



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 2021

TDXS Monthly Meeting via Zoom: Thursday February 25th, 7PM CST Program: Remembering the 2007 Dxpedition to BS7H, Scarborough Reef in the South China Sea

Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

Welcome to 2021!

My apologies for this coming out late. I have had other pressing matters lately not to mention preparation for the cold temperatures that took up a lot of my time.

And what a hell of a week it has was! Really cold weather (for us anyway) has set in and wreaked havoc among Texas residents. I spent all day Saturday and Sunday prepping the house, the pump house and the yard for the cold weather. We still ended up with a frozen pipe which I managed to thaw with a heat gun. The PVC pipe was inside the wall so I had to heat up the outdoor faucet and the wall itself. Then of course like many we lost power for 26-1/2 hours. I was able

to back feed my 5500 watt Field Day generator into the house to get the furnace and water well working! But not until after it got down to 56 degrees in the house!

As I write this, I have just turned my ARRL DX CW score into 3830scores.com. I had a great time! Band conditions are improving and my newly rebuilt and modified SteppIR really kicked ass! I especially like having two elements on 40m, never had that before! I had some great runs into JA and EU, sometimes the pile was so thick I wasn't able to pick calls out. No complaints there, I'll take that any day compared to what we have had the last few years!

We still have an urgent situation in that we currently do not have a club president or a DX Chairman. Both Robie and Orville have retired from these positions.

Will somebody please volunteer to fill these positions?
We also need a VP of Programs and a Field Day Chairman! All of your Board of Directors have been serving in our respective positions for years and it is now time for other TDXS members to commit to serving the club. TDXS should not be club of followers, we need some leaders also.

Which of you is going to step up?

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 ????????

Since we do not currently have a president for the club, there is no “Prez Sez” article. Will someone step up to become President of the Texas DX Society? Most of the rest of the officers have been serving in their capacities for a number of years now. We need membership to contribute to the club or it will become stagnant.

C'mon, anyone?



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

Date: January 21, 2021

Location: ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Robie AJ4F (Pres.), Doug W9LCQ (Sec.), Larry KB5WWW (Treas.), Jim N5DTT, Orville K5VWW, Allen N5XZ, Scott K5DD, Rick K5GZR, David KE5ZZO, Bill W5SG, Don K5LZ, Don N5DD, Jimmy NA5D, Kim K5TU, Rick W5RH, John K5EC, Ed N5DG, Jerry K9GEM, Chuck W5PR, Curt WG5H, Mike N5MT, Roger K0YY, Steve W9DX, Marty W5MF, Madison W5MJ

The January TDXS Meeting was held, as usual, via ZOOM Video conferencing. The agenda was:

Officers Report –

Still need nominees for President, VP Programs, DX Chair

Newest member is Brett Black K5BEZ from Abilene #233

Program 1 – Orville K5VWW on obtaining a call sign license plate in Texas

Program 2 – Robie KJ4F on “Portable Operation Techniques for Portable/Mobile Activations”. He focused on sharing what he does and why. The objective was to share experience and stimulate others to do the same. His goal was to encourage more portable/mobile participation in the 2021 Texas QSO Party.

Both Programs were interesting, informative, and generated a lot of discussion. **A full recording of the meeting is at [TDXS Monthly Meeting January 21, 2021 - YouTube](#), or you can follow the link on the TDXS webpage.**

Submitted February 14, 2021

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary



DX Chairman's Report by ??

Since we do not currently have a DX Chairman for the club, there is no "DX Chairman" article. Will someone step up to become the DX Chairman of the Texas DX Society? Most of the rest of the officers have been serving in their capacities for a number of years now. We need membership to contribute to the club or it will become stagnant.

C'mon, anyone?



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Hello again. As usual, we will start with a summary of major contests coming up in the next two months.

February

- 6 10-10 Winter Contest, SSB
Vermont, Minnesota and British Columbia QSO Parties
Mexico RTTY International Contest
- 13 CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest
Hamcation QSO Party
- 20 ARRL International DX Contest, CW
- 26 CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB
- 27 South Carolina QSO Party
North American QSO Party, RTTY
- 28 North Carolina QSO Party

March

- 7 ARRL International DX Contest – SSB
- 13 South America 10-Meter Contest
Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Oklahoma and Idaho QSO Parties
North America Sprint - RTTY
- 14 Wisconsin QSO Party
- 20 Russian DX Contest
Virginia QSO Party
- 27 CQ WW WPX – SSB Contest



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

TDXS members participated in a number of contests in January. Here is their score information as reported in the 3830scores.com website.

ARRL RTTY Roundup 2021 Jan 2

SO RTTY LP

Call	SO2R Remote	RTTY Qs	Dig Qs	State/Prov	Countries	Score	Club
KG5U		167	0 40	9	8,183		TDXS

SO(A) RTTY LP

Call	SO2R Remote	RTTY Qs	Dig Qs	State/Prov	Countries	Score	Club
WB5TUF		320	0 47	50	31,040		TDXS

North American QSO Party, CW 2021 January 9

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K5GN(@W5KU)	x	1467	225	10:00	330,075	TDXS
N5XZ		1062	202	7:55	214,524	TDXS
K5TU		1170	178	10	208,260	TDXS
KØNM	x	x	780	151 10	117,780	TDXS
KG5U		546	132	8.0	72,072	TDXS
NM5G		333	122	10	40,626	TDXS
K5HEM		269	109	10	29,321	TDXS
K5GQ		339	78	7	26,442	TDXS2
W9LCQ		250	84	4	21,000	TDXS2
AJ4F		59	33	1	1,947	TDXS2
K5IZO		126	55	3	6930	TDXS2
N5DTT		57	32	4	1,824	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

North American QSO Party, SSB 2021 January 16

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
N5DTT			206	74	6.25	15,244	TDXS
W9LCQ			145	66		9,570	TDXS
NM5G			116	55	6	6,380	TDXS
K5IZO(JOHN)			45	22	4	990	TDXS
AJ4F			45	19	2	855	TDXS

ARRL January VHF Contest 2021 January 16

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PR			113	46		5,198	TDXS

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WB5TUF		x	59	33		1,947	TDXS
N5XZ			42	30		1,290	TDXS
AJ4F			43	24	4.5	1,032	TDXS
N5DTT			1	1	.25	1	TDXS

SO 3Band HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PF			54	25	4:00	1,350	TDXS

Hungarian DX Contest 2021 Jan 16

SOSB/20CW HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N5XZ			100	0	37		18,093	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2021 Jan 29

Multi-Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score
W5KU			1300	59	55	16	553,812

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score
NM5G			134	41	3	4	13,640
K5HEM			23	15	1	1:31	784

Single Op LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score
AJ4F			431	53	13	12.6	67,584
K5GQ			347	45	8	8.5	42,029

Single Op Assisted HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	Countries	Op Time	Score
K5TIA			405	51	27	11:58	79,725
W5PF			172	45	20	5:30	41,405

Winter Field Day 2021 Jan 30

1H HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5IZO			111	7	0	6	5	1,374	TDXS

1H LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club	
W9LCQ			105	8	0	4		872	TDXS	
N5DTT				0	17	0	3	4	51	TDXS

1O LP

Call	SO2R	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5EC			168	535	0	7		16,694	TDXS

No more room. We'll talk next month. Stay safe.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World is... Ron Litt, K5HM

Time is very important to every ham. It can be the difference between a good QSO and a busted one; the last contact for honor roll or not; a win or a loss in the CQ WW. Yet I suspect few of us give it much thought. As a new ham in 1954, I used to keep my paper log using local time and an alarm clock my old man discarded. When I came back to ham radio in 2009, most computer logging programs used UTC time.



That took some getting used too. We all know that UTC time is either five or six hours ahead of our local time, depending on Daylight Savings Time but what is UTC anyway? UTC or Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is the basis for civil time today. No, the letters don't line up in French either, where it is known as *Temps Universel Coordonné*. It is still referred to as **UTC**.

Universal Time (UT) was created at the International Meridian Conference in 1884, attended by 26 nations. This is the basis for the 24-hour time zone system we know today. At the time, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) was chosen as the world's time standard. For most, UTC is considered interchangeable with GMT. UTC Time is generally observed by nations along the Prime Meridian, a line running roughly from North to South along the zero-degree longitude line. I say "generally" observed because there is no international treaty about time zones. Each nation is free to observe whatever time standard they choose. For example, on the Korean peninsula, Korea Standard Time (KST) UTC +9 is observed by South Korea. Pyongyang Time (UTC+ 8:30) is observed by the folks in P5 land.

Where in the World is... Ron Litt, K5HM

UTC, referred to as Zulu Time, used by the military community and refers to the zone along the Zero Longitude line. Traveling east, the world is divided into 25 time zones labeled Alpha (UTC+1), Bravo (UTC+2), Charlie (UTC+3) each with a positive offset to UTC, skipping Juliet for some reason, and continuing until it runs smack into . . .wait for it . . . The International Date Line.

Mike time (UTC+12) is the last zone before the Date Line. The next time zone east of Mike is Yankee time (UTC-12). What??? Yes, Virginia, you just crossed the International Date Line and gained a day traveling east. East of the date line, the time zones have a negative offset and begin with Yankee(UTC-12), X-ray(UTC-11), Whiskey(UTC-10). They continue east through Texas, where it is mostly Sierra Time (UTC-6), except in EL Paso (Romeo Time, UTC-7) and during Daylight Saving Time. At last running into Zulu time again.

The International Date Line. No, it is not a yellow line drawn on the water of the Pacific Ocean. To have a global time zone system, the day and date must be separated at *two* locations — you can't split a circle into two parts with a single "cut." The solution was provided by the International Meridian Conference.

The IMC selected the 180-degree meridian as the other "cut," not because it was directly opposite the Prime Meridian. 180 degrees was chosen because it runs mostly through open ocean in the central Pacific, zigging and zagging to keep nearby nations on their own day and date. So the choice of 180 degrees was arbitrary, but it established the International Date Line in use today.

Although the line starts out in the middle of its UTC±12 time zone at the North Pole— exactly at longitude 180 degrees — for most of its length as you go South, it shifts to the east and coincides with the eastern edge of its time zone, which also zigs and zags.

This accommodation keeps the island nations of Oceania each on their own clock and calendar. But there are exceptions. Tonga preferred to be at UTC+13 (or UTC-11) for reasons of commerce and convenience. Samoa, originally in the UTC-11 time zone, in 2011 "gerrymandered" their time-zone borders to place them in UTC+12. The Chatham Islands sets their clocks at UTC+12.75, creating an "orphan" time zone inside UTC+12. Fractional time zones are used in 16 locations around the globe. Countries simply choose what works best for them.



Where in the World is... Ron Litt, K5HM

In Antarctica where all the time zones converge, there is no official time zone. Most of the residents choose to handle their time zone problem in the most convenient way. Some research stations follow the time zone of their home country. Others, like the McMurdo and Palmer stations, both run by the US, synchronize their time to the closest point in the inhabited world.



McMurdo for instance, follows the same time as Christchurch, New Zealand, since most visitors and researchers to the station use Christchurch as their point of embarkation to Antarctica. Palmer Station on the other hand, follows Chilean time. Other research stations tend to follow UTC.

Reporting from the Dark Side
Ron, K5HM



Texas DX Society Board members

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How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxs.net> email address: k5dx@tdxs.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 or of any updates:

[Dave Blaschke - W5UN](#)

James Clark - N5RO

Bob Cooney - K1TU

James Parnell - W5JAW

Don Butler - N5LZ

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