



# THE BULLSHEET

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

April  
2008

The Texas DX Society, Houston, TX      [K5DX@tdxs.net](mailto:K5DX@tdxs.net)

## TDXS 2008 Spring Picnic



The April TDXS monthly meeting will be a BBQ-Picnic on Saturday, April 12th for the whole family from 11 AM till 2 PM or so. This will take place at the Watergate Yachting Club in Kemah, Texas. Some of the best BBQ and fajitas in Texas, great friends, the chance to go sailing and operate maritime mobile on the "Sea Pumpkin". See [www.tdxs.net/picnic.html](http://www.tdxs.net/picnic.html) for details. Mark your calendars, and plan to attend! Contact WF5W for reservations, and tell him what you covered dish you plan to bring. Round up the wife and kiddies, and come on down! We will meet at the Clubhouse/BBQ area located at Pier 6. In case of rain the clubhouse will be used. If you look at the map on the web site [www.tdxs.org/picnic.html](http://www.tdxs.org/picnic.html), Pier 6 is where the "Dr." of the Mariners Dr. street name is located. The entrance to the marina from 2094 is named Admiralty Way, there is a traffic light at the corner of Admiralty Way and 2094.

**See you there!**

**Willis "Cookie" Cook K5EWJ** has been elected TDXS member #170. Cookie is active in contesting and DXing and has regularly contributed his scores to TDXS. Welcome Cookie!

## Contest Calendar

Apr 12-13 Georgia QSO Party  
Apr 19 TARA Digital Prefix  
Apr 19-20 Michigan QSO Party  
Apr 19-20 Ontario QSO Party  
Apr 26-27 SP DX RTTY  
Apr 26-27 Florida QSO Party  
Apr 26-27 Nebraska QSO Party  
May 3-4 1010 Spring CW  
May 3-4 7th Call Area QSO Party  
May 3-4 Indiana QSO Party  
May 3-4 New England QSO Party

## Member DXpeditions

Jul 3-14 YN by W5KDJ probably using H7/W5KDJ All band CW and RTTY

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## How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxx.net> email address: [k5dx@tdxx.net](mailto: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>

## April Birthdays

**Happy Birthday** to the following TDXS members with April birthdays:

Frank Montgomery - W5JWM	Earl Cunningham - K6SE	John Cashen - W5UG
Bob Burns - W5SJS	Bob Bradshaw - N5RF	Orville Burg - K5VWW
Sam Neal - N5AF	Wayne Bailey - NX7K	OJ Quarles - K1OJ
Frank Moore - KE4GY		

## From the TDXS Archives:

Ten years ago this month, TDXS President Bob Walworth N5ET reported on the upcoming operation from new DXCC entity Temotu H40 by Martii Lane and crew. Contest Chairman Joe Staples W5ASP summarized the results of recent contesting activities by club members. DX Chairman Buzz Jehle N5UR reported on the Temotu operations of H40AA and H40AB, and the new rules which made this and other possible new ones for the entity list. Buzz also pointed out that the newest CIA World Factbook was an excellent source of information for DXpeditioners. George Wagner K5KG was going to be part of a multi-national team going to 3B7 in May, 1998. TQP Chairman Henry Schneider W5HNS was banging the drum for more participation in the May TQP.

TDXS QSL Manager Dale Martin KG5U had a humorous column extolling the benefits of being QSL Manager for the club, and begging someone to take over the position.

Chuck Dietz KZ5MM (aka W5PR) reported on his CQ WPX SSB (SO HP SB 10m) results of 994 Q's, 1813 QSO Pts, 412 mults for a claimed score of 746,956 in spite of the band taking a nose dive on Sunday.

## Prez Sez: de Steve W9DX

If you didn't make the March meeting, you missed an informative presentation on the "Chicken Wire Special" antenna used by the TDXS 5J0E team on their recent trip to San Andres Island. This is a variation of the Battle Creek Special antenna for 40, 80, and 160m, and is very stealthy for city sized lots. If you still need construction plans for making one of these, contact Cal White, WF5W.

The April 12th meeting is a picnic & BBQ event for the whole family at the Watergate Yachting Center in Kemah, TX. Come on down rain or shine! Only \$10/head, and bring a covered dish to share. We need to know if you're planning to attend by latest Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> so the meat order can be placed on Tuesday morning. Contact [Cal White WF5W](#) for reservations. You can find maps, driving directions and other details at [www.tdxs.net/picnic.html](http://www.tdxs.net/picnic.html). For those unable to make most regular monthly meetings, this is a great opportunity to renew acquaintances. In case of rain, we'll use the clubhouse. Weather permitting you might get the chance to operate maritime mobile on the "Sea Pumpkin". We'll be meeting by the BBQ area in front of pier 6.

The ARRL's DXCC desk has completed the addition of St. Barts to the current entities list. The addition moves the #1 Honor Roll position to 338 entities with 329 entities now required to achieve Honor Roll status. DXCC Manager Bill Moore NC1L reports that all 2007 submissions have now been processed, and LoTW certificate requests for St. Barts are now being handled. Check the TDXS DXCC webpage to check your numbers, and let me know if you have any updates.

As announced at the March meeting, we have reserved space in Spring Creek Park for ARRL Field Day, June 28-29 with set-up starting on Friday June 27. The park is located just northwest of SH249 and FM2920 in Tomball. This is a nice county facility with overnight camping, restrooms, and shower facilities. Bill Frink K5WAF has graciously volunteered to be Field Day Chairman this year, with Bob Mennell WB5IUU assisting as trainee for next year's Field Day Chairman. Please start thinking of what time, talents, and equipment you can contribute to this effort and get in touch with Bill and Bob. Dave Topp, W5BXX has once again agreed to provide his motorhome as our FD operating center. We now have a Field Day webpage online at [www.tdxs.net/FD2008.html](http://www.tdxs.net/FD2008.html) and details will be added as plans are finalized. Does anyone know where our generic TDXS banner is?

Tom Taormina K5RC and Grady Ferguson W5FU are plotting on how to stack two 3-element 80 meter beams at the Virginia City, Nevada super-contest station. At an elevation of 6500 ft above sea level, it's going to be an absolute laser! Check out the six new Emtron amps built into the wall and newest tower configurations at [www.k5rc.cc](http://www.k5rc.cc).

Repeater & DX cluster Chairman Glenn Anderson WB5TUF reports that his office will be moving and the DX cluster address will change sometime late April. The 2 meter packet, IRLP and Igor will be down till Glenn can get permission to erect the antennas at the new location. Stay tuned to the TDXS mail reflector for more announcements. As a backup, you can use the [dxc.ab5k.net](http://dxc.ab5k.net) cluster.

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## Prez Sez (continued)

Eddy Reynolds K5WQG went to Belize late last month to play CW, and participate in the CQ WPX Phone contest as V31MR - in spite of frequent power outages. George DeMontrond NR5M was also heard prowling the bands from his Hempstead station during WPX. Allen Brier N5XZ teamed up with his Alaskan buddies at KL5O during the contest, turning in a claimed score of 593,606. Look for Allen using his new club callsign of KL5DX in future contests. I had limited time to spend on the air and only made a single band effort on 20m with 469 Q's, 888 points for a claimed total of 307,248 points doing a mostly hunt and pounce mode.

Special kudos to TDXS member #24, Wes Spence AC5K for being one of the featured hams on pages 68-72 in the April issue of CQ Magazine for his bicycle mobile activities. Wes says he has made some good DX contacts using a Small Wonder Labs DSW 2-watt 20m transceiver, gel-cell battery with solar cells and a HamStick antenna. That sure beats a treadmill at the fitness center!

In other news, Mike Anderson N5MV is enjoying his new Yaesu FT-2000 transceiver and will once again be active during future contests.

For TDXS members on the south side of Houston, don't forget the Pearland Amateur Radio Club (PARC) tailgate sale on Saturday morning May 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Pearland High School parking lot.

Alex Stalinsky WA5UHT (TDXS Charter Member #3) has finished making TDXS name badges for our newer members and I will hand these out for those attending the picnic on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to send Alex a thank you note for making these.

Last but not least, the votes are in for member nominee Willis "Cookie" Cook - K5EWJ. Of those full members casting ballots the results were unanimously in favor of Cookie's admission to TDXS membership. Cookie has a wealth of DX and contesting experience, a dedicated CW operator, and a regular contributor of contesting scores to TDXS. Please join me in welcoming Cookie to the fraternal order of TDXS!

That's about all for this month. See you at the picnic!

**Steve - W9DX**

## TDXS Member Profile: Bob Walworth N5ET



This month's profile is on long time member Bob Walworth, N5ET (ex-AK5B, or "AK5-Barf" as K5LZO used to say). Bob joined TDXS in 1982 as member #95. Bob served as TDXS President in 1997 and 1998. Edited by W9DX.

*When were you first licensed, and what got you started in ham radio?*

I was first licensed in 1975. My interest was due to my father's interest in radio, and my brother was a SWL and he eventually got a ham license while he was in High School.

*Who do you credit most with helping you get started in amateur radio?*

That would be my dad. He was first licensed back in the 1920's and his ARRL membership certificate was signed by Hiram Percy Maxim. His Radio 1<sup>st</sup> Class Phone license was signed by Woodrow Wilson. That was before the W prefix was used, and he had a 2-land callsign at that time. He learned the code at RCA school and became a radio operator on ships. He retired in 1973 moved to Texas from New York. My brother and I thought it would be neat if he got back into radio, so we bought him a Heathkit. He went down to the FCC office and passed his General Class license and after receiving his callsign, went back down and passed his Extra Class license and eventually got K5CK, better known as "Capt. Kangaroo". That prompted me to get a license. When the FCC first allowed vanity callsign requests, dad wanted the shortest callsign possible since he was strictly a CW operator and didn't like a callsign ending in K. He applied for N5EE which the FCC granted. After using the N5EE call on the air, he soon got a phone call from someone claiming that his friend had that callsign. After dad called the alleged callsign holder of N5EE in New Mexico, it turned out that the guy indeed had that callsign as a secondary call. They actually got on the air one day and worked each other as N5EE! That event was written up in QST sometime in the late 70's or early 80's. The FCC soon sent a letter asking him to cease operating with that callsign, and issued N5ET instead.

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## **N5ET** (continued)

### Did amateur radio play any part in your career choice(s)?

Not really. I was in communications and telephone in the service long before becoming an amateur. I enlisted in the Air Force and served from 1958 to 1962, and then did a stint in the Air Force Reserves at Ellington Field working on C-119's, and also did a stint in the Navy Reserves as a Second Class Electronics Technician. XYL Linda is the one who had to study for her ham license! ☐

### Are any of your family members hams?

My wife Linda is KE5TF (TDXS member # 94, joined in 1982), my brother Donald is K5IEC (his original call) and his wife Patricia is WB5LXH.

### What do you consider your greatest achievements in ham radio?

That would be achieving DXCC #1 Honor Roll on Mixed and CW! That includes North Korea on CW! (Bob has one of only 4 QSL cards issued by P5/4L4FN for CW!) I lack only 2 entities to have them all on Phone (3W Vietnam and A9 Bahrain) and both are achievable if the propagation cooperates.

### What is your favorite mode, band, or ham radio activity?

My favorite band is 20 meters and favorite mode is CW. Favorite activity is chasing [IOTA \(Islands on the Air\)](#). I currently have 942 confirmed out of about 1100.

### What do you enjoy most about being a TDXS member?

I love the camaraderie over the years and all the neat people I've met.

### What is one of your most memorable events in TDXS history? (serious, humorous, or other).

I would have to say that would be our trips to XE2FU in Nuevo Laredo with K5LZO and others. We carried an awful lot of aluminum across that bridge, and building that station was a lot of fun. Field Days were a lot of fun too, but they didn't quite compare to the fun we had in Mexico during contests.

### What do you wish to accomplish in ham radio during the next few years (awards, station upgrades, personal milestones)?

I'd like to hit the 1000 mark on my IOTA quest. Station-wise, I'm happy with what I have but I'm in the process of putting up a crank-up tower and a WARC band beam is in the plans. I've been getting by operating 12 and 17 meters with my 40 meter beam, but 12 meters is my worst band, and I only have a dipole on 30 meters.

## Strays:

**Rockall Island** Is anyone interested in going to Rockall Island? W5KDJ has gotten this information on a couple upcoming trips to the island.

Dear Wayne,

My passion is sleeping on uninhabited islands, I have no Radio Ham experience but it does seem a fascinating world. Landing on Rockall is difficult to say the least and is subject to the sea state, being in the Navy you will fully understand this. If the seas allow we will only land passengers after a disclaimer has been signed. The Skipper's decision as to whether a landing is safe, shall be final.

I would like to offer you one of the remaining three berths for the trip to Rockall that departs Monday 12th May 2008 from Leverburgh, Harris and arrives back in Leverburgh on Sunday 18th May. The day before departure we will have rock climbing training.

A 25% deposit of £473.75 plus a £7 bank administration fee is required with booking, the final payment of £1421.25 again plus a £7 bank administration fee is due four full weeks prior to departure. As the final payment is due on 14th April you may prefer to pay the total £1895 plus a £7 bank administration fee.

If you have any questions, especially with regards logistics, just email me.

Yours, Andy

Another trip catering to Amateur Radio is scheduled for 22 to 28 June, 2008. If interested contact Andy Strangeway at info (at) island-man (dot) co (dot) uk

**IOTA Trip - Papua New Guinea** Derek G3KHZ is looking for a couple more operators to join his trip to Papua New Guinea October 18th to November 4th. Derek's contact info is on QRZ.com.

## Contest Scores

CQ WPX W9DX 470 Q's 888 pts 346 mults = 307,248  
KL5O 834 Q's 289 mults = 593,606 (N5XZ et.al)

BARTG RTTY W5PF 339 Q's = 195,264  
NCCC Sprint KG5U 40 Q's 25 mults = 1,000