



THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the

Texas DX Society

An ARRL Affiliated Club

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The Texas DX Society, P.O. Box 540291 Houston, TX 77254-0291

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The Prez Sez – de Chuck, KE5FI

The few thundershowers we have had lately should make the grass green and the fish bite at W5SJS's ranch for Field Day. This is going to be one of the best Field Day's ever for TDXS. Big things are planned so be sure to come to the June meeting at Antonio's on Hillcroft for the strategy session and then get out at least one day of the Field Day weekend. Don't forget the special t-shirts for participants and the BBQ!

73, Chuck (ke5fi@wt.net)

Field Day 1996 – de Bob, N5RP

We are operating category 3A this year. All of the additional point possibilities are structured into our operating format in an all out effort at configuring an optimal station installation.

The deciding factor as to whether or not the TDXS makes a good 3A showing for FD-96 is YOU, the membership. You show up to help the effort, WE DO GOOD! You stay at home and let others carry your club banner, WE DO BAD! It is that simple.

N5DC, KG5U, WB5N/KB5IUA, KK5DK/KC5LCK, WA5ZIB (who?) are all putting together super stations for super Q rates. If you are a TDXS "amateur radio operator", come out and make a Q, or you can help erect the station antennas, or you can come out and bring a 12 pack of cold soft drinks for the operators sometime over the weekend, or you can help with the BBQ, or,.....

You can stay at home and let someone else carry the club banner of the organization to which you claim a loyal affiliation. (IS THERE AN ECHO IN THIS BROADCAST ?)

Please be a player. We want you to be a part of the team. Try and recall how very much you wanted to be a TDXS member at the time of your being accepted into this

Announcements

Meeting – The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month, except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors. The next meeting will be on **Thursday June 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Antonio's Flying Pizza at 2920 Hillcroft**, south of Westheimer on the west side of Hillcroft. It has a really big sign out front.

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web:

<http://wb5fnd.tech.uh.edu:80/~tdxs/>

On 2 Meters:

147.96/36 MHz

On Packet:

K5WA on 144.950MHz

or

Connect to TDXS95 (144.950MHz) and then connect to K5WA

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organization by your fellow members. Remember what was expected of all parties at the time of your joining. Don't let your campaign for membership be your last great club effort. Muster up that past desire and pride, and come earn your Shirt !!

CU THERE BROTHERS AND SISTERS.
5NN 3A STX
F1 (PILEUP)

DX Gleanings – de Sharp, K5DX

9H, MALTA. 9H3UD AND 9H3UF to be active July 22nd to August 9th all HF bands with emphasis on CW. Qsl 9H3UD via DL8OBC, Felix J. Reiss, P. O. Box 1253,

D-30984 Gehrden, Germany. Qsl 9H3UF via DL4OCL. Matthias Deutscher, P.O. Box 100412, D-30942 Ronnenberg, Germany.

SV5, DODECANESE ISLANDS. SV5/DL8SET to be active on HF and 6m June 6-20th. Qsl home call or bureau.

ZK1, SOUTH COOK ISLAND. ZK1MJZ AND ZK1AGW to be active July 11th -21st. Call to be ZK1AAU during the IARU contest. QSL to AA8U. No nets, or lists and full calls only.

ZS8, MARION ISLAND. ZS8IR operates occasionally on 3799 kHz and 14195 kHz. He should be there for one more year.

9L, SIERRA LEONE. 9L/DJ6SI is active mostly on CW on the WARC bands.

INTERNET Goodies

Telephone Interference:
<http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Compliance/WWW/phone.html>

QRO Technologies (HF Amplifiers):
<http://brutus.bright.net/~qrotec>

Groton Electronics: <http://www.ultranet.com/~jaques/>

Dayton Photo's: <http://www.imperium.net/~nf8r>

Tower Reflector: towertalk-request@contesting.com
'subscribe' in body of message.

QST to all Amateurs

May, 1996
Strafford, VT

NEW ENGLAND DIVISION DIRECTOR
Bill Burden WB1BRE, wb1bre@arrl.org
NEW ENGLAND DIVISION VICE DIRECTOR
Warren Rothberg WB1HBB, wb1hbb@arrl.org

2 Meter AND 70 cm BANDS THREATENED

THIS IS NO JOKE!! ARRL HAS LEARNED THAT IN PREPARATION FOR THE WORLD RADIO CONFERENCE IN 1997, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOW-EARTH-ORBIT (LEO) INDUSTRY PROPOSED A LIST OF CANDIDATE FREQUENCY BANDS FOR REALLOCATION TO, AND EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE MOBILE SATELLITE SERVICE. THIS LIST INCLUDES 144- 148 MHZ (THE CURRENT AMATEUR 2 M BAND) AND 420-450 MHZ (THE CURRENT AMATEUR 70 CM BAND)!

IF THIS EFFORT WERE TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT WOULD MEAN THE END OF AMATEUR OPERATIONS ON THESE TWO MOST HEAVILY UTILIZED AMATEUR VHF/UHF BANDS!

I have included the text of Dave Sumner's upcoming editorial for July QST in this bulletin. ARRL, as the principal representative of Amateur Radio in Washington, is actively pursuing this issue as this bulletin is being written. Dave's call to action is serious!! We could lose these bands if we do not take action now!! Club presidents and newsletter editors: please make this information available to your membership as soon as possible.

Follows the text of Dave Sumner's July QST editorial:

WRITE NOW!!!!

Get out a pen and paper, or boot up your computer. There's work to be done! Your help is needed to defend two meters and 70 cm. Yes, that's right -- the two most popular and crowded amateur VHF/UHF bands! But don't panic, and don't "go ballistic."

Here's what's happening, and what you can do about it.

The United States is preparing for the 1997 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference, WRC-97. In the past, the public has been able to participate in the preparations for such conferences by responding to FCC Notices of Inquiry. In March, the FCC announced a streamlining of its International Bureau's preparatory processes for WRCs. Under the new scheme, the NOIs have been eliminated in favor of increased emphasis on WRC Advisory Committees.

For WRC-97, a series of Informal Working Groups (IWGs) of the Advisory Committee has been created to address specific agenda items. The output of each IWG will go directly to a joint FCC-NTIA-Department of State Steering Committee of the Advisory Committee. There, draft proposals as received from the IWGs will be reviewed and forwarded to the FCC for possible release as preliminary U.S. proposals for public comment.

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In announcing the streamlined WRC preparatory process, the FCC tried to reassure those who might be concerned about reduced opportunities for public participation: "Interested parties should note that input to the Advisory Committee may be sent at any time directly to the Chair of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee; the Chairs of the Advisory Committee's Informal Working Groups; Cecily C. Holiday, the FCC's federal officer of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee, or C. Ladson, the alternate federal officer."

Hold that thought while we shift gears to the substance of the issue.

One of the WRC-97 agenda items includes consideration of possible additional frequency allocations for the mobile-satellite service. So-called "little LEOs," low-earth orbit satellites below 1 GHz, already have allocations. Their proponents claim these are inadequate and are trying for more. The needs of little LEOs are being addressed in IWG-2A, chaired by Warren Richards of the Department of State. The ARRL technical relations staff participates in IWG-2A to represent Amateur Radio interests.

At the May 7 IWG-2A meeting, an industry representative proposed list of "candidate bands" for little LEOs. The list includes a number of bands that would negatively impact existing services, and does not include others that would be technically more feasible but to which strong objection from incumbents could be expected -- the point being that some political, rather than purely technical, judgment already has influenced the list.

Incredibly, 144-148 and 420-450 MHz were included on the list! This is the first time in memory that another service has been proposed for the two-meter amateur band. We must make sure it is also the last time.

We do not need to explain to ARRL members the extensive use that is made of these bands by amateurs. The two bands provide the backbone of our local public service communications effort. Voice and data, mobile and fixed, even television -- the list of present amateur uses is a long one, and of future uses is even longer. Both are already used for satellite services and for moonbounce and extended-range terrestrial operations requiring extremely sensitive receivers and high levels of effective radiated power.

Apparently we did need to explain all this to the little LEO industry representatives, so we did just that -- both at the meeting and iup letter on May 15. We also explained that we had to regard the matter as extremely serious. No one with the slightest background in radiocommunication could possibly believe that a mobile-satellite service could be introduced into either band without disrupting existing and future amateur operations. Therefore, we said, if we did not receive

assurance that they would be taken off the list of candidate bands by the deadline for this issue of QST, we would have no choice but to bring the matter to the attention of the entire membership.

The response we received was unsatisfactory. In effect, we were told the little LEO industry would consider our views but that until their spectrum needs are satisfied, all bands must remain under consideration.

So, this is a call to action. We must get across to the industry and government participants in IWG-2A that the 144-148 MHz and 420-450 MHz bands cannot be considered as candidates for mobile-satellite services. We need to drive the point home so forcefully, with so many grassroots responses, that no one is ever tempted to try this again.

Which brings us back to that invitation for "interested parties" to send input "at any time." There's no time like the present! Here are the key addresses, including those of the mobile-satellite industry folks who seem to have started the ruckus:

Cecily C. Holiday, International Bureau, FCC,
Washington, DC 20554; choliday@fcc.gov; FAX (202) 418-0748.

Warren G. Richards, Chair, IWG-2A, Department of State,
CIP 2529, Washington, DC 20520;
richardswg@ms6820wpoa.us-state.gov; FAX (202) 647-7407.

Tracey Weisler, FCC Rep., IWG-2A, International Bureau,
FCC, Washington, DC 20554; tweisler@fcc.gov; FAX (202) 418-2824.

Mary Kay Williams, Final Analysis, Inc., 7500 Greenway
Center, Ste. 1240, Greenbelt, MD 20770; FAX (301) 474-3228. Leslie Taylor, LTA, 6800 Carlynn Court, Bethesda,
MD 20817; ltaylor@lta.com; FAX (301) 229-3148.

Do comment. But be civil. Don't abuse people who are simply doing their jobs. We have to get across that casting covetous eyes on amateur bands is counterproductive, and contrary to the public interest. To accomplish this we need a lot of comments, including yours. But remember that the objective is to educate and persuade, not to intimidate. We don't need to. The facts are on our side.

To monitor the FCC's ongoing WRC-97 preparations, visit its WRC-97 home page at: <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/wrc97/>.

Write now. Right now! -- David Sumner, K1ZZ

How to Get to the Texas DX Society Fieldday 1996

When: 18:00 UTC Saturday June 22 to 21:00 Sunday June 23.

Who: All TDXS members past and present and anyone else interested in the TDXS and having a great time.

Setup: Begins 18:00 UTC Friday June 21, 1995. Show up ready to work any time after that.

Catagory: 2A(?) Club Portable, plus Novice, VHF/UHF, Satellite, and Packet stations.

What to Bring: Lots of water (at least 2 gallons per day), cool clothes, sunscreen, insect repellent, a hat, work gloves, tent (if you want to stay on sight), food and cool drinks. Tools for antenna assembly are always needed (please mark your tools so they'll leave with you). There is also lodging and restaurants nearby in Brenham, TX

Where: The W5SJS ranch near Brenham Texas. See below for maps.

How to get there:

(1) take SH290 to Brenham, TX then go south of SH 36 about 8 miles to FM2754.

(2) take IH10 west to Sealy and SH36 north through Bellville about 15 miles to FM2754.

At Kenney (look for the tall, narrow, cylindrical watertower). There is a loop through Kenney, FM2754 is at the north end of the loop. Go about 2 miles southwest on FM2754 until you see 125' tower with tribander on it. There will be signs at SH36 and on FM2754. Look close the signs aren't very tall.

