

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

November 2009

October 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 October 8, 2009 at 1932.

Introductions were made with 17 members and 2 visitors in attendance.

The September Minutes were approved as printed in the Kilo-What and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

There will be no program after the meeting as we are celebrating our 85th Birthday on Saturday.

Old Business

Emergency Coordinator: Mike Dominy/KD5URW. Mike would like a couple more volunteer's to help with the Boy Scout's October 17th & 18th. Please give Mike a call or send him an e-mail.

New Business

Gary Pittman/KE5TXL will furnish the ice for the Ice Cream Man on Saturday.

The officer nominations have boiled down to a nail biting run-off for president. There are two candidates and should fill the house at the Eatin' Meetin' to find a winner.

Good of the Order

There were two drawings before the Split-the-Pot drawing. The first drawing Bill Tarn/AE5AW won a six inch level. The second drawing Jack Roberts/KB5TMY won An ARRL Antenna Book.

The Split-the-Pot drawing was worth \$10.50 for the winner Joe Kent/W5JBK as well as the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned as 2012. The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday November 12, 2009 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

Officer Nominations

The following members were nominated for Officers for the 2010 year:

President: Tom Austin/K4OTM, Ralph Stout/KA5ULE

Vice President: Lisa Koca/K5LLK

Secretary ,Treasurer: Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

Emergency Coordinator:

Activities Manager: Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC

Grounds Chairman: Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ, Joe Kent/W5JBK

Voting will take place at the December Eat and Meet Meeting. (see details elsewhere in this newsletter.)

December Eat and Meet Meeting

The Eat and Meet Meeting will be held December 10 at the Twin Mountains Steakhouse on the Mertzon highway (US 67W). The meeting will start at 7 p.m. Contact Hughbert Robinson/KD5NPC for reservations. Hughbert may be contacted after the 2-m net on Monday nights (8 p.m. on 146.94 repeater), at tbum@aol.com, or 949-7478. We have a good time each year. Plan to attend .

There will be no meeting at the Clubhouse in December.

85th Birthday Celebration

The 85th anniversary of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club was held on Saturday, October 10 at the Clubhouse.

A Special Event station was in operation with numerous contacts made.

Tom Earnest/W5UFO brought his "giant" gas-powered ice cream freezer. Ice cream and anniversary cake were served. Snacks were brought by several club members.

A good time was had by all who attended. If you missed it make plans to attend next year in October.

See the pictures on the next page.

Scanner Jack's Corner



de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

Frequencies for Crockett County

155.670 SO P25

155.955 EMS

ASU PD

155.925

153.755

Crop Dusters

151.565

151.715

Other Frequencies

ASU CARR Hall Demolition 155.835

Train Dispatch

160.935

Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Emergency Coordinator

April ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
10/5	KD5URW	14	17 min	444.350
10/12	KD5URW	12	16 min	444.350
10/19	KD5URW	17	19 min	444.350
10/25	KD5URW	17	20 min	147.300

ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 repeater (N5SVK) with other frequencies announced on Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm.

Activities

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), was held October 17-18. A group of ARES members were located at the SAARC Clubhouse and at Camp Sol Meyer as well. Numerous contacts with scouts around the U.S. were made. Several scouts were able to operate. Thanks go to David Behrend/KB5FNK, Gary Chafin/W5ETJ, Ed Coates/KB5FZQ, Mike Dominy/KD5URW, Kent Frazier/K5KNT, Matt Healy/W5MAT, Buddy Parker/KD5SBE, and Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC.

The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) was unable to be held due to communication problems between The clubhouse and Camp Sol Meyer.

Upcoming Events

ARES Group Meeting, November 19, 2009, 7 p.m. at SAARC Clubhouse

Anyone interested in emergency communications should attend one of the ARES meetings to learn more. Trained emergency communicators are always needed. Contact KD5URW for more information.

How to win an ARRL contest for WTX

Sam Morgan/K5OAI received a pleasant surprise from the ARRL in the mail, a certificate for winning 1st place in the 2008 ARRL 160 Meter Contest running QRP in the WTX section. How did Sam win?

By being the only person silly enough to enter a 160m contest from WTX running QRP with 65mw into a 13 foot tall antenna @ 20 feet!

Sam comments:

It seems I was one of perhaps 9 stations that put our WTX section on the air in last weekend's ARRL 160m contest. N5DO, NZ5M, K6SXA, W5JMW, K5TDA, K5XM, W5ZO, KD9KC, KA5OAI

Here's a summary of play time from the San Angelo, Tx. side of WTX. I finally got to play in my first 160m contest

(Continued on page 4)



Recent SAARC Programs

December '08	Eat and Meet Meeting
January '09	Antenna theory And Design, III Bill Tarn/AE5AW
February '09	Amateur Satellite Communications Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
March '09	Digital Communications, PSK-31 Gary Chafin/W5ETJ, Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
April '09	Solar Activity and Ham Radio Joe Lynch/KG5X
July '09	APRS Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ
August '09	Batteries Plus, Richard & Patrick Brown
September '09	DPS, Trooper Shawn Baxter
October '09	85th SAARC Birthday Celebration
November '09	Satellite Operations, Glenn Miller/AA5PK

November Program Preview

At the November 12th Club meeting Glenn Miller/AA5PK will give a presentation on *Satellite Operations*.

There'll be two useful FM satellite passes that evening-- the first (AO-51) at roughly 1820 and the second (SO-50) at roughly 1846. Since those are westerly passes, we're out of the satellites' footprints on the following passes.

In addition to a PowerPoint show, he'll try to make a few contacts through one or both of those satellites.

Glenn will be out at the clubhouse early for John/AE5B

to check his QSLs for satellite WAS and VUCC. He will try to work those earlier passes and record them for possible playback.

An AO-7 pass beginning at 2005 CST will be audible, but probably lightly loaded since it's a westerly pass also.

There'll also be a pass of one of the linear transponder satellites just before the AO-51 pass. Glenn will be able to receive the downlink, but it's a little more complicated operating portable through the linear birds using SSB or CW.

Hope you can come out.

(Continued from page 2)

since becoming an apartment dweller many years ago. It took 5 years to get the landlords approval for *any* antennas allowed, and then 2 more years to get a Hi-Q 5/160 antenna installed for 160m on the apartment buildings second floor roof at 20 feet.

The Hi-Q is an excellent antenna. Above the 5/160 coil my installation has a EB-8 tophat and a 102" whip, so it's all of about 13.5 feet tall. For the ground plane there are sixteen radials each 13 feet long, with a wire connecting the outer ends of the radials. There is one radial each for 160m, 80m, 60m, 40m, and 30m thrown in there for grins, all laying on the tar and gravel roof at 20 feet.

If you take my Elecraft K2's 5 watts output, times the Hi-Q's 1.3% efficiency on 160m, we end up with an approximate effective radiated power of about 65 milliwatts. Can you say, WTX section <big_gun> *NOT* hi hi

By about 1AM local time of the first night I had worked everyone that could hear me, all 25 of them. Saturday morning added about 14 more to the log Sunday morning, 4AM local started with about an hour of no Q's, I figured I was done.

Then came KF4T, who deserves a very big thanks for

working so hard to dig me out of the noise. He broke my no contact streak, and I managed to get another 10 stations in the log by daybreak.

End result 52 Q's, 19 sections, and 1,938 total points, all with 65 milliwatts. and a 13.5 foot tall vertical at 20 feet. Who said you can't have fun on 160m from a mid town apartment, next to a power utilities sub-station, while surrounded by lots of commercial store rfi?

Maybe next time I can get the locals to give me a contact for WTX, I never heard any of the other ones on the band all weekend. It's a pretty simple exchange, all you need is "599 WTX" only 6 letters to learn in cw. <g>

It seems my best contact of the 160m contest was with W4MYA 1345.56 miles away from San Angelo, TX in Goochland, VA (no I didn't make that up) which turns out to be 20700.97 miles per watt

Pics of the Hi-Q installation can be found on links from my home page <http://pages.suddenlink.net/ka5oai-1>

P.S. My hats off to all those that did all the hard work copying my peanut whistle, those guys/gals were the greatest! -- KA5OAI

Good Job Sam!



CQ DX de WB5ZAM

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during November 2009 7Q; P29; VP8; T6; ZK2; VK7; Z2; FK; YJ; TF; 8R; XR; 8R; HC8; J5; 5H; EL; TZ; TX; VP2M; KP2; XV; VP9; HB0; FP; PJ4; 6W; T3; 5W; OX; D68; 9G; VP8; FT5; 5R; 5W; FK; A3; VK9X; A2; V3; 9J; T8; V2; CQ-WW CW Contest 11/28-29.

Island of the Month-Bonaire-PJ: Located 30 miles (48 km) from Curacao; 50 miles (80 km) north of Venezuela and 86 miles (129 km) east of Aruba, and outside of the Caribbean hurricane belt. Size: 24 miles (39 km) long by 3-7 miles wide, 112 square miles (290 km²). Highest elevation is Brandaris Hill, 784 feet (240 meters). Climate: Yearly average temperature is 82°F (27.8°C); water temperature of 80°F (26.7°C); rainfall of 22 inches (56 cm); humidity of 76%. One of what used to be called the A-B-C islands of the Netherland Antilles, Bonaire, boasts pristine reefs, and underwater scenery untopped by others in the Caribbean. Their weather is extremely mild, and some years their rainfall is so low the locals are worrying about their cactus. We visited Bonaire in the August 2000 Kilo-what. Not much has changed, and although they were promised freedom in 2008 from the Netherlands, their independence was stalled as it was with their sister islands of Saba and St. Eustatius. Aruba and Curacao both became independent countries, but to date the others remain “states or city states” under Dutch rule. In about 1000AD the Arawak Indians from South America decided to venture into the Caribbean Sea, leaving behind petroglyphs, and artifacts in various caves on the island. In 1499 Amerigo Vespucci, Juan de la Costa and Alonso de Ojeda “discovered” the islands along the north of Venezuela.



(If you remember, Columbus lost face with the throne, and didn't get this far before he was told to stay at home). Although there was potential in the islands, the explorers did not see that and the natives were exported by these explorers to work the mines in Santo Domingo (test question: what is the current name for Santo Domingo/Hispaniola). Domestic animals and natives from Aruba were brought in during this “Spanish period” in the 1500's. In 1621, the Dutch West Indies Company was founded and many ships plying the Caribbean stopped for water, beef, tanned hides, and some even left prisoners or slaves. The Dutch and Spanish fought the Eighty year war in the late 1500's and the Dutch lost St Maarten to the Spanish but took the A-B-C islands. The British, not to be outdone, came to the Caribbean in the early 1800s taking away islands from everyone.

After the War of 1812, Britain returned the islands to Dutch control. During WWII, the US built Flamingo Airport, returning it to the government after the war. Tourism started to bloom in the post war period (the prisoner of war camp was remodeled and became the first tourist camps). When a second hotel was built in 1962, more emphasis was put towards marketing the reefs and the island. The economy is based primarily on tourism, and the entire coastal reef system was incorporated into a Preserve/Park in 1979. There are a few sandy beaches on the island but most tourists come to either windsurf, scuba or snorkel, or to just relax. Wind surfers are a large part of the tourists and the north side of the island caters to them. There are over 300 km of mountain bike trails, as well as the long hikes around the island. Of interest to some is the Sorobon Beach, Bonaire's “highly regarded” naturalist beach (clothing optional). The beach does not allow sightseers, but does purport to have some of the best protected windsurfing in the Caribbean. Ham radio excursions are frequent, especially from European countries (DX-peditions are frequent, as the island utilizes the reciprocal licensing of Holland and other European countries). Official languages are Dutch, Papiamentu and English; although a great many speak and use Spanish in everyday business. There are two private Medical Schools on the island, based on the US Medical School curricula, and recognized in the US. Population officially is 14,000 (2006). Military protection is provided by the Dutch Services, and a local police force keeps the peace. The US Coast Guard works the area looking for smugglers, and the oil companies use the island for trans-shipment of oil. The island also has a large flamingo population, feeding on the brine shrimp in the large salt flats in the south. There are online webcams (see below), and lots of information available on the web. Ref: www.bonairewebcams.com; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonaire>;



QSL OF THE MONTH: J68WI- St Lucia: This is my qsl for the latest trip to St Lucia. Only two lucky hams in San Angelo were among the 350 I worked from there. Glenn and Sam were weak but readable on 40 meters SSB. My friends there are trying to get on more and will be looking for West Texas stations, especially early in the morning or late afternoon on 40m, mid-afternoon on 15-17-20 meters. WE have one of them with a 160-6m antenna (G5RV) and he has worked a few stateside on 160m. **See you on the bands chasing dx. 73 de WB5ZAM**

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
10/5	KB5FNK	23	15 min
10/12	KD5SBE	24	20 min
10/19	KB5FNK	32	20 min
10/25	KB5FNK		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 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, 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



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

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



NEXT MEETING: 11/12/09
PROGRAM: SATELLITE OPS-AA5PK
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE