



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net Apr 2012

Ham-Cruise 2011

Thursday, April 12, 7:15 PM TDXS Joint Meeting with BVARC at Sugarland Community Center, 234 Matlage Way, Sugar Land, TX 77478. Meeting is in a temporary building at this location. Program by Debbie and Lance Rumfield (WD5X) on Ham-Cruise 2011. with some help from W5UQ. There will be a pre-meeting dinner get-together starting at 5:30PM at Live Oak Grill, 12935 Dairy Ash-

ford, Sugarland, 77478. Go north on Dairy Ashford from US 90A. W5UQ, WD5X, N5DSR, W5TMR, WD5DTR, & KK2Z and their XYLs spent seven days cruising the Caribbean Sea last October, operating radios and working pileups along the way. Come and learn about this unique dxpedition from those who did it.



Editor's Note by Jim N4AL

This issue of Bullsheet is a little light on content. We have been having some great weather. I guess our normal contributors are outside doing antenna work, or (like me) working in the vegetable garden.

The Bullsheet is the club's newsletter. If you like interesting reading in it, then please contribute and article occasionally. This is your chance to make your opinions known, describe your experiences, or share your technical expertise with other TDXS members.

It was good of Dave

W5BXX to volunteer as Field Day Chair again this year. Last year was quite successful from a Texas City site that is surrounded by water. If you ever complain about operating conditions, Field Day is your chance to experience some good ones. Dave even has overcome the Texas problems of heat and mosquitoes—they operate from his motor home. You cannot beat those conditions.

Please report any changes in your DXCC status to W9DX. On the TDXS web site he tracks each member's DXCC totals. If you haven't looked, we

have some members with really impressive DXCC records. Check it out.

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The Prez Sez by Doug WB5TKI

It's sure hard to bring myself to spend much of my precious weekend time at the rig when the weather is so great. Real patio weather. And, with the rain that we have had this Spring, I no longer need to water the base of my SteppIR vertical to keep the soil in contact with the too-small glob of concrete that anchors the antenna. However, the propagation has improved to the point that one can multi-task. Meaning work a few DX, then pull some weeds, then work a few more DX, etc.

Paul, W5PF, Bill, K5WAF, and Cal, WF5W will be on a "DXpedition" to an "Arkansas Mountain" on April 25 - 30. They will be operating on all bands, all modes using two Kenwood TS840's @ 200 watts. They will have 2 verticals and a dipole. Listen for them and give them a contact.

Dave W5BXX has volunteered to once again be the Field Day Chairman. He has already talked with our contact in Texas City and received permission to operate from the dike. I will bring up Field Day at the next meeting to see whether there is any opposition to returning to this site. Those of us that went there last year had a great time.

The next meeting will be held jointly with BVARC on April 12 at 7:15 p.m. at the Sugar Land Community Center, 234 Matlage Way in Sugar Land (south of the old Imperial Sugar Mill). The presentation will be by W5UQ, WD5X, N5DSR, W5TMR,

WD5DTR, & KK2Z on Ham-Cruise 2011. As usual, many of us will gather for dinner before the meeting, this time at the Live Oak Grill, on Dairy Ashford in Sugar Land. Check the TDXS website for details and directions. I hope to see you there!

73 es gud dx,
Doug WB5TKI



TDXS Meeting Notes by Mike K5UO

Date: March 8 2012

Repeater Chairman (Glenn, WB5TUF) Not present

Submitted to record

Location: Tracey Gee Center, 7:30PM

Mike Bragassa, K5UO

Attendance: K5UO, N4AL, WB5IUU, K5DD, WS5H, W5GCX, WF5W, N5ET, W5PF, K5WAF, KG5U, KD5TIO, K5LB, W5ASP, W5UG, NM5G, N5XZ, W9DX, N5MT, W5UQ, K5VWW, W5ZG

Program Chairman (Bob, W5UQ) Next Month (April) the meeting will be a joint meeting with BVARC, again at their meeting site in Sugarland.

Secy/Treas

Visitors: Maggy (XYL/W5UG), Norma, KE5NDN (XYL/WS5H), AA7EJ, Vaclav, VA6MRC, J. Reed

Presentation: Tom Campbell, KD5TIO gave an excellent presentation of several issues regarding NASA.

TDXS Business: President (Doug WB5TKI): Bon, WB5IUU presiding for Doug who could not attend.

1. Tom's education history at the University of Texas (UT) and their involvement with the US Air Force and NASA in their rocket program. Most interesting was the relationship between UT and the Air Force.

K5UO Secy/Treas discussed that "January: Official Dues Payment Month" has come and gone. There "may be" several members who may have forgotten this event. That happens! Several came forward and paid and are allowed out of the penalty box now.

2. Tom's employment involvement at NASA as a contract employee and especially since the significant downsizing at JSC by NASA in 2011 and going forward with more of the same in 2012.

John, W5UG VK4UC talked about TDXS becoming a virtual club for contests like one he belongs to in Australia.

3. What Tom is doing at NASA, still as a contract employee and a very different work life-style as compared to pre-2012.

Membership (Bob, WB5IUU) Passed out several TDXS "official" name badges to recent new members.

4. Tom presented the bad, the ugly, and the good of NASA, then and now.

5. Discussed Project Morpheus commercial space flight.



Texas DX Society Boardmembers

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How to reach us

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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

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in April.

John Cashen - W5UG

Bob Burns - W5SJS

Bob Bradshaw - N5RF

Orville Burg - K5VWW

Sam Neal - N5AF

Wayne Bailey - NX7K

OJ Quarles - K1OJ

Frank Moore - KE4GY

Steve Flannigan—W5HPQ

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone.