

# *The eKilo -What*

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

January 2011

## **President's Note de Ralph Stout/KA5ULE**

Hello and Happy New Year to everyone!

I don't know about you, but I'm ready for another great year for the SAARC.

Here are a few thoughts for this year.

We would like to have anyone familiar with the radios to do a program for the rest of the membership and show us how to operate them. If not a meeting, how about on a Saturday?

The club won an antenna analyzer last year in the ARRL membership drive, but I understand we had one already. Someone borrowed it and forgot to bring it back. Anyone know where it is?

If you are not currently on the reflector, I would look into it. It is a great way to share information. You can find details on W5QX.org

Make sure you pay your dues this year, \$20 per year or pay for 4 years and get the 5th free! \$10 for associate membership (non voting) or if you are over 65 years young. Membership dues for XYL's are also only \$10

You may even consider renewing your ARRL membership through the club. The club benefits from that.

Lastly, dust off that handheld or mobile radio. First, we can id on the repeater when we are driving around. I would like to see some of our newest hams to take advantage of the repeaters and communicate with others here.

Lastly, it has been a while since we had a fox hunt. Well, one is coming up. So get ready! Attend the meetings and get on the Monday night nets. Details on the fox hunt are being worked out now.

**73 and see you on the air and at the meetings.**

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## **Upcoming Hamfests**

- 01/14/2011 | [Cowtown Hamfest](#). **Location:** Fort Worth, TX **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Lockheed Martin Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://www.cowtownhamfest.org>
- 01/22/2011 | [San Antonio Amateur Radio Fiesta](#). **Location:** Schertz, TX **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** San Antonio Radio Club **Website:** <http://w5sc.org>
- 02/12/2011 | [Williamson County Amateur Radio Club](#). **Location:** Georgetown, TX **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Williamson County Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://www.wcarc.com>
- 03/12/2011 | [9th Annual IARC Hamfest](#). **Location:** Irving, TX **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Irving Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://www.irvingarc.org/iarchamfest.html>
- 03/19/2011 | [West Texas Section Convention \(56th Annual St. Patrick's Day Hamfest\)](#). **Location:** Midland, TX **Type:** ARRL Convention **Sponsor:** Midland Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://hamfest.w5qgg.org>
- 04/02/2011 | [HamEXPO](#). **Location:** Belton, TX **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Temple Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://www.beltonhamexpo.org/>
- 06/10/2011 | [ARRL National Convention \(Ham-Com 2011\)](#). **Location:** Plano, TX **Type:** ARRL Convention **Sponsor:** Ham-Com, Inc. & supporting clubs **Website:** <http://www.hamcom.org/>

## Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

Scanner Jack's Corner will return in April.

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

December ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
12/6	KD5URW	11	16min	444.350
12/13	KD5URW	12	14 min	444.350
12/20	KD5URW	7	12min	444.350
12/27	KD5URW	7	14 min	444.350

### Tom Green County ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 MHz (Pl 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.

### Activities

Total # of ARES members: 19 Change since last month: 0  
 NTS liaison is maintained with the: West Texas Section  
 Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 5  
 Man hours: 92.0  
 Total number of ARES operations this month: 5  
 Total Man hours: 92.0

The Tom Green County ARES group held their monthly meeting on 16 Dec 2010 with a good meeting discussing the new roofing project for the city/county Emergency Operations Center (EOC). A

ll of the HF, VHF and UHF support antennas that where on the roof, had to be taken down off the roof before Thanksgiving to make room for the contractor to come in and do a complete reroofing project on the EOC.

The group discussed the projected time frame on when to look at reinstalling the antennas back up on the EOC in January, after the reroofing project was completed.

With time permitting, the group reviewed other agenda items and talked about another work day at the EOC and some training dates for training with the WebEOC at the EOC.

The group had a good discussion about the upcoming HSMM-MESH project that we have been working on for the past several months.

After the main meeting, the group started testing and programming several of the pieces of equipment that will be used as part of the groups HSMM-MESH project.

January will be a busy month for us, with Skywarn training coming up, working on reinstalling the antennas back up on the EOC, and working on the groups project.

The good old rain we had just before Christmas was good to a point, but we still have the good old West Texas dry weather to contain with and that does mean the threat of more Wildland fires in the area.

Wish to say a big Thanks to all who attend the meetings and wish to invite anyone to our meetings to see what the Tom Green County ARES is all about.

The next TGC-ARES group meeting is set for 20 January 2011 at 7:00 PM at the San Angelo ARC club house.

**73s, Stay Safe and Happy DXing.**

## CQ DX - January 2010

de Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

**Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during January:** XW; YS; TG9; 9L; 9Q; H40; T8; CN; V5; JD1; VK9L; ZF; 8Q; 3B8; VP9; H44; DX0DX—Spratley \*\*rare\*\*\*\*; XU; VK9N; V31; J7; P40; 6W; V3; 3B9; 5R; 9H; 4S7; 8P; YJ; VP8O; PJ6; HI9; PJ2. Note: CQ 160m cw contest—Jan 28-30<sup>th</sup>.

**Island of the Month-ZD8-Ascension Island (last covered in Jan 1998):** Ascension Island is an isolated volcanic island in the equatorial waters of the South Atlantic Ocean, around 1,600 kilometers (994 mi) from the coast of Africa, and 2,250 kilometers (1,398 mi) from the coast of South America which is roughly midway between the horn of South America and Africa. It is politically organized and governed as part of the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha from the capital Saint Helena, which is 1,287 kilometers (800 mi) to the southeast, and the territory also includes the "remotest populated archipelago" on earth, the sparsely populated Tristan da Cunha archipelago some thirty degrees farther south — about half the way to the Antarctic Circle. The Island is named after the day of its recorded discovery, Ascension Day, and is located at 7°56'S 14°22'W / 7.933°S 14.367°W / -7.933; -14.367, about as far south of the equator as tropical Venezuela is to its north. Historically, it has played a role as an important safe haven and coaling station to mariners and for commercial airliners during the days of international air travel by flying boats and during World War II was an important naval and air station, especially providing antisubmarine warfare bases in the Battle of the Atlantic and throughout the war. Ascension Island was garrisoned by the British Admiralty on 22 October 1815. The island is the location of Wideawake Airfield, which is a joint facility of the United States Air Force and the Royal Air Force and the BBC World Service Atlantic Relay Station. The island was used extensively by the British military during the Falklands War. Ascension Island hosts one of five ground antennas (others are on Kwajalein Island, Diego Garcia, Colorado Springs and Hawaii) that assist in the operation of the Global Positioning System (GPS) navigational system. Ascension Island, as a part of the wider overseas territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, does not yet have its own flag or coat of arms. The Union Flag and Royal coat of arms of the United Kingdom are used instead. The Spanish explorer João da Nova, sailing for Portugal, is believed to be the first to discover the island (in 1501), but he did not report it. When in 1503 Afonso de Albuquerque, a Portuguese navigator sighted the island on Ascension Day in the church calendar, he named it for that day. Dry and barren, it



had little appeal for passing ships except for collecting fresh meat. Mariners could hunt for the numerous seabirds and the enormous female green turtles that laid their eggs on the sandy beaches. The Portuguese also introduced goats, as a source of meat for future mariners. In February 1701, HMS Roebuck, commanded by William Dampier, sank in the common anchoring spot in Clarence Bay to the northwest of the island. Some sixty men survived for two months until they were rescued. Almost certainly, after a few days they found the strong water spring in the high interior of the island, in what is



now called Breakneck Valley (there is a much smaller water source, lower on the mountain, which was named Dampier's Drip by people who probably misinterpreted Dampier's story). It is possible that the island was sometimes used as an open prison for criminal mariners, although there is only one documented case of such an exile, a Dutch ship's officer, Leendert Hasenbosch, who was set ashore at Clarence Bay as a punishment for sodomy in May 1725. The Dutchman's tent, belongings and diary were found by British mariners in January 1726; the man had probably died of thirst. Ascension Island was first inhabited in 1815, when the British garrisoned it as a precaution after imprisoning Napoleon I on Saint Helena to the southeast. On 22 October the Cruiser class brig-sloops Zenobia and Peruvian claimed the island for His Britannic Majesty King George III. The Royal Navy officially designated the island as a stone frigate, "HMS Ascension", with the classification of "Sloop of War of the smaller class". Until 2002, tourism was virtually non-existent because of the inaccessibility of

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**Recent Programs**

<b>January '10</b>	CVCOG Interoperability Data and Radio Systems, <b>Jim Koca/N5PIY</b>
<b>February '10</b>	Tour of the San Angelo Public Safety Communications Facility, <b>David Berhend/KB5FNK</b>
<b>March '10</b>	Tour of the San Angelo National Weather Station, <b>Hector Guerrero/KC5BRB</b>
<b>April '10</b>	San Angelo/TGC Emergency Management Department, <b>Ron Perry/KB5UPE</b>
<b>May '10</b>	Q codes, Band Limits, <b>Ralph Stout/KASULE</b>
<b>June '10</b>	Field Day
<b>July '10</b>	National Weather Service, <b>Dr. Steve Lyons</b>
<b>August '10</b>	EME, <b>Glenn Miller/AA5PK</b>
<b>September '10</b>	Kenwood TS-570, <b>Charlie Royall/WB5T</b>
<b>October '10</b>	SAARC's 86th Birthday Party
<b>December '10</b>	Eatin' Meetin'

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the island to transport, the absence of guest accommodation and the need for a sponsor. Limited air travel has, however, been made available in recent years to the public by the RAF, and the Georgetown Obsidian Hotel together with a number of guest cottages that have been opened. All visitors are required to obtain an entry permit before travelling. Sport fishing is the main attraction for many of the visitors. The Island also boasts what was once officially the worst golf course in the world. Located between the settlements of Two Boats village and Georgetown, the course has 18 holes and the greens are in fact 'browns', a reference to the sand and oil mix used to make them. The rest of the course is made up of volcanic ash and rock.

There is no indigenous or permanent population on the island, although around 880 people live there as of 2010: 696 from Saint Helena (who are British citizens), 106 British citizens from the UK, 70 US citizens and 12 of other nationalities. RAF Ascension Island is



made up of 17 staff. There are five settlements, the capital being Georgetown, Cat Hill (the U.S. base), The Residency, Traveller's Hill (Wideawake, the Royal Air Force base), and Two Boats village. Additionally, there are some cottages on Green Mountain, occasionally occupied by visitors. In order to enter Ascension Island, people need the written permission of the Administrator. There is no permanent residence. A contract of employment is a requirement to stay on the island, though short term visits by tourists are possible with prior approval. The UK government has asserted that no inhabitant of Ascension Island has a "right of abode". As the local newspaper The Islander reported at the time, it is an issue that was disputed by some former Council members and some of the long-time expatriate employees. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ascension\_Island].

More images at: <http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=ascension+island&FORM=IGRE2#focal=aa4efb7cfbea5c3b4043f5fc186f92a3&furl=http%3A%2F%2Fflornadrummond.com%2FP1000717.JPG>

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=ascension+island&FORM=IGRE2#focal=aa4efb7cfbea5c3b4043f5fc186f92a3&furl=http%3A%2F%2Fflornadrummond.com%2FP1000717.JPG>

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**QSL OF THE MONTH-ZD8SIX Ascension Dx-pedition Nov 2000:** Here is a neat story by an English ham G3WOS, that made a Dx-pedition to ZD8 in 2000. Good reading and lots of pictures. <http://www.gare.co.uk/ascension/index.htm>. And here is a qsl from a BBC Relay Station Operator/Ham ZD8MH, Mike (G4DDH), from 1980.

**Radio Active Ham, Do Not Disturb, (except to bring food and water).** Are you active on the HF bands? Propagation is sporadic, but on any given morning or evening 40 meters opens worldwide (just ask Sam). A basic rig with 100 watts to a ground plane or a dipole might get you contacts from the Far East or Africa, Europe to the Caribbean or even to the far south Pacific. 15m and 20m have been on and off, but in the past month I have worked 80 countries barefoot. Energize the electrons and enliven the ether, with your call, and listen and then work some of the hams in far off places. See you on the bands chasing dx. 73 de Bill.

TO RADIO: WBSZAM  
 QTH: BBC ATLANTIC RELAY STATION, ASCENSION ISLAND, S. ATLANTIC OCEAN.  
**ZD8MH**  
 RNARS 903 G4DDH  
 CONFIRMING OUR 28.600 MHz QSO ON 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1980  
 AT 1236 GMT YOUR CW/SSB REPORT 5-5  
 TXCVR: KW 2000E REMARKS: Sorry for delay Bill  
 ANT: V3 JUNIOR  
 (TNX) PSE QSL DIRECT OR VIA BURO  
 73's MIKE HODGES

### Selected Special Events

Tried a Special Event lately. Here are some coming up this month.

- 01/22/2011 - **Road to Victory WWII Museum Open House, Jan 22, 1400Z-2100Z, WX4MC**, Stuart, FL. Martin County ARES/RACES. 14.280 14.255 EchoLink 315546. Certificate. Ron Tagg, KD4PQQ, 8629 SW Tropical Ave, Stuart, FL 34997. Also visit [roadtovictorymilitarymuseum.org](http://roadtovictorymilitarymuseum.org). [www.wx4mc.org](http://www.wx4mc.org)
- 01/29/2011 | **Kansas 150th Birthday, Jan 29, 1600Z-2100Z, KS0KS**, Olathe, KS. Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250 10.120. QSL. Dan Reed, 29545 west 152nd TER, Gardner, KS 66030.
- 01/29/2011 | **52nd anniversary of the death of Buddy Holly, Jan 29-Feb 6, 1500Z-0400Z, W5B**, Lubbock, TX. Buddy Holly Memorial. 18.150 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL. W5B, 109 N. Pontiac Ave, Lubbock, TX 79416. [www.amcrc.com/w5b](http://www.amcrc.com/w5b)
- 02/05/2011 | **Columbia Special Event Station, Feb 5, 1500Z-2100Z, W5NAC**, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. 21.350 14.250 7.250. QSL. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, 167 County Rd 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. [www.w5nac.com](http://www.w5nac.com)
- 02/06/2011 | **Thomas Edison Birthday, Feb 5-Feb 6, 1500Z-2100Z, NI8G**, Milan, OH. Thomas Edison Memorial Radio Club. 28.370 21.270 14.270 7.270. QSL. Jack Hubbard, 13113 River Rd, Milan, OH 44846. [ni8n1@yahoo.com](mailto:ni8n1@yahoo.com)
- 02/12/2011 | **Women Marines Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday and Boy Scouts of America Founded 1910, Feb 12, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Radio Operations Room. SSB 14.320 7.250 PSK31 14.070 D-STAR 012C and 2 m/70 cm SOCAL rpters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. [kk6fz@arrl.net](mailto:kk6fz@arrl.net)

## Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
12/6			min
12/13	KB5FNK	18	15 min
12/20			min
12/27			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](http://www.w5qx.org)

### 2009 SAARC Officers:

President - Ralph Stout/KA5ULE  
 Vice President - Lisa Koca/K3LLK  
 Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX  
 Emergency Coordinator - Mike Dominy/KD5URW  
 Activities Manager - Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC  
 Grounds Chairman - Joe Kent/W5JBK  
 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](mailto:vparker6@suddenlink.net)

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



**NEXT MEETING: 1/13/11**  
**PROGRAM:**  
**MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**