



THE BULLSHEET

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

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Announcements

The August 12th Meeting will be at **Ryan's Steak House** on 34th street. To get there, take the second exit off of 290 outbound (34th street, Antoine) from the 610 Loop. Turn left under the freeway on 34th street. The restaurant is ½ a block on the left. Dinner is at 6:30.
Meeting to follow

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web: <http://www.tdxs.org>

On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz

On 70 Cm: 447.00/442.00 (103.5 Hz)

On Packet: Connect to **TDXS71** or NARS BPQ 145.71
then connect to K5LV

Reflector: Send to: majordomo@moobounce.n5iq.org

In the body of your message only put: subscribe tdxs-list
do *not* include your email address, as the reflector will pick it up automatically. Put nothing in the subject line.

The Prez Sez- de Earl, N5TU

Since the last meeting the Packet Cluster was moved to N5DC's QTH. It seems to be working much better there. I was able to connect from Tomball through TDXS71 and the connection seems very good. A quick check of the stations connected showed about a half dozen with most of them being non-TDXSers. Its nice to be providing the service to the Houston DX community again.

On the downside it looks like the repeater was being clobbered by intermod for the better part of this week but has now returned to our normal tolerable level. The other repeaters are currently in the shop and being readied for service. Hopefully, we will soon have a UHF repeater back on the air.

As for the VHF repeater we need to decide what to do with it. Personally, I think we should substitute it for the ICOM in use now and see if it is less susceptible to the intermod that has been plaguing us. I don't know much about the ICOM repeater equipment but I do know that the Motorola stuff is pretty much bulletproof. If it is a radio problem this substitution would confirm it.

Team contesting is upon us. By the time you read this NAQP CW will be over. NAQP SSB is the weekend after the meeting and the

PREZ SEZ Continued

Sprints are in September. So lets get on the ball and form some teams for these upcoming contests.

Do we still want to have an antenna party to fix up the club antennas for FD? If so we need to set a date and get it done. Speaking of FD, next year is the 30 year anniversary. Anyone want to head up the effort to organize a reunion FD?

See you at the meeting.

N5TU

DX REPORT BY BUZZ, N5UR

Its vacation time, and don't worry about missing much! Static on the lower bands is horrible, the R1MVA/R1MV operation was barely workable on 40 and not even ESP on 80 or 160 at this station. I did snag them on 12 meters at 11 PM local time, but nada on 10 meters. The propagation gurus are saying 10/12 will be back with a vengeance in a month or two, so take your vacations now! I need 2 zones on 10 and 3 on 12 so I am waiting. Make sure your checklists are up to date.

Tom, SP5AUC/3W7CW is in Cambodia until mid August. He has been issued the call XU7AAS and has been active on 20 17 15 meters, He is expected to return to Vietnam on 15 August. QSL to Tomasz Rogowski P.O. Box 11, 02-800 Warsaw 93, Poland. You may remember Tom as YI9CW.

Laccadives are rumored for September, and there is talk that Marty is in FW to see about adding Chesterfield Island to the DXCC list. The vote is East Timor will be being counted as you read this which could put the deleted CR8/CR10 back on the list in the next year or two. Needless to say, Kosovo is looking better for DXCC status. DOn't take too long a vacation. E4 on the other hand is so common that the new guys can't raise a pileup! Remember you can't submit these until after October 1, 1999.

The New Orleans International DX Convention is coming the last weekend in August at the fantastic Royal Sonesta Hotel on Bourbon Street. Fellow speaker Paul, BV4FH will be staying with me as he passes through Houston on his way to the Big Easy. Paul will cover his recent Pratas operation and I will speak on what else, IOTA as it pertains to DX. I haven't visited my New Orleans buddies in a couple of years, so I look forward to seeing a lot of old friends and hopefully a bunch of TDXSers. I know Mike AD5A and Bob N5ET will be there so come pass a good time. Email my partner in crime at IOTA NA-089 for info, dboudr@lsumc.edu (Boudreau, Donald).

AB5EB, son of AD5A, got hitched in mid July and already has moved to Galveston Island and has a beam up, in preparation for starting medical school this fall. His lovely XYL Jennifer has already discovered that RF can block phone calls!

If you don't want to chase islands as you wait and wait and wait for a legitimate P5 operation, maybe the Worked All Europe Award will fill the bill. You have to work it all SSB or all CW, no mixed mode allowed, and there a few extra countries such as European Turkey, the Shetland Islands, 4U1VIC, and JW Bear island that add to the challenge. You get 2 points for working each country on 80 and 160 and 1 point for any other band, maximum credit is 5 bands per country. The top award level is 300 points and with only 72 countries and only one made, that's tough. To help you out,

4U1VIC: WAE CW (M/S by DL6RDR and JH4RHF), CQ WW RTTY (JH4RHF), WAE SSB (JH4RHF), CQ WW SSB (M/S by JH4RHF, DL2OBF and others), CQ WW CW (M/S by JH4RHF, DL6RDR and others), ARRL 10 (VE3IAY).

Rules for the WAE and related contests can be found at <http://server.darc.de/referate/dx/fed.htm> Luckily this page is in English! Navigating a German web site when you speak no German is no fun, but the WAE looks to be a blast.

Have fun and work DX, Buzz N5UR

To all ARRL-affiliated clubs in the West Gulf Division:

ARRL OPINION SURVEY FOR ALL DXERS

Please forward this appropriately within your club

The DX Advisory Committee has been asked to make suggestions for improving the DXCC Yearbook. As your West Gulf representative on the DXAC, I'd really appreciate your constructive input.

The DXCC Annual was first published in 1994 (for 1993 activity). It has covered a variety of topics related to the DXCC program, including DXCC standings and articles about DXing. It has also highlighted the "DXpedition of the Year". The Annual is a subsidiary publication which offers the possibility of removing more specialized material from QST. (Some DXers see that as a good thing - others don't!). Every aspect of amateur radio should be covered in QST, including presentation of the broader aspects of Dxing for all League members. However, detailed lists are possibly not interesting to most hams.

Unfortunately, your suggestions for improvement must not increase the cost or size of the DXCC Year Book (Wouldn't ya know it - always a catch!). However, if QST page reductions were involved, additional cost and size in the Annual might be acceptable.

So here's a chance to get on your soapbox - ARRL is listening. Replies to me via e-mail are preferred (nt5c@texas.net), but hard copy via Callbook address is OK. Let's make August 31 the deadline for comment.

Thanks and 73,
John Warren, NT5C.
West Gulf DXAC Member

Contest report by Ben, KM5OT

No report submitted

Packet Racket by Jim, N5DC

As most of you are aware, the TDXS packet cluster, K5LV is now located at my QTH. I am having no problem staying connected to K5DXC via the UHF link, and it appears, moving it closer to TDXSU, I have a good shot at the packet equipment, located in downtown Houston. The bad news is, I am not happy with the VHF performance of TDXS71. For reasons, I do not yet understand, I do not believe that the VHF node, you need to use to connect to K5LV is working at all well. I changed radios out this week at TDXS71, and see some improvement, but I am far from satisfied, that it is working as well as it should be. In the coming weeks, as time permits, I will try to improve the node, so that you can connect to K5LV, using TDXS71, and stay connected, as long as you desire to do so. I believe that The Club should invest in a VHF commercial radio, similar to the one we are using on UHF, to fight the intermod problems, that come with any downtown location. Please be patient a bit longer, and, depending on NARS, and their packet plans (if any), I believe you will see the kind of system we all want.

Repeater Report by Jim, N5DC

We are in a bit of a problem with our present location for our voice 2 meter repeater. The owners of the building have retained a new company to manage the roof tops. The (the owners) want to bring in additional revenue from their rooftops, by renting space to commercial users.

Repeater report by Jim, N5DC continued

We (TDXS) are not bringing in one red cent to the building owners! I cannot even access the site to service the UHF antenna, which has a problem. I have been working with the new roof top managers, to “secure” our position, and hopefully will be in a more “secure” position in the future. This subject does not need to be discussed on the air, but know that we might have to move from our present location to some other spot. If any of you have any “connections”, with anyone, that can get us space at a repeater location, please contact me. Our new 100 watt UHF and Motorola repeaters are in the shop and should be available shortly.

TDXS Reflector Changes

Be sure to note the new address of the TDXS Reflector on the front page of this newsletter. We owe a very large vote of thanks to Brad Killebrew, N5IQ. Brad is not even a member of TDXS, but continues to support us with his efforts, to keep the TDXS Reflector running in good order. Brad has offered to host email services, which would allow all of us to have an email address of TDXS.org. This certainly is a fine offere from Brad, we need to take advantage of. Thanks Brad



These are Field Day Antennas?



W5BXX'S Motorhome setup



Ross Baker, our 6 meter hired gun



2 and 6 meter antennas



Prez N5TU having a "light" snack



W5MJ getting a little "thin" on top?



WB5N Running them on 20 meters