



THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the
Texas DX Society
An ARRL Affiliated Club

May
2003

The Texas DX Society, P.O. Box 540291, Houston, TX 77254-0291

The Prez Sez - de Madison, W5MJ

The monthly meeting of the TDXS board will start at 6:00 pm at La Madeline, 10001 Westheimer, this Thursday. I would like anyone with something on his or her mind to be there to help TDXS return to its status of the premier radio club in Texas and the world, and your input will help make that possible. Please plan to attend and participate [or just watch, if you want to]. All are invited.

Plenty going on in TDXS amateur radio these days! In no particular order, but all equally important, we have Dayton, the annual Raffle, Arlington HamCom and all that goes with it. the 440 repeater, Field Day preparation, our annual foray into Mexico for the ARRL DX contests, and upcoming Dxpediton to 7P8. There are probably other matters of similar import, too.

I know several TDXSers are going to Dayton in a little over a week. For anyone not having hotel accommodations yet, see Chuck Dietz W5PR. He is aware of the shortage and may yet have room for another or body or two at his hotel.

(Continued on Page 3)

TDXS Calendar

Upcoming events of interest to TDXSer's

**Armed Forces Day Communications Test
May 10**, (see p.7 for details)

**Scottish Islands on the Air - May 31 and
June 4th** by N5ET and KE5TF (p. 2)

TDXS Field Day 2003 - June 28 & 29
See p. 4 for Dave's Article

Lesotho, 7P8, DXpedition - July 18-25

Monthly Meeting Announcement

**May Meeting - Thursday May 8th
7:00PM Tracy Gee Center**

Many items to discuss, Field Day, Mexico, HamCom, Igor. Please be there.

The Tracy Gee Center is on the east side of Westcenter St., which runs south from Richmond and is the first street inside Beltway 8 at Richmond. See you there....

Frosty, K5LBU

Texas DX Society Officers

President	Madison Jones, W5MJ	mjones16@houston.rr.com	281-350-4330
Vice President	Charles Frost, K5LBU	frosty1@pdq.net	281-437-1978
Secretary	Ed Gerber, W5GCX	w5gcx@juno.com	281-351-4170
Treasurer	Dave Topp, W5BXX	w5bxx@aol.com	281-879-9973
Contest Chairman	Dale Martin, KG5U	kg5u@hal-pc.org	281-484-4465
Field Day Chairman	Dave Topp, W5BXX	w5bxx@aol.com	281-879-9973
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf@earthlink.net	832-595-2855
DX Chairman	Ken Eckel, AB5A	ab5a@clarc.org	832-722-3780
Communications Chairman	Paul Frantz, W5PF	w5pf@ev1.net	281-351-8930

How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxx.net> email address: k5dx@tdxx.net
On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz (100 Hz) On 70cm: 447.00/442.00 MHz (103.5 Hz)
On Packet: Connect to **K5DX** direct or via **TDXS71** on 145.71MHz.
TDXS Reflector: To subscribe to the TDXS reflector, go to
<http://moonbounce.n5iq.org/mailman/listinfo/tdxx-list>

Bob (N5ET) and Linda (KE5TF) are off to Scotland!

SCOTTISH ISLANDS (GM)

Bob N5ET with xyl Linda KE5TF and Peter GM3OFT expect to be QRV from RAASAY ISLAND (EU-008, iosa NH-10, scotia CN-24) from 0900z on SAT. 31st MAY for c. 5 hours. And on GREAT CUMBRAE ISLAND (EU-123, iosa CL-03, scotia CS-17) from 1130z on WED. 4th JUNE for c. 6 hours. Bands 15m, 20m, 40m will be used following propagation. Callsign will be **MM/N5ET/P**. Direct QSLs EU-only via GM3OFT, all other areas via N5ET or buro.

RigPix:

If you're interested in boat anchors, and radio nostalgia in general, here's a website worth a visit:

<http://www.rigpix.com/index.shtml>

It contains hundreds of photos and general equipment descriptions for vintage gear up to the latest and greatest digital marvels. Almost everything is listed from the well known Collins, Drake, Swan and Johnson Viking brand names to the little known Eddystone and Dragon trade names. Before buying that hamfest bargain, it might be worth a visit to see what the rig is suppose to look like without mods and with the original knobs! Happy browsing!

Steve - W9DX

Prez Sez (cont. from Page 1)

Joey W5BAK and Glenn WB5TUF are both driving and may have room for others in need of transportation. For those of us, including me, who will not be able to make the trip, too bad and better luck next year.

Raffle tickets for this year's fundraiser are going at a brisk clip. We have a Yaesu FT-897 all mode all band go-anywhere transceiver, the latest and greatest, on the block at \$1 per ticket, 12 for \$10, just as in years past. Please keep in mind that this is the only source of funds other than dues, so please contact me to pick up a bunch. For those bound for Dayton, I would suggest you give a hand in selling some there. Our members will have several sales tables available, and that would be good for TDXS if you could sell tickets. You Don't Have To Be Present To Win, doncha know? We will sell all we can before the drawing on June 21 at Arlington HamCom, so please help out.

Speaking of HamCom, TDXS will have a table there, so please start knocking the dust off those priceless items you no longer need, put a price on them and get them to Arlington. The DX lunch is always a good draw, and there may be a ticket or two still left. June 20-22 at the Arlington Convention Center, next to the Ball Park.

For those of you who have not been on 440 lately, it is up and running, moved to a new location up about 500', and has coverage from inside Galveston to inside Conroe north and south, and who-knows-how-far east and west. No tone, great sound, and some old friends with whom you have not conversed in awhile. The other night at 9:00 pm I dropped my call on 443.00 and who should come back to me but Kim Carr K5TU?! Dale Martin KG5U was also on 440, and there may be other lurkers as well. Many thanks to Glenn Anderson WB5TUF for getting the job done! 147.36 is not far from being moved to the new location, with much better coverage just around the corner.

Do we want Igor to return to the repeater? If so, which one?

Dave Topp W5BXX, our Field Day Chairman, has plans well under way for FD 2003 down on Galveston beach. He will give you the details at next Thursday's meeting, so please be there. He can use your input. (*See Dave's article elsewhere in The Bullshead.*)

Both the SSB and CW teams ended up in 2nd place in the world from Mexico during ARRL DX in February and March. We got the usual heat from several Mexican ops who think that a few hundred Qs ought to be good enough for a prize. Mike Hance K5NZ gave them the benefit of his opinion on the subject. It was a classic, and vintage Mike. Too bad if you missed it, but we WILL be back next year, looking for the top prize.

Frosty K5LBU has done a superb job of organizing a 7 man international team to go to 7P8 in late July. There may still be time to get on board for a once in a lifetime adventure. Start getting your shots so you can recover before it's time to hop on the plane, and see Frosty for details. All bands, all modes, wall to wall Lesotho for a week. This will be one of the more exciting things you can do with your clothes on, I should think.

That's it for now. CU in the pileups.

FIELD DAY, 2003

Field Day is June 28,29th (Saturday and Sunday). There has been some expressions for TDXS to participate this year and we're gonna!

The site will be at Surfside Beach, Brazoria County, EL28, fairly rare, and we will be utilizing the beach house of W5BXX (Dave) for a base of operations. It is a two-year old 4-bedroom, 3 bath (with outside h/c shower). First floor up 16 feet and two stories from there with decks. Can sleep 12-14 comfortably with satellite TV (large screen), DVD, VHS, phone and fax/internet connections, printer, fax, copier, scanner, and all other amenities. It is on the beach and has lots of kites, toys, horseshoe, badminton, for the kids. Feel free to bring the wife and kids and enjoy the weekend while we play radio. Those who want to can come down any time on Friday.

I envision 2 RV's set up on the beach in front of the house. Mine has a 50' Aluma tower on top as well as a push-up 30' pole on top for light antennas, and a High Sierra mobile antenna. Comes with an IC-756, and IC-746 and IC-821 dual bander. It carries a 6el mono 10m log-yagi, an 8el Tennadyne log periodic (10-20m) and an M2 5-el 6m yagi. It can sleep 3-5 broadminded hams and has satellite TV, VCR. Also available is an Alpha 40/80/160 dipole

We could bring the small 50' trailer-mounted tower from Bob Burns place, as well as any of the antennas there we want. Frosty's C-3 is at my house and can be used, and Madison has volunteered 3 push poles from his place. With all this stuff, plus other equipment needed brought down by the operators, we would have SSB and CW at the same time on most all bands when open.

Our event will be published in the local papers and the County and City notified and asked to come by. Also the homeowners association will be aware of our presence and may drop in. Dinner Saturday night will be from Willie Joe's with a selection of very good seafood, crawfish, pasta and steaks. I will recommend that TDXS pick up half the cost of dinner, with our chipping in about \$12 each. Brunch Sunday will be included in the price and prepared at the house.

I feel the families will really enjoy the weekend and the kids will love it! The more participants, the better, and I would encourage all readers of the Bullsheet to come by and at least enjoy the event and renew acquaintances with the members you haven't seen for a while. Suggestions for any of the above will be greatly appreciated. I will need a CW Captain, SSB Captian, Couth Officer, laptops and logging programs.

PLEASE RESPOND WITH YOUR THOUGHTS.

Thanks and '73
Dave, W5BXX
W5bxx@aol.com
281-879-9973.

“DX Report by Ken – AB5A”

Hello TDXS'ers. DX has been out there but propagation has been challenging. There were several DXpeditions and everyone showed but El Sol.

VK9X, Christmas Island, IOTA OC-002 Two Separate groups activated this entity. The first group of operators using the callsign, VK9XI put on a mostly 6M effort from this entity. The Propagation to NA was dismal on all bands. Their 6M log was impressive with just over 1200 QSO's to 32 separate DXCC entities. This was 39% of their total QSO's. QSL via VK3OT

The second group were a group of Japanese operators and they were more active on more bands than the first group. Again the propagation was terrible to NA. They worked all bands and modes including RTTY using several callsings. QSL paths as follows:: VK9XC via Karl, JA3MCA, VK9XE via Kuni, JA8VE, VK9Xk via Sasi, JA1KJW, and VK9XY via Mat, JA1JQY

PY0-S St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks, IOTA SA-014 This small group of islands are constantly inhabited by scientists and meteorologists, it is not constantly heard on the ham bands. This operation using the callsign ZW0S was active on 10,15,20 & 40M mostly using RTTY. PY0-S is fairly high on the RTTY most wanted list. There were no WARC antennas so no operations were conducted in those bands. QSL via PS7JN

A7, Qatar Hamad, A71AW has been operating RTTY on several bands. This is a good one to catch as he has a US QSL manager. The other RTTY operator in Qatar is A71EM and his QSL manager is in Bulgaria. QSL via W3HNK

Z2, Zimbabwe George, Z24S has been active on the low bands with a night time path between NA and AF. This is another good one to work as his QSL path is also a US manger. QSL via W3HNK

IOTA EU-088, Laeso Island Rene, DL2JRM activated this island with the callsign, OZ/DL2JRM/P. This operation was on Danish Island Award DIA: NK-03. QSL via HC

S0, Western Sahara For the Prefix hunters this was a new one. A group of Spanish operators activated this entity. QSL via EA4URE

IOTA OC-??? Waldegrave Island East The activation of an all-time new IOTA is always a DX event to behold. A group of Aussies put this one on for the deserving using the callsign VI5WCP. QSL via VK3ZZ

FO0-M Marqueses slands, IOTA OC-027 A group of Italian operators activated this entity as a special event station commemorating the death of Paul Gauguin in 1903 in the Marqueses. The callsign used was TX4PG. QSL via I2YSB

IOTA OC-057 & OC-067, Maupiti Island & Maupihaa Atoll FO/JJ8DEN, Yoshitake activated these IOTA's in the Month of April. He was mostly on Maupiti but did make a short trip to the rarer Maupihaa atoll. QSL via HC

IOTA AF-020, Bubaque Island Sebastian, F8DQZ put this IOTA on the air as J5UAT/P. QSL via F8DQZ

A Hundred others, DX These are the one that I failed to mention for lack of omniscience. You can help me with these. I most likely to mention stuff I'm chasing so keep me posted of what your chasing and I'll be certain to share it. DX is out there!!! Go get it, wrangle it and tell me about it.

73, Ken Eckel, AB5A

The C. Sharpe, K5DX, Memorial Plaque Sponsored by TDXS



A big "Thank You" to Joe Staples, W5ASP, for handling this project.

THE ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY MILITARY TO AMATEUR CROSS BAND COMMUNICATIONS TEST

The Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the Annual military/amateur radio communication tests in celebration of the 54th anniversary of Armed Forces Day. Although the actual armed Forces Day is celebrated on Saturday, May 17th the crossband communications test will be conducted one week earlier on May 10, 2003 (local) so that it will not conflict with the Dayton Hamvention (16-18 May 2003).

These tests provide amateur radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense along with the appropriate military radio stations for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations and a special commemorative certificate will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital message from the Secretary of Defense.

Southern California NAVMARCORMARS, has traditionally participated in the celebration using the call sign NPL. We will again operate transceivers on 7351.5 LSB and 14463.5 USB in order to make as many contacts as possible. The test begins at 0800 on the East Coast We hope to have two teams of 3-4 operators, each of which will work a 3-4 hour shift. We look forward to having you check in and receiving your commemorative certificate.

Steve - W9DX