

The eKilo -What

Monthly Newsletter of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club

October 2010

September Meeting Minutes

de Bob Freeman/KD5PIX

The regular meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order by President Ralph Stout/KASULE on September 9, 2010 at 1736.

Introductions were made with 20 members and 3 visitors.

The August minutes were approved as printed in the Kilo-What and the Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Officer's Report

Activities Manager: Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC: Four restaurants were considered for our Eatin' Meetin' in December. Twin Mountain Steak House, Los Panchito's, Zetner's Daughter and Kenny Blanek's. Blanek's promises \$15 a person. There was a motion to accept Blanek's offer. The Motion as seconded and approved by a majority saying aye.

The Special Event Station in Grape Creek for the Butterfield activities will set up at 0700. Air Time will be at 0800. Shut down will be at 1500 and will leave by 1600.

New Business

We will have our regular meeting on October 14, 2010. The club's Birthday Party will be Saturday October 16, 2010. There will be a Special Event Station to acknowledge our birthday.

Good of the Order

There were three drawings before the Split-the-Pot. I believe that Mat Healy/W5MAT Won the first one. I do not remember what it was. Sorry Mat. I know it was a big prize. Jack Roberts/KB5TMY won a pocket knife. Jack should have a good collection by now. Yours truly Won a scratch awl.

Split-the-Pot was worth \$16.00 to the winner, visitor Adrian Morales and \$16 to the Club

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2014. The next meeting of the San Angelo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will be Thursday October 14, 2010 at 1930 at the Clubhouse.

Upcoming Special Events

October 16 - 86th Annual Club Birthday Party at the Clubhouse and the annual Scout Jamboree On The Air Operation, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Special event operators and loggers needed.

December 9 - Annual Eatin' Meetin' - Blanik's Village Café, 7 p.m. Make reservations.

Contact Hughbert Robinson/KC5NPC , tbum@aol.com, 325-949-7478, 325-895-5166(CELL).

October Club Program

Join us for the Club Birthday party, Saturday, October 16. There will be no Club meeting on Thursday, October 14. A short business meeting will be held on Saturday at the Birthday Party.

Scanner Jack's Corner

de Jack Roberts/KB5TMY

Monitor these frequencies for wildfires.

Texas Forest Service

151.310, 151.355 CH 5, 159.270 DISP 1
159.285 DOZER, 159.300 AIR TAC, 159.315
159.330 DISP 2

159.345 Game Warden

Tom Green Co Fire Dispatch

155.130 DISP, 155.1825 REPEATER
154.160 COUNTY WIDE TRUCKS
154.130 GRAPE CREEK FD TAC
157.620 RANCHERS WALL FD TAC
154.280 TX FIRE 1 BALLENGER FIRE DISP
154.265 TX FIRE 2, 154.295 TX FIRE 3

Coke Co Fire Dispatch

154.220

Concho Co Fire Dispatch

154.175

Irion Co Fire Dispatch

151.550

Eldorado Fire Dispatch

154.325

Brady Fire Dispatch

155.040

Other Fire Tacs

154.310, 154.340, 154.370. 154.400, 154.355

**ALWAYS CHECK WITH YOUR COUNTY OFFICIALS
TO SEE IF THERE IS A BURN BAN BEFORE YOU
BURN OUTDOORS.**

San Angelo Events

United Way Children's Parade

462.675, 462.5625 OPS 1, 462.55 OPS 2

169.505 PA SYSTEM

Unite and Conquer

462.675 REACT, 464.500 OPS1, 464.925 OPS 2

155.130 SA EMERG CORPS

For You Sports Fans

San Angelo Stadium

462.7125 OPS 1, 462.7625 OPS 2

154.600 SECURITY TEACHERS

461.375 SAISD MAINT, 463.325 ASU MAINT

450.250 RADIO STATION LINK

Emergency Communications

de Mike Dominy/KD5URW - Emergency Coordinator

April ARES Net Report				
Date	Net Ctrl	Check-ins	Time	Freq
9/6	KD5URW	9	12 min	444.350
9/13	KD5URW	12	14 min	444.350
9/20	KD5URW	16	22 min	444.350
9/27	KD5URW	14	18 min	444.350

Tom Green County ARES Net

Meets every Monday night at 8:30 CST (2030 hr) on the 444.350 MHz (PI 162.2) (N5SVK). The net can also be reached by Echolink at WB5VRM-R or Node 412402. Other frequencies announced on Concho Valley Net at 8:00 pm.

Activities

Total # of ARES members: 19

Change since last month: 3

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 5
Man hours: 90.0

The Tom Green County ARES group held their monthly meeting on 16 Sep 2010. The group had a good meeting discussing several items on the agenda.

We discussed some ideas for some possible exercises in the upcoming SET in October or November time frame.

We reviewed what still need to be completed at the city/county EOC including another work day at the EOC.

We discussed a work date to start work on the group's new upcoming project.

We reviewed some training dates for training with the WebEOC at the EOC.

Thankfully September was kind of a quiet month, for us, with no real emergency concerns, just some good old Texas rains that came at the right time to help relieve some of the wildland fires we were having in the area.

I 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 21 October 2010 at 7:00 PM at the San Angelo ARC club house.

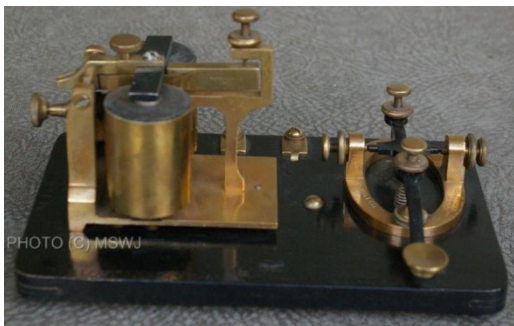
73s, Stay Safe and Happy DXing.

CQ DX - October 2010

de Bill Richards/WB5ZAM

Upcoming/Ongoing DXpeditions during October: FR; HI; J68WI; Z2; T6; 5H; 5R; KG4; PJ2; PJ4; PJ5; PJ6; ZD8; TO; MJ; V72; H40; MU; JW; 5V; ZD; C9; EA6; E5; OX; V4; CY0; A25; C56; 6V; FP; 5R; 9X. The PJ Caribbean Islands are set to become independent 10 October 2010 (10/10/10). That gives us four or 5 new countries 2000 miles away. That is easy work on 6-10-15m.

No island this month, but here's some info you might find interesting, esp. if you have a Lionel Train set in the attic. And if you have a Lionel keyer, we need to talk!! CU on the bands, maybe from the islands (J68WI).

Keys and Keyers for CW

In the early days a poor telegrapher was called a "bug", and some operators bought a key from Vibroplex and other company's and starting using them without practice. The result was poor sending, and the keys themselves became known as "bugs". The Vibroplex Company registered the word "bug" as a trademark for its semi-automatic keys in the early 1920's, which continues to this day.

Early Telegraph Keys used to send messages caused severe strain on the telegrapher's wrist --- a condition now known as carpal tunnel syndrome or glass arm in the early days of the telegraph. In 1902, Inventor Horace G. Martin patented the first in a line of devices which solved this problem: the Martin Autoplex, an electro-mechanical sending device which required batteries.

Two years later, Martin went into business with a group of entrepreneurs, forming the United Electrical Manufacturing Company. It was also in 1904 that Martin filed his second patent for a new sending device which used a weighted, vibrating arm and did not require the use of a magnetic coil or batteries. This device was the bases for the first Vibroplex.

In 1908, the association between Martin and U.E.M. ended, when it went out of business. However J.E. Albright, who began a business catering to the telegraph industry in 1890, began marketing the Vibroplex for Martin. On March 12, 1915, Albright filed a certificate of incorporation in New York for the Vibroplex Company, Inc. Within a short year, Vibroplex came to represent the best of the telegraphic and later amateur radio, industry.

Lionel Train Company J-36 Telegraph Keys and J-38 keys

During WWII, many items needed for the war effort were built under contract. This meant that a common design and specifications were used that might actually be the property of another company but the construction was actually the work of a contract company. Such is the case with the popular Signal Corps bug, the J-36. The key is actually based on the Vibroplex "Lightning Bug" with some minor changes to the paddle and to the identification tag. Vibroplex also made J-36 keys, as did Bunnell. The Australian company Buzza also made a J-36 look-alike. The plastic identification tag on Lionel J-36 bugs is always in poor condition with the example shown being typical of the "better" condition tags. The plastic was prone to shrinkage and usually pulls away from the mounting pins and breaks. Many J-36s are missing their tags entirely. Fortunately, repro tags are available. J-36s are great keys to use and provide good action and precise sending.



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Recent Programs

December '09	Eatin' Meeting
January '10	CVCOG Interoperability Data and Radio Systems, Jim Koca/N5PIY
February '10	Tour of the San Angelo Public Safety Communications Facility, David Berhend/KB5FNK
March '10	Tour of the San Angelo National Weather Station, Hector Guerrero/KC5BRB
April '10	San Angelo/TGC Emergency Management Department, Ron Perry/KB5UPE
May '10	Q codes, Band Limits, Ralph Stout/KASULE
June '10	Field Day
July '10	National Weather Service, Dr. Steve Lyons
August '10	EME, Glenn Miller/AA5PK
September '10	Kenwood TS-570, Charlie Royall/WB5T
October '10	SAARC's 86th Birthday Party

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During World War Two, the Lionel Electric Train Company made thousands of copies of the #6 Lightning Bug for the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Because of materials shortages, Lionel had suspended production of electric trains and was making small electromechanical devices for the war effort. Little is known about the relationship between Vibroplex and Lionel, but it's very likely that Vibroplex loaned Lionel the necessary tooling or at least allowed Lionel to copy it.

Lionel's bugs were designated the J-36, which was the designation the Signal Corps gave any bug. "J-36" was simply the Signal Corps number for a bug, and Lionel was neither the first nor the only manufacturer of the J-36. Vibroplex made J-36s, which were simply #6 Lightning Bugs with a Signal Corps nameplate. JHB made several types of J-36, including a #6 Lightning Bug clone and a version of their #1 Original style bug. Brooklyn Metal Stamping had made the J-36 in the Thirties. The BMS bugs have several novel features.

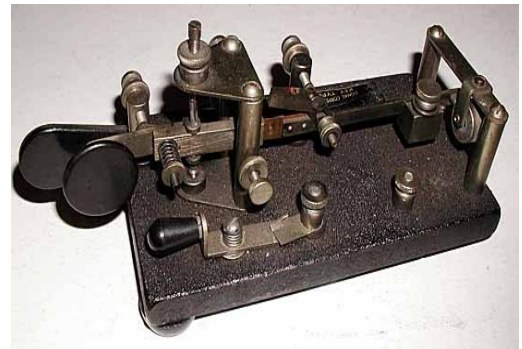
Lionel J-36

The Lionel J-36 can be identified by its nameplate, its distinctive rounded dot paddle, and slightly different knurling on the screws. Otherwise it's a #6 Lightning Bug, and parts are interchangeable between the two. The nameplate is the most prominent feature of the Lionel J-36. Long and narrow, it was placed along the left edge near the paddle and fastened to the base by five pins.

The Lionel nameplate was made out of a celluloid-type plastic, and the vast majority of Lionel J-36 bugs lack a nameplate. For one thing, many servicemen took their bugs with them when they were discharged, and removed the nameplates at the same time. The Lionel nameplates that were left have generally shrunk badly and many have come loose and fallen off. If you own a Lionel with a nameplate, DO NOT leave it in the sun, get it hot, or get it wet.

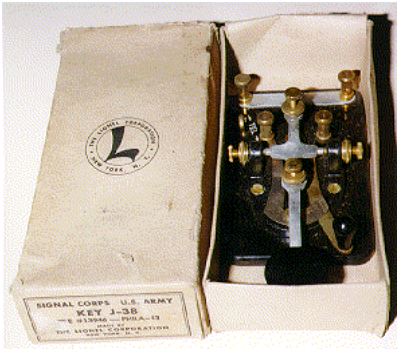
**Lionel "Military" General Purpose Key J-38**

This is the straight key which was also manufactured for the military by the Lionel Toy Company during WWII. It has a solid black cast metal base which carries the (L)

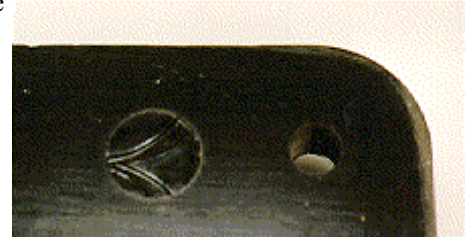


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symbol and is marked "The Lionel Corporation, New York, N.Y. in the center of the top. Most examples have brass hardware and shorting levers and a steel lever and are mounted on a black bakelite base which is inscribed J-38 and includes "Line" and "Tel" terminals. The bottom of the base usually has a large letter "L" cast into it.



For more photos and info:

- http://www.radioblvd.com/telegraph_keys.htm
- <http://www.radiowrench.com/sonic/so02219.html>
- <http://www.zianet.com/sparks/j36.html>
- <http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/clones.html>
- <http://chss.montclair.edu/~pererat/im9000.html>

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

Butterfield Overland Mail Fly-In Special Event Station September 18, 2010 Photos



Concho Valley Two Meter Net

<u>Date</u>	<u>NCS</u>	<u>Check-ins</u>	<u>Duration</u>
9/6	KB5TMY	17	17 min
9/13	KD5SBE	20	18 min
9/20	KB5TMY	19	20 min
9/27	KB5FNK		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

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

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



NEXT MEETING: 10/16/10
PROGRAM: CLUB BIRTHDAY & JOTA
MATHIS FIELD CLUBHOUSE