

THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club



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MARCH, 1981

MEETING NOTICE: The March 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. Yes - thats two meetings in a row on a Friday the 13th but this time we are in in luck. We are going to draw from the local talent (K5TU & K5BZU) and get a little learn'en about computers. For those not familiar with the basics of the computer world, its time to climb out of your tube socket and learn....the stuff ain't going away! This will be one a few programs that will be presented this year to take the mystery out of words like "and", "or" and "bite".

Eats at 7:00 in the restaurant. If Grady, N5CDO, eats with you, you can watch him stuff his mashed potatoes in his ear for giggles. The meeting starts at 8:00.

DUES: Paid your dues yet? If you are now blushing, get your check-book out and let the blood settle back down into your pot belly where it usually coagulates. Pay now 'else our fearless leaders invoke the powers vested in them by the TDXS Constitution, Article VII, Section 3. (Surely you didn't throw out your January Bull Sheet--how the heck are you going to find out what awesome powers I speak of?)

10 METER BEACONS: Thanks to the QRZ DX bulletin, we can give you the following listing of 10 meter beacons to use to check for band openings. All frequencies listed are 28.2mhz.

DLØIGI-205
N4RD -2075
3B8MS -210
ZD9GI -2125
GB3SX -213
5B4CY -220
HG5AIR-2225
OA4CK -238

VE3TEN-225
ZL2MHP-230
VP9BA -235
LA5TEN-2375
PY1CK -240
A9XC -245
DKØTK -2575
YV5AYU-277

VK3RWI-265
VS6HK -290
VE7TEN-250
VE8AA -222
VP8ADE-284
VP2EBA-234
WD4MSN-205
ZS6PW -270

FIELD DAY: June 27th/28th (also the 25th and 26th, if you can make it) its that time again. Things are starting to shape up for our annual outing. K5RC's gang sterilized all bands during the DX contests so we will have a clean frequency. Also, the temperatures must have peaked last year, so we won't have the inferno to operate in, as last years participants will attest to.

We will again go 3A (three transmitter-emergency power) and have random drawing process of selecting 2 hour operating slots. We are proceeding in securing the Demney site near New Waverly which has been our Field Day home the past 2 years. If anyone knows of a better site, let me know. Just remember it would have to be closer than 70 miles from Houston and have running water available, which is a tall order to fill. Anyway, I like to give our Conroe member, N5WW, a break on his driving at least once a year.

We have three brave souls who have volunteered as band captains. K5TU, Kim, for 20&10 CW, 80CW&SSB; K5DX, Sharp 10,20&40SSB; and WB5WHR, Eric (Cedric to his friends) 15CW&ssb, 40CW will be heading up their respective stations.

We still need an antenna chairman, so if you're a glutton for punishment or you own stock in a cherry picker company, let me know of your interest.

We are hoping to have better station housing than last year and are looking for RV's, trailers or similar that we can make arrangements for. I would like ideas and/or volunteers before I go begging.

Another point I am working on is a real good 20 meter CW antenna. If you have a 4 el antenna that will be down or that is currently being stored, I would like to hear about it.

I have some good news!! N5DU WILL NOT give a talk on how to operate a TR-7 for Field Day. (I am learning, folks) Also, we are going to have, as part of an operator's duties, the task of filling/checking the generator gas tank to make sure the guy after you does not end up in the dark at 2:30 AM screaming for help.

Plan your vacations with the 26th of June in mind and let's get 1st Place back for the TDXS.

de N5DU
(688-8126 wrk, 463-0417 home)

HONOR ROLL: The March QST shows us that we are amongst the Big Guys in the DXCC standings. With pride, I list the following individual standings.

MIXED
318 possible. K5AAD, K5DX and K5RC are all in at 316. W5DOZ has 312.

RADIOTELEPHONE
The top is 318 and Frank, W5JWM, is right there! K5DX has 315.

Peeling a little smug lately? When you make Honor Roll come and tell me about it.....

GET THAT CREEP: Tired of all the malicious interference and garbage that goes on? Think you can help zero in on the culprit? Try bring in help from the Feds at the FCC monitoring stations.

MI-616-673-2063
 AK-907-243-2153
 ME-207-338-4088
 AZ-602-364-2133
 WA-206-354-4892
 FL-305-473-9845

NE-308-382-4296
 TX-512-592-2531
 MD-301-725-3474
 CA-415-447-3614
 GA-404-943-5420
 PR-809-784-3772
 HI-808-677-3954

(QRX DX)

WHERE IN THE #&@% DOES ALL THAT DUES MONEY GO?: This question has been asked a lot lately. Its a legitmate question that deserves an answer by the Board of Directors.

The Board did receive direction from the membership in the form of responses to our questionnaire last year that said to get the business out of the meetings so we would have more time for exchanging insults. But maybe a more detailed explanation of our general expenses each year would clear the air a bit. Lets see if we can get Butch, K5GB, to provide something for the Bull Sheet next month that shows where those \$'s go.

TDXS OUTGOING QSL BUREAU: Hopefully, Butch's report will not require that we add red to out publication cost next month. Its a pretty good assumption that black will be all thats needed. If so - lets give some of those \$'s back to the membership in the form of services.

I would like to propose we establish a TDXS Outgoing QSL Bureau using the ARRL Outgoing Bureau for world wide distribution.

I spoke to our friends at the League recently to test the water. They felt this was a worthwhile venture and, if anything, they would appreciate some of the benefits they would receive from getting a single monthly shipment from us instead of the various piles that arrive. I propose that the following ground rules be established for our Outgoing Bureau:

1. One volunteer from the membership would coordinate all activities related to our Bureau. The Bureau would receive support from the Board of Directors by channeling its needs through the DX Chairman.
2. Use of the Bureau would be open to all full and associate members who are ARRL members.
3. Cards would be collected by the "Bureau Chief" monthly at the regular TDXS meeting.
4. Cards would be sent to the League monthly regardless of the quantity of cards collected at the previous meeting. The cards would be forwarded via an acceptable reliable means of transportation. The shipment would include a means for the League to acknowledge receipt of the package.
5. Members using our Bureau would be required to use TDXS QSLs.
6. All expenses including the shipping and League fees would be to the account of the TDXS.

I have received verbal agreement from the ARRL that they would forego their usual \$1 minimum per individual user fee. They will accept a blanket \$1 per pound fee if we organize and police our program. This change will save the club, thus the members, dollars and will allow all eligible members to participate and still not break the Treasury. A letter will be required from an officier of the TDXS to confirm the arrangement with the League.

Think about my proposal and lets ~~railread~~ push it through formally at the upcoming meeting. de KA5CHW

AMENDMENT PROPOSALS: The following amendment proposals were offered by K5JS and KA5CHW. They will be voted upon in April. How about expressing your views -yea or na- in the form of a letter for the next Bull Sheet because if something goes through you didn't like, it'll be partially your fault.

It should be understood that each of the following will be voted on individually.

ARTICLE XIII, paragraph 4

4. The Secretary shall mail ballots for prospective members to all full members during the months of March, June, September and December.

ARTICLE VIII SECTION 2

2. The Board of Directors can authorize appropriations not to exceed \$100.00 at any one time and not to exceed \$500.00 for a yearly period.

ARTICLE VII SECTION 1

SECTION 1. The annual dues for each class of membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors each October and presented to the club before voting for approval. Voting for approval shall be at the next scheduled meeting at which a quorum exists following the presentation.

ARTICLE XI new section

SECTION . Charter members are those current members who became members prior to January 1, 1972.

ARTICLE XI new section

SECTION . Charter members may elect to remain full members at the time of their dues payment regardless of their attendance record.

ARTICLE XI new section

SECTION . Dues for associate members living outside a 75 mile radius of Houston shall be no more than 3/4 of the full dues amount. Full members living outside a 75 mile radius of Houston may elect to become associate members by expressing their desire to do so in the form of written notice to the Secretary. Members taking this option shall not be eligible for full membership until the following year and only if ARTICLE XI, SECTION 2 critera has been met.

page 37, 11/11/80

NEED LIST: Lee, W5DOZ (one of those big guys), says he is about to start an update of the membership Need List. Please get your changes to him ASAP on the air or by the telephone. Also, he is ready to take on new listings from you fellers not already in his TRS-80.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER: Enclosed is a copy of the most current list of members including their addresses and telephone numbers. Bring corrections to the attentions of Bill, W5SG. (watch the number of obscene phone call incidents rise drastically now)

TDXS NET: Bill, W5SG, has agreed to relieve Lee, W5DOZ, from his Net Control responsibilities on the 9PM Tuesday night TDXS Net. "Much Thanks" is in order for all the effort Lee has put forth to keep the Net alive with good DX scoop and other useful information. When the new antenna goes up shortly, the ol' TDXS 96/36 repeater will be copied far and wide so join in and show us your secrets.

PROPOGATION:

Spring has sprung with the super long-path and deep USSR openings. This is the favorite time of year for DXing by many-hon.ed. included. Expect Above Normal conditions on the following days: 1,7-8, 27 and 29. High Normal: 2-3, 6, 24, 26, 28, 30-31. Low Normal: 4-5, 9-10, 14-16, 20-23, 25. Stinko: 11-13, 17-19. Sorry about the ARRL Phone weekend but even all the RF the TDXS can generate to heat up the atmosphere won't change the prediction. Try prayer.... WPX conditions should be good, though.

Predicted smoothed monthly sunspot numbers for upcoming months are: Mar-136, Apr-133, May-131, Jun-129, Jul-127. Slowly but surely we slip to the cellar, but there are still many many hot days to play with so do not get panicky!

Minor meteor showers are expected March 13-14 and 23-24. Look for F-Layer DX openings on 6 on those days predicted to be High Normal or better. VHF TE openings should occur between 8 and 11 pm, local time, for 6 metersand maybe even 2.

(CQ Mag and QRZ DX)

PROJECT GOODWILL: Remember the League's Project Goodwill? Why can't the club sponser a few of those rigs each year? Even more, why not sponser a few each year plus pick out a deserving fella or gal in a far away place to be the receipant of old used dusty TDXS membership equipment? Seems like we could muster a fairly good station or two for those who wish to be more active but are limited due to economic pressures.

Our questionnaire said we did not have the resources to sponser DX-peditions and thats fine. Why spend all that money to send off folks to countries when there maybe good op's there that we just cannot hear much due to their rig situation? Does anybody care to step forth and become the keeper of our TDXS Goodwill projects? I personally feel lots of support will be forth coming for whomever will grab the bull by the horns. (In N J they say grab the taxi by the crankcase) Lets let the world know the TDXS wants to give - not just take.

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S S FEEDBACK: Remember those guys standing up front of the club last fall getting everybody pumped up for the ARRL SS contests? They talked a lot about where to point your beams to take advantage of the parts of the USA where most of your QSO's would come from. They may not be as dumb as they looked (God forbid!). Listed below is a breakdown of where K5IY's (KA5CHW op) 2,500+ QSO's came from the two weekends. By call area:

2 -332	3 -229	VE5 -6
8 -308	7 -156	VE7 -6
9 -267	5 -154	VE2 -5
Ø -263	VE3 -25	VE4 -4
1 -263	KL7 -8	VE6 -4
6 -248	KH6 -7	KP/V4 -3
4 -236	VE1 -6	VE8/Vy1 -3

Anyone else have statistical trivia to share? Call me.

SPONSOR AN AWARD: Both CQ Magazine and the ARRL have programs wherein individuals can sponsor awards for special achievements. You hopefully are aware the TDXS already sponsors one for the ARRL DX CW Top World Multi-op Single Transmitter winner. See page 73, February QST for other awards sponsored by fellow members. See page 12, March CQ for information on joining in the WPX Awards Program.

DX-BEFORE IT HAPPENS: 9U5 may have another good one after Feb-9U5WR. A51PN was worked widely by the TDXS during CW weekend. Many received quite a surprise when came back to their CQ TEST. VP8AEO/CE9-So. Shetland workable 0100-0300Z on 20ssb for another month. VK9ZD-Willis on 28.585 and 21.195 on weekends 0200-0800Z. Also, keep an ear tuned for sked with his QSL manager VK30T @ 0930Z Sunday on 14.345. List operations follows their QSO. KH5 expedition starting 6 Apr for 6 days then look for the same group from Kingman starting 15 Apr. They then move on to 5W1 and 2M7. 9G1Rt will activate C5 on 27Feb-3Mar, 5T5 4Mar-12Mar. He then moves on to 6W8 and TU2 late Mar/early Apr. His favorite freq. is 28.525. 2D7 trip is off for the time being. Try and pick up your Pacific needs on the 21/410mhz 2130-0200Z East-West DX Net. 1A may make it as a new one. VkØ trip off at least until late in the year. KH3AB on 7.240 @ 0800Z.

Pass your hot tips on to me via telephone or on the air. de K5VWW.

CONTEST CRAZIES: The spring season has opened up with a bang! First there was CQ 160 CW with the best top band conditions heard in years. The Big Guns on the East Coast worked up to a 100 Eur while the Midwest and West Coast made hay with the JA's. Certainly record breaking Dx for Single and Multi-ops alike. Next came the North American Sprint which saw tremendous high scoring efforts from the TDXS despite a small mix-up on team line up. I think every op showed considerable improvement over last year's efforts.

The first real biggie is also over-ARRL CW DX. This writer is still trying to recuperate. The conditions were fantastic especially 20 meters and below with over 150 countries represented that I know of. Lots of TDXS activity. I heard as many as 19 different TDXS members in pile-ups or bragging about their prowess on the repeater.

Next thing you know we will be out there getting horse in front of our mics and stiff between the ears in the Phone weekend of ARRL. Who knows how good conditions will be? One thing is for sure, it will be fun. Activity was good on CW and it is usually better on phone. Which one of you will win the K5ZD-XXC award for phone?

Looking beyond the ARRL DX Tests, there is the CQ WPX SSB which is a terrific contest for learning how to run 'em. JA's, Eur, W's, they're all waiting to work us loud fives. Almost as good Field Day. Better, maybe, because you can do it in an air conditioned comfort of home. If you single op, you will be forced to consider the off-time strategy. Extremely important in this contest.

April brings a pair of contest geared for the other half of your skills-hunting and pecking. The April Open CD for ARRL members only is a really good way to turn the dial without the terribly horrible hectic pace of the Sprint. Also in April, if you would rather not work W's, there is the Gagarin Cup Competition sponsored by Box 88. This is a 24 hour CW DX contest similar to the IARU RADIOSPORT. European and Russians really get on for it. This one is right up Orville's alley.

So keep your finals warm and your Pentels primed-there is rate to be made this spring.

de K5GN

FROM THE WIRELESS WIRE: ...KA5CHW sure picked the right weekend for 20 meter single band; 1148/109 on CW ain't too shabby...long path on 40 was slim but the band was there. Were you? K5ZD says never again to single op 160 meters...N5JJ says wait until next year...N5CDO figures his rate of improvement in the Sprint will net 1,000 QSO's in Sept... anonymous Chairman seeks all band station for WPX...K5NA/2 wants it known EU is EZ on 160 from W2...K5WA hush hushing his ARRL CW score, 15 meter single band. Probably has more mult's than we would believe...The radio committee at AggieLand, W5AC, sponsors a swapfest on April 4th 8a-3p with several speakers including Electro Space owner, K5RR, on antenna system design plus a two meter transmitter hunt...when in doubt change bands... KN5H overslept yet set a personal record in ARRL CW All BAND...The East Coast boys are still trying to figure out how to beat K5RC Multi-Single in the DX tests...K5Gn still trying to still trying how to beat K5ZD single op in any contest...N5JJ reports combustable ground cover at the base of his vertical in Hitchcock (an 8' circle of charred weeds?)...This Contest Chairman hopes to get logs from 5Y, DX, BZU, WHR/NN, VWW, 5H, 5A and others heard in ARRL...K5ZD got Such A Deal....

WANT ADS: (this blank space is dedicated to all those members who forgot to call me and tell what they had for sale and/or what goodies they needed for the shack.

WANTED - Misc. complete or busted antennas, towers, sections, pipe for anchors, assorted hardware for guying, hardline and all other goodies one needs to start a seat-of-the-pants antenna farm. de KA5CHW.

UPCOMING ACTION: (bring your own gun)

Mar. 14-15
 10mtr RTTY
 Va QSO Party
 QCWA Phone
 SC QSO Party

Mar. 28-29
 CQ WPX SSB
 YL ISSB CW QSO
 Gagarin Cup
 VHF QSO Party

Mar. 21-22
 Bermuda QSO Party
 Spring RTTY
 Tn QSO Party
 Commonwealth Phone

Apr. 8-9
 DX-YL/NA-YL CW

Apr. 4-5
 Open CD CW
 Polish CW Test
 Wisc QSO Party
 VS6 Activity Day
Apr. 11-12
 Open CD CW
Apr. 15-16
 DX-YL/NA-YL Phone
Apr. 18-19
 Sp Phone Test
 YL ISSB Phone
 QRP QSO Party

(QST and CQ Magazine)

DENNY'S DRIBBLE: W5JWM has a new route and it takes him into K5WA's territory....WB5SFS couldn't take the Houston dry climate and prefers the water table to be at his ankles so he is moving back to New Orleans in July. His wit will be missed by all. Good Luck, Will. K5RC has new 4el Delta Loops on 80 fixed on Eur and JA. Needless to say, they are crushing into the two coasts and have opened up new layers of DX on that band. KA5CHW declined the use of WD5GXI's Fake-A-Break (won at the TDXS Christmas Banquet) during the ARRL CW Tests---said the thrill was gone. K5MA has spent as much time in Eur as he has in Houston lately but no operating, unfortunately....K5KG is rumored to be planning an assault on OHØ again--also, see CQ Mag Mar. pg60 for a mug shot of George during his last operation from OhØ....K5VWV spent a weekend at K5NA/2's new QTH. Orville couldn't believe the Eur signal strength on 80 and 160! W5URN still has rig trouble--can't somebody fix his eq.? KA5GJO is on two meters now and is as obnoxious as the rest of the TDXS users....K5JS has been spending most of his work week in Beaumont. Too much time, as a matter of fact, the mildew is starting to grow between his toes. K52D is deep in his Ma Bell brainwashing program. Any day now expect him to start defending the big LD bills we pay....N5D is in the doghouse but we do not know if its because of women or radio...KA5F has been seeing things clearly again and was heard expressing disappointment at how ugly most of members are. (hon. ed. excluded, of course)

73 de KA5CHW

BILL ECKENRODE W5SG
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 Houston, Tx. 77070

