

New Look New Direction

This edition of *The eKiloWhat* reflects an update designed to appeal to readers and help in the mission of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club (SAARC).

With a “Pride in the Past — Faith in the Future” outlook, the club hopes to reach out to a wider audience to gain attraction for ham radio in all its aspects. Renewed efforts to use social media and the web site plus partner with the print and broadcast businesses in San Angelo and the Concho Valley are gaining traction.

Regardless of technical ability, license level, mike time, interests or anything else, the SAARC has a spot for you. We’ll even make an “Official Greeter” position for a person so inclined to serve and be a part of a growing and dynamic community organization!

We have new Facebook pages that are growing in audience, and that’s where you’ll find all kinds of interesting things about the club and ham radio in general. Search for SJTAmateurRadioClub for the SAARC page, and TGC.ARES for the Tom Green County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) page, and “Like” to be a part of!

Input and feedback for everything we are doing in all forms is encouraged and welcomed from every member and the general public. Ideas, comments, and content can be emailed to KG5BPY@gmail.net or contact any of the officers of the club (*listed on page 2*).



National Weatherperson’s Day held



A photo presentation was made to the National Weather Service in honor of their work in forecasting and documenting the weather; and to celebrate the strong bond that must exist between amateur radio and the NWS for the public safety mission of both organizations.

Shown — Hector Guerrero, emergency coordinator liaison between the city and the National Weather Service; Ken Grimm, Activities Director, San Angelo Amateur Radio Club; and Dr. Steve Lyons, San Angelo National Weather Service.

See the full story on page 6

Concho Valley Two Meter Net

This net meets every Monday night at 8:00 p.m. (2000) on 146.94/103.5 or 145.27/88.5 as an alternate repeater. All amateurs licensed to operate on that frequency are invited to participate.

*NCS = Net Control Station

Date	NCS	Check Ins	Duration (minutes)
2/2	KB5FNK	18	29
2/9	W5MAT	17	15
2/16	W5MAT	18	25
2/23	W5MAT	21	24

Concho Valley Open FM Repeaters

2 Meter

145.27- San Angelo PL 88.5
 146.88- San Angelo PL 88.5
 146.94- San Angelo PL 103.5
 147.06+ San Angelo No Tone
 147.30+ San Angelo PL 88.5
 146.72- Eldorado PL 100.00
 147.34+ Robert Lee PL 88.5
 146.90- Brady PL 162.2
 147.36+ Brady PL 114.8
 (Echo Link Node)
 147.39+ Eden PL 114.8

70 centimeters

441.750+ San Angelo PL 162.2
 442.250+ San Angelo PL 162.2
 444.225+ Robert Lee PL 162.2
 444.350+ San Angelo PL 162.2
 444.875+ Brady PL 162.2

6 Meter

53.63- San Angelo PL 88.5
 Linked to 442.25 Repeater

D-Star

444.550+ KG5CNG



SKYWARN
WEATHER.GOV

SKYWARN Storm Spotter Training coming in April – don't miss this one!

Trinity Lutheran Church

3536 YMCA Dr.

April 4th, 9 a.m. – noon

Severe weather season is fast approaching! SKYWARN is a volunteer program that consists of more than 250,000 trained severe weather spotters.

These spotters provide timely and accurate weather reports to their local National Weather Service

office. SKYWARN volunteers are an essential part of the warning process and have had a positive impact on the improvement in severe weather detection and warning lead times.

Anyone with an interest in public service and/or severe weather is encouraged to participate in the SKYWARN program.

After this training, learn how to get your FCC ham radio license with the classes coming up being offered by the SAARC!

San Angelo Amateur Radio Club Officers

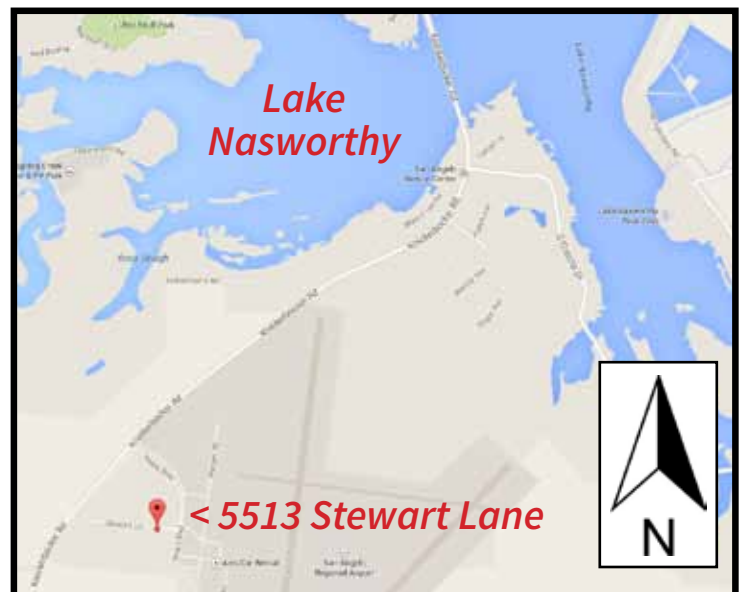
President: Hughbert Roberson/KC5NPC
 Vice President: David Behrend/KF5FNK
 Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
 Activity Director: Ken Grimm/KG5BPY
 Emergency Coordinator: Bill Hinds/KG5BQF
 Grounds Chairman: Ralph Stout/KA5ULE

Appointed Positions

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

Mailing Address

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



Club House Location

5513 Stewart Lane, Mathis Field, San Angelo, TX



Midland St. Patrick's Day Hamfest and ARRL Convention

The Midland Amateur Radio Club is pleased to announce the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Hamfest and ARRL West Texas Section Convention. The event will be held Saturday, March 14, 2015 at Midland County Horseshoe Arena which is right on I-20, take the Cottonflat Road exit. RV accommodations are available.



This is a modern facility with LOTS of parking!

There is an ARRL forum, Door Prizes, Flea Market, Snack Bar, Examinations for Amateur Radio Licenses, a Tail Gate party, and a special "Worked All States Award!"

Commemorative T-Shirts are available for \$15.00 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of this event.

We hope you'll make plans now to attend. <http://hamfest.w5qgg.org/>

Locator map: <http://www.midlandhorseshoe.com/location/>

Let's share a meal!

Come join us for a meal and some fellowship fun! The Tom Green County hams get together regularly to eat and greet and just have some fun.

The current schedule is:

Wednesday, 7:30 AM

T-Bears Café
2105 Knickerbocker Rd

Thursday, 9:00 AM

McDonald's (Wal-Mart)
5501 Sherwood Way

Saturday, 7:30 AM

T-Bears Café
2105 Knickerbocker Rd

Saturday, 9:00 AM

McDonald's (Wal-Mart)
5501 Sherwood Way

**Is it OK to
operate AM...
...after NOON?**

Upcoming Hamfests/Conventions

Date	Event	Location	Information
3/7/2015	13th Annual Hamfest	Irving, TX	www.irvingarc.org
3/14/2015	St. Patrick's Day Hamfest	Midland, TX	hamfest.w5qgg.org
3/21/2015	Weatherford Hamfest	Weatherford, TX	www.w5pc.org
3/28/2014	BVARC Greater Houston Hamfest/State Convention	Rosenberg, TX	www.houstonhamfest.org
06/12/2015	West Gulf Division Convention (Ham-Com)	Irving, TX	www.hamcom.org
07/18/2015	Tidelands Hamfest	Texas City, TX	tidelands.org
08/07/2015	South Texas Section Convention (Austin Summerfest 2015)	Austin, TX	www.austinsummerfest.org

Hamfests and Conventions are listed for Texas. Others may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>.



Tom Green County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

The Tom Green County ARES group meets the third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. (1900) of each month at the Clubhouse unless announced otherwise on the Monday net.

The Tom Green County ARES group is sponsored by the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club.

TGC-ARES gathers at the Emergency Operations Center for February meeting



The Tom Green County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergencies Services) group met at the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) for its February meeting to see the new ham radio hardware that has been installed.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer, introductions were given and then business got underway, led by the club's emergency coordinator, Bill Hinds / KG5BQF.

TGC-ARES is undergoing a revival in defining its scope and abilities, and a renewed sense of mission in service to the organizations it interfaces with.

Among the tasks it is undertaking is defining its own internal organization and helping get ARES members up to speed on what training is needed in order to be able to be of

service when the time is called.

For the National Weather Service, a member needs to be trained in FEMA NIMS 700, 100, 200 plus proper procedures and training in how to link to other stations such as Abilene, Brady, Brownwood and etc.

A basic NIMS set to acquire for new members for baseline participation in TGC-ARES activities is the 800/100 NIMS which can be taken online.

A basic skill that all ARES operators should be fluent in is how to pass messages within the National Traffic System (NTS) using ARRL radiograms. Training on this basic skill is high on the list of activities to address.

Bill will be sending a test of the text alert activation system

soon. He has been compiling each members name, phone number and service provider to be able to make this system valuable as a tool for the group.

It was noted that ham radio is very high on the state's radar: All state troopers have ham radios in their vehicles, more and more ham radio operators are being trained, and we need to mesh with what the state is doing.

Identification Badges are being created for all TGC-ARES members. These will be laminated cards that identify the bearer as a person that is trained in emergency communications, volunteering personal time, skill and equipment to serve in the public interest. We will be taking photos for these cards soon, more info to come.

Growing the group is essential to being able to adequately perform the TGC-ARES mission — the greater numbers of trained hams are available in a pool to choose from in the event of an emergency, the better we will be able to respond and operate to support the organizations served.

— Ken Grimm / KG5BPY

TGC-ARES Training Exercise date set

**The training exercise will be held on
March 21 from 11 AM to 12 PM**

**There will be an after-action meeting
at T-Bears Cafe on Knickerbocker Rd.
(inside the bowling alley) immediately
after for critique.**



Gary Chaffin / W5ETJ, points out some of the capabilities and demonstrates the operation of the new ICOM 7600 machine installed at the Emergency Operations Center at Mathis Field.

Tom Green County ARES Net

By Bill Hinds/KG5BQF - Emergency Coordinator

The Tom Green County ARES net meets every Monday night at 8:30 p.m. CST (2030) on the 444.350 MHz

(PI 162.2) frequency.

The Tom Green County ARES group greatly appreciates the use of the N5SVK machine.

Other frequencies may be announced on the Concho Valley 2-Meter Net at 8:00 p.m. (2000).

Date	NCS	Check Ins	Duration (minutes)	Frequency
2/2	KG5BQF	11	15	444.350
2/9	KG5BQF	12	10	444.350
2/16	KG5BQF	13	8	444.350
2/23	KG5BQF	11	18	444.350



Technician class scheduled

Class Schedule

Friday, May 8 • 6–9 p.m.

Saturday, May 9 • 9–Noon

Saturday, May 16 • 9–Noon

Saturday, May 23 • 9–Noon

Sunday, May 24 • 1:30 p.m.

Testing

A class for teaching material for those wishing to earn their technician class license from the FCC has been scheduled.

A New Technician Class sign up sheet will be at the 9am-noon SKYWARN training April 4 at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 3536 Trinity Lutheran Way, San Angelo. Classes will be held at SAARC Clubhouse on Stewart Lane.

San Angelo Amateur Radio Yahoo Group

Yahoo Group for all hams

By Ralph Stout KE5ULE

Join this Yahoo group made for all hams! Fully functional with pictures, calendar, files section and link section.

From the site: "Welcome to the San Angelo Amateur Radio Group!"

All ham radio operators are welcome to join the group, upload files, links and photos. Be sure to check the calendar for upcoming events.

All are welcome to use this group to discuss Amateur Radio, share tips and promote Amateur Radio in San Angelo and the surrounding area."

This is a restricted group that requires approval for membership, and messages require approval for posting.

Go here for more information and to join!

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/saarg76903/info>

West Gulf Division Awards Nominations

By Bill Roberts/W5NPR

Nominations are now open for WDG Ham of the Year and WDG Excellence Award.

Winners will be announced at HamCom 2015 at Irving. Many ham radio operators across the West Texas Section fail to get the recognition they deserve, the WDG Awards provide an opportunity for that recognition to occur.

It is requested that all Amateur Radio Clubs give thought to these upcoming awards and nominate deserving individuals.

More information will be forthcoming.

Check your Go-Kits

2015 looks like it will be an active weather year!

Keep yourself prepared for those emcomm situations, it would be a good idea to check through your Go-Kits: Charge batteries, check the radios, chargers, coax lines, portable antennas, ARES procedure booklets, frequency charts, phone contact lists printed out. Having an up to date phone list kept in your glove compartment sure is a good thing to have!

SCANNER JACK'S CORNER



**"Scanner" Jack Roberts
KB5TMY**



*Here are the frequencies
for SKYWARN amateur
radio:*

146.940
147.390
444.225

ARES frequencies:

145.270
146.430
146.500
146.520
146.550
146.880
147.300
147.340
147.450
147.570
444.350
446.000
446.500

*Here are the frequencies for all the Trunk Radio
Systems (TRS) in Tom Green County*

City of San Angelo EDACS LCN	City of San Angelo EDACS LC	AEP EDACS LCN	AEP EDACS LCN	Goodfellow AFB P25
1 855.4625	1 854.9625	2 855.6375	1 855.1625	1 138.0375
2 856.2125	2 855.2125	2 858.3125	2 855.8625	2 138.2375
3 856.4625	3 855.4875	3 859.3125	3 857.8125	3 138.7125
4 856.9375	4 855.7375	4 859.3625	4 855.4125	4 139.3375
5 857.4625	5 855.9875	5 860.3625		5 139.9375
6 858.4625	6 856.2625	6 856.3625		6 142.0375
7 859.4625	7 856.7125	7 857.3375		
8 859.9375	8 856.9875			

*TRS = Trunk Radio System EDACS = Enhanced Digital Assist Code System
LCN = Logical Channeling Number P25 = Digital Communications Mode*

HF Nets of Note *By Gary Chaffin/W5ETJ*

Net	Days	Local Time	Dial
Concho Valley Ragchew Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	0600	1900*
Concho Valley Ragchew Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	1700	3825**
7290 Traffic Net	M-T-W-T-F-S	1000-1200	7290
7290 Traffic Net	M-T-W-T-F	1300-1400	7290
Texas Traffic Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	1830-1930	3873
Central Gulf Coast Hurricane Net	S-M-T-W-T-F-S	1900-2000	3935
Texas ARES Net	Monday	1930-2000	3873
Big Bend Emergency Net	Sunday	0830-0930	3922
Texas Trader's Net	Sunday	0900-1000	7245
Concho Valley 6 M Roundtable	Sunday	2100	50.135

** Alternate frequency: 3825. ** 7212, or close, for summer months.*

National Weatherperson's Day

Great turnout and participation plus beautiful weather made the day a very enjoyable event

By Ken Grimm / KG5BPY

On February 7, 2015, the SAARC celebrated "National Weatherperson's Day" at the clubhouse with a special event station set up to honor those who work tirelessly, day in and day out, to predict the weather and work to keep our communities as safe as they can be.

We celebrate this day in February because the 5th commemorates the birth of John Jeffries, one of America's first weathermen. Jeffries was born on February 5th, 1744 and kept weather records from 1774 to 1816.

The 19 hams that attended the W5QX Special Event enjoyed burgers cooked with that special love that only Ralph Stout (KA5ULE) could give them. The baked beans, Claussen pickles, and fresh 'tater chips rounded out a meal any backyard griller would be proud of. A lot of socializing, gossip and tall tales were swapped among members.

One of the highlights of the day was the presentation to the National Weather Service, represented by Dr. Steve Lyons and Hector Guerrero (KC5BRB), of a photo of a dramatic lightning strike over Lake Nasworthy framed by the mirror-like stillness of the lake and San Angelo's famous "Twin Mountains." (see front cover)

The bond between the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, and the group it sponsors, the Tom Green County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services), the National Weather Service, and the City of San Angelo's Emergency Operations



"Scanner" Jack Roberts making HF contacts on National Weatherman's Day, February 7, 2015 at the clubhouse at Mathis Field.

Center must be strong and nourished for each to fulfill their missions in the public safety arena. That's one of the main reasons for this celebration!

The ability of ham radio to operate "off the grid," when all else fails, is essential when Mother Nature in all her wondrous power makes her presence known. The communications power of the local hams and the knowledge and expertise of the National Weather Services prognosticators make for a powerful team in serving San Angelo, the Concho Valley and Big Country areas.

We need to celebrate, we need to reflect, we need to grow. Events like this one give us that opportunity.

The SAARC and TGC-ARES certainly appreciates the participation of the National Weather Service in celebrating this event with fellowship and food, and looks forward to a continued and growing healthy relationship between our organizations.

There were 22 check-ins to the Special Event Station both HF and VHF, with most of the HF contacts made by our own famous "Scanner" Jack Roberts (KB5TMY). He gets the coveted "pat on the back" and bragging rights for the most contacts made for any event so far this year. For anyone thinking they are going to unthrone him from this perch, he says "Bring it on!" with that mischievous grin he is known for.

See you next year!

ON THE NET

www.csvhfs.org — Central States VHF Society

k5wph.org — Sun City ARC K5WPH

www.w5es.org — El Paso ARC W5ES

k5elp.com — West Texas Rptr Assn, K5ELP

www.hamradioelpaso.com — New web site in El Paso

www.bigbendarc.com — Big Bend ARC, Alpine TX

www.w5qgg.org — Midland ARC, Midland TX

K5LIB.org — Lubbock ARC, Lubbock, TX

hamradio.noaa.gov — United States Skywarn

wx.findu.com/k5wph — SCARC's WX Sta

dx.qsl.net/propagation/index.html — Flare/MUF info

spaceweather.com — Aurora, sun spots, CMEs

www.irlp.net — Internet Radio Linking Project

irlp.g4eid.co.uk/status/all_reflectors.html — Shows status of all reflectors

www.sota.org.uk — Summits on the Air

www.w5qx.org — San Angelo ARC, San Angelo, TX

www.abilenehams.org — Abilene ARC, Abilene, TX

www.orgsites.com/tx/w5wx — Panhandle ARC, Amarillo, TX

West Texas Section News

News From Around West Texas

*By Bill Roberts/W5NPR,
ARRL West Texas Section Manager*

In my last newsletter, I reported warmer than usual December temperatures, at least for the first 20 days. Over the next 30 to 40 days, that was followed by two snow storms, two ice storms and one sleet storm! The last of December and most of January was one storm after another.

My wife Suzie and I have just returned from a funeral in Dallas. The forecast indicated we might drive in rain all the way to Dallas and return. The rain started after we were seated in the funeral chapel on Saturday, rained most of the night Saturday night and for about 50 miles of travel time on Sunday morning, but did not present a real problem.

It has been a very wet start to 2015, at least in the Davis Mountains/Big Bend area of Texas.

West Texas Section Manager Nomination/ Election Scheduled

I decided earlier in the year that this would be my last term as Section Manager. I was elected for my first term in 2011, my second in 2013, and this term will expire the last day of June, 2015. In April I will celebrate my 76th birthday and have decided not to run for a third term. I have enjoyed my time as Section Manager, and the new acquaintances I have developed over the last 4 years. I just think it is time to turn the reins over to someone else.

The nomination process is underway at this time, and all nomination paperwork must be in hand at ARRL by March

Licensing Updates

Revisions to General License Question Pool

As some of you are probably aware, the FCC question pool for Amateur Radio General license exams will change effective July 1, 2015.

The new pool has been released by the Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) and is posted on its website at www.ncvec.org/ama_news_article.php?id=112.

This question pool becomes effective for all Element 3 examinations to be administered on July 1, 2015, and remains valid until June 30, 2019.

According to NCVEC's QPC Chair Roland Anders, K3RA, the General class question pool was reviewed to remove questions that have become somewhat outdated and to add others on topics that have newly entered the hobby.

6, 2015. This includes a nomination form, a 150 word statement of qualifications, and a printable picture.

I know that Ron Hardin KB5HGM/Abilene has filed nomination papers, and if there are others interested in running for Section Manager, time is short.

Again, the deadline is March 6th.

HamCom 2015 is Scheduled for June 12th-13th Irving Convention Center

HamCom 2015 is coming up on June 12th and 13th at the Irving Convention Center. Please note that this is a location change from Plano, where Hamcom had been located for the last several years, to the Irving Convention Center. I understand that the change presents an increase in space and promises to be a bigger and better event. HamCom is already the biggest hamfest in Texas and promises to be even bigger this year and in the future. Details can be found at <http://www.hamcom.org>.

Silent Keys

SK Report – Herb W. Buckley Jr., KC6EDU, El Paso, passed away on December 28th. On behalf of all of us in the West Texas Section, we pass along our condolences to the family and friends of Herb Buckley Jr.

Section Emergency Coordinator Report

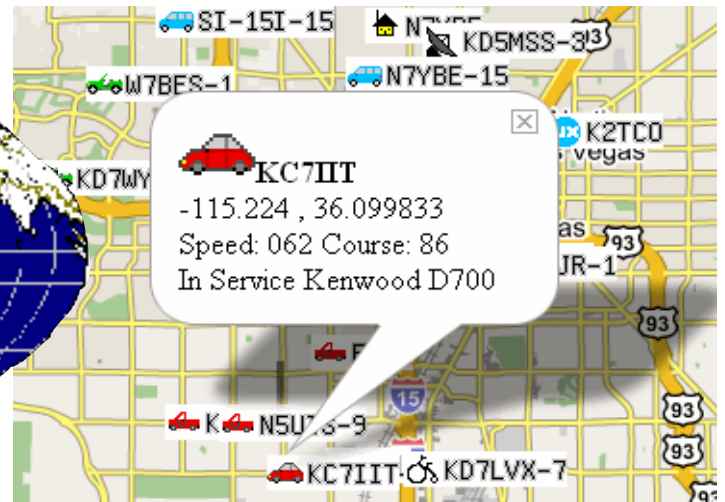
In order to save space, the Monthly Section Emergency Report for December 2014 can be seen in its entirety by scrolling to the bottom of the ARRL West Texas Section Page. Once there, click on the link for the September SEC Report.

The biggest change is the added emphasis given to digital communications.

ARRL study manual author Ward Silver, NØAX, has developed a spreadsheet cross referencing the existing general question pool with the new pool for July 2015. This will help instructors identify where they need to make changes in their General license preparation instruction. The spreadsheet is posted on the ARRL website at www.arrl.org/instructionarrl-resources.

New ARRL Student Study and Instructor Materials ARRL will be updating its student study manual, the ARRL General Class License Manual, and ARRL's General Q&A for release in April. The League is also developing materials for General license upgrade instruction, including lesson plans and PowerPoint® slides.

Source: <http://bit.ly/1zL4MiY>



APRS Trackers

By Tom Lillevig/WIJTL

For those of you who are unfamiliar with it, the APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) system was invented by a ham to allow an inexpensive, universal means to track users.

The system requires a GPS, a way to convert GPS data to packets, and a means to get those packets out to the internet. The user also has to be a licensed radio operator, primarily because the typical means to transmit the packets is by way of a radio tuned to 144.39.

Packets received on that frequency are then sent to the internet and position information can be displayed by going to <http://aprs.fi/> and typing in the appropriate call sign. There is plenty of additional information available on the internet if you want more details.

So why would we want a system like this? I suppose it could be used as a means for our spouse to make sure that we didn't make a side trip to Dairy Queen when we were supposed to be picking up Lean Cuisine. Seriously, though, there are a variety of useful applications.

One important one is to keep track of folks who are acting as weather spotters supporting the ARES net. It can help net central see where spotters are in relation to the threatening weather. Or maybe you just want your out-of-state kids or grand kids to be able to track your progress on your trip to visit them.

One of the downsides to the system is the amount of equipment required. Usually that means a radio dedicated to transmitting the packets, a serial GPS, and the little gizmo that converts the GPS data to packets.

It may also require a separate antenna or at least a means to be able to switch from packet transmission to voice transmission.

When I had a system set up, I used a handheld for the

APRS and built a simple RF switching circuit so the APRS and the voice radio could share the same antenna. The circuit would automatically switch out of voice mode when packets needed to be transmitted.

There are some mobile radios out there that have the APRS function built in, but they tend to be a bit expensive. On the other hand, a cheap handheld like a Baofeng UV5R, a packet builder like the TinyTrak 3+, and a GPS can be purchased for under \$100 total if you do some comparison shopping and build your own cables. Or, you can try out the system for much less if you have an Android smart phone.

There are a few APRS tracking apps available in the Google Play Store but I couldn't find any in the Apple iTunes Store. I checked out the Google Play Store first but then did a web search to see if anything else was out there.

The app I finally decided to install is called APRSTracker that was developed by a German ham. You can check it out at <http://aprstrack.helitron.de/> and the download is free.

While it doesn't have all of the features of something like the TinyTrak, it still does the basics pretty well and even includes some other fun things to try out. It uses the GPS built into your smart phone for position, and transmits the packets over your phone network or via wifi if your phone is connected that way.

For those who know about such things, it has a fixed algorithm for Smart Beacons that, in my experience, translates to transmissions every 30 seconds when moving – either fast or slow. You can set a longer time out for when you are stationary.

Because it doesn't use the radio network for APRS, there is no provision for digipeating. Then again, if you are somewhere out of reach of a cell phone tower, it's a moot point.

All in all, I'd recommend this app (or one like it) even if you just have it as a backup for your APRS radio tracker.



Meeting Minutes

SAARC Minutes February 12th, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Hughbert Robinson, KC5NPC at 7:30pm.

Chuck Dixon, K5QZQ led us in the Pledge. Introductions followed the Pledge.

Ron Mecklenburg, KD5WXJ made the motion to accept the January Minutes as presented in the e-KiloWhat, seconded by Joe Kent, W5UI. Matt Healy, W5MAT opened the floor to amend January's minutes to read, "Immediately following Chuck Dixon's motion to reimburse Tom Austin, K4OTM for buying the new 27 repeater, Tom donated the \$500 back to the club." The motion to accept the January's minutes with the above correction carried.

Officer's Reports

President: Hughbert Robinson

- We need to have a second signature for the checking account. That will be handled with Bob Freeman and Hughbert.
- Recommended there be a 5 year internal audit of the club's financial records. He appointed Buddy Parker and Matt Healy to complete the audit and present the report to the club.
- Hughbert let the members know Gary Pittman, KE5TXL would be reworking the beam on Friday, February 20th. If anyone is interested in helping please contact Gary.

Vice Present: David Behrend No report this month

Treasure/Secretary: Bob Freeman No report this month

Grounds Chairman: Ralph Stout

- The club needs to replace the soffits on the east end of the club house, Ralph doesn't have any experience in that area but he is looking into what it may cost.
- Recommends two ceiling fans for the club house to

keep the club cooler in the summer, and it would make the air conditioning units more efficient.

- There is a SKYWARN Class scheduled on March 28th at 9 am till noon that is sponsored by the Civil Air Patrol and will be held at the Texas A&M Research Center on Highway 87 just south of Grape Creek. Our club has been invited to have a table there to foster interest in our hobby and club. Bill Hinds, Jack Roberts and Ken Grimm volunteered to man the event.

Emergency Coordinator: Bill Hinds

- The next ARES Meeting will be held at the Club House at 7pm on February 19th
- Currently in the process of lining up a number of teams that will be responsible for training and preparation in the event of a sever incident in the immediate area.

Activities Manager: Ken Grimm

- The National Weatherman's Day was held on February 7th at the club and it was to recognize the men and women of the National Weather Service that keep us safe day in and day out. Ken presented Dr. Lyons and Hector Guerrero a framed photo he took from the Lake Nasworthy Bridge looking west over Twin Buttes. Ken caught a picture of cloud to ground lighting striking as he took the photo. There were 19 hams that attended the function and there were 22 check-ins to the Special Event Station both HF and VHF.
- February 4th was the first radio spot on KCSA, 97.1 FM. The spot went well.
- March 4th will be the next radio spot on KCSA, 97.1 FM at noon. Bill Hinds, David Eaton and Hector Guerrero will be featured on the spot and will be highlighting the Skywarn Training for April 4th at 9 am at the Trinity Lutheran Church at 3536 YMCA Drive. They will open the doors at about 7:30 am and will need help in setting up the room for the program.
- March 14th the Midland Radio Club will be having a ham fest at the Midland Horse Shoe Event Center. This is one of the best ham fests in the area. For more information go to W5QGG.org

- April 1st will be the third spot on KCSA, 97.1 FM. Hector Guerrero from the National Weather Service will be featured on this spot and will be used to create more interest in the Skywarn Training on April 9th.
- April 4th will be the SKYWARN Training at the Trinity Lutheran Church at 3536 YMCA Dr. from 9 am until noon. Extra help will be needed in setting up the room so if anyone can make it in early, the help will be appreciated.
- June 27th and 28th are the days scheduled for this year's Field Day. The club is currently trying to secure a location and then we will move forward with assigning jobs/radio operators & times/activities and other details for the event.
- Ken recommended the entire club goes out in public with a unified message. He put "Pride in the Past – Faith in the Future." As the mantra we should be putting out to the public to gain interest in the club and the hobby.

Public Information Officer: Matt Healy

- Asked that Leslie Healy, W5IFE, be allowed to come along side Matt in the job to get a more cohesive messages going out to the public. Hughbert approved the request.

Old Business:

- Fund raising. Bill Hinds gave a report as to what was required for any type of food sales. With the information presented, the city simply would make it cost prohibitive to sell any types of food.
- Fund raising. Bill Hinds presented what the club may realize in a "raffle" through the members. There would be a lot of work involved but if the club went forward with a rifle raffle, the expenses would be about \$2,500 and the club would realize between \$4,500 and \$5,000 for the effort.

New Business:

- Tom Austin brought the club up to date as to the status of the insurance the club currently carries. There is some confusion as to whether we own the physical building or if the city owns it. Because of this situation, our insurance company (ARRL) is looking at cancelling the policy. Tom said he would work on the issue and report back to the club next month.

- Joe Kent said the he would buy a new Yeasu repeater for the 94 repeater.

Gary Pittman made the motion to let Joe Kent buy the repeater and donate it to the club. The motion was seconded by Bill Hinds, the motion carried.

Gary Pittman said our club needs to send Tom Austin a letter thanking him for the donation of the repeater because our club is a 501(c) Corp and that is the correct procedure.

Ralph Stout made a motion to change our primary repeater from the current 146.940 to the new 145.270 repeater effective March 2nd. The motion carried.

Bill Hinds made a motion that a committee be formed to study the feasibility of the raffle, seconded by Ralph Stout, the motion carried with one objection. The ad hoc committee will be Bill Hinds, Jerry Decker and Hughbert Robinson.

Bill Hinds brought it to our attention that our Monday night nets are not registered with the ARRL. He will work on getting that corrected.

Ralph Stout said he is working with Mike Dominy to come up with a date for the next Tech Class. Ralph will bring the dates to the March meeting.

David Eaton said there will be a SKYWARN Training at the EOC sponsored by NWS Norman, OK on Thursday, February 26th from 6:30 to 8:30. This is a closed meeting and is specifically for ham operators and special guests.

David Eaton will let us know when the EOC's repeater is set up on 444.650. The PL tone has not been assigned at this time.

David Eaton said the Echo Link is active at the NWS. There is almost no bandwidth at the weather service and that makes it quite challenging to use. Hector will be trying to get more bandwidth to that computer to make the system usable.

Buddy Parker recommended a Special Event station in recognition to the Silent Keys in our area.

It was recommended that we try to institute a simplex net on Monday evenings at 9:00 pm on 146.520.

Jimmy Welch won the split the pot and donated the winnings back to the radio account. That will raise the radio account balance by \$48. Thanks Jimmy!

Matt Healy made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill Hinds; the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm

Bob Freeman Treasure/Secretary submitted by Matt Healy

San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

CLASSIFIEDS

San Angelo Amateur Radio Club in no way endorses nor implies the condition or usefulness of any item presented here. These listings are a complimentary benefit for club members only.

Silent Key

Joe Christian / K5HMD writes:

Alex, Sam and I lost a close friend last week. Jim, K5NI, passed away on Nov 11. His wife asked Alex and I to take his station apart and sell it for her. There are lots of smaller items, and I will list them later, but here are the items that will raise the most money for Kathy.

All of Jim's equipment looks like it is brand new. He took great care of it. Non-smoking environment.

Icom 756 Pro II, S/N 2202030, includes original box, manuals, power cable, and hand mike. Asking \$1295.

Alpha 8410 amplifier. Amp runs legal limit and is rated for continuous key down at full output. S/N 841010510174. Amp was purchased new in 2011 and the warranty expires in Jan 2015. Asking \$3900.

Palstar HF-Auto antenna tuner. Purchased new in July 2013. S/N 20977. Asking \$1300.

All of the equipment is at my QTH in Eldorado.

Thanks,

Joe Christian / 5HMD

TYT TH-9800 Quad Band FM Transceiver.

Like new condition with all accessories including programming cable. Never used mobile. Purchased \$175.00.

Contact: Gary Chaffin / W5ETJ

gchaffin@gmail.com

(325) 374-2260

Punny Hamms

Elmer picked up the phone, and called 911 and reported that his wife had just died and could someone come over to pick her up.

The operator asked for his address and Elmer said he lived on the end of "Eucalyptus Lane."

Free

Sony 37" Trinitron color TV. Measures 38 1/4" wide X 29 1/2" high X 24" deep.....

You must pick up.

Beware it weighs 280 lbs. We live at S/E 277 & Walling Pecan.

Chuck/K5QZQ

Silent Key

Below is a list of radio equipment owned by Rob Mowrer/N5OIU

Kenwood MC-80 microphone - \$70

Kenwood TM-G707 dual band mobile - \$150

Kenwood TM-241A 2 meter mobile - \$90

Alinco DR-110 2 meter mobile - \$85

Yaesu FT-60R dual band handie-talkie w/spare battery - \$175

Realistic PRO-2040 scanner - \$80

Realistic HTX-202 2 meter handie-talkie- \$35

Astron RS-25M power supply- \$125

Astron RS-12A - power supply \$45

Cushcraft Ringo Ranger II 2 meter vertical- \$50

Hustler G6-270R dual-band vertical- \$75

If you are interested in any, contact Gail Mowrer at 942-7599 (evenings) or e-mail her at glmowrer@aol.com

Glenn / AA5PK

The 911 operator asked him to spell that.

There was a long pause on the end of the line and then Elmer said,

"How about I just drag her over to Oak Street and you meet me there!"



ARRL Field Day

June 27-28, 2015

International Lily Fest

September 2015



Membership renewals are due each January. Regular memberships: \$20, Each additional family member: \$5; Seniors (age 65+) and Juniors (under age 19): \$10, Renewal package deal: 5 years for \$80, Associate members: \$20

Dues may be paid to the secretary at any club meeting or mailed to the club's post office box.



**Application
for
Membership**

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

License Class: _____ Year First Licensed: _____ Previously Held Calls: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

I hereby give permission to publish the above information in the club's membership roster which is distributed to all club members. Check here if you do not want your e-mail address linked on the club's Web site.

Signature	Date
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