

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

April 2011

March Meeting Minutes

de **Bob Freeman/KD5PIX**

The regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President Ralph Stout/KA5ULE, March 10, 2011 at 1938.

Introductions were made with 20 members, 1 associate member and 1 visitor. The February Minutes were approved as printed in the Kilo-What and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Old Business

Should you care to check in on the group that Ralph Stout/KA5ULE has set up on Yahoo, you can do so by using the following: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/saarc76902/>

The Skywarn class will be Saturday March 12, 2011 at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 3536 YMCA DR. Start time will be 0900.

A reminder that the time changes at 0200 Sunday March 13, 2011. Move the clocks one hour forward. Good time to change batteries in smoke alarms, Radon and all other alarms as well. Change batteries in weather radio's also.

The generators were discussed again. We were going to take them to have them tuned up last July. Now we are ready to have anyone look them over.

There was talk of a new location for Field Day. A couple of places that had been considered are no longer available for our purposes. Several members are looking for other locations for Field Day.

Good of The Order

There were four drawings before the Split-The-Pot.

Gary Pittman/KE5TXL won some microfiber cloths.

David Lewis/W5DLL won a mystery bag.

Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ won a drill bit gauge.

Ralph Stout/KA5ULE won a flashlight.

Split-The-Pot was worth \$12.00 to the club and the winner was Bob Freeman/kd5pix. I donated my part to the club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2030. The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday April 14, 2011 at 1930 at the Clubhouse.

April Club Program

April's program will be presented by Dr. Steve Lyon, who will be presenting a Skywarn program. The club meeting will be a little shorter meeting than normal. Matt Healy, W5MAT has made arrangements for the club to tour the weather station immediately following the meeting. We will see the new radio setup for storm spotting and disaster communications.

Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

Monitor these frequencies Skywarn nets.

146.940 PRI 146.880 ALT
444.225
162.550 NWS

Weather Radio FIPS CODES

048451 TGC, 048081 Coke, 048095 Concho, 048235 Irion,
048399 Runnels, 048413 Schleicher, 048431 Sterling,
048105 Crockett, 048441 Taylor

These are the FIRE DEPTS to monitor for wildfires

TOM GREEN CO AND SAN ANGELO
154.190 WARNING SIRENS
460.600 PA SYSTEM TO CITY FIRE STATIONS
155.130 TGC FIRE DISP, 155.1825 TGC REPEATER
154.160 TGC FD TRUCKS, 154.130 GRAPECREEK FD TAC,
157.620 RANCH WALL FD TAC

SA TRS TALK GROUPS

04-021 FIRE DISP, 04-045 FIRE TAC 5
04-046 FIRE TAC 6

Surrounding Counties

154.280 TX FIRE 1 ALSO BALLINGER FD DISP
154.175 CONCHO CO FD DISP
154.220 COKE CO FD DISP
151.550 IRION CO FD DISP
155.955 CROCKETT CO FD AND TGC COURTHOUSE
154.325 SCHELEICHER CO FD, 154.430 LLANO CO FD
155.040 MC CULLOCH CO FD
155.835 KERR CO FD ASU PD CARR
154.370 COLMAN CO SANTA ANNA FD
154.400 COLORADO CITY FD, 155.400 SUTTON EMS
159.390 156.12 DIXIE VFD TYLER

NOTE: WHEN THE SIRENS ARE SOUNDING, DO NOT CALL 911! GO INSIDE AND TURN ON TV, RADIO, SCANNER OR ALL HAZARDS WEATHER RADIO. The Sirens are tested on the 1st day of each month on clear days.

If you have an amateur radio, scanner, all hazards (weather) radio, or digital TV converter that needs programming contact Jack at:

scannerjack1@juno.com
326-651-4840

Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW - Emergency Coordinator

Tom Green County ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 MHz (PI 162.2) (N5SVK). The net can also be reached by Echolink at WB5VRM-R or Node 412402. Other frequencies are announced on Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm.

ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
3/7	KD5URW	12	10 min	444.350
3/14	KD5URW	7	9 min	444.350
3/21	KD5URW	11	15 min	444.350
3/28	KD5URW	15	19 min	444.350

Activities

Total # of ARES members: 20 Change since last month: 0
NTS liaison is maintained with the: West Texas Section
Total number of ARES operations this month: 8
Total Man hours: 116.0

The Tom Green County ARES group held their monthly meeting on 17 Mar 2011 with a good meeting discussing the antenna projects for the city/county Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The group discussed the workday that we had on 5 March 11, in completing the installation and reworking all of the coax for all of the VHF/UHF antennas and the coax for the HF antenna. There were 6 members who helped on this part of the pro-

ject that day: Gary/KE5TXL, Hughbert/KC5NPC, Les/K7PTZ, Mike/KD5URW, Marcus/KF5GLC, and Jon/W5LRC. We would like to thank them for a job well done.

Discussed another workday to finish the installation of the HF antenna on the EOC and discussed the many different options on the installation of the antenna on the roof. The next workday was set for 26 March 2011 to finish the project.

With time permitting, the group reviewed other agenda items and some training dates for group training coming up in the future. The group had a good discussion and an overview of the project we have been working on. As part of the HSMM-MESH project, that we have been working on, for the past several months, the group reviewed dish antenna designs that Marcus (KF5GLC) had brought to the meeting.

We discussed the building designs he had done and what it would take to expand on the designs and on the mounting of them onto different area locations that we are looking at using. We reviewed additional information on the testing and programming of the equipment that will be used as part of the groups HSMM-MESH project.

The group met on 26 March 2011 to work on finishing the re-installation of all of the antennas after the EOC re-roofing project. The group worked on the installation of the HF antenna and all of the support units for the antenna at the EOC. There were 9 members who helped on this part of the project that day: Gary/KE5TXL, Hughbert/KC5NPC, Les/K7PTZ, Mike/KD5URW, Marcus/KF5GLC, Keynon/KB5GLC, Matt/W5MAT, Gary/W5ETJ and Martin/KF5IKN. We would like to thank all of them for a job well done.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting is set for 21 April 2011 at 7:00 PM at the San Angelo ARC club house

73s, Stay Safe and Happy DXing.

CQ DX - April 2010

de Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during April: JW; P29; P4; ZA; ZD8; XV; FM; KH8; TO2Z; OX; 9N; A25; PJ2; FJ; 5V; T3; TO2; 3A; HR; TK; 9G; JD; Note for MAY: **T6-Afghanistan DXpedition-01May thru 31May!! Has been cancelled due to unsafe conditions in country. Thank the Florida Preacher, folks!** Lots of activity on HF, noted. If you need a rig, you just missed Belton, but Dallas, and Austin are both upcoming. Get Radio-active!

Island of the Month-Beru Island—T30: Beru Island is an island located in the Kingsmill Group of the South Gilbert Islands in the Pacific Ocean and is part of the Republic of Kiribati. Beru was previously known as Eliza, Francis Island, Maria, Peroat, Peru Island or Sunday. Beru is part of a larger reef, some 15 kilometres (9 mi) long (NW-SE) and 4.75 kilometres (3 mi) wide at the widest point (NE-SW). The center of the reef is a shallow depression called Nuka Lagoon. The land mass occupies fully a third or more of the shallow reef structure and is positioned mostly towards the northeast edge of the reef. In maximum dimension the islet is 13.9 kilometres (9 mi) long, and varies in width between 0.5 km (0 mi) and 2.9 km (2 mi). The island is 96 km (60 mi) east of Tabiteuea Atoll and 426 km (265 mi) southeast of Tarawa Atoll and is located near the equator (1°20' S latitude 175.985 east longitude). The closest island to Beru is the island of Nikunau. Extensive spit development has created the nearly enclosed Tabiang Lagoon at the north end where mangroves are present. A small lagoon or barachois at the northern tip is surrounded by man-made fishponds, as is a similar feature at the south end of the islet. A 3 km (2 mi) long barachois with extensive mangroves occupies the interior south of Nuka Lagoon. A causeway is present across the inlet mouth and a landing strip is present on the interior flats. The lagoon on the island known as Nuka Lagoon has a broad passage entering it. There are two settlements on the island: Rongorongo and Tabukinberu. The island is noted for its large meeting houses (as seen on the satellite views).



Of historical significance, Beru Island was one of the many with coast watchers during WWII, both imported from New Zealand and locals trained to build and operate the radios. In 1942, the Japanese were trying to clear all foreigners from the islands, and were especially looking for “wireless operators”. The following is from one account of that time period: “The wireless operators had not been found on this visit and the commander told the native Government officials that he would return in a week's time for them. The New Zealanders, A.L. Taylor and P.C. Murray, were afraid of retaliation against the islanders if they escaped. The following week the two operators, the Catholic priest and two Chinese were taken to Tarawa.

All the Gilberts coast watching stations were silent by the end of 1942 so it was a surprise to operators at the Funafuti station when they began to receive a signal from Beru on 21st December 1943. Falavi, a Tuvaluan posted to Beru as a radio operator, took a battery radio receiver from the local school and the remains of the smashed equipment the Japanese had left. He amazed everyone by making a transmitter and receiver and was able to make regular broadcast. He was decorated for outstanding service.”

Surprisingly there is an airport on the island and it can be seen in the NASA views of the island/atoll, <http://www.oceandots.com/pacific/gilbert/beru.php>. It can be

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Recent Programs

May '10	Q codes, Band Limits, Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
June '10	Field Day
July '10	National Weather Service, Dr. Steve Lyons
August '10	EME, Glenn Miller/AA5PK
September '10	Kenwood TS-570, Charlie Royall/WB5T
October '10	SAARC's 86th Birthday Party
December '10	Eatin' Meetin'
March '11	Nets, Times, Frequencies, Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC
April '11	Skywarn. Dr. Steve Lyon, NWS

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viewed in enough detail to make out the houses, trees, and in one section what looks like a car. "**Beru Island Airport (IATA: BEZ, ICAO: NGBR)** is the airport serving Beru Island. The airport is located in the south of the island and is served by Air Kiribati and Coral Sun Airways, each of them featuring a small range of domestic destinations from Beru." There are photos associated with the Google Maps at this site: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=-1.330,+175.985+%28Beru,+Gilbert+Islands%29&t=k&hl=en&ie=UTF8&z=15>

Tourism is not big in their economy, as the islanders have tried to maintain a simple life. References to any ham activity there are non-existent. There are no references as to the availability of fresh water, so any tourism is really limited due to lack of water, other than what they catch from rainfall.

<http://www.janeresture.com/beru/index.htm>

<http://www.oceandots.com/gmv.php?lat=-1.330&long=175.985&place=Beru>



QSL OF THE MONTH-1B1AB -Cyprus: Soyer is one of the more active Cyprus hams. See more of him at: <http://www.qrz.com/db/1B1AB>.

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

NEWS ITEM from ARRL

General Class Pool Reminder

A new General class question pool will take effect for all Element 3 General class license exams on July 1, 2011.

From Glenn Miller, AA5PK, SAARC VEC Coordinator

New 2-m Roundtable Net

A new 2-m Roundtable Net is on the air on Monday nights. Tune to 146.52 (simplex), the national simplex frequency. The net begins around 8:30 p.m. after the regular Concho Valley 2-m Net (146.94) concludes on Monday nights, The Roundtable continues after the ARES Net concludes (444.350), around 8:45 p.m. A Roundtable is a Net where each person has an opportunity to share in the order they check in.

This is a good opportunity to check out your Simplex capability and see if you need a better antenna or more power.

Join us on Monday nights. If you are new to Ham radio tune to 146.520 and listen in for a bit then join in the fun and conversation.

SAARC Yahoo Group is Up and Running.

This is the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club Group. All ham radio operators are welcome! Feel free to join, upload files and photos. Use this as a valuable resource to discuss and plan events, share tips and promote amateur radio and the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/saarc76902>

FCC News: FCC Launches Complete Overhaul of Website

The Federal Communications Commission announced on April 6 that it has launched a complete overhaul of its website. According to an April 6 press release from the FCC, the new website is "architected with a more intuitive user experience and the addition of Web 2.0 technologies, and improves and simplifies the FCC.gov experience for consumers, government, public safety agencies and the business community." This is the first major update to the Commission's website in 10 years. Read more at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-launches-complete-overhaul-of-website>

On the Air: Rev Up the Rookies -- the 2011 SSB Rookie Roundup Is Here!

Newly licensed amateurs will once again be the focus of attention on Sunday, April 17 as the ARRL Rookie Roundup enters its second year. Created to give the budding operator a place to learn about contesting at an easier pace, the ARRL Rookie Roundup is a six hour contest open to all amateurs who have been licensed for three years or fewer. If you were licensed in 2009, 2010 or 2011, you qualify as a Rookie. The Rookie Roundup happens three times each year: SSB in April, RTTY in August and CW in December. Read more at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/rev-up-the-rookies-the-2011-ssb-rookie-roundup-is-here>

Upcoming Hamfests

- **05/20/2011 | Dayton Hamvention.** Location: Dayton, OH Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association Website: <http://www.hamvention.org/>
- **06/10/2011 | ARRL National Convention (Ham-Com 2011).** Location: Plano, TX Sponsor: Ham-Com, Inc. & supporting clubs Website: <http://www.hamcom.org/>
- **08/05/2011 | Texas State Convention (Austin Summerfest)** Location: Austin Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>
- **10/21/2011 | West Gulf Division Convention (Texoma Hamarama)** Location: Ardmore, OK Sponsor: Texoma Hamarama Committee Website: <http://www.texomahamarama.org>

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
3/7	KB5FNK	21	21 min
3/14	KD5SBE	20	20 min
3/21	KB5FNK	14	15 min
3/28	KD5FNK	22	22 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 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 - Ralph Stout/KA5ULE
Vice President - Matt Healy/W5MAT
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - Mike Dominy/KD5URW
Activities Manager - Tom Austin/K4OTM
Grounds Chairman - Marcus Oquin/KF5GKC
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: 4/14/11
PROGRAM: DR. STEVE LYON, NWS
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE