

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

August 2008

President's Message

by Joe Kent/W5JBK



These last few months of 2008 may prove to be some of the busiest of the year. We will be manning a Special Event Station commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Butterfield Overland Mail to be held at Grape Creek on the 20th of September. Details, as well as a copy of the certificate, can be found on our web page and your participation is solicited. I believe this will be a real fun event and the ultra lite fly-in should prove interesting.

We are planning another Special Event station to coincide with the SAARC 84th anniversary celebration to be held at the clubhouse the 11th of October. The addition of the Special Event Station should prove to be fun.

David Behrend/KD5FNK is coordinating our participation in the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) this year. Locally, the event will be held October 18 and 19 at the clubhouse.

We also plan to participate in SKYWARN Recognition Day this year with another Special Event Station. This event will be held December 6 at the National Weather Service office near Mathis Field. As you can see, there will be numerous opportunities for our club members to participate and I encourage each of you to do so.

I have appointed a couple of our members to new positions within the club. David Lewis/W5DLL is our Goodwill Ambassador and Buddy Parker/KD5SBE is our Information Officer.

Meeting Minutes

by Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

Meeting Minutes - August 14, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President Joe Kent/W5JBK on August 14, 2008 at 1933 hours.

Introductions were made with 12 members and 4 visitors present. Three of the visitors became members.

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

Old Business

Mike Dominey/KD5URW is hoping to obtain material need to weld on the trailer for the tower. He will advise us of progress at our next meeting.

The Boy Scout Jamboree on The Air (JOTA) will be held October 18 & 19 2008. We will need some operators that weekend to help out. David Behrend/KB5FNK will be representing SAARC for this event. There will be more information provided at the next meeting.

New Business

Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ informed that his church, Victory Christian Center, has donated 50 folding chairs and 8 tables to our club.

President Joe Kent/W5JBK presented Certificates to Gary Pittman/KE5TXL and Ralph Stout/KA5ULE for donations and help provided during Field Day.

Joe appointed Buddy Parker Public Information Officer (PIO) for our club.

Good of the Order

There was a drawing for a pocketknife and Ralph Stout/KD5ULE was the winner. There was a drawing for a package of cable ties and Mark Gregory/KE5AMA won those. The drawing for Split-the-Pot netted \$9.50 for the winner Ralph Stout/KA5ULE and the club. Ralph gave \$10.00 back to the club. Thank you Ralph!

The program after the meeting will be a tour through the City-County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1957 hours. The next regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be September 11, 2008 at 1930 hours at the clubhouse.

Upcoming Hamfests & Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
4 Oct 2008	HamEXPO, Bell County Expo Center	Belton, TX	www.beltonhamexpo.org
10-11 Oct 2008	Paris Texas Hamfest, Red River Valley Fairgrounds	Paris, TX	www.paristexasradio.com
10 Jan 2009	San Antonio Amateur Radio Fiesta, Schertz Knights of Columbus Hall	Schertz, TX	http://w5sc.org/swapfest.htm
13-14 Mar 2009	Green Country Hamfest, Inc., Claremore Expo Center	Claremore, OK	http://greencountryhamfest.org

Brady, TX Special Event Station 08/30/08 by Gary Chaffin/W5E9J

On 8/30/08 Joe/W5JBK and I attended the Brady, TX 35th Annual World Championship Goat Cookoff and visited with some of the Heart of Texas Operator's Group (HOTHOG) hams at their Special Event Station. We thoroughly enjoyed the visit, chowed down on some fine barbeque ribs and picked up some valuable operating tips from the veteran operators. In the first picture below, Rick Melcer/N5KAO is operating and Dan Hinman/WM5C is logging. In the second photo Robert Duus/W5RGD (red shirt) is surveying the lunch spread. Can you guess the "mystery operator" in the last picture? They were using a G5RV strung from an army surplus 30' mast and did quite well. We got a little wet at the last but all-in-all had a very enjoyable visit. Rick said there were 150 entrants for the goat cookoff; up from just a handful when the event began. Thanks Rick, Robert and Dan for your generous hospitality! You can find them on the web @ www.hothog.org.



Emergency Communications EmComm by Mike Domy/ KD5URW

In last month's EmComm discussion, we indicated it's that time of year again - severe storm and hurricane season preparation. As many of you know by now, we have already had a few severe storms and there will almost certainly be more to come in the next few weeks or months. We have all heard this about Texas weather, "if you don't like it, wait a few minutes and it will change". Mother Nature is that way, it seems, and there are many who will testify to the fact.

So what will I talk about this month? This month, we are going to talk a little about the Amateur Radio Service and its role as part of Emergency Communications - EmComm.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) definition of the Amateur Service is "A radio communication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs. That is, duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest." Amateur Radio operators, licensed by the FCC, can be found in every corner of the US. They use Amateur Radio as a hobby and contact to other Amateur Radio operators halfway around the world or even across town! "Hams", as we are called, are known for their public service activities. We have helped with bicycle races, fun runs, March of Dime walks as well as assisting numerous area organizations, city and county functions and much, much more. We are there to help our communities in any way we can. When we are called upon, we respond.

Amateur radio operators are a community resource because....when trouble strikes, "HAMS" are there to assist! Traditionally, trained volunteer Amateur Radio operators have provided communication support services to government and private relief agencies in times of major local and national disasters. Amateur Radio operators are organized through two primary organizations: Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES). In addition to assisting local authorities and emergency relief operations with radio communication services, amateurs organize "health and welfare" networks to relay messages from victims in the affected area to loved ones in other locations.

With the vast network of VHF/UHF repeaters in the United States and Canada, we can cross-link to just about anywhere. With the expansion of Echolink, IRLP, Winlink 2000, APRS and other amateur radio based programs, we can provide added communication support services to these and other agencies in times of major local and national disasters. Amateur Radio emergency communications, in the wake of the 9/11, made the country aware of the emergency communications Amateur Radio operators have been providing for decades.

Even before the WTC attack, ARRL was already working on preparations for the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses, through the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Programs which help train Amateur Radio operators how to best use their skills in emergencies. These courses have trained thousands of amateurs and are the reason why the Department of Homeland Defense called Amateur Radio operators the "first of the first responders". That is why the ARRL is now an official affiliate of the Citizen Corps, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security to enhance public preparedness and safety.

Amateur Radio is not only a way for us to enjoy a great hobby, but also to be prepared to react as a first responder for emergency communications when called. We can all be part of programs like ARES and RACES. If you wish to be part of one or both of them, please check out the San Angelo ARC club web site: www.w5qx.org for more information.



Scanner Jack's Corner by Jack Roberts/KB5TMY



Logic Trunked Radio (LTR). This protocol was developed In1978 by the EF Johnson company and is still in use, primarily by private companies.

Military Communications Acronyms:

ACC – Air Combat Command (Previously TAC and SAC)
 AWACS - Airborne Warning and Control System
 EAM - Emergency Action Message
 DEW - Distant Early Warning
 GCCS - Global Command Control System
 Looking Glass - USAF Command Post - Same as TACAMO
 TACAMO – Take Charge and Move Out US Navy Command Post
 NECAP National Emergency Command Airborne Post
 NORAD North American Aerospace Defense
 MAC Military Airborne Command
 TAC Tactical Air Command (Now ACC)

These are the current ACC frequencies:

MIL Comm

ACC (Previously SAC and TAC)

AM Mode

138.475
 140.175
 140.200
 140.400 Wingman
 149.100 Wingman
 311.000 Primary Sentry AWACS
 321.000 Secondary Sentry AWACS
 342.200 Sentry AWACS
 258.200
 266.500
 271.500
 271.900
 288.600
 289.700
 292.000
 300.600
 149.525 Wingman
 381.300 Primary
 280.500
 283.700
 306.600
 343.000
 349.400 AMC
 376.200
 382.500
 384.900

Air to Air Refueling—Dyess AFB, TX

TRACK AR113E

283.900 Primary
 260.300 Secondary
 360.800 Contact
 353.700 Exit

TRACK AR113W

289.900 Primary
 260.300 Secondary
 269.400 Contact
 343.600 Exit

TRACK AR114

289.700 Primary
 260.200 Secondary
 360.800 Contact
 343.600 Exit
 382.500
 384.900

CQ! DX de WB5ZAM



Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during September: V3; T2; XU; PJ2; P4; T8; ZK; KH0; FG; A35; JW; E5; 5R; FR/G; CN; A25; 4O; V4.

Island of the Month- Crozet Islands FT8W: Lying in the extreme southern part of the Indian Ocean, the Crozet Islands were first discovered by the expedition of Marc-Joseph Marion du Fresne, a French explorer, who landed on January 24, 1772 on Île de la Possession, claiming the archipelago for France.

He named the islands after his second-in-command Jules Crozet (He had already named Marion Island after himself). Omitting tiny satellite islets and rocks, there are six islands (two of them rather island groups), mostly volcanic. The islands are Pig Island (Cochon) Penguin Island (Pingouins) Apostle Island (Apotres) Possession Island, East Island and Crozet. The islands lie at S46 25 E51 59. Highest point is Mont Marion Dufresne at 3445



feet. Weather is balmy at 41F to 64F all year, with 80 inches of rain annually (300 of 365 days) or the year, and 60 to 80 mph winds that howl over the treeless terrain, for over 100 days of the year.

In the early 19th century, the islands were often visited by sealers, to the extent that the

seals had been nearly exterminated by 1835. Subsequently, whaling was the main activity around the islands, especially by the whalers

from Massachusetts. In 1841 there were dozen whaler ships around the islands. Within a couple of years this had increased to twenty from the United States alone. Such exploitation was short-lived, and the islands were rarely visited for the rest of the century. The islands remoteness makes their waters easy prey for fishermen and whalers who do not see the islands as a Sanctuary/Preserve. Their overfishing has reduced the populations of some of the smaller sized fish populations so much, that the other species that rely on the fish are also being decimated. The French Navy and Green Peace now regularly sail the waters looking to disrupt these fishing and whaling operations.

Shipwrecks occurred frequently at the Crozet Islands. The British sealer, *Princess of Wales*, sank in 1821, and the survivors spent two years on the islands. The *Strathmore* was wrecked in 1875. In 1887, the French *Tamaris* was wrecked and her crew stranded on Île des Cochons. They tied a note to the leg of an Albatross, which was found seven months later in



Fremantle. Alas, the crew was never recovered. Because shipwrecks around the islands were so common, for some time the Royal Navy dispatched a ship every few years to look for stranded survivors. The Crozet Islands have been a nature reserve since 1938. Introduction of foreign species (mice, rats, and subsequently cats for pest control) has caused severe damage to the original ecosystem. The pigs that had been introduced on Île des Cochon and the goats brought to Île de la Possession—both as a food resource—have been exterminated.

The sole human inhabitants are at the French Scientific station on Possession Island and from here the infrequent Ham Radio DX-peditions are allowed to operate.

See wikipedia for more: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crozet_Islands

OSL OF THE MONTH-ZU6Y: Here is Mitchell Mynhardt, 11 years old operating from Eddeen, South Africa.

See you on the bands chasing dx. 73 de WB5ZAM.



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
4 Aug	KB5FNK	14	13 Min
11 Aug	KB5FNK	15	16 Min
18 Aug	KB5FNK	14	11 Min
25 Aug	KB5FNK	20	18 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		
147.06+	San Angelo	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

Around the Town

By LaRae Kent/KC5KXY

Sharon Mecklenburg's dad has been ill and they have been spending some time in New Mexico to be near him. We wish him well and a speedy recovery. Sharon is the wife of Ron/KD5WXJ.

Janet Miller continues to improve but must undergo another surgery in the near future. Our thoughts and prayers are with her as well. Janet is the wife of Glenn/AA5PK.



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Get all the latest club news on the
World Wide Web at www.w5qx.org

2008 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/W5JBK
Vice President/Special Events - Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ
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

Appointed Positions:

Information Officer - Buddy Parker/KD5SBE
Goodwill Ambassador - David Lewis/W5DLL

SAARC Monthly Meetings: 2nd Thursday,
1930, clubhouse, 5513 Stewart Lane

Annual Dues: \$20, Sr. & Jr. \$10

The Kilo-What: Edited by Gary/W5ETJ at 949-
0186 or email gchaffin@gmail.com

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



NEXT MEETING: 9/11/2008

MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE