



THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

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MEETING NOTICE: The May TDXS Meeting will be Friday, the 13th, at 7:30 P.M., at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza, located at 6550 Mapleridge, which is near Bellaire General Hospital.

FIELD DAY

Well, it's Field Day time again. Having been selected as the leader of this would-be effort, I would like to take this opportunity to let you, the members, know how hard I have worked on this fine business effort.

1. We have a location - Radio Marvel. NA5R is working very hard to provide the club with outstanding towers and antennas. Sunday is a good day to wander out and give him a hard.

2. Class - E Class Emergency Power. Three generators are to be available. Number of transmitters, well, that depends on how many we fire up.

3. Stations - Currently, the thought is to set up by each tower and go for broke. Tentatively, NA5R's trailer will be the 10 and 80-meter station. In addition, the barn would make a good location for the 40-meter station. The remaining stations are up for grabs. Anyone want to be a volunteer?

4. Equipment -

5. Station captains - NA5R 10 and 80-meter station. Question marks on the rest.

6. Activities - A bonfire has been planned for Friday night (not as much gasoline available to blow up). A baseball diamond can be marked out or volleyball games are available. Mass quantities of beverage may be consumed, if you dare.

7. Selection of operating times and modes - Wherever you wish when you sit down to operate. In other words, if you want CW, push the keyer button. If you get bored with CW, pick up the mike. It makes no difference.

8. Sleeping arrangements/station shelters - ?

9. Set-up time - Some time Friday, or Saturday morning.

My contribution has been gathering the equipment, appointing station captains, and determining the operating times and modes. I would appreciate some comments and/or volunteers for tents, etc. I will not volunteer to be a RV captain, so everyone can feel safe.

Field Day Chairman, Tom, KD5SP

TDXS "ARMADILLO RUN"

- WHAT: Activate all Texas counties. This effort will be one of the most formidable tasks taken on by the only club in the USA capable of successfully pulling it off, the Texas DX Society.
- WHEN: 0001Z July 23 through July 25, 1983. Operation will be encouraged during the hours that 20 meters is open to the USA. Generally speaking, this means between about 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. Mobiles should stop rolling when 20 dies. Operation during the night on 40 is optional, but please do not move into a county not previously activated.
- WHERE: All over Texas! All counties will be activated by the TDXS. The counties will be split up into 10-12 groups by a team comprised of N5JJ, NA5R and KZ5M. TDXS members who will operate portable from a summer cabin, a tent, etc. that weekend, please notify KZ5M so those counties can be taken off "the list".
- HOW: 10 to 12 mobiles will cover the state. Some will hopefully leave Houston on Thursday so they can start the contest in the El Paso area and in the upper Panhandle region. The others will leave Houston and make a "loop" up and back through a designated group of counties. Some counties will be covered by members operating from home or from portable fixed locations.
- WHO: The effort will be organized by the TDXS. We hope to recruit enough troops from our own ranks, but local friends of the club may volunteer and we will try and meet their desires. It is recommended that at least two operators go with each vehicle though one operator and a XYL with a lead foot is acceptable.
- RULES: See attached copy of ARMADILLO rules as they apply to non-TDXS members. Also, familiarize yourself with the official County Hunters CW Contest Rules.
- HELP: We will employ the services of a couple out-of-state stations and local members who cannot make the trip to monitor designated calling frequencies. Our wandering heroes can use these frequencies to send messages home, tell sad stories or whatever. Emergencies can also be reported, of course. Also, non-TDXS contest participants may wish to use these frequencies to track the progress of individual mobiles to assist them snag a particular county. The frequencies will be 146.96/36, 14050, 7085, 3585.
- CASH: TDXS participants are on their own with regard to expenses, therefore, maximum use of company credit cards, company cars, corporate room rates, etc. is encouraged by your unproud chairman. 10' siphon garden hoses are available upon request as well.
- ATTA BOY: The Armadillo Run Chairman is assigned the task of establishing entry categories, contest rules and awards for competition within our own group. Naturally, none of the above information will be released to the membership until the awards are presented in typical KZ5M fashion.
- QSL: We will make every effort to respond to QSL requests to confirm contacts we make during this adventure. Individuals opposed to answering these requests should not volunteer to participate.
- LOGS: Each TDXS operator during the event is requested to send a XEROX COPY of his logs for use in verification of claimed contacts. Maybe we will even enlist the services of KB5FU to smash all this good data together to create an "all contacts verified and listed" computer-generated QSL to cut down on individual time expenditure.
- PUBLICITY: The Armadillo Run will be announced to the world through releases to CQ, QST and 73 magazines, major county hunter nets and organizations, select county hunters in the USA and around the world. We have already contacted Lone Star Beer and invited them to "participate" in whatever way meets their taste. They are

TEXAS DX SOCIETY

"ARMADILLO RUN"

Starts: 0001Z Saturday, July 23, 1983
Ends: 0200Z Monday, July 25, 1983

The Texas DX Society, a fraternal group of DX'ers and Contestors, is proud to announce the "Armadillo Run". The intent of our contest is to assist CW operators gain USA-CA All Counties Award status. The TDXS will activate all Texas counties by dispatching mobile stations from Houston and activating these stations during the County Hunters CW Contest. Several fixed stations will also be activated. To insure the largest number of entrants receive equal opportunity to work the mobile stations, operating will generally be restricted to 20 meters.

CLASS: Single operator only. Operators must operate from their own station.

EXCHANGE: So as not to distract from the County Hunters CW Contest, use the same exchange as that required by that contest using the same QSO number, QSO number, category (P - portable, M - mobile) RST, state, province or country, and county for USA stations.

SCORING: The contest score will be equal to the total number of Texas counties contacted during the contest period.

FREQUENCIES: Mobile operation will generally be restricted to 14055-14075 MHz. Operation on other bands will be in accordance with the County Hunters CW Contest rules.

AWARDS: Plaque - A unique plaque will be awarded to the station operator contacting the most Texas counties during the contest period.

THE PLAQUE WINNER WILL BE FLOWN TO HOUSTON TO RECEIVE THE AWARD IF THE WINNER CONTACTED OVER 175 TEXAS COUNTIES.

Certificate - Certificates will be awarded to entrants contacting at least 50 counties. Endorsements will be issued for the following county levels: 100, 150, 175, 200, 225 & 250, all Texas counties.

REPORTING: To qualify for award consideration, log information containing Texas stations worked, time (UTC), band and the county the station was operating from shall be sent to the Armadillo Run Chairman, KZ5M, Dennis Motschenbacher, P.O. Box 82, Thompsons, Texas 77481. Mailing deadline is August 31, 1983.

QSL CARDS: Entrants may forward QSLs to the above address for Texas QSOs made during the contest period. The TDXS will make special efforts to insure that QSLs received are answered.

INFORMATION: Information regarding which station will activate specific counties may be received by writing the above address or calling KZ5M between 6:30 and 8:00 P.M. CST at 713-343-1060.

KZ5M

CONTEST REPORT

Well, results are out for last November's Sweepstakes. The TDXS easily captured the gavel with our medium category club score an incredible 2.1 million points ahead of our nearest competition. TDXS had its best club score ever, finishing just over 6 million. The only unlimited category score (which had 35 more entries) finished only 1.1 million points ahead of us. Although the gavel will be presented to the club's president it will belong to everyone in the club for the fine effort everyone put forth.

Some of the outstanding efforts in the club are:

TOP 5 SOUTH TEXAS CW	N5JJ	1080/73
	K5GA	1044/74
	KZ5M	1036/74
	K5GN	1020/74
	K5IY(KN5H)	1019/74

TOP 5 SOUTH TEXAS SSB	K5RC(K5GN)	1556/74
	N5JJ	1508/74
	KZ5M	1499/74
	NA5R	1452/74
	K5LZO	1424/74

TOP LOW POWER SOUTH TEXAS CW	K5MA
TOP LOW POWER SOUTH TEXAS SSB	K5BZU
TOP MULTIOP SOUTH TEXAS CW	KD5SP(w/ KY5A, WB5WHR)
TOP MULTIOP SOUTH TEXAS SSB	K5GA(w/KY5A, WB5WHR)

Of the 31 callsigns listed in South Texas for cw, 24 were TDXS members; of the 34 listed for ssb, 27 were TDXSers.

The highest finish for a nonclub member in South Texas on cw was 13th, 20th on ssb.

Clean Sweep Both Modes: K5GN, K5WA, KG5U, KZ5M, N5DU (5 out of only 20).

K5GN was the division leader - high power - phone.

Overall top finishers:

CW: N5JJ-15th, K5GA-19th, KZ5M-22nd.
SSB: K5RC(K5GN)-tied 14th, N5JJ-19th, KZ5M-20th.

Some other random SS goodies: no one was disqualified this year; KD5SP gets his first certificate; WB5WHR was still a guest op; and N5JJ gets the club plaque.

The May CQ Magazine carries results for the 1982 WPX CW contest. The big battle on that weekend was 20 meters with K5GA and KU5I both winning certificates. K5GA will also receive another CQ plaque to add to his collection, this time for posting the high single band score. Other club members listed are: KC5CP, WD5GXI, W5ASP, N5JJ(#3 multiop/USA) and KN5H(#4 multiop/USA).

CQ-M contest results for 1982 have been beamed in from across the pole. The club made a fair showing this year with:

K5VWW #3 USA/multiop
N5DKG(who?) #2 USA/14MHz
KB5FU #9 USA/14MHz
and AK5B in there.

Don't forget this year's CQ WPX cw contest will be May 28-29.

The next Bullsheat will be full of field day items. I'm looking forward to a nice FD this year with plenty of casual operating and fun for everyone. I hope everyone can make it out at least for awhile. I asked Tommy if he liked being the FD chairperson this year and he simply replied umm-hummm!

73 de N5JJ

The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Regarding PR Docket No. 83-28

INTRODUCTION

A. The Texas DX Society (TDXS) is an organization of amateur radio operators in the Houston, Texas area whose primary purpose is to stimulate and pursue the hobby of amateur radio DX and contest activities. The club has an active roster of 55 members.

B. The following comments are the views of the membership of the Texas DX Society on the FCC proposal for a codeless operator license class as submitted in PR Docket No. 83-28.

C. The Commission has recognized the survey conducted for the American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ARRL) by Florida State University's Institute for Social Research in March of 1981 which indicates that an overwhelming majority of amateurs licensed by the FCC feel that proficiency in the Morse code should be a licensing requirement. The Texas DX Society supports this stance and urges the Commission to respect ours and other amateurs desires to keep amateur radio's standards of entry among the highest in the world.

DISCUSSION

A. TDXS feels that the Amateur Radio Service is a fraternity of disciplined, technically competent, and skilled radio operators capable of performing an invaluable service in day to day communications as well as communications emergencies. The ingredient that makes this fraternity worthwhile is the effort required to become a licensed member. A very important part of this effort is becoming proficient in sending and receiving Morse code. To relax these entry requirements is to relax the standards

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and open the door to those who would have less pride in their license and, therefore, less respect for the operations of other amateur stations.

B. Comments on the Commission's statement in the Docket "We believe that a more important qualification for an operator license is an individual's ability to understand the Commission's regulations and the radio station for which he/she is responsible." TDXS would like to point out that the Citizen's Band Service relates very closely with this statement. It is not our intent to criticize the Citizens Band, however, evidence obtained by listening to this Band would convince one of the lack of order in communications. We do not feel that this type of behavior is what the Commission would consider the result of "intelligent, disciplined persons who can make a valuable contribution to the Amateur Radio Service without a Morse code proficiency", as is also stated in the Docket.

C. The Commission has stated in the Docket that "Current regulations permit emission type A1 Morse telegraphy operation on all amateur radio frequencies. This unique universal authorization for that mode results from its character as an efficient and widely recognized communications language that can be employed with the simplest type of equipment." The no code proposal would allow "amateurs" deficient in this valuable mode of communication to operate on frequencies where Morse code is allowed. Secondly, they would be operating equipment capable of transmitting Morse code. We question the use of these improperly trained individuals in an emergency where code may be necessary and wish to point out they could easily become a hindrance with unnecessary interference.

D. We feel the FCC's proposal for a no code license above 30 mhz is primarily due to the wide number of amateur frequencies available in this spectrum. We believe that these frequencies are, at present, not fully understood. Further experimentation by qualified and disciplined personnel may unlock valuable communications characteristics that only these bands could provide. This idea could easily be compared with the experimentation that led to the development of the short waves sixty years ago when theoretical physicists said that 200 meters and up was the future of radio. For reasons stated in the aforementioned Discussion sections, we do not believe that people passing only a written examination would have the caliber of discipline and dedication required to contribute to the potential development of these frequencies.

E. The Commission has stated that the no code license would attract "many of our nation's younger, school aged individuals whose primary interest lies in the burgeoning field of computer technology or individuals with a physical handicap which prevents them from being able to successfully complete a Morse code examination". We feel that this statement is totally unjustified and indicates the lack of thought on the subject by the Commission. First of all, a large number of our currently active amateurs in the Houston area consists of school aged people under twenty years of age. This is supported by the number of these people active in clubs and on local repeaters throughout the city.

We feel that our city is no anomaly in having a disproportionate share of these young people. Furthermore, over fifty per cent of our club members attained their licenses when they were under twenty years of age. We also do not feel that this is an exceptional figure on a nationwide scale. Furthermore, we do not feel that the individuals whose primary interests lie in computer technology should be catered to. This field is expanding so rapidly that quality individuals that could make a valuable contribution to the Amateur Radio Service would certainly not be deterred by the relative simplicity of the Morse code when compared to the many variations of computer languages. Lastly, we certainly do not feel that the physically handicapped are discriminated against by the Morse code examination. Anyone who has the physical ability to operate a transmitter and receiver can operate a key. Indeed, advancement in technology has reduced the physical requirements of transmitting code with the electronic keyer.

SUMMARY

The Texas DX Society strongly feels that the Morse code requirement should be maintained as an important part in determining an individual's desire and ability in becoming a skilled, disciplined, and efficient amateur radio operator. Evidence presented in the discussion section of this response, we believe, supports the code as the primary step separating communications disorder from a useful and productive public service. We urge the Commission to withdraw PR Docket No. 83-28 in the best interests of amateur radio.