



The Bullsheet

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

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

October Program: "ARRL West Gulf Division Vice Director John Stratton N5AUS"

The ARRL West Gulf Division Vice Director John Stratton, N5AUS, will discuss ARRL and Texas Legislature happenings. He will also be available for amateur radio questions. He is very knowledgeable about the ARRL and Texas Legislature happenings (being the Legislative Action Chairperson for the West Gulf Division).

EmComm funding source

- Life Member ARRL
- Diamond Club Member
- ARES Member STX District 7
- Member, Central Texas DX and Contest Club
- Member, Austin Amateur Radio Club

His Bio:

John Robert Stratton N5AUS

- Vice Director, West Gulf Division (Current)
- West Gulf Division Legislative Action Chair (2009 - Current)
- Assistant Director (January 2009 – July 2010)
- Legislative Action Assistant (February 2007 – January 2009)
- Unofficial West Gulf Legal Counsel (2007 - current)
- Assistant Amateur Radio Section Chief, Texas Division of Emergency Management Communications Coordination Group (current)
- Co-founder and Director, Texas Ham Pac - Amateur Radio's first and only political action committee (current)
- Co-founder, Texas Amateur Radio EmComm Fund – Texas'



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

Welcome to October 2013. The bands are improving now that we are past the summer doldrums, and the Solar Flux is up to 110 and more. 10 & 12 meters has exploded with activity. I've worked a slew of JA's on SSB and as I type this, I am listening to 10 CW on Sunday morning with EU pounding in! I just finished working a couple dozen of them on CW. I also worked 5A1AL on

15 CW and JY9FC on 12 SSB for new slots, TX5D, CY9, CY0, , etc. And, oh, BTW, did I mention 'XZ finally worked XZ for an all time new one? Now 339/356! So things are definitely looking up. I just have to mention that Glen WB5TUF has been doing a great job keeping the .36 repeater up and running and all the members of BVARC owe him a big THANK YOU! for allowing its

use until the .94 repeater is back up and running. Has anyone one other noticed the very minor change in the CW ID on the .36 repeater? That's the riddle for the month. The first one to post the difference on the reflector wins recognition beyond all imagination. Glen says so far I'm the only one who has mentioned it to him...That's all I have this month. 73, Allen N5XZ

Inside this issue:

The Prez Sez	2
September TDXS Meeting Notes	3
Remember When.... Steve W9DX	4
DX Report plus Dinner meeting Chairman and committee needed by Bill WS5H	6
Shutdown Upends Ham Radio Buffs' Trip Marking Massacre Wayne Green, W2NSD, SK	8
DX Report by Cookie K5EWJ	9
Birthdays	10

The Prez Sez by Doug WB5TKI

The Prez Sez

What a difference a month makes! The temperature outside is 73 degrees, and that will probably be the high for the day. This is real “working on antennas” weather. Once I finish this note, I’ll head outside to put some more radials around the SteppIR vertical. You can’t have too many radials!

I just received confirmation from the Tracy Gee Community Center that we received our first choice meeting dates for next year, as outlined in last month’s Prez Sez. The challenge now is to line up the alternate months’ restaurant meetings. Bill WS5H has volunteered to chair a committee to come up with dinner meeting spots. What he needs are committee members to research and recommend these eateries. It would be nice to move these around the metro area for variety and member

convenience. And, if we consider an occasional Saturday lunch or dinner meeting, we could consider restaurants farther out from central Houston. More information will follow from Bill.

To my knowledge our Sec./Treas. Mike K5UO has thus far received no written nominations for elected officers for 2014. Accordingly, verbal nominations will be taken from the floor at the next meeting. As I’ve stated before, and to paraphrase William Tecumseh Sherman, if nominated I will not run, if elected I will not serve for another term as President. According to the Jawbone, I’ve already served more consecutive terms than any of the other 29 Presidents whose calls adorn the hallowed relic. It’s time for another member to pick up the torch.

For our October TDXS meeting

we are pleased to host our ARRL West Gulf Division Vice Director, John Stratton, N5AUS. John will bring us up to date on current events at the ARRL as well as a Texas Legislative initiatives. As usual, we will gather at Pappas BBQ for a pre-meeting bull session. I hope to see you there!

73 es gud dx,

Doug WB5TKI



TDXS Meeting Notes by Mike K5UO

TDXS Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept 12 2013
7:00-9:00pm

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

Attendance: TDXS Members:
WB5TKI, K5UO,
N5KTN, WS5H,
N5MT, K5VWW,
W5UQ, N5ET, K9DX,
N4AL, WB5IUU,
W9DX

Visitors: KE5NDN

President [Doug WB5TKI] presiding:

1. Proposed for membership approval and voting: To have a dinner-meeting style of monthly meeting on an occasional basis. Received membership approval. A tentative schedule was presented. This is necessary to maintain a reserved meeting room at Tracey Gee Center.
2. Doug reminded those in attendance that at the October meeting new potential officers need to be nominated. It is reminded that current officers may or may not seek re-election.
3. Bob, W5UQ, Program Chairman, discussed his upcoming program plans. Bob always has some excellent programs planned.
4. Bob, N5ET, displayed a pdf formatted print of the "Visual History of the ARRL DXCC Program" from 1935 to the pre-

sent day. This very interesting display was prepared by Rich Holoch, KY6R. Steve, W9DX has put this document on the club web page at <http://tdxs.net/dxccvisualhistory.pdf> . As it is in pdf format it can be enlarged for more detail.

PRESENTATION:

Program Chairman, Bob Hardie, W5UQ gave an outstanding presentation on he and his wife's European tour with a focus on the Friedrichshafen Ham Convention in Germany and a visit to his mutual Expert Amplifier service technician in Valencia, Spain.

It was interesting to see pictures of the famed German ham convention we have heard about for years. It appears to be on a par with the famed Dayton Ham Convention of former years. There were a lot of distinct differences: Plenty of chairs around.

Many display booths, especially clubs had a selection of wines and cheese for their guests. That is Europe!

Thanks Bob for a very informative presentation; true to your style!

Submitted to record September 14, 2013

Mike Bragassa, K5UO
Secy/Treas



Remember when.....by Steve W9DX

Remember when Houstonians were given a unique view of TDXS and its contesting activities in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico? The date was April 15, 1984. The morning temperatures were 56 degrees with a predicted high of 78 degrees. As most Houstonians tumbled out of bed, poured their first cup of java, put on their robe and house slippers and moseyed to their lawn to pick up the Sunday edition of the newspaper, they had no idea what the Texas DX Society was or how it related to them.

Most still had curlers in their hair, or morning beard stubble and a definite case of bad "bed head" as they thumbed through the paper looking for the latest TV listings in the "Texas Weekly" supplement. There it was, a front page article titled "Hams Ready for Disaster", with a full color photo of Frank Montgomery W5JWM (SK) at the controls of a sophisticated looking ham radio station.



Remember when.....by Steve W9DX

The story by Linda Castleberry with photo credits to Dennis Motschenbacher and R. J. King chronicled the efforts of the Texas DX Society's latest contesting efforts in the ARRL DX Contest (CW and Phone) operating two weekends in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The article explained how international competition in radio contesting provided the training and experience to handle disaster communication during severe weather and other disaster situations. It was also an exercise in foreign relations with the help of the Mexican government who authorized the transport of more than \$100,000 worth of member owned (and uninsured) radio equipment across the border. A big thanks went to the local Crantac radio club (Club Radio Aficionados del Norte Tamaulipas) who provided the operating location, license and kept TDXS'ers well fed.

Living out of trailers during the two 48 hour round-the-clock events, TDXS'ers operated in 2-hour shifts to work as many US and Canadian hams as possible. TDXS president Dennis Motschenbacher KZ5M (now K7BV) said the club made more than 24,000 contacts with hams in all 48 participating states and nice Canadian provinces, and set two new world records with almost 9000 contacts on CW and 15000 on phone. (Remember folks that this was before computer logging and duping! That's right! All paper logs!).

Chuck Coleman K5LZO (SK) operated both weekends, and in spite of being a dedicated CW operator managed to hit 293 phone QSO's an hour at it's peak! Each operating band had a captain who kept things manned and running at peak efficiency. Members with favorite bands and modes were put to good use such as Frank W5JWM putting in long hours on 75m phone, and Tom K5RC making the most out of 10m openings.

Some of the members participating in these two events included: Sam Neal - N5AF, David Busick -N5JJ (SK), Bob King Sr. - K5IY (SK), Bob King Jr. - NM5L, Tom Taormina -K5RC, Bob Walworth - AK5B (now N5ET), Chuck Coleman - K5LZO (SK), Frank Montgomery - W5JWM (SK), Orville Burg - K5VWW, Eric Silverthorn - NM5M, Phil Shedd - K5RVK (SK), Bill Schrader K2TNO, Bob Burns W5SJS, Steve Nace KN5H (now AA7V), Dale Martin KG5U, Dave McCarty K5GN, Kim Carr K5TU, Bob Evans N5DU (now K5WA), Tom Shapiro KD5SP, Mike Davidson KC5CP (now N5MT), Grady Ferguson NA5R (now W5FU). Galen Graff KB5FU and daughter handled all the logs back home. For more details, see the March and April 1984 Bullsheet online editions: www.tdxs.net/bs84/Mar84_2.pdf, and www.tdxs.net/bs84/Apr84_2.pdf.



Sam Neal and David Busick have a morning seafood breakfast, sardines.



Bob Walworth and Chuck Coleman operate Morse code from a station inside the ranch house. Contact rates of 186 per hour were made

The article gave information on how to become a licensed amateur radio operator and the kinds of activities conducted by "hams". It also noted that some famous hams included Barry Goldwater K7UGA and King Hussein of Jordan (JY1).

DX Report by Bill WS5H

DX Chairman report October 2013

No DX article submitted from in or outside of TDXS membership for October. To the date of article submission no one volunteered to submit an article in the DX slot for November. I am still looking for a volunteer from in or now outside of membership to do a one time, one month DX article for November. It is my hope that this DX slot in the Bull Sheet would be more than the usual recopy of DXpedi-

tions posted on the internet or in DX newsletters or magazines. Please send me an email dragntow@wt.net to help out with an interesting article for our DX slot in the Bull Sheet.

Last months article the Arthur found that the description of the boom length of the 10- meter V-quad was wrong in the article. The boom length is 5 foot 2 inches and not 5 foot 10 inches. Had 10 meters on my mind. Make note of the correction.

DX chairman report: ... 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.

73 Bill WS5H

TDXS Dinner meeting Chairman and committee needed by Bill WS5H

As voted on by the membership in the September meeting next years meeting schedule at Tracy Gee has changed to now a by monthly schedule and we now will have dinner meeting by monthly as well. As per the bylaws of TDXS a dinner meeting may fall on a date other than the 2nd Thursday. This gives the opportunity for some of our members to make other Amateur radio club meetings that are held on the same 2nd Thursday and what seems to be even more important is the opportunity to have meeting credit dinners for our TDXS members that live too far away from the Tracy Gee location to make the 4 meeting minimum for full membership TDXS dinner meeting and possible voting rights. For this great op-

portunity to work TDXS will need be known now that just to say you membership from an area far are to have a TDXS dinner meeting in Ten Buck Two Texas wont fly for TDXS meeting credit without some coordination with the TDXS Board of Directors.

2014 meeting schedule is January Annual Banquet. February, April, August, October, and December are held at Tracy Gee. June is our Field Day. The meetings to be coordinated are March, May, July, September and November.

Proposed 2014 Meeting Schedule

January	February	March	April
Annual Banquet	Tracy Gee	Dinner Meeting	Tracy Gee (Joint w/ BVARC?)
May	June	July	August
Dinner Meeting	Field Day	Dinner Meeting	Tracy Gee
September	October	November	December
Dinner Meeting	Tracy Gee	Dinner Meeting	Tracy Gee

are March, May, July, September and November.



Shutdown Upends Ham Radio Buffs' Trip Marking Massacre

Reprinted from Bloomberg.com

For anyone questioning the reach of the federal government shutdown, consider Wake Island.

Not much more than military-plane refueling and classified operations occur on the unincorporated U.S. territory, a coral atoll located between Hawaii and Guam, about 6,700 miles (10,780 kilometers) from the legislative standoff in Washington.

That was about to change this week with the arrival of a dozen ham-radio operators who thought they'd won approval for a two-week commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the World War II massacre of almost 100 U.S. civilian contractors on Wake Island by the Japanese on Oct. 7, 1943.

Instead, after months of preparation, the trip is on ice because of a paperwork delay the group attributes to the partial federal shutdown, which started Oct. 1 as Republicans and Democrats failed to agree on a stopgap spending measure.

"They made it sound like it was just unfortunate timing," said Craig Thompson, 61, one of the expedition's leaders. "At the level that it was at, they were focused on what they had to do to shut down government, to prepare their budgets and deal with all of the other changes that were going on."

The operation was of special interest to tens of thousands of ham operators inside and outside the U.S. The hobbyists collect contacts with all countries and islands in a practice known as DXing. Because Wake Island hasn't had a major radio expedition since 1998, there's great demand for its confirmation of a contact there.

Missing Signature

All the paperwork was in place, except for final travel orders that needed one last Pentagon signature, said Thompson, an electronics company owner from central Illinois who is a veteran of radio expeditions to other remote locales, including Midway Island and Swains Island in the Pacific Ocean.

"Due to the U.S. Government shutdown, the Wake Island K9W Forgotten 98's Commemorative DXpedition is now on hold pending a revised schedule," a notice posted on the group's website says in a reference that includes its special call sign.

The U.S. Air Force manages Wake and access is restricted. The group was to fly commercial on Oct. 2 to Honolulu, where they would have then boarded a military flight today to Wake.

The decision to cancel was made late on Oct. 1 after determining the group probably wouldn't get final approval in time to catch the second flight, flown once every two weeks.

Anniversary Date

"They believed in the commemoration of these 98 people," Thompson said of the military. "Unfortunately, we are going to lose the significance of the Oct. 7 date, because that was actually when it happened."

Wake Island was annexed by the U.S. in 1899 for a cable station for trans-Pacific communications, according to the Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook. An air and naval base was built during 1940 and 1941, and in December 1941, just after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the island was captured by the Japanese and held until the end of the war.

Some of the contractor prisoners of war killed on the island have yet to be identified and were interred in a military cemetery in Honolulu, Thompson said. Publicity about the expedition has already caused international attention and some people have brought forward DNA samples in hopes of repatriating the remains of missing family members, he said.

Since 1974, the island's airstrip has been used by the U.S. military, as well as for emergency landings. There are about 150 military personnel and civilian contractors on the island charged with maintaining the airfield and communications facilities, according to the Factbook.

Trip Budget

Sometimes those workers are ham operators, although one person isn't able to make the tens of thousands of contacts the expedition was planning during its around-the-clock operation.

The trip's budget is about \$140,000, Thompson said, with operators investing a minimum of \$9,000 of their own money. Costs include reimbursing the government for the Boeing DC-8 flight from Honolulu to Wake.

"This was actually revenue neutral to the government," Thompson said. "All it would have done was make their flight more efficient. We were filling seats that wouldn't have been filled."

To contact the reporter on this story: [John McCormick](mailto:JohnMcCormick@bloomberg.net) in Chicago at jmccormick16@bloomberg.net

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Jeanne Cummings at jcumings21@bloomberg.net

Ham Radio Publications Pioneer, Visionary, Iconoclast Wayne Green, W2NSD, SK

Reprinted from arrl.org

Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD (“Never Say Die”), of Hancock, New Hampshire, died September 13. He was 91. A well-known and often outspoken figure during what some consider Amateur Radio’s golden years in the 1950s and 1960s, Green helmed *CQ Magazine* for 5 years before becoming the self-proclaimed “El Supremo and Founder” in 1960 of *73* magazine, which he published until 2003.

“The purpose of [73] at that time was to get more hams building equipment,” Green recounted in a radio interview several years ago. A hallmark of *73* was Green’s iconic, rambling, and wide-ranging “Never Say Die” editorials, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings. In 2012 Green contributed back issues of *73* to Internet Archive.

“Wayne will be remembered in many different ways by many different people, but he will be long remembered,” said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. “He maintained his membership in the ARRL despite being a persistent critic. In the early days of packet radio he gave me some good advice as to how the

ARRL should promote the new technology: ‘Talk about it as if everybody’s doing it, and eventually they will be.’”

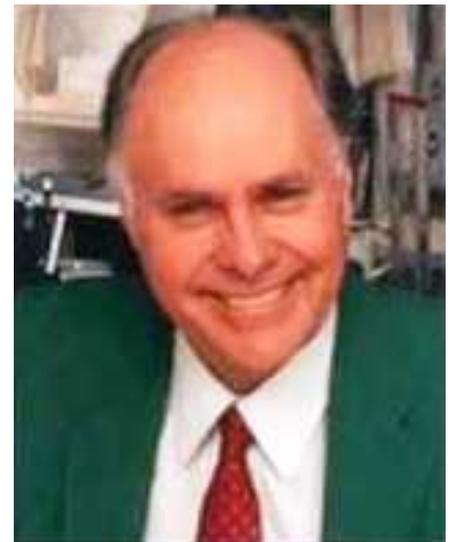
Indeed, Green often was ahead of the curve in promoting such technologies as single-sideband phone, solid-state, FM, and the marriage of computers and ham radio, and he went on to found and publish *Byte* and other computer-oriented publications. “I live mostly in the future,” Green was quoted as saying.

Former ARRL Contributing Editor Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, once wrote in his “Surfin” web column, “We take computers and the Internet for granted today. I first became interested in computers when Wayne Green, W2NSD, started writing about them in *73* magazine in the 1970s. Back then, you had to build your own from scratch or from kits.”

Green maintained a larger-than-life presence, even in the years after he faded from the Amateur Radio spotlight, and he never did really retire. “Hey old buddy, I will miss you,” radio talk show host Art Bell, W6OBB, posted to Wayne Green’s blog. “NEVER SAY DIE is a phrase that will be with me till it’s my time.” Green was an occasional guest on Bell’s “Coast to Coast AM” overnight talk program. There hardly was an issue that Green would

not confront, and he expounded a variety of unconventional science, health, and medical theories — from cold fusion and the moon landing to AIDS and cancer cures. He continued to write and speak frequently on these topics and others, as well as on public policy, even at hamfests where he was a guest.

The “Final” in his blog sums up Green’s overarching philosophy. “Wayne Green passed away September 13, 2013 in a peace-



ful, painless transition from this life on Earth. An eternal optimist, and one who loved to share his never-ending zest for life, he was a friend to many and will be missed greatly. Wayne was not afraid of dying and was very much ready to embark on his next great adventure to the afterlife.”

Contest Chairman Report by Cookie K5EWJ

From the Contest Chairman

The summer is at last over and it is time to think about the fall and winter contesting season. In honor of the season I have decided to order a new amp from fellow member Charles Frost. After a lot of thought I decided to go with the Expert Amp, 1 KW model and probably retire my Clipperton L that has given me good service but is a bit long of tooth. I tried ordering a new set of 572Bs from RF Parts a few years ago, but the Chinese tubes that are available now gave me very poor service and I found it prudent to return to the old tubes. So, I am hoping to enter this contest season with an up to date solid state amp. I elected to go with the 1K model rather than the full output 2K model to save a bit on the cost and to save a bit of room on my operating desk. It will give me about twice the output power of the Clipperton and a bunch of new features to play with. I also bought a P3 and some mod parts for my K3 which maybe I will get installed soon. And lining my beam up with the rotor will help some too. A thunderstorm tried to improve my directional aim, but I am not to happy with showing 315 degrees when I try to work Europe!. I hope that the rest of you are working to get your shack into shape for the coming season and maybe we can get TDXS more radio-active than we have been for a while!

The CQWW RTTY DX Contest was held Sept 28 & 29 and Glen Anderson, WB5TUF represented us well with 692 contacts and 602,940 points in an 18 hour effort. He also represented us in the SCC RTTY World Championship with a 6 hour effort on August 24 & 25. I had to do an internet search to find out about this contest, and it is sponsored by the Slovenia Contest Club. Glen made 234 contacts in that contest which is a great score for a foreign sponsored contest.

We have the premier contests for the season in my book with the CQWW DX SSB

Contest on Oct 26 & 27 and then the CQ WW DX CW Contest on Nov 23 & 24. It is a good idea to find the rules and re-read them carefully because there are some changes this year. CQ is trying to level the playing field and put a stop to the bending of rules that has been done recently by some operators. It is beyond me why some operators find it desirable to cheat when there are no cash prizes and no prestige in cheating, but that is the way things seem to work, go figure! A good slow re-read of the rules is a good idea for any contest, even if the rules have not changed.

There are several contests being held each week end to satisfy most anyone's interest. So, clean up the shack, maybe buy some new toys and fix some antennas and lets represent TDXS during the fall and winter contest seasons. Join the fun! You will be glad you did.

Cookie, K5EWJ



Texas DX Society Board members

President	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler at comcast.net
VP Membership	Bob Mennell, WB5IUU	bmennell at consolidated.net
VP Programs	Bob Hardie, W5UQ	w5uq at att.net
Secretary/Treasurer	Mike Bragassa, K5UO	bragassa at consolidated.net
Contest Chairman	Willis "Cookie" Cooke, K5EWJ	wrcooke at yahoo.com
Field Day Chairmen	need volunteer	
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at earthlink.net
DXpedition Chairman	Bill Stone, WS5H	dragntow at wt.net
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout,, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Steve Smothers, W9DX	cougar70 at earthlink.net
Bullsheat Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz@arrl.net
DXCC QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
CQ WAZ Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net

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 October

Jim Whitmire KD4M

Laurent Thomin, N0MM

Wes Whiddon N5WW

Bob Mennell, WB5IUU

Ron Marosko, Sr. K5LLL

Tom Campbell, KD5TIO

Bill Schrader, K2TNO

Bob Hardie, W5UQ

Jeff McClain, K5MV

George DeMontrond, III, NR5M

Kim Carr, K5TU