



The Bullsheet

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

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

The next TDXS meeting will be held Thursday, May 26th at 7pm via Zoom.

Program:

Building a Contest Station in the Caribbean (J68HZ)

By Bill Schmidt

K9HZ J68HZ 8P6HK ZF2HZ PJ4/K9HZ VP5/K9HZ PJ2/K9HZ VP2EHZ

Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

For this month's Zoom meeting, we are going to have a special treat. One of TDXS's newest members, Bill Schmidt K9HZ will put on a presentation on building a contest station in the Caribbean (J68HZ). I have known Bill for a little while now, and he is quite accomplished in Amateur Radio and professionally. He is a real expert on SteppIR antennas (future TDXS program on maintaining and rebuilding them I hope). I expect this presentation to be quite informative and interesting, please log into the meeting and say hello to Bill. He lives in Katy, maybe 5 miles from me.

FIELD DAY!!

Field Day is coming up in June, don't miss it! The BVARC Field Day Chairman this year is K5LIC Anthony Morones. He is a relative newcomer (3 years) but as accepted his "voluntold" position. He will need some help. Is there anyone who would like to volunteer at TDXS Field Day Chairman? I will do my usual duties to organize radios and operators, but he will need assistance with: Computers, Cabling, Power/Grounding infrastructure, Antennas, Food, Bonus Points, Setup & Teardown, Food, Air conditioning, Medical, Food, etc.

Please reach out to Anthony to offer whatever assistance you can. ki5lic@yahoo.com
713-410-3948

The bands are still maintaining good propagation and the increase in DXpedition activity has made things a lot more interesting. They have allowed me to fill in some DXCC Challenge slots as well as some other sub-slots.

In person meetings soon? Let's talk about it!

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

Date: April 21, 2021

Location: ZOOM Virtual Meeting

The April TDXS Meeting was held, as usual, via ZOOM Video conferencing. There were 7 participants: Doug W9LCQ, Scott K5DD, Roy W5TKZ, Allen N5XZ, Jim N5DTT, Albert W5ALW, and Michael K5WRN.

Agenda:

New Member in April - #243 – Bill Schmidt K9HZ, Katy, TX

Active member count – 44 members are current on 2022 dues.

Program – HF Propagation: What to expect during the rising years of solar cycle 25”. The program was a video from the January 2021 Contest University Propagation Summit. It was presented by Frank Donovan W3LPL, who writes the propagation column for The Daily DX Newsletter. It was informative to compare his predictions to our current conditions 15 months later. He also discussed the various types of annual and geographic propagation for the various ham bands. Overall it was a nice primer on HF propagation for our current conditions.

The video is available on YouTube at [“HF Propagation: what to expect during the rising years of solar cycle 25”](#)

Submitted May 17, 2022

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary/Treasurer



DX Chairman's Report by Jim Blanca KE8G

DX Report May 2022 by Jim Blanca – KE8G

The solar flux index and sunspot numbers continue to increase! This month they are predicted to go in the 160 range at month's end. DX is sure looking good, with 15 meters staying open for quite a while after sunset.

Nepal: 9N7WE by SP9FIH and 9N7CI by SP6CIK will be active on 40-6 meters until May 18th. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

Botswana: by VE7VR will be active on HF until May 26th. QSL via VE7VR.

Andaman Is: VU4W by YL2GM, VU2CDP & VU2CPL will be active on 160-10 meters until May 16th. No QSL information at this time.

New Caledonia: FK/F5NHJ by F5NHJ will be active on HF using CW, SSB & digital modes until May 11th. This is a holiday style operation. QSL via LoTW.

San Andres Is.: HK0/PY8WW by PY8WW will be active on 40-6 meters with a focus on 6 meters until May 12th. QSL via PY8WW.

Sao Tome & Principe: S9EFW by K9EFW will be active on 40-10 meters using SSB until May 14th. QSL via K9EFW.

Martinique: FM/OQ3R by ON4RU will be active on 160-10 meters using CW until June 4th. This is a holiday style operation. QSL via ON4RU direct.

Gambia.: C5C by F5RAV, F5NVF & M0NPT will be active on 20-10 meters using CW, SSB, FT4 & FT8 until June 8th. QSL via F5RAV direct with \$3US or IRC; include a SAE.



DX Chairman's Report by Jim Blanca KE8G

(NOAA)

27-day Space Weather Outlook Table
 # Issued 2022-02-28
 #

#	UTC	Radio Flux	Planetary	Largest
#	Date	10.7 cm	A Index	Kp Index
2022	Apr 25	135	5	2
2022	Apr 26	132	5	2
2022	Apr 27	132	5	2
2022	Apr 28	132	5	2
2022	Apr 29	125	18	5
2022	Apr 30	125	12	4
2022	May 01	130	8	3
2022	May 02	130	5	2
2022	May 03	130	5	2
2022	May 04	130	5	2
2022	May 05	125	5	2
2022	May 06	130	8	3
2022	May 07	130	15	4
2022	May 08	128	12	4
2022	May 09	130	8	3
2022	May 10	130	5	2
2022	May 11	135	5	2
2022	May 12	135	5	2
2022	May 13	140	8	3
2022	May 14	140	10	3
2022	May 15	160	8	3
2022	May 16	160	8	3
2022	May 17	160	5	2
2022	May 18	160	5	2
2022	May 19	160	5	2
2022	May 20	160	10	3
2022	May 21	160	8	3

If anyone should happen to hear of some upcoming DX or DXpeditions, please contact me, 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.

May

- 7 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW
 - 7th Call Area QSO Party
 - Indiana QSO Party
 - Delaware QSO Party
 - New England QSO Party
- 14 Canadian Prairies QSO Party
- 21 His Majesty, King of Spain Contest, CW
 - Arkansas QSO Party
- 28 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW

June

- 4 10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest
 - Kentucky QSO Party
 - ARRL International Digital Contest
- 11 VK Shires Contest
 - ARRL June VHF Contest
- 18 SMIRK Contest
 - All Asian DX Contest, CW
 - West Virginia QSO Party
- 25 His Majesty King of Spain Contest, SSB

ARRL Field Day



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

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

Louisiana QSO Party 2022 Apr 2

Fixed CW/Dig HP

Call	Remote	CW-Dig Qs	CW-Dig Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		15	15	10	900	TDXS
AF5J		10	10		400	TDXS

Fixed CW/Dig LP

Call	Remote	CW-Dig Qs	CW-Dig Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		8	8		64	TDXS

Mississippi QSO Party 2022 Apr 2

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	FTn Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		12	0	0	8	10	192	TDXS
AF5J		12	0	0	7		168	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	FTn Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		10	0	0	7		70	TDXS

Missouri QSO Party 2022 Apr 2

SO Fixed HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA			58	0	0	21	12	2,436 TDXS
AF5J			46	0	0	21	5	2,232 TDXS

SO Fixed LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ			25	0	0	16	1:37	900 TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

North Dakota QSO Party 2022 Apr 9

Fixed HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J			3	0	0	2	6	TDXS

Out of State HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA			3	0	0	2 3	6	TDXS

Nebraska QSO Party 2022 Apr 9

Fixed HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	FT8 Qs	Mults	FTn Mults	Score	Club
AF5J			16	0	0	13	0	416	TDXS

Fixed LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	FT8 Qs	Mults	FTn Mults	Score	Club
K5GQ			4	0	0	3	0	12	TDXS

Out of State HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	FT8 Qs	Mults	FTn Mults	Score	Club
K5TIA			19	0	0	15	0	570	TDXS

Georgia QSO Party 2022 Apr 9

Single OpCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		122	0	55	0	12	13,420	TDXS
AF5J		62	0	28	0		3,472	TDXS

Single OpCW LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ		50	0	22	0	3:15	2,200	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

New Mexico QSO Party 2022 Apr 9

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA			12	0	0	9	6	216 TDXS
AF5J			7	0	0	6		84 TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ			4	0	0	4	0:06	16 TDXS

Ontario QSO Party 2022 Apr 16

SO CW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		19	0	19		1,482	TDXS
K5TIA		21	0	20	3	1,480	TDXS

CQMM DX Contest 2022 Apr 16

SOAB HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Prefixes	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ		368	70	51	6:28	161,777	TDXS
K5TIA		236	54	46	12	76,100	TDXS

Michigan QSO Party 2022 Apr 16

Single Op HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		52	0	23	0	6	2,392	TDXS
AF5J		53	0	21	0		2,226	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Quebec QSO Party 2022 Apr 17

SO CW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		2 0	2		8		TDXS

Florida QSO Party 2022 Apr 30

SOAB(A)CW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		140	0	48	0	13:40	13,440	TDXS

SOABCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		184	0	57	0	12	20,976	TDXS

SOABCW LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5GQ	SO2R	78	0	34	0	3:24	10,608	TDXS

Even though I have mentioned it in the Upcoming Contests list at the beginning of this report, I want to remind you that the CQ WW WPX CW Contest is coming up on May 28-29. This is the last major HF contest until the IARU World Championship Contest in July and is a favorite contest of many involved in Radiosport.

The IARU Contest is a couple of weeks after Field Day. Here again is a great contest with a lot of international contacts available. Among with the international contacts are many IARU member society HQ stations, some of which are rarely heard. This contest is a great opportunity to possibly pick up a much-needed DXCC country. Contacts within the USA also provide points for your score.

It is not too early to remind everyone that the Texas QSO Party is coming up in September. This year might be the perfect time to either be a Rover in the contest or maybe find a poorly represented county for a Portable operation.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

What happens when two peoples can't get along? Pretty much, places like Cyprus happen. Owing to its strategic location Cyprus is one of the most conquered places in the Mediterranean Sea. It has been conquered by Alexander the Great, Egypt, Venice, by Richard I during the Third Crusade, followed by the Ottoman Turks in 1570.



After the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878, a war lasting 10 months, 1 week and 2 days, the Ottoman Empire lost control of many of its Balkan possessions, owing to the rise of nationalism and the fact that the Turkish government was basically broke. As a result, Britain simply helped itself to Cyprus in 1878 making the island a British protectorate. With the outbreak of WW 1 and the Turks becoming formal allies of Germany, Great Britain annexed the island as part of the British Empire. Finally, in 1925, Cyprus formally became a British Crown Colony.



Although the island is of overwhelming Greek extraction, Greek and Turkish Cypriots do not always get along. This has led to several uprisings, invasions, and guerilla conflicts down through the centuries. Even though the island is closer to Turkey, geographically, its Greek Cypriot majority about 90%, make it attractive to Greece for economic and strategic reasons.

The island is divided along ethnic lines between Greek Cypriots in the Republic of Cyprus in the southern half of the island and Turkish Cypriots in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The Northern government is recognized only by Turkey.

In 1960 Cyprus became an independent nation under the agreement between the UK, Greece, and Turkey. But wait, there is more. Under this agreement the British retain two Sovereign Base Areas (SBA) See map. The SBA's are more than military bases. Several civilian villages are part of the base areas. It covers a total of 98 square miles and a populace of 15,000. Both Britain and Cyprus are part of the EU, which has Brexit issues.



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

The ZC4 prefix was added to the DXCC list in March 1985, According to QRZ.com, there are 96 existing ZC4 call signs issued to hams. Many of them may be inactive if they were attached to British military personnel or temporary operations. The most recent DX-pedition was that of a team from the Cambridge Wireless Society who operated under the call sign, ZC4UW. They were active from January 2 – 7, 2020. The UK Sovereign Base Areas currently rank number 141 on Club Log's Most wanted list.

Reporting from the Dark Side

Ron Litt, K5HM



Field Day 2022 by Kori WX5KR

 <p>2022 FIELD DAY ARRL.ORG</p>		<p>Where: Duhacsek Park 17034 Old Richmond Rd Sugar Land, TX 77498</p> <p>When: June 25th - 26th 2022 (From Saturday at 7am until we wrap up Sunday afternoon)</p>
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As you are all likely aware, Field Day is just around the corner! Taking place at Duhacsek Park on June 25th-26th, **BVARC, KARS, and TDXS will be joining forces for ARRL Field Day 2022.** We will be operating as many as 10 stations simultaneously, calling CQ, and racking up contacts. Our goal is to provide a fun and engaging environment for hams of all classes and those without a license to experience various aspects of the exciting hobby of ham radio! There will be food and refreshments as well.

We are looking for operators (THAT'S YOU) to run our stations and help out with various Bonus Point activities this year. We need many more voice (SSB) operators, but also CW and FT8 operators. Technician class operators CAN run our HF stations using the club call sign, and we will have help there to get you going calling CQ. We are trying to get as many points as possible, and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We would like to get as much coverage of our event as possible and are seeking anyone with connections to news media to contact us.

A Few of the Roles Needed:

- Voice mode operators (i.e., Single Sideband) to call CQ and log contacts
- Educators (folks willing to teach one or more short structured lessons on ham radio skills)
- An operator(s) to run the GOTA (Get On The Air) station to advise the new or unlicensed operators with the equipment there
- Social Media promoters (utilize social media to promote the event and post about the activities during the event)
- Experienced hams to assist new hams or unlicensed operators using the equipment at the main stations
- Help setting up equipment (radios, antennas, cabling, etc.) on Friday June 24th starting at noon and many more!

We will be announcing an online sign-up sheet for these roles and operating positions soon; keep an eye out for the email or check on BVARC.org for the link. If you have any questions or concerns send them directly to Anthony Morones (W5LIC) at W5LICTX@gmail.com, or Mike Hardwick (N5VCX) at N5VCX@att.net.

Let's get out there and **GET ON THE AIR** to represent Houston area hams this Field Day 2022. We can't wait to see you all out there, 73! – **Kori, WX5KR**

The Case of the Tell Tale Dots—By Jim N4AL

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

PART III

(In Parts I and II, the University's club station equipment was stolen. This event effectively put the club out of operation. One member, Jim WD4ILY, thought he had found the equipment for sale by a young man in the flea market at a nearby hamfest. The police were unable to take action without more information. Jim had to find another way to recover his club's equipment. But the primary piece of evidence, an antenna tuner uniquely marked with two red dots, was missing. The story continues.)

Jim had examined the equipment carefully. He knew that it belonged to his club because of the two red dots a member had placed on the antenna tuner. But his attempts at getting help from the police had been unsuccessful. It was up to him to recover the stolen equipment and bring justice to its thief.

When he returned to the hamfest flea market, Jim noticed that the antenna tuner with the tell-tale dots was no longer in the young man's trunk. Looking around, he saw a man walking away with the tuner under his arm. This man had just bought the tuner, the only evidence linking the equipment with the crime, and was returning it to his car.

Jim followed the man until he was out of sight of the flea market. In the parking lot, Jim caught up with him. "Didn't you just buy that tuner from a young man selling it out of his trunk?", Jim asked. The man said yes.

"Well, the tuner is stolen," Jim responded.

After some explanation, the man became very cooperative. When Jim offered to refund the \$30 that the man had paid for the tuner, the man agreed. Jim gave the man his last \$30 and headed for his car with the tuner under his arm. The drive back to Tuscaloosa seemed long but was otherwise uneventful.

The next morning, while eating breakfast, Jim heard Carey on the local repeater. He broke in. "WD4DAZ this is WD4ILY. Carey, I was at the Memphis hamfest yesterday and I saw a University student selling our club equipment in the flea market. I have our tuner."

"Don't say any more," Carey responded. "I'll be at your apartment in 10 minutes".

Sure enough, Carey appeared promptly at Jim's door. Carey had been hesitant to discuss the theft on the repeater in case the thief was listening. Carey examined the tuner and agreed that it belonged to the club. Those two red dots were unmistakable!



The Case of the Tell Tale Dots—By Jim N4AL

After that, things happened rapidly. Carey called the club's faculty advisor and explained the situation. The faculty advisor called the University's police chief and exercised a few words that he had learned in the Navy. Tracing the parking sticker on the thief's car, the police chief determined the name of the student who owned it and that the student lived in a university dormitory. The chief decided to pay the student a visit at 10:00 AM that Sunday morning.

Carey, Jim, and Avery arrived at the dorm well before 10 AM to watch the proceedings. They located the car from the Memphis hamfest in the parking lot, and found a spot within the dorm that provided a good view of the front door and of the suspect's car. At about ten, two university police arrived and entered the building. Twenty minutes later the policemen appeared with the student, walked to his car, and opened the trunk. Then they reentered the building and the excitement was over. Carey recognized the student as someone who had visited the club station a few months before.

The student admitted to the police that he had sold the equipment at the Memphis hamfest. But he didn't know it was stolen, he said. He had "found" the equipment on the sidewalk outside a university building. The VHF rig was unsold and still in the car's trunk. The student gave the police a check from a ham in Little Rock who had bought the HF rig. This ham was more than happy to return the equipment to the club once the police called and pointed out to him that he was guilty of interstate transportation of stolen merchandise, a federal crime. Its equipment recovered, the University amateur radio club had a future after all.

Carey found a safe place to store the station equipment inside a locked closet until a more secure operating location could be found. As things happen at universities, the students graduated and moved on. Carey, WD4DAZ, took a job as an environmental engineer in Birmingham.. Avery moved to Baltimore where ham radio took a back seat to medical school. Jim, now N4AL, is TDXS member number 159 and chases DX from a station in Lake Jackson, Texas where, among other things, he writes articles for the TDXS newsletter.

The University of Alabama Amateur Radio Club still exists and operates with spurts of activity from a more desirable location with a more modern set of equipment. Its old station--the Drake HF transceiver, the Heath VHF rig, and the Johnson tuner with the tell-tale dots, are still locked in a closet somewhere in Tuscaloosa. The equipment, and the tale it has to tell, have been forgotten.

This article first ran in three successive 2002-2203 issues of Birmingham, the newsletter of the Birmingham Amateur Radio Club. The first two Parts were published without attribution to the author, who is identified in Part III. The author is: Jim Boockholdt, N4AL, 122 Dewberry Dr., Lake Jackson, TX. n4al@arrl.net



Texas DX Society Board members

President	OPEN!	
VP Membership	Gerald Muller	gmuller885@aol.com
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Bullsheets Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

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 May:

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

John Guida - K5XA
 Mike Mauldin - K5NU
 Mitch Whitney - AD5W
 Kenny Manchester - NZ5I
 Gregg Erlenbusch - W5IDX
 Joey Clements - W5BAK
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