

# THE BULL SHEET

## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME VI, No. 11

NOVEMBER, 1981



MEETING NOTICE: The November meeting will be Friday the 13th at 7:30PM at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza located at 6550 Mapleridge. Sweepstakes CW tales will be swapped, cheap shots will be taken and the Team Captains will be increasing their bets. All those who didn't do as well as expected will start weaving their lies so that in the months to come they will be believable. The November meeting is always filled with a lot of down to earth fellowship and this one promises to top past years.

THE EDITOR TAKES (or Fakes) A BREAK: The vast majority of this month's issue of the BULL SHEET will be authored by you, the membership. It is hard for me to believe but I have actually received input from not just one but four members! Please look for one thing in the next three pieces for me and see if you note one common thing expressed by the three authors. See if you don't read pride, growth and enthusiasm in each of the three letters. I had a warm feeling reading over the three knowing they certainly did not collaborate yet all have positive things to say and positive feelings about the club. Makes one almost think the club can make it one more year.....

FROM THE "CHIEF": Our Bureau Chief has asked me to pass along the following.  
1. The question has been asked, "Will the Incoming and Outgoing bureaus handle cards for DX Stations that indicate routing to a US QSL Manager. The answer is NO.

2. Sort your cards going to foreign QSL Managers by prefix of the manager. T3ØBG QSL's are supposed to go to OE2DYL therefore that card would be placed in your stack along with your other 50 OE's.. Write the manager's call in the upper left corner of the card.

3. Stateside operators operating /DX do not get their cards via the Outgoing Bureau. You must send them direct to them or their managers.

4. Remember to check your cards to verify that the country intended is handled by the Bureau. Refer to the September '81 QST for the most current list. A lot of the countries one would expect on the list are not there so check it out.

N5DKG SS PARTICIPATION AWARDS PROGRAM: This year's magic number of QSO's required to be eligible for the Outstanding member category is - 1204 -. That's the minimum number of QSO's needed. Go get them on CW, SSB or both modes. GL To All.

Dear Fellow Clubmembers,

You have relinquished your responsibilities! You're not contributing enough to club efforts and activities. The club should be flushed every month and then see who or what floats up. We're going to hell in a handbasket. Put up or shut up. Get in or get out. Feeling guilty enough yet? Heard a lot of this kind of rhetoric lately? From certain individuals that is.

Well if you have, don't let it bother you. Take it for what is it, namely pure cow flop. The TDXS is alive and well and I don't think anybody with any common sense swallows this stuff. This kind of talk is designed to stir up dissension among the troops and should be discounted completely.

Instead of speaking in negatives, lets speak positively about the club. Look at our accomplishments. Look at whats going on now. In the last three years we have come farther than the previous seven years combined. Membership has doubled. The treasury has gone from a deficit to a very comfortable dollar figure. We have one of the better repeaters in Houston. The TDXS has become a force to be dealt with in contesting, especially field day and sweepstakes. DX info regularly flows through the repeater. We are becoming a well known, nationally recognized club.

Guess what though. Not one individual in this organization can claim complete responsibility for these accomplishments. I can't claim it, the board of directors can't claim it, no special interest group can claim it, the dx chairman, repeater chairman, contest chairman, fd chairman can't claim it. The reason---it's been a group effort. I believe everyone has contributed as best he can. We did it as a whole, one body, not individually. Of course, the whole is made up of a bunch of individual and my reference is not to efforts put forth by each member as a unit. If you don't believe it then just consider for a minute how many people have been involved in our field day and sweepstakes events. We collectively pulled together and won these things. The field day chairman did a great job of co-ordinating, but without the involvement of the club members all that aluminum would have remained on the ground. We won 1980 sweepstakes but without each operators score the contest chairman would have had nothing to submit.

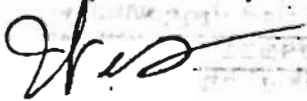
Now to get to the bottom line of all this lip flapping. If you hear bad mouthing, grousing, complaining, etc. about how things have been going or are going now think about what I've just said. Consider the source and take it from there.

A couple more things and I'll quit. One is the upcoming election of officers. Never in the past has there been any really active campaigning called for. This year is different. One sure way to screw up a good thing is to get the wrong people in positions of responsibility. There are some pretty gung-ho candidates on the ticket this year but some of them are a little radical. Change is good for everyone in certain amounts but sometimes it's like diarrhea. A little bit might help clean out your system but a whole lot is sheer agony. It's obvious to me that a set of moderates in office would be the only logical way to go. In that vein I am personally endorsing the slate of N5DU, KSTU, WSASP and K5GB as candidates for 1982 officers. These guys all have tried and true backgrounds and are long time members of TDXS. They'll make excellent officers and I know from experience they'll work their tails off for the club.

The other item is sweepstakes. A lot of yelling and screaming took place at the Oct. meeting about lack of promotion for 1981 SS. Well, maybe this is somewhat true but why should that stop us from winning again? You all know what to do. Get in there and work the contest. Do your yelling and screaming into a mike or a key calling CQ SS. We can't out yell and out operate any other club in the country. Let's do it.

The TDXS is one of the most viable, moving and growing clubs in the U. S. today. But remember this-----it's you, the individual member combined into a whole that makes it so. You are responsible. You have contributed. You certainly don't need to be flushed. And we sure aren't going to hell in a handbasket. You comprise some of the best amateurs around. Exercise your responsibility and vote for the right people in November.

Thank you for your support and help during the last two years.



Wes Whiddon, N5WW  
President TDXS

#### EDITORIAL BY GRADY FERGUSON N5CDO

Well, here we are agsin! All of us caught up in the sweepstakes fever, making our final preparations for another assault on the medium club records. In this positive and upbeat vein, I'd like to share a few observations about our club's make-up that help us succeed in our concerted efforts. Some of these observations are mine, personally, and others, I've heard from non-TDXS members:

For the most part, members of the TDXS are a cut above the average ham from the standpoint of contest and DX operating skill and experience. Surely, the fine efforts of the club mirror the personal successes of the membership as a whole. We have doctors, lawyers, business owners, bankers, salesmen, accountants and achievers from every profession. What, no butchers, bakers, candlestick makers or even an Indian chief? Hi! Hi! Seriously though, this diversity has been a positive force for unity of purpose when the club sets it's sights on a goal, i.e. Field Day, convention and sweepstakes, to name a few. These goals have usually been defined by a majority vote at the club meetings during the year. I think it is important to point out here, that no one who votes against any given effort, is forced or pressured into participation, but rather, they usually want to help out any way feasible for them. It is this rallying of the troops that gives our club a positive image in the amateur community. If we members will help the new members become involved in that area of club activity they enjoy and even pull together to motivate some of the members we don't see often: we will be even more succesful in all our club efforts.

Now, let's don't let all these kudos go to our collective heads: we've still got some hills to climb. OH! by the way, even though we have some club elections coming up, this is not a paid political advertisement. If you believe this, I have some swamp land for sale in Arizona. Hi!  
Good Luck and

73's  
Grady N5CDO

And when the smoke clears we'll move on to something a bit more sedate.....  
The Management

AND FROM THE EAST WE HEAR: Dear TDXS,  
Greetings to y'all from an Associate..... I look forward each month to "news from home" in the form of the BULL SHEET and of course regret not being near enough to the action to keep in better contact and to participate in club activities. Many of us "Associates" are in the same boat.

On the brighter side, some of us are somewhat active doing some of the things that full members do--but most important--are with you "in spirit". You'll just have to take my word for it when I say it makes us feel warm inside too when we see fellow TDXS'ers at or near the top of contest results. Often, 'nary a back to slap anywhere or even anybody who'd care to hear about it but rewarding nonetheless. Yes, there are those who yet haven't heard of TDXS!

More to the point: Often, the only contact many of us ever have with fellow club members is the occasional 30 second contest exchange. Whatever happen to the talk of getting together on the low end of 75M to extend the "full-quieting" range someshat? Surely out of 80-odd members, friends, and drop-ins (nationwide), someone would show up on any given non-contest evening. I've been told that before 2M FM was the craze, that 75M at night was very popular and effective for ragchewing. Of course, like many of you, I don't remember that far back..... This Associate and perhaps others would enjoy keeping in better touch with TDXS and members via Amateur Radio and this seems a logical approach. Does anyone else agree? Semi-agree? 3780 or 3803 0100-0300Z?

In the meanwhile, looking forward to 30 second exchanges with as many of you as possible in as many contests as possible this season. You may have to strain your ears a bit but thanks.

73,  
Dave K5SOR

(Wonderful to hear from you, Dave. Maybe you could write the BULL SHEET every few months to let those without 75M dipoles know whats up over there near the swamps. I am sure that Wes, N5WW, will raise the issue of the regular skeds at the next meeting and I'll report the results here so all will know....signed....Da guy what got all da marbles...)

WORDS FROM A LETTER TO BILL, W5SG, SECRETARY, TDXS: Dear Bill,  
Please remove my name from the list of persons being considered for President. As you know, I have nominated Bob Evans, N5DU, for President and do not feel that I should run against my own nominee. I nominated Bob because I felt that he would make an excellant President. He has been a member of the club for several years and has a good perspective of where the club has come from and where it should go in the future.

Large clubs always have a variety of interests and personalities in them. Ours is no exception. In fact, it may have more individual interests and goals than most. It certainly has a large variety of personalities. This can be a healthy sign in a club, but it takes the right kind of leadership to help the club and each member achieve whatever goals may be set. I believe that Bob is capable of that kind of leadership.

I wish to thank the individual who nominated me for the Office.

73  
Al K5BZU

DUES: The Board of Directors announced at the October meeting that their recommendation regarding 1982 dues is to leave the current figure of \$25 stand. Until such time as the Constitution is changed, this recommendation must apply to both Full and Associate members. Voting on this issue will be done in accordance with the recent Constitution change.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: Absentee ballots must be submitted immediately as they must be in the Secretary's hands before the regular November meeting. Please write down your choices for the four elected positions and place them in a sealed envelope. Then place the sealed envelope in another envelope addressed to Bill. Your name and/or call must appear on the mailing envelope so that mistakes can be avoided. Bill's address is: William C Eckenrode, 10702 Normont, Houston, TX. 77070. Remember, only FULL members may vote.

PROPAGATION IN THE SS SPECIFICALLY AND THE MONTH IN GENERAL: We are not ignoring the CQ WW CW Weekend - just assuming all you super DX'ers already know everything there is to know about propagation. Us: S S guys are just trying to get loud in NY and still need help.

From my readings of CQ and other sources and then massaging in a bit of gut feeling I'd say that SS CW could be pretty unpredictable. I am going to plan on not planning on planning. Which means I recommend you get a game plan together for band hopping but be ready at a moments notice to toss it in the can and go with whatever band will give the almighty rate.....and be prepared to do a lot of band hopping to bands out of the norm for a given moment in the test. Summarization-start high and stay up there as long as you can because you may have to spend more time on 20 and 40 near the last half then would normally be expected.

For Phone weekend, don't be suprized if things do not get started with as big a bang as usual but dont worry about it. If it doesn't, believe me when the sun comes up Sunday AM you will be happy to see haw the two coasts have dropped out of the competition. When the sun does rise get high up the spectrum as possible and fast! Conditions should be super hot and the two coast will be working each other again so don't let up or they will catch you. Summarazation-If you open on ten, be ready for a quick QSY down to hold the rate. You may have to hit 20 earlier than normal both that evening and the next AM. From 20 Sunday I'll probably slide right thru 15 straight to 10 and then Bounce 10 and 15 all day.

\*\*\*GOOD LUCK TO ALL IN THE SWEEPSTAKES\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*LOTS OF NEW ONES IN THE\*\*\*  
 DX TESTS

DENNIS *dan* N5DKG (this week)

PS. Will someone else please win my plaque this year...I'd rather not win it again....  
 Radio Booth officially becomes effective SS weekend - Brace yourselves!!

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	V. PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
N5DU	K5WA	W5ASP	KA5GJO
N5CDO	K5TU	N5EA	K5GB