



THE BULLSHEET



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Texas DX Society

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

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Announcements

Meeting Notice - The Texas DX Society meets on the second Friday of each month, except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors. This month the May meeting will take place on Friday, May 11, 1990. The meeting will be held at Madison Electronics Supply, 3621 Fannin Street at the intersection of Fannin and Winfern. Winfern is two blocks North of Alabama St. As usual, the meeting will begin about 7:30 P.M. Visitors are encouraged to attend this unique meeting and may obtain help in finding the location by checking in on 147.96/36 MHz. (See article on Madison's in this issue.)

Program - There will be no program for the May TDXS Meeting. Instead the time will be used to discuss and settle on our plans for Field Day. Anyone with suggestions or comments on this topic should get hold of N5RP, and help him gather up the ideas and feelings of the group prior to the meeting. W5SJS is again making available the Brenham site that we have used so successfully for the past several years. As always the TDXS Field Day activity is open to all.

DX Packet Cluster - The TDXS Packet Cluster DX Bulletin Board, operating on 144.95 MHz with the call KE5IV, is located in Hempstead, TX. The Cluster runs the AK1A software and uses AX25 Level 2 protocol. A digipeater (ALD) is located on the north side of Houston to provide improved access to the cluster. There is an alternative path on 144.91 MHz, also under KE5IV's call, with a high, multi-element 2 meter beam pointed at Houston. It is linked into the same computer that runs the Cluster. This allows those in Houston the option of connecting directly with Hempstead and has the virtue of giving faster response. K5FP operates another packet cluster located in Galveston county which is quite active on 144.93 MHz. It is usually connected with KE5IV. Stations in the southern parts of Houston may find it easier to connect with this cluster. Also, both clusters are frequently linked into Austin and Dallas for added DX coverage, especially during contests.

Weekly DX and Contest Net - Each Tuesday night a 9:00 P.M. local time the Texas DX Society sponsors a net on 147.96/36 MHz. The purpose of this net is to exchange information of interest to DXers and contesters. The agenda includes current DX and contest information, QSL routings and related announcements. Stations checking-in are urged to report DX heard or worked locally, band openings, contest claimed scores, and any other information that might be of interest. Participation is not limited to members of TDXS, but is open to all and everyone is encouraged to join in.

Bullsheet Mailing List - TDXS wishes to provide the Bullsheet to all amateurs in the area with an interest in DXing and contesting. Donations to help defray publication and mailing costs are appreciated. Visitors to our club meetings will receive the 'Sheet for three months free of charge simply by signing the Attendance List and including their mailing address. Articles or other newsworthy items are hereby solicited by your editor. Articles should be submitted in the form of either ASCII files or as MS Word or WordPerfect word processor files. Files may be uploaded to the TDXS area on K2TNO's Bulletin Board at 713-798-4955, or sent direct to the editor on either 5 1/4" or 3 1/2" diskette. Contact W5ASP at 713-974-3455 to arrange these file transfers. If necessary, files may be sent to "Dr. William Schrader" via FAX at 713-790-1275.

OMARC Midnight Special - Richard, K5NA, and the Overlook Mountain ARC are looking for clubs willing to challenge them for top honors in their semi-annual Midnight Special. The spring event is scheduled for Saturday evening, May 20th, from 0300Z until 0500Z, first hour 40-meter SSB and second hour 80-meter CW. Last fall the top SSB figure was 162 Q's and the best CW was 62 Q's. That's pretty good action for a two hour period. Check the rules in the May issue of QST or CQ. (KG5U will be putting together the TDXS team...sign up and join the fun...ed.)

News from the Western Prairies - Contrary to the rumor that has been circulating recently, it was not the acrid humor of K5LZO that drove Dennis, K2UA, off the repeater, but a chance encounter with one of Texas' wild critters. Yep, you guess it...Dennis totaled not only one of the local whitetails but his 2-meter equipped sedan as well. He claims he came though the episode unscathed though his inability to find his way back onto the repeater casts some doubt on this. He promises (threatens...?) to renew his role with TDXS once his bride, Brenda, has completed her graduation exercises this coming weekend. Brenda, whom many of you may recall as the chief cook at past NR5M multi's, is receiving her B.S. in Nursing from the University of Texas. *Congratulations!!*

The Prez Sez

de Ken, KE5IV

The May meeting of the Texas DX Society will be held at Madison Electronics. For those who have never been to this institution, due to living in the ozone layer or operating 1296 MHz equipment in near field to the brain, the address is 3621 Fannin. I think some of the tradition was lost in the move from McKinney to Fannin, but that is progress, I think.

The reason the TDXS is having the May meeting at the Emporium is to give the store a proper farewell. Over the years, the Busicks have supported the club countless times in countless ways. I do not think the Texas DX Society could ever say "Thank You" enough. At the end of the month, they will close the doors and operate strictly mail-order from the house.

Same question as last month, what is the TDXS going to do for Field Day? If you have a suggestion, please let the membership know on the repeater and at the meeting. The Field Day discussion last month was lack luster to say the least.

April 16th was a busy day, Victor, LY2BIG, one of the operators at LY2ZZ was in Houston. We didn't leave Trey's, WN4KKN, near Austin until about 9 A.M. for Hempstead. The first hour there was spent with Victor shooting video of the NR5M station and antennas. Victor also spent time on 15 Meters working LY2ZZ and others.

All I can say is...lunch at the Hempstead Inn was interesting! You explain squash, cucumber salad, and chicken and dumplings! From there onto Madison and the chance for him to rummage thru all the stuff like we do. While out and about we acquired a KU-band block converter so he can now watch TV from Western Europe.

Then for the tour of K5LZO's and on to Ma Goodson's for dinner. After dinner, we went back to Chuck and Barbara's to see the video of LY2ZZ. Impressive, especially the elevator arrangement they use to raise the tower. It takes 6 men about 90 minutes to put up 150' of tower with the antenna and rotator already installed. Victor said they never climb unless there is a rotator problem during the contest.

The R.F. deck is interesting. They have the tank circuit on what looks like G10 board and they change those to change bands. The way the station is configured, each band has its own equipment. The commercial power is 380 volt 3-phase.

As I write this, it is Dayton weekend. I am sure by now Victor is a very tired man. Victor has a wife and 6 month old twin daughters. He is QC engineer for a company that builds the studio equipment for Soviet TV. Upon his arrival in the states he went from Novice to Extra in a single sitting while in Charlotte, N.C. One day just isn't enough, but I am sure everyone meeting him.

Well, we got part of the tower down at Radio Booth (past residence of KZ5M) in spite of the lack of time, lack of help, and short notice. The casualties: the 5 element 10 Meter, a 4 element 15 Meter, and 70' of tower. The 25G and the 20 Meter 4 element were left standing. Maybe the bank will give us time to take the remained down correctly.

Please make time to attend the meeting. It should be fun and we have to get going on Field Day.

Ham-Com '90 DX Program - This years Ham-Com will feature a DX luncheon hosted by the Lone Star DX Association on Saturday, June 9th. Chuck, K5LZO, will present the 1985 Desecheo Dxpediton and a panel of "experts" will conduct a DX forum.

DX report

de Bob, AK5B

May already!! April has sure been a busy month, both for me and in the world of DX. It was a month with both the Visalia DX Convention and the Dayton HamVention, plus the DX operations from A5 Bhutan, S2 Bangladesh, ST0 South Sudan, and the 1S0XV effort from the Spratly Islands. Add to this the effort of Martti, OH2BH and crew with the super job they did as AH3C/KH5J from Jarvis Is. It stands a good chance of becoming a new DX country, so hope you got it as well as the others!

As if that isn't enough, the real 1A0KM from the S.M.O.M. showed up as scheduled on the last weekend of the month with a good signal and lots of activity. Now that May is here, maby we can get started on the yard work (yuk) and get in some other chores.

But don't give up on the month. Around the 15th or so, the group that brought you Jarvis Is. (most of them anyway) will be QRV from the newest DXCC country, 3D2 Conway Reef. They should be there till around the 23rd of May.

Also, look for VK9 Cocos Keeling Is. to be on around the 19th through the 26th of May. They will be using the calls VK9EW and VK9WB. QSL both calls to W5EW.

Bob, N2OO, and two friends will be on from the Dodecanese as /SV5 on Rhodes May 21-31. You may want to get on and work him from here if his QSL card is anything like it was from there last time.

Now the sad news...the ARRL DX Advisory Committee, by a vote of 16 to 0, turned down the request for separate country status for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, K7SS/PTI. Oh well, can't win em all.

But there is also some good news. I didn't get to catch up with Vince, K5VT, at Dayton, but those that did report that he said that he did indeed operate as S20VT, with written permission, and the authorities were in attendance as interested observers. They even wanted a demonstration of RTTY but no equipment was available. So it should be a good one!

During the DX Dinner at Stoffers on Friday eve, Jim, N5DC, and I had the pleasure of sharing the table with two of the ops planning to go to South Sandwich/South Georgia Is. this fall. They were the team leader Tony, WA4JQS, and Al, WA3YVN. A few of the calls accompanying them should sound familiar, like K5VT, AD0S, W6OAT, K5MM, JE3MAS, JH3DPB, and XE1VIC. They have a weekly net on 14.240 Sundays at 2330 Z. I'll bring the first of their news letters to the TDXS meeting.

With that I'll let you go and see if I can pull the Rockets thru this 3rd game. If not, at least I'll get to watch their last game of the year. CU at the meeting, 73 es gud DX

Upcoming Events

- May 5.....MARAC County Hunters CW
- May 10.....CQ WPX Phone Logs POSTMARKED
- May 11.....TDXS Monthly Meeting
- May 12.....Russian CQ-M Contest
- May 20.....OMARC Spring Midnight Special
- May 22.....NAQP Logs POSTMARKED
- May 26.....CQ WW WPX CW
- June 8-10...Ham-Com '90 Arlington, Texas
- June 23.....ARRL Field Day

Contest News

de Dale, KG5U

Even though summer is just around the corner, there are a number of interesting and fun contests coming up. The biggie this month is, of course, the CQ WW WPX CW contest. (Check recent issues of CQ or QST for rules, times, etc.) There are only a couple of times a year when those of us with the "strange calls" can get an additional edge on the DX or the Big Boys of North America.

Field Day is coming up fast. Check with N5RP and let him know you want to help out. It sounds like a "reasonable" approach to Field Day'ing is in store for TDXS this year. (I think that means only six towers instead of the usual seven.) I intend to have fun, make a bunch of Q's, and try to catch a catfish in SJS's pond.

Other contests on or just below the horizon are the IARU HF Radio Championships (I liked the old Radiosport title better), and the Worked All Europe (WAE) contests. Each has its own idiosyncrasies. IARU has "HQ" stations operating which count as multipliers. However, they do not count as country multipliers. So you can work an HQ station but still miss out on the country as a mult. The WAE has the QTC's to deal with, which are fun and require more than the usual administrative and organizational skills required of contesters. Both are fun contests, and have a lot of activity on all continents.

Kudos to K5MA/1, K5NA/2, K5ZD/3, NR5M, W5ASP, K5GN, N5AF, K5LZO (and Ops), W9AGH/5, KC5CP, and WN4KKN/5 on their respective showings in the ARRL Sweepstakes, CW and SSB. The results of the 1989 ARRL SS are in the May issue of QST.

Note the difference between the sum of the scores of the TDXS members and the (lower) TDXS Team score. Please, when you submit logs for a contest, include a statement to the effect that you are a TDXS Team member (given, of course, that you are a current TDXS member). In the NA Sprints that is easy enough to do...you are, or are not, on a team. In other contests, it might not be readily noted, but there may be an entry on the summary sheet for it. Fill it out! TDXS finished 16th in the Medium Club category. If all members who were in the contest had indicated TDXS as their team affiliation, we would have placed 12th. Not much difference, I know. But, still....

SS CW Results

- K5MA/1 - 8th EMA (1st EMA High Power)
- K5NA/2 - 1st ENY
- K5ZD/3 - 2nd WPA (8th USA High Power)
- NR5M (K5GA, op) - 1st STX
- W5ASP - 6th STX
- KG5U - 9th STX (8th USA QRP)
- K5GN - 10th STX
- N5AF - 16th STX
- K5LZO - 1st STX (1st USA Multi-Op)

SS SSB Results

- K5ZD/3 - 2nd WPA
- NR5M - 1st STX (10th USA High Power)
- W5ASP - 2nd STX
- KG5U - 5th STX (5th USA QRP)
- KC5CP - 8th STX
- W9AGH - 15th STX

1989 CQ WW WPX CW

Multi-Single, All Bands:

- ZF2NE/ZF8 (W5ASP&W5VAH)
2nd North America 16th World
- 6D2A (KG5U, WB5N, KZ5M, K5TY, NM5L, XE2FU)
5th North America

Single Op.:

- W5WMU - 4th USA (21 MHz)
- K5GN - 8th Fifth District (All Band)

Club Competition - TDXS 10th (13.3 M)

QNU...Quote (w/ Comment)

de Dale, KG5U

Last meeting I brought in a copy of Houston Amateur News, a newly published periodical featuring amateur radio activities, news, classifieds, meeting notices, and net activities in the Houston area. One of the things the editor is trying to do is collect a listing of the clubs in the Houston area to publish in the newsletter. The publication would provide a central clearing house for ham activities in the Houston area. Also, he has a calendar in each issue which highlights club meeting dates, net times, frequencies, etc.

I suggested TDXS might want to send him the necessary information about TDXS to be included in the newsletter. The response was, I thought, less than positive.

One of the things I have noticed in the club, is that there seems to be a trend towards only trying to maintain the status quo. With the attrition we have experienced in the last few years, that is not enough. I feel the club needs to keep moving ahead, seeking new members. We have seen a lot of our friends move out of the area. We have seen others cease coming to meetings or other activities. A look at the contest results in the magazines shows a lot of TDXS calls missing. Not a good yardstick to measure by, but we can't even field enough people to put a 10 man team in a four hour contest, SSB or CW.

We have a great club with a narrow, but definite focus and I think we should keep it that way. We have a super history and, I expect, as super a future. But to grow and stay healthy as a club, we need new blood (is that why our logo is red?). And to do that we need to advertise, i.e. let people know that we are here, and how to find us, when we meet, and what we are about.

For Sale

Jim, NN5O, will sell his IC-751A transceiver with both 500 Hz CW filters and an IC-SM5 mike (w/ Heil element installed). The unit was completely checked, adjusted, and performance tested by Icom on May 3, 1990. A copy of the accompanying service report can be provided. List price \$1814 (not including cost of Heil element); will sell for \$1095 delivered (insured) via UPS. Contact Jim at (713) 466-1856 after 7 PM.

The TDXS Bullsheet

Packet Racket

de Ken, KE5IV

With the installation of PacketCluster Version 4 there have been a few changes. Some of the new commands are:

SHow/**STATION** call is like **SH**/**USER** call, but it shows the operator name, QTH, latitude and longitude (if entered), beam heading from your QTH (if both stations have entered their latitude and longitude), and the last connect date and time.

UPDATE/**QSLNEW** has been changed also! With Version 4 templates have been added. You may update **QSLNEW** after and only after you have checked **SH**/**QSL** and **SH**/**QSLNEW**, or have new information which overrides the information currently in the current **W6GO/K6HHD** Manager List.

To do the update type **UPDATE**/**QSLNEW**.

Wait for the prompt from the PacketCluster:

What is the DX station callsign?

Enter DX call

The next prompt from the PacketCluster is:

Please enter the QSL route for call.

Enter MGR call

The next prompt will be your input:

DX call via MGR call

(Use more lines if necessary. End with CTRL-Z or /EXIT. CTRL-Y cancels.)

The next prompt from the PacketCluster is:

Thank you, your call, for the info. Your data will be sent to W6GO/K6HHD.

The bottom line is that all you have to enter is the DX call and the Manager's call! Your call, the Node call, date, and time are done by the PacketCluster.

On the subject of the **W6GO/K6HHD** Manager List...if you have comments either pro or con, just type **S W6GO** like any other mail message along with whatever subject name, and the file will be forwarded along with my disk each month. I am sure Jay would like to hear input from users. On the **KE5IV** Node, please type read 54 and 58, they are from **W6GO** to the users on this change.

Thanks to all users for the help.

Jersey Village MOOVes Into the Space Age

de Jim, NN5O

While the local political prominence of the City of Jersey Village is widely and uniformly appreciated (Bob Evans, the Beltway 8 Commission and non-resident motorists notwithstanding), its local prowess and creativity in space technology is not. This is about to change as will be obvious from the following.

A Jersey Village ham, **N5LKJ**, Alan Fox, has set up a packet BBS which is easy to access and will very soon be linked to the new Microsats (see recent QST articles). Soon, the new low earth orbit (LEO) Microsats will be able to relay messages for you from Jersey Village to any where on earth where the ground station is appropriately equipped. Get details on the **N5LKJ** BBS or check into the Houston AMSAT net on 146.22/.82 at 10 PM CDST, Tuesday evenings.

To access the packet BBS at 1200 baud on 145.010 MHz, try the following commands:

CONNECT N5LKJ-4 VIA IAH, IAH4

Once the Microsats are fully tested out and debugged and this system is operational, we can have a ball!

The BBS has a number of messages of interest, especially to satellite chasers. Alan may consider designating the system **N5LKJ/MIKE OSCAR OSCAR** in honor of its humble origins and the high level of local technology (home of **NN5O**).

Outgoing QSL Cards

The ARRL provides a service to its members which allows them to send DX QSL cards to foreign countries at minimum cost and effort. TDXS members can take advantage of this service by getting their cards to **K5LZO**, who will in turn forward them to the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service. TDXS pays the nominal service fee of \$2 per pound as well as the postage.

Those wishing to use this route for their cards must sort their DX QSL cards alphabetically by country as shown on the ARRL DXCC Country List. This means that the prefix **ES** or **LY** goes with the Russians, **XQ** and **3G** with Chile, **AZ** and **L2** to Argentina, etc. However, it is not necessary to sort within a given country, i.e. all Russians may be lumped together...don't sort **RA**, **UT**, **LY** separately.

Keep in mind that QSL's for DXpedition operations usually go the country of the operator, e.g. **JW9XG** via **LA9XG**, **3D2XR** via **SM7PKK**, etc. Many foreign stations have stateside QSL managers. These cards may be included with the "K's". By the way, most caribbean stations turn out to be nonresidents, so send such QSL's to the operator's home country.

There are number of DXCC countries not served, e.g. many U.S. territories (**KH3**, **KH7**, **KH9**, etc.) and countries such as Taiwan, Egypt, Nepal, etc. A complete list currently appears in September 1989 QST, page 65.

Finally, each TDXS member must include their QST address label with each group of cards submitted. Contact **K5LZO** if you have any questions (before you drop the cards on him!).

(NOTE: Chuck, **K5LZO**, will continue to handle the outgoing QSL cards for TDXS members for the next month or so. However, he will probably have to discontinue this once he takes up his assignment as a shipboard radio operator. Anyone with a backlog of cards should consider getting them to Chuck before the end of the month...ed)

PSE QSL...

If you are a TDXS member, past or present, we want your QSL card. And if you have ever operated as a DX station we want that card also. These cards will be assembled into a display for the traditional TDXS hospitality suite at this year's Houston Com-Vention '90. Send your cards to Sharp, **K5DX**, 216 Meyers Road, Highlands, Texas, 77562, or bring them to the TDXS meeting. Do it now!

Review: 2nd OP DX Logging Program

de Jim, N5DC

If you DX'ers have in the past used the cardboard 2nd OP "wheel" to obtain beam headings, continents, zones, time zone differences, etc., take up your trusty computer and head for a DX program that leaves little to be desired.

The 2nd OP is the creation of N6RJ, who was also responsible for the "wheel" version. The program not only contains all the bells, lights, and whistles of the wheel but further enhances those features and adds some additional ones. The program originally was available from the now defunct Ham Radio magazine. I am sure it will now be available from CQ magazine since they are the new owners. It comes with documentation that is about as complete and understandable as I have seen with any computer program. It pretty well assumes that the user knows how to turn on his computer and that is all.

As to the program itself, you must first know your latitude and longitude to properly install the program. The install screen asks several questions, including your call. When complete it registers the call in a hidden file so that copies cannot be handed out to non-subscribers. Next the program asks if you want to calculate sunrise/sunset tables. If so, it goes through a rather lengthy calculation for all of the 320 odd DX countries. Following that the program takes you to the screen that really gets you into the heart of the program. By using the ten function keys on your keyboard you can select the various options such as: DETAIL (F1), QUICK (F2), PRINT (F3), INSTALL (F4), SR/SS (F5), COLOR (F6), SUMMARY (F7), HELP (F9), and EXIT (F10).

Usually I select the DETAIL screen which presents all the information in the countries' database sorted however you wish. The sort can be alphabetically by prefix (my preference) or, by continent or country. After that choice, the program will show the first country in the order selected. In my case it would be 1A0, Knights of Malta. I then have all the information I could ever need such as short path, long path, and reciprocal beam headings, distance, number of IRC's required, sunrise and sunset times (based on the last time the SR/SS screen was updated). It also tells you whether or not you have worked and confirmed the country. This information, of course, had to have been input by you earlier with the LOG option.

One of the best features of the program is its' PRINT function. It will print a list of all DXCC countries to the screen or printer, or it will print your needlist with the current date and put a double asterisk beside the countries you have worked and not confirmed. This again assumes that you have input the proper information into the database using the LOG option. There is room in the logging feature for notes, so you can put operator names or any other data that is meaningful to you.

All of my ramblings may make the program sound kind of slow, but with a hard drive the program is really quite fast. Although I am running it on a laptop computer with a hard drive, I would bet that a 286 or 386 machine would even be better.

In closing I would be remiss if I didn't point out a couple of the areas that I feel are drawbacks. The first is that you must await an update from the author any time a new country shows up on the DXCC list. They usually hold off until there are 2 or 3 additions before issuing an update. (However, on the last update they included Walvis Bay before the ARRL had given it country status!) The other

area of weakness is that the program is not setup to handle 5 Band DXCC. I really feel 2nd Op is a real winner, and I would be happy to bring it to the next TDXS meeting and demonstrate its' many features.

Increasing Your CW Transmission Efficiency

de Slim, K5/RG8U

The computer industry has used data compression techniques for a long time to reduce data transmission times and to reduce the disk space required to store information. Often savings of 50% and more are possible using such techniques. Although the actual compression techniques are different, contesters can use similar methods to cut back the time required for CW contest exchanges.

I remember the first time I heard someone send 5NN as an abbreviation to the longer Morse 599. What a neat way to save a bit of time, not to mention the wrist (keyers were rare back then), I thought.

Another popular abbreviation is using a "T" instead of a zero. This, of course, has roots back to the Continental Code, where a long dash was the symbol for zero. A few years ago the Europeans started using an "A" instead of sending a "1" in their CQ zone.

The use of these abbreviations can save quite a bit of time over the course of a contest. An HC8 contest operation sending at 25 words per minute and sending 5NNAT would save almost 45 minutes over the local competition sending the full 59910 after 1,000 QSO's.

During a slow period in the CQ WW contest last November I started wondering if there were some other tricks that could be used to speed things up. After a while the JA's started coming in and the increased QSO rate put the thought out of my mind until I ran across a JA sending 5C25. I don't know if this was just bad sending, or the start of a new wave. Compressing NN into C will save 2.4 minutes after 1,000 QSO's at 25 wpm.

Let's take a look at our exchange from W5 land to see what we can do to speed it up. Since we are in Zone 4, our exchange would be RST plus 04. Of course with modern receivers and antennas every signal is 599. This means we will be sending 59904. As mentioned before this will normally be abbreviated to 5NNT4.

Since 04 and 4 are numerically equivalent, 5NN04 can be replaced by 5NN4. Using a cue from our JA friend with the faulty keyer, we could further shorten this to 5C4.

When you start to think about it, the 5 is really redundant. If you make 1,000 QSO's you will probably get less than 10 signal reports less than S9. How often will you get a readability other than 5? In all likelihood, never.

Considering all of this, we should be able to drop at least two dits from the 5. Besides, with typical handwriting after a few hundred QSO's, who can really tell the difference between a "5" and an "S" anyway?

Our 59904 has now been compressed to SC4. We have reduced the time needed to send the signal report by 61%! This is pretty significant in a 48 hour contest.

I am so convinced that this will improve my score, that I have already patched the K1EA software to send SC4 instead of the usual exchange. My next project will be developing methods to compress my call. Anyone have any ideas on further compressing SC TEX for the ARRL DX test?

(This article courtesy of *The Black Hole*, The Official Journal of the Society of Midwest Contesters...ed.)

THE WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 1990

BE A PART OF HISTORY

In July and August, 1990, 2,500 invited world-class athletes from around the world will gather in Seattle for the 1990 Goodwill Games™. "Uniting the world's best™" is the motto of these Games.

In keeping with the spirit of the Goodwill Games, a similar competitive event with world class amateur radio contesters has been planned. The World Radiosport Team Championship, held in cooperation with the Goodwill Exchange Program of the 1990 Goodwill Games, is endorsed by the Radio Sport Federation in the Soviet Union and the American Radio Relay League in the U.S.

On July 20th, 1990, up to 23 international teams of the world's best HF contesters will participate in the historic World Radiosport Team Championship.

By contacting these teams you too can be part of history. Make 5 contacts during this ten hour event with the World Radiosport Team Championship contesters and you will receive an official WRTC participation certificate, contact 30 of the official teams and receive a WRTC commemorative pin, and the top 500 scores submitted will win the official WRTC T-shirt FREE!

"In all my years of contesting, there have always been geographic advantages that couldn't be overcome no matter how hard you tried," comments Operating Event Chairman, Martti Laine, OH2BH. "For the first

time, all of the competitors will be gathered in the same area and will play on a level playing field to establish the true champions."

In addition to the four US and four USSR teams, competitors have been invited from Japan, Canada, Spain, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Bulgaria, England, Sweden, Finland, Italy, France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Brazil and Argentina. All teams will use fully equipped ICOM stations.

Members of the American team include K1AR, KQ2M, K7JA, K1DG, KRØY, W9RE, W7EJ and AA4NC. The Honorary U.S. Team Captain is Katashi Nose, KH6IJ, and the alternates are K1CC, N2AA and KNØE. The international teams are now being finalized.

The ten-hour competition begins on July 20, 1990, at 2100 UTC. All standard contest bands from 80-10 meters will be used on both CW and SSB. Official WRTC stations will be identified by having /WG (World Games) after their call. Check the July issue of most ham magazines for complete rules.

In addition to our sponsors, the WRTC is also supported by CQ Magazine & Joe Mullin, W3RLR.

Be a part of history! For more information and log sheets, send an SASE to: WRTC, 4821 - 51st SW, Seattle, WA 98116. We'll see YOU on the air!

Sponsored by:



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MFJ

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To meet the competitors, plan on attending the Pacific Northwest DX Convention in Portland, OR, July 20-22. For more information, write to PNW DX Convention, c/o W7ZR, Rt. 1, Box 518, Beaverton, OR 97007.

RULES OF THE 1990 WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

- DATE:** July 20-21, 1990
- TIME:** 2100 - 0700 UTC
- OBJECT:** For amateurs throughout the world to work the World Radiosport Championship Teams and each other. The World Radiosport Team Championship is in cooperation with the Goodwill Exchange Programs of the 1990 Goodwill Games. Invited teams from around the world will compete in Seattle, Washington, USA, for the world championship. There will be up to 23 competing 2 operator stations signing with special designator /WG (World Games). They will not be identifying in regards to their nationality and they will all be using the same power and similar antennas. All WRTC stations will be located in the Seattle area. The WRTC is sponsored by ICOM, Ham Radio Outlet, U.S. Tower and MFJ. Also supported by CQ Magazine and Joe Mullin, W3RLR.
- MODE:** SSB and CW on 80-40-20-15-10 meters. The following windows are recommended and will be used by the WRTC stations:
CW: 3525-3550, 7025-7050, 14025-14050, 21025-21050, 28025-28050 kHz
SSB: 3775-3925, 7150-7250 (and split), 14200-14300, 21300-21400, 28400-28500 kHz
- CATEGORY:** All band only. Single operator. Multi-operator, single transmitter. Multi-operator, multi-transmitter. All per CQWW Rules. Work any station once per band/mode.
- EXCHANGE:** RST and serial number starting with 001.
- POINTS:** 50 points for working WRTC station (/WG) (each band/mode)
3 points for different continent
2 points for same continent, different country
1 point same country
2X point value for each CW QSO
- MULTIPLIERS:** US, VE and JA call areas; DXCC Countries; WRTC stations (/WG). All per band/mode.
- SCORING:** QSO points x multipliers is final score
- AWARDS:** 1. The winning world Radiosport Championship Teams will receive gold, silver and bronze medals.
2. Work 5 WRTC (/WG) QSO's, win a certificate or work 30 WRTC (/WG) QSO's, win a WRTC Commemorative Pin or be in the top 500 scores and receive a FREE WRTC T-shirt (include size, S-M-L-XL, on summary sheet). For awards, all band and modes count.
- LOG DUE DATE:** Must be postmarked by August 20, 1990
- MAIL TO:** World Radiosport Team Championship, 4821 - 51st SW, Seattle, WA, U.S.A 98116

Decisions of the committee are final.

MILESTONES

Madison Electronics Goes Mail-Order ONLY

"The Emporium", Last of the Great Radio Shops, to Close its Retail Business Location

Houston, May 1990 (TDXS)

Hams nationwide will be saddened to learn that Madison Electronics, that venerable treasure house of hard-to-find radio parts and a Saturday-morning tradition for generations of Texas hams, is closing its retail store doors at the end of May.

Don Busick, K5AAD, announced plans to close the Fannin Street Store this month and to operate the store mail-order-only from the Max Busick Hilton on South Main Street. Citing increased operating costs and a decline in walk-in trade, Don and Max plan to move all of the accumulated gear from the downtown location out to Max's property. They plan to complete the move by the end of May.

Store a Landmark

The store moved to its present location a few years ago, after over a decade at McKinney Street. When the new Convention Center was announced, Madison's owners knew they'd have to re-locate. They found the new place on Fannin Street to be a big advantage, since it was located adjacent to a Planned Parenthood Clinic and a Bartender's School. What two endeavors best exemplify the modern ham? Soon they had the new place redecorated, using as wall-covering thousands of pounds of old radio gear salvaged from the warehouse.

If you were ever lucky enough to be invited to the warehouse, you had a great opportunity to link your soul with the giants of radio-days-gone-by. There was something about the very *smell* of old gear that excited the tinkerer in all of us. Max ran the warehouse like a packrat; you could find an old BC-610, maybe a WWII radar transponder from a B-26, and at least one old car (seriously!). Sad to say, the market for old 6ALS's in Houston dried up with the oil patch. But our undaunted Emporium Purveyors were unbent. They simply moved all the crap from the warehouse over to the new store. Slowly but surely the new place took on the unmistakable aroma and scenery of the old place. You couldn't actually *walk* through the aisles, you had to sorta "sashay" past boxes containing thousands of diodes, or alligator clips, or what-have-you.

Contents a Mystery

The back rooms at the Emporium contain one of the last remnants of a bygone era-- everything you ever wanted (but definitely didn't need) to put together that magic dreambox of a rig, or an amp, or maybe some replacement tubing for the tips on an old Hy-Gain beam. Need a couple of feet of Nichrome wire to re-wind a meter shunt? Max had a spool of several thousand feet. Planning to install ten or twelve thousand-foot Beverages? No problem, step this way...

Then there came the boxes upon boxes of meters of every description. Some of them even *worked*, or at least if not you'd get your money back with no hassle, and even sometimes with no receipt!

Temptation, Temptation

Probably everyone who knew them well had at one time or another "checked out" some piece of gear they had for sale. Like it or not, we'd have to figure out some way to power up the latest rice box, right out of the carton. Who wondered why when we came back with the bucks to keep that box at home rather than return it?

73

Some of the members of TDXS cut their teeth in that store under the helpful eyes of the Busick family. We all enjoyed countless hours of camaraderie in the place, and we'll miss the idea of "meeting at the Emporium" for lunch or just to swap stories. Don, Max, David, Mary--all part of the ham radio of old, and we'll miss the show.

But, better for them to keep the goodies flowing through the Post Office. Maybe we can arrange a field trip now and then to see the new warehouse and renew once more our link with a bygone era.

Signed at the TDXS Meeting of May 1990, held at Madison Electronics in gratitude for years of service to hams.

- Please plan to come to the May Meeting at Madison's on Fannin Street so you can sign the original copy of this announcement. It will be presented to the Busicks at the meeting.