

# *The eKilo - What*

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

March 2009

## *President's Message*

*by Joe Kent/W5JBK*



The President's Message will return in April

### **March Meeting Minutes**

de Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

The regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order by President Joe Kent/W5JBK, on March 12, 2009 at 1933.

Introductions were made with 18 members and 1 visitor.

The February Minutes were approved as printed in the Kilo-What and the Treasurers Report was approved as read.

### **Officer's Report**

Vice President: Don Hejl/N5SVK reported on the new law on cell phones while driving. The wording of the proposed law would have included Amateur Radio Operators. Joe Kent/W5JBK, Don Hejl/N5SVK, most of the amateur's of the Concho Valley and from all over the State, sent messages to Austin by every means possible. It did not take long for the wording of the law to be redone so that Amateurs were no longer included.

Activities Manager: Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC spoke with Chris Morgan at Fort Concho about setting up for special events. He said that we would be welcomed to use the Court Yard for Special Event activities. Hughbert said that the Working Together did not have any dates available for when they will start. Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ will work on the Onan Generator if he has time before Field Day.

Buddy Parker/KD5SBE and Sam Morgan/KA5OAI will notify everyone on the Reflector of upcoming Special Events.

I somehow overlooked last month mentioning that Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ had cleaned the entire clubhouse in preparation for the Weatherman's Day Special Event. Those of you that were able to come to the clubhouse that day know what we are talking about. Thank you Gary.

### **Good of the Order**

There were four drawings. Bill Doepp/N51OU won a 6 inch magnetic level. Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC won a light. Jane Austin/N4WES won solder. Ralph Stout/KA5ULE won a volt-ohm-meter.

Split-the-Pot was worth \$11.00 to the winner and the club. The winner donated their share to the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2012. The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday April 8, 2009 at 1930 at the clubhouse.



### Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

#### VHF frequencies for TOM GREEN CO & SAN ANGELO

#### TOM GREEN CO SO

155.700 DISP TX LAW 1 154.950  
156.090 CH 2 TX LAW 2 155.370  
154.115 CH3 TX LAW 3 155.475  
156.210 CH 11  
154.025 JAIL  
155.940 BAILIFF

#### TOM GREEN CO FD

155.130 DISP  
155.1875 TAC REPEATER  
154.160 COUNTY  
154.190 SIRENS  
154.130 GRAPE CREEK  
154.280 TX FIRE 1  
154.265 TX FIRE 2  
154.295 TX FIRE 3  
155.340 TX EMS 1 AIR MED 1  
155.220 SAN ANGELO EMERGENCY  
CORP  
155.280 EMS 2  
155.325 EMS 3  
155.265 EMS 4

#### SAN ANGELO PD

155.910 DISP  
154.860 CH 3  
154.875 CH 3  
155.740 PATCH TO 800 MHZ

#### OTHER FD AND EMS

155.400 ELDERADO  
154.220 ROBERT LEE CARE CENTER  
154.175 LAKE IVY FD

### Congratulations to Jim Delong/K5LOZ and his family

The following appeared on KLST-TV, Friday, March 13, 2009

Friday marks the 135th anniversary of Tom Green County. In honor of this day the County Historical Commission organized a celebration at the Edd B Keys Building this morning. On March 13th the county turned 135 years old. James Delong (K5LOZ) and his daughter Tina are decedents of George Washington Delong --one of the first Tom Green County Commissioners. Both received a special surprise during celebration. They found out the Delong cemetery in Christoval will officially be recognized with a historical marker.

### FOR SALE

RCI-2970 Transceiver: 100 watt, 10 meter, AM/FM/SSB/CW, Freq. Range: 28.000-29.6999. Includes owners manual, mounting bracket, power cord, and mic. With freq. adjusment.  
\$150.00.  
Contact Don Hejl/N5SVK at 325-942-1146.

### Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
18 Apr 2009	Temple Amateur Radio Club HamEXPO, Bell County Expo	Belton, TX	<a href="http://www.beltonhamexpo.org">www.beltonhamexpo.org</a>
9 May 2009	9th Annual PARC Picnic/Swapfest, Thompson Park	Amarillo, TX	<a href="http://www.orgsites.com/tx/w5wx/">http://www.orgsites.com/tx/w5wx/</a>
12-13 Jun 2009	Ham-Com 2009, Plano Center	Plano, TX	<a href="http://www.hamcom.org/">http://www.hamcom.org/</a>

## Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW  
Emergency Coordinator

March ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
3/2	KD5URW	14	22 min	444.350
3/9	KD5SBE	11	24 min	444.350
3/16	KD5URW	13	22 min	444.350
3/23	KD5URW	11	22 min	444.350
3/29	KD5URW	13	28 min	147.300

### ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 repeater (N5SVK) with Simplex on last Monday of each month (frequency announced on Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm).

The Tom Green County ARES group had their monthly meeting on the 19th of Feb 09.

We had a good discussion on the goals for this year and ideas for a new antenna at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), after the vertical was found to have been highly damaged from the recent big windstorm that hit the West Texas area. The damage was more than it could handle and cannot be repaired, at this time. The ideas for several types of antennas came forth and it was agreed by all that the group would work on an NVIS type of antenna.

Other goals for upgrading or updating the EOC other antennas, radios and computers were set as future projects for the group.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting was set for the 19th of Mar 09 at 7:30 PM at the clubhouse.

Fire weather is here to stay for a while, so stay alert and keep your "Go-Bags" and "Ready Kits" ready for anything

## Recent SAARC Programs

<i>April '08</i>	Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) <a href="#">Mike Dominy/KD5URW</a>
<i>May '08</i>	Field Trip to US Customs Office
<i>June '08</i>	Antenna Theory and Design, I <a href="#">Bill Tarn/AE5AW</a>
<i>July '08</i>	Field Trip AE5AW's QTH <a href="#">Bill Tarn/AE5AW</a>
<i>August '08</i>	Field Trip to Tom Green County EOC
<i>September '08</i>	Antenna Theory and Design, II <a href="#">Bill Tarn/AE5AW</a>
<i>October '08</i>	SAARC Birthday Celebration
<i>November '08</i>	Trunk Tracking <a href="#">Jack Roberts/KB5TMY</a>
<i>December '08</i>	Eat and Meet Meeting
<i>January '09</i>	Antenna theory And Design, III <a href="#">Bill Tarn/AE5AW</a>
<i>February '09</i>	Amateur Satellite Communications <a href="#">Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</a>
<i>March '09</i>	Digital Communications, PSK-31 <a href="#">Gary Chafin/W5ETJ</a> , <a href="#">Ralph Stout/KA5ULE</a>

## EchoLink Repeater

The 444.350 repeater has EchoLink capabilities thanks to N5SVK and WB5VRM. It is connected to the CARE hub in Midland which is linked up to repeaters all over the states

To take the link down push your radio transmit ptt and hit the POUND (#) key. This tone will shutdown the link, and put the 444.350 repeater in stand alone mode for local traffic.

If you press ptt and hit 08, it will tell you if and who its linked to. If its not linked hit 09 and it will link back up to the last place it was linked to via tones.

You can also link to stations by entering their Node numbers via the touch tone on your mic.

If you do not have Echolink or want to know more go to <http://www.echolink.org/> for information on how to download the software

## CQ/DX de WB5ZAM



**Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during April:** VQ; 5X; 6W; J5; H4; J79; TT; FT5; E5; 5N; FG; HH4; VK9L; VP5; J6; C9; YJ; VK9; T2; EA8; GT4; KP2; YK; PJ; EA8; 3B9; PJ2; 5Z; 8P; KH0; 3A; VK9N; VK9X; S79; FJ; KG4; OH0; C9; SO4; 5C; JW; JT; ZF; 5W; KH8; 3D2; T30; AND JD1.



**Island of the Month: Islay – MM:** a Scottish island, known as "The Queen of the Hebrides" (*Banrigh nan Eilean*), is the southernmost island of the Inner Hebrides. It lies in Argyll just to the west of Jura and around 25 miles (40 km) north of the Irish coast, which can be seen on a clear day. In Gaelic a native of Islay is called an *Ileach*, and the plural is *Ilich*: Scottish Gaelic is spoken by about a third of the population. The island's capital is Bowmore, famous for its distillery and distinctive round Kilarrow Parish Church. Port Ellen is the largest settlement. Islay is the fifth largest Scottish island and the sixth largest island surrounding Britain. Islay has just over three thousand inhabitants. It has a total area of just over 600 square kilometers (239 square miles). Its main industries are malt whisky distilling, [produced by eight distilleries on the island] and tourism largely based on whisky and bird watching. The island is home to many bird species and is a popular destination throughout the year with bird watchers, notably in February to see a large colony of barnacle geese. Resident birds include chough, hen harrier, sea eagle, oystercatcher, cormorant and many wading birds. The climate on Islay is often more clement than the Scottish mainland owing to the Gulf Stream. The earliest settlers on Islay were nomadic hunter-gatherers who arrived during the Mesolithic period after the retreat of the Pleistocene ice caps. In 1993 a flint arrowhead was found in a field near Bridgend dating from 10,800 BC, the earliest evidence of a human presence found so far in Scotland. Other finds have been dated to 7,000 BC using radiocarbon dating of shells and debris from kitchen middens. By the Neolithic Period, settlements had become more permanent, allowing for the construction of several communal monuments. Recorded history begins with a document relating to St Columba who probably passed through Islay on his way to establish the monastery on Iona in the 6th century. At this time, Islay lay within the kingdom of Dál Riata and was ruled by the Cenél nÓengusa. The island's population is mainly centered around the villages of Bowmore, Port Ellen and Port Charlotte. Other smaller villages include Portnahaven, Bridgend, Ballygrant and Port Askaig. The rest of the island is sparsely populated and mainly agricultural.



The south-western end of the main body is a largely rocky region called The Oa. The north western arm of the island is called the Rhinns of Islay. There are several lochs on the island including Loch Finlaggan, Loch Gruinart, Loch Gorm, Loch Indaal, Loch Ballygrant and Loch Allan. Lochindaal, a sea loch which separates the Rhinns of Islay from the rest of the island, is formed along a branch of the great Glen Fault called the Loch Gruinart Fault, the main line of which passes just to the north of Colonsay. This separates the limestone, igneous intrusions and Bowmore sandstones from the Colonsay group rocks of the Rhinns. The result is occasional, minor earth tremors. The influence of the Gulf Stream keeps the climate mild compared to mainland Scotland. Snow is rarely seen and frosts are light and short-lived. One might expect therefore a gardener's paradise and indeed, it is not unusual to see exotic plants growing in gardens. However, the winter gales which sweep in off the Atlantic can make traveling and living on the island during the winter difficult, while ferry and air links to the mainland are frequently delayed. The weather tends to become more pleasant around Easter and the summer season then extends until well into September. Tourist note: when not visiting the distilleries is the Kilarrow Parish Church. It (aka the "Round Church") is round; legend has it, to leave no corner for the devil to hide in. The Church of Scotland "living" is currently vacant. Ham radio operators are welcome tourists but often are distracted from a full-fledged DX-pedition with local things to see and do. (Source: Wikipedia)

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**QSL OF THE MONTH-4Z1JS:** Nice portraiture of Jacob. Here is another way to present yourself to the world via your qsl.



See you on the bands chasing dx.  
73 de WB5ZAM.

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## Selected Special Events and Contests

Check the special events page on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html> for weekly events.

Contests are located on <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

State QSO parties are listed at <http://qsoparty.eqth.net/#table1> sorted by date.

Get your free State QSO party certificate and stickers at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/ysqso/>

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## Field Day 2009

Field day will be here before we know it. Plans are already being made for a bigger and better field day. Detailed rules may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/fd.html>.

Hughbert/KC5NPC and Tom/K4OTM are making plans and need your help. If you can help in any capacity from publicity, setting up, operating, securing supplies, food, etc. contact Hughbert at [tbum@aol.com](mailto:tbum@aol.com) or Tom at [k4otm@mindspring.com](mailto:k4otm@mindspring.com).

We especially need new Hams to participate in Field Day. It is a great way to learn and get acquainted.

Dates for this years Field Day 2009 are June 27-28. Make plans now to be a part of this fun club event.

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## Club Program Notes

### February—2009

#### Amateur Satellite Communications

##### Ralph/KA5ULE

Ralph gave a very interesting presentation on the use of amateur satellite communication. He showed what satellites are available and how to access them with a dual-band transceiver. Gary/W5ETJ and Ralph demonstrated the process with a HT and a portable Yagi antenna. More information can be obtained on the AMSAT website at <http://www.amsat.org/>.

### March—2009

#### Digital Communications, PSK-31

##### Gary/W5ETJ & Ralph/KA5ULE

Gary and Ralph demonstrated the techniques and equipment needed to communicate via digital modes, particularly PSK-31. They were able to send and receive messages during the presentation via laptop, interface, and transceiver. A PowerPoint presentation was given which contained information about equipment and software such as Digipan and MixW. More information is available on the website <http://aintel.bi.ehu.es/psk31.html>

## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
3/2	KB5FNK	31	19 min
3/9	KB5FNK	21	15 min
3/16	KB5FNK	30	19 min
3/23	KB5FNK	27	21 min
3/30	KB5FNK	27	19 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

<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	<b>6 Meter Crossband</b>	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5
146.90-	Brady, TX PL 162.2		
146.62-	Brady PL 114.8 (Echo-Link Node)		



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)

### 2009 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/W5JBK  
Vice President - Don Hejl/N5SVK  
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX  
Emergency Coordinator - Mike Dominy/KD5URW  
Activities Manager - Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC  
Grounds Chairman - Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ  
W5QX Trustee - Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ

**SAARC Monthly Meetings:** 2nd Thursday,  
1930, clubhouse, 5513 Stewart Lane

**Annual Dues:** \$20, Sr. & Jr. \$10

**The Kilo-What:** Edited by Buddy/KD5SBE at  
949-7731 or email [vparker6@suddenlink.net](mailto:vparker6@suddenlink.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING: 4/9/09**  
**PROGRAM: SOLAR ACTIVITY - KG5X**  
**MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**