



THE BULLSHEET

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Announcements

See Page 2 for the meeting announcement

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web: <http://www.tdxx.org>
On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz (100Hz)
On 70 Cm: 447.00/442.00 (103.5 Hz)
On Packet: Connect to **TDXS71** (145.71) then connect to K5LV
Reflector: Send to: majordomo@moonbounce.n5iq.org
In the body of your message only put: subscribe tdxx-list
do *not* include your email address, as the reflector will pick
it up automatically. Put nothing in the subject line.

The Prez Sez- de Buzz N5UR

Ed P5/4L4FN has been workable this week on 14260 listening up 5-10 from 1315-1345 here in Houston. Several TDXSers are already in his log. Check out the up to date news and logs at <http://www.amsatnet.com/p5.html>

We will have a very short business meeting Thursday with three items to vote on:

Officers for 2002, same slate as 2001!
An ARRL Memorial Award in Memory of K5DX, \$60 per year.

Software for the cluster but the main order of business will be holiday fun
See you there! Don't forget your QSL cards for the ARRL bureau and your checkbook for the repeater software and dues etc.

73 Buzz, N5UR

Texas DX Society December Meeting Notice [Revision A]!!

The TDXS December meeting will be held at the office of C. Logan Dietz, Esq., 212 Stratford, Houston, Texas, just north of Westheimer. Chuck and Ruth will be the hosts and will provide some of the food and drinks, but if you have Special Needs, be sure to make your own arrangements. This is the annual Christmas party, so please bring a covered dish of some sort and a Designated Driver or Decoy, on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2001, starting at 6:00 pm. Beer, wine and some eats provided with a smile.

For those of you who have managed to stay on the clean side of the law and are not intimately familiar with the location, better get a Key map and look right at the top of squares S and T, page 493. Stratford is only about 4 blocks long, so just turning north off of Westheimer will not necessarily help you find it.

CU there.

Madison
w5mj

DX Report by Steve, W9DX

What an exciting month this has turned out to be for DXers! A brand new DXCC entity is approved, and North Korea shows up almost daily now. Who would have believed that North Korea would be number 2 on the DXCC most wanted list when Ducie Island was added to the list on November 16th? A number of lucky Houston area hams have worked Ed, 4L4FN/P5 on 10 and 20 meters. He usually shows up about 7:00 AM CST on 14.260 listening up 5-10, and again around 5:00 PM CST on 28.575 or 28.580 listening up 5-10. According to the latest info, he is still using a dipole cut for 20 meters, but hopes to have a multi-band vertical up any day now. His signals on 10 meters into 5-land are generally marginal, although a few stations have made successful contacts. He even has a new 10-X number now! We seem to have better propagation just after our sunrise on 20 meters. In addition to the new Butternut vertical he just received, Ed plans to start CW operations with a new paddle. His rig is a IC-706 running only 100 watts. Ed currently has "verbal" permission to operate, with promises of documentation to follow from government officials. Please be patient since this is truly a test balloon that will break if not handled properly. Amateur radio in North Korea will have to crawl before it can run. Bernie, W3UR recently posted some do's and don'ts when trying to work Ed.

- Do NOT attempt to send any e-mails to Ed via the WFP as this will jeopardize his operation
- Do NOT make improper comments on his frequency. North Korean authorities are no doubt monitoring the situation, and future operations depend on our decorum
- Do NOT question his documentation on the air. This is a "work in progress". Other international organizations and foreign embassies are operating under the same "verbal" system with more formal documentation expected soon.
- Don't try to tell Ed how to operate. He's in charge and makes the rules. If you don't want to follow his instructions, go watch TV.
- Until he can get a beam and work stations by geographic areas, he will work what he hears. You'll just have to shoot it out with the Europeans and Asians at the same time.

QSLs are being handled by Bruce, KK5DO. Bruce receives log entries by e-mail almost daily. If you think you've worked Ed, check the log at <http://www.amsatnet.com/>. There's also a nice picture of Ed and his station.

On November 16th, Ducie Island (IOTA OC-182) in the Pitcairns became the newest DXCC entity after The Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association application for membership in the IARU was approved. Ducie Island is located 360 kilometers from Henderson Island, the nearest land. It is the easternmost atoll in the Oceania. The world eagerly awaited the landing of a DXpedition headed by Tom Christain, VP6TC the day after the approval. Unfortunately the DXpedition had to turn back when they were within 80 km of the island due to severe weather conditions, and dangerous swells. Other DXpedition members were VP6DB, JA1BK/VP6BK, JA1SLS/VP6BB, JF1IST, JA1SLS, K9AJ, K5VT and FO3HO. With no contacts having been made to date, Ducie is now the number one most wanted DXCC country. The first group to operate from this entity will be a popular group indeed. No new plans have been announced yet but stay tuned. At least south Texas will have no problem hearing this one when it comes up.

The TDXS web page at <http://www.tdxs.org/> has been updated with the member's DXCC credits as per the postings in the August issue of QST. If you note any errors or omissions, please let me know and I'll get them corrected. Thanks to Dave Sarkozi, WB5N for his work keeping the web site updated.

For those of you planning a DXpedition in the coming year, you might find the following web page handy. It generates great circle maps centered on any location in the world. Just fill out the short form, long form, or download the code and run it to your heart's content. These maps really come in handy when trying to visualize beam headings when everything is askew in your mind. Go to: <http://www.wm7d.net/azproj.shtml> Don't forget to inform your fellow members of your DXpedition and foreign contesting plans. We'd like to get these published in the various DX newsletters to give TDXS and its members more exposure. I hate reading about what our members have done in other publications after the fact.

Just a quick update on our club's application for an "in memorium" callsign honoring Clarence Sharp. We are still stuck in a holding pattern at the FCC, while they continue to sanitize mail deliveries and sort them by date. No applications have been processed for over a month now. They will not process any vanity callsign applications till all mail receipts are accounted for and correlated with on-line applications to "keep an even playing field" for all applicants. We have no idea when processing will resume. The last applications processed were filed on October 12th, and ours was filed on Oct. 24th. As of December 8th the back-log had grown to 912. We are the only application that qualifies for the call, so we'll just have to be patient.

A special thanks to the membership for their contributions to the DX cluster fund to obtain new software. Kudos to K5NZ for helping hold members by their heels till enough money fell out to buy the software. Jim Lane, N5DC has put a lot of work into keeping the cluster running, but the old software is no longer supported and we'll need to do something soon when the new club callsign is issued. It's only fitting and proper that a DX and contest club should sponsor a reliable DX cluster to serve the needs of the membership while promoting interest in DX to prospective members.

This is my last report as DX Chairman due to time constraints. I've enjoyed the opportunity to serve this year and look forward to making future contributions. Buzz would like to hear from volunteers to take over this activity. If you love DX, here's your opportunity to share your ideas with Bullshead subscribers. The latest DX bulletins and news will continue to be posted to the reflector. Happy Holidays to all, and the best of DX in the coming New Year!

Packet Racket by Jim, N5DC

I want to thank all of the contributors to the AR Fund, and especially Mike Hance, K5NZ for spearheading up the collection process. What happens now? We will move forward with the purchase of the software, and probably after Christmas, will get the changeover started. For openers, I will have to install a larger hard drive in my computer at work. Also I will need to install a com port board, as my computer only has one available, and we need 2 to operate both VHF and UHF TNC's. Earl Morse, N5TU is in process of converting some Motorola radios for packet use. Yes Madison, after the changeover, Igor will reappear on our UHF repeater. What will you as a user see? Many improvements, including the ability to filter spots, so you can only see what you want to see. You can even filter, so that you only see CW or Phone spots, and can go from seeing all spots to seeing only spots from the State of Texas. Reliability should be better from the Cluster, and we will have better control over the loops that currently plaguing us on contest weekends particularly. Thanks again for the support, and it is your system, use it!

Merry Christmas

