



THE BULLSHEET

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

September
2006

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

September Meeting -- Thursday September 14th

This month we will have a dual purpose meeting. First H.O. Townsend, K5CX, will give a pep talk for the upcoming Texas QSO Party. (September 23-24) Come find out what's in the works for this year as well as the results from last year and how Rita affected TQP '05. Tell H.O. your plans and he will get them on the TQP web site. www.txqp.org

Then Ed, W5GCX, and Frosty, K5LBU, will fill us in on what they found on their Labor Day trip to Nicaragua. They will show pictures and make plans for a TDXS operation in the CQWWSSB Contest coming up October 28-29. If you have not been on a DX operation, or have not done one for a while, now is the time to be a part of this one.

The meeting is at the Tracey Gee Center starting at 7:00PM. The pre meeting dinner will be at the Pappas' BBQ at Westheimer and Gessner starting about 5:30PM.

TDXS Member Makes Good



Congratulations to TDXS member and past President, Dennis Motschenbacher - K7BV on being named Executive Vice President of Yaesu's Amateur Radio Sales Division. For the past four and a half years, Dennis has served as ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager in Newington, CT and will be leaving the League in mid-September. For full story go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/08/28/100/?nc=1>

Dennis was TDXS President in 1984 and Bullsheet Editor in 1981. TDXS wishes you much success in your new position.

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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/tdxs-list>

TDXS wishes “Happy Birthday” to these members with September birthdays:

Bill Denton - W5SB	Mack Arp - W5EET	Dave Evans - K5SOR
Galen Graff - KB5FU	Tom Taormina - K5RC	Jay Temple - W5JQ
Lance Rumfield - WD5KCX	Steve Nace - KN5H	Bob King, Jr. - NM5L
	Dave Sarkozi - WB5N	

The Prez Sez:

We will have two short programs on September 14th at the Tracey Gee Center. H.O. Townsend K5CX from the NARS club, will be talking about the upcoming Texas QSO Party that will take place on September 23-24th. TDXS could have a good showing for TQP since we do not have a Hurricane to contend with this year. So come out and find out what is planned to take TQP to the streets of Texas. The second part of the program this month will be by Ed W5GCX and Frosty K5LBU, who will be showing pictures of his trip to Nicaragua to scout out a location where we can participate as a TDXS group for the CQ WW SSB contest the last weekend in October. Come find out what it is going to take to put on YN2 and how much support you can provide to run up the score.

Thanks to Frosty K5LBU/C91CF for showing us his pictures of South Africa last meeting.

Hope you have gotten your QSL cards into the mail for the two new countries that came active during August. There were three active groups from Montenegro, one of them had over fifty operators that came from all over the world to help put on the 4O3T callsign in August. They did operate on my favorite band ten meters but we had no propagation this direction. Many thousands of contacts were made on twenty meters which remains the workhorse band as we go through the bottom of Solar Cycle 23. I am hoping that the winter conditions here in Texas will allow us to hear Montenegro on ten during the coming winter months. The east coast should hear Montenegro during weekend contest when more people are on the radio. I expect several more groups will be using the ten prefixes that are possible for Montenegro: 4N3, 4N6, 4O3, 4O6, YT3, YT6, YU3, YU6, YZ3, YZ6.

The name for the old Yugoslavia has been changed to Serbia for DXCC purposes. Serbia continues to hold its pre-existing country status since it was already a member of the UN. If you already have credit for Serbia and YU, you retain your credit. To get credit for Montenegro, you have to work one of the prefixes for new country credit, effective June 28th.

The second new country, Swains Island is located about 250 miles north of American Samoa. Swains has only a few people living on this small island, populated by tall coconut trees and a large shallow lagoon in its center. There is no safe place to land a seaplane. Therefore a boat is needed to take a DXpedition to this remote island. A group of Asian operators were on the island for about a week using the callsign KH8SI. This is the same call used last year to the same island but the 2006 operation is the one that counts for the new country credit for DXCC. Unfortunately, they did not make any contacts on my favorite band but I did hear them on twelve meters.

There is a change of rules in Germany for stations with the DO prefix. They will be allowed to use various frequencies with 100 W PEP so we should hear them on ten meters when better propagation allows during the winter DX season.

An upcoming DX convention in VU7 Lakshadweep Islands will take place from January 15-25, 2007. This DX convention will be similar to the VU4 Andaman Islands activities earlier this year. At least one hundred participants are expected to operate from the VU7 activity but only with 100 Watts so be prepared. VU7 is the second most wanted country on the need list.

Propagation remains the big topic of discussion. The reported sighting of two reverse polarity sun spots may indicate the start of the new cycle. However, these sun spots were not in the lower latitudes where they needed to be and they need to remain for more than a few hours. So let's watch for more of these reverse polarity spots to appear before we call it cycle 24. I still think we shall see the new cycle start about the end of this year.

See you at Pappa's BBQ before the meeting Thursday.

73 Mike N5MT