



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net June 2018

FIELD DAY 2018!

1800Z Jun 23 to 2100Z Jun 24

Duhacsek Park Community Center

17034 OLD RICHMOND ROAD

SUGAR LAND, TEXAS 77498



Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

It's June now and things are really heating up. Although I have been relatively inactive due to my new work assignment and arrangements, 6 meters and other bands have been taking off big time. I recently saw a list of EU contacts made by Glenn WB5TUF which makes my mouth water! Alas, I have not been on much and doing FT8 remote is not easy.

Lest I say it again...? FIELD DAY !! Coming up in a few weeks. This year it is being held at a new location: Duhacsek Park Community Center 17034 Old Richmond Rd, Sugar Land, TX 77498. The communi-

ty center is just west of the intersection of Old Richmond Road and Voss Road. The Google Maps link is <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Duhacsek+Park+Community+Center/@29.6460845,-95.6654761,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x392517faddca3bfd!8m2!3d29.6460845!4d-95.6654761>

I have an online sign-up sheet going. It can be found at : https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_CoLXpiWzGCTqBPevjCRejNDIf4T4hOYEWmWh2OI6AA/edit?usp=sharing

Please come out to join in the festivities, operating, eating and general fun! We look forward to seeing you!

I am still hoping that our expert "legacy" TDXS operators will turn out for Field Day. So far, response and turnout from you guys has been really disappointing, and I hope more of you guys will jump in with us. I remember when Field Day was one of the premier events for TDXS, and we always scored very high. C'mon! There are still plenty of prime operating spots available.

73 Allen 'XZ

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Please...if you read this and are a member of TDXS, we want to know more about you! PLEASE send me a biography of your ham life, equipment, accomplishments, regrets, wants, needs, etc.

The Prez Sez by Robie, AJ4F

KE5BZE Rick, Leslie AD5BW and I worked Museum Ships Weekend (6/3 & 6/4) alongside the Tall Ship Elissa in Galveston. The weather was great, but band conditions were poor. However, we did make a good number of QSOs. Rick is a very good SSB operator and took advantage of propagation on 20 Meters. Our stations were located on the deck of the shop building on the pier to which the Elissa is moored. Mr. Murphy visited in the form of RFI making computer logging difficult. However, the pencil & paper came through. I was still able to use the computer for CW and added to the effort. Perhaps we can develop a better set up next year. This outing was my Field Day this year and I want to thank Leslie for the invitation to participate.

Field Day is just around the corner. Field Day will be held at Duhascek Park Community Center in Sugarland this year. As in the recent past this is a multi-club effort with BVARC. Be sure to contact Allen N5XZ and sign up for an operating slot. Doug WB5TKI is our Field Day Chairman and please feel free to contact him with any questions you may have. Most importantly, schedule some time to participate. We need operators and set up/tear down help. There is something very special about participating in Field Day. I believe it is special because of the high level of interaction you have with other hams doing what we all love to do.

I have yet to receive any feedback regarding finding an alternate to our 2nd Thursday meeting day. An alternate meeting day would eliminate conflicts with other activities and improve TDXS meeting attendance. Seriously, we need to wrap this issue up by October, so we can submit requests to reserve meeting rooms for 2019. Yes, we do have to make request that early for 2019!

Sporadic E season is here with transatlantic QSOs common with FT8 on 6 meters! The level of activity is quite high, and you will be surprised at how many stations you will work. To reduce crowding on 50.313 MHz many stations are moving to 50.323 MHz for transatlantic QSOs. Don't forget to try the calling frequency for SSB & CW, 50.125 MHz, from time to time. I alternate between 50.313 MHz 50.125 MHz and 50.098 MHz (CW) and can usually work stations on each frequency.

On one reflector to which I subscribe, a ham wrote that Joe Taylor K1JT had ruined ham radio with the development of FT8. This thinking seems a bit narrow minded to me. I have heard similar comments about incentive licensing, eliminating the code requirement, use of computers and about almost all other significant change in technology or regulation. Our world is changing fast, in fact faster than ever before. Each new "thing" gets pushed out to the general ham population quickly and too often opinions are formed without giving the new idea a try. Ham radio is one of the arenas where innovation is thriving. For example: software defined radios, logging software, propagation prediction programs, sophisticated test equipment (antenna analyzers), high power broadband solid state amplifiers and the tremendous number of antenna designs we see today. All these things are based on significant trial and error. Each trial has its chance and through multiple trials by numerous individuals a rationalization occurs. The new thing succeeds or fails and collectively we take a step forward! I encourage you to try something new, something different, something you have not tried before and become part of this process. This is the way we learn and grow. It is really exciting to here someone talking enthusiastically about a learning or achievement they have recently experienced. Then when you are ready, bring your story to one of our meetings and share it!

Robie – AJ4F

TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

No report this month from Doug.



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

The month of June, 2018 is the start of a new opportunity for most to add a new entity to your DXCC or Challenge. The callsign **KH1/KH7Z** will be active from **Baker Island** during the time frame of June 27th through July 6th.

There will be 8 stations running Elecraft equipment, each with a KPA500 500 W. amplifier except for top-band which will be using the 1500 W. KPA1500 amp. Activity will also include 6M.

This DXpedition commemorates the 81st anniversary of **Amelia Earhart's** disappearance on July 2, 1937 near Baker & Howland islands -- as well as the commitment and sacrifices made by the **Hui Panalā'au** students from Hawaii -- who lived on Baker, Howland and Jarvis from 1935-1942. The attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1942 also included an attack on Baker and Howland Islands.

There will be a concerted effort for operation of FT8 mode. Please note that this will be the FT8 DXpedition mode which allows multiple simultaneous qsos.

The band plan is as follows:

KH1/KH7Z Band Plan				
Our Transmit Frequencies Are Determined By ITU Region 3, Zone 61				
Band	CW	SSB	RTTY	FT8 DXpedition
160	1826.5	-	-	-
80	3523	3785	3580	3567
60	5405/5373**	5403.5/5371.5**	-	5357*
40	7023	7082	7045	7056
30	10108	-	10142	10131
20	14023	14210	14080	14090
17	18079	18130	18099	18095
15	21023	21285	21080	21091
12	24894	24955	24912	24911
10	28023	28485	28080	28091
6	50105	50105	-	50316

* Recommend 3 KHz (not 4 KHz) max bandwidth to stay within US allocation
 ** QSO options to be announced by the operator

Working KH1/KH7Z using the FT8 DXpedition submode

The KH1/KH7Z Team is taking significant steps to enable operation on the 80 through 6 meter bands using the emerging FT8 DXpedition submode. It is the intent of the team to work everyone on the mode on every corner of the globe. The discussion below will describe how we intend to operate as the "Fox" and how we recommend all the "Hounds" operate in order to put a new one in the log for as many as possible.

The following is a list of Required Steps to work KH1/KH7Z on FT8:

First Install the latest version of the WSJT-X software. The latest version of WSJT-X software can always be found here:

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



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

Further requirements may be found at:

1. Use only the latest General Release version of WSJT-X software when trying to work KH1/KH7Z. You will not work us with previous versions of WSJT-X.
2. Your computer clock needs to be ACCURATE. Do not assume that it is. An accurate time synch is mandatory for proper decoding. There is some tolerance to PC Clock error but do not run the risk of missing a QSO. Find the right tool to keep your PC's clock within 1 second of GPS time. We will be locked to GPS time on the island.
3. Read the FT8 Help files. There are differences in the DXpedition submode that you need to understand. However, radio control and all other program settings are the same as the basic FT8 mode.
4. Select the Hound role: Under File>Settings>Advanced check the "Hound" box. If you operate in the Fox role, you will lose many friends.
5. Look for KH1/KH7Z on our selected operating frequencies. We will NOT be using the normal FT8 band segments...ever. See the KH1/KH7Z operating frequency plan elsewhere on this website. We will broadcast any changes in the operating frequency plan, if necessary, during the DXpedition as best we can. You might consider adding the KH1/KH7Z FT8 frequency list to the Working Frequency list in WSJT-X. Go here: File>Settings>Frequencies and right-click in the frequency table. Add the KH1 frequencies for FT8 operation on this table so that you might easily navigate to a band where there might be propagation to your location.
6. Set your TX frequency somewhere above 1000 Hz on the frequency of your choice. If you select a TX frequency less than 1000 Hz, the software will randomly place you on a frequency above 1000 Hz before your station starts transmitting. The frequencies below 1000 Hz are reserved. You can monitor the "Hound" frequency range (1000 to 4000 Hz) for a few sequences to get a sense of where there might be a clear spot but remember that you may not always "see" the band like we will out on the island.
7. Call KH1/KH7Z only after you decode one of our CQ messages. Simply double-click on our callsign in the "Band Activity" window and the software will create the correct message with which to call us and start transmitting. You will need to periodically press "Enable TX" from time to time to keep transmitting in the pileup. The DXpedition station will send a CQ message from time to time so that you should not have to wait long to select the callsign.
8. Call as long as you need to work KH1/KH7Z. We will be operating often with "multiple streams", a new DXpedition submode capability, and we may be conducting QSOs with as many as 5 stations simultaneously. While we are completing QSOs with stations, we are also selecting new stations to work from those who have been calling. For your call to be selected, you need to call whenever you are able to decode us.
9. Once you decode the message "<Your Call> KH7Z RR73" (also called the TX4 message) from us, you should log the QSO. Keep calling until you complete this step. Duplicate QSOs on a band are not recommended. If your callsign does not appear in the twice-daily log updates to ClubLog, feel free to repeat a QSO.

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Additional DX Operations planned for the month of June:

Wake I (KH9)	June 2 nd -3 rd	KH9/N7NVK on 40m SSB at approximately 1000 UTC
Rwanda	June 5 th -24 th	9X2AW by DF2WO, HF + 6m; CW SSB FT8 RTTY
Marshall Is	June 7 th -18 th	V73/KW4WZ from Kwajalein; JT65 FT8, some SSB
Bonaire	June 8 th -11 th	PJ4G QRV for ARRL June VHF Contest , HF CW SSB FT8
Market Reef	June 27 th -29 th	OJØY by MM0NDX G4PVM DL8JJ, HF
Micronesia	June 29 th -July 2 nd	V6J by JA team, HF
Iraq	June 1 st - July 15 th	YIØFIFA by YI3WHR

Good DX,
Orville, K5VWW

Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Hello again.

The self-admitted Little Pistol Contester is back again. The big contest this month was the CQWW WPX CW contest on May 26 and 27. TDXS was well represented and some members had some impressive scores (See the 3830scores listing, below). As usual, I made a low-key (no pun really intended) effort as I am not much of a CW contester. But, since this was the first real contest since I got the home station operational after the Great Harvey Flood, I could not resist getting on the air. After operating on the Diamond CP6-A vertical for most of the afternoon on 15 and 20 meters, I got the idea that it might be a good time to try out 40 meters in the late afternoon and evening.

My 40-meter dipoles are still safely stored away in some box in the storage facility, but I did know where the fence post driver and caddy with the 40-meter radials were stored. The 40-meter vertical components were there in the back yard waiting to get taken back to my place in Fayette County. With all that going for me, how could I resist putting it up? So, I retrieved the post driver and the radials and got to work in the garden. I know where the mid-point of the yard is, so I drove a 1 ½ inch post about 3 feet into the ground. There would be just enough room for spreading out 8 radials. I assembled the vertical with the sections inside each other with about 3 to 6 inches left out to facilitate raising the antenna to its proper height. From the step ladder, I eye-balled the length as I put it up knowing I could probably adjust for a good SWR at the junction of the bottom two sections. After I attached and spread the radials, I measured the SWR. I must have a pretty good eye because the SWR ranged from 1.1 to 1.2 across the whole CW portion of the band. There was nothing left to do but go in the house and operate. I gave it a try, and everything seemed to be OK but it was still pretty early for a lot of 40-meter activity. I would try again after church that night.

After a quick supper, I made a Search and Pounce pass through 15 and 20 meters and then moved to 40. I was not disappointed. I had a blast working both U. S. and DX stations, though I had little luck finding European stations. Still, it was a good test of my antenna assembly skills and the antenna, which had been broken-down and in storage since 2014. I was impressed with how easy it was to put up and how well it worked. My intent is to mount it at my rural station, elevated 10 feet with 4 elevated radials. My hope is that it will work at least as well there as it did in the back yard. Noise conditions there are much better than here in the city, so I am sure it will be just as much fun.

I have said it before. Many Little Pistols really use major contests for three things. One, and most important, is to just enjoy having lots of people out there to contact. I find that to be great fun. Another reason is to provide the “cannon fodder” for the Big Guns. After they all work each other, they need the Little Pistols to bring up their counts. Lastly, contests and the large number of available stations to work over a wide-ranging area, provide a good test for the improvements made to the contest operating hardware. I cannot wait to get up to the farm to put the 40-meter vertical up so it is ready for the IARU in mid-July.

I attended the BVARC/TDXS/ECHO/KARS Field Day planning meeting on May 26. It was at the Duhacsek Park Community Center, the site of our planned Field Day activities. I was impressed with the amount of space available both outside for the antennas and inside for the radio and equipment set-up. This Field Day is going to be great. Please plan to come out and operate. There is a Sign-up system for operator times that Al, N5XZ, has set up on the TDXS website. It is clear and easy to utilize.

[The link is https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_CoLXpiWzGCTqBPevjCRejNDIf4T4hOYEWmWh2OI6AA/edit?usp=sharing]

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Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Here is the reported 3830scores.com data for TDXS activity in the CQWW WPX-CW:

M/S HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Op Time	Score	Club
KJ5Y		x	1280	623	37	1,685,838	TDXS

SO(A)AB TB-Wires LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Op Time	Score	Club
KE8G			813	431	19	821,486	TDXS

SOAB HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Op Time	Score	Club
NU5A(K5GN)		x	3152	1009	36:00	7,978,163	TDXS
KØNM			1644	646	28	2,166,038	TDXS
WB5TKI			275	191		130,071	TDXS
N5XZ			150	120	1:22	35,280	TDXS

SOAB LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F			139	105		31,815	TDXS
N5DTT			76	64	10	7,104	TDXS

Until next month or Field Day,
de Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World Is...by Ron Litt K5HM

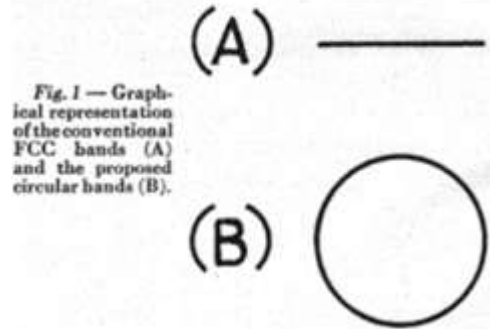
Where in the World is . . .

Larson E. Rapp, WIOU

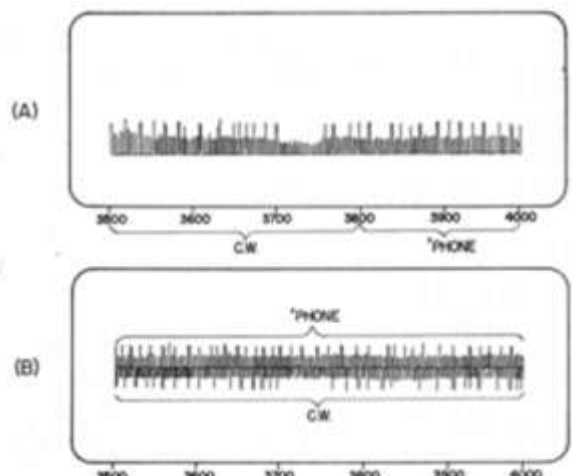
One of the most famous radio amateurs of the twentieth century, he tackled head on some of the biggest problems in ham radio. His ideas were unconventional and courageous, Rapp's theories flew in the face of the conventional wisdom of the day.

In the post WWII era, ham radio was pushing the limits of the existing frequency space with SSB making its presence known alongside conventional AM and CW. We still face these same problems today, with digital fans wanting more and wider spectrum. In three revolutionary theorems, which appeared in QST in 1946, '47 and 1952, Rapp posited that these problems could be easily solved using innovative methods of frequency measurement, simple changes in FCC regulations and modulation techniques.

In his "Circular Band Theorem" article, Rapp proposed that we utilize the idea that a band has no edges! So that when tuning 40 meters, an operator could simply continue to tune from 7.299 MHz through 7.30 MHz to 7.001 MHz. Think of it as the end of those pesky out of band problems, since you simply cannot be out of the band.



In 1947, he followed up a year later with his "Staggering Band Theorem", It was a daring outside-the-box solution to the problems of frequency allocation. In fact, the proposal was staggering in its simplicity. Rapp proposed that bands be allocated based on days of the week, rather than frequency. Monday for CW, Tuesday for Phone, Wednesday for Digital and so on. Larson claimed the advantages of this plan were obvious. No one could ask for more frequencies, since they would all be available on the appropriate day! One can see the brilliance of Rapp's theorem especially in light the frequency allocation arguments of today between CW and digital enthusiasts.



Rapp's final revolutionary idea, The Double Spectrum Theorem, proposed the use of the same frequency spectrum, by utilizing both positive and negative modulation, this would effectively double the amount of spectrum available! Phone (SSB) would use positive modulation and CW using negative modulation. All that is needed then is a receiver that will respond to positive or negative modulation but not both at the same time. A simple selector switch is all that is required.

If past is prologue, as the saying goes. Rapp's three theorems would have eliminated all the controversy about frequency utilization that exists today. Unfortunately, except for a few hardy believers, the so-called "traditionalists in ham radio refused to adopt the three extraordinary theorems and they never gained any popular support.

(continued)

Where in the World Is...by Ron Litt K5HM

Then suddenly, amid the swirling controversy Rapp dropped out of site; vanished; went QRT.

A thorough search of his home at Kippering-on-the-Charles off Route 128, revealed that Larson had gone off to the Duchy of Grand Fenwick to arrange for a DX-pedition.

Grand Fenwick is so rare that its name did not appear on any DX entity list anywhere. It is decidedly obscure but geopolitically important. The tiny nation, is a constitutional monarchy then ruled by Duchess Gloriana XV who some believe, bears a striking resemblance to Peter Sellers.



The Duchy is no more than five miles long and three miles wide and lies in a fold in the Northern Alps. Most of the inhabitants live in the City of Fenwick, which is also home to the only bar/inn/restaurant in the country, the Gray Goose Pub.

In 1955 after a series of diplomatic advances, Rapp went to Grand Fenwick to make the final arrangements for a serious DX-pedition. During the apparently cordial negotiations with Fenwickian officials, Rapp was suddenly declared an enemy alien and thrown into a dungeon in Fenwick Castle, when Grand Fenwick declared war upon the United States in what became known as the Glorious War of 1955.

The details of the conflict are buried in the marginal notes of history, in which Grand Fenwick won a total and bloodless victory against the United States. For some years Rapp lay forgotten in that deep dungeon in the castle; his only companion was his jailer, who befriended Rapp. The jailer shared his food with Larson which kept him alive but forced him to play tic/tac/toe marathons every night.

To maintain his sanity, Rapp posited several radical approaches to current and future problems in the hobby. These would appear in later years in QST as A Radical Approach to VFO Design, A Compact All Band Antenna and the QS-56 Communications Receiver.

Eventually, rumors of a prisoner in the castle dungeon reached Princess Gloriana. She was furious about Rapp's imprisonment. Immediately, she freed Rapp and forced the jailer to learn how to play Chess and Pong.

Larson was so debilitated, the princess decided that he should be kept in her own quarters in the palace till his health recovered and took charge of his care personally. During this lengthy process the couple drew quite close to each other and developed an intimate relationship.

After several years, Rapp decided it was time to return to his laboratory at Kippering-on-the-Charles off Route 128. They had one final intimate evening. Nine months later, Princess Gloriana XVI was born and rules Grand Fenwick today.

No one at the castle would confirm the rumors that anything untoward happened that evening but Gloriana XVI bears a striking resemblance to Larson E. Rapp. Too bad there are no photos of Rapp extant to compare. However, the FCC (Fenwickian Communications Commission) recently announced that Princess Gloriana XVI was awarded a Novice license. .

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM

Fig 1 – Published in the April 1946 issue of QST, "The Circular Band Theorem"

Fig.1 Lower - Published in the April 1952 issue of QST, "The Double Spectrum Theorem"



Nazis pressed ham radio hobbyists to serve the Third Reich – but surviving came at a price—by Bruce Campbell KG4CUL—Associate Professor of German Studies, College of William and Mary



Joseph Goebbels, left, shows the 'people's receiver' to Adolf Hitler at a radio exhibition in 1933. *Deutsche Zeitung*

When people have free and unfettered choices of activities, they both entertain and express themselves through their pastimes – whether stamp or coin collecting, scrapbooking, gardening or tinkering with electronic gadgets. But what happens when those free spirits – particularly those whose hobbies have taught them specialized technical skills – suddenly find themselves living in a dictatorship?

As a historian of national socialism, I note that my newest research into German radio hobbyists has found a cautionary tale. Authoritarian governments or movements often subvert and take over civic organizations – including seemingly unimportant hobby groups – as part of seizing power. My work suggests that people involved in technological hobbies, such as radio, may be able to retain a bit more personal freedom than those in less strategically important ones, such as singing or sports. But that liberty can come at the cost of complicity.

Radio and the Nazis

In the “Jazz Age” of the 1920s, people were fascinated with new technologies, including airplanes, motor vehicles and radios. Large industries grew from those fascinations, of course, but so did hobbies and groups of hobbyists. (continued)

Nazis pressed ham radio hobbyists to serve the Third Reich – but surviving came at a price—by Bruce Campbell KG4CUL—Associate Professor of German Studies, College of William and Mary

In Germany – and other countries – radio hobby clubs thrived. Several hundred thousand Germans joined these groups, in part because commercial radios were very expensive, and clubs helped people build their own much more cheaply. Once built, they also tinkered with the radios' insides, partly just because they could and partly to improve reception, particularly of foreign stations, which often offered more light entertainment than state-controlled German broadcasting. (The clubs also threw great parties.)

In 1933, the Nazis took power in Germany. They began a comprehensive and often violent process of remaking all of German society to serve the Nazi Party. Groups as diverse as choirs, political parties, sports clubs and chambers of commerce were shut down outright or taken over and purged of Jews, socialists, outspoken democrats and other people the Nazis deemed “undesirables.”

The groups that survived had to support the new regime. Radio hobbyists were particularly exposed because their skills involved building communications equipment.

The Nazis were especially interested in ham radio operators, who were part of a worldwide community of hobbyists who did much more than just listen to entertainment or news broadcast by others. They transmitted and received messages on their own. In Germany, people couldn't buy ready-made radio transmitters and other technical equipment that were usable on the frequencies of interest to amateurs. Ham operators had to build their own equipment, which went far beyond the simple broadcast-band receivers most hobbyists built. They also had to – as is still true today – pass a fairly complicated technical exam to earn a transmitting license.

This meant that hams, whether or not they were electrical engineers or other types of scientists by profession, accumulated a fairly high degree of scientific and technical knowledge in electrical engineering and radio-frequency reception and transmission. They also got a lot of practical experience in using radio equipment, which only professional radio operators could match.

Ham radio's survival

Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi minister of propaganda and popular enlightenment, understood the power that radio could have, both to disseminate Nazi propaganda and to connect groups who were resisting the Nazi takeover. So he moved quickly to take control of not only commercial broadcast radio stations but also the radio clubs and their members. Those clubs that wanted only to passively listen to broadcast radio and tinker a little bit were shut down.

The hams, who wanted to transmit their own information, found themselves in a difficult position. The Nazis knew that German hams had a history of illegal transmission without licenses and were likely to have unsupervised radio contacts with foreigners, even those from the Soviet Union or France, Germany's former enemy in World War I.

Though there were only a few thousand licensed German hams, their technical expertise was too valuable to the regime to be completely dismissed. In fact, German ham radio operators and their clubs found themselves with several powerful Nazi supporters – including in the German military – who protected them from being shut down as other hobby groups had been. The government even doubled the number of available ham transmission licenses.

Hams could continue their hobby, but only if they collaborated, at times in ways antithetical to the hobby's previous culture.

What the Nazis wanted from amateur radio

In the spring of 1933, as the Nazis consolidated power, Goebbels took control of the hams' national organization, called the “German Amateur Transmission and Reception Service,” known by its German initials as the DASD. While ostensibly a private organization, it was forced to let the Propaganda Ministry choose its president, in consultation with the German military, and give the government veto power over other club leaders.

(continued)

Nazis pressed ham radio hobbyists to serve the Third Reich – but surviving came at a price—by Bruce Campbell KG4CUL—Associate Professor of German Studies, College of William and Mary

One of Goebbels's hopes was that German ham operators could use their connections with ham radio operators in other countries to spread Nazi propaganda around the world. That didn't prove very valuable: Most radio exchanges with foreign amateurs focused on purely technical information. In any case, the fact that many German hams could be heard on the airways was never taken by outsiders as proof of how wonderful life under national socialism was claimed to be.

German hams never bothered to tell the Propaganda Ministry how silly this international propaganda idea actually was and dutifully reported large numbers of foreign contacts.

Rebuilding the German military

More importantly, though, German amateur radio hobbyists were a big boost for the Nazis' secret military rebuilding effort. The Treaty of Versailles, which had ended World War I, strictly limited how many people and weapons the German military could have. Adding – and communicating with – more units beyond the Versailles limits would require technically accomplished radiomen who understood shortwave radios and could send and receive Morse code at high speed. Amateur radio hobbyists fit the bill exactly, and were recruited directly into the armed forces, the intelligence services and the communications service of the diplomatic corps.

They also taught radio skills to active duty soldiers and future recruits, like the Hitler Youth and men preparing to join the German Navy. Having amateur radio hobbyists do the training let the German military avoid tipping off Britain, France, Belgium or the United States that Germany was rearming on a large scale. All the new radiomen on the air could be explained as just simple hobbyists.

The German ham radio organization, the DASD, provided other technical expertise too, such as identifying frequencies that might be useful for military communications. The SS Security Service even commissioned the DASD's main laboratory to design and build miniature radio transceivers spies could use to receive orders and report their findings.

The price of survival

To keep transmitting under the Third Reich, German ham operators faced a terrible moral quandary. Like all members of German society, they had to accept close scrutiny from security forces. But to keep operating their radios, German hams had to participate actively in the Nazi regime, driving Jews and anti-Nazis from their hobbyist ranks and collaborating closely with authorities, including the SS and intelligence services.

In retrospect, the DASD's relationship with the Nazis was too close. But it is in the nature of dictatorship not to allow people to stand on the sidelines. Ham operators who considered resisting the Nazis faced a special challenge: Unlike dance groups or musicians, radio technicians had strategic skills and therefore were more likely to be sought out and compelled to help the regime. Refusal might mean loss of economic opportunity at best, arrest, concentration camp or even execution at worst. The potential consequences were clear.

Faced with the choice of flight, open resistance or collaboration, most chose collaboration, particularly because this allowed them to continue their cherished hobby. The problem is, in the Third Reich, there was no such thing as a little complicity. It is a sad irony that even hobby clubs, one of the pillars of civil society, were used by the Nazis to cement their dictatorship.

Texas DX Society Board members

President	Robie Elms, AJ4F	ruler55 at gmail.com
VP Membership	Keith Dutson, NM5G	kdutson at sbcglobal.net
VP Programs	Open	
Secretary	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Orville Burg, K5VWW	Orville at rubyglass.com
Contest Chairman	Jim Burrough, N5DTT	jandpburrough at sbcglobal.net
Field Day Chairmen	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler at comcast.net
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at earthlink.net
DX Chairman	Orville Burg, K5VWW	Orville at rubyglass.com
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Bullsheat Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

DXCC QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
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

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

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

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Alex Stalinsky - WA5UHT
 Joe Brassfield - N5AQT
 Al Loeckle - K5FK
 Madison Jones - W5MJ
 Larry Vehorn - W9AJ
 Dave Topp - W5BXX
 Paul Frantz - W5PF
 Mike Anderson - K5MV
 Grady Ferguson - W5FU
 Kirby van Horn - K7EC

Bill Stein - WB5SJS
 Don Busick - K5AAD
 William Goins - K5WGM
 Steve Smothers - W9DX
 Bob Evans - K5WA
 Paul Jaeger - KY5A
 Wes Spence - AC5K
 Glenn Anderson - WB5TUF