

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

September 2009

August 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 August 13, 2009 at 1932.

Introductions were made with 22members and 8 visitors in attendance.

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

The owners of the new Batteries Plus store will make the presentation after the meeting.

New Business

Joe/W5JBK told the members that he had considered a member for Lifetime Membership.

He said that he would have to have approval of the majority of the officers. He had approval of all the officers. What Joe failed to mention was the fact that he also had to have the approval of two thirds of the membership. He did have more

than the required votes for the lifetime members. In case someone thought that detail was over looked, it was not.

Joe asked Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ to come to the meeting to present a Certificate to Glenn Miller/AA5PK for Lifetime Membership. Charlie was also receiving a Lifetime Membership. Joe got excited and wouldn't let Charlie present Glenn with his Certificate.

Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC said that the Meal on Wheels are asking groups or individuals to create single meals from canned goods. Information on mealsforelderly.org.

Good of the Order

The first drawing was for a large bottle of Coke. Winner was Don Hejl/N5SVK. Drawing for Split-the-Pot was worth \$21.00 to the winner Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ and to the club. Ron donated his share to the club. Thank you Ron.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2015. The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday September 10, 2009 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

Club Names Life Members

The San Angelo Amateur Radio Club named Glenn Miller—AA5PK and Charlie Campbell—KC5EZZ as life members at the August Club Meeting. Both men have contributed much to the growth of amateur Radio over the years and are long time club members. Congratulations to Glenn and Charlie.



Glenn Miller - AA5PK receives Life Member Certificate from President Joe Kent



Charlie Campbell - KC5EZZ receives Life Member Certificate from President Joe Kent



Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

These are the digital frequencies that are used in TOM GREEN CO.

You must have digital scanner to receive P-25 AKA PROJECT 25

There is no scanner that can receive Provoice as of now.

- 156.090 SO CH 2 DISP P25
- 154.115 SO CH 3 STEP P25
- 155.505 TX RANGERS P25
- 154.695 DPS CH 6 CARS TO DISP P25
- 155.445 DPS CH 7 DISP TO CARS P25
- 155.475 TX LAW 3 SOMETIMES P25
- 154.905 TABC P25
- 154.920 TABC P25
- 154.935 TABC P25
- 156.060 TABC P25

Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Emergency Coordinator

April ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
8/3	KB5FNK	10	28 min	444.350
8/10	KD5URW	10	27 min	444.350
8/17	KD5URW	14	24 min	444.350
8/24	KD5URW	14	17 min	444.350
8/31	KD5URW	14	24 mon	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.

The Tom Green County ARES group had their monthly meeting on the 20th of August, 2009. Plans for the SET in October were discussed along with the group goals.

A work day was held on 29th of Aug. 2009. The B&W HF antenna was erected and tested. VHF/UHF antenna was also erected and tested. Work remains to be done inside the EOC. The antennas will have to be reset after roof work is done in a few weeks. (See article and pictures elsewhere in the newsletter.)

The next TGC-ARES group meeting was set for the 17th of September, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse.

Severe weather season is here to stay for a while, so stay alert and keep your "Go-Bags" and "Ready Kits" ready for anything that could come up during this time of possible severe fires within Tom Green County and any of the surrounding areas. You never know what may come up and we maybe called to assist with the EOC or any shelters if need, so Stay Ready.

Classified Ads

For Sale: I have a 3 section crank up Aluma tower for sale. This is larger than Rohn 25 but not sure what the actual size is. If anyone local is interested call me at 227-7025. Contact Ron Perry, N5ZIX

For Sale: New in the box Kenwood TM-D710A for \$550. Contact Tom, WB5MTR, 325-277-2803

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
12 Sep 2009	Swapmeet and Tailgate South Plains Amateur Radio Club	Lubbock, TX	http://www.w5lcc.net
3 Oct 2009	HamEXPO Temple Amateur Radio Club	Belton, TX	http://www.beltonhamexpo.org

Recent SAARC Programs

September '08	Antenna Theory and Design, II Bill Tarn/AE5AW
October '08	SAARC Birthday Celebration
November '08	Trunk Tracking Jack Roberts/KB5TMY
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

August Program Notes

Richard and Patrick Brown presented information about the new business, Batteries Plus. The business opened April 2009 in the Academy, Best Buy shopping center. Richard and his wife are co-owners. The shop offers a complete line of batteries for all applications including amateur HT's, vehicles, watches and all consumer types including laptops and PDA's. They offer 800-1,000 batteries in the store and a

backup system of 40,000 batteries by order.

Their technical shop supervised by Patrick can recycle all types of batteries, except, liquid, Ni-Cad or mercury and rebuild most battery packs including Ni-Metal, and Ni-Cad rechargeables. Pricing is based on the type of cell and quantity.

The program was very informative and interesting.



Patrick Brown



Richard Brown

ARES Antenna Work Day

Saturday, 8-29-09, ten local operators met to install several antennas on top of the EOC building. We now have HF, VHF and UHF antennas fully operational on the roof of the EOC building at Mathis Field.

Present were:

Mike Dominy - KD5URW, Gary Pittman - KE5TXL, Gary Chaffin - W5ETJ, Don Hejl - N5SVK, David Behrend - KB5FNK, Bill Murphy - WA6CMJ, Tom Strickland - KD5NXW, Teresa Covey - KF5CPJ (New Ham), Gene Leavell - KF5CPL (New Ham), and Bob Edwards - W5ZTG

Pictures taken by Bob Edwards-W5ZTG.



L to R. Teresa Covey, Gary Pittman, Bill Murphy, David Behrend

L to R. Teresa Covey, Gene Leavell, Bill Murphy

Special Event Station

The San Angelo Amateur radio Club will have a Special Event Station September 12, from 1400Z-2100Z (0900 - 1600 Central Time). Operating frequencies are 7.260 and 14.260. Location is at Grape Creek, TX, Cloud Country Airport on Wren Road. This special event is in conjunction with the Fly-In Commemorating 151th Anniversary of Butterfield

Overland Mail. A Certificate is being drafted by Buddy/KD5SBE.

Operators are needed. More details will be available at the Club Meeting September 10. This is a good opportunity for new hams to get a chance to work some HF and have fun. Last year we had a good time and hope to do so this year. More information is available on the fly-In at http://web.mac.com/taylorhere/Fly_Butterfield/2009_Butterfield_Fly-In.

License Classes and Exams

License classes for the General Class License will be held September 12 (8 a.m.— 5 p.m.) at the Centennial Commons at ASU. A continuation class and will be held September 19 (8 a.m.—noon).

License exams will be given on September 19 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location. All classes of license may test at this session. Contact Mike Dominy—KD5URW at kd5urw@zipnet.us



CQ DX de WB5ZAM for Aug 2009

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during September: 4W6; 3B7; SV9; SV5; OH0; J68WI; FG; LX; AH0; FO; 9H; V5; 3D2; 9H; JW; T2; P4; 5B; PJ4; CT8; T3; FT5; TK; T30 ZK; ZL7; JD1; ZK2; TO; FP; PJ2; 5B; PJ5; J7; TX5;

Island of the Month-Banaba-T33C: In 2004, twenty two hams took off into the Pacific to activate a rare island. Between April 4th and the 15th they made 75,000 QSOs, taking the island way down the list of most wanted. The island has a permanent population of 300 residents that support themselves through fishing, gardens, and a British Trust fund. The island is a solitary raised coral island in the west of the Gilbert Island chain. The highest point is only 266 feet above sea level, and the island has an area of 6.5 sq. km. The original occupants, before Japanese removal, were noted to be from Melanesia.

The island lies 420 km Southwest of Tarawa and 80 km south of the equator. The island's history was as a source of phosphates from all the bird guano, and the strip mining from the past has left 90% of the land un-arable. Ocean Island, known by its Kiribati name of Banaba, is one of the many interesting islands in the Republic of Kiribati (Micronesia). In the company of the other islands of Kiribati, Banaba has its own history, as well as its own unique, beautiful and complex culture that has evolved over many generations.



During World War II, the Japanese Imperial forces invaded Banaba with the aim of taking over the mining operation. They murdered one-fifth of the Banaban population and removed the rest to other Pacific islands, where they were forced into labor. After the War was over the surviving Banabans were gathered together by the British Colonial government and told they could not return to their homeland. The Colonial government used Japan's invasion as an excuse to dispose of the Banabans who stood in the way of their plans to continue the phosphate mining of their homeland. The Banabans were then relocated to Rabi island over 2,000 miles away in the Fiji Group arriving without supplies and support on 15 December 1945. Any future plans to visit or see their homeland could only be done after obtaining approval from the

British Colonial government. In 1965, Banabans began legal proceedings against the Colonial government in the British High Court. This expensive and long fought legal battle would end up becoming one of the longest civil cases in history resulting in the judge stating that even though they had been wronged, he was powerless to award damages against the British government. It was not until 1981 that the Banabans received any type of compensation, however minimal.

There are no accommodations for tourists, so whether travelling there as a sightseer, or a ham Dx-pedition, you must go 100% self contained. The present colony is supposedly kept on the island by the government of expatriates, so that the island could not be claimed as abandoned by Kiribati Government, and then annexed to Kiribati, and phosphate excavation continued.

If you go, the temperature is the standard for islands at the equator, with average rainfall about 120 mm per month in the December to April rainy season. Of 660 acres of viable surface for agriculture, the island now has less than 60 acres, with the rest a moonscape of rocks and surface mining left overs, along with abandoned equipment.

Ref: <http://www.dx-pedition.de/banaba2004/> ; http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Banaba_Island

QSL OF THE MONTH-T33C- Here is the QSL from the last Dx-pedition and another card.



See you on the bands chasing dx.

73 de WB5ZAM.

Report from Last License Testing Session

The list below are the Callsigns for the newest Ham Radio Tech's within Tom Green County. The last one #10, is also as far as anyone knows, is the youngest one to get a license within the Tom Green County area. If you hear them on the air or meet them in person, please say "Hi and Welcome to Ham Radio". A job well done for a great hobby.

We have two new upgrades. If any of you see Mr. Matt Healy (W5MAT) and/or Mr. Sam Morgan (KA5OAI) give them a hand and also say "A job well done". Matt (W5MAT) passed his upgrade test to General Class and Sam (KA5OAI) pass his upgrade to Extra Class.

1	KF5CPF	Bertha D Vietor
2	KF5CPG	Lisa L Koca
3	KF5CPH	John G Goodman III
4	KF5CPI	Jessica L Goodman
5	KF5CPJ	Teresa L Covey
6	KF5CPK	Patricia A Leavell
7	KF5CPL	Gene P Leavell
8	KF5CPM	John D Fields Jr
9	KF5CPN	William L Lvy
10	KF5CPO	Dakota L Malone

A Note From Walt. K1QS

Moving to Texas

After visiting Texas in February to attend a wedding in Austin, we, my wife and I, decided that, based upon our observations during a quick overnight trip to San Angelo, that the bleak, brown landscape was even less inviting than the pure white snow cover after a winter storm. Nope, we didn't want to live there again. Well, we arrived home from that Texas visit in the midst of a heavy snowstorm. That was no big deal, but four days later we were hit with another big storm. This one had heavy, heavy snow, ice, and was accompanied by high winds – up to 60 MPH. When I arose the next morning, I discovered that ALL, yes, ALL of my antennas had been destroyed. I mean, the boom of the four element twenty meter monobander had been ripped apart, the A3 was twisted up, and the HF6-V (modified to be a HF9) was mangled. Not a useable antenna was to be found on our property. I was off the air.

I waited a couple of days, mulling over my options. Finally, I opted for the paperwork filled insurance claim. Let's see how good my replacement value homeowners is. Well, it was good enough for me to purchase two new antennas, a 204-BA and a Hy-Gain Discover 72 (instead of another A3). I also purchased the DX Engineering 43 foot vertical. Which antenna should go on which tower? To save the trouble of looking them up, the 204 is a four element twenty meter

monobander and the Discover 72 is two elements on 40.

I mulled it over. Finally, I told my wife that I wanted to sell "Radio Magicland" and move back to Texas. She mulled it over for several days and then announced that she was in agreement. Unfortunately, we cannot make the move until this house is sold. But, I rented an S-60 which is a boom lift that reaches 60 feet to take down my towers. It was expensive, \$526, but I had it from Friday afternoon until Tuesday morning. After the second tower was down, the boom lift became mired in the soft soil. Well, it does weigh in excess of eleven tons! Oh well, another \$500 resulted in it being towed out and returned to the rental company. Sigh ... the insurance gave me \$350 towards a lift truck.

So, here I sit, with the two new monobanders still in the boxes, a three element monobander for fifteen meters, and one for ten, as well. I have a brand new Alpha Delta DX-A sloper system to be used on 160, 80, and 40 meters. All of these antennas, just waiting to move to Texas. What about the 43 foot vertical? I have that installed out on the back lot where it works OK on 20 and 40, but, a monobander it isn't.

I had a great time reconnecting with the ham community in San Angelo during my Field Day visit, and I want to remind all that "Original Digital" reigns supreme! Oh, and I'll be there ready to set up shop sometime soon.

73, 88 and Cheers, Y'all,

Walt, K1QS

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
8/3	KB5FNK	22	17 min
8/10	KA5ULE	22	20 min
8/17	KB5FNK	25	20 min
8/24	KB5FNK	28	17 min
8/31	KB5FNK	25	21 min

This net meets every Monday night at 8 p.m. on the club's 146.34/.94 repeater. All amateurs licensed to

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: 9/10/09
PROGRAM: DPS
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE