



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net April 2013

Old Codger Nite a Great Success

LOTS OF FRIENDSHIPS RE-NEWED

The Old Codgers Nite was a great success. Lots of tales and memories swapped with the OT'rs

See page 7 for pictures and details.



Editor's Note by Tom N5EA

Lots of pictures from the Old Codgers Nite. See page 7

Also a new and expanded DX column from Allen, N5XZ. See pages 4 & 5

Meanwhile, our Prez, still had time to think about Field Day while in V3 land. See page 2

Next month's meeting will be a joint effort with BVARC. See page 6 for details.

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The Prez Sez by Doug WB5TKI

The Prez Sez

Greetings from San Pedro, on Ambergris Caye in Belize. No, I'm not on a DXpedition (drat!) but rather on a 25th Anniversary vacation with my bride. I briefly considered broaching the subject, but then thought better of it, as my bride had her heart set on staying at a certain place that was not ham-friendly. Ah, the sacrifices that we make for love.

If you missed the March meeting you missed a blast. "Old Codgers Nite" was a rousing success. We had about 14 TDXS members from the early years in attendance, including member #1, Richard King K5NA and his wife Susan, K5DU. I had the pleasure, as current TDXS President, of shaking hands with the first TDXS President.

Field Day is less than 3 months away, and we still need to gel our effort. To start the discussion, I propose that we join with BVARC to put on a first class Field Day. We have some top notch CW and Phone operators and they promise to have

enough stations on the air that everyone will get a chance to operate. They have. New facility from which to operate and I think I heard about something called air conditioning. Anyway, I think that it is something that we should seriously consider. Let me know what you think.

I will not be able to attend the next TDXS meeting (still suffering in Paradise) which will be held jointly with BVARC in Sugar Land. It should be very informative, as Ron Litt, K5HM, will be giving the inside story on how to locate, use and get the most out of DX software. Someone please take good notes, as this is a topic in which I am very interested! See the TDXS website for more details.

73 es gud DX,

Doug WB5TKI



TDXS Meeting Notes by Mike K5U0

Date: March 14 2013
7:00-9:00pm

Location: Tracy Gee Center,
3599 Westcenter
Drive, Houston, TX
77042

Attendance: TDXS Members:
WB5TKI,
K5U0, WB5IUU,
N5KTN, W9DX,
WS5H, K5DD,
W5GCX, KN5A,
W5ASP, K5LLL, K5TU,
N8SS, N5MT, K5EWJ,
K5VWW, AA5Y,
NM5G, KG5U, N5AF,
N5HHD, N4AL,
WD5X, W5UQ,
W5SG, K5NA,
WB5TUF, N5ET,
K5GN, K5CNN,
N5XZ, (If I missed anyone, they did not sign the "sign-in sheet")

Visitors: KM5VI,
KE5NDN, K5DU

President [Doug WB5TKI]:

Tonight is "*Old Codgers Night*" as instigated and coordinated by Orville, K5VWW. There are maybe 14 members from times-gone-by in attendance. We even had a member in attendance from the Austin area: Richard King, K5NA (member #1) and his wife, Susan, K5DU. This was a very nice and enjoyable event. Thanks to Orville!

Field Day 2013: June is field day month. A FD

coordinator was solicited with no response. Please contact Doug if you are interested. There is also the opportunity to co-venture with another club for FD which spreads the workload out nice.

April meeting is with the BVARC club at Sugarland.

Bob, W5UQ, Program Chairman, discussed his upcoming program plans. Bob always has some excellent programs planned.

Member Richard, K5NA, presented to the club a 'one-and-only' TDXS 'badge' that was the sample the club had when establishing a logo-badge as has been used ever since. Only this one was white instead of the red and black that was henceforth chosen and used ever since that time. This would be a real collector item amongst TDXS members! Tnx Richard!

PRESENTATION:

Member Bob Hardie, W5UQ, gave a most enjoyable presentation about he and his lifetime buddy's (Bill, W5SJ) DX-pedition to the island-country of Montserrat in the Carribean Sea.

Aside from the ham radio part of his presentation, Bob discussed and displayed pictures of the is-

land ; both the good and the bad. Montserrat has suffered from numerous volcano activity. 1998 was the worst. Much of the island is off-limits for safety reason due to the damages of the active volcano. Most, if not all of this activity is in the south half of the island. Probably one-half or more of the inhabitants no longer reside on Montserrat because of the damage. With the help of the United Kingdom , there is a lot of rebuilding.

The north half of the island is untouched by volcano activity and is a very beautiful. In fact, Bob, who has visited numerous places in the world, finds Montserrat the nicest place he has visited.

Bob and Bill resided in a large three-story holiday rental house. Each had their own level or floor with roof access for antenna work. Well done Messer. Bob!

Submitted to record March 15, 2013

Mike Bragassa, K5UO
Secy/Treas

DX REPORT by Allen N5XZ

This is my first attempt at writing a DX article or any article for the Bull Sheet so anyway, here goes. I've been thinking about this for a long time, though, ever since Bill WS5H cajoled me into doing it. However, as things typically go, I have waited to the last minute to do it. Oh well, some of my best work happens at the last minute!

First of all, most of you have heard of the untimely passing of Ingolf, DL4JS who suffered an accident on Thursday, March 28th 2013 during the T2YY DXpedition. I don't know that anyone has heard any details concerning the accident. We express our deep sympathy and solidarity with his family and his friends. Ingolf was a well-known serious technician and RTTY operator and took part in activities such as 6V7M, HU2DX, T00SW, 5K0Z, XV4YY, XU7AJS, TO8YY, 9H9OB and 5T5DC. Rich, DK8YY and Det, DL3ALI planned to stay active as T2YY in honor of Ingolf until April 4th. There is now a dedicated email address where people can leave messages of condolence to Ingolf's family and friends. They may also leave a donation. The address is: condolence.dl4js@gmail.com.

The current solar cycle continues to fail to impress, and we're all feeling the pain, especially on the higher bands. While there was a fair amount of DX during last week's WPX SSB contest, I think Chuck W5PR (KZ5MM) summed it up by saying "If this is the top of the cycle, I hate to think how bad the bottom will be!". I'm with you, Chuck. Ten meters is and always has been my favorite band, too. Most of us went through the extended bottom of

the last cycle. And this was going to be MY cycle! After being off the air for more than 15 years, I bought the land; I bought the tower; I bought the antenna and then waited for MY cycle! Oh well, I just keep my hopes up. I guess the only partial cure for this condition is a big antenna, but alas that's not possible for all of us. CC&R's (Deed Restrictions) are holding many of us back. Please consider making a donation to the Texas Ham Pac, the only state Political Action Committee dedicated to overturning or modifying the restrictions most of us have on putting up decent size antenna support structures.

www.texasshampac.org. N5AUS, K5RAV and K5FX are the directors. We are planning to have John Robert Stratten N5AUS at the next joint TDXS/BVARC meeting to tell us all about his work with Texas Ham Pac. Please consider giving them a donation as without that, they cannot operate.

Now for the DX:

Here are the highlights of the current DX news, found on the internet:

NCDXF Announces Major Grant to FT/Z Amsterdam Island DXpedition

The Northern California DX Foundation is pleased to announce a grant of \$50,000 to the FT/Z Amsterdam Island DXpedition planned for Jan-Feb 2014. Amsterdam is #4 on the DX Magazine's Most Wanted List for 2013.

HS0ZIB's Update on Myanmar –

not good news for those who need XZ (like me):

By Simon HS0ZIB in Yangon

I'm pulling my hair out with frustration over here in my efforts to get an XZ license. Unfortunately, I seem to have got nowhere after 18 months of effort. I've virtually run out of ideas... I've tried all manner of approaches to the government, but only ever received a single, non-committal email response.

One problem is that it might not be the right time. The Telecoms Minister is new in the job and has his hands full with the new mobile telecoms licenses. Ethnic fighting is occurring daily on both west and east borders, with other clashes concerning a copper mine close to Mandalay. A monk was killed in Yangon yesterday and riots started in town...

So there are a few good reasons why they're not listening to me. The teaching job itself that brought me to Myanmar is going very well, (I've been promoted to vice-principal). But after 18 months, I'm missing my ham radio hobby!

Unless there is a miraculous turnaround re the XZ license, I'll probably leave Myanmar in a few months to teach elsewhere, either to return to my home in Phuket, or to move onto Laos or Cambodia, where I can easily get a ham license.

DX NEWS – CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATIONS:

5W - Suggested frequencies for the 4-18 April 5W0M operation from Samoa

(OC-097) [425DXN 1125] are:
CW 3526, 7026, 10116,
14026, 18086, 21026, 24906,
28026, 50107

DX REPORT contd by Allen N5XZ

SSB - 3805, 7095, - 14210, 18120, 21255, 24945, 28440, 50110
RTTY - 3580, 7041, 10137, 14077, 18104, 21098, 24924, 28098

A large team of German operators will be active with four stations and various antennas, with a serious effort on EME on 144 MHz QSL via DL4SVA, direct or bureau; QSL for EME QSOs via DL9MS. The log will be uploaded to LoTW about 6 months after the expedition.

Logsearch, OQRS for direct/bureau cards and further information at <http://5w0m.hkmann.de/>
9M2 - Jacek, SP5APW will be active as 9M2/SP5APW from Pulau Perhentian Besar (AS-073) on 1-7 May. He plans to be QRV holiday style on 20, 15, 12 and 10 metres SSB and some digital modes. QSL via home call. Updates will be posted to <http://as-073.blogspot.com> [TNX

SP5APW]

CY0 - Gary, VE1RGB and Murray, WA4DAN will be active from Sable Island

(NA-063) on 1-11 October. The call CY0P has been chosen and issued in recognition of the newest National Park in Canada. They will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-10 metres. Further information is expected in due course. [TNX NG3K]

E5_sc - Mauri, AG1LE will be active as E51DXX from Rarotonga (OC-013),

South Cook Islands on 1-13 April. QSL via home call.

FH - Silvano, I2YSB and the Italian DXpedition Team will be active from Mayotte (AF-027) on 3-17 October. Further information is expected in due course. [TNX IK7JWY]

FR - Guy, F5MNV will be active

as FR/F5MNV from Reunion Island (AF-016) on 6-29 April. He will operate only CW on the HF bands. QSL via home call. [TNX DX World]

T33 - The T33A DXpedition to Banaba Island (OC-018) [425DXN 1120] has been rescheduled with 6-17 November as expected QRV dates. Activity will be on all bands and modes with six stations. Two or three experienced operators are being sought. If willing to join the group, email [t33-ops\[at\]t33a.com](mailto:t33-ops[at]t33a.com). A website is under construction at www.t33a.com [TNX The Daily DX]

V6 - Haru, JA1XGI will be active as V63XG from Pohnpei (OC-010), Micronesia on 3-11 April. He plans to operate CW, SSB, RTTY and JT65 on 160-6 metres. With a 2-element yagi for 17 and 12 metres and a vertical for 40, 30, 20, 15 and 10 metres. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or bureau. Further information and log search at

<http://island.geocities.jp/v63xg/index.htm>

ZK3 - The ZK3N DXpedition to Tokelau [425DXN 1141] has been brought forward, and Hans, DL6JGN and Guenter, DL2AWG will now be active on 15-30 April. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 80-10 metres. QSL via DL2AWG. [TNX DX World]

UPCOMING OPERATIONS IN APRIL:

VK9LT Lord Howe Island 10-15 April by W6NV; QSL via W6NV
V63T/V63DX Micronesia 15-20 April by JA7MHZ and JA7GYP; QSL via home calls
ZK3N Tokelau 15-30 April by DL6JGN & DL2AWG; QSL via DL2AWG

5H1DX Tanzania 20-28 April by DF8DX ; QSL via DF8DX

JD1BMH Ogasawara 22 April - 04 May by JG7PSJ, QSL via JG7PSJ
8Q7KP Maldives 23-30 April by VU2PAI & W4VKU; QSL via LoTW and OQRS

TS8IT Tunisia 27 Apr - 04 May by a crew; QSL via IK2DUW

JD1BLY Ogasawara 28 Apr - 04 May by JI5RPT; QSL via JI5RPT

JD1 Ogasawara 28 Apr - 05 May by a crew; QSL via LoTW

V63 Micronesia 29 Apr - 05 May by JH3QFL & JH3AZC; QSL via home call

TS8TI Tunisia 29 Apr - 06 May by a crew; QSL via IK2DUW

MANY MORE IN MAY AND COMING MONTHS!

73 and GD DX, Allen N5XZ

MUSINGS by Bill WS5H

Well here I am at the last minute throwing something together for the Bull Sheet. The month of March went by way to quick and hope Big Al N5XZ had time to submit a DX article for April. (See pgs 4-5)-ed. Ron K5HM has been very busy with the State Parks on the Air event at Mustang Island down in South Texas this past weekend along with his upcoming Chairman Position in June BVARC Museum Ships Weekend Event at Seawolf Park. I am hopeful he will have time to submit a DX article in May. Guess I will do June and we still need members to fill in months for the rest of the year. Please send me an email if you will take a month in the DX Bull Sheet slot.

At the time of this write up I am not aware if we have a Field Day Chairman. I am having medical issues and can not take that FD position however I did get permission to stir up some comments and suggestions about Field Day on our reflector. If I lived near Columbus Texas seems K5WA Bob and other TDXS members as per a previous posting on our reflector put on a good Field Day 1A station. I like the pistol target practice during down time. Don't shoot up all your ammo as that stuff is getting rare to find. How many FD points for a target bulls eye?

Looks more like I will help oversee the ten-meter station with BVARC this year. We have a lot of fun helping new Hams spit the frog out of there throats on 10 meters and when op slots are available the more experienced contest operators get on the air and for a

few past years 10 meter SSB came in #2 for SSB contacts. Big Al does his CW magic on the Bands for many 1000 + contacts and can use some TDXS members CW Know How to give him a break from the key. I have seen him send and RX CW in his sleep at the control point. No Kidding!

The Richmond Fire training ground's new building has lots of room for many KK5W Alfa stations to include GOTA; very cool if not cold in the building and we have an invite to attend the KK5W Field Day. BBQ has always been good and suspect the cold imported beer after hours when the young ones go home to bed will appear again this year.

The DX Chairman report is...
Topp Dx /Contest Fund: No applications have been submitted for screening and review.

Developing or maintaining Dxpedition historical files: No copy of archived files received by me as per time of this article submission.

Hope to see all at the TDXS / BVARC combined meeting Thursday 4-11-13 @ 7 PM in Sugarland Tx.

73 Bill WS5H

Old Codger Nite by Steve W9DX



Mike K5UO Scott K5DD



Richard K5NA Orville K5VWW Kim N5TU Ron K5111



Glenn WB5TUF Jim N4AL



Jim N4AL & Lance WD5X



Bill W5SG Susan King K5DU



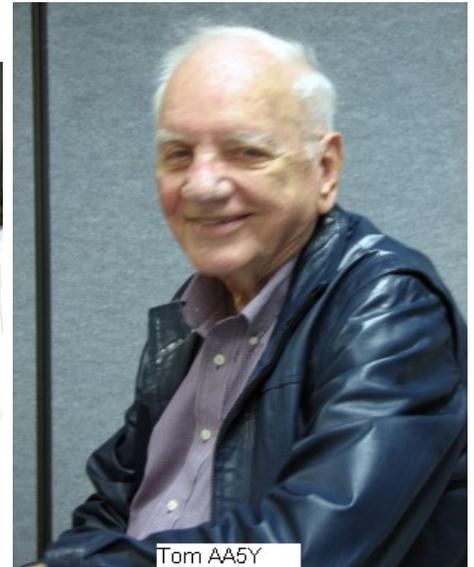
Kim enjoys a good story from tom AA5Y



Tom K5CNN & Arthur N5KTN



Earl N8SS Keith NM5G



Tom AA5Y



Bob N5ET & Dave K5GN



Joe W5ASP Sam N5AF



Richard K5NA Orville K5VWW

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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)

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 April

Birthdays April 2013

John Cashen - W5UG

Bob Burns - W5SJS

Bob Bradshaw - N5RF

Orville Burg - K5VWW

Sam Neal - N5AF

Wayne Bailey - NX7K

OJ Quarles - K1OJ

Frank Moore - KE4GY

Steve Flannigan—W5HPQ