



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 2014

October 9th, 2014 Thursday 7:00 pm: "Space Weather" by Dr. Pat Reiff, W5TAR

Don't miss this unique and informative program. Come join us and bring all your ham friends. Pre-meeting dinner get-together usually starts around 5:30PM at Pappa's BBQ on S. Gessner (just south of Westheimer). Patricia Reiff ("Dr. Pat") (<http://space.rice.edu/reiff>) is a professor at Rice University and former Director of the Rice Space Institute. She has trained many ham kids at the Houston Museum of Natural Science summer camps, and offers a "Physics of Ham Radio" class every other

year at Rice, with 12 new hams added spring 2005, 16 in spring 2007; 14 in 2009; 12 in 2012, and another 12 enrolled in 2013. An article about her using ham radio to train teachers was in the ARRL magazine of January and April 2003.



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

There was an unfortunate incident this month that I am sorry to have to report. **James G. Linstedt W9ZUC** of Eau Claire, Wi. died recently from injuries he sustained when he fell 95 feet from a ham tower in Eagle Point, just outside of Chippewa Falls, Wi. What appears to have happened is that when he detached from the tower and was moving from point A to point B he suffered some type of medical problem believed to be an arrhythmia according to the coroner. There has been a lot of chatter on the reflectors lately about what happened, and about being tied off at all times during a climb. There are those who proudly boast that they have "free climbed for 40 years". While there may be some instances where "free climbing" (that is, not being tied off to the tower) by professionals may be ok, I urge each and every one of you to

use the proper equipment and be sure you are tied off in some way. **DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES!** We don't want a repeat of what happened in Wisconsin. If you're not physically fit, get someone else to climb it! If you have a crank-up, be sure it is nested completely. The key thing here is SAFETY! Taking a risk to climb unsafely is stilly and stupid! Speaking of making things safer for tower and antenna work, I am having a "Safety Stand" platform installed on my crank-up that has a capture area for an extension ladder preventing it from moving while climbing up. See <http://www.kf7p.com/KF7P/SafetyStand.html> for the details. And by the way, I have asked for help to install it...climbing a crank-up tower is a PITA!

I wasn't on the air as much as usual during September, but I did manage to work ZA1G, S01MZ, ZL7X, VK9ND, ZD9XF, ZD9ZS, E30FB, TY1AA, VK9AN, VK9NT, 4W6LU, etc. I also had a great time operating as W1AW/5 along with 58 other Texas operators! I had the best rate of my ham radio career, 444/hr (10 QSO rate) on 10 SSB on the first night! I thought there might be a little propagation, but out of nowhere, the JA's, UA0's, VK/ZL's, and other Asians came out in droves! It was incredible! I made a total of 1448 QSO's. Other TDXS members include K5GN, K5HM, K5NA, K5NZ, K5VWW, KG5U, N1SDX, NM5M, W9DX, NR5M and WB5TUF. There may have been more. Total QSO's by all operators was 57,256! Allen N5XZ

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The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

Prez Sez

READ on down....for the Ole Codgers Meeting information in November.

The October meeting is upon us with a wonderful program by Pat Rieff. I'm looking forward to her presentation.

October 9th, Thursday 7:00PM, TDXS Meeting Night at the [Tracy Gee Center](#),

3599 Westcenter Dr, Houston, TX 77042. Special program by Dr. Pat Reiff, W5TAR

on "Space Weather". Don't miss this unique and informative program.

Come join us and bring all your ham friends. Pre-meeting dinner get-together

usually starts around 5:30PM at Pappa's BBQ on S. Gessner (just south of Westheimer).

See you there.

Then everyone needs to mark their calendars for the November meeting. It is going to be a fun one. Orville Burg, K5VWW and our VP of Programming Lance Rumfield, WD5X, have been working out the details for the "Ole Codgers meeting" on **November the 12th**. Which is on a **Wednesday**. **Please note the difference in the date.**

Some of our members requested to have the meeting at the "Lasagna House 6" on

the west side of Houston. So, Lance successfully worked out the necessary details for us to have a private area there for our gathering. **Kudos to Lance** for sticking with it and removing all obstacles. It is really a nice place for our meeting. Bring your spouse too.

Steve Smothers, W9DX has been working with Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF, who has been doing an outstanding job with the new Yaesu repeater situation. I understand that it is working great.

There is a matter of needing \$300 for upgrading the Yaesu repeater. It is being offered by Yaesu and we feel it would be best to get it.

Scott Patout, K5DD, our QSL manager and on the Board of Directors, noticed that the TDXS Constitution allows the Board of Directors to approve expenditures not to exceed \$250 at any one time. So a few of us have been donating "to the cause".

If anyone else wants to donate, please contact Mike Bragassa, K5UO, our Treasurer. He will be reporting on

this, and the donations, at our next meeting in October.

Next is my report on the Board of Directors meeting of September 6th.

The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ (continued)

The Third 2014 TDXS Board of Directors Meeting on September 6th, 2014.

We met at Luby's Cafeteria at Westheimer Road and West Houston Center Blvd.

Meeting began at 9am, after breakfast, concluding at about 10:10am.

Those in attendance:

Mike Bragassa, Treasurer; Mike Davidson, FD Chairman; Scott Patout, QSL Chairman; Arthur Alvarez, Secretary; Allen Brier, Communications and BS Chairman; Steve Smothers, VP Membership/Webmaster; and myself, President.

Lance Rumfield, VP Programming, sent his regrets via email saying he had taken sick during the night and could not make it.

Meeting:

1. Treasurer's report by Mike Bragassa. And studied the different items that TDXS pays out yearly. Also, lack of dues being sent in this year has caused us some concern. It appears that several of the members decided to not send dues this year. Reasons are not known at this time.

It is felt that each year there has been a decline. And that we need to study this subject, in order to come up with possible solutions and ideas to increase the dues next year.

2. Scott Patout discussed QSL's, etc. I believe Allen Brier, suggested using Global QSL.

3. Arthur made the secretary re-

port. Discussions about providing spread sheet for some officers took place.

4. Allen Brier reported on the monthly BullSheet he is editing and sending out, plus communications.

5. Mike Davidson reported on the past Field Day with BVARC and Echo Society. It was a good Field Day and he did a great job. We asked him to consider continuing as FD chairman for TDXS next year. His response was a positive one.

6. Steve Smothers report on new members. We had a long discussion about this and how to increase membership. Consensus is that we are in a decline in membership which is the responsibility of ALL TDXS members. This is indeed a difficult situation and one person cannot do it all by himself.

7. Website Master: Steve Smothers will be the Webmaster for 2015, with the stipulation that he will be phasing out. Scott Patout said he would consider being trained to run it and Bob offered to help as he wants to learn the website. Steve offered to train us saying it should not be difficult.

8. Programming: Lance Rumfield was not in attendance having gotten sick during the night before. He's okay, but really did not feel like leaving his house. We discussed the upcoming meetings in October- at Tracy Gee and the Pat Rieff program, plus the No-

vember- Ole Timers Dinner Meeting, and the December-Tracy Gee with John Firey's program. Also the January-Annual Banquet and that we need to get busy on making arrangements for it.

It was also mentioned that a program on Ham Radio Insurance and ARRL's insurance could make a good meeting.

We were wondering if Lance would consider continuing next year as VP of Programming. Will contact him.

9. We mentioned Orville and the "Ole Timers Meeting" a Dinner Meeting set for November. Orville was asked to do organize the "old timers" to attend. Lance got the restaurant. It will be at "Lasagna House 6" on the west side of Houston. See earlier mention.

10. Comments on Dinner Meetings were asked for and some were received. Most dinner meetings were fairly well attended. I believe we had them on Monday and Tuesday nights. One thought is to go ahead and try Wednesday nights too.

11. Any Old Business. None really.

12. So we discussed next year's Officers nominations and elections and when to have at TDXS meeting? Suggested to have nominations and elections at our regular October meeting at Tracy Gee since November would be a dinner meeting.

(continued next page)

The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ (continued)

Also most officers have agreed to continue into next year. Of course anyone can volunteer or make nominations as usual.

All members participated in discussions with excellent input. This is the third Board of Directors meetings this year. First one was in March, second one in June and this one September. We have one more BoD meeting scheduled on December 6th.

I definitely feel that the meetings have been very helpful to TDXS this year. Adding some good guidance to its success and operation as

a unique and special ham club/ organization.

Thanks to all for support and contributions.

End of BOD report.

That is it for this month. See you all at Tracy Gee on October 9th and if you can, before hand at Papa's BBQ.

Don't forget November Ole Codgers Meeting. **It's going to be a hoot.**

Friendly warning: Be sure to attend the meeting at Tracy Gee or you just might be nominated and elected. :-)

73,
Bob Hardie W5UQ



Contest Chatter by Joe W5ASP

CONTEST CHATTER

It appears that there were a number of local TDXS members active in the Texas QSO Party. Those who didn't get on the air missed a fun weekend. Band conditions were pretty good both days. There were quite a few mobiles scattered around the state, and out-of-state activity was excellent. There is no doubt that the TQP ranks in the top tier right along with the Calif. and Fla. QSO parties. Be sure to put it on your To-Do list for next year.

There are quite a few other state QSO parties scheduled for the month of October, e.g. California, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Arizona, New York, South Dakota, and Illinois. All will have mobile stations active as they trek from county to county. Check WA7BNM's contest calendar for details.

The world's biggest amateur radio contest, the CQ World Wide DX Phone Contest, is set for the last full weekend of October, i.e. Oct. 25th – 26th. Now I know that most of you are not avid testers, and that this may seem to be another non-event. But I suggest that you consider the following. There will be more stations from more different DXCC entities active over the two day period than at any other time during the year. Think of it not as just another boring contest but as a once a year opportunity to "work-the-world". Isn't that why you got your license ?

The beauty of it is that you don't have to enter the contest. You can

simply operate when and as long as you want during the 48 hour period. It's a phone contest with a simple exchange, and will provide contacts on every band from 160 to 10. And since you're not a competitor, you can set your own ground rules. There are a number of options to make your time interesting. Here are a few. Perhaps you can think of others.

One approach is to set out to work DXCC either all band or single band. It's relatively easy to log a 100 countries on 15 Meters over the weekend, especially if you watch the DX spots on packet. (Don't hesitate to use packet, but do verify the call before calling.) As a variation, see how many countries you can work in a set period of time ... say four hours. Take a break and do it again when the path has changed, e.g. Europe in the morning, Asia in the evening. Or do some selective hunting and collect as many calls as you can from a particular group of stations. For example, seek out as many UK stations as you can. The G, GM, GW, GD, GJ, etc. guys are usually quite active. Or collect all the South American countries. The choices are endless.

Obviously if you are already at the top of the Honor Roll looking for "new ones" is a non-starter. But if you're still working your way up the ladder, CW WW DX is a fertile hunting ground. Many rare DX stations pop-up just for this annual gathering. DX-peditions often make it a point to put forth a major effort expecting major pile-ups. If they've got a radio and some wire, they're likely to be on the air.

Remember, you not going to be doing a contest. You're going to be operating your radio for the fun of it. But since it's simpler to keep a log of you activity, you may want to summarize the results. Just for grins you can check <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm> for the details. Don't forget the 3830 Scores website, if you actually have a score to report ... and do list TDXS as your club.

Until next time ... "dit dit" ... Joe, W5ASP

DX Report by Willis "Cookie" Cookie K5EWJ

I have had a busy summer. I had a lightning strike which cratered my computer, my SteppIR controller and my Rotor on my mother's birthday, July 17 and my mother died on July 20 (not related to my lightning strike). I am the executor of her will and oldest child (I am 73 and she lived to 96) so I have been busy making her final arrangements and distributing her assets as well as fixing my lightning damage and other maintenance of my 5 acre antenna farm and archery range. I have ordered some of the equipment I need to repair my beam and rotor and improve my lightning protection, but I have not found the elusive 'round tuit' yet. I can't complain in that with 58 years of hamming and erecting big lightning rods this is the first time I have had significant damage, and this time my amplifier and transceiver survived the strike with no detected damage. My quest for 'Honor Roll' has suffered, but I have taken the opportunity to work on my next level for SKCC and have been working fellow SKCC members with Centurion or Tribune level credits. I now have 346 of the 400 SKCC members worked and pick up a few new ones each week toward the 400 needed for Senator. But, how about DX operation?

The fall DX season is getting under way. The big news is that a Japanese contingent has visited Eritrea under the leadership of Zorro, JH1AJT, of Myanmar and Mt. Athos fame to negotiate reopening of Eritrea to ham radio operation and other sports activity. Zorro was given permission to operate as E30FB for a short time. He made nearly 6000 contacts, but was hampered by losing his computer interface for CW and his power amplifier. I was never able to hear him and the European pileups were fierce. I need Eritrea still and Zorro plans a return trip with a full DXpedition which may accommodate those of us who still need the country as well as SSB, CW and RTTY. Keep an eye out and Thanks!, Zorro!

The French are mounting a DXpedition to Tromelin, an island east of Madagascar. The only access is by small plane from the French Air Force, as there is no good boat landing. Access is restricted to French groups and a DXpedition is planned for November, 2014 using the call FT4TA. They will be active on 160 through 10 with SSB, CW and RTTY modes. They are making final preparations and collecting donations on their web site at this moment. They ask a donation of 25 Euros to defray their expenses.

A group is preparing for a summer of 2015 or 2016 DXpedition to Heard Island. They have hired a new vessel, the Akademik Shokalski (obviously Russian) because it can depart Western Australia instead of South Africa. This will save both time and expense for the expedition. Their team selection is moving along and near completion. Each operator selected is expected to furnish 15 to 18 thousand dollars. (I don't know if U. S. or Australian). Details are available at www.heardisland.org. ZD9XF, Nigel will continue to operate from Tristan de Cuhna. He plans to continue with 40 and 80 CW as the demand is high and not operate on 160 where the wind makes installing a decent antenna difficult or RTTY which keeps him from working the many operators on 40 and 80 CW.

A DXpedition plans to activate as TX5Z from the Austral Islands and be active until Oct 13. I have not heard them as yet.

T30D, OC17 will be activated by German operators from West Kiribati with 4 stations equipped with K3s from 2 to 15 October on 160 through 6 meters. (West Kiribati, Tarawa, is rarer than East Kiribati, Tahiti)

Palestine has a new ham active, E41MT, Mai (XYL) who will be QRV with an IC-706 running 60 watts and a 10 meter dipole. She plans to operate using a 10 meter dipole, on 28.498. Low power and simple antenna may make her difficult to work, but on 10 meters anything can happen.

VKOMH has been assigned to Rod McDuff (VK6MH, GM4AWB) for his pending 6 month assignment to MacQuerie Island. He plans to arrive Oct 21 and take an IC-7410 with Power Supply. Antennas and other details are pending.

I have been able to work TY1AA on 17 meters and C21GC on 30 meters recently with my inverted Vee antennas for 40/75 & 80 so good DX is workable with ordinary antennas.

I have selected some of the rarer DX offerings to talk about here. Many of you do not have a high DX entity count and are delighted to work many of the less rare DX entities. I recommend that DXers subscribe to dedicated DX newsletters and listen to the bands, as well as watch K5DX or one of the other internet DX Clusters. (They all have the same DX info) This will help you find many stations you need and give you more timely information than you see in this monthly column. I receive a daily DX update from The Daily DX and from DX Coffee. Much of the information that I cite here comes from these sources.

Happy DX hunting. See you next week.
K5EWJ

An Aggie in Zone 21 by Dave McCarty K5GN Part I

A7, Qatar, is one of those DXCC entities that makes an American ham wonder, "Where in the world is that and how the heck do you pronounce it?"

I was blessed with the opportunity to get to know the place and its people as a foreign resident while on expatriate assignment from 2007 to 2011. Living there was interesting, and getting on the air there was a blast, but even more fun was getting to know some of the local hams and participating with them in contests and other activities. This article is the first of a series of articles describing the country, the people, and some of the operations we shared.

Qatar is a small Middle East country in CQ Zone 21 (ITU Zone 39). It has an Arabic name which is how it can have a Q without a following U. Pronunciation of Arabic can be difficult for Westerners because the vowel sounds are sort of in-between western vowels. The right way to say it is to make the K sound of the Q with the back of your tongue instead of the middle, emphasize the first syllable and make the vowels sound about halfway between "COT-are" and "CUT-urr").

Qatar is an emirate – a kind of kingdom or royal government – occupying a peninsula that sticks out into the Arabian Gulf from the eastern edge of Saudi Arabia. The Arabs call it the Arabian Gulf and say the Iranians (Persians) have it wrong. Expats just call it "the Gulf". The Emirate of Qatar is a separate country from the United Arab Emirates or U.A.E. (A6 on your DXCC List). The U.A.E. is a neighboring country composed of seven emirates united under a single confederate government. His Highness the Emir of Qatar, a hereditary position of the Al-Thani family, rules the country with input from his appointed ministers and a popularly

elected advisory council. While there is a great degree of freedom, it is still a benevolent dictatorship and police state. About two years ago, the OM who was the Emir while we lived there abdicated in favor of his son and heir apparent. There has not been much visible change with this succession.

Qatar is right in the middle of the Middle East, but it's a long way from everywhere else. The non-stop flight from Houston is a fifteen-hour flight!

The Arab nations bordering the Gulf have formed the Gulf Cooperation Council, or GCC, which loosely commits their respective governments to develop cooperative agreements for trade and other issues. Qatar's neighbors in the GCC are Kuwait (9K) at the north end of the Gulf, the island kingdom of Bahrain (A9) offshore to the northwest, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (HZ, TZ) across the border to the south, and across the water to the east, the U.A.E. (A6) across the water to the southeast, and around the Strait of Hormuz, the Sultanate of Oman (A4). Iraq (YI) is not included, though it is an Arab country. Neither is Iran (EP), everyone's difficult neighbor across the Gulf.

Relations with Saudi Arabia are somewhat strained, mainly due to the Kingdom's desire for hegemony in the region and its tendency to throw its weight around. The most recent territorial dispute came during the Gulf War in 1991 when Saudi Arabia took control of the southern part of Qatar that used to provide a border between Qatar and the UAE. Now goods and people must go through KSA to go between Qatar and the UAE.

Relations with Bahrain are good, though the royal tribes of each country have historically claimed owner-

ship of each other's lands. Remnants of fortresses built during hostilities in the 19th and early 20th centuries dot the northern coast; one has been restored as a tourist spot. The Bahraini flag is almost identical to Qatar's, with a red field instead of a maroon field. Qatar's colors are maroon and white. This Ol' Aggie felt at home with those Qatari decorations.

Iran is considered an economic and political enemy, due to its desire for hegemony over the region, its ethnic difference (Persian vs. Arab), and the long-standing historic conflict between its Shiite Muslim majority and the Sunni majority in Arabia. Qatar and Iran have a specific territorial dispute over the prolific offshore natural gas fields under the Gulf which straddle the borderlines. One function of the Qatari Coast Guard is to watch for infiltrators from Iran coming across in small boats.

Qatar has grown from a relatively backward desert nation of less than 250,000 inhabitants to its present size in only 10-15 years. Almost a third of that growth happened while we lived there. The capital, Doha, defines the term "boom town"! It is the only sizeable city in the country.

I like to say that the difference between Doha and Houston can be expressed as ten degrees, forty inches, and a lot more traffic. Doha is ten degrees C hotter and gets only an inch or two of rain per year, as compared to Houston's 42 inches/year. Two million people live and work in Qatar but there are only enough roads for about one million. At some times of day it is worse than LA.

(continued next page)



An Aggie in Zone 21 by Dave McCarty K5GN Part I (continued)

The population of native Qataris is now over 300,000 and growing, but they are outnumbered five-to-one by expatriates whom they have brought in to help them exploit their mineral wealth and develop their country. The majority of the inhabitants here are semi-skilled and unskilled laborers from the Far East and Africa. Known as “third-country nationals” or TCNs, many live in poor conditions – five or more to a room – in labor camps and multi-family dwellings. Most are single or left their families behind. They tend to live simply and send much of their salaries home. Much of the bad press for Qatar stems from failure to hold contractors accountable for treating these people humanely, and a few unscrupulous contractors give the entire place a black eye.

related to families in Saudi Arabia or in Bahrain. Some intermarriage or extra-marital relations have brought native African and Indian blood into the family lines as well as Egyptian and Mediterranean ancestry. This means that some of the Arabs have very dark skin, while some are much lighter in color.

Like most of this area, national ownership of the petroleum resource has brought great prosperity to the country. Unlike others, the wealth has been shared liberally with the few native inhabitants. Qatar’s strength is in natural gas produced from offshore fields. I came to Qatar as part of a project team that would build and start up a major petrochemicals project.

in Qatar. I kept track, of course, and personally met people from 100 DXCC countries during my time there. I found the last one on my last visit to the shopping mall food court near our compound when I sat next to a young man who had just arrived from 5T, Mauritania. This also means that it is a transient place. Our neighbors came and went over time, but at one point I counted seventeen DXCC among the families in our compound.

More next month in Part II about living in Qatar.

Ethnically, most native Qataris are

People from all over the world are attracted to the economic opportunity

TDXS 2nd Annual “Old Codgers” Dinner Meeting Coming Up

From Orville K5VWW:

I am pleased to announce that the TDXS second annual “Old Codgers” dinner meeting will be held on November 12th, 2014. The restaurant and time has not been finalized but will be posted ASAP. It has been suggested that it be held at “Lasagna House 6” on the west side of Houston. A good time will be had by all. Storytelling and reminiscing will be the order of business.

Numero Uno, Richard King, K5NA, has indicated he and Susan will be in attendance. We hope to see a very large turnout for this auspicious event.



W1AW/5 Part Deux Sept 10th - Sept 16th, 2014 by Ron Litt K5HM

It was a week like any week. Not really. This was the week that Texas stood up for its second time to be part of the W1AW Portable Operations.

Beginning in January, amateurs around the world are participating on the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. Interest has been high all year. Unless you are planning to be here for the Bicentennial QSO Party in 2114, there are many ways to participate.

The QSO party rules award points for working ARRL Members and Officials but the most unique aspect are contacts with W1AW Portable stations in every state and many territories. My personal goal is to achieve W1AW Portable Worked All States. So far I am on track, except for West Virginia, which I missed due to a late start this year but my second change is coming later this month.

I was among those who worked W1AW/5 earlier this year. I thought nothing could surpass that experience. I was wrong. Taking nothing away from the first W1AW/5 crew, the September experience was even more breathtaking.

I shared this honor with 59 Texas amateurs, who put in collectively 139 hours and 54 minutes of air time according to the log data.

Rather than operating from a single location as we had in the W1AW.5 effort earlier this year, we were able to operate in many instances from our home QTH or as a guest op from another participant's shack nearby. This approach allowed many more folks to participate and to schedule their working slots during the weekdays, either before or after working hours.

Band Conditions were challenging and

we had to be mindful of the WAE contest over the weekend as well as some bad weather. In spite of the challenges, W1AW/5 Texas Part Deux, logged a total of 57,256 QSO's for the week, The team average QSO Rate was 409.26 QSO's per hour. The peak rate occurred on the first day, an hour and fifteen minutes after the start; a rate of 1,838 QSO's per hour.

We were active from 160 – 2 meters. Operators on 20 meters logged 12,956 Q's (23%), with 15 meters a close second at 11,200 (20%) of the total.

Operating modes included CW, FM, JT65, JT9, PSK31, PSK63, RTTY, and SSB. Not surprisingly the big modes were, CW (44%), SSB(40%) and RTTY(9%).

I can't say enough about that week without a salute to Larry Hammell, K5OT and George Fremin III, K5TR who organized and coordinated operations and schedules. Yjeir efforts paid off in a smooth running, well-coordinated operation.

A key factor in our success was the e-mail reflector for team members to easily stay in touch with the whole team. It allowed us to communicate about availability and to trade time slots to work. A web based scheduling calendar made it easy to find a time slot to work and be able to reserve it instantaneously. Having the reflector and the on-line schedule made it easy for someone to step into a previously reserved slot, if a someone had to bow out.

The usual problems plagued some of us ,blown fuses, blown finals, deliberate QRM and antenna mishaps. Still the week turned out to be a huge success judging from the e-mail on the reflector.

"Worked a station that told me this was his first QSO after a 10 year lapse in his

license." – K5HM

"I wanted to be loud so ran 1500w PEP from the Acom 2000A. It sure helped to hold the frequency on 20m when the WAE contest was in full swing. John ON4UN even stopped by to say hello." – W9DX

"The Lone Star State is definitely on the map & in plenty of logs!". "Only casualty was an Alpha 99 that cratered Saturday afternoon - uggh." – N5RZ

"I had no idea there were so many Ukrainian hams! Having Seychelles, Saudi Arabia, Lichtenstein, Namibia, Dodecanese, Iceland (several!), most of the "stans" call."- K5PI

I wish I could list the calls of all those who worked to make that week so great. If anyone is interested in the detailed statistics, I suggest an e-mail to K5OT or K5TR. While you are at it tell them thanks for producing a magnificent effort.

I'll just end with this.

I'm happy to have the chance to work with a group of first class amateur ops and to be a part of this event. It's an experience I will never forget.

See you at the Bicentennial!

Ron, K5HM

W1AW/5 By Numbers

aa5vu	Number of QSOs	57256
ad5xd	Number of Dupe QSOs (same Call, Band, Mode)	5464
k5bg	Imported on	9/20/2014
k5dhy	Operator(s)	59
k5du	First QSO at	9/10/2014
k5iid	Last QSO at	9/17/2014
k5jth	Event duration	7 days 23:59:51
k5kv	Operating time (Not counting pauses if 10 minutes or longer)	139:54:00
k5lla	Average rate	409.26 QSOs/h
k5na	Average rate per operator	6.94 QSOs/h
k5ot		1838 QSOs/hour at 2014-09-10
k5pi	Best QSO Rate for 60 minutes period	01:15:00
k5rt	Distinct callsigns	20682
k5rx	Distinct CQ Zones (if specified in the ADIF log)	38
k5tr	Distinct ITU Zones (if specified in the ADIF log)	58
ke5og	Distinct DXCC (if specified in the ADIF log)	153
n3buo	Distinct Locators/Grid Squares (if specified in the ADIF log)	346
n5aw/a		
n5do		
n5ir		
n5jr		
n5rz		
n5xz		
n5zc		
n9tx		
na6m		
ni5dx		
ns5j		
nx5m/k		
w0vx		
w1jcw		
w5rh		
w5up		
w9dx		
wb5tuf		

N5XZ Tower Platform Installation

Sunday October 5th, with the assistance of Michael Wrenn, K5WRN, Michael Monsour AC0TX and Orville Burg, K5VWW, we installed a work platform on my crank-up tower, to make work on the antenna easier. It is seen below. It's available from KF7P Metalwerks <http://www.kf7p.com/KF7P/SafetyStand.html>. If only the darn ladder wasn't so blasted heavy...it takes two men to lift it into position!



Here is Michael K5WRN standing on the platform after installation working on the boom truss.

Another picture of Michael K5WRN working on the antenna while Michael AC0TX is standing by on the ground.



This is a view of the modified truss system using pulleys mounted on the mast. This is done to put the turnbuckles down lower within reach for adjustment. Phillystrand is used for the truss cables. The pulleys and associated hardware are all stainless steel. (The system was originally designed by Robert Polinski, KD5YVQ.)

Texas DX Society Board members

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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 September

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Jim Whitmire KD4M
 Wes Whiddon N5WW
 Ron Marosko, Sr. K5LLL
 Bill Schrader, K2TNO
 Jeff McClain, K5MV
 George DeMontrond, III, NR5M
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