



THE BULLSHEET

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

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

Work the World: One Ham's View of the World **Russell Dudley, KW5O**

Thursday, May 12, 7:00 pm, Tracey Gee Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, One block east of Beltway 8, between Richmond and Westpark..

Russell Dudley, KW5O, has been a ham for over 25 years. His professional career includes stints with major electronics and ham manufactures, including Motorola, Icom and Alinco. However some of Russell's more interesting assignments were with the UN, where he was able to operate from Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras. Currently, he is President of Ham Distribution, Inc., the exclusive U.S. importer for Alinco, Inc. Russell has rolled all of this in to what promises to be an exciting presentation for us! [There is more information about Russell and his presentation in an article beginning on page 4.]

There will also be a short discussion of our HamCom plans, and our Field Day plans.

Dinner before the meeting

Date: Thursday, May 12

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Le Madeline

Address: 10001 Westheimer, at Briar Park, in the Carillion Center.

Prez Sez... de Don, N5DD

There is a lot going on right now in TDXS, and more in the near future, to prepare for the two big events in June: HamCom and Field Day.

Arlington HamCom. The plan this year is to have two people in the both at all times, and schedule two shifts of 3 to 4 hours each day. To make this work we need four volunteers each day. Please email me to let me know if you can help, and your preference for shifts. Also, the Lone Star DX Association is planning another great DX luncheon, at HamCom.

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Texas DX Society Officers

President	Don Daze, N5DD	n5dd@arrl.net	713-464-7286
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How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxs.net> email address: k5dx@tdxs.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/tdxs-list>

How would you like a new radio??

Your chance to win a brand new Yaesu FT-857d transceiver.

This is the smallest dc to daylight (MF/HF/VHF/UHF) all mode (CW/SSB/AM/FM/Digital) 100 watt radio, that is great for mobile, portable or home use.

The winning ticket will be drawn on June 4, 2005, at 4:00 pm, at the Arlington HamCom. You do not have to be present to win. But you must purchase a ticket to win. Statistics show, that you can dramatically increase your odds of winning by purchasing a large number of tickets. A fixed number of tickets has been ordered this year, once they are gone, no more will be available. Tickets are priced at \$1 apiece, or members can get the special price of 12 for \$10. To purchase your tickets please see Don Daze, N5DD, or Madison Jones, W5MJ.

Upcoming Events

June 3 & 4, HamCom, Arlington, Texas.

June 9, Field Day planning meeting, 7:00 pm, at Tracey Gee.

June 25 & 26, Field Day

July 26 (Tue), TenTec Orion, N4PA, H.E.S.S. Club, 5430 Westheimer Road.

April Attendees

N5DD, W0MM, K5WAF, N5MT + XYL Margie, W5GCX, W5ASP,
WD5KCX, WB5TUF, K5LBU, N4AL, W9DX, W5JWM

73 de Laurent W0MM

The PREZ SEZ, from Page 1

Contesting. 11 TDXSers and friends accepted the challenge to enter, and make over 100 QSOs, in the WPX SSB contest. This was no small feat considering the band conditions at this point in the solar cycle. We totaled just over 2.6 million points for the club competition. When CQ publishes the final scores we will have to see where we rank.

If anyone else was on during the contest, no matter how many contacts you made, please send your score summary to Joe, w5asp@juno.com, and your logs to ssb@cqwpx.com.

Meetings. We all enjoyed Jim, N4AL's, talk and photos, last month, about Greece. This month Russell, KW5O, will be speaking to us about his interesting carrier in ham radio. June 9 will have a field day related topic, and last minute planning for TDXS Field Day at Surfside. Our July meeting will be moved to July 26 (Tue) to accommodate the schedule of Scott Robbins, N4PA, from TenTec.

We are still looking for potential programs on Software Defined Radio, and Rover Contesting. If you have any suggestions please let me know.

Win an FT-857d! The raffle tickets are in, the FT-857d is in hand, and the convention table has been reserved. Now we need you to support TDXS by purchasing raffle tickets. The annual raffle ticket sale is our only fundraiser. Remember that TDXS dues has remained unchanged since the 70's. Raffle tickets are priced at \$1 apiece, or members can get the special price of 12 for \$10.

Field Day. Field Day is coming up June 25 & 26. At the last meeting, after giving due consideration to other viable alternatives, we decided to operate Field Day from W5BXX's Surfside QTH. Last Saturday, W5BXX, K5WAF and myself visited the site to inventory antennas and review the site layout. W5MJ has already rebuilt one of the 40 meter beams. I brought back the TH6 that W9DX has volunteered to rebuild, and the A4 that I will rebuild. There was also another 40 meter beam that appears to be in good shape, a T8 log periodic that belongs to W5BXX that we will use for FD, and an old Mosley 3 element tribander that will need to be refurbished in the future.

This years Field Day will be more organized than in the recent past, and promises to be fun for all. [K5WAF has additional notes in an article on page 6.] I encourage all to participate to what ever extent you can.

TDXS Roster. Laurent, W0MM, has completed the first round of updates to the TDXS roster. If any of your contact info needs updating, please send them to Laurent.

Please help out by showing a big TDXS participation for both June events!

73,

Don, N5DD

Work the World: One Ham's View of the World Russell Dudley, KW5O

Russell Dudley (KW5O) was born in Houston, TX, August 4, 1965. His career experience is extensive for a man of less than 40 years of age. Getting his ham license was the first step in a career that would take Russell Dudley around the world and back.....back home to Texas.

Russell has been a ham since 1980, and has his quarter-century member pin. He obtained his first ham license in Houston, TX, at age of 13 and was given the call sign of "KA5INK." After becoming a ham, he operated an LOT on 147.09 (which was the Echo Society back then) and operated extensively on HF SSB and CW along with 144.100 SSB, doing some wireless ATV (Amateur Television.) Two years later, in 1982, Mr. Dudley upgraded his license to that of Extra-Class and changed his call to KW5O, which he uses today.

In 1984, Russell got his first "real job" at the age of 17 as an employee of Motorola. He was the youngest repair technician they had hired, working the repair bench alongside seasoned veterans. This began his career in radio repair, an area in which his skills are inimitable.

At the age of 19 years, he moved to work in California with a company called Speedcall, a signaling company using radio as the interface. Soon afterward, Mr. Dudley received an offer from ICOM to be a bench technician. Once at ICOM, Russell moved up quickly to Lead HF Technician, and was soon selected by the company to be the "HF Guru" for the ICOM 781, which was the most advanced ICOM model at that time.

Chosen to represent the company, Mr. Dudley was the speaker who introduced the ICOM 781 in Dayton that year, and thereafter began to represent ICOM at ham festivals nationwide. He worked the shows alongside Evelyn Garrison, who plays a very important part in Mr. Dudley's career to this day.

Everything about his career changed in 1989 when Mr. Dudley was extended an offer from the United Nations. The interview process was strenuous. To make a long story short, Russell was awarded a position with the U.N., posting in Damascus, Syria. His job was to subsidize military communications among the forces in Lebanon, Syria and Israel as part of UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Observer Force.) Because of this position Russell had access to and use of governmental radio equipment in all three countries.

After about 6 months of working and living in Damascus, Mr. Dudley was selected for a newly-created mission: ONUCA, the UN force commissioned for the disarmament of the Nicaraguan Contras. This involved him in the military communications equipment for the governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Honduras (the headquarters for the mission.)

Basically, the job in Nicaragua was to bring the Contras ("The Against") into U.N.-controlled areas and disarm them. This was done by cutting their guns in half with a torch and burning the disabled equipment. In return, they were compensated and the U.N. assisted them in finding employment. The contras who cooperated were also given cash to aid in relocation.

(Continued next page)

Russell came away from this position with many-a-tale to recount:

“There were hazards in this job of course. I was supposed to install a repeater at a new location on a Hilltop in Nicaragua. I arrived there by helicopter at the bottom of the hill. I walked up the hill. Once there I ran across all sorts of local wildlife—like a huge frog under one of the inspection plates, scorpions and millipedes, etc.) Once I was done, I called my helicopter pilot for a ride back down, and he flew the helicopter up to the *top* of the hill this time and motioned for me to get in. He only had *one skid* on the hill...the other was floating in the air!

The next day a Columbian Colonel named Jeimi Fahardo told me that I had walked into and thru a minefield that was left there to protect that location from the Contras. Luckily, they had not claimed another victim that day.”

Russell operated in all of these countries as KW5O/TG9, KW5O/HR,1 KW5O/YN3 except in El Salvador. Working in Central America proved to be a very interesting and educational time for him. Upon completion of the mission in Central America, Mr. Dudley was recalled to Syria to complete his time there. In all, he spent a year in Central America and a year in the Middle East.

After his return to the United States, Russell went back to work at ICOM, where he was positioned as the manager of their Atlanta, GA, location. Within 2 months, he was promoted to Overall Service Manager, supervising all ICOM service locations in the US. and Canada. This was his position with ICOM for about 2 ½ years, until he left the company in 1995 and moved back to Houston, Texas.

It is interesting to mention that while living and working in Seattle during the early 1990's, Mr. Dudley discovered a passion for skydiving. He has since logged over 550 jumps, and has also invented several unique devices for use by skydivers. Two of his most notable creations were the wireless video helmet and also an altimeter with a MPH read-out of rate of descent.

It was not long afterward that ESPN took notice and hired Russell to work for them in production of the “X-Games,” which they had just launched. He was based out of Houston, TX, and quickly began traveling all over the world for the company, bringing ESPN X-Games to people everywhere.

After his run with ESPN, Mr. Dudley started a company called RepairAll/SafetyVision. He grew the company for 5 years, designing video recording systems for school- and Metro buses in Houston and other parts of the country. However, soon he found that he was missing his ham radio roots, and he sold that company to return to radio electronics.

Currently, Russell Dudley is President of Ham Distribution, Inc., which is the exclusive U.S. importer for Alinco, Inc. His company maintains sole distribution rights in The Americas , and is responsible for supplying Ham Radio Dealers nationwide with Alinco radio equipment and accessories. The company operates out of Conroe, TX, a town just north of Houston, where they also operate the repair division for Alinco in the 'States.

Outside of work, Russell maintains his ham radio hobby out of his own ham shack, and also spends time fishing the many lakes around his residence while he and his wife Amy await the birth of their son in July 2005.

TDXS FIELD DAY UPDATE:

We are continuing to receive responses to the TDXS Field Day Questionnaire, though if you haven't sent yours in yet, we really would like to hear from you. So far it looks like:

Location: Dave Topp's Surfside Beach house
Class 2A
CW Operation from Dave's RV on the beach
SSB Operation from Dave's garage [generator powered]
GOTA, solar powered and satellite stations

We did make a trip to Surfside on May 7th to review potential setup, antennas and equipment. Four complete antennas were dusted off and examined [(1) Cushcraft 2 element 40 meter, (2) HyGain TH6 -- to be rebuilt by Steve Smothers, (3) Cushcraft A4 -- to be rebuilt by Don Daze and (4) 3 element tribander]. In addition there was a significant amount of coax and an aluminum crank up tower. All in all, we have a great start on our Field Day needs and in developing a permanent inventory (with pictures, condition, etc.) for TDXS owned equipment.

We are still planning a trip to Brenham, hopefully in the next couple of weeks to check additional equipment and antennas.

Food! The menu is starting to come together. Local seafood restaurants have been investigated and I am told that "Chef Dave's" epicurean service will be fully available.

Make your plans to participate -- it should be great fun, food and fraternity.

73 Bill K5WAF

DXpedition Chair Report 5

Well, a discussion of the tough ones is out of the way in the first 4 reports. Now here are some DX sites you can visit fairly inexpensively (or free with frequent flyer miles) which have a tradition of ham operation. While you are at it, you can set up a foreign trust and stash some Ben Franklins. Oh yes, the language is English and some of the food is French.

Yes, I am talking about the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. They are very interesting tax haven places. My personal experience is only as operating as GU/nn5o. I did a single op 15 from Jim Goething's (GU0ELF's) very nice Lindale Guest House which had a 5 el triband Mosely at 75' looking out over the North Atlantic. Even barefoot, I won EU and was 7th worldwide on 15 SSB for CQWW. There is a lot of shopping for the XYL and lots of WWII sites, Martello Tower and other history stuff on Guernsey. They have an unbelievable number of hothouses as they provide the EU with all its tomatoes!! Also, they have some prehistoric megaliths. They HAD a very active ham club which met EVERY friday and had a program at EVERY meeting next to a German WWII bunker. I do not know what is going on now.

Other islands, probably rare IOTAs, in the GU country group are Sark (as in Cutty) > and Alderney. They are available by regular boats, but you would need to work on operating permission.

Guernsey is very ham friendly, and when I was there they put me on local TV. I have a 1 hour video of the trip if anyone is interested. Fly into Gatwick and take a short haul turboprop for 45 minutes to GU.

Anyway, GJ is another haven within distant eyesight of GU. Bill Schrader, K2TNO, operated from there using a vertical on a hotel roof.

The cool thing about these places, other than fabulous propagation everywhere and ease of getting there, is the mixture of French/British cultures. There is lots more I could tell you, but it is late.

The Isle of Man is a work in progress.

This is an excellent go to site. You are a very experienced DXpetitioner. My goal is just like Nike, "Just DO it!"

Unfortunately, the vast majority of hams are very cheap. I want to suggest simple but super DXpeditions which do not cost much.

http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/DX_Peditions/

73 de Jim, nn5o--soon to be ve/ and kl7/

Jim is currently on his trip to KL7, check 14.160 and 14.260 in the evenings and watch the TDXS reflector for updates.....ed.