



The Bullsheet

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

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

The next TDXS meeting will be

Rebuilding SteppIR antennas... why they work and why they fail.”

by William “Bill” Schmidt K9HZ

TDXS Monthly ZOOM Meeting

July 21, 2022 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Editor’s Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

Wish I could 'a been there, but by all accounts Field Day was a great success! I wound up catching COVID before or during a trip to Boston, then giving it to my wife. I needed to take care of her and not spread it so I had to bow out. Still, I made over 1000 QSO’s from home (all CW, of course!) to add to the club’s aggregate score. In this case, even as a TDXS member, you will need to specify BVARC as your club for Field Day. Please don’t forget to do so if you haven’t already.

Band conditions have been a roller coaster...I heard that during the IARU Radiosport contest (another one I couldn’t spend as much time as I would have liked to) that 15m was HOT, but I missed most of it. Otherwise, DXing is still more fun than it was last year, but I am waiting for another big jump in the SFI without a corresponding increase in the A and K. Maybe 180—200? How does that sound?

Now, on a more serious note, the Texas DX Society is really suffering from lack of interest (as shown in the fact that we don’t have a President, VP of Programs or a DX Chairman. What’s it gonna take, guys? All of the BOD have been serving in their positions for years (this is my 10th as BS Editor). That’s a bunch of BS! ;-). How can we turn things around. I know many of you say “Well I’ve done my time” or similar things. Any many others have not. Well, so have Doug, Jim, Glenn, Scott and me. Is anyone besides us interested? Can we not get some new blood for some of these positions?

Or should we just pack it in?? Is anyone listening? By a show of hands (or emails in this case), how many TDXS members actually read the BS?

Why don’t you start by attending the next TDXS Zoom meeting to show your TDXS pride?

73, Allen N5XZ

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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

No meeting minutes as Field Day was considered the June TDXS meeting. We are hoping to have a TDXS member list as soon as possible.

So Instead I am posting the report from Kori, WX5KR:

This year's Field Day was a quad-club event with BVARC, KARS, TDXS, and the University of Houston ARC. With our Field Day Coordinator Anthony (W5LIC) and me as his assistant (Bonus Point Coordinator), we had the best Field Day numbers in BVARC's history. Our team made 4,298 contacts, and our preliminary score is 15,290 points. Including our bonus points, we believe our overall score could be nearly 17,000. We had a great crew on Friday who braved the triple-digit heat to set up our antennas and get the radios and computers ready. This year we had 8 K3s and 2 IC-7300s for our 10A class stations, a K3 for our 6m station, 3 antenna towers, and the Fort Bend County Em-Comm Trailer operating as our GOTA station. We could not have achieved this without the generosity and hard work of so many who lent their equipment (radios, computers, cables, antennas, etc.) and gave their labor to get us set up and ready to operate. I want to say thank you to all who contributed.

Saturday started off with a much enjoyed antenna build class taught by Scott (KI5NPL). Fifteen participants built End-Fed Half-Wave antennas and many onlookers were there as well to share in the fun and education of the class. Operations began at 1pm, with all stations manned and on the air. We had over 125 visitors on Saturday, including youth from the Boy Scouts and the Civil Air Patrol. The turnout this year was the best in club history (totaling approximately 200 over the entire weekend), and we thank all who took time to come by. Another highlight of Saturday was our satellite QSO at approximately 9:35pm local time via the RS-44 satellite. Operations continued non-stop throughout the night Saturday and into Sunday; we had nearly a dozen operators there at all times operating SSB, CW, and digital. Sunday morning we were visited by KPRC news, they filmed a piece on our Field Day event, which aired later that evening.

The event would not have been complete without the excellent meals served by Daphne (K5VQY) and Scott (KD5FBA). They served sandwiches prepared to order, 25lbs of barbeque, coleslaw, baked beans, lasagna, and more (great German chocolate cake Daphne). It was a fantastic event, and I'm proud to have been a part of it. Again thanks to all who made this event possible, and we hope we will have an even better event next year!

- Kori, WX5KR



DX Chairman's Report—OPEN

Looking for a new DX Chairman, any volunteers?

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.

July

- 1 RAC Canada Day Contest
- 2 DL-DX RTTY Contest
Marconi Memorial HF Contest
- 9 IARU HF World Championship
- 17 North America QSO Party, RTTY
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
- 23 Youth on The Air Contest

August

- 6 10-10 International Summer Contest, SSB
North American QSO Party, CW
- 13 Worked All Europe DX Contest, CW
Maryland-District of Columbia QSO Party
- 21 North American QSO Party, SSB
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY
- 28 World-wide Digi Dx Contest
W/VE Islands QSO Party
Hawaii QSO Party
Kansas QSO Party



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

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

ARRL Digital Contest 2022 Jun 4

SO1R-24 LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
KC5TT		602	24	4,508	TDXS
WB5TUF		560	24	4,300	TDXS
KI5QMY		629	23:42	4,205	TDXS
N5EKO		564	22	3,930	TDXS
W5MF		601	22.5	3,928	TDXS
K5DSJ		274	21:47	2,193	TDXS

SO1R-8 LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
N5DTT		24	4	150	TDXS

SO2R-24 LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		328	13	2,482	TDXS

Kentucky QSO Party 2022 Jun 4

SO Fixed HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		32	0	0	19	4	1,516	TDXS
K5TIA		15	0	0	12	3	360	TDXS

ARRL June VHF Contest 2022 Jun 11

Single Op-All Modes HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PR	SO2R	568	289		164,152	TDXS
K5TIA		200	113	10	22,600	TDXS

Single Op-All Modes LP



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

ARRL June VHF Contest 2022 Jun 11(cont.)

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF		460	207		95,220	TDXS
N5EKO	SO2R	373	170	27	63,920	TDXS
AJ4F		320	176	18	56,320	TDXS
N5XZ		306	127		38,862	TDXS
N5DTT		91	55	13	5,005	TDXS

Single Op-Analog LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5GCX		43	36		1,548	TDXS
WD5CAY		27	23	5	621	TDXS

SO 3Band-All Modes LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KC5TT	SO2R	203	115	10	23,460	TDXS

All Asian DX Contest, CW 2022 Jun 18

SOAB HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ		247	113	4	27,911	TDXS
W5GCX		25	23		575	TDXS

West Virginia QSO Party 2022 Jun 18

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		17	0	0	8		472	TDXS
K5TIA		12	0	0	5	2	320	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		6	0	0	48	.5	248	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 2022 June 18

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		25	2	83	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		5	.55	17	TDXS

TDXS scored 12th in the Medium Club Affiliated Club Competition rankings in the January VHF Contest. That was with only three members operating in the contest. That is impressive. As you can see in the contest participation listings, above, we had ten participants in the June VHF Contest. That should bode well for the rankings as there were some great scores reported by our group. Of course, the June VHF Contest is very popular, so we have a lot of stiff competition.

In the 2021 10-Meter Contest, TDXS scored in 22nd place in the Medium Clubs. In that contest, we had five scores sent in. It seems that the contest has lost a lot of its luster. It is probably because the 10-meter band was not very cooperative last December.

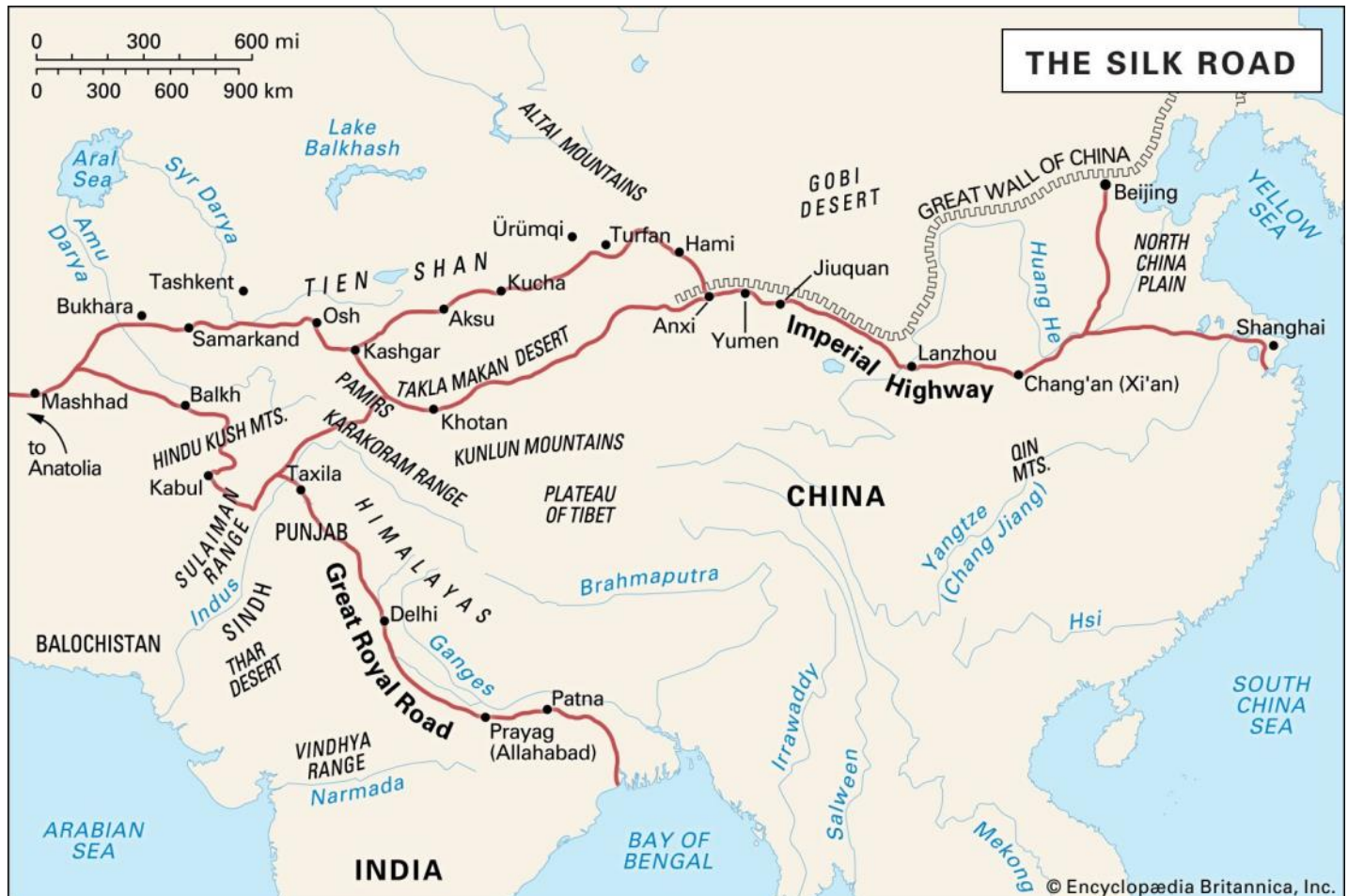
The results of these two contests does bring up a concern. The scores for a club in the Affiliated Club Competitions are very dependent on the number of club members participating. Every score from a member sent in counts toward the club total. Think how much better our rankings in these contests would be if ten more members than usual put in a score. Its something to think about.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

The Great Silk Road was a network of ancient trade routes, established during the Han Dynasty of China which linked the regions of the ancient world in commerce between 130 BCE-1453 CE. It was not a single route from east to west; hardly that. Trade goods traveled in both directions.



"The Road" covered 4,000 miles or more. Trade routes coming from Europe to Asia and vice-versa crossed Middle age Central Asia and Kazakhstan in different places: they went through steppes, overcoming mountains, and going down to fertile valleys. The Silk Road, remained as a main trade artery for many countries and people was at the same time the road of cooperation, mutual enrichment of different cultures.

In addition, Great Silk Road played tremendous role in dissemination of religious ideas. On the routes of Silk Road different missionaries "carried" their faith to foreign lands. Buddhism came from India via Central Asia and Eastern Turkestan; Christianity and later Islam were transmitted from Syria, Iran and Arabia.

Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM



While many kinds of merchandise traveled along the network of trade of the Silk Road, the name comes from the popularity of Chinese silk with the west, The Silk Road routes eventually stretched from China through India, Asia Minor, up throughout Mesopotamia, to Egypt, Greece, Rome, and Britain. Merchants from China traded silk, tea, dyes, precious stones, spices, medicine, paper, and gunpowder. Merchants traveling east brought horses, wine grapes animal, furs, blankets, textiles, honey, fruits, glassware, camels, and slaves.

Traders had to find ways to move their goods efficiently. To travel overland, the camel was favored mode of transportation. Nomadic peoples in central Asia started domesticating Bactrian camels as early as the second millennium BCE. The Han Chinese used camels to transport military supplies. Camels could withstand the harsh desert conditions through central Asia and were also able to carry up to 500 pounds at a time! Pack animals—especially camels—made the transportation of goods over land on the Silk Road viable.

Originating at Shanghai or Beijing the 4,000-mile road, actually a series of caravan tracks followed the Great Wall of China to the northwest, [bypassed](#) the Great [Desert](#), climbed the [Pamirs](#) mountains, crossed [Afghanistan](#), and went on to the [Levant](#); from there the merchandise was shipped across the Mediterranean Sea. Few persons traveled the entire route and goods were handled in a staggered progression by middlemen.

The end of the importance of the Silk Road was initiated by the Age of Exploration, (1453-1660 CE) which would be defined by European explorers taking to the sea and charting new water routes to replace overland trade. This age would impact cultures around the world as European ships claimed some lands in the name of their god and country and influenced others by introducing western culture and religion and, at the same time, these other nations influenced European cultural traditions.



Parts of the Silk Road exist today used by nomads moving across Asia Minor. Some stretches of the Silk Road survive in the form of a paved highway connecting Pakistan and the Uyghur Autonomous Region of China. In the 21st century the United Nations plans to sponsor a trans-Asian motor highway and railroad. The Silk Road has inspired China’s Belt and Road initiative, a global infrastructure development strategy authored by General Secretary [Xi Jinping](#).



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

As 18 wheelers zip along the road today, there are many rare DX locales along the way. Here are a few.

Country	Prefix	DX Rank
Afghanistan	YA	174
Armenia	EK	229
Azerbaijan	4J	233
China	BY	278
Hong Kong	VR	237
Georgia	4L	252
India	VU	259
Iran	EP	149
Iraq	YI	17
Kazakhstan	YN	296
Kyrgyzstan	EX	215
Macao	XX9	103
Mongolia	JT	222
Pakistan	AP	171
Syria	YK	24
Turkmenistan	EZ	23
Uzbekistan	UJ	225

Look for contacts to improve with these countries and others along the Silk Road in Cycle 35.

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron Litt, K5HM



Texas DX Society Board members

President	OPEN!	
VP Membership	Gerald Muller	gmuller885@aol.com
VP Programs	OPEN!	
Secretary	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
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DXCC/WAZ/WAS QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
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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/> (new)

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

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

Dennis Alexander - W5KU
 Mike Davidson - N5MT
 Bill Price - KZ5DP
 Walter Schroeder - K5WS
 Richard Neal - WB5LVL
 Ron Marosko, Jr. - NN5DX
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