



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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I hope you all got to answer Dale Gaudier. K4DGs request for info. Though late, I did get a note off to him. Looking forward to hearing him on .36 and inviting him to a TDXS meeting.

Speaking of meetings, it looks like Henry had found a new place for us to try. With a buffet no less. With a price that might even get Joe, W5ASP to join us for supper. Let's all try to make a good showing for March. It will be one week before my birthday (19th) but please feel free celebrate anyway. All gifts appreciated. Thanks go out to Bob, N5RP who graciously volunteered to be our field day chairman for '98. If you have any ideas or suggestions for the big event, please get with Bob.

It sure sounds like the guys who went to Mexico had a good time and made lots of q's. Even if they were short of equipment. I'm sure the phone team going down next weekend, the 7th and 8th will have super time also. Maybe even without the QRN from all the lightning to the north. Should make for a good program at the March meeting. Again, speaking of meetings, See You at Lai Lai Restaurant on South Main. Sounds interesting. CU there

Bob, N5ET

Announcements

Meeting – The next TDXS meeting will be Thursday March 12, 1998 at the Lai Lai Dumpling House at 6700 South Main. See article inside for the details.

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web:

<http://n5uh.tech.uh.edu:80/~tdxs/>

On 2 Meters:

147.96/36 MHz

On Packet:

**Connect TDXS on 144.950 MHz and
then Connect K5LV**

The Prez Sez – de Bob, N5ET

I was saddened to hear that Iris Colvin passed away on February 18. She and Lloyd sure put on many a DX country, operating from over one hundred different ones. They were the source of so many great DX stories. Remind me and I'll tell the one about the time they had to operate from a "house of ill repute". Even if the slamming door did keep em up all night.

Contest Corner – de Joe, W5ASP

The latest NCJ has the results for the August NAQPs and the September Sprints. In the NAQP CW our TDXS Team #1 was 4th and Team #2 was 15th. Dave, K5GN was 5th overall (right behind Eric, NM5M). In the Phone NAQP Team #1 was 10th (only 3 scores). In CW Sprint TDXS was eight (only 5 logs from the 10 man team). Again Dave, K5GN led TDXS with a 3rd place overall (followed by Randy, K5ZD and Trey, N5KO). Phone Sprint was a bit better with TDXS taking 3rd though again there were only five scores reported. For the limited number of club members who participated we did reasonably well. Wonder how we might have done with a full effort?

At the February meeting I suggested that TDXS begin a program which would recognize the efforts of those TDXSers who actively contribute to Team/Club scores

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each year. Awards would be presented by the Club to such individuals at the Annual Banquet.

The intent would NOT be to single out individuals for their personal achievements in contesting, but to focus on all who contribute significantly to the group's effort. It would not be a competition amongst TDXSers, but a open-ended program to encourage as many members who care to do so to join in whenever possible.

The program would be open to all TDXSers regardless of their "dues status". This is in keeping with the concept that "Once a TDXSer, always a TDXSer". Recognition would go not only to active testers, i.e. those actually engaged in contests and submitting logs, but also to those who make a consistent effort to contact their fellow members during contests.

The details of such a program remain to be worked out. However, I see no great difficulty in making the idea work. Essentially all contest activity today is computerized. Determining those who are active contributors to the TDXS contest efforts should pose no great problem.

If (and only IF) there is an evident interest in such a program among a significant number of members, I will submit a more definite scheme for consideration at a later meeting.

Results

1997 CQ WPX Phone

Winner USA M/S - K5ZD (K5GA, K5ZD, W5ASP) 2303 Qs x 773 Pfx = 5.3 M

N5LZ 353 Q x 224 Pfx = 95,872
KG5U 146 Q x 116 Pfx = 46,168

Claimed Scores

Sprint Phone

W5ASP, Joe 240 x 44 = 10,560
N5LZ, Don 63 x 22 = 1,386

Sprint CW

K5GA, Bill 336 x 46 = 15,456
K5GN, Dave 345 x 44 = 15,180
K5NZ, Mike 237 x 42 = 9,954
N5TU, Earl 204 x 40 = 8,160
N5DU, Bob 246 x 42 = 10,332
N5LZ, Don 227 x 41 = 9,307
KG5U, Dale 143 x 38 = 5,434
W5ASP, Joe 237 x 42 = 9,994
KN5H, Hose 80 x 25 = 2,000
N5RP, Bob 173 x 39 = 6,747
Total 92,564

CQ WW 160M CW

N5LZ 329 Qs x 47/7 Mlts = 40,770 Pts
KZ5MM 20 Qs x 15 Mlts = 900 Pts

ARRL DX CW

K5NA 1582 Qs x 316 Mlts = 1.5M SO/AB HP
ZF2NE (W5ASP) 2016 Qs x 58 Mlts = 350K SO/SB 20M
XA5T (N5TU, N5RP, K5LZO, W5MJ) 4367 Qs x 309 Mlts = 4M M/S

ARRL Sweepstakes (Official ARRL Posting)

CW

K5GN 7th
K5GA 9th

Followed by: KN5H, K5ZD, K5NA, N5DU, W5ASP, K5KG, K5MA, K5RC

Phone

None in the Top Ten. In order: W5ASP, N5DU, K5MA, N5LZ, K5RC

DX – de Buzz, N5UR

Well both March DXpeditions are active as I write this, ZL7DK until March 8 and N2OO/KH9 on SSB and N6MZ/KH9 on cw until March 11. The KH9 boys have been good copy here on 160-10, but they do not understand propagation and seem to take 6s and 7s during our peak periods. The ZL7 has also been good copy on 80-10, but for the life of me I cannot copy them on 160! The next excitement is KH1 Baker Island starting March 3 and Howland Island starting March 4 or 5. This group put on Kingman Reef for one day, basically a one man 20 meter marathon of 1000 QSOs following the month long Palmyra operation. These are all three working DXpeditions, so no dent has been made in KH5 or KH5K demand, except possibly on 20!

Also of current interest is Libya, 5A21PA operated by Tiny ON4CAT, Frank ON4CEL and Patrick ON4APS. They will be active on all bands on CW, SSB and RTTY with 100 watts. Activity will last until March 7th. For more information, check out their homepage: <http://users.glo.be/~frankyb/5a21pa.html>

The big news is ZONE 23 is coming with a vengeance! First the 11 man Italian team will put JT1Y on from April 7-14 and will be bringing a monoband 40 meter beam amongst other equipment! The web site is <http://www-dx.deis.unibo.it/htdx/jt1y/main.html> which includes operators, frequencies and more. Then in May the Hungarians will try to beat the Italian as a Hungarian group of DXpeditioners, members of the Hungarian Pannon DX Club will operate from Ulan-bator Mongolia from 17 May to 2 June 1998. The team includes HA0HW, HA4GDO, HA6NL, HA7SK and HA7VK. It is planned to keep 2-3 stations simultaneously on the air 24 hours a

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day, to maximize band openings. All HF bands will be activated, on SSB, CW, RTTY. Info at <http://www.dunanet.hu/pannondxc/mongoliaeng.htm>

If that's not enough out of Zone 23, UA0YAY and UA0YY have been spotted frequently on 20, and UA0YAY in Tuva QSLs via the buro! Also, JT1BG has been extremely active on 75 at our sunrise and sunset, but so far I haven't been able to get his QSL for my 5BWAZ. (I need Z 18 on 80 and 10 and Z23 on 10 to have them all worked!) This past week I worked JT1CO on 30 at our sunrise, and JT1AA on 40 at our sunrise, both using a butternut vertical!

The 3C0 Expedition has been delayed again due to an armed coup attempt, and the latest from P5 is that Rasa, YU1RL, has gone to Pyongyang, and he is there right now. He will be trying to get a licence from North Korea. I'm not holding my breath!

Finally, watch 10 and 12 following sunrise and sunset. This past week I worked 9M6 on both bands as well as FR5, South Shetlands, and BV JA UA0 on 12. Europe is also sneaking in on both bands along with the middle East on 12. All Indonesian operators are temporarily off the air until after their presidential elections in mid March so as not to spread rumors (?). I'm sure glad Bill doesn't have that power, as he seems to be a major topic of non DX QSOs on the bands these days. Have fun and work some DX.

Support you Local Contestor – Jim, N5DC

XA5T

K9VX 10; KZ5MM 160,40,15 & 10; W5HNS 80; N5ET 160,20, 10; KE5TF 160,20,10; N5DC 40,20,10; W5XYL 40,20,10; N5MT 160,80,40,20,15,10 (Good show Mike!); K5NA 160,80,40,20,15,10 (Good show Richard); AD5A 80; K5GN 80,10. I know that K5DX is in the XA5T log, but don't have band info.

ZF2NE (W5ASP) Joe I believe was single band 20, so I will not list the bands. N5ET; KE5TF; N5DC; W5XYL; KZ5MM; K5NA; AD5A; N5LZ; K5DDS; NN5ZZ

TEXAS QSO PARTY 1998 – de Henry W5HNS

I realize that every one is starting to make plans for field day. HOWEVER, one month prior to field day is the Texas QSO Party. And this year we are on our own - not running concurrent with MARAC county hunters.

That creates a concern for serious activity from the state of Texas for the TQP. Everyone in TDXS needs to be on the air for this one and if you have mobile capabilities you are really a hot commodity. How many counties can TDXS mobiles cover during TQP??

We will have some help from NARS. They want to win the club aggregate score. So they will be out there. Frankly, I think a challenge is in order here. Lately there seems to be a little interest from a group in Dallas.

Plan for this one. Let me know if you can go mobile, where you are going and I will get this out on the internet. And if nothing else, talk this event up to every Texas ham you encounter.

MARCH MEETING SITE – de Henry W5HNS

I want to encourage everyone to make the March meeting if possible. Mainly to check out the location. The meeting site will be the Lai Lai Dumpling House at 6700 South Main. This is just north of Holcombe on the west side of S. Main.

The restaurant is located in the Tides II Hotel and has easy access parking either underneath the restaurant or on the south of the building. Parking is free. We will be meeting in the rear of the restaurant which will be partitioned off so as to create a meeting room. There is ample space and being on a Thursday night, chances are we will have the place to ourselves.

The food is not Kim Son quality. Neither is the menu. I suspect we would be better off with a buffet than off of the menu. HOWEVER, to get a buffet on a Thursday we must have 25 warm bodies show up to eat. If I get 25 commitments by March 5th I will call in for a buffet. Otherwise we will be off the menu. Try to committ!!!!

Hopefully we can see a video of the TDXSers who went to Mexico for the phone weekend. This room has a TV so all we need is the VCR. If this meeting site meets most of our approval we can reschedule easily as often as we see fit. See you there!!

Ameritron – Dave Topp, W5BXX

Amazingly, there are some retail companies that really do care about customer satisfaction after the sale!!

I purchased an Ameritron AL80-B in June of 1995, had to have it worked on a couple of times for minor problems, but generally was quite satisfied with its performance. In May, 1997, I received a phone call from Ameritron. The gentleman asked if I was comfortable with the product and we chatted a bit about it. He stated that he wanted to remind me that the warranty would run out the next month. At this point

I said to myself "OK, here comes the pitch about purchasing an extended warranty", but surprisingly that was not the case. He just wanted to let me know that if I was having any problems or anticipated any problems that I should definitely take care of them before the end of the

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next month when the warranty would expire. I was a little speechless for a second, still waiting for some kind of sales pitch, but he simply stated again to not let the warranty expiration creep up on me, thanked me for the purchase and said goodbye! For the next couple of weeks I expected to find something in the mail offering an extended warranty, but none came. It's refreshing to find someone who brags about customer service and then actually does something about it!!!

'73 from W5BXX.

XA5T – de Earl N5TU

Here is our score breakdown for XA5T in the ARRL DX CW contest.

Band	QSOs	Mults
160	207	46
80	548	55
40	1082	56
20	1049	58
15	1219	57
10	262	38
	4367	310 = 4,061,310

Thanks to all the TDXSers who mad the effort to work us especially those who worked us on multiple bands.

Earl

Remembering the Colvins – de Joe, W5ASP

(Sadly Iris Colvin passed away this month, the reamingin half of the famous Lloyd and Iris Colvin teamed of many YASME DXpeditions. Joe recounts one memory of the then when they were the guests of TDXS here in Houston. I remember meeting them then, back when I was in High School and looking at the list of over 100 counties they had earned DXCC *from*, I am shocked to realize that it was almost 20 years ago! ed.)

The Colvins were guests of TDXS at the Houston convention quite few years ago... someone may actually remember when (K5RC/7 ?).

Lloyd was on a "panel" at the TDXS contest forum along with several other highly regarded hams... anyway at one point Lloyd asked to tell a story on himself... (I also heard it later at Visalia).. seems the local FCC boys in CA had been monitoring his home QTH on some rumor of "excessive power"... they finally showed up at the door and asked to "inspect" the station.... they did so... in great detail, even firing up the amps and comparing meter readings to RF field indicators, etc. Eventually, finidnig nothing amiss they started to leave... while exchanging farewells, Lloyd's vision fell on his framed license handing on the wall next to the door... at that moment he suddenly realized for the first time that his license had expired, and

that he had taken no steps to renew it.... being the gracious host he quickly ushered the FCC guys out the door and snatched the frame off the wall... etc. etc.

Iris also told the story of their "operating site" on one of the Caribbean/Central Amercan locations... going into great detail about the antenna setup, the station, their operating practices, the many many QSOs, interfacing with the locals, etc. etc. Seems they stayed there for the better part of several months... as she concluded she mentioned that the adjacent part of the same building they we living in was one of the major loca brothels. Quite a different sort of QRN !

Finally, no one who followed them in their travels will ever forget the N N Q that Lloyd sent after each and every contact.

Even after Lloyd's death Iris would make the trip to Visalia and entertain her following with tales of their experiences... great fun.

Joe, W5ASP

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