



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net January 2024

The January 18, 2024 TDXS monthly meeting will be held at 7 p.m. via ZOOM. The program will be audience participation.

Part 1 is "Show us your shack!" Whether it is a multi-multi setup, or a modest operation in a coat closet, just put a couple of pictures or a video on your desktop to share with the group.

Part 2 will be "Show us your most interesting or significant QSL cards!". Pick out a couple of your favorite cards to share from your desktop.

We look forward to a truly interesting evening!

Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

Happy New Year 2024!

This year just gotta be better than 2023...but WHO KNOWS??

First thing is I want to welcome Ron Litt, K5HM back providing us with interesting "Where in the world is..." articles. They have been sorely missed so everyone please enjoy them.

Also please read Tom K5RC's article on Bill W5SG. Condolences to his family.

DXing and the bands continue to be good, nothing too spectacular in terms of propagation, not much on 6m, but N5XZ did work: T32, VU7, VU4, XW, 7Q, 5R, VR2, 3A, ZD7, V5, VK9, 7X and 3B9.

January is dues month. Please see the email from Doug W9LCQ regarding submission. Unchanged at \$25/year (\$12.50 if you live more that 75 miles from EL29hs).

Again, HNY! 73/161, Allen N5XZ

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TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS December 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: December 16, 2023

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

The December TDXS Meeting was held in person at Jason's Deli. It was a social lunch meeting and there were 8 participants: Doug W9LCQ, Orville K5VWW, Orville's sister Kay, Scott K5DD, Kim K5TU, Jim N5DTT, Robie AJ4F, and Dale KG5U.

Submitted January 12, 2024

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

January

- 1 Straight Key Night
- 6 ARRL RTTY Roundup
Kids Day
- 13 North American QSO Party, CW
- 20 ARRL January VHF
North American QSO Party, SSB
NA Collegiate Championship, SSB
- 26 CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW
- 27 Winter Field Day

February

- 3 10-10 Winter Contest – SSB
European Union DX Contest
Vermont QSO Party
Minnesota QSO Party
British Columbia QSO Party
- 10 CQ WPX RTTY Contest
- 17 ARRL International DX Contest – CW
Russian PSK WW Contest
- 23 CQ 160-meter Contest – SSB
- 24 REF Contest – SSB
South Carolina QSO Party
North American QSO Party – RTTY
North American Collegiate Championship (sub-contest to NAQP-RTTY)
- 25 North Carolina QSO Party



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

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

160-Meter Contest 2023 Dec 1

Single Op HP

Single Op Limited-Ant HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		106	40	10	12	10,296	TDXS
AF5J		50	26	2	2:32	2,968	TDXS

Single Op Limited-Ant LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		43	20	1	1.5	1,869	TDXS

FT Roundup 2023 Dec 2

SO Unlimited LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
N5DTT		128	35	12	7:06	6,016	TDXS

ARRL 10-Meter Contest 2023 Dec 9

SO CW HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		296	74	17:40	87,616	TDXS
K5TIA		150	84	6	50,400	TDXS

SO CW LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KG5U		588	93	17:01	221,276	TDXS
AJ4F		50	29	1:21	5,800	TDXS

SO CW Limited-Ant LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TU		51	24	2	5,304	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

ARRL 10-Meter Contest 2023 Dec 9 (cont.)

SO CW Unlimited Limited-Ant HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ		435	103	3:16	179,220	TDXS

SO Mixed HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5GCX		453	114	13	107,616	TDXS

SO Mixed LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N5DTT		242	86	12	67,252	TDXS

SO Mixed Limited-Ant LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KC5TT		300	81	6	73,224	TDXS

SO SSB Unlimited HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PR		1806	139	25	502,068	TDXS

RAC Winter Contest 2023 Dec 30

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		30	0	160	0	2	4,800	TDXS

Single Op Assisted HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		159	0	34	0	7:47	35,564	TDXS
N5XZ		166	0	22	0	1:43	18,064	TDXS

Single Op CW LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KG5U		92	0	11	0	1.47	5,324	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 2023 Dec 30

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		72	6	255	TDXS
AF5J		28	1:54	82	TDXS

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

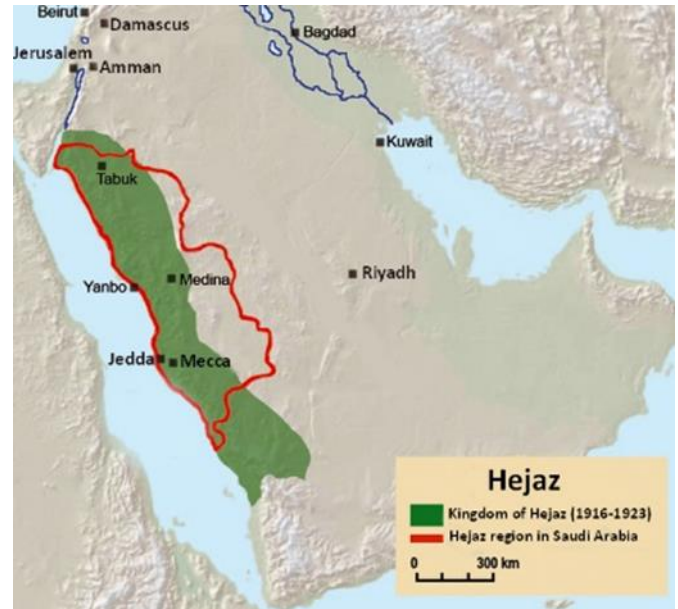
Jim, N5DTT



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

Yup, it's Big Sandy alright. Think over 830 Sq. miles of sand on top of 268 billion barrels of oil. Then there are camels, horses, nomads, and more sand. Sometime after the rise of Islam in the 7th century CE the name Arab came to be used for all residents of the Arabian Peninsula.

Except for the great cities of Damascus, Cairo, Baghdad and the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, the vast spaces of the desert were bleakly populated by roving bands of nomads. Each band was ruled by their local prince or pasha. However, from the 10th until the 20th century the Hashemite Sharifs of Mecca maintained the most influential region a state in the most developed part of Arabia known as the Hejaz. Although, the tribal nomads owed nominal fealty to the Turkish Pasha in Constantinople, they all exercised a degree of independence among each other.



In the 14th century Arabia fell under the growing Ottoman Turkish empire. The first Saudi state was established in 1744 in the area around Riyadh in Central Arabia. It rapidly expanded until it controlled most of the present-day territory of Saudi Arabia.

Turkey entered WW I, allied with Germany. To protect the Suez Canal as its strategic route to India and the Far East, the British provided weapons and money to the tribal chiefs. This little dust up was known as the Arab Revolt, Think Lawrence of Arabia. Lawrence helped to foment unrest amongst the tribesmen using guerilla warfare.

With the end of the War, much of the Ottoman Empire was carved up between the European powers and several Arab tribes. New countries were created including Lebanon, Trans-Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia. And Palestine.



Oil was discovered in Saudi Arabia in 1938. This discovery would soon be identified as the largest source of petroleum in the world. Before the discovery, the people of Arabia were largely nomadic. The country's economy was based on tourism revenue from observant Muslims' pilgrimages to the holy city of Mecca. After the discovery, Saudis established a strong infrastructure dotted with wells, pipelines, refineries, and ports. Today, oil accounts for roughly 92% of the Saudi budget.

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



QRZ lists 722 call signs, including several princes and special event call signs. Although the Saudi government claims there are now more than 500 licensed amateurs.

The Saudi Amateur Radio Society was established by the Council of Ministers in 2018. Its implementation regulations are issued by Ministerial Decree! It's still good to be king.

The first amateur license in Saudi Arabia was issued as HZ1HZ in 1949 and is still in use today. The original holder of this call sign was Sheikh Ahmad Zaidan. His daughter is the current licensee.

HZ1HZ was issued in 1949 to Ahmad Zaidan who was the first Saudi to obtain an amateur radio license. This year his daughter took over the callsign. She became the first Saudi woman to obtain a HAM radio license in the western province of Saudi Arabia and the only active YL in the whole country. It was not an easy task to attain this achievement. She had to go through the Saudi Ham Radio exam on the 31 of December 2013 with 20 others, She was the only YL and the only person to pass it.

Club Log lists Saudi Arabia as the number 261 on their most wanted DX list.

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM.



Bill Eckenrode, W5SG, TDXS # 72 by Tom Taormina, K5RC

Friends Remembered

Bill Eckenrode, W5SG (1863)
By Tom Taormina, K5RC



I knew Bill, W5SG, for 50+ years. We met as members of the Texas DX Society. Bill had an innate talent for creating the best of everything he touched. His first big station was all Collins S Line and it looked like a picture from their catalog. Later he dabbled with the KWM380. That was challenging as solid state radios were just hitting the market. He also strived for perfection in CW and in his operating style. That made him an ideal candidate for FOC.

Outside the shack, in his garage, his passion was restoring old classic cars and building hot rods. I watched him toil for months locating original parts so that the restorations would be perfect. His crowning achievement was a Rolls Royce. That took him years to restore. I lost count of how many coats of original paint it took to meet his specifications.

Bill was a senior electrical engineer for the electronics division of Daniel Industries, an oilfield supplier. One day he sent me a job opening for a Quality Assurance Manager position. Since that was my training, I applied and got the position. Working closely with Bill every day was very rewarding. Unfortunately, our boss thought that I should be firing everyone who produced poor quality. I refused so he fired me. In retaliation, he made Bill the QA Manager where he stayed until he retired.

In the 70's and 80's The Texas DX Society was known for outrageous projects such as The Great Armadillo Runs that activated every county in the W5 call area in three years during the weekend of the County Hunter CW Contest. For the Texas Sesquicentennial, we convinced the Governor to create Armadillo County for the celebration. We had the Armadillo County Courthouse set up at the grand opening of the celebration. I was the County Judge and Bill drove me to the kickoff in the Rolls.

Bill also hosted monthly "prayer meetings" where club members would play penny-ante poker to the wee hours. I haven't seen Bill since we moved to Nevada 26 years ago, but we stayed in contact on the CW bands. His wife, Cathy, was always his partner and a great friend to all of us. We will miss him.



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	Keith Dutson, NM5G	keith1 at dutson.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
Bullsheel 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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DXCC/VUCC/WAS QSL Card Checker	Robie Elms, AJ4F	ruler55@gmail.com
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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/>

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

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

Barbara Coleman - WB5RUS
 Lon Cottingham - K5JV
 John Stevens - K5JS
 Dale Martin - KG5U
 Al Vacek - KN5A
 Dennis Motschenbacher - K7BV
 Bill Bradford - K5GA
 John Duncan - WA5ZVE
 Mike Hance - K5NZ
 Allen Brier - N5XZ

Ben Worrell - NE5B
 Ken Eckel Jr. - AB5A
 Earl Morse - K8SS (ex-N5TU)
 Doug Seyler - W9LCQ