

THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club



VOLUME VI, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1981

MEETING NOTICE: The February TDXS meeting will be Friday the 13th at the Marriot Brookhollow, Loop 610 at Hwy 290. Exit 610 at T.C. Jester from either direction. If the date of the meeting makes you uncomfortable, forget it and remember the second Friday of the month instead. The face-feeding will begin at 7:00 in the restaurant. Order from the menu. The meeting will start at 8:00. Check the Lobby status board for the appropriate room. Our VP, K5BZU, wishes to extend the apologies from the restaurant Manager for the fiasco we suffered last meeting. They promise better treatment this month.

DUES: The 1981 membership dues (\$25) are due....feel free to use the membership ballot S.A.S.E. enclosed to forward your check. The '80 officers of the club managed to get the club in the black-lets not regress. This year associate and full members pay the same dues. Amendment proposals are forthcoming regarding this subject relevant to '82 dues. Remember, if your membership lapses, you will have to go through the full process to join up with the group again in the future.

W1AW DX BULLENTIN SCHEDULE: Did you know about this one?

SSB - 0130/0430Z Friday (Thursday PM)

CW - 00/03/14/21Z Friday

RTTY/ASCII - 01/04/15/22Z Friday

SSB 1835 3990 7290 14290 21390 28590 kHz

CW 1835 3580 7080 14080 21080 28080 kHz

RTTY/ASCII 3625 7095 14095 21095 28095 kHz

CW - 18WPM RTTY - 60WPM/170 Hz ASCII 110baud/170 Hz

WAZ TDXS COMPETITION: The winners of the 1980 intraclub competition were announced at the January meeting. The All Band award will be going to Dave, W5UN for his fantastic totals: 80M-16Z, 40M-40Z, 20M-40Z, 15M-34Z, 10M-31Z. K5YCP is the winner of the 10 Meter award for his 39 zones on that band. Congratulations to both of these fellas for their efforts!

NEED LIST: One of the services offered to TDXS members, courtesy of Lee - W5DOZ, is a DXCC Need List. Lee keeps his TRS-80 memory loaded with a list of what countries members are looking for. One does not need to be on the Honor Roll to use this service. Matter of fact,

using this service may get you there a lot faster. Lee updates the list frequently and hands out the new lists at regular TDXS meetings. Your telephone number is attached to the list so others can call you if they hear one you are in need of. Surely, no one will deny that a multitude of ears listening for your tough ones is a heck of a lot more effective than the two you have presently holding your brain in suspension. Contact Lee to get on the list--- pardon the expression....

To

TDXS NET: W5DOZ and his alternate W5SG continue to act as Net Control on the weekly TDXS Net. This net meets every Tuesday night at 9PM on the club repeater (96/36). Propagation DX, contests and other topics of interest on the membership are discussed. Non-members are welcome. This is a good opportunity to help your fellow members by passing on hot tidbits picked up on the air. Join in and add to the wealth already there.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: 1980 was our first full year under the current constitution, therefore, several fellows have become our first group of associate members. This is the group that supports us from afar. We appreciate their continued interest and thank them for their loyalty. The membership hopes that we will get the chance to see these fellas face to face at FD, meetings and conventions during 1981. Seems like one never knows when circumstances will change and one will find his QTH or workload shifting such that regular meeting attendance is tough. We hope things will change favorably for this group so we can have their talents and personal fellowship again. The 1981 associate members are as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| N5DM | K5ZD | K5WS | WB5LVL |
| K5FP | W5NA | W5UN | WD5CZF |
| K5TP | AC5K | K5SOR | WD5CBA |
| K5NU | N5RO | K5DEG | WA5TMN |
| W5WMU | W5VUM | WB5IGX | WB5USV |
| | | | WB5YJX |

Please contact our Secretary, W5SG, by letter or telephone if there are questions regarding this matter. Use the enclosed S.A.S.E.

PROPAGATION: The present sunspot cycle continues downward. The peak appears to have occurred in December of 1979 reaching a peak of 165. A smooth sunspot number in the low-to-middle 130's is forecast for February. There should not be any lack of solar activity in the month so excellent DX conditions on the upper three bands should bless us. 15M should continue to hold up well past sundown. 6M should start experiencing its seasonal transequatorial scatter (TE) propagation improvement. No significant meteor showers are expected in February but brace yourself for the usual Feb. auroral effects. The "hot" days in the month are predicted as follows: 12, 22-23. High normal days should be 1-3, 11, 20-21, 24-26. The 16th should be "disturbed." (thats funny-I know of several members who are said to be "disturbed" on a full-time basis)

DENNY'S DRIBBLE:...Back by popular demand... There has been a lot of shuffling around going on out there lately. K5IY has started his own TV service company-with competitive rates I might add-and business is hot and heavy. Bob has several technicians working for him with house call service. KN5A (ex N5ATC), CMP-Certified Mouth Piece, has moved his offices closer to all the money in the Memorial area. K5PFE has moved to P. O. Box 461, Jasper 75951. AC5K has moved to 465 Creekwood, Silsbee 77656. K5NU writes that he has strung indoor depoles in his apartment and says "GL in '81" to all. K5GN, your Contest Chairman, maintains his honorable standing in the Rent-A-Contester contingent by virtue of his move from under Mom's wings and into a Clear Lake apartment into a house in Webster. N5JJ continues to play thief; HV capacitors to Hitchcock with help from WB5WHR, KN5H, K5WA, N5CDO, K5RC, and AA5Y to set up a big multi RX station effort for the CQ 160 test. By the Way, Eric, because he is the rookie, was put in charge of nourishment. What a surprize the fellas got when Eric's father showed up with a luscious lazonias dinner! They thought they had sufficiently corrupted him and would receive the usual cases of beer for subsistance. The team strung nearly 7,000 ft of wire for RX antennae and only managed to get one truck stuck in the sea gull deposits. Captain Jack, N5ZR-Tom, writes that he continues to create QRM on our behalf behind the enemy lines in NTX. K5WA suffers from a split 20M Telrex boom. Rumor has it that the N5CDO's shop is getting a bit of overtime as a result of that incident. K5YCP not only finally topped off his tower with some aluminum for 10-15-20, but put up a rotatable one element 40M KLM. He also managed to find some big capacitors that Dave dropped and made an appearance on 160M during the SSB test. Ken was new to the band and found the QRM was quite acceptable between 1825 and 1830 so he opened up there. He was heard to ask recently what several guys meant when they called him and in an unfriendly tone told him he was in the "DX Window". Ken really got confused about why those guys got so hot when he responded happily that he appreciated the info because thats just the type of QSO he was looking for! KA5CHW managed to spend several hours in the XE boarder town of Juarez without even going to jail much to the amazement of those who knew him before his ailment. K5WA and GA had a roaring birthday party. K5IY, K5WW and KA5CHW by now have all cleaned their shotguns and given the geese a chance to regroup before the season opens again in Nov. The Convention '81 Board of Directors is heavy TDXS with K5RC as the President and K5MA, KA5CHW and K5AAD serving on the board. K5RC, the current National Contest Journal editor, was seen passing out free sample copies at the last meeting. Surely the circulation isn't dropping already--he hasn't even published his first issue! K5GN's new address is 2305 Bay Area Blvd. #1814, Houston 77058.

THE CONTEST CORNER: Well, Gents, good conditions now are signaling better times ahead for the South Texas contester, as we head for the bottom of the cycle again. This year will likely be another record breaking year and a good one for everyone to learn and improve their skills.

Since November, some of the locals have been really keeping the ether active. ARRL 160 saw twelve TDXS members; ARRL 10M saw at least seven, plus the surprise multi-op N5CKX. K5DX did well and K5RC probably won top honors on CW. Kicking off the spring half of the season will be CQ 160, with all kinds of local competition. Next is the Sprint-one of the best warm-up contests going.

Both Sprint and the CQ 160 test will be over by the time you receive this. However, the important contests are just rolling around. Hope you all got the chance to warm up your fists and check out those new beams, 'cause the ARRL DX TESTS are already here. The return to the old rules plus the K5ZD-XXC contest should make submitting a score, so remember to keep a log and mark your summary sheets for TDXS.

The name of the game in contesting is practice and improvement. The spring is great for practice with a contest every weekend. You don't have to be a ZD or a UN - - going all out in every contest isn't necessary to get better.

CONTEST TICKER TAPE N5JJ/Kitchcock reported to be setting the world on fire (if not the shack) in CQ 160...Last year they were #3/World and #1 U.S. multi-op...meanwhile single-ops K5ZD and N5DU go head to head. CQ Magazine (Feb. 81) has an interesting article on DX dupesheets...do you know where VK's transmit on 75M? Ask K5NA/2...K5LZO now holds the highest West Gulf Div. multi-op score in any ARRL VHF contest... for all the good conditions in SS CW, how come there's only one member in the Top Ten? Tom Terrific blew everyone away, CW only in the ARRL 10M. Said conditions were "really lousy"... Wonder if Ron & Donna have a 160 ant up...N5DU says youth isn't everything... will GN ever beat ZD? Not if ZD can help it... the CAC may consider rule changes (Specifically, the QSO point structure) for the IARU Radiosport Competition. Details and opinions on the repeater. Let me know what you think.

UPCOMING ACTION: (bring your own gun)

Feb. 7-8

RSGB 7MHz Phone

CW SP CW Test

Two Land QSO Party

Vermont QSO Party

Feb. 14-15

QCWA CW QSO Party

YL-OM Phone Contest

Dutch "PACC"

Feb. 21-22

ARRL CW DXCC

FB/MR 27-1

CQWW 160 Phone

FB/MR 28-1

French Phone Contest

RSGB 7MHz CW

G-QRP CW Activity

YL-OM CW Contest

Mar. 7-8

ARRL Phone DX Contest

Mar. 28-29

CQWW WPX SSB Contest

-DAVE, K5GN

THE K5ZD CONTEST

X
C
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I. OBJECT: To provide added incentive for TDXS members to contribute to the TDXS ARRL DX CONTEST club score entry.

II. ELIGIBILITY: TDXS members submitting a log in the ARRL DX competition contributing to the TDXS club score.

III. CONTEST: Phone and CW are separate contests. Work as many different DXCC countries in the contests as possible. All Bands 160-10. Each country may be counted only once regardless of band for this award. (This is not intended to discourage working as many countries on each band as possible) In the event of a tie, the higher scoring entrant will win.

IV. REPORTING: A list of the DXCC countries worked, one call sign for each country, with a copy of your contest summary sheet, should be submitted to K5GN or K5ZD within thirty (30) days of the Phone weekend. A complete entry must also be submitted to the ARRL.

V. AWARDS: One award for each mode. All entrants reporting over 100 countries on either mode will receive special recognition. Awards will be presented at the May regular TDXS meeting. Decisions of the Awards Committee will be final.

DX-BEFORE IT HAPPENS: Yap and Palau are now independent countries but no one knows for sure what the DXCC status is-some JA types have been oping from these places so best to mail it and ask questions later.....keep an ear and beam pointed at 9N1 as an operation is rumored..South Shetland Is. will be active Feb. 15-25 with all bands mostly CW planned-maybe even Oscar 7 & 8...PJ7 St. Maarten operation planned by W2BEK 27 Feb-13Mar...9U5's other than AV are probably boogies-take your own chances...ZL/A Campbell haunts 14075014100 0700-0800z....YI1BGD cards are showing up all over Houston... Rumor has it that a JY group may hit 70 and 4W in May....3A will be active 27 Feb-6Mar by three Pa0 fellers....A4 will be active in the ARRL test by a multi-op group...S8 changes to S83...Don't miss the ARRL DX CONTESTS if you are building on your DXCC or 5BDXCC as loads of expeditions are planned from some pretty neat spots.

-ORVILLE, K5VWW

WANT ADS: This spot is for you people to advertise your wants to purchase or to sell. Naturally, we hope to keep this space for radio or electronics equipment. Drop me a line or give me a call to get your listing.

EDITORIAL: Not much room for my pompous grandstanding, so let me close this month with a simple offer. This is your BULLSHEET so use it as your forum to express your views about the club doings or amateur radio in general....bring on the guest editors! My closing date is the 25th of each month so please get your input to me before that date. Complaints, complements, hints for the members etc. are all welcome.

73.

Donnie
K5SCHW