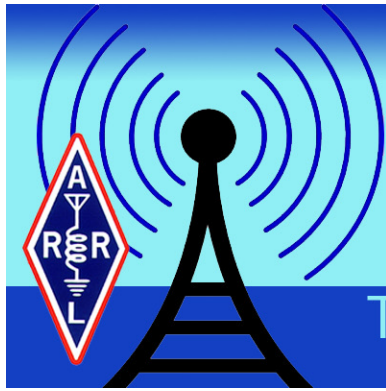


December 2016



THE eKiloWHAT

In a New Direction by David W. Wolfe

The San Angelo Amateur Radio Club is going through changes. Change is necessary and most of the time, for the better. Previous officers mismanaged the club and some previous members continuing to spread rumors about the club.

I will quickly address these issues. The previous members in question are not currently active, and those incidents they refer to happened over a year ago. The current members want to put these incidents in the past and leave them there. These issues are no longer relevant to the club's direction.

The current officers are taking steps to ensure the club's future. There will be an official vote on new bylaws at the club's regular meeting in January. Almost everything in the by-laws will be up for vote, including the club's official name.

Official Call for Vote on By-Laws by David W. Wolfe

The San Angelo Amateur Radio Club officers completely rewrote the club's By-Laws. The By-Laws need to reflect the club's new image and direction. The e-mail accompanying this "Kilo-What" has a link to the ballot in pdf form and a link to an online survey for the ballot. Members attending the club meetings in December and January may request a hard-copy of the new By-Laws and ballot to vote.

For each change, the ballot includes the old by-law, revised by-law, and a space for members to accept the new by-law as written, accept with changes with space provided for write-ins, or disapprove.

Only members renewing for 2017 and new paid members for 2017 are eligible to vote. Both the online survey and written ballots will ask your name and call-sign to verify membership. The online survey will remain open until the January 12th club meeting. Results from voting will be quickly published in the Kilo-What immediately following the January club meeting.

Here is a brief overview of proposed changes:

We envision this as not only re-imagining the club, but a re-imagining of the club. There are some exciting developments happening within both the club and ARES group that will greatly impact services we can offer during a disaster. I won't go into details here, but suffice to say these developments make the club relevant to a younger membership while maintaining the do-it-yourself, can-do attitude of older members.

We encourage everyone who has an interest in amateur radio to come out and see our current club projects. This club is open to all amateur operators, including those previous members who spread gossip. We will not hold grudges against our fellow amateurs, but we are disappointed they talk behind our backs about club business when they are not active and therefore do not really know the truth.

- Club officers will have standard operating procedures, assisting them with their duties.
 - Three primary officers will be voted on; the remaining board will become volunteer positions.
 - There will be an order of succession in the event one of three primary officers cannot or will not perform their duties.
 - Relationships with the ARES Group and other entities will be clearly defined.
 - Overall financial procedures will be clearly defined.
- Let me say one last thing about the online survey. The service I used, www.allcounted.com does not have an option to remove response numbers. As such, you will see extra numbers on each response that will not be part of the final document. I used the section symbol § to separate response numbers from the actual section number. Please follow the link in the e-mail accompanying this newsletter.
- Please take care in considering these new by-laws. The future of the club depends on participation from its members.

Local VHF/UHF Nets

The Concho Valley 2m Net meets on the 146.94/34 repeater Monday evenings at 7:00 PM. The net recently moved to 7:00 PM to allow more participation. We invite all amateurs to check-in.

The Concho Valley ARES Group Net meets on the 146.94/34 repeater Monday evenings at 7:30 PM. The net recently moved to the 146.94 repeater at 7:30 PM to allow more participation. All amateurs interested in Emergency Services may check-in.

Net reports have been somewhat spotty for the last few months. Rather than publishing incomplete reports, I've chosen to omit net reports for this issue.

2016 SAARC Officers:

President: David Behrend/KB5FNK
 Vice-President: Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC
 Secretary/Treasurer: David Wolfe/KA5VTG
 Activities Manager: David Sidell/
 Emergency Coordinator: Ken Grimm/KG5BPY
 Grounds Chairman: Ralph Stout/KA5ULE

Appointed Positions:

SAARC Trustee: Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ
 Registered Agent: Charlie Campbell/KC5EZZ
 Public Information Officer: Matt Healy/W5MAT

Meetings:

2nd Thursday at 7:30 PM at the clubhouse

Clubhouse address:

5513 Stewart Lane, Mathis Field, San Angelo

Contact us online:

Website: www.w5qx.org
 Facebook: SJTAmateurRadioClub • TGC.ARES
 Yahoo Group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/saarg76903/info>

or by US Postal Service:

P.O. Box 4002, San Angelo, 76902-4002

Concho Valley Open Repeaters

Output	CTCSS	Location (link)	Call
2 Meters			
145.27-	88.5	San Angelo	W5QX
146.88-	88.5	San Angelo	K5CMW
146.94-	88.5	San Angelo	KC5EZZ
147.06+	None	San Angelo	N5DE
147.30+	88.5	San Angelo	N5SVK
146.62-	114.8	Brady->KD5FUN	AA5JM
146.90-	162.2	Brady	KC5EZZ
147.36+	114.8	Brady (Echolink)	
147.39+	114.8	Eden->AA5JM	KD5FUN
146.72-	100.0	Eldorado	KC5EZZ
146.82-	None	Ozona (442 MHz cross band)	K5SPE
147.34+	88.5	Robert Lee	KC5EZZ
70 centimeters			
441.750+	162.2	San Angelo (Echolink)	KC5EZZ
442.250+	162.2	San Angelo (6m cross band)	W5RP
444.350+	162.2	San Angelo (Echolink)	N5SVK
444.500+	162.2	San Angelo (Echolink)	
444.550+	None	San Angelo	KG5CNG
444.6625+	CC1	San Angelo	KA3IDN
442.300+	162.2	Big Lake	N5SOR
444.875+	162.2	Brady (Tx weather)	N5KAO
443.825+	None	Eldorado	N5QHO
444.225+	162.2	Robert Lee	KC5EZZ
6 meters			
53.630-	88.5	San Angelo (70cm x-band)	N5SVK

Information compiled from www.repeaterbook.com and www.artscipub.com. For updates, contact David W. Wolfe at dwwolfe67@gmail.com.

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Publication Info:

The "eKilo-What" is the official newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club (SAARC). The club publishes it on a monthly basis to inform radio amateurs of club activities.

CHRISTMAS EATIN' MEETIN'
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 7:00 PM
CATFISH CORNER
1313 W. BEAUREGARD AVE.

Officer Elections

The following people accepted nominations for 2017 officer positions:

President David Behrend/KB5FNK
Vice-president Johanna Augustine/KE5PNP
Secretary-Treasurer David W. Wolfe/KA5VTG
Emergency Coordinator Ken Grimm/KG5BPY
Public Information Officer Matt Healy/W5MAT

These positions are currently unopposed. All other positions are vacant. We will have a ballot prepared for write-in candidates at the December Eatin' Meetin'.

Ham of the Year

We currently have no nominations for Ham of the Year. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact one of the club officers with short bullet points outlining the reasons a particular person should receive the award. We will announce selection at the December Eatin' Meetin'.

SCANNER JACK'S CORNER



“Scanner” Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

“Scanner” Jack Roberts has left San Angelo and returned to his hometown. If you would like to contact him, his e-mail address is scanner-jack1@juno.com, and his mailing address is:

“Scanner” Jack Roberts
609 W. Hanna St.
Wolfe City, Texas 75469-3367

Network Operations 2

by David W. Wolfe

In last issue's column on Net Operating Procedures, I pointed out a few sloppy practices. I've heard some improvement on our Monday night nets, but I still hear some operators continuing sloppy practices. I know they're hard habits to break, but our professionalism, or lack thereof, shows.

I've done some research on nets from other areas and found the practice of saying THIS IS and allowing the repeater to drop before giving your call-sign is pretty common. I still don't believe this helps to avoid doubles, but I'll not criticize anyone for continuing this practice.

For this article, I'll address the preamble or introduction and some common courtesies on the nets.

The net control station (NCS) announces the preamble or introduction to begin the net. Another practice common on other nets is to go on-air about one or two minutes before the net start time, announce yourself, ask if the frequency is in use and ask people to stand by for the net.

At the start time, the NCS announces the net, meeting time, authorized participants and overall guidelines for check-ins. Some other items in the introduction include announcing an alternate frequency, expressing appreciation to the repeater operator, and a reminder on handling emergency traffic during the net.

It is customary for stations checking in to a net to remain on frequency at least 15 minutes after check-in or until released by NCS. Since our nets are frequently less than 15 minutes, all stations should remain on frequency until the net is closed.

I'll use our Concho Valley 2-Meter Net script as an example of net structure. The 2-Meter Net is open to all amateur operators and any operator can be net control. It is not solely for club members, however club officers may pass announcements of upcoming programs and club activities.

An example NCS script follows.

 This is KA5VTG. Good evening everyone and welcome to the Concho Valley 2 meter net. This net meets every Monday at 7 PM local time on the 146.94 repeater for the purpose of exchanging information in the amateur radio community. I invite all amateurs to participate.

My call-sign is Kilo-Alpha-Five-Victor-Tango-Golf and I'll be your Net Control Operator this evening. In the event of a repeater failure, this net will change frequency to the 145.27 repeater. Before I take regular check-ins, do I have any general net messages, please respond with your call-sign only.

[NCS will acknowledge general net messages and allow stations to pass traffic.]

This is KA5VTG with the Concho Valley 2 meter net. At this time, I'd like to acknowledge any first-time check-ins, new amateur operators, and call-sign changes. Please respond with your call-sign only.

[NCS acknowledges any stations checking in. For new people, NCS will ask your name, where you come from, what brings you to San Angelo, etc.]

This is KA5VTG with the Concho Valley 2 meter net. I'll now take regular check-ins, please space your calls and try to avoid doubles.

[Every 4 or 5 calls, NCS should acknowledge those stations checking in. After check-ins, the NCS continues...]

This is KA5VTG with the Concho Valley 2 meter net. I'll now repeat the general announcements we had at the beginning.

[NCS repeats announcements.]

I'll now pause one last time for any last-minute check-ins.

[NCS acknowledges check-ins.]

This is KA5VTG. I'll now close this session of the Concho Valley 2 meter net. We had 10 check-ins and the net lasted 10 minutes. Thank you for participating and have a good evening. I'll now return the repeater to general amateur use. This is KA5VTG, out.

 This is a typical example of how to run a net. The ARES Net is similar, with the primary difference being check-ins are taken by quadrant.

Bob Heiser/W7IKT recently suggested we have a roundtable session during the net. I remember a time when this was a fairly common practice during the Concho Valley 2 Meter Net and I would like to see us get back to it. After all, we are in the business of exchanging information. It might be a new rig, antenna design, the latest club activities, or maybe just rag-chewing about our day. So, don't be surprised if NCS asks for a little more than just "in and out, please."