

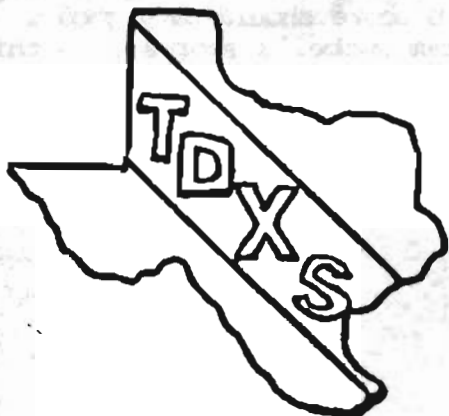
THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME VIII, NO. 3

March 198



MEETING NOTICE: The March TDXS Meeting will be Friday, the 11th, at 7:30 P.M., at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza, located at 6550 Mapleridge, which is near Bellaire General Hospital.

Contest Report

With the ARRL DX CW Test a few weeks ago, I am starting to remember more about contesting during low sunspot number years: no more big JA and European runs on 10, 20 closes by 0100 and 80 becomes a bigger multiplier band than 15. Well, take heart, because it can also be looked at this way: the days of 700+ JA runs on 40 are coming. The perverted W6's will be left out in the cold to work Europe on 10 and 15, every watt and element on the East Coast will strain just to get a single JA on 15, and with reduced absorption helping the low band plus activity being forced that direction, KC5M may finally finish his 5 B DXCC. Yes, exciting times are ahead. We probably will not see N5EA for 6 years since he will be living somewhere in the lower end of 40, and just wait until Grady gets the big 80 meter Yagi up

Conditions were not necessarily poor for the ARRL CW weekend, but it did give a preview of what is to come. The flux that weekend bottomed out around 51 with a K index of 1. So one of the low bands was the place to be. There were several outstanding efforts worth mentioning: the K5LZO multi/single group should place very high, N5EA probably has a plaque for his wall for 40 meters, and the K5RC Multi II group finished only 100 QSOs and 7 countries behind the N5AU all-out multi/multi. With these efforts, the other multi's and single ops plus the upcoming phone weekend, the club should have a respectable medium-category club score for ARRL this year.

The February QST carries results for last summer's radiosport championship. This contest seems to appeal to many because you work both DX and stateside, the rate helps keep your interest up. Finishing #1 USA/#5 World was K5KG in the mixed mode category. Hopefully George will be someplace exotic for this year's contest. For phone was KZ5M placing #2 USA/#5 World, while K5GN at K5GA was #1 USA again for code only. The KB5FU multiop with K2TNO, WB5LVL and WB5WHR had a very respectable 10th place finish for the USA. Also listing in the results were AC5K, K5DX, K5BZU and KC5CP.

Also to be reported this month are the results of the CQ WPX SSB contest. March QST indicates several members were on that weekend since NA5R seems to have won a certificate for 10 meters, N5JJ for 40, and K5BZU for 80. The KG5U multiop ended up #5 in the USA. Also listed in the results were WB5WHR (perpetual guest op) and W5ASP.

Rumors recently received from the League for the 10 meter contest suggest K5RC should place first on CW again, KC5CP high for SSB, and W5RRR, KD5SP and K5LZO all in the top ten for multiop.

The last NCJ offered high-claimed scores from last September's OW sprint. "On the list" were K5GN at K5RC #5, and N5JJ #14. This February's sprint club score should be a good one. It looks like we finally got a 10-man team together. The team member's scores from this one are:

K5RC (K5GN)	289/42	12138
N5JJ	289/39	11271
K5LZO	254/41	10414
KN5H	255/39	9945
KG5U	210/39	8190
KZ5M	228/35	7980
NA5R	213/35	7455
WB5WHR	198/37	7326
K5TU	203/36	7308
W5JQ	165/35	5775

Since for the sprint anyone can join together to form a "paper" team, we should be proud of the TDXS's "real" team score. Also worth mentioning is K5TU's outstanding effort. Not only did he have to drive across town to operate next door to KY5A, but he had to face my keyclicks. Thanks again, Kim.

DON'T FORGET: March 26-27 is the CQ WPX SSB Test. Logs are due March 13 for phone sprint, logs due for CQ160 SSB on March 31, and due April 5 for ARRL DX.

Well, that's it for now.

73 ya'll

Dave N5JJ

P.S. Don't forget to ask Eric how he broke his hand. He really enjoys telling the story!

DX - Did you miss a new one?

I doubt it. However, some new prefixes have appeared and I thought an update may be of interest. The following is a list of fairly recent changes that I have noted. This is not a complete list, but does contain some items which have been the topic of discussion on our repeater. I hope it will help someone.

<u>New prefix</u>		<u>Old prefix/name</u>
T5	Somalia	60
T30	W. Kiribati	VR1 = Gilberts
T31	C. Kiribati	VR1 = B. Phoenix
T32	E. Kiribati	VR3/7 = Line Is
J5	Guinea-Bissau	CR3
V3	Belize	VP1
V2A	Antigua	VP2A
J7	Dominica	VP2D
J6	St. Lucia	VP2L
J8	St. Vincent	VP2S
Y2/9	East Germany	DM
Z2	Zimbabwe	ZE = Rhodesia

It is also very interesting to note that T6 has been allocated to "Free Afghanistan". However, this one requires further definition.

One last item: During 1982, two DX bulletins have reported activity from 277 countries currently listed as necessary for honor roll status. 1982 was a very good year.

See you in the pile-ups

73 Frank KC5M



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February 10, 1983

Mr. Al Vacek, Atty
7800 San Felipe, Suite 123
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Dear Al:

At a meeting with building code officials and the president of the Construction Industry Council (CIC) on February 8, 1983, together with the Appeals Board Committee, there were some earth shaking decisions made which could be a model to strive for in other cities across the nation.

After my presentation of ARRL's Blue Book and their attorney's letter of June 18, 1982 from Cristopher Imlay in Washington, along with copies of my scrapbook of other legal actions pertaining to the problems which would be encountered, they decided to "scrap" the entire chapter 51 as originally proposed.

After considerable discussion, it turned out that the city building officials were not out to "get" the Amateur at all, but wanted only to protect the general public from the hazards of large, commercially built towers which could cause serious damage if allowed to stand without the assurance of structural stability.

They then asked me what the Amateurs really wanted in the way of height limitations, weights, etc., which could distinguish them from heavy commercial towers and antennas.

The following was then presented as to what the Amateurs wanted, as well as other public safety and defense organizations, including our questionable friends, the "CB's."

A. Complete exemption from the following:

1. Insurance liability
2. Inspection and fees
3. Esthetic considerations
4. Wiring restrictions
5. Grounding of towers
6. Details as to the structural design or necessity for professional analysis
7. All references to methods of guying

EDITORIAL

MOVE OVER ELMER - NO CODE IS ON ITS WAY -

I was going to print the proposed rule establishing a class of operator not requiring demonstration of proficiency in Morse Code which was published on February 3rd in the Federal Register as promulgated by the FCC. However, QST beat me to it. I recommend that you look at that article very closely and read the comments contained therein. It was my impression that the FCC is very interested in hearing our comments related to the implementation of the "experimenter class license"; likewise, I got the distinct impression that it is a "done deal" in the mind of the FCC and not even the ARRL can dissuade them from their decision to establish the new license class.

The people from the Echo Society sent me a copy of their 14-page comment to be filed with the FCC. Due to its length, I did not set it out in the Sheet, however, I will be glad to provide it to any interested parties in the club.

I am not saying that the new class license is good or bad. However, I do feel that as a club which has always been deeply interested in maintaining the integrity of amateur radio, we should also file a comment with the FCC. I will propose at the next Board meeting that we spend some time discussing this matter at the next meeting so that we can hammer out some sort of general consensus to be formulated into a comment for filing with the FCC. The reason for bringing this up in the Bullsheets is that I feel like you should have some time to think about your position and the comments that you would like to make at the next meeting. In addition, if we are going to file something with the FCC, we need to hustle so that it can be worked out prior to the deadlines imposed by the agency.

TDXS ACTION LINE -

You may have forgotten that TDXS Action Line number is 975-6600. If you are getting close to the 25th deadline for the next month's Sheet, please call, ask for Sheri, and give her your article. If you must call after hours, be patient and tolerate the taped introduction - it will go away in a few seconds. Then, wait for the beeps to stop (my machine is broken) and then give your article for the upcoming Sheet. Please dictate slowly and distinctly. Sheri is doing extremely well with the call signs, but she is not clairvoyant. Also, you can, of course, call me at home at 493-6298.

CONGRATULATIONS -

Congratulations are in order for Joseph Barber (K5GB's harmonic) who passed his novice a few weeks ago. He is already getting geared up for Field Day! His new call is KA5QAA.

ANTENNA ORDINANCE STATUS -

Attached is a letter which I received recently from Dale Cooper W5PLE related to the progress on the antenna ordinance.

73's



Al KN5A

Mr Al Vacek, Atty
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B. The only limitations which all exempt services will have to comply with are the following:

1. A height of supporting structure not to exceed 75 ft. above ground. (This is taken to mean the distance from ground to the point of attachment of the antenna)
2. If any antenna sits on top of a rigid building structure, the antenna supporting structure cannot be more than 25 ft. above same, regardless of the height of the building.
3. All exempted antenna structures shall not be top loaded with an antenna weighing more than 150 pounds.
4. There will be a "coverall" liability statement in the ordinance which, in effect, will make the person or persons who caused the antenna structure to be erected, fully responsible for its proper design, support and maintenance in a safe condition.

(If a tower falls down across property or easement lines and causes damage or even death to some other person, there are existing laws which will adequately cover the situation, regardless of whether or not the erecting person has insurance.)

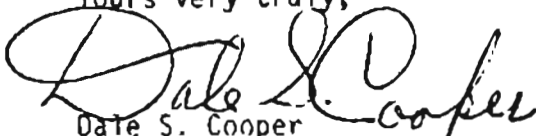
5. The City of Houston will not be responsible for violations of "deed restrictions", as the erecting person or entity will have to fight these battles on his own.
6. The ordinance will effectively cover all towers not exempted, in considerable detail, pertaining to structural stability calculations, inspections and fees essentially as previously written or covered in other sections of the existing ordinances.

The next step will be for the CIC to write the new ordinance in cooperation with the city building code officials, and it then should be presented to the Appeals Board for their approval before submitting to Council for approval and enactment.

We shall await the final outcome to see if our understanding of the provisions outlined herein actually appear in print.

Your helpful cooperation in this matter has been appreciated, and I am sure that thousands of Amateurs in this area will breathe a sigh of relief.

Yours very truly,


Dale S. Cooper W5PLE