



founded 1970

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, Texas 77254-0291

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING NOTICE - The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month except when changed by the Board of Directors. The July TDXS meeting has been moved back one week by decision of the Board to the third Friday, July 19th, in order to prevent a conflict with IARU Radiosport. The meeting will be held at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Mapleridge at 7:30 p.m.

WEEKLY DX & CONTEST NET - Just a reminder that each Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m. the Club sponsors a net on 147.96/.36. Participation by non-members as well as members is welcomed. The purpose of the net is to facilitate the exchange of DX, contest, and Club information within the amateur community. Your active support of this activity is encouraged.

BULLSHEET MAILING LIST - It is the club's desire to provide the Bullsheet free for all amateurs in the area with an interest in DXing and/or contesting. If you would like to receive our newsletter, simply send your name, call, and mailing address to Texas DX Society, P.O. Box 540291, Houston, Texas, 77254-0291. Visitors at the regular club meeting can request the monthly newsletter by providing their mailing address on the sign-in sheet. Articles or other newsworthy items from club members and other interested amateurs are hereby solicited by your editor.

NEW REPEATER INFO - Word from our esteemed repeater chairman, Kim, K5TU, is that the brand new machine is awaiting control circuits de K2TNO and should be ready to try soon. Hats off to Kim for the job he did on the old machine. The extended coverage has helped a number of the outlying members become regular users again.

1985 CW ARMADILLO RUN - is alive and well and close at hand. The NR5M Armadillo mobile (with driver/outfitter KE5IV and ops K2TNO (in person), K5TU, and N5NU...er DN...uh DU.) will be presenting OKLAHOMA live during the July 27-29 weekend. K5RVK (with paddlemaster WA5ZVE) plans to patrol Northern New Mexico and KE5FI (with CW whiz N5RP and chief cook/battlemasher/philosopher K5RC) plan to roll across Southern New Mexico. Help is needed in OKLAHOMA if you have the "Right Stuff." Contact K5GN for details.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER (de K2TNO)

First, I'd like to thank all of the clubbies who welcomed me back to Texas after my sojourn in OE-land. Makes you feel great to hear "have you been gone?" over and over on 2M. Fortunately, my term is now half-over and soon you'll have another bozo to insult!

Item: Remember, the next deadline for submission of new-member applications is in August at the Board Meeting. Please get your application forms from either KESFI, N5EA or KD5SP.

Item: Still no "official" word from the North Texas Contest Club, but remember they are supposed to come down here for the August club meeting. Please refrain from chiding them too severely about the drubbing we gave'em - but, then again, what the hell - it's only a hobby.

Field Day was a resounding success (see elsewhere in this issue for the gory details). I'm particularly pleased to report that the turnout for set up/take down was excellent. I doubt that anyone went away feeling that he/she had done all the work. Also, as a member of the WINNING CW TEAM I was happy to see the SSB gang breaking in some new faces in the contest-style rat race. More champ ops for TDXS club-aggregate scores in the making. Also, thanks to New Waverly's repeater 147.78/.18 - we used it all weekend and never heard a local.

Hope everyone is planning to be on for the Armadillo run. See ya on the air for IARU Radiosport.

CONTEST CORRAL (de K5LZ0)

CLAIMED SCORES AND RUMORS

ALL-ASIAN PHONE

NR5M along with KE5IV, KA5UPB, KASSBS, and NM5M posted a potential award winning multi-multi effort of 861 qso's and 179 multipliers for 152,000 points.

JUNE VHF QSO PARTY

Barbara, WB5RUS (the XYL of LZ0), zipped out over 20K in the VHF contest. Some good 6 meter openings and a new 30 el 432 antenna helped.

CONTEST RESULTS

ARRL JANUARY QSO PARTY

Congratulations to K25M (remember him, he used to be active in the club!) for his 2nd place national finish in the January CW QSO party (44,520 pts.). Dennis was edged out by K6LL (47,541 pts.) who received top honors.

ARRL 10 METER CONTEST

Multi-Op stations

NR5M #1 National
K5LZO #2 National

Single-Op Phone

KE5FI #2 National

Single-Op Mixed Mode

KC5CP #1 South Texas

COUNTY HUNTER PHONE

KE5IV with NR5M and NT5D blasted out a numero uno in the mobile class. KB5FU single op'ed but also in the mobile class and came in 2nd only to Kenny and crew.

FROM THE TRENCHES (or under)

FIELD DAY 1985

I arrived at FD this year and was greeted by a surprise - members and non-members ready to tackle the usually difficult job of putting up the antennas, this year enough for 4 complete stations.

First the towers went up with the usual 3 or 4 people at each tower. Next through the generosity of Doug Vaughn (a friend of George's), who provided us with a bucket truck, antennas were lifted in place one at a time at the CW stations. About 2 hours later it was down to the phone stations. Kenny and I had discussed putting both stacked antennas on top at the same time so he had both on a mast ready to go. Tommy, KD5SP climbed into the bucket. It was decided he would need help to lift them in place. Kenny, KE5IV, climbed in also and the antenna assembly was placed on top of the basket. The bucket truck moaned one time and nothing would move. It was decided that the 600 pounds that Tommy and Kenny provided was too much for the truck. The antennas were separated and Phil K5RVK climbed in and the antennas raised one at a time. All went very well and both CW and Phone were put in operating condition.

Friday evening most of us went into Huntsville and had the traditional chicken fried steak dinner. We ran into a waitress who was well able to roll with the punches and provide some of her own.

Saturday morning the verticals went up and the CW team's 80 meter dipole was raised thanks to the throwing arm of Dave, K5GN.

The rest is history, 2700 qso's on phone and 1800 on CW. Hopefully good enough to win 4A class in our FD exercise.

As for the competition, the CW team won, but I still feel if the CW team was on Phone we could have given ourselves a good race. (Notice my tolerance in not excising this obviously erroneous remark...Ed.)

Take down went super. We started 30 minutes after Field Day was over. One hour and thirty minutes after that we were finished and everything was on the trailer.

All in all, it was a good outing. Good scores, good conditions and good comradery.

73 Chuck K5LZO

DX REPORT (de KC5CP)

- SAO TOME - S92LB - Louis on 14185 from 2100Z and 21295 from 1830Z. He is working transceive and the pile up is tremendous and very slow moving so have patience with Luis.
- KERGUELEN I - FT8XB. Michel on 14191 at 0900Z and 14215 at 0400Z and 21245 at 1100Z. FT8XA - Rafik reported on 14205 at 1100Z.
- THAILAND - HSOA - Active during the ALL ASIA contest. Listen 14192 or 14183 and 1300Z. They were heard on other bands with at least three operators. HS4ANH on 14021 at 1650Z.
- BR. CYPRUS - ZC4WW active several nights on 14013 at 0330Z or 14062 at 2130Z. ZC4AB - Alan on 14226 at 2100Z. ZC4MR - Martin active on 14183 at 2030Z. ZC4MR was worked by several Houston stations on 14227 at 0300Z Tuesday.
- ALBANIA - DJOUJ/ZA - Bahri is hoping to get permission to operate June 29 to July 5. OH2BH is also waiting confirmation of his license. Let's hope for the best.
- CENTRAL
KIRIBATI - T31AT is active now on 10-40 meters including RTTY.
- BAHRAIN - A92MB is on 14207 from 2300Z.
A92DT is on 14287 from 1730Z.
A92EM is on 14223 from 2130Z.
- CHAD - G3KQL/TT8 reported to have a "military license." He is reported on 14222 at 1900Z.
- GIBRALTER - IOSNY/ZB2 - Nicola is scheduled to operated from July 1-14 on 10-160 meters.
- SUDAN - ST5ALR - ALF reported working on 21259 about 1430Z.

Zone 23 - UA0YO on 14008 at 1700Z. He is located in Tuva Autonomous S.S. Rep. for CQ Zone 23.

RUMORS

ANNOBON I - or now PAGULU I. reported July operations by 3COAB and 3COAM.

THAILAND - HSOIYY by Japan's UNICEF Ham Club on July 26-29. All bands CW & SSB. QSL via JA8ATG.

PROPAGATION - Best HF possibilities July 5-7, 9-10, 15-16, 25-26. Thanks to N4XX.

Thanks to QRZ DX and the Long Island DX Bulletin.

73 Mike KC5CP

1985 TDXS FIELD DAY (de WSASP)

Since its origins in 1971 TDXS had placed Field Day high on its list of major activities. This year was no exception, even though it was planned to be an "off year." Having won Class 3A in 1984, as in 1982, 1981, 1979, and 1977 (and 1975...ed.), the club looked elsewhere for a challenge. This year saw the Sidewinders take on the Keyers in a clash of skill and operating daring do, but joined together as a Class 4A effort.

Following some weeks of preparation, the group converged on Mr. Ed Demney's hilltop paradise just west of New Waverly at high noon on the Friday before the great event. By late afternoon four towers stood against the skyline sporting their aluminum finery and poised to launch great wavers of RF into the ether come the following day. In position were three environmentally tuned enclosures to house the anxious operating teams, laden with the finest products of Japanese technology. Saturday morning saw the last of the radiators raised into position, and the last minute checks, tweaking and quick on-the-air exchanges of reports to instill the needed confidence that all was indeed in order.

At 1800 Hours the airwaves were flooded by the frantic cry CQ FD ... and the competition began. Almost immediately, came the screams of protest from the hollowed halls of the high priests of CW...THEY WERE BEING INTERFERED WITH!!! Sherlock Schrader rose to the occasion and shortly pointed the accusing finger at Sneaky Mike, caught red handed with a key clutched in his sweaty fist...sure proof of his guilt (there could be no other explanation for his having such an unfamiliar device!).

Having countered this dasterdly move on the part of SSB'ers, those followers of the black art of Mr. Morse, retaliated with certain emmissions of energy selected to promote confusion among the ratchet-jaw crowd. Although there were accusations and protests flung back and forth with much enthusiasm, no evidence of guilt was placed before the bar of justice and the issue passed without consequence.

As day wore into night and then into the following morning it became evident that the Q's were indeed piling up with more than usual returns of the accustomed 3A effort. Though the competition between the SSB gang and the CW types did not materialize in

terms of points quite as expected, there was a fierce committment to squeeze every last contact out of the rapidly depleting ether. By the final hours the eraser dust hung heavy as the dupes we struck from the logs and hoarse croaks of "anyone...please!" emanated from the site.... At 1800 UTC on the 23 of June 1985 a great silence fell over the sunlit hilltop and a vast sigh of contentment could be heard drifting across the fields....another Field Day had ended and TDXS stood proud, already sifting through the experience in search of the answers to "how can we do even better next year."

Within moments the crews were busily disassembling the vast array of equipment. By 4:00 that afternoon the hilltop stop once again utterly devoid of any sign of the weekend's events.... As the evening arrived the tired, but satisfied voices of the TDXS gang once again broke the squelch of 96/36 and the return to reality began.

As for the results, here are the early, rough numbers...

	SSB	CW
80 M	189	272
40 M	451	561
20 M	879	682
15 M	773	254
10 M	379	79
NATURAL POWER	5	
OSCAR		17
PACKET	1	

Totals....SSB - 2671, CW - 1847, TDXS - 4541

ARRL Bonus Points ALL!!! In each of 8 catagories, TDXS got the maximum 100 points.

That's 13,500 points, raw score....

Compared to last years's 4A winning effort of 9246 by K1BL, there appears to be every reason to look for a clean win by TDXS....but, there are some ugly rumors of strong efforts by other 4A groups this year!

In case you're wondering, TDXS had 3756 Q's last year....

The final totals will be published in next months edition of this esteemed journal....for now a word of thanks to those of you who made this year's efforts such as success....you know who you are and so do the rest of us..thanks...this is what TDXS is all about.

73 Joe W5ASP

PS.....

As the final act of the 1985 Field Day Chairman, I take full credit for two days of delightful weather.... WHICH I WENT TO GREAT LENGHTS TO ARRANGE...those of you who weren't there really missed a great weekend!

FIELD DAY
Report From Radio Smith Point (de KE5FI)

Murphy was our third OP at Radio Smith Point on Field Day. Our first annual (and probably last annual) attempt at 5 watts, QRP Battery Competition was replete with problems. After telling of plans for two rotating beam antennas, I was shocked to find that the batteries had no place to plug into the rotators. While we only fielded two operators, KE5FI and N5RP, luckily we were able to enlist the help of Ev Haines and Gary League, N5GWA, for antenna work.

Since we didn't arrive at the field day site until almost dark on Friday night, we decided we would not start assembling the station until 1:00 pm on Saturday. This way we might get some extra time because we could erect a vertical quickly for one operator to start while the rest finished antenna work.

We were able to get a vertical up in 15 minutes. The operator had to quit for over an hour however when we erected the tower. Our original plan was to erect 50 feet of Rohn 25, but 40 feet stretched our stamina to the breaking point. We got the triband "KE5FI" quad on top fixed toward North, but we never had the wherewithall to put up the TH6. The proper coax for the quad also eluded us so we suffered with a 3 to 1 S.W.R. using RG-8U.

Our operating position consisted of a KWM-380 with a CK-2 and the big Diawa watt meter to watch the 5 watt output. I had hauled the rig to K7WOC a few days earlier and set it up to run 5 watts. We attached the DC power leads to some jumper cables which ran out the window to the ground to one of two large batteries.

As you can imagine, we had great difficulty maintaining a frequency with 5 watts. We did a great deal of band hopping during the contest. Luckily 10 meters opened on Sunday and we were able to make 135 contacts. Our best band for rate, however, was 15 meters which averaged 45 phone Q's per hour. This compared to 31 on 10, 32 on 20 and only 28 phone Q's on 40.

Although N5RP averaged a slightly lower rate on CW the double point credit made his CW effort better per hour than phone. Several times he felt that he had worked all the strong signals on the band that could be worked with 5 watts. I had the same experience on phone.

If you have never operated QRP before, it is an interesting experience. You can call people with good signals who you know you would normally knock off in one call, but they won't answer. Then two hours later, they may call you and say "nice signal."

We had 491 phone QSO's and 130 CW QSO's plus 300 bonus points for a total of 4050 points. I'm sure some other 1A Battery teams beat us but I will guarantee that they didn't try any harder than Bob & I.

SQUELCH TALE (de NR5M)

Much has been written already about this year's Field Day, but allow me to add one observation. In the two years that I have been involved with the TDXS I have noted what appears to be a waning of enthusiasm for all out club activities among all but an ever deminishing number of die-hards. Field Day 1985 reversed this trend. There was plenty of help whenever anyone needed it. Set up and take down was easy. And several new faces (or nearly forgotten ones) showed up to join in. I hope the momentum generated by a truly remarkable weekend of comradery will carry us through the slow summer season and into a fall contest season marked by broader participation of the membership in all club activities. Field Day was fun for all who participated. For those that didn't or wouldn't, you'll have another chance this fall. See you then!

73...Ed.