



THE BULLSHEET

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Texas DX Society

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Announcements

Meeting- The October meeting will be Blue Agave Restaurant. The address is 1340 West Grey @ Waugh. Dinner at 6:30. Phone 713-520-9696

How to Reach Us

On the World Wide Web: <http://www.tdxs.org>

On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz

On 70 Cm: 447.00/442.00 (103.5 Hz)

On Packet: Connect to **TDXS95** on 144.95

then connect to K5LV

Reflector: Send to: majordomo@n5uh.tech.uh.edu

In the body of your message only put: subscribe tdxs-list do *not* include your email address, as the reflector will pick it up automatically. Put nothing in the subject line.

The Prez Sez- de Bob, N5ET

October already. Where is the cool weather? The temperatures are still in the mid 90's. With lots of mosquitoes too! Perfect weather to stay in and work DX or do some contesting. This month starts the fall contest season with the big one, CQWW, SSB the last weekend. CW next month. The bands are really starting to sound good again with stations heard from all continents with good sig's. Linda, KE5TF worked E31AA last night for a new one. Now all she needs is the P5. Don't you know that will be a pile up when ever they show up on the bands. As I write the column this month, we are getting ready to leave for the 8th annual W5DX Bash.

It is really a fun event. I just wish we could get a better showing from the club. Maybe as the spots return, our interest in radio and radio activities will also grow. If you miss this year, try to do it next. A great weekend getaway. To make it a sure hit, let the ladies go to Fredericksburg

PREZ SEZ CONTINUED

on one of the day trips. Well the ballots are in. First off it's now official. The TDXS monthly meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Also let's welcome Joey Clements, K5BAK, Ben Worrell, KM5OT and Charles "Frosty" Frost, K5LBU as our newest members. We're certainly glad they are joining the fold and look forward to their future participation in club activities. I believe the meeting this month will be at the Blue Agave on West Gray. Let's all try to make this meeting as it's time for nominations of club officers for '99. Stay cool and dry. See you at the meeting.

DX REPORT BY BUZZ, N5UR

OCTOBER DX

Congratulations to Linda KE5TF on working her last country except P5. E31AA made 330 current countries for Linda, quite an accomplishment. Don't worry if you need E3 and missed Jackie, as a big multi-op multi-station operation is in the works. Details to follow.

BV9 PRATAS an operation is on track for later this month according to my friend Paul BV4FH. No details yet so watch the internet for updates.

8Q If you missed this earlier this year, here comes another major operation. 8Q7IO (OMs) and 8Q7IQ (YLS) from the Maldives (AS-013) between 19 October and 4 November. QSL via DL7VRO, who will accept e-mail request for bureau cards at dl7vro@ibm.net

OCT 6-11 Look for a new IOTA, Cardon Island Nicaragua, with the call H76C. Wonder where they got the idea?? QSL HR1RMG

TS4QI may show this month from a Tunisian IOTA Af-073 and BI4M will be a new Chinese IOTA. Both of these operations have been delayed from September until. . .

CQ WW ZONE 2 I understand Mike K5NZ will be operating the CQWW from VO2 land. Fill in those WARC band countries before and after the CQWW. Should be a huge amount of activity later this month. I'm up to 32 zones on 12 and 38 on 17 since earlier this year and on 17 I'm missing 2 & 29! Yesterday 12 opened into Zone 16 as did 10 so watch these bands. Good DX and Good Luck in the CQWW, my favorite contest!

ONFESSIONS OF A BORN AGAIN PIPSQUEAK
(WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER QRP)

HB9/DL/nn5o/QRP
carmodyjim@yahoo.com

A few months ago, I started planning a long awaited vacation to Europe with my wife. Although it is somewhat of a hassle, I decided I would go to the trouble of reciprocal licenses (yes, they are still required because the US has not signed the CERT accords). On past trips to VK, EI, GU, OK, etc. I always had a blast in a contest or just operating. But lugging and setting up the gear I dreaded.

More or less at the same time, I noticed that just about nothing I needed in the way of new countries was on the air. Sooooo, QRP seemed worth investigating as a new challenge and as a possibly lighter weight option for travel. Someone introduced me to the QRP-L internet reflector, and the rest is recent history.

On QRP-L, there are hundreds of folks dedicated to low power who are as fierce as the 2 KW boys are in defense of their place in the hobby. I scanned the reflector ads and got interested the MFJ rigs we have all seen and mostly ignored in QST. I bought a 6 month old MFJ-9420 for \$190/delivered and added the CW board for about 9 watts out on 20 SSB/CW.

Frankly, I did not expect much, but boy was I wrong. Without much time or effort at all, I have worked about 30 countries, including VK, ZL, much of Europe, ZS, JA, 5R8 and KC4AAA at the South Pole. Of course, I do not sound like a killowatt, but I almost always get a guy on the other end who is surprised I am QRP and is complimentary of the audio. The little box (1/2 the size of a TS-50 and 1/3 the weight) has a really good speech processor and the 4 element KT-34A obviously helps.

On CW, the 9420 has a 1/2 second delay, and I use a tiny Whiterook paddle/memory keyer to get chirp free reports. The receiver is pretty broad on CW, but that would only be a serious problem in a contest. The selectivity on SSB does not seem much more broad than the standard 2.4 of the QRO rigs.

Even better news is that there are lots of very inexpensive kits around which are reputed to be even better than the MFJ and cheaper. Some interesting websites of the kit manufacturers are found by the links at the end of this article.

So, Tippy and I will soon be heading across The Pond with the MFJ-9420, the 220 V "wall wart" power supply, a ham stick for 20 and a coax dipole. I am going to try to avoid taking the matching tuner, although it is pretty nifty, too. Probably, the 9 watts will not be a problem for the B&B tv sets, and I hope to work some of you folks HB9/ or DL/ in a few weeks.

If you can drag yourself away from watching the 2.2 KW LED blink on your Alpha for awhile, try something which is both fun and legal. Will I stick with QRP? At least until P5, FR/T, and EP hit the bands! Oh, that "born again" stuff—I guess I either lied or was thinking about my first 25 watt QRO home brew back in 1960

On the net, you can find almost everything QRP from these links:

<http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn/parts.htm>
<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/qrp-l/catalog/index.html>
<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/qrp-l/>
<http://www.qrparci.org/>

Exterior veritas est!

EDITORS NOTE: JIM HAYNIE, W5JBP IS RUNNING FOR WEST GULF DIRECTOR AGAIN. I ASKED JIM TO GIVE ME, IN HIS OWN WORDS WHAT HE HAS ACCOMPLISHED FOR WEST GULF ARRL MEMBERS

Dear Jim;

You had ask about the up coming election. As you know, I was the director and later a Vice President. Now I have just about completed a second term as director. Why would anyone want the job. It pays nothing, cost about a thousand a year in lost time and out of pocket expense that you can't find the receipts for and the most expensive is the time. The first year I was director I was out of town 26 weekends on League business.

The reason that I do this is because I have enjoyed 25 years as an amateur. You knew me when I had a novice license and since then I have felt that amateur radio has been and is, a great hobby. I want to give something back to amateur radio because it has given a lot to me. Due to the fact that I have been involved with the League, I have learned how to work with my fellow directors in the decisions of the board. I don't always agree with some of the board decisions and am not afraid to say so.

As you know, I have run my own business for the past fifteen years and bring that experience to the board. More that once I have questioned financial decisions. After all, it is the members money and as we say on the front of

JIM HAYNIE CONTINUED

QST, "devoted entirely to amateur radio".

I know that the upcoming restructure of the license classes is the hottest topic in 35 years. There are those that like things like it is, and those who want to see change. My view is to bring amateur radio up to the 21 century, but still retain the values that have been traditional for the past eighty years. I don't want to see what has happened in the 11 meter band become rampant in the amateur radio service. One must have a value of achievement and worth in earning the privileges on the amateur radio bands. We cannot just give licenses away in order to have "numbers".

Well, there you have it. I hope the members of the TDXS will agree with my views and I would appreciate their vote.

Thanks,

Jim Haynie

Contest Corner de Joe, W5ASP

1997 CQ World Wide DX CW

K5ZD/1	1235	112	338	1.55 M	SO/AB
K5MA/1	782	99	258	734 K	SO/AB
K5GN	2234	153	425	3.18 M	SO/AB
K5NA	1676	140	370	2.16 M	SO/AB
N5LZ	759	110	264	695 K	SO/AB
KZ5MM	379	30	83	80 K	SO/10M
ZF1A	7046	154	540	11.97 M	#1 World M/S

(W5ASP, K1TO, K9LA, W9MK)

Claimed Scores

NA Sprint CW

K5ZD	356	x	46	=	16,376	2nd
K5GN	360	x	44	=	15,840	4th
NM5M	338	x	45	=	15,210	7th
K7BV	269	x	40	=	10,760	
N5DU	258	x	40	=	10,320	
N5LZ	244	x	42	=	10,004	
W5ASP	225	x	43	=	9,675	
N5TU	229	x	40	=	9,160	
KG5U	207	x	42	=	8,694	
K5DX	123	x	32	=	3,936	
K5KG	216	x	39	=	8,424	
N5NZ/m	79	x	26	=	2,054	

NA Sprint Phone

N5LZ	256	x	42	=	10,965
N5KC (Op.W5ASP)	191	x	43	=	8,084
N5DU	230	x	42	=	9,660

TEXAS QSO PARTY 1998 RESULTS - TEXAS STATIONS

TEXAS Single Op

N5DO	325760
K5OT	294894
NN5ZZ	273808
K5LBL	90678
N5ET	63788
N5XZ	60216
K5LH	57159
WA5SAJ	42736
KM5OT	39156
KM5LA	30560
K5RAC	29376
KD5KR	9050
NH6WL	7020
NJ1V	6355
N5KC	5880
W5NR	5724
K8CSG	4860
KB5NJD	2663
N5NXS	1792
KK5YU	1150
KA5AKG	966
KC5WJM	868
WA5REJ	544
WB5PFR	480
N5FNH	364
KB5PGY	240
WA5KOI	32

TEXAS Multi Single

W5PDW	76146
KB5ZXO	65286
WA5MLT	25418

TEXAS Multi Multi

W5NN	418655
W5SB	322380

TEXAS MOBILE Single Op

K5CWR	1424660
W5NC	997588
W3DYA	111130
KD5AIJ	102226
WA8GHZ	58680
WA5DTK	57532
K5GQ	15431
KA5FVT	14406
K9VX	8550

TEXAS MOBILE Multi Op

K5LV	394719
KK5LO	258436
K5VUU	245850
N5KB	9624
N5MW	6424
KC5WJM	5280

The VO2WL club station will be activated this coming CQWW SSB contest by new TDXS member Joey, W5BAK, semi-new TDXS member Mike, K5NZ, and old TDXS member Bob, N5RP. Keeping this mottly crew in line for the duration of the contest will be Roy, AD5Q, of propagation forecast fame. Look for these guys on all bands during the contest, and give them a Q. They will also activate 6 meters and the CW portions of the HF bands after the contest. For a set of pictures showing where they are going (Brrrrrrrrrrrrrr), visit <http://labwest.northatlantic.nf.ca/~keanb/howl/index12.html> with your web browser.



This scene is from an earlier holiday trip this year to EA4 land where I was very graciously shown the local sights by Jesus, EA4AD, and his lovely fiancée, Ruth. Jesus took myself and his nephew to visit some of the local Madrid amateur radio scene.

We were able to visit Jesus' local university radio club, Radio Club Universidad Al Cala. (URL <http://www.rcua.alcala.es/>) Jesus and I, together with several of Jesus' club members then went to visit the big EA4MS contest station while it was active operating CQWW WPX CW contest. Look for pictures from this trip to soon be added to the URL <http://lonestar.texas.net/~perring/spain.html>



Special Visitor to The October Meeting

I expect Martin Ellis, ZL1ANJ to arrive at my QTH Wed, Oct 7, 1998. I will bring him to the TDXS meeting on Thursday, Oct 8. Please come to the meeting to great our famous contester/DXer from Down Under.

Chuck, KZ5MM

Amateur Radio and the International Space Station

RICK MCCUSKER, KO6DJ

Amateur Radio in space is about to get a big boost with the first launching of a component for the ISS. Slated for launch later this year the construction of the ISS will be taking place over the next four years.

The featured speaker at the ARRL Southwestern Division Banquet, Matt Bordelon, KC6BTL, is the primary investigator for SAREX, and during his presentation gave details about the ISS and the planned Amateur Radio capabilities. His detailed

pleted. A co-operative effort of 16 nations, each module is being built at the host country. Each unit is then flown to either Cape Canaveral for loading on the space shuttle or to the Russian space flight center for transportation on their version of the shuttle. Countries involved are Russia, Canada, Japan, Brazil, the United States and the European Space Agency, representing several European countries.

44 flights will be required to deliver all 100 component parts being used in the assembly of the ISS with the first flight scheduled to begin in

November of 1998. Aboard the first flight will be a name familiar to many Hams, Sergei Krikalev, USMIR. Accompanying Sergei will be Yuri Gidzenko and Bill Shepherd. According to Matt Bordelon, a push is on to get as many members as possible through the licensing process for Amateur Radio.

Going up on STS-88 will be an Ericsson 2 Meter HT and a Pico Packet TNC. Future plans for Amateur Radio were discussed in a meeting with eight nations during 1996. As a result, there will be extensive Amateur Radio capabilities, far exceeding anything flown in space before. Eventually the station will have Voice, Packet, Slow Scan TV,

and ATV using standard, spread spectrum and MPEG modes. Four antennas will be installed, each offset 90 degrees, in order to have at least one usable antenna facing the earth at all times. Plans call for capabilities from 15 Meters to 2.0 GHz.

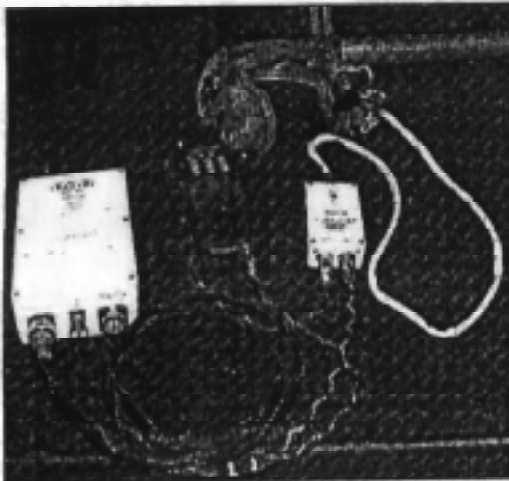
An Ericsson 70 cm digitaler is going up on STS 96. STS 96 will be delivering the dual band radio.

Operations will be limited to 2 Meters until a dual-band unit is delivered sometime late in 1999. Other radio equipment will be sent up as it becomes available. The equipment will not be off the shelf amateur gear. Each piece of equipment is subject to vigorous testing before it can be accepted for space flight.

During assembly, the ISS will not be inhabited until early 2000 when life support and habitation modules are in place. Until then, operation of Amateur Radio will be on a limited basis, depending on construction schedules, and available free time.

Although not confirmed as of this time, the call sign planned for the ISS will be 4U1S for voice, and 4U1ISS for packet. Since this is an international effort, United Nations call signs will be used.

For more information and some excellent artwork about the ISS, see: <http://station.nasa.gov>



The SAREX 2 Meter station.

talk to the banquet audience included schedules, names of crewmembers and equipment slated for installation on the ISS.

The ISS will be huge when compared with the MIR space station. It will be 290 feet long and 365 feet wide when construction is com-

Reprinted from the October 1998 World Radio

Mobile Installation Tip:

If you are working with those miserable side battery terminals, and want to install radio cables, order G.M. part # 1846855 from you Dealer. They work very well! Jim, N5DC