



# THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

## THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME V, NO. 1

February, 1980

MEETING NOTICE: The next meeting of the Texas DX Society will be Friday, 2/8, 7PM at the Red Carpet Inn, Katy FWY (I-10), Exit Silber Rd. Silber is the first exit west of the West Loop (I-610). Check the marquee in the lobby for the name of the meeting room. The drunks usually meet in the bar and the Christians meet in the meeting room, then we all get together and eat at the restaurant on the first floor at 7:30, followed by the meeting upstairs at 8:30. Confused? You won't be after your first visit. DX-EXTRA !! The real-untold story (with slides) of the Kingman/Palmyra trip will be the feature of the Meeting.

SEMI-OFFICIAL STUFF: Pursuant to the whereases in the Constitution, the Executive Committee met and filled the vacancies in the Board. For 1980, K5VWW will take the DX Chairman job while NSDU is the new Field Day Fella. K5RC, K5TU, K5WA and AASY will continue in their present positions. The 1980 meeting dates have also been selected to cause minimum impact on contests. The dates are:

|            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| February 8 | July 18      |
| March 14   | August 8     |
| April 11   | September 12 |
| May 9      | October 10   |
| June 13    | November 14  |

K5BZU is still negotiating the Banquet, and the December date will be announced as soon as it's confirmed. While your'e putting it on your calendar, please note that we have negotiated with the Red Carpet Inn to be our semi-permanent meeting spot. Unless there is some unforeseen change, that will be the place.

ANOTHER MILESTONE occurs with this issue of the Bullsheet. As we begin our fifth year of publication, and my fourth year as editor, the Bullsheet becomes a monthly publication. That means that there's enough activity going on out there to warrant monthly reporting of the news of interest to TDXSers and about TDXSers. There is only one way that this frequency will be worthwhile, and that's to have inputs from the membership. Wes has tasked the Chairmen to make regular inputs from their various areas, but we need info from all of you to make it interesting month after month. I wont print dribble, just to fill pages. My deadline is the 25th of each month. Call anytime (481-4586). If I'm not there, leave a message with Arthur, the magic answering machine.

THE NEW REPEATER arrived on schedule and has been put on-line. The transition was not as smooth as we had hoped, however. The increased receiver sensitivity caused interference to appear from commercial services that we had not previously experienced. This problem is being worked by adding selectivity at the front end of the machine. The preselector failed and has been returned to Spectrum for repair and realignment. We are also experiencing mathematical mixing products with another

repeater in the area. These products are caused by normal harmonics mixing with the repeater transmitter causing noise and desense. The problem is mutual to both repeaters and occurs in the air. We are adding a "suckout" filter to the repeater receiver to relieve this problem. Although the problem is strictly a technical one, it has raised some emotions on the air. The TDXS Board recommends that all members refrain from on-the-air discussions of the problems in an effort to minimize hard feelings within the Amateur Community. Bear with us, the new machine should provide more reliable and greatly increased coverage when the initial problems are ironed out.

DUES TIME is once again upon us, and this year, \$20 is the tab to help us stay solvent. At the January Board meeting, we uncovered a flaw in the new constitution in the area of dues. There are a number of members who have moved or live out of the immediate area, that would like to remain members, but cant see the \$20 when they can make only a limited number of meetings a year. Therefore, at the next meeting, there will be a propostion to amend the constitution to allow voluntary conversion to associate membership to anyone living outside 50 miles of Houston. They could retain all benefits of membership for a reduced rate (\$5 has been mentioned) except for the right to vote. The rest of you deadbeats, cough up the cash. Like my 10-year-old says, "It's only 20 bucks."

TOM'S SHORTS: There has been a request or two to run "Want-ads" in the Bullsheet for members. There is no reason why-not, so, if you have anything to buy/sell, get your copy to hon. ed. by the 25th of the month. Due to some personal conflicts, KSFP will no longer be able to run the Tuesday night TDXS net on 96/36. We thank Fred for his fine work and welcome aboard Lee, W5DOZ, as net control. The net meets at 8PM and is your forum to exchange DX and other info of interest. At the last Board meeting, nominees K5AAD, W5PTJ, W5SG and W5URN were found eligible for TDXS membership. They will soon be introduced and voted upon. Speaking of membership, remember that you must attend at least 4 of the 12 regular meetings this year to continue as a full member in 1981. Due to pressing business problems, W5GM resigned as West Gulf Divison Director, Effective Dec. 31. Vice Director, Ray Wangler, W5EDZ, has taken over the final year in Jacks term. Many of you will remember Ray from the Convention. He lives in San Antonio, and was a big help with the Convention planning. The January report of the DX Advisory Committee is out, and not too surprising. They recommended not to sopnsor a new DX award, didn't decide on Okino Torishima remaining a country and changed the names of the old VR islands to East, West and Central Kiribati, with no change in country status. In its January meeting, the ARRL Board tasked the DXAC to look again at the rule changes to the ARRL DX Contest, to see if they had screwed up the rules, which many of us suspect has happened.

CONTEST SEASON is winding down, but we still have a Sprint and both weekends of ARRL to go. The remainder of this months Bullsheet is a guest editorial from your Contest Chairman, K5WA. It is a plea for the Club to unify toward a bigger Club Aggregate score and more TDXS representation in the contests. Although the Clubs Constitutuion says "DX and Contest" there are some DXers who don't like to contest and some contesters who don't chase DX. There is one thing we do have in common with all members, and that is that we are a club of winners. If we can muster the drive to be the best damn Field Day Club in the country, year after year, than surely we can be more competative in Club contest competition.

73 and DX,

Tom, K5RC



## CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to the first contest column by your wise ass contest chairman. You'll all get to read my words of wit every month if you all support your club which has contesting as one of its purposes. Let's try and all be able to read the contest write-ups and when you see TDXS listed be able to say that you were a part of it's aggregate score.

This spring we have two major aggregate score contests coming up, the ARRL DX contest and the CQ WPX. Both of these contests are DX oriented for all of you that have handed me some story regarding domestic( SS ) type contests and the fact that we are a "DX" club. Now is the time to put up or shut up. Last years results for the ARRL DX contest seem to indicate we're not even a "DX" club unless you consider 22% of the memberships participation hot stuff. If your station is capable of working DX then it's certainly capable of contesting, all you have to do is want to support the only contest club existing in south Texas, of which you are a member. Last year K5DX, K5NA, K5KG, and AD5W contributed scores on both modes. (oops so did our pres N5WW) SSB only came from K5BZU, K5RC, K5LZO, W5SJS, and K5WA. CW only from KA5CHW and K5GA. The score of XE2FU consisting of K5RC, K5ZD, K5LZO, and K5WA unfortunately could not count towards the club total.

Our competition to the north in the form of the North Texas Contest Club did pretty well in comparison to the best contesters in Texas. We aren't going out to beat the bigger coast clubs but to let the second best club in our state beat us better than two to one is something which should get you all a little po'd.

This spring lets give em hell guys with some effort by each and every one of you. The contest has a few new rules for you all to think about, such as the advent of single band competition. My recommendations regarding this is pretty simple, if you are not proficient enough to go seriously after the single band plague for the US don't go single band. An all band effort on your part will help the club effort much more. This philosophy of course is not for a station with only 10 on 10 needless to say, but for the great majority that are capable of at least 3 band operation or more. Some hints for you that may not be able to give it all 48 hours/mode is to be where you can get the largest Q totals and large M. Europe will provide the multipliers if you operate when it's most productive to Europe, and Japan will not hurt your QSO totals by any way.

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Europe- 10 and 15 mtrs. 1300-1700Z | Japan- 10 and 15 mtrs. 2200-0200Z |
| 20 mtrs. 0100-0600Z                | 40 and 80 mtrs. 0800-1300Z        |
| 40 and 80 mtrs. 0000-0700          | Long Path 20 - 1300-1500Z         |

So using the above guides along with your own DXpertise plan your operating times and frequencies to maximize your score and in turn our score.

Remember you don't have much time as the CW weekend will be here February 16-17 z, and SSB follows on March 1-2, z. Alog sheet is enclosed and will also be available at the meeting. Summary sheets will be at the meeting if our friendly printer cando them if not at the March meeting.

Be thinking about the WPX contest which will have the SSB portion the last weekend in March and the CW segment the last of May. Last year our club had one entry on SSB (CW results not yet out). We should be able to really give this one a go for the gold due to our geographical location so start thinking now.

The CQ 160 contest had a few TDXS calls heard amidst the crashes and as a member of the N5JJ coalition we thank all who got on just to give us a Q. Maybe next year we'll be able to hear some more of you.

So remember this year let's all be able to say it's our score that is the top club score in 5 land and with that probably bring our first gavel home for the medium club category.

Anything said to offend anyone was purely intentional and you may feel free to tell me about it. I would really like to hear members comments regarding contests other than those from members that are the active contesters amongst the masses.

That's all the wit I can possibly spare for this edition so see you in the pile-ups (all of you)

73' Rich K5WA