



# The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net March 2022

*The next TDXS meeting will be held Thursday, March 17th at 7pm via Zoom.*

### Program:

**Basic Surface Mount Soldering by Madison Jones W5MJ and  
Steve Sparks WK5S**

### Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

The bands continue to roar into life as the sunspot numbers oscillate up and down in an upward trend. As I type, I am working some 6m FT8, first time this season. I've been able to operate a few contests and work some good DX including 5B5VL, 3D2USU, TU5PCT, TF5B, JD1BHA, OD5ZZ, 3X2021, 5Z4VJ, 3D2AG, 7Q7CT, FR4OM, 9V1YC, 4F3BZ, 9M6NA, VU2TMP, 3V8SS, 9G1SD, VR2XYL, VR2ZXP, D44AO and more, many on 10 and 12 meters. The SFI has been up in the area of 125. So things are definitely cooking now.

I want to thank Jim N4AL for his first installment of his article, "The Case of the Tell Tale Dots". This exciting story will be continued next month so don't let your subscription lapse! As always, thanks to the other members of the Board of Directors for their monthly reports and to Ron K5HM reporting from the Dark Side with his "Where in the World".

TDXS is looking for presenters and meeting subject material for our monthly Zoom meetings. Note there is discussion of re-starting in-person meetings soon, possibly in conjunction with Zoom presentations. So if you would like to talk about something, ask technical questions, show us your new or favorite software, brag on your station, or anything else that might be of interest to our fellow members, let us know and we'll schedule it!

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We are now holding my Thursday "EX-ZED SPRED" lunches on Zoom and it is every week! If you would like to be invited, send me at note at n5xz@arrl.net

**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 WB5TKI

## TDXS February 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 17, 2021

**Location:** ZOOM Virtual Meeting

The February TDXS Meeting was held, as usual, via ZOOM Video conferencing. There were 10 participants: Doug W9LCQ, Allen N5XZ, Gerald K9GEM, Richard KB5EDR, Rick K5TIA, Scott K5DD, Tem WT5DX, Chris KG5BBF, Dan KS5V, and Kay Cook.

### Agenda:

New TDXS Members in February - #242 – Dave Reed W5SV – Sugar Land, TX

Active member count – 39 members are current on 2022 dues.

In person meetings – kicked the can down the road.

Program –

Setting up zn1MM+ for serious contesting by Allen Brier N5XZ. As a follow-up to last month's Win-test contesting software presentation, Allen showed another popular contesting logging tool, N1MM+. He showed basic setup, useful data display windows, and power tools, such as ESM (Enter Sends Message). It was a very informative presentation, even for long time N1MM users!

A complete meeting recording is available from the TDXS.net website under News > YouTube Channel.

Submitted March 12, 2022

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary/Treasurer



## DX Chairman's Report by Jim Blanca KE8G

DX Report March 2022 by Jim Blanca – KE8G

The solar flux index and sunspot numbers continue to increase! Can I get a “hoorah!?” Fifteen meters continues to be open and ten meters is showing signs of life. The past ARRL DX contest was great (in comparison to the past few years) and 15 meters was wonderful.

**Belize:** V31DJ (W0CP) and V31DK (K0ZV) will be active on the HF bands using CW and SSB until March 4<sup>th</sup>. QSL via LoTW.

**Maldives:** 8Q7WM (OK2WM) and 8Q7WX (OK2WX) will be active on 160-40 meters using CW & SSB until March 8<sup>th</sup>. QSL via home calls.

**St. Vincent:** J88PI by GW4DVB will be active on 40-6 meters using FT8 & SSB until March 8<sup>th</sup>. QSL GW4DVB direct.

**Sint Maarten:** PJ7AA by AA9A will be active on 80-10 meters using SSB, CW, FT8 & FT4 until March 26<sup>th</sup>. QSL via AA9A.

**St. Lucia:** J68HZ by J68HZ, J69DS, KA4RRU, WA4PGM & W0CN will be active on 160-10 meters until March 7<sup>th</sup>. QSL K9HZ direct.

**Curacao:** PJ2/DK5ON by DK5ON will be active on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes until March 17<sup>th</sup>. QSL via ClubLog OQRS or DK5ON.

**Austral Is.:** SP5EAQ will be active from Rimatara Island until March 31<sup>st</sup>. No QSL information at this time.

**Sri Lanka:** 4S7KKG by DC0KK will be active on HF using mainly CW & digital until March 9<sup>th</sup>. QSL via DC0KK.

**Sri Lanka:** 4S7KKG by DK9DR will be active on HF using mainly SSB & digital until March 9<sup>th</sup>. No QSL information at this time.

**Antigua & Barbuda:** V26K by AA3B will be active on HF until March 10<sup>th</sup>. QSL via AA3B.

**Maldives:** 8Q7CQ by G0VJG will be active on 80-6 meters (also 60 meters) using mainly SSB until March 18<sup>th</sup>. QSL via M0OXO.

**Belize:** V31BN by K0KQ will be active until March 10<sup>th</sup>. QSL via LoTW.

**Madeira:** CT9/DJ9KM (DJ9KM) and CT9/DD8ZX (DD8ZX) will be active on RTTY and FT8 until March 12<sup>th</sup>. QSL via LoTW.

**Saba & St. Eustatius:** PJ5/K3TRM (K3TRM) will be active on 40-10 meters using SSB, RTTY and FT, also Satellites until March 12<sup>th</sup>. QSL via K3TRM and ClubLog OQRS.

**Uganda:** 5X1XA by G3XAQ will be active on HF until March 14<sup>th</sup>. QSL via G3SWH and LoTW.

**Turks & Caicos:** VP5/K0KQ (K0KQ) will be active in HF using FT8 until March 21<sup>st</sup>. QSL via LoTW.

**Gambia:** C56DF by G3XTT will be active on 80-10 meters until March 18<sup>th</sup>. QSL via G3XTT or ClubLog OQRS.

**Cayman Is.:** ZF2CA by G4CWH will be active on 160-10 meters using CW & SSB until March 13<sup>th</sup>. QSL G4CWH direct.

**Comoros:** D60AB by K6ZO will be on HF until March 18<sup>th</sup>. QSL via K6ZO.

**Mayotte:** by K6ZO will be on HF until March 22<sup>nd</sup>. QSL via K6ZO.

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# DX Chairman's Report by Jim Blanca KE8G

## (NOAA)

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#      27-day Space Weather Outlook Table
#      |      Issued 2022-02-28
#
#      UTC      Radio Flux      Planetary      Largest
#      Date      10.7 cm      A Index      Kp Index
2022 Feb 28      99      15      4
2022 Mar 01      102      15      4
2022 Mar 02      105      8      3
2022 Mar 03      105      8      3
2022 Mar 04      105      10      3
2022 Mar 05      102      12      4
2022 Mar 06      102      12      4
2022 Mar 07      101      5      2
2022 Mar 08      101      5      2
2022 Mar 09      101      5      2
2022 Mar 10      100      5      2
2022 Mar 11      99      15      4
2022 Mar 12      99      12      4
2022 Mar 13      99      8      3
2022 Mar 14      98      5      2
2022 Mar 15      95      8      3
2022 Mar 16      95      5      2
2022 Mar 17      96      5      2
2022 Mar 18      97      10      3
2022 Mar 19      98      15      4
2022 Mar 20      99      15      4
2022 Mar 21      100      15      4
2022 Mar 22      100      7      2
2022 Mar 23      101      7      2
2022 Mar 24      102      7      2
2022 Mar 25      102      5      2
2022 Mar 26      102      10      3

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If anyone should happen to hear of some upcoming DX or DXpeditions, please contact me, [ke8g.jim@gmail.com](mailto:ke8g.jim@gmail.com).  
 I will be happy to include the information in this report.



## 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.

### March

- 5 ARRL International DX, SSB
- 12 South America 10 Meter Contest  
Tesla Memorial Contest CW  
Oklahoma, Idaho and Wisconsin QSO Parties  
North America Sprint, RTTY
- 19 Russian DX Contest  
Virginia QSO Party
- 26 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

### April

- 2 RSGB FT4 International Activity Day  
Missouri QSO Party  
Mississippi QSO Party
- 9 Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest  
Nebraska QSO Party  
New Mexico QSO Party  
Georgia QSO Party  
North Dakota QSO Party
- 16 Holyland DX Contest  
Michigan QSO Party  
Ontario QSO Party
- 17 Quebec QSO Party
- 23 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital  
North American SSB Sprint Contest
- 30 UK/EI DX Contest, CW  
Florida QSO Party



## Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

TDXS members participated in several contests in February. Here is their score information as reported in the 3830scores.com website.

### NA Sprint CW Contest 2022 February 5

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5GN(@W5KU)			336	49	4:00	16,464	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
KG5U			243	42	4	10,206	Texas Two Steppers
KØNM			169	37	4	6,253	TDXS
K5GQ			59	28	1.8	1,652	TDXS

### British Columbia QSO Party 2022 Feb 5

Single CW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		28	0	23	0	3:26	2,696	TDXS
K5TIA		27	0	24	0	4	2,592	TDXS

### Minnesota QSO Party 2022 Feb 5

Single OpCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW-RTTY Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA			44	0	30	8	2,640	TDXS
AF5J			25	0	16	2:48	800	TDXS

### Vermont QSO Party 2022 Feb 5

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Dig Qs	CW Mults	Dig Mults	Score	Club
K5TIA			7	1	4	1	64	TDXS
AF5J			9	0	3	0	54	TDXS



## Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

### CQ WPX RTTY Contest 2022 Feb 12

SOSB/10 HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PR		313	197	21:11	115,245	TDXS

### ARRL DX Contest, CW 2022 Feb 19

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GN(@W5KU)		2BSIQ	3779	390	47:00	4,357,080	TDXS
K5TU			1003	298	20	896,682	TDXS
K5TIA			479	167	24	239,979	TDXS

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KG5U			316	159	11.25	150,732	TDXS
AJ4F			265	137	12:25	108,915	TDXS
K5GQ			225	128	8.5	86,400	TDXS

SOUAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ			1123	305	14:05	1,025,715	TDXS
AF5J			212	115	20:36	73,140	TDXS

### CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 2022 Feb 25

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		86	42	6	8	8,316	TDXS

### REF Contest, SSB 2022 Feb 26

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5GCX			59	46		7,498	TDXS





## Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

### North American QSO Party, RTTY 2022 Feb 26

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
KG5U			406	143	9:37	58,058	TDXS
AJ4F			50	28	1:16	1,400	TDXS

Single Op Assisted LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
WB5TUF			319	129		41,151	TDXS

### South Carolina QSO Party 2022 Feb 26

Single Op FixedCW HP

Call	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Dig Mults	Score	Club
AF5J	38	0	0	18	0	0	3,118	TDXS
K5TIA	45	0	0	21	0	0	1,890	TDXS

### North Carolina QSO Party 2022 Feb 27

SO CW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		66	0	0	32	7:40	6,786	TDXS
K5TIA		68	0	0	28	5	5,712	TDXS

Jim, N5DTT



## Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

Macau, also spelled Macao is a small peninsula in mainland China, across the Pearl River Delta from Hong Kong.

A Portuguese overseas territory until 1999, it reflects a mix of Portuguese and Chinese influences. Its giant casinos and extravagant malls have earned it the nickname, the "Las Vegas of Asia." In 1999, it became the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. It has an estimated population of about 650,000 crowded into a 12 square mile area.



The Portuguese arrived in 1513 and established trading rights with the Chinese. As commerce grew, they began to exert more influence over the local inhabitants. By 1564, Portugal commanded western trade with India, Japan, and China.



In 1576, Pope Gregory XIII established the Roman Catholic Diocese of Macau. The Portuguese in Macau were eventually permitted to form a Senate to handle various issues concerning their social and economic affairs under strict supervision of the Chinese authority, but there was no transfer of sovereignty.

By the 1840's, they established their own self administration. Macau prospered as a port but it was the target of repeated failed attempts by the Dutch to conquer it in the 17th century. On June 24, 1622, the Dutch attacked Macau with the hope of turning it into a Dutch possession. The Portuguese repulsed their attack and the Dutch never tried to conquer Macau again.

During WW II, Portugal's neutrality was mostly respected by the Japanese except for some minor incidents. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the Beijing government declared the Sino-Portuguese Treaty invalid as an "unequal treaty" imposed by foreigners on China.

Sovereignty over Macau was transferred to China in December 1999. The treaty stipulates that Macau operate with a high degree of autonomy until at least 2049, fifty years after the transfer.

Macau is among the world's richest regions, and as of 2015 its GDP per capita by purchasing power parity is higher than that of any country in the world, according to the World Bank. It became the world's largest gambling center in 2006, with the economy heavily dependent on gambling and tourism.



## Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

QRZ.com reports 114 licensed radio amateurs in Macau.

Visiting hams to Macau report, it is difficult to find a suitable spot for operation in Macau surrounded by mountains, except in southern direction. On top of that there can also be heavy local QRN due to the high degree of development.

Macau's special status with the Peoples' Republic of China ends in 2049. After that, no more XX9 prefix.

Reporting from the Dark Side,  
Ron, K5HM



# The Case of the Tell Tale Dots—By Jim N4AL

## The Case of the Tell-Tale Dots An Amateur Radio Detective Story

### PART I

The telephone rang early one spring Sunday morning. Jim WD4ILY rolled over in bed to answer. It was Carey, WD4DAZ.

“Jim, when was the last time you were in the club station”, he said.

“It’s been a couple of weeks, Carey. I’ve been pretty busy lately”, Jim answered.

“Well, I was up there last night. The door was off its hinges and all the equipment was missing. Did you leave anything there?” Carey responded.

“Only my straight key. I had brought my keyer home to practice. Any idea what happened?”

“The door to the station had its hinges mounted on the outside. Someone simply knocked the pins out of the hinges, removed the door, and took our stuff. ” Then followed a discussion of the club’s situation. Carey sounded pretty dejected.

After an extended search for a location, the University of Alabama Amateur Radio Club had set up its station, WB4LDG, in an attic at the top of the University’s old student union building. Carey, the club president, had scrounged a couple of tables to hold the gear and had installed an 80 meter dipole and a 2 meter vertical on the roof.

The equipment, a Drake TR4C with power supply, Johnson matchbox tuner, and Heathkit 2 meter transceiver, was old but it worked. More importantly, it was all that the student members of the club had. None could afford personal HF equipment, nor did anyone have a place for an outside antenna. The common topic of discussion at recent club meetings had been how to raise money for new equipment. But the group had pretty much given up and resigned itself to using what was available. Now even THAT equipment was gone.

The existing rigs had been bought several years back when a member of the club was an officer in the University’s Student Government Association (SGA). This member had persuaded the SGA to fund equipment for the club from funds set aside for student activities. This officer was long since gone, and no current member of the club had the influence to get additional funding. The theft discouraged Carey, who suggested that the club may as well disband. The members stayed in touch over the local 2 meter repeater, but more HF activity was impossible.



## The Case of the Tell Tale Dots—By Jim N4AL

A few months later Jim decided to take a break from school and visit the hamfest in nearby Memphis, Tennessee, which was scheduled for late October. He left early Saturday morning, arriving at the hamfest grounds shortly before noon. The hamfest was well underway, and attendance was good. Even though he had little money to make a purchase, Jim enjoyed examining all the “missed opportunities”. He realized that soon enough he would graduate, take a job, and be able to afford an HF station of his own.

While walking through the outdoor flea market, Jim’s curiosity became aroused. A young man, selling from the trunk of his car, was offering among other things a Drake TR4C, matching power supply, and Johnson matchbox tuner. “Maybe we could replace our stolen equipment,” Jim thought to himself. “This looks like exactly the same setup.”

A closer look revealed that, in fact, it WAS the club’s equipment. Avery, another club member, had used a red-ink pin to place two dots on the face of the tuner. These marked where ops had set the variable capacitors when using the 80 meter dipole on 40 meters. It was highly unlikely that anyone else would put two tell-tale red dots in exactly the same place on the face of exactly the same type of tuner. Jim was convinced that he had found the stolen equipment, and perhaps had found the thief. He set out to find a telephone so he could call the Memphis police.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH



## Texas DX Society Board members

<b>President</b>	<b>OPEN!</b>	
<b>VP Membership</b>	<b>Gerald Muller</b>	<b>gmuller885@aol.com</b>
<b>VP Programs</b>	<b>OPEN!</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Doug Seyler, W9LCQ</b>	<b>djseyler at comcast.net</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Doug Seyler, W9LCQ</b>	<b>djseyler at comcast.net</b>
<b>Contest Chairman</b>	<b>Jim Burrough, N5DTT</b>	<b>jandpburrough at sbcglobal.net</b>
<b>Field Day Chairman</b>	<b>OPEN!</b>	
<b>Repeater Chairman</b>	<b>Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF</b>	<b>wb5tuf at arrl.net</b>
<b>DX Chairman</b>	<b>Jim Blanca, KE8G</b>	<b>ke8g.jim@gmail.com</b>
<b>Outgoing QSL Manager</b>	<b>Scott Patout, K5DD</b>	<b>k5dd at arrl.net</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Scott Patout, K5DD</b>	<b>k5dd at arrl.net</b>
<b>Bullsheets Editor</b>	<b>Allen Brier, N5XZ</b>	<b>n5xz at arrl.net</b>

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<b>DXCC/WAZ/WAS QSL Card Checker</b>	<b>Bob Walworth, N5ET</b>	<b>rwalworth at charter.net</b>
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### How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxx.net> email address: [k5dx@tdxx.net](mailto: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 March:

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

Al Bayer - W5AEB  
 David Bean - W5ZQR  
 Bob Walworth - N5ET  
 Ed Seeger - K5EBS  
 Bill Frink - K5WAF  
 John Godwin - K5IUA  
 Buzz Jehle - N5UR  
 Ken Grabenstein - KZ5KG  
 Ed Sikorski - AA8PA  
 John Bonica - K5EC  
 Dave McCarty - K5GN