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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, TX 77254-0291

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The Prez Sez - de Don, KI3L/5

The 1993 Dayton Hamvention was a success. The weather was perfect Friday, but deteriorated to cool and damp on Saturday and ended with heavy thunderstorms and rain on Sunday. I'm sure the flea market types were disappointed, but the inside crowds were fierce, and things got worse when the rains came. CD ROM Drives and Sound Blasters seemed to be the hot items - they were everywhere. I acquired W9XT's (or was it K8CC's ?..ed) new voice keyer card hoping that it may help me become a bit more competitive in the phone contests.

TDXS was well represented at the forums and hospitality suites. I enjoyed meeting and visiting with out-of-the-area members **Richard, K5NA, Jan, K5MA** and **Trey, WN4KKN**. Other locals in attendance included **Rich, K5WA, Jim, N5DC, Bob, N5RP, Kirby, K7WOC, Tom, K5RC** and **Tom's YL, Midge**. Midge was sporting a "KB5???" badge, since she recently passed her exam and is waiting for her call. Congratulations, Midge!

By the time you read this, the 1993 Texas QSO Party will have come and gone (May 1 and 2). Hopefully, a good group of 'Dillos made it out on the road to put those Texas county mults on the air. I know of at least six local teams who have planned mobile operations. We'll look forward to a full report in next month's Bullsheet.

John, W5LLU is our newest **DXCC Honor Roll Member**. He recently achieved honor roll status with 317 total and 315 current countries. He has also submitted cards for 5 Band DXCC. Congratulations, John!

The annual Barbecue meeting on Saturday, May 8 promises to be another success. **Bob, N5RP** and **Mary Beth** are planning their usual brisket and homemade ice cream. The club will provide beverages, plates, cups, etc. If each member will bring the same type of covered dish that they have in the past, we should have a well-balanced menu. If anyone has questions, please call Bob or Mary Beth to coordinate and confirm their contribution. We hope to have a good turnout.

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 May meeting will take place on **Saturday, May 8, 1993**. The meeting will be held at the **Ashford West Swim Club** courtesy of **N5RP, Bob, and Mary Beth Perring**. The building is located on the south side of Westella just west, about 500 yards, of the intersection of Dairy Ashford and Westella. There is a sign in front of the building displaying the name. Westella is about 1 mile north of Westheimer and 2 miles south of the Katy Freeway. In either case you would exit at Dairy Ashford.

Please plan to arrive no later than 2:00 P.M. The building will be open around 1:00 P.M. for those wanting to get an early start. There will be a brief meeting with the annual **Field Day** plan as the main item on the agenda. Following the meeting we will wrap ourselves around some brisket and sausage with all the fixin's. Anyone wishing to bring along something in the way of side dishes or desert will surely be welcome, as in the past. The pool will be open and there is a dressing room available. This affair will wind down by 5:00 P.M., so those with plans for the evening will have plenty of time to drop by and visit a while. Visitors are welcome to attend and may obtain help in finding the location by checking in on the 147.96/36 MHz. TDXS Repeater.

TDXS Weekly DX and Contest Net - Each Tuesday night at 2100 CST, the Texas DX Society sponsors a **DX and Contest net** on 147.96/36 MHz. The purpose of this net is to exchange information of interest to DXers and contesters. The agenda includes general and club announcements, DX information, contest information, QSL routings, propagation forecasts and various related topics. It should be noted that participation is not limited to members of the TDXS, but is open to all and everyone is encouraged to join in. (The net is currently being handled by **Dale, KG5U** who has managed to inject a new spark of life into this weekly gathering. Give him your support whenever possible by contributing any items of interest you may run across..ed)

Bullsheet Articles - Articles or other newsworthy items are hereby solicited by the editor. Articles should be submitted in the form of either ASCII files or as word processor files. Files may be uploaded to the TDXS area on **KB5NFN's Bulletin Board** at 713-777-0821, or sent to the Editor. If necessary, text may be sent to via FAX to the editor by prior arrangement. Files or other messages may be sent to the editor via CompuServe or Internet to 71045.2632@compuserve.com. For those with VHF Packet ASCII text can be sent directly to the Editor. Contact W5ASP at 713-974-3455 to arrange for either fax or packet transfers. Publication deadline is the first Friday of the month.

DX Report

de Jim, N5DC

5A Libya. Romeo said at Dayton to look for him around the end of May. He appears to be taking along several operators, in order to make the operation more creditable.

A5 Bhutan. A51AJ Pirate? Gives QSL route as JH7BMF. This one sounds "fishy". WFWL

9E Eritrea. JH1AJT active. Bet your savings account the DXAC will recommend this as a new one after the May 4, 1993 referendum.

5X Uganda. WF5T and N3JCL both active.

3C Equatorial Guinea. Ed, 3C1TR is active 14.226 Mhz net. QSL K8JP.

S2 Bangladesh. Look for this operation in early May signing S21ZZ or S21C.

P5 North Korea. Cards are being sent from Dayton. Some already received from JA1HGY. This operation still has not been approved by ARRL's DXCC desk.

TZ Mali. W5UK says he is not the QSL manager for TZ6RM. Try K5UK.

Big doings at the Dayton DX dinner. Tony, WA4JQS says he and his crew expect to be on Peter I island by February 1, 1994. Also another Dayton Rumor. ex-W9WNV is out of prison.

Pratas Island, is an island southwest of Formosa. It appears to meet the 225 mile criteria, but is claimed by PRC and Formosa. A petition is before DXAC. The big problem is who actually controls the island; and therefore, who could give legal permission to operate. My guess is this will be a new country before long. I note that PRC and Formosa, are again holding meetings to bury the "hatchet", and this could help this to become a new one.

73, and see you in the pileups.

ARRL DX Bulletin

THANKS TO THE YCCC PACKETCLUSTER NETWORK AND PETE, KB1HY, FOR THE ITEMS IN THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN.

UGANDA. AT THE RATE THINGS ARE GOING, THIS ONE WILL PROBABLY MOVE OUT OF THE TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES LIST FOR DXERS. 5X1XX HAS BEEN VERY BUSY WORKING 30 AND 17 METER CW. 5X1A AND 5X1B HAVE BEEN HANDING OUT THEIR FAIR SHARE OF QS, TOO. FOR THE DATA CROWD, 5X1XT IS ON 20 METER RTTY.

LOW BAND REPORT. DESPITE CERTAINLY NOT BEING IN THE PRIME TIME OF THE YEAR FOR DXING ON 160 METERS, SOME GOOD PICKINGS ARE AROUND FOR THE PATIENT. NORTHEASTERN AMATEURS HAVE WORKED CE8ABF ON BOTH CW AND SSB. LISTEN BETWEEN 1835 AND 1840 KHZ FOR THIS ONE. OTHER GOODIES INCLUDE SV8ZS ON 1828 KHZ AT 0304Z, ZP5JCY ON 1832 KHZ AT 0237Z, AND EI5HJ ON 1833 KHZ AT 0035Z.

80 METER REPORT. THE APPROACH OF SUMMER DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE HAD MUCH AFFECT YET ON THIS BAND. NEW ENGLANDERS HAVE WORKED ZL3ABV AT 1010Z, JA1HQT AT 0957Z AND CX4GL AT 0933 AND 0346Z WITH CW. SSB CATCHES INCLUDE CP5NU AT 0138Z, VP2EY AT 0240Z, ZP5PT AT 0131 AND 0200Z, PY5CC AT 0134Z, AND PY2HC AT 0100Z.

40 METER REPORT. OPERATING SUNSET AND SUNRISE TIMES IS PRODUCTIVE ON THIS BAND.

RECENT FINDS INCLUDE 5B0/DL6SDW AT 2344Z, ZL1ST AT 1041Z, AND JH1GRG BETWEEN 0900 AND 1030Z. ALL OPERATING CW.

30 METER REPORT. CONTINUES TO PROVIDE GOOD DX ALL YEAR LONG. SOME OF THE BETTER FINDS HAVE BEEN VK6RO AT 1103Z, OY1CT AT 0029Z, ZK3RW AT 0529Z, 5X1XX AT 0340Z, 3B8FG AT 0327Z, 5X1XT AT 0321Z, AND 7P8SR AT 0205Z.

20 METER REPORT. FOR CW BUFFS, LISTEN FOR BV4JB ON 14032 KHZ AT 1340Z, VK5ML ON 14043 KHZ AT 1011Z, AND VR6BB ON 14025 KHZ AT 0626Z. FOR SSBERS, LISTEN FOR VK8YL ON 14226 KHZ BETWEEN 1130 AND 1215Z, 9M2MW ON 14245 KHZ AT 1032Z, AND VR6BX ON 14260 AT 0535Z.

17 METER REPORT. THIS BAND OFFERS T30JH ON WEST KIRIBATI OPERATING SSB ON 18155 KHZ AROUND 0350Z. ALSO LOOK FOR 5X1XX AROUND 18070 KHZ BETWEEN 2300 AND 0100Z.

15 METER REPORT. YB1ARW CAN BE FOUND ON 21294 KHZ SSB AROUND 1400Z. OD5/SP7LSE CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE FROM LEBANON. CHECK 21015 KHZ CW AROUND 1400Z.

12 METER REPORT. PACKETCLUSTER SPOTS ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN FOR THIS BAND. HOWEVER, ZL2ANT WAS WORKED ON 24900 KHZ AT 2315Z, AND ZK2XO ON 24895 KHZ AT 2227Z, BOTH FROM THE EAST COAST. NOT BAD FOR A DEAD BAND.

10 METER REPORT. AND IF YOU THINK 10 METERS IS DEAD UNTIL THE NEXT SUNSPOT PEAK, THINK AGAIN. DON'T FORGET THAT A BAND THAT IS WIDE OPEN CAN SOUND DEAD IF THERE IS NO ONE TRANSMITTING. THE MORAL? WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL CQ. HERE IS A LIST OF SOME DX WORKED DURING THE PAST WEEK. C91S ON 28480 KHZ AT 1345 AND 1623Z; VK2NO - 28355/0101; VR6JJ - 28490/0055; PZ1CZ - 28446/1752; 3X0HLU - 28470/1431; ZS6MI - 28440/1220; ZL3AZ - 28455/0154; ZL2XO - 28027/2055 AND 2114.

SATELLITE REPORT. ENTHUSIASTS OF ORBITING ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION MENTION WORKING THE ITALIAN DXPEDITION TO LIECHTENSTEIN, TA1D IN TURKEY, OY1CT ON THE FAROE ISLANDS, UL7 AND UY8.

3A, Monaco

de Victor, IK4CIE and Steve, IK4IDW

Hello DX'ers! In day 24 and 25 April 3A/IK4CIE/P and 3A/IK4IDW/P were active from Monaco-Monte Carlo. About 1200 QSOs were made, only in CW mode and mostly in the WARC bands of 17 and 30 meters. Some comments: In 28 and 24 MHz we call CQ CQ without any answer. On the traditional bands, only signals from Europe we has listened. On the 17 and 30 meters, about 300 Japanese stations was worked. Congratulations to Japanese for strong signals. Only FEW FEW Americans, south and north, worked. This is because the site is covered by a mountain on the directions of USA and America in general. Special attention was regarded for USA, but NO signals!!! Thanks to all and we hope to receive our QSL, via buro or direct to following addresses (Callbook is correct since 1990). 3A/IK4CIE/P: Bussoni Vittorio - Via Partigiani d'Italia 35 - 43100 PARMA, ITALY 3A/IK4IDW/P: Sacco' Stefano - Via Fratelli Folli 6 - 43015 NOCETO (PR), ITALY QSLs different for the two calls. Thank you for all, and a sked with you is for TK/IK4CIE/P , TK/IK4IDW/P , and TK/IK4NZD/P from 14 to 17 May 1993. HPE CU AGN! 73.

Propagation

de Roy, AD5Q

(Roy's monthly article on propagation didn't make the April issue of the Bullsheat, but it has some interesting remarks that are still appropriate to this time of year. This is taken from the *Northwest ARS Newsletter* for April, 1993..ed)

The **10 Meter DX** season peaks in the fall during October and November, and continues through the spring. By the standards of recent years, it has been an off season. April is the month when summer absorption starts to effect this band, returning it to normal use (10-10 numbers). Expect rapid deterioration on 10 Meters this month, and plan to spend the next several months on other bands.

The peak season for **15 Meter** propagation has just begun, and will run into June. The northern hemisphere will experience later band closings in the evening, and this means the DX windows into Europe will remain open well into our afternoon. Conditions over the pole will be excellent for long haul contacts into exotic parts of Asia. These polar openings will occur during the day and into the evening. This will be the primary band for DX activity during the day, since 10 will not be much of a factor. During the sunspot peak, 15 Meter conditions were spectacular. The band was often open most of the night AND day for DX, providing a rich variety of propagation paths and plenty of activity. This year's season will be off, but we can expect times when the band will remain open past midnight.

Night path propagation has returned to **20 Meters**, and many nice contacts can now be made in the evening. Thursday evenings are special, because it is the Moslem Sabbath. It is a good time to tune for stations in the Middle East and northern Africa. I have also had good luck with this part of the world on Wednesday evenings. Though propagation is best at sunrise peak on the other end of the path, amateurs in these countrysides to be early risers, and will work quantities of stateside stations during the hours BEFORE their sunrise. Since 20 is open all night, they have a pipeline to the states. It is important to tune carefully during the evening for these mid-eastern contacts, because the band will be loaded with Russian signals.

The **Spratly** operation has been postponed until this month, which should make the operation easier to work. There will be no shortage of propagation to Spratly on either 20 or 15, and the west coast will not have much of an advantage except on other bands.

All this evening propagation on 20 and 15 will take much of the emphasis off of **40 Meters**, but the band will remain in great shape (with higher QRN levels). There is still considerable interest in the other low bands, but this will drop off during April.

Upcoming Events

- May 08.....Texas DX Society Monthly Meeting
- May 08.....CQ-M Contest (Russian)
- May 22.....ARAL (Portugal) DX Contest
- May 29.....CQ WW WPX CW Contest
- June 04.....Ham-Com '93, Arlington, Texas
- June 12.....ARRL VHF QSO Party
- June 11.....Texas DX Society Monthly Meeting
- June 19.....All Asian CW DX Contest
- June 26.....ARRL Field Day

Field Day 1993

de Dave, WB5N

(Although **Dave, WB5N** is the **Secretary of the TDXS**, he is also acting as our Field Day Chairman this year. As in the recent past, **Bob, W5SJS** will be acting as our host at his ranch south of Brenham..ed)

Field Day 1993 is coming up quick!. At the time of this writing I'm planning on a **2A** entry with a novice station (and VHF station, maybe..ed). Even though this is one of the easier categories to enter (and one of the most competitive!), I'm still need a lot of help in making this Field Day live up to the standard of the "*Great TDXS Field Days*". Since not enough interest was shown by a show of hands at the April meeting it as decided, at the suggestion of **Mike, KC5CP**, to invite the **Houston AMSAT** group to join us at this year's Field Day. Mike will be sending them a letter formally inviting them to join us. I still need some helpers for this years field day captains team. Positions I need filled are:

- **Two Station Captains.** These individuals will make sure that both of the main stations get set up, and make sure that enough gear gets to the Field Day site to operate the stations. Sufficient antennas should be on hand at the site, but additional good coax might be needed. Traditionally one station is a CW station and one is a SSB station. I would like to see both station set up with the capability of running CW, just in case a CW operator becomes available to help maximize the score.
- **Logging Captain.** This individual would be responsible for setting up the logging of the contest. I hope this means computers, but doesn't have to (although paper logging is for the birds IMHO).
- **Novice Captain.** This individual is responsible for rounding up the gear, and finding novice/technician operators to man and setup this very important bonus station. **Bill, K2TNO** has volunteered for this, but there is possibility he could be out of town for Field Day and so needs a helper. Please if you know a novice or technician operator who would like to join us please invite him (but let me or Bill know!).
- **Bonus Captain.** This person is going to see that all the bases are covered when it comes to getting all the bonus points in the contest. If the AMSAT group joins us then that one that's already covered I hope, and **John, K5EC** has volunteered to do the press release for the publicity points. In addition there are messages to be originated, relayed, and copied. And there is the "natural power" bonus and, believe it or not, there are still bonus points for use of packet radio. This captain is very important and can account for as many points as the SSB station.

Visitors and prospective members are invited. If you are interested in the club or know someone who is interested then by all means they are welcome to join us for this annual ritual of amateur radio. Remember that Field Day counts as a meeting for those of you who need meetings. For prospective members this is a great way to meet the club members. Many a person has been voted in as a member at least partially on the effort they put into Field Day (myself included).

If you would like to volunteer for one of these positions, nominate someone, or just let me know that you will be at field then call me at 667-0906 (H) or 743-0590 (W). 73's and hope to see you at Field Day.

Contest Scores

Results

ARRL Sweepstakes

CW/SSB

Texas DX Society #12 (Medium Club Category)

CW

WN4KKN (@N5AU) 1400 Q x 77 S = 215,600 #2 USA

K5GA (@W5WMU) 1360 Q x 77 S = 209,440 #4 USA

K5GN (@K2UA) 1273 Q x 77 S = 196,042 #1 STX

W5ASP 1000 Q x 75 S = 150,000 #3 STX

AC5K 788 Q x 76 S = 119,776 #8 STX

K5RC 604 Q x 74 S = 89,392 #10 STX

K5LZO 423 Q x 71 S = 60,066

KI3L/5 300 Q x 68 S = 40,800

KC5CP 71 Q x 42 S = 5,964

Phone

KE5FI 1417 Q x 77 S = 218,218 #7 USA SO/LoPwr

W5WMU 1927 Q x 77 S = 296,758 #1 LA

KI3L 1236 Q x 77 S = 190,344 #2 STX

W5ASP 1234 Q x 77 S = 190,036 #3 STX

KC5CP 621 Q x 77 S = 95,634 #8 STX

K5GN 32 Q x 22 S = 1,408

K5EC 412 Q x 77 S = 63,448 #2 STX M/O

DX Advisory Committee

de Jim, N5DC

The DXAC members had a brief and informal meeting at Dayton. Regarding Mount Athos, there was some discussion about deleting Mt. Athos, due to Monk Apollo's attitude. I am dead set against deleting it, and I believe the DXAC is in the same mindset.

I need input from the West Gulf Division on QSL ethics. To date, I have had one letter. If I am to represent you, I need to know what you are thinking. If not, I will have to make decisions on my own. If you haven't given me your input, don't come to me "after the fact", and complain about actions recommended by the DXAC. I am your representative, and I need your input. Enuff said!

Hang on to your hats! The upcoming DXCC Honor Roll listing will occupy 14 pages in QST. Something has got to give! How about an Honor Roll publication along the lines of the present DXCC Countries List, that would be issued by the League once a year? Just a thought. But 14 pages will mean the League will lose some pages for needed advertising, i.e. much needed income

DX PacketClusters -

The TDXS Contest and DX PacketCluster operates on 144.970 MHz with the call K5DX. This cluster node is operated by Rich, K5WA from his home in southwest Houston, and is sponsored by the Texas DX Society. It is regularly linked to the Texas PacketCluster DX network. K5DX may be accessed directly, or using the TDXS97 packet node by first connecting to the TDXS97 node and then connecting to K5DX, i.e. C TDXS97, then C K5DX, all running on 144.970 MHz.

(Note: K5DX is no longer accessible by "C K5DX via TDXS97") The Brazos Valley Contest and DX PacketCluster Bulletin Board is located in Hempstead, Texas and operates on 144.990 MHz with the call KE5IV. This node is accessible either directly or by connecting through any of several local packet nodes, e.g. IAH, HOU, etc.

Telephone RFI

(Here are two articles on telephone RFI that should be of interest. I recently had occasion to look through my files for some help on the topic, ran across these, and decided to include them in this issue..ed)

Notes on Cures for Telephone Interference

de Jim, K5RX

(Taken from the NTCC Newsletter of January 1991..ed)

Now that people almost exclusively use electronic telephones, I receive more telephone interference complaints than any other RFI complaint. This sorry state of affairs is compounded by the fact that the local telephone company no longer takes any responsibility for the elimination of telephone interference. I believe it is the responsibility of the local telephone company to eliminate RF at the point where its line connects to the customers wiring. In the case of telephone interference by 160 or 80 M RF, doing so can eliminate or reduce interference. This is unlikely on the higher bands, however. Each interference problem is unique

After I replaced my old-fashioned rotary telephone with a fancy Panasonic, I found that running full power on 80 M not only resulted in tremendous audio interference, but also caused the LCD display to show strange characters. The telephone's number memory would also be disturbed. Finally, after a long enough transmission, the speakerphone would continuously emit an anguished cry. I found this all rather surprising in that many years ago Southwestern Bell had installed a 1542AM Inductor Block in place of the standard baseboard modular connector block. Before then, I had experienced some 20 M interference to the old telephone. That block took care of the problem.

My first try at a fix involved a Radio Shack ferrite core. I wound as many turns as possible of the telephone cord between the unit and the connector block with as short a length of cord between the resulting coil and the telephone itself. Surprisingly, this had absolutely no effect.

I took the telephone apart to install a choke in the red and green telephone line wires. There was no room to do so. While I had it open, I placed a 0.01 mF capacitor across the telephone line. If you chose to put capacitors across the telephone line, be sure they are rated for 1 kV or more. The ringing voltage is 90 volts AC (remember AC voltages are usually expressed in RMS, not peak-to-peak, so you need a much higher DC voltage rating than the AC RMS voltage). The capacitor made little or no improvement., indicating mostly a common mode problem.

I then temporarily installed the choke that I had intended to put inside the telephone just outside the telephone. It made a substantial improvement, causing the LCD display and memories to function correctly. However, there remained noticeable audio interference.

Additional 0.01 mF disc capacitors across the inputs of the chokes that I had temporarily installed made a small improvement.

Next I experimented with capacitors at the connector block. I believe the 1542AM has only inductors for the red and green wires of the telephone line and no capacitive filtering whatsoever. Putting a 0.01 mF 1.4 kV capacitor across the incoming telephone line at the 1542AM input made a slight improvement.

The TDXS Bullsheat

While experimenting with various values of disc capacitors across the telephone line at the inductor block, with my keyer set on repeat mode sending a "V" about every 10 seconds, my finger accidentally touched one of the capacitor leads. I got a nice RF burn. That is a wad of RF on the telephone line. This was when I was putting the capacitor across the input side of the inductor. Using my now burned finger as an RF detector, I touched the output of the inductor and got no RF burn whatsoever. Thus, the inductor was attenuating the very strong 80 M RF tremendously. However, the Panasonic telephone apparently rivals a TS-930 in terms of 80 M sensitivity.

My last step was to try an AT&T Z100A telephone filter made by AT&T. It has about a 5 inch pigtail with modular plug on one end and a modular jack on the body of the device. It is less than one cubic inch in volume. Plugging it into either the telephone or the baseboard connector block totally eliminated the interference.

I understand both the 1542AM inductor block and the Z100A filter were designed primarily to eliminate AM broadcast interference. I have heard reports that they are not very effective on the higher bands. The homemade toroidal choke I tried, which was less effective than the Z100A, probably is of less inductance. That would make it less effective on the low bands and, probably because of the greater inter-winding capacitance of the Z100A, more effective on the high bands. Some telephone stores carry the Z100A filter, but at the very high list price of \$17.95.

An alternative to the snap-together toroidal choke cores sold by Radio Shack and others are cores from television fly-back transformers. Both seem to be effective on the high bands. Fly-back transformers are one of the more common devices to fail in televisions. I have been able to get TV repair shops to give me their defective fly-back transformers.

(For the sake of brevity, I have omitted Jim's detailed description of the recovery of the cores from TV fly-back transformers..ed)

These cores usually are sufficient to eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels telephone interference on 10, 15 or 20 M. My experience is that using 1/2 of a core (shaped like a "U") is just as effective as using both halves. This is fortuitous because the resulting filter is physically smaller and more convenient. Even so, I would not want one of these dangling from my telephone. Since I seldom run over 5 watts except during contests, I tell my neighbors just to keep them handy and put them on those few times when they suffer interference. I do not mind giving these away, but I always tell my neighbor they cost me nothing. Also, it is important to actually put the filter on yourself to verify it is done correctly and the show the neighbor. It is amazing how some people cannot follow the simplest of verbal instructions without demonstration.

I certainly do not recommend buying filters for neighbors. This makes them believe you are to blame for the problem. The better course is to have filters on hand to determine what works and then tell them exactly where to buy it. When one of my neighbors squawks about having to spend money to fix their telephone, I usually say something like, "If you do not believe me when I tell you that it is the telephone's fault and not mine, call the FCC and tell them you are receiving telephone interference from an amateur radio station, call sign K5RX, and ask them whose responsibility it is to provide the filter necessary to eliminate the interference. Most people will not say they do not believe you, plus they figure you know what you are talking about when you suggest they call the FCC to confirm it. This usually makes them much easier to work with in resolving interference, and you will be seen in the light of a

helpful neighbor rather than a nuisance. Also, the best time to deal with neighbors is days before the contest, not after you have been operating for 36 hours straight.

(The following article appeared in the June 1992 issue of the *Frankford Radio Club Newsletter*, and then in the July 1992 TDXS Bullsheat..ed)

Phone RFI Update de Barry, KU3X

Still can not get the RFI out of the telephone? Some telephones are just not cost effective to modify. Also, FCC Bulletin FO-10 says, "...Only authorized serviced technicians may internally modify telephone instruments". A lot has changed since the above mentioned bulletin was published. But remember one thing, if you modify your neighbor's telephone and it quits one month later because it took a lightning hit, they will say it is your fault! AS soon as you touch anything in your neighbor's house, you become liable.

The FCC has come out with an article titled, "Some facts you should know about telephone interference". The article offers some helpful hints on how to find out where the RFI is getting into the system and some additional suggestions on how to resolve the problem. Also, it tells all of the parties involved whose responsibility it is to resolve the RFI problem. That's not to say that you shouldn't get involved in helping resolve the problem.

If after troubleshooting the RFI problem you find out that the telephone is the problem, the easiest solution to the problem is to get a telephone that is made to operate in an RF environment. TC Laboratories supplies just these kind of telephones. My AT&T telephone that was used in my kitchen was effected with only 100 watts output from the TS-930S. Ferrite beads and 0.001 caps did not have any effect at all. There was no way I could even think of running 1500 watts while my wife was using that telephone. I decided to try a telephone from TC Laboratories. I now can run full power output from the 4-1000 amp on any band and with beams aiming in any direction. The telephone is not effected at all.

I am not trying to promote TC Laboratories (see below..ed), but if telephone RFI is keeping you from operating your equipment, then their products should be helpful in getting your problem solved and you back on the air. Their address is as follows: TC Laboratories, RR 9, Box 243D, New Braunfels, TX, 78133. Telephone number: 1-800-545-5884. They have a wide variety of telephones, line filters, and other products. All products are guaranteed to eliminate your problem or your money back. (Sorry, they do not accept charge cards.)

(NOTE: In the spirit of fairness, here are a couple of other suppliers of telephone RFI related products. Bryan, W5KFT runs PRO Distributors, 2811-B 74th Street, Lubbock, TX, 79423; Telephone: 1-800-745-3692. Then Pete, WA8KZK is the owner of K-COM, Box 82, Randolph, OH, 44265. Pete wrote an article on telephone RFI which appeared in the May 1991 issue of QST, pg. 22...ed)

Due Dates

(Contest Logs must be postmarked by the dates listed...Get Your Logs In and marked TDXS!)

May 10 CQ WW WPX SSB Contest
June 1 Texas QSO Party