

The eKilo-What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

October 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 on September 8, 2005, at 1930.

Introductions were made with 13 members and 1 visitor in attendance.

The minutes for August 2005 were approved as printed in the September issue of *The Kilo-What*. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Officers' Reports

Activities Manager: Don Gallion/KD5NAI. In Don's absence, Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ gave the report. The X-Bar Shoot Out in Eldorado will be Sunday, September 18, 2005. They could use 6-8 of our members. You should be there before 0700. The Sidewinder Challenge will be held at San Angelo State Park on Sunday, October 1, 2005. They have three checkpoints we take care of. The Sidewinder Challenge will take 12 hours or more to complete. They would like us there before 0700. The San Angelo Air Show will be Saturday and Sunday October 8-9, 2005. There will be a barbeque for members at the clubhouse during the activities.

The fundraiser at Mr. Gatti's will be Friday, October 7, 2005, from 1730 until 2030 (5:30-8:30). Ask relatives, friends and neighbors to have a buffet at Mr. Gatti's during this time frame, mentioning our organization and we will receive 15% of their purchase.

Emergency Coordinator: Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ. Long range goal is to set up a facility for emergency communications at the clubhouse.

New Business

Donation of \$25 to Bob Heiser/W7IKT for all the work he has done adapting Anderson Powerpole® connectors to all the clubs equipment. Bob will put Powerpole® connectors on member radios at cost.

Old Business

A report on the club's A/C unit, QSL cards and business cards was not available.

Good of The Order

Split-The-Pot was worth \$6.50 to the winner, Joe Kent/KC5ILD and to the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2004. The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be October 14, 2005 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

License Testing News

by Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner

ARRL  VEC

The next regularly scheduled license testing session will be Sunday, October 16, 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 October 10.

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.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, FROM 5:30 UNTIL 8:30 IS SAARC NIGHT AT MR. GATTI'S
BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND HAVE THE BUFFET.
MENTION THE SAN ANGELO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TO THE CASHIER AND 15%
OF YOUR PURCHASE WILL BE DONATED TO THE CLUB.**

Vanity Call Sign Processing Suspended

From The ARRL Letter, September 30, 2005

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has suspended the processing of Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications. A WTB staff member, speaking to ARRL on background, said the FCC halted vanity processing on or about September 23 after realizing that filing and regulatory deadline extensions for hurricane-affected licensees in certain states could adversely impact the vanity system. The WTB staffer pointed out that the filing extensions announced this month also apply to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period."

"Because these extensions apply to the grace period, it could affect vanity processing," the WTB staffer told ARRL. "We stopped processing when it came clear that some call signs could be affected." No decision has been made on when vanity processing will resume.

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 WTB staff member emphasized that the FCC intended the deadline extensions to apply only to licensees who have been directly impacted by the storms. "These are not statewide extensions," the staffer said.

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. The staffer confirmed that WTB had disabled the "auto-termination" feature of the Universal Licensing System (ULS) so that it will not automatically cancel licenses that have not been renewed by the end of the grace period.

"We can't assume based on address who might be affected," the staff member explained, "so we're not auto-terminating anything at this point."

In the meantime, the FCC is encouraging radio amateurs to continue filing vanity applications as they normally would. "Everything will be held in queue," the WTB staff member said.

ARRL Announces 2005 Toy Drive for Hurricane Victims

From The ARRL Letter, September 30, 2005

In the wake of unprecedented hurricane devastation in the Gulf Coast region, the ARRL has announced it will again sponsor a toy drive to brighten the holidays for youngsters left homeless or displaced as a result of the storms. Country singer and ARRL member Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, has agreed to serve as the honorary chairperson for the 2005 toy drive. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, is urging the Amateur Radio community to pitch in.

"Last year, hams from all over the country brought smiles to children during the holidays," Haynie said. "We made a lot of friends, and we did a lot of good. No one expected that we would need to do it again so soon, but this year's hurricanes have changed the plans of a lot of people."

Last year, individual radio amateurs and clubs across the US joined together to collect new toys for youngsters affected by a series of four hurricanes in Florida. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the 2004 effort was a success beyond anyone's wildest dreams, and there was no question in his mind about doing another toy drive for the latest hurricane victims.

Country artist Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, is the honorary chairperson for the ARRL 2005 Toy Drive.

Send new toys to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Send cash donations to assist the drive to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"Not only can it be done, it really must be done. It is simply the right thing to do," he said. "We are asking hams from all over the country to begin gathering new toys for shipment to Memphis, Tennessee. ARRL Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, has secured a receiving warehouse and is recruiting ham volunteers there."

Ham radio clubs and individual amateurs should send new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Plan mailings and shipments to arrive prior to Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24, for distribution over the holidays.

"Just as we did last year, we are asking the donors to please put a QSL card into the box with the toy," Pitts added. Non-hams are encouraged to join this effort too.

Once at the warehouse in Memphis, volunteers will sort and stock the gifts. "Early in December, we will divide the toys among the various agencies and states that need help the most at that point in time," Pitts explained. "We are making these arrangements so that we can maximize the areas receiving aid while maintaining the unique identity that this is the Amateur Radio Community's response."

Monetary donations to purchase new toys for special age groups and to help cover operational expenses also are welcome. Those wishing to donate money instead of toys can send a check to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in October: K7C—Kure, OHØ, SV9, FR, T8, T3, S79, SV9, A5, GJ, TX5M (Mayotte), 6W, GU, HI7, 5H, P2, VK9X, J3 and ZB. According to the Amateur Radio Cluster Network, for the week of September 18-25, there were 219 countries active.

Island of the Month

Haiti - HH. One can find the glamorized history or the version locals tell or a combination of both, but all have one final ending—Haiti. The country is actually the poorer one-third of the island of Hispaniola, with the Dominican Republic in the other two-thirds. Haiti once was part of the richest island in the Caribbean, but now is the poorest country with the highest infant mortality, highest death rate from AIDS and highest in malnutrition. Even with the UN peacekeepers trying to stabilize the country, the centuries of abusive conquerors, abusive regimes and Mother Nature have this island on the verge of collapse. The forests are being cut down for wood and for crops and then the poor land management allows the planted areas to wash away with the first tropical storm. Lying in the middle of the hurricane and tropical storm weather patterns, the country continues to suffer. Going from the friendly Arawaks, who were overwhelmed and butchered by the Spanish, to French with their continued enslavement and mass murders, to the rebellions by the slaves that took the island from the French, there seems no end to the hardships of this country over the centuries.

They defeated the French in 1804 and declared independence, only to have the Monroe Doctrine invoked by President Roosevelt, leading to US occupation from 1915 to 1934. Then a military Junta government gave way to the Duvalies (father and son) which led to another Junta and then, in 2000, President Clinton intervened in the chaotic country. In 2004 US troops entered and restored order and moved out leaving the UN Caribbean troops to try to stabilize the 8 million residents. Literacy is said to be about 53%, and what tourism is left only comes from neighboring Dominican Republic tours of a few cruise ships that stop and ferry tourists to beaches on the north coast. Amateur radio was very popular in the past, but with the extent of the unrest, the hams that were there have taken their equipment and left, fearing the tribal wars between the different factions that kidnap, torture and try to extort ransoms for families of the affluent. The area where the cruise ships stop is also known as the area used by Christopher Columbus who initially found the island and thought he had found India (hence the name Indianola).

Located at 19°N/72°W, the country is about the size of Maryland. The border with the Dominican Republic is porous and many Haitians are found at sea trying to get to the US or are actually arrested after landing in Florida. A recent Miami Herald front page showed three separate boatloads who had successfully reached Florida. The military has been disbanded, although the laws allowing a force are still in effect, and law enforcement is left to local police still on the job and the UN force. Hospitals are rudimentary and tourist accommodations are non-existent. Due to the 2000-meter hills on the east side of the country, the cooling northeasterly tropic breezes rarely reach most of the country. Natural resources are bauxite, copper, calcium carbonate, gold, marble and hydropower. Due to the political unrest, exports are few and difficult to manage, with strikes and manpower problems a norm. Infant mortality is 73 deaths/1000, and life expectancy is 53. In 2003 there was about 6% of the population with HIV/AIDS. The official language is French, but most speak the Creole of most of the Caribbean islands. President Aristide was elected in 2000, but with the breakdown of the government, he is now in South Africa in asylum.

The US government has many concerns about the country, the biggest being its use to filter money and drugs to and from the US. Multiple leaders of the country have been indicted and are either on trial or in jail for crimes varying from money laundering to transshipment of drugs. With the country in the hurricane- and earthquake-prone zone of the Caribbean, the outlook for stability is grim. Numerous nations are trying to help with shipments of food stuffs to the country, but the law-abiding are outgunned by those that want to have their own form of country. There are some crop productions that are helping with the gross domestic product, namely coffee, oils, cocoa and mangoes. Some manufacturing is returning to the country, but it is still a very unstable and dangerous country to visit or plan a DXpedition to. As an aside, Haiti does claim Navassa Island (midway between the tip of Haiti and Jamaica), which is a US Fish and Wildlife-controlled and guarded island.

QSL of the Month

ØT705G - Costa Rica: Special call sign for a commemorative station, celebrating Costa Rican independence in September 2005. The station is celebrating the 184th anniversary of the country's independence.

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

CQ:7 ITU:11 op: T18CBT

ØT805P
 Grid Locator EJ79nx

ØT705G
 Grid Locator EK70us



Special Calling in commemoration of 184 years Costa Rica Independence



COSTA RICA

TO RADIO				
DATE	UTC	FREQ	RT	MODE

PSE QSL THX

73!




QSL manager EA7FR

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Sep 5	N7SDQ	15	8 min
Sep 12	KA5VTG	15	8 min
Sep 19	N7SDQ	13	9 min
Sep 26	N7SDQ	16	9 min
Oct 3	AA5PK	13	8 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



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Name This Piece of Equipment



Last month's "winner" was Keith/K5LSM who was the first to correctly identify the Collins KWM-1 transceiver.



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, OCT 13, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE