THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the

Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club

founded 1970

April, 1984
Volume VIII
Number 4

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 April 13, 1984 at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Mapleridge.

TDXpeditionS '84 (by KZ5M) My work is really starting to interfere with my hobby, but a few choice words are necessary to thank the Phone weekend "movers".

We had a ball on phone! For a club normally not known for doing it with the lips, the troops really showed the world our talent depth in this mode of communication. The big battle amongst the phone ops at XE2FU was for "Big Mouth" status. To keep things hot and the tension high, a top ten sheet was kept of hourly rates.

Chuck, K5LZO took Top Lip with a 293 per hour rate opening hour on 15. He had 100 of them in the first 17 minutes. He had the first 200 in 30 minutes. Man, what a mouth! I couldn't handle the piles on 20 so I settled for slots #2 and #3 with a 272 and a 264 for the first two hours on 20M. Bob, NM5L, surprised us with a 220 hour on the high bands Saturday. We could handle that though, giving his due for youth and energy. But how could we explain away the OM King, K5IY, roaring in with a 186 rate... guess it runs in the family! As things ended up, one needed a rate over 180 Q's per hour to make the top ten.

10M opened for us Phone weekend and in a big way. Captain Tom, K5RC, finally got to enjoy his favorite band to its utmost. I kept an eye on the beam from afar most of the weekend and it looked like it spent very little time in backscatter direction. Again sharing the PQK RV with 75M, the operators here seemed to really enjoy themselves even with Eric smoking 8X extension cords and Chuck's socks at the opposite end of the Hilton-on-wheels!

But, Eric, NM5M, and his following of pain lovers did a super job grinding the numbers on 75. An incredible multiplier total of 55 will serve as a testimonial to the big effort put in by Eric, Dave N5JJ, and friends who put up a 75M beverage up just before the test. It made all the difference in the world on Friday night and was a help on Saturday. Their 1,807 QSO's was a pleasant surprise for me. Between naps, Phil, K5RVK, and the only thing older than the fossils found on site, Frank, W5JWM, both did many thankless hours on 75 for us. Its a dirty job...but somebody had to do it.

Our resident yankee, Bill, K2TuNanOse, resurrected an old idea involving coax tuned to a specific frequency to use as a signal sucker. The beauties he built exhibited a suck out of about 30 db and were a big help for us phone weekend,

particularly on 20 and 40. Bill has a paper written about his work and has made it available to the TDXS.

Speaking of 40 and Bill...What a nice match up that turned out to be! A flaky guy in a flaky band producing the expected anarchy. With a 2,526/57, one would think it was all play and no work. Not so ol' Jalapeno Breath! Though we enjoyed the convenience of split frequency here, the mobs just didn't seem to gather. Don't get me wrong, a few 150+ hours were had to say nothing of Orville's 165 hour, but 40 Phone played a different tune than CW. Bill wouldn't let up though, and the numbers show it. He sat mother hen style nearly the whole 48 hours near by and kept the pressure on. He even invented some rather amazing operating techniques on Sunday to pull out the stateside fellas that were playing hard to get. Many a W spent a moment checking his rig to see if he could find a reason why that XE2 could run 'em by call areas at 1 p.m. and all the RX would produce was hiss. Matter of fact, they couldn't wait till Bill got to the 5's again so they could get in there in the pile and check their rig out! If it wasn't for the popcorn tearing the guts out of the VOX, 40 was a fun place to be.

Bob, W5SJS, not only served as 20M captain, he also supplied the RV, the beer and chow for the ops. Like Bill, Bob kept a real close eye on his area of responsibility constantly. Bob and his ops made big use of the foreign portion of the band to send VE's scattering to other band stations. Also, many VE QSO's were made down there than never would have occurred up in the cluttered US band. The 20M beam was damaged by 75 MPH winds between the CW and Phone weekends, but it proved to be a "NP" situation for the TDXS big steppers. It wasn't quite as pretty for the phone ops as it was for the CW ops, but it worked like a charm. 3,379 Q's with a 57 sweep made it all worth while. Bob doesn't always get to spend as much time with us due to business pressure as he would like, but when he does, he does proud!

15 turned out to be top band with 3,441/57. Captain Hose, KN5H, lead a string of high rates to pull that many QSO's out of a daytime only band. The band did bound in and out some but generally it was great for us. THe W5BZN RV housed this station on phone. Since Tom Terrific had a sleeping rack in there, he was very happy to have a day band this weekend instead of 20M. (like CW weekend - ed.) He also was also wise enough to lock the RV at night thereby avoiding many possible rude awakenings by the fun loving types. Some weren't so wise, and paid the price.

The XE's were with us all weekend again. Everyone seemed genuinely happy to see us come back and we joined as two groups of pals. The post-test party was everything one would expect after two world record setting efforts. The Jack Daniels, bubbly stuff, and other miscellaneous brews flowed a little more rapidly than is usually socially acceptable with the expected results. The XE's played their guitars and sang to us. We sang with them a little later in the night. We had no idea how much Spanish we knew!

All hands (almost...blush) were up at sunrise Monday am and the destruction of one of the mightiest DX stations ever assembled for a contest was on the trailers and en-route to Houston in less than 4 hours. Fortunately, some of the fellas had the foresight the night before to organize a tower dropping party (literally). They all were down in record time with the help of many an

XE guided by the energetic Nacho. As things will happen, a finger got crushed here and there and Nacho was proud of the new English slang he picked up.

People, this was a biggy and lets not forget it too soon. We all worked like a team like we've never done before. All workers, all together with a common cause. It was the dream come true a leader of a club prays for and I shall remember those weekends and all the planning hours spent together as a high point in my hobby. When my year is up, I can thake this one achievement and renewed fellowships to the bank.

Friends, I hope your butts aren't already dragging - we're only 3 months into a big year. We still have FD, the Armadillo Run, SS, and a few minor things to bite down on before you run me out of here on the end of a 6 el 20M KLM boom.

FOR THE APRIL MEETING Bring those slides, video tapes, and audio tapes and share with us! We know there are more out there than we saw at the March meeting. Tom, N5EA, please help us with a projector, some video equipment and the audio system.

THE NATIONAL Looks like we'll skip the '84 National TDXS Suite this year. The east coast TDXS types are pretty pressed for the time right now and, here in Houston, it looks like we have our hands full with a few other activities.

SORE FINGERS, RED EYES, ACHING BACKS, AND SCRAMBLED BRAINS (by KZ5M) The TDXS owes our own Galen, KB5FU, and his very understanding wife and daughter a really big THANKS! To make sure the XE2FU logs were done right and done on time, these three folks spent an incredible number of hours trying to read all your junk handwriting to put the logs on the computer. 24,000 entries later, these people finished up. At this time, Galen and Orville, K5VWW, are working with a team of fellow TDXS types to check entries, broken calls, dupes, etc. (the preliminary summary is included in this month's 'SHEET for both phone and CW - ed.)

This was a dirty job, and thank goodness we had Galen and co. to do it!

CHANGE IN PLANS FOR WAA NC&S/WMC (by KC5M) After conducting a telephone survey and an analysis of 'on the air' comments, I decided to cancel this club competition. With all the current activities, everyone agreet that there was just not enough time or interest. If anyone has any ideas which might be fun for the club and contain the necessary "spark" to generate interest, please let me know. I would really enjoy working with you on such a project.

QSL INFORMATION (by KC5M) A great Kermadec dx-pedition is now history. Each operator will handle his own QSL's. I hope the following will help...ZL8AMO via ZL1AMO...ZL8BQD via ZL1BQD...ZL8AAS via ZL1AAS...ZLØAJW via ZL1BQD.

ZL1BQD
Mr. R.J. Runciman
36 Cardiff Rd.
Pakuranga
New Zealand

ZL1AMO
Mr. R.W. Wright
28 Chorley Ave.
Massey, Henderson
Auckland 8
New Zealand

ZL1AAS
Mr. R.J. Litten
146 Sandspit Rd.
Howick
Auckland
New Zealand

More QSL info:

YVØAA Aves Is.
Radio Club Venezolando
P.O. Box 2285
Caracas 1010-A, Venezuela

CLIPPERTON IS CANCELLED! (by KC5M) The grapevine is full of stories, but the basic truth is time ran out. The license was held by the French operators and the French government required they participate. The original chartered boat developed engine trouble and had to return home after several attempts to arrange alternate transportation. Better luck next time.

ZL8AFH Kermadec (by KC5M) Warwick, ZL8AFH, is stationed on Kermadec for one year. He has been very active on 40,80, and occasionally 20. He has changed his QSL route from his home address to his manager, ZL2HE. His address is readily available in the callbook.

ARRL DECIDES ON SPRATLEY (by KC5M) The 1S1CK Spratley Is. QSL's will count for DXCC credit. This very brief May, 1983 operation netted very few contacts. However, DU1CK was overheard to say that this was a trial case, and if approved for DXCC credit, he would return with tri-banders and amplifiers. I hope Chito, DU1CK, has not lost interest. 1S1CK will count for all DXCC submissions after February 1, 1984.

5U7 NIGER (by KC5M) Carl and Martha were not able to get a license. The local PTT was agreeable, but the current military government wasn't. Hopefully next time...

ANYONE NEED THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS (VU7)? (by KC5M) I know I need this one and I suspect the Andamans would be of interest to several TDXS'ers. VU2GDG has received tentative permission for an Andaman Islands operation. He needs a positive reaction from DX'ers around the world to provide the necessary proof that amateur radio really needs such an exercise. Should our club send a letter of support?

CONTEST REPORT (by K2TNO) Now that the XE2FU operation has subsided, it's time to check the high claimed scores in the Tuna Nose Grudge Match and Beer Fest Contest. Several clubbers worked XE2FU on all six bands, both modes. To qualify for the contest, you need to send me a summary containing the following: (1) your call (2) date-time of each QSO with XE2FU. I will check your claim against the famous KB5FU master print-out. Remember, the contest is open only to full members (dues paid by March 1, 1984) who made the QSO's from their own station. (FOUL!!...ed.) The objective was to get you stay-at-homes on the air, not to break my bank account. Deadline for submission of your summary is the April TDXS meeting - either give it to me then, or mail it to me at 2301 Dryden Road, Houston, 77030. (The big problem now is how the hell to get a case of Pearl long necks up to Falmouth, Mass. to K5MA, who made the sweep!)

High claimed scores for the ARRL Sweepstakes have been compiled - TDXS did very well, with numerous calls way up in the standings. Keep your fingers crossed!

By the time you receive this, the winter contest season will be over for the majors. The next biggie is in late May over Memorial Day weekend - the CQ WPX

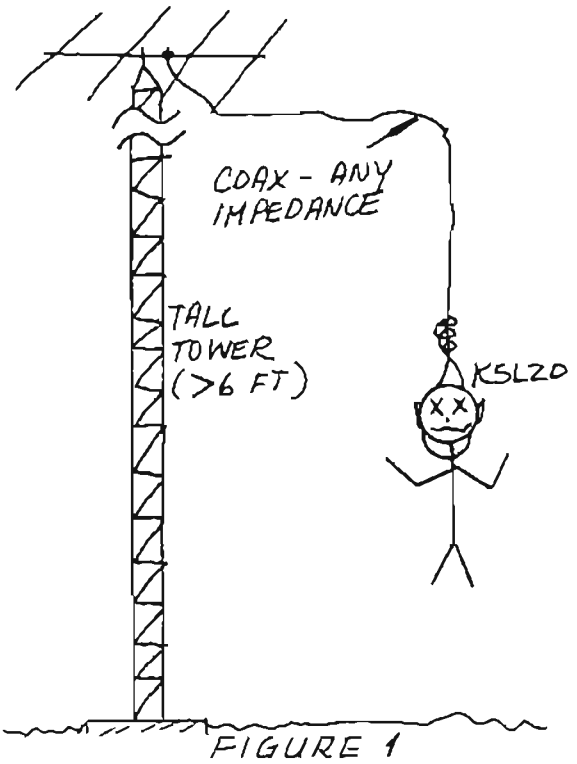

FIGURE 1

CW contest. So April is an open block - perfect time to assuage your conscience by spending a little time doing chores in the yard you've put off since last October.

LETS TALK COAX FILTERS (by K2TNO) At the March meeting, I showed the coax filter system we used at XE2FU-SSB to eliminate the usual junk from one station eating up another one at the site. The 25 copies of the info sheet were grabbed up; if anyone wants another copy of this poop sheet, please let me know. (Note: I can pick up the plastic forms here at work for anyone who needs them.) The filters got a final workout at K5LZO for the CQ WPX SSB. Anyone who has ever operated at Chuck's QTH knows that this is the ultimate test of a crap filter! Too bad they only work at RF; I've designed another coax filter for Chuck to wear himself. The circuit diagram is shown in Figure 1.

A LETTER FROM THE GANG AT CRANTAC (by KZ5M) The following is a loose translation of a letter received from our friends across the boarder in Nuevo Laredo:

Sr. Dennis Motschenbacher
President of Texas DX Society
P.O. Box 82
Thompsons, Texas 77841
Fort Bend County

Dear friend,

Concerning your recent visit to this city of Nuevo Laredo and because our club has been chosen as an amateur radio club of Tamaulipas, A.C. for the national competition that took effect February 17, 18, and 19 for CW and the 2,3, and 4th of the present month for phone for which you took first place; therefore we would like to inform you, as the president of your organization, of the following:

By virtue of this letter, please receive our sincere recognition for the experience we have achieved in these activities. We are pleased to have witnessed the excellent coordination and fellowship in the activities during this event.

At the same time, we are thankful for the present we were subject of which was equipment and material for the use of our club. This was a great pleasure for us to receive.

Finally, we would like to convey our admiration and respect to each and every one of the members of your organization and to express that we are at your complete disposal whenever you are in this city for work or pleasure, and you are most welcome with us.

Hoping we have covered all points,
Yours very truly,

Felipe Maldonado Paez
President
XE2KN

Raul H. Garza
Secretary
XE2RRM

ARRL BULLETINS VIA RTTY (by W5DOZ)

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 10 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT MARCH 2, 1984
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

THE FCC FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU IN WASHINGTON D.C. HAS ISSUED A CORRECTION TO ITS FIELD OFFICE EXAMINATION SHCEDULE THAT WAS RELEASED LATE LAST YEAR. THERE WAS AN ERROR IN THE AUGUST DATES. THE CORRECT DATE FOR THE FCC ADMINISTERED EXAMS IS THE WEEK OF AUGUST 6 THROUGH 10. THE MAY AND NOVEMBER EXAMINATION SHCEDULE IS OTHERWISE ACCURATE AS PRINTED IN MARCH 1984 QST, PAGE 49 AND JANUARY 1984 QST, PAGE 59. AR

HR NR 13 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON, CT MARCH 7, 1984
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

THE ARRL FILED TWO REQUESTS FOR RULEMAKING CONCERNING 160 METERS ON FEBRUARY 2. THE FIRST ASKS THAT POWER RESTRICTIONS ON 1900 TO 2000 KHZ BE ELIMINATED. THE SECOND REQUESTS THAT THE COMMISSION ALLOW F1 EMISSIONS ON 1800 TO 2000 KHZ. DETAILS WILL BE IN QST HAPPENINGS FOR APRIL.

ON MARCH 5, THE FCC DESIGNATED THE F1 REQUEST AS RM 4774. THE THIRTY DAY COMMENT DEADLINE ENDS APRIL 4. NO RULEMAKING NUMBER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE ELIMINATION OF POWER RESTRICTIONS PETITION YET. AR

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 16 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON, CT MARCH 9, 1984
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

THE FCC HAS RELEASED A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON THE SUBJECT OF REIMBURSEMENT OF OUT OF POCKET COSTS INCURRED BY VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS AND VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COORDINATORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION, PROCESSING OR ADMINISTRATION OF AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS. FCC PROPOSED IN PR DOCKET 84 265 THAT VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS AND VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COORDINATORS MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL EXPENSES INCURRED, BUT TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR AN EXAMINATION MAY NOT EXCEED FOUR DOLLARS. THE FOUR DOLLAR FIGURE MAY BE ADJUSTED ANUALLY FOR INFLATION. FCC DOES NOT SPECIFY HOW THE REIMBURSEMENT FEE IS TO BE DIVEDED BETWEEN THE VEC AND VE. COMMENTS ARE DUE BY APRIL 16, REPLY COMMENTS BY MAY 1. DETAILS WILL BE IN THE ARRL LETTER FOR MARCH 15 AND IN MAY QST. AR

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 26 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT MARCH 28, 1984
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AT THE REQUEST OF ARRL, THE FCC HAS LIFTED ALL POWER RESTRICTIONS IN THE 1900 TO 2000 KHZ BAND. A1 AND A3 EMISSIONS, WITH MAXIMUM PERMITTED PEP OUTPUT OF 1500 WATTS, ARE NOW PERMITTED IN ALL AREAS UNDER FCC JURISDICTION ON THE ENTIRE 1800 - 2000 KHZ band. THIS IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. AR

A R R L D X C O M P E T I T I O N F E B U R A R Y 1 8 - 1 9 , 1 9 8 4

L O G S F O R X E 2 F U

R E C A P S H E E T

	28 MC	21 MC	14 MC	7 MC	3.5 MC	1.8 MC	TOTAL
T O T A L Q S O S	962	1,762	2,050	2,105	1,144	642	8,665
D X & I N V A L I D	11	20	16	23	3	24	97
D U P L I C A T E S	30	80	135	129	43	32	449
V A L I D Q S O S	921	1,662	1,899	1,953	1,098	586	8,119
Q S O P O I N T S	2,763	4,986	5,697	5,859	3,294	1,758	24,357
M U L T I P L I E R S	56	57	57	56	55	50	331
T O T A L P O I N T S	154,728	284,202	324,729	328,104	181,170	87,900	8,062,167

MULTI-STATION / MULTI-OPERATOR

A R R L D X C O M P E T I T I O N M A R C H 3 - 4 , 1 9 8 4

	28 MC	21 MC	14 MC	7 MC	3.5 MC	1.8 MC	TOTAL
T O T A L Q S O S	3,164	3,435	3,367	2,524	1,807	755	15,052
D X & I N V A L I D	52	29	36	14	9	8	148
D U P L I C A T E S	129	191	160	106	89	27	702
V A L I D Q S O S	2,983	3,215	3,171	2,404	1,709	720	14,202
Q S O P O I N T S	8,946	9,645	9,513	7,212	5,127	2,160	42,603
M U L T I P L I E R S	~~556~~	57	57	57	55	55	~~856~~ 337
T O T A L P O I N T S	492,030	549,765	542,241	411,084	281,985	118,800	14,314,608

MULTI-STATION / MULTI-OPERATOR

CONSTITUTIONAL AMMENDMENTS

The following are descriptions of the three proposed constitutional ammendments addressed on the enclosed ballot (full members only)

ARTICLE XI Section 1

Now reads: Membership in the Texas DX Society is open to any amateur radio operator who: has demonstrated an interest in DX or contest activities, holds a valid amateur license, and is duly nominated and elected according to the procedures set forth in Article XII.

Proposed: Membership in the Texas DX Society is open to any radio amateur who meets the criteria of membership as stated on the Prospective Membership Form. This form can be amended once each year by a majority vote of the full members during a regular meeting.

ARTICLE XII Section 2

Now reads: The Board of Directors shall consider the eligibility and qualifications of the proposed member in closed session and notify the proposer through the club secretary of its decision.

Proposed: The Board of Directors shall consider the eligibility and qualifications of the proposed member, in accordance with Article XI Section 1, in closed session and notify the proposer through the club secretary of its decision.

ARTICLE XII Section 5

Now reads: A favorable vote of 75 % with at least 50% of the members voting shall be necessary for election.

Proposed: Any vote regarding a proposed member on a membership ballot which does not receive the required 50 % of the total qualified full member vote, either for or against, shall be considered null and void. The name shall be resubmitted for balloting at the next ballot opportunity if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors, Membership Committee, and Sponsor. A favorable vote shall be 75 % of the total vote for each proposed member with at least 50 % of the qualified full members voting.