



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net February 2018

SHOW US YOUR KEYS!

TDXS Pre-meeting Dinner:

Thursday 5:30PM CST Feb 8

Pappa's BBQ, 9797 Westheimer RD

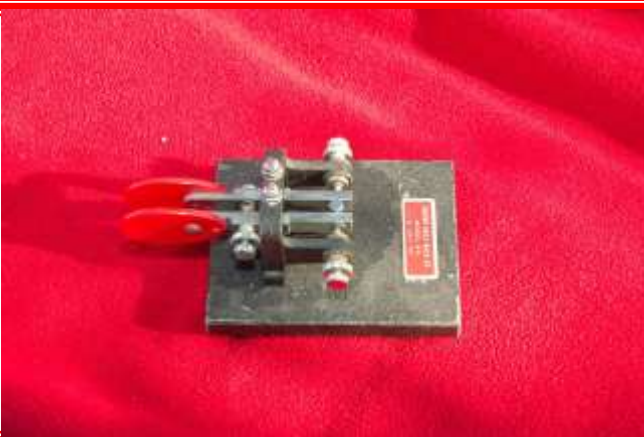
Houston TX 77042

**TDXS Monthly Meeting: Thursday 7:00PM
CST Feb 8**

Program: Show Us Your Keys!

**Bring your favorite key(s) and tell us the
key's story!**

Tracy Gee Community Center, Houston, TX



Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

As you likely already know, the 3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition has been cancelled due to high winds and waves and due to engine problems. Let us all pray that the members of this DXpedition make it safely back home without further incident. Most DXpeditions have been problem free for the most part, but there have been some in the past with loss of life and/or very tough conditions. I believe Martti once said he would never go back to Scarborough Reef due to the extremely rugged and dangerous conditions. Perhaps someone will put on a program on DXpeditions that went wrong to show how dangerous they can be. I know I was hoping to someday go on a DXpedition, but I think I would have to take the WB5TKI route and just stay in a nice hotel in my shorts and flip-flops while doing it. The closest I ever came was operating with a couple of CW contesting types who barely spoke any English in Langepas, Western Siberia (R9/N5XZ) or the great DXpedition I made to Chad (TT8XZ) where I made a whopping 50 whole contacts! BTW, I went ahead and sent

QSL cards to each one...why not!? Boy, I could tell you stories about both of these. In any case, I was already over there on business and transportation, etc. was paid for. In the case of 3Y0Z, that is costing them something south of \$400K. So please do not ask for your donations back. Pat, KJ5Y has even kicked in another \$100 to help out, which I think is just great!

Anyway, Z60A and Z61DX pileups are still big (but getting smaller) for a brand new country, that will be just like Serbia in about 6 months! Haha! Anyway, another DXCC country and more points for the DXCC Challenge award. So, a lot of fun anyway!

DX in January seems to have picked up a bit, and it is a great time to be on the low bands with low noise, plus the fact that everyone has migrated to 40/80/160 due to the poor prop on frequencies above that. Here at XZ, the following were worked during January: ZD7FT, 6O6O, E31A, 5Z4/LZ4NM, Z60A, Z61DX, 3D2JS, ZC4A, 5W1SA, V5/DK7PE, etc. Many new countries have been worked on 160 now that

the inverted-L is up.

It is with great regret to announce the passing of Tom Lay, AA5Y, TDXS #29. I didn't know Tom very well, but it is a great loss for many members of TDXS, the club, ham radio and all of us.

I have posted some information on a new assault to the narrow band (CW, PSK,RTTY, JT-65, FT8, WSJT, etc.) guys in the form of FCC Proceeding PSHSB 17-344. Please read the article on page 9 from Ted N9NB. If you see it the way I do, please file comments dismissing EXISTING RM-11708 and FCC WT 16-239. Again, this is the opinion of the editor, not necessarily that of TDXS.

Speaking of CW mode, (*The "Original Digital"*), I hope to see everyone Thursday at the meeting to show off paddles and keys. It should be quite a meeting!

73, Allen N5XZ

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I am looking for more autobiographies of TDXS members to add to upcoming Bullsheets. If you would like to have your illustrious ham radio history published for all to see, please send them to me via email.



The Prez Sez by Robie, AJ4F

The Prez Sez

February 2018

As all of you know there has been a lot of activity related to the ARRL and its leadership practices in the past few weeks. The rapid changes that took place were a direct result of individuals expressing their views. However, the issues which drew so much attention when they became public, are not fully resolved and continued input is needed. Individual involvement is the key to changing and maintaining the direction of an organization. We must ensure that our elected ARRL officials are aware of position on various issues and we must find candidates for these positions whose views are aligned with ours. Other issues for importance are the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 and the ongoing effort to legalize wideband encrypted data modes on the HF bands. It will take massive input from its members to alter the ARRL position on these, but it can happen if we each act. If no actions are taken (by its members) there will be no change in the organization's position and it will continue to promote policies which are bad for Amateur Radio as we know it.

At our local level, we also need action. We need a volunteer for Field Day Chairman. I've written and discussed this issue many times and we still do not have a chairman. Unless someone comes forward we likely will not participate in Field Day as club. We also need an organizer for our March dinner meeting. Without a volunteer there will not be a meeting. Come on guys, step forward!

At TDXS Board meeting in January we discussed the following topic:

What are the TDXS' core activities?

What activities should our club be routinely involved in?

For what should our club be known?

We need your feedback!! Please feel free to contact me, any TDXS board member, make a post on our reflector or TDXS Facebook page.

73,

Robie – AJ4F



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS January 2018 Meeting Minutes

Annual Awards Banquet

Date: January 20, 2018

Location: Saltgrass Steakhouse, Houston, TX

Attendance: Members: Doug WB5TKI, Robie AJ5F, Orville K5VWW, Curt WG5H, Mike N5MT, Chuck W5PR, Paul W5PF, Keith NM5G, Bob N5ET, Scott K5DD, Allen N5XZ, Pat KJ5Y, Rick W5RH, Ron K5HM.

Guests: Lynn Seyler, Beth Dutson, Terresa KEBLIS, Verna Patout, Ruth Dietz, Margie Davidson.

January is the month for the annual TDXS Awards Banquet. This year it was held at the Saltgrass Steakhouse on I-10 in Houston. As in the past times that we had been there, the Saltgrass food was outstanding, and the conversation was lively.

After dinner President Robie started out by spotlighting the charitable work of a longtime TDXS member, Tom Ashworth N5EA. Tom is a long-time volunteer at the Houston Foodbank and, even after his house was flooded by Harvey, he still came in each day to help distribute food to those in need. Well done, Tom!

Robie also handed out Certificates of Appreciation to the 2017 elected Board Members and introduced the incoming 2018 Board members. He also announced the recipients of the coveted Yagi-on-a-Roll DX Award. This year it is the TDXS DXpedition to Nicaragua for the CQWW WPX SSB Contest. The team consisted of Leader - Keith NM5G/YN2MG and Operators - Ken KD2KW/YN2KW, Bill K5WL/YN2WL and Marty W5MF/YN2MF. Keith NM5G accepted the award for the team, and also showed off the C6APR Memorial DXpedition Plaque that was awarded to the team by CQ Magazine. Congratulations, gentlemen!

In other news:

New Member #212 is Leonard Cernuch WD5CAY from Cypress, TX

73,

Submitted February 3,, 2018
Doug Seyler WB5TKI
TDXS Secretary



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

[XZ: Orville originally had a very nice article providing details of the band plan for the follows at 3Y0Z. But as you all know, the Dxpedition has been cancelled (hopefully to be attempted again next year). Following is the announcement:]

In a huge disappointment for the DX community and the members of the 3Y0Z Bouvet Island team, the DXpedition's leaders announced at 2000 UTC today (February 3) that a decision had been made to abort the DXpedition and head back to Chile.

“During the last 72 hours, we continued to experience the high winds, low clouds, fog and rough seas that have prevented helicopter operations since our arrival at Bouvet,” said an announcement on the 3Y0Z Bouvet Island website. “No improvement was predicted in the weather forecast for the next 4 days. Then, last night, an issue developed in one of the ship’s engines. This morning, the captain of the vessel declared it unsafe to continue with our project and aborted the DXpedition. We are now on our long voyage back to Punta Arenas. As you might imagine, the team is deeply disappointed, but safe. There is already talk about rescheduling the DXpedition.”

Bouvet Island currently is the third most-wanted DXCC entity, behind Kosovo and North Korea. The 3Y0Z DXpedition, comprised of top operators with considerable DXpedition experience, has been in the planning stages for 2 years and had attracted contributions from clubs and individuals around the world.

Several good DX locations are planned to be active in the near future.
D68I from The Comoros Islands will be active from January 28th until February 10th by IK5BCM, IK5CBE and IK5CRH on 80M-10M.

Z60A from The Republic of Kosovo continues to be quite active on all bands providing DXCC credit for the newest entity approved by the ARRL.

XX9B from Macao will be active from March 9th until March 17th by several PY operators on 160M-10M. CW, SSB, RTTY and FT-8.

Good DX,
Orville, K5VWW

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Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Hello again. It has been a very busy month in contesting since my last report. TDXS participation in the major contests has been great. We still seem to have a bit of trouble pulling together ten people to submit logs in the ARRL contests, but we are getting closer. Things will likely get better when some members whose stations were affected by Harvey get themselves back on the air. There is a lot to report, so I will move on to the 3830scores.com data.

ARRL 160 Meter

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
KJ5Y		x	117	46	3	2	11,178	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF			211	60	8		30,124	TDXS
KI5LR			53	26	3	8.5	3,024	TDXS

SO Unlimited HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ			450	88	13	7:19	82,632	TDXS

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ			339	7	1,743	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F			237	7	1,476	TDXS

ARRL RTTY Roundup

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
N5DD			225	46	21		15,075	TDXS
N5XZ			129	35	7	2	5,418	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F			141	37	9	4.6	6,486	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

SO Unlimited LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF			983	56	47		101,249	TDXS

NAQP-CW

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
N5XZ			1054	201	10	211,854	TDXS
K5TU			1025	126	10	64,512	TDXS
AJ4F			222	77	6	17,094	TDXS
WG5H(CURT)			148	60	8	8,880	TDXS
W5FMH(WP3C)		x	554	133		73,682	TDXS#2
WB5TUF			262	167		43,754	TDXS#2
WB5TKI			212	79		16,748	TDXS#2

NAQP-SSB

M/2 LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5GN(K5GN+NET)			10	9	1:00	90	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
WB5TKI			86	50	3.5	4,300	TDXS
K5WRN			111	31		3,441	TDXS
AJ4F			20	15		300	TDXS

ARRL January VHF

Call	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F		11	3		33	TDXS

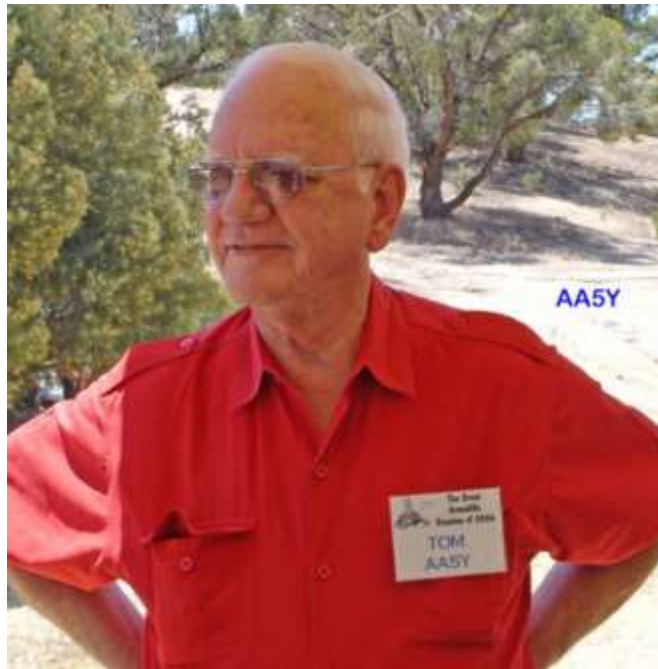
In reviewing the posted scores on the 3830scores.com website, it is becoming very obvious that the only way to end up with a top score is to participate as SO2R. In the Single Op Low power category of the NAQP-CW contest, eighty-five percent of the top 20 reported scores were from operators using SO2R. I'm just a Little Pistol and see very little opportunity for that to change, so I will (once I get my station back up) continue to operate as I always have. However, if your goal is becoming a Big Gun, you might want to get really good with two radios in your operating position.

Again, we are making great progress with putting TDXS out there in the contests. As things stabilize a bit more and more Harvey-affected stations return to the air, we can get more of a presence in the Contest Results pages.

Jim, N5DTT



In Memory of Tom Lay, AA5Y



In memory of our friend,
Thomas Fox Lay - AA5Y
July 11, 1928 - January 19, 2018

Thomas Fox Lay 1928-2018

Thomas Fox Lay, attorney at law, made his appearance before the bar of Heaven January 19, 2018.

He was born in Waller, Texas, graduated from Hempstead High School where he played trumpet in the band. He also played in a band that furnished music for dances on the weekends. Although highly motivated and super intelligent, he reluctantly learned Morse Code from his Dad. During WWII, at age 14, he became the youngest person employed as a telegrapher in railroad service.

He entered the University of Texas in 1945 and worked his way through school in the oil and gas division of the Railroad Commission. He graduated from law school in 1950. While attending UT, he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta, an honorary legal fraternity; vice president of his mid year law class, and Theta Xi social fraternity. He passed the bar in 1950 and was almost immediately drafted into the Army. After basic training, he applied for OCS and was accepted. He then attended Military Police School. He was ordered to North Fort Hood where he served as Provost Marshall until his discharge in 1953, after which he returned to the Houston area where he practiced law for over 50 years.

(continued)

In Memory of Tom Lay, AA5Y

He was a Charter Member and Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, Houston Bar Association where he served on various committees, State Bar of Texas, American Bar Association, American Judicature Society. In addition to his private law practice over the years he served as city attorney for the cities of Pasadena, League City, and South Houston. Thomas served on city council and Mayor Pro-tem in Friendswood. He also taught Real Estate Law at San Jacinto College. Thomas developed Fox Meadows subdivision in Friendswood and acquired the land that Friendswood Methodist Church occupies today. He was instrumental in adding sound to the 4th of July fireworks in the stadium in Friendswood. His civic activities included: a charter member of the South Pasadena Rotary Club, president and secretary. Thomas was recently awarded his 50th year pin. He organized the Helping Hand Fund of that club and was designated a Paul Harris Fellow. He was also a member of the Pasadena Jaycees, secretary and vice president, and President of the Pasadena Exchange Club. Thomas assisted in the formation of Southmore Savings Association. He was General council and associate director for 25 years. Thomas was well known for his sense of humor. He emceed many Rotary banquets and Valentine dinners at Friendswood Methodist Church. He was always called upon for anything that went on at the church that needed a legal opinion, a speech or sound. He taught Sunday School for over 20 years and taught Bethel Bible Studies. He served as a Trustee of the Texas Annual Conference. He was responsible for equipping the previous sanctuary with sound and wireless microphones. He worked many years with the United Players furnishing sound expertise.

His hobbies include photography, **Ham radio**, and growing roses. We might also add carpenter to the list in that he build a pool house by himself, a tree house, and furniture for his girls. However, plumbing was best left to the professionals in that one of his projects failed and flooded part of the house. He was a great Dad! Set a great example as a man of God, always there when needed. Chose private practice over corporate law so that he could be with and raise his family. He was incensed when his daughter started playing basketball in middle school only to find they were limited to half court. He went to Austin to talk to members of UIL and helped change the rules. He loved that the girls were finally able to play full court. Thomas was a 32 degree Mason for over 50 years. His life was devoted to helping others. He was loved by his family, his friends, and his clients. His secretaries said that he was such a good man and the best boss ever. He will be greatly missed.

Left to treasure his memory are his wife of 63 years, Ruth, his daughter Alicia Perner (Mike), granddaughter Annelise Smith (Warren), Jim Morris, grandsons Christian Perner and London Ham. Nieces Janice Hill, Mary Kesterson, and Molly Abbott, nephews Charles Smith, Brent Leftwich, and Ralph Lay. He was predeceased by his daughter attorney Margaret Alexander of Conroe.

"When he shall die, take him and cut him out in little stars. And he will make the face of Heaven so fine that the world will be in love with night..."

A memorial service will be held in his honor on Saturday, February 3, 2018, 11:00 AM at Friendswood United Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX. In lieu of usual remembrances the family requests memorials be made to the Music Ministry at Friendswood Methodist Church or to the charity of your choice.

Published in Houston Chronicle on Jan. 28, 2018



NEW FCC PROCEEDING PSHSB 17-344 and YOU (US)

NEW FCC PROCEEDING PSHSB 17-344

WE BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION ANOTHER EXAMPLE where to our knowledge the ARRL Leadership has failed to engage and take advantage of known experts within the membership ranks before proceeding with filings before the FCC and other government entities. Like the ARPA this falls squarely under the umbrella of questionable governance since it locks out or ignores valuable member input.

My ARRL Voice has NO POSITION at this time on the specifics of this case relative to the content and substance of the filing cited.

However, we recommend that you investigate the facts for yourself, immediately notify others whom you believe would benefit from issue awareness, and take whatever action you find to be in your best interests and the interests of like minded ARRL members. Contact directly those who are raising the flag on this issue for the most accurate and current information.

HERE is text provided to us from several sources. YOU may wish to add additional places to find information to this thread.

You may contact Dan White, W5DNT for more details about PSHSB 17-344. His email address ishdwhite@charter.net

"The FCC has opened a new proceeding, PSHSB 17-344, seeking input to improve future disaster response based on lessons learned in the recent Puerto Rico hurricane disaster. The FCC intends this proceeding to benefit a broad range of subjects, including commercial radio/TV broadcasting, internet, mobile wireless, and other telecommunications. Three filings were about amateur radio, which was a very small paragraph in the FCC request for comment. Alarmingly, two of the three filers it would appear simply cannot "let a good crisis go to waste" and chose to promote their own special interest agenda. *ARRL chose to opportunistically file a lengthy document that uses the Puerto Rico crisis as a segway into both the need for FCC approval of wide band digital (PACTOR 4) in the HF bands and the need to have their much touted "Amateur Radio Parity Act" (the Antenna Bill) approved by Congress.* The WINLINK CEO Steve Waterman chose to use the crisis to opportunistically re-open the concept of wide band digital (PACTOR 4) as a seemingly universal answer to emergency communications needs. The comments from ARRL and WinLink CEO Steve Waterman, K4CJX are linked here, read them for yourself. One amateur that was on the ground in Puerto Rico, Timothy Mohoney, provided his first hand account of things.

STEVE WATERMAN K4CJX, WINLINK CEO:

<https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/10123298305905/%2017-344.pdf>

ARRL COMMENTS, SKIP ALL THE HISTORY AND READ FROM PAGE 33 ON:

<https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/.../2018%20January%20FINAL%20Comments...>



NEW FCC PROCEEDING PSHSB 17-344 and YOU (US)

COMMENTS OF AN ACTUAL HAM DEPLOYED TO PUERTO RICO; GREAT WORK.

<https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/.../FCC%20comment%20PS%20docket%2017%...>

While the actual comment period is now over, by ARRL and Waterman both are re-opening the Wide Band Digital (PACTOR 4) and ARRL is re-opening the Amateur Radio Parity Act, the public is now able to counter these comments with "Reply to Comment" filings [until February 21, 2018](#).

WT 16-239, which was a direct result of ARRL's RM-11708 a few years back, if enacted as the ARRL suggests, would allow wide band digital signals with no bandwidth limitations, to disrupt the CW, RTTY, PSK, JT-65, FT-8 narrowband portions of our amateur bands. We feel very strongly that comments need to be filed to counter ARRL and communicate to the FCC the extremely negative impacts such regulations would have on existing narrowband operations.

Furthermore, those of us that feel strongly that the Amateur Radio Parity Act is a bad deal, favoring HOA's and allowing them the opportunity, by law, to decide whether or not an antenna system is aesthetically appropriate can also take this same opportunity to have their views heard by the FCC.

We urge you to take the time to voice your concerns to the FCC. Otherwise, the FCC may think ARRL is representing you. In this case, we strongly feel it is NOT!

FILE YOUR FCC "REPLY TO COMMENTS" ON PSHSB 17-344, STARTING ON MONDAY JANUARY 29, 2018. The Deadline is [February 21st, 2018](#)!

TO STOP THIS, YOU NEED TO FILE "REPLY" COMMENTS, URGING TIMELY FCC ACTION:

DISMISS EXISTING RM-11708 and FCC WT 16-239.

Not to endorse the Amateur Radio Parity Act now in Congress

If you are able to provide factual personal experience (not "hearsay" that you heard from someone else), please add it to your comments, as did others who were in Puerto Rico at the time.

DO NOT do anything that minimizes the great work individual hams did in Puerto Rico or anywhere else. Simply state the facts, as gathered from public records or first hand accounts. Show the ARRL statement; then put the contradicting evidence next to it and compare.

BE FACTUAL, CIVIL, BUSINESSLIKE, AND CONCISE. Remember, your comments will be available on line for a very long time. Be constructive and positive.

IF YOU ARE READY TO COMMENT, Go to this FCC web page to begin:<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings>

You are responding to the FCC question: "To what extent were response efforts facilitated by amateur radio operators? Going forward, should efforts be made to increase the use of amateur radio services in connection with the planning, testing and provision of emergency response and recovery communications? "Remember this question as you reply to ARRL and or Waterman comments. That is the ONLY thing the FCC and Homeland Security want to hear. The ARRL and Waterman comments ask for immediate WT 16-239 enactment supposedly to "increase the use of amateur radio services", without regard for dissenting comments.



Texas DX Society Board members

President	Robie Elms, AJ4F	ruler55 at gmail.com
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VP Programs	Open	
Secretary	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Orville Burg, K5VWW	Orville at rubyglass.com
Contest Chairman	Jim Burrough, N5DTT	jandpburrough at sbcglobal.net
Field Day Chairmen	Open	
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at earthlink.net
DX Chairman	Orville Burg, K5VWW	Orville at rubyglass.com
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Bullsheat Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

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CQ WAZ Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net

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 February:

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Dave Blaschke - W5UN
 James Clark - N5RO
 Bob Cooney - K1TU
 Mike Bragassa - K5UO
 James Parnell - W5JAW
 Don Butler - N5LZ
 Ronald Amox - K5EJO
 Jim Boockholdt - N4AL
 Bob Perring - N5RP
 Fred Pevoto - K5FP

Marty Kirkland - WA5TMN
 Mike Crownover - AD5A