

# The eKilo - What

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

March 2003

## President's Message

By John Marshall/KC5FMX

A lot of people have been visiting the club Web site, and sending numerous inquiries about the club, amateur radio, and where to start. Several are from surrounding areas, and some are wanting to get involved as a diversion from work! I've taken the time each evening after work to reply to their e-mails and tell them a little about amateur radio and what the hobby is about. I'm glad they're inquisitive enough to write. I just haven't figured out how where this newly generated interest is being perpetuated from. Maybe 9/11? Anyway, I'll see if any of them show up at the meetings.

Quite a few have asked about amateur radio classes and where to start. If memory serves me correctly, one e-mail was from a couple wanting to relocate here and another from a fellow I believe is an engineer for Templeton Construction here. There were others, but these are the most recent. 73.

## Space Shuttle

From The ARRL Letter, February 28, 2003

Amateur Radio operators continued their involvement with efforts to locate space shuttle Columbia debris, as NASA's search shifted focus to include points west of Texas. According to NASA, the search for parts is running along the shuttle's re-entry path—basically 60 miles north or south of a line from San Francisco, California, to Lafayette, Louisiana.

New Mexico amateurs were among those helping to check in the Albuquerque area. "Based on a number of sources and analysis, NASA had reason to believe that debris from the shuttle Columbia may have impacted in Embudito Canyon," read a statement on the New Mexico Search and Rescue Support Team Web site

(Continued on page 2)



## Meeting Minutes

By Bob Freeman/KD5PLX

Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order on February 13 by President John Marshall/KC5FMX at 1932.

Introductions were made with 15 members and one visitor, Donald Collina, in attendance. We have one new member—Will Mountz/KD5PNL.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed in February issue of *The Kilo-What* and the treasurer's report was approved as read.

### Officer Reports

David/KB5FNK, Vice President, announced the program after the meeting will be a tour of the National Weather Service.

Paul/N7SDQ, Activities Manager, is coordinating with the folks at Christmas in April and he will keep us posted. He is planning and making preparations for ARRL Field Day. The location for the past two years has been approved as the location of choice this year, if available.

David/KA5VTG, Emergency Coordinator, reported there were 32 present at SKYWARN training class on February 8. David/KB5FNK and David/KA5VTG will coordinate the location of next year's SKYWARN class. David/KA5VTG asked that when reporting on a storm to consider the more serious aspects of the storm, such as hail, rather than light rain in another location of the storm system. David asked that you identify yourself as being SKYWARN-trained when calling in a report. Although all reports will be accepted, those from SKYWARN-trained persons will be considered more credible. David also asked to try to prevent repetitive reports from the same general location.

Joe/KC5ILD, Grounds Chairman, and LaRae/KC5KXY installed the new rain gutter on the back of the clubhouse. I tried to provide some supervision. Joe will sand and paint the doors and will raise and make operational the security light in the tower.

(Continued on page 2)

## License Testing News

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK

Volunteer Examiner

The next license testing session will be held at 1 PM on Sunday, March 30, at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and \$12 check/money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") is required not later than March 24.

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

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

## Field Day Changes

From The ARRL Letter, February 7, 2003

Field Day will gain another entry class for the 2003 running of this highly popular operating event June 28-29. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers or EOCs. The change renews the emphasis of Field Day's 1933 origins as an emergency preparedness exercise as opposed to a routine contest—what former ARRL Communications Manager F. E. Handy, W1BDI, called "a test of the emergency availability of portable stations and equipment." In Handy's view, Field Day would focus attention "on the subject of 'preparedness' for communications emergencies."

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says the League last year received a record 2110 Field Day entries from groups and individuals. That represented a total of almost 35,000 participants who joined in what Henderson called "a great tradition."

Given the increased emphasis on emergency communications since September 11, 2001, Henderson says, the ARRL Board's Membership Services Committee asked that the Contest Branch come up with a way to accommodate stations wanting to operate from the local EOC. The new Class F station, operating from an

(Continued on page 2)

## Space Shuttle

(Continued from page 1)

<http://www.nmsarsupport.org/>. The team includes a number of hams in its ranks.

NASA wanted to follow up on both radar and eyewitness reports of possible shuttle debris in Embudito Canyon—in the Sandia Mountains east of Albuquerque. Authorities asked the NM SAR Support Team to provide communication and incident base support February 15 for a massive search involving more than 150 searchers. Although several small objects were found in the rugged terrain, none were attributed to the Columbia.

Keith Hayes, KC5KH, of the NM SAR Support Team estimates that more than 40 Amateur Radio operators participated in the effort, serving as incident command staff, providing communications for tactical and logistics support, and as members of field search teams.

"In addition to providing tactical and logistical support with its specialized communications trailer, 14 ham radio members of the New Mexico SAR Support Team provided additional APRS tracker and field team GPS track data collection," Hayes said. "Bernalillo County ARES Search and Rescue provided additional off-site logistical communications."

On February 24 near Caliente, Nevada, investigators continued to look for possible debris from Columbia that was tracked by air traffic control radar. Materials have been found in the area, but so far none have been confirmed to be from Columbia, NASA said.

NASA has asked anyone in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah for help in locating any material that may have fallen from Columbia as it was re-entering Earth's atmosphere. "Everyone is asked to be on the lookout for possible shuttle material 60 miles north or south of the re-entry track," NASA said in a news release.

## Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 1)

Don/KD5NAI, Information Officer, is trying to get public service announcements in the media on our club activities. He is trying to get someone from the club to appear on Pat Attebury's show. Whoever is selected will have to be sure to show up.

### Old Business

Certificates for SKYWARN Recognition Day held on December 6-7, 2002, are to be printed by the National Weather Service. David/KA5VTG will check on this and update.

A plaque listing the names of all (as many as possible) Ham of The Year Award recipients is being considered. Paul/N7SDQ will check on prices and size.

### Good of the Order

The Split-the-Pot drawing was conducted by Bob/KD5PIX. The club prospered by \$9.00. The winner was Bob/W7IKT.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2005.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be March 13 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

## Thank You



—DefendAmerica News

Please visit the Department of Defense web page below and sign in thanking the men and women of the U.S. armed force for defending our freedom. The compiled list of names will be sent out to our soldiers at the end of the month. So far, there are only about 1.7 million names. What a shame. National Military Appreciation Month. The entire exercise takes 10 seconds...literally. Please pass it on to your email friends. <http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam>.

## Field Day

(Continued from page 1)

EOC, is the result.

"This is a major change," Henderson said. "Class F has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers." The updated rules and a list of frequently asked questions in the new 2003 Field Day Packet <http://www.arrrl.org/contests/forms> spell out the details.

A Class F entry station must set up at an "established EOC" activated by a club or non-club group. An EOC is defined as a facility established by a federal, state, county, city or other civil governmental agency or administrative entity or by a chapter of a national or international served agency. The latter could include the American Red Cross or The Salvation Army, with which the Field Day group "has an established operating arrangement." Class F EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff. Class F stations are eligible for the same bonus points as Class A stations.

There's also been what Henderson called "some tweaking" in the rules for Field Day 2003. Among the highlights, the rules reduce from 400 to 100 the number of QSOs that the "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station needs to make to claim a 100-point bonus. "GOTA stations still may work up to a maximum of 400 QSOs to go towards the main station's score," Henderson said.

In addition, the 2003 rules enhance the bonus for having an invited official visit the Field Day site. There are now two separate bonus categories—100 points for the elected official and another 100 points for a visit by a representative of a served agency.

Henderson reminds Field Day participants that stations do not get additional bonus points for contacting stations through additional satellites. As of the 2002 event, Field Day opened up to stations throughout the Americas, not just in the US and Canada.

Henderson encourages participants to post their Field Day experiences and photographs to the Field Day Online soapbox <http://www.arrrl.org/contests/soapbox/>.

## ---- Classified ----

**For Sale:** Butternut HF6V vertical (older version), \$75; Kenwood TS-830S, \$400; MFJ Model 9030 CW transceiver, \$80; MFJ Model 900 Econo antenna tuner, \$35; MFJ Model 8044IC keyer, \$45; AEA Packratt PK 232MBX with manual, \$65; Wilderness Radio NorCal 40A, \$40; Midland 12VDC 2A power supply, \$15; several long lengths of RG-8 coax. Contact Alex/K5CMW at 949-4583 or [k5cmw@netzero.net](mailto:k5cmw@netzero.net)

# CQ DX de WB5ZAM



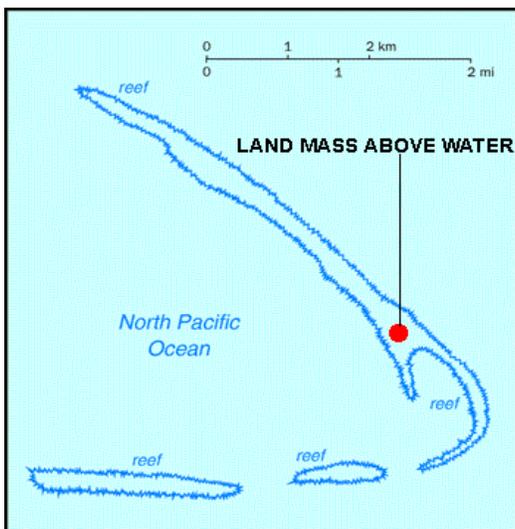
### DXpeditions in March:

According to the AR-Cluster Network, for the week of February 16-23, there were 234 countries active. Countries available:

3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3C, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4UII, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9N, 9Q, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C5, C6, C9, CE, CE0Z, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FP, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HH, HI, HK, HK0/a, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J3, J6, J7, JA, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KH2, KH4, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PY0F, PY0T, PZ, S0, S2, S5, S7, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T31, T5, T7, T8, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, VE, VK, VK9N, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP8/o, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XT, XU, XW, YA, YB, YI, YK, YL, YN, YO, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZF, ZK1/s, ZK3, ZL, ZP, and ZS. Not listed above: FO5—Austral Islands, VP6—Ducie, KH0—Mariana Island, and OY—Faroe Islands. Not much in rare DX out in March, but these countries are reported regularly on and will beef anyone's DX total.

### Island of the Month

### Kingman Reef—KH5K



Kingman Reef is a triangular formation at 6° 24"N/162°24"W, about 920 miles south of Hawaii and 35 miles north of Palmyra. The only land area is on the east side, where a small islet rises about 3 feet above sea level at high tide. The island has neither flora nor fauna, except the marine life that comes ashore to investigate visitors (hams). Some nice photos are posted on the site for the 2000 K5K DXpedition

<http://www.qsl.net/krpdxg/>.

In 2001, the waters surrounding the reef were designated a National Wild-



life Refuge and, hence, USFG protection and permission to visit is now only rarely granted. Kingman was discovered in 1798 by the American Captain Fanning, but it was named after Captain Kingman, who visited the reef in 1853. It was annexed by the US in 1922 and made a US Naval reservation in 1934. In 1937, Pan Am began air mail service between Hawaii and New Zealand using flying boats, and they used Kingman Reef's sheltered lagoon as a stop-over. A schooner was anchored there as a sort of hostel and supply ship. The route was abandoned after a sea-plane was lost off Samoa in 1938. The DXpedition that went in 2000 took "full" kilowatt stations, their own power



stations, and their own salt water reclamation system (converted enough to provide drinking water through conversion from sea water). Their support ship remained at anchor and gave them somewhere to escape from the sounds of the operation and to get away from the millions of crabs that came on-shore to inspect the humans. A video tape from this DXpedition is available locally for club members to view at the club house.

### QSL OF THE MONTH



### HB9DVZ

Nice QSL, and what looks like an all-mode VHF/UHF station, from Andre in Switzerland.

See you on the bands chasing DX. 73.

## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Feb 10	KA5VTG	20	9 min
Feb 17	KA5ULE	16	9 min
Feb 24	KA5VTG	16	5 min
Mar 3	KA5VTG	19	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	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

## S&D Embroidery

We Do It Your Way  
Caps, Shirts, Company Logos  
Special Events, Sports  
Individuals, No Minimums



Danny Hurst  
2421 College Hills Blvd.  
San Angelo, TX 76904  
Located Across from  
Park 2400

Phone: 915-223-8477  
Cell#: 915-374-8101  
dshurst@wcc.net  
Call For Pricing Information

## Jerry White



Budget Rent a Car of San Angelo  
8618 Terminal Cr., Suite 103  
San Angelo, Tx 76904  
Tel: (915) 944-4718  
Fax: (915) 942-9536  
Resv: 800-527-0700

## PACK SADDLE BAR-BQ



Dine In  
or  
Take Out

OPEN 11 A.M. - WED. THRU MON. - CLOSED TUESDAY  
MARSHAL & SHERRI GRAY  
Knickerbocker & Red Bluff Rd. • 949-0616 • San Angelo, TX



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](http://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](mailto:aa5pk@qsl.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**THURSDAY, MAR 13, 7:30 P.M.**  
**MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**