ETJ to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. The motion carried.

Minutes taken for Bob Freeman, KD5PIX - Secretary/Treasurer and submitted by Matt Healy, W5MAT

Oooops!

No comments on "Bug" Spring in the May issue? That hurts! -Ed.



Now What? Page 13.

## Club News



Matt/W5MAT sent this:  
Mike Dominey, KD5URW and Ralph Stout, KA5ULE taught a class for the Technician License on May 17, 18, and 19th. It was really intense getting everyone up to speed and ready for the test on Sunday the 19th. All did well and passed the test giving us five (5) new tech license holder for our area with two upgrades from tech to general class license holders. A special thanks to Mike and Ralph for all their hard work and we always have to remember Glenn Miller, AA5PK, our exam administrator, and all of the VE's that monitored the testing; without them, no one could take the tests!

We look forward to hearing our new hams on the air. 73's Matt Healy, W5MAT  
Early mailing did not allow this to make the last issue. -Ed.

Mike/KD5URW wrote:

There were five SKYWARN events for the month of June. There were three main events in the Big County and the Abilene area and for the Concho Valley area. Two events for the Tom Green / San Angelo area. We would like to say "Thanks" to all who helped out during those weather events and a special thanks to Jack / KB5TMY and Jay for coming in several times and taking over the NWS Net Control station and working the late hours for us. Without help like this, we would not be able to receive reports from area ham storm spotters around the area and get the word out about the storms to the spotters in the area. Again Thanks to everyone who helped.

The hot weather is coming back upon us and so is the dry weather for now, but severe weather can come back at anytime, so be ready, be prepared and have your Go Bags, Family Plan and Emergency Kits ready at all times.

Mike / KD5URW

## A WORD OF THANKS

This is the 6th eKilo-What of 2013 and thanks are extended to Gary/W5ETJ, the previous editor, for all his help. Thanks also to all of you who have made contributions to the newsletter, kept the net data up to date and those who have offered encouragement and advice. Keep it coming!

**ARRL NEWS**

--- N5GMJ, North Texas Section Manager

Chris Brewer, N5GMJ, of Saginaw, Texas, has been appointed ARRL North Texas Section Manager as of April 30. Previous Section Manager, Walt Mayfield, KE5SOO, of Krum, announced his resignation due to work and family commitments. Walt had served as Section Manager since October 2011. ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, appointed Brewer after consulting with ARRL West Gulf Division Director David Woolweaver, K5RAV.

Chris has been an amateur radio operator for 30 years. He has been a net control for Tarrant County RACES since March 2011. He also held the position of President of the Tri-County Amateur Radio Club from Aug -2004 through Aug -2007. Additionally, Chris is on the Board of Directors for the Kilocycle Club of Fort Worth and is an active member of the Texas Interconnect Team. Chris has operated in just about every mode that is available to us. But his specific interests are digital modes: specifically APRS and D-Star on VHF/UHF and PSK and RTTY on HF. However, he also likes to jump into a good rag chew QSO on HF at times as well. Chris was asked to be the Official Observer Coordinator in January 2013, having served as an Official Observer since 2009. Chris will complete the current term of office as North Texas Section Manager that continues through March 31, 2015.

Walt continues his service to the ARRL as an Assistant Director for the WGD, and he wishes to congratulate Chris on his appointment.

--- Are You Covered? What About Your Club?

Given the recent weather that has besieged Oklahoma we want to take this opportunity to remind you to double check your equipment insurance coverage. The ARRL began a new partnership with Hays Affinity Group in 2011 to provide its ARRL Membership Equipment Insurance and Club Liability Insurance plans. Hays serves as the program administrator to provide equipment insurance to ARRL members that choose to elect coverage. Hays introduced new policies for both plans, underwritten by the Hanover Insurance Company.

Not only is equipment protection coverage through Hays Affinity Group slightly less expensive than it was with Marsh, it's easier to enroll in the plans. You can sign up online and even schedule your equipment online, too. With Hays Affinity Group, you can have all your radio equipment covered, even the computers, hard drives and printers in your shack. You can also elect to have coverage for your towers and antennas, up to \$15,000 of replacement cost. All losses are settled on the replacement cost value you have stated for your equipment. In addition, any newly acquired equipment during the policy term, up to a value of \$2000, will be covered, and once scheduled, until your next policy renewal without any additional premium. All this -- and more -- with only a \$50 deductible (\$25 for repair claims).

Hays will also provide club liability insurance to ARRL Affiliated Clubs for those clubs that wish to take advantage of that program. This comprehensive general liability policy provides coverage for lawsuits resulting from bodily injury and property damage at ARRL Affiliated Club-sponsored activities. This includes concession stands, dances, banquets, parties, auctions, raffles, picnics and meetings, to name just a few. Coverage would also apply for official Club participation, for instance, participating in a community-sponsored event. In addition to the policy limits described below, this plan also pays the court and legal costs of defense for covered claims. The club plan reimburses expenses for first aid to others at the time of an accident and an owner of a premises used or rented by the Club can also be named as an additional insured. To learn more about Affiliated Club benefits visit <http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-benefits>.

**ARRL NEWS**

West Texas Section News  
July 1, 2013  
News From Around West Texas

---Field Day 2013---

Field Day 2013 on June 22nd and 23rd is now history. I left Alpine Saturday morning and drove to Midland and visited with the W5QGG Midland ARC folks for a couple of hours. They were setup at Beal Park and I was able to visit with Norma WA5STG, Bill N5POB, Albert N5OVH, John WA5PFJ, Allen N5SVM, Alan N5NA and Robert W5AJ. Just as I was leaving Grady WA5ZBX from Pecos arrived, and I had a short visit with him as well. I am sure there were others that I have failed to mention, and for that I apologize.

From Midland I drove to San Angelo for a visit with the W5QX San Angelo ARC with their Field Day activities setup adjacent to Sam's Club just off of HWY 67. At their site, I was able to visit with Leslie W5IFE, Robert W7IKT, Matt W5MAT, Mike KD5URW, Jack KB5TMY, Carol N5CBQ, David KB5FNK, Tom K4OTM, Gary W5ETJ, Glenn AA5PK and Ralph KA5ULE. There again, I'm sure I failed to mention some, and I apologize. I then returned to Alpine, arriving at about 9:30 PM, after logging 556 miles for the day.

Sunday morning, I attempted to contact K5WPH Sun City ARC at 4:30 AM (1030Z) to pass Field Day traffic, but was not successful.

Big Bend ARC operating as K5FD and AD5BB had opening day delays due to tower rotor problems followed by a 2 hour thunder storm and lightning delay, but finished strong with a total of 1915 all-mode contacts. They also had lots of good food, thanks to Bob WA5ROE's and Ike Roberts' cooking skills and hard work.

An email from Midland reported that their Field Day results had not yet been compiled, but they were in the neighborhood of 1900 all-mode contacts.

Results from other Field Day activities will be reported as they are received by a West Texas Newsletter Addendum, or the next newsletter.

---Big Spring Hamfest---

On Saturday June 28th, I traveled to Big Spring to attend the Big Spring ARC Hamfest. After several years of absence from the Hamfest schedule, Big Spring again hosted a hamfest in 2013. Attendance was good after a several year layoff, and I am sure they will do a repeat performance next year. In addition to Big Spring hams, Monahans, Odessa, Midland and San Angelo were represented (and Alpine). They also held a VEC test session. The event was held at their clubhouse south of Big Spring on Hwy 87.

ARRL West Texas Section  
Bill Roberts W5NPR  
Section Manager

SAN ANGELO FIELD DAY 2013



These pictures from Joe/W5UI and Pete/KJ5SS.

more SAN ANGELO FIELD DAY 2013



THANKS TO OUR FIELD DAY SPONSERS

Sam's Club

Wal-Mart

HEB

Mrs. Baird's

American Truck and RV

C&R Services

Athletes World

Motor Home and Radio



These pictures from Tom/K4OTM.

**OF INTEREST**

**Buddy/KD5SBE submitted the following. Check the site for more:**

<http://www.newson6.com/story/22663358/oklahoma-brothers-2-of-the-youngest-ham-radio-operators>

**Oklahoma Brothers Are 2 Of World's Youngest Ham Radio Operators**

*Posted: Jun 22, 2013 11:36 PM CST Updated: Jun 22, 2013 11:47 PM CST*NewsOn6.com

Carlton passed the test when he was 12, and Corbon received his first call sign when he was 7.

When disaster strikes, you may look to some young teens to get the word out in the Sooner State. It's a unique hobby of two brothers that could save lives when disaster strikes. For years, they boys have been busy honing a talent that helps them communicate across the world. The Danforth brothers are ham radio operators and two of the youngest in the world.

Carlton was the youngest Oklahoman to be certified, passing the test when he was just 12. His little brother Corbon was the youngest to ever receive a call sign. He was just 7.

This skill helps them reach around the globe.

"Up in Maine, down in Florida, and all the way into Alaska and Hawaii and so, we also hit all the way around the world," Carlton Danforth said. "Just the other day we hit Czechoslovakia."

The brothers' skills have already come in handy. Carlton helped the Red Cross communicate during the Bartlesville flood.

**Sam/K5OAI wrote:**

It's often hard to find other QRP ops on the air, but now there is a great RBN styled website for those who enjoy QRP operations.

Julio, AK4VL has created a website that takes the output of the Reverse Beacon Network and combined it with the membership lists for a number of QRP and cw clubs. Flying Pigs, FISTS, SKCC, NAQCC, 4SQR, & QRP ARCI clubs each have their own page on the site.

here's the intro from the website home page:

<quote>

HAMjitsu helps you keep in touch with your fellow club members! Using Reverse Beacon Network, a sophisticated spotting system, HAMjitsu cross-references club databases and renders matching results. Great for working towards club awards or just ragchewing with club members.

To have your club spotted on HAMjitsu, all I need is access to a server hosted member database, preferably in CSV format.</quote>

<http://ham.jit.su/>

Other sites of interest:

For more info on the Reverse Beacon Network <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>

Another source is the K3UK sked page(s) at <http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/>

## HAMFESTS

### PLANO HAMCOM - 2013

Having become interested in CCC construction in the Texas State Parks, we decided to visit the parks at Brownwood and Possum Kingdom on the way to Plano. Between the two, we had to try lunch at Mary's Café in Strawn. Mary's has the best chicken fried steak in Texas according to the *Texas Country Reporter*. (We will let you try it and be the judge.)

Arriving in Plano Thursday late, we checked into the Best Western. Friday morning we went to The Trinity River Audubon Center, in southwest Dallas on Loop 12 between Hwy 175 and I45 on the Trinity River where an illegal dump site was previously located. The area has been returned to its natural state and the buildings contain conservation training facilities for children and a museum with live local creatures! Miles of trails take you to the Trinity and through surrounding marshland. There is also a movie on the Dallas flood of 1908 and the subsequent rerouting of the Trinity in the 1920's.

We returned to Plano in the early afternoon. I had my wish list and spent the afternoon shopping the parking lot and indoors. I saw an old friend, John Moore/KK5NU, of the Brazos Valley ARC and caught up on the Houston news. The parking lot was full of tailgaters and there were perhaps 30 tables outside located in the shady areas around the building. Another 50 or so tables were inside in addition to the commercial tables. With all these folks selling stuff I was able to buy 4 of the 5 items on my list in short order.

On the way to Hwy 67, we stopped to inspect a Clean Energy Fuels Corp (T. Boone Pickens) CNG/LNG fueling station. The station was unmanned, self service, and pay with a Clean Energy credit card! Down Hwy 67 we stopped at Glen Rose for pie at the Pie Peddler, now located on the east side of the courthouse square. A lady was selling canned cobbler (ready to eat) across the street so we had to take a few jars home.

Dallas is best seen in the rear view mirror, but having lived there, getting about was tolerable. All in all, it was a very good trip.

Pete/KJ5SS



## HAMFESTS

### BIG SPRING HAMFEST - 2013

Leaving HEB at 7:30 AM gave us ample time to arrive at the W5AW Clubhouse by 9:00. It is at 3707 S. Hwy 87 on the east side of the road up a hill a way. We passed it but were able to turn around in the Big Spring State Park entrance a few yards north of W5AW on the west side of Hwy 87.

The club has something over 25 paid members and had a good turnout. Ralph/KA5ULE and Cindy/KC5RCP were already there. Unfortunately, there was nothing for sale on my list or caught my eye so the money

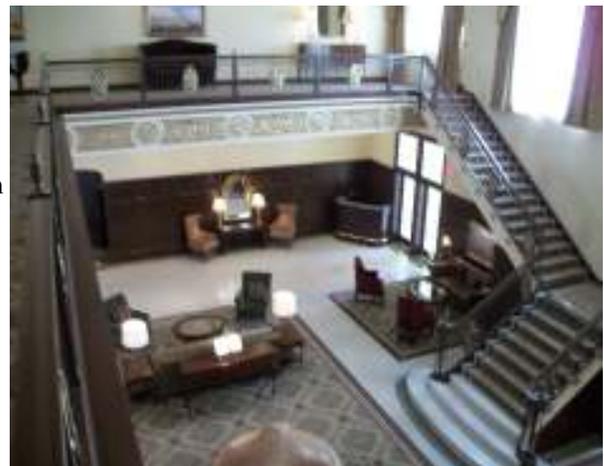
I brought stayed in my pocket. We did stay long enough to visit with some club members and see Ralph win the ARRL Gift Certificate (Grand Prize) but not long enough to see the other San Angeloans arrive.



Continuing our search for CCC projects, we went back to the Big Spring State Park and took pictures of their handiwork. From there we went to inspect the restoration of the 14 story Settles Hotel. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor rooms been restored as "Historic Rooms" as originally built and were available for \$161.00 less 10% old folks discount (AARP, etc.) The Settles Grill has a good all day menu (e.g., Shrimp Diablo Caesar Salad w/Romaine Hearts, Avocado, Garlic Croutons, Cotija Cheese - 14).

When on I-10, in this part of Texas, we like Allen's in Sweetwater. After a late lunch of fried chicken and all the other stuff, topped off with cobbler, we took Hwy 70 south to return after a good day to San Angelo.

Pete/KJ5SS





### Scanner Jack's Corner

THESE ARE THE MILITARY JSTARS TRAINING FREQUENCIES, AM MODE:  
 123.450, 136.375, 140.200, 141.775, 150.150, 150.200, 225.800, 228.700, 231.825, 237.800, 246.800,  
 249.900, 255.300, 261.200, 267.000, 277.300, 283.725, 313.300, 313.800, 317.700, 317.750,  
 320.600, 335.950, 339.725, 341.750, 346.300, 346.400, 350.025, 363.500, 364.000, 364.200, 364.275.

Scanner Jack encourages you to call him for help with any scanner problem you may be experiencing. Jack, KB5TMY, is available at (325) 651-4840.

## OPERATING

### Radiosport

The contents of the following appeared in the Brazos Valley ARC Newsletter in the February, March and May, 2013, issues and were prepared by Ron/K5HM. His work has been edited for the *eKilo-What* and will appear in this and following issues with Ron's permission. Thanks Ron. *-Ed.*

#### Part 2

In our first part, we listed some basic contest tips to get you thinking about contests and how you can be more successful. Here is some more good practical advice.

- **Compete with a partner.** Being number one in the world in a contest is exceptionally difficult to do. So what is a budding contest ester to do? Try competing with a partner.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of belonging to a club is you relate to those that are also into contesting as part of their ham radio experience. Pick a contest and "compete" with another person in the club. When I tried this in the past, it always got me more fired up to do better during the contest weekend simply knowing another club member was working hard to compete with me.

- **Study the Propagation.** It is one thing to have an overall plan for a contest but it is not the whole story. Knowing what bands are open to which areas of the world is important. This is a contesting skill can be significantly enhanced through the use of propagation programs. Having them available can be a great reference during the contest.

- **Take advantage of the Grey Line.** For those who may be new to ham radio or propagation, the grey line is the area on the earth where it is twilight, the boundary between day and night. This time period, longer at the poles, less at the equator, is both a wonderful propagation time and the time of transition between bands.

Knowing where the grey line is at the moment is a great accessory to have for a contest. The grey line has many interesting, and perhaps still unknown, propagation characteristics as well. Signals travel further, are louder, and are geographic specific while in the grey line.

Consequently, the time between day and night or night and day is a time of transition and decision-making. Is the grey line running through my QTH and a distant multiplier that we need for 40-meters? Do I try to stay on 40-meters to see if a multiplier will be heard or do I shift to 20-meter?

To be continued.

## OPERATING

Sam/K5OAI submitted:

here was a link posted after the latest release of ViewProp 0.97.13 shows one use for viewprop to determine band openings from JA to Europe & NA <http://rin3.blogspot.jp/2013/06/viewprop-visualising-openings-from-ja.html>

===here is a recent post by the author Rick ZL2HAM:

<quote>

With the DL DX RTTY contest happening next weekend, I thought it might be interesting to use VP chart filters to do some pre-contest planning.

Although the details will differ depending on where you live, whether you're single or multi-op, single or all-band, and so on, here are a few things you might want to look at:

1. When is each band open to the big population centers (K, JA, EU)?
2. Set a minimum SNR to determine when RTTY reception is more likely (RTTY needs a higher SNR than CW).
3. Set a (higher) minimum SNR to population centers to determine when running is more likely to be successful.
4. If you're participating in one of the 6 hour categories, which 6 hours have the most activity?
5. If you're participating in one of the dipole categories, add filters for azimuth, based on which direction your dipole is facing.
6. Since contacts with DL stations score higher (for stations outside EU), when is each band open to DL?
7. Since VK and VE call areas are multipliers, when are they open?
8. When are other DXCCs besides the main population centers most active (for mults)? Consider partitioning by azimuth.
9. If you know your antenna does poorly in certain directions, filter them out using Azimuth with the Not checkbox.
10. If your antenna has known losses on certain bands (high SWR, not enough radials, etc), use a higher minimum SNR for filtering to offset.
11. Since QSOs with continents other than your own are worth more points, look for when they are open (for example: Continent: EU; Not)

You can import the previous day's RBN archive data for this type of analysis. If you use [qrz.com](http://qrz.com), keep in mind that the second time you process the data will generally be faster than the first time, and that running with lines and slices off also helps improve the speed. It can also help performance to disable all of the bands you're not interested in, on Configure --> Bands.

In addition, since assistance is allowed in all categories, you can use VP during the contest. With default settings, you can use it to watch for band openings. If you prefer, you can use the filters to watch for RTTY spots, in a bandmap mode, provided you're connected to the right type of spot server. For example:

1. Filter by frequency range, for the digital section of each contest band
2. Look for spots where the type is RTTY (for example: And, Band = 20m; And, Type RTTY - which means the spot must be on the 20m band and specifically marked as RTTY).
3. Exclude type DE and INV spots (for example: And, Type INV DE, Not; And, Frequency 14080 to 14100 - type must not be either DE or INV, and the frequency must be in the specified range)

You can also use filters to control which spots appear on the map and in the Path Grid, using the corresponding checkboxes on the Chart filters.

</quote>

Viewprop's webpage is: <http://zl2ham.wikispaces.com/>

the JA blog posts author is JG1VGX Rin Fukuda and the email post's quote was from ZL2HAM Rick the author of Viewprop

Sam/W5OAI

## TECHNICAL

### A CAPACITANCE TOOL

By Pete Norris/KJ5SS

Serendipity! Collecting my mail at the cluster boxes one day, a neighbor came to do the same. In the back of his pickup was a TRF (tuned-radio- frequency) receiver chassis! TRF receivers for the AM broadcast band were used in the first half of the last century. Instead of employing a mixer and oscillator to convert the RF to an IF frequency, the entire high frequency portion of the radio was tuned to the RF frequency. In this case, four sections were tuned across the AM band from about 500 to 1500 KHz (at that time) or a 3:1 frequency span. This requires a capacitor to have slightly over a 9:1 range to cover the band. The neighbor gave me the chassis, which had seen many repairs and parts substitutions as he had no use for it. I immediately stripped the chassis of useful parts, which were not many. (I can hear the wailing and gnashing of teeth and perhaps a bit of profanity and I am sorry for perhaps destroying a valuable artifact for some, but I found it and I could put some of it to good use!) Removing the trimmer capacitors extended the lower range to the minimum.

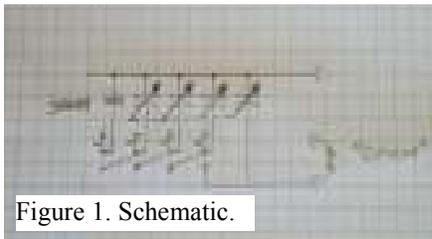


Figure 1. Schematic.

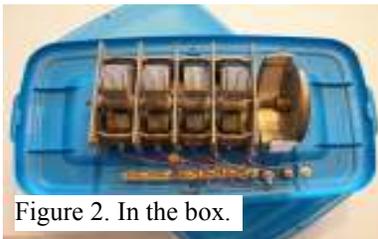


Figure 2. In the box.



Figure 3. From the top.

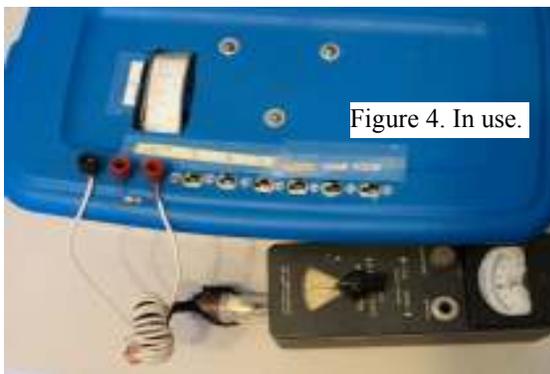


Figure 4. In use.

This was mounted in a Wal-Mart plastic storage box (\$2.00) as nothing else was readily available at a reasonable price. Switches were added and wired to add one section at a time as well as additional switches to add fixed capacitors. The schematic is shown in Figure 1 and construction is shown in Figures 2 and 3.

The tuning indicator was amber colored strip of plastic, back lit, mounted in a narrow drum type holder and driven from a front panel knob connected by a string under spring tension to the drum. All this was discarded as was frequency indicating

dial. The plastic dial was replaced with paper and the capacitance across the total four sections marked on the paper using fixed capacitors. Some of these “calibration” capacitors were the +/-20% type so the accuracy of the markings suffered but this was considered good enough for the purpose at hand. An additional banana jack was included to provide for a resistor to lower Q when testing high Q coils with a grid dip meter. The minimum capacitance, with stays, was determined to be about 20 pFd. The maximum for each section is about 330 pFd. The four sections connected in parallel is therefore about 1300 pFd or so. With a minimum of 20 pFd, the range is 65:1!

Figure 4 shows the Capacitance Tool used to determine the inductance of a toroid. Notice the “Q killer” resistor between the two red banana jacks and the loosely coupled toroid winding coupling the RLC circuit to the grid dip meter. The resistor broadens the dip making it easier to find resonance.

Questions or comments? Contact Pete/KJ5SS 325-617-4387, [norrispeter26@gmail.com](mailto:norrispeter26@gmail.com)

## Free

I have the following free items for anyone interested:

1: diplexer set for 1090 MHz with 5 pole tuned cavity filter on transmit and 7 pole tuned cavity on receive. Tunable, should tune to 1200 MHz or 900 MHz with a screwdriver;

2: signal monitor probe 2 ports 30 db attenuation, about 6 n connectors appear to be silver plated for 1080 MHz;

3: 2 meter Yagi 100 feet long on two pieces of 200 pound nylon line. about 44 elements and 19 db gain. This antenna is really ugly but it works. I made it out of aluminum ground wire so the elements are flexible and sort of droop a lot.

## For Sale

Used Yaesu G-800SA rotor and controller. Purchased from estate sale and stored for several years. Clearing shack. As is (I was told it worked before removal from tower). I replaced bolts on rotor top and put new brace on it). As is. \$300 from WB5ZAM [325-340-6102](tel:325-340-6102)



Kenwood TS 430S with matching Power Supply - \$326.00. Hubert/KC5NPC, tbum@aol.com.

Coleman Powermate Generator, 6,250 Watt, excellent condition. Used one time for Field Day (approximately 36 hours). With wheel kit—\$400.00; Yaesu FT-736R UHF/VHF Base Station w/new tone board—**SOLD**; Kenwood 2000—\$1200.00; Yeasu FT736R—\$450.00; ICOM IC910H all mode transceiver—**SOLD**; Heathkit Station monitor SV-614 —**SOLD**. Contact Joe Kent/W5UI at [joew5ui@gmail.com](mailto:joew5ui@gmail.com) or (325) 896-2038.

18HT Hy-Tower for \$150. Rohn 60' tower with winch, \$250. Both are located in Christoval.

Grady, K5EP, [325-716-0450](tel:325-716-0450)

## Upcoming Hamfests/Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
7/13/2013	ARRL Hamfest	Texas City, TX	<a href="http://www.tidelands.org">http://www.tidelands.org</a>
8/2-3/2013	ARRL Texas State Convention	Austin, TX	<a href="http://austinsummerfest.info/">http://austinsummerfest.info/</a>
9/07/2013	Gainesville Hamfest 2013	Gainesville, TX	<a href="http://gainesvillehamfest.org">http://gainesvillehamfest.org</a>
09/13/2013	Ada Hamfest 2013	Ada, OK	
10/25/2013	Texoma Hamarama	Ardmore, OK	<a href="http://texomahamarama.org">http://texomahamarama.org</a>
11/09/2013	NC Tech 2012	Azle, TX	<a href="http://wc5c.org/">http://wc5c.org/</a>

Hamfests are listed for all Texas, and as far into New Mexico and Oklahoma as the most distant point in Texas from San Angelo. —Ed.

## RECENT PROGRAMS

<i>Dec '12</i>	Christmas Dinner—Eatin Meetin
<i>Jan '13</i>	Scanner Jack/KB5TMY—Scanners
<i>Feb '13</i>	Tom/K4OTM—Flying
<i>Mar '13</i>	Tom Dufresne/WB5MTR - High Voltage Safety
<i>Apr '13</i>	Repeater Relocation Discussion
<i>May '13</i>	Field Day Planning

## HF Nets of Note de Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIMES	DIAL
Concho Valley Ragchew	M-T-W-T-F	1800 - 1900	3825
Texas Traffic Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	0830 - 0930	7285
7290 Traffic Net	M-T-W-T-F-S	1000 - 1200	7290
7290 Traffic Net	M-T-W-T-F	1300 - 1400	7290
Texas Traffic Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	1830 - 1930	3873
Central Gulf Coast Hurricane Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	1900 - 2000	3935
Texas ARES Net	Monday	1930 - 2000	3873
Big Bend Emergency Net	Sunday	0830 - 0930	3922
Texas Trader's Net	Sunday	0900 - 1000	7245

### Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW - Emergency Coordinator

#### Tom Green County ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 MHz (Pl 162.2) (N5SVK). The net can also be reached by EchoLink at WB5VRM-R or Node 412402. Other frequencies are announced on the Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm.

### ARES Net Report

Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
6/3	KD5URW	11	12	444.350
6/10	KD5URW	15	18	444.350
6/17	KD5URW	11	15	444.350
6/24	KD5URW	12	15	444.350

**Concho Valley  
Two Meter Net**

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
6/3			min
6/10	KB5SBE	17	18 min
6/17	KB5FNK	16	16 min
6/24			min
7/1	KB5FNK	22	19 min

**Concho Valley Open FM Repeaters**

<b>2 Meter</b>		<b>70 centimeter</b>	
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		
147.30	Brady PL 114.8 (Echo-Link Node)		

**Membership Renewal**

Membership renewals are due in January 2013. Prices are as follows:

- Regular memberships: \$20
- Each additional family member: \$5
- Seniors (age 65+) and Juniors (under age 19): \$10



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

Get all the latest club news  
on the World Wide Web at [www.w5qx.org](http://www.w5qx.org)

**2013 SAARC Officers:**

- President - Tom Austin/K4OTM
- Vice President - Joe Kent/W5UI
- Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
- Emergency Coordinator - Mike Dominy/KD5URW
- Activities Manager - Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC
- Grounds Chairman - Marcus O'Quin/KF5GKC
- W5QX Trustee - Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ



**Next Meeting: 7/11/2013  
PROGRAM: Tom/ K4OTM: Field Day**