



THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME V, NO. 2

March, 1980

MEETING NOTICE: The next Society Soiree will be Friday night, March 14, (Julian date 074) at the Red Carpet Inn, Katy Freeway (I-10) and Silber Rd. Congregation begins in the Congressional Room or in the bar at 7PM, followed by a buffet in the restaurant at 7:30 and a meeting at 8:30. You're in for a rare treat, when young and old alike will be forced to sit through the films of FP8CB/FO8 again.

FIELD DAY: Well the new F.D. Rules are in March QST, and things are not as grim as they were rumored to be. First of all, we cannot set up until 24 hours before the start of the contest. In a discussion with ARRL, our practice of unloading the hardware at the site a week ahead of time is staying within the spirit as long as the actual structural work doesn't begin until the 24 hour period prior. Signal report has been dropped from the report and F.D. Class has been added. The report we will send will be (i.e.) "3A South Texas." The bonuses have been increased to 100 points. Natural power is back, but it requires 5 QSO's in that mode. We don't have to sign "Portable" any more and they have added another bonus for copying a message from W1AW. All-in-all, it doesn't sound like anything the champs can't handle. Starting in April, we will be getting deeper into the F.D. discussions. Please let N5DU know how you want the club to go this year, and how, when and what you plan to do for the effort (Plan your vacation now. F.D. is June 28-29).

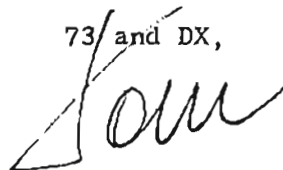
CONTEST CORNER: Even though you are reading this after the ARRL Phone weekend, it is being written before. Being an optimist, congratulations on the fine Club participation to all. Conditions were (will be) better than the CW weekend, but even the solar storm on the CW weekend, which drove the "A" index to 30, didn't dampen spirits too much. The K5RC multiop had over 2.3 Meg. K5WA had 77K, single band 10, K5TU -36K, N5RF-204K, K5FP-17K, K5BZU-7K, N5JJ-6K and we know at least K5KG, W5HNS, K5NA, and N5WW were active but no numbers have been reported. Even K5MA made nearly 5K on 40 from his apartment. It just goes to show you what happens with a little motivation, but it's just a start toward a more representative aggregate score for the talent in the TDXS. Reminder, the CQ Contest last fall requires a list be submitted of the Club participants. Let K5WA know if you submitted a log in either weekend. The CQ-WPX contest is coming up on ~~February~~ ^{MARCH} 22-23. That one can be a lot of fun.

FOR SALE: Heathkit SB220, in mint condition. \$550. Tom, K5CNN, 495-6647

TOM'S SHORTS: Speaking of contests, the one the XYL's are guaranteed to approve is the Bermuda Contest, March 15-16. The winners accept their awards at the Bermuda Radio Societies annual banquet. The Society flies the winners to Bermuda to appear at the banquet, and puts them up at a hotel. The catch is that; since 1959, only two US hams west of the Mississippi have won. Good Luck! On March 8-9, the Lafayette Hamfest takes place, across the Sabine. From the announcement, it appears that our friends at the Acadiana DX Ass'n have had a big hand in organizing the program, with such notables as YBØABV, N5AN and K5OA on the program. At this late date, you might call K5OA or N5AN for furthur info. There seem to be several new services available to DXers. One is a publication called the DX Awards Guide, P.O. Box 1136, Ames, Ia 50010. It not only contains the criteria for the awards, but has application forms included. Another goodie is th U.S. QSL service, 15871 S. Howards Mill Rd, Mulino, Ore, 97042. This one handles those pesty stateside QSL's, 25¢ for 20 cards. Speaking of signing up, the two publications you should not be without are TheDX Bulletin, 306 Vernon Ave, Vernon, Ct 06066, \$22/year for the best weekly DX bulletin and the National Contest Journal, Box 732, Round Rock, Tx 78664, \$9.50 for a year subscription. Bird has just announced a little gadget that no shack should be without. It's a digital wattmeter called the RF Power Anylist. It usese two-standard Bird-wattmeter elements, but it readsout not only foward and reflected power, but also VSWR, Modulation, peak power, foward & reverse dbm, and return loss. Not bad for just under \$600, eh? If you payed your buck last fall and ordered your call-letter license plates, they are waiting for you at the County court house. You have until March 31 to pick them up. If you live out in the boonies and dont want to drive to town, your local court house annex will have the tags sent from the County for you to pick up. A reminder, with 96/36 under close scrutiny these days, watch your conversation content and your I.D. procedures.

Your hon. ed. needs to know what you are doing, so the next Bullsheet is longer than 1½ pages.... 713-481-4586 day or night, don't be bashful.

73/ and DX,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tom', with a large, sweeping initial 'T'.

Tom , K5RC