

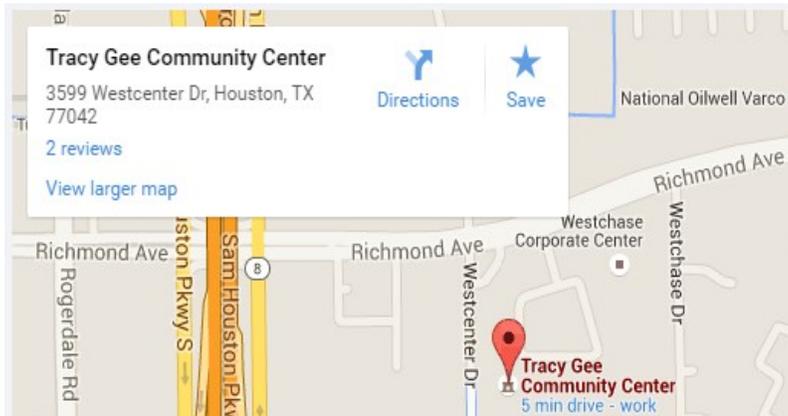


The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net April 2016

Next TDXS monthly meeting to be on Thursday, April 14th at 7 pm at the Tracy Gee Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, Houston, TX 77042. Currently, the discussion will be on contesting.



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

Sorry the Bullsheet is late again this month. I've been busy with a lot of other things, and there is only so much time. I would like to report that I finally have my 18HT Vertical ON-THE-AIR! It is performing excellently with only three radials (at the time of this writing) with excellent SWR curves on 40 and 80 (although it is resonant around 3910, not exactly great for CW, but the Dentron MT-2000A tuner handles it without a hiccup). I have made a lot of DX contacts with great signal reports, worked FT4JA on 80 and VK0EK on 40, so no complaints here! I will

be steadily putting radials ON the ground (with lawn staples) not IN the ground as time goes by. Speaking of VK0EK, the DQRM seems to be getting worse with every major DXpedition. I guess it is the age we live in and we will just have to live with it, not much any person or group can do about it. I found their signals to be very weak during most of the DXpedition, and I am personally disappointed with number of contacts I made. Oh well! Good DX contacts in the N5XZ log during March include: 3XY1T, TX7EU, T32SB, 6W1SR, T32WW, T32CO, 5J0P, T32FS,

T88XH, VU2NKS, 3C7A, A31MM, V21ZG, 3B9FR, 3DA0ZG, 5T2AI, T32MJ, ZD7BG, 9M2ZAK, S9BK, T32LJ, 7Z1JA, 8Q7NC, E51AQA, V85TL, VK9CK, E44YL, TR8CA, C5FUD, 5R8UI, SV9/SV1DPJ, VK0EK and of course FT4JA. The Greater Houston Hamfest was a great success, with close to 1400 attendees, and activities both Friday and Saturday. Thanks to all those who attended and you should know that we are already starting to plan next year's event! Thanks and 73, 73, Allen N5XZ

Inside this issue:

The Prez Sez by Bob Hardie W5UQ	2
TDXS December 2015 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI	3
DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW	4
Contest Chairman's Report by Glenn Anderson WB5TUF	5
TDXS Board Members	6
TDXS Birthdays	6

The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

Prez sez for April 2016:

Hi all.

The Dxpeditions have been going strong last fall, winter and now. I see where the VK0EK and FT4JA Dxpeditions have wound up and are leaving now. I couldn't sleep and got up to see if I could hear them and all I see on the spotter nets is "thanks for the Dxpeds and good luck going home".

Many of you contacted them and had fun doing so. The conditions for VK0EK were not as good as we would have liked. Seems like they were not being heard, no pun intended, as good as we would like.

I don't have anything else on my mind right now to pass along except to please consider coming to the April meeting on April 14th at Tracy Gee. I'm writing this at 3:50am Monday April 11th so my mind is a bit groggy. However, I believe this is a good time to finish up on the re-writing of the TDXS Constitution.

So, come have dinner with us before the meeting. As always, we're at Papa's BBQ on Gessner and Westheimer at about 5:30pm. Then we migrate over to Tracy Gee around 6P45pm.

CU at the TDXS meeting this month. Again, Thursday, April 14th, at 7PM at Tracy Gee.

73,

Bob W5UQ



TDXS December 2015 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS March 2016 Meeting Minutes

Date: March 9, 2016

Location: Cantina Laredo, Houston, TX

Attendance: TDXS Members: Doug WB5TKI, Curt WG5H, Mike K5UO, Orville K5VWW, Bob W5UQ, Robie AJ4F, Scott K5DD, Cookie K5EWJ, Mike N5MT, Lance WD5X, Gerald K9GEM.

Guests: Pat Cameron KJ5Y, Elva Hardie KG5HIE, Janice Muller (XYL of Gerald).

March was a dinner meeting month, so we gathered at the Cantina Laredo on Westheimer in Houston. Good food and good fun were had by all. We held a short business meeting. Items discussed were:

- Treasurer Mike K5UO announced that the club treasury stood at about \$14,000.
- DX Chairman Orville asked about club support for the upcoming DXpedition to Iran. Also discussed was the potential for specific, individually funded aggregations of funds for support of a particular DXpedition
- Secretary Doug gave an update on the progress of the draft for the revised club constitution.

Field Day Chairman Mike N5MT discussed various aspects of the next Field Day. This included the need for a 40M Beam. Mike K5UO stated that he had the club 40m beam in storage and will check on its status and report back to the club.

73,

Submitted April 3, 2016

Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS Secretary



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

DX Report by Orville Burg, K5VWW

The announcement that Kingman Reef, **KH5K**, has been deleted from the ARRL DXCC list was made on March 29th. It no longer met the criteria for a separate listing and will now count as part of the Palmyra/Jarvis entity.

The two major active DXpeditions are winding down and are scheduled to be qrt by next weekend, April 10th. Heard Island, **VKØEK**, has been making a very good effort to remove the need for that entity having surpassed 50,000 qso's. Conditions have not been the best for the Houston area as we are shadowed by the 9,000 foot volcano on the island. They had planned to open a second site, Spit, on the island which would have provided a better path for us, but have decided that the existing site is providing sufficient coverage to the central US.

The other DXpedition, **FJ4JA**, is operating from the island of Juan de Nova in the Mozambique channel between Madagascar and Mozambique in the Indian Ocean. Propagation appears to have been much better to that island for the Houston area with several stations having worked them on multiple bands, including 10M. They have completed over 40,000 qso's in 5 days of operation.

Fortunately the two teams are operating in concert on their frequency plans. VKØEK has been working split with their listening frequencies down and FT4JA has been listening above their transmit frequency. This has prevented overlap of the pileups but has generated concerns of occupying too much bandwidth.

Coming up DXpeditions and operations for the near future include **EP2A** from Iran, **JX9JKA** from Jan Mayen, **VK9L** from Lord Howe, **9MØS** from the Spratley Islands.

TDXS sent a contribution to the **EP2A** Dxpediton and are predominately displayed on the contributors page on their website, <http://tinyurl.com/TDXS-EP2A>. The Lone Star DX Association has also contributed to this expedition so hopefully we will have an opportunity for our area to work the Dxpediton with other areas standing by. There are several members of TDXS that need Iran for an ATNO. The scheduled dates are from April 15th through April 25th.

Jan Mayen Island will be activated by **JX9JKA** from April 12th to October 4th. This will be a SSB and digital only operation from this scarce entity.

Don't forget to look for **FH/F4FET** on Mayotte from March 24th through April 21st.

VK9L on Lord Howe island will be activated by G7VJR from April 15th through April 20th on CW only.

Another operation will be **9MØS**, Spratley Islands in the highly contested South China Sea by DF8AN. This atoll is administered by Malaysia. DF8AN will be using mainly CW on all bands 160M-6M.

Good DXing,
Orville, K5VWW



Contest Chairman's Report—by Glenn Anderson WB5TUF

Hello again! I haven't done any serious contesting this month. I gathered a few band/countries in the CQ WPX SSB. Most of my radio activities this month were spent trying to work the Juan De Nova and Heard Island DXpeditions. I worked FT4JA a total of ten times on all modes and several bands. I worked VK0EK four times and managed to get them on all modes.

March was a slow month for contests. Here are some of the scores from our members:

CQ WPX SSB

Chuck W5PR operated as KZ5MM on 80-meters.

He made 638 Q's and 337 mults for a score of 419,228.

Leslie AD5WB had a casual multi-band effort and scored

200 Q's, 149 mults for a total score of 61,537

That's all for this month.

Please remember to post any of your contest activity to www.3830scores.com and be sure to select Texas DX Society as your club.

Thanks and 73,
Glenn WB5TUF
wb5tuf@arrl.net



Texas DX Society Board members

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CQ WAZ Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net

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 April

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

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