



THE BULLSHEET



Official News Bulletin of the

Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club

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The Texas DX Society, P. O. Box 540291, Houston, Texas 77254-0291

MEETING NOTICE - The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month except when changed by the Board of Directors. The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on February 10, 1984 at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Mapleridge.

This month's program will be a combination of European travelogues from two recent TDXSers visits to the continent. Dale, KG5U and Orville, K5VWW will show us what interested them in such places as G3, 4U1, PAØ, DL and HB and HV lands.

1984 DUES ARE DUE - Just a reminder that 1984 membership dues are now past due. Dues for full members are \$ 25.00 and \$ 12.50 for associate members. Anyone whose dues are not paid in full by midnight, March 1, will be dropped from the roster by the Board of Directors. See NSEA for details.

TDXS MEMBERSHIP BADGES AND VESTS - (by KZ5M) Please let our Secretary, Dave, N5JJ know if you are in need of one of our famous and much treasured TDXS membership badges. (members only, of course) With regard to the TDXS vests, we also would like to know which individuals are interested in having one made. The last batch cost \$ 25.00 each. Bob, WD5CHY's XYL is the originator of the club vests and we will contact her to see if she can continue to supply us. If not, we will try and locate a new source quickly. David - Take a list!

AND ALONG THE SAME LINES... (by KZ5M) - Acting upon a suggestion by our own Tom Terrific, K5RC, I have gone back to the supplier of the Armadillo Run caps and placed an order for one of the cap emblems for each member that "actively" participated in that club event. Tom suggested the members place these on their vests to be worn much as one would a "campaign medal". In the future, we hope that a badge or emblem will be obtained for each major club event. Only members actually participating would be eligible to wear the badge. Examples of possible events that might warrant a patch are TDXpeditions '84 or lets say a SS '84 gavel. Just as medals of honor aren't passed out at the drop of a hat, we wouldn't want this to become a "cheap" symbol.

AND ALONG THE SAME LINES... - (still by KZ5M) An order has been placed for 40 caps for the XE2FU trips. They will be made available to members making the trips first at cost. After that demand has been met, it'll be first come first served for the general membership.

TDXpeditions '84 - (even more by KZ5M) As we race through the final five weeks before the ARRL CW weekend, the activity picks up - and how! The whole game will be made in the next couple of weeks. We work - we win all. We don't -

we see the unfamiliar (for the TDXS) other side of the coin. The following is a list of important facts, requests and suggestions for all participants:

1. There will be a meeting of station captains with the Planning Group on February 7 at the usual TDXS meeting place near Bellaire General Hospital. The captains are: N5JJ, KG5U, K5GN, K5VWW, KN5H, K5RC, NM5M, KB5FU, K2TNO, and W5SJS. We'll select your station shelter at the meeting so you'll know what to bring.
2. All CW and Phone weekend participants are advised to make the regular February meeting for the last minute Q and A session.
3. All rig, power strip, wattmeter, keyer, paddle, etc. donors need to get their equipment to K5RC ASAP. Bring it to the meeting if you cannot arrange for earlier transfer to Tom. Call Tom if there is a problem so he can help you make the necessary arrangements. This is very important.
4. We need more sections of Rohn 25G tower. HELP!
5. A map to our contest site is enclosed. Ask your questions now!
6. We will use 147.91/.31 in Laredo for coordination. (Note: This is a non-standard 147 MHz 2 meter pair - Rigs like IC-230's won't hit it- ed.)
7. All participants are requested to make the TDXS DX net at 9:00 pm local time Tuesday, February 14th, for last minute updates...Also February 28th for the Phone weekend wandering souls who use their lips.
8. All radio equipment should be with the caravan leaving Wednesday AM. We need it earlier, though, so we can make our the necessary customs forms.
9. Participants should bring tarps and other materials you might have for shelters. We hope we won't need them, but...
10. Special plugs/cables Besure and get special DIN plugs, cables, etc. to Tom along with the rigs. All you '830 donors, please help here because we will need them to be able to switch amps in!

MEXICO! (by NA5R) Just the name seems to conjure up images of ~~all that is~~ fun and exciting in this foreign land. To all of you TDXSers and friends planning the XE2FU trip; some food for thought. Many of the club members will be going to Mexico for the first time. For some, it will be the first time to even leave the good ole U.S.A. Having worked, lived, and been on DXpeditions to Mexico, I've learned some things that may be useful. I'd like to pass some of these things along.

First, there's nothing to be afraid of! Relax and enjoy your trip. These people are just like you and I. The shock of encountering a different culture in its own backyard will soon wear off. The other side of the coin is the Ugly American attitude, usually fostered by loud, bragging, demanding tourists (probably yankees, HI HI). It's strange how we can go to their country and call them "foreigners". This attitude can be understood, but not excused, when viewed from the context of our own insecurity when out of familiar surroundings. You will be meeting fellow hams who are just as excited to meet

you as you are to be there. Even though we have different standards of living, these people are, for the most part, professional people: engineers, doctors, lawyers, etc. Let's let our common interest in Ham Radio link hands across the border. We truly are ambassadors for our country and our hobby. This is unique opportunity to make new friend, see a beautiful country, and, best of all, have a lot of fun.

The TDXS has a proud history of successful contest operations and this trip is one of the most ambitious ever undertaken by the club. Good luck, 73's, and "Buen Viaje". de NA5R

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP RULES COMMITTEE - (by KZ5M) I have formed a committee of TDXS members to review club constitution rules related to new membership. This has been a sensitive area for all of us too long. There are many good ideas floating around out there but I cannot see me continuing to do battle over this all year long, so I have asked the following members to review the problem and make firm, concrete recommendations for change where it is deemed necessary by them to do so. Please give your support and ideas to these fellows: Chairman - Tom, N5EA, Committeemen: Tom KD5SP, Grady NA5R, Henry W5HNS, and Jay W5JQ. Our TDXS Legal Chairman Al, KN5A, will join the committee when they meet to provide legal advice as needed.

SOME TOUGH LUCK FOR K1ZX/4 (courtesy of K2TNO) Jim White, K1ZX, who did what we all never expected anyone to do by winning the 1983 TDXS Armadillo run by QSO'ing one of us in every Texas county, was involved in a serious auto accident in early January and is now recuperating in a Miami hospital. As of press time, Jim was expected to still be in the hospital. Take a minute to let Jim know we hope he mends quickly so he can chase us all around Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi this year. Send your cards, letters, armadillo eggs, etc. to : Jim White, Coral Reef Hospital - Room 205, 9333 S.W. 152nd Street, Miami, Florida 33157.

ARE WE HAVING FUN YET ? - (by KZ5M) Remember, its only a hobby...From time to time it may be necessary to reprint this segment as a friendly reminder to all that we joined this club and we care about the club because of the comradery we share together.

CHALK UP ANOTHER 'ATTA BOY' FOR N5AF - Over the last two years, Sam N5AF has clogged up the cogs of the already slow U.S. Postal Service with 23,766 of your QSL cards as part of the club's outgoing QSL bureau. This job is a thankless one that involves a lot of personal time on Sam's part. He has graciously agreed to continue his post this year, for which we are all grateful. Thanks again, Sam.

The service is provides bulk mailing to the ARRL outgoing bureau and is available only to TDXS members. It's easy to use. Simply sort your cards by prefix, bundle them up with a mailing label from your QST wrapper, and drop them in the box at the club meeting. The TDXS treasury foots the bill for mailing and the ARRL charges for forwarding. Your TDXS dollars at work!

DX ANYONE? (by KC5M) The DX world has been unusually exciting and at the same time very frustrating with the appearance of VU7WCY. The first group arrived on the Laccadives December 19 and operated until late December 31, 1983. This

group was transceive and dipole bound with several "assistants" including JY3ZH and UK5UDX.

The second group arrived on January 10 bringing amplifiers, tribanders, and split frequency capability. Concentrating mainly on SSB, VU7WCY was heard on two 20 meter split frequencies each with their own separate pileups and, of course, the very unfortunate and ever present policemen. The fifth district was blessed with several days of good early morning longpath windows.

The QSL information for the first group (Dec. 83) was reported by the Long Island DX Bulletin to be as follows:

VU7WCY/VU2RBI is via VU2APR:
Andhra Pradesh R S
5-B P S Nagar
Hyderabad 500457
India

VU7WCY/(et al) Jan. 84 is via VU2CDG
G. D. Gopal
233 Gopal Bagh
Avanashi Road
Coimbatore 18
India

Considerable confusion exists about the suffix of these stations. I hope to have more information on this next month.

The callsigns of these stations were VU7WCY/GO, VU7WCY/APE, VU7WCY/TS, and VU7WCY/GDG. The suffix dictates which operator you worked, so be sure to include the suffix on your card when QSLing.

DX CALENDAR - FOØXX, Clipperton, March 5-23...YVØAA, Aves Island, February and March...ZL8, Kermadec, February (operated by Jim Smith, VK9NS)

1S1CK DOES NOT RECEIVE DXCC CREDIT (courtesy KC5M) The ARRL newsletter reports that the 1S1CK operation from Spratley Is. will not count for DXCC credit unless additional documentation is made available. (unlikely)

WAA-NC&s/WMC (by KC5M) Start date was Friday, January 13 (Lucky Day). Did you get your Jan. quota? Someone will win one or both of the \$ 50.00 prizes...will it be you? (Just don't tell my wife where it came from, O.K. ?) Good luck and 73...Frank

9N1MM REMEMBERS THE TDXS (from N5DC) Jim relays the following note received from Father Moran at Christmas time:

"Dear Jim and Evie,
Thanks for the card and the kind remembrance. I remember so well the "midnight search" for my TWA lost luggage, the first such experience. The plane was 3 hours late etc., etc. but it was a "grand visit" with you and the gang. Tell the club boys the camera is going great - a real gem. Is the tower up? (who is he kidding? ed.) Blessings for 1984, I hope to visit next fall 1984. Yours, Marshall D. Moran S.J. 9N1MM"

DO YOU STILL WANT A NEEDLIST? (from W5DOZ) As there were only 3 answers received to the last request for "Need List Updates" obviously there is very little interest in it. Therefore, unless I can be convinced otherwise, the February 1 issue will be the last one.

ARRL BULLETINS VIA RTTY COURTESY W5DOZ HR ARRL Bulletin NR 141 from ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT December 29, 1983 To All Radio Amateurs BT

FCC has commenced issuing ten year amateur licenses. Although PR docket 83 337 was adopted in October 1983, actual implementation was delayed until necessary changes could be made in the fcc computer licensing programs. The Commission emphasizes that the ten year license term is not a blanket extension of existing station and operator licenses. An Amateur license that specifies less than a ten year term will show a ten year term on the face of the license when it is either modified or renewed. For further details, see the Happenings column in December 1983 QST AR

HR ARRL Bulletin NR 133 from ARRL Headquarters Newington CT December 14, 1983

Effective January 14, 1983, the WIAW Saturday and Sunday code practice at 2100 UTC, 4 PM EST, and CW bulletin at 2200 UTC, 5 PM EST, transmissions will be discontinued. The remainder of the WIAW schedule remains unchanged. The complete schedule will appear in February 1984 QST AR

CONTEST REPORT (by K2TNO) Hope you're all set for the final month or two of the winter contest season. The big news is our TDXS efforts at XE2FU, covered elsewhere in the B'Sheet. But for you stay-at-homes, this is your year to top the section! Look at it this way - the hottest competition always comes from here in the club with all those multi-megawatt + 17 elements on 40 type stations. Many of those stations are going to be silent for this one - the perfect opportunity for you to shine with that lil' tribander and some operating skill. So why not set aside some time for the ARRL DX Contest? You might try a single-band effort; 80 meters for example has been red-hot of late.

Remember, the contest starts on Friday night (0000 Z), February 17 for CW and the same time March 2 for SSB. There will be sample logs and dupe sheets at the February meeting.

As a little incentive, your friendly New Yawk contest chairperson hereby issues the Official TDXS-XE2FU QSO challenge and Grudge Match. Whichever TDXS full member station contacts XE2FU the most times wins a case of cold beer stones from ol' Tuna Nose himself. There are only twelve possible QSO's necessary for this coveted award, 160-10 M CW + 160-10 M SSB. So get out there and warm up that 160 sloper and see if you can crack the piles. In case of a tie at twelve, each winner gets a cool 24. A tie below 12 will split the case. The award will be made at the April meeting - be there or be square!

Meanwhile, back at the bands, our ex-TDXSer K5ZD and the National Contest Journal have their semi-annual North American Sprints in February. The CW team of ten is set as follows: KG5U, NM5M, NM5L, K5RC(K5GN), K5LZO, KN5E, N5JJ, KZ5M, NA5R, K5TU. The CW Sprint starts Saturday, February 4 at 0100Z. It's only 4 hours long, so why not give it a try this year? Next to Sweepstakes, this has gotta be the best W/VE event of the year. No need to be on a team - just get on and swap QSO nr, name, and state with everybody on 80-40-20 M. Fast, efficient band changing is a must for this one, so get out the white tape and pre-tune everything. Remember: you must give up the frequency after you CQ and get a reply. But, you little pistols take heart -

that means you get the QRG after you answer a CQ. That's a great equalizer. Have fun.

We're still not QRV for the Phone Sprint - somehow all you mike-mouths out there have stayed away from the team! I will need to send in a list of the team members on Wednesday, February 8. Wo when you get this, check into the repeater on 96/36 for the Tuesday 9 PM DX Net or call me at home in the evenings at 665-6298 to register. The contest is Saturday, Feb. 11. Already on the Sprint SSB team are: KG5U, NM5L, K5L20, N5JJ, K25M, and maybe KN5H.

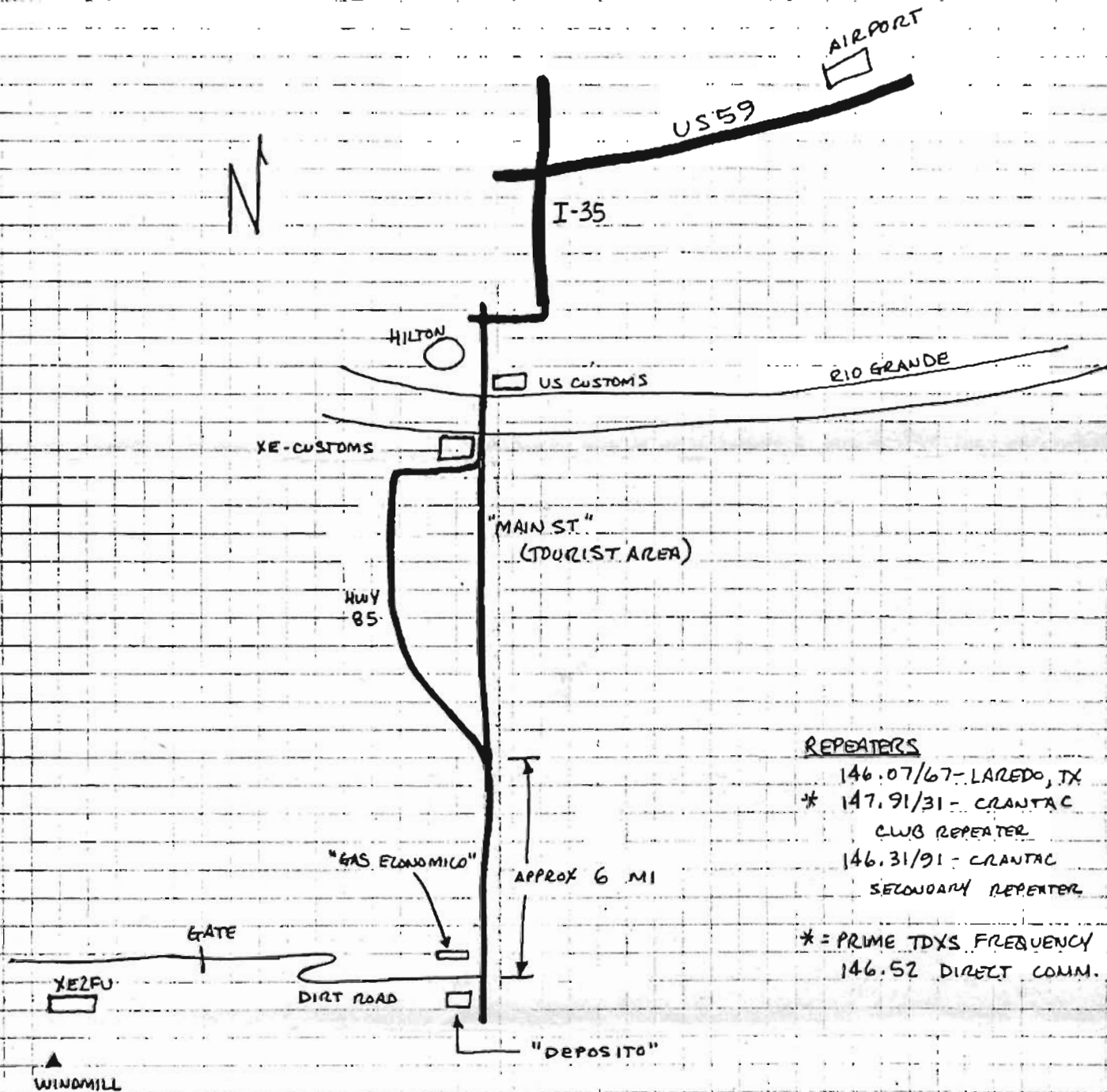
LETS TALK ABOUT PUBLICATION DEADLINES (hon. ed) This month's 'Sheet has a wealth of good material for which I am grateful. In order to plan your creativity and literary genius for next month's submission, I must have your material no later than the 22nd of February. Sorry, but no slack on this deadline because hon. ed. is headed for G/PAØ/DL land March 2.

We have need for some good technical articles. Let's keep them brief and to the point, say 2 handwritten pages. Antenna articles, TVI solutions, improvements to your rice box radios, etc. are all worthy subjects.

Watch for a surprise next month. Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of hon. ed !?

SK...

1984 ARRL DX CONTEST - TDXS - XE2FU



- REPEATERS
- 146.07/67 - LAREDO, TX
 - * 147.91/31 - CRANTAC
CLUB REPEATER
 - 146.31/91 - CRANTAC
SECONDARY REPEATER
- * = PRIME TDXS FREQUENCY
146.52 DIRECT COMM.

TAKE US 59 TO I-35 SOUTH. WHEN FREEWAY ENDS, FOLLOW SIGNS TO INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE. MAKE A RIGHT TURN IMMEDIATELY AFTER XE CUSTOMS AND FOLLOW HWY 85. THE ROAD WILL MERGE AT A STATUE. CONTINUE 6 MILES TO THE TURN-OFF. WATCH FOR THE TDXS SIGNS ON THE DIRT ROAD.

ANY PROBLEMS, CALL IN ON 147.91/31
JUAN - XE2AAM
ROBERT - N5DQD

