



The Bullsheet

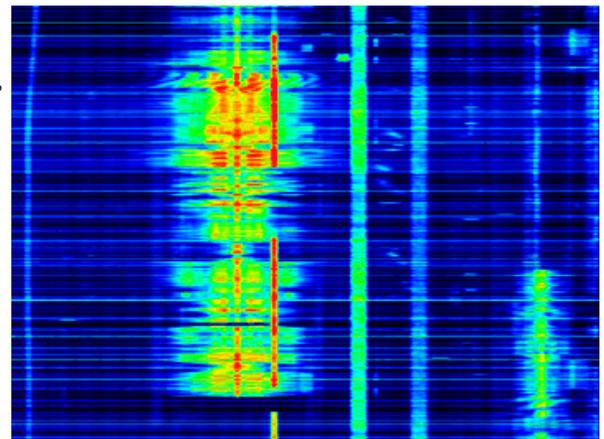
The Official News Bulletin of
The Texas DX Society
An ARRL Affiliated Club

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net July 2012

Digital Modes

Thursday, July 12, 7:00 PM, TDXS Meeting Night. Tracy Gee Center, 3599 Westcenter Dr, Houston. Pre-meeting dinner get-together starts around 5:30-6PM at Pappas BBQ on S. Gessner & Westheimer. Program by Walter Holmes, K5WH. Walter has prepared a

summary of the both past and currently popular digital modes. He has recorded sounds of some of these modes. If you would like to know what you have been hearing around 14.070, or cannot identify the display at right, attend and hear Walter explain it to you!



Editor's Note de Jim N4AL

The Bullsheet is a little short this month. I guess our members are too tired from Field Day to start up the computer and write. I hope to hear from you next month.

Cal WF5W is a frequent contributor who always has something interesting to say. This month he tells us about his backyard Field Day effort in Tomball. And he provides a photo of

a young lad from an old newspaper clipping. I think I still have one of those microphones.

The last time I participated in Field Day was in 2005. It's hot in southeast Texas in June. This makes setup and takedown quite a challenge for an old guy like me. So I decided to leave Field Day to the younger hams and to the hams

in cooler climates.

Please remember to update our webmaster, W9DX of any changes to your DXCC status. Steve puts a lot of effort into the TDXS web page, and it shows. But the web page is like the newsletter; it relies on us as members to provide content.

Inside this issue:

The Prez Sez	2
Contest Chairman's Report	3
Field Day the Old Fashioned Way	4
Birthdays	5



The Prez Sez by Doug WB5TKI

Field Day 2012 has come and gone. As most of you have probably seen on the Reflector, things didn't go as well as hoped. It was beastly hot on both days. The set up crew was small and the tear-down crew even smaller. Thank goodness for the help of several members of the Tidelands ARC who came over to help in the tear-down.

We had 9 operators and 15 total folks signed the guest sheet. We had 59 CW contacts and 554 phone contacts for a total of 672 QSO points. I'm still verifying the bonus points, but I currently put the total at 1372 points. This is about 500 less than last year.

In discussing this with Field Day Chair Dave Topp and others, it is obvious that we need to change something next year if we want to continue to have a Field Day operation. New location, air conditioned operation, participating with another club, we're open to suggestion. For those that didn't stay for dinner (there were only 4 who did), the BBQ was excellent.

Bob, W5UQ and Bill, W5SJ are in last minute preparations for their annual July trip – this time they hold calls VP2MUQ and VP2MSJ,

respectively, July 17 to the 24th – it's a casual, holiday style, DXpedition with emphasis on CW on WARC bands plus some limited RTTY....EXCEPT for the weekend when Bill will take on the CQ WW VHF contest with a 7 element, M2, 6M7JHV and Bob's Expert Amp, 1K FA for all bands, including 6 meters for the contest. They'll be operating from Gingerbread Hill. QSL's to W5JAY.

By the way, Bob also did a very brief operation from Portugal and Ireland...as CT7/W5UQ and EI/W5UQ, first one in May and last one in June.

The July meeting will feature Walter Holmes K5WH, who will enlighten us on the digital modes. For those of you who have worked everything there is to work on CW and SSB, there is a whole new world of challenges in PKS-31 and the like.

I hope to see you at the pre-meeting get together at Pappa's BBQ on Gessner, and at the meeting. Bon Appétit! 73 es gud dx.



Contest Chairman's Report by Cookie K5EWJ

The big contest operating event of the month was Field Day. I did not see the log after about 3 AM Sunday Morning and we had around 500 QSOs at that point. It surely was hot on Saturday morning when we were putting up the antennas and even hotter when we were taking them down on Sunday afternoon. The period in between was also very hot. We were not able to run the air-conditioners on the motor home except for the small portable that was inside the coach. It helped some, but those who stayed the night did not get much sleep, especially Dave who stayed in the coach Friday and Saturday nights. The coach batteries died about midnight, so we had no lights in the coach except for a desk lamp and some flashlights.

When I arrived Sunday about 12:15 Dave and Ron were on the coach where they had tried to take the 6 meter beam down and lost it. They were pretty well spent by the effort and we called Texas City Fire to help us down from the coach roof. Three members of the Texas City Amateur Radio Club helped us stow the log periodic and tower and we all returned home safely.

Needless to say, none of us want to repeat that Field Day. If we contin-

ue to use Dave's coach for Field Day, we need to do some repairs to be sure everything works and we have enough generation power to keep it cool. We also need to be sure we have adequate manpower for tear down. I took a couple of breaks away from the site to cool down and get some sleep, but those who stayed at the site did not have an opportunity to cool off or get good sleep. None of us are the young bucks that we think we still are and we need to take that into account.

In other contests, Chuck Dietz, W5PR, braved the ARRL June VHF Contest with his low tower down from a storm and high noise on his high antenna. Chuck managed 634 contacts on 6 meters with 174 multipliers for a total of 110,316 points. Ron Litt, K5HM made 4 QSOs on 40 and 39 QSOs on 20 in the RAC Canada Day Contest with 4 multipliers on 40 and 14 on 20 for 6,720 points. Vaclav Sal, AA7EJ and Bill Stone, WS5W activated the station on the USS Stewart for Field Day and made 115 CW and 513 Phone Contacts for 743 QSO points plus 150 bonus points for 1,486 total points.

Way to go guys!

Upcoming Events

- July 14 & 15 IARU World Championships Phone & CW
- July 15 CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush CW
- July 21 & 22 CQWW VHF Contest Phone, CW, Digital
- July 28 & 29 IOTA Contest Phone & CW
- July 28 & 29 New Jersey QSO Party Phone & CW



(Photo by Chuck W5PR)

Field Day , the Old Fashioned Way by Cal WF5W

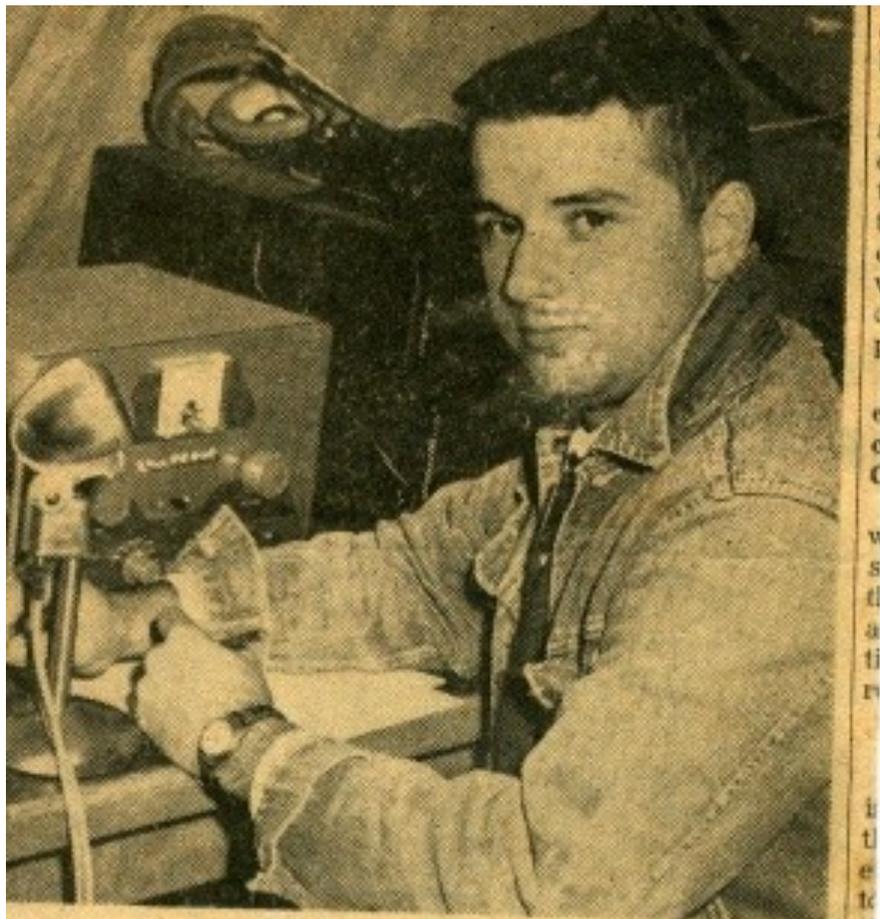
Remember way back when you did your first field day?? I tried to replicate that this year.

I set up a home made vertical in the yard, and put out a table and chair. I took the rig out of my truck and put it on the table. I got a pad of paper and a pencil for logging. The only concession I made to modern times was my generator.

What a return to yesteryear!! Including the bugs and the heat! Seven hours and it was over . There was too much heat and bugs, but was fun to do. I made 143 contacts all over the states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. I even called CQ on 15 meters AND GOT REPLY!!

A thing we should ALL DO AT LEAST ONCE IN OUR SENIOR YEARS....

(Photo is of a young WF5W at Naval Air Station, Kingsville, TX during field day of 1957.)



IE OUT—Cal White of the Alice-Orange Grove crash crew, es a short rest from the 24-hour operation to pose for the otographer.

... area for an emergency " according to the season- m operator who has been ed for 26 years. "We will ily set up our facilities at me place during the June titution."

... e ARRL event the club will four transmitters, three tors, and three antennas.

They also hope to have ready for use at that time a radio-teletype which has been ordered from government surplus material listings.

"All of the material that we now have was either constructed from surplus material or assembled by the members from new parts and kits," the Chief said.

"The transmitters, receivers, and other gear that we received from surplus listings was all obsolete. We rebuilt it and put it

Texas DX Society Boardmembers

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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)

DX Cluster—On Packet: Connect to **K5DX** on 145.71 MHz or telnet via IP address 75.148.198.113

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in July.

Tom Lay - AA5Y

Pat Sonnier - W5WMU

Dennis Alexander - W5KU

Tom Wheatley - K5CNN

Mike Davidson - N5MT

Bill Price - KZ5DP

Tom Jakubec - N5ZR

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Ron Marosko, Jr. - NN5DX

Wayne Rogers - W5KDJ

Stan Polak K5STZ

John Firey W5ZG

Please notify the Editor if I have missed any-one.