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THE BULLSHEET



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Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING NOTICE -The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month except when changed by the Board of Directors. The February TDXS meeting will be held Friday, February 8th at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Mapleridge at 7:30 p.m.

1985 MEMBERSHIP DUES . . . are due. Your Board has set dues at only \$25.00 for full members, \$12.50 for associates. Dues are payable January 1st, 1985, and anyone whose dues are not paid in full by March 1st may be dropped from the roster by the Board. Remember, you may be ineligible to compete in some upcoming club aggregate events if you fail to pay your dues. Please remit either at the February meeting or by mail to the TDXS P.O. Box.

WEEKLY DX & CONTEST NET- Just a reminder that each Tuesday night at 9:00 P.M. the Club sponsors a net on 147.96/.36. Participation by non-members as well as members is welcomed. The purpose of the net is to facilitate the exchange of DX, contest, and Club information within the amateur community. Your active support of this activity is encouraged.

JANUARY BANQUET RECAP - If you didn't come, you blew it! The banquet room was filled to capacity with 60+ members/wives/guests who braved the ominous weather warnings (called for sleet, snow, ice, etc. . . remember?) to attend an outstanding dinner party. Dennis, KZ5M, summarized his waning administration's accomplishments during the past year and managed to find something nice to say about everyone in the club - a task that few would even attempt - as he demonstrated the incredible diversity of talent and interests exhibited by our members. Tuna, K2TNO, accepted the ceremonial ax and double-billed cap in a spiritually uplifting ritual. He responded to his newly shouldered responsibilities with an uncharacteristically brief (not to mention coherent) speech, the main thrust of which was lost in translation. Tommy, KD5SP, proved to be an extremely competent MC as he managed to keep the wives (and/or other non-radio types) interested during his award presentation ceremony. Special kudos to KC5M, K5DU, and K2TNO, who won the CW, phone, and mixed mode "Lid of the Year" awards respectively.

BULLSHEET MAILING LIST - It is the club's desire to provide the Bullsheet free to all amateurs in the area with an interest in DXing and/or contesting. If you would like to receive our newsletter simply send your name, call, and mailing

address to Texas DX Society, P.O. Box 540291, Houston, Texas, 77254-0291. Visitors at the regular club meeting can request the monthly newsletter by providing their mailing address on the sign-in sheet. Articles or other newsworthy items from club members and other interested amateurs are hereby solicited by your editor.

1985 ARMADILLO RUN - At a special meeting open to all interested members on January 17, the following consensus was reached by those attending. The club should sponsor both a cw and phone Armadillo run in 1985. The cw run, as in the past, would take place on cw County Hunters' weekend (July 27-28). Those present proposed that this year the club activate all counties in New Mexico and Oklahoma during the contest. This would finish up the five district call area on cw. Dave, K5GN, volunteered to coordinate this year's cw run.

A phone version of the run was also proposed for this year. TDXS mobile units would activate all counties in Louisiana and Arkansas during the phone County Hunters' contest. Rules and awards would be similar to the cw version. Galen, KB5FU, was volunteered to coordinate this effort.

A formal proposal embodying the above consensus will be presented to the club during the February meeting. Additional input is welcomed.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER (de K2TNO)

Welcome to February, when the TDXS thoughts turn to the spring finale of the winter DXing season, and (in our case) to keeping pipes unfrozen and beams in the air. Hope you didn't lose any aluminum or wire in the big blow in January. At my place, the shack got so cold that even my coffee was solid-state.

We re-established the annual TDXS Banquet this past month, and a turnout of 60+ hams-plus-companions was terrific. Dennis, K25M, turned the gavel over to me for '85 - sad to say the SS gavel has been lost/stolen (maybe somebody's using it to pound brass?). So, we substituted the official XE2FU axe - beware of the ol' Prez this year!

Tom, KD5SP, gifted several clubbers with lid-of-the year awards - Phone: Bob, N5DU, for frequency-stealing proficiency; CW: Frank, KC5M, for working CEOAA using the call KC5N, and yours truly for mixed-mode for my stream-of-conscience blather on 2M.

Dale, KG5U, ran off with the Booby Prize - a plaque commemorating his entry into the Yaggy Honor Roll. We'll certainly re-play this event next year - and our thanks to Sharp, K5DX, for his super efforts.

Now we get on with the year's activities: are you committed yet to helping out in the ARRL DX contests? Please see us through a successful effort by pitching in - there is plenty of operating time for everybody, especially if you just can spare a few hours to help on two meters in the spotting net.

We will discuss the membership criteria and the membership committee at the February meeting - I hope you will make an effort this year to vote on every proposed member, so that the results accurately reflect the feelings of the club.

Along these lines, let me remind you that club dues are due by March, or you lose your full-member status.

Finally, this year we are going to add a section to the Tuesday night DX net - a band-by-band recap of the previous week's activity by those experts who monitor a given band a lot. So far, we have Tom, N5EA, for 40 M CW and Mike, KC5CP, for 75 M SSB. I've asked Jim, N5DC, to cover 20 M SSB. The object is to report on trends: times of typical openings to certain areas, beacon signals, or frequently-heard calls. I'm soliciting help for any of the other bands - of particular interest would be times for long-path openings.

Enclosed in the Bullsheat is the 1985 contest calendar; I handed out a stack at the Banquet. This version has the correct county hunters SSB date (1st weekend of May). So, if you got one from me at the banquet, give it to your spouse. That way she/he/it will know in advance what a shambles ham radio makes of your weekends.

See you all at the meeting - pray for sunspots!

73,
Bill

DX DATA (de KC5CP)

KERGUELEN - FB8X FT8XB - Tuesday & Wednesday 14180 net at 1900Z.

TRINDADE - PY0 PYOTE - Worked Tuesday 15th on 14236 at 2230Z on the INDEXA net. QSL to PT7DX. Check Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday same frequency. He leaves February 6.

MOZAMBIQUE -C9 SMODQE/C9- Worked Tuesday 22nd on 14205 at 1900Z with VE3ICR net. QSL to SM4CLR. No documentation as yet, maybe later. C90A thought to be AB4Y, Chuck, a member of the U.S. Embassy. His QSL manager is WM4N. 14200 at 20-2200Z.

COCOS ISL - TI9J & TI9TTY February 11 - 17 10-160. RTTY!

DESECHEO - KP5 NR5M - phone, K5LZO - cw, KA5SBS - VHF March 7 - 11. 6-160 MTRS.

AUSTRIA - OE6MBG - about 3800 at 0700Z.

BARBADOS - 8P6JG about 3793 at 1100Z Sunday. QSL - WA8IMO

BELIZE - V3ZZ about 28510 at 2200Z. Saturday or Sunday. Catch him on 15 or 20 and he will QSY to 10. Also 3787 after 0200Z most nights.

BOLIVIA - CP8HD about 28570 at 1600Z and about 3787 at 0500Z Saturday.

BOUVET - No Norway DXpedition this year. Maybe the ZS group will put it on but nothing definite.

CHINA - BY4AA about 7005 at 1100Z also 14240 at 0100Z. BY5RF, BY5RA by N2KK/6 about 3798 at 1300Z.

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CLIPPERTON - Maybe April by Fr. Poly & W6's.

EASTER ISL. - CEOAE about 3787 from 0530Z Tuesday QSL to WA3HUP.
CEOZIJ about 3791 at 1228Z. QSL to Box 1, Easter Isl., CHILE
CEOERY about 28530 at 2030Z.

FRANCE - HW4KR - about 14225 at 1715Z. Special prefix QSL F2YT.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND - UA1OT about 14195 from 1430Z

GRENADA - J73LC about 28520 at 2145Z Saturday.

GUADELOUPE - FG7BP about 3787 at 0415Z Monday. QSL-KA3DSW.

GUYANA - 8R1RBF - about 28520 at 2130Z Saturday. Catch him on 21280 and he will QSY to 10 mtrs.

ISRAEL - 4X4FQ about 3799 at 0500Z.

NIUE - ZK2IK about 3807 at 0550Z Saturday.

POLAND - SP8YA about 3784 at 0530Z Sunday.

SAN MARINO - T77V about 3797 split at 0645Z Sunday.

SWEDEN - SM5AQD about 3785 at 0700Z Sunday.

ST. MARTIN - FG0IJR/FS7 about 3778 at 0500Z. QSL to W3BTX.

SURINAM - PZ1BK about 3801 at 0930Z Sunday.

SVALBARD - JW6BAA about 14226 at 1600Z with W7PHO net. QSL to LA7JO.

TOGO - 5V7NG about 14265 at 2100Z Mondays and Wednesdays.

TUVALU - T2ADE about 3800 from 0900Z.

WALES - GW3XHG about 3790 at 0400Z Sunday.

YUGOSLAVIA - YU1FW about 3792 at 0430Z. QSL to YU1OSW (his old call).

DX BULLETIN:

ZC4 = New DXCC Country. The UK Sovereign Bases on Cyprus has been accepted by by a 6 to 1 vote by the DX Advisory Committee to be a separate new country for DXCC credit. You must have worked a station on the base for it to count, otherwise it will only count as Cyprus (5B).

ARRL DX Phone Contest - March 2-3.

XF4 - REVILLA GIGEDO - V3ZZ + XEs.

J7 - DOMINICA - K4TL + N4FKO (XYL) Feb. 15 - March 5.

VP2K - ST. KITTS - K9DXO Feb. 26 - March 6.

PROPAGATION: February and March.

Best HF possibilities: Feb. 1 & 2, Feb. 10 - 17, Feb. 26 - March 3, March 9 - 15, March 24 - 28.

Best VHF possibilities: Feb. 3 - 9, Feb. 18 - 25, March 4 - 8, March 17 - 23, March 29 - 30.

Dayton Ham Vention - April 26 - 28, 1985. Info 513-433-7720.

CONTEST CORRAL (de K5LZO)

Upcoming Events:

- Feb. 3 0000-0400 GMT - North American Sprint CW *
- Feb. 10 0000-0400 GMT - North American Sprint Phone *
- Feb. 16 0000 GMT to Feb. 27 2400 GMT - ARRL DX CW *
- Feb. 22-24-CQ WW DX 160 M SSB
- Mar. 2 0000 GMT to Mar. 3 2400 GMT - ARRL DX PHONE *

* indicates Club Competition

Score rumors and lies:

- 73 Mag. 40 World SSB Championship
KE5IV s/o 1075 Q's & 90? mults
K5LZO/KA5SBS m/o 775 Q's & 83 mults
- 73 Mag. 160 World SSB Championship
KE5IV s/o 285 Q's & ? mults
- 73 Mag. 15 World SSB Championship
KA5SBS m/o 750 Q's & 96 mults
- 73 Mag. 20 World SSB Championship
NR5M s/o 1700+Q's & 110? mults
K5LZO m/o (w: KA5SBS, NM5M) 1480 Q's & 114? mults
- ARRL VHF SS
WB5RUS s/o 85 Q's & 29 mults (score=5626 pts)
- ARRL QSO Party CW
KZ5M s/o 650 Q's & 72 mults
- ARRL November Sweepstakes - High Claimed Scores (TNX. W10D)
N5JJ 1108 Q's & 74 mults = 163,984 6th Nationally cw
K5LZO 1615 Q's & 74 mults = 239,020 7th Nationalally Phone
N5DU 1605 Q's & 74 mults = 237,540 10th Nationally Phone
K5RVK 1291 Q's & 74 mults = 191,068 4th Nationally Phone Multi-op
- CQ Worldwide cw
K5RC 2048 Q's 1532 40Z C 3.2M Multi-single
K5LZO 1581 Q's 141Z 342 C 2.2M Multi-single

Contest results:North American Sprint

Congrats to TDXS North American Sprint Team in September CW Sprint Contest. We finished second to Motley Crew A by only 1,478 points. Led by a 4th Place overall effort by Dave, K5GN. (Not to mention a very respectable 9th place finish by K5LZO. . .ed.) Bad news is we only sent in 9 logs. That's two times in a row now that we could have had first place just by being sure the logs were in.

In Phone Sprint, TDXS #1 led by N5JJ's 12,556 points and 3rd place overall finish gave the team a third place finish. Eric, NM5M, also placed in the top 10 operating from N5EA's.

<u>Team Results</u>		<u>Fall '84 Sprint</u>	
<u>CW</u>		<u>PHONE</u>	
K5GN	9,984	N5JJ	12,556
K5LZO	9,288	N5EA	11,349
NA5R	8,680	N5DU	10,944
NM5M	8,092	NR5M	10,045
N5DU	7,910	NA5R	9,144
K2TNO/5	7,887	KZ5M	8,712
K5WA	7,524	K5WA	7,990
N5JJ	6,494	K5DX	7,035
KZ5M	<u>5,642</u>	KE5IV	<u>6,624</u>
	71,501		84,399

1984 IARU Radiosport Championship

Congrats to N5DU for 1st place(!) W/VE cw only (344,000 pts) and WA5PQK (remember him, now NR5M) for 3rd overall W/VE multi (986,000 pts). Operators at WA5PQK were NM5M, NM5L, KE5IV, KD5SP, WA5PQK (NR5M), and K5LZO. Thanks guys!

CONTESTING FROM THE TRENCHES (OR UNDER) (de K5LZO)

This month I'm going to tell on myself. Those of you who take the National Contest Journal may have noticed hidden in the back of the Phone Sprint results the following:

DISQUALIFIED: K5LZO, score reduction in excess of 5%.

I was notified in a very nice letter from Rick Niswander, K7GM of this a few days before the NCJ came out. He was very precise and I'm sure, accurate, in his logchecking. While not proud of this, I feel an explanation is appropriate.

Some of the 15 QSO's in question could have been straightened out by better duping and call cross checking. This pure carelessness on my part contributed to my disqualification.

The other Q's I think need some discussing. Most were caused by not being sure of a number or call. (His number was 48 not 41, or his call was K4XU not KOXU, etc.) You may say that it is a mistake not being sure of these exchanges and maybe you're right. However, the more I think about it, I believe to get an exceptional score one must accept some things you hear even if they prove wrong. In this case, I lost 8 QSO's and one multiplier, but how many more did I get right the first time that would have taken needless time to verify? I suspect that this may happen again, but also feel in the long run you must not question every possible mistake at the cost of a better than average score.

Anyway, second goes your eyesight (I wear glasses) and third goes your hearing! Thank God I haven't lost number one yet!!!!!!!

73's Chuck K5LZO

SQUELCH TALE (de NR5M)

Desecheo Natural Wildlife Refuge is a 360 acre island located 14 miles northwest of Puerto Rico in the Mona Passage Channel. Uninhabited except for goats and cats (The monkeys are presently being "rounded up" and deported.), this volcanically created mountaintop was used for bombing practice by the U.S. Air Force from 1940-1955. In 1964, the Department of Defense delcared the island surplus and transferred its administration to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior. The fact that it is now administered by the Department of the Interior instead of the commonwealth government of Puerto Rico qualifies it for separte DXCC status (does that really make sense? Ask W5JWM.)

Special permission to camp on Desecheo for amateur radio purposes (as well as any other purpose one might see fit to go there) must be obtained through the service. The TDXS Group currently has in hand written confirmation that the above permission is forthcoming.

The island itself has a helipad on the west end. An operating location 100-200 feet north of the pad would allow an unobstructed path into Europe and the U.S. By setting up several hundred feet south of the pad long path JA would appear possible. Operation from one of the ridges is also an attractive possibility.

Operators expected are K5LZO, NR5M, N5JJ, K25M, KC5M, KD5SP, KA5SBS, K5GN, WP4ATF, NP4Z, and NP4KA. The DXpedition will use K5LZO/KP5 (cw), NR5M/KP5 (phone), and KA5SBS/KP5 (vhf) from the island. Expected operating frequencies are as follows:

	<u>PHONE</u>		<u>CW</u>	
	<u>xmit</u>	<u>rec</u>	<u>xmit</u>	<u>rec</u>
160	1825	1830+	1825	1830+
80	3775	3805+	3525	3530+
40	7195(?)	7200(?)+	7025	7030+
20	14195	14200+	14025	14030+
15	21295	21300+	21025	21030+
10	28595	28600+	28025	28030+
6	50.110	50.110	50.110	50.110

Operations will start on Thursday, March 7, 1985 and end on Monday, March 11, 1985.

And here's another in a seemingly endless stack of anonymous submissions from our reigning club president/philosopher, K2TNO. (Notice that I'm spreading them out so that they go down easier.)

A rare county caused Liddo McGurkit
 To try rig adjustments to work it
 His power amp box
 Had no interlocks
 And now he's a part of the circuit.

Finally, for the first time ever (courtesy of N5WW. Thanks Wes!), the Bullsheet presents its very own contest/game. The Bullsheet offers a 1 year free renewal subscription to any and all readers who can correctly answer all 30 questions on Wes's test. Good luck and see you next month.

73's George, NR5M