



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 2023

We're Going Hybrid on February 16 at Tracy Gee Community Center!

The February 16, 2023 TDXS monthly meeting will be back at Tracy Gee, and it will be hybrid in-person and ZOOM. As a reminder, Tracy Gee is located at 3599 Westcenter Dr., between Richmond Ave. and Westpark Dr. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m., as usual, and some may wish to have a pre-meeting dinner at Pappas BBQ, located at Westheimer and S. Gessner Rd.

The program will be presented by Robie Elms AJ4F. His presentation will be "Propagation Prediction With VOACAP Online". The objective is to show participants how to produce their own predictions to help them work a particular station.

For those who choose to attend via ZOOM, the details are on the TDXS Reflector.

This meeting will be recorded, but please make an effort to attend the live meeting.

Let me know if you intend to be at Tracy Gee, so I can get a suitable sized room.—Doug W9LCQ

Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

I suppose the main topic on most DXers minds is the 3Y0J operation. I hope many of you worked them for a brand new one, or worked them for a new band/country (I did on 17 CW and 30 CW). Towards the end, they asked those who had already worked them to stand down and let others get them for a new one. I (mostly) complied, it was hard not to call them for another new b/c and to tell the truth they were extremely hard to copy, with poor prop and DQRM. It was awful. Not sure much can be done about it, that's life in the Fast DX Lane these days it seems. I'm glad FT8WW hasn't had it as bad, although there has been a lot of callers on the wrong cycle, but what can you do? They had it awfully hard there on 3Y, and I was a unhappy with the inability to work them on all bands/modes, too. I have to admit I was just a little PO'd at times, too especially considering all the money that was spent. Maybe I said a thing or two as well, but now they're QRT and we'll soon see the awful conditions they had to endure such as not beds or tables, sitting on buckets, one hour of heat per day, etc. You couldn't pay me to do that now (maybe when I was younger??). I suppose the difficulty and conditions were underestimated overall.

On the brighter side of things, the Solar Flux was over 200 for several days (although the A index was high, too), so 10/12 meters has been HOT again. I had a great time in the recent 10-10 contest, making over 1600 QSOs (2nd highest QSO count for me in the 35 years I've been doing it) and I want to say thanks to all the TDXS (and BVARC) members who called me.

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The Prez Sez by ????????

We are still looking for someone to step of to be TDXS president...how about you?



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler W9LCQ

Date: January 21, 2023

Location: Jason's Deli, 10321 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX

The January TDXS Meeting was held in person at Jason's Deli. It was a social lunch meeting and there were 12 participants: Doug W9LCQ, Allen N5XZ, Orville K5VWW, Scott K5DD, , Kim K5TU, Glenn WB5TUF, Jim N5DTT, Robie AJ4F, Keith NM5G, Dale KG4U, Larry KB5WWW, and Rick K5TIA.

The Muffaletta and the Broccoli Cheese soup were delicious, as usual!

Submitted Feb. 10, 2023

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary



DX Chairman's Report—OPEN

Looking for a new DX Chairman, any volunteers?



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

As usual, we will start with a summary of major contests coming up in the next two months.

February

- 4 Vermont QSO Party
10-10 Winter Contest, SSB
Minnesota QSO Party
British Columbia QSO Party
- 5 North America Sprint, CW
- 11 CQ WW RTTY WPX
- 18 ARRL International DX Contest, CW
Russian PSK WW Contest
- 24 CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB
- 25 FTx DX Contest
South Carolina QSO Party
North American QSO Party, RTTY
North American Collegiate Championship, RTTY
- 26 North Carolina QSO Party

March

- 4 ARRL International DX Contest, SSB
- 11 South America 10-Meter Contest
Oklahoma QSO Party
Idaho QSO Party
- 12 North America Sprint, RTTY
Wisconsin QSO Party
- 18 Russian DX Contest
Virginia QSO Party
- 25 CQ Worldwide WPX Contest



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

TDXS members participated in several contests in January. Here is their score information as it was found in the 3830scores.com website:

North American QSO Party, CW 2023 Jan 14

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5TU		1083	177	9.1	191,691	TDXS
N5XZ		675	174	5:10	117,450	TDXS2
KG5U		428	122	6:07	52,216	TDXS
K5GQ		249	122	5:45	30,378	TDXS
K5GN		311	90	4:50	27,990	TDXS
K5IZO		118	80	4	9,440	TDXS2
AJ4F		75	44	1	3,300	TDXS
N5DTT		41	23	3.5	943	TDXS2

Single Op Assisted LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5TIA		415	188	10	78,020	TDXS2

Hungarian DX Contest 2023 Jan 21

SOABCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		62	0	30	8	10,170	TDXS

North American QSO Party, SSB 2023 Jan 21

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
NE5B		340	117		41,480	TDXS*
W5GCX		261	74		19,314	TDXS*

* No one signed-up to be on a TDXS team for the SSB Contest



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

ARRL January VHF Contest 2023 Jan 21

Single Op-All Modes HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		19	9	6	171	TDXS

Single Op-All Modes LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF		33	20		660	TDXS
AJ4F		26	15	4	390	TDXS
N5DTT		15	6	12.25	90	TDXS

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2023 Jan 27

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GN(@W5KU)		464	55	30	7	116,790	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		71	33	4	3	6,512	TDXS
AJ4F		71	32	1	1	5,247	TDXS

Have a good month, contesting as much as you have the time for.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

Where is the World is . . . Christmas Island, (VK9X) OC-002



That's right little Jimmy. Do you think Santa Clause really likes living at the North Pole? He prefers the temperate climes of the tropics. Christmas island is a territory of Australia in the Indian Ocean. It has a population of 2,072 residents who live in several "settlement areas" on the northern tip of the island variously called Flying Fish Cove, Kampong, Silver City, Poon Saan and Drumsite (I will leave the visual picture of the last two to the reader). Most of the population are Chinese Australian. It is called Christmas Island because it was discovered on Christmas Day, 1643 by Capt. William Mynors of the Royal Mary an East India Company trading vessel as he sailed past it. In 1957, the island was transferred from the U.K. to Australian sovereignty.

Geographically, the island lies closer to Central Java than Australia but it seems that the Indonesians aren't interested and the Australians aren't having much luck either. Phosphate mining had been the only significant economic activity, but in December 1987 the Australian government closed the mine. In 1991, the mine was reopened by a consortium which included many of the former mine workers as shareholders. With the support of the government, the \$34 million Christmas Island Casino and Resort opened in 1993 but was closed in 1998. As of 2011, the resort has re-opened without the casino.

The Australian government in 2001 agreed to support the creation of a commercial spaceport on the island, however this has not yet been constructed, and appears that it will not proceed in the future. The Australian government built a temporary immigration detention center on the island in 2001. Christmas island ranks 69th on the DXCC Most Wanted List.

Kiritimati (The Other Christmas Island) (T32) OC-024

Kiritimati or Christmas Island is a Pacific Ocean raised coral atoll in the northern Line Islands, and part of the Republic of Kiribati. The name "Kiritimati" is a rather straightforward respelling of the English word "Christmas" in Gilbertese, in which the combination *ti* is pronounced *s*, and the name is thus pronounced [kəˈrɪsməs]. The island has the greatest land area of any coral atoll in the world: about 150 sq mi; its lagoon is about the same size. The atoll is about 93 mi in perimeter, while the lagoon shoreline extends for over 30 mi. Christmas Island comprises over 70% of the total land area of Kiribati, a country encompassing 33 Pacific atolls and islands. It lies 144 mi north of the Equator, 4,160 mi from Sydney, and 3,330 mi from San Francisco. Christmas Island is in the world's farthest forward time zone, UTC+14 and is one of the first inhabited places on Earth to experience the New Year.



Christmas Island was discovered by the Spanish in 1537. Captain James Cook visited it on Christmas Eve (24 December) 1777. It was claimed by the United States under the Guano Islands Act of 1856. During the 1840s, guano came to be prized as a source of saltpeter for gunpowder as well as an agricultural fertilizer. In 1855, the U.S. learned of rich guano deposits on islands in the Pacific Ocean. Congress passed the Guano Islands Act to take advantage of these deposits. It allowed any citizen of the United States who discovers a deposit of guano on any island, rock, or key, not within the lawful jurisdiction of any other Government, and not occupied by the citizens of any other Government, to take peaceable possession of, such island, rock, or key

Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

and the discretion of the President, be considered as a part of the United States. In 1983, the island was ceded to the Republic of Kiribati as most Americans had plenty of guano from their politicians.

Christmas island has been visited by eight recent DX-peditions. As part of Eastern Kiribati, it is the 154th most wanted DXCC entity.

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM



Greater Houston Hamfest March 3rd and 4th 2023



Greater Houston HamFest

ARRL Texas State Convention
March 3rd and 4th 2023
Largest Hamfest in Texas
NOW TWO DAYS!

HAM RADIO OUTLET
will be at the show!!

If you have money to spend on Ham Radio, why not support
the company that supports the Greater Houston HamFest

RAFFLE RAFFLE RAFFLE

Yaesu FTDX10

Yaesu FT891

Yaesu FTM300DR

Raffle tickets on sale here ... buy them here pick them up at the door.
Tickets also available at the hamfest. Door prize tickets come with your
entry fee...

Advance Raffle Tickets:
\$5.00 for Single Raffle Ticket
\$20.00 for Five Raffle Tickets

Drawing 2pm March 4th 2023
Do not have to be present to win.
web@bvarc.org
713-569-8799

DOOR PRIZES !

Door prize ticket included with your admission ticket.

Lots of great prizes to be awarded every hour (OR MORE OFTEN)

Get Admission Tickets by clicking here Select your ticket quantity in the cart. You **MUST** have
admission tickets to enter the Hamfest. These are **NOT** included with your table.

Entry is \$10 per person in advance or \$15 at the door.
Tickets good for Friday and Saturday's fun.

**The Greater Houston HamFest Still has a few indoor tables left...
Better get them NOW, the HamFest is only 16 days away!!**

<https://www.houstonhamfest.org/tables.php>

Great Food. Plenty of Coffee.

This will be a Two day show both Friday and Saturday.

Friday 2PM - 8PM Saturday 8AM - 3PM

Greater Houston HamFest will again be at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds.

International Mail Service Suspensions—By Kim K5TU

Kim, K5TU sent me this snip from the USPS webpage, updated Jan 5, 2023, regarding countries with suspended postal service. For those that seek QSLs that require mail to any of these countries, the USPS will not forward mail to them.

International Mail Service Suspensions

Updated: Jan. 5, 2023

The Postal Service™ is temporarily suspending international mail acceptance for certain destinations due to impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other unrelated service disruptions. Customers: please refrain from mailing items addressed to the countries listed here, until further notice.

Hide the suspensions

Suspensions

Afghanistan	Cuba	South Sudan
Belarus	Laos	Syria
Bhutan	Libya	Timor-Leste
Brunei	Mongolia	Turkmenistan
Chad	Russia	Yemen

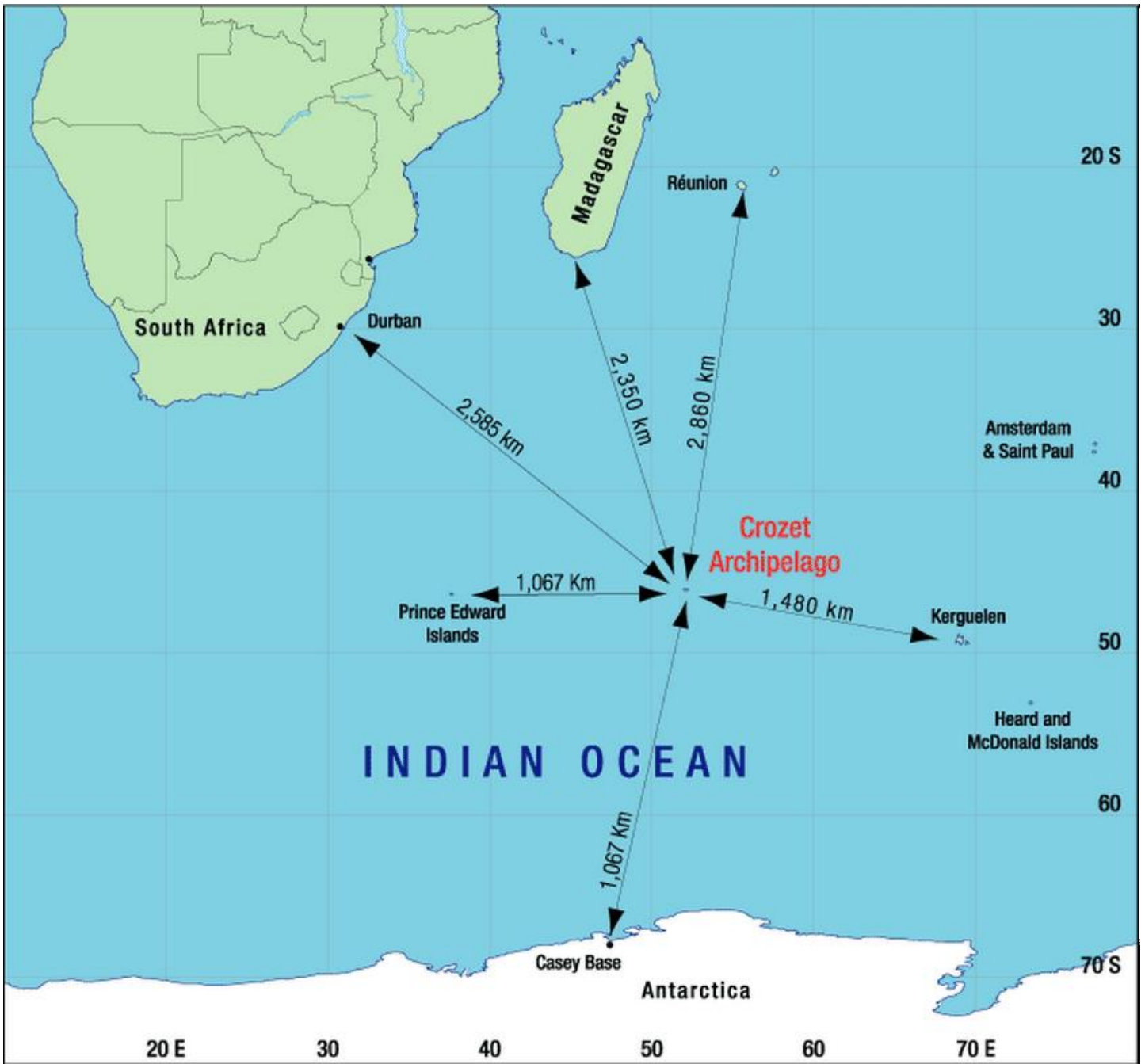
These service disruptions affect Priority Mail Express International® (PMEI), Priority Mail International® (PMI), First-Class Mail International® (FCMI), First-Class Package International Service® (FCPIS®), International Priority Airmail® (IPA®), International Surface Air Lift® (ISAL®), and M-Bag® items.

Unless otherwise noted, service suspensions to a particular country do not affect delivery of military and diplomatic mail.



Crozet Island—Where is it? By Orville Burg K5VWW

Crozet is active again so I thought I would leave this in to let all know where it is located.....



Membership Dues Renewal Reminder

TEXAS DX SOCIETY Membership Renewal

The membership dues annual rate is \$25 or \$12.50 for a member more than 75 miles (your best estimate) from Grid Square EL29HS (downtown Houston, TX).

Please renew your Membership in January of the current year. Dues are for one calendar year.

Send payment via PayPal or personal check. PayPal is much preferred.

PayPal payable to Treasurer@tdxs.net

Add a Note: TDXS 2023 membership dues for [your callsign].

Personal check payable to the Texas DX Society.

TDXS TREASURER
24415 DEEP MEADOW DR
TOMBALL TX 77375-5067



Texas DX Society Board members

President	STILL OPEN!	
VP Membership	Gerald Muller	gmuller885@aol.com
VP Programs	STILL OPEN!	
Secretary	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
Contest Chairman	Jim Burrough, N5DTT	jandpburrough at sbcglobal.net
Field Day Chairman	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at arrl.net
DX Chairman	STILL OPEN!	
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Bullsheets Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

DXCC/WAZ/WAS QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
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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 February:

**Please notify the Editor if I have missed any-
one or of any updates:**

Dave Blaschke - W5UN
 James Clark - N5RO
 Bob Cooney - K1TU
 James Parnell - W5JAW
 Don Butler - N5LZ
 Ronald Amox - K5EJO
 Jim Boockholdt - N4AL
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