



# 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, TX 77254-0291

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## The Prez Sez – de Chuck, KE5FI

Well, as you read this I will be lounging on a Mexican beach sipping some kind of exotic rum drink. I feel I need the time off after reading the results of the CQWW and ARRL contests. I went single band 10 in both SSB and CW in both contests. I know nobody believes I was actually in the CW test, but its true. Boy, was I a sucker for punishment! Ten meters is the pits these days.

In Mexico, I like to stay at on Isle Mujeres which is a small island northeast from Cancun. To the north of the island is wide open water to the U.S. One of the hotels has a flat roof with stairs leading up to it and it is on the north end of the island! Well, one of these days...

## TDXS Hospitality Suite

There will be a TDXS hospitality suite on Friday night, October 11th on the seventh floor of the Hyatt (formerly Doubletree) Intercontinental Hotel, 15747 John F. Kennedy Blvd just south of Intercontinental Airport. This is the convention hotel and there should be some hams from out of town staying there.

**THIS WILL BE THE TDXS OCTOBER MEETING.** Please make arrangements to attend. A signup sheet will be circulated.

If you have any preferences for type/brand of libations, please bring it, however, be discreet - put it in a bag so that people will not know what it is. The club will supply beer and bar brand drinks as well as soft drinks and mixers. As usual, donations will be accepted in the hopes of offsetting some of the cost of the room and refreshments.

Tickets will be available at the suite for the raffle of the highly popular IC-706 rig. This is the HF rig that also covers VHF.

## Announcements

**Meeting –** The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month, except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors. The October meeting will be on **Friday October 11th on the seventh floor of the Hyatt (formerly Doubletree) Intercontinental Hotel, 15747 John F. Kennedy Blvd just south of Intercontinental Airport.**

## How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web:

<http://wb5fnd.tech.uh.edu:80/~tdxs/>

On 2 Meters:

147.96/36 MHz

On Packet:

K5WA on 144.950MHz

or

Connect to TDXS95 (144.950MHz) and then connect to K5WA

## INTERNET Goodies

## The TDXS Bullshead

Gulf Coast Ham Convention

<http://www.clarc.org/~gchc>

5V5A Web Site

<http://www.getnet.com/~kf7ay/5v5a.html>

WEB page for WriteLog

<http://people.delphi.com/w5xd/WriteLog.html>

Society of Midwest Contesters

[http://pages.ripco.com:8080/~blckhole/smc\\_home.htm](http://pages.ripco.com:8080/~blckhole/smc_home.htm)

Frankford Radio Club's Home Page has moved

<http://www.frc-contest.org>

Contest Propagation Prediction Program

<http://www.berkshire.net/~robbins/ky1h.html>

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### XE Expedition – de, Earl, KZ8E

Anybody interested in going to XE next year? Would definitely like to go for ARRL DX (CW and SSB). Would also like to go down for NAQP in January, a little operating and a lot of antenna work to get the skyhooks ready for ARRL DX. If you are interested drop me a line and we will start getting the plan together.

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### TDXS on the Road – de Dennis, AA7VB

I am pleased to announce that I will again have the privilege of representing the TDXS Vagabound Corp, this time from Indonesia.

Lieske's sister had the good sense to arrange for her wedding date to be the week-end before CQWW SSB. Being a typical devoted TDXS member obsessed with Contesting and DXing (as opposed to Booze, Bimbos and Bucks) I, naturally, immediately went to work to find a QTH for the contest by pestering anyone living within 3,000 miles of YB with an Email address. Finally, a gentleman in Indonesia got sick of it and confirmed that he will let me use his QTH or arrange for me to operate from his buddy's place in Bali if I would promise to leave him alone until the contest.

I will most likely be using the call YB3OSE from Ahmad's house which is about one hour drive from downtown Surabaya ( second largest city in Indonesia. ) Licensing for foreign types is nearly impossible unless one has a one year work permit so this operation will be similiar to the good ol' days at XE2FU....operate now and ask questions latter. He has a TH7DXX and rotating dipoles on 80 and 40. His buddy has a beam on 40 so in either case it should be fun to see what it is like to operate from the opposite side of the world ( Indonesia is 13 time zones from Nevada.) My '85 operation from KC6 East and West Caroline Islands was 9,000 miles away and now that I think about it at the bottom of a cycle, too. Cndx were pretty punk...

The dentist has removed my braces so I am anxious to see if the ol' mouth is still faster than the fist...so to speak. This will be my first phone test since the late 80's so I am

pretty excited ! I had a ball earlier this year operating my VP2EWW call to a 3rd place World finish in ARRL CW. The station was in pretty rough shape at that time from the hurricanes. They got hit again twice this summer so I am not sure what awaits me Feb & Nov '97 when I return for ARRL and CQWW CW weekends. The local govt has finally accepted me as frequent pain in their butt and given me a long dreamed of two letter call (VP2EV) so I would quit showing up at their office with that pitiful expression on my face. Lieske and I began snooping around for some cheap dirt (it doesn't exist) to build a small ham shack, aaahhh opps, I mean, cottage on Anguilla for a retirement escape spot.

I operated Feb CW Sprint from Nevis enroute to VP2E this year using V40Z, a special call the govt gave me after much fast talk augmented by a variety of smoke and mirror tactics learned over many years of DXpedition operating with vague and confusing reference to some Intergalactic Competition. I actually had the feller talked into using V4A until he nearly had a heart attack when he was quickly informed by the Director of Telecom that that call was issued to the President's airplane. Nobody laughed when I asked if I could still use it " Just for the contest weekend." " That is if the President isn't flying anywhere this week-end, of course ! " Its true guys--20 DOES NOT EXIST from down there during Sprint hours. I could only manage a couple Q's until 40 opened and even then the EU stations were louder than the States.

The rest of the time, I used V47W during our stay on Nevis. Had a great time with the local V44 gang who, by the way, loaned me a tribander for my stay and put it up for me before I even got there. There is a great hotel with cottages there that has a 30' tilt up mast ready to go if you are looking for a new Caribbean island to invade. WARNING - Do not go to this place for a stateside contest as that volcano is dead smack in the way. Europe is beyond belief, though !

Also went down to Aruba again for the IARU blast in July with the specific goal of radically moving up from the # 7 spot to something more respectable. I couldn't help noticing that 104 of the best op's in the world were off the streets for this one operating from SFran in the WRTC. It looked like a possible cheap win in the CW Only catagory. Sure enough, early rumors have P40Z, The Official TDXS Aruba Station, on top of the heap. Take them wins anyway ya can get 'em ! Will most likely return to P4 for IARU '97 but operating in a different as yet undermined catagory because all those really good CW ops will be back home gunning for me. By the way, Rusty W6OAT, strong armed me at Visalia for a donation to sponsor a Zone Plaque for the WRTC event. I got even, though, by winning my own plaque. Fortunately, the plaque sponsor information is on the backside so I won't have to explain

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the whole thing every time somebody looks at it hanging on my wall.

We have moved into the new QTH on the hill in Nevada and gave out that semi-rare mult for the first time in CW Sprint as a member of the " OFF " team assembled quickly because the TDXS didn't put forth a team. OFF, by the way, stands for OLD FARTS FRATERNITY which fits a lot of us TDXS has-been wantta be types. The vertical and dipoles for 20 through 80 are up thanks to much help from Tommy T K5RC. Nevada is unlike any place I have ever lived or operated from. As an example of the glamour of this place, Lieske had a scorpion fall out of the Sunday newspaper into her lap this morning. Did you hear the screams down there ? He is the second visitor of this particular persuasion so far. Others sharing this little over one acre include two coveys of quail; a big buck and his band of fluzzies competing for his attention; a coyote to keep the neighborhood dog and cat population under control and, of course, more lizards than HC8 could hold. Several of the lizards have individual names and are permanent residents since they were here first and deserve to be treated with appropriate dignity. They all seem to accept us as long as we pay the bills around here. The station will evolve to a 2 tower place with modest signal capability except on 15. I have selected this band as the playground for my character defect that requires a "win" every so often. Look for a BIG single band sig on this band from W7 ? after the FCC gives me my new call.

Hope to see you folks from YB. If there is a story to tell about this adventure ( as if that is a remote possibility) I'll drop a dime on ya via Email.

Dennis AA7VB