



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net August 2017

Monthly Regular Meeting,
Thursday August 10 at 7 pm
Tracy Gee Center,
3599 Westcenter Dr, Houston, TX 77042

Program “Texas QSO Party” by Keith Dutson

Pre-meeting Dinner August 10 at 6 pm
Pappa's BBQ
9797 Westheimer Rd.
Houston TX 77042



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

Contesting! Contesting! Contesting!

TDXS has had an uptick in contesting activity in the last few months. While I am not going to single out any one person who may have pushed this, I would like to introduce you to our new Contest Cheerleader: Scott McLeman MM0LID. Scott has agreed to support TDXS contesting in a big way, by reminding us of upcoming contests, forming TDXS teams, especially for NCJ events (to compete with our fellow Texas contesting clubs to the north and to the West), and in any other way to promote TDXS contesting. Scott is also the newest member of TDXS. Scott has put in some pretty impressive

efforts, mainly by using KJ5Y's remote contesting station, either using W5/MM0LID or W5FMH. In the NAQP CW last weekend, Scott made a claimed score of 165,212 with 802 QSOs. Not bad when you consider it was totally remote operation!

I have also been working with N5DTT, K5VWW and the rest of the BOD to get a list of eligible TDXS operators to Newington for upcoming ARRL contests. Now, in order to be considered a “medium” sized contest club, we need to turn in ten or more logs per contest. That means we need TDXS members to get in the contest and send it their logs, no matter the size. Being a “medium” club allows us to include all eligible

TDXS members in the South Texas section. But we have to bump up the contesting activity in the club, or those more than 35 miles from the geographical center of our club will be left out. Please do your part to enter contests and submit logs.

I am also putting out a call to TDXS members and alumni who have gone “rouge” on us...that is allocated your scores and joined teams with other Texas contesting clubs. **YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!** Please consider working with the club closest to you and build this thing back up to what it once was.

TDXS NEEDS YOU!
I will be contacting each and every one of you soon (please answer your emails!)
73, Allen N5XZ

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The Prez Sez by Robie, AJ4F

The Prez Sez

August 2017

At the TDXS board meeting on July 22nd we discussed changing the regular TDXS meeting day and propose to move it from the 2nd Thursday to the 3rd Thursday of each month. It appears that this day would minimize the conflicts several of our active members have each month and allow for increased attendance. The most significant issue that could potentially result from this change is that our regular meeting place (the Tracey Gee Center) may not be available. If it is not, we will have to find an alternate location. In November of each year we request the dates we want from the Tracy Gee Center for the entire next year. Because of the lead time related to requesting meeting dates at our current location and time required to find a new location we need to make the decision quickly. If we agree to the change we must search for an alternate meeting location, in case the 3rd Thursdays are not available. This topic will be discussed at our next meeting on August the 10th. Please provide feedback on this issue if you don't plan to attend.

Collective activities are the reason clubs exist. For a club like ours, we may simply share good times, share knowledge or undertake an operating activity such as Field Day. Team contesting is another

collective activity in which we can all participate. We have developed and submitted a Club Eligibility List for ARRL Contests. This will allow us to compete as a club against other clubs across the US and Canada in nine contests. The following ARRL-sponsored contests are designated as Affiliated Club Competitions (ACC) for ARRL and RAC affiliated clubs:

January VHF Contest
RTTY Roundup (January)
International DX Contest (February and March)
June VHF Contest
222 MHz and Up Distance Contest (August)
September VHF Contest
November Sweepstakes
160-Meter Contest (December)
10-Meter Contest (December)

I understand that the TDXS was a "powerhouse" in ARRL Sweepstakes in years gone by and It would be great to return to that status again. Prior to each of these contests we will prepare an e-mail letting you know what you must include in your entry to be included in our club score.

Other contests allow for team competition as well. The North American QSO Parties are good examples. Teams are formed by simply submitting a list of team members prior to the contest. Scott Mcleman, MMOLID has started enlisting team members and submitting team lists for these contests. Even if you can't operate the

entire time, joining a team and participating is the what matters. Remember, every point counts!

The summer Sporadic E season seems to be waning and it has been a very unusual year. I have copied stations from Asia, Africa, Europe, the Mid East, South America and the Caribbean for at various times during the day for approximately 2 months! There has been a lot of conversation in the VHF community regarding the reasons for what we have experienced. Many individuals have expressed that they don't feel propagation is much different from other years. I agree with this opinion. I feel we have a convergence of several factors. First is the equipment. Almost every modern HF transceiver includes the 6 Meter band, has a good receiver and produces 100 watts. We all have strong, stable signals and can hear well. Second, is the internet. DX Maps, PSK Reporter and DX Clusters let us know when and where propagation is occurring. I have looked at DX Maps many times and seen that there was a significant opening in the northeast US, but nothing in our area. I would call CQ a few times and suddenly the band was open into Texas. The truth was that the band had likely been open for some time but no one was transmitting. The third is the digital modes.

(continued)

The Prez Sez by Robie, AJ4F

These tend to concentrate all operations in a narrow frequency range, typically 2-3 kHz, are very sensitive and decode multiple signals simultaneously. We know when and where to find the DX makes the difference!

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 (H.R. 555, S. 1534) Update – on 7/12/17 the bill (designated as S. 1534 in the Senate) was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation for consideration. On 7/26/17 ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR sent an e-mail to all ARRL members urging them to contact their respective Senators and voice support for the bill. His e-mail provided the following link to assist members in preparing a letter in support of this bill, which will be submitted to the member's senators by the ARRL.

<https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-us-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

I am personally not in favor of this bill and have made my position know to our Texas Senators. I urge you to express your position on this bill to our senators.

73,

Robie – AJ4F



TDXS Board of Directors Meeting July 22, 2017

Texas DX Society

Board of Directors Meeting Notes

Attendees: Robie – AJ4F, Gerald K9GEM, Orville – K5VWW, Doug – WB5TKI, Jim – N5DTT, Scott – K5DD, Al N5XZ

	Agenda Item		
1.	Team Nicaragua DX-pedition Funding	Status of funding requests from DX-pedition members.	All requests for funding have been submitted and paid. No further expenditures expected
2	Name Tags for new members	Status of badges	Funding approved for 20 badges. Gerald – K9GEM to determine anticipated delivery date to TDXS
3	TDXS Family Membership	Does TDXS want to create a membership for the situation where multiple members resided in a single household?	Topic was discussed and more information is needed. Scott – K5DD to investigate.
4.	Contest Participation	How do we increase participation by club members?	Discussed having a contest “cheerleader” to promote activity by members. Scott – MM0LID has volunteered for this role. Board supported this activity.
5	TDXS Team Contesting	Discuss development and submission of a Contest Club Eligibility List for the TDXS to participate in ARRL Affiliated Club Competitions	Board supported the idea. Jim - N5DTT to contact ARRL and clarify questions discussed, and submit list to ARRL
6	Field Day 2017	Any follow up required by TDXS?	None
7	TDXS Meeting Date – 2018	Review the concept of changing meeting dates (day of the week) to promote increased meeting attendance	Board proposes to change future meeting dates from the 2 nd Thursday of the month to the 3 rd Thursday. Robie – AJ4F to investigate impact on meeting location and prepare a write up for members.
8	TDXS Repeater utilization	What is current repeater utilization?	Obtain data on repeater utilization for future discussions.

Notes prepared by Robie – AJ4F 8/8/17



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

DX Report by Orville Burg, K5VWW

The fat lady is warming up her pipes for 6 meters. There was almost no e-skip activity for the past 2 days and this evening conditions improved somewhat with local stations working into the Caribbean and Central America. Lots of new calls are being heard on FT-8 on 50.313 and JT-65 on 50.260.

The Perseids meteor shower should peak with 80 meteors per hour on August 12th. The pre-dawn hours of August 12th should have lots of MSK144 activity on 50.280.

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5JfpgPyDI4>

A new text message chat has been formed by Robie to keep the DX traffic off the TDXS reflector. The name is "DX Opportunity" and it is powered by the GroupMe APP, and it is available for both iPhone and Android systems. Immediate posting on smart phones and tablets of current DX activity allows "get-in get-out" response. Contact Robie if assistance is needed in setting up your participation.

Hopefully conditions will be up for the 10-10 contest this coming weekend and DX will be available for all.

An expedition to the Marquesas is currently active by TX5EG from Hiva OA. They will be active until August 6th, and have been readily workable on several bands this week.

OY/CT1BWW will be active through August 10th from the Faroe Islands. 40M-10M, all modes.

HC8/G80FQ will be active from the Galapagos until at least August 31st. He operates 160M through 6M and normally has a nice signal on 6M into Houston. Unfortunately, he usually forgets to pack a key for his rig.

Several operators will be active from 4LØGF, Georgia, until August 13th. 160M-10M sporting 5 operators and KW rigs.

Do you need Alaska? VE7ACN will be active as AL3/VE7ACN and NL6/VE7ACN from IOTA NA-Ø42 and NA-157 on 160M-10M CW and SSB. Sorry, no 6M!

Macedonia will be active from August 21st through August 25th on HF plus 6M by Z38/IZ7GXB. (Try sending that fast 3 times on CW...)

Good DX,
Orville, K5VWW



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Hello again. There has been a lot of work done in the last month to bring TDXS back to having more visibility in Radiosport. To comply with recent ARRL rule clarifications for participation in their Affiliated Club competitions, TDXS has uploaded a list of members eligible to submit logs. The list consists of all members in good standing who reside or have stations in South Texas. Eligible member logs will count toward the TDXS score that will be published in the contest results in QST.

There has also been an active push to encourage members to participate in upcoming contests. Scott, MM0LID, organized two teams for NAQP-RTTY and is organizing teams for the NAQP CW and SSB Contests this month. He is also providing a weekly email list of upcoming contests.

With a successful Field Day completed, it was time to move back to some more traditional contesting. Seven TDXS members submitted scores to the 3830 web site for the IARU HF World Championship Contest. It is obvious that there are some serious contesters here. Four of the seven submitted more than 1000 Q's. The TDXS combined submitted score was a whopping 4,886,121 points.

The next contesting effort was the NAQP-RTTY Contest. TDXS fielded two registered teams and their results are below:

TDXS

WB5TUF	81,466
N5XZ	59,925
W5FMH(MM0LID)	23,562
K5DD	15,810
KG5LRP	11,100
Team Total:	191,863

TDXS 2

AJ4F	3,160
AD5WB	1,715
Team Total:	4,875

IARU World Championship Contest

M/S HP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Zones	HQ	Mults	Score	Club
W5FMH(@KJ5Y) 996	625	83	99	22	898,534	TDXS	

SOAB(A)CW HP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Zones	HQ	Mults	Score	Club
N5XZ	1741	0	107	113	22	1,220,340	TDXS
KØNM	1119	0	73	64	21	501,283	TDXS

SOAB(A)Mixed HP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Zones	HQ	Mults	Score	Club
WG5H	214	76	32	28		50,160	TDXS

SOABCW HP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Zones	HQ	Mults	Score	Club
K5GN(@W5KU)	2419	0	121	117	24	1,887,102	TDXS
K5TU	748	0	71	77	11.5	320,272	TDXS

SOABMixed LP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Zones	HQ	Mults	Score	Club
N5DTT	93	14	20	10	9	8,430	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

The next ARRL Affiliated Club Competition will be a part of the September VHF Contest. If TDXS submits fewer than ten logs in the contest, we will end up in the Local Category which means no scores from members outside a 35 mile circle centered in Grid Square EL28hs will count toward the club score. It is important that we submit more than 10 logs so that we are included in the Medium Club Category where either the 175 mile or full ARRL Section part of the rules apply.

Please consider participation, even if you make only a few contacts. A log is a log, no matter what its size. The September VHF Contest is scheduled for September 9-11, so about two weeks prior I will email the membership requesting confirmations of participation. I will then confirm that all planned participants are on the TDXS Eligible Member List on file with ARRL.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World is.... By Ron Litt K5HM

Where in the World is . . . Grenada (J3) CQ 8 ITU 11 IOTA NA-024

Grenada is a Caribbean country comprising a main island, also called Grenada, and smaller surrounding islands. Dubbed the "Spice Isle," the hilly main island is home to numerous nutmeg plantations. It's also the site of the capital, St. George's, whose colorful homes, Georgian buildings and early-18th-century Fort George overlook it's narrow harbor.



Only 201st out of 339 on Club Log's Most Wanted DXCC list, Grenada is still pursued by DX enthusiasts, especially those who chase the IOTA awards.

About 2 million years ago, Grenada was formed as an underwater volcano just 90 miles northeast of Venezuela,



Before the arrival of Europeans, Grenada was inhabited by indigenous tribes.

Christopher Columbus sighted Grenada in 1498 during his third voyage to the New World.



The French were the first to settle in 1649. They made war on the natives and eventually drove them to the hills or to nearby islands. The French established an economy initially based on [sugar cane](#) and [indigo](#). The capital was named [Fort Royal](#) (later St. George). To shelter from hurricanes, the French Navy would often take refuge in the capital's natural harbor.

The British captured Grenada during the Seven Years' War in 1762. Known in America as the French and Indian War, it sowed the seeds of the American Revolution. The British held the island till the modern day, except for a brief period after the American Revolution.

Nutmeg was introduced to Grenada in 1843 when a merchant ship left a few nutmeg trees in Grenada. This was the beginning of Grenada's nutmeg industry that now supplies nearly 40% of the world's annual crop.



(continued)



Where in the World is.... By Ron Litt K5HM



[Tourism](#) is Grenada's main economic force. The tourism industry is increasing dramatically with the construction of a large cruise ship pier. Up to four cruise ships per day were visiting St. Georges in 2007–2008 during the cruise ship season.

Grenada remained a British Crown Colony and later, a member of the British Commonwealth until 1974, when it achieved complete independence. In 1979, a leftist coup, suspended the constitution, and established the [People's Revolutionary Government](#) which had close ties with Cuba. Four years later, the U.S. invaded the island, deposing the PRG and establishing a government friendly to the U.S. The date of the invasion is now a national holiday in Grenada, called Thanksgiving Day.

The [climate](#) is tropical: hot and humid in the rainy season and cooled by the [trade winds](#) in the [dry season](#). Grenada, being on the southern edge of the [hurricane belt](#), has suffered only three hurricanes in fifty years.

**Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM**

Next Month: A visit to the Outer Hebrides.



The Case Against HR-555 / S 1534 Amateur Radio Parity Act by Marty Woll N6VI

On Wednesday, August 2, 2017 5:52 PM, Marty Woll <n6vi@socal.rr.com><mailto:n6vi@socal.rr.com> wrote:

Now that I am a former ARRL Vice Director, I am free to speak my mind on this matter. As a long-time proponent of antenna rights, it is with great disappointment that I say I do not favor passage of HR-555. I should add up front, by way of disclaimer, that I am not an attorney.

I was a big supporter of the original Amateur Radio Parity Act - the PRB-1 version. The ability to put up outdoor antennas and the structures necessary to support them on your property is crucial to being an active Ham for many licensees. Since 2010 I have visited the offices of numerous elected officials, sent over a thousand e-mail messages, spent entire convention weekends generating letters from Hams to their elected representatives and spoken at countless club meetings to drum up support for this legislation. It's fair to say that I invested a major chunk of my time in support of the original Parity Act, and I certainly respect ARRL leadership for its persistence in seeking relief for all impacted Amateurs, whether League members or not. However, in February of 2016 the language that mirrored PRB-1 was removed from HR-1301 (now HR-555), and this is a critique of the result, not of the intent or effort.

Last year, ARRL found itself at odds with one senator over the bill and was required to negotiate compromise language with CAI, a national trade association of homeowner associations (HOAs) and similar groups. While I had some major misgivings at the time, I did not object to the compromise language because I believed it would help at least those Amateurs who live in homes with developer-imposed deed restrictions not within the purview of an active HOA.

Since that time, however, some high-profile, competent and very knowledgeable attorneys (all of them Hams but none associated with the ARRL

Board) have evaluated the compromise language and found that it may do more harm than good. They have pointed out some serious shortcomings in HR-555 that significantly restrict how many Hams may benefit from its passage and that, if uncorrected, could actually diminish the rights of some Amateurs and grant the right to regulate Amateur antennas to HOAs that do not now have that right.

What follows is an abbreviated description of the issues surrounding HR-555, the current version of the Parity Act. For those who want to dig deeper into the matter, I have a version I can e-mail you separately that include attachments containing (1) the original bill language, (2) the compromise language in the current bill, and (3) an analysis prepared by former FCC attorney and active Amateur Radio operator Jim Talens N3JT for the Potomac Valley Radio Club. Many of the points in Jim's critique were also made by Fred Hopengarten K1VR (author of Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur) at his presentation to the Legal Forum at the May 2017 Dayton Hamvention.

Suffice it to say that the expert Ham-attorneys are NOT all lining up in support of HR-555 in its current form.

The original bill pretty much paralleled PRB-1, the Federal Preemption Statute. It required the FCC to revise its regulations to prohibit private deed restrictions that preclude or fail to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications or that do not constitute the minimum practicable restriction on such communications to accomplish the legitimate purpose of the private entity seeking to enforce such restriction.

On the other hand, the compromise bill that CAI insisted on does the following:

- 1) It grants HOAs the right to use aesthetics as a basis for antenna decisions, even to those associations whose rules do not now have any provisions concerning antennas. This grant of power to HOAs is unprecedented in Federal law, and it adds a right - as a matter of Federal law - for HOA's that has never been previously approved in Federal law. That right cannot be undone by state law.
- 2) It requires a deed-restricted Amateur to notify and seek prior permission from the HOA before installing any outdoor antenna, with no grandfathering for those already installed.
- 3) It does not establish a time frame within which the HOA must render a decision; an HOA can stall indefinitely and do so without adverse consequence.
- 4) It does not grant or guarantee to an Amateur the right to operate on the band(s) of his or her choice.
- 5) It permits but does not require the HOA to establish written rules regarding antenna size, type and location

(continued)



The Case Against HR-555 / S 1534 Amateur Radio Parity Act by Marty Woll N6VI

6) It does not establish or require an HOA administrative process for redress if an HOA denies a Ham's requested antenna. The decision of the HOA is final.

Under HR-555, if passed, Hams who have existing "stealth" antennas, even with the concurrence of their immediate neighbors, would now be in violation of Federal law and FCC regulations.

HOAs will be legally able to write their own rules with no objective criteria and no standards, and they will have the unrestricted power of Federal law to back them up.

The band(s) on which the Amateur wishes to operate need not be a consideration in any HOA decision; they could limit you to a small UHF whip a few inches long on your gutter and say that have accommodated Amateur Radio.

An HOA that previously existed only to conduct limited activities, such as maintaining roads, utilities and exterior landscaping, one that has never held any power to regulate Amateur Radio, would be granted the power to demand the removal of existing antennas and to demand that an Amateur seek its approval to install any Amateur antennas or supports. Imagine having moved into a neighborhood because the HOA had no regulatory power over Amateur Radio antennas, only to have Federal law now grant the HOA that power!

The compromise bill expressly disconnects itself from PRB-1. Unfortunately, that means that none of the Ham-friendly court decisions interpreting PRB-1 would be binding on an HOA.

It has been argued that the FCC, in writing the regulations required by HR-555, could eliminate some of the above risks. However, the FCC has opposed restricting the rights of HOAs for over thirty years, and I don't think it is prudent to count on the Commission to reverse itself and interpret the law in our favor. Neither can we count on CAI, having won the rights it demanded, to sit by and make no attempt to influence the post-enactment regulatory process in its favor. Wishful thinking to the contrary is hardly a sound basis on which to make our decisions.

Because of the aforementioned shortcomings of HR-555 and the likely adverse consequences of its passage, I cannot support it any longer. There may be a better path than the one the League is now pursuing; I don't know if we can ever get there, but I certainly don't want us to make things worse for a significant number of Amateurs or expose them to being found in violation of Federal law and FCC regulations. Please consider these points when you are asked to write letters of support for HR-555 to your legislators.

As an aside, I want to remind you that some licensees have been successful in selling the advantages of Amateur Radio-based disaster communication capability to their HOA boards. Offering benefits can be much easier and less costly than demanding one's rights.

73,

Marty N6VI

[ED: This was reprinted with the permission of the author, Marty Woll N6VI. He has a number of attachments including:

Attachment 1: Original text of HR-4060 (113th Congress) and HR-1301 (114th Congress) before "compromise"

Attachment 2: The Compromise Language of HR-555 (and its companion Senate Bill, S-1534)

Attachment 3: Why HR 555 is Not Goo (Enough) for Hams (by Jim Talens, N3JT, former FCC attorney

There isn't room enough in this BS for these attachments, but I can include them in the next issue and I may list them on the TDXS reflector]



Making Digital QSOs Is Easy de Kim K5TU

If you are tired of tuning the HF bands and hearing zilch because the sunspots are uncooperative, it's pretty easy to make QSOs with the digital modes. Joe Taylor, K1JT, has developed the protocols and PC software and made them available for FREE. Three popular modes (other than RTTY and FSK31) appear on the HF bands regularly. JT9, JT65 and a new one, FT8.

What do I need?

If your rig is already setup for AFSK RTTY (using the computer's sound card), you are already QRV. All you need is software and a little setup. The software is free..more later on that.

If you're lucky enough to own an Elecraft K3S, it has an internal sound card so you only need to connect the rig via USB to the PC. No other connections are required and all you need is the software and a little setup.

If you're starting from scratch, your shack PC will need a sound card. There are 3 signal lines you need to interface between the computer and the rig. There are so many different rigs, I won't try to design all the interfacing for every rig, but there are good references on the Internet. I use the Unified Microsystems SCI-6 interface on my FT450D.

1. Line OUT from the PC soundcard. This becomes your transmit audio to the rig.
2. Line IN to the PC soundcard. This is the receive audio.
3. PTT. This keys the rig. If you already have the rig interfaced to the PC with CAT control, you can use CAT to handle PTT and also to control frequency.

Software

The software is WSJT-X. You can download it for free here: <https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx-1.8.0-rc1-win32.exe>

Be sure you get version 1.8.0-rc1. If you use an OS other than Windows, go to the WSJT-X webpage to get the correct one for your OS.

How does it work?

JT9 and JT65 protocols have been around a few years and you'll find lots of activity, both domestic and DX. Both protocols have a 60 second message interval and 5 messages are needed to complete QSO, so this is definitely a slow process. Go get an 807.

However, both protocols are VERY sensitive. I've worked signals I couldn't hear in the audio, and I could barely see in the waterfall. For me, -22db is not uncommon.

The most recent addition to WSJT-X is the FT8 protocol. It has a 15 second message interval, and you can complete a QSO is just over a minute. It is much faster and works better when you have rapid fading (like 6M). The downside is that it is not quite as sensitive as JT9 and JT65. It decodes down to -20 db or so. Still, at or below my noise level at times.

You can find a lot of information on the WSJT-X home page:

<https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>

Getting the QSL:

IMHO, the paper QSL bureau is fading rapidly off into the sunset. If you are not yet on Logbook of the World, take the time and sign up. I get about 50% QSL rate through LOTW. Sending paper cards is expensive.

I run 10-15W on digital modes using a 102 ft open loop in my attic. In three years of casual operating, I have these QSLs on JT65 through LOTW. I've worked more, but the QSL hasn't come through yet. I've heard a lot more (even EU on 6 M), but my antenna won't reach out and touch them.

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Making Digital QSOs Is Easy de Kim K5TU

States

80M JT65	2
40M JT65	3
30M JT65	17
20M JT65	18
17M JT65	11
15M JT65	19
12M JT65	2
10M JT65	10
6M JT65	15

Countries

80M	1
40M	2
30M	2
20M	5
17M	3
15M	13
12M	0
10M	8
6M	2

73 Kim, [K5TU k5tu@att.net](mailto:k5tu@att.net)



NEW! Texas DX Society Facebook Group!

Hi guys,

I have created the TDXS group on Facebook.

If you are a Facebook user and have not a member of the group yet then please do join and add anyone you think could be prospective TDXS members or who can contribute.

I know there are a number of members who do not use Facebook. So anything of interest, especially regarding contests will repost here on the mailing reflector.

I feel this is a way to promote the TDXS further and to encourage more input in upcoming contests.

Here is the link to take you directly to it:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TexasDXSociety/>

**73 Scott
MMOLID
TDXS #208**

TDXS Biography: Scott McLeman MM0LID (New member #208)

Basically been interested in radio and communications from the age of 4. Made my first QSO at the age of 6 on the pirate band 11m, when I was told not to go near the radio when my father was out.

Started operating full time from then on out and was the youngest member of one of the groups on that band.

Both me and my father then decided to go for our licenses in 2002 when the Morse test was dropped.

Passed with flying colours at the age of 14. Which gave us access to all HF bands except 10m with a MAXIMUM of 10 watts.



Field Day 2008! Me on left logging

We lived in an apartment block and had no garden, but did have an attic. Placed "nested" dipoles for 80 thru 10 on 1 feedline.

My first week licensed was amazing, back then when there was a decent amount of sunspots and SFI and before the cycle disappeared on us. I wouldn't go to bed till 3am and then get up for school at 6.30am.. I was walking about like a zombie!

After a couple of weeks, the IARU HF Contest came up and I wanted to get my toes wet, always had a competitive streak in me.

Took part and made just under 400 Q's QRP. Finished up being in the top 10 world #6 EU and #1 UK.

Never looked back from there in the contesting world.

In the first year being licensed I had worked over 260 DXCC, all with 10 watts or less and indoor dipoles. It was just so easy back then!

Finished school in 2004 and joined the Royal Navy. So radio activity was put on the back burner for a while, would only get on during periods of leave.

Luckily I was based only 200 miles away, so could get home without much issues.

On leaving the Navy to take a new path in life, I purchased my first home with "LAND".

Having never had a tower or an outdoor antenna before, this was all new to me.

Was a joy to have something more superior to the old attic dipoles of the past.

At my current QTH I have 2 towers, which are down more times than in the air! Weather on the most North Easterly point in the United Kingdom can be rather wild even when it looks nice outside.

In 2007, I progress through the license classes and passed my Advanced (equivalent to US EXTRA) which gained me the full legal limit power. Which certainly did make a difference in the declining sunspot cycle.

I started working in the Oil and Gas logistics sector, which started taking me all over the world.

Since 2011 I have visited over 40 DXCC with work and have tried to get active in some aspect in my stays.

4L-Georgia and YL-Latvia are 2 of my all time favourite places I have visited and operated from.

Until I discovered HOUSTON.

With the help of Pat KJ5Y and his remote stations, which is a joy to be part of. I have contested with some great guys via the remotes with relative good success.

(continued)



My most recent picture

TDXS Biography: Scott McLeman MM0LID (New member #208)

More recent contest success.

#1 Single Op World 24hour SSB in RSGB IOTA Contest

#1 NAQP RTTY QRP July 2017

Top ten in world in multiple major contests in 2016/2017 with the W4AAW Remote Contesting team in Virginia.

I started working for a company which is headquartered in Houston in 2012. Have visited Singapore, Brazil and several states with that company and in 2016 I started working for a rival company also based in Houston.

In January 2018 I will be moving on a permanent basis to Houston to run a new facility on the North side of Houston.

Dreams for the future is to qualify for WRTC at least once! I have been close several times, but missed out due to missing a qualifying event due to work.

73 Scott
MM0LID
TDXS #208



My latest radio picture, when I was portable at my XYL house. ...
With no FTDX5000 and no AMP! No BEAM!



My First outdoor antenna!



Texas DX Society Board members

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Contest "Cheerleader"	Scott McLeman MMOLID	scottmcleman36 at gmail.com

How to reach US

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TexasDXSociety/> (new)

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in August:

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Evie Lane - W5XYL
 Frank Wyatt - KC5M
 Richard King - K5NA
 George Wagner - K5KG
 Bill Wibker - WI5P
 Kirk Kridner - KV5Q
 Randy Thompson - K5ZD
 Brent Levitt - NT5D
 Eric Silverthorn - NM5M
 Trey Garlough - N5KO
