



founded 1970

THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the

Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club



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The Texas DX Society, PO Box 540291, Houston, TX 77254-0291

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DX Chairman	Bob Walworth, AK5B
Repeater Chairman	Bob Evans, N5DU
Field Day Chairman	Bob Perring, N5RP
Convention Chairman	George DeMontrond, NR5M

Announcements

Meeting Notice - The Texas DX Society meets on the second Friday of each month, except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors. This month the January meeting will take place at the annual TDXS Winter Banquet, Saturday, January 14, 1989. The Banquet will be at Brady's Landing restaurant, on the Ship Channel. Cocktails (cash bar) will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available from KE5IV or from any Ticketron outlet.

Program - Tom, K5RC, will be handling the festivities after the meal. So come prepared to be roasted, even if it's cold inside.

Special Preview - At the February meeting, N5DC has arranged to have the new ARRL West Gulf Director, Jim Hainey, WB5JBP be our speaker. This will be an excellent opportunity to find out about his views.

Weekly DX and Contest net - Each Tuesday night at 9:00 local time the TDXS sponsors a net on 147.96/.36 MHz. Participation by non-members as well as members is encouraged for the exchange of information of interest to DXers and contesters. The TDXS Packet Cluster DX bulletin board is up and running on 144.95 MHz using the call K5DX. This is the AK1A system; use AX25 Level 2 protocol (see article inside for update on parameters). The cluster is located in Hempstead and can be accessed via the ALD digipeater north of Houston if not direct. Usually it is linked into both Dallas and Austin for additional DX coverage.

Bullsheat Mailing List - TDXS wishes to provide the Bullsheat to all amateurs in the area with an interest in DXing and contesting. Donations to help defray publication and mailing costs are appreciated. Visitors to our club meeting will receive the 'Sheet for three months free of charge simply by signing the attendance list. Articles or other newsworthy items are hereby solicited by your editor. Send articles to K2TNO or via FAX (713-790-1275) addressed to "Dr. William Schrader." I also have a modem at work and can hook it up to receive files if you call me first at my office, 713-798-6231.

Dues due! - According to the Bylaws, you must pay your 1989 dues BEFORE the February meeting, or you will be killed, ground into fish bait and fed to the sharks off the Galveston jetty. Worse than that, 'LZO will become extremely vexed by your attitude.

New Members - The TDXS welcomes aboard two new members this month. Barbara Coleman, WB5RUS, and Trey Garlough, WN4KKN, were elected to full membership in December.

NR200M Celebrates Constitution Bicentennial - A number of TDXSer's and assorted hangers-on gathered during the week of December 24 to 31 at Radio Hempstead. We were on all bands, cw and ssb, with K5LZO, K2TNO, NT5D, K5WA, W5ASP, WN4KKN, KE5IV, K5YCP, N5EA, WB5N, WX5S and others at the controls. We had some excellent rates, especially on ssb. Ten and fifteen were excellent into Europe most of the day. We had about 1200 QSO's on CW, and probably three times that much on ssb. The station played great; on that particular day WE WERE THE LOUDEST STATION ON THE PLANET!

Beside the big rates, we also had a ball "moving mults"; we'd move rare states as well as countries. Interestingly, whenever we encountered deliberate QRM, we'd "wrap ourselves in the Constitution;" one QST that said we were commemorating the 200th annie of "We the People" seemed to work wonders. Dale, KG5U, went out one more day (Thursday?) and ran some more cw. The only player expected to show who didn't was our own George, NR5M. Never fear: George promises to be there fer sher for the 300th (Save me a seat, Geo --ed.) If you wasted the day-after Xmas with the family returning neckties at Galleria, you missed a great time.

The President's Corner

(de Ken, KE5IV)

Well folks, we are starting a new year and approaching the end of the decade. I just wonder where the time goes; it just seems that the older I get, the less of it there is. The year 1988 was a good one for TDXS: seven new members, another FD win (this time 5A), the packet cluster is up and running and we have a nice meeting place at St. John's School.

Where do we go from here? TDXS hasn't won an SS gavel since 1984. Most of our club aggregate score comes from the big multiops at the Lumber Yard or Hempstead in most contests. What's happened to the single ops around here? Although we've lost a bunch of first-class ops in the past couple of years, there is still a lot of talent in TDXS. I'd like to see the club as a group activity get involved in putting some of the single ops back on the air this spring. After all, it's the single op stations who are the backbone, and we have had a lot of them go silent recently. Members of other clubs have asked me: "What has happened to the TDXS?" and I don't know how to answer them. Let's discuss this question and the directions for the year at the February meeting.

Last year we added the AK1A packet cluster as an operating tool for the club. It proved its worth in CQWW CW, where there were a lot of announcements. But it seems to me there are fewer announcements now than there were a few years ago, even though the bands are now red-hot compared to just a year ago. I recall about six years ago I worked 255 countries in a single year, thanks to the announcements. It may seem trivial to put out some "easy" countries, but not all the listeners to our spotting nets have 300+ countries. So keep those announcements flowing: we may be losing prospective contributors just because of the silence from our end.

The Club has been invited by the Dallas Ham Com to participate at the ARRL National Convention in Dallas in June. The convention site is superb, and we ought to begin planning immediately for this event. If you have ideas for speakers or topics for the DX and Contest Forum, please let the Board know.

Finally, I think we have a good slate of officers for 1989, and I'm looking forward to working with them this year.

Advertisements

NC5V has an ICOM 751 with filters; no price quoted. (de KE5TF)

Job for electronics Technician: Baylor's electronics shop has an opening for an electronics technician with radio experience such as ham radio. Excellent benefits, except must occasionally encounter K2TNO in hallway. Call Mr. Coulter, 799-4990. (de K2TNO)

Contest Corral

(de Dennis, KZ5M)

WAKE UP! HEY YOU--BUDDY!: This isn't a daycare center, it's a world-famous DX and contest club, people. No offense, but we haven't been acting much like it lately.

Oh, but we've got our excuses, don't we? I'm a great example...golly gee, I just couldn't get on the air for contests just because of business, getting divorced and floating half of the toys through bankruptcy court. Because of the slight downturn in the economy, a few of you thought it was more important to work particularly hard so you could keep your jobs. A few of you even thought that a lousy little hurricane or tornado sweeping your aluminum all around the neighborhood meant that it was more important to feed and clothe the family than get the antennas back up for the Iowa QSO Party. For shame, gang! Time to repent!

I don't know what happened; I just dropped out completely and forgot one simple fact: contesting is fun! It's great because you can let all those problems and headaches slip for a few hours. You can be anybody you want to be: Dickie Megawatt, Diamond Don Hammer the Pileup Smasher, or even (God forbid--ed.) LoogooZoogoo. You may be a geek to your XYL and your snotty kids, but when you jump in the pileup and finesse the whole east coast out of a juicy double bubble, you're hot, Baby--and you know it!

When was the last time we collectively kicked somebody's butt so hard we all laughed 'til we cried in the hospitality suite? Shucks, even those mean machines in Dallas with VOA transmitters are now our friends. There's nobody to hate anymore! What kind of a hobby has this become while I was gone?

Well, troops - you can all relax. A true Contest Old-Timer is back on the Board. We will once again rise above the rules and hold court over the lesser beings who fill our logs. Pushing, shoving, band-hogging, regulation-stretching and all the other acts of true contesting will again put TDXS up front (firing squad?--ed.). Yes, I wanna hear again those satisfying sounds uttered by the weak: "not another FIVE!"

I know you've re-grouped your life, your family and your bank account while I was away. That's good, because you're going to need those bucks. Forget about planning the family vacation... I have plans for your time! We are going to have a blast this year and when it's all over we're going to have special moments to splash all over the Suite.

I have a vision (maybe it's this beer that's doing it): I see TDXS ops at DX locations for major contests. I see smiles when that new mult is your friend from the Club. And most important: I see TDXS ALUMNI finally getting a chance to participate with us again.

I see new contests conquered. I see the letters W and X. I hear Espanol... I see TDXS bodies lounging in the Caribbean sun (who carries the Portapotty?--ed.) Oh yes, it's going to be an active year.

Hmmm, it feels good to be back!

73, Dennis

DX Roundup

(de Bob, AK5B)

Stations/Countries to look for in January -

- Mellish Reef: VK9ZM - About January 7 for 7 to 10 days. A large operation, all bands, all modes
- Willis Island: VK9ZW - About January 20. They will be QRV for 2-3 days after leaving Mellish
- Hong Kong: VS6DO - bu guest op N4SF, Jan 14-16
- Viet Nam: 3W0A - About January 20, by a group of Soviet and US ops
- Mozambique: C9MKT - January 13-15
- Laccadive Islands: Maybe mid-January

Dates to Remember -

ARRL DX Contest CW: Feb 18-19
 Visalia DX Convention April 21-23
 Dayton Hamvention April 28-30
 ARRL National Convention -Dallas - June 2-4

See you on the bands folks; they're hot!
 73, Bob

Ramblings and Rumors -

M-V Island: 4J1FS QSL's are in the mails. It counts for DXCC country #320. Don't submit cards until after March 1 for country credit.

Rotuma: 3D2XX has also been accepted for DXCC credit.

Niger: 5U7CW - Baldur, DJ6SI, has been very active on all bands, CW only

Egypt: SU1EE - Op Chuck, WA9INK, has been on cw about 26 or 50 kHz up from the bottom of 40 and 10; no reports of 20M activity

QSL Cards - Be sure to use the club's outgoing QSL service. Get your cards in alphabetical order to Chuck, K5LZO with a current QST mailing label of yours. He'll send the cards off (so he claims - ed.). I notice ARRL rates go up to \$2.00 per pound effective February 1.

Familiar Calls from the DXCC List

(de Joe, W5ASP)

Mixed Mode	Phone Only	CW Only
359 *K5DX	354 *K5DX	
355 *W5UN	351 *W5JWM	
345 *K5AAD	324 *K5YCP	
339 *K5RC	307 KC5M	
332 *N5EA	295 W5LLU	
326 *K5YCP	236 KF5MY	
325 *K5BZU		
319 *W5DOZ (SK)		
318 N5DC		
310 KC5M		
306 AK5B		
301 KC5CP		
299 KE5TF	277 KC5M	
293 WB5BIR	264 AK5B	
290 KF5MY	255 W5ASP	
278 W5ASP	202 K5DX	
267 NN5O	176 AC5K	
263 WN4KKN		
232 K5ZD		
226 KD5SP		

Hot flash from Austin

(de Trey, WN4KKN)

Packet reports Nov 1 to Dec 27, on the Austin cluster:

Band	CO Zones	DXCC Countries
160	16	31
80	28	72
40	37	109
20	40	179
15	36	143
10	39	184
	TOT = 196	TOT = 718

Field Day, 1989

(de Bob, N5RP)

It's not too soon to turn your thoughts toward the one great non-contest operating event of the year. Now that I've said all that.....**THINK FIELD DAY!!**

If you missed last year, now is the time to plan ahead to avoid a recurrence of the same disaster. This is the one time each year when all of us have an opportunity to apply our individual efforts to a common goal: winning a contest when no contest exists. Sound easy? To miss out on FD this year will mean depriving yourself of: (a) great TDXS fellowship, (b) fond club memories and being laughed at in the future, and (c) heat that melts all your body fat and causes it to run down into your shoes.

I know I can count upon each and every one to help our team captains win one for the Bush Administration.

Who's on the Air?

(de Dale, KG5U)

One night recently, the bands were dead, my QSL's were caught up, the cat didn't want to pounce and claw, the yard was mowed, the pool was cleaned, so I put on some records and settled down with the latest QST. After about three records a new one dropped onto the platter and I couldn't believe what I was hearing. It was "My Generation" by The Who. I must have listened to it a thousand times over the years. Remember when people claimed to find hidden messages in songs by playing them backwards? Well, no one checked out the Who very closely I found out. Here's the real scoop: they were singing ham radio. Hard as it is to believe, I thought of their song in the context of my hobby and it all fit. See if you don't agree....

<i>Lyrics</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
People try to put us down; refrain	Neighbors getting TVI XYL's ignored friends wonder where you are
Talkin' about my generation	He's talking about the RF he generates
Just because we get around; refrain	Hams talk all over the world
talkin' about my generation	More operating talk
Things they say are awful cold; refrain	Neighbor can't see the Playoffs XYL says you missed anniversary Friends say TV is more exciting
talkin' about my generation	and still more radio habits
I hope I die before I get old refrain	determined to avoid inevitable drift to 75M
talkin' about my generation	He's proud of his operating skill
Why don't you all fade away; refrain	An elegant way to say get lost
talkin' about my generation	Still bragging about his rig
Don't try to dig what we all say; refrain	Veiled reference to crowded bands
talkin' about my generation	Doesn't he ever go QRT?
I'm not trying to cause a sensation,	He means trying to work everyone he hears
I'm just talkin about my generation	Only just?

QST QST QST QST QST

Attention all you NONMEMBERS out there in radioland: This is a survey to see if you actually read this rag. IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND I PROMISE I WILL DELETE YOU FROM THE MAILING LIST!!

Name _____ Call _____ Do you get this for your club? _____
 Address for Bullsheet mailing _____ Do you attend TDXS meetings? _____

Mail this form back to: Bill, K2TNO, 2301 Dryden, Houston, TX 77030. TDXS members do not need to return it. Tnx.

Packet Racket

(de Bill, K2TNO)

Really I shouldn't be the one to write this column, since I'm such a klutz at packet. But Chuck, *K5LZO*, our *NEW PACKET GOD* was busy so here goes. I want to bring you a list of commands that seem to work, at least for me:

AXOn	DIGI Off
CH0	Mcon6
DW4	Mfrom All
FR12;	Monitor 6
(set to your birth month)	Users 0
RES9;	Cfrom All
(set to your birth day)	Mto None
SL4	AXH6
TXD45	AXD6

Scoop from the Wookle hisself about the Cluster:

(de Ken, KE5IV)

The digipeater K5DX-1 (alias ALD) is located near Jersey Village in Northwest Houston. The preferred method is to connect first to ALD, and then connect to K5DX..Use AXHang and AXDelay both = 6 so your radio's synthesizer has time to lock up to the correct frequency. Turn DIGI function off; it really clobbers things if somebody leaves it on. Want to play packet and digipeat, etc? Go to another frequency!

RFI has been a real problem for some stations. If you find your tnc works fine until you start running the HF rig, you're probably bashing the tnc memories with extra bits generated by RFI. There are several fixes you should do:

1. Install high-permeability ferrite rods, toroids, etc liberally on all cables, coax, RS232 cable, power supply cable, and so forth.

2. Use a VHF bandpass filter such as the one described in the ARRL Handbook, built in a 12"x2"x2" Bud Minibox.

3. Attach 13" shorted stub of RG8 to a coax tee fitting on the 2M antenna coax right at the rig. The stub is a dead short at hf, but has no effect at 2M.

I'd like to acknowledge the info supplied for this update from K1EA and the YCCC Scuttlebutt, and especially the efforts of Bob Moorman, K5VMX, who has done so much for the TDXS this year in getting us going on Packet.

TDXS Member Entry Sequence

1 K5PFL (K5NA)	'71	61 WD5CHY
2 K5RLW (N5WW)		62 WD5CBA (W15P)
3 WA5UHT		63 WB5LVL
4 K5SOR CHARTER		64 W5SJS
5 K5PFE MEMBERS		65 K5EJO
6 K5LZJ (N5AF)		66 K5VWW
7 K5DEG (VP2VM)		67 K5TP
8 W5JAW		68 W5VUM
9 K5ZJK (NX7S)		69 WB5YJX
10 WB5CKM (K5ZR)		70 K5IY
11 WA5YEL		71 WD5GXI (NM5L)
12 W5SBX (K5MA)		72 W5SG
13 WA5LES (K5RC)	'72	73 W5PTJ SK
14 K5LWL (K5GA)		74 W5UURN
15 W5ZR (W5NA)		75 WB5PBA
16 K5AAD		76 K5AAD (agn?)
17 WA5ZNY (N5JJ)SK		77 WB5FSF
18 W5RTQ (K6SE)	'73	78 WA3OVC (KN5H)
19 W5WMU		79 KN5A
20 W5NMA (K5DX)		80 WB5WHR (NM5M)
21 WA5WQF (N5DM)		81 N5CDO (NA5R)
22 WA5WCT (K5TU)		82 N5EA
23 WB5HOD (AC5K)		83 KA5F
24 K5LZO	'74	84 KD4M
25 W5JWM		85 W5JQ
26 WB5GJD		86 KB5FU
27 WA5APD (KD5MR)		87 W5ASP
28 WN5MYO (WB5MYO)		88 N5DC
29 WB5IFY (AA5Y)		89 KA5GJO (KD5SP)
30 K5KYU (K5JS)		90 KN5T
31 W5WZQ (W5N)		91 KG5U
32 WB5IGX	'75	92 KU5I
33 WB5QWX (KZ5M)		93 KC5CP
34 WB5OOW (K5GN)		94 KA5FUI (KE5TF)
35 W5RRX		95 AK5B
36 WB5PTW		96 KC5M
37 WB5CFI		97 KV5Q
38 K5BZU	'76	98 K2TNO
39 WB5QDW (K5ZD)		99 W5LLU
40 WB2UFG (K5WA)		100 KY5A
41 W5OIB (K5NU)		101 K5RVK
42 WB0NFY (KE5TV)		102 WA5ZVE
43 K5KG		103 KE5FI
44 N5AM	'77	104 WA5PQK (NR5M)
45 K5GB		105 KF4VS
46 WA5NGH (N5DU)		106 NT5D
47 N5RO		107 WA9VLI
48 K5CNN		108 N5RP
49 K5FP		109 NZ5I
50 W5ZQR		110 W9AGH
51 K5HXR SK		111 WB5N
52 N5RF		112 N5AQT
53 WB5USV	'78	113 WX5S
54 WA5TMN		114 KF5MY
55 N5ZR		115 K2UA
56 AD5W		116 NN5O
57 K5WS		117 WB5BIR
58 W5HNS		118 GW0ECO
59 W5DOZ SK		119 WB5RUS