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Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, AD5BB

May, 2010

Alpine, Texas

MEETING MINUTES, MAY, 2010

May 11, 2010

Special Recognition

Members of the BBARC had the opportunity to meet and visit with 5 HAM members from the Texas Star Party. Larry Slay K5WUL, Steve Coleman WB4GHY, Rick Kirchof NG5V, George Huling K5GH, and Don Jarvis W5SOG. For many years there has been a Texas Star Party special event station operated from the Prude Ranch near Ft. Davis. They operate under the call sign W5TSP and have their own shack on the property. It was an honor and a pleasure to have these dedicated HAMs in attendance.

The meeting was attended by 19 people. Newly appointed Vice President Jim Fowler, KD5KBU presided. The club officers discussed and voted on the Vice President appointment through e-mail on April 26-27, 2010.

Electronic gear from KA1AAJ's (SK) estate will be sold at two open sales at his QTH on Uvalde St. on the 15th and 22nd. (Sorry we can't get the newsletter out quicker.)

More information was brought to the club concerning the 13th Annual Terlingua Dual Sport Ride event. The Trail Riders of Houston Motorcycle Club is requesting emergency communications for this event which will be held October 23, 2010.

A request for 2-meter to Internet posting support was brought before the club. A team will be activating two rare Grid Squares on 6-meters in Big Bend National Park about 2 days after Field Day. What they are requesting is for members to monitor our 2-meter repeater system and forward messages to the Internet for them. (See 'K5N 6-Meter Gridpedition' in this issue.)

The Double Diamond Pavilion reservation for Field Day has been secured for June 22-29. Pre-event clean up of the facility is scheduled for Wednesday the 23rd. Field Day is June 26-27.

FIELD DAY

By Dave Cockrum, N5DO

It is once again time for that annual insanity known as Field Day, the "it's not a contest" contest. The BBARC will once again be set up at the Double Diamond Pavilion 5 miles south of Alpine on State Highway 118.

We will be operating in the 2A category again, with a GOTA station and a 6-meter station. Of course the horseshoe pits will be operational as well. One of the two main operating positions will be set up in the Pavilion and one in the club emergency van.

Traditionally we have one operating position for SSB and one for CW. That model will be used again, providing there

will be more than two CW operators. If there are only one or two CW operators the setup will be different, such as one position being designated for 80, 20, and 10 meters and the other for 40 and 15 meters with CW and SSB being used at either position. This approach would get around the problem of needing a network for the logging computers. The decision as to which model to use and whether or not to set up a computer network will be made once it is determined how many CW operators will be available.

A high point of Field Day is always the meals. Chief cook and bottle washer Bob, WA5ROE, reports the same meal charges as last year: \$30, plus one twelve pack of soft drinks or water, per person for the weekend. Bob says that we need more water, so you might consider a twelve pack of both water and soft drinks. Any 807s are your own responsibility. The fee for the meals will pay for 6 meals: Friday evening, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and supper, and Sunday breakfast and lunch.

There is a special rate for families: \$45 for a couple plus \$20 for each child. T shirts, hats, and pins have been ordered for those who signed up at the last meeting for these from the ARRL. Four extra T-shirts (all size XL) and one extra hat have been ordered and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

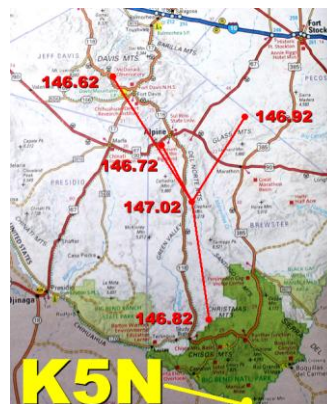
K5N 6-METER GRIDPEDITION

Marshall Williams, K5QE
(Edited for space)

ACTIVATING DL88 and DL89

The K5N Activation Group has applied for a "Special Use Permit" from the Big Bend National Park to activate DL88 on 6M. DL88 is a very rare grid located at the very bottom of the Park. However, the Park has a "No generators in the Outback" rule, so we will not be able to run a generator while we are in the Park.

We plan to use two large battery banks--running from one and charging the other from a vehicle alternator. We will be operating from campsite Talley2 in the Park, which is just South



of the DL88 line. Talley2 is located at DL88jx just off Talley Road. We will be using an ICOM Pro2 with a TE Systems brick amp and a 6M5X antenna. We will NOT have Internet or cell phone coverage, but there is a 2M repeater in the area that belongs to the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club. We are hoping that we can get someone from their club to help us put messages out on the