



THE BULLSHEET



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

January, 1984
Volume VIII
Number 1

founded 1970

The Texas DX Society, P. O. Box 540291, Houston, Texas 77254-0291

MEETING NOTICE - The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month except when changed by the Board of Directors. The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on January 13, 1984 at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Mapleridge.

1984 DUES ARE DUE - In accordance with the TDXS constitution, the Board of Directors has set the 1984 dues at \$ 25.00 for full members. These dues are payable January 1. Anyone whose dues are not paid in full by March 1 may be dropped from the roster by the Board of Directors. See N5EA for details.

1984 - HERE WE GO !! - (by KZ5M) I hope y'all got plenty of rest over the holidays because have I got a big year planned for everyone! The Executive Board is extremely proud to present the following Board of Directors:

Contest Chairman - Bill, K2TNO
DX Chairman - Frank, KC5M
Legal Chairman - Al, KN5A
Field Day Chairman - Grady, NA5R
Repeater Chairman - Orville, K5VWW
Communications Chairman - Kim, K5TU

I am very excited about getting this group of guys together to join me, Sharp, K5DX, David, N5JJ, and Tom, N5EA in putting together a fast moving and successful 1984. Each and every one of these people has been charged with doing his job to its fullest potential - including lots of BULLSHEET input. I cannot do it all and these people know it. We will all be working as a close knit team to give you all a pleasurable year full of fun, success, and just good ol' friendship. Items one and three are tops on my list of priorities and I intend to drive these guys to give you what you all say you want. In return, we hope you people will be patient with us and our mistakes as we slide through the year. Sometimes it's easy to sit out there and criticize, forgetting that the pay for the officers is really pretty crummy except for whatever satisfaction we can draw from your appreciation and success. Good luck! 73 - Da Boss, KZ5M

WAA-NC&S/WMC - (by KC5M) Tired of sitting around watching TV waiting for the next major dx-expedition? Is your wife raising "heck" because all those radios that you just had to have are collecting dust? Perhaps the Oiler syndrome has settled in and you forgot how to crank up your tower or load your amplifier. Even if you aren't interested in a little club competition, isn't it your civic duty to add a little spice to your poor neighbor's life by reminding him that you are still alive and well?

Well, don't despair..."WAA-NC&S/WMC is here. What? You don't know what "WAA-NC&S/WMC" is? Well, I don't either, but lets assume "WAA-NC&S" means "Work All Americas - North, Central, and South and lets also assume that it is a little friendly competition within the TDXS. The first thing we have to do is to get organized. Well, to relieve your mind and generate a groundswell of enthusiasm, we will have two categories: "Wire" and "Aluminum" antennas (of course). "Wire" contacts generate two points and "Aluminum" contacts are graced with one point.

The object is to work as many North, Central, and South American stations in as many countries as possible. To add a little challenge, we will use the following mode/band format:

January	80-CW	July	"Catch-up" month
February	75-FONE	August	"Catch-up" month
March	40-CW	September	20-CW
April	15-FONE	October	10-FONE
May	10-CW	November	15-CW
June	20-FONE	December	40-FONE

Just to make it a little more interesting, we will have a few simple rules:

- a) All contest contacts are excluded.
- b) Contacts from U.S. stations cannot exceed 10% of score total.
- c) At least ten (10) contacts must be made for each month using the proper band and mode. (note "Catch-up" months)

At this point, your reaction might be; I thought the heading of this article was WAA-NC&S/WMC? Well, to avoid keeping you in suspense any longer, "WMC" means "Worked Most Countries".

The same band/mode requirement exists, however the winner is the station which works the most countries, not limited to the americas. (Just think, with the stroke of a pen you have just inherited the whole world!) The following rules would apply:

- a) All contest contacts are excluded
- b) Wire = 2 points, aluminum = 1 point
- c) At least ten (10) contacts must be made for each month using the proper band and mode.

Now, to add a little spice (with major emphasis on "little"), I am personally offering an award of \$50.00 to the winner of each of these two very sporting events. The monthly and quarterly results will be published in the BULLSHEET. The Board will be responsible for the final decision. Any tie situation will require a sharing of the pot and the DX chairmen will not be eligible for any prize.

Well, how about it? This could be a chance to work on 5BDXCC or possible convince your wife that you need a new radio. In any case, you could donate the fifty dollars to the "giant armadillo" and take some of the pressure off Lone Star Beer delivery men worldwide. So, pick your poison...Will you WAA-NC&S or WMC or both?

Please send your totals to me in time to be published in the quarterly BULLSHEET. (that's the 20th of March, June, September, and December - ed.) Don't forget to list the country, callsign of the station worked, time, date, mode, and band. (The size of your jockey shorts is not required.) Good luck! 73 de Frank, KCSM, 15815 Pathfield, Houston, TX 77084.

HO HO HO de K5KG George sends holiday greetings from HZ and comments "NO, we did not get lost in a sand storm, and our camel did not run out of gas. YES, we really moved here this year and, would you believe it, we are really busy." They arrived in HZ the end of July and lives in a newly built industrial city 60 miles north of Dhahran called Al-Jubail that has a population of 30,000. He has a 3 bedroom home with a walled in sandy yard. George's youngest son, Craig, is in school in HZ at the local international school, where his wife, Kay, teaches second grade. However, since there is no schooling for expatriate children beyond the ninth grade in HZ, George's older son, Brian, is in the TESIS American School in HB9. The oldest of the kids, Jeanie, is in college in Austin at St. Edwards. Somehow, George managed to get them all together in 5Z4 for Christmas for a week of sunbathing and general good fun followed by a week for everyone in HZ: George's mom will make the trip, too.

George requests that all routine mail be directed to his address in Al-Jubail, because the local office is a little chaffed about the overabundance of personal mail in their courier pouch to HZ. You can find him at:

P.O. Box 10084
Madinat Al-Jubail Al-Sinaiyah 31961
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

TDXpeditionS 84 - (by KZ5M) Okay, troops, the cheap talk is over with and its time to get down to the "doing".

Your organizing committee representatives, NA5R, K5RC, and your strully went to Laredo the weekend of December 16 and met with our friends, the Nuevo Laredo Radio Club. Orville, K5VWW provided logistical support by piloting his fuzzi buster equipped BMW and Holly went along to add a bit of color to the trip. The fellas down there were just super and provided us with our much needed tour of possible sites for our contest operations plus a fair dose of Carta Blanca.

Your committee has selected the ranch site of XE2FU for our record setting efforts. Enrique has been the host to another winning effort by TDXS members and is eager to put more paper and/or plaques on his wall and cards in his shoe box. I do not think we could have a more congenial host. The site itself is terrific with an absolutely clear shot into both eastern and western USA. And we are going to be loud.

Your antenna man for these trips is Dave, N5JJ. Bob, N5DU, will assist Dave on-site. They plan, as a minimum, mono-banders rotatable at about 40 feet on 10, 15, and 20. One additional beam will go down per band to use as back-up or, time allowing, to give us the famous TDXS Double Coast Crusher technique.

40 will see the TDXS blowing the socks off stateside contenders with 2 elements at 70 feet. TDXS 80 and 160 multiplier totals will not be equalled by any challengers due to our planned impressive array of slopers. XE2FU's

windmill will play host to some of these wires. His new barbed wire fence (which runs for miles) will do the signal sucking shores for us. Yes, Tuna, someone will finally be able to hear you!

Tom, K5RC, is trying to assemble the six stations to put all the aluminum to good use. He would like to use TS-830's or similar rigs at each location. Help! We need more rig offerings so let us know what you have that we can put on the air. Also, the offering of amps like SB-200s and Clippertons are not coming quite like we thought they would. Tom is making a master adapter box for each station so one can plug any type of key or headphone in and get after it (QLF key for Tommy included).

The power for these 6 KW (that's 6 one KW) stations will come from 7 generators Grady, NA5R, has rounded up. These plus about one ton of gasoline per weekend will keep us in light and watts. The chore of hauling these 7 beasts plus two spares means some big time logistics problems for Grady. Trucks, trailers, and vans are needed!

We have made a bit of a change in the food, lodging, and survival program. Tommy, KD5SP, and the rest of the organizing team would like to see participants bring their own food - Field Day style. Team up with a buddy or whatever. There is a feast planned for about noon on each Sunday, though, and of course the water will be Alvin in origin. If you want Coke, beer, or booze - bring it. The conditions on-site lend themselves to a lifestyle consisting of sandwiches, camp stoves and th like and not preparation of casseroles.

Lodging, our toughest problem, is still not finalized on who goes where but progress is being made. The TDXS, as a club, will not rent any RV's. If any individuals wish to go together and rent one - we'd love it. Otherwise, the six operating positions will be housed in whatever vans, camper pick-ups or tents you all offer. Please let us know what's available for the weekends ASAP. We will sleep and eat in the ranch house; bring cots and sleeping bags. A 6 and 2 meter station will also be located in the house for the enjoyment of all - including the XEs who are real eager to hear a big VHF signal.

The basic game plan calls for a caravan to XE leaving Wednesday AM. Any and all are welcome - and encouraged - to join the work gang. A good map will be included in the February BULLSHEET for late comers. The XE gang has offered their 147.31/.91 repeater for talk-in. We strongly recommend arrival in Laredo Friday before dark. Otherwise a saturday AM corssing will be necessary. The XEs will help cross when possible, but we can't send them out for an assist like taxi drivers - we are talking about 2-3 hours inconvenience so lets get organized. Coordinate your airline arrivals with late comers from Houston.

If you are loaning equipment for the trips, let's arrange to get it picked up by K5RC and helpers so it can go with the caravan. Though we expect no trouble at the borders, it will go much smoother for you if you can have little radio-wise or it you are with the caravan. We did find the border personnel very cooperative and pleasant on both sides during our inspection trip.

Please try and make the January and February meetings if you are hoping to join us those two record breaking weekends so we can answer your questions.

We want to see all active TDXS member callsigns listed in QST for these efforts...Get on the list! 73 de KZ5M

ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION - JULY '84 - (by Dennis, KZ5M) Did you hear the rumor that the TDXS was going to have a suite at the Nat'l? At this point it's still a rumor. At our Nat'l, some 10 TDXS'ers said they would go to spread the word about our #1 WW club. Jan, K5MA, and Richard, K5NA, are ready to do the detail work in New York. We need to think this one over quick and make a decision. The original thought was that participating members would front all their own expenses while the club would handle the usual booze, Coke, and room. OF COURSE, we would like to have a tidbit to offer for those Yankees wishing to put a buck in the hand of the TDXS. A profitable suite/raffle is predicted. Shall we do this? Can you take advantage of People's express and go? Who will help organize this if we are going to have brag room in N.Y. to show off our XE achievements? de your slave driver KZ5M.

TDXS CALENDAR

You wanted an active year, gang, so here's the first cut at it!

Jan thru Dec	TDXS DX Contests - See KCSM's article
Feb 18-19	TDXpeditionS XE CW weekend
Feb	NCJ North American Sprint - TDXS team
Mar 3-4	TDXpeditionS XE Fone weekend
June ?	Field Day @ ? (last weekend of June)
July 20-22	ARRL National Convention N.Y., N.Y. TDXS suite?
July 29-Aug 1	Armadillo Run 84 - La., Ark., Miss.
Sept ?	NCJ North American Spring - TDXS team
Sept (all mo.)	Divorce court appearances (contact KN5A)
Oct 6-7	Houston Convention 84 - Texas State
Nov 3-4	Sweepstakes CW - Get that gavel back!
Nov 10	Elect new president who only wants to see every TDXS member make Rag Chewer's Club in '85
Nov 17-18	Sweepstakes Fone - <u>Got</u> that gavel back!
Dec (all mo.)	Move back in with the wife and kids to see if it can be saved.

MORE SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLES (by K5TU) The computer program has been revised with new equations courtesy of the U S Naval Observatory, and the times are precise to ± 1 minute at sunrise and sunset. Times for the month of January are included. Did you know there are four commonly used definitions for sunrise and sunset? Each one results in a different time. More in next month's 'SHEET.

ABOUT THOSE SWEEPSTAKES LOGS - (by K2TNO) Please send your 1983 ARRL Sweepstakes logs and summary sheets to me. (See attached roster for address -ed.)

CHECK OUT THE UPDATED ROSTER - AASY has done a fine job of maintaining our club roster on computer. Tom also generates the mailing labels used to mail you club correspondence. This month's mailing contains an up-to-date club roster. Please contact AASY for any additions or corrections to the roster.