

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

November 2005

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 at 1930 on October 14.

Introductions were made with six members in attendance.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed in the October issue of *The Kilo-What* and the treasurer's report was approved as read.

Officers' Reports

The Sidewinder Challenge was held at San Angelo State Park on October 1. Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Bob Heiser/W7IKT, Carol Heiser/N5CBQ, Gary Chafin/N5GRC and Michael Baur/KD5NPF assisted with this day-long event.

The SAARC's fund raiser at Mr. Gatti's was October 7. Joe/KC5ILD estimated there were 20 that supported our cause.

Six showed up at the clubhouse for the Rio Concho Air Show on October 8—Joe Kent/KC5ILD, La-Rae Kent/KC5KXY, Ronnie Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ, Ronnie's XYL Sharon, Bob Freeman/KD5PIX and Associate Member Louise Hall. There was plenty to eat and an excellent view. Plenty of shade and a good time for all.

New Business

We've been asked by the San Angelo National Weather Service office if we'd like to participate in 2005 SKYWARN Recognition Day. This is usually held in the first weekend in December. We will know more at the November meeting.

We need to repair the roof ASAP. It is obvious the need is there. This is something that cannot be talked about for several months.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2002.

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



SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY
DECEMBER 2-3, 2005 (0000 - 2400 UTC DEC 3)

SKYWARN Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It celebrates the contributions volunteer SKYWARN radio operators make to the National Weather Service. On that day, SKYWARN operators visit NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world. For more information check go to <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>.

Vanity processing suspension could run through late December

From The ARRL Letter, October 28, 2005

Thanks to Hurricane Wilma, the FCC likely will not be processing any vanity call sign applications until late December. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) halted vanity processing on or about September 23 after realizing that filing and regulatory deadline extensions for licensees in certain states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita could affect the vanity program. This week, the FCC announced an additional extension—until December 22—for licensees adversely affected by Hurricane Wilma. Because all three extensions apply to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period," they could have an impact on vanity call sign processing. A WTB spokesperson said that the Wilma deadline extension probably would have the same effect on vanity processing as the previous two.

"It looks like it's going to be the same thing carried forward," Tracy Simmons told ARRL. He said amateur licensees can continue to file vanity call sign applications, but these will not be acted upon until the WTB resumes vanity processing. Then, all pending vanity call sign applications will be processed in the order they were received. Simmons indicated that the WTB would revise its Universal Licensing System (ULS) Web page "alert" telling applicants that vanity processing has been suspended "until further notice" to reflect the latest deadline extension.

In a public notice issued October 25, the WTB made clear that the Hurricane Wilma deadline extension only applies to "affected licensees and applicants in Florida and the Gulf of Mexico." For Part 97 licensees, the extension applies primarily to license modification and renewal application deadlines. According to this week's public notice, the WTB will require affected applicants to attach a "Hurricane Relief Certification" with any filings taking advantage of the extended deadlines.

"WTB will rely on certifications by licensees and applicants at the time they submit their filings as proof that relief is due and the filings are timely," the FCC said.

The FCC halted vanity processing to avoid such potential problems as re-issuing the call sign of an affected individual in one of the designated states whose license has expired but remains within the two-year grace period for renewal.

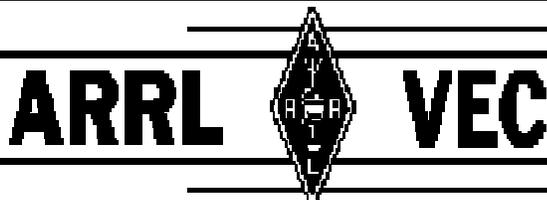
Under Part 97, Amateur Radio licensees have two years from the date of license expiration to renew their tickets without having to retest or risk losing their call signs to a vanity applicant. WTB has temporarily disabled the "auto-termination" feature of the ULS so that it will not automatically cancel any licenses not renewed by the end of the grace period.

On September 1, the FCC extended until October 31 all filing and regulatory deadlines falling between August 29 and October 30 for licensees in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana affected by Hurricane Katrina. On September 24, it extended until November 21 all filing and regulatory deadlines falling between September 20 and November 20 for licensees in Louisiana and Texas affected by Hurricane Rita.

The FCC has not announced when vanity processing will resume, but at this point it appears unlikely the date will be any sooner than December 23. It typically takes approximately three weeks for the FCC to process a vanity call sign application. In August, the FCC raised the vanity application fee to \$21.90.

The October 25 public notice is available on the FCC's Web site http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-05-2778A1.pdf.

License Testing News



by Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner

The next regularly scheduled license testing session will be Sunday, January 15, 2006 at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and \$14 check/money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") is required not later than January 9.

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 be obtained by contacting Don/AB5BG at 651-5441 or Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775.

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in February: According to the AR-Cluster Network, for the week of October 21-28, there were 220 countries active. In November look for TZ, PX, KH2, VK9, FP, T88, EX, XU, 5B, XX9, TO5S, H4Ø, KH5, TL, FS, TXØ, S79, V6, R1M and A5.

Island of the Month

FP-Saint Pierre and Miquelon. Where in the North American continent would you least expect the last bastion of the



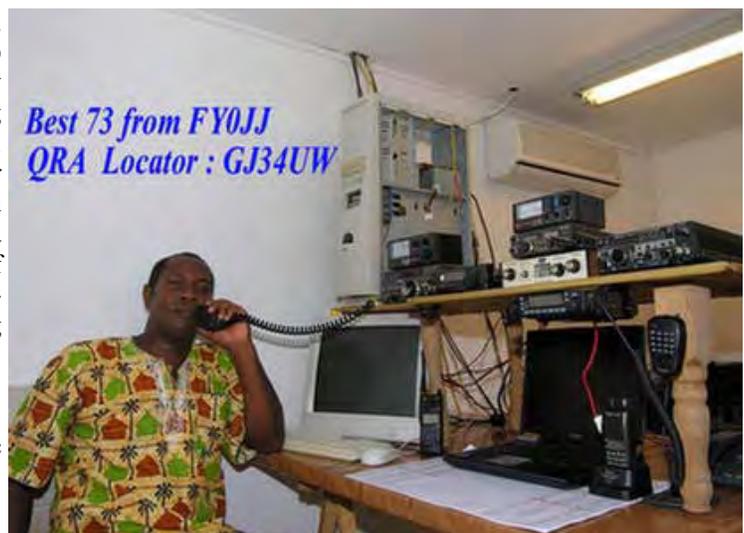
French world wide colonies? Just south of Nova Scotia and 800 miles north of Boston, this set of low lying islands is most known for their fog and shallow sand banks and the 600+ shipwrecks just off shore. The area is part of the Grand Banks, a long time fishery that was so productive in the 1770s you “just had to dip a basket in the water to boat cod.” Windy and cold in the winter and cool and windy in the spring and summer and often in the mornings shrouded in fog. This is a favorite of DXers from the northern states as the population there has an almost non-existent ham population. Not much to do there, as in the past they have had no real push for tourism (the residents of the capital know each other so well, they use the house owners name to give directions and not street names.) Inhabited for over 8000 years, the islands have been home to many aboriginal tribes from the Beothuk to the Paleo Eskimo. The islands lie north and south with coordinates of 46°50’N/56°20’W. All security and legislative functions are provided by Paris, and the highest point is only 240 meters above sea level. The terrain is mostly barren rock, wet and windy year around. Fishing and fish processing make up

60% of the workforce with service making up the other, but with changes in fishing, with large ships that are self contained, with their own packing plants, the island economy is starting to decline. The recent discovery for oil off shore is a potential boost to the economy, but environmentalists are poised to fight any real drilling, stating that the eco-system is too frail to handle any potential oil spills. France, Canada, Italy and Ireland are the main trading partners. Imports include meat, clothing, fuel, electrical equipment, machinery and building materials. Exports are fish and fish produce (surprise!), soy beans, animal feed, mollusks, crustaceans, fox and mink pelts. With shallow waters that go out for ½ mile, the islands have found many a wreck the morning after heavy fog or storms. With newer navigation systems, these have diminished, but there are still those that lose their way and end up leaving the ship grounded and wading to shore. Many of the wrecks are shifted with the heavy surf and strong currents. Things to do on the island are limited and, unless bird watching and hiking in the rain, mist, fog or snow is your thing, there isn’t much to do (except ham radio.) No golf course, only a rudimentary clinic, and a decent ferry to Nova Scotia or by helicopter or plane (if they can find the island). One lighthouse had to be removed as it posed a threat to aviation, being in the fog most of the time.

QSL OF THE MONTH FY0JJ

From sunny, hot and humid French Guiana, Luc tries to keep the prefix off the most wanted country list.

See you on the bands chasing DX. 73 de Bill.



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Oct 10	KD5NAI	---- No Net ----	
Oct 17	N7SDQ	18	12 min
Oct 24	KA5VTG	11	7 min
Oct 31	KB5FNK	---- No Net ----	

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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iveyinc@wtss.net



Name This Piece of Equipment



Last month's "winner" was Keith/K5LSM who was the first to correctly identify the National NC-100.



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

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

2005 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/KC5ILD
Vice President - Lloyd Glasscock/KØGEN
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ
Activities Manager - Don Gallion/KD5NAI
Grounds Custodian - Ron Mechenburg/KC5WXJ

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, NOV 10, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE