

THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club



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MEETING NOTICE: The April TDXS meeting will be Friday the 10th at a new location. Thanks to Tommy, KA5GJO, we will be using a meeting room at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza. A map to the new meeting site, 6550 Mapleridge, appears elsewhere in this issue.

The program for this month will be provided by George, K5KG--OHØ on occassion. We are going to have the rare opportunity to view two films with audio of past OJØ expeditions. Many of us recently worked an expedition from this remote spot. This program will give us a chance to see what the other end looks like while the thought is fresh in our minds.

The meeting will start at 7:30. Please try and get to the new site on time so we can sweep through the business and get on to George's terrific presentation. Grab your chow at a place of your choosing. Tommy says the only liquid you'll find at the meeting will be water---sterilized. I am sure.

F L A S H : Rumors are afloat that Tom, K1KI, has tendered his resignation to the ARRL. Those of us who enjoy contesting and gleaning tips from the results of others will miss Tom's down to earth reporting in QST. I am sure I speak for all when I wish all the best to Tom in his future exploits.

DUES: Hopefully, we can soon dispense with this recurring reminder that dues are due. We shortly shall shift from punishment through print to the heavy stuff...that being the heavy hand of Butch, K5GB.

10 METER FM: The Texas VHF-FM Society has a periodic publication with news for their membership. Their most current issue, January, had an interesting article written by WB5HVB about 10M FM. It was surprizing to read about how many FM repeaters there are in operation today. With so many of the new transceivers equipped with FM capabilities, it might be fun to hit some of these repeaters and

see what lurks at the other end. There are only four pairs to worry about so give it a try. The input frequencies are 29.52, 29.54, 29.56 and 29.58 MHz. Outputs are 100KHZ higher.

It was noted that a lot of cities have links from their 10M machines to VHF and UHF repeaters and remotes. Sounds like an interesting project. Hmmm

The national FM calling frequency is 29.6MHz with 29.5MHz as an alternate. But, remember that 29.5MHz is in the OSCAR downlink so listen first. Bonus tip--Germany has a repeater operating on 29.57MHz with its output 100KHZ higher. Crank up your 901 and see what happens! (wonder if we have discovered a source of another 100 Q's for Phone Sweepstakes)

By the way, did you know that our own K5PFE is Secretary--Treasurer of the Texas VHF-FM Society?

6 METER DX: Think you are really big stuff with you Alpha and 6 elements burning a blue path through Eur? Read this list of DX worked on 6 recently as reported in the K5ZMS SMIRK Club newsletter.

LU ZL 5W1 JA AH8 KH6 C6 CP KV4 ZD8 PY CX XE ZS HC TI EL PJ HI ZS3 T3 FY7 ZB2 VK HK EI VP2V YV KL7 VS6 KX6 DU VP9 J6 HM J73 ZF KHØ I PAØ FM7 VP5 8P6 9Y4 YJ8 VP2M 5Z4 FK8 VK9Z P29 C21 4U1 KG4 HP OA ZP 5B4...plus

loads of crossband 10/6 Eur contacts. Our own K5LZO and N5AF have enjoyed this sport. Sammy has even been known to run JA's on six meters this year!

If you want to get in on the action, now is the time to do so because Father Sun is starting to settle down which means that 6 settles down into the noise

FIELD DAY: Last weekend of June (27th & 28th) Things are shaping up for our Field Day effort. We have onboard Jay, W5JQ. Chairman of Tower Erections and Al, KN5A, Chairman of Antenna Assembly and Checking. These two guys will be needing your assistance to assemble our site. Jay hit 10 home runs in his last tournament, so don't give him too much lip when he ask you to pull on a guy line. Al (that silver-tongued devil) will probably have you talked into doing something before you even realize it. This is not to say that no one else has any good ideas, but these guys are going to know exactly what they want and we will have decided ahead of time how we want it done. Keep your fingers crossed that Murphy's Law doesn't hit too heavily.

Running our Bonus Point program is Steve, KN5H, who will be trying to get all the freebees that we are entitled to. He has his own battery powered radio to copy ARRL F D messages, pass F D traffic to our SCM, etc.

We still need a Novice operator. If you know a Novice that would be interested in an activity like F D, let me know soon. The 450 extra contacts that Eric, WB5WHR, brought in last year are certainly needed!

We have picked up a TH6DXX from W5JQ for the effort. I don't see any problems with antennas. I would like to get a "cherry picker", if possible, because I do not want to take any chances on damaging these antennas, so keep your eyes open for a good deal.

Also, we are still in need of one or two more RV's for stations. If anyone knows of a good deal on a rental RV, there may be some interest in individuals renting. (We might get K5RC and K5YCP to "camp out" yet)

Call me anytime with equipment offerings or ideas. Home--463-0417
Work--688-8126

73

Bob Evans, N5DU
(Dirty Underarms at Field Day)

TDXS OUTGOING QSL BUREAU

The TDXS Outgoing QSL Bureau, established at the March meeting, will begin operation this month. The necessary arrangements have been made with the ARRL Membership Outgoing QSL Service and all appears in order for this new venture. The following ground rules will apply.

1. Use of the TDXS Outgoing QSL Bureau is open to all full and associate members of TDXS who are also current members of ARRL.
2. Cards will be collected monthly at the regular TDXS meeting. Should a member be unable to attend the meeting, his cards should be brought to the meeting by someone else if at all possible. In the event the cards can't be delivered at the meeting, they can still make the monthly shipment, providing your "Bureau Chief" receives them no later than the Monday following the meeting.
3. Cards will be sent to the ARRL monthly regardless of the quantity of cards on hand. A means of obtaining acknowledgement of receipt and of the scheduled mailing date from ARRL will exist.
4. All expenses including the shipping, acknowledgement, and fees will be handled by TDXS.

5. To assist the operation of the TDXS Outgoing QSL Bureau each member is requested to take the following steps in preparing his cards.
 - a. Presort your cards alphabetically by call sign prefix (A3, AP, C6, CE, F, FG, G, GI, GM, JA, 3A2, etc.). If in doubt, refer to the ARRL DXCC Countries List.
 - b. If the card is of the type having all information on one side with the other side blank, put the call of the station contacted in the upper left hand corner in large block letters. If not, be sure the call is displayed as clearly and legibly as possible.
 - c. If the card is to be routed via a QSL manager, make sure this is indicated clearly, preferably in a color different than that used to fill out the card information, e. g. RED. (When sorting your cards put those going via a manager in the sequence indicated by the manager's call.)

For those using the TDXS card, the QSL manager should be shown in contrasting color, above the "Confirming QSO...", on the information side of the card.

- d. Tie your presorted bundle of cards securely with string, rubber bands, etc. so as to keep them together.

This should get us started along the road to making our "Outgoing Bureau" an effective and desirable service to the club members. Any suggestions for doing a better job in this undertaking will always be welcome.

If anyone has a source of boxes having a nominal 5"x7" size that could be used for shipping QSL cards please mention this to me at the next meeting.

DE W5ASP
(The "Chief")

PROJECT GOODWILL: Nothing has been heard from you, the membership, regarding the possibility of the TDXS sponsoring a few ARRL Project Goodwill packages and/or actual used equipment from members.

Hate to see the idea drop...anyone care to coordinate the effort? Lets hear from you at the next meeting.

DX NETS: Thanks to Long Skip, QRZ DX and CQ magazine, we offer the following net schedules for your use.

<u>DAY</u>	<u>FREQ</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>NET</u>
sa/su	3795	0630	80 Meter DX Net
su	7080/7180	0200	40 Meter DX Net
da	7240	0800	XX DX Net
da	14220	0630	P29JS Net
da	14225	2300	Family Hour
dA	14250	1500	Family Hour
fr	14250	0500	Arabian Knights Net
tu/sa	14265	0500	Pacific DX Net
da	21345	2330	Family Hour
da	21355	1700	Afirikkaner Net
da	28510	unknown	10 Meter DX Net

There is another good DX net on 10M on Monday, Wednesday and Friday meeting around 28750 at 1200Z with DK20C.

DX-BEFORE IT HAPPENS: This past weekend provided a lot of new countries for some of the gang--KA1AA from Minami Torishima was active on CW and SSB; OHØXX and OHØXZ operated from OJØ. Market Reef both modes; 9X5AB from Rwanda was very active on SSB on ten and announced that he was predominately a CW op so you can look for him on the bottom end.

As an update, it has been reported in QRZ DX that the possible VU7 operation is still in limbo due to no licenses having been issued as of this date.

Jim, N4HX, finally received the unusual call of TYA11 and is active from Benin. Karl, K4YT, will visit there starting approximately April 17th and will pass out QSO's to the needy (DX Chairman included).

Eric, SMØAGD, couldn't take retirement from DXing and will be off to Guinea-Bissau from 1 April for about one week. The call will be J5AG and concentration will be on 80 and 40 meters during the weekend of 4-5 April.

Jacque, W4LZZ, will be operating from 5U7AG about the time you receive this information. He will then go to TZ, Mali.

Rumors to the contrary were squelched when 5R8AL appeared last Wednesday afternoon on 15 meters SSB. I was informed the pile-up was horrendous!

If any of the members need assistance with finding any UA stations, just let me know and I will give you a call when any of the prefixes you need appear. Excellent propagation about 0130Z--0400Z to deep UP, UJ, UM and UI.

ZA is rumored for April. VKØ Heard DEC-JAN and ZM7 on the horizon per P29JS. Ears's to the RX's, Gentlemen!

DE K5VWW

CONTEST CRAZIES: Unfortunately, Dave, K5GN, has been up to his ears throughout this month and wasn't able to put together his usual entertaining column for us. Dave had one Biggy to pass on--send in those summary sheets. It appears many have forgotten that he must get copies of their ARRL DX Contest summary sheets to be eligible for the K5ZD-XXC Awards. Mail them A.S.A.P. or lose out.

Recent Contest Craziest in the news are:

K5RC, K5MA, N5DU, and N5JJ who stacked up in that order in the So. Tex section in the ARRL 1980 160 Meter Contest. As a matter of fact, not one other single operator station in the section dared to send in a log against the TDXS muscle! K5RC, operated by K5GN, was tops in the Division as well.

1980 WPX SSB results are out and the TDXS had a case of the "seconds". Steve, KN5H, was second 28MHz op in the call area while Pat, W5WMU, took the same position on the 14MHz band. Galen, KB5FU, beat a bunch and came in in the top 10 in the call area in the All Band category. Paper your walls, Guys!

UPCOMING ACTION: (bring your own gun)

Apr. 4-5

Open CD Phone
SPDX-CW
Wisc QSO Party

Apr. 8-9

DXYL-N A YL CW

Apr. 11-12

Open CD-CW
Gargarin Cup
Common Market DX Test

APR. 15-16

DXYL-N A YL Phone

Apr. 18-19

SPDX-Phone
YLISSB QSO Party
QRP QSO Party

Apr. 25-26

ARRL Midnight Special
HBp Contest
Utah QSO Party

(QST and CQ Magazine)

May 2-3

County Hunters SSB
RTTY DX Contest

May 9-10

World Telcom-Phone
CQ-M Contest
Rocky Mtn QSO Party

PROPAGATION: Sorry, but my CQ has not seen fit to show its face at my door step this month so I will not be able to reach into the darkness too deeply for an April forecast. Thanks to QRZ DX, though, I can carry you through to the meeting. After that you are going to have to check into the Tuesday night (9pm) TDXS Net for further information.

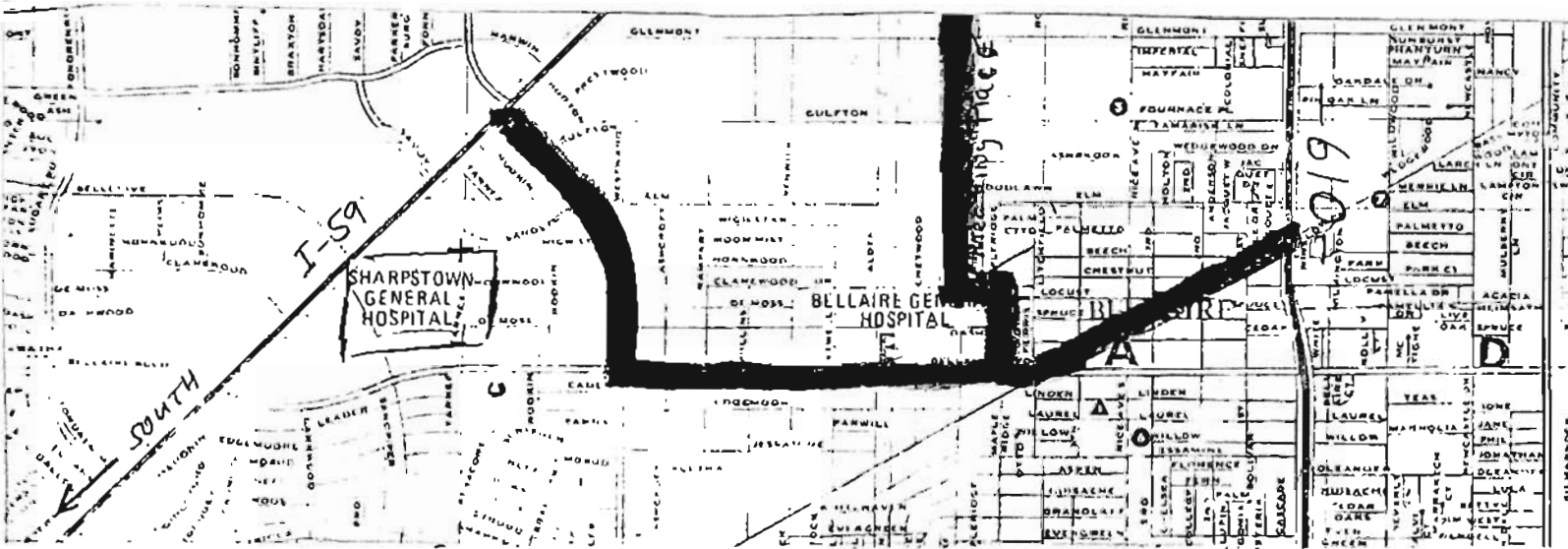
Look for April 5-8 to be S U P E R ! ! !

Its interesting to note the decline of this sunspot cycle. Those who have been around awhile will remember the predictable 28 day cycle of conditions. When the 11 year cycle is at its peak, one can hardly notice it because conditions are good almost all of the time. Just this year, though, the ol' 28 day cycle is starting to become noticeable again. Wait five or six years, New Guys. You'll find yourself getting red-eyed waiting in front of the rig for the next 28 day peak so you can work a JA again.

WANT ADS: Nobody out there has anything to sell, I guess, so I'll just repeat my offer to buy your antennas, towers, hardline and other misc antenna farm scraps. The city of Booth shall make the maps yet! Vertical support construction on a presently obscure 5 acre track of land out that way begins in May or June. Beware all those who do not live amongst the crawfish---my ground wave will be devastating.

73

KA5CHW



Directions from Loop 610 - South

1. Take Bissonnet Exit.
2. Turn right on Bissonnet.
3. Stay on Bissonnet until it crosses Bellaire then follow Bellaire to Mapleridge. Turn right on Mapleridge.
 - The professional building is two blocks on the left.
 - The building is a large two-story white building.
 - Park on the South side and enter on the west side of the building.

Directions from Highway 59 -

1. Take Chimney Rock South exit.
2. Proceed to Clarewood - no stop just a cross street. Clarewood is one block from the Dashwood stoplight. There is a strip shopping center on the left.
3. Turn left on Clarewood and you will see the building. Enter on the Chimney Rock side of the building.