



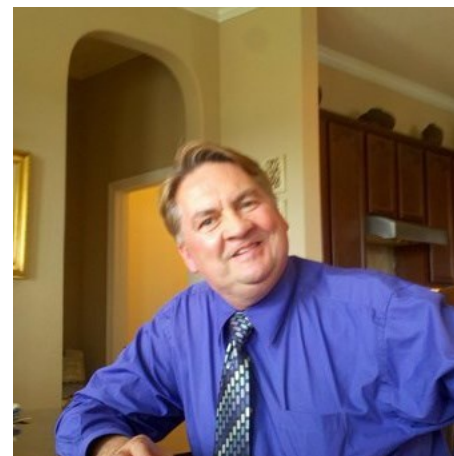
The Bullsheet

The Official News Bulletin of
The Texas DX Society
An ARRL Affiliated Club

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net February 2016

Next TDXS Meeting Night, Thursday February 11th 7PM, at the Tracy Gee Center.

Program: Remote Control Station Operation, by Pat Cameron - KJ5Y.



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

Welcome to February 2016! Band conditions have been lacking, but there's still DX out there, therefore work to be done (that is, DX to be worked). Not to mention contests to operate in, QSL cards to send and receive, LoTW to upload to and watch as the numbers continue to grow.

Ten meters has not been very good, but in the recent 10-10 contest, Saturday afternoon drew some DX from JA, VK, ZL, KL7 and KH6. Sunday morning had an EU opening for at least three hours, with more JA, VK, ZL later and a slew of SA. The band was up and down, and I heard many reports of guys turning on the radio for ten minutes, not hearing anything and not turning it on again. *That is not the way of a true DXer or Contester!* If you cannot hear anything now, turn that radio on again later and listen again! Tune back and forth. Get a panadapter, you'll never regret that purchase! The bands are still alive, don't give up.

Of course, I'm sure everyone knows that we lost another TDXS member in January: Jim Lane N5DC passed away on January 26, 2016 at the age of 86. Very sad, Jim was a great guy, always helpful and always there. You can go to the TDXS website for more information and pictures of Jim.

DXing in January wasn't too bad, especially if you can work your LAST country for DXCC HR! In addition to that, the following good DX stations landed up in the N5XZ log: DU3LA, 6Y90IARU, D2EB, EA8/PA3LEO, TZ4AM, JY4CI, 9J2HN, 6Y4K, V63GG, E51J, XR400AA, V5/DK1CE, ZL9A, TY3BP, T88SM, YB0AR, V85DX, TY4AB, VP8STI, CY0/VA1AXC, PY0/PP1CZ, and finally VP8SGI. (I have paid for my VP8STI QSL, now I eagerly await it's arrival or an LoTW upload.

In March, once again, don't miss the Greater Houston Hamfest,

March 18th and 19th at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. See www.houstonhamfest.org for more information. This year we will have some neat presentations on Friday, as well as flea market tables, commercial vendors (in a new building) and more presentations, a balloon launch, Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH and Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA as speakers. **DON'T MISS IT!**

This issue is full of pictures, I hope you enjoy them. By the way, who are all those strange looking characters at the 40th Anniversary of the TACO on page 8, with all that funny hair, bellbottoms and plaid pants? That's just plain weird!

Thanks and 73,
73, Allen N5XZ

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The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

Prez sez for January 2016.

Here it is February 2016 already. For old codgers, time seems to fly way too fast. Someone explained to me just how one's mind thinks about the passing time, such as the years, as we get older. This is the explanation.

When a baby is one year old, think of a pie. Its circumference can represent that. For example, if the child is 6 years old, then the pie is cut into six pieces. One piece will represent one year. The length of the time, or year, being represented now by each piece of pie.

One year for a one year old is the full trip around the pie. And a 60 year old is like that pie has been cut into 60 pieces. Compare the 1/60th length of each piece to the one full pie and that can give one a good idea of how the years go so fast now. WOW.... Every time I think about this analogy it causes me to say to my self, no more pie for you. You need to lose weight anyway.

On to "other stuff". We had our TDXS Annual Banquet on January 16th. It was at Brady's Landing in the Houston Room. It was a very good room for us. Just right for visiting and having our activities. There were a good many attending and a lot of visiting going on. We decided to not really have a business meeting. After the awards, we gave away prizes.

Thanks to Robie Elms, AJ4F, we

had a lot of prizes for hams and non-hams. Also, a friend of mine, Dan Tassell, KC5PCB, came with his wife Karen, KD5LBW. She provided several prizes that were just for the ladies. Karen does a lot of "Craft Fairs" all year long. She is a real professional vendor and her booths are worth visiting. She's been doing this for over 20 years now and has mastered the craft, so to say.

Everyone seemed to enjoy winning one of the prizes. We had some big prizes and some small ones. Thanks goes to my wife Elva, KG5HIE, for helping with the tickets and prizes too.

We had a good working Bird Model 43 watt meter that was donated by Lance Rumfield, WD5X. Thanks Lance.

We had two 1 year subscriptions to DX Magazine donated by Carl, N4AA, owner of DX Magazine. And those that got the DX Magazine subscriptions, please send Carl a thank you email.

Then, as owner of Expert Linears America, I donated two Baofeng Dual Band UHF/VHF radios (handie-talkies). My pictures were all lost so I don't have a record of who won them. Maybe I'll scan back through the pictures taken by others to see if they are there. I am sure Allen will have some pictures in this BS. There were a lot taken.

Anyway, we sure had lots and lots of prizes. Thanks again to Robie,

Lance and Karen.

Congratulations goes to Allen Bri-er, N5XZ, for being the recipient of the Yagi on a Roll award for being the DXer of the year. (Note: Last year's Yagi on a Roll DXer was Orville Burg, K5VWW. Orville is our DX Chairman and is doing a great job.) Allen is our Communications Chairman, who edits the Bull Sheet every month and is doing a great job as well. Thank you guys for all your support of TDXS.

In fact, a big thank you to all of our officers. Our club does need volunteers to keep it going and being fun each month. So think about volunteering to be an officer next year. .

February 11th at 7pm at Tracy Gee is our next TDXS meeting. Then the March meeting will be a dinner meeting with the, location to be announced later.

Have a great groundhog month. Thanks for reading this and we'll see you in the windy days of March.

73,

Bob Hardie W5UQ

President TDXS 2016

TDXS December 2015 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS January 2016 Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2016

Location: Brady's Landing, 8505 Cypress St, Houston, TX 77012

Attendance: TDXS Members: Doug WB5TKI, Allen N5XZ, Gerald K9GEM, Bob W5UQ, Mike K5UO, Steve W9DX, Buzz N5UR, Robie AJ4F, Curt WG5H, Leslie AD5WB, Chuck W5PR, Mike N5MT, Orville K5VWW, Bob N5ET, Dale KG5U, Scott K5DD, Keith NM5G.

Guests: Lynn Seyler, Pat Cameron KJ5Y, AD5WB (Leslie Bartosh), Janice Muller, Elvie Hardie KG5HIE, Dan Tassell KC5PCB, Karen Tassell KD5LBW, Lynn Smothers, Nizar Mullani K0NM, Ruth Dietz, Margie Davidson, Verna Patout, Beth Dutson.

This was the annual Banquet, and, as always, it was well attended. The venue was great, located at the Turning Basin along the Houston Ship Channel. The food was delicious, and the conversation was lively.

At the Banquet President Bob presented the coveted Yagi-on-a-Roll DX Hog award to Allen N5XZ. Allen pursues DX relentlessly and by yearend had bagged 339 of the 340 current DXCC entities. Three days after the Banquet, on January 19, he worked VP8STI to achieve #1 Honor Roll status. Congratulations Allen!

It was also announced that Mike N5MT had been awarded the Top Operator 2015 plaque from the 10-10 International organization for bringing in the most new members to that organization during 2015.

To round out the evening, President Bob distributed lots of door prizes to the guys and ladies alike. All in all a great banquet and I suspect that we will be back.

Submitted February 6, 2016

Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS Secretary



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

DX Report by Orville Burg, K5VWW

WOW! What a month January turned out to be from a DX standpoint.

The highlight of the month had to be the operations from South Sandwich Island, by **VP8STI** combined with South Georgia Island, **VP8SGI** by the Intrepid-DX Group. The first operation since 2002 greatly reduced the need for both of these DXCC entities from their previous ranking of #3 for South Sandwich and #8 most needed for South Georgia..

Allen, N5XZ, was certainly glad to work South Sandwich as that was the last entity needed for his #1 DXCC Honor Roll.

Both operations put the operators in peril due to the weather conditions, predominately high winds. I don't think that living in a tent with the 70 mph wind howling while 2 feet of snow was dropping would be enjoyable while on South Sandwich. Antenna damage was observed on both islands due to environmental conditions.

The **K5P** Dxpediton to Cooper Island in the Palmyra Atoll provided over 75,000 qso's from 157 different entities which knocked down the need for the European #2 most needed and globally #9.

One activity this month is the operation of **A35T** from Tonga from February 14th through February 24th. This is being activated by several TDXS members including K5NA, Richard, W5MJ, Madison, and W5PF, Paul.

During the same time frame starting February 18th will be an operation from Guinea using the call **3XY1T**.

Also from Africa will be **5V7TH** being activated from Togo by ON6DX. Scheduled dates will be February 10th until February 22nd.

The latest operations severely show the need of operators to follow the DX Code of Conduct, <http://www.dx-code.org/english.html>. Continuous calling, even while the DX station is transmitting; Calling while the DX station is calling another; Policing of the intentional qrm'ers, and the like slow the rate of stations worked and might even keep someone from getting a new country.

Please pass on to newer operators the code so they might be treated with respect. It is up to each of us to exhibit ethical operating practices and treat others as we would desire to be treated. The primary thing to remember is that what we are doing is just a hobby and the primary goal is to have fun.

73,

Orville



Contest Chairman's Report—by Glenn Anderson WB5TUF

Hello again! I haven't had much time for contesting this past month. I've been spending a lot of time chasing the various DXpeditions that have been in operation. I worked K5P 17 times, VP8STI 4 times, and VP8SGI 11 times. They have now all gone QRT. I am going to miss the thrill of the pileups until the next one comes along. I may have to go back to Destiny on my Xbox for a while.

In last month's report, I talked about my plan to try to operate the NAQP CW contest like a RTTY contest. I set up my Writelog Rttywrite module to operate as a CW decoder. This allowed me to use SCP and the call history file. The performance of the CW decoder was great for search and pounce, but it wasn't fast enough for running. I made 423 Q's, 189 mults, for a score of 79,947 in about 10-hours. Next time I may try using Fldigi and N1MM.

This month we have several major contests.

2/13 CQ WW RTTY WPX

2/20 ARRL DX CW

2/26 CQ 160 SSB

2/27 NAQP RTTY

3/5 ARRL DX SSB

Single Op LP

Call	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5DX(WB5TUF)	423	189	10	79,947	TDXS
AJ4F	269	106	5	28,514	TDXS
K5TU	102	56	5	5,712	TDXS

Team Total: 114,173

ARRL RTTY Roundup:

Single Op LP

Call	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F	235	46	9	5.5	12,925	TDXS
K5TU	120	29	7	3.4	4,320	TDXS

SO Unlimited LP

Call	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF	1477	57	62	24	175,763	TDXS

Robie, AJ4F, also worked the ARRL VHF contest making 11 Q's and 8 mults for a score of 88.

Please remember to post any of your contest activity to www.3830scores.com and be sure to select Texas DX Society as your club.

Thanks and 73, Glenn WB5TUF wb5tuf@arrl.net

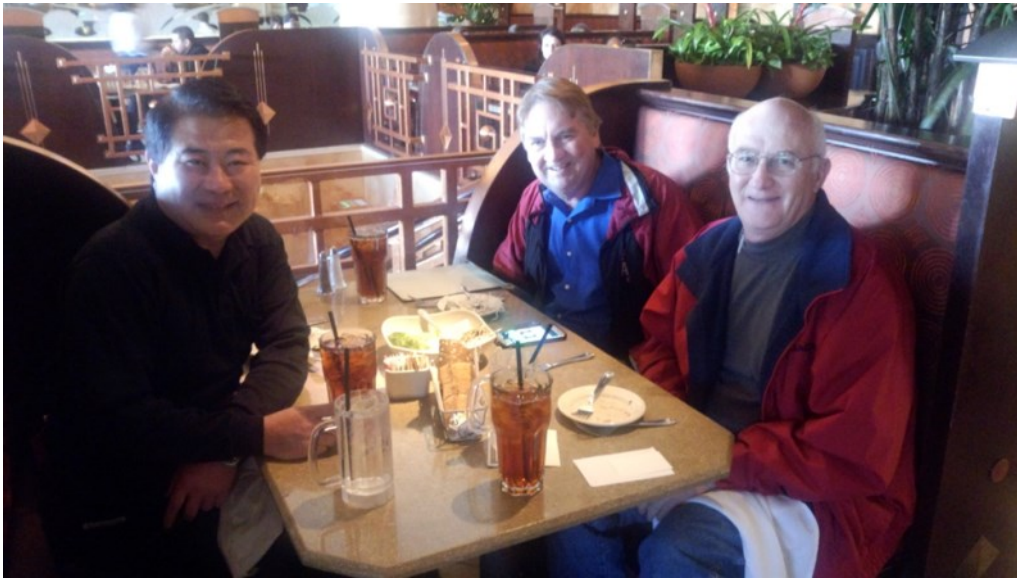


Yoshi Tsutsumi JH2EHP Visits Houston —by Robie Elms AJ4F

Noted DXer and world traveler Yoshi Tsutsumi, JE2EHP, visited Houston in January. Yoshi wanted to meet local some hams and learn about the city. I met Yoshi and Pat Cameron, KJ5Y, for lunch at the Cheesecake Factory in the Galleria. Yoshi explained to Pat and me that he travels all over the world and loves to have “eye ball” QSOs with local hams whenever possible. Yoshi is very active and looking up his call on QRZ.COM provides a lot of details. One interesting fact I learned is that crank up towers are common in Japan. In fact, Yoshi’s tower has a system that measures wind velocity and retracts it when a certain wind speed is reached. Both Yoshi and Pat have knowledge of remote ham radio systems. I found their discussion fascinating.

After lunch, Yoshi and Pat traveled to Space Center Houston and met with Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, to tour Space Center Houston and the JSC Amateur Radio Club station W5RRR. Ken is very active with Amateur Radio Satellites and the International Space Station.

We all had great time sharing our experiences about our great hobby. Yoshi wanted to make sure to thank Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, and Bob Hardie, W5UQ, for the upfront coordination to make this meeting possible.



Left to right Yoshi - JE2EHP, Pat - KJ5Y, and Robie – AJ4F



Yoshi – JE2EHP and Kenneth - N5VHO at Space Center Houston



Yoshi Tsutsumi JH2EHP Visits Houston —by Robie Elms AJ4F



Yoshi – JE2EHP at W5RRR



40th Anniversary of the TACO—Tom Taormina K5RC



This is the 40th anniversary of the TACO (Texas Association of Contest Operator's) Convention in Houston. It launched Houston Ham Conventions that ran annual conventions up to the 1983 ARRL National Convention, all because TDXS wanted a forum for DX/Contest meetings every year.

Tom Taormina, K5RC

Comstock Memorial Station, W7RN

Storey County ARES, KS7AA

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775-847-7929

Some pictures from the TDXS Awards Banquet in December—Robie Elms AJ4F



Morse Code: A staple in the Navy IW toolkit—Carla McCarthy

Story by [Carla McCarthy](#) 

PENSACOLA, Fla. – The cryptologic technician (collection) (CTR) student cohort in the first revised Basic Manual Morse Trainer (BMMT) course wrapped up, Jan. 28, at the Center for Information Dominance (CID) Unit Corry Station.

The update included the latest Manual Morse software used by the Department of Defense and was tested out in a nine-week pilot course that concluded in September. The self-paced course provides basic instruction and practical application in the interception of Morse-type communications.

"Morse code continues to be an inexpensive and efficient means of communication for many states throughout the globe," said Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collection) (IDW/NAC/SW/AW) Tony Gonzales, CTR rate training manager for CID headquarters. "Manual Morse operators here at Corry Station are learning a skill set that has stood the test of time. Many of our most senior CTRs began their careers as Manual Morse operators."

In the updated course, Sailors learn how to operate radio-receiving and associated computer-based equipment. From basic safeguards of security to communication procedures and systems theory to operation of communications equipment, the course teaches how to intercept Morse communications, as well as copy and send Morse code

"There is something special about learning a skill that Sailors have been performing since World War II," said Gonzales. "The connection between the past, present and future cryptologic technician (collection) is rarely seen in our line of work as technologies are forever changing."

Morse is just one tool that CTRs use as members of the Navy's Information Warfare community to perform collection, analysis and reporting on communication signals.

"Morse code is not only used in military operations but also in commercial navigation," said Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 1st Class (IDW/SW) Gabriel Albarran, the BMMT course supervisor. "Search and rescue, science navigations and weather status are frequently passed in automated Morse code."

Sailors can take the course immediately following CTR "A" school or can be assigned as fleet returnees to the course as part of their transfer. The course is now offered to about 40 CTRs each year in the pay grades of E-1 through E-5.

"It's a language," said Cryptologic Technician (Collection) Seaman Mary Kaitlin McKeeby, who beat the course record set during the pilot by two days, finishing the self-paced course in 39 days. "If you have a knack for languages, (Morse code) is going to be easier to pick up."

She stressed the importance of staying composed while learning Morse code and persisting through the lessons even when making a mistake.



Courtesy Photo

151103-N-XX082-003 PENSACOLA, Fla. (Nov. 3, 2015) Students learn Morse code while attending the first revised Basic Manual Morse Trainer (BMMT) course at the Center for Information Dominance (CID) Unit Corry Station. Morse code is just one tool that cryptologic technician (collection) Sailors use as members of the Navy's Information Warfare community to perform collection, analysis and reporting on communication signals. (U.S. Navy photo by Information Systems Technician 1st Class Kristin Carter/Released)

Morse Code: A staple in the Navy IW toolkit—Carla McCarthy

Graduates receive NEC 9169 as a Morse code intercept operator and undergraduate college credit through the American Council on Education. They may also be eligible for selective re-enlistment bonuses in both zones A and B.

Morse code training has been taking place continuously at Naval Air Station Pensacola Corry Station since 2005, when the Navy moved the training back to Corry Station, in favor of cost and time savings by relocating the course with the cryptology “A” school. A long partnership with the Army providing the training came to an end at that time.

The Center for Information Dominance (CID) based at Corry Station in Pensacola, Florida, is the Navy's learning center that leads, manages and delivers Navy and joint forces training in information operations, information warfare, information technology, cryptology and intelligence.

With nearly 1,300 military, civilian and contracted staff members, CID provides training for approximately 22,000 members of the U.S. armed services and allied forces each year. CID oversees the development and administration of more than 200 courses at four commands, two detachments and 12 learning sites throughout the United States and Japan.

For more information on the Center for Information Dominance, visit <http://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/ceninfodom/>; [facebook.com/CenterForInformationDominance/](https://www.facebook.com/CenterForInformationDominance/); and twitter.com/CenterInfoDom/.



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This article can be found at <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/187384/morse-code-staple-navy-iw-toolkit>



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VP Programs	Robie Elms, AJ4F	ruler55 at gmail.com
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CQ WAZ Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net

How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxx.net> email address: k5dx@tdxx.net

On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz (100 Hz) On 70cm: 447.00/442.00 MHz (103.5 Hz)

DX Cluster—On Packet: Connect to **K5DX** on 145.71 MHz or telnet via IP address 75.148.198.113

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in February

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Dave Blaschke - W5UN
 James Clark - N5RO
 Bob Cooney - K1TU
 Mike Bragassa - K5UO
 James Parnell - W5JAW
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