

# *The eKilo - What*

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

October 2006

This month, it's all about the club's 82nd anniversary celebration on October 14.

Of course, all current club members are invited to attend and to help welcome our guests, as well as partake in the food and camaraderie. Each of us will play host to former club members who are attending. We've sent out over 100 invitations to past members and we hope many will come to celebrate 82 years with us.

We'll have food before the cake and ice cream are served and, since this will be the largest gathering of radio amateurs in San Angelo in a while, tailgating is encouraged. Clean out your shack and perhaps find a buyer for that equipment that's been collecting dust. You know what they say about one man's junk...

The party starts at 1100. Let's hope the weather cooperates!

**Meeting Minutes***By Gary Chaffin/N5GRC, Secretary*

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order by President Glenn Miller/AA5PK, on September 14, 2006 at 1930.

Introductions were made with 20 members and 1 guest in attendance.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as printed in the August issue of *The Kilo-What*, and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

**Old Business**

The first of the two-day Technician license class was conducted September 9 at the San Angelo Health Foundation meeting room with one student in attendance. Of the seven individuals who signed up for the class, only one was present for the session. The class will conclude with the class on Saturday 16 September.

Plans for the 82nd anniversary party were discussed and invitations have been mailed to over 65 previous club members locally and around the state.

David "UB" Buck KB9VTD is looking for volunteers, General class or higher, to help with Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on Saturday, 21 October. To date, a total of two Scout troops have signed up to participate. Members interested in helping out can contact UB at kb9vtd@arrl.net.

The printer cartridge recycling program is in full swing with a total of \$9.50 being earned thus far. Free mailers are available at the club house or from Gary/N5GRC.

**New Business**

Suggestions were solicited for the location of our annual Eatin' Meetin' to be held 14 December in conjunction with our regular club meeting. After some discussion, Zentner's Steakhouse on Sherwood Way was selected as the location for 2006 and reservations will be secured ASAP.

David Behrend/KB5FNK volunteered to head up the nominating committee for club officers to serve during 2007. Club members interesting in serving in an official capacity should contact David and let him know what position they are interesting in.

The need for a fundraising activity was discussed and all agreed that our current fiscal situation is sound and therefore none is needed at this time.

There was some interest by the membership in individual purchase of blue polo shirts with the SAARC logo, name and call embroidered on the front. We will investigate sources and report back to the membership with cost and availability.

**Good of the Order**

Kent Frazier/K5KNT was the winner of the split-the-pot drawing and asked that his half of the \$13 proceeds be retained by the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2000.

Following a brief intermission, Ron Perry/N5ZIX gave an informative talk on the San Angelo Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and discussed the following:

- The EOC currently does not have a 70 cm capability, but is working toward that end.
- The EOC needs General class or higher operators and is soliciting volunteers.
- Would like a list of club members' call signs so volunteers may be contacted in case of emergency.
- There may be funds available to purchase radio and emergency response equipment due to the fact that RACES is not active in San Angelo.
- Wants to explore the use of digital communication modes to enhance emergency operations.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be the club's anniversary party on October 14, 2006 beginning at 1100 at the clubhouse.

**License Testing News***Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner*

The next scheduled test session will be Sunday, October 22 at 1300 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 16.

License testing information and a link to download the form are available on the club Web site <http://www.w5qx.org>.

## CQ DX de WB5ZAM



*By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM*

**DXpeditions in October:** JT, 9H, V5, 7Q, TT, SV5, 9Q, JW, E5, VP2V, OHØ, SV9, GD, TK, T8, P4Ø, LX, 5R, PJ4, P2, HI8, C9, 8Q, 5B, TX, AH2, ZK, EA8, C9, V3, XF, J3, FO, HR, 9H, HI, VP2M, V2, TO8, VK9C, CQWW-DX-SSB (10/28-10/29). According to AR-DX there were 249 countries active mid-September.

### Island of the Month

**The Azores-CU** - The Azores are an archipelago of Portuguese islands in the middle of the northern Atlantic Ocean, about 1,500 km from Lisbon and about 3,900 km from the east coast of North America. The nine Azorean Islands extend for more than 600 km, and lie in a northwest-southeast direction. All of the islands have volcanic origins, though Santa Maria also has some reef contribution. The mountain of Pico on Pico Island, at 2,351 m in altitude, is the highest in all of Portugal. The Azores are actually the tops of some of the tallest mountains on the planet, as measured from their base at the bottom of the ocean. Though it is commonly said that the archipelago is named after the goshawk (Açor in Portuguese), because it was supposed to be a common bird at the time of the discovery, it actually never existed on the islands. Some historians indicate the archaic Portuguese word "azures" (the plural of blue) because of the color of the islands when seen from afar. Most, however, insist that the name is derived from birds, pointing to a local subspecies of the buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), as the animal the first explorers erroneously identified as goshawks.



In 1427, one of the captains sailing for Henry the Navigator discovered the Azores, possibly Gonçalo Velho, but this is not certain. The colonization of the then-unoccupied islands started in 1439 with people mainly from the continental provinces of Algarve and Alentejo; in the following centuries settlers from other European countries arrived, most notably from Northern France and Flanders. In 1583, Philip II of Spain as King of Portugal sent his combined Iberian fleet to clear the French traders from the Azores, decisively hanging his prisoners-of-war from the yardarms and contributing to the "Black Legend." The Azores were the second-to-last part of the Portuguese empire to resist Philip's reign over Portugal (Macau being the last), Azores was returned to Portuguese control with

the end of the Iberian Union, not by the military efforts, as these were already in Restoration War efforts in the mainland, but by the people attacking a well-fortified Castillian Garrison. There is also evidence that a significant number of seafarers from India, working for Portuguese merchant ships also settled in the Azores.

The archipelago is spread out in the area of the parallel that passes through Lisbon (39°, 43'/39°, 55' North Latitude), giving it a moderate climate, with mild annual oscillation. The average annual rainfall increases from east to west and ranges from 700 to 1600 mm. The Azores lie in the Palearctic ecozone, forming a unique biome among the world's temperate broadleaf and mixed forests, with many endemic species of plants. The nine islands have a total area of 2,355 km<sup>2</sup>. Their individual areas vary between 759 km<sup>2</sup> (São Miguel) and 17 km<sup>2</sup> (Corvo). Three islands (São Miguel, Pico and Terceira) are bigger in size than Malta (composed of three different islands), São Miguel Island alone being twice as big. The nine islands are divided into three groups: The Eastern Group (Grupo Oriental) of São Miguel, Santa Maria and Formigas Islets; The Central Group (Grupo Central) of Terceira, Graciosa, São Jorge, Pico and Faial; The Western Group (Grupo Occidental) of Flores and Corvo. The islands were formed during the Tertiary period, in the Alpine phase. Their volcanic cones and craters reveal the volcanic origin of most islands. Pico, a volcano that stands 2,351 meters high on the island of the same name, has the highest altitude in the Azores. The last volcano to erupt was the Capelinhos Volcano in 1957, in western part of Faial island, increasing the size of that island. Santa Maria Island is the oldest Azorean island presenting several limestone and red clay extensions. The Azores population is 240,000, mostly based around Portuguese immigrants. There are three notable golf courses, "sandy beaches (in my research I couldn't find many pictures of same). And as with most islands "in the stream" you can swim with the dolphins or go whale watching. (Information for this month's island was found at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/> and numerous tourist sites for the Azores.)

As a side note, when watching for hurricanes arising off of Africa, in the Atlantic, the Azores usually are north of the track of most storms. To watch the Hurricanes and storms go to: <http://www.stormcarib.com/goes.htm>.

### QSL OF THE MONTH

**CU/G3TXF.** Nigel is very active, first licensed in 1965, and has been all over the world operating, noted by the 35 distinct countries that he has licenses from. For a traveling radio amateur, he's a good example of places to go and places to see and operate from.

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



## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Sep 11	AA5PK	10	7 min
Sep 18	- - - -	No Net - - - -	
Sep 25	KA5VTG	10	7 min
Oct 2	KA5VTG	7	5 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	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

## September License Class

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK

While it didn't sound very promising at the September meeting, Ralph/KA5ULE and I *did* have just one student to report for the first class session.

But that changed on September 16 when an additional three students arrived. One was a US Marine Corps language instructor from the base who brought along two of his students. While the instructor had studied for the Technician class license earlier, but missed his opportunity to test, the other two Marines had never studied for the license, were not acquainted with amateur radio, and didn't know anyone who was licensed.

I was a little apprehensive that they might have trouble with the exam in that they had missed the first four lessons of the course. They did, however, surprise the volunteer examiners when, not only did our first student pass with a perfect score, so did the Marine instructor and his two students each passed by missing only two questions each.

Another class behind us, and with a 100 percent pass rate!

**No one took a stab at last month's boat anchor collection. More pix next month.**



P.O. Box 4002  
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Get all the latest club news on the World  
Wide Web at [www.w5qx.org](http://www.w5qx.org)

### 2006 SAARC Officers:

President - Glenn Miller/AA5PK  
Vice President - John Marshall/KC5FMX  
Secretary/Treasurer - Gary Chaffin/N5GRC  
Emergency Coordinator - David Wolfe/KA5VTG  
Activities Manager - //Vacant  
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](mailto:aa5pk@qsl.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING:  
SATURDAY, OCT 14, 11 A.M.  
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**