



THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the

Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club

1999

December

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

Issue 12

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Announcements

The December 9th 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** (145.71) then connect to K5LV
Reflector: Send to: majordomo@moonbounce.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

Everybody should be gearing up for the ARRL 10 meter contest. It is the last club competition contest of the year and for a small club we have done pretty well in the standings. With a little bit of effort from everybody we can turn in another good club score.

By the time you read this Madison should have the date of the banquet nailed down. It looks like we will be going back to the Confederate House again this year. Any problems we had in the past looks like they have been solved and we can look forward to a good time again this year.

I am embarking on a project to put all the Bullsheets on CD-ROM. I'll be getting the back issues from K5NA and will start scanning them into the computer. A typical CD will hold about 600 MB so there will be lots of room for other TDXS data. Anybody who has any pictures, articles, TDXS magazine covers, or any other TDXS memorabilia get them scanned in and send them to me.

See you at the meeting.
N5TU

DX report by Buzz, N5UR

DX IS BACK

Ten meters has been wonderful, with openings to all continents simultaneously during the CQ WW Contests, and needless to say 12 and 15 have been lots of fun. 40 & 30 continue to provide evening entertainment and even an odd one gets thru on 75/80 at sunrise and sunset. Zone 23 has been heard here on 75 in the mornings, though zone 18 continues to elude me. Zones 23 and 18 also elude me on 10 meters, where I have heard Zone 23, but the W6/W7 wall was impossible for me to break around 0030Z.

Operations to watch for this month are:

9U5D has been active on 10 20 40, SSB, CW, and RTTY, and he has a very quick manager. ARRL says he is good for DXCC

VK0LD on Macquarie has been active on 20 SSB and CW

No major expeditions are planned anywhere this month that I can find. However, the first major expedition of the new millennium will be the XZ0A DXpedition to Thahtay Khun Island, Mergui Archipelago, Myanmar between 13 January and 6 February 2000. Organized by the Central Arizona DX Association, this will be the first amateur radio activity from outside the capital city of Yangon and the very first IOTA from this country. Twenty-four operators will be active with eight stations on all bands and modes. QSL via W1XT, Bob Myers, <http://getnet.com/~k7wx/myanmar.htm> 37875 North 10th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85086. For further information please visit Antarctic activity increases during their summer. Niall VP8NJS has arrived at Patriot Hills Base. Watch for R1ANB/A, R1ANK, R1ANC, all new or rare bases to be activated this summer. R1ANF/A has already activated both the Chinese Great Wall Base and the South Korean base, with visits to the Swedish, Norwegian, and Indian bases a possibility by Russian amateurs in the next two months. If you are interested in Antarctic activities, you will find everything at <http://www.avana.net/~polar/>

Please bring your outgoing buro QSLs to the meeting and I will mail them off.
See you soon, Buzz N5UR

Brazilian Prefixes and States by Earl, N5TU

PP1	Espirito Santo
PY1	Rio de Janeiro
PP2	Goias
PQ2	Tocantins
PT2	Brasilia DF
PY2	Sao Paulo
PY3	Rio Grande do Sul
PY4	Minas Gerais
PP5	Santa Catarina
PY5	Parana
PP6	Sergipe
PY6	Bahia
PP7	Alagoas
PR7	Paraiba
PS7	Rio Grande do Norte
PT7	Ceara
PY7	Pernambuco
PP8	Amazonas

Contesting continued

Before I had read those e-mail's about TDXS' contest reputation(?), I was considering a format change of a sort. I think I'll go for it: I'm not going to list upcoming contests. I'm not going to list due dates. I'm not going to sift through the results looking for TDXS calls. I'm not even going to print up a list of URL's of where to find the info. You guys are all old enough and savvy enough to know where to find the numbers you are looking for.

What I am going to do is ask each and everyone of you to do a couple of things for me (now, this is real easy, so don't go looking to the DX column to see what new reef is active):

1. Commit yourself to operating in a many contests as you can. If you can only put in a hour, a couple of hours, the whole magilla, so much the better. But, just do it. Set goals; keep active; keep your call in other stations logs; have fun and make points.
2. Take those points and let me know what they are. Who the hell cares about numbers that appear in a magazine nine to twelve months AFTER the contest. Heck, I have a hard time remembering if I was even in the darn contest by the time the results are published. For all I know, my logs coulda been lost in the e-mail ether.
3. Read your scores in the next TDXS Bullsheet and recall that it didn't take that much or that long to get your call in print. Also, note that it didn't take much to beat you-know-who.
4. If you have any contest-related comments, ideas, suggestions, articles/paragraphs/sentences/incomplete sentences, etc., send them to me. I'll be happy to share them.

So, send me your contest results: Contest, Mode, Call, Category, QSO's, Mults, Points.

And if this is more a DX Club than a Contest Club, where are the TDXS DXpeditions?

There. I feel much better now.

73,
dale, kg5u

WRTC 2000 Is Coming!

* WRTC 2000 contributions sought: Carl Cook, AI6V/P49V, has been tapped to head the World Radiosport Team Championship 2000 fundraising effort in the US. Cook is requesting monetary contributions on behalf of WRTC 2000 "to show the Slovenians the gratitude that we all feel toward them for undertaking such a monumental task" as WRTC 2000. "I think it is necessary for every one of us to contribute toward the immense cost of hosting WRTC 2000," he says. Donations in excess of \$250 may be submitted via a directed contribution to the Northern California DX Foundation, earmarked "WRTC 2000" and sent to Bruce Butler, W6OSP, 4220 Chardonnay Ct, Napa, CA 94558. Smaller contributions or deductible business donations may be sent to Carl Cook, AI6V/P49V, 2191 Empire Ave, Brentwood, CA 94513.—Carl Cook AI6V/P49V

(KG5U note: I plan to make a proposal at the next TDXS meeting that TDXS support WRTC 2000 with a contribution— if you guys will put down your forks long enough to vote :-))

Yeah, this is a repeat. So what? It's for a good cause.

Remember, if you get in any contest which has a club/team affiliation entry in the summary sheet, be sure to indicate TDXS.

And, no matter how small your log, submit it! (I swear the size of your log is no reflection of any part of your or anyone's elses anatomy. Honest.)

73,
dale, kg5u
Dale Martin, KG5U
kg5u@hal-pc.org
<http://www.hal-pc.org/~kg5u>

Operating from BV by Earl, N5TU

Just prior to leaving on my latest business trip to Taipei I was able to get an email off to the BVs who had visited N5ET and N5UR while at the New Orleans DX Convention. By the time I had landed at the Chiang Kai-shek Airport in Taiwan and checked into my hotel, I found that I had already received a reply from Paul Pai, BV4FH, welcoming me to Taiwan. Paul lives about 2 hours by train south of Taipei in the town of Fengyuan.

Paul had invited me down to his place and even had another ham, Jimmy Tu, BV4AS, who would be driving from Taipei to Fengyuan on the weekend. I chose to not inconvenience them and decided to catch the train early Saturday morning and spend the day in Fengyuan. The trip was uneventful except in my haste to get a ticket I booked the local train rather than the express resulting in arriving in Fengyuan 10 minutes before the train that left Taipei and hour after I did.

Paul met me at the train station and we spent the rest of the morning touring Fengyuan. Fengyuan is near Taichung which was the epicenter of the September earthquake. The earthquake had done severe damage to several 10 story buildings that were now vacant. The Taiwanese National Guard was still patrolling some of the areas as workers were busy hauling away rubble from the pancaked buildings. Paul mentioned that some of the buildings were going to be repaired with epoxy. He also echoed my misgivings about the process.

I had just missed the K200 gang that was currently on Spratley. They had operated BV0DX from Paul's station before heading to the Spratleys. Taiwan claims the largest island in this archipelago and the only one with a fresh water source. It is currently under control of the military but was about to be transferred to the sea police while I was in Taiwan.

Paul and Jimmy were hoping to be able to get back to Pratas some time after May of next year and are always looking for hotshot ops to go along. Since it is a military deal departure is usually on short notice and the most expensive part of the Dxpedition would most likely be getting to Taiwan from the US. If anyone might be interested let me know and I'll get you any particulars. They stay in military housing while there and the soldiers stationed there are pretty hospitable. The group will usually leave some equipment like generators behind as the island does not have a power source which makes those stationed there even happier to see them.

Permission to operate in Taiwan can be obtained in 3 weeks allowing you to operate BV/homecall. A copy of your license and passport are needed. You can only operate at established stations and cannot bring your own equipment with you. The easier way to operate is to do it as a guest op under someone's call. BV0DX is a club call run by Jimmy and Paul. It is a rare prefix which makes it even more fun to operate. Jimmy was even happy to take care of the QSLs too.

I operated BV0DX from Paul's rooftop station 10 floors up. He puts out a good signal and I was soon working a pileup from the JAs to Western Europe on ten meters. Unfortunately this was about 3AM Houston time so I didn't work any stateside. I quit after some 300 odd QSOs as we headed off to dinner. After dinner I got on the express train back to Taipei.

I met up again with Jimmy Tu for dinner one evening back in Taipei. He is an architectural inspector and is currently living on site at a build in Taipei. He only has a low dipole for his station now but plans to put an antenna on top of the building when it tops out. That will really give him some punch. I only made 20 or so contacts from his station as BV0DX with the only stateside being W8AH.

Paul, his XYL Christine, and Jimmy were wonderful hosts. I had a great time while visiting them that day and hope to get back there the next time I am in Taiwan. A little more warning and I am sure we can have quite a large gathering of the local ham population. I am even reapplying for my visa so I can stay longer if I have to and maybe even make a side trip to one of the islands if the chance ever arises.

WHAT PRICE TEXAS QSO PARTY ?

By Henry, W5HNS

Several years ago John Bonica expressed an interest in the club's activity with the Texas QSO Party and requested funds to support the effort. The club voted to spend \$300.

I believe that it is time to reevaluate the Texas QSO Party as a club sponsored event. What does it do for the organization and is it a worthwhile expense?

Expenses have not gone up. Yet. In years past, the cost of certificates and plaques matched postage. Today postage is way down but cost of certificates and plaques have gone up. Most of the promotion of the Texas QSO Party is done via the internet which has reduced postage considerably.

In an effort to offset expenses, it was suggested to join other QSO parties in the popular wave of offering a purchased item, such as a coffee mug. This was voted down by one vote.

This event obviously does not excite the general membership of the TDXS as participation has steadily dwindled for several years. No longer is the TDXS club aggregate score a threat to other contenders.

So why does the Texas DX Society spend \$300 a year on the Texas QSO Party? It has been suggested to me that the club name being exposed to the promotions on various websites, QST, CQ, and other publications was worth it. Another suggestion was that Texas needs a QSO party and who else but a contest club should sponsor it? The fact that Texas, or any other state "needing" a QSO party is a debate all by itself. Some will tell you that all QSO parties are a waste of time. Others will say that they serve as training ground for the big events, serve to try out new logging software and new equipment before jumping into the "big, significant" events.

Mull this over and put it to a vote at the next meeting. What price is the Texas QSO Party to the TDXS?

And if it is deemed not worthy, will it die or will some other entity take it over? Surely someone will.

Packet Racket by Jim, N5DC

A bit of news on the Packet front... Bobby, K5BC has been our source for connecting to the Internet. He is probably going to lose that connection, due to his ISP being bought out. We have been offered the use of a T-1 line, by George NR5M. This is a great deal for The Club! We will be putting up a tower at George's Dealership, and be able to connect to K5LV at my QTH via UHF. We will then have to setup 1 possibly 2 computers at George's, one for packet and one for the Internet. We will tie the two computers together, should have a continual Internet DX spotting cluster. This is the solution we have been looking for, and we all need to thank George for his generosity, for making this available to The Club. The T-1 line will be installed after the 1st of December, and my guess is, it will take about 45 days to get the system running. This will also allow Bobby, K5BC and the DX gang using his Cluster to get the Internet spots as well. **Many Many Thanks George!**

Operating from YN by Ed, W5GCX

Operating from YN by Ed, W5GCX

Frosty and I went down to Granada, Nicaragua for the CQWW SSB Contest this year. Granada is an old colonial city founded in 1524. It has a nice slow pace. We arrived on Wednesday night via the daily Continental flight. After a 1/2 hour car ride to the south east of the Capital, Managua. We unloaded at the Hotel Alhambra.

Entering the hotel we ran into Jaime, YN2JS, who has a station just outside of the city. He offered the use of his beach house which is located right at Lake Nicaragua. He has a KLM KT34XA on a tower about 40 feet up.

We were going to move to that location but two tropical storms where in the southern Gulf of Mexico on Friday morning and he had to cancel out. The early reports were that the storm was headed over the lake, which would have made the road (which is already pot-hole) impassable, and may have flooded the property as they have had a very wet rainy season this year.

So, Frosty and I installed 'BXX's Alpha-Delta 40-160 antenna strung between the water tank and a vent pipe on Friday morning.

10 Meters was outstanding to Europe during the contest on both Saturday and Sunday. Somehow, we did not hear many JAs.

Below is the summary of the results.:

Call: YN2EJG Country: Nicaragua
Mode: SSB Category: Multi Single
Zone: 07

BAND	QSO	QSO	PTS	PTS/QSO	ZONES	COUNTRIES
160	3	8	2.67	3	3	
80	29	62	2.14	9	12	
40	221	460	2.08	12	26	
20	230	600	2.61	18	63	
15	277	646	2.33	21	58	
10	1109	2856	2.58	26	80	

Totals 1869 4632 2.48 89 242 => 1,533,192

Archiving the TDXS by Earl, N5TU

I have been in touch with Richard, K5NA. He has a complete collection of the TDXS Bullsheets. As my time permits, I will copy them to a CD Rom. If any member or former members have any photos, or other documents, that relate to past TDXS activities, please get them scanned, and send them to be by email. **Please don't send the actual photo. Get them scanned and send them to me as a jpeg, etc file.** (contact me Jim, N5DC, if you don't have a scanner, and I will do it).

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!!