

The eKilo - What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

October 2004

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 1936.

Introductions were made with 12 members and 1 guest in attendance.

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

Officers' Reports

Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ, Activities Manager. The X-Bar Shoot-Out in Eldorado will be Sunday, September 19, 2004. We will need 8 operators at least. There will be an operators' meeting at 0800. The races start at 0845. The Sidewinder Challenge is September 25, 2004 at the San Angelo State Park. The times and operator needs will be announced on the Monday Night Net.

Chad Goodman/KD5SMK had been appointed Public Information Officer.

Old Business

Paul/N7SDQ made reservations for our December Eatin' Meetin' at the Ole Gin Steakhouse.

Joe/KC5ILD and Ron Mecklenburg/KD5WXJ have been in touch with those in the air conditioning business. The number one concern is if our air handler is large enough to handle the workload. There are others Joe and Ron are going to consult. They will have more information at our October meeting.

Again, we tabled the coax problem.

No one seems to have made an attempt to solicit associate memberships. We will keep trying. They are not a hard sell.

New Business

Water Shortage! Someone ran over a valve causing a major leak. The city came to replace the valve, or whatever, and determined we were not due any water because we do not have a water meter. Joe/KC5ILD and Bob/KD5PIX spent some quality time with the water department, the permit department and, not to left out, the Assistant City Manager. We are still in limbo however, we are gently going forward with what we hope will be a mutually satisfying agreement as well as financially satisfying.

Good of The Order

Split-the-Pot brought the club \$6 and as much to the winner, John Beatty/KE5CFN.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2019.

The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be October 14, 2004 at 1930 at the clubhouse.

HZ1AB QRT

From The ARRL Letter, October 1, 2004

The HZ1AB club station in Saudi Arabia now is history. Originally the United States Military Training Mission station and more recently known as the Dhahran Amateur Radio Club, HZ1AB was a well-known DX call sign for almost six decades. Club Secretary Thomas Carlsson, SM0CXU/AB5CQ, said this week that new station license requirements in Saudi Arabia made it necessary to shut down the station, and the call sign has been reissued to a Saudi national. QSL manager Leo Fry, K8PYD, has the HZ1AB logs to handle any late QSL requests. Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia licensed 18 new Amateur Radio operators. Details about licensing there are available on the Saudi Arabia Communications and Information Technology Commission

Web site <http://www.citc.gov.sa/CITC/EN/SpectrumManagement/generalservices/?sm=9>.—The Daily DX <http://www.dailydx.com> and Thomas Carlsson, SM0CXU/AB0CQ

TOI	DATE	CNT	RST	2-WAY	MHz
WA3WEN	4-4-81	1544	55	21	21

QSL MANAGER K8PYD THX QSL 73, *[Signature]*

License Testing News



ARRL VEC

By Glenn Miller/AA5PK, Volunteer Examiner

The next license testing session will be held on Sunday, October 17, at 1 pm at the clubhouse. Pre-registration (submission of NCVEC Form 605 and \$12 check/money order payable to "ARRL/VEC") is required not later than October 11.

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 be obtained by contacting Rob/N5OIU at 942-7599 or Glenn/AA5PK at 949-4775.

ARISS Log & Two "Firsts"

From The ARRL Letter, October 1, 2004

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program marked two "firsts" during a September 23 school group contact with students from an elementary school in Australia. The QSO with youngsters from Kilburn Primary School was the first using the ARISS Phase 2 radio gear aboard the ISS and the first in which an attempt was made to provide contact audio worldwide via IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) nodes. NASA ISS Science Officer Mike Fincke, KE5AIT, took the controls of the NA1SS Kenwood TS-D700 transceiver in the crew quarters for the occasion. Responding to one youngster's question, Fincke described an ultrasound experiment that he and Expedition 9 Commander Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, have been running during their tour of duty.

"Ultrasound uses sound waves to look inside people's bodies," he explained, "and we can see how our bodies have changed because we've been exposed to this weightlessness—this microgravity—for a long time." Fincke said he and Padalka already have noted some changes. "By being able to tell how our bodies change in microgravity, we can figure out how to keep us healthy and strong, so that when we go to the moon and Mars, we'll be ready for it."

Fincke also fielded questions about how the ISS gets its electrical power, sleeping in space, the ISS' onboard environment, space walks, how Earth and the moon look from space and—of course—space food.

The Kilburn students were guests of the Investigator Science and Technology Centre in Adelaide for the occasion, and 13 of them got to ask Fincke questions about life in space before the ISS went out of range. Serving as the Earth station for the contact was Nancy Rocheleau, WH6PN, in Honolulu. An MCI-donated teleconferencing circuit provided two-way audio to the students. ARISS veteran Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, assisted at the Investigator Centre.

Members of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club in Nova Scotia undertook the IRLP experiment, which had limited success. ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said he'd like the program to explore future opportunities to make ARISS school group contacts available to other schools and the general ham radio population. One major issue this time was the presence of timers on IRLP systems.

ISS crews have used the Phase 1 Ericsson handheld VHF radio for the 146 previous ARISS school group contacts. The Phase 2 station was not expected to be used for a school group contact until the Expedition 10 crew arrives later this month.

ARISS <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/> is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

Scanner Jack's Corner

By Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

Here are frequencies to monitor during hurricane season:

For scanners in AM mode

349.9 WX RECON TAC

283.7 TAC

304.8 TAC

308.4 TAC

255.4 FSS

242.0 FSS

344.6 WX

381.0 TAC

243.0 SAR

282.0 SAR

For SWL USB mode

WLO-KLB Marine Radiotelephone

Broadcast top of every hour

4369 4396 4405

8731 8788 8806

13101 13110 13152

17311 17362

US Coast Guard (all times UTC)

4426 WX 0330 0500 0930

6.501

8.764 WX 0330 0500 0930 1130 1600 1730

2200 2330

13.089 WX 1130 1600 1730 2200 2330

17.314 WX 1730

CQ DX de WB5ZAM



By Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

DXpeditions in October: YJ, TK, J73, SU8, HC8, ZK1, VP5, JD1, J45, 9G, FH, S9, LX, 7W, FR, 3D2, S79, 9H, TJ, V6, FW, T3, VK9L, HKØ, T4, TX, XU, T2, C5, TO5, FP, A5, VP8S, J7 and T88. Don't forget Peter 1 in January.

Island of the Month

Trinidad and Tobago - 9Y Trinidad has the flowers, rain forest, peaks, fertile valleys and beaches beautifully common to most of the Caribbean. But Trinidad also claims exceptional natural features such as La Brea Pitch Lake (the largest liquid asphalt lake in the world), the wildlife-filled Caroni and Nariva Swamps, the mountainside Asa Wright Nature Centre, the bird-breeding grounds of the Pointe-à-Pierre Wild Fowl Trust and exquisite birding everywhere. Its mineral deposits make the country comparatively wealthy (oil and gas). The result is a rare widespread worldliness among English-speaking islanders. This sophistication combines well with Trinidad's legendary blend of East Indians, Blacks and mixed ethnicities. Trinidadians are one of the most racially tolerant people anywhere in the world with a culture adapted from around the globe that, in everything from food to architecture, ranks distinctively as Trinidad's own. Sun, sand and sea may constitute the standard-issue Tropics. But colorful, one-of-a-kind and affordable Trinidad supplies travelers with the gift-wrapped version. Trinidad lies at the southern cusp of the Caribbean archipelago. The island is 50 miles north-south, 37 east-west, big enough to accommodate northern mountains that rise to 3,085 feet with beaches that ring almost the entire coast (the best beaches skirt the Northern Range). The island is more than ten times the size of sister isle Tobago. The islands came under British control in the 19th century and formal independence was gained on 31 August 1962.



Tourism for some reason skips the large island and focuses on the smaller of the two, Tobago, but is slowly growing. Tobago, on the other hand, has long stretches of pristine beaches and caters to the tourists.

The official language is English, and average life expectancy of 69. The population in July 2004 was just over 1 million, and literacy approaches 98%. The islands are at the southern end of the usual hurricane path and suffer from warm days and cool nights all year with a green season and a dry season. The government is a "parliamentary democracy." There are four basic political parties and a Muslim-based group. Noting the weekly newspaper from there, the head of that party was on trial for ordering the murder of two of his ex-party members. Ah, politics! The economy is actually almost entirely petroleum-based and off-shore investing. With a low inflation rate and a growing trade deficit, the islands are not as dependant upon tourism as other Caribbean islands are. The agricultural products are cocoa, sugar cane, rice, citrus, coffee, vegetables and poultry. With main industries noted as petroleum, chemicals, tourism, food processing, cement, beverages and cotton textiles. Oil production is at about 990 million barrels per day and natural gas at 25 billion m³/day. Export partners (surprise) are the US (63%), Jamaica and France. Telephone and cell phones abound with almost 2/3 of the work force with both types of phones. The workforce is said to be 520,000 of the 1,000,000 residents. Seventeen internet providers, 8000 internet hosts, over 138,000 users and 4000 miles of paved roads. Three airports, championship golf courses, pristine beaches on Tobago, and excellent diving, all attract the tourists from around the globe and South America. Direct flights from the east coast by most US carriers provide US tourists access to the islands. The exchange for currency is not fixed like the Eastern Caribbean dollar and the US\$1 is equivalent to \$6.6TT. Electricity is 115VAC and 220VAC, 60 Hz (same as US). Last year's Senior European Professional Tour had a major in Trinidad. Hmm, long flight there, but it is closer than Europe. Anyone ready to go next year? [sources: MSNBC, ODCI, TnT on line]

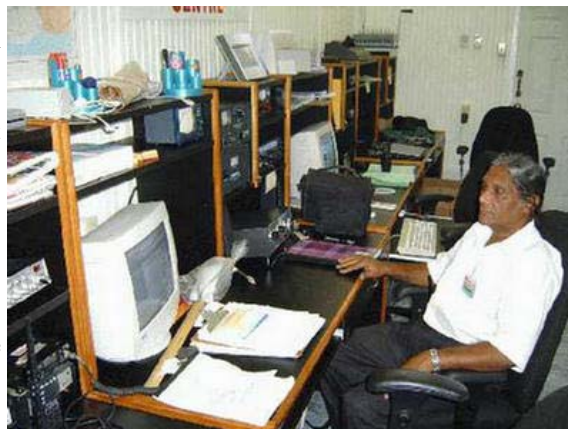
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QSL OF THE MONTH

9Z4FW

Patrick is a man after my heart—computers and radios all in the same area.

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



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

Date	NCS	Check-ins	Duration
Sep 6	KA5VTG	11	8 min
Sep 13	KA5VTG	16	12 min
Sep 20	KA5VTG	15	10 min
Sep 27	KA5VTG	16	10 min
Oct 4	KA5VTG	14	10 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

-----CLASSIFIEDS-----

Free: The boss says to get rid of it, so first caller it is yours. 50-foot crank up, tilt over tower. With one set of guys still attached and ready to take down and haul away. Bill/WB5ZAM, 657-0943





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

2003 SAARC Officers:

President - John Marshall/KC5FMX
Vice President - David Behrend/KB5FNK
Secretary/Treasurer - Bob Freeman/KD5PIX
Emergency Coordinator - David Wolfe/KA5VTG
Activities Manager - Paul Wittenborn/N7SDQ
Grounds Custodian - Joe Kent/KC5ILD

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, OCT 14, 7:30 P.M.
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE**