

The eKilo-What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

May 2004



You're Invited!
On May 13, beginning at 1800 hours, the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club will celebrate its 80th birthday and 50 years of affiliation with the American Radio Relay League. Following a brief business meeting, food, drinks, and tales from the past will ensue.

Note from the President

By Joe Kent/KC5ILD

Thanks to Ken/KD5NXV, Ron/KD5WXJ and Bob/KD5PIX for assisting me during Christmas in April. Ron and Ken used their pickups to make deliveries and Bob and I worked in the warehouse. We were thanked by the CIA people and asked to help again next year.

Remember May 13. Come out to the Eat & Meet and help celebrate 80 years as an amateur radio club with hot dogs and cake and ice cream.

Meeting Minutes

By Bob Freeman/KD5PIX, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President Joe Kent/KC5ILD at 1934 on April 8, 2004. Introductions were made with 16 members and 4 visitors in attendance.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed in the April issue of *The Kilo-What* and the treasurer's report was approved as read.

Glenn/AA5PK discussed with Bob Wyrick from Shannon Health System our ability to instruct a number of their personnel and prepare them for the Technician Exam. Glenn explained the benefits of classroom instruction over self learning. Glenn suggested two or more classes, perhaps on a Saturday during June, July or August. Glenn assured Mr. Wyrick that the VE team is flexible and would be able to accommodate their group when they were ready to take the exam. Charlie/KC5EZZ stated the equipment for Shannon Hospital and its clinics has already arrived. It is just a matter of scheduling as to when the equipment will be installed and tested.

Officers' Reports

Paul/N7SDQ, Activities Manager. At our next meeting, May 13, we will celebrate our 80th Birthday and 50 years as an affiliate of the ARRL. Past members, current members, all amateurs, and the public will be invited. We will conduct a short busi-

(Continued on page 2)



**ARRL Field Day 2004
June 26-27**



Meeting Minutes Cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

ness meeting at 6:00 P.M. and then turn our attention to the festivities. ARRL Field Day 2004 is June 26-27. We will start setting up on the 25th. The location this year is at the end of Spillway Road off of Knickerbocker, just past the club's entrance only on the right hand side of the road. Paul is in the planning stages of a Fox Hunt.

Old Business

We were concerned with changing the SAARC Constitution and By-Laws pertaining to the subject of member dues:

The Proposal for lifetime dues for those 65 and older: This proposal was **not approved**.

The Proposal to waive the annual dues for the person elected President: This proposal was **not approved**.

The Proposal for five years of membership for the price of four years: This proposal was **approved**.

New Business

The question was brought up if the club should provide battery back-up for our repeaters now that Shannon may need to rely on them. Charlie/KC5EZZ said should that become a need, the club would probably only need to supply the batteries.

Glenn/AA5PK has been appointed Emergency Coordinator for Tom Green County by John Dyer/AE5B, ARRL West Texas Section Manager. Glenn said there has not been a county emergency coordinator in 10 years. Glenn will work in conjunction with Bob Ward/WA5ROE, Section Emergency Coordinator. Glenn is going to form an ARES group, and passed out registration forms to those interested. These forms will give Glenn an idea of the equipment and capabilities applicants have. As your capabilities change notify Glenn. Until about 6 years ago, the Monday night net was an emergency/training net. The style of the Monday night net will change from what we have become used to.

Good of the Order

Split-the-Pot was worth \$23 to the club and to the winner, Rich Sheff/KD6HWF.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2036. Following a brief intermission, Bill/WB5ZAM gave a program on HamCom and DXpeditioning.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be May 13 at 1800 at the clubhouse.

Emergency Communications

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Tom Green County EC

Requiring stations to use phonetics when checking into nets is standard practice on SSB (HF) nets, but not required as often on nets conducted on FM where readability is superior to SSB. However, it's good practice to learn to use phonetics, and it helps the net control station get your call sign correctly the first time.

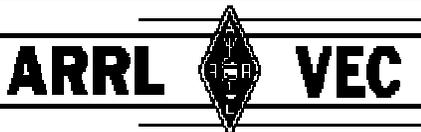
The phonetics used by NTS stations are the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) phonetics presented here with each letter's pronunciation:

A--Alfa "AL-FAH"
 B--Bravo "BRAH-VOH"
 C--Charlie "CHAR-LEE" or "SHAR-LEE"
 D--Delta "DELL-TAH"
 E--Echo "ECK-OH"
 F--Foxtrot "FOKS-TROT"
 G--Golf "GOLF"
 H--Hotel "HOH-TELL"
 I--India "IN-DEE-AH"
 J--Juliett "JEW-LEE-ETT"
 K--Kilo "KEE-LOH"
 L--Lima "LEE-MAH"
 M--Mike "MIKE"

N--November "NO-VEM-BER"
 O--Oscar "OSS-CAH"
 P--Papa "PAH-PAH"
 Q--Quebec "KEH-BECK"
 R--Romeo "ROW-ME-OH"
 S--Sierra "SEE-AIR-RAH"
 T--Tango "TANG-GO"
 U--Uniform "YOU-NEE-FORM" or "OO-NEE-FORM"
 V--Victor "VIK-TAH"
 W--Whiskey "WISS-KEY"
 X--X-ray "ECKS-RAY"
 Y--Yankee "YANG-KEY"
 Z--Zulu "ZOO-LOO"

License Testing News

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner



The next license testing session will be held on Sunday, July 18, at 1 PM at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and \$12 check or money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") for this test session is required not later than July 12.

Reminder: The question pool for the General class examination will change on July 1, 2004. Ensure you study the correct preparation material if you test after June 30, 2004.

License testing information and a link to download the form are available on the club's Web site <http://www.w5qx.org>. Information/forms can also be obtained by contacting Rob/N5OIU at 942-7599 or Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775.

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in May: J69/WB5ZAM, YI9ZF, 3B8, OY9, FK, 8Q, XU7, GJ, LX, P4Ø, FO and FO/a. According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of April 18-25, there were 217 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3D2, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4W, 4X, 5B, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5V, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7P, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9Q, 9V, 9Y, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C5, C6, C9, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HBØ, HC, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J2, J6, JA, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KHØ, KH4, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OHØ, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PZ, S2, S5, S7, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T3Ø, T32, T5, T7, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TR, TT, TU, TY, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V5, V6, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9N, VP2M, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, XW, XX9, YA, YB, YI, YK, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD8, ZD9, ZK1/s, ZL, ZP, ZS and ZS8 (OPDX658).

Island of the Month

Jamaica-6Y: Although 76% of the population traces its roots to Africa, the island is considered a mixture of cultures, including the other Caribbean Islands, Great Britain, the Middle East, India, China, Germany, Portugal and South America. The island is the third largest in the Caribbean (behind Cuba and Haiti/Dominican Republic). Although it enjoys a considerable self-sufficiency due to tourism, agriculture and mining, the island is noted by tour guides as “densely populated, poverty-ridden country that is struggling to escape dependency and debt.” The island is 4411 sq km with a population of over 2.65 million. Tourist attractions include jungle mountaintops, clear waterfalls and a myriad of beaches. Most of the tourist activity and hotels are grouped around the northern and western coastlines. The capital of Kingston is the largest English speaking city south of Miami (800,000).



Historically the island was settled by the Arawak Indians from South America around 1000AD. In 1494, Christopher Columbus stepped ashore in what is now Discovery Bay. This incursion led to the eventual extermination—due to slavery and European diseases—of the tribe on the island within 50 years. The Spanish established garrisons and built towns, but were apparently never impressed with the island (where’s the gold?). In 1655, a small force of British (5000 men) took the island from them with little fight. Guerilla warfare from the mountainous interior ensued with runaway slaves harassing the British from 1690 to 1739 and again in 1760. In August 1962, the island gained independence from the British Crown. To date tensions in the ghettos still rise and fall with riots noted periodically in the British and Caribbean news. The tourism sites say if you stay to the non-ghetto areas of



the island, it is a beautiful island, but the most common complaints by tourists is being “hassled” by street vendors wanting to sell everything from jewelry to marijuana. (One local couple was swimming off of one of the resorts and a local popped up between them offering “ganja” (marijuana).) The peak tourist season is from mid-December to mid-April. The temperature on the coasts varies from 68 to 86 daily all year. On the east coast and in the mountains, the rainy season affects activities from May through November. Golf is a major sport around the resorts, as well as all water sports. Amateur radio is present and semi-active, even on the 6

meter band. Electricity is 110 VAC at 50 cycles, and hospitals are modern and available. The currency is the Jamaican dollar, but US dollars are welcome. Current exchange rate is about \$30JD=\$1US.

QSL of the Month

Sovereign Military Order of Malta - 1AØKM

An actual independent country, the Knights of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta serve humanitarian causes around the world. And, occasionally, have DXpeditions. Currently the order is housed on the island of Malta and restoring their pre-Napoleonic castle, Fort St. Angelo. See more about them at <http://www.orderofmalta.org/index.asp?idlingua=5>. A neat one to work, even at times possible on 6 meters.

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



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Apr 5	KA5VTG	21	8 min
Apr 12	KA5VTG	16	7 min
Apr 19	KA5VTG	18	6 min
Apr 26	KA5VTG	15	10 min
May 3	KA5VTG	12	5 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
146.64-	Sterling City PL 88.5	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 when needed		
147.06+	San Angelo	6 Meter Crossband	
147.34+	Robert Lee PL 88.5	147.30/53.63	San Angelo PL 88.5

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

2004 SAARC Officers:

President - Joe Kent/KC5ILD
Vice President - David Behrend/KB5FNK
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - David Wolfe/KA5VTG
Activities Manager - Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ
Grounds Custodian - Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ

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

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

The Kilo-What: Edited by Glenn/AA5PK at
949-4775 or email aa5pk@qsl.net

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



**NEXT MEETING:
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 6 PM
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**