



# THE BULLSHEET

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

**May  
2008**

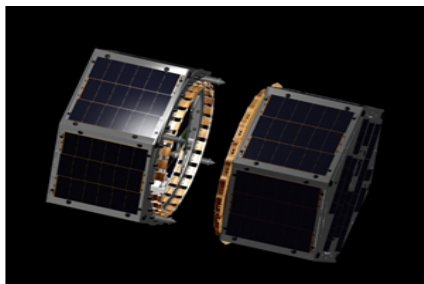
**The Texas DX Society, Houston, TX    K5DX@tdxs.net**

## Double Header Month

This month we will have a Double header program. First up will be Wayne, W5KDJ with a presentation on his November '07 trip to Mozambique. Wayne's trips to Africa are always interesting.



Next aerospace engineer Tom Campbell KD5TIO will give a talk on the communications systems aboard the FASTRAC satellite. FASTRAC is a nano satellite project of the University of Texas. Come get all the details from Tom.



## Contest Calendar

May 10 Fists Spring Sprint  
May 31 - Jun 1 CQWW WPX  
CW Test

## Events of Interest

Jun 28-29 ARRL Field Day  
Jul 3-14 YN by W5KDJ All  
bands CW and RTTY

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The meeting will start at 7:00 PM on Thursday May 8th at the Tracey Gee Center. Directions to the meeting place are on the TDXS web site. Pre meeting dinner will be as usual at Pappas BBQ on Gessner at Westheimer starting about 5:30 PM. See you there.

## Texas DX Society Officers

President	Steve Smothers, W9DX	cougar70@earthlink.net	
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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>

## May Birthdays

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

Leon Pringle, Jr. - W5NA	John Guida - K5XA	Henry Schneider - W5HNS
Jan Carman - K5MA	Mike Mauldin - K5NU	John Whitney - AD5W
Kenny Manchester - NZ5I	Gregg Erlenbusch - W5IDX	Joey Clements - W5BAK

## From the TDXS Archives

Ten years ago this month, TDXS President Bob Walworth N5ET reported on the upcoming Visalia DX Convention and the announced program on H40AA and its pending DXCC status. The 1998 TDXS Field Day plans were firming up. Contest Chairman Joe Staples W5ASP reported that Dave McCarty K5GN operated from Turks & Caicos in the WPX CW contest and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world with a very modest set-up! Quite an accomplishment to say the least. W5ASP operated WPX CW from ZF2NE and finished with First Place Single World Op on 20m and set a new world record in the process! TDXS finished 18<sup>th</sup> in World Club competition with only 8 entries! K5NA operating as NN5AA won the USA 10m Single Band category. Dale Martin KG5U took 5<sup>th</sup> in QRP for the CW Sweepstakes contest. TDXS finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place in the January NAQP contest with 5 of our members reaching the top 10 scores (Eric, NM5M #2; Trey, N5KO #3; Steve, KN5H #7; Dennis, K7BV #9 and Dave, K5GN #10). DX Chairman Buzz Jehle N5UR reported on the upcoming DXpedition to St. Brandon 3B7, and TDXS's own George Wagner K5KG was among the operators. Buzz also announced his plans to put on a new IOTA in Nicaragua as H75A operating from Isla de Venado from May 22-24, 1998 along with ops AD5A, N5FTR, and AB5EB.

Twenty years ago last month, Dave Busick N5JJ became a silent key. It doesn't seem possible that it's been that long. Ironically, Dave left this world while the 1988 ARRL International CW DX Contest was in progress. We still miss you buddy!

de W9DX

## **Prez Sez:** de Steve W9DX

If you missed the April BBQ/Picnic meeting in Kemah, you missed a great event for the whole family. Over 30 people attended. We had "Chamber of Commerce" weather, fantastic food, and great socializing. We should do this more often. "You folks made this BBQ a success with all those home made goodies..... church socials don't have anything on this crew!!!", said Cal WF5W. N5MT's chocolate covered rum balls were in great demand.....hiccup! I have a few pictures of the picnic on the website if you want to check them out, <http://www.tdxx.net/bbq.html>.

A few weeks ago FD Chairman Bill Frink K5WAF, Deputy FD Chairman Bob Mennell WB5IUU and I met with the Spring Creek Park manager regarding our Field Day plans. The original reserved location in the park was deemed to be too isolated, and too far from the shower and restroom facilities. The park manager was one of the most accommodating public officials we've ever dealt with and had lots of helpful suggestions and ideas. He was actually quite enthusiastic about ham radio. We all mutually agreed that the best location was BBQ Pavilion #2 on the west side of the park. It's an all weather facility with plenty of room for the crank-up tower, motor home, tents, parking, and close to restrooms. Bill K5WAF and Deputy Bob WB5IUU will discuss our plans in more detail at the May and June regular meetings. To see the layout, maps, and updated details, visit [www.tdxx.net/FD2008.html](http://www.tdxx.net/FD2008.html). Start thinking of what time and talents you can contribute to this effort. If you don't make the May or June regular meetings, you might get nominated for something (better to volunteer for something you really want to do)! We need as many helping hands as possible. We're gonna have a blast! Come join the fun!

Tom Taormina K5RC is still busy upgrading the Virginia City Super-Station. He has 15 more yagis to assemble and put up and is putting an antenna team together. If anyone wants to spend a week working and playing radio get in touch with Tom.

Dave McCarty K5GN is working in Qatar A7. Dennis Alexander W5KU reports that he's been teaching the locals how to put up full size verticals on the beach for 160M and 80M.

Dennis Motschenbacher K7BV says he will be active this summer from the Caribbean but on 6 meters ONLY. Look for him to sign as V36M (not V3/K7BV as first reported) from Caye Caulker Island (NA-073, WW Loc. EK57XR), Belize, from June 20-26th, and as 5J0M (not HK0/K7BV as first reported or as 5J0E as initially hoped) from San Andres Island (NA-033, WLOTA LH-2990, WW Loc EK92DM) between June 28th and July 6th. His equipment will be a FT-450 with ACOM-1000 amplifier, running 1KW into a 7 element and 3 element beam. The main frequency will be 50.106.2 MHz USB and /B. The pilot station will be Pat, W5OZI. QSL direct only to W1JJ (QRZ.com). For more information, visit his webpage at: <http://www.qth.com/k7bv/caribe2008/>. Too bad the TDXS "pile-up piggies" beat him to the 5J0E callsign! Hummm, wonder who that could be?

Speaking of 5J0E, if you worked the last TDXS DXpedition to San Andres Island, Paul W5PF will be bringing 5J0E cards to the meeting for the deserving. Paul also says, if you spot Marion Island ZS8 be sure to let him know. That's one of the last entities Paul still needs. They should be QRV by May 9<sup>th</sup>.

You've probably heard by now that Force-12 is moving to Bridgeport, Texas northwest of the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The company was recently purchased by Texas amateur Mark Hooper, N5WEB. The entire Force 12 product line will be manufactured there.

Continued next page

## Prez Sez: (Continued)

I know that several of our members are proud owners of the Icom IC-7000. For those of you who may be dissatisfied with the audio quality of the factory supplied hand mic, there is a fix available. AB5N has more details on his website at [www.7000mic.com](http://www.7000mic.com).

Several years ago when I started updating our webpages and member database, we were missing the names of a couple early members. Richard King K5NA helped fill these in for me. Unfortunately I was unable to determine the whereabouts of Edward Jones WA5YEL (TDXS member #11) who joined in 1972. Callsign historical data didn't indicate a new callsign either. Charlie Neiman KG5RQ from Houston Amateur Supply was also looking for him and recently contacted me. Charlie said that Ed was one of his mentors and wanted to know what ever became of him. He clearly remembers the 1972 TDXS Field Day in Willis, Texas that Ed had invited him to. Charlie said,

“I was 15 at the time and Ed was 27. He was like a big brother to me.

Back in 1972 I lived in Fondren Park. There were tons of hams in that neighborhood back then. He had Collins 32-S series twins and I watched him build a SB-220 amp one winter. He had an aluminum tower with a Mosley tri-bander on it. Every thing was first class and super tidy. He seemed passionate about the hobby and it strikes me a little strange that he might of just dropped out. But strange things do happen. That is also the year that I met Allen Brier (N5XZ, ex-WB5BIR) and David Busick (N5JJ - SK). We went to Junior High together and were novices. Though David was a year younger than I, he taught me some tricks of the trade on CW that I still use today. Man could I tell you some stories about spending afternoons after school at Davids' house. I operated Max Busick's (W5GJ - SK) station many times. The Busick antennas were something to behold and operate on. The field days there.... and Mary Busick making sandwiches for David and me on a Sunday afternoon.... so many fond memories.”

Charlie and I were hot on Ed's trail again, and after a few days Ed was found in New Jersey now signing KC2HP. Ed is now retired from Allstate Insurance Company. He left Houston in 1973 for Atlanta where he and his wife Jackie raised two children, and then moved to New Jersey where he's been ever since. His 4<sup>th</sup> district callsign was WA4ABG. Ed says that with all the travelling and raising a family ham radio took a back seat. With retirement time on his hands, he plans to get reacquainted with the hobby again. “Not very active at the moment, but if I can get my antenna system repaired, will get back on the air”, says Ed. If you care to contact Ed and say “hello”, his e-mail link is on the MemberNR webpage.

We finally have control over our domain names again. The transfer of TDXS domain names from GoDaddy to TigerTech was completed on April 27th. TDXS Repeater Chairman and DX cluster guru Glenn Anderson WB5TUF has moved our internet DX cluster to its new home in The Woodlands. The new IP address is 75.148.198.113, or via URL address [dxc.tdxc.net](http://dxc.tdxc.net). As for IRLP on the 442 machine, “Igor” and 2 meter access to the DX cluster, Glenn says, “It's going to be a while...I plan to rebuild the digi that was on One Houston Center and use it as a netrom node to repeat the packet from The Woodlands. I have to get permission to install antennas on the roof of our new building. If that doesn't work, I will try to get a VPN connection to a site that is more centrally located.” Thanks for all the hard work Glenn!

On Thursday at 7 PM, we will be at the Tracey Gee Center for our monthly meeting. We have a lot to cover this month with FD planning and a double-header program with Wayne Rogers W5KDJ doing a show & tell on his November 2007 trip to Mozambique ([www.tdxc.net/c91kdj.html](http://www.tdxc.net/c91kdj.html)), and aerospace engineer Tom Campbell KD5TIO giving a talk on the communication systems on the FASTRAC satellite. We weren't successful in booking a NASA astronaut appearance for the May meeting, but at least we got a rocket scientist! Time permitting we may view a slide show taken at a TDXS FD during the mid-1980's courtesy of Jim Lane N5DC.

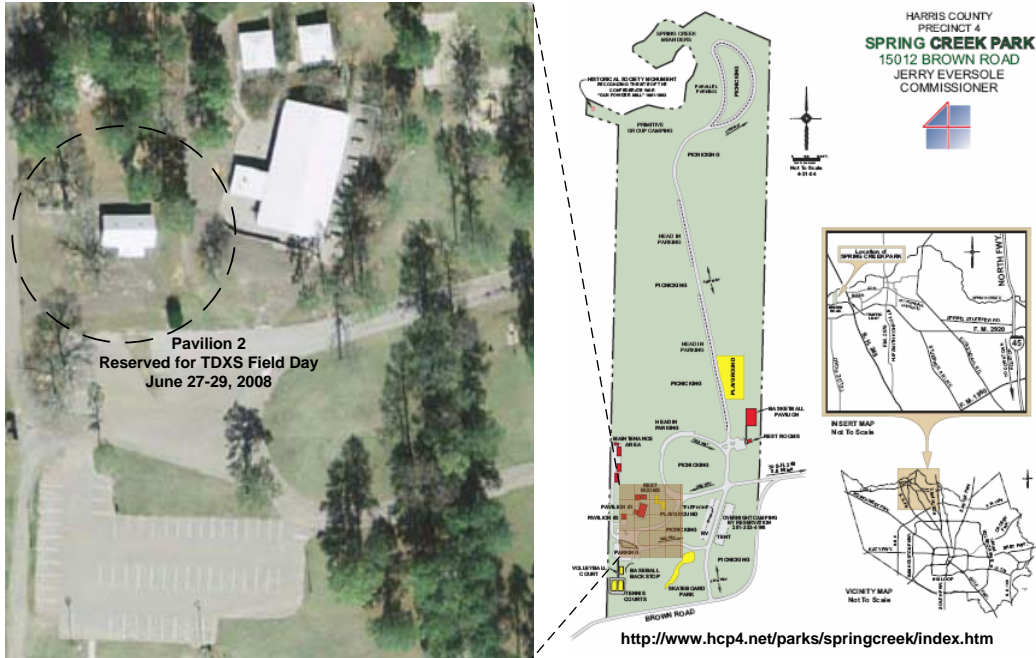
Last but not least, congratulations to Bob and Linda Walworth N5ET & KE5TF as they celebrate their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this month.

See you at the meeting,

**Steve - W9DX**

# 2008 TDXS Field Day

2008 TDXS Field Day Location @ Spring Creek Park, Tomball, TX  
June 27 Setup, June 28-29 Event



## 2008 TDXS Field Day General Plan

### Organization

- FD Coordinator: Bill [K5WAF]
- FD Deputy Coordinator: Bob [WB5IUU]
- CW Station Captain: tbd
- SSB Station Captain: Buzz [N5UR]
- GOTA Station Captain: tbd
- Satellite Station Captain: Glenn [WB5TJF]
- Solar Power Captain: Bob [WB5IUU]
- XYL Captain: Trish Frink

### Dipole Antenna Field

- Treed area with access to both the Pavilion and RV for 40-160 M Dipoles

### Generators

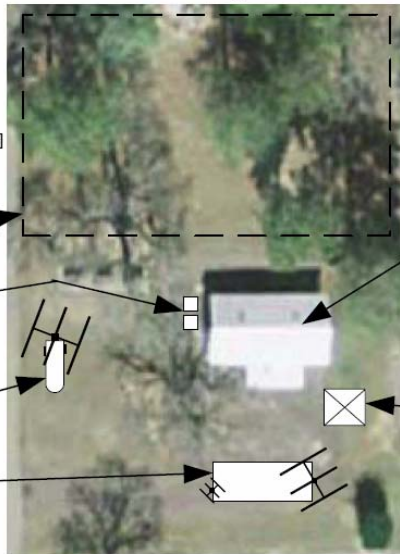
- Location of 2- 5KW Generators – sheltered from open area of the Pavilion for noise control

### Trailer Tower

- Location for trailer mounted tower
- Yagi for SSB Station

### Topp RV

- Location for Dave Topp's RV with towers for HV and VHF Yagi
- CW and VHF Station will be in the RV



### 2A [CW, SSB & GOTA]

- Equipment: 3 TS-480HX Transceivers
- Running full 150W limit (vs 100W that we have been limited to in the past)
- Identical station equipment for ease of learning and operating.

### Pavilion 2

- The perfect location – a public facility but we will be out of the way – and no apparent line noise!
- Complete cover from the weather
- Complete with lighting, ceiling fans and water/sink
- 4 picnic tables – ideal for our SSB and GOTA operating positions, an information table and general gathering
- Toilet facilities within 200 feet of the Pavilion
- Eating/Barbeque facilities

### Tent

- 6 man, REI Habitat 6, tent

### Questions?

- Contact
- Bill, K5WAF: 281-455-0417 [C], K5WAF@arrl.net
- Bob, WB5IUU: (936) 321-8649 [H], bmennell@comcast.net

Mark your calendars, plan to participate, fill a role and help .....  
more to come!